

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
ROSENSTIEL  
SCHOOL of MARINE &  
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE



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Tritium Laboratory  
2 October 2017

SWAB REPORT #874

SWAB DATE: 26 September 2017

*R/V Atlantis and Rad Van #625.6.03*

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Distribution:  
SWAB Committee  
David Fisichella

## COMMENTS TO SWAB REPORTS

12 May 2014

Typical LSC instrument background values for  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  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  $\text{dpm}/\text{m}^2$ . 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.

### 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 # 874

LOCATION: Wood Hole, MA  
VESSEL/LAB: R/V Atlantis and Van #625.6.03

DATE: 26 September 2017  
TECHNICIAN: Jim Happell

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 Bkgnd	0	± 0	0	± 0
2	Initial bucket blank	3	± 21	9	± 38
	<u>Main Lab (Figure 1)</u>				
3	Starboard sink area	24	± 52	-2	± 9
4	Starboard benchtop adjacent to ice maker	-9	± 71	5	± 43
5	Forward port entrance	43	± 53	-3	± 13
6	Benchtop across from starboard sink	-21	± 101	9	± 44
7	Inside starboard refrig bottom section	-20	± 98	14	± 42
8	Top of -80°C freezer	-13	± 63	7	± 43
9	Deck in front of aft computer bench	-8	± 61	9	± 41
10	Deck inside mid port entrance	10	± 94	-11	± 48
11	Inside fume hood	22	± 73	-15	± 68
12	Benchtop across from and forward of fume	33	± 73	-17	± 76
13	Deck inside aft port entrance	-12	± 60	-4	± 19
14	Deck inside aft entrance	25	± 58	-8	± 36
15	Benchtops next to port sink	23	± 44	5	± 31
16	Benchtops next to starboard sink	3	± 17	-38	± 111
17	Deck between port sink and opposite benc	19	± 153	-27	± 80
	<u>BioAnalytical Lab (Figure 2)</u>				
18	Inside fume hood	-33	± 51	-8	± 34
19	Port benchtop	-9	± 43	-16	± 71
20	Starboard benchtop	-8	± 37	-9	± 40
21	Deck inside aft entrance	-3	± 21	-7	± 29
22	Aft sink area	-42	± 65	4	± 97
23	Starboard section of aft center bench	36	± 128	-43	± 125
24	Center deck	-7	± 45	-30	± 89
25	Forward benchtop adjacent to sink	-13	± 63	-22	± 65
26	Deck below fume hood	-14	± 66	5	± 45
27	Deck inside forward starboard entrance	15	± 74	-11	± 49
	<u>Miscellaneous Areas Figure 3)</u>				
28	Forward cooler benchtop	3	± 136	-5	± 20
29	Aft cooler benchtop	-14	± 70	-9	± 41
30	Deck outside forward cooler	42	± 135	-58	± 172

Sample #	Sample Identification	$^3\text{H}$ dpm/m <sup>2</sup>		$^{14}\text{C}$ dpm/m <sup>2</sup>	
		activity	error	activity	error
	<u>Computer Lab (Figure 3)</u>				
31	Deck below printer on strbr	-6	± 31	-18	± 53
32	Deck below aft starboard bench	11	± 290	-19	± 57
33	Companionway outside starboard entrance	11	± 81	-23	± 68
34	Deck below aft stair to 01 deck	13	± 130	-17	± 50
	<u>Hydrographic Lab (Figure 4)</u>				
35	deck in front of fwd be	47	± 62	-12	± 55
36	Inside fume hood	1	± 7	-23	± 68
37	Deck between port benches in center	36	± 102	-37	± 108
38	Deck between sink and aft entrance	-17	± 81	-13	± 55
39	ALVIN benchtop aft	7	± 52	-20	± 60
40	Deck inside starboard entrance	19	± 519	-38	± 110
41	Port sink area	9	± 95	-9	± 40
42	Port benchtop aft of port sink	27	± 48	2	± 23
43	Freezer	-22	± 107	-5	± 22
44	Deck in front of refrigerator	9	± 68	-6	± 24
45	Refrig bottom	20	± 147	-30	± 88
46	Freezer top	12	± 76	-10	± 43
	<u>Wet Lab (Figure 5)</u>				
47	Forward sink area	326	± 54	*246	± 44
48	Inside fume hood	53	± 53	-3	± 11
49	Deck at aft door	-3	± 20	-2	± 10
50	Deck inside port entrance	77	± 53	4	± 18
	<u>WHOI isotope van 625.6.03 (Figure 7)</u>				
51	Inside Refirgerator	27	± 139	-39	± 114
52	Fume hood	13	± 21	38	± 39
53	Benchtop adjacent to Fume Hood	-39	± 60	18	± 45
54	Refrigerator	*742	± 85	51	± 23
55	Sink Area	21	± 215	-32	± 95
56	Benchtop ajacent to LSC	89	± 47	*72	± 39
57	Benchtop opposite from sink	-3	± 6	*68	± 41
58	Deck in front of fume hood	33	± 51	0	± 1
59	Deck near entrance	66	± 62	-9	± 42
60	Final bucket blank	39	± 75	-29	± 87

