

Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S

Vibrating-blade microtome



Instructions for Use English

Order No.: 14 0481 80101 - Revision O

Always keep this manual with the instrument. Read carefully before working with the instrument.



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For the instrument serial number and year of manufacture, please refer to the nameplate on the back of the instrument.



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1

UK

Important Information

1. Important Information

1.1 Symbols in the text and their meanings

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Warning

Description: Warnings appear in a gray box and are marked by a

warning triangle.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Caution

Description: Cautions appear in a gray box and are marked by a

caution triangle.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Note

Description: Notes, i. e. important user information, appear in a

gray box and are marked by an information symbol.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Item number

→ Fig. 7-1 Description: Item numbers for numbering illustrations. Numbers in

red refer to item numbers in illustrations.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Software designations

Supervisor Description: Software designations that have to be displayed on

the input screen are displayed as bold, gray text.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Function key

Save Description: Fuction keys to be pressed on the instrument are

displayed as bold, gray and underlinded text.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Manufacturer

Description: Indicates the manufacturer of the medical product.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Manufacturing date

Description: Indicates the date when the medical device was

manufactured.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: CE Compliance

Description: The CE marking is the manufacturer's declaration that

the medical product meets the requirements of the

applicable EC directives and regulations.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: UKCA Label

Description: The UKCA (UK Conformity Assessed) marking is a

new UK product marking that is used for goods being placed on the market in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland). It covers most goods which previously

required the CE marking.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Country of Origin

Description: The Country of Origin box defines the country where Country of Origin: China

the final character transformation of the product has

been performed.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: **UK Responsible Person**

UKRP

REF

SN

Leica Microsystems (UK) Limited Larch House, Woodlands Business Park, Milton Keynes England, United Kingdom, MK146FG

Description: The UK Responsible Person acts on behalf of the

non-UK manufacturer to carry out specified tasks in

relation to the manufacturer's obligations.

Symbol: Consult Instructions for Use Title of the symbol:

> **Description:** Indicates the need for the user to consult the

> > Instructions for Use.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Article number

> **Description:** Indicates the manufacturer's catalog number so that

> > the medical device can be identified.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: Serial number

> Indicates the manufacturer's serial number so that a **Description:**

> > specific medical device can be identified.

Title of the symbol: Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) Symbol:

> **Description** The Regulatory Compliance Mark (RCM) indicates a

device's compliance with applicable ACMA technical standards of New Zealand and Australia - that is, for telecommunications, radio communications, EMC and

EME.

Title of the symbol: China ROHS Symbol:

> **Description:** Environmental protection symbol of the China RoHS

> > directive. The number in the symbol indicates the "Environment-friendly Use Period" of the product in years. The symbol is used if a substance restricted in China is used in excess of the maximum permitted

limit.

Symbol: Title of the symbol: CSA Statement (Canada/USA)

> **Description:** The CSA test mark means that a product has

been tested and fulfills the applicable safety and/ or performance standards, including the relevant standards defined or administered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Underwriters

Laboratories (UL), the Canadian Standards

Association (CSA), the National Sanitation Foundation

International (NSF) and others.

WEEE Symbol Symbol: Title of the symbol:

> **Description:** The WEEE symbol, indicating separate collection for

WEEE - Waste of electrical and electronic equipment,

consists of the crossed-out wheeled bin (§ 7

ElektroG).



1

Important Information

1.2 Instrument model

All information provided in these Instructions for Use applies only to the instrument type indicated on the title page.

A nameplate is attached to the rear side of the instrument. The series and REF numbers are attached to a separate label on the right side of the instrument.

1.3 Qualification of personnel

The Leica VT1200 and the Leica VT1200 S may be operated by trained laboratory personnel only. The instrument is intended for professional use only.

All laboratory personnel designated to operate this instrument must read these Instructions for Use carefully and must be familiar with all technical features of the instrument before attempting to operate it.

1.4 Intended use/improper use

The Leica VT1200 and Leica VT1200 S are used for sectioning in the fields of medicine, biology and industry, and are especially designed for sectioning fixed or unfixed fresh tissue in buffer.



Warning

The Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S may be used for research purposes only. Sections made using the Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S must **NOT** be used for diagnostics.

The instrument must be used exclusively according to the instructions contained in these Instructions for Use.

Any other use of the instrument is considered improper.

2. Safety

These Instructions for Use includes important information related to the operating safety and maintenance of the instrument.

The Instructions for Use are an important part of the product, and must be read carefully prior to startup and use and must always be kept near the instrument.

If additional requirements on accident prevention and environmental protection apply in the country of operation, these Instructions for Use must be supplemented by appropriate instructions to ensure compliance with such requirements.

Make sure to read all of these Instructions for Use before you work on or operate the instrument.

2.1 **General safety notes**

These instruments have been built and tested in accordance with the safety regulations for electrical measuring, control, regulating and laboratory devices.

In order to maintain this condition and to ensure safe operation, the user must follow the instructions and warnings contained in this operating manual.

The current EC Declarations of Conformity and UKCA Declaration of Conformity can be found on the Internet:

www.LeicaBiosystems.com

Warnings 2.2

The safety devices installed in this instrument by the manufacturer only constitute the basis for accident prevention. Operating the instrument safely is, above all, the responsibility of the owner, as well as the designated personnel who operate, service or clean the instrument.

To ensure trouble-free operation of the instrument, make sure to comply with the following instructions and warnings.



Warning

- Extremely sharp blades pose risk of injury when touched!
- Fresh tissue poses risk of infection!
- Fire hazard from uncovered magnifier! Cover the magnifier during work breaks!

Proper handling



Warning

The instrument **MUST** be connected to a grounded power socket. Use only a provided power cable that is intended for the local power supply.

2

Safety



Note

- · Always be exceptionally careful when handling the blades!
- Do not leave open blades lying around after removal.
- Always make sure to handle the blade in a way that will not cause you injury.
- All appropriate safety precautions must be met to avoid the risk of infection.
- Wearing safety gloves, a mask and safety goggles in accordance with the "Working with Substances that Pose a Health Risk" guidelines – is absolutely mandatory.
- The instrument may be opened by authorized service personnel only.
- Always disconnect the power plug before opening the instrument.
- Always switch off the instrument using the power switch and disconnect the power plug before
 replacing the fuse. The use of fuses other than those installed at the factory is not permitted.

2.3 Transport, unpacking and setting up

- When unpacking the instrument, compare the parts received with the parts ordered. If the parts received do not match your order, contact the sales company responsible for your order immediately.
- Before connecting to the power supply system, please observe (→ p. 11 3.1 Technical data for the Leica VT1200) and (→ p. 12 – 3.1.1 Technical data for the Leica VT1200 S)!
- Never connect the instrument to a power socket that does not have a protective conductor terminal.



Warning

The instrument must be set up so that the main power switch (\rightarrow Fig. 10-3) on its right side is easily accessible at any time.



Note

Because the weight of the instrument is approx. 56 kg, carrying the instrument requires 2 persons (1 carrying handle per person).

3. Instrument characteristics

3.1 Technical data for the Leica VT1200

recillical data for the Leica VI 1200	
Electrical Specifications	
Nominal supply voltage	100 V - 240 V
Nominal supply frequencies	50/60 Hz
Mains supply voltage fluctuations	Not to exceed ± 10 % of the nominal supply voltage
Power consumption	50 VA
Mains input fuses	2x T1.0A L 250VAC
Dimensions and Weight Specification	
Overall size of device in operating mode (Width x Depth x Height, mm)	600 mm x 250 mm x 230 mm
Overall size serial packaging (Width x Depth x Height, mm)	760mmx640mmx675mm
Empty weight (without accessories, kg)	56 kg
Overall weight (with accessories, kg)	63.3 kg
Device weight including packaging (kg)	83.5 kg
Environmental Specification	
Operating altitude (meters)	up to 2000 m above sea level
Temperature (operation) (min/max)	min. +18 °C to max. +30 °C
Relative humidity (operation) (min/max)	max. 60 %
Temperature (transit) (min/max)	-29 °C to +50 °C
Temperature (storage) (min/max)	+5 to +55 °C
Relative humidity (transit/storage)	< 60 %
Operating noise level	<70 dB
Emissions and Boundary Conditions	
Overvoltage category to IEC 61010-1	II
Pollution degree to IEC 61010-1	2
Means of protection to IEC 61010-1	Class I
Degree of protection to IEC 60529	IP20
Heat emission	50J/s
A-weighted noise level, measured at 1 m distance	<70 dB
EMC class Class	В
Electrical Connections and Interfaces	
Power supply	Power socket
Electrical Connections	Leica VT1200 control panel, Leica VibroCheck, Foot switch
Mechanical Connections	Magnifier,
Interfaces to other devices	Microscope, Module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm Module Hi-Power spot, LED 1000, Blade holder
Other Specifications	
Sectioning frequency (± 10 %)	85 Hz (± 10 %)
T TELL T	

