

#### Liquid Handling

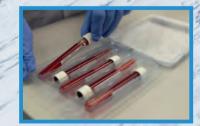
- Pastette<sup>®</sup> User Report
- Bespoke Kit Component Service
- alpha+ Pipettes
- Speciality Pipette Tips
- Pipet-Aid Portable XL

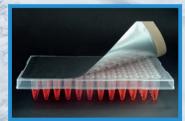
- UN3373 Fast and Easy
- Fe-Col<sup>®</sup> Dispenser Boxes
- Vacu-Re-Caps for Test Tube Resealing
- Benchtop Equipment
- New eXTReme<sup>™</sup> Plate Seals

# **Clab**Vantage

### Going to the eXTReme<sup>™</sup> New Peak Performance Plate Seals









### Quick and Simple Measured Transfers at Cwm Taf UHB Clinical Biochemistry

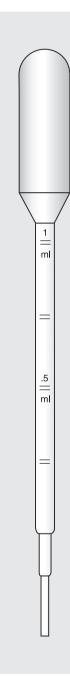
### USER REPORT Pastette<sup>®</sup>

Cwm Taf University Health Board is situated in South Wales close to the picturesque Brecon Beacons National Park. It is responsible for providing healthcare services to the population of Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf, estimated to be around 289,400 people. Services also extend to the population of the neighbouring areas of the Upper Rhymney Valley, South Powys, North Cardiff and the Western Vale.

The Clinical Biochemistry laboratory provides a 24/7 service that operates using the hub and spoke model, the hub being at Prince Charles Hospital (PCH) and the spoke laboratory at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital (RGH). PCH receives all of the primary care GP work for the Cwm Taf area, plus secondary care work from the Merthyr Tydfil area. RGH receives the secondary care work for the Rhondda Cynon Taf area only.

Rebecca Hopson Deputy Services Manager at the Prince Charles Hospital told us:

"The PCH hub laboratory receives, on average, 1600 samples every week day. The site offers an extensive range of tests approximately 120 assays. These include routine tests such as Liver function test, thyroid function test, bone profile and blood glucose. In addition, specialist tests such as NT-proBNP, Vitamin D, IGF-1, Calprotectin and Growth hormone are also performed. The RGH site mainly offers routine testing to secondary care. The service is fully UKAS accredited and is also a referral laboratory for some of the specialist testing.



**Alpha**laboratories

We have been using the Alpha Laboratories 1ml Pastettes (LW4040) for a number of years and are very pleased with the product. We use the Pastettes to transfer small liquid volumes that do not have to be accurately measured, and all of the BMS staff in the laboratory find them very easy to use.

One application of the Pastettes is for aliquoting our internal quality control (IQC). The IQC arrives in a 10ml bottle, this then needs to be pipetted into approximately 0.5ml aliquots in analyser cups, and then frozen ready for analysis.

We also use Pastettes for transferring patient samples into analyser cups. Sometimes patients may be difficult to bleed and we receive sample tubes with very little blood in them. If these are placed straight onto the analyser a short sample error may occur. If this happens, the serum which is used for analysis is transferred to an analyser cup, using a 1ml Pastette, before being placed on the analyser. This will prevent short sampling.

The reason we like the Pastettes is mainly due to the graduation marks, which are great for aliquoting liquids to a rough measure in equal quantities. They are also very easy to use and to dispose of."





The full Pastette range of over 50 designs includes various types suitable for many applications. Graduated Pastettes are available in a number of sizes and drop volumes. See the complete line at www.pasteur-pipette.com

### 1ml Graduated Pastettes - Ordering Information

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Product Code	Description	Pack Size
LW4040	1ml Graduated Pastette, Non-sterile	500
LW4005	1ml Graduated Pastette, Sterile 1's	500
LW4006	1ml Graduated Pastette, Sterile 10's	500
LW4010	1ml Graduated Pastette, Sterile 20's	500
Contact your local Alpha Distributor for details		

SAMPLE HANDLING

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

# Looking For Some Bespoke Kit Components?

### Get Plastic Pipettes Custom Made to Your Requirements



In addition to providing solutions to end users, Alpha Laboratories' experience has also been employed by diagnostic and laboratory kit manufacturers and other users for the creation of personalised plastic components designed specifically to their requirements.