## Comments

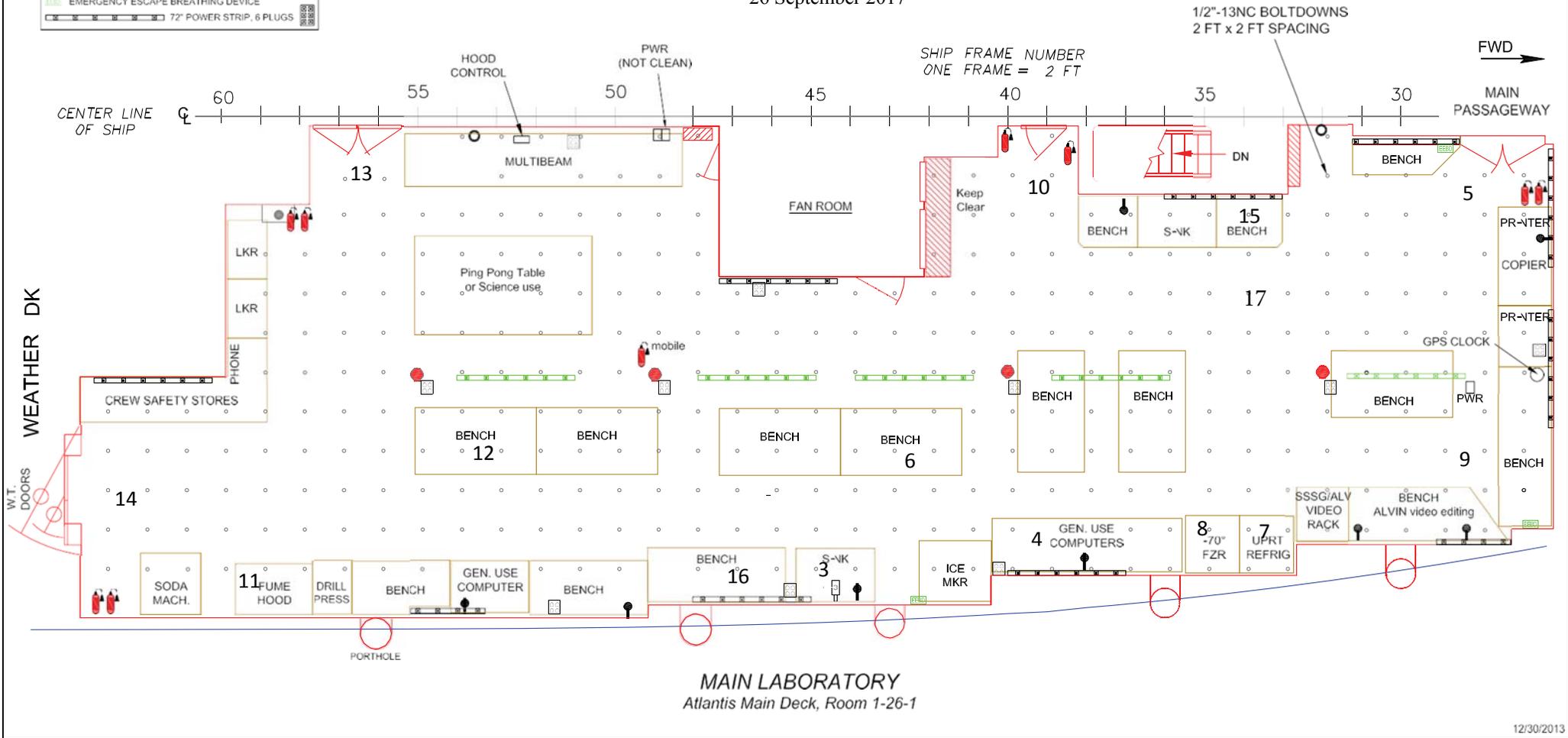
Please note that the error reported for each isotope is the two-standard deviation counting error. The reports may now contain values less than zero. When decay counting background samples will be distributed about the background vial, which means that negative values are possible. In the past we rounded the negative values to zero. Values are only significantly above background when they are positive and larger than the error. Minor  $^{14}\text{C}$  contamination was found around the forward sink area in the Wet lab. Above background  $^3\text{H}$  was also present. This area should be cleaned ASAP. All other areas tested in the ship did not have contamination that requires cleaning. Minor  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$  contamination was found in the Rad Van, but no action is necessary.

