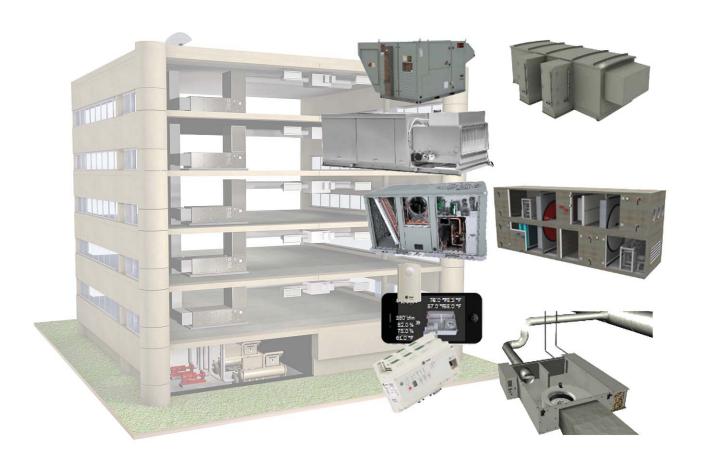


# Trane Engineers Newsletter Live

# High-Performance Air Systems with Systems Engineers Dustin Meredith, Ronnie Moffitt and Jeanne Harshaw (host)









Trane Engineers Newsletter Live Series

### High-Performance Air Systems

### Abstract

This program will discuss the properties of high-performance air systems and provide guidance on their design. Air handling equipment design best practices like right-sizing and proper component selection will be discussed in detail. Duct design guidelines including velocity and fitting placement will complete the air distribution system. System control strategies and damper control strategies will be briefly reviewed. Also included: selection for part-load operation and part-load efficiency requirements, economics of oversizing, and comparisons to traditional air-handling systems.

Presenters: Trane systems engineers Dustin Meredith, Ronnie Moffitt and Jeanne Harshaw (host)

### After viewing attendees will be able to:

- 1. Identify the major components of an air system
- 2. Summarize how right sizing and proper component selection impact air system performance
- 3. Identify several opportunities to improve performance and save energy in air systems
- 4. Summarize best practices for fan configuration, operation and selection

### Agenda

- Overview of air system components
- Optimization opportunities (internal and external)
- · System layout
- · Properties of a high-performance system
- Summary (energy analysis)





### Dustin Meredith | systems engineer | Trane

Dustin joined Trane in 2000 and has spent most of his career in applications engineering. In his current role as a systems engineer, he develops and optimizes next-generation systems. His expertise includes fans, acoustics, air system design and overall system optimization. He holds multiple patents and has been instrumental in advancing cutting-edge fan and motor applications to industry.

Dustin has authored a variety of technical engineering bulletins, white papers, Trane Engineers Newsletter articles and Trane Engineers Newsletter LIVE programs.

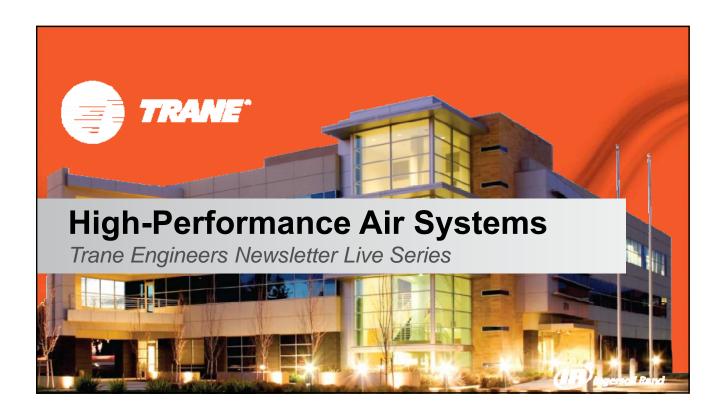
Dustin is a registered professional engineer and earned his mechanical engineering, computer science, and MBA degrees from the University of Kentucky. He is an ASHRAE Section Head and serves on the "Fans" and "Sound and Vibration" technical committees, including as past Chair of the latter. He is Trane's voting member for Air Movement and Control Association International, Inc. (AMCA) and serves on a number of AMCA committees.

### Ronnie Moffitt | systems engineer | Trane

Ronnie joined Trane in 1996 and currently is a systems engineer focused on developing and optimizing commercial HVAC systems and control strategies. His primary focus has been dehumidification, air-to-air energy recovery and DOAS design. He has several patents related to these subjects and serves on related AHRI and ASHRAE engineering committees.

Ronnie is the current chairman of the AHRI dehumidification engineering section and past chairman of ASHRAE's "Energy Recovery" technical committee. He led the development of the Trane CDQ™ system, a winner of the R&D 100 Award for *The Most Technologically Significant New Products* of 2005. He received his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Syracuse University and is a licensed professional engineer and a certified Energy Manager (CEM) by Association of Energy Engineers.







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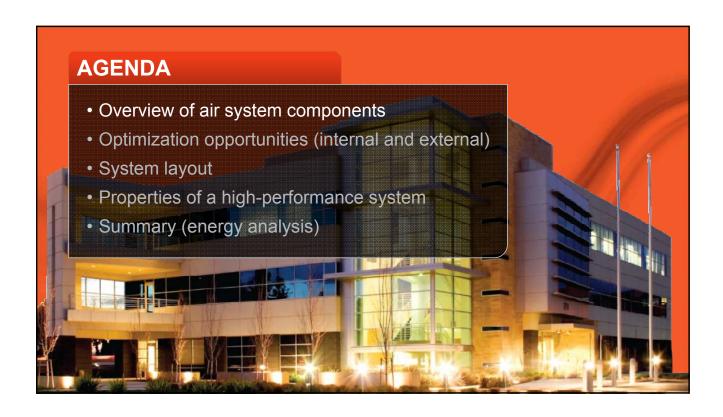
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# Learning objectives

- Identify the major components of an air system
- Summarize how right sizing and proper component selection impact air system performance
- Identify several opportunities to improve performance and save energy in air systems
- Summarize best practices for fan configuration, operation and selection









# **Air Horsepower**

Work = Force × Distance

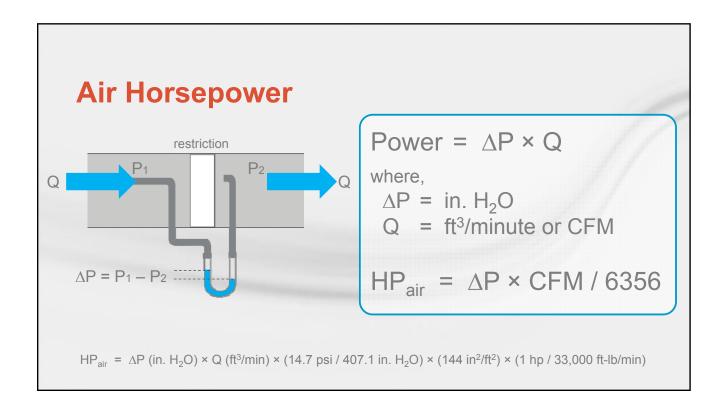
= Pressure × Volume

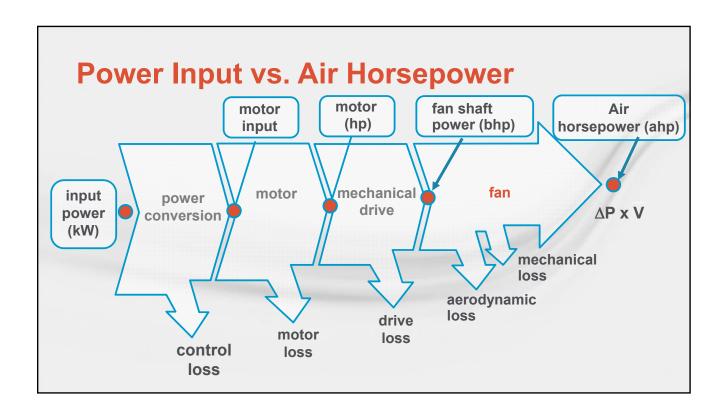
= (Force/Area) × (Area x Distance)

