

- **ISCC 92 November 2021  
Coordinator's report**

- Schedule 2021
- Draft planning 2022
  - Access to cern
  - Around the hall
    - Training



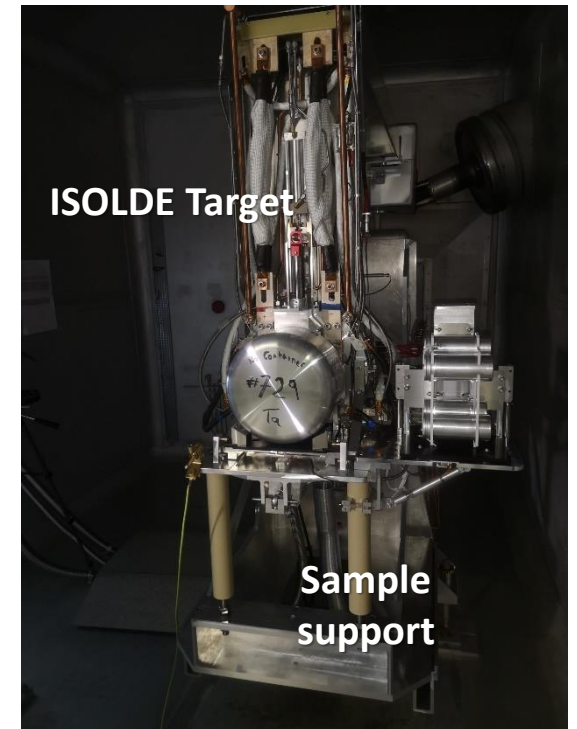
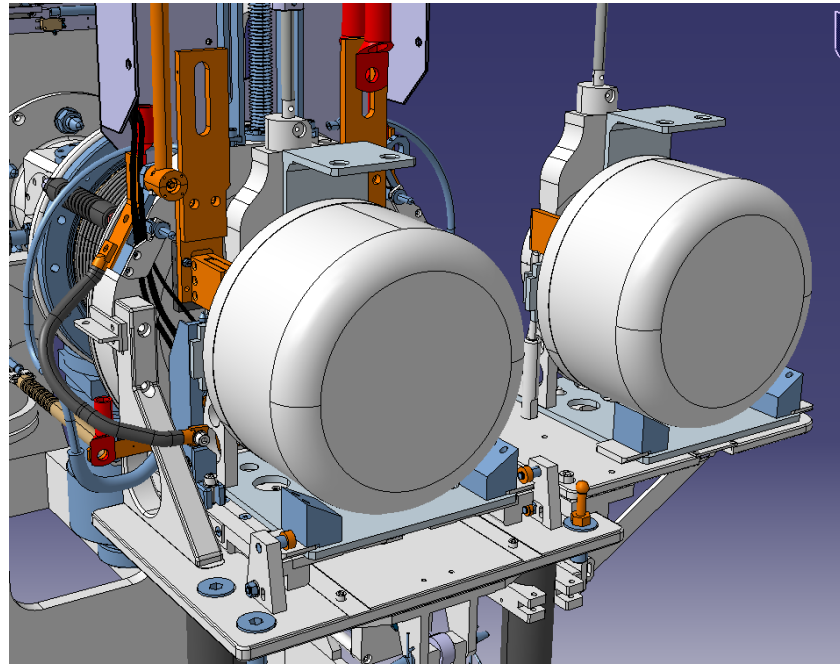
# 2021 Beam requests and schedule

- ~676 shifts requested
- Low energy Physics 21 June
- HIE ISOLDE: stable July 7; physics in W30
- Lack of ventilation in Class A labs, UC units were “predicted in 2020”
- Combine with some used targets from 2018
- **Caused some issues with mass markers/outgassing**
- Travel has still been very difficult for many countries (see access section later)
- Inevitable bias to local groups (or those able to run remotely)

Row Labels	Count of Experiment	Sum of Requested shifts
Actar	2	12
COLLAPS	2	40
Corset/XT03	1	12
CRIS	5	72
IDS	7	44
IDS	5	50,5
IDS fast timing	6	25,001
IDS Vandle	1	15
IDS/TISD	1	2
ISOLTRAP	3	36
ISS	7	117
LA1 Bordeaux	1	12
Magnetic moments	2	8
MIRACLS	1	7
SSP	20	53
TAS	3	19
Thorium clock	2	11
TISD/ISOLTRAP	4	60
VITO	4	17
VITO	1	0
Wisard	1	24
Edinburgh setup	1	21
Gandalph	1	6
TISD	1	6
GLM	2	6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>675,501</b>



# New GPS irradiation station: now ready for testing





ISOLDE Week 45 2021		RILIS	GPS	HRS	CAO	MEDICIS	GPS IS	p's	Visits	other
Monday	08/11/2021	RILIS: Dy (GPS) RILIS: Ac (HRS)	AM	Installation of target on irradiation station	#711 UC	HRS	#635 UC (TBC)			
			PM		stable setup	HRS		0900 #723M to MEDICIS		
			night	IS688	Stable to LA1 if possible	HRS		NORMGPS		
Tuesday	09/11/2021		AM		IS658	HRS		NORMHRS		INTC Open Session
			PM		IS658	HRS		NORMHRS		
			night	IS688		HRS		NORMGPS		
Wednesday	10/11/2021		AM			HRS		NORMHRS		INTC closed session. NO protons during day...
			PM		Transmission to XT03	HRS				
			night	IS688	IS581 tests (if ready)	HRS		NORMHRS		
Thursday	11/11/2021		AM		IS581	HRS	(TBC) #734 UC VD7 indirect irradiation	NORMHRS	1100 STFC visit to ISOLDE	
		PM		IS581	HRS	NORMHRS				
		night	IS688	IS581	HRS		shared			
Friday	12/11/2021	AM		IS581	HRS		#635 removed?	NORMHRS		
		PM		IS581	HRS			NORMHRS		
		night		IS581	HRS		NORMHRS			
Saturday	13/11/2021	RILIS: Sc	AM	IS627 (GLM) (without p+)	IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
			PM		IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
			night	IS627 (GLM) (without p+)	IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
Sunday	14/11/2021		AM	IS627 (GLM) (without p+)	IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
			PM		IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
			night	IS627 (GLM) (without p+)	IS581	HRS		NORMHRS		
Monday	15/11/2021		AM	Protons off at 0600. End of online period 2021. Preparations begin for ISOLDE winter physics.			(TBC) #734 UC VD7 to GPS			
			PM							
			night							

Summary of week: Quite a busy week before protons end for 2021. GPS will continue with Tb collections overnight until Thursday morning. (sharing with HRS users as required). HRS setup for Fr and Ac beams from Monday onwards. Ac to LA2 for IS658 if possible on Tuesday to confirm some transitions related to earlier run in September. ACTAR will take Fr beams for last 4 days of protons to XT03. 209Fr and 227Fr @ >7.5MeV/u. First week using the new GPS irradiation station.

GPS: Used target #627 Ta for Dy/Tb collections. Setup to GLM. HV = 30kV. Collections of 149Tb overnight for shipping early each morning. Sc extraction without protons on final weekend.

HRS: #711 UC for AC and Fr beams. Setup at 30kV in bunched mode. Some shots of Ac to LA1 on Tuesday, else priority to ACTAR run on XT03. Stable setup with 238U.

Protons: NO protons expected during day on Monday 8 November. Rest of the week NORMGPS and NORMHRS will be in demand up to 2uA until end of proton run on 15 November. NO protons during Wednesday daytime for intervention on Linac4.

Operations responsible: Alberto (167538) till Tuesday 9th November. Erwin (164585) till Tuesday 16th November.

For more details about visits: <https://publicoutreach.cern.ch/outreach/panel#agenda/today>  
 ISOLDE Daily meeting: 09:15 Monday; 08:45 Tue-Fri via Zoom: <https://cern.zoom.us/j/98894210347?pwd=WUtSMlFkbnVlcWVkkYtNOG5nMFnFdz09>

### Final weekly schedule of the online period

- Quite busy as expected
- Inauguration of the new GPS irradiation station: another column for the planning!
- Use of MEDICIS for winter physics irradiation
- Growing need to have more straightforward visibility of protons taken on target depending on which station is receiving protons.
- Target exchanges/movements becoming more common. Quite some problems this year which will hopefully be ironed out after the YETS.



