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A model for the chemistry of defects in bakelite plates exposed to high-radiation environment

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Linseed oil coated bakelite plates have been widely used over the past 15 years for small and large RPC systems. The formation of defects responsible for dark current increase and eventually discharge in high-radiation applications was observed in the past. Studies have been recently performed to identify and characterize the defects. Results of a new high-statistics survey of the defect formation and localization inside RPC gaps exposed to high-radiation environments will be presented.

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