

# REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL<sup>®</sup>



## **2025 Reinhold/PCUG Round Table Presentation**

Hosted by AEP and Buckeye Power

in The Hilton Columbus Polaris Hotel, Columbus, OH

on June 23-24, 2025

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# Precipitators 101

**Paul Ford**  
**President**

P (908) 369-1590

F (908) 369-1594

[paul.ford@redkoh.com](mailto:paul.ford@redkoh.com)

300 Valley Road | Hillsborough, NJ 08844

[www.redkoh.com](http://www.redkoh.com)

*"The Redkoh Group provides solutions that enable an integrated approach to pollution control and monitoring"*

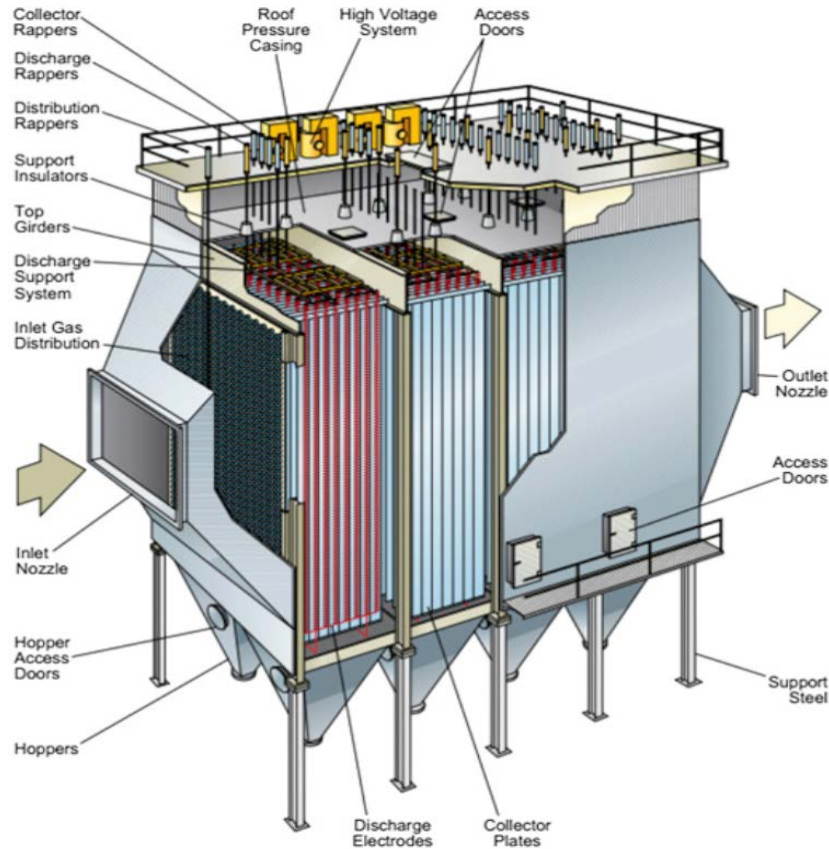
*Redkoh Industries has been manufacturing electrostatic precipitator controls for over 30 years. We have manufactured analog, solid state, and microprocessor type controls for the air pollution control industry in the USA.*

*Redkoh supplies controls to Electrostatic Precipitator Manufacturers and to End Users throughout the world.*



# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Precipitator

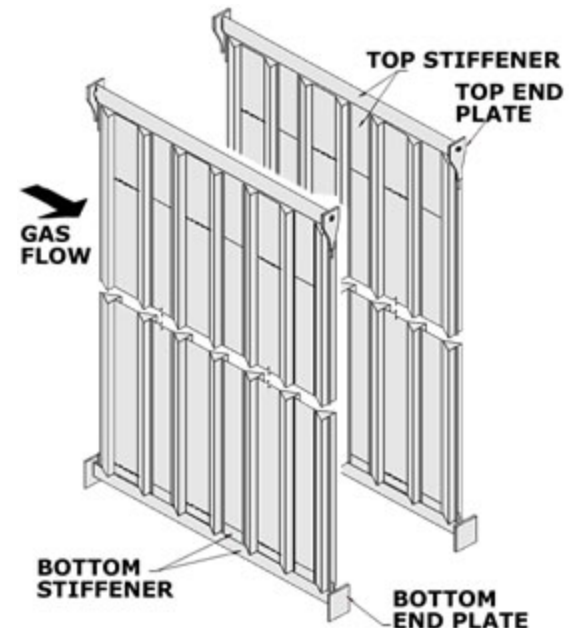
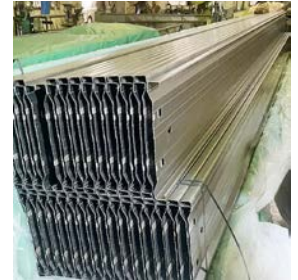


Collector Plate / Electrode

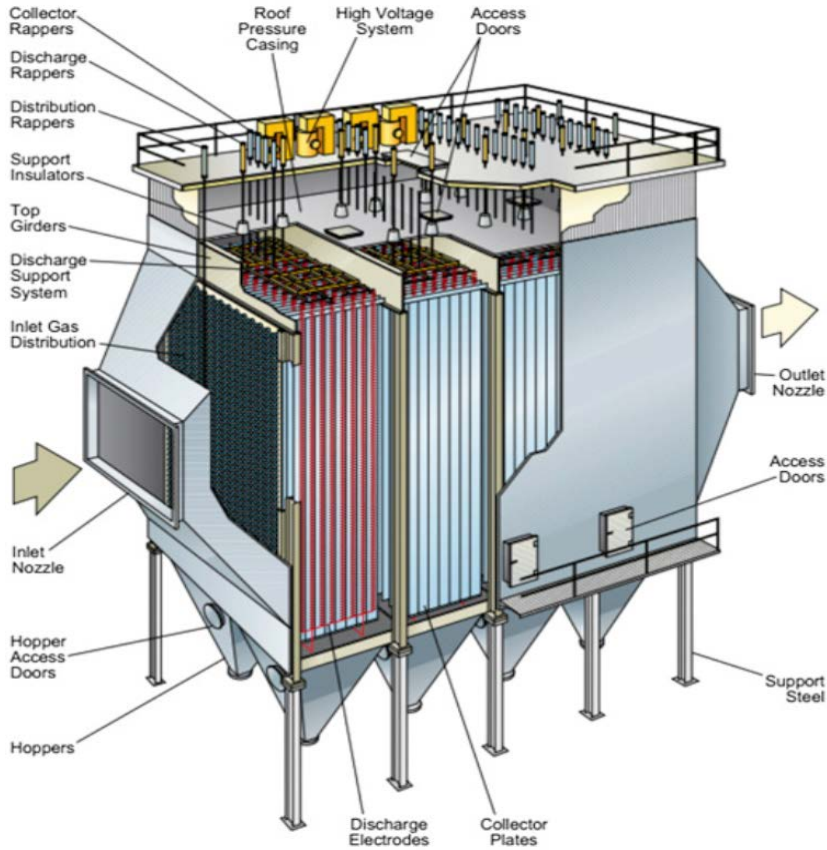
# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Collector Plate / Electrode

