

# Basics in Single-Use Bioprocessing → Single-Use Bags

**Tanja Sedlacek**

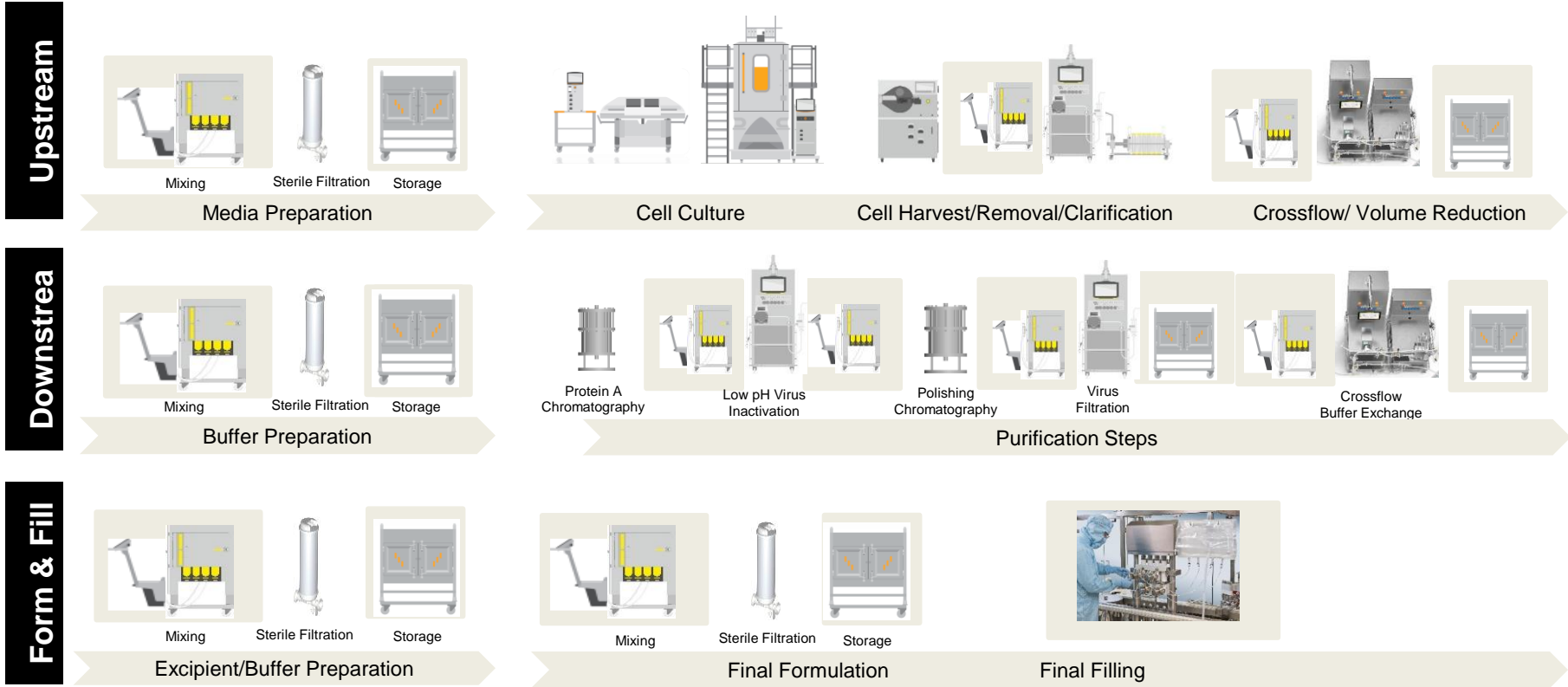
Field Application Specialist – Fluid Management Technologies  
Sartorius Stedim Biotech GmbH

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## Table of contents

- Overview
  - Drug Manufacturing Process
  - Stainless Steel vs. Single Use
- Challenges
- Bag Manufacturing
  - Bag Details
  - Extractables & Leachables
  - Production Process
  - Film material
- Single-Use bag types & Hardware → live demonstration

## Drug Manufacturing Process



## Stainless Steel vs. Single Use



picture: stainless steel

- Sterilization, cleaning
  - Possible cross contamination
  - Low flexibility
- Sterilized, only hardware-cleaning
  - Avoid cross contamination
  - High flexibility: set of different designs
  - Critical: extractables & leachables



