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17 October 2011

SWAB REPORT # 602

SWAB DATE: 8 October 2011

R/V Melville

James D. Happell

Distribution:
SWAB Committee
Gary Lain

COMMENTS TO SWAB REPORTS

23 November 2010

Typical LSC instrument background values for ^3H and ^{14}C are 2 and 5 cpm, respectively. The LSC is a Tricarb 2910 TR with the low level counting option.

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

Criteria for SWAB Results

Category	^3H (dpm/m^2)	^{14}C (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 dpm/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}C and ^{35}S have peak energies of 156 and 167 KeV, respectively; thus ^{35}S will be registered as ^{14}C by our counting techniques. Categories A, B and C are not a health hazard.

Recommended Cleaning Procedure

Wearing ordinary household rubber gloves:

^3H : 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}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 ^3H .

Disposal of Cleaning Materials (gloves, sponges, etc)

Categories A & B dispose as ordinary garbage, C & D dispose in radiation waste system.

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

REPORT FOR SWAB # 602

LOCATION: Bridgetown, Barbados
VESSEL/LAB: R/V Melville

DATE: 8 October 2011
TECHNICIAN: Jim Happell

Sample #	Sample Identification	³ H dpm/m ²		¹⁴ C dpm/m ²	
		activity	error	activity	error
1	1st Vial Bkgnd	0	± 0	0	± 0
2	Initial bucket #1 blank	0	± 0	0	± 0
<u>Main Lab (see Figure 1)</u>					
3	Bench top across & aft of port sink	52	± 58	0	± 0
4	Bench top aft of port sink	1	± 3	27	± 39
5	Aft deck in front of phone	51	± 61	0	± 0
6	Deck in aft hanger outside lab entrance	5	± 0	0	± 0
7	Deck in front of aft stairs	0	± 0	0	± 0
8	Deck next to Sanyo -80°C freezer	2	± 14	12	± 38
9	Deck between stbd. entrance & Kelvinator	16	± 81	0	± 0
10	Deck in front of forward passage	54	± 76	0	± 0
11	Deck in front of computer benchtops	0	± 0	0	± 0
12	Deck across from starboard entrance	22	± 157	0	± 0
13	Center bench top	0	± 0	*921	± 64
<u>Analytical Lab (see Figure 1)</u>					
14	Deck inside aft entrance	40	± 69	0	± 0
15	Inside fume hood	*829	± 96	0	± 0
16	Forward bench top	25	± 93	0	± 0
17	Sink area	7	± 0	0	± 0
18	Deck in front of sink	1	± 0	0	± 0
19	Bench top across from sink	63	± 50	22	± 33
20	Bench top in aft hanger	10	± 0	0	± 0
<u>01 Deck (see Figure 1)</u>					
21	Bench top in aft hanger	0	± 0	0	± 0
22	Deck near res tech shop	0	± 0	7	± 42
23	Deck near starboard A-frame	48	± 42	33	± 36
24	Deck under aft A-frame	0	± 0	5	± 41
<u>02 Deck (see Figure 1)</u>					
25	Deck at stairs to 01 deck	45	± 55	2	± 18
26	Deck near rad van entrance	0	± 0	32	± 41

Sample #	Sample Identification	³ H dpm/m ²		¹⁴ C dpm/m ²	
		activity	error	activity	error
<u>Dark Room (see Figure 1)</u>					
27	Sink area	6	± 31	8	± 36
28	Bench top across from sink	0	± 0	0	± 0
29	Deck inside aft entrance	57	± 51	16	± 32
<u>Miscellaneous Areas (see Figure 1)</u>					
30	Deck at aft entrance to mess	8	± 30	12	± 37
31	Deck at forward entrance to mess	0	± 0	7	± 39
32	final bucket #1 blank	0	± 0	4	± 52
33	initial bucket #2 blank	0	± 0	0	± 0
34	Upper lab deck in front of printer	27	± 94	0	± 0
35	Deck outside library	0	± 0	1	± 60
<u>SIO Rad Van #12 (see Figure 2)</u>					
36	Bench top opposite sink	0	± 0	*2242	± 88
37	Fume hood	0	± 0	*616	± 56
38	Freezer	*1200	± 83	*1332	± 70
39	Refrigerator	0	± 0	*3096	± 101
40	Bench top above refrigerator	402	± 59	*320	± 46
41	Bench top above freezer	54	± 6	*1721	± 79
42	Sink area	169	± 26	*771	± 60
43	Deck in front of entrance by fume hood	*652	± 55	*1475	± 74
44	Deck in front of entrance by sink	376	± 46	*825	± 60
45	Intermediate bucket #2 blank	0	± 0	0	± 0
<u>UNOLS Shared Use Van 2408-04 (See Figure 3)</u>					
46	Sink area	53	± 39	*52	± 38
47	Bench top above refrigerator	76	± 37	*104	± 40
48	Bench top above freezer	81	± 37	*108	± 40
49	Fume hood	36	± 36	39	± 37
50	Bench top opposite freezer	0	± 0	*427	± 51
51	Bench top opposite sink	0	± 0	*52	± 40
52	Deck at large door	*2331	± 107	*3429	± 104
53	Deck at small door	222	± 30	*852	± 61
54	Freezer	153	± 57	26	± 30
55	Refrigerator	0	± 0	*2430	± 91
56	Final bucket #2 blank	0	± 0	0	± 0

