

REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.



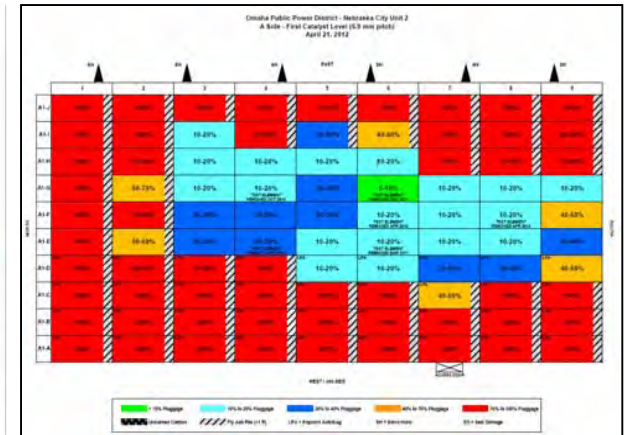
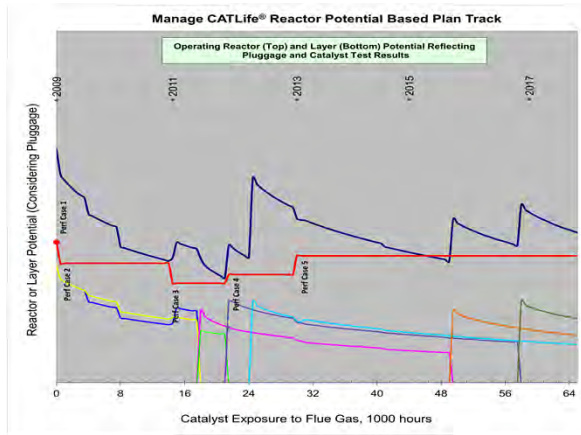
2016 NO_x-Combustion-CCR Round Table Presentation

February 1 & 2, 2016, in Orlando, FL / Hosted by OUC

All presentations posted on this website are copyrighted by Reinhold Environmental, Ltd (RE). Any unauthorized downloading, attempts to modify or to incorporate into other presentations, link to other websites, or obtain copies for any other uses than the training of attendees to RE's Conferences is expressly prohibited, unless approved in writing by RE or the original presenter. RE does not assume any liability for the accuracy or contents of any materials contained in this library which were presented and/or created by persons who were not employees of RE.

Reinhold Environmental 2016 NOx-Combustion Round Table

Catalyst Design: What Potential Does Your SCR System Have?

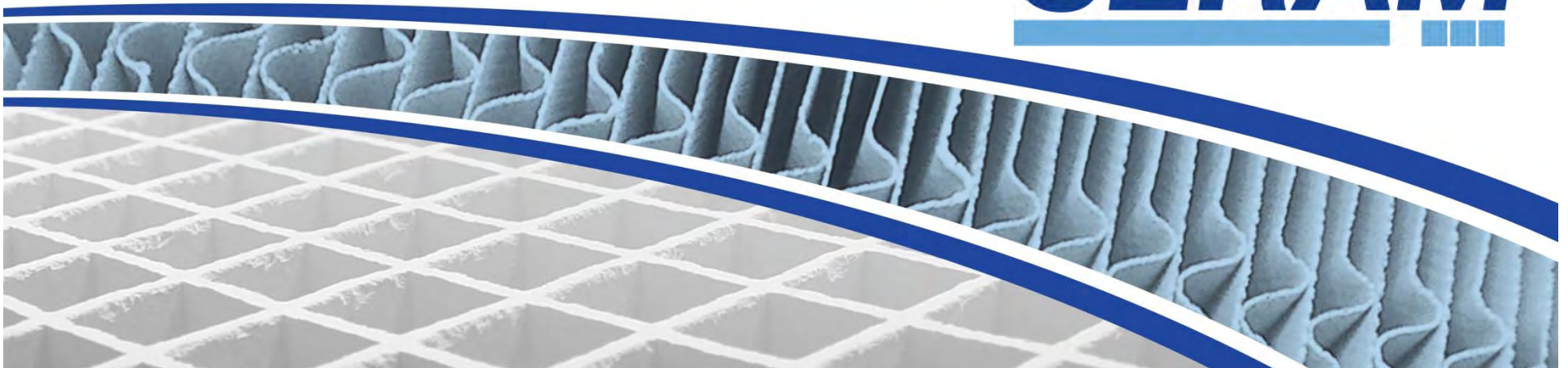


CERAM

Presented by: Dr. Greg Holscher
IBIDEN CERAM Environmental, Inc.
February 1, 2016

DeNOx Demand and Reactor Potential

CERAM



Reactor Potential

$$P = K / Av$$



P = Reactor Potential

K = Catalyst Activity, Nm³/m²h or Nm/h

Av = Area Velocity, Nm/h

(normal gas flow, Nm³/h divided by total installed catalyst surface area, m²)



The Magnitude of Reactor Potential Determines
the Amount of SCR System Performance Possible
(DeNOx & Ammonia Slip Control)

Area Velocity (A_v)

$$A_v = Q_{fg} / A_{cat} = Q_{fg} / (V_{rcat} \times SSA)$$

Where: Q_{fg} = flue gas flow rate, Nm³/h

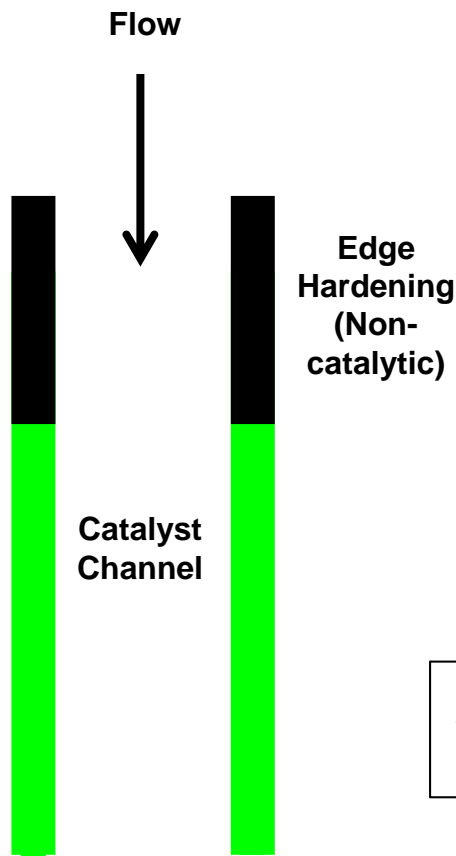
A_{cat} = catalyst geometric surface area, m²

V_{rcat} = reactive catalyst volume available, m³

SSA = catalyst specific surface area, m²/m³

Volume Calculation

Considering Edge Hardening



$$V_{rcat} = V_{cat} \times \frac{(l_{cat} - l_{eh})}{l_{cat}}$$

Where: V_{cat} = total catalyst volume, m^3

l_{cat} = catalyst element total length, m

l_{eh} = length of edge hardening applied to each catalyst element, m

When no edge hardening is used: $V_{rcat} = V_{cat}$

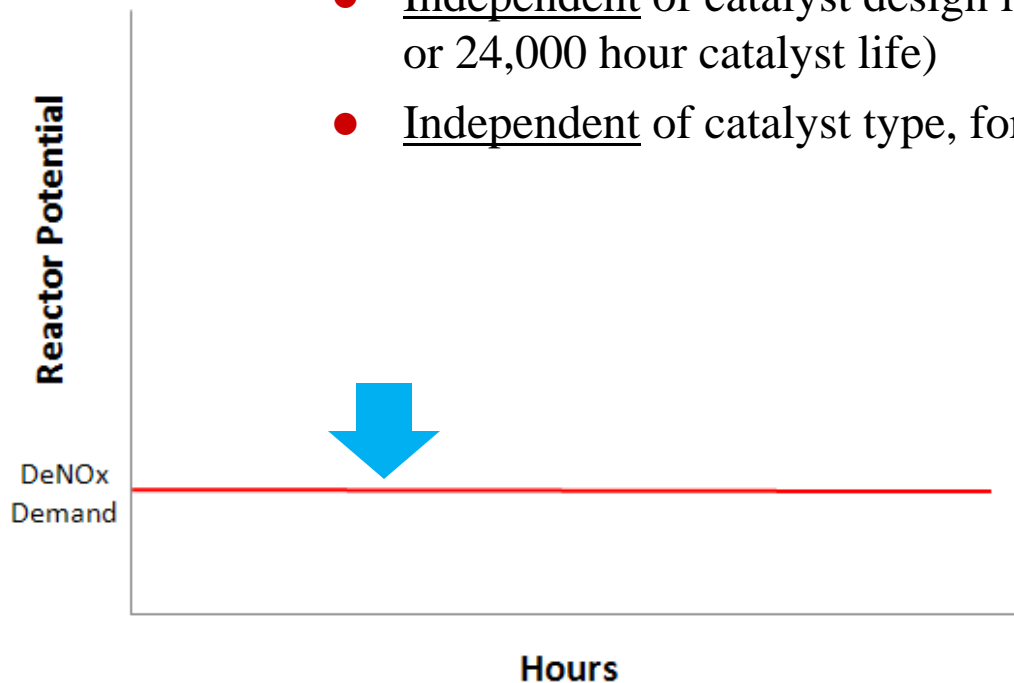
Activity Required Including Distribution and Pluggage Factors

$$K_{req} = \bar{K} \times DF_{total} \times (1 + PF / 100)$$

Where: K_{req} = activity required including
distribution factor & pluggage
 \bar{K} = theoretical activity required
 DF_{total} = total distribution factor (NH_3 : NO_x ,
velocity and temperature)
 PF = pluggage factor, %

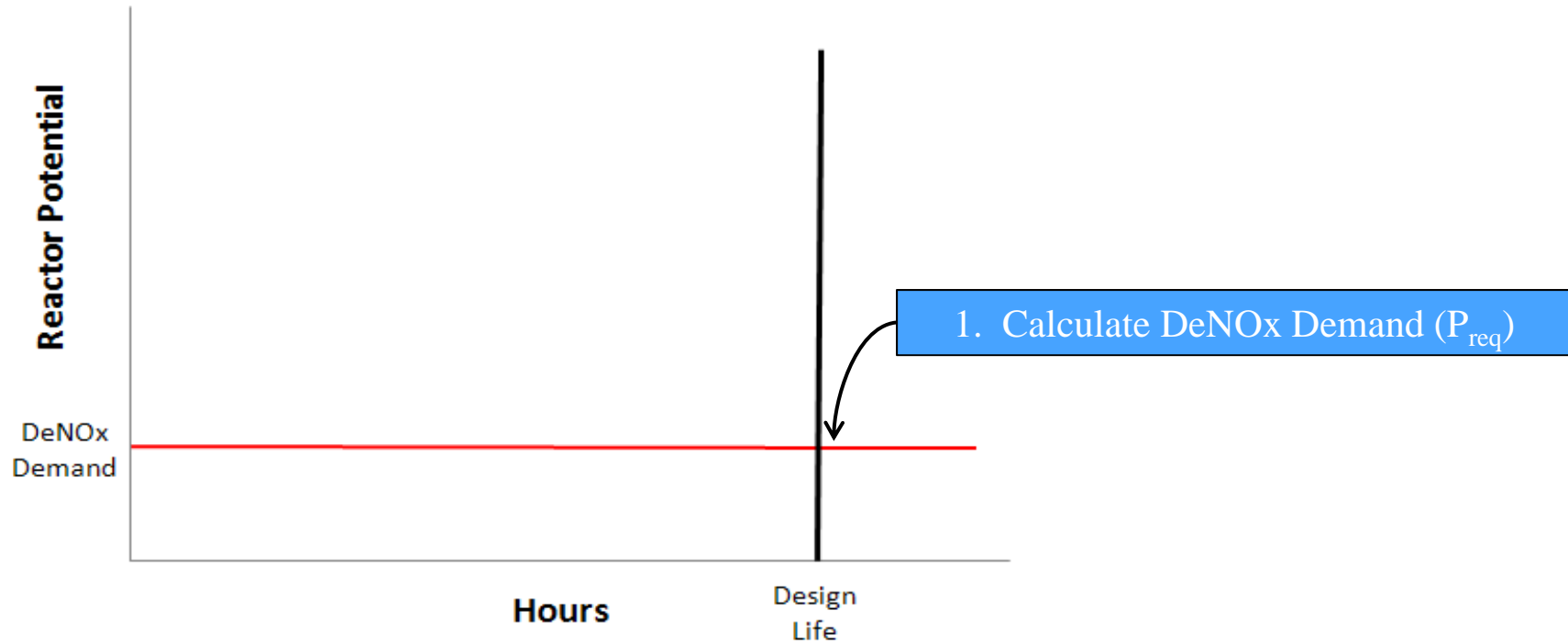
DeNOx Demand

- DeNOx Demand (P_{req}) = The reactor potential required to meet NOx removal and ammonia slip requirements
- Calculated based on NOx removal requirements, NH₃ slip, and SCR reactor pluggage and distributions (velocity, NH₃/NOx, temperature)
- Independent of catalyst design life (i.e. same value for 16,000 or 24,000 hour catalyst life)
- Independent of catalyst type, formulation or manufacturer



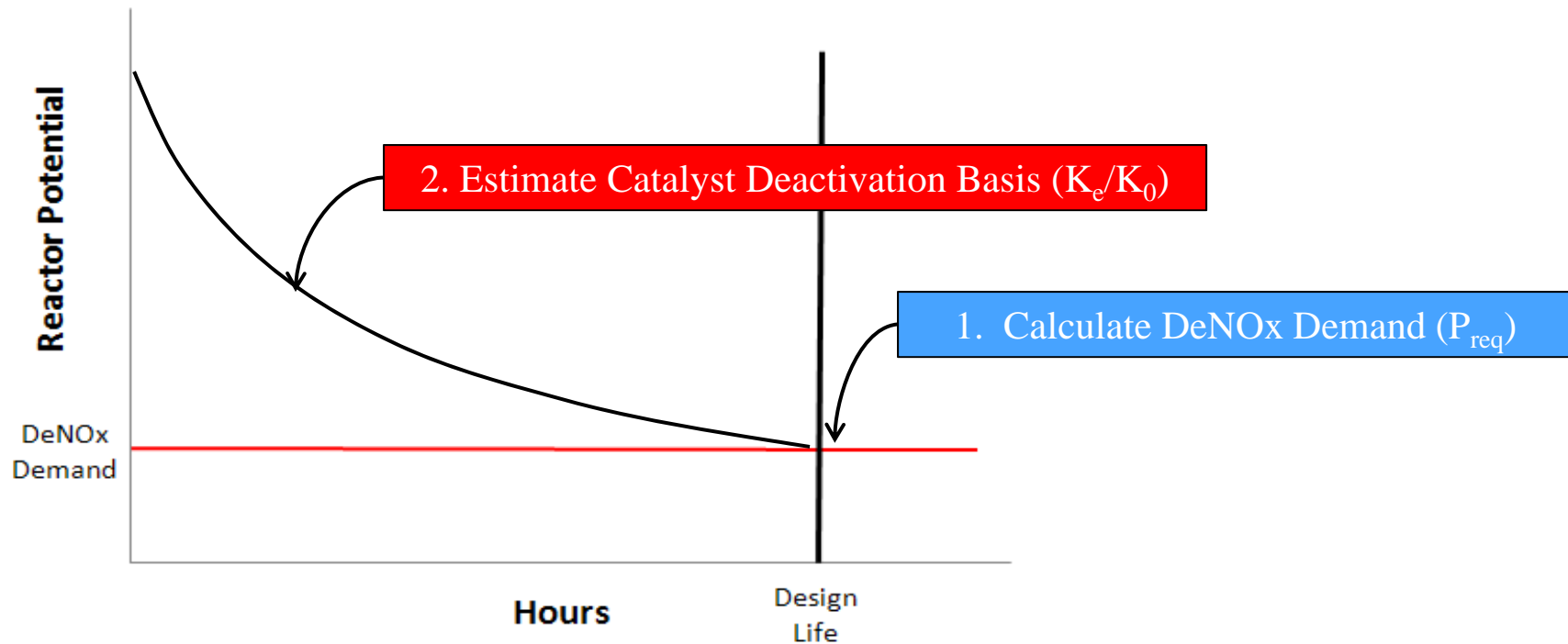
$$P_{req} = K_{req} / Av$$

Catalyst Design Process



1. Calculate DeNOx demand (P_{req}) required (function of NOx removal, NH₃ slip required, distribution requirements and design pluggage) – **SAME FOR ALL CATALYSTS**

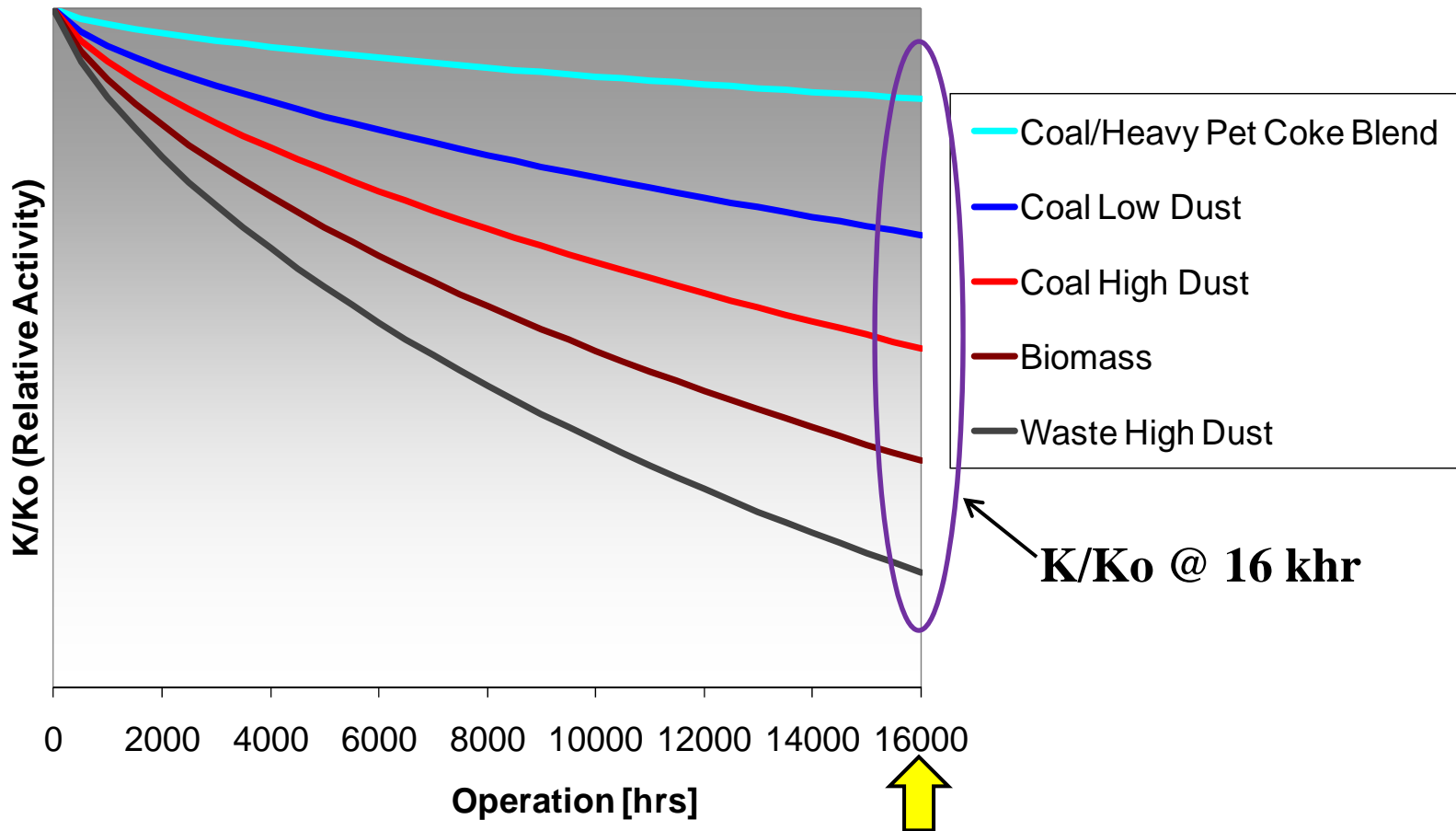
Catalyst Design Process



1. Calculate DeNOx demand (P_{req}) required (function of NOx removal, NH_3 slip required, distribution requirements and design pluggage) – **SAME VALUE FOR ALL CATALYSTS**
2. Estimate catalyst deactivation basis (K_e/K_0) based on fuel quality, combustion practices, unit duty, and design life – **ESTIMATED BY CATALYST SUPPLIER BASED ON EXPERIENCE OR STRATEGY**

Catalyst Deactivates With Time of Exposure to Flue Gas

K_0 (Original Catalyst Activity)



Catalyst Design (at hour=0) Must Anticipate Deactivation to End of Guarantee Period (e.g., 16,000 hours) to Size Catalyst Properly

Catalyst Deactivation

- Supplier Claims of “Poison Resistant” Catalysts are NOT Supported by Industry Experience
- Vanadia–Titania Type Catalysts Deactivate **Independent** of....
 - Catalyst Type and Geometry
 - Catalyst Composition
- 25+ Years of Experience With Testing Catalyst From All Suppliers Confirms Conclusion
 - Experience Confirmed by Major Utilities and IPPs: Southern Company, AEP, Steag, E.ON
 - Reference Also Paper Presented by the Southern Company and Evonik (now Steag) at the 2009 Reinhold Round Table
- Deactivation Resistance **ONLY** Comes From Providing Adequate Reactor Potential

Web Address for Paper:

<http://www.reinholdenvironmental.com/public/47bc6d6a7e8f479388a20d66579738f8/Hans%20Hartenstein%20presentation%20Deactivation%202009.pdf>

