Presented at the COMSOL Conference 2010 India



# **A Value Leader**

#### Cavity Sprayer Flow Optimization for Medical devices Industry



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30<sup>th</sup> Oct 10





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Presentation at the COMSOL conference 2010

#### **Sinusitis**



• Anything that causes a swelling in the nose—an infection or an allergic reaction can affect your sinuses.

• Air trapped within a blocked sinus, along with pus or other secretions may cause pressure or vacuum on the sinus wall that can cause the intense pain of a sinus attack.

#### **Surgical Treatment**



#### Surgery has three phases;

- Reducing blockage of the nasal passages by enlarging the natural opening of the sinuses.
- Draining and cleaning the sinuses.
- Spray-coating an antibiotic polymer to prevent further infection.

All these phases are intrusive and painful.

#### Objective



- The objective of the work was to reduce the intrusiveness of the third phase, spray-coating the sinuses.
- A multi-hole nozzle was designed to be effective in optimally spreading the medicinal coat while being least intrusive.
- goal of the FEA was to maximize the effectiveness of the multi-hole nozzle by varying a set of parameters and narrowing down to an optimal solution using DoE.

#### Analysis methodology

- Analysis has been carried out in COMSOL.
- Linear tetrahedral elements have been used to mesh the model.



- Above shown is the shape of the fluid that is extracted from the given nozzle geometry
- A quarter symmetry model is used to take advantage of the symmetry.
- The nozzle inner wall that interacts with fluid was modeled as rigid wall
- Viscosity of the fluid (which is a shear thinning fluid) was defined as function of shear rate.

#### Assumptions

- Only single phase flow has been considered.
- No slip condition has been assumed.
- The fluid is assumed to be incompressible
- Atmospheric pressure has been assumed at the outlet.
- Chemical reactions have not been considered.
- Spray droplet formation is out of scope of the FEA.

#### **FE modeling**



• Meshing refinement was conducted till the discrepancy in the inlet and outlet mass flow rates is less than 1%.

• Special attention has been paid to refine the mesh at nozzle outlets to provide sufficient resolution for post processing.(Since, the nozzle outlets are the primary areas of interest.)

#### **Theoretical Calculations**

Inlet pressure (p <sub>1</sub> )	= 0.184 Mpa
Inlet velocity (v <sub>1</sub> )	= 0.15m/s
Outlet pressure (p <sub>2</sub> )	= 0.1MPa Atmospheric Pressure
Outlet velocity (v <sub>2</sub> )	= $\sqrt{\left(\frac{v_1^2}{2} + \frac{p_1}{\rho} - \frac{p_2}{\rho}\right)} *^2$ >Based on Bernoulli's Principle =13.37 m/s
Density of the fluid (ρ)	$= 940 \text{ kg/m}^3$
Inlet diameter	= 0.005 m
Outlet diameter	= 0.003 m
Reynolds number at inlet	= 1.08
Reynolds number at outlet	= 58.03

• It can be observed that the Reynolds number of the flow is below the start of turbulent transition 2300, i.e., by a factor of 40.

• Even if real life factors tend to increase the Reynolds number of the flow, it will be fair to assume that the flow is laminar.

#### **Results discussion**



### Sensitivity study

	Angle of Hole, C (°)		Hole position, A (°)			Number of Holes, B			
Concept	Min	Normal	Max	Min	Normal	Max	Min	Normal	Max
1	0			0			16		
2			35	0			16		
3	0					15	16		
4			35			15	16		
5	0			0					24
6			35	0					24
7	0					15			24
8			35			15			24
9		22.5			7.5			20	



- The sensitivity study is done to understand the effect of various design parameters on the sprayer.
- To optimize the flow rate and angle of spray, Design of Experiment (DOE) approach has been implemented .
- Angle of hole, Hole position, and No. of holes have been taken as design parameters.
- Flow simulation has been performed for the different combinations of the design parameters.

### Sensitivity study



Factors	Influence on Angle of spray
Hole position (A)	37.6%
Number of holes (B)	4.0%
Angle of hole(C)	58.4%

#### Validation







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#### **Conclusion & Future Scope**

- In this study, COMSOL along with Minitab has been used to achieve an optimized fluid flow through nozzle.
- Further study on flexible nozzles for certain endoscopic wound management requirements can be performed.
- Further, there many surgical procedures that need nozzles for irrigation and medicinal coats. These instruments can be optimized with approaches similar to what we have followed in this case.

#### Acknowledgements/Credits

Our sincere thanks to

HCL CAE Team and COMSOL Team

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