



# AMS/ACSM Tips, Tricks & FAQ's

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Virtual AMS User's Meeting  
Jan 21, 2021

For Knowledge Base access and to  
submit support inquiries:

<https://Support.Aerodyne.com>

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Welcome to the Aerodyne Research Customer Support Site. You can [search](#) or [browse our knowledge base](#) to find manuals, software, and troubleshooting information for our instruments. If you need something that you can't find feel free to [Contact Us](#).

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Be prepared with:

Instrument type and serial number

Description of the problem

Any key events which may have lead to the problem

Any troubleshooting already done

# Forums

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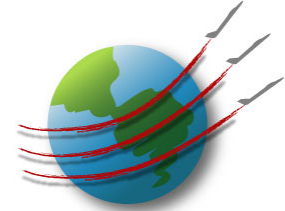
## Get Help

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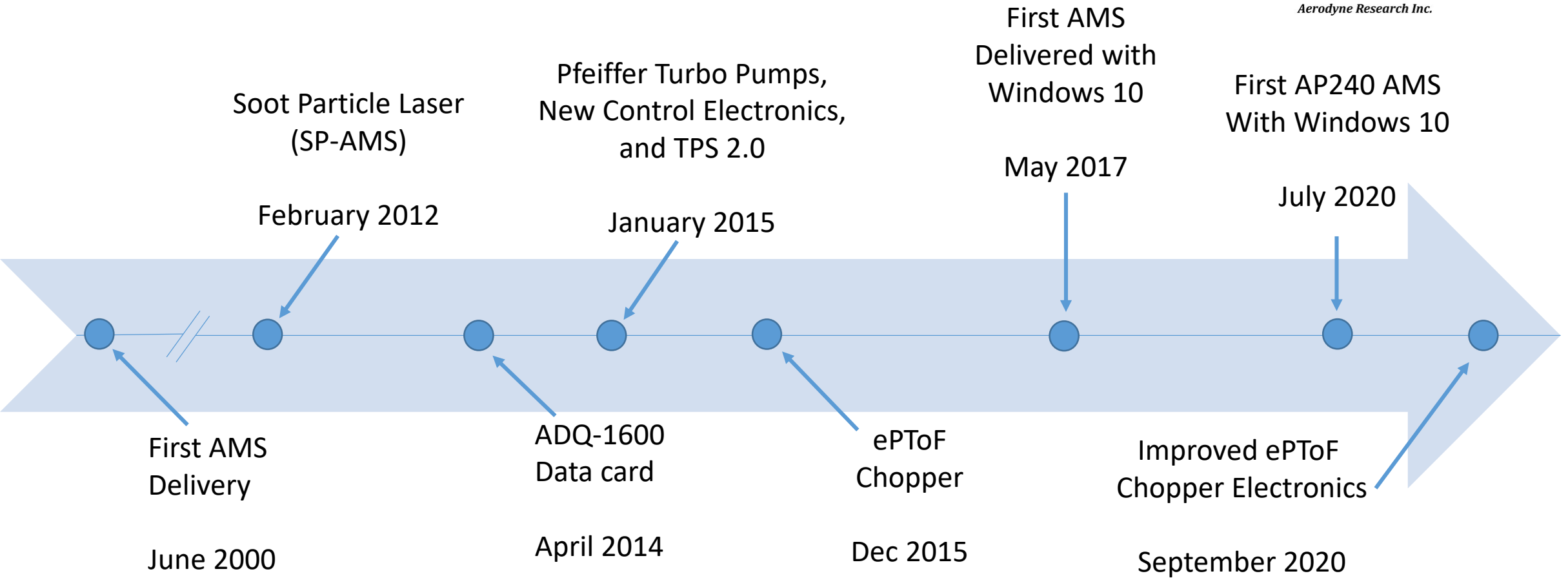
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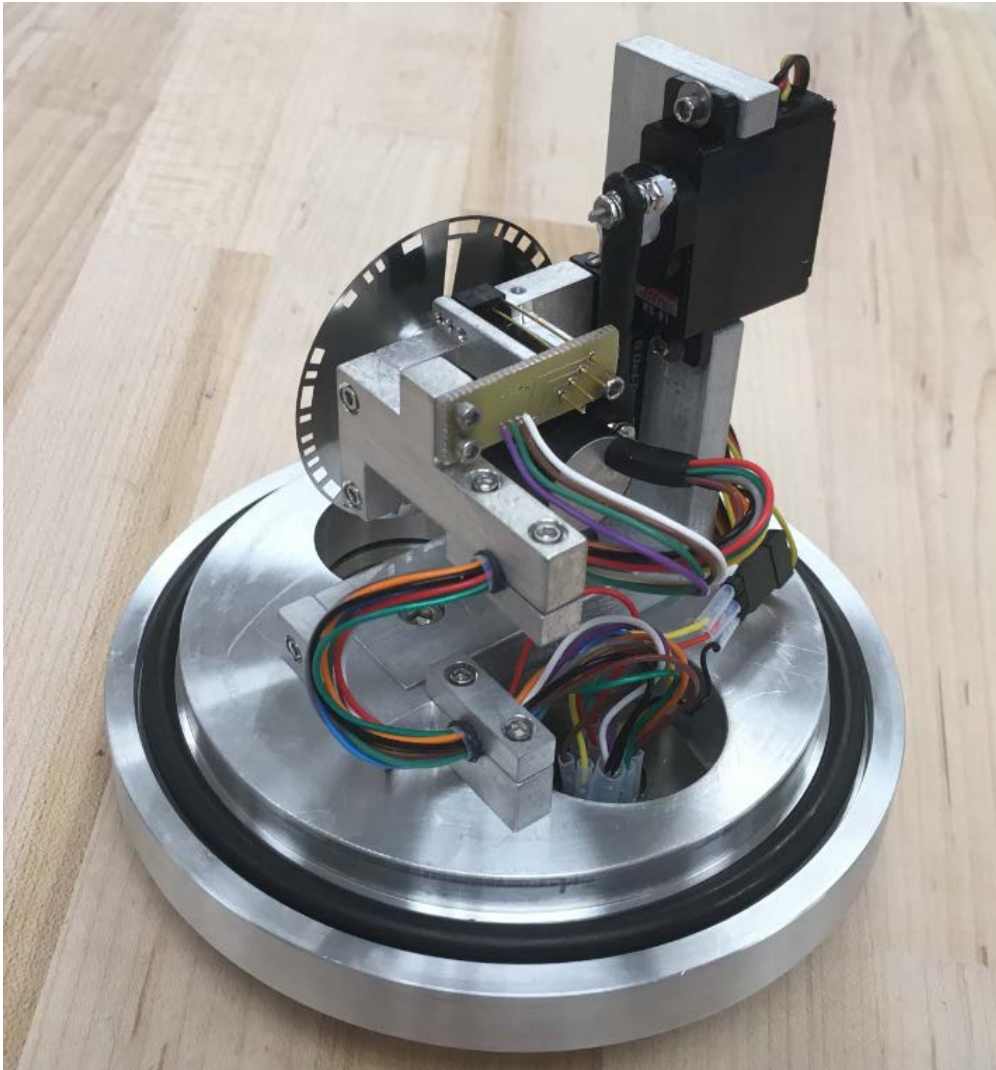
# AMS Advancement Timeline



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# ePToF Troubleshooting



ePToF Chopper Flange

ePToF chopper electronics calibration:  
<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01289/en-us>

ePToF chopper replacement guide:  
<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01143/en-us>



# Standard PToF Troubleshooting



Question:

My chopper is on, but the Electronics Box LCD screen says the frequency = 1.5 Hz. What should I do?

