



# Carbon Dioxide as Refrigerant

## Applications in Mobile Air-Conditioning and Applications in Heat Pumps

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# SINTEF location, Trondheim, Norway



**SINTEF does contract research for national and international clients**

**We work in close collaboration with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)**





# Outline

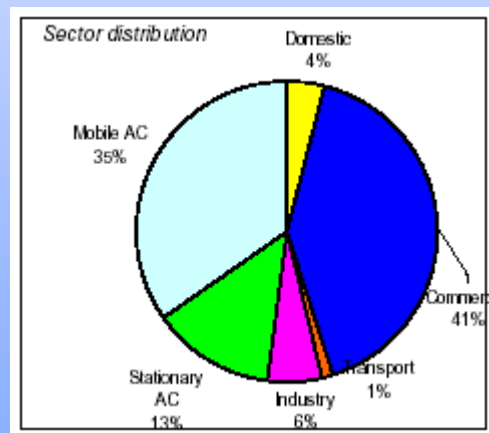
- **Mobile air conditioning and heat pump systems**
  - Mobile Air Conditioning
  - LCCP comparison
  - Mobile Heat Pumps
- **Heat Pumps and AC for space conditioning**
  - Heat pump water heaters
  - Other heat pump applications
- **Some additional points**
- **Conclusion**





# Mobile Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps

Application with largest emissions of HFCs  
Second largest refrigerant emissions



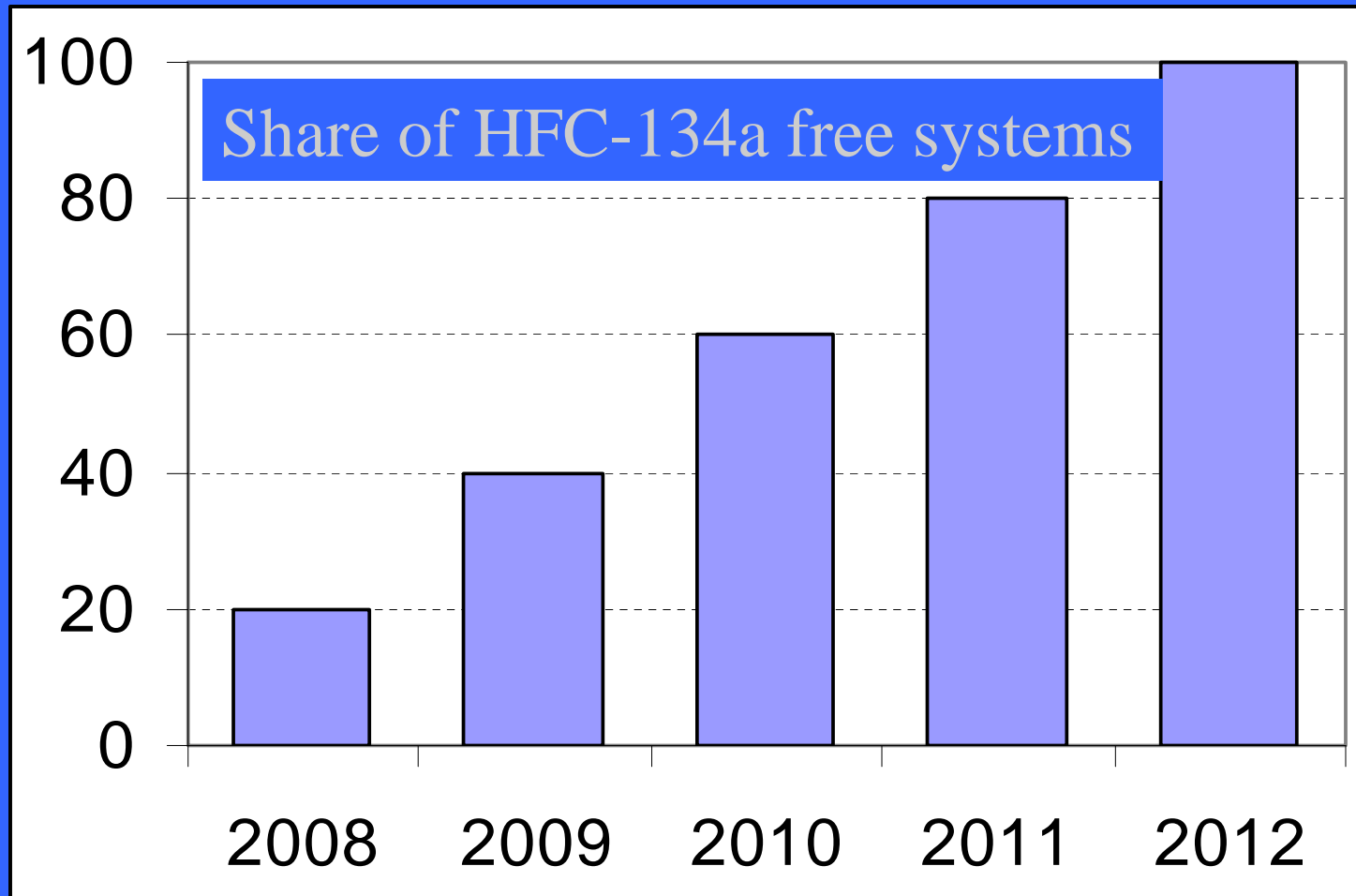
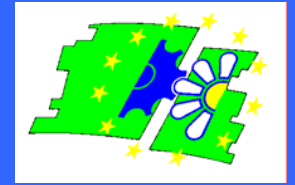
Sector shares in 2002, expressed in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent  
Palandre et al, Earth Techn. Forum, Washington 2004





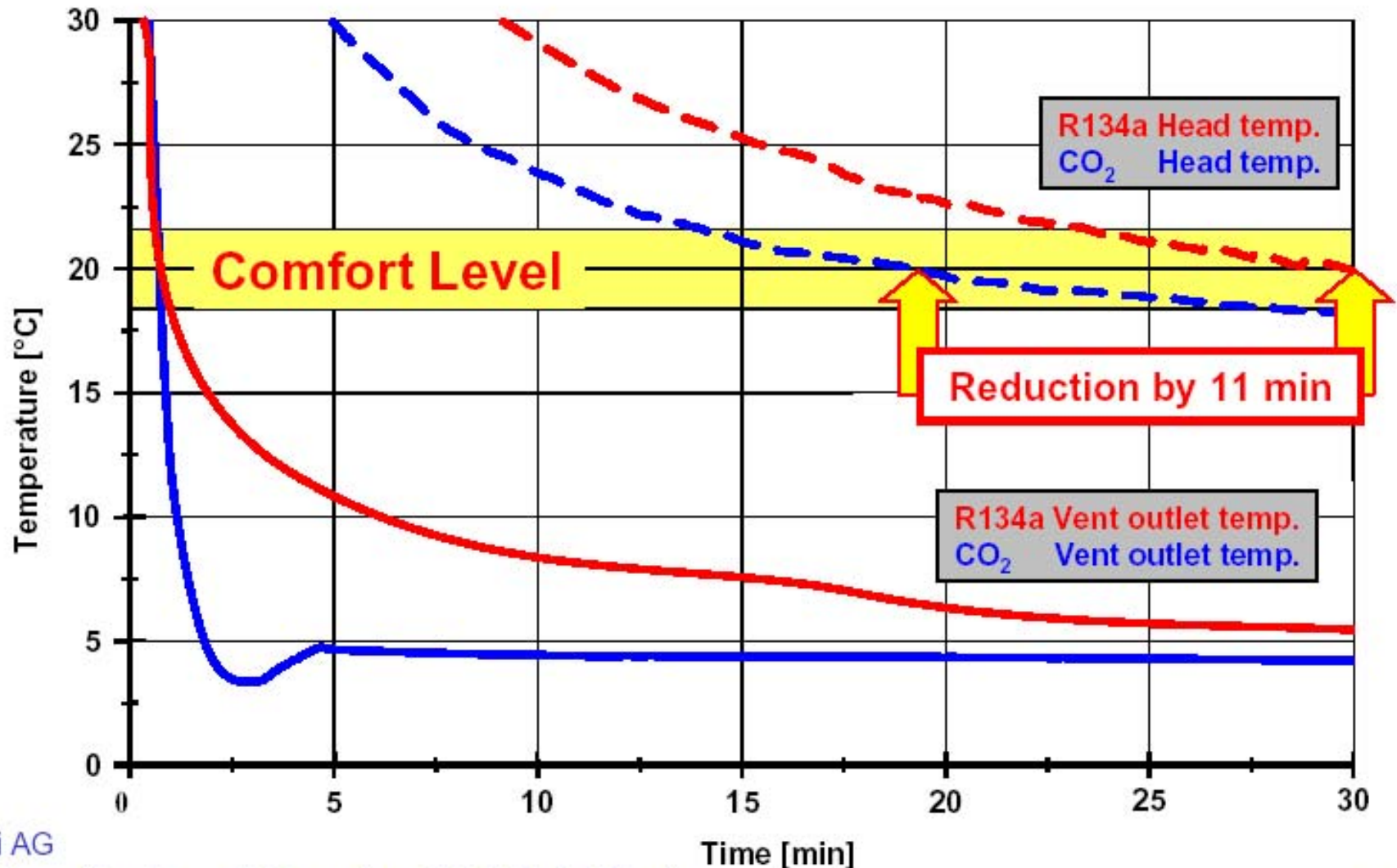
# Current thinking: Phasing of HFC-134a free systems MAC

European Commission - DG Environment June 2003



# What are the main advantages of using CO<sub>2</sub> instead of HFC-134a?

## Performance - Cool down CO<sub>2</sub> vs. R134a (ident. system packaging)





# Life Cycle Climate Performance (LCCP) of Mobile Air-Conditioning Systems with HFC-134a, HFC-152a and R-744

MOBILE AIR CONDITIONING SUMMIT  
2004 Washington D.C.

Armin Hafner and **Petter Nekså**,  
SINTEF Energy Research, Trondheim – Norway

**Jostein Pettersen**  
Norwegian University of Science and Technology – NTNU  
Trondheim – Norway





## Overview

- Origin of the COP/Capacity from measurement (experimental) data
- Basis for the LCCP calculations
- Comparison of LCCP and seasonal energy use, for various climate locations
  - US-locations applying US FTP 75 driving cycle
  - European countries, applying NEDC
- Comments
- Conclusion

Life Cycle Climate Performance (LCCP) of Mobile Air-Conditioning  
Systems with HFC-134a, HFC-152a and R-744







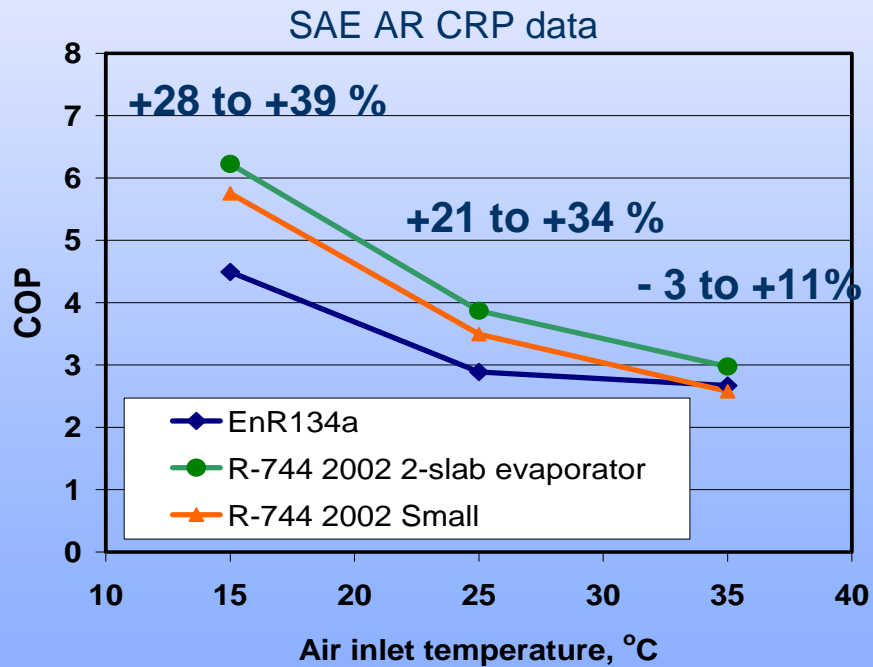
## Origin of COP/Capacity data:

