Water temperature is a key to cleaning performance. In general, the warmer the water, the more effective the cleaning action. However, with each method and at each stage of cleaning, it is important that the water not exceed a certain temperature. When using an Automated Instrument Washer, the initial rinse water should not exceed 45°C (113°F) and it is suggested temperatures remain significantly below this level. At 45°C, blood is cooked on to instruments and becomes highly insolvent - making removal very difficult. Temp-90 is a simple method for verifying and documenting the temperature. Water temperature is also the key source of thermal disinfection. TempaChek-170 provides a permanent and independent measure of the surface temperature achieved during this critical phase of the process.

Can you see water quality? With the AquaTest™ strip you can. In less than 30 seconds, this simple to use test shows you 3 key water quality statistics identified in AAMI TIR34: pH, Alkalinity and Hardness. With the easy to interpret color change these values can be measured and recorded for the thorough documentation of water quality. Hardness is measured from soft (0) to very hard (1000 ppm CaCO$_3$). pH is measured from very acid (2) to very alkaline (12), encompassing the optimum range for enzyme cleaners. AquaTest™ reports total alkalinity from 0 to 500ppm CaCO$_3$.

Visualize the Temperature with TempaChek™

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The TEMP-HL is an irreversible, disposable thermometer that has the ability to indicate both high and low temperatures to ensure that reprocessed items stay within a desired temperature range during transportation of goods. When the temperature gets to 0°C, a distinct clear to red color change occurs. Conversely, when the temperature exceeds 29°C, the color changes from white to black.
Find the Right Level With The Healthmark Watermark™

The Healthmark Watermark™ is a bumper sticker sized liquid crystal thermometer with a "water fill line" that adheres to the inside of a manual or ultrasonic bath. Following the instructions of your detergent manufacturer, determine the appropriate water level for the bath. In the white space, record the volume of water. Staff should then be instructed as to the amount of detergent to add to the bath, in accordance with the detergent manufacturer's IFU. Unique to the Healthmark Watermark™ is an easy to read liquid crystal thermometer located below the fill line. By monitoring the temperature (70°-150°F), staff can be sure the solution is in the proper range as directed by the detergent manufacturer's IFU. Measures 12"w x 3"h.

The TEMPACHEK-LC is a liquid crystal thermometer that can be mounted to the side of the bath, below the water line. This inexpensive and reusable thermometer will display the real time temperature of the bath, providing valuable feedback about the appropriateness of the bath temperature when compared to the temperature recommended by the detergent manufacturer.

Log the Environmental Conditions with TEMPUSB Devices

The TEMP-USB-TH measures over 250,000 temperature and humidity readings ranging from -22 to 176°F and 0 to 100% relative humidity. This temperature and humidity data logger is perfect for a CP department where temperature and humidity control is crucial.

The TEMP-USB-TP offers solely temperature readings but has the advantage of dual temperature probes which can gather over 250,000 readings (-40 to 257°F) via two separate probes. This temperature data logger is perfect for a CP department where temperature control is crucial.

The Temp-DL USB is a thermologger capable of measuring the water temperature through the cycle. With the included software, plug the datalogger into your PC and download, graph and save the full temperature profile of your washer. Coming soon is the TEMP-DL-TH datalogger that gives you continuous temperature measurement during transporation and storage.
LumCheck™ is the first test designed as an independent check on the cleaning performance of rigid scope cleaners, including irrigating ultrasonics. The LumCheck™ is made up of three key components: The test soil, the stainless steel plate and the LumCheck™ holder. The soil is composed of blood components mixed and applied in a precise manufacturing process. As a result, it provides a consistent challenge to the cleaning effectiveness of the MIS cleaning device. The stainless steel plate is “scratched,” replicating the uneven interior of lumen instruments. The holder enables the attachment of the test to the cleaning equipment and also replicates the cleaning challenge of cannulated instruments. After running the LumCheck™ test through a cleaning cycle, remove the test from the holder. Examine the stainless steel plate for the presence of soil. The LumCheck™ should be visually clean. LumCheck™ complies with ASTM Guide D7225.

