Contribution ID: **280** Type: **Contributed**

Measurement of the radiation tolerance of vacuum pumps

Tuesday 19 June 2018 11:10 (20 minutes)

Vacuum pumps and other components can be exposed to varying types and quantities of radiation. These include applications/apparatus in medical diagnostics and treatment, analytical instrumentation, sterilization techniques, space simulation as well as the established requirements in High Energy Physics.

This paper will present recent radiation tolerance measurements made by a DLA/ISO registered radiation test house for several scroll and other dry primary and turbo-molecular secondary pumps and a range of 'active'and 'passive'gauges. Comparisons with other historic 'in-situ'measurements and an assessment of the irradiated components will be made. A program for the development of application specific radiation-compatible products will be also discussed

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Session Classification: Vacuum Science & Technology

Track Classification: Vacuum Science & Technology