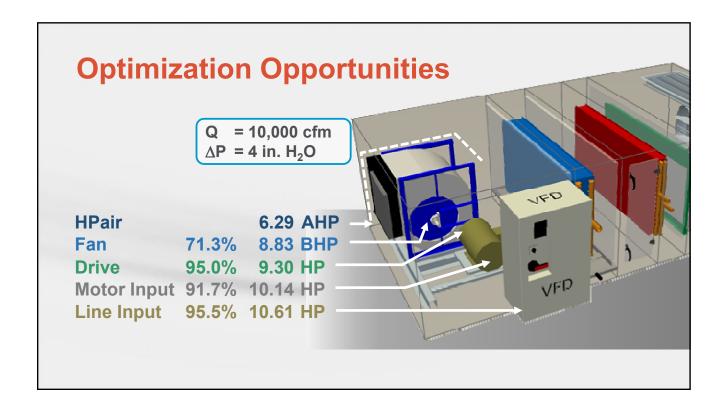
Power = Work / Time

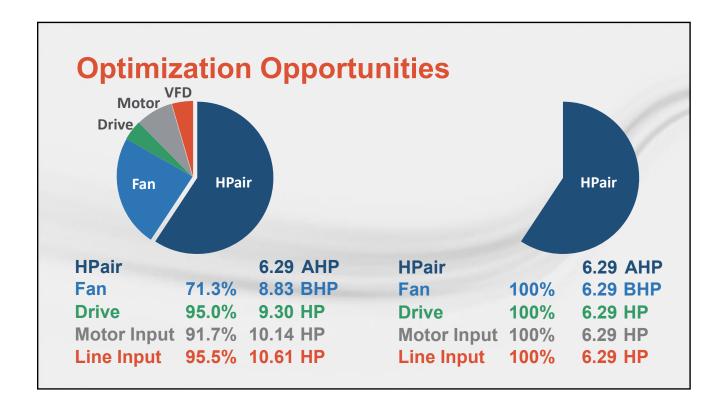
= Pressure × Volume / Time

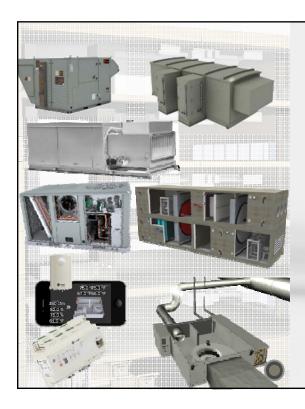
 $= \Delta P \times Q$ 





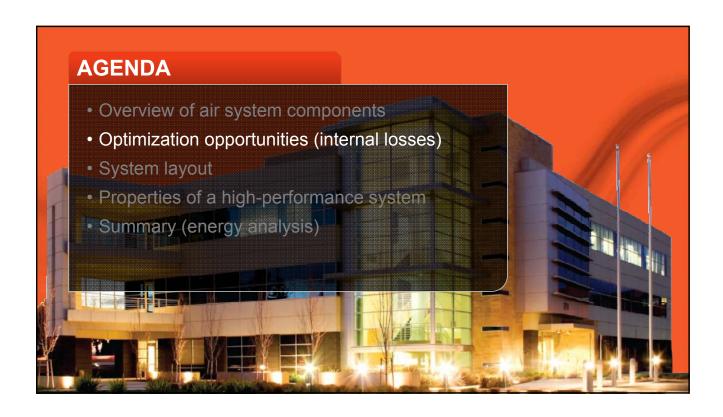


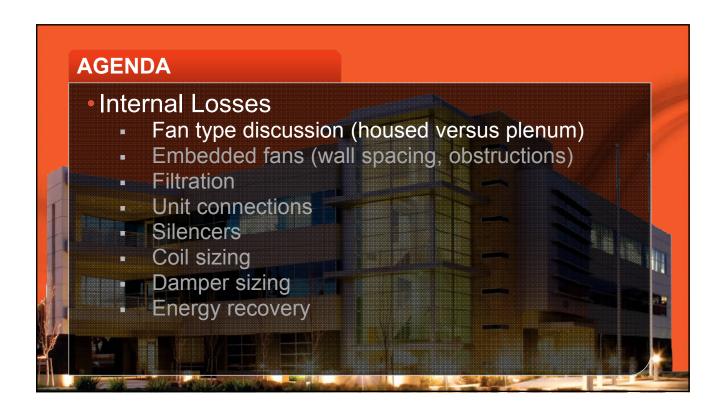


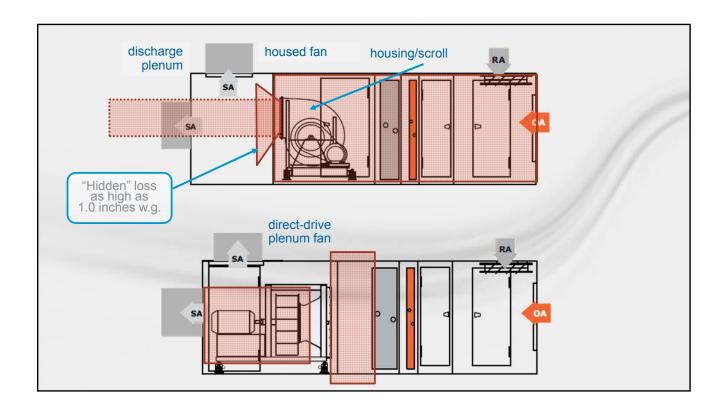


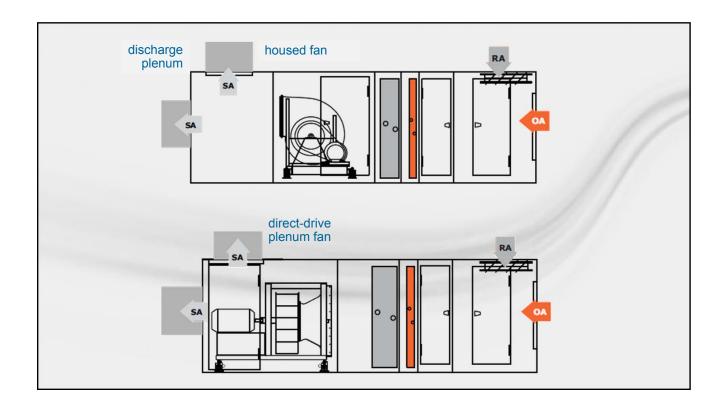
### **Components of an Air System**

- DOAS dedicated outdoor air handler
- Make-up air unit (MUA)
- Air-handling unit (AHU)
- Rooftop unit (RTU)
- · Energy recovery ventilator (ERV
- Heat Recovery Unit (HRU)
- Relief or exhaust fans
- Terminal equipment
- Ductwork
- Controls









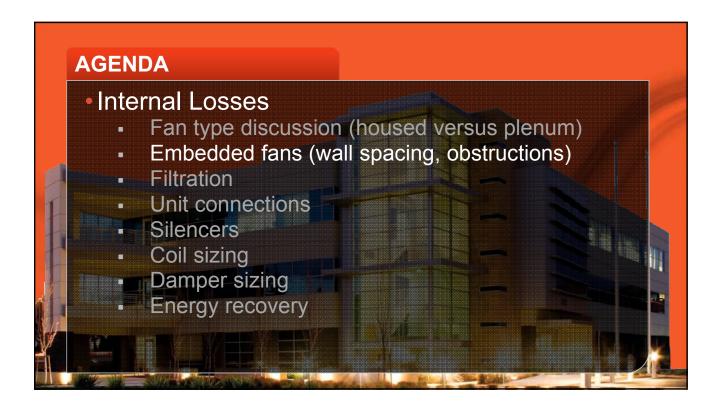
# **Discharge Plenum with Multiple Outlets**

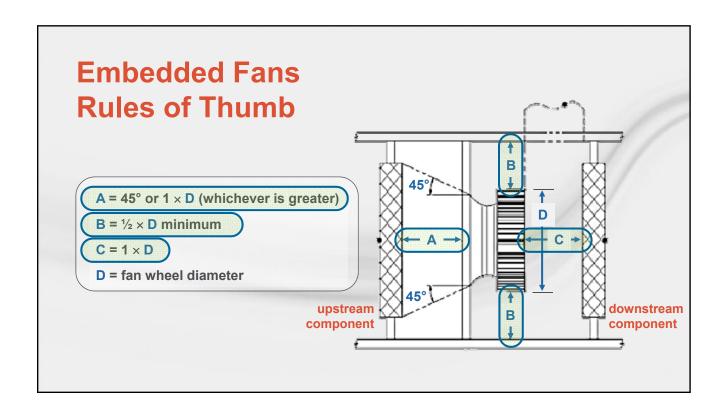
Fan type and wheel diameter	Input power, bhp	Rotational speed, rpm
Housed AF (25 in.) + plenum	13.2	1380
Belt-drive plenum AF (35.56 in.)	14.0	1050
Direct-drive plenum AF (30 in.)	12.8	1320

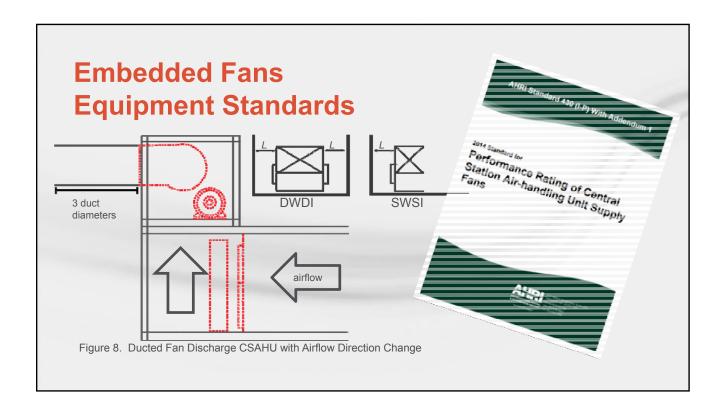
Based on a typical VAV air-handling unit configuration (OA/RA mixing box, high-efficiency filter, hot-water heating coil, chilled-water cooling coil, and draw-thru supply fan with a single discharge opening off fan section) operating at 13,000 cfm and 2 in. H<sub>2</sub>O of external static pressure drop.

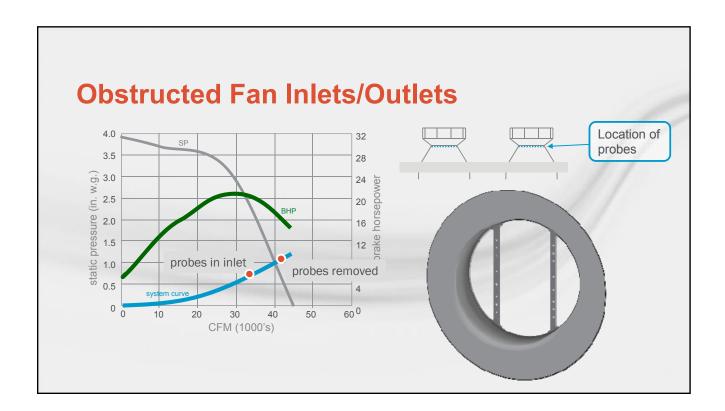
## Housed vs. Plenum Fans

- Single discharge into a long, straight section of duct
  - Housed fan likely to require less power, but a plenum fan will likely have lower discharge sound levels
- Downstream discharge plenum
  - Plenum fan will likely require less power with similar discharge sound levels, and likely result in a shorter AHU
- Downstream components
   (e.g., blow-through cooling coil, final filters)
  - Plenum fan will likely require less power

