

Pharmaceutical Company Eliminates Product Contamination Issues

Challenge

A biopharmaceutical company in the Midwest experienced loose thread trimmings making it through their pre-blend vessels into the downstream HEPA filters. These threads are considered a contaminant for their product and could be a cause for a batch rejection. The batches must be contaminant free.

Solution

CLARCOR Industrial Air traveled to the customers' site to fully understand the issue and processes for storing and installing the filters. After discussions, the following changes to the manufacturing process were implemented:

- Require all employees who work on manufacturing these specialty filters to undergo training which stresses the importance of capturing all loose threads.
- Switch from yellow threads to blue threads to increase visibility of thread trimmings.
- Install a clean room final inspection area with improved lighting
- Install a down draft table in final inspection room to assist in removing static which draws loose trimmings to filters.

Result

Contamination issues were eliminated, no reports of any blue threads making it through the process into the downstream HEPA filters.