Row Labels	Sum of Scheduled 2021	Sum of Delivered 2021
biophysics		
COLLAPS	37	17
Collections:		
108Ag		
Collections:		
163Ho	2	
CRIS	70,5	25
Gandalph		
Gandalph/CRIS		
HIE ISOLDE	56	50
IDS	21	14
IDS/ISOLTRAP		
IDS/VANDLE		
in-source / IDS		
ISOLTRAP	27	7
Medical physics	13,5	1
MIRACLS		
Nuclear masses		
SSP	31,5	32,5
TAS		
TISD		
TISD/IDS		
Travelling Setup	14	14
Travelling Setup;		
ECSLI	11	11
VITO	22	12
Windmill/IDS		
WISARD	14	10
Grand Total	319,5	193,5

## Preliminary overview of running period 2021

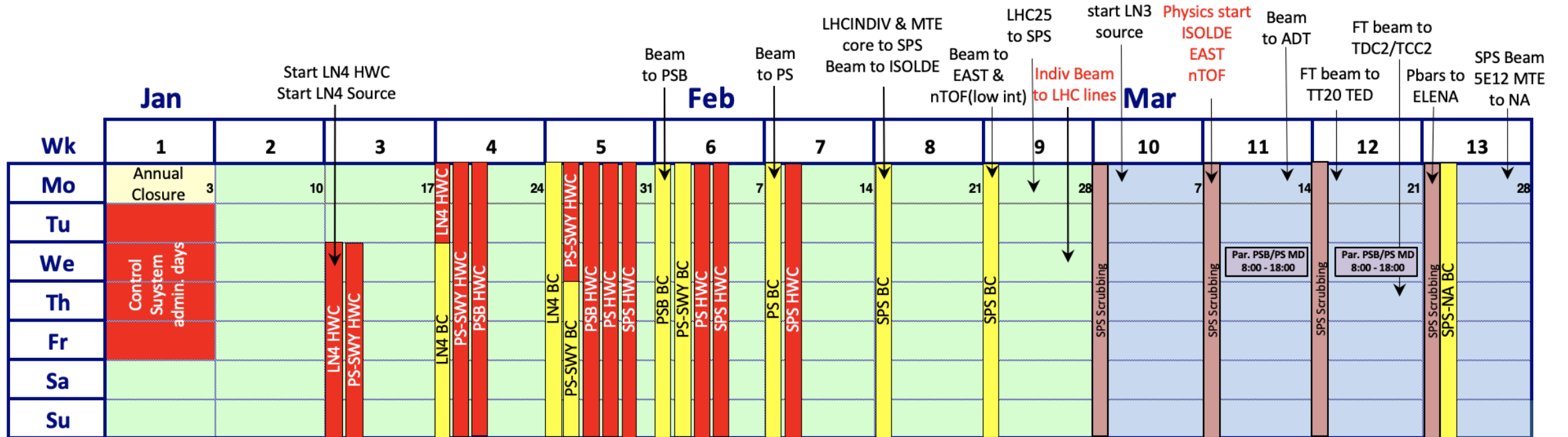
So far around 200 radioactive shifts have been delivered

23 experiments ran/scheduled in 2021

Fewer than other years, partly because some groups ran several times, also due to covid situation favouring the locals.

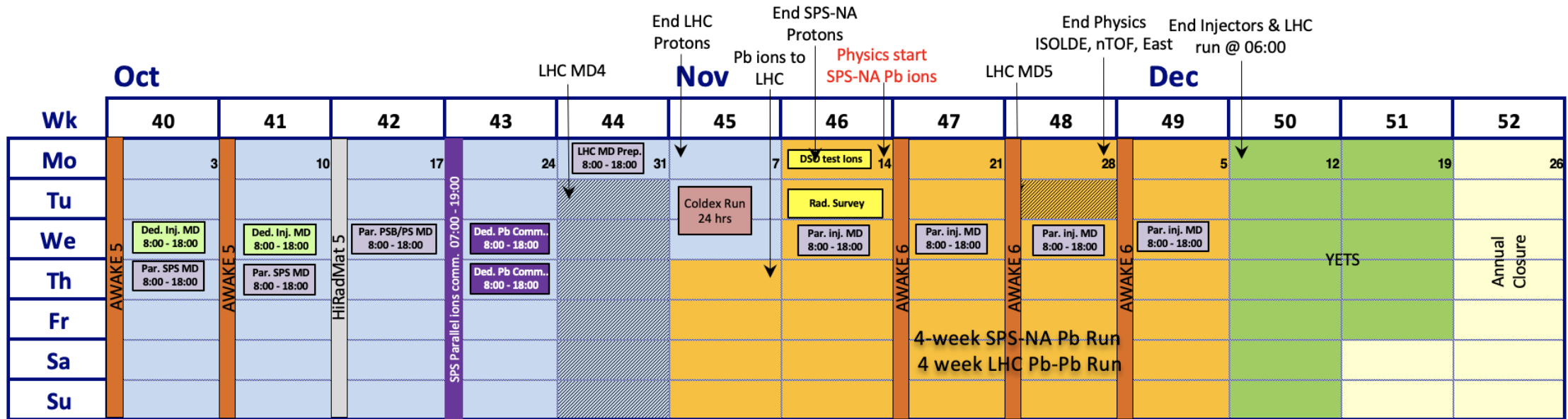
# Draft schedule for 2022

- Wk1: Control system administration days – starts on last day of annual closure
- Wk3: Start of Linac 4 source and injectors complex re-commissioning
- Wk9: LHCProbe/Pilot/INDIV ready for LHC
- Wk10 – 13: SPS scrubbing
- **Wk11: Physics start ISOLDE, nTOF and East Area – preceded by 2 weeks setting-up**
- Wk11 and Wk 12: Parallel MD for PSB and PS on Wednesday
- Wk13: Start 2-week beam commissioning SPS-NA – interleaved with scrubbing during nights





## Draft schedule 2022: end of year



- Wk46: End SPS-NA protons and start SPS-NA Pb ions physics – 4 weeks Pb ions run
- Wk47+48+49: AWAKE run 6
- **Wk48: End protons physics for ISOLDE, nTOF and PS-EA – cool-down in view of YETS**
- Wk48: LHC MD block 5 (ions)
- Wk50: Mon.12 December @ 06:00 stop off all beams
- 2 dedicated MD blocks, 7 parallel MD blocks and 1 LHC MD preparation block

Extremely long year: 259 days for physics

However, note that HIE ISOLDE only starting around 20<sup>th</sup> July at current estimations : only ~132 days available...

Dates still to be confirmed at research board in December

## Beam request for ISOLDE 2022\*

Estimated ISOLDE running period: March 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 to November 29<sup>th</sup> 2022

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED AND RETURN **BY December 20<sup>th</sup> 2021**

### Experiment INTC-I-171

#### Towards laser spectroscopy of exotic fluorine isotopes

Spokesperson: Ronald Fernando, Garcia Ruiz

Spokesperson email: rgarcia@mit.edu

Contact person: Ronald Fernando, Garcia Ruiz

Contact email: rgarcia@mit.edu

Shifts approved for Run3: 13

*If you require stable beam or commissioning time for a detector or setup, please fill out the separate request for in the attached document.*

# What is the main ISOLDE limitation for your experiment/experimental programme?

# Can you tune the ISOLDE stable beam to your setup without technical assistance?

Yes  No

# Please list/update the name and affiliation of collaborators working on this ISOLDE experiment: INTC-I-171

# Comments and suggestions

# In the two attached Excel templates:

- list the publications originating from INTC-I-171 **not included** in your last beam-time request
- fill in your beam-time request 2021

\* Please e-mail the completed form to [karl.johnston@cern.ch](mailto:karl.johnston@cern.ch)

# Beam requests for 2022

- Ready to be sent out, this weekend
- To be returned before Christmas, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec
- Earlier than usual, but need to prepare targets for 2022.
- Also useful to know plans of some collaborations in particular Miniball.
- Spokespersons will be contacted later in 2022 to see if availabilities are still valid.

Row Labels	Sum of Shifts remaining for Run3	Sum of Shifts remaining after 2021 till end of Run3
[-] biophysics	9,5	9,5
N/A	9,5	9,5
[-] COLLAPS	56	39
N/A	56	39
[-] Collections: 108Ag	30	30
N/A	30	30
[-] Collections: 163Ho	6	6
N/A	6	6
[-] CRIS	115,5	90,5
N/A	115,5	90,5
[-] Gandalph	8	8
N/A	8	8
[-] Gandalph/CRIS	6	6
N/A	6	6
[-] HIE ISOLDE	550	500
ISS	147	97
Miniball	275	275
Prototype	0	0
SEC	23	23
XT03	23	23
XT03: Actar	28	28
XT03: Corset	12	12
XT03: Edinburgh	42	42
[-] IDS	107	93
N/A	107	93
[-] IDS/SOLTRAP	6	6
N/A	6	6
[-] IDS/VANDLE	18	18
N/A	18	18
[-] in-source / IDS	10	10
N/A	10	10
[-] ISOLTRAP	42	35
N/A	42	35
[-] Medical physics	16	15
N/A	16	15
[-] MIRACLS	17	17
N/A	17	17
[-] Nuclear masses	8	8
N/A	8	8
[-] SSP	136	103,5
N/A	136	103,5
[-] TAS	39	39
N/A	39	39
[-] TISD	20	20
N/A	20	20
[-] TISD/IDS	9	9
N/A	9	9
[-] Travelling Setup	24	10
N/A	24	10
[-] Travelling Setup; ECSLI	11	0
N/A	11	0
[-] VITO	29	17
N/A	29	17
[-] Windmill/IDS	22,5	22,5
N/A	22,5	22,5
[-] WISARD	24	14
N/A	24	14
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1319,5</b>	<b>1126</b>

## Shift backlog before next week's INTC

Row Labels	Count of Exp. no.	Sum of Shifts remaining after 2021 till end of Run3	Sum of Shifts remaining for Run3
INTC 63	34	470	485
INTC 64	18	201	285.5
INTC 65	14	182	245
INTC 66	16	139	153
INTC 67	11	134	151
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>1126</b>	<b>1319.5</b>

## Next week's INTC

Open session 9 November  
 Closed session 10 November  
 Agenda here:  
<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1085117/>

Row Labels	Count of Title	Sum of Shifts requested
[-] Addendum	1	0
[-] nTOF	1	0
[-] Letter of intent	4	11
[-] ISOLDE	3	11
TISD	2	6
TISD/HIE	1	5
[-] nTOF	1	0
[-] Proposal	6	118
[-] ISOLDE	6	118
Decay spectroscopy	2	39
Laser spectroscopy	1	29
Total absorption spectroscopy	1	14
HIE ISOLDE/ISS	1	24
IDS	1	12
[-] (blank)		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>129</b>

## CERN'S COVID-19 SCALE AND MEASURES



The COVID-19 level in place reflects the prevailing epidemiological situation, and determines corresponding measures across the Laboratory.

