



EL-CELL®

Instrumentation for battery research
Product Overview
SUMMER 2022



Just focus on your ideas.



Let our tools take care of the rest.

3-electrode testing Dilatometry Solid state
Force and pressure measurements Gas analysis
OEMS Real-time plotting EIS
Long-term measurements High-throughput testing
Testing services
Optical, Raman and XRD characterization

We Advance Battery Research.

EL-Cell GmbH was founded ten years ago in Hamburg, Germany. Since then, we have been developing laboratory equipment to research energy storage systems, focusing on lithium-ion technology. We are distinguished by our electrochemistry and mechanical engineering expertise and our eager ambition to create innovative products.

We strongly believe that reliable and straightforward 3-electrode measurements are the most efficient way to develop new battery materials. This approach proves to be particularly useful in our PAT (**PA**rallel **T**esting) series, a modular test cell system with the highest efficiency and ease of use standards. In addition, we offer a variety of in-situ test cells and tools for manufacturing battery components in the laboratory.

Our complete range of services is rounded out with our potentiostats, which are precisely tailored to the unique requirements of battery research.

This allows us to provide you with the complete setup from a single source to carry out electrochemical experiments.

We also offer hands-on seminars so you can familiarise yourself with our instruments and benefit directly from our expertise. The training takes place in our own fully equipped battery lab, where we will also gladly perform a variety of measurement services for you. We are also readily available to find specific solutions for your tasks.

This brochure provides an overview of our current products and services.

Content

The PAT Series	4
PAT-Core	6
PAT-Core Configurations	7
Advanced Use Cases with the PAT-Core	9
PAT-Core Components	10
PAT Test Cells	
PAT-Cell	11
PAT-Cell-Force	12
PAT-Cell-Press	13
PAT-Cell-Gas	14
PAT-Cell-HT	16
PAT-Adapters	17
PAT Battery Testers	18
PAT Battery Tester Specifications	19
PAT-Tester-i-16	20
PAT-Tester-x-8	22
PAT-Tester-x Sample Setups	23
EL-Software	24
PAT Docking Stations	26
PAT-Clamp-1	27
PAT-Stand-1	28

PAT-Stand-4	28
PAT-Stand-16	29
PAT-Chamber-16	30
PAT-Heater-4	31
In-situ Test Cells	
ECC-Opto-10	32
PAT-Cell-Opto-10	33
ECC-Opto-Std	36
ECC-Opto-Std-Aqu	38
ECC-Opto-Gas	39
ECD-4-nano	40
ECD-3-nano-aqu	42
ECD-3-aqu	42
Tools	
EL-Cut	43
ECC-LiPunch	44
Services	
Lithium Battery Application Lab	45
Hands-on Seminars	46
Customizations	46

The PAT Series

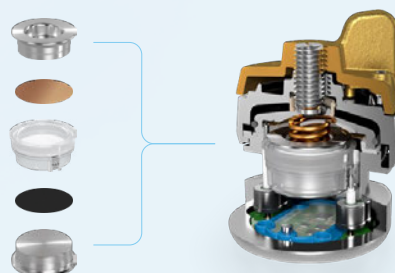
Our modular system for testing battery materials

With the PAT series, we are the first supplier worldwide to offer you a complete system consisting of test cells, tools, potentiostats, and control software that are perfectly matched to each other.

This makes the testing of battery materials more efficient, more reproducible, and more accessible than ever before.

PAT-Core

The PAT-Core is the core component of each PAT-Cell, which contains the actual cell stack with electrodes, current collectors, separator, and electrolyte. The individual components of the PAT-Core are available in different variants that can be freely combined. The test cell can be quickly and easily adapted to various test purposes.



PAT series test cells

The complete PAT-Cell consists of the respective PAT-Core and a cell housing, which hermetically protects the cell chemistry from the ambient atmosphere. There are different cell housings for various test purposes, e.g. for pressure measurement or gas supply or for measurements at higher temperatures.

Unlike other products, PAT test cells are cableless. They are inserted into a docking station that can remain permanently connected to the battery tester. The wiring does not have to be renewed before every test, saving time and preventing mistakes.



PAT docking stations

To connect and operate a PAT-Cell with a 3rd party potentiostat, the cell is inserted into the socket of a PAT docking station. Only the docking station itself needs to be permanently wired to the potentiostat; the PAT-Cells themselves are cableless. PAT docking stations can be connected and operated with current potentiostats or battery cyclers.



PAT battery testers

Our PAT battery testers are specifically designed to meet the requirements of battery materials research. Our focus is on convenient handling and minimizing laboratory space as much as possible through high integration of core components and modern system architecture.

Each PAT battery tester test channel contains a fully equipped potentiostat/galvanostat and impedance analyzer and new, unique features like the connection matrix.

In an unprecedented way, this allows alternating between full-cell and half-cell control at runtime without changing even a single cable.



EL-Software

EL-Software is the software solution from EL-CELL to plan, perform and evaluate experiments with the PAT battery testers. The software enables networked, location-independent operation with a scalable number of test channels and devices while taking full advantage of the diverse capabilities of PAT series test cells and potentiostats.



PAT-Core

Enabling battery studies of unmatched quality

The PAT-Core is the worldwide patented, essential part of the PAT-Cell. It holds the electrodes undergoing testing in place and allows for precise alignment of the cell stack. The well-defined geometry of the PAT-Core enables high-quality two- and three-electrode tests of Li-ion and other battery materials and supercapacitors. The easy assembly of the PAT-Core minimizes the human factor in experiment preparation and even qualifies for robotic assembly. The standard PAT-Core comprises three components. The first part is a highly customizable insulation sleeve with a built-in separator and ring-shaped reference electrode. Different reference materials like lithium, sodium, or magnesium and various separator materials such as glass fiber or microporous polyolefin are available. The single-use concept lowers lead times in the lab and minimizes the risk of cross-contamination.

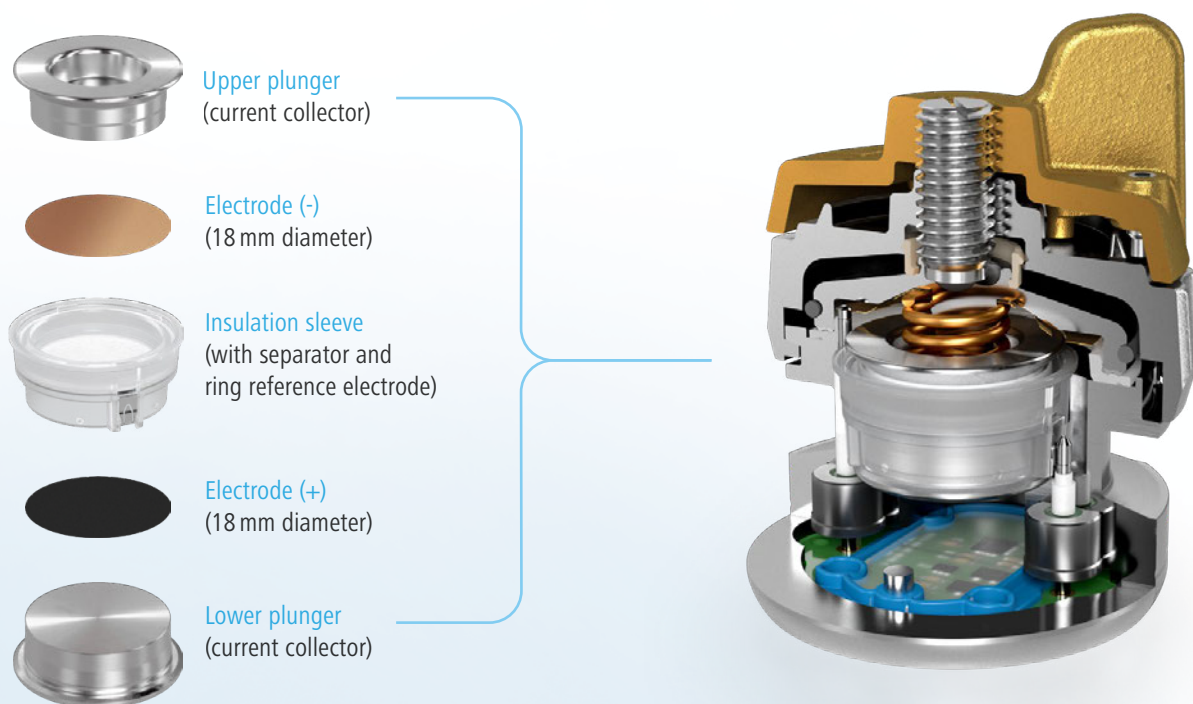
Highlights of the PAT-Core

- High-precision concentric geometry of cell stack without manual alignment
- Modular concept adaptable for various configurations
- Long-term (>1000 hrs) measurements with three electrodes
- Easy, reproducible, and automatable assembly - with and without reference electrode
- All battery-grade materials available: Al, Cu, polypropylene
- Optionally reusable insulation sleeve and current collectors

The insulation sleeve is preassembled under a protective argon atmosphere at the EL-CELL factory to ensure consistent quality for reproducible battery tests. PEEK is available as an alternative material for the insulation sleeve; this way we can also offer the insulation sleeve as a reusable version for self-assembly.

The upper and lower plungers complete the PAT-Core and serve as current collectors. Battery researchers can choose from different materials: battery-grade aluminum and copper, reusable stainless steel, or precious metals, such as gold or platinum for particular demands.

The PAT-Core is ready for aprotic and aqueous electrolytes and special purposes such as high-temperature environments.



PAT-Core Configurations

The PAT-Core components: Perfectly adjustable for your experiment

Different test cases require flexible cell configurations. PAT-Core components are available in various materials to perfectly match the needs of your investigation. **The examples shown below provide an overview of only the most common applications.** We continuously expand the PAT system to include new chemistries.

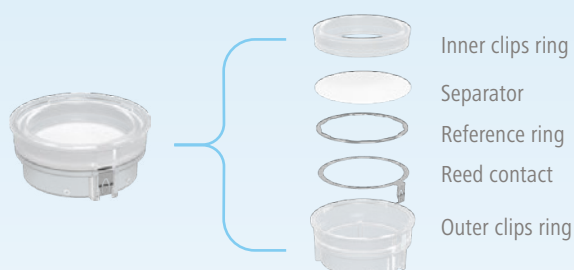
Configuration examples

	Aprotic LiPF ₆ based electrolytes	Aqueous supercap electrolytes	Aprotic high-temperature electrolytes
			
Lower electrode (+)	LCO / NCM / LFP..	Activated carbon	LCO / NCM / LFP..
Upper electrode (-)	Li metal / Graphite	Activated carbon	Graphite / LTO
Lower plunger	Stainless steel or aluminum	PEEK with gold a current collector	Stainless steel or aluminum
Upper plunger	Stainless steel or copper	PEEK with gold a current collector	Stainless steel or copper
Insulation sleeve	Insulation sleeve (PP), ready-to-use	Insulation sleeve (PEEK) for self-assembly	Insulation sleeve (PEEK) for self-assembly
Reference	Li metal	Activated carbon	Li metal
Separator	Whatman GF / A	Whatman GF / A	Whatman GF / A
Reed contact	Nickel plated stainless steel	Gold plated stainless steel	Nickel plated stainless steel

Insulation sleeves for the precise concentric alignment of your cell stack.

There are two types of insulation sleeves for the PAT-Core. The variant made of polypropylene is a single-use item with a built-in separator, ring reference, and reed contact. The single-use concept lowers lead times in the lab and is the perfect choice for high-throughput testing. On the other hand, the PEEK variant is reusable and optimal for higher temperatures (up to 200 °C). It is assembled before each test, so that you can modify its components quickly. It is the right choice for small-scale testing and the more unusual ideas.

Insulation sleeve (PP) for single-use



- No cross-contamination
- No cleaning or drying required
- Preassembled for lower lead time
- Operation temperature up to 70°C

Insulation sleeve (PEEK), reusable



- Reusable PEEK component(*)
- Easily adaptable before each test
- Operation temperature up to 200°C

PAT-Core Configurations

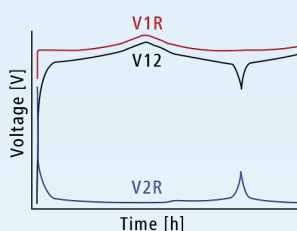
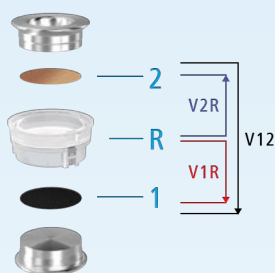
Different separator materials for your test case

The following table shows our most common separator materials. Preassembled insulation sleeves using your separator materials are available upon request.

Separator types

	FS-5P (Freudenberg Viledon FS 2226E + Lydall Solupor 5P09B)	Freudenberg Viledon FS 3005-25	Whatman GF/A
Thickness	220 μm	25 μm	260 μm
Material	PP fibre / PE membrane	PET fibre, Al_2O_3	Borosilicate glass fibre
Porosity	FS: 67 % / 5P: 86 %	55 %	91 %
Wettability	Good	Good	Excellent
Resistance to dendrites	Good	Poor	Modest
Ability for full cell cycle tests	Excellent	Good	Good
Ability for half cell cycle tests (vs. Li)	Excellent	Poor	Modest
Ability for full cell EIS	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Ability for half cell EIS	Modest	Poor	Good

The power of testing with a reference electrode



By monitoring the cell voltage and cell current of the battery, you can learn a lot about the performance and aging of the battery as a whole. However, a battery comprises two electrodes connected in series: cathode and anode. Which of the two is

the bottleneck for charge transfer? Which electrode is dying off first? Using a reference electrode is the most convenient way to answer these questions.

The insulation sleeve of the PAT-Core is available with different built-in reference rings and separators. We consider insulation sleeves with Li metal reference and a glass fiber separator the most robust and versatile solution for Li-ion-based systems. Many variants of the insulation sleeve are available for other battery chemistries, including Mg, Na-ion, and supercapacitors. When used with a battery tester like the PAT-Tester-i-16, the reference electrode enables you to measure the electrochemical properties of both electrodes at the same time.

Advanced Use Cases with the PAT-Core

Testing with a finger-shaped reference electrode

Sometimes a finger-shaped reference electrode can be better than our standard ring-shaped reference electrode. The finger reference measures the electrical potential in the middle of the stack instead of at the outer edge of the cell stack. This can help to minimize artifacts caused by inhomogeneities of the electric field. The finger is made of stainless steel and coated with polyimide, except for the measurement area at the end of the finger. Different geometries of the finger are available.

