

Pacific Energy Center's Retro-Commissioning Workshops:

Developing Expertise through Interactive Training

Ryan Stroupe, Pacific Energy Center
Virginia Waik, City of Palo Alto
Rishabh Kasliwal, Cogent Energy
Blair Horst, Lawrence Livermore National Lab



April 21, 2006
San Francisco, California



Pacific Energy Center

- 32,000 sq foot facility in San Francisco
- Offers free (publicly-funded) services
 - Classes
 - Tools
 - Consultations
- Opened and commissioned in 1991
- Retro-commissioned in 2001-2002
 - Reduced energy use by 25%
 - Many action items not addressed
 - Functionality as demonstration facility
 - Thermal comfort
 - EMS limitations



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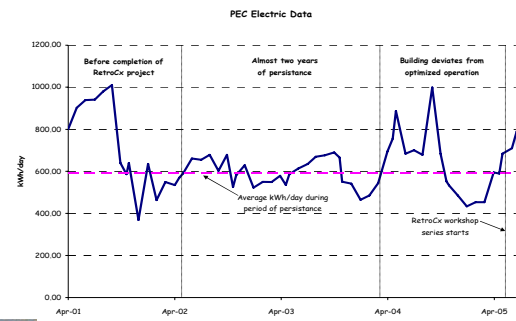
Genesis of Retro-Cx Workshop

- Many contributing reasons for workshop series
 - Regular students were asking for more hands-on
 - No training available on actual Cx activities
 - Concept complimented existing curriculum
 - Energy savings was not persisting
 - Class materials to supplement existing documentation
 - Opportunity to work with Dave Sellers and PEI
- First workshop series begins in May of 2005



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PEC Electric Power Data



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Class Structure

- Students required to take pre-requisite: "Identifying and Assessing Common Retro-Cx Opportunities"
- Workshop size kept small to facilitate hands-on
- Monthly meetings
- Morning lecture
 - Cx process
 - System fundamentals
 - Building owners perspective
 - Developing system tests
- Afternoon lab
 - Benchmarking utility data
 - Setting up and analyzing trends
 - Updating problem log
 - Test procedures
- Findings reported out at end of each workshop



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Problem Log

Identifier	Name	Description	Location	Date of Discovery
EMS -002	Chilled Water Valve Operating	Verify chilled water valve operation	ID Location	2005/08/08
Control System -003	Supply Air Temp	Calibrate supply air temperature AHU1	AHU1	2005/08/08
Control System -004	Check Chilled Water Supply Flow Switch	is Chilled water valve working properly at AHU 1	ID Location	2005/08/08
Control System -005	Chilled Water Supply Temperature Sensor	calibrate chilled water supply temperature sensor	ID Location	2005/08/08
Ducts		verify whether the T holes in the ducts has been repaired	AHU1	2005/08/08
Control System -006		trouble shoot flow switch for chilled water loop	ID Location	2005/08/08
Pump		pump impellor work order	Basement level at the ice tank area	2005/08/08
Control System -007		verify minimum air flow the HVAC classroom	HVAC Classroom	2005/08/08
Ducts/Terminal Units		Bilbao VAV boxes 1-8 and 1-3	VAVs - ID specific location	2005/08/08
Control System -008		check the settings in the Tracer system for the VAV settings above	HVAC Classroom	2005/08/08



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Project Examples

- Benchmarking and Trend Data, Virginia Waik
- Heating Hot Water Loop, Rishabh Kasliwal
- Pump Impellor Trimming, Blair Horst



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Benchmarking & Trending

Virginia Waik, City of Palo Alto Utilities

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www.cpau.org

April 21, 2006
San Francisco, California



NATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
BUILDING
COMMISSIONING



Why Look at Your Building Metrics?

US potential: \$18 Billion in Annual *Energy Saving*
Increase Occupant *Comfort*

First Steps : Get to know your own building

- Site Assessment : Plans, Walk through, interviews, doc.
- Benchmarking: Cal Arch & Energy Star
- Trending : Excel, Energy Management Systems

Bridge gap between problem identification & solutions



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Site Assessment of the PEC

Building Details

1990 building gutted and rehab
Office & Education, San Francisco
Area : **26,000 ft²** (613 max occ)
Garage: 6000 ft²

Building Operation

Mon - Fri: 7 am - 7 pm
Sat - Sun: occasional events
Kitchen: 4 am as required
Design: T_{space} 72°F - 74°F

