

# SNCR Systems to Minimize Emissions

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# The Basic Process

- SNCR is a gas phase reaction between ammonia radicals and NO to form N<sub>2</sub> and water in the absence of a catalyst.

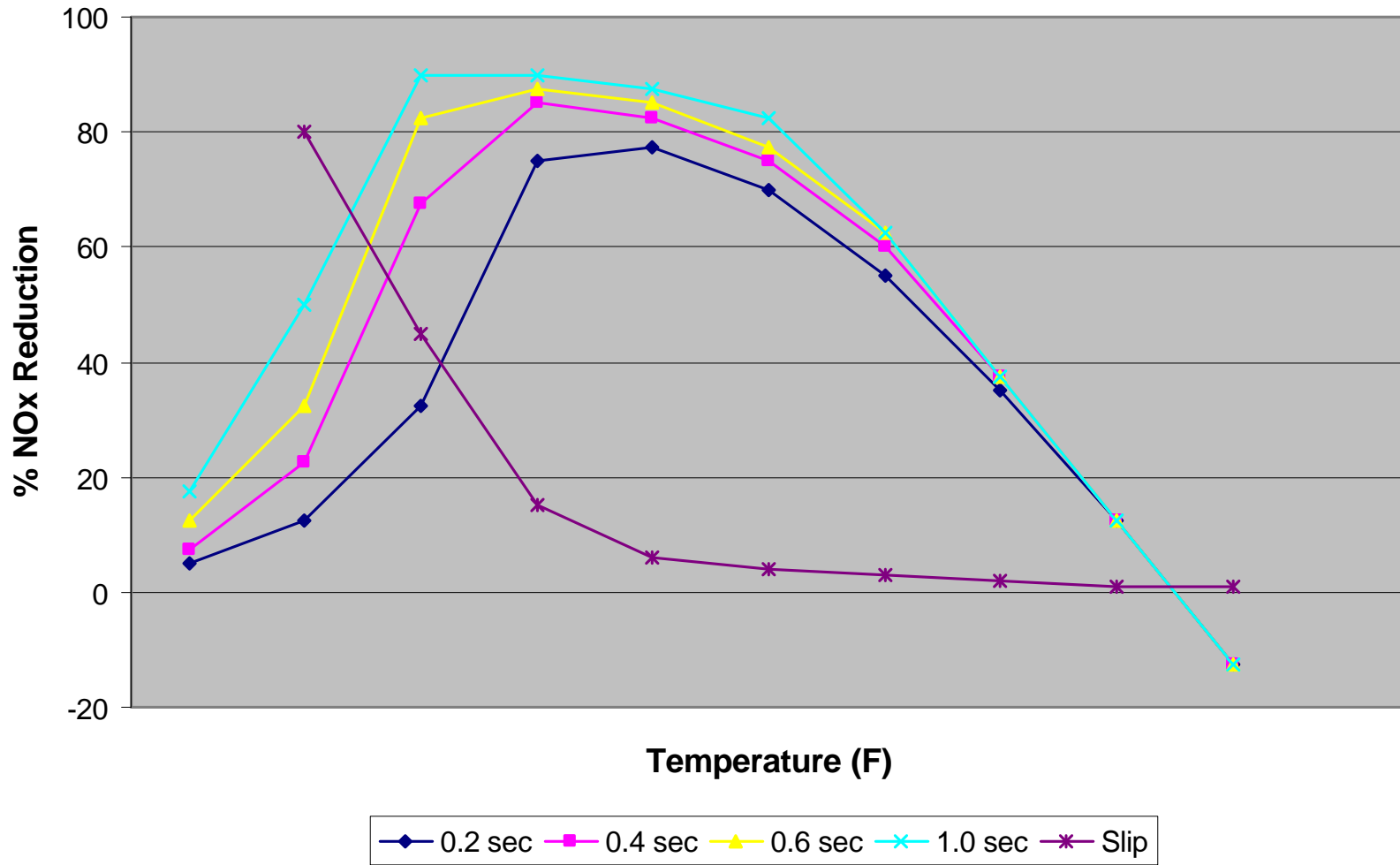


- Strong Temperature Dependence
- Requires Presence of Oxygen

# The Perfect World

- In laboratory conditions (insulated tubular reactor with perfect mixing and unlimited residence time), NO<sub>x</sub> reduction greater than 90% has been demonstrated.
- Ideal Conditions – Temperature of 1800F, Residence time greater than 0.5 seconds, Well Mixed.

