



**E Source**

# **Black Box and Emerging Technologies**

**Essie Snell, Research Manager**

**Logan Jacobson, Associate Analyst**

**E Source**

Efficiency Works Training

# Who Is E Source?

- Membership-based energy research, advising, and consulting services
  - Focused on electric and gas utilities across the US and Canada
- How to manage, sell, and use energy effectively
- Unbiased research and analysis
  - Fuel neutral
  - Product neutral
  - Vendor neutral



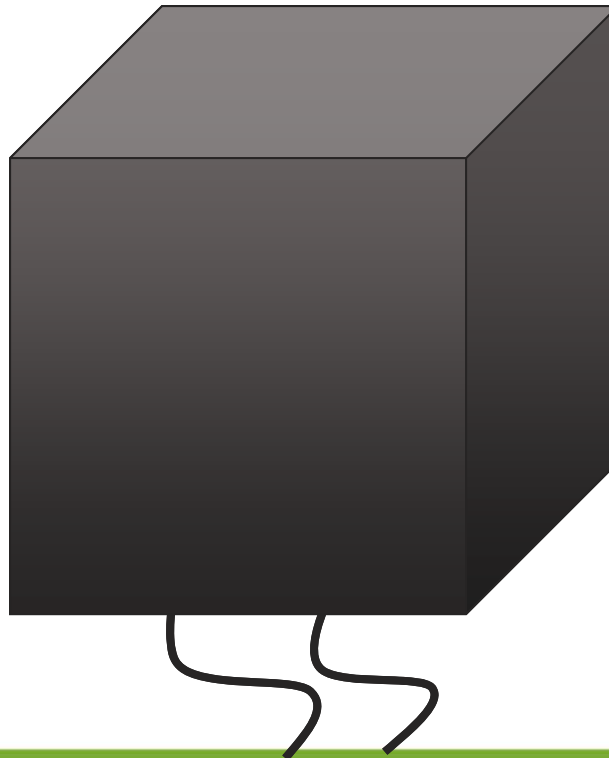
# Agenda

- Evaluating unfamiliar “black box” products
  - Our general approach
  - Technical fallacies
  - Psychological manipulation
- Cool new technologies for commercial applications
  - Lighting
  - HVAC
  - Motors
  - Plug loads
  - Techs for data centers, laundries, ice rinks, and more!



# What Is A Black Box?

- We say it's something that is bolted on, wired in, or otherwise added to an existing technology with the goal of providing energy savings.



# Why Care?

- You've all probably been approached by an enthusiastic representative of a black box vendor!
- Having a strategy in place to quickly gauge the likely energy-saving potential of a given product can be helpful.



Source: Tomwsulcer



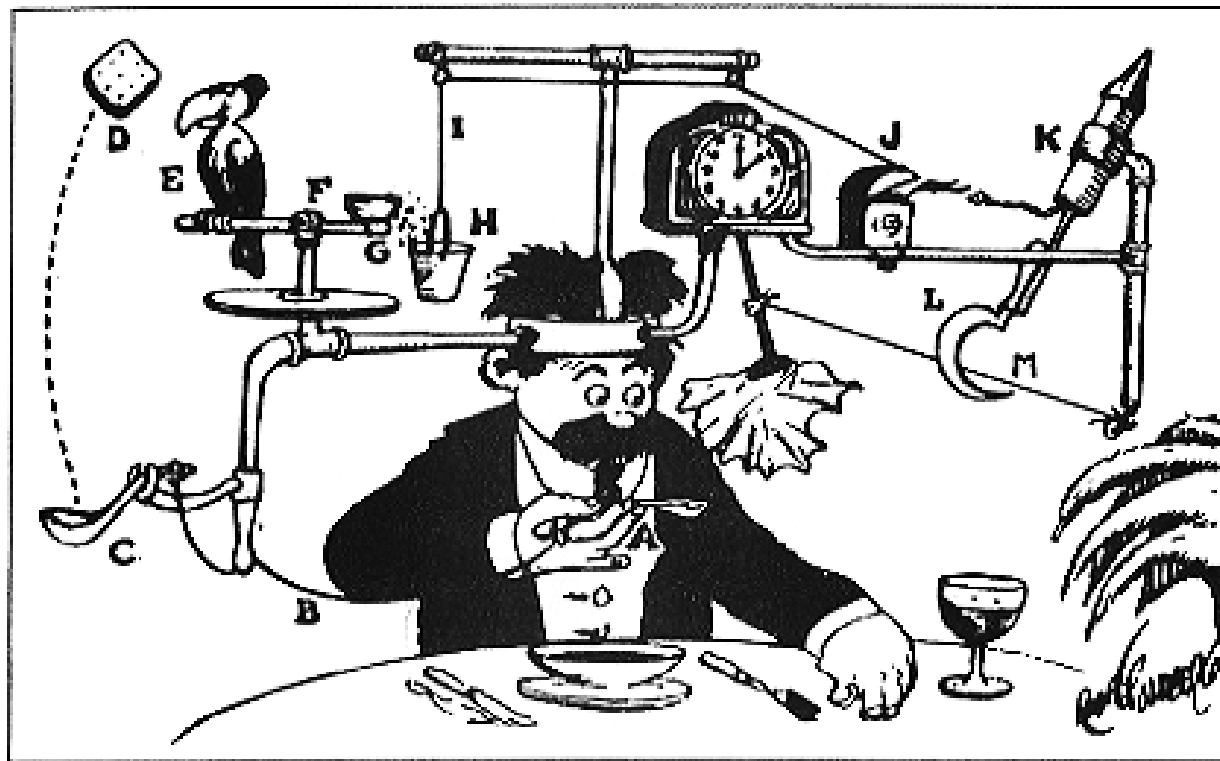
# A Different Approach

- E Source relies on secondary research and doesn't have a laboratory
- We've developed a unique process to evaluate unfamiliar technologies



# What's the Theory of Operation?

Self-Operating Napkin



Source: Rube Goldberg



# Does Test Data Substantiate Vendor Claims?



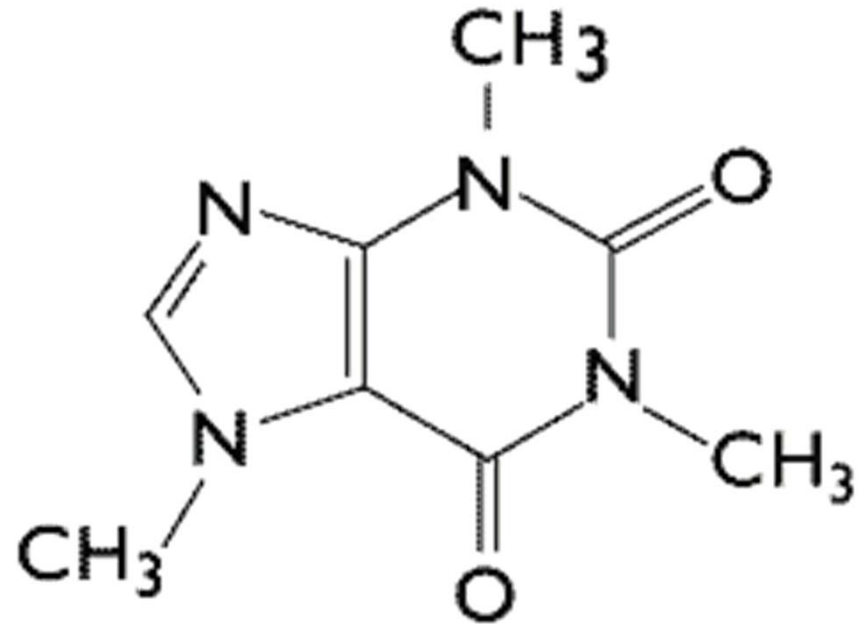
Source: Roger Dudley





# Technical Fallacies

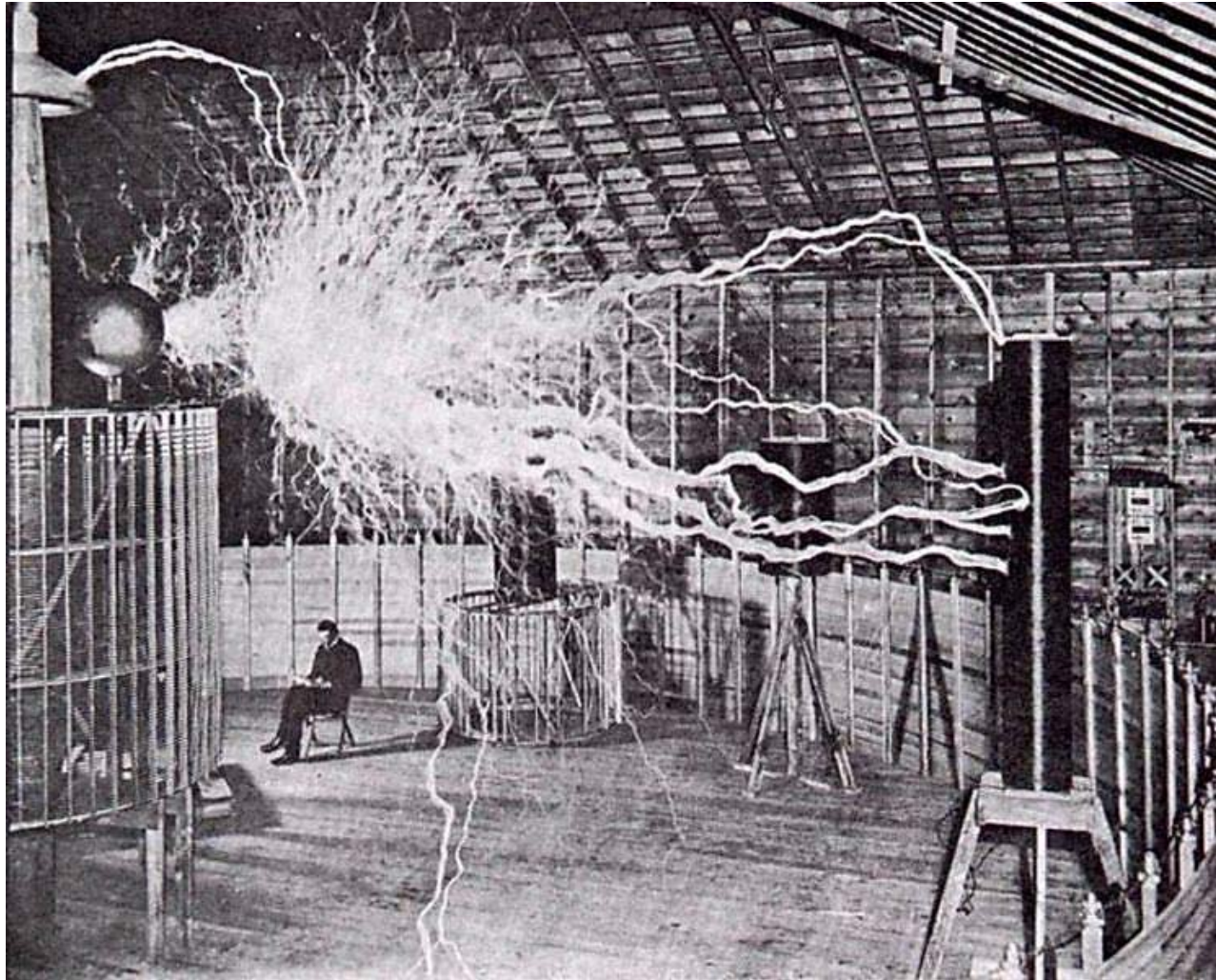
- Laws of physics
  - Basic thermodynamics
  - Heat transfer methods
  - Magnetic monopoles
- Unit consistency
- Statistical analysis
- Big picture



