

## WHAT ARE GERMICIDAL UV-C ULTRAVIOLET RAYS?

Ultraviolet rays are electromagnetic waves which form part of light spectrum (Fig. 1). Electromagnetic waves are divided into three main wavelength bands, expressed in nanometres (nm): Ultraviolet (UV) rays 100-400 nm Visible (light) rays 400-700 nm Infrared (IR) rays 700-800,000 nm. UV rays in turn are broken down into three bands:

- · UV-A (315-400 nm) with tanning properties;
- UV-B (280-315 nm) with therapeutic and vitamin "D" synthesising properties;
- UV-C (100-280 nm) with germicidal properties.

