



## Pull-Push Wire, Cable, Tubing, and Fiber Optic Bundles with RPI Plastic & Metal Snakes

There is a multitude of uses for RPI's newest tools that easily pull and push wire, cable, tubing, and fiber optic bundles behind walls, above ceilings, inside operatories, through crawl spaces, and under floors.

Hard-to-reach spaces in hospitals, dental and doctor offices, laboratories, x-ray rooms, central monitoring stations, or computer stations can easily be accessed with RPI's "plastic" and "metal" snakes.

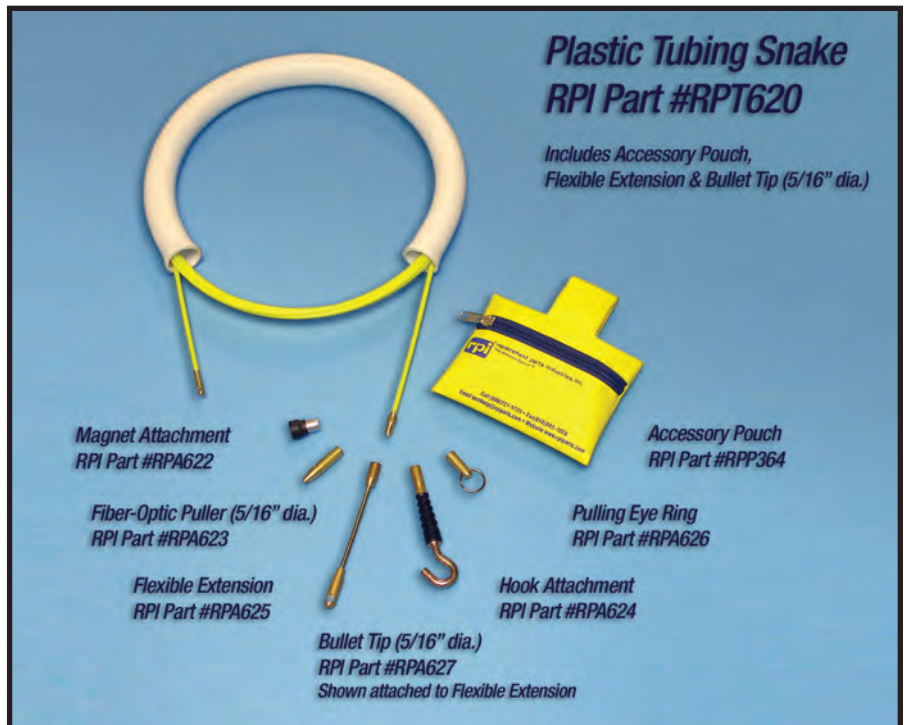
What's more, both snake tools are offered with a variety of attachments that screw on to the tip of the snakes and allow you to customize them for the requirements of each job.

The RPI Plastic Tubing Snake (RPI Part #RPT620), made of a fiberglass rod that is polypropylene coated, eliminates the chance of electric shock when working through "J" boxes.

The plastic tubing snake is more rigid than a standard metal snake, making it quicker and easier to push lines through as needed.

The snake is 15 feet long and comes with two tip attachments – a bullet tip with a small through-hole, and a three inch flexible extension.

Other attachments available include a metal hook, a powerful magnet so strong that it can pick up tools, a pulling eye ring, and a custom designed fiber-optic bundle puller. In addition, there is a special attachment that allows two snakes to be connected for a 30 foot reach.



The snake includes a sturdy, zippered pouch for storing the attachments. The pouch has a strap with a large Velcro® strip so that you can secure around the PVC holder. It's the RPI advantage!

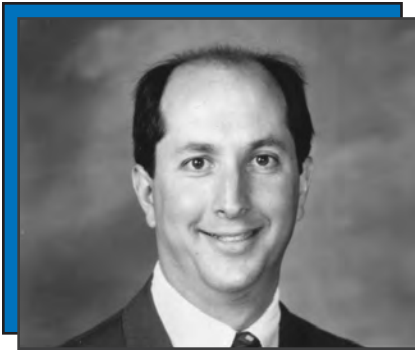
The custom-designed PVC holder houses the fiberglass rod and makes it easy to access and recoil the rod. The holder also allows for the convenience of securing it with one hand while directing the rod with the other hand, or the holder can be "hooked" in a stationary position to allow for both hands to direct the rod while working. Either way, this unique holder gives you flexibility when maneuvering through tight spaces.