Source: Jeanot



# Does It Obey the Laws of Physics?

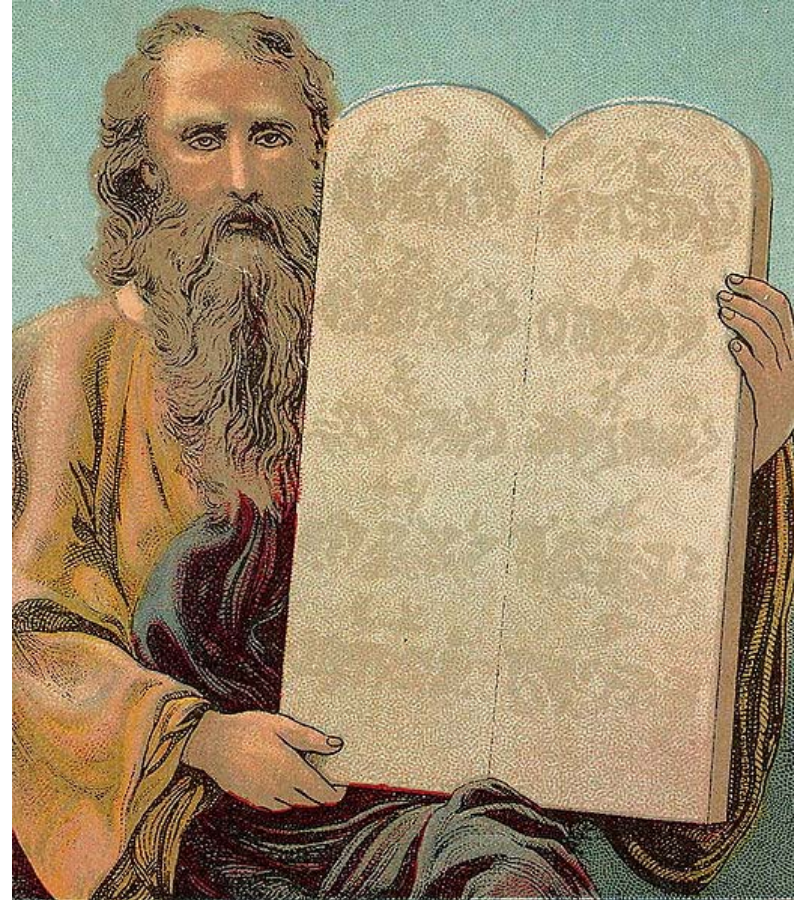


Source: Yelm



# Laws of Thermodynamics

- The four laws of thermodynamics are fundamental to modern physics
- They establish (among other things) that energy can't be created or destroyed, and that the entropy of a system tends to increase over time.



Source: the Providence Lithograph Company



# Breaking the Law(s)

*“Once the heater has reached its operating temperature, every photon creates another photon with the same characteristics (energy and wavelength), without requiring additional energy.”*

*“Independent testing revealed that: ‘the output is greater than the input’.”*



# Heat Transfer 101

- Radiation

- Via the emission or absorption of electromagnetic radiation (e.g. warming yourself by a fire)



- Conduction

- Via physical contact (e.g. burning yourself by touching a hot kettle)

- Convection

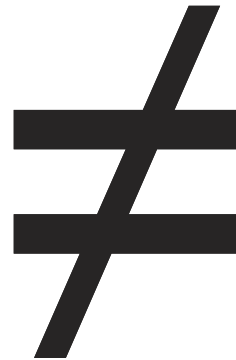
- Via motion of a fluid (e.g. movement of warming tea in the kettle)

Source: Aih.



# A Common Heat Transfer Mistake

*“Our nanocoating reflects over 95% of radiation from the sun, replacing 8 inches of traditional insulation.”*



Sources: Everaldo Coelho and Radomil.



# Unit Consistency

*“To calculate R value, we take the inverse of conductivity (measured in meter-Kelvin/watt) and multiply by a conversion factor to convert the value to hour-foot-°F/BTU.”*

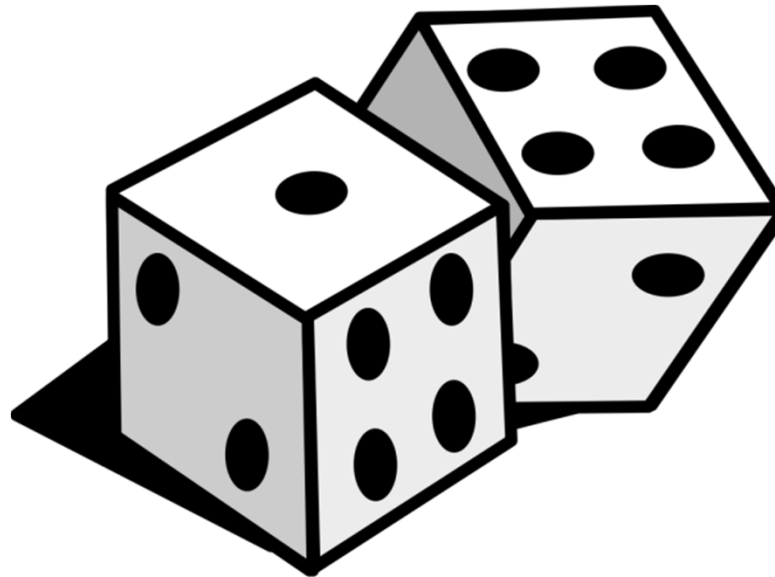
**Wrong Units  
for R-value!!**

*“The result? R-200 per inch of thickness!”*



# Statistical Error Analysis

Rarely available (though it should be), but can be invaluable in establishing whether performance claims actually mean anything



Source: Personeoneste





# Big Picture

- Does it make sense?
  - What does existing research say?
  - What do experts think?
- Are savings claims even in the right order of magnitude?



Source: Namazu-tron



# Psychological Manipulation

- Red herrings
  - Testimonials/case studies
  - “Phantom” test data
  - Number of installations
  - Deferral to authority figures
- Obfuscation
- Poor inventor archetype
- Guarantees
- Sense of urgency



Source: FiachraByrne



# Red Herrings

- Any piece of information that:
  - Sounds credible and convincing
  - Isn't independently verifiable or doesn't directly address the claims that a vendor is making.



