

Dear Customer:

Thank you for purchasing Siskiyou Corporation's MX-TS tissue slicer. Below is a list of hardware and some brief instructions to go along with the operations dvd. **READ THIS THOROUGHLY BEFORE WATCHING THE DVD.**

Hardware list; one (1) MX-TS frame winder; one (1) MX-TS tissue slicer, four (4) frames, eight (8) clamp bars, sixteen (16) clamp screws, one hundred (100) clamp wires, one (1) spool of tungsten wire, two (2) slice separators, twenty (20) petri dishes and one (1) operations dvd.

Tissue preparation; the MX-TS is specifically designed to slice live hippocampal and cortical tissues of embryonic mouse, embryonic rat, and adult mouse. Once you have removed the tissue from the brain cavity, remove the meninges and then section the area to be sliced to fit within the space of the slicing frame (12mm X 25mm or less).

The operation of Siskiyou Corporation's MX-TS frame winder is described in the operations dvd. After reviewing the dvd you may want to run through the steps without actually using the wire or locking down the wire clamps. Once you have become comfortable with the system, run through the process following along with the dvd. We have found that once you have done the winding two or three times it becomes quite simple (i.e. "practice makes perfect"). The selection of tissue thickness spacing is **NOT** described in the dvd. To change the thickness simply lock the frame winder spindle (lock knob closest to the winding knob), and release the clamp on the opposite end of the winder spindle. Once the clamp is unlocked, unscrew the color coded knob, and slide the threaded spindle out of the clamp. Replace the spindle in its color-coded location in the base, and replace it with the desired thickness/spindle.

The later part of the dvd briefly describes Siskiyou Corporations MX-TS tissue slicer. The slicer has two release levers. The one on the base locks the frame cage in place at the bottom of the slicing stroke. You will need to depress it in order to move the slicer cage into the upper locked position. The release lever on the guide rod will hold the slicer cage in place while you insert/remove the frames and will allow you to remove/insert the sample tray. **KEEP YOUR FINGERS CLEAR OF THE AREA UNDER THE SLICER CAGE. IF THE UPPER LEVER IS INADVERTENTLY RELEASED IT WILL CRUSH ANYTHING IN THIS AREA (i.e. YOUR FINGERS).** The slicer is designed to finish its stroke in a bed of 1% Agarose. This will ensure that the sample is cut clean through and that the broken wires are trapped in the Agarose and not in the sample tissue. We have found that it works best to cure the Agarose in a Falcon model #1006 petri dish (50mm X 9mm) filled to the top. You will need to cut the Agarose to fit the size of the sample tray pedestal (12mm X 25mm). Be sure that the Agarose does not over lap the edges of the sample tray pedestal. Once you have cut the Agarose and placed it on the sample pedestal, place your sample on the Agarose and snap the sample tray into position under the frame cage. **BE CAREFUL NOT TO BUMP THE UPPER RELEASE.** Next put a wound frame in the frame cage and lock it in place. Be sure the area under the frame cage is clear of fingers...now you can depress the upper release. To remove the sliced sample simply unlock the frame from the frame cage. Depress the lower release lever and pull the frame cage into the upper locked position. Remove the sample tray with the sample and used frame in place from the slicer (you may want to release the upper release at this point so as not to have it in the cocked and loaded position). Slide the frame with the sliced sample to the left/right off of the sample tray pedestal. In a large petri dish (100mm X 20mm) filled with Hawks buffer (or any buffer you have in the lab) submerge the frame and sample in the buffer. This will cause the sample to float clear of the Agarose. Use the sample separator and a scalpel to separate sample slices. After all of the slices are removed you can remove the used frame to be disassembled, cleaned and rewound.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact us toll free at 1-877-313-6418.



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