

# HORIZON

6 Flex FA










*Operator's Manual*



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## Symbols

Symbol	Definition	Use
	Caution	Caution to safety hazard.  Potential risk of personal injury or damage to the instrument if improperly handled. Consult the manual before proceeding.
	Do not reuse	Indicates product is single use only.
	Manufacturer	Manufacturer of record.
	Electrical and electronic products recycling symbol	Recycle only as electronic waste. Do not dispose in normal waste.
	RoHS Compliant	Compliance with RoHS environmental standards.
	CE Mark	Denotes conformity to specific European directives and regulations.
	MET Listing	Denotes conformity to specific safety standards and regulations.
	UK Mark	Denotes conformity to specific UK directives and regulations.
<b>FDA LISTED</b>	FDA Listed	Denotes that the product has been properly listed with the FDA.
	ISO Certification	Denotes conformity to quality standards and quality management systems.

## MODEL DESCRIPTION

HORIZON is a versatile line of centrifuges pre-programmed with the most convenient cycle settings for ease of use. Cycle settings can be changed to accommodate custom settings.

This general-purpose laboratory centrifuge may also be used to spin approved containers with biologics, chemicals (non-flammable, non-explosive, non-volatile, and non-highly reactive), and environmental samples.

## FEATURES

- The first cycle is conveniently pre-set and labeled for your lab's most common applications.
- If desired, the control panel can be temporarily locked on one cycle, ideal for standardization to a single spin.
- Up to 10 cycles can be programmed for time, speed, and braking and labeled with a custom name. Cycles can be programmed by g-force (RCF) rather than speed to facilitate matching validated cycles and manufacturers IFUs.
- Lid lighting indicates the centrifuge's status (ready, running, done), informing the operator when tubes are ready for the analyzer and preventing tubes from being left in the centrifuge longer than necessary (patent pending).
- A traditional audible alert indicates the completion of the cycle. The audible alert can be muted.
- Cool-Flow design prevents overheating of samples by using ambient air to keep specimens at room temperature.
- The tube holders are fiber reinforced for high strength, durability, and years of trouble-free use.
- A clear lid permits safe observation of samples and optical calibration of speed.
- The lid safety system prevents the centrifuge from operating unless the lid is closed and latched.
- The lid safety system only allows entry into the centrifuge after the rotor has completely stopped.
- The high-power brushless motor provides years of operation with no routine maintenance.

## INTENDED USE

General purpose laboratory centrifuge, intended for the density-based separation of fluids through centripetal acceleration.

## WARRANTY


Drucker Diagnostics warrants that this centrifuge is free from defects in workmanship and parts for 2 years.

## CAUTION AND WARNING STATEMENTS

- ⚠ This device is intended to be operated by properly trained personnel who have carefully read the operating manual and are familiar with the function of the device. [Refer to the clinical laboratory method specified by the specimen receptacle manufacturer or established by the medical technology for the products applications.]
- ⚠ **WARNING:** For the safety of both the operator and service personnel, care should be taken when using this centrifuge if handling substances that are known to be toxic, radioactive, or contaminated with pathogenic microorganisms. Use appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE). When Risk Group II materials are used, (as identified in the World Health Organization “Laboratory Bio-Safety Manual”), a Bio-Seal should be employed. In the event that materials of a higher risk group are being used, more than one level of protection must be provided. The use of flammable or explosive materials as well as those materials which have a vigorous chemical reaction is prohibited.
- ⚠ Unplug the centrifuge before cleaning or performing maintenance.
- ⚠ **WARNING:** Inspect centrifuge for cracks or physical damage to cabinet, lid, rotor, or tube holders. Damage may result in unsafe operation. Discontinue use until repairs have been performed.
- ⚠ This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy, and if not installed and used in accordance with this operator manual, may cause interference to radio communications.
- ⚠ Operation of this equipment in a residential area may cause interference, in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.
- ⚠ **Important Operating Instructions:** This model centrifuge requires at least 2 tube holders inserted when attempting to run. Running the centrifuge with an empty rotor will cause a motor error and will require a power cycle to fully reset (see Troubleshooting section on page 9).
- ⚠ **WARNING:** Do not autoclave this centrifuge or any of its parts, accessories, tube holders, inserts, or other components. If any of the above have been autoclaved at any point, do not use them in the centrifuge.

## INITIAL SETUP

- Unpack and verify that all the following are included:
  - Centrifuge
  - Power cord
  - Tube holders, pack of 18
  - Tube Inserts, pack of 18
  - Quick Start Guide
- Setup the centrifuge on flat and level surface. A bench top clearance height of 21" (54 cm) is required to open the lid.
- The centrifuge should have 6" (15 cm) of clear space around the centrifuge. Proper ventilation is necessary to prevent the overheating of samples as well as premature failure of the centrifuge. Choose an area which allows unencumbered air flow, and where the temperature remains between 16°C and 32°C.
- No hazardous material shall be permitted in the clearance envelope during operation.
- The operator time within the envelope shall be limited to the time necessary for loading, unloading, and centrifuge operation only.
- Plug the line cord into the centrifuge.
- Plug the line cord into an approved electrical outlet.
- Turn on the power switch in the back of the centrifuge.

