

PL-200 Performance Specifications

• Slide Capacity	200 75mm x 25mm Glass Slides in 4 racks of 50 slides each (Add-on optional carousel with additional 500 slide capacity)
• Loading Speed	Typically 20-25s
• Rack Sensor	Racks can be swapped whilst the unit is running
• Slide Detection	Racks are scanned for slides present. Slides can be barcode read prior to loading for Random Access. Barcodes can also be read during the load cycle ensuring GLP compliance
• Slide Safety	Slide detectors are built into both the gripper arm and stage insert to ensure slides are handled correctly
• Barcode Readers	Optional 1D and 2D readers available
• Vibration	Loader is stationary between operations, eliminating vibration
• Communications	USB
• Scanning Stage Compatibility	Compatible with ProScan HI01A
• Footprint	Compact unit occupies only 0.16m ² (1.7ft ²) of bench space
• Dimensions	35cm(W) x 50cm(D) x 68cm(H)
• Input Voltage	100 - 240v AC
• Regulatory compliance	Fully CE Compliant

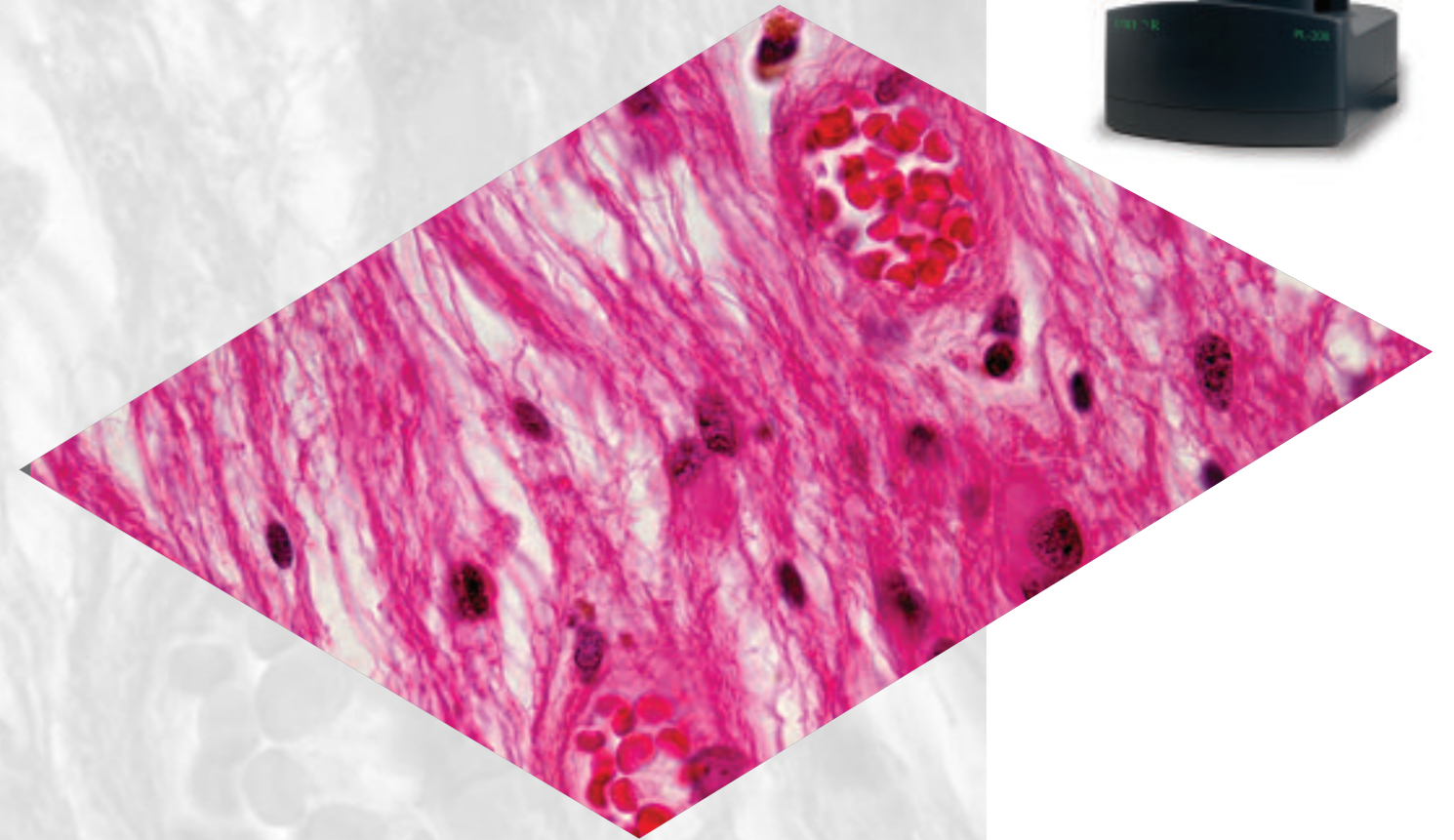
Compatible Microscopes

The **PL-200** Slide Loader is compatible with most Nikon, Olympus, Leica and Zeiss upright microscopes. For compatibility with inverted microscopes please contact Prior.

PL-200 Slide Loader

PRIOR
Scientific

Walk Away Slide Scanning



VISIT PRIOR ON THE WEB AT www.prior.com

Specifications subject to change without notice.

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PART NO. PL200 1K 10/08

PL-200 Slide Loader

The **PL-200** Slide Loader is an advanced system for automatic slide handling in a variety of microscope applications. Featuring higher slide capacity, smaller footprint and faster slide changing times, the **PL-200** provides complete walk away convenience.

Now it is possible to truly automate the digital imaging of microscope specimens using Prior's unique combination of precision scanning stage and automatic slide loader.

200 Slide Capacity

The **PL-200** accommodates up to 4 removable slide racks, each of which houses up to 50 slides. The slide racks are fitted with a convenient handle and a slide retaining design which means that slides can be moved around the laboratory in safety. Sensors on the **PL-200** monitor the presence of the slide racks so the system can intelligently respond when racks are changed in the middle of a run for example. Upon detection of a newly installed slide rack, a unique slide detection system is able to automatically scan and identify the quantity of slides in the rack and their location.



Solvent resistant slide racks hold up to 50 slides

Higher Speed

Slide throughput is dependent on the loader and the automatic scanning stage. Because Prior is offering a complete package, both have been optimised to provide the highest productivity. Cycle times are dependent on several factors and typically fall in the range 20-25s but can be configured for cycle times as fast as 15s. For the vast majority of microscopy applications the **PL-200** offers great savings in time and money.

Compact Design

