thermoscientific

Dionex RFIC-ER Startup Kit Installation Instructions

For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Contents

Dionex RFIC-ER Startup Kit Installation Instructions

1.   Introduction

Thermo Scientific™ Dionex™ Reagent-Free™ Ion Chromatography with Eluent Regeneration (Dionex RFIC-ER™) is a low-cost alternative to Dionex RFIC™ Eluent Generation (Dionex RFIC-EG™) systems. Rather than generating eluent electrolytically from water, using an eluent generator with an electrolyte solution, Dionex RFIC-ER uses the recycled eluent mode of operation of the electrolytic suppressor to regenerate the starting eluent.

The starting eluent for the Dionex RFIC-ER system is prepared manually, as usual. After suppression and regeneration, the eluent passes through a series of purification columns before being returned to the eluent bottle. With the closed-loop RFIC-ER system, the original 4 liters of eluent can be used for up to four weeks of continuous operation.

The following Thermo Scientific Dionex products can be upgraded to Dionex RFIC-ER systems:

- Dionex ICS-1000, Dionex ICS-1500, or Dionex ICS-2000 Ion Chromatography System

- Dionex ICS-3000 Ion Chromatography System

> **NOTE**   **The SRS**™ **300 Suppressor is the only Thermo Scientific Dionex suppressor compatible with Dionex RFIC-ER.**

To upgrade an existing IC system to a Dionex RFIC-ER system, order a kit:

- Dionex RFIC-ER Anion Startup Kit (P/N 067797)

- Dionex RFIC-ER Cation Startup Kit (P/N 067798)

Each Startup Kit includes one Installation Kit and one Consumables Kit. Together, these kits contain all the consumable and non-consumable items required to upgrade an IC system to a Dionex RFIC-ER system and operate the system nonstop for 6 to 12 months.

2. Safety Information

The ER Controller (ERC 10) is an integral element of the Dionex RFIC-ER system. The ERC 10 electronics monitor the volume of electrolysis gases (such as hydrogen and oxygen) in the eluent stream. If the predefined safety limit is exceeded, the ERC 10 shuts down the pump to prevent the buildup of gases in the eluent bottle.

The ERC 10 is designed for use with IC systems and should not be used for any other purpose. Operation of the ERC 10 in a manner not specified by Thermo Fisher Scientific may result in personal injury.

If you have a question regarding appropriate usage, contact Technical Support for Dionex products before proceeding. In the U.S. and Canada, call 1-800-532-4752. Outside the U.S. and Canada, call the nearest Thermo Fisher Scientific office.

2.1 Safety Messages

This manual contains warnings and precautionary statements that, when followed properly, can prevent personal injury and/or damage to the ERC 10. Safety messages appear in bold type and are accompanied by icons, as shown below.

DANGER — **Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.**

WARNING — **Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in death or serious injury.**

CAUTION — **Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.**

IMPORTANT — **Indicates that the function or process of the instrument may be impaired. Operation does not constitute a hazard.**

Messages d'avertissement en français

DANGER

Signale une situation de danger immédiat qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, entraînera des blessures graves à mortelles.

AVERTISSEMENT

Signale une situation de danger potentiel qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait entraîner des blessures graves à mortelles.

MISE EN GARDE

Signale une situation de danger potentiel qui, si elle n'est pas évitée, pourrait entraîner des blessures mineures à modérées. Également utilisé pour signaler une situation ou une pratique qui pourrait gravement endommager l'instrument mais qui n'entraînera pas de blessures.

Warnhinweise in Deutsch

ACHTUNG

Bedeutet unmittelbare Gefahr. Mißachtung kann zum Tod oder schwerwiegenden Verletzungen führen.

WARNUNG

Bedeutet eine mögliche Gefährdung. Mißachtung kann zum Tod oder schwerwiegenden Verletzungen führen.

VORSICHT

Bedeutet eine mögliche Gefährdung. Mißachtung kann zu kleineren oder mittelschweren Verletzungen führen. Wird auch verwendet, wenn eine Situation zu schweren Schäden am Gerät führen kann, jedoch keine Verletzungsgefahr besteht.

Informational messages also appear throughout this manual. These are labeled **NOTE** and are in bold type:

NOTE   NOTES call attention to certain information. They alert users to an unexpected result of an action, suggest how to optimize instrument performance, etc.

2.2   ERC 10 Labels

The TUV GS and cTUVus Mark safety labels and the CE Mark label on the ERC 10 indicate that the ERC 10 is in compliance with the following standards and directives.

EMC Susceptibility and Immunity

- EN 61326 1997 + A1:1998 + A2:2001
- Low-Voltage Equipment Directive 73/23/EEC
- EMC Directive 89/336/EEC

Safety

- EN 61010-1:2001
- CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 61010-1:2004
- UL 61010-1:2004

These symbols appear on the ERC 10 or on ERC 10 labels:

~   Alternating current

Protective conductor terminal

| Power supply is on

Indicates a potential hazard. Refer to the user manual for an explanation of the hazard and how to proceed.

2.3 ERC 10 Specifications

Main Power	5 volts DC Typical input power: 250 mW Typical line draw: 5 mA
Operating Temperature	4 to 40 °C (40 to 104 °F)
Operating Humidity	5% to 95% relative humidity, noncondensing
Dimensions	Height: 18.73 cm (7.375 in) Width: 5.72 cm (2.25 in) Depth: 3.45 cm (1.375 in)
Weight	0.38 kg (0.83 lb)

3. Functional Description

This section presents a brief overview of key Dionex RFIC-ER components. For more information about the trap columns, refer to the column manual. Manuals are available for download from the Thermo Fisher Scientific website or by contacting your local office.

Figure 1 illustrates the liquid flow path through a Dionex RFIC-ER system.
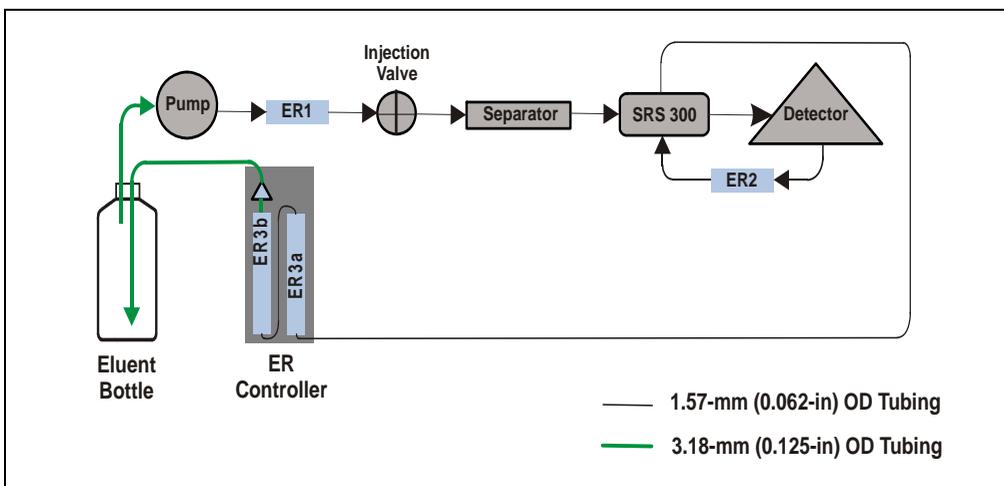
Figure 1. Dionex RFIC-ER System Fluid Schematic

The key to Dionex RFIC-ER is operating the suppressor in the recycled eluent mode. During the suppression operation, the suppressor exchanges the counterion of the eluent and analyte for hydronium (in anion systems) or hydroxide (in cation systems); during the regeneration operation, the counterion is returned to the eluent and the excess hydronium or hydroxide is neutralized. Thus, the ion balance is maintained throughout the entire suppression-regeneration process.

- The **ER1** is a Thermo Scientific Dionex IonPac™ Eluent Purification Column (anion column, AEP-ER1; cation column, CEP-ER1). The ER1 is a mixed-bed column that includes matrix trap material. The ER1 traps any contaminant species that may be liberated from the separator column or suppressor (or introduced in the sample), thus ensuring the purity of the regenerated eluent. The ER1 has a secondary purpose of trapping the matrix counterions introduced by the sample.

- The **ER2** is a Thermo Scientific Dionex IonPac Analyte Trap Column (anion column, AAT-ER2; cation column, CAT-ER2). When a sample is injected into the system, it is important that the ions introduced in the sample do not enter the eluent bottle. Analyte ions in the sample can increase the background conductivity of the eluent, while counterions can affect the recovery of certain analytes. The ER2 traps all analyte ions from the eluent stream, allowing the eluent to be regenerated for reuse.

  The anion ER2 contains high-capacity microporous anion exchange resin in the bicarbonate form. The cation ER2 contains high capacity microporous cation exchange resin in the hydronium form.

- The **ER Controller** (**ERC 10**) contains two ER3 Dionex IonPac Catalyzer Columns, a gas monitor, and connecting tubing.

  During the suppression-regeneration process, water is electrolyzed to hydrogen and oxygen gases. In order to maintain the volume of the eluent, these gases need to be converted back to water. The ER3a column provides a delay that allows the most electroactive by-products to decay; the ER3b column has a platinum catalyst to complete the breakdown of any remaining electrolytic by-products and to reform water from the oxygen and hydrogen gases.

  The gas monitor tracks the volume of gas exiting the ER3 columns. If this volume exceeds the predefined safety limit, the ERC 10 shuts down the pump.

- The 4-liter **eluent bottle** has a dual-line cap. The outlet line is directed from near the top of the eluent bottle, while the inlet line is directed to the bottom of

the eluent bottle. Thus, eluent is pumped from the top of the bottle and returned to the bottom. Two gas vents in the eluent bottle cap ensure that any gases produced by the suppressor are safely vented to the atmosphere.

CAUTION

The eluent bottle and cap provided in the Dionex RFIC-ER Installation Kit are designed specifically for use with Dionex RFIC-ER systems. Do not operate the system with any other eluent bottle or cap.

MISE EN GARDE

La bouteille d'éluant et son bouchon fournis dans le kit d'installation du système Dionex RFIC-ER sont conçus spécifiquement pour les systèmes Dionex RFIC-ER. N'utilisez aucun autre type de bouteille ou de bouchon avec le système Dionex RFIC-ER.

VORSICHT

Die Eluentenflasche und der Deckel aus dem Dionex RFIC-ER Installationskit sind speziell für die Verwendung mit einem Dionex RFIC-ER System bestimmt. Verwenden Sie mit diesem System keine anderen Eluentenflaschen oder Deckel.

4.   Unpacking and Inspection

Unpack the shipping containers and verify that all items listed on the packing list are on hand.

The **Dionex RFIC-ER Anion Startup Kit** (P/N 067797) consists of:

•   Dionex RFIC-ER Anion Installation Kit (P/N 067786)

•   Dionex RFIC-ER Anion Consumables Kit (P/N 067791)

The **Dionex RFIC-ER Cation Startup Kit** (P/N 067798) consists of:

•   Dionex RFIC-ER Cation Installation Kit (P/N 067789)

•   Dionex RFIC-ER Cation Consumables Kit (P/N 067792)

Each Installation Kit contains all non-consumable items required to upgrade an IC system to a Dionex RFIC-ER system, including the ERC 10, ER1 and ER2 mounting clips, eluent bottle assembly, and associated tubing.

Each Consumables Kit contains five ER1 columns and one ER2 column.

IMPORTANT

Substitution of non-Dionex/Thermo Scientific parts may impair system performance and void the product warranty. For details, see the warranty statement in the Dionex Terms and Conditions.

