

REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.



**2015 NO<sub>x</sub>-Combustion Round Table  
& Expo Presentations**

February 23 & 24, 2015, in Richmond, VA / Hosted by Dominion

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# ***Corrosion Rate Measurements when Adding Iodine and Bromine for Hg Oxidation***

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*B&W PGG*

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*Reaction Engineering  
International*

***Reinhold NOx – Combustion Roundtable  
February 23-24, 2015  
Richmond, VA***

# ***Presentation Agenda***

**Fireside Corrosion in Coal Boilers**

**Corrosion Management Tools**

**Real-time Corrosion Monitoring by EN**

**Acid Dewpoint Corrosion**

**Halogens for Mercury Oxidation**

**Balance of Plant Effects of Halide Injection**

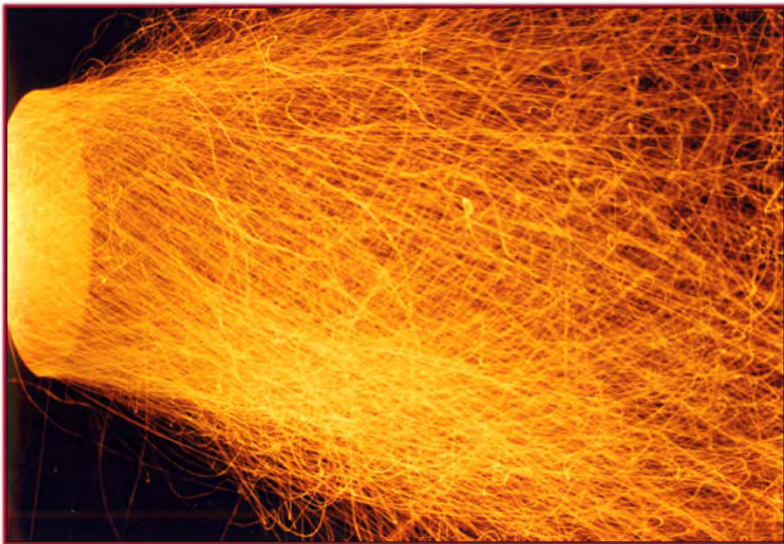
**Field Test Results**

**Mitagent Benefits**



# Reaction Engineering International

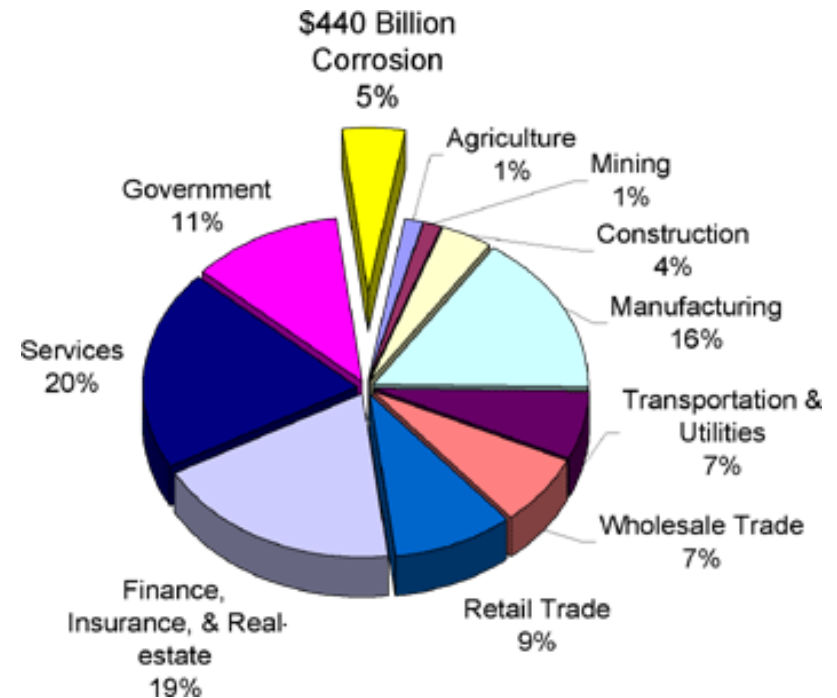
*Privately held consulting firm recognized  
for independent analysis and evaluations  
involving a range of industrial  
combustion applications*



- Technical focus on multi-phase, chemically reacting flows
- Serving the utility industry since 1990
- Affiliates in Asia and Europe
- Established capabilities include advanced modeling, process evaluation and testing

# Impact of Corrosion

- Overall US Economic Impact: \$440 billion/yr or 5% of GDP (Federal Highway Administration)
- Large impact on the US Electric Power Industry
- Economic and environmental pressures are increasing corrosion challenges:
  - NO<sub>x</sub> / Hg emissions
  - Fuel cost and availability
  - Generation efficiency
  - Increased turndown and load cycling
  - Opportunity fuels
  - CO<sub>2</sub> separation

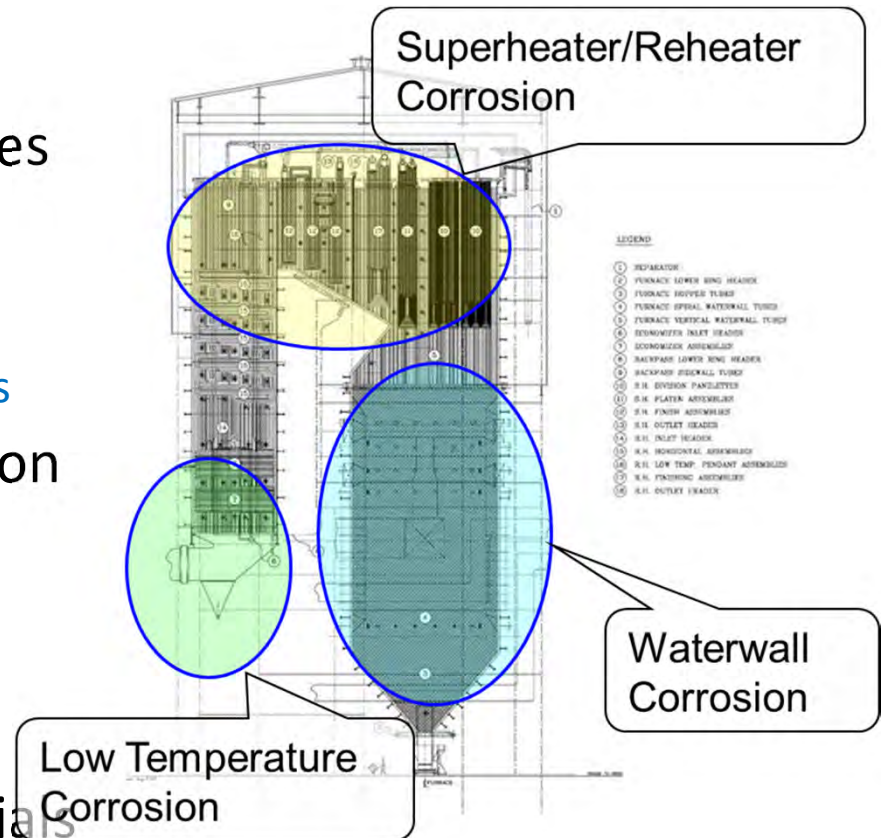


***“Corrosion costs the U.S. electric power industry up to \$10 billion per year and is the cause of roughly half of the forced outages in steam generating plants.”***

**EPRI, 1998**

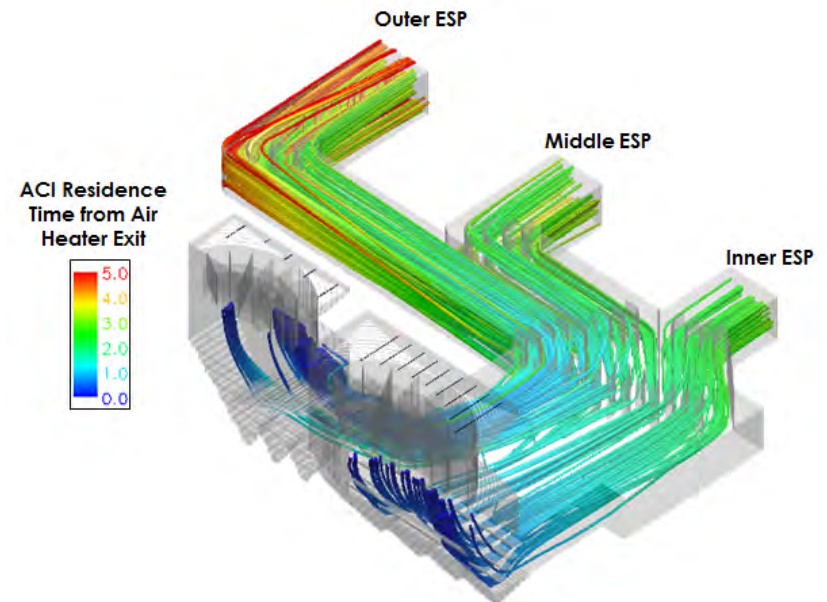
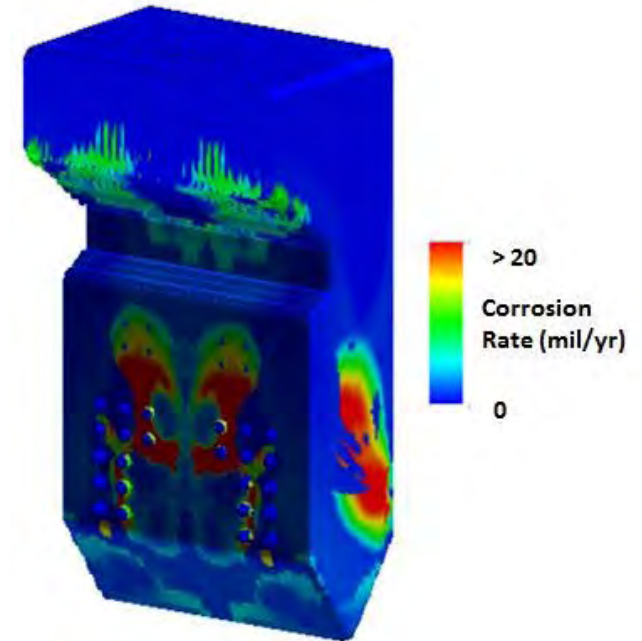
# Benefits of Corrosion Management

