

Q. What the heck is a HAC?

Dean Millar

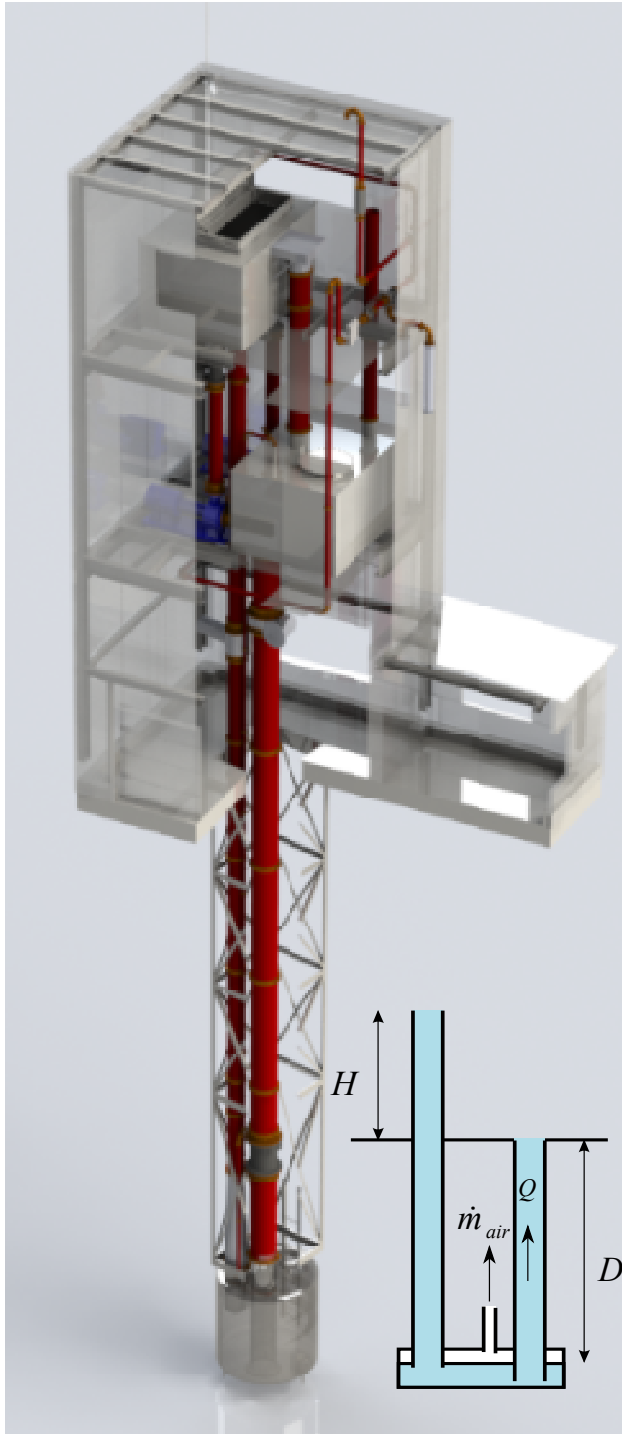
MIRARCO Mining Innovation,

Bharti School of Engineering, Laurentian University

Electrale Innovation Ltd

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## A. An energy efficient, low carbon compressed air installation