### TRANSITION BETWEEN LEVELS

Determined via a combination of the incidence rate in the local area and a qualitative assessment by CERN.



Based on number of confirmed cases at CERN, presence of new variants

Category	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
<b>Telework (TW) measures*</b>	Members of personnel (MP) who can telework should telework, though one day per week on-site is possible.	MP who can telework should telework, though two days per week on-site are possible.	Normal working conditions apply. Telework may be exceptionally requested by the Organization.	Normal working conditions apply.
<b>Access to CERN sites**</b>	MP and honorary members are authorised, only for professional reasons and in consultation with their supervisors Retirees can access on-site facilities, such as bank safe deposit boxes, the CHIS office or the pension fund, only if strictly necessary Relatives of CERN Members of Personnel are not authorised CERN club members are not authorised	MP and honorary members are authorised, only for professional reasons and in consultation with their supervisors Retirees can access on-site facilities, such as bank safe deposit boxes, the CHIS office or the pension fund, only if strictly necessary Relatives of CERN Members of Personnel are not authorised	MP and honorary members are authorised, in consultation with their supervisors Retirees can access on-site facilities Relatives of CERN MP are authorised	Standard Access
<b>CERN clubs</b>	Club activities outside CERN: Host State rules apply No club activities are allowed on site	Club activities outside CERN: Host State rules apply Only activities supervised by CERN club members are allowed on site	Club activities outside CERN: Host State rules apply	Standard Access
<b>Microcosm exhibition, CERN shop, Globe events</b>	Resume with measures similar to those valid in Geneva museums, shops and theatres, and following HSE-approved protocols	Resume with measures similar to those valid in Geneva museums, shops and theatres, and following HSE-approved protocols	Resume with measures similar to those valid in Geneva museums, shops and theatres, and following HSE-approved protocols	Distributors of hand sanitizing gel available at entrance
<b>Public on-site events within the fenced area</b>	Not allowed	Allowed with measures similar to those in Geneva public events and within CERN access measures	Allowed with measures similar to those in Geneva public events and within CERN access measures	Distributors of hand sanitizing gel available at the venue

\* Measures do not apply to those members of the personnel who cannot telework or whose presence on-site is needed for carrying out the ongoing activities of the Organization.  
\*\* With the ramping up of Host-State vaccination campaigns, access conditions have been revised and now apply across all age groups.

#### Vulnerability to COVID-19

It is the responsibility of each person to declare a vulnerability. For people with a declared vulnerability, specific protection plans must be defined, independently of the COVID-19 level in place.

#### Please note

Measures such as washing hands, wearing masks, keeping distance, self-isolation and quarantine, duty-travel and space-occupancy restrictions remain in place at least until virus circulation is assessed as low.



## CERN currently in level orange

Category	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
<b>Telework (TW) measures*</b>	Members of personnel (MP) who can telework should telework, though one day per week on-site is possible.	MP who can telework should telework, though two days per week on-site are possible.	Normal working conditions apply. Telework may be exceptionally requested by the Organization.	Normal working conditions apply.
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#### Please note

Measures such as washing hands, wearing masks, keeping distance, self-isolation and quarantine, duty-travel and space-occupancy restrictions remain in place at least until virus circulation is assessed as low.

Masks and proximeters still mandatory.  
Remote meetings still favoured.

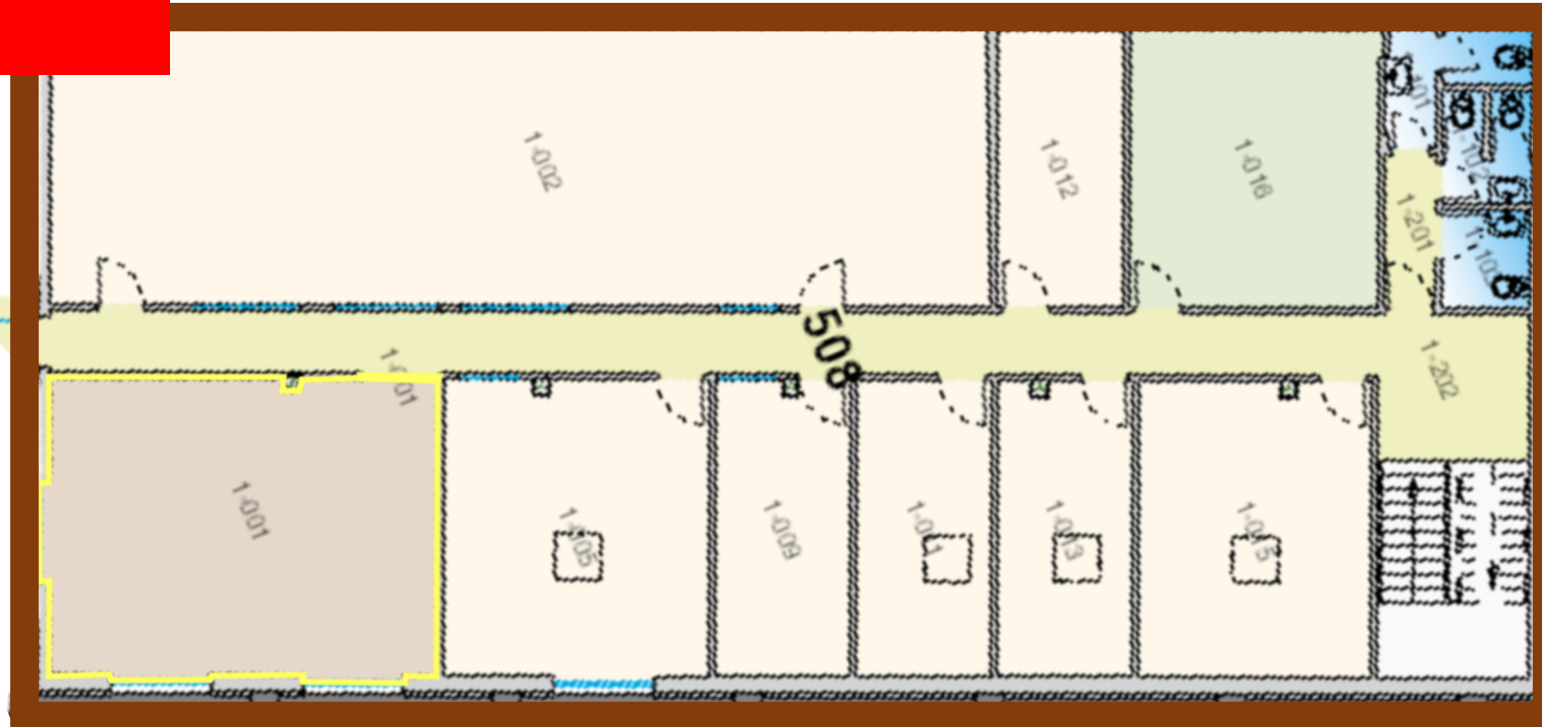
NO firm decision on use of covid certificate yet

Restrictions on number of people remain

(has become challenging to manage groups in recent weeks...)

- 1-002 → Control room (291 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 170 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 6 people

- 1-016 → Kitchen (77 m<sup>3</sup>)
- Vent?
- 4 people



- 1-001 → Visitors room (130 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 310 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 6 people

- 1-015 → RILIS DAQ (76 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 196 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 4 people

