

# Worldwide Pollution Control Association

**Duke Energy Seminar**  
**September 3 – 5, 2008**  
**Concord, NC**



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# Care and Feeding of SNCR Systems

**Presented to**

2008 WPCA / Duke Energy Seminar

**by**

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**Quinapoxet Solutions**

**4 September 2008**

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# Outline

- **Workshop Objectives**
- **O&M Guidelines**
- **Operational Issues**
- **A Few Answers**



# Workshop Objectives

- What would You like to discuss in the next hour?
- What SNCR issues do you face?



# SNCR Operating Strategies

- Use with LNB/OFA
- Select NO<sub>x</sub> Set Point
- Typical NO<sub>x</sub> reduction is 20-40 percent



# SNCR Design

- **AKA: where do you put the injectors?**
  - **Design factors:**
    - Temperature vs. Load
    - Time
    - Dispersion/coverage
    - CO
  - **Operation: question becomes which injectors do you use?**
- 



# Other Design Factors

- Urea vs. ammonia
- Droplet size (atomizer selection)
- Reagent concentration



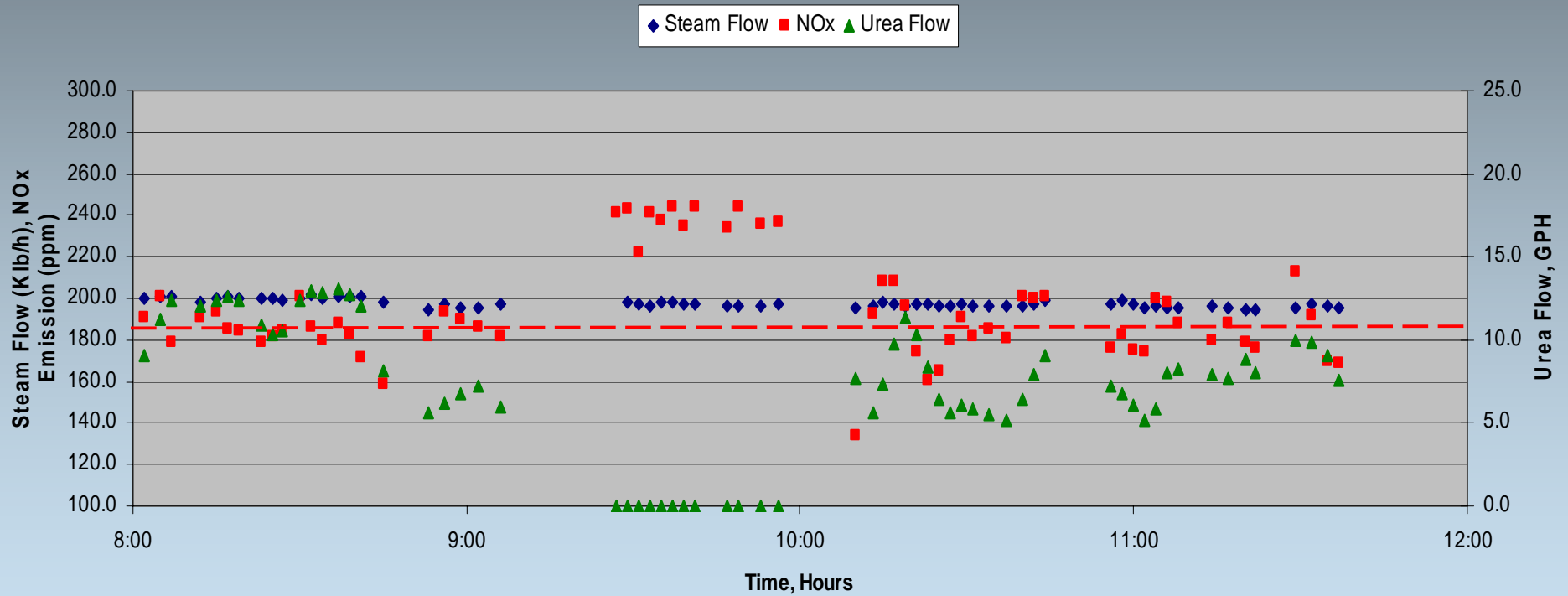
# Fuel Tech Control

- Injector level and flow rate indexed to load.
- NO<sub>x</sub> emission set point selected
- NO<sub>x</sub> CEM provides feedback for reagent flow
- Reagent flow is trimmed to hold set point



# NOxOut Control

NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions for Boiler 1 on 24 JULY 2008



# Alternate Control Scheme

- **Constant reagent flow selected based on experience.**
- **Over-control NO<sub>x</sub> early in the day**
- **Calculate NO<sub>x</sub> reduction required for compliance**
- **When NO<sub>x</sub> reduction is zero, turn off reagent**

