

## FRCM CHAPTER 5 RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH SUPPORT OPERATIONS

### Revision History

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## CHAPTER 5 RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH SUPPORT OPERATIONS

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## PART 1 EXTERNAL DOSIMETRY

### 511 Requirements

Unless stated otherwise, “dosimeter” or “primary dosimeter” refers to the dosimeter of record known as the personnel dosimetry monitoring badge. Due to past habits, the personnel dosimetry monitoring badges of record are commonly, and incorrectly, called "TLD badges" or even "film badges" reflecting past usage of a now obsolete dosimetry technology. Other dosimeters called “supplemental dosimeters” may be used in conjunction with the personnel dosimetry monitoring badge to provide additional information about workplace radiological conditions. Recordkeeping requirements for the external dosimetry program are found in Chapter 7, Part 2 of this Manual.

1. Personnel dosimetry shall be required for:
  - a. Radiological workers who, under typical conditions, are likely to receive a total effective dose to the whole body of 0.1 rem (0.001 sievert) or more in a year;
  - b. Declared pregnant workers who are likely to receive from external sources a dose to the embryo/fetus in excess of 10 percent of the applicable limit stated in Table 2-1 (See Article 213).
  - c. Occupationally exposed minors likely to receive a dose in excess of 50% of the applicable limit contained in Table 2-1 in a year from external sources. (See Articles 212 and 931.)
  - d. Members of the public entering a controlled area likely to receive a dose in excess of 50% of the appropriate limit in Article 212.3 in a year from external sources.
  - e. Individuals entering a Radiation Area, High Radiation Area or Very High Radiation Area.
  - f. Extremity monitoring, as determined by the assigned Radiation Safety Officer (RSO).
2. To maximize the efficiency of the personnel dosimetry program, the issuance of permanent dosimeters to personnel who are not radiological workers is discouraged.
3. Radiological Worker training is the minimum training necessary for those using a personnel dosimetry monitoring badge. Exceptions shall be made only with the approval of the assigned RSO. Written justification of the exception shall be provided to the Dosimetry Program Manager.
4. Personnel shall return dosimeters for processing as scheduled or upon request.

5. Personnel shall wear their primary dosimeters on the chest area, or between the waist and the neck, in the manner prescribed by the Radiological Control Organization. Compliance with this sub article will be encouraged by reinforcement during training sessions.
6. The practice of taking dosimeters off site is discouraged.
7. Exposures of the dosimeters to sources of radiation not related to Fermilab work should be prevented.
  - a. Personnel shall not wear dosimeters issued by Fermilab while being monitored at another radiological facility.
  - b. Personnel shall not knowingly expose their dosimeters to security X-ray devices, excessive heat, or medical sources of radiation. (See Article 962.)
  - c. If the potential for such exposures is discovered, the dosimeter must be returned to the ESH&Q Section with an account of the non-occupational source of exposure.
  - d. Should such an exposure be discovered in the course of an exposure investigation or the examination of a suspect dosimetry report, the Dosimetry Program Manager should notify the appropriate division/section personnel and the assigned RSO.
8. A person whose dosimeter is lost or damaged in a Radiological Area should place work in a safe condition, immediately exit the area and report the occurrence to the assigned RSO or designee. Reentry of the person into radiological areas should not be made until a review has been conducted and line supervision has approved reentry with appropriate replacement dosimetry provided.
9. Technical details of integrating personnel dosimeters that have been used at Fermilab are described in Appendix 5A. These devices do not provide a measurement in “real time”.

## 512 Technical Requirements for External Dosimetry

1. Accreditation of personnel external dosimetry monitoring programs by the DOE Laboratory Accreditation Program (DOELAP) is mandated in 10 CFR 835. Fermilab performs extremity monitoring on a discretionary basis and the dosimeter used for that purpose is accredited by DOELAP.
2. In the absence of specific monitoring, the equivalent dose to the lens of the eye is taken to be equal to the dose equivalent at a tissue depth of 300 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

- Multiple dosimeters should be issued to personnel to assess whole body exposure in non-uniform radiation fields as recommended by the authorized members of the Radiological Control Organization, in most situations the assigned RSO, or as required on Radiological Work Permits. For example, ring badges have been found to be especially helpful in certain types of radiological work where exposures to the hands are anticipated.
- An exposure investigation (dose assessment) shall be performed for each instance of a lost, damaged, or contaminated personnel dosimeter (See Article 572).

### 513 Real Time Supplemental Dosimeters

Pocket and electronic dosimeters are supplemental dosimeters that provide real-time indication of exposure to radiation. While they are not the dosimeter of record, such dosimeters can help to maintain worker doses ALARA, to indicate the presence of unanticipated radiological hazards, or assist in the completion of an exposure investigation in the event that a primary dosimeter is lost or damaged. Technical details of these devices are given in Appendix 5B.

- Real time supplemental dosimeters shall be issued to personnel prior to entry into a radiological area in which a person's dose could exceed 40 mrem from external radiation in 1 workday, when entering a High or Very High Radiation Area, or when required by a Radiological Work Permit (RWP).
- Real time supplemental dosimeters shall be worn close to the primary personnel dosimetry monitoring badge and located in accordance with Article 511.5 and Articles 333 and 334.
- Use of electronic dosimeters is encouraged for entry into High Radiation Areas when planned doses greater than 100 mrem in 1 workday are expected. An electronic dosimeter provides an early warning of elevated exposure through the use of alarm set points at specified dose rates or integrated doses. Several types of electronic dosimeters, each with somewhat different features, are now in use at Fermilab. These are supplied and maintained by the ESH&Q Section. Such devices may not function properly in Very High Radiation Areas (See Article 333 for VHRA entry requirements).
- An exposure investigation shall be initiated by the Dosimetry Program Manager or assigned RSO to explain certain discrepancies between pocket and electronic dosimeter readings and the primary dosimeter result (See Article 572).
- The most common supplemental dosimeter used at Fermilab is the electrostatically charged pocket ion chamber, called a "pencil" at other facilities. This dosimeter is extremely sensitive to static discharges with the possibility of false readings if not used properly. They can also discharge if subjected to a sharp blow (e.g., if dropped). Personnel using dosimeters of this type should avoid areas where static electrical discharges are plausible and otherwise read their dosimeters at least as frequently as daily.

## PART 2 INTERNAL DOSIMETRY

### 521 Participation in Internal Dosimetry Program

1. In accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 835 for monitoring individual exposures to internal radiation, internal dosimetry programs (including, but not limited to, bioassay programs) shall be conducted for:
  - a. Radiological workers who, under typical conditions, are likely to receive a committed effective dose of 0.1 rem (0.001 sievert) or more in a year, from all occupational radionuclide intakes in a year.
  - b. Declared pregnant workers likely to receive an intake or intakes resulting in a committed effective dose to the embryo/fetus in excess of 10 percent of the limit stated in Table 2-1.
  - c. Occupationally exposed minors who are likely to receive a dose in excess of 50 percent of the applicable limits stated at Table 2-1 from all radionuclide intakes in a year.
  - d. Members of the public entering a controlled area likely to receive a dose in excess of 50 percent of the limit in Article 212.3 from all radionuclide intakes in a year.
2. Radiation Physics Note #7, *Fermilab Internal Dosimetry Technical Basis Document*, documents for normal operations that no individual approaches the criteria defined above in paragraph (1) and thus, no routine internal dosimetry program is necessary. Fermilab may still perform discretionary internal monitoring when:
  - a. the assigned RSO requests such a measurement to verify the effectiveness of engineered and administrative controls designed to prevent internal exposure;
  - b. imposed engineered and/or administrative controls designed to prevent internal exposure inadvertently fail; or
  - c. someone is exposed under accidental or emergency conditions, in particular those requiring the use of the Decontamination or Beam-On Dose Assessment Facility.
3. Personnel shall participate in follow-up monitoring when their bioassay results or alternative assessment method indicates an uptake greater than the decision level.