5. Procedure Overview

These are the main steps in the Dionex RFIC-ER upgrade procedure:

- Install the ER1 (eluent purification) column bracket clip

- Install the eluent bottle

- Plumb the ER1 column for conditioning

- Condition the ER1 column

- Complete the ER1 column tubing connections

- Install the ER2 (analyte trap) column

- Install the ERC 10

- Test the system for leaks

- Complete the tubing connections

- Update the Thermo Scientific Dionex Chromeleon™ Chromatography Management System software; update the ICS-1000/1500/2000 or Dionex ICS-3000 DC Moduleware

- Configure device properties in the Chromeleon Server Configuration program

- For a new or regenerated Dionex SRS 300 only: Condition the SRS 300 for 16 hours

To begin the upgrade procedure for a ICS-1000/1500/2000 system, go to Section 6.

To begin the upgrade procedure for a Dionex ICS-3000 system, go to Section 7.

6.   Initial Setup for Dionex ICS-1000/1500/2000 Systems

In order to ensure that the eluent returned to the eluent bottle is identical in composition to the starting eluent, several components in the Dionex RFIC-ER system must be equilibrated before initial operation. This section describes the temporary connections required for equilibration.

6.1   Installing the ER1 Column Bracket Clip

1. Verify that the ICS-1000/1500/2000 is set up as directed in the operator's manual. Manuals are available for download from the Thermo Fisher Scientific website or by contacting your local office.

2. Install the ER1 column bracket clip (P/N 066992) on the ICS-1000/1500/2000 component mounting panel (see Figure 2). Angle the clip slightly (about 10 degrees clockwise from vertical) to allow the ER1 column to clear the suppressor tangs.

Figure 2. Installing the ER1 Column Bracket Clip

6.2   Installing the Eluent Bottle

1. Prepare 4 liters of the eluent required for the application. Always use ASTM Type I (18 megohm-cm) filtered, deionized water when preparing eluent.

2. Note the minimum and maximum fill marks on the eluent bottle (see Figure 3). Add fresh eluent up to the maximum fill mark.

Maximum Fill Mark (4 L)

Minimum Fill Mark (About 3.7 L)
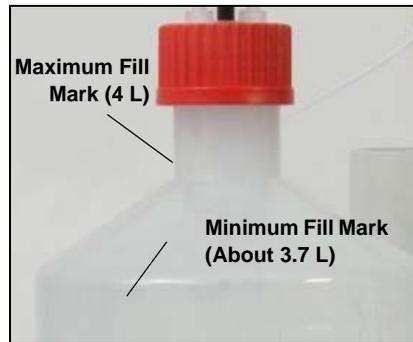
Figure 3.   Eluent Bottle Fill Marks

| IMPORTANT | **If the eluent level falls below the minimum fill mark, the outlet tubing may not reach the fluid level and the pump may lose prime.** |

3. Screw the cap onto the eluent bottle. Check that the two gas vents are seated in the cap and are free of obstructions (see Figure 4).
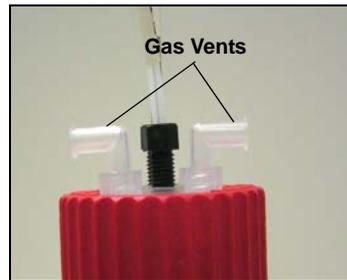
Gas Vents

Figure 4.   Gas Vents in Eluent Bottle Cap

⚠ **CAUTION**

Do not block the gas vents in the eluent bottle cap. If the ERC 10 malfunctions, the gas vents must be able to discharge any hydrogen and oxygen gases produced by the electrolytic suppressor to the atmosphere.

⚠ **MISE EN GARDE**

N'obturez pas les évents du bouchon de la bouteille d'éluant. En cas de défaillance de l'ERC 10, les évents doivent pouvoir évacuer vers l'atmosphère l'hydrogène et l'oxygène produits par le suppresseur électrolytique.

⚠ **VORSICHT**	**Blockieren Sie keinesfalls die Öffnungen im Deckel der Eluentenflasche. Wenn der ERC 10 nicht korrekt arbeitet, müssen die vom elektrolytischen Supressor erzeugten Wasserstoff- und Sauerstoffgase über diese Öffnungen in die Atmosphäre gelangen können.**

4. Connect the **Eluent Bottle Out** tubing to the pump inlet line.

5. Prime the pump.

6. Make sure the suppressor has been hydrated as instructed in the *SRS 300 QuickStart*.

6.3　Plumbing the ER1 Column for Conditioning

1. Disconnect the tubing labeled **TO INJ VALVE IN - P** from port **P (2)** on the injection valve. Connect the tubing to a 10-32 union (P/N 042627) (see Figure 5).
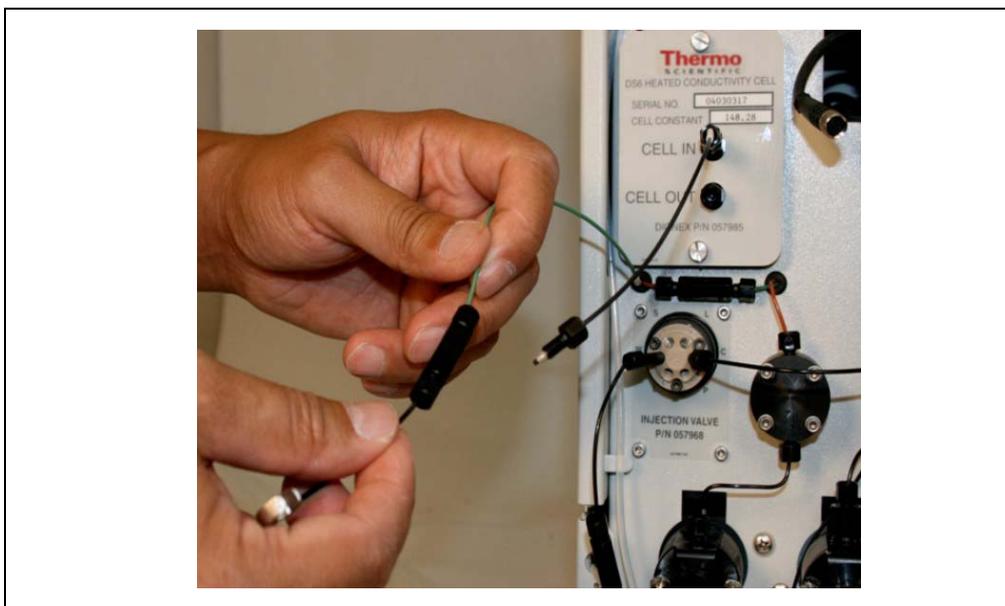

Figure 5. Connecting the ER1 Column for Conditioning

2. Connect one end of the **PUMP TO ER1 IN** tubing to the 10-32 union. Connect the other end of the tubing to the ER1 column inlet.

3. Connect the **ER1 OUT TO INJ VALVE IN** tubing to the ER1 column outlet. Direct the free end of the tubing to a small waste container (see Figure 6).
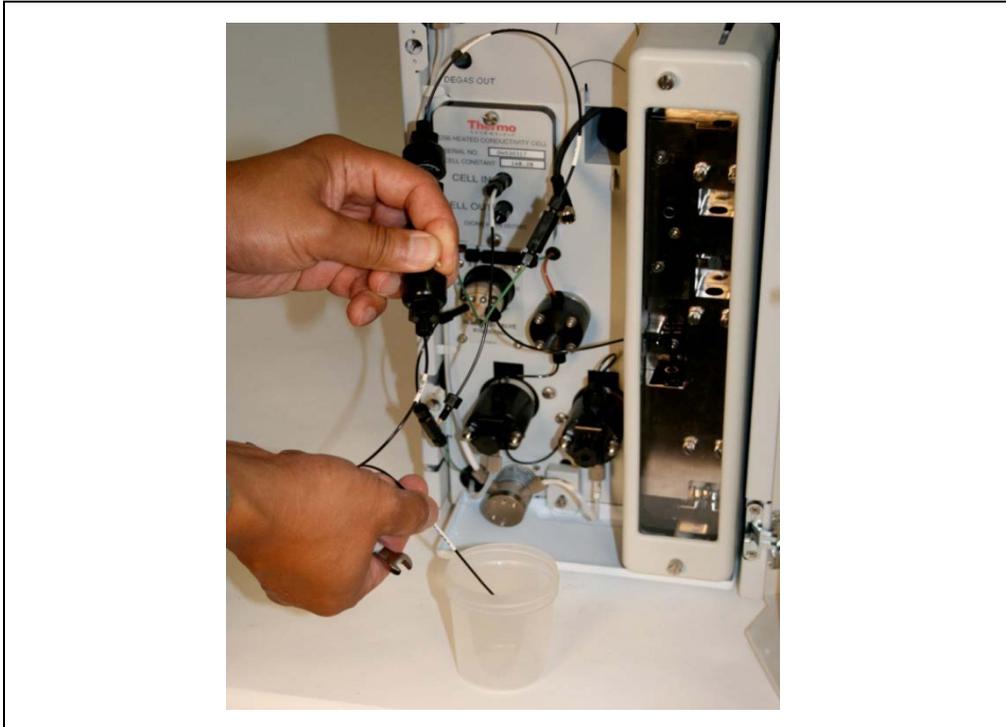
Figure 6. Completing Connections for ER1 Column Conditioning

6.4 Conditioning the ER1 Column

1. Verify that the suppressor is off.

IMPORTANT

To avoid damaging the suppressor, always turn off the suppressor before conditioning the ER1 column. Although the pump flow is on during conditioning, no flow will reach the suppressor.

2. Set the pump flow rate to 2.0 mL/min and turn on the pump.

3. Rinse the ER1 column with eluent for 30 minutes. **Make sure the suppressor is not activated during this time.**

4. After 30 minutes, turn off the pump.

6.5   Installing the ER1 Column

1. Mount the ER1 column (with the inlet end to the right) on the ER1 column bracket clip.

2. Connect the **TO INJ VALVE IN - P** tubing to port **P (2)** on the injection valve (see Figure 7).

Figure 7. Connecting the ER1 Column to the Injection Valve

3. Tuck the tubing behind the ER1 column and route the two eluent lines behind the tubing chase on the left of the system (see Figure 8).

Figure 8. Routing the ER1 Tubing Through the Tubing Chase

6.6   Installing the ER2 Column

1. Remove the backing tape from the Analyte Trap Column–ER2 bracket (P/N 067297) (see Figure 9).

Backing Tape

Figure 9. ER2 Column Bracket

2. Press the bracket firmly into place on the suppressor (see Figure 10). If necessary, you can remove and then replace the bracket by separating the hook-and-loop tape.
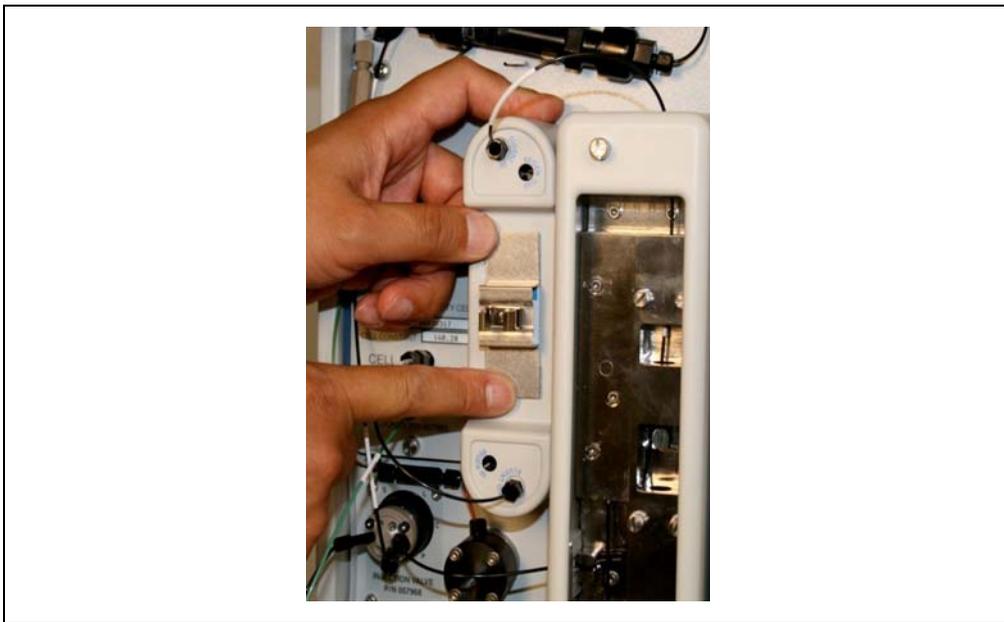
Figure 10. Attaching the ER2 Column Bracket to the Suppressor

3. Disconnect the black PEEK tubing that connects the **Cell Out** port of the detector cell to the suppressor **Regen In** port.

