

ABSTRACT

FRONT-LOADING VALVE ASSEMBLY FOR MANIFOLD FOR PROCESSING FLUID SAMPLE

A valve assembly used in a manifold system for processing fluid samples includes a body, a valve member, and a coupling assembly. The body defines a fluid passage and a valve passage in communication with the fluid passage and receiving at least a portion of the valve member therein. The valve member is selectively movable over a range of travel between an open position, in which fluid can flow through the fluid passage, and a closed position, in which the valve member occludes the fluid passage. The coupling assembly includes a coupling member and a retention lug. The retention lug is connected to one of the body and the coupling member. The other of the body and the coupling member defines a lug raceway configured to removably receive the retention lug therein to removably mount the coupling member to the body with the valve member being movably retained therebetween.

(Figures 7 and 16)