

Ready for future developments



Capable BV has managed to achieve NEN EN ISO 14644 class-6 classification for its cleanroom in Breda. This makes the Breda-based producer of customer specific specialty cables, cable assemblies and connectors one of the first companies in its sector to achieve the standard.

In recent years, 'clean production' has become increasingly important in the complex custom-made cable assembly market. It is primarily customers in the semi-conductor and (aero)space industries who are currently enjoying the unique benefits and guarantees offered by the Capable cleanroom.

Managing Director Thieu van Tilburg proudly explains: 'In addition, we also have the global trend of miniaturization, a trend that is taking on an ever more important role in products for the defence and aeronautics industries. Companies working in these sectors are increasingly obliged to make use of cleanroom facilities. The Capable cleanroom helps to ensure an optimal production environment in which the temperature, air humidity, excess pressure, and management of particulate matter satisfy stringent requirements. This ensures the quality and cleanliness of the final products that we supply to our customers.'

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Conditions of extreme cleanliness

The Capable cleanroom maintains an excess pressure of up to 40 Pa when compared with the external air, which prevents 'contaminated' air from entering the cleanroom. The unit works in conjunction with a large air-treatment installation that both conditions and exchanges for constant circulation of filtered air. This minimizes the recovery time of the Capable cleanroom, and an ISO-class 8 contamination level can be reduced to the validated level of ISO-class 6 within just ten minutes.

Stringent requirements

Customers set the bar very high, but the dedicated team at Capable continuously pushes the bar higher. All of the workstations inside the cleanroom are illuminated to 1500 lux, which is one and a half times the already high space standard. Products are electrically tested from the cleanroom via a special connection and projected infra-red keyboard, which operate the test computer located in the production area outside the cleanroom.

Independent monitoring system

Technical Manager Sven Bakker explains: 'One of the key benefits of our cleanroom is that we log all data via an independent monitoring system. We can follow the cleanroom conditions on iPads, and the details are stored automatically in the relevant production folder. Our customers can then review the conditions in which the product was made. In addition, Capable is investing a great deal of time and energy in traceability and digitalization of work processes. That is something that our customers recognize and trust in when they start working with Capable.'

Cleanliness guaranteed

Every material that enters the cleanroom needs to be carefully cleaned to remove all contaminants. Operators achieve this by using different cleaning tools and processes. The various zones in the cleanroom can be fully darkened, which in combination with UV lamps, allows our operators to verify the cleanliness of the product both whilst they are cleaning it and on delivery of the final product.

Changing conditions

The air-treatment installation continuously exchanges 10% of the air inside the cleanroom. As the seasons changes, so too do the conditions – in the winter months, the air is often relatively dry, while in the summer months, humid conditions often prevail. In order to avoid any negative impacts on the conditions inside the cleanroom, the installation employs a continuous process to humidify or dehumidify the air inside the cleanroom.

Standby

'When the cleanroom is not being used, or if there are no products inside, it is set standby. The ventilation remains on to keep the cleanroom clean, but at a lower level to reduce energy consumption. This fits well with our stance on sustainability,' adds Sven Bakker.



About Capable

Capable has been producing custom-made cables, cable assemblies, and connectors for countless applications in high-tech environments for more than 30 years. Each project is unique and is tailored to the application's very specific environment. The innovative solutions developed by Capable help to ensure seamless integration of different components into one system. Capable has production facilities in the Netherlands, Poland, and China. Capable is part of the TKH Group and is the exclusive partner of Axon in the Benelux.

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