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AUTOCLAVING PRESSURE GAUGES

Recommendations:

Although all of our instrumentation is designed to provide long, reliable service in the harshest hygienic processing environments, Chicago Stainless Equipment does not recommend placing precision analytical instrumentation of any kind, including pressure gauges, in extreme environmental conditions such as can be found in an autoclave. With the understanding that there are cases in which no other suitable method exists for obtaining a satisfactory hygienic state, CSE recommends the following when the autoclaving of pressure gauges is unavoidable:

1. Sani-Flow, Pharma-Flow or Chem-Flow pressure gauges should be specified for elevated temperature applications; this would be indicated by a "VI" designation in the pressure gauge part number. For example: 3P-D-2U-NF-BT-VI.

2. The pressure gauge should not have a case fill liquid of any kind. This would be indicated by the "NF" designation in the part number (see #1 above)

3. The pressure gauge case **MUST** be vented to the atmosphere during the autoclave process.
    - This can be accomplished by unseating or preferably removing the white nylon re-zero cover screw in the polycarbonate lens. Venting can also be accomplished by unseating or removing the black blow-out plug (if provided) in the top or back of the pressure gauge case.

Note:

Heating the gauge will cause the pointer to rise above zero. The pointer should return to zero when its temperature returns to ambient (or whatever temperature at which zero was achieved). Autoclave conditions can place undue stresses on the precision internals of the pressure gauge and subsequent re-zeroing of the pointer may be required.