- Reduction in unscheduled outages
- Reduction in maintenance costs
  - Material life extension
  - Reduction in expensive overlay or coatings
- Improved operational optimization
- Quantitative assistance in fuel selection/blending/additive decisions
- Quantitative assistance in materials selection and life cycle certainty



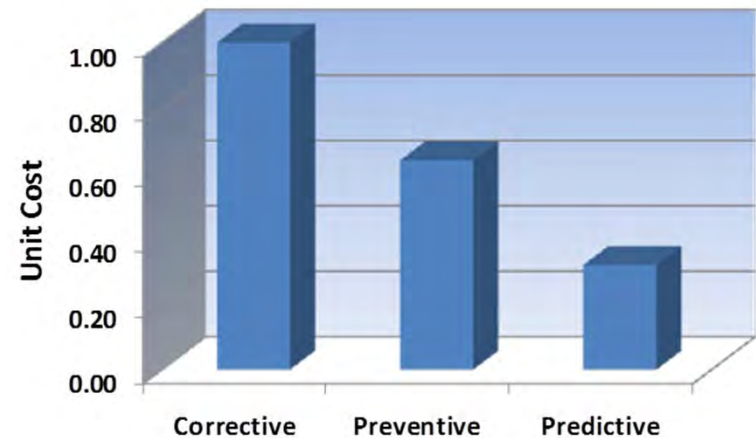
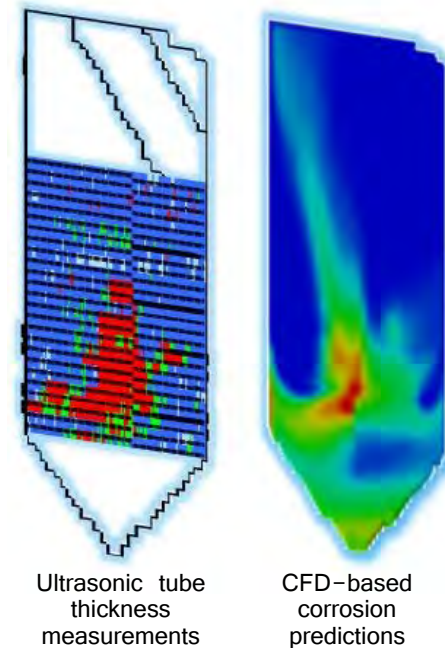
# Tools

- CFD-based modeling
  - Validated correlation-based approach resulting from collaborations with EPRI and KEPRI
  - Integrated with REI's CFD software (GLACIER)
- Process modeling (MerSim™)
  - Provides key information related to the evolution of mercury, sulfur, and halogen species
  - Developed using 144 data sets from 28 plants where operating conditions and mercury measurements were coupled
- Real-time monitoring
  - Critical to relating this highly non-linear phenomena to operating conditions, fuel properties and additive utilization
  - REI has a unique tool for this purpose involving adaptation of an electrochemical approach resulting from a collaborative effort with Corrosion Management (UK)



# Solution Approach

- Evaluation of potential corrosion mechanisms
  - Gas-phase sulfur species
  - Gas-phase chlorine species
  - Deposition of unreacted material
  - Acid gas dewpoint
- Identification of high risk locations
  - Application of CFD/process modeling
  - Wastage measurements and/or observations of material failures
- Installation of real-time monitoring system
- Data reduction including comparisons with concurrent historical plant data
- identification and validation of corrosion management strategies



“Power Plant Diagnostics Go On-Line”  
Mechanical Engineering, Dec 1989

# Corrosion Monitoring

- Visual Inspection
- Ultrasonic tube wall thickness testing
- Weight Loss Coupons
- Precision Metrology
- Electrical Resistance
- Linear Polarisation Resistance
- Electrochemical Impedance Measurement
- Thin Layer Activation
- Electrochemical Noise



*T11 KEMCOP, Bakker 2003*

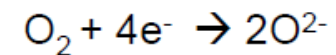
# Electrochemical Noise (EN) Technique

- DC technique that evaluates only spontaneous transients generated by corrosion process itself
- From Ohms Law:  $V=IR$  or  $R=V/I$
- $R_{\text{polarization}} = \Delta V/\Delta I$
- Similarly  $R_{\text{noise}} = V_{\text{noise}}/I_{\text{noise}}$
- From Stearn Geary Equation  $I_{\text{corr}} = 1/ R_{\text{noise}}$
- The corrosion currents estimated using these techniques can be converted into penetration rates using Faraday's law

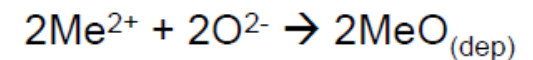
Anodic reaction:



Cathodic reaction:

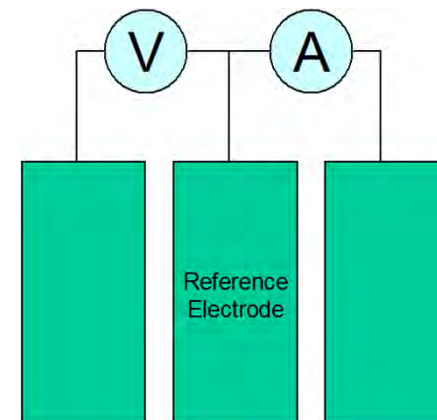


Combined:

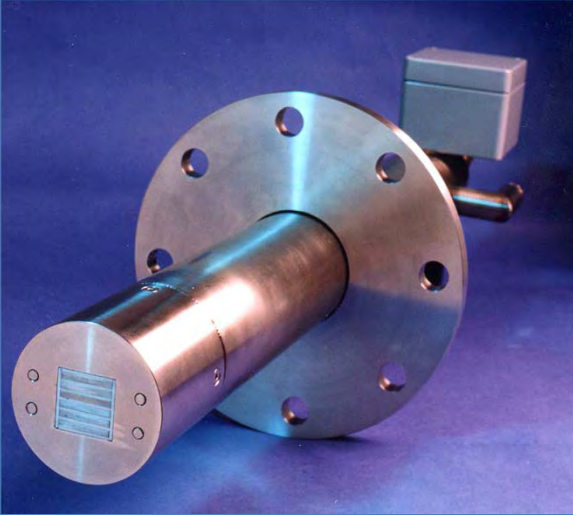


Similarly,

sulfur  $\rightarrow$  sulfides  
chlorine  $\rightarrow$  chlorides

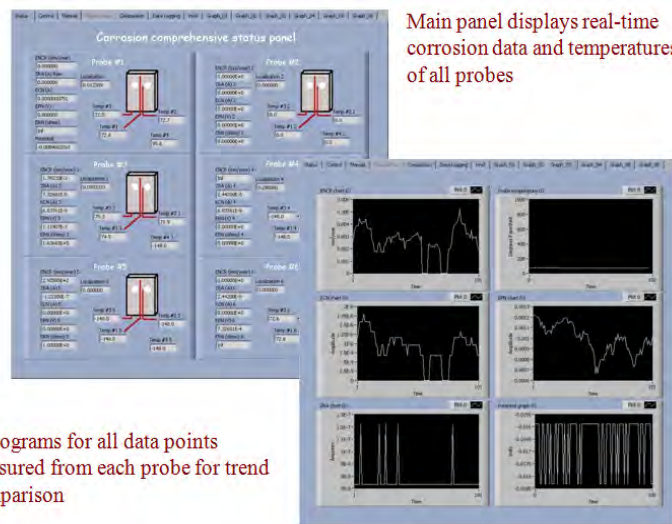


# EN Probe for Corrosion Testing



- High Sensitivity
- Instantaneous response
- Direct indication of corrosion
- Quantitative measurement
- Response related to corrosion mechanism