Source: Nordisk familjebok



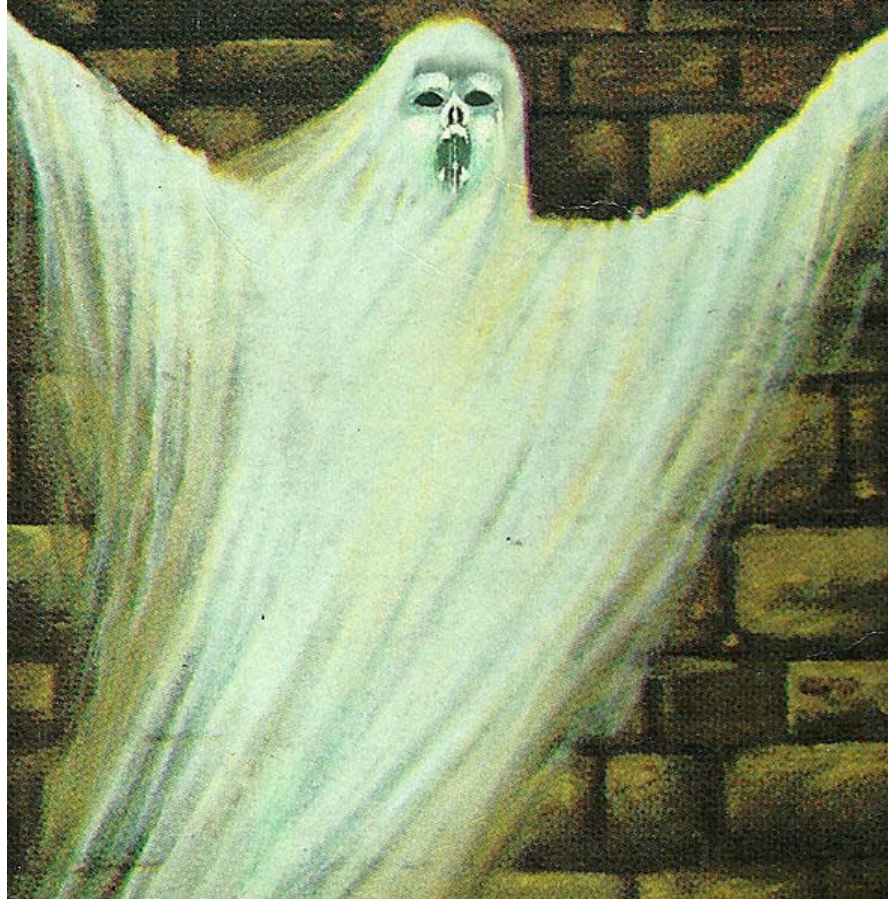
# Testimonials or Case Studies



Source: Regionalista por Chile



# “Phantom” Test Data



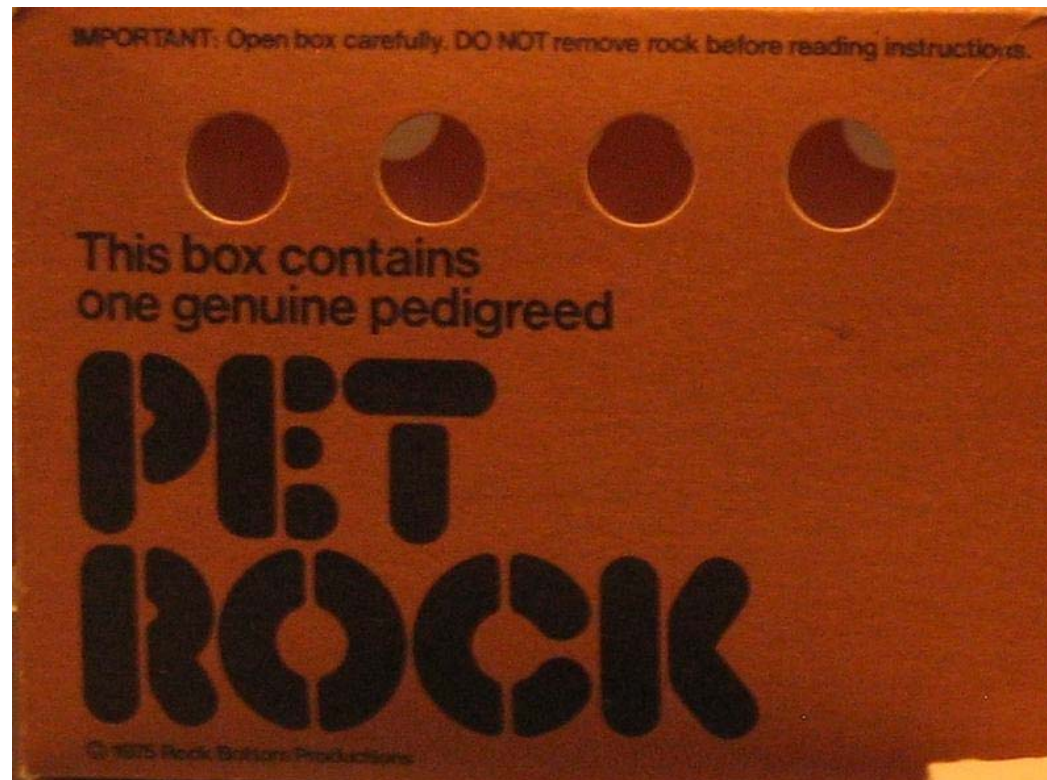
Source: Gallowglass



# Number of Installations or Sales Data

## Data

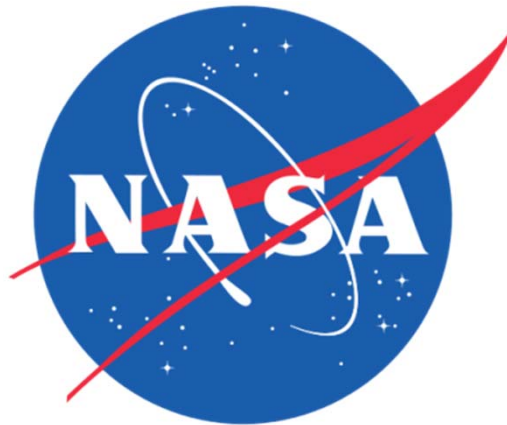
*“Over 1.5 million sold!”*



Source: Hempdiddy



# Deferral to Authority Figures



Courtesy (left to right): United States Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Underwriters Laboratories, United States Environmental Protection Agency



# These Strategies Have Been Used For Centuries

**MORISON'S PILLS**  
**CURE ALL CURABLE DISEASES.**

---

**PROVED**  
BY AN EXPERIENCE OF FORTY YEARS.

Half-a-Million Cases of Cure have been Published.

SOLD BY THE HYGEIAN AGENTS, CHEMISTS, AND MEDICINE VENDORS  
In Boxes at 7½d., 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each.

---

PREPARED ONLY AT THE  
**BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH,**  
**EUSTON ROAD LONDON.**

A liberal discount to Merchants, Captains, Missionaries, &c.

*Direction Papers and other Hygeian Publications  
in the most known Languages.*

[13-Lo.]

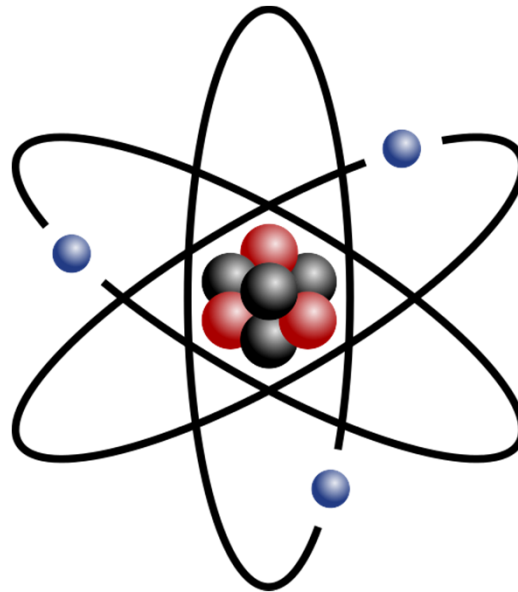
Source: Grace's Guide





# Obfuscation

*“The secret of this savings comes from the magic of nanotechnology, the changing of the molecular structure of natural gas to release never-before tapped power.”*



Source: Rainer Klute.



# The Poor Inventor Archetype

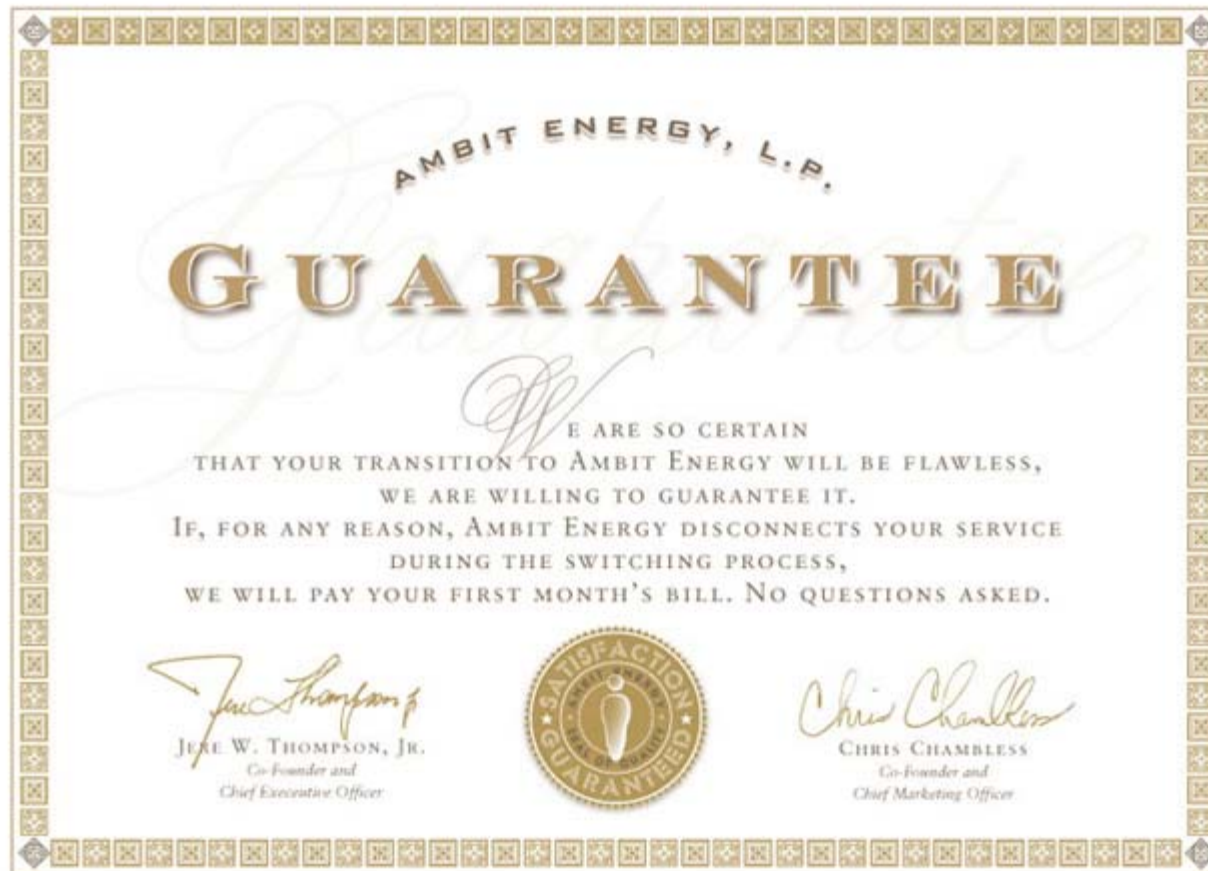
*“We’re a very small organization that offers a wholly unique product which could change the world, but we currently have limited resources available for testing.”*



