

PicoLE PicoIC (Isolation Chamber) User's Manual

v1.1

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PicoLE PicoIC

The PicoIC (Isolation Chamber) is an enclosure that offers thermal, acoustic and atmospheric insulation to the PicoLE microscope system.



Figure 1

The block on which the microscope sits weighs nearly 40 pounds and moves erratically if any attempt is made to move the whole enclosure with the stage in place. Always detach the stage and move it separately.

The PicoIC comes packed in two assemblies. One is the external box with the feed thru panel and the other is the microscope stage with bungee cord suspension. To mount the stage, place a protective pad into the base of the box. This will keep the bolts in the bottom of the stage from tearing the acoustic padding on the bottom of the chamber. Use an old phone book as a cushion so that the stage is at the right height from the bottom of the case. After suspension, the stage should hang with a gap of 4 to 5 inches between the stage bottom and the foam in the PicoIC.

Be certain the PicoIC is in the desired location, near the controller. Place the stage on the phone book and hook the bungee cables into place. The fixed hook goes into the eyebolt on the stage, while the adjustable hook goes into the eyebolt in the PicoIC ceiling. Adjust the cords until the stage is the proper distance from the bottom.

When placing the microscope on the stage, make sure it is centered so it will not slide. In order to increase adhesion, place a pad onto the stage. A mouse pad is ideal.

The bungee cords will stretch and slip with time, so adjust them accordingly. Periodically inspect the cords for wear. To replace worn or failing cords, feel free to contact Molecular Imaging or replace them with

similar 1/4 inch cords. These cords have been chosen for their spring constant, so replace worn cords with similar bungee cords.

Preventative maintenance

To maintain optimal isolation from vibration, it is recommended that the four PicoIC bungee cords not be kept constantly stretched. When the PicoIC is not in use, a spacer (such as a phone book or block) can be used to raise the microscope platform and relieve the tension on the bungee cords. The bungee cords are warranted for 90 days from the date of purchase.