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Noble Gas Equipment Development – System Technical Specifications and Capabilities

A high throughput system for processing and detection of radio-xenon for On-Site Inspection (OSI) purposes is currently being developed at FOI. To locate an underground event during an OSI it is important to cover and narrow down a large area of interest in a short time period. This will require a large number of sub-soil gas samples to be analyzed per day. Even if samples are combined, a noble gas system has to have a much higher throughput than currently available. The new system is intended to achieve this and have the capacity of separating high levels of Rn, CO2 and other gases in combination with the high sensitivity and performances of the current SAUNA II system. The new optimized beta-gamma detector design, and its sensitivity will be presented. Four detectors are collocated in one single lead-shield which is re-designed for simplified field deployment. The improved gas process and its capabilities, e.g. radon separation and re-quantification, will also be covered.

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