

# Salinas Valley Ammonia Safety Day

May 19, 2010

Salinas, CA

# **Basic Refrigeration Systems**

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# What is the Big Picture for Today's Safety Seminar?

- To do our “jobs” better.
- To get better at what we do and how we do it.
- To provide a means for all of us to gain more knowledge.

# What is the Big Picture for Today's Safety Seminar?

- Because through knowledge:

You, your Co-Workers, your Employees,  
your Plants, and Our Industry becomes  
safer.



# HAND TOOLS

- What is the significance of this picture?
- Who is using the tools?

This is a reminder.

**FACT:** The overwhelming majority of accidents and releases are caused by operators and technicians who are working on the system.



In other words:

WE have met the Enemy

...and They are US!

# Examples of How and When Operators may cause Accidents.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

# Examples of How and When Operators may cause Accidents.

- Starting up a System.
- Lowering the System suction pressure too rapidly!
- Shutting down a System.
- Disconnecting a System.
- Simply closing or opening a single valve
- Adding ammonia to the system.

# Examples of How and When Operators may cause Accidents.

- Performing Maintenance, like draining oil, servicing compressors, replacing valves or shaft seals, etc.
- During Pump Outs and Pump Downs.



# Let's Go Learn Something!

Learning is an attitude.

Let's get excited about learning.

Let's get excited about learning so we can eventually teach.

**LET'S GO FOR IT!**

Bring your "A" game.

Let's Get It On!

It's All About The HEAT



# Terminology

Heat transfer

Liquid and vapor

High Side

Low Side

King Valve

HPR-High Pressure Receiver

HPL-High Pressure Liquid

Compressor

Condenser

Evaporator

Expansion Valve

Suction

Discharge

Delta P

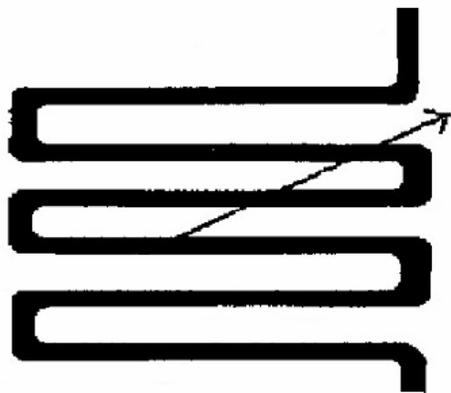
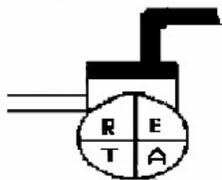
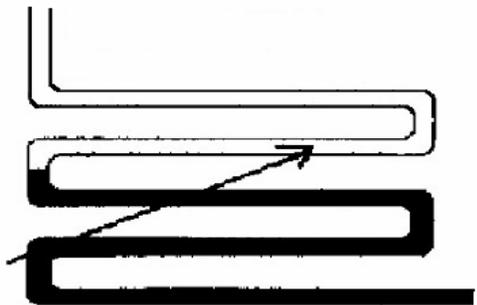
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# Basic System

- ??????????

