

<b>HOW TO DO INDIRECT BETA-GAMMA CONTAMINATION SURVEYS</b>	
<b>FUNCTION:</b> To assess the loose beta-gamma contamination levels on a surface.	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> A smear is wiped over a surface to remove some loose contamination and is then taken to a smear checker.	
STEP	OPERATION
1	Obtain smears and envelopes from the smear counting station. Number or otherwise identify the smears so you can keep track of where a particular smear was taken.
2	Hold the smear on the edge with your thumb and index finger and rub it over the surface using your fingers to apply <u>light</u> pressure.
3	Smear an area of about 150 cm <sup>2</sup> (about the area of one side of your hand) in an S-shape motion. Approximately 10% of the loose contamination will be picked up by the smear paper. Rough surfaces are hard to smear and the pick-up efficiency will be less.
4	Put the smears in separate envelopes (label each envelope with the location of the smear) or use some other method to separate them so that they do not cross-contaminate each other.
5	Take the smears to a counting station.
6	Check that the sample holder is empty. Press the START-RESET button on the scaler to give a 60-second background count.
7	Remove the smear from its envelope and place it (dirty side up) in the sample holder. Press the START-RESET button on the scaler. 900 counts above background indicate 1 CCL of loose contamination.
8	Clean up areas that indicate <u>any</u> loose contamination levels above background. If the area cannot be cleaned up, a contaminated area shall be set up.
9	Place used smears and envelopes into an active waste container.
10	If you think that the information from your survey will be of general interest, make it available.
<b>NOTES:</b>	
1. Check smears from highly contaminated areas with a Low-Range Gamma Survey Meter. If the meter reads on-scale, record the gamma fields and dispose of the smear in an active waste container.	
2. A frisker may be used instead of the scaler, providing that the background is low enough.	
3. If you contaminate the smear checker, then <u>you</u> should clean it up.	