

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY TMDE ACTIVITY (USATA), REGION EUROPE
CMR 434, APO AE 09138

SOP NO. 700-48

25 October 2005

RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL PROCESSING FACILITY
AND HEALTH PHYSICS LABORATORY

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to establish and define responsibilities, policies, and operating procedures for the Radioactive Material Processing Facility (RMPF) and Health Physics Laboratory (HPL). This SOP is applicable to all requesting radiological support encompassed by the RMPF and/or HPL, which are maintained and supported by the U.S. Army Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment (TMDE) Activity Region Europe (USATARE), Nucleonics Area Calibration Laboratory (ACL).

2. **REFERENCES:**

- a. AR 11-9, The Army Radiation Safety Program.
- b. AMCOM Regulation 11-2, Radiation Safety: U.S. Army Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment Activity Worldwide Radiation Safety Program.

3. **DEFINITIONS:** See Glossary at ANNEX F.

4. **POLICY:**

a. The RMPF is a radioactive material (RAM) consolidation facility that controls, receives, and monitors incoming shipments of unwanted RAM from Army, Air Force, and/or any DoD organizations in the European and South West Asia theaters of operation. Received RAM is temporarily stored and then processed for conveyance to CONUS for recycling and/or transfer to a Defense Consolidation Facility (DCF). Processing includes identification, concentration, decontamination, packing, marking, and labeling. An integral part of this work is in the process monitoring, periodic radiological surveys, and the evaluation of hazards incident to the processing of these materials to prevent the spread of contamination, moreover to insure the safety and health protection of assigned personnel and visitors. Some medical materials are selected for elimination in country in accordance with applicable Host Nation regulations and/or agreements.

b. The HPL performs and/or provides nuclear counting evaluations, health physics services, identification of unknown radioactive isotopes, and radiological analysis (i.e. survey swipes) from locations where RAM is used, processed, and/or stored. Advises operating officials of unsafe radiological conditions and necessary remedial actions. The HPL is authorized to evaluate the periodic license required leak tests performed on radioactive commodities identified as Individually Controlled Radioactive Item (ICRI) and/or commodities controlled under the Radioactive Test and Tracking System (RATTS). Can instruct U.S. and Host Nation personnel on principle policies, rules, and regulations related to radioactive hazards and in all matters pertaining to radiological safety.

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5. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- a. Commanders of units performing leak testing on the Chemical Agent Detector (CAD), Chemical Agent Monitor (CAM), Troxler, and/or maintaining Tritium (H-3) devices are responsible for ensuring that all RAM is handled, stored, transported, and/or shipped in accordance with the policies and procedures delineated in this SOP. Will insure RAM is handled in a safe and secure manner and will not be allowed to pose a hazard to personnel or the environment. RAM volume will be kept to a minimum. Radioactive material will not be mixed with non-radioactive material. Radioactive isotopes will not be mixed without written permission of the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) for the unit and/or the RMPF.
- b. Commanders of units possessing unserviceable radioactive commodities and/or RAM not specified in para. 5.a., must adhere to responsibilities in para. 5.a. and should contact the USAREUR Safety Office prior to commodities and/or RAM being submitted to this facility.
- c. Commanders of units requesting analysis on radiological swipes and/or leak tests are required to insure all samples are submitted in accordance with the policy and procedures delineated in this SOP.

6. PROCEDURES:

- a. For Submission of RAM generated by Direct Support (DS) Units Performing a Radioactive Commodity Leak Testing Program (i.e. CAD, CAM, Troxler), and/or laboratory RAM (i.e. gloves, paper, swipes), see ANNEX A.
- b. For Submission of Unserviceable Commodities that Contain Radioactive Material, see ANNEX B.
- c. For Submission of Radiological Swipes (i.e. area surveys, leak test) to be Analyzed for Isotopes **other than** Tritium (H-3), see ANNEX C.
- d. For Submission of Radiological Swipes Suspected to Contain and/or to be Analyzed for Tritium (H-3), see ANNEX D.
- e. RMPF / HPL Customer Service Operating Hours: 0800 – 1500 Monday through Friday (Closed American and German Holidays)
- f. RMPF / HPL Contact Points:
 - Phone: DSN-E: 495-6486 / 6123
 - Fax: 495-7293
 - Civilian: 06331 86 + last 4 of DSN
 - Email: usatarenuclonics@cmtymail.26asg.army.mil

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g. RMPF / HPL Location: Husterhoeh Kaserne (USAMMCE Annex)
Building 4145
Pirmasens, Germany

h. DoDAAC: W90GX0

i. RMPF / HPL Mailing Address:

(1) MPS: U.S. Army TMDE Activity Region Europe
ATTN: AMSAM-TMD-E-PN
Nucleonics ACL / RMPF
CMR 434, APO AE 09138

(2) Civilian: U.S. Army TMDE Activity Region Europe
Husterhoeh Kaserne, Geb: 4145
66953 Pirmasens, Germany

7. ANNEXES:

Annex A – Accumulation and Submission of RAM generated by Units performing a Radioactive Commodity Leak Testing Program and/or as a result of Laboratory Operations.

Annex B – Submission of Unserviceable Commodities that Contain Radioactive Material.

Annex C – Submission of Swipes Samples to be Analyzed for Isotopes *other than* Tritium (H-3)

Annex D – Submission of Swipes Samples to be Analyzed for Tritium (H-3)

Annex E – DD Form 1348-1A.

Annex F – Glossary (Abbreviations and Definitions).

8. Point of contact for all information and/or guidance comprised in this SOP is the USATARE RSO, DSN-E 495-6486 / 6123, Fax 495-7293, email: usatarenucleonics@cmtymail.26asg.army.mil.


EHREN BRAUN
Director