

Robotic Prescription Dispensing Machine

Industry: Pharmaceuticals



Our customer started a revolution in the pharmacy industry with the introduction of a robotic prescription system in 1996. Their robotic technology elevates the pharmacy to new levels by increasing prescription volume without increasing staff, allowing pharmacists to focus on what's most important—operational efficiency and service to customers. There are over 2,000 installations worldwide.

The sequence of operation begins with a tech entering the prescription in the computer. The system then retrieves a vial of the proper size, moves to the cell of the prescribed medication, engages the sprocket of the cell and turns it dispensing the pills one at a time. The pills pass through a sensor beam, counting the pills. Once the prescription is filled the vial is moved to an internal labeling station where the label is applied and then transported to the tech. The tech verifies the



proper pills are in the vial based on a picture on the computer screen. The vial is capped and ready for delivery.



Above: Standard B12A6 amplifier/drive

The primary machine is 140" Long x 80" Tall x 30" Deep. It has 200 cells and can dispense 100 prescriptions per hour. There are four axes of motion: x, y, z and dispensing. Motion control components include a Motion Control Card, four AMC B12A6 servo drives and four brushless motors. The AMC drives run in torque mode and the feedback is done at the control board.

We initially provided the amplifiers for testing and evaluation. Once selected as the product of choice we have maintained the business by providing what they consider to be one of the highest quality, lowest failure rate items on the machine, on-time delivery and a "partnership" attitude.