Building Systems

DX Chiller & NG Boiler	DDC Control & Energy
Roof top AHU	Management System
Second Floor AHU	Variable Air Volume
Primary & Secondary Loops	Thermal Energy Storage



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Innovation in RCx Training

First hand experience of obstacles

- Really cool tools
- Safe environment to ask questions & try out ideas
- Direct exposure to operating equipment
- Full Circle: Identify problems, test, interpret findings, use common sense, work orders, specs, presentations
- Alternative approaches to resolution
- Handling data, information, records management
- **Immediately useful**



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Benchmarking

Comparing Your Site to Others

Building metrics:

- Annual Energy Use
- Location, Activity, Operating Hours
- Size & Age

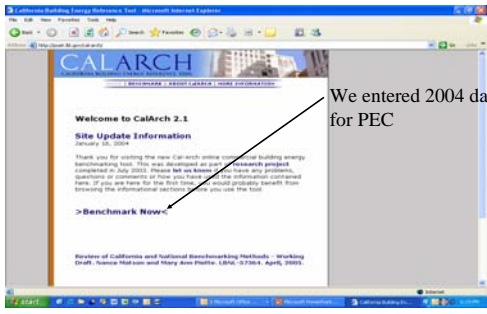
Benchmarking & Trending Tools

- Cal Arch
- Energy Star
- Excel



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Cal Arch - California Building Energy Reference tool
 www: http://poet.lbl.gov/cal-arch



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Cal Arch - Benchmarking



6 inputs

1. Select the primary activity of your building.
2. Enter the floor area of your building. (Optional: Select the building type and check the box to include only buildings with comparable floor area.)
3. Enter the annual energy consumption for your building.

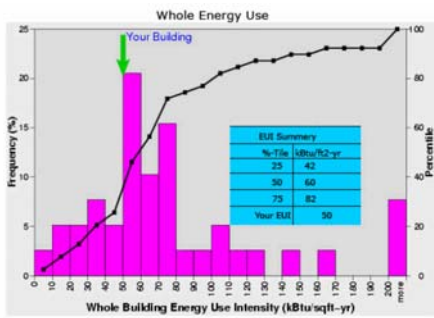
Year	Energy Consumption
2004	1000000
2005	1000000
2006	1000000
2007	1000000
2008	1000000
2009	1000000
2010	1000000
2011	1000000
2012	1000000
2013	1000000
2014	1000000
4. Enter the zip code of your building.
5. Select the energy use unit (kBtu/sqft-yr).
6. Select the graph type.

- Principal Activity
- Floor Area
- Annual Energy
- Zip Code

- Evaluation preference
- Preferred Graph type

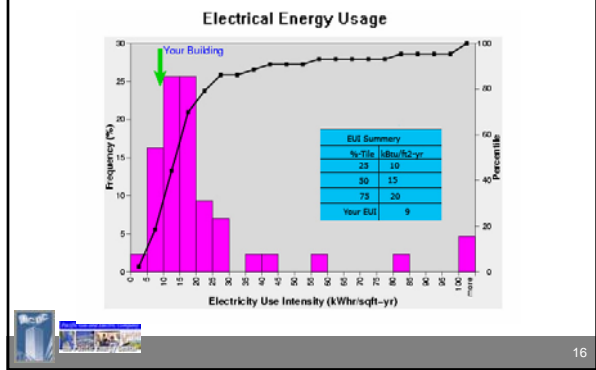
14

Cal Arch – PEC Whole Building

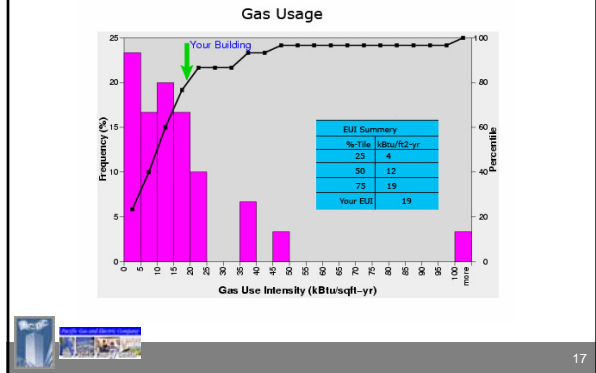


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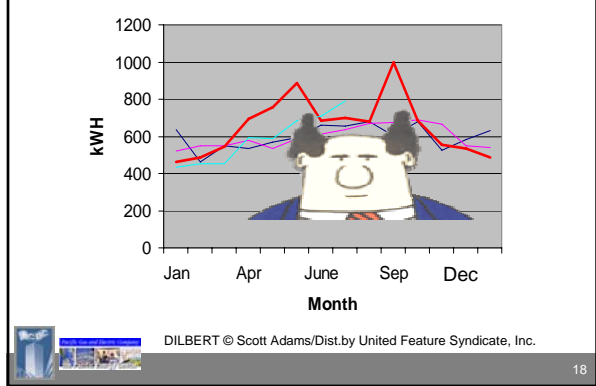
Cal Arch – PEC Electricity



