

## Approved Revised ECR Policy Regarding Listing of Equipment and Materials for AATCC Test Methods and Evaluation Procedures (Approved by ECR 1-22-2010)

**Policy Title:** Listing of Equipment and Materials for AATCC Test Methods and Evaluation Procedures in AATCC TECHNICAL MANUAL. (This policy supersedes Policy for listing equipment enacted November 14, 1989 and Modified to Add "or materials" November 16, 1993; and Policy enacted May 2, 2007.)

**Date Enacted:** January 22, 2010

**Policy:** Effective with the printing of the 2009 AATCC TECHNICAL MANUAL, it will be the policy of AATCC to include in AATCC test methods and evaluation procedures commercial names and specific products of only those items supplied directly by AATCC or that are deemed to be generic in nature, such as chemical reagents, laboratory glassware, weighing balances, and other materials not considered to be a competitive product. For those items for which there is only one known source, that source may continue to be listed. Once a second source makes itself known to the Association, then the original listing will be pulled at the next printing of the method.

As mentioned above, the editorial changes to delete equipment and materials from individual test methods, evaluation procedures and monographs will commence with the 2009 AATCC Technical Manual. In some cases, additional information and specifications may be needed once the listings are removed to aid the reader in understanding the procedure. These changes will be considered editorial and prepared by the AATCC staff in the development of the 2009 AATCC TECHNICAL MANUAL. However, it is possible that additional changes will be necessary. It is anticipated that all methods and evaluation procedures will undergo the changes to meet the requirements of this new policy, at least by the time of the next required five-year periodic review.

In rare cases, the Association has prescribed certain models of equipment such as home washing and drying machines which are listed on our web site. The listings of these devices are made for the convenience of users of these methods. Consumer appliance manufacturers of these machines are primarily concerned with differentiating their products against competitors' commercial products on the market, and are not overly concerned with providing a standard model that will remain the same over a number of years for testing purposes. The Association makes attempts to inform the users of these methods with the model numbers of these machines that most closely maintain the performance characteristic originally desired in the methods and listed in the *Standardization of Home Laundry Test Conditions* monograph in the AATCC TECHNICAL MANUAL. The listing of these specific models on its web site is not an endorsement by the Association of one commercial brand over another.

The Association encourages AATCC Corporate Members to list testing equipment and materials in the on-line *AATCC Buyers Guide* at [www.aatcc.org](http://www.aatcc.org). Only AATCC Corporate Members are allowed to list in the *Buyers Guide*, but there are many benefit packages for AATCC Corporate Membership available, with lower levels available so as not to preclude any company from participating. There are no additional fees for listing as many products as desired. In pertinent test methods and evaluation procedures, the reader will be referred to the equipment listings in the on-line *AATCC Buyer's Guide* on the AATCC web site. These listings are not AATCC endorsements.

The Association is adopting this new policy as a means to promote fairness among all interested suppliers of equipment and materials that might be used in AATCC test methods and evaluation procedures, and to bring the Association's policies regarding these matters in line with other standards development organizations. As these test methods and evaluation procedures are voluntary standards that may be utilized between interested parties, the Association encourages all parties to agree to specific equipment and materials used to perform these test methods and evaluation procedures. Further, the Association recommends that the specific equipment, including model number, be used when reporting test results.

The Association will make no attempt to police the worldwide manufacturers and suppliers of testing equipment and materials used in AATCC test methods and evaluation procedures. The Association encourages all users of its test methods and evaluation procedures to become knowledgeable of suppliers of these products and to understand that the Association endorses no products other than its own.