



Optimum vacuum solutions from a single source for your vacuum furnace applications



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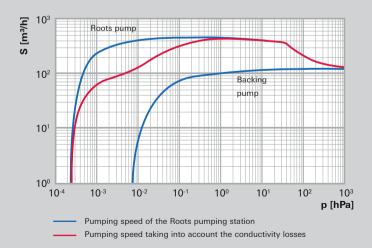
Every day we come into contact with products that were manufactured in vacuum furnaces: Gears in automotive transmissions, specially hardened drill bits for industrial or DIY applications. High strength materials are difficult to produce without vacuum.

The components to be processed are heated in a vacuum furnace while vacuum pumps generate a low-oxygen atmosphere. This prevents any oxidation of the components. Vacuum furnaces are used in many different industrial applications, such as vacuum sintering for the production of hard metals for the tool industry or vacuum soldering for the production of vacuum switching chambers for the electrical industry. Vacuum hardening is used for high-alloy steels, such as those used for gear manufacturing by the automotive industry.

#### The advantages of vacuum

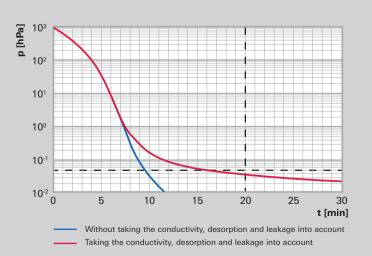
The vacuum in the furnaces acts as a protective atmosphere that prevents oxidation of the components. Vacuum sintering improves the surface quality of the components. This considerably reduces the need for mechanical reworking. The mechanical properties are also optimized through higher density, lower porosity and higher strength. In vacuum soldering, a high joint quality is achieved through the improved strength of the soldered seam. In addition, vacuum soldering ensures the high reproducibility of the process. Vacuum hardening is used to minimize distortion while also ensuring excellent surface quality. Another advantage of this process: The high surface quality allows direct nitriding after hardening.

#### Pumping speed curve of a Roots pumping station



The pumping speed curve clearly illustrates the performance of the vacuum system over the entire pressure range.

#### **Evacuation curve**



The evacuation curve shows to what extent the vacuum system reaches the target pressure within the required time.

### Comprehensive portfolio for vacuum furnaces

Pfeiffer Vacuum offers a very large product portfolio, particularly for vacuum furnace applications. This ranges from vacuum pumps for evacuating furnaces to pressure measurement equipment, and from calibration pumping stations to leak detectors for locating leaks. With our components and valves you get the complete vacuum equipment from one source.

#### The process

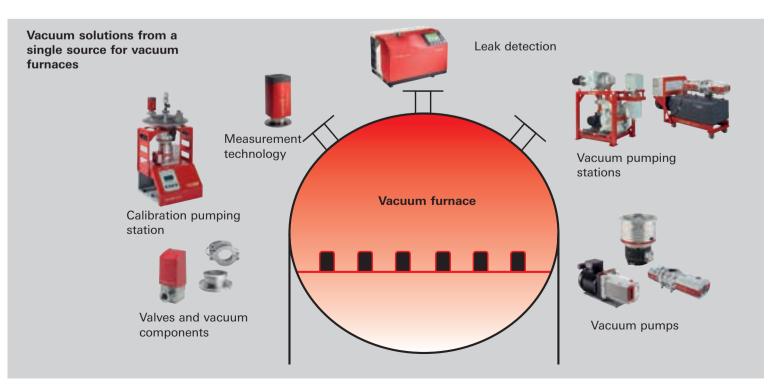
For processes in a vacuum furnace, it is essential to reach a certain pressure within a given time. Time savings due to short pump-down times contribute to economic efficiency. Moreover, unwanted substances such as oxygen are removed from the drying chamber during evacuation.

#### **Pump selection**

Criteria for selecting vacuum pumps include a sufficiently low ultimate pressure and a high pumping speed. With these criteria, the required pump-down time can be achieved and a constant pressure maintained during the process gas inflow.

