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Innovation Forum in Pharmaceutical Process

Overview of Low voltage Electron Beam sterilization system and the Benefits

Case study in the application of Low Voltage EB system
for Nest Syringe Tubs Filling Line
and Vial Filling Line as well



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PharmaProcess 2015 Fira EXPO
Barcelona

Fira
Barcelona

Agenda

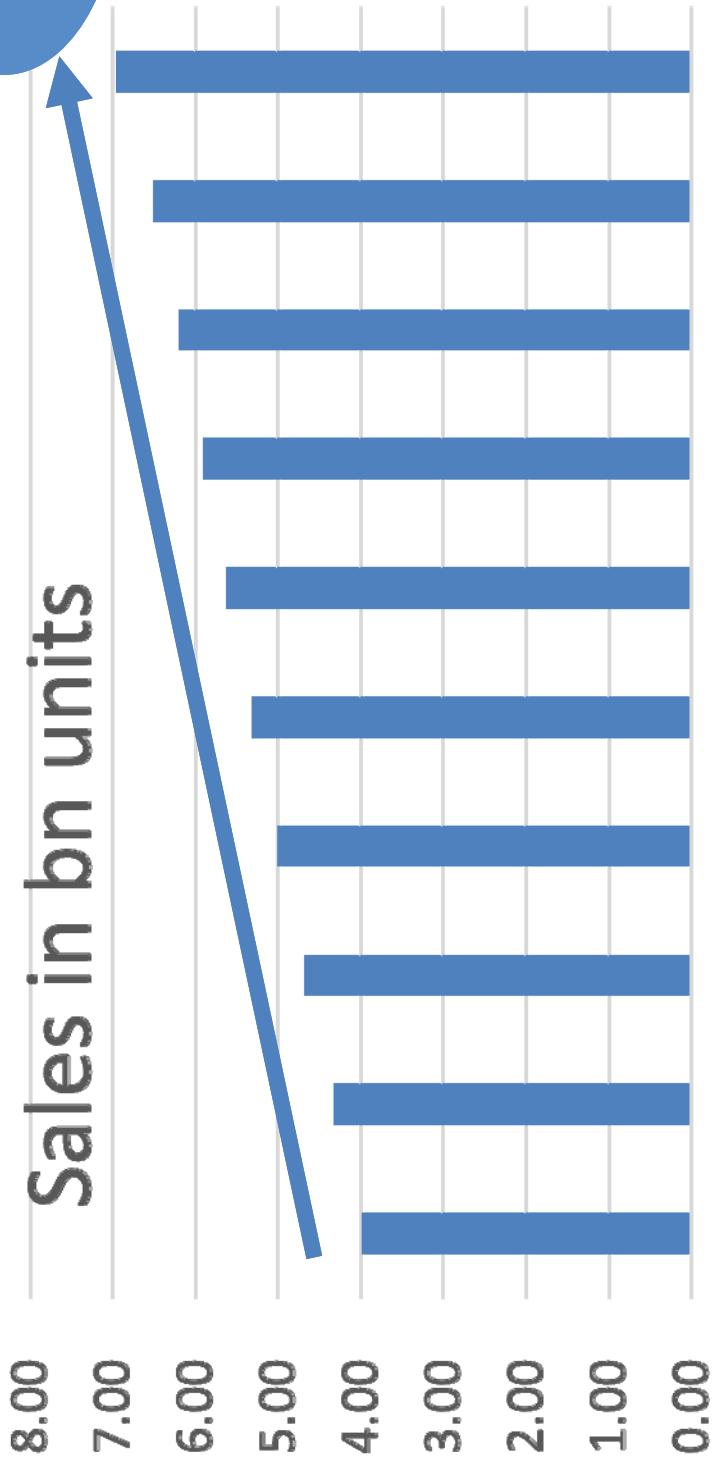
- 1. Trend about prefilled syringe to be used**
- 2. Evaluation of tub surface decontamination to introduce the tub into an aseptic filling isolator**
- 3. A study of mouse hole**
- 4. Overview of Electron Beam sterilization**
- 5. Benefit of Low Voltage EB**
- 6. Case study of the application of Low Voltage EB**
 - ✓ Sterilization for Tub of Syringe Barrels
 - ✓ Sterilization for Vial Containers
- 7. Lesson learned**
- 8. Summary**



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PFS market

will continue to grow



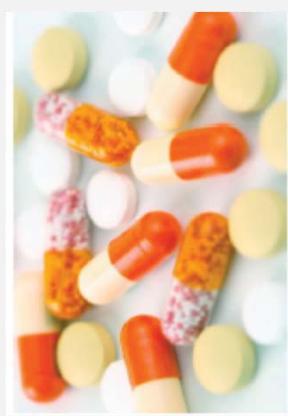
- ✓ PFS market will grow up to >5 bio units in 2020
- ✓ One of the growth driver is the Biotech drugs

Source ; Visiongan, Prefilled syringe and Related system
market outlook 2010-2025

Drugs and devices for new era



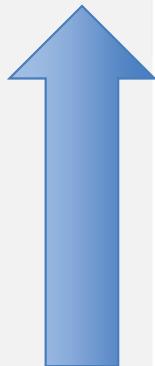
Before



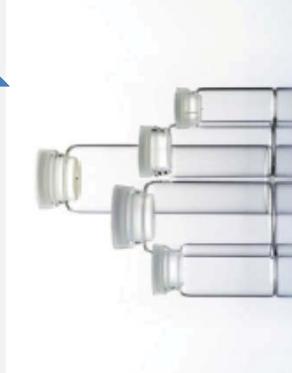
LMW,
synthetic



Oral



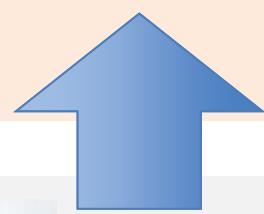
Future



Biotech



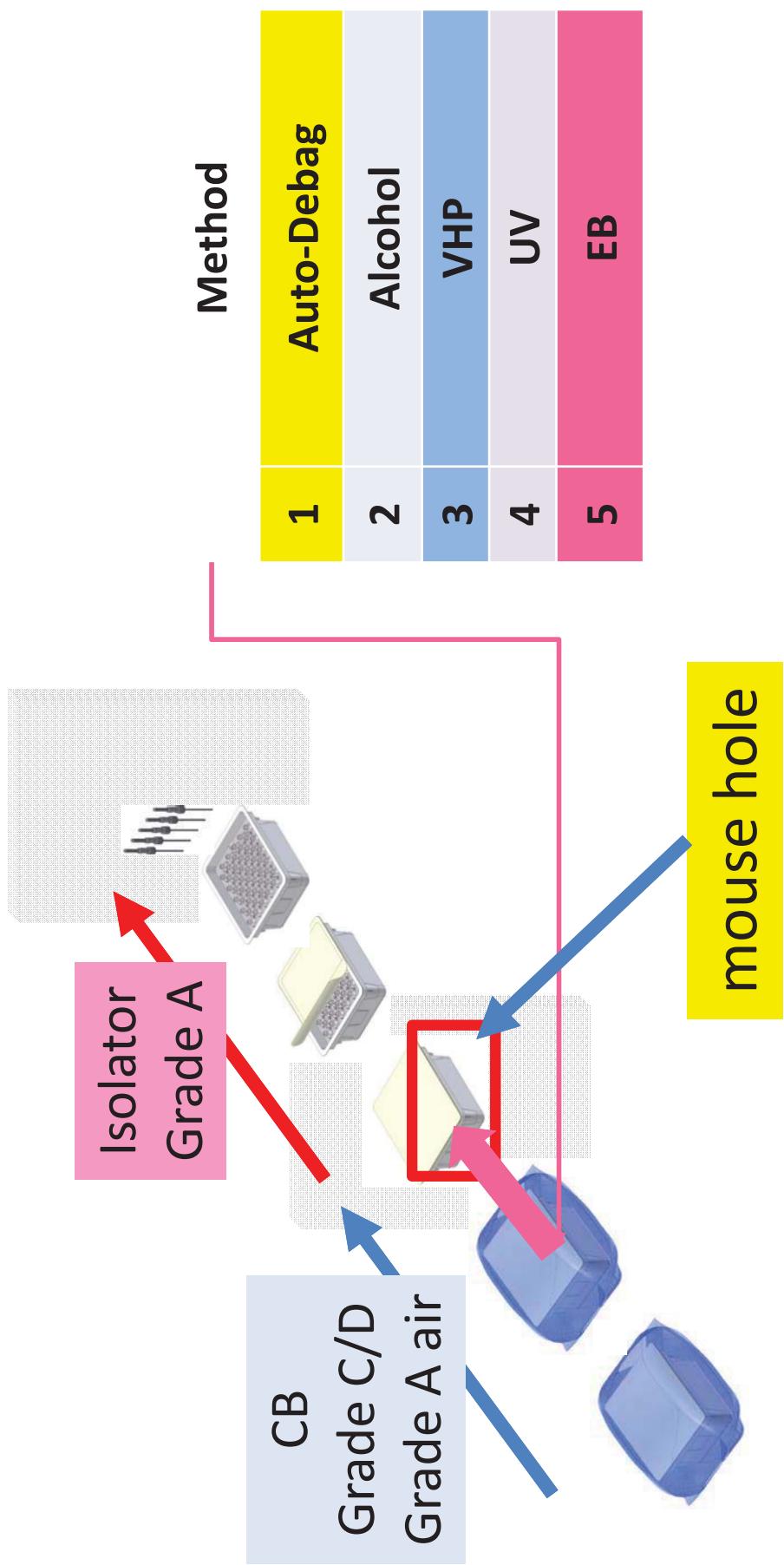
Injection



Needs for PFS
compatible
with biologics

2013-05-21 S. Tamatsukuri, PhD.
Global D&D/GPS, TERUMO corporation

Method of tub (surface decontamination to introduce it) into an aseptic filling isolator



Evaluation of tab surface decontamination to introduce a aseptic filling isolator



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Method	cost	Running GMP compatibility	Validati on SAL	Residual chemicals	Cycle time	combine point with isolator	Total
							6.1
1 Auto-Debag	7	10	1	2	2	7	7
2 Alcohol	7	9	2	2	7	7	5.6
3 VHP	4	7	7	6	7	4	4.6
4 UV	5	9	3	3	5	10	9
5 EB	2	9	10	9	10	9	7.0
Weighting To point	35	5	15	10	5	5	100

Base data is Oliver Vogt : Case Study: Utilizing Electron Beam Surface Decontamination to Transfer Sterile Syringe Barrels into an Isolated Aseptic Syringe Filling Line (Pharma engineering) (Jan.2010)

