The ALS system, which mounts the crystalline sample in ~5sec, has a random access to 96 samples. The fully automated mounting of samples, stored under LN2, adds to the speed and more reliable data collection which benefits both academic and industrial users. The integration of the flexible automounter with fully automated end-station components will be presented.

General characteristics of the protein station and the most recent instrumental developments towards improved features of the sample area will be highlighted.

The latest includes 0.7mm wide X-ray beamstop with incorporated (0.5 x 0.5)mm active surface area IRD photodiode chip for simultaneous intensity measurements during diffraction data collection, expandable He-path for long sample-detector distances, flexible illumination system for photosensitive crystalline samples.

Future development plans for complete automatization not only of the mouting procedure, but also of the data collection itself will be mentioned as well.