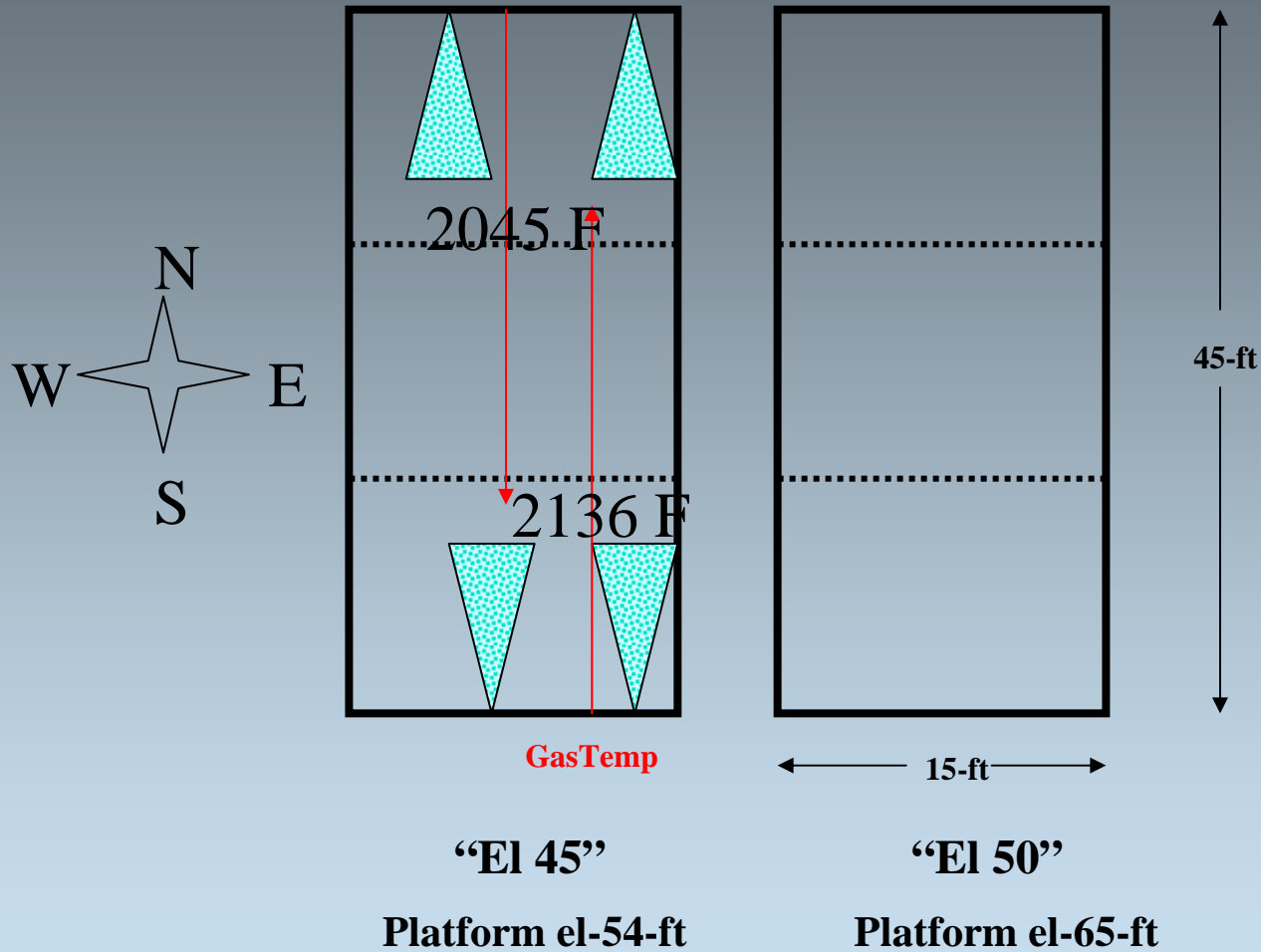


# Operating Issues

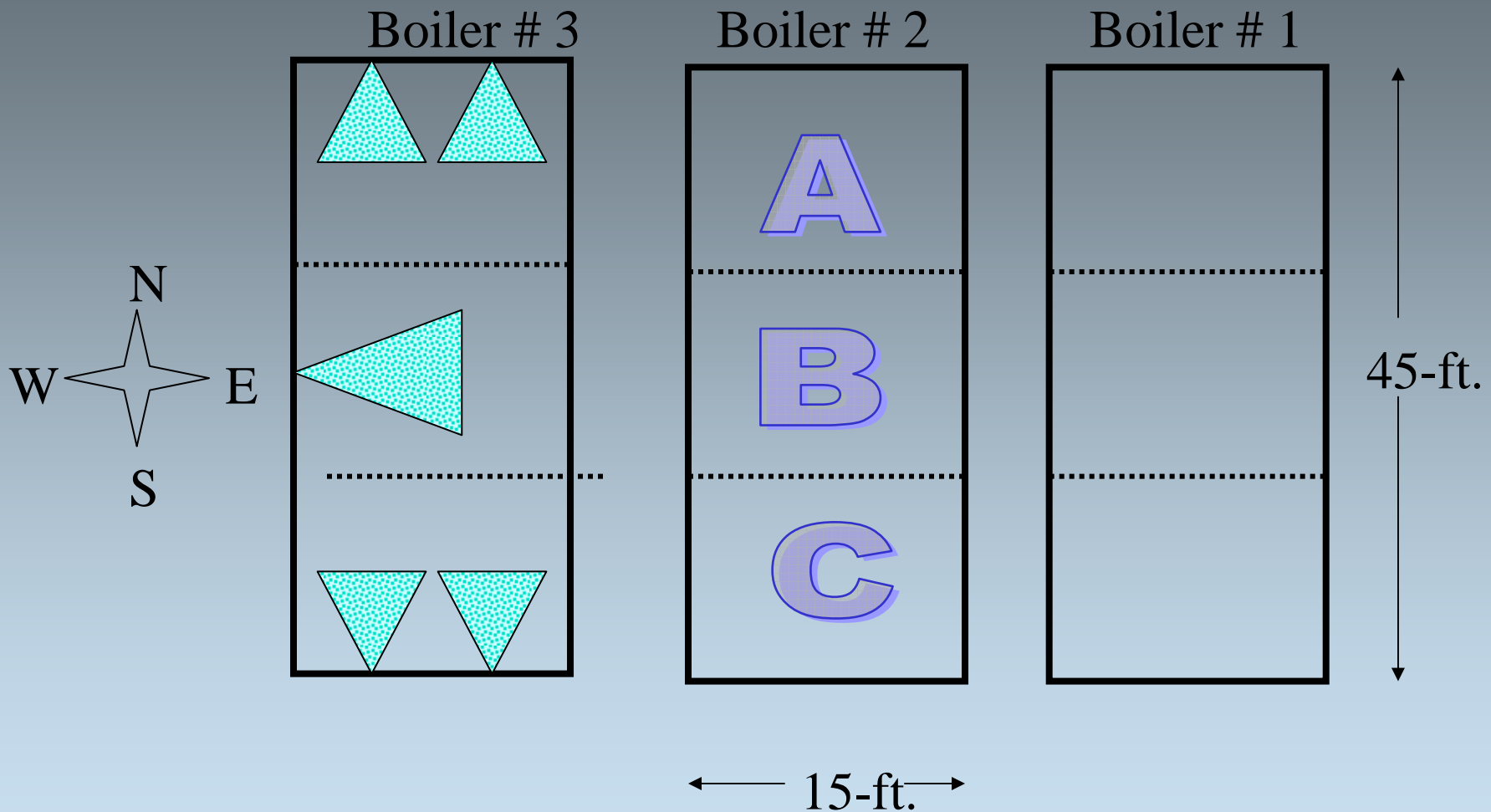
- **NO<sub>x</sub> reduction is limited by ammonia slip**
- **Consequences of NH<sub>3</sub>**
  - Ammonium bisulfate
  - Air heater fouling
  - Ash contamination
  - “blue plume”
- **Can also consume lots of reagent!**