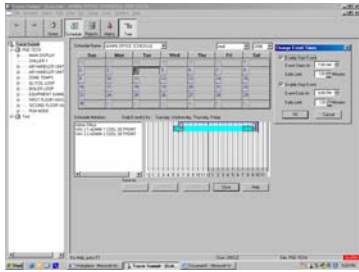
Cal Arch – PEC Gas Use



Pacific Energy Center Average Daily kWh

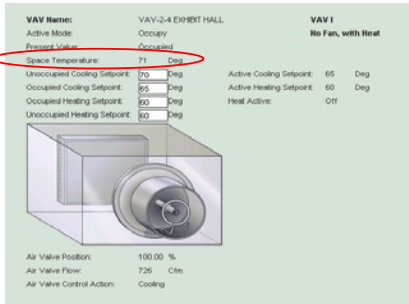


Trending – EMS Schedules



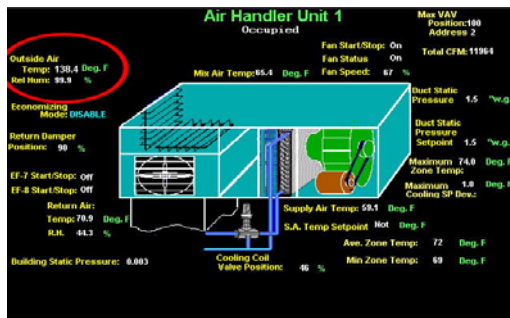
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Looking at Set Points



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First Observations Obvious Problems - Sensors OSA & Rh



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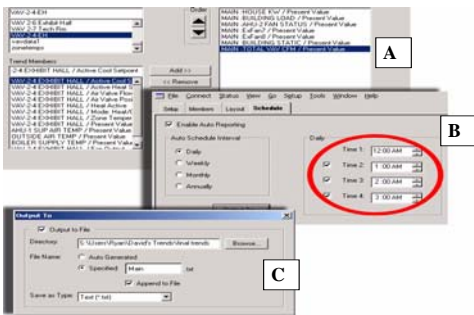
Creating EMS Trends

Could not discern true interaction of System components

- The process
- Tools
- Skill level
- Contractors



Creating EMS Trends

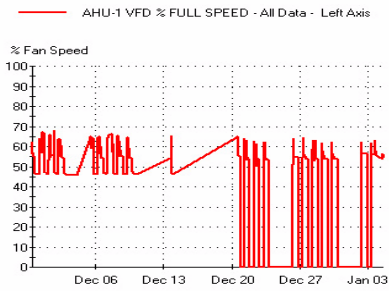


EMS Trends Enhancement

Universal Translator: utonline.org

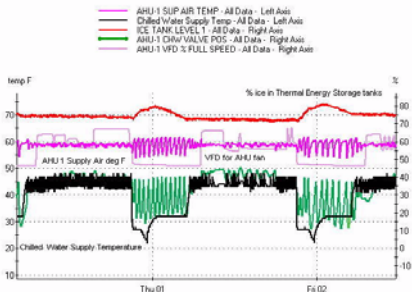


Looking at Scheduling



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Looking at Multiple Trends



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Web Resources

- PEC Center: <http://www.pge.com/pec/>
- Cal Arch: <http://poet.lbl.gov>
- Energy Star Portfolio Manager: <https://www.energystar.gov>
- Weather Info to refine bill analysis: www.climate-zone.com
- Public Interest Energy Research: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/pier>
- Universal Translator: [utoonline.org](http://www.utoonline.org)
- LBL – Evan Mills Research: <http://eetd.lbl.gov/emills/PUBS/Cx-Costs-Benefits.html>
- PECE Utilities Billing Analysis: [Using Utility Bills and Average Daily Energy Consumption to Target Commissioning Efforts and Track Building Performance](#) (PDF 310kB) David Sellers – Find this and more at www.peci.org



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Summary - Conclusion



- Site Assessment
- Benchmarking
- Trending
 - Excel
 - EMS
 - Setpoints
 - Schedules
 - Interactions