Amplitude

from 0 - 3 mm, in 0.05 mm increments

Instrument characteristics

Cutting range	45 mm (adjustable)
Specimen orientation, rotating	360°
Specimen plate, swiveling	0 - 10 °
Electrical overload protection	Yes
Internal current limit for the electronics	Yes
Height with magnifier support	600 mm x 250 mm x 320 mm
Height with microscope	600 mm x 250 mm x 469 mm
L x W x H control unit (when the bases are folded in)	165 mm x 120 mm x 72 mm
Control unit	1 kg
Magnifier support	2 kg
Microscope support with stereomicroscope	4.3 kg
CE	Yes
CSA	Yes
Sectioning speed (± 10 %)	0.01 - 1.5 mm/s
Return speed (± 10 %)	2.5 mm/s
Total vertical specimen stroke	20 mm (motorized)
Specimen retraction	0 - 100 μm (adjustable; can be deactivated)
Maximum specimen size: with standard knife holder	33 x 50 mm
Section thickness selection	manual in 1 µm increments

3.1.1 Technical data for the Leica VT1200 S

Electrical Specifications

-	
Nominal supply voltage	100 V - 240 V
Nominal supply frequencies	50/60 Hz
Mains supply voltage fluctuations	Not to exceed ± 10 % of the nominal supply voltage
Power consumption	50 VA
Mains input fuses	2x T1.0A L 250VAC
Dimensions and Weight Specification	
Overall size of device in operating mode (Width x Depth x Height, mm)	600 mm x 250 mm x 230 mm
Overall size serial packaging (Width x Depth x Height, mm)	760mmx640mmx675mm
Empty weight (without accessories, kg)	56 kg
Overall weight (with accessories, kg)	63.3 kg
Device weight including packaging (kg)	83.5 kg
Enviromental Specification	
Operating altitude (meters)	up to 2000 m above sea level
Temperature (operation) (min/max)	min. +18 °C to max. +30 °C
Relative humidity (operation) (min/max)	max. 60 %
Temperature (transit) (min/max)	-29 °C to +50 °C
Temperature (storage) (min/max)	+5 to +55 °C
Relative humidity (transit/storage)	< 60 %

Operating noise level	<70 dB
Emissions and Boundary Conditions	
Overvoltage category to IEC 61010-1	II
Pollution degree to IEC 61010-1	2
Means of protection to IEC 61010-1	Class I
Degree of protection to IEC 60529	IP20
Heat emission	50J/s
A-weighted noise level, measured at 1 m distance	<70 dB
EMC class Class	В
Electrical Connections and Interfaces	
Power supply	Power socket
Electrical Connections	Leica VT1200 S control panel, Leica VibroCheck, Foot switch
Mechanical Connections	
Interfaces to other devices	Magnifier, Microscope, Module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm, Module Hi-Power spot, LED 1000, Blade holder
Other Specifications	
Sectioning frequency (± 10 %)	85 Hz (± 10 %)
Amplitude	from 0 - 3 mm, in 0.05 mm increments
Cutting range	45 mm
Sectioning window	0.5 mm - 45 mm
Specimen orientation, rotating	360°
Specimen plate, swiveling	0 - 10 °
Electrical overload protection	Yes
Internal current limit for the electronics	Yes
Height with magnifier support	600 mm x 250 mm x 320 mm
Height with microscope	600 mm x 250 mm x 469 mm
L x W x H control unit (when the bases are folded in)	190 mm x 150 mm x 72 mm
Control unit	1 kg
Magnifier support	2 kg
Microscope support with stereomicroscope	4.3 kg
CE	Yes
CSA	Yes
Sectioning speed (± 10 %)	0.01 - 1.5 mm/s
Return speed (± 10 %)	1.0 - 5 mm/s, in increments of 0.5 mm/s
Total vertical specimen stroke	20 mm (motorized)
Specimen retraction	0 - 100 μm (adjustable; can be deactivated)
Maximum specimen size: with standard knife holder	33 x 50 mm
Section thickness selection	manual in 1 μm increments or automatic max. 1000 μm

Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S

3.2 General overview - Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S



Attachments on dovetail receptacle



Fig. 2

- 1 Basic instrument
- 2 Cutting head
- 3 Blade holder
- 4 Magnifier
- 5 Microscope
- 6 Module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm
- 7 Module Hi-Power spot, LED 1000
- 8 Foot switch
- 9 Leica VT1200 control panel
- 10 Leica VT1200 S control panel
- 11 Ice tray

- 12 Buffer tray, plastic
- 13 Buffer tray, metal
- 14 Specimen plate for specimens 1 cm in height
- 15 Specimen plate for specimens 2 cm in height
- 16 Specimen plate, directional
- 17 Cyanoacrylate adhesive
- 18 Double-walled buffer tray
- 19 Julabo FL300 (recirculating cooler/chiller)
- 20 VibroCheck
- **21** Blades for the blade holder: Sapphire blade

3.3 Leica VT1200 control Panel

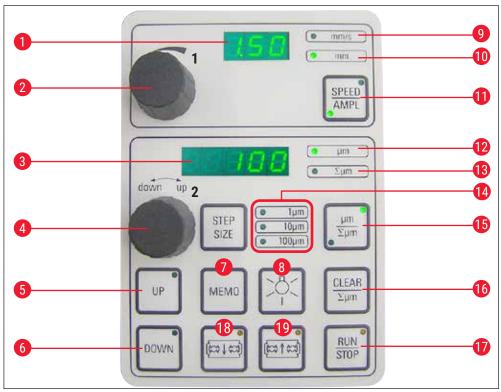


Fig. 3

- 1 LED display for blade feed rate and amplitude
- **2** Setting dial 1, for blade feed rate and amplitude
- 3 LED display for section thickness and section thickness totalizing
- 4 Setting dial 2, for section thickness and moving the specimens vertically
- 5 Quickly moves the specimen upwards (press the button until the desired position is reached)
- **6** Quickly moves the specimen downwards (press once to adjust to the lowest position)
- 7 Press this button (for approx. 3 sec.) to save a frequently used feed value (pressing it more than once feeds by the saved section thickness multiple times)
- 8 ON/OFF lamp
- **9** LED for feed rate
- 10 LED on, for enabled amplitude adjustment

- 11 Toggles between <u>SPEED</u> (blade feed rate) and <u>AMPL</u> (amplitude)
- 12 Section thickness
- 13 Sets the current specimen position between 0 (lower) and 20,000 μm (upper) or after zero, totals the section thicknesses
- 14 Selection of the step size, 1 μ m,10 μ m or 100 μ m steps
- 15 Pressing this button toggles between μm and $\Sigma \mu m$ (actively illuminated)
- **16** Resets the totalized section thickness display Σum to zero.
- 17 Immediately starts or stops the sectioning process
- **18** Moves the blade towards the specimen
- **19** Moves the blade away from the specimen

CAUTION: Keep it pressed down until the desired position is reached. When the end position is reached, the LED lights up.



Note

The Leica VT1200 is a semiautomatic microtome with a vibrating blade. Before each cut, a manual feed to the desired section thickness must be carried out using the setting dial for section thickness. The Leica VT1200 does not include an automatic specimen retraction; however, retraction can be performed manually.

3.3.1 Leica VT1200 S control panel

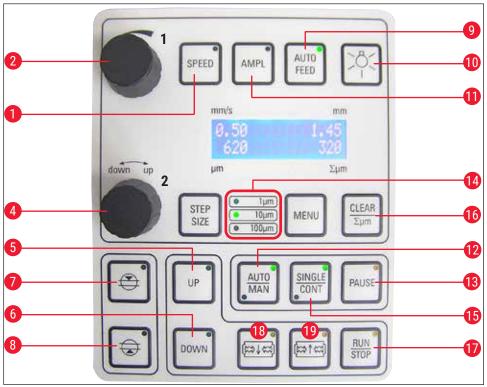


Fig. 4

- 1 Sets the blade feed rate. Select the values using 7 setting dial 1.
- 2 Setting dial 1, for blade feed rate (SPEED), AMPLitude or section thickness for automatic mode (AUTO FEED)
- 4 Setting dial 2, for section thickness and moving the specimens vertically
- Moves the specimen upwards (as long as the button is pressed). When the uppermost position is reached, the LED lights up.
- 6 Moves the specimen into the lowest position, (LED is illuminated when the lowest position is reached)

- First cutting window edge, LED illuminates when the window edge is set
- 8 Second cutting window edge, LED illuminates when the window edge is set
- 9 Possible in automatic sectioning mode only. Select the desired section thickness for the automatic feed using setting dial 1.
- 10 ON/OFF lamp
- **11** Sets the amplitude. Select the values using setting dial 1.
- **12** Toggles between automatic (AUTO) and semiautomatic (MAN) sectioning mode

Instrument characteristics

- 13 Interrupts the sectioning process in automatic mode. Pressing the button again reactivates the sectioning process.
- 14 Selection of the step size, 1 μ m, 10 μ m or 100 μ m steps
- 15 Toggling between single stroke (<u>SINGLE</u>) and continuous stroke (<u>CONT</u>) in automatic mode is possible. In semiautomatic mode, only single stroke (<u>SINGLE</u>) is possible.
- 16 Sets the totalized section thickness display $\Sigma \mu m$ to 0
- 17 Starts or stops the sectioning process. In semiautomatic mode, the sectioning process stops immediately; in automatic mode, the sectioning process is finished completely.
- 18 Moves the blade towards the specimen
- 19 Moves the blade away from the specimen CAUTION: Keep it pressed down until the desired position is reached. When the end position is reached, the LED lights up.



Note

The Leica VT1200 S is a fully automatic microtome with vibrating blade. It can be operated in automatic as well as semiautomatic sectioning mode.