Evaluation of tub

Surface Decontamination to introduce into an aseptic filling isolator



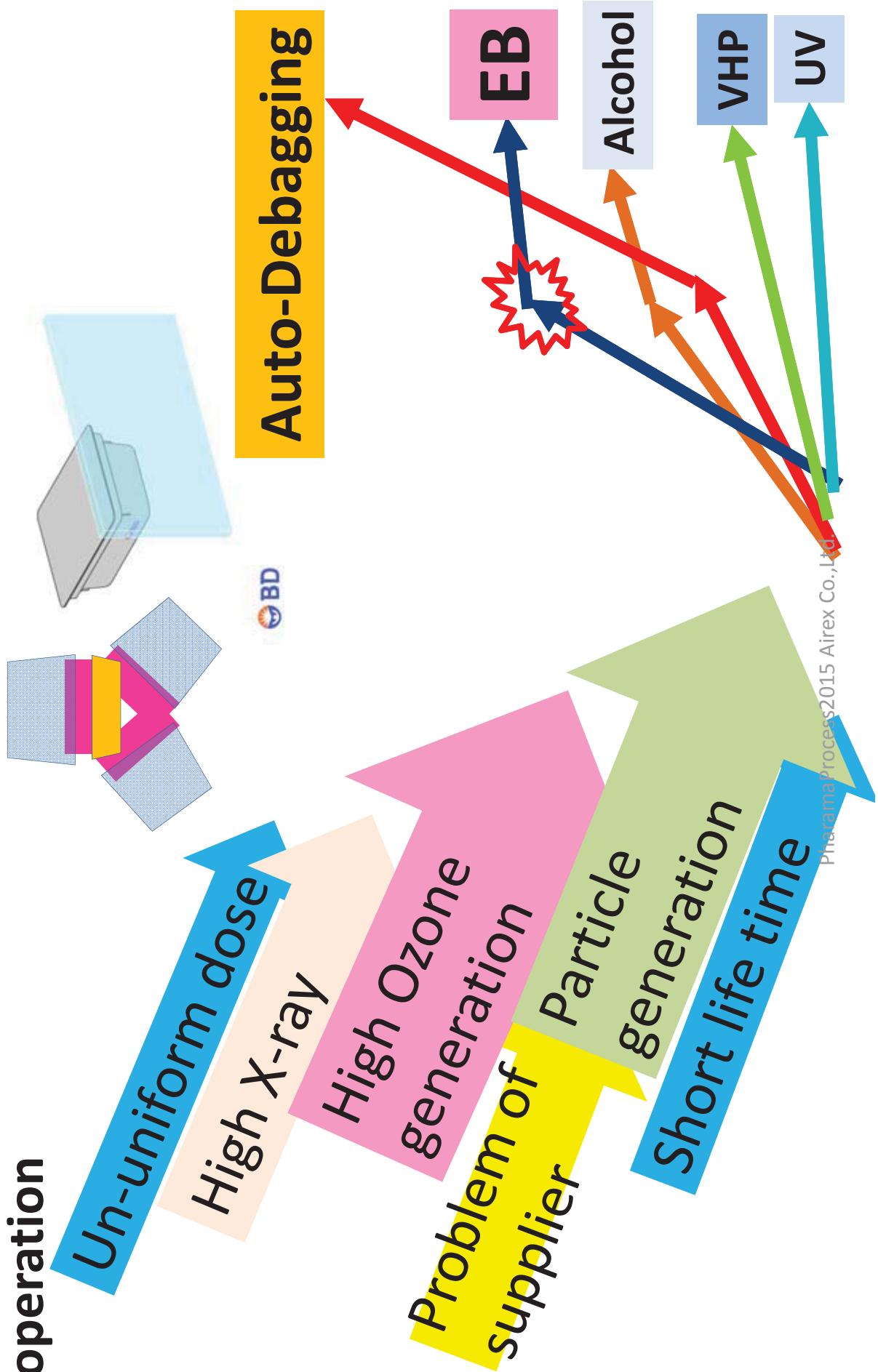
issues

Trend images

Methods	issues	Trend images
1 Auto-Debugging	Is it possible to debag with No contamination in the process? Is it allowed to put it into an isolator through a mouse hole?	Auto-Debugging
2 Alcohol	Not effective decontamination can be made. Potential to catch fire in the next process.	
3 VHP	Longer cycle time. Concern of VHP's residue	
4 UV	Disinfection effectiveness on the shadow area	
5 EB	X-ray,Ozone, panicle generation, Higher cost, Lower life time	

Problem of EB tab sterilization

the problem of the EB was found out by long-time actual operation





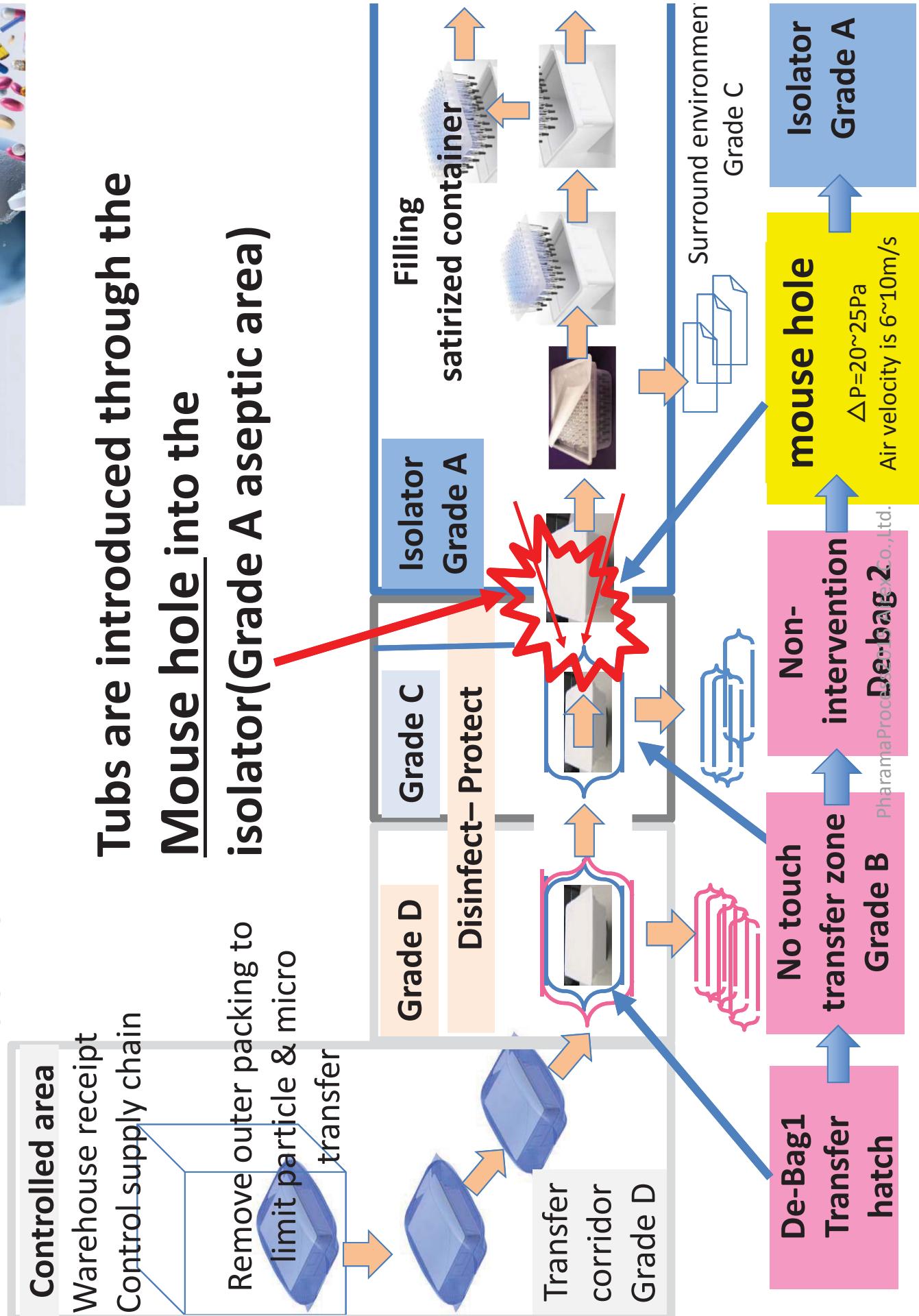
Auto-Debagging Method

- ✓ Is it possible to debag with No contamination in the process?
- ✓ Is it allowed to put it into an isolator through a mouse hole?

Auto-Debagging Method

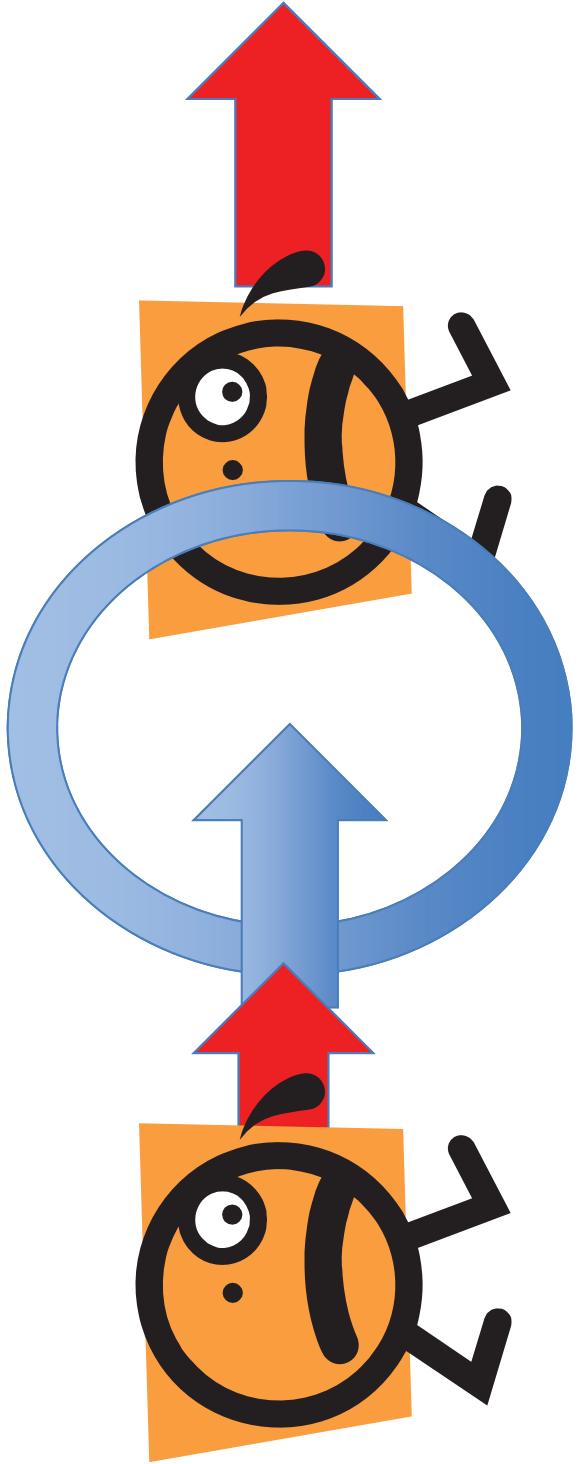


Tubs are introduced through the Mouse hole into the isolator(Grade A aseptic area)