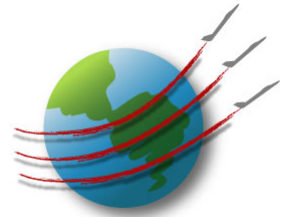


Answer:

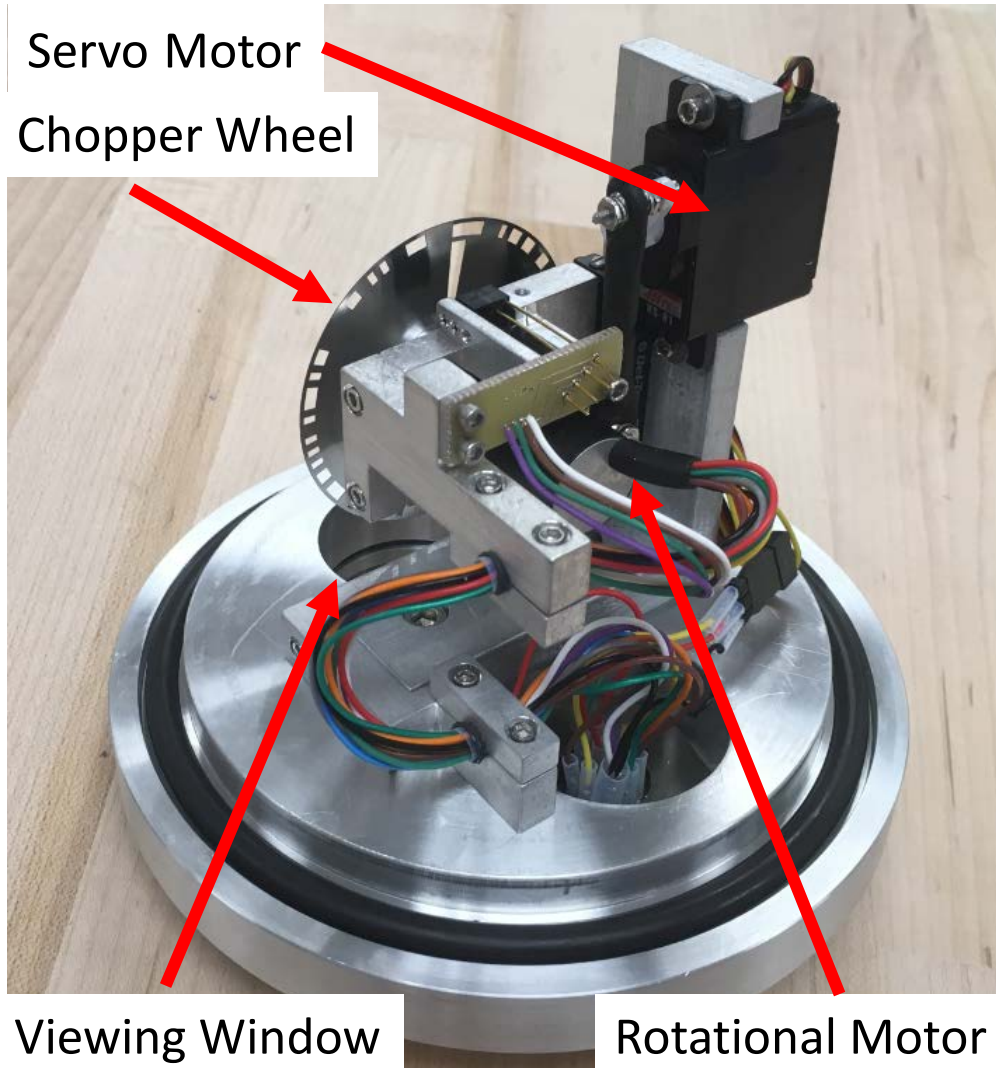
Confirm from the window that the chopper wheel is actually spinning. If so, perform the 2% chopper frequency calibration:

<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01299/en-us>

# Chopper Servo Replacement



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Question:

My signals suddenly dropped to zero, but the TPS voltages all look okay. What should I do?

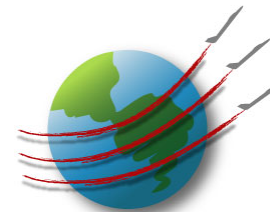
Answer:

1. Check if the chopper wheel is moving between open and blocked by looking through the window.
2. Confirm servo PWM signals are present, and if so,
3. Replace Chopper Servo

Chopper Servo Replacement Guide:

<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01140/en-us>

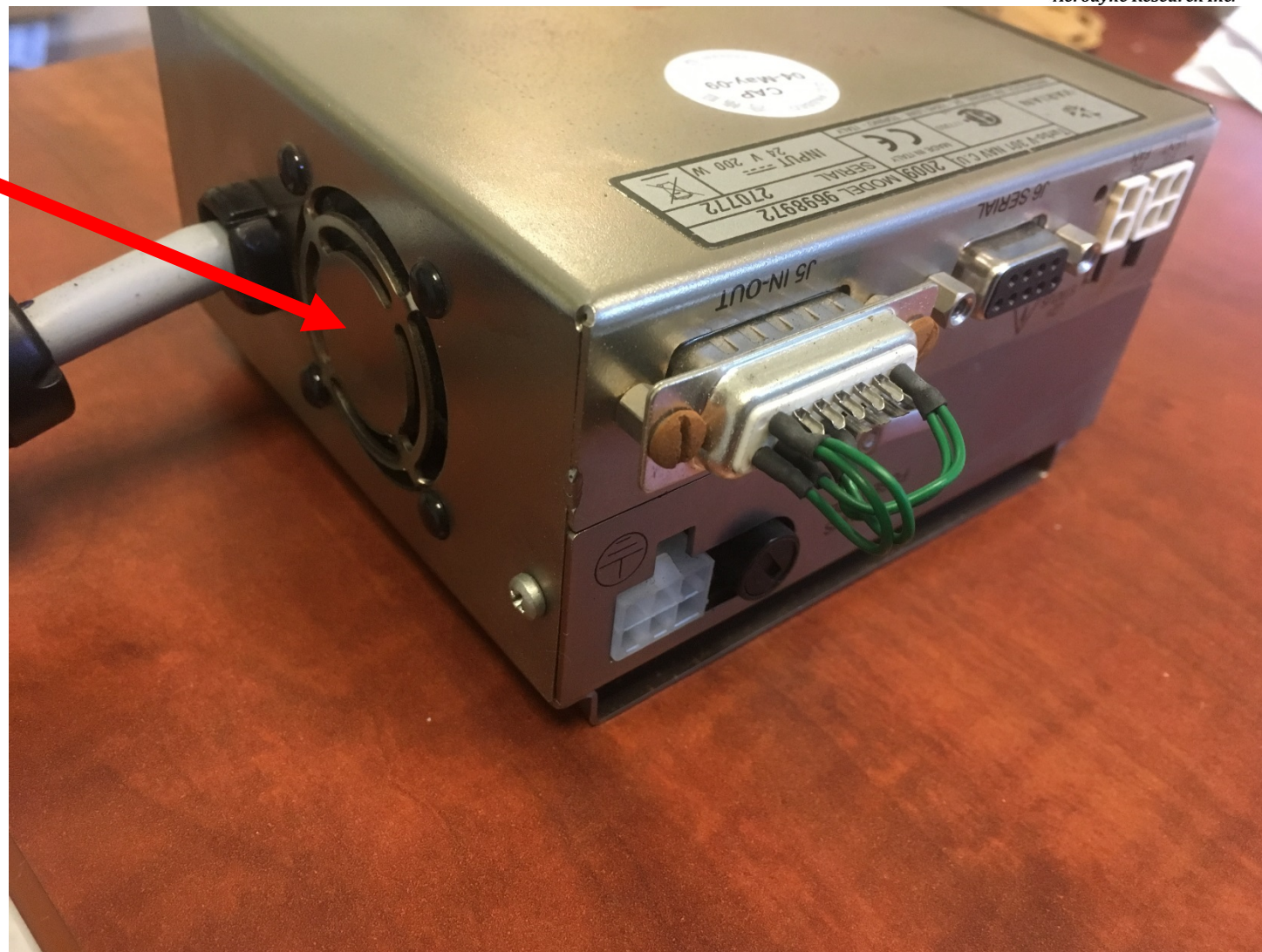




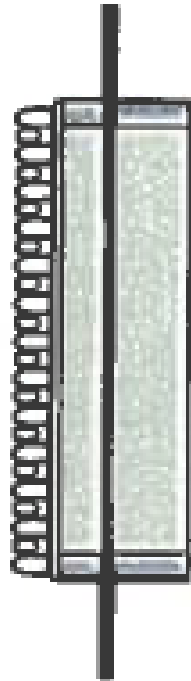
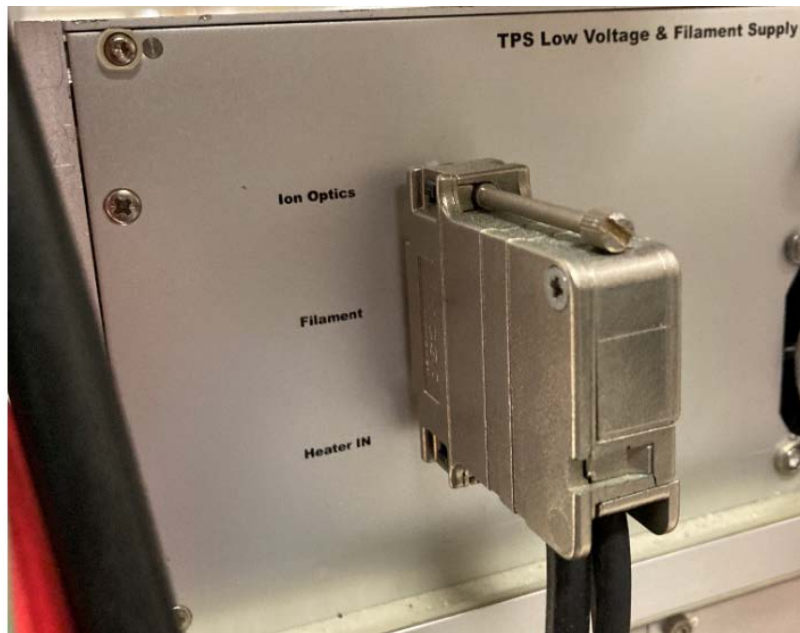
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# P2 Controller Fan Failures

On AMS systems 10+ years old, we've seen this fan fail, leading to the pumps shutting down when the inlet is opened



# Filament or Heater Continuity Check



D-Sub Stecker			Fischer Buchse
PIN #	Adernfarbe	Signal-Name	Pin#
22	Weiss 1	Filament-Ground	1
23	Weiss 2	Filament 2	2
11	Weiss 3	Filament 1	3
12	Weiss 4	Heater 1 OUT	4
24	Weiss 5	Heater 2 OUT	5

DB25 Connector for Filament/Ion Optics/Heater Cable

Filament/Ion Optics/Heater cable pin out:

<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01147/en-us>

# Filament Failures

New filament



Continuous wire

Normal wear and tear Failure

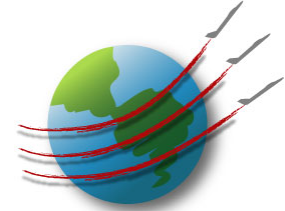


Small gap in wire

Likely TPS Low Voltage  
Supply (LVS) failure



Large gap in wire



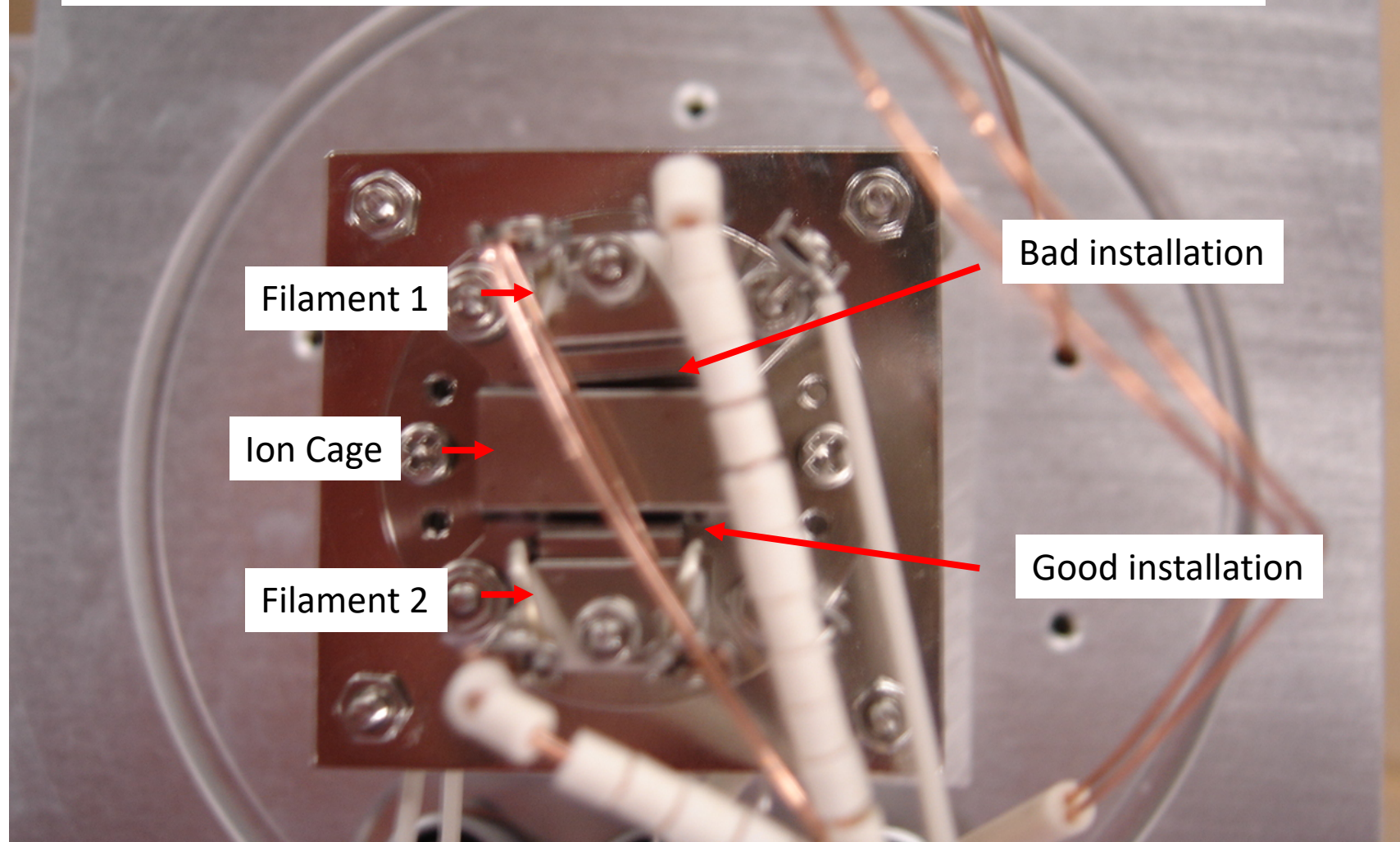
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# Filament Installation

