

Brewing Microbial Monitoring and ATP Testing

Gusmer Enterprises

Jill Gallegos



Outline

- Gusmer Enterprises, Inc.®
- Intro: Why should I monitor for microbes?
- Micro Monitoring in the Lab
 - Monitoring the product: Beer
 - Tools to monitor the beer
- Micro Monitoring in the Brewery
 - Monitoring the Brewery: Process Sanitation
 - Best practices
 - Common contamination points and troubleshooting
- ATP Testing



Why Should I Monitor for Microbes?

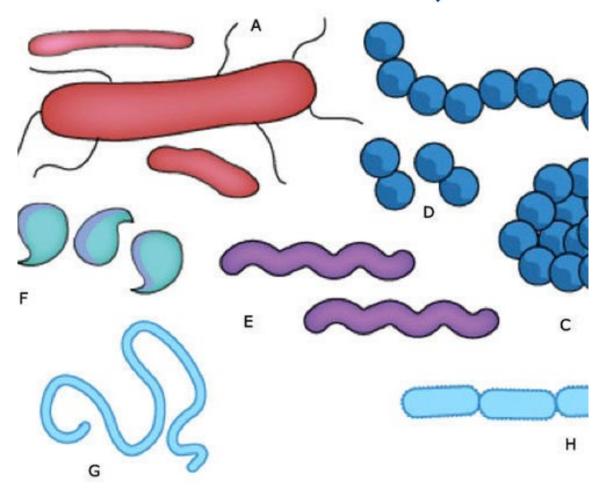
- Ensures no contamination and spoilage of finished product
 - If contamination, determine what
- Find contamination points
- Identify equipment failures or inadequate sanitation procedures
- Identify contaminated product from good product



Why Should I Monitor for Microbes?

Common Spoilage Organisms

- Wort Spoilers (aerobic environment)
 - Enterobacteriaceae
- Lactic Acid Bacteria (facultative anaerobe)
 - Lactobacillus, Pediococcus
- Anaerobic Beer Spoilers
 - Pectinatus, Megespheara
- Beer Spoiler in the presence of Oxygen
 - Acetobacter, Gluconobacter

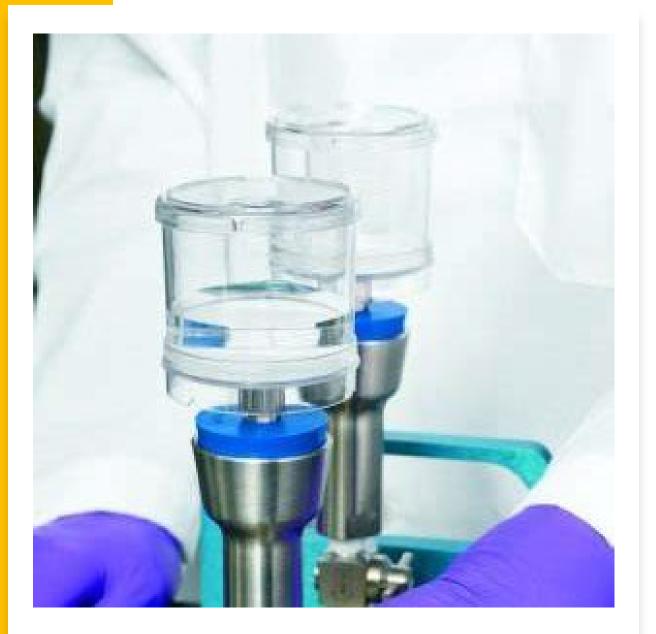


2008. The University of Waikato. www.sciencelearn.org.nz





Laboratory Equipment





Membrane Filtration











Monitoring the Brewery: Process Sanitation **Process sanitation** reduces unwanted microbes to at or below an acceptable level

• **Cleaning** – Removing some contaminants

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- Sanitation greatly reduces micro load
- Sterilization Completely eliminates microbes from process

Three steps to brewery sanitation

Clean...Rinse...Sanitize

Process Sanitation



All contact surfaces must be sanitized at start-up

- Hot **180+ F° water**
- Ensure each surface reaches temperature
- If line remains down for extended period it should be re-sanitized
- Typically 1-2 hours specification





Sanitation Audits

- **Regular audits** should be performed to ensure sanitation cycles are effective and being carried out correctly
 - ATP and Swab/Samplers to check piping and equipment
 - Temperature checks on suspect areas
 - Visual inspections of hard to clean areas
 - Procedure checks and operator training





Hot Spot "Mapping"

- Tracking contamination points or failed swab tests can create a map of where contamination is occurring
- Focus improvements
- Create check lists or check points during or after sanitation

