PowerEase® 500 Power Supply

A programmable power supply for electrophoresis

Catalog Numbers EI8600, EI8700, and EI8675

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Warning

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at their expense.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment.
Kit Contents

Types of Kits

This manual is supplied with the following kits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kit</th>
<th>Catalog No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PowerEase® 500 Power Supply (100/120 Vac 50/60 Hz)</td>
<td>EI8600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerEase® 500 Power Supply (220/240 Vac 50/60 Hz)</td>
<td>EI8700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerEase® 500 Pre-Cast Gel System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>includes PowerEase® 500, Temperature Monitoring Probe, XCell SureLock™ Mini-Cell and XCell II™ Blot Module</td>
<td>EI8675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kit Components

PowerEase® 500 Power Supply contains:

- PowerEase® 500 Power Supply: 1 each
- Instruction Manual: 1 each
- Extra Fuses: 2 each
- Power Cord (U.S., Canada, Europe, Taiwan and Japan): 1 each
- Warranty Card: 1 each
- Temperature Probe (Optional): 1 each

See page 6 for specifications and detailed description of PowerEase® 500 Power Supply.

Note

To ensure safe, reliable operation, always operate the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Always wear protective gloves and safety glasses when working in a laboratory environment. See safety information on pages 25–27.

Warranty information is provided on page 33.
### Product Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specifications</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Input Power</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100–120 VAC:</td>
<td>100–120V, 50/60 Hz, 1.2 A at maximum load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuse:</td>
<td>One 1A/250V/AGC fast blow fuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220–240 VAC:</td>
<td>220–240VAC, 50/60 Hz, 0.5 A at maximum load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuses:</td>
<td>Two 1A/250V/5 × 20 mm fast blow fuses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Output Range</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–500 V (minimum step size 1 V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1–500 mA (minimum step size 1 mA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.1–50 W (minimum step size 0.1 W)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Automatic crossover on reaching set limits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accuracy</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage:</td>
<td>± 2% or ± 2 volts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current:</td>
<td>± 2% or ± 2 mA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wattage:</td>
<td>± 2% or ± 0.2 watt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drift</strong></td>
<td>&lt; 1% in 8 hours after 30 minute warm-up with constant supply voltage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Circuit Protection</strong></td>
<td>Open Circuit; Short Circuit; Thermal Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over Voltage, Current, Wattage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safety</strong></td>
<td>Load Detection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thermal Shutoff (with optional temperature probe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Isolated Floating Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Memory Control</strong></td>
<td>Non-volatile, up to 24 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Custom Methods Stored to RAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Interface</strong></td>
<td>RS232C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Display</strong></td>
<td>LCD, view area 114 x 64 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>240 × 128 dots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dimensions</strong></td>
<td>16.5 cm (w) × 18 cm (h) × 20.5 cm (d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weight</strong></td>
<td>2.9 kg (6.4 lbs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Environmental Conditions</strong></td>
<td>Ambient temperature 4–30°C, ≤80% relative humidity, altitude &lt; 2000 meters, indoor use only, pollution degree 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Front and Rear View of PowerEase® 500

Front View of PowerEase® 500

1. LCD Screen
2. Power Output Jacks, Positive (Red)
3. Power Output Jacks, Negative (Black)
4. Temperature Probe Jack
5. Functional Keys (Power, Start, Stop)
6. Directional Keys (Up, Down, Left, Right)
7. High Voltage LED
8. Power LED

Continued on next page
Front and Rear View of PowerEase® 500, Continued

Rear View of PowerEase® 500

- Fan
- Printer Port
- RS232 Communication Port
- Power Entry Module with On/Off main power switch

Continued on next page
Key Pad

- **Power** button secondary On/Off switch for the high voltage components, fan, and LCD screen.
- **Start** button used to start a selected method program.
- **Stop** button used to end the selected method and to backup to a previous screen.
- **Select** button used to select a menu choice and to move forward to the next applicable screen.
- **Left** directional button for moving left around the menu.
- **Right** directional button for moving right around the menu.
- **Up** directional button for moving up around the menu and to adjust numerical and character values (higher).
- **Down** direction button for moving down around the menu and to adjust numerical and character values (lower).
Introduction

Description of PowerEase® 500

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is a microprocessor-controlled power supply for electrophoresis of pre-cast and hand-poured mini-gels. The power supply is designed to simplify electrophoresis by combining high performance and programming flexibility with ease of use when running mini-gel and blotting applications.