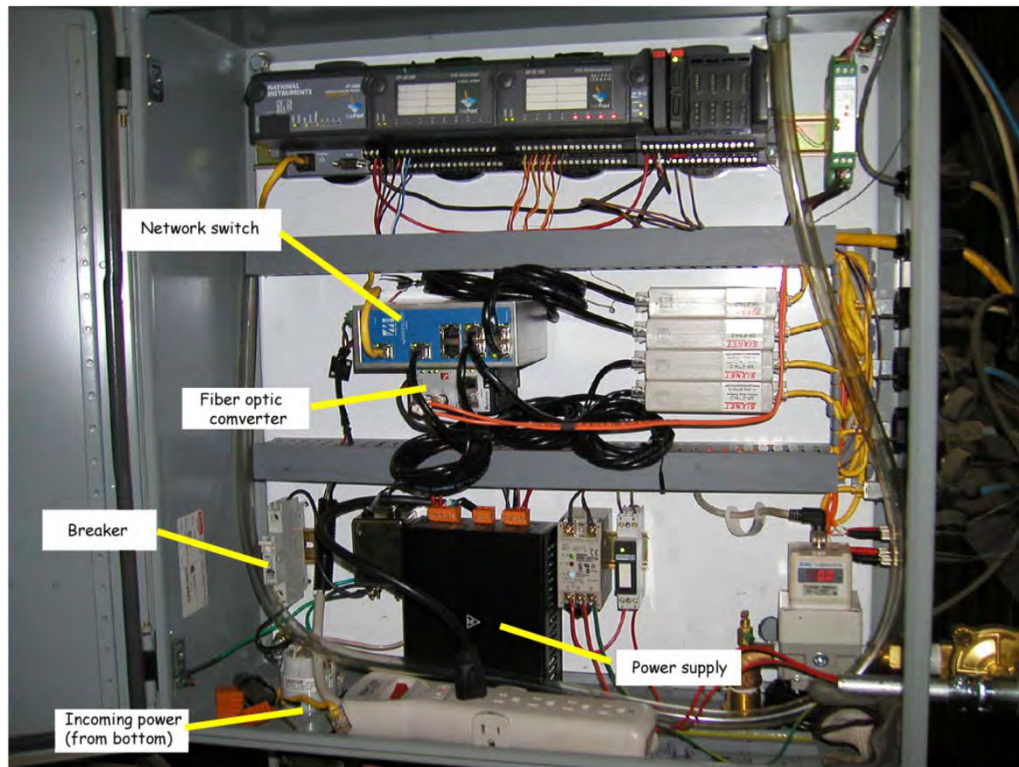
Data Acquisition



Main panel displays real-time corrosion data and temperatures of all probes

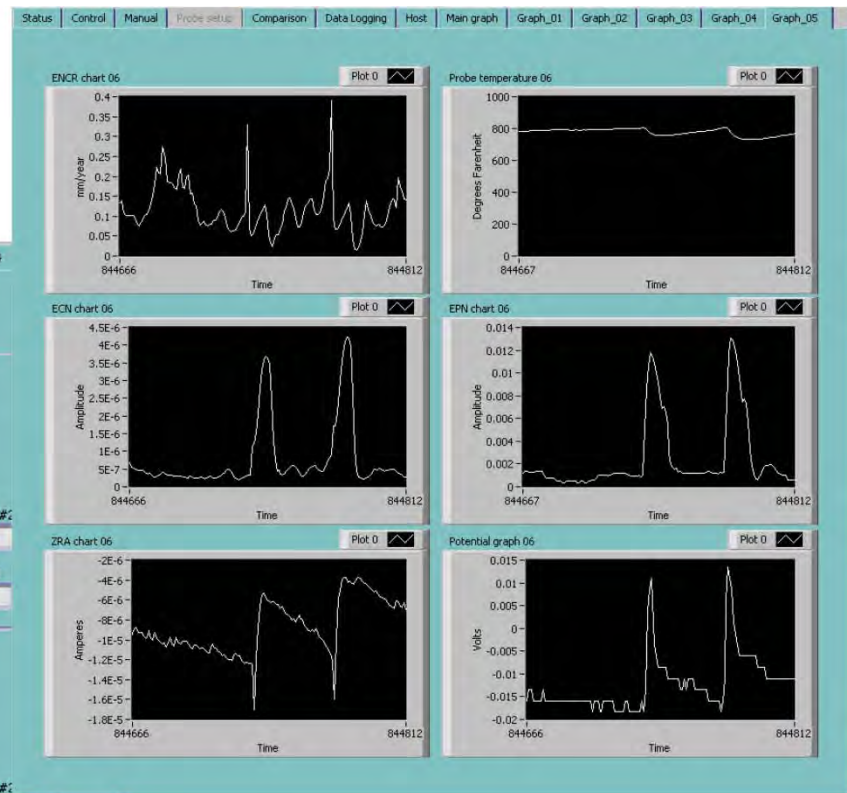
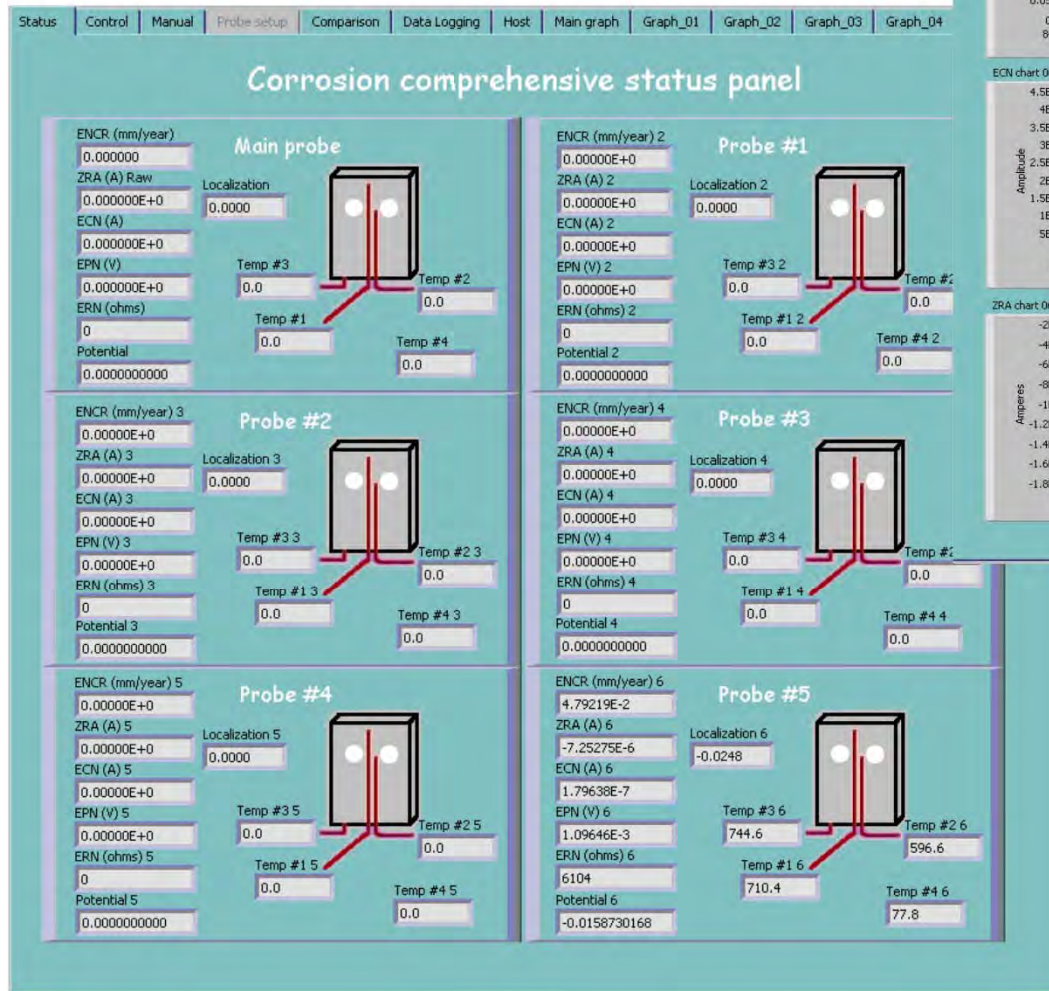
Histograms for all data points measured from each probe for trend comparison

# Electronics



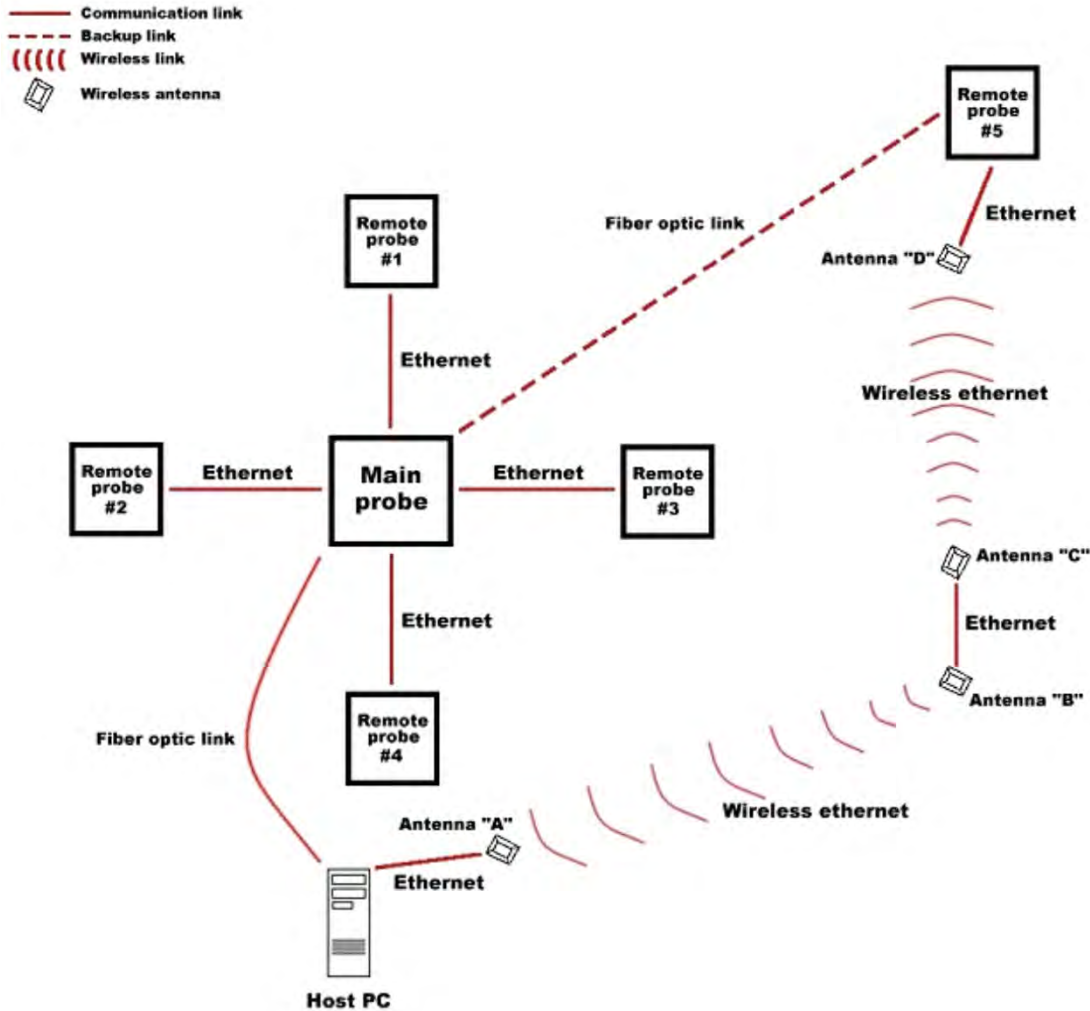
- Primarily off-the-shelf components
- Unique proprietary module for processing current and voltage signals
- Limited instrument air requirement for cooling

