

Copper & Health

The busiest places need the cleanest surfaces.



Teck's Copper & Health Program

**Every day, high-touch surfaces present health risks to the public.
But copper surfaces can help.**

Teck is committed to raising awareness and advocating for the use of antimicrobial copper as an innovative solution to healthcare-acquired infections (HAIs), as well as infections resulting from bacteria spread in busy public spaces.

Through the Copper & Health program, Teck seeks to improve health outcomes for people and communities while also raising awareness about the important role that mining and metals play in our everyday lives.

There is no commercial benefit to Teck from the increased use of copper in healthcare or public spaces, as the total quantity of metal required is extremely small.

Copper Partnerships in Action



Teck is partnering with leading hospitals throughout British Columbia to install copper to help keep patients, staff and visitors safe, including at St. Paul's, Lion's Gate and Royal Inland Hospitals.



Teck is partnering with YVR, Vancouver's International Airport, and transit authorities in Toronto and Vancouver to pilot copper uses in some of the highest touch spaces for travellers.



Teck is partnering with leading post-secondary educational institutions including UBC, BCIT, TRU and SFU to research innovative applications for antimicrobial copper, and keep students safe as they return to classrooms.



Teck is partnering with Team Canada training facilities to install copper equipment to keep athletes and staff safer. We're also working with centres like Science World and the Royal Ontario Museum to tell the story of copper resource development and why it matters.



Copper Surfaces

Copper surfaces are naturally antimicrobial and have self-sanitizing properties that are proven to continuously kill bacteria that cause infection.

Research has proven antimicrobial copper eliminates up to **99.9%** of harmful bacteria within two hours of contact.

Copper keeps surfaces cleaner. And minds calmer.



Learn more at copperstopsthespread.ca

The Power of Antimicrobial Copper

Copper has unique antimicrobial properties and is proven to continuously kill bacteria that cause infection.

When installed on high-touch surfaces, copper will eliminate up to 99.9% of harmful bacteria within two hours of contact, including bacteria that causes HAIs and common diseases like staph infections and E.coli.

It's safe for people and the environment, and is the only solid metal touch surface registered as a public health product by Health Canada and the U.S. EPA.

How Copper Kills Bacteria

Copper destroys the genetic material contained within bacteria that allows for replication, preventing the development of drug-resistant superbugs.



Copper ions on the surface are recognized as an essential nutrient and enter the bacteria cell.



Copper ions interfere with normal cell functions and membrane integrity.



When excess copper binds to the enzymes, the bacteria can no longer breathe, eat, digest or create energy.

Building the Evidence Base and Advocating for Copper Adoption

Teck's Copper & Health program partners with leading infection control specialists and research institutions to build understanding about the best uses of antimicrobial copper and develop durable, innovative solutions.

Teck is committed to advocating to governments, industry and the public to build awareness and encourage the voluntary adoption of antimicrobial copper to help keep us all safer.



Reducing Healthcare-Acquired Infections

Antimicrobial copper surfaces have been installed in more than 300 healthcare facilities around the world in order to combat HAIs. More than 220,000 patients contract an HAI while receiving care in Canada annually, and between 8,000 and 12,000 of these patients die as a result.

It is estimated that the adoption of antimicrobial copper across the healthcare system could save thousands of lives and up to **\$1 billion each year.**

