

# Fundamentals of Vapor Recovery

*“Associated Gas” IS LOST PRODUCT  
And LOST REVENUE*



*Presented by:*

*Larry S. Richards*

*Hy-Bon Engineering Co.*



# TANK OPERATIONS

As the oil resides in the tanks, it gives off vapors, thereby increasing the pressure inside the tank.



# Sources of Methane Losses

- Approximately 9 Bcf/yr of Methane are lost from storage tanks in the United States market alone
  - Flash losses
    - occur when crude is transferred from containment at a high pressure to containment at a lower pressure
  - Working losses
    - occur when crude levels change and when crude in the tank is agitated
  - Standing losses
    - occur with daily and seasonal temperature and pressure changes

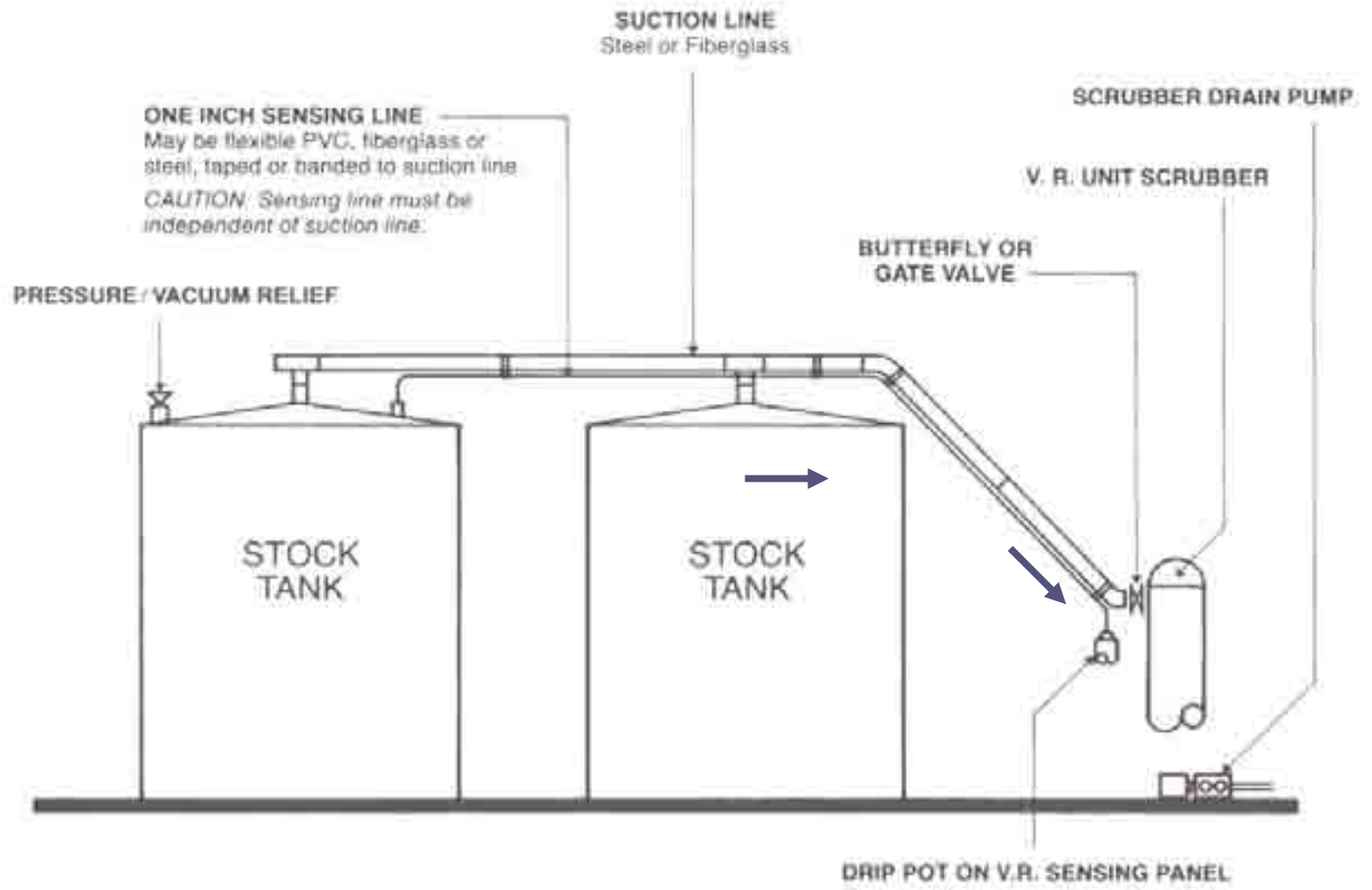
Source: Natural Gas STAR Partners

# WHY LET \$ ESCAPE INTO THE AIR?

Besides being an environmental hazard, escaping vapors actually cost the operator money. What money?

Uncaptured profits!! An average tank battery can emit from \$15,000 to \$50,000 in natural gas per

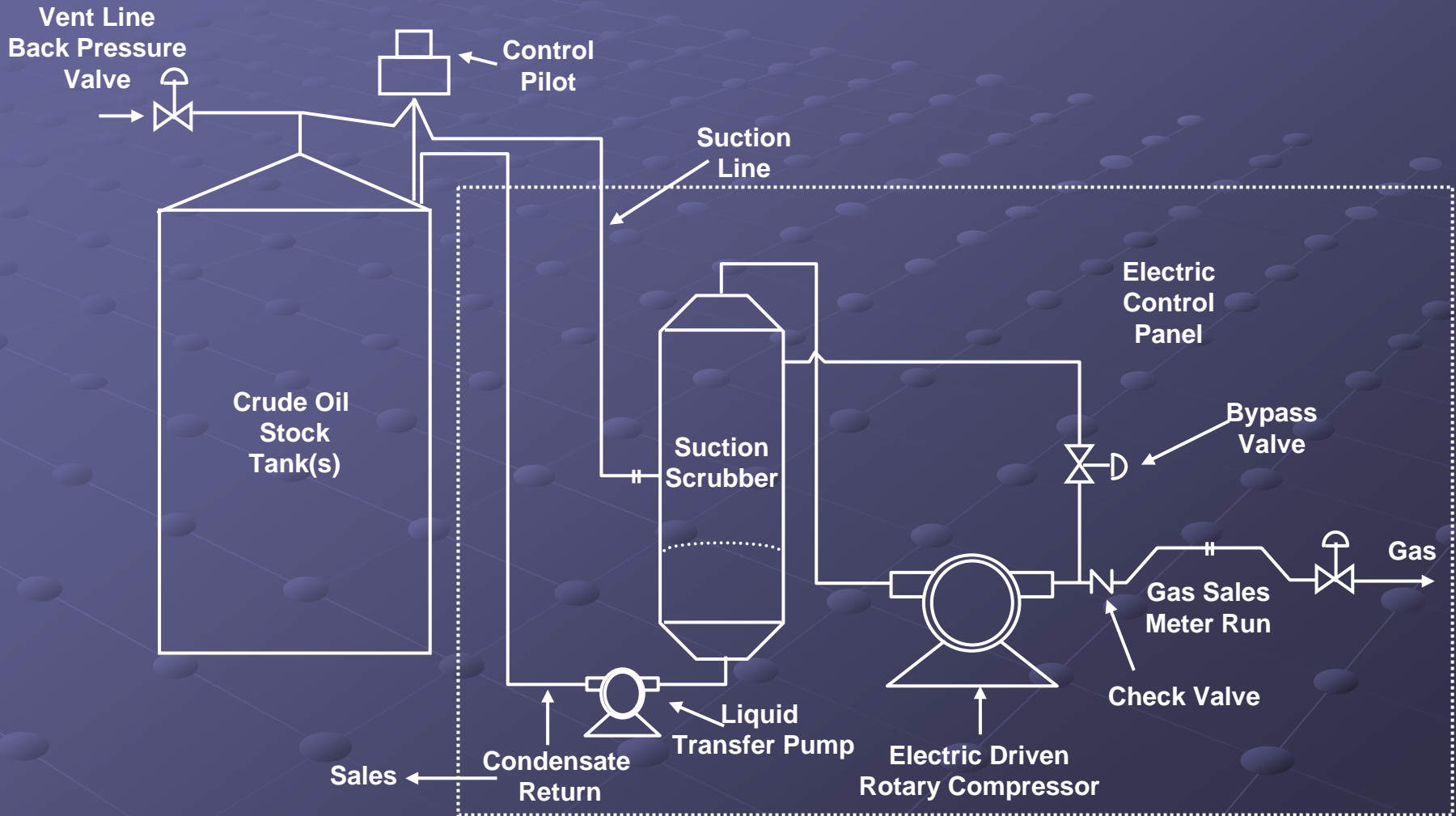




**NOTES**

- All lines must be horizontal, or sloped down to V. R. U. suction as shown.
- Scrubber fluid is piped back to tanks or to waste.
- The system must be closed — no air entry.

# Standard Vapor Recovery Unit



# VAPOR RECOVERY

Typical stock tank vapor recovery unit in operation. This unit is configured to capture 90 mcf/d of gas and discharge into a 40 psig sales line.





# Benefits of Vapor Recovery Units

- Capture up to 95 percent of hydrocarbon vapors that accumulate in tanks
- Recovered vapors have much higher Btu content than pipeline quality natural gas
- Recovered vapors can be more valuable than methane alone
- Reduce regulatory & liability exposure

# VRU Decision Process

Identify possible locations for VRUs

*Quantify the volume of losses*

Determine the value of recoverable losses

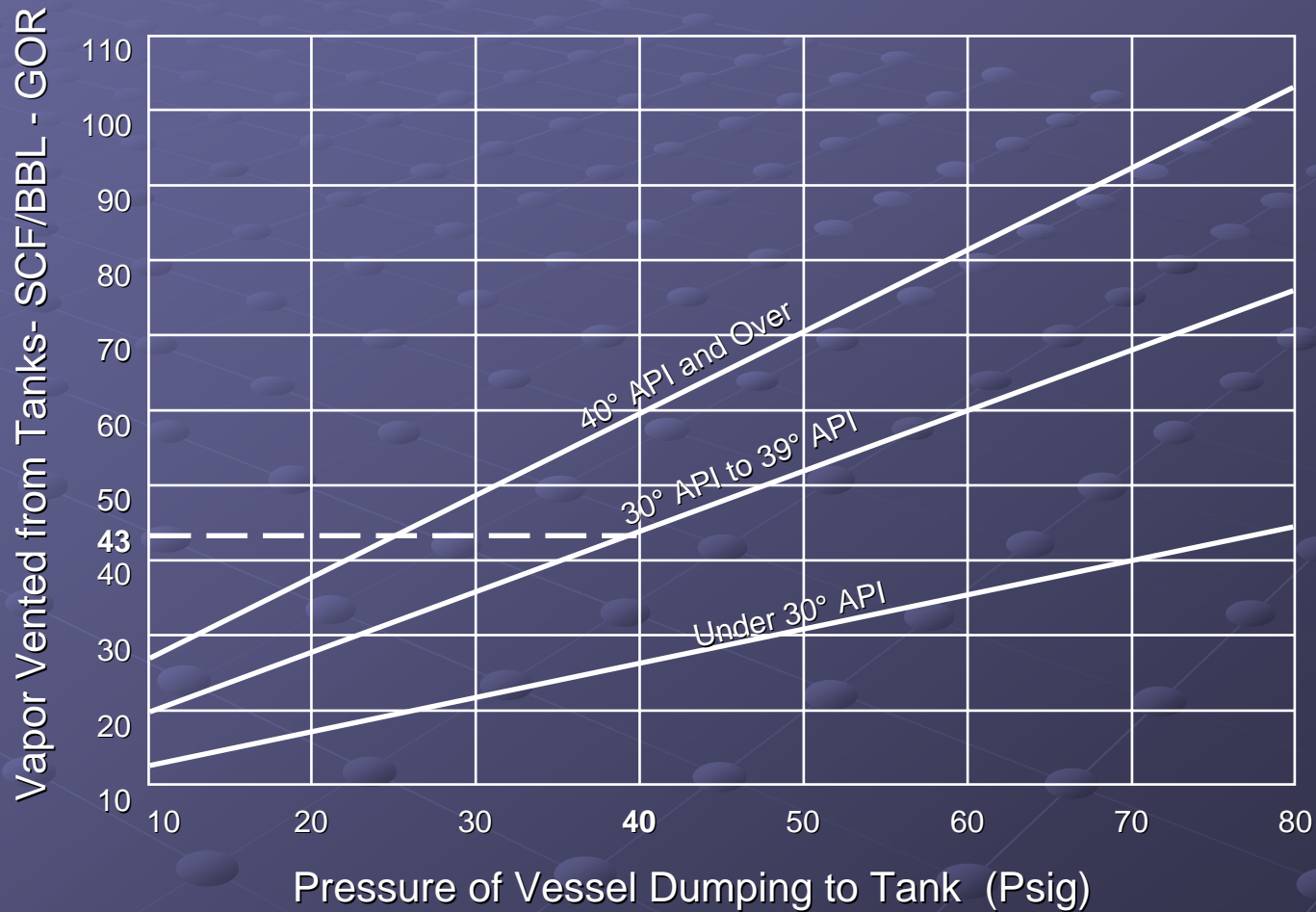
Determine the cost of a VRU project

Evaluate VRU project economics

# Quantify Volume of Losses

- Estimate losses from chart based on oil characteristics, pressure, and temperature at each location
- Estimate emissions using the *E&P Tank Model*
- Measure losses using orifice well tester and recording manometer