# Software



- Convenient GUI-based control, monitoring, signal processing and data logging
- Complete local and remote accessibility

# Data Acquisition and Control

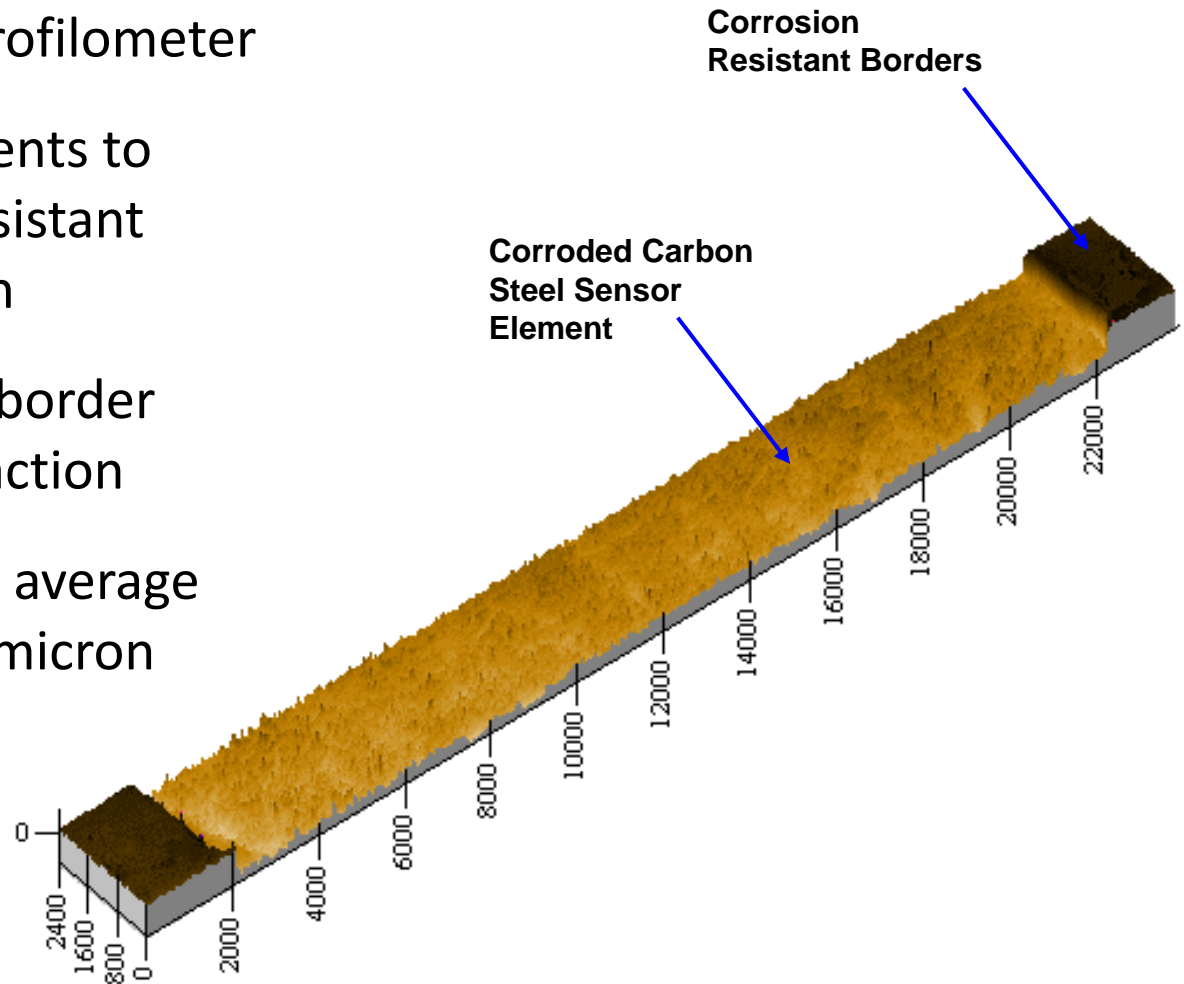


## *Control System Hardware*

- Proprietary signal conditioning
- Embedded controller
- Runs deterministic OS
- Ethernet link for logging and communication
- Accessible using ftp, telnet, http, etc
- Core hardware – National Instruments Fieldpoint

# ***Rapid Turnaround Precision Metrology***

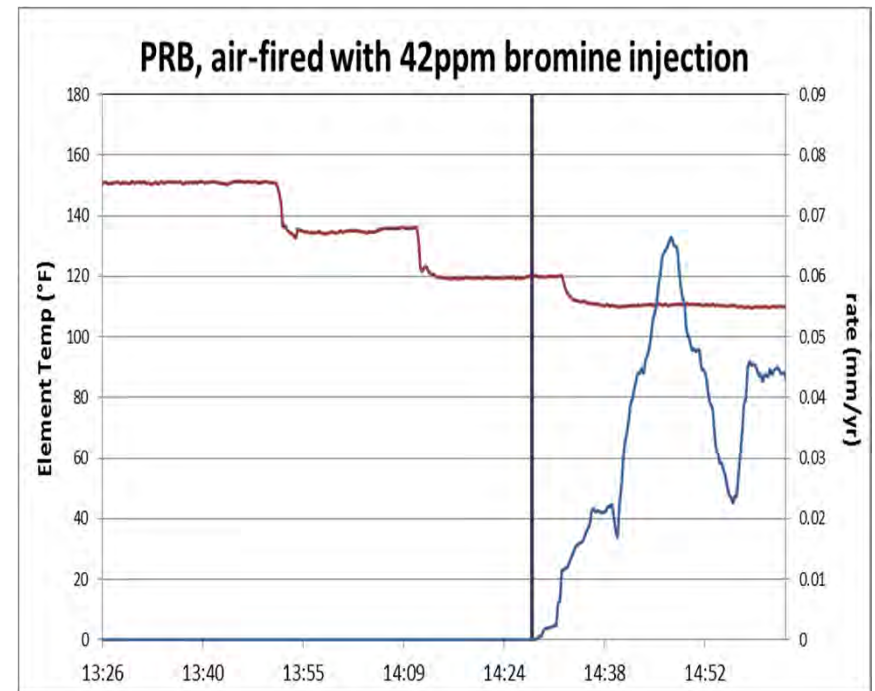
- Requires late model profilometer
- Modified sensor elements to provide a corrosion resistant surface for comparison
- In-house software for border recognition and subtraction
- Effective resolution on average corrosion depth < 0.1 micron





