



Roche Tissue Diagnostics

With the recent acquisition of Ventana Medical Systems, Roche has added Tissue Diagnostics to its portfolio. New and existing Ventana customers are now supported through Roche's well established and extensive infrastructure in New Zealand with Ventana trained engineers and application specialists.

Ventana Medical Systems was founded more than 20 years ago with a vision of automating the immunohistochemical (IHC) staining of tissue or cells enabling pathologists to discriminate among cells and tumour types, aiding not only in tumour diagnosis but assisting with prognosis and/or predictive utility in the evaluation of some malignancies. Historically, immunohistochemistry was performed manually, involving hundreds of manual steps and taking around 5 hours to stain a batch of 30-40 slides. Ventana has evolved to meet the broader demands of today's laboratories, automating the manual immunohistochemistry staining process.

Today, the name of Ventana is renowned as one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of medical diagnostic instrument and reagent systems providing leading-edge automation technology for use in slide-based diagnosis of cancer and infectious disease. Its products are found in hospital-based histology laboratories, independent reference laboratories, and the drug discovery laboratories of some of the world's largest pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, government labs, and medical research centers. Its systems have expanded to automated instruments for other techniques such as in situ hybridization (ISH), microarray applications, special stains and H & E staining. In 2007 they released the first totally automated test for the staining of the Her2 gene using a silver in situ hybridisation technique (SISH).

For more information, please contact Russell Sargon, Ventana Product Specialist at russell.sargon@roche.com or your Roche Account Manager.