

What is claimed is:

1. An antimicrobial composition comprising
 - (a) at least one isothiazolin-3-one comprising 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one,
 - (b) at least one zinc compound selected from the group consisting of zinc chloride, zinc sulfide, zinc carbonate, basic zinc carbonate, zinc oxides, zinc hydroxides, and combinations thereof, and
 - (c) a co-biocide selected from the group consisting of pyrithione salts, pyrithione acids, and combinations thereof,wherein said isothiazolin-3-one is present in an amount of from 1 to 500 ppm, the zinc compound is present in an amount of from 5 to 200,000 ppm, and the weight ratio of the isothiazolin-3-one to the zinc compound is from 1:100 to 100:1, and
wherein said co-biocide is present in said composition in an amount of from about 0.001 to about 1% w/w based on the total weight of said composition.
2. The antimicrobial composition of claim 1 wherein component (a) is present in an amount of from 5 to 500 ppm, and component (b) is present in an amount of from 5 to 500 ppm.
3. The antimicrobial composition of claim 1 wherein said composition further includes a compound selected from the group consisting of N-(n-butyl)-1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, 4,5-dichloro-2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, mixtures of 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one (C1MIT) and 2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, and dithio-2,2'-bis(benzmethylamide), and combinations thereof.
4. The antimicrobial composition of claim 1 wherein said zinc compound is zinc oxide.
5. The antimicrobial composition of claim 1 wherein said zinc compound is zinc chloride.
6. The antimicrobial composition of claim 1 wherein said pyrithione salts are selected from the group consisting of copper pyrithione, zinc pyrithione, sodium pyrithione and combinations thereof.
7. An antimicrobial composition concentrate, which upon dilution with water provides the amounts of components (a), (b), and (c) as specified in claim 1, said concentrate comprising isothiazolin-3-one in an amount of between 1 and 95% w/w.

8. The antimicrobial composition concentrate of claim 7, wherein said co-biocide is present in said concentrate in an amount of from about 1 to about 50% w/w based on the total weight of said concentrate.

9. The antimicrobial composition concentrate of claim 8 wherein said pyrrithione salts are selected from the group consisting of copper pyrrithione, zinc pyrrithione, sodium pyrrithione, and combinations thereof.

10. A coating composition selected from the group consisting of paints, adhesives, sealants, caulks, mineral and pigment slurries, printing inks, agricultural pesticide formulations, household coating products, personal care products, metal working fluids, and combinations thereof, wherein said coating composition contains
a polymer emulsion as a liquid base medium, and
the antimicrobial composition of claim 1.

11. The coating composition of claim 10, wherein the combination of (a) the at least one isothiazolin-3-one and (b) the at least one zinc compound is present in the coating composition in a total amount of between about 10 ppm and about 400 ppm.

12. The coating composition of claim 10, wherein the molar ratio of the isothiazolin-3-one to the zinc compound is between about 4:1 and about 1:2.

13. The coating composition of claim 10 wherein said liquid base medium is selected from the group consisting of acrylic and substituted (meth)acrylates, styrene/butadiene, ethylene vinyl acetate, polyvinyl acetate, styrene/butadiene/N-methylol acrylamide, nitrile and copolymers thereof.