# Possible APH Corrosion Mechanisms Involving Hydrohalides

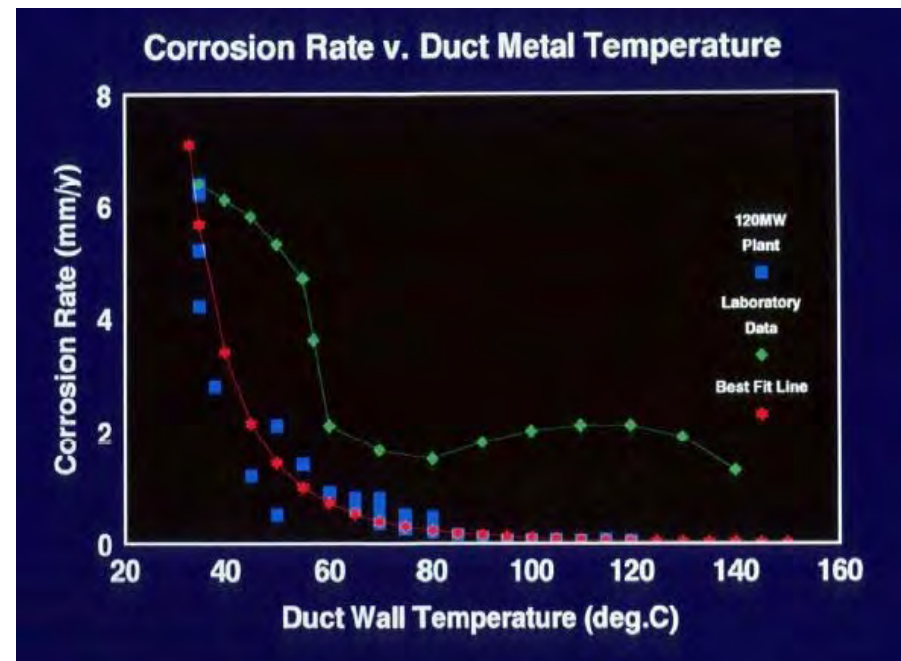
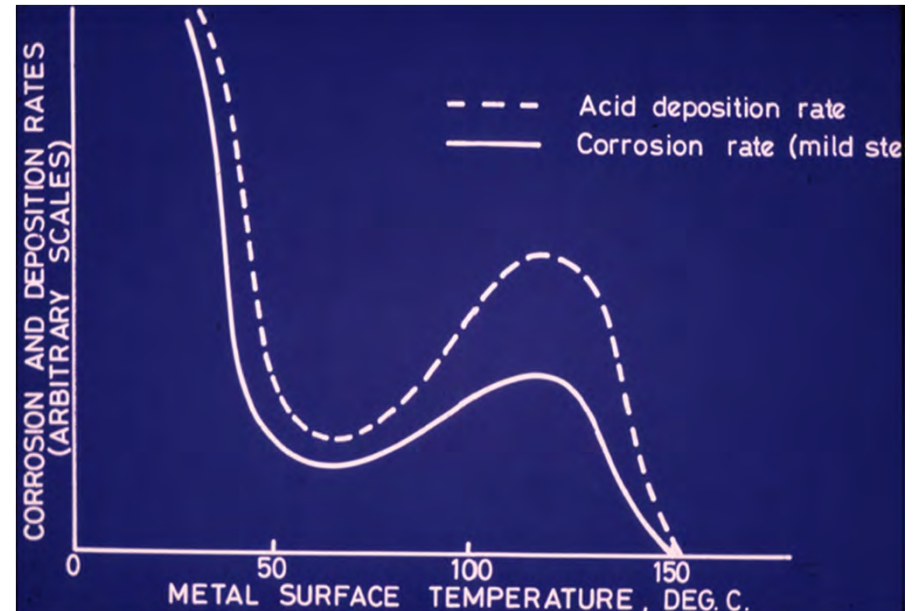
- Possible mechanisms:
  - Direct condensation of HBr
  - Absorption of HBr by condensed  $\text{SO}_3$
  - Formation of Brominated salts on fly ash
  - Gas-phase attack by HBr
- Recent results at both pilot- and full-scale suggest condensation mechanism
- Hydrohalide condensation
  - Hydrobromic and hydroiodic acid are two of the strongest known mineral acids
  - Calculations for relevant concentrations of bromine addition indicate dew points in the 90-130 °F range



# Dewpoint Considerations

[Cox and Meadowcroft, 1985]

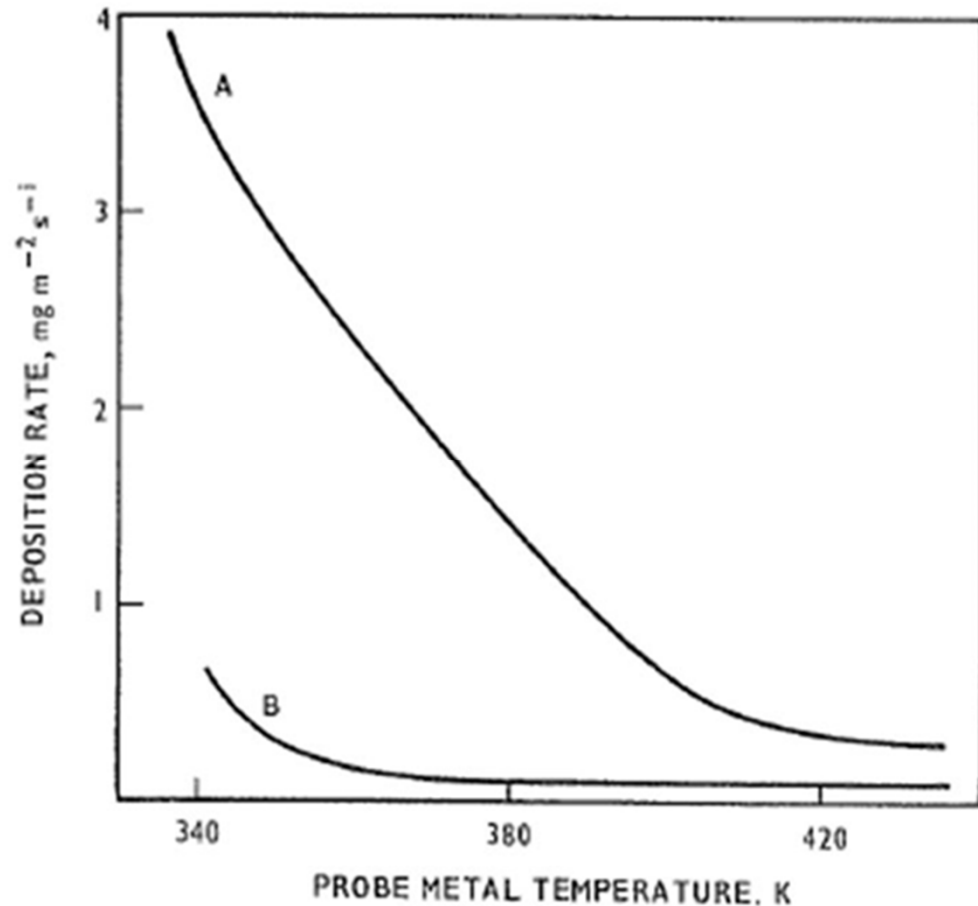
- Ash-free acid deposition rates can be estimated and confirmed in the lab
- Comparison with field data complicated by ash interactions



# Impact of Ash on Acid Deposition

[Raask, 1985]

- Air-cooled probe inserted in the APH duct
- Boiler A with 0.9% sulfur coal with low calcium ash
- Boiler B with 1.5% sulfur coal with high calcium ash



# APH Temperature Behavior

[Raask, 1985]

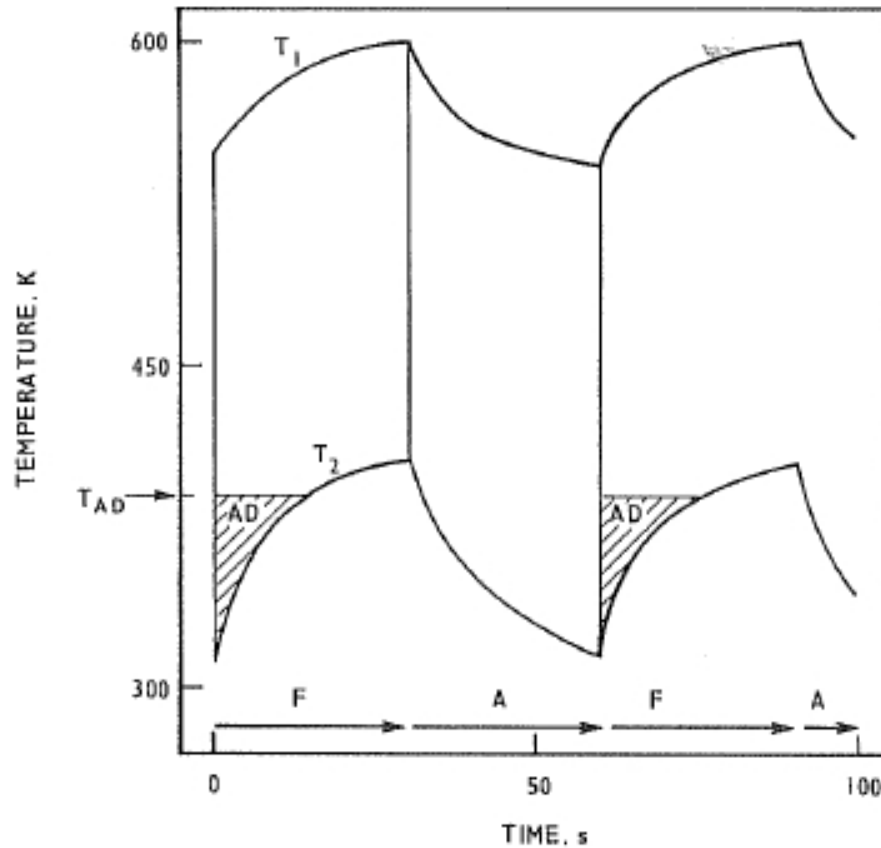
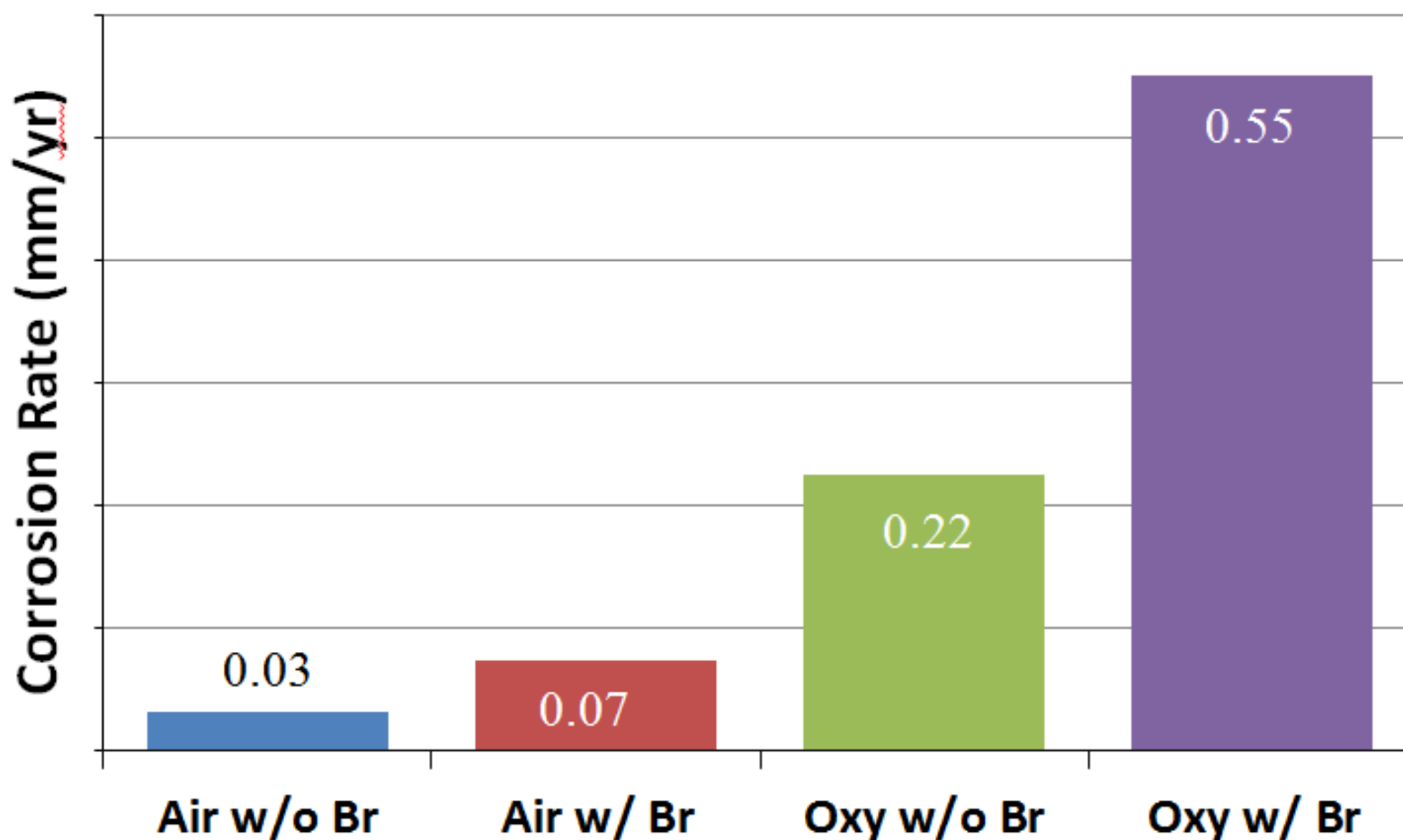


