



ABN: 20 003 436 226

PO Box 71 Panania NSW 2213, Australia

Telephone: (02) 9774-2822

Fax: (02) 9774-2855

email: info@amscorp.com.au

web: www.amscorp.com.au

One Thermal Validation System is the same as any another..... Correct?

Well, after 5 years of working with different Thermal Validation Solutions, we can tell you that the answer is definitely NO!.....They are NOT all the same.

- Yes, they all have either wireless and/or wired loggers and sensors.
- Yes, they are (in the majority of cases) very accurate measuring sensors Let's face it, there is little notable difference in the sensor technologies nowadays.
- Yes, some systems provide a wide range of accessories for the pharma, food and beverage industries.

However, we at Amscorp Scientific believe that good hardware, accessories and price (to a degree) are not the deciding factors in purchasing a system. You may purchase either a cheap system that doesn't do what you want or a powerful system only to find that is hard to use, difficult to learn and not intuitive. As a result, people are either reluctant to use it, not performing the tests properly, or failing to use it to its potential.

So what question do we at Amscorp Scientific believe someone in the market should ask with regard Thermal Validation System solutions.....?

In our opinion, there are TWO critical questions to ask when making a purchase decision:

1. *The first question to ask is "Does the manufacturer of the hardware (i.e. loggers, thermocouples, sensors, fittings etc ALSO make the reporting and data handling software that is used to produce the reports? Or does the hardware manufacturer utilise a third-party software manufacturer?"*

The reason you should ask this is because users of some brands have complained to us that when they have had an issue with some systems, the hardware manufacturer blames the third party software manufacturer, and the software manufacturer in turn blames the hardware manufacturer!

There are times when there are issues in communication between the hardware and software as data does not transfer or is lost – deciding where the fault lies can be a nightmare.

This coupled with the fact that hardware upgrades are not always compatible with existing software, and software upgrades may not always be compatible with existing hardware.

In our opinion, when purchasing a Thermal Validation System (or any other equipment for that matter), it is always better to ensure ALL components are BUILT or MANUFACTURED by the one supplier to reduce complications and downtime.

The fact that a hardware manufacturer may supply the third party manufactured software, is still not good enough in our opinion. The reason is that the hardware supplier has little to no control to make changes to the software should there be an issue, therefore leaving the user (you) left to deal with the problem.

2. *However, the second and bigger question one should ask when looking to purchase a Thermal Validation System is "how easy is the software and system to learn and use with regard to customisation, running a validation and actually producing a report?"*

Our experience shows that some systems are easier to use than others. We have had experience with multiple Thermal Validation Software packages and in our opinion, we have found the following:

- Most systems are customisable to some degree, however few are what we would class as truly customisable. Being able to include photos, external documents, spreadsheets, drawings, company logos, show true 3D images of where loggers sit in a chamber and produce 3D thermal mapping images should be standard. The more customisation the better – right? Ultimately you are looking to find a software that suits your needs, rather than looking at your requirements to fit a software.
- Truly intuitive software will make “sense” to users and be able to be learnt quickly by a new user. They should be “up and running” in a matter of a few hours and not days! New users need to not only be able to get up-to speed quickly, but also understand what the software is doing and how to set it up. We have seen software that uses terms of definition for some parts of the software that do NOT make sense and can be rather confusing to users.
- The software should also have the ability to create a template for any of your plant or equipment that you are looking to validate so you have an easy setup each time. That way, when you need to run your periodic thermal validation or thermal mapping, you just pull up the specific file for that plant or equipment. This would then load the specific plant/equipment information, test parameters, acceptance criteria, notes etc. Then, if need be you can quickly customise any changes that may need to be made to the test before commencing.
- The software should be able to link to a calibration solution (oil bath or dry block – with certified reference probe) to allow the user to calibrate their loggers onsite and the software can then record and apply the calibration results to any mapping or validation test.

Amscorp Scientific believes in providing robust, effective and user-friendly solutions for all applications. This is why we only partner with companies that meet our specific criteria.

When it comes to Thermal Validation Solutions, we choose to partner with Lives International. They have an extensive range of solutions and are very focussed on customer support.

Lives International have designed and built their XpertLog Software solution specifically for their products. The XpertLog software is amazingly customisable and it is the most user friendly and easy to learn software we have found to-date.

XpertLog software meets all the criteria mentioned above and more!

As such, we are happy to demonstrate the Lives International loggers, sensors and software either onsite at your premises or via video link at any time.

[FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE LIVES RANGE, CLICK HERE](#)