# Estimated Volume of Tank Vapors



# Estimating Tank Emissions

Chart method is a quick and easy way to get a fast ballpark estimate

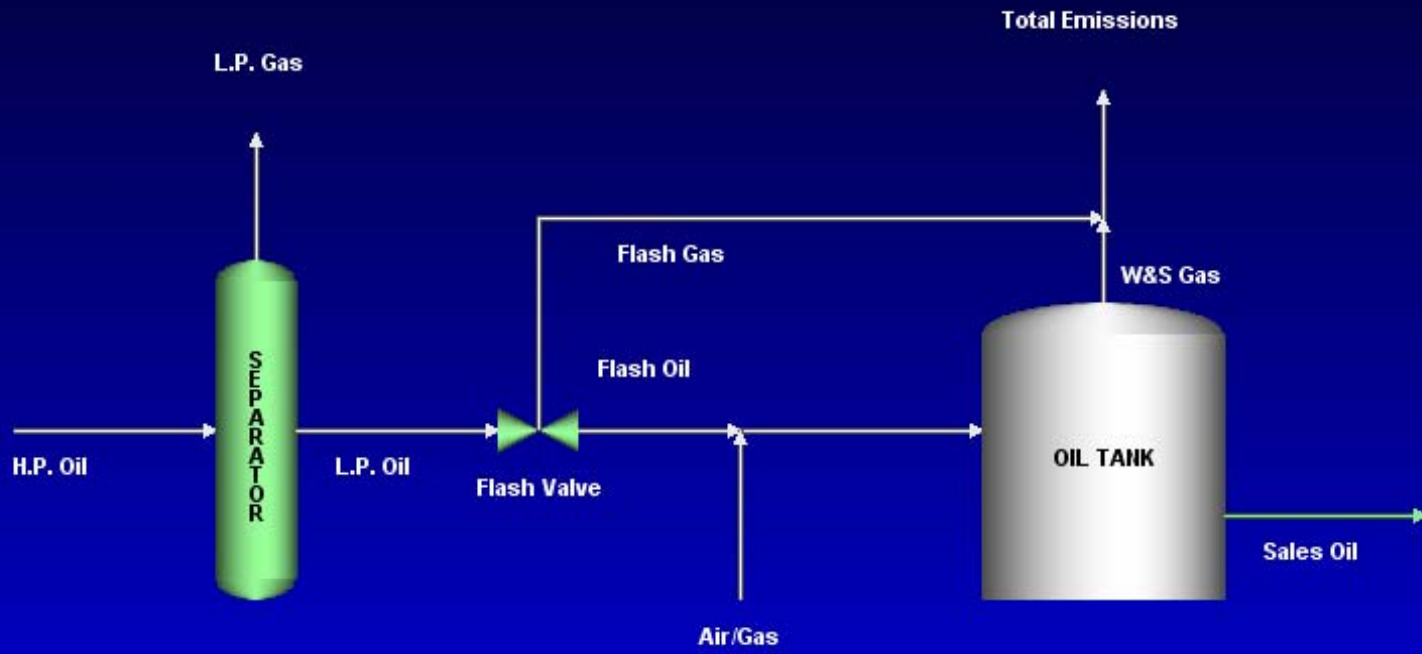
Notice the impact of higher gravity oil, as well as higher separator pressures

This method is **VERY CONSERVATIVE** and generally underestimates actual emission levels

# Quantify Volume of Losses

## ● *E&P Tank Model*

- Computer software developed by API and GRI
- Estimates flash, working, and standing losses
- Calculates losses using specific operating conditions for each tank
- Provides composition of hydrocarbon losses



-- Emission Composition -----

Component	Uncontrolled [ton/yr]	Uncontrolled [lb/hr]	Controlled [ton/yr]	Controlled [lb/hr]
H2S	12.137	2.771	0.607	0.139
O2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
CO2	85.667	19.559	85.667	19.559
N2	2.284	0.521	2.284	0.521
C1	122.391	27.943	6.120	1.397
C2	159.072	36.318	7.954	1.816
C3	415.158	94.785	20.758	4.739
i-C4	96.442	22.019	4.822	1.101
n-C4	261.360	59.671	13.068	2.984
i-C5	82.901	18.927	4.145	0.946
n-C5	97.357	22.228	4.868	1.111
C6	28.130	6.422	1.407	0.321
C7	26.984	6.161	1.349	0.308
C8	10.294	2.350	0.515	0.118
C9	2.081	0.475	0.104	0.024
C10+	0.544	0.124	0.027	0.006
Benzene	2.029	0.463	0.101	0.023
Toluene	0.250	0.057	0.013	0.003
E-Benzene	0.032	0.007	0.002	0.000
Xylenes	0.264	0.060	0.013	0.003
n-C6	19.202	4.384	0.960	0.219
2,2,4-Trimethylp	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	1424.579	325.246	71.229	16.262



-- Emission Summary -----

Item	Uncontrolled [ton/yr]	Uncontrolled [lb/hr]	Controlled [ton/yr]	Controlled [lb/hr]
Total HAPs	21.780	4.973	1.089	0.249
Total HC	1324.491	302.395	66.225	15.120
VOCs, C2+	1202.100	274.452	60.105	13.723
VOCs, C3+	1043.029	238.134	52.151	11.907

Uncontrolled Recovery Info.

Vapor	71.3400	[MSCFD]
HC Vapor	66.3900	[MSCFD]
GOR	35.67	[SCF/bbl]

# TANK TEST

A chart recorder is set up on the tank battery for a 24-hour pressure test. The resultant chart is brought into the office for evaluation. Information such as ambient temperature, test apparatus size and orifice size is recorded and used in the calculation of volume of tank vapors.



# TANK TEST

Ultrasonic meters and Mass flow meters are also effective

The key is DURATION – a minimum of 24 hours of emissions must be charted for accurate results

# Value of Recovered Gas

Gross revenue per year =  $(Q \times P \times 365 \times B) + \text{NGL}$

**Q = Rate of vapor recovery (Mcf/d)**

**P = Price of natural gas**

**B = Btu adjustment (typically 2.5)**

**NGL = Value of natural gas liquids**

# EPA Website – PRO Tools

To evaluate this practice for your situation, fill in the values below and click "Calculate Results".

## NATURAL GAS & CRUDE OIL TANK VALUES

Pressure of the vessel dumping to the tank (PSIG)	23 psi
API gravity (degrees)	42 api gravity
Amount of crude oil cycled through the tank (bbl/d)	2,000 bbl/day
Number of days per year the Vapor Recovery Unit will be operated (days/yr)	351 days

## CALCULATE CAPITAL AND O&M COST ESTIMATES

Click to calculate estimates for capital equipment costs and O&M costs.

Calculate

# EPA Website – PRO Tools

## CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND O&M COSTS

Enter your own values for the capital equipment listed below or accept the estimates.

Vapor Recovery Unit cost (\$) \$30,068

Vapor Recovery Unit installation cost (\$) \$22,551

Depreciable life of equipment (Years) 10

Vapor Recovery Unit O&M cost (\$/year) \$8,649

[http://www.ergweb.com/gasstar/analytical\\_tool/VaporRecovery.asp](http://www.ergweb.com/gasstar/analytical_tool/VaporRecovery.asp)

# EPA Website – PRO Tools

## GENERAL ECONOMIC VALUES

Natural gas cost (\$/Mcf)

Natural gas cost escalator (%)

O&M cost escalator (%)

Discount rate (%)

Marginal tax rate\* (%)

Investment tax credit (%)

Working interest for capital costs (%)

Working interest for O&M costs (%)

Working interest for gas savings (%)

*Each variable can  
be added based on  
your companies  
specific conditions  
and contract terms*

# EPA Website – PRO Tools

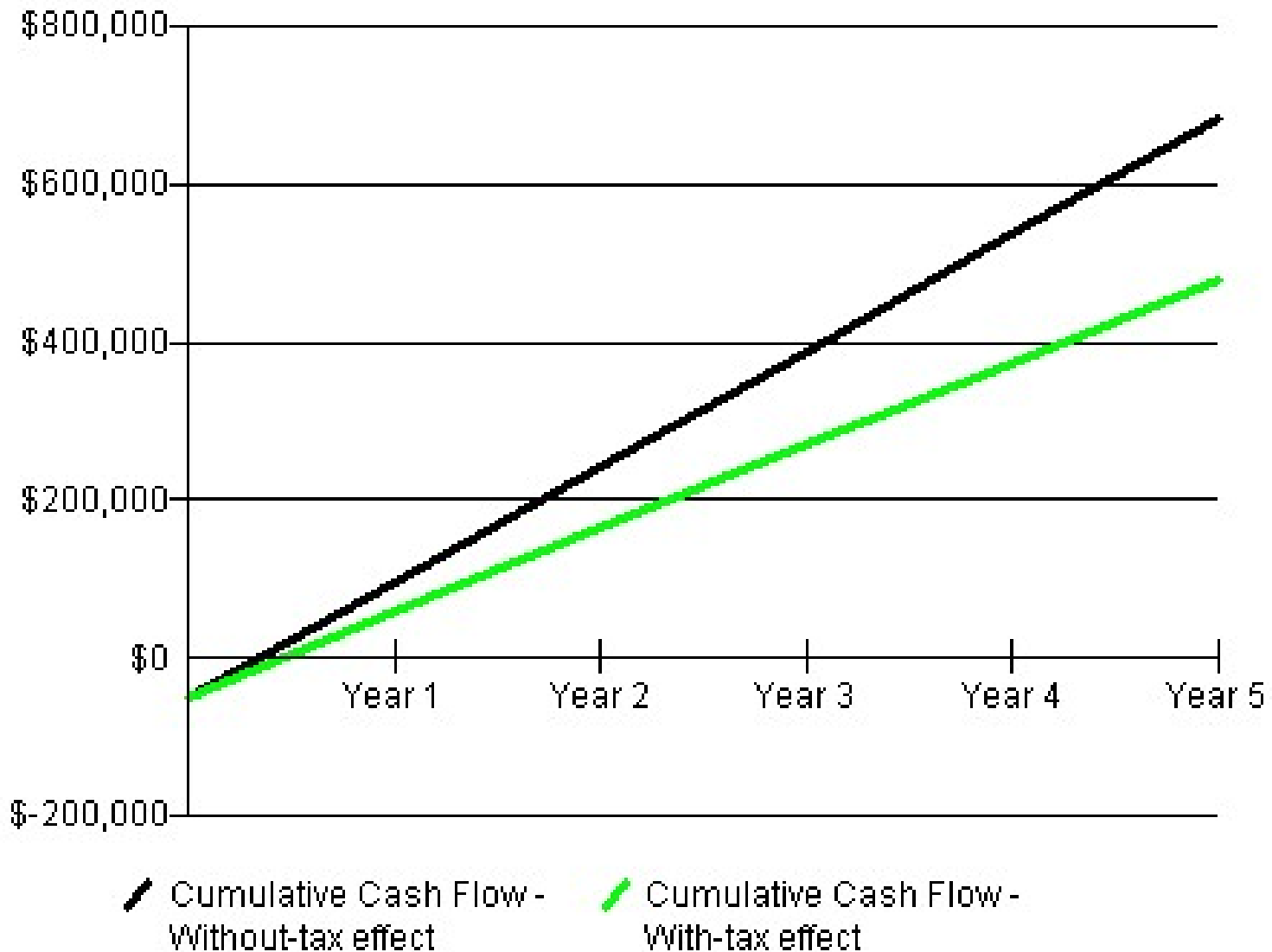
## Analysis results for: INSTALLING VAPOR RECOVERY UNITS ON CRUDE OIL STORAGE TANKS

Gas emission reduction	
5 Year gas savings	141,453
First Year gas savings	28,291 (mcf)
Without-tax effect	
5 Year NPV	\$504,434
Payback (Years)	0.36
DCFIRR	279%
Simple ROI	279%
With-tax effect	
5 Year NPV (AT)	\$350,477
Payback (AT) (Years)	0.47
DCFIRR (AT)	208%
Simple ROI (AT)	201%