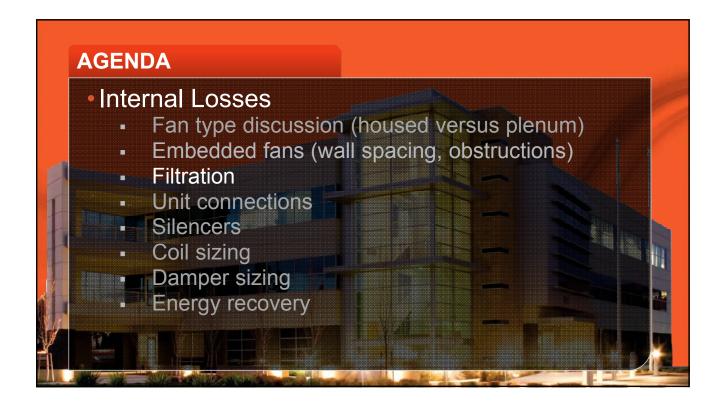


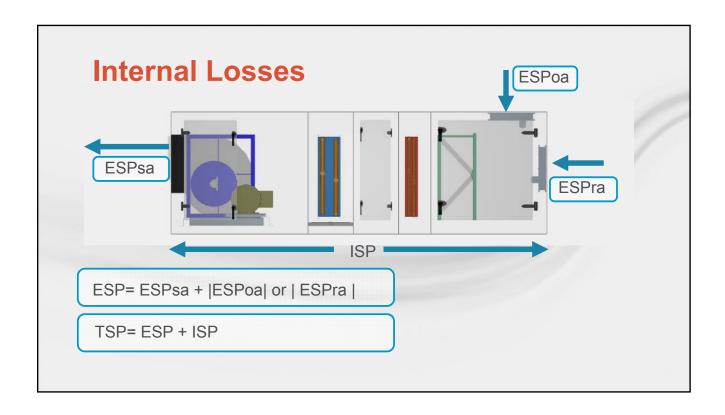




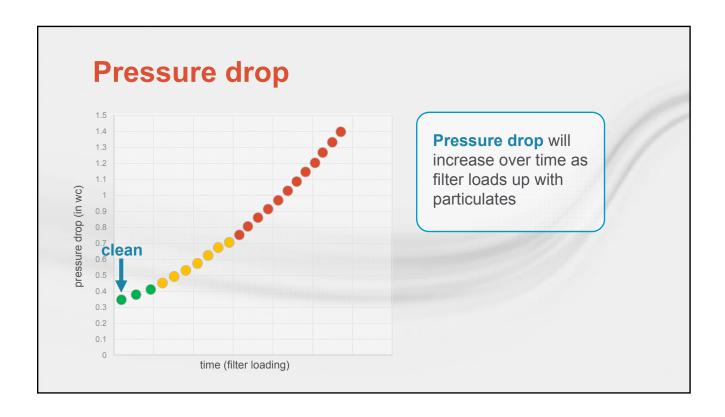


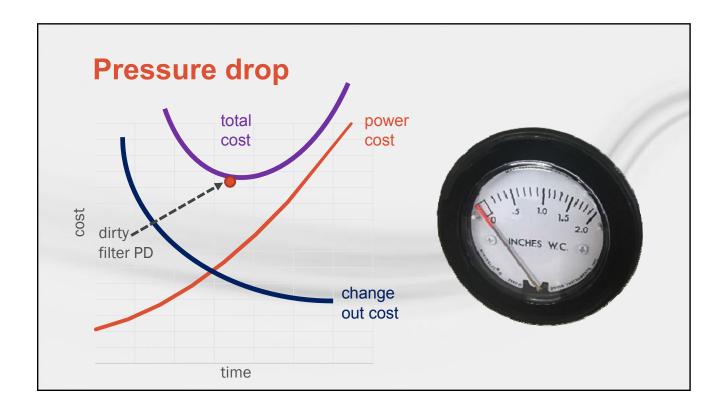


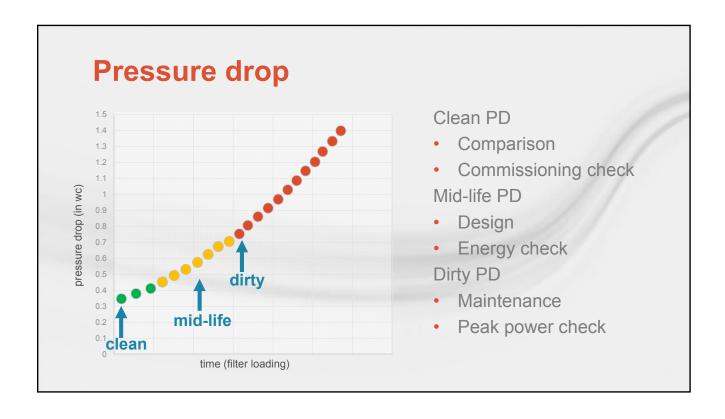


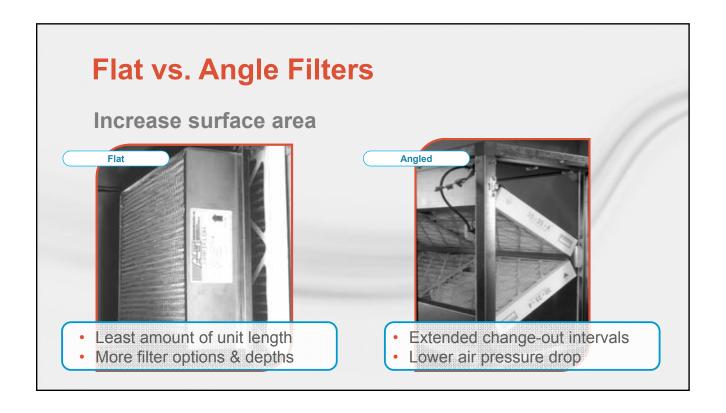






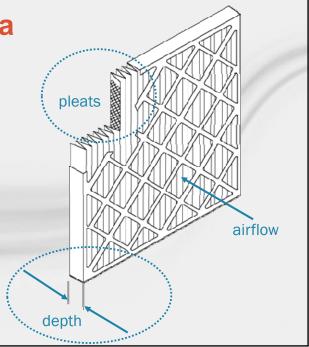






# **Increase Surface Area**

- Better pleat design
- Increase depth
  - Higher dirt holding capacity
  - Lower APD for same efficiency
  - Fewer size options
  - Higher first cost



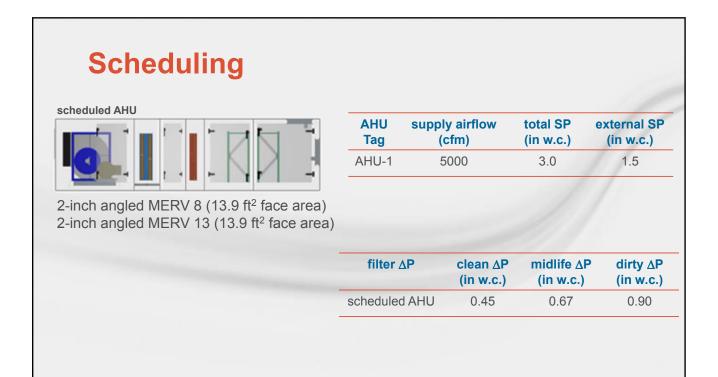
# **Loading Direction**

- Side load
  - Shorter length
  - Lower first cost
  - More area
- Front load
  - Less air bypass
  - Servicing wide units
  - Ease of inspection

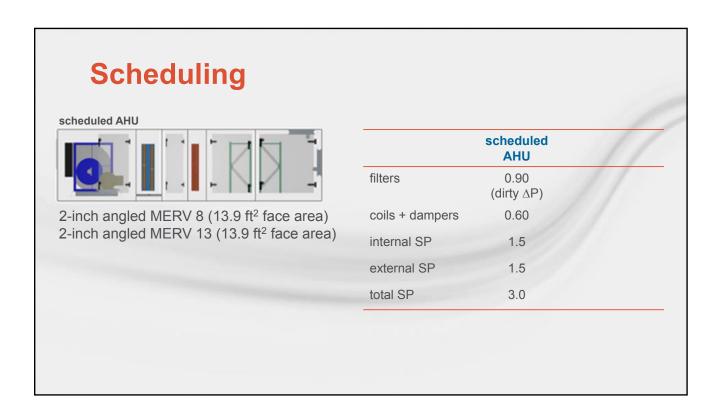


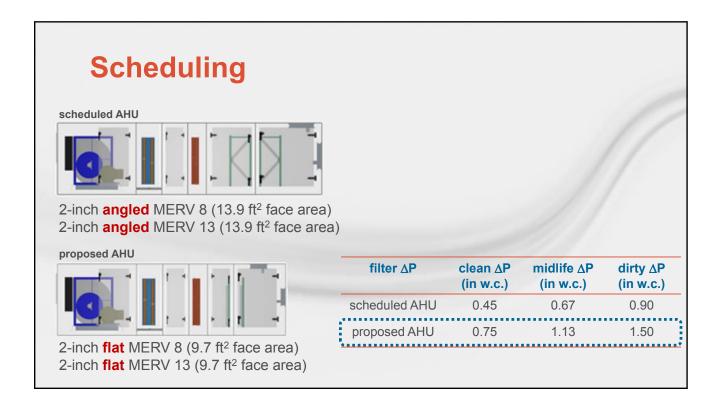
# **Example Options**

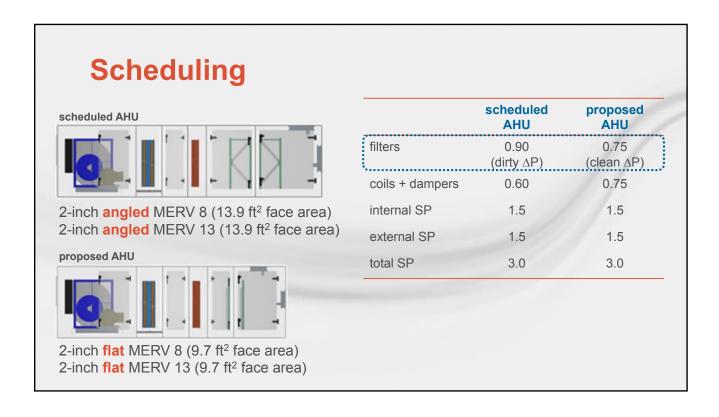
MERV 11 filter depth - pleating	rack type	loading position	face velocity	clean APD in w.c.
4" - standard	rack type flat	side	514	0.34
4" - premium	flat	side	514	0.25
4" - standard	angled	side	360	0.28
4" - premium	angled	side	360	0.15
12" - cartridge	flat	side	577	0.34
12" - cartridge	flat	front	625	0.38



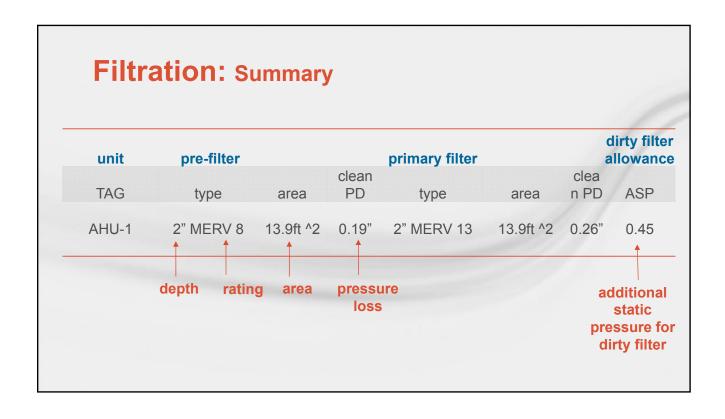
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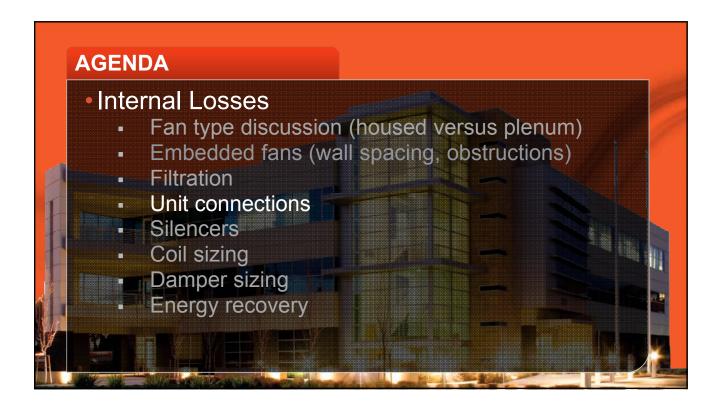