CERAM

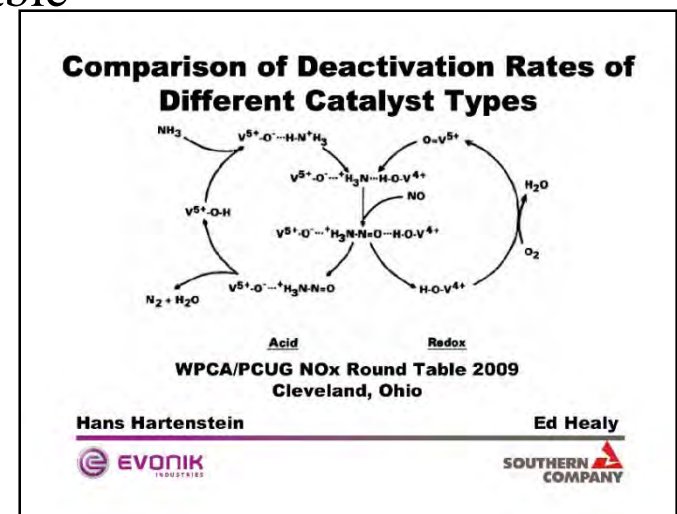
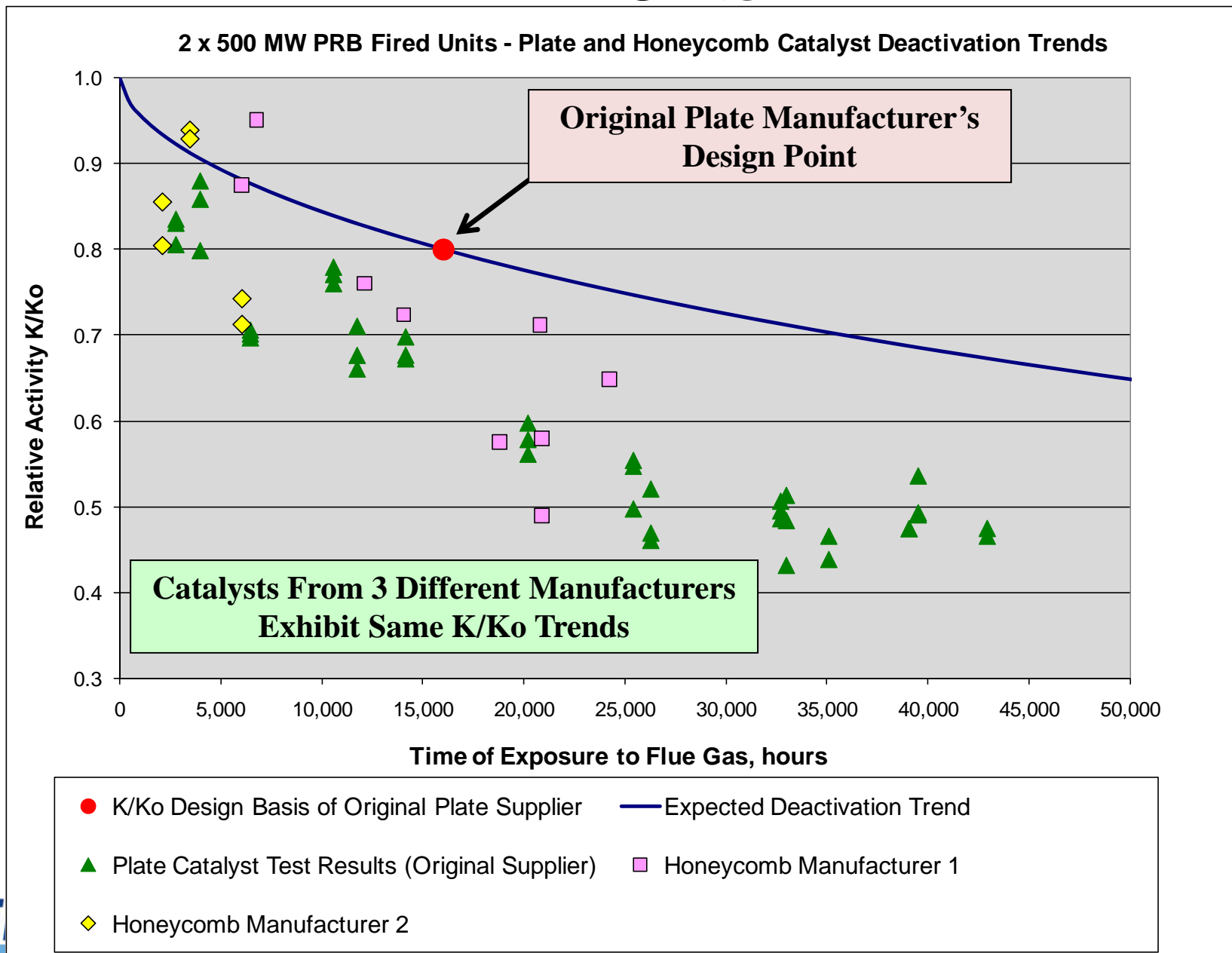
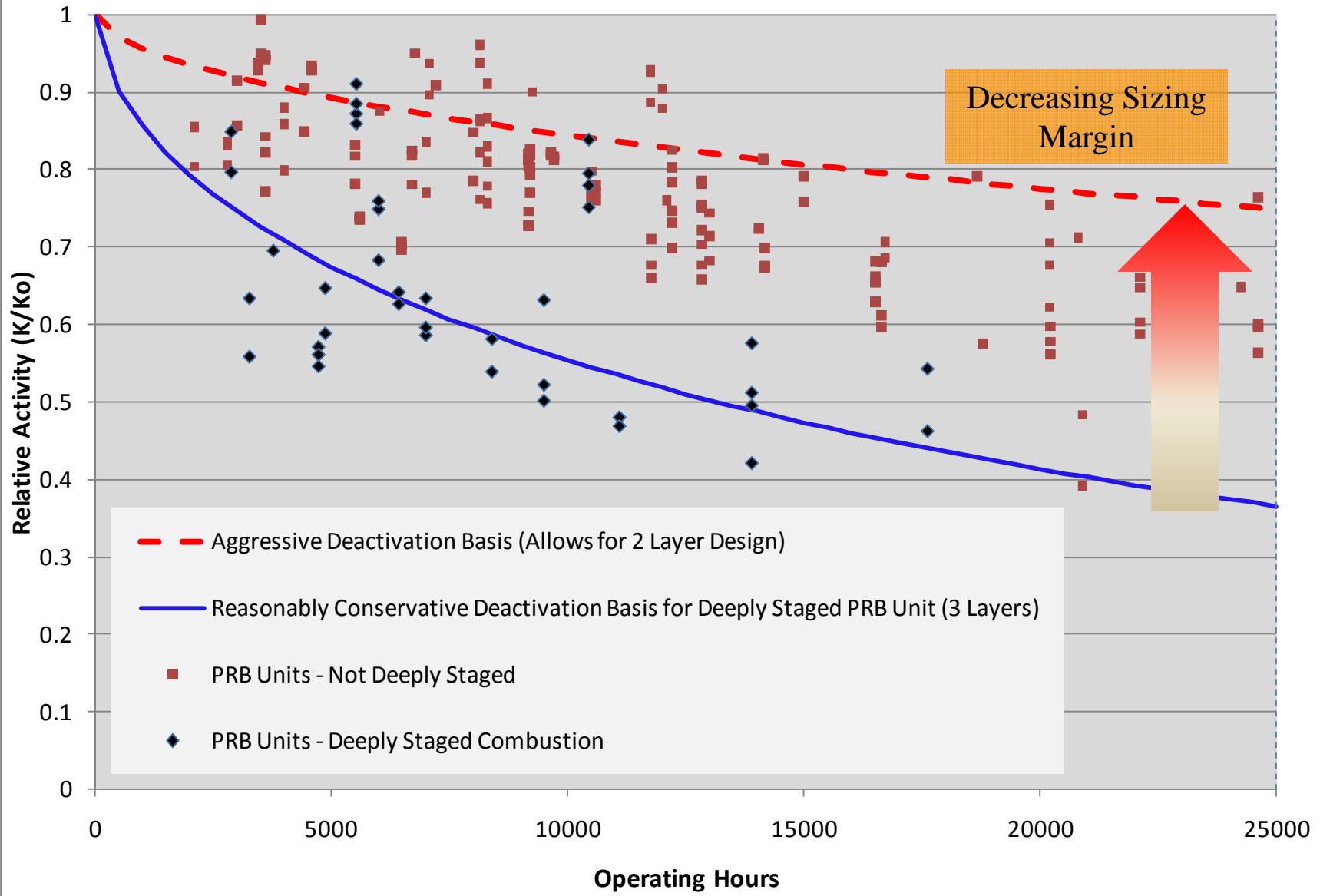


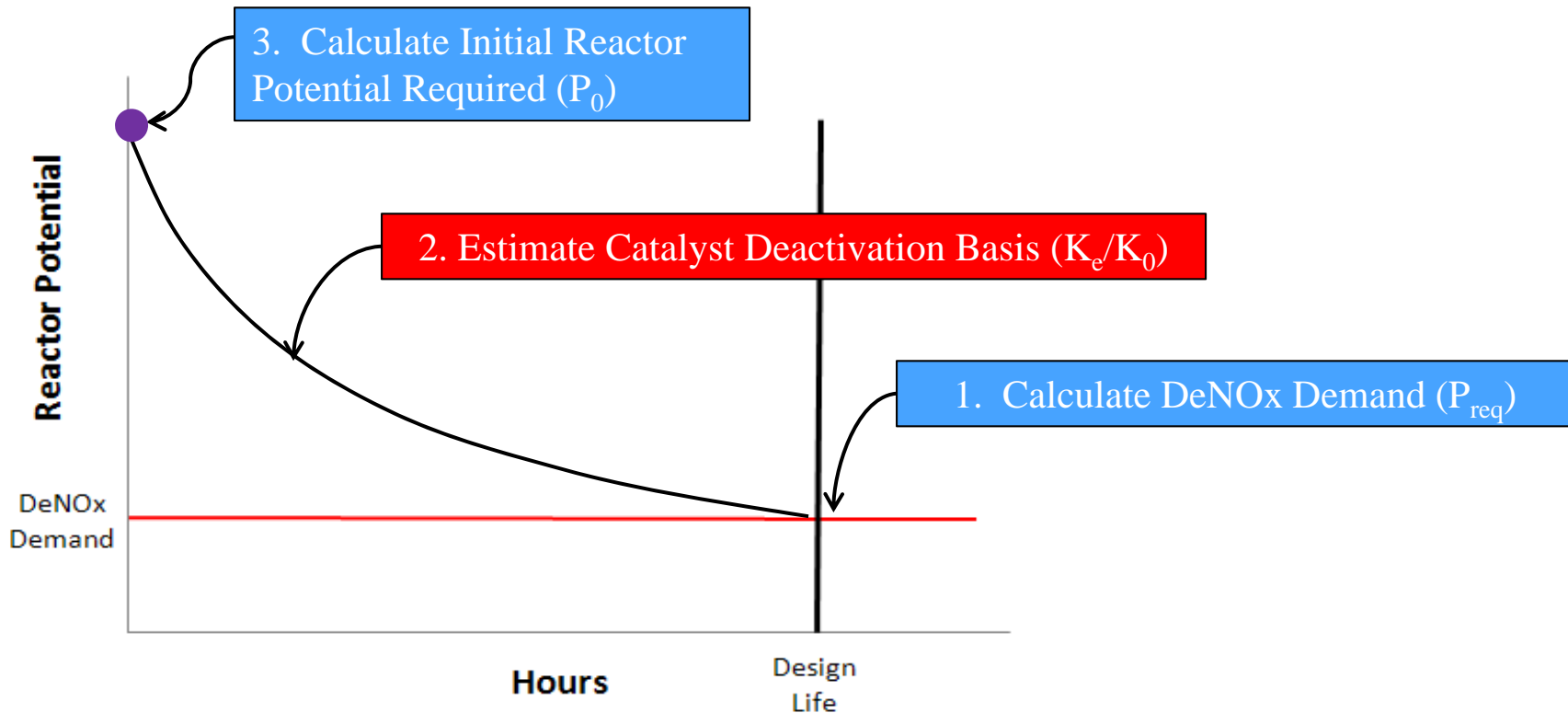
Plate and Honeycomb Deactivation Trends - PRB Units



Example Catalyst Design Deactivation Rate Assumptions

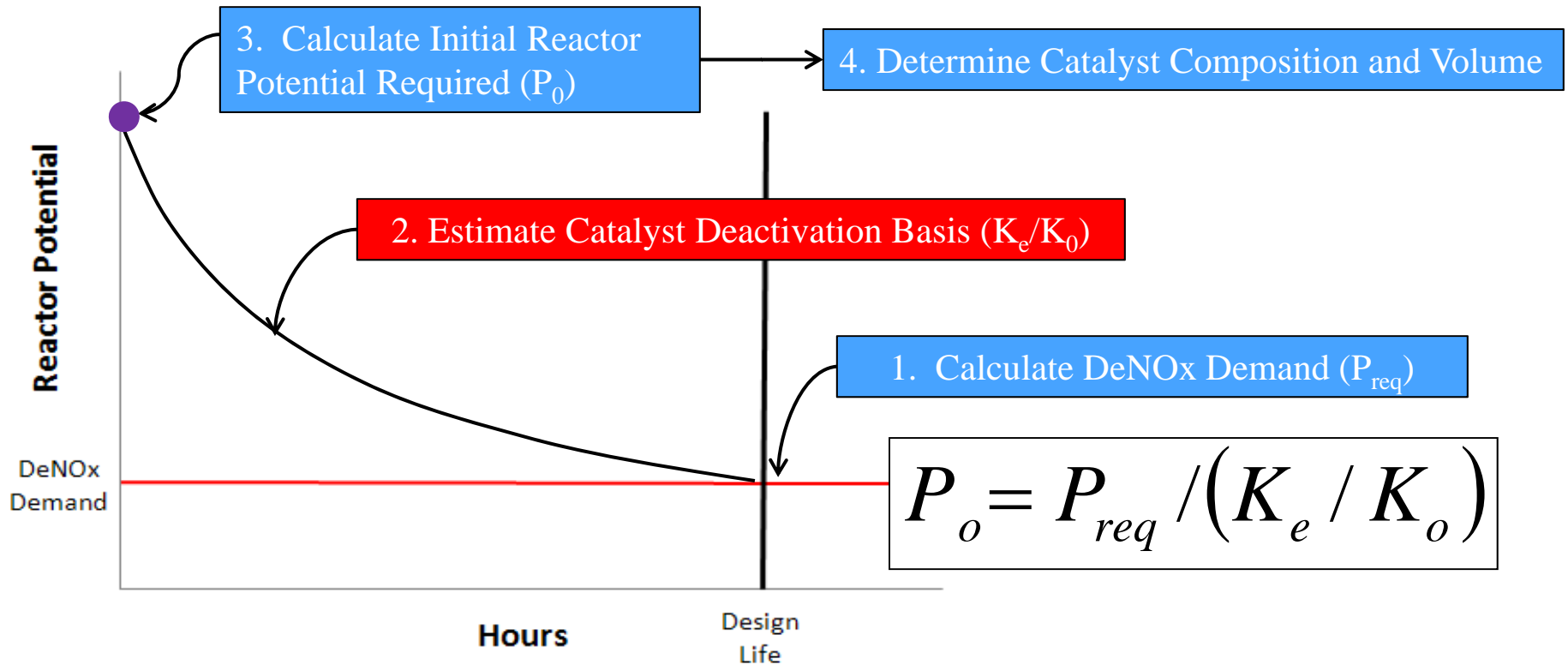


Catalyst Design Process



1. Calculate DeNOx demand (P_{req}) required (function of NOx removal, NH₃ slip required, distribution requirements and design pluggage) – **SAME VALUE FOR ALL CATALYSTS**
2. Estimate catalyst deactivation basis (K_e/K_0) based on fuel quality, combustion practices, unit duty, and design life – **ESTIMATED BY CATALYST SUPPLIER BASED ON EXPERIENCE OR STRATEGY**
3. Calculate initial reactor potential required [$P_0 = P_{req}/(K_e/K_0)$]

Catalyst Design Process



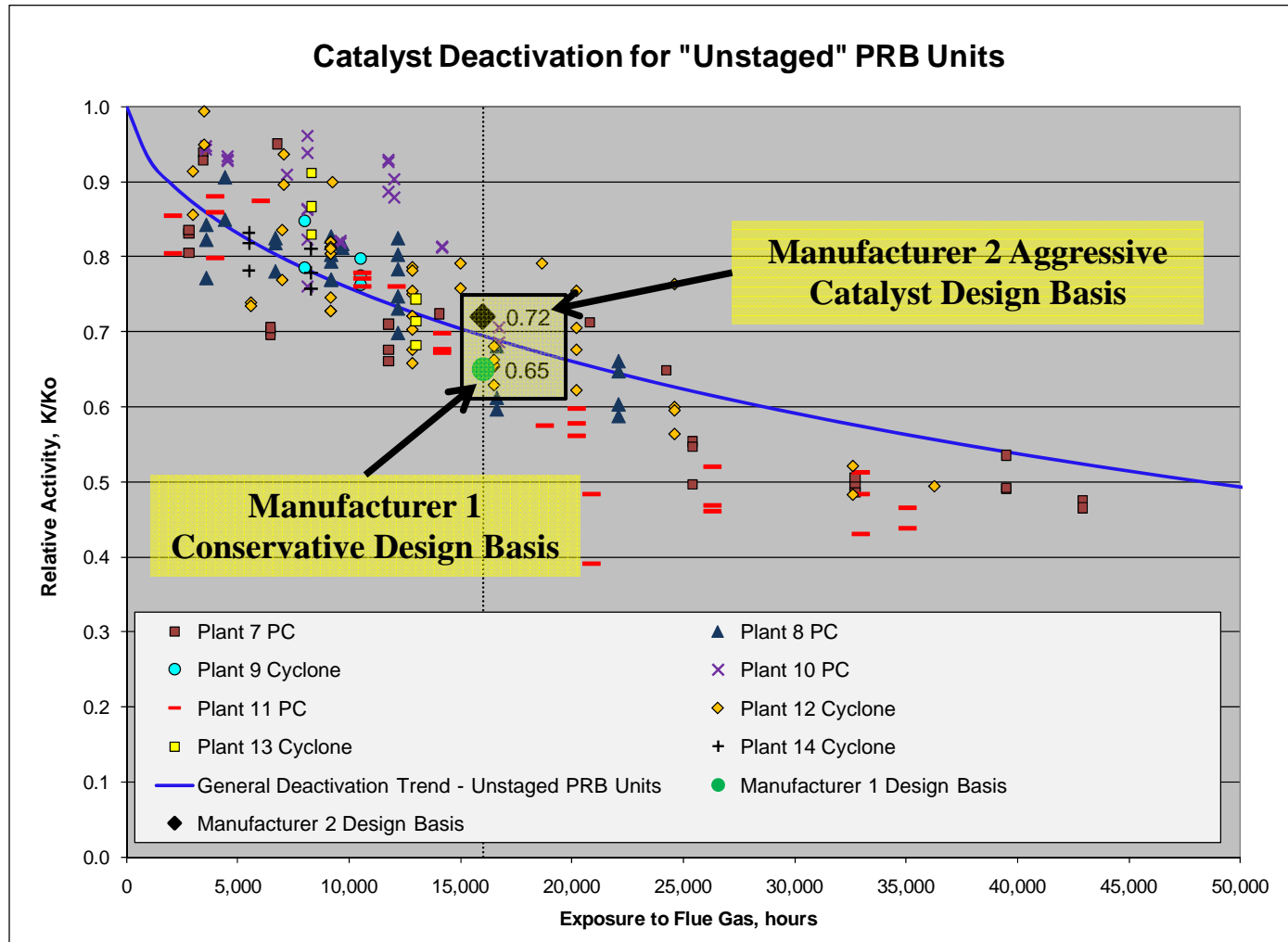
1. Calculate DeNOx demand (P_{req}) required (function of NOx removal, NH₃ slip required, distribution requirements and design pluggage) – **SAME VALUE FOR ALL CATALYST SUPPLIERS**
2. Estimate catalyst deactivation rate (K_e/K_0) based on fuel quality, combustion practices, unit duty, and design life – **ESTIMATED BY CATALYST SUPPLIER BASED ON EXPERIENCE OR STRATEGY**
3. Calculate initial reactor potential required [$P_o = P_{req}/(K_e/K_0)$]
4. Catalyst volume determined based on P_o , operating conditions, SO₂:3 conversion rate requirement, and catalyst geometry

Why is Estimating Catalyst Deactivation So Important

- If Deactivation is Underestimated
 - Catalyst is Undersized
 - Incapable of Meeting NO_x Removal and Ammonia Slip Performance at Some Point During the Guarantee Period
 - Deficient Performance is Either Tolerated or an Early Outage (Unscheduled) is Required for Catalyst Addition
 - Catalyst Management Costs are Underestimated
- Understanding and Managing Reactor Potential Critical to Minimize Risk
- Examples Help to Illustrate Risk