- SAE AR CRP data for *Enhanced* HFC-134a  
(SAE ARCRP, 2002)
- 2002 R-744 Pilot Project data from  
(*SAE ARCRP, 2003*) – Small system
- SAE AR CRP Phase II data for 2003 Best Technology **BT HFC-134a**  
(SAE ARCRP II, 2004, preliminary results)
- SAE AR CRP Phase II data for 2003 **HFC-152a**  
(SAE ARCRP II, 2004, preliminary results);  
(same system as BT HFC-134a)

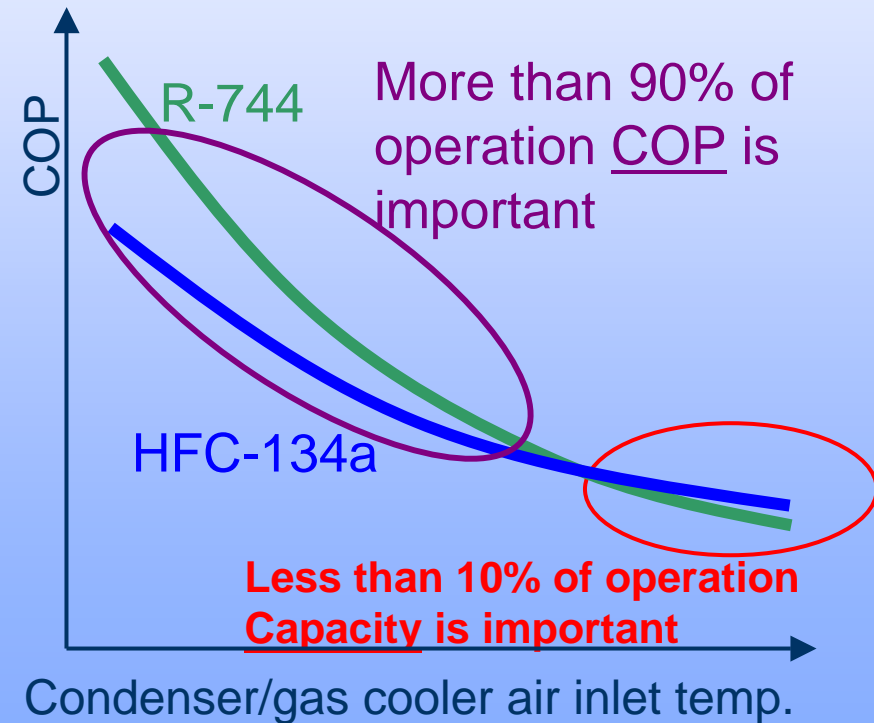




## COP data 2500 rpm 5°C air from evaporator or equal capacity

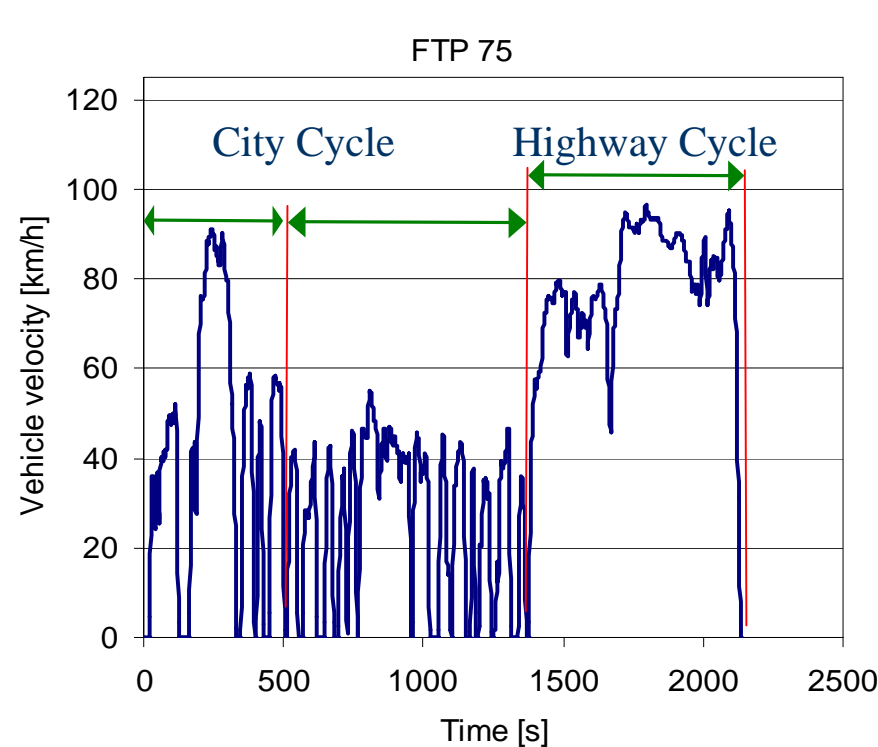


## Typical efficiency at varying condenser/gas cooler air inlet temperature



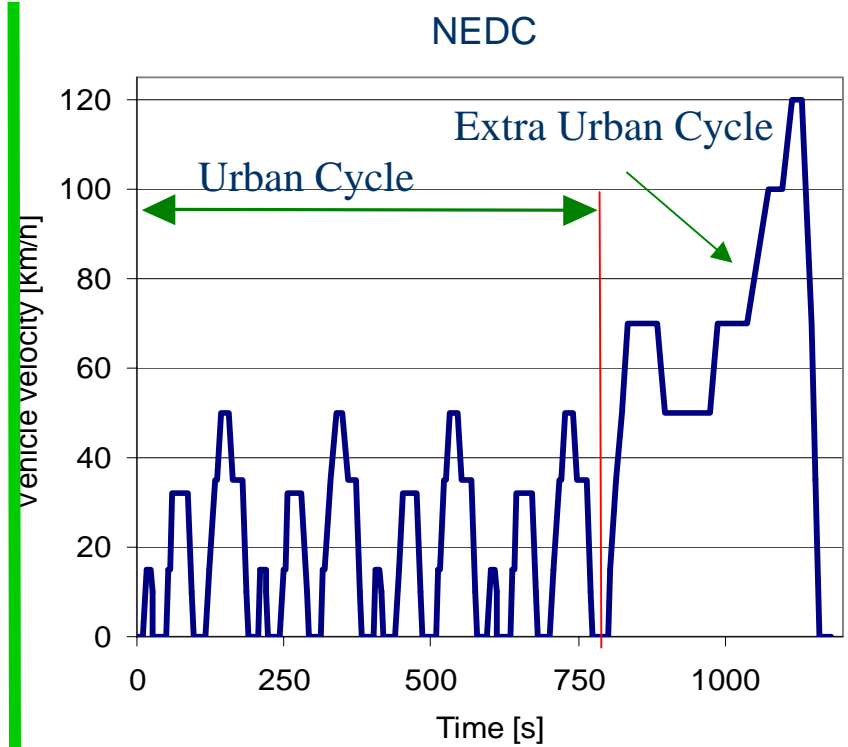


# Driving Cycles



Applied for the US-locations

Mean vehicle velocity: 48 km/h



Applied for the  
European locations

Mean vehicle velocity: 26 km/h



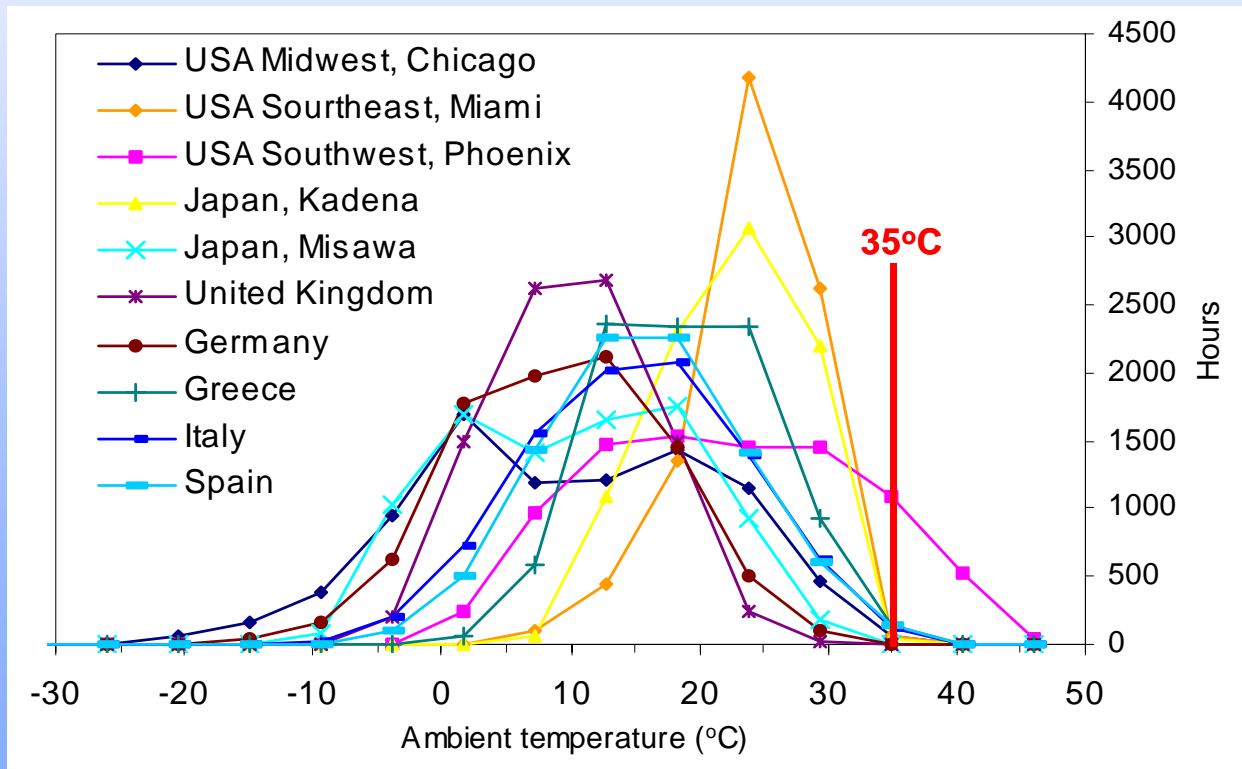
# Selected Locations & Climate Data

## USA:

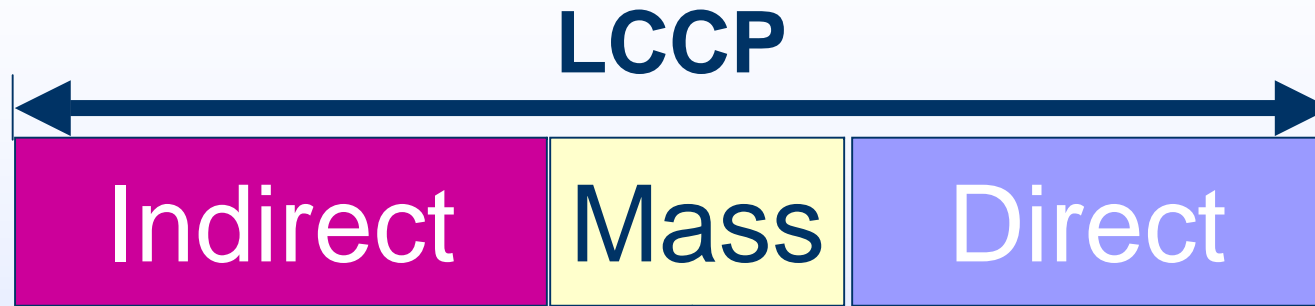
## Europe:

Chicago:  
Miami:  
Phoenix: } 22.000 km/year

Germany: 13.321 km/year  
Spain: 10.738 km/year  
Greece: 13.321 km/year



**Temperatures above 35°C hardly ever occur**



**System Mass [kg]**

- × Yearly driving distance [km/year]
- × Fuel consumption rate for carrying and transport the AC system [litres/kg/km]
- × Fuel consumption to CO<sub>2</sub> emission factor [kg CO<sub>2</sub>/litre of gasoline]
- × Vehicle life [years]

**= Mass Contribution [kg CO<sub>2</sub>]**

**System charge [g]**

**Yearly Leakage [g/year] \***

Life time Services [-]

End of Life recovery rate [%]

Global Warming Potential of Ref.