In semiautomatic sectioning mode, a manual feed to the desired section thickness must be carried out before each cut. There is no automatic specimen retraction in this mode; however, retraction can be performed manually.

In automatic mode, an automatic feed (AUTO FEED) to the selected section thickness is carried out before each cut, and the specimen is lowered to the desired retraction value after each cut to prevent the specimen surface and the blade from coming into contact while the blade is being retracted.

4. Installation

4.1 Standard scope of delivery for the Leica VT1200

Qty.			Part No.
1	Leic	a VT1200 basic instrument	14 0481 42065
1	Con	trol panel	14 0481 43395
1	Too	l set – consisting of:	
	1	Hexagon key, size 3.0	14 0194 04764
	1	Hexagon key, size 6.0	14 0222 04141
	1	Cryo-manipulator	14 0462 28930
	1	Replacement fuse T 1 A	14 6943 01000
1	Dus	t cover (basic instrument), small	14 0212 43742
1	Bottle of cyanoacrylate adhesive, contents 10 gr 14 0371 27414		14 0371 27414
1	International bundle Instructions for Use (incl. English printout and 14 0481 80001 additional languages on a data storage device 14 0481 80200)		14 0481 80001
Leica	VT12	00 configuration	14 9120 00001
The a	bove	scope of delivery, plus:	
	lce '	tray, assembly	14 0481 42010
	Buf	fer tray (metal), assembly	14 0481 42084

If the supplied local power cord is defective or lost, please contact your local Leica Biosystems representative.



Note

When ordering additional accessories, compare the parts received with the parts ordered. If the parts received do not match your order, contact the sales company responsible for your order immediately.

4.1.1 Standard scope of delivery for the Leica VT1200 S

Qty.		Part No.
1	Leica VT1200 S basic instrument	14 0481 42066
1	Control panel	14 0481 43396
1	Tool set – consisting of:	
	1 Hexagon key, size 3.0	14 0194 04764
	1 Hexagon key, size 6.0	14 0222 04141
	1 Cryo-manipulator	14 0462 28930
	1 Replacement fuse T 1 A	14 6943 01000
1	Dust cover (basic instrument), small	14 0212 43742
1	Bottle of cyanoacrylate adhesive, contents 10 gr	14 0371 27414
1	International bundle Instructions for Use (incl. English printout and additional languages on a data storage device 14 0481 80200)	14 0481 80001

4

Installation

Qty.	Part No.
Leica VT1200 S configuration	14 9120 0S001
The above scope of delivery, plus:	
Ice tray, assembly	14 0481 42010
Buffer tray (metal), assembly	14 0481 42084

If the supplied local power cord is defective or lost, please contact your local Leica Biosystems representative.



Note

When ordering additional accessories, compare the parts received with the parts ordered. If the parts received do not match your order, contact the sales company responsible for your order immediately.

4.2 Unpacking the instrument



Note

The packaging has two indicators, ShockDot Impact Indicator and Tilt Indicator, that indicate improper transport. When the instrument is delivered, check these first. If one of the indicators is triggered, the package was not handled as prescribed. In this case, please mark the shipping documents accordingly and check the shipment for damage.



2. 1(C)

tape (\rightarrow Fig. 5-1). 2. Remove the carton lid (\rightarrow Fig. 5-2).

1. Remove the packing strap and the adhesive

Fig. 5



Fig. 6

- Take out the accessory carton (→ Fig. 6-3).
- 4. Remove the fixing carton (\rightarrow Fig. 6-4).



Fig. 7

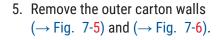




Fig. 8

- 6. Remove the dust cover $(\rightarrow Fig. 8-7).$
- 7. Unfasten the 4 size 6 Hexagon screws (\rightarrow Fig. 8-8) so that the instrument is detached from the wooden pallet.
- 8. Have 2 people grab the instrument by the transport handles $(\rightarrow$ Fig. 8-9) and carefully place it on a suitable laboratory table.



Note

Ensure that the instrument is standing on a work surface that is as free of vibrations as possible.



Note

The transport carton and included retaining elements should be kept in case a return shipment is necessary later. To return the instrument, follow the instructions above in reverse order.

4 Installation

4.3 Before commissioning the instrument



Fig. 9

Once the instrument is in its final location, unscrew the transport handles (\rightarrow Fig. 9-1) from the instrument using the size 6 Hexagon key provided and store them, along with the screws, in a safe place.



Fig. 10

- 1. Set the power switch (\rightarrow Fig. 10-3) on the right side of the instrument to <u>OFF</u> (0).
- Make sure the power cable is correctly connected in the power socket (→ Fig. 10-2) on the right side of the instrument.
- 3. Connect the control panel to the socket (\rightarrow Fig. 10-4).
- 4. Install the ice tray (\rightarrow Fig. 10-5).
- 5. Install the buffer tray (\rightarrow Fig. 10-6).
- 6. Install any optional accessories, such as the magnifier, microscope, foot switch, etc. according to $(\rightarrow p. 52 9.1$ Extension accessories for standard specimens).
- 7. Use the power switch (\rightarrow Fig. 10-3) to switch on the instrument.



Note

To make it easier to insert the specimen, adjust the specimen receptacle to its lowest position, and adjust the blade holder to its rearmost position during the first reference run.

5.1 Description of the typical application

The Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S is a microtome with a vibrating blade and is predominately used for sectioning fixed and unfixed specimens during neurological research.

- 1. To simplify the process of inserting the specimen, you can quickly move the specimen receptacle to the lowest position by pressing the **DOWN** key.
- 2. To prepare high-quality sections, especially for unfixed tissue, Leica suggests using the optional VibroCheck measuring instrument to determine the height amplitude of the blade after each blade change, and then to minimize it using the setting screw on the blade holder. To perform the aforementioned process, install the VibroCheck instrument (see (→ p. 40 − 6.1 Using the VibroCheck with the Leica VT1200) for the Leica VT1200 or (→ p. 42 − 6.2 Using the VibroCheck with the Leica VT1200 S) for the Leica VT1200 S), install the blade and adjust the clearance angle to the desired position. Then take the measurement and make the appropriate adjustments to the placement of the blade holder. Remove the VibroCheck according to the instructions, and turn the blade 90° toward the top to ensure that the ice tray and buffer tray can be installed safely.
- 3. Insert the buffer tray into the ice tray and cover it with the lid. Fill the ice tray with crushed ice.
- 4. Remove the cover and fill the buffer tray with pre-cooled physiological buffer.
- 5. Push the ice tray and buffer tray onto the dovetail guide and clamp them down.
- 6. Use cyanoacrylate adhesive to adhere the specimen to the specimen plate and use a manipulator to place it in the buffer tray. Insert the hose for gassing the buffer into the hose clamp.
- 7. Use the **UP** key to lift the specimen to the sectioning level of the blade quickly. Fineadjusting the blade-to-specimen proximity can be performed using the desired step size 1, 10 or 100 µm.
- 8. Advance the blade toward the specimen using the **Blade forward** key.
- 9. After sectioning the specimen, use the setting dial to feed to the desired section thickness using the selected step size (1, 10 or 100 μ m). This raises the specimen receptacle to the desired value.
- 10. Start the sectioning process by pressing the <u>RUN/STOP</u> key. The process can be stopped again by pressing this key after the cut has been completed. Use the <u>Blade back</u> key to move the blade in front of the specimen. Select the section thickness for the next cut and start the sectioning process again.
- 11. After completing the sectioning process, remove the blade, dispose of the specimen receptacle by pushing the **DOWN** key into its lowest position, and unclamp, empty and clean out the ice tray and buffer tray.

5

Working with the Instrument

5.2 Control elements on the Leica VT1200 control panel



Warning

To practice the key functions, always make sure there are no blades installed! Do not install the blades until you are familiar with all of the key functions.



Switch on the instrument.

O= on I = off

When the instrument is switched on, to make it easier to insert a specimen, the specimen receptacle automatically moves into the lowest position (the LED in the <u>DOWN</u> key lights up) and the blade holder moves into the rearmost position (the LED in <u>Blade back</u> from the specimen lights up).

The parameters last used before switching off the instrument: The blade feed rate (SPEED), selected amplitude (AMPL) and section thickness saved by the MEMO key are called up again.

The LED illumination is switched on automatically. You can switch it off using the **ON/OFF** switch (lamp symbol).

5.2.1 Moving the specimen receptacle vertically



When the <u>DOWN</u> key is pressed, the specimen receptacle automatically moves quickly into the lowest position. (The LED in the <u>DOWN</u> key lights up when the lower end position is reached.) The $\Sigma\mu m$ display is set to 0. If the <u>DOWN</u> key is pressed a second time while the specimen receptacle is moving downwards, the specimen receptacle comes to a stop. The current position appears on the $\Sigma\mu m$ display (lowest position = 0). The $\Sigma\mu m$ display does not change while the specimen receptacle is in motion.



When the $\underline{\textbf{UP}}$ key is pressed and held, the specimen receptacle moves quickly upwards into the desired position. After the $\underline{\textbf{UP}}$ key has been released, the current position of the specimen receptacle appears on the $\Sigma\mu m$ display. If the specimen receptacle reaches the upper end position, the LED in the $\underline{\textbf{UP}}$ key lights up (uppermost position = 20,000 μm). The $\Sigma\mu m$ display does not change while the specimen receptacle is in motion.



