

Case Study: Medical Device Manufacturing

Background

The organization involved has requested to remain confidential. This Mesa Labs customer is a medical device manufacturer with a number of large industrial autoclaves which are used for sterilization of their product. Industry regulation requires validation of the sterilization cycle by monitoring the product temperature during the autoclave cycle.

The Challenge

The customer had been using a wired monitoring system with thermocouples to monitor the temperature of their product. The wires of the system had to go through a vessel port and there was a limit of 10-12 wires or thermocouples per vessel/sterilizer or 10-12 temperature readings.

The wires had a tendency to break when employees would load or unload the autoclave. Also, the process of preparing and installing the wired monitoring system for reading product temperatures in the autoclave took up to 8 hours for one employee to perform.

The Solutions

Mesa Labs' wireless DataTrace system allows for a much more rapid set-up – approximately two hours. This cut the preparation and installation time by six hours! By using Mesa's wireless system, the customer was also able to use an unlimited amount of data loggers, allowing for greater amounts of temperature readings, in the autoclave. The customer now uses between 30 and 82 Mesa MPIII data loggers per vessel, increasing their accuracy and efficiency.