RPI also offers a traditional metal snake that is great to use to get through

tight corners. The metal snake is also quite unique as it too is designed to allow for a variety of tip attachments.

The RPI "Metal Tubing Snake" (RPI Part #RPT629) is 12 feet long, comes in a reusable slide lock bag, and includes a screw-on bullet tip with through hole. Other attachments include a fiber-optic bundle puller, a connector that allows two snakes to reach 24 feet, as well as a step-up adapter that makes it possible for the metal snake tip to accommodate the RPI plastic snake's metal hook, magnet, and pulling eye ring attachments. The sturdy, zippered accessory pouch is also included.

For more information about the RPI snake tools, please turn to page 5.



*Ira Lapidès  
CEO & President  
Replacement Parts Industries, Inc.*

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

While back, I decided to take a look at some old industry trade journals that I have kept here at RPI. Just for fun, I pulled out some early 1996 issues of “HealthCare Technology Management”, the predecessor to “24 x 7”, to see what was happening ten years ago in the medical equipment service industry. And, after reading through some of the articles, and seeing the latest industry buzz in 2006, the old saying, “the more things change, the more they stay the same”, really rings true.

So, what was happening ten years ago? Well, there were a few big headlines. GE Medical Systems (as it was known then) purchased National MD early in 1996 to help it implement the new comprehensive biomedical service agreement that it had recently signed with Columbia Healthcare. This, as I recall, created quite an uproar. The announcement of this acquisition was made right before the annual Service Industry Association (SIA) conference that year. Many of the members of SIA held an emergency meeting trying to determine what this deal would mean to their businesses. I vividly remember the air of uncertainty in that meeting room, and the panic in some of the voices.

Multivendor service by the large original equipment manufacturers (OEM’s) was just in its infancy in 1996. Walt Gasparovic, an industry consultant, correctly predicted that very few OEM’s would succeed at multivendor service. We have seen GE and Philips do well, but the rest of the market for outside services has gone through its own set of changes in the past few years, with Aramark purchasing Premier CTS and ServiceMaster, Crothall purchasing Kinetic, Masterplan purchasing Genesis, and Sodexo purchasing Patriot.

The other major acquisition during the first half of 1996 occurred when Steris acquired Amsco, a company 10 times its size, giving it a formidable sales and service force that really propelled Steris to the top of the list. Countless other minor acquisitions occurred during the first half of 1996, both on the manufacturing and service sides of our industry.

Other big stories at the time included a cover story entitled “Used Equipment’s Struggle for Respect.” Feature articles included discussions of the need for certification for clinical and biomedical engineers, and the impact of electronic documentation on technical service. The February issue provided a market forecast, which included a prediction of healthcare spending as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). According to the estimate from a study produced for the Health Care Finance Administration (HCFA), healthcare accounted for 15% of GDP in 1995, and would hit 18.1% in 2000 (other studies put the 1995 figure at about 13.3%). A recent article in the Boston Globe puts the figure for 2004 at 16%, so the HCFA study was off considerably.

*continued on the back page*

## THE RPI FAMILY

Hello! My name is Cathy Murillo. I was born in El Salvador which is located in Central America.

I came to California in June of 1981 when my brave mother took the courage to bring her family to America for a better future and life.

I have two brothers and a sister. My older brother is Tony, and my younger brother is Jesse. Norma is my younger sister and she is also my best friend. The reason I consider her my best friend is that she’s there in good times and bad times, we share our feelings together and we are always there for each other when we need someone to talk to. I always thank God for blessing me with a great sister like Norma.

I was also blessed with two wonderful children who I love with all my heart and make my everyday life shine like the sun. I have a



*Cathy Murillo  
Customer Service  
Representative*

nine year old, beautiful and sweet daughter, and a seven-year-old wonderful and good-looking son.

I’ve been working for RPI for five great years in the Customer Service department. I enjoy speaking with our customers and assisting them with the parts they need and processing their orders. I would like to thank them for their support.

I would also like to thank Dora, my supervisor, for giving me the opportunity to work for such a great company like RPI and to get to know all their great and friendly staff members. I look forward to working with RPI and our customers in the years to come.

