FAQ – The new g-lock® rotor system

How do I lock or unlock?	Locking and unlocking is operated automatically by centrifugal force, and does not require any user action (other than inserting the rotor in or removing the rotor from the centrifuge).
What are the key advantages of g-lock?	The ease-of-use of g-lock is significantly superior to conventional rotors, operation is fast, does not required tools or forces, and most importantly brings with it an unsurpased level of operation safety by elimination of the risk of user errors.
Is g-lock available for both fixed-angle and swing-out rotors?	Yes
How do I recognize a g-lock rotor or g-lock equipped centrifuge?	Rotors and centrifuge are labeled with the g-lock icon.
For which centrifuge models is g-lock and when will other models follow?	g-lock is currently available for Sigma 3-series centrifuges – 3-16L, 3-16KL, 3-18KS and 3-30KS, incl. heated versions – and will be available for 2-series and 4-series later (launch date not yet fixed).
Are all rotors available with the g-lock system?	No, but the common models will soon be available as g-lock version.
Can the g-lock system be retrofitted?	Yes, provided the equivalent conventional rotor is listed in the instruments internal rotor list, and a service engineer performs a factory reset of the centrifuge cycle counter for this rotor.
Are g-lock rotors more sensitive against imbalance during centrifugation?	No, the behavior is identical to equivalent conventional rotors. g-lock rotors have been successfully tested at excessive imbalance levels and fullfil the stringent safety requirements.
Can g-lock rotors be used at the same temperatures as the equivalent conventional rotor?	Yes, there is no difference.
What is the difference in lifetime expectation (max. cycle count) of a g-lock versus a conventional rotor?	Lifetime is the same.
Can the same g-lock rotor be used in various centrifuges?	It is not recommended to use the same rotor in several centrifuges, because this would render the rotor cycle counter, which is an important safety feature of the centrifuge, useless.
Is it possible to switch the centrifuge configuration back and forth repeatedly between g-lock and the conventional rotor fastening system?	This is not recommended in order not to compromise the rotor cycle counter and the proper mounting of the g-lock adapter.
Can g-lock rotors be autoclaved?	Yes, in the same way as the conventional rotor variant.
How can the rotor by removed from the centrifuge in case of a technical problem?	Removing a g-lock rotor is also possible by unscrewing the g-lock adapter from the motor shaft.
What is the recommended cleaning and maintenance procedure?	g-lock rotors should be treated in the same way as the conventional rotor variant, i.e. kept clean and dry. Do not apply oil or greasing to the g-lock mechanism.
Is it necessary / possible to disassemble the g-lock mechanism for maintenance purposes?	g-lock is maintenance-free and may not be disassembled in order to maintain perfect balancing of the rotor.

g-lock FAQ handout, 03/2018

Please feel free to contact us in case of any questions.