# Temperatures at Boiler #2 Urea Injector Locations



# Alternate Arrangement

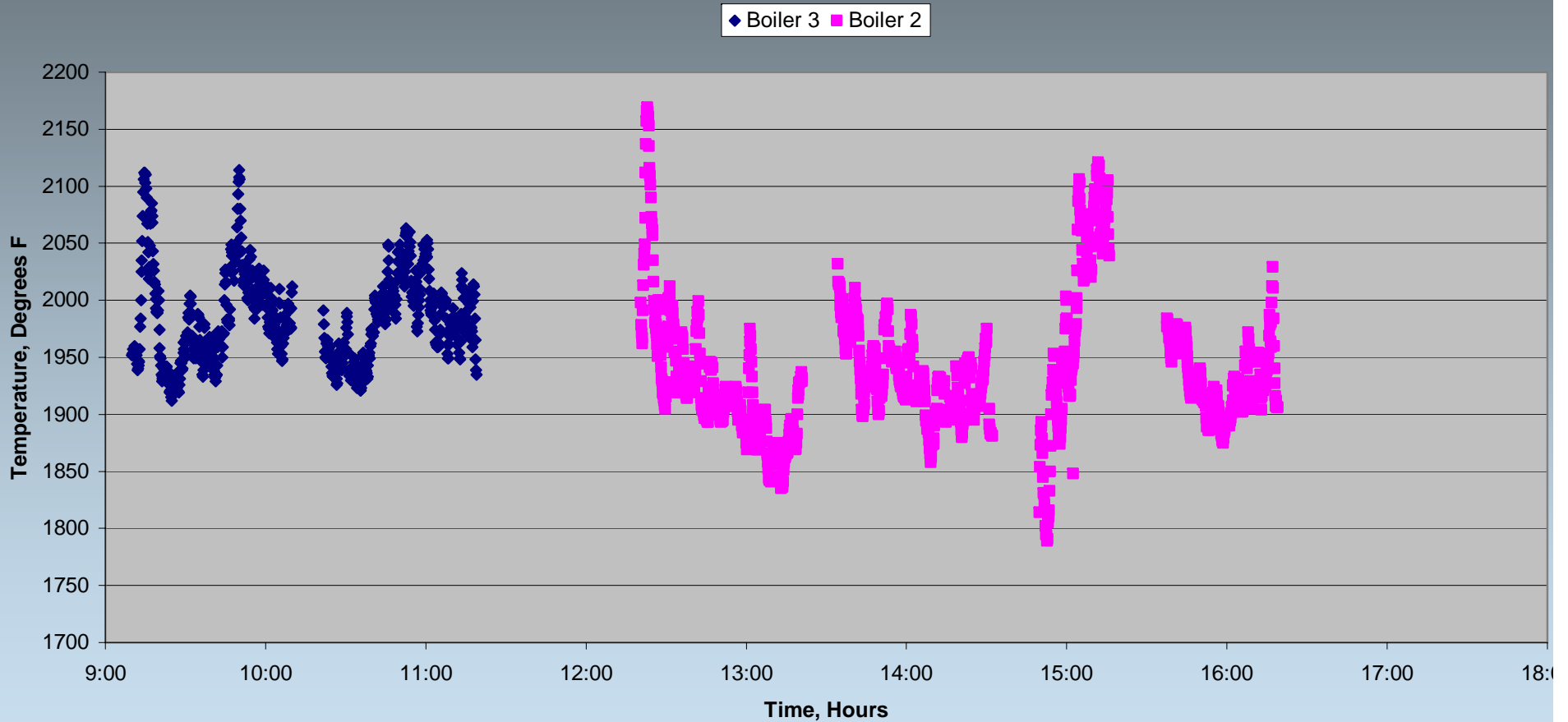


# SpectraTemp

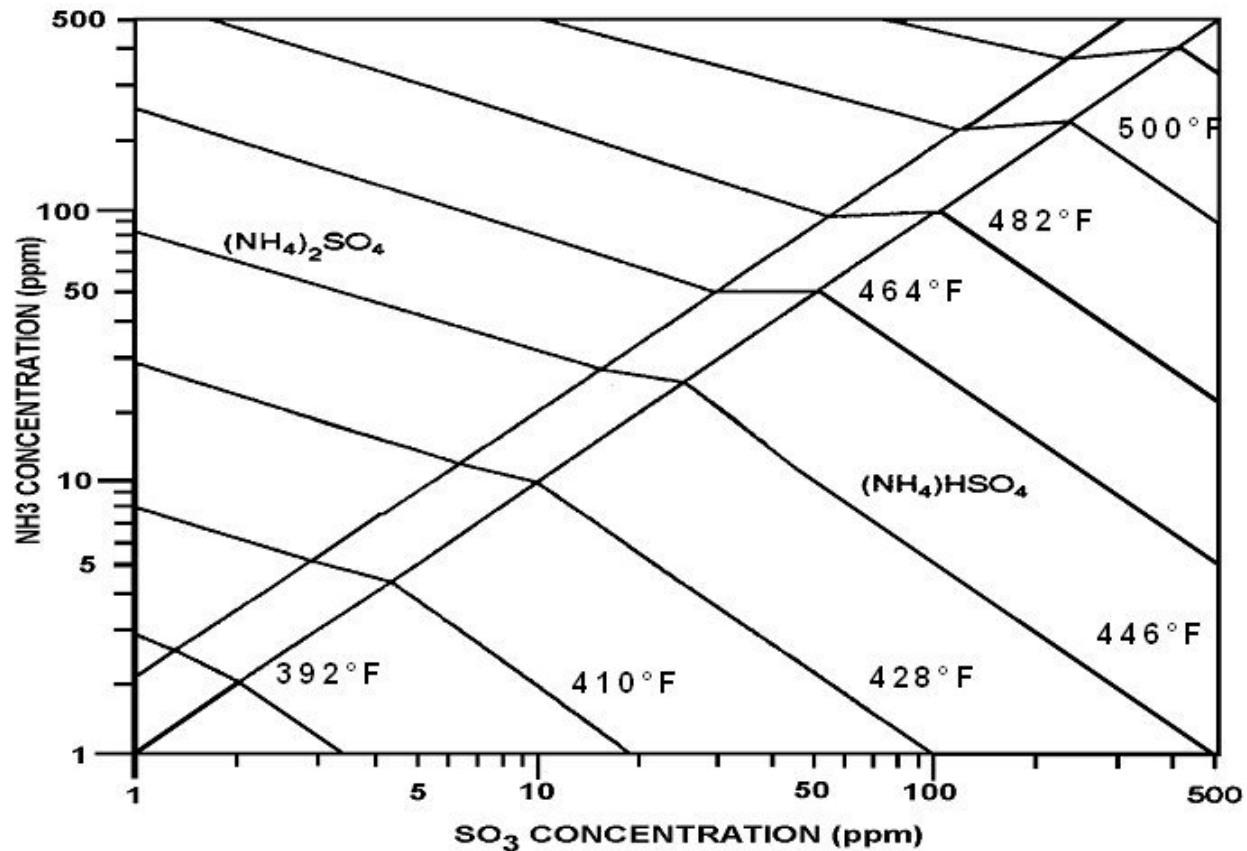


# Typical Temperature Fluctuations

Furnace Temperatures at the SNCR Injection Elevation on 23 July 2008



# Ammonium Bisulfate Forms

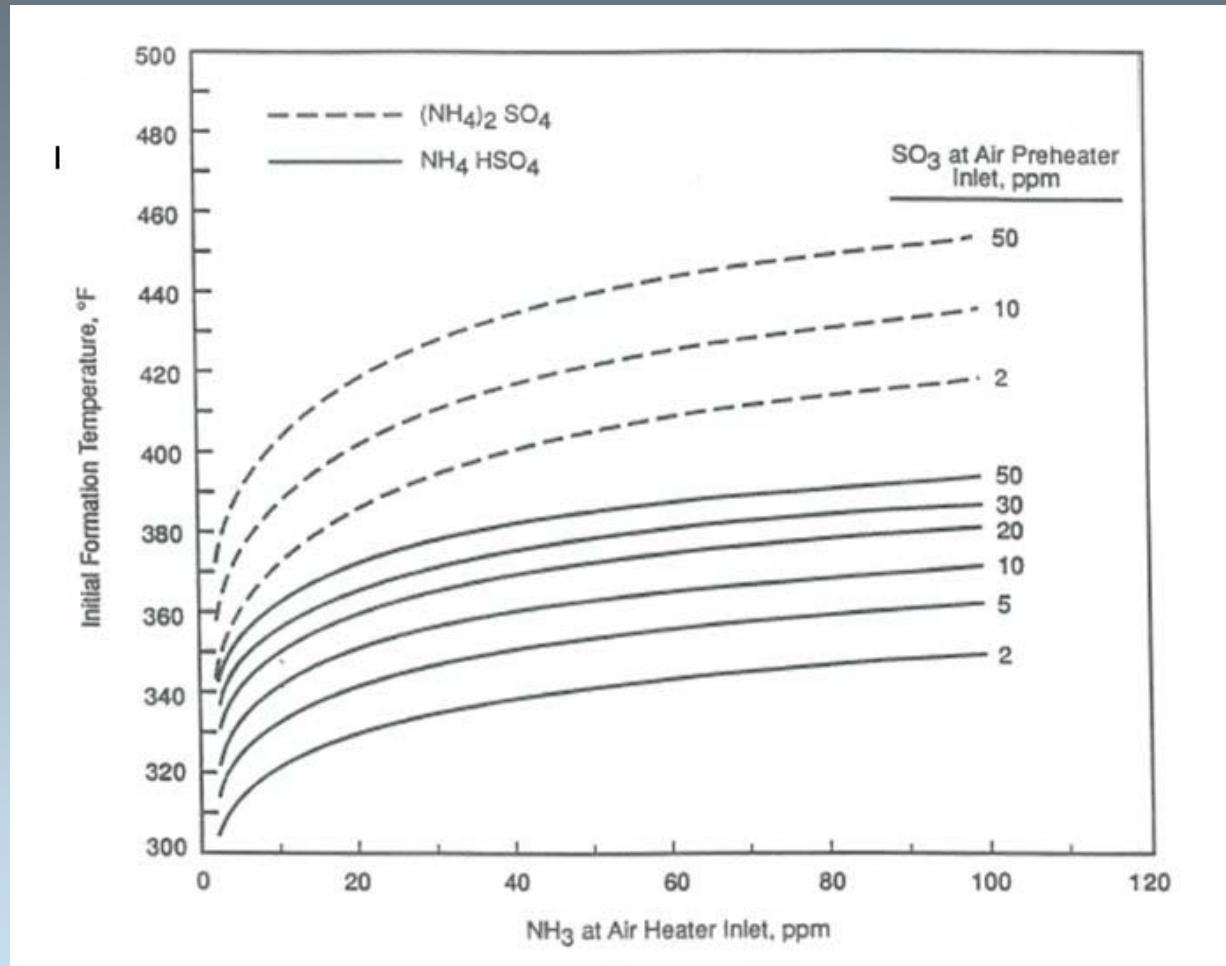


