

LEGIONELLA TESTING IN SHIPPING



Facts

Outbreaks of Legionnaires' disease have been reported globally in association with the marine environment.

Moreover, a recent study conducted on Legionnaires' Disease Outbreaks on Vessels revealed that Legionella was detectable in potable water systems on 58% of 350 vessels in the study.

Ships and vessels are considered as high-risk places for a number of reasons. Showers that have not been used for several days or weeks, along with poorly managed whirlpools, Jacuzzis, spray from decorative fountains or water features present on cruise ships can all be sources for contracting Legionella-related illnesses. There have also been cases of shipyard fitters dying from Legionella after stripping down equipment such as pumps and being exposed to contaminated water.

However, not only passengers on cruise ships are at risk. Water systems on all types of ships must be controlled and monitored, including off-shore accommodation vessels, which are known to have had several cases of the disease after being laid up and re-commissioned without the proper attention to potable water safety.

Recommended Test Kits



Single Test Kit

How to manage the risk of Legionella in Shipping

Testing water samples in order to ensure the safety of employees and the general public can be challenging on vessels. Access to the laboratory is usually limited and the reliability of the laboratories in various countries can be questionable at best. As a result, using standard Legionella testing techniques onboard can be very impractical.

Passengers and crew on ships are potentially at risk of exposure to Legionella bacteria in the same way as guests and staff in a hotel are at risk. Examples of sources include potable water, water for washing, showers and baths, spa pools, decorative fountains and others.

According to the WHO Guide to Ship Sanitation (2011) Regular water quality monitoring must be performed to demonstrate that water systems are not contaminated with (...) microbial and chemical hazards."

The best way to check if the water system is clean from Legionella is to conduct a test. However, using traditional testing methods is not the best solution for shipowners. 10 to 14 days delays for the test results, sample transportation issues and difficult access to a laboratory, make the conventional testing techniques impractical in the shipping industry.

The Legionella Test Kit provides a simple solution, that puts the power back in the hands of the shipowners and allows them to monitor water systems for Legionella at levels considered as dangerous.

If there is a problem, it is immediately identified, and prompt remedial action can be taken – protecting employees and the public.

Industrial Test Kit



LEGIONELLA – DON'T RISK IT. TEST IT.