

## Wipe Technique for GC Volatiles

Ready a sufficient number of 20-mL sample vials for the projected sampling needs.

Wear a new pair of clean gloves for each sample to prevent contamination of future samples as well as oneself. The selected gloves are to be resistant to penetration of the chemical being sampled and any other chemicals expected to be present. Powder-free nitrile gloves are suggested for this type of sampling. The gloves you have received from SGS Galson are powder-free nitrile gloves.

Record the sample unique number from the vial and the location where the sample is taken on the enclosed chain of custody.

Remove the charcoal pad from the carrying container with clean tweezers or gloved hand.

Depending on the purpose of the sample, it may be useful to determine the surface loading of the contamination (e.g., in micrograms of analyte per area). For these samples, it is necessary to record the area of the surface wiped (e.g., 100 cm<sup>2</sup>). This would not be necessary for samples taken to simply show the presence of the contaminant.

**Neither the media, nor the surface, should be wetted to avoid decreasing the capacity of the charcoal pad.**

Firm pressure should be applied when wiping. Start at the outside edge and progress toward the center making concentric squares of decreasing size. Fold the filter with the contaminant side inward and repeat.

Without allowing the charcoal pad to come into contact with any other surface, fold the charcoal pad with the exposed side inward. **Place the charcoal pad in a sample vial and tightly cap it.**

Submit at least one blank charcoal pad, treated in the same fashion (i.e. take it out of the original container and place in sample vial), but without wiping.