4. Connect the **Cell Out** port of the detector cell to the ER2 column inlet, using the **CELL OUT TO ER2 IN** tubing (see Figure 11).
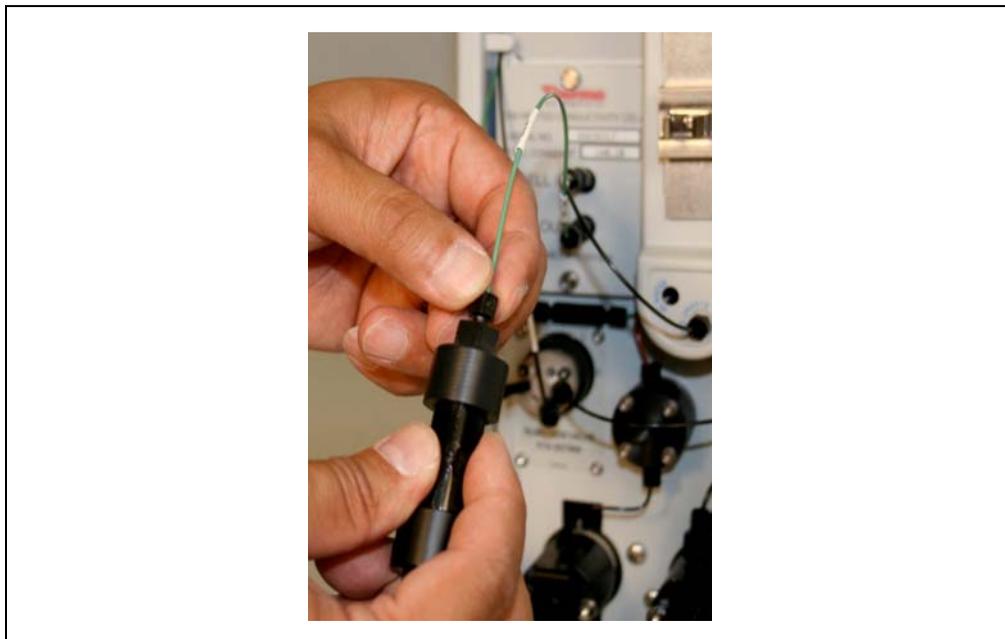
Figure 11. Connecting the ER2 Column to the Detector Cell

5. Connect the ER2 column outlet to the suppressor **Regen In** port, using the **ER2 OUT TO SRS REGEN IN** tubing. Mount the ER2 column on the ER2 column bracket on the suppressor (see <u>Figure 12</u>).

Figure 12. Attaching the ER2 Column to the Suppressor

6.7 Installing the ERC 10

1. Place the ERC 10 in the left-hand Dionex EluGen cartridge holder on the top cover of the ICS-1000/1500/2000 (see Figure 13).

Figure 13.   ERC 10 in EluGen Cartridge Holder

2. Route the green ERC 10 inlet tubing down the tubing chase to the front of the system (see Figure 14).

Figure 14. Routing the ERC 10 Inlet Tubing Through the Tubing Chase

3. Connect the green ERC 10 inlet tubing to the suppressor **Regen Out** port (see Figure 15).
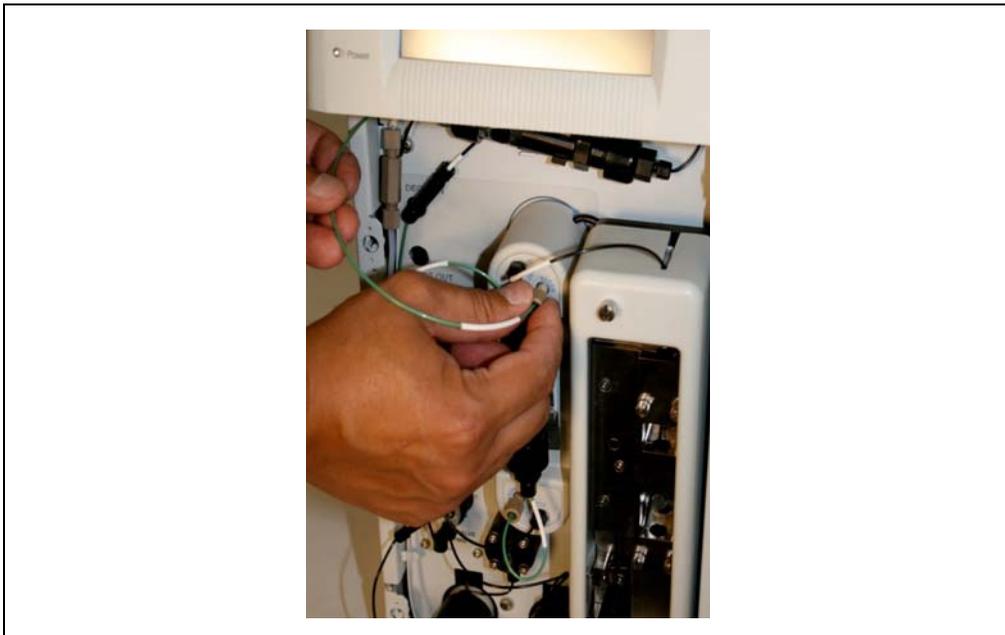
*Figure 15. Connecting the ERC 10 to the Suppressor*

4. Connect waste tubing to the ERC 10 outlet (see <u>Figure 16</u>). Direct the free end of the waste line to a small waste container.

Figure 16. Connecting the ERC 10 Waste Line

IMPORTANT	**Do not connect the ERC 10 USB cable to the ICS-1000/1500/2000 until instructed to do so.**

6.8   Testing for Leaks

1. Turn on the pump and suppressor at the appropriate flow rate and current (see the following table).

Separator Column	Recommended Flow Rate	Maximum Suppressor Current
AS4A-SC Anion Separator	2.0 mL/min	27 mA
AS9-HC Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	45 mA
AS12A Anion Separator	1.5 mL/min	25 mA
AS14 Anion Separator	1.2 mL/min	25 mA
AS14A Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	43 mA
AS22 Anion Separator	1.2 mL/min	31 mA
AS23 Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	25 mA
CS12A Cation Separator	1.0 mL/min	59 mA
CS16 Cation Separator	1.0 mL/min	88 mA

2. Begin operating the system for 3 hours (i.e., with the system not operating in the recycled mode of operation). During this time, periodically check all tubing connections for leaks. Tighten any connections that leak.

    After 1.5 hours, check the eluent bottle. If the eluent level is below the minimum fill mark (see Figure 3), turn off the system, refill the eluent bottle, and restart the system.

IMPORTANT | **If the eluent level falls below the minimum fill mark, the outlet tubing may not reach the fluid level and the pump may lose prime.**

3. After 3 hours of total operation time, shut down the system.

4. Disconnect the waste line from the ERC 10 outlet.

5. Disconnect the green ERC 10 inlet tubing from the suppressor **Regen Out** port and allow the fluid to drain into a waste container.

6. Connect the ERC 10 inlet tubing to a 1/4-28 union (P/N 039056), luer adapter (P/N 024305), and 10 cc syringe (P/N 079803) (see Figure 17). Pull the remaining fluid (approximately 16 cc) from the ERC 10 until only air is exiting the controller.
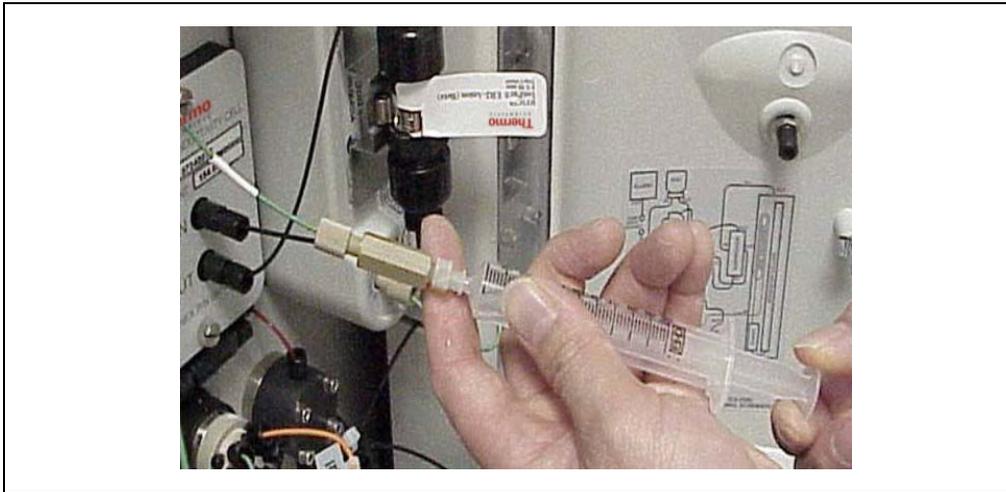
Figure 17. Drawing Fluid from the ERC 10

7. Disconnect the union, luer adapter, and syringe from the ERC 10 inlet tubing.

8. Connect the ERC 10 inlet tubing to the suppressor **Regen Out** port. Connect the ERC 10 outlet to the **Eluent Bottle In** tubing.

9. Add eluent up to the maximum fill mark on the eluent bottle (see Figure 3).

Go on to Section 8 to update Chromeleon and the ICS-1000/1500/2000 Moduleware.

7. Initial Setup for Dionex ICS-3000 Systems

In order to ensure that the eluent returned to the eluent bottle is identical in composition to the starting eluent, several components in the Dionex RFIC-ER system must be equilibrated before initial operation. This section describes the temporary connections required for equilibration.

7.1 Installing the ER1 Column Bracket Clip

1. Verify that the system is set up as directed in the ICS-3000 operator's manual. Manuals are available for download from the Thermo Fisher Scientific website or by contacting your local office.