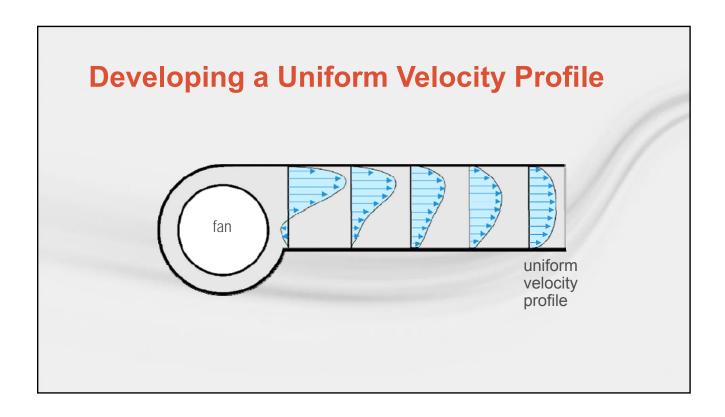


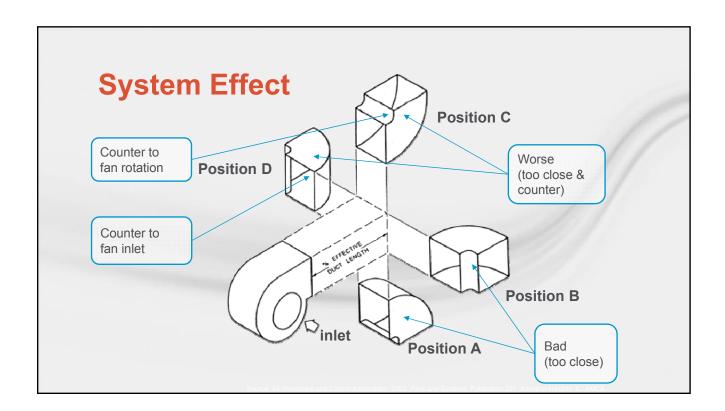


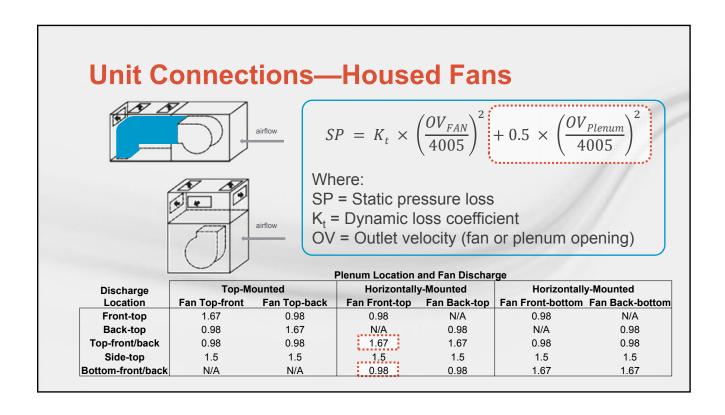
### **Scheduling** scheduled proposed **AHU** (bottom) AHU (top) filters 0.90 0.75 1.14 0.67 (dirty $\Delta P$ ) (mid-life $\Delta P$ ) (clean $\Delta P$ ) (mid-life $\Delta P$ ) coils + dampers 0.60 0.60 0.75 0.75 internal SP 1.89 1.5 1.27 1.5 external SP 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5 total SP 3.0 3.0 3.39 2.77 **22% more** fan power