A footprint of only 0.16m² (1.7ft²) means the **PL-200** takes up a minimum of bench space thanks to the rotating arm design. This approach also minimises vibration and noise which means the system can quietly go about its business of processing slides. Stability is ensured by the presence of a rigid, common baseplate for both the slide loader and the microscope.

Compatible and Upgradeable

From conception, the **PL-200** has been designed to be compatible with the widest range of microscopes in use today. The **PL-200** can be used with existing microscopes simply by adding the appropriate Prior scanning stage. For those instruments already configured with a Prior scanning stage, a simple field modification is all that is typically required to enable use in automated slide loading applications.



Slide Safety

Prepared specimen slides are precious, often unique, and need to be handled with care. In addition to the slide retaining design of the slide racks, a range of further safety features have been included in the **PL-200** to minimise the risk of damage to slides. The slide gripper includes a sensor to detect the presence of a slide.

If the state of this sensor changes due to an absent slide for example, the system will stop and report an error message. A similar approach is taken on the scanning stage where a sensor identifies if a slide is present on the stage. Slide scanning will not take place for example, if a slide is not successfully placed onto the stage. A third sensor is fitted to monitor changes in the vertical (focus) position of the stage. If the user adjusts focus intentionally or unintentionally, the **PL-200** will detect this height change and adjust the height of the slide loading position accordingly.

In addition, the presence of this height sensor allows the **PL-200** to work seamlessly with advanced auto-focus routines which can then be used to maintain proper focus throughout the scan.



The precise slide gripper safely collects and returns slides

Data Integrity

To ensure that any data generated using the **PL-200** system is correctly associated with the correct slide reference details, and consequently to fulfil the requirements of Good Laboratory Practise (GLP), an optional bar code reader can be fitted. Two options are available depending on whether simple ID barcodes or more complex 2D barcodes need to be read. The system is capable of reading all bar codes prior to starting the load cycle to enable random access scanning if required.



Bar code reader ensures data integrity

Software Integration

The **PL-200** is supplied with a comprehensive Software Development Kit that makes integration with 3rd party software packages very straightforward. A full software simulation tool is also available to make it possible to write the **PL-200** loader into a proprietary package and test its performance without the need for any hardware. An additional application is included for those existing Prior customers using the Legacy RS-232 based command set.