

# Quality assured reprocessing of medical devices, safety and efficiency for health care

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### Development of Vanguard

Vanguard is now the market leader in the field of

reprocessing highly complex medical devices (1000 hospitals, 7 million reprocessed instruments)

and sets standards with its

 outsourcing concepts for central sterile supply departments (CSSD) in hospitals (100 hospitals, 82 million reprocessed instruments)



### Changes in Medical Technology

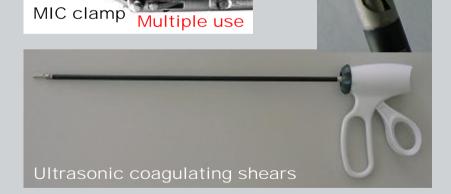
# Conventional medical devices





# Highly complex medical devices



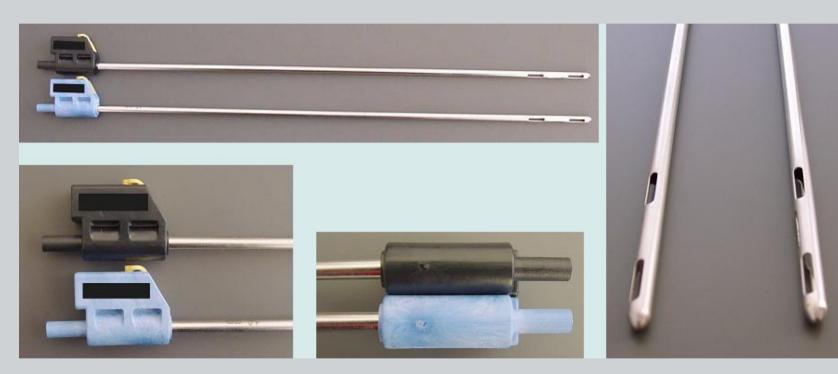


Single



### "Single use" – multiple use

### Liposuction cannula



(blue "multiple use" / black "single use")

(left "multiple use" /
right "single use")



# "Multiple-Use" Medical Devices reprocessed according to Manufacturer Manual

### **Products delivered from University Hospitals**



Biopsy forceps - contamination and corrosion



blood leavings

### Allgemeine Aufbereitungsanleitung flexibler wiederverwendbarer Endoskopie-Instrumente und Zubehör

Ziel der Maßnahmen ist eine rückstandsfreie Reinigung um anschließende Schritte der Desinfektion und Sterilisation nicht durch z.B. Blut-, Sekret- oder Geweberückstände zu beeinträchtigen.

### 1. Vorbereitung der Aufbereitung, Reinigung/ Desinfektion, Spülung und Trocknung

Die Kette von erforderlichen Maßnahmen muss optimiert sein, da Schwächen in einem Einze Ischritt (z.B. der Reinigung) den Gesamterfolg in Frage stellen können. Unzureichende Ergebnisse können durch Mängel bei jedem Schritt der Aufbereitung, z.B. bei Verwendung nicht geeigneter Reinigungs- und Desinfektionsmittel, fehlerhafter Anwendung, kontaminierter Desinfektions- oder Spülflüssigkeiten, unzureichende Trocknung und fehlerhafte Lagerung, auftreten. Zur Gewährleistung einer ordnungsgemäßen Aufbereitung von Medizinprodukten ist daher in der Regel eine Vorbereitung (Vorbehandlung und Sammlung) notwendig.

Grundsätzlich müssen alle äußeren und inneren Oberflächen für die eingesetzten Reinigungs -, Desinfektionsund Sterilisationsmittel zugänglich sein.

### 1.1. Vorbereitung der Aufbereitung

Prüfen, ob das Instrument zur Reinigung zerlegbar ist. Im Falle der Zerlegbarkeit unbedingt darauf achten, dass es bei den Komponenten zu keinen Verwechslungen kommt.

Achtung: Bei Instrumenten mit Gelenken (Biopsie-, Fremdkörperzangen) müssen während des gesamten Reinigungsprozess die Branchen geöffnet sein.

Grobe Verschmutzungen des Medizinproduktes sollen unmittelbar nach Anwendung entfernt werden.