The FlexiCheck™ is a three part kit that simulates a flexible endoscope channel and is designed to challenge the cleaning efficiency of endoscope washers. The kit includes a flexible tube, attached to a stainless steel lumen device. The test coupon is placed in the lumen and the entire device is hooked up to the irrigation port of the washer. The test coupon includes two soils, components of blood soil and polysaccharide soil. These soils are the types which are often found within the channels of flexible endoscopes and represent a significant cleaning challenge. When processed through a cleaning cycle, the endoscope washer should completely remove both soils from the test coupon.

Cart washers are important tools in the overall effort to reduce cross contamination. Often they are used to clean not just surgical case carts, but also basins, instrument trays, wheel chairs and other supply and patient transport equipment. The CartWashCheck™ is designed to challenge the mechanical efficiency of the cart washer. These convenient tests can be quickly and easily adhered to any metal surface with the peel off adhesive back. Place these tests on surfaces that are furthest from the washer jets or in areas where coverage is the most difficult. The dark blue square should wash, leaving a white square. This demonstrates that water is reaching the area tested and indicates proper mechanical action. Further, the test reports common maximum temperature levels cart washers are programmed to reach: 120°F, 150°F & 180°F. The irreversible thermometer reports the highest temperature reached during the cycle.

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Reveal the Hidden Areas of Surgical Instruments with the TOSI® Instrument Washer Test

Reveal the hidden areas of instruments with the TOSI® washer test, the easy to use blood soil device that directly correlates to the cleaning challenge of surgical instruments. TOSI® is the first and only device to provide a consistent, repeatable, and reliable method for evaluating the cleaning effectiveness of the automated instrument washer.

This is possible, because the blood soil is manufactured to exacting specifications each and every time. When metered on to the stainless steel plate, the TOSI® is completely analogous to a stainless steel instrument soiled with dried blood. Placed in the see-through plastic holder, the challenge is identical to the areas of instruments typically hidden from view (i.e., box locks).

The routine use of this test will help ensure that your washer is performing at a consistent level, enhancing the routine visual inspection of instruments. TOSI® complies with new AAMI and AORN Guidelines as well as ASTM Guide D7225.

Make the Invisible, Visible with SonoCheck™

It is invisible to the human eye, but with the SonoCheck™ you can test for the presence of cavitation energy - the cleaning power - of your ultrasonic cleaner.

Ultrasonic cleaning is a result of sound waves introduced into a cleaning liquid by a series of transducers. The sound travels throughout the tank and creates waves of compression and expansion. During the expansion wave, molecules of the liquid are pulled dramatically, ripping them apart. This creates microscopic vacuum cavities. As the pressure around these cavities becomes greater, they collapse violently, forming voids - a process called cavitation. This creates extreme temperature and combines with the velocity of the liquid jet to deliver a very intense cleaning action in a minute area.

When the ultrasonic cleaner is supplying sufficient energy and conditions are correct, SonoCheck™ will change color. Problems such as insufficient energy, overloading, water level, improper temperature and degassing will increase the time needed for the color change. In the case of major problems the SonoCheck™ will not change color at all.
**Test Beyond What Can Be Seen with HemoCheck™**

Stains come in all sizes, shapes and intensity. Sometimes a stain can appear quite benign, or not be easily detected by the human eye. Go beyond what you can see and test the cleanliness of instruments with the HemoCheck™ blood detection kit. Finding a stain on an instrument that has gone through reprocessing is never good. If the stain is blood, the implications are even more serious. Take the guess work out of evaluating the cleanliness of instruments with the HemoCheck™ blood residue test kit. The HemoCheck™ is an all-in-one test, provides a result in 30 seconds, is simple to interpret and indicates blood residue down to 0.1µg. Significant traces of blood indicate an inadequately reprocessed instrument and is a rich source for cross contamination.

To use the HemoCheck™, simply swipe the surface of the instrument, drop the swab in the activated indicator, shake vigorously, wait for 30 seconds and check for color change. If the swab remains yellow, the instrument is free of blood. If any area of the swab turns green or blue, the surface harbors blood residue and should be reprocessed. If many instruments are found to be soiled, a thorough evaluation of the decontamination processes should be conducted. HemoCheck™ complies with ASTM Guide D7225.

