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The Netherlands

Lab Services
laboratory automation

PlateButler®

advanced tools for laboratory automation

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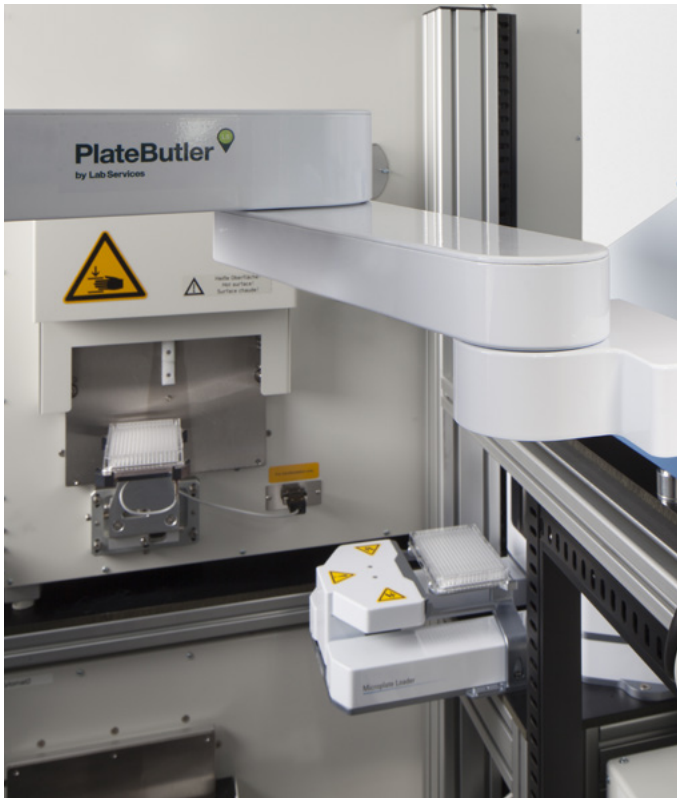
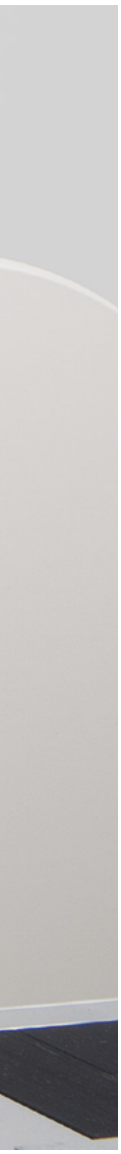
PlateButler® is the star of our successful product range. Developed in-house to meet the increasing demand for compact, automated microtiter plate systems, PlateButler® uses highly flexible software, and can be adapted to meet your specific demands. The system is suitable for low to ultra-high throughput applications and is ideal for use in life sciences and other environments.

PlateButler® is the result of 20 years of knowledge and experience in laboratory automation. Taking your needs and changes in the market as our guiding lines, we have continued to develop PlateButler®. This means the PlateButler® we invented at the time is still innovative today.





PlateButler software

The foundation for all our products is PlateButler® software. Around 20 years ago Lab Services installed the first fully automated systems in laboratories. Experience soon taught us that in software, flexibility, simplicity and speed are of the essence. Something which the market did not supply at the time. Which is why we developed the flexible PlateButler software ourselves, a unique and advanced solution for laboratory automation, to facilitate integration of microplate modules and robots. User-friendly software with a signature design. Its compatibility with all relevant Windows-systems, including the latest Windows versions, makes PlateButler® software versatile. In the development of this software version we used state-of-the-art.NET-compatible development tools such as Embarcadero® RAD Studio XE5.

Scheduler and Simulation

The Real-Time Dynamic Scheduler keeps track of all actions and automatically updates the system's processing times. An assay can be simulated beforehand with a Gantt diagram. This allows early detection of any bottlenecks (parallel threats are synchronized at various points), making sure the best possible assay is programmed.

Assay Management

The Assay Editor has recently been given a makeover and the new tile-based look fully meets current lay-out needs. The "drag" and "drop" options for machines and functions allow for easy definition of the desired workflow. In addition, the system's history is conveniently charted. The Assay Manager displays all current assays in a neat overview. They can be reviewed or halted independently. If you run the same assay regularly, you can use the Quick Start option, which means you only have to enter the assay once.

Error Handling

Reports are displayed in a separate window which can be placed wherever you need it. The system offers a standard of three types of reports: information, warning and error.