The finger-shaped reference electrode is considered helpful for several scenarios:

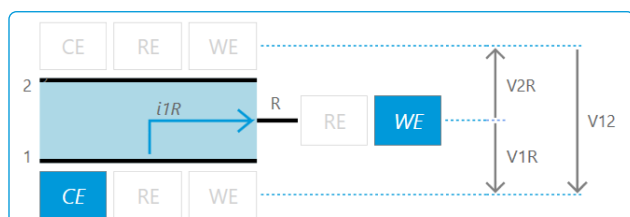
- It can be employed as a stainless steel pseudo-reference electrode.
- It can be coated by the user with reference material (e.g. LTO).
- It can be lithiated or delithiated by the user in-situ after cell assembly.

Our PAT battery testers and EL-Software perfectly support all these scenarios. This is shown here using the example of a cell consisting of NCM and graphite. After building the cell, the stainless steel finger is first electroplated with lithium utilizing the NCM electrode as the lithium source. The lithiated finger is used as a reference electrode when cycling the NCM/graphite cell. In the second step. Switching between the two modes is easy to do in the test script. No cable connections need to be changed, as necessary, with a conventional battery tester.

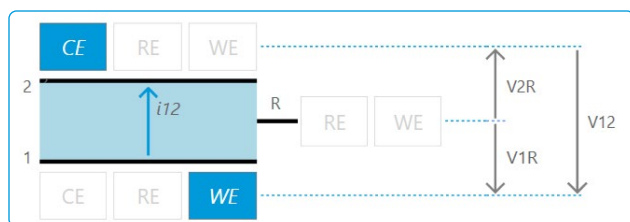
PAT-Core with finger-shaped reed contact



EL-Software makes pre-lithiating a simple task.



Step 1: Pre-lithiation of the finger-shaped stainless steel electrode (R) from the NCM electrode (1)



Step 2: Once lithiated, the R electrode serves as a true reference when cycling the NCM/graphite cell.



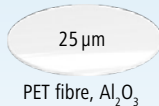
PAT-Tester-x-8 running the EL-Software test script with a PAT-Cell.

PAT-Core Components

The PAT-Core is a modular system that meets the requirements of almost any test scenario. It is compatible with all PAT-Cells. Custom materials are available upon request.

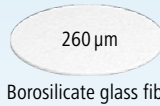
Separators

Freudenberg FS 3005-25



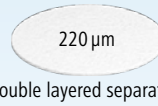
PET fibre, Al_2O_3

Whatman GF/A



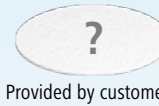
Borosilicate glass fibre

FS-5P



Double layered separator:
PP fibre + PE membrane

Customized



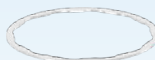
Provided by customer

Reference rings

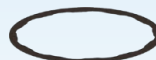
Lithium



Aluminum



Activated Carbon



Magnesium



Sodium



Other materials
available
on request

Reed contacts

Nickel



Gold



Stainless steel



with finger-shaped reference electrode
(partly coated with polyimide)

Insulation sleeves



PP

- Single-use
- Preassembled

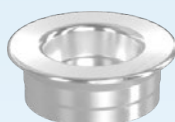


PEEK

- Reusable
- Heat resistant (up to 200 °C)
- For self-assembly

Current collectors: Plungers and discs

Aluminum



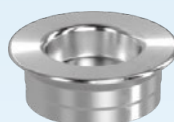
- Single-use
- Battery grade material
(Al 99.5, EN-AW-1050)

Copper



- Single-use
- Battery grade material
(Cu 99.9, E-CU 58)

Stainless steel



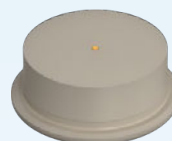
- Reusable
- Stainless steel
(316L, 1.4404)

PEEK with gold pin



Au
Pt
Ni

Current
collector
discs



- Reusable
- Corrosion resistant

Stainless steel / Nickel



- With perforated plate
for gas analysis



- With flow field for time
resolved gas analysis

PAT-Cell

The ideal test cell for 3-electrode and high-throughput battery testing.

The PAT-Cell is a test cell for 2- and 3-electrode measurements on battery materials. It uses the modular PAT-Core concept and can be used for various test purposes. The cell has no wiring but is inserted directly into a PAT battery tester or connected to any commercially available battery tester/potentiostat via a PAT docking station. The easy handling is further improved by features such as the

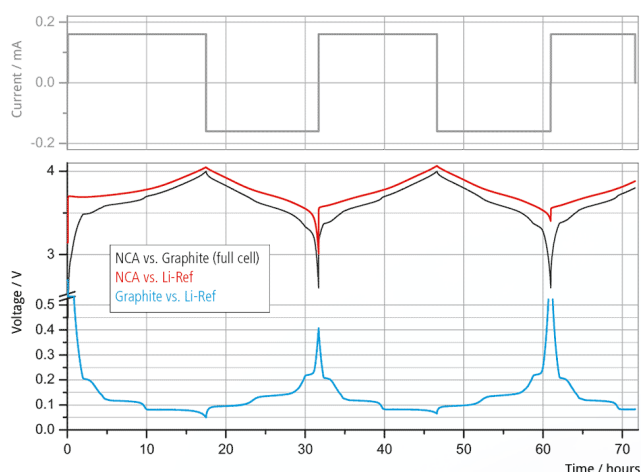
integrated PAT-Button. This patented electronic memory in the cell bottom enables automatic cell recognition when the cell is inserted into a PAT battery tester.

The PAT-Cell is equally suitable for automated high-throughput scenarios and small-scale test series.

Features

- Cableless test cell with all advantages of the PAT-Core
- For long-term testing (>1000 hrs) with two or three electrodes
- Proven cell design for easy handling and fast assembly
- Compatible with aprotic as well as aqueous electrochemistry
- PAT-Button for automatic cell identification in EL-Software

Sample test results



Monitoring of half cell voltages during the initial cycles of NCA vs. Graphite

The PAT-Button: Speed up your workflow!

The PAT-Button is a workflow improvement feature found in PAT series test cells. It is an EEPROM chip installed on the bottom of the cell that stores the cell ID. When the cell is built, its specific ingredients and properties are assigned to this cell ID in EL-Software. In this way, the software recognizes a PAT-Cell once it has been assembled, even if the cell is disconnected from the PAT tester in between. **This speeds up the workflow and prevents operating errors.**



Height / Width / Length 61 / 49.5 / 49.5 mm

Weight 0.4 kg

Separator diameter 21.6 mm

Electrode diameter 18 mm

Operational temperature -20 to 80 °C

Product website:



PAT-Cell-Force

Adjust and measure the mechanical force applied to the cell stack.

The PAT-Cell-Force is a special operando test cell of the PAT series to adjust and measure the mechanical force applied to the cell stack. Thanks to the wide force range, the cell is suitable for both aprotic Li-ion battery chemistries with liquid electrolytes and solid state setups. The force on the cell stack can be set between 0 and 1500 N when assembling the cell and then monitored during the electrochemical cycle. Additional sensors allow for the simultaneous monitoring of gas pressure and temperature. All sensor signals are recorded and displayed in EL-Software.

The modular PAT-Core concept warrants easy and efficient

handling and enables 3-electrode measurements with a ring-shaped reference electrode when using liquid electrolytes. The PAT-Cell-Force is to be operated with an EL-CELL potentiostat like the PAT-Tester-x.

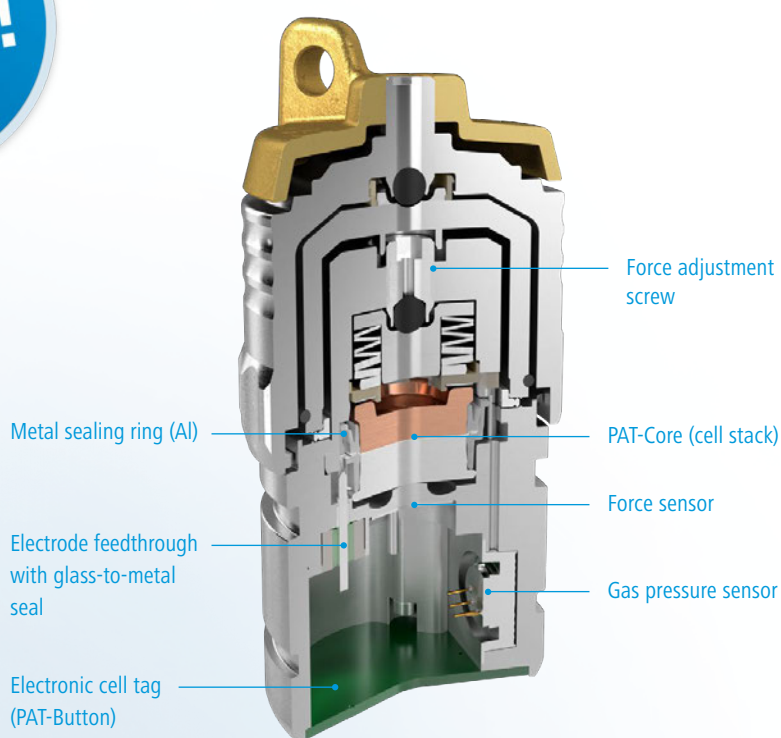
Its advanced sealing concept with welded-in sensors and glass-to-metal sealed electrode feedthroughs make the PAT-Cell-Force perfect for stable long-term measurements. The PAT-Cell-Force is equipped with an electronic cell tag (PAT-Button) for automatic recognition in EL-Software.

Features

- Force adjustment and measurement, 0 to 1500 N
- Built-in temperature, force and gas pressure sensors
- Cableless connection via PAT socket, with electronic cell tag (PAT-Button)

Height / Diameter	104 / 49.5 mm
Weight	0.4 kg
Separator diameter	21.6 mm
Electrode diameter	18 mm
Temperature sensor	-20 to 80 °C
Force sensor	0 to 1500 Newton (0-5.9 MPa)
Gas pressure sensor	0 to 3 bar abs.
Operational temperature	-20 to 80 °C

Product website:



PAT-Cell-Press

Pressure test cell for the PAT series

The PAT-Cell-Press is a PAT-Cell with an integrated pressure sensor and an optional sample port for drawing gas samples from the cell's headspace. It can be operated directly in a PAT-Chamber-16 or battery tester such as the PAT-Tester-i-16. For use in other PAT docking stations, a separate PAT-Press-Box is available for recording the analog pressure signal. The advanced design of the PAT-Cell-Press includes a laser-welded

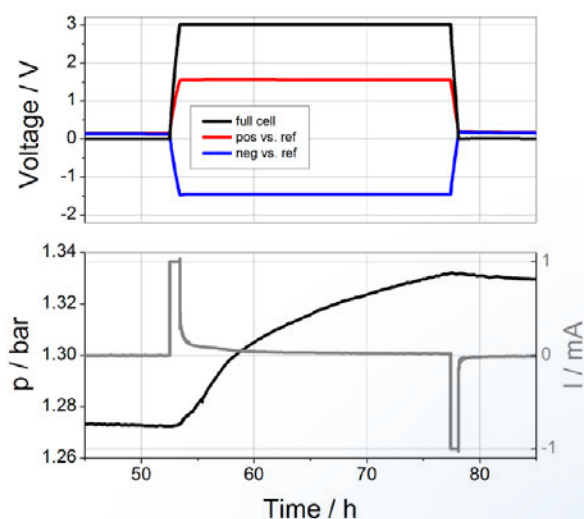
pressure sensor and glass-to-metal seals for the electrode feed-throughs. The number of non-permanent seals is reduced to its minimum: a single PEEK or metal seal between cell lid and base, and a ferrule when the cell is ordered with the optional gas sample port. To ensure the best testing results, every PAT-Cell-Press has been tested to be free of leaks before delivery.

Features

- Cableless test cell with all advantages of the PAT-Core
- Laser welded pressure sensor, pressure range of 0 to 3 bar abs. (0.5 to 4.5 V output signal)
- Optional gas sample port (PAT-Cell-Press S)
- Compatible with aprotic as well as aqueous electrochemistry
- Analog outputs for pressure and temperature for seamless integration with other instruments
- PAT-Button for automatic cell identification in EL-Software

Sample test result

Pressure response during cc/cv cycling of a supercapacitor*



* Test setup: PAT-Cell-Press S, activated carbon electrodes, activated carbon reference, 1M TEABF₄ in acetonitrile, 25 µm polyolefine separator (2x), CCCV cycles, 1 mA, 0/3 V, 35 °C

Height / Width / Length	61 / 49.5 / 49.5 mm
Width with sample port (PAT-Cell-Press-S)	70 mm
Weight	0.5 kg
Separator diameter	21.6 mm
Electrode diameter	18 mm
Dead volume (with PAT-Core / without PAT-Core)	3.6 / 8.1 ml
Range of the pressure sensor	0 to 3 bar abs. (0.5 to 4.5 V output signal)
Accuracy of the pressure sensor	< 5 mbar
Resolution of the pressure sensor	< 0.2 mbar
Operational temperature	-20 to 80 °C

Product website:



PAT-Cell-Gas

PAT-Cell for in-situ gas analysis in a flow-through set-up

The PAT-Cell-Gas is a test cell dedicated to the in-situ gas analysis of battery materials in a flow-through setup. It combines all capabilities of the ECC-Air, ECC-DEMS, and PAT-Cell-Press test cells. For that purpose, the test cell features a gas inlet and outlet and optionally a built-in pressure sensor and a valve port for gas sample removal with a syringe. The cell stack is placed on top of a perforated or grooved current collector (flow field), which is to be purged with a gentle stream of gas.

Features

- PAT series test cell with gas inlet and outlet
- PAT-Core design with or without ring-shaped reference electrode
- Lower plungers with perforated plate and spiral-shaped flow field for optimized plug-flow available.
- Optional pressure sensor, 0 to 3 bar abs. (0.5 to 4.5 V output signal)
- Optional gas sample port
- Electrode feedthroughs with glass-to-metal seals
- PAT-Button for automatic cell identification in EL-Software

Height / Width / Length	116 / 56 / 100 mm
Width with sample port	70 mm
Weight	0.6 kg
Electrode diameter	18 mm
Gas connection	1/16 inch Swagelok tube fitting
Dead volume (with PAT-Core)	3.9 - 4.6 ml*
Range of pressure sensor	0 to 3 bar abs. (0.5 to 4.5 V signal output)
Accuracy of pressure sensor	< 5 mbar
Resolution of pressure sensor	< 0.2 mbar
Operational temperature	-20 to 80 °C

*Depending on the lower plunger used



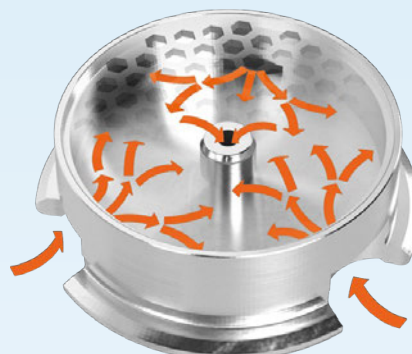
The lower electrode must be gas-permeable to allow gas exchange with the feed gas. The cell is typically used with gas diffusion electrodes (such as for Li-air) or Li-ion battery electrodes with a meshed current collector. The unique design minimizes the back mixing of the gas from the flowfield back into the headspace. It is thus very suitable for time-resolved gas analysis with a mass spectrometer, for example.