You can reset the display for the current position of the specimen holder to zero at any point using the $\underline{\text{CLEAR}/\Sigma\mu m}$ key. The section thicknesses are then added in the $\Sigma\mu m$ display.

5.2.2 Fine-adjusting the blade-to-specimen proximity and feeding to the section thickness



The rotary knob 2 for moving the specimen receptacle vertically can be used both for fine-adjusting the blade-to-specimen proximity and for adjusting the desired section thicknesses. The step size: 1, 10 or 100 μ m can be selected by pressing the **STEP SIZE** key.

Turning the setting dial clockwise carries out the desired feed; turning the setting dial counterclockwise lowers the specimen (minus sign). The value appears in the lower display when μm is selected. After each sectioning process has been completed, the μm display is set to zero.



Save a commonly used section thickness by adjusting the setting dial for the section thickness and pressing the <u>MEMO</u> key for 3 seconds. An audible signal confirms that the value has been accepted.

Feed to the saved value by quickly pressing the <u>MEMO</u> key. Pressing the <u>MEMO</u> multiple times feeds to the value multiple times.



Note

Neither negative values nor a section thickness of over $1000 \, \mu m$ are permitted. If an attempt is made to save impermissible values, an audible warning signal sounds three times and the last (permissible) value is retained.

5.2.3 Moving the blade





forward

back

The <u>Blade forward</u> and <u>Blade back</u> keys have to be held down until the desired position is reached. The blade feed rate is 2.5 mm/s. When each end point has been reached, the corresponding LED lights up in the key.

5.2.4 Selecting the sectioning parameters



SPEED

Blade feed rate – upper display – LED mm/s. The desired blade feed rate can be adjusted from 0.01 to 1.5 mm/s using rotary knob 1:

0.01 - 0.1 in 0.01 mm/s increments 0.10 - 0.5 in 0.02 mm/s increments 0.50 - 1.5 in 0.10 mm/s increments

ΔΜΡΙ

Upper display – LED mm: Display of the amplitude in mm:

from 0 - 3 in 0.05 mm/s increments

Starts the sectioning process



Starts the sectioning process using the selected amplitude and blade feed rate. You can start the sectioning process by pressing the **RUN/STOP** key a second time, or you can stop the process immediately by pressing the **Blade** back or **Blade forward** key. The µm display is then reset to **0**.

To start a new sectioning process, use the <u>Blade back</u> key to move the blade to the beginning of the specimen, set the desired section thickness and restart the sectioning process.

5.3 Control elements on the Leica VT1200 S control panel

The Leica VT1200 S is a fully automatic microtome with a vibrating blade that can be operated in semiautomatic or automatic sectioning mode.

Key/setting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode
Switch on the instrument. O = on I = off	When the instrument is switched on, to make it easier to insert a specimen, the specimen receptacle automatically moves into the lowest position (the LED in the DOWN key lights up) and the blade holder moves into the rearmost position (the LED in Blade back from the specimen lights up). If semiautomatic sectioning mode was selected before the instrument was last switched off, the following saved parameters are called up again once it is switched back on:	Plade food rate (SPEED)
	Blade feed rate (<u>SPEED</u>), Selected amplitude (<u>AMPL</u>)	Blade feed rate (<u>SPEED</u>), Selected amplitude (<u>AMPL</u>)
	Selected amplitude (AMPL)	Saved section thickness (AUTO FEED)
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	The LED illumination is switched on automatically. You can switch it off using the ON/OFF switch.	ditto
AUTO MAN	The LED <u>MAN</u> is active. The semiautomatic sectioning mode is enabled.	The LED <u>AUTO</u> is active. The automatic sectioning mode is enabled.
	In semiautomatic sectioning mode, before each cut, a manual feed to the desired section thickness must be carried out using the setting dial for section thickness.	In automatic mode, the selected section thickness feed (AUTO FEED) is carried out along the 1st selected cutting window edge automatically before each cut. To prevent the
	There is no automatic specimen retraction in this mode; however, retraction can be performed manually.	specimen surface and the blade from coming into contact while the blade is being retracted, the specimen is lowered by the desired retraction value along the 2nd cutting window edge after each complete cut.

Key/setting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode
Toggling from <u>AUTO</u> to <u>MAN</u>	The following key functions are disabled in semiautomatic mode:	
AUTO MAN	 Setting cutting window edges Selecting the continuous stroke (CONT) Selecting the section thickness for the automatic feed (AUTO FEED) PAUSE not active. 	
Toggling from <u>MAN</u> to <u>AUTO</u>	An audible warning signal sounds when these keys are pressed.	The following functions keys become enabled again in automatic mode:
AUTO MAN		 Cutting window edges that have already been set Section thickness (AUTO FEED) and continuous stroke (CONT)
1 SPEED	The blade feed rate can be adjusted from 0.01 to 1.5 mm/s:	ditto
SPEED	0.01 - 0.1 in 0.01 mm/s increments,	
mm/s mm	0.10 - 0.5 in 0.02 mm/s increments,	
0.50 625 μm Σμm	0.50 - 1.5 in 0.10 mm/s increments.	
1 AMPL	Adjusting the amplitude from 0 to 3 mm in 0.05 mm increments	ditto
mm/s mm 0.50 625 μm		
1 AUTO FEED	Not possible.	Setting the section thickness for automatic mode – max. 1000 µm.
mm/s mm 0,50 1.45 625 0 μm Σμm		

Key/setting dial Semiautomatic sectioning mode **Automatic sectioning mode** 1 Display for the current specimen ditto CLEAR holder position (lowest position = Σµm 0 μm, uppermost position = 20,000 μm.) You can reset the display to 0 at any mm/s mm point by pressing the CLEAR/Σμm key. The section thicknesses are then added in the $\Sigma \mu m$ display. The rotary knob for moving the ditto specimen receptacle vertically can be used for fine-adjusting the blade-to-specimen proximity. Turning the setting dial clockwise moves the specimen up into the desired proximity; turning the setting dial counterclockwise lowers the specimen (minus sign). The step size: 1, 10 or 100 µm can be selected by pressing the STEP SIZE key. After the setting dial is turned clockwise or counterclockwise, the specimen receptacle position is updated in the $\Sigma \mu m$ display. In semiautomatic mode, the desired Not possible. section thickness is selected using the setting dial. The selected section thickness appears in the µm display and the current specimen receptacle position appears in the $\Sigma \mu m$ display. After each sectioning process has been completed, the µm display is set to 0. When the **DOWN** key is pressed, the ditto specimen receptacle automatically moves quickly into the lowest position. (The LED in the **DOWN** key lights up when the lower end position is reached.) The Σμm display is set to **0**.

Key/setting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode
DOWN	If the DOWN key is pressed a second time while the specimen receptacle is moving downwards, the specimen receptacle comes to a stop and the current position appears on the $\Sigma \mu m$ display (lowest position = 0, uppermost position = 20,000 μm). The $\Sigma \mu m$ display does not change while the specimen receptacle is in motion.	ditto
UP	When the UP key is pressed and held down, the specimen receptacle moves quickly upwards into the desired position. After the UP key has been released, the current position of the specimen receptacle appears on the $\Sigma \mu m$ display. If the specimen receptacle reaches the upper end position, the LED in the UP key lights up (uppermost position = $20,000 \ \mu m$). The $\Sigma \mu m$ display does not change while the specimen receptacle is in motion.	ditto
Blade forward Blade back	The Blade forward and Blade back keys have to be held down until the desired position is reached. The blade feed rate can be set in the menu: 1 - 5 mm/s, in increments of 0.5 mm/s. Each time an end point is reached, the corresponding LED lights up in the key.	ditto

Key/se	etting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode	
		Not possible.	The horizontal cutting path can be reduced to the specimen size. The two cutting window edges	
	Note		can be adjusted and changed	
		window edges can be deactivated orresponding key for approx.	INDEPENDENTLY. Holding the key down for a longer duration (audible warning signal) sets the beginning or end (depending on the key) of the cutting window to the maximum value. Smallest possible sectioning window: 0.5 mm. If a window smaller than 0.5 mm is set or the user reverses the beginning and end, the last entered value is accepted and the previous value is set to the maximum value. The cutting window is not saved when the instrument is switched off; however, it is retained when you switch from automatic mode (AUTO) to semiautomatic mode (MAN).	
		Not possible.	Advance the blade toward the specimen using the Blade forward key. Press the 1st cutting window edge key until the LED in the key lights up.	
		Not possible.	Advance the blade to the end of the specimen using the Blade forward key and press 2nd cutting window edge until the LED in the key lights up.	
SING	LE	Only single stroke (SINGLE) is possible. If an attempt is made to switch to continuous stroke (CONT), an audible warning signal sounds.	Toggles between single (SINGLE) and continuous stroke (CONT). The corresponding LED lights up to indicate the current selection.	