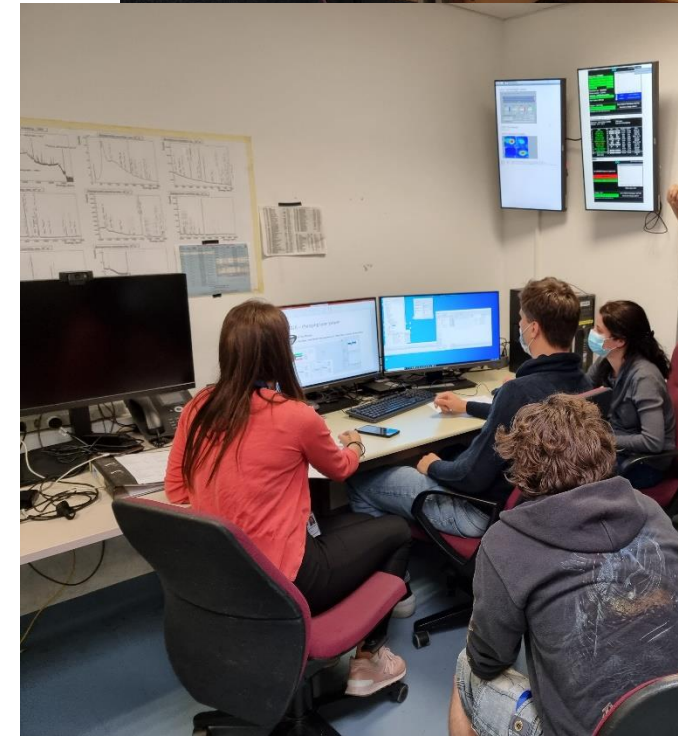
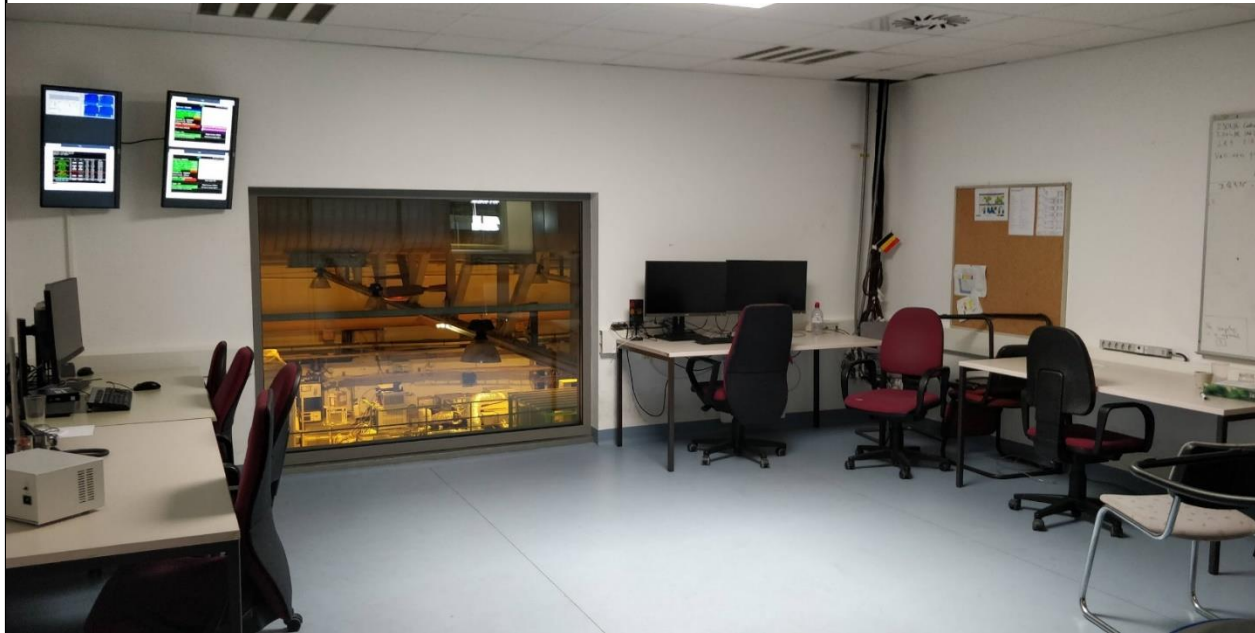
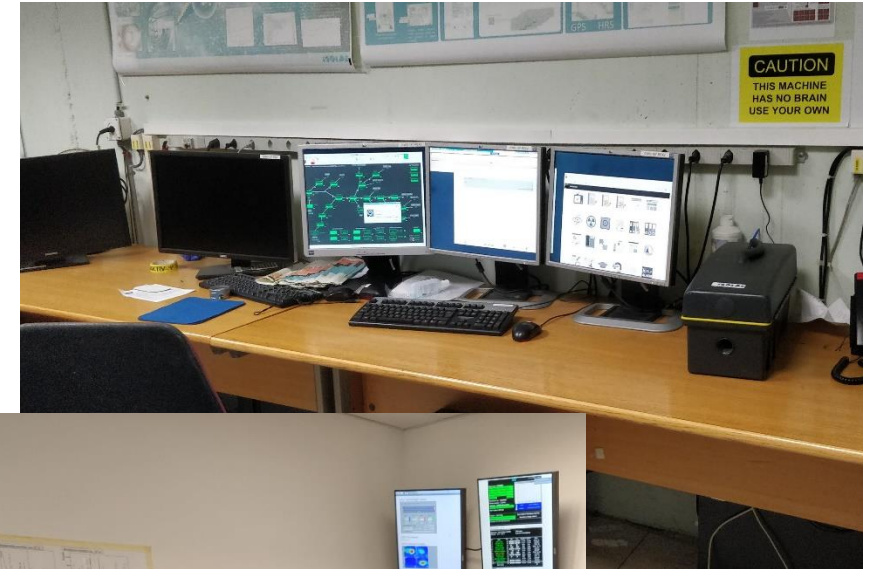
- 1-005 → ISOLDE DAQ (87 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 232 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 4 people

- 1-009 → ISOLTRAP DAQ (44 m<sup>3</sup>)
- 176 m<sup>3</sup>/h
- 2 people

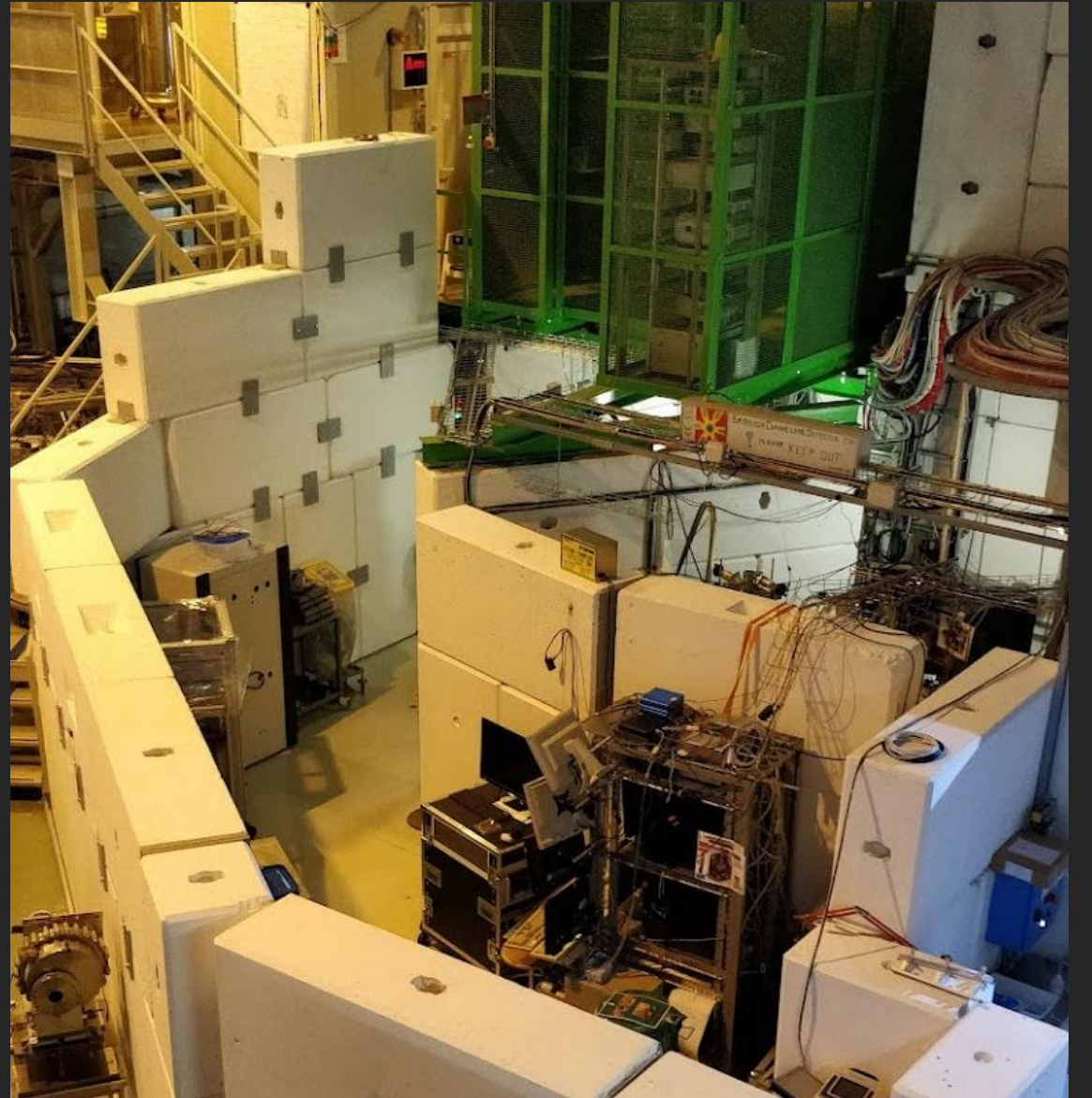
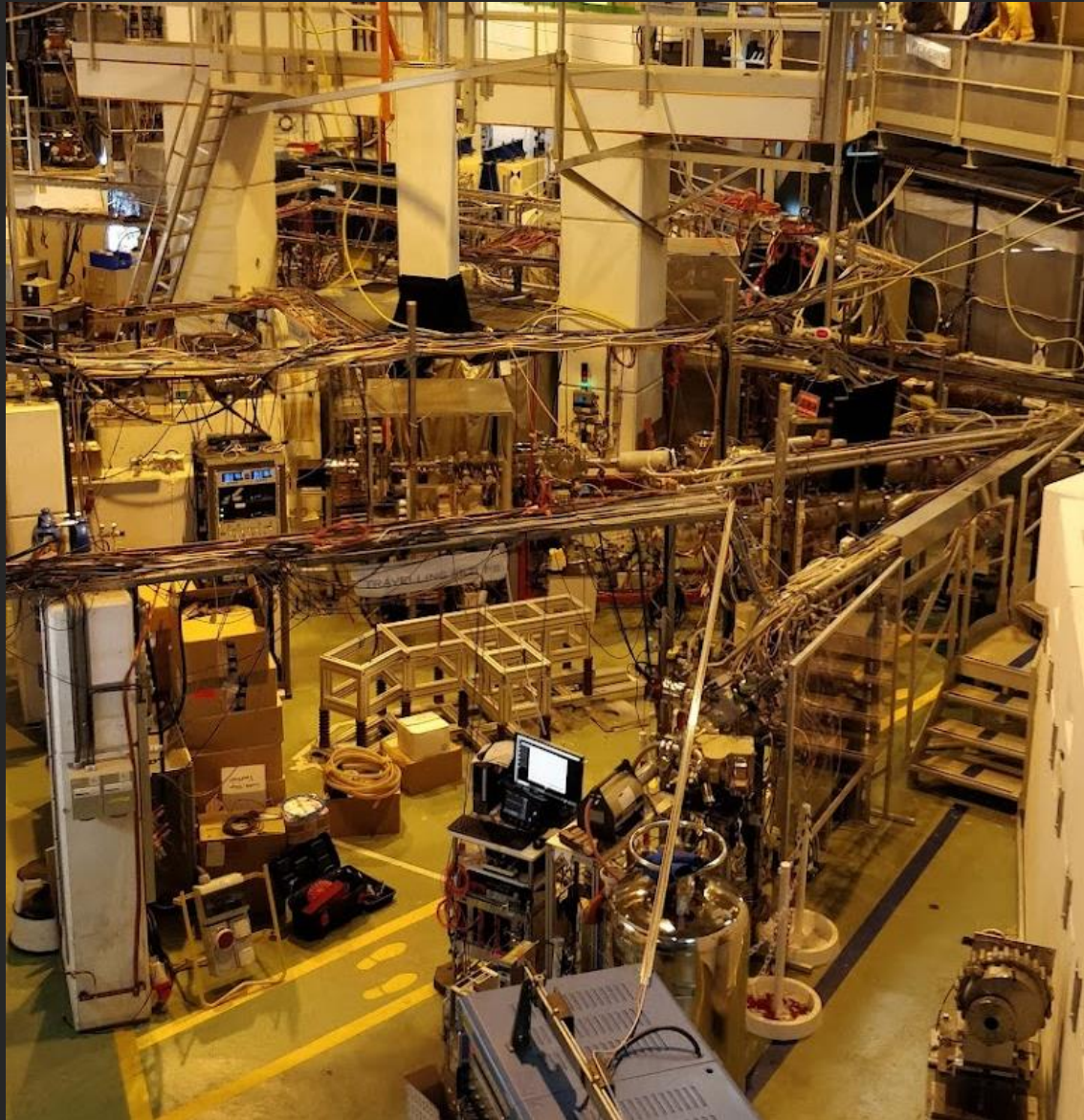
- 1-011 → xx (44 m<sup>3</sup>)
- Vent?
- 4 people

