

System-based CalARP Inspection: TU-A2 March 25, 2025 Alvin Lal — Stanislaus County CUPA Manager Tommy Rios — Process Safety Engineer, Resource Compliance



Agenda:

- Introduction
- Knowledge Survey
- Conversation, Dialogue
- Prevention Programs (2,3)
- Ammonia Engine Rm. Equip. Inspection





Diagram of a Direct Expansion System

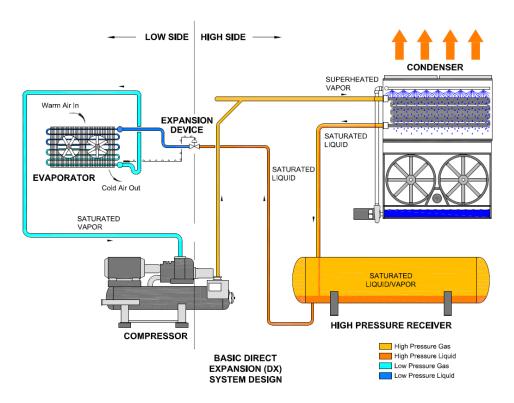




Diagram of a Recirculated System

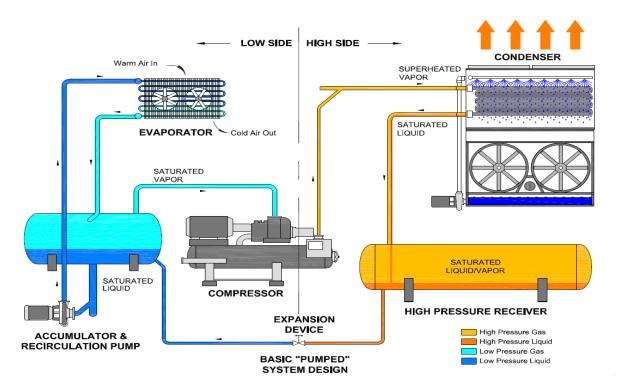
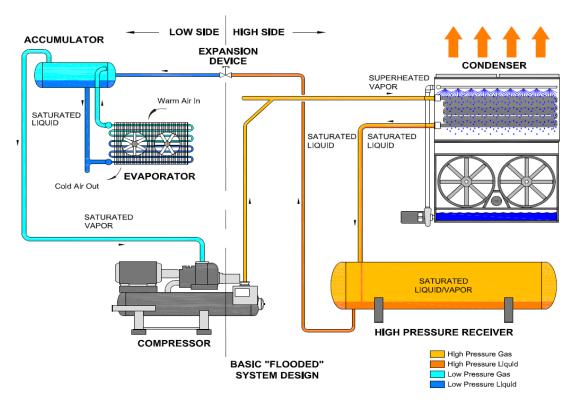




Diagram of a Flooded System





Direct Expansion Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jW5V68zuF40

Gravity Flooded Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Ulb51iKhdo

Recirculated Pump Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E3KwtYacM6E





Ammonia Refrigeration Equipment we will be discussing with Prevention Programs and RAGAGEP Inspections:

- Evaporators
- Condenser
- Recirculator
- Piping
- Compressor
- Relief Valve Termination Piping













- Drain pans/catch cans beneath the iced piping
- The drain pans allow water to be drained into a drain
- Prevents water from pooling below the evaporators
- No slip hazard

- The evaporator is protected by a bumper bar
- Early indicator before hitting the evaporator







Problems

- •The accumulation of ice on the evaporator
 - Added weight of the ice increases the load on the evaporator supports
 - Ice acts as an insulator, which causes the evaporator to run less efficiently
 - Ice buildup can interfere with the fan blades (dangerous)
- Accumulation of ice on the ceiling
 - Ice on the ceiling indicates that there is a vapor barrier breach in the ceiling/roof





- Door is safely closed
- •No debris around the entrance
- •Labeled with the unit on the door