Key/setting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode
RUN	Starts the sectioning process using the selected amplitude (AMPL) and blade feed rate (SPEED). Pressing the RUN/STOP key a second time stops the sectioning process immediately.	Starts the sectioning process using the selected section thickness (AUTO FEED) amplitude (AMPL) and the blade feed rate (SPEED). If single stroke (SINGLE) is selected, only one sectioning process is carried out. If continuous stroke (CONT) is selected, a continuous sectioning process takes place. Pressing the RUN/STOP key a second time stops the sectioning process that is in progress. The blade moves to the 1st cutting window edge and stays there.
	The µm display is then reset to 0 .	The programmed section thickness (AUTO FEED) appears in the µm display continuously.
PAUSE	Not possible.	A sectioning process in progress can be interrupted immediately by pressing the PAUSE key and restarted by pressing the PAUSE key again. If PAUSE has been pressed to interrupt a sectioning process, pressing the RUN/STOP key or the Blade forward or Blade back keys discontinues the sectioning process.
MENU	Press the MENU key.	ditto
6.	8 sets of user parameters can be saved;	
2	Current user selection – User 1: turn rotary knob 2 clockwise, then press MENU again.	
MENU		

Key/setting dial

Semiautomatic sectioning mode

Automatic sectioning mode



The blade feed rate (**SPEED**) can be set from 0 to 1.5 mm/s using rotary knob 1.



->Rotary knob 2

The amplitude (AMPL) can be set to 0 - 3 mm using rotary knob 1.



->Rotary knob 2

The automatic section thickness feed (AUTO FEED) can be adjusted using predefined step sizes (1, 10 or $100 \mu m$) max. $1000 \mu m$ using rotary knob 1.



Note

The values can be selected; however, automatic feed is not possible in semiautomatic sectioning mode. If the <u>AUTO FEED</u> key is pressed, one feed motion takes place according to the value programmed in automatic mode. If the key is pressed more than once, several feed motions take place.



->Rotary knob 2

Mode: Choice between **AUTO** and **MAN** with rotary knob 1; for semiautomatic sectioning mode, **MAN** must be selected.

->Rotary knob 2

Mode: Choice between <u>AUTO</u> and <u>MAN</u> with rotary knob 1; for the automatic sectioning mode, <u>AUTO</u> must be selected.



->Rotary knob 2

Stroke type (CUT): Only single stroke (SINGLE) can be selected using rotary knob 1. If continuous stroke (CONT) is selected, an audible warning signal sounds.

->Rotary knob 2

Stroke type (**CUT**): Choice between single stroke (**SINGLE**) and continuous stroke (**CONT**) with rotary knob 1.

Key/setting dial	Semiautomatic sectioning mode	Automatic sectioning mode
	->Rotary knob 2	->Rotary knob 2
1 2 2	Specimen retraction (RETRACT) cannot be set.	The specimen retraction (RETRACT) can be set from 0 to 100 µm in 10 µm
	Note: Value cannot be changed. NO automatic retraction is possible in semiautomatic sectioning mode.	increments using rotary knob 1.
	->Rotary knob 2	ditto
	The LED illumination can be adjusted to 5 different levels of brightness using rotary knob 1.	
	->Rotary knob 2	ditto
1 CSER-1 (S.)	The feed rate (FOR/REV) for the Blade forward and the Blade back keys can be set between 1 and 5 mm/s in 0.5 mm/s increments with rotary knob 1.	
	->Rotary knob 2	ditto
2	Switches the vibration movement (FOR/VIB) of the Blade forward key either on or off using rotary knob 1.	
	->Rotary knob 2	ditto
2	Key acknowledgment (BEEP) on or off with rotary knob 1.	
MENU	Save the parameter and leave by pressing the <u>MENU</u> key.	ditto
	Note: Leaving the menu and saving the parameter is possible at any point in the menu.	



Note

If you want to call up the parameters of a certain user (for example, user 3), press the **MENU** key and select **user 3**. Then confirm by pressing the **MENU** key 2x. The parameters stored under **user 3** are now enabled.

5.4 Installing the accessories

5.4.1 Installing the ice tray and buffer tray



Fig. 11

- A lever (→ Fig. 11-2), which needs to be pushed forward, is located on the underside of the ice tray (→ Fig. 11-1).
- Now push the tray onto the dovetail holder (→ Fig. 11-3) from the front. Clamp it down by pushing the lever (→ Fig. 11-2) towards the rear.



Note

The ice tray can be placed on the stage separately for preparation.

Push the buffer tray (→ Fig. 12-5) in as far as it will go (small pins (→ Fig. 11-4) guide it at the side and front).

It is held in place by three strong magnets, which are integrated into the bottom of the 2 buffer tray.



Fig. 12

- Cover the buffer tray (\rightarrow Fig. 12-5) with a Plexiglas lid (\rightarrow Fig. 12-6).
- · Now fill the ice tray with crushed ice.
- Cover the buffer tray and fill it with cooled buffer solution.



Note

To remove the buffer tray from the ice tray, pull on the rounded edges (\rightarrow Fig. 12-7) carefully. They help to remove the tray, as they are not magnetic.

5.4.2 Installing the double-walled buffer tray



Fig. 13

Clamps for holding the gassing hose for the buffer in the proper position can be added to the double-walled buffer tray.



Note

When using the double-walled buffer tray, the recirculating cooler/chiller must be installed **PRIOR TO** working with specimens.



Fig. 14

Connect hoses ((\rightarrow Fig. 14-8), in the scope of delivery of the double-walled buffer tray) to the empty buffer tray (bottom of (\rightarrow Fig. 14)). Access is easier if you make the left connection first. To do this, pull back the closure coupling (\rightarrow Fig. 14-9), fit the hose until it engages audibly, and then make the right-hand connection.

5.4.3 Preparing a specimen



Fig. 15

- Fix the specimen to the specimen plate using the cyanoacrylate (included in the standard scope of delivery (→ p. 19 4.1 Standard scope of delivery for the Leica VT1200), (→ p. 19 4.1.1 Standard scope of delivery for the Leica VT1200 S)).
- Screw the manipulator (→ Fig. 15-10) onto the specimen plate, place it in the buffer tray and adjust it to the desired position.
- The specimen plate is held in place in the buffer tray magnetically.

5.4.4 Installing and removing the blade holder



Warning

Always remove the blade **BEFORE** installing or removing the blade holder!



Note

For quality and service reasons, the blade holder (\rightarrow Fig. 16-11) is available as a complete unit only.

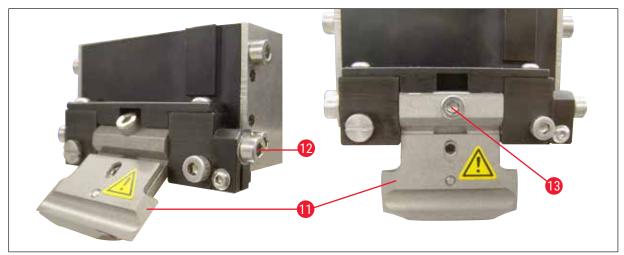


Fig. 16

- Before the blade holder can be replaced, it must be brought into a 45° inclined position.
 To do so, insert the size 3 Hexagon key sideways into the blade holder through the hole (→ Fig. 16-12) and rotate it 45° clockwise.

 Turning the screw (→ Fig. 16-13) counterclockwise releases the blade holder, allowing it to be
- · The installation is carried out in reverse order.

Cleaning the blade holder

replaced.

To clean the blade holder after removal, spray it with alcohol. It can then be wiped down with a piece of cellulose and placed on a cellulose towel to dry completely.

Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S

Working with the Instrument

5.4.5 Inserting the blade



Note

The blade holder can be used for razor blades, injector blades and sapphire blades (universal blade holder).



 Insert a size 3 Hexagon key sideways into the blade holder through the hole (→ Fig. 17-12) and rotate it 90° clockwise.

Fig. 17

Clamp the blade as follows:

- 1. Insert the provided size 3 Hexagon key from the top through the opening (\rightarrow Fig. 18-14) into the blade holder (\rightarrow Fig. 18-11) and open the blade holder (BH).
- 2. Hold the entire razor blade (\rightarrow Fig. 18-13) (not separated) on the left and right with both hands and insert it into the blade holder. Hook in the blade over bottom pressure plate (\rightarrow Fig. 18).
- 3. Clamp down the BH by turning the size 3 Hexagon key clockwise until hand-tight.

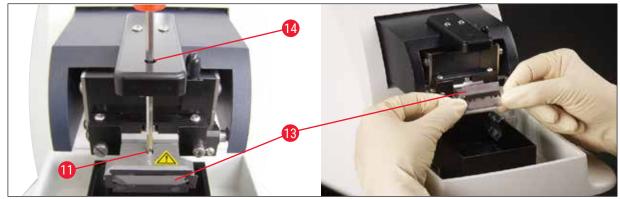


Fig. 18



Warning

The clamping screw (\rightarrow Fig. 18-11) on the blade holder must not be tightened too much!

- 4. Now return the blade holder to the cutting position.
- 5. To do so, insert a size 3 Hexagon key sideways into the blade holder through the hole (→ Fig. 17-12) and rotate approx. 90° counterclockwise.
- ✓ For more information about adjusting the clearance angle, see (\rightarrow Fig. 19).

5.4.6 Adjusting the clearance angle

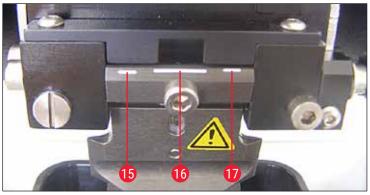


Fig. 19

15 15° **16** 18° **17** 21°

Insert a size 3 Hexagon key sideways into the blade holder through the hole (\rightarrow Fig. 17-12) and rotate it to the desired clearance angle mark.