# New Parts to fit Steris System 1 Processing Tray, Pressure Transducer, Custom O-ring PM Kit, and More!

What more can we say! The **General Processing Tray** to fit all models is finally here. It's supplied complete with the Sterilant Aspirator Assembly, Drain Valve Bushing and Filter Screen – ready to mount in the drip pan. (RPI Part #SST031)

We are also introducing the **Pressure Transducer** to fit Models 89A1 and 90B1. We've included a roll of Teflon Tape for your convenience when installing the transducer. (RPI Part #SST046)

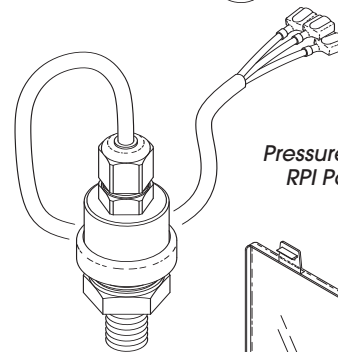
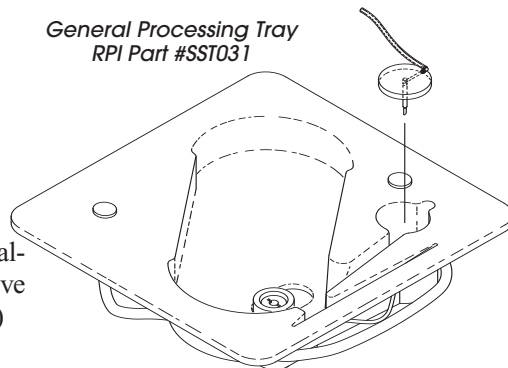
It never fails. You are out of stock on the one o-ring you need to finish the scheduled Preventive Maintenance on the System 1. You thought you had everything to complete the job but your stash of o-rings is just that, a stash. A bunch of opened bags stashed in a drawer, which makes it very difficult to keep on top of inventory.

But, RPI to the rescue! Now available – all the o-rings to fit the System 1 in one convenient storage case. It's the **RPI O-Ring Kit** designed exclusively to house all of the o-rings needed, plus a 2oz. tube of o-ring lubricant, as well as o-ring tools all in one place. What's more, the kit includes a lid card that details what's in each of the storage compartments to help you keep track of inventory for each part – ahh, no more guessing if you have the part or not! (RPI Part #SSK050)

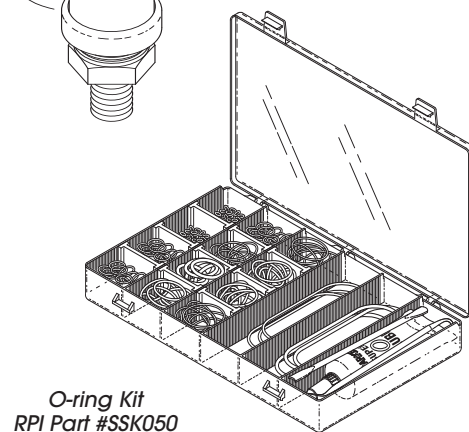
*By the way, the storage case mentioned here is also sold separately. It includes (10) adjustable dividers to create endless compartment configurations. (RPI Part #RPC616)*

For details about these parts, plus the **Membrane Panel** that's also available now to fit Models 89A1, 90A1, 90A2 and 90B1, please see page 4.

General Processing Tray  
RPI Part #SST031



Pressure Transducer  
RPI Part #SST046



O-ring Kit  
RPI Part #SSK050

## The Diamond Knurl is Back With A Change ... Everyone is Happy with the Results

What's old is new and what's new is old. No it's not a riddle but it has been confusing from time to time. If you are one of RPI's seasoned customers you might be able to tag along on this trip back to the 1980s when we first started developing parts to fit Amsco bulk sterilizers.

The two parts highlighted in this article are the 3/8" and 3/4" Valve Stem Assemblies (RPI Part #'s AMA041 and AMA055) that mount inside the bonnet and syphon.

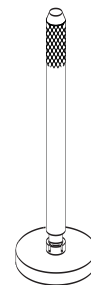
The original OEM and RPI stems were not knurled and did not always

remain attached to the bonnet. They would slide out causing problems.

In an attempt to improve the original design, RPI added a **COARSE** pitch diamond knurl to insure the stem stayed pressed into the bonnet. However, customers told us that it was too hard to install. So we removed the course knurl, but once again customers complained about the loose fit and the problems it presented.