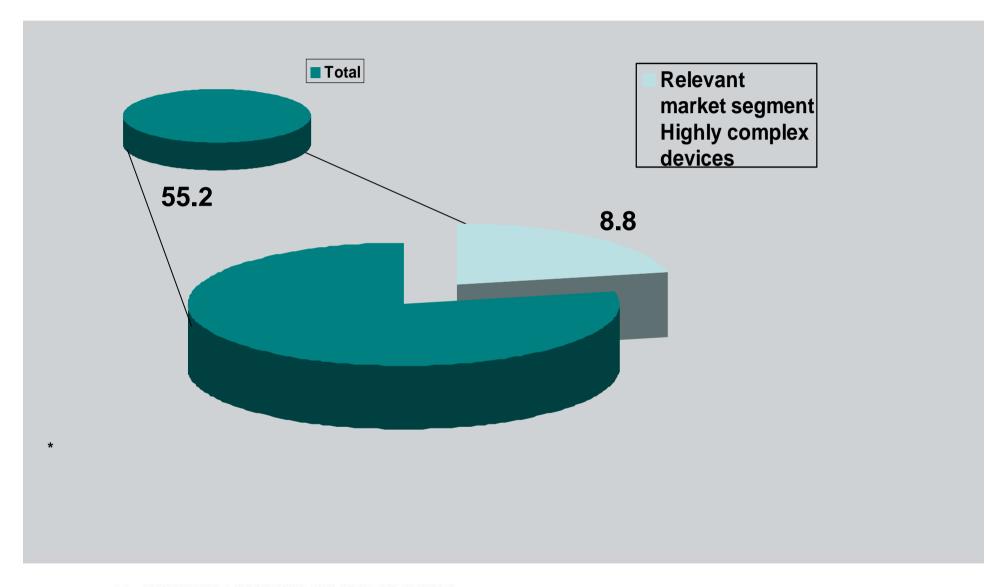


# "Multiple-Use" Medical Devices reprocessed according to Manufacturer Manual

# **Products delivered from Hospitals** Athroscopic shavers – **contamination and damage**



## VANGUARD EC Market for Medical Devices in EURO billion





# Reprocessing so called "single-use" medical devices only makes sense if

- 1. the safety of the patients is guaranteed,
- it creates ecological and economical benefits





### By Law All Medical Devices are Equal

The Council Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices does not distinguish between single-use and multiple-use devices.







# NEW: EU decision on Medical Devices Reprocessing

Decision (29 March 2007) on Reprocessing by EU Parliament, Commission and Council:



- Reprocessing shall be regulated on a European base.
- "Single use" shall be defined
- Products shall have a unique declaration "single use/ multible use" in the EU-Market.





- A study made by the University of Madrid proves that a general interdiction of reprocessing of singleuse devices shows is useless, on the contrary, it represents a danger for the patient.
- Although it is forbidden, 85 % of the Spanish hospitals do reprocess single-use devices, but they do it without validated processes!!





Non-Reprocessable	Reprocessable	
Single Use Devices	Multiple Use Devices (limited term)  Reprocessing possible	Multiple Use Devices
No safe reprocessing possible Reprocessing should not be allowed	for a limited number of times with specific technology (mainly by third party reprocessors)  Quality management system and process validation should be	Reprocessing poses no major challenges Validated procedures recommended
Labelled a	s single-use	Labelled as multiple-u

