Applied Biosystems 3400 DNA Synthesizer

User Guide



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Part Number 4334680 Rev. C 06/2019

Preface

How to Use This Guide

Purpose of This

Guide

The Applied Biosystems 3400 DNA Synthesizer User Guide provides operating information for the Applied Biosystems 3400 DNA Synthesizer. It describes the instrument components, standard operating procedures, instrument software, and synthesis chemistry.

Audience

This guide is intended for 3400 DNA Synthesizer users who use the instrument for performing low-throughput synthesis of oligonucleotides.

Assumptions

This guide assumes that your 3400 DNA Synthesizer has been installed by an Applied Biosystems technical representative.

Text Conventions

This guide uses the following conventions:

Bold indicates user action. For example:

Type **0**, then press **Enter** for each of the remaining fields.

Italic text indicates new or important words and is also used for emphasis. For example:

Before analyzing, *always* prepare fresh matrix.

A right arrow bracket (>) separates successive commands you select from a drop-down or shortcut menu. For example:

Select File > Open > Spot Set.

Right-click the sample row, then select **View Filter > View All Runs**.

User Attention Words

Two user attention words appear in Applied Biosystems user documentation. Each word implies a particular level of observation or action as described below:

Note: Provides information that may be of interest or help but is not critical to the use of the product.

IMPORTANT! Provides information that is necessary for proper instrument operation, accurate chemistry kit use, or safe use of a chemical.

Examples of the user attention words appear below:

Note: The size of the column affects the run time.

Note: The Calibrate function is also available in the Control Console.

About the 3400 DNA Synthesizer

Instrument Overview

Description

The Applied Biosystems 3400 DNA Synthesizer automates all steps of singlestranded oligonucleotide synthesis. The 3400 DNA Synthesizer produces the highest quality of synthetic DNA currently attainable, while minimizing synthesis time and cost.

The instrument has:

Twenty different operation modes.

Four column positions with eight monomer positions (10-mL bottles) Nine reagent and solvent positions:

- Six 180-mL bottles for the ancillary reagents
- Two 2-L bottles for TCA/DCM and DCM
- One 4-L bottle for acetonitrile (ACN)

Besides automating the general solid-phase synthesis chemistries for oligonucleotides, phosphorothioates, and RNA, the instrument can also cleave the oligonucleotides from solid support with ammonium hydroxide and collect them for deprotection in glass vials.

Chemical Delivery System

The 3400 DNA Synthesizer uses a pressure-driven chemical delivery system to deliver reagents and solvents to the column. In this system, a set of solenoid valves opens to create a pathway for chemical flow. Pressure-regulated argon forces the chemicals to flow from their reservoirs through the pathway. The pathway consists of one or more valve blocks and delivery lines.

Reagent and solvent deliveries also rely on Applied Biosystems proprietary zero dead-volume valves, which increase reliability, eliminate cross-contamination, and reduce reagent costs.

System Components

The major components of the chemical delivery system are:

Argon cylinder

Pressure regulators

Reagent bottles

Pressure and delivery lines

Pressure/vent lines

Valve blocks

Columns

Waste containers

Figure 1-1 illustrates the components of the chemical delivery system. Descriptions of each component follow.

Note: All inner surfaces of the chemical delivery system are made of inert materials.

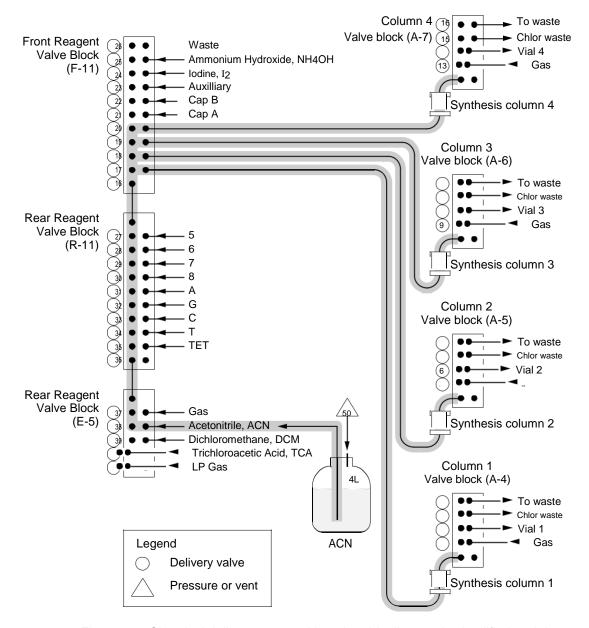


Figure 1-1: Chemical delivery system. Note that this diagram is simplified and does not show the valves used to pressurize and vent reagent reservoirs.

