Sampling techniques: The sample should be taken with a non-contaminated sample device. If it is taken through a fixed, existing sampling port or line, the path should be flushed with the material to be sampled to ensure that the sample is free of any prior contaminants. The flushed material should be saved, since if a violation occurred, the violator may have forgotten to flush the sample line before he changed the contents of the containing vessel.

The sample should be captured in a suitable clean, contamination-free, teflon or glass container that is numbered, tared, and can be overfilled with nitrogen gas and sealed shut immediately with a non-contaminating, non-absorbing, tamper resistant closure or seal. The sample container should be prefilled with an inert gas, such as nitrogen, in order to maintain the chemical purity of the sample.

The samples should be properly identified as to where each was taken, the time of day, month, and year, who took the sample, how it was taken, and a brief description of the material (color, physical form, etc.). The data on the sample should be entered on the numbered label or tag attached to the sample container along with the name and signature of both the sample taker and the inspector who witnessed the sample being taken.

The size of the sample and the number of quadruplicate samples should be determined by the need for analysis by the Technical Secretariat, by the facility personnel, and retention sample for recheck if required. If simultaneous samples can be taken, then allocation of the samples can be made at the time of sampling. If only one sample can be taken, its size should be such that division of the sample will not be a cause for dispute. The division must take place at the inspected facility in the presence of the inspector and the facility representative.