

Liquid Scintillation

Tri-Carb® 3100TR

Low Activity Liquid Scintillation Counter

Description

The Tri-Carb® 3100TR liquid scintillation counter is a computer-controlled benchtop liquid scintillation analyzer for detecting small amounts of alpha, beta and gamma radioactivity.

Standard Instrument Features

- **QuantaSmart™ software for the Windows NT® operating system** is a 32 bit operating system software that provides a robust multitasking and easy networking environment and unlimited assays in a secure multiuser environment.
- **Hypertext on-line comprehensive HELP** provides context specific help for every screen and data entry field.
- **Powerful integrated computer system control** with 128 MB RAM and 20 GB hard disk (minimum) with a 17 inch SVGA monitor, built-in CD ROM and 3.5 inch floppy disk drive.
- **Robust downloading sample changer mechanism** with a double light sealing shutter, allows the photomultiplier tube detectors to remain on for maximum stability even during sample changing.
- **Patented TR-LSC® (Time-Resolved Liquid Scintillation Counting)** provides reduced background and increased sensitivity using unique afterpulse rejection technology.
- **HSCM (High Sensitivity Count Mode)** for very low activity beta samples, increases system sensitivity (E²/B) to a factory test minimum of 300 for ³H and 950 for ¹⁴C.
- **Multi-parameter linear MCA (Multichannel Analyzer)** with an effective resolution of 1/10 keV, offers an extended dynamic quench range and provides multi-parameter spectrum analysis to correct for luminescence, color quenching and background radiation.
- **SpectraBase counting and data management system** provides regionless counting and storing of complete spectra for all samples and standards. Features include automatic recall of spectra stored in the quench library for region-independent quench correction and post-processing of sample data.
- **A cassette-loaded bi-directional sample conveyor mechanism** is standard with a sample capacity of either 408 standard 20 mL vials, or 720 small 4 or 7 mL vials with Varisette™ sample changer for inter mixing large and small vial cassettes.
- **Positive sample identification** provides protocol number, cassette number, sample number, and user-selectable printout and data file storage of the counting time and date for each sample.
- **Quick-Count sample loading** for 60 independent protocols (with unlimited assays) provides unrestricted access to sample changer and protocol selection plugs. Sample batches are processed by simply activating the Quick-Count protocol plugs, minimizing any user programming. Assays are stored in user defined areas.
- **Enhanced Replay sample post processing** provides complete recall and post processing of historical count data to eliminate sample recounting. It enables changes to count conditions and reports and executes user application software for optimization of data analysis. (Direct DPM results are not available for replay.)



Tri-Carb® 3100TR

Typical Performance Data

(As measured in factory at Downers Grove, Illinois)

Energy Range: 0-2,000 keV

Efficiency, Normal Count Mode:

		Minimum Acceptable
³ H	0-18.6 keV	60%
¹⁴ C	0-156 keV	95%

Figure of Merit (E²/B), Normal Count Mode (NCM) :

³ H	1-18.6 keV	180
¹⁴ C	4-156 keV	380

Figure of Merit (E²/B), Low Activity/High Sensitivity Count Mode (HSCM):

³ H	1-12.5 keV	300
¹⁴ C	14.5-97.5 keV	950

Figure of Merit (E²/B), Ultra Low Level Count Mode (ULLCM):

³ H	1-12.5 keV	500
¹⁴ C	14.5-97.5 keV	1,400

Observed Background, NCM:

		Average
³ H	0-18.6 keV	17.3 CPM
¹⁴ C	0-156 keV	24.3 CPM

Note: The efficiencies, backgrounds, and E²/B values for the Normal Count Mode are determined using NIST traceable PerkinElmer sealed large glass vial standards set P.N. 6008500. HSCM and ULLCM values are determined using NIST traceable PerkinElmer low level sealed large glass vial standards set P.N. 6018914. No maximum is specified for background.

Safety, Radiated Emissions and Immunity:

The Tri-Carb 3100TR has been tested and approved for safety, radiated emissions and immunity according to the standards of CSA, TUV, IEC1010 and CE93.

