

Development and Integration of a Fully
Automated High-Throughput Platform for Cell
Line Selection and Cell Culture Development

John Cesarek, BioProcess International Conference October 12th, 2012 - Providence, RI

fiveprime.com



Five Prime Therapeutics

- Fully Integrated Biologics Discovery and Development Company
- Unique and productive Discovery Platform for identifying innovative protein therapeutics
 - » Custom, fully automated platforms for high-throughput protein production, highcontent imaging, ELISA, and gene expression-based screening
- Full suite of preclinical capabilities
 - » Pharmacology, Toxicology, Bioanalytical Development, Translational Science
 - » Large vivarium with capacity for ~9000 animals
- Biologics production cell line and process development
 - » All capabilities from DNA to 100L pilot scale
 - » GMP manufacturing is outsourced
 - » Track record of successful tech transfers
- Small but experienced and successful clinical development group
 - » Lead FivePrime program is in Phase 1b





Presentation Outline

- Five Prime Therapeutics' approach to cell line development
- Development and implementation of high-throughput automation in cell line development
 - »New automation platform
 - » New process workflows
 - » Automated data analysis
- Future development





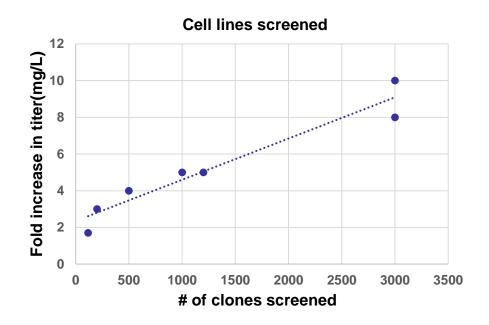
Strategies to Obtain Clonal Cell Lines

Commonly used strategies

- »ClonePix
- »FACS based single cell deposition
- »Limited dilution

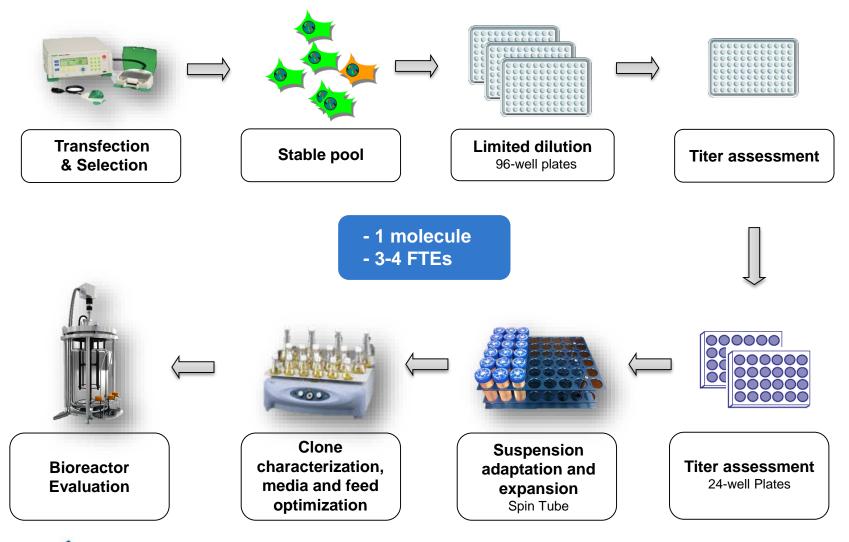
Automation aided limited dilution

- » Numbers game the more the better, but fold of increase plateaued beyond ~5000
- »Systems like CHO-GS do not require screening of a large number of clones to obtain high producing cell lines