2. Remove the GM-3 or GM-4 static mixer clip from the Dionex ICS-3000 DP/SP component mounting panel.

3. The ER1 column bracket clip (P/N 066039) consists of a clip, a backing plate that orients the clip to the correct angle, and a screw (see Figure 18).
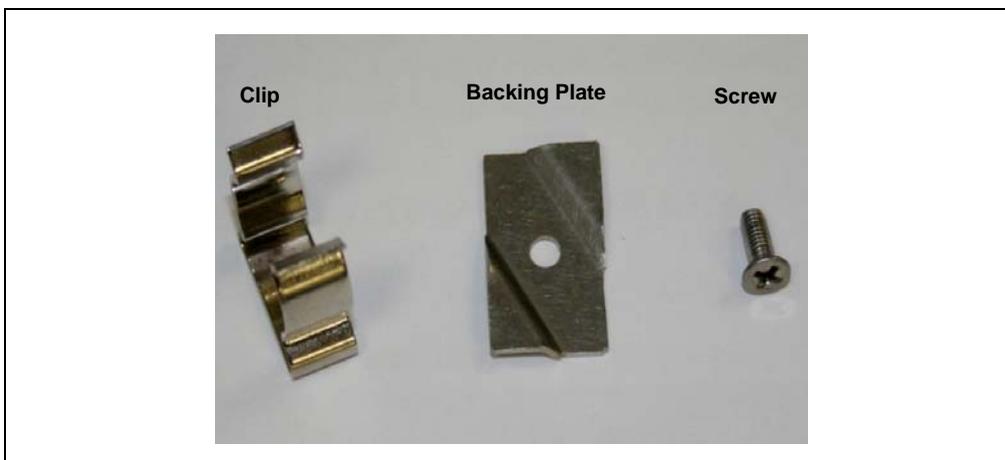

Figure 18. ER1 Column Bracket Clip

4. Install the ER1 column bracket clip in place of the static mixer clip (see Figure 19). (When correctly installed, the clip is angled about 30 degrees from vertical.)
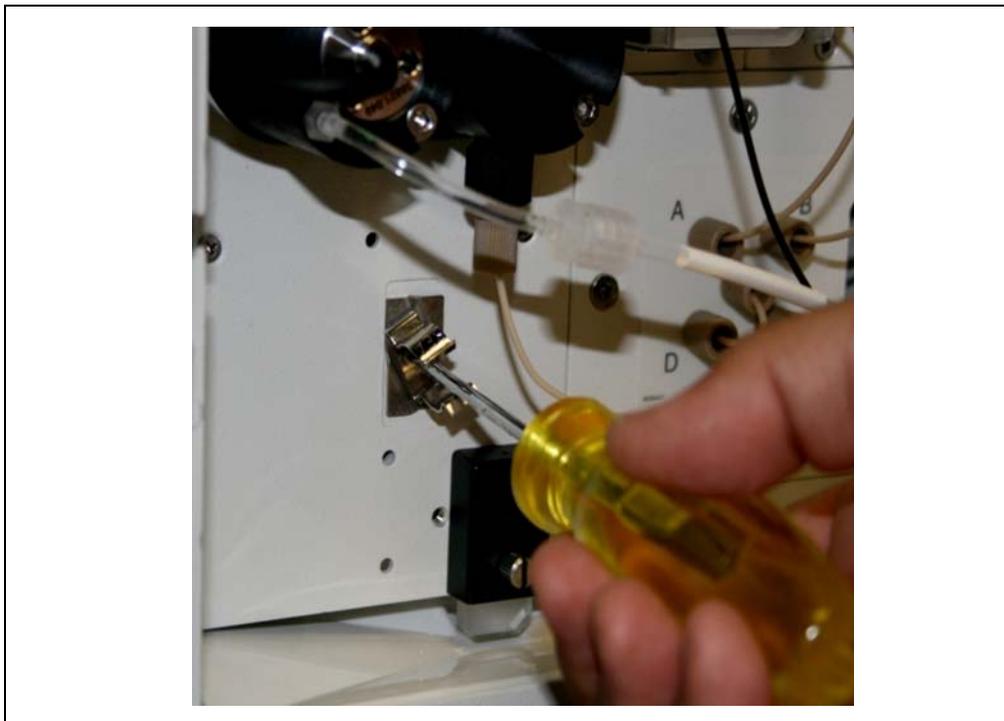
Figure 19. Installing the ER1 Column Bracket Clip

7.2 Installing the Eluent Bottle

1. Prepare 4 liters of the eluent required for the application. Always use ASTM Type I (18 megohm-cm) filtered, deionized water when preparing eluent.

2. Note the minimum and maximum fill marks on the eluent bottle (see Figure 20). Add fresh eluent up to the maximum fill mark.

Figure 20.   Eluent Bottle Fill Marks

IMPORTANT   **If the eluent level falls below the minimum fill mark, the outlet tubing may not reach the fluid level and the pump may lose prime.**

3. Screw the cap onto the eluent bottle. Check that the two gas vents are seated in the cap and are free of obstructions (see Figure 21).
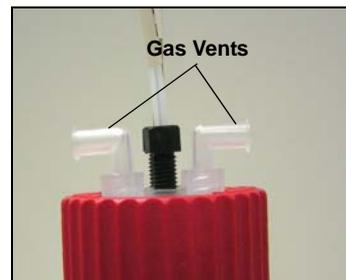
Figure 21.   Gas Vents in Eluent Bottle Cap

CAUTION   **Do not block the gas vents in the eluent bottle cap. If the ERC 10 malfunctions, the gas vents must be able to discharge any hydrogen and oxygen gases produced by the electrolytic suppressor to the atmosphere.**

MISE EN GARDE   **N'obturez pas les évents du bouchon de la bouteille d'éluant. En cas de défaillance de l'ERC 10, les évents doivent pouvoir évacuer vers l'atmosphère l'hydrogène et l'oxygène produits par le suppresseur électrolytique.**

⚠️ **VORSICHT**   **Blockieren Sie keinesfalls die Öffnungen im Deckel der Eluentenflasche. Wenn der ERC 10 nicht korrekt arbeitet, müssen die vom elektrolytischen Supressor erzeugten Wasserstoff- und Sauerstoffgase über diese Öffnungen in die Atmosphäre gelangen können.**

4. Connect the **Eluent Bottle Out** tubing to the pump inlet line.

5. Prime the pump.

6. Make sure the suppressor has been hydrated as instructed in the *SRS 300 QuickStart*.

7.3 Plumbing the ER1 Column for Conditioning

1. Disconnect the static mixer from the DP/SP outlet and connect it to the ER1 column inlet (see Figure 22).

Figure 22. Connecting the ER1 Column to the Dionex ICS-3000 Pump

2. Connect the **ER1 OUT TO INJ VALVE IN** tubing to the ER1 column outlet and direct the free end of the tubing to a small waste container. Mount the ER1 (with the inlet end to the right) on the ER1 column bracket clip (see Figure 23).
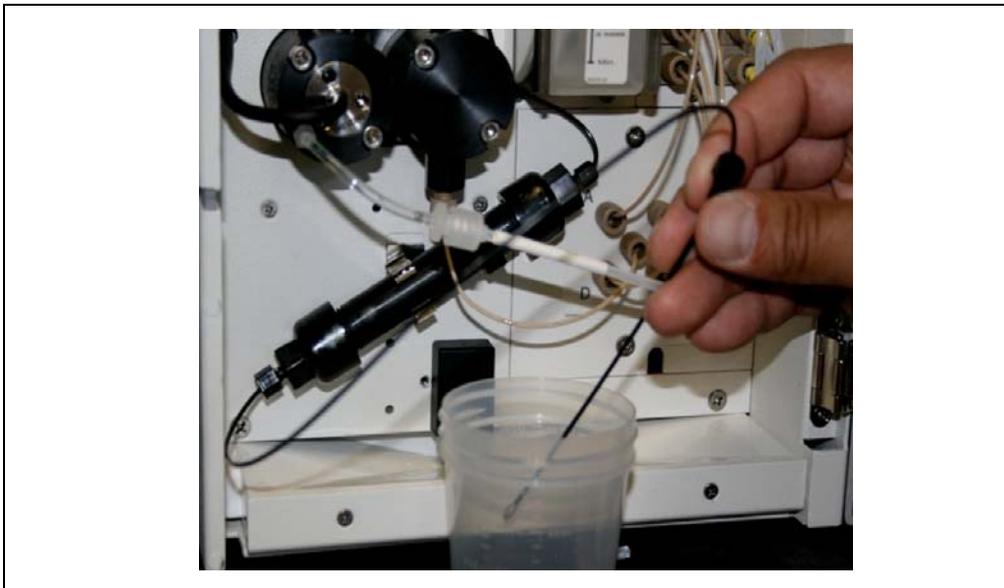

Figure 23. Conditioning Connections for the ER1 Column

7.4   Conditioning the ER1 Column

1. Verify that the suppressor is off.

IMPORTANT

To avoid damaging the suppressor, always turn off the suppressor before conditioning the ER1 column. Although the pump flow is on during conditioning, no flow will reach the suppressor.

2. Set the pump flow rate to 2.0 mL/min and turn on the pump.

3. Rinse the ER1 column with eluent for 30 minutes. **Make sure the suppressor is not activated during this time.**

4. After 30 minutes, turn off the pump.

5. Connect the tubing labeled **TO INJ VALVE IN - P** to the heat exchanger (see Figure 24).

> **NOTE** Tuck the tubing into the tubing clips at the bottom of the DC.
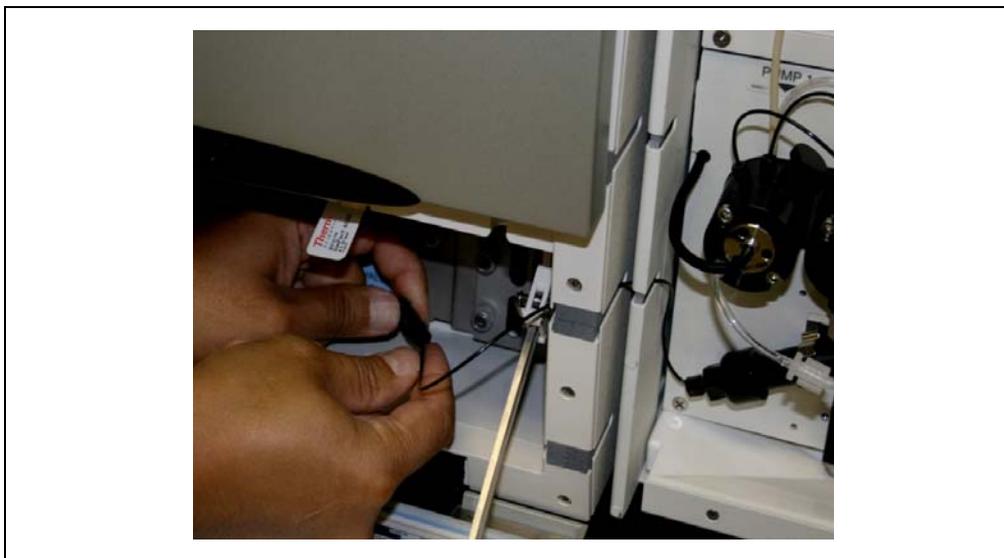
Figure 24. Connecting the ER1 Column to the Heat Exchanger

7.5   Installing the ER2 Column

1. Remove the backing tape from the Analyte Trap Column–ER2 bracket (P/N 067297) (see Figure 25).

Backing Tape

Figure 25. ER2 Column Bracket

2. Press the bracket firmly into place on the suppressor (see <u>Figure 26</u>).
    If necessary, you can remove and then replace the bracket by
    separating the hook-and-loop tape.

Figure 26. Attaching the ER2 Column Bracket to the Suppressor

3. Disconnect the black PEEK tubing that connects the **Cell Out** port of
    the detector cell to the suppressor **Regen In** port.

4. Connect the ER2 column inlet to the **Cell Out** port of the detector cell, using the **CELL OUT TO ER2 IN** tubing (see Figure 27).