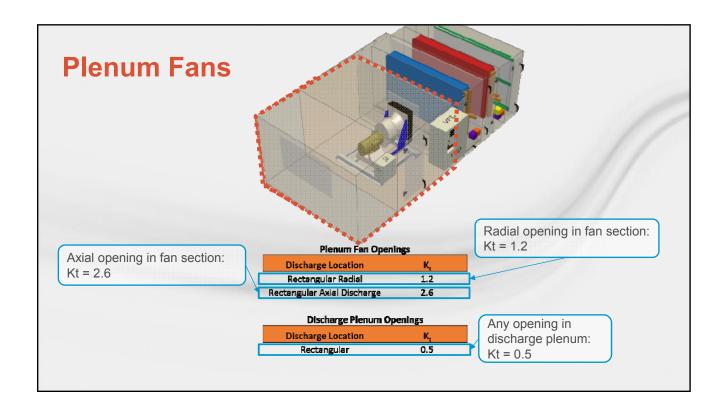


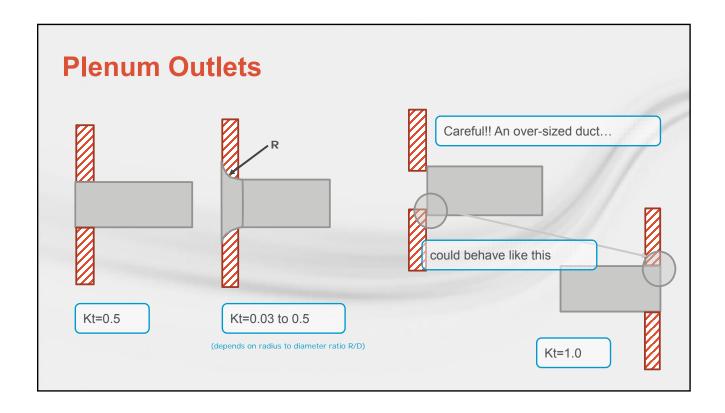


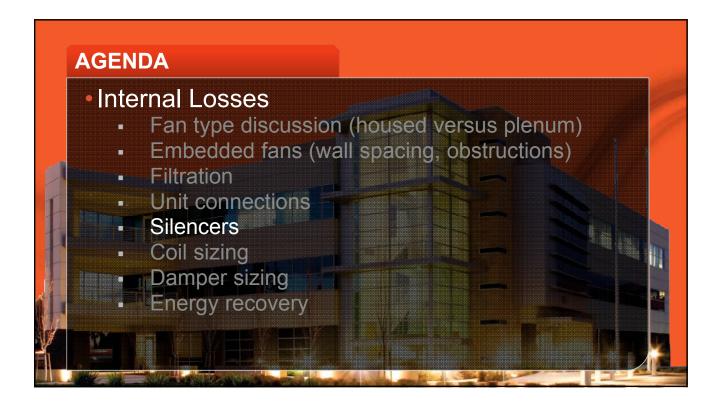


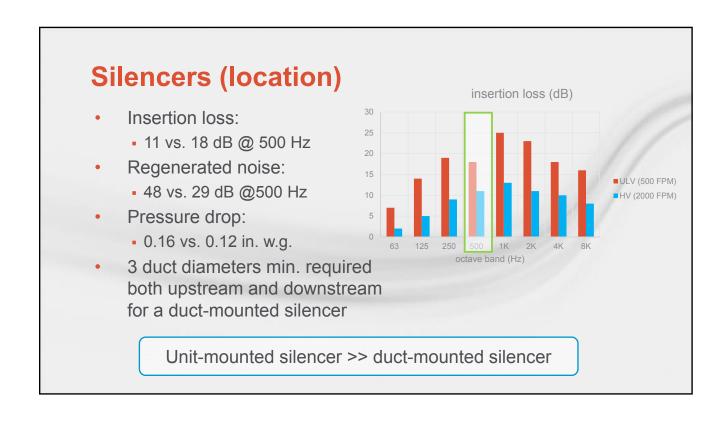


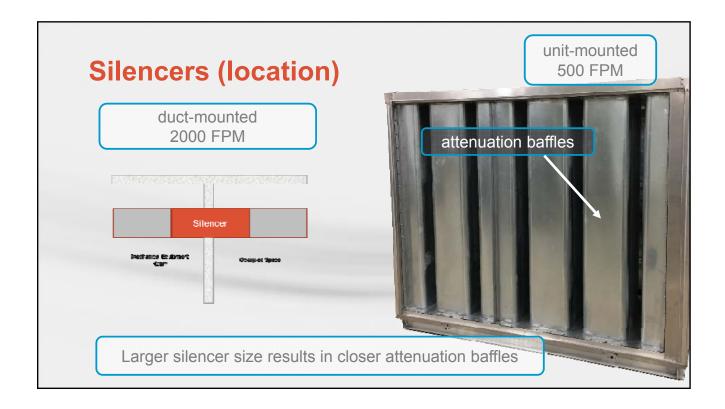


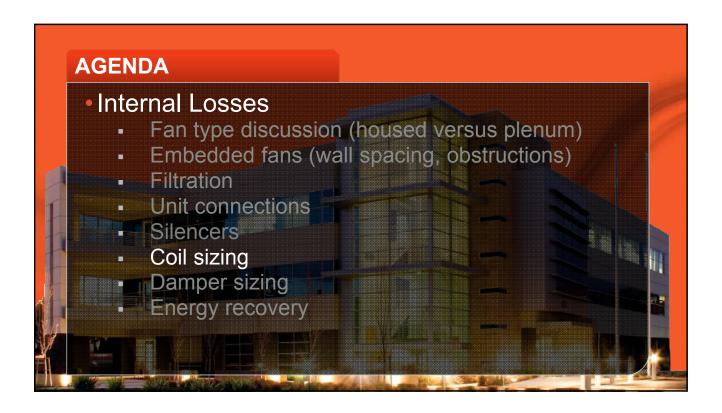


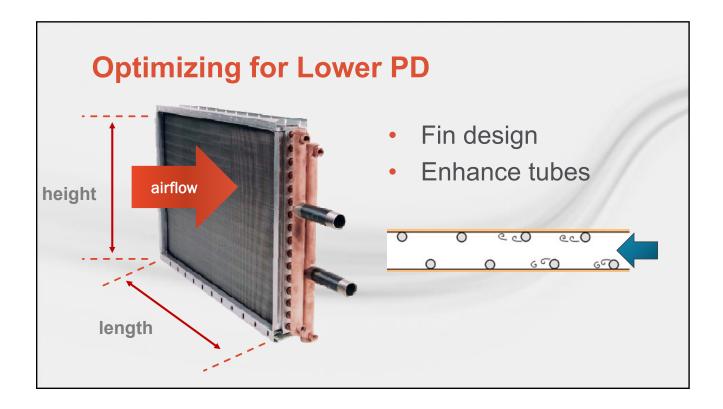


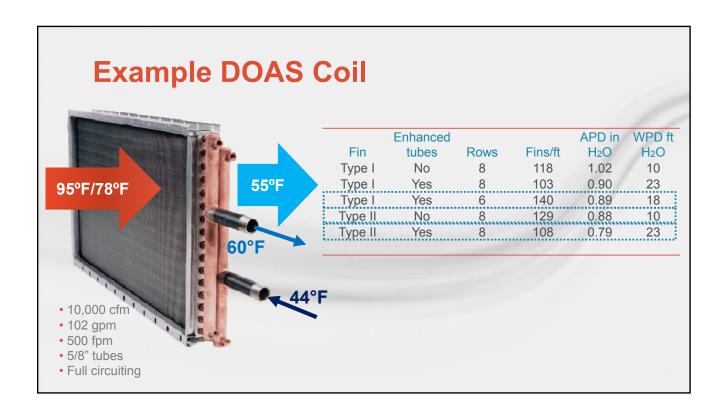


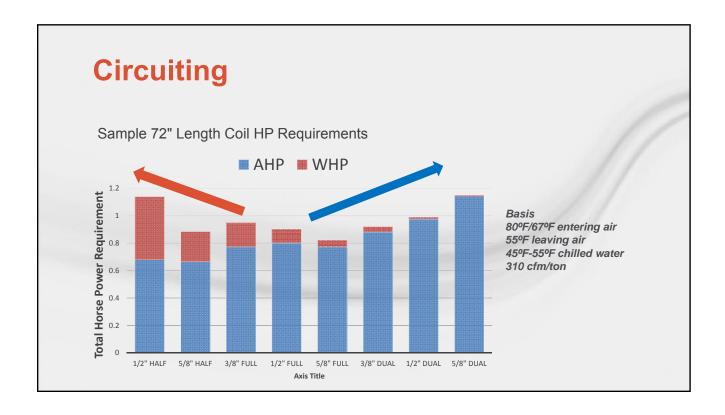






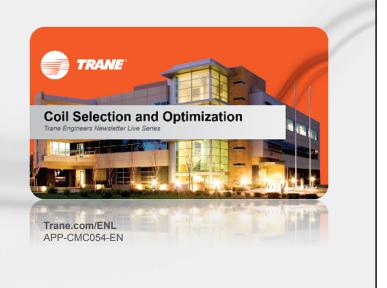


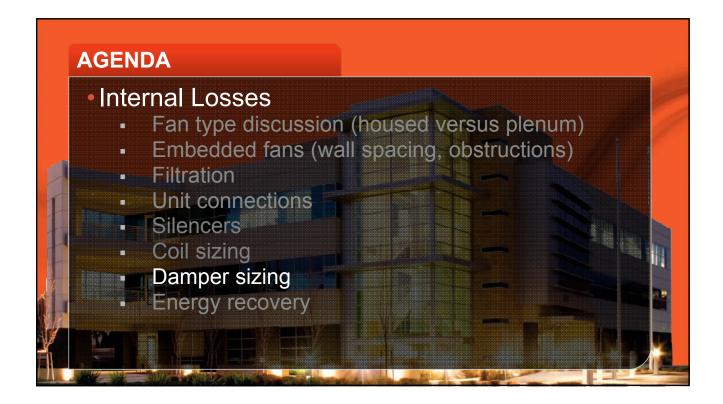


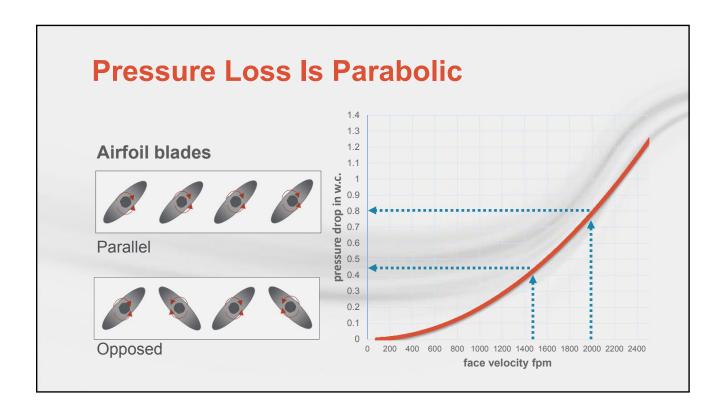


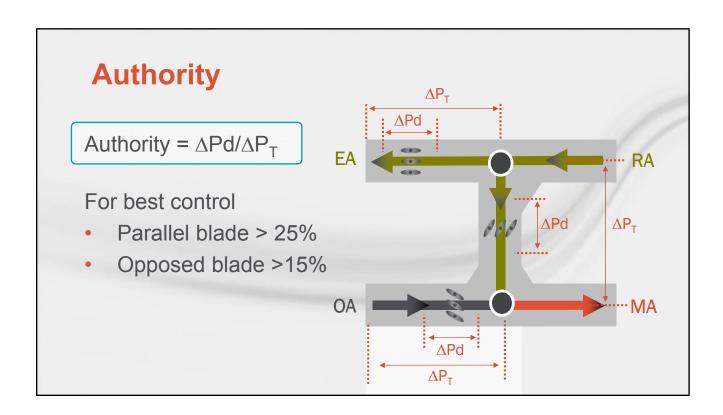
# **Coil Summary**

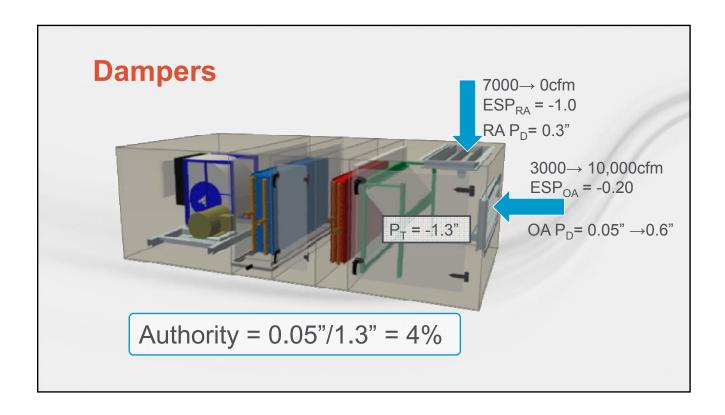
- Coil size
- Fin design
- Turbulent flow
- Circuiting
- Tube size

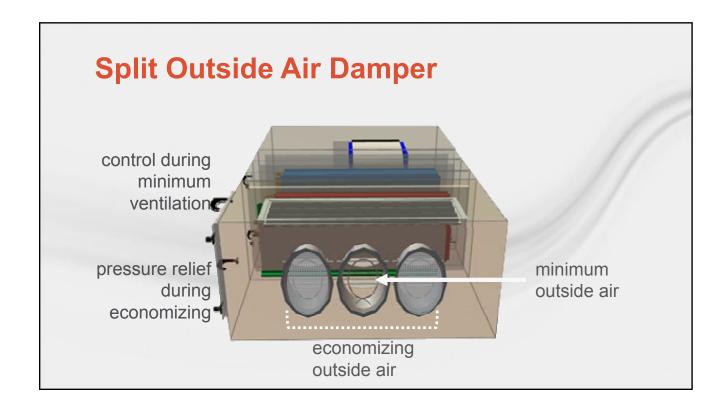








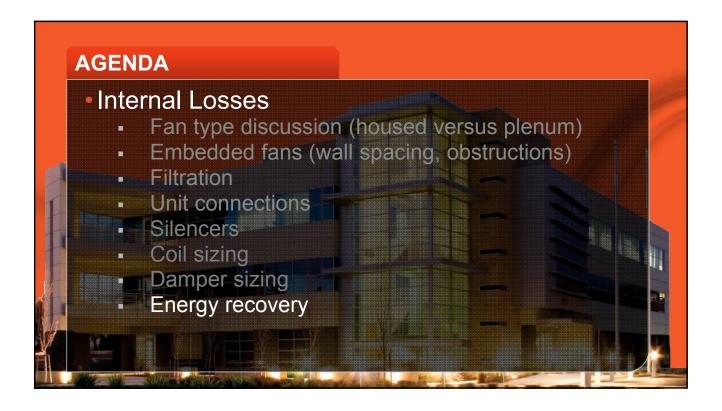


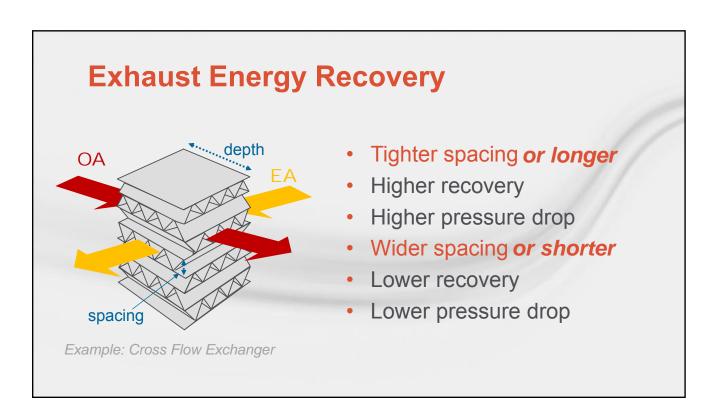


# Return Fan If OA static high for best control OA damper big as possible RA damper sized for authority APT OA APT APT APT APT OA APT OA

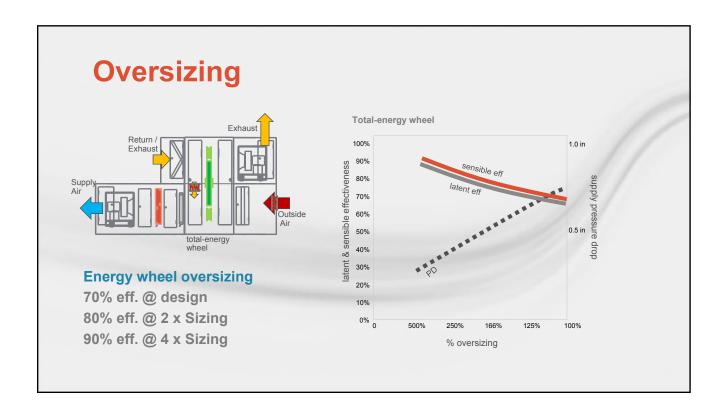
# Summary

- Two-position dampers: as big as possible
- Modulating dampers
  - Caution! Do not make them too big
  - Outside air dampers may need to be split in systems with high return-path static pressure loss
  - Return air dampers may need to be downsized in systems with high OA-path static pressure loss



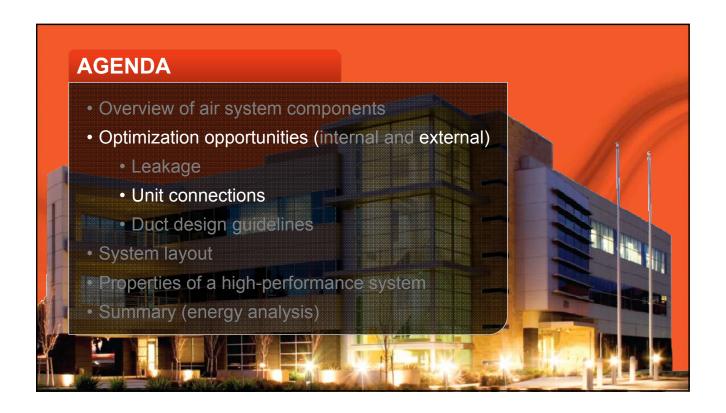


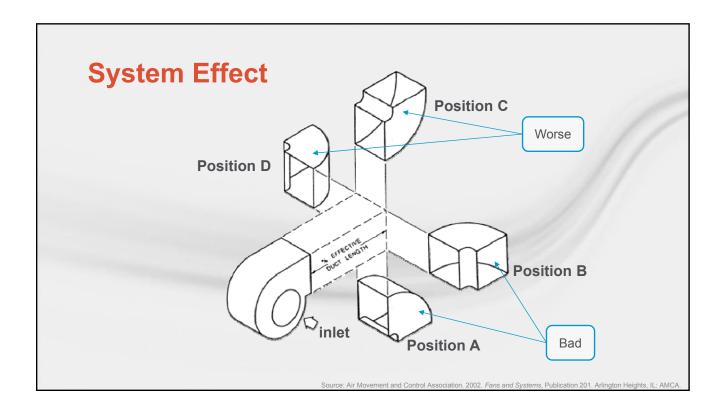
#### Example: Energy wheels at different depths and spacing Higher effectiveness 100% TEFF RER (more recovery capacity) 90% design RER BTUH/W total effectiveness Higher pressure drop 80% Lower recovery 70% efficiency ratio 20 60% 50% 0.4 0 1.2 0.5 0.7 1.0 1.1 0.6 8.0 0.9

