Terragene®

Rev. 1 | June 2021

Bowie-Dick Test Pack

GOOD PRACTICES

Chemdye® Bowie-Dick Test Pack detects air leaks, inadequate air removal and steam penetration level in vacuum-assisted steam sterilizers. The Chemdye® Bowie-Dick Test Pack consists of a chemical indicator sheet between porous material sheets and wrapped forming a package, with a steam indicator label. The central sheet, with a regular pattern, corresponds to a Bowie-Dick classic indicator.

Terragene® manufacture different presentations of Bowie-Dick Test Packs according to the market demands and regulations.

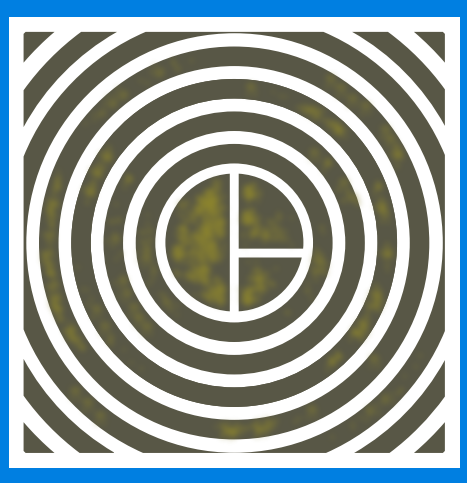
Product code	Validated according to:	Emulated handmade package	Bowie-Dick cycle conditions
BD125X/1	ISO11140-5:2014	4kg handmade pack AAMI ST79	3.5 minutes at 134ºC / 273°F 4 minutes at 132°C / 270 °F
BD125X/2	ISO11140-4:2014	7kg handmade pack EN 285	16.9 minutes at 121°C / 250°F 4 minutes at 132°C / 270 °F 3.5 minutes at 134°C / 273°F
BD125X10/2	ISO11140-4:2014	7kg handmade pack EN 285	10 minutes at 121°C / 250°F

The Bowie-Dick Test Pack should be used daily, before running the first load of the day, after a sterilizer is installed or relocated, after a sterilizer malfunction, after sterilization process failures and after any major repairs of the sterilizer. A shortened cycle (i.e., a cycle omitting the post-vacuum drying phase) should be run first to properly heat up the sterilizer.

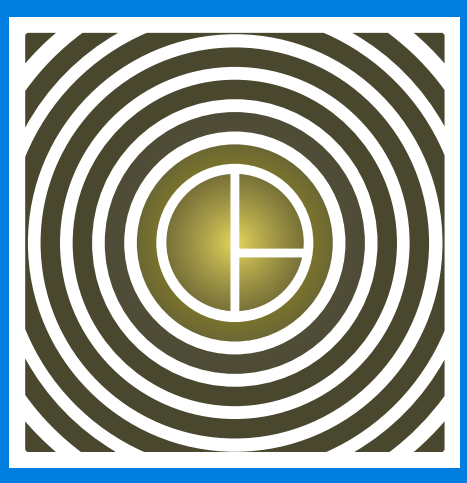
Follow the instruction below for a valid result of the Bowie-Dick test:

Place the Bowie-Dick Test Pack horizontally with its label facing up in an empty vacuum-assisted sterilizer chamber, in the bottom/front of the sterilizer rack, and over the drain.
Run the corresponding Bowie-Dick cycle.
After completing the cycle, retrieve and examine the chemical indicator sheet.

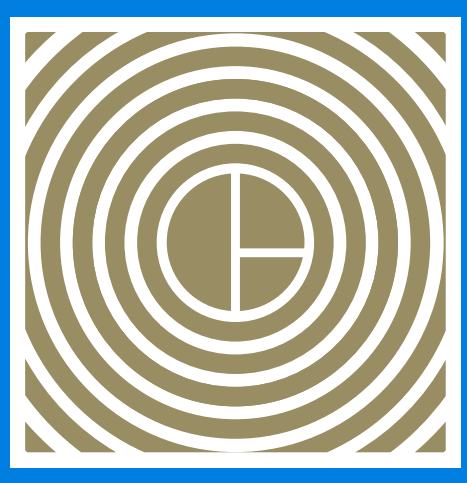
This indicator changes from yellow to dark brown/black when processed. Any unexpected color change, such as lighter areas in the center of the sheet or different colors in the edges (i.e., a non-uniform color change) indicates an air pocket during the cycle due to sterilizer malfunction. Some examples below:



Superheated steam or non condensable gases



Large amount of residual air inside the chamber



Poor quality wet steam

For more information visit
www.terragene.com