$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$  = Ammonium Sulfate

$(\text{NH}_4)\text{HSO}_4$  = Ammonium Bisulfate



# Ammonium Bisulfate Condenses



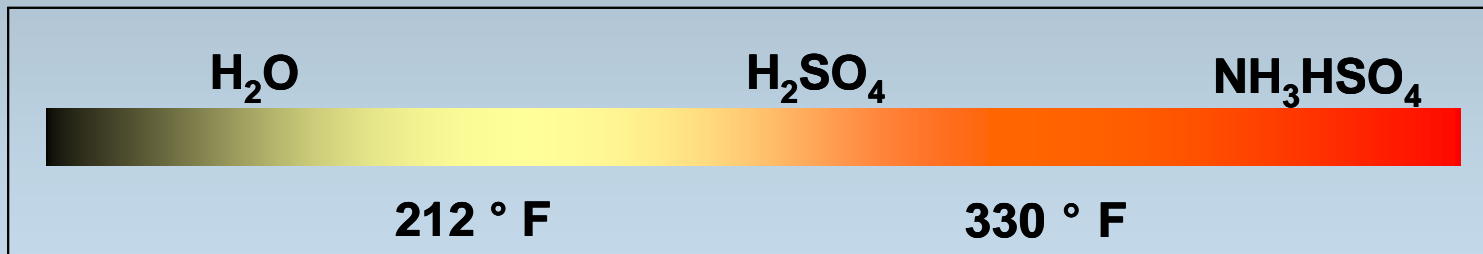
# AbSensor – AbS/SO<sub>3</sub>

## What is it? What does it do?

- **In-Situ, Continuous** measurement
- Temp at which material condenses out from flue gas