Figure 19.3 Changing metal temperatures and acid dewpoint in rotating regenerative air heater:  $T_1$ , air-heater inlet temperature;  $T_2$ , air-heater outlet temperature; F, heating in flue gas; A, cooling in air;  $T_{AD}$ , acid dewpoint temperature; AD, acid deposition.

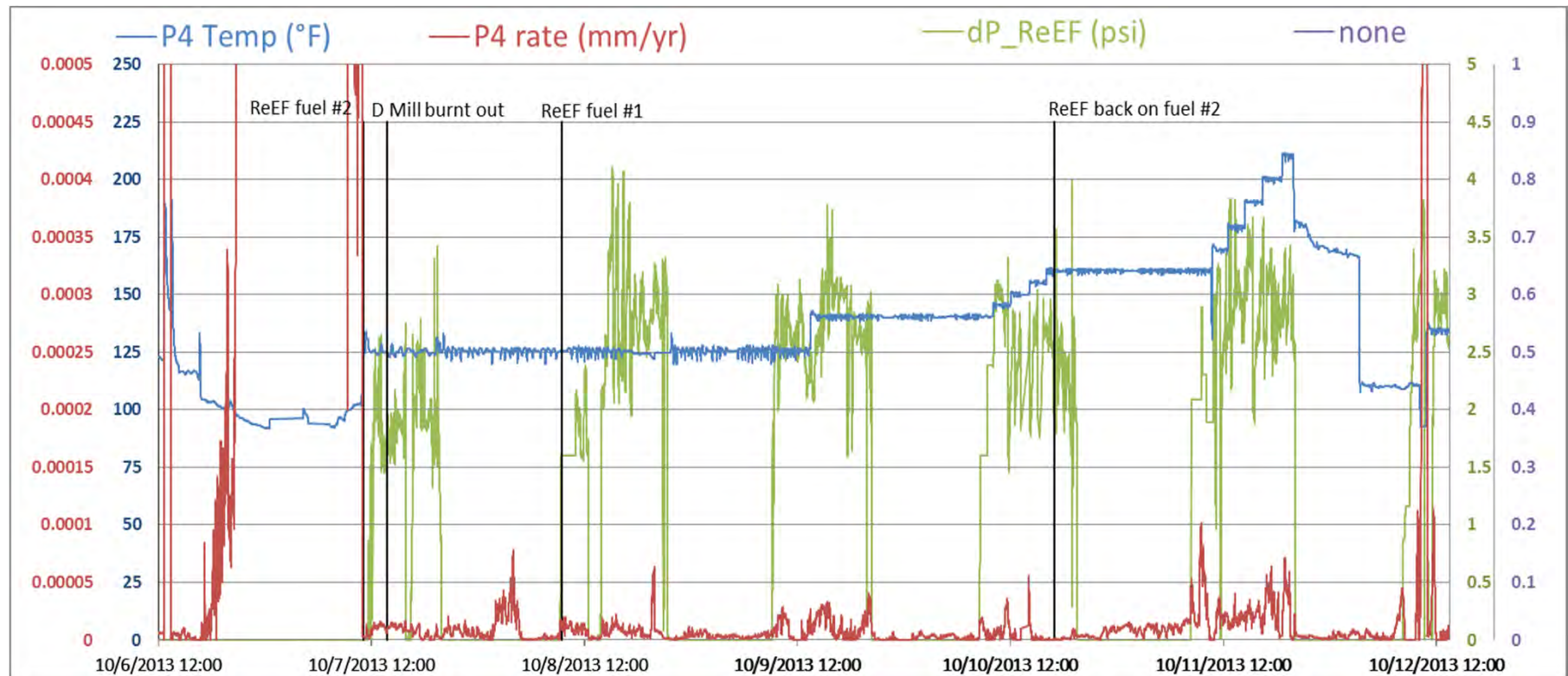
# Peak Dewpoint Corrosion Rates during Pilot-scale Testing with Bituminous Coal

[Davis et al., 2014]



# Accordant Coal Additive Impact on Air Heater

[Beutler et al., 2015]



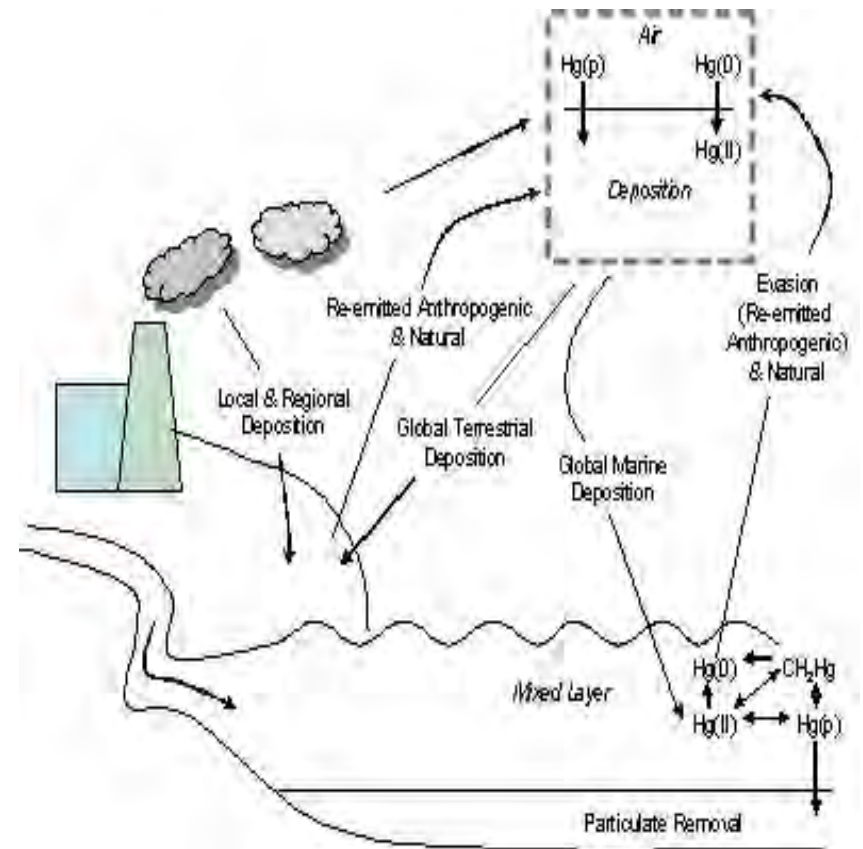
- Clear impact of moisture condensation
- Noticeably higher rates while co-firing additive, although corrosion rates remain very small
- Sensitivity of EN illustrated