#### Design

Pfeiffer Vacuum will support you in designing the complete vacuum system, whether in dimensioning the vacuum pumps or by recommending additional components, such as dust separators, pressure gauges, leak detectors and accessories. Individual pump characteristics, and losses through piping and leaks are taken into account. Modern calculation programs developed specially for this purpose are used in the design process.



#### Vacuum sintering

#### The requirements

The main requirements for vacuum pumps in sintering furnaces relate to the pumping speed, the necessary working pressure and sufficient robustness for the debinding process. In the course of the debinding process, the binder evaporates. The resulting substances must be pumped down quickly and reliably. Furnaces are therefore often evacuated using a combination of rotary vane and Roots pumps. With these, the required final pressure in the fine vacuum range of 10-1 to 10-2 hPa can be achieved quickly and reliably.

#### **Pump selection**

The UnoLine Plus rotary vane pump from Pfeiffer Vacuum has proven its worth especially in the HIP sintering process, and is characterized as very robust when exposed to dirt. Thanks to its low pump speed and large oil reservoir, the process gases that result are not a problem for the pump. In addition, maintenance intervals have been extended by separating the bearing and process lubrication. In addition to the UnoLine Plus, Pfeiffer Vacuum offers further oil-compressing and also dry pumping principles, such as the HeptaDry screw pump and DuoLine two-stage rotary vane pumps.

Moreover, our HiLobe and OktaLine Roots pumps, as well as the CombiLine pumping stations, are also suitable for vacuum sintering to achieve higher suction volumes. For further details, please refer to the product overview on page 7.



Carbide tool (turning tool), manufactured by sintering



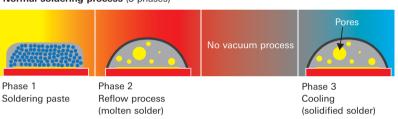
Vacuum soldering furnaces built by PVA TePla Courtesy of PVA TePla

#### Vacuum soldering

#### The requirements

Vacuum soldering places high demands on the vacuum system. The challenges start even in the medium vacuum range, where the carrier gas argon used to flush out the furnace is pumped down. At this stage, too, the water vapor that is a by-product of the component washing process also needs to be pumped down. In addition, the solder that is used poses a challenge for the vacuum pump since the binder degasses from the solder. If active solders are used, titanium degasses from them. Furthermore, any hydrocarbons produced must be pumped down. In view of this, pumping speeds in the high vacuum range (10<sup>-5</sup> to 10<sup>-6</sup> hPa) are an important requirement for the pumps. The pumps used are screw pumps or rotary vane pumps in combination with Roots pumps. High vacuum is usually generated with oil diffusion pumps and turbomolecular pumps.

#### Normal soldering process (3 phases)

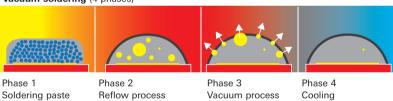


Soldering process

Pores

without vacuum

#### Vacuum soldering (4 phases)



(molten solder)

(solidified solder)



Soldering process with vacuum

#### **Pump selection**

The DuoLine as a two-stage rotary vane pump is suitable for this process. The two-stage design achieves a low ultimate pressure, which predestines the DuoLine for vacuum soldering. Furthermore, a long service life is one of the outstanding features of this pump. The DuoLine covers a pumping speed range from 1.3 to 300 m³/h. DuoLine pumps in a version with a magnetic coupling dispense with the need for shaft seal maintenance. Pfeiffer Vacuum additionally offers dry pumps like the HeptaDry screw pump as backing pumps for this application.

(molten solder)

#### Vacuum hardening

#### **Basics**

Uniform heating up and through-heating as well as quenching are indispensable in vacuum hardening to prevent distortion of the components. Since heat transfer by radiation can lead to irregularities in the lower temperature range, heat convection with high-purity nitrogen is used. The nitrogen introduced into the process must then be pumped down by vacuum pumps. Furnaces are therefore often evacuated using a combination of rotary vane and Roots pumps. Due to this combination, the final pressure required in the medium vacuum range up to 1 mbar is achieved quickly and reliably.