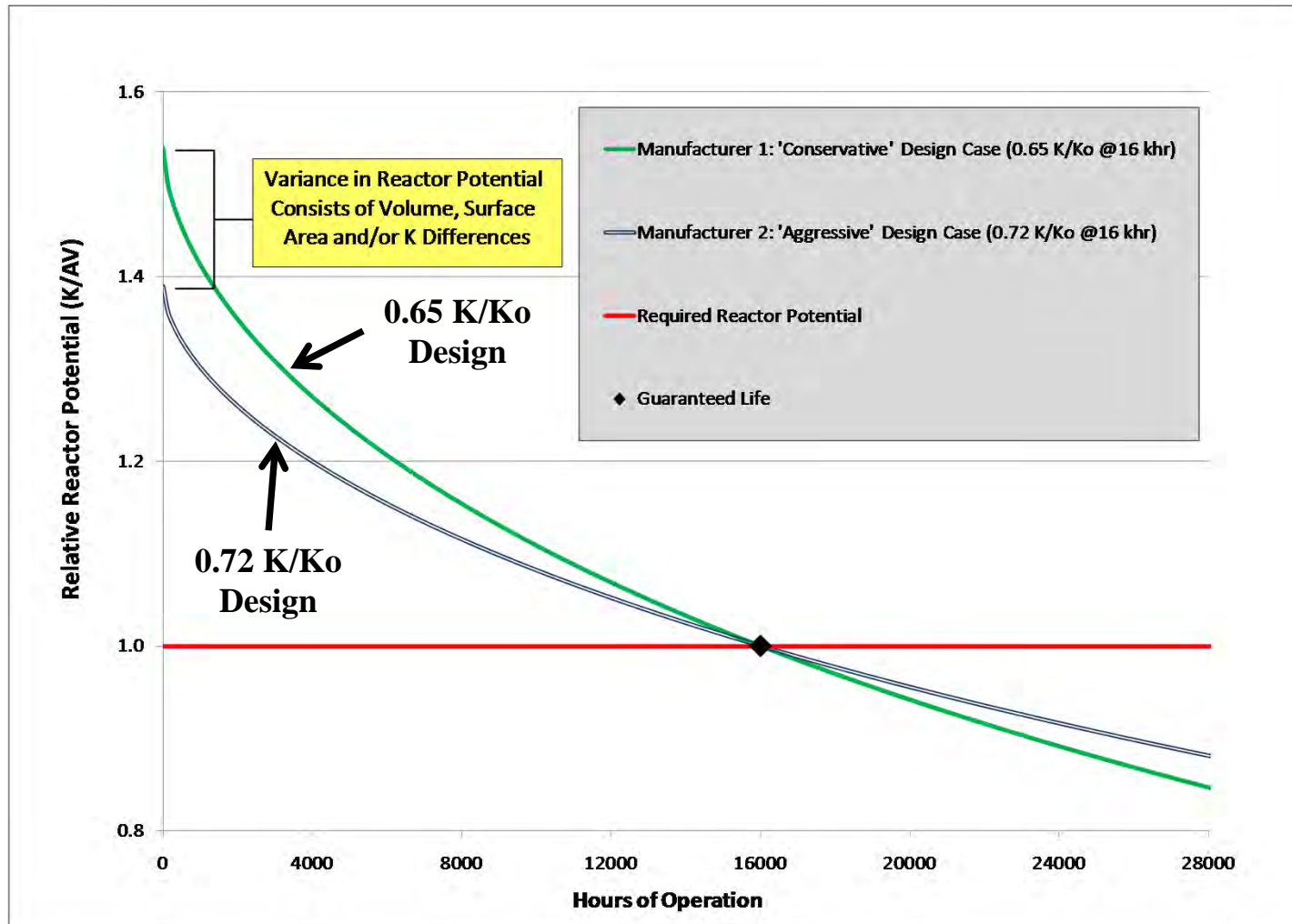


“Unstaged” PRB Unit Catalyst Design Basis

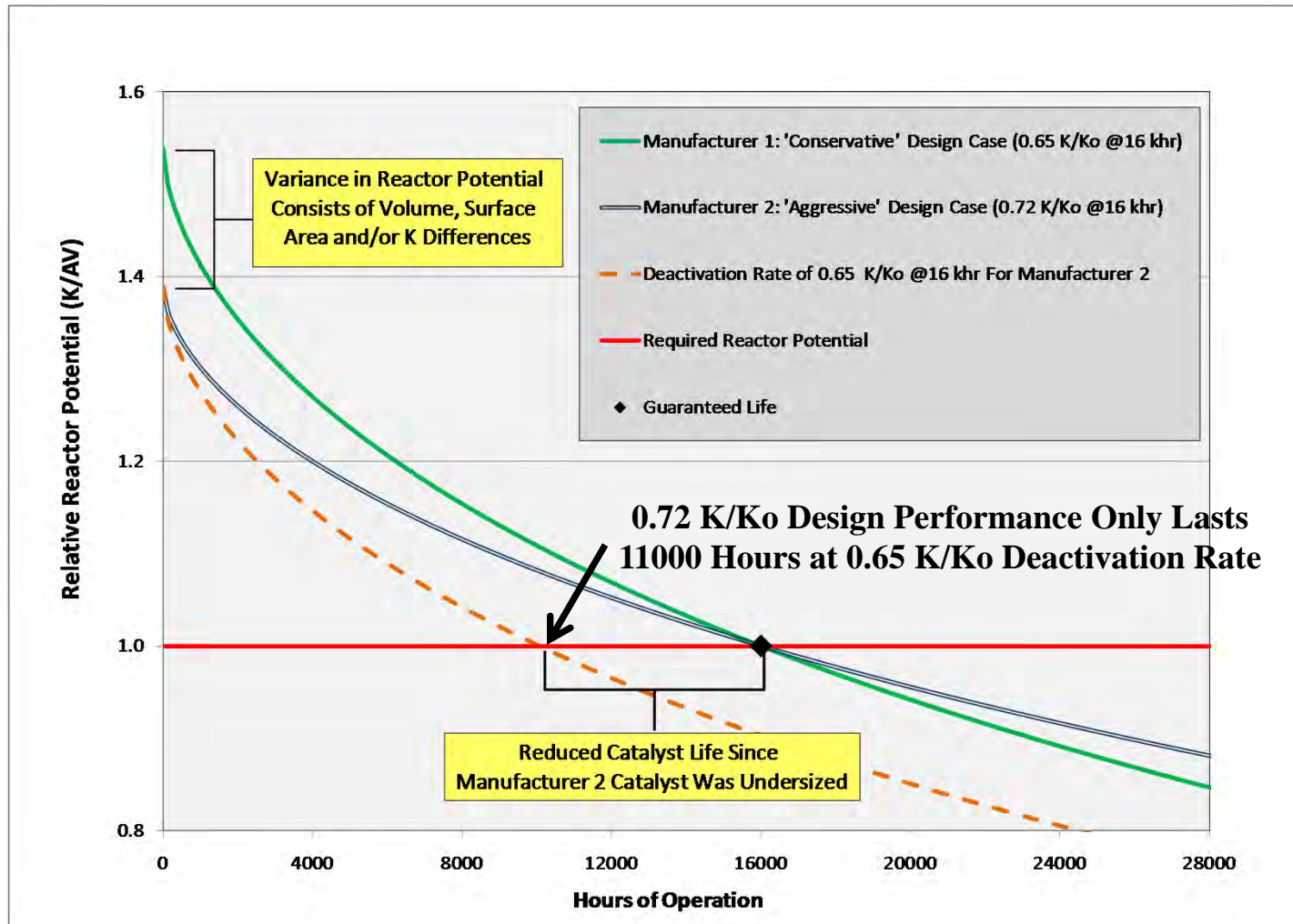


- Manufacturer 1 Designs Catalyst for $K/K_o = 0.65$ (Conservative) Requires 3 Layers
- Manufacturer 2 Designs Catalyst for $K/K_o = 0.72$ (Aggressive) Allows 2 Layers

“Unstaged” Catalyst Design Comparison of Two Catalyst Manufacturer Designs

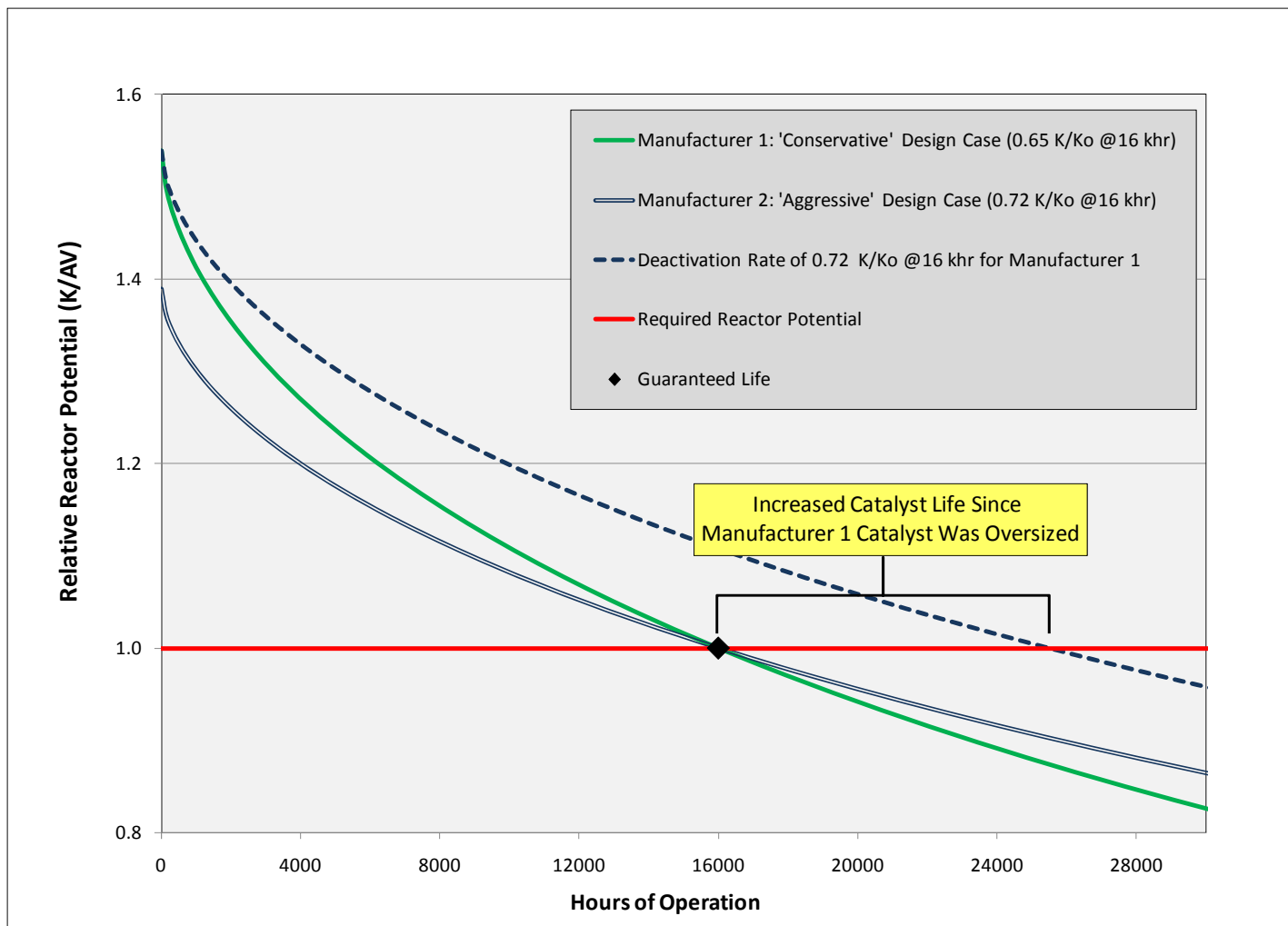


“Unstaged” Catalyst Design Comparison – Case 1 High Deactivation



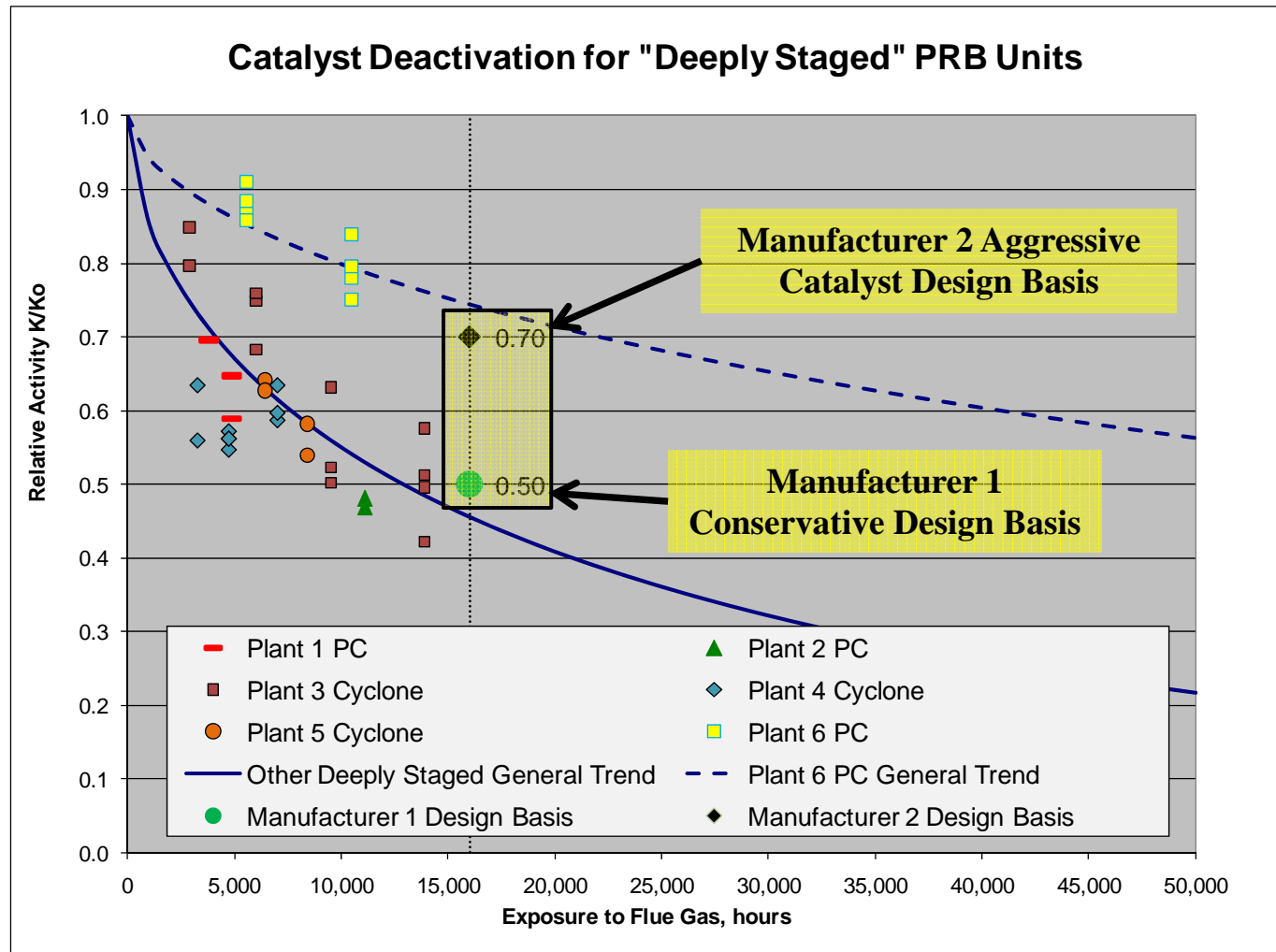
- A Catalyst Designed for a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.72 @ 16\text{hr}$ Will Require a Catalyst Addition at Approximately 11,000 Hours if a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.65$ Occurs (see dashed line above)

“Unstaged” Catalyst Design Comparison – Case 2 Low Deactivation



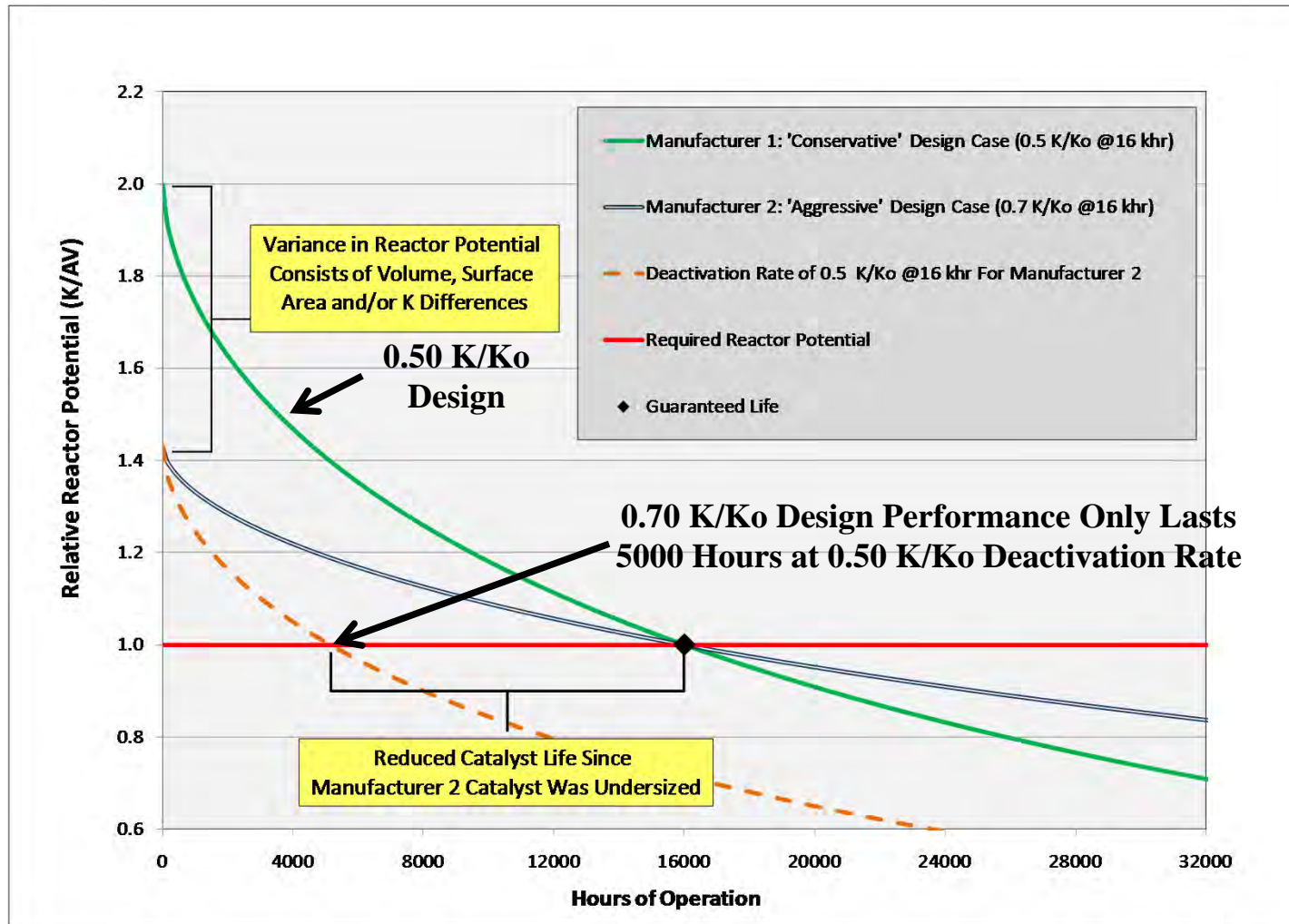
- A Catalyst Designed for a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.65$ @ 16khr Will Not Require a Catalyst Addition Until Approximately 26,000 Hours if a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.72$ Occurs (see dashed line above)

“Deeply Staged” PRB Unit Catalyst Design Basis



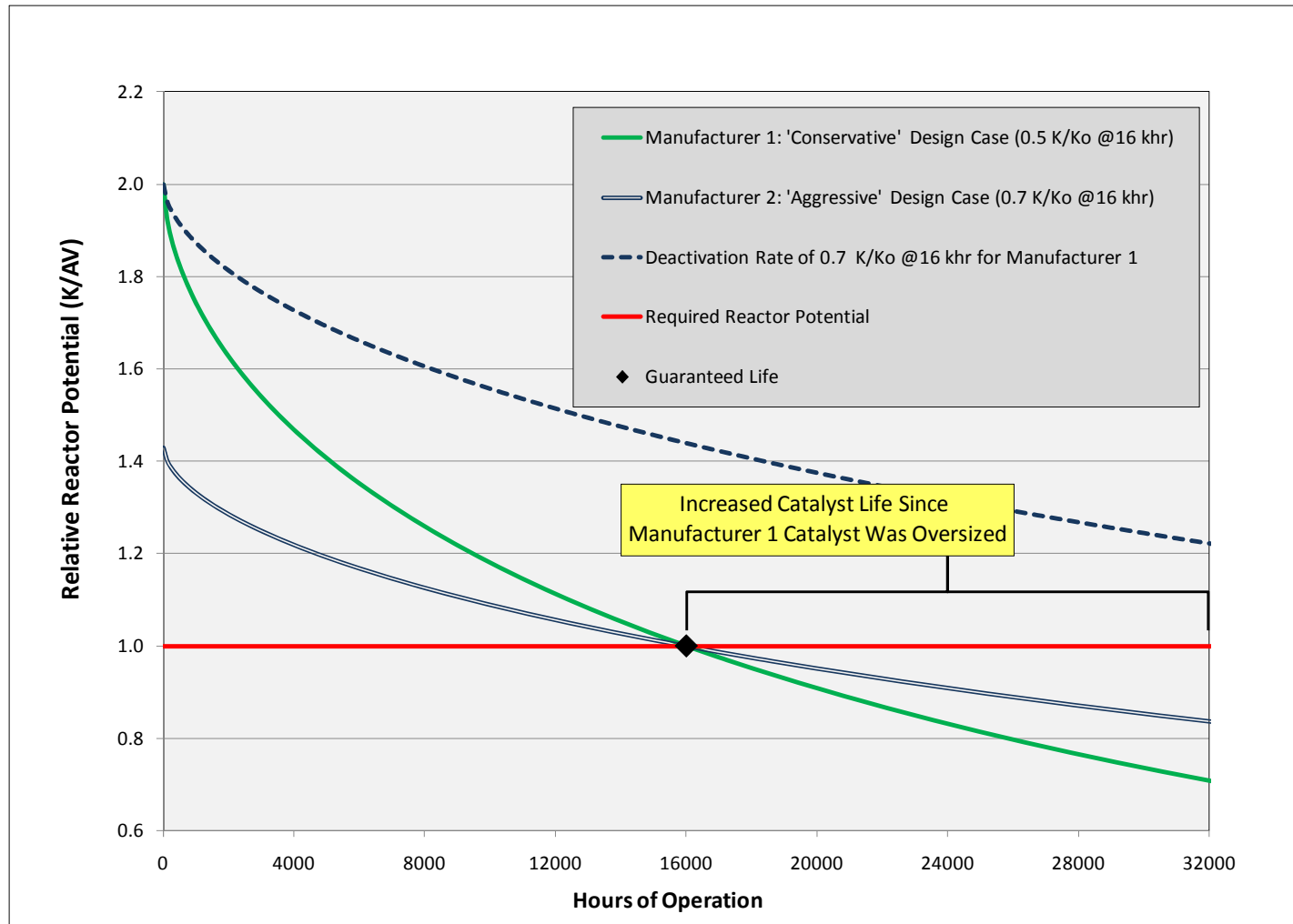
- Manufacturer 1 Designs Catalyst for $K/K_o = 0.50$ (Conservative) Requires 3 Layers
- Manufacturer 2 Designs Catalyst for $K/K_o = 0.70$ (Aggressive) Allowing 2 Layers

