



**WHY IS WATER IMPORTANT
AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY**



WATER QUALITY EXPERT

**BEYOND
CLEAN**

**Jeffrey Paquet | President & CEO
VERDA Water Quality Systems & mmic™**

Beyond Clean Water Quality Expert™:

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The key to understanding how to manage water quality for the reprocessing of medical devices is to understand the governing document for compliance, which in many cases is AAMI TIR34. Every place water is used, i.e., sinks, washers, ultrasonics, endoscope re-processors, and sterilizers, needs to be tested with some frequency.

Many of you are unaware that most of the sampling and testing required by AAMI TIR34 is going to occur inside your sterile processing department. The tendency is to believe that the AAMI compliant RO system that was purchased fulfills the requirement; it does not. That system enables the production of water that can meet the guidelines, and it is up to the sterile processing department and facility to design and effectively administer the water management program. If you are not dealing with monitoring and managing your water daily; testing, recording data, producing reports, there is a good chance you don't have an effective water management program.

If The Joint Commission or CMS were to audit your water quality management program, what are some of the things that they would like to see? They will want to see evidence you are following the guidelines. AAMI recommends daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annually, activities that involve testing the water, monitoring the health of the purification equipment and plumbing, as well as identifying maintenance issues and making repairs in a timely manner. Evidence that your department and facility is performing these activities, and the reports to back this up is what will keep your department from being issued a finding during the audit. If someone in your department or facility is not an expert on the AAMI guidelines and water purification and testing, you may want to enlist outside help from your equipment vendors or industry experts that can help you develop and administer your water quality management plan effectively in compliance with AAMI TIR34.

Have more questions for this expert? Contact Jeffrey at jpaquet@mmicmedical.com

Beyond Clean Water Quality Expert™ Biography:

JEFFREY PAQUET

PRESIDENT & CEO
VERDA WATER QUALITY SYSTEMS®
& MMIC™ MEDICAL SYSTEMS



Jeffrey Paquet is the CEO of MMIC Medical Systems and its VERDA Water Quality Systems. Mr. Paquet is an expert in Product Realization and Commercialization that stems from his career that spans nearly 30 yeears in various industries including Healthcare, Automotive, and Aerospace. Jeffrey has a Bachelors of Science in Aerospace Engineering from UCLA with his career focused on design, product development, and manufacturing. His experience in the Aerospace industry has driven his belief that the technology and operational systems employed to monitor processes and provide the ability for rapid response to dynamic situations have direct and valuable application in the healthcare environment.

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