

Title (en)  
HIGH CAPACITY MICROARRAY DISPENSING

Title (de)  
HOCHKAPAZITÄTSMIKROARRAY-AUSGABE

Title (fr)  
DISTRIBUTION DE MICRORESEAUX A HAUTE CAPACITE

Publication  
**EP 1337337 A2 20030827 (EN)**

Application  
**EP 01270118 A 20011030**

Priority  
• US 0145446 W 20011030  
• US 69681800 A 20001030

Abstract (en)  
[origin: WO02064812A2] A high capacity microarrayer for spotting solution onto slides in an automated microarray dispensing device. A microplate indexing device automatically moves, in sequence, a plurality of microplates to a solution removal area. A dispense head accesses each microplate at the solution removal area to remove solution from the microplate. The dispense head then moves to a slide positioning station to spot slides at the slide positioning station. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the microplate indexing station has at least one input stacking chamber for stacking microplates, and at least one output stacking chamber for stacking microplates. A walking beam indexer is disposed between the at least one input stacking chamber and the at least one output stacking chamber. The walking beam indexer is for moving microplates from said at least one input stacking chamber to said at least one output stacking chamber. While at the solution removal area, a lid lifter lifts the lid off each microplate to permit the microplate to be accessed by the dispense head for solution removal. After the solution is removed, the lid lifter replaces the lid. In another preferred embodiment, there is at least one light source capable of illuminating the slides, and at least one camera operating in conjunction with the at least one light source. The at least one camera is capable of acquiring and transmitting slide image data to a computer. The computer is programmed to receive the slide image and analyse it. The computer will then generate post analysis data based on the analysis of the slide image data. The post analysis data is available for improving the spotting of the solution onto the slides. In a preferred embodiment, the slide image data includes information relating to slide alignment, information relating to spot quality, and slide identification information. In a preferred embodiment, the analysis of the information relating to slide alignment enables the computer to make automatic adjustments to the relative positions of the at least one dispense head and the slides to increase the accuracy of the spotting. In a preferred embodiment, the analysis of the information relating to spot quality identifies a spot as pass or fail. An operator is then able to rework the spot. In a preferred embodiment, the analysis of the slide identification information enables the computer to track each slide.  
[origin: WO02064812A2] A high capacity microarrayer for spotting solution onto slides (4A1-4E10) in an automated microarray dispensing device. A microplate indexing device automatically moves, in sequence, a plurality of microplates (5) to a solution removal area. A dispense head(6) accesses each microplate at the solution removal area to remove solution from the microplate. The dispense head then moves to a slide positioning station to spot slides at the slide positioning station. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the microplate indexing station has at least one input stacking chamber for stacking microplates, and at least one output stacking chamber for stacking microplates. A beam walking beam indexer is for moving microplates from the input stacking chamber to the output stacking chamber.

IPC 1-7  
**B01L 3/02**; B01L 3/00; B01L 11/00; G01N 1/00; G01N 1/10; G01N 21/00; G01N 31/22; G01N 15/06; G01N 33/00; G01N 33/48; G01N 21/29; G01N 21/41; G01N 21/47; B65B 1/04; B65B 3/04; B65B 43/42; B65B 31/00

IPC 8 full level  
**B01J 19/00** (2006.01); **B01L 3/02** (2006.01); **C40B 60/14** (2006.01); **G01N 35/00** (2006.01); **G01N 35/04** (2006.01)

CPC (source: EP)  
**B01J 19/0046** (2013.01); **B82Y 30/00** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00315** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00387** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00527** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00585** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/0059** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00596** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00605** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00612** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00659** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00677** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00689** (2013.01); **B01J 2219/00691** (2013.01); **B01L 3/0241** (2013.01); **C40B 60/14** (2013.01); **G01N 2035/00158** (2013.01); **G01N 2035/0422** (2013.01)

Citation (search report)  
See references of WO 02064812A2

Designated contracting state (EPC)  
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE TR

DOCDB simple family (publication)  
**WO 02064812 A2 20020822**; **WO 02064812 A3 20030227**; AU 2002253796 A1 20020828; AU 2002253796 A8 20020828; EP 1337337 A2 20030827

DOCDB simple family (application)  
**US 0145446 W 20011030**; AU 2002253796 A 20011030; EP 01270118 A 20011030