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Start looking at your own building metrics
to find savings & comfort opportunities



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Pacific Energy Center's Retro-Commissioning Workshops:

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**Hot Water System
Retro-Commissioning**
Rishabh Kasliwal, Cogent Energy



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COMMISSIONING

April 21, 2006
San Francisco, California



Hot Water Loop test

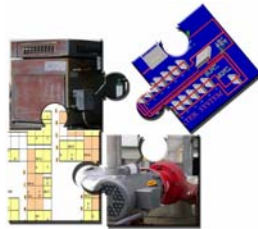
2006 Team Members (L to R)
Virginia Waik, Kristin Heinemeier,
Sergey Makarenko, Rishabh Kasliwal



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Executive Summary & Pieces of the Puzzle

- System Functional but has deficiencies
- More testing required to fully identify system performance
- Components
 - Boiler
 - Not able to operate per design conditions
 - HW Loop (Piping)
 - (15) 2-way valves and (3) 3-way valves
 - Little flow variation
 - HW System Pump
 - Pump Selection could have been better
 - Adequate performance
 - Zone conditions
 - Verified low temperatures in trouble zones



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Retro-Commissioning Plan

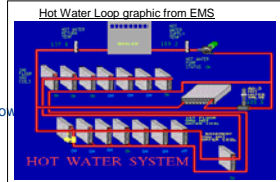
- Three step approach
 - Step 1: Understand the System
 - Step 2: Trend Based Functional Testing
 - Step 3: Manual Functional Testing



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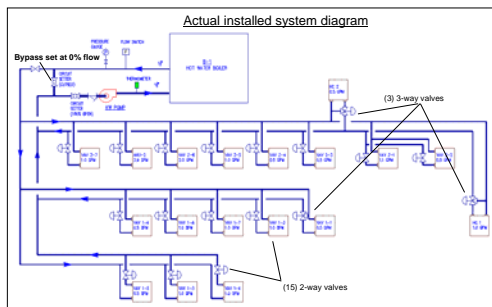
RCx Step 1: Understand the System

- Review available documentation
 - Mechanical Plans
 - Systems Manual
 - EMS graphics
- System walk through
 - Obtain name plate data
- Occupant interview to document known issues
- Create system diagram
- Identify obvious RCx issues



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HW Loop – System Diagram



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RCx Step 2: Trend Based Functional Testing

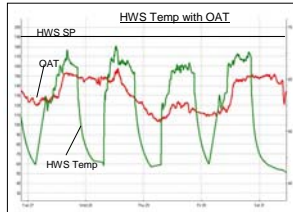
- Identify points to trend
 - HW Supply Temp
 - HW Return Temp
 - Pump status
 - Outside Air Temp
 - VAV 1-1 to 1-8 and VAV 2-1 to 2-7
 - Current mode (heating or cooling)
 - Zone temp
- Trend period
 - 5 weeks (December 4, 2005 to Jan 9, 2006)
- Trend interval
 - 1 min



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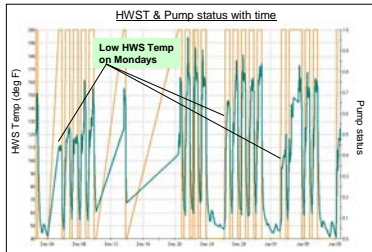
RCx Step 2: Trend Based Functional Testing – Results (1)

- HW Loop is on a fixed schedule
7:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Mon - Fri
- Loop design conditions are HWST 190°F / HWRT 160°F
- Boiler is able to obtain a max. HWST of 180°F. Typical HWST is 160°F
- HWST is not reset based on OAT



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RCx Step 2: Trend Based Functional Testing – Results (2)

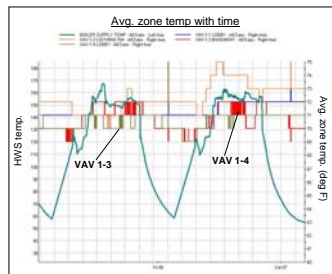


- HW Loop suffers from extended warm-up
– It takes all of Monday to heat up the HW Loop !