This material could be:

- Moisture (H<sub>2</sub>O),
- Sulfuric Acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) (H<sub>2</sub>O + SO<sub>3</sub>)
- Ammonium Bisulfate (NH<sub>3</sub>HSO<sub>4</sub>) (NH<sub>3</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O + SO<sub>3</sub>)



The same device measures condensables across the spectrum!



## How does it work? - I

Cooling Air Return



Cooling  
Air Inlet



Cooling air flow to the probe tip is precisely controlled to induce condensation on the probe surface



# AbSensor – AbS/SO3 System



- 4” 150 lb 8-bolt flanged port
- 50 psi service air
- 12 cfm air consumption
- 110 VAC power supply

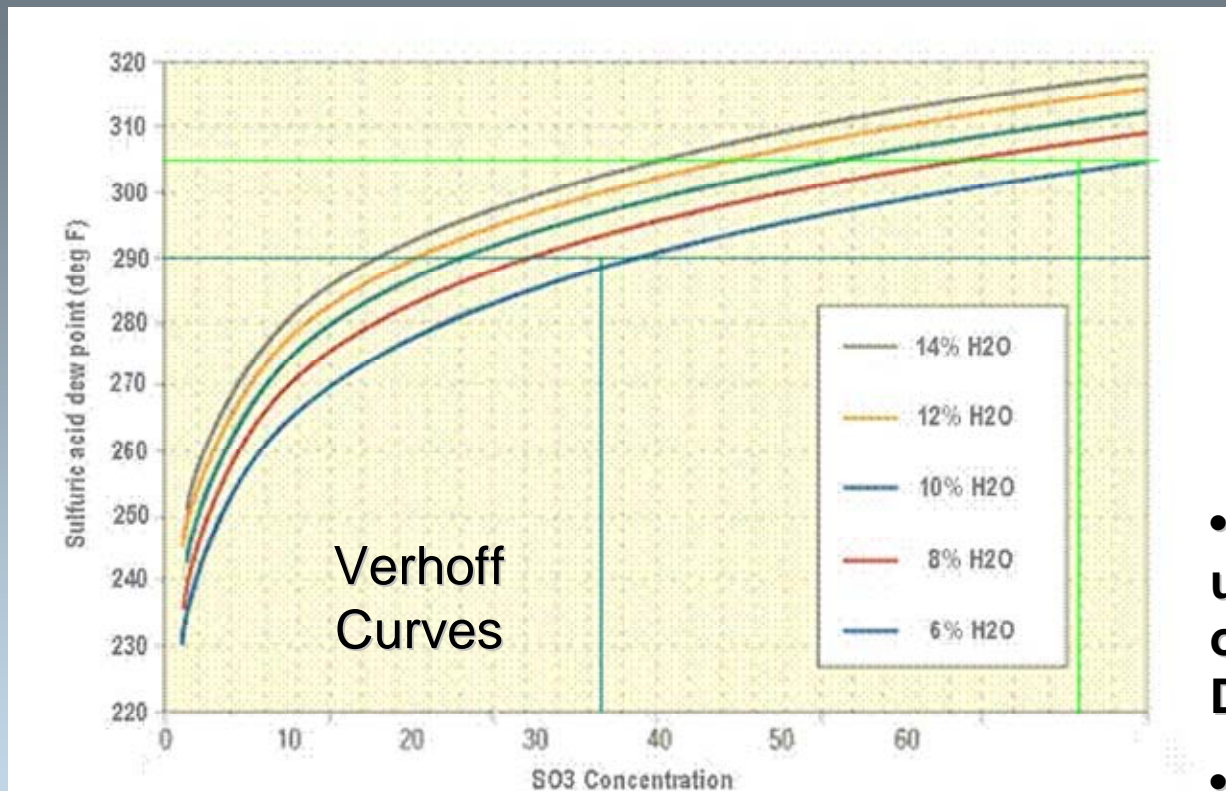


# Terminology

- *Formation Temperature*
  - The temperature at which condensation is first detected
- *Evaporation Temperature*
  - The temperature at which condensed material on the instrument tip evaporates below the threshold current level
- *Dew Point*
  - The temperature at which the current curve peaks. This is the temperature where evaporation from the probe is in equilibrium with the condensation onto the probe.



## Dewpoint to SO<sub>3</sub> ppm



- SO<sub>3</sub> ppm can be calculated using a relationship based on Flue Gas Moisture and Duct Pressure.

