# Handling of radioactive material and waste

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#### Material vs Waste

- "Material" is an item that can be reused.
- "Waste" is an item that has to be eliminated.
- It is the owner of the item to decide if it is still "material" or if it must be disposed of as "waste".

#### Outline

- 1. Handling of radioactive material
- 2. Disposal of radioactive waste

## **During operation**

- Retention basins in case of liquids (e.g., pumps)
- Risk of contamination
- Minimization of the waste (do not expose to radiation unnecessary equipment)
- Logging of irradiation
- Keep track of material composition

## After operation

- RP check for contamination, induced radioactivity -> radioactive or non-radioactive
- If non radioactive:
  - Can be handled in any laboratory, traceability required
- If radioactive:
  - Must be handled in a radiation laboratory, special shipping, traceability required
- All materials go directly to B. 954

### Shipping of rad. material outside CERN

- Fill in the EDH request form
- The addressee institute must be authorized to receive and handle radioactive materials
- Bring the material to the Radioactive Material Transport Service (24/E-024) at least 3 days beforehand
- Until a reply is received by the RP Service the material cannot leave CERN
- http://service-rp-shipping.web.cern.ch/servicerp-shipping/#Export

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#### Radioactive waste

- The owner decides when the material shall be considered as waste
- For legal reasons ("Waste zoning"), every item which has been irradiated in the CNGS service gallery will be disposed of as radioactive waste even if measured as non-radioactive.
- Cost of elimination
  - CH: about 100 CHF/I
  - F: depends on waste characteristics

## Responsibilities

#### • Experiments:

- Allocation of budget for the elimination
- Traceability (including radiological history, material composition)
- Follow procedures for disposal of waste (see next slides)

#### • DG/SCR:

Elimination of waste after acceptance

## Procedures for disposal of radioactive waste

- Small items directly into appropriate waste bag
- Large items: fill EDH form with radiological history and arrange disposal to waste centre (Bat. 573, Tel: +41 22 767 3875),

#### Procedures: EDH form

- The EDH form for the elimination of radioactive waste shall include:
  - Date of start and end of irradiation
  - Position in the service gallery
  - If available: material composition (especially heavy elements, e.g. Ag)
  - -> importance of traceability

#### Procedures: EDH form

https://edh.cern.ch/Document/RadioactiveWaste/

