

### PlateCrane EX™ Robotic Arm

The PlateCrane EX provides unsurpassed ease and reliability for automating any microplate format instrument for high throughput analysis.

Hudson's PlateCrane EX™ Robotic Arm is an affordable, flexible option for automating any plate handling task. Equipped with Hudson's SoftLinx software suite, the PlateCrane EX can be configured to serve one or multiple microplate compatible instruments.

#### The PlateCrane EX Robotic Arm

- Can be configured with up to 15 plate stacks, or use a 10 stack carousel.
- Integrates easily with automation friendly incubators or random access stacks. Get the plate capacity needed now and scale up.
- Is designed to be easy to use while maintaining the reliability and flexibility required by automation specialists.
- Can be configured to serve one instrument or an entire workcell.



PlateCrane EX Robotic Arm

#### PlateCrane EX Robot

The PlateCrane EX is a simple yet robust pick-andplace robotic arm designed specifically for moving SLAS standard microplates in a laboratory for high throughput applications. Multiple stack configurations are available to meet almost any need.

- Handle any SLAS standard microplate including 96, 384, 1536 as well as deep well blocks and tip boxes
- Automate plate handling with over 200 different instruments
- · Work with lidded or unlidded plates
- · Small enough to fit into a standard laboratory hood
- Random access stackers available for RT incubation and time point assays
- · Add additional plates to active protocols with ease
- All PlateCrane systems come with SoftLinx V
  Scheduling software. SoftLinx is an easy to use, drag and
  drop control program. Quickly and easily create automated
  methods.
- All PlateCrane Systems come with an innovative base that allows multiple devices to attach directly to the robotic arm. The system locks together creating a stable work station on almost any surface.
- One (1) PlateCrane EX easily supports multiple instruments

### **Applications**

The PlateCrane EX is the ideal solution for automating plate-handling in the lab:

- Stack and transport standard microplates, deep-well plates, tip boxes and more
- Includes the full version of SoftLinx V scheduling software for dynamic communication between instruments.

## Complex plate handling problems made easy with Hudson's automated plate handling solutions:

- AATI Instruments Remove lids, set up time point assays and create multiple instrument workcells
- Fragment Analyzers Automate and expand the process of moving plates to the Advanced Analytical instruments
- Liquid handlers Quickly and easily expand capabilities of existing liquid handling systems with the PlateCrane
- Create customized, total solutions that are flexible & scalable as well as easy to operate & affordable

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

- The PlateCrane is available with either a standard gripper or a side gripper for random access applications. Both grippers are rotary for working with either landscape or portrait nest positions
- · All PlateCrane systems work with lidded plates.
- · Optional teach pendant makes teaching positions fast and easy.
- · The PlateCrane comes standard with 2 stacks; each stack holds 25 lidded plates, 30 plates without lids or 9 DW blocks
- · Plate capacity can be expanded to 15 stacks or up to three 10-stack carousels.
- · Optional temperature controlled stacks are available.

| Arm motion:                         | EX model has 345° horizontal rotation                             |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Hotizontal reach:                   | 12 - 18 inches from centerline                                    |
| Vertical reach:                     | maximum 22.75 inches from table, 18 inch vertical travel distance |
| Height and weight:                  | 29 inches; 45lbs. without stacks                                  |
| Operating temperature and humidity: | 15° to 40°C (59° to 104°F); 0 to 85%, non-condensing              |
| Computer interface:                 | RS232   |
| Power input:                        | 115V / 220V AC, 50/60 Hz  |

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## **SoftLinx**<sup>™</sup>

# **Laboratory Automation Software**

SoftLinx™ is a powerful, flexible software program for controlling your laboratory instrumentation. It is also incredibly easy to use!

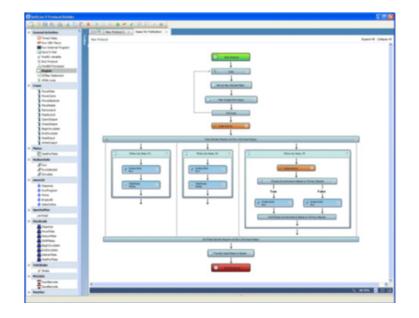
SoftLinx™ is a powerful multitasking application for planning and running lab automation workcells. It is designed to make the programming and operation of lab automation workcells easy for lab personnel, yet flexible enough for even the most demanding custom modification by programmers.

When used with the powerful SoftLinx System Controller Package provides true "endpoint-driven" automated workstations.

**Intuitive**: The user interface includes a drag-and-drop flow chart-like interface which makes it easy to build a protocol that takes maximum advantage of your instrument configuration. Individual steps can be added, customized or removed, and series of independent or interdependent methods can be defined.

**Flexible**: SoftLinx turns any large, integrated system into a combination of small virtual workcells, incorporating only the instrumentation that the user needs! SoftLinx allows users to start and run additional methods, even while others are already running, even using the same instruments, whether pre-planned or not!

**Scheduling**: SoftLinx's opportunistic scheduling finds the most efficient way to perform complex protocols, running different stages of the process simultaneously, and deploying individual robots differently depending on the current state of the system.



### **Features**

- SoftLinx is designed to let anyone who can make a flowchart develop a SoftLinx protocol. SoftLinx uses a drag-and-drop flowchart approach to define every movement of every microplate and every instrument action during the protocol.
- SoftLinx is a multitasking application capable of dynamic scheduling. It makes the programming and operation of lab automation workcells easy for lab personnel, yet flexible enough for extensive custom modification by programmers.
- Users can run multiple batches in different stages of a process at the same time or run any instrument individually while executing another, fully-automated run.
- SoftLinx turns even large, integrated systems into combinations of small workcells, mixed and matched whatever way the user may need to use them. SoftLinx' large library of optional software interfaces for controlling third-party instruments are written in Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) script. Users can even write their own, custom interfaces.
- SoftLinx allows users to start and run additional methods, even while others are already running, and even using the same instruments.

#### **Specifications**

- Multitasking executable program with built-in dynamic scheduling
- Connectivity to >100 lab automation devices with Hudson-supplied interfaces
- Icon-based drag-and-drop configuration and method editing
- Individual icons for each connected laboratory instrument
- Capable of simultaneously executing multiple method threads and multiple methods
- Simple "VCR"-type buttons for starting and stopping methods
- Real-time display of all workcell actions during operation of the system
- Supports full recovery from unscheduled shutdowns or interruptions

- · Superior context sensitive help system
- Encrypted password entry and password change feature for all users
- Multi-level user access and permissions
- · Data Audit trail to log all user-permitted actions
- Allows operators to add plates to a run already in progress
- Supports parallel assays, resulting in higher throughput
- Facilitates accurate event timing such as incubation periods
- Complex methods can be built using functions such as loops, if-then statements, math and string functions, and timers for incubations
- 21CFR Part 11 compatible





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