That brings us to the present. We have once again returned to the knurled stem, but with a **MEDIUM** pitch diamond pattern which doesn't expand

*A diamond pitched knurl has been added back. This time it's a medium-sized pitch ... making the stems easier to install and keeping them in place. This change has been made to both the 3/8" and 3/4" stems (RPI Part #'s AMA041 and AMA055).*



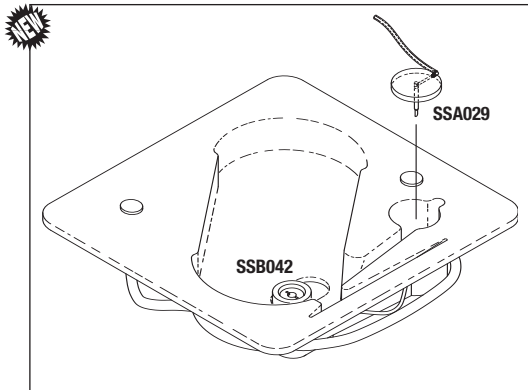
the diameter of the stem quite as much as the course pitch. So far it's working just fine and everyone is happy with the results. They're in stock and ready to ship.

Just one other thing to note regarding these two stems. The OEM Part #'s listed in the catalog are incorrect. Please note the correct #'s.

- **RPI Part #AMA041:**  
Correct OEM Part #P028267-091
- **RPI Part #AMA055:**  
Correct OEM Part #P028265-091



## NEW PARTS TO FIT STERIS® SYSTEM 1®



**You Asked For the Tray and Panel  
... You Got Them!**

### GENERAL PROCESSING TRAY

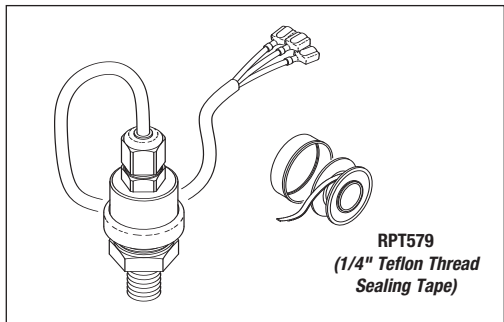
RPI Part #SST031  
OEM Part #C1200

- Supplied complete, ready to install
- Fits:** Tray Compartment
- Models:** System 1 – All Models

### MEMBRANE PANEL

RPI Part #SSP015  
OEM Part #200282

- Fits:** Front Panel
- Models:** System 1 – Models 89A1, 90B1, 90A1 & 90A2



### PRESSURE TRANSDUCER

RPI Part #SST046  
OEM Part #200141

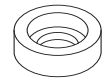
- Includes all parts as shown
- 1/8" MPT connection
- Pressure range 0-100 psig
- Input voltage 9-30 VDC; Output voltage 1-6 VDC

**Fits:** Sterile filter housing assembly  
**Models:** System 1 – Models 89A1 & 90B1

### DRAIN VALVE BUSHING

RPI Part #SSB042  
OEM Part #100209

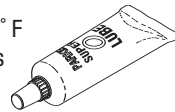
- Closed cell silicone sponge
- Fits:** Drain section on all trays
- Models:** System 1 – All Models



### O-RING LUBRICANT

RPI Part #RPL615  
OEM Part #400035

- (1) 2 oz. tube; Non-Toxic; Temperature Range: -65° to 400° F
- Can be used on Silicone and non-Silicone rubber materials
- Super-O-Lube® made by Parker

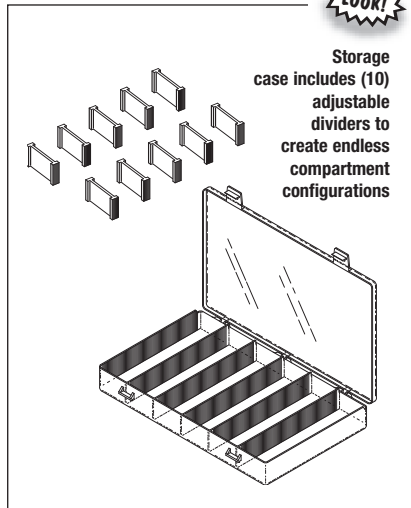


### STORAGE CASE

RPI Part #RPC616

OEM Part # (No OEM Part # Available)