- This is a crucial component of an electrostatic precipitator (ESP) system.
- It is designed to receive and retain precipitated particles from the gas stream until they are removed for further processing.
- The collector plates are typically at earth potential
- We will see how the collector plate receives the particles and how they are removed in later slides



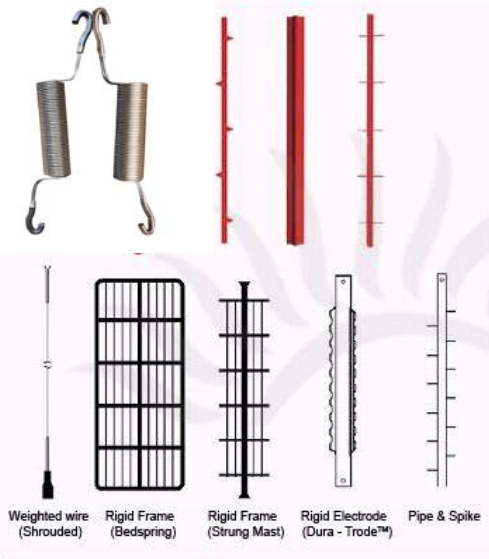
# Precipitator



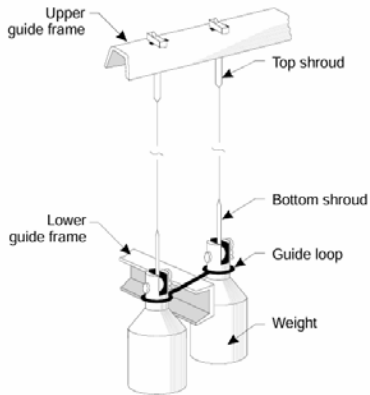
Discharge Electrode

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Discharge Electrode

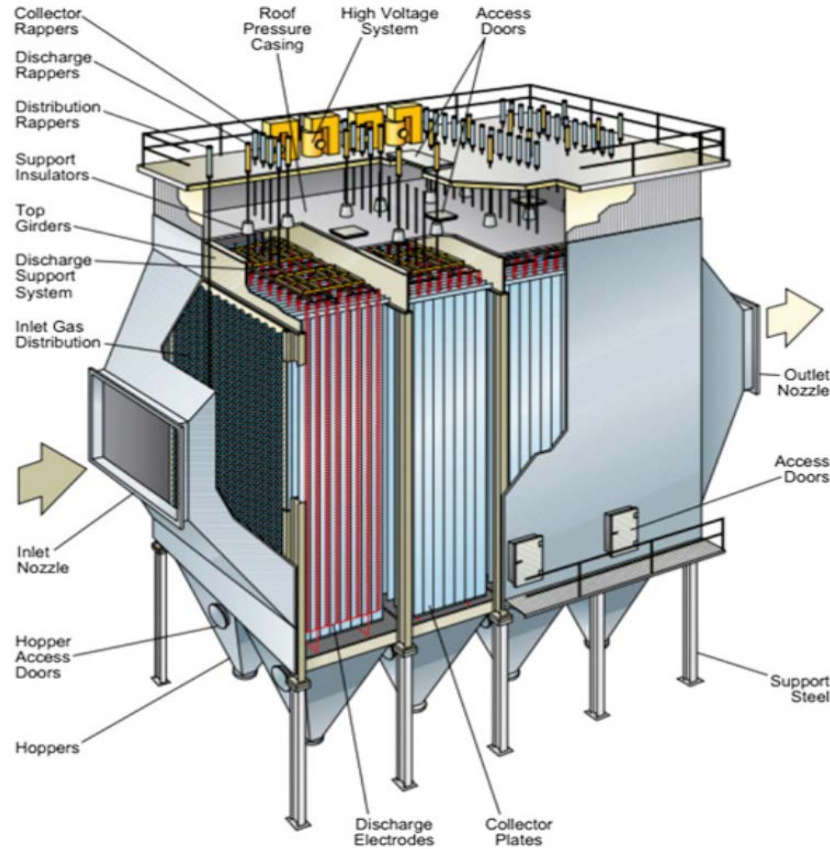


- The selection of discharge electrode types in electrostatic precipitators is vital for:
  - Optimizing performance
  - Managing operational efficiency
- The following factors contribute to their effectiveness in different applications:
  - Material properties,
  - Electrical characteristics, and design configurations
- For industries relying on particulate control, choosing the right type of discharge electrode is critical to achieving compliance and operational efficiency.



# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Precipitator



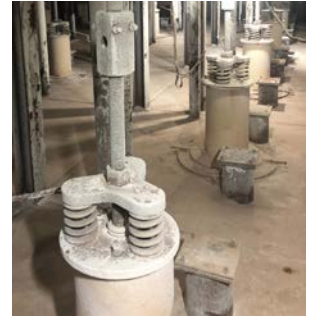
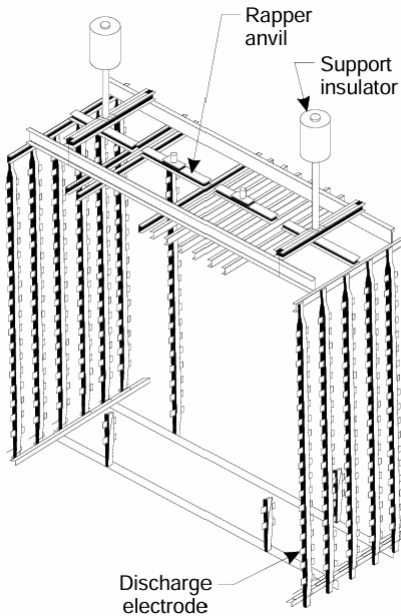
Support Insulator