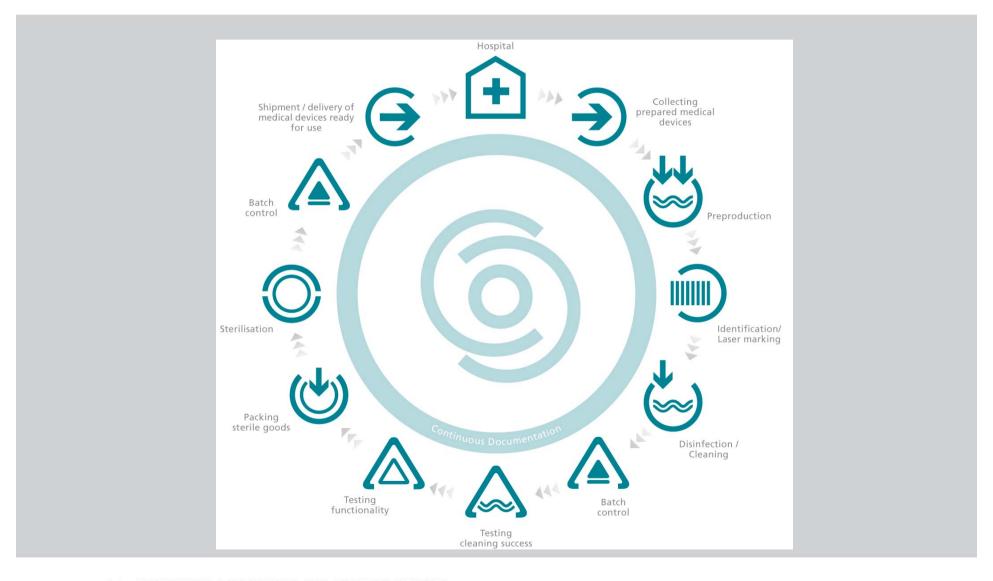


### The Reprocessing of Medical Devices

### **BASIS**:

- Technology for reprocessing (machinery/equipment)
- Personnel (training/instruction)
- Production environment (e. g. clean room, GMP)
- Media (water treatment/air conditioning, etc.)
- Documentation (traceability)
- Certification of Quality management System according to EN ISO 13485, ISO 9001
- Test equipment (hygiene, function)
- Validation of procedures







### Individual product coding



DataMatrix-Code (size approx. 3 x 3 mm)

Identification of all products

for reasons of:

- √ traceability
- √ documentation
- ✓ determination of reprocessing status.



# Construction of Catheter Reprocessing Unit

VANGUARD has devised its own reprocessing system

for e. g. PTCA catheters, because



- conventional washer-disinfectors for reprocessing PTCA catheters are not suitable,
- ✓ mechanical cleaning is necessary for achieving reproducible results,
- ✓ a validation of reprocessing is necessary (numerous sensors are required).



### Surface Inspection



Inspection of catheter with bench magnifier

### **Electrical Function Testing**



Functional testing of electrophysiology catheter



### Validation of Reprocessing

- ✓ The reprocessing procedure and
- ✓ its impact on the product
  are to be validated for each medical device.

This validation procedure comprises all elements of the reprocessing procedure, including cleaning, disinfection, packaging und sterilization.



### cf. Definition [EN 13824]:

Validation is a

- √ documented process for
- ✓ generating, recording and interpreting the results necessary to prove that
- ✓ a process constantly complies with the given specifications.

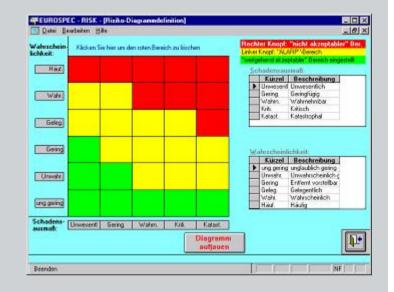


### Risk Analysis

Standard EN ISO 14971 describes the risk assessment for medical devices.

The risk analysis procedure is to:

- ✓ be based on science,
- ✓ fit the system under investigation,
- ✓ provide results in such a way that kind of risk and possibility of preventing it are understood,
- ✓ be controllable, consistent, repeatable, and checkable.