#### **Pump selection**

The HenaLine from Pfeiffer Vacuum has especially proven itself as a rotary vane pump. It features a single-stage design and has long been among the most widely employed products for processes in the medium vacuum range. It is characterized by its long service life. With its pumping speeds, the HenaLine series covers virtually all industrial applications. If dry pumping principles are required, the HeptaDry screw pump is recommended.

#### Roots pumps

Suitable Roots pumps are available in the OktaLine and HiLobe series. With its integrated overflow valve, the OktaLine prevents thermal overload. The HiLobe works with a new drive concept that enables an around 20% shorter pump-down time compared to conventional Roots pumps. As a result, operating costs can also be reduced by up to 50% compared to conventional Roots pumps. The intelligent interface technology enables condition monitoring and increases the service life and operational safety.

#### **Pumping stations**

With pumping stations from the CombiLine series comprising rotary vane and Roots pumps, Pfeiffer Vacuum offers an all-in-one solution for every application. The pumping stations of the CombiLine series cover a wide range of achievable pumping speeds and final pressures. Pumping stations can also be designed and built individually to custom requirements to meet demanding applications.





Gears hardened under vacuum

#### Rotary vane pumps

UnoLine Plus HenaLine

#### DuoLine

#### Screw pumps HeptaDry









- Very low final pressure compared to other single-stage rotary vane pumps
- single-stage rotary
  vane pumps

  Process-compatible
  through temperature
- control
  Integrated oil
  regeneration device
  for processes with high
  dust content
- Unrivaled long maintenance intervals thanks to separate lubrication of the bearings and pump chamber

- Reliable and powerful rotary vane pump
- Clean exhaust air due to integrated oil mist separator
- High operating reliability through integrated highvacuum safety valve
- Complete series from 1.25 to 300 m³/h
- Optionally available with wear-free magnetic coupling, thus extended maintenance intervals and no unplanned breakdowns due to oil leaks
- Dry screw pump with strainer
- Water cooling with thermostatic valve and thermometer
- Temperature switch in housing
- Non-contact dynamic labyrinth seal

# Roots pumps Turbopumps Pumping stations OktaLine HiLobe HiPace CombiLine



- Unmatched high compression values
- Integrated overflow valve
- No cooling water consumption
- Optionally available with wear-free magnetic coupling, thus extended maintenance intervals and lower operating costs



- Dry-sealing
- High pumping speed at atmospheric pressure reduces the pump-down time
- Energy-efficient drive concept
- Intelligent interface technology
- Durable



- High pumping speeds for light and heavy gases
- High process capability
- Resistant to particle intake
- High gas throughput, even for heavy gases
- Maximum operating reliability by monitoring all operating data



- CombiLine stands for a wide variety of Roots pumping stations with different backing pumps, gradations and accessories
- In addition to the standard range, customer-specific pumping stations can also be designed to meet individual requirements

#### Selection guide

	Vacuum furnaces		
	Hardening	Sintering	Soldering
UnoLine Plus / HenaLine single-stage rotary vane pumps	•	•	•
DuoLine two-stage rotary vane pumps	0	0	•
HeptaDry screw pumps	0	0	0
OktaLine / HiLobe Roots pumps	•	•	•
HiPace turbopumps	0		•
CombiLine pumping stations		•	

- Recommended
- Optional

PFEIFER VACUUM 7

#### Pressure measurement

An accurate and repeatable pressure measurement is essential for any vacuum application. This safeguards the development and control of processes. Pfeiffer Vacuum covers a wide pressure measurement range with a variety of measuring principles. Examples of frequently used measuring principles are: Pirani, Pirani/cold cathode and capacitive vacuum gauges.

Pirani vacuum gauges (pressure range up to 1·10<sup>-3</sup> hPa)

Thanks to their pulse technology, the innovative vacuum gauges from Pfeiffer Vacuum offer better accuracy than conventional Pirani gauges. The pressure measuring range is between 10 hPa and 1·10<sup>-3</sup> hPa. Pirani vacuum gauges are among the most cost-effective vacuum gauges.

