



# Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion Bacteria

## SAMPLE COLLECTION

Microbiologically influenced corrosion (MIC) bacteria and their affects are often associated with water in low flow areas. Sample collection will vary by source. Samples for more than one MIC test may be collected in single 250 ml collection bottle as long as there is  $\geq 30$  ml for each type of test requested. The test is semi-quantitative; therefore, once collected, the sample should be shipped to lab within 24 hours with a cold pack. The sample volume is  $\geq 30$  ml and should be collected as follows:

- Complete SPL Chain of Custody form.
- Use waterproof pen to label bottle with sample location, description, and date.

### Potable Water

1. Turn on water (hot or cold) and immediately fill bottle to  $\geq 30$ ml.
2. Close bottle and then invert to mix the sodium thiosulfate neutralizer.

### Cooling Towers and Non-Potable Water

1. Submerge open bottle just under the surface of water to obtain  $\geq 30$  ml of sample.  
Avoid sediment.
2. Close bottle and invert to mix the sodium thiosulfate neutralizer.

## SHIPPING

Ship the same day samples are collected for receipt in laboratory. The time from sample collection to analysis **should not exceed 24 hours**.

1. Pack bottles in box with a frozen cold pack in insulated liner.
2. Place completed Chain of Custody form in plastic document holder and pack in box.

3. Ship overnight Monday–Thursday only to:  
Special Pathogens Laboratory  
1401 Forbes Ave., Suite 401  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Questions? Contact SPL at 412-281-5335