



Why Renting Product Inspection Systems Makes Strategic Sense for Pharma Manufacturers

Production lines don't pause for procurement. When pharmaceutical manufacturers face a sudden spike in demand, new quality control requirements or equipment failure, delays in sourcing inspection systems can lead to costly setbacks. Renting product inspection technology offers a rapid, low-risk way to respond – whether it's for bridging gaps in delivery, managing seasonal peaks or testing new solutions before purchase.

In this article, we will explore why more pharmaceutical businesses are turning to rental options as a smart, strategic choice.

Meeting Urgent Quality Control Demands Without Capital Outlay

Whether facing an unexpected increase in production or a temporary equipment breakdown, manufacturers need rapid access to reliable product inspection solutions. Renting checkweighing, metal detection, x-ray or vision inspection systems provides a cost-effective, low-risk response. These systems offer the ability to scale production without the delay or financial commitment associated with capital expenditure. For pharmaceutical manufacturers where precision is paramount, this approach enables continuity without compromise.

Bridging Equipment Gaps with No Downtime

Long lead times are often a reality when procuring new inspection equipment. Rental systems, however, are available immediately and can be installed directly into the production line by expert teams. This avoids costly delays and supports uninterrupted output – essential for companies supplying life-saving medicines on tight deadlines. Temporary equipment can also be used as a contingency measure while permanent

solutions are being commissioned, giving manufacturers confidence in their ability to keep operations running smoothly.

Adapting to Seasonal Peaks with Agility

Pharmaceutical production often fluctuates throughout the year, with spikes during flu seasons, public health campaigns or new product launches. Rather than investing in permanent equipment that may sit idle during quieter periods, renting inspection systems allows for temporary increases in capacity. This offers operational flexibility while maintaining rigorous quality control. It also helps manufacturers respond quickly to unexpected surges in demand, without overextending internal resources or compromising delivery timelines.

'Test Before You Invest':

A Smarter Route to Permanent Solutions

Choosing the right inspection technology is a significant decision, especially in environments with complex packaging formats or sensitive formulations. Renting allows pharmaceutical manufacturers to trial systems in live production conditions, verifying performance and compatibility before committing to a purchase. This approach reduces risk and builds confidence in investment decisions.

Rapid Re-Inspection Capabilities for Recall or Quality Verification

In the event of a product recall or the need for additional quality assurance, rental equipment provides a fast and efficient route to re-inspection. A manufacturer that initially employed metal detection might, for example, rent x-ray technology to detect other contaminants such as glass and plastics – all without disrupting routine operations. This is particularly valuable when batches need to be rechecked at short notice, protecting brand integrity and maintain supply commitments with minimal interruption.





Versatile Technologies Available for Hire

A wide range of product inspection technologies are available for rent, offering pharmaceutical manufacturers the flexibility to maintain high standards without committing to long-term investments. Checkweighing systems for example, from basic to highly precise models, are commonly used to monitor fill levels and control product weight – essential for accurate dosing. Plus, they can verify that the instruction leaflet is present. Similarly, metal detection solutions can be applied across various formats, including conveyor, pipeline and free-fall setups, and are capable of identifying ferrous, non-ferrous and stainless-steel contaminants.

X-ray inspection technology is another rental solution, particularly effective for detecting a broad spectrum of foreign bodies, even within foil blister packs, and can simultaneously perform additional quality control tasks such as verifying pack integrity and counting components. Further, vision inspection systems help verify labels and printed information, supporting compliance with pharmaceutical labelling standards.

In many cases, combination systems that integrate checkweighing with either metal detection or x-ray, with a third technology option of vision inspection, into a single unit are also a viable solution to an efficient use of space and streamlined quality checks.

Rental solutions are typically supported with expert installation and technical guidance, allowing for quick and effective integration into existing production lines.

Fast Access and Comprehensive Support

Rental systems can be deployed almost immediately. Suppliers

often offer remote demonstrations, testing in controlled environments and on-site installations. Throughout the rental period, customers can benefit from technical training, responsive service support and access to application expertise – helping maintain consistent performance at every stage.

Conclusion

For manufacturers seeking to drive performance without the constraints of large upfront investments, rental inspection technology opens new possibilities. It provides a practical route to flexibility, innovation and growth – helping businesses meet today's demands while building a foundation for tomorrow's success.

To explore the Mettler-Toledo rental solutions or to trial systems under the 'Test Before You Invest' programme, visit: www.mt.com/pi-testbeforeinvest-pr



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As Head of PI Test and Demo Center, Christine supports the Mettler-Toledo team across Europe by supplying them with product inspection solutions to help food and pharmaceutical customers increase their quality management. She leads the 'Test Before Invest' approach wherein customers can find the right test product inspection solutions for their applications by experiencing demos, renting machines and product testing. Christine has worked for Mettler-Toledo Product Inspection for over 10 years. Since 2018 she has been responsible for the Test and Demo Center including rentals and service support throughout Europe.