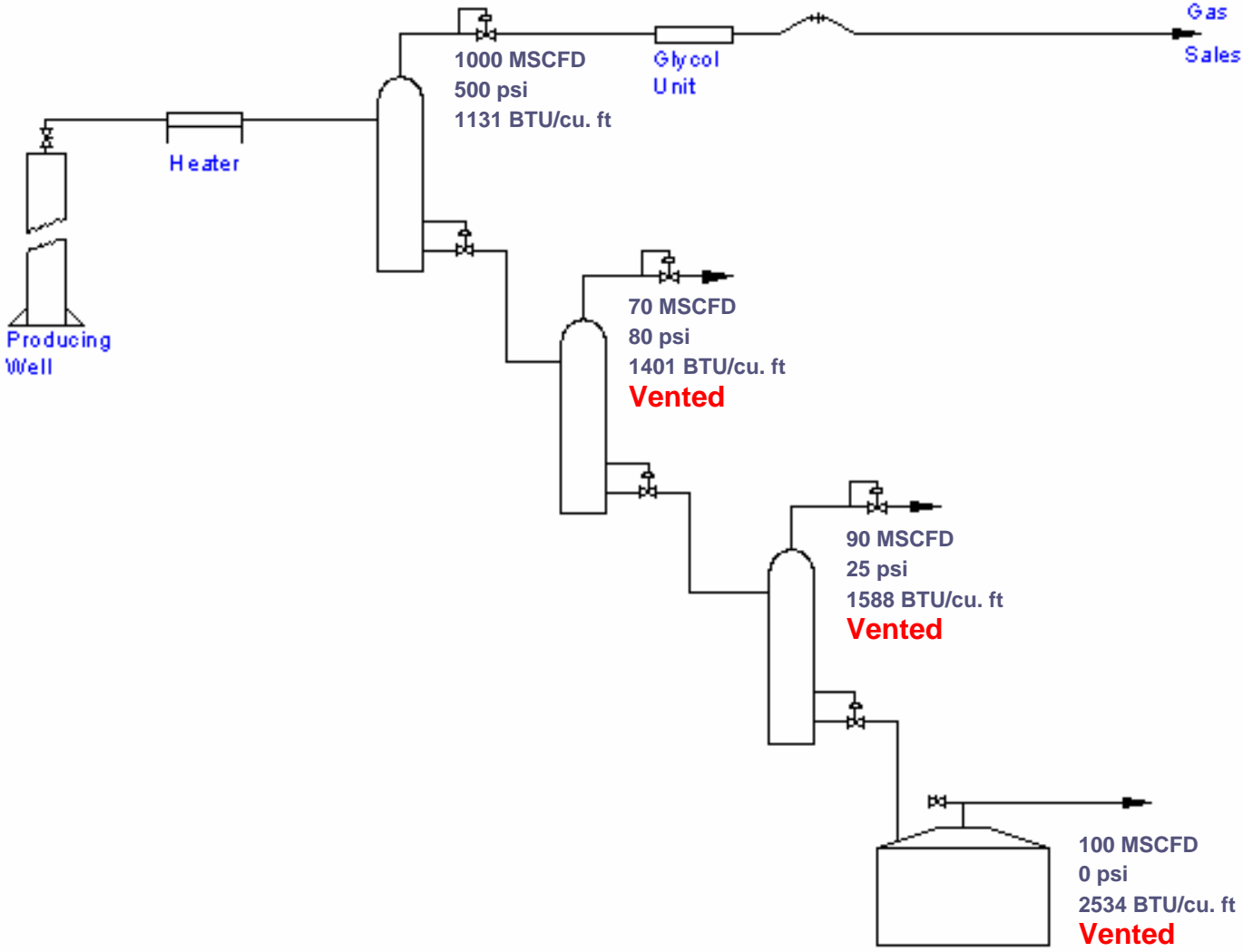
To save this specific case for viewing in the Results Summary page, provide a name and click "Save"



# Cumulative Net Cash Flow -



# CASE STUDIES



Gross Sales  
Per Day

$\$5.00 \times 1.13 \times$   
1000 MSCFD = \$5650

$\$5.00 \times 0 \text{ MSCFD} = \$0$

$\$5.00 \times 0 \text{ MSCFD} = \$0$

$\$5.00 \times 0 \text{ MSCFD} = \$0$

**TOTAL GAS SALES**  
**= \$5650**

NOTE: Price based upon  
\$5.00/MMBTU

# THE SOLUTION

**A system was designed to allow the customer to capture the vented gas from all phases of his separation process. A multi-stage unit was designed and built that took the gas from the tank vapors at atmospheric pressure, gathered the vent gas from the other separators and delivered the stream to the sales line at 500 psig.**

# Crude Oil Analysis

# 600 PSIG SEPARATION

## SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES

1703 West Industrial — P. O. Box 2150

MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701

(915) 683-3348

### FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT

DATE RECEIVED 7-15-81

LE MARKED Palco Federal, Well No. 1 (Straw)

FILE NO. C-1902-G

Oil sampled from H. Press., Sep., 600 psi

LAB. NO. 45569

FROM Estoril Producing Corporation

DATE SECURED 7-11-81

DATE OF RUN 7-15-81

SECURED BY \_\_\_\_\_

COMPONENT	MOL. %	LIQUID VOL. %	
Oxygen			
Nitrogen			
Carbon Dioxide			
Ethane		3.44	
Propane		2.40	
Isobutane		2.93	
Normal Butane		1.35	
Isopentane		3.07	
Normal Pentane		2.29	
Normal Hexane		2.50	
Normal Heptanes plus		82.02	
Normal Octanes & Heavier			
Hydrogen Sulfide			
Silium			
Hydrogen			
Carbon Monoxide			
TOTALS		100.00	

#### CONDENSATE VALUES, G.P.M.

Propane \_\_\_\_\_  
 Butane \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gasoline \_\_\_\_\_

#### HEATING VALUE, B.T.U. Per Cu. Ft.\*

Calculated from % Composition \_\_\_\_\_  
 Calculated water saturated \_\_\_\_\_

#### SULPHUR CONTENT, Grains Per 100 Cu. Ft.\*

Hydrogen Sulfide \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mercaptans \_\_\_\_\_

#### SPECIFIC GRAVITY\*

Calculated from % Composition \_\_\_\_\_

\*14.896 lbs./sq. in., 60° F

Low Pressure Gas Study

3cc Estoril Producing Corp.

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES

*Ann M. Bunch*

At 500 psig separation pressure the gas has a BTU content of 1131 BTU/cu. ft.

**SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES**  
 1703 West Industrial — P. O. Box 2150  
 MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701  
 (915) 683-3248

**FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT**

DATE RECEIVED 7-15-81  
 FILE NO. C-1902-G  
 LAB NO. 45564  
 DATE SECURED 7-11-81  
 SECURED BY ---

MARKED Belco Federal, Well No. 1 (Stream)  
 Sampled from sales line 500 psi (D)  
 FROM Estoril Producing Corporation  
 RUN 7-15-81

COMPONENT	MOL %	G. P. M.	LIQUID VOL %
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.95		
Ethane	0.17		
Propane	88.48		
i-Butane	6.42	1.712	
n-Butane	2.13	0.585	
iso-Butane	0.36	0.124	
pentane	0.64	0.201	
hexane	0.21	0.077	
heptane	0.24	0.087	
octane	0.38	0.164	
plus			
residual			
mercaptans			
hydrogen sulfide	*None Det.		
siloxanes			
water			
total	100.00	2.950	

CONDENSATE VALUES, G.P.M.  
 100% Propane 0.585  
 100% Butane 1.131  
 26/70 Gasoline 0.500

HEATING VALUE, BTU Per Cu. Ft.  
 Calculated from % Composition 1131  
 Calculated water saturated 1111

SULFUR CONTENT, Grains Per 100 Cu. Ft.  
 Hydrogen Sulfide  
 Mercaptans

SPONGE GRAVITY\*  
 Calculated from % Composition 0.644

\*14.0% Res. Wt., 60°F

Propane + GPM = 1.238  
 \*Determined on laboratory sample.

Low Pressure Gas Study

For Estoril Producing Corp.

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES  
*Larry M. Burch*

500 PSIG  
SEPARATION

At 80 psig separation pressure the gas has reached a BTU value of 1401 BTU/ cu. ft.

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES

1703 West Industrial -- P. O. Box 2150  
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701  
(915) 683-3348

FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT

DATE RECEIVED 7-15-81  
FILE NO. C-1902-G  
LAB. NO. 45566  
DATE SECURED 7-11-81  
SECURED BY ---

MARKED Belco Federal, Well No. 1 (Strawn)  
Sampled from low press. sep. vent, 10" Hg press. (A)  
FROM Estoril Producing Corporation 80psig  
OF RUN 7-15-81 OP

COMPONENT	MOL. %	G.P.M.c.f.	LIQUID MOL. %
Hydrogen	0.27		
Carbon Dioxide	0.25		
Ethane	69.88		
Ethylene	16.03	4.275	
Propane	7.60	2.086	
Isobutane	1.45	0.473	
Normal Butane	2.23	0.701	
Normal Pentane	0.69	0.252	
Normal Hexane	0.70	0.253	
Others plus	0.90	0.387	
Others & Heavier			
Hydrogen Sulfide	*None Det.		
Mercaptans			
Carbon Monoxide			
TOTALS	100.00	8.427	

CONDENSATION VALUES, G.P.M.  
 100% Propane 2.086  
 Excess Butane 0.724  
 20/70 Gasoline 1.342  
 HEATING VALUE, B.T.U. Per Cu. Ft.\*  
 Calculated from % Composition 1401  
 Calculated water saturated 1377  
 SULPHUR CONTENT, Grains Per 100 Cu. Ft.  
 Hydrogen Sulfide  
 Mercaptans  
 SPECIFIC GRAVITY\*  
 Calculated from % Composition 0.812  
 \*14.696 lbs./sq. in., 60° F

Propane + GPM -- 4.152

\*Determined on laboratory sample.

*BTU Most Equitable way to sell Gas.*

*Propane 36 cu ft per gal*

Low Pressure Gas Study

© Estoril Producing Corp.

*Home Gas 95 to 97% Methane.*

*5 lbs water per 1000 cu ft.*

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES

*A. M. Bunch*

80 PSIG SEPARATION

# 25 PSIG SEPARATION

At 25 psig separation, the gas stream is at its richest point yet, with a BTU value of 1588 BTU/cu. ft.

**SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES**  
1703 West Industrial — P. O. Box 2150  
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701  
(915) 683-3348

**FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT**

DATE RECEIVED 7-15-81  
FILE NO. C-1902-G  
LAB. NO. 45567  
DATE SECURED 7-11-81  
SECURED BY \_\_\_\_\_

MARKED Belco Federal, Well No. 1 (Strawn)  
SAMPLED FROM Heater-Treater Vent - 2" Hg **(B)**  
FROM Estoril Producing Corporation **25 psig**  
RUN 7-15-81 **OP**

COMPONENT	MOL. %	G. P. M.	LIQUID VOL. %
n	5.17		
Dioxide	0.31		
o	48.04		
	23.49	6.264	
	13.10	3.596	
e	2.60	0.848	
ne	3.26	1.245	
ne	1.23	0.449	
ine	1.08	0.390	
s plus	1.02	0.439	
es & Heavier			
en Sulfide	*None Det.		
en			
Monoxide			
l s	100.00	13.231	

CONDENSATE VALUES, G.P.M.

100% Propane 3.596  
EXCESS Butane 1.496  
26/70 Gasoline 1.875

HEATING VALUE, B.T.U. Per Cu. Ft.\*

Calculated from % Composition 1588  
Calculated water saturated 1560

SULPHUR CONTENT, Grains Per 100 Cu. Ft.\*

Hydrogen Sulfide \_\_\_\_\_  
Mercaptans \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFIC GRAVITY\*

Calculated from % Composition 0.985

\*14.696 lbs./sq. in., 60° F

Propane + GPM --- 6.967

\*Determined on laboratory sample.

Low Pressure Gas Study

3cc Estoril Producing Corp.

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES  
*Harry M. Bunch*



This gas stream reaches its most valuable point during storage in the oil tank. This gas has a BTU value of 2514 BTU/ cu. Ft. Obviously, this gas is worth capturing!

