Agilent Labware MiniHub

Data Sheet

Applications

- Laboratory automation
- Genomic workflows and assays
- ELISA and cell-based assays
- Drug discovery
- High-throughput screening
- Compound management
- Secondary screening and ADMET assays
- Enzyme assays
- and more...

Introduction

The Agilent Labware MiniHub is a rotating random-access device for presenting and storing ANSI/SBS 1-2004 compliant labware in laboratory automation systems. An efficient modular unit, the Labware MiniHub features user-configurable shelf spacing that easily accommodates a mix of microplates, tube racks, deep-well microplates, and pipette tip boxes while maintaining a compact footprint.

The Agilent Labware MiniHub is designed with your applications in mind. Small but flexible, and safer than other alternatives, the Labware MiniHub solves all your room-temperature storage needs.
Revolutionary flexibility

Traditional storage devices use fixed-pitch racks (fixed height between shelves), permitting only one type of labware per carousel. To use a mix of labware types, you must employ different carousels, thus taking up valuable system real estate and limiting the choice of labware types on small storage devices.

A novel concept in labware storage, stackable spacers in the Agilent Labware MiniHub allow the height between shelves to be adjustable, thus permitting different labware types in the same carousel and easily creating multiple locations for storage of any given labware. Unique shelf design permits both portrait and landscape access for most robots. In addition, the size of cutouts in the shelves fits popular filter plates, preventing contamination issues.

Technology

Remarkable performance with excellent positional accuracy

The Labware MiniHub uses the same direct-drive technology that is employed by the Agilent Direct Drive Robot (DDR) to offer the best reliability with the highest levels of safety. With infinite bi-directional rotation, the Labware MiniHub never needs to unwind and always takes the shortest route to its target position. With a brushless motor and the bearing as the only moving parts, the mechanical design is simple, efficient and maintenance-free, thus ensuring high levels of dependability and a reduced cost of ownership. Positional accuracy is guaranteed by combining a high resolution optical encoder with the stepper motor.

Safety and crash recovery

The Labware MiniHub use of direct drive reduces the drive inertia and enables smooth accelerations and a continuous force feedback loop at all times. Rounded edges on all surfaces, the avoidance of any major pinch point, and a maximum linear speed below 250 mm/s increase the overall safety of the Labware MiniHub. In the unlikely event of a crash or interference, the motors will immediately stop. After removing the obstacle, the Agilent VWorks Automation Control software will permit continuation of the previous action in the protocol.

Software control

The Labware MiniHub is easily controlled using VWorks Automation Control software or third-party automation software through the available ActiveX interface. Both options will give the user access to the diagnostics interface to easily set up and teach the Labware MiniHub.

Features & Benefits

- Easy re-configuration without tools or additional hardware
  - Unique 4-position shelves accommodates all SBS-footprint labware
  - Stackable 25.1 mm spacers permits different labware heights
- Performance
  - Plate presentation time is < 5 seconds
  - Automatically uses shortest route to target position (90° or 180° turns)
- Ultra-compact design
- Labware presentation in portrait or landscape orientation
- Designed with safety in mind
  - Direct drive for minimal inertia
  - Collision/resistance sensing and automatic emergency stop
  - Rounded edges to prevent puncture or other injuries
- Reliable and precise state-of-the-art direct drive technology
  - Fewer moving parts, higher reliability
  - Smooth acceleration/deceleration
  - Adjustable acceleration for safe liquid handling
Specifications

Transfer time: < 5 seconds for longest turn

Payload:
Per labware: 200 g
Maximum: 12 800 g

Repeatability: ± 0.02° Phi (± 0.5 mm)

Exclusion zone:
38cm G5472A/G
33cm for G5471A & G5489A

Labware compatibility: Supports SBS footprint labware (microplates, deep-well microplates, tube and vial racks, tip boxes), and some common filter plates

Weight:
G5471A: 13Kg
G5472A/G: 10Kg
G5489A: 12Kg
G5473A: 3.6Kg

Mounting pattern: Four M5 x 60 (G5550-02377) through holes on 188 mm bolt modifies pattern, or using two M6 x 25 screws (G5550-02412) using the sliding brackets under white cover plates

Operating environment: 4-40°C, 20-90% RH non-condensing

Computer connection: RS-232 or DB9 serial port

Table 1: Regulatory compliance certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulatory Compliance</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EMC</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IEC 61326-1:2005 / EN 61326-1:2006</td>
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<td>ICES/NMB-001:2004</td>
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<td>AS/NZS CISPR 11:2004</td>
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<td>Low Voltage Directive 2006/95/EC</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>ANSI/UL 61010-1:2004</td>
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Figure 4: MiniHub base layout. Mount using the four corner M5x60 screws or two M6x25 using the sliding brackets under the cover plates.

Figure 5: MiniHub for systems dimensions.

Figure 6: MiniHub for Agilent BenchCel dimensions.

Figure 7: 24VDC Power Supply includes rack-mounting brackets.
Ordering Information

Three models of the Agilent Labware MiniHub are available:

G5471A (Systems model) was designed to be integrated in laboratory automation systems driven by a robot with extended vertical reach such as the Agilent DDR. Labware can be accessed in either portrait or landscape orientation. The Labware MiniHub includes 16 shelves to accommodate a maximum of 64 microplates (14 mm SBS format for a 25.1 mm pitch). A maximum of 24 tip boxes can be accommodated with six shelves and triple spacing (75.3 mm pitch). This system has the smallest footprint with just a 33 cm diameter.

G5489A (MiniHub for BenchBot) Similar to G5471A, it is adapted for BenchBot use, featuring 13 levels for a capacity of up to 52 microplates or 28 positions at double spacing and 20 positions at triple spacing for tip boxes.

G5472A/G (BenchCel model) is ready for integration with the Agilent BenchCel Microplate Handler in laboratory workstations. The Labware MiniHub can be placed on either side of the BenchCel Handler and labware is accessed in the portrait orientation. It includes 10 shelves to accommodate a maximum of 40 microplates (14 mm SBS format for a 25.1 mm pitch) or 16 tip boxes with triple spacing (75.3 mm pitch).

Table 2: Ordering information for spare parts

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Part name</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>G5471A System model (16)</td>
<td>G5508-10000</td>
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<tr>
<td>G5489A BenchBot Model (13)</td>
<td>G5508-10000</td>
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<tr>
<td>G5472A/G BenchCel Model (10)</td>
<td>G5400-10007</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Parts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spacer</td>
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<td>1/3 Spacer</td>
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<td>G5471A Rod (46.6mm)</td>
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<td>G5489A Rod (40.5mm)</td>
<td>G5508-20016</td>
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<tr>
<td>G5472A/G Rod (30.0mm)</td>
<td>G5508-20013</td>
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<td>Standard integration plate (BenchCel model only)</td>
<td>G5400-20029</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fuses</strong></td>
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<td>4 A</td>
<td>5188-8316</td>
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<td>12 A</td>
<td>5188-8347</td>
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G5473A – 24VDC Power Supply. Included with both Labware MiniHub configurations, the power supply can power two Labware MiniHubs or two Agilent Microplate Exchangers. The general purpose laboratory 24 V power supply is able to deliver up to 175 W of continuous power to two devices. It features rack-mounting brackets for convenient setup on automation systems.

Figure 8: BenchCel robot picking up microplate from the Agilent Labware MiniHub.

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