Directions for Use

**Famos Bowie-Dick Helix Test for hollow loads and bench top sterilizers Class B**

Reference: 15.100.097, 15.100.098

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1. General Information

The **Bowie-Dick Helix Test** is used as a daily Bowie-Dick test for pre-vacuum hospital sterilizers and for bench top steam sterilizers Class B for steam penetration and inert gases. The Bowie-Dick Helix test is an excellent test to detect even the smallest amounts of inert gases and steam penetration capabilities.

The EN 867 Part 5 is describing a Helix PCD based steam penetration test as an alternative for the Bowie-Dick Test for bench top steam sterilizers Class B. the EN 285 is specifying the Bowie-Dick Helix test for hospital steam sterilizers when it is mainly used to sterilize hollow loads.

The Bowie-Dick Helix test is not replacing routine monitoring of cycles. This should be done by lot control sets and/or in pack integrators.

2. Directions for use:

1. Open the process challenging device (PCD) by unscrewing the cap.
2. Fold the strip in the middle (with the indicator field pointing to the inside), place it with the break down in the head of the PCD and screw it tight.
3. Put the PCD in the cotton bag (the open end of the tube shows to the closed side of the bag), place it on the mid and near the bottom of the sterilizer and sterilize it using the Bowie-Dick test program.
4. After the process stopped, take out the PCD from the sterilizer, open the PCD and remove the indicator (eventual with means of a pair of tweezers).
5. Interpret the indicator referring to the color change chart and stick the indicator on your daily record sheet for documentation purposes. Or simply insert the indicator into your SASCI device and let SASCI to interpret the color.

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1 SASCI is a development of Famos GmbH. The device interprets the color change of the chemical indicator strips, judges if there is a PASS or FAIL with the color change and saves the data in your computer.
3. Color change chart

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The Bowie-Dick Helix test does not replace the periodical test with biological indicators.