

# HORIZON

6 Flex, 6 Flex FA

*Operator's Manual*



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## MODEL DESCRIPTION

HORIZON is a versatile line of centrifuges designed with 3 settings to process Chemistry, Coag or Platelet Poor Plasma, and Urine specimens in the same unit. The maximum g-force of 2,000 xg makes HORIZON compatible with most brands of tubes. Cycle settings can be changed to accommodate custom settings.

## FEATURES

- The first three (3) cycles are conveniently pre-set and labeled for your lab's most common applications. Use the default cycles or customize them as needed.
- If desired, the control panel can be temporarily locked on one cycle for error-free reproducibility.
- Up to 10 cycles can be programmed for time, speed, and braking and labeled with a custom name. Cycles can be programmed by g-force (RCF) rather than speed to facilitate matching validated cycles and manufacturers IFUs.
- Lid lighting indicates the centrifuge's status (ready, running, done), informing the operator when tubes are ready for the analyzer and preventing tubes from being left in the centrifuge longer than necessary (patent pending).
- A traditional audible alert indicates the completion of the cycle. The audible alert can be muted.
- Cool-Flow design prevents overheating of samples by using ambient air to keep specimens at room temperature.
- The tube holders are fiber reinforced for high strength, durability, and years of trouble-free use.
- A clear lid permits safe observation of samples and optical calibration of speed.
- The lid safety system prevents the centrifuge from operating unless the lid is closed and latched.
- The lid safety system only allows entry into the centrifuge after the rotor has completely stopped.
- The high-power brushless motor provides years of operation with no routine maintenance.

## INTENDED USE

General purpose laboratory Centrifuge intended for safe and rapid density based separation of fluids, including physiologic fluids, in approved specimen receptacles for qualitative or quantitative test procedures. As a general purpose laboratory centrifuge, it is designed to also run other approved containers filled with chemicals (non-flammable, non-explosive, non-volatile, and non-highly reactive only), environmental samples, and other non-human body samples. This device is intended to be operated by properly trained personnel who have carefully read the operating manual and are familiar with the function of the device.

[Refer to the clinical laboratory method specified by the specimen receptacle manufacturer or established by the medical technology for the products applications.]

## WARRANTY

Drucker Diagnostics warrants that this centrifuge is free from defects in workmanship and parts for 2 years.

- ⚠ **WARNING:** For the safety of both the operator and service personnel, care should be taken when using this centrifuge if handling substances that are known to be toxic, radioactive or contaminated with pathogenic microorganisms. Use appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE). When Risk Group II materials are used, (as identified in the World Health Organization “Laboratory Bio-Safety Manual”), a Bio-Seal should be employed. In the event that materials of a higher risk group are being used, more than one level of protection must be provided. The use of flammable or explosive materials as well as those materials which have a vigorous chemical reaction is prohibited.
- ⚠ Unplug the centrifuge before cleaning or performing maintenance.
- ⚠ **WARNING:** Inspect centrifuge for cracks or physical damage to cabinet, lid, rotor, or tube holders. Damage may result in unsafe operation. Discontinue use until repairs have been performed.
- ⚠ This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy, and if not installed and used in accordance with this operator manual, may cause interference to radio communications.
- ⚠ Operation of this equipment in a residential area may cause interference, in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

## INITIAL SETUP

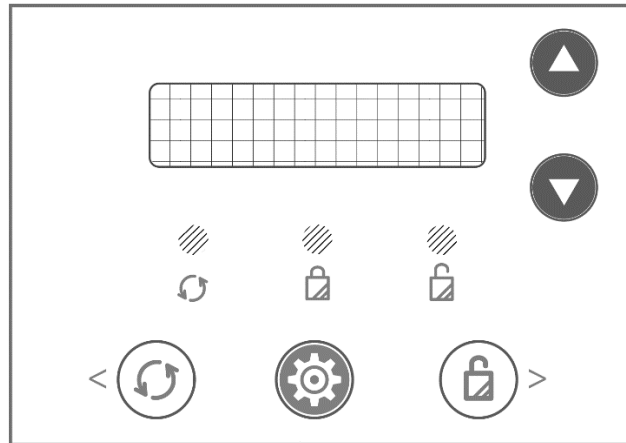
- Unpack and verify that all the following are included:
  - Centrifuge
  - Power cord
  - Tube holders
  - Operating manual
- Setup the centrifuge on flat and level surface. A bench top clearance height of 21” (54 cm) is required to open the lid.
- The centrifuge should have 6” (15 cm) of clear space around the centrifuge. Proper ventilation is necessary to prevent the overheating of samples as well as premature failure of the centrifuge. Choose an area which allows unencumbered air flow, and where the temperature remains between 16°C and 32°C.
- No hazardous material shall be permitted in the clearance envelope during operation.
- The operator time within the envelope shall be limited to the time necessary for loading, unloading, and centrifuge operation only.
- Plug the line cord into the centrifuge.
- Plug the line cord into an approved electrical outlet.
- Turn on the power switch in the back of the centrifuge.