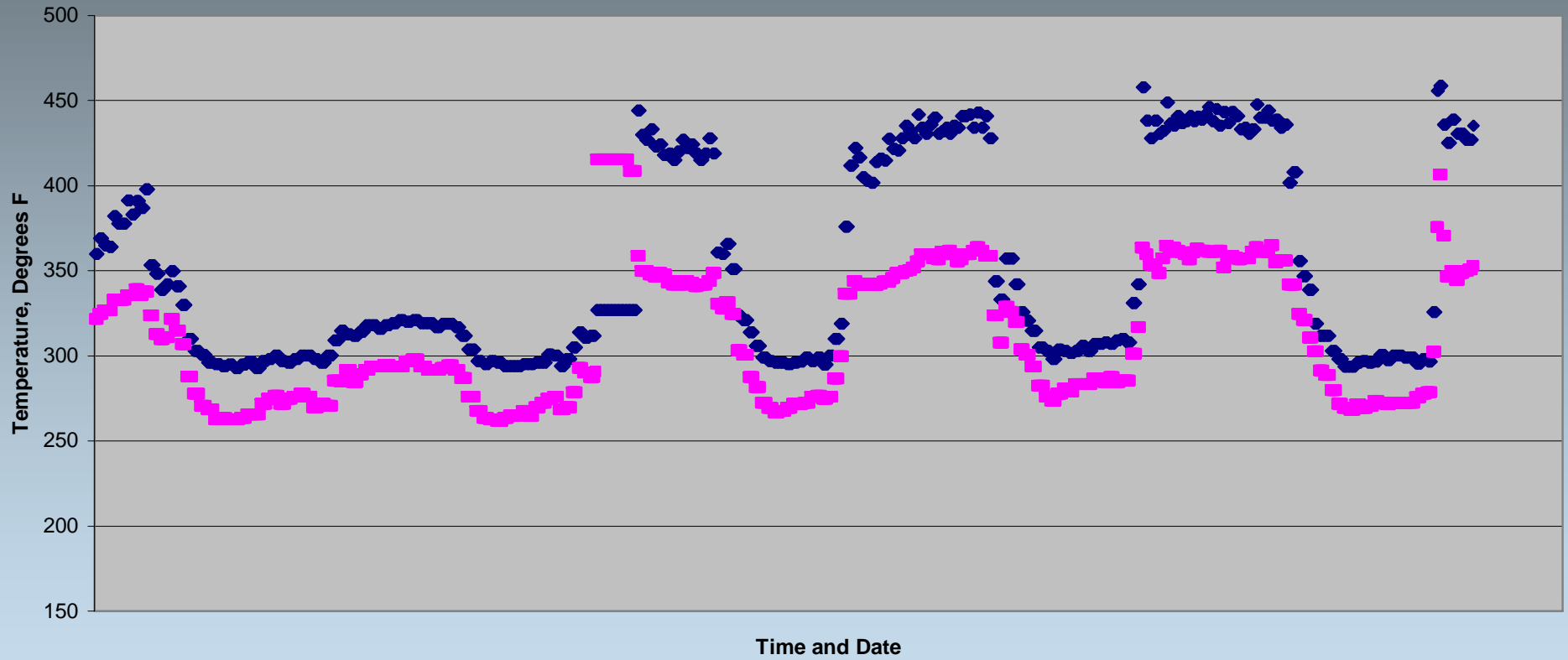
- This calculation is part of the AbSensor algorithm.