Figure 27. Connecting the ER2 Column to the Detector Cell

5. Connect the ER2 column outlet to the suppressor **Regen In** port, using the **ER2 OUT TO SRS REGEN IN** tubing. Attach the ER2 column to the ER2 bracket on the suppressor (see Figure 28).


Figure 28. Attaching the ER2 Column to the Suppressor

6. Place the ERC 10 in the Eluent Organizer (EO).

7. Connect the ERC 10 inlet tubing to the **SRS REGEN OUT TO ER3 IN** tubing, using the supplied union.

8. Connect the extended ERC 10 inlet tubing to the suppressor **Regen Out** port (see Figure 29).

Figure 29. Connecting the ERC 10 to the Suppressor

9. Route the ERC 10 inlet tubing through the top right tubing chase to the DP/SP, and then up through the top tubing chase of the pump (see Figure 30).

Figure 30. Routing the ERC 10 Inlet Tubing Through System Tubing Chases

10. Connect waste tubing to the ERC 10 outlet (see <u>Figure 31</u>). Direct the waste line to a waste container.

Figure 31. Connecting the ERC 10 Waste Line

IMPORTANT **Do not connect the ERC 10 USB cable to the ICS-3000 DC until instructed to do so.**

7.6 Testing for Leaks

1. Turn on the pump and suppressor at the appropriate flow rate and current (see the following table).

Separator Column	Recommended Flow Rate	Maximum Suppressor Current
AS4A-SC Anion Separator	2.0 mL/min	27 mA
AS9-HC Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	45 mA
AS12A Anion Separator	1.5 mL/min	25 mA
AS14 Anion Separator	1.2 mL/min	25 mA
AS14A Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	43 mA
AS22 Anion Separator	1.2 mL/min	31 mA
AS23 Anion Separator	1.0 mL/min	25 mA
CS12A Cation Separator	1.0 mL/min	59 mA
CS16 Cation Separator	1.0 mL/min	88 mA

2. Begin operating the system for 3 hours (i.e., with the system not operating in the recycled mode of operation). During this time, periodically check all tubing connections for leaks. Tighten any connections that leak.

   After 1.5 hours, check the eluent bottle. If the eluent level is below the minimum fill mark (see Figure 20), turn off the system, refill the eluent bottle, and restart the system.

IMPORTANT | **If the eluent level falls below the minimum fill mark, the outlet tubing may not reach the fluid level and the pump may lose prime.**

3. After 3 hours of total operation time, shut down the system.

4. Disconnect the waste line from the ERC 10 outlet.

5. Disconnect the green ERC 10 inlet tubing from the suppressor **Regen Out** port and allow the fluid to drain into a waste container.

6. Connect the ERC 10 inlet tubing to a 1/4-28 union (P/N 039056), luer adapter (P/N 024305), and 10 cc syringe (P/N 079803) (see Figure 32). Pull the remaining fluid (approximately 16 cc) from the ERC 10 until only air is exiting the controller.
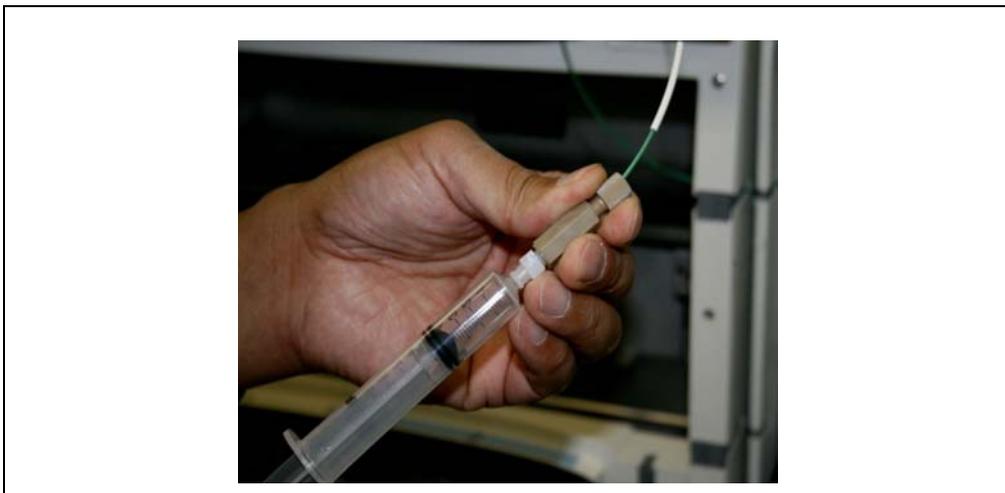

Figure 32. Drawing Fluid from the ERC 10

7. Disconnect the union, luer adapter, and syringe from the ERC 10 inlet tubing.

8. Connect the ERC 10 inlet tubing to the suppressor **Regen Out** port. Connect the ERC 10 outlet to the **Eluent Bottle In** tubing.

9. Add eluent up to the maximum fill mark on the eluent bottle (see Figure 20).

Go on to Section 8 to update Chromeleon and the Dionex ICS-3000 DC Moduleware.

8. Chromeleon Setup

8.1 Dionex RFIC-ER System Requirements

The Dionex RFIC-ER system consumables have limited life spans and require periodic replacement or regeneration. The Chromeleon Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness feature tracks the usage of the consumables and notifies you when they approach the end of their useful life spans. When Chromeleon is disconnected from the system, the ICS-1000/1500/2000 or Dionex ICS-3000 DC Moduleware monitors the consumables usage and stores the tracking information in its permanent memory. In order to operate your Dionex RFIC-ER system, you need:

- Chromeleon release 6.80 SP3a (or later) or 6.70 SP6a (or later)

- The appropriate Moduleware version

| Device	Moduleware Version Required
Dionex ICS-1000, Dionex ICS-2000	Version 3.0.0 (or later)
Dionex ICS-1500	Version 3.0.0 (or later)
Dionex ICS-3000 DC	Version 2.0.0 (or later)

- An ERC 10 (If the system is a ICS-1000/1500/2000, Chromeleon automatically activates the Dionex RFIC-ER features in the Moduleware when it detects the presence of an ERC 10. If the system is a Dionex ICS-3000, the user must manually activate the Dionex RFIC-ER features.)

8.2 Updating Chromeleon

Check the Chromeleon release installed on the PC. If necessary (see Section 8.1), run Chromeleon Setup to install the software update.

8.3   Updating the Moduleware

1. Stop all batches, programs, and data acquisition events on the Chromeleon Server that hosts the system to be upgraded.

2. If it is not already running, start the Chromeleon Server Monitor program. (Select **Start > All Programs** [or **Programs**, depending on the operating system] **> Chromeleon > Server Monitor**.)

3. The Server Monitor status message should read "Chromeleon Server is running idle."
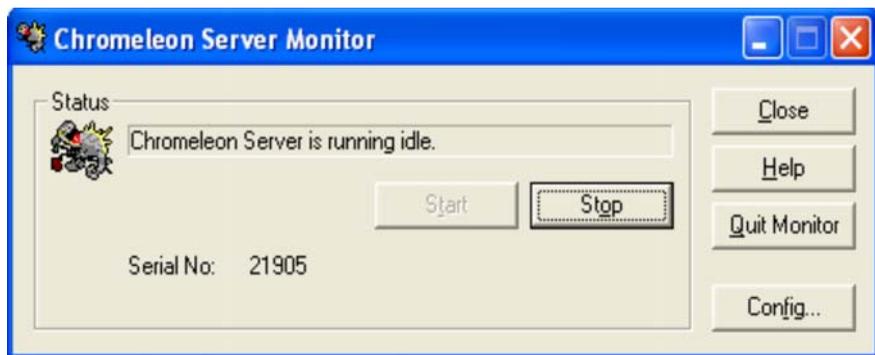
4. Start the Chromeleon Server Configuration program. (Select **Start > All Programs** [or **Programs**, depending on the operating system] **> Chromeleon > Server Configuration**.)

5. Expand the contents of the timebase that includes the system to be upgraded by clicking the + icon next to the timebase.
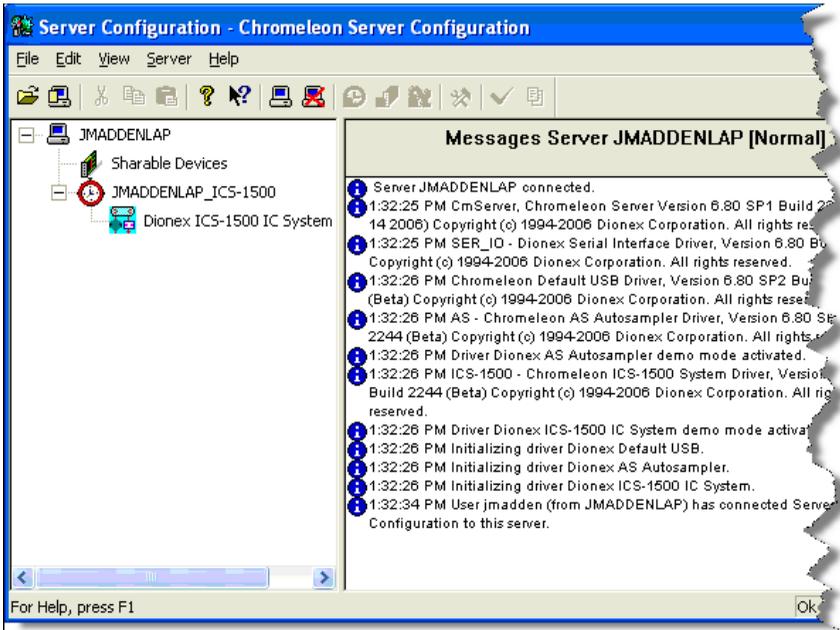
6. Right-click the icon for the system (or DC) to be upgraded.

The Properties dialog box for the device appears. (In this example, the device is a Dionex ICS-1500.)
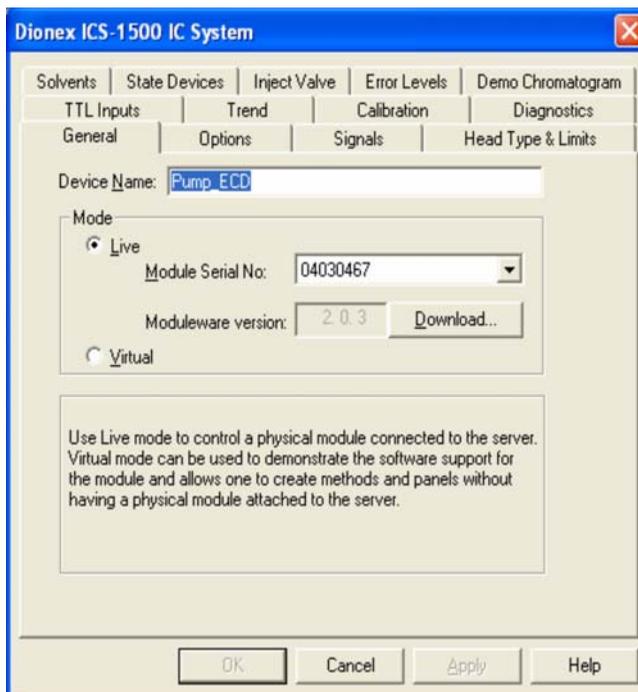
7. On the **General** tab, check the **Moduleware version**. If the correct version of Moduleware is installed (see Section 8.1), go directly to Section 8.4 to configure the ERC 10 properties.

    To update the Moduleware, click **Download**. The following message will appear: "Communication to the device will be stopped for configuration. It will affect a running program with the device. Do you want to continue?" Click **Yes**.

The Moduleware download dialog box appears.

