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## **Maintaining Your Speed-Vap® III**

I receive many calls about the Speed-Vap III loosing vacuum and not working properly. Most likely your Speed-Vap III is not beyond repair.

These are several conditions you may be observing. The first is, the controller is flashing but the temp isn't changing. This is usually a sign that the heating element is open and the recommend action is to send in the unit for evaluation and repair. The second issue involves the solvent trap (if one is in use). You want to ensure the stopper is making a making a tight seal into the 500 mL flask. If the seal is not tight there is no seal and there will be no vacuum inside the Speed-Vap. The last issue you may be experiencing is that the Speed-Vap isn't sealing properly and not creating a vacuum without a solvent trap. This is a sign of several possibilities: First ensure you air source is on and is set to 60psi. Then make sure the air source is connected to the Speed-Vap and the vacuum is on and the flow is turned all the way up. At this point you should hear air flowing though your Speed-Vap. If you don't hear any air flow there is no vacuum or a blocked vacuum exhaust. If you do hear airflow then put your finger on the small hole inside the Speed-Vap (this can be accessed by opening the lid). If the hole does have a vacuum then at this point the most likely failure is the lid gasket. Over a period of time the seal on the lid compresses. In order to create a seal you will need to place a shim gasket over the original gasket (on the lid). This is an easy fix and would require placing a new gasket (shim Gasket) on top of the existing gasket (do not remove the original gasket).

How to install the shim gasket: Place the shim gasket on the original gasket first to check for the proper orientation. Then remove the protective film and place it on top of the original gasket and close the lid. Loosen the three Phillip head screws that hold the hinge in place in the rear of the unit. Turn the vacuum on and turn the flow adjustment knob fully clockwise (this provides maximum vacuum). Press down on the lid until a good seal is obtained. Then tighten (do not over tighten) the three screws on the hinged. Now the Speed-Vap should have great seal and has been properly adjusted.

Part # for the Shim Gasket – 02-0302-02