

# SOP-E028

## Coulter Counter Z-Series “HOTPURGE” Procedure

**Objective:** Crystallized Isoton II Reagent(PBS) and/or biological samples such as tissue culture, yeast, and other living cells can sometimes stick to the inside walls of the tubing. Eventually, this buildup restricts flow that prevents the proper operation of the instrument. The errors indicated by this type of problem are typically:

Abnormal Aperture Flow rate  
Metering pump failed  
Check metering System

**NOTE:** You might have to turn the unit off for 10 seconds, then back on again to clear the error message.

**Procedure:**

1. Drain the entire system by pressing <FUNCTIONS>, then selecting <DRAIN SYSTEM>. The keyboard instructions prompts you to transfer the diluent tubing to the waste container. This is accomplished by pulling the diluent tubing off from the fitting on the diluent container, and transferring it over to the extra fitting on the waste container.
2. Transfer the diluent tubing from the waste container to a 250ml or greater beaker filled with 80% hot tap water mixed with 20% bleach. Do a <FILL SYSTEM>. (The volume of bleach/water needed is less than 50ml's.)
3. Let the unit sit with this bleach/water mixture for 10 minutes.
4. Remove the diluent tubing from the beaker, and connect it to the waste container fitting. Perform another <DRAIN SYSTEM> as per step 1.
5. Transfer the diluent tubing back to the diluent reservoir and perform a <FILL SYSTEM> with Isoton II(PBS).
6. Run a background count or a normal sample to verify proper operation.

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