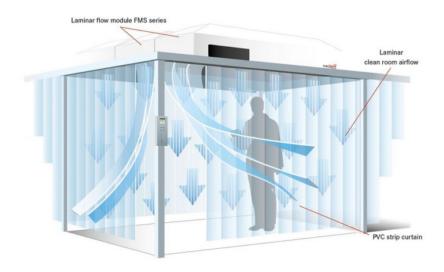


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Example showing an inexpensive way of creating partial sterile clean air areas

SEPTEMBER 19 2022

For some 20 years now, Erding-based SPETEC Gesellschaft für Labor- und Reinraumtechnik mbH have been designing and building clean rooms of various sizes that allow flexible design, manufacture and installation to meet customer requirements and needs. To date, these products have been used in a whole range of different areas of application. They are installed in all kinds of industrial buildings, wherever there is a need for especially clean working conditions and where an extremely sterile environment is needed or recommended.

The characteristic design feature is a laminar flow module equipped with a high quality fan and a filter system made up of a pre-filter and a high-performance filter (HEPA 14). The filter classification HEPA 14 indicates that this filter is capable of filtering out 99.995 % of all particles with a diameter \blacksquare 0.5 µm. The size of the module is variable, depending on the precise application. The tried-and-tested approach to creating high quality clean air workplaces,

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with GMP (good manufacturing practice) standards and is accredited accordingly. In addition

Lab tandard sizes shown in the company's catalog, a

In-house fabrication facilities allow custom sizes to be manufactured to meet specific customer needs. SPETEC's experience shows that the clean air area can be any size up to 250 m². Today's modern modules can be suspended at any height or secured to the ceiling. They are quiet in operation and feature a filter change indicator. The filter is easy to replace. The period for which the filter remains sufficiently effective depends on the quality of the air in the room. In some cases, a service life of four years and more has been recorded in practice.

With new builds and renovation projects, modules like this can also be recessed in the ceiling. This method of producing clean air represents an inexpensive alternative to complex, fully enclosed clean rooms. If entrances and windows are well sealed, a similar level of air cleanliness can be produced if the systems run permanently.

The characteristics and quality categories for clean rooms are laid down in the following standards: DIN EN ISO 14644, Part 1 (classes 1-9), DIN EN ISO 14698, Parts 1-3 and VDI 2083, Parts 1-18 (classes 0-7); US Federal Standard 209E (classes 1-100000) or in the EC GMP Guidelines (classes A-D).

The things that have the greatest impact on keeping objects clean are the ambient air and people. Clean rooms are also contaminated as a result of particles being transported through the air, the introduction of particles on technical surfaces and the production of particles by equipment, staff and running processes. In a class 8 clean room, more than 600 million particles (> 0.5 μ m Ø) per cubic meter are given off per person per shift by the skin and clothing alone. This figure, along with other counts of particles of the same size given off when staff in protective clothing move (when sitting with gentle movement of the lower arm: 20,000; when standing up: 50,000 and as a result of slow walking: 80,000 per person) is based on data from the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation (IPA) in Stuttgart. In addition to microdroplets, dust and smoke particles, the ambient air mainly contains bacteria (~ $0.5 - 50 \mu m \varnothing$) and viruses (~ $0.005 - 0.1 \mu m \varnothing$). Bacteria that are resistant to antibiotics can be extremely dangerous for humans, particularly in medical environments. Most of these particles, however, are not hazardous to healthy people. The situation is different for sick people, particularly those with an acute immune deficiency or with open wounds, and who must be treated in the ambient air or in air-conditioned rooms with air circulation systems.

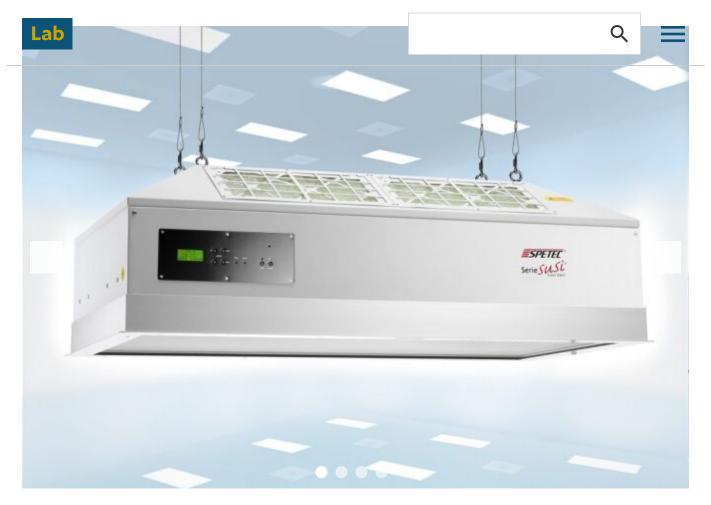
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Written by Spetec GmbH

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WRITTEN BY

Spetec GmbH

Spetec was founded in Erding, Germany in 1987. The company began selling replacement parts for analytics. As requirements in analytics becam...

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