Source: Tetra Pak



# Guarantees



Source: Ambitibo



# Strategies for Avoiding Refunds: Vendor Provides Proof of Savings

*“We installed our product at your facility in March. Having reviewed your energy data, it turns out that your overall consumption in April was several thousand kWh lower than in January! Clearly, our product is responsible for saving you energy and money.”*



# Strategies for Avoiding Refunds: Burden of Proof On the Customer

*“To prove that our product **isn’t** saving you energy, you’ll need to provide us with weather data and utility bills for six months before and after installation, along with service invoices, occupancy records, sales data, and complete records and documentation of any changes in your facility that could have affected your energy use. Please provide this information within the next two months.”*



# Strategies for Avoiding Refunds: Fine Print

*“The guarantee is not valid unless received by customer through the US Postal Service directly from the manufacturer.”*



# Sense of urgency

*“We’re very excited at the prospect of working with you! Please let me know what your decision is as soon as possible.”*



Source: penubag



# A Quick Review

- Two overarching questions
  - What's the theory of operation?
  - Does test data support that theory?
- Technical Considerations
  - Laws of physics
  - Unit consistency
  - Statistical analysis
  - Big picture
- Psychological considerations
  - Red herrings
  - Obfuscation
  - Poor inventor archetype
  - Guarantees
  - Sense of urgency





---

# Questions?



# Cool New Technologies for Commercial Applications



Source: Guy Sie



---

# Outline

**Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans**  
**Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks**  
**Dynamic Airzone Balancing**  
**Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers**  
**LED Troffers and Tubes**  
**LED Stadium Lighting**  
**OLEDs**  
**Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry**  
**CO2 Commercial Laundry**  
**Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers**  
**Wireless Plug Load Controllers**



---

# Outline

## **Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans**

Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks

Dynamic Airzone Balancing

Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers

LED Troffers and Tubes

LED Stadium Lighting

OLEDs

Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry

CO2 Commercial Laundry

Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers

Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# For Commercial Refrigeration Fans



Courtesy: N-Lange.de



# The New Kid on the Block

- The Q-Sync motor from QM Power
- Permanent magnets
- New circuit for start-up and control
- 20% more efficient than an electronically commutated motor (ECM)
- Being tested in a DOE demonstration project



Courtesy: QM Power



# Impressive Economics

Estimated energy savings from replacing a less efficient evaporator fan motor with a Q-Sync motor

Motor type	Efficiency (%)	Annual energy use (kWh)	Annual savings (\$)
Shaded pole	18	876	80
PSC	35	451	29
ECM	63	250	5
Q-Sync	75	210	—

Note: kWh = kilowatt-hours.

© E Source, some data from QM Power

Cost to retrofit  $\approx$  \$100/motor

Cost for original equipment manufacturers to upgrade from ECM to Q-Sync = \$0



---

# Interesting Slant



Courtesy: FridgeWize





# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans

**Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks**

Dynamic Airzone Balancing

Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers

LED Troffers and Tubes

LED Stadium Lighting

OLEDs

Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry

CO2 Commercial Laundry

Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers

Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# Efficiency Opportunities on Ice!

**Estimated annual ice rink energy use (in Canada):**  
897,000 kWh  
35,940 therms  
Equivalent to 162 single-family homes

Operate around  
100 hours/week  
8 months/year

Ice resurfaced  
approximately  
65 times/week

Domestic hot water and resurfacing account for nearly 7% of total facility energy use



Source: MorgueFile

Data: "Improving Efficiency In Ice Hockey Arenas," *ASHRAE Journal* (June 2009)



# Maintaining the “Smooth”



Source: Wikimedia Commons



Source: Ximeg, Wikimedia Commons

## Surface maintenance:

- “Snow” removed
- 1 millimeter of ice shaved off
- Warm water flood
- Scars eliminated

## Resurfaced ice:

- Smooth
- Hard
- No discontinuities

# Zamboni: Hot Water Energy Hog



Source: Myrabella, Wikimedia Commons

**Air bubbles in water cause an uneven ice surface:**

- Heat resurfacing water to approximately 130°F
- Annual energy use: approximately 4,436 therms
- Requires hot water storage tanks because daily demand varies



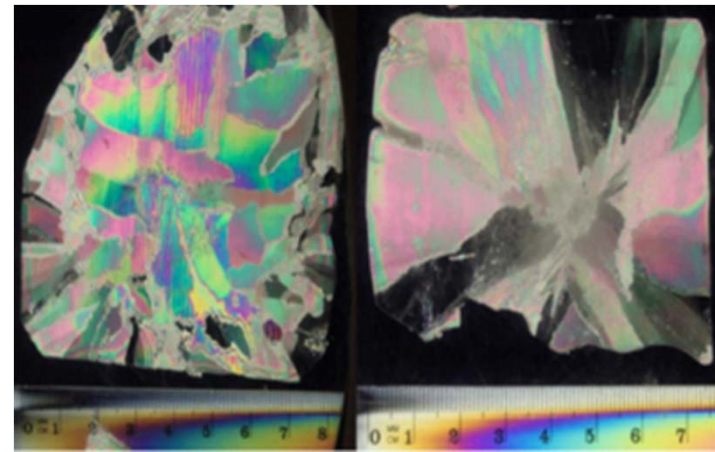
# Vortex Water Treatment Approach

- Removes air bubbles by:
  - Creating a vortex
  - Isolating bubbles in low-pressure zone
  - “Degassing” process
- End result:
  - Ice crystals are larger
  - Ice is harder (higher density)
  - Ice is smoother (fewer discontinuities)



Courtesy: Realice

**Ice crystals**



**Before**

**After**

Courtesy: Realice

# Water-Treatment Benefits

- Dual energy savings:
  - Natural gas
    - Reduced heating of resurfacing water (approximately 60°F)
  - Electricity
    - Lower-temperature flood water reduces the refrigeration load
    - Increased ice slab temperature reduces the refrigeration load
- Ice quality:
  - Improved ice strength
  - Better uniformity of hardness



# Results So Far

Utility	Energy	Verified annual savings	Savings percentage
FortisBC	Thermal	3,128 therms	79.0%
	Refrigeration	22,500 kWh	29.0%
SCE	Thermal	3,731 therms	NA
	Refrigeration	21,476 kWh	4.6%

© E Source

After the FortisBC pilot, 90% of participants intended to keep using the vortex water treatment system