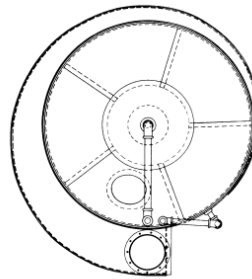
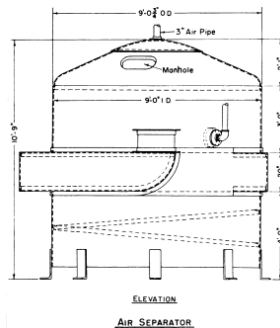
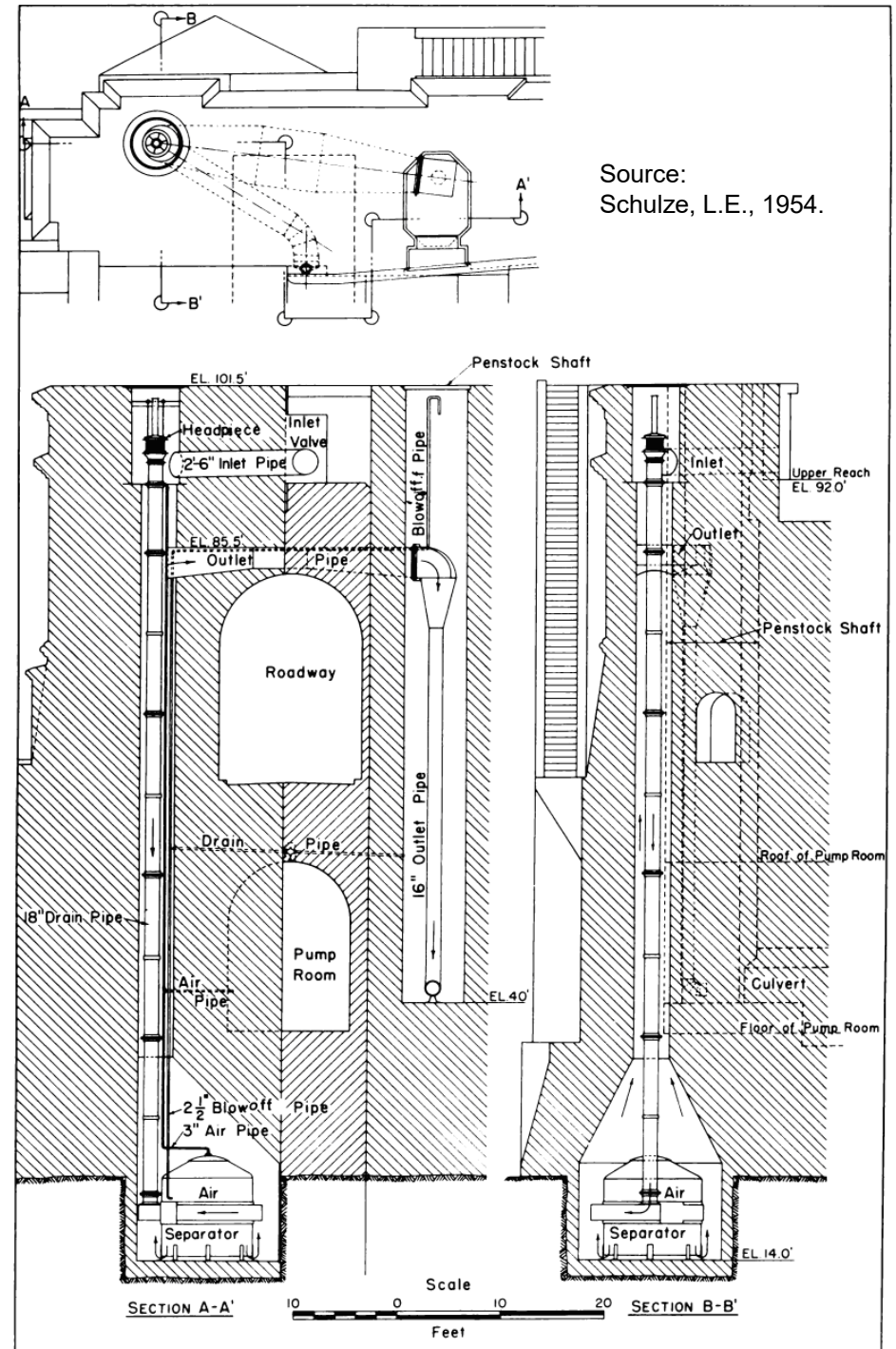
- Water is used to compress the air as it falls
  - The water simultaneously cools the air
  - Isothermal (constant temperature) compression
    - fundamentally superior than incumbent compressor
    - requires less energy input
    - in fact, requires the least amount of energy input conceivable
  - Minimum energy → minimum cost
  - Minimum cost → more competitive production
- 
- Other benefits:
    - Few moving parts
    - Low maintenance costs
    - Long operating life
    - Oil-free air
    - Drier air
    - Cooler air

## The HAC Pack





Taylor's HAC installed within  
Peterborough Lift Lock is the template  
for Dynamic Earth's HAC Demonstrator



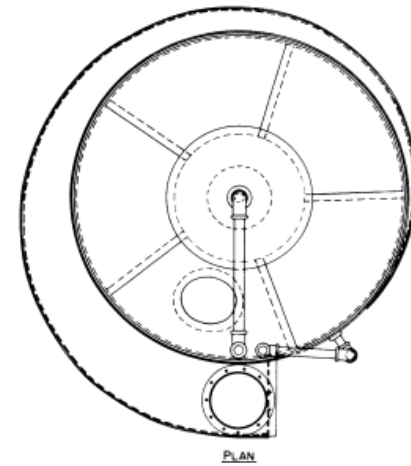
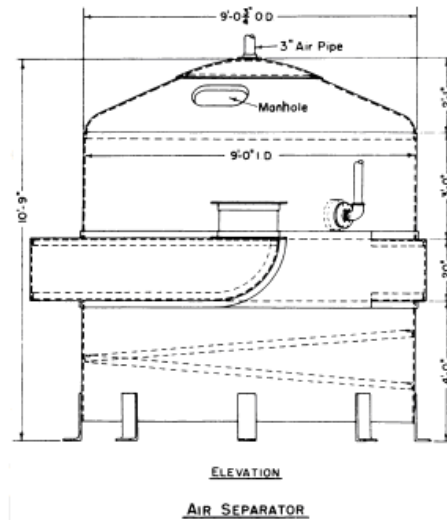