# "Ideal World" SNCR



Chemical Engineering, New Brunswick, Nov 2004

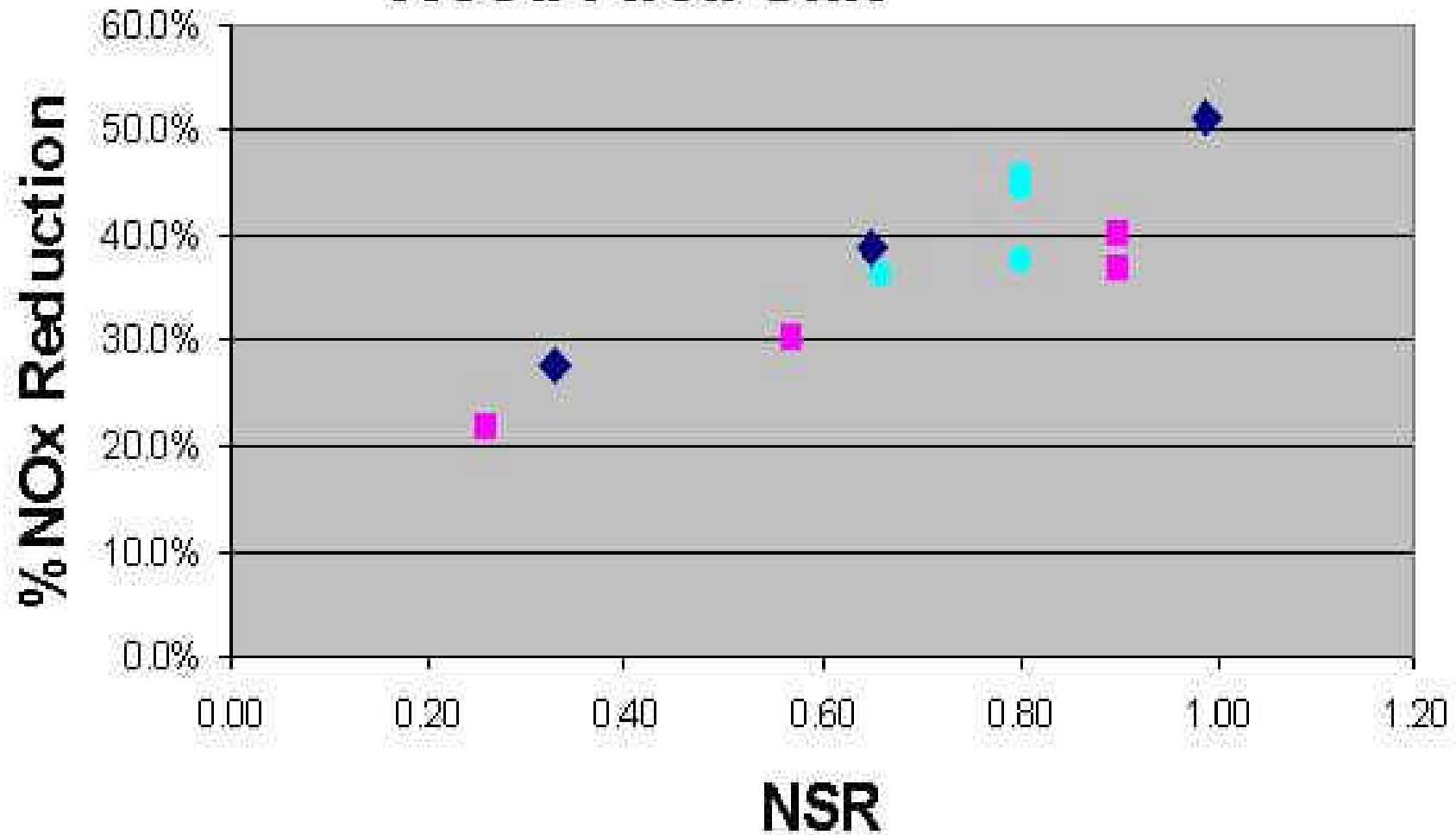
# The Real World

- Access limitations
- Imperfect mixing
- Temperature and Concentrations Vary
- Operator indifference
- Carbon Monoxide
- Ammonia Slip is Important