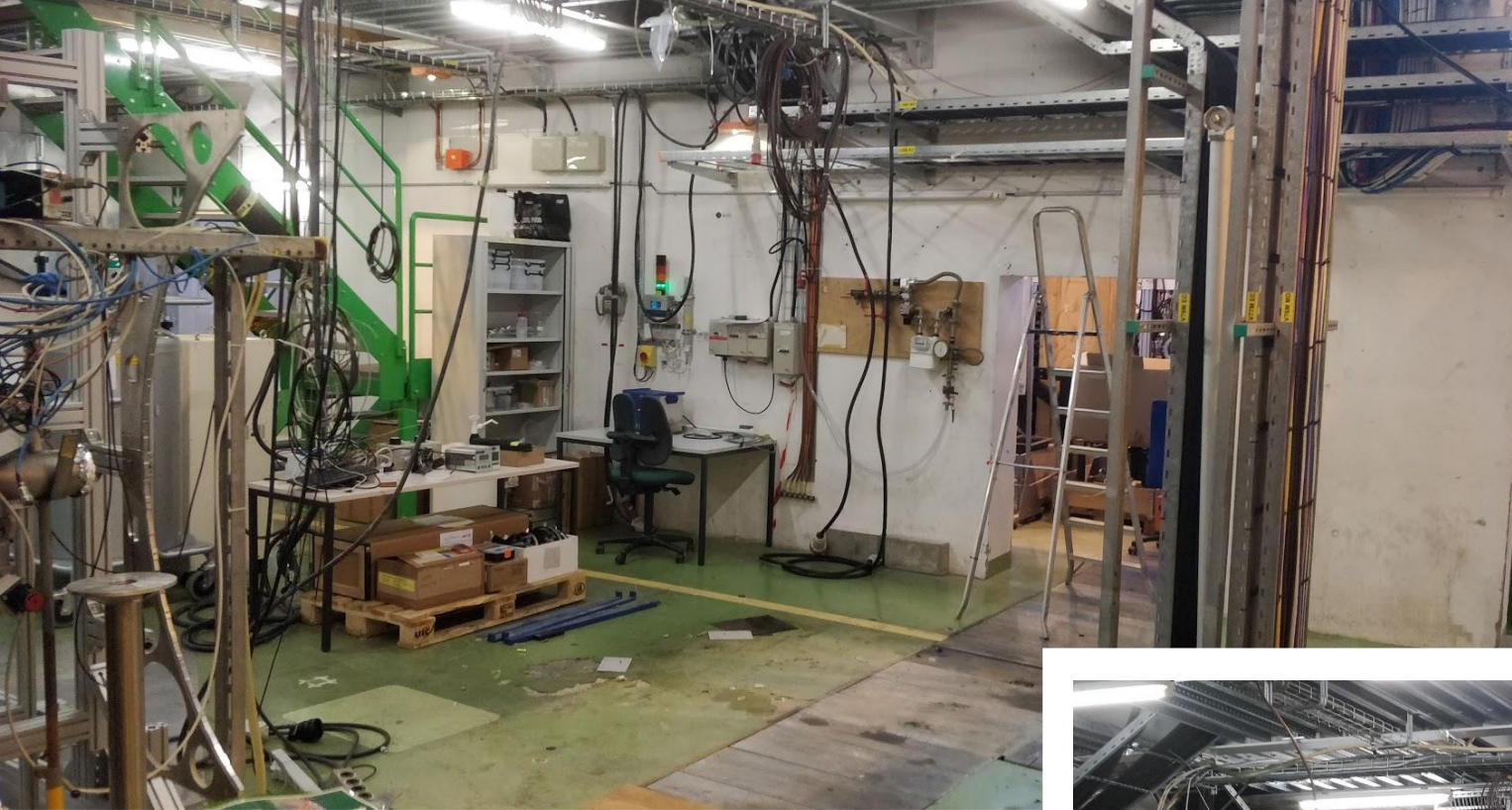
- 1-013 → xx (42 m<sup>3</sup>)
- Vent?
- 2 people

Use old control room, DAQ and visitors space more optimally to allow for more distancing/zoom conferencing



With OP, additional control terminals...OP working on means to allow monitoring e.g. for advanced users at home/office



