



Instructions For Use

TLA-55 Fixed-Angle Rotor

For Use in the Beckman Coulter
Optima MAX-XP, MAX-TL, MAX, MAX-E, TL, TLX, and TL-100
Tabletop Ultracentrifuges



TL-TB-020AJ
October 2022



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TLA-55 Fixed Angle Rotor

TL-TB-020AJ (October 2022)

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If you have any questions, contact our Customer Support Center.

- Worldwide, find us via our website at www.beckman.com/support/technical
- In the USA and Canada, call us at 1-800-369-0333.
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Glossary of Symbols is available at beckman.com/techdocs (PN C24689).

May be covered by one or more pat. - see www.beckman.com/patents

Original Instructions

Revision History

When a subsequent version affects the information in this document, a new issue will be released to the Beckman Coulter website. For updates, go to www.beckman.com/techdocs and download the latest version of the manual or system help for your instrument.

Issue AJ, 10/22

Changes or additions were made to: *Safety Notice, Description.*

Note: *Changes that are part of the most recent revision are indicated in text by a bar in the margin of the amended page.*

Safety Notice

Read all product manuals and consult with Beckman Coulter-trained personnel before attempting to use this equipment. Do not attempt to perform any procedure before carefully reading all instructions. Always follow product labeling and manufacturer's recommendations. If in doubt as to how to proceed in any situation, contact your Beckman Coulter Representative.

Beckman Coulter, Inc. urges its customers and employees to comply with all national health and safety standards such as the use of barrier protection. This may include, but is not limited to, protective eyewear, gloves, and suitable laboratory attire when operating or maintaining this or any other laboratory centrifuge.



This safety notice summarizes information basic to the safe use of the rotor described in this manual. The international symbol displayed to the left is a reminder to the user that all safety instructions should be read and understood before operation or maintenance of this equipment is attempted. When you see the symbol on other pages of this publication, pay special attention to the safety information presented. Observance of safety precautions will also help to avoid actions that could damage or adversely affect the performance of the rotor. This rotor was developed, manufactured, and tested for safety and reliability as part of a Beckman Coulter centrifuge/rotor system. Its safety or reliability cannot be assured if used in a centrifuge not of Beckman Coulter's manufacture or in a Beckman Coulter centrifuge that has been modified without Beckman Coulter's approval.

WARNING

If the equipment is used in a manner not specified by Beckman Coulter, Inc., the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired.

CAUTION

If you purchased this product from anyone other than Beckman Coulter or an authorized Beckman Coulter distributor, and, if it is not presently under a Beckman Coulter Service Maintenance Agreement, Beckman Coulter cannot guarantee that the product is fitted with the most current mandatory engineering revisions or that you will receive the most current information bulletins concerning the product. If you purchased this product from a third party and would like further information concerning this topic, [Contact Us](#).

Alerts for Warning, Caution, Important, and Note

WARNING

WARNING indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION

CAUTION indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.

IMPORTANT IMPORTANT is used for comments that add value to the step or procedure being performed. Following the advice in the Important adds benefit to the performance of a piece of equipment or to a process.

NOTE NOTE is used to call attention to notable information that should be followed during installation, use, or servicing of this equipment.

Safety Information for the TLA-55 Rotor

IMPORTANT This rotor was developed, manufactured, and tested for safety and reliability as part of a Beckman Coulter centrifuge/rotor system. Its safety or reliability cannot be assured if used in a centrifuge not of Beckman Coulter's manufacture or in a Beckman Coulter centrifuge that has been modified without Beckman Coulter's approval.

Handle body fluids with care because they can transmit disease. No known test offers complete assurance that such fluids are free of micro-organisms. Some of the most virulent — Hepatitis (B and C) viruses, HIV (I–V), atypical mycobacteria, and certain systemic fungi—further emphasize the need for aerosol protection. Handle other infectious samples according to good laboratory procedures and methods to prevent spread of disease. Because spills may generate aerosols, observe proper safety precautions for aerosol containment.

Do not run toxic, pathogenic, or radioactive materials in this rotor without taking appropriate safety precautions. Biosafe containment should be used when Risk Group II materials (as identified in the World Health Organization *Laboratory Biosafety Manual*) are handled; materials of a higher group require more than one level of protection.

The rotor and accessories are not designed for use with materials capable of developing flammable or explosive vapors. Do not centrifuge such materials in nor handle or store them near the ultracentrifuge.

Although rotor components and accessories made by other manufacturers may fit in the TLA-55 rotor, their safety in this rotor cannot be ascertained by Beckman Coulter. Use of other manufacturers' components or accessories in the TLA-55 rotor may void the rotor warranty and should be prohibited by your laboratory safety officer. Only the components and accessories listed in this publication should be used in this rotor.

Do not run an empty rotor. Place filled tubes in at least two opposing cavities. Make sure that filled containers are loaded symmetrically into the rotor and that opposing tubes are filled to the same level with liquid of the same density. Make sure that cavities in use have the proper spacers and/or floating spacers inserted before installing the rotor lid.

If disassembly reveals evidence of leakage, you should assume that some fluid escaped the rotor. Apply appropriate decontamination procedures to the centrifuge and accessories.

Never exceed the maximum rated speed of the rotor and labware in use. Refer to the section on [Run Speeds](#).

Do not use sharp tools on the rotor that could cause scratches in the rotor surface. Corrosion begins in scratches and may open fissures in the rotor with continued use.

Safety During Installation and/or Maintenance

WARNING

Risk of injury or equipment damage. Vapors from flammable reagents or combustible fluids could enter the centrifuge air system and be ignited by the motor. Do not use the centrifuge in the vicinity of flammable liquids or vapors, and do not run such materials in the instrument.

CAUTION

Risk of equipment damage. Corrosion begins in scratches and may open fissures in the rotor, carriers, and carriages with continued use. Do not use sharp tools on the rotor that could cause scratches in the rotor surface carrier and carriage surfaces.

Perform only the maintenance described in [Maintenance](#).

IMPORTANT It is your responsibility to decontaminate components of the instrument before requesting service by a Beckman Coulter Representative or returning parts to Beckman Coulter for repair. Beckman Coulter will NOT accept any items which have not been decontaminated where it is appropriate to do so. If any parts are returned, they must be enclosed in a sealed plastic bag stating that the contents are safe to handle and are not contaminated.