⚠ **BE SURE THE ELECTRICAL OUTLET IS ALWAYS ACCESSIBLE AS THE LINE CORD IS THE MEANS OF EMERGENCY DISCONNECTION!**

## QUICK START

The screen display alternates between the name of the currently selected cycle and its parameters. For convenience, the first three (3) cycles are preset for common applications and can be reprogrammed to your validated cycles:



- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| (1) Chemistry  | This setting is factory preset for Chemistry tubes                           |
| (2) Coag (PPP) | This setting is factory preset for Coagulation or Platelet Poor Plasma (PPP) |
| (3) Urine      | This setting is factory preset for urine tubes                               |






	<b>Start</b>	Begins running the cycle displayed on the screen. The lid must be closed.
	<b>Unlock</b>	Allows access into the rotor chamber by engaging the unlocking mechanism. Entry is only possible when the rotor is stopped.
	<b>Stop</b>	Pressing the UNLOCK button during operation will terminate the run and unlock the lid after the rotor has come to a stop.
	<b>Cycle Selection</b>	Press the up and down buttons next to the screen to select the desired saved cycle.

To ensure repeatability, the centrifuge can be locked either on one cycle (Single Cycle Lock) or restricted to the saved cycles (Preset Lock). The Single Cycle Lock also prevents making changes to the parameters of the selected cycle. The Preset Lock allows selection of any saved cycle, but prevents changing the parameters of saved cycles.

## SINGLE CYCLE LOCK






	<b>Lock on Single Cycle</b>	Select desired cycle. Press and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. Two beeps will confirm that cycle selection is locked.
	<b>Cancel Single Cycle Lock</b>	To re-enable cycle selection, press and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. Three beeps will confirm that cycle selection is now unlocked.

## PRESET LOCK



	<b>Enter Settings Mode</b>	Press the GEAR button.
	<b>Lock Saved Cycles</b>	Press and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. Two beeps will confirm that the Preset Lock is active.
	<b>Cancel Preset Lock</b>	With lid open and while not in Settings mode, press and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds until two beeps are heard. Saved cycles can again be edited or programmed.

## SETTING OR MODIFYING A CYCLE

Up to 10 cycles can be named, programmed for time, speed, and braking, and saved in memory.

	<b>Cycle Selection</b>	Press the up and down buttons next to the screen to select the desired cycle.
	<b>Enter Programming Mode</b>	Press the GEAR button.
	<b>Navigate between Parameters</b>	Use the left and right arrow button until the parameter to be edited is blinking and underlined.
	<b>Change Parameter Values</b>	To change the parameter shown on the display, use the up and down buttons next to the screen.
	<b>Displaying the Correct g-force</b>	<b>HORIZON Flex FA only:</b>  To display the real g-force (RCF) for the cycle, the right tube holder must be selected. Universal blue tube holders accommodate 75 and 100 mm tubes. 125 mm tubes require the orange tube holder. If the tube holder selection in the program does not match the tube holder used, the RCF number displayed will not reflect the actual value.



	<b>Naming the Cycle</b>	Navigate to the cycle name with the left and right arrow. Change the blinking character of the name with the up and down buttons, then move to the next character with the right arrow. Repeat.
	<b>Save and Exit Programming Mode</b>	Press the GEAR button. The cycle displayed on the screen will be automatically saved.

## SETTINGS

		(1) Chemistry	(2) Coag (PPP)	(3) Urine
<b>HORIZON 6 Flex</b>	<b>RPM</b>	3,600	3,300	1,900
	<b>Time</b>	10	15	5
	<b>G-Force</b>	1,800 xg	1,500 xg	500 xg
<b>HORIZON 6 Flex FA</b>	<b>Preset Cycle</b>	10 min @ 3,900 RPM	15 min @ 3,800 RPM	5 min @ 2,200 RPM
	<b>75 &amp; 100 mm tubes</b>	1,600 xg	1,500 xg	500 xg
	<b>125 mm tubes</b>	1,850 xg	N/A	600 xg

## OPERATION

- Place the tubes into the tube holders. Be sure to follow the rules for balanced loads as listed in the next section.
- Close the lid and turn the lid knob clockwise to its complete stop position.
- The digital screen shows the currently selected cycle. To select another cycle, press the UP or DOWN button in succession until the desired cycle is selected.
- Pushing the START button on the control panel will start the spin cycle.
- When the cycle is completed, the rotor will slow to a complete stop and the lid light will flash.
- The unlocking mechanism will engage for 60 seconds allowing entry into the rotor chamber. To unlock after more than 60 seconds have elapsed, press the UNLOCK button. The lid will unlock for another 15 seconds.
- Turn the lid knob counterclockwise and open the lid. The lid light will turn off.

