

Safetygram

NCI-Frederick

ISM-200

General

January 2012

Centrifuge Rotor Safety

To prevent failure, rotors should be checked for cracks, corrosion, or other damage. The manufacturer representative should inspect higher speed rotors on a regular basis (i.e. ultracentrifuge rotors should be inspected annually, and high speed rotors should be inspected every 3 years) since some rotor damage is not visible to the naked eye. For this reason, the manufacturer's representative will perform a fiberoptic boroscopy examination to determine if microscopic stress fractures, corrosion and pitting are present. It is important to maintain and clean the rotors before and after each use. Rotors that are not properly maintained and cleaned can become significant hazards to the user and the environment. Rotor failure can result in the release of flying objects, hazardous chemicals, and biohazardous aerosols.

To facilitate rotor inspection a blanket request for this service has been set up with the two primary ultracentrifuge manufacturers, Beckman-Coulter and Thermo-Fisher. To utilize this service please follow the steps listed below.

1. Contact the vendor (Purchasing maintains blanket orders with both Thermo-Fisher and Beckman-Coulter)
2. Identify yourself as an NCI-Frederick employee (government or contractor) and that you would like to request rotor inspection under the blanket order #
 - a. RST 10-003 M for Thermo-Fisher
 - b. RST 10-002 MA for Beckman-Coulter
3. The requestor should then issue a purchase order/release number to the vendor.
4. Provide information to the vendor
 - a. Number of rotors to be inspected
 - b. Rotor model numbers
 - c. Location of rotors
 - d. Contact person and contact information (location, telephone # and fax)
5. Information is then entered into Smartstream by the authorized User Buyer.