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is designed around the single gel concept: you need to think only about the electrical parameters and limits for a single gel. This manual describes the setup and operation of PowerEase® 500 Power Supply including important information on safety and maintaining the unit.

Features of PowerEase® 500

The important features of PowerEase® 500 Power Supply are:

- Large LCD display allows electrical parameters to be displayed in either graphical or numerical formats
- Eight pre-programmed methods for running and blotting Novex® pre-cast mini-gels
- Four custom methods for running your custom applications
- Simple three step operating procedure to start running or blotting Novex® pre-cast gels
- Microprocessor control provides highly accurate electrical outputs resulting in exceptional blotting capability
- Parallel port for printing experimental results to most printers
- Optional Temperature Probe to continuously monitor the buffer temperature and shut the unit down in the event of overheating
- Two sets of output jacks allows electrophoresis of multiple mini-cell units in constant voltage, current, or watts

Continued on next page
The following flowchart describes the various screens displayed on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply and the keypad buttons (Start, Stop or Select) used to navigate through the screens.

Flowchart

- Power ON
  - Start-Up Screen
    - Start/Select
      - Gel Method Screen
        - Select
          - Gel Quantity Screen
            - Start
              - Method Edit Screen
              - Method Run Large Display
            - Stop
              - Previous Screen
                - Select, once
                  - Method Run Large Display
                  - Previous Screen
                    - Select, twice
                      - Method Run Graphic Display
                        - Select
                          - Method Run/Edit Screen
                            - Select, twice
                              - Method Run Graphic Display
                              - Method Run Large Display
                                - Select, once
Methods

Getting Started

Installing PowerEase® 500

1. Place the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply on a level bench. Keep the area around the power supply clear to ensure proper ventilation of the unit.
2. Position the unit properly such that the **On-Off** switch and the power cord attachment module located on the rear of the unit are easily accessible.
3. Check the label located near the power entry module to ensure that the unit is of the proper local voltage. Attach the power cord to the power entry module. Use only properly grounded AC outlets.

Installing an Optional Printer

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply has a DB25 parallel connector located on the rear of the unit. This allows the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply to print a report of your electrophoresis results in ASCII format to most commonly available printers.

Use the following steps to install a printer:

1. Using a parallel printer cable, connect the male DB25 end of the printer cable into the port marked “Printer” located on the rear of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply.
2. Connect the opposite end of the cable into the appropriate connector on the printer. Refer the user manual of your printer for instructions on connecting the cable to the printer.

RS232 Port

The RS232 Port is designed to be connected to a computer during diagnostics and/or servicing by qualified field service engineers only.

Installing an Optional Temperature Probe

If you have ordered the Temperature Monitoring Probe, use the following instructions to install the probe:

1. Unpack the Temperature Monitoring Probe and inspect for any possible damage to the wire or connector which may have occurred during shipping.
2. Plug the connector end of the Temperature Monitoring Probe into the port located at the front lower right corner of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply marked “TEMP”.
3. Place the opposite end of the Temperature Monitoring Probe with the blue-colored bead into an electrophoresis cell buffer chamber to display temperature on the LCD screen of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply. You can bent the wire, but avoid crimping or pinching the wire. Temperature will be displayed at all times even when the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is stopped.
### Operational Modes

#### Introduction

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is capable of operating at limiting voltage, limiting current, and limiting power. We recommend operating the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply at limiting voltage for most applications. See below for more details.

#### Voltage Limiting

The recommended setting for operating the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is voltage limited. For most electrophoresis methods, resistance increases throughout the run. Using voltage limiting provides the following advantages:

- Current and watts decrease throughout the run, providing a natural safety margin.
- The same voltage setting can be used regardless of the number or thickness of gels being electrophoresed.

#### Current Limiting

Discontinuous buffer systems and, to a lesser extent continuous systems, increase resistance during the run. If you use the current limiting setting on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply, the voltage will increase as resistance increases to satisfy Ohm’s law (V=IR, see page 21). If no voltage limit is set and a local fault condition occurs, such as a poor connection, very high local resistance may cause the voltage to increase to a maximum of the power supply. This will lead to local overheating and damage to the electrophoresis cell or create unsafe conditions.