The exterior design of the HAC Demonstrator was conceived and designed by a group of 4, 2nd year students studying at the McEwen School of Architecture

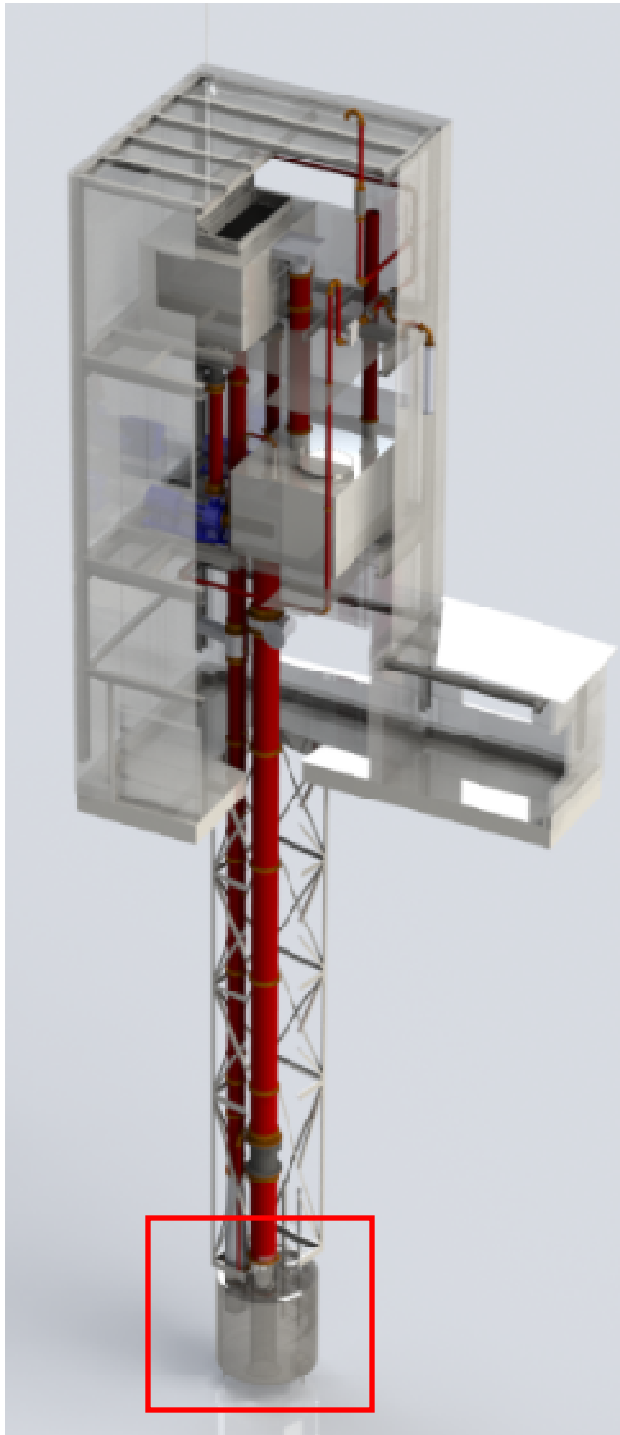
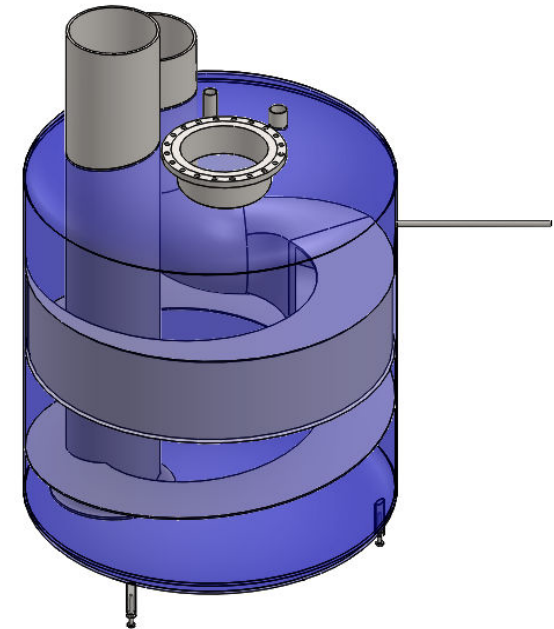


