



## **Protocol for Sample Collection of Non-Tuberculosis Mycobacterium Species from the Exhaust from the Sorin 3T Heater Core.**

1. The Passive M-TRAP® is a high efficiency microbial sampling cassette that will be used to collect an air sample from the Sorin 3T Heater Core unit. This cassette has the capability to capture microbes as small as viruses. It relies on external airflow to capture microbes in the airstream. It is an excellent option for sampling exhaust from medical equipment over an extended duration, and can be used while the equipment is in operation.
2. Open a bag containing the Passive M-TRAP® cassette. The cassette has four zip ties on it. Use the ties to adhere the cassette to the machine. Use this cassette as a test cassette; do not worry about contaminating it. Use it to figure the best attachment configuration to the exhaust vent.
3. Once configuration is determined, remove the test cassette and use an anemometer to measure the wind speed from the 3T heater exhaust. Record the speed in the comments section on the Assured Bio Labs' chain of custody (COC) form.
4. Remove and attach a new Passive M-TRAP® cassette to the 3T Heater Core. Record the serial number that is located on the cassette onto the Assured Bio Labs' Chain of Custody (COC) form in the box labeled Sample ID. It is recommended that the minimum sampling period is 10 hours of run time. Longer periods are encouraged. The cassette may be left in place for a week to ten days of run time. On the COC form note the total run time in hours in the box labeled Total Volume on the COC form.
5. For analysis type, check the box labeled as other, and write in the words NTB-Mycobacterium above the word other.
6. Be sure to fill out the contact info on the COC and fill in the box labeled description with the location where the Passive M-TRAP® was attached to the 3T Heater Core.
7. It is extremely important to sign and date the "Relinquished by" line at the bottom of the form.
8. Place the Passive M-TRAP® sample cassette back into its bag. Place the cassette and COC in a box to protect it. Ship the sample, priority overnight FEDEX to Assured Bio Labs', immediately after collection. If possible, avoid finishing collection on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. However, if those days are unavoidable, place the cassette in the refrigerator and ship overnight on Monday.