In the Spotlight

Pharmaceutical Science & Technology Innovations



Model 3142B Temperature Sensor (Weed Instrument)



TPP Pellets
(BASF Corporation)

Clean-in-Place Sensor for Sanitary Tanks

Weed Instrument (Round Rock, TX) has introduced the "Model 3142B" nonintrusive temperature sensor for sanitary tanks.

"Normally to measure temperatures, a probe must protrude into the tank," says Joe Cheatham, senior vice-president at Weed Instrument. "If there's wipers, agitators, or other equipment in the way, they could damage the probe. This sensor allows you to measure temperatures without putting anything into the tank." The device attaches with a clean-in-place sanitary clamp and can be removed without disturbing the mounting hardware. The sensor is mounted flush with the interior of the tank rather than the vessel wall surface to track the product's temperature changes.

The sensor can measure temperatures as high as 260 °C. Teflon isolation prevents the device from heat and false tank surface readings. The sensor can be retrofitted into an existing tank and is available in various sizes and fittings.

TPP Pellets Reduce Dusting and Increase Flowability

A pellet form of triphenylphosphine (TPP) is available from BASF Corporation (Mount Olive, NJ).

According to the company, the pellets provide better flowability than TPP flakes. Unlike flakes, the pellets do not harden and stick together, thus making them smoother to pour. "This reduces dusting and makes it easier for the operator to handle," says Joe Lynch, business director of the intermediates group at BASF Corporation. "Since they don't clump, the pellets flow easily out of the shipping container and into the customer's process." In addition, the 0.25-in diameter pellets are pure and have less odor than standard TPP flakes.

Applications for the TPP pellets include vitamin synthesis and the production of active pharmaceutical ingredients. The pellets can be packaged in flexible bulk containers.

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PharmaKeep (Süd-Chemie Performance Packaging)

Oxygen-Absorbing Canisters Extend Shelf Life

Süd-Chemie Performance Packaging (Belen, NM) has released "Pharma-Keep" oxygen-absorbing canisters that protect pharmaceutical products against oxygen degradation and moisture.

The canisters are designed to absorb oxygen at very low relative humidity levels. "Traditional oxygen absorbers require humidity to be activated, whereas these canisters don't," says Mark A. Florez, marketing and Mexico account manager at Süd-Chemie Performance Packaging. Florez also points out that solving the problem of oxydation in the packaging instead of in the formulation can save development time and money.

The rigid, cylindrical shape is designed for automatic high-speed insertion into pharmaceutical packaging equipment that feeds as many as 1000 cans/min. Canister shapes and sizes are customized to meet client needs.

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New Product Announcements

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