WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrotransfer instrument comprising:

a housing with an internal cavity sized to receive said plurality of cassettes;

a power source within said housing and individual electrical contacts within said cavity for connecting said power source to each cassette that is inserted therein; and

means for independently monitoring and controlling an electrotransfer procedure in each cassette inserted in said housing.

2. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 1 wherein said electrical contacts are spring-loaded contacts.

3. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 1 wherein said housing is constructed to receive said plurality of cassettes in a vertical stack arrangement.

4. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 3 wherein said housing comprises a front opening for sliding entry of said cassettes.

5. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 1 wherein said housing comprises magnetic contacts to secure individual cassettes within said housing.

6. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 1 further comprising an electrical relay that will engage said electrical contacts with said power source only when a cassette is inserted in said housing.

7. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 3 wherein said housing accommodates from two cassettes to six cassettes.

8. A method for transferring electrophoretically separated species from a plurality of slab gels to sheet-form matrices, said method comprising:

(a) placing each slab gel and a sheet-form matrix in an electroblotting cassette that comprises anode and cathode plates and external electrical contacts for each of said plates;

(b) inserting each cassette in an instrument comprising:

(i) a housing with an internal cavity sized to receive said plurality of cassettes;

(ii) a power source within said housing and individual internal electrical contacts within said cavity for connecting said power source to said external electrical contacts on each said cassette; and

(iii) means for independently monitoring and controlling an electroblotting procedure in each cassette inserted in said housing; and

(c) imposing electrical charges on said first and second plate electrodes of each inserted cassette to cause said species to migrate electrophoretically from said slab gel to said sheet-form matrix within each said inserted cassette.

9. The method of claim **8** wherein said housing is constructed to receive said plurality of cassettes in a vertical stack arrangement.

10. The method of claim **8** wherein said housing comprises magnetic contacts to secure individual cassettes within said housing.

11. The method of claim **8** wherein said internal electrical contacts are spring-loaded contacts.

What is claimed is:

1. An electrotransfer instrument comprising:

a housing with an internal cavity sized to contain a plurality of electroblotting cassettes in a vertical stack;

a power source mounted to and within said housing and individual electrical contacts mounted to said housing and within said cavity for connecting said power source to each cassette that is inserted therein; and

means for independently monitoring and controlling an electrotransfer procedure in each cassette inserted in said housing, said means including a printed circuit board, and said power source and said printed circuit board being positioned directly above said vertical stack.

2. The electrotransfer instrument of claim **1** wherein said electrical contacts are spring-loaded contacts.

3. The electrotransfer instrument of claim **1** wherein said housing comprises a front opening for sliding entry of said cassettes.

4. The electrotransfer instrument of claim **1** wherein said housing comprises magnetic contacts to secure individual cassettes within said internal cavity.

5. The electrotransfer instrument of claim **1** further comprising an electrical relay that will engage said electrical contacts with said power source only when a cassette is inserted in said housing.

6. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 3 wherein said internal cavity accommodates from two cassettes to six cassettes.

7. The electrotransfer instrument of claim 1 wherein said housing comprises a single front opening for sliding entry of all of said cassettes of said vertical stack.

8. A method for transferring electrophoretically separated species from a plurality of slab gels to sheet-form matrices, said method comprising:

(a) placing each slab gel and a sheet-form matrix in an electroblotting cassette that comprises anode and cathode plates and external electrical contacts for each of said plates;

(b) inserting each cassette in an instrument comprising:

(i) a housing with an internal cavity sized to contain said plurality of cassettes in a vertical stack;

(ii) a power source mounted to and within said housing and individual internal electrical contacts mounted to said housing and within said cavity for connecting said power source to said external electrical contacts on each said cassette; and

(iii) means for independently monitoring and controlling an electroblotting procedure in each cassette inserted in said housing, said means including a printed circuit board, and said power source and said printed circuit board being positioned directly above said vertical stack; and

(c) imposing electrical charges on said anode and cathode plates of each inserted cassette to cause said species to migrate electrophoretically from said slab gel to said sheet-form matrix within each said inserted cassette.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said housing comprises magnetic contacts to secure individual cassettes within said housing.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein said internal electrical contacts are spring-loaded contacts.