

## Study shows effectiveness of Purfresh system

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Purfresh is promoting a study that shows its transport system can effectively kill foodborne diseases and improve the safety of fresh food shipments.

Fremont, Calif.-based Purfresh Inc. on May 10 released a study it commissioned that shows how its ozone-based Purfresh Transport active cargo protection system can use ozone to control ripening and lower decay through its killing of harmful bacteria commonly found in refrigerated shipping containers.

The study, conducted by the National Food Lab, demonstrated how introduction of ozone into container conditions killed and controlled the spread of salmonella, listeria monocytogenes and E. coli O157:H7 by up to 99.9% each.

The results were obtained on actual fruit and container surface coupons, according to a news release.

The study proves the efficiency of using ozone to kill bacteria, molds, yeasts, viruses and ethylene during transport to actively cut food safety risks, David Cope, Purfresh's president and chief executive officer, said in the release.

"Given the continued expansion of the global food market and the ever-increasing reports of food-related illnesses, it is exciting and encouraging to see innovative companies like Purfresh applying sound science and commercially viable solutions to this important industry challenge," Paul Hall, president of AIV Microbiology and Food Safety Consultants LLC, said in the release.

"And I believe they really hit a home run with their transport solution by providing a way to enhance food safety as well as maintain the quality and value of fresh produce being shipped around the world without the dependency of many harsh, traditional chemicals that are rapidly falling out of favor in the world's markets."

For use with new and existing refrigerated shipping containers, the Purfresh Transport system affixes into fan ports for integration with container refrigeration systems.

The technology applies electrical charges to oxygen particles, which creates ozone molecules.

The ozone, which searches for and kills microorganisms, reverts to oxygen and leaves no residuals