# Air-water separator design

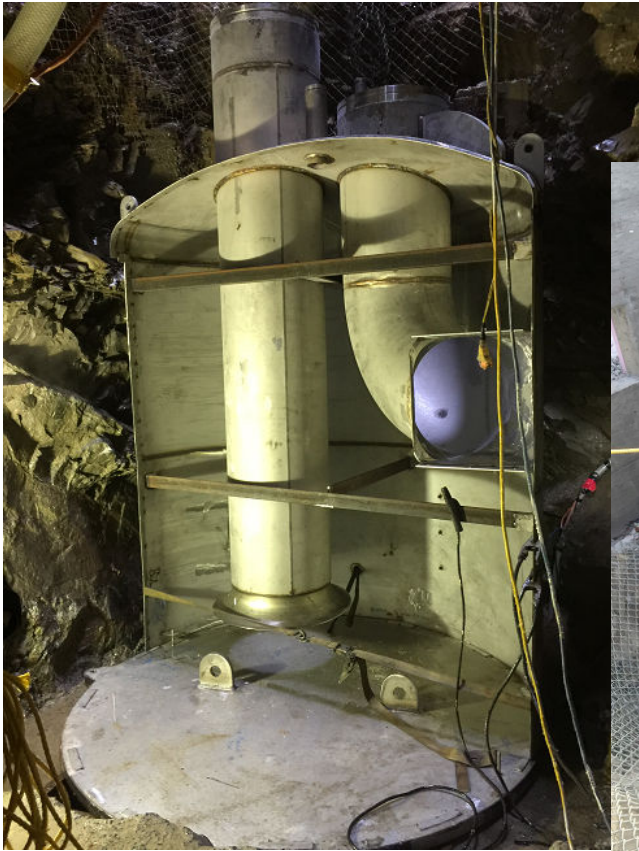
Charles H. Taylor's 1905 design



Alex Hutchison's  
2016 design

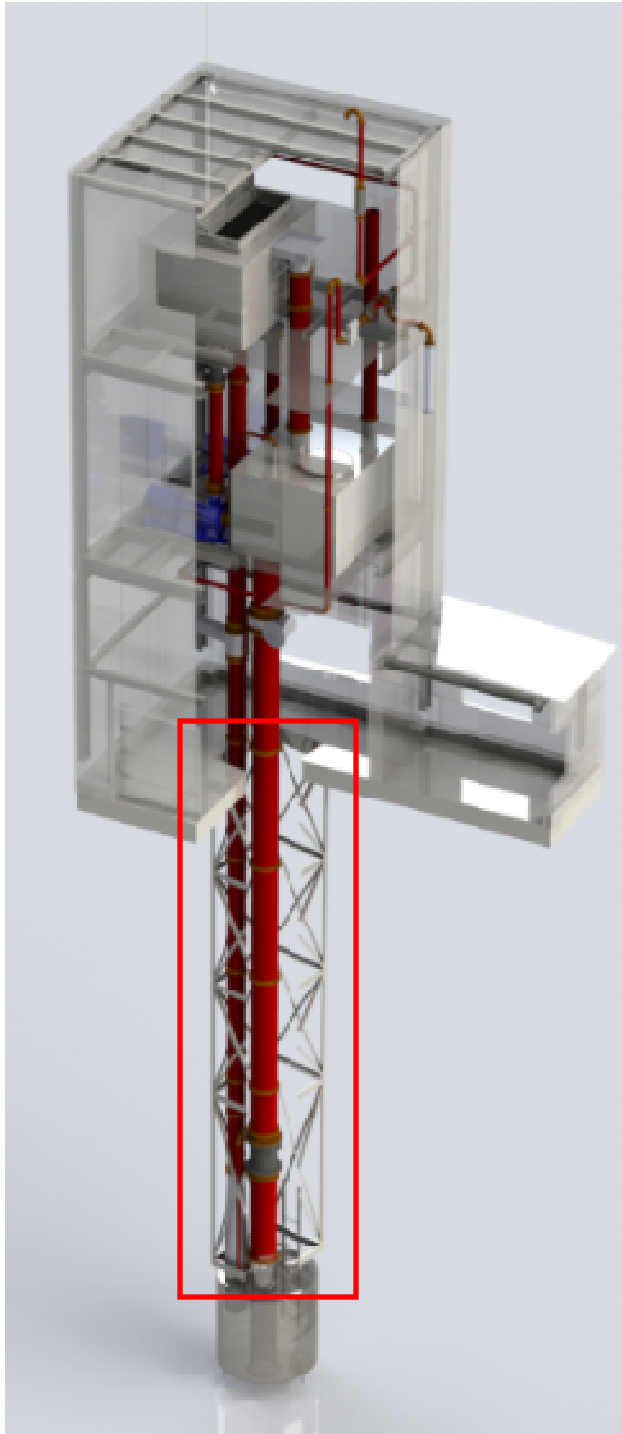






Credits:  
Design: Alex Hutchison  
Fabrication: Specialty Alloys & Stainless  
Installation: Reasbeck Construction Inc.  
Fitting: Hanking Mechanical