### 522 Programmatic Requirements

1. Fermilab's internal dosimetry measurements are presently provided under an arrangement with Argonne National Laboratory. Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) has been

accredited by the Department of Energy Laboratory Accreditation Program for Radiobioassay. Should Argonne be unable to provide such services, Fermilab is committed to securing another DOELAP accredited vendor.

2. When it has been determined that internal monitoring is required, the Dosimetry Program Manager shall be notified to make the appropriate arrangements for submitting bioassay samples or whole body counting at Argonne National Laboratory.

- a. *In Vitro Samples*

- (1) Contact Argonne National Laboratory Radiochemistry Laboratory and inform them that bioassay analysis is necessary, what radionuclide(s) are of interest, and that the samples are for special processing.
- (2) Sample containers are available at the BODA/DECON facility (Site 39). These containers are distributed to the affected individual by the Dosimetry Program Manager through the assigned RSO.
- (3) Specific sample collection instructions will be provided to the individual.
- (4) The sample container should be labeled with the individual's name, ID#, time and date of collection. Collected samples should be delivered to the Dosimetry Program Manager with a Bioassay Sample Chain of Custody Radiation Physics Form No. 40 (see [List of Radiation Physics Forms](#))
- (5) The Dosimetry Program Manager will arrange for a driver to deliver the samples to the ANL Radiochemistry Laboratory to maintain the Chain-of-Custody and to ensure that they are delivered in a timely manner.
- (6) Results will be forwarded to the Dosimetry Program Manager upon completion of the analysis. Upon receipt of the monitoring results, the Dosimetry Program Manager will promptly interpret the results and perform a dose assessment if the results indicate an uptake (see Article 523).
- (7) If necessary, make arrangements for follow-up samples. All documentation should be included in the person's dosimetry file.

- b. *Whole Body Count*

- (1) Contact the responsible parties at Argonne National Laboratory and inform them that a whole body count is necessary, the estimated time of arrival of the affected individual and what radionuclide(s) are of interest.

- (2) The ESH&Q Section will maintain details of points of contact with Argonne National Laboratory needed to make specific arrangements.
  - (3) Results will be forwarded to the Dosimetry Program Manager. Upon receipt of the monitoring results, the Dosimetry Program Manager will promptly interpret the results and perform a dose assessment if the results indicate an uptake (see Article 523).
- c. Emergency Situations
- (1) If the bioassay is in response to an emergency situation, notification of the Dosimetry Program Manager should be made as soon as possible but no later than the end of the next working day.
  - (2) The Argonne National Laboratory points-of-contact should be made aware that the results are required on an emergency basis.
  - (3) Results will be forwarded to the Dosimetry Program Manager. Upon receipt of the monitoring results, the Dosimetry Program Manager will promptly interpret the results and perform a dose assessment if the results indicate an uptake (see Article 523).

### **523 Dose Assessment**

1. The estimation of internal dose shall be based on bioassay data rather than air concentration values unless bioassay data are:
  - a. unavailable;
  - b. inadequate;
  - c. internal dose estimates based on representative air concentration values are demonstrated to be as or more accurate.
2. Interpretations of bioassay results and subsequent dose assessments will be documented and should include the following:
  - a. Characteristics of the radionuclide(s), such as chemical and physical form.
  - b. Initial and follow-up bioassay results and the person's previous exposure history to the extent known.



- c. Exposure information, such as the route of intake and time and duration of exposure.
  - d. Biological models used for dosimetry of radionuclides.
  - e. Calculations used to estimate intake or deposition and to assess committed equivalent dose to any organ or tissue of concern and the committed effective dose.
3. Affected personnel shall be notified promptly of bioassay results and the results of any dose assessment.
  4. The interpretations of bioassay results and subsequent dose assessments shall be incorporated into the affected individual's exposure history and maintained and reported according to the requirements in Chapter 7 of this Manual.
  5. For exposures that could be mitigated through medical intervention, the Fermilab Medical Office shall be notified.
  6. Exposures that exceed the Fermilab Administrative Goal for radiological workers or any of the limits stated in Part 1 of Chapter 2 of this Manual will be reported in accord with the requirements in [Fermilab ES&H Manual Chapter 3010](#).

## **PART 3 RADIOLOGICAL RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Respiratory protective devices include respirators with particulate or gas-filtering cartridges, supplied air respirators, self-contained breathing apparatus and airline supplied-air suits and hoods, excluding nuisance level dust mask sometimes, incorrectly, called “respirators”. The use of such respiratory equipment is governed by industrial hygiene considerations covered in [Fermilab ES&H Manual Chapter 4050](#), which should also be consulted before the use of such equipment as the requirements of that chapter are only summarized here to assure their application to radiological work in accordance with the principals of integrated safety management. Fermilab requirements for addressing heat stress hazards are given in detail in [Fermilab ES&H Manual Chapter 4250](#)

### **531 Requirements**

1. Use of respiratory protection should be reduced to the minimum practicable by implementing engineering controls and work practices to contain radioactivity at the source.
2. Respirators shall be issued only to personnel who are trained, fitted and medically qualified to wear the specific type of respirator. Training and fit testing shall be performed annually. Medical qualification testing shall be performed every two years.
3. Positive controls shall be maintained for the issue, use and return of respirators to ensure that only qualified personnel wear respirators.
4. Facility safety analyses should not take credit for the use of respiratory protection for routine work involving potential exposure to airborne radioactive materials. Engineering controls should be designed to control radioactive materials at the source, so that the use of respiratory protection can be reduced.

### **532 Half-Face Respirators**

1. Half-face respirators shall not be used on a routine basis as a precautionary measure for protecting workers from potential airborne radioactive materials.
2. The use of half-face respirators may be permitted in situations where intakes of radioactive material are expected to be low and where industrial and safety considerations warrant, such as during the operation of heavy equipment.

## **PART 4 HANDLING RADIOLOGICALLY CONTAMINATED PERSONNEL**

### **541 Skin Contamination**

1. Survey techniques are described in Appendix 3C (Chapter 3) to determine the extent of skin contamination.
2. When personnel detect skin contamination, they shall call the Emergency phone number, ext. 3131. If injuries are also involved in a contamination incident, the medical treatment of injuries takes precedence over decontamination.
3. The extent of skin contamination should be determined prior to initiating decontamination procedures.
4. Skin decontamination procedures have been established at Fermilab. These are posted at the Decontamination Facility at Site 39 South [adjacent to the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF)] for use by those individuals specifically trained to perform personnel decontaminations.
5. Levels of skin contamination that identify candidates for dose assessments have been established for site-specific radionuclides (see [Radiation Physics Note No. 7](#)).

### **542 Exposures to Airborne Radioactivity**

The most common form of airborne radioactivity at Fermilab is activated air. Activated air typically contains a variety of short-lived radionuclides that produce an external immersion hazard rather than an internal exposure hazard (see Articles 347 and 554). Airborne radioactive particulates are less common but may exist under special conditions, such as machining radioactive materials. If significant intakes of radioactive material are suspected by the assigned RSO, the following actions should be taken:

1. Identify personnel potentially exposed to airborne radioactivity.
2. Obtain nasal smears for qualitative indication of intakes, where appropriate.
3. Analyze air samples to determine airborne concentrations, where appropriate.
4. Determine duration of potential exposure to airborne radioactivity.
5. Perform bioassay appropriate for the type and quantity of radionuclides involved.
6. Use dose evaluation as soon as practicable to determine what actions, if any, are to be taken.