Five Prime's Cell Line Development Workflow





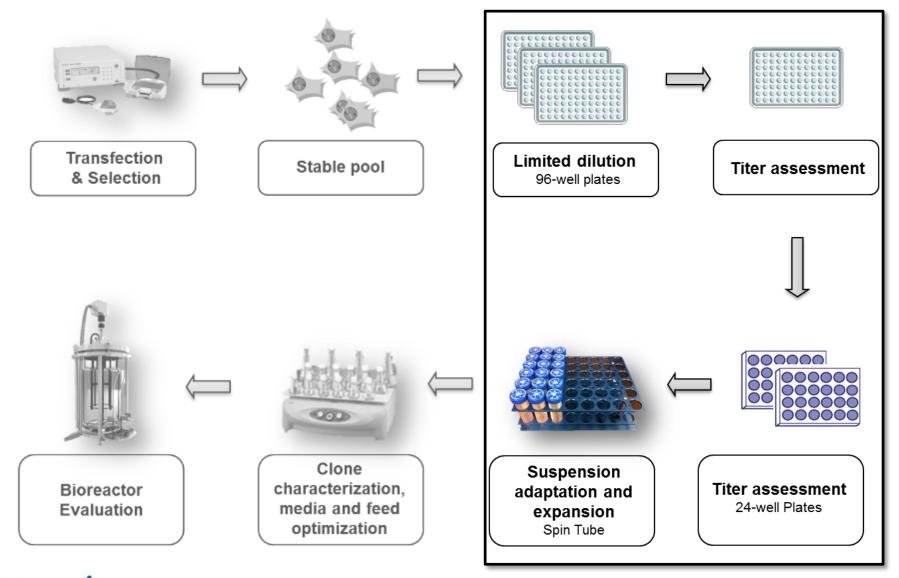


Need for High-Throughput Automation

- Tight project timelines
 - » Process multiple candidate cell lines in parallel
- Limited staffing
 - » Reduce time-intensive and laborious processes
- Quality
 - » Ensure high quality cell lines



Fully Automated Cell Line Development Workflow







Requirements for Improving Cell Line Development

- High-throughout process for cell line screening and selection
 - » Flexible, analytical measurement options (HTRF, ELISA, Well Imaging)
 - "Cherry Picking" from 96-well to 24-well and 96-DWP
 - » Easy setup, operation, and management to minimize personnel

High-throughout process for cell culture development

- » Maintain continuous fed-batch productions
- »Inoculation to spin tubes
- » Spin tube feeding, sampling, and cell concentration and viability measurement
- » Easy setup, operation, and management to minimize personnel

Link analyzed data of clones throughout process

- »Automate data analysis and report generation
- »Track history of clones in process development





Building vs. Buying a CLD Automation Platform

Internal Resources – Automation Technologies Group

- » History of design and implementation of several large, high-throughput platforms (ELISA, protein production, cell-based screening)
- » Engineering solutions
 - -Custom hardware
 - —Custom automation scheduling and device drivers software tools
 - Data integration

Full Control of Process

- » Easy to adapt to changing processes
- »Less reliant on vendor support (Limits downtime)

Limited Company Resources

- »Small company Need to make use of what is available
- » Tight timelines
- » Cost



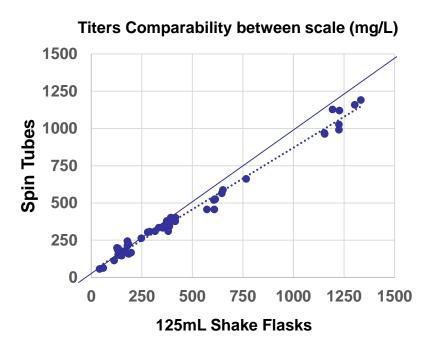
High-Throughput Spin Tube System

- Adaptable to high-throughput process with pierceable septum
- Comparable correlation between spin tubes and shake flask
- Consistent titers across working volumes

