

Re: Radiation safety and scanning electron microscope

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.nanotech/2005-09/msg00029.html>

- *From:* Jim Logajan <JamesL@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 23 Sep 2005 18:24:31 -0000
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"Sharon" <sharonschen@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

- > We have a Philips SEM Model CM120 in a room of our laboratory and were
- > wondering if it is safe to use this room as additional deskpace. How
- > safe is it for a person to sit in this room all day if the instrument
- > is rarely used?

While there are safety issues, I would think a rarely used instrument would be safer, say, than staring at a computer CRT monitor all day (or crossing the street to get to the lab).

- > How safe is it if the instrument is in regular use?

If the machine is used properly, no doubt as safe as any electrical device. However, you may want to review the safety guidelines of other SEM users, such as Purdue (<http://www.purdue.edu/rem/rs/sem.htm>). And there is this page, which may be redundant with material you already have: <http://www.emcourses.com/safety.htm>

- > I have tried asking Philips this question, but apparently it is a
- > 'billable' question and we would like to try to get this answer from
- > others before paying them for the answer.

A safety question is "billable"?? Hmm. You should also consider posting your question to the group sci.techniques.microscopy where I believe a number of TEM/SEM users hang out.

Qualifier: my only experience with electron microscopes was nearly 14 years ago and involved the development of real-time image processing software. I did not operate the scope. Where there were operation concerns, they were more about the operator breaking the scope than the scope breaking the operator. Also, do you really want unnecessary traffic around an expensive piece of equipment?

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Re: Radiation safety and scanning electron microscope

- **References:**

- ◆ **Radiation safety and scanning electron microscope**

- ◇ From: Sharon

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