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HOW TO DEAL WITH LEAKS IN THE LHC BEAM VACUUM

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The LHC beam vacuum system operates at cryogenic and at room temperature. Many aspects such as the location, the level of the leak flux, the reparability, the impact on the machine commissioning and operation shall be taken into account when dealing with vacuum leaks. The detection of warm air leaks is a difficult but mostly well mastered technology. Special attention will be paid to He leaks in a cryogenic environment which could arise during the period of beam commissioning and beam operation. The qualification of these leaks against beam operation, the diagnostics means and tools, the repair schemes and the expected downtime are discussed.

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