

## **MARIENFELD SUPERIOR (Germany)**

### **Information on microscope slides**

#### **In-vitro Diagnostica**

As of 7<sup>th</sup> December 2003 the European directive 98/79/EG about in-vitro diagnostic products has taken effect.

We produce and sell our microscope slides in accordance with this directive as they are mainly used for investigation of body fluids and tissue sections. The packaging of our standard slides bears the c-conformity symbol and information about the production lot in order to ensure the required traceability after the products have been distributed.

#### **Production**

Microscope slides are made of soda lime glass of hydrolytic class 3 and are manufactured according to the standard ISO 8037-1.

#### **Slides' surfaces**

Our slides are cleaned thoroughly on automated multi-process machinery without using any surfactants. Thus we achieve well-wettable slides' surfaces which do not contain any residues of chemicals. Therefore, they are ready for use and suitable for adhering cells and smears of cell suspensions.

HistoBond<sup>®</sup> slides are coated especially to improve the adhesion of tissue sections.

#### **Slides' edges**

Our grinding and polishing processes are always carried out water-cooled.

This results in an excellent quality of the slides' edges which cannot be matched by any dry grinding process.

For different applications we offer microscope slides with 3 different types of edges:

- Cut edges for economical routine diagnosis of non-infectious specimen
- Smooth and burr-free wet ground edges with 90° shape  
When handling infectious material we strongly recommend to use this type of slides for increased safety
- Smooth and burr-free wet ground edges with 90° shape and with precisely clipped corners.  
Recommended for reducing the risk of cuts and for usage on some automatic machinery

#### **Frosted end**

Our silky frosted area is very well suitable for a fine and contrasty labelling. It has got a width of 20 mm by standard, however, other widths can be produced on special request. Twin frosted slides are more convenient as they offer more space for marking and can be used from either side without the necessity of searching which side bears the frosted area. As we manufacture slides with 20 mm at one end on both surfaces in larger production lots we offer them cheaper than the single-frosted ones.

#### **Quality control**

All our slides are subject to strict quality controls during production processes and on the finished product, too.

#### **Transportation and storing**

These conditions influence the quality of the slides considerably. Microscope slides should be stored in a dry place at constant room temperature. When cooling down condensation may occur and penetrate between the slides causing them to stick together. We recommend to let the slides reach room temperature before opening the cartons and using them. Do not store slides close to solvents as this might turn their surfaces hydrophobic.

Soda lime glass is subject to an aging process which affects the quality of the slides. It is recommended to avoid storing the slides for too long and to use the oldest stocks at first. Your early disposition of your slides helps us to optimize our production planning and to supply freshly produced slides.

#### **Shelf life period**

Due to the above mentioned reasons the shelf life of slides is limited. It is advisable to use the slides before the 'best-before' date.

#### **Instruction for use**

For detailed instructions for use please see our website

#### **Packaging**

Our slides are packed in boxes of 50 pieces. Our packing material does not contain recycled material and thus our boxes are resistant to abrasion and do not influence the quality of our slides.

Glass is quite heavy. Therefore, we supply them in small sales units of 2.500 pieces.

These cartons do have a convenient weight of approx. 12 kg.

1 pallet (approx. 120 x 80 x 93 cm, 1 metric ton gross weight) is containing 80 cartons = 200.000 slides.

Besides our standard packaging we offer following special types:

- 1) 50 slides wrapped and sealed in polypropylene film with tear-off strip.  
This film protects the slides additionally against dust from the box during transportation of the box
- 2) 50 boxes of 50 slides additionally in a watertight aluminium bag
- 3) Tropical packing: slides individually paper interleaved, 50 boxes in a watertight aluminium bag