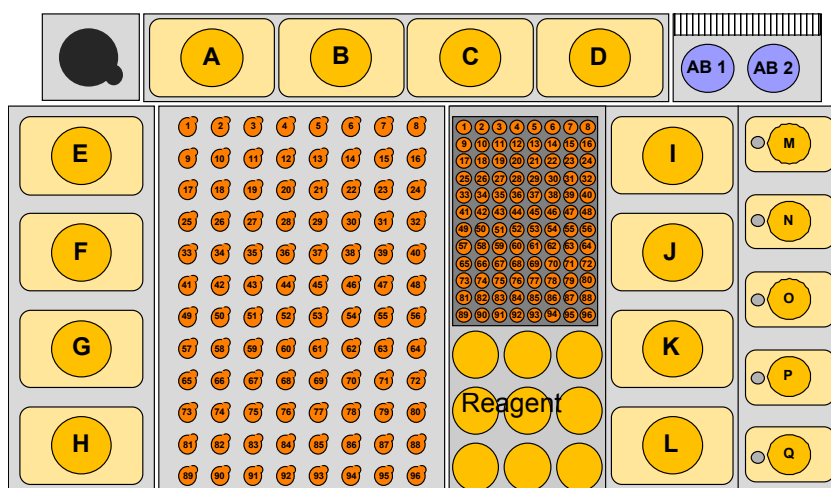


Preparing the work area

CAUTION ! Wear protective gloves when you operate the *InsituPro VS*

We recommend to perform steps 5 and 6 outside the instrument as this is much more convenient.

1. The instrument should be switched off. The robot arm must be freely movable.
2. Check if heater and peltier cooling connectors of the thermo plate are plugged in the appropriate sockets.
3. Check if all buffer racks are properly mounted.
4. Load buffer racks with buffer vials. Use the *InsituPro VS* operation software to determine the amounts required (minimal volume per bottle is added automatically). Always use a buffer and specimen loading form to document reagents used.
5. Fill the teardrop shaped cavities of the specimen rack with the appropriate volume of the tissue storage solution:
 - 200 µl for each cavity for the small incubation baskets
 - 700 µl for each cavity for the medium sized incubation baskets
 - 1400 µl each cavity for the large sized incubation baskets
6. Load the baskets into the teardrop-shaped cavities of the specimen rack and place the specimens or sections into the incubation baskets.



7. Place the Specimen rack on the thermo plate and fix it with the four screws. Please **check the orientation of the tray** carefully. "Front" label should be readable when the tray is mounted.
8. Put the Plexiglas cover onto the specimen tray and secure it in its position by **slightly** tightening the screws. Please **check the orientation of the Plexiglas cover** carefully. "Front" label should be readable when cover is mounted.
9. Load the microtiter plate filled with probes onto the probe rack. Use 50 µl of each probe more than specified in your protocol. Position 1 is the rear left one (pattern corresponds exactly to the one in the specimen rack).

Checking the *InsituPro VS* before start-up

- Check all fittings and connections
- Check the screw fixing the syringe piston to the dilutor arm
- Fill dilutor reservoir bottle
- Empty the waste bottle

Starting a run

CAUTION ! Hazardous chemicals

During operation of the *InsituPro VS* organic vapors may be generated from some of the solvents used posing a potential health risk. For safety reasons, please operate unit only with cabinet closed.

1. Switch the *InsituPro VS* on using the green ON/OFF switch on the cabinet.
2. Switch on the PC controlling the *InsituPro VS* and start the *InsituPro VS* operation software.
3. Check if the correct incubation temperatures are defined on the temperature controller.
4. Load the method file you want to run and enter the number of samples you wish to proceed. Click on "**Start**" to run the method.

During a run

1. Exchange reagents as required in your protocol and indicated on the PC screen.
2. You can pause and resume the run at any time by clicking the pause button.
3. Periodically check whether the reagents are being dispensed correctly.

Finishing a run

When a run is completed, the message "**method finished**" will appear on the PC screen.

1. Switch off the *InsituPro VS* using the ON/OFF switch.
2. Exit the operation software.
3. Loosen the screws on the Plexiglas cover of the specimen rack and remove the cover.
4. Remove the specimen rack from the thermo plate. Transfer the specimens into a tissue culture plate filled with an appropriate buffer and add the staining solutions.
5. Remove probe tubes from the probe rack and dispose in accordance with institute regulations.
6. Dispose of any leftover buffers. Rinse buffer vials and let them dry.
7. Clean the work area with water and soap only.
8. Rinse the rinse port with ethanol and remove liquid from the waste bottle.

Check our web site www.intavis.com for further information or send an email to info@intavis.com