“Deeply Staged” Catalyst Design Comparison – Case 1 High Deactivation



- A Catalyst Designed for a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.70 @ 16\text{ khr}$ Will Require a Catalyst Addition at Approximately 5000 Hours if a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.50$ Occurs (see dashed line above)

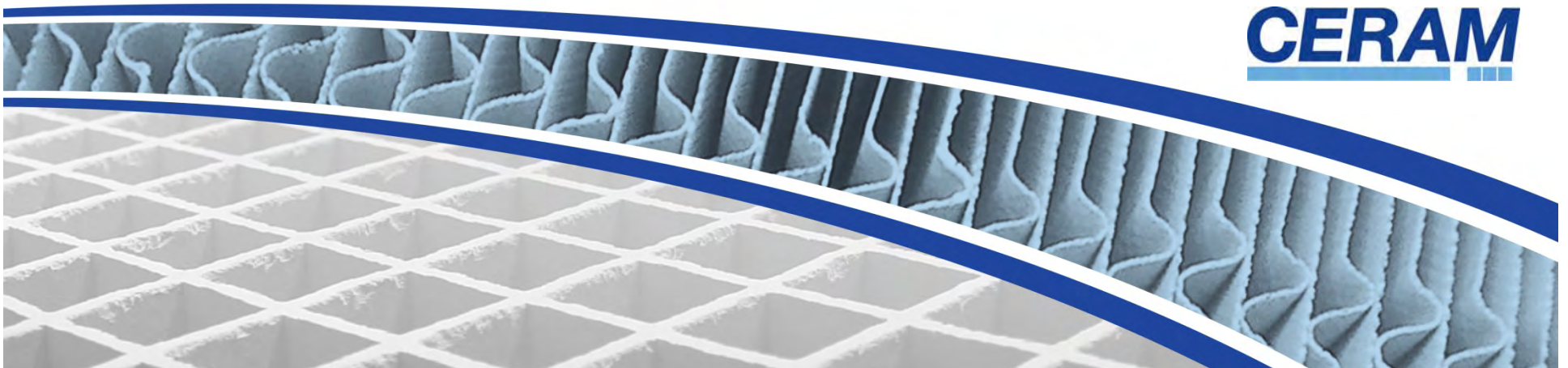
“Deeply Staged” Catalyst Design Comparison – Case 2 Low Deactivation



- A Catalyst Designed for a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.50$ @ 16khr Will Not Require a Catalyst Addition Until More Than 32,000 Hours if a Deactivation Rate $K/K_o = 0.70$ Occurs (see dashed line above)

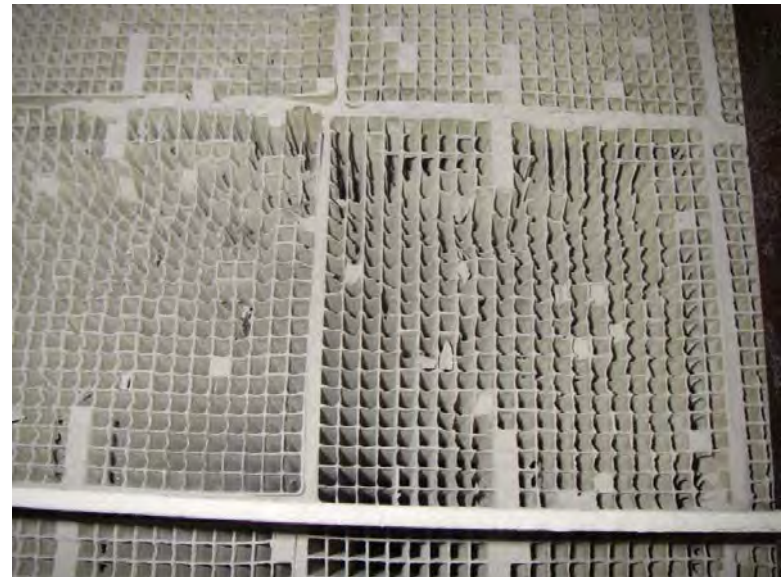
Why is Mechanical Design Important to Reactor Potential?

CERAM



Erosion Can Affect Any Catalyst Type

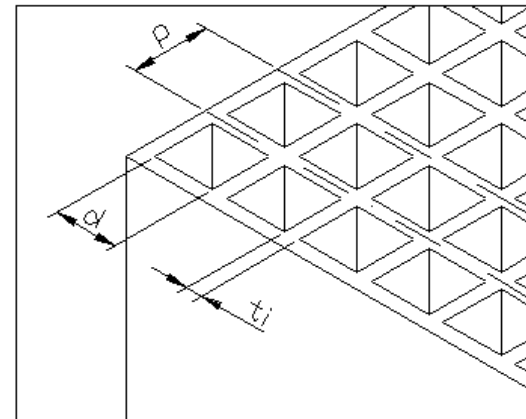
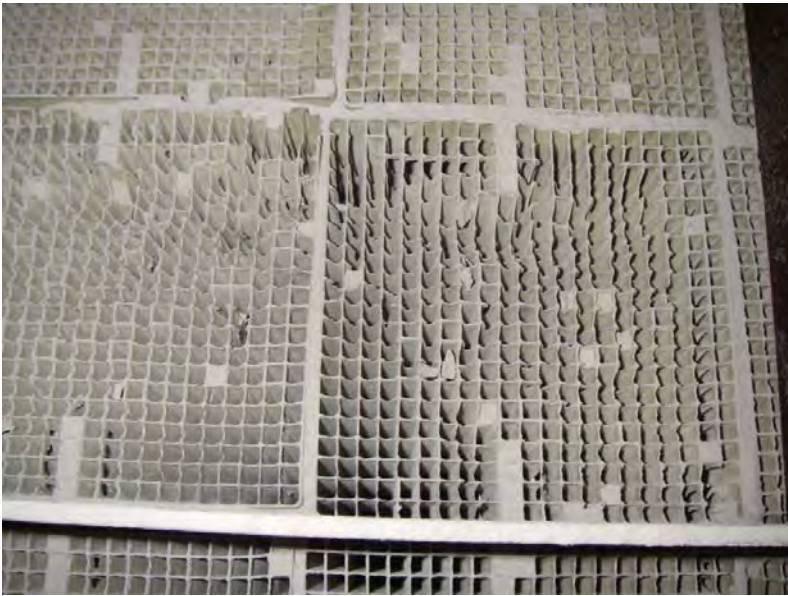
- Erosion Risk Varies as Ratio of Flow to 3rd or 4th Power
- Exposed Plate Stainless Steel Provides No Activity and Available for SO₂ to SO₃ Conversion
- Managed by Limiting Face Velocity
 - 4.5 to 5.5 m/s Generally
 - 5.0 to 5.5 m/s for PRB
 - 4.8 to 5.0 m/s for High Ash Content With High Silica
 - Assure Good Flow Distribution
 - Minimize Catalyst Pluggage



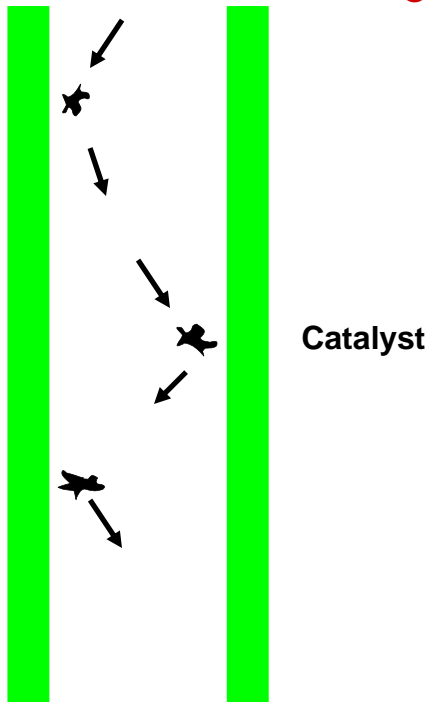
Catalyst Wall Thickness

Erosion Has Two Areas of Attack:

- Catalyst Leading Edge
- Catalyst Walls



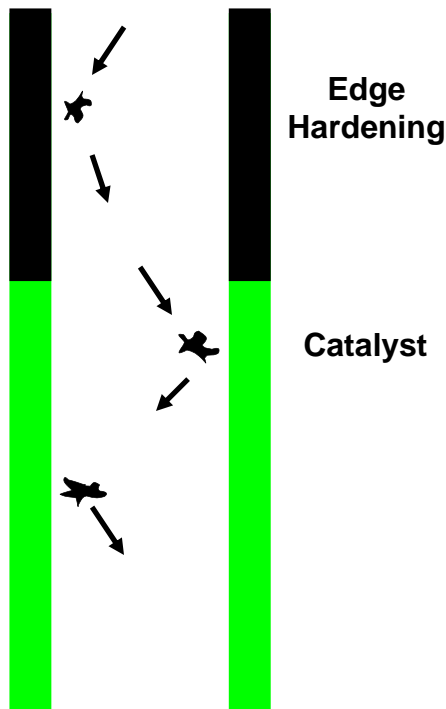
Catalyst Wall Erosion



- Mechanism:

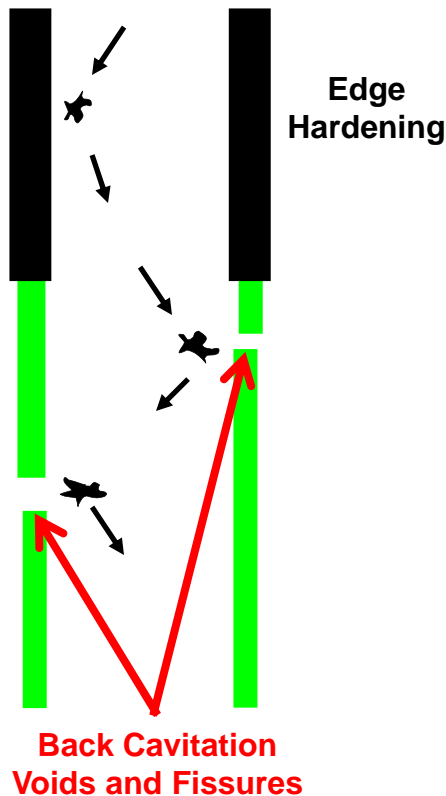
- Gas Flow Transitions From Turbulent to Laminar Within Catalyst
- Dust Particles (Irregularly Shaped) Do Not Follow Laminar Gas Flow Pattern
- Particles Tend to Tumble and Impact Wall Over Entire Element Length
- Erosion Uniform Top to Bottom

Catalyst Wall Erosion



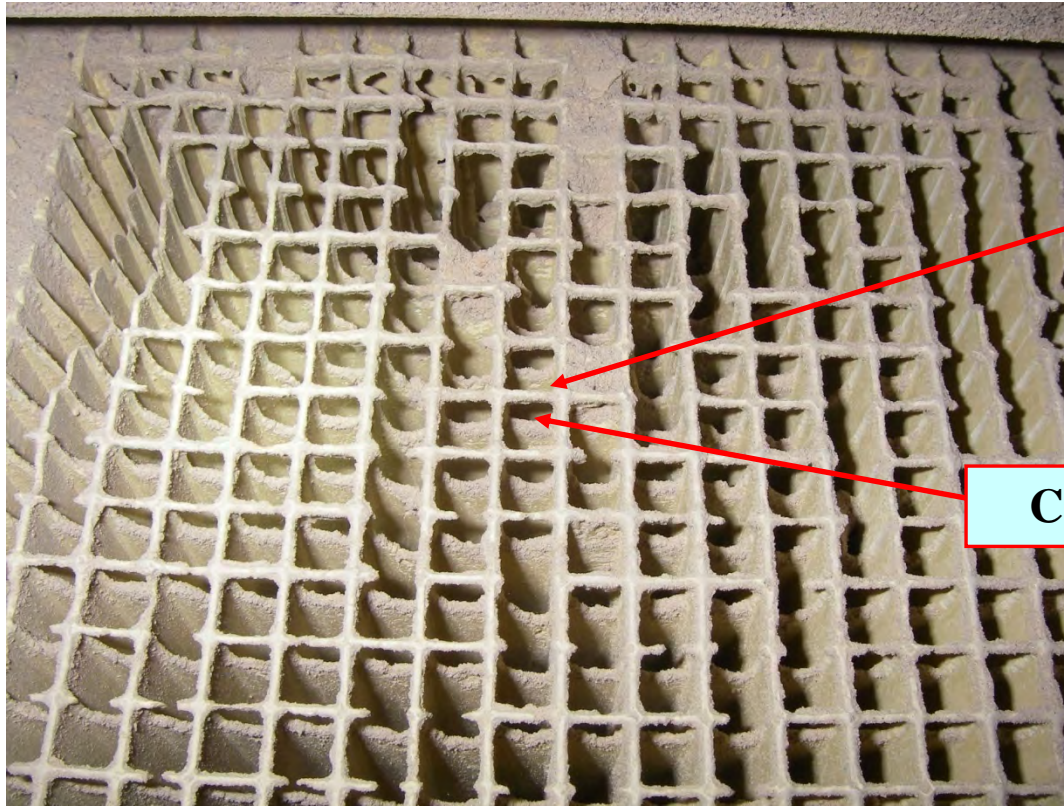
- Edge Hardening is Applied to Catalyst Surface
- Chemically Inactive Substance That Resists Erosion
- Edge Hardened Material is Not Catalytic and is Unavailable for NO_x Removal

Catalyst Wall Erosion



- Ultimately Catalyst Walls Can Break Down Behind Edge Hardening Due to Wall Thinning
- Thin Wall Catalyst Will Have Earlier Incidence of Mechanical Failure
- Mechanical Failure Will Lead to Increasing Pluggage Rates and Increasing Pressure Drop
- Use of “Higher Hardness” Materials Reduces Catalyst Activity
- Edge Hardening Does Not Increase Catalyst Mechanical Life
- Adequate Wall Thickness Provides Sufficient Mechanical Life

Edge Hardened Catalyst Erosion @ 14,000 Hours – Back Cavitation and Wall Thinning



Edge Hardened
Leading Edge

Cavitation Void

Continued Operation Will Ultimately
Result in Complete Structural Failure

Catalyst Manufactured by North American Supplier (NOT CERAM)

Ferritic (Type 400) Stainless Steel Substrate Has Deficient Mechanical Strength for Regeneration



Corrosion Loss From Plate Trailing Edge



Brittle Material Breaks Out With Thumb Pressure



Hand Torn Pieces from Element Pulled Up on Right

- Historically Plate Catalyst Used Type 300 (Austenitic) Stainless Steel
 - Excellent Mechanical Life Including Multiple Regenerations
- If Unspecified, Suppliers Will Utilize Type 400 (Ferritic) Stainless Steel to Minimize Cost (~+10% of Total Cost to Use Type 300)
- Type 400 Stainless Steel is Subject to Corrosion Each Time the Flue Gas Goes Through the Acid Dew Point

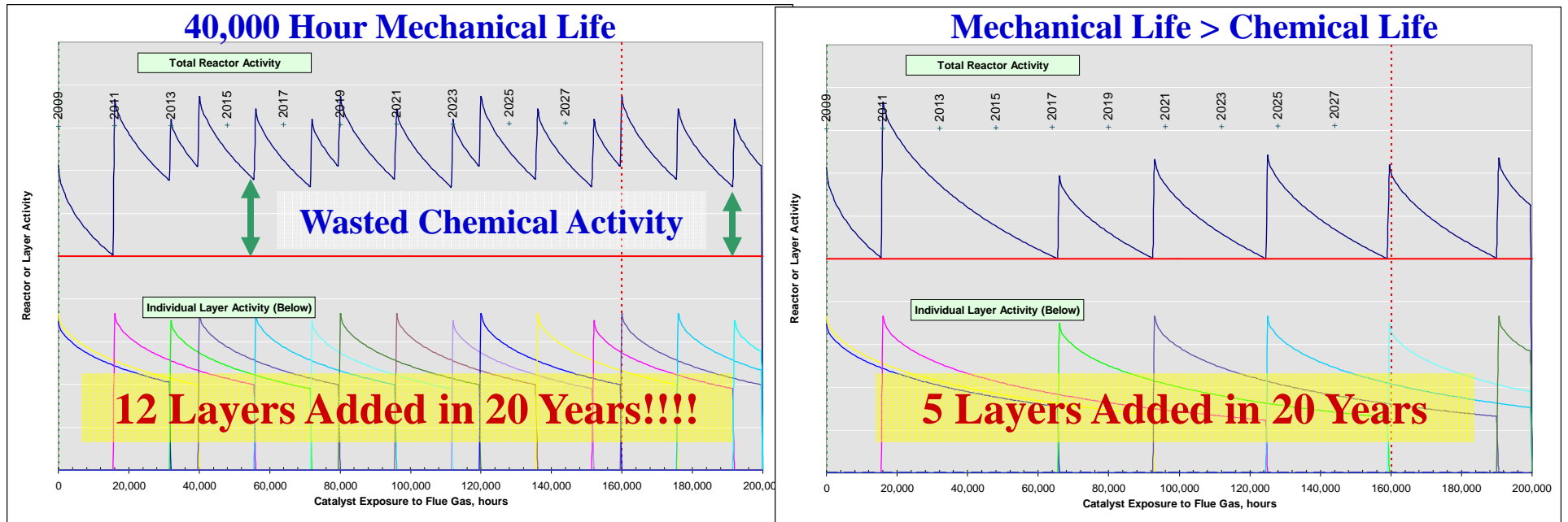
Catalyst Mechanical Recommendations to Enhance Mechanical and Reduce Pluggage

Honeycomb Catalyst Wall Thickness Recommendations			
		>80,000 to 100,000 Mechanical Life and Multiple Regenerations	
Pitch	Cells	Inner Wall	Outer Wall
mm	x by x	mm	mm
6.7	22	0.8 to 0.9	1.3
7.1	21	0.8 to 0.9	1.4
7.4	20	0.8 to 0.9	1.4
8.2	18	0.9 to 1.0	1.7

- Recommendations:
 - Honeycomb Catalyst: Maximum Length of 1300 mm and Wall Thicknesses Highlighted Above
 - Plate Catalyst: Minimum Wall Thickness of 0.75 mm, Maximum Length of 700 mm, Austenitic Steel Substrate, and Including 4 Spacers
- CERAM Can Produce Thin Wall Catalyst
 - Not in Best Interest of Client For Washing/Regeneration and Long Mechanical Life
- CERAM Offers a 60,000 Hour Mechanical Warranty Including Two Catalyst Washes or Regenerations
- Coal High Dust References Regenerated 4 to 5 Times

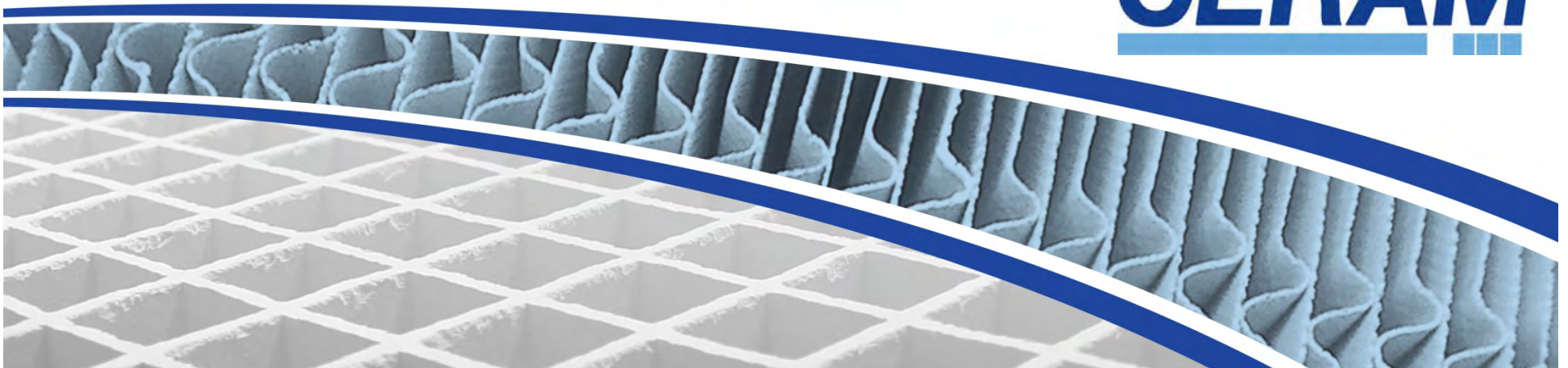
Life Cycle Considerations Related to Catalyst Mechanical Quality

