The Problem

Distractions and interruptions in a lab result in manual pipetting errors which lead to failed reactions and costly repeats of reaction failure. Every investigator or technician must devise methods and tricks to keep track of multi-well plate reagent deposits while juggling important or trivial interruptions to concentration. The Stovall Well Mark® helps to remedy these problems, and at a very affordable price.

WELL MARK®

The Well Mark Solution

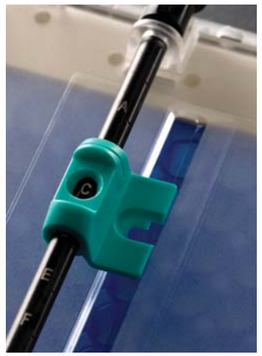
The Well Mark is a simple, effective device designed to reduce pipette dispense errors and cross contamination during manual delivery of assay reagents to 96 and 384 well plates. The Well Mark name is a play upon the function of a Book Mark which registers progress and place when reading a book. In a similar manner, the Well Mark registers the progress and current position in delivery of reagents to a complete column or single well in 96 or 384 well plates. At beta site labs, commercial and academic, errors were reduced by 26% and 32% respectively within a two week period.

HTS Corrections

Researchers performing High Throughput Screening (HTS) experiments often need to focus on one or more samples following an initial screen. Accurately locating wells of interest within a 96 and 384-well format can be challenging. For this task, the use of robotics is costly and manual pippetting will often yield errors. The Well Mark provides an efficient, low cost means of isolating samples and offers complete accuracy without fear of cross-contamination.

Plate Variations & The Sloped Entrance to the Open Slot of the Protective Cover

Multi-well plates vary by vendor and the only consistent measurement is the interval center to center, between wells. The Well Mark can accommodate most plate variations through small, user adjustments to the device. The Well Mark has a sloped entrance to the column slot for easier single or multi-channel pipette access and for accommodating raised features of some multi-well plates.



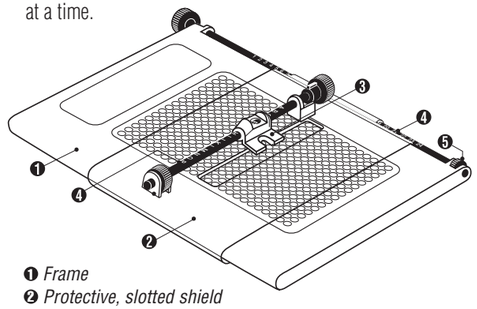
Opaque plates, as well as clear and tinted plates, work equally well with the Well Mark.

Laser Etched Index Shafts

The laser etched index shafts clearly indicate the current dispense position for 96 or 384 well plates.

Well Mark Construction

The Well Mark consists of a windowed frame which locks any skirted orunskirted wellplate in place; a moving, protective shield with an open slot revealing one column of wells at a time; and a single-well isolator with protective skirt which moves down a column one well at a time.



❶ *Frame*
❷ *Protective, slotted shield*
❸ *Single-well isolator*
❹ *Index bars*
❺ *Thumb wheel*
● *Sliding lock bar under the frame (not shown)*

Alignment for 96 or 384 Well Plates

To change spacing from 96 to 384 well plates or the reverse, simply turn the textured thumb wheel counter clockwise until the index bar is released from its encasement, then turn the whole bar 180° to change the detents for the desired well spacing. Reseat the index bar by turning the thumb wheel in the opposite direction.

When a plate is locked in place in the frame, the operator registers the open slot of the sliding cover with the first column of wells. Refinement of that registration is accomplished by moving the thumb wheel in one direction or the other. This registration for one type of plate is maintained until a different type of plate is used, perhaps requiring new registration.

Cleaning, Disinfection of the Well Mark

The Well Mark is made of Topas 8007, HDPE, and stainless steel which are resistant to chemicals such as 70% alcohol or dilute bleach solution. Additionally, there are several products in the form of sprays or wipes which can eliminate lingering reagents or samples on the Well Mark.

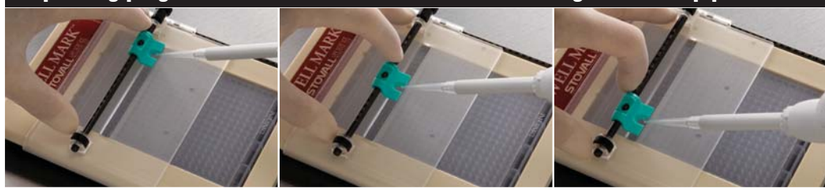
The Well Mark cannot be autoclaved.

Dispensing progression of columns with multichannel pipette

The protective, slotted cover is moved by the operator from one column of wells to the next while the other hand dispenses reagent from a multi channel pipette. The protective slotted cover shields adjacent columns of wells from accidental contamination and registers the current dispensing position.

The long, stainless steel index bar on one side of the Well Mark has two sets of detents – one for 96 well plates, the second for 384 well plates – into which an encapsulated spring clip catches to align the slotted window with succeeding columns of wells

Dispensing progression of wells within a column with single channel pipette



A similar set of detents on the shorter index bar provides the same alignment for the single-well isolator as the operator moves it down the column from well to well.

The black oxide bars display letters and numbers to index 96 and 384 well plates.

The Ergonomic Easel

This small, hinged, accessory easel holds the plate and Well Mark at an angle advantageous for easier deposit of assay reagents. Removable andcleanable, non-skid mats secure plate and Well Mark in place as the operator advances the slotted, protective cover from column to succeeding column of wells. The easel can be set at three different angles to accommodate the preference of the operator.

Two non-skid mats, one white and one black, are included for use. The black mat makes the wells more visible for clear plates; the white mat works well for tinted plates. Either mat can be used with opaque plates.

Telephone 800-852-0102 or visit our Website at: slscience.com

SPECIFICATIONS

See price list for pricing

The Well Mark

Size: 5” x 7” x ¾”
Weight: 8 OZ.
Material: Topas, 8007, HDPE, stainless steel
Catolog #: WMKAA0001

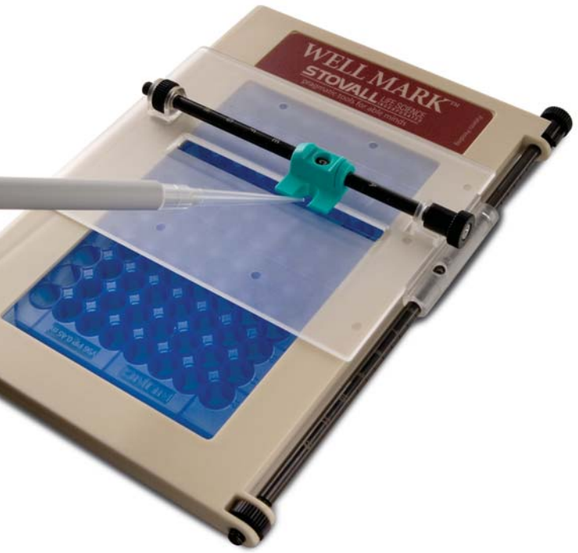
The Ergonomic Easel

Size: 5 ½” X 7 ½ “ X 1”
Weight: 12 OZ.
Material: Acrylic
Catolog #: WMKAA0002

Easel/ Well Mark Economy Package

Catolog #: WMKAA0003

Patents Pending



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WELL MARK®

Marks Your Place in 96 & 384 Well Plates

Another innovative product from
STOVALL LIFE SCIENCE INCORPORATED
Pragmatic tools for able minds™