 **BE SURE THE ELECTRICAL OUTLET IS ALWAYS ACCESSIBLE AS THE LINE CORD IS THE MEANS OF EMERGENCY DISCONNECTION!**

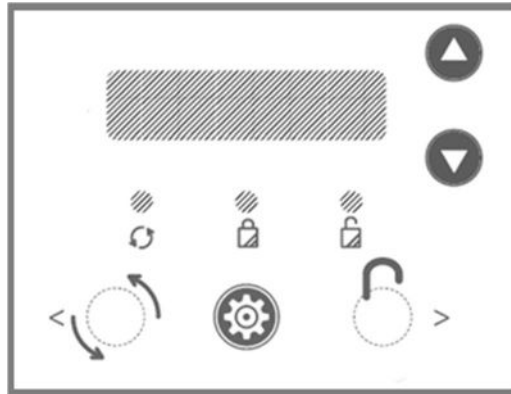
## OPERATION

- Place the tube holders into the slots on the centrifuge rotor. Tube holders do not snap or click into place. All tube holders must be in place regardless of the number of samples to be spun.
- Place the white inserts into the tube holders. The inserts do not snap or click into place, but should slide easily into the tube holder and rest there.
- Place the tubes into the inserts. Be sure to follow the rules for balanced loads as listed in the next section.
- Close the lid and turn the lid knob clockwise to its complete stop position.
- The digital screen shows the currently selected cycle. To select another cycle, press the UP or DOWN button in succession until the desired cycle is selected.
- Pushing the START button on the control panel will start the spin cycle.
- When the cycle is completed, the rotor will slow to a complete stop and the lid light will flash.
- The unlocking mechanism will engage for 60 seconds allowing entry into the rotor chamber. To unlock after more than 60 seconds have elapsed, press the UNLOCK button. The lid will unlock for another 15 seconds.
- Turn the lid knob counterclockwise and open the lid. The lid light will turn off.
- Remove samples and discard the Black Tube Holders and 11mL White Inserts after processing. Tube holders and inserts are single use.

## QUICK START

The screen display alternates between the name of the currently selected cycle and its parameters. For convenience, the first cycle is preset for common applications and can be reprogrammed to your validated cycles:



- (1) Setting 1**      This setting is factory preset to 2,800 RPM at 1000xg for 3 minutes
- (2) Setting 2**      This setting is factory preset to 1,800 RPM at 400xg for 8 minutes
- (3) Setting 3**      This setting is factory preset to 1,800 RPM at 400xg for 12 minutes



	<b>Start</b>	Begins running the cycle displayed on the screen. The lid must be closed.
	<b>Unlock</b>	Allows access into the rotor chamber by engaging the unlocking mechanism. Entry is only possible when the rotor is stopped.
	<b>Stop</b>	Pressing the UNLOCK button during operation will terminate the run and unlock the lid after the rotor has come to a stop.
	<b>Cycle Selection</b>	Press the up and down buttons next to the screen to select the desired saved cycle.








To ensure repeatability, the centrifuge can be locked either on one cycle (Single Cycle Lock) or restricted to the saved cycles (Preset Lock). The Single Cycle Lock also prevents making changes to the parameters of the selected cycle. The Preset Lock allows selection of any saved cycle but prevents changing the parameters of saved cycles.

## SINGLE CYCLE LOCK

	<b>Lock on Single Cycle</b>	Select desired cycle. Press and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. One beep will confirm that cycle selection is locked.
	<b>Cancel Single Cycle Lock</b>	To re-enable cycle selection, press, and hold the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. One beep will confirm that cycle selection is now unlocked.

## SETTING OR MODIFYING A CYCLE

Up to 10 cycles can be named, programmed for time, speed, and braking, and saved in memory.

	<b>Cycle Selection</b>	Press the up and down buttons next to the screen to select the desired cycle.
	<b>Enter Programming Mode</b>	Press the GEAR button.
	<b>Navigate between Parameters</b>	Use the left and right arrow button until the parameter to be edited is blinking and underlined.
	<b>Change Parameter Values</b>	To change the parameter shown on the display, use the up and down buttons next to the screen.
	<b>Displaying the Correct g-force</b>	To display the real g-force (RCF) for the cycle, the right tube holder must be selected. Universal blue tube holders accommodate 75- and 100-mm tubes. 125 mm tubes require the orange tube holder. If the tube holder selection in the program does not match the tube holder used, the RCF number displayed will not reflect the actual value.
	<b>Naming the Cycle</b>	Navigate to the cycle name with the left and right arrow. Change the blinking character of the name with the up and down buttons, then move to the next character with the right arrow. Repeat.
	<b>Save and Exit Programming Mode</b>	Press the GEAR button. The cycle displayed on the screen will be automatically saved.



