

SOP: CO₂ Incubators

Contacts		
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Equipment Overview

The incubators in the Tissue Foundry at CRAFT are set to 5% CO₂, and 37°C. They are for cell culture experiments only.

Notes before use:

- Wear the necessary PPE when operating the incubators.
- Read the MSDS for the materials being used.
- Ensure incubator settings are 5% CO₂ and 37°C. If a setting is off and doesn't correct itself within 5-10 minutes, notify a staff member to look into the issue.
- Ensure samples are labelled with essential details such as the following:
 - i. Name or initials (John Smith, JS)
 - ii. Principal Investigator (Guenther)
 - iii. Sample name (P30-HES2)
 - iv. Date (YYMMDD – 220117 or Jan 17/21)

Supplies and Reagents

Provided by CRAFT:

- RTU disinfectant
- 70% Ethanol
- Kimwipe
- PPE (lab coat and safety glasses)

Method

Procedure:

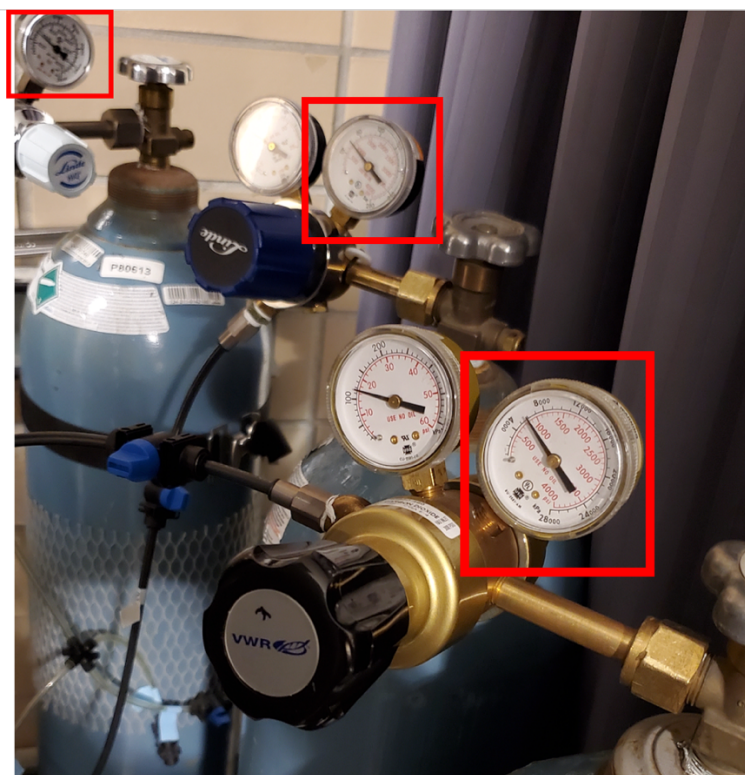
1. Ensure the incubator settings are close to 5% CO₂ and 37C. If no alarms or red indicator lights appear on the incubator, that means it's working fine.
2. Work quickly to remove or put samples into the incubator. Close the door as soon as possible to prevent disruption in the CO₂ level and temperature.

Cleanup:

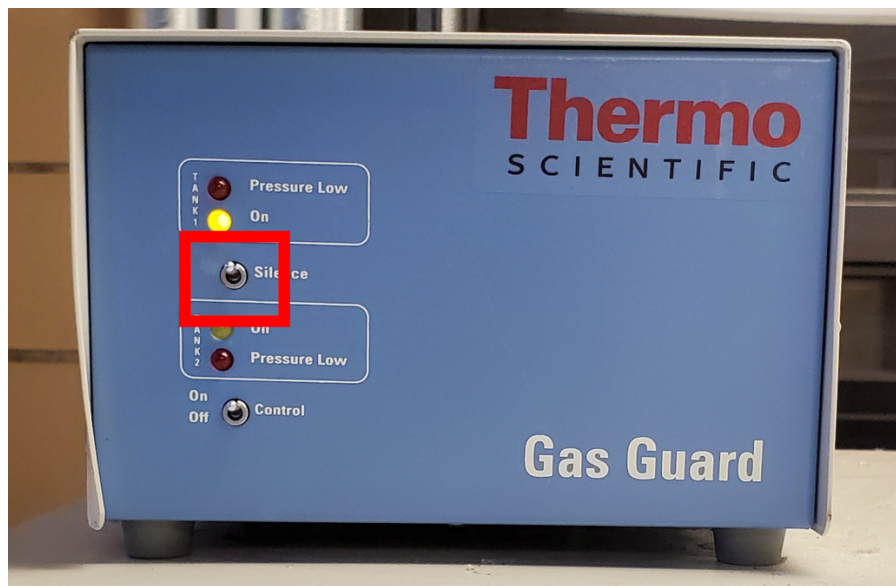
1. If a spill occurs inside the incubator, use Kimwipes to absorb it.
2. Dispose the wipe into the yellow biological waste pail.
3. Spray a Kimwipes with 70% ethanol and wipe the spilled area.

Troubleshooting:

If the CO₂ level suddenly drops and has not corrected itself within 5 minutes, the CO₂ tank may be empty. Check the right meter of the regulator for the tanks (users are trained before given permission to use incubators):



If the PSI value is zero, the CO₂ lines need to be changed by activating the middle switch on CO₂ controller (up or down depending which tank was used) located above the incubators.



Once the CO₂ line has been changed, please close the blue valve on the line from the empty CO₂ tank. Please email Victor (victor.sit@utoronto.ca) to replace the empty tank.