## PART 5 RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING AND SURVEYS

Radiological Control Programs require the performance of radiation, airborne radioactivity and contamination surveys to determine existing conditions in a given location. Maps with sufficient detail to permit identification of original survey and sampling locations should be maintained. Records shall contain sufficient detail to be meaningful even after the originator is no longer available. Appendix 5C contains summary technical descriptions of portable survey instruments used at Fermilab.

### 551 Requirements

1. Radiological monitoring of radiation exposure levels, contamination and airborne radioactivity shall be conducted to characterize workplace conditions and to identify areas requiring postings.
2. Monitoring shall be performed only by trained and qualified personnel using properly calibrated instruments which are appropriate for the type(s), levels and energies of the radiation(s) encountered and appropriate for the existing environmental conditions in which the instruments will be used.
3. Surveys for radiation, contamination and airborne radioactivity shall be performed as specified by the assigned RSO or in Radiological Work Permits or other technical documents.
4. The assigned RSO should review the adequacy of sampling and monitoring systems when facility or operational changes occur. Records shall be maintained to document changes in monitoring equipment, techniques, and procedures.
5. Instruments used to perform radiation surveys shall be response-checked daily if in regular use or prior to operation if used intermittently. When response checks are not within the labeled tolerance specified for the particular instrument, the instrument should be taken out of service. When response checks are not feasible, such as with instruments used to measure neutrons or tritium, alternate methods should be established to ensure proper instrument performance.
6. Assessment of radiological conditions should include a sufficient number of survey points to characterize the radiation present and to verify boundaries.
7. Surveys should be performed, at the discretion of the RSO or RCT, before, during and after the completion of work that has the potential for causing changes in levels of radiation and radioactivity.

8. Survey frequencies should be established based on potential radiological conditions, probability of change in conditions and area occupancy factors.
9. Monitoring results should be reviewed by the assigned RSO. The review should ensure that all required surveys have been performed and that the documentation is accurate and complete.
10. Radiological surveys should be recorded on appropriate standard forms and include the following common elements:
  - a. Date, time and purpose of the survey.
  - b. General and specific location of the survey.
  - c. Name of the surveyor.
  - d. Pertinent special information needed to interpret survey results (e.g., unusual background levels, special survey distances, etc.).
  - e. Reference to a specific Radiological Work Permit if the survey is performed to support the permit.
11. Results of current surveys or survey maps should be conspicuously posted or made otherwise available to inform personnel of the radiological conditions.
12. Monitoring results should be made available and used in support of pre- and post-job evaluations, ALARA preplanning, contamination control, and management of radiological control operations.
13. Radiation surveys should include, at the discretion of the RSO or RCT, dose rate measurements of the general area, dose rates at a distance of 30 centimeters from a source or surface of interest to evaluate potential whole body exposures, and dose rates on contact with potential sources of radiation where there is a potential for hands-on work.
14. Surveys should be conducted whenever operations are being performed that might result in personnel being exposed to small intense beams of radiation, such as those generated by shielded x-ray devices or due to removal or alteration of shielding.
15. Personnel shall check instruments for proper response, usually against a check source, and for being within their designated calibration period prior to use. No instrument shall be used for surveys used in personnel protection beyond their designated calibration period as indicated by the affixed label.

16. Technical details of the portable survey instruments used at Fermilab to accomplish these objectives are summarized in Appendix 5C.

## 552 Area Radiation Monitors

1. In addition to the requirements of Article 551, area radiation monitors (not to include area monitoring dosimeters) should be installed in frequently occupied locations with the potential for unexpected increases in dose rates and in remote locations where there is a need for local indication of dose rates prior to personnel entering remote locations. Summary technical descriptions of the stationary instruments used to monitor radiation fields at Fermilab are given in Appendix 5D, which includes both routinely used instruments and specialty instruments developed for the accelerator radiation environment.
2. Area radiation monitors should not be substituted for radiation exposure surveys in characterizing a workplace. They may be used to characterize the radiation fields associated with accelerator/beamline operations.
3. The need and placement of area radiation monitors should be documented and assessed by the assigned RSO when changes to facilities, systems or equipment occur.
4. Area radiation monitors shall be tested at least annually to verify audible alarm system operability and audibility under ambient working conditions and operability of visual alarms when so equipped and in circumstances in which the visible or audible alarm would actually be used.
5. If installed instrumentation is removed from service for maintenance or calibration, a radiation monitoring program providing at least equal detection capability should be maintained, consistent with the potential for unexpected increases in radiation dose rates.
6. The incorporation of area radiation monitors into radiation safety interlock systems is described in Chapter 10 of this Manual.
7. Individuals are prohibited from defeating or modifying any area monitoring system feature unless authorized to do so by the assigned RSO as approved by the Senior Radiation Safety Officer (SRSO).

### 553 Contamination Surveys

Summary technical descriptions of instruments used for contamination surveys are given in Appendix 5C.

1. In addition to the requirements of Article 551, contamination surveys should be conducted in areas with the potential for the spread of contamination as follows:
  - a. During initial entry into a known or suspected contamination area, periodically during work, at completion of job, or as specified in a Radiological Work Permit.
  - b. After a leak or spill of contaminated materials or dispersible radioactive materials (e.g., dust, liquids).
2. Survey requirements for the release of materials are set forth in Articles 421 and 422.
3. Items with inaccessible surfaces which were located in known or suspected contamination areas and had the potential to become contaminated at levels likely to exceed Table 2-2 values should be treated as potentially contaminated and subject to administrative controls specified by the assigned RSO unless the items are dismantled and monitored or special survey techniques are used to survey all surfaces.
4. Wipe surveys for removable contamination should be reported in units of disintegrations per minute per 100 cm<sup>2</sup> (dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>). For wipe surveys of small items covering less than 100 cm<sup>2</sup>, the results should be reported in units of dpm per area wiped.
5. Large area wipes may be used to supplement standard wipe techniques in areas generally assumed not to be contaminated, as specified by the assigned RSO, in accelerator/beamline enclosures and at entrances to Contamination Areas. If an evaluation indicates that an area wiped is contaminated, a thorough contamination wipe survey should be performed.
6. In addition to the elements required by Article 551, records of surveys of removable contamination shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - a. Model and serial number of counting equipment and calibration due date, if applicable.
  - b. Contamination levels (using appropriate units) and appropriate supporting parameters including counting efficiency, counting time, correction factors, and type of radiation.
  - c. Location of areas found to contain hot particles or high concentrations of localized contamination.

- d. Follow-up survey results for decontamination processes cross-referenced to the original survey.
7. Wipes that indicate the possible presence of contamination should be submitted promptly to the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF) for standardized counting. The relevant procedures for submitting wipes for analysis are given in Appendix 5E, Section A.

#### **554 Airborne Radioactivity Monitoring**

1. Derived Air Concentrations (DAC) are listed in the appendices to 10 CFR 835 and summary values as provided in Article 347. Unless otherwise specified, DAC will be taken to mean the DAC for a radiological worker throughout this Manual.
2. Samples shall be taken as necessary to detect and evaluate the level or concentration of airborne radioactive material at work locations. Air sampling shall be performed where an individual is likely to receive an exposure of 40 or more DAC-hours in a year.
3. Air monitoring equipment should be used in situations where airborne radioactivity levels can fluctuate and early detection of airborne radioactivity could prevent or minimize inhalation of radioactivity by personnel. Selection of air monitoring equipment should be based on the specific job being monitored. Air monitoring equipment includes portable and fixed air sampling equipment and continuous air monitors.
4. Air sampling equipment should be positioned to measure air concentrations to which persons are exposed. If this cannot be achieved, a program of personal breathing-zone air sampling should be initiated.
5. Air monitoring equipment shall be routinely calibrated and maintained at a frequency of at least once per year. Continuous air monitors should be capable of measuring 1 DAC when averaged over 8 hours (8 DAC-hours) under laboratory conditions.
6. Real-time air monitoring equipment required by Article 554.2 shall have alarm capability and sufficient sensitivity to alert personnel if immediate action is necessary in order to minimize or terminate inhalation or immersion exposures.
7. In addition to the elements provided in Article 551, records of airborne radioactivity should include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - a. Model and serial number of the sampler and laboratory counting instrument and calibration date if applicable; locations of fixed samplers may be used as identifiers where model and serial numbers are not available.