Capacitive vacuum gauges (pressure range up to 1·10<sup>-3</sup> hPa)

Capacitive vacuum gauges offer a much higher accuracy than Pirani vacuum gauges. They can also be used independently of the type of gas. The absolute pressure is determined by the deflection of a diaphragm. Capacitive vacuum gauges therefore offer the best performance in a measuring range between 1,000 hPa and  $1\cdot10^{-3}$ . The appropriate choice must be made depending on the working pressure.

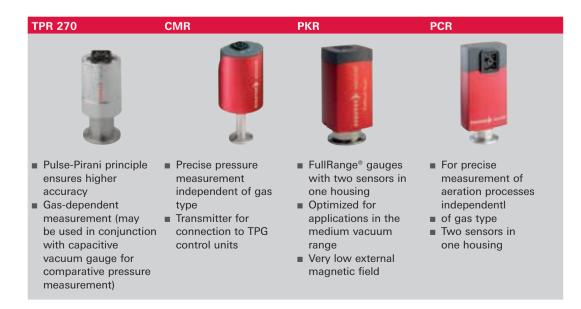
Pirani/cold cathode vacuum gauges (pressure range up to 1·10<sup>-9</sup> hPa)

Pirani/cold cathode vacuum gauges belong to the FullRange gauges. With two sensors in one housing, this type of gauge stands out with a very wide measuring range and is especially suitable for medium and high vacuum. For pressure measurement inside furnaces, PKR gauges have distinguished themselves with their reliability and robustness.

Pirani/capacitive vacuum gauges (pressure range from 1,500 hPa to 5·10<sup>-5</sup> hPa)

Since they are also equipped with two sensors in one housing, Pirani/capacitive gauges are also FullRange gauges. This combination offers the advantage of being less expensive than the Pirani/cold cathode gauge. However, in contrast to Pirani/cold cathode gauges, it is not possible to measure pressures that are lower than 10<sup>-5</sup> hPa. Pfeiffer Vacuum's portfolio includes these vacuum gauges under the name PCR.

#### **Product overview**



#### **Calibration**

#### Calibration

In order to ensure the accuracy and repeatability of the pressure measurement and thus the process stability in the long term, it is essential to regularly calibrate the vacuum gauges. The measuring signals can shift due to the contamination of the sensors through particles or condensate as well as due to long-term aging. An integral part of quality assurance is therefore calibration, in which the measuring signals of the measuring instruments used are compared with a reference gauge. The reference vacuum gauge must have been calibrated by a certified laboratory (e.g., DAkks [Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH = German accreditation agency] certified in Germany, NIST certified in the U.S.) and be traceable to a national standard.

### Factory and DAkkS calibration

Pfeiffer Vacuum offers both factory and DAkkS calibration of vacuum gauges. The calibration is carried out according to high quality standards and in compliance with ISO 3567. The test conditions and discrepancies recorded are documented in the calibration certificate issued.

Hierarchy of the calibration chain (decreasing accuracy)

#### PTB\*

National standards

DAkkS-certified calibration laboratory

Certified standards

In-house calibration laboratory

Factory standard

Company test equipment

#### **Product**

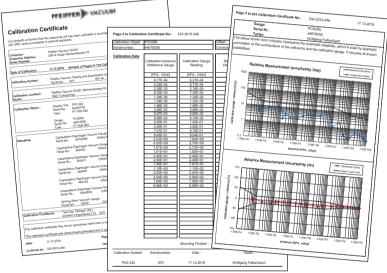
PFEIFFER VACUUM 9

<sup>\*</sup>Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (National Metrology Institute of Germany)