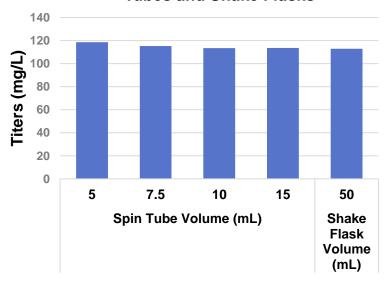


Custom 50-mL Spin Tube

- Vented cap with pre-slit septum
- Integrates with 1mL disposable tips



Titers across working volumes in Spin **Tubes and Shake Flasks**



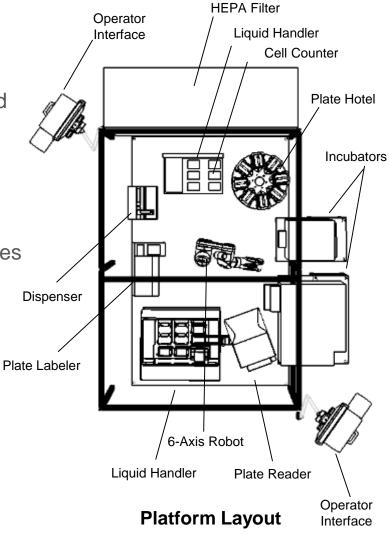


Cell Line Development Platform

Platform Key Features:

- Multiple HEPA-filtered enclosure
- "Smart Automation" for robust processing and error handling
- 24/7 fully unattended operation
- High plate capacity (> 220 microtiter plates)
- Multiple cell plate incubators to isolate cell lines
- Tube rack and plate inventory tracking
- Modular design for flexible integration







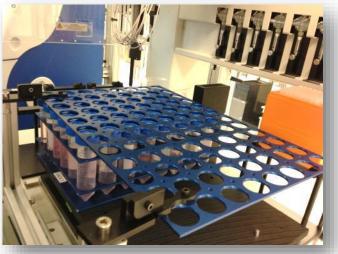
Cell Line Development Platform



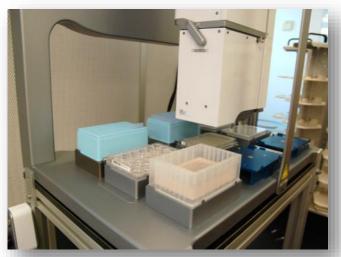
CLD Platform



Imaging Platform



Custom Spin Tube Rack



"Cherry Picking" Process



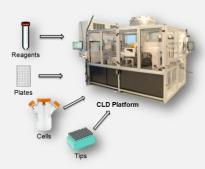
End-User Experience with the CLD Platform

Project Setup



Setup project parameters (Project name, **Project Type, Clone** ID, # of Plates, etc.)

Process Setup



Load cells, consumables, and reagents

3 **Monitor**



Automated resource scheduling

Monitor cell growth (Image once a week) **Decision Making**

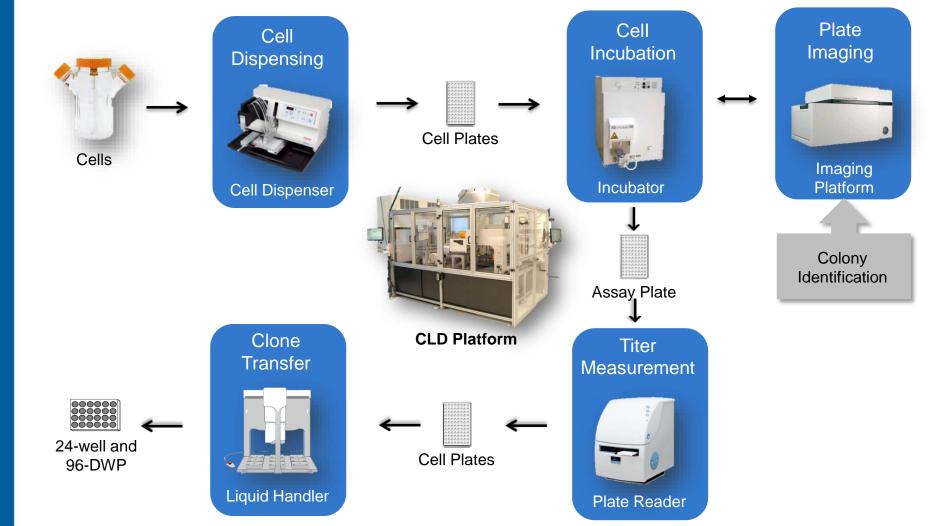


Prioritize plates to screen based on colony size, growth rate, and changing project parameters

"Smart Automation" - Multiple software tools and integrated informatics to setup automation protocols, track inventory, and aid in error recovery.

