# DeconGel

## Decontamination Gel

DeconGel is a peelable hydrogel that binds, encapsulates and lifts contaminants in order to greatly reduce both loose and fixed activity. DeconGel is a safe, user and material friendly, neutral-pH, low odour polymer hydrogel for the removal of radioisotopes as well as particulates, water soluble and insoluble organic compounds (including tritiated compounds) and heavy metals. The product can be applied to horizontal, vertical and inverted surfaces and is effective even on rough materials, such as concrete.

To date, field tests of the gel have shown it to lift: <sup>137</sup>Cs, <sup>233</sup>Pa, <sup>237</sup>Np, <sup>238</sup>U, <sup>238</sup>Pu, <sup>239</sup>Pu, <sup>241</sup>Am, <sup>131</sup>I, <sup>125</sup>I, <sup>99m</sup>Tc, <sup>18</sup>F, <sup>14</sup>C, [<sup>3</sup>H]TdR, [<sup>3</sup>H] NaBH4. Use of DeconGel can reduce the volume of contaminated waste material by making it safe for recycling or disposal and can be used to decontaminate equipment that would otherwise have to be discarded. With so many advantages over traditional decontamination methods, it is easy to see how the gel has reduced the cost, time and dose to personnel for nuclear sector customers carrying out large-scale decommissioning.



#### **Features**

- Zero preparation.
- Easy application.
- Simple effective decontamination.
- Penetrates cracks pores and voids.
- Works on smooth, rough, painted and odd shaped surfaces.
- No respirator (unless otherwise mandated).
- Dries to tough, non-sticky, easy to peel film.
- Rehydratable for forensic analysis.
- In addition to industrial decontamination, the gels can be used to fix contamination or to form a protective barrier.
- Film can be analysed in a laboratory afterwards by HPGe or LSC.
- Minimises contaminated waste output.

### Type 1101, 1108 and 1102







Type 1120, 1121 and 1128









#### Application Method

The gel can be applied directly with the use of a foam brush, a paintbrush, or a trowel. A large area can be covered quickly and left to dry overnight. Alternatively, Decontamination Spray types 1120 and 1121 are slightly less viscous and can be sprayed onto the intended surface.

#### **Surfaces**

The hydrogel coating can be applied to horizontal, vertical and inverted surfaces and can be used on most materials, including; bare, coated and painted concrete, aluminium, steel, lead, rubber, plexiglass, herculite, wood, porcelain, tile grout, and vinyl, ceramic and linoleum floor tiles.

#### Disposal

When dry, the product locks the contaminants into a polymer matrix. The film containing the encapsulated contamination can then be peeled and disposed of according to applicable regulations (RSA93).

#### Analysis

In terms of activity and nuclide analysis of the removed activity, the dried film can either be measured directly with a suitable detector or rehydrated in water for liquid scintillation counting.



# **Specifications**

General				
Appearance	Blue Gel			
Shelf Life	3 years			
Density	1.01 - 1.03 kg/ltr			
Viscosity*	9,000 - 19,000 cps			
рН	5.0 - 7.0			
Thinner	Water			
Decontamination %	Up to 100%			
Average Coverage	0.5 m <sup>2</sup> to 2 m <sup>2</sup> per litre			
Data for reference only. *Brookfield, spindle 4, 30 rpm, 25°C				

Coupon Name	Initial Counts (k cpm)	Initial Activity (μCi)	Counts after Decon (μCi)	Activity after Decon (μCi)	% Decon	
CAm-1	351	0.980	60.4	0.169	83%	
CAm-2	318	0.888	53.4	0.149	83%	
CPu-1	350	1.005	61.3	0.176	82%	
CPu-2	314	0.902	89.6	0.257	71%	
CSAm-1	333	0.994	3.99	0.012	99%	
CSAm-2	318	0.949	10.5	0.031	97%	
CSPu-1	288	0.983	2.63	0.009	99%	
CSPu-2	286	0.877	6.07	0.021	98%	
SSAm-1	351	0.961	76.5	0.210	78%	
SSAm-2	346	0.947	62.5	0.171	82%	
SSPu-1	326	1.045	56.6	0.181	83%	
SSPu-2	305	0.978	17.3	0.056	94%	
PAm-1	337	1.002	3.59	0.011	99%	
PAm-2	307	0.913	3.96	0.012	99%	
PPu-1	230	0.859	108	0.403	53%	
PPu-2	242	0.903	109	0.405	55%	
% Decon = (initial Activity - Final Activity) x 100 Initial Activity						

CAm – Concrete, Americum
CPu – Concrete, Plutonium
CSAm – Carbon Steel, Americum
CSPu – Carbon Steel, Plutonium
SSAm – Stainless Steel, Americum
SSPu – Stainless Steel, Plutonium
PAm – Plexiglas, Americum
PPu – Plexiglass, Plutonium

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