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Cold Cathode Tube Maintenance

Preface

Documentation Standards

This manual uses the following documentation standards:

**NOTE**

Notes contain important information.

**CAUTION**

Cautions appear before instructions, which if not followed, could cause damage to the equipment or data loss.

**WARNING**

Warnings appear for a particular procedure or practice which, if not followed correctly, could lead to serious injury or death.

Hazard and Safety Information

The common international symbols used in this manual and on the equipment are defined below.

- ![OFF Symbol] (Supply (Power))
- ![Earth Symbol] (Earth (Ground) Terminal)
- ![ON Symbol] (Supply (Power))
- ![Caution Symbol] (Caution, Hot Surface)
- ![AC Symbol] (AC – Alternating Current)
- ![Caution Symbol] (Caution, Risk of Electrical Shock)
- ![Warning Symbol] (Warning, Risk of danger)
- ![Protective Conductor Symbol] (Protective Conductor Terminal)
- ![Frame or Chassis Symbol] (Frame or chassis Terminal)
Operators and service personnel must be aware of all hazards associated with this equipment. They must know how to recognize hazardous and potentially hazardous conditions, and know how to avoid them. The consequences of unskilled, improper, or careless operation of the equipment can be serious. Every operator or service person must read and thoroughly understand operation/maintenance manuals and any additional information provided by Agilent. All warning and cautions must be read carefully and strictly observed. Consult local, state, and national agencies regarding specific requirements and regulations. Address any safety, operation, and/or maintenance questions to your nearest Agilent office.

All cold cathode gauges require periodic maintenance for lime due to contamination of the cathode by pump oils, dirt, oxidation, and sputtering of the cathode. Maintenance is indicated whenever performance becomes erratic or the tube either takes excessive time to or fails to strike. This may be accomplished by either cleaning or replacing the cathode. While cleaning may be successful initially, eventually the cathode will have to be replaced. The length of time a given gauge tube operates before requiring maintenance is strongly dependent upon the application.

Refer to “Kit Replacement Numbers” on page 4 for the correct maintenance kit.

A. To disassemble the cathode:

1. Remove the tube from the vacuum system.
2. If your tube has a baffle, remove it.
3. Loosen and remove the nut at the high voltage connector.
4. For:
   - Older style 525:
     a. Remove and discard the compression washer and O-ring (Figure 1: Older Style 525).
     b. Push the connector/cathode assembly out of the gauge tube through the vacuum side of the tube.

![Figure 1: Older Style 525](image-url)
- **Older Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode**
  a. Push the connector/cathode assembly out of the gauge tube through the vacuum side of the tube (Figure 2: Older Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode).
  b. Remove and discard O-ring.

![Figure 2: Older Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode](image)

- For 524 or new style 525 unscrew cathode with a flat blade screwdriver (Figure 3: Newer Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode).

![Figure 3: Newer Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode](image)
B: To clean the cathode:
1. Clean off surface contamination and debris using an abrasive cleaner (i.e.: steel wool, abrasive pad, etc., sandblasting is not recommended).
2. Wash with soap and water, rinse with clean water.
3. Let dry thoroughly. A final rinse in reagent grade alcohol shortens the drying time.
4. For older style 525: Carefully inspect the glass seal and the knife edges. If the glass shows any evidence of cracking, if the knife edges are significantly rounded, or if there is excessive pitting on any of the cathode surfaces, discard and replace with a new one (Figure 2: Older Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode).

