



Marlin Steel Wire Products
2640 Merchant Drive
Baltimore, MD 21230-3307
Phone (410) 644-7456
Fax (410) 630-7393
www.MarlinWire.com

Drew Greenblatt, President
Dgreenblatt@MarlinWire.com

Infection-Control Antimicrobial Coatings for Baskets and Hooks

Marlin Steel Wire Products LLC is proud to announce it is now offering antimicrobial protection on baskets and hooks for the food, health-care, water treatment, child care, and other industries. Coated with a new, patented coating, these products enhance the safety of all who handle them and save processing time as well, by reducing the need for washing.

“We believe many customers will be excited about the availability of this new coating. The main benefit to users will be that their employees and customers can avoid MRSA* and other microbial threats. The frequency of washing baskets and hooks can be reduced with the new coating. And the need for constant wiping of baskets and hooks can become a thing of the past. Better yet, the look of the baskets and hooks is just as sharp as what they are already used to,” according to Drew Greenblatt, President of Marlin Steel Wire Products, LLC. “An added benefit is the ability to use less-expensive plain steel with the new finish instead of more-expensive stainless steel.

The material is an aliphatic urethane polyester which contains silver ions to impart the antimicrobial property. The silver ion is activated by moisture and migrates to the surface. The silver is consumed over time, depending on usage. For example, a surgical cart used in an operating room that is washed at 190 degrees for five minutes, five times per day, will have its antimicrobial properties diminish faster than an item washed weekly. The coating is applied like any thermoset, electrostatic-grade powder coating. There are no color restrictions on the coating. The price premium for the coating is about 100%, but is expected to decline with increasing use.

Drew Greenblatt is President of the Wire Fabricators Association, the trade organization for North America’s wire fabricators. Greenblatt is also a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers, America’s premier spokesman for manufacturers.

*Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) infection is caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria — often called “staph.” Decades ago, a strain of staph emerged in hospitals that was resistant to the broad-spectrum antibiotics commonly used to treat it. MRSA was one of the first germs to outwit all but the most powerful drugs. MRSA infection can be fatal. The silver ions attack the DNA of the microbe and prevent it from spreading.