- “Economic” Plate Catalyst Has Severely Constrained Mechanical Life for Deficient SS Material Choice (e.g. SS430) and/or Thin Wall (<0.7 mm) Construction
- “One Way” Catalyst Difficult and Expensive to Regenerate or Clean - Expected Mechanical Life = 20,000 to 40,000 Hours (Increasing Catalyst Replacements)
- Increased Number of Outages Needed to Replace Mechanically Deficient Catalyst
- Significantly Increased Life Cycle Cost

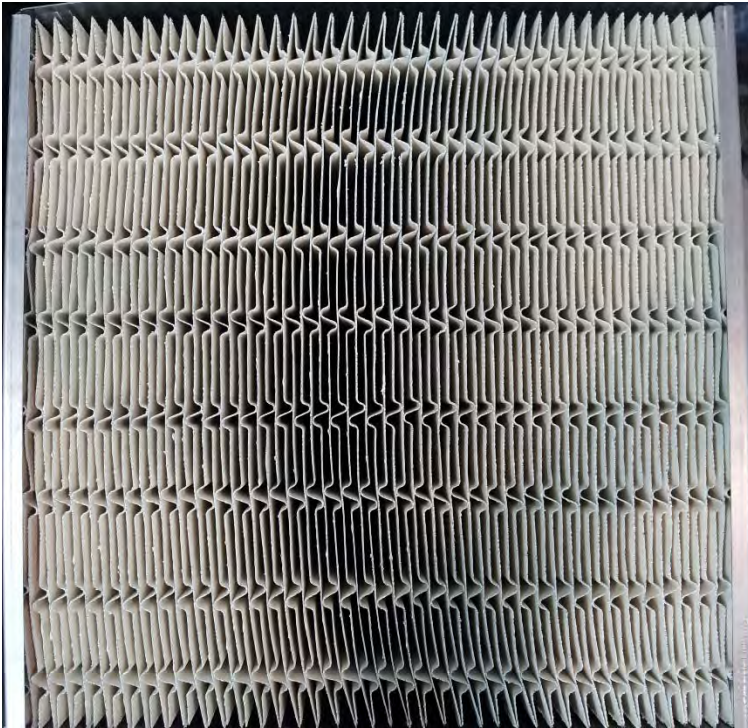


Assuring Operating Reactor Potential

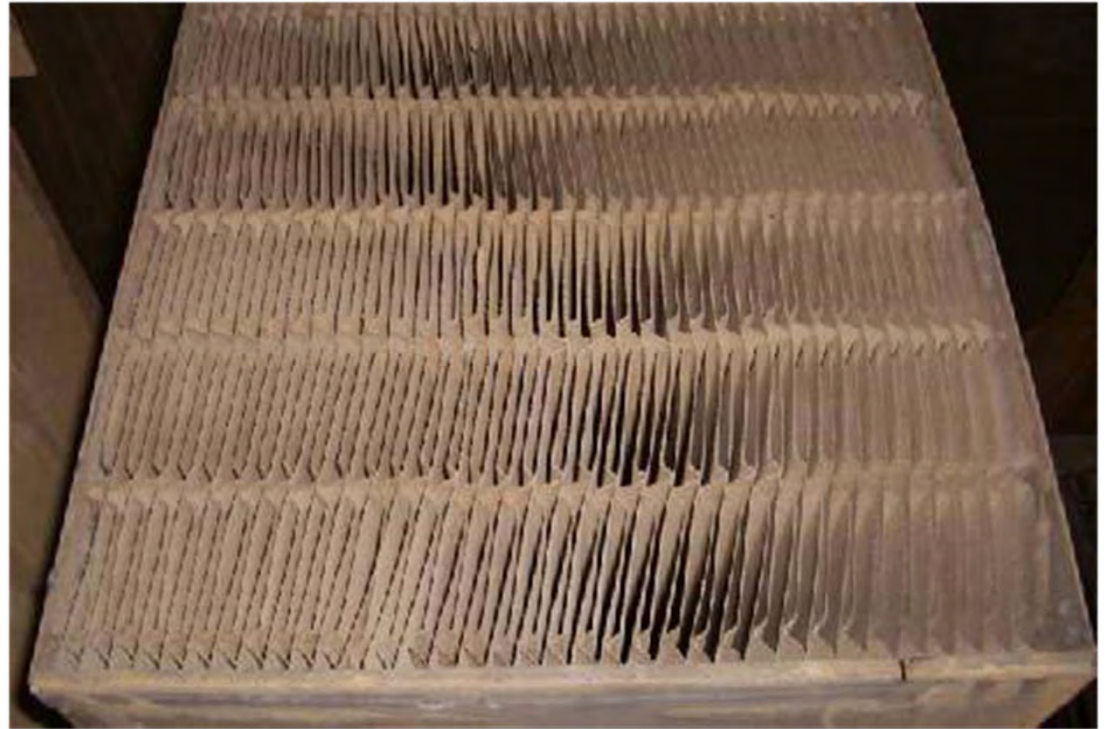
CERAM



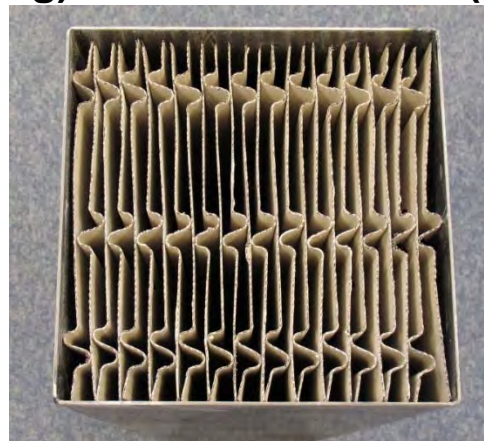
Which Catalyst Will Have a Better Operating Reactor Potential?



**CERAM Plate Catalyst
(4 Spacers/Plate + Uniform Spacing)**



**Competitor Plate Catalyst
(3 Spacers/Plate)**



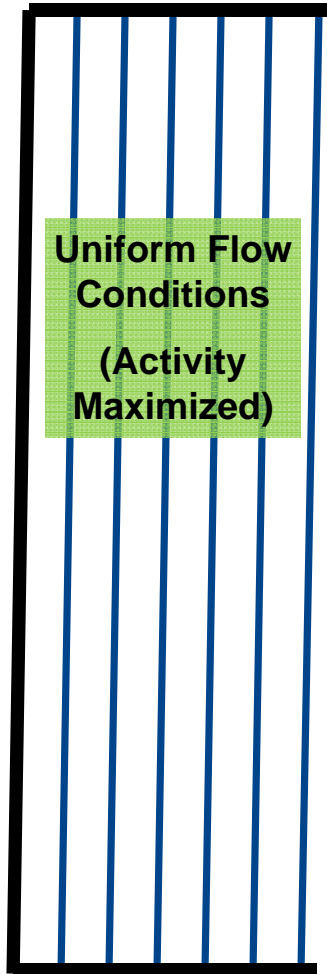
**Deficient Plate Mechanical Design
(Poor Geometric Uniformity) Can
Reduce Operating Activity K
by 10 to 20%**

Competitor 4 Spacer Plate With Poor Geometric Uniformity

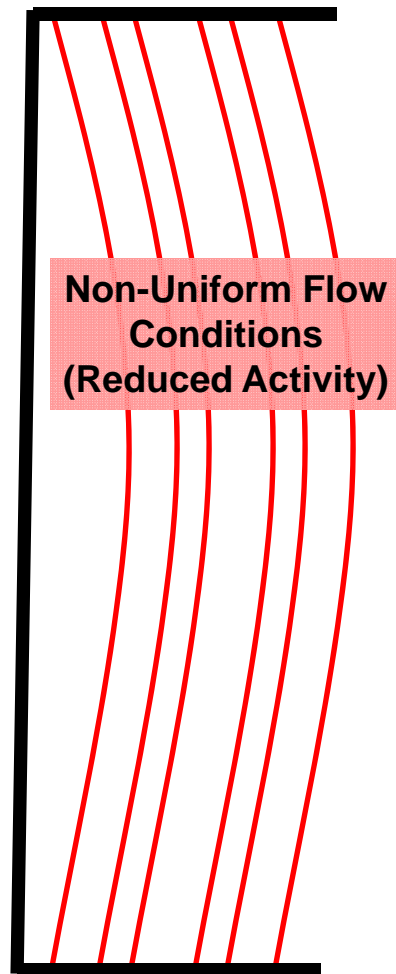
Opposing Plate
Leaves a Spacer
Shadow Line
Illustrating
Spacer Locations



Operating Reactor Potential Affected by Catalyst Mechanical Condition

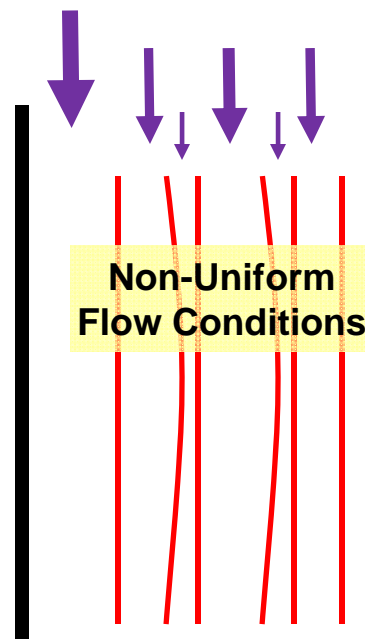


Parallel Plates



Bowing Plates

- Plate Bowing Reduces Operating Reactor Potential
- Varying Flow Widths and Touching Plates Lead to Non-Uniform Flow
- Non-Uniform Flow Reduces Operating Activity (Reactor Potential)



Elevation View W/
Bowing Plates

What About Catalyst Testing?

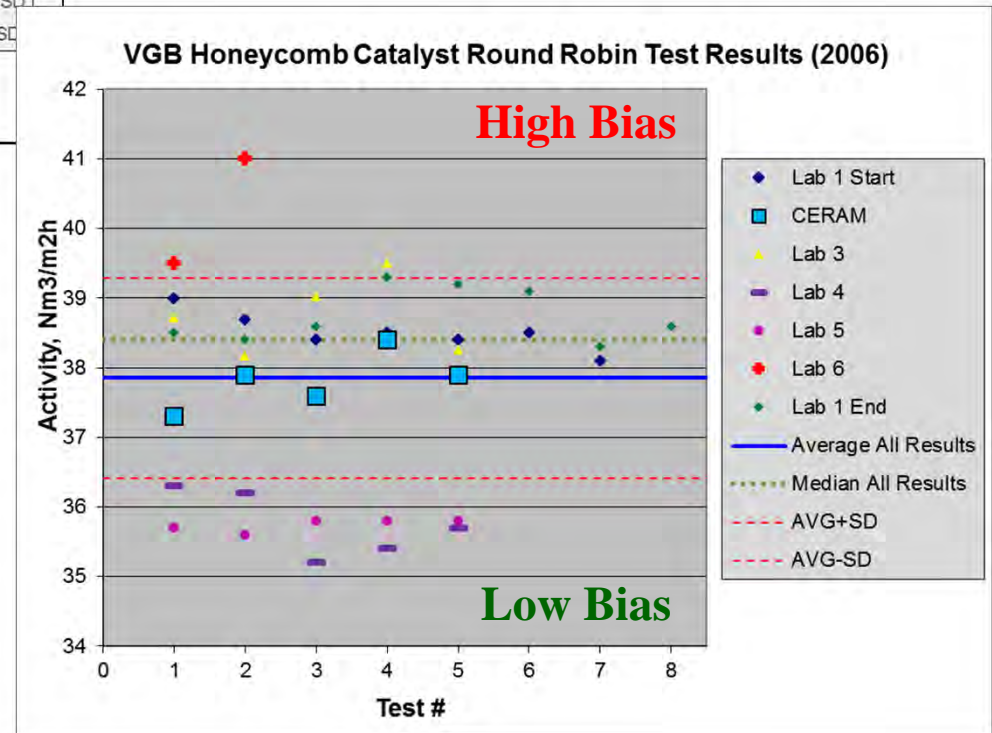
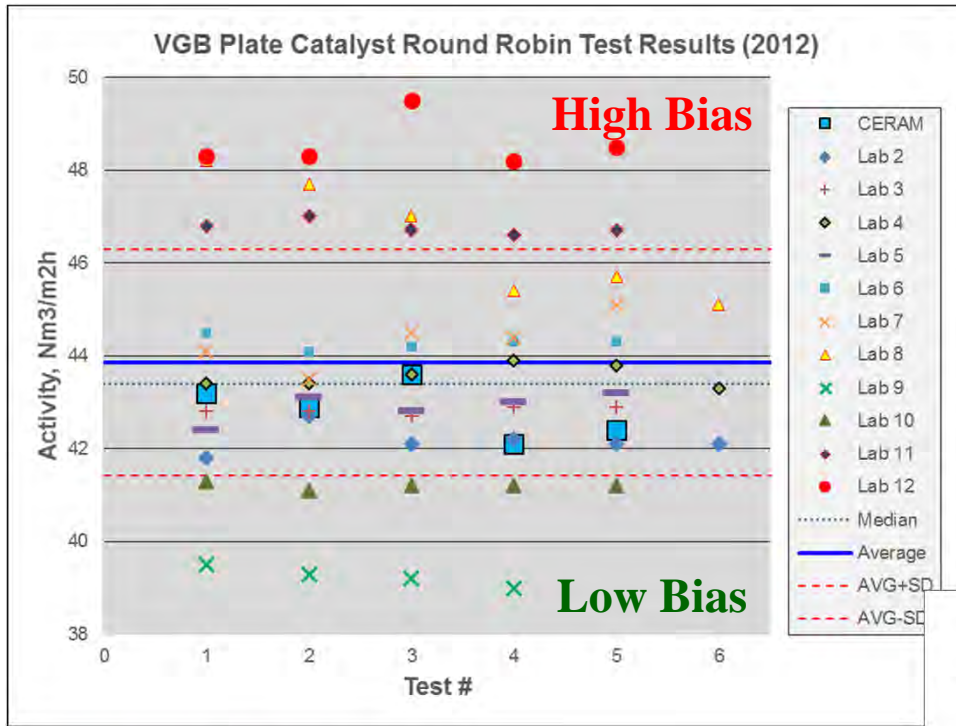
Most Important Factor: Accuracy

- There is No Direct Measurement of Activity
- Must Accurately Measure and Control....
 - NO_x Reduction
 - NH₃ Molar Ratio
 - Gas Flow
 - Sample Geometry
 - Recreate Flue Gas Conditions
- Accuracy Determined by Benchmarking and Statistics
 - Internal Audits of Known Samples
 - External Benchmarking to Assess Accuracy and Bias
 - Benchmarking and Audit Goal – Unbiased Measurement
- Need to Correlate Laboratory Measurements to Field Results
- Without External Benchmarking is it Possible to Assure Accuracy?



VGB Round Robin* Test Results

CERAM's Laboratory Has Confirmed Accuracy
for Testing Honeycomb and Plate Catalyst



- ◆ **Low Bias** =
Premature Catalyst Replacement
(increased catalyst cost)
- ◆ **High Bias** =
Late Catalyst Replacement
(increased NH₃ use and operating risk)

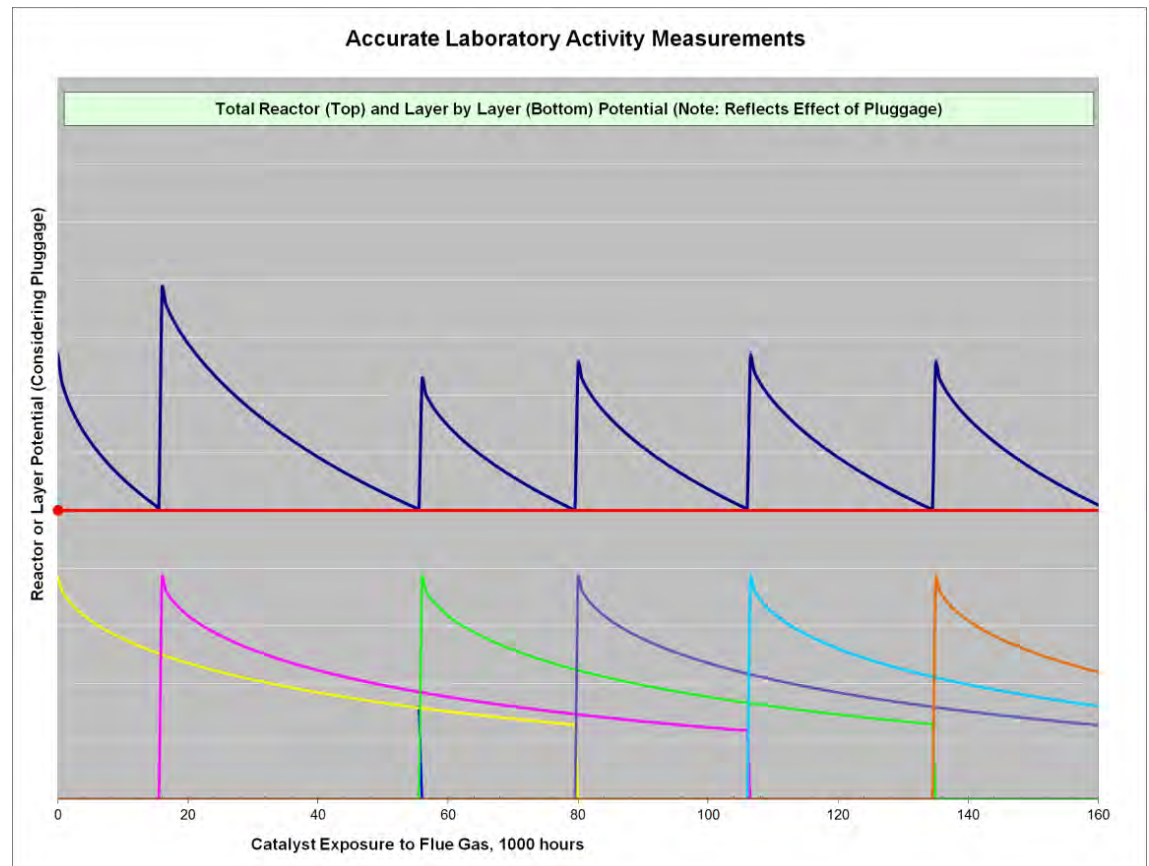
Laboratory Bias Exceeding 2 K
Problematic for Catalyst Management



*VGB Round Robin: Element With Unknown Activity
Circulated to Participating SCR Catalyst Test Laboratories

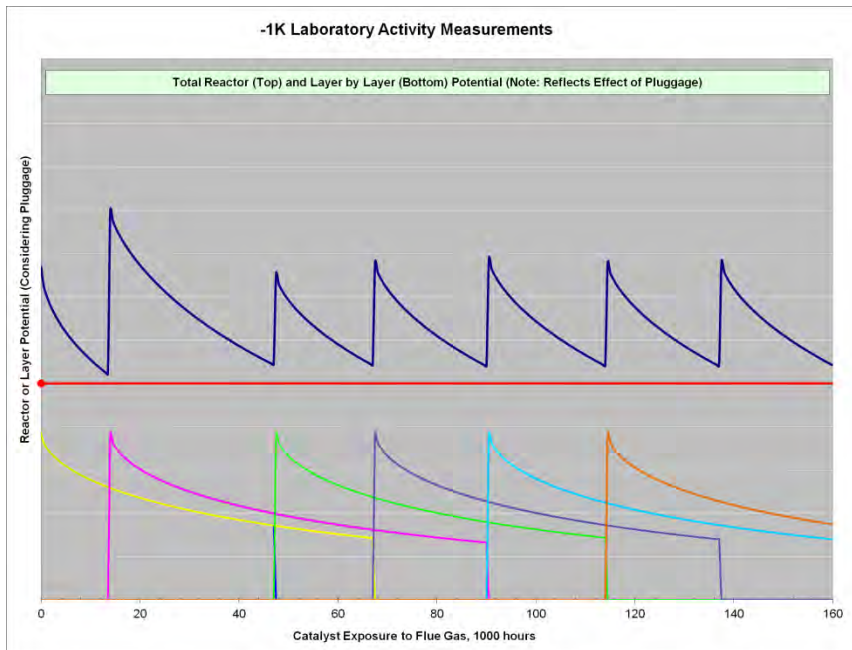
Implications of Biased K Measurements

- Example 500 MW Unit With 2+1 Reactor
- 80% NO_x Reduction / 2 ppm NH₃ Slip / 16,000 Hour Life
- Assumed Unbiased Measurement:
 - \$11M in Catalyst Costs Over 20 Years
- 5 Catalyst Events



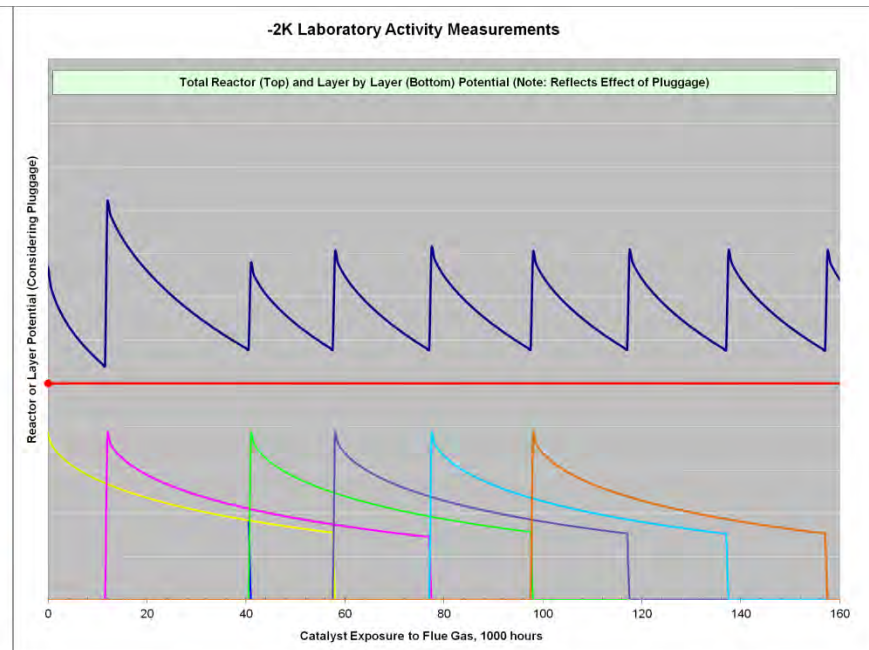
Low Bias Lab Activity Result: Wasted Activity and Increased Catalyst Costs