# Periodic Table of the Elements

Periodic Table of the Elements																																													
1 H 1.01																	18 He 4.00																												
3 Li 6.94	2 Be 9.01											5 B 10.81	6 C 12.01	7 N 14.01	8 O 16.00	9 F 19.00	10 Ne 20.18																												
11 Na 22.99	12 Mg 24.30											13 Al 26.98	14 Si 28.09	15 P 30.97	16 S 32.07	17 Cl 35.45	18 Ar 39.95																												
19 K 39.10	20 Ca 40.08	21 Sc 44.96	22 Ti 47.88	23 V 50.94	24 Cr 52.00	25 Mn 54.94	26 Fe 55.85	27 Co 58.93	28 Ni 58.69	29 Cu 63.55	30 Zn 65.39	31 Ga 69.72	32 Ge 72.61	33 As 74.92	34 Se 78.96	35 Br 79.90	36 Kr 83.80																												
37 Rb 85.47	38 Sr 87.62	39 Y 88.91	40 Zr 91.22	41 Nb 92.91	42 Mo 95.94	43 Tc (97.91)	44 Ru 101.07	45 Rh 102.91	46 Pd 106.42	47 Ag 107.87	48 Cd 112.41	49 In 114.82	50 Sn 118.71	51 Sb 121.75	52 Te 127.60	53 I 126.90	54 Xe 131.29																												
55 Cs 132.91	56 Ba 137.33	57 La 138.91	72 Hf 178.49	73 Ta 180.95	74 W 183.85	75 Re 186.21	76 Os 190.23	77 Ir 192.22	78 Pt 195.08	79 Au 196.97	80 Hg 200.59	81 Tl 204.38	82 Pb 207.2	83 Bi 208.98	84 Po (208.98)	85 At (209.99)	86 Rn (222.02)																												
87 Fr (223.02)	88 Ra (226.03)	89 Ac (227.03)	104 Rf (261.11)	105 Ha (262.11)	106 Sg (263.12)																																								
<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>58 Ce 140.12</td> <td>59 Pr 140.91</td> <td>60 Nd 144.24</td> <td>61 Pm (144.91)</td> <td>62 Sm 150.36</td> <td>63 Eu 151.97</td> <td>64 Gd 157.25</td> <td>65 Tb 158.93</td> <td>66 Dy 162.50</td> <td>67 Ho 164.93</td> <td>68 Er 167.26</td> <td>69 Tm 168.93</td> <td>70 Yb 173.04</td> <td>71 Lu 174.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>90 Th 232.04</td> <td>91 Pa 231.04</td> <td>92 U 238.03</td> <td>93 Np (237.05)</td> <td>94 Pu (244.06)</td> <td>95 Am (243.06)</td> <td>96 Cm (247.07)</td> <td>97 Bk (247.07)</td> <td>98 Cf (251.08)</td> <td>99 Es (252.08)</td> <td>100 Fm (257.10)</td> <td>101 Md (258.10)</td> <td>102 No (259.10)</td> <td>103 Lr (262.11)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>																		58 Ce 140.12	59 Pr 140.91	60 Nd 144.24	61 Pm (144.91)	62 Sm 150.36	63 Eu 151.97	64 Gd 157.25	65 Tb 158.93	66 Dy 162.50	67 Ho 164.93	68 Er 167.26	69 Tm 168.93	70 Yb 173.04	71 Lu 174.97	90 Th 232.04	91 Pa 231.04	92 U 238.03	93 Np (237.05)	94 Pu (244.06)	95 Am (243.06)	96 Cm (247.07)	97 Bk (247.07)	98 Cf (251.08)	99 Es (252.08)	100 Fm (257.10)	101 Md (258.10)	102 No (259.10)	103 Lr (262.11)
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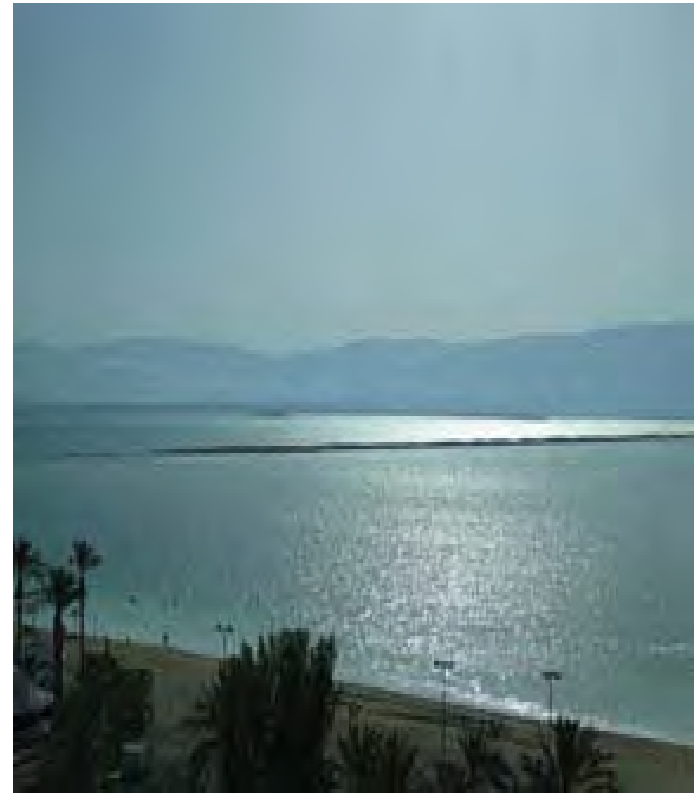
# Mercury Emission Control

- MATS rule: Coal-fired EGUs must achieve stack Hg emissions of 1.2 lb/TBtu or less for Bit. and Sub-Bit. coals
- Mercury oxidation by halogen injection and removal of the oxidized Hg either by FGD's or by sorbents is one of the most cost-effective methods for Hg emission control
- Halogen injection is very simple, and reliable method for Hg oxidation
- Necessary to consider Balance-of-Plant effects with the long-term use of halogens



# *Halogens for Hg Oxidation*

- Chlorine, Bromine, and Iodine are main halogens used for Hg oxidation
- Bromine most widely used (low-cost and effective)
- In furnace, Bromine additives first form HBr(g)
- Deacon Reaction:  $4\text{HBr} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{Br}_2$
- $\text{Hg} + \text{Br}_2 \rightarrow \text{HgBr}_2$  (oxidized Hg)
- Catalytic sites important factor in conversion of HBr to  $\text{Br}_2$
- Unconverted hydrogen halide main cause of BoP issues with any halogen (not just Bromine)



**Dead Sea**

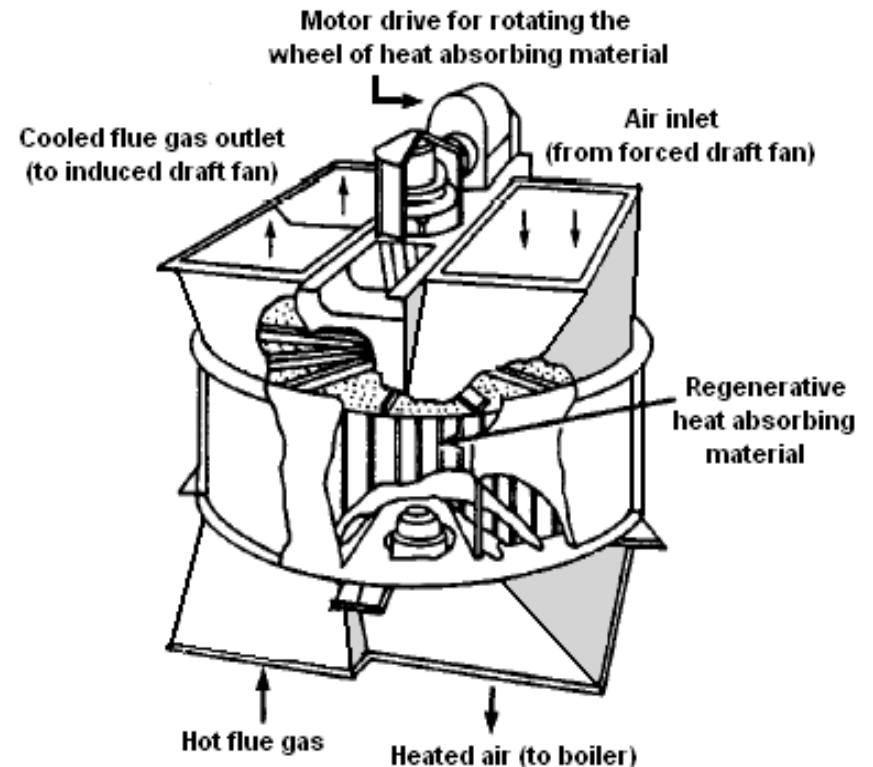
# ***BoP Issues with Halogen for Oxidation***

- Higher Bromine (Br) levels in WFGD liquor and waste water is only BoP issue for Eastern Bituminous coals
- Br in water may lead to formation of additional Trihalomethanes (THMs) in downstream water systems
- Air Heater cold-end basket corrosion is most common BoP issue for low-rank coals (PRB, W Bit and Lignite)
- Halogen injection affects Selenium (Se) speciation, resulting in increased gas-phase Se at WFGD inlet, which may increase Se levels in WFGD liquor and waste water



