How to Operate the Speed-Vac

1. Turn on the refrigeration button on the vacuum pump at least 30 min before you want to use it. Make sure it cools down to about -50°C.

2. Place samples into speed-vac. Make sure they are balanced!

3. Turn the drying-rate button to low. Turn the rotor ON.

4. Once the rotor has reached full speed, turn the vacuum pump ON. Before you turn the pump on, make sure all valves are in the CLOSED position, like:

5. Slowly turn the vacuum valve that connects to the speed-vac to the OPEN position.

6. To check if samples have sufficiently dried, first turn the vacuum valve that connects to the speed-vac to the CLOSED position. Allow the speed-vac to equilibrate to outside air by briefly lifting the speed-vac lid a few times.

7. Turn OFF the speed-vac. If samples have been sufficiently dried, proceed to step 8. If they haven't, go back to step 3.

8. Open a random valve that connects to the outside air. This allows the vacuum pump to bleed.

9. Turn OFF the vacuum pump.