

# Sakura Press Release

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## Sakura Finetek Launches Second Generation Fully Automated Histology Tissue Embedding System at NSH 2015.

Contact: Erico von Bueren, Director of Marketing

TORRANCE, CA – Sakura Finetek USA, Inc. today announced the launch of the Tissue-Tek AutoTEC® a120 Automated Embedding System at the annual conference of the National Society of Histotechnology (NSH), taking place in Washington D. C. from August 28th to September 1, 2015. The Tissue-Tek AutoTEC a120 will be on display in Sakura's booth #101 at NSH.

The AutoTEC a120 is a second-generation, fully automated tissue embedding system that eliminates the tedious and labor intensive need to manually orient and embed tissue specimens and form a tissue or cell paraffin blocks. The AutoTEC technology, combined with the Paraform® Sectionable Cassette System ensure that the orientation of specimens, determined by pathologists and pathologist assistants, is locked from grossing to microtomy for all routine tissue types thereby eliminating the risk of orientation mistakes and tissue loss for increasing patient safety.

"Building upon 7 years of field experience with the first-generation AutoTEC, from which tens of millions of worldwide patients received diagnosis based on AutoTEC-produced blocks, the AutoTEC a120 is a product of voice of customer feedback, Japanese engineering ingenuity and quality manufacturing", said George R. Kennedy, Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Sakura Finetek.

### Enhanced features

The new AutoTEC a120 remains the industry's first and only fully automated embedding system. Enhanced features include the incorporation of a cassette barcode reader for future LIS connectivity and traceability of specimen blocks, and a new technology to remove excess paraffin. A larger 15 inch touchscreen monitor and the enhanced operating system both deliver improved user convenience. Redesign of the input and output doors, the paraffin reservoir and access to the base molds provides improved ergonomics while requiring minimal user maintenance and further increasing up-time. With its smaller footprint the AutoTEC a120 can be installed in small laboratories, and Sakura's iSupport program provides remote diagnostics and peace of mind.

### Increased productivity with predictable performance in TAT and block quality

The AutoTEC a120 offers a high throughput of up to 120 cassettes / hour and enables laboratories to reallocate valuable personnel now manually working at embedding stations, and to conveniently level the daily workload in a lean continuous workflow.

When used in conjunction with either the Tissue-Tek Xpress® x120 or x50 Rapid Tissue Processors, these SMART Automation systems provide high quality and safe tissue processing, consistent clean blocks, and all important same day diagnosis of cancer specimens.

### About Sakura Finetek, USA, Inc.

With U.S. offices based in Torrance, California, Sakura Finetek has been the global leader in advancing cancer diagnostics by providing integrated solutions for anatomic pathology and patients through best-in-class innovation, quality and customer care. With a strategic focus on end-to-end automation, Sakura Finetek continues to lead the industry in the development and commercialization of automated SMART Histology instrumentation and consumables for anatomic pathology. Sakura systems dramatically increase efficiency, standardize results, and allow customers to more simply manage their daily workload while significantly impacting patient care.

For more information regarding AutoTEC a120 or any Sakura product, please visit [www.sakura.us](http://www.sakura.us) or contact:

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