# Air Heater Corrosion

- 33 PRB units reported Air Heater (AH) cold- end basket corrosion, while 19 did not (Update on EPRI's Balance of Plant Effects Study of Bromine-Based Mercury Controls, 2014)
- Key difference is Bromine application rate, >100 ppm vs. <100 ppm
- HBr dew-point temperature is ~125°F
- Lowest metal temperatures are experienced during basket rotation back into flue gas stream
- Cold-end AH baskets on PRB-fired units not typically constructed of corrosion-resistant materials or enameled
- It is hypothesized that the corrosion ***rate*** is dependent on the Bromine application rate



# Corrosion Testing

- Testing was performed on a 80 MW PRB coal fired unit with ESP as AQCS
- Test Objectives: To investigate effects of halogen type, and halogen injection rate on Hg oxidation and Air Heater corrosion rates
- Data Collection and Analysis: Electrochemical Noise (EN) probe, Stack CEMS, and EPA M5 and M30B
- Air Heater metallurgy: Carbon Steel A192



# ***Halide Additive Injection***

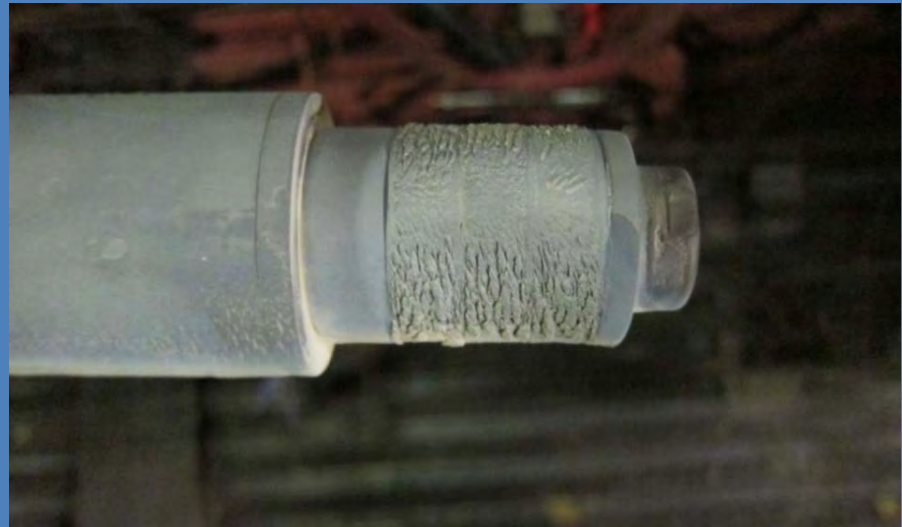


# ***Corrosion Testing - EN Probe***



Un-exposed probe

Deposit build-up following 4-hour period of 25ppm Iodine addition

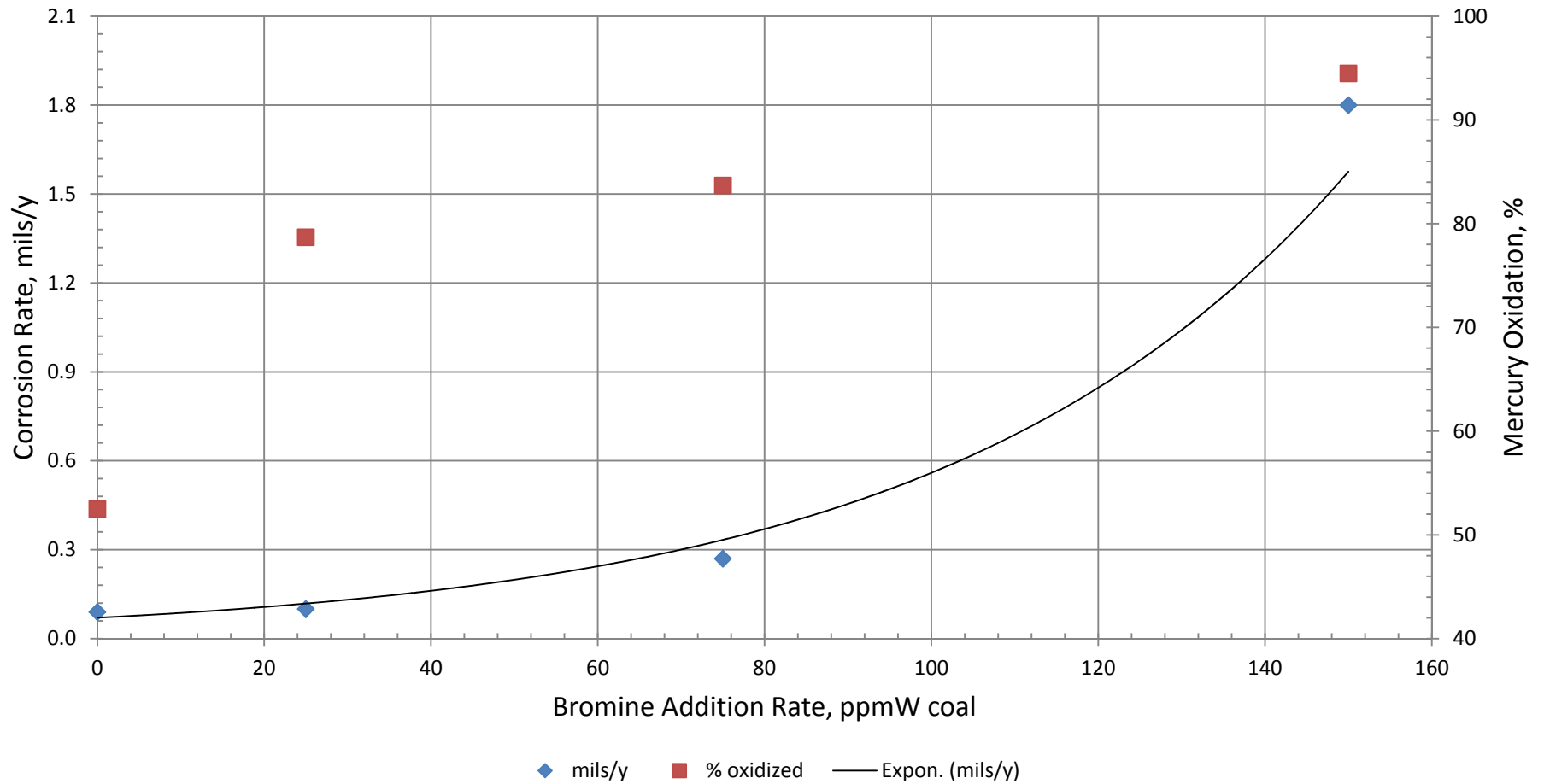


# Test Results

Test ID	% Oxidation	Rate of Corrosion, mils/year	Comparison to Baseline
12/9 Baseline	51.5	0.09*	N/A
12/10 150 ppm Bromine	94.5	1.8*	20 X
12/11 AM 10 ppm Iodine	93.1	0.13	Similar
12/11 PM 25 ppm Iodine	98.5	0.28	3 X
12/12 AM 25 ppm Bromine	78.7	0.10	Similar
12/12 PM 75 ppm Bromine	83.7	0.27	3 X

\* Averaged over multiple test periods

# Corrosion Rate & Hg Oxidation vs Br Addition Rate



# Observations



- With addition of 10 ppm of Iodine, oxidized Hg was 93% with no change in corrosion rate as compared to baseline
- With addition of 25 ppm Bromine to coal, there was no appreciable increase in the corrosion rate
- On 25 ppm to coal basis, Iodine exhibited higher Hg oxidation and higher corrosion rate compared to Bromine
- To achieve 95% Hg oxidation, it was necessary to add 150 ppm Bromine to coal, and rate of corrosion was 20 times higher than baseline
- Data did show that rate of corrosion is function of rate of halogen application to coal
- Mitagent additive can make a significant difference

# *Mitagent Benefits*

- Mitagent is patented coal additive developed by B&W PGG
- Among other benefits, Mitagent can reduce the rate of SCR catalyst deactivation by phosphorous poisoning on staged combustion PRB units
- Mitagent also facilitates efficient use of halogen containing additives for Hg oxidation by catalyzing the Deacon reaction w/o SCR
- This can lead to either reduced halogen injection rate to coal to get similar Hg oxidation or improvement in Hg oxidation with similar halogen injection rate
- Full-scale and pilot-scale test data has demonstrated efficient halogen utilization with Mitagent addition



# ***Bromine Reduction by Mitagent***

**PRB Unit : Dec 2013**

<b>Bromine added to coal (ppm, dry basis)</b>	<b>Mitagent added to coal (lb/hr)</b>	<b>% Oxidized Hg @ Stack (Method 30b)</b>
0	0	38.0
70	0	46.5
100	0	62.5
40	11.4	56.0

# ***Expected Performance Improvement with Mitagent***

<b>Condition</b>	<b>% Hg Oxidation</b>	<b>Corrosion Rate @ 120°F, mils/year</b>
25 ppm Bromine	78.7	0.26
<u>Expected Rate</u> 25 ppm Br with Mitagent	90	0.26
10 ppm Iodine	93.1	0.16
<u>Expected Rate</u> 7 ppm I with Mitagent	90	0.15

# ***Mitagent Benefits***

- Mitagent reduces injection cost for Iodine by 30-50% while providing same 90+% Hg oxidation levels
- Mitagent further improves Hg oxidation by 20-30% for low Bromine application rates (25 ppm or less)
- Mitagent reduces application rates by 30-50% for high Bromine addition rates (>100 ppm), and therefore associated corrosion risks
- Mitagent use results in significant operating cost reduction by reducing halogen usage
- On going long-term testing indicates no negative effect on boiler or AQCS performance



# Questions?

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