# OIL TANK STORAGE

1703 West Industrial — P. O. Box 2150  
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701  
(915) 683-3348

### FRACTIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT

DATE RECEIVED 7-15-81  
FILE NO. C-1902-G  
LAB. NO. 45568  
DATE SECURED 7-11-81  
SECURED BY \_\_\_\_\_

MARKED Belco Federal, Well No. 1 (Strawn)  
Sampled from stock tank vent 4-8 oz. pressure (C)  
FROM Estoril Producing Corporation  
RUN 7-15-81

COMPONENT	MOL. %	O. P. M.	LIQUID VOL. %
n	3.95		
Dioxide	0.10		
n	8.29		
	21.63	5.768	
e	29.20	8.015	
e	8.56	2.793	
ne	14.93	4.694	
ne	5.22	1.906	
ne	5.02	1.814	
s plus	3.10	1.335	
ss & Heavier			
en Sulfide	*None Det.		
en			
Monoxide			
l s	100.00	26.325	

CONDENSATE VALUES, G.P.M.	
100% Propane	8.015
Excess Butane	5.260
26/70 Gasoline	7.281

HEATING VALUE, B.T.U. Per Cu. Ft.	
Calculated from % Composition	2534
Calculated water saturated	2489

SULPHUR CONTENT, Grains Per 100 Cu. Ft.  
Hydrogen Sulfide \_\_\_\_\_  
Mercaptans \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFIC GRAVITY\*  
Calculated from % Composition **1.578**

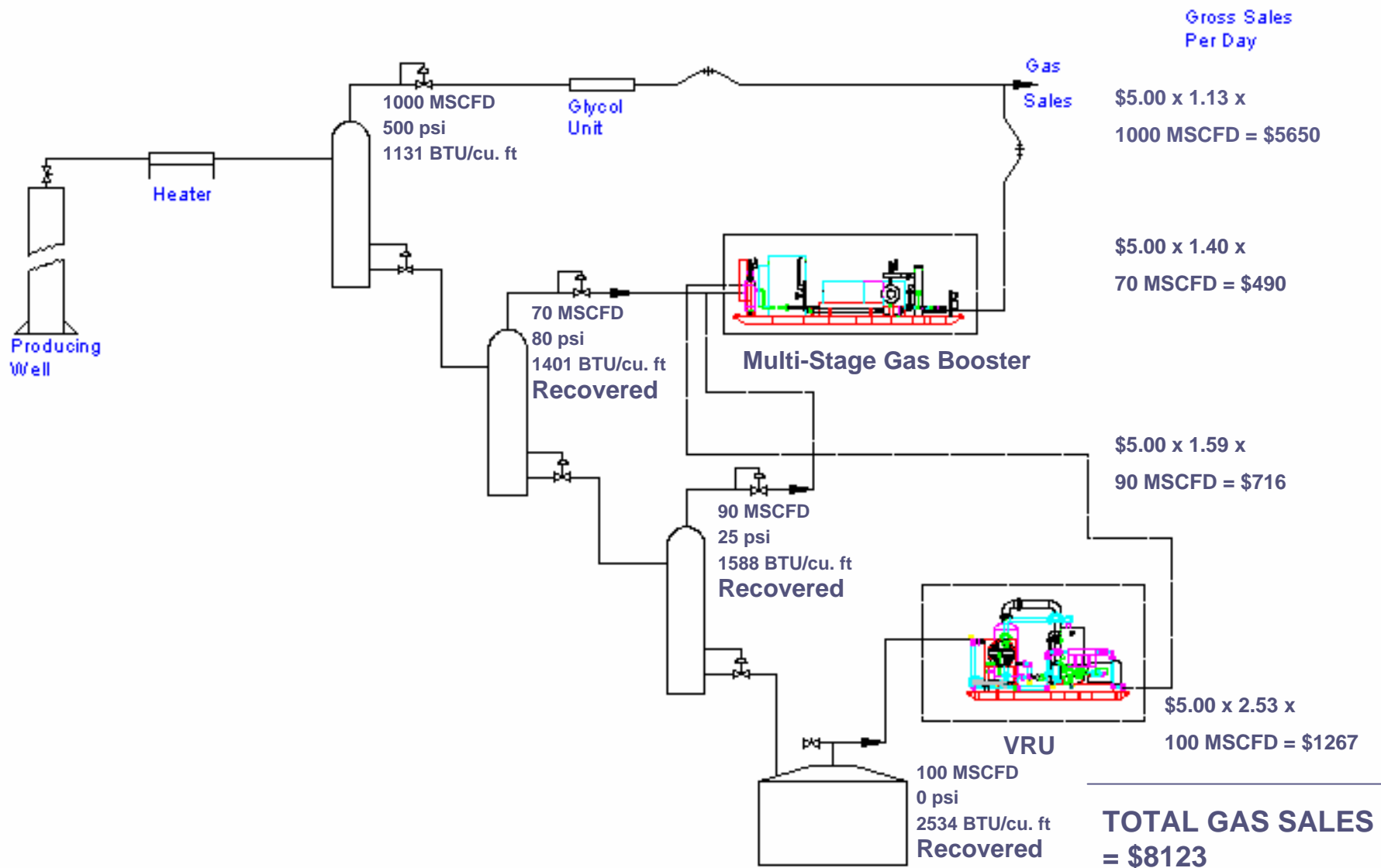
\*14.696 lbs./sq. in., 60° F

Propane + GPM --- 20.557  
\*Determined on laboratory sample.

Low Pressure Gas Study.

3cc Estoril Producing Corp.

SOUTHWESTERN LABORATORIES  
*Harry M. Bunch*



**MONTHLY GAS SALES INCREASE**  
**= \$74,190**

NOTE: Price based upon \$5.00/MMBTU

# Case Study 2

Mid Size Independent in Hobbs, NM area March '04

Installation of 2 VRU's on 2 stock tank batteries, each emitting approximately 90 MSCFD of 2500 btu tank vapors / 45 psig sales line

Previous gas sales revenue: \$0 (venting)

Monthly gas revenue:  $\$5 \times 2.5 \times 90 \text{ MSCFD} \times 30 \text{ days}$   
 $\times 2 \text{ tanks} = \$ 67,500$

Capital expense:  $\$24,000 \times 2 \text{ units} = \$48,000$

Payback: 21 DAYS

# Case Study 3

Large Independent in North Texas in June '04

Installation of 1 VRU on a stock tank battery emitting approximately 190 MSCFD of 2400 btu tank vapors / 50 psig sales line

Previous gas sales revenue: \$0 (venting)

Monthly gas revenue:  $\$5 \times 2.4 \times 190 \text{ MSCFD} \times 30 \text{ days}$   
= \$ 68,400

Capital expense: \$32,000

Payback: 14 DAYS

# Case Study 4 – Chevron

- Chevron installed eight VRUs at crude oil stock tanks in 1996

<b>Project Economics – Chevron</b>				
<b>Methane Loss Reduction (Mcf/unit/yr)</b>	<b>Approximate Savings per Unit<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Savings</b>	<b>Total Capital and Installation Costs</b>	<b>Payback</b>
<b>21,900</b>	<b>\$43,800</b>	<b>\$350,400</b>	<b>\$240,000</b>	<b>&lt;1 yr</b>

<sup>1</sup> Assumes a \$2 per Mcf gas price; excludes value of recovered NGLs. Refer to the *Lessons Learned* for more information.

Source: Natural Gas Star Partners

# ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

This flare in Eastern Venezuela was causing a variety of health and environmental concerns – a gas stream now generating over \$150,000 per month in additional revenue. Methane gas has 23 times the impact as a greenhouse gas as CO<sub>2</sub> – although almost 100% of industry focus is currently on CO<sub>2</sub>.



# VAPOR RECOVERY

Dual VRU bound for Venezuela... one of 17 units capturing gas currently for Petroleos de Venezuela. What started as an environmental project in one area became an economic addition to every major production station. Flooded screw compressor for volumes to 5.0 MMSCFD; up to



# VAPOR RECOVERY

At this installation, three dual rotary screws compressor packages are set in tandem to move 15 MMSCFD of 2500-2600 BTU/cu ft. tank vapors. Condensate recovery more than doubled PDVSA estimates.





# VAPOR RECOVERY

Two large rotary screw compressor systems installed by ENI in Dacion, Venezuela—designed to move 1.4 MMcfd of gas at pressures to 230 psig. Each skid is now recovering between 100 and 150 barrels of 70 API condensate PER DAY from gas stream previously vented to the atmosphere.



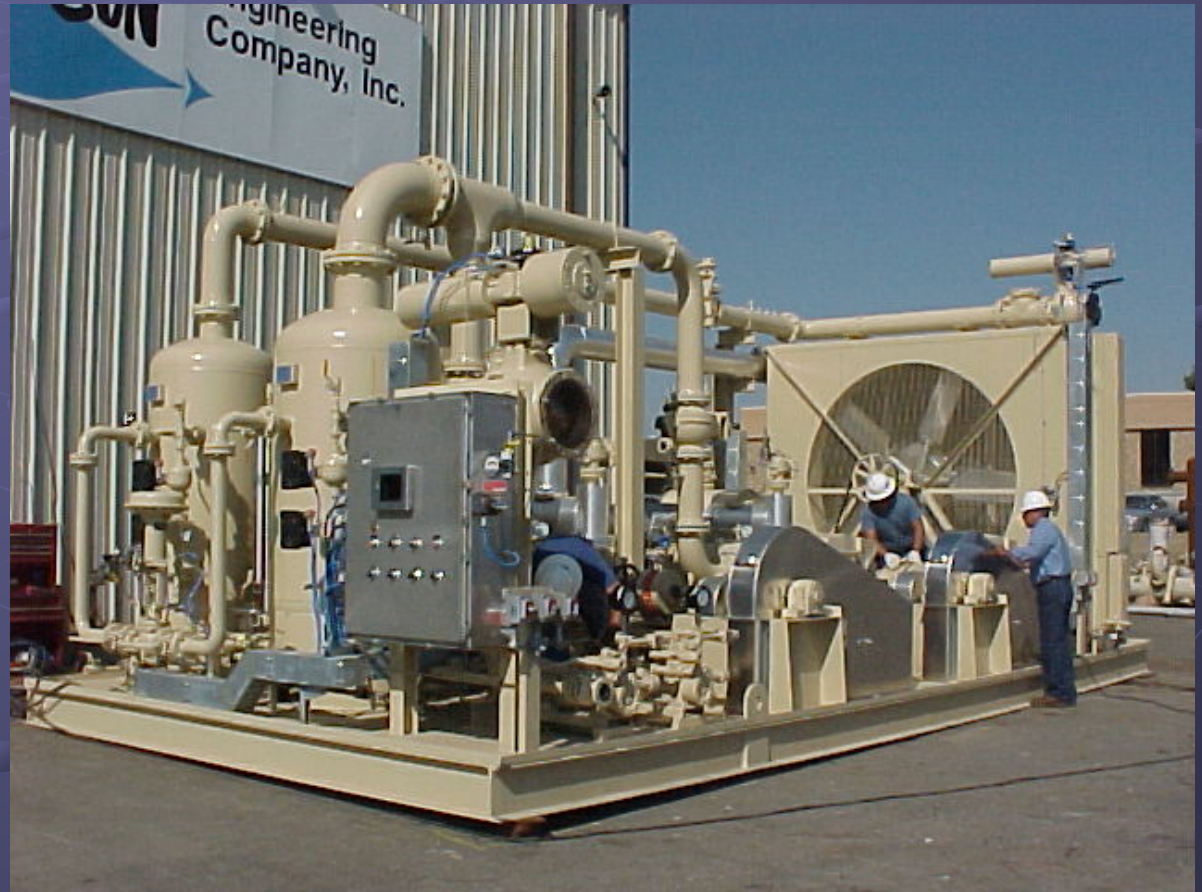
# VAPOR RECOVERY

Condensate recovery was maximized on the ENI project by utilizing large heat exchangers to reduce the temperature of the gas.



# VAPOR RECOVERY

A 2004 project for Amerada Hess for service in Algeria. This unit is a dual rotary vane system capable of moving 4MMCFD at pressures from 0 to 40 psig



# VAPOR RECOVERY

This VRU for Anadarko is currently capturing 300 mcf/d of tank vapors and compressing them to 70 psi discharge in Rock Springs, WY

(installed 2004)











Burlington Resources has installed 9 VRU's in their Montana and North Dakota fields in 2005 on tank batteries ranging from 50 mcf/d to 200 mcf/d in methane emissions, and discharging into a 40 psig pipeline.















# HY-BON ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.



*Setting a New Standard!!*



# COMPRESSOR SELECTION CRITERIA

HOW DO WE CHOOSE THE  
APPROPRIATE COMPRESSOR?



# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

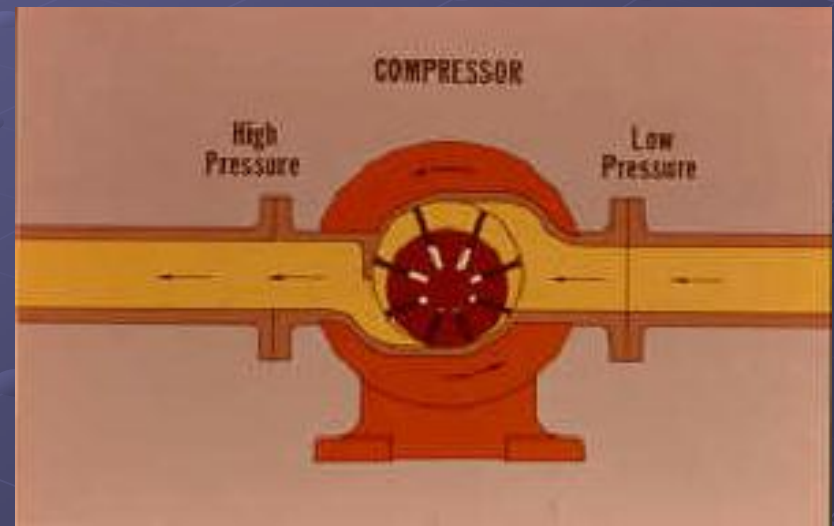
## Rotary Vane Compressors

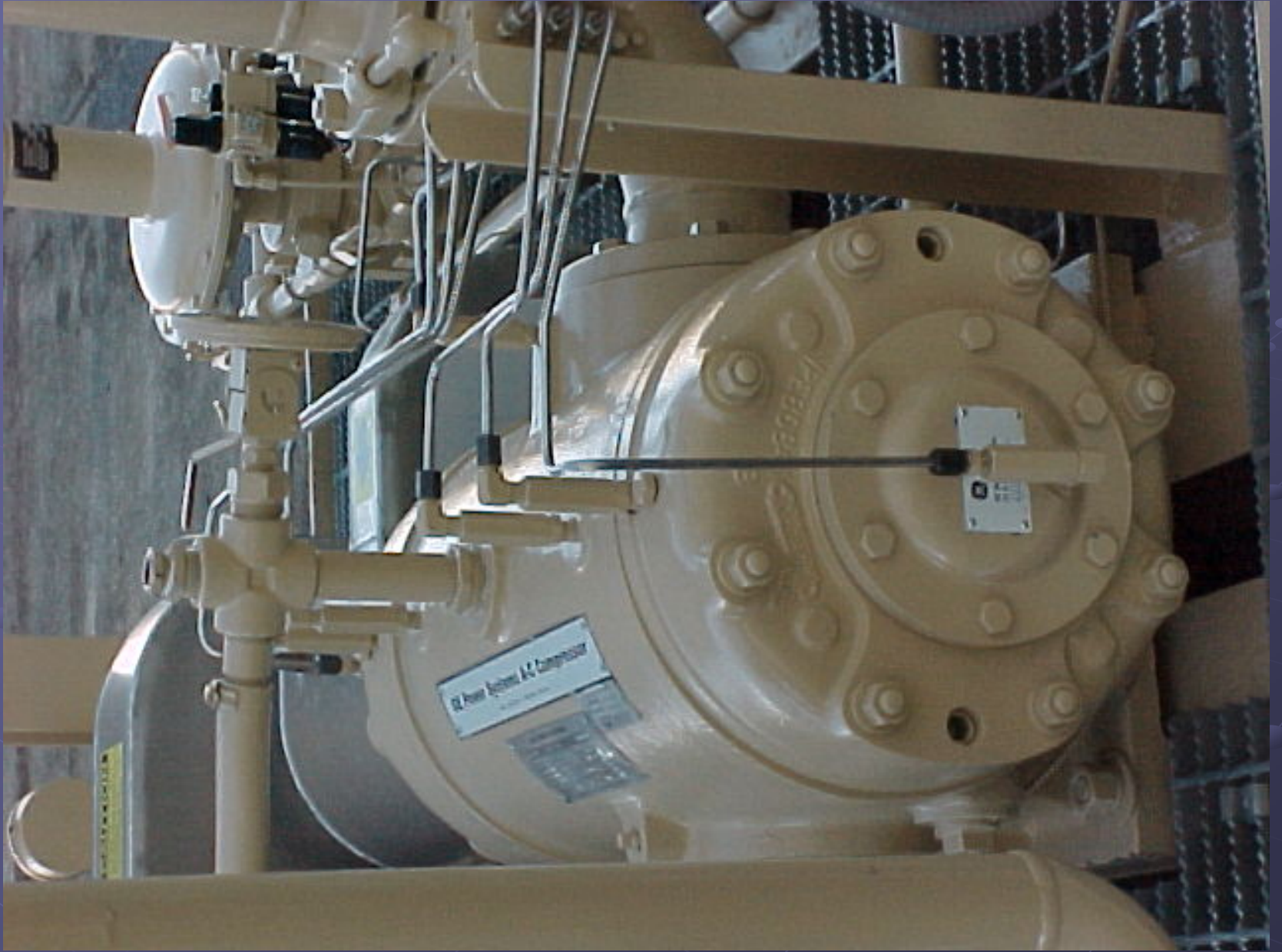
- ❖ Eccentrically mounted rotor
- ❖ Centrifugal force causes vanes to slide in or out
- ❖ Gas is forced into decreasing space thereby causing compression
- ❖ Jacket water cooling system
- ❖ RPM range 400 to 1600



# ROTARY VANE OPERATING PRINCIPLE

Gas enters the suction flange at low pressure. The rotor is mounted eccentrically toward the bottom of the compressor. Centrifugal force imparted as the rotor turns forces the blades out against the cylinder wall. The gas is forced into a ever decreasing space, thereby compressing the gas which then exits the discharge. The rotor clearance at the bottom (typically .005") is sealed with lubricating oil to create a closed system within the cylinder.





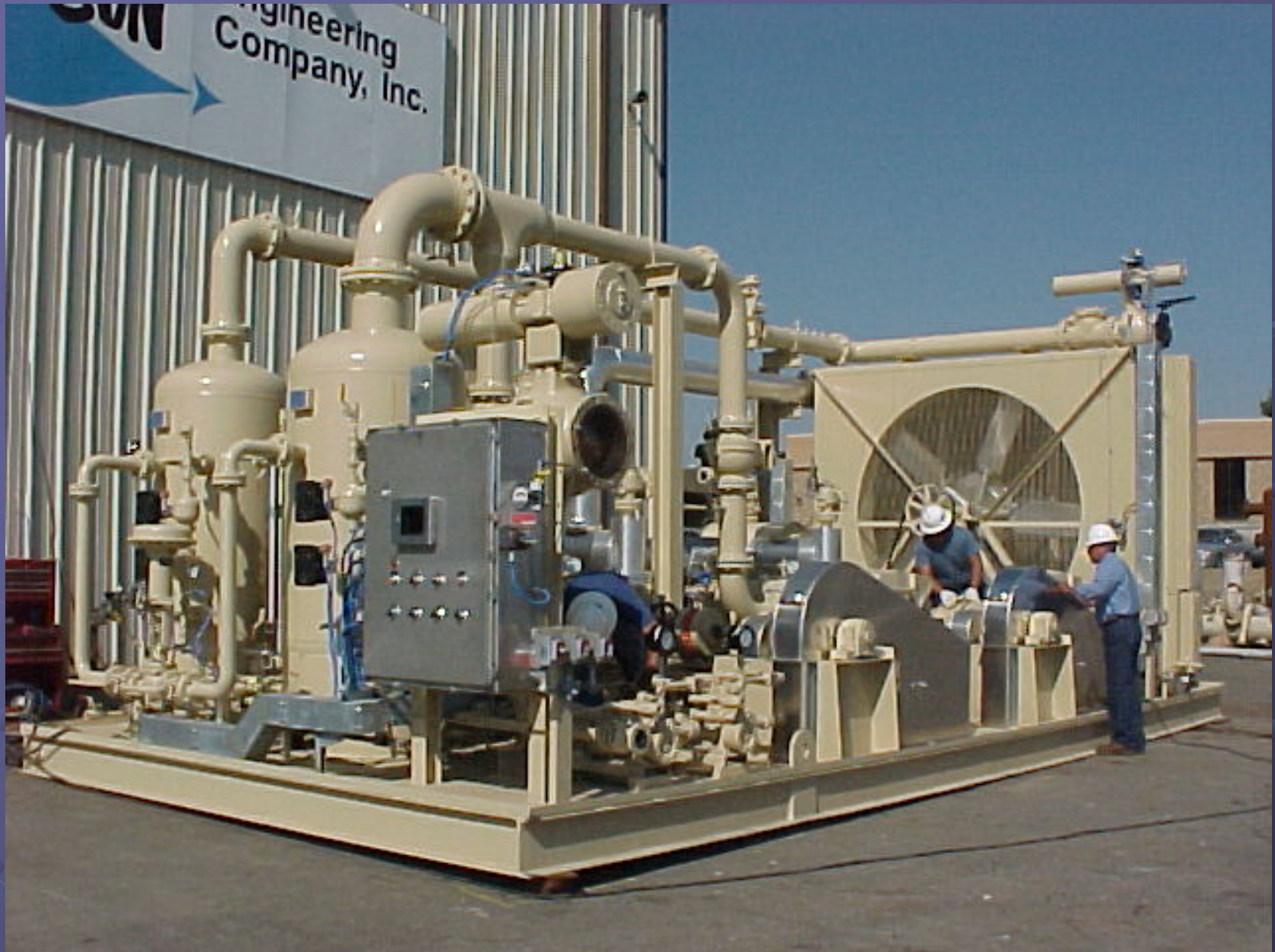






2004 4 7



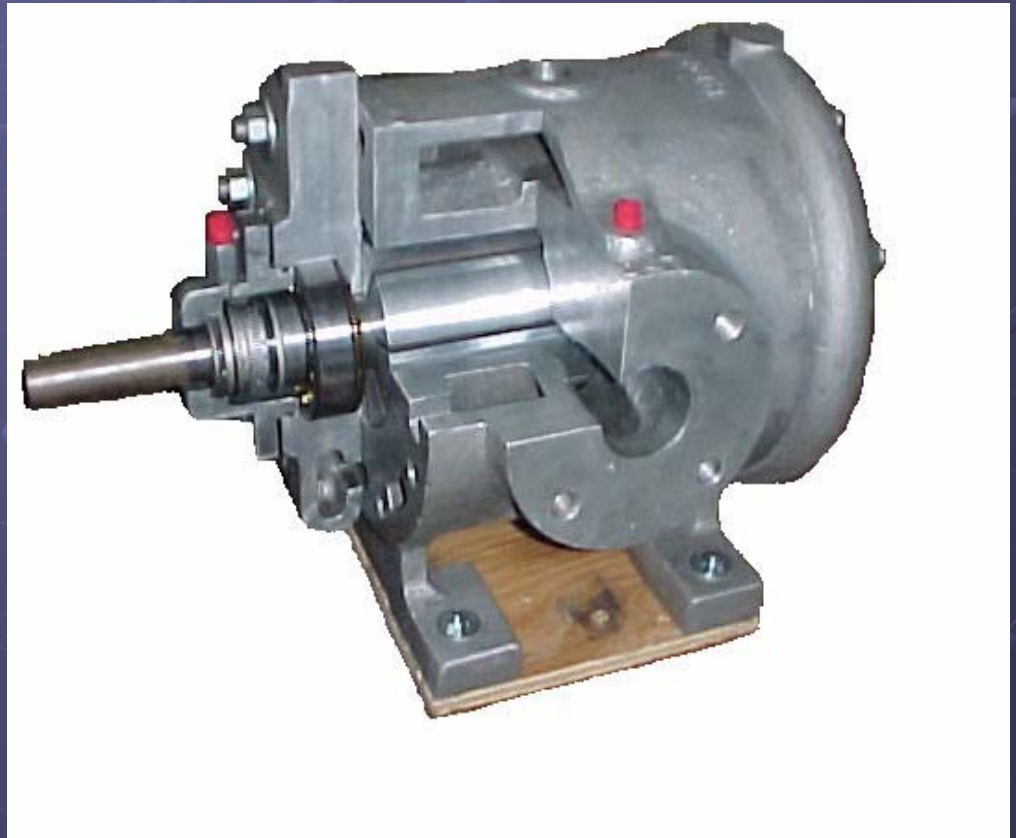




# Rotary Vane Compressor

## Typical Operating Parameters

- Differential pressure equal to or less than 60 psig (for single-stage models).
- Volume from approximately 15 MSCFD to 2 MMSCFD (for single-compressor units).
- Relatively low suction temperatures (< 120° F)



# Rotary Vanes

## Advantages

- Excellent for relatively high volumes and relatively low differential pressures
- Efficient at low pressures
- Can handle wet gas relatively easy
- Comparatively low initial cost and ongoing maintenance

## Disadvantages

- Limited as to discharge pressure
- Limited as to suction temperature capabilities
- Free liquid causes blade breakage problems

# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

## Flooded Screw Compressors

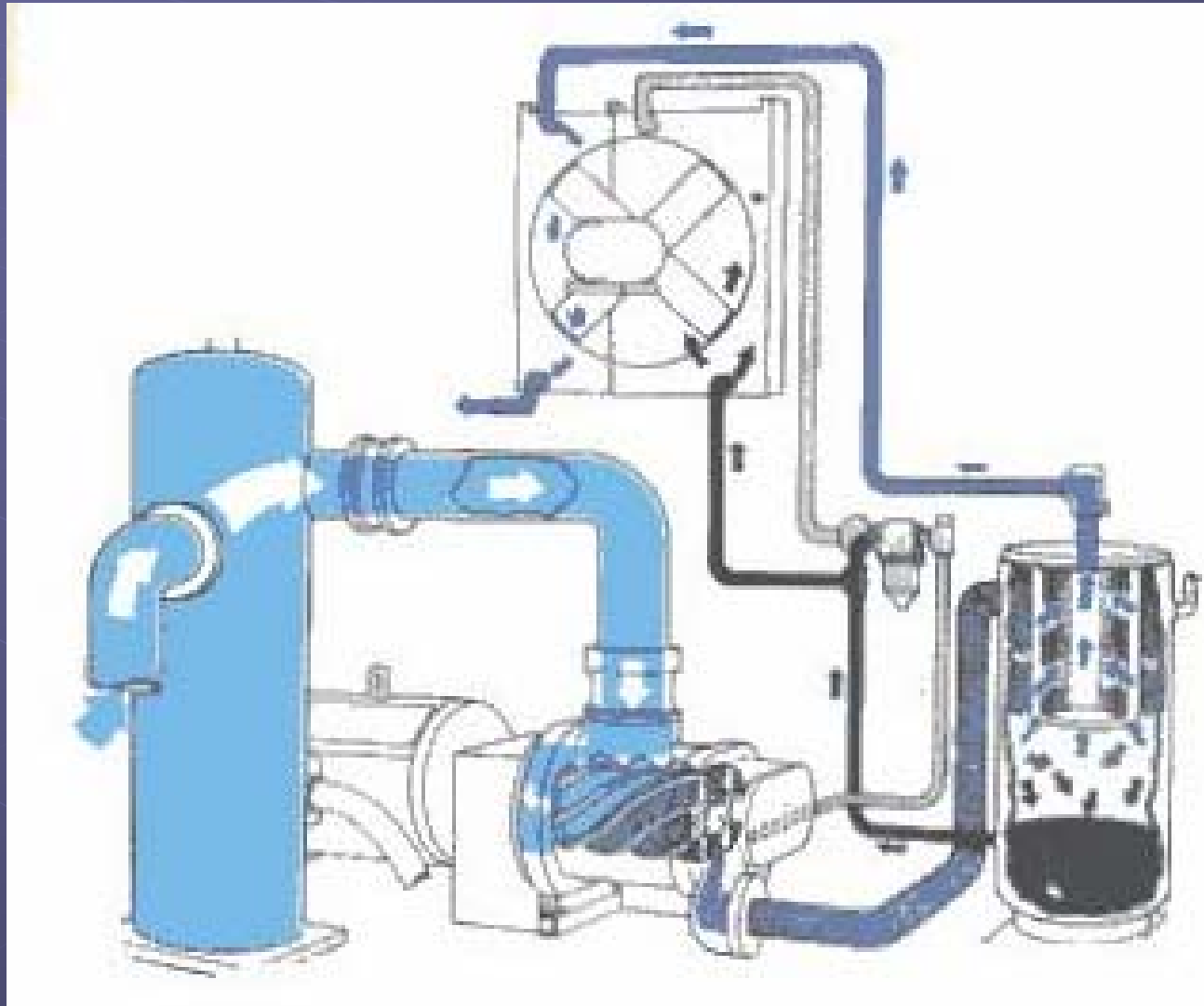
- Twin helical rotors
- Oil is both the cooling medium and the compression medium
- Various configurations of gears, internal porting and loader/unloader valves available
- Gas mixed with oil. Must be separated after compression

