

INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP

Plastics Project Group: Annual Report 2014

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The Plastics Project Group met twice in the 2014 period, first in Prague, Czech Republic in April and then in Athens, Greece in October. Work continues to focus on the development of tests intended to provide a framework to the support of claims for treated articles. A number of parameters and exposure scenarios were defined during previous meetings and these are being used in the current ring tests.

As in previous years, given the current activities in OECD to both harmonise testing methods for basic activity and promote claim-specific tests for product registration, IBRG will continue to concentrate on looking at the in-use simulation of antimicrobial effects. Therefore the activities of IBRG for the next few years will continue to be focussed on the development of test protocols to allow the function of treated articles under simulated real-life scenarios to be explored. Initial ring tests on a simulation of the effects of treated plastics on the survival of bacteria delivered to a surface by contaminated, small splashes of liquids have been completed. Further ring tests are being planned. Studies on the use of a non-suspended inoculum to simulate hand contact are also in progress.

IBRG is also providing input into the current revision process for ISO846.

Peter D Askew, Chairman of the IBRG Plastics Group