When running under constant current conditions, set a voltage limit on the power supply at or slightly above the maximum expected voltage.

#### Wattage Limiting

If power is constant, voltage will increase and current will decrease during a run, but the total amount of heat generated by the system will remain constant throughout the run. However, locally high resistance can cause a high proportion of the total heat to be generated over a small distance. This can damage the electrophoresis cell and/or gel(s).

If operating at wattage limiting, set the voltage limiting to slightly above the maximum expected for the run.
Using PowerEase® 500

Introduction
You can operate the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply immediately after installation using three simple steps (see below). For programming custom settings, see page 22.

Starting PowerEase® 500

1. Plug the power cord of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply into an available electrical outlet rated at the appropriate electrical values for the power supply.

2. Turn on the main power switch located on the rear of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply (see page 8 for rear view of PowerEase® 500 Power Supply). Always leave this switch in the ON position to keep the back-up battery fully charged.

3. Press the Power button located on the keypad (see page x for a figure of the keypad). This Power button is a secondary power button and does not actually shut the instrument down, but shuts down the high voltage, fan, and LCD screen. When powered back up, the LCD screen will revert to the same screen as when the secondary power was shut off.

4. A Start-Up screen appears (see page 15).
   To avoid condensation, the main power switch located on the rear of the unit should be left on between use during operation in a cold room or in high humidity environments.

Operating PowerEase® 500

A simple operating procedure of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is provided below. For more details on the different screens and custom methods, see pages 14–23.

1. Turn on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply.

2. Press Select once the Start-Up screen appears.

3. Select your gel type from the Gel Method screen.

4. Choose the number of gels to be electrophoresed from the Gel Quantity screen.

5. Press the Start button to begin electrophoresis.
   Note: To reset the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply, press the Stop button.

Note

The maximum number of Novex® mini-gels that can be electrophoresed at the same time using PowerEase® 500 Power Supply and the XCell SureLock™ Mini-Cell is listed in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gel Type</th>
<th>Number of Gels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novex® Tris-Glycine Gels</td>
<td>10 gels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® Tris-Acetate Gel</td>
<td>6 gels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® Bis-Tris Gels</td>
<td>2 gels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novex® Tricine Gels</td>
<td>4 gels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novex® TBE-Urea gels</td>
<td>10 gels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued on next page
Using PowerEase® 500, Continued

Start-Up Screen

The Start-Up screen is the first screen to appear after pressing the Power button on the keypad.

Press the Select button to advance to the Gel Method screen.

**Note:** After first use, the last screen previously in use will appear after shutting the power off and back on again.

Gel Method Screen

The Gel Method screen (see figure below) allows you to select from a choice of eight pre-programmed methods for Novex® mini-gels or four user-defined methods.

1. Use the directional arrow buttons to navigate through the menu.
2. Press the Select button to choose the method. You will advance to the Gel Quantity screen (see next page) if a pre-programmed method is chosen, or to the Custom Method Option screen (see page 22) if a user defined method is selected.

**Note:** The pre-programmed method durations are set to the shortest run time per gel type, or buffer level and buffer strength to prevent over-running a gel. Different percentage gels within a single gel type can cause a gel to take longer to run. Additional time can be added to the pre-programmed method before, during, and after a run (see page 20).
Using PowerEase® 500, Continued

Gel Quantity Screen

The Gel Quantity screen (see the following figure) allows you to scale the pre-programmed method’s current and power values by the number of gels that are to be run.

1. Use the Up and Down arrows on the keypad to increase or decrease the number of gels from 1 to the maximum allowable quantity of gels which can be run for the specified method.

2. Press the Start button to begin the electrophoresis. The Method Run Large Display screen will be displayed.

3. If you need to edit any electrophoresis parameters, press the Select button to advance to the Method Edit screen (see page 19).

The Stop button returns you to the Gel Method screen (or the Custom Method Options screen if a custom method is in use).

If the number of gels selected causes the current to be scaled such that the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply maximum power limit of 50 watts is exceeded, an error message “Power Limit Reached” will be displayed. Similarly, if the current exceeds 500 mA, an error message “Current Limit Reached” will be displayed. Change the number of gels appropriately to continue electrophoresis.

