

WaferMaxZ

Mechanical-Bearing Direct-Drive Lift Stage

Low profile for space-conscious applications

Noncontact direct-drive

High repeatability

Integral pneumatic counterbalance

Easily configured with WaferMaxT for multi-axis applications



The WaferMaxZ represents a significant breakthrough in vertical alignment of high-precision components in one compact package. Its superior noncontact linear motor drive employs a high-accuracy encoder for direct position feedback. When combined with Aerotech's MXH multiplier, it offers sub-nanometer resolution in addition to high speed and accuracy.

Superior Mechanical Design

Bearing elements are cross-roller style for maximum smoothness and reliability. These are mounted on an optimized base and wedge assembly for stiffness and low mass/inertia, enhancing dynamic performance.

All the critical elements of the WaferMaxZ were selected to operate in a 24/7 industrial environment and, unlike screw- or piezo-based vertical stages, the WaferMaxZ requires no maintenance and will ensure years of trouble-free operation.

Brushless Direct-Drive

To maximize positioning performance, the WaferMaxZ utilizes Aerotech's BLMUC-series brushless, slotless linear motor. This motor has all the advantages of a brushless direct-drive motor — no brushes to wear, no gear trains to maintain, and high acceleration and high speeds. Since it is a slotless, ironless design, there is zero cogging, meaning that there is absolutely no torque ripple. This makes the WaferMaxZ ideal for contoured motion, smooth scan velocity, or precise incremental steps.

Accurate Positioning

Performance is assured with a precision linear encoder that results in 0.8 nm resolution. The motor and high-performance linear encoder are directly coupled to increase accuracy.

Flexible Configurations

Aerotech manufactures a wide range of servo amplifiers and advanced controllers to provide a complete, integrated package.



The WaferMaxZ easily combines with the WaferMaxT to provide a compact, 2-axis solution for alignment and focus.

WaferMaxZ SPECIFICATIONS

WaferMaxZ		
Travel	5 mm	
Motor Type	Direct drive brushless linear servomotor	
Bus Voltage	up to 160 VDC	
Continuous Current	A _{pk}	2.9 A
	A _{rms}	2.1 A
Encoder	20 µm fundamental; amplified sine output	
Resolution (Minimum Incremental Motion)	0.83 nm	
Accuracy ^(1,3)	±1.5 µm	
Bidirectional Repeatability ⁽³⁾	±0.3 µm	
Straightness ⁽⁴⁾	±2 µm	
Roll	20 arc sec	
Pitch	20 arc sec	
Yaw	20 arc sec	
Maximum Speed	4 mm/s	
Maximum Load ⁽⁵⁾	10 kg (requires use of integral pneumatic counterbalance)	
Moving Mass	1.0 kg	
Wedge Ratio	12:1	
Stage Mass	4.2 kg	
Material	Aluminum	
Finish	Black anodize hard cover; Hard coat (62 Rockwell Hardness) tabletop	

Notes:

1. Requires Aerotech controller.
2. For inverted operation, consult factory.
3. Certified with each stage.
4. Measured perpendicular or parallel to wedge direction.
5. Higher maximum loads possible. Contact factory for details.
6. Specifications are per axis measured 25 mm above the tabletop without a payload. Performance is payload and work-point dependent. Consult factory for multi-axis or non-standard applications.