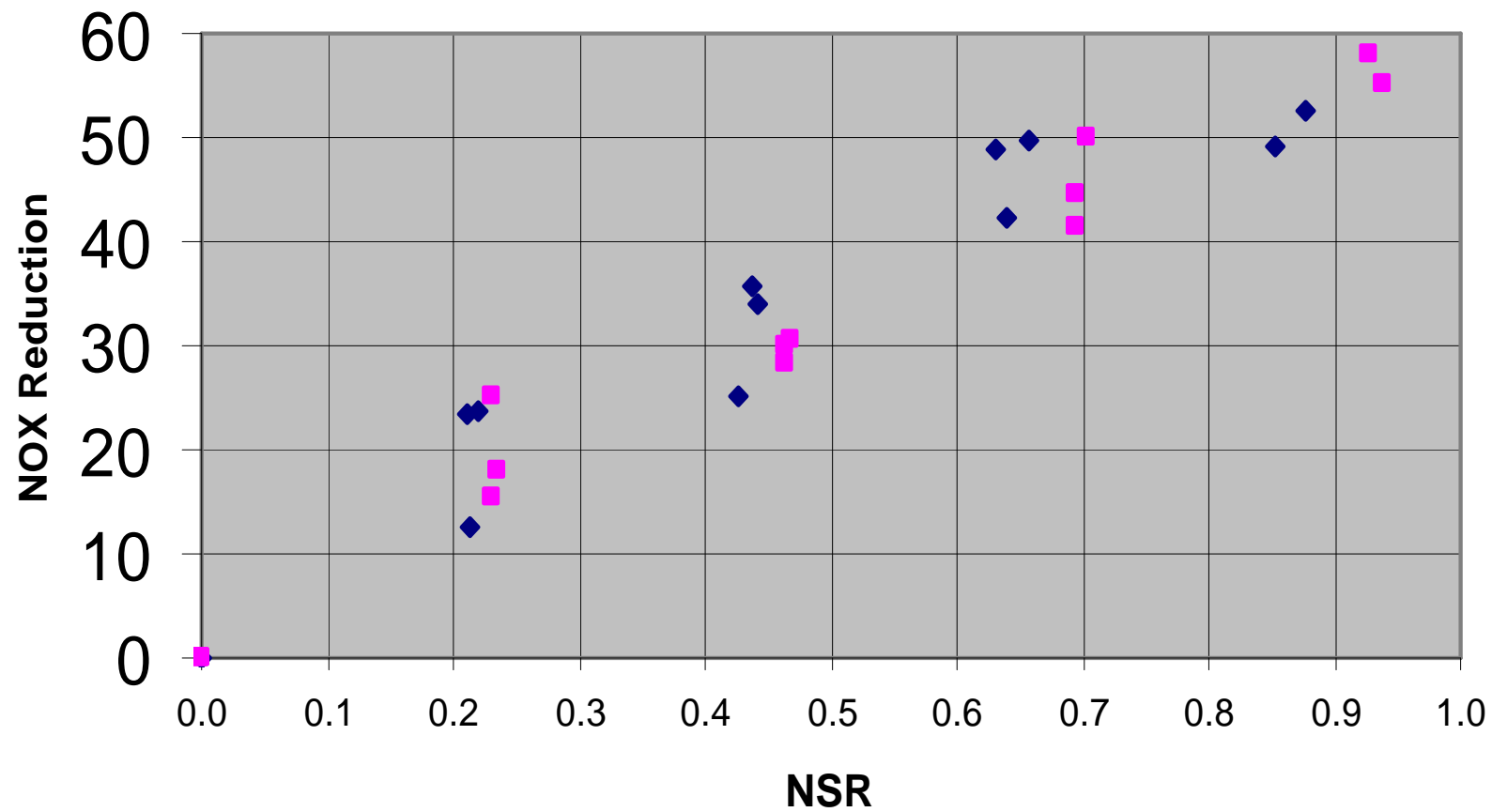
# Closest to Perfect

- Incinerators, Biomass Boilers, Cement Plants,
- Temperature, Time, Turbulence.
- Common performance is 50% reduction at NSR = 1.0 and ammonia slip L.T. 10 ppm.