Note: Avoid changing the number of gels during the run, unless gels are removed during the run. If you would prefer to see the total output parameters, leave the gel number at “1” before starting.

![Gel Quantity Screen](image)

Tris-Glycine Gel

Number of Gels to be run: 2

▲▼ adjust number of gels
START begins; SELECT edits

Continued on next page
Using PowerEase® 500, Continued

Method Run Large Display

The **Method Run Large Display** screen (see the following figure) is displayed after the **Start** button is pressed from the **Gel Quantity** screen or the **Method Edit** screen. This screen displays the status of the method during a run in an easy to read format. The screen displays:

- Selected Method
- Status (running or paused)
- Number of Gels
- Run Condition (Limiting Parameters)
- Actual Voltage and Current (large display)
- Step Time Remaining
- Present Step Number
- Actual Wattage (small display)
- Detected Temperature (if installed)

Pressing the **Select** button once takes you to the **Method Run Graphic Display** screen (see page 18) and to the **Method Run/Edit** screen if pressed twice.

The **Stop** button pauses the run if pressed once, stops the method if the method is already in the paused state and takes you to the **Method Edit** screen.

To resume, press the **Start** button.

![Method Run Large Display](image)

**Continued on next page**
Using PowerEase® 500, Continued

Method Run Graphic Display

The Method Run Graphic Display screen (see the following figure) is displayed after the Select button is pressed from the Method Run Large Display screen. This screen displays the status of the method during a run in a graphical format. The screen displays:

- Selected Method
- Status (running or paused)
- Present Run Time
- Voltage, Current, and Wattage (applied during the run)
- Run Condition (Limiting Parameter)

The Select button takes you to the Method Run/Edit screen (see page 19).

The Stop button pauses the run if pressed once, stops the method if pressed twice and takes you to the Method Edit screen. To resume, press the Start button.

![Graphical Display](image)

SELECT views; STOP pauses

Continued on next page
The Method Edit screen (see the following figure) is displayed after the Select button is pressed from the Gel Quantity screen. The Method Edit screen allows you to edit the following method parameters:

- **Step Duration**
  The maximum step duration is 24 hours. If the duration is set to zero, the step will be deleted and all following steps will be moved up. If you set an empty step to non-zero, the voltage, current, and wattage settings from the previous line will be copied.

- **Step Voltage Limit**

- **Step Current Limit**

- **Step Power Limit**

- **Load Check State**
  The Load Check state is either ON or OFF, and determines whether or not the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply unit will detect ‘No Load’ conditions. The default value for Load Check is ON and is the recommended state.

- **Gel Quantity**
  The gel quantity limit determines the maximum voltage, current, and wattage for the step. Values must be in the range of 1–500 volts, 1–500 mA, and 0.1–50 watts for one gel (the values for current and watts will be reduced if multiple gels are selected).

If you have changed a pre-programmed method, the method will always run as edited until you cycle back to the Gel Method screen. At this point the pre-programmed method will revert to the default parameters.

To edit the parameters on this screen:

1. Press the Left or Right arrow buttons to move the cursor between different fields. As the cursor moves from field to field, a status message on LCD display is updated to show the affected parameters if changes are made.

2. Use the Up and Down buttons to adjust field values.

3. Press the Start button to begin the run and change the display to the monitor state. The Stop button takes you to the Gel Quantity screen (see page 16).
The Method Run/Edit screen (see the following figure) is displayed after the Select button is pressed from the Method Run Large Display screen or the Method Run Graphic Display screen. This screen displays the status of the method during a run and allows you to edit parameters during the run for the current step displayed on this screen.

The screen displays:
- Selected Method
- Status (running or paused)
- Number of Gels
- Total Time Elapsed
- Run Condition (limiting parameter or error condition if detected)
- Detected Temperature (if probe is installed)
- Present Step Number
- Present Parameter Set Points
- Step Time Elapsed
- Actual Voltage, Current and Wattage

Make the appropriate change using the directional arrow keys and press the Start button.

The Select button takes you to the Method Run Large Display if pressed once, and to the graphic display if pressed twice.

The Stop button pauses the run if pressed once and stops the method if the method is already paused.
# Printing

## Print Screen

PowerEase® 500 Power Supply is equipped with a parallel port, allowing you to print your electrophoresis report.