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RCx Step 2: Trend Based Functional Testing – Results (3)



- Trends verify low space temperature in basement (trouble) zones
i.e., VAV 1-3 & 1-4



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RCx Step 3: Manual Functional Testing

- Test Goals
 - Determine Boiler heating capacity and performance
 - Examine HW Pump size and flow capacity
 - Investigate pump performance at variable flow (load) conditions
 - Examine DAT at the most hydraulically remote coils from the boiler and the known trouble zones



Designing the Procedure & Test

- Start off with the CHW Loop Functional Test template
- Utilized Functional Test Guide as a resource to writing tests

<http://www.peci.org/ftguide/>



Test Procedure

- Will perform Six Tests with each test simulating a different load condition
- Gather following data for each test
 - **Boiler:** Combustion efficiency
 - **HW Pump:** Pump power, amps, motor speed, differential pressure (DP) to correlate to flow
 - **HW Loop:** HWST, HWRT
 - **Zones:** Set points, DAT at zones (diffusers)



The Six Tests

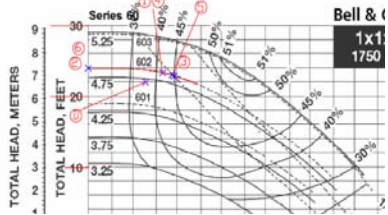
1. As Found
2. Shut Off Test
 - Shut off the discharge valve
 - Verified pump curve and amps
3. Full Open Test
 - All 18 valves set to full open
 - Verified boiler capacity
 - Observed some flow variation
4. Full Closed Test
 - All 18 valves set to full close
 - Flow variation less than expected
5. 1/3rd Open Test
 - Little flow variation
 - Verified low DAT in trouble zones
6. 2/3rd Open Test
 - Verified low DAT in trouble zones



Test Findings (1) – HW Pump performance

- Shut off test to determine pump curve & impeller
- Note pump selection could have been better
- Note curve is flat and thus DP to Flow correlation is somewhat inconclusive

- Test D Design
- Test 1 As-found
- Test 2 Shut-off
- Test 3 All open
- Test 4 All closed
- Test 5 1/3 open
- Test 6 2/3 open



Test Findings (1) – HW Pump performance continued

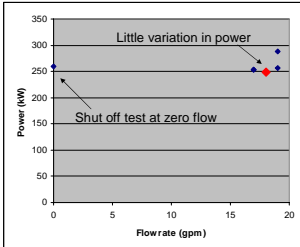
- Verified pump impeller at 4.875"
- Maximum flow is close to total coil capacity
- Flow rate does not vary significantly (but remember curve is flat and DP readings are very close)
- It is possible that bypass exists or 2-way valves leak resulting in little flow variation

		DP	GPM	Watts	dT	btu/hr	
Test 2	Shutoff	23.99	0		30		
Test 4	all closed	23.33	17	254	38	323,000	
Test 1	As-Found	23.33	17	254	36	306,000	
Test 5	1/3 open	22.99	19	257	30	285,000	Most reliable capacity
Test 6	2/3 open	23.99	0	260			Unreliable
Test 3	all open	22.90	19	288	46	437,000	
	Rated	23.00	18	249		195,000	
	Design	22	13				



Test Findings (1) – HW Pump performance continued

- Pump power measurements – amps, watts



Measuring power at the panel



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More measurements – Pump RPM and Amps



Amp meter to measure motor amps



Strobe meter to measure motor RPM



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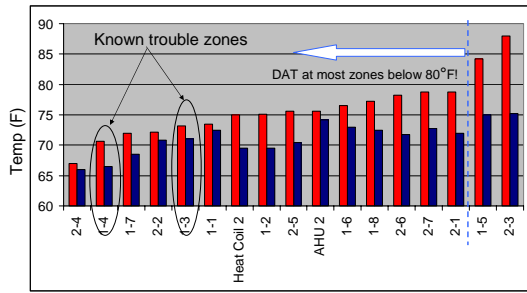
Test Findings (1) – HW Pump power performance summary

- Power does not vary significantly
- It is possible that the motor is inefficient at low loads, and that little kW variation is expected even with flow variation
 - Measured amps at shut off: 6.06 amps
 - Measured amps as found: 6.12 amps
 - Little variation: power is not a reliable indicator of varying flow



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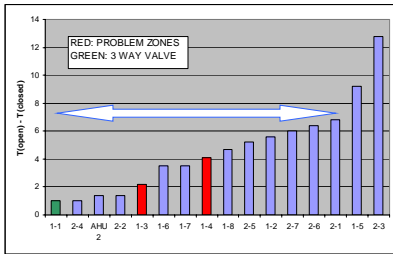
Test Findings (3) –
Zone Temperatures continued



Max. (red) and Min. (blue) zone temp observed

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Test Findings (3) –
Zone Temperatures continued



Less than 8°F differential in DAT with heating coil valve open and closed. Much less than typical variation of 25°-30°F.