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

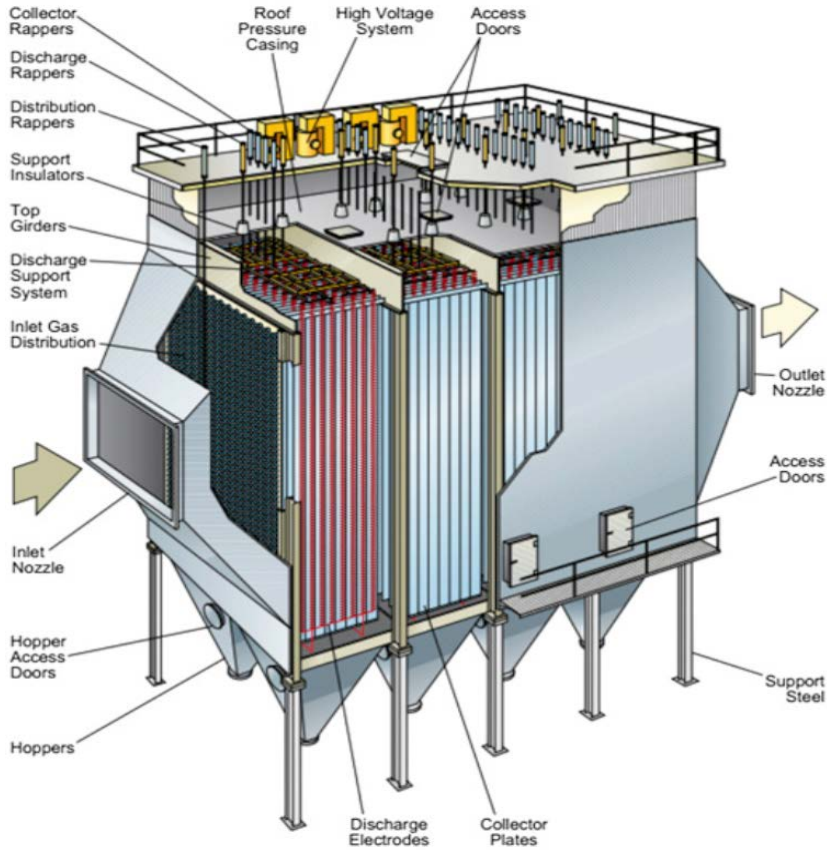
# Support Insulator



- This is a critical ceramic component that serves both mechanical and electrical functions.
- They support and electrically isolate the high-voltage discharge electrodes from the ESP housing.
- The electrodes are structurally attached to a suspension system that the insulator holds.
- These insulators are typically made from highly resistant ceramic materials (up to 180°C or high-alumina porcelain (up to 400°C) alumina with alumina oxide content up to 95%
- The reliability of these support insulators is crucial.
- Failures lead to:
  - Electrical field shorts and
  - Potential collapse of the high-voltage frame



# Precipitator



Purge Air Systems

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

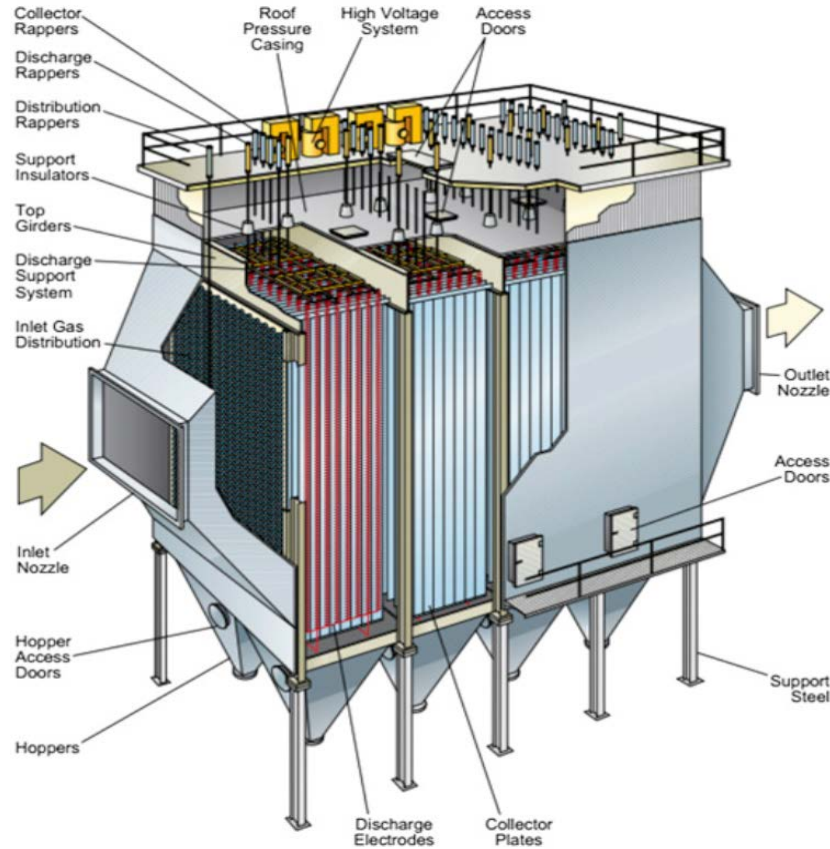
# Purge Air Systems

- A purge air heater blower is a crucial component within the ESP system.
- Its primary function is to provide a controlled flow of heated air to prevent dust accumulation and moisture-related issues within the high-voltage insulator enclosures.
- Its Key Functions are to:
  - Prevents Dust Migration up into the insulators
  - Maintains Dry Conditions: Heated air prevents condensation on the insulator surfaces
  - Keeping insulators clean and dry, the blower helps minimize stress, cracking and electrical insulation
  - Heated purge air prevents dew-point corrosion, extending the lifespan of ESP components.
- The purge air heater blower operates by drawing in ambient air, heating it to a specific temperature, and directing it into the ESP's insulator enclosures.
- This controlled airflow prevents moisture buildup and ensures that the insulators remain free from dust and contaminants.



## PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Precipitator

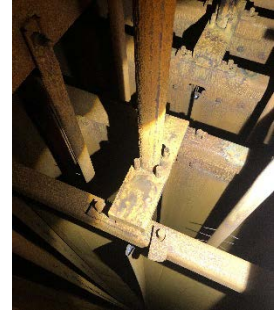


Collector Plate MIGI Rappers

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Collector Plate MIGI Rappers

- The collector plate rapper on an electrostatic precipitator is responsible for removing the accumulated ash layer from the collector plates.
- This process is crucial for maintaining the efficiency and performance of the ESP.
- The rapping system applies mechanical impacts to the plates, which in turn dislodges the collected particles.
- The impact is created by an electromagnet lifting a heavy metal rod to a pre-determined height and dropping it onto metal rod connected to an anvil affixed to the top of the collector plate.
- The frequency and intensity of the rapping are determined by factors such as particle adhesion properties and the thickness of the accumulated ash layer.
- Operators must balance these factors to optimize the cleaning cycle and maintain collection efficiency without causing re-entrainment, where particles are knocked loose only to be caught again in the airflow.