Emission of producing a kg of Ref. [kg CO<sub>2</sub>]

Re-processing emission during the end of life refrigerant recovery [kg CO<sub>2</sub>]

Vehicle life [years]

**= Direct Impact (kg CO<sub>2</sub>)**

**\* Achievable total controlled losses of 35 g/yr suggested by *Fernqvist (2003)*, plus uncontrolled and service losses: total 60 g/yr (used in this analysis)**





# Indirect contribution to LCCP

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Measurement Data  
( $Q_o$  & COP)

Driving Cycles  
(FTP 75 & NEDC)

Elevated air inlet  
temperatures at idling  
(25% of idling time)

$$\overline{COP} = f \{ \text{ambient temperature, ref. \& driving cycle} \}$$

Cooling demand  
(mid size vehicle)

Annual temp.  
distribution

Energy consumption  
of AC-system

Indirect  
LCCP  
(TEWI)

×  
Vehicle  
Life

×  
CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
[kg CO<sub>2</sub> / kWh]

÷  
Engine  
efficiency

13

0.243

0.27



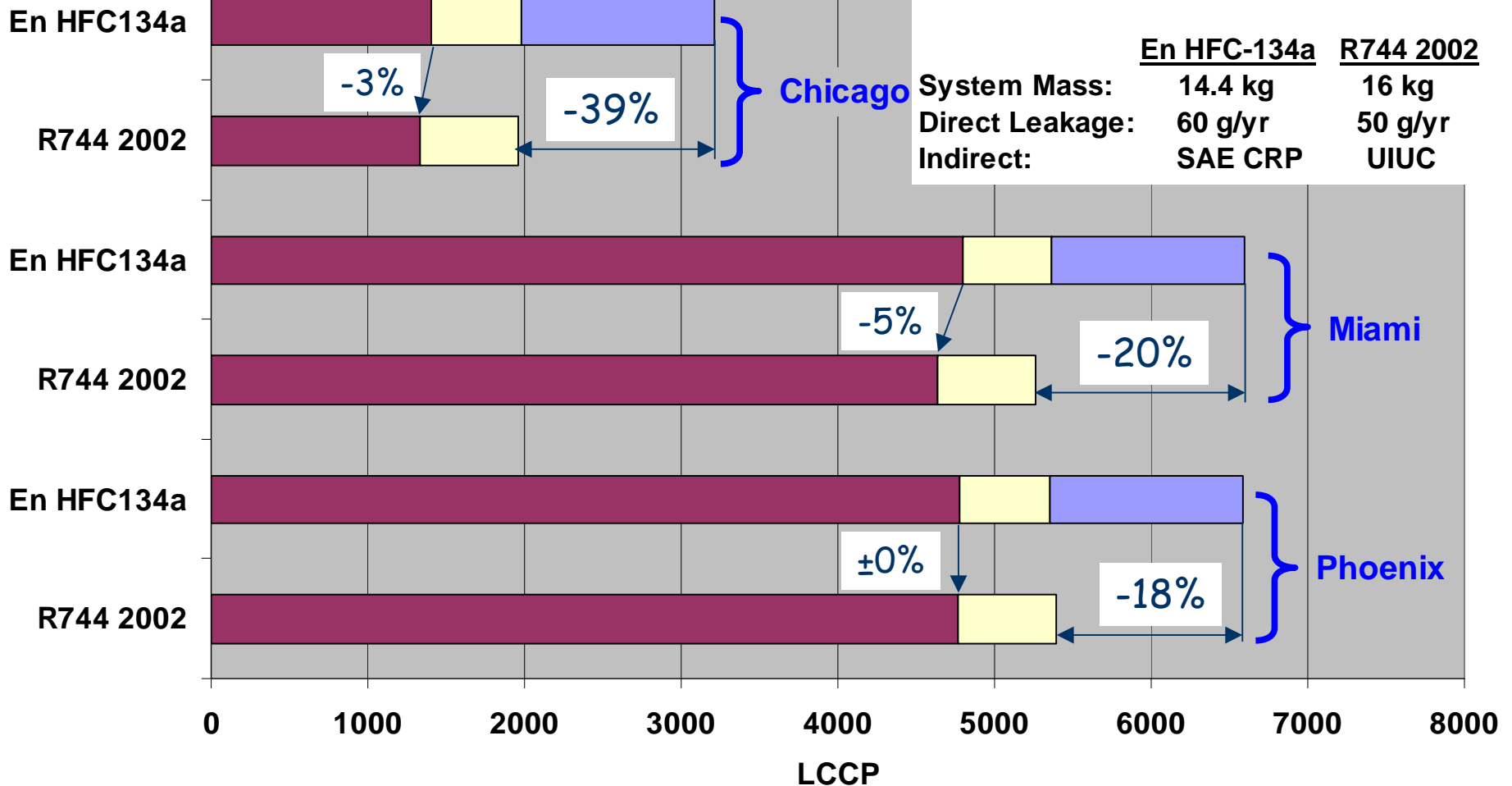
# LCCP comparison *En* HFC-134a versus 2002 R-744

## US locations & US FTP75

■ Indirect   ■ Mass   ■ Direct

### US FTP75

Combined City & Highway driving Cycle





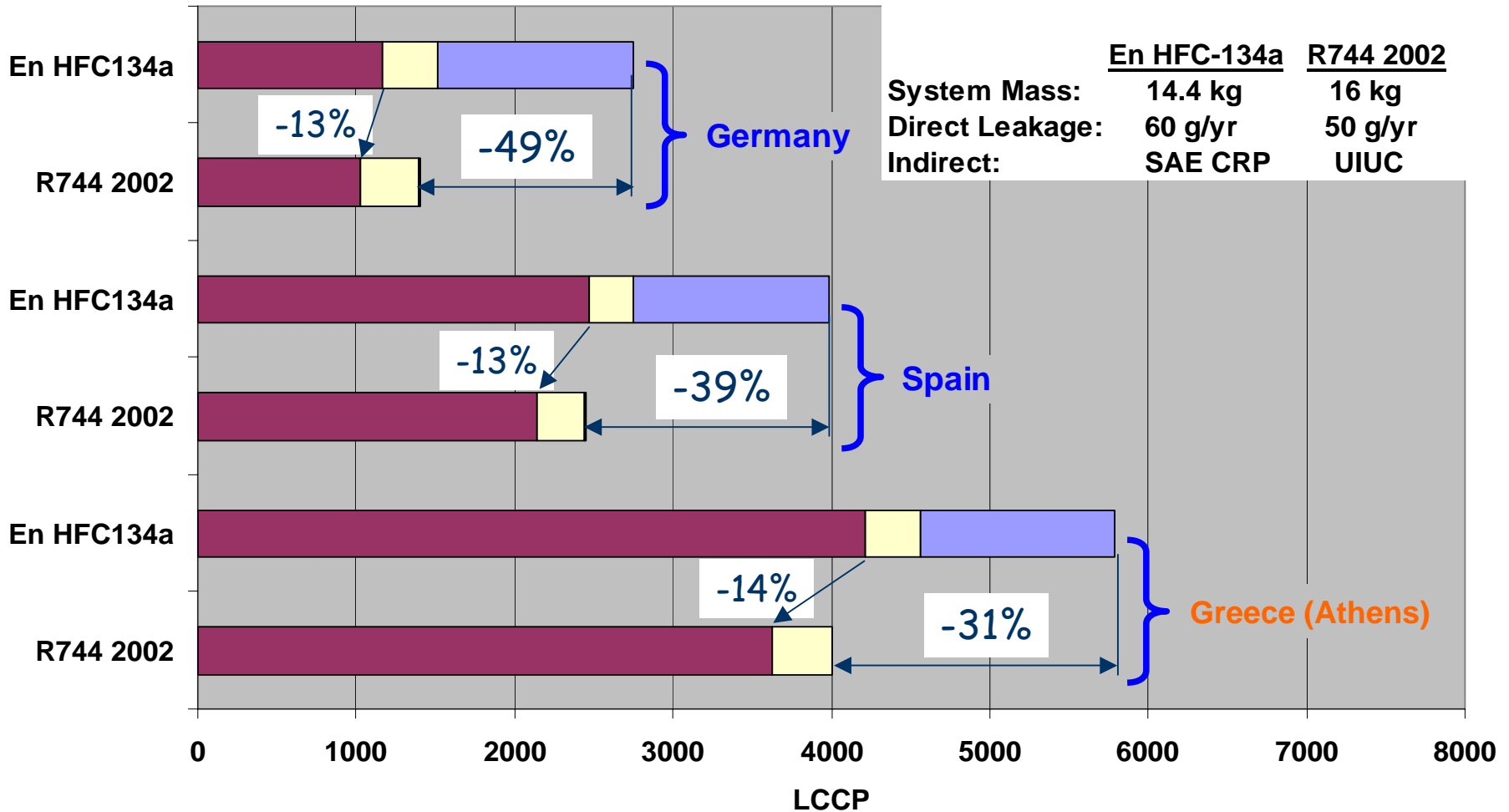
# LCCP comparison *En* HFC-134a versus 2002 R-744

## European locations & NE-Driving Cycle

■ Indirect    ■ Mass    ■ Direct

**NEDC**

Driving Cycle European Union (93/116)



	En HFC-134a	R744 2002
System Mass:	14.4 kg	16 kg
Direct Leakage:	60 g/yr	50 g/yr
Indirect:	SAE CRP	UIUC



