A. Starting the 3130xl system

1. Turn on the computer and log on.

2. Wait until the Desktop appears and all programs have finished loading (hard drive light on computer stops flashing).

3. Turn on the instrument by pressing the power button. The amber status light should come on and will start blinking in a few moments. The green status light will then come on, start blinking, and then remain steadily lit. This will take several minutes.

4. Ensure that the green status light is on and steady before proceeding to the next step.

5. Double-click the icon of the 3130xl Data Collection software to start it.

6. A splash screen of the Data Collection software should appear, followed by the window of the Service Console. The indicators for the four services in the Service Console will change from a red circle to a yellow triangle to a green square in sequence and from top to bottom. When the indicator for the Viewer turns to a square green, the Viewer window itself will appear. Leave the Service Console running, minimize the window if desired. DO NOT AT ANY TIME CLOSE THE WINDOW OF THE SERVICE CONSOLE.

7. If the Viewer Window is accidentally closed, right-click on the red circle of the Viewer service in the Service Console, left-click on the choice for ‘restart’ to restore the Viewer Window.
8. Click on the ‘+’ symbols on each item on the left side of the viewer to expand the list. Click all ‘+’ symbols that appear until they turn to ‘-’ symbols and the list appears similar to this:
B. Creating a Plate Record

1. Click on the Plate Manager entry on the left-hand list of items to highlight it:

   ![Plate Manager](image)

2. The Plate Manager appears on the main area of the Viewer. Click on the ‘New’ button found at the bottom of the Plate Manager:

   ![New Button](image)

3. A New Plate dialog box appears. Fill in the appropriate entries. ‘Name’ is the name of the plate. Choose the appropriate application from the drop-down list: for sequencing, choose ‘SequencingAnalysis’. Choose the appropriate plate type from the drop-down list. Fill in the ‘Owner Name’ and ‘Operator Name’ entries to facilitate data collection. Click on the ‘OK’ button to proceed:

   ![New Plate Dialog](image)

4. A Plate Editor window appears. Fill in the sample names (ensure correspondence of sample names with well positions) and the appropriate Results Group, Instrument Protocol and Analysis Protocol. Write comments, if desired. Ignore the Priority column. Do not give sample names to empty wells, leave them blank. Click on the ‘OK’ button to proceed:

   ![Plate Editor Window](image)
C. Running a Plate

1. Click on the Plate View entry under the Run Scheduler entry on the left-hand list to highlight it.

2. Prepare the plate assembly. Ensure proper plate assembly to prevent damage to the capillaries.

3. Press the TRAY button once on the instrument to bring the autosampler forward. Wait for the autosampler to stop moving before proceeding to the next step.

4. Open the right door of the instrument. Orient the plate assembly so that the beveled corner of the plate faces toward you. Carefully mount the plate assembly on the autosampler in either the ‘A’ or ‘B’ position. The plate assembly should drop in easily if correctly mounted. A yellow plate diagram will also appear on screen if the plate assembly is correctly mounted:
5. Click on the Find All button to find your plate

![Find Plate Matching These Criteria](image)

6. Locate your plate in the list. Its status should be “pending”. Click on the plate name to highlight it. Click on the diagram of the plate to link the plate record with the plate. The diagram should change from yellow to green to indicate successful linking:

![Successful linking](image)

7. Close the door of the instrument. The autosampler will move to its home position automatically. Wait for this to complete before proceeding. Click on the play button at the upper left corner of the Viewer to start the run. The software will tell you that you are about to start a run. Click on the ‘OK’ button to proceed.

![Click this](image)

8. Click on ‘Instrument Status’ on the left-hand list to leave the instrument in the Instrument Status view.

![Click this](image)