<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01137/en-us>

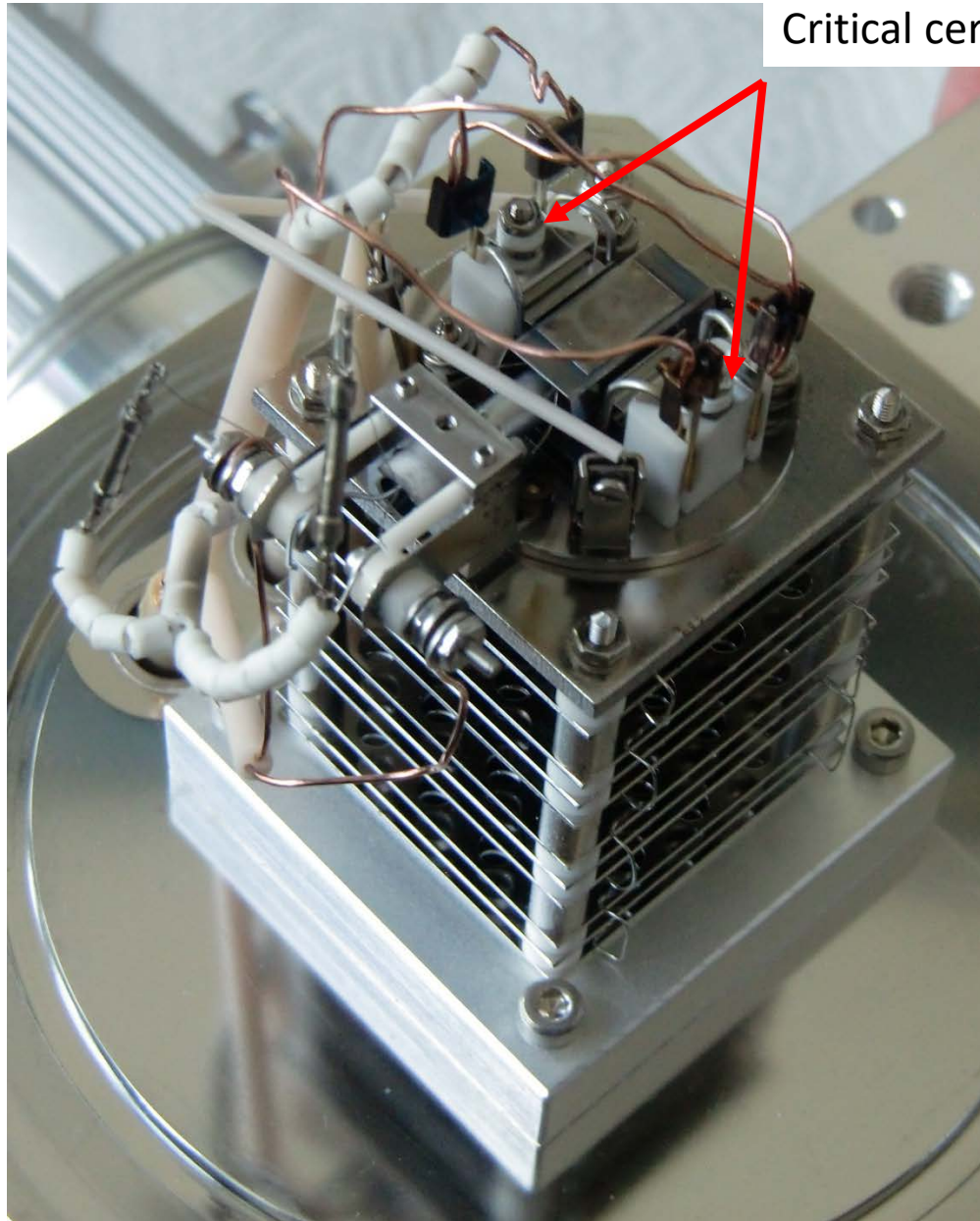


Install filaments such that they are as parallel as possible to the ion cage.  
Be EXTRA careful when installing that nothing is shorting.  
The ceramic washer is critical, as it isolates the filament from ground.



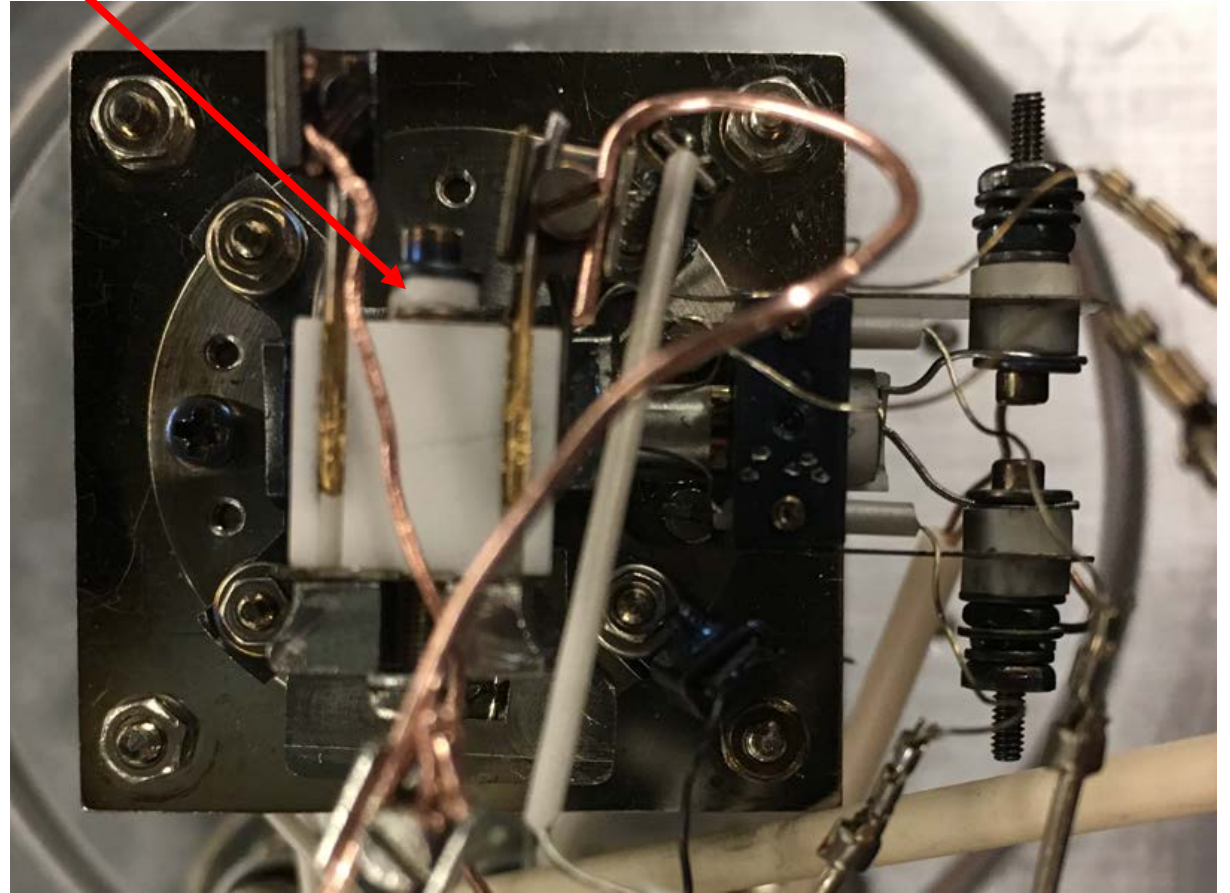


## Non-SPAMS configuration

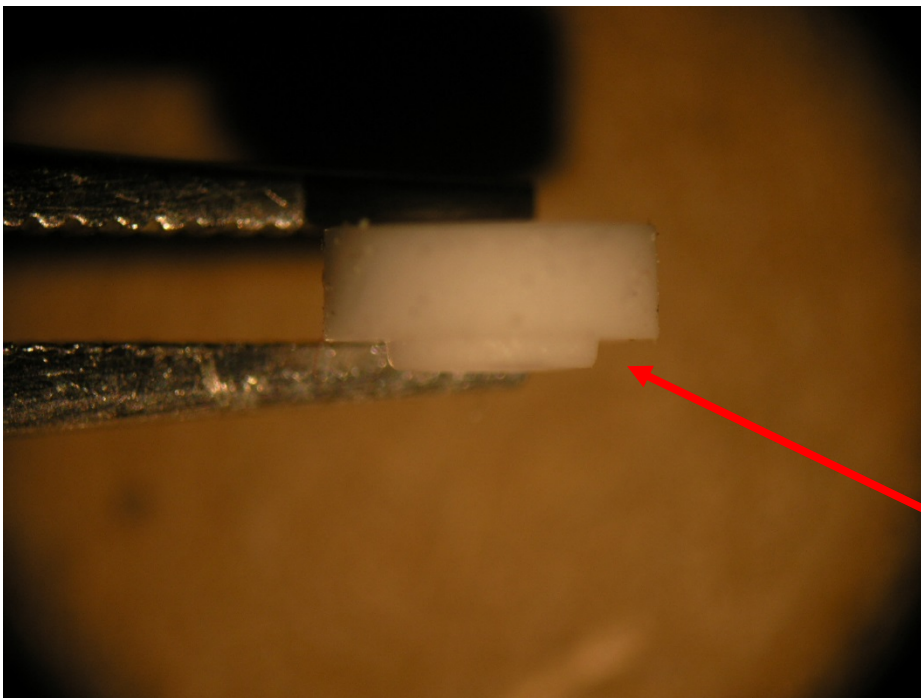
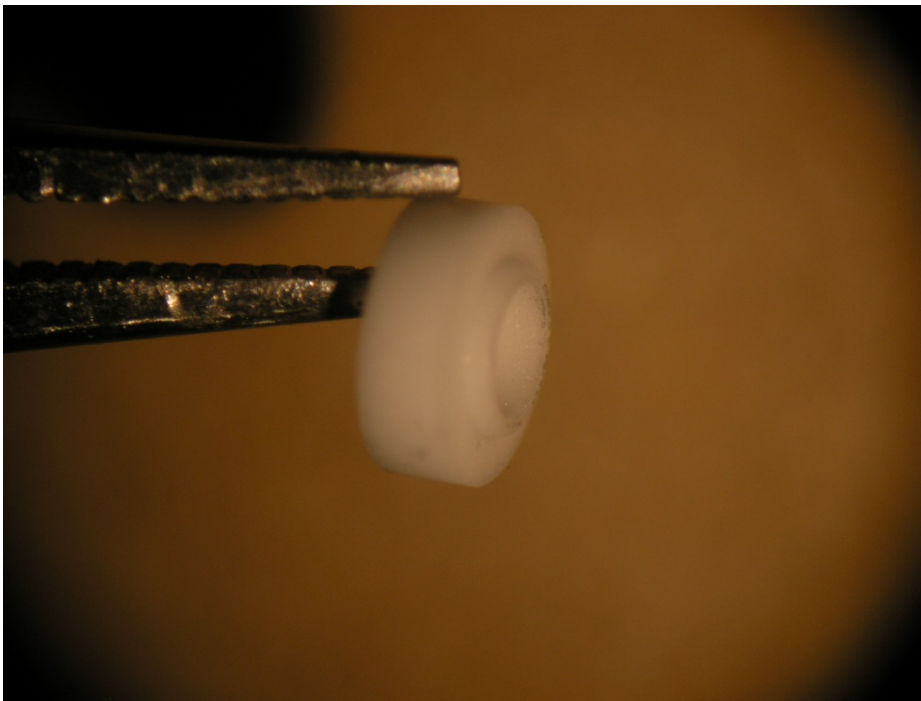