8. Select the new Moduleware file and click **Open** to begin the download.

9. When Chromeleon has finished installing the new Moduleware, click **OK** to close the Properties dialog box.

8.4   Configuring the ERC 10 Properties

1. Connect the ERC 10 USB cable to any available USB port on the rear panel of the ICS-1000/1500/2000 or the Dionex ICS-3000 DC.

2. Microsoft® Windows® will immediately detect the ERC 10 and launch the Found New Hardware Wizard. Follow the instructions in the wizard to install the ERC 10 driver. During installation, select the following options:

   • If asked whether Windows can connect to Windows update to search for software, select **No, not this time**.

   • Accept the default option (**Install the software automatically**) and click **Next >**. (It is not necessary to insert a hardware installation CD-ROM or floppy disk.)

3. When the ERC 10 driver has been installed, click **Finish**.

4. In the Server Configuration program, right-click the timebase that contains the Dionex RFIC-ER system and select **Edit > Add Device**.

   The Add device to timebase dialog box appears.
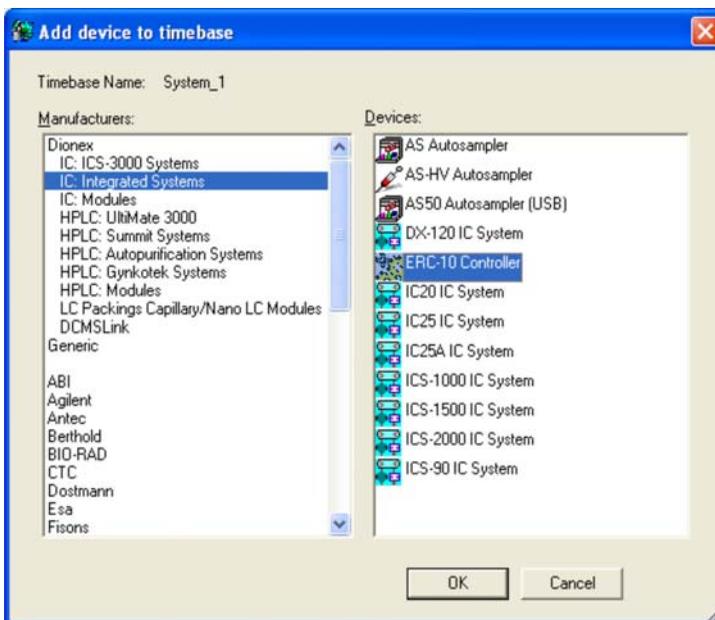
5. In the **Manufacturers** list box, select **Dionex IC: Integrated Systems**.

6. In the **Devices** list box, select **ERC 10 Controller**.

7. Click **OK** to add the ERC 10 to the timebase.

The ERC 10 Properties dialog box appears.
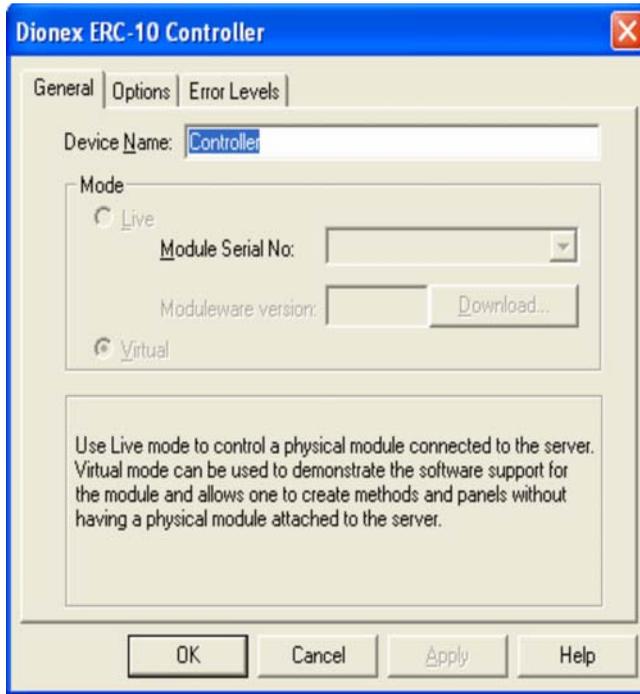
8. On the **General** tab, make sure that the **Live** mode is selected.

9. If more than one ERC 10 is connected to the server, select the correct ERC 10 from the **Module Serial No.** list.

10. Click **OK**.

> **NOTE** **If the Dionex RFIC-ER system is a ICS-1000/1500/2000, go to <u>Section 8.5</u>. If the Dionex RFIC-ER system is a Dionex ICS-3000, go to <u>Section 8.6</u>.**

> **NOTE** **If two ERC 10 controllers are to be placed in the same timebase, rename the second controller "Controller_2."**

8.5 Configuring the Dionex ICS-1000/1500/2000 Properties

1. In the Server Configuration program, right-click the ICS-1000/1500/2000 to open the system Properties dialog box.

2. Click the **Options** tab in the Properties dialog box. (In this example, the system is a Dionex ICS-1500.)
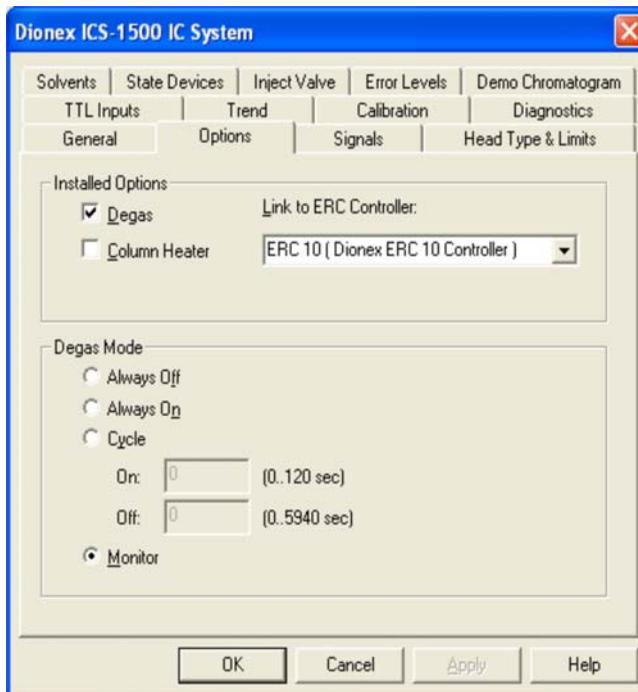

3. Under **Link to ERC Controller**, select the controller installed in the system.

4. Under **Degas Mode**, verify that **Monitor** is selected.

5. Click **OK**.

6. Exit the Server Configuration program. When asked whether to save the configuration changes, click **Save**.

> **NOTE** Go to Section 9 to check the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel settings.

8.6 Configuring the Dionex ICS-3000 DC Properties

1. In the Server Configuration program, right-click the DC to open the DC Properties dialog box.

2. Click the **Suppressors** tab in the Properties dialog box.
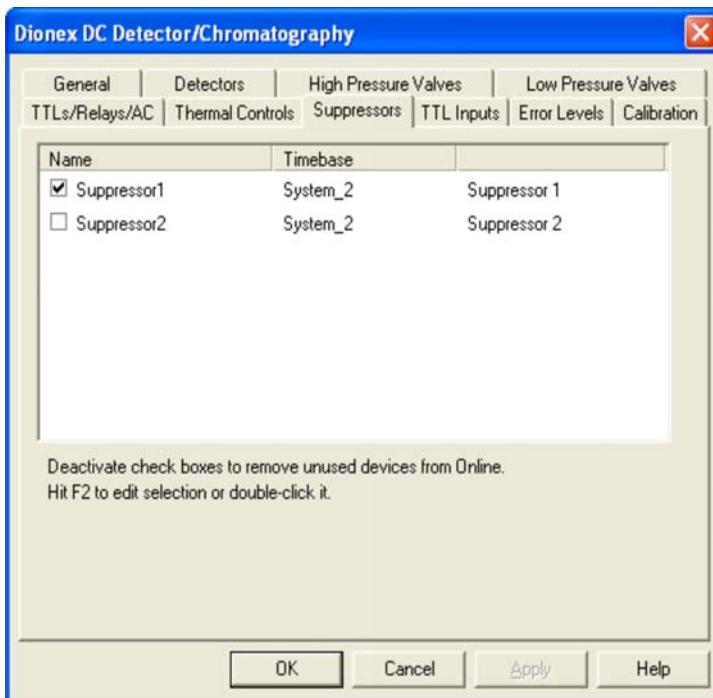
3. Double-click the suppressor installed in the Dionex RFIC-ER system and press F2.

The Device Configuration dialog box appears.

4. Select the **Enable Dionex RFIC-ER** check box and click **OK**.

5. Right-click the pump in the Dionex RFIC-ER system to open the pump Properties dialog box. (In this example, the pump is a DP.)
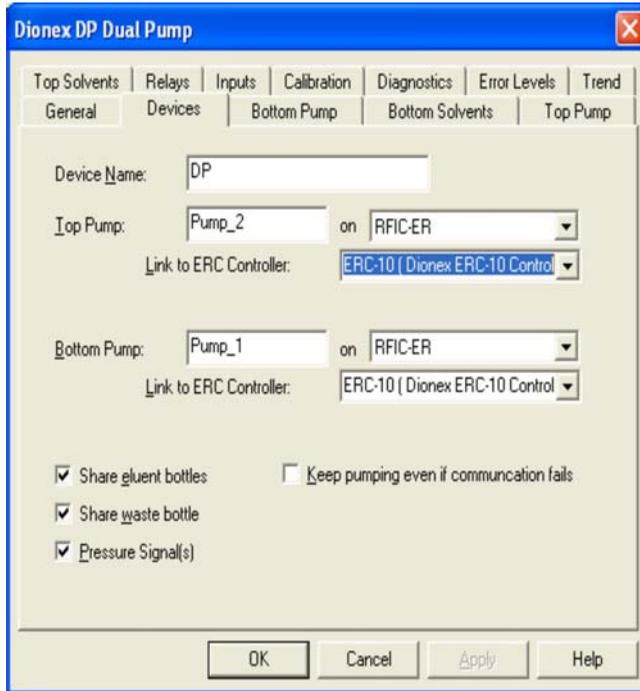
6. Under **Link to ERC Controller,** select the ERC 10 installed in the system.

7. Click **OK**.

8. Exit the Server Configuration program. When asked whether to save the configuration changes, click **Save**.

> **NOTE** Go to <u>Section 9</u> to check the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel settings.