- b. Location of fixed air samplers.
  - c. Location of portable air samplers used for a survey.
  - d. Air concentrations in general airborne areas and breathing zones.
  - e. Supporting parameters, including collection efficiency, flow rate, duration of sampling, correction factors and filter medium.
8. A summary of technical information and the procedures for using airborne radionuclide sampling equipment are given in Appendix 5E, Section B.

### **555 Collection and Analysis of Analytical Samples**

Samples are collected and submitted for analysis to the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF) for a variety of purposes to support the Laboratory's occupational and environmental protection programs as well as the Laboratory's primary mission of high energy physics research.

1. To ensure that the desired standard of quality assurance is met, these samples shall be submitted for analysis following rigorous procedures. These procedures are specified in Appendix 5E, Section C.
2. For unusual samples that do not appear to meet the standard requirements for analysis, the RAF Physicist shall be consulted prior to submittal. This step is necessary to avoid the potential for contaminating the equipment and compromising the results of analysis of other samples that might be underway.
3. Samples should be reasonably described in a manner that is unambiguous about their point of origin or the method or methods used in their collection.

### **556 Characterization of Accelerator Radiation Fields**

A variety of techniques and instrumentation has been developed to characterize accelerator radiation fields. The technical details of the devices used at Fermilab to do this are within the realm of the professional expertise of the radiation safety personnel and include relevant aspects of radiation, nuclear, particle, and accelerator physics. In some cases, these special devices and techniques are used in combination with other devices discussed elsewhere in this chapter and its appendices.

## **PART 6 INSTRUMENTATION AND CALIBRATION**

### **561 Inspection, Calibration and Performance Tests of Radiation Safety Instrumentation**

1. Calibrations shall use National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) traceable sources or other acceptable standards. This program is implemented at Fermilab by the ESH&Q Section's Instrumentation Team at the Radiation Physics Calibration Facility (RPCF).
2. Calibration procedures have been developed by the ESH&Q Section for each instrument type and include frequency of calibration, precalibration requirements, primary calibration requirements, periodic performance test requirements, calibration record requirements and maintenance requirements.
3. Pocket and electronic dosimeters and area radiation monitors shall be calibrated at least annually.
4. Radiation instrumentation response to interfering ionizing and non-ionizing radiation and environmental conditions should be determined when a potential for such interference is credible. The effects such interfering radiation has on an instrument shall be known prior to routine use by the general workforce.
5. Functional tests should be used to assess instrumentation designs that include alarms or that involve a process control. A functional test should be developed to test all components involved in an alarm or trip function and performed at least annually.
6. In unusual and limited situations it may be necessary to use an instrument in an application other than that envisioned by the manufacturer. Special calibrations should be performed for use of instrumentation outside manufacturer's specifications. The instrument should be adjusted, calibrated and labeled to identify the special conditions and used only under the special conditions for which it was calibrated.
7. Instruments should bear a label or tag with the date of calibration and the date the instrument is due for recalibration.
8. Instruments whose "as found" readings as measured at RPCF indicate that the instrument may have been actually used while its performance was outside of calibration specifications shall be reported to the assigned RSO for the organization to which the instrument was assigned. The Radiological Control Organization should review surveys performed with the instrument while it was believed to be out of calibration.
9. Calibration records for fixed, portable and laboratory radiation measuring equipment and individual monitoring devices shall be maintained and include frequencies, method, dates,

personnel, training and traceability of calibration sources to National Institute of Science and Technology or other acceptable standards.

10. Calibration records are maintained for the following equipment:
  - a. Portable survey instruments.
  - b. Laboratory, counting room and fixed radiation measuring equipment.
  - c. Process and effluent monitors and sampling equipment.
  - d. Radiation area monitors.
  - e. Personnel contamination monitors.
  - f. Pocket and electronic dosimeters.
  - g. Air sampling equipment.

## **562 Maintenance**

1. A program for preventive and corrective maintenance of radiological instrumentation has been established and documented.
2. Preventive and corrective maintenance should be performed using components and procedural recommendations at least as stringent as those specified by the manufacturer of the instrument.
3. Radiological instruments shall undergo calibration prior to use following any preventive or corrective maintenance or any adjustment that voids the previous calibration. A battery change is not normally considered to be a maintenance activity. Batteries for these instruments shall be changed only by ES&H Instrumentation Technicians or Radiological Control Technicians or others who have received appropriate instruction.
4. Maintenance histories and calibration results for each instrument shall be created and retained. These records shall document the nature of any defects and corrective actions taken.
5. These records are maintained by the ESH&Q Section.

### 563 Calibration Facilities

1. Calibration facilities should perform inspections, calibrations, performance tests, calibration equipment selection and quality assurance in accordance with the recommendations of ANSI N323 and take the following actions:
  - a. Locate activities in a manner that minimizes radiation exposure to operating personnel and to personnel in adjacent areas.
  - b. Minimize sources of interference, such as backscatter and non-ionizing radiation, during the calibration of instrumentation and correct for interferences as necessary.
  - c. Operate in accordance with the referenced standards.
  - d. Generate records of calibration, functional tests and maintenance in accordance with the referenced standards.
2. Subcontracted calibration services, if utilized, should be performed in accordance with the referenced standards.

## **PART 7 EXPOSURE INVESTIGATIONS**

### **571 Motivation**

Fermilab is required by DOE to monitor occupational radiation exposures and to maintain dosimetry records as specified in 10 CFR 835. It is the intent of the Lab to maintain accurate, complete records of occupational radiation exposures for each person monitored (See Chapter 7). In most cases, this intent is satisfied by the dosimetry reports received from the dosimetry vendor. However, when gaps in the records occur (e.g., a badge is lost or damaged) or it is necessary to make adjustments to exposure records, an exposure investigation is performed to estimate the missing exposure, explain an anomalous reading, or document the reasons for the adjustment. The Exposure Investigation (EI) form becomes part of the person's personal dosimetry file in order to maintain an accurate and complete radiation exposure history.

### **572 Circumstances Requiring an Exposure Investigation**

When the assigned RSO or the Dosimetry Program Manager decides that one of the following criteria are satisfied, an exposure investigation (EI) must be performed.

1. Missing exposure record (i.e., dosimeter is lost, damaged, or otherwise unreadable). A dosimeter shall be declared lost if it has not been returned to the Dosimetry Program Manager within 45 days after the end of the quarter for which it was assigned. The vendor provides notification when a badge cannot be processed because of damage.
2. Suspected inaccuracy in the exposure record.
3. Unexpected exposures.
4. Exposures to individuals on the ALERT list (See Article 214).

### **573 Guidelines For Completing Exposure Investigation (EI) Reports**

1. The EI shall be completed as quickly as possible in order to obtain accurate information, which tends to be dependent on individuals' memories. Investigations shall be completed within 30 days of notification unless special circumstances make this impossible (See Article 573.9).
2. Radiological Control Organization personnel, upon request by the assigned RSO, shall complete the forms for personnel affiliated with their organization.
3. If the investigation is for a reported whole body exposure that causes the annual deep dose to exceed 1500 mrem, a preliminary written report from the Dosimetry Program Manager shall be given to the SRSO, or designee, within two working days.