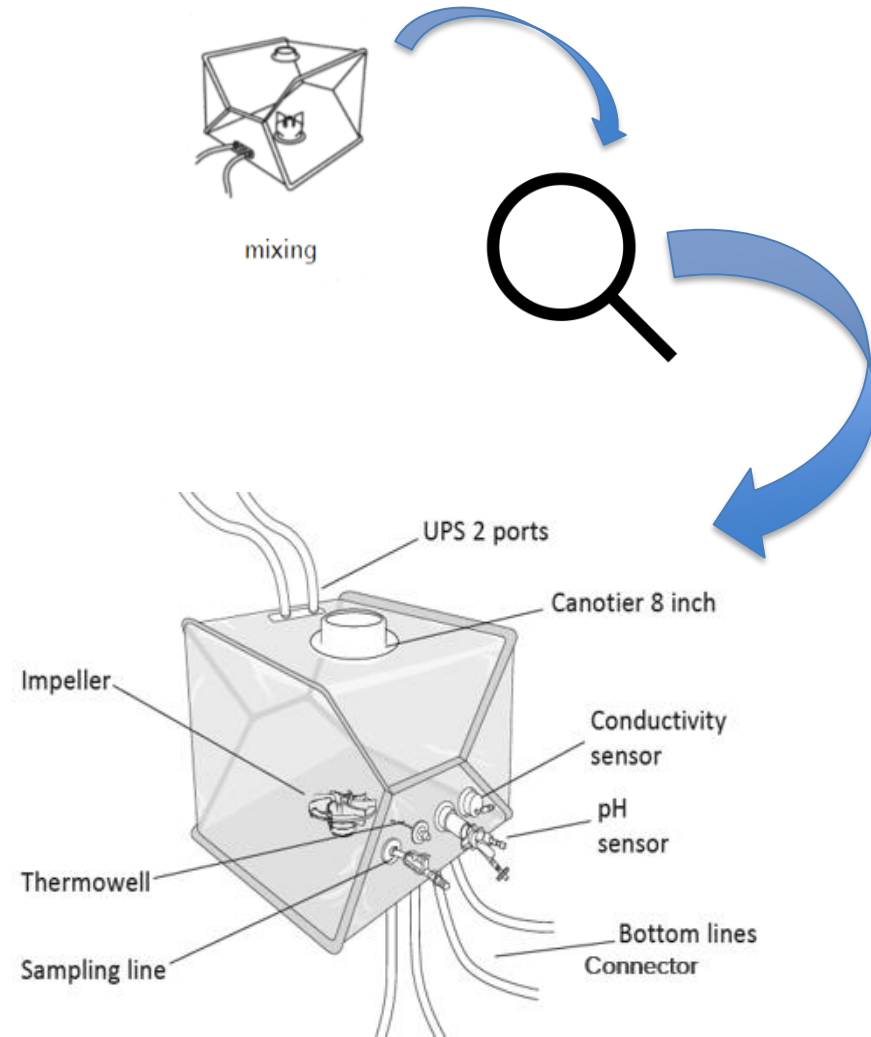
## Challenges

- **Supply chain**  
for SUS is complex and significantly increases the reliance on supplier quality system, change control & business continuity
- **Biocompatibility**  
industry reports on variability of cell growth performance in bags
- **Purity**  
Unexpected E | L can lead to production stop
- **Integrity**  
bag failures often combine a lack of robustness with difficult manipulations

# Bag manufacturing

## Bag details

- Complex assembly of **different components** made of **different material**
- HDPE, PE, EvOH, PP, EVA  
PSU, LLDPE, Si,
- Film material
- Extractables & Leachables



# Bag manufacturing

## Extractables & Leachables



### Extractables

- Extractables are **compounds that can be extracted from a container closure system, drug packaging component or any other contact surface.**

This **extraction** is happening during **harsh conditions** such as **heat, extraction solvents** or any other **highly-concentrated buffers or solutions.**

Extractables **can be potential Leachables.**



# Bag manufacturing

## Extractables & Leachables



### Leachables

- Leachables are **compounds that passively migrate or leach into the drug product over time** as a result of direct contact of the drug formulation with the surfaces (packaging, container closure system, etc.)

Leachables are generally **a subset of Extractables** - but not always.





# Bag manufacturing

## Extractables & Leachables

- Tests and studies usually **done by the manufacturer** results stated in validation / E&L guides for the customers  
Sartorius provides **in house studies** and **risk assessment** via an extractable simulator.
- Customers do their **own tests**
- **independent laboratories**



# Bag manufacturing

## Extractables & Leachables

- **Typical solvents** – examples

1M Hydrochloric Acid

1M Sodium Hydroxide

4M NaCl

1% Polysorbate 80

Ethanol

WFI

10 % Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)