1. If you wish to print a report, you need to connect the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply to a printer. See page 12 for **Installing an Optional Printer**.

2. After a run is completed (time left must be zero), the message “START prints STOP quits” is displayed at the bottom of the screen.

3. Press the **Start** button to print a report reflecting voltage, current, watts, and temperature changes which occurred during the run.

An example of a report is:

Method name: IEF Gel

Run Data:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Time hh:mm</th>
<th>Voltage V</th>
<th>Current mA</th>
<th>Power W</th>
<th>Resistance Kohms</th>
<th>Temp °C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0:05</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>27.31</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0:10</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>32.55</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0:15</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>39.23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0:20</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>45.71</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0:25</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>54.33</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Custom Methods

Custom Method Options Screen

The Custom Method Options screen (see the following figure) allows you to program a custom method. The screen displays the following menu choices:

- Edit or Run Method
- Save Method
- Change Method name
- Reset Method

1. Use the Up and Down arrow buttons to choose from the menu items.
2. Press the Select button to select the current menu choice.

The Stop button returns you to the Gel Method screen (see page 15).

Edit or Run Method

The Edit or Run Method option displays the Gel Quantity screen (see the following figure) for the pre-programmed methods. Enter the number of gels to be run and press Start to begin the run.

If you need to edit run parameters, press Select to display the Method Edit screen (see figure below).

Continued on next page
Custom Methods, Continued

Save Method

The **Save Method** option saves any changes made to the method during the previous editing session. It is not necessary to save the method before the method is run. Method is saved to RAM.

Change Method Name

The **Change Method Name** screen (see the following figure) allows you to change a custom method user name. The screen displays the current default custom method user name (i.e. User-Custom1) and a new name field that is used to change the default method user name.

1. Use the **Left** or **Right** arrow buttons to change the current character (only capital letters, numbers 0 to 9, and a few other characters such as “-” and “\” are available).
2. Press the **Start** button to delete the character directly under the cursor and all remaining characters to the right of the cursor.
3. Press the **Select** button to accept the new name as the name of the method and return you to the **Custom Method Options** screen. The **Stop** button abandons changing the method name and returns you to the **Custom Method Options** screen.

![Change Method Name](image)

Reset Method

The **Reset Method** screen returns all method parameters including the custom name back to the original default parameters.

1. To reset, choose “Yes” with the **Left** button and then press the **Select** button.
2. The custom method is cleared and the **Gel Method** screen is displayed. Choosing “No” and pressing the **Select** button, or pressing the **Stop** button returns you to the **Custom Method Options** screen.

![Reset Method](image)
## Troubleshooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation</th>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The LCD screen remains blank and the fan does not come on when the main power is turned on</td>
<td>Power cord not connected or the fuse has blown</td>
<td>Check power cord connections at both ends or replace the fuse (see page 29).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secondary power off</td>
<td>Press the Power button on the keypad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display shows PAUSE and Load Error</td>
<td>Electrophoresis cell(s) are not connected, are disconnected during the run, or there is a broken connection in the electrophoresis cell</td>
<td>Check the connections to the power supply and on your electrophoresis cell to make sure the connection is intact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High resistance due to tape left on a pre-cast gel, incorrect buffer concentration, or incorrect buffer volumes in the electrophoresis cell</td>
<td>Press the Stop button. Correct the condition by making sure the tape is removed from the pre-cast gel, buffers are prepared correctly, and the recommended volume of buffer is added to the electrophoresis cell. Restart the method.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display shows PAUSE and Hardware Error</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Reset unit by holding front panel Power button down while switching rear power switch off and then on again. Release front Power button.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display shows PAUSE and Temperature Error (if temperature probe is connected)</td>
<td>Buffer temperature exceeds the preset temperature limit</td>
<td>Check the run conditions for the correct current and power settings. Make sure the buffer is prepared correctly. Raise the temperature limit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Current Limit Reached” is displayed on the Gel Quantity screen</td>
<td>Number of gels selected exceeds the set current limit</td>
<td>Number of gels is limited by the maximum current available. Decrease the number of gels or change the current settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Power Limit Reached” is displayed on the Gel Quantity screen</td>
<td>Number of gels selected exceeds the set power limit</td>
<td>Number of gels is limited by maximum power available. Decrease the number of gels or change the power settings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix

Instrument Symbols and Safety

Avoiding Electrical Shock

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply produces high voltage outputs which are electrically isolated from earth ground to reduce the risk of electrical shock to the user. Observe the following guidelines to ensure safe operation of the unit.