**KEY**

- COMPUTER HUB
- SHIP EQUIP - KEEP CLEAR
- EMERGENCY ESCAPE BREATHING DEVICE
- 72" POWER STRIP, 6 PLUGS
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER
- SCIENCE SEA WATER
- CABLE PASS THRU
- COMPRESSED AIR

UNISTRUT:  
 BULKHEADS  
 2 FT SPACING  
 OVERHEAD FORE/AFT,  
 FULL LENGTH OF LAB  
 ALL POWER CLEAN UNLESS NOTED

Figure 1  
 SWAB 874  
 26 September 2017

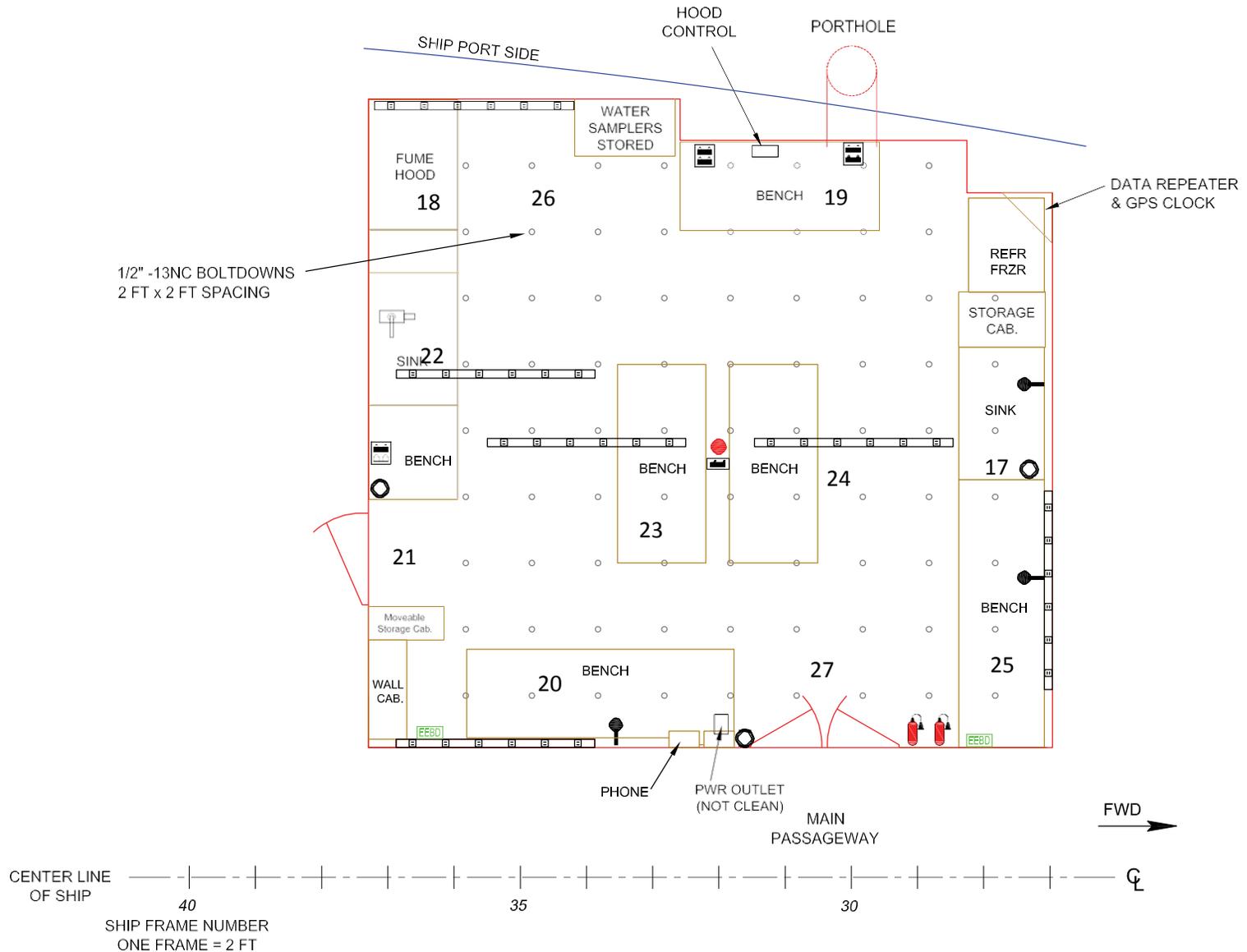


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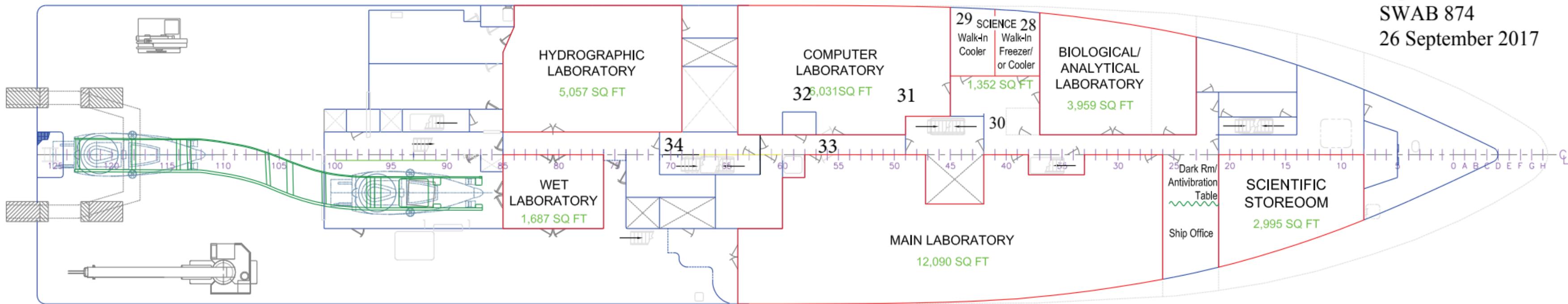
**Figure 2**  
**SWAB 874**  
 26 September 2017

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 BULKHEADS  
 2 FT SPACING  
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 FULL LENGTH OF LAB  
  