Variants	Gas in- and outlet	Pressure sensor	Gas sample port
PAT-Cell-Gas	✓		
PAT-Cell-Gas P	✓	✓	
PAT-Cell-Gas S	✓		✓
PAT-Cell-Gas SP	✓	✓	✓



PAT-Cell-Gas Working Modes

Mode 1: Air mode

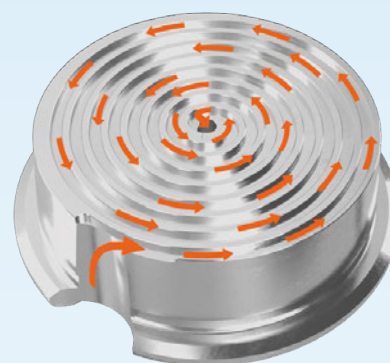
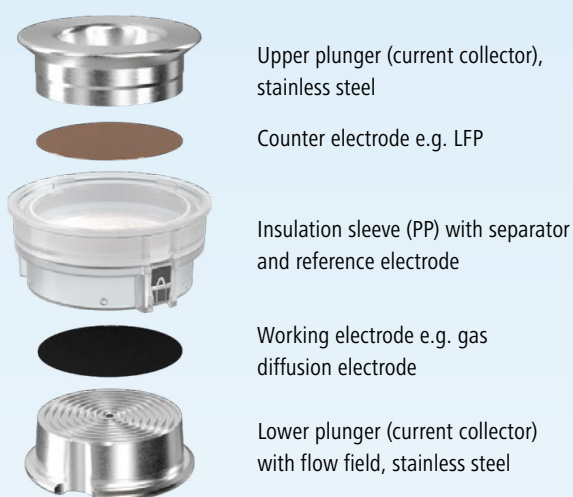


Gas flow inside the lower plunger

The lower plunger with perforated plate allows for electrochemical characterization of gas diffusion electrodes used for instance in Li-air batteries. The lower electrode is contacted by and "breathes" through the perforated stainless steel current collector supporting it. During operation, the pressure gradient

building up between cell headroom and the gas volume below the perforated plate effectively prevents back-mixing. The relatively large volume below the perforated is at the expense of time resolution, but makes this solution robust against clogging of the gas path.

Mode 2: OEMS mode



Gas flow along the surface of the lower plunger

The PAT-Core setup using a lower plunger with a flow field provides almost perfect plug-flow of the purge gas, being essential for quantitative time-resolved analysis. Gases evolved or consumed at the working electrode may be analyzed through the composition change of the gas stream that is to be passed along the spiral-type flow field below the working electrode.

The composition of the outgoing gas can be analyzed by e.g. mass spectrometry. The pressure gradient between cell headroom and spiral-type flow field effectively prevents back mixing. This and the tiny gas volume of the flow field ensure the best possible time resolution.

PAT-Cell-HT

Heat resistant PAT-Cell for up to 200 °C

The PAT-Cell-HT is a special version of the PAT-Cell equipped for temperatures up to 200 °C. For this purpose, the PAT-Cell-HT

must be operated with specialized PAT-Core components and the PAT-Heater-4 as the high-temperature docking station.

Specialized PAT-Core for the PAT-Cell-HT

Inner stick ring, PEEK

Separator, e.g. glass fiber or solid-state electrolyte membrane

Reference ring, e.g. lithium metal

Reed contact

Outer stick ring, PEEK

Specialized PAT-Core components

To meet the challenges of battery tests at elevated temperatures up to 200 °C, we offer a specialized version of the insulation sleeve. This reusable sleeve is made of PEEK (rather than PP) and is especially useful for investigating of solid-state electrolyte membranes. The PEEK insulation sleeve can be equipped with different reference materials like the standard sleeve. The familiar current collectors (plungers) complete the PAT-Core. Available plunger materials are aluminum and copper (for single use) or stainless steel 316L (for reuse).

Features

- Cableless test cell with all advantages of the PAT-Core at elevated temperatures
- Continuous operating temperature: up to 200 °C
- Glass-to-metal seals for improved temperature resistance
- Compatible with liquid aprotic electrolytes and solid-state electrolyte membranes

Height / Diameter	61 / 49.5 mm	Product website:
Weight	0.5 kg	
Separator / membrane diameter	21.6 mm	
Electrode diameter	18 mm	
Operational temperature	-20 to 200 °C	



PAT-Adapters

Adapter for other cell formats

In addition to our PAT test cells, we also offer a variety of cell adapters to connect T-cells, split cells, coin cells, or any other custom test cell to our PAT system. The PAT-Adapters are inserted into the PAT socket like any PAT series test cell.

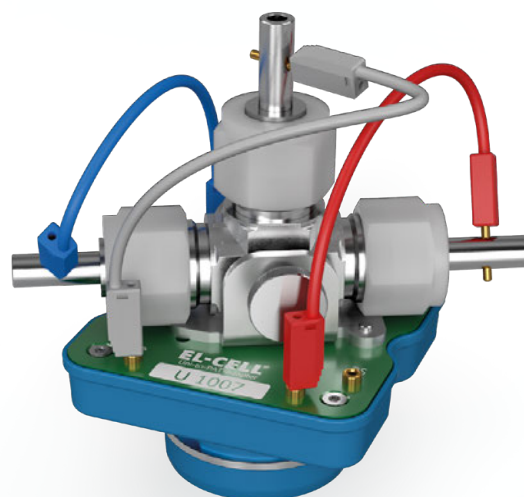
Each adapter features an integrated PAT-Button, enabling automatic cell identification when connected to an EL-Cell potentiostat like the PAT-Tester-i-16.



3E-Coin-PAT-Adapter

For coin cells with 2- or 3-electrodes

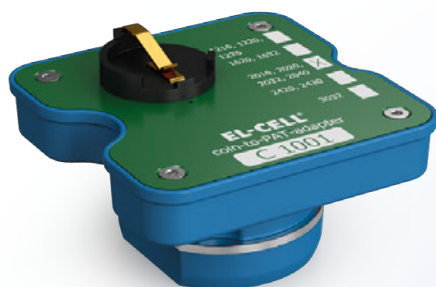
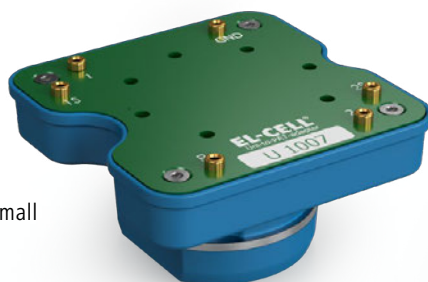
It fits all coin cells with up to 32 mm in diameter and 5.5 mm in height.



Example shows mounted T-Cell.

Uni-to-PAT-Adapter

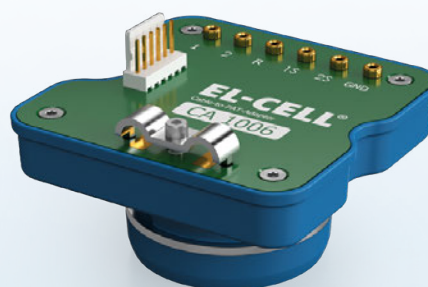
Universal adapter for mounting any small battery format test cell



Coin-PAT-Adapter

For coin cells with two electrodes

Variants are available for coin cells with a diameter of 12, 16, 20, 24, and 32 mm and a maximum height of 4 mm.



Cable-to-PAT-Adapter

Provides 2 mm jacks for banana plugs and a 6-way connector (Molex) to connect small test cells like small pouch cells.

PAT Battery Testers

EL-CELL operates its own fully equipped electrochemical laboratory, where we perform a wide variety of test measurements for our customers and our in-house product development. Our long-standing practical experience with electrochemical testing made us eager to develop test equipment that is specifically tailored to the needs of battery research, allowing us to exploit the full potential of our PAT-Cells.

We have incorporated our discoveries into developing a new generation of battery testers, the EL-CELL PAT tester series. Our focus is on convenient handling and minimizing laboratory space as much as possible through high integration of core components and modern system architecture. Each test channel of a PAT battery tester contains a fully equipped potentiostat/galvanostat and impedance analyzer and new, unique features. A connection matrix facilitates alternating between full-cell and half-cell control at runtime without having to change even a single cable.

The control software EL-Software enables networked, location-independent operation with a scalable number of test channels and devices.

The EL-Software supports the researcher through all vital steps, from experiment design and test monitoring to test result analysis. An easy-to-navigate database stores all information such as measurement results or applied battery components and thus provides optimal oversight. The open export interfaces allow seamless integration of EL-Software into existing software pipelines.

Two different product lines, based on the same system architecture, offer a variety of application options:

The PAT-Tester-i-16, a highly integrated device, combines a temperature-controlled chamber, a docking station for up to 16 PAT-Cells, and the battery tester with 16 fully equipped test channels. Minimal space requirement makes the PAT-Tester-i-16 the perfect solution for high-throughput test scenarios.

The PAT-Tester-x-8 is the perfect solution whenever maximum flexibility is required. Up to 8 test cells can be tested simultaneously in very different environments with this device: on the laboratory bench, in the glovebox, in a climatic chamber, or wherever else you want. The electronics of the single channel are identical to the one in the PAT-Tester-i-16. This fact guarantees the highest performance for PAT-Cells and all other EL-CELL test cells, coin cells, and other cell formats.



PAT-Tester-i-16



PAT-Tester-x-8

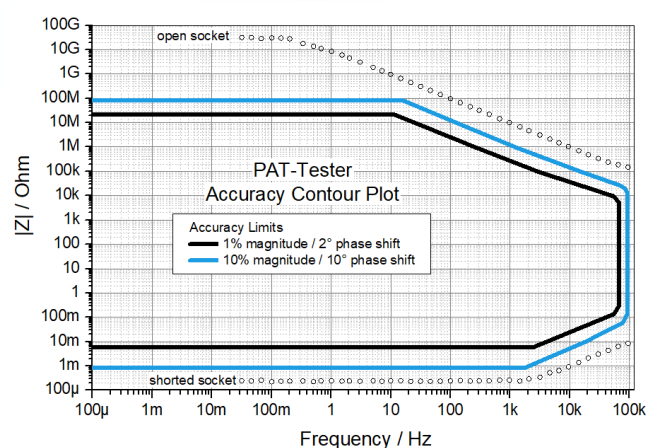
Highlights

- Multi-channel battery cycler/potentiostat/galvanostat/impedance analyzer with fully independent test channels
- Latest 24-bit hardware for the highest accuracy
- Modern multi-user, multi-device architecture for maximum reliability and usability
- Perfectly tailored for PAT-Cells, and still open for other small cell formats
- Two product lines are available:
 - PAT-Tester-i-16 with 16 channels and temperature control for high-throughput testing
 - PAT-Tester-x-8 with 1 to 8 channels for special purposes and maximum flexibility
- High operation reliability due to a built-in solid-state disk serving as internal data buffer

PAT Battery Tester Specifications

General	
Channels per device	1 to 16 (PAT-Tester-i-16), 1 to 8 (PAT-Tester-x-8)
Voltage	-7 V to + 7 V
Current	± 100 mA
Cell connection / Electrode connection	3 electrodes plus sense wires, connection matrix
ADC	2 x 24 Bit
DAC	1 x 18 Bit
Bandwidth ranges (stability factor)	500 kHz (fast), 50 kHz (medium), 5 kHz (slow)
Acquisition time (time base)	1 ms
Internal sample buffer	100 GByte
Computer interface	1 Gbit Ethernet, runs standalone, Multiuser
Current	
Current ranges	± 100 mA ± 10 mA ± 1 mA ± 100 µA Auto range
Measurement noise floor	< 1 µA @ 100 mA < 100 nA @ 10 mA < 10 nA @ 1 mA < 1 nA @ 100 µA
Measurement accuracy	± 0.05 % of FSR
Control resolution	1 nA min. (18 Bit)
Voltage	
Acquisitions	Full cell voltage, both half cell voltages, auxiliary voltage
Measurement accuracy	± 0.02 % of FSR
Control resolution	57 µV (18 Bit)
Impedance (each channel)	
Frequency range	100 µHz to 100 kHz
Impedance mode	PEIS and GEIS (simultaneous measurement of full- and half-cell impedances)
Impedance range	1 mΩ to 100 MΩ

Other	
Temperature Chamber (PAT-Tester-i-16 only)	+ 10 °C to + 80 °C, software controlled
Additional data input (each channel)	Digital (I ² C) sensor signal, e.g. for cell temperature, Analog sensor signal, e.g. for gas pressure
Calibration	Fully automatic self-calibration with an internal voltage reference and three internal calibration cells
Cell Identification	PAT-Button with a unique serial number stored in EEPROM



PAT-Tester-i-16

The high-throughput test solution

Until now, battery research solutions for higher throughput were modular systems built around wired test cells or test cells docked into a docking station. The cells and docking stations needed to be placed into a temperature-controlled chamber and connected via cables to a potentiostat/galvanostat outside.

Such modular and distributed setups are flexible but have severe drawbacks such as an enormous footprint, extensive cable harness, and susceptibility to experimental mistakes.

With the new PAT-Tester-i-16, we integrate all functions of a 16-channels battery tester, a PAT docking station, and a temperature-controlled test chamber into one single instrument.

The worldwide patented cableless connection between test cell and potentiostat saves space in your lab and eliminates wiring effort. Plug the PAT-Tester into the main power supply, connect it to your LAN and get full remote access from any host PC on the network!

The internal impedance analyzer can simultaneously record both half-cell impedances while running constant current cycles or voltammetric experiments. Acquire the DC and AC characteristics of your test cells at virtually the same time!

All test channels feature a connection matrix for software-controlled switching between half- and full-cell measurements without reconnecting any cables.

Features

- Up to 16 independent test channels with fully equipped PStat/GStat/EIS (no multiplexing) and unique features
- Temperature-controlled cell chamber for up to 16 PAT series test cells
- Integrated Peltier device for temperature control between +10 and +80°C
- Smallest possible footprint, no cell wiring is required.

Height
(opened/closed cover) 600/375 mm

Width / Length 380 / 640 mm

Weight 26 kg

Cell connections 16

Temperature control
range (cell chamber) 10 to 80 °C

Product website:



Sample Test Case

Learn about DC and AC characteristics of both half cells at the same time.

The first cycle of a Li-ion battery – Combining constant current cycling with GEIS.

