

Drying Cycle is Important

Many of the professionals you call on daily, may not realize that the autoclave drying cycle is almost as important as the sterilization cycle. Instruments not intended for immediate use must be wrapped for storage and must remain sterile until they are

introduced to the patient. Packs and pouches must be dry before they are removed from the autoclave so they can seal properly and maintain the sterility of the instruments. A problem may arise if packs are removed wet or damp, as moisture can “wick” contaminants through the packs and compromise the sterility. Wet packs are also more prone to tear or puncture. **Chris H. Miller, PhD**, retired Professor Emeritus of Oral Microbiology at the Indiana University School of Dentistry, considered by many to be the national guru of sterilization and infection control,

wrote in his “Infection Control Report” column, published in the July, 2008 issue of “Dental Products Report”:

“If packages are removed from steam sterilizers while still wet, microbes from the air, dust, oral spatter, and solid surfaces that contact the wet paper portion of the packaging material will be drawn (wicked) through to the package interior, contaminating the package contents.”

Tuttnauer’s **EA** Automatic Autoclaves (Product #'s **2340EA**, **2540EA** & **2540EKA**) totally eliminate the “Wet Pack Problem” by providing **Active Closed Door Drying**”

During the **EA** drying cycle the chamber door remains closed. A pump pulls room air through a 0.2 micron Hepa filter. The Hepa filter prevents bacteria from entering the chamber.



While the heaters are on, it circulates the filtered air throughout the chamber. Once the “**Active Closed Door Drying**” cycle is complete, the unit automatically turns itself off. Right then, or at any time thereafter, when the chamber door is opened, no steam escapes, because there is no moisture within the chamber. All packs are totally dry and ready for storage. You wouldn’t drive a racecar without wearing a helmet, or a race car that didn’t have all the “state of art” safety features. Why would anyone sterilize medical instruments in an autoclave that did not have

“Active Closed Door Drying”

All physicians, and staff members who sterilize instruments in their office, will benefit from the **EA** Series Features Help your customers understand what **Active Closed Door Drying** is, and how, with an **EA Autoclave**, they can establish the most effective and efficient instrument sterilization program available. Educate them on the benefits of a Tuttnauer **EA autoclave** which besides the active closed door drying include complying with International Standards and Directives (FDA, UL, ASME, CE Medical Device etc.), safety, fully automatic cycle and durability. They’ll see the difference, and you’ll both be winners.