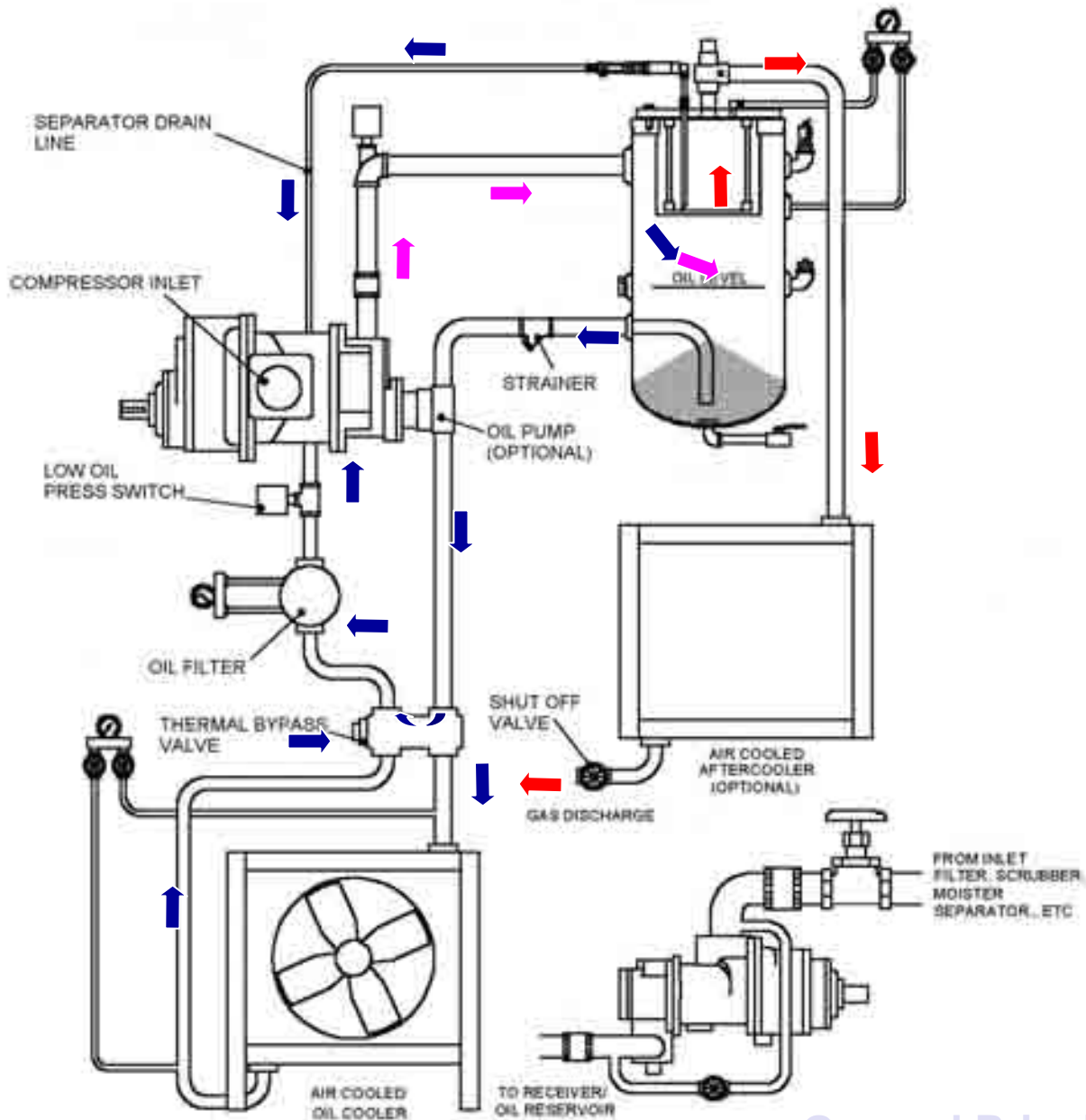


# Rotary Screw Packages

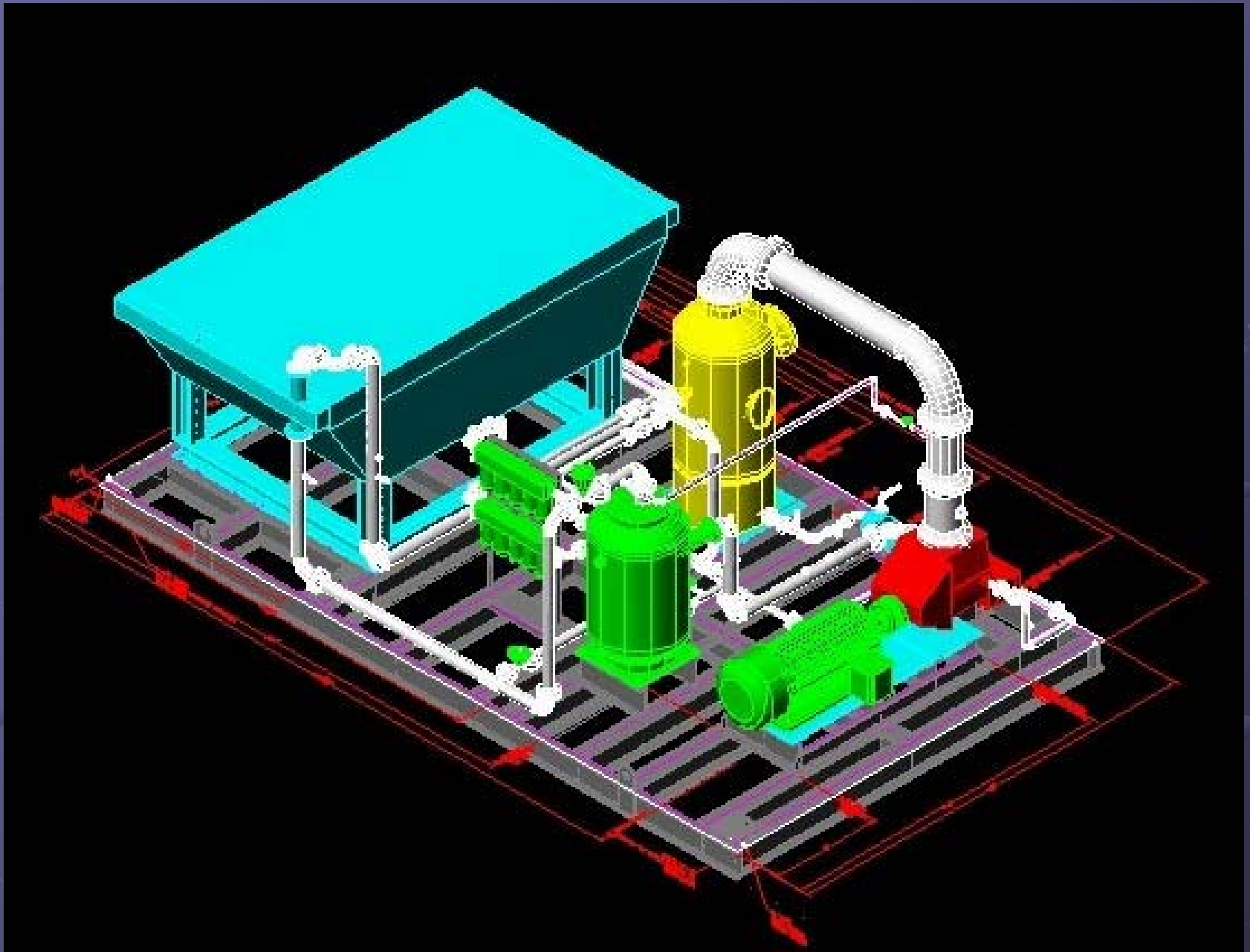


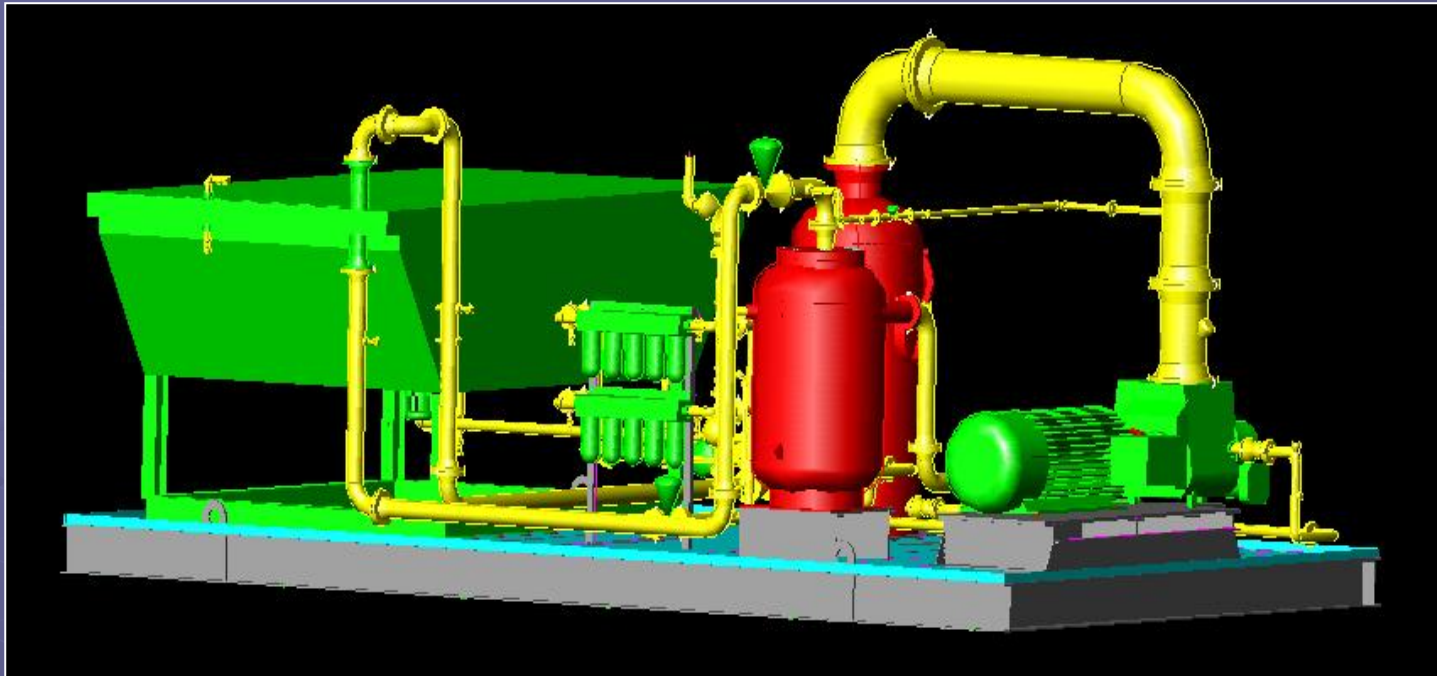
# General Principle - Rotary Screws





General Principle - Rotary  
 Screws - Continued



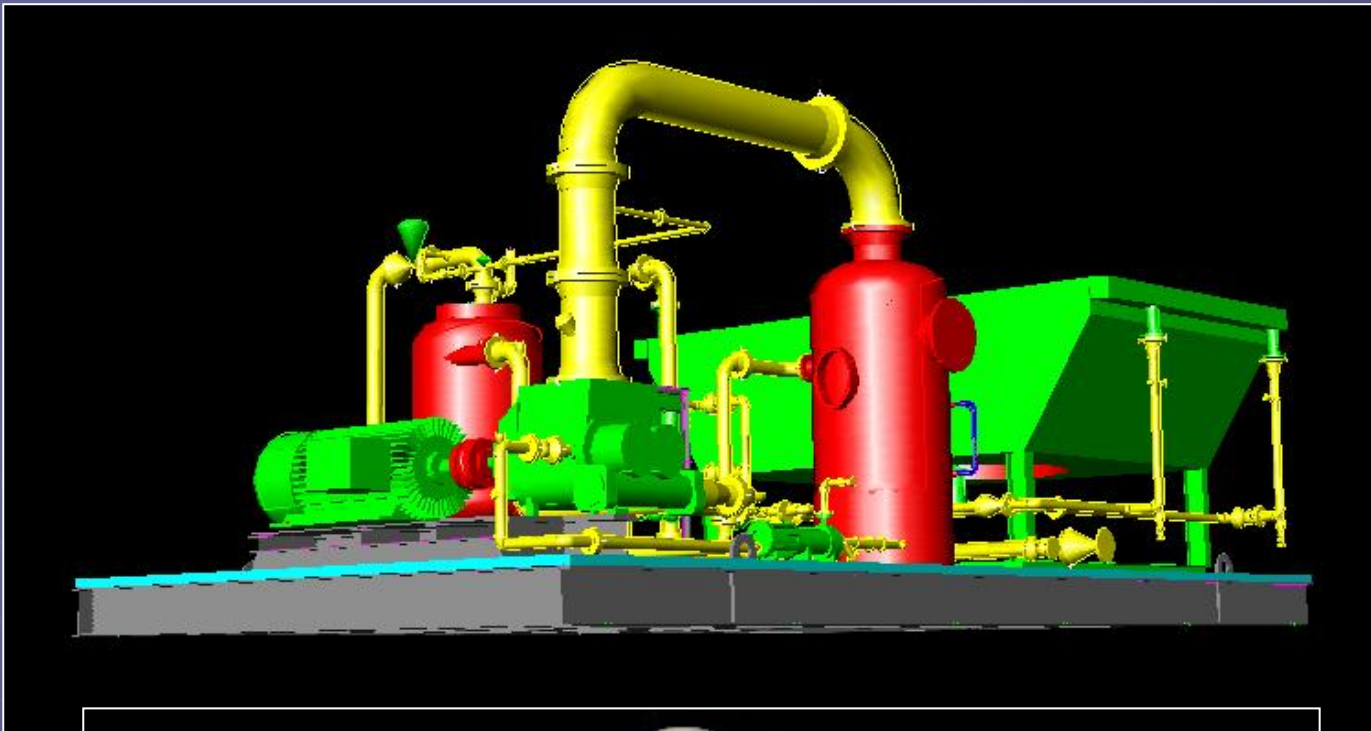


3-D  
MODEL



FINISHED  
PRODUCT

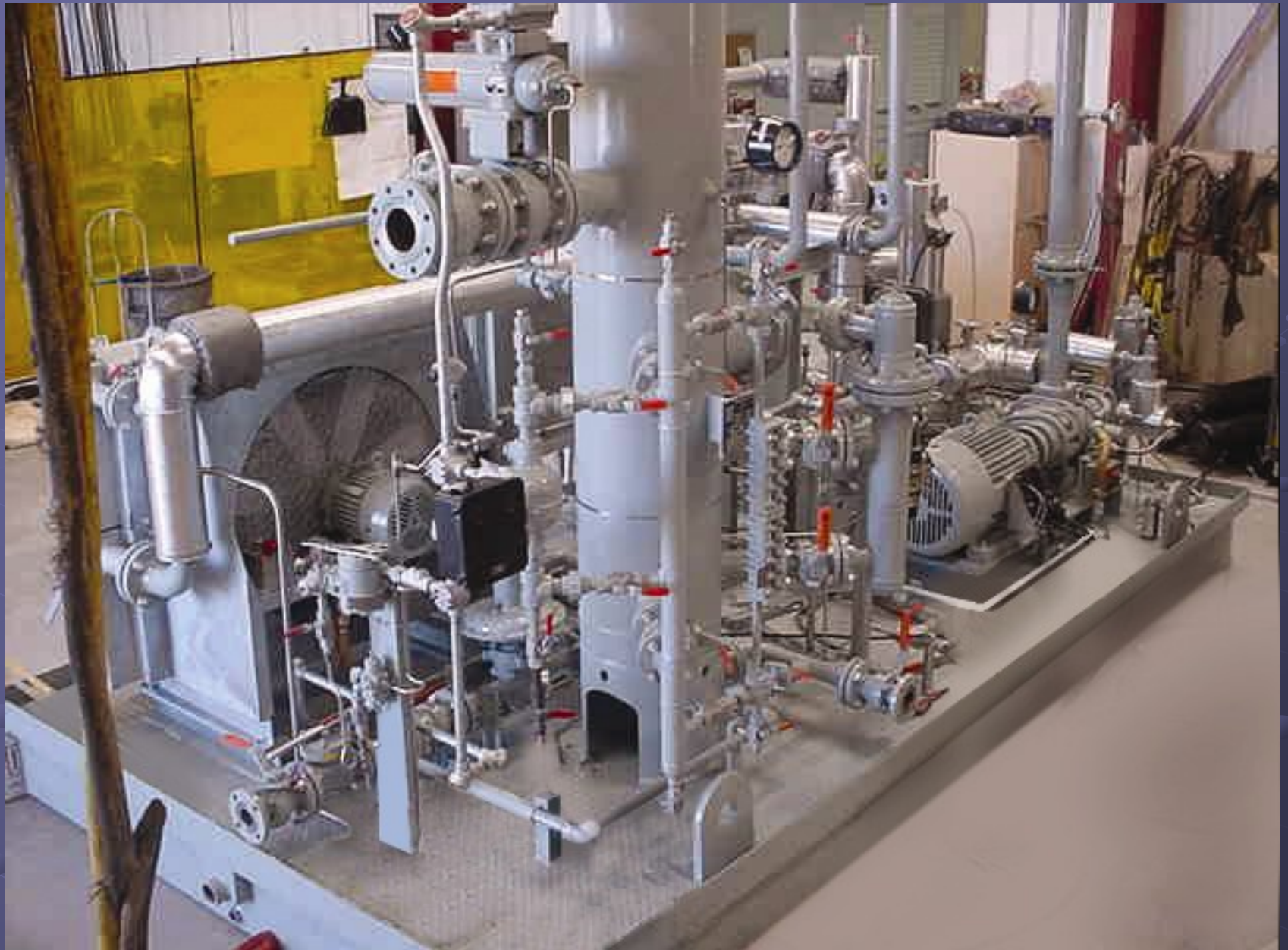




3-D  
MODEL



FINISHED  
PRODUCT







9 2:01 PM

# Oil Flooded Screw Compressor

## Typical Operating Parameters

- Differential pressure equal to or less than 300 psig (for single-stage models).
- Volume from approximately 20 MSCFD to 2.5 MMSCFD (for single-compressor units).
- Virtually any temperature ( $< 180^{\circ} \text{F}$ )



# Oil Flooded Screws

## Advantages

- Excellent in a large volume/medium differential pressure range
- Can handle wet gas better than rotary vanes
- Excellent temperature control for controlling condensate fallout

## Disadvantages

- More sophisticated system w oil/gas separator
- Higher maintenance
- Higher operational expense (oil, filters, etc.)

# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

## Liquid Ring Compressors

- Vacuum pump technology
- Uses lobes rather than vanes
- Gas is mixed with non-lubricating oil. Must be separated after compression.
- Good for extremely low differential pressures.
- Compression oil must be segregated from lubrication oil



# Liquid Ring Compressor Typical Operating Parameters

- Differential pressure equal to or less than 25 psig (for single-stage models).
- Volume from approximately 15 MSCFD to 2.5 MMSCFD (for single-compressor units).
- Virtually any suction temperature ( $< 180^{\circ}$  F)





# Liquid Rings

## Advantages

- High volumetric efficiency
- Few moving parts

## Disadvantages

- Extremely limited on discharge pressure
- Used primarily in vacuum applications
- Higher operational expense (oil, filters, etc.)

# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

## Reciprocating Compressors

- Piston/cylinder arrangement
- May be air, water or oil cooled
- Ages old technology
- May be slow speed or high speed











2005 5 1

# Reciprocating Compressor Typical Operating Parameters

- Differential pressure in excess of 2000-3000 psig (for multi-stage models).
- Volumes in excess of 20 MMSCFD (dependent upon suction pressure).
- Relatively high suction temperatures (< 200° F)



# Reciprocating Compressors

## Advantages

- High volume/high pressure
- Able to handle spikes in pressure
- Relatively low maintenance

## Disadvantages

- Low suction pressure results in large first stage cylinder size
