Protocol Step Properties

Each step comprises a set of properties which can be adjusted independently.

Property	Description
Step	The step number in the protocol. For information only.
Reagent	The reagent used for the selected step. Press the current reagent name and select the reagent to be used for the selected step.
Con	Defines the concentration (%) of the reagent used in the selected step of the protocol. This property is only applicable to certain reagents. To set or change the concentration, press the displayed value and use the number pad to enter the required concentration (0–100).
QC	Sets the usage limit for the reagent to aid Quality Control. Press the displayed value and enter the required usage limit (0–99). The number selected represents how many baskets of 20 slides can enter the pot before it should be replaced with fresh reagent.
Time	Specifies the time (minutes and seconds) that is required for the selected step within the protocol. Press the displayed value and enter the required step time. The maximum allowable time for a step is 59:59.
Limit	Defines whether or not the step time can be exceeded, and if so, by how much. Use this setting to optimise throughput. To set the limit, press the current value to cycle through the following options: **Standard** - Allows the specified step time to be exceeded by a maximum of 30%.
	Critical - Allows no tolerance on the specified time.
	 The Critical option should be used sparingly as it will slow down the throughput of baskets by monopolising the arm.
	No Maximum - Identifies steps where slides can be safely left for extended periods of time, thereby allowing the arm to move other baskets as needed. If a heater station is selected, this property will be automatically set to No Maximum and cannot be altered.
Agitate	Controls the amount of agitation for the selected step. Agitation is not available for the first and last step in a protocol. To set the agitation level, press the current value to cycle through the following options: **Initial** - Agitates the basket when the slides are initially placed into the reagent pot. **Frequent** - Agitates the basket when the slides are initially placed into the reagent pot and then at approximately one minute intervals.
	 If a step has an agitate setting of Frequent, then the time displayed is either the time until the next agitate cycle or the time until the step completes - whichever is closer.
	Continuous - Agitates the basket throughout the step.
	 The Continuous option will significantly reduce the throughput of baskets by monopolising the arm.