Note

For 15°, the effective clearance angle is 0. The most commonly used setting is 18° (\rightarrow Fig. 19-16).

5.5 Routine daily maintenance and switching off the instrument – Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S

After all daily procedures have been finished, perform the following:

- Switch off the power switch on the side of the instrument.
- Place the magnifier cover on the magnifier.
- Remove the blade from the blade holder and dispose of it safely.
- Pull the ice tray and buffer tray off of the dovetail guide and place them on the stage.
- Remove and empty out the buffer tray. Dispose of the contents of the buffer tray properly.
- Remove the specimen plate and lay it flat on the stage.
- Remove the specimen using a single-sided blade and remove any cyanoacrylate adhesive residue from the specimen plate.



Caution

The contents of the ice tray can become contaminated if buffer solution is spilled over it.

6

Operating the VibroCheck

6. Operating the VibroCheck

6.1 Using the VibroCheck with the Leica VT1200



Warning

The following instructions must be adhered to exactly. Noncompliance can cause serious damage to the instrument.

We recommend using the VibroCheck after each blade change to check the optimum position of the blade and minimize the vertical vibration.



- 1 Foot switch for VT
- 2 VibroCheck
- 3 Control panel for VT

Fig. 20

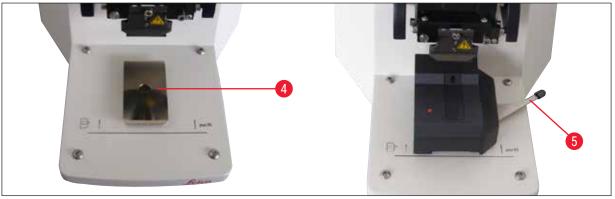


Fig. 21

Prior to assembly, the dovetail guide (\rightarrow Fig. 21-4) is brought down to the lowest position using the **DOWN** key!

- The user installs the VibroCheck: Push the VC along the dovetail guide (→ Fig. 21-4) to behind the mark on the baseplate of the instrument (rear stop) and clamp it down using the lever (→ Fig. 21-5). Insert the blade and clamp tightly. Return the blade to the cutting position see (→ Fig. 17).
- Plug the connecting plug of the VibroCheck (VC) into the socket (→ Fig. 20-2) on the left side panel. Short red flash of LED on VC --> control panel acknowledges VC. LED then remains red. The LED in the <u>DOWN</u> key flashes green.
- 3. The user presses the <u>DOWN</u> key. The VC moves to the bottom position, after that the blade moves to the rearmost position the LED in the <u>RUN/STOP</u> key flashes. Short red flash of LED on VC --> it then remains red.

4. The user presses the <u>RUN/STOP</u> key: First, the blade moves forward (into the position exactly above the VibroCheck), then the VC moves into a position in which the blade partially covers the light barrier. (If the VC does not receive any signal via the light barrier, the operation is canceled and <u>DOWN</u> is enabled.) LED on VC flashes green – <u>RUN/STOP</u> flashes yellow. When LED on VC is green and LED in <u>RUN/STOP</u> is yellow, the blade starts to vibrate with the amplitude set. Speed = 0, amplitude can be changed at any time.

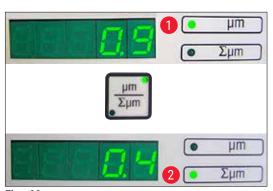


Fig. 22

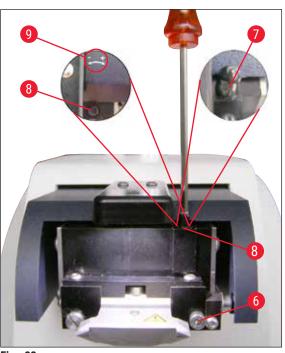


Fig. 23

On the (5-digit) display, the deviation in height amplitude is shown in μm (e.g. $0.9 \mu m$). This value can be either positive or negative. The display can be switched using the $\mu m/\Sigma \mu m$ key. Then a number appears (e.g. 0.4). This means clockwise rotation by a turn of 0.4 (+ see (\rightarrow Fig. 23-9) - (Neg. operational sign means counterclockwise rotation - see (\rightarrow Fig. 23-9).) If the value is 0, no improvement of the height amplitude is possible.

5. Press the <u>STOP</u> key. Using a size 3 Hexagon key, unscrew the clamping screw (→ Fig. 23-6) only slightly, pull off the cap (→ Fig. 23-7) by pulling it upwards (keep it in a safe place) and turn the adjusting screw (→ Fig. 23-8) by the corresponding value (here, a turn of 0.4) clockwise (in the + direction, (→ Fig. 23-9)) using a size 3 Hexagon key. Tighten the clamping screw (→ Fig. 23-6) clockwise.



Note

If the display shows $\Sigma \mu m$ (\rightarrow Fig. 22-2) 0 (optimal) and the value in μm (\rightarrow Fig. 22-1) is unacceptably high, the blade must be replaced.

- 6. Press the **RUN** key, check the value, repeat steps 5-7 if necessary.
- 7. If the measured value is accepted, press <u>DOWN</u> (flashes green). VC moves to lowest position blade is moved to the rear. LED on VC illuminates red again (LED on <u>RUN/STOP</u> is off).
- 8. The instrument now expects the VibroCheck to be removed. To do so, disconnect the USB plug connection of the VC to the basic instrument and pull the VC off of the dovetail guide. LED in <u>DOWN</u> key continues to flash wait until LED in <u>DOWN</u> key goes out. The normal operating status is now restored.

6

Operating the VibroCheck

6.2 Using the VibroCheck with the Leica VT1200 S



Warning

The following instructions must be adhered to exactly. Noncompliance can cause serious damage to the instrument.

We recommend using the VibroCheck after each blade change for checking the optimum position of the blade and important sectioning parameters.



- 1 Foot switch for VT
- 2 VibroCheck
- 3 Control panel for VT

Fig. 24



Fig. 25

Prior to assembly, the dovetail guide (\rightarrow Fig. 25-4) is brought down to the lowest position using the **DOWN** key!

- The user installs the VibroCheck: Push the VC along the dovetail guide (→ Fig. 25-4) to behind the mark on the baseplate of the instrument (rear stop) and clamp it down using the lever (→ Fig. 25-5). Insert the blade and clamp tightly. Return the blade to the cutting position (see (→ Fig. 17)).
- Plug the connecting plug of the VibroCheck (VC) into the corresponding socket (→ Fig. 24-2) on the left side panel. Short red flash of LED on VC --> it then remains red. Control panel detects VC see (→ Fig. 26). The LED in the <u>DOWN</u> key flashes green.





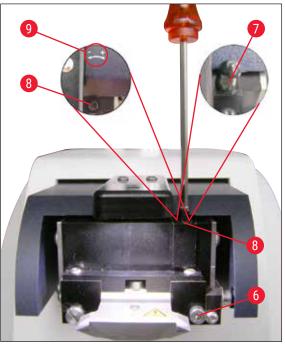
Fig. 26

Fig. 27

- 3. The user presses the **DOWN** key. The VC moves to the bottom position, in addition to that the blade moves to the rearmost position the LED in the **RUN/STOP** key flashes. Short red flash of LED on VC --> it then remains red.
- 4. The user presses the <u>RUN/STOP</u> key: First, the blade moves forward (into the position exactly above the VibroCheck), then the VC moves into a position in which the blade partially covers the light barrier. LED on VC flashes green − <u>RUN/STOP</u> flashes yellow. Control panel shows: VIBRO search see (→ Fig. 27). A search can last up to 1 minute. When LED on VC is green and LED in <u>RUN/STOP</u> is yellow, the blade starts to vibrate.



Fig. 28



Fia. 29

The deviation of the height amplitude is shown on the display in μm (\rightarrow Fig. 28-1). This value can be either positive or negative. A number (e.g. -0.3) (\rightarrow Fig. 28-2) appears in the $\Sigma \mu m$ display. This means a **COUNTERCLOCKWISE** rotation (because of the - (\rightarrow Fig. 29-9)) by a turn of 0.3 and reduces the height amplitude to a minimum. (If there is no operation sign, the rotation is in a clockwise direction + (\rightarrow Fig. 29-9).) If the value is 0, no improvement of the height amplitude is possible.

5. Press the <u>STOP</u> key. Unscrew the clamping screw (→ Fig. 29-6) only slightly using the size 3 Hexagon key, pull the cap (→ Fig. 29-7) up and off (keep it in a safe place) and turn the adjusting screw (→ Fig. 29-8) **COUNTERCLOCKWISE** (the - direction, (→ Fig. 29-9)) by a turn of 0.3 using the size 3 Hexagon key. Tighten the clamping screw (→ Fig. 29-6) clockwise.

6

Operating the VibroCheck

6. Press the **RUN** key, check the value, repeat steps 5-7 if necessary.



Note

If the display shows $\Sigma \mu m$ (\rightarrow Fig. 28-2) 0 (optimal) and the value in μm (\rightarrow Fig. 28-1) is unacceptably high, the blade must be replaced.

If the measured value is accepted, press <u>DOWN</u> (flashes green). VC moves to lowest position – blade is moved to the rear. Control panel of the VT shows: VIBRO END (→ Fig. 30). The LED on the VC is again illuminated in red.