- Inefficient at low pressures
- Rings and valves fail in wet gas applications
- Control is difficult at atmospheric pressures



# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

## Dry Screw Compressors

- Similar in design to flooded screw
- Lubricating oil never comes in contact with process gas
- Extremely high rpm / very sophisticated seal systems
- Noise suppression systems req'd



# Dry Screw Compressor Typical Operating Parameters

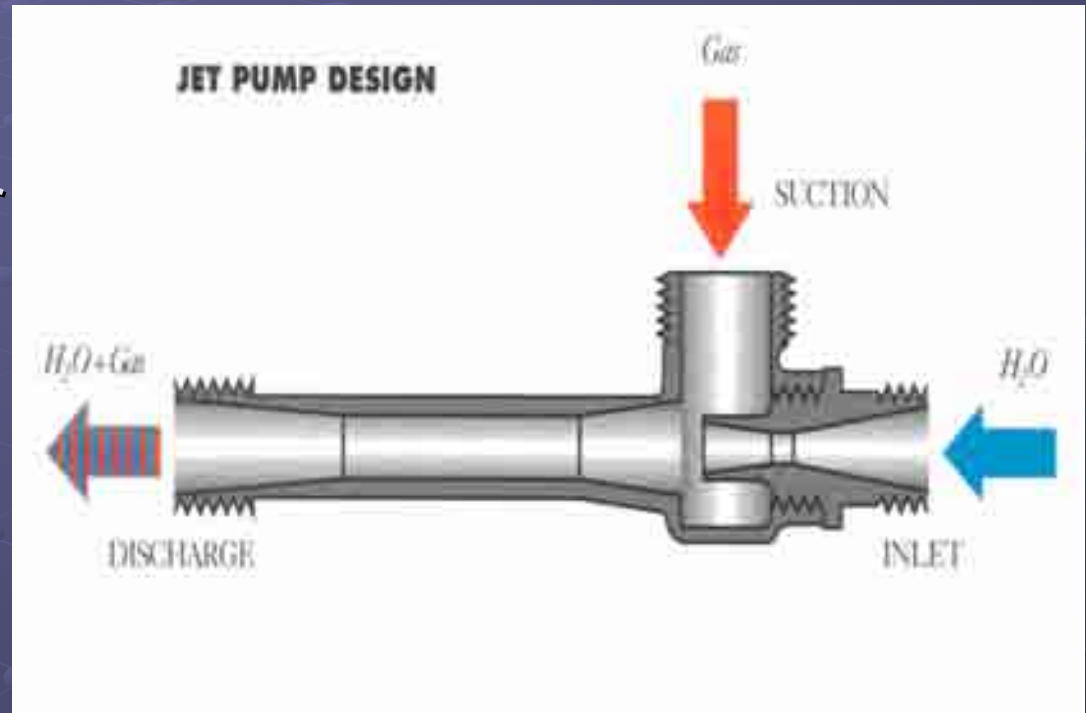
- Not recommended for volumes less than 2 MMSCFD.
- Discharge pressure up to 600 psi
- Volumes in excess of 25 MMSCFD



# TYPICAL COMPRESSOR TYPES USED IN LOW PRESSURE

## Vapor Jet

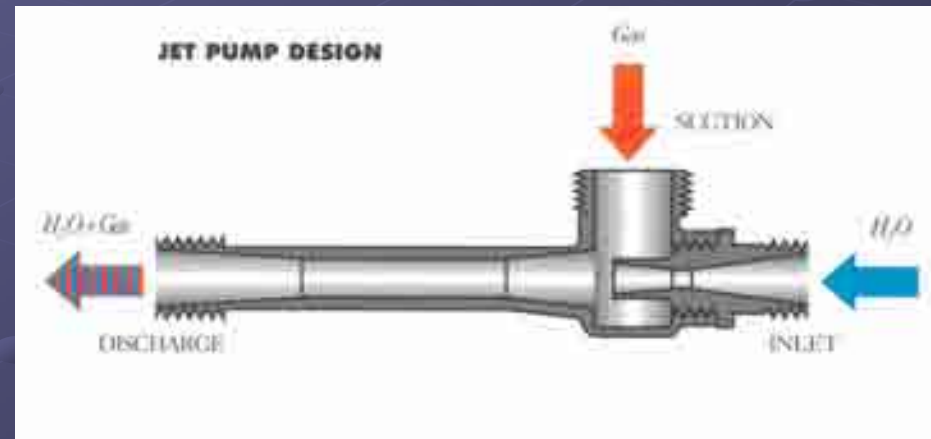
- Utilizes pressurized water to affect gas gathering
- No moving internal parts
- Uses produced water in a closed system
- Separation of gas and water required





# Vapor Jet Typical Operating Parameters

- Differential pressure equal to or less than 40 psig (for single-stage models).
- Volume from approximately 5 MSCFD to 75 MSCFD (for single-compressor units).
- Suction Temperature is not an issue.
- Gas composition and saturation level is not an issue.
- Gas can be sent down the pipeline, or re-injected into the formation



# JET PUMP VAPOR RECOVERY RANGES

<b>Jet Pump Size ( in. )</b>	<b>1 1/2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2 1/2</b>
<b>Operating Medium Pressure ( psig )</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Operating Medium Rate ( gpm )</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>Gas Volume Recovered ( Mcfpd )</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Centrifugal Pump Eff. ( % )</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Motor Eff. ( % )</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>KW-HR/day</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>625</b>
<b>Power Cost ( \$/KW-HR )</b>	<b>0.045</b>	<b>0.045</b>	<b>0.045</b>
<b>Electrical Cost ( \$/Mcf )</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.36</b>

# Technological Advancements

Low Pressure Gas Management  
Systems

# Sensing Technology

Pressure sensing achieved with diaphragm actuated mechanical device / set pressures achieved by manually setting counter weights in conjunction with proximity switch





# Sensing Technology

High sensitivity  
electronic  
transmitters are now  
commercially viable  
for low pressure  
applications



# Sensing Technology

These transmitters are highly accurate to extremely minute pressures – and do not require a highly trained technician to calibrate.



