



# Frequently Asked Questions about the ReadyStream® System

The revolutionary new ReadyStream® system makes culture media preparation and dispensing easier than ever before. At the push of a button, concentrated media gets diluted with sterile-filtered water to produce and dispense culture media for microbial food testing on the spot. Here are the answers to the common questions we are receiving.

**Q: How can the ReadyStream® provide 100 L of Buffered Peptone Water (BPW) from just one bag that still can be easily carried?**

**A:** The dehydrated media contained in the bag is reconstituted by the ReadyStream® system with sterile filtered DI-water, resulting in a 10x concentrated stock solution. When dispensing media for immediate use, the ReadyStream® system dilutes the concentrated stock solution with sterile filtered water, resulting in media with the desired concentration. For a 1x concentration, the system dispenses 1 volume of concentrated media and 9 volumes of water.

**Q: How long does it take to set up the ReadyStream® system and to have the media ready for dispensing?**

**A:** The installation of the consumables and the subsequent rehydration of media in the bag can be done in about 20 minutes (8 min of hands on and 12 minutes of rehydration time). At certain intervals additional tasks need to be carried out such as calibration of the water pump (after 500 L throughput or after 7 days) and priming of the fluidic system.

**Q: What consumables do I need?**

**A:** You need the ReadyStream® media bag which contains irradiated dehydrated culture media. As it does not contain any water the bag is light (100 L bag <4 kg) and easy to carry. Moreover you need the filter set with a 0.22 µm membrane filter for sterilizing the DI water.

**Q: How does the dispensing of media and water work?**

**A:** The sequence is the following: water + water/media + water. The aim is to always keep water in the tubing to avoid backflow-contaminations and allow flushing without wasting media, and also to ensure that the total amount of 10x concentrate has been distributed.

**Q: What is the shelf-life of a media bag once the media is hydrated?**

**A:** The rehydrated BPW media bag can be used 5 days post reconstitution, stored at room temperature, either connected or disconnected to the instrument.

**Q: Can I change the media concentration, e.g., to dispense double-strength media with the ReadyStream® system?**

**A:** Yes, you have the option to select concentrations between 0.1 and 2x.

**Q: How can I pre-warm the media before use?**

**A:** With the ReadyStream® system, there is no need to pre-warm the media (e.g., in an incubator) because the instrument itself can dispense media pre-warmed to up to 42 °C.

**Q: How is the ReadyStream® system pre-warming the media?**

**A:** The water is heated inside the media preparation unit. A temperature sensor controls the water temperature to ensure the mixture of water and media has the required temperature.

**Q: What is the minimum/maximum dispensing volume?**

**A:** Volumes between 90 mL and 9999 mL can be dispensed at a time.

**Q: What kind of media do the ReadyStream® bags contain and how are they tested?**

**A:** The ReadyStream® bags are filled with our easily soluble ISO 11133 compliant GranCult® Dehydrated Culture Media (GranuCult® prime Buffered Peptone Water acc. ISO 6579, ISO 19250, ISO 21528, ISO 22964, ISO 6887, FDA-BAM and EP). Our ISO 17025 accredited lab performs a quality control of each batch of the ReadyStream® media after reconstitution.

**Q: How long can I use a filter set before exchanging it for a new one?**

**A:** One filter can be used for 600 L of water throughput, for 30 days after first being connected or for 20 connections to a media bag, whatever comes first.

**Q: How does the ReadyStream® system ensure that no invalid or expired consumables are used?**

**A:** The consumables have data matrix codes with expiration dates that get scanned into the system, ensuring the correct use. The system will alert the operator if a parameter is invalid.

**Q: Is media preparation with the ReadyStream® system environmentally sustainable?**

**A:** Preparing media with the ReadyStream® system offers a number of advantages that improve the environmental sustainability of microbial food testing. Analyses have shown that the ReadyStream® system can reduce water and energy consumption by more than 80% compared with preparing the media in a media kitchen and subsequently autoclaving it, and with media preparation using a media preparator. Moreover, compared with classical ready-to-use media, it generates less waste. Thanks to the 10x concentrated stock solution, a single ReadyStream® bag provides the same volume of media as 10 classical 1x concentrated ready-to-use bags of the same size.

**Q: Which water type is recommended for use with the ReadyStream® system?**

**A:** Deionized water according to ISO 11133 is recommended. If no appropriate water source exists, the water can be provided by a Milli-Q® instrument. Your local Field Sales Specialist can support you to select the right one.

**Q: What temperature should the inlet water have?**

**A:** For ideal functioning the water temperature should be 20 °C +/- 2 °C. Lower temperatures would increase the distribution time.

**Q: What should be the inlet water pressure and flow rate of my DI-water?**

**A:** For optimal performance, the inlet pressure should be <3 bar and the flow rate >2 L/min.

**Q: What is the weight of the ReadyStream® instrument?**

**A:** The media unit weighs 18 kg and the dispensing unit 3 kg.

**With the ReadyStream® system, you can**

- prepare up to 100 L of media in less than 20 minutes
- dispense pre-heated media of the temperature and volume you need
- easily store and carry the bags containing dehydrated media (less than 3 kg for the biggest bag)
- still carry a bag of rehydrated, concentrated media that allows you to dispense 100 L (less than 13 kg)

And there's no need for autoclaving, bottles and washing, saving you time, resources and energy.

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