

TNO (Dutch Independent Research Institute) about one-phase packaging

In the past a lot of discussion existed when the question arose, whether it was possible to wrap medical devices in one handling and what the consequences of this method would be. For many years people expected that, after the introduction of one-phase packaging, the standard for this would change to this method. However, the new dutch standard 3210 is still being based on two-phase packaging in which two handlings are followed by each other. Jacques Kastelein of TNO states that this method is more expensive indeed, but it also reduces the risk for the hospital.



He explains: "When the instrument tray is wrapped only once, this packaging does not create a sterile barrier system anymore. Due to this, the sterility of the instruments can not be guaranteed. When the tray is wrapped in two separate layers, the possibility of damage of the inner wrap is reduced to a minimum. Furthermore an aseptic presentation is solely possible with a two-phase packaging. In addition the folding method is different with one-phase packaging. With two-phase packaging the layers will lay in different directions, which maximizes safety. Logically, this is not possible with one-phase packaging."

actuals

MEDICA/ComPaMed,
19th until 22nd of November 2008

Also this year, Interster will be present at worlds biggest medical fair, which will be held in the Messe in Düsseldorf, Germany. As in previous years, our booth can be found at the ComPaMed (Wednesday until Friday) in hall 8A. We are pleased to welcome you at our stand, with stand number 8A F02.



New faces

Lisette Beets, already working with Interster as management assistant PR for almost three years, will support the export sales team from January 2009.



WFHSS in retrospective

At the beginning of June, the WFHSS-conference was held in Milan. Of course Interster was on site as an exhibitor. From all over the world, people interested in sterilization, were present. New acquaintances were made and old renewed during the social activities and the meetings at the stand.



Our team will be present at:

IDSc - Institute of Decontamination Sciences
23 November 2008 - 26 November 2008, Blackpool, United Kingdom

Arab Health 2009
26 January 2009 - 29 January 2009, Dubai, UAE

Medtec
22 April 2009 - 23 April 2009, Besançon, France

EXHIBITIONS

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Steril International

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Just think for a minute

Do you have your drivers' license? Have you had it for more than ten years now? And do you still know your theory? Let's be honest: I don't think so. If I would have to do my theoretical exam again tomorrow, I would probably fail the test. Yet I know perfectly well how to drive my car, I never cause an accident and I always stop politely when the streetlight turns orange.

Now let's turn to the hospital you deliver your products to, say the OR or the CSSD. Your customers have been working there for ten or fifteen years now. They're well qualified for their jobs and you always see them at the annual congresses where they stay informed about the latest developments. Does this mean they're good heads of the OR, or good CSSD managers? They probably are and I would never be as bold as to question their judgement.

But think again. They've been at their jobs for a large number of years. They've studied hard to get there and their knowledge of all the guidelines and the rules and regulations is extensive. So far, so good. But rules and regulations change over the years. You introduce new products. Attitudes regarding hospital infection care change too. And so do hospitals. Patients don't stay in them so long anymore. They only come in when they're really sick and they go back home before they are completely cured. Work pressure is building up. Your customers don't have as much time to study their literature as they used to and to visit every national and international congress that is organised for their discipline.

Most people are well aware of the changing times and the influence these changes have on their work and the level of their contemporary knowledge. But people change jobs too. Information is lost if it is not passed on from older professionals to younger ones. I see this happen everywhere around me and I'm disturbed by it. I see people working to the absolute best of their ability, but without that extra bit of new information that helps them to acknowledge that there's a difference between the theory they were taught so many years ago and the practice of today. I hope you are aware of this too. And that it disturbs you just as much as it does me.

Tom Treffers
International BV



DPCD-3 Professional

Interster is proud to present the new version of the DPCD, called DPCD-3 Professional, during MEDICA 2008. Hardware as well as software has been successfully updated, resulting in a strongly improved performance of the instrument in all aspects. The DPCD is basically still a Digital Process Challenge Device in the form of a digital Helix-system, the Helix being designed according to EN 867-5 and as mentioned in the EN 285, clause 15. The DPCD is a digital instrument for routine controls: B&D and Vacuum leak test, parametric release and/or process control. Read more about this subject on the following page.



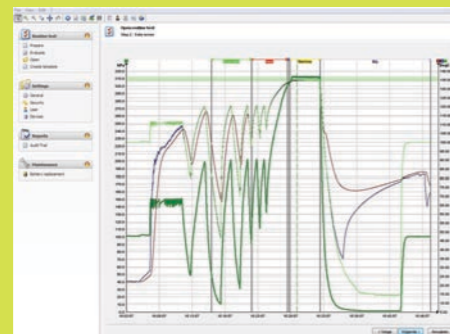
Continuation of DPCD NEW! from page 1.

Hardware

The technology of the pressure-sensor has been changed from ceramics to piezo, resulting in far greater accuracy and lifetime. The reading of the data from the logger can be done immediately after taking it out of the autoclave (max. 80 °C) and the readout goes a lot faster in appr. 2 seconds. Also real-time contactless readout direct from the running autoclave (distance max. 5 meters) is possible. The instrument has been made smaller and shows a new streamlined polymer housing in Interster-blue.

Software

The software has been made completely new. Main goal was to create a software far more user friendly. Also functionality has been broadened. Besides the well known functionalities of judging the sterilization phase acc. to EN 285, EN 13060, EN 17665 (or your own interpretation of the norms), the DPCD-3 Professional can also be used as a B&D test now. Interster has, together with her partners, put a great effort in developing the new DPCD-3 Professional and is confident that this new instrument will greatly contribute to better understanding and controlling the various processes of steam sterilization.



