

## Q & A

**What is a sugar snake?** Sugar snake is a polymer produced by certain bacteria (*Acetobacter species*) when growing on sugar-like substrates at low pH (4.5). Sugar is transformed in the bacteria cell to a polymer that is then transported outside the cell. In the second stage, the polymer is elongated and crystallized to a rigid, hard, cellulose microfibril. When left untreated, these polymers “grow” and occlude drain lines in Ice & Beverage Dispenser (IBD) machines.

**What is DrainGel-IBD™?** DrainGel-IBD™ is a proprietary formulation containing both microorganisms and enzymes that break down cellulose polymers such as sugar snake.

**How quickly does it work?** Degradation of sugar snake can take place in as little as 24 hours.

**How is the demo analogous to a sugar snake?** The material used in the demonstration is cellulose polymer that is similar to the sugar snake polymer.

**Why can't I use regular drain cleaners?** Caustic and bleach-based drain line products have no effect on sugar snake. These products are designed mostly for grease and cannot degrade cellulose polymers.

## Demo Instructions

### Contents:

Vial of cellulose polymer  
Transfer pipette  
1 qt. of DrainGel-IBD™

### Instructions:

- 1) Tilt the vial to increase the surface area before adding the DrainGel-IBD™. Use the transfer pipette to draw 1.5-ml of DrainGel-IBD™ and add it to the vial.
- 2) Set the vial in the upright position and leave it untouched.
- 3) The DrainGel-IBD™ will slowly penetrate the cellulose polymer mimicking a real world application.
- 4) Within 24 hours the cellulose polymer will be broken down to the viscosity of water.

**Note:** If the vial is shaken vigorously, the breakdown of the cellulose polymer will begin immediately. After about five minutes, a significant reduction in the viscosity of the cellulose polymer can be observed. The reduction in viscosity will continue until the cellulose polymer reaches the viscosity of water.

**Questions?** Call American Bio-Systems' Customer Support toll free at (888) 371-3353.