Readings

Readings are displayed in a conveniently arranged window and contain elements such as plate ID, plate positions and read-outs of the latest plate reading. Unread barcodes are displayed in a separate window, from which they can be entered manually. Each executed step is logged in a database, depending on your specific needs.

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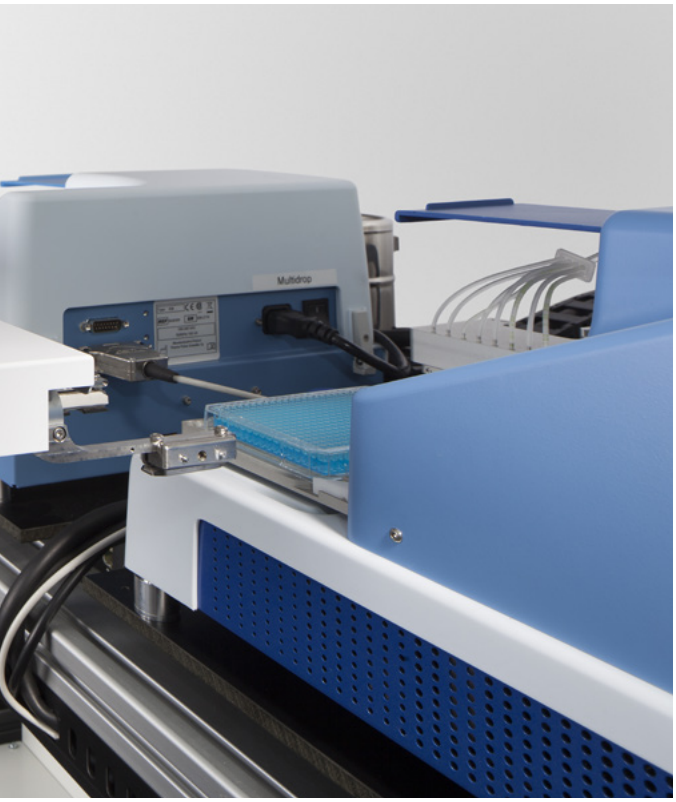

A top performance from your laboratory with PlateButler®

- Extreme reliability
- Versatile; combines with any brand of system components
- A sophisticated dashboard for easy-reference system status checks
- Easy to program
- Multiple robotic systems controlled from a single PC

Get the most from your laboratory with PlateButler® hardware

In addition to the PlateButler® software, Lab Services is an innovator in the field of hardware as well:

PlateButler® Robotic Systems: the perfect solution for integrating automatable instruments; a customized robotic system, made to measure.
PlateButler® PlateDispenser: a new, sleek and compact design to create maximum storage capacity on the smallest possible surface. An integrated design, to make it even more robust and reliable. Compatible with any type of microplate and any type of lid. Loading is easy as the system features doors.
PlateButler® PlateHotel: this newly designed product provides ambient robot-friendly storage with easy plate loading facility and is known for its optimal use of available bench top capacity.
PlateButler® LidHolder: a sophisticated design that allows for fast, reliable and efficient storage of standard lids and special applications such as metal or very thin, delicate lids.
PlateButler® PreciseFlex: a fully independent unit with in-built internal and external controllers for robot and gripper. Reduces cycle times by making the most efficient and low-noise movements possible.

PlateButler® LidLifter: an automated, lid-lifting system that offers a reliable solution for handling fragile lids. Lids are often a delicate part of equipment such as PCR-machines and readers. Frequent opening and closing the lid often leads to rapid abrasion. The LidLifter replaces the standard lid by a robust lid, allowing for extensive use. The LidLifter also facilitates automation of devices that are not standard equipped with this option. Its features can be adapted to the application: pressure on the test plate, shape of the lid (e.g. to minimize incidence of light), and integrated heating or cooling elements.
PlateButler® SignalBox: a light signal that can be extended with a sound signal. It is characterized by its flexibility; the SignalBox does not need to be attached to the system (unlike competing brands). It can be placed on the operator's desk, for instance, while the system runs in a different room. Colour code: Green: the system is ready and operational Orange: the system is running Red: a fault has occurred. The SignalBox can be fitted with an integrated message centre (e.g. an e-mail interface).

Lab Services

Lab Services originated in 1994, as one of the first companies specialized in laboratory automation in the Netherlands. We have been among the frontrunners in progress and innovation for 20 years.

Major names in life sciences, molecular biology, biotech companies and a host of university and academic lab centres have placed their trust in our products and service for years. And with good reason. Because choosing Lab Services means you will always be offered high-quality products and top-level service.

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