

AUTOMATED METHOD UPDATES FOR THE PROMEGA DNA IQ™ SYSTEM

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The Promega DNA IQ™ System was launched in 2001, and automated methods for robotic processing of samples followed later the same year, when the first automated method was made available from Promega for the Beckman Biomek® 2000. Since that time, both instrumentation and forensic laboratories' needs have evolved, including needs specifically related to processing of difficult forensic casework samples. The next generation of automated methods for DNA IQ™ sample processing combine high efficiency isolation for low level samples with optimized automated procedures for inhibition-free eluates, even when low elution volumes and maximum volume STR amplification protocols are employed. On the instrumentation side, software advances enable more complex programming and better control over complex liquid handling techniques, and simple user interfaces allow sample well selection, sample type identification, and elution volume control. Finally, on some platforms, eight-channel independent pipetting enables well-by-well independent access to and manipulation of sample wells.