Credits:

Mechanical design: Black Rock Engineering

Sub-structural design: Makami Engineering

Structural fabrication: Nickel City Steel

Pipe fabrication: Fuller Industrial

Pipe couplings: Victaulic Canada

Pipe fitting & welding: Talevi Welding & Mechanical





Credits:

Geotechnical: David Wood

Structural/Foundations: Makami Engineering

Installation: Reasbeck Construction Inc





Credits:

Structural: Makami Engineering

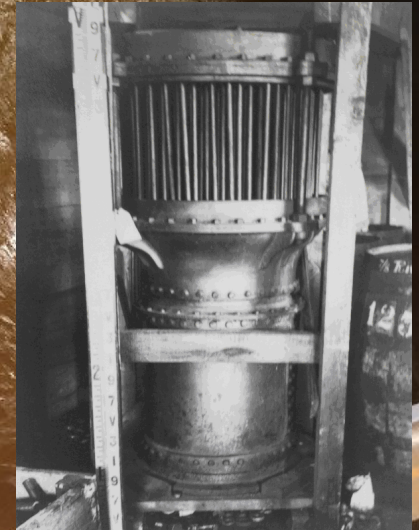
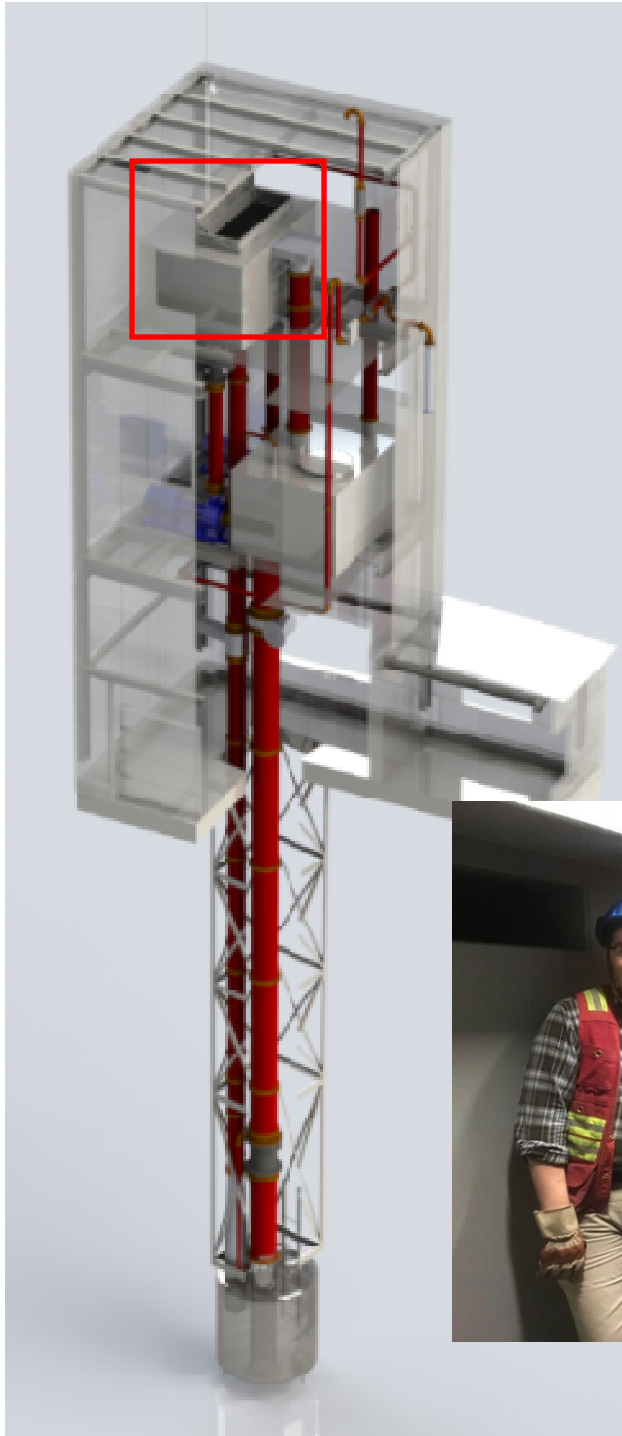
Installation/erection: Reasbeck Construction Inc