# Basic System

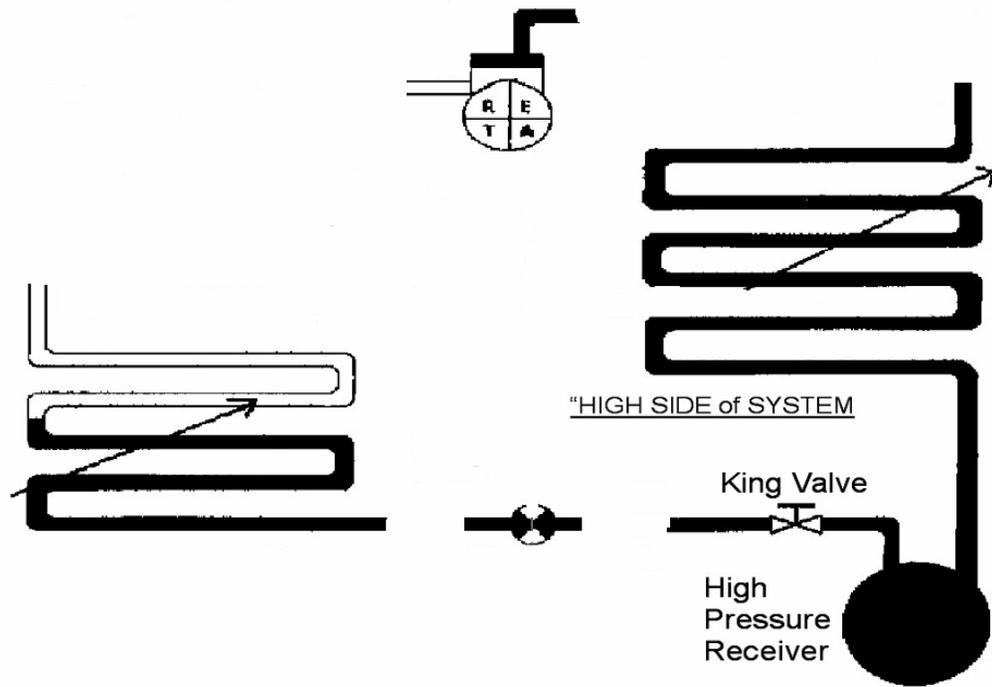
- There are 4 basic components of a mechanical refrigeration system.



# BASIC MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION SYTEM COMPONENTS

Page 1 of 5

Refrigeration may be defined as the process by which HEAT is removed from a place (or an object) where it is not wanted, and then transferred to an area where it does no harm (usually the atmosphere).



# Emergency Responders

- What do they want to know.