Minus 1 K Bias



- \$1.5 M (14%) more catalyst
- 6 Events (+1 to Unbiased)

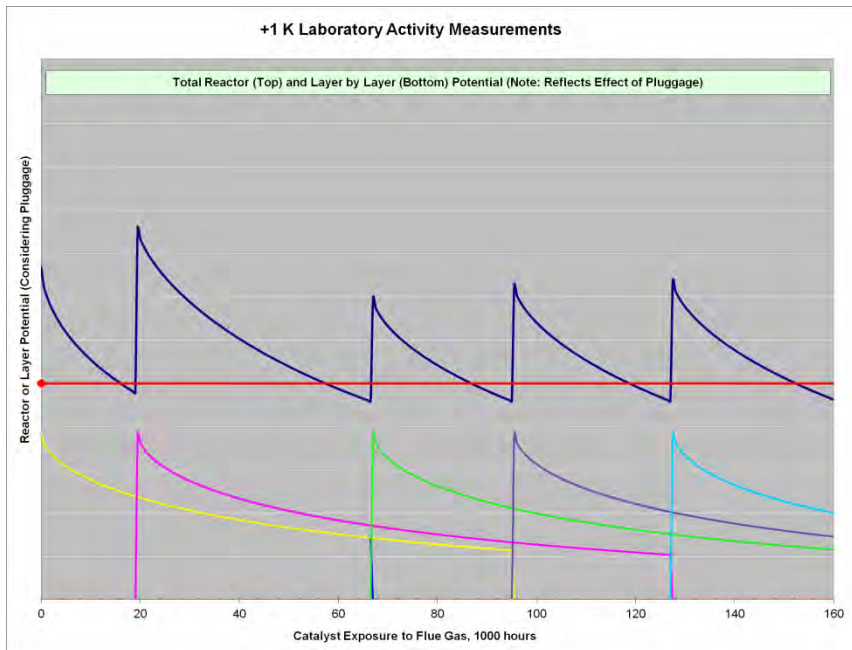
Minus 2 K Bias



- \$3.6 M (33%) more catalyst
- 8 Events (+3 to Unbiased)

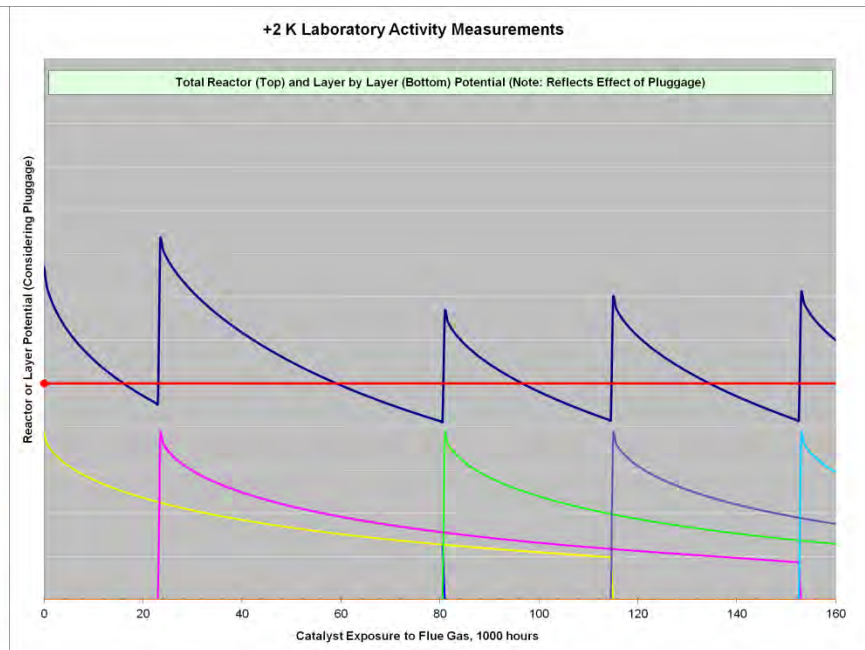
High Bias Lab Activity Result: Deficient Performance

Plus 1 K Bias



- 3.5 ppm NH₃ slip
- Surprise Catalyst Needs (+\$/m³)

Plus 2 K Bias



- 6 ppm NH₃ slip
- Surprise Catalyst Needs (+\$/m³)

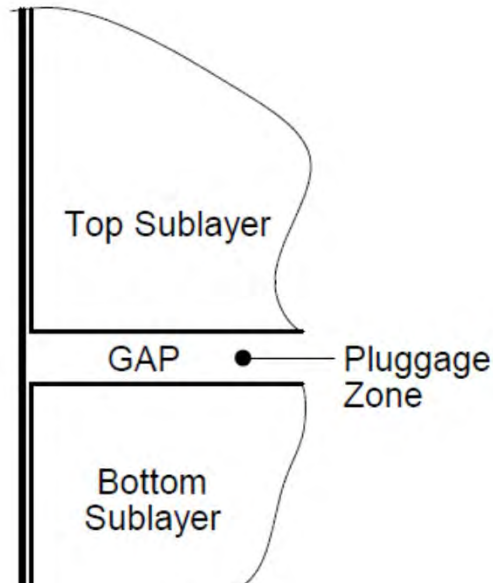
CERAM Plate Catalyst Reduces Potential for Sublayer Pluggage



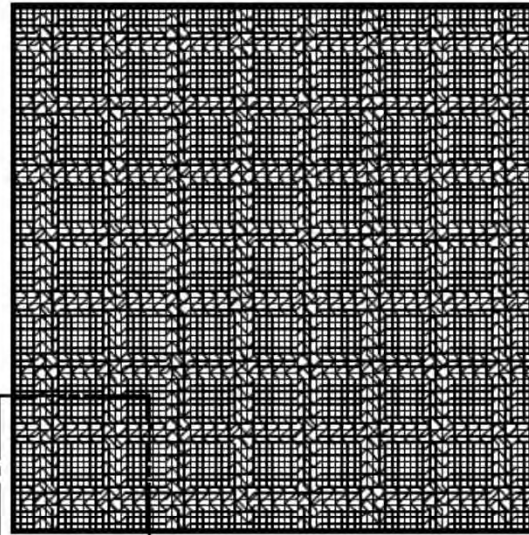
**Competitor Catalyst Sublayer Pluggage Being
“Dry Cleaned” Before Regeneration**

CERAM Plate Catalyst Design Reduces Potential for Sublayer Pluggage

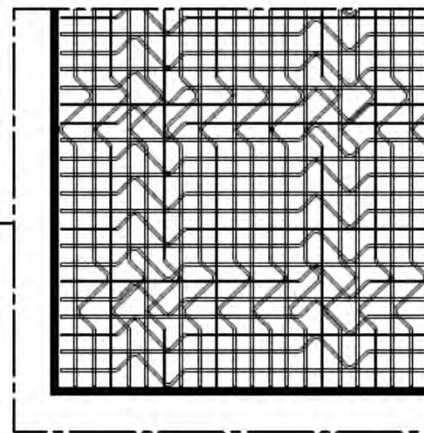
Elevation View



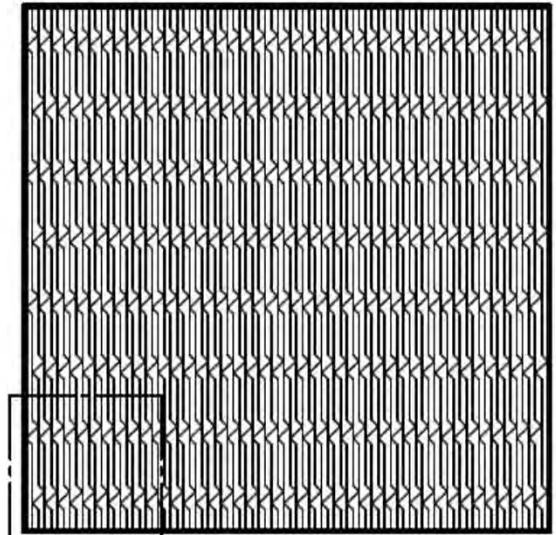
Plan View



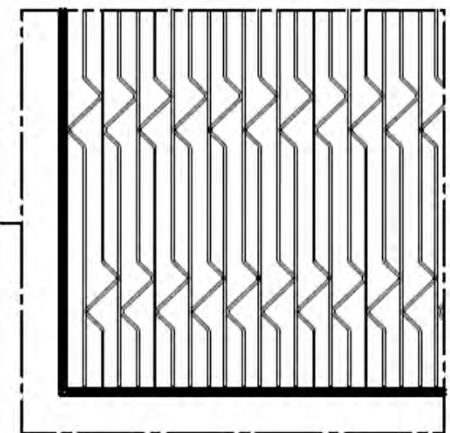
Competitor Plate Catalyst
90° Rotated Sublayer



Plan View



CERAM Plate Catalyst
Parallel Sublayer



Eliminate LPA Prior to Catalyst



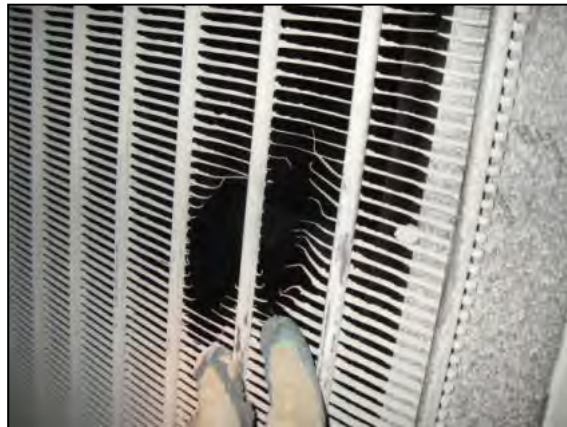
Large Particle Ash (LPA)



Damaged LPA Screen Material

- Large Particle Ash Can Be Present and Should be Controlled as Part of System Design
- LPA Pluggage of Catalyst Leads to...
 - High Pressure Drops
 - Mechanical Damage
 - Reduced Performance Potential
- Effective and Durable Screen Designs are Required
 - Located With Ash Removal
 - Located at Proper Velocity
 - Simple and Advanced Designs Have Both Succeeded and Also Had Problems
- Flow Modeling and Physical Changes are Likely Necessary

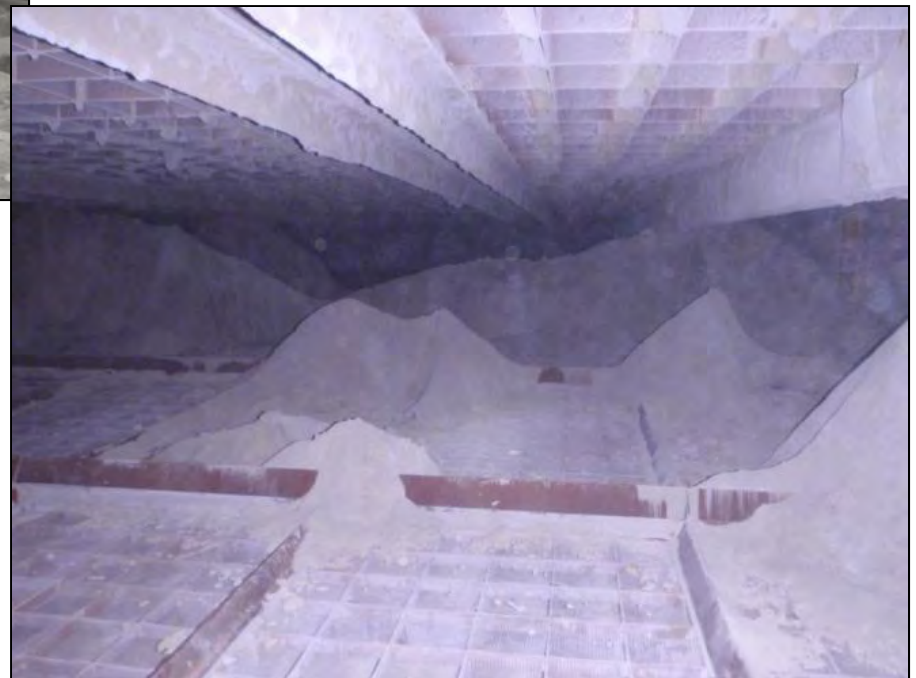
LPA Screen – Damage Due to High Velocity (Local and Bulk)



Ductwork – Ash Dropout



Ash Accumulation



Minimize Carbon Carryover



Reactor Accumulation of Unburned Carbon



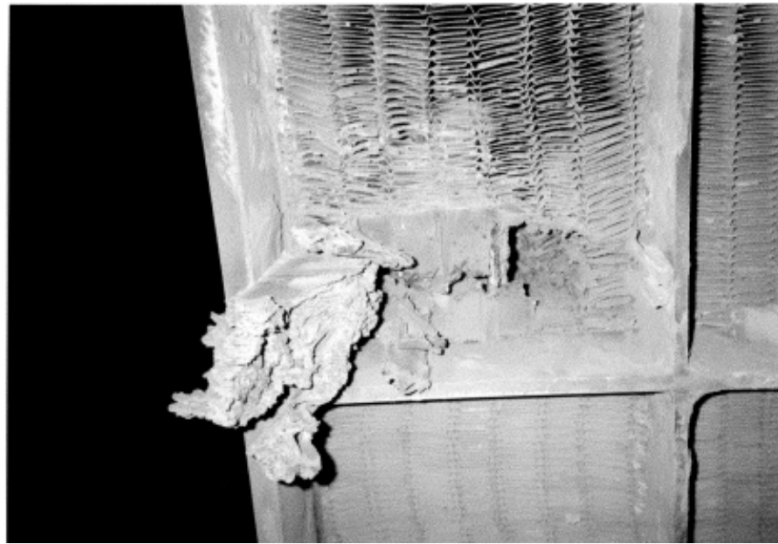
Plate Catalyst With Accumulated Unburned Carbon

- The Control of Unburned Carbon is Important for Reliable DeNO_x Operation
- All DeNO_x Catalyst Has Oxidizing Properties and Will Tend to Oxidize Unburned Carbon
- Oxidized Carbon Sticks to Catalyst and Can Result in Pluggage
- Accumulation on Catalyst Increases Risk of Pluggage and Fires
- Increased Potential for Needing Offline, Out of Reactor Cleaning
- Homogeneous Honeycomb Catalyst Consists of Fully Oxidized Material
- Metal Substrates Can Lead to Increased Potential for Fires

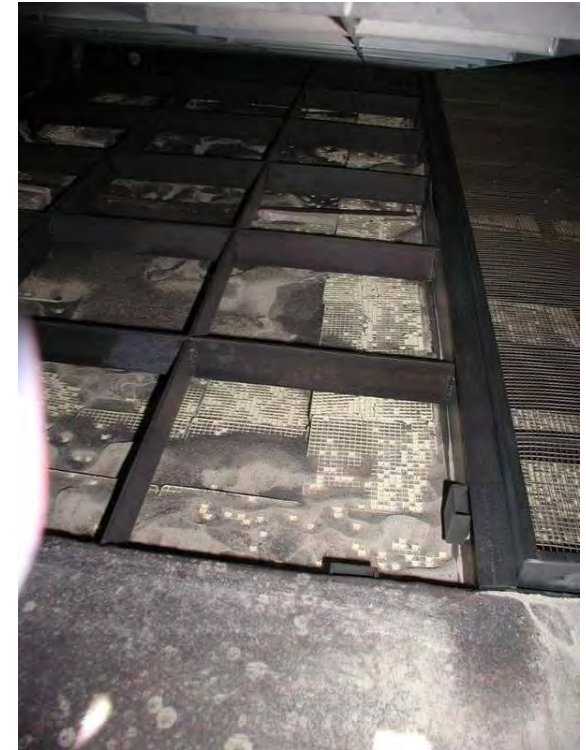
Any Catalyst Type Can Be Susceptible to Fire Damage



**Fused Plate Catalyst
After Fire Found In
Downstream Ductwork**



**Bottom of Plate Catalyst
After Fire Damage**

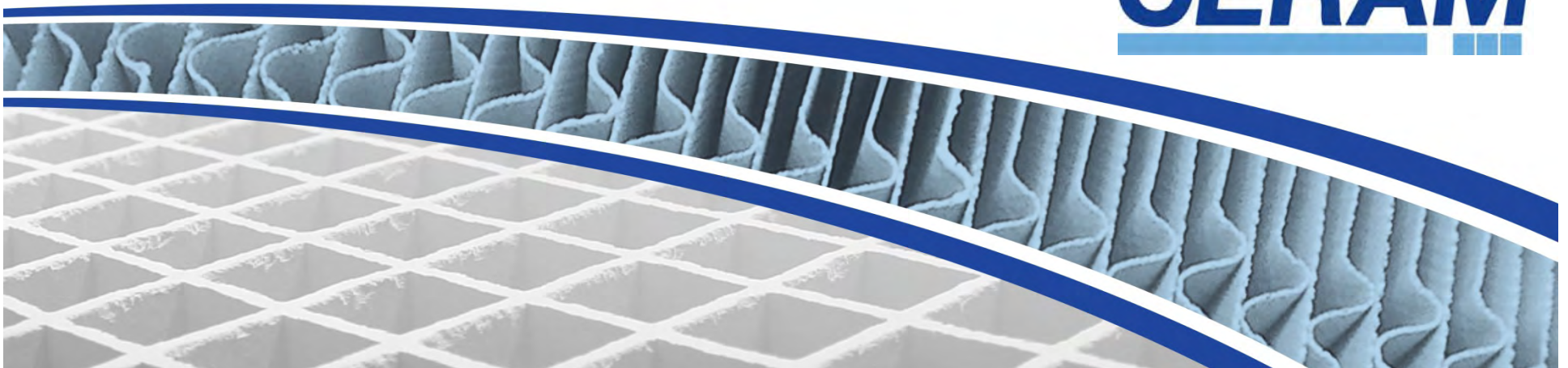


**Top of Honeycomb Catalyst
After Fire Damage**

- Plate Catalyst Supports Combustion (Stainless Steel Substrate)
- Molten Plate Can Start Air Heater Fire
- Honeycomb Catalyst Material is Stable After a Fire (Made of Fully Oxidized Material)

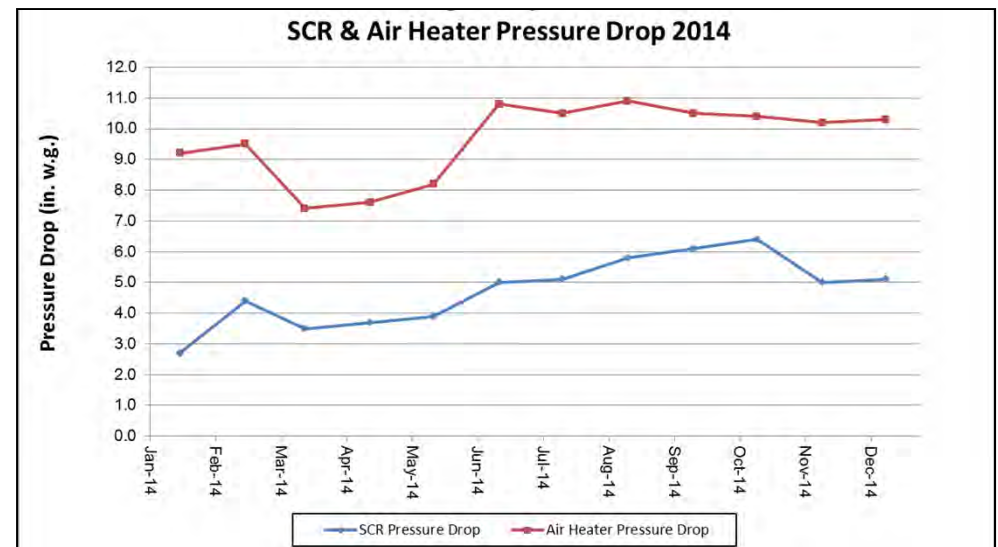
Midwest Utility 500 MW Unit Burning PRB Blend