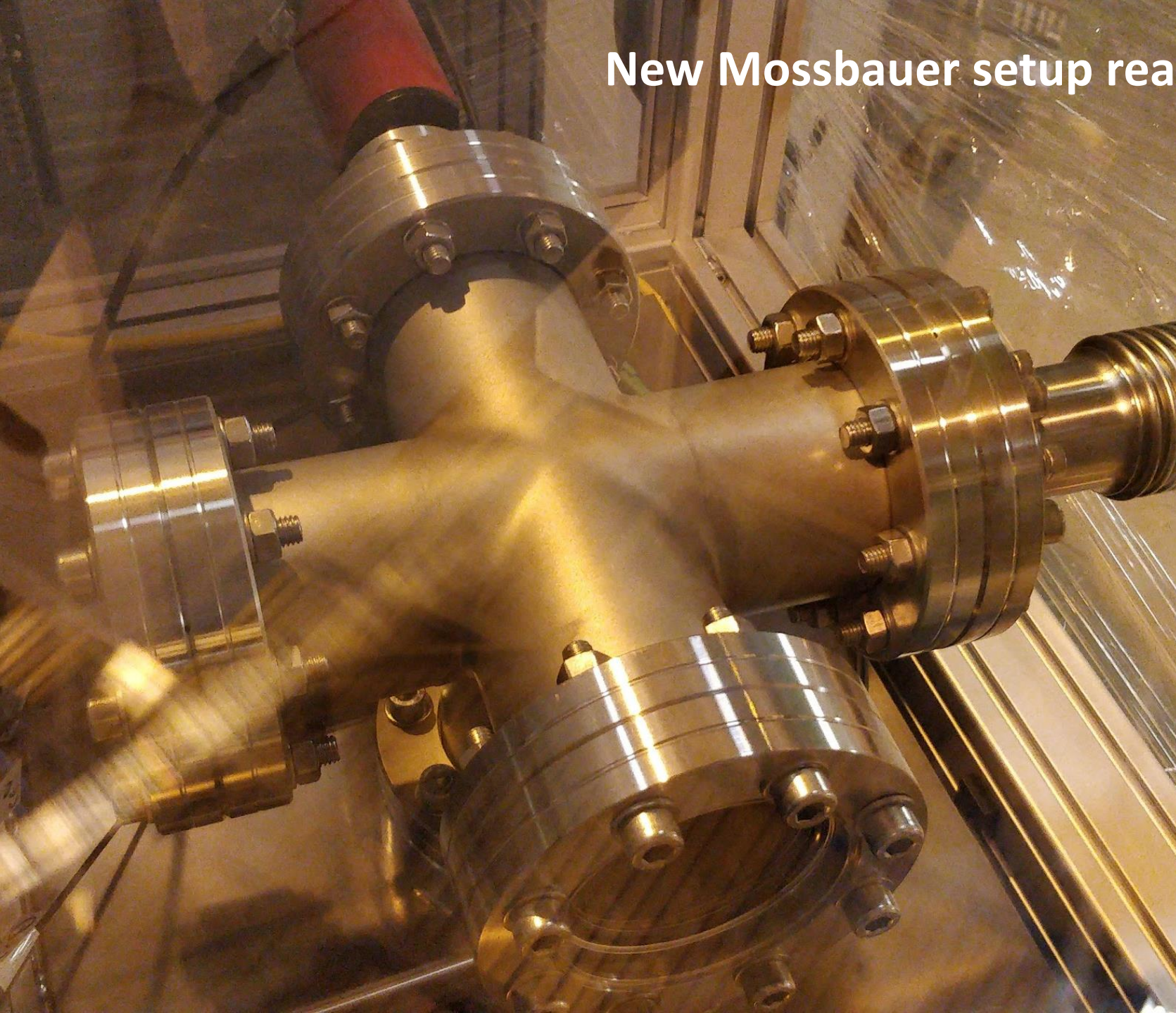


MIRACLS installation in old  
NICOLE area

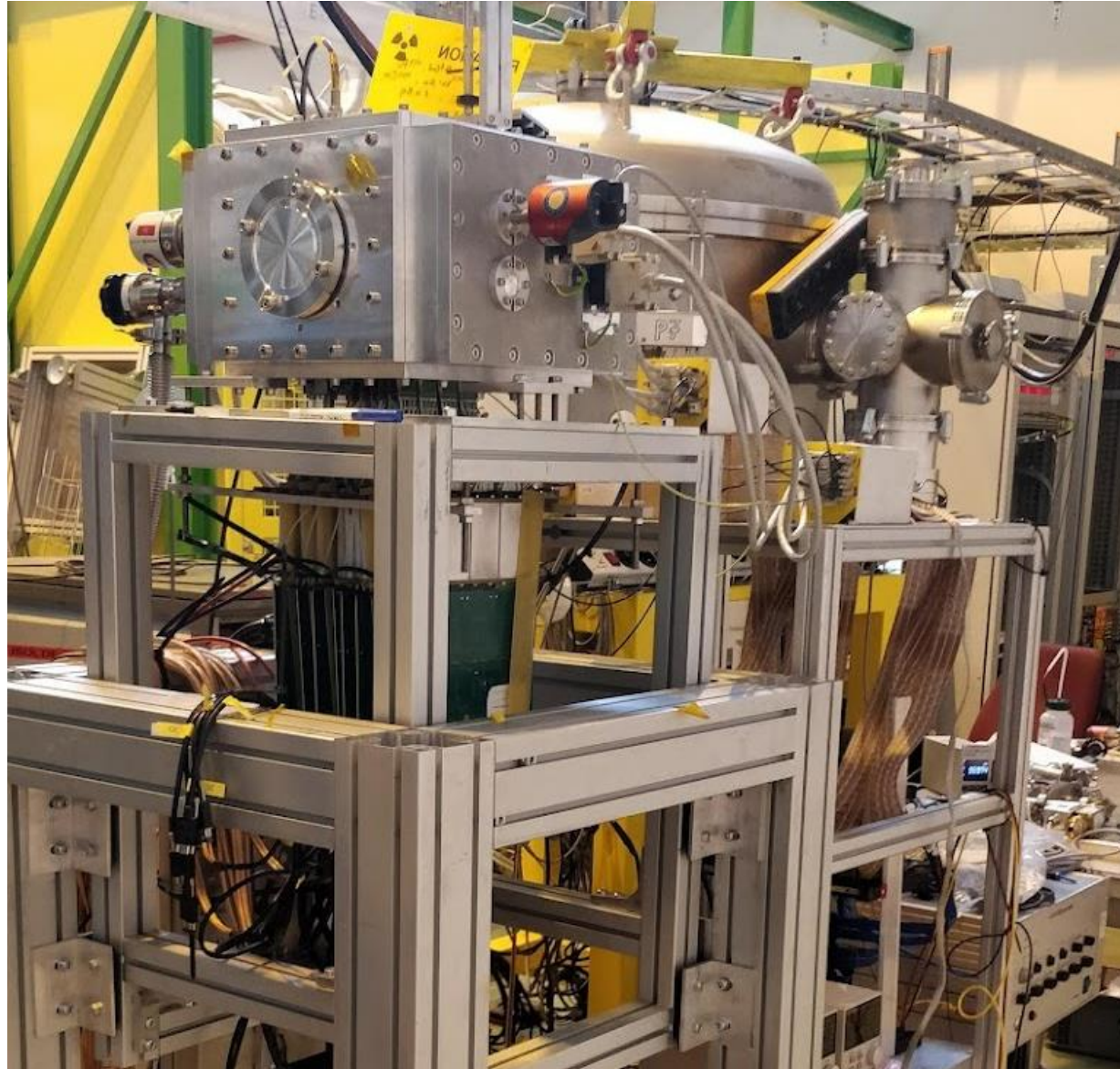


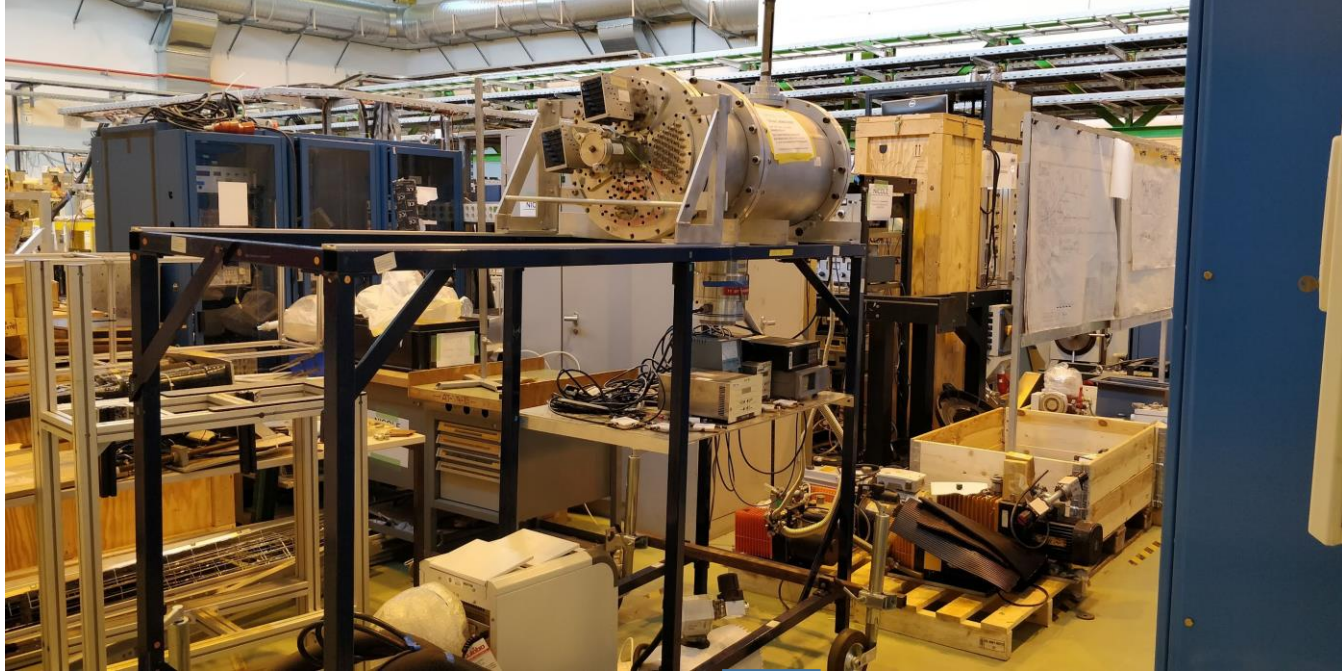


New Mossbauer setup ready for commissioning



# HIE ISOLDE: ionisation chamber and ACTAR





Class A labs

MEDICIS

HRS target

Target area

GPS target

Protons

Mass separators

HIE-ISOLDE (SC LINAC)