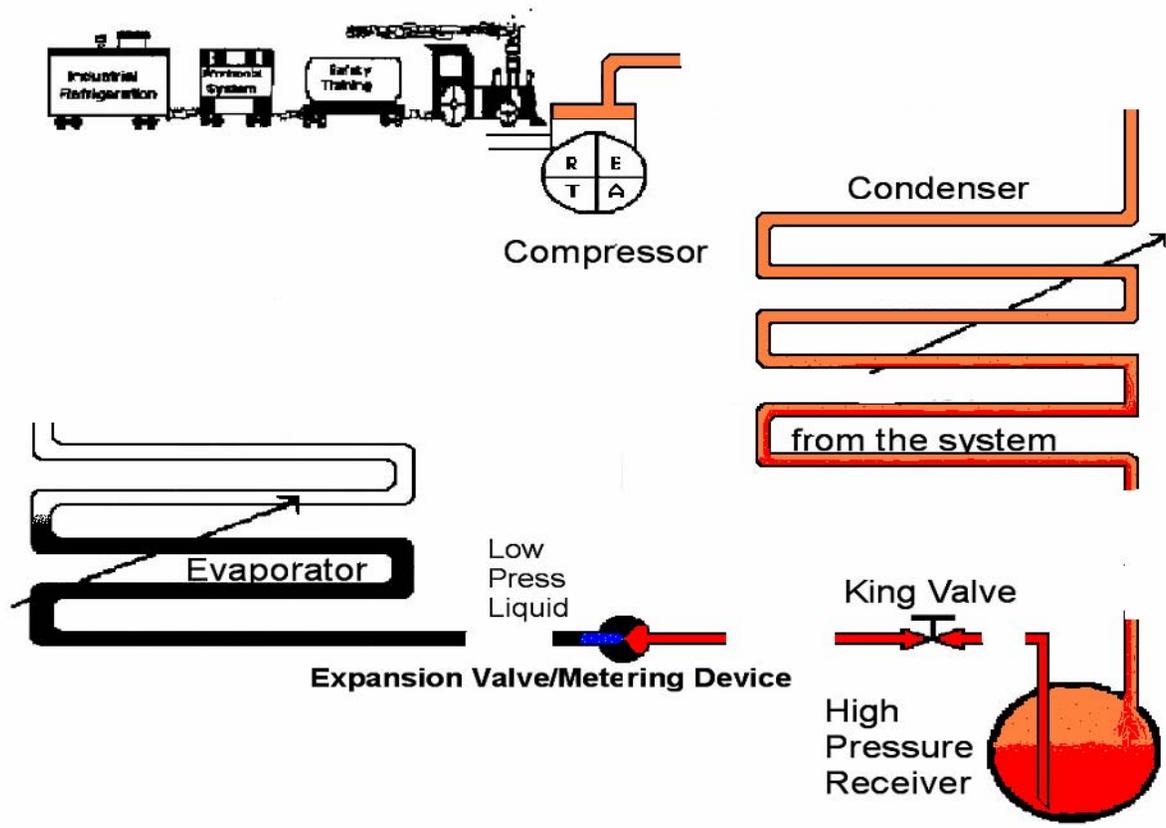
# Emergency Responders

- What do they want to know?
- HPR and King Valve.
- What else do they want to know when they show up for an emergency?
- ????????

# HEAT

- Let's talk about the purpose of the System

Which is Transferring heat



# BASIC MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION SYTEM COMPONENTS

Page 2 of 5

- Basic HEAT law #1 –
- HEAT energy **ALWAYS** flows from a high temperature to a lower temperature.
- In other words, HEAT **ALWAYS** flows from “hot” to “cold”.

# BASIC MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION SYTEM COMPONENTS

Page 3 of 5

- Mechanical refrigeration is simply the process of a liquid changing state to a vapor and back again. This happens when enough heat energy enters a liquid to cause that liquid to evaporate (or boil) into a vapor. Remember, this liquid had to be the coldest substance in the area for the HEAT energy to flow into it. This is what happens in the EVAPORATOR.

# BASIC MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION SYTEM COMPONENTS

Page 4 of 5

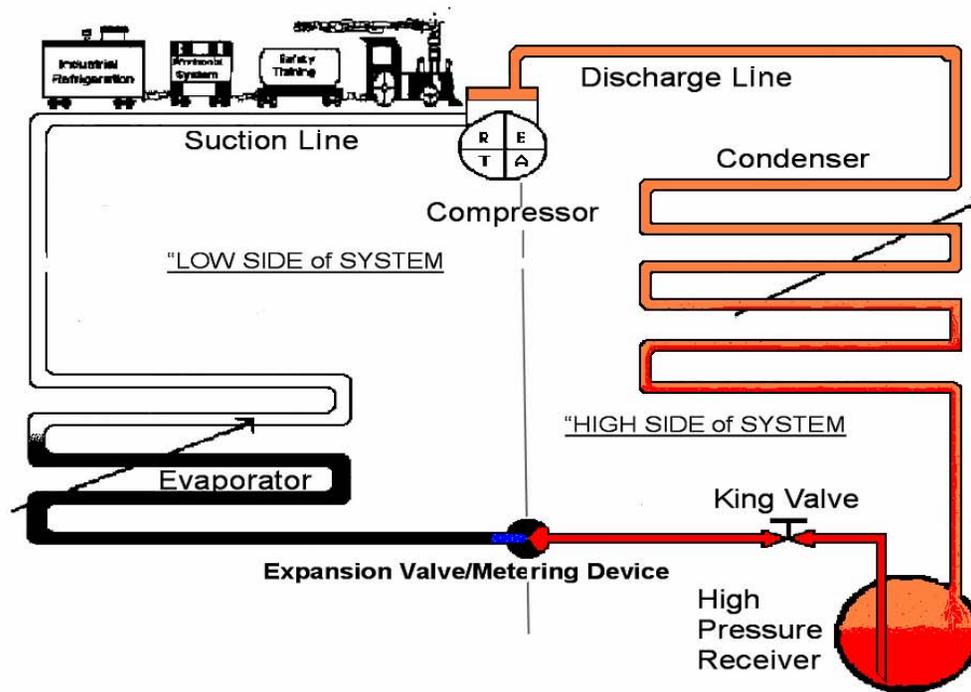
- This same vapor then travels through the compressor and enters the “high pressure side” of the system. At this point, when the high pressure – high temperature vapor loses enough heat energy to cooler surroundings, it will condense back into a liquid. This is what happens in the **CONDENSER**.

# BASIC MECHANICAL REFRIGERATION SYSTEM COMPONENTS

Page 5 of 5

- Now, the cycle can be repeated if this high pressure liquid can be properly throttled to the lower pressure (or suction pressure) side of the system again.
- This is what happens at the **METERING DEVICE**, which can also be called an **EXPANSION VALVE**.









