



CCE COORDINATION BULLETIN

BULLETIN NUMBER 2009-1:

USE OF METAL-TO-METAL SEALS AND LEAK DETECT PORTS FOR SENSOR FITTINGS

The following guidance shall be used by CCEs when performing TPV evaluations. This guidance is effective immediately upon receipt and shall be used until revoked or included in an update of the *TPV Manual*.

The current Sensor and Sensor Fittings Standard, Number 74-03, allows for sensors that may be installed utilizing internally threaded adaptors, provided the adaptors incorporate a seal design that meets 3-A criteria. The Standard **does not** currently allow for threaded adaptors that result in a metal-to-metal seal in the product contact zone and it is unclear as to the requirement for leak detection in the space/cavity after the seal.

Several types of sensors are currently marketed that employ a “universal” type fitting that can be utilized with threaded adaptors that **may or may not** result in a metal-to-metal seal.

3-A Work Group 7 will continue its efforts to resolve the issue relating to metal-to-metal seals and clarify the requirements for a leak detect port, as authorized by the 3-A Steering Committee. In the meantime, sensors lacking an unobstructed leak detect or with threaded fittings lacking a gasket that requires an adaptor in order to mate with sanitary processes or equipment shall not be authorized to display the Symbol. If there is a space/cavity, including threads, on the non-product contact side of the seal, a leak detect port is required to indicate a failure of the seal.