# Typical NOx Performance Wood Fired Unit



## Incinerator Plant



Chemical Engineering, New  
Brunswick, Nov 2004

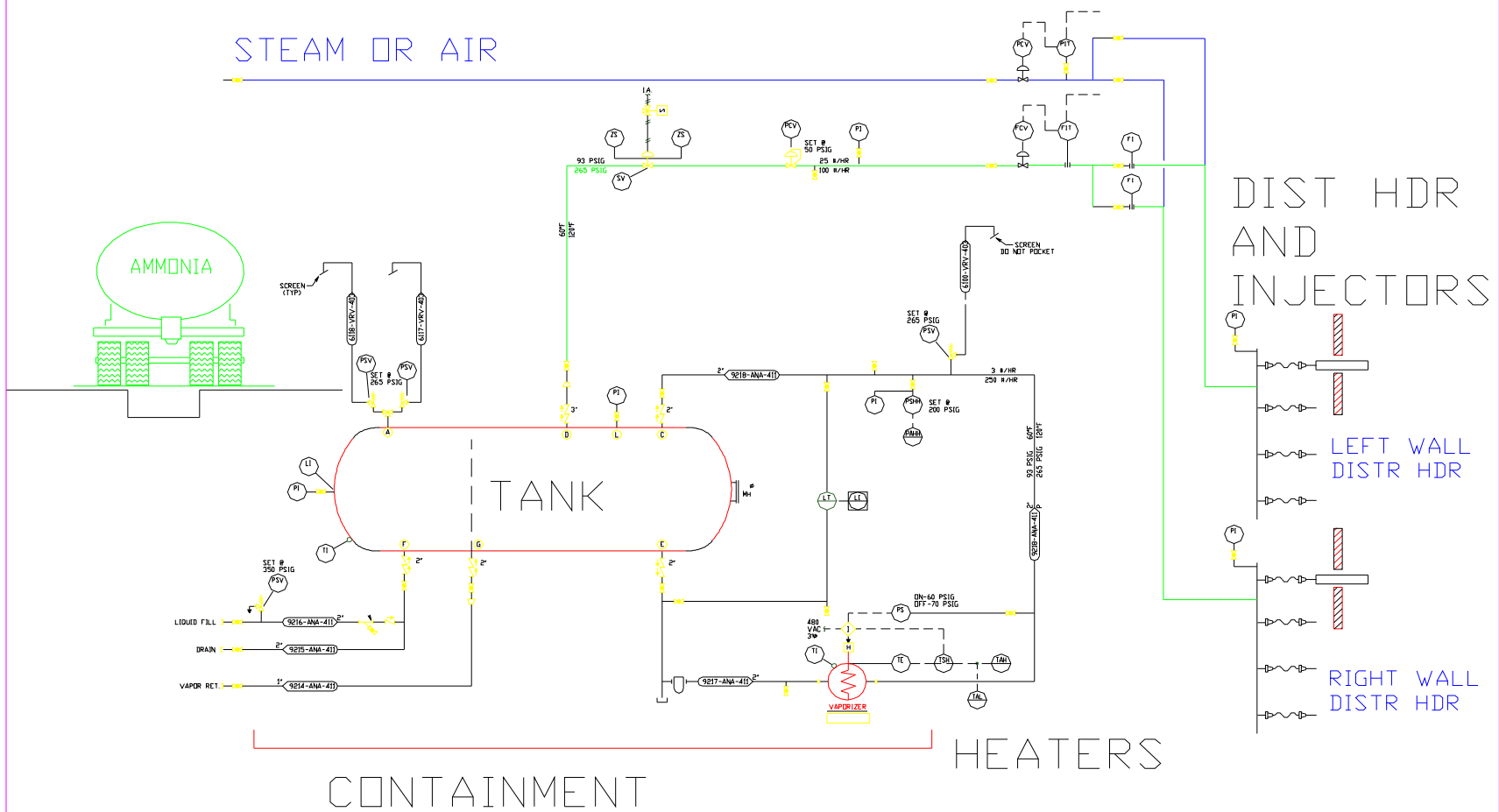


# Ammonia Process

- Simplest and least expensive\* approach.