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Test Findings (3) –
Zone Temperatures summary

- All heating valves responded to call for heating
- Temperature differentials are not as high as expected (avg. 5 degrees against typ. 25°-30°F)
- Temperature Differentials in problem zones are relatively low
- DAT in problem zones are low
- Low DAT not due to excessive reheat air flow
- Low DAT could be a result of dirty coils

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Test Conclusions

- Boiler not performing per design criteria
 - Design: 190°F HWST, 160°F HWRT
 - Actual: 160°F HWST, 130°F HWRT (typical)
- Little variation in loop flow & pump power
 - Flat pump curve causes uncertainty in correlating DP to flow
 - Only 3 known 3-way valves in system
 - Possibility of unknown bypass
 - Possibility of leaky 2-way valves
- Depressed max. DAT and low space temperature variation
 - Possibility of dirty coils resulting in max. DAT of 80°F
 - Possibility of unknown bypass resulting in hydraulic short circuit
 - Depressed DAT not due to excessive reheat air flow



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Recommendation

- HW Loop performance could be determined with more testing
 - Investigate possible hydraulic crossover
 - Trace system loop to look for unknown mixing between supply and return piping
 - Investigate leaks at 2-way valves
 - Investigate possibility of scaling in coils
- Other O&M issues
 - HW Loop sensors need conductive paste
 - Consider sensor replacement or calibration



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Pacific Energy Center's Retro-Commissioning Workshops:

Developing Expertise through Interactive Training

**Chilled Water Pump Testing
and Remedial Action Saves
the PEC \$1,500 per year!**

Blair Horst, PE, CEM, GBE
Lawrence Livermore National Lab

April 21, 2006
San Francisco, California



Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

History of the PEC & HVAC Systems



Initial Retro-Commissioning in 2002

(Ross Sherrill Engineering)

- CHW pumps throttled to 53-gpm each, 106-gpm total
- Changed: operate 1 pump in lead-lag, no throttling; cooling load satisfied adequately

Retro-Commissioning Workshop (2005-2006)

- Investigated design & operating history
- Conducted Pump Test
- Evaluated alternatives
- Modified Pump
 - » Improved operations
 - » Saved Energy



Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Discovering the Opportunity

Design:

- CHW flow of 106-gpm at 110-Ft. W.C. TDH
- 2-pumps operating

Investigate design parameters:

- Review design documentation
- Tour; review existing systems operations
- Discuss operations with facility personnel
- Prepare problem log for findings to be investigated

Evaluate pump selection:

- Verify flow and head
 - » Rough check of pump head needed
 - » Rough check of flow required

TDH = Total Discharge Head, Feet – Water Column (Ft W.C.)



Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Discovering the Opportunity

Design:

- CHW flow of 106-gpm at 110-Ft. W.C. TDH
- 2-pumps operating

Investigate design parameters:

- Review design documentation
- Tour; review existing systems operations
- Discuss operations with facility personnel
- Prepare problem log for findings to be investigated

Evaluate initial pump selection:

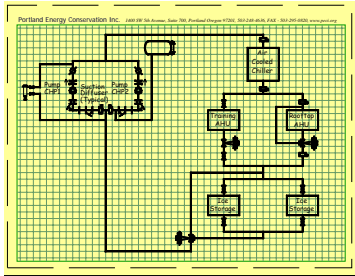
- Verify flow and head
 - » Rough check of pump head needed
 - » Rough check of flow required

CHW = Chilled Water TDH = Total Discharge Head, Feet – Water Column (Ft W.C.)



Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

PEC Chilled Water System Diagram



Slide used gratefully with permission of Dave Sellers

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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

PEC Chilled Water System Diagram

Design Head Loss = 106-Ft W.C.

Calculated head loss = 55.3-Ft W.C.

about 50% of the design value →

we have an opportunity!