Comments

Please note that the error reported for each isotope is the two-standard deviation counting error. Most areas tested on the ship were free from radioisotope contamination, except for the fume hood in the analytical lab which had ^3H contamination, and the center bench top in the main lab, which had ^{14}C contamination. These two areas require cleaning before any additional use. The two Rad Vans had minor ^3H and ^{14}C contamination. Although no action is required we recommend cleaning of the decks to help prevent tracking contamination into the ship.

Figure 1.
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R/V MELVILLE

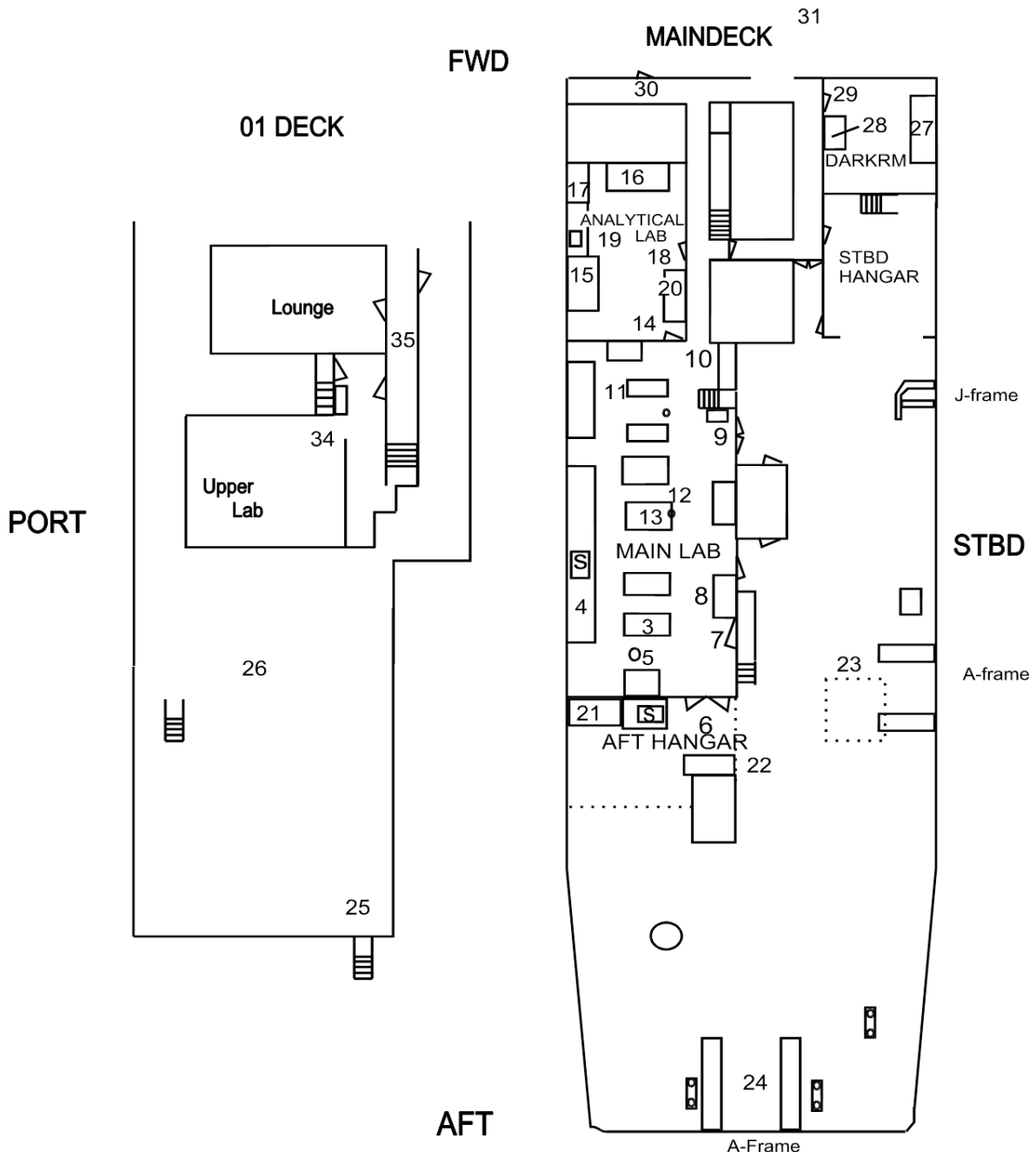


Figure 2
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RADIOISOTOPE VAN

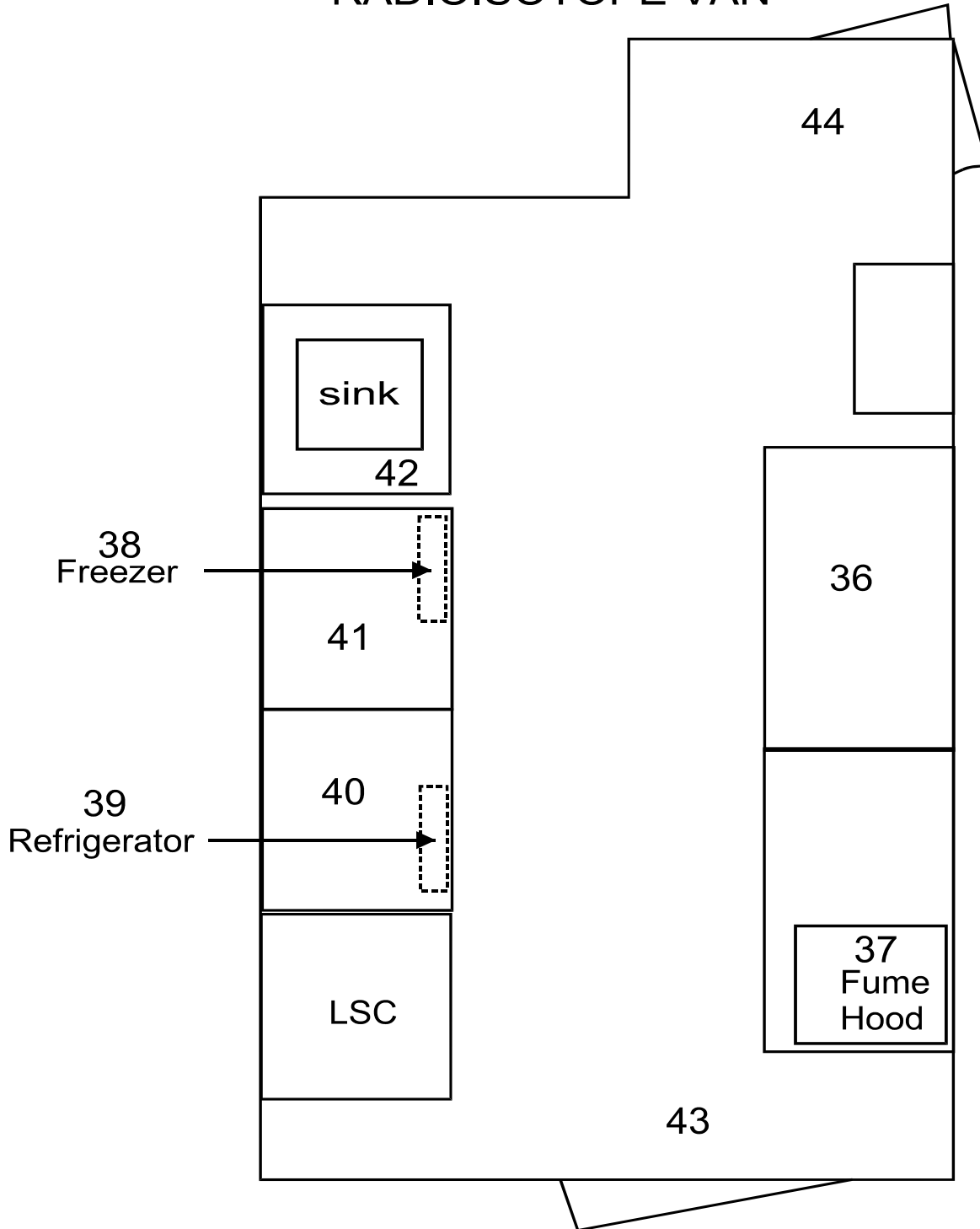


Figure 3.
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UNOLS VAN 2408-04