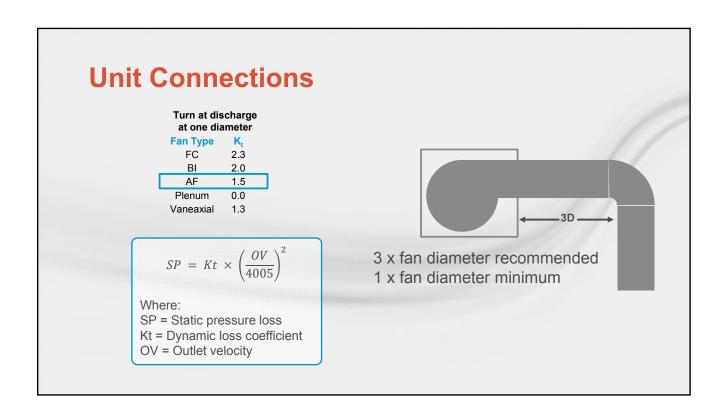


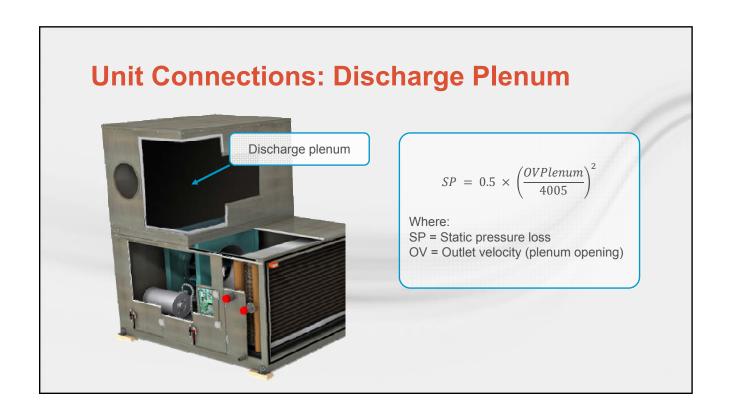


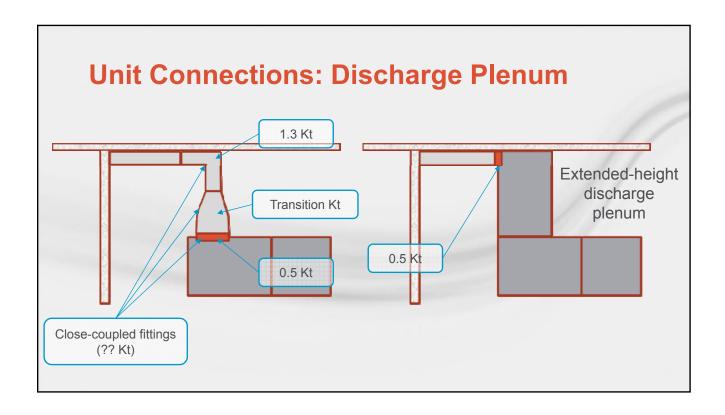




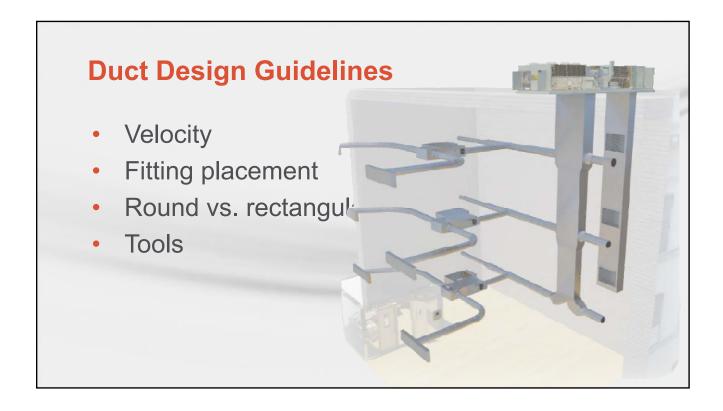






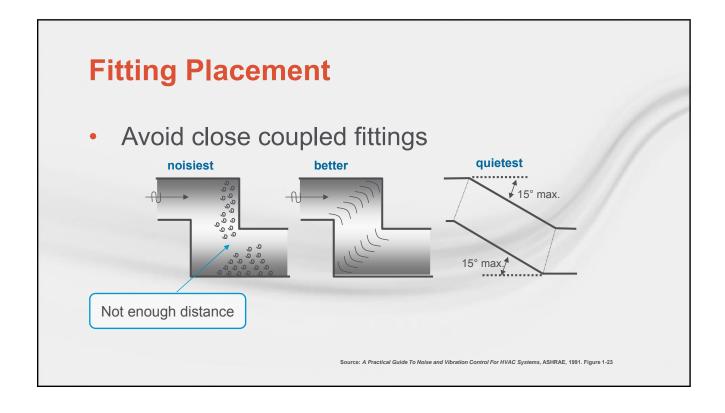


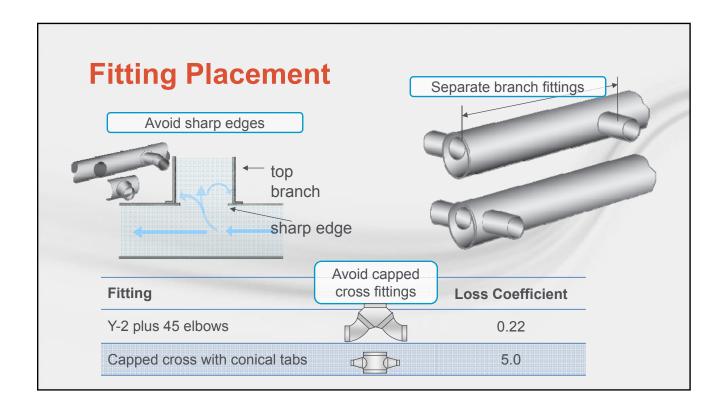


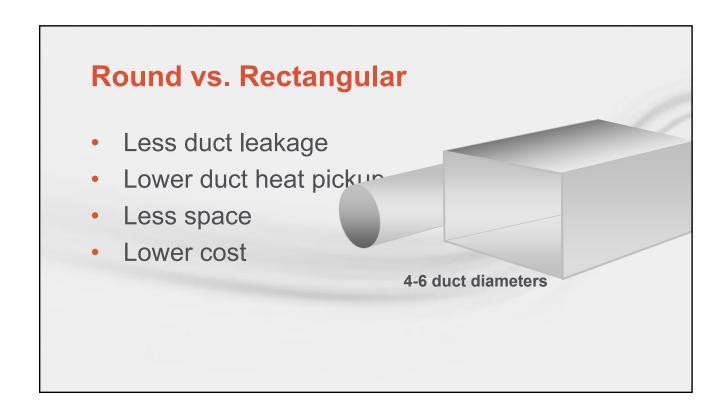


#### **Duct Velocity Max Aiflow Velocity NC Rating** Maximum duct velocity dependent on desired in Adjacent space Noise Criteria (NC) level **Duct Location occupancy Rectangular** Circular 45 3500 5000 In shaft or 2500 3500 above drywall Max Airflow Velocity (FPM) ceiling 1700 2500 **Elbow Type** 45 2500 4500 **NC Rating** Above Square Square 35 1750 3000 in Adjacent suspended Radius (short (long acoustic ceiling 25 1200 2000 occupancy Square **Radius** vanes) vanes) (w/vanes) 45 2000 3900 **Duct located** 45 1600 2000 2000 2400 2600 35 1450 2600 within occupied 35 1000 1300 1300 1700 1800 space 25 950 1700 25 600 800 800 1000 1200 from 2015 HVAC Applications (ASHRAE) and A Practical Guide to Noise and Vibration Control for HVAC Systems (M. Schaffer, 2005)









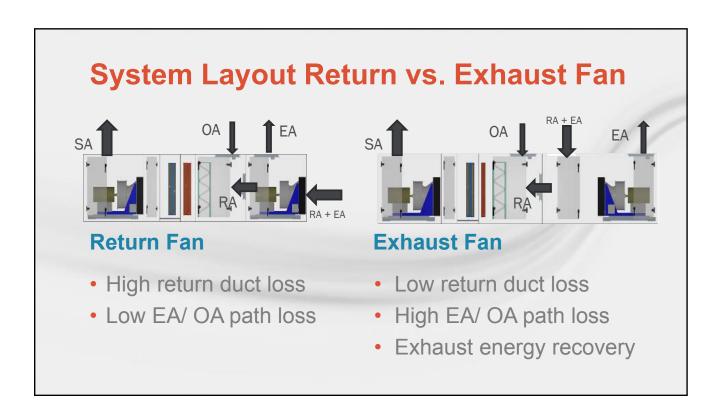


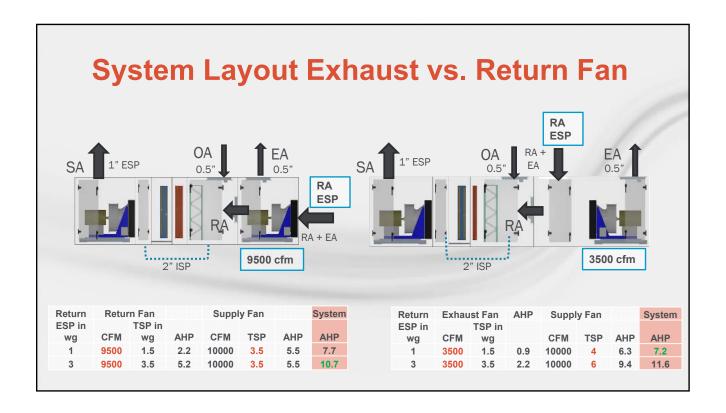
## **Summary**

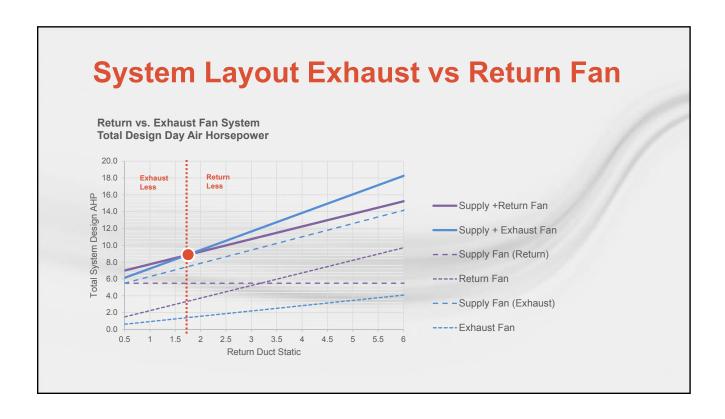
## **External Losses**

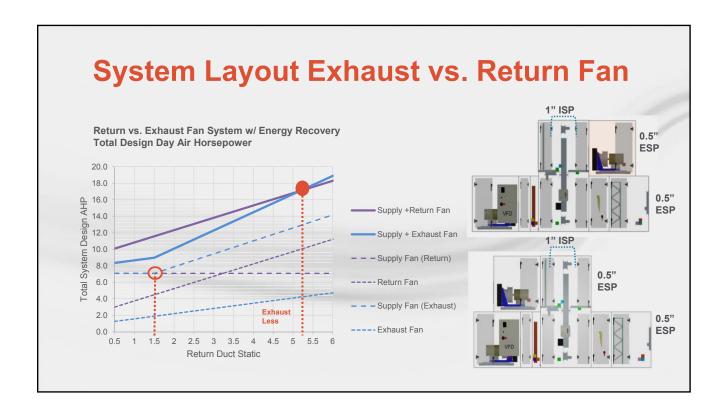
- Leakage
- Unit connections
  - Plenums
- Duct design guidelines



