

# Surgical Heart Valve Manufacturing Facts and Figures

At Edwards Lifesciences, we take pride in the level of care that goes into making each and every valve. Our valves are carefully hand-crafted by employees who share a passion for innovation and helping patients. Innovation is at the core of Edwards. It is this passion that allows us to produce the novel products and therapies used by patients around the world.

## Surgical heart valves

Since introducing the first commercially available heart valve in 1960, Edwards has continued to meaningfully advance heart valve therapy and, more than 60 years later, remains a global leader in this field.

On average, production of one Edwards surgical valve involves:



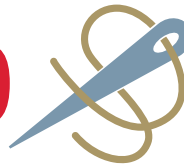
More than  
**130**  
steps

Approximately  
**150**  
employees



**5-6**  
weeks testing  
and final  
packaging

Approximately  
**1,100**  
stitches



Nearly  
**40**  
days of  
production



Approximately  
**6**  
weeks to train  
1 assembler



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