- (6) standard compartments (1-11/16" w x 6-3/16" lg) with (10) adjustable dividers
- 10-1/2" lg x 6-3/16" w x 1-9/16" d
- Translucent polypropylene

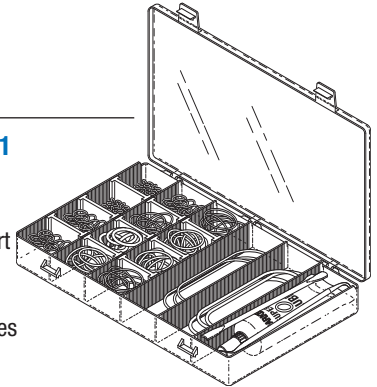


**LOOK!**  
Storage case includes (10) adjustable dividers to create endless compartment configurations

### O-RING KIT FOR SERVICING STERIS SYSTEM 1 STERILE PROCESSING SYSTEM

RPI Part #SSK050

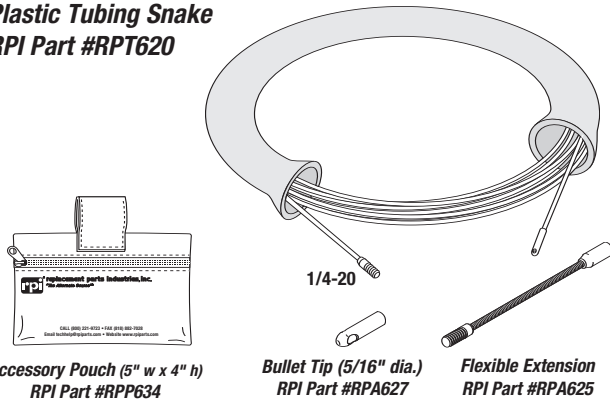
- Kit includes 15-compartment storage case (RPI Part #RPC616), O-ring Lubricant (RPI Part #RPL615) and O-ring Removal Tools (RPI Part #RPK581)
- O-rings are also sold separately in reorder quantities indicated below



RPI PART #	STERIS PART #	X-SEC	ID	OD	INDUSTRY PART #	MATERIAL	DURO	KIT QTY	REORDER QTY
RPO307	450617	.070	.114	.254	AS568B-006	EPDM	70	12	12
RPO354	450609	.070	.926	1.066	AS568B-021	Silicone	70	12	6
RPO388	450610	.070	.426	.566	AS568B-013	Silicone	70	12	6
RPO389	450608	.103	1.049	1.255	AS568B-121	Silicone	70	12	6
RPO390	450614	.070	1.114	1.254	AS568B-024	Silicone	70	12	6
RPO450	450621	.051	.547	.649	5-001	Silicone	70	12	6
RPO605	450600	.103	1.174	1.380	AS568B-123	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO606	450601	.139	.859	1.137	AS568B-212	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO607	450605	.070	1.239	1.379	AS568B-026	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO608	450606	.070	.489	.629	AS568B-014	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO609	450611	.070	.114	.254	AS568B-006	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO610	450612	.103	.924	1.130	AS568B-119	Silicone	70	12	12
RPO612	450620	.103	3.237	3.443	AS568B-152	Viton	70	3	3
RPO613	450622	.139	3.484	3.762	AS568B-238	Viton	70	3	3

## PLASTIC & METAL TUBING SNAKES!

### Plastic Tubing Snake RPI Part #RPT620

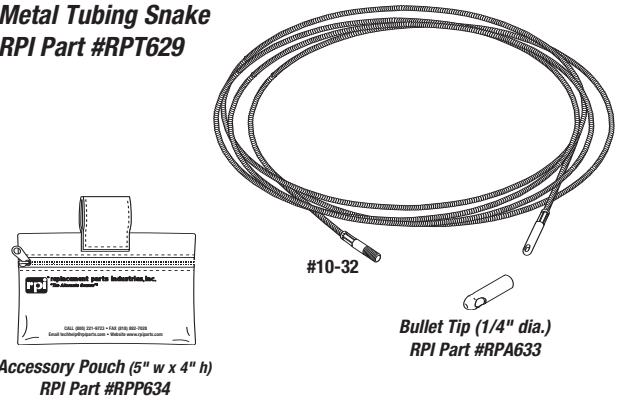


Accessory Pouch (5" w x 4" h)  
RPI Part #RPP634

Bullet Tip (5/16" dia.)  
RPI Part #RPA627

Flexible Extension  
RPI Part #RPA625

### Metal Tubing Snake RPI Part #RPT629



Accessory Pouch (5" w x 4" h)  
RPI Part #RPP634

Bullet Tip (1/4" dia.)  
RPI Part #RPA633

### PLASTIC TUBING SNAKE

#### RPI Part #RPT620

OEM Part #: (No OEM Part # Available)

