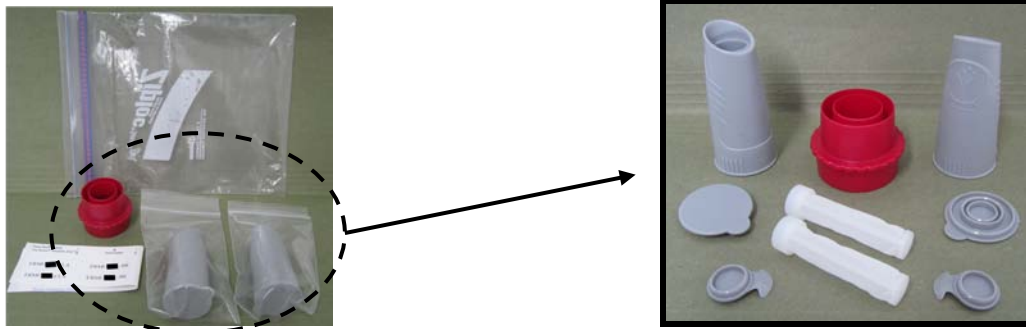


Dust Sampling Procedures for ERMISM Analysis

I. ERMI Dust Sampling Kit:

1. Two Dust Collectors (The Dust Collector contains a main holder, a cap on each end and a filter insert).



2. 1 vacuum hose adaptor
3. 1 quart size and 2 re-closable bags for the dust collectors.
4. Pre-printed ID labels for each collector.
5. Sampling Instructions, Chain-of-Custody (COC) form, and Sample analysis payment form.

II. Dust Sampling Equipments & Consumables (*Not Provided*):

1. Vacuum Cleaner.
2. 1 yard stick or a tape measure.
3. 1 Stop watch, Timer, or a clock/watch with second hand.
4. 1 roll of masking tape (or any tape that could map out the sampling area).
5. 1 pair of clean disposable gloves.

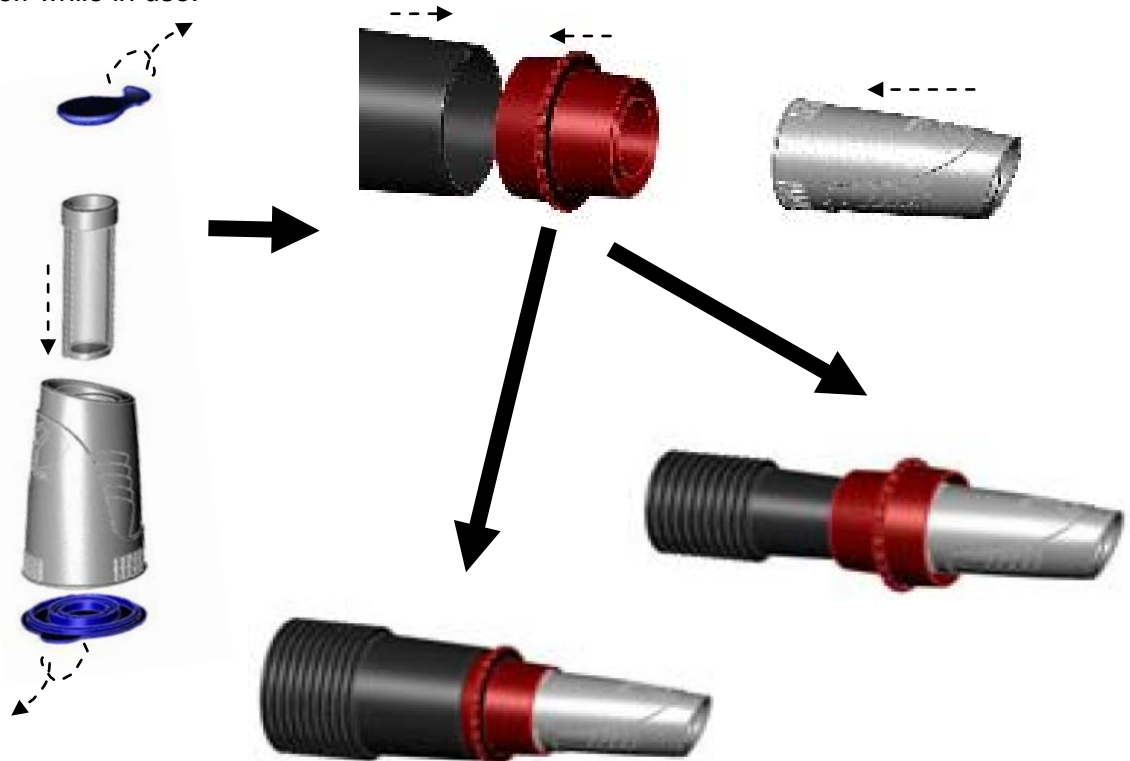
III. Sampling Procedures using the Dust Collector:

1. Retrieve Equipment and needed supplies as indicated above.
2. Locate the floors of two primary rooms, such as the Common Living Area (CLA) and the Bedroom (BR). **(Combining basement or crawl space dusts with upstairs living space samples are strongly discouraged.)**
3. Wear gloves through all the procedures (optional).
4. Go to the **CLA**, locate the sofa or the most commonly used chair in the room. Using a yardstick (or a tape measure) and masking tape, mark a **3-foot by 6-foot** rectangular sampling area on the floor immediately against the selected sofa (or other primary use chair). If the sample location cannot accommodate a sample area of these dimensions, adjust the dimensions accordingly (but try to sample a total of 18 square feet) and record these dimensions on the ERMI Sample Log section of the COC form.

NOTE: If sampling from a location other than a **CLA** and a **BR** (e.g. Basement, Laundry Room), please record the locations onto the pre-printed labels as well as the COC form (see an example below).

ERMI Sample LOG (vacuum 5 min per 18 sq. ft.)			Date Sampled: 	
# of samples	Sample ID	Please specify sample Location	Instructions**	Surface Type (circle one) Area vacuumed
	ERMI- BR	Bed Room floor	For Standard ERMI: CLA and BR samples are by default combined as one analysis . <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box to have CLA and BR samples analyzed separately . Two separate analyses and will cost twice as much as one analysis. (Total Cost = # of sample(s) X Cost of 1 ERMI analysis) We will not be responsible for errors due to the lack of specific instructions.	Smooth or <u>Carpeted</u> Enter: <u>3</u> X <u>6</u> Ft
	ERMI- -CLA	office floor		Smooth or <u>Carpeted</u> Enter: <u>3</u> X <u>6</u> Ft

5. Plug in and test the vacuum to be sure that it runs properly.
6. Put the pre-printed ID labels on a Dust Collector and on the ERMI sample Log section of the COC form. (Remember to record the location where you are sampling from on the labels and the COC Form).
7. Carefully remove the caps from both ends of the dust collector and set aside.
8. Detach the hose from the vacuum cleaner and insert it into the dust collector. If the collector does not fit the vacuum cleaner, attach the adaptor piece to the collector.
Note: It may fit loosely until the vacuum is turned on. You may wrap a piece of tape between dust collector and the vacuum hose to prevent the dust collector from accidentally falling off while in use.



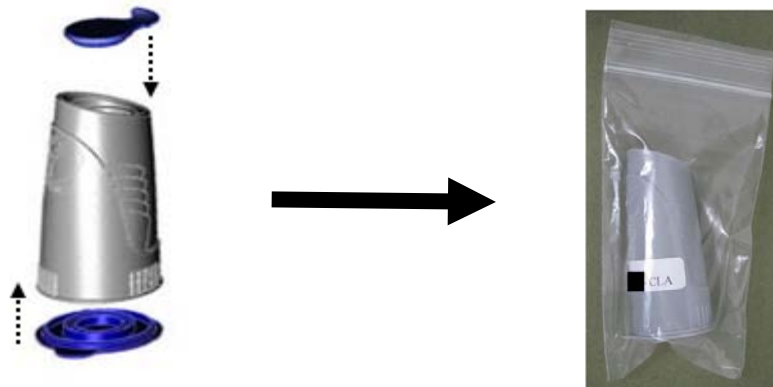
9. Turn on the vacuum (the dust collector and vacuum hose should fit tightly together). Place the dust collector at one corner and start to count the time using a stopwatch or a clock with second hand.
10. Vacuum the sampling area (total of 18 square feet) for at least 5 minutes (Check the filter insert for accumulation of dust samples. If not enough samples are accumulated, either increase the vacuuming time or expand the vacuuming areas.)
Note: Slightly tilt the dust collector to one side while vacuuming to increase the vacuum's efficiency. The opening of the dust collector in total contact with the floor surface will not collect the sample as it completely blocks all airflow.