## SETTINGS

	(1)	(2)	(3)
RPM	2,800	1,800	1,800
Time	3 minutes	8 minutes	12 minutes
G-Force	1,000 xg	400 xg	400 xg

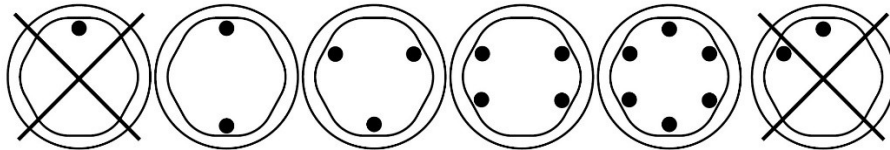
## BALANCING LOADS



**Your centrifuge must contain a balanced load to work properly.** Spinning balanced loads will extend the life of the centrifuge and produce better results. Use the following rules when loading the rotor. If an odd number of samples is to be spun, fill a tube with water to match the weight of the unpaired sample and place it across from this sample.

*Opposing tube holders must be equally loaded or empty or loaded with equally weighted samples.  
When loading only 3 tubes, they must be of equal weight.*

### 6 Tube Centrifuges



## CARE AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

With proper care and maintenance, your centrifuge will provide years of laboratory service. For proper care, the following steps should be taken:

- **Always Spin Balanced Loads:** Make certain that you are always spinning a balanced load, as shown in the previous section. These centrifuges have a unique counter balanced motor mounting design which produces excellent vibration dampening. However, out-of-balance loads may break glass test tubes and may produce unsatisfactory separation results. Proper load balancing will improve sample separation and extend the life of the centrifuge.
- **Motor and Electrical Maintenance:** The highest quality electrical components have been selected for the centrifuges and should not need maintenance or servicing for the life of the centrifuge.
- **Tube Holder Replacement:** Tube holders and inserts are single use. Discard after each use.
- **Remove Accessories Before Moving:** All tube holders, samples, and caps must be removed from the rotor chamber before transporting or storing the centrifuge to prevent damage and injury.

## CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

To prolong the life of the centrifuge, cleaning and disinfection is recommended every six months or whenever there is a spillage or tube breakage. Contaminants must be removed immediately, or corrosion and premature degradation of components can occur. Before using any cleaning or decontamination methods other than those recommended by the manufacturer, users should verify with the manufacturer that the proposed method will not damage the equipment.

- Unplug the centrifuge before cleaning.
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Apply cleaning solutions with a towel or cloth. Do not submerge the centrifuge in water or other cleaning solutions as this will cause damage and void the warranty.
- ONLY isopropyl alcohol or a 10% (5500 PPM) bleach solution should be used to disinfect the centrifuge and its accessories.

### **DO NOT AUTOCLAVE.**

- All surfaces must be dried immediately after cleaning and disinfecting.



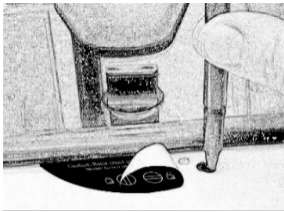
TBQ GERMICIDAL PRODUCTS ARE NOT RECOMMENDED AS THEY MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE CENTRIFUGE. REFRAIN FROM USING TO PREVENT VOIDING THE WARRANTY.

- Fully/partially halogenated hydrocarbons, ketones, esters, ethers, benzyls, ethyl benzenes, and all other chemicals not prescribed by the manufacturer shall not be used as they may cause damage to the rotor chamber, rotor, tube holders, accessories and centrifuge exterior and void the warranty.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