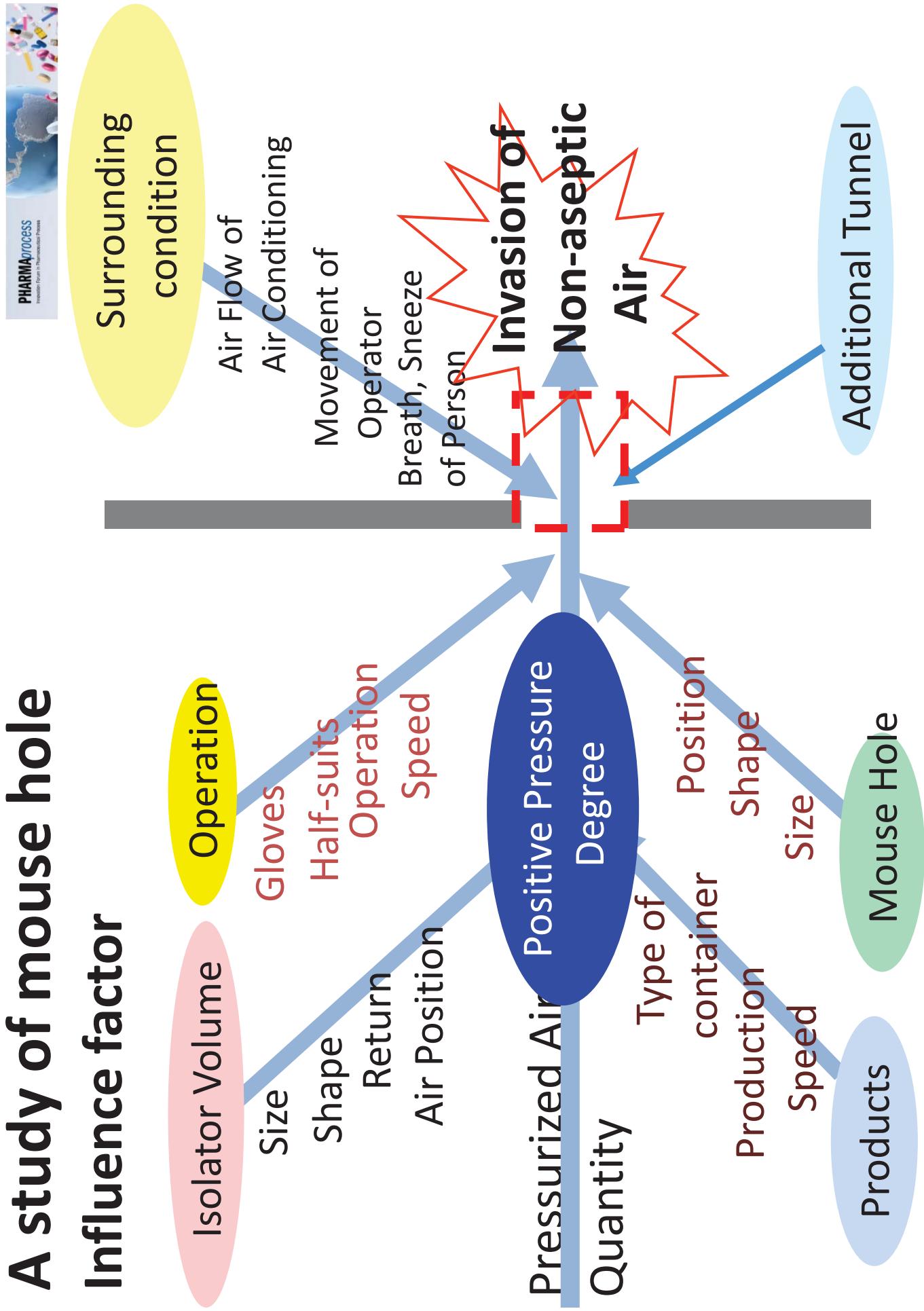
A study of mouse hole

A Mouse hole is typically used for taking out finished sealed products from the isolator.



A study of mouse hole

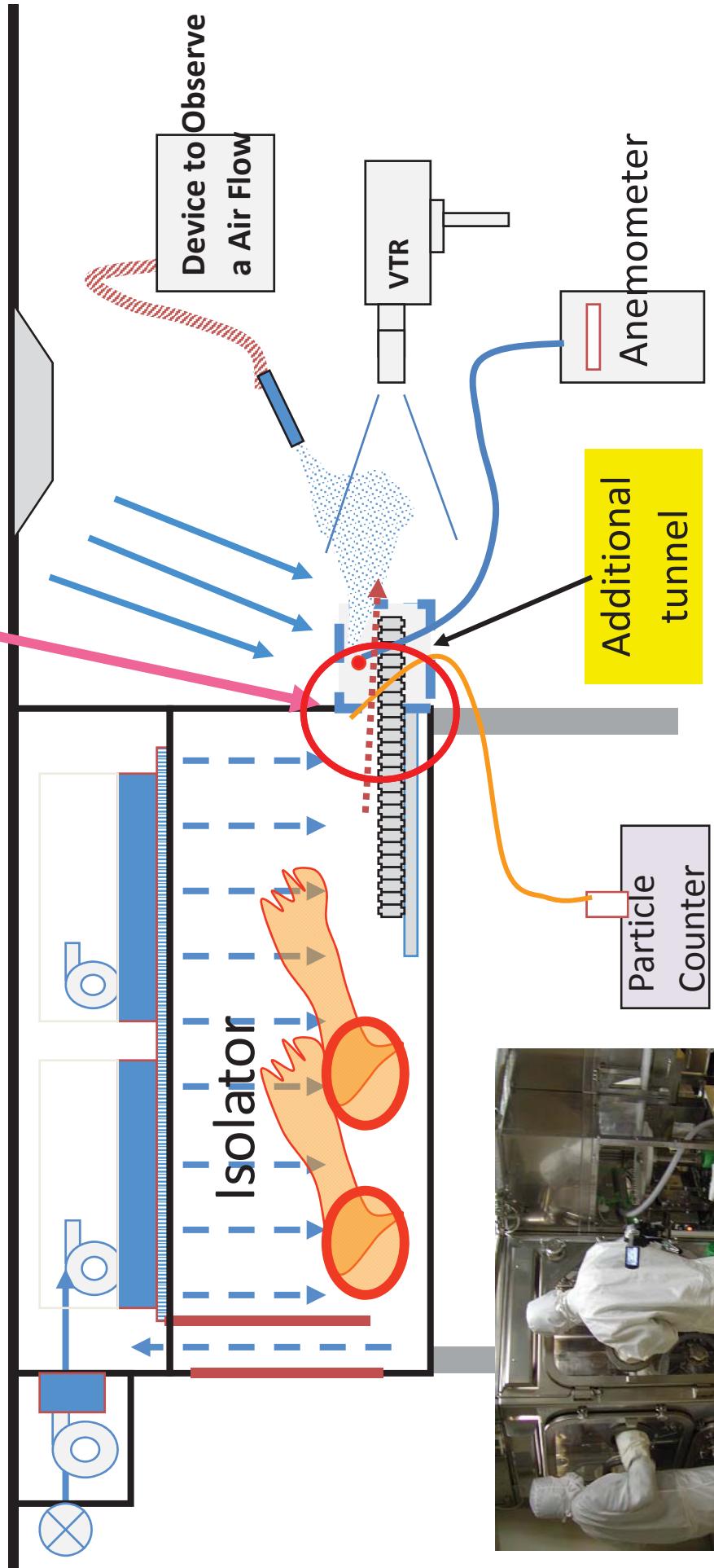
Influence factor



A study of mouse hole

Summary of experiment

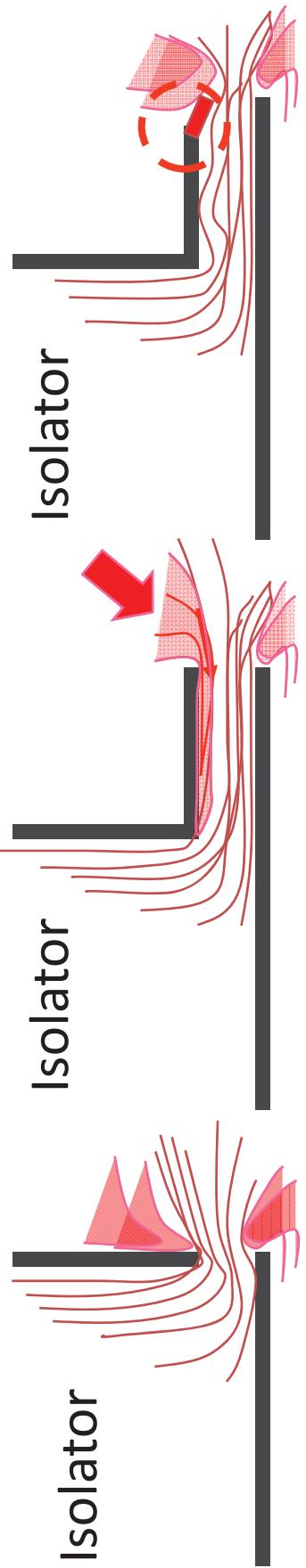
Mouse Hole



A Study of Mouse Hole Topics



- ✓ There might be an invasion of air surrounding isolator even if installing additional piece of tunnel for a mouse hole.



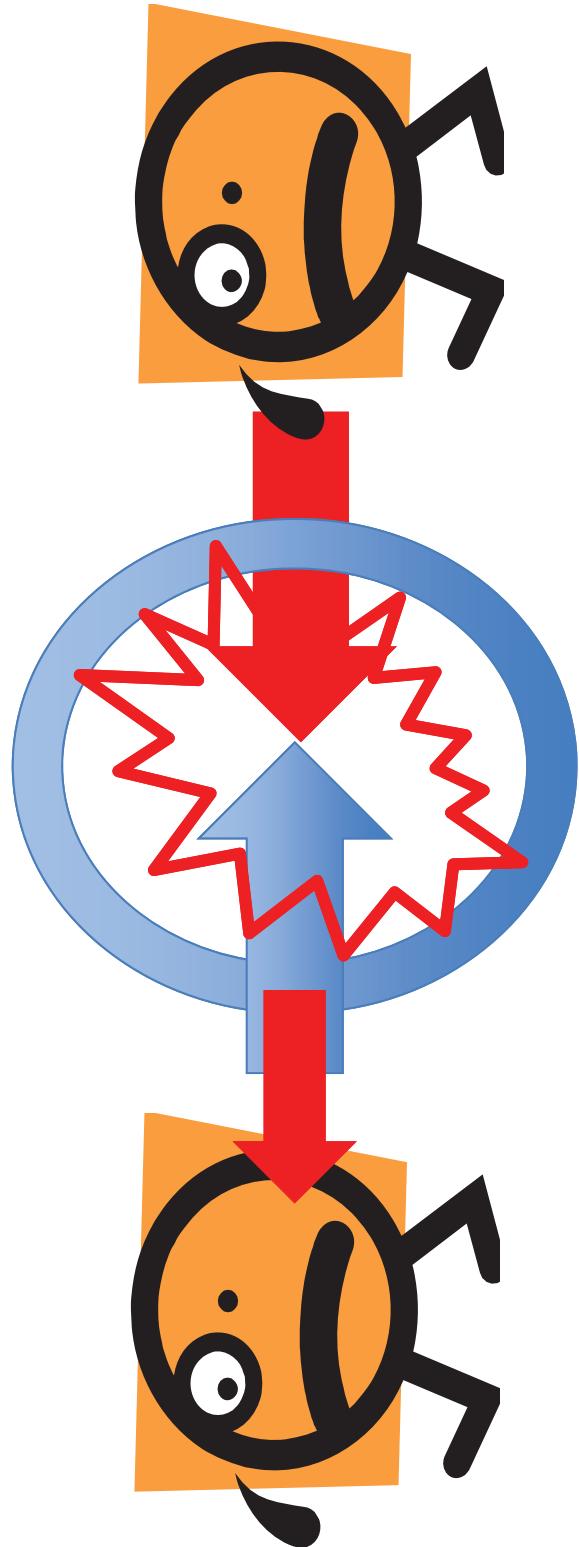
- A little air rate of positive pressure from isolator by a small mouse hole happens to cause a reversal of current of air by radical glove operation.
- An invasion of pollution air was confirmed in a mouse hole by expiration in the case of 40 Pa of internal pressure.

✓ Possibility of an unexpected problem

✓ A plan such as shape of isolator, a size characteristic, setting of internal pressure in consideration of use and shape of a mouse hole are important.