#### **Calibration**

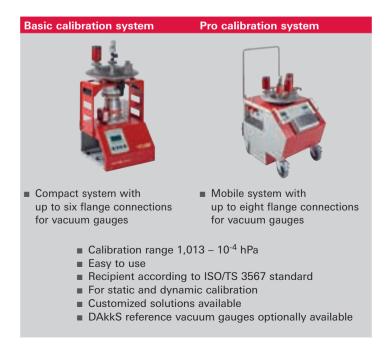
### Pfeiffer Vacuum calibration systems

When a large number of vacuum gauges are used, direct in-house calibration can be more cost-efficient than external calibration. With its Basic and Pro models, Pfeiffer Vacuum offers calibration pumping stations specially developed for this purpose. These systems incorporate an integrated turbopumping station to provide the pressure necessary for accurate zero adjustment. A vacuum chamber in accordance with ISO 3567 ensures homogeneous pressure distribution and a symmetrical arrangement of the vacuum gauges at the same height. Gas inlet and pump input are also located on an axis of symmetry. With the Pfeiffer Vacuum calibration systems and a corresponding reference vacuum gauge, the calibration can be carried out easily, particularly for the relevant pressure range.



Example of a calibration certificate

#### **Product overview**



#### Leak detection

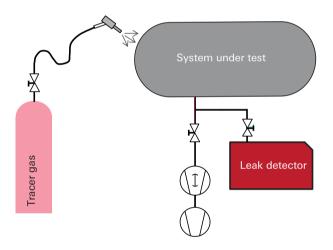
#### Localization of leaks

If the leak rate exceeds the desired threshold, it is important to locate and correct the leakages. Their high detection sensitivity, short test time and easy operation make helium leak detectors ideal for localizing leaks. The vacuum furnace is evacuated. From the outside, helium is sprayed locally on sealing points, welds and other potential leaks using a spray gun. In the event of a leak, the helium flows into the evacuated vacuum chamber, and is sucked in and detected by the leak detector. In order to realize short response times, the leak detector is used in large systems in partial flow to the existing vacuum system (see the leak detection diagram).

### Ideal solution from Pfeiffer Vacuum

With the ASM 340, Pfeiffer Vacuum offers a powerful leak detector for universal use. The compact and portable ASM 310 is the first choice for mobile use, such as for service engineers.

Leak detector in partial flow to the existing vacuum system for locating leaks



#### **Product overview**



11

## **Pfeiffer Vacuum Service**

Our services – your advantages

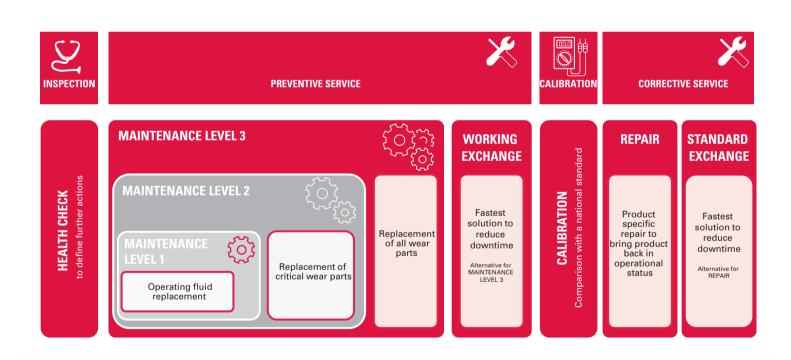
Each customer places its own particular demands on its products, and these may also be influenced by application-specific parameters. Our flexible service concept, with a focus on preventive services, offers just the right solution for you.

Preventive maintenance – avoid downtimes

With our preventive service concept, we can recommend service intervals tailored to each product. The aim is to avoid failures and to carry out planned and predictable servicing.

Maintenance level 1 includes fluid changes and contributes significantly to the good working order of the product.

Maintenance level 2 also includes replacement of all wear and tear parts. In maintenance level 3, all wear and tear parts of the product are replaced and the product is overhauled. In order to keep downtimes to a minimum, we offer temporary replacements for many of our products for the duration of maintenance. We provide an equivalent replacement product that our customers can start using immediately.



#### Services at a glance

- User training and product training
- Pfeiffer Vacuum original spare parts and tools
- Troubleshooting and advice from our technical support team
- Comprehensive on-site service by our service technicians
- Maintenance and repair in our service centers worldwide
- Individual service agreements
- Replacement products
- Calibration service for measuring devices and helium test leaks

Spare parts – original parts increase life expectancy

Pfeiffer Vacuum's spare parts and tools are defined as early as at the product development stage. This ensures their tailor-made fit and quality.

