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MultiBlock System (MBS)

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The most flexible networked PCR* system available

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Specifications and ordering information

Product	Block Capacity	Gradient	Temperature Control Available	Product Code
MBS				
0.5 standard block	48 x 0.5ml tubes 96 x 0.3ml tubes 1 plate 0.3ml x 96 well	N/A	Active tube control Simulated tube control Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBS05
0.2 standard block	96 x 0.2ml tubes 1 plate 0.2ml x 96 well	N/A	Active tube control Simulated tube control Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBS02
0.5 gradient block	48 x 0.5ml tubes 96 x 0.3ml tubes 1 plate 0.3ml x 96 well	15ºC	Active tube control Simulated tube control Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBSG05
0.2 gradient block	96 x 0.2ml tubes 1 plate 0.2ml x 96 well	15ºC	Active tube control Simulated tube control Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBSG02
384 well block	1 plate 0.04ml x 384 well	N/A	Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBS384
Robotic MBS^R				
0.2 gradient block	96 x 0.2ml tubes 1 plate 0.2ml x 96 well	15ºC	Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBS96R
384 well block	1 plate 0.04ml x 384 well	N/A	Simulated plate control Block control	HBMBS384R
Accessories				
MBS computer	N/A	N/A	N/A	HBMBSCOM
MBS software	N/A	N/A	N/A	HBMBSSW
MBS cabinet	N/A	N/A	N/A	HBMBSCAB

*The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is covered by the US patents 4683195, 4683202 and 4965188 which are owned by F. Hoffman-La Roche Ltd

Block Performance**		Software	
Block temperature range	4ºC - 99ºC	Number of programs	Unlimited
Block heating range	Up to 3ºC/sec	Maximum number of program stages	35
Block cooling rate	Up to 2ºC/sec	Maximum number of steps per stage	44
Block uniformity	±0.4ºC within 15 sec	Gradient software	Yes
Precise control	1ºC	Maximum programmed dwell time	18 hours
Heated lid temperature range	**MBS**	Pause facility	Yes
	95ºC - 120ºC	Temperature ramping	Yes
	MBS^R	Time increment/decrement	Yes
	105ºC	Temp increment/decrement	Yes
Dimensions of modules (w x d x h)	**MBS**	Auto restart facility	Yes
	200mm x 300mm x 290mm	Run "end time" calculation	Yes
	MBS^R	File protection	Yes
	342mm x 545mm x 246mm	Program naming	Yes
Power	550 W	Ability to edit during cycling	Yes
Weight	**MBS**		
	8.4kg		
	MBS^R		
	20.6kg		

**MultiBlock performance measures are traceable to the UK National Physical Laboratory, the equivalent of U.S.Nist and comparable standards laboratories worldwide

HBPROMMBS1101

- New robot compatible version
- Multiple block options
- Advanced & intuitive software
- Space saving design
- Gradient block
- PCR licensed



The Thermo Hybaid MultiBlock System provides an advanced PCR system for the high throughput laboratory

Thermo Hybaid has been designing, manufacturing and supplying thermal cyclers since 1989. In the MBS we have combined all our experience of engineering and molecular biology with information technology, providing you with the most flexible, technologically advanced, PCR system EVER.

The MultiBlock System comprises a central computer and controlling software which can be networked to a maximum of 30 individual satellite blocks. The addition of the robot compatible version makes the MBS the only solution for high throughput PCR.

Unlike other multiple block systems you don't have to add on more blocks than you need - add one block at a time, when needed! Due to its expandability, the MBS is suited for all users; from high throughput users, to users with more modest requirements. The MBS's advanced data recording facilities are essential for GLP.

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Advantages of the MBS system

Flexible

The MBS offers complete flexibility. Up to 30 satellite blocks on one system. The choice of the number and type of each block is completely up to you, giving you the ability to customise a PCR system to your requirements.

Cost Efficient

Our pricing is structured to ensure that the MBS is the most cost-effective way of setting up a complete PCR system. We particularly reward high throughput users. With the MBS it is easy and cost-effective to add additional blocks as your experimental needs develop.

