

# **INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP**

## **Treated Articles Group: Annual Report 2018**

**Report No: IBRG/TA19/004**

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The Plastics and Textiles Project Groups met twice in the 2018 period, first in Athens, Greece and then in Prague, Czech Republic in October. During the meeting in Prague it was decided to change the structure of the groups within IBRG to align them better with function rather than material. The activities on the revision process for ISO846 were therefore transferred to a new Dry-State Preservation Group (DSP). The changes to ISO 846 recommended during 2018 have now been published in a revision to the standard. However, work will continue on methods to evaluate the biodeterioration of plastics by bacteria with the DSP.

The activities of the Treated Articles (TA) Group will focus on articles and materials either treated to provide added functionality (rather than to either preserve their function or extend their service life) such as hygienic properties and the control of odour (beyond that associated with the biodeterioration of the material). Materials that exhibit inherent antimicrobial properties will also fall under the TA Group.

The current activities on methods to measure the antibacterial activity of treated textiles and plastics under simulated real-life conditions will continue and a series of ring tests are in progress. The activities on measuring the control of odour resulting from microbial activity from textiles in service will also continue, with the current focus being on urine and body odour.

Peter D Askew, Chairman of the Treated Articles Group