

UNDERSTANDING INSTECH STERILE POUCHES



Date of manufacture (YYYY-MM-DD). Instech's policy is to label its sterile products with the date of manufacture, not an expiration date. The actual time period after which sterility can become compromised depends on storage conditions, and the risk that non-sterility poses varies depending on the application. Therefore, Instech leaves the decision on when a product is no longer fit for use to its customers. A 2-year shelf-life is typical for human medical devices but is fairly conservative; the manufacturers of the sterilizers and the pouches that Instech uses suggest a shelf-life of 5 years. This date of manufacture combined with the part number also serves as the lot number for our record keeping.