Every improvement to our serial products is also transferred to our spare parts. This means products are brought up to state of the art status after undergoing maintenance level 3 or a repair.



Advice – to assist you with any questions you may have

In addition to our individual concepts and the quality of our replacement parts, it is our employees and personal contact that give our service its special touch.

Technical support – competent advice from the experts

Since not everything about our products is self-explanatory and questions can arise both before and after purchase, Pfeiffer Vacuum's Technical Support is available to assist our customers.

Each member of our team specializes in a specific area of our portfolio to enable them to assist our customers competently with technical questions relating to our products. Our team also works closely with our developers and application experts.

Field service technicians on site

From commissioning new vacuum components and systems to troubleshooting, and from maintenance to repairs, we offer our customers a comprehensive range of on-site services. Our service locations ensure customer proximity and short-term assistance in emergencies.

Service agreements – individually tailored to your project

We offer project-specific service agreements so that our customers can plan maintenance or service interventions over a long term. These agreements can be made at a later date or as early as during the project planning stage. In order to take our customers' differing needs into account, agreements may include all or just some of the services we offer.

# **Components and valves**

#### The connection in your vacuum system



A vacuum system is made up of a variety of individual parts which are combined to form a single unit. Pfeiffer Vacuum also offers more than standard solutions. Components can be modified to meet your requirements or a customized solution can be produced to fit your needs perfectly.

- Your advantages and benefits A direct contact for you and your projects
  - Proactive support and competent advice
  - Make ordering more convenient
  - Short delivery times
  - High delivery reliability
  - High security of supply
  - More than half a million parts in stock
  - High uptime
  - Cost saving no own stock keeping necessary
  - Vacuum components available in online shop
  - Convenient online ordering at any time
  - Information about your prices, delivery times and terms

#### www.vacuum-shop.com









Valves Feedthroughs Manipulators

# **Custom vacuum chambers**

#### Individually designed chambers for your vacuum applications

■ Robust design

■ Project engineering and construction by

qualified and experienced project managers

Due to our many years of experience we are familiar with almost all possible tasks and can provide professional guidance for system specifications, design and engineering.

Our physicists, designers, project managers and production specialists have extensive experience in many applications from all market segments. The tasks are based on your requirements: our starting point on the path to a finished product can range from a rough sketch to a complete set of blueprints.

High vacuum chambers	Advantages	Benefits
	■ Preconfigured design	Cost and time savings due to lower design expenses
	■ Proven, tough design	■ Reliable and safe
	■ Customized ports	■ Individual adaptation to your processes
Medium vacuum chambers	Advantages	Benefits
	■ Preconfigured design	Cost and time savings due to lower design expenses
	■ Proven, tough design	■ Reliable and safe
	■ Customized ports	■ Individual adaptation to your processes
Modular vacuum chambers	Advantages	Benefits
0 1 0	■ Preconfigured design	Cost and time savings due to lower design expenses
	<ul> <li>Modularly expandable</li> </ul>	■ Maximum flexibility at all times
	■ Customized ports	■ Adaptable individually to your application
Custom vacuum chambers	Advantages	Benefits
6600	■ Individual design	■ Can be adapted optimally to your process
	ě .	

■ Reliable and safe

■ Time saving

### **VACUUM SOLUTIONS FROM A SINGLE SOURCE**

Pfeiffer Vacuum stands for innovative and custom vacuum solutions worldwide, technological perfection, competent advice and reliable service.

### **COMPLETE RANGE OF PRODUCTS**

From a single component to complex systems:

We are the only supplier of vacuum technology that provides a complete product portfolio.

#### **COMPETENCE IN THEORY AND PRACTICE**

Benefit from our know-how and our portfolio of training opportunities! We support you with your plant layout and provide first-class on-site service worldwide.

Are you looking for a perfect vacuum solution? Please contact us:

Pfeiffer Vacuum GmbH Germany T +49 6441 802-0

www.pfeiffer-vacuum.com











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