

Functional tested siRNAs

Forty-seven new **siRNA constructs** are now available from Panomics for purchase alone or with a complete western blotting kit, including transcription factor (TF) antibody and detection reagents. One simple transfection is said to reduce TF gene expression by more than 80 percent. Researchers can use one of the company's targeted TranSilent siRNA vectors or clone their own insert into Panomics' TranSilent control siRNA vector. Each TranSilent siRNA consists of a mix of up to three plasmids targeting a single TF mRNA sequence. The company offers siRNA vectors for a wide variety of TFs, such as ATF1, CREB1, EGR, E2F1, Fos, GATA1, Jun, Nfkbp50, Nfkbp65, PPARA, PPARD, Sp1, Stat1, YY1 and SP3.

Tel. (+1) 877-726-6642 (USA and Canada)/(+1) 877-726-6642 (elsewhere)
<http://www.panomics.com>

Lab automation



Biomek 3000 automated workstation.

Beckman Coulter introduces the Biomek 3000 **laboratory automation workstation** — designed to serve low- to mid-range liquid handling applications. Suited for systems biology-focused genomic, proteomic and cell-based research, this flexible platform extends Biomek capabilities to new applications in academia and forensics. The smaller instrument size allows it to fit in standard laminar flow hoods for applications requiring a controlled environment. The Biomek 3000 features interchangeable tools for a wide variety of functions, including gripper, single- and eight-channel pipetting tools. The system's multichannel tools are designed with true 9 mm center-to-center tip spacing, allowing the use of ANSI/SBS standard tip racks. With a variety of integration capabilities, the new liquid

handler can accommodate stacker carousels, plate readers and other devices. As part of Beckman Coulter's Biomek continuum, this instrument shares common software with the Biomek FX and the new Biomek NX platforms, enabling users to easily adjust to changing throughput and application needs. Methods can be easily moved from one instrument to another.

Tel. (+1) 800-742-2345 (US)/ (+1) 714-871-4848
<http://www.beckmancoulter.com>

Software solutions

GeneMapper software v3.5 from Applied Biosystems is an easy-to-use, flexible, high-performance **application package for accurate allele calling** on the ABI PRISM 3100 and 3100-Avant genetic analyzers, and the Applied Biosystems 3730 and 3730xl DNA analyzers. The company says that tests performed with SNPlex system data have demonstrated that GeneMapper Software v3.5 can analyze more than 100,000 genotypes per hour, significantly reducing the time and effort required for successful genotyping. Designed with cluster-plot analysis and display for the SNPlex system, GeneMapper Software v3.5 also includes SNPlex-specific process quality values (PQVs). The software's security and audit features assist with 21CFR11 compliance — a substantial benefit for users in highly regulated industries. Other features include remote auto-analysis, automatic bin builder, database manager, oligonucleotide ligation assay (OLA) analysis, and improved plot-performance speed. A new user's guide and online help function, improved printing speeds and views, and drag-and-drop marker management are designed to make GeneMapper Software v3.5 simple to use, intuitive, and fast.

<http://www.appliedbiosystems.com/genemapper>

Mail-order means

Millipore says a host of new products and services are featured in the 2004 Fisher Scientific **catalog**. The catalog offers a comprehensive selection of the latest tools for laboratory technicians in the life science and pharmaceutical industries. It features the newest generation of total water purification

systems to provide a range of options for laboratories requiring complete control over production, storage and distribution of pure and ultrapure water. Expanded Amicon and Montage product lines that deliver high sample recoveries in protein research applications are also featured.

Tel. (+1) 800-MILLIPORE
<http://www.millipore.com/fisher>

Reagent round-up

Zymed offers a new **polyclonal rabbit anti-STEAP (six transmembrane epithelial antigen of the prostate) antibody**. STEAP is a prostate-specific cell-surface antigen that is highly expressed in human prostate cancers. It is unique among cell-surface prostate antigens in its potential function as a channel or transport protein. High expression of STEAP has been detected at all stages of prostate cancer and does not seem to be modulated by hormones — a property that is particularly useful for managing hormone-refractory prostate cancer or anti-androgen therapy for advanced metastatic disease. Zymed's prostate antibodies have been characterized for immunostaining of frozen and formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue sections, including STEAP, androgen receptor, PSMA, PSCA, PsAP, PSA and PTEN antibodies.

Tel. (+1) 800-874-4494
<http://www.zymed.com>

A new **non-antibody cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (COMP) fused to CD40** that blocks CD40L-mediated proliferation of B cells is now available from Alexis Biochemicals. Shown to display good affinity for its ligand, the company says that CD40:COMP does not require any crosslinking reagent to effectively bind CD40L (CD154). CD40:COMP offers researchers studying allergies, autoimmune disease, cancer, inflammation and other pathologies an interesting alternative to monoclonal antibodies. The binding of CD40L to its receptor CD40 on the surface of B cells stimulates adhesion, differentiation and clonal proliferation of B cells that bind specifically to foreign antigens and thus plays a central role in the normal functioning of the immune system.

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<http://www.alexis-corp.com>