The Alpha brand Pastette<sup>®</sup> is the leading name for disposable liquid transfer or Pasteur pipettes. It is available in over 50 standard designs, many developed in response to specific customer requests, such as the addition of graduations, lengthening/shortening stems or narrowing/widening the tip. The Dual-Bulb Pastette range is just one example. It is the ideal pipette for inclusion in assay kits or for use in other applications requiring fast and easy delivery of an exact measured volume. This simple solution can readily be used in untrained hands and is available in a range of standard volumes from 20 to  $300\mu$ l.

However, despite this vast range, sometimes you still can't find the exact tool that would work perfectly for your particular application. You may want something a little different or need to personalise the product or packaging in some way.

With more than 20 years' experience in bespoke pipette design, Alpha Laboratories is your best source for a bespoke specification.

We can help you with our personalised, flexible, fast custom-design service. You define the specifications, size, branding and packaging.



SAMPLE HANDLING

# alpha - Simple and Sturdy

The Perfect Pipette for Everyday Tasks



### No Compromise Needed!

Despite their very affordable price **alpha+** pipettes provide unsurpassed trueness and precision for quality and performance, all within an attractive modern and comfortable design.

### Extensive Range to Suit All Needs

- Both variable and fixed volume single channel models are available, plus 8 and 12-channel models, covering volumes from 0.1µl to 10ml
- From routine teaching laboratories to research applications

**alpha**+ pipettes are the ideal liquid handling solution for any laboratory seeking a cost-effective mechanical pipette that is robust and reliable, even in the most challenging environments.

### Performance Features

 Each pipette is provided with a calibration report according to ISO8655:2002 part 6 and a full 3 year warranty

 Thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) body insulates the pipette and minimises the transfer of hand heat during use to maintain high accuracy during pipetting, even with extended continuous usage

Watch the **alpha+** pipette video at **www.alphalabs.co.uk/alpha+** 

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### **Ergonomic Comfort**

- Ergonomic design includes a finger hook for support
- Soft plunger movement for reduced stress to the hands and fingers
- Lightweight with soft body grip

### Easy to Use

- Click-stop digital system for volume setting and easy to read volume pane minimises the risk of volume setting errors
- Easy volume identification through colour-coded caps for individual models

### **Robust and Reliable**

- Fully autoclavable no need to dismantle or re-calibrate after autoclaving
- UV-Resistant
- 3 year warranty

### alpha+ Pipettes - Ordering Information

Cat. No.	Description	Increment (µl)	Trueness (%)	Precision (%)
APV000025	0.1-2.5µl Variable Volume	0.01	2.5	1.6
APV000100	0.5-10µl Variable Volume	0.1	1	0.6
APV000200	2-20µl Variable Volume	0.1	0.9	0.4
APV000500	5-50µl Variable Volume	0.5	0.6	0.3
APV001000	10-100µl Variable Volume	0.5	0.8	0.2
APV002000	20-200µl Variable Volume	1.0	0.6	0.2
APV010000	100-1000µl Variable Volume	5.0	0.6	0.2
APV050000	500-5000µl Variable Volume	50	0.6	0.2
APV100000	1000-10000µl Variable Volume	100	0.6	0.2
AP80010	0.5-10µl 8-Channel	0.1	1.5	1.5
AP80050	5-50µl 8-Channel	0.5	1.0	0.7
AP80100	10-100µl 8-Channel	1.0	1.0	0.5
AP80200	20-200µl 8-Channel	1.0	0.7	0.25
AP80300	30-300µl 8-Channel	1.0	0.8	0.25

# The Fastest Racking in a ZAP

ZAP<sup>™</sup> and Fastrak<sup>®</sup> – the Ultimate Green Pipette Tip Combination

### Re-use your ZAP Premier Filter Tip racks, just re-fill them with Fastrak Tips

Reduce the amount of waste in your laboratory even more by combining Fastrak, the most eco-friendly tip with ZAP Premier Filter Tip Racks.

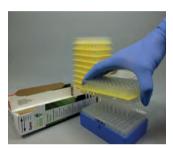


ZAP Tips – for Ultimate Sample Protection



ZAP Premier sterile filter tips are designed to provide the ultimate protection by preventing contamination of your most precious samples.

They feature a unique, robotically inserted,  $10\mu$ m pore size HDPE filter that effectively traps aerosols containing DNA, radionucleotides and other contaminants.



### Fastrak – Eco-Friendly, Quick and Easy to use



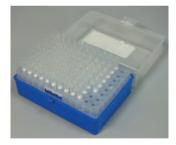
Non-filtered Fastrak tips in refill packs are the smart choice for everyday use.