SCE test: 42% average increase in ice hardness, plus improved ice uniformity



---

# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans

Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks

**Dynamic Airzone Balancing**

Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers

LED Troffers and Tubes

LED Stadium Lighting

OLEDs

Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry

CO2 Commercial Laundry

Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers

Wireless Plug Load Controllers





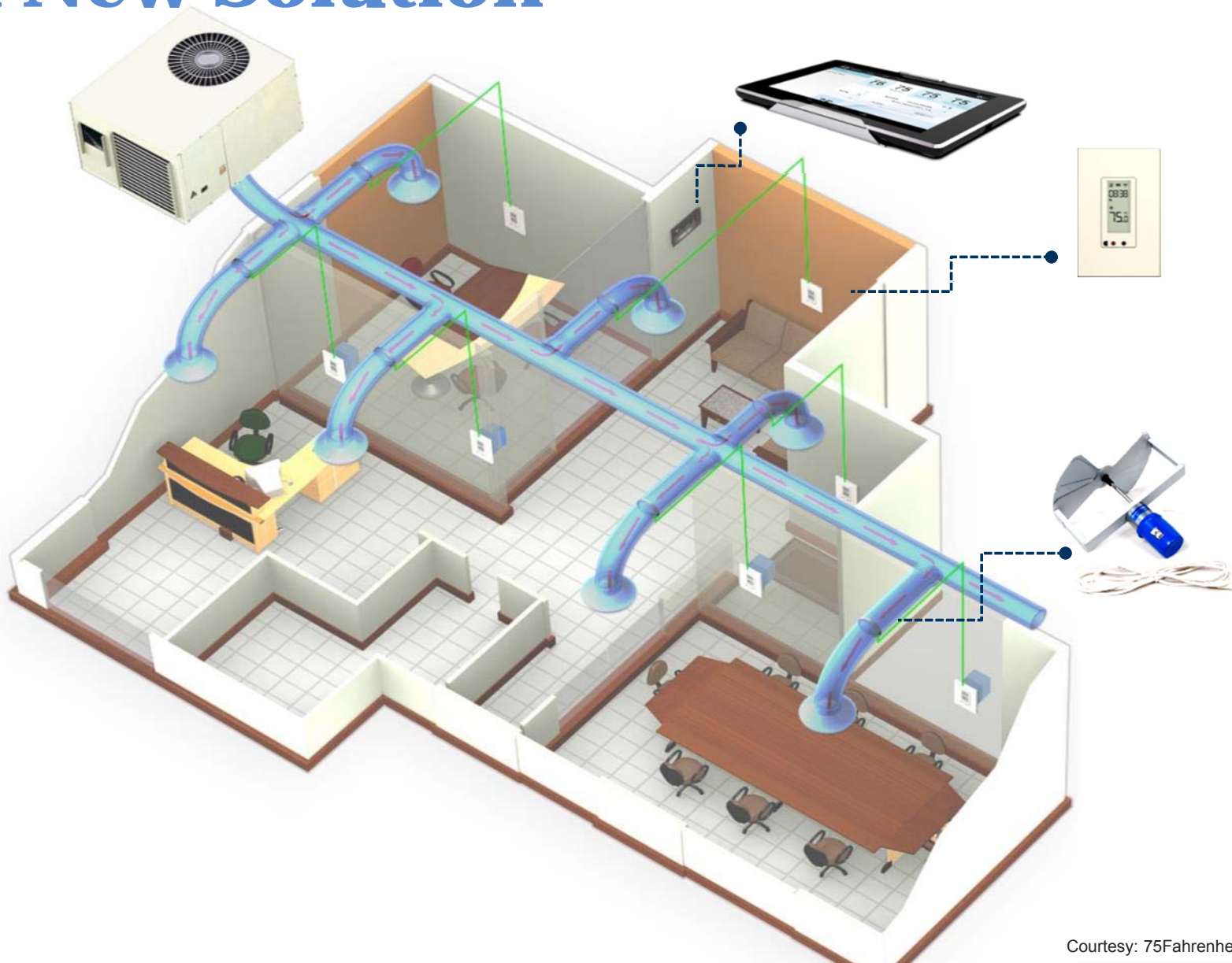
# The Problem



Source: Cartoonaday.com



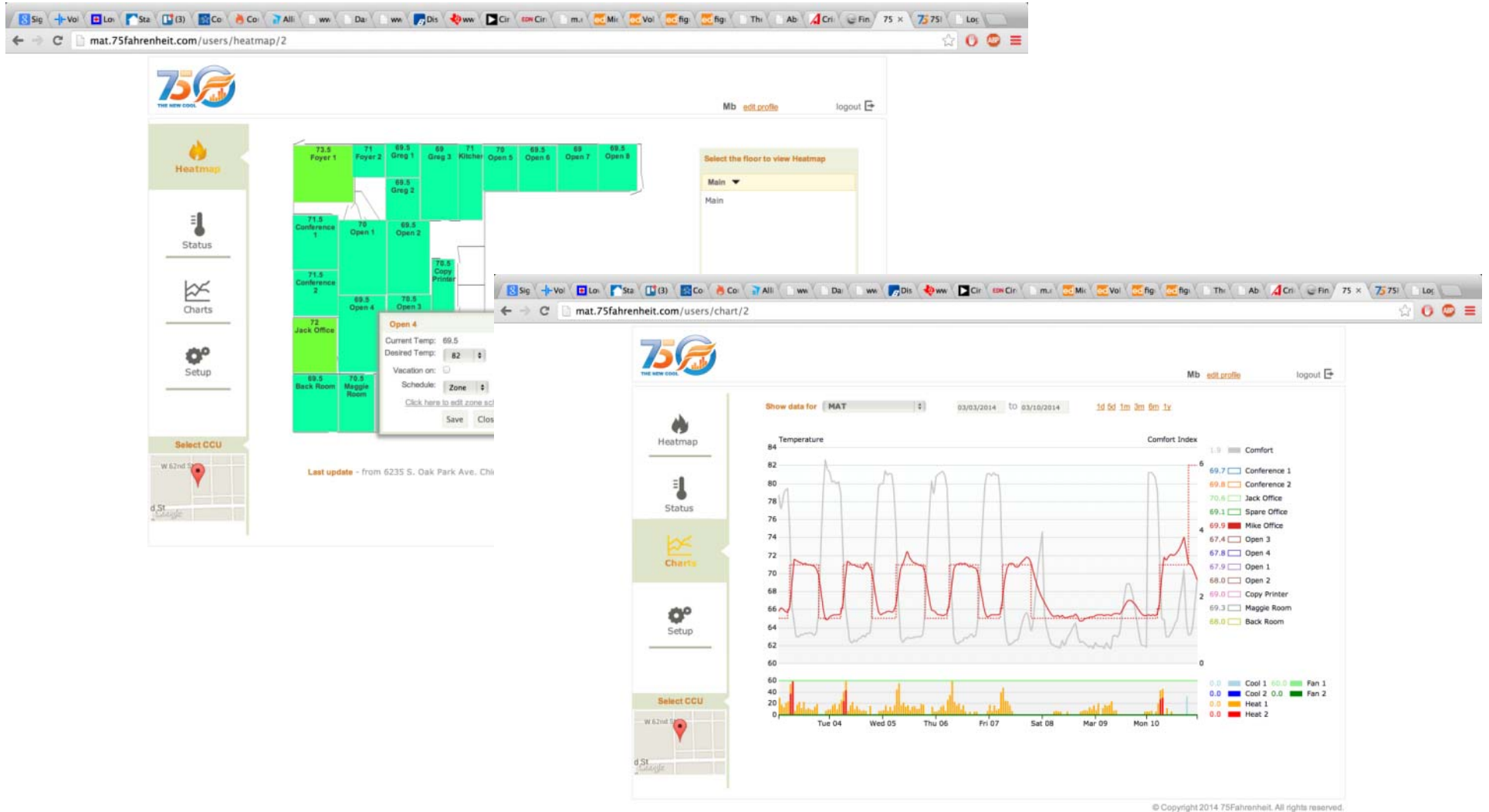
# A New Solution



Courtesy: 75Fahrenheit



# Real Time Reporting



# BUT, It's Still Very Emerging



Source: CKSinfo.com

- Energy savings are undetermined
- Young company
- Reliability and quality control are undetermined



# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans

Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks

Dynamic Airzone Balancing

**Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers**

LED Troffers and Tubes

LED Stadium Lighting

OLEDs

Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry

CO2 Commercial Laundry

Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers

Wireless Plug Load Controllers

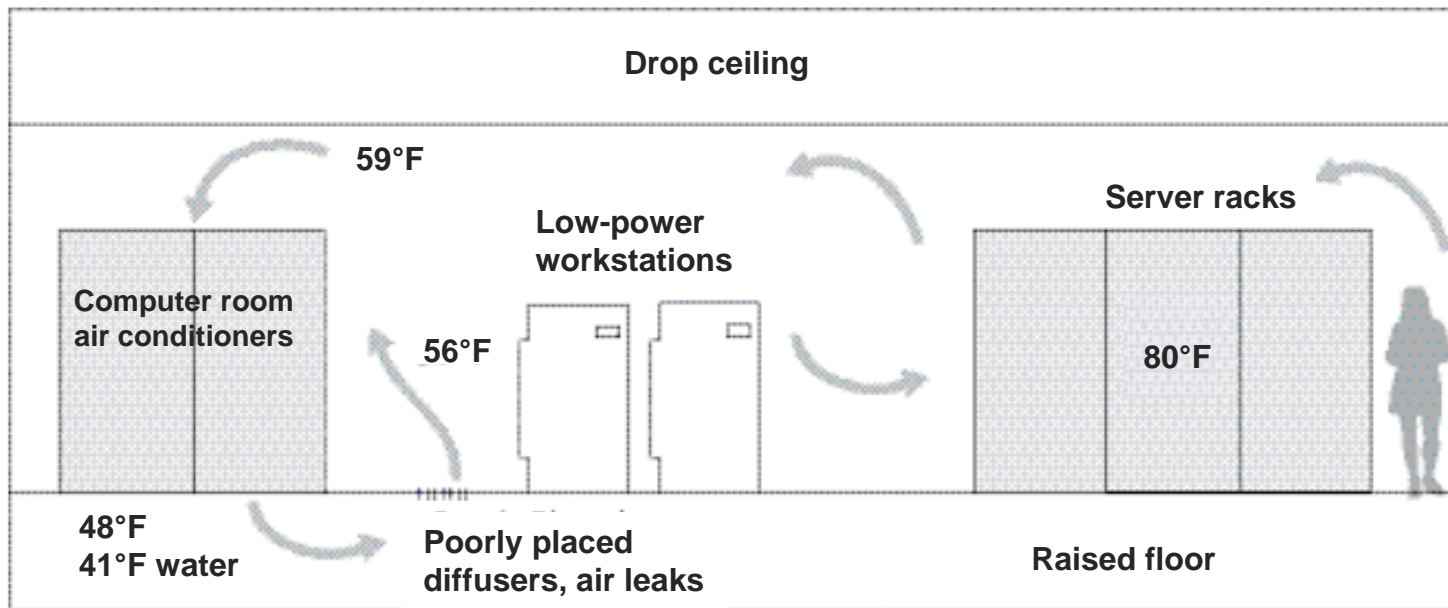


# Is This the Data Center of the Future?



Courtesy: Green Revolution Cooling

# Data Center Cooling Is Frequently Complicated and Inefficient



Courtesy: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory



# Why Not Submerge Servers in Liquid?

- Liquid is a much better heat transfer medium
  - Can use readily available non-conducting mineral oil
  - 1,000 times higher heat capacity
- Pull heat directly off hot components
- Massive energy-savings potential in data centers
  - Up to 90 percent claimed cooling energy savings
  - Up to 50 percent claimed overall data center energy savings



Courtesy: Green Revolution Cooling





# Potential Non-Energy Benefits

## Existing buildings

- Increase computing power density of servers
  - Potential to get server densities up to 40 kilowatts (kW) per rack
- Run existing servers faster



Courtesy: Green Revolution Cooling

## New construction

- Eliminates the need for:
  - Air-handling equipment
  - Chillers
  - Computer room air conditioners (CRACs)/computer room air handlers (CRAHs)
  - Raised flooring
  - Hot/cold aisles
- Faster, less-expensive construction and installation
- Uses servers with simplified architecture (e.g. no fans)
- No needless conditioning of space around servers



# Promising Test Results from PG&E

- Evaluated four CarnotJet tanks from Green Revolution Cooling
  - Compared to a large data center with:
    - Level II air management
    - Hot and cold aisle containment
    - Ducted return
    - A constant-speed CRAH fan
- Results: 82 percent energy and demand savings
  - Savings of 81,030 kilowatt-hours/year and 9.25 kW



Courtesy: Green Revolution Cooling

- All demand savings are 100 percent coincident with peak demand
  - HVAC equipment runs at full duty cycle 24/7

# Some Caveats to Consider

- Need the right type of servers
  - Need to remove fans and thermal paste
  - Requires solid-state drives
    - Standard magnetic hard drives aren't hermetically sealed
  - Manufacturers don't yet offer off-the-shelf servers to submerge into mineral oil
- May need to ensure that warranties are honored
- Servers may require additional time to service
  - Have to be removed from the oil bath and dried