 ALL POWER CLEAN UNLESS NOTED



**BIOLOGICAL/ANALYTICAL CLEAN LABORATORY**  
*Atlantis Main Deck, Room 1-27-2*

Figure 3  
 SWAB 874  
 26 September 2017

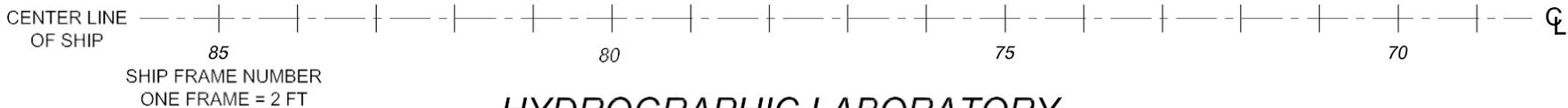
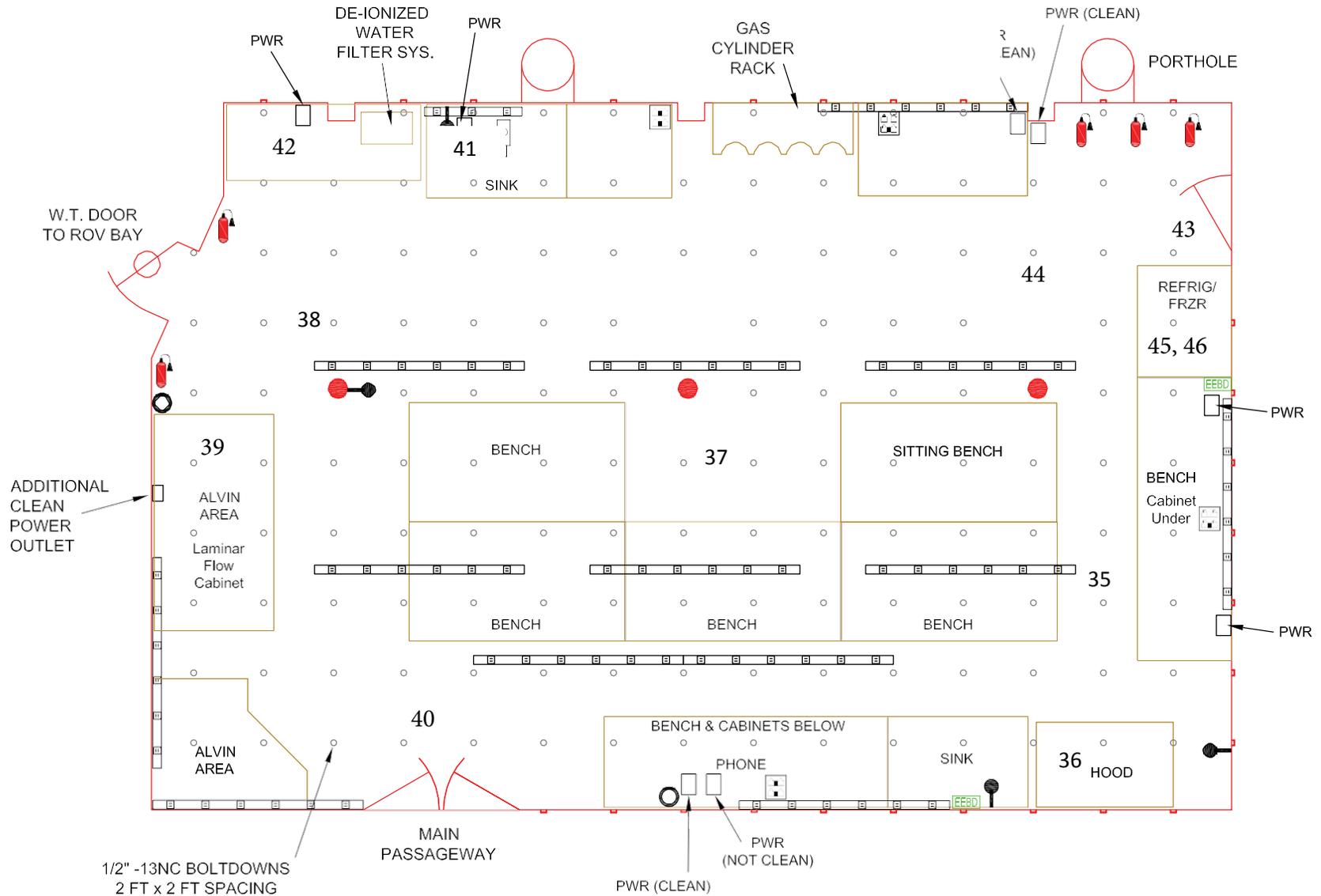


