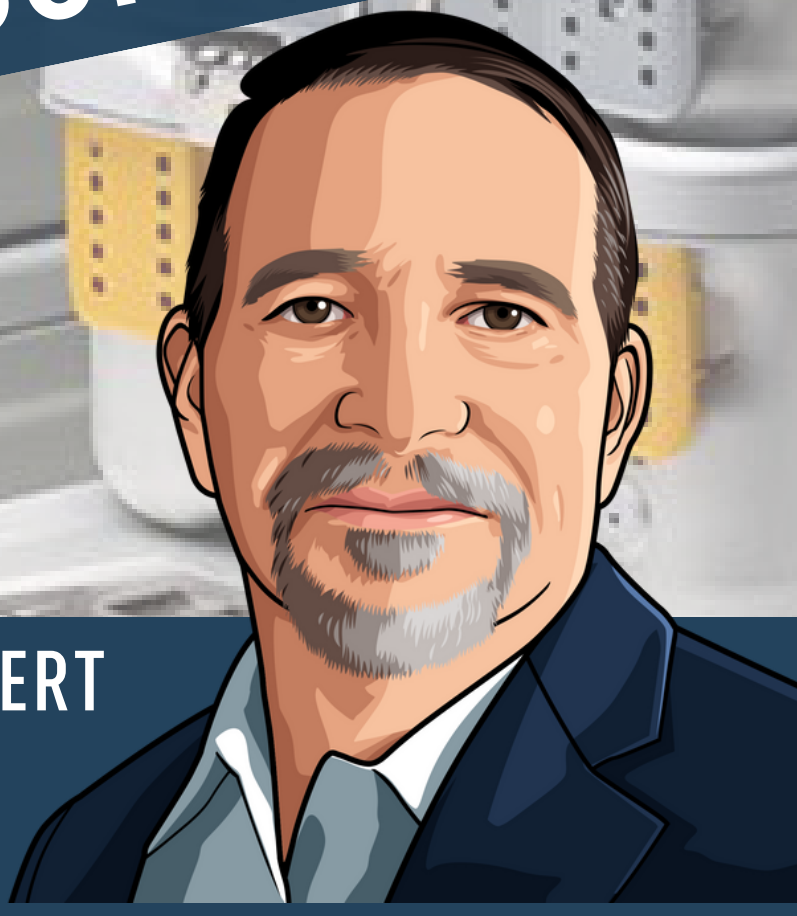
# ASEPTIC PRESENTATION OF RIGID CONTAINERS



STERILE CONTAINERS EXPERT

BEYOND CLEAN


**Mike Strand**

Retired Regional Sales Director | Aesculap

*Beyond Clean Sterile Containers Expert™:*

# ASEPTIC PRESENTATION OF RIGID CONTAINERS

*Mike Strand | Retired Regional Sales Director, Aesculap*

While Sterile Processing Departments rarely give a second thought to aseptic presentation, it is a fundamental component in patient safety and positive clinical results. And, if Sterile Processing technicians do their job well and follow industry guidelines around creating a sterile barrier, the transfer of a sterile item or surgical set to the OR back table goes off without a hitch and the procedure is off to a perfect start.

"Aseptic presentation is the process of transferring sterile contents from its sterile barrier packaging system to a sterile field using procedures that minimize the risk of microbial contamination." Packaging Compliance Labs, pkgcompliance.com, July 2020

While we will agree that the transfer of sterile items to a sterile field is not a Sterile Processing function, the preparation of the sterilized item absolutely is in the hands of the SPD tech, and that preparation is a critical step in the process to help keep patients safe and Hospital Acquired Infections (HAI) at bay.

The Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Hospitals notes there are four aspects of aseptic technique: barriers, (gloves, gowns, drapes), patient equipment and preparation, environmental controls, and contact guidelines. Sterile Processing plays a vital role in the preparation of sterile items that are to be presented to the sterile field and AAMI ST-79 is the field manual that Joint Commission will look to when assessing SPD competency in building a sterile barrier and creating a "tortuous path".

Key notes around the preparation for building a sterile barrier:

·Follow the packaging manufacturer's Instructions for Use (IFU).

·Examine and inspect trays, baskets, liners, containers, etc. to be sure all are functional and assembled correctly.

·Be certain that labeling and indicators are easy to see and read.

·Once sterilized, check for integrity of the packaging.

Have more sterile container questions? Contact Mike at: mike.strand@aesculapusa.com

*Beyond Clean Sterile Containers Expert™ Biography:*

# MIKE STRAND

## RETIRED REGIONAL SALES DIRECTOR

AESCULAP®

Michael started his medical device journey in 1984 and has spent most of his career in Sales and Sales Management in the Pacific Northwest. The past 31 years have been with Aesculap, based in the Seattle area. Currently, Michael is Aesculap's Northwest Healthcare Solutions Regional Sales Director, responsible for 9 Sales Representatives and company growth.

With years of experience, Michael enjoys solution-oriented projects that create efficiency and focuses on industry standards and best practices. A passion for education and teaching keeps Michael engaged with Sterile Processing Departments and Operating Rooms, as well as new hires within his organization.

Aesculap is an industry leader in Surgical Instruments, Sterilization Containers and Technical Repair Services. Helping hospitals Operate with Greater Precision, Aesculap's products and services assist with enhanced Patient Outcomes, create Operational Efficiency, enable Sustainability initiatives, and provide Clinical and Staff Satisfaction.

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