Compared with other tip refill systems Fastrak is smaller, lighter and uses less packaging.

Its production is eco-friendly all the way, using renewable, fully recyclable materials, non-toxic vegetable inks and solar power.



The same Excellent Tip Quality



ZAP Premier Filter tips and Fastrak refill tips are made with non-cytotoxic, medical grade, 100% virgin polypropylene. Each batch is certified for extractables (RNase, DNase and human DNA) to ensure no interference in PCR or DNA work. The sterile ZAP tips are also tested for endotoxin contamination. Metals testing is performed on the resin substrate on a batch by batch basis. The ZAP<sup>m</sup> filter also works to protect your sample by blocking fluid passage so that in the event of over-pipetting; your sample will not be absorbed and can be completely dispensed without any loss.

### Match the Racks

Just match up the colours to select your combination of compatible tips and racks.



### ZAP<sup>™</sup> Filter Tips - Ordering Information

Product Code	Description	Pack Size
ZP0250S	1-50µl FlexTop Ultrafine ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP1010S	0.1-10µl TubeGuard Ultrafine Extended Length ZAP	10x96
ZP1015S	0.1-10µl Micro Ultrafine Graduated ZAP Premier Sterile	12x96
ZP1100S	10-1000µl FlexTop Ultrafine ZAP Premier Sterile	6x96
ZP1200S	1-100µl Bevelled Yellow ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP1204S	1-40µl Bevelled ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP1210S	1-160µl Bevelled ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP1250CS	100-1000µl Wide Orifice ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	6x96
ZP1250S	100-1000µl Extended Length ZAP Premier Sterile	6x96
ZP1255S	100-1200µl Sartorius Biohit Fit ZAP Premier Sterile	6x96
ZP1300S	1-300µl Extended Length ZAP Premier Tip Sterile	6x96
ZP2100S	1-100µl Bevelled ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP2200S	1-100µl Bevelled Graduated ZAP Premier Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP2250S	1-200µl FlexTop Ultrafine ZAP Premier Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP3000S	100-1000µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	6x96
ZP3020S	0.1-20µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP3250S	0.5-250µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96
ZP3300S	1-300µl Bevelled ZAP Premier Filter Tip Sterile	10x96

For more information, visit www.alphalabs.co.uk/zap

LTS is a registered trademark of Rainin Instrument, LLC



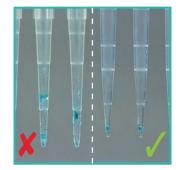
### Fastrak<sup>®</sup> Refill Tips - Ordering Information

Product Code	Description	Pack Size
FR1015	0.1-10µl Micro Ultrafine Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	13x96
FR1010	0.1-10µl Extended Length Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	14x96
FR1200	1-200µl Bevelled Yellow Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	10x96
FR2200	1-200µl Bevelled Graduated Tip Fastrak Non-Sterile	10x96
FR0250	1-200µl FlexTop Ultrafine Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	10x96
FR1300	1-300µl Extended Length Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	6x96
FR1250	100-1250µl FlexTop Ultrafine Tip Fastrak Non-Sterile	5x96
FR3020	0.1-20µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	11x96
FR3250	0.5-250µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	10x96
FR3000	100-1000µl LTS <sup>®</sup> -Fit Tip Fastrak Refill Non-Sterile	5x96
For more information, visit www.alphalabs.co.uk/fastrak		

# **Speciality Applications in Pipetting?**

Here Are 4 Top Tips

Choose the best tips for your application to get fast, reliable and accurate results



Low Retention Tips Low retention tips are manufactured from an especially hydrophobic resin formulation and feature an ultra-smooth surface that reduces the amount of sample retained by the tip. They are perfect for dispensing viscous solutions, precious samples or very small volumes.

They are available in both filtered and non-filtered formats in  $10\mu$ l to  $1000\mu$ l tip volumes.

For the full range, visit: www.alphalabs.co.uk/ low-retention



**Cell Saver - Wide Orifice Tips** Cutting standard tips with a pair of scissors in order to widen the opening introduces contamination, creates sharp orifice edges and also affects the accuracy of pipetting.

Wide orifice tips are designed with larger openings for working with delicate samples or difficult-toaspirate liquids in your laboratory. They are the best choice when working with cell culture or viscous samples such as glycerol or Tween.

They have a universal tip fit and are available in  $200\mu$ l and  $1000\mu$ l tip volumes, with or without filters.

