3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Test Packs

Test with Confidence

Pb
Lead Free

The proven, reliable way to monitor steam sterilizer performance – now lead-free!

Equivalent in performance to Bowie-Dick towel pack described in ANSI/AAMI ST79

- Detects residual air in the sterilizer due to air removal failures
- Easy to read yellow-to-black color change
- Lead-free chemistry eliminates disposal headaches

3M

New lead-free construction

Designed to protect the health and safety of patients – and the community

3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Test Packs are used to monitor the performance of vacuum-assisted 132°C - 134°C (270°F - 273°F) steam sterilizers; test packs will reproducibly detect residual air in the sterilizer chamber due to air leaks, air removal failures and inadequate vacuum – any of which can compromise sterility.

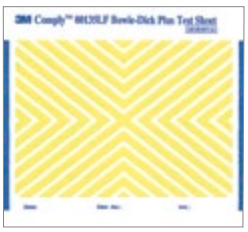
Healthcare facilities around the world have used Comply Bowie-Dick Test Packs with confidence for years, because of their reliability, consistency and ease of use. Now, 3M Comply Bowie-Dick products are re-engineered to be lead-free, so you can continue to enjoy the same safe, high level of performance – with the added peace-of-mind that comes from an environmentally-responsible solution.

3M™ Comply™ 00135LF Bowie-Dick Plus Test Pack with Early Warning Test Sheet consists of chemical indicators on two test sheets positioned inside porous materials and sealed inside a disposable outer wrap. The primary test sheet will turn a uniform dark brown/black color, except when air removal failures such as air leaks occur. An air removal failure is indicated as a lighter-colored area in the center of an otherwise dark colored test sheet.

In addition to the primary Bowie-Dick test sheet, an early warning indicator sheet identifies problems sooner, so the sterilizer may be repaired before it must be taken out of use. This sheet has an indicator dot that turns from yellow to dark brown/black for early detection of air removal failures before they appear on the primary test sheet.

3M™ Comply™ 1233LF Bowie-Dick Test Pack consists of a test sheet positioned inside porous materials and sealed inside a disposable outer wrap. The test sheet will turn a uniform dark brown/black color, except when air removal failures such as air leaks occur. An air removal failure is indicated as a lighter-colored area in the center of an otherwise dark colored test sheet.

All 3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick products have the same light-yellow chemical indicator that turns a uniform dark brown/black if the sterilizer is functioning. Any unexpected color change, such as the center of the test sheet being paler or a different color than the edges (i.e., there is a non-uniform color change) indicates that there was an air pocket present during the cycle. Sterilizers in which test sheets show a non-uniform color development should be shut down and not put into service until further investigated.



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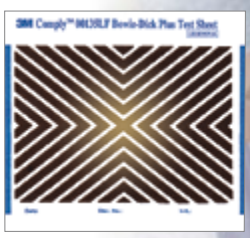

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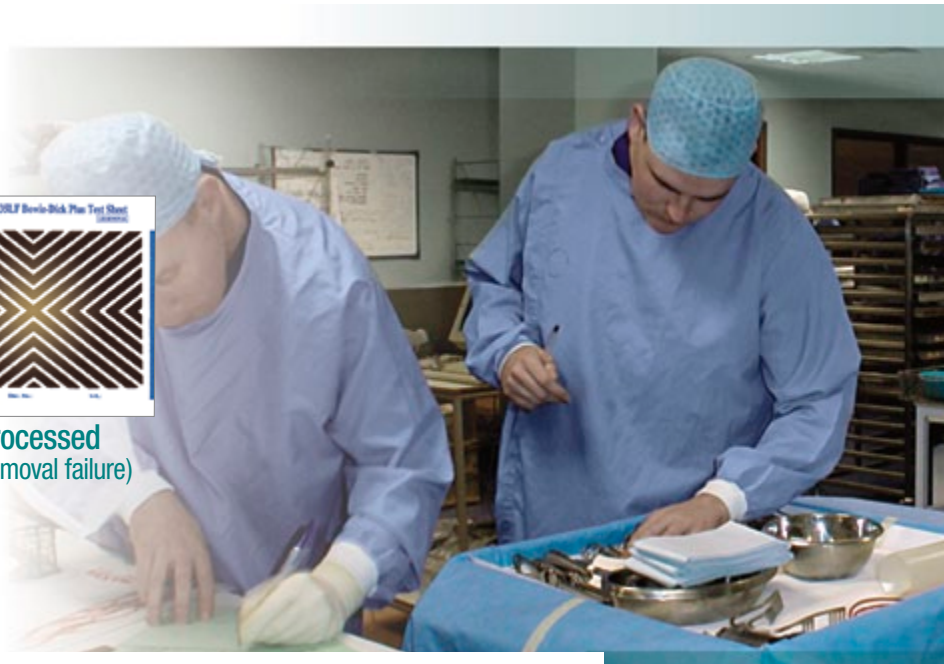