Any servicing of this equipment that requires removal of any covers can expose parts that involve the risk of electric shock or personal injury. Make sure that the power switch is off and the centrifuge is disconnected from the main power source by removing the Mains (power) plug from the outlet receptacle, and refer such servicing to qualified personnel.

Do not replace any centrifuge components with parts not specified for use on this instrument.

 **WARNING**

Risk of personal injury. Use appropriate lifting techniques when installing this rotor into or removing it from the instrument.

Radiation Safety



Use universal precautions when working with radioactive materials. Means must be available to decontaminate the instrument and dispose of radioactive waste.

Chemical and Biological Safety



Use universal precautions when working with pathogenic materials. Means must be available to decontaminate the instrument and to dispose of biohazardous waste.

NOTE Observe all warnings and cautions listed for any external devices attached or used during operation of the instrument. Refer to applicable external device user's manuals for operating procedures of that device.

NOTE For Safety Data Sheets (SDS) information, go to the Beckman Coulter website at <https://www.beckman.com/techdocs>.

 **WARNING**

Risk of chemical injury from bleach. To avoid contact with the bleach, use barrier protection, including protective eyewear, gloves, and suitable laboratory attire. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for details about chemical exposure before using the chemical.

 **WARNING**

Risk of personal injury or equipment damage. Ethanol is a flammability hazard. Do not use it in or near operating or powered centrifuges.

 **WARNING**

Risk of personal injury or property damage. The rotors and accessories are not designed for use with materials capable of developing flammable or explosive vapors. Do not centrifuge such materials in, nor handle or store them near the centrifuge.

 **WARNING**

Risk of personal injury or contamination. Before running the centrifuge with chemical or biological samples, test new labware types to determine if normal operation of the rotor may involve the use of materials that are toxic or otherwise biologically harmful. When using such materials, observe the following precautions:

- Handle infectious samples according to good laboratory procedures and methods to prevent the spread of disease.
- Observe all cautionary information printed on the original solutions' containers prior to their use.
- Dispose of all waste solutions according to your facility's waste disposal procedures.
- Operate the instrument in accordance with the instructions outlined in this manual and take all the necessary precautions when using pathological, toxic, or radioactive materials.
- Splashing of liquids may occur; therefore, take appropriate safety precautions, such as using safety glasses and wearing protective clothing, when working with potentially hazardous liquids.
- Use an appropriately-contained environment when using hazardous materials.
- Observe the appropriate cautionary procedures as defined by your safety officer when using flammable solvents in or near a powered-up instrument.
- Always observe appropriate cautionary procedures as defined by your safety officer when using flammable solvents or toxic, pathological, or radioactive materials.

Mechanical Safety

 **WARNING**

Risk of personal injury. To avoid injury due to moving parts, observe the following:

- **Before starting the centrifuge, make sure that the rotor tie-down screw is securely fastened.**
- **Never attempt to exchange labware or reagents while the instrument is operating.**
- **Never attempt to physically restrict any of the moving components of the instrument.**
- **NEVER attempt to slow or stop a rotor by hand.**
- **Keep the instrument work area clear to prevent obstruction of the movement.**

Rotors are designed for use at the speeds indicated; however, speed reductions may be required because of weight considerations of tubes, adapters, and/or the density of the solution being centrifuged. Be sure to observe the instructions in the applicable rotor manual.

The strength of containers can vary between lots, and will depend on handling and usage. We highly recommend that you pretest them in the rotor (using buffer or gradient of equivalent density to the intended sample solution) to determine optimal operating conditions.

To help prevent premature failures or hazards by detecting stress corrosion, metal fatigue, wear or damage to anodized coatings, and to instruct laboratory personnel in the proper care of rotors, Beckman Coulter offers the Field Rotor Inspection Program (FRIP). This program involves a visit to your laboratory by a specially trained Beckman Coulter representative, who will inspect all of your rotors for corrosion or damage. The representative will recommend repair or replacement of at risk rotors to prevent potential rotor failures. [Contact Us](#) to request this service.

Cleaning

Observe the cleaning procedures outlined in this user's manual for the rotor. Prior to cleaning equipment that has been exposed to hazardous material:

- Contact the appropriate Chemical and Biological Safety personnel.
- Review the Chemical and Biological Safety information in the user's manual.

Maintenance

Perform only the maintenance described in this manual. Maintenance other than that specified in this manual should be performed only by your Beckman Coulter Representative.

IMPORTANT It is your responsibility to decontaminate components of the instrument before requesting service by a Beckman Coulter Representative or returning parts to Beckman Coulter. Beckman Coulter will NOT accept any items which have not been decontaminated where it is appropriate to do so. If any parts are returned, they must be enclosed in a sealed plastic bag stating that the contents are safe to handle and are not contaminated.

Disposal

Clean and decontaminate the rotor per the Care and Maintenance section of this manual before disposal. Users are encouraged to check with local waste disposal authorities for specific disposal requirements.

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Beckman Coulter, Inc.
Ultracentrifuge Rotor Warranty

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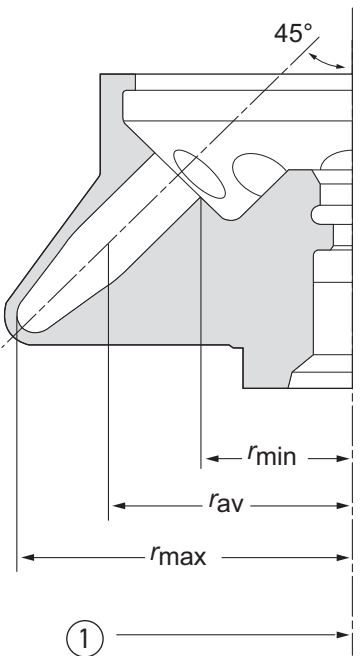
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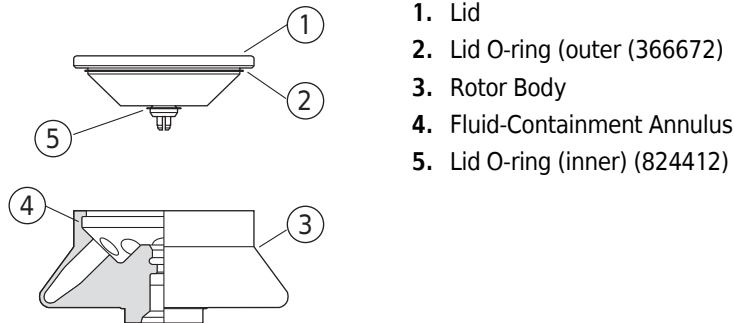
TLA-55 Fixed-Angle Rotor

