

MicroKoat™

**Antimicrobial Electroless Nickel

MicroKoat[™] is the next generation of Electroless Nickel coatings on the market today with an antimicrobial preservative to inhibit the growth of odor-causing and spoilage organisms including bacteria, fungi and mildew on the treated article**. This product can also be used for everyday production.

Advantages

- Stable, uniform rate / 8-10 metal turnovers.
- Non-magnetic coating.
- Controlled hardness, heat treatable.
- Excellent wear resistance, freedom from porosity.
- High tank stability.
- Compressively stressed deposit.
- Natural lubricity, providing excellent release properties.
- Self-polishing effect in molding operations.
- 10-13% phosphorus as plated.
- Easily waste treatable.

Deposit Properties:

| Phosphorous Content | 10-13 wt. % |
|------------------------|--|
| Hardness | 48-52 Rc as plated |
| | 68 Rc 750° F 1 1/2 Hours |
| Magnetic Properties | Non-magnetic as plated (at parameters) |
| | Non-magnetic 290° C 1 hour |
| Internal Stress | Compressive |
| Ductility | Pass (ASTM B-489) |
| Electrical Resistivity | 70-100 micro ohm-cm |
| Melting Point | 880° C |
| Neutral Salt Spray | Pass all ASTM B-117 |
| NADCAP Testing | Pass all |
| MIL-SPEC | Pass all |
| Nitric Acid Test | Pass |
| Density | 7.75 g/cc |
| ASTM G21 & JIS Z 2801 | **Pass no growth detected/reduction |
| RoHS | *Pass |
| | |



*Lekem is not liable for drag in or contamination of bath once in tank.

Operating Data:

| MicroKoat [™] S | Bath make-up solution |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| MicroKoat [™] N | Nickel replenisher |
| MicroKoat™ DH | Hypophosphate replenisher |

Operating Instructions

- A new bath should be made with 20 parts MicroKoat[™] S and 80 parts DI water. Tanks should be previously calibrated to assure proper concentration. Tanks may now be half filled with DI water. MicroKoat[™] S make up is added with agitation on. DI water is then added to bring the solution to the proper level. In some instances LeKem will recommend you make up the bath at 90%. This will help with any under loading and or possible over stabilization of bath make-up. Please confer with LeKem representative before make-up of bath.
- 2. PH should now be checked and adjusted to 4.6 with Aqua Ammonia. Always dilute ammonia 1:1 with DI water before adding. The same dilution applies to sulfuric acid if the pH ever needs to be brought below 5.0. The proper operating range is 4.6 to 4.8
- 3. Air must be turned on before turning on heat.
- 4. Filter should be turned on and remain on throughout the operation period.
- 5. The bath is heated to 180-190° F for normal operation. An optimum temperature of 185° F is desired. Making sure the heater thermostat is in the bath. Do not exceed 195° F.
- 6. Titration of bath should be used on the amount of work being processed.
- 7. Operation range of nickel content should be maintained between 85-95%.



 Replenishment adds may be made during plating at a ratio of 1:1 N to DH. MicroKoat[™] N is always added before MicroKoat[™] DH. Replenishment should be made in 10% increments to eliminate possible over-concentration of the bath.

9. Bath pH is self-maintained by proper replenishment. If, however, the pH varies form the operation range due to excessive drag-in, it may be adjusted by following instructions in step #2. Dilution of this type of add with DI water is a must at operating temperature.

**This notice clarifies current EPA policy with respect to the scope of the "treated articles" in 40 CFR 152.25(a). This product MicroKoat[™] contains an antimicrobial agent to prevent microorganisms from degrading the treated article. Guards against degradation from microorganisms. This product MicroKoat[™] does not protect users or others against bacteria, viruses, germs or other disease organisms. Always clean this product thoroughly after every use. LeKem, INC. did extensive testing with a certified lab out of real-life plating tanks. The end user will have to do their own testing and LeKem will not be responsible for misuse of this product, drag in from parts, operator error, improper use of the product, improper plating equipment specified by LeKem, INC. Please contact LeKem, INC. for our full disclosure on the MicroKoat[™] product.

ASTM International Method G21 Standard Practice for Determining Resistance of Synthetic Polymeric Materials to Fungi**

| Sample | Incubation Time and Growth Score | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Day 7 | Day 14 | Day 21 | Day 28 |
| Microchem Positive Control | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Microchem Negative Control | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MicroKoat Razor Blade | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |



Japanese Industrial Standard Z 2801 Antibacterial Products – Test for Antibacterial Activity and Efficacy**

| Test Microorganism | Contact Time | Carrier Type | Log ₁₀ CFU/Carrier | Percent Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control | Log ₁₀ Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <i>S. aureus</i> ATCC 33592 (MRSA) | Time Zero | Microchem Control | 5.60E+04 | N/A | |
| | 6 Hour | Microchem Control | 3.75E+04 | | |
| | | Microkoat 1 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.88 |
| | | Microkoat 4 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.88 |
| | | Microkoat 8 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.88 |

The limit of detection for this assay is 1 colony forming units and is reported as <1.00E+00 CFU/Carrier in the table above and as zero in the graph.

| Test Microorganism | Contact Time | Carrier Type | Log ₁₀ CFU/Carrier | Percent Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control | Log ₁₀ Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| <i>S. aureus</i> ATCC 6538 | Time Zero | Microchem Control | 2.85E+04 | N/A | |
| | 3 Hour | Microchem Control | 8.50E+03 | | |
| | | Microkoat 4 | 6.95E+02 | 91.82% | 1.09 |
| | 6 Hour | Microchem Control | 1.30E+04 | N/A | |
| | | Microkoat 8 | <5.00E+00 | >99.96% | >3.41 |

The limit of detection for this assay is 5 colony forming units and is reported as <5.00E+00 CFU/Carrier in the table above and as zero in the graph.



| Test Microorganism | Contact Time | Carrier Type | Log ₁₀ CFU/Carrier | Percent Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control | Log ₁₀ Reduction of Microorganism Relative to Control |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| E. coli ATCC 8739 | Time Zero | Microchem Control | 2.65E+04 | | |
| | 6 Hour Microkov Microkov | Microchem Control | 2.23E+04 | N/A | |
| | | Microkoat 1 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.65 |
| | | Microkoat 4 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.65 |
| | | Microkoat 8 | <1.00E+00 | >99.9987% | >4.65 |

The limit of detection for this assay is 1 colony forming units and is reported as <1.00E+00 CFU/Carrier in the table above and as zero in the graph.