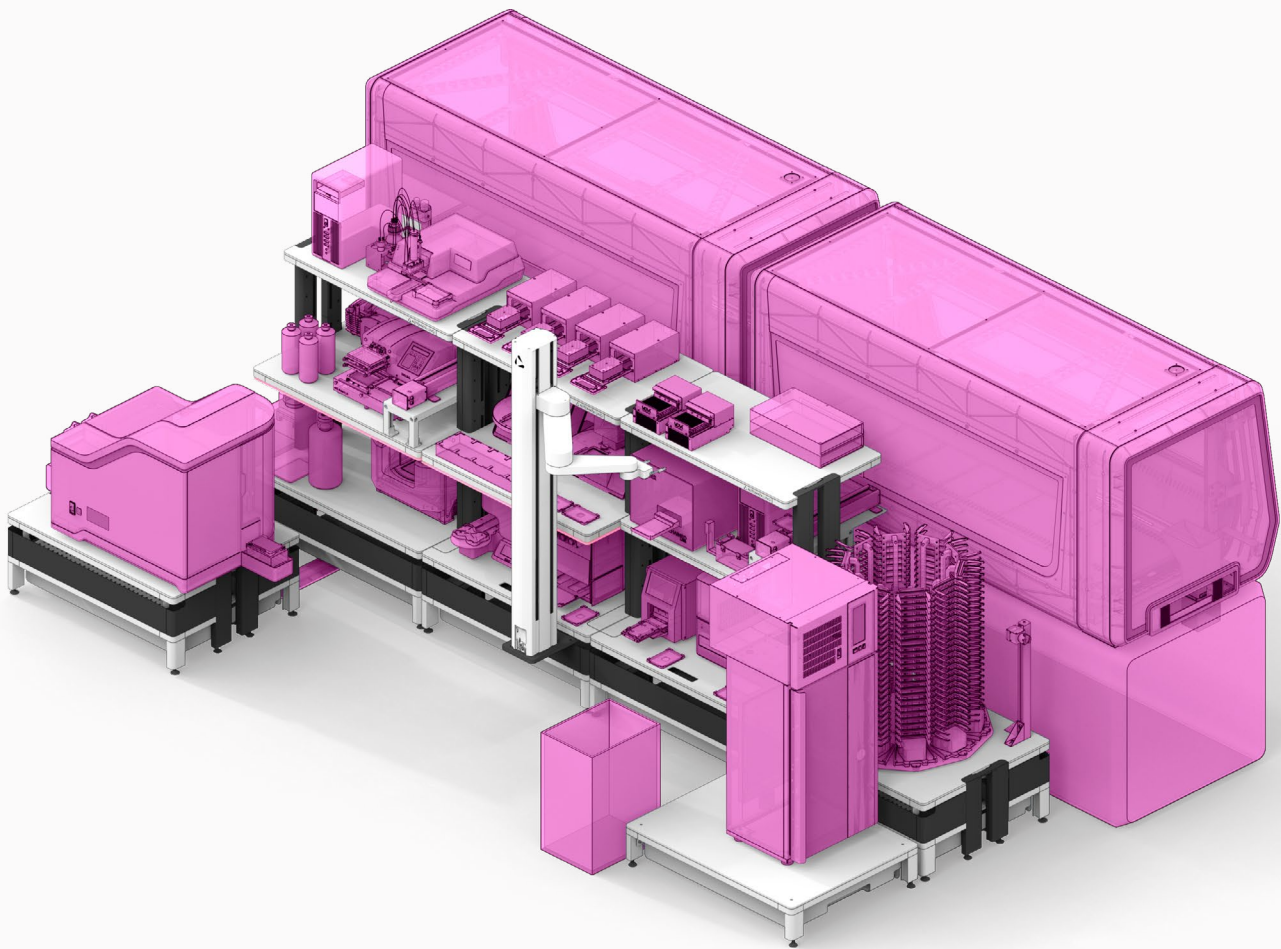




Scaling Complex Workflow Automation with Flexible, Developer-Ready Infrastructure

2026



By combining hardware integration, software flexibility, and deep customer enablement, Automata enabled Metaphore to move beyond static automation and into a self-sustaining, scalable automation ecosystem—unlocking faster innovation and long-term operational independence.



The Challenge

Metaphore required a highly adaptable automation environment to support a rapidly evolving set of drug discovery workflows. Their objectives were threefold:

- Build a flexible, space-efficient workcell capable of supporting a wide variety of molecular biology, antibody discovery, and protein sciences applications within a constrained footprint
- Successfully deploy and enable three complex workflows during Site Acceptance Testing (SAT)
- Empower the internal automation team to independently develop, scale, and modify workflows as research needs evolved

Traditional automation systems often impose rigid constraints, limiting the ability of scientific teams to iterate quickly. Metaphore needed a solution that could keep pace with scientific discovery, not slow it down.

The Solution

Automata deployed a fully integrated, software-defined automation platform designed for flexibility, scalability, and developer autonomy.

Key components included:

- Seamless integration of 24 instruments, including 18 unique devices, orchestrated through Automata drivers
- LINQ platform architecture with LINQ Bridge enabling transport to and from Hamilton Vantage systems and other instrumentation
- Optimized physical design leveraging vertical stacking across three benches using the PF3400 robot's full range
- Parameterized inputs, allowing workflows to be dynamically configured based on experimental needs
- Full access to workflow code, enabled by our SDK tools, enabling transparency and extensibility
- Hands-on 1:1 training with Automata software and Customer Success Engineers, ensuring rapid system onboarding

This approach transformed the system from a fixed automation setup into a programmable, scalable platform for scientific innovation.

The Results

The impact was immediate and measurable:

- Within 2 weeks post-SAT - Metaphore's team was independently writing and testing their own workflows, in parallel with validating initial deployments
- Within 1 month post-SAT - Newly developed workflows were fully operational in production
- Achieved a shift from vendor-dependent automation to self-sufficient development capability
- Enabled faster iteration cycles, accelerating research and experimentation timelines

“By the one month mark, we already had new workflows up and running in production.”

“From the start, the Automata team really felt like an extension of our own. They weren't just there to deliver a system, they worked closely with us to figure out the right solution and stayed involved every step of the way.

What made the biggest difference was how flexible the platform is and how much they enabled us to take control ourselves. With their support and training, we were able to start writing and testing our own SDK workflows within a couple of weeks of SAT, while still validating the initial workflows.

By the one month mark, we already had new workflows up and running in production. That combination of strong partnership and the ability to build and adapt on our own has been incredibly impactful for us.”

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We are Automata – redefining what’s possible in the future of lab automation.

Born from a world-leading research lab, we’re demolishing legacy barriers and obliterating complexity to create a new, integrated era of intelligent, accessible automation.

Our platform, LINQ, is the first fully integrated, AI-ready and easy-to-use automation platform that connects every component of your lab – digitally and robotically – to deliver end-to-end workflows without compromise. Its dynamically modular smart benches and powerful cloud-based software reimagine how you design, orchestrate and monitor experiments, wherever you are.

Built on an open and interoperable architecture, Automata enables labs to move faster, scale smarter and innovate continuously – turning tomorrow’s lab into today’s reality.

Get in touch with our team of automation experts, engineers and scientists to unlock new possibilities and supercharge your lab’s discovery.