The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply has been designed for use with electrophoresis cells with shielded banana plugs thus minimizing potential shock hazard to the user. We do not recommend using other unshielded banana plugs.

To avoid electrical shock:

1. *Never* connect or disconnect wire leads from the power jacks when the amber high voltage indicator light is on.
2. *Wait* at least 5 seconds after stopping a run before handling output leads or connected apparatus.
3. *Always* make sure hands and work area is clean and dry before making any connections or operating the power supply.
4. *Only* connect the power supply to a properly grounded AC outlet.

Avoiding Damage to the Instrument

1. For proper ventilation, leave at least 10 cm of space behind the instrument, and at least 5 cm of space on each side.
2. Do not operate the power supply in high humidity environments or where condensation can occur.
3. To avoid condensation after operating the power supply in a cold room, wrap the unit in a plastic bag and allow at least 2 hours for the unit to equilibrate to room temperature before removing the bag and operating the unit.

Symbols

The symbols used on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply are explained below.

- Used on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply to indicate an area where a potential shock hazard may exist.
- Used on the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply to indicate a warning. Consult the manual to avoid possible personal injury or instrument damage.

Used on the PowerEase® 500 keypad to indicate the secondary Power button.

Used on the PowerEase® 500 keypad to indicate the Start method button.

Used on the PowerEase® 500 keypad to indicate the Stop method button.

The WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) symbol indicates that this product should not be disposed of in unsorted municipal waste. Follow local municipal waste ordinances for proper disposal provisions to reduce the environmental impact of WEEE.
Consignes De Sécurité

Le PowerEase® 500 génère des courants de haut voltage; la construction du système est faite suivant toutes précautions pour isoler l’utilisateur et éviter tout choc électrique. Toutefois, il est impératif d’observer les consignes suivantes pour éviter tout risque lors de l’utilisation de l’appareil.

PowerEase® 500 est destiné à être utilisé avec des courbes d’electrophorèse équipées avec des fiches banane protégées pour minimiser tout risque de choc électrique. L’utilisation d’autres types d’équipements n’est pas recommandée par Life Technologies et se fait aux risques et périls de l’utilisateur.

Pour éviter Tout Choc électrique

1. Ne jamais connecter ou déconnecter les cables des fiches quand l’indicateur haut voltage est allumé.
2. Attendre un minimum de 5 secondes après avoir arrêté le courant avant de manipuler le système.
3. Vérifier que vos mains sont seches et propres avant d’effectuer toute connection.
4. Utiliser des prises de courant munies d’une connection à la terre.

Pour éviter d’endommager l’appareil:

1. Assurer une ventilation correcte, en laissant un minimum d’espace derrière (10 cm) et sur les cotes (5 cm) de l’appareil.
2. N’utilisez pas le générateur dans un environnement humide ou avec des risques de condensation.
3. Pour éviter la condensation lors de l’utilisation de l’appareil en chambre froide, enveloppez-le dans une poche plastique et laissez l’appareil s’équilibrer à la température ambiante avant de retirer le sac et de l’utiliser.

Signification des pictogrammes

Sur le PowerEase® 500, signale les zones où un risque de choc électrique peut exister.

Sur le PowerEase® 500, signale un risque potentiel pour l’utilisateur ou pour l’équipement. Veuillez consulter le mode d’emploi.

Sur le panneau du PowerEase® 500; bouton d’alimentation secondaire.

Sur le panneau du PowerEase® 500; permet de démarrer une méthode.

Sur le panneau du PowerEase® 500; bouton d’interruption.

WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment)
Sicherheits Anweisungen

Das PowerEase® 500 Stromversorgungsgerät produziert Gleichstrom-Hochspannung, die elektrisch getrennt ist vom Erdleiter, um das Risiko des Benutzers für einen Stromschlag zu minimieren. Trotzdem sollten folgende Sicherheitsrichtlinien beachtet werden, damit ein einwandfreier Betrieb des Gerätes gewährleistet ist.