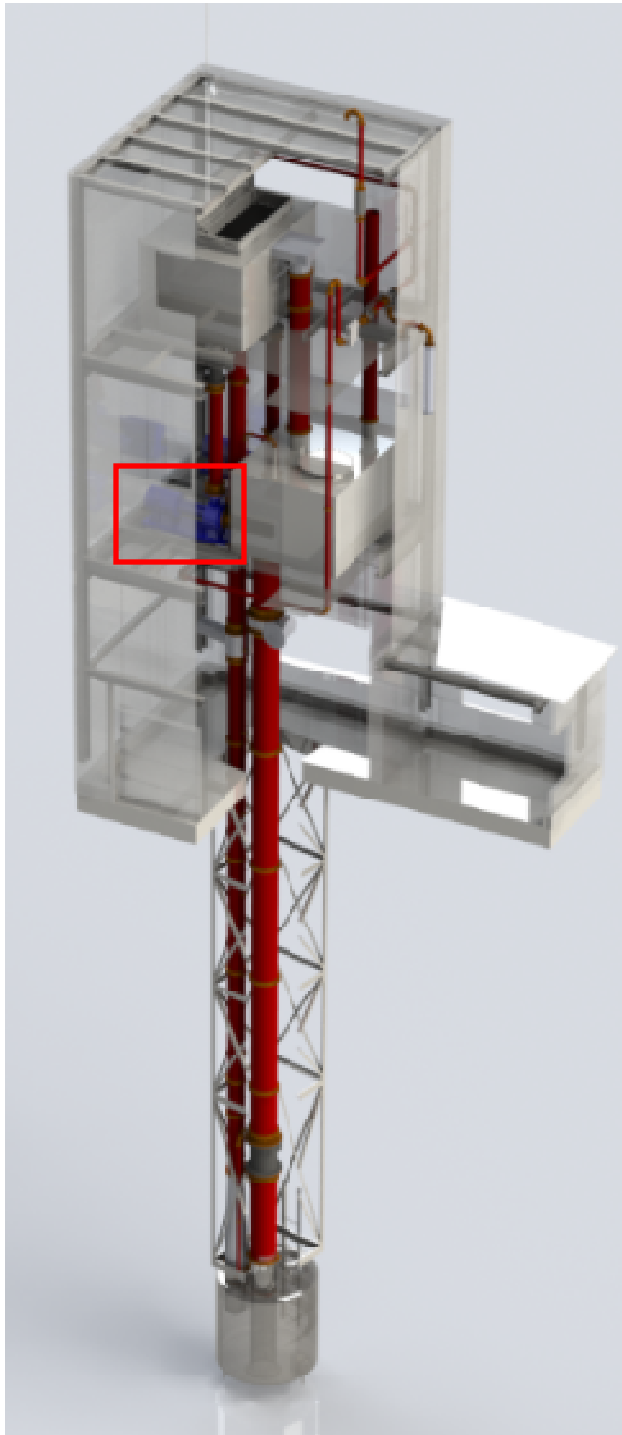
Tank fabrication: Specialty Alloys & Stainless

Cladding: Flynn

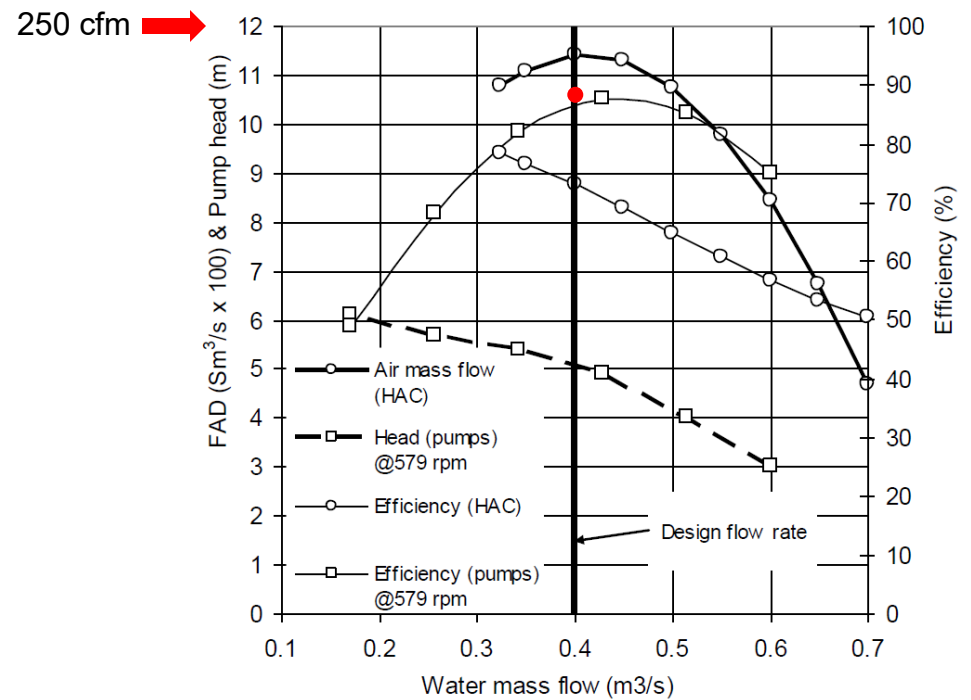
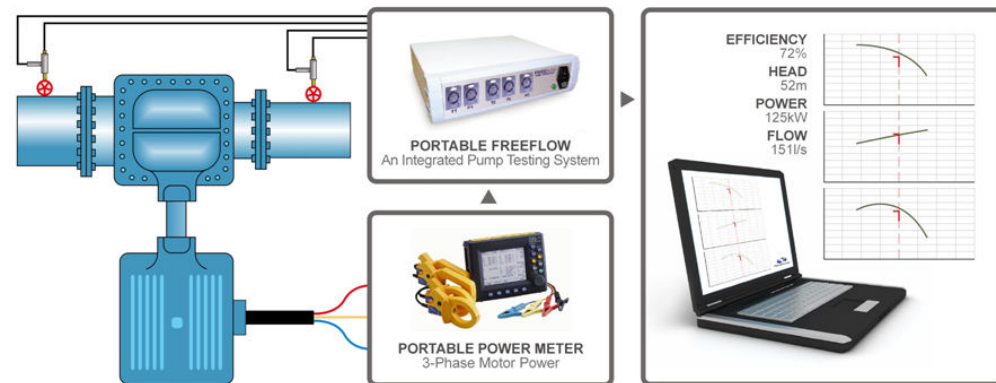