REX-EBIS/REX NC LINAC

SPEDE

ISS

MINIBALL

Experimental hall

Create space for safe detector storage/development

HIE-ISOLDE Linac

ISOLDE Decay Station

ISOLTRAP

CRIS

COLLAPS

Travelling Setup



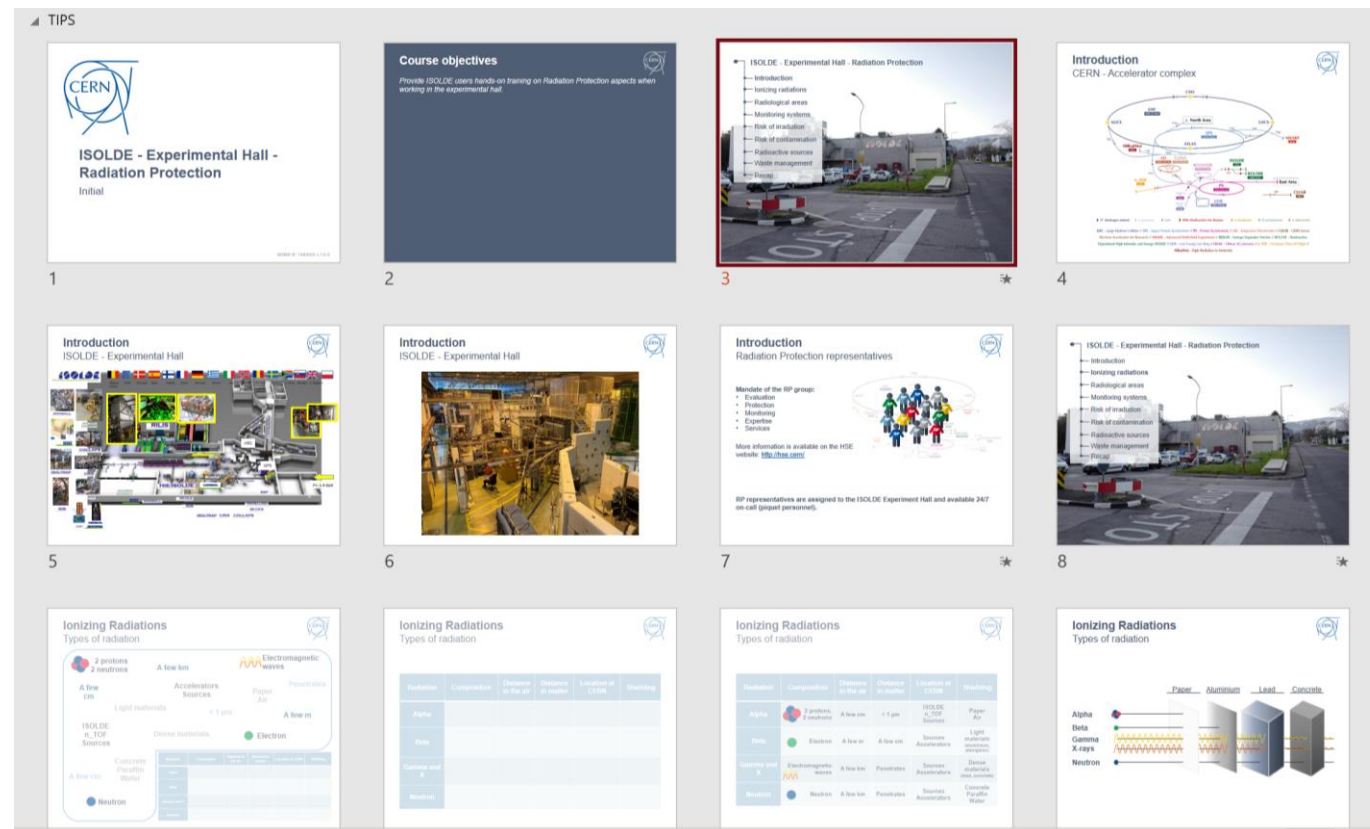
# Training

In addition to the (ever-growing) number of online courses...

Hands-on RP and Electrical training

New from next week:

- dedicated weekly sessions of RP hands-on course. Local trainer (!) so scheduling should be easier for this course.
- New EP-wide electrical course for all users/staff who need to work in an experimental area.
- Both will take place on Tuesday but time has increased:
  - EP course 0830 till 1230
  - RP course 1400 till 1630



In LMS:

**ISOLDE - Experimental Hall - Radiation Protection - Handling (Covid-19)**

**Electrical Safety - Working in EP experiments**

Scheduling of safety courses has not been as straightforward as expected, limited numbers due to covid/unexpected cancellations and EP electrical course not yet available every week. *Ad hoc* sessions are available but not desired.



MEMORANDUM

Date : 2 June 2021  
To : Department Heads, Technical Coordinators of Large Experiments  
Cc : HSE-TMB, DSOs / LEXGLIMOSes + deputies  
From : Safety Training section (HSE-TS-ST)  
Via : Angela GOEHRING-CRINON (HSE-TS, Group Leader)  
Subject : Safety Training programme "Electrical Safety - Working in EP experiments"

CERN Safety Training, in collaboration with CERN experts in electrical safety and representatives from the EP Department, has designed a new training course for physicists, engineers and technicians who will carry out a limited number of electrical tasks in CERN experimental areas, workshops and laboratories.

The aim of the course, titled "Electrical Safety - Working in EP experiments", is to raise awareness of the persons concerned regarding the specific risks that are present in the above-mentioned installations and the associated mitigation measures and procedures.

The course only covers electrical and mechanical tasks listed below. Any task exceeding the scope of those mentioned below require specific electrical training and authorisations according to Safety Code C1<sup>1</sup>.

Electrical tasks

- Connection, disconnection and operation of equipment at plug sockets up to 63A.
- Install and operate standardised rack mounted electrical equipment in relation to experimental apparatus at CERN within existing racks and the connection of modules and modular power supplies with standardised connectors.
- Performance of localised lock-out/tag-out for your own work and for equipment under your responsibility, where the point of isolation is a plug and socket outlet.
- Cable installation and termination in an electrical environment, up to 6 mm<sup>2</sup> for signal cabling and power distribution, and up to 16 mm<sup>2</sup> for earthing.
- Repair and removal operations on experimental apparatus, when the equipment is disconnected and unplugged. If the operation requires the removal of any housing or protective screens these must be replaced before the equipment is re-powered.
- Measurements on live equipment, which may only be taken in the course of normal operation as part of a written and verified operational procedure and risk assessment.

[Link](#)

Also causing issues....



MEMORANDUM

Annex 1

Authorisation to carry out specific activities in CERN experimental areas

This authorisation is prerequisite for Associated Members of the Personnel (MPAs<sup>1</sup>) with status USER to carry out certain electrical and mechanical tasks in experimental areas at CERN. It must be signed by the authorized representative of the home institution<sup>2</sup>.

I, the undersigned, herewith certify that the MPA identified hereafter

Cern ID of MPA (if already attributed): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as in passport): \_\_\_\_\_

First name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of home institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

is employed by us and that, subject to the successful completion of the CERN Safety Training course "Electrical Safety - Working at EP Experiments"<sup>3</sup> by said MPA, he/she is authorised to carry out the following electrical and/or mechanical tasks at CERN.<sup>4</sup>

Electrical tasks

- Connection, disconnection and operation of equipment at plug sockets up to 63 A.
- Install and operate standardised rack mounted electrical equipment in relation to experimental apparatus at CERN within existing racks and the connection of modules and modular power supplies with standardised connectors.
- Performance of localised lock-out/tag-out for your own work and for equipment under your responsibility, where the point of isolation is a plug and socket outlet.
- Cable installation and termination in an electrical environment, up to 6 mm<sup>2</sup> for signal cabling and power distribution, and up to 16 mm<sup>2</sup> for earthing.
- Repair and removal operations on experimental apparatus, when the equipment is disconnected and unplugged. If the operation requires the removal of any housing or protective screens these must be replaced before the equipment is re-powered.

<sup>1</sup> The Associated Members of the Personnel are defined in CERNs Staff Rules and Regulations and the corresponding Administrative Circulars and include users, cooperation associates and visiting scientists.

<sup>2</sup> Normally the team leader should sign the form as authorized representative.

<sup>3</sup> [Link](#) to Safety Training catalogue, Electrical Safety domain.

<sup>4</sup> Please indicate the tasks concerned.



# Virtual visits now possible...

2021 Belgian High-School  
Students Internship Programme

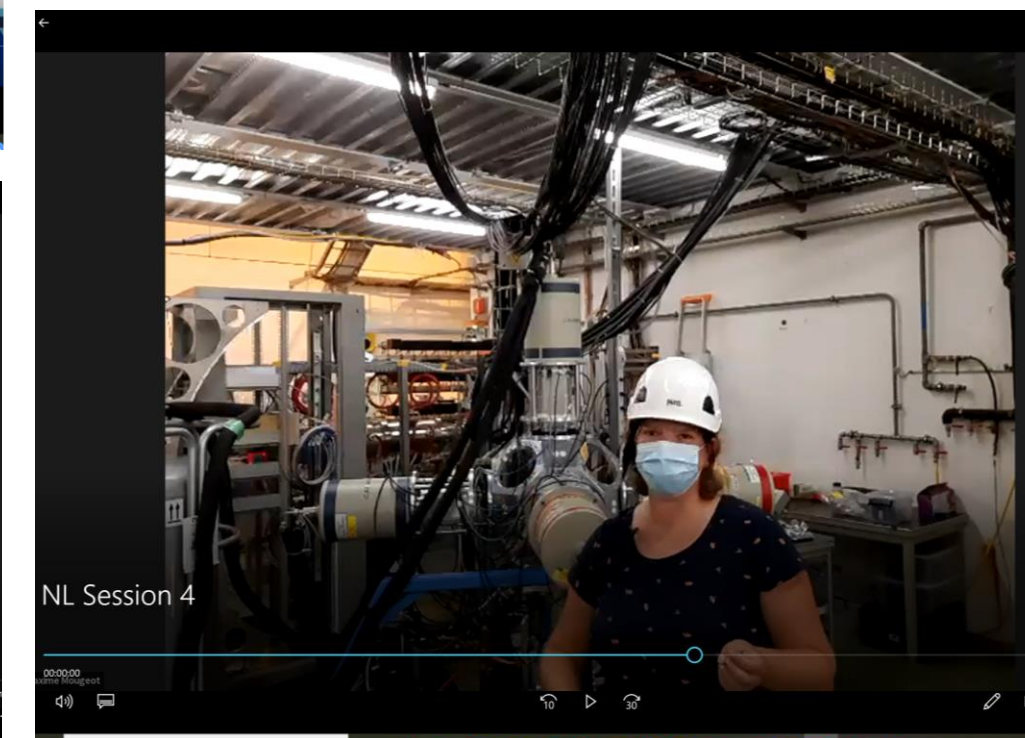
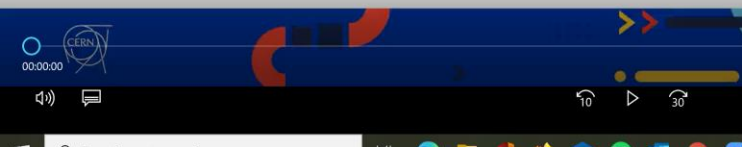
25 september 2021  
Virtuele ontdekkingsdag van CERN