Specifications

 <p>U.S. Pat. No. 4,372,483 Japanese Pat. No. 1,551,443 Swiss Pat. No. 646,881</p> <p>1. Axis of Rotation</p>	Maximum speed	55,000 RPM
	Density rating at maximum speed	1.7 g/mL
	Relative Centrifugal Field ^a at maximum speed	
	at r_{\max} (55 mm)	$186,000 \times g$
	at r_{av} (40 mm)	$136,000 \times g$
	at r_{\min} (25 mm)	$84,700 \times g$
	k factor at maximum speed	66
	Conditions requiring speed reductions	see Run Speeds
	Number of tube cavities	12
	Nominal tube dimensions (largest tube)	11 × 38 mm
	Nominal tube capacity	1.5 mL
	Nominal rotor capacity	18 mL
	Approximate acceleration time to maximum speed (fully loaded)	8 min
	Approximate deceleration time from maximum speed (fully loaded)	4 1/2 min
Weight of fully loaded rotor	0.8 kg (1.69 lb)	
Rotor and lid material	aluminum	

- a. Relative Centrifugal Field (RCF) is the ratio of the centrifugal acceleration at a specified radius and speed ($r\omega^2$) to the standard acceleration of gravity (g) according to the following formula: $RCF = r\omega^2/g$ —where r is the radius in millimeters, ω is the angular velocity in radians per second ($2\pi \text{ RPM}/60$), and g is the standard acceleration of gravity (9807 mm/s^2). After substitution: $RCF = 1.12r (\text{RPM}/1000)^2$

Description



This Beckman Coulter rotor has been manufactured in an ISO 9001 or 13485 facility for use with the specified Beckman Coulter centrifuges.

The TLA-55 fixed-angle rotor holds up to twelve 1.5-mL microcentrifuge tubes at a 45-degree angle. This rotor develops sufficient centrifugal forces for a number of applications: it provides quick pelleting runs that preserve the bioactivity of a sample and it is an effective tool for recovery of fine precipitates.

The rotor and lid are made of aluminum and are anodized to resist corrosion. A plunger in the lid locks the rotor to the drive hub before beginning the run, and two lubricated O-rings made of Buna-N rubber maintain atmospheric pressure inside the rotor during centrifugation. The twelve tube cavities are numbered to aid in sample identification.

The rotor is specially designed with a fluid-containment annulus, located below the O-ring sealing surface. The annulus retains fluid that may escape from leaking or overfilled tubes, thereby preventing the liquid from escaping into the instrument chamber.

The ultracentrifuge identifies rotor speed during the run by means of a magnetic speed sensor in the instrument chamber and magnets on the bottom of the rotor. This overspeed protection system ensures that the rotor does not exceed its maximum permitted speed.

Refer to the Warranty at the back of this manual for warranty information.

Preparation and Use

Specific information about the TLA-55 rotor is given here. Information common to this and other rotors is contained in *Rotors and Tubes for Tabletop Preparative Ultracentrifuges* (publication TLR-IM), which should be used together with this manual for complete rotor and accessory operation. Publication TLR-IM is included in the literature package shipped with the rotor.

NOTE Although rotor components and accessories made by other manufacturers may fit in the TLA-55 rotor, their safety in this rotor cannot be ascertained by Beckman Coulter. Use of other manufacturers' components or accessories in the TLA-55 rotor may void the rotor warranty and should be prohibited by your laboratory safety officer. Only the components and accessories listed in this publication should be used in this rotor.

Prerun Safety Checks



Read the [Safety Notice](#) section at the front of this manual before using the rotor.

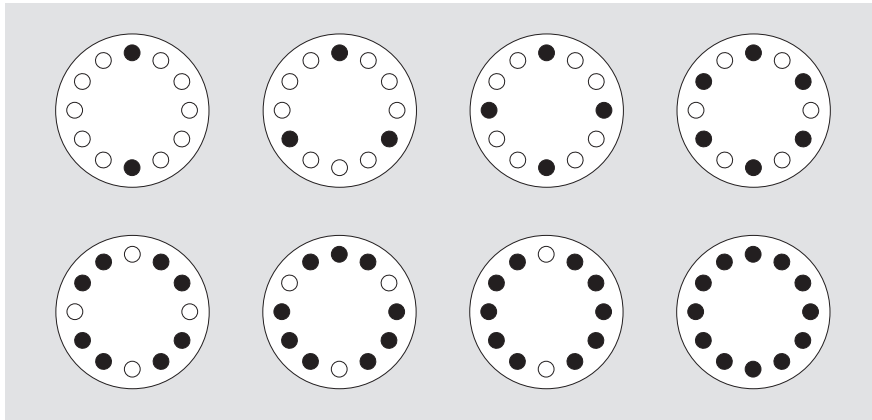
- 1 Inspect the O-rings and plunger mechanism for damage—the high forces generated in this rotor can cause damaged components to fail.
 - 2 Check the chemical compatibilities of all materials used (refer to *Chemical Resistances*, publication IN-175).
-

Rotor Preparation

For runs at other than room temperature, refrigerate or warm the rotor beforehand for fast equilibration.

- 1 Lightly but evenly lubricate metal threads with Spinkote lubricant (306812).
- 2 Apply a thin film of silicone vacuum grease (335148) to the two O-rings in the rotor lid.
- 3 Load the filled and capped tubes symmetrically into the rotor (see page 6 for tube information).
 - If fewer than twelve tubes are being run, they must be arranged symmetrically in the rotor (see [Figure 1](#)).
 - Opposing tubes must be filled to the same level with liquid of the same density.

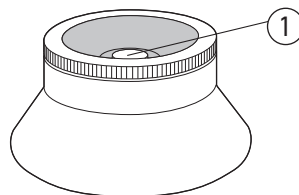
Figure 1 Arranging Tubes in the Rotor



NOTE Two, three, four, six, eight, nine, ten, or twelve tubes can be centrifuged per run if they are arranged in the rotor as shown.

Operation

- 1 Use an absorbent towel to wipe off condensation from the rotor, then carefully place the rotor on the drive hub.
- 2 Lock the rotor in place by gently pressing the plunger down until you feel it click.
 - When you remove your finger, the plunger will remain flush with the rotor body if it is properly engaged.