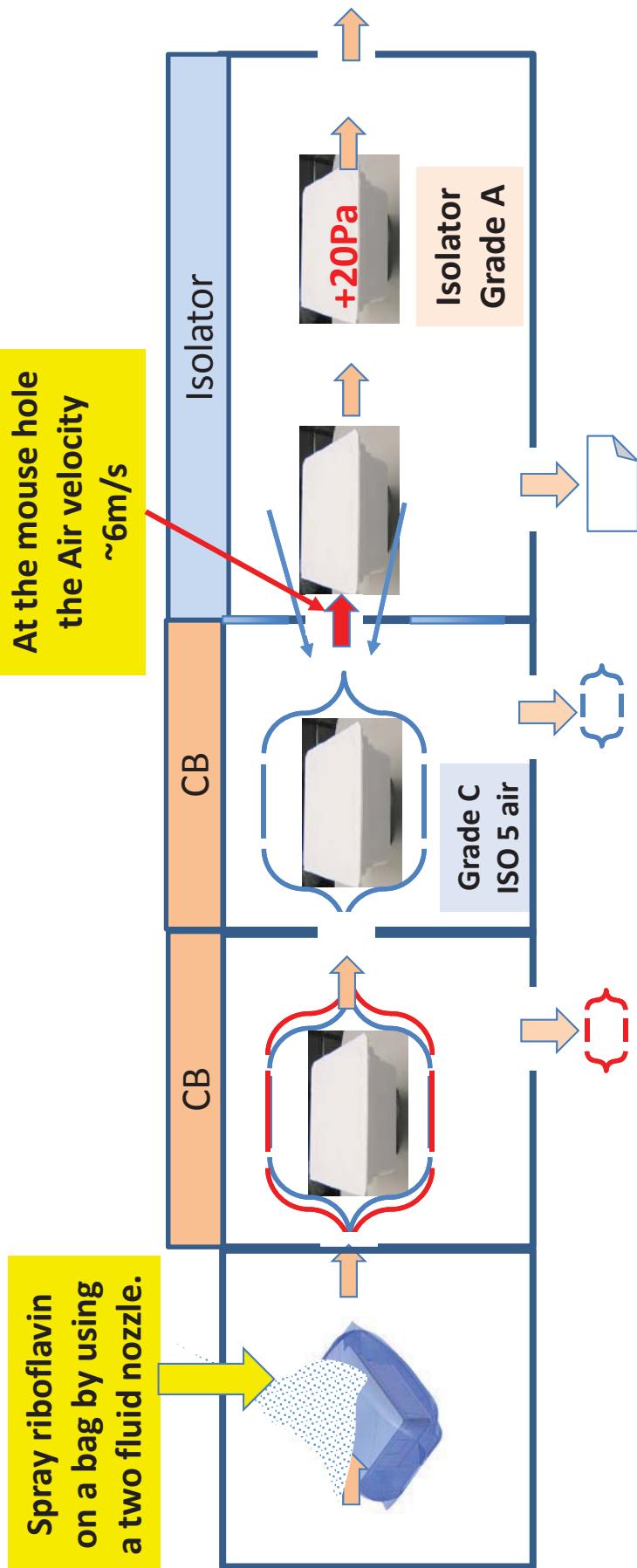
A study of mouse hole on Auto-Debagging Method

**Is it feasible to introduce any items
aseptically through the Mouse hole
into the isolator?**



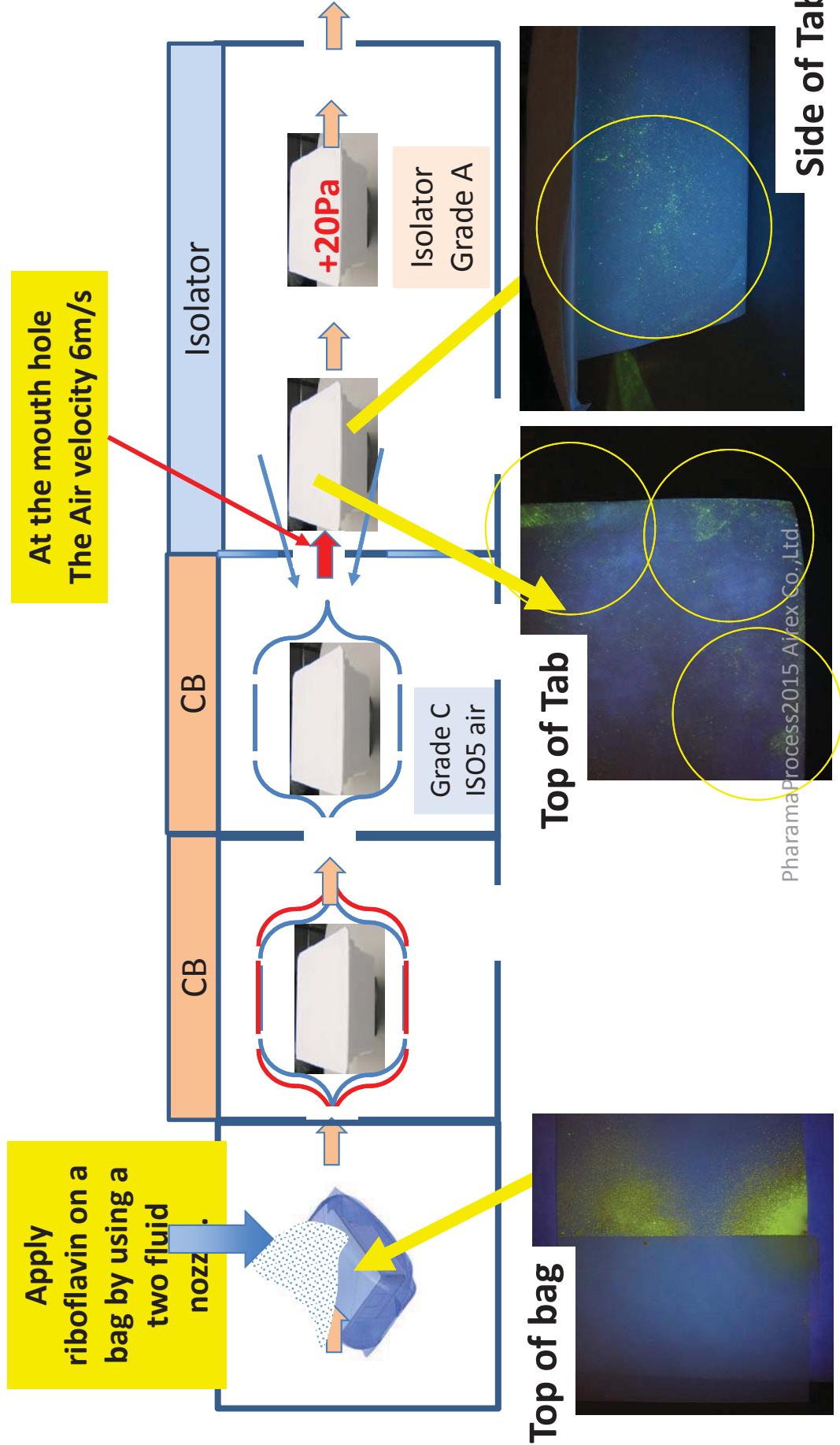
Test procedure

1. Spray riboflavin on a bag by using a two fluid nozzle
2. removing the double bag sheets one by one carefully by hand
3. verify to check a traces of the riboflavin on the tub



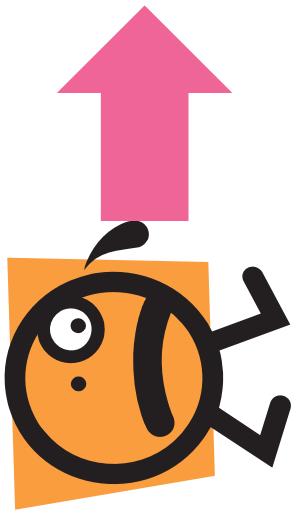
Test result

We found the trace of the riboflavin on the tub



Is it feasible to introduce any items aseptically through the Mouse hole into the isolator?

- ✓ It has a higher Risk to introduce a tub into an isolator through a Mouth hole aseptically with removing the unstable shape bag (debagging).
- ✓ The risk goes much higher especially in case of a filling with larger amount and higher speed.





Electron Beam sterilization Method

**X-ray, Ozone, particle generation,
Higher cost, Lower life time**

Traditional

Electron Beam

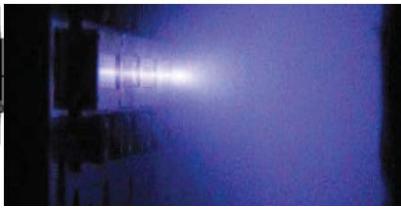
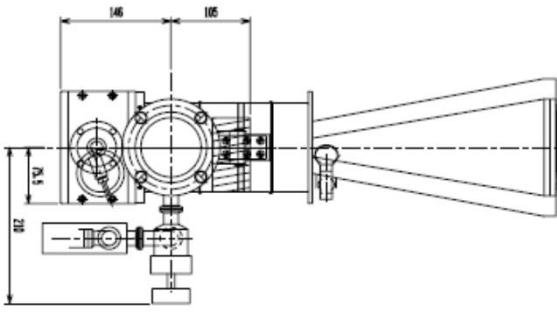
- Around for >50 years, well known sterilization technology
- Benefits for pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturer
 - ✓ Large, expensive, high maintenance, profound cover
 - ✓ Severe management is required
 - ✓ Off-line process



New Electron Beam Smart EB© System



1. Always being kept to be evacuated by using vacuum pump.
2. Low voltage system (Max70kV,4mA)
3. At the time of the electron window damaged, only need to replace the window



Ratings

EB Irradiation Unit

Input voltage : Max.70kV, Single phase 100V (50/60Hz)