*Laboratories & Scientific Storeroom General Locations*  
*Atlantis Main Deck*



FULL LENGTH OF LAB  
ALL POWER CLEAN UNLESS NOTED

Figure 4  
SWAB 842  
26 September 2017



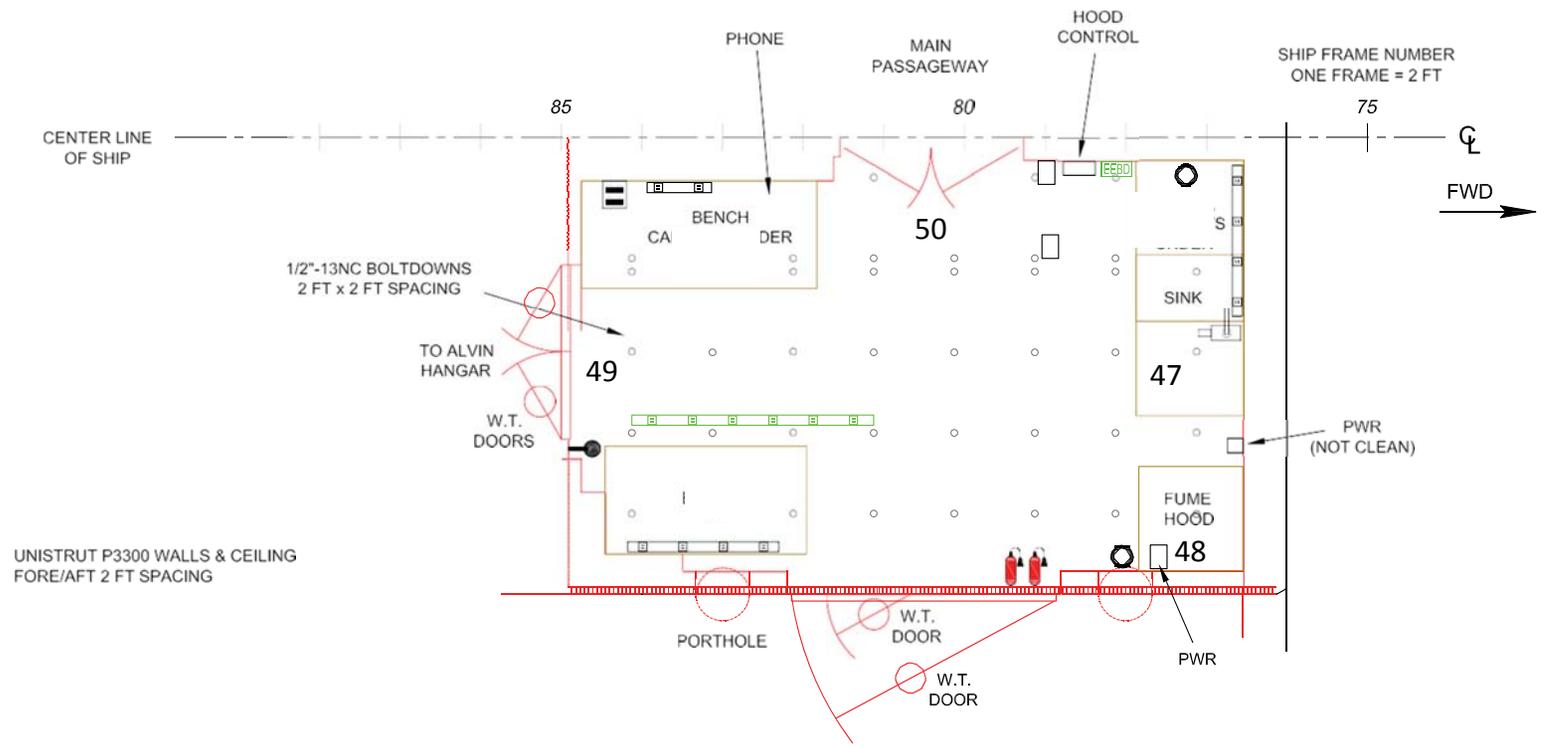
**HYDROGRAPHIC LABORATORY**  
*Atlantis Main Deck, Room 1-64-2*

**KEY**

-  COMPUTER HUB
-  SHIP EQUIP -KEEP CLEAR
-  EMERGENCY ESCAPE BREATHING DEVICE
-  72" POWER STRIP, 6 PLUGS
-  FIRE EXTINGUISHER
-  SCIENCE SEA WATER
-  CABLE PASS THRU
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UNISTRUT:  
 BULKHEADS  
 2 FT SPACING  
 OVERHEAD FORE/AFT,  
 FULL LENGTH OF LAB  
 ALL POWER CLEAN UNLESS NOTED

Figure 5  
 SWAB 874  
 26 September 2017



**WET LABORATORY**  
*Atlantis Main Deck, Rm 1-76-1*

# WHOI RADIOISOTOPE VAN

#625.6.03

Figure 6  
SWAB # 874  
26 September 2017

