

Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) and Differential Pressure (Delta P) Final Report

Test Article: Lot #ASTMF2100 1
Study Number: 1297402-S01
Study Received Date: 08 May 2020
Testing Facility: Nelson Laboratories, LLC
6280 S. Redwood Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84123 U.S.A.
Test Procedure(s): Standard Test Protocol (STP) Number: STP0004 Rev 18
Deviation(s): None

Summary: The BFE test is performed to determine the filtration efficiency of test articles by comparing the bacterial control counts upstream of the test article to the bacterial counts downstream. A suspension of *Staphylococcus aureus* was aerosolized using a nebulizer and delivered to the test article at a constant flow rate and fixed air pressure. The challenge delivery was maintained at 3.2×10^3 colony forming units (CFU) with a mean particle size (MPS) of $3.0 \pm 0.3 \mu\text{m}$. The aerosols were drawn through a six-stage, viable particle, Andersen sampler for collection. This test method complies with ASTM F2101-19 and EN 14683:2019, Annex B; with the exception of the higher challenge level, which may represent a more severe test.

The Delta P test is performed to determine the breathability of test articles by measuring the differential air pressure on either side of the test article using a manometer, at a constant flow rate. The Delta P test complies with EN 14683:2019, Annex C and ASTM F2100-19.

All test method acceptance criteria were met. Testing was performed in compliance with US FDA good manufacturing practice (GMP) regulations 21 CFR Parts 210, 211 and 820.

The positive control average was out of specification per STP0004 Rev 18 section 6.1 which states, "The BFE positive control average shall be maintained at $1.7\text{-}3.0 \times 10^3$ CFU." Testing with a more severe challenge to the test articles represents a worse case. The sponsor accepted the use of the higher challenge; therefore, the results are considered valid at the testing conditions that occurred.

Test Side: Inside
BFE Test Area: $\sim 40 \text{ cm}^2$
BFE Flow Rate: 28.3 Liters per minute (L/min)
Delta P Flow Rate: 8 L/min
Conditioning Parameters: $85 \pm 5\%$ relative humidity (RH) and $21 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ for a minimum of 4 hours
Test Article Dimensions: $\sim 175 \text{ mm} \times \sim 157 \text{ mm}$
Positive Control Average: 3.2×10^3 CFU
Negative Monitor Count: <1 CFU
MPS: $2.9 \mu\text{m}$



David Brown electronically approved for
Study Director

James Luskin

10 Jun 2020 01:52 (+00:00)
Study Completion Date and Time

Results:

Test Article Number	Percent BFE (%)
1	99.6
2	99.2
3	99.4
4	99.4
5	99.3

Test Article Number	Delta P (mm H ₂ O/cm ²)	Delta P (Pa/cm ²)
1	4.3	41.9
2	5.2	50.6
3	4.4	43.6
4	4.7	46.6
5	4.9	47.9

The filtration efficiency percentages were calculated using the following equation:

$$\% BFE = \frac{C - T}{C} \times 100$$

C = Positive control average

T = Plate count total recovered downstream of the test article

Note: The plate count total is available upon request