

**OPERATING PROCEDURES  
80K PUMP  
FOR  
LIGO VACUUM EQUIPMENT**

Hanford, Washington  
and  
Livingston, Louisiana

**PREPARED BY:** David Moore

**QUALITY ASSURANCE:** N/A

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:** D. C. McWilliam

**PROJECT MANAGER:** Paul Bayly

Information contained in this specification and its attachments is proprietary in nature and shall be kept confidential. It shall be used only as required to respond to the specification requirements, and shall not be disclosed to any other party.


Ø	DM 9/30/96	RES 10/1/96	Initial release, DEO # 0282
REV LTR.	BY-DATE	APPD. DATE	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE

<b>PROCESS SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL, INC.</b>				<b>SPECIFICATION</b>	
<b>INITIAL APPROVALS</b>	<b>PREPARED</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>Number A V049-2-143</b>
	DMoore	9/30/96	RES	10/1/96	Rev. Ø

**Title**      **OPERATING PROCEDURES - 80K PUMP**

Reference Drawings/Documents:

P&IDs:      V049-0-006, Rev. 3

Number  
Rev.

**SPECIFICATION**

Number **A** V049-2-143

Rev.  $\emptyset$

1.0 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The 80K cryopumps are a part of the LIGO vacuum pumping subsystem. Together with the ion pumps, they are designed to provide "vibration-free" pumping during normal operation of the LIGO interferometer.

There are two types of 80K pumps: long and short. The long 80K pumps have a cylindrical cold surface (liquid nitrogen reservoir) 3.7 m long, and the short 80K pumps have a cold surface 1.2 m long. In all other respects, with the exception of minor structural details, they are identical.

Each pump is fed by a liquid nitrogen storage dewar. The dewar has been sized to provide sufficient liquid nitrogen for about 90 days of cryopump operation. A level control valve, located near the dewar senses the liquid level in the pump reservoir, and modulates to maintain the reservoir's liquid level. A manual bypass valve in parallel with, and located near the level control valve is used for cooldown of the pump to 80K.

When it becomes necessary to regenerate the cryopump (drive condensable gases off the pump's cold surface), liquid nitrogen from the dewar is vaporized and warmed up to near outside ambient air temperature in a vaporizer, and introduced into a heater which heats the gas up to the required regeneration temperature. Cryopump regeneration is recommended every 90 days during the first year of operation of the vacuum system. After that, operational experience with the vacuum system will dictate the frequency with which the pump is regenerated. Trending the rate of liquid nitrogen consumption will help in making that determination.

2.0 EQUIPMENT TAG NUMBERS

These operating procedures reference the instrument and equipment tag numbers for cryopump WCP1 (Washington corner station). Corresponding tag numbers for equipment performing the same functions at other stations on the interferometer may be found in Table 1 on P&ID V049-0-006.

3.0 UNIT START CONDITIONS

3.1 Prior to startup and cooldown of the cryopump, the following equipment states must exist:

- All valves must be aligned in the positions listed in Table I.
- Dewar pressure regulators must be adjusted to give a pressure at the top of the dewar of 5 psig (PI105 reading).
- The regeneration heater must be off.

SPECIFICATION

Number A V049-2-143

Rev. B

Number

Rev.

**4.0 COOLDOWN**

- 4.1 To cool down the pump to normal operating temperature, execute the following sequence of events:
  - 4.1.1 Open the manual dewar liquid draw valve.
  - 4.1.2 Partially open HV194. The valve should be open no more than about 10% initially to avoid shocking the pump reservoir.
  - 4.1.3 Apply power to SM109, the GN2 vent heater. Except when the 80K pump has been warmed up and shut down, the vent heater must be left on at all times.
  - 4.1.4 Observe the cooldown rate of the 80K pump by monitoring TI102. The pump should be allowed to cool down over a several hour period to maximize the structural life of the pump reservoir. The position of HV194 may be adjusted either further open or further closed during the cooldown as needed.
  - 4.1.5 Close HV194 as the reservoir approaches 75% full and place LV100 in automatic level control mode with a set point of 93% full.

**5.0 NORMAL OPERATION**

- 5.1 When the 80K pump is in its normal operating mode, the equipment must be in the following states:
  - All valves must be aligned according to Table II.
  - The regeneration heater must be off.

In this state, the liquid level control valve will automatically maintain the level of liquid nitrogen in the cryopump reservoir.

**6.0 SHORT PUMP REGENERATION**

- 6.1 The purpose of this function is to drive accumulated condensibles off the surface of the pump reservoir surface. The buildup of these condensibles increases radiant heat loading on the reservoir, thereby increasing the rate at which liquid nitrogen is consumed. The regeneration of the pump should be done with a heater blanket, as this prevents moisture driven off the pump reservoir from recondensing on the hot walls of the pump vacuum shell.
- 6.2 The procedure to regenerate the pump is as follows:

Number  
Rev.

<b>SPECIFICATION</b>	
Number <b>A</b> V049-2-143	Rev. <b>6</b>

**Title OPERATING PROCEDURES - 80K PUMP**

6.2.1 Attach the turbopump and its backing pump to the pumpout port on the cryopump. The backing pump should be used for pumpout of the moisture driven off the reservoir surface.

**Note: The ballast valve on the backing pump must be opened to prevent water vapor from condensing in the backing pump. When this is done, activate the backing pump. Do not turn on the turbopump if the pressure in the 80K pump vacuum space is above 0.5 torr. Purge the intermediate vacuum header with N<sub>2</sub> to prevent condensation in the header.**

6.2.2 Close the large gate valves on either end of the pump beam tube ports and padlock them. **Note: This is an extremely important step. The gate valves must be closed prior to proceeding with the pump regeneration.**

6.2.3 With the exception of the dewar liquid draw valve (V-15), which is left open, line up all valves in the Startup position (Table I).