1. Plunger Engaged

- a. If the plunger pops up, repeat the procedure.

CAUTION

In all ultracentrifuge models except the Optima MAX-TL, MAX-XP, MAX, and MAX-E, it is very important to lock the rotor in place before beginning the run to ensure that the rotor remains seated during centrifugation. Failure to lock the rotor in place before beginning the run may result in damage to both rotor and instrument.

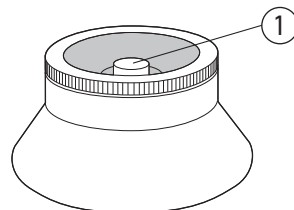
-
- 3 Refer to the instrument instruction manual for ultracentrifuge operation.
-
- 4 For additional operating information, see the following:
 - [Run Times](#), page 6, for using k factors to adjust run durations.
 - [Run Speeds](#), page 7, for information about speed limitations.
 - [Selecting CsCl Gradients](#), page 9, for methods to avoid CsCl precipitation during centrifugation.
-

Removal and Sample Recovery

 **CAUTION**

If disassembly reveals evidence of leakage, you should assume that some fluid escaped the rotor. Apply appropriate decontamination procedures to the centrifuge and accessories.

-
- 1 To release the plunger at the end of the run, gently press it down until you feel it click.
 - When you remove your finger the plunger will pop up to its released position.



1. Plunger Released

-
- 2 Remove the rotor from the ultracentrifuge and remove the lid.
-
- 3 Use a hemostat or tube removal tool to remove the tubes.
-

Tubes



The TLA-55 rotor uses 1.5-mL Microfuge tubes. These tubes are made of polypropylene and have attached caps and conical bottoms.

Temperature Limits

- Plastic tubes have been centrifuge tested for use at temperatures between 2 and 25°C. For centrifugation at other temperatures, pretest tubes under anticipated run conditions.
- If plastic containers are frozen before use, make sure that they are thawed to at least 2°C prior to centrifugation.

Run Times

The k factor of the rotor is a measure of the rotor's pelleting efficiency. Beckman Coulter has calculated the k factors for all of its preparative rotors at maximum rated speed and using full tubes. The k factor is calculated from the formula:

EQ 1

$$k = \frac{\ln(r_{\max}/r_{\min})}{\omega^2} \times \frac{10^{13}}{3600}$$

where ω is the angular velocity of the rotor in radians per second ($\omega = 0.105 \times \text{RPM}$), r_{\max} is the maximum radius, and r_{\min} is the minimum radius.

After substitution:

EQ 2

$$k = \frac{(2.533 \times 10^{11}) \ln(r_{\max}/r_{\min})}{(\text{RPM})^2}$$

Use the k factor in the following equation to estimate the run time t (in hours) required to pellet particles of known sedimentation coefficient s (in Svedberg units, S).

EQ 3

$$t = \frac{k}{s}$$

Run times can be estimated for centrifugation at less than maximum speed by adjusting the k factor as follows:

EQ 4

$$k_{\text{adj}} = k \left(\frac{55,000}{\text{actual run speed}} \right)^2$$

Run times can also be estimated from data established in prior experiments if the k factor of the previous rotor is known. For any two rotors, a and b:

EQ 5

$$\frac{t_a}{t_b} = \frac{k_a}{k_b}$$

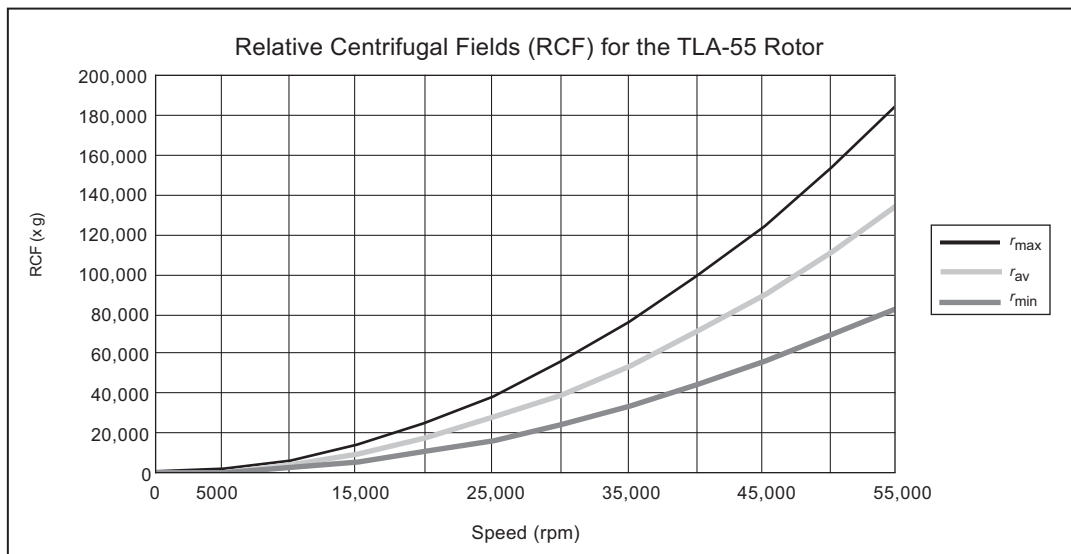
Run Speeds

The centrifugal force at a given radius in a rotor is a function of speed. Comparisons of forces between different rotors are made by comparing the rotors' relative centrifugal fields (RCF). When rotational speed is adjusted so that identical samples are subjected to the same RCF in two different rotors, the samples are subjected to the same force. The RCF at a number of rotor speeds is provided in [Table 1](#).

Table 1 Relative Centrifugal Fields for the TLA-55 Rotor^a

Rotor Speed (RPM)	Relative Centrifugal Field ($\times g$)			k Factor*
	At r_{\max} (55 mm)	At r_{av} (40 mm)	At r_{\min} (25 mm)	
55,000	186,000	136,000	84,700	66
50,000	154,000	112,000	70,000	80
45,000	125,000	90,700	56,700	99
40,000	98,600	71,700	44,800	125
35,000	75,500	54,900	34,300	154
30,000	55,400	40,300	25,200	222
25,000	38,500	28,000	17,500	320
20,000	24,600	17,900	11,200	499
15,000	13,900	10,100	6,300	888
10,000	6,160	4,080	2,800	1997
5,000	1,540	1,120	700	7989

a. Entries in this table are calculated from the formula $RCF = 1.12r (RPM/1000)^2$ and then rounded to three significant digits.



