spark (source) ionization

in mass spectrometry

Occurs when a solid sample is vaporized and partially ionized by an intermittent discharge. It is recommended that the word 'source' be dropped from this term.

Source:

PAC, 1991, 63, 1541 (Recommendations for nomenclature and symbolism for mass spectroscopy (including an appendix of terms used in vacuum technology). (Recommendations 1991)) on page 1548
Orange Book, p. 204