- 15' of 3/16" dia. non-conductive fiberglass rod with conduit holder
- Includes Bullet Tip (RPI Part #RPA627), Flexible Extension (RPI Part #RPA625), and Accessory Pouch (RPI Part #RPP634)
- One end has fixed 3/16" dia. brass tip with 1/8" dia. hole; Opposite end has a 1/4-20 male thread adapter for adding attachments
- With Connector (RPI Part #RPA621), two Plastic Tubing Snakes can be joined together for those longer to reach jobs
- Minimum bend radius: 2.5"

### METAL TUBING SNAKE

#### RPI Part #RPT629

OEM Part#: (No OEM Part # Available)

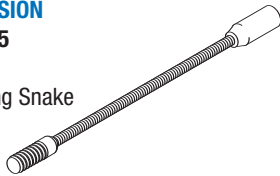
- 12' of 1/8" dia. flex cable
- Includes Bullet Tip (RPI Part #RPA633), and Accessory Pouch (RPI Part #RPP634)
- One end has a fixed 3/16" dia. brass tip with 1/8" dia. hole; Opposite end has a #10-32 male thread adapter for adding attachments
- With Connector (RPI Part #RPA631), two Metal Snakes can be joined together for those longer to reach jobs
- Minimum bend radius: 3/4"

### FLEXIBLE EXTENSION

#### RPI Part #RPA625

- 3" long

Fits: Plastic Tubing Snake

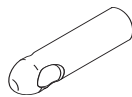


### BULLET TIP (5/16" dia.)

#### RPI Part #RPA627

- 5/16" dia. body with 3/16" dia. hole

Fits: Plastic Tubing Snake

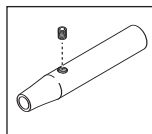


### FIBER-OPTIC PULLER (5/16" dia.)

#### RPI Part #RPA623

- Includes (1) #6-32 x 3/32" lg set screw to lock fiber-optic tube in place
- 5/16" dia. Bullet Tip
- 1-3/8" lg.

Fits: Plastic Tubing Snake

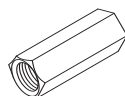


### CONNECTOR (PLASTIC SNAKE)

#### RPI Part #RPA621

- Allows two Plastic Snakes to be connected for a 30' reach

Fits: Plastic Tubing Snake



### THE ATTACHMENTS SHOWN BELOW FIT BOTH SNAKES!

The Metal Snake requires the  
Adapter - RPI Part #RPA631

### HOOK ATTACHMENT

#### RPI Part #RPA624

- 3-5/8" lg
- Hook: 1-1/8" wide with a .40" wide opening

Fits: Both Snakes (Metal Snake requires Adapter - RPI Part #RPA631)

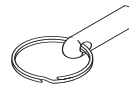


### PULLING EYE RING

#### RPI Part #RPA626

- 3/4" dia. pulling ring
- 5/16" dia. body

Fits: Both Snakes (Metal Snake requires Adapter - RPI Part #RPA631)



### MAGNET ATTACHMENT

#### RPI Part #RPA622

- 15/32" dia. magnet tip

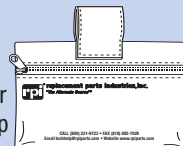
Fits: Both Snakes (Metal Snake requires Adapter - RPI Part #RPA631)



### ACCESSORY POUCH

#### RPI Part #RPP634

- 5" w x 4" h
- 600 Denier Polyester
- Velcro® belt-loop flap



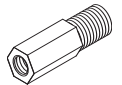
### ADAPTOR

#### RPI Part #RPA631

- Allows a step-up for use with Plastic Snake attachments (Hook Attachment, Pulling Eye Ring, and Magnet Attachment)