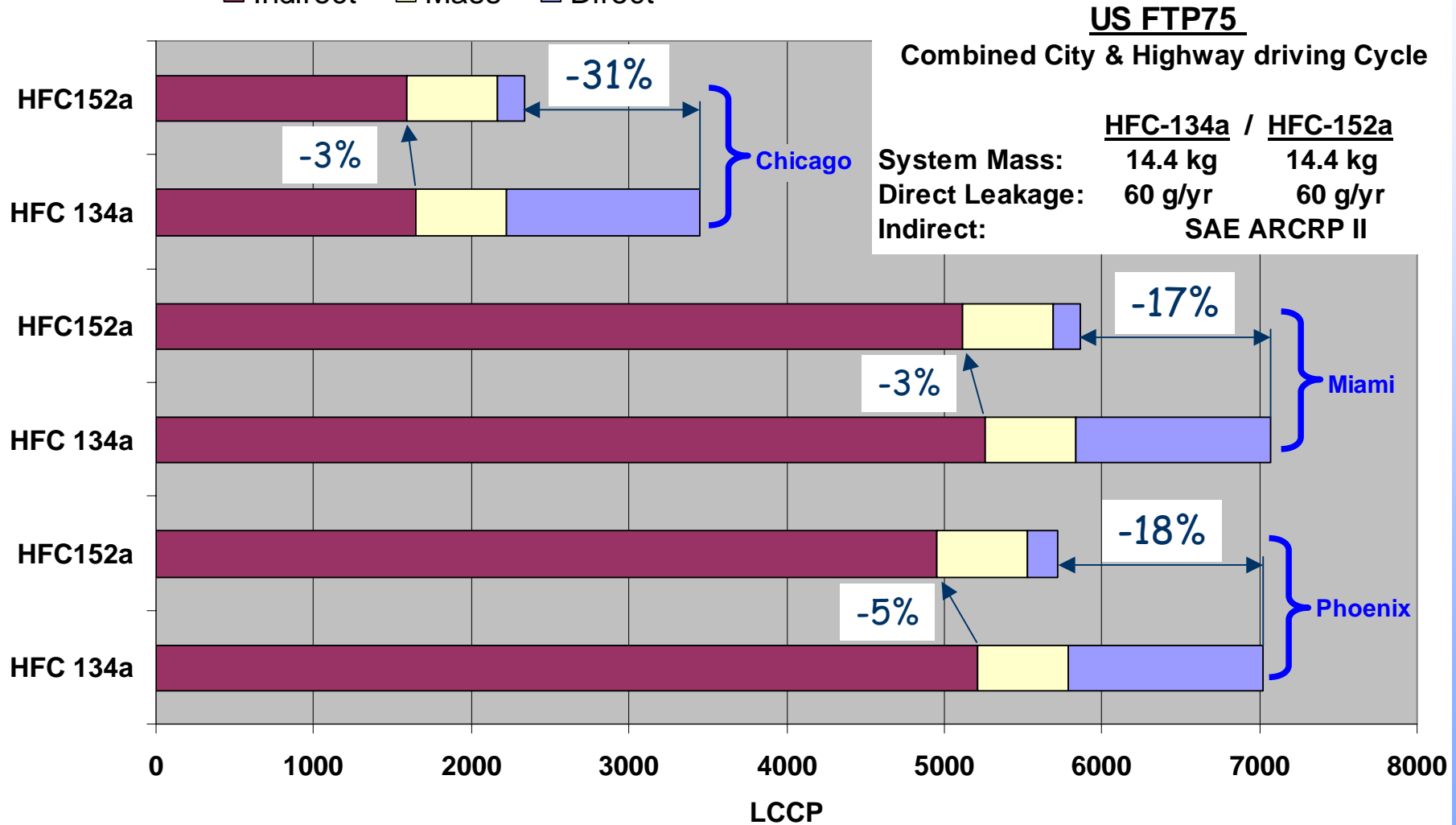


# LCCP comparison

## 2003 Best Technology HFC-134a versus 2003 HFC-152a

### US locations & US FTP75

Indirect   Mass   Direct



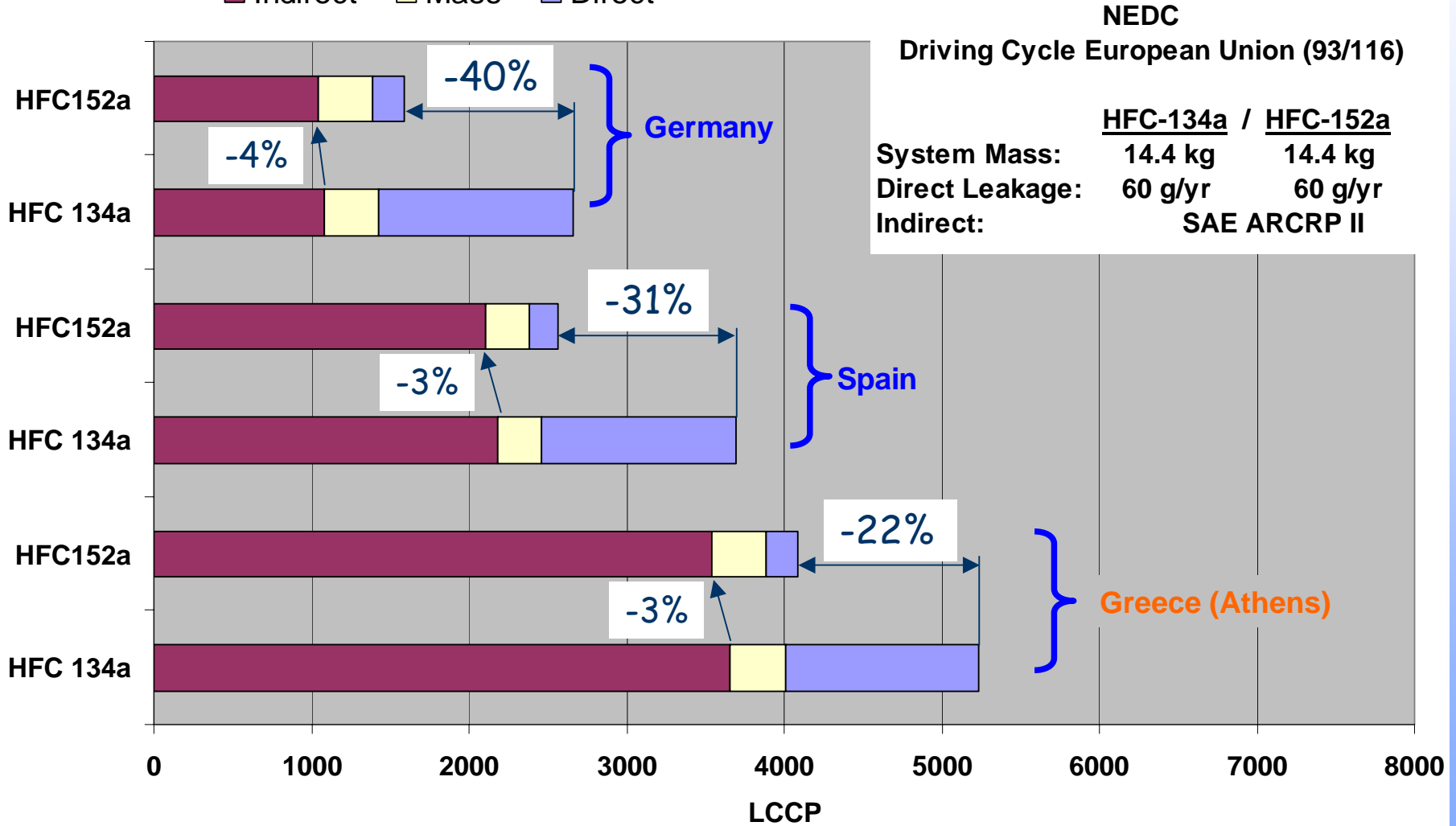


# LCCP comparison

## 2003 Best Technology HFC-152a versus 2003 BT HFC-134a

### European locations & NE-Driving Cycle

■ Indirect   ■ Mass   ■ Direct





## Which refrigerant will be the alternative to HFC-134a?



Part of illustration from AutoBild 01/04





## Comments 1(2)

- ***Phase II*** data cannot be directly compared to ***Phase I*** data, due to different system design.
- However, the relative LCCP improvement between HFC-152a and HFC-134a (***Phase II***) applied to the HFC-134a phase I data indicate that HFC-152a may approach the data of R-744.
- This analysis doesn't indicate that R-744 would have any problems to compete with HFC-152a.
- Not only hot climates should be considered in further LCCP analyses, focus should be given to vehicle population at all climate zones on earth.





## Comments 2(2)

- Heat pump operation of the AC system was not considered. (Promising option for R-744 systems, even for US climates)
- Increased air inlet temperatures to the condenser of a car at idling are 'platform'-specific problems. Only a few cars have this 'problem', others not. To assume an elevated temperature of +15 K at 25% of the idling time for the entire car fleet is a rather conservative assumption.
- 'Best Technology' means best HFC 134a-system, available in 2003 as described in *SAE ARCRP II (2004)*.
- HFC-152a may only be possible with an indirect system arrangement.  
(Hydrogen fluoride (HF) is a side product, when HFC-152a is thermally degraded. HF is highly toxic.)





# Conclusion MAC LCCP 1 (2)

- The test data have reconfirmed that COP is no argument against R-744 systems.
- Fuel use of 2002 R-744 system is significantly lower than with *Enhanced* HFC-134a (up to 14% in Europe), even in the warm US climates (Phoenix) the total energy consumptions will be at the same level.
- LCCP of 2002 R-744 system is improved by 18 – 49 % compared to *Enhanced* HFC-134a system.
- The 2003 HFC-152a system uses 3 -5.% less energy (fuel) than *BT* HFC-134a system.
- LCCP of the 2003 HFC152a system is improved by 17 - 40 % compared to an 2003 *BT* HFC-134a system.





## Conclusion 2 (2)

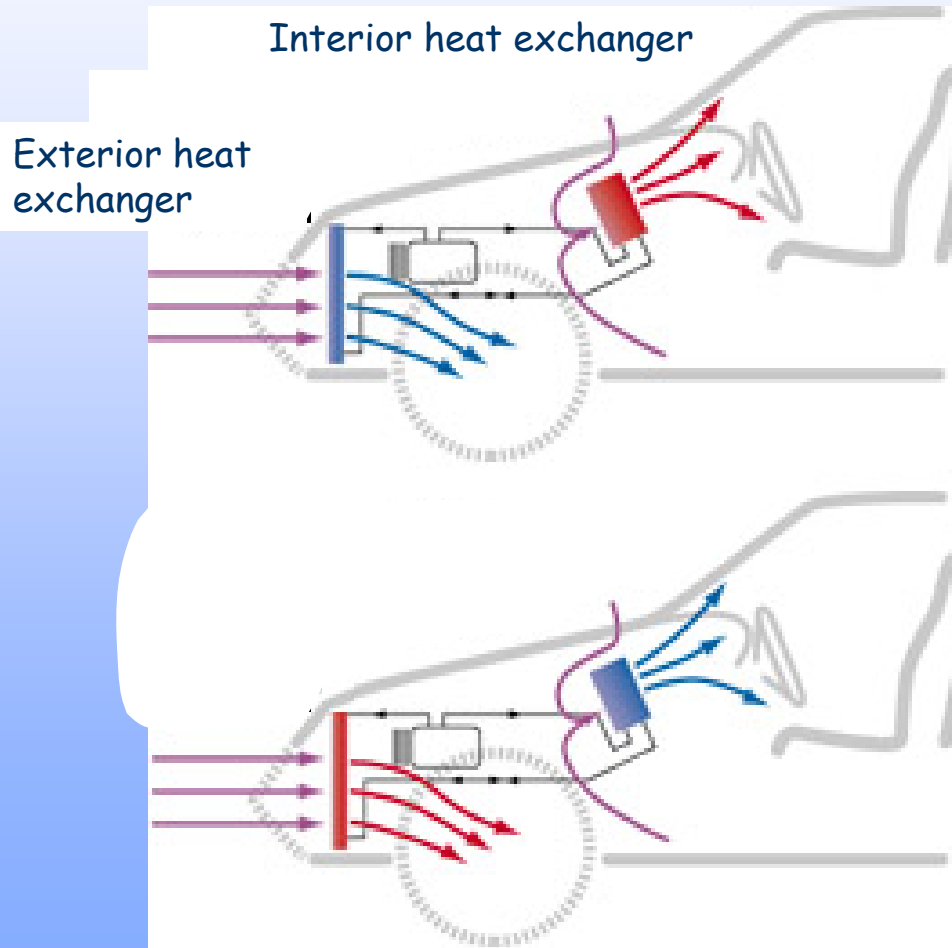
**All data show that R-744 is able to  
compete, both regarding  
Energy efficiency and LCCP**





# Mobile Heat Pump based on reversal of AC system (Ambient air as heat source) CO<sub>2</sub> is an excellent refrigerant for a heat pump

Alternatives  
heat sources:  
Engine heat  
Gas cycles  
Ambient air  
Combinations



