

Troubleshooting Oil Loss in a vacuum pump

Excessive vacuum pump oil loss can be caused by:

- A continuous vacuum leak
- A damaged vacuum pump

The LD85 :

- should be able to attain 10 mT in a clean and dry system.
- should have a leak rate of less than 30 mT/hr

First check to see the maximum low vacuum level of the system. If 10 mT can not be achieved, then check the following:

- No water in the drain line
- Drain plug and drain hoses for tight fit
- Vacuum hoses and connections for a tight fit
- Sanitary clamp on top of unit is tight and sealed
- Replace the vacuum pump with another 'known good' pump to test
- Remove manifold (if applicable). Make sure to cap off piping.

Second:

- Perform a leak rate test to determine if the chamber has a leak.
- using the 'Leak Test' in the software Set the vacuum test point to 150 mT and 60 minutes
- if the leak rate is above 30 mT/hr then there is a leak
- If the leak rate is below 30 mT/hr, then the vacuum pump is damaged.

Other Options to Consider:

- Make sure the correct oil is in the pump (double distilled)
- Make sure the oil is clean (look for milky color, dirt, metal fragments)