Fan panel open for inspection and cleaning





11-17-2008



API 6L/ASTM A106/ASME B36.10 1-1/4" #0.140" #20 302777 MM-175614

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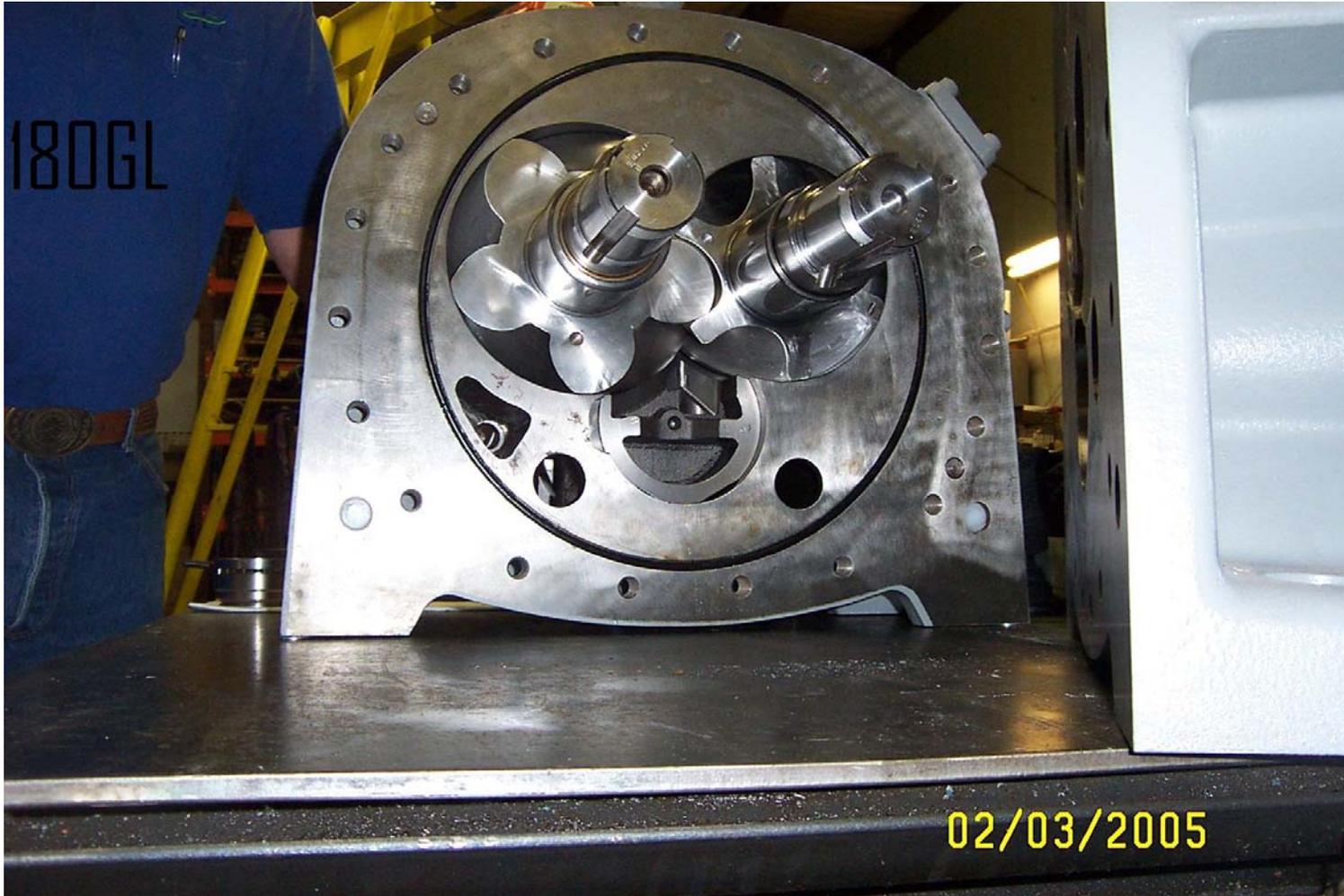
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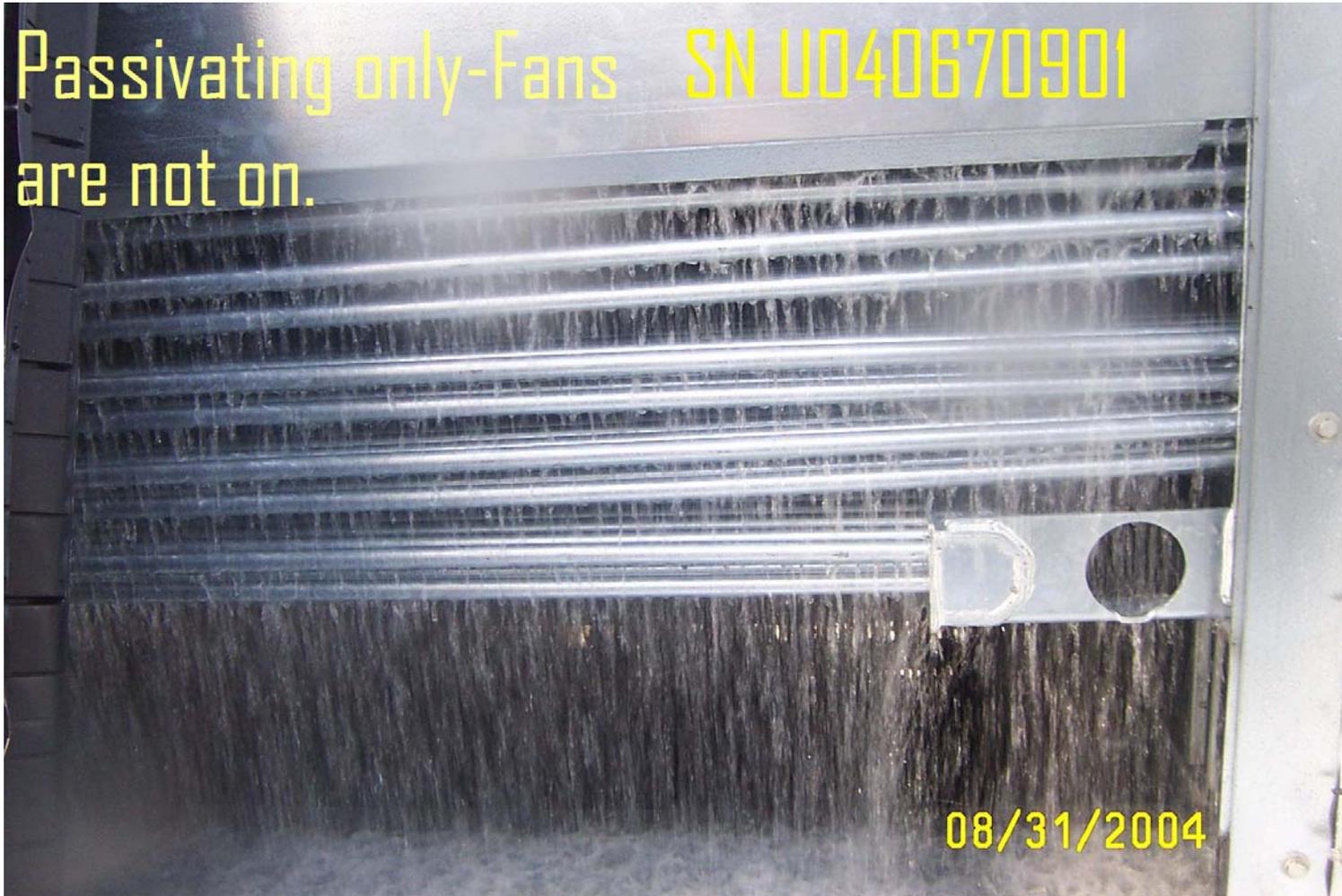