- Gaseous injection.
- Anhydrous ammonia has lowest delivered cost.
- Storage and Handling issues.
- Lowest boiler corrosion risk.

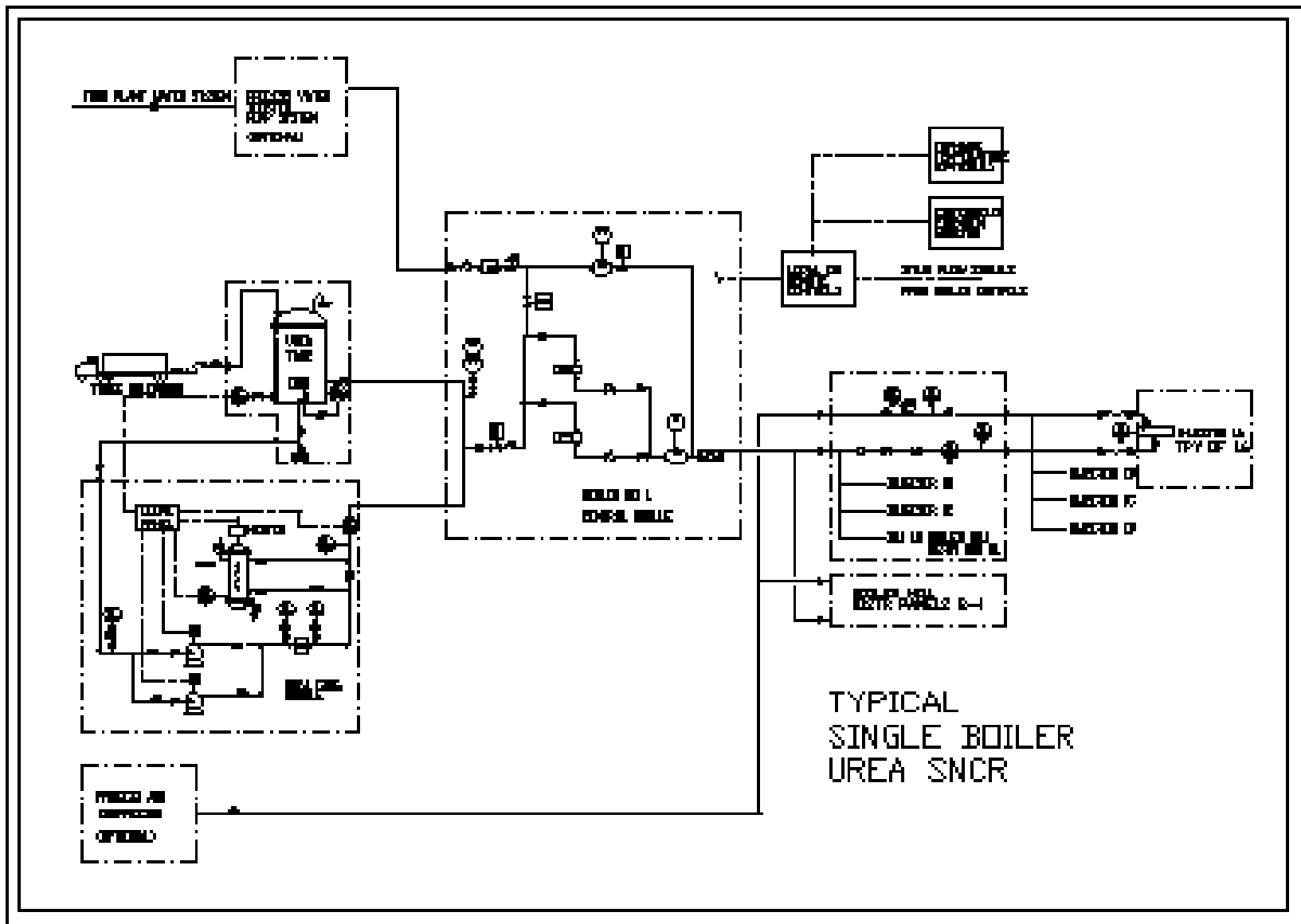
\* - Assumes typical tank/containment.