So verhindern Sie eine Gefährdung durch Stromschlag

1. Stecken (oder ziehen) Sie niemals Kabel in die Stromausgangsbuchsen am Gerät, wenn das gelbe Licht (Hochspannungs-Indikator) am Bedienungsfeld leuchtet.
2. Warten Sie mindestens 5 Sekunden nach Beendigung und Ausschalten eines Laufs, bevor Sie die Anschlubkabel der Zelle herausziehen.

Um Beschädigung des Geräts zu vermeiden

1. Achten Sie auf wenigstens 10 cm Platz hinter und 5 cm neben dem Gerät, um seine eingebaute Kühlventilation nicht zu beeinträchtigen.
2. Verwenden Sie das Gerät nicht in Räumen mit hoher Luftfeuchtigkeit oder wo es Wasserdampfkondensation ausgesetzt ist.
3. Ist das Gerät in einem Kühlraum verwendet worden, und soll es nach der Benutzung wieder unter Normaltemperatur arbeiten, ist es vor der Umsetzung in eine Kunststoffhülle zu packen. Es soll mindestens 2 Stunden darin auf die neue Umgebungstemperatur angepasst werden, bevor die Hülle entfernt und das Gerät wieder in Betrieb genommen wird.

Symbolerklärung

Weist auf eine Zone hin, wo Gefährdung durch Stromschlag besteht.
Lesen Sie die Bedienungsanleitung, um Verletzungen oder Beschädigung des Gerätes zu vermeiden.

1st der 2. Betriebsschalter auf dem PowerEase® 500—Bedienungsfeld.
Start—Knopf auf dem Bedienungsfeld für eine programmierte Methode.
Stop—Knopf auf dem Bedienungsfeld für einen Elektrophorese—Lauf.

WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment)
## Run Conditions for Gels

### Introduction

The estimated run duration for Novex® 1.0 mm thick mini-gel is listed in the following table. A 1.5-mm thick gel takes 5–10 minutes longer than similar 1.0-mm thick gel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gel Type</th>
<th>Voltage</th>
<th>Approximate Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>95 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>100 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>105 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>110 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>110 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>115 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>120 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–12% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>105 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–20% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>110 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8–16% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>105 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10–20% Tris-Glycine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>120 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% Tricine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>70 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16% Tricine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>90 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-20% Tricine</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>75 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% Zymogram</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>100 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% Zymogram</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>110 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–16% Zymogram</td>
<td>125 V</td>
<td>100 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% TBE</td>
<td>100 V</td>
<td>65 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% TBE</td>
<td>100 V</td>
<td>100 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% TBE</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>105 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4–20% TBE</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>70 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6% TBE-Urea</td>
<td>180 V</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10% TBE-Urea</td>
<td>180 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15% TBE-Urea</td>
<td>180 V</td>
<td>80 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–7, Step 1</td>
<td>100 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–7, Step 2</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–7, Step 3</td>
<td>500 V</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–10, Step 1</td>
<td>100 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–10, Step 2</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEF pH 3–10, Step 3</td>
<td>500 V</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 10% Bis-Tris with MES SDS Running Buffer</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>35 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 4–12% Bis-Tris with MES SDS Running Buffer</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>35 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 10% Bis-Tris with MOPS SDS Running Buffer</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 4–12% Bis-Tris with MOPS SDS Running Buffer</td>
<td>200 V</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 7% Tris-Acetate</td>
<td>150 V</td>
<td>60 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuPAGE® Novex® 3–8% Tris-Acetate</td>
<td>150 V</td>
<td>70 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Repair, Maintenance, and Cleaning

Introduction
The PowerEase® 500 Power Supply requires no regular maintenance, except for occasional wiping with a damp cloth to remove any dust and debris.

Damage During Shipping
Examine the unit carefully for any damage inflicted during transit. Any damage claims must be filed with the carrier. The warranty does not cover in-transit damage.

Cleaning the Instrument
To clean the instrument, unplug from the power source and wipe gently with a slightly dampened cloth. Do not use harsh solvents or chemicals or excessive amounts of water.

