SWIPE SURVEY CHECKLIST FOR RADIATION WORKERS

University of Central Florida
Department of Environmental Health & Safety

PREPARATION
MATERIALS
❑ RC-14 of the area (lab) to be surveyed.
❑ Swipes (filter paper)
❑ Pen to mark swipe locations on map and to mark vial caps.
❑ Scintillation vials and media.
❑ Liquid Scintillation Counter (LSC) with pre-programmed protocol corresponding to the isotope(s) in use.
❑ Survey meter (used for gross indication of contamination).
❑ Personal Protective Gear (lab coat, gloves, safety glasses).
❑ Tray or other means of collecting swipes in vials so as to not cross-contaminate other swipes or clean areas.

METER SURVEY
❑ Ensure meter is within calibration. If not contact RSO before proceeding.
❑ Perform background check noting readings in areas where radioisotopes are not used.
❑ Perform survey in areas where radioisotopes were used. _If readings are greater than 3 times the background readings, decontaminate and perform a swipe survey._

IDENTIFYING SWIPE LOCATIONS SWIPES
❑ Label swipes sequentially on drawing and vials (#1 is the background).
❑ Start with areas with least potential for radioactivity and work towards areas with higher potential. Common "hot spots" should be swiped each time, while areas that are not common for contamination should be random (avoid swiping the same areas each time).
❑ All aspects of lab should be included such as: workbenches, door handles, floor areas, outside of waste containers, telephone receivers, etc.

REMOVABLE CONTAMINATION (SWIPE) SURVEY
PERFORM SURVEY
❑ Using filter paper, swipe 100cm2 area corresponding to location on map.
❑ Check suspected "hot" swipes with survey meter to ensure segregation from other swipes to prevent cross-contamination.
❑ Place swipes in scintillation vials containing scintillation fluid and run in LSC.
RESULTS
❑ Analyze results and compare to Action Table.
❑ Those that are above preset limits should be reswiped upon thorough cleaning of the corresponding area.

ACTION TABLE

Limit	Action
3x's Background survey or swipe	Clean Area and reswipe
> 500cpm swipe	Notify RSO immediately; clean area and reswipe.