



FAQs

Guardian Reader System

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1. Why should I train my staff to perform on-site, confirmatory testing?

PROTECT Corporate Assets & Employee Safety

Proper training will allow your staff to recognize potential threats in the workplace, distinguishing them from other unusual occurrences or panic-driven events. Your staff will know when it is necessary to call in additional resources. And, just as importantly, when it's not.

MINIMIZE your Downtime Costs

A reliable, presumptive test will allow your staff to determine the nature of the threat and to respond appropriately. Shut-down decisions can be made intelligently and responsibly by trained staff using the proper testing tools. Your downtime costs will be minimized.

IF A REAL Event Occurs, Minimize the Impact

Early recognition of a "real" threat will minimize the potential threat of the biological material, and therefore, the impact of the event. Long-term shutdown, the most costly scenario, may be avoided.

EMOTIONAL Effects & Calm Minds

With quick results from on-site testing, your employees will be quickly reassured and back to the task at hand, with minimum delay.

2. Why not call "9-1-1" every time we have a suspicious substance in the work area?

You should contact emergency responders anytime you have a credible threat or face an unknown hazardous material in the workplace. When the threat is not credible, a trained staff saves your organization time and money:

Misinterpretation is **COSTLY**

Untrained employees & staff may misinterpret unusual occurrences as a threat, bringing work to a halt and forcing unnecessary downtime at your facility.

How Long will a **RESPONSE** Take?

During busy times, as we saw during the anthrax scares of October '01, your local responders may not have the resources to respond to you in a timely fashion, if at all.

3. Who is using the Guardian Reader System right now?

The Guardian Reader System is being used at over 900 locations worldwide. Our clients include Fortune 500 firms in the industrial, financial, transportation, pharmaceutical, entertainment and technological industries. It is also being used to protect military installations & government agencies around the world.

4. We've never planned for biological hazards. Can you help us from "square one"?

Absolutely. We can even assist you in writing a response plan. All confidentially, of course.

5. Can I see the Guardian Reader System in use?

Yes. Call us and we'll arrange a demonstration at your workplace.

6. How does a screening test compare to a confirmatory test?

A screening test provides a preliminary test result that has some degree of uncertainty. A confirmatory test result has such a high degree of uncertainty that is assumed to be 100% accurate. Screening tests are typically used in situations where one generally expects to find negative results, so the majority of unknown test samples can be discounted more easily, quickly and cost-effectively. The small proportion of samples giving positive results is then subjected to a more accurate confirmatory test, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or standard microbiological assays.

7. Why should I use BioThreat Alert test strips with the Guardian Reader?

The Guardian Reader is recommended for the evaluation of all BioThreat Alert Test Strips. BioThreat Alert Test Strips give a visual indication of positive or negative results within 15 minutes after adding the sample. The user can inspect the BioThreat Alert Test Strip and make a subjective judgment of the presence or absence of the visual indicator. The Guardian Reader provides the added assurance of an objective analysis of the visual indicator while also providing documentation, data storage and chain of custody evidence for each test result. In addition, under low light or high stress conditions, the Guardian Reader relieves the user from the added pressure of making such subjective evaluations in the field. Finally, embedded radio frequency identification (RFID) technology provides automatic data backup for all tests. To summarize, the Guardian Reader provides an objective, quantitative result for each test strip, maximizing test sensitivity while minimizing the probability of user error & misinterpretation.

8. What kinds of manufacturing quality control procedures are used for Alexeter products?

Both the BioThreat Alert Test Strips and the Guardian Reader are manufactured under the same quality assurance practices observed by the medical products industry. Although we are not marketing medical devices, our manufacturing plants are compliant with both Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and ISO-9002 manufacturing guidelines. Compliance with these stringent quality assurance procedures ensures that our products will always meet or exceed the highest applicable standards.

9. Why should I purchase an Extended Guardian Reader Warranty?

Although we do not anticipate the failure of your Guardian Reader under normal operating conditions, we cannot guarantee against all failure, especially given the multitude of unknown environments the unit is likely to be exposed to. The Guardian Reader Extended Warranty provides continued coverage and makes it unlikely you will be without a functioning reader for more than a day. Considering that repair or replacement of instruments can typically take several weeks, the extended warranty option ensures that a replacement reader will be on its way to your location (usually within 24 hours), regardless of the cause of the equipment failure.

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