3M Infection Prevention Solutions

3M™ Comply™ Lead Free Indicator Tape for Steam Sterilization

Simple Reliable Lead-Free

The industry standard for exposure monitoring. Now lead-free!

- Shows at a glance whether packs have been exposed to a steam sterilization process
- Accepts hand-writing and labeling
- Does not require hazardous waste disposal

3M Infection Prevention Solutions

Innovation On A Mission

Seals securely

3M

New lead-free construction – same trusted adhesive performance

The simple, convenient, sustainable way to check packs for sterilization exposure

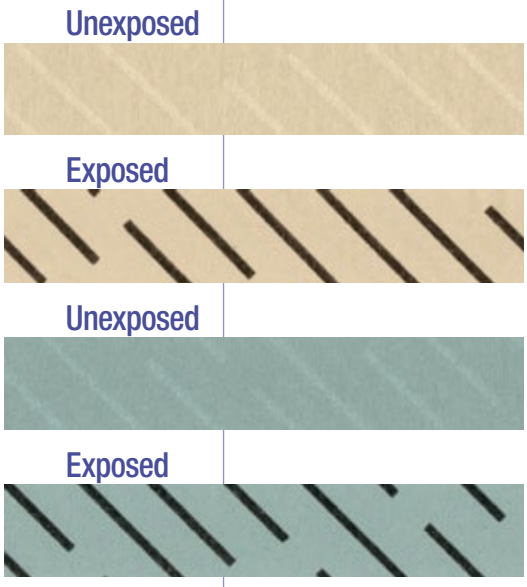
3M™ Comply™ Steam Indicator Tapes are external chemical indicators used to securely seal the wrapping on instrument packs. They provide the sterilizer operator with visual assurance that each package has been exposed to the sterilization process, without having to open the pack.

Available in two adhesive types – one for all wraps, another specifically for disposable wraps – Comply Steam Indicator Tapes feature a stretchable backing that minimizes tape "pop-off" during sterilization. And they can be written on or labeled with pre-printed labels, such as 3M™ Comply™ Sterilization Load Labels.

Healthcare facilities around the world have relied on these easy-to-use, economical indicator tapes for more than 60 years. Now, thanks to our new lead-free construction, you can enjoy that same level of trusted performance – without the hassles and expense of managing and disposing potentially hazardous waste.

3M™ Comply™ 1322 Steam Indicator Tape is designed for use on all wraps. Provides a secure seal and is easy to remove from reusable wraps.

3M™ Comply™ 1355 Steam Indicator Tape is specifically designed for use with disposable wraps. It features an aggressive adhesive to secure packs during and after processing.



The chemical indicator ink, printed in a diagonal striped pattern, changes color or turns darker when exposed to steam.

Simplify operations, avoid non-compliance

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.

The problem is, hospitals are full of products that could be considered hazardous waste once they are thrown away – and often you might never even know that a product contains a regulated material until you are cited for a violation. For example, lead has been used for decades as an ingredient in the specialized inks used in the manufacture of hospital sterilizer indicator/autoclave tapes and cards. When discarded, these can be considered toxic hazardous wastes, depending on the amount and concentration of lead that is disposed of at any given time.

Determining the amount of lead waste generated by the use of these products, and how properly to dispose of it, can be very a complex and costly process. For example, lead-containing autoclave tape attached to packages wrapped in hospital "blue wrap" might be considered hazardous waste, while the wrap itself would not. The amount of lead contained in a day's worth of discarded packages therefore would have to be calculated by first determining the average length of tape per square foot of wrap and then multiplying that by the concentration of lead in that length.

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™ Steam Indicator Tapes, make such good sense – by helping to simplify operations, avoid the risk of penalties for non-compliance, and enhancing your reputation for good environmental stewardship.

Best Practices

- Use an external chemical indicator on the outside of each package
- If a package allows for visual inspection of an internal indicator (such as those with paper/plastic packaging), an external indicator is not required

Why it is 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.

Increasingly-stringent regulatory actions, such as the elimination of lead in gasoline and household paints, have reduced the amount of lead that reaches the environment; however, lead can still be found in a wide range of products, from fishing tackle and automobile wheel weights to car batteries. If improperly disposed of, lead from these products can leach into the air, water and soil – creating conditions that are potentially lethal to people and aquatic life.

Standardize to the Core

3M™ Comply™ Steam Indicator Tapes 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.

Ordering Information

Class 1: Conforms to ANSI/AAMII/ISO 11140-1:2005

Catalog Number	Product Name	Size	Rolls/ Intermediate	Rolls/Case
1322-12MM	3M™ Comply™ Lead Free Steam Indicator Tape (designed for use on all wraps)	0.47 in x 60 yd (12mm x 55m)	–	42
1322-18MM		0.70 in x 60 yd (18mm x 55m)	–	28
1322-24MM		0.94 in x 60 yd (24mm x 55m)	–	20
1322-48MM		1.89 in x 60 yd (48mm x 55m)	–	10
1355-18MM	3M™ Comply™ Lead Free Indicator Tape (designed for use on disposable wraps)	0.70 in x 60 yd (18mm x 55m)	–	28
1355-24MM		0.94 in x 60 yd (24mm x 55m)	–	20

Note: Contains dry natural rubber.

Indicator Tape Dispenser

Catalog Number	Product Name	Description	Items/Box	Boxes/Case
C22	Heavy Duty Tape Dispenser	Holds 2 rolls	1	2
M52	Heavy Duty Tape Dispenser	With Tabber	1	1

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