Claims

1. An antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material with a density in the range 10 gsm to 50 gsm comprising a dry powder with a maximum particle size of 500 µm in the amount of at least 20 % w/w;

   wherein the dry powder comprises sodium chloride (NaCl) with a maximum particle size of not more than 110µm, and

   wherein the dry powder is impregnated into the non-woven material so that it resides in the void spaces between fibres of the non-woven material.

2. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to claim 1 wherein the non-woven material comprises polypropylene fibres.

3. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to claim 2 wherein the polypropylene fibres that have been carded and/or thermo-bonded to create the non-woven material.

4. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any preceding claim wherein the dry powder further comprises sodium bicarbonate ($NaHCO_3$).

5. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to claim 4 wherein the ratio of $NaHCO_3$ to NaCl does not exceed 1:9.

6. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any preceding claim wherein the non-woven material is joined to or collocated next to at least one layer of a substrate that does not have the dry powder.

7. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any preceding claim wherein the non-woven material has a density in the range 15 to 30 gsm and the NaCl is present in the amount of at least 30 % w/w.

8. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any preceding claim wherein the substrate has undergone particle encasement.

9. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any preceding claim wherein the substrate comprises compartments.

10. The antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to claim 9 wherein the compartments are hexagonal.

11. A multi-layered material comprising at least one layer of the non-woven material according to any preceding claim.

12. Use of the antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to one of claims 1 to 10 or the multi-layered material according to claim 11 to kill, denature or otherwise deactivate a microorganism.

13. A facemask comprising at least one layer of the antimicrobial air-permeable non-woven material according to any one of claims 1 to 10.