Fits: Metal Snake

1/4-20 Male



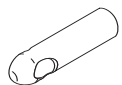
#10-32 Female

### BULLET TIP (1/4" dia.)

#### RPI Part #RPA633

- 1/4" dia. body with 3/16" dia. hole

Fits: Metal Snake

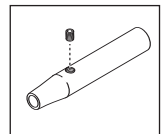


### FIBER-OPTIC PULLER (1/4" dia.)

#### RPI Part #RPA630

- Includes (1) #6-32 x 3/32" lg. set screw to lock fiber-optic tube in place
- 1/4" dia. Bullet Tip
- 1-1/8" lg

Fits: Metal Snake

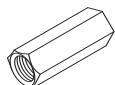


### CONNECTOR (METAL SNAKE)

#### RPI Part #RPA632

- Allows two Metal Snakes to be connected for a 24' reach

Fits: Metal Snake





Sherry Lapidès  
Vice President, Customer Relations  
Replacement Parts Industries, Inc.

*8 to 4  
NO MORE*



Al Lapidès  
CEO Emeritus & Chairman of the Board  
Replacement Parts Industries, Inc.

## AL'S VIEW

# WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE SHERRY AND AL?

*We could not locate Sherry and Al to get  
their articles for this newsletter.*

*Where could they be?  
If you think you know where Sherry and Al  
are, please email us and let us know.*

*Email: [ithinkiknow@rpiparts.com](mailto:ithinkiknow@rpiparts.com)*

*If your guess is chosen as the "best",  
we'll send you an official RPI insulated cooler bag.*

*Email your guess before November 30, 2006.*

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## A BIG RPI Welcome To ...

The two newest members of the RPI family!

Welcome to Katie Egbert and Jose Rodriguez.

Katie wears two hats at RPI being the assistant to both the Purchasing and Customer Service departments.

And Jose joins the Warehouse staff with Brian, Maria, Lisa, Budd, and Gene.

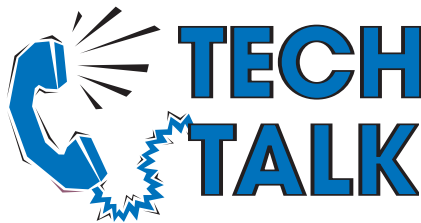
## SCK008

**THE COMPLETE SOLENOID VALVE IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE, BUT THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS!**

Until recently, RPI was able to offer three options when working on a faulty solenoid valve in the SciCan StatIm 2000 cassette sterilizer: 1) replace the plunger, spring, shim, and o-ring using our repair kit (RPI Part #SCK003); 2) replace the coil (RPI Part #SCC005); or, 3) replace the complete valve assembly (RPI Part #SCK008). Unfortunately, our source for the complete solenoid valve is no longer available, so we need to discontinue offering the SCK008.

Do not fret! Most repairs involve either the plunger and spring or the coil, and we still have those options available. Judging by past sales, those are your preferred options anyway, as they are much less costly than replacing the complete valve, and take about the same time.

We will continue to search for other sources for the complete valve, and will inform you as soon as we are successful. In the meantime, please excuse any inconvenience. As always, please contact our Technical Support Department with any questions on these valves and valve repair kits.



## The Sterile Water Filter that fits the Steris System 1 Has Returned!

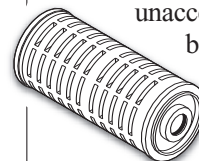
*The filter membrane is now made from a form of nylon so that it performs better than ever.*

*By Phil Goldstein, RPI Product Development*

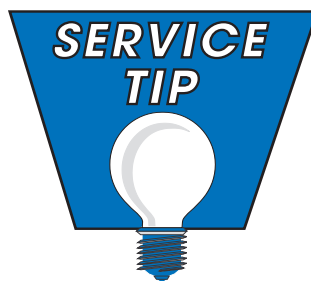
After much work and experimentation, we are happy to announce that we finally have a new and improved Sterile Water Filter (RPI Part #SSF012).

The filter fits the Steris System 1, and as you know, it is designed to filter liquids and keep air from passing through it.

However, the System 1 does use air during the Diagnostic Test to test the integrity of the filter within the system. We found that during the test, our filters would perform intermittently depending on the temperment of the machine – sometimes the filters would pass the test without failure, and then sometimes they wouldn't. This was unacceptable to us. So we went back to the drawing board.