Space Efficient

The MBS satellite blocks can be positioned wherever you want them. They can be next to each other or at opposite ends of the laboratory. This allows you the freedom to design a network which maximises your laboratory space.

Uniformity

The excellent block uniformity of the PCR Express has been continued with the MBS. We guarantee ± 0.4°C across the block within 15 seconds of reaching the target temperature. This block uniformity ensures consistent results in every well.

Accurate

The MBS offers both active "in sample" tube control and calculated temperature control methods. Whichever method you use, optimisation is both easy and accurate and your results are reproducible time after time.

Quality

The MBS uses 8 peltiers which are robust and fast. Uniform heating rates of 3°C/sec allow rapid generation of robust, reproducible data.

Easy Oil Free Operation

All the MBS units have heated lids as standard. The pressure of the heated lid can be easily altered just by turning a dial, ensuring easy to use oil free thermal cycling with tubes and plates from any manufacturer.

The MultiBlock System (MBS) ...*advanced flexible PCR*

High throughput PCR technology is all about choice. The MultiBlock System (MBS) offers a cost-effective flexible solution that will satisfy your demands today and expand to meet your needs in the future. The MBS combines the latest in satellite block technology with sophisticated software and a centralised PC workstation. The result is greater efficiency, flexibility and higher throughput.

Unlike other multiple block systems you don't have to add on more blocks than you need - add one block at a time, when needed! Due to its expandability, the MBS is suited for all users; from high throughput users, to users with more modest requirements. The MBS's advanced data recording facilities are essential for GLP.



Figure 1.A
Edit a program - editing, saving and downloading programs is easy with the MBS software

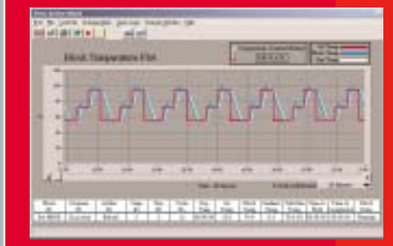


Figure 1.B
View active block - both real time temperature plots from active blocks and archive logged temperature plot data can be viewed

MBS Software

The MBS comes with advanced intuitive software. It has been specially designed for the molecular biologist:-

- A large, graphical, easy to use interface
- Independent programming of each individual satellite block
- Personal directories and file storage, making it ideal as a multi-user instrument
- At a glance block status report
- Real time block data, essential for GLP

The Robot Compatible MultiBlock System (MBS^R) ...*for accessible high throughput PCR*

To further the high throughput nature of the MBS, Thermo Hybaid is pleased to introduce the MBS^R, the fully robotic version of the MBS. Unlike the original MBS, the MBS^R has an innovative block design combined with a fully automatic heated lid.

- Fully robot compatible - for true walk away PCR
- Innovative block action - the whole block is ejected from the front of the unit
- Truly stackable - build a wall of thermal cycling units
- Space saving - reduce robotic costs
- Sterility - blocks reach into hooded pipetting stations
- PCR licensed

The MBS^R moves the MBS into a new realm of accessible high throughput PCR due to its innovative block action. By ejecting the whole block through the front of the unit, the MBS^R is fully stackable. This means that more blocks can be placed in reach of the robotic arm so reducing total cost and space whilst increasing PCR throughput. The ejection mechanism also enables the sample block to enter the reach of hooded programmable pipette stations. Positional flexibility culminates in the ultimate high throughput PCR suite, with the MBS^R built into cabinets to form a wall of thermal cycling units.

The flexibility of the MBS, combined with the flexibility of the stackable MBS^R, results in a robotic compatible thermal cycling system with limitless possibilities.

Multiple Blocks, Multiple Formats, Infinite Choice



The MBS Cabinet - make the most of the precious space in your laboratory

For laboratories with a high PCR demand, the MBS storage cabinet is available. Unlike most systems, the MBS units are designed so that they can be placed side by side for maximum space efficency.

- Holds up to six blocks with PC, monitor and keyboard
- Slide drawers for easy access to cyclers

Figure 2
The MBS Cabinet. Ideal for laboratories with a high PCR demand



Figure 3
The MBS^R integrated with the Relay Robotic System from Thermo Labsytems for automated plate handling

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