



Holistic life cycle model checklist for particulate and physical defect prevention and control

A comprehensive checklist of key focus areas within the product life cycle specifically for control of particulate matter and other container or closure defects are listed below:

- Supplier auditing, raw material and component defect attribute descriptions and criticality categories in alignment with finished product particulate and defect control requirements
- Supplier specifications, testing or inspection methods evaluated for effectiveness in controlling particulates and defects
- Supplier quality agreements include finished product particulates and defects quality requirements
- Primary packaging component specifications alignment with finished product particulate and defect requirements
- Primary packaging component specifications to assure minimum siliconization levels for machinability
- Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) specifications alignment with finished product particulate quality requirements
- Raw materials and excipients specifications alignment with finished product particulate quality requirements
- Physical defect and particulate descriptions and library for incoming materials
- Establish Incoming product contact materials particle control, washing or cleaning requirements, such as gaskets, filters, sieves/screens, polymeric tubing, connectors, sterilization wrapping/bags, rigid and flexible plastic process vessels, etc.
- Particulate controls for process related clean room supplies including gowns, gloves, goggles and wipers
- Process gasses and point of use filtration for particulate control
- Process water and point of use filtration for particulate control
- Raw material weighing/handling processing area particulate controls
- Formulation/compounding processing areas particulate controls
- Cellulose free wiping and cleaning materials (synthetic materials) used in processing areas
- Cellulose free wrapping materials (Tyvek) used in processing areas
- Appropriate personnel gowning and goggles to reduce extrinsic particle contamination for equipment cleaning and wrapping in grade D(100,000) and grade C(10000) processing areas
- Equipment/parts washing, wrapping and storage under HEPA laminar flow post-cleaning until sterilization
- Glass container washing reduction studies using membrane filtration microscopic particle counting for visible particle (glass, fibers) evaluation
- Glass container washing reduction studies light obscuration or membrane filtration microscopic reserved for sub-visible particle counting evaluation
- Stopper/elastomer washing reduction studies using membrane filtration microscopic particle counting for visible particle (especially fibers) evaluation
- Stopper/elastomer washing reduction studies using light obscuration or membrane filtration microscopic for sub-visible particle evaluation.
- Processing areas –Depyrogenation tunnel or oven maintenance and cleaning routine schedule



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- Processing areas –Filling (routine pump components inspection/maintenance, needle alignment checks, aseptic procedure for component/stopper replenishment, aseptic operator positioning/movement and component handling, etc.)
- Defined and documented clearance of glass breakage events in all processing steps (after tunnel, filling and stoppering.
- Physical defects (container-closure) critical, major and minor descriptions and library for finished products
- Finished Product appearance descriptions and Library
- Defect standards or test set development, qualification, maintenance
- Test set matrix and inspector qualification schedule related to the product portfolio
- Manual inspection work stations with contrasting black and white backgrounds, stabilized illumination, delineated sample inspection position and human ergonomic considerations
- Manual inspection method development and inspector visible particle size threshold sensitivity qualification
- Inspector vision screening
- Inspector training program
- Training specifically for Stability and Retention inspectors for product, container and elastomer degradation detection
- Inspector qualification with blinded characterized defect test sets (worst case fatigue scenario)
- Inspector fatigue breaks and documentation
- Semi-automated manual inspection method development and inspector defect detection comparison to the qualified manual baseline inspection
- Semi-automated manual inspection work station with stabilized illumination, magnification, 360° sample rotation speed, defined, point of inspection, sample viewing area dwell time, belt speed and machine maintenance
- Automated inspection equipment method development/tuning, particulate and physical defect detection comparison to the qualified manual 100% and or AQL baseline inspection
- Statistical manual AQL inspection at time of release (prior to labeling)
- Database, trending and limits or action level evaluation of test or inspection data from:
 - Suppliers certificate of analysis or conformance to specifications
 - Incoming components or raw materials testing
 - Statistical or periodic in-process manufacturing checks
 - 100% in-process manufacturing inspection
 - Finished product AQL inspection
 - Retention sample inspection
 - Stability sample inspection
 - Customer or field complaints
- Feedback loop of shared trending and data review across the product life cycle departments
- Formalized re-inspection practices
- Reject unit classification and defect population monitoring from 100% in-process inspection
- Reject unit classification and defect population monitoring from AQL inspection
- Investigation process of root cause for non-conformance or out of trend data
- Establishing appropriate corrective or preventative actions