

Maintenance

The Cryostation requires very little maintenance.

The GM cryo-cooler head normally needs maintenance approximately every 10,000 hours of operation. The compressor needs maintenance after 30,000 hours. The manufacturer's (SHI) spec of 10,000 hours is based upon their system operating parameters.

The helium gas used in the Compressor passes through two filters and is cleaned before exiting. The first of these, the Coalescing Filter, uses fiberglass filter elements which coalesce any oil mist that is present. The oil is collected and periodically drained to the compressor capsule. The second filter is a charcoal adsorber. All the oil removed by the adsorber remains within it. As a result the filter must be replaced after 30,000 hours of operation.

This maintenance procedure is easy, and can be done by a technician at your location.

After extended use, some of the bearings and bushings will wear. You will know it is time to perform this maintenance service the unit if it has trouble cooling or if you hear noise from the rotating parts.

When it is time for maintenance, contact Montana Instruments for instructions on refurbishing the unit. This can be done by one of our technicians at your facility. The repairs can be done on the system in place, without removing your equipment or disturbing your optical setup as long as access from above the Cryostation is available.

With proper maintenance, you will find it affordable to keep your system operating for over 25 years.



Back view of
Compressor

Back view of
Control Unit