



STERIS CORPORATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STERIS CORPORATION LAUNCHES A DESIGN EVOLUTION FOR HEALTHCARE
STEAM STERILIZERS**

New Amsco® Evolution™ Steam Sterilizer sets an advanced standard for capacity, energy efficiency and remote preventive maintenance

MENTOR, OHIO (September 29, 2009) – It's not news that sterile processing departments are constantly looking for ways to improve safety and productivity, streamline processes, and ensure the reliability of their equipment. It *is* news when a single advanced technology is launched that can help them achieve all these goals, and more.

The all-new Amsco Evolution Steam Sterilizer from STERIS Corporation includes design and functional improvements that are so new that there are few direct comparisons that can be made with earlier systems. Every advance works seamlessly together to optimize throughput and operator safety, and to ensure a very high level of uptime. For example, the Evolution sterilizer is capable of processing the instruments for an entire large orthopedic case in a single load. This sterilizer is also the first to meet the anticipated AAMI recommended pack size of 25 pounds. It has 33% more shelf space and processes a remarkable 96% more instruments by weight than the earlier generation systems. The system's jacketed chamber design allows for an even blanket of steam around the chamber, which greatly reduces internal condensation and helps reduce the possibility of wet packs.

The Amsco Evolution Steam Sterilizer has unprecedented predictive maintenance capabilities as well. The system has sensor technology that is designed to detect utility interruptions. It also has built-in continuous proactive remote monitoring capability that tracks cycle data in real-time, indicates when maintenance is needed, and immediately alerts the department of system issues. As a result, STERIS is the only manufacturer able to offer up to a 99% uptime guarantee on sterilizer operation.*

“We’ve reconceived every aspect of this new steam sterilizer to achieve evolutionary improvements in design that healthcare providers will value, even if they’re not visible to our customers,” comments Stephen Loes, vice president of marketing for the Infection Prevention Technologies division of STERIS. “For example, our service technicians helped us design the unique, easy-access piping package to save time and effort during servicing and to maximize the sterilizer’s uptime.”

Another integral design improvement is the Evolution system’s new long-life pneumatic valves, which have five times the useful life of solenoid valves used in earlier models and require little maintenance. This system also has a high-performance two-stage vacuum pump, which provides a deeper vacuum for improved conditioning and drying during cycles. And the sterilizer’s high-quality plumbing components also help to assure consistent reliability and performance.

In addition, form improves function for the Evolution sterilizers in a number of ways. In addition to a new gently curved front panel, designed to make the sterilizer easy to clean and service, the round or elliptical chambers of these systems are inherently strong and easy to load. What’s more, they promote even pressure and heat distribution, and process each load with minimal steam consumption.

The Evolution system has many significant design improvements that make it easy to use and maintain, such as:

- A new, easy-to-navigate operator interface with color coded direct-touch screens and crisp, clear font that can be seen from a distance
- A new flexible skid system on which all piping and controls are mounted, which allows easy left or right-sided installation to minimize required service clearance
- A new transfer carriage with rotatable casters and positive positioning and locking capability for smooth and easy alignment and transfer of loads
- A totally redesigned loading car that can be removed from the chamber without manual contact, which avoids direct handling of hot loads

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“We continue to find and implement revolutionary ways to improve products and provide start-to-finish support,” adds Marie LaFrance, product manager for steam sterilization at STERIS. “We want customers to be able to focus on getting their instruments prepped, packed and sterilized on time for the OR, not on dealing with our equipment.”

STERIS offers holistic sterilization solutions that include everything from expert facility and equipment planning, to experienced installation and on-site service support, and beyond that, to individual instrument tracking capability and ProConnect™ Response Center predictive maintenance for the life of the systems. “We are a single source for sterile processing solutions,” says LaFrance.

The mission of STERIS Corporation is to provide a healthier today and safer tomorrow through knowledgeable people and innovative infection prevention, decontamination and health science technologies, products and services. The Company's more than 5,000 dedicated employees around the world work together to supply a broad array of equipment, consumables and services solutions to healthcare, pharmaceutical, industrial and government customers. The Company is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol STE. For more information, visit www.steris.com.

**Uptime guarantee for the Amsco Evolution Steam Sterilizer requires connection to the ProConnect™ Response Center and a SecureCareSM service contract.*

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Editor's Note:

For more information about STERIS healthcare technologies, please visit www.steris.com; under the Healthcare menu, select the Infection Prevention Solutions link.

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