For the full range, visit: www.alphalabs.co.uk/ cell-saver



Gel-Loading Tips

Gel Loading tips are suitable for loading both vertical and horizontal gels in applications such as protein electrophoresis and DNA sequencing.

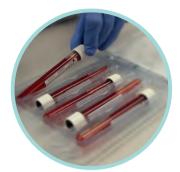
These tips are compatible with most popular branded pipettes. They are available in round (0.57mm) or flat (0.17mm and 0.37mm) orifice formats, and are certified RNase, DNase, DNA, PCR inhibitor and Pyrogenfree.

They have a universal tip fit and are available in  $10\mu$ l and  $200\mu$ l tip volumes.

For the full range, visit: www.alphalabs.co.uk/ gel-loading

# Are You Mailing Blood Samples?

Want a quick and easy solution?

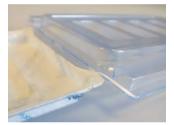


Tired of wrapping each blood tube in absorbent material to ensure compliance with UN3373 regulations? *Here's a quick and easy solution...* 

SpeciSafe<sup>®</sup> pre-moulded mailing packs with bonded absorbent liner make packaging of blood tubes simple, very fast and can even save you money.



FAST Can You Beat the Clock? See how incredibly quick it is. Watch the video at: www.alphalabs.co.uk/ specisafe/videos



#### ECONOMICAL Fewer Components Required Lowers Postage Costs

SpeciSafe replaces the secondary packaging and combines the absorbent material and rigid container within a single piece. You only need to add a mailing envelope or bag as your outer packaging, saving you time and money.

What's more, within the constraints of the primary container size, the flat design of SpeciSafe mailing packs means they can be mailed at the large letter rate, minimising postage costs.

#### COMPLIANT Ultra-Absorbent Lining Eliminates Leakage

The unique feature of SpeciSafe packaging products is an internally bonded gelbased ultra-absorbent lining which soaks up any leakage in seconds. The material is so absorbent that 1m<sup>2</sup> can soak up as much as 20 litres of liquid.

Once the lining has absorbed its maximum amount of liquid, it creates a watertight barrier and effectively seals the SpeciSafe pack, preventing any leakage from the secondary container.

The lining is bonded to the rigid container which is moulded in a range of designs to fit perfectly around commonly used blood tubes and other sample containers.

# **SpeciSafe**<sup>®</sup>



### Benefits of SpeciSafe Products

- Shock-resistant primary container protection
- Clear plastic enables sample details to be visible without the need for unpacking
- Gel block built-in absorbency absolutely no leaks!
- User friendly, quick and intuitive use
- Visible spillage indication protects all users
- Compliant flatpack design minimises postage costs
- Available as a complete "turnkey" package
- Save money especially when compared to alternative options
- Compliant to UN3373 regulations when used with 95kPa primary containers

### Users have commented:

"they are proving to be incredibly robust" "the products we have purchased have been exactly as described: no qualms in recommending"

"the new SpeciSafe packs should serve our future needs for many years"

### SpeciSafe Mailing Packs for Blood Tubes - Ordering Information

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Product Code	Description	Pack Size	
SH0200SS	Mailer 3 x 13mm Vacuum Blood Tubes	210	
SH0210SS	Mailer 3 x 13mm Vacuum Blood Tubes	50	
SH0400SS	Mailer 2 x 16mm Vacuum 2.0ml Serum Vials	300	
SH0410SS	Mailer 2 x 16mm Vacuum 2.0ml Serum Vials	100	
SH0500SS	Mailer 1 x 13/16mm Vacuum Blood Tube	500	
SH0510SS	Mailer 1 x 13/16mm Vacuum Blood Tube	100	
SH0701SS	Mailer 5 x Vacuum Blood Tubes	150	
Mailing Envelopes			
SH1000	UN3373 labelled opaque polyethylene envelopes	500	
SH1200	Mail Tuff <sup>™</sup> padded envelope with UN3373 labels	100	
For more information on the full range including options for other sample types			

and containers please visit www.alphalabs.co.uk/specisafe





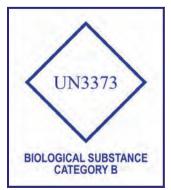


## Ensure Compliance for Transporting Biological Samples



More and more biological samples are being transported nationally and internationally on a daily basis. These specimens fall under the Dangerous Goods Regulations since they may contain pathogens. The transport of dangerous goods is strictly regulated and it is a legal and mandatory requirement to comply with the regulations when transporting human or animal samples. The aim of the regulations is to enable these goods to be transported relatively easily, in a consistent, recognisable manner.