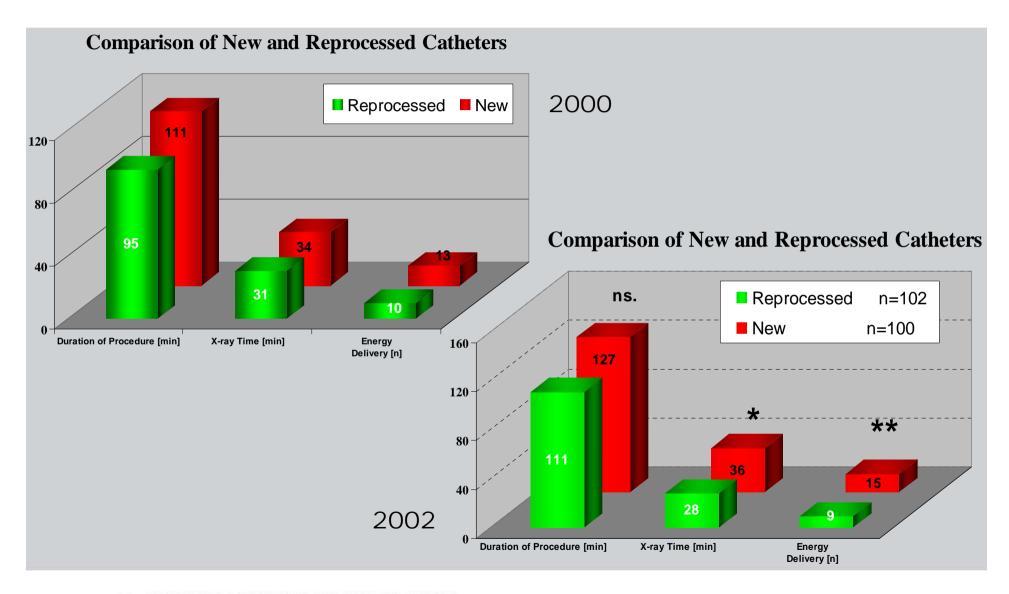


Hospital Bad Nauheim



Comparison of Reprocessed and New Catheters in Practice







### Report: Reprocessing "Single Use" Devices

### The Vanguard Concept of Professional Reprocessing



"SSI found the factory well equipped and well manned and that it fulfils the requirements in Validation Standard VST-100-004e."

"Reprocessing at Vanguard is of a high quality regarding safety (Vanguard's technology ensures that the result of reprocessing means that reprocessed products are as new) documentation and traceability"



### Academic evaluation of Vanguard

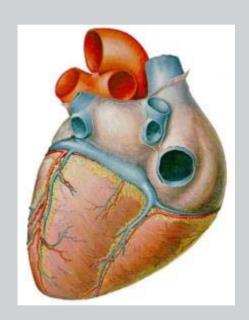
All but one German University Clinic have their medical devices reprocessed by Vanguard





### Approval of Cardiology

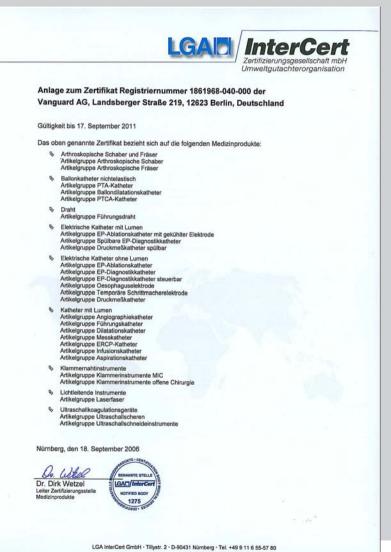
More than 75% of the German cardiologists use professionally reprocessed "single-use" medical devices





### **Quality Assurance System**





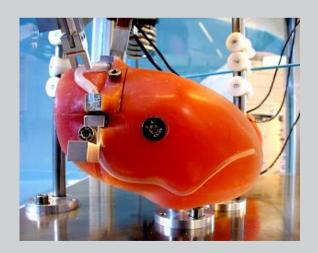


# Guaranteed Quality and Safety.



VANGUARD AG Medical Services for Europe guarantees that the medical devices which have been reprocessed, resterilised and repacked at its plant have the very same functional performance and safety as new products when properly used.

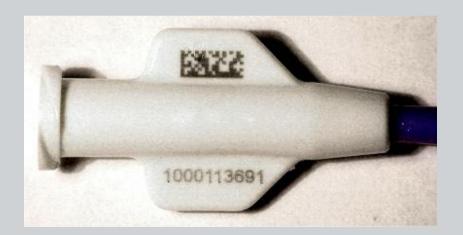
**VANGUARD** takes responsibility for patients and users of reprocessed products. This guarantee is backed up by insurance totaling €25.56 million.





### Quality at VANGUARD

More than 7 mill. products have been reprocessed and delivered to our customers without a single claim.