3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Plus Test Packs Engineered for more confidence, more peace-of-mind

- **Sensitive:** Steam sensitive chemical indicator for routine identification of air leaks and vacuum deficiencies.
- **Reliable:** Test pack is equivalent in performance to the Bowie-Dick towel pack described in ANSI/AAMI ST79.
- **Consistent:** Manufactured to rigid specifications so labor cost can be reduced and inconsistencies of assembling test packs on-site can be avoided.
- **Easy-to-read and record:** Diagonal light yellow chemical indicator stripes turn a dark brown/black when air removal is effective. Test sheets can be filed for quality assurance records.
- **Lead-free construction:** Eliminates compliance concerns – dispose with ordinary non-hazardous waste.[1]

[1] Below the RCRA (Resource Conservation & Recovery Act) 5 mg/l limit for lead as tested per the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP).

same trusted performance

Why is it so important to "get the lead out?"

Lead is a soft, dense, grayish metal that has been used for thousands of years in the manufacture of products ranging from plumbing pipes to cosmetics.

The problem with lead is that, in sufficient quantities, it is poisonous, and can cause a variety of serious health effects, including neurological damage, blindness, kidney failure – and can even lead to death. It is especially dangerous to young children.

Lead is considered a "hazardous waste" under the Federal Resource, Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA), which is the basis of U.S. EPA regulations for hazardous waste.

Congress has authorized the states to carry out many of the functions of RCRA through their own hazardous waste programs. Most state laws and regulations are at least as stringent as the federal rules and are often even tougher. For example, nineteen U.S. states now prohibit the sale or distribution of packaging that intentionally contains lead or other toxic metals. The purpose of these laws is to prevent the use of toxic heavy metals that enter landfills, waste incinerators, recycling streams, and ultimately, the environment.

Hospitals can incur heavy fines and penalties for RCRA violations, including failure to make a hazardous waste determination, improper disposal, improper hazardous waste labeling and lack of personnel training. Each facility must assess its own individual waste stream profile and develop appropriate disposal procedures consistent with local, state and federal regulations. The EPA regulation for hazardous waste disposal is described in the Code of Federal Regulations document, 40 CFR 261.24.

Determining the amount of lead waste generated by the use of lead-containing products, and how properly to dispose of it, can be very a complex and costly process.

As concern about the long-term health effects of lead and other toxic metals continues to grow, it is almost certain that regulations on the use and disposal of lead-containing products will become increasingly restrictive, complex and costly for healthcare facilities to follow. That's why standardizing on lead-free products, such as 3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Test Packs, makes such good sense – by helping to simplify operations, avoiding the risk of penalties for non-compliance, and enhancing your reputation for good environmental stewardship.

Standardize to the Core

3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Plus Test Packs are one of the "Core Four" 3M sterilization products. By standardizing on the Core Four, and following AAMI and AORN recommended standards and practices, you can be confident that you are doing your best for your facility and its patients.

Best Practices

- The Bowie-Dick test should always be run in a warm sterilizer to avoid false failures
- Place the Bowie-Dick test pack on the bottom shelf of the cart, over the drain, in an empty sterilizer
- Bowie-Dick test packs should be used daily; after a sterilizer is installed or relocated; after a sterilizer malfunction; after sterilization process failures; and after any major repairs of the sterilizer

Ordering Information

Cat. No.	Product Name	Size (cm)	Items/Box	Boxes/Case
00135LF	3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Plus Test Pack	5 x 4⅜ x ¾" (12,7 x 11,1 x 1,9 cm)	30	1
1233LF	3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Test Pack	5 x 4⅜ x ¾" (12,7 x 11,1 x 1,9 cm)	30	1
00130LF	3M™ Comply™ Bowie-Dick Test Sheet	8-1/2 x 11" (21,6 x 27,9 cm)	50	6

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