Speeds must be reduced under the following circumstances:

1. If nonprecipitating solutions more dense than 1.7 g/mL are centrifuged, the maximum allowable run speed must be reduced according to the following equation:

EQ 6

$$\text{reduced maximum speed} = (55,000 \text{ RPM}) \sqrt{\frac{1.7 \text{ g/mL}}{\rho}}$$

where ρ is the density of the tube contents. This speed reduction will protect the rotor from excessive stresses due to the added tube load. *Note, however, that the use of this formula may still produce maximum speed values that are higher than the limitations imposed by the use of certain tubes or adapters.* In such cases, use the lower of the two values.

2. *Further speed limits must be imposed* when CsCl or other self-forming-gradient salts are centrifuged, as equation (6) does not predict concentration limits/speeds that are required to avoid precipitation of salt crystals. Precipitation during centrifugation would alter the density distribution of CsCl and this would change the position of the sample bands. [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#), together with the description and examples below, show how to reduce run speeds when using CsCl gradients.

Selecting CsCl Gradients

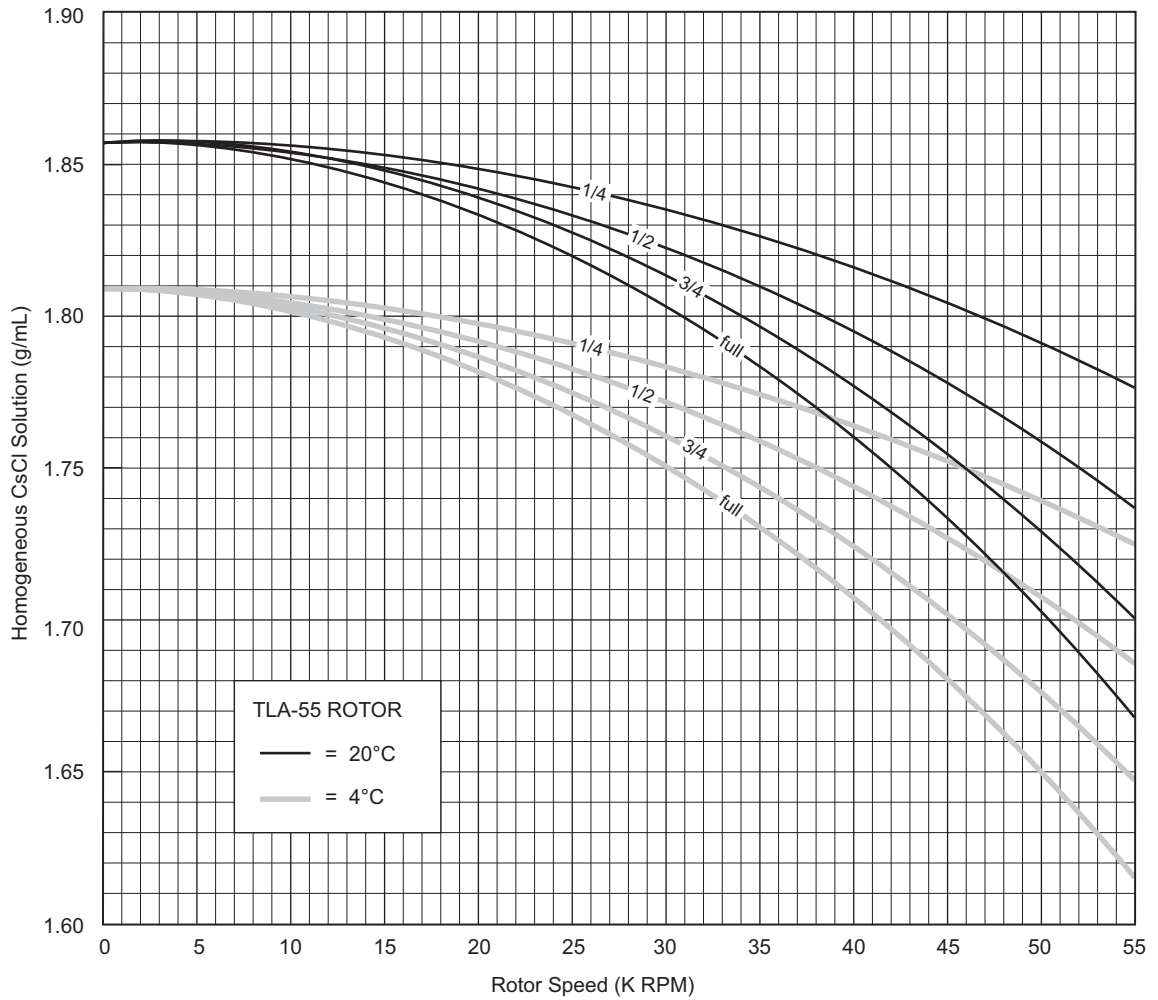
Precipitation during centrifugation would alter density distribution, and this would change the position of the sample bands. Curves in [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#) are provided up to the maximum rated speed of the rotor.

NOTE The curves in [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#) are for solutions of CsCl salt dissolved in distilled water only. If other salts are present in significant concentrations, the overall CsCl concentration may need to be reduced.

Rotor speed is used to control the slope of a CsCl density gradient, and must be limited so that CsCl precipitation is avoided. Speed and density combinations that intersect on or below the curves in [Figure 2](#) ensure that CsCl will not precipitate during centrifugation in the TLA-55 rotor. Curves are provided at two temperatures: 20°C (black curves) and 4°C (gray curves).

