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Tritium Laboratory  
5 April 2024

SWAB REPORT #1087

SWAB DATE: March 24, 2024

*R/V Kilo Moana & OTG Rad Van*

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Distribution:  
SWAB Committee  
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## COMMENTS TO SWAB REPORTS

15 December 2021

The LSC is now a Quantulus GCT 6220, with the SWAB counting assay having background cpm of 0.3 & 1.2 for  $^3\text{H}$  &  $^{14}\text{C}$ . This replaces an LSC with background cpm of 1.6 & 5.5 for  $^3\text{H}$  &  $^{14}\text{C}$ .

All samples are counted for 60 minutes, the instrument background is subtracted, and activities are reported in  $\text{dpm}/\text{m}^2$ . Bucket blank activities are not subtracted. Counting errors (2 standard deviations) are also reported in  $\text{dpm}/\text{m}^2$ . An error larger than the activity indicates that the activity is not significantly different from zero. All activities significantly above background will be in **bold**.

### Criteria for SWAB Results

Category	$^3\text{H}$ ( $\text{dpm}/\text{m}^2$ )	$^{14}\text{C}$ ( $\text{dpm m}^2$ )	Recommendations
A	<500	<50	No action
B*	500-10,000	50-10,000	Needs cleaning before any natural tracer work. Decks in radiation vans with activities above 1000 $\text{dpm}/\text{m}^2$ should be cleaned.
C**	10,000-100,000	10,000-50,000	Must be cleaned before any use.
D***	>100,000	>50,000	May be a health hazard. Notify local radiation safety official.

Note:  $^{14}\text{C}$  and  $^{35}\text{S}$  have peak energies of 156 and 167 KeV, respectively; thus  $^{35}\text{S}$  will be registered as  $^{14}\text{C}$  by our counting techniques. Categories A, B and C are not a health hazard.

### Recommended Cleaning Procedure

Wearing ordinary household rubber gloves:

$^3\text{H}$ : Wash and scrub with radioactive cleanup detergent such as COUNT-OFF (50 ml COUNT-OFF to 4 liters of water), using sponges to distribute solution and reabsorb it.

$^{14}\text{C}$ : Wash with 1% sulfuric or 2% hydrochloric (muriatic) acid with good ventilation (will dissolve carbonates, releasing  $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ ). Follow up with wash as if for  $^3\text{H}$ .

### Disposal of Cleaning Materials (gloves, sponges, etc)

Categories A & B dispose as ordinary garbage, C & D contact your institution's radiation safety office.

Note: If category C or D is encountered, we try to notify the insitution promptly by phone or email.

REPORT FOR SWAB # 1087

LOCATION: Honolulu, HI  
VESSEL/LAB: *R/V Kilo Moana*

DATE: 24 March 2024  
TECHNICIAN: Charlene Grall

Sample #	Sample Identification	<sup>3</sup> H dpm/m <sup>2</sup>		<sup>14</sup> C dpm/m <sup>2</sup>	
		activity	error	activity	error
1	1st Vial Background	0	± 0	0	± 0
2	Initial bucket blank CO #1	4	± 15	1	± 11
	<u>Lab #1 (Figure 1)</u>				
3	Starboard benchtop	-15	± 21	-8	± 11
4	Deck in center of lab	-16	± 15	9	± 14
5	Port Benchtop	14	± 20	3	± 10
	<u>Hydro Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
6	Starboard benchtop below forward porthole	17	± 17	12	± 12
7	Deck in front of starboard bench	4	± 9	9	± 13
8	Deck in front of aft sink	12	± 15	12	± 13
9	Aft benchtop	4	± 14	3	± 12
10	Forward benchtop	31	± 22	7	± 11
11	Aft sink area	-13	± 18	12	± 14
12	Port benchtop	-7	± 7	14	± 14
	<u>Chemistry Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
13	Forward section of starboard benchtop	-12	± 14	1	± 25
14	Aft section of starboard benchtop	0	± 1	11	± 13
15	Inside fume hood	14	± 16	8	± 12
16	Deck at port entrance	24	± 23	0	± 4
17	Center benchtop in front of aft sink	31	± 21	9	± 11
18	Forward sink area	-12	± 679	26	± 14
19	Deck in front of fume hood	-3	± 24	13	± 13
20	Aft sink and adjacent benchtop	23	± 22	1	± 6
21	Center benchtop opposite of forward sink	-6	± 8	-2	± 9
22	Forward benchtop between fume hood and sink	34	± 19	20	± 13
23	Deck in front of aft sink	21	± 18	14	± 12
	<u>Wet Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
24	Forward sink and adjacent benchtop	32	± 31	-8	± 12
25	Starboard benchtop	5	± 7	-12	± 14
26	Deck between CTD and forward sink	13	± 18	6	± 11
27	Deck port of CTD	3	± 5	18	± 13