Sanitation Watch Outs

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- Not opening all valves
- Not closing valves *while still under flow*
 - This, often combined with drain placement, is a leading cause of periodic micro hits
- Not sanitizing the top of containers (surge tanks, filler bowls)
- Failure to reach temperature due to dead legs
- Outside of filling spouts (sanitation cups)
- Not using adequate water flow
 - Typically the same flow rate the process is run at should be the CIP/sanitation flow rate
 - There should be pressure on the line, occasionally throttle back valves to create a little back pressure for better cleaning/sanitation



Common Contamination Concerns

• Floor Drains

- Many drains have positive pressure (watch for steam) which push microbes up and out into the bottling area
- Unfortunately, many lines are designed so that sampling and drain valves are located directly above floor drains
- Opening without flow or not closing under pressure during CIP will cause contamination





Common Contamination Concerns

• Dead legs

- Long T's for drain/sample valves
- Old piping, reclaim or recycle lines

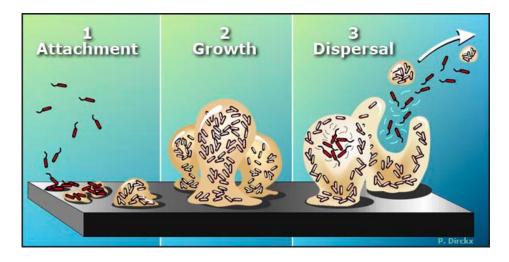
• Filling spouts

- Sanitation cups allow the outer rim and portion of the filling spout to be cleaned
- Drip and drain lines, gas lines, addition lines

Biofilms



- Poorly performed or too infrequent of sanitations can lead to the build up of biofilms
 - Biofilms harbor and protect microbes from sanitation
 - Typically in hard to clean areas
 - Difficult to remove
 - Prevention is key



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Sanitary Sampling

- Only open and close valves while under pressure
- Use smallest valve possible
- Spray valve outlet with alcohol and allow a second or two of flow before collecting sample
- Install specially designed sanitary sampling valves
- Use sterile containers for sample collection
- Avoid dead legs between product flow and valve outlet (long T's)





ATP Technology

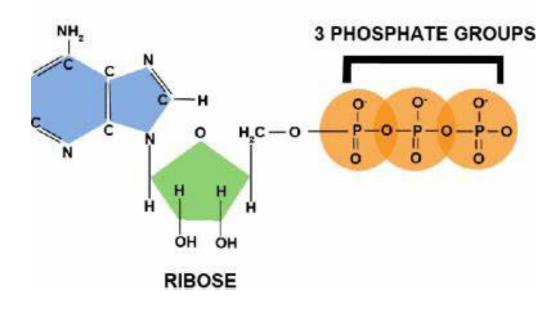
- Firefly Luciferase is a light emitting enzyme responsible for the bioluminescence of fireflies
- When ATP is combined with luciferin light is emitted.
- luciferin + ATP \rightarrow luciferyl adenylate + PP
- luciferyl adenylate + $O_2 \rightarrow oxyluciferin + AMP + light$



- ATP or Adenine Triphosphate is the primary energy carrier in all organisms
 - This molecule when found on surfaces will combine with Luciferase and produce light
 - ATP instrumentation that is used in food and beverage manufacturing will quantify the amount of light and yield a reading in RLU units

An ATP Molecule

ADENINE



- What can produce a positive test with an ATP instrument in my brewery?
 - Bacteria
 - Yeast
 - Malt
 - Hops
 - Any material that is or was living



- Why would I be concerned about material that is not bacteria or yeast remaining on my brewing equipment after sanitation?
 - Remaining biological material after sanitation provides the perfect environment for microorganisms to multiply
 - When there is a food and water source available it is inevitable that microorganisms will thrive



- What are some examples of ATP technology testing sites in my brewery?
 - Product contact surfaces
 - Filler heads
 - Fermentation and Bright Tanks
 - Tank valves
 - Transfer Hoses







- Where should I sample with ATP technology in my brewery?
 - Non Product Contact Surfaces
 - Drains (source of microbial growth and spread)
 - Sanitation equipment (mops, squeegees)



- MVP ICON is an ATP monitoring instrument that was created by BioControl Systems based in Seattle WA
 - Gusmer distributes the ICON system in the US under the Millipore brand





- How does the MVP ICON differ from its competition?
- The software that comes with the ICON allows users to create sampling plans and perform testing without writing down results
 - The software then stores all results which will allow for tracking of failing results and therefore makes troubleshooting easy





- How does the MVP ICON differ from its competition?
 - BioControl used thousands of data point on varying surfaces including stainless steel to identify Pass, Warn and Fail results making the process simplified for users





- What are some important facts to remember when using ATP technology for sanitation verification?
 - A failed reading does not necessarily mean that microbes are present, but it does means that the surface is not clean and therefore can promote growth
 - It is important to test after sanitation and use a failed result as a indication that the equipment needs to be cleaned again production begins
 - It is important to track results over time and use this information to identify trends
 - This technology is the quickest and easiest way to identify issues that can lead to spoiled beer before big problems arise

Questions?

Thank you!

