The Formaldehyde monitor is a simple and effective device that measures the time weighted average concentration of formaldehyde gas. These monitors meet or exceed an accuracy of ±25% at 1 ppm and ±35% at 0.5 ppm. They can be used for either personal or area monitoring, are simple and easy to use and do not require pumps, hoses or batteries.

The airborne concentrations measured can be used as part of a Risk Management process to institute suitable controls, including assisting in determination of the type and service life of respiratory equipment appropriate to the contaminants (according to AS/NZS1715). The basic considerations required for sampling are covered in AS 2986.2:2003. These monitors come in a sealed pull top can, with a shelf life of 18 months – the expiry date is marked on a label on the can. They should be stored in an area free from formaldehyde at temperatures < 32°C.

A full description of the lab analysis required with these monitors is available from 3M via the TechAssist Helpline on 1800 024 464.

A simple guide on how to prepare and use the monitors is included below - this information is also included in the box of monitors when purchased.

**Preparation and Sampling Instructions.**

1. Remove the plastic lid from the top can. Then open both cans by using the ring pulls. The contents should be:

   **TOP CAN**
   - Pour spout (short plastic straw)
   - Elution cap (clear plastic with plugs)
   - Top section (purple with white membrane on top)
   - Bottom cup (clear plastic with white label)

   **BOTTOM CAN**
   - Bottom section (purple with metal clip)
   - Moisture retaining cap (clear plastic)

2. Before monitoring, record the following information in your data log:
   - monitor serial number
   - sampling date
   - employee or area I. D.
   - ambient temperature and relative humidity
3M™ Formaldehyde Monitor 3721

3. Record the date, employee or area ID and sampling start time on the label on the bottom cup (see diagram 2).

4. Remove the moisture retaining cap from the bottom section of the monitor (diagram 3). Discard this moisture retaining cap. Go to step 5 immediately.

5. Snap the top and bottom sections of the monitor together (diagram 4). **DO NOT REMOVE WHITE FILM AND PLASTIC RING FROM THE TOP SECTION.** The white film is a dust cover to prevent dust build up inside the monitor. It does not prevent the formaldehyde gas from passing through to the adsorbent pad beneath.

6. The monitor can be used as an area or personal sampler. For personal sampling attach the monitor near employee breathing zone (see diagram 1). When used as an area monitor, hang it somewhere away from walls, corners, tabletops, or other regions where the air movement in the room maybe limited.

7. After the sampling period is ended, remove the outer plastic ring and white film from the monitor using a coin or other lever (see diagram 5). Move to Step 8 immediately.
8. Snap the elution cap (with plugs) onto main monitor body (see diagram 6). Ensure the two port plugs are pushed closed securely.

9. Separate the top and bottom sections of the monitor and discard the bottom section. Snap the bottom cup into the bottom of the top section. (see diagram 7). Be sure the cup is snapped in securely. Record the end time on the label on the bottom cup. Record in your data log the number of hours and minutes the monitor was exposed. Return the monitor and the pour spout to the can and close with plastic lid provided. The monitor is now ready for shipment.

For any other monitor or respirator related issues, please contact your local 3M OH&S representative or call the 3M TechAssist line on 1800 024 464.

1 AS/NZS1715-1994 Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective devices.