

## **Instructions for Chain of Custody Form for Transport of SAT Carcasses to the Tissue Digester**

**All personnel involved in the transport of SAT carcasses to the tissue digester must be Security Risk Assessment (SRA) cleared. Once the packaged carcass leaves the SAT animal facility, it must remain under the observation of a SRA cleared person until the tissue digester cycle is initiated. At no time are non-SRA approved individuals allowed touch the packaged carcasses.**

The step-by-step procedure follows.

- When the carcass is ready to be transported to the tissue digester, the animal (which is considered to be a select agent or toxin itself) must be removed from the animal facility's inventory. The animal facility must be entered in item #1 and the individual removing the animal from the inventory must be entered in item #2.
- The carcass must be packaged for transport. The carcass must be placed into a special tissue digester bag. A regular biohazardous bag cannot not be used because it will not be digested. The bag must then be placed in a leak-proof container with a secure lid. The SRA approved individual who packages the carcass must be entered in item #3.
- The SRA approved individual that transports the packaged carcass to the digester must be entered in item #4.
- The SRA approved individual who loads the bagged carcasses into the tissue digester must be entered in item #5.
- The person who witnesses the carcasses being loaded and the initiation of the tissue digester cycle must be entered in item #6. This individual must keep the chain of custody form until the cycle has been completed. This individual is responsible for meeting with the tissue digester operator at the time of cycle completion to complete item #7.
- Once the tissue digester cycle has finished, it must be verified that the digester maintained the appropriate temperature and pressure during the cycle. The individual who verifies the completion must be entered in item #7. This individual should be the person who operates the tissue digester; this individual does not need to be SRA cleared. This individual must also provide a print out of the successful digester run to attach to the chain of custody form.

\*Note this form is not required if the SAT carcass was previously treated by an effective method to destroy the SAT (i.e. autoclaving).