Conduct pump test to:

- Develop system curve
- Quantify operating characteristics

Check Pump Head Needed

Pipe	Length Ft
2 floors; allow 12-ft each	24.0
Top of AHU-1	10.0
Basement; allow	8.0
Subtotal Elevation Diff	42.0
Supply & Return Pipe	84.0
Elbows 13-Ea	65.0
X-Y plane offsets	24.0
Pipe, Equivalent Length	173.0
Head Loss	Ft. W.C.
Piping Allowance	5.7
Contingency 20%	1.1
Cooling Coil 5 psi	11.5
Chiller 10 psi	23.1
Ice Depth 3 psi	6.9
Tri.Svc.Vlv 3 psi	6.9
Total System Pressure Drop	55.3

Check Flow Needed 10-gpm → ok

AHU = Air Handling Unit psi = pounds per square inch gpm = gallons per minute



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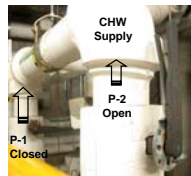
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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action



Conduct Pump Test

- Control: Pump P-2 in lead
- Assure Pump P-2 is operating
- Assure Pump P-1 is isolated
- Lock & Tag-Out Breaker



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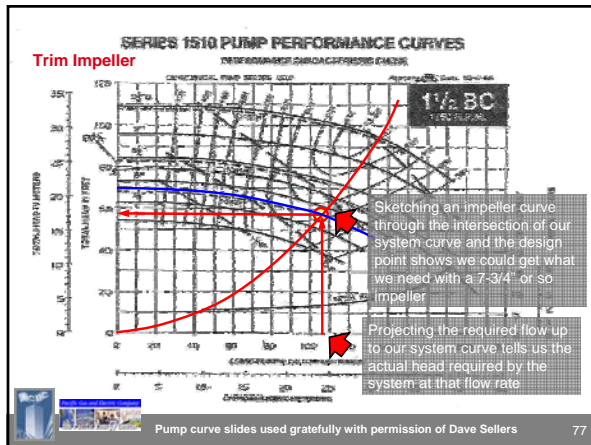
Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Develop & Evaluate Alternative Solutions

- ❑ Trim the existing impeller to smaller size
- ❑ Change to a lower speed motor
- ❑ Reduce rotational speed using a Variable Frequency Drive
- ❑ Throttle flow of the existing pump to the design flow rate



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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

- ❑ Trim the existing impeller to smaller size

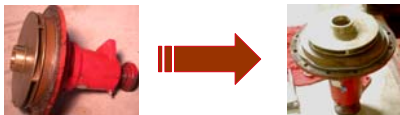
Reviewing pump curve:

Intersection of Design Flow with System Curve

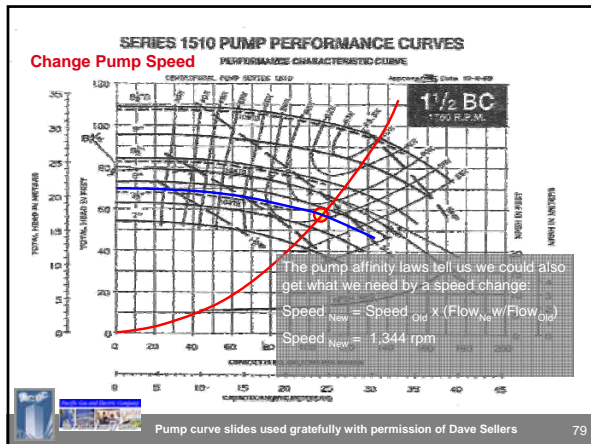
→ Impeller trimmed to 7-3/4-inches diameter

Operating Parameters:

- Flow = 106-gpm
- Pumping head = 57-Ft. W.C.
- 2.63-BHP and 58.5% efficiency → 2.18 KW



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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Change to a lower speed motor

Reviewing pump curve & affinity laws:
 $Speed_{New} = Speed_{Old} \times (Flow_{New} / Flow_{Old}) = 1,344 \text{ rpm}$
 Performance is predicted based on pump affinity laws:
 $GPM_{NEW} = GPM_{OLD} \times (RPM_{NEW} \div RPM_{OLD})$, Solving for RPM_{NEW} :
 $RPM_{NEW} = RPM_{OLD} \times (GPM_{NEW} \div GPM_{OLD}) \rightarrow 1750 \times (137.5 \div 106) = 1,349 \text{ RPM}$
 $BHP_{NEW} = BHP_{OLD} \times (RPM_{NEW} \div RPM_{OLD})^3 \rightarrow 4.65 \times (1,349 \div 1,750)^3 \times 0.746 = 1.76 \text{ KW}$

While this alternative shows the **most energy savings** it is **not feasible due prohibitive cost** ;

- » Pump & Motor are a unit & costly
- » Replacement requires piping reconfiguration

→ would be **prohibitively expensive**

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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Reduce rotational speed using a Variable Frequency Drive