9. Confirming the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness Settings

1. Launch the Chromeleon client.

2. Click the **Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness** tab on the panel tabset in Chromeleon. Check the following Wellness panel settings:

    a. Verify that the **Chemistry Type** matches the column chemistry you plan to run.

    b. Under **ER1 Column**, **ER2 Column**, and **Eluent**, verify that the counters are set to zero. If a counter is set to a value other than zero, click the corresponding **Reset** button.

    c. Under **ERC 10 Controller**, verify that the **Connected** check box is selected and that the **Mode** is either **Operation** or **Boot**.
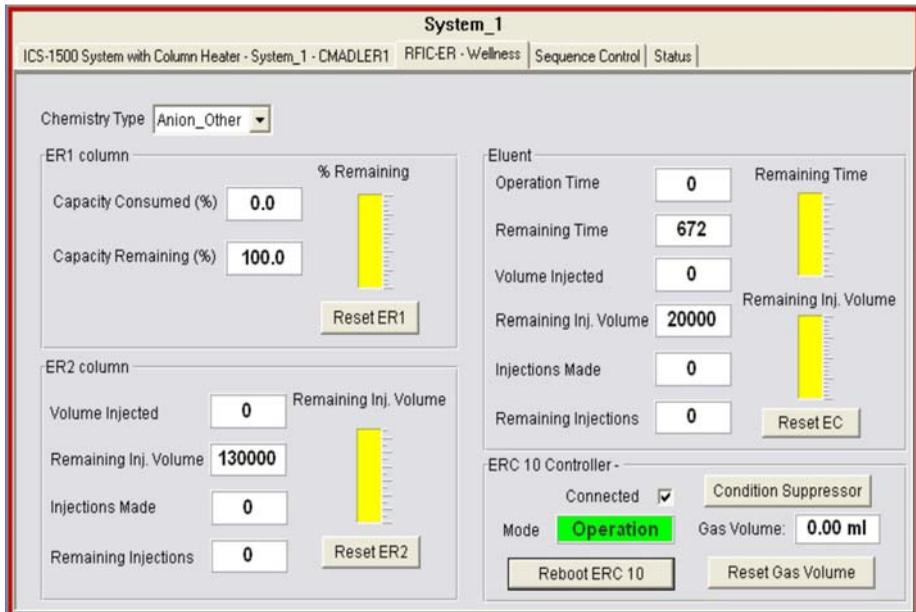
If a *new or freshly regenerated* SRS 300 Suppressor is installed in the Dionex RFIC-ER system, go on to Section 10 to condition the suppressor.

If the installed suppressor is not new or freshly regenerated, this completes the Dionex RFIC-ER upgrade procedure. Before starting operation, review the operating guidelines in Section 11.

10. Conditioning the Suppressor

A new (or freshly regenerated) SRS 300 Suppressor must be conditioned for 16 hours before it is ready for operation in the recycled eluent mode. During this conditioning procedure, the SRS 300 screens and membranes are equilibrated into the state required for compatibility with Dionex RFIC-ER operation.

1. Turn on the pump and suppressor at the flow rate and current settings recommended for the installed separator column (see Section 6.8 or Section 7.6).

2. If the Wellness panel is not already displayed, click the **Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness** tab on the panel tabset in Chromeleon. Under **ERC 10 Controller**, click **Condition Suppressor** to start the conditioning procedure.

3. While conditioning is underway, periodically check all tubing connections for leaks; tighten any connections that leak. To monitor the status of the conditioning procedure, check the **Remaining Time** display (under **Eluent**).

   If the pump unexpectedly stops running and the Audit Trail displays the "Pump stopped due to RFIC" message, follow these steps to resume the conditioning procedure:

   a. Under **ERC 10 Controller** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset Gas Volume** to enable the pump again.

   b. Under **ERC 10 Controller**, click **Reboot ERC 10** to prevent the ERC 10 from deactivating the pump for 3 hours.

4. When the conditioning procedure finishes, the system automatically shuts down and Chromeleon displays the following message in the Audit Trail: "The eluent has expired and needs to be replaced now. The pump has been shut down to protect the guard and analytical columns."

5. Dispose of the used eluent. Prepare 4 liters of fresh eluent and add eluent up to the maximum fill mark on the bottle (see Figure 3 or Figure 20).

6. Connect a waste line to the ERC 10 outlet. Operate the system for 30 minutes to flush out the expired eluent.

7. After 30 minutes, turn off the pump and disconnect the waste line from the ERC 10 outlet. Reconnect the **Eluent Bottle In** tubing to the ERC 10 outlet.

The Dionex RFIC-ER system is now ready for up to four weeks of nonstop operation. Before starting operation, review the operating guidelines in .

11. Dionex RFIC-ER System Operating Guidelines

For complete operating instructions, refer to the operator's manual for the ICS-1000/1500/2000 or Dionex ICS-3000. The guidelines here are intended to supplement, not to replace, the information in the instrument manuals.

- Dionex RFIC-ER is compatible with carbonate/bicarbonate eluents (for anion separations) and methanesulfonic acid eluents (for cation separations) only.

- Dionex RFIC-ER can only regenerate the same eluent that was started with; therefore, Dionex RFIC-ER is compatible with isocratic separations only and cannot be used with detection systems that alter the eluent composition, such as post-reagent delivery and the CRD 300.

- Dionex RFIC-ER is not compatible with any eluents containing organic solvents. The eluents in a Dionex RFIC-ER system must be 100% aqueous.

- The capacities of the various trap columns in the Dionex RFIC-ER system are limited; therefore, Dionex RFIC-ER is compatible only with low-contaminant water samples such as drinking water, surface water, and ground water.

- During an injection on a Dionex RFIC-ER system, the equivalent volume of eluent is exchanged with the sample injected. Because sample ions are trapped by the columns, the eluent is diluted. The Dionex RFIC-ER system is designed to handle a pre-defined volume of injected samples before the eluent needs replacement. Injections of samples in excessive volumes—whether due to a large number of small injections or a smaller number of injections with large sample loops—will dilute the eluent and cause unacceptable retention time drift. Chromeleon monitors the sample volume injected and displays a warning to replace the eluent when the limit is approached.

- When running sequences, the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness feature uses the current injection volume to monitor the volume of sample that is injected into the system and to calculate the number of injections that remain. Before the first injection, Chromeleon may be unable to calculate the number of remaining injections; however, the affected eluent and trap column counters on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel will correct themselves when the first injection is made.

- When injecting samples manually, or with a Dionex AS40 Automated Sampler, be sure the injection volume specified in the Chromeleon sequence matches the sample loop size.

| IMPORTANT | **Entering the wrong injection volume in the sequence will impair the accuracy of the eluent and trap column counters on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel; this will impair proper operation of the Dionex RFIC-ER system.** |

- It is not necessary to re-equilibrate the system unless you replace the eluent or one of the trap columns. Because the Dionex RFIC-ER system remains on continuously, the system is always equilibrated and ready for operation.

- ICS-3000 systems only: Refer to the table below for the ICS-3000 DC temperature control ranges when the Dionex RFIC-ER mode is enabled.

ICS-3000 DC without separate column temperature control	10 to 30 °C
ICS-3000 DC with separate column temperature control	Upper compartment: 10 to 30 °C Column compartment: 10 to 70 °C

12.   Dionex RFIC-ER System Maintenance

12.1   Replacing the Eluent

When to replace the eluent

The Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness feature in Chromeleon monitors eluent use and the total volume of sample injected into the system. When the limit for either of these parameters is reached, an Audit Trail message will inform you that it is time to replace the eluent.

You can check the life expectancy of the eluent at any time by reviewing the status information on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel. For details about the Wellness panel parameters, see the table below.

Operation Time	The number of hours the eluent has been in use.
Remaining Time	The number of hours until the eluent expires. After 672 hours (28 days), the eluent will expire and must be replaced. **Note:** This time limitation is independent of pump operation; the eluent will expire after 672 hours (28 days) even if the system is not operated during this time.
Volume Injected	The volume of sample injected since the last eluent change. When the **Volume Injected** is 20,000 μL, the eluent has expired and must be replaced. **Note:** Repeated sample injections cause eluent dilution. Operating the system with diluted eluent will cause excessive retention time drift; for details, see Section 11.
Remaining Inj. Volume	The volume of sample that can be injected before the eluent expires. Resetting the eluent counter resets the **Remaining Inj. Volume** to zero, also. When you start the next injection, the **Remaining Inj. Volume** will be updated to the correct value. **Important:** To ensure the accuracy of the **Remaining Inj. Volume**, be sure to enter the correct injection volume in the **Inj. Vol.** column of the sequence table.
Injections Made	The number of sample injections since the last eluent change.
Remaining Injections	The number of samples that can be injected before the eluent expires.
Reset EC	Clicking **Reset EC** resets the eluent counter, resetting the **Operation Time** and **Remaining Inj. Volume** to zero. Click **Reset EC** only after replacing the eluent.

How to replace the eluent

1. Check that the pump and suppressor are turned off.

2. Disconnect the **Eluent Bottle In** and **Eluent Bottle Out** tubing from the pump and the ERC 10.

3. Remove the cap from the Dionex RFIC-ER eluent bottle and dispose of the expired eluent.

| IMPORTANT | **Always neutralize methanesulfonic acid eluents before disposal.**

4. Prepare 4 liters of the eluent required for the application. Always use ASTM Type I (18 megohm-cm) filtered, deionized water when preparing eluent.

5. Add eluent up to the maximum fill mark on the bottle (see Figure 3 or Figure 20).

| IMPORTANT | **For optimal Dionex RFIC-ER system operation, do not reuse expired eluent.**

6. Under **Eluent** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click the **Reset EC** button. This resets the **Operation Time** to zero and resets the **Remaining Time** to 672 hours.

7. Reconnect the pump inlet line to the **Eluent Bottle Out** tubing. Connect a short piece of tubing to the ERC 10 outlet and direct this tubing to a waste container. (This is a temporary connection.)

8. Prime the pump. (If you need instructions, refer to the operator's manual for the ICS-1000/1500/2000 or Dionex ICS-3000.)

9. After priming the pump, check that the eluent level is above the minimum fill mark on the eluent bottle (see Figure 3 or Figure 20). If necessary, add more eluent to the bottle.

| IMPORTANT | **If the eluent level falls below the minimum fill mark, the outlet tubing may not reach the fluid level and the pump may lose prime.**

10. Select the standard flow rate and current settings for the application. Operate the system for 30 minutes to flush the expired eluent from the system. If the pump stops running and the Audit Trail displays the "Pump stopped because the total gas volume has exceeded the limit" message, follow these steps:

   a. Under **ER Controller** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset Gas Volume**. This resets the **Gas Volume** to 0.00 mL.

      b.   Restart the pump and suppressor and monitor the **Gas Volume** reading. If the value begins to climb toward 0.60 mL, click **Reboot ERC 10** under **ER Controller**. This disables the gas monitor for three hours.

      c.   If, after three hours, the **Gas Volume** reading is still increasing, shut down the system and contact Thermo Fisher Scientific for troubleshooting assistance.

[IMPORTANT] **Do not operate the system with the gas monitor deactivated for an extended period of time.**

11.   After 30 minutes of flushing eluent from the system, turn off the pump.

12.   Disconnect the waste line from the ERC 10 outlet. Connect the outlet of the ERC 10 to the **Eluent Bottle In** tubing.

13.   Check that the eluent level is above the minimum fill mark on the eluent bottle (see Figure 3 or Figure 20). If necessary, add more eluent to the bottle.

14.   Restart the pump and suppressor. The system is now ready for routine operation.

12.2   Replacing the ER1 Column

When to replace the ER1 column

The Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness feature in Chromeleon monitors the use of the ER1 column. An Audit Trail message will inform you when it is time to replace the column. (The ER1 column cannot be regenerated.)

[IMPORTANT] **Never operate an ER1 column beyond its expiration; this may result in irreversible loss of capacity to the guard and analytical columns.**

You can check the life expectancy of the ER1 column at any time by reviewing the status information on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel. For details about the Wellness panel parameters, see the table below.
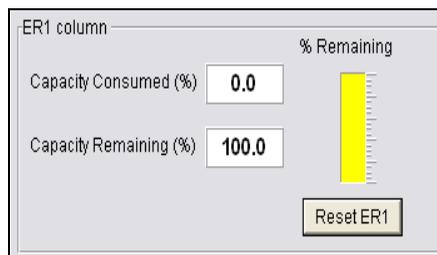
Capacity Consumed (%)	The percentage of the ER1 column that has been consumed. When the **Capacity Consumed** is 100%, the ER1 column has expired and must be replaced.
Capacity Remaining (%)	The percentage of the ER1 column that is remaining. When the **Capacity Consumed** is 0%, the ER1 column has expired and must be replaced.
Reset ER1	Clicking **Reset ER1** resets the ER1 column counters, resetting the parameters above to 0%. Click **Reset ER1** only after replacing the ER1 column.

