LectroPol-5

- Automatic, micro-processor controlled electrolytic polishing and etching of metallographic specimens
- Scanning function for easy determination of parameters
- Built-in safety features
- Database with methods for various materials
- Short polishing times and maximum reproducibility
Scanning function for easy determination of parameters

LectroPol-5 is equipped with a unique scanning function. The sample is placed on the polishing table and a pre-defined voltage range is scanned to determine the current density curve. This curve is used to define the correct voltage for both polishing and etching.

Instead of time consuming trial and error testing of parameters it is now easy to find the correct settings after a single scan of a new sample material.

Electrolytic polishing has now lost a lot of its "mystery" and is used in a more scientific way to prepare metallographic samples. With a special interface kit LectroPol-5 can be connected to a PC, and all the scans can be transmitted, compared and saved.

Database with methods for various materials

10 polishing/etching methods for various materials are included with LectroPol-5. A whole range of materials can thus be prepared immediately, without any lengthy and time consuming trials. These methods can also be used as starting point for the development of methods for other materials. 20 user-defined methods can also be saved in the database of LectroPol-5.

Short polishing times and maximum reproducibility

Electrolytic polishing and etching have the advantage of very short preparation times compared to normal mechanical specimen preparation. Microprocessor control and database functions result in always the exact same parameters being used. LectroPol-5 combines both short preparation times and high reproducibility and is thus the ideal choice for fast quality control requirements.

The control unit

Both the power supply and the programming and monitoring functions are incorporated in the control unit. The unit is operated on the touch pad and on the backlit graphic display all parameters are presented. Upon pressing the Start button, the display changes, and the ongoing process can be monitored. Parameters like current, electrolyte temperature and elapsed polishing/etching time are displayed. Both the display of parameters before and the display of actual values after process start provide an exceptional amount of immediately useable information. Deviations from one process to the next can be detected straightaway, and necessary measures can be taken. Required changing of electrolyte can be detected before changes of the polishing result will be noticed.

The polishing unit

The design as a separate unit makes it possible to place the polishing unit away from the control unit. If required the polishing unit can be set up in a fume cabinet while the control unit is set up outside. With an additional start and stop key the process can also be started directly from the polishing unit. The electrolyte is stored in easily exchangeable electrolyte containers which are inserted into the polishing unit.

The pump, driven like a magnetic stirrer, and the cooling coils are lowered into the container. On the polishing table the sample is positioned and electric contact is established through the anode arm. Two different polishing units are available.
With advanced cooling control
LectroPol-5 is equipped with a built-in measuring and control system, constantly monitoring the electrolyte temperature. As soon as a pre-set temperature is reached, a solenoid valve in the polishing table is activated, allowing water from the water mains or liquid from an external cooling unit to run through the cooling coil in the electrolyte container. This saves precious resources as the flow of cooling water is limited to the periods where the electrolyte temperature is above a pre-set limit.

If no water or cooling unit is connected, or the electrolyte temperature for some other reasons increases further, a warning can be displayed and eventually LectroPol-5 will shut off the process automatically.

For polishing at sub-zero temperatures
With this unit, the stainless steel cooling coils are led directly to the back of the polishing unit. There they can be connected to an external cooling unit. The external cooling unit takes over the temperature control and regulation of the electrolyte. With this set-up, materials can be polished at sub-zero temperatures.

External etching
LectroPol-5 is also prepared for external etching. This is often used when different electrolytes have to be used for polishing and etching. Also with external etching a time can be set, and LectroPol-5 will automatically detect when the specimen is lowered into the external etching bowl. Then the countdown is running, and the voltage is terminated when the pre-set time has expired.

Accessories
Apart from the standard equipment, we can offer additional accessories for special applications.

PC-Interface
With this interface LectroPol-5 can be operated from a PC. The scans can be transferred into a spread sheet and compared and saved. This allows for the comparison of the behaviour of different materials or tracking the ageing of electrolytes. It is also possible to save different methodscreens as bitmaps.

Switchbox
To avoid the constant cleaning when changing between different electrolytes, LectroPol-5 can be equipped with two polishing tables and a switchbox to change between these two tables.

Extension arm
For the preparation of high specimens an extension arm can be mounted.

The transparent masks facilitate monitoring the electrolyte level and the adjustment of the electrolyte flow.
Technical Data

Power Supply
50/60Hz (max. load 9.8A) 1 x 100V / 120V
50/60Hz (max. load 4.9A) 1 x 220V / 240V

Output voltage/current
Polishing 0 - 100V (1V steps) / 6A
Etching 0 - 25V (0.5 V steps) / 6A
External Etching 0 - 15V (0.5 V steps) / 1.5A

Software and Electronics
Display 128 x 240 dots (16 x 40 characters)
Controls Touch pad
Database 10 Struers methods + 20 user definable methods (non-volatile)

Dimensions and Weight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control unit</th>
<th>Polishing unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Width 385 mm / 15.2”</td>
<td>220 mm / 8.7”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depth 350 mm / 13.8”</td>
<td>350 mm / 13.8”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height 160 mm / 6.3”</td>
<td>160 mm / 6.3”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight 18 kg / 40 lbs</td>
<td>6.3 kg / 14 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specifications

LectroPol-5 Code

- Fully automatic, microprocessor controlled electrolytic polishing and etching apparatus. Complete with control unit, polishing unit (LECTA) and external etching unit (LECED). One set of masks (LECMA) and two electrolyte containers (LECON) included.
- Control unit with external etching device
- Polishing unit with one set of masks (LECMA) and two electrolyte containers (LECON)
- Polishing unit for polishing at sub-zero temperatures, with one set of masks (LECMA) and two electrolyte containers (LECON)
- Switchbox for the connection of two polishing units to a LectroPol-5 Control Unit.
- Connection kit for data transfer between LectroPol-5 and a PC, until serial no.4930221
- Connection print for data transfer between LectroPol-5 and a PC, from serial no.4930222
- Extension Arm, for the preparation of specimens up to 100 mm high.

List of Electrolytes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A2</th>
<th>A3</th>
<th>A8</th>
<th>AC2</th>
<th>D2</th>
<th>E5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium</td>
<td>Martensitic Steel</td>
<td>Chromium</td>
<td>Cast Iron</td>
<td>Brass</td>
<td>Brass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>Molybdenum</td>
<td>Hafnium</td>
<td>Magnesium</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>Bronze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickel</td>
<td>Stainless Steel</td>
<td>Nickel</td>
<td>Nickel</td>
<td>Carbon Steel</td>
<td>Carbon Steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Titanium</td>
<td>Titanium</td>
<td>Stainless Steel Steels</td>
<td>Cast Iron</td>
<td>Materials with strongly varying structural elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stainless Steel Steels</td>
<td>Vanadium</td>
<td>Zirconium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin</td>
<td>Titanium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Struers’ equipment is in conformity with the provisions of the applicable International Directives and their appurtenant Standards. (Please contact your local supplier for details)

Struers’ products are subject to constant product development. Therefore, we reserve ourselves the right to introduce changes in our products without notice.

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