UiO : Naturhistorisk museum

Carbon Coater - Agar Auto

User instructions

Operation of this equipment is restricted to trained personnel familiar with the user instructions, general safety precautions, and laboratory rules. Contact the laboratory manager or your supervisor/group leader to get permission to use this equipment.

Table/sample holder	Top-plate	Carbon evaporation source	1	
		Chamber		
Power Power	AGAR AUTO CARDO			
		im/Current meter		



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Routine for sample coating

The following procedure will result in satisfactory coating in the majority of cases. When difficult samples are encountered, contact the laboratory manager for advice.

Use gloves to handle the samples in order to avoid contamination of your sample and of the chamber.

- 1. Connect the power cord to the electricity plug.
- 2. Open the top-plate, remove the carbon rods, sharpen them and place them in their holders again.
- 3. Place the sample on the table/sample holder.
- 4. Close the top-plate and press POWER (the lamp lights up). The chamber starts to be pumped.

NOTE: Normal pumping time is about 30 sec, but it can be longer when the pump is not warm.

- Press VACUUM CHECK to confirm that the chamber was pumped to a pressure lower than 0.05mb.
- 6. Confirm that AUTO mode is selected, with VOLTAGE 5.0 V and TIMER 10 sec.
- 7. Press START/STOP. A film starts to build up. Repeat if necessary.

IMPORTANT: Do not observe the carbon evaporation. Risk of eye injury.

- 8. Press POWER to switch off the unit. The chamber starts to vent.
- Lift the top-plate to remove the sample.
 IMPORTANT: After evaporation the carbon evaporation source will be hot. Exercise care when handling the top-plate.

NOTE: If coating thickness is not adequate the above procedure (2-8) can be repeated.

10. Close the top-plate and disconnect the power cord from the electricity plug.