11. At the end of sample collection in the **CLA**, hold the dust collector facing up, then turn off the vacuum. Remove the dust collector from the vacuum hose.

Note: When the vacuum is turned off the dust collector should come off very easily because there is no suction.



12. Hold the dust collector in an upright position. Place the small cap, first, back to the top opening of the dust collector and turn over to place the big cap at the bottom of the dust collector. Make sure the “**CLA**” at the end of pre-printed ID label (ERMI-xxxx-CLA) match the room (CLA) you just sampled. Place the capped dust collector into a re-closable bag.



13. Next, move all the required equipment and supplies to the Bedroom (BR). Locate the bed and repeat the same steps as in CLA (Step 4 to 12). Briefly, using a yardstick and a roll of tape, mark the corners of a **3-foot by 6-foot** rectangular sampling area on the floor immediately against the selected bed. If the sample location cannot accommodate a sample area of these dimensions, adjust the dimensions accordingly (but try to sample a total of 18 square feet) and record these dimensions on the ERMI Sample Log.
14. Assign the pre-printed ID labels to the Dust Collector and ERMI sample Log in the Chain of Custody.
15. Carefully remove the caps from both ends of the dust collector and set aside.
16. Detach the hose from the vacuum cleaner and insert it into the dust collector.
17. Turn on the vacuum. Place dust collector at one corner and start to count the time using a stopwatch or a clock with second hand.
18. Vacuum the sample area (total of 18 square feet) for at least 5 minutes. (Again, check the filter insert for accumulation of dust samples. If not enough samples are accumulated, either increase the vacuuming time or expand the vacuuming areas.)

19. At the end of sample collection in **BR**, hold the dust collector facing up, then turn off the vacuum. Remove the dust collector from the vacuum hose and hold it in upright position.
20. Place the small cap, first, back to the top opening of the dust collector and turn over to place the big cap at the bottom of the dust collector. Make sure the pre-printed ID label with the location recorded on it matches the sample room location you just collected from. Place the capped dust collector into a re-closable bag.
21. Place the two dust collectors, the COC form, and the Sample analysis payment form in the quart size Ziploc bag and send them back to Mycometrics.



IV. Sampling composite dust from a vacuum cleaner (with or without the bag) for comprehensive mold history.

[The price for an analysis of a vacuum bag sample is the same as the cost for 1 ERMI analysis.]

Note: It is always good practice to wear a protective dust mask when sampling composite dust from a vacuum cleaner, particularly if you are sensitive to mold or allergens.

1. Vacuum cleaner containing a bag –
 - 1.1 Open up the vacuum and remove the bag per manufacturer's instructions.
 - 1.2 Place the vacuum bag directly into a gallon Ziploc bag (*not provided*). Label the bag with a marker and fill out the COC form.
 - 1.3 Send back the vacuum bag sample, the COC form, and Sample analysis payment form back to Mycometrics.
2. Vacuum cleaner without a bag (Bagless) –
 - 2.1 Open up the vacuum and remove the container holding the dust per manufacturer's instructions.
 - 2.2 Empty the dust contents from the container into a gallon Ziplock bag (*not provided*).
 - 2.3 Label the Ziplock bag with a marker and fill out the COC form.
 - 2.4 Send back the vacuum bag sample, the COC form, and Sample analysis payment form back to Mycometrics.

V. Other Sampling Methods – (When a vacuum is not feasible)

1. If unable to use standard vacuum procedure, due to space/or other restrictions, please refer to instructions for collecting dust by ERMI-Cloth™.