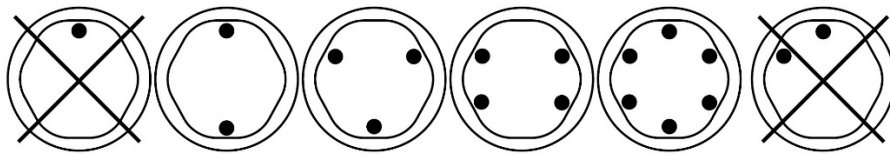
## BALANCING LOADS



**Your centrifuge must contain a balanced load to work properly.** Spinning balanced loads will extend the life of the centrifuge and produce better results. Use the following rules when loading the rotor. If an odd number of samples is to be spun, fill a tube with water to match the weight of the unpaired sample and place it across from this sample.

*Opposing tube holders must be equally loaded or empty or loaded with equally weighted samples.  
When loading only 3 tubes, they must be of equal weight.*

### 6 Tube Centrifuges



## CARE AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

With proper care and maintenance, your centrifuge will provide years of laboratory service. For proper care, the following steps should be taken:

- **Always Spin Balanced Loads:** Make certain that you are always spinning a balanced load, as shown in the previous section. These centrifuges have a unique counter balanced motor mounting design which produces excellent vibration dampening. However, out-of-balance loads may break glass test tubes and may produce unsatisfactory separation results. Proper load balancing will improve sample separation and extend the life of the centrifuge.
- **Motor and Electrical Maintenance:** The highest quality electrical components have been selected for the centrifuges and should not need maintenance or servicing for the life of the centrifuge.
- **Tube Holder Replacement:** It is recommended that the tube holders be replaced after 24 months of use. Inspect tube holders regularly for cracks. If cracks are discovered, replace immediately.
- **Remove Accessories Before Moving:** All tube holders, samples, and caps must be removed from the rotor chamber before transporting or storing the centrifuge to prevent damage and injury.

## CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

To prolong the life of the centrifuge, cleaning and disinfection is recommended every six months or whenever there is a spillage or tube breakage. Contaminants must be removed immediately or corrosion and premature degradation of components can occur. Before using any cleaning or decontamination methods other than those recommended by the manufacturer, users should verify with the manufacturer that the proposed method will not damage the equipment.

- Unplug the centrifuge before cleaning.
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Apply cleaning solutions with a towel or cloth. Do not submerge the centrifuge in water or other cleaning solutions as this will cause damage and void the warranty.
- ONLY isopropyl alcohol or a 10% (5500 PPM) bleach solution should be used to disinfect the centrifuge and its accessories.
- All surfaces must be dried immediately after cleaning and disinfecting.



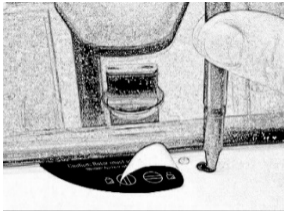
TBQ GERMICIDAL PRODUCTS ARE NOT RECOMMENDED AS THEY MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE CENTRIFUGE. WIPE OFF THOROUGHLY AFTER USE TO PREVENT VOIDING THE WARRANTY.

- Fully/partially halogenated hydrocarbons, ketones, esters, ethers, benzyls, ethyl benzenes, and all other chemicals not prescribed by the manufacturer shall not be used as they may cause damage to the rotor chamber, rotor, tube holders, accessories and centrifuge exterior and void the warranty.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

**NOTE:** The latch must be turned completely clockwise to its stop position for the centrifuge to operate.

<p><b>The centrifuge does not run</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Verify that the centrifuge is powered. The screen should be lit.</li> <li>○ If “Lid not closed” message is displayed, make sure the lid latch is turned completely clockwise to its stop position.</li> <li>○ If the centrifuge still does not run, contact Customer Service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The rotor does not spin freely</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make sure nothing has fallen into the rotor chamber, following the procedure above.</li> <li>○ If nothing obstructs the rotor, the rotor may be damaged. Contact Customer Service for further assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge makes a rattling noise when running</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stop the centrifuge. Open the lid.</li> <li>○ Wearing PPE, remove tubes and tube holders/buckets and look for fallen objects or debris. Carefully reach inside the rotor chamber with a tool to remove them.</li> <li>○ Inspect the rotor, tube holders or buckets for damage.</li> <li>○ If the tube holders or buckets have any damage, even slight, safely dispose of them and replace them.</li> <li>○ If the rotor appears damaged, contact Customer Service for further assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Excessive noise or vibration when the centrifuge is running</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Verify that all four centrifuge feet are properly seated on a flat surface.</li> <li>○ Insure that the load is balanced according to instructions in the “Balancing Loads” section of this manual.</li> <li>○ Make sure that nothing has fallen into the rotor chamber.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge stops and beeps continuously</b></p>	<p>The load is not balanced. Press the UNLOCK button, open the lid, and balance the load as recommended elsewhere in this manual.</p>
<p><b>The centrifuge is stuck on one of the settings</b></p>	<p>Cycle selection is locked. Press the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds.</p>
<p><b>The cycle time and speed are not set to the desired value</b></p>	<p>Check the setting by following the instructions in the section on Setting or Modifying a Cycle. If the preset is not the desired length, follow the procedure on the same page to change the preset time.</p>