Critical ceramic washers

## SPAMS configuration



Top View



This side down!



# Tuning Tip:



- Tune *both* filaments **before** leaving for the field.
  - This can save time and possibly prevent one from having to vent while in the field. Also, sometimes a filament does not tune as well as one would like, so one may get a better tune with the second filament.

AMS ToF voltage tuning instructional videos:

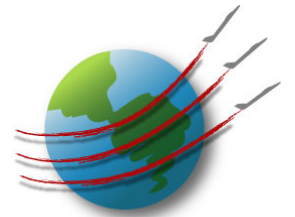
<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01306/en-us>



Error code on DAQ corresponding to high temperature in the Prisma

- > Check fan filter for dust deposits
- > Check if fan needs replacement

# Agilent Turbo Pump Compatibility



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Turbo Pump Type	AMS compatible?	Status
V70	YES	Discontinued but available via exchange
V81	YES	Discontinued and unavailable
84FS	YES	Available
74FS	YES	Available
V301	YES	Discontinued, but available via exchange through Aerodyne
304FS	NO	Overheats and shuts down on AMS
305FS	?	TBD

305FS is still being evaluated. We will release our findings via AMS Users email list soon.



# AMS Maintenance



- Always monitor pump performance
- Always monitor MD1 pressure (load/no load)
- Clean vacuum chamber surface
- Check for loose/missing connections/fasteners
- Clean cooling fan filters
- Check for stressed cables
- Dirt inside computer
- “*Dirt*” on computer HD (clean up and defrag)
- Pfeiffer Pump Maintenance

# Agilent Turbo Pumps



What are the operating currents for all pumps?

	Gas Load Off (mA)	Gas Load On (mA)	Delta T* (Degrees C) (Closed/Open)
P2	~ 450	~ 850	9/13.3
P3	~ 250	~ 300	9/9.3
P4	~ 200	~ 250	6/5.9
P5	< 200	< 200	6.2/6.5
P6	~ 200	~ 200	9.6/9.6

These are guidelines. Each AMS may be slightly different. Each user should know the pump characteristics for their specific AMS

\*Delta T = Pump Temp – Ambient Temp

# Pfeiffer Turbo Pumps

What are the operating currents for all pumps?

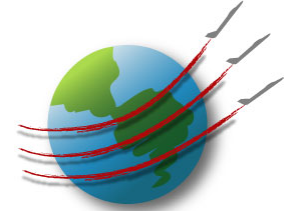


	Gas Load Off (W)	Gas Load On (W)	Delta T* (Degrees C) (Closed/Open)
P1	~ 25	~ 70	9/13.3
P2	~ 3	~ 3	9/9.3
P3	~ 2	~ 2	6/5.9
P4	~ 2	~ 2	6.2/6.5
P5	~ 2	~ 2	9.6/9.6

These are guidelines. Each AMS may be slightly different. Each user should know the pump characteristics for their specific AMS