## ISOLDE at CERN

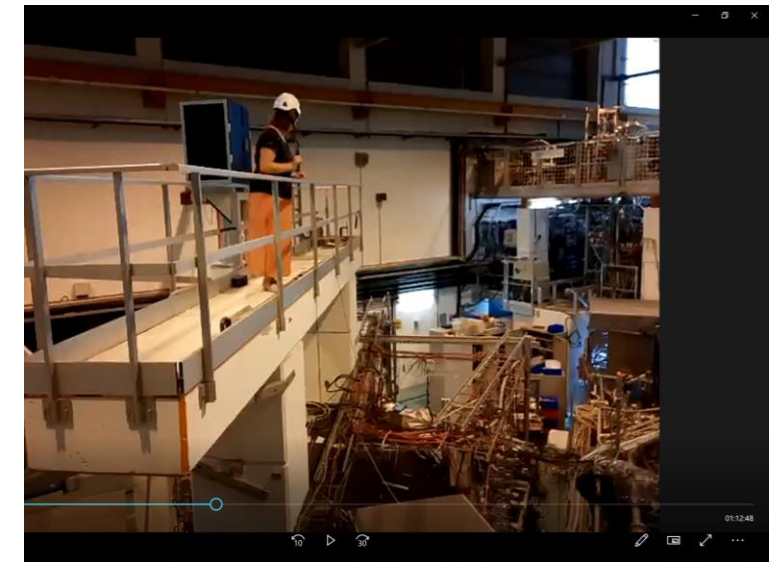
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- ◆ A small facility with a big impact!
  - ◆ ~0.1% of the CERN budget
  - ◆ ~7% of the CERN scientists
  - ◆ ~50% of the CERN protons
- ◆ Run by international collaboration
  - ◆ CERN, BE, DE, DK, FI, FR, GR, IT, NO, PL, RO, SK, ZA, ES, SE, UK
  - ◆ ~50 staff/students/fellows
  - ◆ ~1500 users



Thomas Elias Cocoll...



NL Session 4



# Some recent publications...

**nature physics** LETTERS  
https://doi.org/10.1038/s41567-021-01326-9  
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## OPEN Mass measurements of $^{99-101}\text{In}$ in challenge *ab initio* nuclear theory of the nuclide $^{100}\text{Sn}$

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The tin isotope  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  is of singular interest for nuclear structure due to its closed-shell proton and neutron configurations. It is also the heaviest nucleus comprising protons and neutrons in equal numbers—a feature that enhances the contribution of the short-range proton-neutron pairing interaction and strongly influences its decay via the weak interaction. Decay studies in the region of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  have attempted to prove its doubly magic character<sup>1</sup> but few have studied it from an *ab initio* theoretical perspective<sup>2,3</sup>, and none of these has addressed the odd-proton neighbours, which are inherently more difficult to describe but crucial for a complete test of nuclear forces. Here we present direct mass measurements of the exotic odd-proton nuclide  $^{100}\text{In}$ , the beta-decay daughter of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$ , and of  $^{99}\text{In}$ , with one proton less than  $^{100}\text{Sn}$ . We use advanced mass spectrometry techniques to measure  $^{99}\text{In}$ , which is produced at a rate of only a few ions per second, and to resolve the ground and isomeric states in  $^{100}\text{In}$ . The experimental results are compared with *ab initio* many-body calculations. The 100-fold improvement in precision of the  $^{100}\text{In}$  mass value highlights a discrepancy in the atomic-mass values of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  deduced from recent beta-decay results<sup>4,5</sup>.

The nuclear landscape is shaped by the underlying strong, weak and electromagnetic forces. The most salient features are the pillars of enhanced differential binding energy associated with closed-shell configurations, the best example of which is  $Z=50$  (tin), featuring the largest number of  $\beta$ -stable isotopes (10) of all elements. These nuclides lie between the closed neutron shells  $N=50$  and  $82$ , conferring particular importance to the nuclides  $^{98}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{100}\text{Sn}$ . The neutron-rich  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  can be synthesized in comfortable quantities<sup>6</sup>. This is not so for  $^{99}\text{Sn}$ , forming the limit of proton stability due to its extreme neutron deficiency, only just staying off the Coulomb repulsion of the 50 protons. This rare combination of like closed shells causes  $^{99}\text{Sn}$  to have one of the strongest beta transitions and makes it the heaviest self-conjugate nucleus on the nuclear chart.

Nuclei in the immediate vicinity of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  offer important insight for understanding the single-neutron and proton states in this region and constitute an excellent proxy for the study of  $^{100}\text{Sn}$  itself. However, experiments have so far only been feasible with in-beam gamma-ray spectroscopy at fragmentation facilities<sup>7,8,9,10</sup>. By direct determination of the nuclear binding energy, high-precision atomic-mass measurements provide a crucial model-independent probe of the structural evolution of exotic nuclei. Precision mass measurements are traditionally performed at isotope separation online (ISOL) facilities; however, the production of medium-mass, neutron-deficient nuclides at such facilities is prohibitively difficult, explaining the lack of accurate mass values in the region. Measurements performed at the FRS Ion Catcher at GSI<sup>11</sup> and the Cooler-Storage experimental Ring (CSR) in Langzhou<sup>12</sup> (both high-energy, heavy-ion fragmentation facilities) recently extended direct mass measurements to the  $^{100}\text{In}$  ground and isomeric states. However, the  $^{100}\text{In}$  mass value is still constrained 63% indirectly through its beta-decay link to  $^{100}\text{Cd}$  (ref. 13).

Thus, the first experimental challenge overcome in this work was the production and separation of the successfully studied  $^{99,100,101}\text{In}$  states. A detailed schematic of the necessary steps, from radioactive ion beam production to beam purification, preparation and measurement, is shown in Fig. 1. The exotic indium isotopes were produced at the Isotope Separator On Line Device (ISOLDE) located at CERN. A 1.4 GeV proton beam impinged on a thick lanthanum carbide target, producing a swath of neutron-deficient radioactive species of various chemical elements. After diffusion from the heated target, the indium atoms of interest were selectively ionized using a two-step resonance laser ionization scheme provided by the ISOLDE Resonant Ionization Laser Ion Source (RILIS)<sup>14</sup>. The ion beam was extracted from the source and accelerated to an energy of 40 keV. The mass number ( $A=Z+N$ ) of interest was selected using ISOLDE's high-resolution dipole mass separator and delivered to the ISOLTRAP online mass spectrometer<sup>15</sup>.

## Large Shape Staggering in Neutron-Deficient Bi Isotopes

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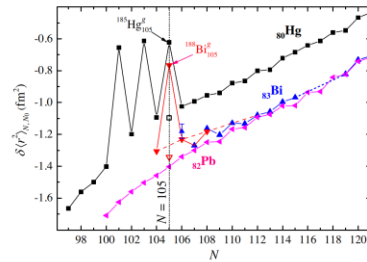


FIG. 2. Changes in the mean-square charge radii for Bi (downward triangles, present work; upward triangles, Refs. [27,55,56]), Pb (leftward triangles, Refs. [5,57,58]), and Hg (squares, Refs. [10–12]) isotopes. Full and hollow symbols label the  $g_s$ 's and isomers, respectively. Data for each chain are shifted along the Y axis to improve visibility. Red dashed line connects the data for the even- $N$   $9/2^-$  Bi  $g_s$ 's to demonstrate deviation from the Pb trend.

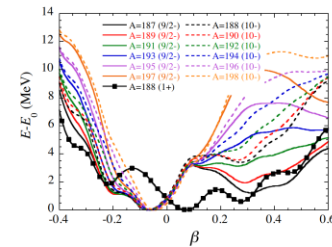


FIG. 3. HFB PESs obtained by blocking the first  $9/2^-$  up in odd-A bismuth isotopes (solid lines),  $10^-$  in even-A ones (dashed lines), and  $1^+$  in  $^{188}\text{Bi}$  (squares).  $E_0$  is the minimal energy of the corresponding PES. For each PES, at least one of the minima has a magnetic moment compatible with experimental data. For  $9/2^-$  and  $10^-$  states it is a minimum at  $\beta \approx -0.07$ , whereas for  $1^+$  state in  $^{188}\text{Bi}$  it is a minimum at  $\beta \approx +0.28$ .

The further selection of the proper states was made by constraining the calculated magnetic moment to the exper-

## Laser Spectroscopy of Neutron-Rich $^{207,209}\text{Hg}$ Isotopes: Illuminating the Kink and Odd-Even Staggering in Charge Radii across the $N=126$ Shell Closure

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The mean-square charge radii of  $^{207,209}\text{Hg}$  ( $Z=80$ ,  $N=127, 128$ ) have been studied for the first time

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