Power consumption : less than 500W

EB Control panel

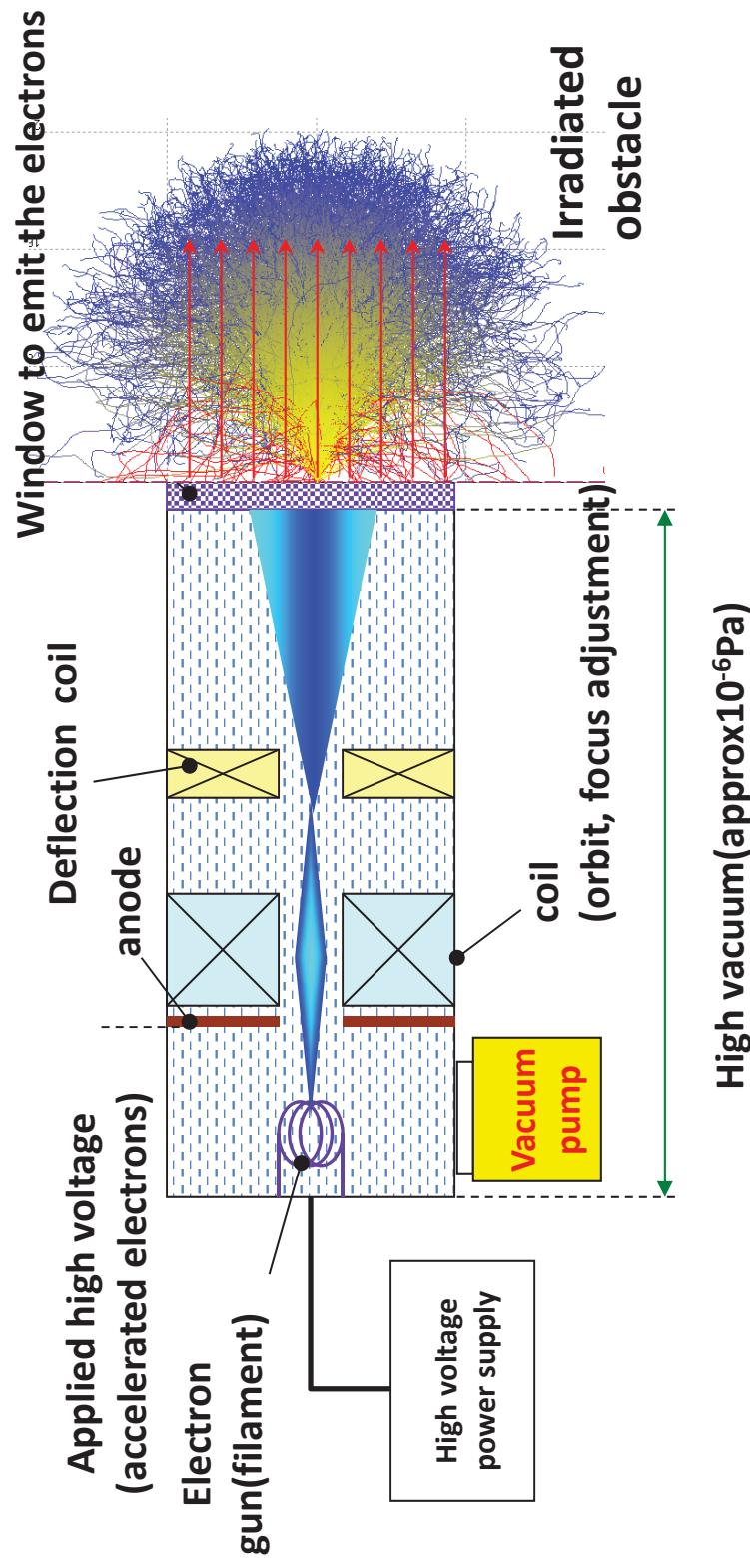
Power consumption : less than 800W

Rotary pump

Power consumption : less than 250W

Hamamatsu
Photonics

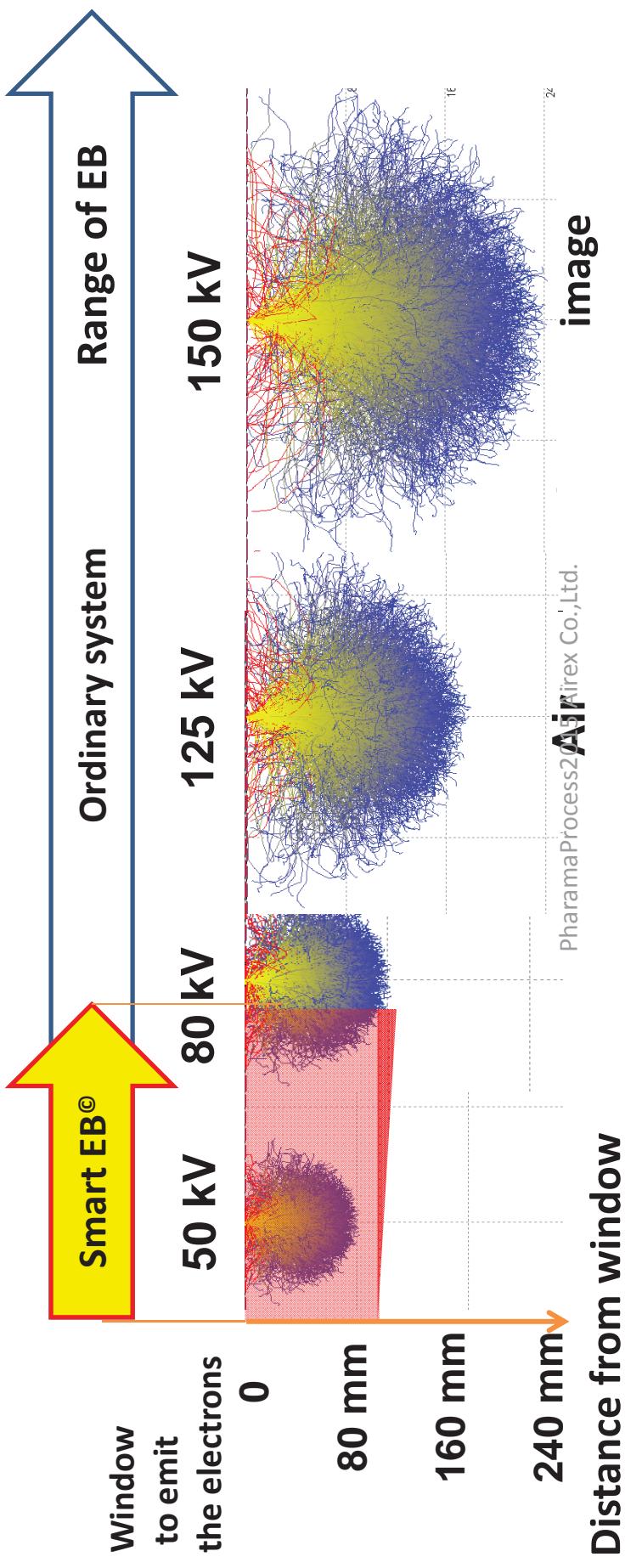
Overview of the Low Voltage Electron Beam System



- ✓ Electrons are emitted as thermions from an electron gun
- ✓ Accelerated in between electrodes applied high voltage
- ✓ Vacuum pump always sucks the air into the vacuum chamber
- ✓ Emit electrons to outside passing through the window

Low voltage EB scattering

- ✓ Electrons make an entry into atmosphere and interact with the air molecules then going to become dispersed with losing their energy
- ✓ Traveling length in the air for electron beam, to be depending on accelerating voltage.



EB is Effective on Microorganisms

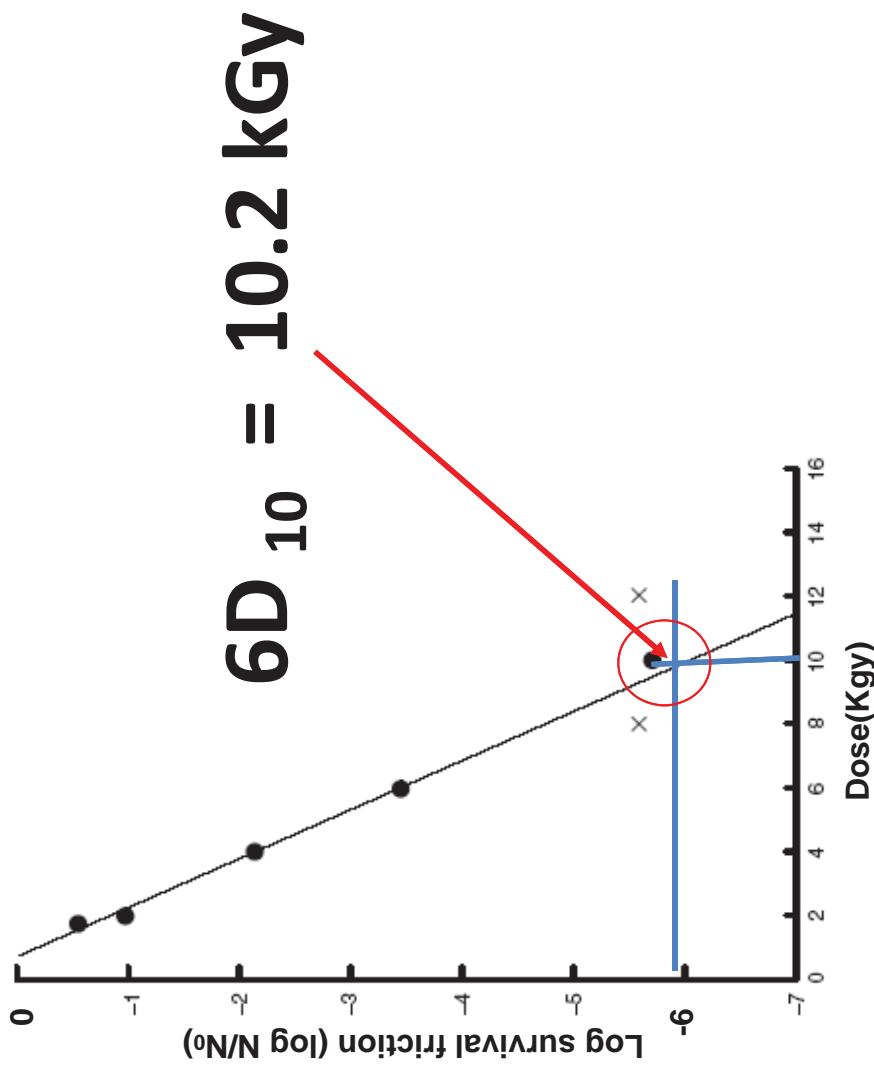


Fig. 4. Dose response of *Bacillus spores* (ATCC 27142) treated on the inner bottom sidewall of 0.47 HDPE bottles.

Source: Cleghorn, Dunn, Nablo. “Sterilization of plastic containers using electron beam irradiation directed through the opening.” Journal of Applied Microbiology, Volume 93 Page 937 - December 2002

Control Dose level of Surface Sterilization

EB Effectiveness on D-Value

Bacillus Pumillus Spores ATCC # 27142 (E601)

$$D_{10} = 1.7 \text{ kGy}$$

$$6D_{10} = 10.2 \text{ kGy}$$

$$\underline{\text{Minimum dose} = 15 \sim 25 \text{ kGy}}$$

It is Magic figure, no real rational, but to consider safety margin etc.

Dose level at any point on the container's surface (Gy) >15~25kgy

Reference:From "Electron Beam Sensitivities in the Spores of *Bacillus pumillus E601 Strain*" J. Antibact. Antifung. Agents Vol.17, No.7, 1989 by Y. Watanabe, H. Ito and I. Ishigaki, and "In-Line Electron sterilization and Its Application to Aseptic Packaging" March 1985 by P.M. Fletcher, J. Aaronson and S.V. Nablo



Benefit of Low Voltage EB



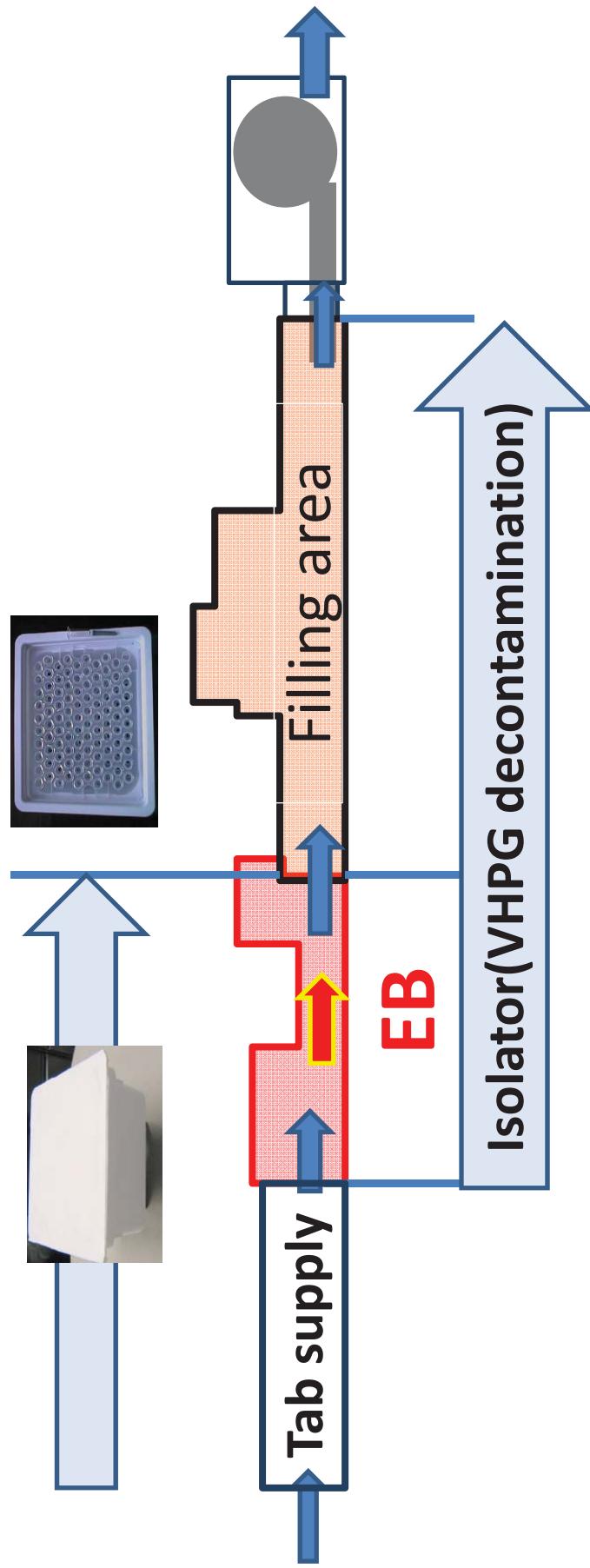
- ✓ Dry and Low temperature process
 - ✓ Quite low Ozone generation
 - ✓ Quite low impact to objectives
 - ✓ Comparatively low energy consumption
 - ✓ Easy maintenance at site
 - ✓ Stainless steel plate cover is enough to cut x-ray
 - ✓ Unnecessary of the special license
 - ✓ Low operating cost
-
- ✓ In-line and in-house process
 - ✓ Continuous treatment with monitoring and recording for GMP parameters
-
- ✓ Basically surface or core sterilization