Fig. 30

8. The instrument now expects the VibroCheck to be removed. To do so, disconnect the USB plug connection of the VC to the basic instrument and pull the VC off of the dovetail guide. LED in DOWN key continues to flash – wait until LED in DOWN key goes out.
The normal operating status is now restored.

7. Malfunctions: Meaning and Troubleshooting

7.1 Error messages and troubleshooting

Error No. / INF No.	Error	Troubleshooting	Comment
Error 01	 Wrong control panel (Leica VT1200 or Leica VT1200 S) 	Use the correct control panel for the instrument.	 Using an incorrect control panel does not harm the instrument, but no functions whatsoever are available.
Error 21	Head does not swing into place.	 Check to see if an amplitude value has been selected. Try to make the head swing into place by gently striking it with your hand. If head does not swing into place, inform service. 	
Error 22	Timeout while initializing the x-axis. (Timeout)	Inform service!	
Error 23	 DC motor of x-axis does not rotate (during initialization or in normal operation). 	Inform service!	
Error 24	X-Start limit switch is not reached.	Inform service!	
Error 25	X-Start limit switch cannot be moved away from.	Inform service!	
Error 26	X-Stop limit switch is not reached.	Inform service!	



Note

After all error messages, the instrument **MUST** be switched off, then on again using the power switch.

Error 27

- Bottom limit switch of the Z-axis is not reached during initialization or operation.
- Check whether an obstacle is blocking the travel path of the ice tray. Remove the obstacle. If there is no obstacle and the error message persists after the instrument is switched on again: Inform service.

Malfunctions: Meaning and Troubleshooting

Error No. / INF No.	Error	Troubleshooting	Comment
Error 28	The top limit switch of the Z-axis is not reached.	Check whether an obstacle is blocking the travel path of the ice tray. Remove the obstacle. If there is no obstacle and the error message persists after the instrument is switched on again: Inform service.	
Error 31	 Both X sensors activated (during initialization or in normal operation) 	Inform service!	
Error 32	 Both Z sensors activated (during initialization or in normal operation) 	Inform service!	



Note

After all error messages, the instrument **MUST** be switched off, then on again using the power switch.

InF 41	 Control board (C1/back panel) and keyboard (C2) have different software versions. 	It is possible that due to different software versions, some or all functions of the instrument may be partly or entirely unavailable. Inform service and have the software updated to the latest version.
InF 42	Control board (C1/back panel) and VibroCheck (C3) have different software versions.	It is possible that due to different software versions, some or all functions of the instrument may be partly or entirely unavailable.



Note

- \mbox{InF} messages can be removed by pressing the $\mbox{{\sc CLEAR}}$ key.
- The message appears once each time the instrument is switched $\underline{\textbf{ON}}.$
- InF messages do not cause the instrument to be locked.
- After all error messages, the instrument MUST be switched off, then on again using the power switch. – Exceptions are InF 41 and 42.

Malfunctions: Meaning and Troubleshooting

Error No. / INF No.	Error	Troubleshooting	Comment
Error 51	Horizontal calibration of VibroCheck is not possible.	 Possible operating error, see the Instructions for Use. Great deal of damage or dirt on the blade or blade holder. Use a new blade or blade holder. Controllers have different software versions. Have the software updated. VibroCheck is defective. Have it checked by service. 	A calibration is carried out even if the blade is jagged. A great deal of obvious damage or dirt must be present before a blade calibration is canceled automatically.
Error 52	 Basic calibration of light barrier is not possible for VibroCheck. 	Emitter diode or receiver is defective.VibroCheck is defective.Inform service!	
Error 53	 VibroCheck blade search not successful. 	 No blade and/or blade holder swung out or not installed. Emitter diode or receiver dirty. Clean. VibroCheck is defective. 	 Leica VT1200 drives to the lowest Z position using the stepper motor after an unsuccessful search. (Allows blade installation)
Communication between keyboard – Leica VT1200 S	Communication error between control unit and VT	 Leica VT1200 S display lights up, but remains blank. Leica VT1200: row of dots flashes. Inform service! 	
The knife/blade collides with the buffer tray	The buffer tray was not pushed in up to the rear pin or was not clamped down during installation.	 Push in the buffer tray as far as it will go and clamp it down with the lever. 	
The VibroCheck collides with the blade	 The VibroCheck was not pushed all the way in or was not clamped down during installation. 	 Push in the VibroCheck as far as it will go and clamp it down with the lever. 	
AUTO SI SI CE	 Switching from <u>SINGLE</u> to <u>CONT</u> is not possible. 	• In <u>MAN</u> mode, only single	e cuts are possible.
AUTO MAN	The cutting window cannot be defined.	 In MAN mode, only single If multiple cuts are require 	•

Malfunctions: Meaning and Troubleshooting

Error No. / INF No.	Error	Troubleshooting	Comment
МЕМО	 NOT accepted: Negative values Values of more than 1000 µm 		
AUTO MAN	 In MAN mode, pressing the AUTO FEED key feeds the last saved value. 		Note: Blocked when <u>RUN</u> is active!
PAUSE	When a key is pressed, a beep sounds.		 In MAN mode, if the PAUSE key has not been assigned a function, a short beep sounds.
5 <i>E</i> -	operating mode, a three seconds afte	nit is exceeded while the inte flashing SEr appears in the u r the sectioning process has is indicates that the vibrating	pper 3-digit LED for approx. been ended with the
The instrument is not working	 The plug connections are loose or the instrument is connected to the power supply improperly or not at all. The power fuses are defective. 	 VT connection cable: Check the control unit and power plug. Replace the power fuses. 	

7.2 Replacing the main fuse



Always unplug the power supply before replacing the fuses!







Fig. 32

- Remove the fuse housing on the right side of the instrument above the power switch. To do so, push an appropriate tool (small screwdriver) into the slots on the left and right (\rightarrow Fig. 31) and carefully pull it out.
- · Remove the defective fuse and replace it with the replacement fuse included in the standard scope of delivery (\rightarrow Fig. 32).
- Reinsert the fuse housing into the holder on the instrument as shown in (\rightarrow Fig. 33) and gently push it in until you hear it click into place.

8

Cleaning and Maintenance

8. Cleaning and Maintenance

8.1 Cleaning the instrument



Warning

- · Always put the blades back into the blade case/dispenser when not in use.
- When using cleaners, comply with the safety instructions from the manufacturer and the laborsafety regulations at your laboratory.
- When cleaning the outer surfaces of the instrument, do not use xylene or solvents containing acetone or xylene. The finished surfaces are not resistant to xylene or acetone!
- Ensure that liquids do not enter the interior of the instrument during cleaning.

Before each cleaning, carry out the following preparatory steps:

- Switch off the power switch on the side of the instrument.
- Place the magnifier cover on the magnifier.
- Remove the blade from the blade holder and dispose of it safely.
- Pull the ice tray and buffer tray off of the dovetail guide and place them on the stage.
- Remove and empty out the buffer tray. Dispose of the contents of the buffer tray properly.
- · Remove the specimen plate and lay it flat on the stage.
- Remove the specimen using a single-sided blade and remove any cyanoacrylate adhesive residue from the specimen plate.

Instrument and outside surfaces

If necessary, the varnished outside surfaces of the control panels can be cleaned with a mild commercial household cleaner or soap water and then be wiped with a cloth.

The instrument must be completely dry before it can be used again.

Cleaning the blades



Warning

Always wipe the blade from the back of the blade (sapphire blade) to the cutting edge.

NEVER wipe in the opposite direction – risk of injury!

Clean using an alcohol-based solution.

Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts

9. Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts

Designation	Order No.
Ice tray	14 0481 42010
Buffer tray	
Buffer tray, assembly (plastic)	14 0481 42089
Buffer tray, assembly (metal)	14 0481 42084
Buffer tray, double-walled, assembly	14 0481 44837
Lids for covering the buffer trays made of plastic or metal	14 0481 42090
Hose clamp	14 0481 41952
Specimen plate	
Specimen plate, non-directional (for 20 mm high specimens)	14 0481 42086
Specimen plate, non-directional (for 10 mm high specimens)	14 0481 43399
Specimen disc, orienting	14 0481 42068
Blade	
Sapphire blade, knife angle of 22°	14 0216 39372
Blade holder, assembly	14 0481 42030
VibroCheck	14 0481 42075
Display	
Microscope, assembly	14 0481 42024
Cover for the LED connection	14 0481 43402
Magnifier, assembly	14 0481 42035
LED illumination	
Module Hi Power Spot, LED 1000	14 6000 04825
Module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm	14 6000 04826
Adhesive	
Cyanoacrylate adhesive containing 10 gr.	14 0371 27414
Foot switch	14 0481 43397
Protective cover, small	14 0212 43742
Protective cover, large	14 0212 43743
Fuse: cut-out T1A, 5*20	14 6943 01000
Cover for the LED connection	14 0481 43402
Julabo FL300, recirculating cooler/chiller	
100 V/50-60 Hz	14 0481 48439
115 V/50 Hz	14 0481 48437
230 V/50-60 Hz	14 0481 48436
230 V/60 Hz	14 0481 48438
Antifrogen N	14 0481 45443

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Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts

9.1 Extension accessories for standard specimens

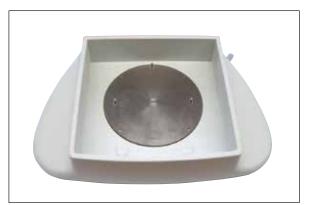


Fig. 34

Ice tray

- Removable
- Drawer design
- Remains stable on the stage when preparing specimen
- Integrated hand rests for use with Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S.