6.2.4 Attach the heater blanket to the vacuum shell of the 80K pump including the vacuum gauge pair. (Remove electronics for gauge pair). Also attach heater blankets specifically designed for use on "other" side of gate valve to warm up valve gate.

6.2.5 Set the heater blanket temperature controls at 100 deg. C.

6.2.6 Open the regeneration vent valve (HV107) and the vaporizer feed valve (V-11).

6.2.7 Align valves according to Table III. HV190 should be open last, opening it only enough to allow a flow rate of 50 grams/sec. This is done by observing the flowmeter, FI104.

6.2.8 Monitor the temperature rise in the reservoir via TI102. The temperature will not change until all of the liquid in the reservoir has been cleared. This will take about 1-1/2 hours.

6.2.9 When the reservoir temperature has risen to near that of the outdoor ambient (within 50°C), set the controls on the heater blanket to 150 deg. C, set the controls (TIC103) on the regeneration heater to 150 deg. C, and activate the regeneration heater. (The regeneration heater setpoint may have to be set somewhat higher than this to overcome heat losses through the insulation.) This sequence of events completes the steps necessary to bring the cryopump to the regeneration temperature. The pump is estimated to require about 8 hours of total warmup time to 150 deg. C. The vacuum level in the 80K pump will determine how long the pump will need to be kept at this temperature. The flowrate may be reduced at this time to conserve liquid nitrogen.

6.2.10 Monitor flange annulus pressure on annulus ion pumps during warm-up. If ion pump trips, connect aux turbo cart to pump.

Number  
Rev.

**SPECIFICATION**

Number **A** V049-2-143

Rev. **P**

6.2.11 When the regeneration process is complete, (when the pressure at the vacuum pump is less than  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  torr) return all valves except the dewar liquid draw valve (V-15), to the positions indicated in Table I and shut off the regeneration heater.

7.0 LONG PUMP REGENERATION

7.1 The procedures to regenerate the long pump are identical to the short pump with the exception of the following:

- The liquid in the pump will take longer to vaporize - about 2.3 hours. Therefore the pump will remain at 80K for a longer time than the short pump.
- After the regeneration heater is reset to 150 deg. C, increase the flowrate in the regeneration line to 100 gm./sec. by further opening HV190 and adjusting the flowrate by observing FI104. This will allow a reasonably short warmup time. When the 80K pump reaches 150 deg. C, the flow may be reduced to conserve liquid nitrogen.

8.0 PUMP WARMUP

8.1 The procedure to warm up either the short or the long pump to room temperature are as follows:

- 8.1.1 With the exception of the dewar liquid draw valve (V-15), which is left open, line up all valves in the Startup position (Table I).
- 8.1.2 Close the large gate valves on either end of the pump beam tube ports and padlock them. **Note: This is an extremely important step. The gate valves must be closed prior to proceeding with the pump regeneration.**
- 8.1.3 Attach the turbopump and its backing pump to the pumpout port on the cryopump. The backing pump should be used for pumpout of the moisture driven off the reservoir surface.

**Note: The ballast valve on the backing pump must be opened to prevent water vapor from condensing in the backing pump. When this is done, activate the backing pump. Do not turn on the turbopump if the pressure in the 80K pump vacuum space is above 0.5 torr.**

Number  
Rev.

<b>SPECIFICATION</b>	
Number <b>A</b> V049-2-143	Rev.

**Title OPERATING PROCEDURES - 80K PUMP**

- 8.1.4 Open the regeneration vent valve (HV107) and the vaporizer feed valve (V-11).
- 8.1.5 Align valves according to Table III. HV190 should be open last, opening it only enough to allow a flow rate of 50 grams/sec. This is done by observing the flowmeter, FI104.
- 8.1.6 Monitor the temperature rise in the reservoir via TI102. The temperature will not change until all of the liquid in the reservoir has been cleared. This will take about 1-1/2 hours.
- 8.1.7 When the reservoir temperature has risen to near that of the outdoor ambient, set the regeneration heater controls (TIC103) to 20 deg. C and activate the regeneration heater. Hold the process in this state and monitor the pressure in the 80K pump annular vacuum space. The heater may be shut off and the valves may be returned to the positions listed in Table I with the exception of V-15, which may be left open, at any time that the vacuum level in the cryopump annular space reaches an acceptable level.

**9.0 PUMP OFF**

- 9.1 The pump may be considered to be in the off state under the following conditions:
  - Valves are lined up according to Table I
  - Power to the regeneration heater (TIC103) is off.
  - Power to the vent heater (SM109) is off.

**10.0 SAFETY**

- 10.1 An alarm list with action to be taken is shown in Table III.

Number  
Rev.

<b>SPECIFICATION</b>	
Number <b>A</b> V049-2-143	Rev. <i>7</i>

TABLE I  
UNIT VALVE POSITIONS  
FOR STARTUP

<u>VALVE</u>	<u>MODE</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
HV194	MANUAL	CLOSED	DEWAR LIQUID DRAW VALVE
V-15	MANUAL	CLOSED	
LV100	MANUAL	CLOSED	
HV190	MANUAL	CLOSED	REGEN. VENT VALVE
HV---	MANUAL	CLOSED	

Number

Rev.

**SPECIFICATION**

Number **A** V049-2-143

Rev.  $\phi$



