



Freeze Indicator Case Study

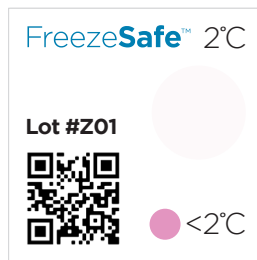


Company Profile

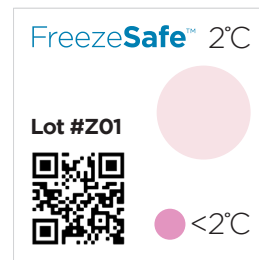
Industry: Pharmaceutical

Application: Cold chain temperature monitoring

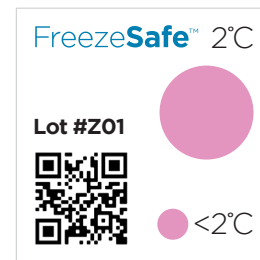
Challenge: The security of knowing if any products have frozen during transport



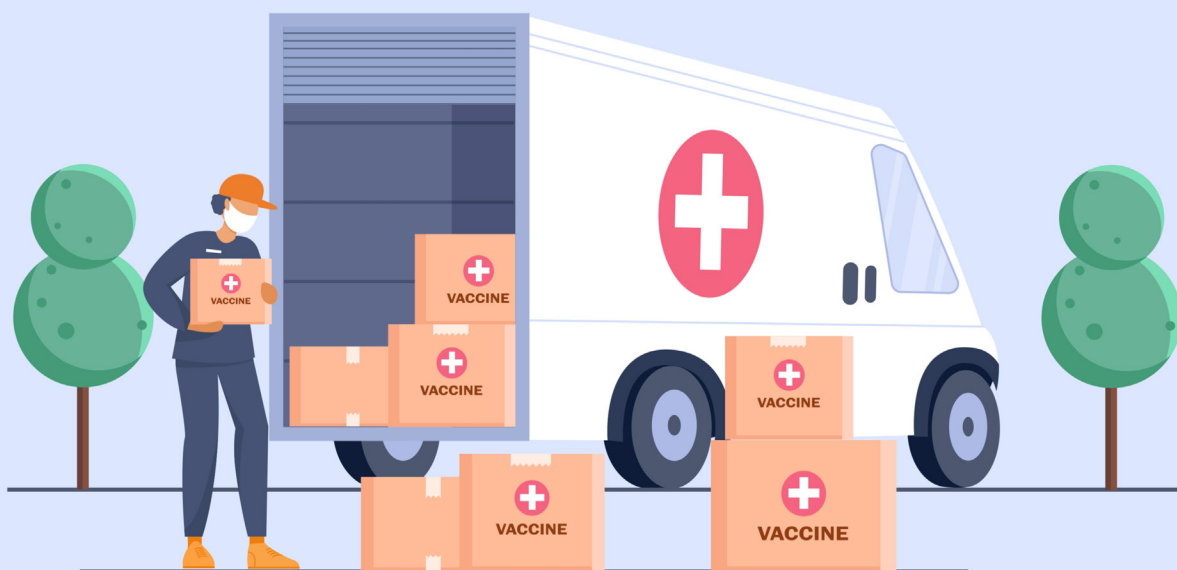
Unactivated



Transition Zone



Activated



New Freeze Indicator Spots Frozen Drugs for Better Safety

Freezing isn't good for many pharmaceutical products, so pharmacies, caregivers and, increasingly, patients, need a way to know whether their products froze in transit. SpotSee's new freeze indicator provides that information.

Despite some vaccines needing frozen or deep-frozen temperatures, many vaccines, biologics and other medicines can be ruined by freezing. HUMIRA® (adalimumab) a treatment for ulcerative colitis, and Pradaxa (dabigatran), an anticoagulant pill, are two of many possible examples. Some, like insulin (used to treat the approximately 29 million Americans with diabetes) can become completely ineffective or even deadly when frozen.