In the U.S.A. the CSA approval satisfies the requirements of 29CFR 1910.399.



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- **Enhanced IPA™ (Instrument Performance Assessment) database** monitors efficiencies, backgrounds, E²/B and Chi-square values for ³H and ¹⁴C over the life of the instrument. IPA flags impending problems and provides both running mean and fixed baseline charts and associated tables for retrospective quality control and pro-active system maintenance. Baseline acquisition is programmable for increased flexibility. IPA data may also be transmitted to an external computer via RS-232 or saved to disk for archiving instrument performance. The most recent IPA time and date stamped data are available on demand for reporting purposes. Each IPA printout includes instrument model, serial number, software version number and calibration standard information.
- **SIS (Spectral Index of Sample) quench indicating parameter** determines counting efficiency by analysis of sample spectrum.
- **¹³³Ba low energy external standard source and tSIE (transformed Spectral Index of External standard) calculations** eliminate the effects of vial glow, plastic wall and cocktail changes on the DPM results. The use of integral spectrum counts eliminates the need for repeat counting of the external standard and negates the effect of isotope half-life on quench monitoring accuracy and precision. The ¹³³Ba external standard is centered under the sample vial which eliminates the affects of volume variations and assures reproducible quench monitoring for the life of the instrument.
- **AEC (Automatic Efficiency Control)** corrects for differential quenching effects in multi-label samples. The low energy spectrum of the external standard ensures accurate tracking of ³H, ¹⁴C and other low energy sample spectra over a very wide quench range.
- **Quench standard spectra** are factory-installed for single and dual label counting of ³H and ¹⁴C samples. Quench standard spectra are stored for both Ultima Gold™ liquid scintillation cocktail samples and toluene or xylene based samples.
- **Dynamic color-corrected single and dual label DPM** is based on tSIE/AEC. It includes DPM based on SIS, constant quench DPM, and full spectrum DPM based on spectrum unfolding.
- **Triple-label DPM (Disintegrations Per Minute)** is based on tSIE/AEC for accurate spill correction.
- **Enhanced Direct DPM** technique determines the DPM of any single label pure beta or beta/gamma radionuclide in any cocktail without the use of quench standards.
- **Chemiluminescence correction with response normalization** corrects for luminescence interferences to speed up sample counting. Response normalization of the correction circuits eliminates the effect of component drift on the corrected results.
- **Live SeptraView™ Automatic spectrum display** aids in optimizing counting conditions and helps evaluate complex sample situations. It allows setting temporary regions on the spectrum screen and enables the operator to monitor the effect of AEC while the sample is counting.
- **Automatic spectrum plot** (on demand) per sample allows spectral documentation of samples.
- **Sample worklist** enables entry, editing and review of worklists for each assay. This allows sample identification by user-specific codes for sample printouts and data files.
- **Password protection** prevents unwanted changes to saved assays.
- **Printed header contains instrument serial number, user ID, and drive and path of stored data.** Each printed page or RTF (Rich Text Format) file report is numbered and dated for GLP compliance.
- **Assay-specific, user selectable, coincidence resolving time** enables optimized counting of any fast or slow, liquid or solid scintillator, for SPA (Scintillation Proximity Assays), solid scintillation filters and the newer liquid scintillation cocktails.
- **Assay-specific, user selectable, delay-before-burst settings** enable further optimization of TR-LSC background reduction.
- **On-screen editing** of quench correction curves and recording of date last modified is present.
- **Electrostatic controller** automatically helps neutralize static electricity on all types of vials.
- **Automatic processing of count data to final results** provides automatic, protocol specific data processing for all user applications, including commercial or user-generated software. No exporting of data to off-board storage devices or computers is required.
- **Spectral unfolding** separates and displays in color the individual radionuclide spectra of dual label samples.
- **3-D (three-dimensional) spectral mapping** displays in color the quench standard spectra together with the spectrum of the unknown for single label DPM counting.
- **Nuclide identification** is available for most common radionuclides.
- **Automatic region finder** with spectrum-search capability determines optimum region settings.
- **Auto-optimization of counting regions** maximizes counting sensitivity for ultra low activity samples.
- **Half-life correction to any date and time** is available for up to three radionuclides.
- **Activity reporting** is provided in Becquerels, microCuries, or picoCuries.
- **Custom output formatting to printer, RS-232 and disk storage** for each protocol provides almost unlimited flexibility in data reporting. Electronic data can be saved to disk in ASCII, RTF, Lotus® or Microsoft® Excel® formats.
- **User-definable calculations** are available for custom data reporting.
- **Background subtraction** can be nominated via sample, entered value, or stored IPA background spectrum.
- **Programmable single photon counting** enables luminescence assay counting with optimized signal-to-background ratios. It overcomes problems associated with excessive luminescence.
- **Preset time (up to 9,999.99 minutes) and preset error coincidence termination** optimizes counting accuracy in the three counting regions.
- **Percent of standard calculations** is present for single, dual and triple label samples.
- **User adjustable assay-specific sample precount delay** permits dark adaptation of samples before counting.
- **Group PrioStat™ interrupt mode** gives priority counting status to a batch of samples counted according to any stored protocol conditions. It automatically restores the interrupted protocol upon completion and stores PrioStat data for immediate viewing. Data is printed at protocol termination.
- **Sample PrioStat™ interrupt mode** allows special function priority counting of individual samples, with manual control over counting conditions.
- **Anti-jam recovery** of the sample changer mechanism protects samples, vials and the counting system from damage if obstructions occur.
- **Automatic power-fail recovery** restarts counting when power is restored and the instrument has reinitialized itself.
- **Computer-aided diagnostics** are used to verify all system functions.
- **Heterogeneity monitor** determines sample quality and flags non-homogeneous sample results.
- **Decay computations** automatically calculate decay corrected DPM values for commonly used radionuclide standards.
- **Date and time clock** provides real time display and time-stamped printouts; battery supported.
- **Maneuverable CRT support arm** provides optimal positioning of the CRT monitor and conserves bench space.
- **Ink jet color printer** is standard.