Order No.14 0481 42010

9.1.1 Buffer trays



Fig. 35

Buffer tray, assembly (plastic)

- · Buffer tray and lid
- · Magnetic holder for the specimen plate
- · Specimen plate, non-directional
- Clamp (2x) for holding the hose in position in the buffer tray
- Volume: 125 cm³ *
- Autoclavable

Order No.14 0481 42089



Fig. 36

Buffer tray, assembly (metal)

- · Buffer tray and lid
- Magnetic holder for the specimen plate (see the minimized illustration)
- · Specimen plate, non-directional
- Clamp (2x) for holding the hose in position in the buffer tray
- Volume: 125 cm³ *
- Non-autoclavable

Order No.14 0481 42084

^{* (}Specifications without the blade holder, measured 4 mm below the upper edge of the buffer tray)



Fig. 37

Buffer tray, double-walled, incl. integrated hand rest, assembly

- · Buffer tray, double-walled
- Magnetic holder for the specimen plate
- · Specimen plate, non-directional
- Clamp for holding the hose in position in the buffer tray
- Volume: 400 cm³ *
- · Non-autoclavable
- Hose set for connecting a recirculating cooler/ chiller (e.g. 14 0481 48436)

Order No.14 0481 44837



Fig. 38

Lid for covering the buffer tray

 The buffer tray is available in plastic (14 0481 42089) or metal (14 0481 42084)

Order No.14 0481 42090

9.1.2 Specimen plate



Fig. 39

Specimen plate, non-directional

- · For specimens 2 cm in height
- Can be rotated 360°
- · Attached with magnets in the buffer tray

Order No.14 0481 42086

^{* (}Specifications without the blade holder, measured 4 mm below the upper edge of the buffer tray)

Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts



Fig. 40



Fig. 41

Specimen plate, non-directional

- For specimens 1 cm in height
- · Can be rotated 360°
- · Attached with magnets in the buffer tray

Specimen disc, orienting

- · Inc. swivel handle
- Inc. marks for angling specimen 2.5° and 5°

9.1.3 VibroCheck



Fig. 42

Optional measuring instrument for displaying the vertical deviation of the blade (in μ m) and for displaying the direction of rotation of the screws used to minimize the vertical deviation of the blade. Can be adjusted using the adjusting screw on the blade holder.

Order No.14 0481 42075

9.1.4 Blades



Fig. 43

Sapphire blade, knife angle of 22°

The blade can be reground.

Order No.14 0216 39372

9.1.5 Microscope, assembly



Fia. 44

- · Microscope support
- Stereozoom microscope*
 - 2 eyepieces, 10x23 B, adjustable
 - Protective objective glass
- · Bearing cylinder with 3 screws
- · Dust cover, large
- Adapter for module LED Hi-Power spots 2-arm slot
- · Cover for the LED connection

Order No.14 0481 42024

9.1.6 Magnifier, assembly



Fig. 45

- Magnifier support
- Lens (2x magnification) with lens cover (→ Fig. 45-1)
- · Bearing cylinder with 3 screws
- · Dust cover, large
- Adapter for module LED Hi-Power spots 2-arm slot

Order No.14 0481 42035

^{*(}The colors of microscope may vary in different batches)

Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts

9.1.7 Installing the magnifier support or microscope support



Fig. 46

- First, remove the cover (→ Fig. 46-1) from the basic instrument and store it in a safe place.
- Insert the provided Hexagon screws (→ Fig. 46-2) into the hole (→ Fig. 46-3) in the bearing bush. Use
 the size 3 Hexagon key to screw the screws into the open slot on the top side of the basic instrument.
- · Push the magnifier support or microscope support into the bearing bush as far as it will go.



Fig. 47

- Adjust the magnifier to the desired inclination angle and screw in the screw (→ Fig. 47-4) using the size 3 Hexagon key, or
- Insert the Stereozoom microscope into the ring holder and attach it by screwing it down (\rightarrow Fig. 48-5).
- Determine the desired inclination angle of the microscope and fix it in place by tightening the screw
 (→ Fig. 48-6) clockwise using a size 3 Hexagon key.
- The microscope height can be adjusted using the setting dials for height adjustment (→ Fig. 48-7) and adapted to the respective specimen.



Fig. 48

9.1.8 Fiber-optic illumination, cold light source



Fig. 49



Note

Before use, carefully read the separately provided Instructions for Use!

Ordering Information for Optional Accessories, Consumables and Spare Parts



Fig. 50

Fig. 51

Module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm

 The module LED Hi-Power spots with 2-arm is installed after the magnifier has been installed in the magnifier holder and then connected to the module Hi-Power spot, LED 1000.

Order No.14 6000 04826

Module Hi-Power spot, LED 1000

• Serves as a light source for the module LED Hi-Power spots, 2-arm.

Order No.14 6000 04825



Warning

The LED illumination must be operated at the power supply voltage specified on the nameplate (on the underside of the adapter).

9.1.9 Cyanoacrylate adhesive

Single-component adhesive for adhering specimens to the specimen plate – contains 10 gr.

Order No.14 0371 27414

9.1.10 Foot switch

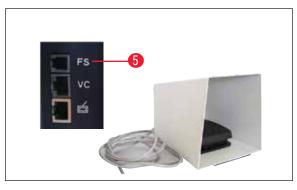


Fig. 52

Insert the foot switch into the uppermost socket marked **FS** (\rightarrow Fig. 52-5) on the left side of the basic instrument.

The foot switch performs the <u>START/STOP</u> function.

Order No.14 0481 43397

9.1.11 Julabo FL300 - recirculating cooler/chiller



Fig. 53

Recirculating cooler/chiller for connecting to the double-walled buffer tray in the Leica VT1000 S and Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S.

Selectable temperature

range: -20 °C to +40 °C

Recommended cooling

medium: Antifrogen N (14 0481 45443)

Mixture with water (50 %/50 %)

Application example:

If (at an ambient temperature of 20 to 22 °C) a temperature of 4 °C is to be reached in the buffer tray, a setting value of 0.5 to 2 °C must be selected.



Note

For additional information, refer to the Instructions for Use provided with this instrument.

Warranty and Service

10. Warranty and Service

Warranty

Leica Biosystems Nussloch GmbH guarantees that the contractual product delivered has been subjected to a comprehensive quality control procedure based on the Leica in-house testing standards, and that the product is faultless and complies with all technical specifications and/or agreed characteristics warranted.

The scope of the warranty is based on the content of the concluded agreement. The warranty terms of your Leica sales organization or the organization from which you have purchased the contractual product shall apply exclusively.

Service information

If you are in need of technical customer support or spare parts, please contact your Leica representative or the Leica dealer where you purchased the instrument.

Please provide the following information:

- · Model name and serial number of the instrument
- · Location of the instrument and name of the person to contact
- · Reason for the service call
- · Delivery date

Decommissioning and disposal

The instrument or parts of the instrument must be disposed of according to existing applicable, local regulations.

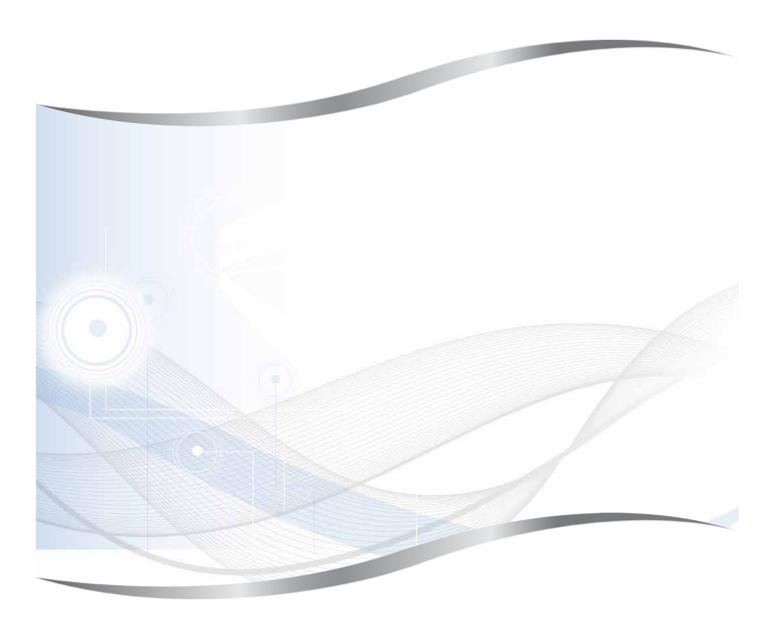
11. Decontamination Confirmation

Every product that is returned to Leica Biosystems or that requires on-site maintenance must be properly cleaned and decontaminated. Please find the dedicated template for confirming decontamination by using the search function on our website at www.LeicaBiosystems.com. This template has to be used for gathering all required data.

When returning a product, a copy of the filled and signed confirmation has to be enclosed or passed on to the service technician. The responsibility for products that are sent back without this confirmation or with an incomplete confirmation lies with the sender. Returned goods that are considered to be a potential source of danger by the company will be sent back at the expense and risk of the sender.

Leica VT1200 / Leica VT1200 S





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