

Pre-defined safety measures for helium leakages – theory meets reality

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In the early planning stages of the European XFEL facility possible measures for helium leakages within the cooled down accelerator tunnel have been discussed. Finally some of them found their way into safety concepts that 2005 became relevant for approval, even before the incident @CERN in 2008 shifted the issue into the centre of attention.

But as the project advanced to more detailed planning and construction phases it became obvious that the pre-defined measures would reach their limits with regard to capability and technical feasibility real fast. A new strategy including interim solutions had to be found.

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