

INTERNATIONAL BIODETERIORATION RESEARCH GROUP

Treated Articles Group: Annual Report 2025

Report No: IBRG/TA25/001

Date: May 2025

The Treated Articles Group met twice in the 2024 period, once online in April and as a hybrid, in-person / online event, in November in Burgdorf, Switzerland.

The activities of the Treated Articles (TA) Group remains focussed 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 intended conditions of use will continue and a series of ring tests are planned. 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 foot odour and the role that biofilms have on odour formation in textiles. A new work area on the effect of the colonisation of textiles on odour formation is planned and should commence in 2025.

Peter D Askew, Chairman of the Treated Articles Group

Robert Monticello, Technical Secretary of the Treated Articles Group