C: To reassemble or install new cathode assembly:
• For older style 525 (Figure 2: Older Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode):
  1. Push the supplied O-ring over the connector as far down as possible. It may not stay all the way down. If you are installing a cleaned cathode use the extra ring supplied with your gauge and grease it with a little Apiezon or similar vacuum grease. The O-ring dimensions are .489 ID x .070, Buna, 70 durometer if you buy one.
  2. Push the cathode assembly up through the D hole from the vacuum side of the tube. Align the flat with the flat of the hole and push in place. Do not apply excessive force.
  3. Install the nut and tighten on anode surface.
  4. Leak check the gauge tube before installation onto your vacuum system. The leak spec is less than $2 \times 10^{-9}$ atm cc/sec on a helium leak detector.
  5. Install baffle, as removed using retaining ring to hold in place.
• For 524 or new style 525 (Figure 3: Newer Style 525 Cleaning or Replacing Cathode):
  1. Screw cathode into feedthru.
  2. Install baffle, as removed using retaining ring to hold in place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tube</th>
<th>Kit Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>524</td>
<td>0591-F4381-301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Style 525</td>
<td>0581-K9440-301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older Style 525</td>
<td>0591-F4381-301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vacuum Products Division
Instructions for returning products

Dear Customer:

Please follow these instructions whenever one of our products needs to be returned.

1) Complete the attached Request for Return form and send it to Agilent Technologies (see below), taking particular care to identify all products that have pumped or been exposed to any toxic or hazardous materials.

2) After evaluating the information, Agilent Technologies will provide you with a Return Authorization (RA) number via email or fax, as requested.
   
   Note: Depending on the type of return, a Purchase Order may be required at the time the Request for Return is submitted. We will quote any necessary services (evaluation, repair, special cleaning, etc).

3) Important steps for the shipment of returning product:
   - Remove all accessories from the core product (e.g. inlet screens, vent valves).
   - Prior to shipment, drain any oils or other liquids, purge or flush all gasses, and wipe off any excess residue.
   - If ordering an Advance Exchange product, please use the packaging from the Advance Exchange to return the defective product.
   - Seal the product in a plastic bag, and package product carefully to avoid damage in transit. You are responsible for loss or damage in transit.
   - Agilent Technologies is not responsible for returning customer provided packaging or containers.
   - Clearly label package with RA number. Using the shipping label provided will ensure the proper address and RA number are on the package. Packages shipped to Agilent without a RA clearly written on the outside cannot be accepted and will be returned.

4) Return only products for which the RA was issued.

5) Product being returned under a RA must be received within 15 business days.

6) Ship to the location specified on the printable label, which will be sent, along with the RA number, as soon as we have received all of the required information. Customer is responsible for freight charges on returning product.

7) Return shipments must comply with all applicable Shipping Regulations (IATA, DOT, etc.) and carrier requirements.

RETURN THE COMPLETED REQUEST FOR RETURN FORM TO YOUR NEAREST LOCATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUROPE:</th>
<th>NORTH AMERICA:</th>
<th>PACIFIC RIM:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fax: 00 39 011 9979 330</td>
<td>Fax: 1 781 860 9252</td>
<td>please visit our website for individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax Free: 00 800 345 345 00</td>
<td>Toll Free: 800 882 7426, Option 3</td>
<td>office information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toll Free: 00 800 234 234 00</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vpl-ra@agilent.com">vpl-ra@agilent.com</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.agilent.com">http://www.agilent.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:vpt-customeercare@agilent.com">vpt-customeercare@agilent.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:vpl-ra@agilent.com">vpl-ra@agilent.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1) CUSTOMER INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Name:</th>
<th>Contact Name:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel:</td>
<td>Email:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Ship To:</td>
<td>Customer Bill To:</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Europe only: VAT reg. Number:  
USA/Canada only: ☐ Taxable ☐ Non-taxable

2) PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Description</th>
<th>Agilent P/N</th>
<th>Agilent S/N</th>
<th>Original Purchasing Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

3) TYPE OF RETURN (Choose one from each row and supply Purchase Order if requesting a billable service)

3A. ☐ Non-Billable ☐ Billable ☐ New PO # (hard copy must be submitted with this form):

3B. ☐ Exchange ☐ Repair ☐ Upgrade ☐ Consignment/Demo ☐ Calibration ☐ Evaluation ☐ Return for Credit

4) HEALTH and SAFETY CERTIFICATION

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES CANNOT ACCEPT ANY PRODUCTS CONTAMINATED WITH BIOLOGICAL OR EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL, OR MERCURY AT ITS FACILITY.