This ensures that all such parcels, and their contents, reach their destination in good condition, whilst not endangering the environment or anyone who comes into contact with them during their journey.



The general guideline from the HSE is that samples such as blood, tissue, excreta, secreta etc. from humans or animals (which are not assigned to Category A, Infectious Substances), are considered to be Category B Biological Substances. These samples are then assigned to UN3373 and must be packaged according to the Dangerous Goods IATA or ADR Packing Instruction 650 for transport.

## Fe-Col<sup>®</sup> Faecal Collection Papers Now in a Handy Dispenser Box



The quick, hygienic and easy way for patients to collect a stool sample, Fe-Col<sup>®</sup> is now available in a handy dispenser box.

The dispenser is ideal for use in clinics, surgeries or dispensaries. It contains 50 faecal collection papers each individually enclosed in a flowsealed pack with clear pictorial instructions for use.

Simply remove the tear off strip and remove Fe-Col

individually wrapped papers as required. The Fe-Col dispenser pack is a convenient way to dispense and store Fecol collection papers without taking up too much space.

Hygienic and Convenient for the Patient, Quality Samples for the Laboratory There are numerous assays now available that can diagnose clinical conditions from the biomarkers, analytes or pathogens found in faecal samples.

However, collecting a faecal sample is difficult and unpleasant and the various methods used can cause erroneous results and additional work for the laboratories.

### New Fe-Col® Papers Solve the Problem

Fe-Col is a unique, disposable stool collection paper, which is easily and securely placed on the toilet and can be flushed away entirely after use as it is completely degradable.

#### Features:

- Made from wood-free paper
- Flushable & biodegradable
- No optical brightness additives (e.g. bleach)
- Simple instructions for use
- Flow-seal packaging
- Small and compact
- Recycled material

### Perfect for:

- Clinical Trials
- Screening Programmes
- Calprotectin and Faecal Elastase Testing
- Fat content tests
- Infectious disease tests etc.

### Benefits

#### For the patient

- Easy to use
- Use the toilet as normal
- Hygienic
- No mess
- Nothing to throw away
- No toilet blockages

### For the Testing Laboratory

- Encourages increased uptake on screening programmes
- Less contamination
- Less variability
- More accurate results
- Reduction of pre-analytical errors
- Fewer repeat tests
- Reduce overall laboratory costs

Watch the **Fe-Col** video at **www.alphalabs.co.uk/fe-col/video** 



### Ordering Information

Product Code	Description	Pack Size	
FC2030	Fe-Col Faecal Collection Paper Dispenser	5 dispensers each	
		containing 50 papers	



# For Safe and Easy Blood Tube Resealing

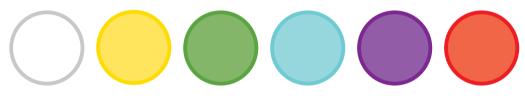
Try Vacu-Re-Caps

Vacu-Re-Caps were originally designed for resealing vacuum blood collection tubes where the reuse of the rubber seal presents a significant injury hazard. They are essential for any laboratory that routinely reseals blood collection tubes to preserve sample integrity and avoid contamination.

Vacu-Re-Caps are available in a wide variety of colours to match the original anticoagulant coding and are also suitable for use with the Alpha Laboratories test tubes as well as other standard test tubes you may have in your laboratory.

- Unique stretchable closures manufactured from polypropylene
- Double sealing mechanism
- Used to re-seal blood tubes of diameter 12mm or 15.2mm
- Also suitable for sealing other types of glass or plastic tube
- Incorporate a tab to allow for easy removal
- Great range of colours for coding your samples





### Ordering Information

Product Code	Description	Pack Size
AP0021	15.2mm Vacu-Re-Caps Natural	1000
AP0125G	15.2mm Vacu-Re-Caps Green	1000
AP0125P	15.2mm Vacu-Re-Caps Purple	1000
AP0125R	15.2mm Vacu-Re-Caps Red	1000
AP0025	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Natural	1000
AP0121B	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Blue	1000
AP0121G	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Green	1000
AP0121P	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Purple	1000
AP0121R	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Red	1000
AP0121Y	12mm Vacu-Re-Caps Yellow	1000

Schaliënstraat 5 2000 Antwerpen Belgium Phone no.: 03-2251139 International: +32 (0)3-2251139 Fax: +31 (0)297 563458 E-mail: info@imtec.be



For more information or to place an order, contact us.