Options

- **ULLCM (Ultra Low Level Count Mode) option kit**, for low activity level beta samples increases system sensitivity (E²/B) to a factory test minimum of 500 for ³H and 1,400 for ¹⁴C. ULLCM may be used to provide optimal conditions in either the normal LS mode or alpha/beta mode for extra low level beta samples. Includes low level discrimination over the entire energy range of 0-2,000 keV. It includes SpectraWorks™ spectrum analysis software for the Windows® operating system and assay specific, user-selectable delay before burst settings for optimization of TR-LSC.
- **Alpha/beta discrimination** using automatic PDA (Pulse Decay Analysis) separates alpha and beta radionuclides including automatic and manual optimization of minimum spillover settings applied to each protocol. It includes automatic determination, display, plotting and storage of alpha-in-beta and beta-in-alpha spillover curves. It also enables further optimization or fine-tuning of minimum spillover settings for each protocol and library storage of PDD (Pulse Decay Discriminator) setting for recall.
- **Ethernet adapter kit** includes an Ethernet card, internal cabling and connector panel. It provides simple connection to networks. The customer must supply and install network software driver.
- **SpectraWorks™ spectrum analysis software for the Windows® operating system** analyzes beta, alpha, and gamma spectra and provides simultaneous display for up to four spectra in stacked or overlaid mode. It features zooming to any part of the spectrum; six regions of interest; display of counts or CPM and linear or log spectra; provides automatic and manual scaling; calculates E²/B, MDA, peak resolution; allows adding and subtracting of spectra and multiplication and division by constants.
- **QSmart, Riasmart kit** for performing radioimmunoassay. The kit contains a full size keyboard and comprehensive Riasmart data reduction software which includes the latest curve fitting algorithms and Expert QC for quality control.
- **Temperature-controlled refrigeration** establishes and maintains optimum counting conditions for a wide variety of sample types.