Heating  
operation

Cooling  
operation







# Why Mobile Heat Pump?

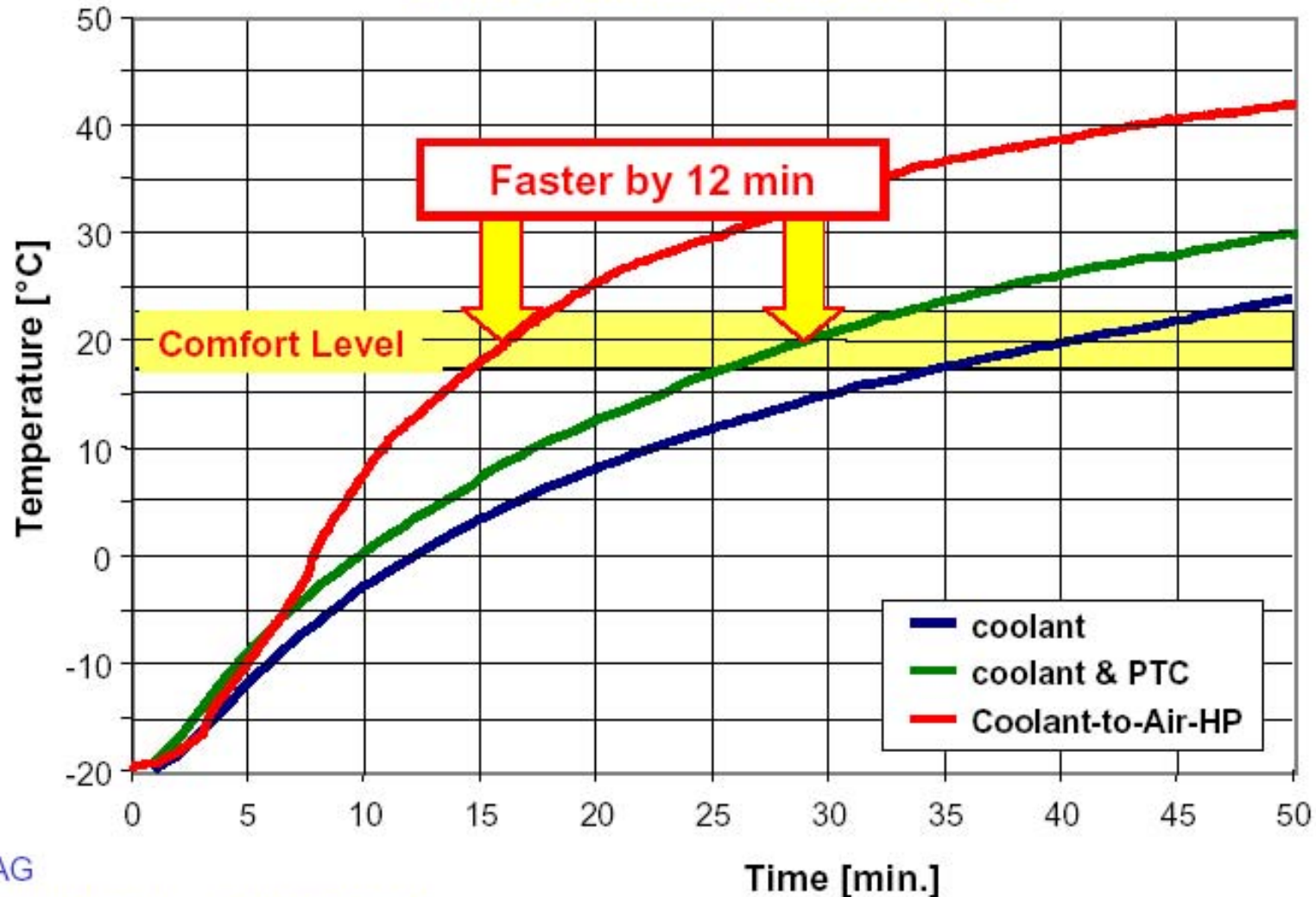
- Insufficient waste heat from modern fuel-injected engines, e.g. small diesels
- Higher demands for comfort (immediate heating expected)
- Safety (defrosting, defogging, driver attention)
- Instead of auxiliary fuel- or electricity-based heating system, use existing heat pumping circuit for both AC and HP, reducing total cost, weight and space requirements
- Electric vehicles have almost no waste heat



# What are the main advantages of using CO<sub>2</sub> instead of HFC-134a?

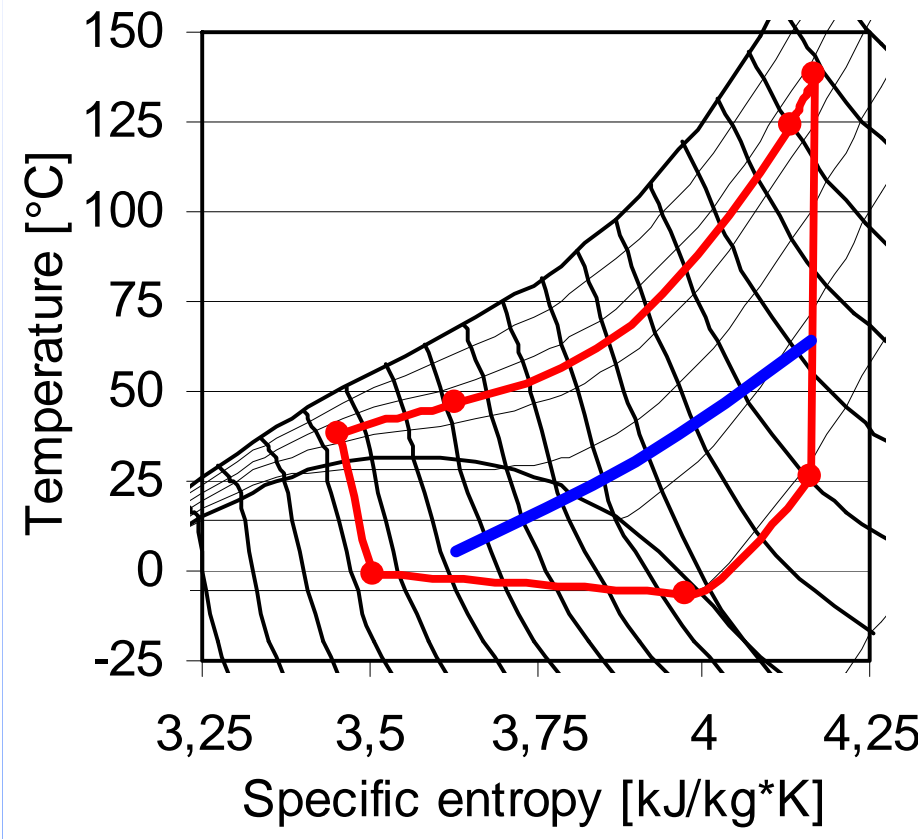
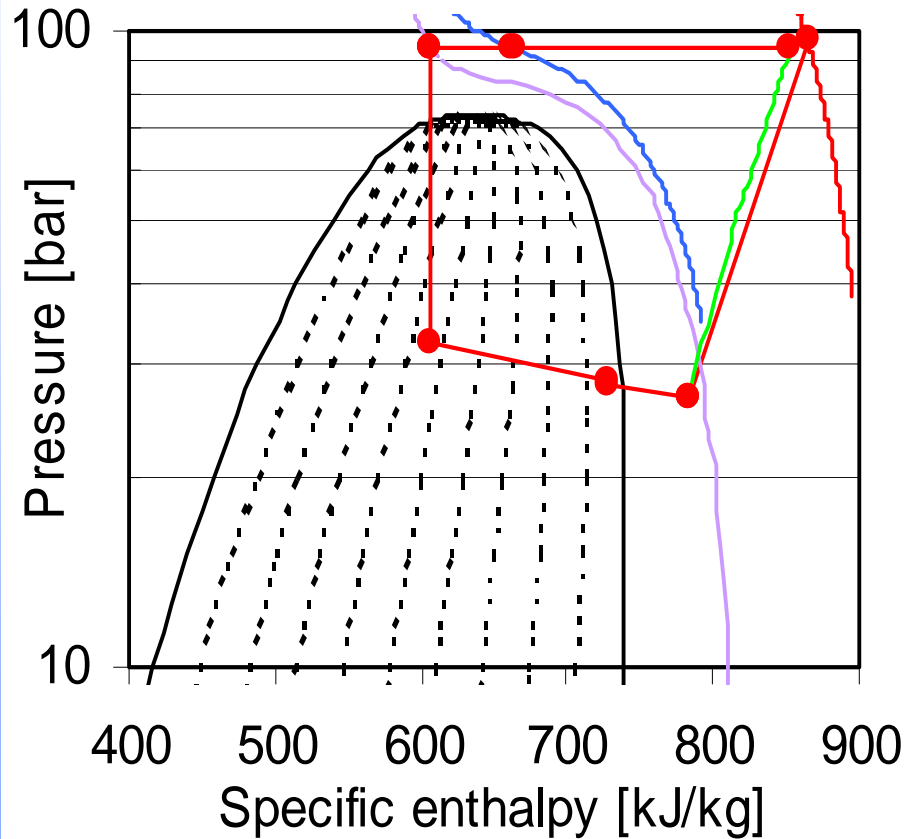
## Performance – heat pump system

### average interior temperatures





# Heat pump operation





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STUDI DI MILANO

European seminar: carbon dioxide as refrigerant  
Milan, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2004



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# Heat Pumps and AC for space conditioning





