

New Editorial Board Members

Two new members have joined the Editorial Board of Central Service: Wayne Spencer, who will follow Peter Hooper as Co-editor next year, and Dr. Thomas W. Fengler.



Wayne Spencer

Wayne is an independent consultant on decontamination and healthcare engineering issues based in the United Kingdom. He is also an Authorising Engineer (Decontamination), a UK specific role for independent review of decontamination validation processes.

Wayne began his healthcare career working as an apprentice in the University Hospital of Wales whilst studying Electrical Engineering at the Polytechnic of Wales (now the University of Glamorgan). He then worked in a variety of roles in healthcare engineering and estate management before moving to the Welsh Health Common Services Authority in 1992 as a sterilizer validation engineer. During this time he implemented ISO 9001 and United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) standards in the organisations calibration laboratory. Wayne took and passed the Advanced Course in Sterilization Technology delivered by Healthcare Science 1999 and became registered as an Authorised Person (now Authorising Engineer (Decontamination)) that same year.

After joining the English Department of Health in 2000, Wayne chaired the department's decontamination investment

process that delivered £90 million to the NHS. Wayne was chairman of the Engineering Specification Working Group for the Department of Health from 2000 to 2004 that produced the Surgical Instrument Management System specification, the C30 washer-disinfector specification and the C32 endoscope reprocessor specification for the National Health Service. During that time he was also a member of the British Standards technical committee for sterilization of medical devices. He became a senior partner in the Department of Health's consultancy division 'Inventures' where he managed a team of project managers, scientists and specialist technical advisors. He left the department in 2005 to work as an independent consultant. In 2006, Wayne obtained a post graduate certificate in Engineering Management from the University of Bath.

Since then he has acted as a technical advisor to the Department of Health's National Decontamination Project at both a national and regional level. This project has created several joint ventures between the public funded health service and private sector decontamination companies. He is currently technical author of the new guidance on healthcare laundry for the National Health Service, Health Technical Memorandum 01-04 and advises hospitals and organisations on all aspect of decontamination of medical devices. He specialises in capacity planning of sterile service departments as well as validation of decontamination processes.



Thomas W. Fengler

Thomas Fengler, a licensed physician and graduate engineer, is Honorary Secretary of Chirurgie-Instrumenten-AG Berlin. Since 1993 under the scientific direction of H. Pahlke, this company has focused on issues related to the functional and hygienic suitability of surgical instruments and other medical devices, such as washer-disinfectors. In addition to dealing with optimization of medical devices, the firm is engaged, in particular, in improving the processes of which the medical device reprocessing quality circuit is comprised, especially effective cleaning. This also includes parametric control using physical measuring instruments and chemical analyses of residual contamination [Fengler Th W, Pahlke H, Michels et al.: Are Reprocessed Medical Devices Free of Protein? Results of the Clinical Multi-Centre Residual Contamination Study Reprocessing (MRSA). *Central Service* 2001; 9 (1): 20–32]. These activities, which receive no public funding, are carried out in close cooperation with the respective interest groups: the manufacturers and users.

On completion of his studies of material sciences, Thomas Fengler did his diploma thesis at FAG Kugelfischer, and then went on to work in the field of dentistry as a scientific assistant. As a physician he gained clinical experience in gynaecology and surgery where he did a PhD on the topic of the quality of laparoscopic instrumentation. He worked in a scientific capacity in perinatal medicine and helped

introduce to the market surgical laser systems. In doing so, he learned how to differentiate between important and less important therapeutic developments. The obvious advantages of abdominal minimally invasive surgical techniques led to rapid development of new instruments, thus permitting new working techniques. Initially, the laser played only a peripheral role in surgery.

The international Medical Devices & Processes Forum has been held as a user-expert platform since 1999 at the end of February. Two supplement volumes were published, first the English version of the best contributions over five years [Fengler ThW: Medical Device Processing: Best of FORUM 1999 – 2003. *Central Service* 2003; 11 (Suppl. 2): 1–48.], followed this year by a Spanish-French summary of the first 10 years, after the other reference

volumes had been published as bilingual English-German versions [Fengler ThW: FORUM International Dispositifs Médicaux et Procédures – Le meilleur sur une période de 10 ans. FORUM Internacional de Productos Médicos y Procedimientos – Lo mejor de los últimos 10 años. *Central Service* 2010; 18 (Suppl. 1): 1–80.].

It is against that background that the current activities of his two companies CLEANICAL GmbH (consultation) and CMP GmbH (validation) are to be viewed. He greatly looks forward to his new role, while bearing in mind the need to focus on the functional capabilities and hygiene status of medical devices and understanding product (medical devices) and processes at a scientific level without forgetting the practical demands emanating from the everyday clinical setting. ♦

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