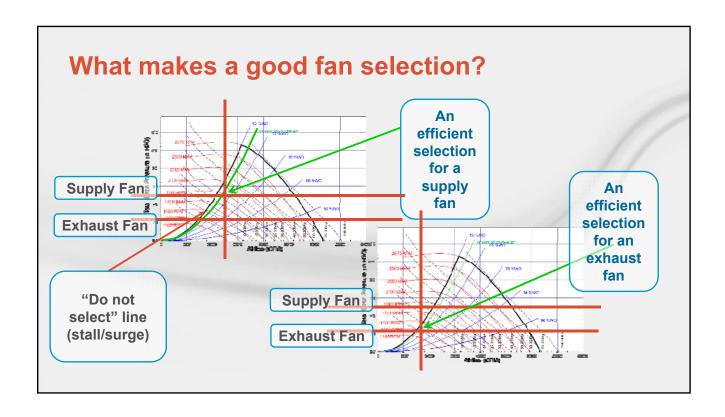


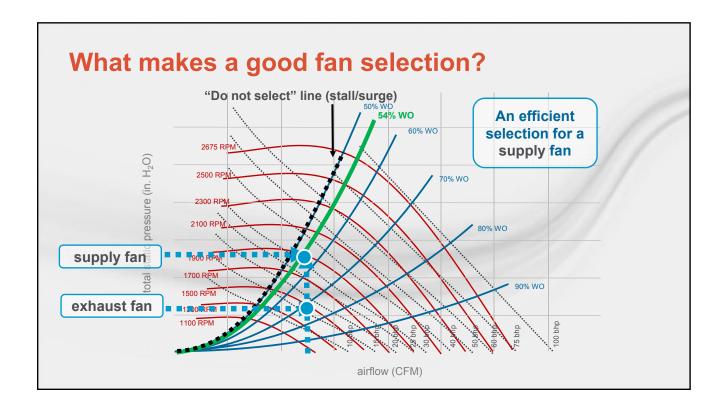


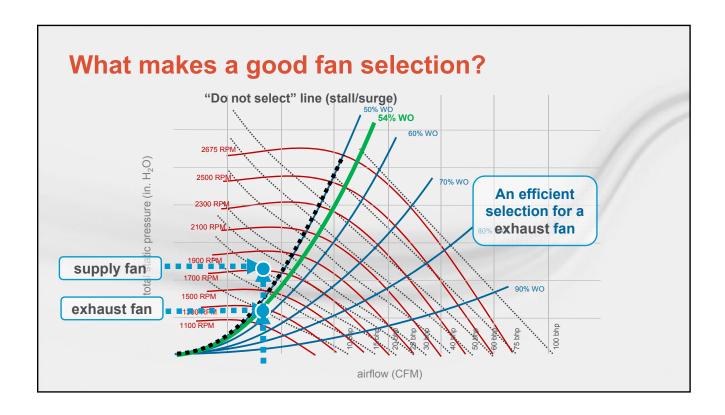








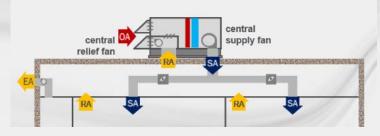


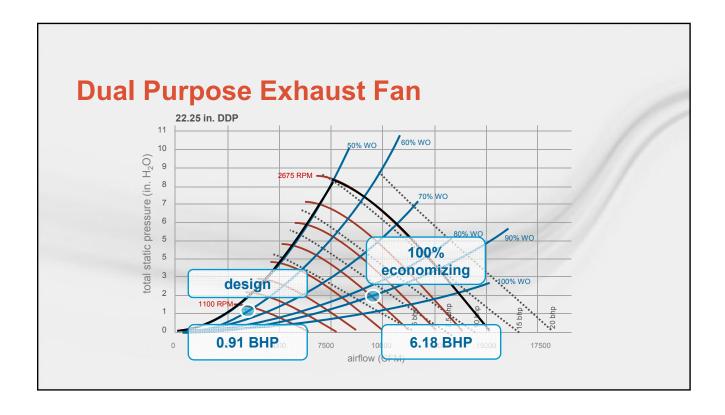


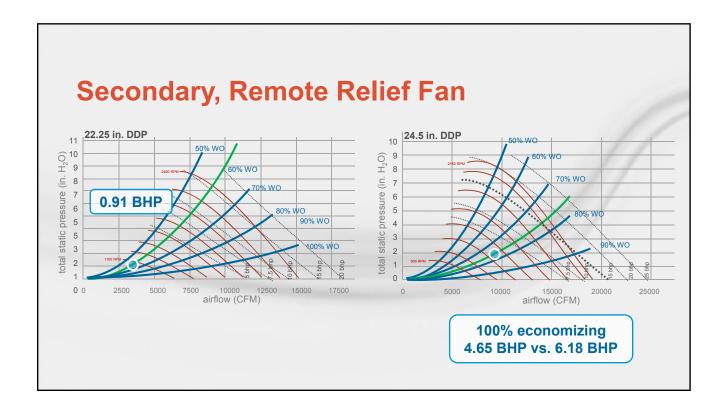
## **Two Modes of Operation**

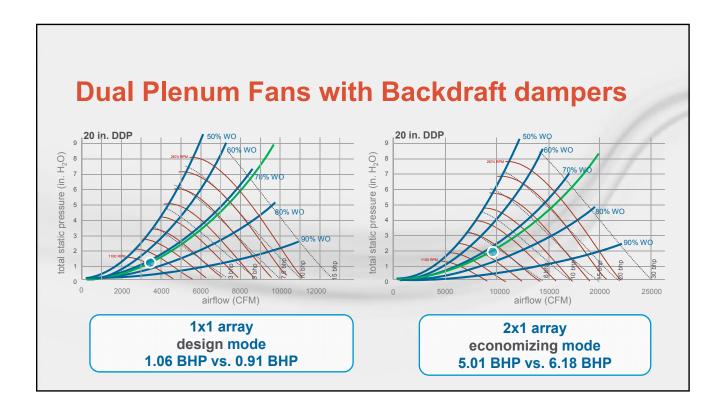
## Example:

- Supply fan airflow: 10,000 CFM
- Relief airflow @ cooling design: 3500 CFM
- Maximum relief airflow (economizer mode): 9500 CFM

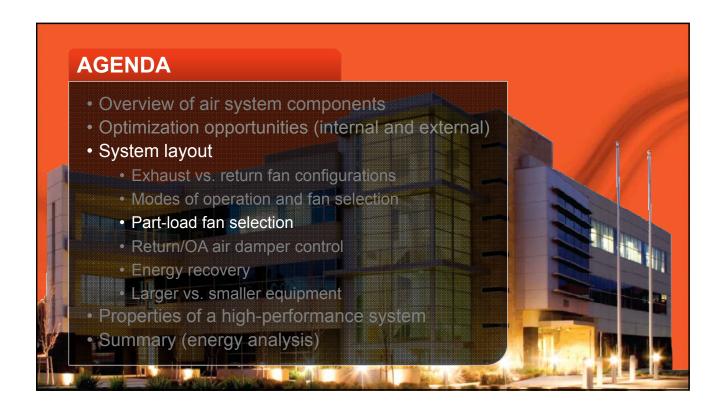


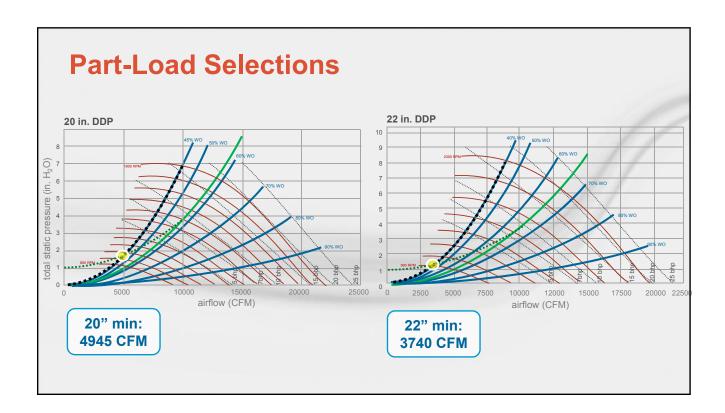


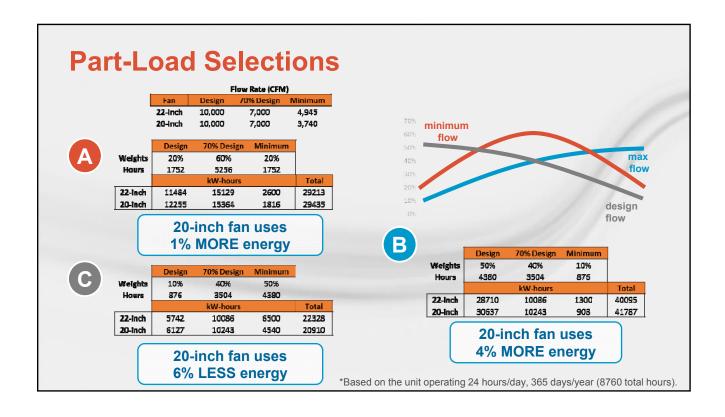




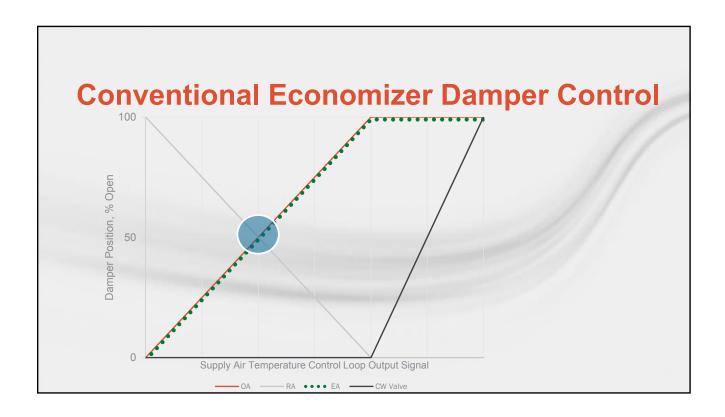
Summary			
	Design	100% Economizing	
Dual purpose exhaust fan	0.91 BHP	6.18 BHP	
Remote relief fan	0.91 BHP	4.65 BHP	
Multiple fans with backdraft dampers	1.06 BHP	5.01 BHP	

