



## **MASTERTECH BULLETIN**

*(Revised 03/08/18)*

# **OPTIMAL\*FIX**

## TISSUE FIXATION WITHOUT FORMALDEHYDE OR MERCURY

### **OPTIMAL\*FIX, THE PRODUCT AND ITS PURPOSE:**

**OPTIMAL\*FIX** does not contain mercury or formaldehyde. **OPTIMAL\*FIX** is an alcohol-based fixative with additional non-toxic components. Because **OPTIMAL\*FIX** is biopolymerical, tissue fixation can be completed in as little as two hours. **OPTIMAL\*FIX** dehydrates as it fixes so it is possible to eliminate or lessen dehydration time in the tissue processor. **OPTIMAL\*FIX** allows tissue to retain excellent antigen activity for immunohistochemistry. Tissue penetration is approximately 2mm per hour. Holding tissue in **OPTIMAL\*FIX** for extended periods of time does not affect sectioning characteristics or stain results. Morphological detail is excellent. **OPTIMAL\*FIX** has a very low non-offensive odor.

### **OPTIMAL\*FIX, INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE:**

Use **OPTIMAL\*FIX** as you would 10% Formalin. Immerse tissue in fixative for at least two hours. Large specimens should be opened or sectioned prior to fixation. Staining times for hematoxylin and eosin can be reduced due to increased stain sensitivity. **OPTIMAL\*FIX** is compatible with 10% Formalin.

### **OPTIMAL\*FIX, STABILITY:**

Shelf life of **OPTIMAL\*FIX** is 2 years.

### **OPTIMAL\*FIX, PRECAUTIONS:**

**OPTIMAL\*FIX** is an alcohol-based tissue fixative and therefore flammable. As with all tissue fixatives, proper laboratory personal safety equipment (goggles, gloves, and lab coat) and mechanical ventilation should be used.

### **OPTIMAL\*FIX, DISPOSAL:**

In most areas, **OPTIMAL\*FIX** can be diluted and disposed via the local sewer system. Check local regulations concerning products containing up to 40% Ethyl Alcohol.

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