# INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE



### **BOWIE DICK TEST SHEET**

## DIRECTIONS FOR USE

- 1. Run a shortened cycle (omitting the drying phase) to properly heat the sterilizer.
- 2. Place a Bowie-Dick Test Sheet in the middle of a towel pack made to specification.
- 3. Place the towel pack on the bottom of the sterilizer nearest the drain.
- 4. Run a Bowie-Dick test cycle as specified by the sterilizer manufacturer.
- 5. The test should be run for 3.5 minutes at 132°C (USA), 134°C (International). The cycle time must never exceed 4 minutes.
- 6. A short dry time of 2 to 5 minutes will not affect the test.

#### INTERPRETATION

- 1. Remove the towel pack from the sterilizer and open immediately.
- CAUTION: the towel pack will be hot and must be opened carefully to avoid thermal injury.
- 2. Remove indicator sheet from the pack.
- 3. If the sterilizer is functioning normally, the indicator graphic will show a uniform color change to black throughout the entire pattern.
- 4. When a significant amount of residual air is present, the indicator sheet will show a blue/bluish area in the center.

#### **STORAGE**

- 1. Store at normal room temperature,  $60^{\circ}-90^{\circ}$  F (15-30°C), and 35-60% Relative Humidity. Protect from moisture and excess humidity.
- 2. When stored as directed, the products have a shelf life of three years from the date of manufacture.
- 3. The first four digits of the lot number printed on the indicator identify the date of manufacture, i.e. a lot number of 0108xx means the product was manufactured in 2001(01) in August (08).
- 4. All Mesa Bowie-Dick indicator sheets are stable following steam processing and require no special storage conditions.