WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for coating a polypropylene-based fabric or polypropylene-based material, such as for example a fabric or a material for use in decreasing the transmission of the human pathogens, the composition comprising an aqueous solution of:

a) 0.5% to 4% by weight citric acid;

b) 0.5% to 4% by weight polyvinyl alcohol; and

c) ~~one or more than one~~0.1% to 1% by weight of at least one type of nonionic surfactant.

2. The composition of claim 1, where the polyvinyl alcohol is partially hydrolyzed.

~~3. The composition of claim 1 comprising between 0.5% to 4% citric acid and between 0.5% and 4% polyvinyl alcohol.~~

43. The composition of claim 1 comprising between 1% to 3% by weight citric acid and between 1% and 3% by weight polyvinyl alcohol.

~~5~~4. The composition of claim 1, where the nonionic surfactant is polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan.

~~6. The composition of claim 1, comprising between 0.1% and 1% of the nonionic surfactant.~~

~~7. The composition of claim 1, comprising between 0.2% and 0.7% of the nonionic surfactant.~~

~~8. The composition of claim 1, comprising 2% polyvinyl alcohol, 2% citric acid and 0.5% of the nonionic surfactant.~~

~~9~~5. The composition of claim 1, further comprising ~~one or more than~~ at least one type of bactericidal, fungicidal or viricidal agent.

~~10~~6. The composition of claim ~~9~~5, where the agent is a multivalent metallic ion.

~~11~~7. The composition of claim ~~9~~5, where the agent is a divalent metallic salt.

~~12~~8. The composition of claim ~~9~~5, where the agent is selected from the group consisting of copper acetate, copper oxide, copper sulfate and zinc acetate.

~~13~~9. The composition of claim ~~10~~6, where the composition comprises between 0.5% and 5% by weight of each of the ~~one or more than one~~ at least one type of metallic ion.

~~14. The composition of claim 10, where the composition comprises between 1% and 4% of each of the one or more than one metallic ion.~~

~~15. The composition of claim 10, where the composition comprises 3% of each of~~

~~the one or more than one metallic ion.~~

~~16. The composition of claim 1 comprising 2% citric acid, 2% polyvinyl alcohol, 0.5% polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, 3% copper acetate and 3% zinc acetate.~~

~~17~~10. A polypropylene-based fabric coated with a composition according to claim 1 or 9~~, 8, 13 or 16~~.

~~18~~11. A polypropylene-based material comprising a plurality of layers, where ~~one or more than~~ at least one of the plurality of layers comprises a polypropylene-based fabric according to claim ~~17~~10.

~~19~~12. A device that decreases the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~ at least one type of human pathogen by antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, the device comprising a polypropylene-based fabric according to claim ~~17~~10.

~~20~~13. A device that decreases the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~ at least one type of human pathogen by antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, the device comprising a polypropylene-based material according to claim ~~18~~11.

~~21~~14. A facial mask that decreases the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen by antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, the facial mask comprising a polypropylene-based fabric according to claim ~~17~~10.

~~22~~15. A facial mask that decreases the transmission ~~of one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen by antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, the facial mask comprising a polypropylene-based material according to claim ~~18~~11.

~~23~~16. A facial mask that decreases the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen by antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral activity, the facial mask comprising a polypropylene-based material comprising four layers, Layer #1, Layer #2, Layer #3 and Layer #4 oriented from the front surface to the back surface;

where Layer #1 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol and 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, Layer #2 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol, 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, 3% by weight copper acetate and 3% by weight zinc cetate, Layer #3 comprises melt-blown polypropylene fiber having a density of 18 g/m^2, and Layer #4 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having

a density of 25 g/m^2.

~~24~~17. A facial mask for decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen to and from a human wearer of the facial mask, the facial mask comprising:

a) a body comprising a front surface of the body, an opposing back surface of the body, and a perimeter of the body defining a shape of the body; and

b) a flap attached to the body at a body-flap junction; the flap comprising a front surface of the flap, an opposing back surface of the flap, and a perimeter of the flap defining a shape of the flap;

where the body and the flap comprise a polypropylene-based material comprising four layers, Layer #1, Layer #2, Layer #3 and Layer #4 oriented from the front surface to the back surface; and

where Layer #1 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol and 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, Layer #2 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol, 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, 3% by weight copper acetate and 3% by weight zinc acetate, Layer #3 comprises melt-blown polypropylene fiber having a density of 18 g/m^2, and Layer #4 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 25 g/m^2.

~~25~~18. A facial mask for decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen to and from a human wearer of the facial mask, the facial mask comprising:

a) a body comprising a front surface of the body, an opposing back surface of the body, and a perimeter of the body defining a shape of the body, and a central seam;

b) a flap attached to the body at a body-flap junction; the flap comprising a front surface of the flap, an opposing back surface of the flap, and a perimeter of the flap defining a shape of the flap;

c) a resilient member attached to the back surface of the flap;

d) a deformable strip attached to the body; and

e) ~~one or more than~~at least one extension attached to the body for securing the facial mask to the head of a wearer;

where the perimeter of the body comprises a right lateral edge, a left lateral edge

connected to the right lateral edge at a bottom junction of the perimeter, and a top edge connecting the right lateral edge to the left lateral edge;

where the perimeter of the flap comprises in continuity, a right vertical side, a right arcuate side, a central curved region, a left arcuate side, a left vertical side, and a base partially forming the body-flap junction and connecting the right vertical side to the left vertical side;

where the shape of the flap is an inverted U-shape when looking at the front surface of the body or the back surface of the body with the bottom junction oriented down;

where both the body and the flap comprise a material comprising four layers, Layer #1, Layer #2, Layer #3 and Layer #4 oriented from the front surface to the back surface; and

where Layer #1 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol and 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, Layer #2 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 45 g/m^2 and coated with a composition comprising 2% by weight citric acid, 2% by weight polyvinyl alcohol, 0.5% by weight polyoxyethylene (20) sorbitan, 3% by weight copper acetate and 3% by weight zinc acetate, Layer #3 comprises melt-blown polypropylene fiber having a density of 18 g/m^2, and Layer #4 comprises spunbond nonwoven polypropylene fiber having a density of 25 g/m^2.

~~26~~19. The facial mask of claim ~~21~~14, further comprising ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of reactive dye.

~~27~~20. The facial mask of claim ~~22~~15, further comprising ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of reactive dye.

~~28~~21. The facial mask of claim ~~23~~16, further comprising ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of reactive dye.

~~29~~22. The facial mask of claim ~~24~~17, further comprising ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of reactive dye.

~~30~~23. The facial mask of claim ~~25~~18, further comprising ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of reactive dye.

~~31~~24. A method of decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen, the method comprising:

a) providing a facial mask according to claim ~~21~~14; and

b) wearing the facial mask.

~~32~~25. A method of decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen, the method comprising:

a) providing a facial mask according to claim ~~22~~15; and

b) wearing the facial mask.

~~33~~26. A method of decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen, the method comprising:

a) providing a facial mask, said facial mask comprising at least one layer, said at least one layer comprising a polypropylene-based fabric according to claim ~~23~~16; and

b) wearing the facial mask.

~~34~~27. A method of decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen, the method comprising:

a) providing a facial mask according to claim ~~24~~17; and

b) wearing the facial mask.

~~35~~28. A method of decreasing the transmission of ~~one or more than one~~at least one type of human pathogen, the method comprising:

a) providing a facial mask according to claim ~~25~~18; and

b) wearing the facial mask.