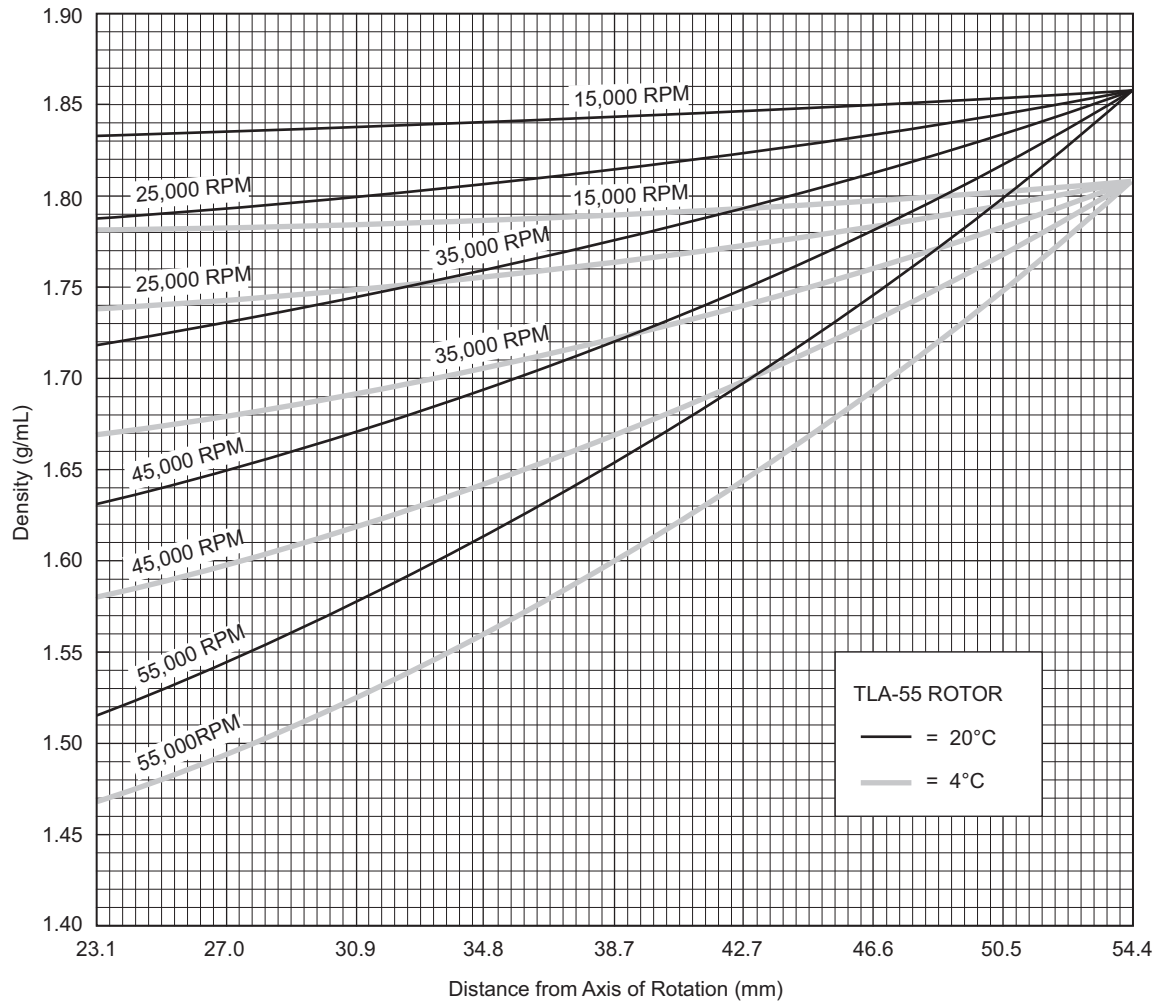
The reference curves in [Figure 3](#) show gradient distribution at equilibrium. Each curve in [Figure 3](#) is within the density limits allowed for the TLA-55 rotor: each curve was generated for a single run speed using the maximum allowable homogeneous CsCl densities (one for each fill level) that avoid precipitation at that speed. (The gradients in [Figure 3](#) can be generated from step or linear gradients, or from homogeneous solutions. But the total amount of CsCl in solution must be equivalent to a homogeneous solution corresponding to the concentrations specified in [Figure 2](#).)

Figure 2 Precipitation Curves for the TLA-55 Rotor*



* Using combinations of rotor speeds and homogeneous CsCl solution densities that intersect on or below these curves ensures that CsCl will not precipitate during centrifugation.

Figure 3 CsCl Gradients at Equilibrium for the TLA-55 Rotor*

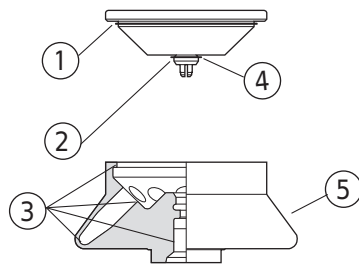


* Centrifugation of homogeneous CsCl solutions at the maximum allowable speeds (from Figure 2) results in gradients presented here.

Care and Maintenance

Maintenance

NOTE Do not use sharp tools on the rotor that could cause scratches in the rotor surface. Corrosion begins in scratches and may open fissures in the rotor with continued use.



1. Lid O-ring (outer) (824644)
2. Threads
3. Check for Corrosion
4. Lid O-ring (inner) (824412)
5. Rotor Body

-
- 1 Regularly lubricate the metal threads in the rotor plugs with a thin, even coat of Spinkote lubricant.
 - Failure to keep these threads lubricated can result in damaged threads
 - 2 Regularly apply silicone vacuum grease to the O-rings.
 - a. Replace O-rings about twice a year or whenever worn or damaged.
-

Refer to Appendix A in *Rotors and Tubes* for the chemical resistances of rotor and accessory materials. Your Beckman Coulter representative provides contact with the Field Rotor Inspection Program and the rotor repair center.

Cleaning

Wash the rotor and rotor components immediately if salts or other corrosive materials are used or if spillage has occurred. Do not allow corrosive materials to dry on the rotor.

Under normal use, wash the rotor frequently (at least weekly) to prevent buildup of residues.

-
- 1 Remove the O-rings before washing.



2 Wash the rotor and lid in a mild detergent, such as Beckman Solution 555 (339555), that won't damage the rotor.

- The Rotor Cleaning Kit contains two plastic-coated brushes and two quarts of Solution 555 for use with rotors and accessories.
- Dilute the detergent 10 to 1 with water.

NOTE Do not wash rotor components in a dishwasher. Do not soak in detergent solution for long periods, such as overnight.

3 Rinse the cleaned rotor and components with distilled water.

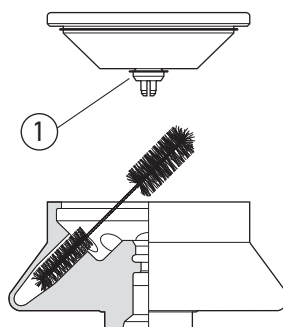
4 Air-dry the rotor and lid upside down.

- Do not use acetone to dry the rotor.

