

Customer Spotlight: Manufacturing Microban® / Barr Brands International

Charlotte, North Carolina • microban.com



Company Profile:



[Microban®](#) is the global leader in antimicrobial, odor control, and surface modification technologies. Its proactive systems keep products cleaner and control odors by preventing problems and damaging microbial growth before they start. Microban® technologies enhance consumer, textile, industrial, and medical products across the globe. Microban® is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Barr Brands International®(BBI).

In addition to its core business in 2016, Microban® opened its ISO-certified microbiology laboratory [BBI Microbiology Testing Services](#) (BBIMTS) to provide independent and confidential test services to a broad range of commercial customers. This was launched to provide customers with access to the latest in laboratory automation and a proven team of highly-skilled microbiologists.

BBIMTS consists of a Bacterial and Fungal Testing Labs (BTL & FTL). The BTL caters to its client base by evaluating antimicrobial sample testing for performance against Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria. The FTL does its work by using industry and international standard tests to validate antifungal efficacy.

Their Challenge:



BBIMTS performs approximately 30,000 bacterial and fungal tests annually using a wide array industry standard test methods for product substrates and antimicrobial technologies. Mycological analyses are performed to include nutrient challenge protocols or in fungal chambers to simulate environmental conditions. In addition to antimicrobial efficacy testing, the new BBIMTS also offers food safety testing and applied environmental and mycological sampling.

Because of the volume (over 3,000 tests per month) and wide array of tests performed by BBIMTS, the laboratory knew that it needed a sample management solution that could handle the flow of samples through the BTL and FTL. **BBIMTS needed to figure out how to manage the high sample volume at both a testing and management level while providing rapid results and reports to customers with limited interaction.**

Our Solution:



The benefits of using Sample Master® begin before samples arrive at the lab. Pre-logging samples allows analysts to prepare necessary materials and schedule testing in advance. Traceability in Sample Master® is critical as it provides an efficient method for tracking sample status throughout its journey through the lab from pre-login to disposal. Sample Master® has been instrumental in helping the lab achieve extremely high turnaround time (TAT) goals (greater than 95%) by facilitating a streamlined process for sample management – this is key given the volume and range of testing performed by BBIMTS.



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Microban® / Barr Brands International (continued)

The robust reporting capabilities of Sample Master® have been invaluable to the organization beginning with the daily reports that inform BBIMTS staff of current status on all testing going on in the lab. Additional reports are easily accessible that focus on backlog, worklists and turnaround time. The ability to interface scientific instruments (HPLC, GCMS, LCMS) and barcode/scanning technology to the LIMS has led to eliminating data transcription errors and increasing lab productivity.

BBIMTS is planning to expand the role of Sample Master® by looking for greater integration with other internal systems including an automated enumeration system (to provide easier report generation) and their project management system. ATL also has a powerful web portal solution called Result Point® that provides internal and external clients with 24/7 access to sample status, test results and reports from any device. BBIMTS has purchased Result Point® and is looking forward to providing clients with a convenient method to accessing their data anytime and anywhere.

“Sample Master® LIMS has allowed BBI Microbiology Testing Services to develop comprehensive packages in which there are value-added services beyond testing. With such a diverse portfolio, Sample Master® is an integral aspect of our ability to deliver quality test and support services to our clients.”

Glenn Richards Ph.D., Director Microbiology & Analytical Chemistry Laboratories, Microban®



Microban® Headquarters
Home of BBI Microbiology Testing Services

Accelerated Technology Laboratories, Inc. provides data solutions for Fortune 500 companies and to a variety of industries including water & wastewater, analytical, energy, environmental, food & beverage, chemical, government, public health, industrial hygiene, biotechnology, forensics, clinical testing and manufacturing. Founded in 1994, ATL launched the first commercially-available Windows-based Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS). Today, our products are running in over 575 laboratories around the world with over 46,000 users, and supported by a steadfast commitment to excellence in product quality, support and training. ATL is one of few independent LIMS firms that is ISO 9001:2008 certified. ©Accelerated Technology Laboratories, Inc. All rights reserved.