Case study of application of Low Voltage EB

**Utilizing EB Sterilization for Tub of Syringe
Barrels Introduced into an Isolated Aseptic
Filling Line**



Layout of syringe tab filling process combined with EB tub sterilization



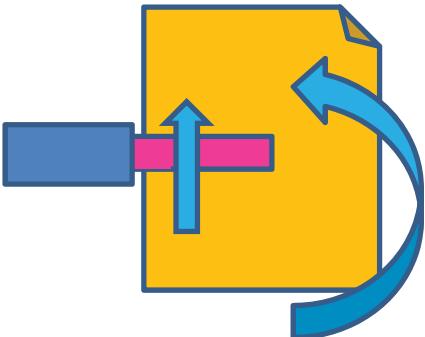
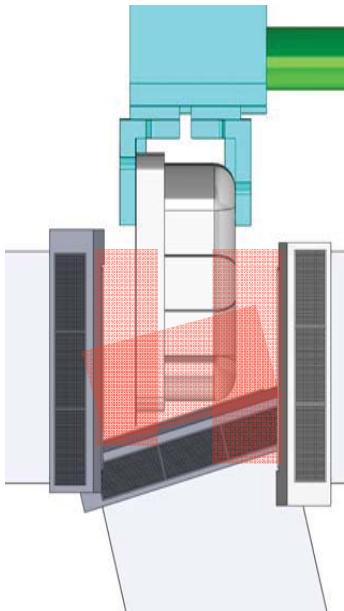
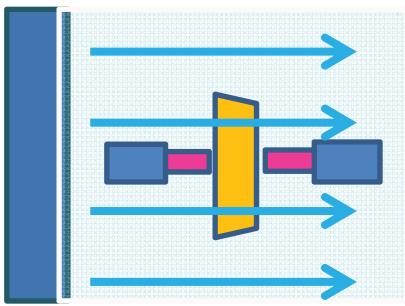
- ✓ EB tunnel is installed before the filling process.
- ✓ Surface of tabs are sterilized by the E-beam
- ✓ Filled with the liquid product, then will be conveyed to the next process

Smart EB©

Concept of new EB Sterilization

for surface decontamination of tub of syringe barrels

- 1. Three EB emitters to be used
- 2. Irradiation shall be done with moving and turning a tub
- 3. To keep always the distance almost equal between the irradiation window and the obstacle to be sterilized
- 4. To keep unidirectional air flow during sterilizing



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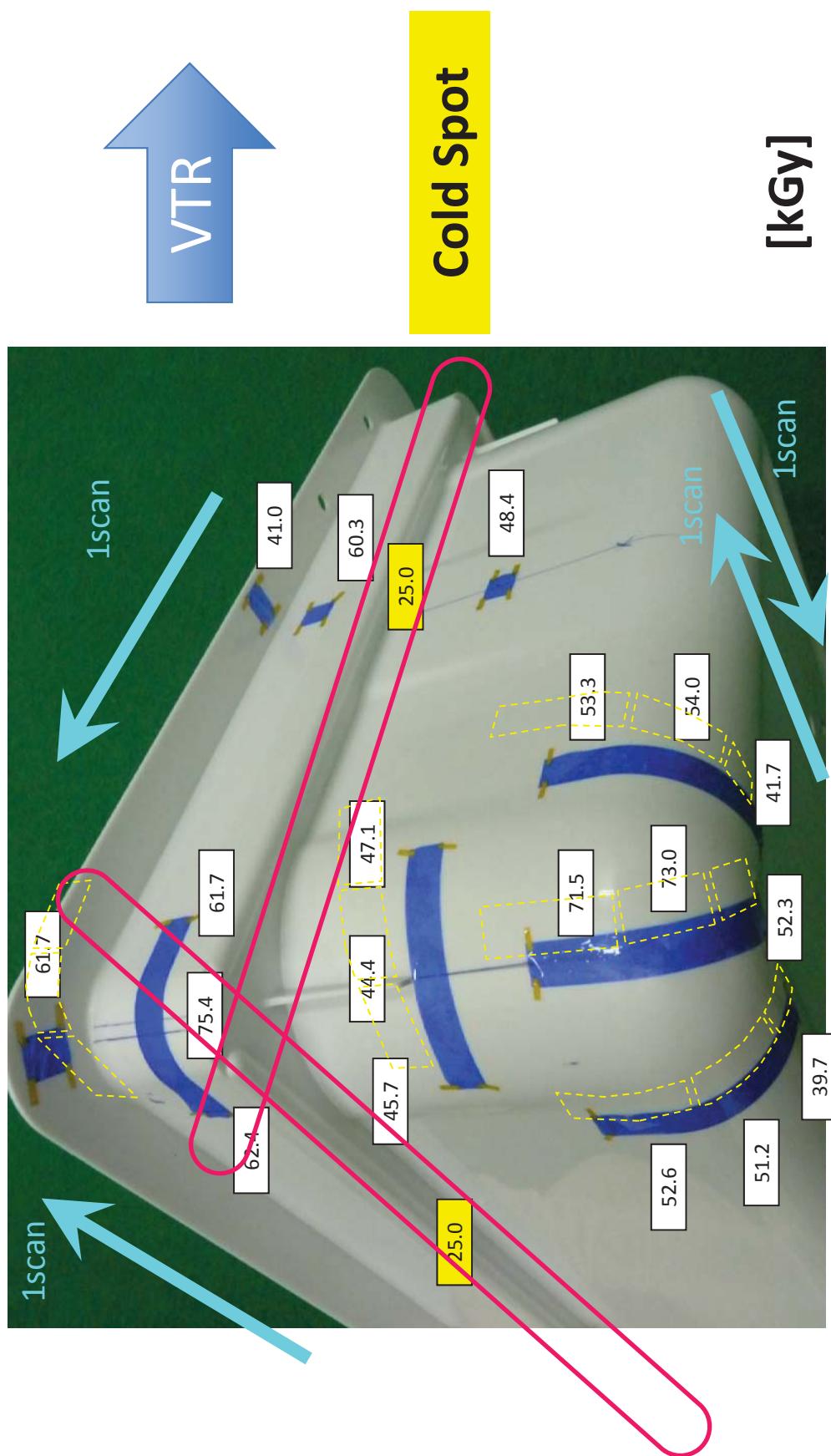
Verification of E-beam Validation

1. E-beam dose mapping on tub surface of outside and inside
2. Residual Ozone gas analysis inside tubs
3. Temperature rise in the tubs
4. Influence of the E-beam to tabs and syringes
5. Air flow analysis inside of unit
6. Performance of the tubs conveying



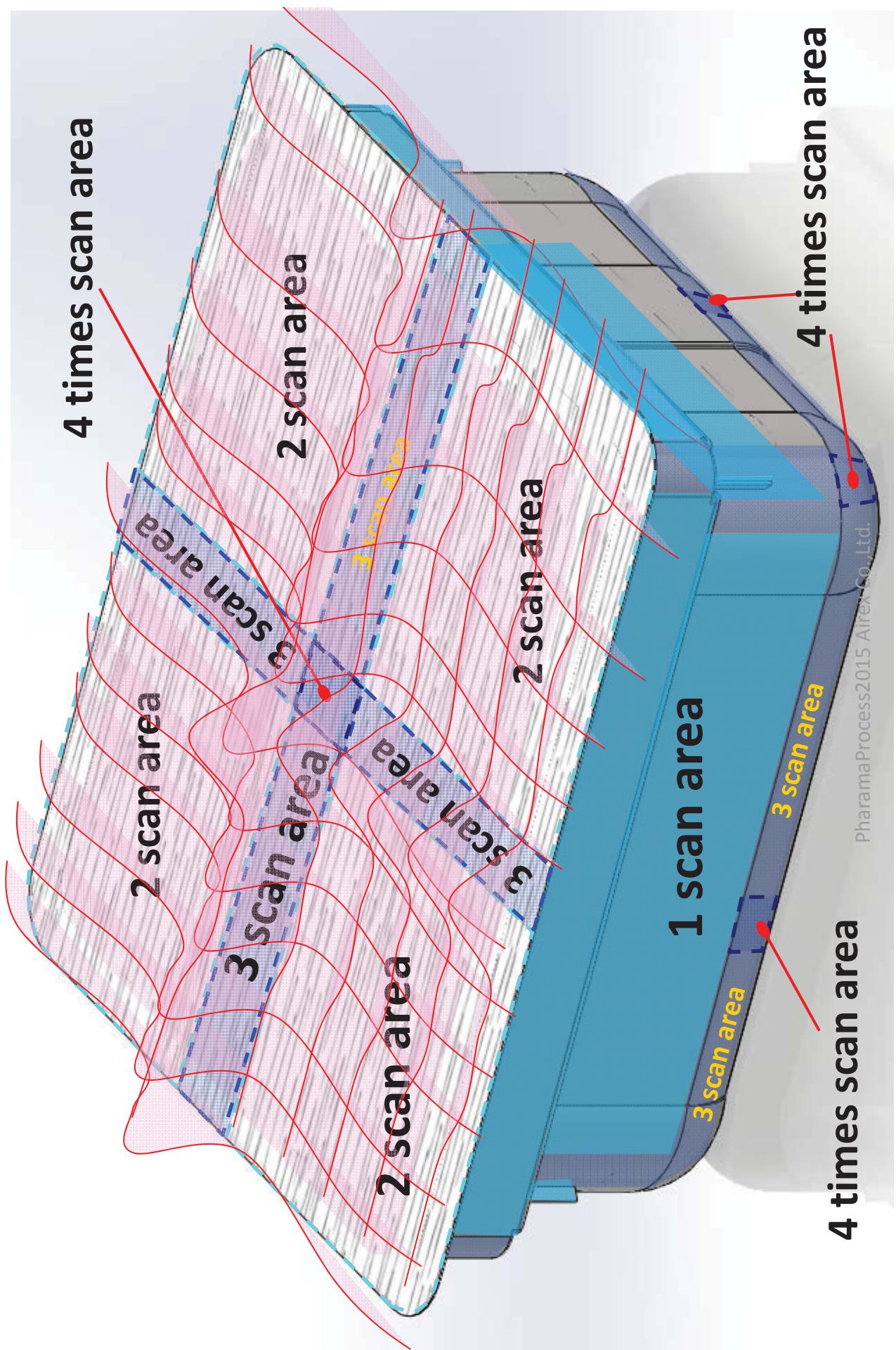
Dose mapping

on the Side irradiation test (4 time scan)



E-beam dose can obtain 25 kGy at every where

Dose image mapping

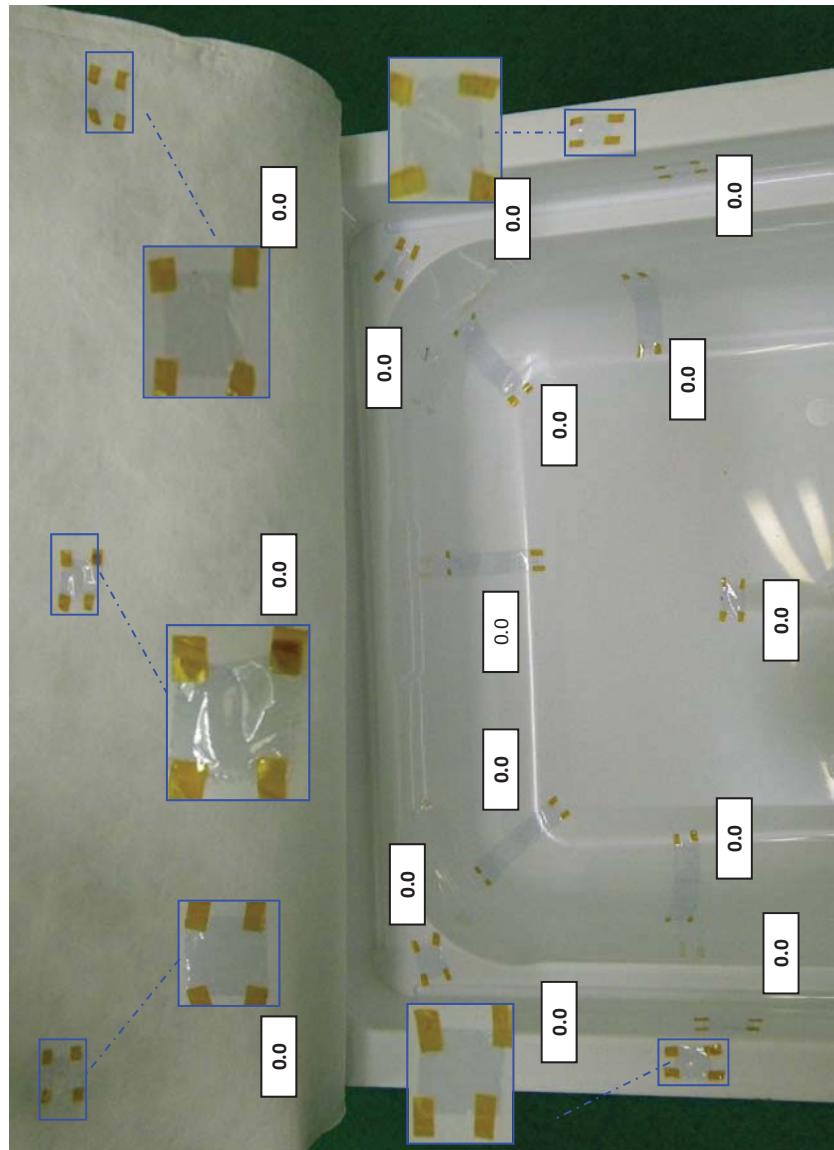


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Dose mapping

inside tubes (4 times scan)