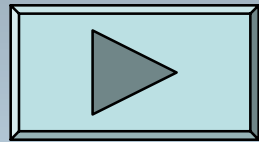
# Typical ABS Results

Dew Points at Air Preheater Inlet

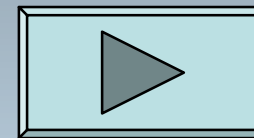
◆ Evaporation ■ Formation



# *SO<sub>3</sub> & ABS Control*



SO<sub>3</sub>: need Sorbent  
Injection Control



ABS: need integrated  
NO<sub>x</sub> and Air Heater  
Control

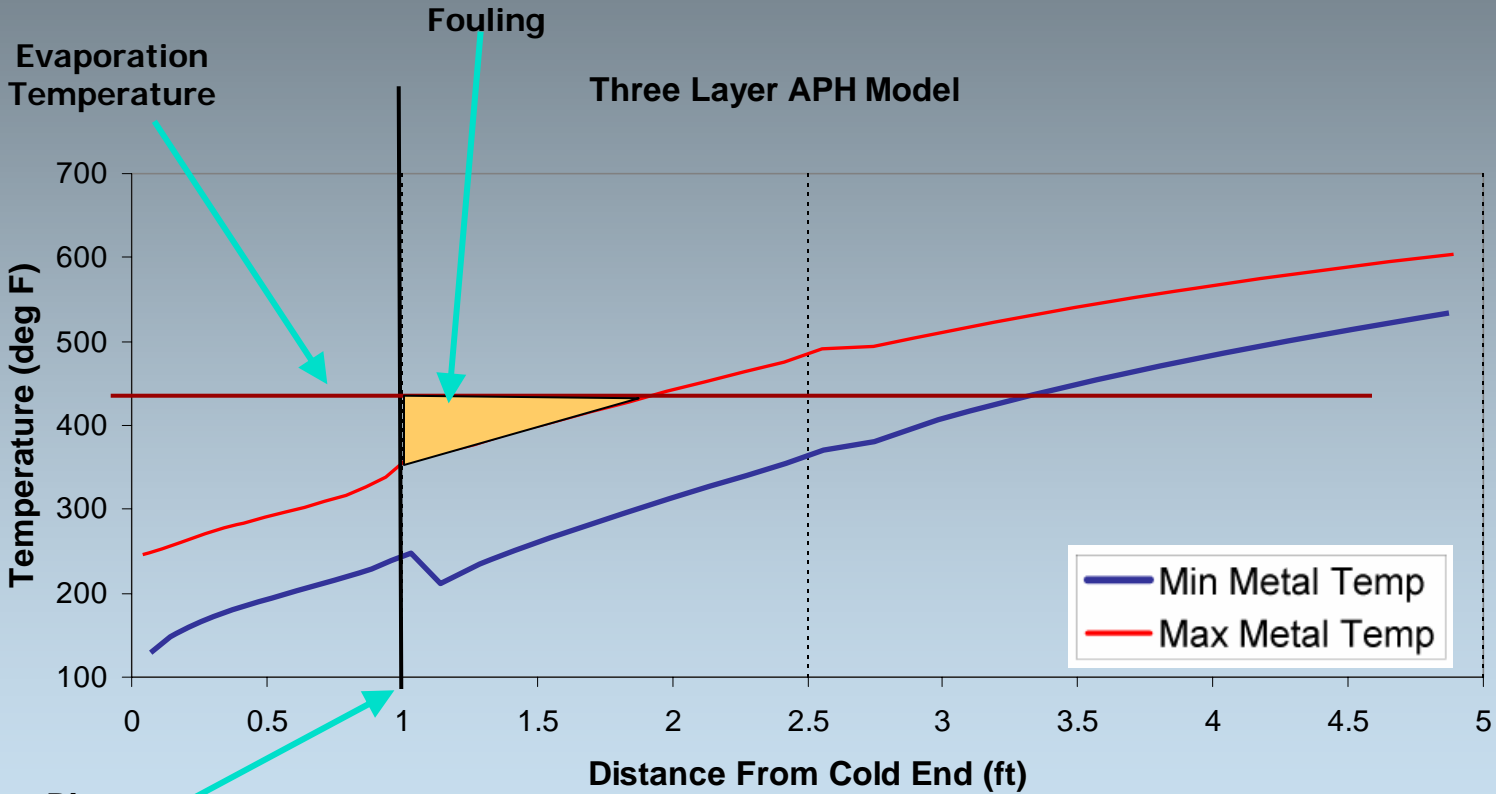


# Air Heater Fouling

## Breen Model\*

*Reduce Ammonia Flow*

*Increase Air Heater  
Outlet Temperature*

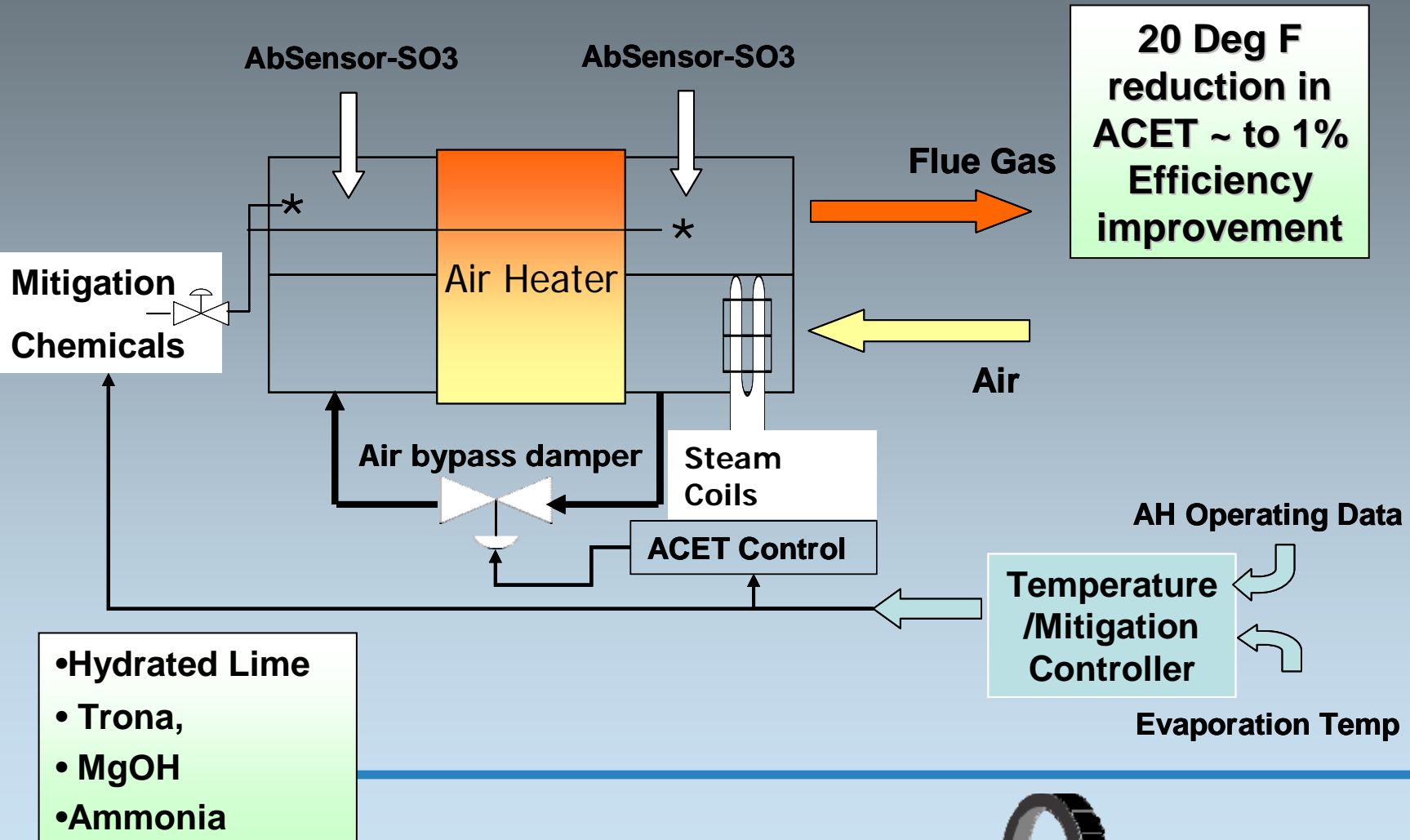


Soot Blower  
Cleanable  
Depth

\* Licensed from EPRI; developed by Lehigh



# Integrated Air Heater Temperature/Mitigation Controller

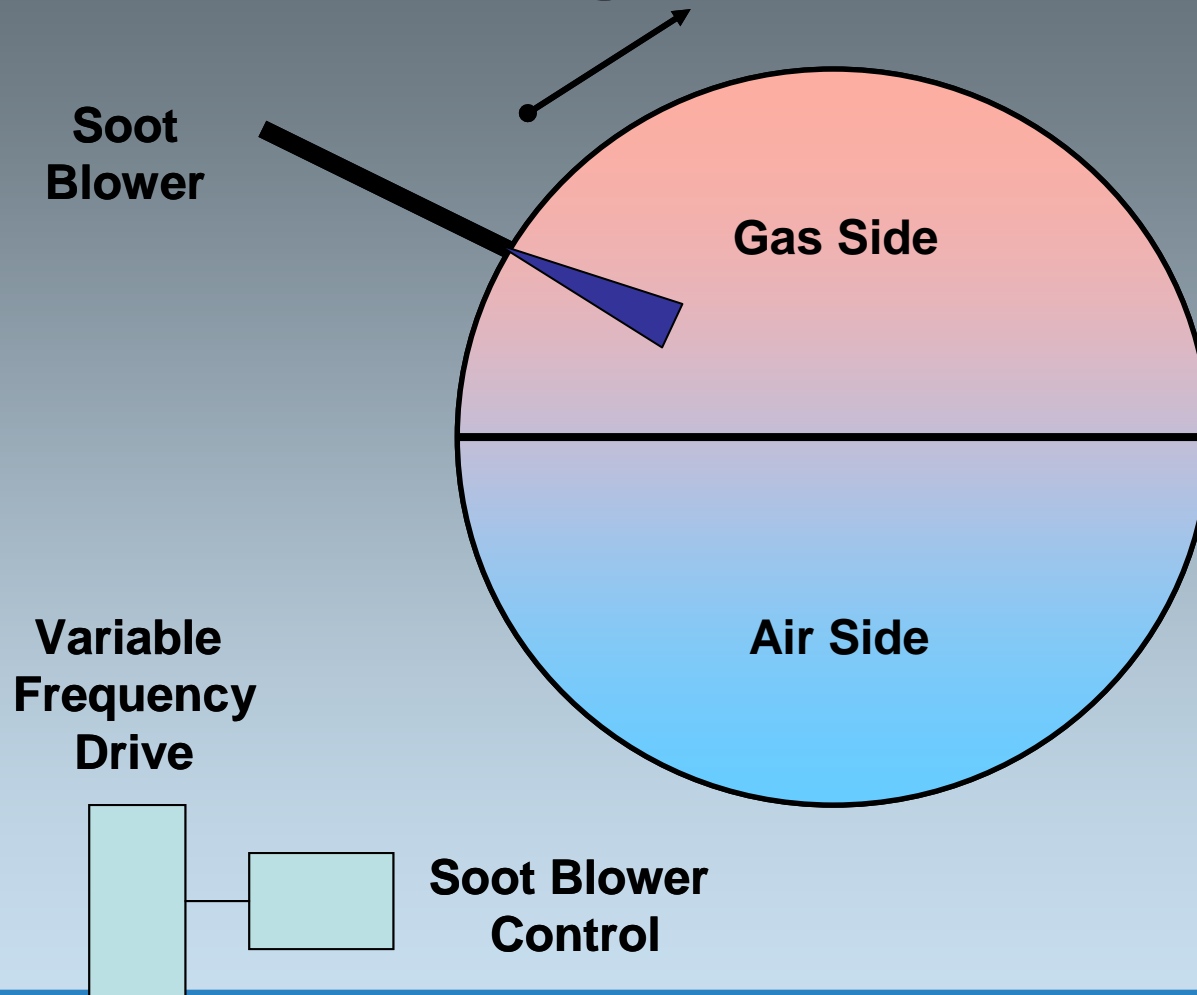


## Air Heater Sootblowing

- **The AH Controller allows control of the  $\text{NH}_3$  reagent based on effective cleanable depth**
- **If the cleanable depth were not a factor, more reagent could be employed and  $\text{NO}_x$  could be lowered**

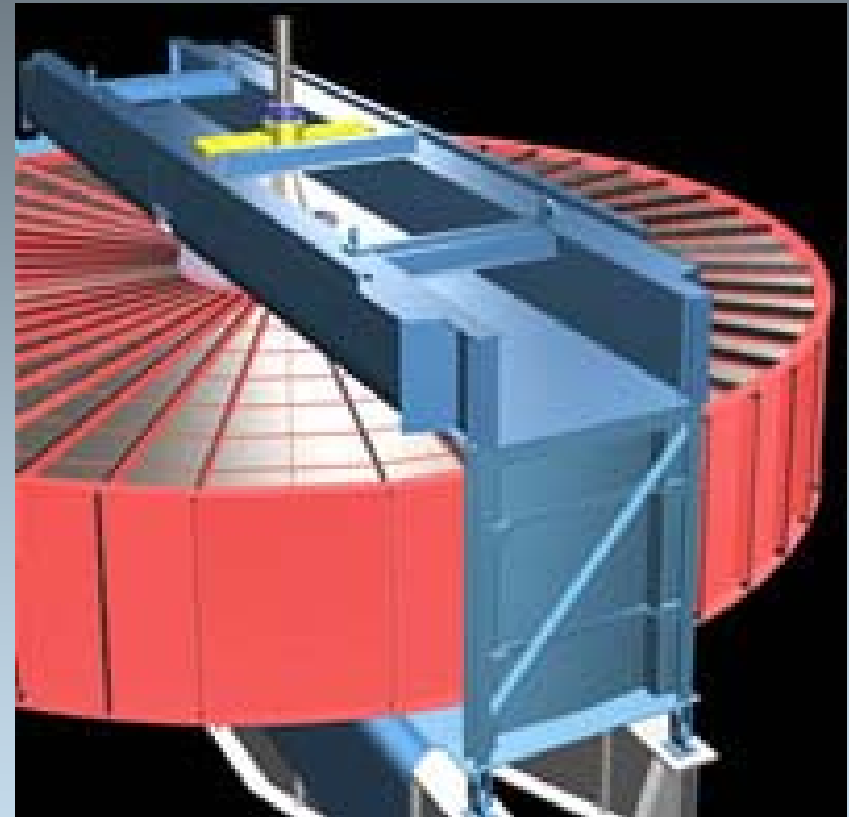


# Air Heater Cleaning



# LSBB (Low Speed Bottom Blow)

- Bottom soot blower operation only (reduces hot end element damage)
- Uses VSC operation (1.5 rpm – 0.33 rpm)
- Reduced 'step' (75mm to 60mm)
- Increased SB sequence from 1 hr – Over 4 hrs
- But reduced number of daily SB operations (4 per day - one to two per day)



# Belews Creek – What was the Benefit?

- Eliminated two scheduled outages per year
  - Reduced forced outage time – SAH cleaning not mandatory
  - Off-line cleaning is more efficient – 24 hrs vs. 48 hrs
  - Lowered CCE set point
  - Reduced NO<sub>x</sub> – Raised NH<sub>3</sub> slip
  - Eliminated hot side element damage (\$\$)
- 



# SNCR Tuning

- Temperature
- Injector location
- Injector sprays



# Spare Parts

- Jackson Machine
- Advanced Combustion Technology (ACT)
- ACT has a portable injection system that they use to show improved operation of their components



# Now Back to Your Concerns...

- Comments?
- Questions?





Thank You!