

Wipe Test Kit

The NRL Wipe Test Kit is designed for use with alpha, beta and gamma emitting sources. Analysis of one sample by the Environmental Laboratory at NRL is included in the purchase price. The NZ regulatory authority has given approval for the Environmental Laboratory to perform wipe test activity measurements. All test reports can be used to show compliance with the *Radiation Protection Act 1965*, the *Radiation Protection Regulations 1982* and *Codes of Safe Practice*.

The NRL Wipe Test Kit consists of:

1. One wipe pad (inside protective envelope): this can be used for most surfaces.
2. One sterile rayon-tipped swab: this can be used for restricted areas.
3. One client reporting form.
4. One pair of impervious gloves.
5. One prepaid return envelope.

INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions are intended as a guide. Always refer to equipment manuals.

Precautions

1. Impervious gloves should be worn.
2. Take all practicable steps to minimise radiation doses to personnel performing the wipe test.
3. **Radioactive sources:** Remove the source from its container and place it in a shielded area. In those cases where it is impractical to remove a permanently fixed source from a special container, it is acceptable to make the wipe on an accessible area adjacent to the source. The source should be kept shielded while wiping the area. Do not handle radioactive sources directly. Always use tweezers, tongs, forceps or handles. Work with arms extended to keep the source away from body.

Test procedure

1. Decide whether bud or pad is better suited for your situation (only one type should be used per wipe test as analysis of **one** sample only is included with this kit). If the bud does not need to be sterile it may be soaked in liquid detergent prior to wiping.
2. Remove either the bud or the pad from its bag/container and thoroughly wipe the area to be tested.
3. Replace the used bud/pad in its original packaging.
4. Dispose of the gloves before handling the package to avoid cross-contamination.
5. Complete the "NRL Wipe Test: Client Reporting Form".

Posting

1. Place the plastic bag containing the used bud/pad, along with the "NRL Wipe Test: Client Reporting Form", back in the cardboard box. Use the supplied, self-addressed envelope to post sample back to NRL.
2. **Do not** send the wipe test sample to NRL by mail if you suspect contamination of the wiped area. Please contact us before dispatching the wipe sample if you have reason to believe the dose rate at the outside of the package exceeds 5 $\mu\text{Sv/hr}$.

Technical specifications

- **Radiation type:** Alpha, beta and gamma radiation.
- **Energy thresholds:** Beta radiation > 40 keV, Gamma radiation > 30 keV.
- **Routinely measured radionuclides:** Carbon-14, Sulphur-35, Cobalt-60, Strontium-90, Technetium-99, Iodine-129, Caesium-137, Europium-152, Radium-226, Plutonium-239, Americium-241 and many others – please enquire if unsure whether radionuclide can be detected.

Terms of business

- Wipe test kits are charged for at the time of issue, and the charge includes subsequent analysis and reporting of the radioactivity content of **one** of the two sample collection media provided (either bud or pad).
- Credits will not be given for wipe test kits returned unused as their radiological status cannot be guaranteed and they cannot be reissued.
- Charges will be levied at the published price existing at the time of issue. Supply against a customer order does not indicate acceptance by NRL of any price given on that order.
- Payment is due on the 20th of the month following the date of invoice.
- Any wipe test kits supplied remain the property of NRL until payment in full is received.
- Only NRL-supplied sample media will be analysed. Samples must be accompanied by an original, completed NRL Wipe Test: Client Reporting Form.
- Wipe test kits do not have an expiry date. Customers should be aware, however, that the sterility of the bud cannot be guaranteed after the date stamped on the packaging.
- Sample media will be kept for 3 months after analysis, and then disposed of.
- Placement of an order for wipe test kits indicates acceptance of these Terms of business.
- Performance.
 1. Upon receipt of your wipe and the completed reporting form NRL will perform an activity measurement using calibrated GM detectors.
 2. A test report will be issued within two working days of receipt of the sample.
 3. Any report issued relates to the sample as received by NRL.

Contact

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