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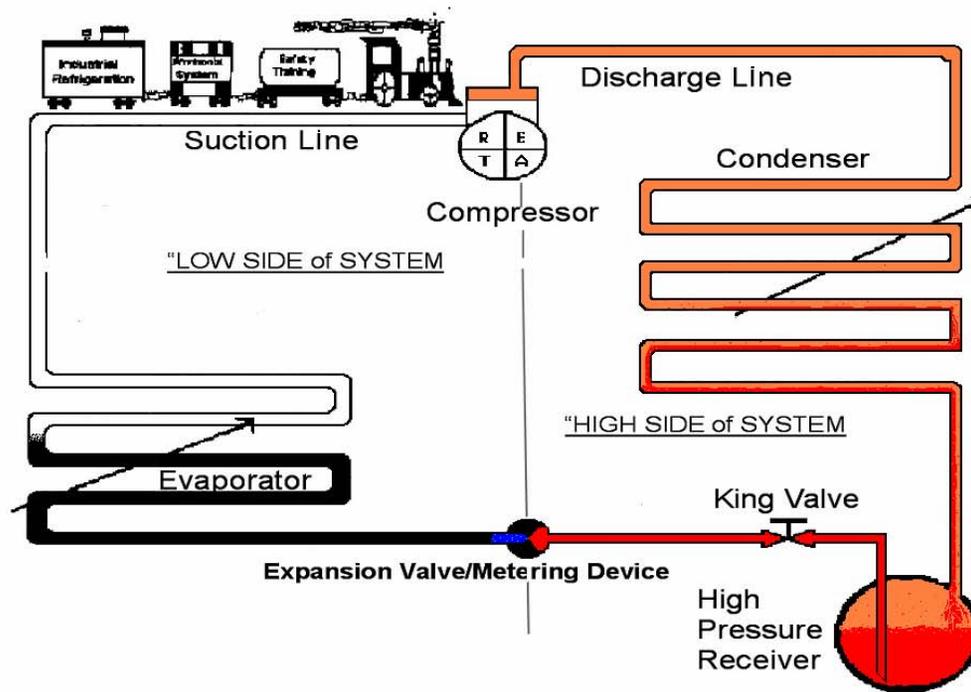
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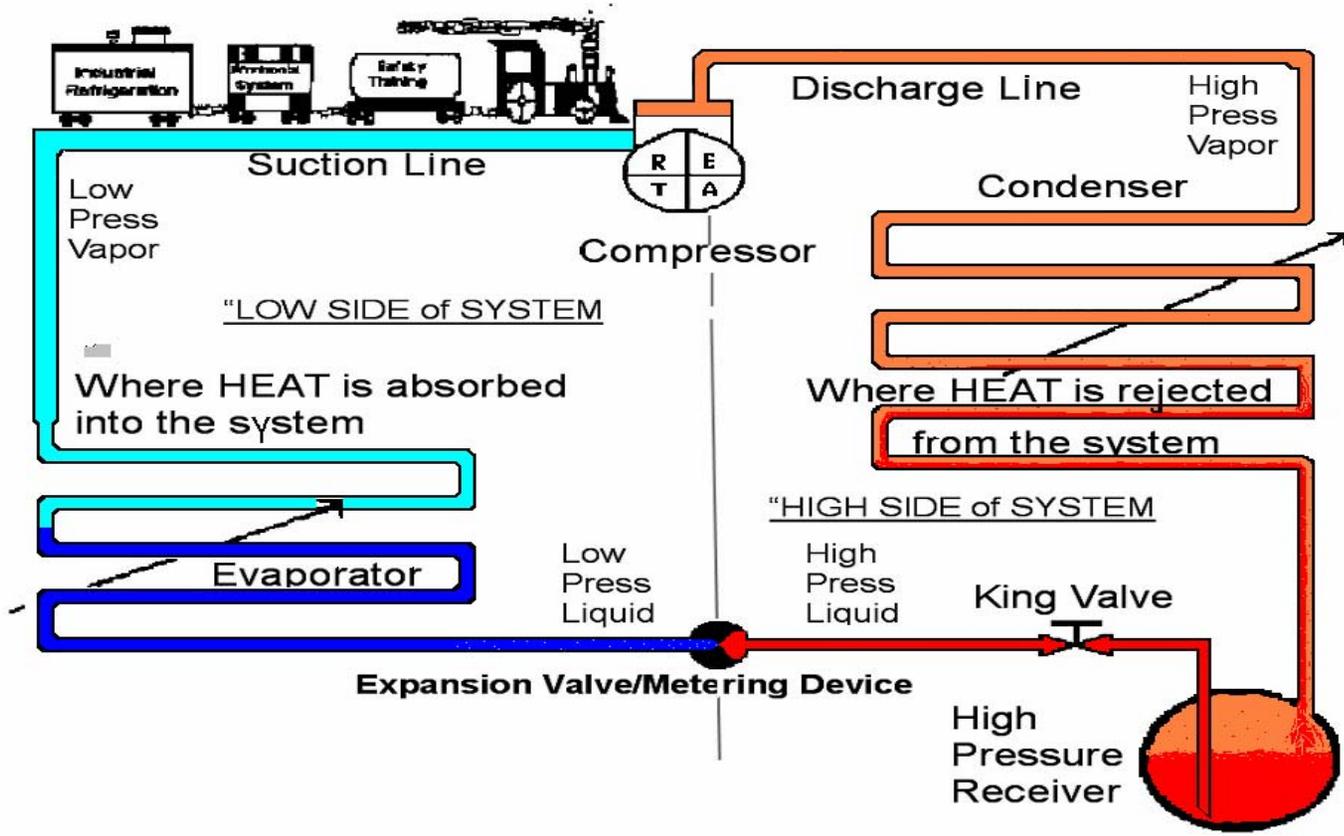