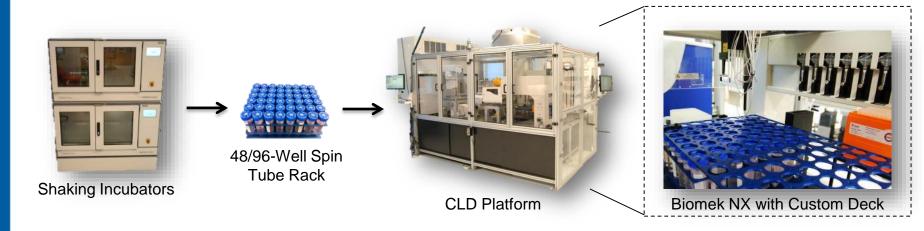


Process Workflow – Cell Line Screening and Selection

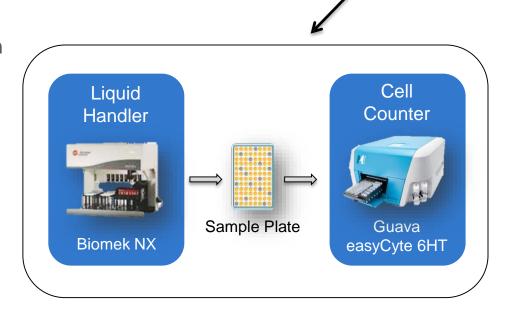




Process Workflow – Cell Culture Development



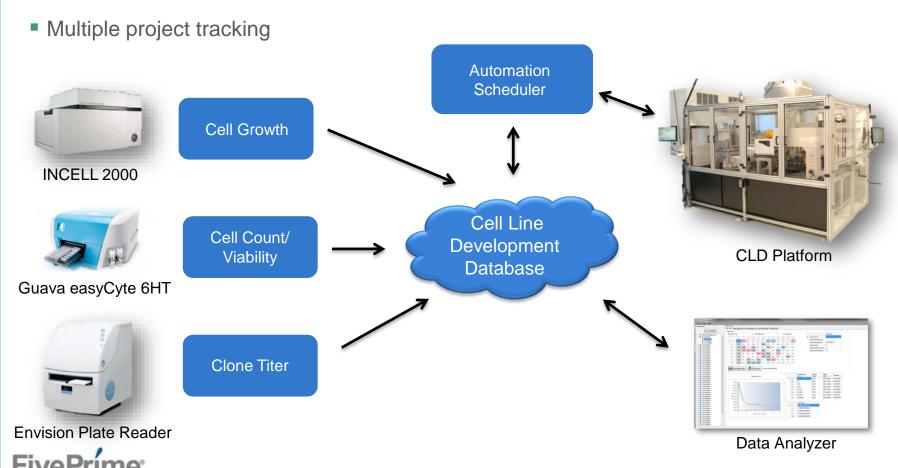
- Fully automated seed train maintenance and fed-batch production
 - » Tube inoculation
 - » Cell splitting and passaging
 - » Cell sampling (cell count and viability)
 - » Feeding





Automated Data Capture, Storage, Analysis & Retrieval

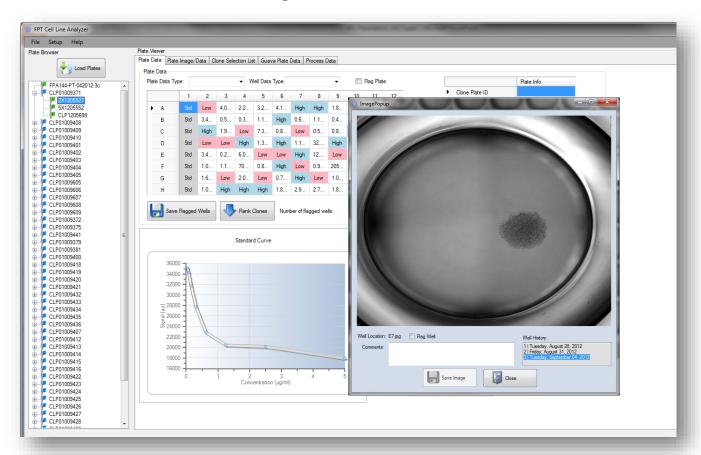
- Real time data analysis and reporting tool
- Prioritization and ranking of clones
- Plate data and image archiving to Cell Line Development Database (SQL Server)



