

CMAM, Starting from Scratch: Our Experience on how to get Experienced

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The Centre for Micro-Analysis of Materials (CMAM) was inaugurated in 2003 in Spain, a country with almost no experience in the field of electrostatic accelerators (the first one dates from 1999). At that moment, with this lack of national knowhow facing the day-to-day operation and maintenance problems was only possible with the support from the manufacturer and the casual interaction with our colleagues from abroad.

Since then, the technical staff of CMAM have been developing the skills needed not only for running the facility but also to improve it, achieving a higher degree of autonomy. A review of the policies applied in such direction, with examples of their impact on the way the accelerator is run and how new instrumentation has been developed or improved will be presented.

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