**Collector Plate  
Tumble Hammer Rappers**

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

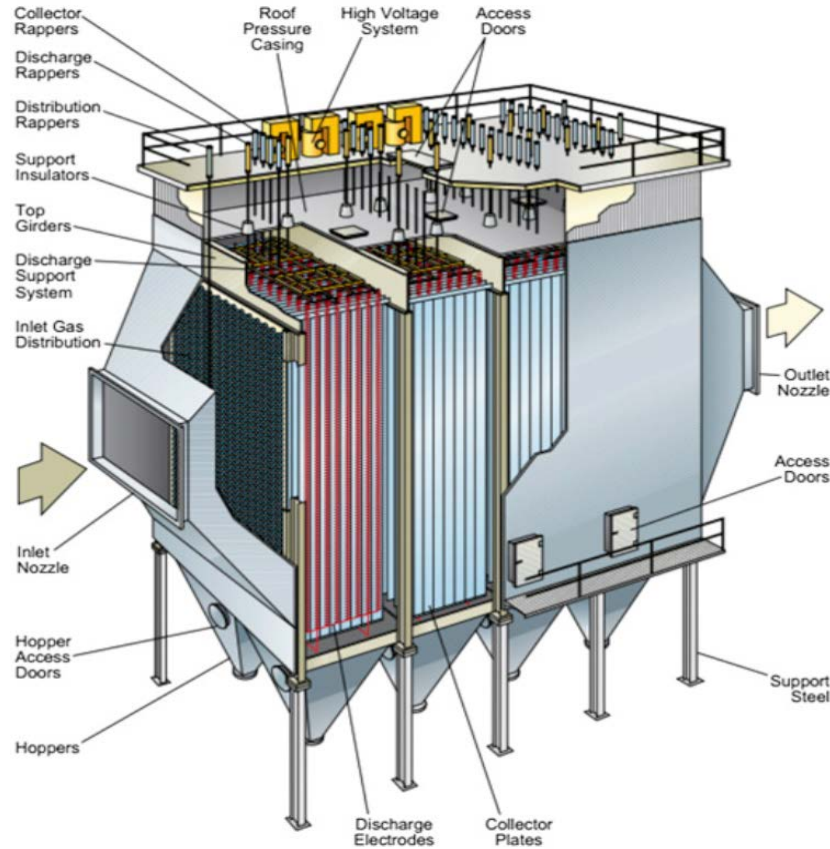
# Collector Plate Tumble Hammer Rappers

- The function of this type of rapper is the same as that shown in the previous slide with the following difference:
- The impact is created by a hammer affixed to a rotating shaft that spans the width of the precipitator
- As the shaft rotates, and once the rapper passes its center of gravity it falls dropping onto an anvil affixed to the side of the collector plate.
- The frequency of the rapping are determined by factors such as particle adhesion properties and the thickness of the accumulated ash layer.
- The intensity is determined during design by selecting the hammer weight and its shaft length



**PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS**

# Precipitator



Discharge Electrode MIGI Rappers

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Discharge Electrode MIGI Rappers

- The discharge electrode rapper on an electrostatic precipitator is responsible for removing the accumulated ash layer from the discharge electrodes.
- This process is crucial for maintaining the efficiency and performance of the ESP.
- The rapping system applies mechanical impacts to the electrodes, which in turn dislodges the collected particles.
- The impact is created by an electromagnet lifting a heavy metal rod to a pre-determined height and dropping it onto an insulated rod of either ceramic / alumina or FRP connected to an anvil affixed to the top of the discharge electrode frame.
- Keeping the electrodes clean and free of particulate allows them to maintain a high level of ionization required for collection within the precipitator.
- The frequency and intensity of the rapping are determined by factors such as particle adhesion properties and the thickness of the accumulated ash layer.



Discharge Electrode  
Tumble Hammer Rappers

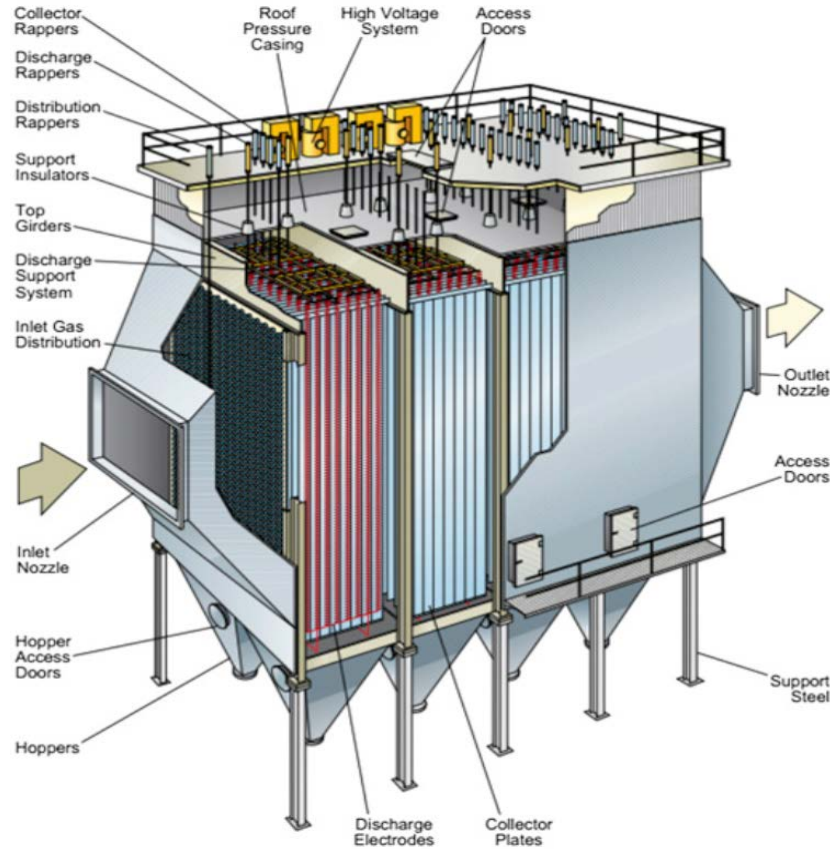
# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Discharge Electrode Tumble Hammer Rappers

- The function of this type of rapper is the same as that shown in the previous slide with the following difference:
- The impact is created by a hammer affixed to a rotating shaft that spans the width of the precipitator.
- The shaft is driven by a motor with a high ratio gearbox mounted outside the precipitator.
- As the shaft rotates, and once the rapper passes its center of gravity it falls dropping onto an anvil affixed to the top of the discharge electrode.
- The frequency of the rapping are determined by factors such as particle adhesion properties and the thickness of the accumulated ash layer.
- The intensity is determined during design by selecting the hammer weight and its shaft length



