

Freeze Dryer, Vacuum Pump and Oil filter Problems!

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Our lab bought a freeze dryer system second hand (ModulyoD), complete with a vacuum pump (VLP200) and oil recirculation filter (VPOF110) --- all components are from Savant(Thermo).

First, I am searching for documentation (operation and maintenance) on the pump and oil filter and would appreciate any information. I have tried to contact the manufacturer but they are not responding to my communication efforts!

Second, I have been going through oil mist filters rather quickly --- any ideas why? I've read this might be due to improper maintenance on the pump/oil system, eg. moisture in the oil. How often (in hours of usage) should I perform an oil change in the pump? Unfortunately the system was not purchased with an oil drain kit... Also, I've heard about running the pump with the gas ballast open --- what does this mean? And is this necessary if I have an oil recirculation filter (provided it is working properly?)

I hope to change the filter in the VPOF110 but am having trouble taking the filter apart and finding replacement filters. HELP!

Any advice/tips on this matter would be greatly appreciated!!!

Thanks,

Marta