

47-36 Tuttnauer 2540 EKP Sterilizer (Project 94-44) (6/95)

The Tuttnauer 2540 EKP is a fully-automatic, tabletop sterilizer with a round, 10-inch chamber. The exterior dimensions of the sterilizer are 15 inches high by 20 inches wide by 20 inches deep. The unit operates on 220 volts, single-phase electrical power. The microprocessor-controlled unit simplifies operation by reducing it to two steps: selecting the appropriate cycle (e.g., wrapped, unwrapped, liquid), then pressing the start button. When the sterilization cycle is complete, the unit exhausts and shuts itself off. Although not mentioned in the operating manual, it is recommended that the operator open the chamber door during the drying cycle to expedite instrument drying according to ANSI/AAMI ST 42-1992(5.6.4). The letters "E" and "P" designate a digital electronic control panel and printer, respectively. The unit evaluated by DIS was equipped with the optional printer that records sterilization parameters (including date, time, temperature, and pressure). The "K" stands for KwikKlave which identifies the sterilizer as a 220-volt unit with higher wattage heating elements that shorten the overall sterilization time.

Manufacturer:

Tuttnauer USA
1 Comac Loop
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
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Suggested Retail Price:

\$5,650 with printer (EKP model)
\$4,998 without printer (EK model)

Government Price:

\$2,825 with printer (EKP model)
\$2,449 without printer (EK model)

ADVANTAGES:

- + Higher wattage heating elements cause the sterilizer to reach its operational temperature faster and reduce total sterilization time.
- + Fully automatic.
- + Simple to operate.
- + Easy to maintain and clean because of its highly polished stainless-steel chamber.
- + Cycle parameters (e.g., time, temperature) are easy to program.
- + Digital readout is informative and clear.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Drying cycle is not capable of adequately drying the sterilization packs with the chamber door closed.
- Chamber door latch can be overtightened which can deform the door gasket and produce water leaks.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

The Tuttnauer 2540 EKP is a fully-automatic, portable sterilizer with a 10-inch chamber. The sterilizer can accommodate three standard (8"X11"X1.5") and three half-size (8"X4.5"X1.5") dental instrument cassettes. The control panel is easy to understand and operate, and it provides a clear indication of cycle status. The main advantage of this sterilizer is that its higher wattage heating elements reduce total sterilization time. This model is identical to the 2540 EP except for the heating element and the requirement for a 220-volt power supply. Although the 2540 EKP was not evaluated clinically, based on its similarity to the 2540 EP and laboratory evaluations, the **Tuttnauer 2540 EKP** sterilizer is rated **Acceptable** for use by the federal dental services.