



Clear PVC tubing management set works better and saves money

How TekniPlex Healthcare solves quality
and cost issues for OR generator.

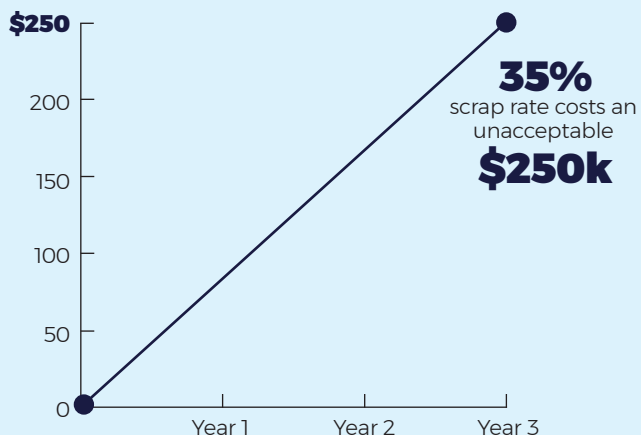
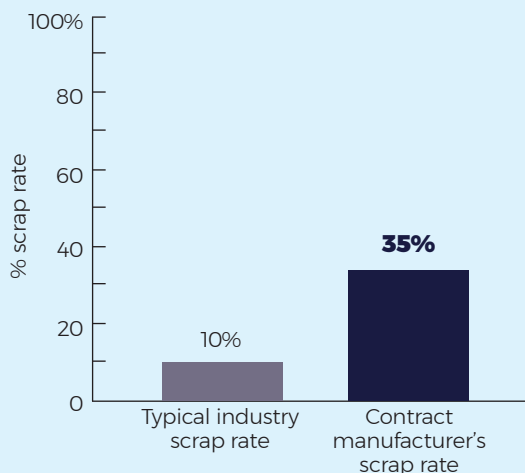


PROBLEM

A contract manufacturer for a generator that powers forceps used in neurocranial surgeries was having significant quality challenges with its prior tubing set. Sporadically it would find that the bonds between the tubing were either too strong or too weak; the OD was not being consistently held causing over-mold assembly issues; and weak walls were causing leak test failures. Because the manufacturer had unstable process controls and also did not have the ability to conduct inline

inspections of its tubing, the burden fell on the contract manufacturer. Quality issues meant additional internal quality check procedures, followed by lengthy lead times when replacements were necessary. Although a 10% scrap rate is considered typical in these applications, this situation was pushing scrap to an unacceptable 25 to 35%. The scrap level, coupled with the additional quality efforts, was costing the company an unacceptable \$250K over a three-year period.

35% scrap, coupled with additional quality efforts, cost \$250K in three years.



CAUSE

Inconsistencies in manufacturing and quality control meant that the tubing set ran the risk of being out of spec, which created a multitude of problems. An overly high peel strength (bond) could mean that the wall could be compromised causing leakers when the tubes were pulled apart. When the bonds were too weak, there was a tendency for the tubing to separate on its own, with part of the tube set falling to the ground, causing a trip hazard.

SOLUTION

Because the tubing problem was not being addressed by the incumbent supplier, the contract manufacturer (and OEM) decided to absorb the significant cost and effort of qualifying a new supplier. Due to an already existing relationship with TekniPlex Healthcare and familiarity with its quality commitment, the process of qualifying a new product/supplier began. (The OEM and contract manufacturer also took this opportunity to slightly modify the specifications.) TekniPlex Healthcare recommended its tubing management set and the qualification period commenced.

BENEFIT

- The switch to the TekniPlex Healthcare tubing management set will enable the company to **save hundreds of thousands of dollars in scrap, quality, labor and timeline.**
- TekniPlex Healthcare's Colorite compounds are also being evaluated so that the **entire supply chain can be vertically integrated**, further reducing the sourcing timeline and improve quality control.
- Compound conversion will also result in **additional cost savings for the customer.**



TekniPlex Healthcare can create a wide range of **custom tubing solutions** to meet your demanding applications.

ABOUT TEKNIPLIX HEALTHCARE

TekniPlex Healthcare deploys world-class material science expertise to deliver value in creating products for medical devices, diagnostics, and drug delivery. With a deep understanding of the needs of end-users, our offerings ensure we provide innovative solutions at the point of patient care. For more information about TekniPlex Healthcare and our solutions, visit www.Tekni-Plex.com/healthcare.