

COMPANY STATEMENT



June 13, 2025

For decades, BD has used employee monitoring through our industrial hygiene program at our warehouse and distribution facilities that contain medical devices sterilized with EtO, as well as other measures, to ensure there are not exposures above OSHA permissible exposure levels for our employees. It stands to reason that if there are no safety concerns within a closed facility, any low, residual levels of EtO — which are already within OSHA permitted standards — would only further dissipate as you move outside the distribution center. Also, what is missing from the larger conversation about this topic is that EtO is all around us. Everyday items like cars and trucks, lawn mowers, barbeque grills, campfires, decaying plants and many other common sources produce EtO in much higher volumes than the residual levels that remain in medical product packaging. Even the human body produces EtO.

The most comprehensive EtO air monitoring program in U.S. history that we are aware of occurred in Georgia in a community where BD has both an EtO sterilizer and a distribution facility. After two years of monitoring, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division found that levels of EtO measured in the areas near BD's facilities are generally comparable to the concentrations measured at the background sites where there are no known commercial sources of EtO, including a state park that is 200 miles away.

It is also important to note that all products housed in that Georgia distribution facility have been sterilized with EtO. This is not the case with our Four Oaks facility. Additionally, unlike our Georgia facility, Four Oaks does not operate an EtO sterilizer. While some products stored in Four Oaks have been sterilized with EtO, there are numerous other products in the facility that are not sterilized with EtO. This means that levels of EtO in Four Oaks would be even lower than levels in the Georgia facility, which state environmental officials determined were in-line with normal levels of EtO found where no commercial EtO facilities exist.

We fully stand behind the safety of our operations for our employees and the communities that we call home, including the town of Four Oaks.

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