

China chooses the Sterilwave solution for on-site treatment of waste contaminated by the coronavirus.

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China chooses the Sterilwave solution developed by [Bertin Technologies](#) with assistance from [CNIM Industrial Systems China](#) for on-site treatment of waste contaminated by the coronavirus in hospitals in Wuhan region.

In February 2020, the Chinese Minister of Health confirmed the acquisition of 16 [Sterilwave](#) treatment stations for the main hospitals in the Wuhan region. These ultra-compact, innovative systems with proven efficiency in terms of viral inactivation make it possible to treat biomedical waste that has potentially been contaminated by the coronavirus (2019-nCoV) directly on site and consequently eliminate all risk of contamination outside the hospital. Thanks to [Sterilwave solutions](#), the dangerous waste generated by hospitals is no longer taken by truck from the hospital to distant treatment sites, which significantly limits the risk of contagion.

In order to help **combat the spread** of the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in the Wuhan region of China, [Bertin Technologies](#) (CNIM Group) offered China **its experience and expertise in treating biomedical waste** directly in hospitals **through the sale of 16 [Sterilwave SW440](#) machines** (treatment capacity: up to 80 kg/hour).

These machines make it possible to **grind down and sterilize all types of hospital waste** that may potentially have been contaminated by the coronavirus **using microwave treatment**, and therefore remove the need to take this waste outside the hospital, which poses a significant risk of external contamination.

The Sterilwave *in-situ* process is very simple and fully automated: **the waste is ground down and heated in the same container to over 100°C** for twenty minutes. When the waste exits the machine, it is dry, inert and completely unrecognizable, with a volume reduction of 85% and a weight reduction of 25%. After the Sterilwave process, all the treated waste can be managed as a regular municipal waste without biological risk and hazard for the Public Health.

The biological inactivation results obtained on bacteria (including sporulated forms*) and viruses **have been validated**

by the Ministries of Health and the Environment in both France and China. The Sterilwave process reaches **all international norms and standards** known worldwide for the management of bio-hazardous waste. Studies have shown that the coronavirus is quickly destroyed at temperatures above 80°C, meaning it can be efficiently eliminated by the Sterilwave manufacture by Bertin Technologies.

According to [a study published on 29 January in The New England Journal of Medicine](#), **the contagiousness of the coronavirus 2019-nCoV is approximatively of 2.2 person by contaminated patient**. The hospital waste generated by the contaminated patient is one of the main source of the spread. The viruses/spores/germs can not only survive, but also thrive on this waste over periods ranging from several days to several weeks. The Sterilwave solution therefore allows hospitals to **treat this waste directly on site** with no risk of external contamination, which means that hospitals are helping to fight against the spread of the disease.

“Our primary intention is to be a reliable partner for Health Services so that we can face the Public health challenges together,”
says Boguslaw Lorecki, Director of [Bertin Medical Waste](#).

>> [\[Video\] Sterilwave, the alternative solution for on-site medical waste treatment](#)

*The sporulated form of a bacterium is a dehydrated state that gives it extremely high resistance to environmental conditions, in particular temperature resistance. This is why this form is particularly useful in checking inactivation efficacy: if a process is effective on sporulated bacteria, it will be even more effective against vegetative bacteria.

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