Our solution was to change the membrane material to a form of nylon. The result – our filters are back in stock, better than ever, and ready to be shipped. Thank you for your patience.



## The Trouble with Timers

*By Mark Micucci, RPI Product Development*

Even with all the testing of incoming inventory, now and then, RPI has customers requesting a replacement of the new RPI timer they just installed. Usually the problem is that the timer stops counting down.

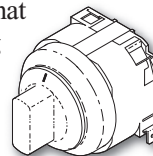
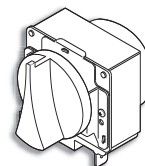
One point to remember with mechanical timers is that when they are brand new, the

clock spring is very stiff and tight. Rotating the timer knob back and forth a couple of times through the complete range of travel will loosen the clock spring and make sure the timer's gears are properly meshed.

Another point to remember is that with most mechanical timers you need to turn the knob well past the desired time and then bring the knob back to the desired time to set them properly.

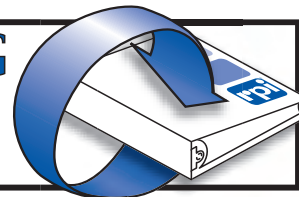
It's a different story with electrical timers. You need to make sure that the connections to the timer motor are properly connected and firm.

The thing to remember about both types of timers is that when mounting them to the frame (either using the two mountings screws or the shaft bushing mounting nut, depending on the type of mounting your timer has) do not over tighten them. Over tightening the mountings will cause the timers to bind up and stop counting down.



Our customers are telling us that there is little to no need for ventilator parts to fit the older Bear models 1 & 2, and Puritan Bennett models MA-1, 2 & 2+2. So, we will no longer offer these parts as of December 31, 2006.

**CATALOG  
UPDATE**







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## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

*(Continued from page 2)*

Advertisers at the time include many familiar names, some survivors, and many acquisition targets. Survivors, I am happy to say, are plentiful. They include Paragon Service, Fluke, BMES, BC Group, Atlas Specialty Lighting, Masterplan, and Advantage Medical Cables. The acquisition targets are virtually endless, and include Dale Technology Corp., Serviscope, and SpaceLabs. No advertisers had

yet listed their websites, as the internet was really just coming into prominence that year.

In the dental equipment industry, it is much of the same. Acquisitions continue to occur, some businesses feel threatened, and others see opportunity. About eight years ago, John Spencer and DCI International purchased Pelton & Crane and Marus Dental. While DCI was a thriving business, and Marus was not really achieving its potential, Pelton & Crane was struggling from years of neglect and mismanagement. Through a tremendous amount of effort, John and his team revived Pelton into a growing business, putting it back into the realm its great name deserved.

And, as with the medical industry, Danaher Corporation last year acquired Pelton, Marus, and DCI Equipment, to add to its growing portfolio of dental equipment companies that already included Kavo and Gendex. Danaher is starting to resemble that behemoth of the medical industry, GE. Meanwhile, the other two large players, Henry Schein, Inc. and Patterson Dental continue to grow, acquiring small to mid-size players in their market like Island Dental and Accu-Bite.

There is another old saying that says "those that do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." So, what can be learned from the history of the medical and dental equipment service

industries? First, don't panic! These are dynamic industries full of opportunities, and when the GE's of the world make significant acquisitions and sign big contracts, seemingly locking up the market, opportunities pop up for the smaller business in areas where the big guys need help (through subcontracts) or where they simply are not interested or they themselves do not see the opportunity.

Second, the more things change, the more they really do stay the same. While the healthcare industry and many of its segments are dynamic, the industry is indeed gigantic, and sometimes very resistant to fundamental change. Many of the same issues contemplated in 1996 still exist today. The struggle for respect by biomed. The struggle for respect by the used equipment industry. The convergence of information systems and healthcare systems. FDA regulations and JCAHO certification. The overall cost of healthcare and the squeeze on equipment costs, service, and parts. Acquisitions, mergers, and alliances. Lions and tigers and bears, oh my! The nuances of some of these issues have changed, but they will never entirely go away.

So, sit back and enjoy the ride. Or, more realistically, grab onto something, because this roller coaster ride is not going to stop. It will be fun to look back to 2006 in another 10 years to see what has transpired in these great industries of ours.

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