\*Delta T = Pump Temp – Ambient Temp

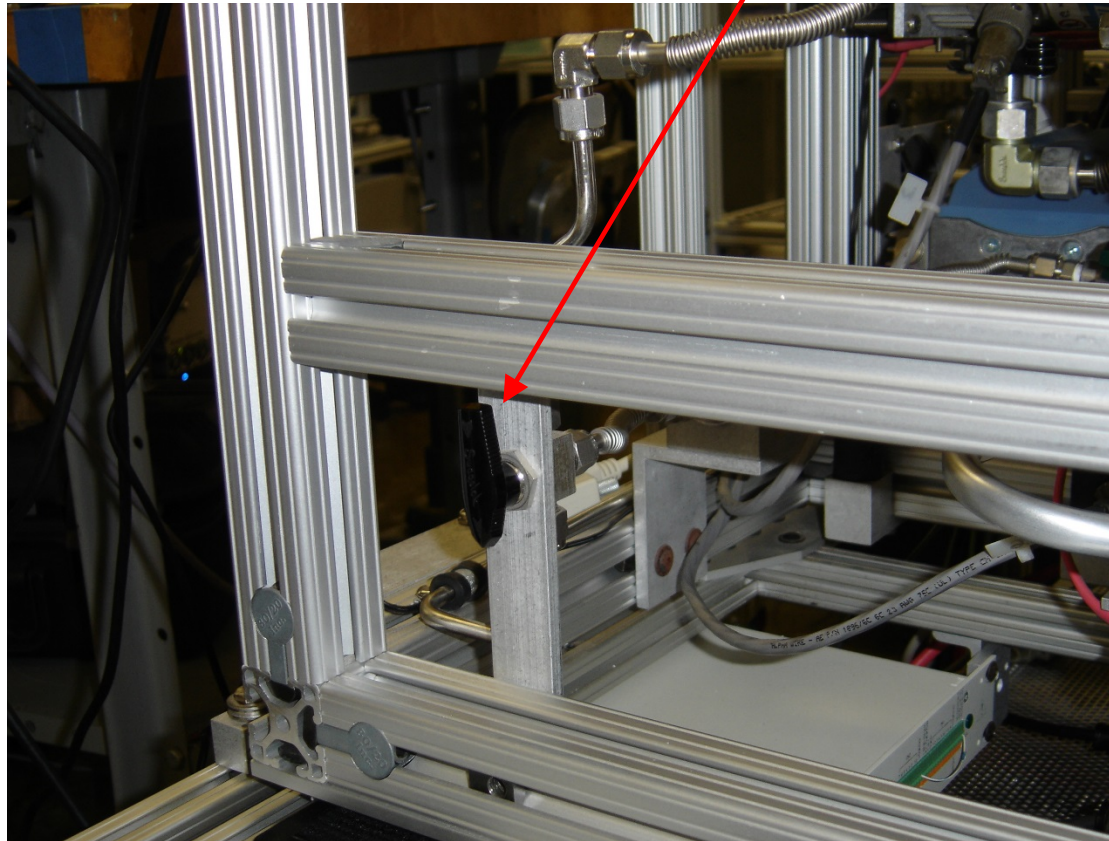
# AMS Pressure Measurements



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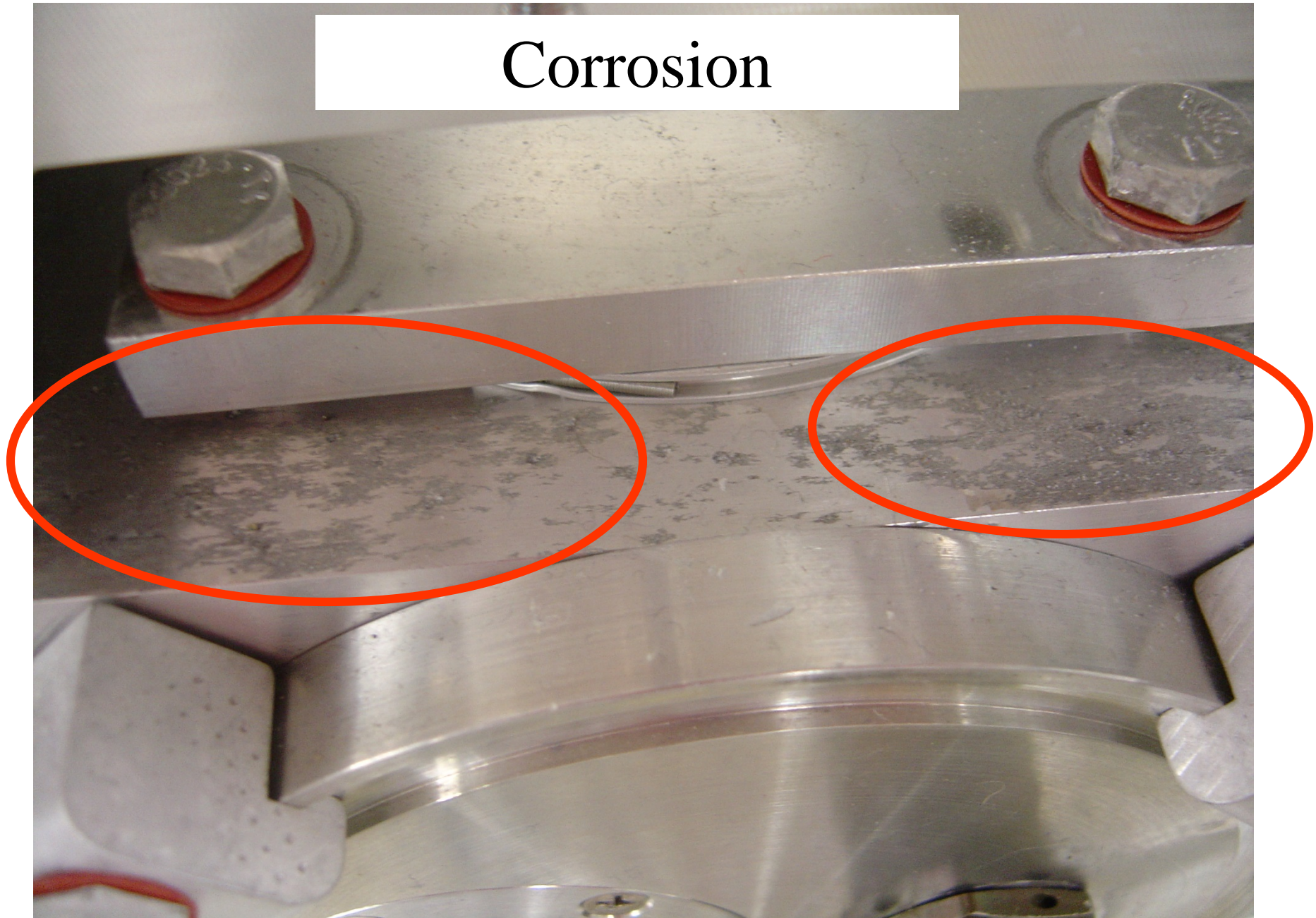
What is the backing pump pressure?

What is the lens pressure?