Call Agilent Technologies to discuss alternatives if this requirement presents a problem.

The equipment listed above (check one):

☐ HAS NOT pumped or been exposed to any toxic or hazardous materials. OR
☐ HAS pumped or been exposed to the following toxic or hazardous materials. If this box is checked, the following information must also be filled out. Check boxes for all materials to which product(s) pumped or was exposed:

☐ Toxic ☐ Corrosive ☐ Reactive ☐ Flammable ☐ Explosive ☐ Biological ☐ Radioactive

List all toxic/hazardous materials. Include product name, chemical name, and chemical symbol or formula:

________________________________________________________________________________________________________

NOTE: If a product is received at Agilent which is contaminated with a toxic or hazardous material that was not disclosed, the customer will be held responsible for all costs incurred to ensure the safe handling of the product, and is liable for any harm or injury to Agilent employees as well as to any third party occurring as a result of exposure to toxic or hazardous materials present in the product.

Print Name:  
Authorized Signature:  
Date:  

5) FAILURE INFORMATION:

Failure Mode (REQUIRED FIELD. See next page for suggestions of failure terms):

Detailed Description of Malfunction: (Please provide the error message)

Application (system and model):

I understand and agree to the terms of Section 6, Page 3/3.

Print Name:  
Authorized Signature:  
Date:  

Pg 2/3
Please use these Failure Mode to describe the concern about the product on Page 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPARENT DEFECT/MALFUNCTION</th>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>PARAMETERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Does not start</td>
<td>- Noise</td>
<td>- Vertical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Does not spin freely</td>
<td>- Vibration</td>
<td>- Horizontal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Does not reach full speed</td>
<td>- Leak</td>
<td>- Upside-down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Mechanical Contact</td>
<td>- Overtemperature</td>
<td>- Other:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cooling defective</td>
<td>- Clogging</td>
<td>Power:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rotational Speed:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Current:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Inlet Pressure:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temp 1:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Foreline Pressure:</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temp 2:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Purge flow:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>OPERATING TIME:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TURBO CONTROLLERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Mechanical Contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cooling defective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Power:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Current:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Temp 1:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Temp 2:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- OPERATING TIME:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ION PUMPS/CONTROLLERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Bad feedthrough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vacuum leak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Error on display</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALVES/COMPONENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Main seal leak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Solenoid failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Damaged sealing area</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEAK DETECTORS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Cannot calibrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vacuum system unstable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Failed to start</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTRUMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Gauge tube not working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Communication failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Error on display</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCROLL AND ROTARY VANE PUMPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Pump doesn’t start</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Doesn’t reach vacuum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pump seized</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIFFUSION PUMPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Heater failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Doesn’t reach vacuum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Vacuum leak</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 6) ADDITIONAL TERMS

Please read the terms and conditions below as they apply to all returns and are in addition to the Agilent Technologies Vacuum Product Division – Products and Services Terms of Sale.

- Customer is responsible for the freight charges for the returning product. Return shipments must comply with all applicable Shipping Regulations (IATA, DOT, etc.) and carrier requirements.
- Customers receiving an Advance Exchange product agree to return the defective, rebuildable part to Agilent Technologies within 15 business days. Failure to do so, or returning a non-rebuildable part (crashed), will result in an invoice for the non-returned/non-rebuildable part.
- Returns for credit toward the purchase of new or refurbished Products are subject to prior Agilent approval and may incur a restocking fee. Please reference the original purchase order number.
- Units returned for evaluation will be evaluated, and a quote for repair will be issued. If you choose to have the unit repaired, the cost of the evaluation will be deducted from the final repair pricing. A Purchase Order for the final repair price should be issued within 3 weeks of quotation date. Units without a Purchase Order for repair will be returned to the customer, and the evaluation fee will be invoiced.
- A Special Cleaning fee will apply to all exposed products per Section 4 of this document.
- If requesting a calibration service, units must be functionally capable of being calibrated.
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