# Air-water mixer design



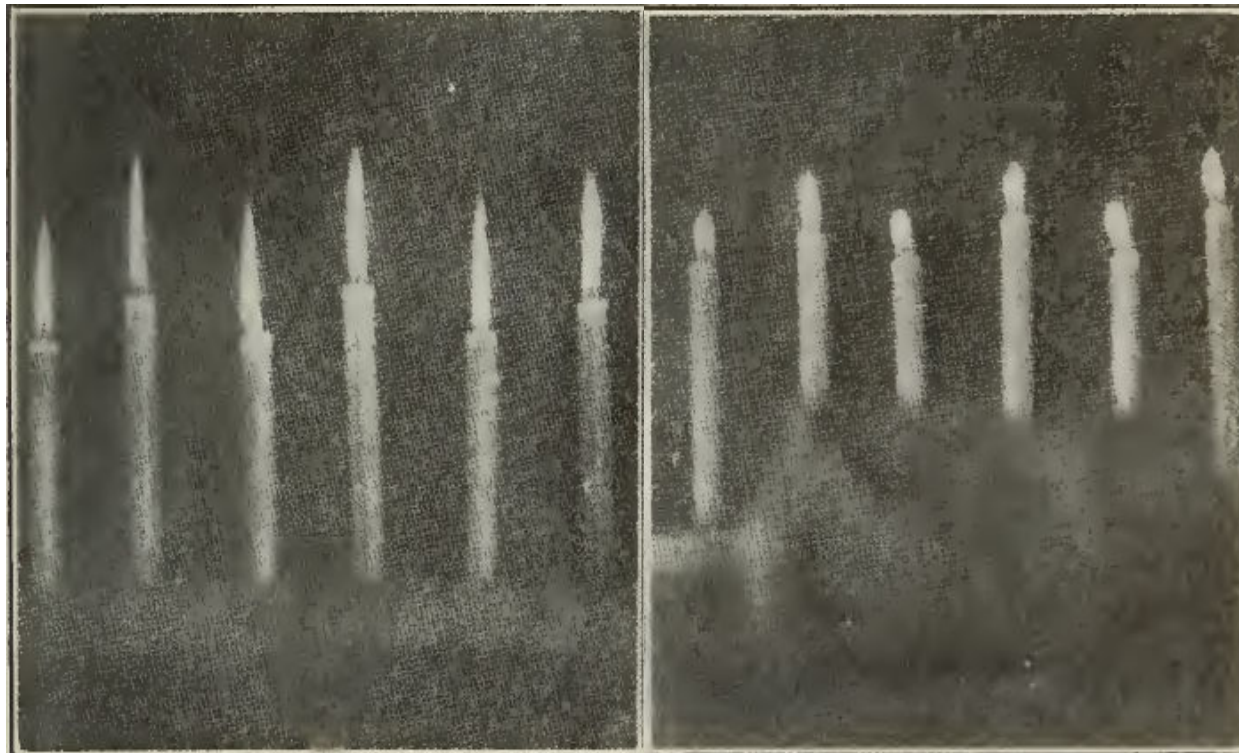


## An efficient HAC needs efficient pumps





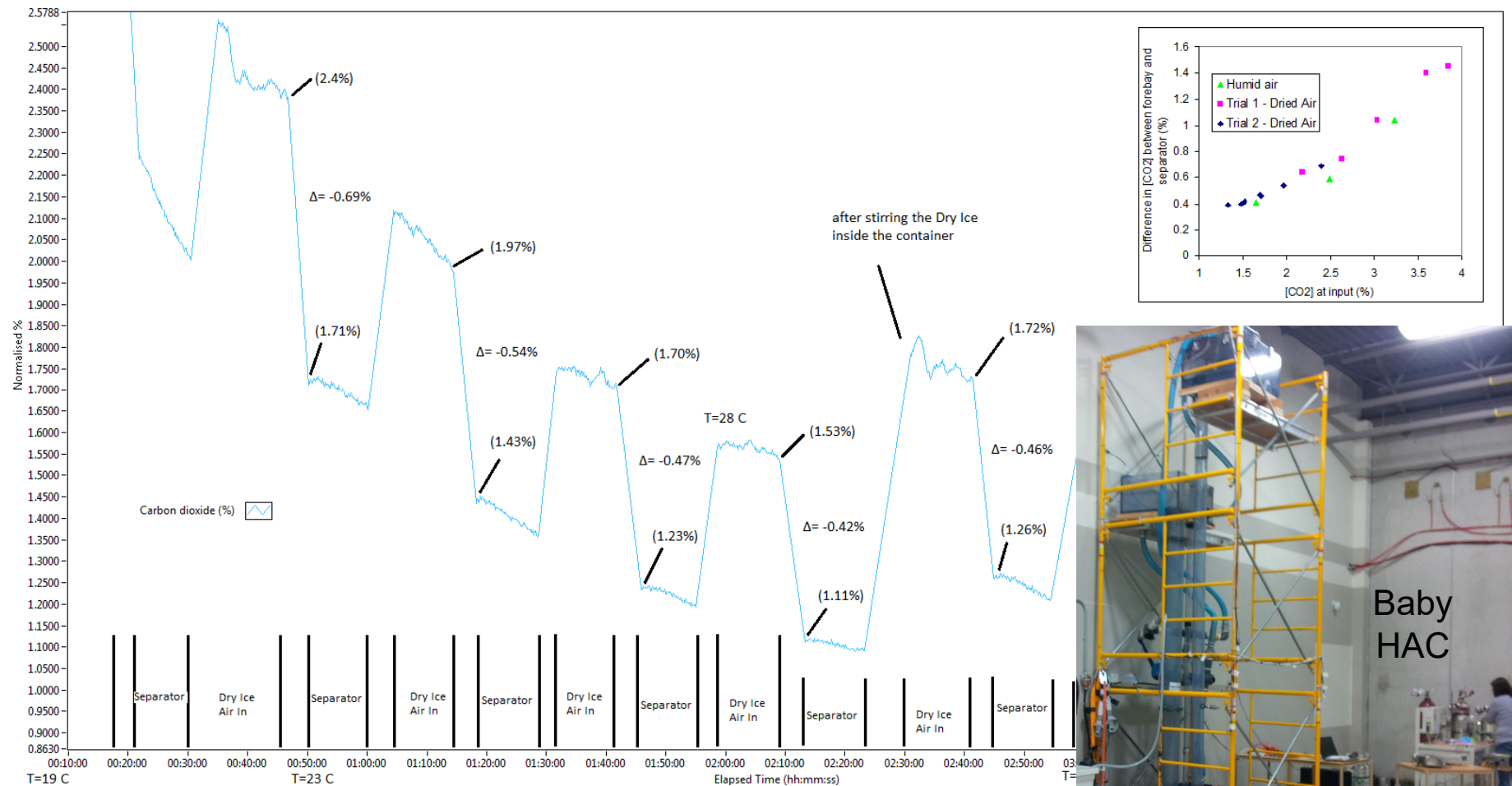
The HAC has an Achilles Heel: some of the gas dissolves in the water, and the problem gets worse when the pressure gets higher



Normal air

Compressor air

Also, we can turn the gas solubility problem around, and use it to our advantage to capture CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel combustion gases



Investigators: Valeria Pavese and Caterina Noula





# The HAC Demonstrator project will ...

- ...allow models of HAC operation to be confidently applied in the design of industrial scale systems
- ...permit the re-writing of one Chapter in thermodynamics text books
- ...improve on the systems of 100 years ago, by overcoming the gas solubility 'Achilles Heel'
- ...provide opportunities to enhance the public understanding of science, engineering and innovation by being at Dynamic Earth
- ...provide infrastructure to support other research areas: e.g. carbon capture systems, water treatment processes, corrosion protection
- ...prove that there is a Northern Ontario based HAC business ecosystem, poised to deliver energy efficient, low carbon compressed air to industry