Ice buildup on a penthouse door

- The ice prevents the door from closing
- Sometimes results in unsafe ways of forcing a door closed
- Defeats panic hardware being operated from inside the refrigerated space
- Ice can restrict access from/to the penthouse
- Major source of heat loss





- •Vessel and piping are clearly labeled
- •No ice on the insulation
- •Dead-man valve at the drain point





- •Ice indicates that the insulation on the vessel has failed
- •Ice on the piping and valves can prevent the valves from being manipulated/operated
- •lce prevents piping from being inspected (insulation or corrosion)





- Piping is painted
- •Permanent access to the mist eliminators and fans
- •No indication of water leaks



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- •Not labeled
- •Piping is corroded
- •Heavy water stains are indicative of water leaking
- •Man door appears not to be sealed





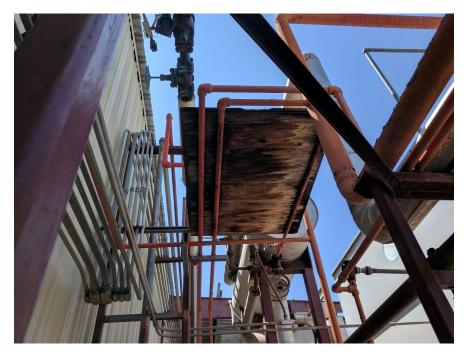
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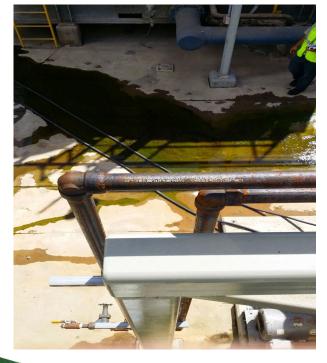






- •Flexible stainless-steel piping was used and the insulation installed was not approved for use with ammonia
- •Poor insulation traps moisture as opposed to keeping it out
- •The pipes are being used as a platform. Ammonia pipes should not be used to support external loads







- •Uninsulated pipes not protected against corrosion
- •Pipes are not labeled
- •The insulation is crushed because people stepped/sat on it while crossing this barrier
- •The pipe labels are faded













King valve label faded Receiver tank paint chipping

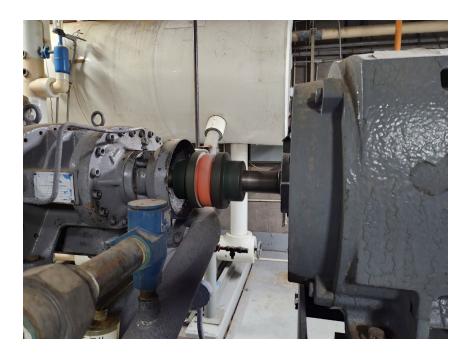












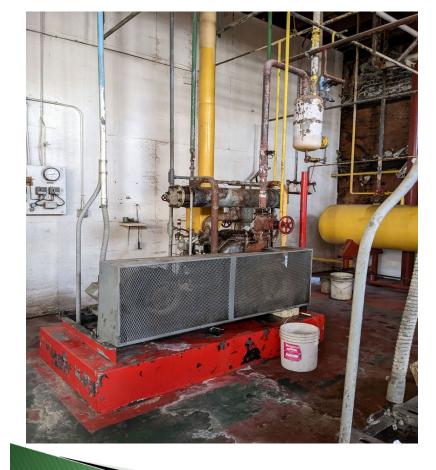














- Corroded, Not labeled
- Compressor safety cutout deteriorated

























•Relief piping is more than 7.25' above the roof

Piping is labeled





- •Relief piping terminates less than 7.25' above the roof
- •Relief piping is not labeled





Any Questions?

Alvin Lal – Stanislaus County CUPA Manager alal@envres.org (209) 525-6793

Tommy Rios – Process Safety Engineer, Resource Compliance trios@resourcecompliance.com (559) 591-8898