4. Exposure investigations shall be documented on the Exposure Investigation Report Form (Radiation Physics Form No. 3, found at the [List of Radiation Physics Forms](#)).
5. This form shall be completed in such a manner that it will be obvious to someone not familiar with the area or personnel that a complete investigation has been done and that the dose assignment is justified.
  - a. Radiation surveys, measurements and/or calculations, which support the assessment, shall be attached.
  - b. Personnel identification shall be included.
  - c. Dosimeter information must always be included when available. When it is not available, the reason should be given.
  - d. Similarly, information about co-workers is important and should be included.
6. A dose assignment is to be made by the investigator based on the Dose Assessment Section. It is necessary to obtain the signature of the badge holder, acknowledging that they have been informed of the dose assignment, or note that the badge holder is unavailable.
7. Subtractions from the legal exposure records will be made only after:
  - a. There is no reasonable explanation of how the dose could be real given the circumstances. The investigator is obligated to explain why the subtraction is being proposed.
  - b. The badge holder, if available, has indicated concurrence with the proposed subtraction by signing the EI.
  - c. The investigator has signed the EI.
  - d. The Dosimetry Program Manager and SRSO or designee concurs with the proposed subtraction by signing the EI.
8. Completed EIs shall be returned to the Dosimetry Program Manager. The completed EI is reviewed by the Dosimetry Program Manager and, if justified, changes to the permanent records made. The EI is filed in the individual's dosimetry file. EIs initiated through the ALERT system must also be reviewed by the Laboratory ALARA coordinator.
9. Exposure investigations should not be terminated until a conclusion is reached. However, in cases where the necessary information cannot be obtained, the Dosimetry Program

Manager shall have the authority to terminate an exposure investigation. Efforts to contact individuals should be noted on or retained with the incomplete exposure investigation. Incomplete exposure investigations shall be retained in the wearer's exposure history file. The incomplete exposure investigation shall be sent to the Dosimetry Program Manager within 90 days after the end of the quarter for which the dosimeter was assigned.

10. Upon request of the assigned RSO or designee, the Dosimetry Program Manager can choose to remove personnel from dosimetry service until exposure investigations beyond 90 days can be completed.

## Appendix 5A Radiation Dosimeters Used At Fermilab

### 1. Comparison of Integrating Dosimeters

Table 5-1 contains a short comparison of some of the important characteristics of a number of passive integrating dosimeters in use at Fermilab and described in various sections of this chapter. These are devices used supplementary to the personnel dosimetry monitoring badge of record that is accredited by the Department of Energy Accreditation Program (DOELAP) to better characterize accelerator radiation fields. Not all of these devices are suitable for use as personnel dosimeters. None of these devices provides information on a “real time” basis.

***Table 5-1 Integrating Radiation Dosimeters Used at Fermilab***

Dosimeter Type	Used to Measure	Lower Limit of Sensitivity	Upper Limit of Usefulness	Comments
TLD-100 (Natural mixture of Li isotopes)	$\gamma$ -Rays and charged particles	5 mrad	100 krad	Very sensitive to thermal neutrons.
TLD-600 ( <sup>6</sup> LiF)	Fast neutrons using Bonner Spheres, and thermal neutrons when bare	3 mrem	60 krem	Used in 25.4 cm Bonner Sphere to monitor typical accelerator neutrons.
TLD-700 ( <sup>7</sup> LiF)	$\gamma$ -Rays and charged particles	5 mrad	100 krad	Also used in a TLD-600-700 pair inside a moderator (Bonner Sphere) to roughly measure $\beta$ - $\gamma$ component of a neutron radiation field.
Polycarbonate Track Etch	Fast neutrons and $\alpha$ 's	20 mrem	25 rem	1 MeV to 10-15 MeV
CR-39 Track Etch	Fast neutrons and $\alpha$ 's	20-30 mrem	25 rem	Useful energy ranges 150 keV to 10-15 MeV.
Elastic Polymer Bubble Detector	Fast neutrons	0.1 mrem	1 rem	0.1 MeV to 14 MeV. Also sensitive to thermal neutrons. Insensitive to $\gamma$ -rays. Very rarely used at Fermilab.
PIN Diode (Silicon)	Fast neutrons	2 rad	2 krad	Sensitive to neutron energies $\geq 0.2$ MeV. Very low sensitivity to $\gamma$ -rays. Not suitable for measuring personnel exposures, very rarely used at Fermilab.
Foil Activation	High-energy hadron flux	$10^{11}$ particles/cm <sup>2</sup> $\cong$ 10 <sup>5</sup> rads	$10^{16}$ particles/cm <sup>2</sup> $\cong$ 10 <sup>10</sup> rads	Not sufficiently sensitive for measuring personnel exposures-See Appendix 5F



## 2. Personnel Dosimetry at Fermilab

The personal dosimetry badge of record currently in use at Fermilab, accredited by DOELAP, consists of an optically stimulated dosimeter for gamma and charged particle detection and track etch detector for neutrons provided by a commercial vendor. The optical stimulation technology has replaced the use of thermoluminescence as the personnel dosimetry monitoring badge of record. However, thermoluminescence dosimeters (TLDs, see below) are still used for extremity dosimetry and for special measurements of radiation fields conducted at Fermilab. They are changed on the first working day of each calendar quarter.

Ring badges used to determine localized exposure to the fingers consist of a TLD.

### a. Thermoluminescent Dosimeters (TLD'S)

Lithium fluoride (LiF) in the form of extruded ribbons cut in the shape of rectangles (<sup>7</sup>Li-enriched LiF) is used to measure dose in the range from 30 mrem to 1000 rem for photons and 40 mrem to 1000 rem for beta-particles.

After exposure, the dosimeters are read by heating the LiF and measuring the thermal luminescence, or light emitted, using a photomultiplier and picoammeter. Within certain limits, the amount of light emitted is proportional to the dose absorbed. The dosimeters are prepared for reuse by annealing them (heating to high temperatures) to erase their “memory”.

### b. Track-Etch Neutron Dosimeters

The track etch neutron dosimeter is commercially available as a monomer allyl diglycol carbonate (trade name CR-39). The CR-39 dosimeter consists of a piece of the plastic in contact with a charged particle radiator made of polyethylene. Recoil protons from the radiator damage the CR-39. The sensitive materials of such dosimeters are then chemically or electrochemically etched, making the ion tracks visible. The CR-39 is useful between 150 keV and 15 MeV.

The principal advantage of track etch neutron dosimeters is that they are not affected by moisture. The dosimeter badge used to measure gamma-ray exposure is paired with a track etch dosimeter to monitor neutron dose equivalent at Fermilab.

## **Appendix 5B Real Time Supplemental Radiation Dosimeters Used At Fermilab**

### **1. Pocket Dosimeters:**

- Primarily used during beam-off conditions.
- Designed for gamma and x-rays only.
- Useful for beam-on exposures outside of thick shielding when the radiation field is dominated by muons.
- Give questionable readings in neutron fields.
- Detects gamma rays and charged particles.
- Integrating dosimeter.
- Small ion chamber.
- Must be recharged.
- Visual readout.
- These are the cheapest, most common supplemental dosimeters.

### **2. Digi-Dose:**

- Small Geiger counter used during beam-off conditions.
- Primarily sensitive to gamma rays.
- Has an LED readout displaying the exposure in mR (milliroentgen).
- The instrument can be set to alarm audibly either once per mR or 30-40 times per mR.
  - Very useful for controlling exposure in High Radiation Areas.
- These devices should not be used as a survey instrument or in prompt radiation fields.
- There are various manufacturers and types of these instruments.