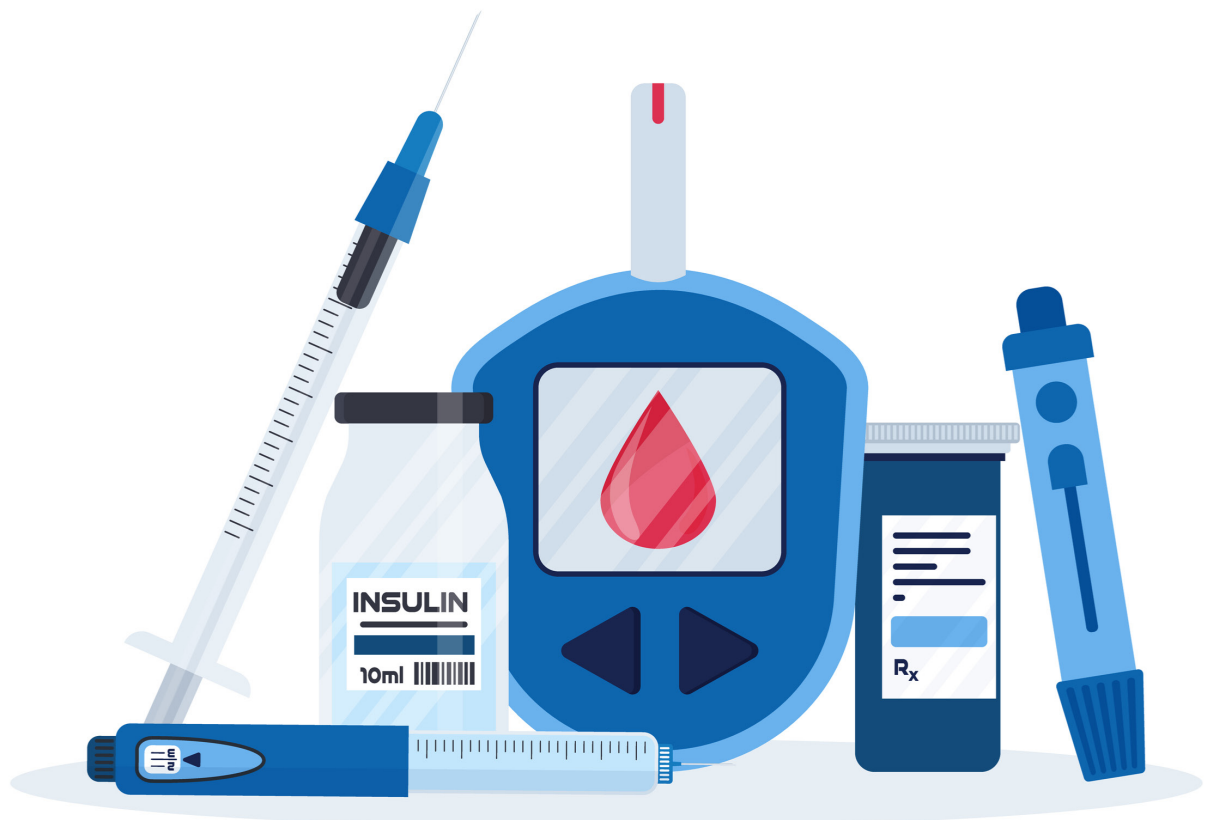
Drug developers and distributors go to great lengths to use the proper protective packaging when shipping therapeutics and diagnostics, but sometimes those materials fail, are damaged or aren't used properly.

One large pharmaceutical logistics provider detailed such an event at a conference a few years ago. A warehouseman was hypervigilant about maintaining refrigerated temperatures for a particular cold-chain package, so he placed it in the refrigerator until the carrier arrived. That drop in temperature was enough to cause the contents to freeze, ruining the therapeutic.

Clearly, accidents happen.

With telemedicine, more and more medications and diagnostics are being shipped directly to patients' homes and – for diagnostics, from the home to a lab. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the ship to home market for medications was expanding and that growth has continued ever since. This means therapeutics, assays and patient samples (such as blood or other fluids) may be exposed to cold temperatures as they shuttle the last mile or around the country, sitting in cargo hold, porches or mailboxes.

Infusion pharmacies and clinics, distributors, hospitals, physicians' offices and retail pharmacies all need to ensure no accidents affect their products, whether incoming or outgoing. They and their patients need to be assured that products that must not be frozen did not freeze at any point throughout the supply chain, thus ensuring that those therapeutics, vaccines or diagnostics are as beneficial now as when they were manufactured.



Unfortunately, freezing isn't always evident. Drugs may freeze and thaw during shipping without anyone knowing. While some become cloudy, many others have no visible signs of having frozen. Consequently, not even pharmacists can look at a drug and know whether it froze and thawed before they received it.

For these reasons, SpotSee created the FreezeSafe product line. FreezeSafe single-use indicators clearly show whether unacceptably low temperatures have occurred at any point between the time the indicator was affixed to the product and the time it arrived.

When these indicators change color from white to magenta, patients, pharmacists or others can see at a glance whether temperatures dropped to dangerously low levels. To trigger the color change, the temperature must fall below 2°C for 90 minutes, or 0°C – freezing – for 60 minutes. SpotSee's new freeze indicators are accurate to +1°C.

These new freeze indicators were designed in a format that fits easily on life science products, while still including the information that is important to SpotSee's customers. And, because they are flat, manufacturers can continue to use their usual packaging materials. This low-cost freeze indicator is self-adhesive, so users only need to peel off the protective backing and stick the indicator onto the product or into the shipment.

SpotSee's FreezeSafe are launching now as individual indicators and as part of the SpotSee Cold Chain Complete which shows excursions when temperature is both too cold and too hot.



To learn more about how SpotSee's new freeze indicator can help protect your cold chain, contact SpotSee.