Test setup:

- Battery tester: PAT-Tester-i-16
- Test cell: PAT-Cell with PAT-Core:
- WE: NCM 111 (CCI, approx. 2 mAh/cm²)
- CE: Graphite (CCI, approx. 2 mAh/cm²)
- RE: Li metal
- Separator: FS-5P (PP fibre + PE membrane)
- Electrolyte: 1M LiPF₆ in EC:DMC (1:1) with 2% VC (100 µl)

Test procedure:

CC charge/discharge with concurrent GEIS analysis

Test results:

The diagrams show the initial charge-discharge cycle of a PAT-Cell tested in the PAT-Tester-i-16. During the galvanostatic cycles, the impedance was measured every half hour between 10 kHz and 100 mHz.

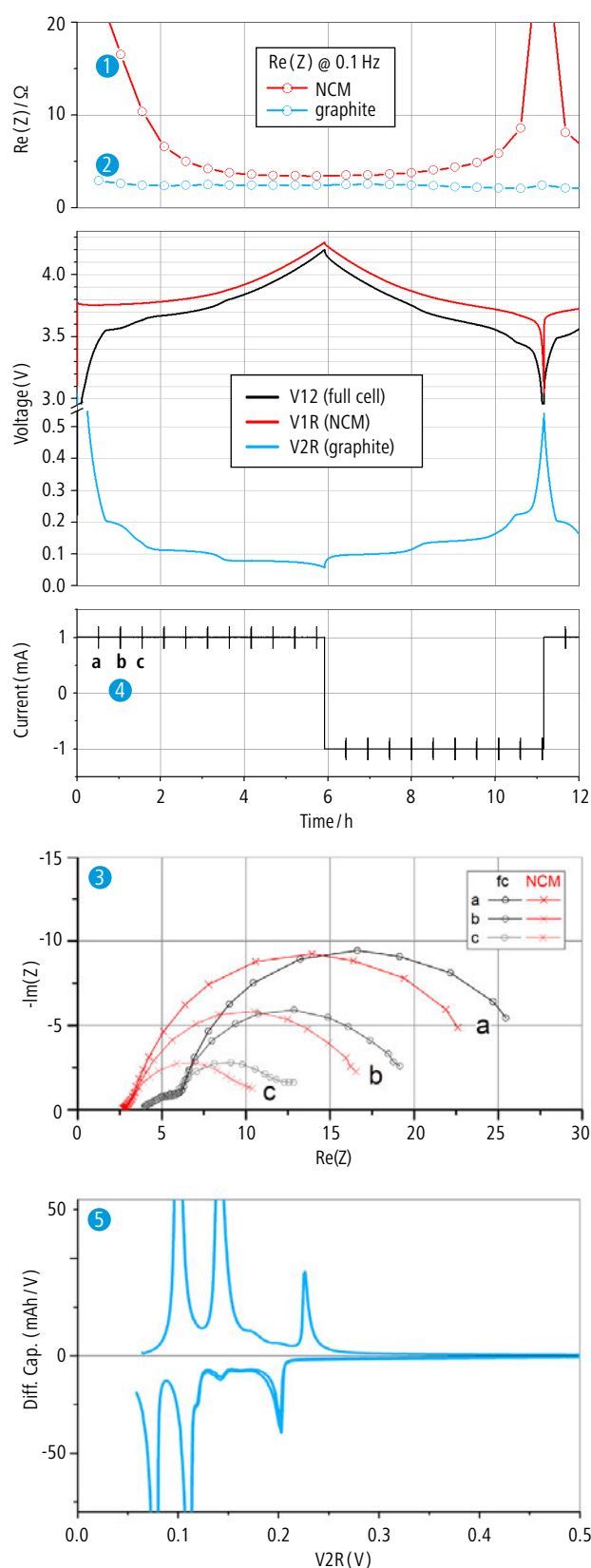
The first diagram shows the real part of the two half cell impedances (1 and 2) at 100 mHz extracted from the complete set of impedance data gathered during the experiment.

Another subset of EIS data is shown as Nyquist spectra (3) recorded at times a, b, and c (4).

The last diagram shows the differential capacity of the graphite half cell, as already calculated during the test (5).

Conclusion:

Battery testing with the PAT-Tester-i-16 offers the unique possibility of measuring the DC and AC characteristics of both half cells at virtually the same time.



PAT-Tester-x-8

The individual and flexible test solution

The PAT-Tester-x-8 is the perfect choice for small-scale and special purpose testing. It brings the same battery tester hardware and software as the PAT-Tester-i-16. However, the test channels are separated into individual devices.

The **PAT-Controller-8** is the control unit for up to eight individually connectable PAT-Channel-1 boxes containing the actual measurement equipment. The PAT-Controller serves as a buffer for the measurement data and enables direct communication between the test channels and the EL-Software server.

That way, the operator can control each test channel of the PAT-Tester-x-8 from any client PC in the same network via EL-Software.

Each **PAT-Channel-1** contains a fully featured, independent galvanostat/potentiostat/ impedance analyzer. Just like the test channels of the PAT-tester-i-16, there is no multiplexing. Place the PAT-Channels where they are needed: on the bench, in a climate chamber, or inside the glove box.

While tailored for PAT-Cells, each PAT-Channel-1 can connect to almost any other test cell, like our ECC-Opto-Std optical in-situ cell.

PAT-Controller-8 (control unit)	
Height / Width / Length	78 / 170 / 168 mm
Weight	1.7 kg
Test channels	up to 8
Operational temperature	0 to 40 °C

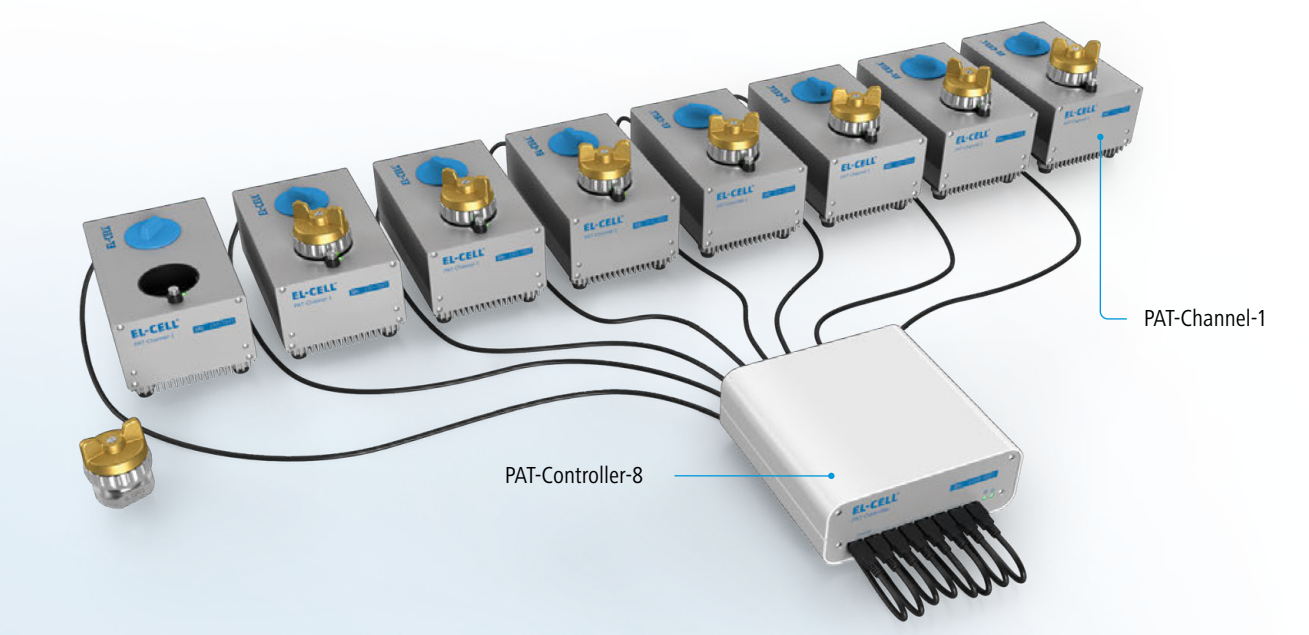
Product website:



PAT-Channel-1 (test channel)	
Height / Width / Length	97 / 105 / 164 mm
Weight	1.3 kg
Operational temperature	-20 to 40 °C

Features

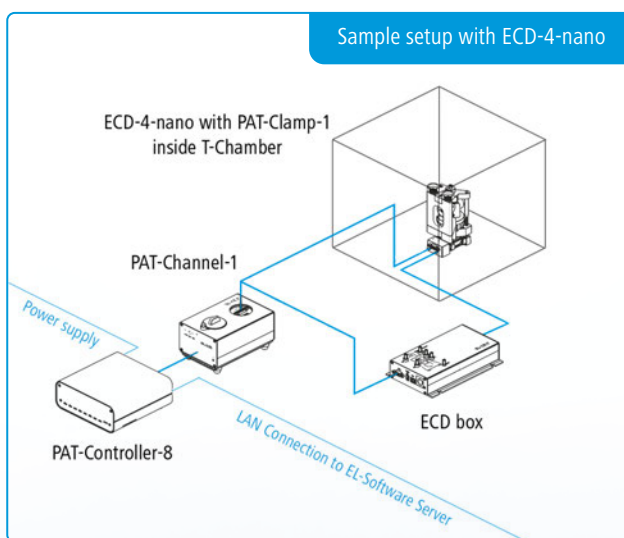
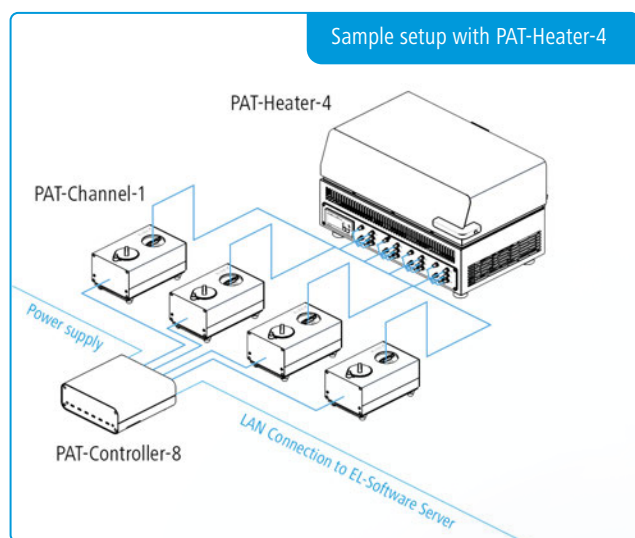
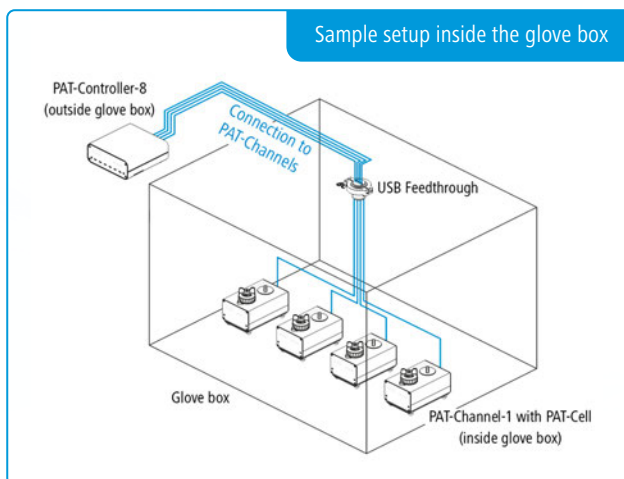
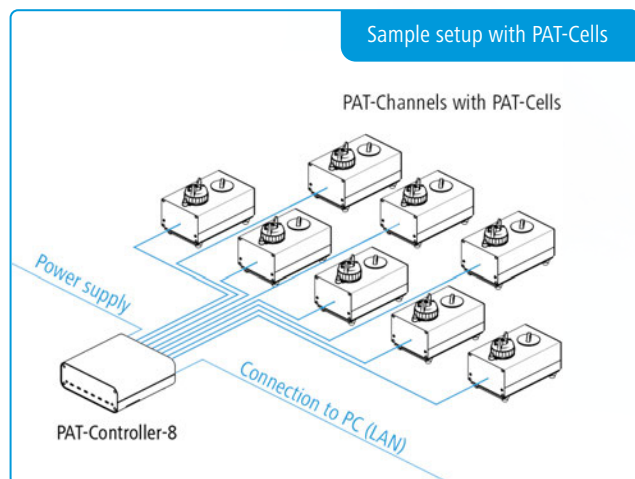
- Up to 8 independent test channels with fully equipped PStat / GStat / EIS (no multiplexing) and unique features
- Individual test channels can be operated in a temperature chamber or directly in the glove box.
- The flexible testing solution is ideal for small-scale setups with operando and special purpose test cells.



PAT-Tester-x Sample Setups

Here you can see a few exemplary configurations of the PAT-Tester-x-8. Depending on your specific requirements, you can set up the device in many different ways. Plug the cells directly into the PAT-Socket or connect them via cable to cells in a

temperature chamber or separate docking station. You can even operate test channels directly in the glove box, for example, to check the functionality of your test cells directly after assembly.



The PAT-Terminal-1:

Powerful assistance in the glovebox!



Coming soon!

The PAT-Terminal-1 will significantly simplify your workflow when assembling PAT series test cells in the glovebox. It is an advanced PAT-Channel-1 that can perform stand-alone impedance measurements and other quick functional tests of your test cells. A large display shows the live data of all relevant parameters of your test cells directly after assembly. So you can detect faulty cells immediately, before starting the experiment. It also supports the precise adjustment of the sensors of in-situ cells, such as the PAT-Cell-Force.

EL-Software

EL-Software is the software platform to design, manage and monitor experiments on all EL-CELL battery testers, be it single-channel or multi-channel systems. It offers many features like a central, conveniently searchable database, networking capabilities, or the Composer, a powerful yet easy-to-use visual test script editor.