# Corrosion

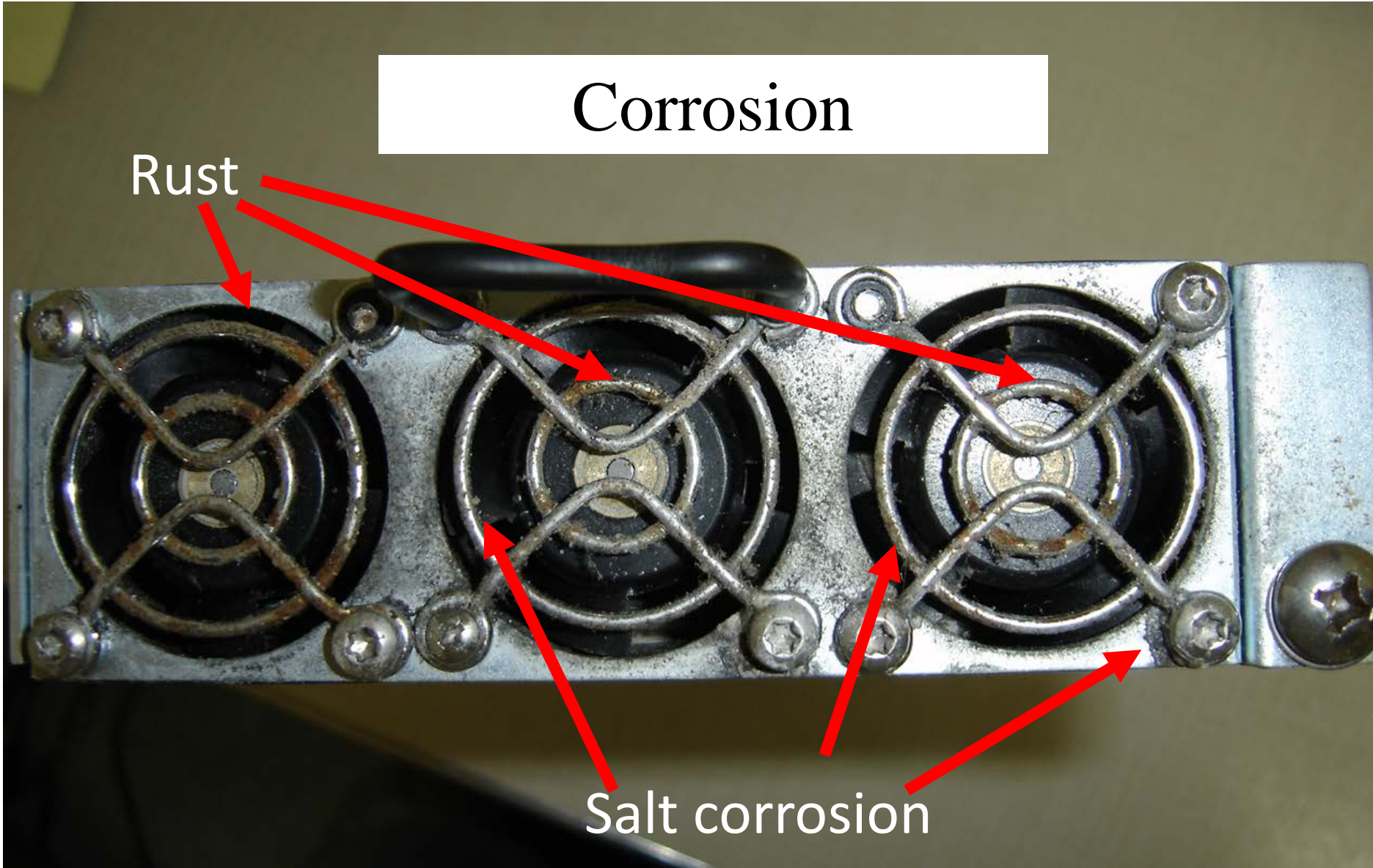




# Corrosion

Rust

Salt corrosion



# Inspect Shipping Container



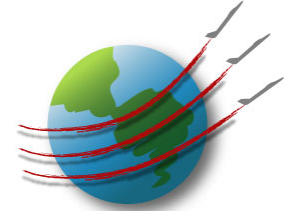
Fork Lift Damage



*Don't leave instrument in the shipping container*

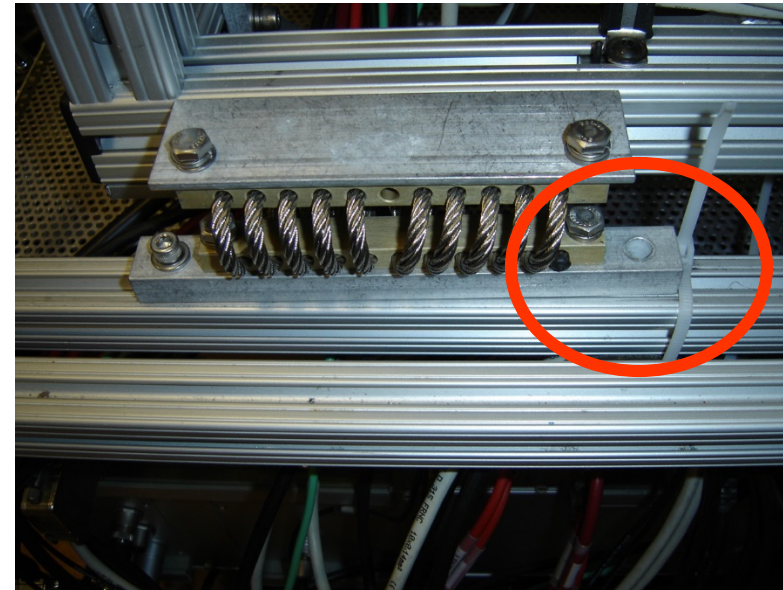
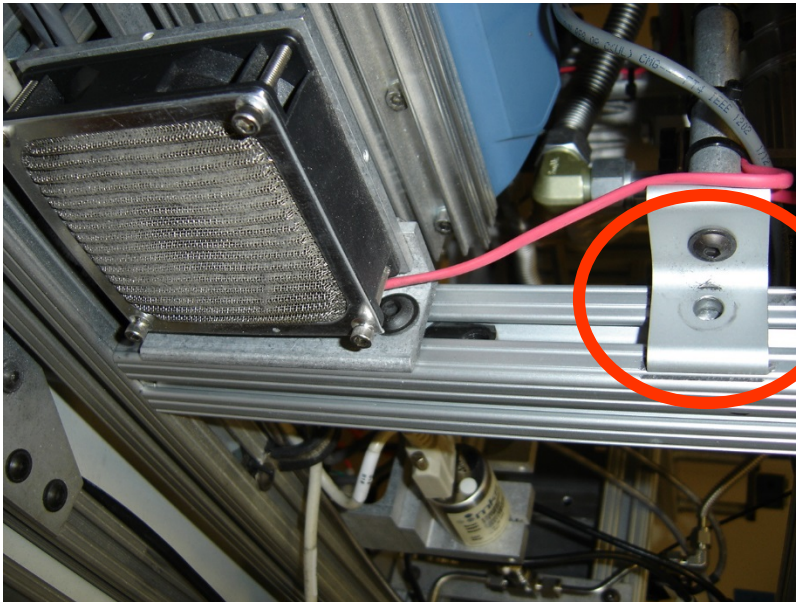


