5 BEST PRACTICES FOR VACCINE TEMPERATURE MONITORING

1. UNDERSTAND YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS
When setting up or upgrading your vaccine temperature monitoring system, it can be helpful to start the process by assessing your needs and asking some basic questions.

What types of locations require monitoring?
How many sensors are required in each location?
What conditions could lead to a temperature excursion, and how could these conditions be detected early?
What are the expected types of equipment malfunctions, and who should be alerted for each type?

2. HAVE A CLEAR AND THOROUGH INSTALLATION PLAN

3. ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT THOROUGH TRAINING PROTOCOLS
Any personnel involved in the manufacture, distribution, or administering of vaccines should be trained in the equipment and procedures used in their part of the cold chain, including:

- How to respond to various types of alarms
- How to use, read, and perform data logger maintenance
- How to troubleshoot any data logger issues
- How to use the software for remote monitoring
- An overview of the monitoring strategy and its purpose

4. OPTIMIZE ALERT AND ALARM CAPABILITIES
A useful feature of an automated, remote monitoring system is the ability to set up custom alerts. For example, the system can be set up so that notifications are sent to different people, or groups of people, depending on the problem that is detected.

5. TRACK, TEST, AND REEVALUATE
The CDC and WHO both recommend regular reviews of temperature data in vaccine storage areas. These reviews should include:

- A summary of temperature excursions
- The number of doses discarded
- Causes and corrective actions