How to replace the ER1 column

1. Check that the pump and suppressor are turned off.

2. Remove the old ER1 column from the ER1 column bracket clip.

3. Disconnect the pump tubing from the inlet of the old ER1 column; disconnect the tubing labeled **TO INJ VALVE IN - P** from the outlet of the old ER1 column. Discard the column.

4. Remove the column plugs from the new ER1 column.

5. Connect the pump tubing to the inlet of the new ER1 column. Connect a short piece of tubing to the outlet of the new ER1 column and direct this tubing to a waste container. (This is a temporary connection.)

6. Set the pump flow rate to 2.0 mL/min and begin pumping the operating eluent through the ER1 column for 20 minutes. **Make sure the suppressor does not activate during this time.**

   If the pump stops running and the Audit Trail displays the "Pump stopped because the total gas volume has exceeded the limit" message, follow these steps:

   a. Under **ERC 10 Controller** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset Gas Volume**. This resets the **Gas Volume** to 0.00 mL.

   b. Restart the pump and suppressor and monitor the **Gas Volume** reading. If the value begins to climb toward 0.60 mL, click **Reboot ERC 10** under **ERC 10 Controller**. This disables the gas monitor for three hours.

    c.   If, after three hours, the **Gas Volume** reading is still increasing, shut down the system and contact Thermo Fisher Scientific for troubleshooting assistance.

|IMPORTANT| **Do not operate the system with the gas monitor deactivated for an extended period of time.**

7.   After rinsing the ER1 column for 20 minutes, turn off the pump.

8.   Disconnect the temporary waste tubing from the ER1 column outlet; reconnect the tubing labeled **TO INJ VALVE IN - P** to the outlet of the ER1 column.

9.   Mount the ER1 column in the ER1 column bracket clip.

10.   Under **ER1 Column** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset ER1**.

11.   Restart the pump and suppressor. The system is now ready for routine operation.

12.3   Replacing the ER2 Column

When to replace the ER2 column

The Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness feature in Chromeleon monitors the use of the ER2 column. An Audit Trail message will inform you when it is time to replace the column.

Thermo Fisher Scientific recommends replacing the ER2 column when it expires. However, it is possible to regenerate the column. For instructions on replacing the ER2 column, see . For instructions on regenerating the ER2 column, see .

|IMPORTANT| **Never operate an ER2 column beyond its expiration; this may result in a buildup of sample co-ions in the eluent, leading to increased background conductivity and reduced peak areas.**

You can check the life expectancy of the ER2 column at any time by reviewing the status information on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel. For details about the Wellness panel parameters, see the table below.

Volume Injected	The total sample volume injected since the ER2 column was installed. When the **Volume Injected** is 120,000 μL, the ER2 column has expired.
Remaining Inj. Volume	The volume of sample that can be injected before the sample volume limit (120,000 μL) is reached. When the **Remaining Inj. Volume** is 0 μL, the ER2 column has expired. Resetting the ER2 counter resets the **Remaining Inj. Volume** to zero, also. When you start the next injection, the **Remaining Inj. Volume** will be updated to the correct value. **Important:** To ensure the accuracy of the **Remaining Inj. Volume**, be sure to enter the correct injection volume in the **Inj. Vol.** column of the sequence table.
Injections Made	The total number of sample injections since the ER2 column was installed.
Remaining Injections	The number of sample injections that can be performed before the sample volume limit (120,000 μL) is reached. The **Remaining Injections** value is based on the volume of the last injected sample; if no sample has been injected yet, the reading is zero.
Reset ER2	Clicking **Reset ER2** resets the ER2 column counters, resetting **Volume Injected** and **Injections Made** to zero. Click **Reset ER2** only after replacing or regenerating the ER2 column.

How to replace the ER2 column

1. Check that the pump and suppressor are turned off.

2. Remove the old ER2 column from the ER2 column bracket clip on the suppressor.

3. Disconnect the cell outlet tubing from the inlet of the old ER2 column; disconnect the suppressor **Regen In** tubing from the outlet of the old ER2 column. Discard the column.

4. Remove the column plugs from the new ER2 column.

5. Connect the cell outlet tubing to the inlet of the new ER2 column. Connect the suppressor **Regen In** port tubing to the outlet of the new ER2 column.

6. Mount the ER2 column on the ER2 column bracket clip on the suppressor.

7. Disconnect the ERC 10 from the suppressor **Regen Out** port. Connect a short piece of tubing to the **Regen Out** port and direct this tubing to a waste container. (This is a temporary connection.)

8. Select the standard flow rate and current settings for the application. Turn on the pump and suppressor and begin pumping the operating eluent through the ER2 column for 30 minutes.

    If the pump stops running and the Audit Trail displays the "Pump stopped because the total gas volume has exceeded the limit" message, follow these steps:

    a. Under **ERC 10 Controller** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset Gas Volume**. This resets the **Gas Volume** to 0.00 mL.

    b. Restart the pump and suppressor and monitor the **Gas Volume** reading. If the value begins to climb toward 0.60 mL, click **Reboot ERC 10** under **ERC 10 Controller**. This disables the gas monitor for three hours.

    c. If, after three hours, the **Gas Volume** reading is still increasing, shut down the system and contact Thermo Fisher Scientific for troubleshooting assistance.

IMPORTANT	**Do not operate the system with the gas monitor deactivated for an extended period of time.**

9. After rinsing the ER2 column for 30 minutes, turn off the pump.

10. Disconnect the temporary waste tubing from the suppressor **Regen Out** port and reconnect the ERC 10 to the port.

11. Under **ER2 Column** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset ER2**.

12. Restart the pump and suppressor. The system is now ready for routine operation.

How to regenerate the ER2 column

1. Check that the pump and suppressor are turned off.

2. Remove the ER2 column from the ER2 column bracket clip on the suppressor.

3. Disconnect the cell outlet tubing from the inlet of the ER2 column; disconnect the suppressor **Regen In** tubing from the outlet of the ER2 column.

4. If the ER2 column is an anion column, follow these steps:

    a. Prepare fresh 0.5 M sodium bicarbonate solution. Use either reagent-grade sodium bicarbonate or undiluted Thermo Scientific Sodium Bicarbonate Concentrate (0.5 Molar) (P/N 037163).

    b. Pump 200 mL of 0.5 M sodium bicarbonate solution through the ER2 column. Use either the Trap Column/Suppressor Cleanup Kit (P/N 059659) or an accessory pump at 5.0 mL/min. Direct the column effluent to a waste container.

    c. Pump 40 mL of deionized water through the ER2 column. Use one of the following: the Trap Column/Suppressor Cleanup Kit (P/N 059659), an accessory pump at 5.0 mL/min, or a syringe. Direct the column effluent to a waste container.

    d. Go on to .

5. If the ER2 column is a cation column, follow these steps:

    a. Prepare fresh 0.4 M methanesulfonic acid solution. Use either reagent-grade methanesulfonic acid or undiluted Thermo Scientific CS12A Eluent Concentrate (0.4 Molar) (P/N 057562).

    b. Pump 200 mL of 0.4 M methanesulfonic acid solution through the ER2 column. Use the Thermo Scientific Trap Column/Suppressor Cleanup Kit (P/N 059659) or an accessory pump at 5.0 mL/min. Direct the column effluent to a waste container.

    c. Pump 40 mL of deionized water through the ER2 column. Use one of the following: the Trap Column/Suppressor Cleanup Kit (P/N 059659), an accessory pump at 5.0 mL/min, or a syringe. Direct the column effluent to a waste container.

    d. Go on to Step 6.

6. Reconnect the cell outlet tubing to the inlet of the ER2 column; reconnect the suppressor **Regen In** tubing to the outlet of the ER2 column.

7. Mount the ER2 column on the ER2 column bracket clip on the suppressor.

8. Under **ER2 Column** on the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel, click **Reset ER2**.

13. Troubleshooting

13.1 Pump Stops Unexpectedly

The ERC 10 electronics monitor the volume of hydrogen gas in the eluent stream. If the safety limit is exceeded, the ERC 10 shuts down the pump and the Audit Trail displays the following message: "Pump stopped because the total gas volume has exceeded the limit."

To return to normal operation:

1. Click the **Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness** tab on the panel tabset in Chromeleon.

2. Check the controls under **ERC 10 Controller**. If the **Gas Volume** is 0.60 mL (or higher) or if the **Mode** is **Gas Volume Error**, it indicates that the volume of gas exceeds the allowable limit.
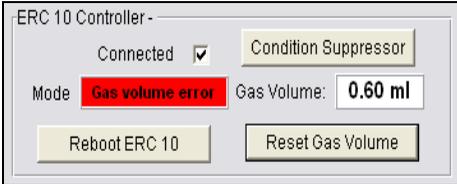
3. Click the **Reset Gas Volume** button to reset the **Gas Volume** and return the **Mode** to **Operation**.

4. Restart the pump and suppressor and monitor the **Gas Volume**. If the reading begins to climb toward 0.60 mL, click **Reboot ERC 10**. This disables the gas monitor for three hours.

5. After three hours, check the Dionex RFIC-ER Wellness panel again. If the **Gas Volume** reading is still increasing and the **Mode** is **Gas Volume Error**, shut down the system and contact Thermo Fisher Scientific for troubleshooting assistance.

13.2   Unstable Retention Times (Dionex ICS-1000/1500/2000 only)

Unstable retention times may indicate that the vacuum degas assembly is not operating in **Monitor** mode.

To select the correct degas mode:

1. In the Server Configuration program, right-click the ICS-1000/1500/2000 to open the system Properties dialog box.

2. Click the **Options** tab in the Properties dialog box. (In this example, the system is a Dionex ICS-1500.)
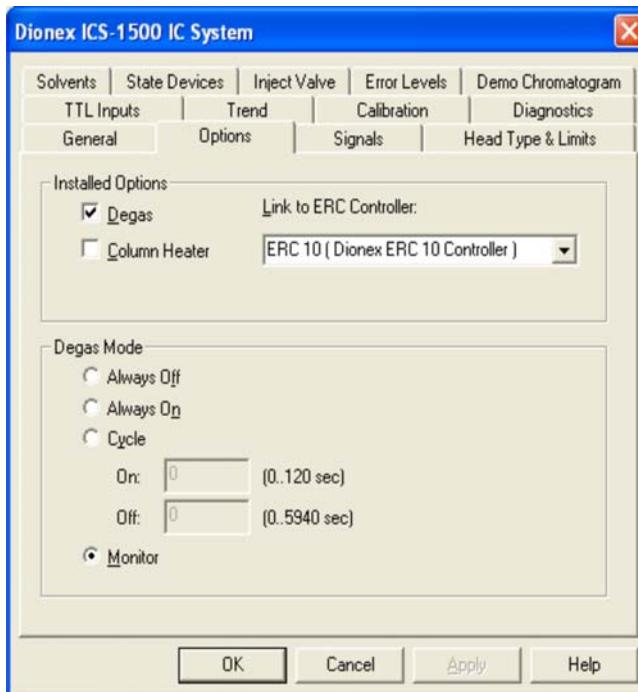
3. Under **Degas Mode,** select **Monitor**.

4. Click **OK**.

5. Exit the Server Configuration program. When asked whether to save the configuration changes, click **Save**.