Sample #	Sample Identification	$^3\text{H}$ dpm/m <sup>2</sup>		$^{14}\text{C}$ dpm/m <sup>2</sup>	
		activity	error	activity	error
<u>Science Storeroom (Figure 1)</u>					
28	Inside Cospolich refrigerator #1	28	± 29	-12	± 9
29	Inside Cospolich refrigerator #2	12	± 26	0	± 23
30	Inside Cospolich refrigerator #3	-6	± 25	-27	± 25
<u>Lab #2 Starboard Side (Figure 1)</u>					
31	Port benchtop	13	± 21	-2	± 8
32	Deck in center of lab	28	± 29	-11	± 13
33	Aft sink and adjacent benchtop	-12	± 15	7	± 14
34	Starboard benchtop	10	± 18	2	± 10
35	Forward benchtop	<b>24</b>	± <b>21</b>	2	± 8
<u>Lab #2 Port side (Figure 1)</u>					
36	Forward sink and adjacent benchtop	<b>27</b>	± <b>21</b>	8	± 11
37	Aft sink and adjacent benchtop	14	± 14	<b>19</b>	± <b>13</b>
38	Intermediate bucket blank	12	± 15	8	± 12
39	Deck in front of aft sink	7	± 8	<b>28</b>	± <b>14</b>
40	Forward benchtop	-25	± 24	<b>20</b>	± <b>14</b>
41	Port benchtop	6	± 12	8	± 12
<u>OTG Rad Van, Ser#592.2.01 (Figure 2)</u>					
42	Benchtop next to front entrance	<b>35</b>	± <b>18</b>	<b>33</b>	± <b>14</b>
43	Inside refrigerator near front entrance	<b>90</b>	± <b>30</b>	4	± 6
44	Benchtop opposite front entrance	<b>291</b>	± <b>49</b>	<b>22</b>	± <b>9</b>
45	Deck inside front entrance	<b>422</b>	± <b>71</b>	<b>47</b>	± <b>12</b>
46	Inside fume hood	<b>74</b>	± <b>28</b>	7	± 9
47	Deck inside rear entrance near fume hood	<b>*656</b>	± <b>80</b>	<b>*57</b>	± <b>11</b>
48	Benchtop adjacent to fume hood	<b>*717</b>	± <b>75</b>	<b>*63</b>	± <b>12</b>
49	Inside refrigerator nearest to fume hood	2	± 3	<b>24</b>	± <b>14</b>
50	Benchtop adjacent to LSC	<b>107</b>	± <b>32</b>	7	± 8
51	Deck between the two refrigerators	<b>*1140</b>	± <b>108</b>	<b>*73</b>	± <b>11</b>
52	Final bucket blank	-5	± 6	5	± 13

### Comments

Please note that the error reported for each isotope is the two-standard deviation counting error. Reports may now contain values less than zero. Decay counting background samples will be distributed about the background vial, which means that negative values are possible. In the past we rounded the negative values to zero. Values are only significantly above background when they are positive and larger than the error. Please note that we are now using a Quantulus 6220 LSC which counts very near natural background. While the cleanup standards have not changed; all values above background will now be in bold. All areas on the ship were free from isotope contamination requiring cleaning. The Rad Van had minor  $^3\text{H}$  contamination. No action is necessary.



Figure #2  
SWAB #1086  
24 March 2024