**NOTE:** The latch must be turned completely clockwise to its stop position for the centrifuge to operate.

<p><b>The centrifuge does not run</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Verify that the centrifuge is powered. The screen should be lit.</li> <li>○ If “Lid not closed” message is displayed, make sure the lid latch is turned completely clockwise to its stop position.</li> <li>○ If the centrifuge still does not run, contact Customer Service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The rotor does not spin freely</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make sure nothing has fallen into the rotor chamber, following the procedure above.</li> <li>○ If nothing obstructs the rotor, the rotor may be damaged. Contact Customer Service for further assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge makes a rattling noise when running</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stop the centrifuge. Open the lid.</li> <li>○ Wearing PPE, remove tubes and tube holders/buckets and look for fallen objects or debris. Carefully reach inside the rotor chamber with a tool to remove them.</li> <li>○ Inspect the rotor, tube holders or buckets for damage.</li> <li>○ If the tube holders or buckets have any damage, even slight, safely dispose of them and replace them.</li> <li>○ If the rotor appears damaged, contact Customer Service for further assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Excessive noise or vibration when the centrifuge is running</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Verify that all four centrifuge feet are properly seated on a flat surface.</li> <li>○ Ensure that the load is balanced according to instructions in the “Balancing Loads” section of this manual.</li> <li>○ Make sure that nothing has fallen into the rotor chamber.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge stops and beeps continuously</b></p>	<p>The load is not balanced. Press the UNLOCK button, open the lid, and balance the load as recommended elsewhere in this manual.</p> <p>Confirm that all tube holders are properly loaded into the Centrifuge rotor.</p>
<p><b>The centrifuge is stuck on one of the settings</b></p>	<p>Cycle selection is locked. Press the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds.</p>
<p><b>The cycle time and speed are not set to the desired value</b></p>	<p>Check the setting by following the instructions in the section on Changing Cycle Settings. If the preset is not the desired length, follow the procedure on the same page to change the preset time.</p>

<p><b>Cycle parameters cannot be changed</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If cycle selection is locked on one cycle, press the UNLOCK button for 5 seconds. Then, press the GEAR button and follow the instructions elsewhere in this manual.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The centrifuge does not unlock after a run is completed</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wait until the rotor has come to a complete stop. If the lid knob still cannot be rotated, press the UNLOCK button and try again. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If no LED light is on, the unit is not powered, and the lid will not unlock by conventional means. Remove the latch label and use a pen to manually disengage the locking mechanism. Pull the mechanism towards the control panel and then unlatch and open the lid.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ If the unit is damaged, contact Customer Service for assistance.</li> </ul> 
<p><b>The lid does not open</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensure that the lid knob is turned fully counterclockwise.</li> <li>○ If the knob cannot be turned counterclockwise, turn it fully clockwise, press UNLOCK, and turn counterclockwise.</li> <li>○ If the lid remains locked after this and will not unlock, the electronics may have been damaged. Contact customer service for assistance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Clicking noise during braking gets loud</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Make sure that the screw in the center of the rotor is tight.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lid does not stay up</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tighten the center screw on the lid hinge.</li> </ul>

## GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

The rotor and accessories are rated for the maximum rotation frequency shown in the table below.

<b>Tube Capacity</b>	6 tubes – 11 & 22 mL
<b>Dimensions (H x W x D)</b>	14 in x 12 in x 9 in (36 cm x 30 cm x 23 cm)
<b>Weight</b>	12 lbs. (5.4 kg)
<b>Sound Level</b>	64 dB A
<b>Environmental Range</b>	16 – 32 degree C
<b>Voltage</b>	115 / 230 VAC
<b>Frequency</b>	50/60 Hz
<b>Power Requirement</b>	200 Watts
<b>Centrifuge Motor</b>	½ H.P. Brushless
<b>Max g-Force</b>	1,600 xg
<b>Max Speed</b>	3,500 RPM (+/- 100)
<b>Cycle Time</b>	1 to 30 minutes (+/- 2%)

## CALCULATING THE G-FORCE

The I.F.U.s of tube manufacturers recommend cycles at a minimum G-Force, which can be calculated if you know the RPM and the radius. Use the formula below or go to [www.druckerdiagnostics.com/g-force-calculator/](http://www.druckerdiagnostics.com/g-force-calculator/).

In Centimeters:  
$$\text{RCF or G-force} = 0.00001118 \times \text{Rotor Radius (cm)} \times (\text{RPM})^2$$

In Inches:  
$$\text{RCF or G-force} = 0.0000284 \times \text{Rotor Radius (in)} \times (\text{RPM})^2$$

**Radius**                      4.5 in (11.5 cm)

Product Family: HORIZON Series (HORIZON 6 Flex FA)

Complies with UL61010-1/CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1 and IEC61010-2-020

Protected by U.S. Patents #6,811,531, # 7,422,554, #D718,463, & #D734,489. Other Patents Pending

**FDA LISTED**



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**UK  
CA**



INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL OF WEEE BY USERS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



This product must not be disposed of with other waste. Instead, it is the user's responsibility to dispose of their waste equipment by handing it over to a designated collection point for the recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The separate collection and recycling of your waste equipment at the time of disposal will help to conserve natural resources and ensure that it is recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment. For more information about where you can drop off your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local city office, waste disposal service, or where you purchased the product.



200 SHADY LANE, SUITE 170 – PHILIPSBURG, PA 16866, USA

+1-866-265-1486 (U.S. ONLY) - +1-814-692-7661

[CUSTOMERSERVICE@DRUCKERDIAGNOSTICS.COM](mailto:CUSTOMERSERVICE@DRUCKERDIAGNOSTICS.COM)

[DRUCKERDIAGNOSTICS.COM](http://DRUCKERDIAGNOSTICS.COM)

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