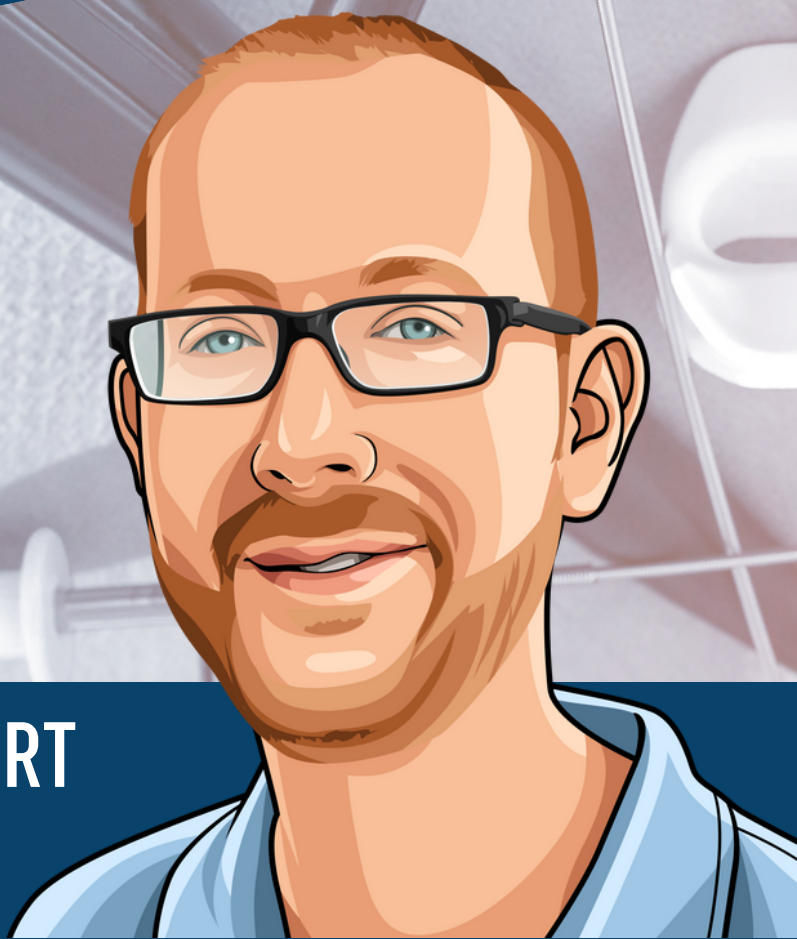




3 EASY WAYS TO IMPLEMENT A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO DEVICE MAINTENANCE



FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPE EXPERT



BEYOND
CLEAN

Michael Matthews
Director of Customer Training and
Education | Agiliti

Beyond Clean Flexible Endoscope Expert™:

3 Easy Ways to Implement a Proactive Approach to Device Maintenance

*Michael Matthews, MBA, CLSSGB, CRCST, CIS, CHL
Director of Customer Training and Education | Agiliti*

In my last Expert Series article, I made my case as to why a proactive approach to device care is safer for patients, better for workers, and ultimately less expensive. The good news is there are easy ways to get started without adding more to your current workload:

- **Implement a time-based maintenance schedule:** The easiest way to get started is to set a regularly scheduled time to send flexible scopes out for repair – proactively. Your repair vendor should be able to provide you with data about your current frequency of repairs, which will help you establish the appropriate timeframes.
- **Work your way to a usage-based maintenance schedule:** While a time-based method is easier to implement, usage-based maintenance is more accurate. Instead of sending a scope out every six months, for example, you send a scope out for repair after a predetermined number of uses. This method mitigates fluctuations in caseloads that a time-based system can miss. Partner with your repair vendor to determine the average number of uses before a scope should be sent out for repair.
- **Utilize Preventive Maintenance Inspections (as part of a QA Program):** It's valuable to have a system in which scopes are inspected for damage frequently by frontline technicians in combination with usage or time-based maintenance schedule. Remember, it only takes one instance of mishandling to damage a scope. These PMI inspection worksheets are perfect for equipping technicians with the right information on common inspection checkpoints.

The move from reactive to proactive device care can be daunting, but it helps to put the right processes in place to capture damage early, reduce costs, and make sure that every device is safe and functioning properly before patient use.

Have more questions for this expert? Contact Michael at: michael.matthews@agilitihealth.com

Beyond Clean Flexible Endoscope Expert™ Biography:

Michael Matthews

Director of Customer Training and Education



Michael Matthews, MBA, CLSSGB, CRCST, CIS, CHL currently serves as the Director of Customer Training and Education for Agiliti. He previously served as Director of Clinical Education and Training for Northfield Medical in addition to former roles of Territory Manager for the Little Rock, Arkansas area, and a Clinical Education Manager for the southeast region. Before working at Northfield, Michael served as the manager for sterile processing at Baptist-Health Medical Center-Conway in Arkansas. During this time, Michael also served as an Infection Preventionist on a PRN basis to consult on reprocessing services throughout the Baptist-Health system. Michael has previously served as a Sterile Processing Technician at Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's Healthcare (Catholic Health Initiatives) (2012-2013), Baptist East Hospital (2011-2012), both in Louisville, KY, and system manager for sterilization and high-level disinfection at Conway Regional Medical Center (2013-2016). He holds three Healthcare Sterile Processing Association (HSPA) certifications for sterile processing. Michael has also served as a subject matter expert and participated in exam development for HSPA. Michael holds an MBA and has also been certified as a Lean Six Sigma Greenbelt. He has published articles in Infection Control Today, Becker's Hospital Review, Healthcare Purchasing News, as well as several LinkedIn articles in the sterile processing community. Michael is a former cohost of the Beyond Clean podcast, the premier podcast for sterile processing professionals throughout the world.

 **BEYOND**CLEAN 