

Desiccant Enhanced Air Conditioning

Membrane Energy Exchangers

Raising the Bar of Efficiency



Introduction

- The Potential of Liquid Desiccant Technology
- Membrane Energy Exchanger Development
- Active Enthalpy Pump System
- Comparison of System Level Efficiencies
- Conclusions

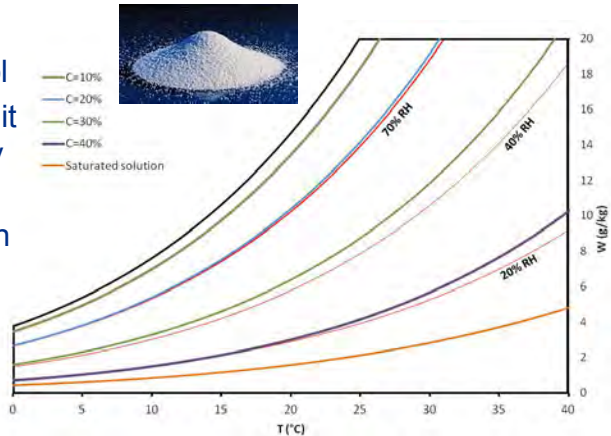
Liquid Desiccant Technology

- Advantages:

- Humidity control
- Conditioning unit design flexibility
- Energy efficient dehumidification

- Challenges:

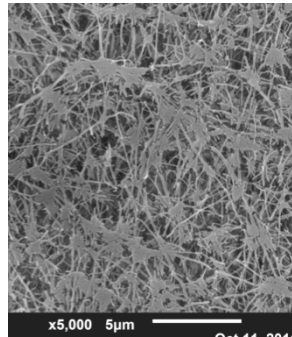
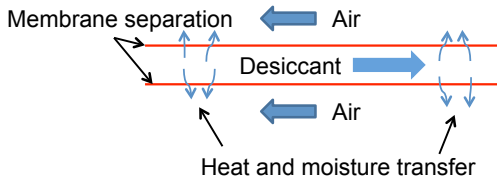
- Desiccant corrosiveness
- Exchanger design



Equilibrium air conditions over Lithium Chloride (LiCl) solution

Membrane Energy Exchanger

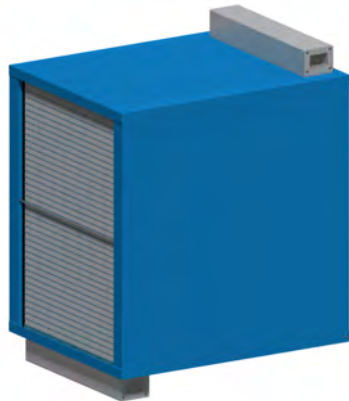
- Vapor permeable membrane technology is enabling an exchanger breakthrough
 - Membrane provides complete separation of air from desiccant
 - Low vapor transfer resistance
 - Zero liquid penetration



SEM of filtration membrane

Membrane Energy Exchanger

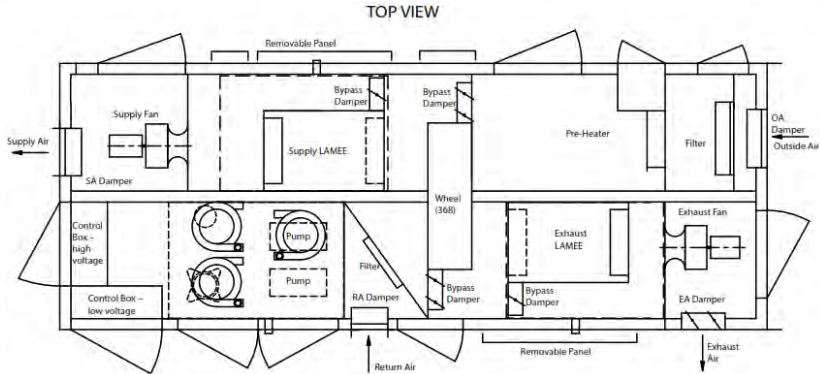
- Viable exchanger design requires:
 - Complete separation of liquid desiccant from the air stream
 - Corrosion resistant (polymer) construction
 - High sensible and latent effectiveness (compact)
 - Cost competitiveness
 - Proven durability
 - Flexibility of application



Counter flow, flat plate Liquid to Air Membrane Energy Exchanger (LAMEE)

Active Enthalpy Pump

Packaged unit configuration



- Full packaged unit will help with industry acceptance
- Standard power and ducting connections
- Cost competitive with substantial energy savings!



Efficiency Comparisons

Basic DX Air Conditioning Unit

	T1	T2	T3
DB (°C):	35.0	8.9	21.1
W (g/kg):	16.8	7.1	7.1

**177 kW net cooling @
8000 cfm**

Cooling coil: 233 kW

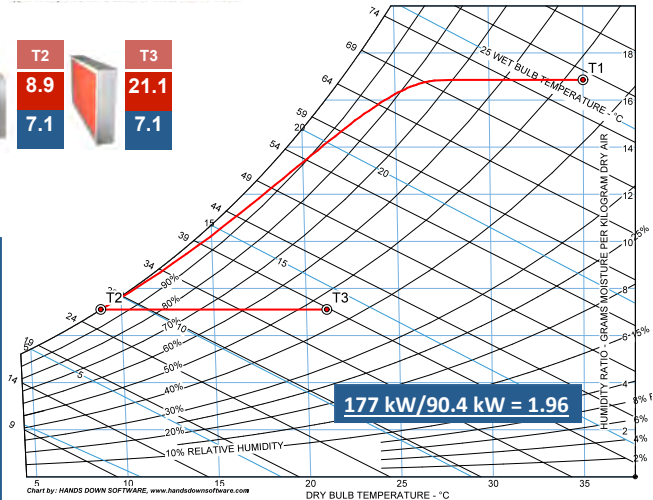
Power inputs:

Compressor: 79.6 kW

Fans: 4.8 kW

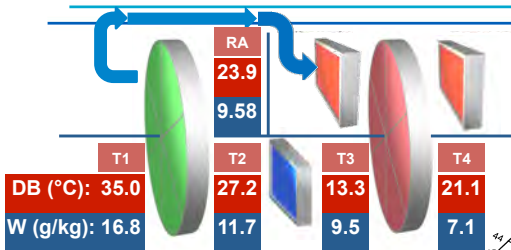
Misc: 6.0 kW

TOTAL: 90.4 kW



Efficiency Comparisons

Solid Desiccant System with Active Regeneration (DX)

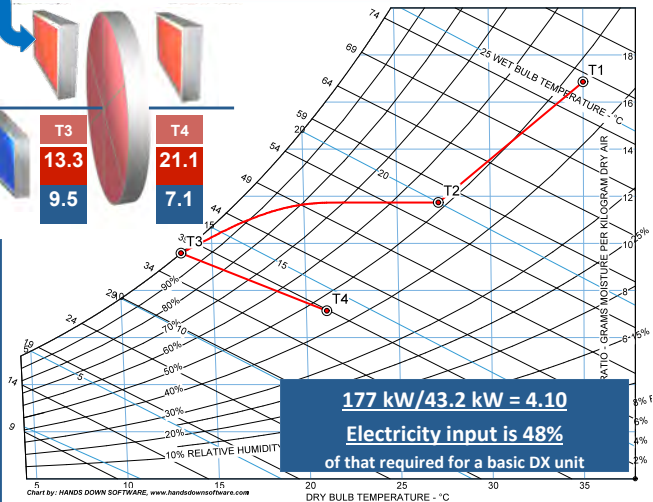


**177 kW net cooling @
8000 cfm**

Cooling coil: 89.1 kW

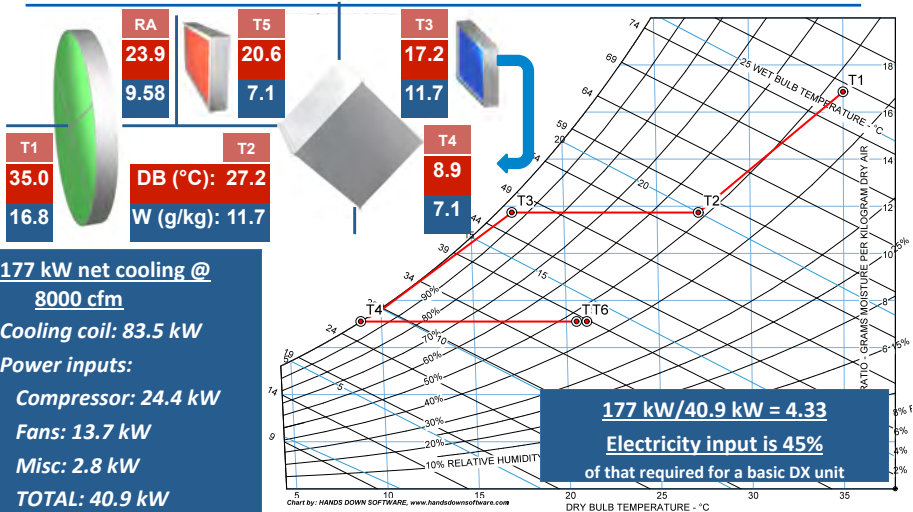
Power inputs:

- Compressor: 26.0 kW
- Fans: 16.0 kW
- Misc: 1.2 kW
- TOTAL: 43.2 kW**



Efficiency Comparisons

Wheel – Alpha Plate System (DX)



Efficiency Comparisons

Enthalpy Pump System (DX)



RA
23.9
9.58

T1

DB (°C): 35.0
W (g/kg): 16.8

T2

25.9
11.1



T3

21.1
7.1

**177 kW net cooling @
8000 cfm**

Cooling coil: 76.9 kW

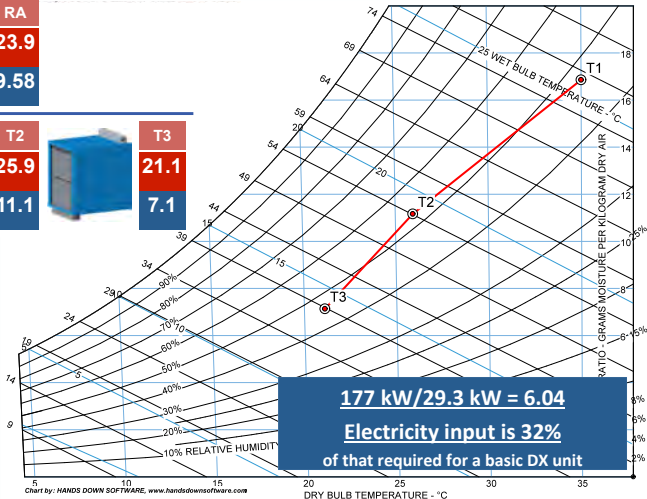
Power inputs:

Compressor: 14.8 kW

Fans: 13.3 kW

Misc: 1.2 kW

TOTAL: 29.3 kW



177 kW/29.3 kW = 6.04

**Electricity input is 32%
of that required for a basic DX unit**

Conclusions

- Liquid to air membrane energy exchangers are a revolutionary technology that will change how we condition air in buildings.
- The combination of energy recovery and liquid desiccant conditioning offers significant energy savings even when compared to state-of-the-art HVAC systems.
- Desiccant systems offer expanded capability, especially enhanced humidity control and drying for specialized applications (low dew point).