**Expose Contaminants on Surfaces with ProChek-II™**

It looks clean. But is it? Take the guess work out of evaluating the cleanliness of surfaces with the ProChek-II™ protein swab test. The ProChek-II™ is simple to use, provides a rapid result, is an all-in-one test, and is easy to interpret. The ProChek-II™ measures for residual protein on surfaces. Protein is a significant component of bioburden. Traces of protein indicate an unclean surface and a likely source of cross contamination. A successful test is a documented record of a properly cleaned surface.

To use the ProChek-II™, use the supplied premoistened swab, swab the surface of the item being tested, cut the swab into the vial and shake vigorously. If the color of the liquid remains brownish yellow, the surface is demonstrably clean. If the liquid or any part of swab turns blue, the surface harbors protein and should be re-cleaned. The test is sensitive to 1 µg of protein.
ChannelCheck™ is the first product capable of testing virtually any lumened instrument for residual organic soils, no matter the channel size.

ChannelCheck™ tests for three common organic soils at once: blood, protein and carbohydrates.

Simply flush an individual channel with commercially available, prepackaged sterile water (i.e. sterile water for irrigation) and recover that water in a clean (preferably sterile) container. Then dip the test strip as directed.

Remove the strip, wait 90 seconds and then compare the color of the pads to the results chart. Should any of the pads indicate there is residual soil, reclean the device and then retest.
Flexible endoscopes are a challenge to clean and disinfect/sterilize. Modern machines such as AER’s are effective tools for rendering scopes safe for use on the next patient, but how do you determine if the process was effective? By screening them with the new NOW! Test™.

This simple and rapid test (<12 hours) checks for Gram negative bacteria, helping to ensure that it is safe to use on the next patient. Utilizing a unique enzyme detection method, the easy to read fluorometer checks for the Gram negative bacterial growth (<10 cfu) by reading telltale fluorescence in the recaptured water. If the fluorometer reading is positive for Gram negative bacteria, reprocess the endoscope following manufacturer guidelines prior to use.

Next, perform an audit with the Flexible Endoscope Sampling Kit. Its a surveillance audit tool for the random testing of duodenoscopes in compliance with CDC guidelines. This is a simple and complete kit for collecting a sample from a flexible endoscope and shipping that sample overnight to the leader in testing of flexible endoscopes, Nelson Laboratories, for thorough independent analysis and reporting of results.

**ProChek-W™ Semi-Quantitative Protein Test**

Designed to take the guesswork out of evaluating the cleanliness of items, the Semi-Quantitative Protein Test checks for residual protein on items after post-procedure cleaning prior to further processing. Protein is a significant component of bioburden. Improper cleaning can lead to the build-up of bioburden - representing not only a source of cross-contamination but shortening the useful life of the item itself. The ProChek™-Semi-Quantitative Protein Test is an easy to use and interpret method, which provides rapid results and comes with the following: 15 Protein Reagent Vials, 15 Blue Vial Screw Caps, 15 Pipettes, 15 Ziploc Bags, and an Interpretation Color Chart. The Semi-Quantitative Protein Test is available for individual purchase.
Comply with AORN & AAMI Guidelines for Comprehensive Weekly Testing with ProFormance™ Washer Test Kits

New guidelines from AORN (Recommended Practices for Cleaning and Care of Surgical Instruments and Powered Equipment, Section XXII.a) and AAMI ST79 Comprehensive Guide to Steam Sterilization and Sterility Assurance in Health Care Facilities) call for weekly testing of the automated instrument washer. Our Weekly Washer Test Kits are the comprehensive solution. These kits include tests to measure water temperature, water quality, cleaning efficiency, and directly test residual soil left on instruments, all parameters cited by AAMI and AORN as crucial for the routine testing of instrument reprocessing.

### ProformanceQA.com

Tired of writing down QA test records? Healthmark now offers a simplified solution to keep up to date log records on your PC. ProformanceQA™ is a single database that allows you record key statistics for a variety infection control records. This program not only records your data, it uses that information to generate impactful reports you can use to track the performance of your cleaning equipment over a period of time.