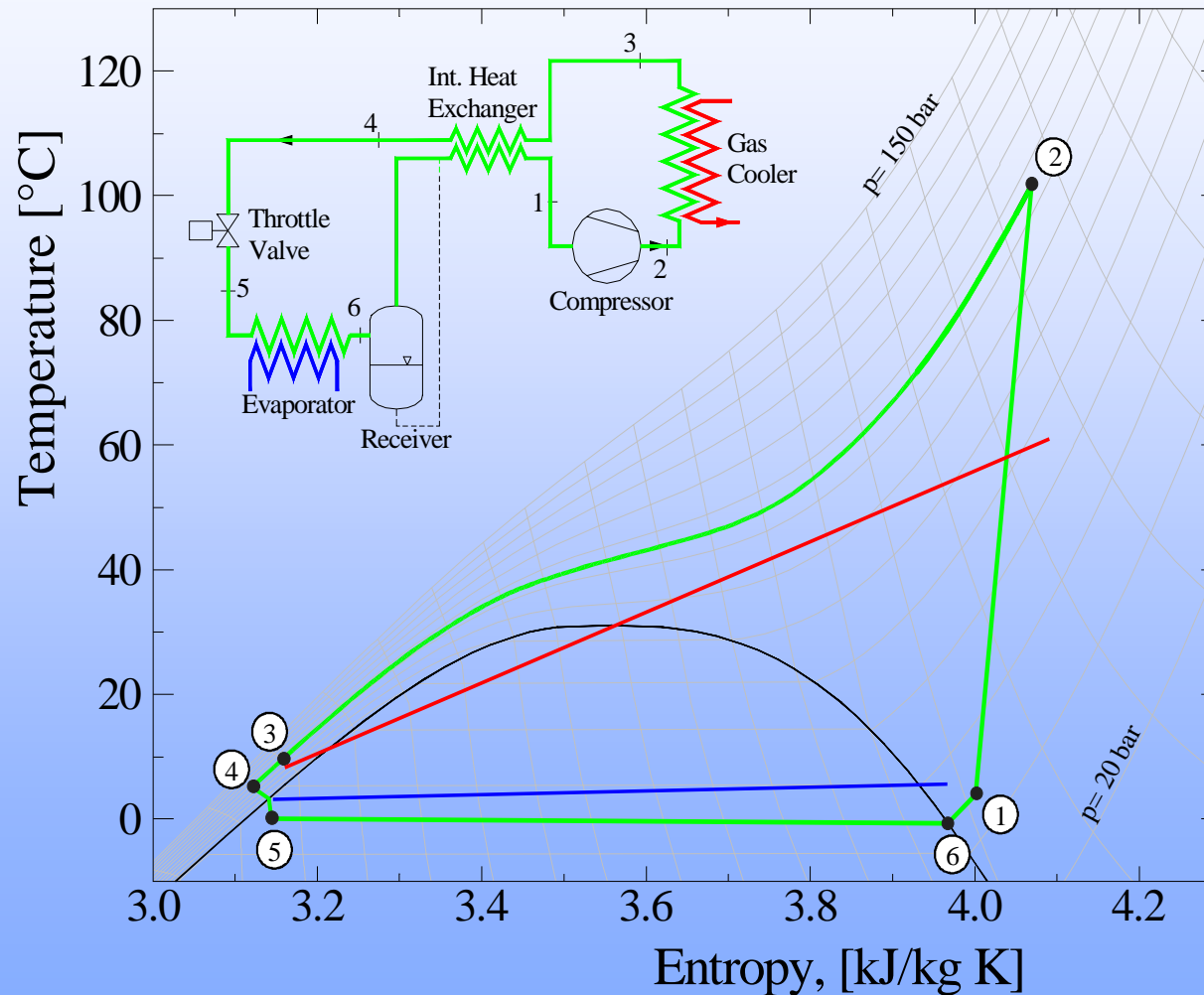
# Heat Pump Water Heaters

The ideal application for CO<sub>2</sub> as refrigerant





# Heat Pump Water Heater using the transcritical CO<sub>2</sub> cycle



# CO<sub>2</sub> Heat Pump Water Heaters commercialized

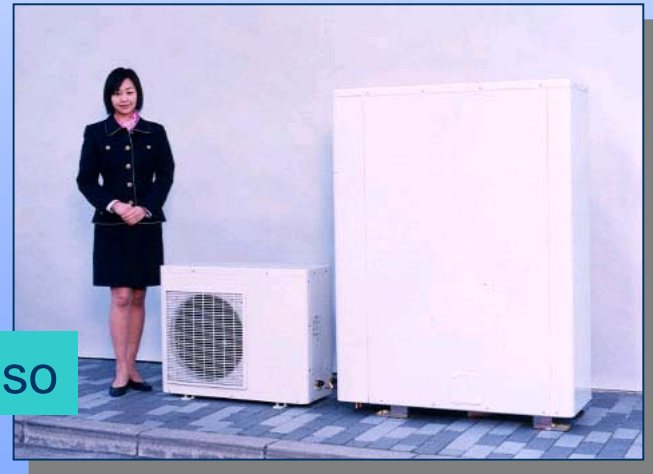
- commercialized in Norway (Development started 1989) and Japan
- based on Shecco Technology licences from Hydro Pronova

- Norway: Commercial sized system
- First system: AS Eggprodukter, Larvik, 22 kW heat output, 80°C
- Supplies hot water with 1/5 of the electricity to resistanc
- In operation

- Japan: Residential systems
  - 4.5 kW heat output, 90°C water
  - Average power cons. 1,3 kW
- About 120.000 sold in the Japanese market in 2004  
Shecco licence 2000



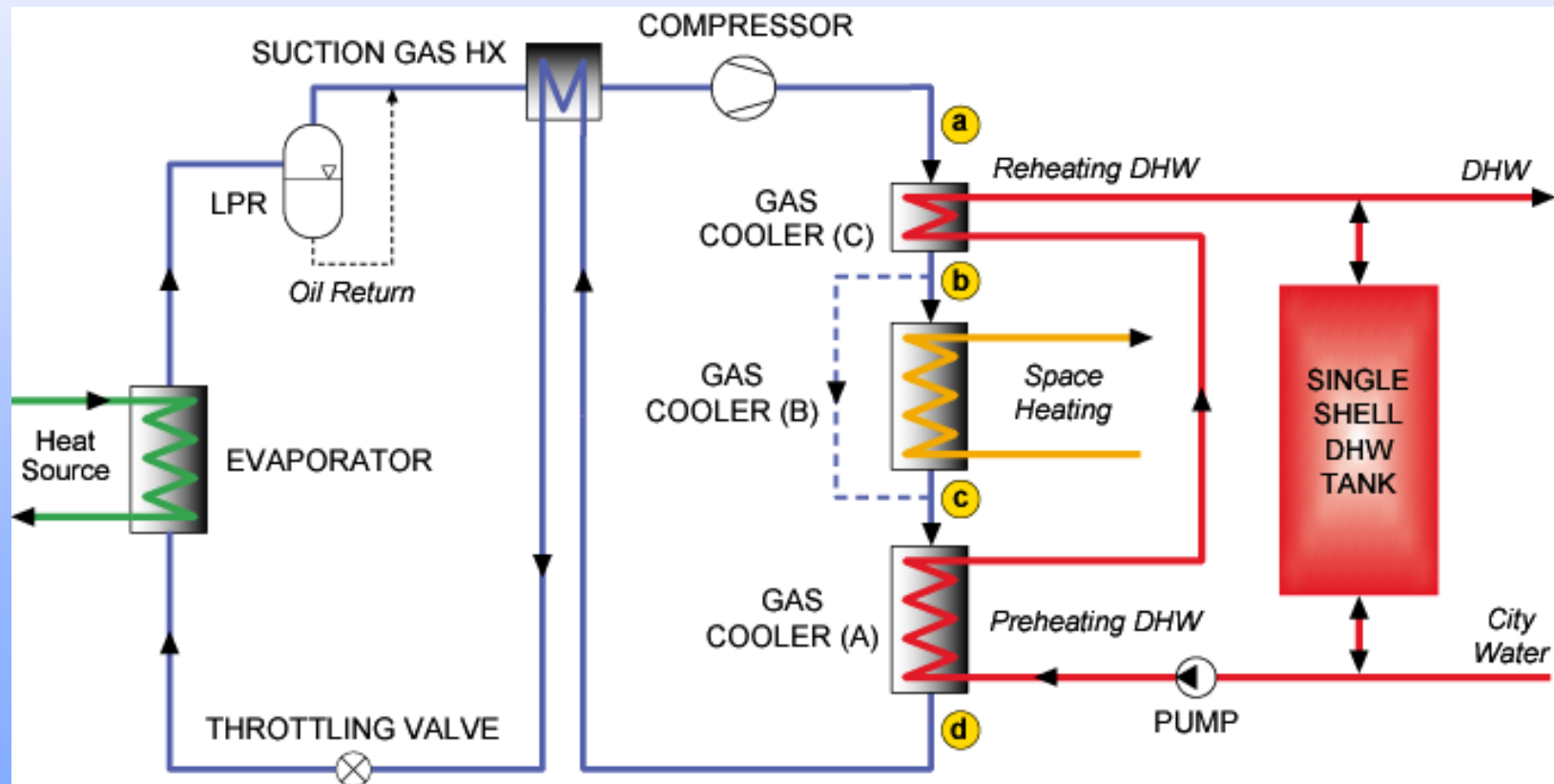
Finsam



Denso

# Brine to Water CO<sub>2</sub> Heat Pump System

Principle [Stene, J., PhD NTNU, Trondheim, 2004]

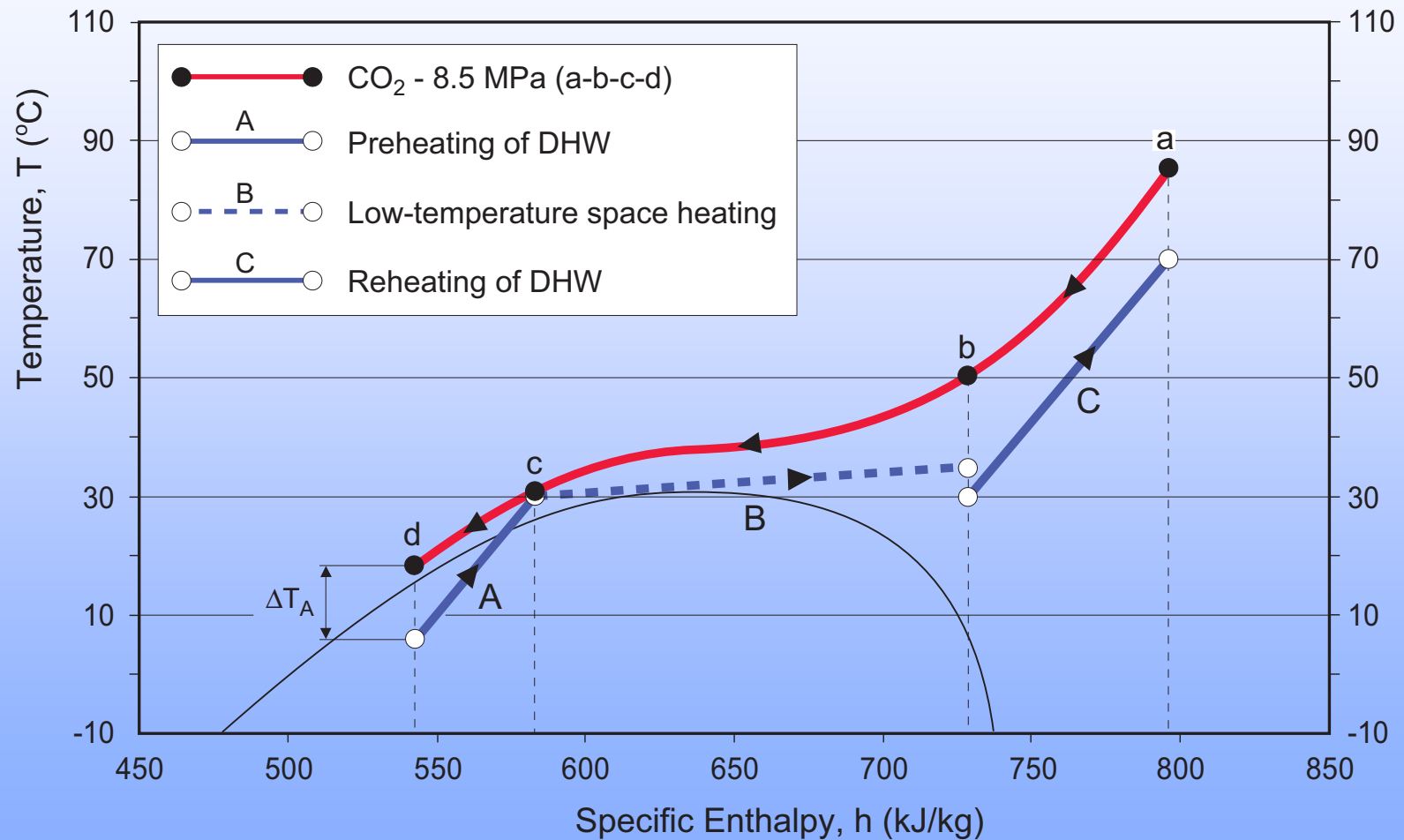






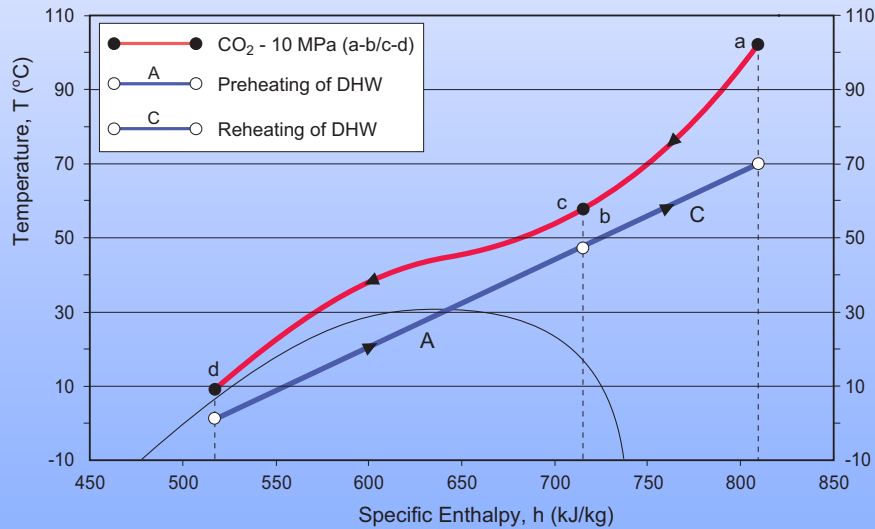
# Heat Rejection Process – Combined Mode