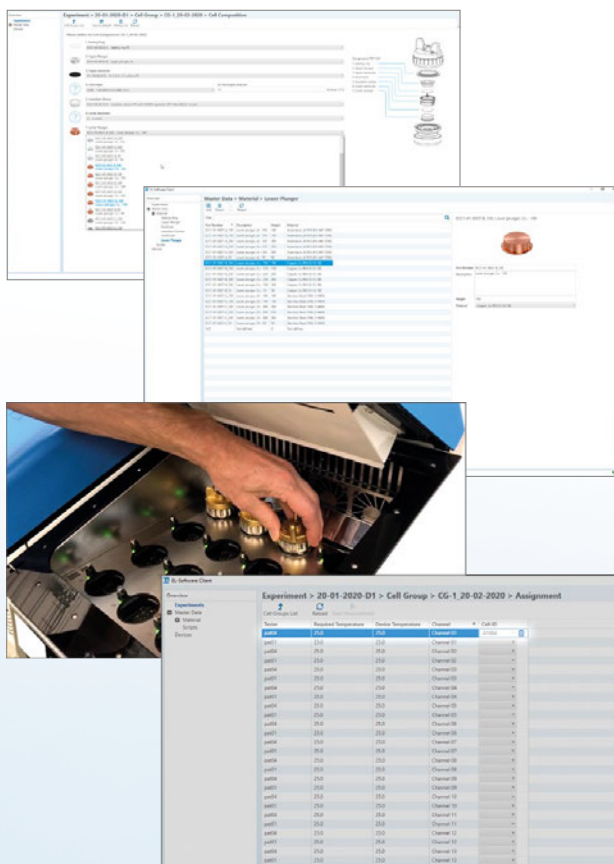
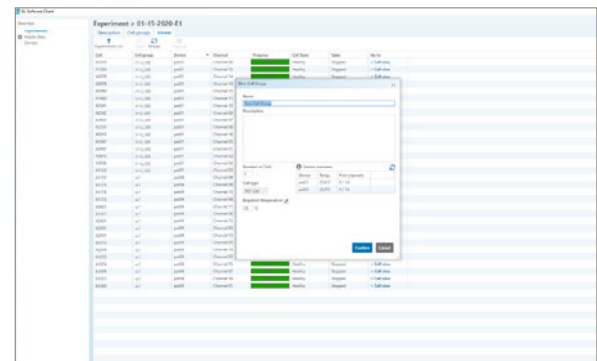
It also provides you with state-of-the-art graphics capabilities for visualizing your test results, while the open export interfaces allow a seamless integration into existing software pipelines.

EL-Software guides you through the individual testing steps with the PAT system and other test cells.

Working with EL-Software

Highly scalable test setups

EL-Software focuses on the cell groups to be compared instead of individual test channels. This novel approach makes it easy to set up and perform experiments with a freely scalable number of test channels and devices. With EL-Software, you always have an overview of your experiment. The system is very flexible and allows efficient tests with high throughput and experiments with just a single cell.



Convenient experiment design and cell management

With EL-Software, you can easily plan complex experiments, from test procedures to the required components of each test cell.

The software's database already contains all available cell components of the PAT series. It can easily be extended by additional components such as own separator materials or electrolytes and other cell types. Configure your test cells according to your application in our convenient modular system.

The software accompanies test cells throughout their entire life cycle. This provides a permanent access to a wide range of information, such as the history of the experiments performed, the cell components used, and data for post-mortem analysis.

As soon as you insert a test cell with an integrated **PAT-Button** into a PAT-Tester, EL-Software recognizes this cell via the stored ID and can immediately provide you with all linked information, such as the cell's content. In this way, the researcher always keeps an overview and can more easily combine cells from different test groups in new experiments. Manual labeling with pens or QR codes has thus become superfluous.

Compose test scripts

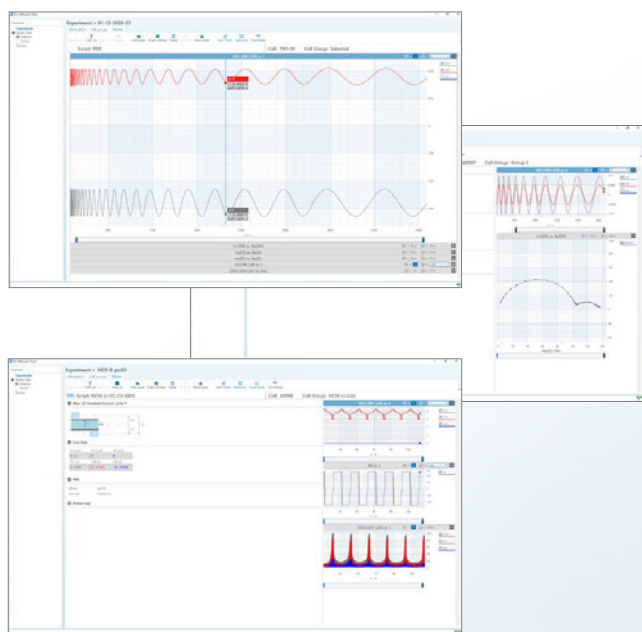
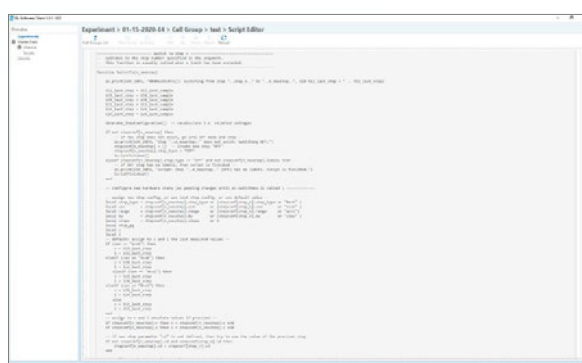
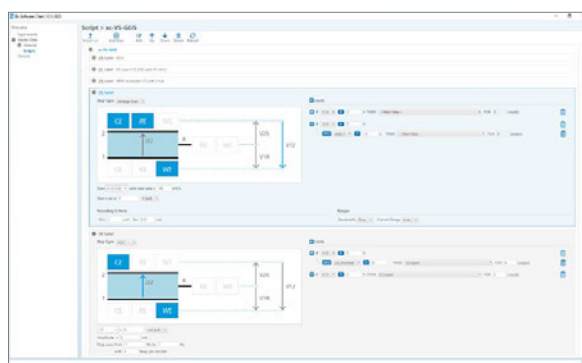
Visual script editor: Create your test scripts comfortably and efficiently in the Composer, a powerful visual editor integrated into EL-Software. The Composer uses an easy-to-learn modular principle to create even complex test procedures in a very short time. The connection between the test cell and PGStat can be changed directly in the test script as a unique feature. The user can seamlessly switch between the different control modes for half and full cell with a few mouse clicks without interrupting the measurement or reconnecting any cables.

Test procedures can consist of several individual test scripts per experiment with any number of process steps. You can integrate predefined standard templates from the script library or create your own templates to simplify your work.

Simply switch between the different operating modes such as PEIS, GEIS, or Voltage Scan and link the individual process steps using conditions and limits.

Custom scripts: It is also possible to program your scripts in Lua and import them directly into EL-Software. This allows you to implement even very sophisticated test procedures quickly. EL-software sets no limits to your creativity.

On-the-fly editing: This feature allows you to change test sequences during the runtime of the experiment. To do this, you simply edit the Lua script in question and upload this script again. In that way, you can change setpoints and step limits like never before.



Experiment monitoring: Always keep the overview

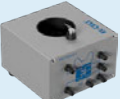
The well-structured cell viewer gives you feedback on your ongoing measurements. Forget about the time when measurement results had to be processed before you were able to conclude anything from them. Instead, plot your measurement data in real-time, and compare and calculate the various parameters directly in the running measurement using freely configurable graphs.

PAT Docking Stations

PAT test cells are cableless. To connect them with a battery tester, simply insert them into the PAT socket of a docking station or battery tester. The docking station can be left permanently wired to the potentiostat in use, and this way, you minimize wiring mistakes when connecting test cells.

Most often, PAT docking stations are used to power the PAT-Cell with a third-party battery tester. However, they are also instrumental in combination with a PAT-Tester if you want to use them, e.g. in a climatic chamber or directly inside a glove box environment. Our docking stations support up to 16 test cells, and offer additional features like data loggers and integrated temperature-controlled cell chambers that allow battery tests up to 200° C.



	# Cell connections (PAT Socket)	Measurements in mm Height/Width/Length			Weight in kg	Operational temperature	Charge / Discharge / EIS*	Data Logger**	Tempered cell chamber
 PAT-Clamp-1	1	21	62	80	0.12	-20 - 70 °C	✓		
 PAT-Stand-1	1	80	113	105	0.5	-20 - 70 °C	✓		
 PAT-Stand-4	4	84	119	301	1.5	-20 - 70 °C	✓		
 PAT-Stand-16	16	120	315	315	7	-20 - 70 °C	✓	✓	
 PAT-Heater-4	4	230	265	400	14		✓		up to 200 °C***
 PAT-Chamber-16	16	375	640	380	24		✓	✓	10 - 80 °C

* Compatible with any PAT series test cell

** Independent data acquisition of cell data (current, full- and half-cell voltages), pressure (only PAT-Chamber-16), and temperature. EC-Link monitoring software is provided.

*** 10 °C above average room temperature to 200 °C

PAT-Clamp-1

Docking station with minimized dimensions

The PAT-Clamp-1 is a single cell docking station for tight space constraints. The cell is inserted and removed by bending up the clamp. The PAT-Clamp-1 is often used in addition to a high-throughput solution. For instance, 16 PAT-Cells can be cycled in parallel in a PAT-Chamber-16 connected by a third-party battery

tester without impedance capability. In that case, the impedance of each test cell can be measured before and after the cycle test in the PAT-Clamp-1 connected to the PAT-Tester-x or another impedance analyzer.

Features

- Socket for one PAT series test cell (charge / discharge / EIS compatible)
- Compatible with any other potentiostat and battery tester
- Can be used inside a glove box environment
- Flexible wiring via 2 mm banana sockets or Sub-D connector
- Smallest docking station for PAT series test cells



Height / Width / Length	PAT-Clamp-1 V: 27 / 80 / 62 mm PAT-Clamp-1 H: 27 / 86 / 62 mm
Weight	0.12 kg
Cell connections	1
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C

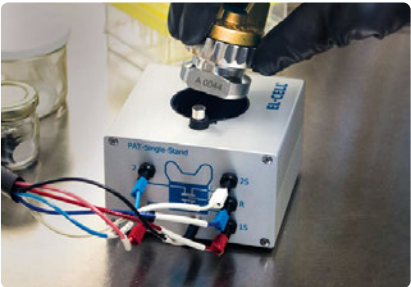
Product website:



PAT-Stand-1

PAT docking station for individual battery testing

The PAT-Stand-1 is a docking station for a single PAT series test cell. It fits into any climate chamber with a cable feedthrough and can be placed inside a glovebox. The stand can be left connected permanently to a common potentiostat or battery tester using 4 mm banana sockets or a Sub-D connector.



PAT-Stand-1 inside a glove box



Height / Width / Length	81/105/113 mm	Product website:
Weight	0.6 kg	
Cell connections	1	
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C	

PAT-Stand-4

Scale up of individual battery testing

The PAT-Stand-4 is a docking station connecting up to four PAT-Cells to any potentiostat or battery tester. The stand is connected to a common potentiostat or battery tester using 2 mm or 4 mm banana sockets.

Height / Width / Length	84/119/301 mm	Product website:
Weight	0.67 kg	
Cell connections	4	
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C	



PAT-Stand-16

High-throughput docking station

The PAT-Stand-16 is the docking station for up to 16 PAT-Cells in a 4x4 array. It has a built-in data logger recording full- and half-cell voltages, cell current, tray temperature, and time. The PAT-Stand-16 can be operated with a standard multi-channel potentiostat (like the Biologic MPG-2 or VMP300) or battery tester (like the Maccor 4000).

A typical setup comprises the PAT-Stand-16 placed inside a temperature chamber and an external 16-channel battery tester.



Height / Width / Length 120/315/315 mm

Weight 6.9 kg

Cell connections 16

Operational temperature -20 to 70 °C

Data logger (recorded cell data)

- Current
- Voltage (full and half cell)
- Temperature (docking station)

Product website:



Accessories for the PAT-Stand-16



Height / Width / Length 106/334/195 mm

Weight 6.9 kg

Operational temperature -20 to 70 °C

Connectors (2 mm banana sockets) WE, WE-Sense, CE, CE-Sense, RE

Connectors (Sub-D) buffered half cell voltages, temperature, sensor signals

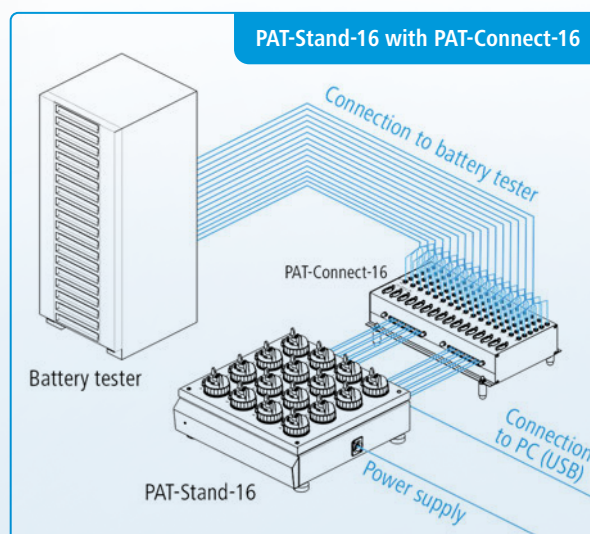
Product website:



PAT-Connect-16

Adapter box for flexible wiring connections

The PAT-Connect-16 is an intermediate box between PAT-Stand-16/PAT-Chamber-16 and potentiostat / battery tester. It enables flexible switching between operation modes.



PAT-Chamber-16

Temperature-controlled PAT series docking station

The PAT-Chamber-16 combines the high-throughput testing abilities of the PAT-Stand-16 with a temperature-controlled cell chamber. The integrated Peltier device lets you test at the exact temperature you need, between +10 °C and +80 °C. The PAT-Chamber-16 is our first high-throughput docking station that is capable of utilizing both the PAT-Cell and the PAT-Cell-Press for

in-situ pressure monitoring of up to 16 test cells at the same time. Like the PAT-Stand-16, the PAT-Chamber-16 comes with a built-in data logger recording full- and half-cell voltages, cell current, time, global temperature, and individual cell pressure.

A typical setup comprises the PAT-Chamber-16 with PAT-Connect and an external 16-channel battery tester.

Features

- Temperature-controlled docking station for up to 16 PAT series test cells
- Integrated Peltier device for temperature control between +10 and +80 °C
- Full support of PAT-Cell-Press for pressure monitoring
- Compatible with all of today's potentiostats and battery testers
- Flexible wiring possible with optional PAT-Connect-16



Height
(opened / closed cover) 600 / 375 mm

Height with
PAT-Connect-16
(opened / closed cover) 600 / 449 mm

Width / Length 380 / 640 mm

Weight 24 kg

Cell connections 16

Temperature control
range (cell chamber) 10 to 80 °C

Data logger (recorded
cell data)

- Current
- Voltage (full and half cells)
- Temperature (docking station)
- Cell pressure

Product website:



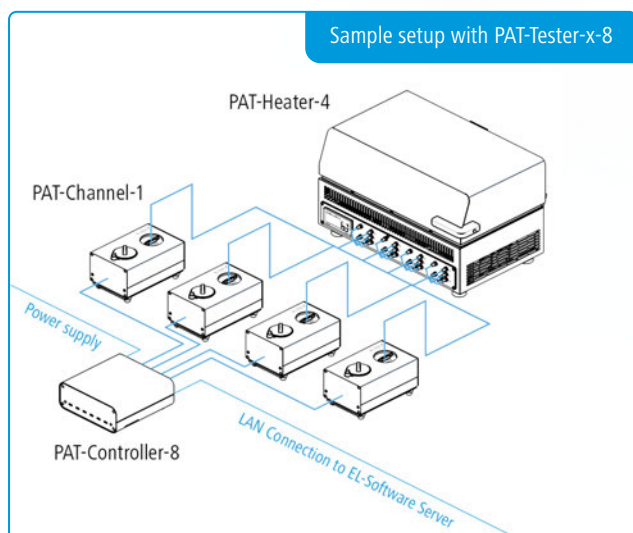
PAT-Chamber-16 with top-mounted PAT-Connect-16

PAT-Heater-4

Heated chamber for four PAT-Cell-HT

The PAT-Heater-4 is a heated docking station connecting up to four PAT-Cell-HT to any potentiostat or battery tester. The working temperature is adjustable from slightly above ambient temperature up to 200°C.

