

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

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Tritium Laboratory
16 December 2013

SWAB REPORT #709

SWAB DATE: 6 December 2013

R/V Hugh Sharp

James D. Happell
Associate Research Professor

Distribution:
SWAB Committee
Timothy Deering

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 $1000 \text{ dpm}/\text{m}^2$ 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}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 institution promptly by phone or email.

REPORT FOR SWAB # 709

LOCATION: Lewes, DE
VESSEL: *R/V Hugh Sharp*

DATE: 6 December 2013
TECHNICIAN: Cecilia Roig

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 C.O. # 1	21	± 47	1	± 16
3	Inside Whirlpool freezer top	35	± 47	1	± 14
4	Inside Whirlpool freezer bottom	0	± 0	12	± 36
5	Inside Holiday freezer	12	± 98	0	± 0
6	Inside Thermo freezer	36	± 52	0	± 0
7	Port benchtop across freezers	0	± 0	20	± 36
8	Port benchtop across Whirlpool	89	± 52	6	± 19
9	Forward starboard benchtop	8	± 204	0	± 0
10	Inside hood	2	± 0	0	± 0
11	Deck at aft exit	9	± 30	12	± 33
12	Deck in front of Whirlpool	22	± 62	0	± 0
13	Inside freezer top	22	± 43	3	± 26
14	Inside fridge bottom	4	± 21	9	± 34
15	Inside Holiday freezer	9	± 624	0	± 0
16	Aft sink area	0	± 0	0	± 0
17	Starboard sink area	9	± 33	8	± 32
18	Starboard aft benchtop	19	± 56	0	± 0
19	Starboard benchtop next to CTD door	9	± 36	6	± 32
20	Deck at entrance	49	± 48	5	± 23
21	Final bucket blank C.O. # 1	23	± 35	16	± 32

Comments

Please note that the error reported for each isotope is the two-standard deviation counting error. All areas tested on the ship were free of isotope contamination that requires cleaning.

RV Hugh Sharp Lab Spaces

SWAB # 709

6 December 2013

