

Successful Case Studies



FEDEGARI
GROUP

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PROCESSES

Sterilization
Washing

Chemical
bio-decontamination
Contamination control
Dense-phase fluids plants

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

Rotating sterilizers
Pharmaceutical closures
processing

COMPONENTS

Pressure vessels
Doors
Piping
Process controller
Wireless sensors

ACCESSORIES

Un/loading conveyors
Customized racks

FOWS Washer-Sterilizers

The Challenge

Design and deliver a complete cost-effective solution for washing and sterilizing animal cages with full backup of all process equipment.
Use the equipment process chambers as chemical decontamination pass-through.

Project requirements:

Washing and sterilization of:

- 3.000 animal cages (metabolic and green line) of different sizes and relevant accessories per week
- Cage lids and grids, once/twice per month
- Animal food packages, as needed
- Sawdust packages, as needed
- Feeders, as needed

Chemical decontamination of:

- Various heat-sensitive instruments and items

Max cycle time: 100 min



The Customer

Mario Negri Institute for pharmacological research is a not-for-profit biomedical research organization structured on four research centers in Italy (Milan, Bergamo, Ranica and Chieti), a foundation in the US and employs about 1.000 personnel, mostly researchers.

The main fields of activity are the battle against cancer, nervous and mental illnesses, cardiovascular and renal diseases, rare diseases and the toxic effects of environmental contaminants, mother and child health. Mario Negri Institute and Fedegari have been collaborating for decades and in 2007 Fedegari has been awarded the contract for supplying two FOWS washer-sterilizers for the new research facility in Bergamo.

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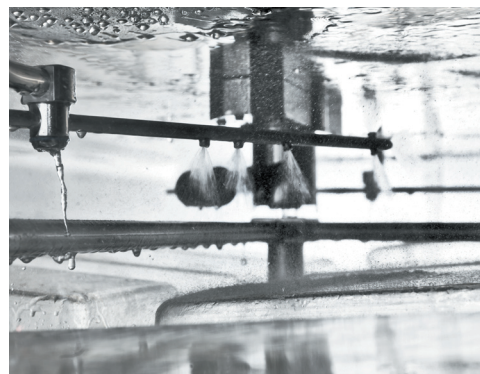
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The Solution

Installation of two FOWS washer-sterilizers side-by-side capable of washing, sterilizing and drying various types of animal cages in one single process.

The machines are equipped with different rotating and static spray nozzles located on the sterilization chamber walls as well as on the racks, so as to cover all load surfaces.

No manual operation is needed to connect the rack to any water feeding system; a simple maintenance-free auto-coupling ensures the water flow through the rack. The same device also allows to feed steam through all the nozzles for improving cleaning performances in a way no traditional washer can do.



Cycle duration is approximately 100 min, considering 20 min for the wash/rinse phase and 20 min for sterilization.

Water consumption for this application is approximately 250 l each process. Like a typical steam sterilizer, drying is performed with vacuum after sterilization, thus avoiding the use of HEPA filters.

Decontamination Process

Due to the specific requirements, both machines are equipped with a vaporized H_2O_2 generator for decontaminating those heat-sensitive items that need to be transferred inside the animal holding room.

With this solution it has been further reduced the number of machines installed and the relevant acquisition and operating costs.

