

AGAT Laboratories 

Legionella Sampling & Shipping Instructions

Sampling Procedure

Always use the containers provided by the laboratory.

Never rinse the containers supplied by the laboratory as they contain the preservatives required for testing.

Samples must be taken between 48 hours and 7 days after the last water treatment (disinfection, decontamination, etc.).

Cooling towers, open water systems (decorative fountains): Fill the container by submerging it in the basin vertically at a 45-degree angle and leaving the opening on the surface. Be careful not to spill the preservative inside and make sure to leave an empty headspace of at least 2.5 cm at the top. Be careful not to sample the deposits that are at the bottom of the basin.

Taps: Use a water outlet valve that is upstream of the water treatment injection point. Open the valve and allow the water to run for at least 30 seconds to purge the stagnant water in the pipe leading to the valve. It may be useful to use a bucket to collect the purged water. Discard the purged water. Then collect the sample from the freshly purged valve without touching the sample container to the valve. Be careful not to spill the preservative inside the container and make sure to leave an empty headspace of at least 2.5 cm at the top.

The necessary aseptic conditions must be respected when taking the sample. Avoid placing your fingers or any other object inside the sample container's neck and stopper and limit the container's exposure to air during sampling.

Carefully and tightly cap all the containers after sample collection. Wipe dry the outside of the container.

Record the sample information immediately after collecting all the samples using the Legionella Chain of Custody (COC) analysis request form.

Transport samples using a rigid box that protects them from light exposure, impact, and extreme temperatures such as an insulated cooler. To prevent bottle breakage, secure the samples with soft packing material. The Legionella COC analysis request form can be placed inside the shipping container. Be sure to use a plastic bag or sleeve to protect the COC from damage.

Samples must be transported at room temperature and do not need to be cooled.

The laboratory must receive the samples within 48 hours of sampling.

Since 2013, AGAT Laboratories has been accredited under ISO/IEC 17025 for quantifying Legionella bacteria that causes Legionnaires' disease. You can count on our expertise and our service to meet your analytical needs. Please contact our customer service for further information regarding our rates and services. Our technical team will be happy to provide personalized support for your project requirements.

Shipping Procedure

Option 1: AGAT Coordinated Shipping

- Obtain water sample at 12pm (noon) or later on the day of sample submission.
- Samples to be delivered to the lab before 2:00pm in order to meet the shipment cut off time
- AGAT to coordinate shipment to testing facility to meet hold time requirements

Option 2: Self Coordinated shipping

- Obtain water sample at 12pm (noon) or later on the day of sample submission.
- Schedule overnight delivery to the following location:
AGAT Laboratories
9770 Trans Canada Route,
Saint-Laurent, Quebec H4S 1V9

Sampling instructions can be found at the city of Vancouver website:
<https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/legionella-testing.pdf>

For any questions or inquiries please contact info@agatlabs.com.