[Stene, J., PhD NTNU, Trondheim, 2004]

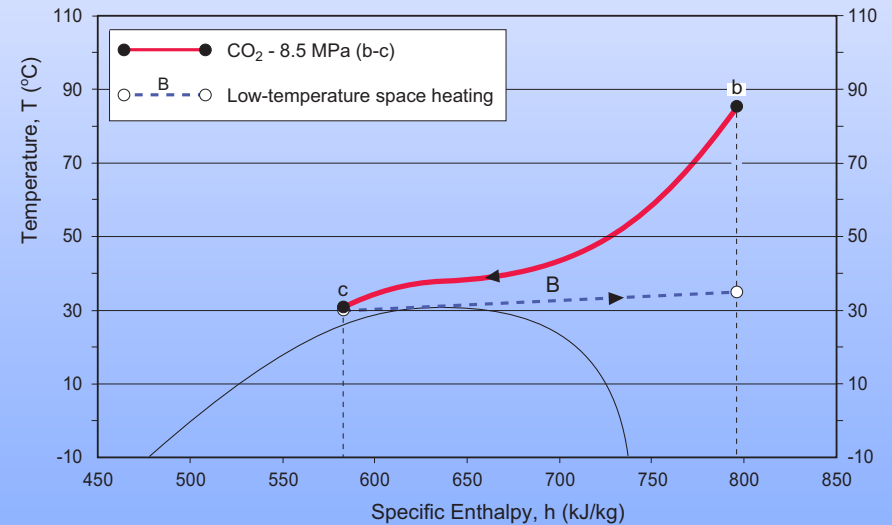




### Heat Rejection Process – DHW Mode



### Heat Rejection Process – SH Mode



# Laboratory Testing of a Prototype Plant

- The CO<sub>2</sub> heat pump unit:
  - 7 kW total heating capacity
  - Hermetic rolling piston compressor
  - Counterflow tube-in-tube evaporator
  - Counterflow tube-in-tube tripartite gas cooler
  - LPR system with back-pressure valve
  - Energy well as heat source
  
- Operating Conditions:
  - Evap. temp.: -10, -5 and 0°C
  - SH system: 33/28, 35/30 and 40/35°C
  - DHW system: 60, 70 and 80°C





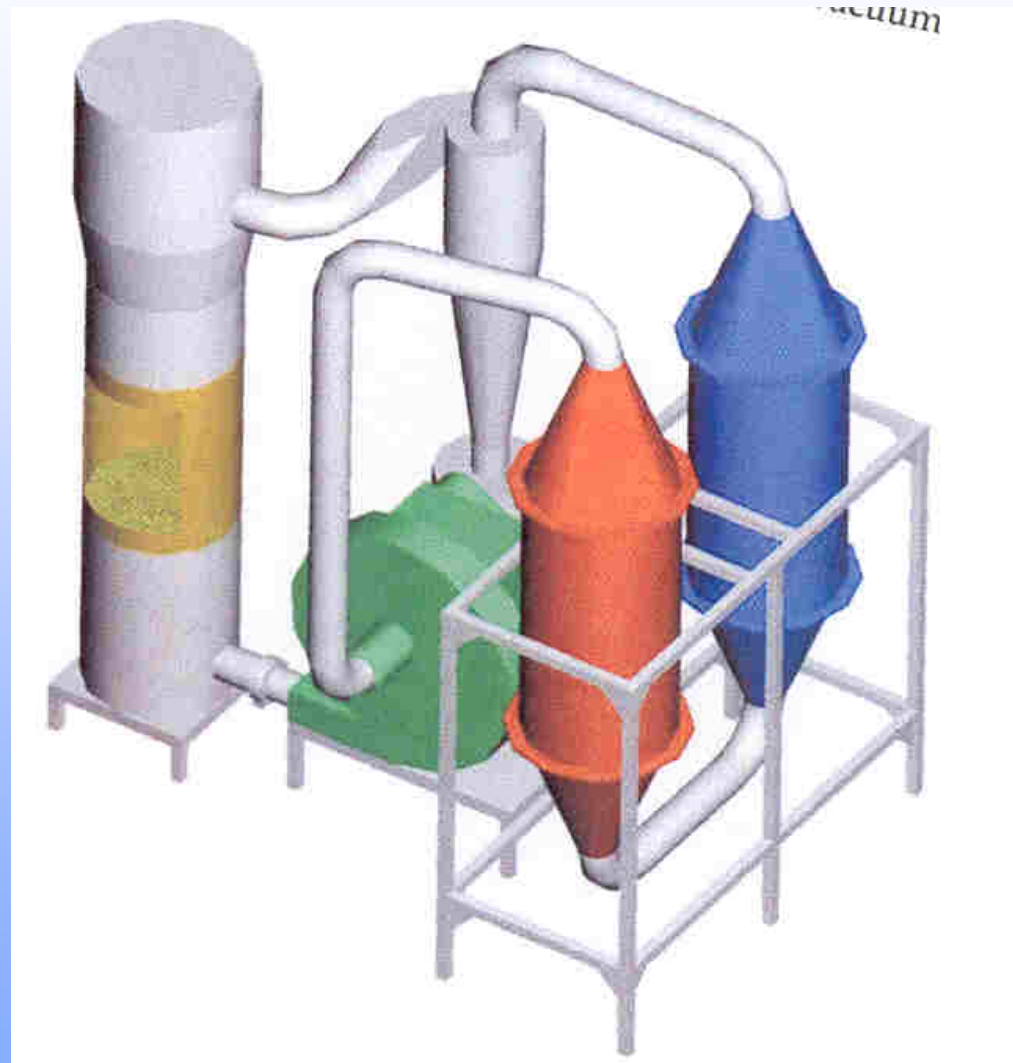
# Preliminary Conclusions (1)

- The SPF of an integrated CO<sub>2</sub> brine-to-water heat pump system may be competitive to the state-of-the-art systems as long as:
  - The annual DHW heating demand constitutes minimum 25 to 30% of the total annual heating demand of the residence
  - The return temperature for the SH system is sufficiently low (< 30°C)
  - The inlet water temperature from the DHW tank is low (< 10°C)
- During operation in the Combined mode and the DHW mode, the outlet water temperature from the DHW tank have a significant impact on the COP of the CO<sub>2</sub> heat pump unit. Consequently:
  - The design and operation of the DHW tank is of crucial importance in order to minimize mixing and conductive heat transfer in the tank during the tapping and charging periods



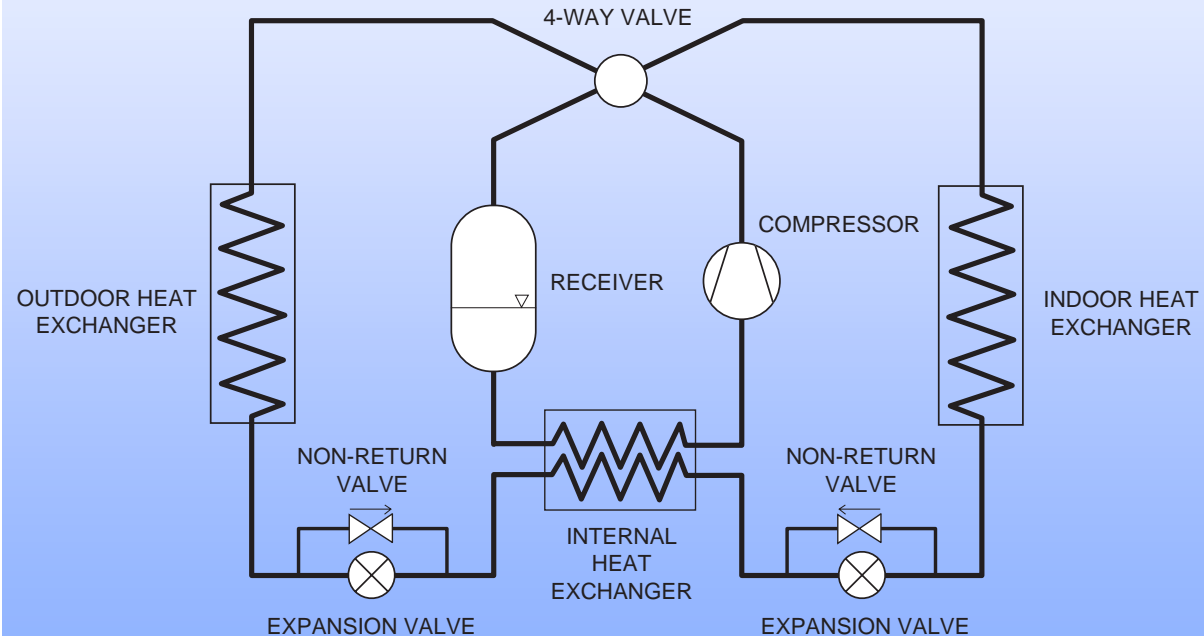
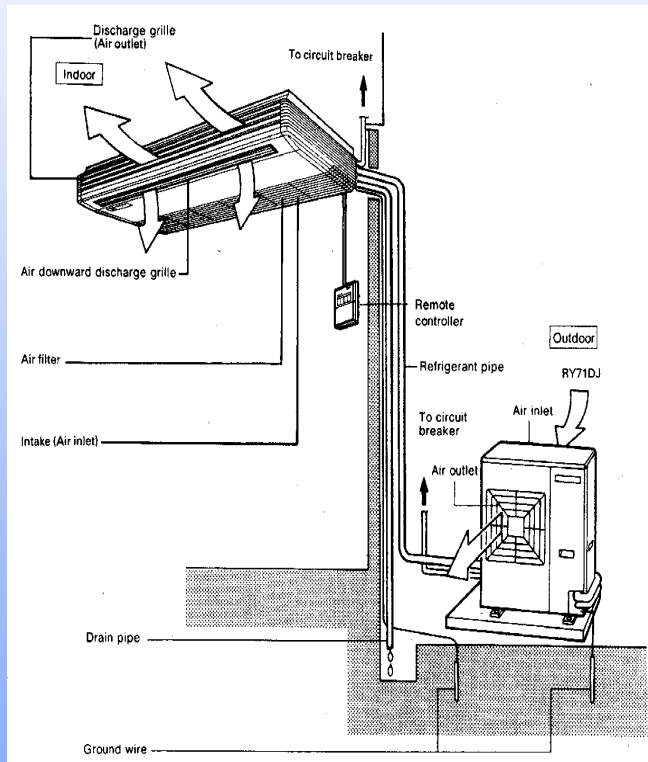


# CO<sub>2</sub>-Heat Pump Dryer





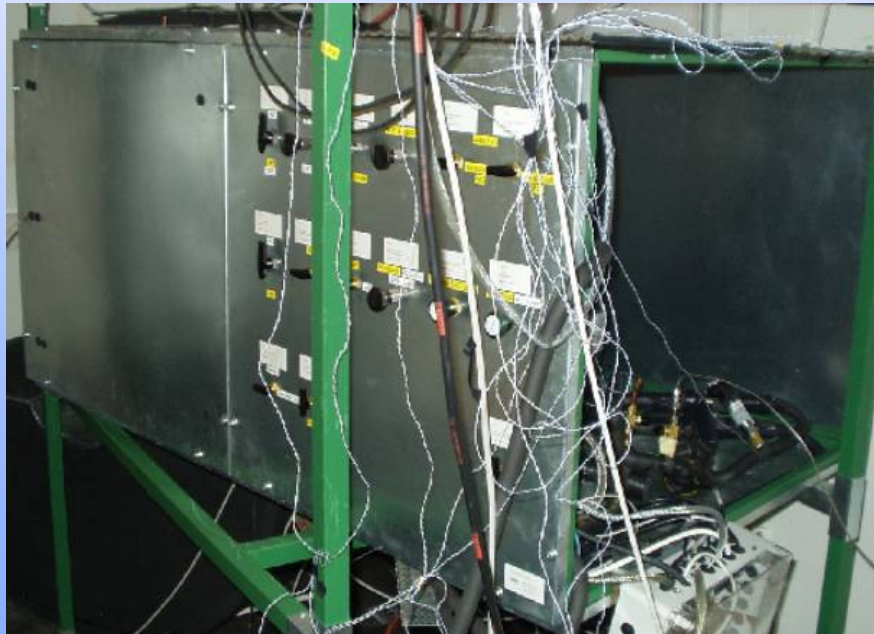
# Reversible air/air heat pump Principle



