

Swabbing Procedure: SpongeSicle™

1. Write sample information on bag. Tear open the sample pouch.



2. Pull the tabs on either side of the top of the pouch to create a large opening from which to remove the sponge.



3. Add diluent of your choice to hydrate the sponge. Squeeze sponge a few times from outside the bag to saturate it thoroughly.



4. Push the handle out so it protrudes from the opening. Do this by pushing on the outside of the pouch.

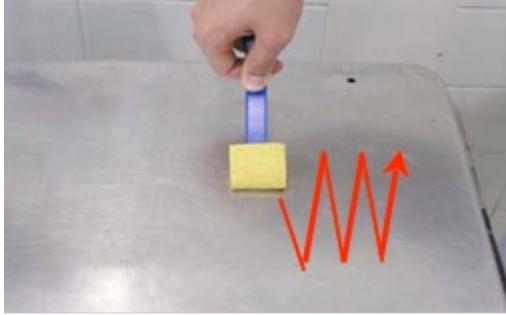


5. Grasp the handle behind the thumb-stop and remove the SpongeSicle™ from the pouch. Do not touch the inside of the bag.

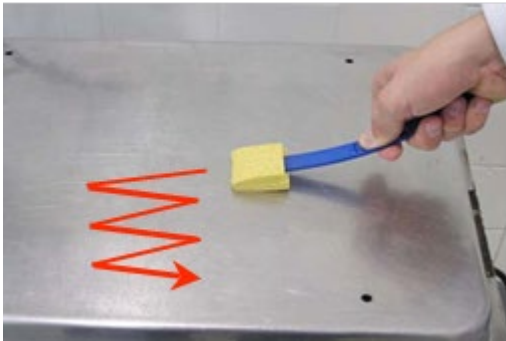


Note: Do not touch the stick below the thumb stop.

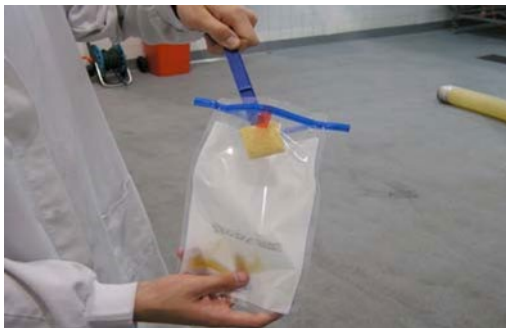
6. Swab the sampling surface (suggested 30 x 30 cm²) with the SpongeSicle™ in a vertical (up and down) direction. Ensure a reasonable amount of force is applied to the sponge when swabbing any surface.



7. Turn the sponge over and swab the sample area again, this time in a horizontal (left to right) direction.



8. Return the sponge to the pouch. Do not insert the sponge any further than the thumb-stop.



9. Pinch the sponge from outside of the bag with thumb and forefinger, then bend the handle back and forth to break-off the sponge at the score mark below the sponge edge.



10. Fold down the top of the pouch and use the wire tabs to secure the pouch.