<p><b>Cycle parameters cannot be changed</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If cycle selection is locked on one cycle, press the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. Then, press the GEAR button and follow the instructions elsewhere in this manual.</li> <li>○ If different saved cycles can be selected but not modified, the centrifuge is in Preset Lock mode. Press the GEAR button, then the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. You should now be able to change cycle parameters.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge does not unlock after a run is completed</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wait until the rotor has come to a complete stop. If the lid knob still cannot be rotated, press the UNLOCK button and try again. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If no LED light is on, the unit is not powered and the lid will not unlock by conventional means. Remove the latch label and use a pen to manually disengage the locking mechanism. Pull the mechanism towards the control panel and then unlatch and open the lid.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ If the unit is damaged, contact Customer Service for assistance.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>The lid does not open</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Insure that the lid knob is turned fully counterclockwise.</li> <li>○ If the knob cannot be turned counterclockwise, turn it fully clockwise, press UNLOCK, and turn counterclockwise.</li> <li>○ If the lid remains locked after this and will not unlock, the electronics may have been damaged. Contact customer service for assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Clicking noise during braking gets loud</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make sure that the screw in the center of the rotor is tight.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lid does not stay up</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tighten the center screw on the lid hinge.</li> </ul>

## GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

The rotor and accessories are rated for the maximum rotation frequency shown in the table below.

	<b>HORIZON 6 Flex</b>	<b>HORIZON 6 Flex FA</b>
<b>Tube Capacity</b>	6 tubes – 3 to 10 mL	6 tubes – 3 to 15 mL
<b>Dimensions (H x W x D)</b>	14 in x 12 in x 9 in (36 cm x 30 cm x 23 cm)	14 in x 12 in x 9 in (36 cm x 30 cm x 23 cm)
<b>Weight</b>	12 lbs. (5.4 kg)	12 lbs. (5.4 kg)
<b>Sound Level</b>	64 dB A	64 dB A
<b>Environmental Range</b>	16 – 32 degree C	16 – 32 degree C
<b>Voltage</b>	95 -253 VAC	95 -253 VAC
<b>Frequency</b>	50/60 Hz	50/60 Hz
<b>Power Requirement</b>	220 Watts	220 Watts
<b>Centrifuge Motor</b>	½ H.P. Brushless	½ H.P. Brushless
<b>Max g-Force</b>	2,000 xg	1,600 xg / 1,850 xg
<b>Max Speed</b>	3,800 RPM	3,900 RPM
<b>Cycle Time</b>	1 to 30 minutes (+/- 2%)	1 to 30 minutes (+/- 2%)

## CALCULATING THE G-FORCE

The I.F.U.s of tube manufacturers recommend cycles at a minimum G-Force, which can be calculated if you know the RPM and the radius. Use the formula below or go to [www.druckerdiagnostics.com/g-force-calculator/](http://www.druckerdiagnostics.com/g-force-calculator/).

In Centimeters:  

$$\text{RCF or G-force} = 0.00001118 \times \text{Rotor Radius (cm)} \times (\text{RPM})^2$$

In Inches:  

$$\text{RCF or G-force} = 0.0000284 \times \text{Rotor Radius (in)} \times (\text{RPM})^2$$

	<b>HORIZON 6 Flex</b>	<b>HORIZON 6 Flex FA</b>	
		<b>Blue Tube (75 &amp; 100 mm)</b>	<b>Orange Tube (125 mm)</b>
<b>Radius</b>	5 in (12.7 cm)	3.75 in (9.5 cm)	4.25 in (11 cm)

Product Family: HORIZON Series (HORIZON 6 Flex, 6 Flex FA)

Complies with UL61010-1/CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1 and IEC61010-2-020

Protected by U.S. Patents #6,811,531, # 7,422,554, #D718,463, & #D734,489. Other Patents Pending

**FDA LISTED**



**RoHS  
Compliant**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF WEEE BY USERS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



This product must not be disposed of with other waste. Instead, it is the user's responsibility to dispose of their waste equipment by handing it over to a designated collection point for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The separate collection and recycling of your waste equipment at the time of disposal will help to conserve natural resources and ensure that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment. For more information about where you can drop off your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, waste disposal service, or where you purchased the product.



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