# CONTROLS AND MIXING



# Urea and Aqua Ammonia Process

- Liquid Reagent, sprayed in as droplet.
- Higher reagent costs, but friendlier chemical.
- Equivalent performance and stoichiometry.
- More difficult to distribute reagent equally.



# Design Considerations

- Temperature / Velocity Profile
- Uncontrolled NOX Concentration
- Equipment Arrangement/ Injector Location
- Injector Number, Location, and Sizing
- Controls

# Economic Summary

- Installed Cost – Utility scale \$5-10/kW
- Installed Cost – Industrial \$10-15 /kW
- Negligible Outage Costs
- Operating Cost - \$300-500 per ton NO<sub>x</sub> removed

# Operational Issues

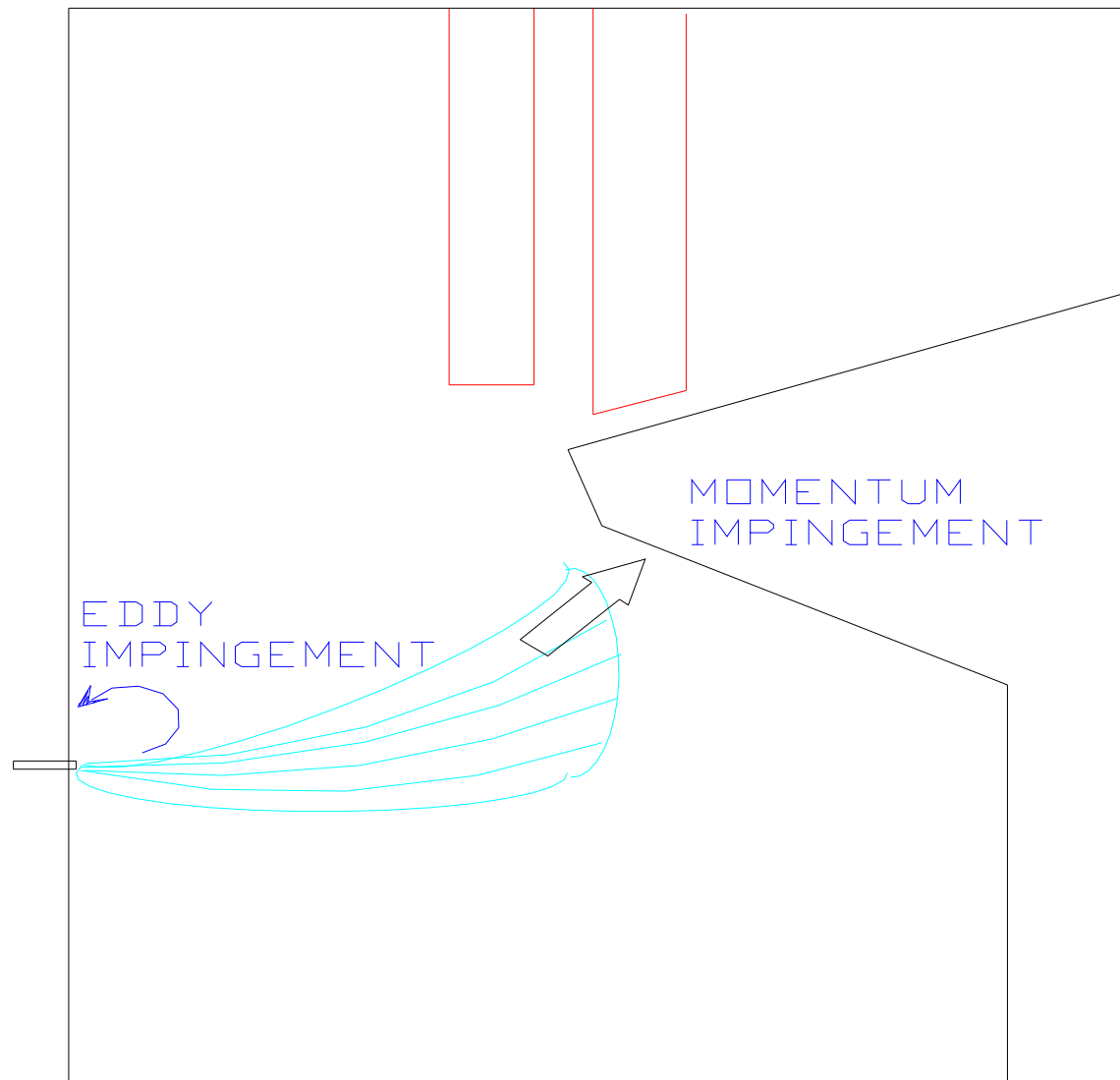
- Localized Corrosion
- Detached Plume Formation
- Air Heater Fouling
- Nozzle Failure

# Corrosion

- Localized corrosion at liquid injected SNCR facilities is an issue.
- Generally located in immediate vicinity of injector ports, or on opposite walls of narrow boilers.
- Especially problematic for gas with high chloride and sulfur.



# LOCALIZED CORROSION



# Plume Issue

- Common in non-scrubbed flue gas
- Detached from the stack
- Caused by condensation/combination at lower temperatures.
- Ammonium chloride, ammonium bisulfate, +?