Art. no.: 33001110 set with two loggers incl. case



ISP® Helix Test System

This system is the ideal process challenge device to perform a 'worst case' scenario when sterilizing instruments. It can be used to ensure maximum steam penetration where hollow instruments, or instruments with small lumina, are concerned.



Recently the test has been optimized concerning the dimension of the chamber. The chamber is renewed and the geomatrix are updated. The new test can be recognised by the image brand of Interster on the screw cap.

Because of these minor changes the indicator has to be applied in a slightly different way. Therefore the user's manual is altered as well. The renewed ISP® Helix Test System is tested and approved by an independent institute. Test results can be provided on request.

Art.no.: 33002030 3.5 min. at 134C and/or 15 min. at 121C

Art.no.: 33002032 5.3 min. at 134C and/or 15 min. at 121C

Quantity: 1 helix incl. 100 strips

ISP® Seal Check

Besides the traditional packaging of the seal check, Interster offers an adapted pack of this product as well. The new packaging is economically very attractive and offers the product in a smaller quantity of 100 pieces wrapped in cellophane.

Art. No.: 33002565

Quantity: 100 pcs.



Bowie and Dick Type Autoclave Test Pack

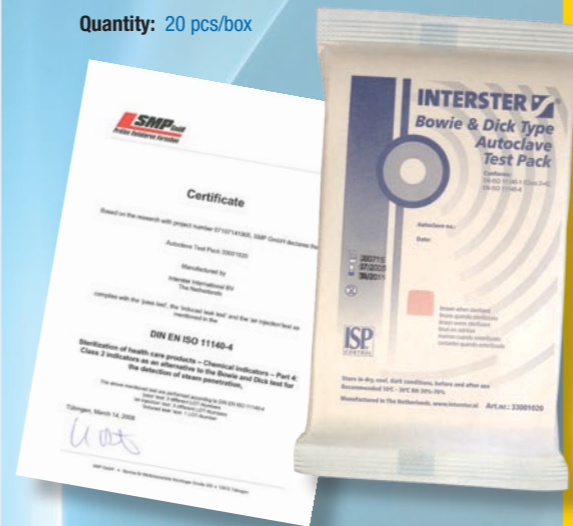
The Bowie and Dick Autoclave Test Pack has a new multi language packaging at the front and the back side of the pack. The information is placed in six languages, namely: English, Italian, German, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

The indicator sheet inside the package has also undergone a facelift. The look of the lay-out has been modernised.

Last but certainly not least: The Interster Bowie and Dick Autoclave Test Pack has been certified independently, which is quite remarkable since nearly no other Bowie and Dick Test has been certified like this before.

Art. No.: 33001020

Quantity: 20 pcs/box



Interster-labelling solution

This labelling device is a new product in our range. The coding machine is very ergonomically, has a first class print quality and is easy to refill. This device is available with two lines, 12 and 11 characters per line and a separate text tag can be added. The device is CE-marked and supplied pre-loaded and ready to use.

We are convinced that this is an indispensable product on every CSSD.

Of course we can provide the labels for this machine as well. These labels are available blank, with a colour bar (sterile until) and full stretch in various colours. They form a substantial component of the Interster registration system.

Medina Healthcare Ltd.

My first contact with Interster must go back 10 years or more. I was at the time trying to build business on the Island of Malta for my employers Vernon Carus Ltd. Little did I know at the time that I would have to go through it all again in 2008 to start my own new business Medina Healthcare Ltd .

Working with Interster over the years was a good experience. Both Tom Treffers and I knew the limitations of the potential of such a small Island as ours. However, we also both knew that a lot of hard work was needed since the Maltese Government was building a new state of the art hospital on the Island and a impressive new CSSD was also being set up within that hospital.

Our main customer on the Island Mr. Mario Sant the CSSD Manager at St Luke's Hospital was clearly determined to set a standard and wanted to upgrade the quality of the reprocessing of instruments at his new CSSD at Mater Dei Hospital.

Together with Interster we worked closely with Mr. Sant and over the years helped him set up an excellent quality system for his CSSD. In the process we succeeded in introducing wrap, tape, monitoring products, registration products and also the DPCD.

At, Medina Healthcare Ltd we feel that working with Interster BV gives us the security of a serious partner and an assurance of continued growth because of Interster's track record of putting products on the market that are well thought through and normally can compete in the market, but above all they always keep us a step ahead of competition.

The customer support department at Interster is also professional in their approach. They react efficiently to market needs and normally find the correct solutions for us to face the stiff competition offered by competitor companies.

Malta although a small market has proven to be a successful market for Interster and we at Medina Healthcare Ltd intend to keep it that way for years to come .

Andrew Cutugno
November 2008, Malta



ISP® Emulating Indicator (class 6) self-adhesive

After the introduction of the new emulating indicator last year, the new size of this indicator has appeared a tremendous success. Since then Interster has been working to improve the product even more. At this moment we are testing a self-adhesive indicator, which enables the customer to archive the indicator much easier to the patients chart. This product simplifies the handling and all information stick together, and completes the file.



Art.no.: 33002061

Quantity: 250 pcs/box

Alterations in standards

Recently the helix system has been taken in EN 285, clause 15. Before, the helix system was mentioned in EN 877-5. The consequence of this alteration is that the helix can be used in autoclaves of class B as well.