



Ethylene oxide-based sterilant gases, are used in the sterilization of a variety of medical devices, surgical equipment and similar materials used in the healthcare industry.

Praxair Specialty Gas operations utilizes special cylinder cleaning and inspection procedures to ensure the purity of these products. These special cleaning procedures have minimized polymer problems.

Sterilant gases users should be familiar with the properties of these gases, especially the hazards of exposure to ethylene oxide. Cylinder labels and Material Safety Data Sheets should be read and understood prior to use.

Praxair offers two major categories of products: *Oxyfume*[®] mixtures (Ethylene Oxide/Halocarbon) and *Medifume*[®] mixture (Ethylene Oxide/Carbon Dioxide). The choice you make depends on your equipment and sterilization needs.

Ethylene Oxide/Halocarbon Mixtures

Oxyfume[®] Sterilant Gas:

These non-flammable gas mixtures are effective and time-tested sterilants. They have been the industry choice for more than 40 years.

Oxyfume 2002 gas is a blend of HCFCs and ethylene oxide. Many hospitals have converted to *Oxyfume* 2002 gas because it offers greater efficiency which translates into cost savings for the hospital. It works in either small or large chambers, and lets you stay with the same wraps, trays and procedures that you currently use.

With *Oxyfume* 2002 gas, you can sterilize all the devices you have always sterilized with ethylene oxide. *Oxyfume* 2002 gas contains 10% ethylene oxide by weight. The product also contains a mixture of two hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) which act as carrier gases and flame suppressants.

Ethylene Oxide/Carbon Dioxide Mixture

Medifume[™] Sterilant Gas:

This non-flammable gas mixture was developed to replace CFC-12, which was phased out of production due to ozone depleting characteristics. *Medifume* gas is a carbon dioxide based sterilant gas. In most cases, the use of *Medifume* gas results in significant reduction of sterilization costs. However, not all sterilizers can use *Medifume* gas, so please contact your sterilizer manufacturer to assure compatibility.

Oxyfume is a registered trademark of Honeywell International.

Medifume is a registered trademark of Praxair Technology, Inc.

Part Number	Product Description	Cylinder Style	CGA	Contents (lb/kg)	Pressure (psig/bar)
<i>Oxyfume</i>[®] 2002					
FS OXY2002-FC	10% Ethylene Oxide	FC	510	135/61.2	48/3
FS OXY2002-FX	63% HCFC-124 27% HCFC-22 (DIN: 02215853)	FX	510	270/122.5	48/3
<i>Medifume</i>[®]					
FS MEDI8.5-K	8.5% Ethylene Oxide 91.5% Carbon Dioxide	K	350	60/27.3	750/51

Remember, if you are considering a change in sterilant gas, always contact the sterilizer manufacturer first to ensure compatibility. If you are considering alternative technologies, contact your Praxair representative for assistance.