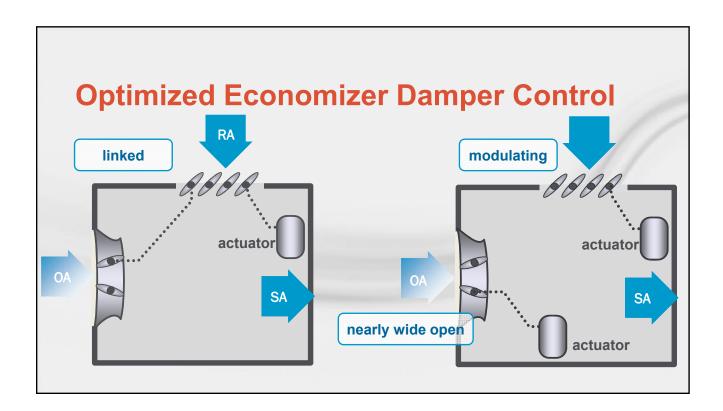


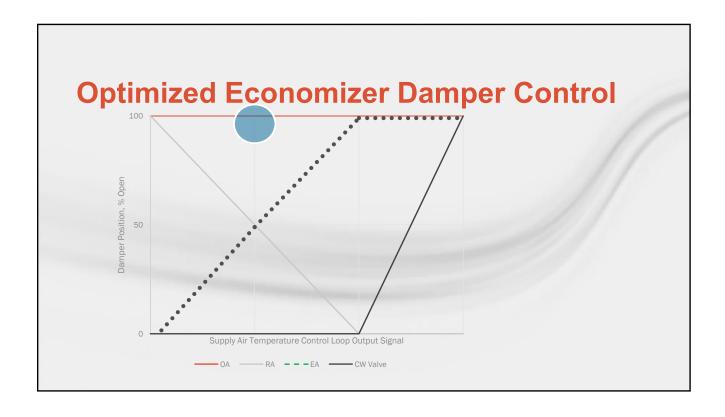


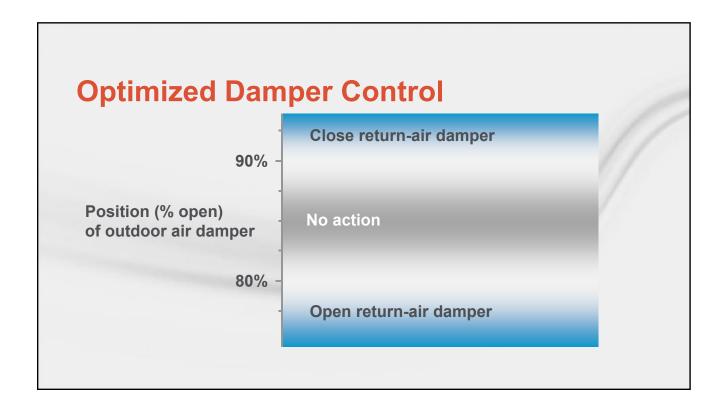




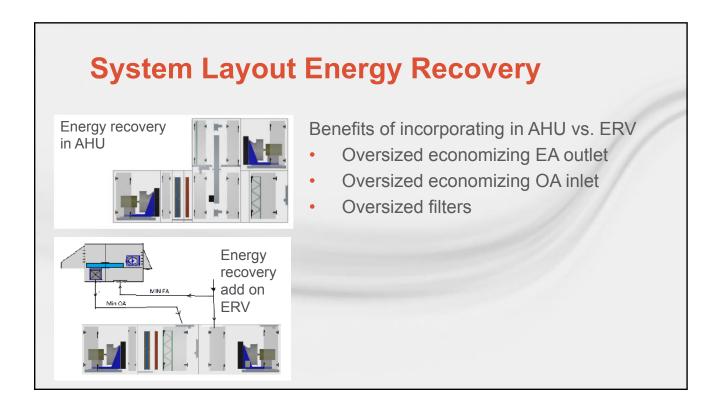


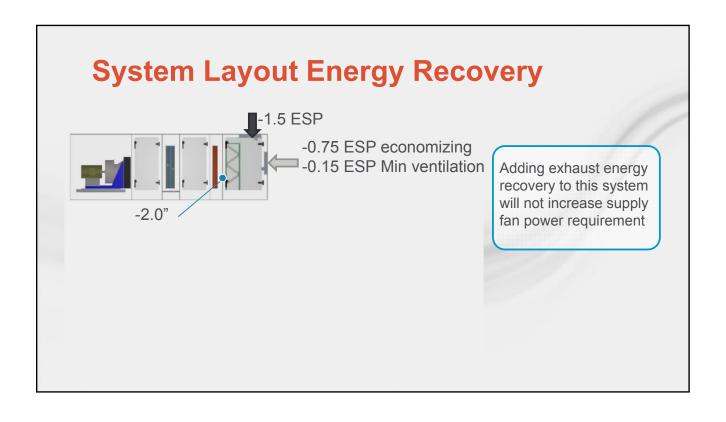


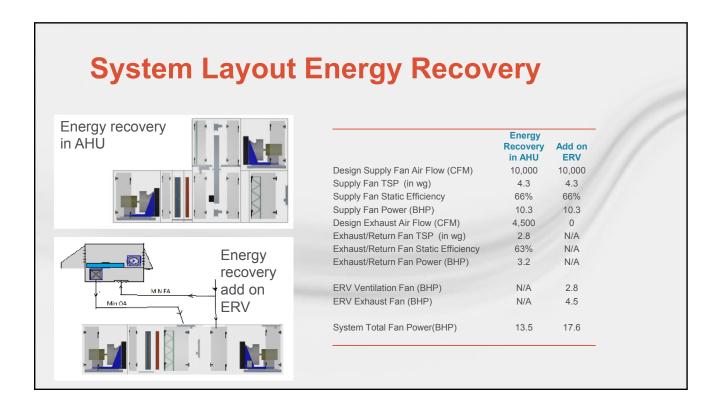










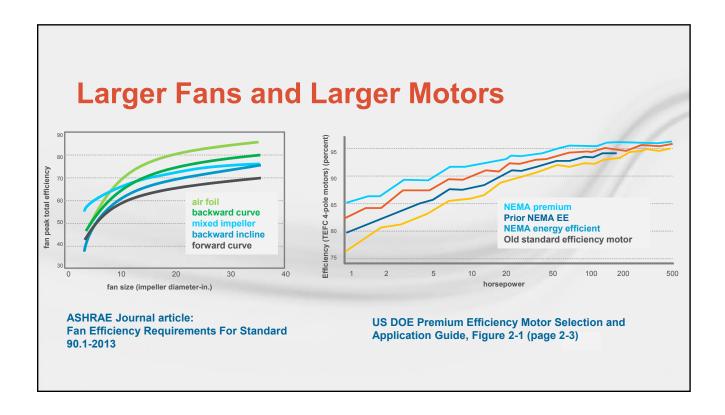


## **System Layout Energy Recovery**

- Use economizing inlet and outlets during recovery when possible
- Avoid using a stand alone ERV if high return duct static is present







## **Larger Fans and Larger Motors**

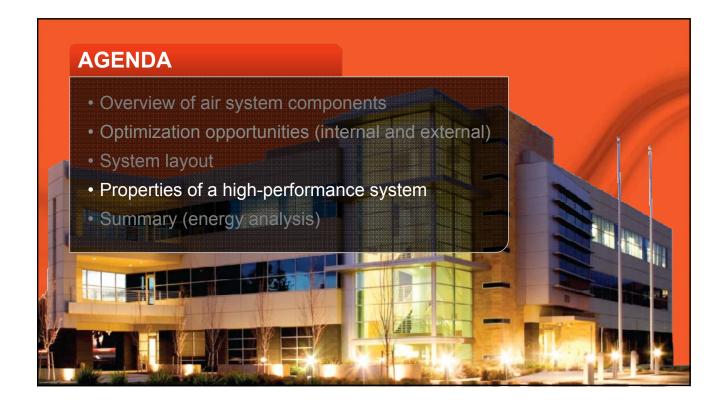
Fan Qty	Fan Size	CFM (each)	BHP (each)	BHP (total)	Motor HP	Efficiency (Fan)	Efficiency (Motor)	Efficiency (Total)
1	33"	15000	13.22	13.22	15	71.34%	90.2%	64.3%
2	24.5"	7500	6.55	13.1	7.5	72.05%	88.5%	63.8%
3	20"	5000	4.68	14.04	7.5	67.23%	88.5%	59.5%
4	18.25"	3750	3.53	14.12	5	66.79%	87.5%	58.4%

#### Notes:

Duty point: 15,000 CFM @ 4.0 inches H<sub>2</sub>O

Flexible motor speed selections

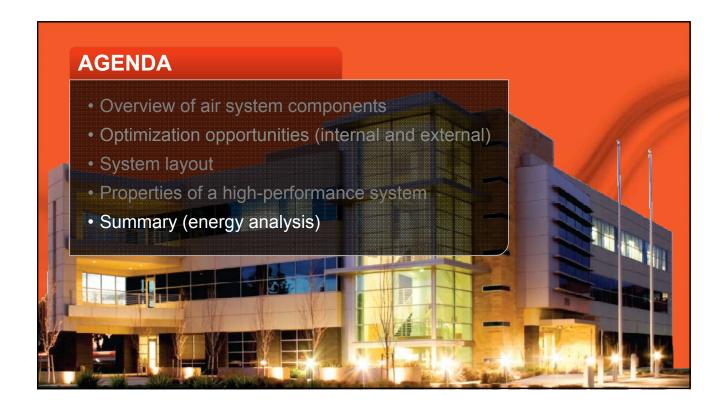
Diameters chosen to maximize efficiency at a reasonable (90% of peak pressure, +/- 5%) selection point

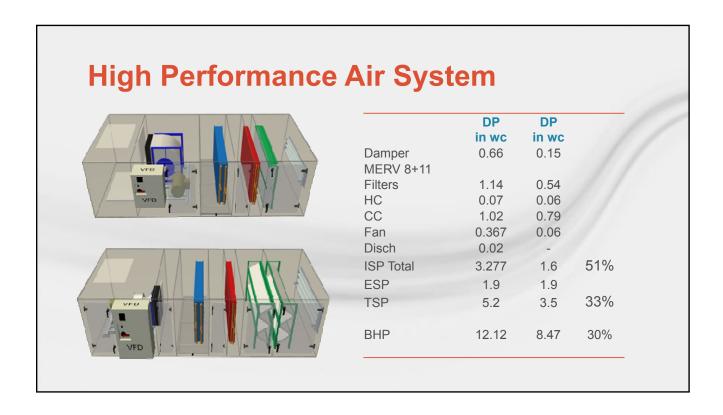


## **High Performance Air Systems**

Properties of a high performance air system:

- Optimization opportunities (internal & external)
- Leakage, duct design, & noise attenuation
- System layout
- Economics of oversizing & control strategies







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- All Variable-Speed Chiller Plant Operation











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## Trane Engineers Newsletter LIVE: High-Performance Air Systems APP-CMC063-EN QUIZ

- 1. The external static pressure is the sum of the intake and discharge duct pressures?
  - True
  - b. False
- 2. By angling filters, more filters can be placed in the airstream, thus angle filters will lower pressure drop and extend the change out interval required.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 3. Which of the following statements regarding dampers are true?
  - a. There is a benefit to making two-position dampers as big as possible.
  - b. Caution is needed to not make the modulating dampers too big or you might sacrifice controllability.
  - c. Outside air dampers may need to be split for systems with a high return static pressure loss.
  - d. Return air dampers may need to be downsized for systems with a high outside air path pressure loss.
  - 4. Which of the following are common ways to select fans to handle two modes of operation in this example: A rooftop exhaust fan economizer system with a central supply fan and a central relief fan. Where 10,000 CFM is required to condition the space and the ventilation requirements are about 4000 CFM. During design, 3500 CFM is exhausted from the building to maintain proper building pressurization but during full economizing, 9500 CFM is exhausted:
    - a. Size the central relief fan to handle both modes.
    - b. Size the central relief fan for one mode and size a remote relief fan for the other mode.
    - c. Use multiple fans for one mode and a different fan quantity for the other model
    - d. Size both fans the same to handle both modes
- 5. Based on the program example the following guidance is true or false?

  In general use economizing inlet and outlets during recovery whenever possible and avoid using a standalone ERV if high return duct static is present.
  - a. True
  - b. False



#### Engineers Newsletter Live - Audience Evaluation

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