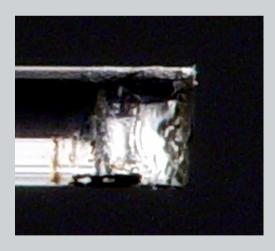


### Use of successful processes

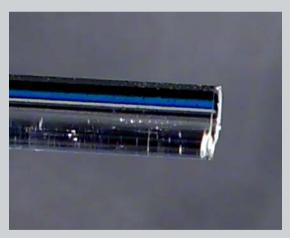
### Reprocessing incl. functional test

### Distal end of a laser fiber

After use



Reprocessed in hospital



Reprocessed at Vanguard





### Use of Suitable Procedures

# Damage through reprocessing at hospital

By using unsuitable reprocessing procedures medical devices are damaged.

The picture shows a stapling device reprocessed with unsuitable procedures in a hospital.



Staple suture instrument





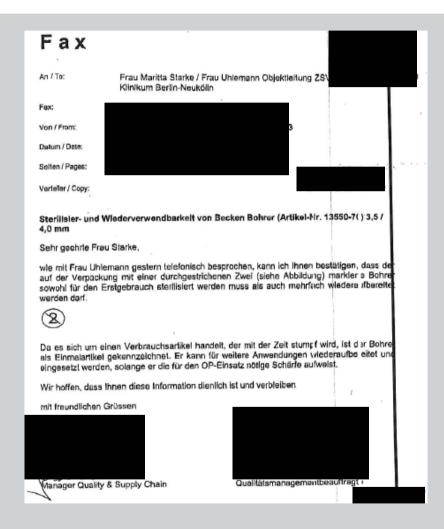
# Single-Use Medical Device is for Multiple-Use according to Manufacturer Manual

The manufacturer confirms that the product labeled single use shall be sterilised for first use and can be reprocessed several times

### Signed by:

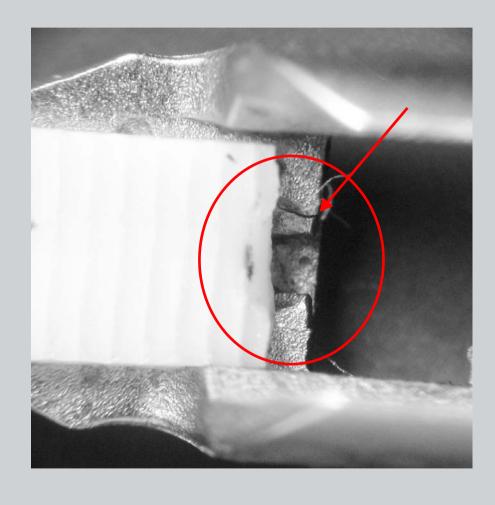
- ✓ Manager Quality & Supply Chain
- ✓ Responsible Quality manager







### Responsible Action - Risk Analysis

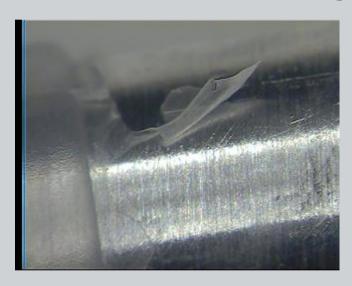


- Problematic zone on ultrasonic shears (not reprocessed!)
- Crack in shaped titan casting (possible fault in production process)



### Problems in Validating Procedures for Reprocessing Medical Devices

### Loose silicone fragments at new product







# Problems in Validating Procedures for Reprocessing Medical Devices

### Particles in the sterile packaging of a new product

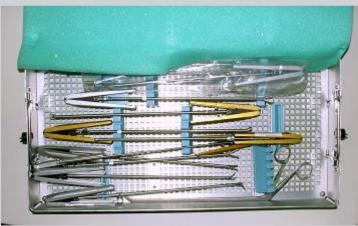


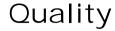


# Partnerships between VANGUARD and MD Industries











### Guaranteed quality through:

- ✓ Certification of Quality Management System according to EN ISO 13485
- ✓ Reprocessing/ documentation according to RKI-Guidelines
- ✓ Validation of the entire process of reprocessing
- ✓ Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)
- ✓ Monitoring/ testing by independent institutes
- ✓ Inspection by State Authorities
- √ 100 % Testing (non-destructive)



# Problems in Reprocessing Medical Devices

Dialogue between manufacturer and industrial reprocessor to take place, aimed at eliminating or reducing weaknesses in design when developing medical devices.

