



Licensing Your XRF Device

The Radiation Protection Section regulates XRF (x-ray fluorescence) devices that may use radioactive material-produced radiation (radioactive source), or x-ray machine-produced radiation (an x-ray tube). To test paint and other surface coatings, you will need an XRF that uses a radioactive source. You will need to acquire a radioactive materials license for your devices with radioactive sources in them.

Radioactive Materials Licensing for Radioactive Source XRF Devices

If you do not currently have an XRF device and will be purchasing one that contains a radioactive source material, you will need to apply to the Department of Health Services, Radiation Protection Section, for a radioactive materials license.

The application is available online at:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/radiation/radioactivematerials/portablegauge.htm

The department also has a guidance document that you should use to assist in filling out the application. WISREG 1556, Vol. 1, Revision 2, “Guidance for Portable Gauges or XRF Devices” is available online at:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p4/p45025.pdf

For additional information or questions, please contact:

Radiation Protection Section

608-267-4797

dhsradioactivematerials@dhs.wisconsin.gov

X-Ray Producing XRF Devices

X-ray producing XRF devices with x-ray tubes are not appropriate for analyzing coatings to determine if the coating is a lead-bearing paint and should not be purchased or rented for this use.