

Preparing 200L of PBS Buffer Solution using a Magnetic Mixer

Mixing system: Newmix®- Levtech® Magnetic Mixer

Mixing bag: 200L M-Mix bag

Mixing type: Powder-liquid

The Newmix-Levtech Magnetic Mixer is a compact and non-invasive single-use mixing system. The heart of this system is a mixing bag incorporating an innovative bottom-mounted magnetically-driven impeller capable of providing efficient high-torque mixing for all powder-liquid and liquid-liquid mixing applications. The impeller rides on a low-friction, inert bearing assembly designed to ensure low particle shedding while allowing mixing of very high powder loads in large liquid volumes. All product-contacting surfaces are 100% disposable.

Introduction

Powder-liquid mixing is a common requirement in biopharma processing. In order to maximize mixing efficiency for powder-liquid applications, the Magnetic Mixer is available with a large (6.35") impeller.

In this experiment, a Magnetic Mixer was used to prepare a quantity of phosphate buffered saline solution (PBS), a buffer that is ubiquitous in downstream bioprocess steps.



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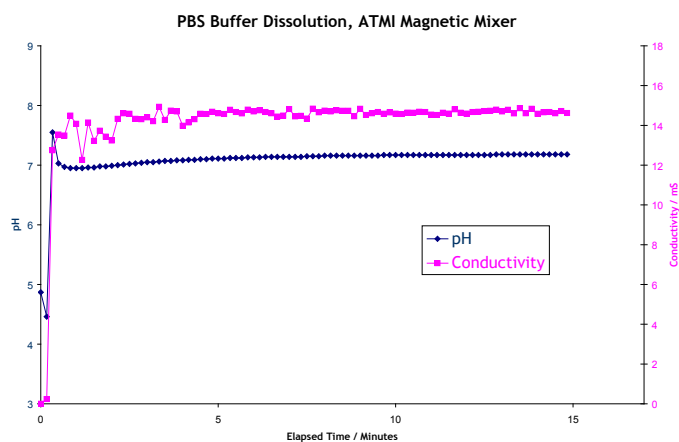
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Application note XA407E 0903rev2

Experimental

A 200L Magnetic Mixer mixing bag was filled with 160L of water, and mixing speed was set to 300rpm. Powder buffer components were added all at once via an ATMI Newsafe™ contained Powder Transfer Bag (cPTB); 1.6kg NaCl + 0.04kg KCl + 0.288kg Na₂HPO₄.12H₂O + 0.048kg KH₂PO₄. The solution homogeneity was monitored via real-time conductivity and pH readings.



Results

The accompanying chart shows solution homogeneity in the bag during mixing.

After the buffer powder addition, conductivity and pH data indicate that mixing was complete within approximately 5 minutes. At no time during the mixing cycle did the impeller stall or hesitate.

Conclusions

The Newmix-Levtech Magnetic Mixer system is well suited to preparation of PBS buffer solutions. A powder-liquid mixing bag, which includes a large, bearing-mounted magnetic impeller, is a good choice for such applications. Mixing times in the 5 minute range are typical at the tested volume and concentration.