CERAM



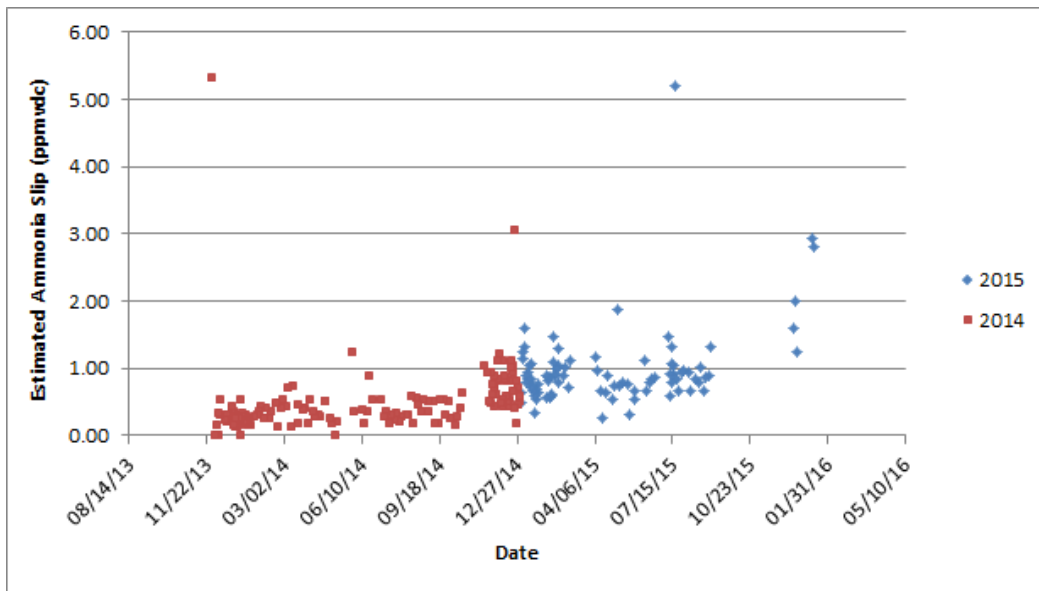
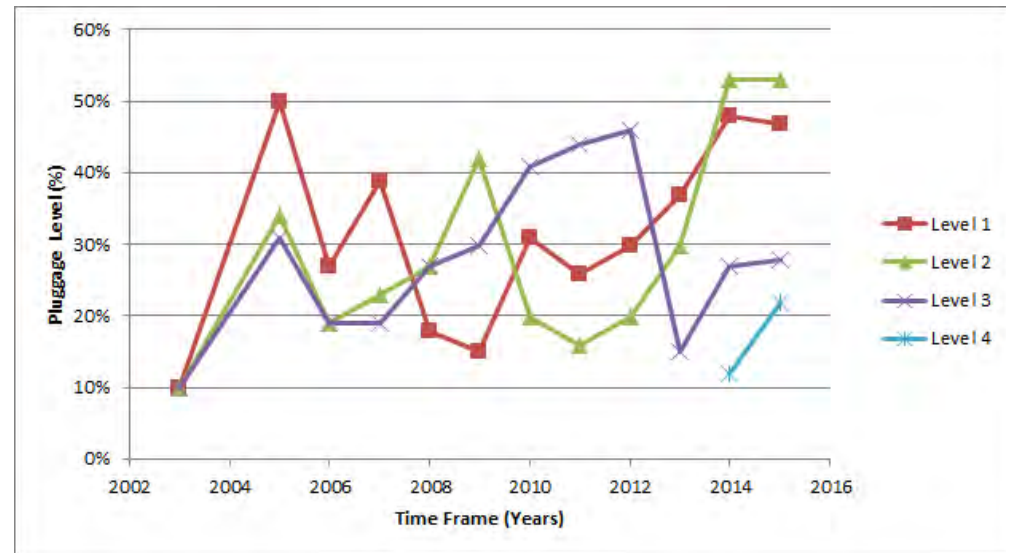
Case Example: Midwest 500 MW Utility

- 500 MW (gross) Cyclone that fires 85% PRB / 15% Bituminous Blend
- SCR began commercial operation in 2003
 - 3+1 Reactor (7.4 mm pitch HC)
 - 30-50% pluggage by 2005 (Fly Ash and Unburned Carbon)
- L1 replaced in 2006 due to pluggage, DP and sintering with 9.2 mm pitch HC. Combination catalyst and additional flow straightener.
- L1, L2 and L3 available aged catalyst rejuvenated in 2006; Best-of-the-best modules re-used
- From 2006 to 2009 after 27,000 hrs heavy pluggage. CFD recommended.
- 2009 new L2; 8.2 mm HC; best-of-best to L3. New L3 in 2012 & L4 in 2013 (both 8.2 mm HC)
- From 2009-15 pluggage increased
- Emission targets lowered (Increase in reactor potential)

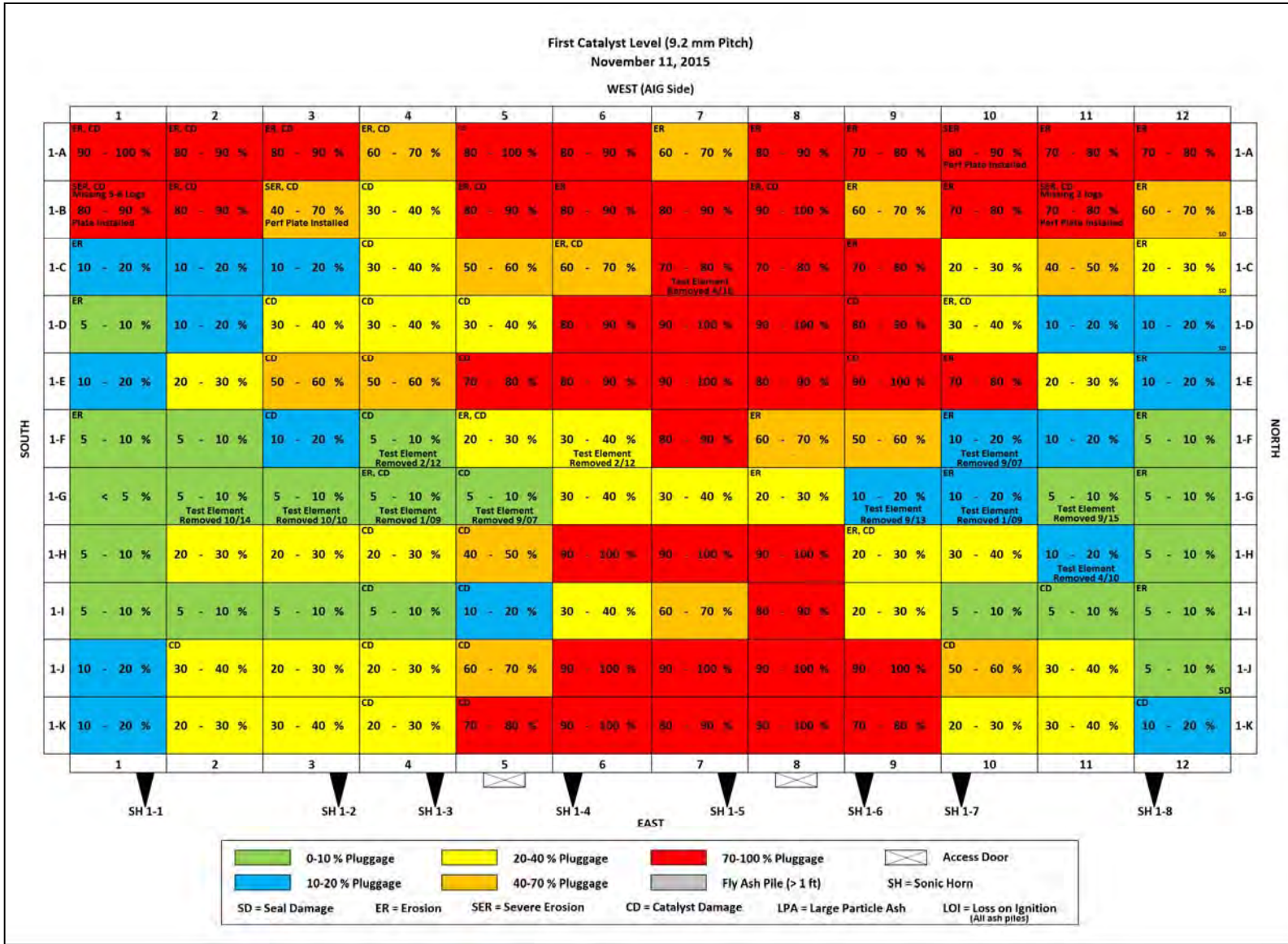


Case Example: Midwest 500 MW Utility

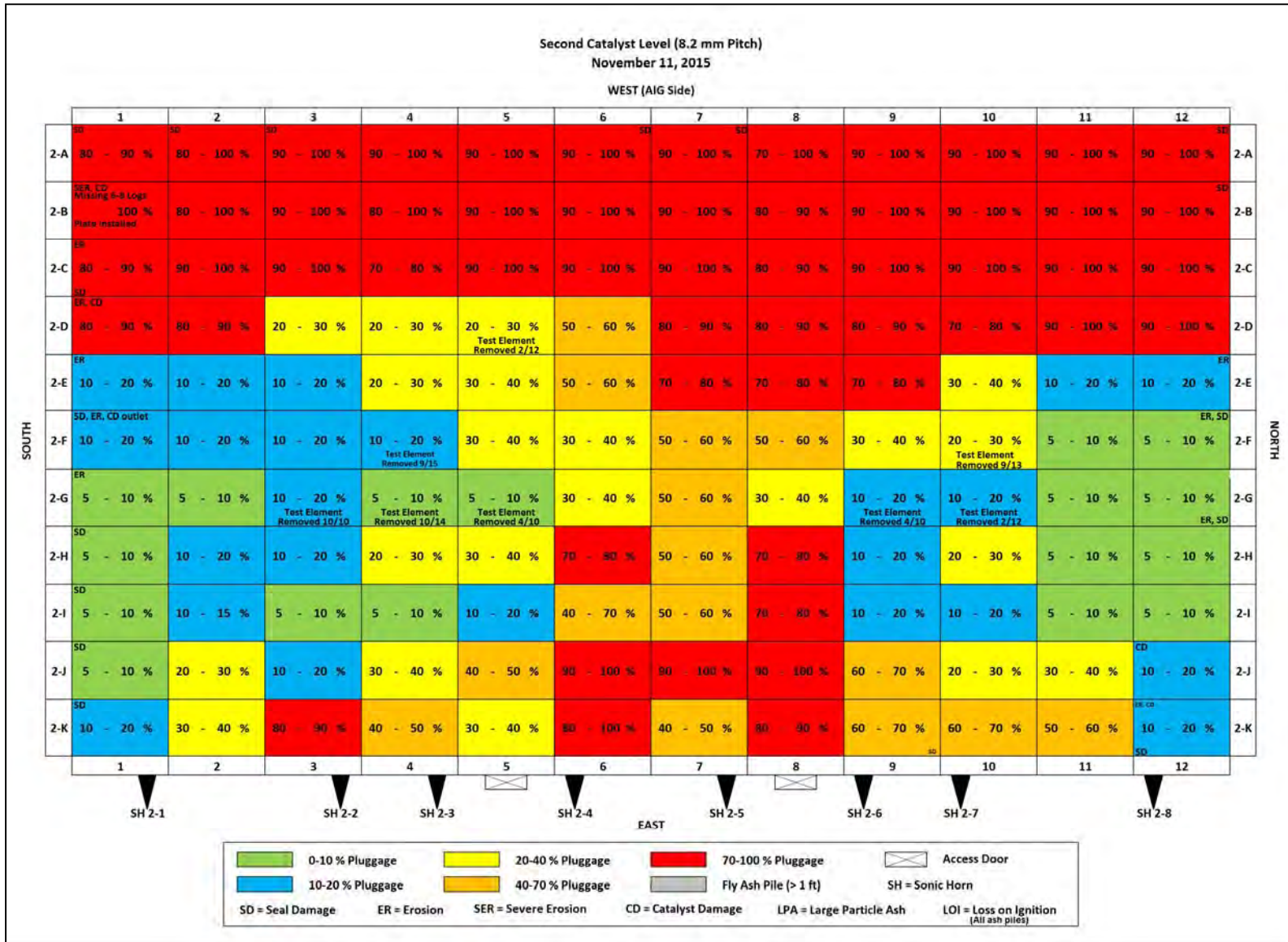
- 2013 revealed large pluggage increase (affects reactor potential)
- Reactor has velocity mal-distribution
 - CFD modeling investigated
 - CFD results cost prohibitive
- Unit meeting emission target at reasonable ammonia slip
- Ammonia in ash measurements taken daily