Replacing the Fuse
Extra fuses are supplied with PowerEase® 500 Power Supply.
1. Turn off the main power switch at the rear of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply and detach the power cord from the rear of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply.
2. Open the fuse compartment located inside the Power Entry Module (see page 8 for rear view of the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply) by inserting a small flat blade screwdriver into the slot above the On/Off switch. Turn the screwdriver to gently pry open the fuse compartment.
   Note: The fuse compartment will not open with the power cord in place.
3. Pull the fuse holder out of the compartment and inspect the fuse. If the fuse is burned or there is a break in the fuse element, replace the fuse with the identical type fuse (see the following figure).
4. Place the fuse holder(s) back into the compartment, making sure that the arrow(s) on the fuse holder point in the same direction as the arrows on the inside of the fuse compartment as shown in the following figure.
5. Snap the cover closed.
For a Problem Requiring Service

1. Check the troubleshooting section on the page 24.
2. Call Technical Support (see page 33).
3. If the unit must be shipped back for repair, contact Life Technologies or the distributor for a Return Authorization Number and shipping instructions. The unit will be repaired as quickly as possible and returned to you.
# Background Information on Voltage, Current, and Resistance

## Power Considerations

Electrophoresis is the migration of a charged particle under the influence of an electrical field. The influence of various power supply output parameters (volts, current and watts) is derived from two equations:

\[ \text{Voltage} = \text{Current} \times \text{Resistance} \quad (V=IR) \]

\[ \text{Wattage} = \text{Current} \times \text{Voltage} \quad (W=IV) \]

## Resistance

Resistance of the assembled electrophoresis cell is dependent on the conductivity of the gel buffer, the thickness of the gel, and the number of gels being run. Although the resistance is determined by the gel system, the resistance can vary over the course of the run. For instance, in the Tris-Glycine buffer system, the fast moving, highly conductive chloride ions in the gel are gradually replaced by the slower moving, less conductive glycine ions from the running buffer as the gel runs. As a result, the resistance of the gel increases as the chloride/glycine front moves down the gel, and the current decreases.

## Voltage

The velocity in which an ion moves in an electric field will vary in proportion to the field strength (Volts per unit distance). The higher the voltage the faster an ion will move.

## Current

Current is a function of the number of ions passing a given cross-section of the circuit at a given time. For a given gel/buffer system, at a given temperature, current will vary in proportion to the field strength (voltage) and/or cross-sectional area (number and/or thickness of the gels). Ions in solution and at a given voltage will move faster as the temperature increases, increasing current.

## Power

Watts, or the rate of heat generated by the system, is a function of voltage and current (W=IV). For a given gel system if either voltage is doubled, watts will also double (as V=IR, and R is a “constant” determined by the gel system).
Accessory Products

Additional products that can be used with the PowerEase® 500 Power Supply are available separately. For more information, contact Technical Support (see page 33) or visit www.lifetechnologies.com.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Catalog No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Monitoring Probe</td>
<td>1 each</td>
<td>EI8644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCell SureLock® Mini-Cell</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
<td>EI0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XCell II™ Blot Module</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
<td>EI9051</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Technical Support

Obtaining support
For the latest services and support information for all locations, go to www.lifetechnologies.com/support.
At the website, you can:
• Access worldwide telephone and fax numbers to contact Technical Support and Sales facilities
• Search through frequently asked questions (FAQs)
• Submit a question directly to Technical Support (techsupport@lifetech.com)
• Search for user documents, SDSs, vector maps and sequences, application notes, formulations, handbooks, certificates of analysis, citations, and other product support documents
• Obtain information about customer training
• Download software updates and patches

Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are available at www.lifetechnologies.com/support.

Certificate of Analysis
The Certificate of Analysis provides detailed quality control and product qualification information for each product. Certificates of Analysis are available on our website. Go to www.lifetechnologies.com/support and search for the Certificate of Analysis by product lot number, which is printed on the box.

Limited Product Warranty
Life Technologies Corporation and/or its affiliate(s) warrant their products as set forth in the Life Technologies’ General Terms and Conditions of Sale found on Life Technologies’ website at www.lifetechnologies.com/termsandconditions. If you have any questions, please contact Life Technologies at www.lifetechnologies.com/support.

OUT OF WARRANTY SERVICE
Contact Life Technologies Technical Support. We will be happy to assist you by phone at no charge. Replacement of the device or components if needed, will be billed depending on replaced components or the PowerEase® 500 power supply. You will also be billed for shipment of the replacement components or the PowerEase® 500 power supply.
Purchase of the PowerEase® 500 power supply indicates acceptance of the terms and conditions herein.

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