Environmental Protection Agency

§ 761.316 Interpreting PCB concentration measurements resulting from this sampling scheme.

(a) For an individual sample taken from an approximately 1 meter square portion of the entire surface area and not composited with other samples, the status of the portion is based on the surface concentration measured in that sample. If the sample surface concentration is not equal to or lower than the cleanup level, by inference the entire 1 meter area, and not just the immediate area where the sample was taken, is not equal to or lower than the cleanup level.

(b) For areas represented by the measurement results from compositing more than one 10 centimeter by 10 centimeter sample, the measurement for the composite is the measurement for the entire area. For example, when there is a composite of 10 standard wipe test samples representing 9.5 square meters of surface area and the result of the analysis of the composite is 20 μg/100 cm², then the entire 9.5 square meters has a PCB surface concentration of 20 μg/100 cm², not just the area in the 10 cm by 10 cm sampled areas.

(c) For small surfaces having irregular contours, where the entire surface was sampled, measure the surface area. Divide 100 cm² by the surface area and multiply this quotient by the total number of micrograms of PCBs on the surface to obtain the equivalent measurement of micrograms per 100 cm².

§ 761.314 Chemical analysis of standard wipe test samples.

Perform the chemical analysis of standard wipe test samples in accordance with §761.272. Report sample results in micrograms per 100 cm².

§ 761.312 Compositing of samples.

For a surface originally contaminated by a single source of PCBs with a uniform concentration, it is permissible to composite surface wipe test samples and to use the composite measurement to represent the PCB concentration of the entire surface. Composite samples consist of more than one sample gauze extracted and chemically analyzed together resulting in a single measurement. The composite measurement represents an arithmetic mean of the composited samples.

(a) Compositing samples from surfaces to be used or reused. For small or irregularly shaped surfaces or large nearly flat surfaces, if the surfaces are contaminated by a single source of PCBs with a uniform concentration, compose a maximum of three adjacent samples.

(b) Compositing samples from surfaces to be disposed of off-site or on-site. (1) For small or irregularly shaped surfaces, compose a maximum of three adjacent samples.

(2) For large nearly flat surfaces, compose a maximum of 10 adjacent samples.

§ 761.310 Collecting the sample.

Use the standard wipe test as defined in §761.123 to sample one 10 centimeter by 10 centimeter square (100 cm²) area to represent surface area PCB concentrations of each square meter or fraction of a square meter of a nearly flat, non-porous surface. For small surfaces, use the same procedure as for the standard wipe test, only sample the entire area, rather than 10 centimeter by 10 centimeter squares.

(d) Locate the 10 centimeter by 10 centimeter sample.

(1) Orient the 1 square meter surface area so that, when you are facing the area, the length is left to right and the width is top to bottom. The origin, or reference point for measuring selected random numbers of centimeters to the sampling area, is on the lower left corner when facing the surface.

(2) Mark the random number selected for the length distance, in centimeters, from the origin to the right (at the bottom of the area away from the origin).

(3) From the marked length distance on the bottom of the area, move perpendicularly up from the bottom of the area into the area for the distance randomly selected for the width.

(4) Use the point determined in paragraph (d)(3) of this section as the lower left corner of the 10 centimeter by 10 centimeter sample.