# Lubrication Systems

Advancements  
in lubrication  
systems  
monitoring and  
control have  
dramatically  
increased  
bearing life



# Lubrication Systems

Lubrication requirements are precisely monitored and detailed reporting capabilities are easily downloaded into handheld “palm” devices or directly into Excel format.



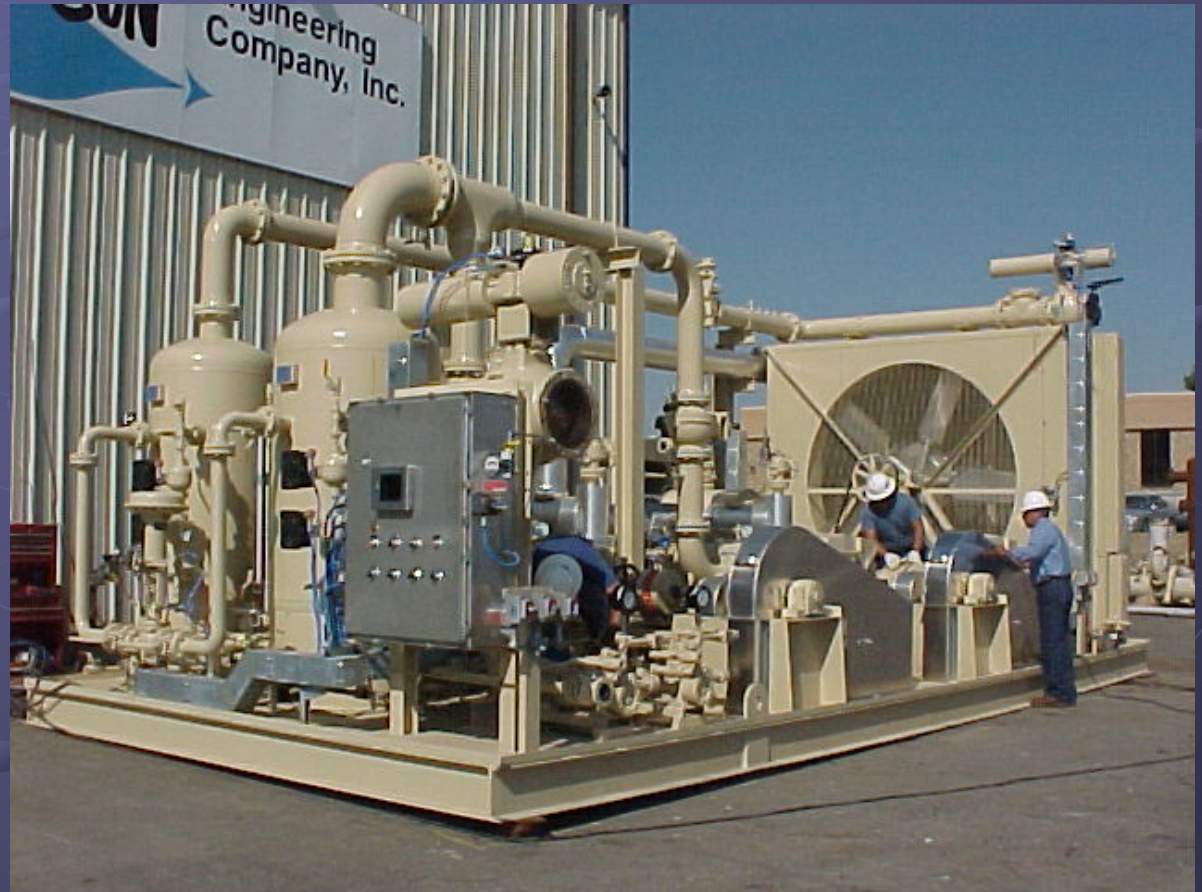
# Control Systems

PLC driven auto  
ignition for natural  
gas drive engines  
reduce  
compressor  
downtime and  
pumper  
requirements



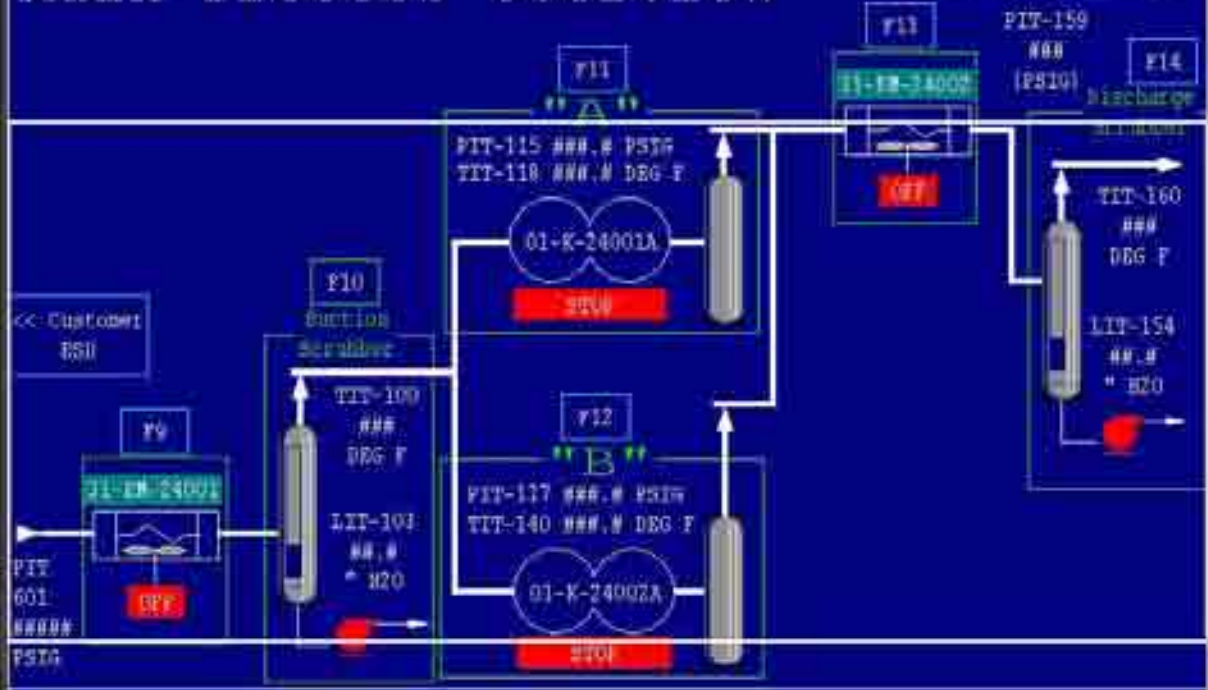
# Technology Advancements

**Control systems can range from almost completely manual to incredibly sophisticated.**



# Main Process Overview

##/##/## 11:##:## ##

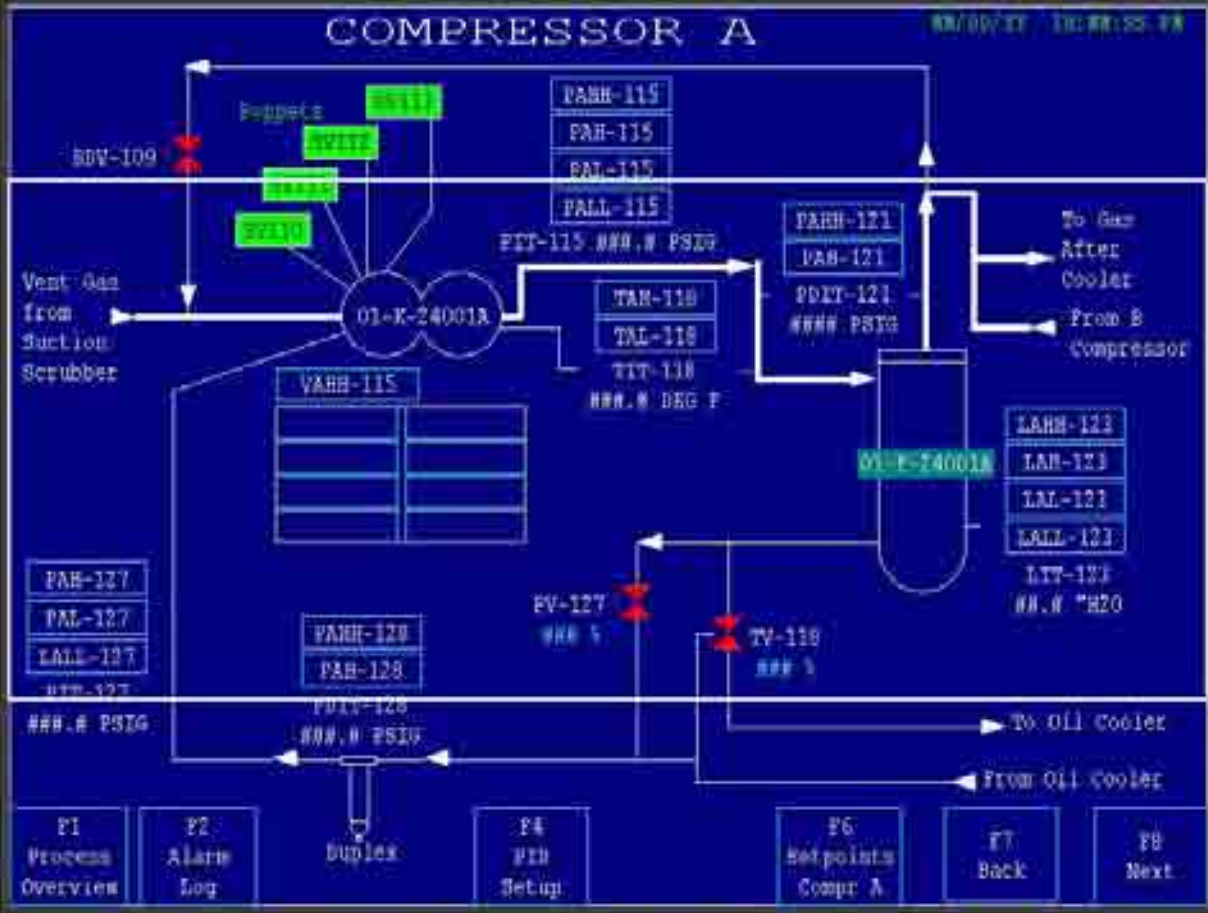


Screen Select >>

F2 Alarms      F7 Back      F8 Next

F17	7	8	9
F18	4	5	6
F19	1	2	3
F20	.	0	.
F21	←	←	←
	▲		
	◀		▶
	▼		

F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8
F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15	F16



Function key grid:

F17	7	8	9
F18	4	5	6
F19	1	2	3
F20	-	0	-
F21	←	←	←
	↑		
	←		→
	↓		

Function key grid:

*F1	*F2	F3	*F4	F5	*F6	*F7	*F8
F9	F10	F11	F12	F13	F14	F15	F16



# Technology Advancements

*Programmable Logics Controllers have dramatically expanded the capability of these packages*



*Automated restart is now possible on BOTH electric and engine drive units*

# Technology Advancements



*Typical Shutdown indicators include:*

- High Discharge Temperature*
- High Discharge Pressure*
- High Liquid Level*
- Low Suction Pressure*
- Lube Oil No-Flow*
- Excessive Vibration*

# Technology Advancements



*Even the most basic PLC can be configured to automatically call the cell phone number of the correct field personnel based on the specific cause of the shutdown.*



# Technology Advancements

## Remote Monitoring

- Now commercially available on this size equipment
- Ability to remotely monitor all variables captured by the PLC from an internet link for a couple hundred dollars a month
- Ability to view actual real time video footage of the unit if required

# HY-BON ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.



*Setting a New Standard!!*