5 Apply a thin, even coat of silicone vacuum grease to both lid O-rings before replacing them in the grooves in the lid.

6 Clean metal threads as necessary (at least every 6 months).

- a. Use a brush and concentrated Solution 555.
- b. Rinse and dry thoroughly, then lubricate lightly but evenly with Spinkote to coat all threads.



1. Threads

7 Periodically remove the O-rings and wipe clean as necessary.

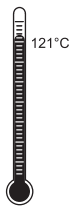
- a. Clean the O-ring grooves with a cotton-tipped swab.
- b. Reapply a light film of silicone vacuum grease.

Decontamination



If the rotor or other components are contaminated with radioactive, toxic, or pathogenic materials, follow appropriate decontamination procedures as outlined by appropriate laboratory safety guidelines and/or other regulations. Consult Appendix A in *Rotors and Tubes* to select an agent that will not damage the rotor

Sterilization and Disinfection



- The rotor and all rotor components can be autoclaved at 121°C for up to one hour. Remove the lid from the rotor and place the rotor, lid, and O-ring in the autoclave upside down.
- Ethanol (70%)* or hydrogen peroxide (6%) may be used on all rotor components, including those made of plastic. Bleach (sodium hypochlorite) may be used, but may cause discoloration of anodized surfaces. Use the minimum immersion time for each solution, per laboratory standards.

While Beckman Coulter has tested these methods and found that they do not damage the rotor or components, no guarantee of sterility or disinfection is expressed or implied. When sterilization or disinfection is a concern, consult your laboratory safety officer regarding proper methods to use.

Storage

When it is not in use, store the rotor in a dry environment (not in the instrument) with the lid removed to allow air circulation so moisture will not collect in the tube cavities.

Returning a Rotor

Before returning a rotor or accessory for any reason, prior permission must be obtained from Beckman Coulter, Inc. This form may be obtained from your local Beckman Coulter sales office. The form, entitled *Returned Material Authorization (RMA)* for United States returns or *Returned Goods Authorization (RGA)* for international returns, should contain the following information:

- rotor type and serial number,
- history of use (approximate frequency of use),
- reason for the return,
- original purchase order number, billing number, and shipping number, if possible,
- name and email address of the person to be notified upon receipt of the rotor or accessory at the factory,
- name and email address of the person to be notified about repair costs, etc.

* Flammability hazard. Do not use in or near operating ultracentrifuges.

To protect our personnel, it is the customer's responsibility to ensure that all parts are free from pathogens and/or radioactivity. Sterilization and decontamination must be done before returning the parts. Smaller items (such as tubes, bottles, etc.) should be enclosed in a sealed plastic bag.

*All parts must be accompanied by a note, plainly visible on the outside of the box or bag, stating that they are safe to handle and that they are not contaminated with pathogens or radioactivity. **Failure to attach this notification will result in return or disposal of the items without review of the reported problem.***

Use the address label printed on the RGA/RMA form when mailing the rotor and/or accessories.

Customers located outside the United States should contact their local Beckman Coulter office.

Supply List

NOTE Publications referenced in this manual can be obtained at www.beckman.com or by calling Beckman Coulter at 1-800-742-2345 in the United States, or by contacting your local Beckman Coulter office.

Contact Beckman Coulter Sales (1-800-742-2345 in the United States) or see the Beckman Coulter *Ultracentrifuge Rotors, Tubes & Accessories* catalog (BR-8101, available at www.beckman.com) for detailed information on ordering parts and supplies. For your convenience, a partial list is given below.

Replacement Rotor Parts

Description	Part Number
TLA-55 rotor assembly	366720
Lid assembly	366722
Lid O-ring (outer)	824644
Lid O-ring (inner)	824412

Other

NOTE For MSDS information, go to the Beckman Coulter website at www.beckman.com.

Description	Part Number
Microfuge 1.5-mL tubes (box of 500)	357448
Tube removal tool	361668
Spinkote lubricant (2 oz)	306812
Silicone vacuum grease (1 oz)	335148
Rotor Cleaning Kit	339558
Rotor cleaning brush	347404
Beckman Solution 555 (1 qt)	339555

Beckman Coulter, Inc.

Ultracentrifuge Rotor Warranty

All Beckman Coulter ultracentrifuge Fixed Angle, Vertical Tube, Near Vertical Tube, Swinging Bucket, and Airfuge rotors are warranted against defects in materials or workmanship for the time periods indicated below, subject to the Warranty Conditions stated below.

Preparative Ultracentrifuge Rotors	5 years — No Proration
Analytical Ultracentrifuge Rotors	5 years — No Proration
ML and TL Series Ultracentrifuge Rotors	5 years — No Proration
Airfuge Ultracentrifuge Rotors	1 year — No Proration
For Zonal, Continuous Flow, Component Test, and Rock Core Ultracentrifuge Rotors, see separate warranty.	

Warranty Conditions (as applicable)

1. This warranty is valid for the time periods indicated above from the date of shipment to the original Buyer by Beckman Coulter or an authorized Beckman Coulter representative.
2. Maintain one copy of this software for backup purposes (the backup copy shall be supplied by Beckman Coulter);
3. This warranty covers the Beckman Coulter Centrifuge Systems only (including but not limited to the centrifuge, rotor, and accessories) and Beckman Coulter shall not be liable for damage to or loss of the user's sample, non-Beckman Coulter tubes, adapters, or other rotor contents.
4. This warranty is void if the Beckman Coulter Centrifuge System is determined by Beckman Coulter to have been operated or maintained in a manner contrary to the instructions in the operator's manual(s) for the Beckman Coulter Centrifuge System components in use. This includes but is not limited to operator misuse, abuse, or negligence regarding indicated maintenance procedures, centrifuge and rotor classification requirements, proper speed reduction for the high density of certain fluids, tubes, and tube caps, speed reduction for precipitating gradient materials, and speed reduction for high-temperature operation.
5. Rotor bucket sets purchased concurrently with or subsequent to the purchase of a Swinging Bucket Rotor are warranted only for a term co-extensive with that of the rotor for which the bucket sets are purchased.
6. This warranty does not cover the failure of a Beckman Coulter rotor in a centrifuge not of Beckman Coulter manufacture, or if the rotor is used in a Beckman Coulter centrifuge that has been modified without the written permission of Beckman Coulter, or is used with carriers, buckets, belts, or other devices not of Beckman Coulter manufacture.
7. Rotor parts subject to wear, including but not limited to rotor O-rings, VTi, NVT, TLV, MLN, and TLN rotor tube cavity plugs and gaskets, tubing, tools, optical overspeed disks, bearings, seals, and lubrication are excluded from this warranty and should be frequently inspected and replaced if they become worn or damaged.
8. Keeping a rotor log is not mandatory, but may be desirable for maintenance of good laboratory practices.