The PAT-Heater-4 saves wiring effort because it is unnecessary to renew the connection between cell and potentiostat for every battery test. The easy-to-access banana sockets at the side of the docking station still allow for flexible wiring.



Features

- Heated cell chamber up to 200 °C
- 4x1 docking station for up to four PAT-Cell-HT
- Compatible with all of today's multi-channel potentiostats and battery testers
- Flexible wiring due to easy-to-access banana sockets

Height / Width / Length	230 / 400 / 265 mm
Weight	14 kg
Cell connections	4
Temperature control range (cell chamber)	up to 200 °C *

Product website:



* 10 °C above average room temperature to 200 °C



ECC-Opto-10

Advanced optical battery test cell

The ECC-Opto-10 test cell is an advanced next-generation battery test cell. It is designed for the operando characterization of electrodes using optical methods such as light microscopy or Raman spectroscopy in reflection mode.

A newly developed sealing concept utilizing laser-welded glass-to-metal electrode feedthroughs and foil seals substantially increases cycle stability compared to the previous generation. The much more compact and low profile design allows use under a

wide range of microscopes. We further optimized the cell design for easy assembly. Dedicated sample holders for side-by-side and sandwich arrangements of electrodes vastly improve the handling. The ECC-Opto-10 is connected to the battery tester via 2 mm cell cable with banana plugs. It can be used with the PAT-Tester-x-8 and potentiostats and battery testers from third-party manufacturers.

Features

- High cycling stability due to the improved sealing concept
- Dedicated sample holders for different electrode arrangements are available
- Fast assembly and dismantling and easy cleaning of cell components
- Electrodes are easily accessible for post-mortem analysis
- Low cell height of 21.5 mm for trouble-free use under many light microscopes
- Fits well on standard microscope sample stages (76×26 mm (DIN ISO 8037-1))

Height / Width / Length	46 / 88 / 63 mm	Product website: 
Weight	0.2 kg	
Separator diameter	10 mm	
Electrode diameter	up to 10 mm	
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C	



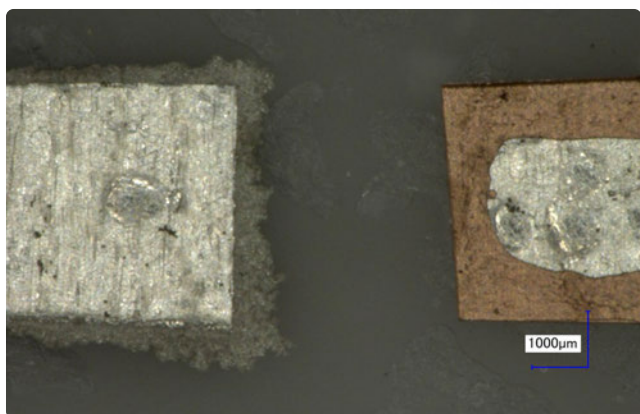
PAT-Cell-Opto-10

Advanced PAT-Cell for optical characterization

The PAT-Cell-Opto-10 is an advanced next-generation battery test cell. It is designed for in-situ characterization of electrodes using optical methods such as light microscopy or Raman spectroscopy in reflection mode. The design of the test cell is identical to that of the ECC-Opto-10, featuring an advanced sealing concept

for high cycling stability and an easy-to-assemble cell design. In contrast to wired contacting, the PAT-Cell-Opto-10 is inserted cable-free via PAT socket directly into a PAT battery tester or docking station.

Sample test result



Lithium metal electrodes embedded into a glass fiber separator soaked with electrolyte. Applying a current of 20 μ A for 5 hours makes the lithium to dissolve from the supporting copper foil (right electrode) and to plate as dendrites on the opposite side (left electrode).

Height / Width / Length	32 / 55 / 55 mm	Product website: 
Weight	0.3 kg	
Separator diameter	10 mm	
Electrode diameter	up to 10 mm	
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C	

Features

- High cycling stability due to improved sealing concept
- Dedicated sample holders for different electrode arrangements available
- Fast assembly and dismantling and easy cleaning of cell components
- Electrodes are easily accessible for post-mortem analysis
- Cableless cell connection via PAT socket
- PAT-Button for automatic cell identification in EL-Software

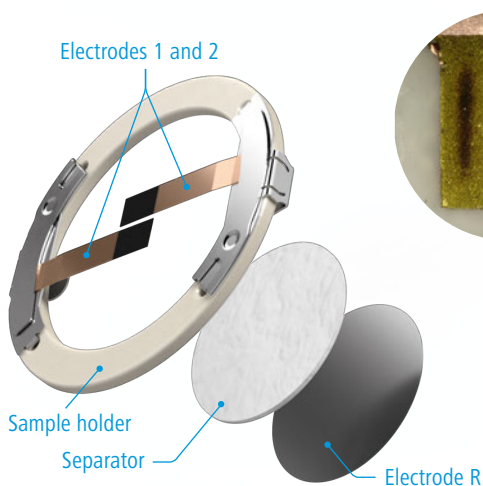


Sample Holders for Opto-10 Test Cells

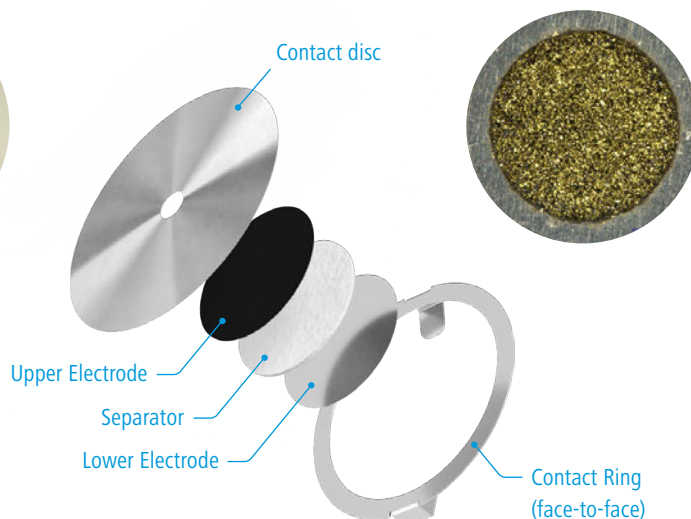
Improve your workflow and save time with our sample holders for side-by-side and face-to-face arrangements of electrodes.

Both variants are included with each PAT-Cell-Opto-10 or ECC-Opto-10.

Sample holder (side-by-side)



Sample holder (face-to-face)



Windows and Cell Lids

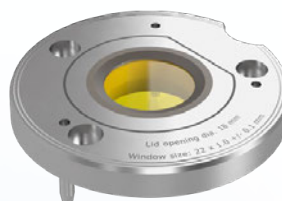
Lid units with different openings and window materials are available for the Opto-10 test cells. They allow the cells to be used in a wide variety of applications such as light microscopy,

Raman spectroscopy, or XRD in reflection mode. All units come preassembled with a window and are ready to use. Spare windows are available upon request.



Lid unit with sapphire window

Lid opening: 18 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 0.3 +/- 0.1 mm



Lid unit with zinc selenide window

Lid opening: 18 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 1.0 +/- 0.1 mm



Lid unit with calcium fluoride window

Lid opening: 18 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 0.5 +/- 0.1 mm



Lid unit with beryllium window

Lid opening: 10x12 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 0.2 +/- 0.1 mm
Theta > 5°, Inspection area
(theta > 5°) = 1 mm



Lid unit with borosilicate window

Lid opening: 10 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 0.3 +/- 0.1 mm

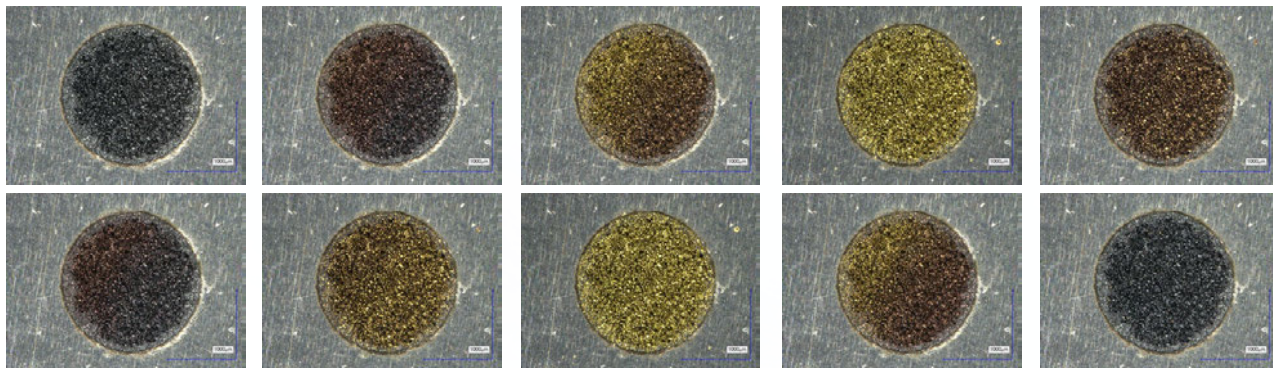


Lid unit with customizable slit mask (no window included)

Lid opening: 18 mm
Supported window size:
22 x 0.25 +/- 0.1 mm
Suitable for unstable window materials such as PET

Sample Test Case

Cycling a graphite electrode vs. lithium metal in a PAT-Cell-Opto-10



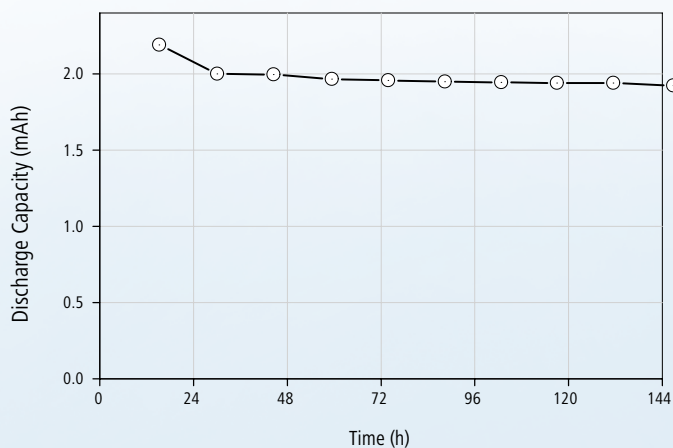
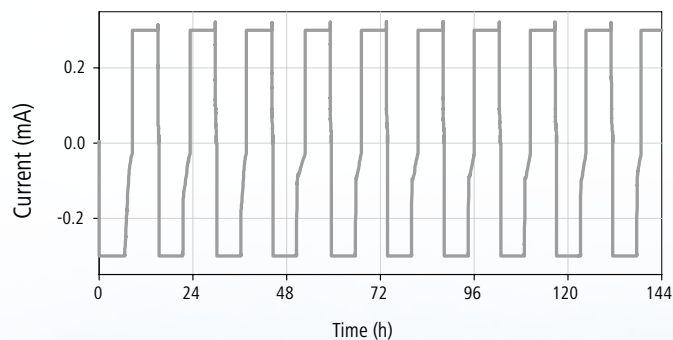
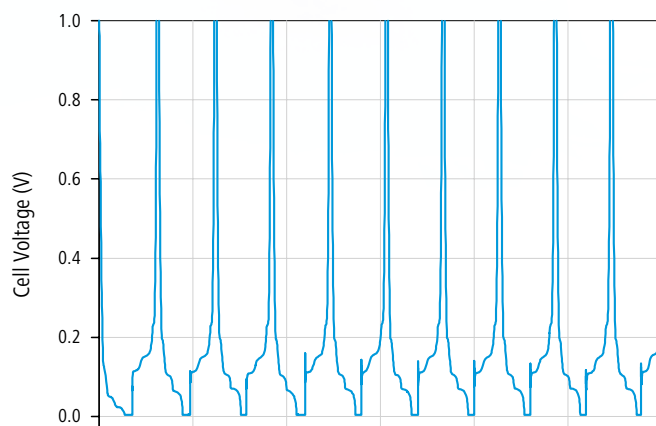
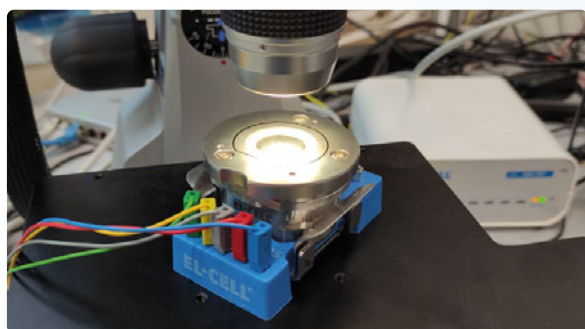
In this battery test, we demonstrate the outstanding cycling stability and tightness of the Opto-10 test cells.

For this purpose, we cycled graphite against lithium in a PAT-Cell-Opto-10 in face-to-face setup for approx. 400 hours (25 cycles). A PAT-Tester-x-8 potentiostat was used while the data was evaluated in EL-Software.

As you can see from the curves shown, the die capacity retention of the test cell at the end of the experiment was still around 80%, with a Coulomb efficiency of almost 100%.

Test setup:

- WE: Free-standing graphite electrode, 10 mm in diameter, 60 μm thick, 2 mAh/cm²
- CE: Lithium metal foil, 10 mm in diameter, 200 μm thick
- Separator: Glass fibre, Whatman GF/A, 260 μm thick
- Electrolyte: 1 M LiPF₆ in EC/DMC (1:1) with 2 % VC
- Microscope: Keyence VHX-700FD with VHX-1020 camera and 100x VH-Z20R zoom
- Potentiostat: EL-Cell PAT-Tester-x-8



ECC-Opto-Std

Processes on your working electrode will become directly visible

The ECC-Opto-Std test cell monitors the optical properties of electrode material in the course of electrochemical charging. It is dedicated to inspecting electrodes using visual methods such as light microscopy or Raman spectroscopy in reflection mode. The respective instrument looks through a transparent window onto the working electrode.