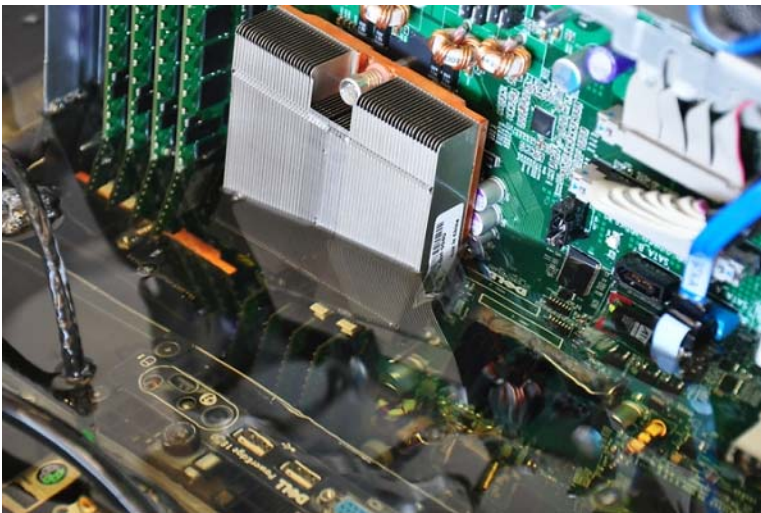


Courtesy: Redline



# What Options Are Out There?

- [Green Revolution Cooling](#) is currently the only vendor with a modular tank-style full-submersion system



Courtesy: Green Revolution Cooling

- Other vendors have similar offerings:
  - [3M](#)
  - [Asetek](#)
  - [Coolcentric](#)
  - [Iceotope](#)
  - [LiquidCool Solutions](#)
- BUT each vendor offers a different approach
  - Different types of liquid cooling
  - Highly variable costs



# Outline

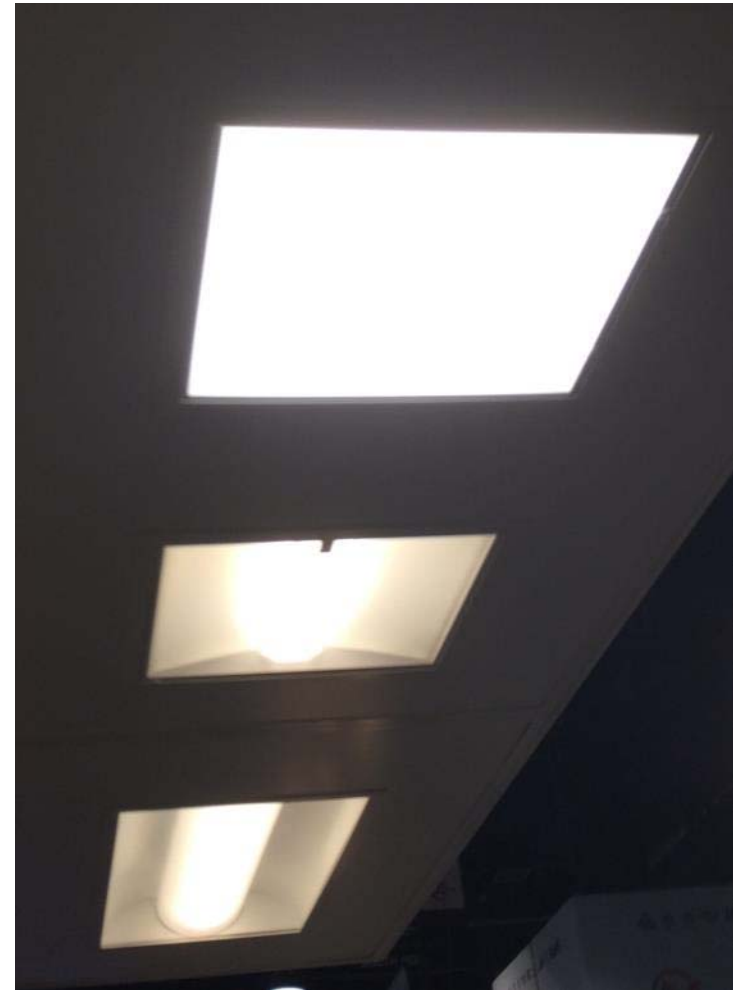
Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
**LED Troffers and Tubes**  
LED Stadium Lighting  
OLEDs  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# Troffers Are Ubiquitous

The most common fluorescent fixture:

- Operates 10.5 hours/day
- Draws 25 to 113 watts
- Contributes to peak load
- 1 billion fluorescent luminaires (troffers, pendants, etc.)
- 42 percent of lighting energy
- Converting all to LEDs would save the equivalent of 27 million homes



© E Source

Source:

[http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/ssl/caliper\\_21\\_t8.pdf](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/ssl/caliper_21_t8.pdf)



# LED Troffer Options and Rebates

- Options
  - Tubes (ballast and driver options)
  - Kits (use existing housing, may include lenses)
  - Fixtures



Courtesy: LG Electronics

# DOE Recommendations for LED Tubes

- Choose carefully—there are good and bad products out there
  - [www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/ssl/application-troffer.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/ssl/application-troffer.html)
- Consider retrofit kits, high-performance fluorescents
- LED T8s may be cost-effective: high electric rates, long hours, and low installation costs
- Do a mock-up





# LED T8s: Getting Better, But ...

	CRI	Life (hours)	Efficacy (lm/W)	Cost (\$)	Dimmable	Ballast compatibility
High-performance T8	80s (R9~10)	24,000 to 75,000	98	5	Yes	All
Philips InstantFit LED	85 (R9~20)	40,000	100 (95 to 116)	24 to 39	No	IS, some PS, no dimming (yet)
Cree T8 series	90 (R9~50)	50,000	100	30	Yes	90% of IS, PS, dimmable
LG retrofit kit	82	50,000	130	130 to 175	Yes	NA

Notes: LEDs and fluorescents use different definitions of "life."  
 CRI = color rendering index; IS = instant start; lm = lumens;  
 NA = not applicable; PS = programmed start; W = watt.

© E Source



Courtesy: Cree



# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
**LED Stadium Lighting**  
OLEDs  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# LEDs in Stadiums

- Metal halide fumbles:
  - Long delay during the 2013 Super Bowl due to long restrike and warm-up times
- LEDs have previously been ineligible to play
  - High cost
  - Lack of “throw”
  - Insufficient color quality for TV broadcasts
- LEDs score
  - Instant on (no delays)
  - Better controllability
  - Long life
  - Better lumen and color maintenance
  - High efficiency
  - Good color



Source: Ephesus Lighting



# A Winning Technology!

## University of Phoenix Stadium

- Hosted the 2015 Super Bowl
- 1.24 megawatts (MW) of metal halide translates to 0.31 MW LED
- Brighter, more uniform, better color, lower maintenance
- Suitable for HDTV, digital photography, slow-motion

## NRG Stadium in Houston

- Cut 60% of lighting energy (down to 337 kW)
- Dimming and instant-on capabilities useful for rodeos and concerts



Source: Mucsko Lighting



# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
LED Stadium Lighting  
**OLEDs**  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# OLEDs Are Coming on Strong...

- Organic LED (OLED) features:
  - Thin, flat, flexible, diffuse, no hazardous materials, cool to the touch
  - New forms: flexible substrates, illuminated wallpaper, faux windows
- A few years behind LEDs
  - Current products: up to 60 lumens/watt (lm/W); color rendering index (CRI) >90; tunable color; 15,000-hour life; prototype at 131 lm/W



Source: Acuity

# And You Can Buy 'Em at Home Depot

- Aedan
  - \$199
  - 5 W, 136 lm (27 lm/W)
- Chalina
  - \$299
  - 8 W, 345 lm (44 lm/W)
- General
  - 40,000-hour, 3-year warranty
  - 89 CRI
  - Dimmable



Source: Home Depot



Source: Home Depot

# The OLED Future

- DOE estimate of OLED energy-savings potential:
  - 73% in corridors, 52% in retail, 50% in reception areas
- Early markets: architectural, hospitality, retail, automotive
- Market predictions vary widely:
  - \$26 million by 2020 (HIS)
  - \$200 million by 2019; \$1.9 billion by 2025 (IDTechEX)
  - \$4.7 billion by 2020 (UBI Research)
- Resource: [2014 OLED Stakeholder Meeting Report \(PDF\)](#), DOE



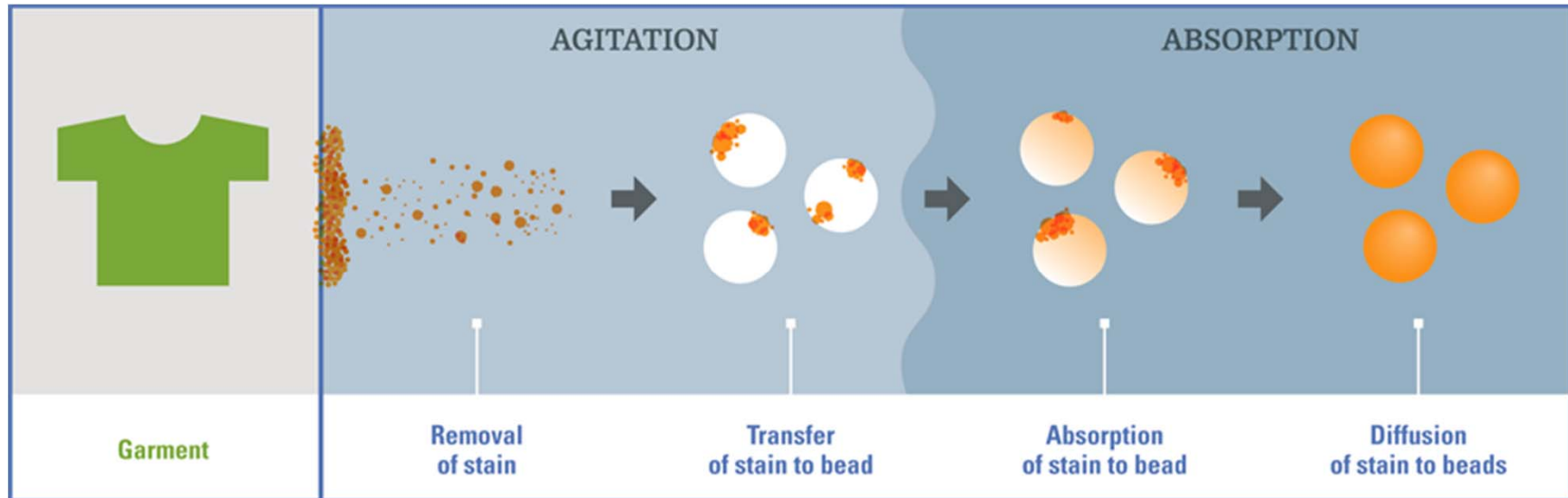


# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
LED Stadium Lighting  
OLEDs  
**Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry**  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# How It Works



