Sample preparation guidelines

To avoid contaminations, <u>always wear powder free gloves</u> and change them often.

Use MilliQ water or HPLC Grade water to prepare all solutions.

Ideally, work in a clean hood.

We analyze Coomassie Blue and silver-stained bands. <u>In the case of silver</u> <u>stain, the staining protocol must be compatible with mass spec</u>, please contact us.

Protein bands need to be clearly separated.

When excising the gel band/spot of interest, cut as close to the edge of the band as possible in order to reduce the amount of "background" gel. If your band is too big please pick only the middle of the sample band.

Please provide a gel image of the gel with indications of the excised band(s).

Place the gel band/plug into a plain and clean 1.5mL Eppendorf tube and store it covered with water in the refrigerator; shipping/storing on dry ice is not necessary.

Please don't forget to fill and sign the sample submission form and send it to us by Fax or e-mail.