4M Ammonium Sulfate

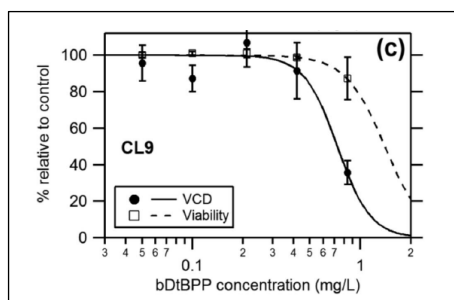
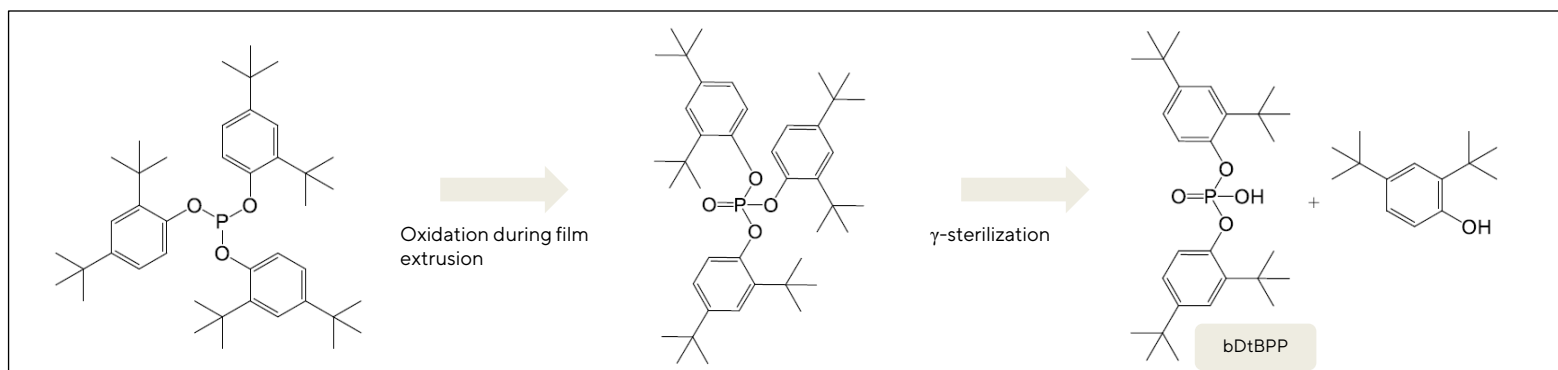
- **Test method** e.g.:

gas/liquid/ion chromatography

& mass spectrometry & flame ionization detector

- **E&L examples:** Silicon -> anti blocking agent for PE  
Linear and branched alkane -> from PE resins

# Leachable Studies from Bags Show that Trace Amounts of Degradation of an Antioxidant Can Impact Cell Growth

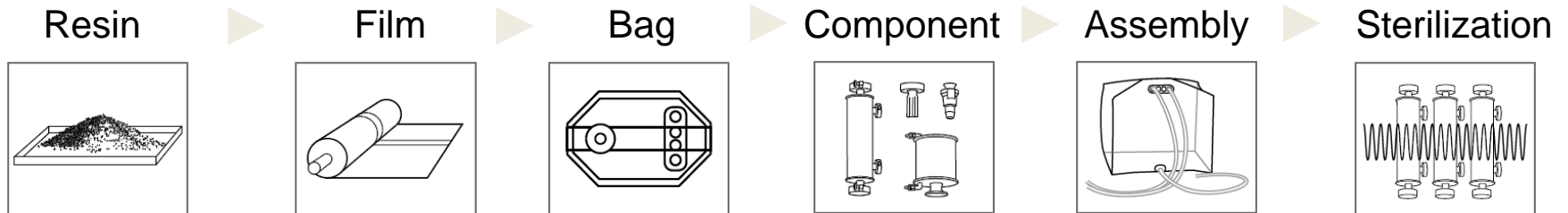


- The Tris (2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphite is a common antioxidant used for PE resins to protect the films from oxidative degradation during extrusion,  $\gamma$ -radiation and storage.
  - Referenced in the European Pharmacopoeia
  - Irgafos 168® is one of the trade names
- The bis (2,4-di-tert-butylphenyl) phosphate (bDtBPP), a breakdown product is a common leachable released from bags and have been shown to be detrimental to cell growth\*.

\* Ref - Matthew Hammond, Heather Nunn, Gary Rogers, et al., Identification of a Leachable Compound Detrimental to Cell Growth in Single-Use Bioprocess Containers, PDA J Pharm Sci and Tech 2013, 67 123-134.

