

VACUUM PUMP

Abstract

5 A vacuum pump comprises a housing, a drive shaft supported by a
bearing arrangement for rotation relative to the housing about an axis, and a
pumping mechanism comprising a stator component mounted on the housing
and a disk-shaped rotor component mounted on the drive shaft axially proximate
the stator component. The bearing arrangement comprises a bearing supported
10 in both radial and axial directions by a resilient support, comprising inner and
outer annular portions connected by a plurality of flexible members, so that there
is a fixed relation between the inner race of the bearing and the outer portion of
the resilient support to determine the axial clearance between the rotor and stator
components of the pumping mechanism.

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FIG. 1