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Physical Contaminant Ratings in Ceiling Grid Tiles - A Guide for Specifiers

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1. What is meant by the term 'Clean Room'?

The term 'clean room' refers to spaces in which, for a variety of reasons, contamination control and ensuring the absence of airborne particles is critically important.

2. Provide two examples of clean rooms.

Answers include any two of the following:

- Science laboratories
- Data centres
- Food manufacturing facilities
- Healthcare facilities
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing plants

3. Define the term 'Physical Containment PC1 Facility'

A Physical Containment PC1 Facility is a space that is designed for work with microorganisms in mind. In facilities of this kind the hazard levels are low, and the laboratory and personnel can be protected by standard laboratory practice

4. Define the term 'PC2 Facility Containment Facility'

A Physical Containment PC2 Facility is a space that is designed for work with genetically modified microorganisms in mind. For example, it may be used for studies involving streptococcus, malaria, or influenza.

5. When used to describe clean rooms, what do the terms ISO 1 to ISO 9 refer to?

ISO 1 to ISO 9 refer to the number of particles measured in a clean room. In this case ISO 1 is the cleanest and ISO 9 is the least clean.

6. What types of ceiling grid tiles are most suitable for installation in clean rooms?

For clean room installation, tiles that are classified as ISO3 include: Ecophon Hygiene Advance, which can be cleaned with concentrated chemicals, including peroxide vapor for use in PC1 and PC2 labs. Tiles that are classified as ISO4 include OWA Sinfonia humancare range, which have been treated to prevent the growth of bacteria, fungi and germs.