

Microstim life

Estimated life is based on the components and materials used. If user life (now proven to be in excess of 10 years) is estimated at 10 years then storage life must be more.

User life has been proven by the number of invoices generated followed later by the instruments being serviced. For many years older versions were routinely replaced (some after 10 years) by newer models.

There have been no complaints on the life of this product.

In the early days when a mass-produced enclosure was used damage was caused when the unit was dropped onto a concrete floor from an operating table (above 1 m). The enclosures were replaced with a more substantial version until the manufacture of enclosures was brought in house.

There have been no instances of enclosure failure since 1995. The Microstim contains two transformers which develop inertia when dropped. This could cause the transformers to break free. This weakness was designed out in 1995.

If the Microstim is dropped it can fall onto the knob which is now the weakest link. This has been occasionally observed, still in low numbers, and will be addressed in the next design change.

It appears dropping is always going to be a potential issue.

John S Lamb
20/09/17