

## LUMIBIO SURVEY AUTO CENTRE REVIEW JUNE 2020

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### Environment

We have been demonstrating our Treatment System in a number of Auto Centres.

Typically they would comprise an MOT/repair/servicing workshop, ancillary offices, toilets, Staff support facilities, changing areas and a showroom. There would probably also be a parts storage area.

In our sampling we noted most Staff were observing hand hygiene practices/wearing gloves and incoming/outgoing vehicles were wiped with disinfectant on key contact points (steering wheel etc.).

Sample points were chosen to provide an overall picture of potential cross-contamination during normal operations. Samples were also taken from pool vehicles moved daily but parked overnight in the workshop with doors open to allow treatment. This was to represent hire vehicles being sent out and also cars having been worked on in the workshop.

### Sampling

Social distancing was practised at all times during the sampling process.

The sample locations recorded in the survey were:

- Toilet light switch and flush handle.
- Kitchen cupboard door and kettle handle.
- Office computer keyboard.
- Reception bench seat.
- Workshop wheel balancing clamp.
- Workshop emissions tester keyboard
- Hire garage floor and diesel pump
- Headrest and handbrake from pool vehicle

### Sampling Results

Sample points showed low levels of contamination consistent with ongoing operational use. Minor spikes in pathogen levels were effectively dealt with, following a treatment cycle, as evidenced by the next sample reading.

There was however a consistent major spike on each day and this was investigated to determine the cause/sequence of events. Following discussion with staff, it was apparent that contamination events had taken place immediately prior to sampling and therefore the coating of residual treatment had not yet had time to eliminate pathogens present.

The reading from the following day shows levels returned to normal despite no treatment in the intervening period indicating the residual effect still active.

It was concluded that the likely cause of contamination was from customer vehicles that had been brought in directly before sampling took place. The Technicians were moving vehicles in prior to working on them and then going to the brew area or the toilets and spreading contamination as they moved around the facilities.

In other settings, without intervention of our treatment cycle, the levels present would have stopped activity and instigated a deep clean.

## **Conclusion**

Most Auto Centres are practising increased levels of hygiene, however there remains a high level of risk of incoming contamination from Customers Cars.

Pathogen levels that we have recorded would suggest that contamination is occurring despite current cleaning practice. Opportunities for cross-contamination exist on high contact surfaces with the main risk being pathogens present in customer vehicles before arrival at the garage and by extension, hire vehicles being returned by customers.

This then leads to contamination events within the garage and subsequent outbreak risk. Treatment with our system reduced pathogen levels and also contained and eradicated contamination as it occurred.

## **Recommendations**

### **Reduce Cross Contamination from Incoming Vehicles**

As the main risk would appear to be from incoming vehicles, treatment by battery operated LumiBio units would be appropriate for all vehicles prior to entering the premises. We provide an appropriate number of units that are put on charge overnight and each has the capacity to treat 40 Cars before replenishment.

### **Treatment Cycles for the remaining areas**

Taking into account the reasonably standard work pattern, to minimise any cross-contamination risk within the main building, treatment of the workshop, office/reception, toilet and kitchen areas on a Monday and Thursday evening would typically provide ongoing protection based on the sample survey.

**For more information on how we can help you with your issues refer to [www.lumibio.com](http://www.lumibio.com)**