Features

- 2- and 3-electrode cell with optical window for aprotic electrochemistry
- Full delivery scope for light microscopy
- Special kits for XRD and Raman are available.
- Materials in contact with electrolyte are stainless steel 1.4404, PEEK, PE, and the window material.
- Adjustable, reproducible, and homogeneous mechanical pressure on electrodes
- Reliable low-leakage sealing with PE seals
- Easy and reliable electrolyte filling
- Fast assembly and dismantling and easy cleaning of cell components
- Electrodes are easily accessible for post-mortem analysis

Height / Width / Length 46 / 88 / 63 mm

Weight 0.2 kg

Separator diameter 10 mm

Electrode diameter 10 mm

Operational temperature -20 to 70 °C

Product website:



The ECC-Opto-Std is easily adapted through optional special kits (e.g. for XRD) to the respective battery system and optical instrumentation.

The ECC-Opto-Std comes standard with a borosilicate glass window. Depending on your testing purposes, different window materials are available.



In this experiment, the ECC-Opto-Std test cell has been used to visualize the colour change of a graphite electrode during electrochemical lithiation. The microscope "looked" through the 1 mm diameter hole in the copper foil onto the backside of the graphite electrode.



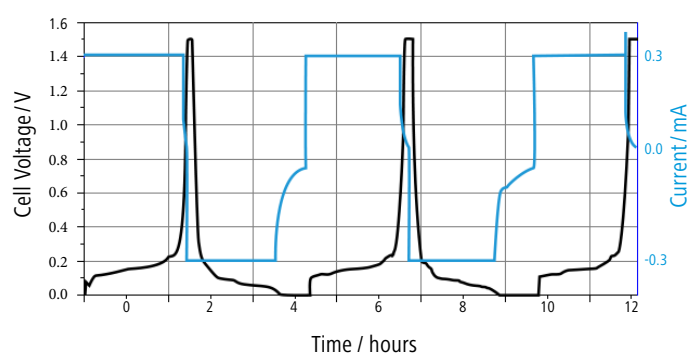
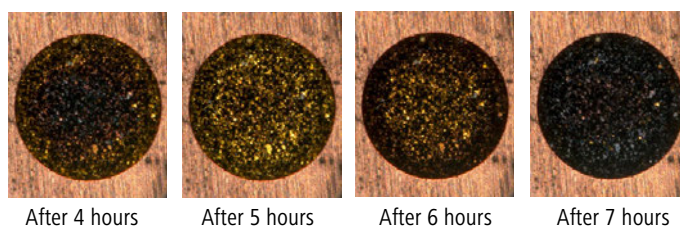
Sample Test Results

I. Electrochemical lithiation of a graphite electrode

In this experiment, the ECC-Opto-Std test cell has been used to visualize the color change of a graphite electrode during electrochemical lithiation.

Test setup:

- WE: Free-standing graphite electrode on a Cu foil current collector with a hole (1 mm diameter)
- CE: Lithium metal, 10 mm in diameter, 0.2 mm thick
- Separator: nonwoven glass fibre, 10 mm in diameter, 1 mm thick
- Electrolyte: 1 M LiPF_6 in EC/DMC (1/1) with 2% VC
- Microscope: Keyence VHX-700FD with VHX-1020 camera and 200x VH-Z20R zoom

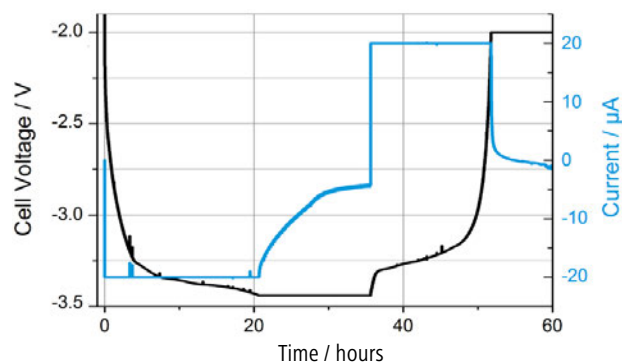
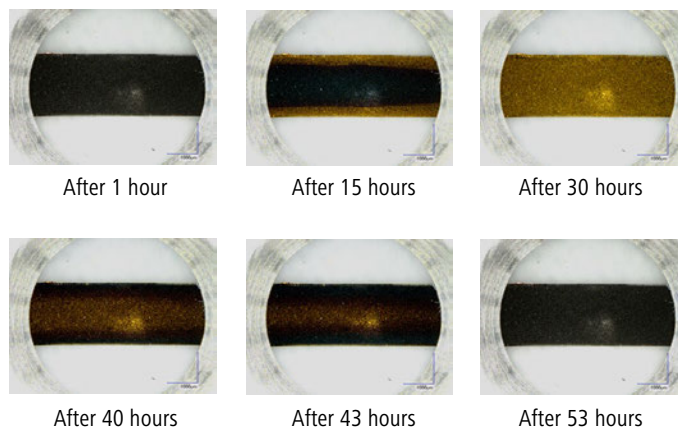


II. Visualizing the potential gradient

In this battery test, we show how the ECC-Opto-Std test cell can be used to visualize a potential gradient inside graphite just by using a standard graphite electrode with a continuous copper foil as the current collector (rather than a current collector with a hole).

Test setup:

- WE: Strip of graphite electrode (CCI, 1.1 mAh/cm^2 , $50 \mu\text{m}$ thick, 2 mm wide), with the Cu foil current collector pointing to the counter electrode
- CE: Lithium iron phosphate electrode (CCI, 3.6 mAh/cm^2 , 9 mm in diameter)
- Separator: Nonwoven glass fibre, 10 mm in diameter, 0.5 mm thick
- Electrolyte: 1 M LiPF_6 in EC/DMC (1/1) with 2% VC
- Microscope: Keyence VHX-700FD with VHX-1020 camera and 50x VH-Z20R zoom



ECC-Opto-Std-Aqu

The ECC-Opto-Std-Aqu optical test cell is a variant of our popular ECC-Opto-Std, specialized for use with aqueous electrochemistry. Components in direct electrolyte contact are made of gold, PEEK, EPDM and the window material.

Height / Width / Length	46 / 88 / 63 mm
Weight	0.2 kg
Separator diameter	10 mm
Electrode diameter	10 mm
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C



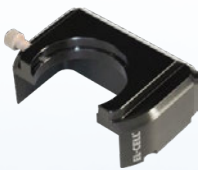
Accessories for ECC-Opto-Std

The wide range of accessories, such as cell holders, window materials, and lids, allows the ECC-Opto-Std to be used with various microscopes, spectrometers, and X-ray devices.

Discover the full range on our website:



Cell holders



Cell holder I

- Width: 32 mm
- Depth: 75 mm
- Height: 50 mm



Cell holder II

- Width: 41.3 mm
- Depth: 78 mm
- Height: 76 mm



Cell holder III

- Width: 75 mm
- Depth: 66 mm
- Height: 21 mm

Windows and Cell lids



Beryllium



Polyester



Polyimide



Zinc selenide



Calcium fluoride



Sapphire



Borosilicate



For X-Ray applications



For IR applications



For Raman and light microscopy

ECC-Opto-Gas

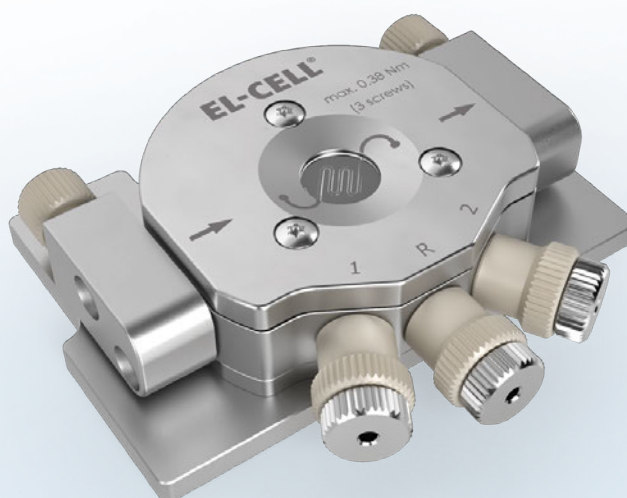
Test cell for optical characterization of gas diffusion electrodes in metal-air batteries.

The ECC-Opto-Gas is an in-situ test cell for the optical characterization of gas diffusion electrodes (GDE) in metal-air batteries. The cell features a sapphire window with a meander-shaped flow field, which can be purged with gas during charge/discharge.

Features

- In-situ test cell for the optical characterization of gas diffusion electrodes (GDE) in aprotic organic electrolytes.
- Minimized dimensions suitable for light and Raman microscopes working in the reflective mode
- With the GDE on top, the cell stack is placed below a sapphire window with a meander-shaped flow field. This way, the microscope is "looking" through the window onto the backside of the GDE.
- During charge/discharge, a gentle stream of gas may be purged along the flow field. This way the electrochemical conversion at the backside of the gas diffusion electrode can be observed.
- Materials in electrolyte contact are stainless steel 1.4404, PPS, and PE.
- The disc-shaped GDE can have a diameter of up to 11 mm. The inspection area diameter is 10 mm.
- Cell assembly and electrolyte filling may be carried out inside a glove box. Once sealed, the cell may be operated outside the box.
- Connection to potentiostat / battery tester via 2 mm banana sockets
- Electrodes are easily accessible for post-mortem analysis

Height / Width / Length	21 / 75 / 67 mm	Product website: 
Weight	0.3 kg	
Separator diameter	12.5 mm	
Electrode diameter	12 mm	
Operational temperature	-20 to 70 °C	



ECD-4-nano

Electrochemical dilatometer for the measurement of electrode expansion with nanometer resolution

The ECD-4-nano is a high-resolution electrochemical dilatometer. The most potent version offers a capacitive parallel plate sensor system with a resolution of better than 5 nanometers. This makes the ECD-4-nano the perfect instrument for detecting thickness changes of the individual electrode or the full cell stack during the electrochemical cycle.

The ECD-4-nano's completely redesigned test cell features a corrosion-resistant cell bottom and a new One-Seal concept that significantly improves tightness over previous ECD-3 models.

Features

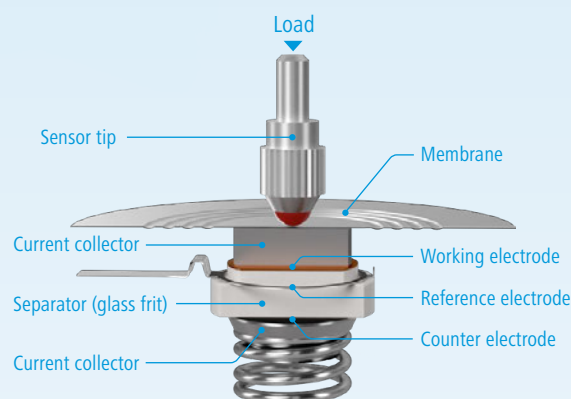
- Capacitive displacement sensor (range 250 μm , resolution better than 5 nm)
- Additional gas pressure (0 to 3 bar) and temperature sensor (-20 to 80°C)
- Cableless connection via PAT socket, with electronic cell tag (PAT-Button)



This enables stable long-term operation and the use of a wide range of electrolytes.

To further improve workflow and handling, we have now integrated the ECD-4-nano into the PAT system. The dilatometer can be inserted directly into a PAT-Tester-x or a docking station like the PAT-Clamp-1. This allows a space-saving and fast setup of the instrument. Needless to say, the integrated PAT-Button also ensures automatic recognition of the test cell in our EL-Software measurement software.

Working principle (3-electrode setup)



The working electrode (WE) and the counter electrode (CE) are separated by a stiff glass frit soaked with electrolyte. The WE is sealed using a flexible metal membrane, through which any charge-induced thickness change is transmitted towards the sensor/load unit attached on top. The fixation of the glass frit ensures that only the thickness change of the WE is being detected without interference from the CE.

Variants

	Sensor range	Sensor resolution
ECD-4-nano	250 μm	better than 5 nm
ECD-4	500 μm	better than 50 nm

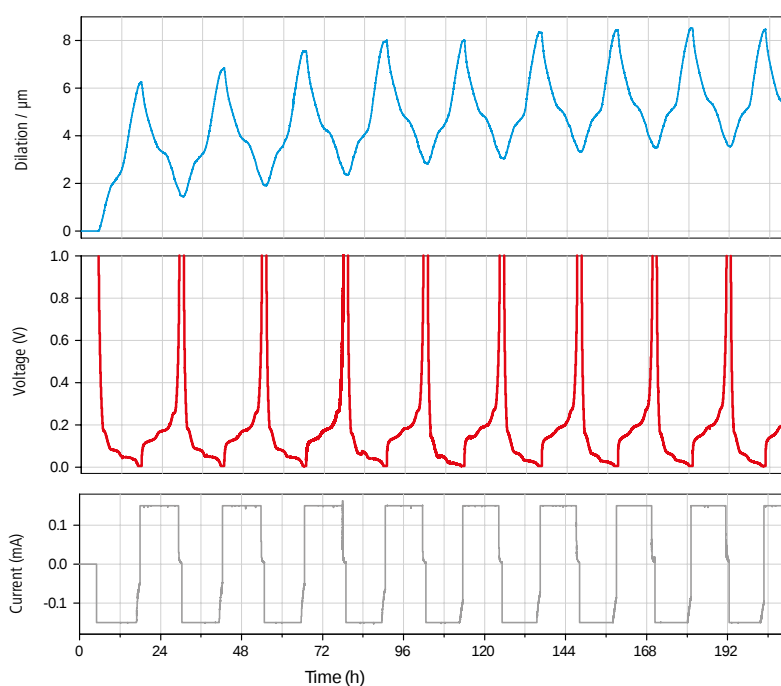
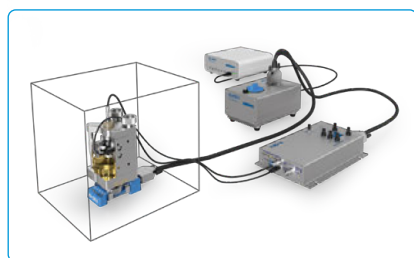
ECD-4-nano Specifications

Specifications			
Height / Width / Depth in mm	149 / 67 / 64		
Electrode setup	2- and 3-electrode		
Reference electrode type	Ring-shaped		
Weight	2 kg		
Glass T-Frit (Separator) dimensions	12.5 / 10 mm x 3.5 mm		
Working (upper) electrode diameter	≤ 10 mm		
Counter (lower) electrode diameter	≤ 12 mm		
Test specimen	Electrode films, optional single crystals / grains (Diameter ≤ 10 mm, thickness ≤ 1 mm)		
Load on test specimen	approx. 1 N		
Gas pressure sensor range	0 to 3 bar abs.		
Chemical compatibility	Aprotic organic electrolytes		
Cell electrolyte volume	approx. 0.4 ml		
Operational temperature range (cell and sensor)	-20 to 80 °C		
Operational temperature range (conditioning electronics and data logger)	0 to 40 °C		
Product website:	Product variants	ECD-4-nano	ECD-4
	Displacement sensor system	capacitive	LVDT
	Displacement range	250 μm	500 μm
	Displacement resolution	better than 5 nm	better than 50 nm

Sample test result

The diagrams on the right show the graphite electrode's expansion and shrinkage during lithium insertion and extraction.