### **Appendix 5C Portable Radiation Survey Instruments Used At Fermilab**

**Note:** The monitoring devices listed below are designated as being beam-on or beam-off (in some cases both). A beam-off instrument may not be suitable for beam-on use due to excessive dead time or insensitivity to particles of interest. A beam-on instrument may not be suitable for beam-off use.

1. **Geiger Counter:** Exposure rate meters, suitable for beam-off use only. Primarily sensitive to gamma and X-rays. The primary use is to check for residual activity and to measure exposure rates. The instrument consists of a portable box with a detachable probe. There are several major types of Geiger Counters used at Fermilab:
  - a. **Ludlum 14C-1:** Side window, T-shaped energy compensated probe with minimal beta sensitivity. Ratemeter has 5 linear ranges.
  - b. **LSM (Log Survey Meter)** Side window T-shaped energy compensated probe with minimal beta sensitivity. Displays 3 decades on 1 range.
  - c. **Bicron Surveyor 50:** The instrument has a probe with an energy compensated housing. The housing provides a sliding beta-particle shield. It has a linear ratemeter with 3 ranges: 0-0.5, 0-5, and 0-50 mR/hr.
  - d. **Teletector/Extender 1000W:** A Geiger counter dose ratemeter suitable for beam-off use only. Detects gamma/X-rays and some charged particles. A very useful instrument in high radiation fields due to its high range capabilities and the relative isolation provided by its integral 4 meter collapsible probe extension. It resembles a fishing pole when fully extended.
  - e. **E140N:** A pulse ratemeter with associated 2 inch diameter thin end window Geiger counter probe. Beam-off use only. Detects charged particles and gamma/X-rays and is used primarily to detect low-levels of contamination. Average beta-gamma sensitivity is 10%. Minimum detectable activity is about 0.3 nCi per wipe (about 60 counts per minute). The calibration for a typical Fermilab contamination sample is 200 cpm/nCi.
2. **Smart Ion:** A programmable multi-use ion chamber for beam-off use. Digital display shows dose rate (mR/hr) or integrated dose (mR). Simulated analog display shows dose rate trend or dose. A movable shield can be adjusted for beta/X-ray or gamma sensitivity. Ion chamber is also sensitive to neutrons. Alarms at set point. Scale changes automatically when readings are outside of current range. The useful energy range for photons ( $\pm 20\%$ ) is 10 keV to 1.3 MeV (shield open) or 22 KeV to 1.3 MeV (shield closed). Energy cutoff for betas is 70 keV (shield open) or 1 MeV (shield closed).

3. **Bicron Analyst:** A pulse ratemeter with single-channel analyzer calibrated as a count rate instrument (CPM), with associated NaI (Tl) scintillation probe sensitive to gamma-rays. For beam-off use only. The gamma ray energy detection threshold is about 60 keV.
4. **Bicron Micro Rem:** A light weight, top-handle, box shaped ratemeter with 5 linear ranges measuring photon tissue dose rate from background levels to 200 mrem/hr. The detector is an internally mounted organic scintillator yielding a tissue equivalent response to gammas and X-rays from 40 keV to 1.3 MeV.
5. **Eberline RO-2:** Thin window air ionization chamber for beta, gamma, X-ray detection. Dose rate only. 4 linear ranges from 5-5000 mR/hr full scale. Specifically designed for flat response into the X-ray region. Beam-off use only.
6. **HPI 1010:** This instrument uses a tissue-equivalent proportional chamber to measure integrated absorbed dose (mrads) or dose rates (mrads per hour) when exposed to neutrons, gamma rays, and charged particles under either beam-on or beam-off conditions. It is delicate and should be handled with care. They are the most appropriate instruments for beam-on surveys, with integration being the preferred measurement technique. This instrument consists of an electronics box with top mounted handle and a front mounted detector. The user should have a good understanding of its response in diverse radiation fields.
7. **Snoopy:** A heavy, portable neutron counter consisting of an Anderson/Braun type moderated BF<sub>3</sub> counter connected to a ratemeter body. This instrument should be used only in low dose rate accelerator produced fields with long spill times to avoid saturation of the proportional counter. An Eberline ESP-2 supplies HV and all data measurement functions. It can be operated in either dose rate (mrem/hr) or integrate (mrem) modes. Care needs to taken in the use of the meter in a pulsed radiation field. A scaler (with pulse shaper adaptor) should be attached to the AUDIO/SCALER connector and the pulses counted on the X10<sup>3</sup> range. Calibration is 7500 cts/mrem (AmBe response). Used for beam-on low dose rate neutron surveys.

## **Appendix 5D Stationary Radiation Instrumentation Used At Fermilab**

**Note:** The monitoring devices listed below are designated as being beam-on or beam-off (in some cases both). A beam-off instrument may not be suitable for beam-on use due to excessive dead time or insensitivity to particles of interest. A beam-on instrument may not be suitable for beam-off use.

- 1. Chipmunk:** The “standard” area monitor used in experimental areas. It is an AC powered beam-on or beam-off neutron, gamma ray and charged particle detector. The instrument consists of a tissue equivalent ion chamber mounted in a yellow box with a blue electronics/indicator box on top. The upper box contains visual and audible indicators (ratemeter, lights, alarm) to display dose rates and alarm levels. External signal connectors provide remote readout and interlock capability and a digital pulse train for dose integration (2.5  $\mu\text{rem/pulse}$ ). The quality factor may be set to values of 1, 2.5, 5, or 10. A built-in check source provides a background of about 0.6 mrem/hr on the quality factor 5 setting. Its portable analogs are the tissue equivalent survey meters (Appendix 5C). These instruments may be used as ratemeters or in an integrate mode.
- 2. Scarecrow:** A high range version of the Chipmunk. The specifications are identical to those of the Chipmunk with the following exceptions: (1) the ion chamber enclosure is RED; (2) the quality factor is preset at 4; (3) background level from the check source is 100 mrem/hr (ratemeter zero); (4) the digital pulse train calibration is 25  $\mu\text{rem/pulse}$ ; and (5) the high level alarm is user adjustable.
- 3. FOX:** An area monitor similar in function to a Chipmunk. It is an AC powered beam-on or beam-off X-ray, gamma ray and charged particle detector. The instrument consists of a 3.8 liter, desiccated, air filled ion chamber mounted in a Faraday type cage enclosure with a blue electronics box on the end. The blue box contains a visual indicator to display an output pulse. External signal connectors provide interlock capability and a digital pulse train for dose integration (1  $\mu\text{R/pulse}$ ). The quality factor is fixed to 1. A built-in check source provides a background of about 0.26 mR/hr.
- 4. Hippo:** A very large detector consisting of a 55 gal. ion chamber and associated electrometer integrator. This instrument is used for detecting small amounts of accelerator-produced prompt radiation (principally muons) or gamma rays due to induced radioactivity far from the accelerator and experimental areas. It is primarily used as an environmental monitor near the site boundary.
- 5. Wallflower:** A wall mounted, AC powered, Geiger counter ratemeter used for beam-off gamma ray detection. The instrument consists of a blue box with detachable probe. The instrument is generally mounted at labyrinth or enclosure exits and is used only to assign radioactivity classes (see Article 413) to radioactive items leaving beamline enclosures. The meter face displays an activity class rating that corresponds to labels found in the

vicinity of the instrument. Its portable analog is the portable Geiger counter (Appendix 5C).

6. **Frisker:** An AC powered pulse ratemeter with detachable pancake type Geiger counter probe. It is normally used to check for low-levels of contamination on personnel and for radioactive material leaving enclosures. It possesses a pre-settable audible alarm level. It is similar in operation to the portable E140N. The instrument is generally mounted at labyrinth or enclosure exits.

