



Tritium Laboratory
19 December 2022

SWAB REPORT # 1048

SWAB DATE: 8 December 2022

R/V Savannah

James D. Happell

Distribution:
SWAB Committee
John Bichy

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 ^3H & ^{14}C . This replaces an LSC with background cpm of 1.6 & 5.5 for ^3H & ^{14}C .

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. All activities significantly above background will be in **bold**.

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 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 # 1048

LOCATION: Savannah, GA
VESSEL: R/V Savannah

DATE: 8 December 2022
TECHNICIAN: Charlene Grall

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 blank	-38	± 78	-8	± 24
	<u>Dry Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
3	Forward benchtop	4	± 54	-4	± 12
4	Center benchtop	-35	± 71	2	± 6
5	Forward deck	19	± 39	-6	± 19
6	Port benchtop aft of sink	1	± 9	-18	± 29
7	Port benchtop forward of sink	-23	± 47	-11	± 17
8	Deck at aft entrance	-63	± 128	11	± 18
19	Inside fume hood	-14	± 28	-17	± 20
20	Benchtop next to fume hood	-19	± 38	-8	± 13
21	Deck in front of fume hood	-73	± 148	21	± 17
22	Inside refrigerator	-3	± 33	2	± 13
	<u>Wet Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
9	Port benchtop	-6	± 77	-13	± 15
11	Benchtop forward of sink	-41	± 84	-4	± 6
10	Benchtop aft of sink	-33	± 68	13	± 15
12	Inside Summit refrigerator	28	± 48	-19	± 22
13	Deck in front of Summit refrigerator	-22	± 44	-12	± 15
14	Deck at aft entrance	-26	± 54	3	± 21
15	Deck inside port entrance	-43	± 88	14	± 16
	<u>Miscellaneous Areas (Figure 1)</u>				
16	Deck in front of water fountain	-19	± 38	2	± 24
17	Deck at bottom of stairs	-29	± 59	0	± 43
18	Deck at top of stairs	-60	± 121	19	± 16
	<u>Aft Deck (Figure 1)</u>				
23	Deck near CTD	-56	± 115	13	± 17
24	Deck near incubator on Starboard side	-58	± 118	11	± 17
25	Deck near incubator on port side	-53	± 107	7	± 20
26	Deck at base of stair to 01 Deck	-55	± 111	21	± 16
27	Final bucket sample	-19	± 39	-4	± 7

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. The benchtops and galley deck were freshly painted on the ship. All areas sampled were free from isotope contamination that requires cleaning.

Figure 1
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