

Safety measures for massive helium leakage

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Nowadays almost every particle accelerator is working with superconducting components. To cool down these components a cryogenic medium is needed. Helium is the choice. But what to do if there is a leakage in the liquid helium supply inside the accelerator facility? How to deal with the overpressure generated by the abrupt evaporating helium? How to detect the leak before it can harm people and cause major damage to the installation and structure? Often these questions are asked too late. In fact DESY is dealing with these questions at a pretty late stage of the commissioning of the XFEL accelerator facility. What is DESY's solution to handle the issue?

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