Vacuum Degasser — Inspection Checklist

The degasser sits after the shakers and before the cyclones, pulling entrained gas out of a thin mud film under vacuum. It protects mud weight, pump efficiency — and the trust you place in the density you read. Run this card whenever gas-cut mud is possible.

Rig / unit: _____	Date: _____	Shift: ■ Day ■ Night	Inspector: _____

Before / at start-up

✓	Check item	Notes / reading
■	Unit lined up correctly: suction and return to the RIGHT compartments (no cross-flow)	
■	Vacuum pump: belt, motor and oil checked; pump develops design vacuum	
■	Float / level control operating — correct mud level (too high floods, too low loses the seal)	
■	Vent line clear and routed to a safe area — no plugging, no liquid carry-over	
■	Vessel and connections: no air leaks (a small leak kills the vacuum)	

While running (log the readings)

✓	Check item	Notes / reading
■	Vacuum gauge holding at design — record the reading	
■	Steady discharge back to the pits; no surging or flooding	
■	Unit ON whenever gas-cut mud is possible — not just after a kick	
■	Flowline vs suction-pit mud weight compared — the gap is the gas the unit must remove	
■	No abnormal noise from the vacuum pump or discharge (jet) line	

The confirmation test

The unit is doing its job when the gauge holds design vacuum AND the flowline-vs-suction mud-weight gap closes. If either fails: check pump/belt → vent line → level/float → line-up → air leaks, in that order. Full fix: scdrilltech.com/troubleshooting/vacuum-degasser-not-pulling-gas.html