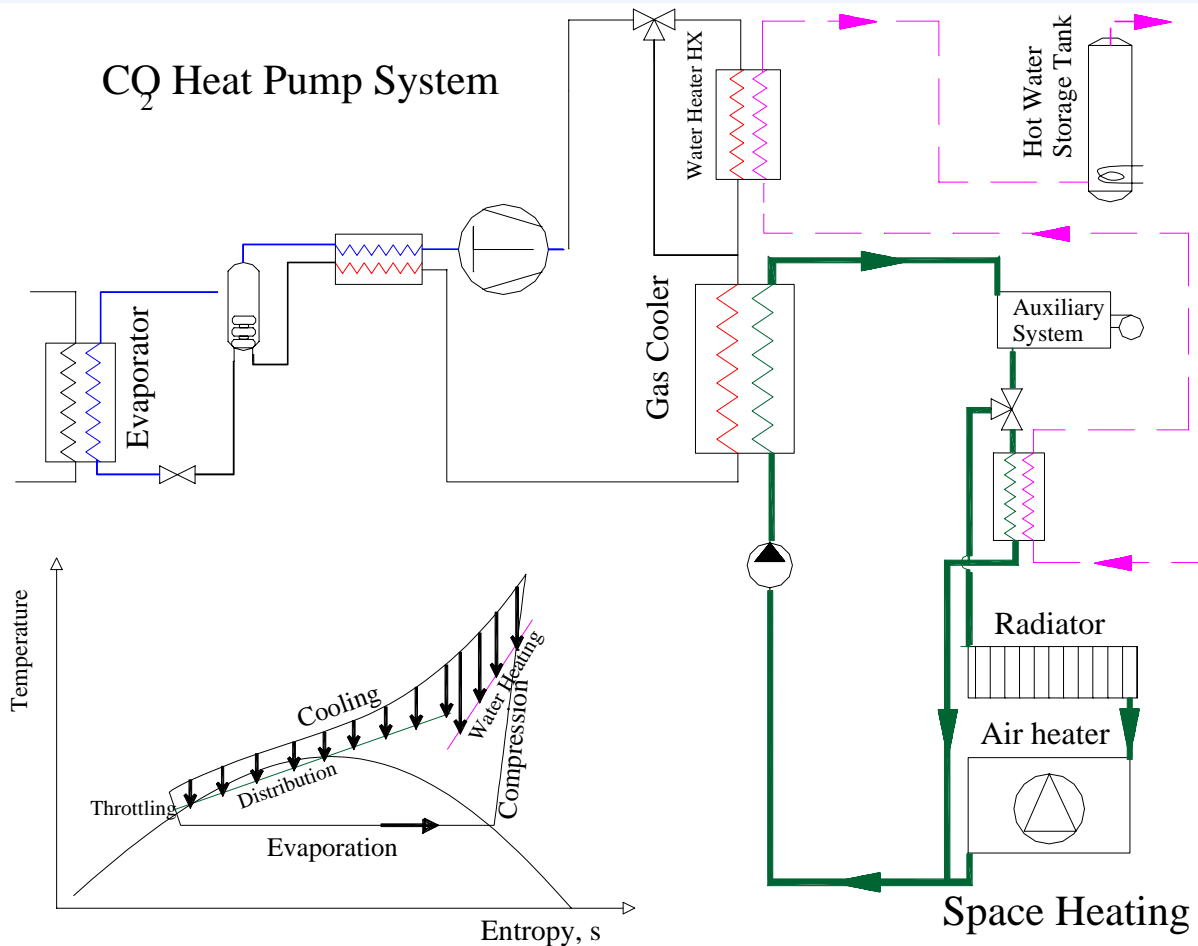


# Development of reversible air-air heat pumps

Heat pump mode competitive  
Cooling mode currently less efficient,  
inefficient hx's in reversed mode  
operation



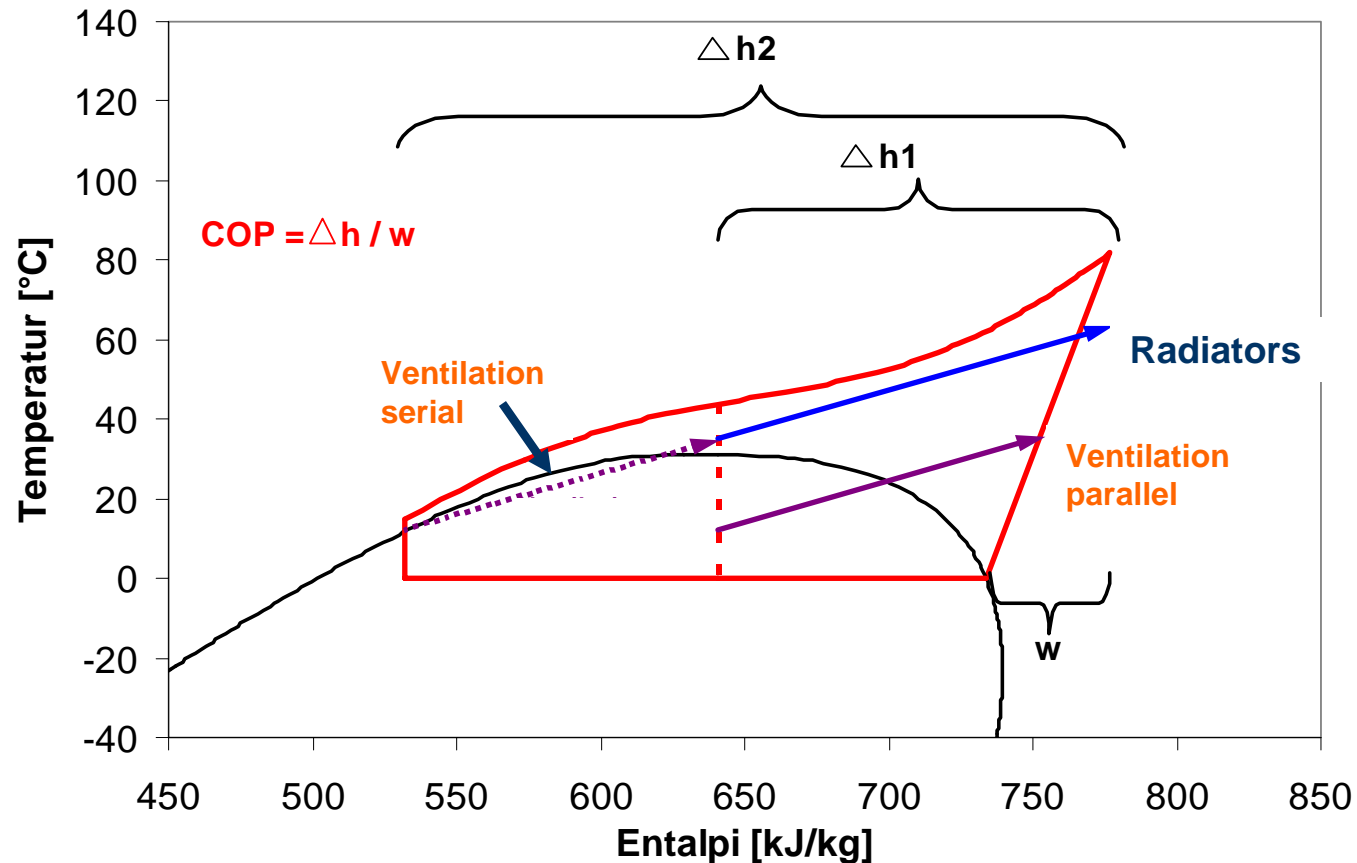
# Space heating in commercial buildings



- Simulation show better SPF if air-heating represents more than 30% of the heating demand (rest hydronic)
- In Norway typically 50% of the heating demand is for air-heating



## CO<sub>2</sub>-heat pumps for commercial buildings Serial- vs parallel connection of heat loads



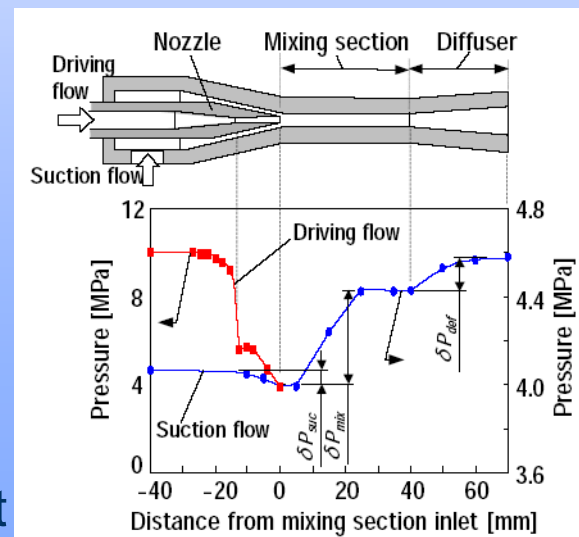
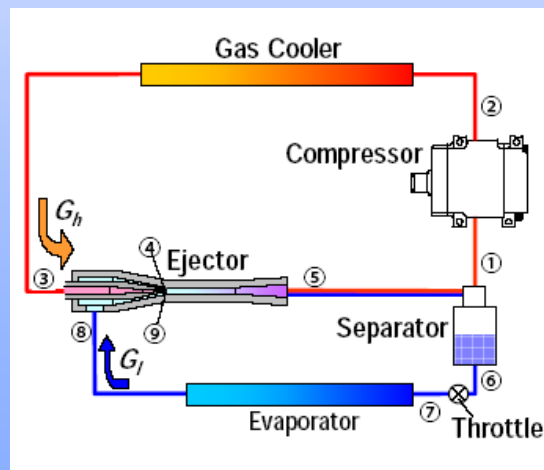


**The design of the total system  
should be adapted to the  
refrigerant**



# Improvements

- Cycle improvements can be implemented more or less easy and reduce losses differently depending on the refrigerant
  - Multistage compression
  - Liquid subcooling
  - Suction gas heat exchange
  - Expander
  - Ejector
- Optimisation is very much driven by economy, not only a technical fact



From Denso ejector development



# Closing conclusions

- The revival of CO<sub>2</sub> as a refrigerant started in Europe more than 15 years ago, and there has been a strong development of new technology worldwide using this refrigerant in several application areas since then.
- Developments which initially were driven primarily by environmental concerns have often resulted in disclosing additional advantages by using CO<sub>2</sub>, such as higher COP, higher cooling and heating capacity, better comfort, and added possibilities of heat recovery.
- Cost- and energy efficient systems have been developed and commercialised for some applications and more seems to come in the near future.
- With increasing focus on climate gas emission reductions, strict regulations on the use of HFC chemicals may be expected, possibly followed by phase-out targets and dates as announced by some European countries. These trends will clearly drive the interest in the direction of natural refrigerants in general and CO<sub>2</sub> in particular.





# European seminar: carbon dioxide as refrigerant Milan, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2004



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STUDI DI MILANO

COP

R-744

R-134a

Thank you very  
much!

Condenser/gas cooler air inlet temperature

