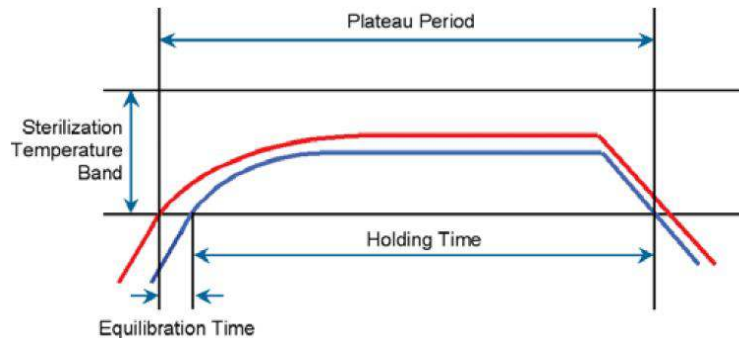


Steriliser Test Terminology



Generic Sterilizer Cycle

Equilibration Time

Starts when the temperature at the reference point (location of the control temperature sensor) reaches sterilisation, and ends when holding time begins.

Please Note:

Some probes (in particular free space) may have achieved sterilisation temperatures prior to the reference point, however these should be ignored for the purposes of calculating equilibration.

TQSoft will automatically insert Equilibration Start into the test data at the correct point if 'Stage Analysis' is turned on

Holding Time

The period of a sterilisation cycle where all measured temperatures within the load and chamber are within the appropriate sterilisation band.

TQSoft will automatically insert Sterilisation Start and Sterilisation End into the test data at the correct points if 'Stage Analysis' is turned on

Please Note:

'Sterilisation start' vs 'Machine Sterilisation Start'

'Sterilisation start' is specifically when all measured values reach target temperature, identified by referencing measured values.

'Machine sterilisation start' is when the machine identifies that sterilisation has begun, which is commonly a few seconds after actual sterilisation start, and is identified by indicated and/or recorded values.

Plateau Period

The time between start of equilibration and the end of the holding time.

Verification of Calibration

The point at which indicated, recorded, IMS and measured values are compared, usually during the holding time. Care should be taken to ensure that this is during a 'steady state condition' such as the 'middle' of the holding time (although typically this is taken after a set amount of time e.g. 2 minutes rather than a difficult to define 'middle'). The exact time the measurement is taken is largely inconsequential, as long as all three readings (indicated, recorded, and measured) are taken at the same time.