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The first 40 years of physics at ISOLDE

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In this talk I will give some selected comments to the present and future physics at ISOLDE, REX ISOLDE and HIE-ISOLDE. I will also give examples of some of the pioneering experiments at ISOLDE that have lead to the success of this field of nuclear physics. As a basis for my talk I give below some dates and developments that have been important on the way towards the present Facility. 1951:The first experiment of ISOL type was carried out by Otto Kofoed-Hansen and Karl-Ove Nielsen in Copenhagen, Denmark. 1961:The Nuclear Chemistry Group built an electromagnetic isotope separator and showed that the capacity for production of radioactive nuclides in an internal beam of the SC was very high. 1964:December 17. CERN decides to build an ISOL(DE) experiment at the SC. 1967:September 23. The first experiment was performed at ISOLDE. The results were published in a paper with 29 authors [1]. 1973:Shutdown and reconstruction of ISOLDE. The external beam from the SC was increased to 4 uA. 1974:First experiments at ISOLDE 2. 1987:Installation of a high-resolution separator in the SC proton hall. 1989:Start of the civil engineering work for the ISOLDE site close to the PS Booster. 1990:December 17, 12.00. The SC was shut down. 1992:June 26. The first experiment was performed at the ISOLDE PSB Facility. 2001:October 30. The first beams were delivered from REX ISOLDE. [1] Decay Characteristics of Short-Lived Radio-Nuclides Studied by On-Line Isotope Separator Techniques.

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