# Plume Suppression

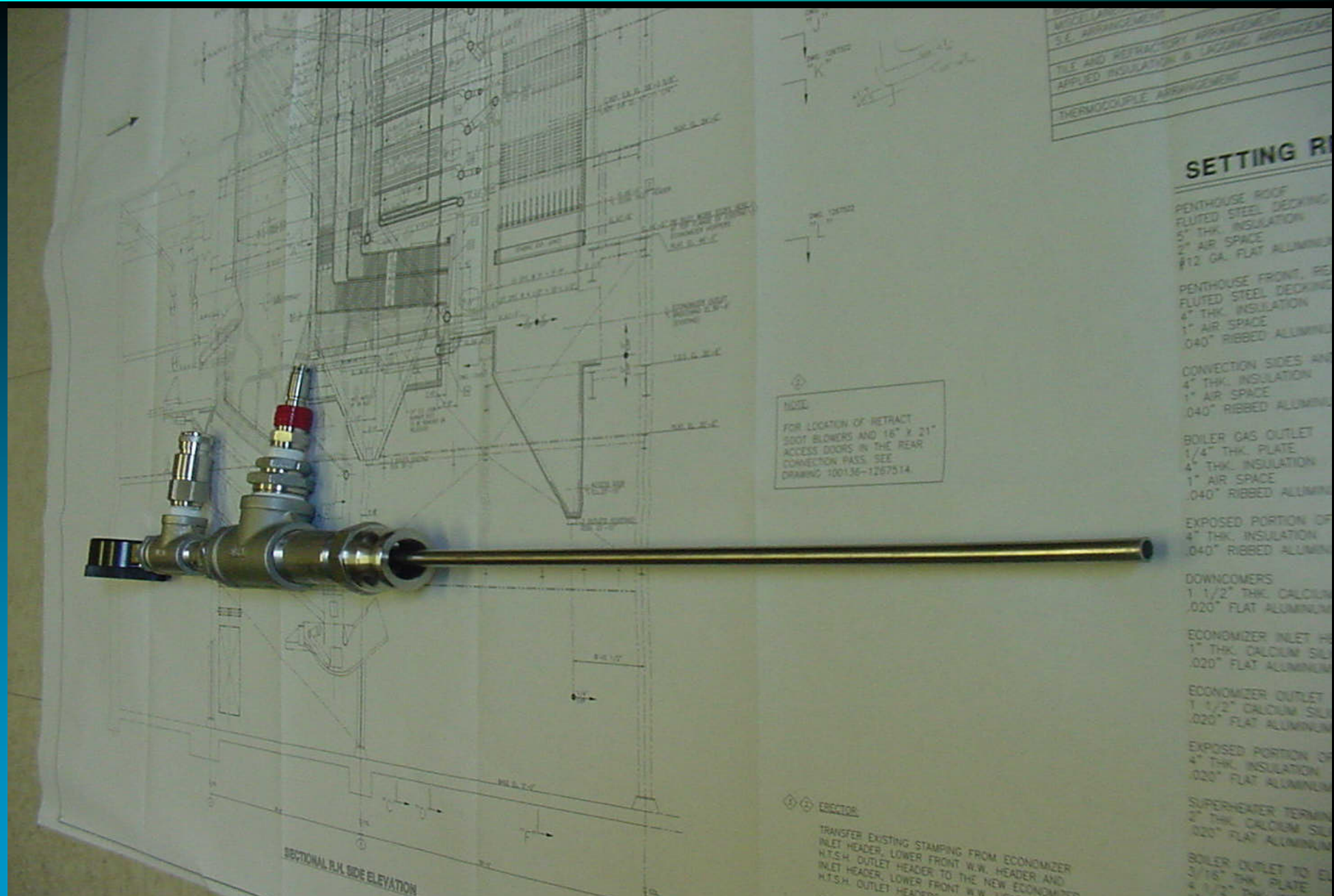
- Slip reduction – keep less than 10 ppm
- Nozzle orientation/operation key.
- Get good stack and operational data.

# Air Heater Plugging/Corrosion

- Ammonium Bisulfate is a liquid above 300F
- Sticky material - difficult to remove.
- Not a problem with low sulfur fuels
- Again, minimize slip

# Injector Burn-out

- High Temperature Corrosion
- Erosion
- High alloy with heavy wall thickness
- Interchangeable lances



# Combination Technologies

- SNCR very compatible with combustion controls.
  - Low NOx Burners
  - OFA Injection
  - Gas Reburning
- NOx reduction approaching that of SCR at lower capital cost

# SNCR Summary

- Mature Technology
- Fuel Indifferent
- Low cost alternative for first 50% NOX reduction.
- Easily retrofitted
- Compatible with combustion modifications for High NOx removal