Sanitizer Test Kits for Chemical Sanitizing Solutions

Sanitizer test kit

Sanitizer test kits are designed to assess the efficacy of a sanitizing solution used in a retail food establishment when completing tasks such as chemical sanitization after manual dishwashing. Sanitizer test kits help ensure that the sanitizing solution is properly prepared for maximum efficiency, and not weaker or stronger than what is needed as that could cause failed sanitization or potential injury and corrosion. Sanitizing solutions need the correct balance of components (concentration, pH, and designed for the specific sanitizing agent used, such as chlorine, quaternary ammonium, etc.), so it is important to confirm that an establishment is using the correct kit.

Sanitizing solution components

The amount of active sanitizing agent present in a solution is the concentration. The concentration of a solution must be within the predetermined range to yield an effective sanitization.

The measurement of the acidity or basicity of a substance is the pH. The pH of a solution will impact its effectiveness as sanitizers require a specific pH for optimal functionality.

The degree of heat present in a substance is the temperature. The temperature of a solution will impact its effectiveness as sanitizers require a specific temperature for optimal functionality.

Testing procedures

Chlorine sanitizers:

1) Tear off a strip of test paper and dip it into room temperature sanitizing solution
2) Remove the test paper strip quickly and lightly blot it with a paper towel immediately
3) Compare the color of the test paper strip to the color chart located on the kit

Quaternary ammonium:

1) Tear off a strip of test paper and dip it into room temperature sanitizing solution for 10 seconds
2) Remove the test paper strip
3) Compare the color of the test paper strip to the color chart located on the kit

Remember: always follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration requirements, which may vary depending on the type of sanitizer used and the purpose of application.