# Precipitator

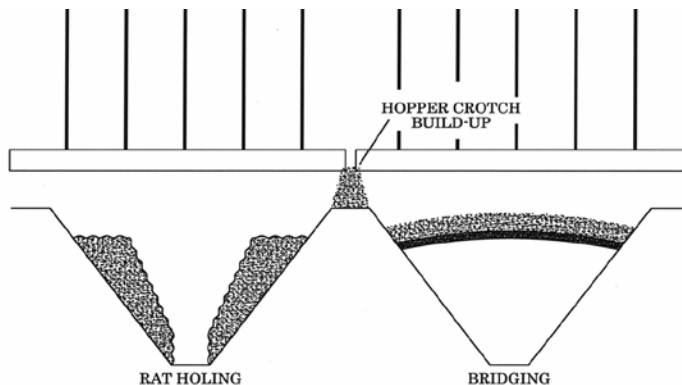


Hoppers

# PRECIPITATOR CONTROLS SPECIALISTS

# Hoppers

- Hoppers under the precipitator create the transition between the collected ash and the ash handling system which disposes of it
- Typically, hoppers are designed with a steep conical or pyramidal shape, to facilitate smooth flow of collected dust.
- They should be made from corrosion-resistant steel to withstand high temperatures and chemically reactive particulates.
- Hopper Heaters may be installed to prevent moisture condensation, which can cause blockages.
- Insulated walls help maintain optimal temperature conditions, preventing materials from clumping or adhering to the hopper surface.

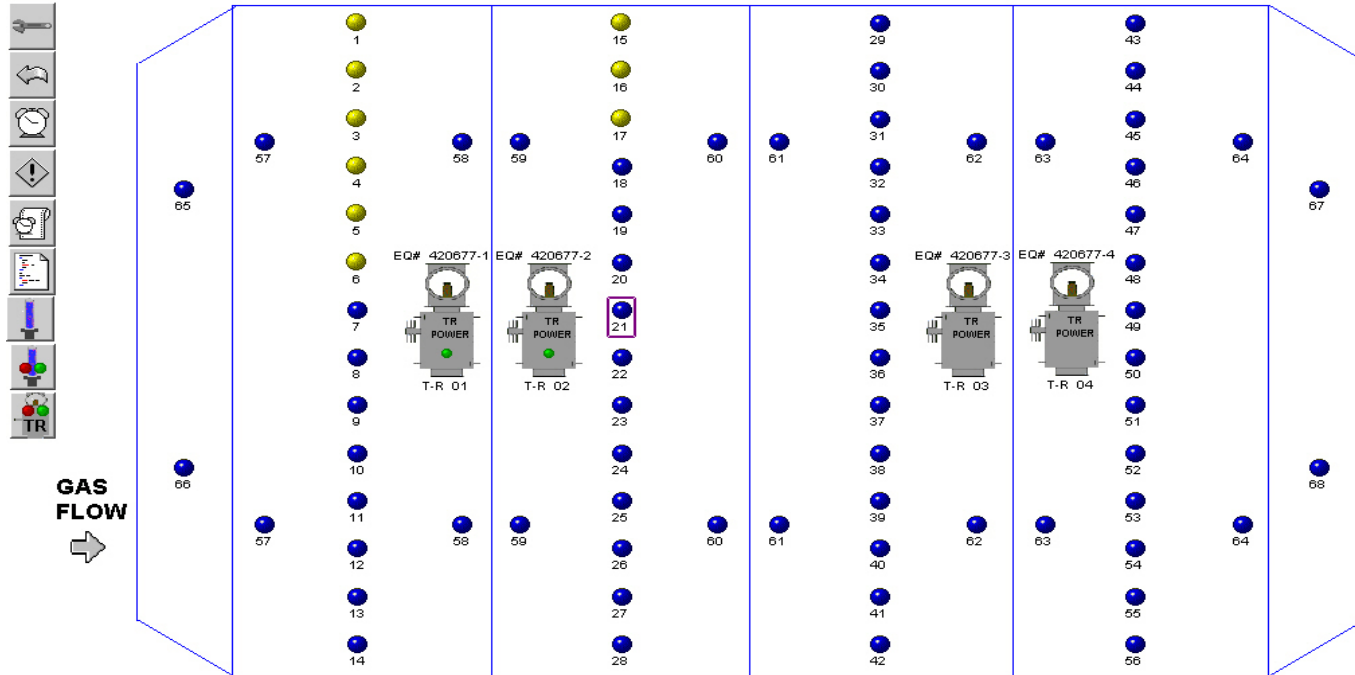


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# Precipitator Roof Layout

UNITS 1 & 4 POWER BOILER

09:45 AM 6/10/2003 



RAPPERS  
FIRING

0 0

HELP	MAIN SCREEN	RAPPER SETTINGS	TR READINGS						ALARM PAGE	ALARM SUMMARY	PRINT SCREEN
F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	F9	F10	F11	F12

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+1 908 369 1590

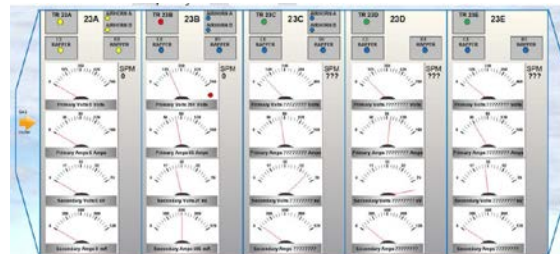
www.Redkoh.com



# Significant Electrical Components



- Transformer Rectifier Set
- Transformer Rectifier Controller
- Impact or Tumble Hammer Controller
- Purge Air Heater – Blower Controller
- Hopper Heater Controller
- DCS Interface



