# **K9055A ANAEROBE INDICATORS**

#### **DISCUSSION:**

KEY anaerobe indicators are used for monitoring the atmosphere in jars where Anaerogen or Anaeropack are used to create the atmosphere. The tube contains two tablets, the small one being the methylene blue indicator to detect the presence of oxygen for monitoring the integrity of the jar. At an alkaline pH and elevated temperature glucose reduces methylene blue to the colorless form. (1) Because of the acid environment, the extra tablet in the tube is used to raise the pH long enough for the reaction to occur.

### **STORAGE:**

All tablets are light and moisture sensitive-store in the dark at room temperature or below (0-78°F).

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

Remove and discard the cap. Add three drops of water to the tube and set aside while adding the plates. After adding the plates, drop the tube into the jar. The liquid will remain in the tube. Add the generator then close the jar.

### **INGREDIENTS:**

K9055A contains 50 tubes of indicators:

- Tablet 1: Methylene blue in inert base.
- Tablet 2: Dextrose in a buffered base.

None of the tablets are hazardous and no special precautions are required. No treatment is required for accidental ingestion. Tablets are non-flammable and non-combustable. Tablets may be discarded in normal laboratory trash. Since contamination could occur in the jar, used tubes should be discarded in a manner appropriate for bacteriological contaminated specimens.

## **INTERPRETATION:**

The methylene blue test will turn white within 2-4 hours of incubation in a viable anaerobic atmosphere. Loss of atmosphere will cause the liquid to return to the blue state in about 15 minutes. If the tablet does not dissolve, look for change of color around the tablet.

#### **REFERENCES:**

1. Microbiological Investigation Section, Bacteriology-Mycology Branch, Microbiological Services Division, Texas Dept. of Health, Workshop Manual 1994, pg. 136.



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