Repair and Replacement Policies

1. If a Beckman Coulter rotor is determined by Beckman Coulter to be defective, Beckman Coulter will repair or replace it, subject to the Warranty Conditions. A replacement rotor will be warranted for the time remaining on the original rotor's warranty.
2. If a Beckman Coulter centrifuge is damaged due to a failure of a rotor covered by this warranty, Beckman Coulter will supply free of charge (i) all centrifuge parts required for repair (except the drive unit, which will be replaced at the then current price less a credit determined by the total number of revolutions or years completed, provided that such a unit was manufactured or rebuilt by Beckman Coulter), and (ii) if the centrifuge is currently covered by a Beckman Coulter warranty or

Full Service Agreement, all labor necessary for repair of the centrifuge.

3. If a Beckman Coulter rotor covered by this warranty is damaged due to a malfunction of a Beckman Coulter ultracentrifuge covered by an Ultracentrifuge System Service Agreement, Beckman Coulter will repair or replace the rotor free of charge.
4. If a Beckman Coulter rotor covered by this warranty is damaged due to a failure of a Beckman Coulter tube, bottle, tube cap, spacer, or adapter, covered under the Conditions of this Warranty, Beckman Coulter will repair or replace the rotor and repair the instrument as per the conditions in policy point (2) above, and the replacement policy.
5. Damage to a Beckman Coulter rotor or instrument due to the failure or malfunction of a non-Beckman Coulter tube, bottle, tube cap, spacer, or adapter is not covered under this warranty, although Beckman Coulter will assist in seeking compensation under the manufacturer's warranty.

Beckman Coulter will assist in seeking compensation under the manufacturer's warranty.

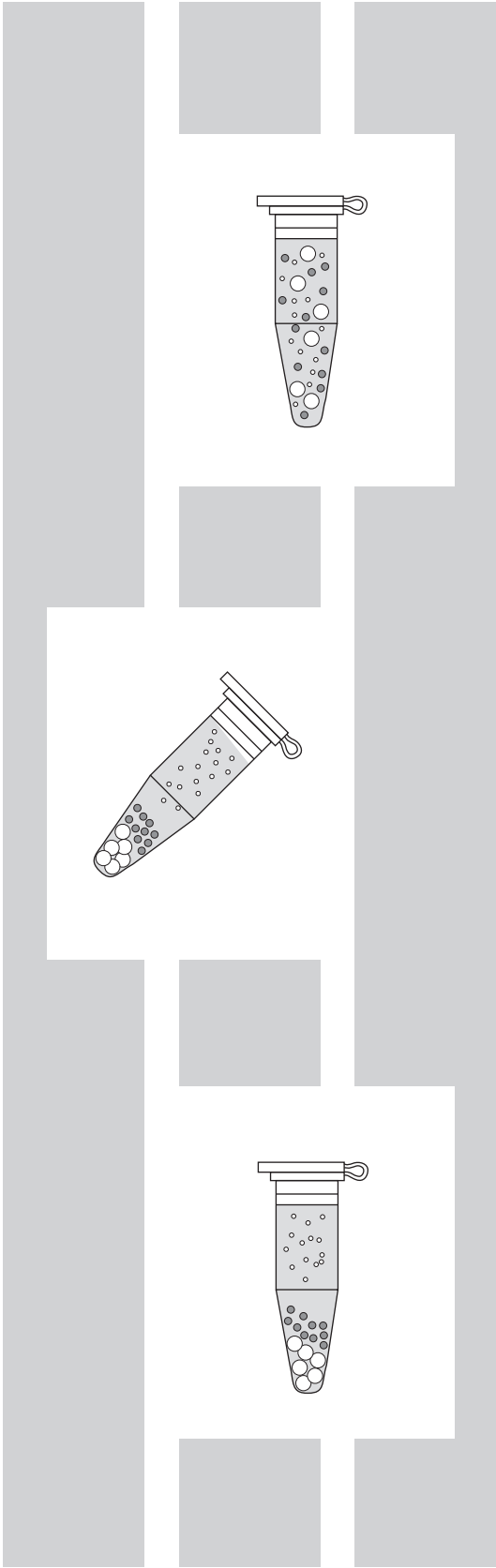
Disclaimer

IT IS EXPRESSLY AGREED THAT THE ABOVE WARRANTY SHALL BE IN LIEU OF ALL WARRANTIES OF FITNESS AND OF THE WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY AND BECKMAN COULTER, INC. SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY FOR SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF THE MANUFACTURE, USE, SALE, HANDLING, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, OR REPLACEMENT OF THE PRODUCT.

Factory Rotor Inspection Service

Beckman Coulter, Inc., will provide free mechanical and metallurgical inspection in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, of any Beckman Coulter rotor at the request of the user. (Shipping charges to Beckman Coulter are the responsibility of the user.) Rotors will be inspected in the user's laboratory if the centrifuge in which they are used is covered by an appropriate Beckman Coulter Service Agreement. Contact your local Beckman Coulter office for details of service coverage or cost.

Before shipping, contact the nearest Beckman Coulter Sales and Service office and request a Returned Goods Authorization (RGA) form and packaging instructions. Please include the complete rotor assembly, with buckets, lid, handle, tube cavity caps, etc. A SIGNED STATEMENT THAT THE ROTOR AND ACCESSORIES ARE NON-RADIOACTIVE, NON-PATHOGENIC, NON-TOXIC, AND OTHERWISE SAFE TO SHIP AND HANDLE IS REQUIRED.



Related Documents

Rotors and Tubes for Beckman Coulter Tabletop Preparative Ultracentrifuges (TLR-IM-9)

- Rotors
- Tubes and Accessories
- Using Tubes and Accessories
- Using Rotors
- Care and Maintenance
- Chemical Resistances
- The Use of Cesium Chloride Curves
- Gradient Materials
- References

Available in electronic pdf or CD-ROM by request.

Additional References

- Chemical Resistances for Beckman Coulter Centrifugation Products (IN-175)
- Ultracentrifuge Rotors, Tubes, and Accessories catalog (BR-8101)

Available in hard copy or electronic pdf by request.

Available at www.beckman.com.

www.beckman.com