## **Appendix 5E Procedures And Equipment Used To Measure Radioactivity Samples And Airborne Radioactivity Concentrations**

### **A. Procedures for Submitting Low-Level Wipes for Gross Alpha/Beta Counting**

Two shielded proportional counting systems with automatic sample changing apparatus (the Tennelec LB5100 and the Canberra Series 5 XLB) are maintained by the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF) to count wipe test smears for alpha and beta activity.

The fundamental purpose of taking wipes is to determine and/or monitor contamination levels of specific objects or areas. The copy of the results from all wipes counted on these low-level counting systems are to be saved in binders for each area. This is a necessary part of documenting radiation safety at Fermilab.

#### Procedures:

1. Use a standard wipe material provided by the ESH&Q Section. Number your wipes on the face of the wipe with a permanent black marker prior to use.
2. Identify the location the wipes were taken.
3. Put only one wipe in an envelope. Glassine envelopes should be used.
4. Count the wipes (up to 12 at a time) on a pancake detector before bringing them to the RAF. If the reading is greater than 5000 counts per minute (cpm) above background, segregate the "hot" wipes and determine the contamination level by counting them individually with a pancake detector. Recheck the remaining wipes individually by counting with a Frisker; if OK proceed to step 5. Each individual wipe should be < 1000 cpm.
5. Place wipes (each in a separate envelope) in a plastic baggie. Wipes should be placed in numerical order whenever possible.
6. Fill out the Wipe Count Request Form (Radiation Physics Form 43, found at the [List of Radiation Physics Forms](#)) and attach the form to the baggie.
7. Bring the wipes and completed form to the east entrance of the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (Site 39-South Addition) and ring the bell for entrance or place wipes and accompanying paperwork in the foyer drop box.
8. Prior to counting, ESH&Q Section personnel will screen the wipes using a Frisker. Any wipe that exceeds the 1000 cpm limit will be removed and replaced by a blank place holder.
9. RAF personnel will count the wipes and send the persons designated on the form a copy of the results. The system automatically prints out the following information (this may vary slightly with the particular counting group software):
  - a. The date the count was performed.
  - b. A location description (specifics are handwritten).

- c. Wipes in the batch with 0 being a background reference count. The sequence number generally refers to the number written on the wipe by the requester.
- d. The total time the wipe was counted.
- e. Gross counts per minute in both the Alpha and Beta/Gamma channels.
- f. An activity calculation for each of the channels selected. Background is taken prior to counting the wipes, and is automatically subtracted from each sample count.
- g. A contamination message is printed if the wipe sample, which has just been counted, has levels of activity exceeding the Fermilab prescribed limits. The counting system also flags any wipe that exhibits count rates statistically above the lower level of detection but still below the prescribed Fermilab limits.
- h. The activity calculation discussed in step f. above is performed using efficiency/sensitivity factors determined for specific isotopes or for general accelerator wipes (a mixture of isotopes). These efficiencies and sensitivity factors are shown in Table 5-2. These values are subject to change with time as measurement techniques change.



**Table 5-2 Tennelec LB5100 Sample Changer Counting Efficiency for Various Isotopes**

Isotope	Reference Source Calibrated by:	Stated Uncertainty (%)	Total Efficiency (%)			Count Rate Conversion (CPM/nCi)		
			Gas Flow Proportional Counter		Nal Counter	Gas Flow Proportional Counter		Nal Counter
			Alpha (2)	Beta/Gamma	Gamma	Alpha	Beta/Gamma	Gamma
C-14	Isotope Prod.	3.4	-	10.5	-	-	232	-
Na-22	Isotope Prod.	2.6	-	20.8	9.9	-	461	220
Cl-36	Isotope Prod.	2.6	-	34.4	-	-	763	-
Mn-54	Isotope Prod.	3.1	-	2.9	4.8	-	64	106
Fe-55	Isotope Prod.	5.4	-	2.8	-	-	62	-
Co-57	Isotope Prod.	3.2	-	6.1	6.1	-	136	135
Co-60	Isotope Prod.	2	-	18.7	8.2	-	416	183
Sr-90	Isotope Prod.	2.4	-	69.2	-	-	1537	-
Tc-99	Isotope Prod.	3.2	-	18.0	-	-	399	-
Ru-106	Isotope Prod.	4.3	-	40.0	2.2	-	887	-
Cs-137	Isotope Prod.	3.3	-	26.4	3.4	-	587	76
Pb-210	Isotope Prod.	8.9	-	45.4	-	-	1009	-
Th-230	Eberline	UNK	9.8	8.6	-	218	190	-
U-238 (dep)(3)	Isotope Prod.	1.1	-	44.7	0.8	-	992	18
U-238 (dep)(3)	Eberline	10	9.3	-	-	206	-	-
Am-241	Isotope Prod.	1.9	12.8	8.1	0.9	285	180	21
Accel Wipe	N/A	UNK	10.6	18.2	-	236	400	-

**Revised 8/8/96**

**NOTE (1):** The efficiencies for the Isotope Products supplied Beta/Gamma sources are determined for the indicated isotope deposited on a typical Fermilab cloth wipe and attached to a typical Fermilab aluminum planchet. These materials were supplied to the source vendor, who deposited each isotope via a wipe transfer method (see Isotope Products 1991 catalog for the FP method). The efficiencies are corrected empirically for the effects of the 0.9 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> cover protecting each beta/gamma source.

**NOTE (2):** The alpha counting efficiency includes correction for wipe self absorption. This correction factor (.04), used for all alpha wipes, was determined from a group of depleted Uranium wipes.

**NOTE (3):** Two U-238 sources were used to obtain the counting efficiencies. The Eberline standard is a Ni backed open source, thus is used only for alpha efficiency, as beta backscatter and bremsstrahlung influence the beta and Nal gamma numbers. The Isotope Products source, used for U-238 beta efficiency, is a covered wipe source.

**NOTE (4):** Accelerator Wipe efficiency is determined by an estimated distribution of Na-22, Mn-54, and Co-60 in a mixed wipe (see R.P. Note 96).

## B. Procedures for Airborne Radioactivity Sampling

Airborne radioactivity is of two main types: radioactive gases which are produced by the interaction of primary and secondary particles with the constituents of air, and radioactive particulates that can arise from contaminated objects. Very different techniques are used to measure these different forms of airborne activity. The gases result in an immersion dose from continuous non-shielded exposure in a semi-infinite atmospheric cloud and can be corrected for submersion in a cloud of finite dimensions. The particulates present a hazard of inhaling and retaining radioactive material within the body. Airborne particulates might be encountered in the case of machining radioactive material, or the accidental volatilization of a target or other material by a particle beam. An immersion dose may be encountered in the case of activated air. Air activated by beam interactions typically contains  $^{11}\text{C}$ ,  $^{13}\text{N}$ ,  $^{15}\text{O}$ , and  $^{41}\text{Ar}$ . Other radionuclides are often found in smaller concentrations. A special triple bubbler system is available from the ESH&Q Section to sample for tritiated water vapor (HTO) in ventilation stacks.

### Procedures:

1. Determine whether the hazard is likely due to gaseous or particulate radioactivity.
2. **If particulate**, go to step 3, **if gaseous** emissions are involved, use a stack monitor to perform the sampling as advised by the assigned RSO:

**Stack Monitor:** Measures beta emitting radioactive gases by in-line monitoring of a continuously changing sample (pre-filtered for particulates). The system consists of a Ludlum 177 ratemeter, an air pump, flow meter, and counting chamber. The counting chamber is a 1 gallon paint can with a 2" diameter thin-window pancake G-M detector monitoring the interior volume or refinements thereof. These are generally used to monitor the emissions from ventilation stacks releasing air from beam enclosures, generally for environmental protection purposes. The system can be connected to MUX via an internal pulse divider/driver circuit and BNC-type connector in the ratemeter module.

