



Indispensable to patient health

For 60 years. For the world. For generations to come.

In 1897, BD founders Maxwell W. Becton and Fairleigh S. Dickinson made the company's first sale, an all-glass syringe. As healthcare evolved, so did our products. In the late 1950s, we leveraged the development of polypropylene to create the **world's first-ever fully sterile single-use disposable plastic syringe—the BD Plastipak™ Syringe**. The 60 years of milestones across this device's history are a series of innovation firsts in design, sterility and manufacturing, which contribute to it being the **world's number one selling syringe**.

1961

After 10 years of development, BD Plastipak™ Syringe is launched and the Canaan, Connecticut (US) plant is opened (with a starting staff of eight) to produce the first disposable plastic syringe.

Mid 1970s

BD Plastipak™ Syringe scale markings were changed from cc to mL to meet worldwide liquid measurement standards.

1985

To improve output and efficiency, an advanced cobalt 60 electron-beam sterilization process is brought into the Canaan plant.

1989

A series of major product innovations are introduced, including a bolder scale and clearer barrel, which were highlighted in the reinvigorating "What's New BD" campaign.

2009

BD is selected by the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) as the primary supplier of syringes used for H1N1 vaccinations.

1966

Canaan plant expanded for the third time to accommodate demand for BD Plastipak™ Syringes.

1981

North American production crosses into Cuautitlán, Mexico.

1983

A new plant in San Agustín de Guadalix, Spain broadens production in Europe.

1987

Production heads to South America with the opening of a plant in Curitiba, Brazil.

Mid 1990s

Convenience trays are introduced, helping pharmacists save time when batch preparing syringes.

2021

BD contracts with governments and Non-governmental organizations (NGO)s to supply injection devices for delivering critical COVID-19 vaccines around the world.

1965

The BD Luer-Lok™ Tip is added to the BD Plastipak™ Syringe to help with leak-proof connections and needle separation.

1977

BD Plastipak™ Syringes are provided to support the World Health Organization's (WHO) smallpox eradication efforts.

1982

Production is expanded to Columbus, Nebraska to meet growing demand.

Mid 1980s

To help with global standardization, the BD "Worldwide Syringe" initiative drives injection device enhancements.

1989

The Tuas, Singapore facility is opened, aiding in more efficient global distribution.

2020

COVID-19 is declared a pandemic. BD immediately ramps up a global response to assist with frontline treatment efforts.

Discover more about the remarkable road of BD Plastipak™ Syringe at bd.com/60Years

BD Plastipak™ Syringe, since 1961

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