# Maintenance Issues, cont'd

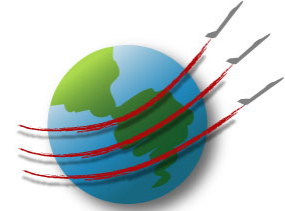


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## Missing fasteners

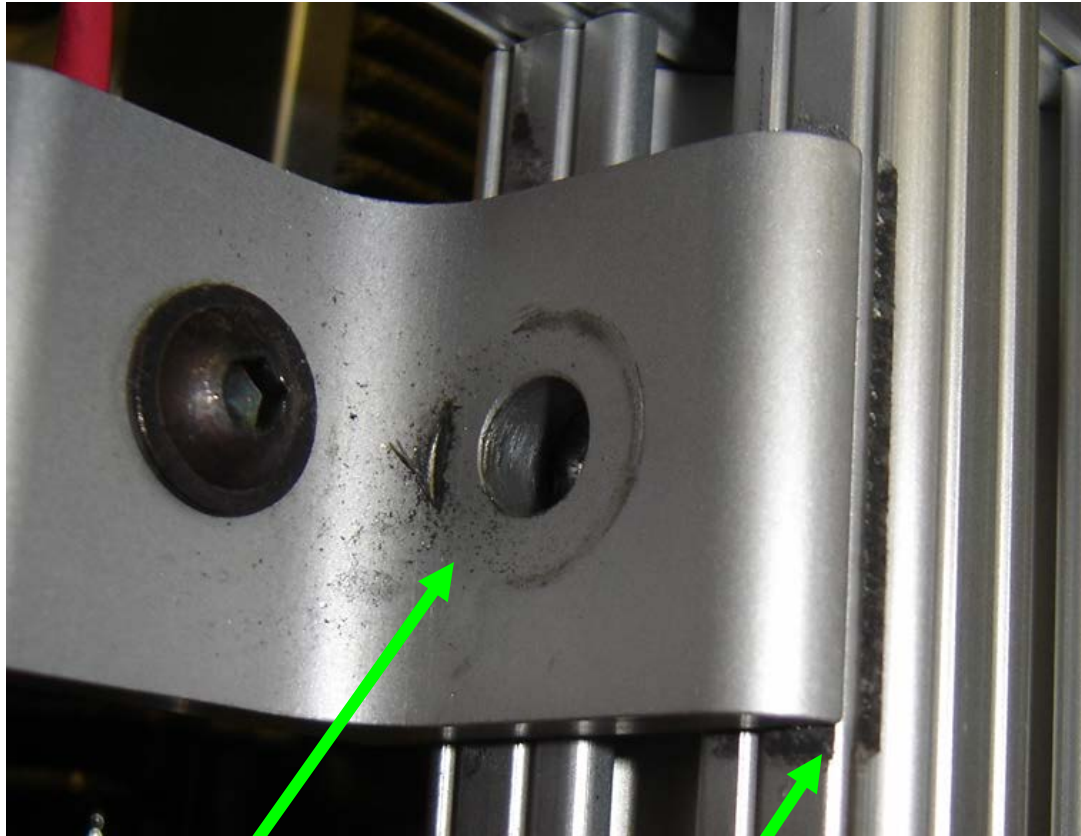


# Maintenance Issues, cont'd

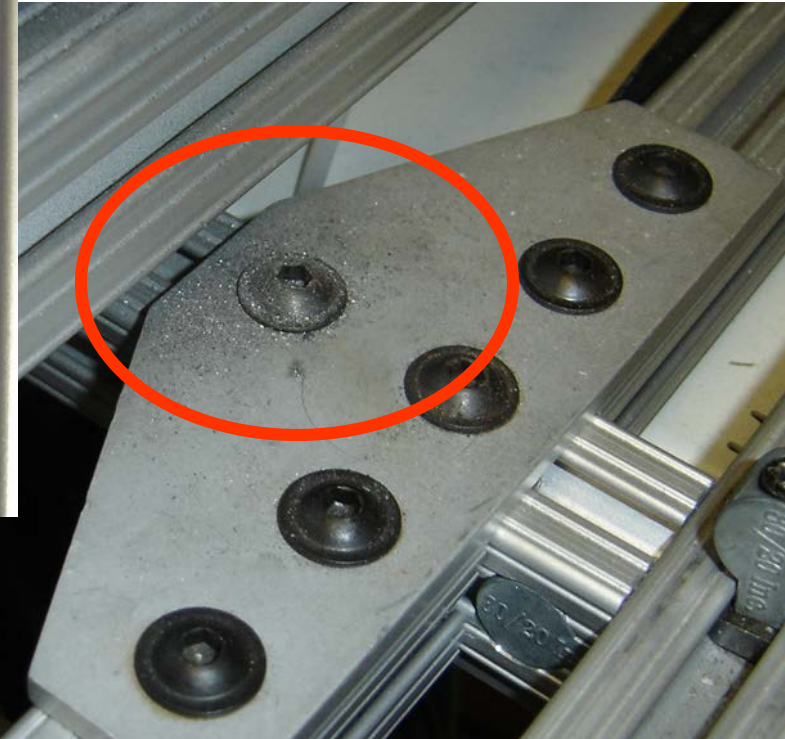


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## Aluminum dust

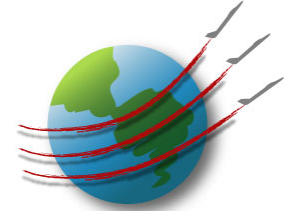


Missing fastener, chaffing metal





# Maintenance Issues, cont'd

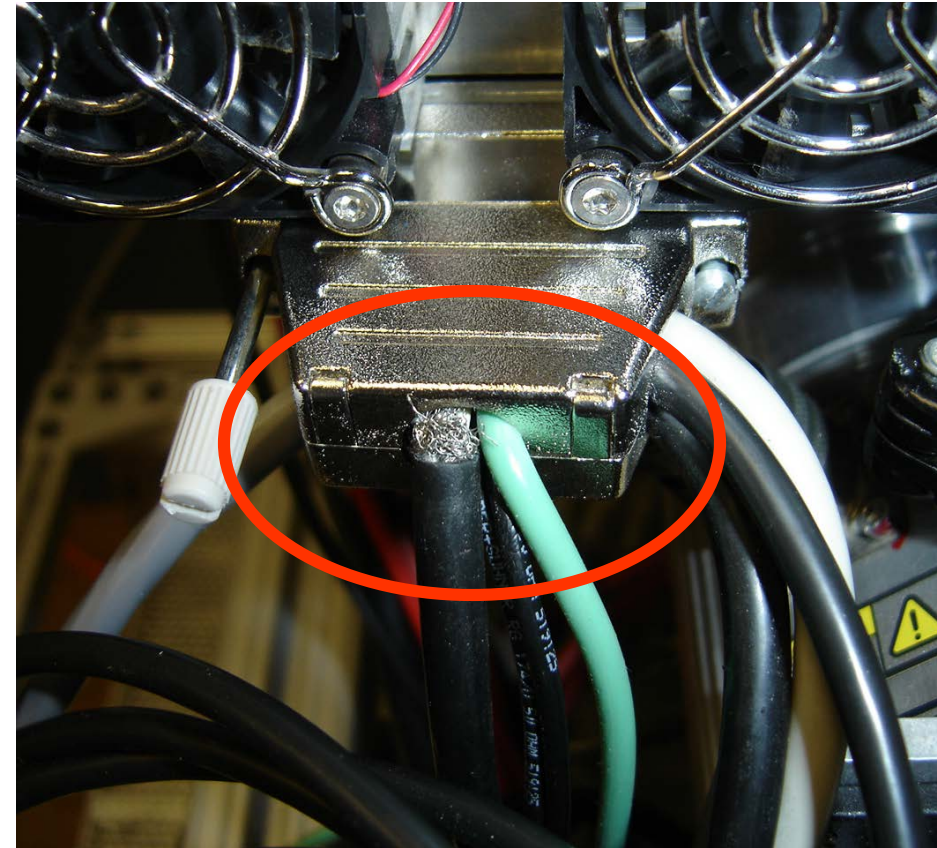


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## Dirty fan filter

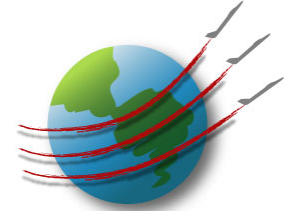


## Stressed cables





# Pfeiffer HiPace Turbo Maintenance



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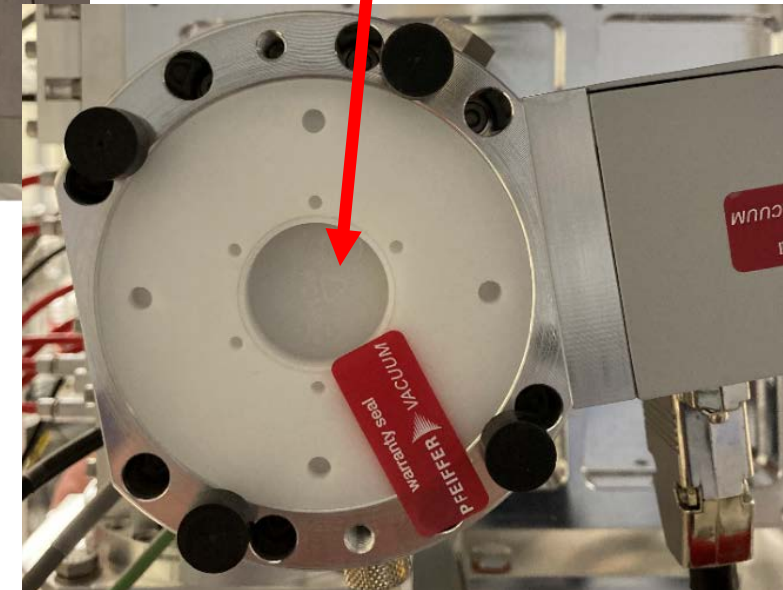
Pfeiffer Turbo Pumps should have the lubricant reservoir replaced every 4 years.

How to exchange lubricant reservoirs on HiPace80 and HiPace300 turbo pumps:  
<https://support.aerodyne.com/knowledgebase/articles/KA-01144/en-us>

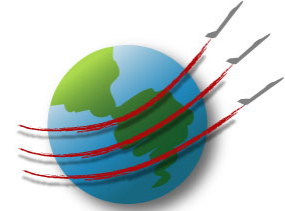


HiPace80

Lubricant reservoir



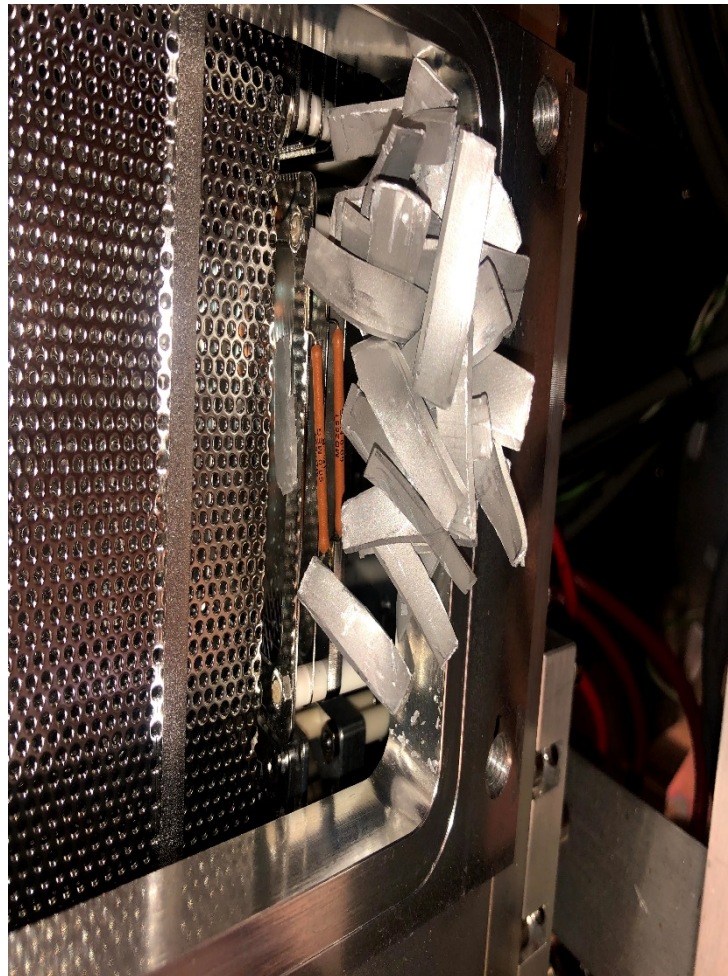
# “Crashed” Pfeiffer Split Flow Pump



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***Attn ToF-ACSM  
Users and people  
who also have CIMS!***

Pfeiffer Split Flow pumps need to be sent back to Pfeiffer for full maintenance every 5 years!!





# “Crashed” Agilent Turbos

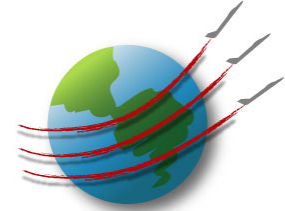


Crashed Agilent V301 Turbo Pump

Exchange pumps are less expensive than new, but require sending back the failed pump

Sending back a “crashed” pump, Agilent will impose their “Crash Fee”

Inspect vacuum chamber for bits of metal!!



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Thank you!

Any Questions?