© E Source

## Polymer beads:

- Spheroidal
- The size of BBs
- 1:2 mass ratio of laundry to beads
- Expand with moisture

## The Process:

- Beads enter drum in specially made machine
- Agitate with fabrics
- Lift and absorb stains
- Beads exit drum for re-use
- No treatment of beads necessary



# Standard Machines Waste Resources



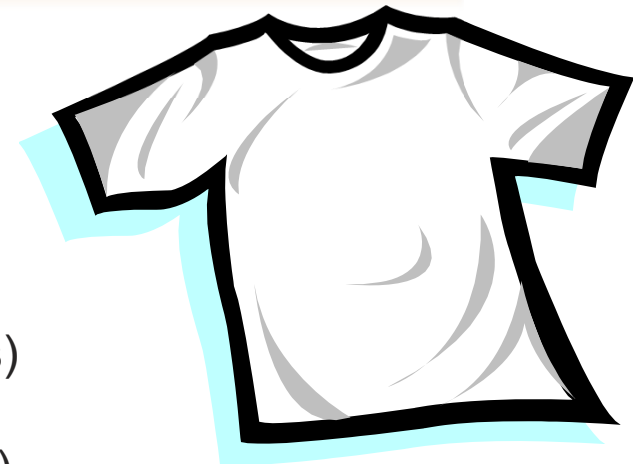
Courtesy: BrokenSphere

For use in hotels, fitness centers,  
commercial laundry services...

not hospitals or correctional facilities



- Water (about 140 gallons per load)
- Heat (1 to 2 therms)
- Detergent
- Time (about 1 hour)



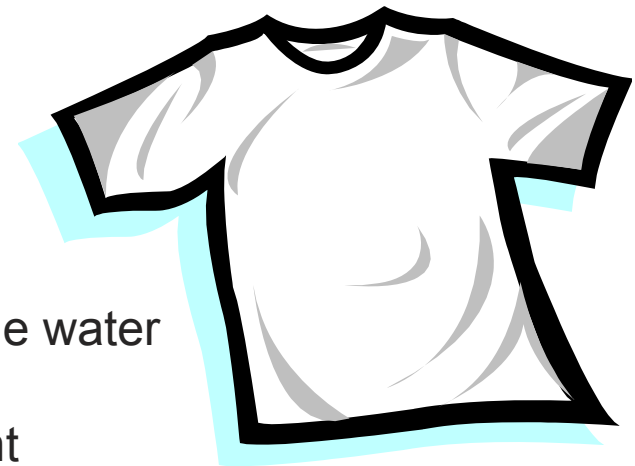
Source: MS Clipart



# Why Polymer Bead Is Better



Courtesy: Liberty Utilities



Source: MS Clipart

- One-quarter of the water
- ~~Heat~~
- Half the detergent
- Less time
- Reduced drying\*



# Big Savings, and Substantial Non-Energy Benefits

Per load	Milnor (baseline)	Xeros (polymer bead)	Savings
Time (minutes)	54 to 78	50 to 51	4 to 26
Water (gallons)	134 to 156	35 to 37	80%
Therms	1.02 to 1.59	0	100%
Electricity	2 kWh	3 kWh	<b>-4,600 kWh<sup>a</sup></b>

Notes: kWh = kilowatt-hours.

a. total additional electricity use in a year (compared to baseline).

© E Source

- Gentler on fabrics
- Improved cleaning
- No sorting colors
- No bleach






# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
LED Stadium Lighting  
OLEDs  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
**CO2 Commercial Laundry**  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# How Does Liquid CO<sub>2</sub> Clean?

Gas at room temperature	Liquid at higher pressures	Solid at atmospheric pressure and below (-)109° F
		
Carbonation	Liquid	Dry ice

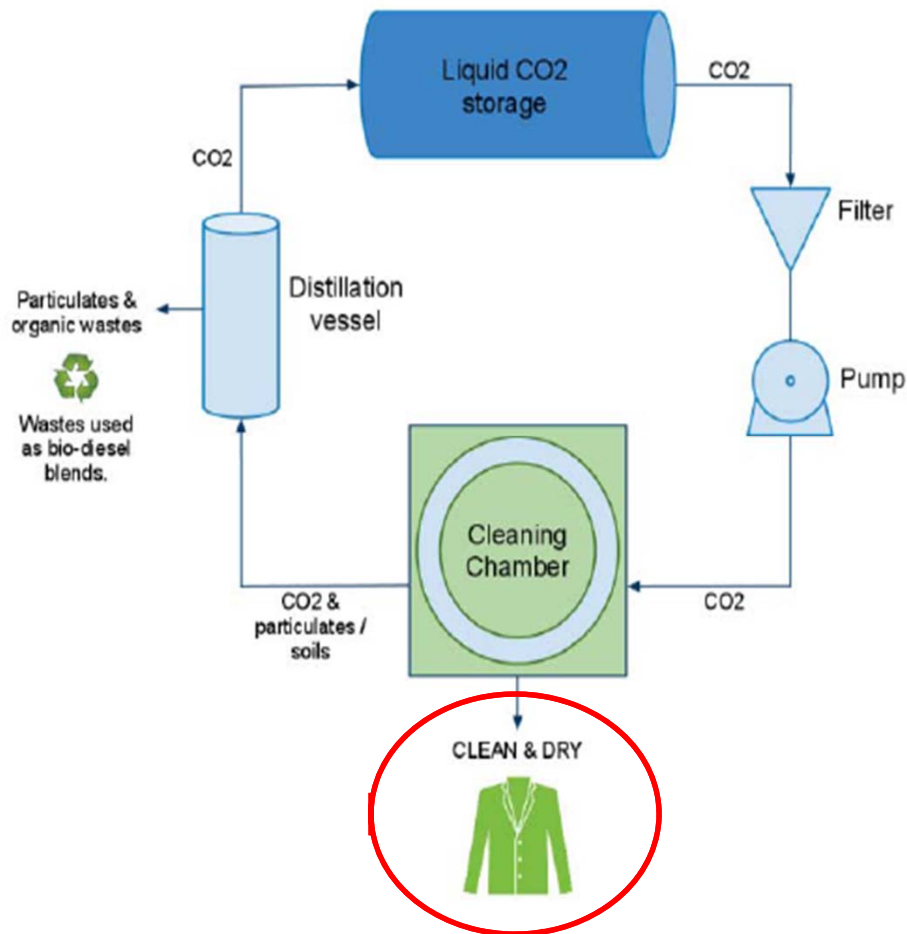
Courtesy (left to right): Quinn Dombrowski, Mr. Thomas, and Michael Melgar

Carbon-dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) solvent properties compared to water:

- Lower viscosity and surface tension
- Improved small pore penetration
- **Cleans better and more quickly**



# How the Process Works



Courtesy: CO<sub>2</sub>Nexus

1. The cleaning chamber is purged of air
2. Liquid CO<sub>2</sub> (at ~ 60° F and 700 psi) is pumped into the cleaning chamber
3. Wash: CO<sub>2</sub> is recirculated
4. Distillation: residual body oils, detergent, and other soils are captured and removed
5. Clean liquid is moved back to storage and is ready for the next cycle





# Savings Versus Incumbent Water-Based System

Process consumption



	Water-based system	CO <sub>2</sub> -based system	Percentage reduction
Water (gallons)	4 million	0	100%
Electric energy (megawatt-hours)	444	200	33%
Natural gas energy (megawatt-hours)	667	300	22%
Chemicals (pounds)	30,000 (disposed of in municipal water system)	9,000	70%
Garment life	50+ cycles	2 to 3 times longer life	NA

Note: Based on 1.2 million pounds of garments throughput per year.