# Bag manufacturing Production Process

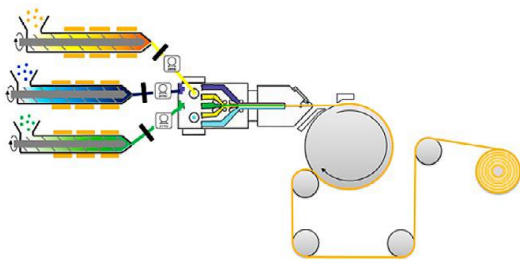
Gamma and x-ray sterilization  
(Supplier) Integrity Testing  
Point of use Leak Testing



Material Control → Process Control → Quality Control

DoE on Critical Film Extrusion  
Process Parameters

Manufacturer documentation:  
Extractable & Leachable guide  
Validation guide



- 3 orthogonal parameters
- Extrusion temperature –melting of raw materials
  - Chill roll temperature –cooling of the film
  - Extrusion Speed

# Bag manufacturing

## Film material

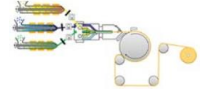
**Two main types** of film materials on the market  
**regarding product contact**

- EVA → ethyl vinyl acetate
  - Main characteristics: robust, elastic but poor barrier to gases
  - Well known, long time on the market
- PE → polyethylene
  - Main characteristics: robust, flexible, good water vapor and alcohol barrier properties
  - Well known from packaging industry and clinical use

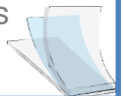
Specifications  
and control of  
raw material



Control of the  
critical process  
parameters

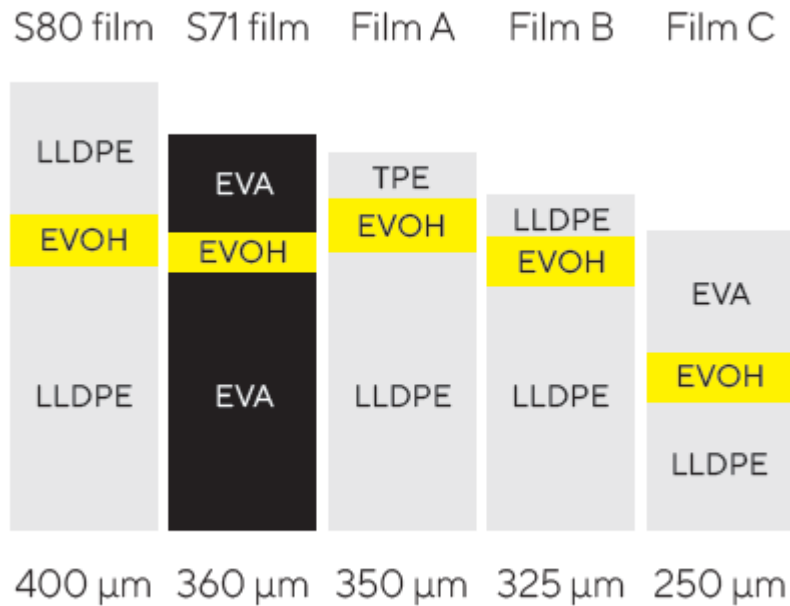


Specifications  
and control of  
film quality  
attributes



# Bag manufacturing

## Film material



- EVOH → ethyl vinyl alcohol
- LLDPE → linear low-density polyethylene
- TPE → thermoplastic elastomer

# Bag manufacturing

## Film material

### Process & application requirements

- Robustness
- Ease of use
- Biocompatibility
- Purity
- Cleanliness
- Compatibility
- Adsorption
- Stability
- Sterility

### Raw material science, film & bag expertise

#### S80 film | PE 400 µm

Backbone	LLDPE	 <p>Flexsafe® Bags &amp; Cultibags</p>
	EVOH	
Contact Layer	LLDPE	

#### S71 film | EVA 300 – 360 µm

Backbone	EVA	 <p>Flexboy® &amp; Celsius® Bags</p>
	EVOH	
Contact Layer	EVA	

### Bag quality attributes

- Strength
- Flexibility
- Weldability
- Cell growth
- Extractables
- Particles
- Gas Barrier
- Chemical resistance
- Bioburden

# Single-Use bag types & Hardware → live demonstration



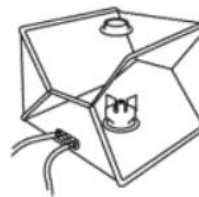
3D cell cultivation



storage / shipping



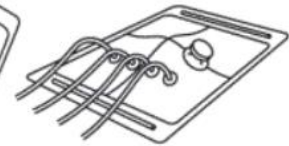
holding



mixing



freezing



2D cell cultivation





# References

- Pictures from Sartorius if no reference is stated below the picture
- Sartorius documentation: data sheets and application notes, further information  
→ contact [tanja.sedlacek@sartorius.com](mailto:tanja.sedlacek@sartorius.com) or visit [www.sartorius.com](http://www.sartorius.com) for more details

# Thank you.