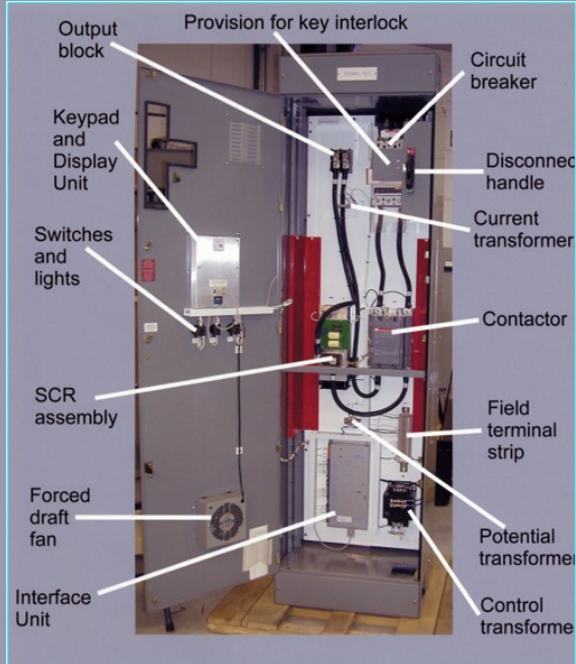
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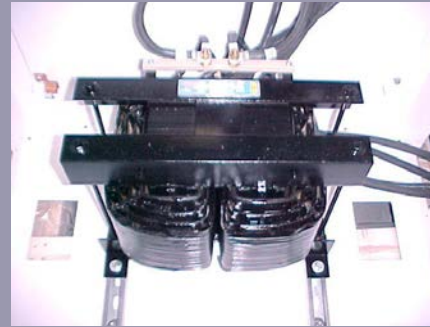
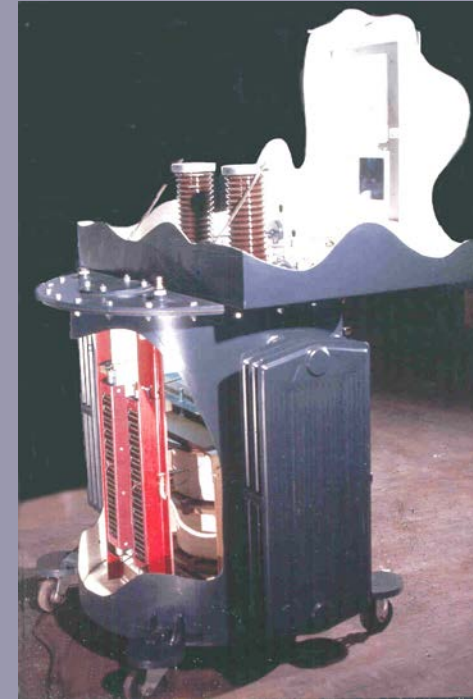
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# Power Supply System

## Control Cabinet



## Transformer Rectifier



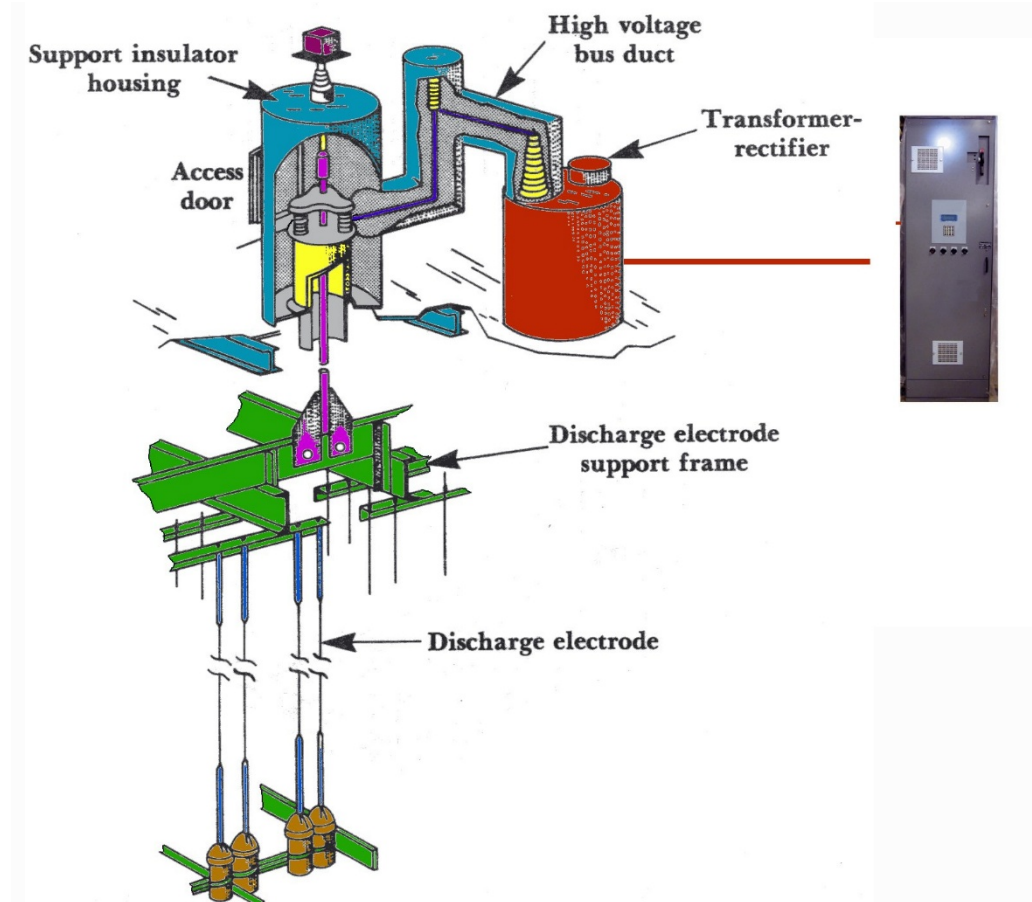
## Current Limiting Reactor

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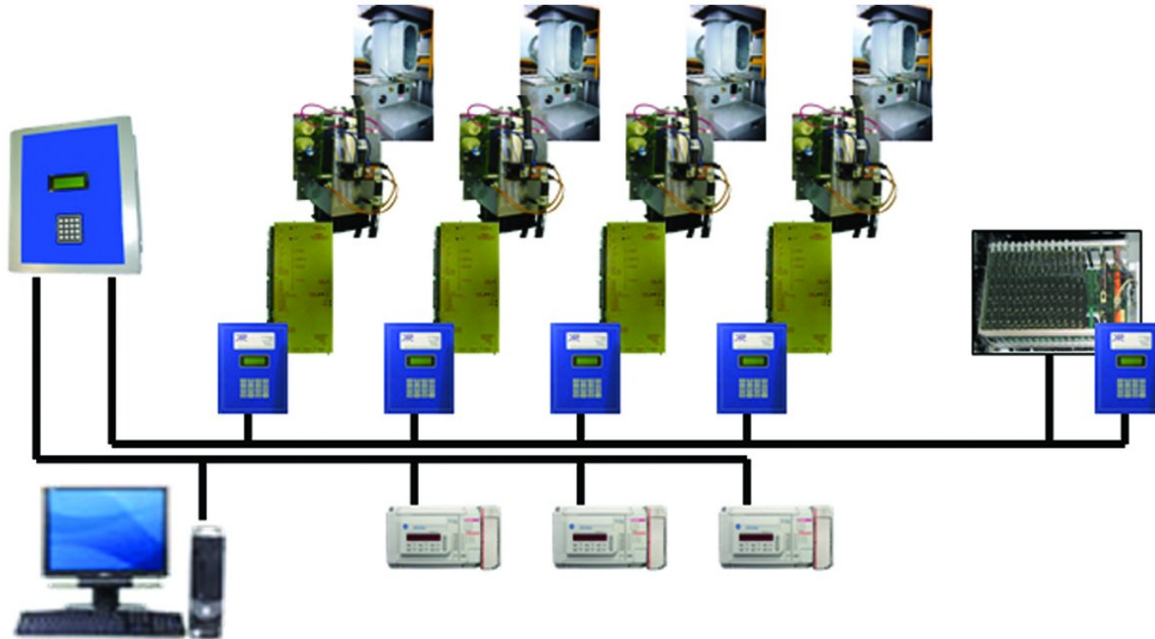
[www.Redkoh.com](http://www.Redkoh.com)