Automated Data Analysis – Clone Titer

Clone Titer Analysis

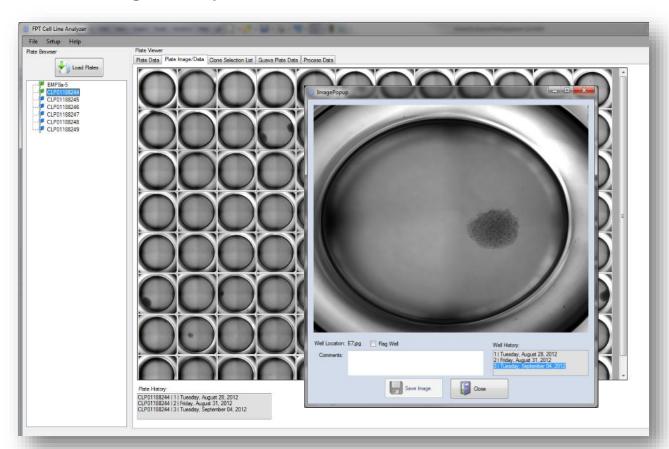
- 4-Parameter curve fit
- Clone prioritization and ranking
- Well data linked to well images





Automated Data Analysis – Clone Images

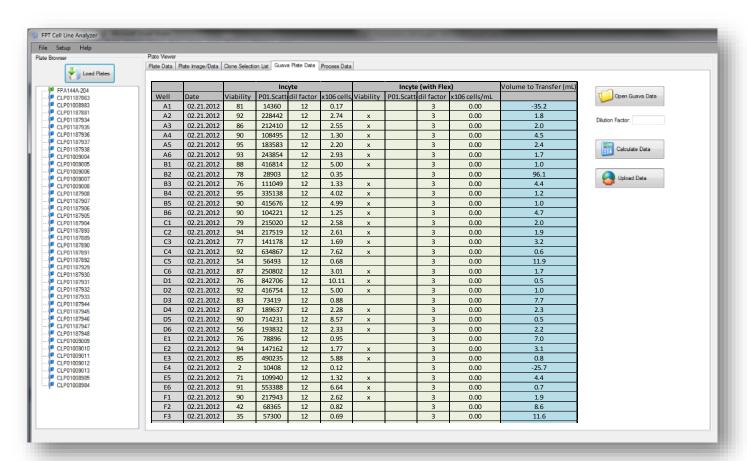
- **Plate Overview of Well Images:**
 - 96 and 24-well plates
 - Plate/well contamination flagging
 - Cell growth tracking (% Confluence) and monoclonality detection
 - Plate/well image history





Automated Data Analysis – Cell Count and Viability

- **Spin-Tube Data Handling**
 - Automated calculation of cell count and viability
 - Worklist generation for inoculation, feeding, and passaging
 - Spin tube and tube rack tracking







Summary

- Five Prime's Automation Technology group has successfully designed and implemented a high-throughput platform for cell line selection and cell culture development
- Highly customizable platform allows for changing project parameters
- "Smart Automation" allows for a robust, full walk-away system to reduce the number of FTE's
- High quality process delivers low plate contamination and reduced human errors
- Spin tube system enables a large number of cell lines to be screened by fedbatch culture
- Fully automated data analysis and record keeping provides key data for process decision making





Future Development

- Incorporate data analysis and reporting for downstream process development
 - Link clone data throughout process development
- Develop cell culture development process in 96-DWP
- Integrate cell line development data with electronic lab notebook





Acknowledgements

- Process Development
 - »Jin Zhou
 - » Marion Glenn
 - » Aileen Zhou
- Automation Technologies
 - » Nallakkan Arvindan
 - »Justin Jager
- Optimum Processing Inc.
 - » Peter Florez