Figure 1-2 illustrates how to produce a vaccine using the DNA Synthesizer software.

IMPORTANT! In order to successfully generate the cDNA based on the genetic sequence, the 3400 DNA Synthesizer must have been previously configured with the appropriate operation mode.

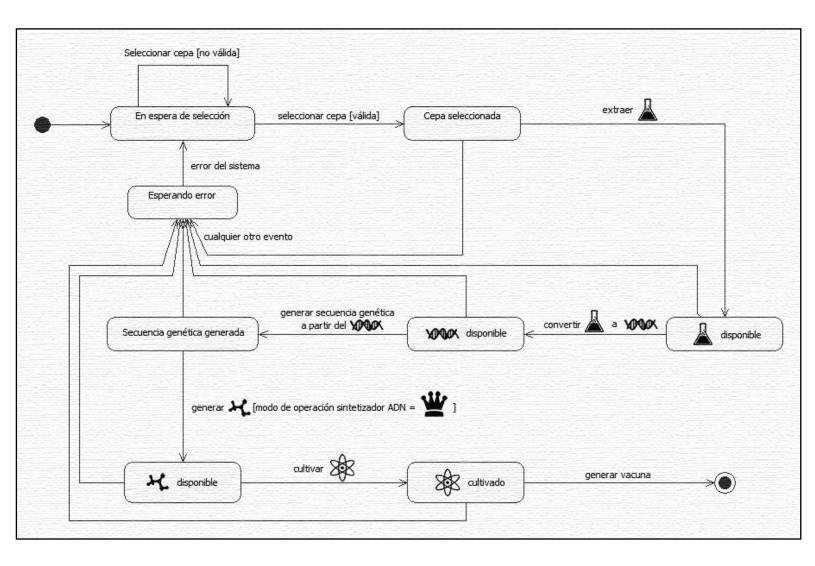
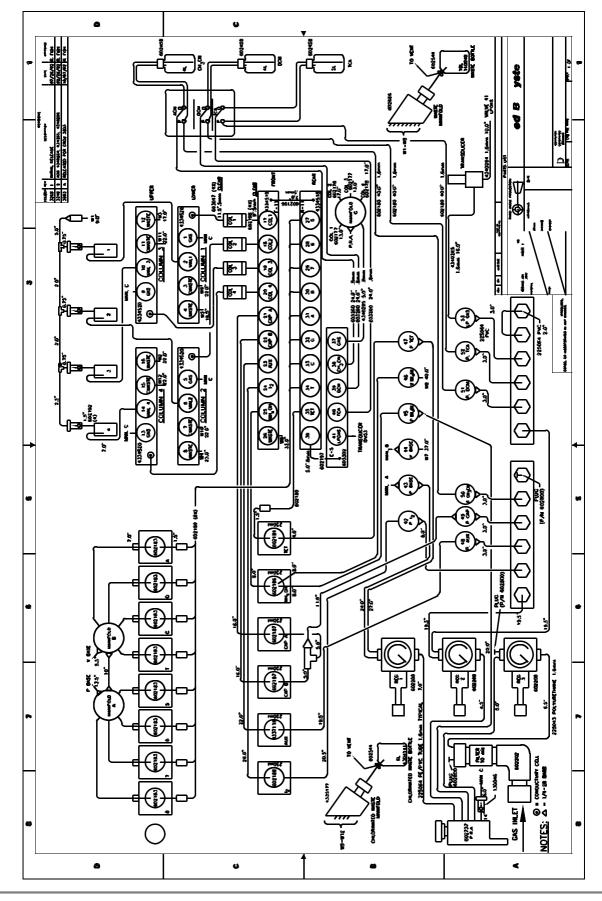


Figure 1-2: DNA Synthesizer State Diagram.



Applied Biosystems 3400 DNA Synthesizer

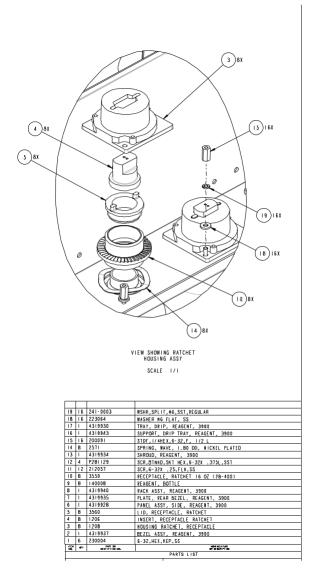


Figure A-1: Ratchet cap assembly

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Printed in the U.S.A., 06/2019 Part Number 4334680 Rev. C