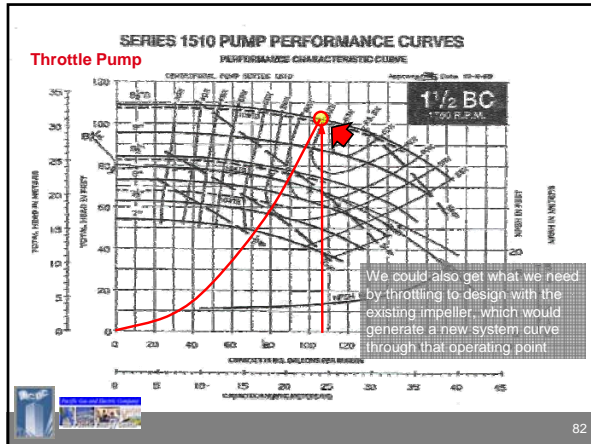
An alternative method of changing rotational speed
 Savings similar to changing to a lower speed pump/motor
 Additional efficiency losses from VFD → 1.86 KW

While this alternative shows **high energy savings** it is also **not feasible due prohibitive cost** ;

- » Pump & Motor are a unit & costly
- » Replacement requires piping reconfiguration
- » Actual flow doesn't vary much during the day, and

→ would be **prohibitively expensive**

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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

□ Throttle flow of the existing pump to the design flow rate

Reviewing pump curve:

→ Flow throttled to design flow rate

Operating Parameters:

- Flow = 106-gpm
- Pumping head = 100.9-Ft. W.C.
- 4.65-BHP and 61.8% efficiency → 3.85 KW

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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Table 1 – Summary Pump Modification Alternatives

Parameter	Base Case	Trim Impeller	Lower Speed w/ VFD ⁵	Throttle Flow
Impeller Size (Inches – Diameter)	9½"	7-3/4"	9½"	9½"
Rotational Speed (RPM)	1,750-RPM	1,750-RPM	1,349-RPM	1,750-RPM
Flow Rate (gpm)	137.5-gpm	106.0-gpm	106.0-gpm	106.0-gpm
Pumping Head (Fl. W.C.)	93.5-Fl. W.C.	55.0-Fl. W.C.	Not Calculated	100.9-Fl. W.C.
Pump Break Horsepower (BHP) ¹	5.00-BHP	2.63-BHP	2.13-BHP	4.65-BHP
Pump Power Demand (kW) ²	4.14-kW	2.18-kW	1.86-kW	3.85-kW
Annual Power Use (kWH/Yr) ³	18,115-kWH/Yr	9,529-kWH/Yr	8,161-kWH/Yr	16,847-kWH/Yr
Annual Power Cost (\$ / Year) ⁴	\$2898 / Year	\$1,525 / Year	\$1,306 / Year	\$2,696 / Year

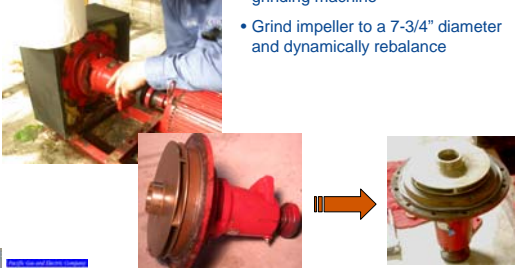
Notes

1. Values interpolated from pump curve, Figure 4.
2. Electric demand (kW) is calculated assuming motor efficiency of 91.2%.
3. Annual power use is determined from 4,380-hours per year operations based on PEC trend data.
4. Annual electric power costs are based on the PEC's average rate during 2005 of \$0.16 / kWh.
5. Calculations include an added efficiency reduction of 5% due to internal losses of the VFD.

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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

- Disassemble Pump
- Remove impeller
- Take impeller to machine shop with dedicated, digitally controlled, grinding machine
- Grind impeller to a 7-3/4" diameter and dynamically rebalance



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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

- **Replace the pump seal and gasket**
Existing pump seal has about a 10-year life; half consumed
Makes sense to replace it as pump is already opened
Pump life is extended



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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

- **Reprogram lead-lag controls**
 - Place pump P-1 in **lead**-always position
 - Place pump P-2 in always-**lag** positionSince only pump P-1 impeller was trimmed, this step assures the most efficient pump is always in lead position.
- **Restart the chilled water distribution system**
follow normal procedure



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Chilled Water Pump Testing and Remedial Action

Bottom Line

Pump Impeller Trimmed – Implementation Cost \$2,479
Electric Demand Savings 1.96 KW
Electric Energy Savings 9,529 kWh / year
Annual Power Cost Saved **\$1,525 @ \$0.16/kWh blended 2005**

Simple Payback Period 1.8 years