



TECHNICAL NOTE

GUIDE FOR SURFACE SAMPLING FOR METALS WITH GHOST™ WIPES

Introduction

Hill Laboratories has developed a Metals Wipe Kit for customers who wish to take a surface wipe sample in order to determine the amount of one or more metals on that surface. The kit contains the following:

- 1 x Ghost™ wipe in a sealed sachet
- 1 x 50 mL polypropylene screw cap vial
- A 10 x 10 cm template
- Blu-Tack to fix the template to the surface being sampled
- A pair of gloves
- A zip-lock bag containing all the above



NOTE: ONLY SMOOTH NON-PERMIABLE SURFACES ARE SUITABLE FOR COLLECTING WIPE SAMPLES, FOR EXAMPLE, STAINLESS STEEL, SMOOTH LAQUER FINISH, PLASTIC COATED SURFACE. SURFACES THAT ARE NOT SUITABLE INCLUDE NAKED WOOD, CONCRETE, TEXTURED FINISHES.

Collecting a sample

In order to collect a surface wipe sample for metals, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Remove the tube from the kit and label it with the sample date and time.
2. Unscrew the lid, being careful not to touch the thread with your hands. Place both the tube and the lid on a flat surface.
3. Remove the Blu-Tack from the kit and separate the covering plastic from the Blu-Tack. Divide each of the two segments so that there are four small pieces of Blu-Tack. Place these on a flat surface.
4. Remove the gloves from the packets and put them on, being careful to touch only the cuff of the glove, not the finger tips.
5. Decide which gloved hand will do the sampling. With your sampling hand, remove the template from the bag, and with your non-sampling hand, fix the Blu-Tack to each corner of the template, being careful not to touch the edges of the 10 x 10 cm area, or to touch your sampling hand with your non-sampling hand. This is to avoid introducing contamination in to the sample.
6. Fix the 10 x 10 cm template to surface to be sampled in appropriate position with your non-sampling hand. Do not touch within 5mm of the 10cm x 10cm area.
7. Remove the Ghost™ wipe from sachet in sample pack with your sampling hand. Grip the wipe firmly and whilst applying pressure, wipe diagonally downwards left to right from the top right corner to the bottom left corner over the whole enclosed sample template area.



8. Expose a fresh surface of the Ghost™ wipe with your sampling hand. Grip the wipe firmly and whilst applying pressure wipe diagonally right to left, from the top left corner to the bottom right corner over the whole enclosed sample template area.



9. Expose a fresh surface of the Ghost™ wipe with your sampling hand. Grip the wipe firmly and whilst applying pressure wipe vertically bottom to top from the bottom left corner to the bottom right corner over the whole enclosed sample template area.

Put wipe into sample vial and firmly seal with lid.



NOTE: WHEN COLLECTING A SAMPLE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID CONTAMINATION. ONLY TOUCH WIPES WITH CLEAN CHEMICAL RESISTANT GLOVES. CHANGE GLOVES BETWEEN SAMPLES TO AVOID CROSS CONTAMINATION.

DISCLAIMER: This document is intended to be a guide only and sampling practise may vary according to the requirement of samplers, legislative bodies and other organisations.