Outside Surface 58.9kGy



Inside dose are 0 kGy
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Ozone gas analysis inside tubes

<Ozone tester's Specification>

- ✓ Manufacturer: Thermo Fisher SCIENTIFIC
- ✓ Model : 49i
- ✓ Method : Ultraviolet absorption spectrometry
- ✓ Gas sampling volume : 2.0L/min
- ✓ Transportation speed:75mm/sec

<Measurement procedure>

- ①Irradiation→
- ②Taking the tub out→
- ③Measurement

<Result>

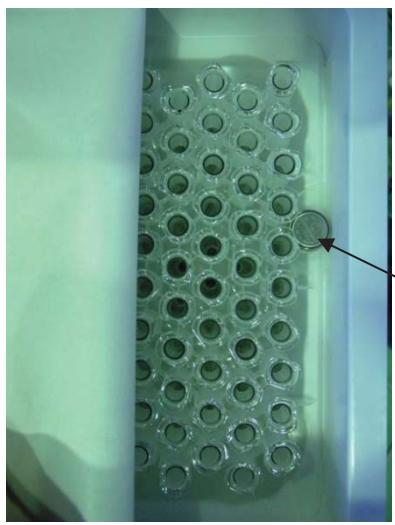
Residual Ozone conc.(ppm)			
N1	N2	N3	AVE.
0.004	0.006	0.009	0.006



Temperature rise in the tubs

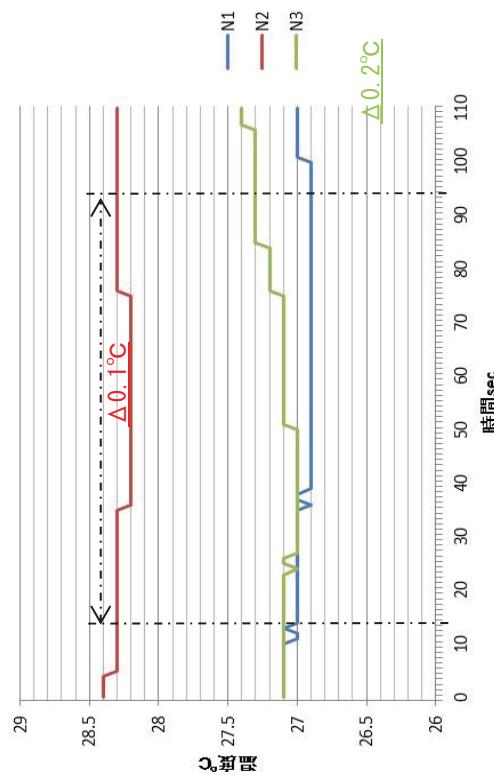
<Measurement procedure>

- ① Prepare thermocouple →
- ② Irradiation →
- ③ Measurement



Thermo couple
Temperature change(°C)

P1	P2	P3	AVE.
$\Delta 0.1$	$\Delta 0.1$	$\Delta 0.2$	$\Delta 0.1$



Influence of the E-beam to tabs and syringes

1. Perform E-beam scanning the tubs

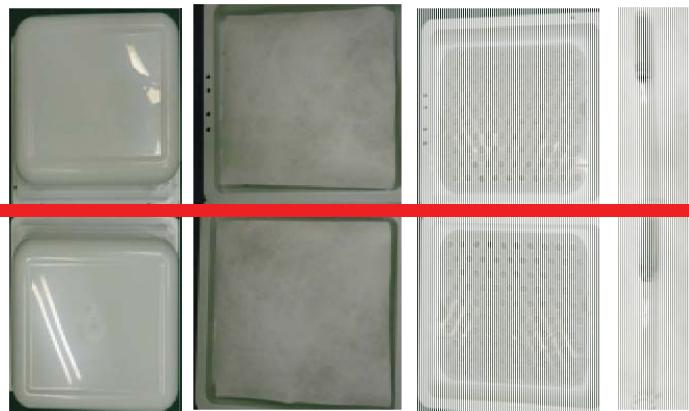
Before After



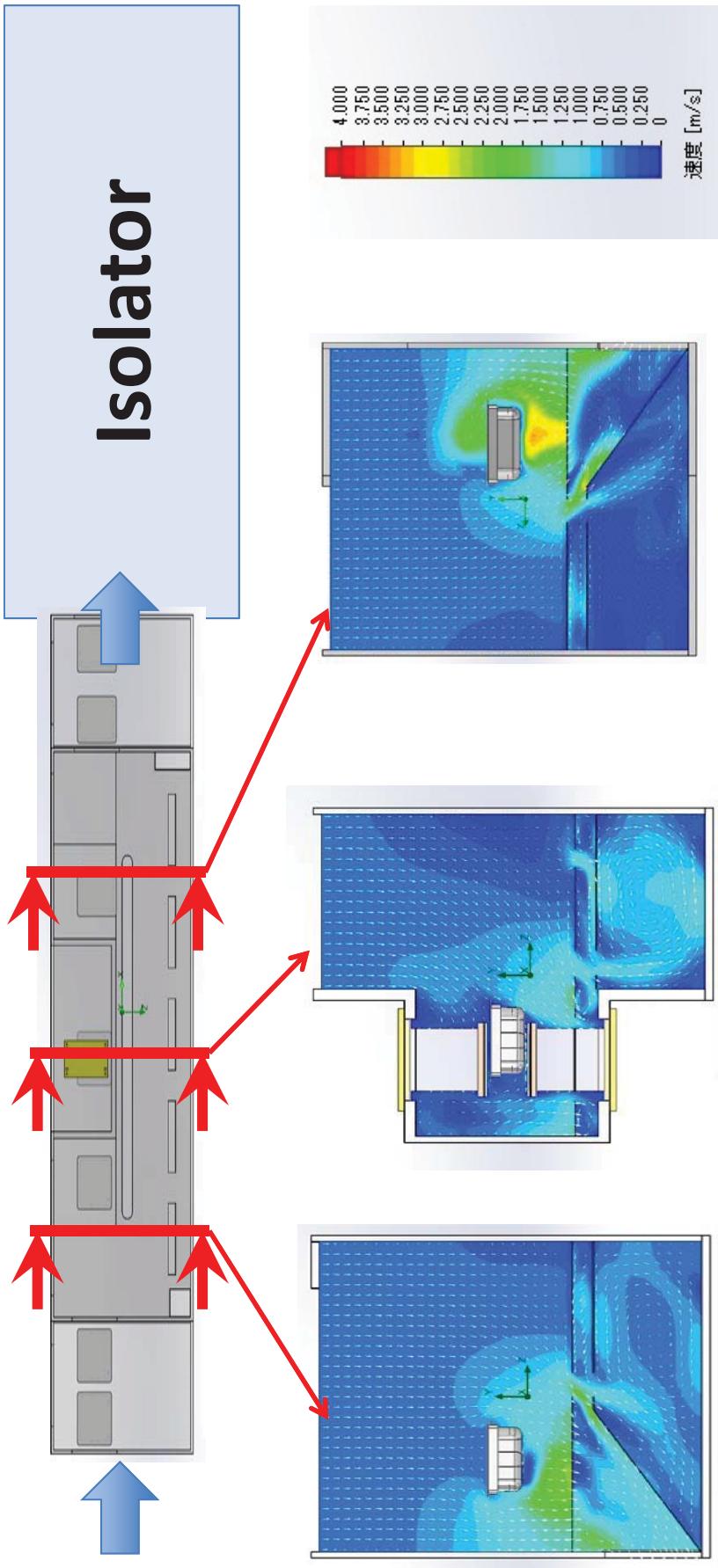
2. Compare the surface on the tub and the appearance of the syringe for the tested sample before & after the irradiation, and check whether the E-beam has given any impact on there.

3. Result

→ Any Color changes or Deformations



Air flow analysis inside of unit



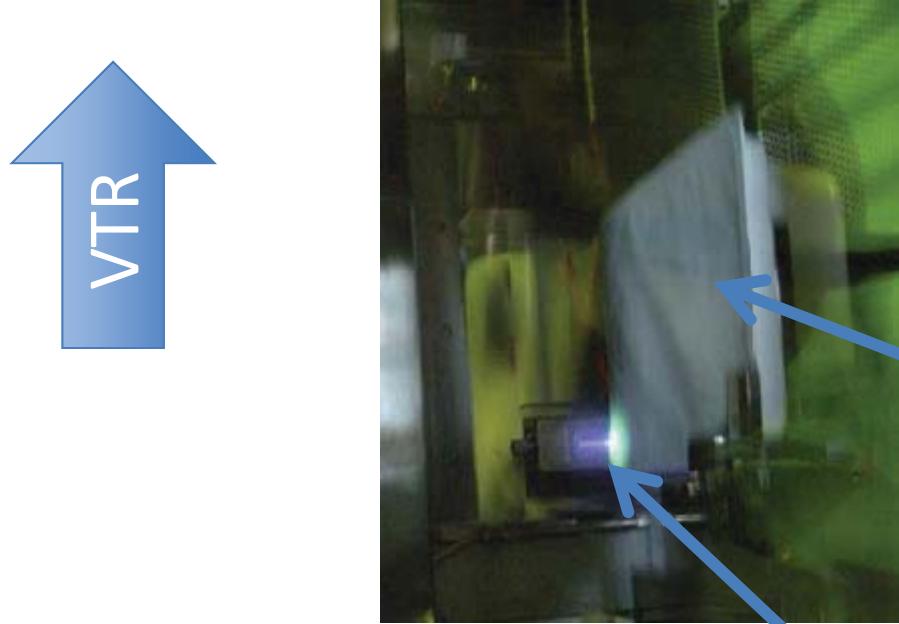
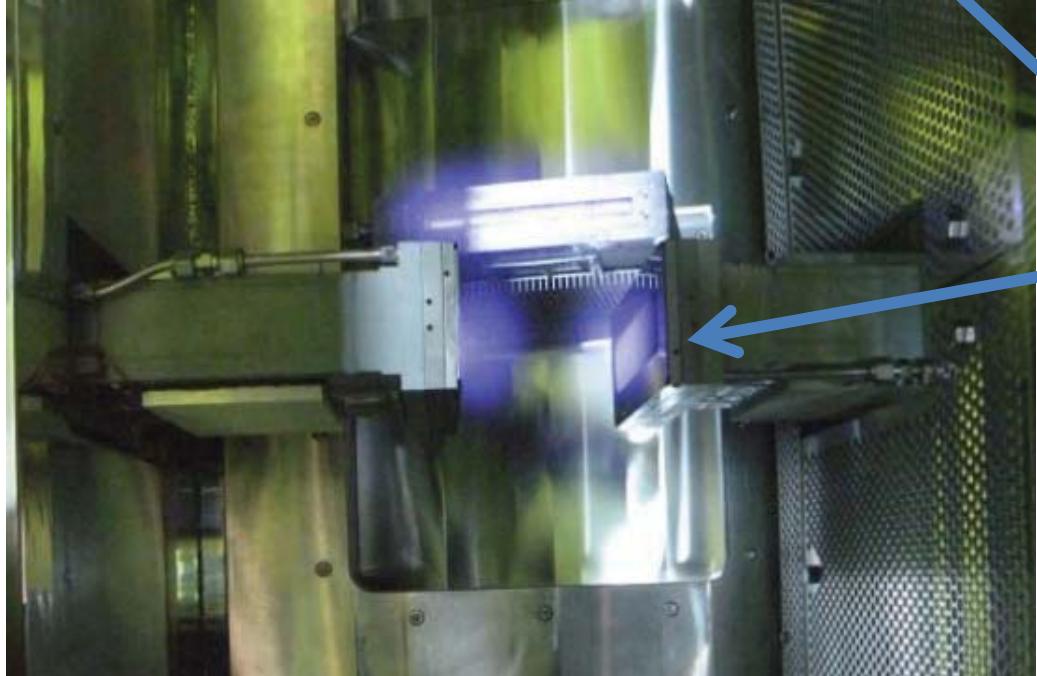
✓ To keep unidirectional air flow during sterilizing