Upon completion of the sampling, go to step 4.

3. **If particulates** are involved, select the appropriate instrumentation and perform the sampling according to the following procedures:

### Instrumentation

**"In Place Monitors" (Eberline AMS-3):** Measures airborne radioactive beta emitting particles by counting deposits on an in-line air filter. A 2" diameter thin-window G-M counter is used as the contamination detector with an identical detector used to compensate

for  $\gamma$  background. Generally used in areas where depleted uranium is present. The system can be connected to MUX via an internal pulse divider/driver circuit and BNC-type connector.

Portable “Grab” Samplers: In order to detect radioactive particulates, there are several Staplex™ high volume (“grab”) air samplers. The choice of filter depends on the nature of the radioactivity being sought. Detecting particulates containing alpha-emitters requires a tight weave filter so the particulates will be trapped on the filter surface, while beta and gamma-emitting particulates are best detected using more porous filters which permit greater air flow. Regardless of which filter is used, one must ensure that the trapping efficiency is known and is reproducible. The two filters used are as follows:

Staplex™ Type TFA41, 4" diameter: This filter is rated for a flow rate of 20-26 ft<sup>3</sup>/minute (approximately). It is ashless and has a 95% collection efficiency for 1 micron particles. It is easily countable for alpha-particles, obtaining 70% count and penetration absorption of approximately 30%. It has good efficiency for industrial dusts and for particulate matter size 10 microns and under down to 0.01 micron. The sampler may be operated for approximately 1 hour without overheating.

Staplex™ Type T FAGF41 Glass Fiber, 4" diameter: This filter is rated for a flow rate of 20-26 ft<sup>3</sup>/minute (approximately). The glass filters are especially recommended wherever gravimetric weighing analysis may be required because of their nonhygroscopic properties, i.e., they will maintain constant weight under wide-ranging conditions of ambient humidity. They have excellent loading characteristics for routine air monitoring and for specialized monitoring of solid pollutants, oil, acid smokes, etc. They are particularly recommended where high efficiency collection of fine particles is required. They have higher particle capacity than cellulose filters. Their collection efficiency for particles as small as 0.3 microns is 99.98%.

In addition, there are two different types of low volume samplers available. One is suitable for taking continuous samples of up to 24 hours in length (at 2 ft<sup>3</sup>/minute); the other is battery operated and timer programmable up to 99 min at 5 ft<sup>3</sup>/minute. The Radiological Control Organization should be contacted for more details.

## Procedures

### During Sampling:

- a. Record the times when the sampler is turned on and off. The total time of operation must be known to calculate the airborne activity.
- b. Observe and record the average flow rate, using the meter on the back of the sampler.

### After Sampling:

- c. Handle the filter as if it were known to be contaminated. Place the filter under a pancake probe or in a sample changer planchet (~2" diameter circle) and estimate the fraction of the total area of the filter that this section represents. Wait about 1/2 hour, if possible, to count it; this allows some natural airborne activity to decay.
4. The person performing the air sampling shall use Radiation Physics Form No. 25 (see [List of Radiation Physics Forms](#)) to record details of the sampling and counting procedures, and follow the steps outlined on the form to calculate the concentration of activity in the air.
5. Determine the Derived Air Concentration (DAC)

Occupational DACs are defined differently for concentrations of airborne radioactive particulate matter and for radioactive gases. The DACs for airborne particulates and immersion doses are given in 10 CFR 835 Appendices. A short list is provided in Article 347.

6. Compare the calculated concentration with the Derived Air Concentrations (DAC) of the radionuclide involved, as given in 10 CFR 835, to determine working restrictions, if any (see Article 347). Samples may be submitted for analysis to the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF), if necessary.
7. Determine Fraction of DAC Present

For mixtures of radionuclides, this is done by summing the ratios of the actual activity concentration and the DAC for each radionuclide known to be present.

$$DAC \text{ Fraction} = \sum \frac{\text{Actual Concentration}}{DAC_{\text{inhaled}}} + \sum \frac{\text{Actual Concentration}}{DAC_{\text{immersion}}}$$

For unknown radionuclides, the most restrictive DAC for those isotopes not known to be absent shall be used.

NOTE: The values given in the appendices 10 CFR 835 for radon with its daughters assume 100% equilibrium has been achieved. To allow for an actual measured equilibrium concentration or a demonstrated equilibrium concentration, the values given should be increased by the ratio R where:

$$R = \frac{100\%}{\text{Actual \%}} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{100\%}{\text{Demonstrated\%}}$$

If the summation yields a value greater than or equal to 0.1, the area is an Airborne Radioactivity Area (see other [FRCM](#) chapters) and appropriate controls and postings must be applied.

### C. Procedures for Submission of Analytical Samples to the Radionuclide Analysis Facility

In order to minimize the potential for sample cross contamination and to facilitate sample handling and analysis at the Radionuclide Analysis Facility (RAF), the following guidelines shall be followed. Exceptions to these guidelines must be approved by the RAF Physicist before the samples in question are submitted to the RAF for analysis.

1. Samples submitted to the RAF for analysis must be delivered to the east entrance of the South Addition at Site 39.
2. All samples submitted to the RAF for analysis must be accompanied by a properly completed Chain of Custody (COC) Radiation Physics Form No. 33 (see [List of Radiation Physics Forms](#)). Ensure that all parties who require analysis results are clearly communicated to the RAF staff member receiving the samples.
3. Any rush job must be cleared through the RAF Physicist. Otherwise, analyses will be performed in the order of receipt. A routine gamma ray analysis requires a minimum of 3 hours and routine  $^3\text{H}$  analyses require a minimum of 24 hours for preliminary results and 48 hours for final results.
4. Each sample submitted to the RAF must have a unique FNAL identification number associated with it as directed in the Fermilab [RAF Procedure 100](#). This number and a brief description of the location from which the sample was taken must be clearly indicated on the sample and the COC form. The location from which the sample was taken must be explained clearly and in detail on the COC form.
5. Samples submitted for gamma ray analysis only or for gamma ray analysis and tritium analysis must be submitted in 125 or 250 ml sealed Nalgene plastic bottles obtainable at the Fermilab Stockroom. The preferred container is the 125 ml Nalgene bottle. These bottles should never be filled beyond the molding joint where the bottle neck is joined to

- the body. Overfilling the bottle introduces added errors in estimating sample volume and geometry. At least 100 mL of sample is required for most RAF analyses. Smaller volumes may be acceptable but require prior authorization from the RAF Physicist.
6. **Prior** clearance from the RAF Physicist must be obtained before any sample greater than Class 1 in radioactivity is brought to the RAF.
  7. All integral solid samples, wipes, and filters should be contained in a sealed plastic bag to minimize the potential for cross contamination of samples. Such bags should be clearly marked with the sample's ID and location.
  8. All sample containers must be sealed and the outside thoroughly cleaned before they are taken to the RAF.
  9. Personnel entering the RAF must ensure that they carry no contaminated material into the building. A Frisker is provided in the RAF sample receiving room.
  10. Only personnel trained on RAF standard operating procedures are allowed to transfer or in any other way alter samples after they have entered the RAF.
  11. RAF normally disposes of samples after analysis is completed, through the ESH&Q Hazard Control Technology Team. If the sample requestor would like samples returned to them, they must indicate that on the COC before submitting samples. Once the report has been issued, the individual or group requesting the report should pick up the samples within 2 weeks unless advance arrangements are made with the RAF Physicist. During sample return, the person picking up the samples should ensure that the corresponding COC is properly signed back to him/her by an RAF technician.