Maintaining the **Advance® Termite Bait System** for Peak Performance.

A SECOND GENERATION BAIT SYSTEM

In the fall of 2003 Whitmire Micro-Gen entered the termite bait market segment with a value added dual-stage system design. Our design (developed with PMP input) offered better performance and superior technician serviceability than previous systems. Today hundreds of thousands of homes have been protected with the Advance Termite Bait System (ATBS). PMPs who have adopted the system have consistently described the unprecedented results they have achieved with this revolutionary bait system–fast station hits often in 15-45 days, colony elimination as fast as 120 days and heavy recruitment of termites never seen before.

PMPs understand that termite baiting is a process and not an event and recognize that in order for a bait system to keep working at peak performance to protect their customers' homes, the system must be maintained. The following information helps to answer many of the questions commonly asked by PMPs on how to maintain the Advance Termite Bait System for peak performance.

Ensuring Peak Performance of ATBS

This brochure serves as a tool to help your company and service technicians achieve consistent long-term control with ATBS. It will assist PMPs to:

- Understand why internal components need to be replaced for both biological and business reasons
- Set up and manage a scheduled Termite Monitoring Base replacement program
- Identify critical replacement of components outside of scheduled replacement
- Train service technicians on the correct way to perform station clean-outs
- Handle issues related to ants in the bait stations

TERMITES VOTE: THE BIOLOGICAL CASE

Many who have worked in termite control for years would say that termites will eat through just about anything. Although there is much truth to the interesting ways termites find food sources in buildings and homes, the bottom line is that termites have a vote. In research conducted at Oklahoma State University by Dr. Brad Kard, it was demonstrated that termites assess both the quantity and quality of a food resource. Thus, termites really do decide on how much of a food resource they will consume or how many colony members will be recruited back to the food resource. The Termite Monitoring Base (TMB) used in ATBS has been recognized as a preferred food source by termites, but when placed in a station and installed in the ground, TMBs will degrade over time. On average after about 12 to 15 months of being in the ground, TMBs can degrade to the point where termites may be less attracted to them. Termites may still eat the wooden Termite Monitoring Base in the station, but preference of that food source is key. Dr. Barbara Thorne's research at the University of Maryland supports Dr. Kard's findings that termites do not readily recruit colony members to food resources that are considered of poor quality or quantity. The TMB inside ATBS is not the only food resource that provides both quality and quantity. ATBS has a second food source in every station, the Termite Inspection Cartridge (TIC). The tablets inside the TIC are made from highly purified microcrystalline cellulose which can, over time, develop or be covered with various molds that can severely decrease its attractiveness and consumption by termites. Thus, a program to address the replacement of decayed TMB and TIC components for ATBS is critical to maintain peak performance.

Setti is Vit

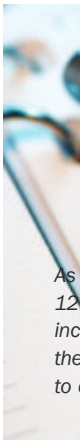
Since te
the resp
peak lev

**Whitmir
assuran
ATBS fo**

- Perfor instal that a
- Repla any lo last re

Why An

- Trying often for te visual
- As TM it bec the w time t
- Remo disrup the sy



PERFORMING ANNUAL TMB REPLACEMENT IN THE FIELD

Before your technicians replace aged TMB components, it is important for them to know the most efficient process. Whitmire Micro-Gen has developed a quick and easy approach for station clean-out of dirt, debris, etc. and for the replacement of the TMB. The steps outlined below should serve as a general guideline but in the field judgment is always required.

Step One

- Pull TIC Cartridge out with cotter pin puller to check for termite presence
- Look down into TMB for termites
- If no termites are found, proceed to the next step
- If termites are found DO NOT perform scheduled replacement at this time, rather replace TIC with an Advance Compressed termite bait cartridge

Step Two

- Attempt to remove wooden TMB with cotter pin puller
- If this does not work, utilize nail claw
- Place debris in discard bucket

Step Three

- Place cordless drill with clean-out auger attached into the bottom of the station
- Make sure the tip of the auger is inside the hole at the bottom of the station
- Start drill rotation and move drill slightly up and down to remove debris
- Sweep station off with hand

Step Four

- Place new TMB into station

Step Five

- Replace with a new TIC only if it merits replacement due to:
  Mold issues *Other issues*
  Slime issues
- Replace TIC at least every 15 months
- If TIC looks acceptable, place back into station until next visit and evaluation

Step Six

- Close the station by securing the lid.

Controlling Ants in and around ATBS

Ants are a common problem associated with termite bait stations. They can enter from normal foraging patterns into stations. Treating for ants around stations with an ant bait product such as Advance 375A Select Granular Ant Bait is recommended when ants are encountered. This product is designed to handle a broad array of ant species.

Here are some basic guidelines to control ants in and around stations:

- With the station closed, gently shake Advance 375A Select Ant bait around the station, within a 1' circle
- Look for any ant trails that lead up to the station, treating these trails lightly with Advance 375A Select Ant Bait
- For large fire ant mounds built over stations, consider installing a station at another location close by and then treating the fire ant mound with Advance 375A Select Ant Bait; once the fire ants are controlled the station under the mound can be removed, discard the internal components, clean the station and reuse as needed
- DO NOT place Advance 375A Select Ant Bait directly into the station interior
- Treatment of areas away from the stations with a product such as Cy-Kick® CS with SmartCap™ Technology, will lower ant pressure around the home.

ENS

Imple
progra
replac
perfor
Bait S
comp