# Power Supply System



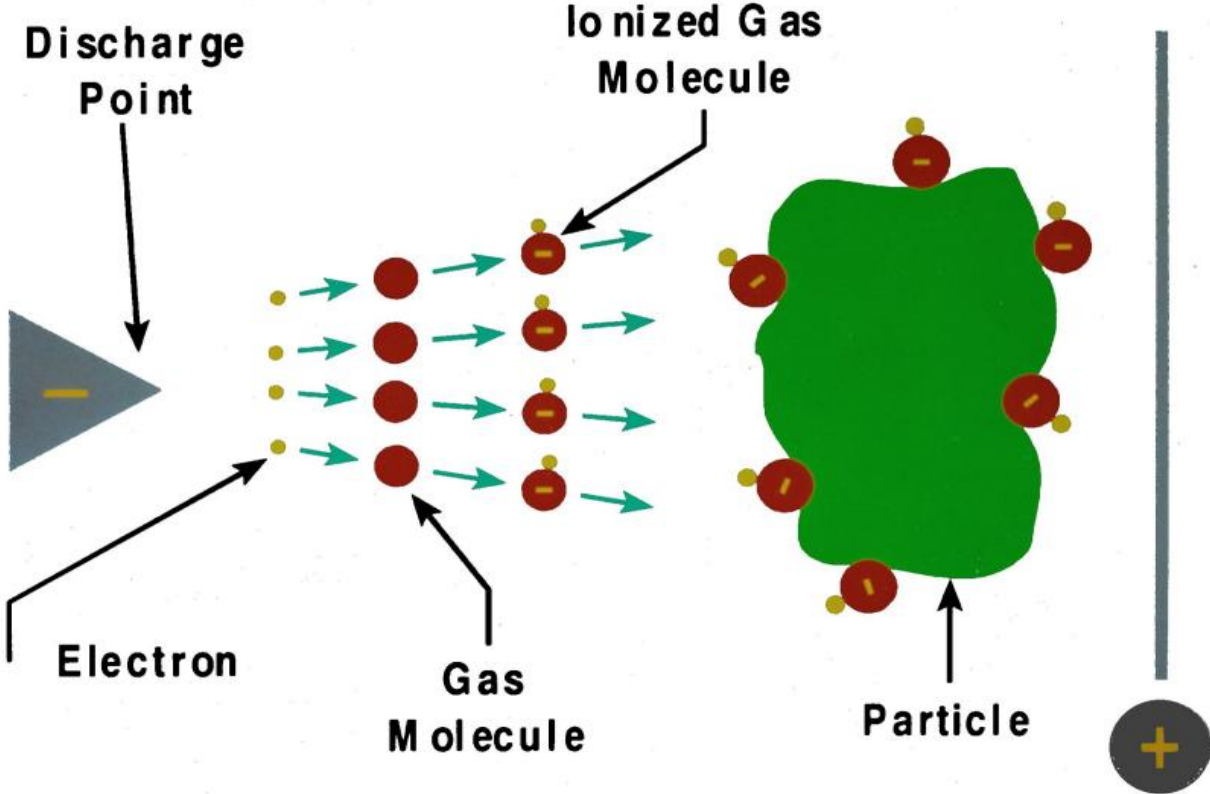
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# Communications System



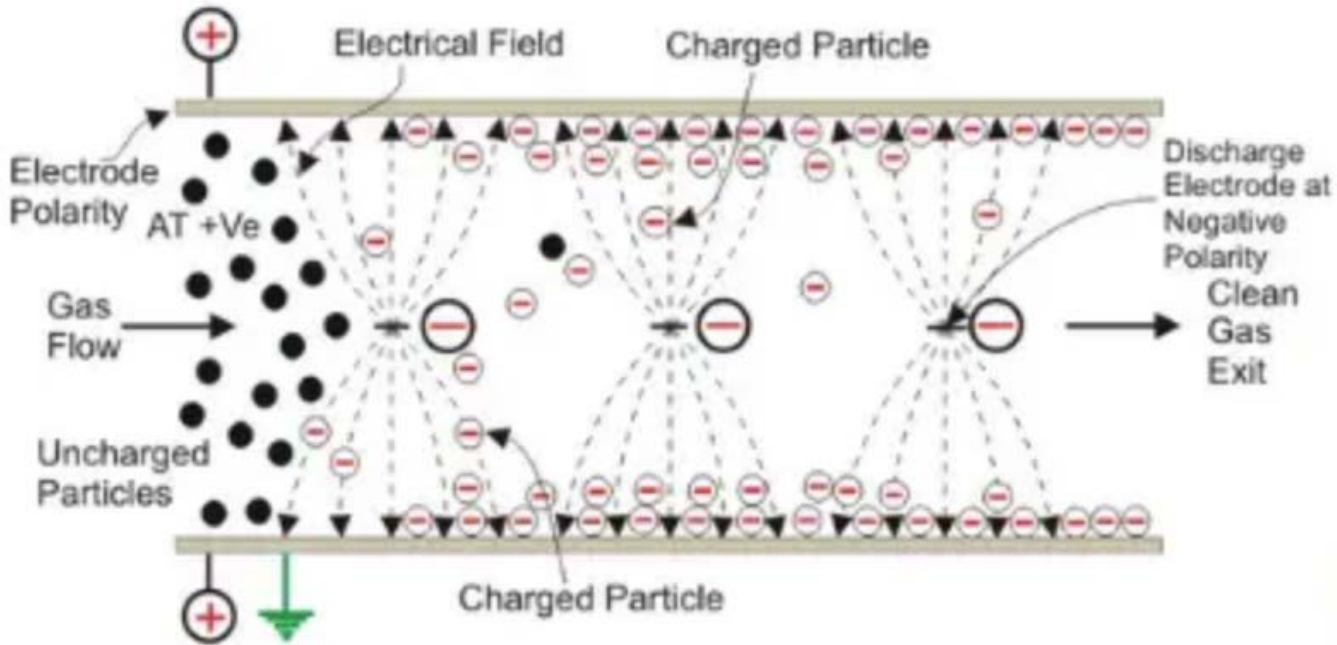
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# Particle Charging