For this experiment, we placed an ECD-4-nano inside a temperature chamber. The connection to the PAT-Tester-x-8 potentiostat and the ECD signal box was established by using a PAT-Clamp-1 docking station.



ECD-3-nano-aqu

Watch your electrodes breathe.

The ECD-3-nano-aqu is an electrochemical dilatometer that measures the thickness change of a working electrode during the electro-chemical cycle. It is especially suited for the use of aqueous electrolytes and offers a capacitive parallel plate sensor system with a resolution of better than 5 nanometers and a range of 250 nm.

Height / Width / Length	230/100/110 mm
Weight	2.7 kg
Displacement sensor	capacitive
Displacement range	250 µm
Displacement resolution	better than 5 nm
Operational temp.	-20 to 70 °C

Product website:



ECD-3-aqu

The ECD-3-aqu uses the same cell design as the ECD-3-nano-aqu. It mainly differs in the displacement sensor system's range and resolution, which can detect dimensional changes ranging from a few up to 500 micrometers during an experiment.

Height / Width / Length	265/100/110 mm
Weight	2.7 kg
Displacement sensor	LVDT
Displacement range	500 µm
Displacement resolution	better than 50 nm
Operational temp.	-20 to 70 °C

Product website:



Tools

EL-Cut

High-precision cutting pliers eliminate torn and chipped electrode edges.

The proper cutting of the electrodes is often a neglected factor in battery testing. Although invisible to the bare eye, torn and chipped electrode edges inevitably cause current inhomogeneity and are thus likely to affect experimental results. Life cycle and impedance results are especially vulnerable to such artifacts. Electrodes being cut (fine blanked) by the EL-Cut are produced in tools with a few microns of cutting clearance. The fine blanking process results in electrodes having clean cutting surfaces without torn or chipped edges and is almost perfectly flat.

Features

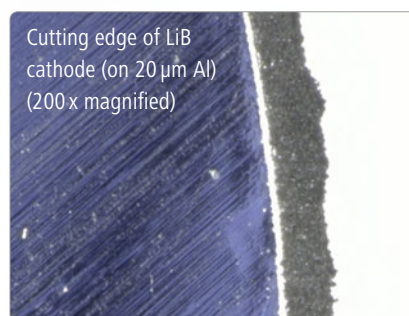
- Perfectly cut electrodes
- Electrode thickness: max. 300 μm for coatings on Al and Cu foil (may vary for other support materials)
- The permanently installed cutting tool can have any size (diameter) from **6 to 40 mm**. Different shapes (e.g. squared) are available upon request.

Height / Width / Length	140 / 380 / 60 mm
Weight	3 kg
Supported materials	Coated Al and Cu foil

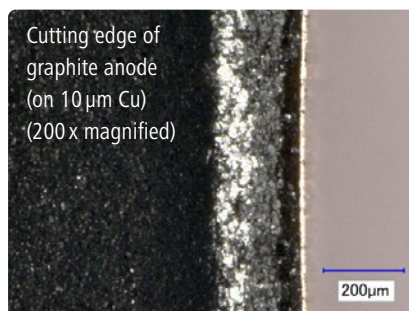
Product website:



Cutting edge of LiB cathode (on 20 μm Al)
(200 x magnified)



Cutting edge of graphite anode (on 10 μm Cu)
(200 x magnified)





ECC-LiPunch

Punching tool for lithium foil

The ECC-LiPunch is the perfect tool for smoothly punching lithium metal discs for PAT and ECC series test cells. The punching knife can easily be removed for cleaning.

Features

- For punching precise and flat lithium metal discs
- Standard size for EL-CELL test cells: 18 mm diameter
- Other available sizes:
6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16.6, 17, 18, 19, 20 mm

Length / Diameter	100 / 39 mm
Weight	0.7 kg

Product website:



What is the right tool for you?

Test cells

	ECC-LiPunch (recommended diameter)	EL-Cut (recommended diameter)
PAT-Cell, PAT-Cell-Press, PAT-Cell-Gas, PAT-Cell-HT, PAT-Cell-Force	ECC-LiPunch 18 (18 mm)	EL-Cut 18 (18 mm)
ECD-4-nano, ECD-3-nano, ECD-3	ECC-LiPunch 12 (12 mm)	EL-Cut 10 (10 mm)
ECC-Opto-10, PAT-Cell-Opto-10, ECC-Opto-Std	ECC-LiPunch 10 (10 mm)	
ECC-Opto-Std-Aqu	-	
ECC-Opto-Gas	ECC-LiPunch 10 (10 mm)	EL-Cut 12 (12 mm)

Services

In addition to our hardware, we also offer a broad scope of services like hands-on seminars or electrochemical service measurements in our research laboratory.

Lithium Battery Application Lab

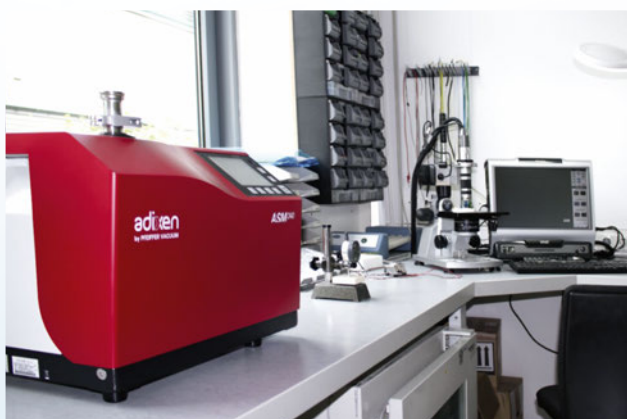
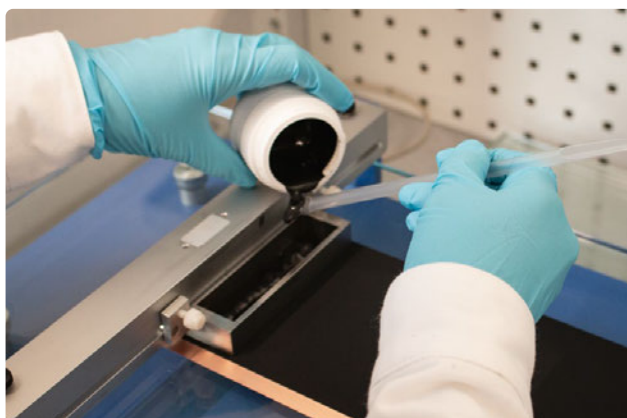
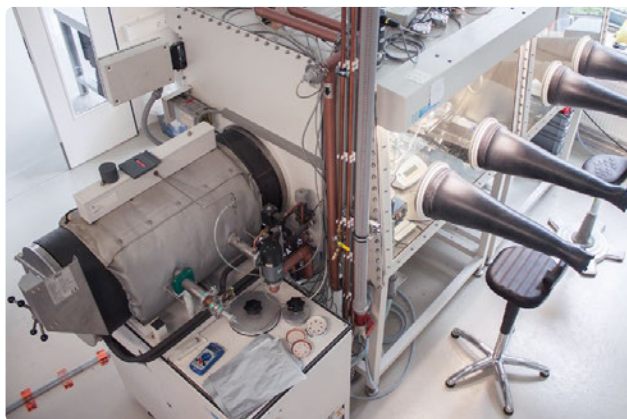
No time or equipment available to run battery tests yourself? We can help you to solve your testing problems in our laboratory:

- Manufacturing (slurry preparation, casting, drying, punching) of electrodes from client's material; formulation and characterization of electrolytes
- Cycle life and impedance tests on half and full cells with or without reference electrode (to some extent, materials can be provided by us)
- Round robin tests for validation and tuning up of client's test capabilities
- Testing of client's materials with EL-CELL test equipment

Equipment

Our professional research laboratory provides the following equipment to run different electrochemical experiments. With this equipment we can operate at the highest standard of academia and industry:

- All kinds of EL-CELL battery test cells (PAT series test cells, dilatometer, optical and pressure test cells)
- Tools and handling equipment for electrochemical experiments (e.g. cutting and punching tools)
- Equipment for the preparation of electrode slurries and casting / drying electrode films
- MBraun glove box system for test cell assembly
- Laboratory fume hood for the coating of electrode films
- Helium leak tester
- Temperature-controlled test cabinets
- **Different kinds of potentiostats and battery testers:**
 - PAT-Tester-x-8
 - PAT-Tester-i-16
 - Maccor 4000 series cycler
 - Biologic VSP multichannel impedance analyzer
 - Gamry Interface 1000
- All standard consumables, such as lithium metal, LiPF_6 based electrolytes, anode and cathode materials



Hands-on Seminars

Researchers can learn about the latest devices and applications in our seminars while working efficiently with our products.

Covered topics:

- Li-ion battery introduction: Working principles, terminology, materials used, related technologies (Li-metal batteries, Li-ion capacitors, supercapacitors, dual intercalation batteries)
- Safety and corrosion issues in the Li-ion research laboratory
- Electrode generation from powder to sheet
- Pros and cons of different test cells (coin, pouch cells, Swagelok®, Hohsen, PAT-Cell)
- Building 2- and 3-electrode PAT-Cells
- Testing with PAT-Cells and PAT-Tester-i-16:
 - Lifetime and CC-CV cycle tests
 - Impedance measurements
 - Cyclic voltammetry
- Electrochemical operando techniques with
 - PAT-Cell-Opto-10: Visualizing the state of charge of and concentration gradients inside electrodes
 - PAT-Cell-Press: Quantifying the gassing during battery formation
 - ECD-3-nano: Measuring electrode dilation during charge and discharge

Facts:

- Duration: two days (8 hours per day)
- Location: Tempowerkring 8 - 21079 Hamburg, Germany
- Pricing: regular registration: 1,300 Euro (1,200 Euro*)
PhD-students**: 650 Euro (600 Euro*)

See our website www.el-cell.com for the next dates.

* Early bird (4 weeks before)

** confirmation required



Customizations

Our primary focus is on lithium-ion batteries, but we also design test cells for other energy storage technologies. We can customize our devices and tools according to your purpose and even create new solutions for specific experiments. Just ask!



PAT-Cell-Twin-Ref:

Specialized PAT-Cell for simultaneous testing with two reference electrodes.



PAT-Stand-1 U:

Docking station for use with specialized PAT-Cells like the PAT-Cell-Twin-Ref with flexible signal outputs depending on the cell design



EL-CELL delivers worldwide directly and through its distributors.

For further information, please visit our website www.el-cell.com or contact us directly!



Dr. Sebastian Müller
Director of Sales

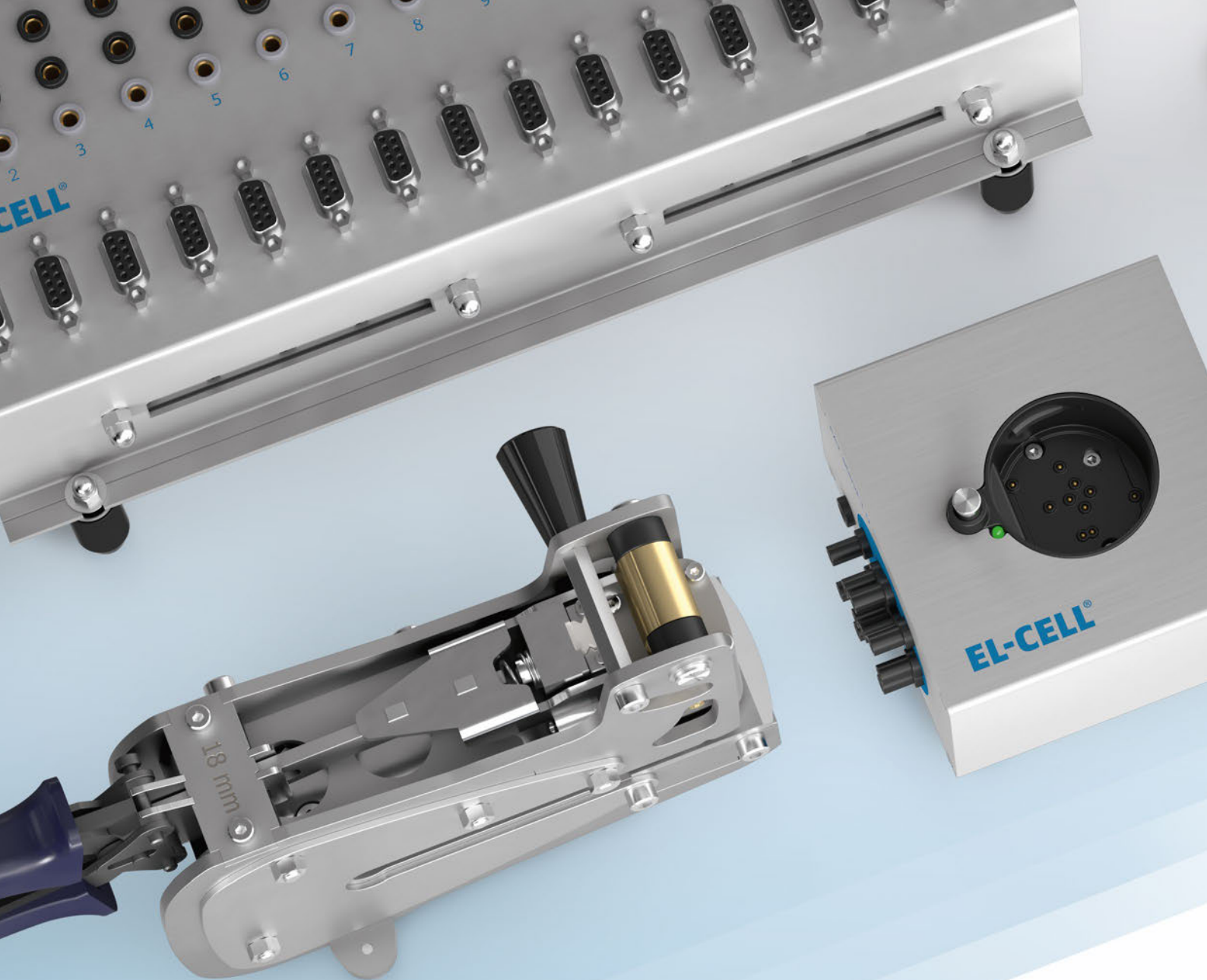


Christoph Grassau
Sales Manager

EL-Cell GmbH
Tempowerkring 8
21079 Hamburg
Germany

phone: +49 40 79012-734
fax: +49 40 79012-736
email: sales@el-cell.com
web: www.el-cell.com





EL-CELL®
electrochemical test equipment

