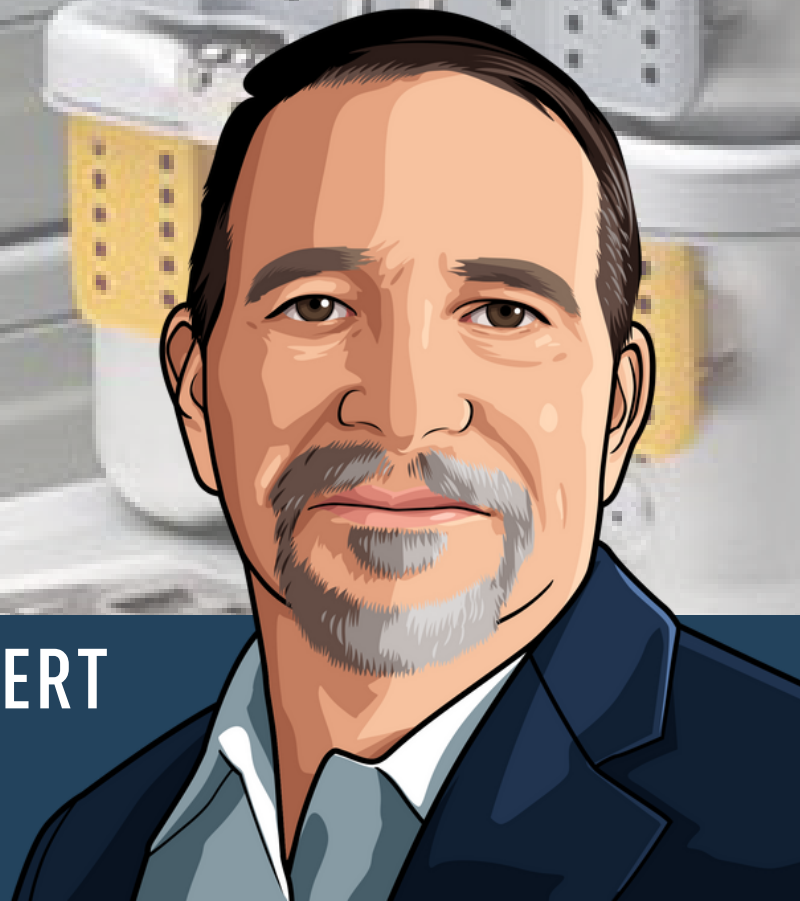


# KEY CHARACTERISTIC OF EFFECTIVE PACKAGING



STERILE CONTAINERS EXPERT

 BEYOND  
CLEAN

**Mike Strand**

Regional Sales Director | Aesculap

*Beyond Clean Sterile Containers Expert™:*

## KEY CHARACTERISTIC OF EFFECTIVE PACKAGING

*Mike Strand | Regional Sales Director, Aesculap*

The characteristic of effective sterile-barrier packaging may seem simple and straight-forward, but those performance-oriented functions must be achieved every time and without fail or compromise. We often know the most obvious functions, which include:

- Allow for penetration and evacuation of the sterilant
- Maintain sterility of the contents until opening
- Allow for aseptic presentation
- Ability to label the packaging

However, there are also a number of other considerations when understanding the efficacy of your sterile-barrier packaging. From AORN recommendations, some others to consider are:

- Protection from damage during transportation, storage, handling
- Free of toxic ingredients or nonfast dyes
- Minimal lint
- Ability to close securely and feature a tamper-evident seal
- Resist tears and punctures
- Correct sizing to evenly distribute the items to be sterilized
- Ease of use, both when preparing and opening the packaging
- Cost-effectiveness
- Access to the manufacturer's Instructions for Use (IFU)

Sterilization Containers will include the above list of considerations and have several more:

- Weight. Container weight and contents should not exceed 25lbs, per AORN and AAMI guidelines
- Ease of carrying and handling
- Prepping characteristics, such as loading, closing, locking
- Stacking capability for transport and shelf storage
- Ease of use and effective filter retention mechanisms
- Ability to stack internal baskets
- Wide variety of sizes
- Compatibility with the various sterilization modalities

Have more sterile container questions? Contact Mike at: [mike.strand@aesculapusa.com](mailto:mike.strand@aesculapusa.com)

*Beyond Clean Sterile Containers Expert™ Biography:*

**MIKE STRAND**  
**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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