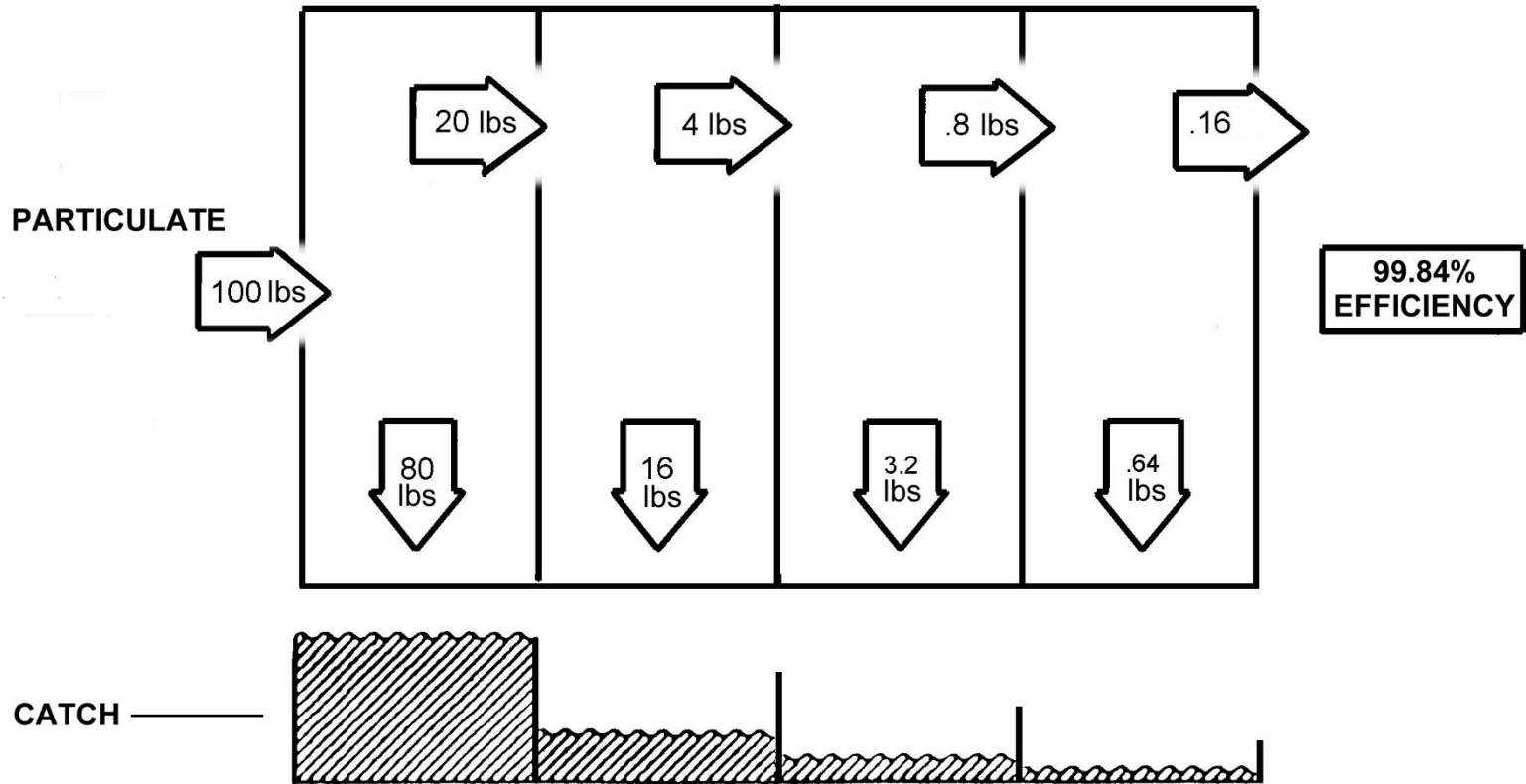
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# Particle Charging



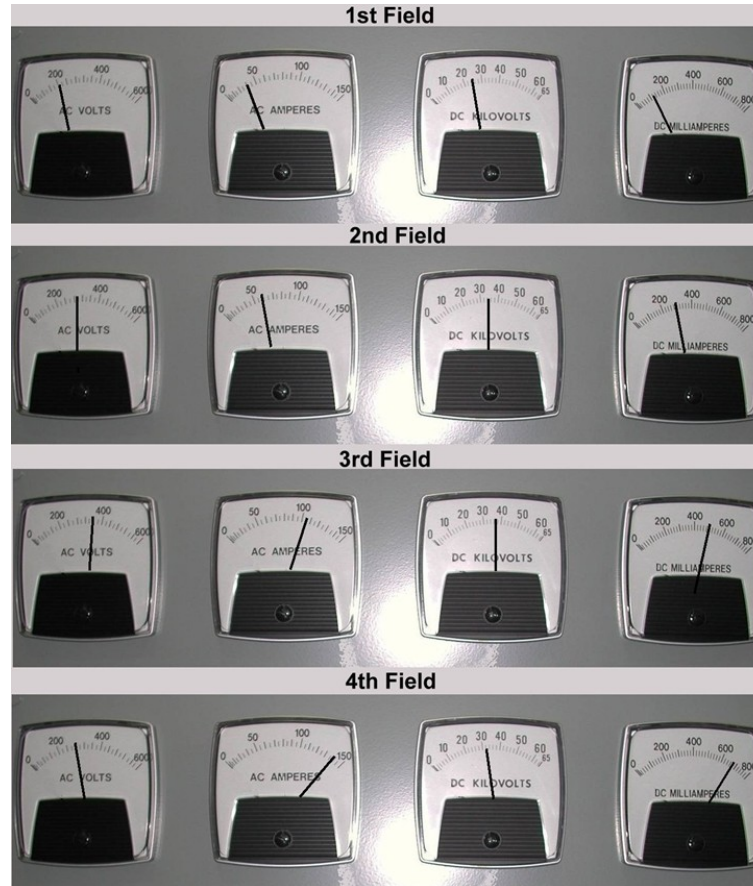
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# How the Collection Stack up



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# How the Electrical Fields Stack up



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# The End



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