Actual site view



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Inside of EB unit



EB emitters

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Summary of the results

surface decontamination of tub of syringe barrels

1. Smart EB™ system can guarantee the dose rate level of “ $\geq 25\text{kGy}$ ”
2. EB dose has not penetrated into the inside of the tub
3. Residual ozone concentration in the tubs were “ $<0.01\text{ppm (Max)}$ ”
4. Temperature rise in the tubs were conformed “ $<0.1^\circ\text{C}$ ”
5. Any influence of the E-Beam irradiation to the tabs, and to the barrels
6. To keep unidirectional air flow during sterilizing





Case study of application of Low Voltage EB

Utilizing EB Sterilization
for Vial Container
into an Isolated Aseptic Filling Line



EB Sterilization for plastic vial containers



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- ✓ Examples of the surface EB sterilization for syringe containers are rare now

✓ No results so far has been found in that of the vial containers

Effects in the solution

✓ Complete In-Line process

- ✓ Quality assurance to be increased.(More effective compared with Off-Line configuration in the management aspect.)

- ✓ Easy to perform the sterility validation.

Required Kill rate

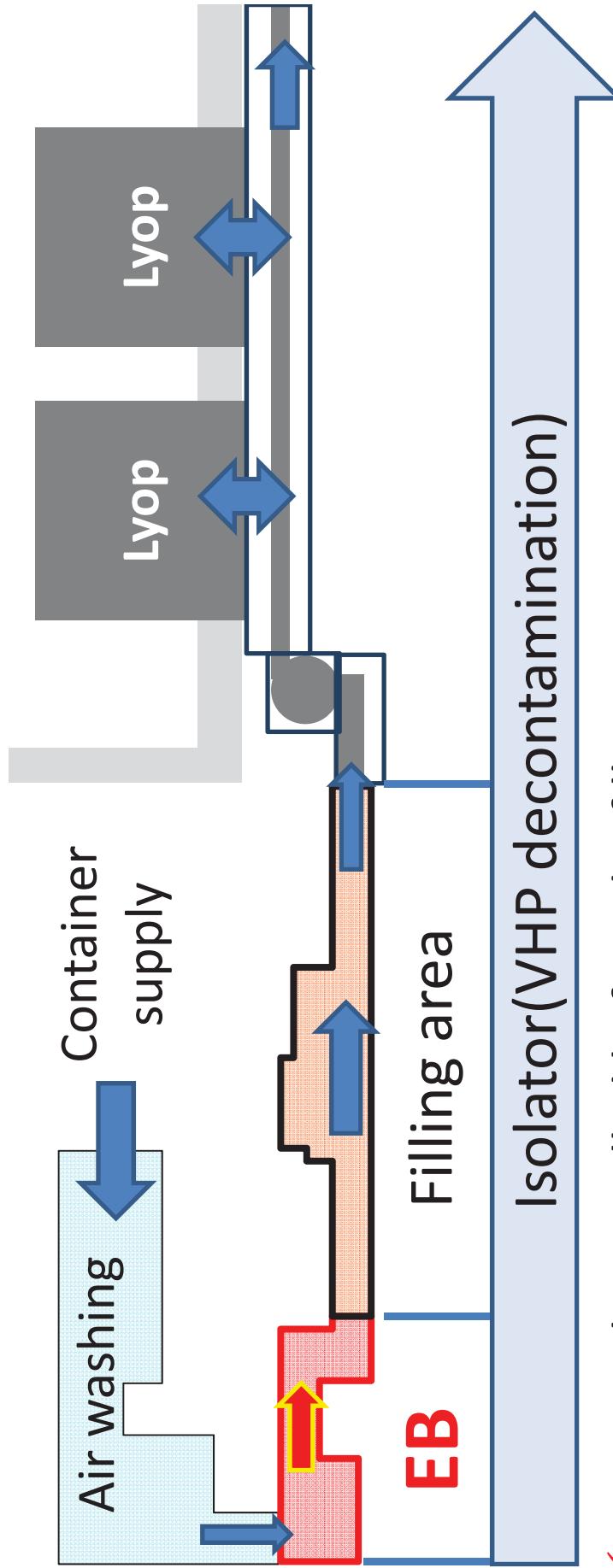
- ✓ To achieve the Kill rate 25 kGy on whole surfaces

Issues

- ✓ Stabilization of the conveying process
- ✓ Establishing of sterility validation
- ✓ Deterioration of the containers ?
- ✓ Product's change in the nature ?



Layout of vial filling process combined with EB sterilization



- ✓ EB tunnel is installed before the filling process.
- ✓ Vials cleaned by air spray for being transferred to EB
- ✓ vials are directly sterilized by the 3units E-beams
- ✓ Filled with the liquid product, then will be conveyed to the lyophilizer

Out view of filling process combined with vial EB sterilization



Summary of the results

Utilizing EB Sterilization for Vial Containers

1. System can guarantee the dose rate level of “ $\geq 25\text{kGy}$ ” on whole surface of vial containers
2. Any influence of the E-Beam irradiation to the vial containers
3. To keep Grade A during sterilizing
4. Speed of vial sterilization is 200 vials/min
5. FDA approved



Lessons Learned

1. The parameters to control the EB dose is simply shown as in below

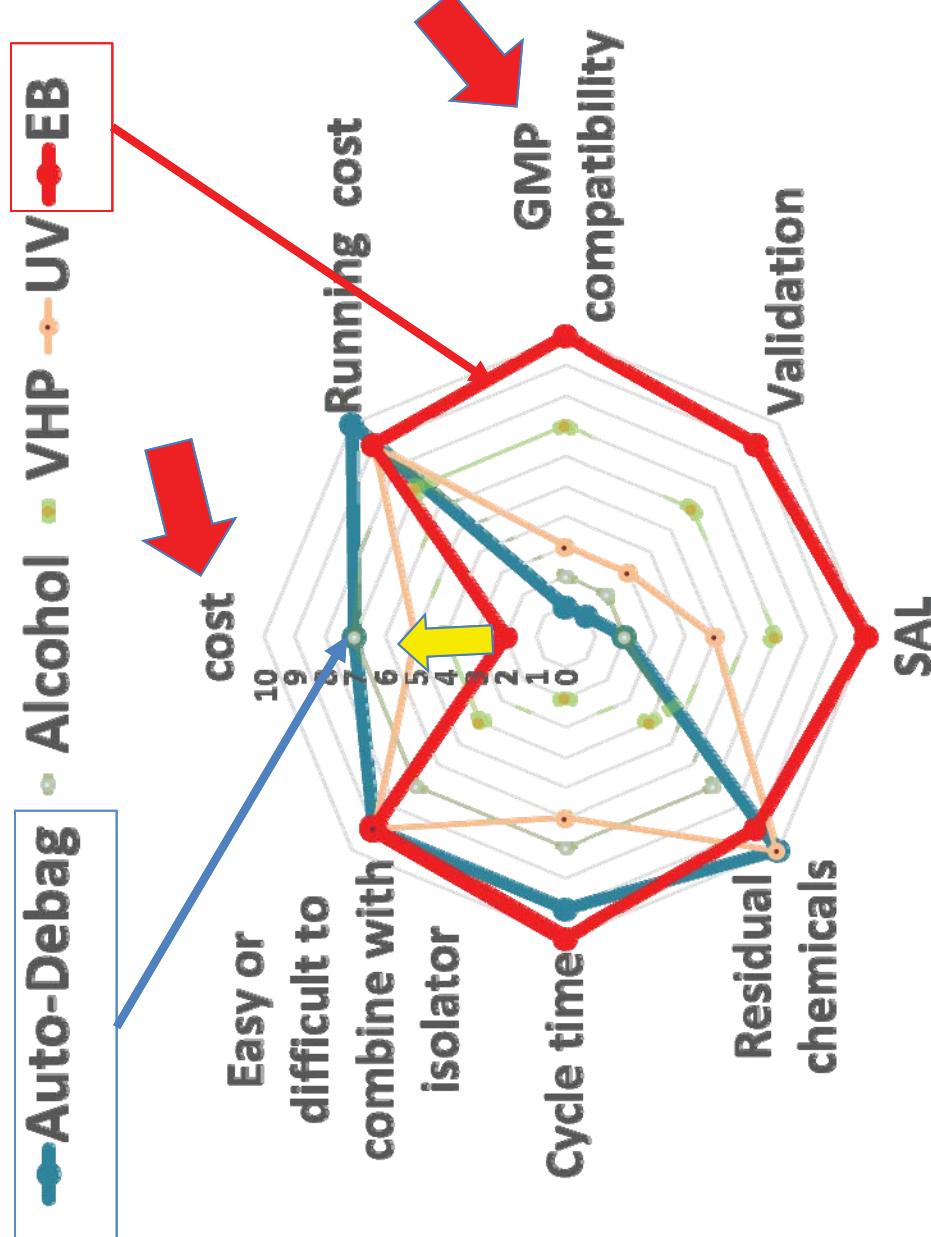
- ✓ Electron accelerating voltage
- ✓ Electron tube current
- ✓ Obstacle's moving speed
- ✓ Obstacle's distance

2. Low voltage and low current EB has many advantages as in below

- ✓ In line process is developed
- ✓ Uniform dose mapping
- ✓ Low Ozone generation
- ✓ Easy keep unidirectional flow and Grade A
- ✓ Lead cover is unnecessary



Evaluation of tub surface decontamination to introduce it into an aseptic filling isolator



Summary 1

1. These PFS productions can be expected to grow up in the future
2. It is a crucial issue how to introduce nest syringe tubs into an isolator
3. It has been clear now that contamination risk is involved in if introducing the tubs through mouse hole into the isolator with de-bagging, Then , you need to take a really careful attention in using this method.
4. On the other hand, the best solution for introducing tubs into an isolator would be to use the Low voltage E-beam sterilization system that can perfectly disinfect the outer surface of the tubs.



Summary 2

5. The low voltage E-beam sterilization system can easily shield X-ray, and additionally that has lots of advantages such as the price and the life time.
6. In these days, this E-beam system has been initiated to apply for the sterilization of containers such as for vials, In addition, new applications of this system for new technologies like Regenerative medicine, Nano-film and Microneedles are started, it would become a key technology for the pharmaceutical manufacturing in the future.



Paradigm shift





**Thank you very much
for your attention**



**If you have any questions,
please contact me by e-mail
kawasaki@airexx.co.jp**