© E Source; data from CO<sub>2</sub>Nexus



# Economics and Potential Applications

Simple payback period target of 2 to 4 years

- Application- or market-specific
- Water and energy costs vary geographically
- Minimal biological contamination

Potential applications

- Hospitality
- Upstream textile processing
- Oil and gas
- Healthcare
- Dry cleaning
- Clean rooms



Courtesy: CO<sub>2</sub>Nexus



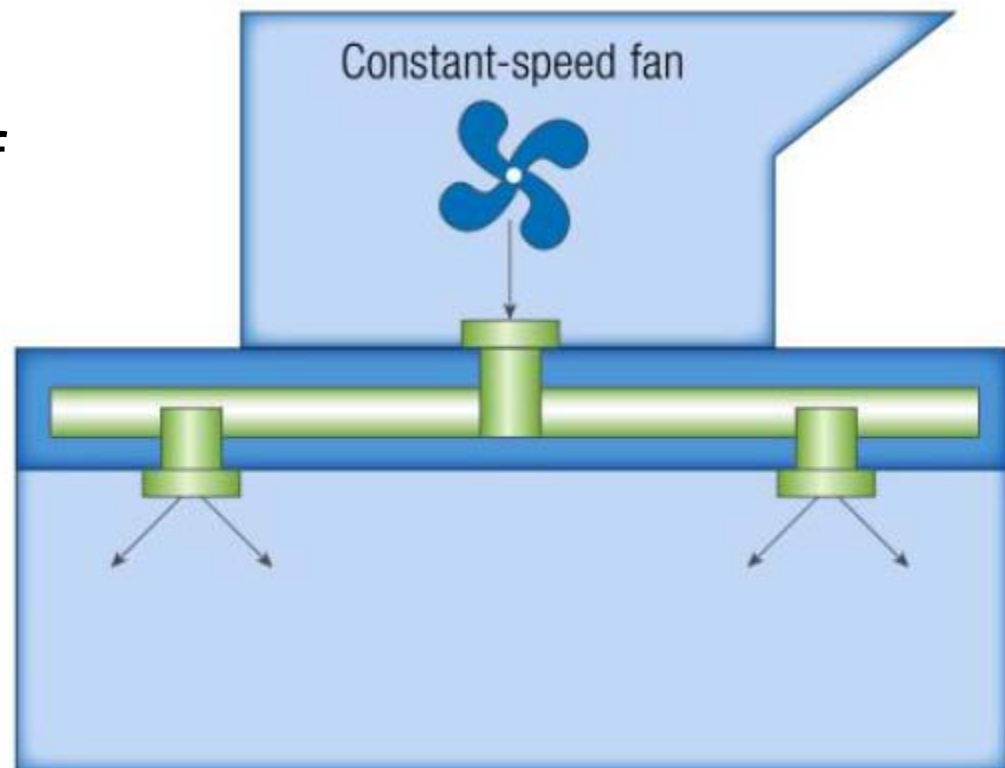
# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
LED Stadium Lighting  
OLEDs  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
**Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers**  
Wireless Plug Load Controllers



# Single-Zone RTUs Are UNINTELLIGENT Machines

- One zone
- Fixed fan speed
- Fan is either on or off
- Ventilation is kept at 100 percent when the building is occupied



© E Source



# Single-Zone Rooftop Units Are EVERYWHERE

- About 50 percent of all commercial buildings have RTUs installed
- If half of those were retrofitted, it would be equivalent to removing 70 coal-fired power plants



Source: Wikimedia Commons

# Variable-Frequency Drive (VFD) Retrofit Devices for RTUs: What's Under the Hood

Product	Variable-speed evaporator fan	Variable-speed compressor	Demand-controlled ventilation	Economizer controls	Fault detection and diagnostics
Catalyst	✓		✓	✓	Some
Enerfit	✓		✓	✓	Some
Digi-RTU	✓	✓	In progress	In progress	In progress

© E Source



# Results Continue to Be Positive: PNNL Study

- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) study published July 2013:
  - 66 Catalyst units
  - 8 different buildings (retail, shopping mall, office, food sales, healthcare)
  - 4 climate zones (warm coastal, mixed humid, mixed marine, cool moist)
- Average savings of 57 percent!
- Mostly due to fan energy savings when in ventilation-only mode
- Average simple payback of 3 years at \$0.10/kWh



# Newest Results Continue to Be Positive: SDG&E Study

- San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) study published November 2013:
  - 2 different manufacturers (kept anonymous)
  - 1 installation per manufacturer
  - 1 building in San Diego, California

Device	Variable-speed evaporator fan	Variable-speed compressor	Demand-controlled ventilation	Economizer controls	Fault detection and diagnostics	Savings (%)
Unit 1	✓	✓				27
Unit 2	✓		✓	✓	Some	26

© E Source





# Outline

Q-Sync Motors for Evaporator Fans  
Gas and Electricity Savings in Ice Rinks  
Dynamic Airzone Balancing  
Liquid-Submerged Cooling for Servers  
LED Troffers and Tubes  
LED Stadium Lighting  
OLEDs  
Polymer Bead Commercial Laundry  
CO2 Commercial Laundry  
Single-Zone RTU Retrofit Controllers  
**Wireless Plug Load Controllers**



# Wireless Plug Load Controls

- Several new smart plugs/ strips on the market
  - Available for residential and commercial applications
  - Can simplify installation and set-up
  - Offer customized load management strategies
- Wireless functionality
  - Centralized web portal
  - Straightforward monitoring and reporting
  - Finally feasible for a single person to manage many different plug loads



Image courtesy Enmetric Systems



# How Well Do They Work?

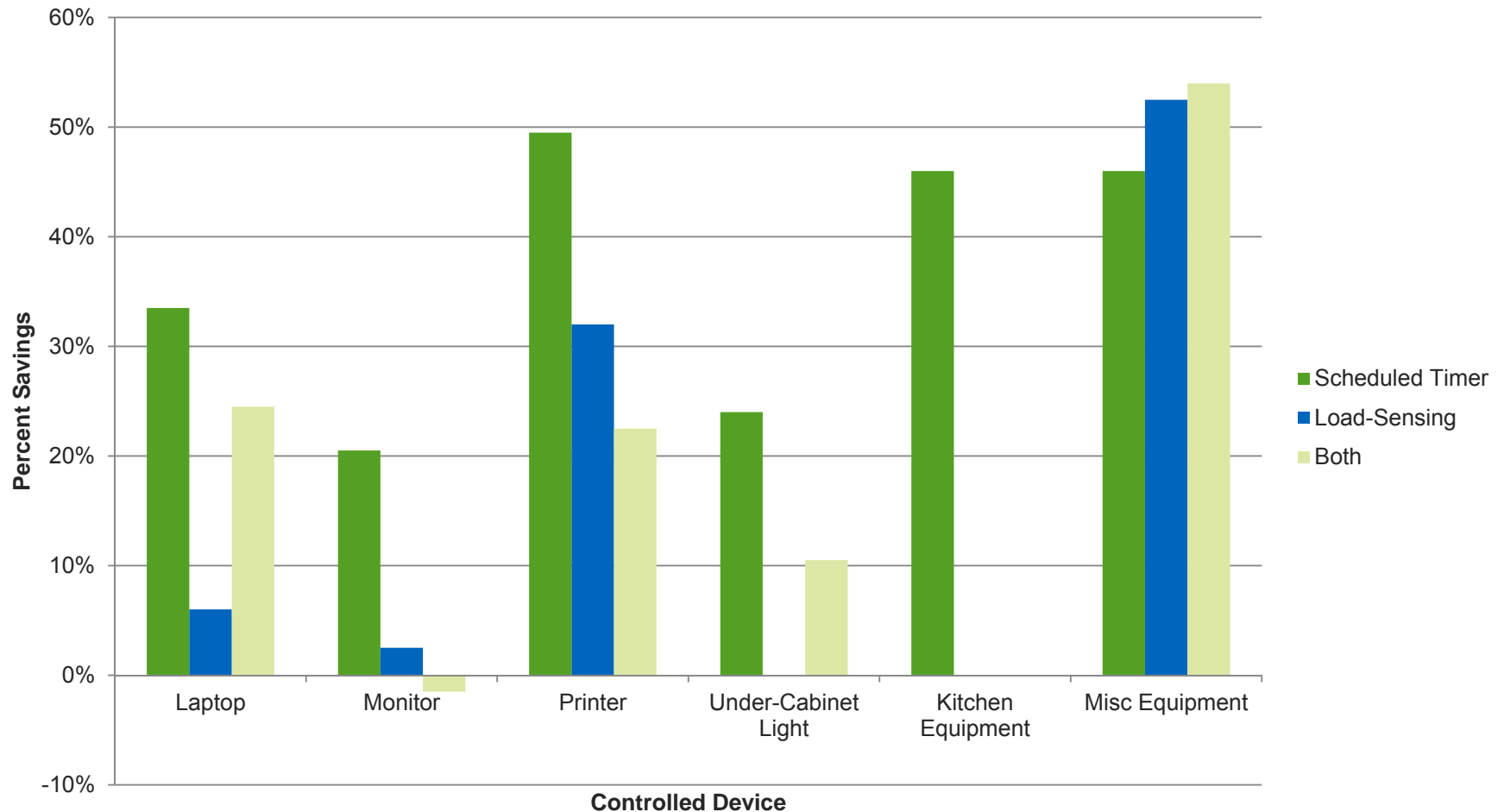
- NREL tested Enmetric smart strips in 8 office buildings
  - Baseline was a standard “dumb” power strip
  - Studied nearly 300 devices
- Control strategies used included:
  - Submetering only
  - Schedule timer
  - Load-sensing
  - Schedule timer and load-sensing



Image Courtesy Everaldo Coelho and YellowIcon



# Savings Vary Based on Device, Control Strategy Used



# Small Business Pilot with NYSERDA

- 10 small businesses in New York City
- 250 ThinkEco Modlets installed
  - Comprised 500 individual plug-level meters + controls
- 3 phases
  - “Blind”—establishing a baseline
  - Automated savings
  - Interoffice competition (the “Modlympics”)



Courtesy: Petiatl



Courtesy: ThinkEco Inc.

# Automated Savings

- Plug loads accounted for 10 to 40 percent of all the electricity consumed
  - This was in energy-conscious offices!
- Automatic controls have enormous potential
  - Shutting off equipment after hours can reduce *overall* electricity bills by up to 10 percent in small offices



Courtesy: S Sepp



# Individualized Feedback

- Surprise! People don't know what to focus their efforts on
  - Worried about small things like cell phone chargers
  - Often miss "obvious" opportunities (such as the many energy hogs that are left on 24/7)
- Data can quickly dispel common misconceptions
  - People can see how they actually consume energy



Courtesy: McKinley



# For More Information



## **Essie Snell**

Research Manager, Technology Assessment, E Source

303-345-9140 [essie\\_snell@esource.com](mailto:essie_snell@esource.com)



## **Logan Jacobson**

Associate Analyst, Technology Assessment, E Source

303-345-9181 [logan\\_jacobson@esource.com](mailto:logan_jacobson@esource.com)

## **CONTACT US**

1-800-ESOURCE (1-800-376-8723)

[customer\\_service@esource.com](mailto:customer_service@esource.com)

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