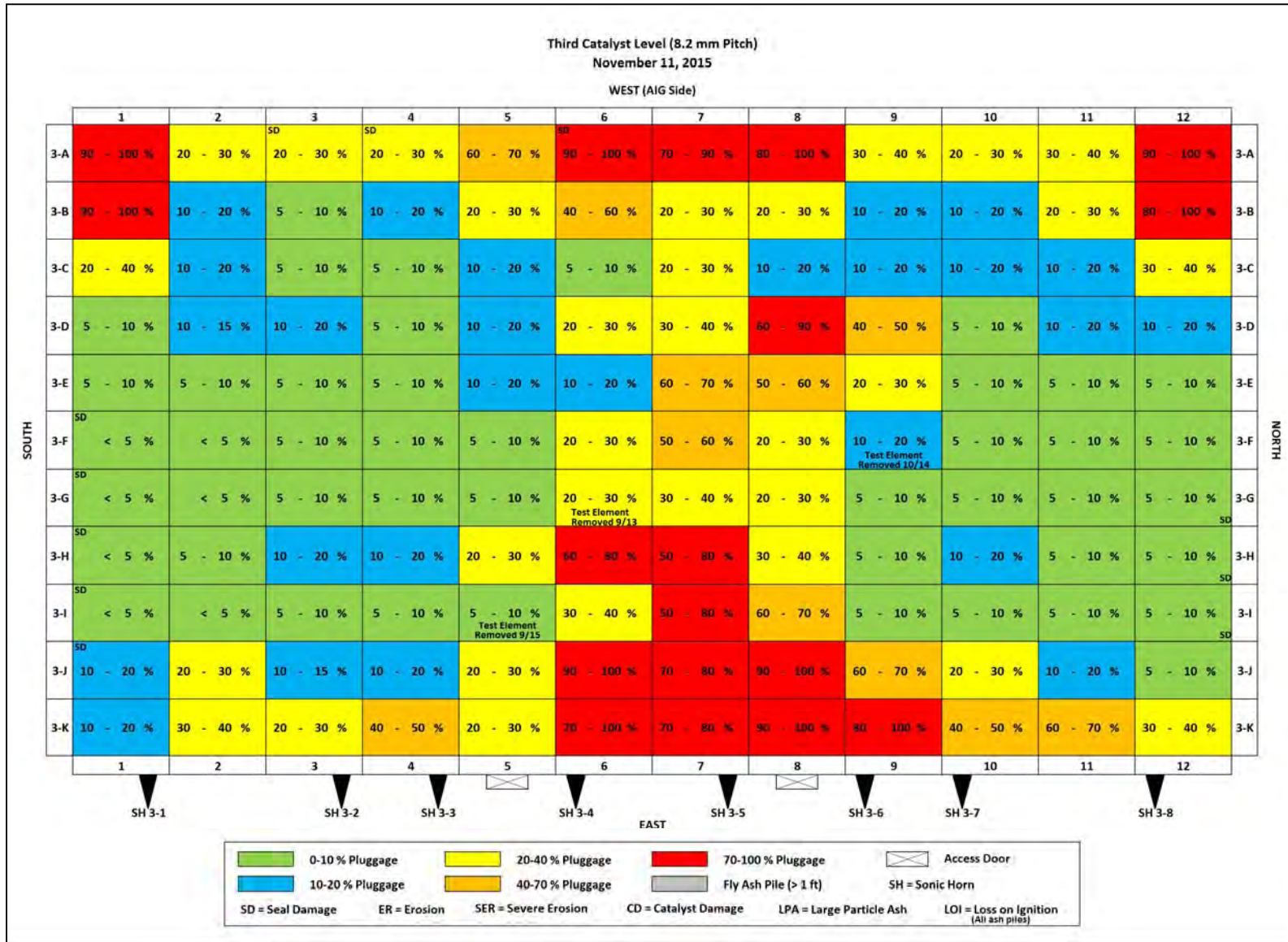
Reactor Inspection Results



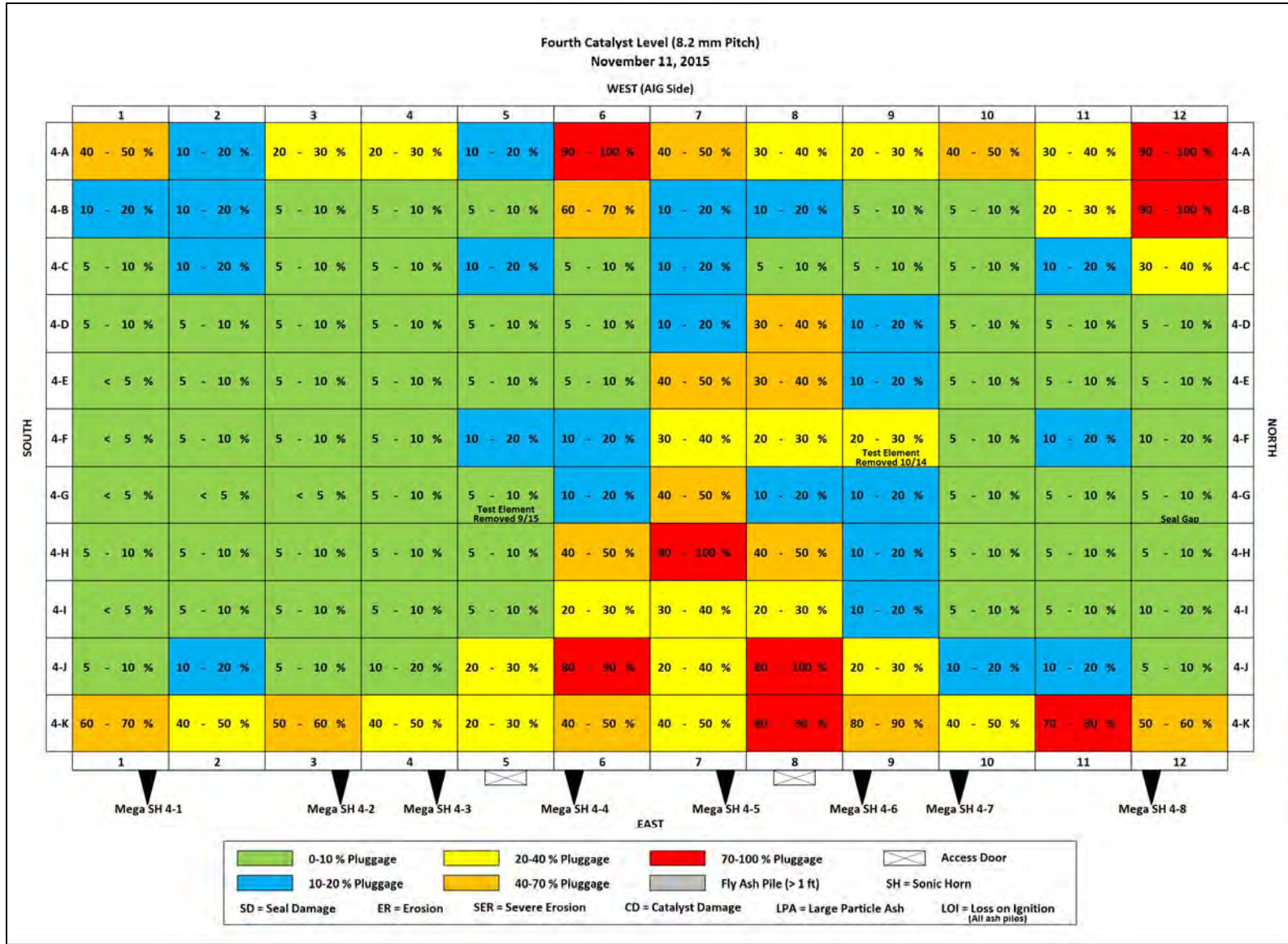
Reactor Inspection Results



Reactor Inspection Results



Reactor Inspection Results

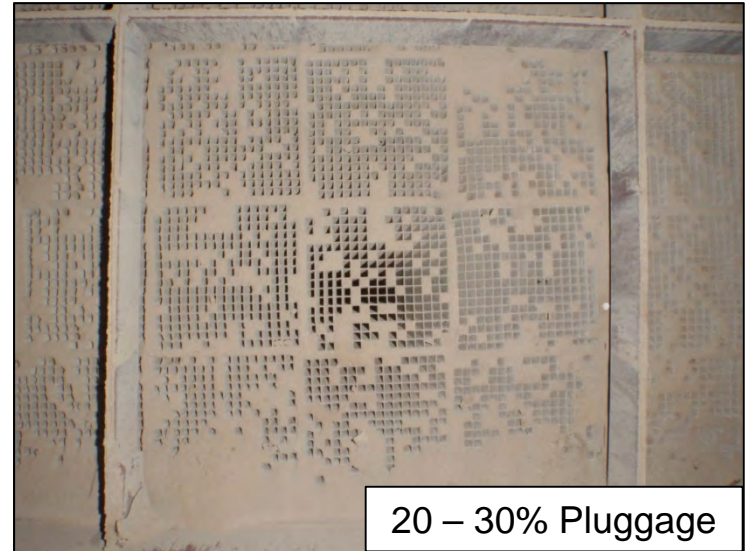


Reactor Inspection Results

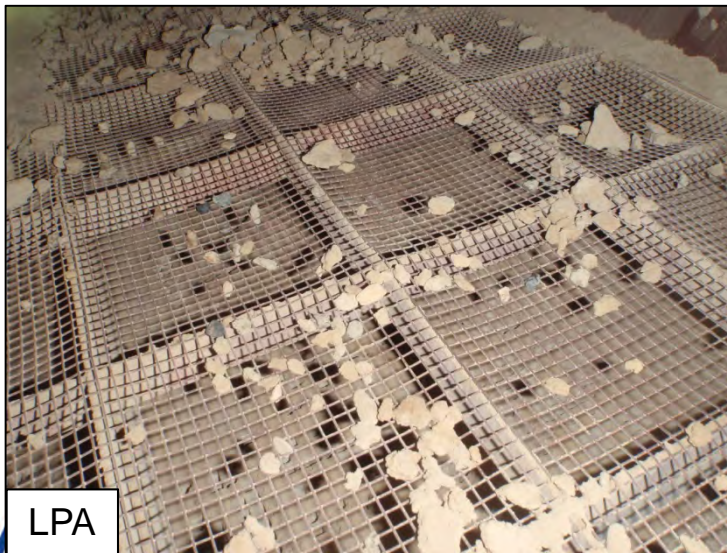


AIG (West) Side

Level 1



20 – 30% Pluggage



LPA



LOI

Reactor Inspection Results



Level 2



Reactor Inspection Results

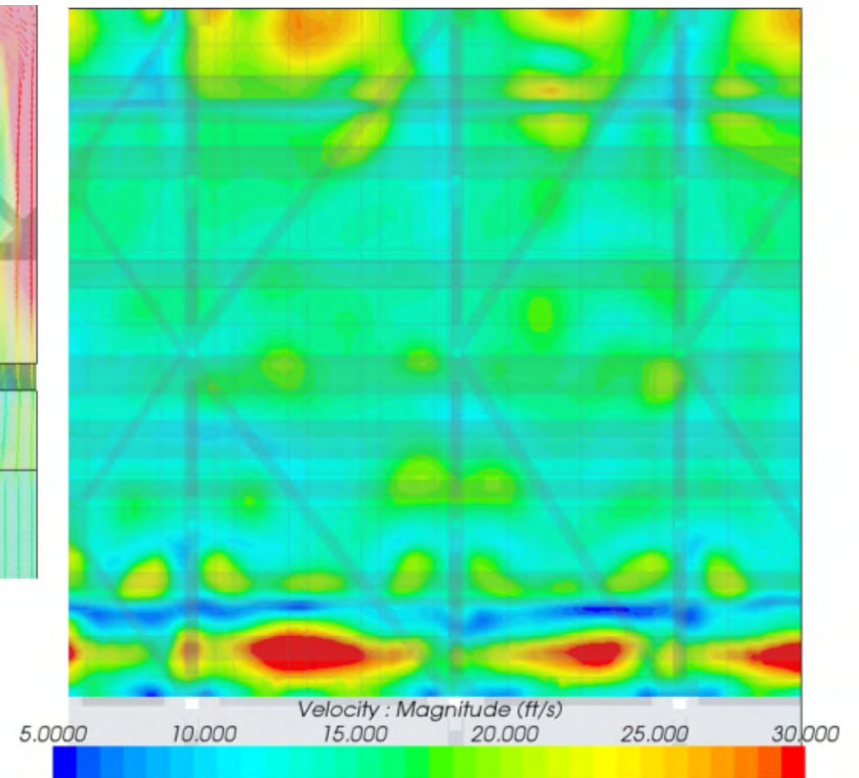
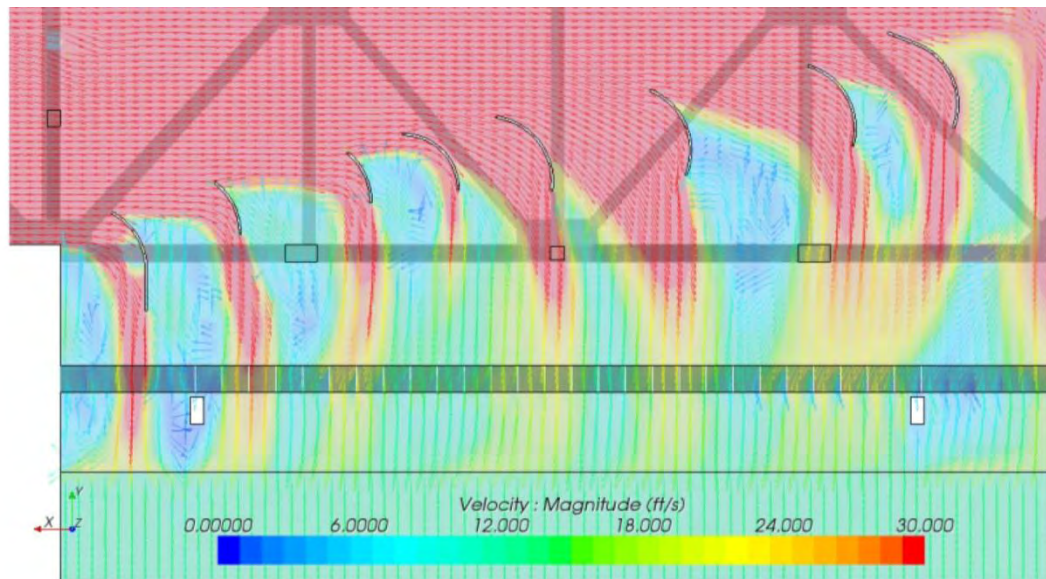


Outlet Ash Buildup



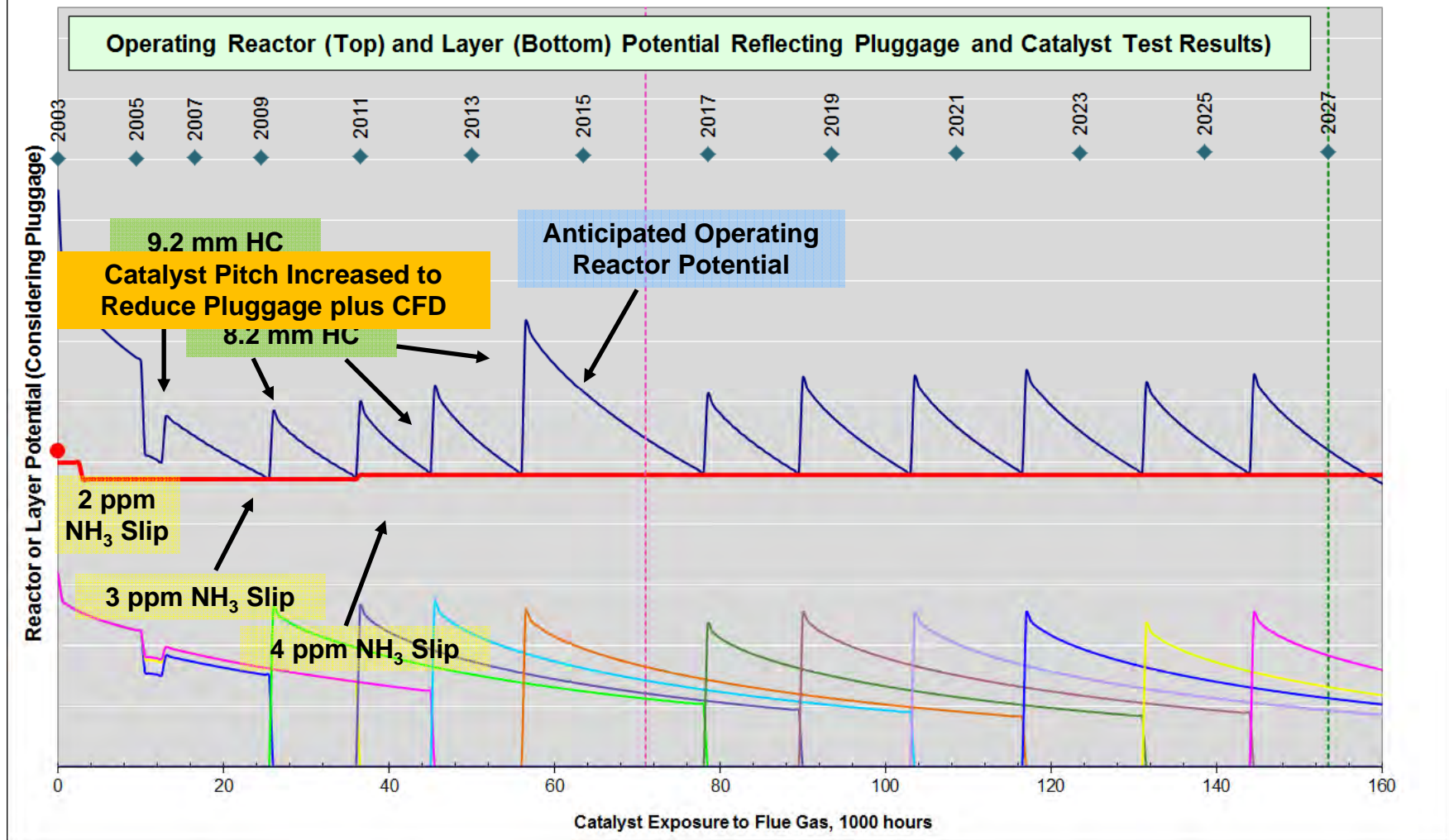
CFD Modeling Study by Fuel Tech 2010

- Reduce flow behind 3rd turning vane
- Increase in low flow behind 1st vane
- 51% of points within 15% of mean (25% RMS)



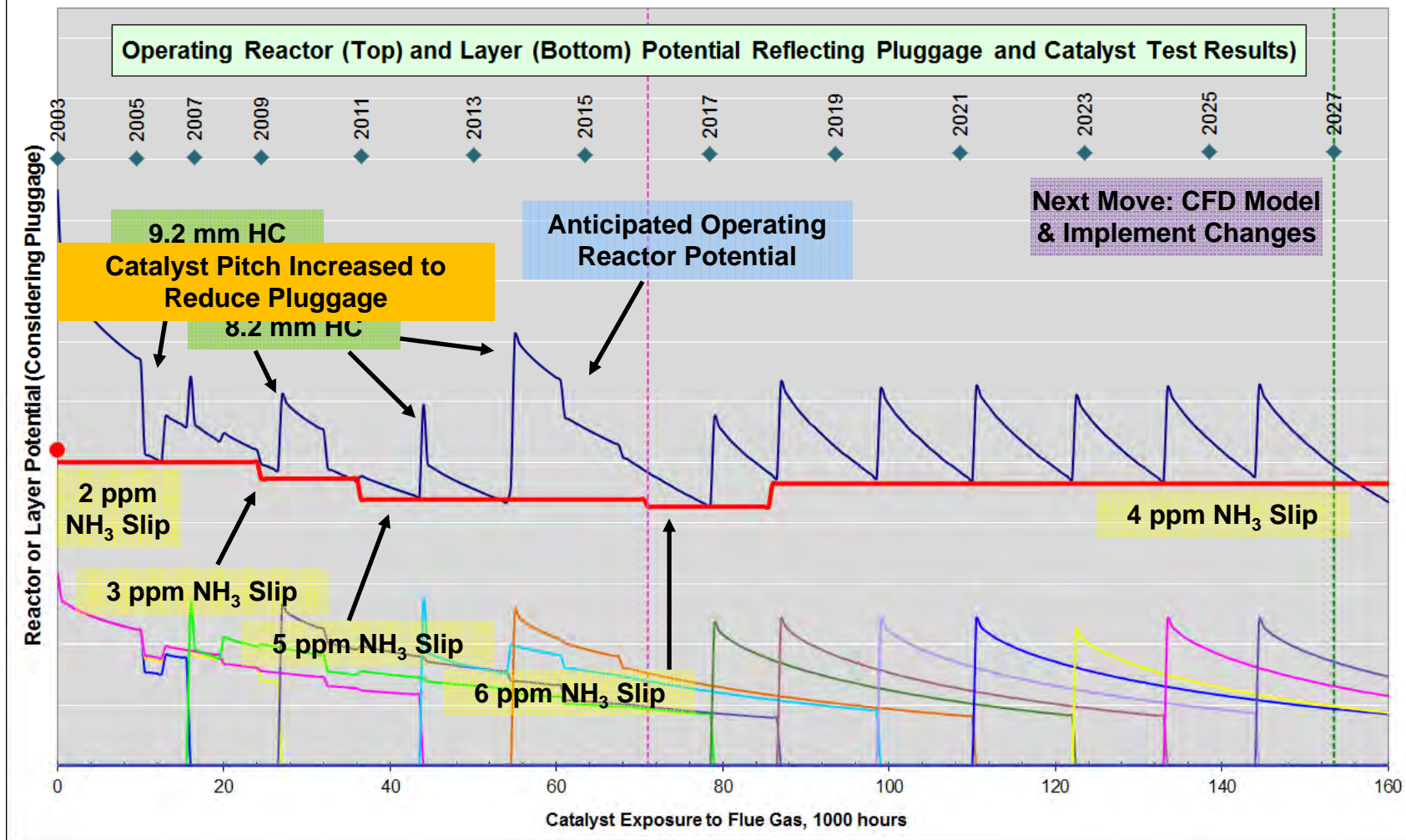
Operating Reactor Potential; 500 MW Unit

Figure 1 - Catalyst Management Plan (Reactor Potential)



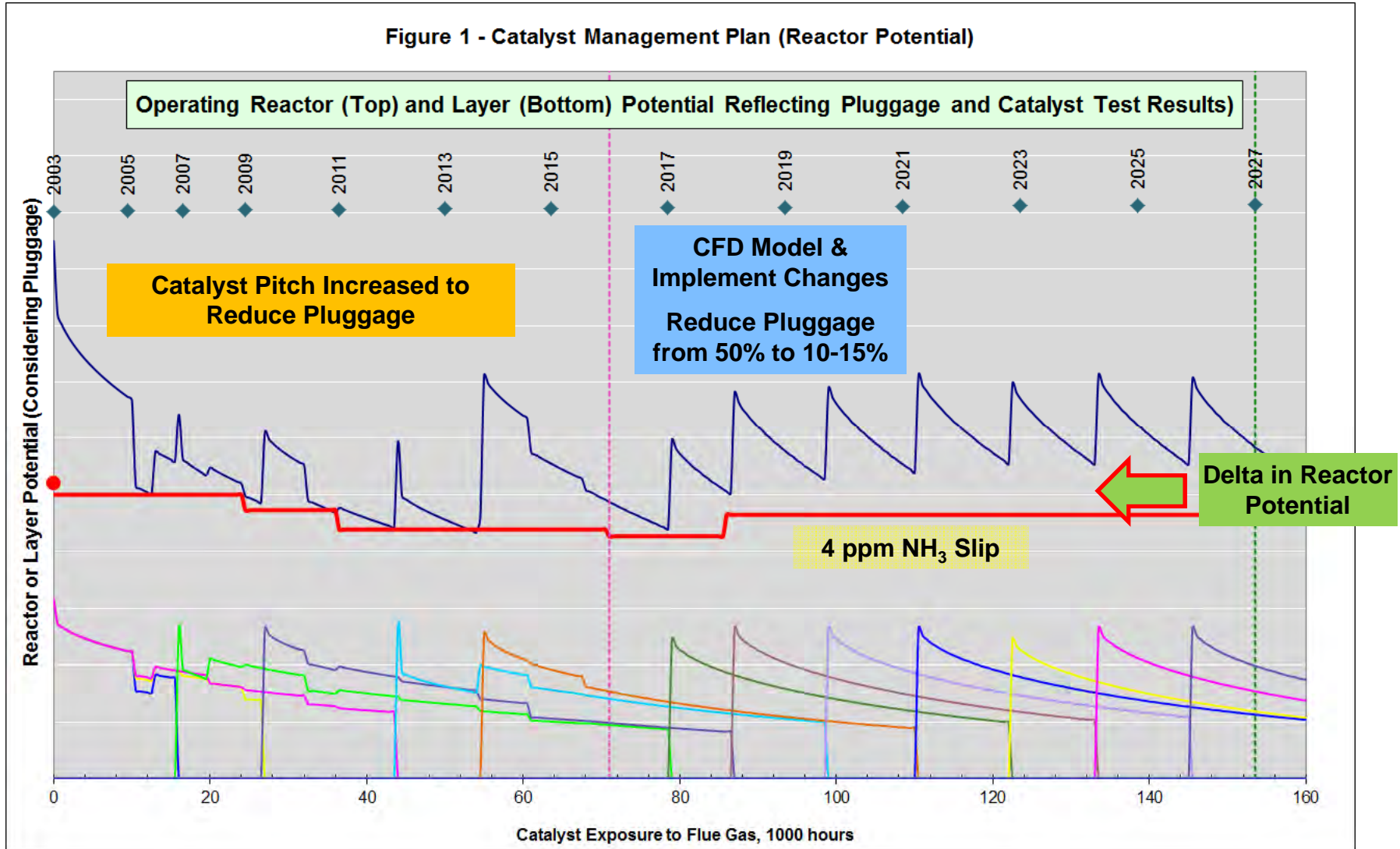
Anticipated Operating Reactor Potential and Original Plan; 500 MW Unit

Figure 1 - Catalyst Management Plan (Reactor Potential)



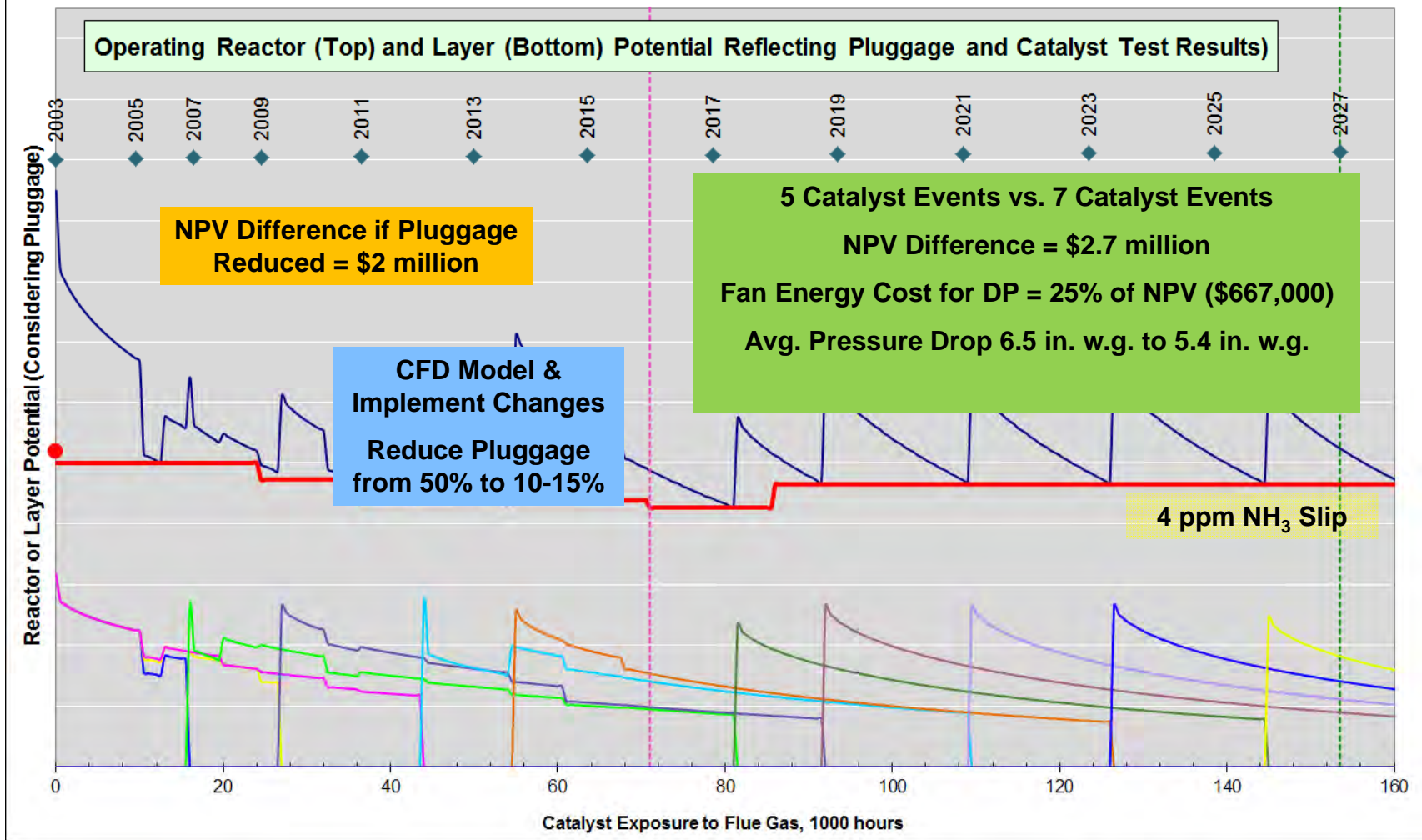
Operating Reactor Potential; 500 MW Unit

Figure 1 - Catalyst Management Plan (Reactor Potential)

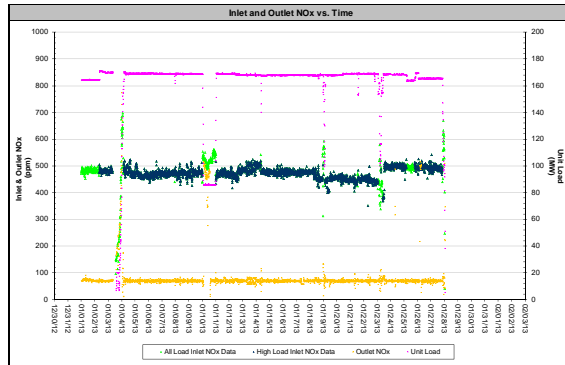
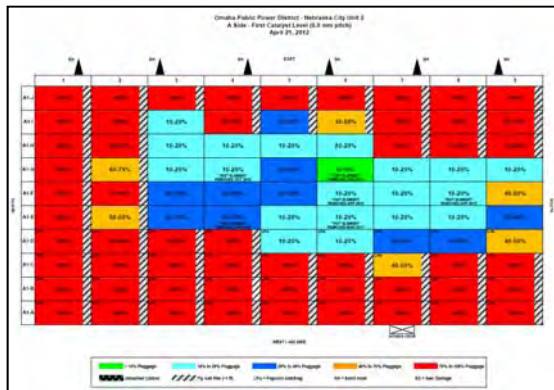
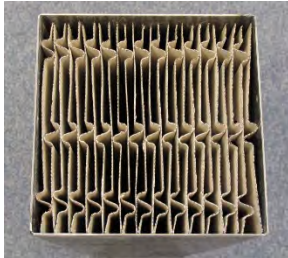


Anticipated Operating Reactor Potential and Original Plan (2016-2026); 500 MW Unit

Figure 1 - Catalyst Management Plan (Reactor Potential)



Assuring Reactor Potential is a Key Aspect of Effective Catalyst Management Planning



- Catalyst Testing:
 - Accuracy and Consistency
 - Benchmarking
 - Consider Activity Measurement Bias
 - ◆ Low – Premature Catalyst Additions
 - ◆ High – Increased Operating Risks/Costs
 - Plate Geometric Uniformity
- Assessment of Mechanical Conditions
 - Pluggage
 - Catalyst Mechanical Condition
 - Seal Integrity
- Assessment of Operating Conditions
 - DeNOx Demand – SCR Process Requirements
 - Boiler Operations – Affecting “Operating” Reactor Potential