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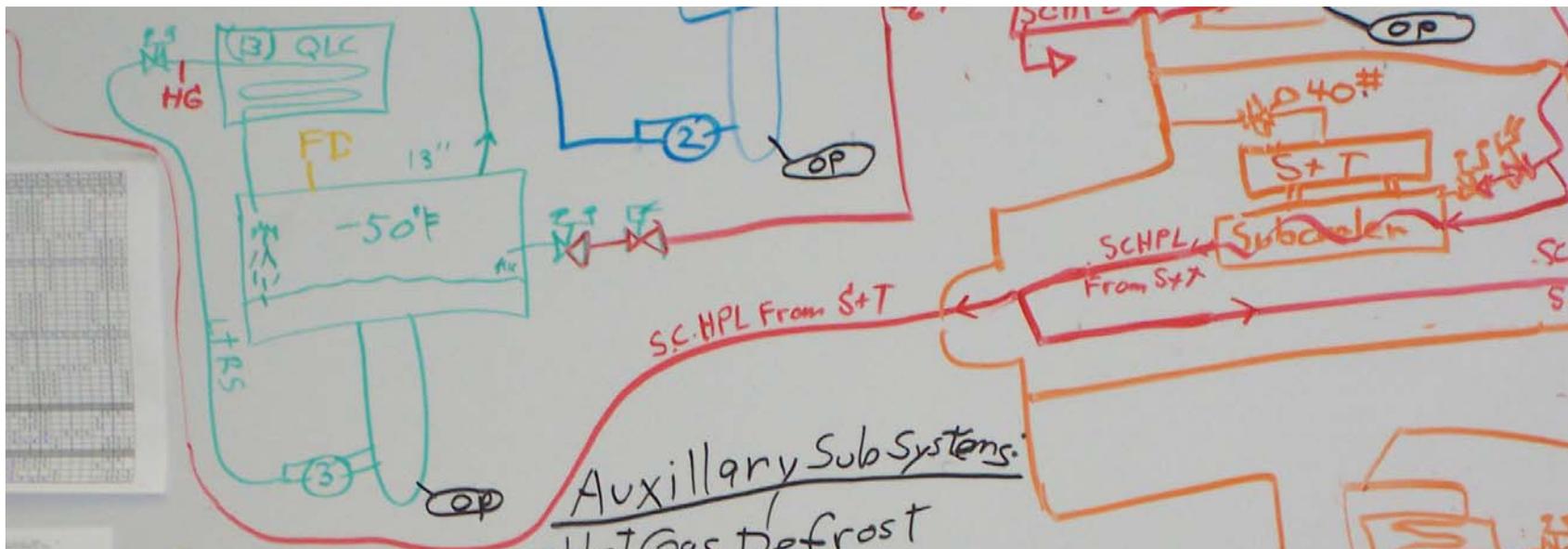
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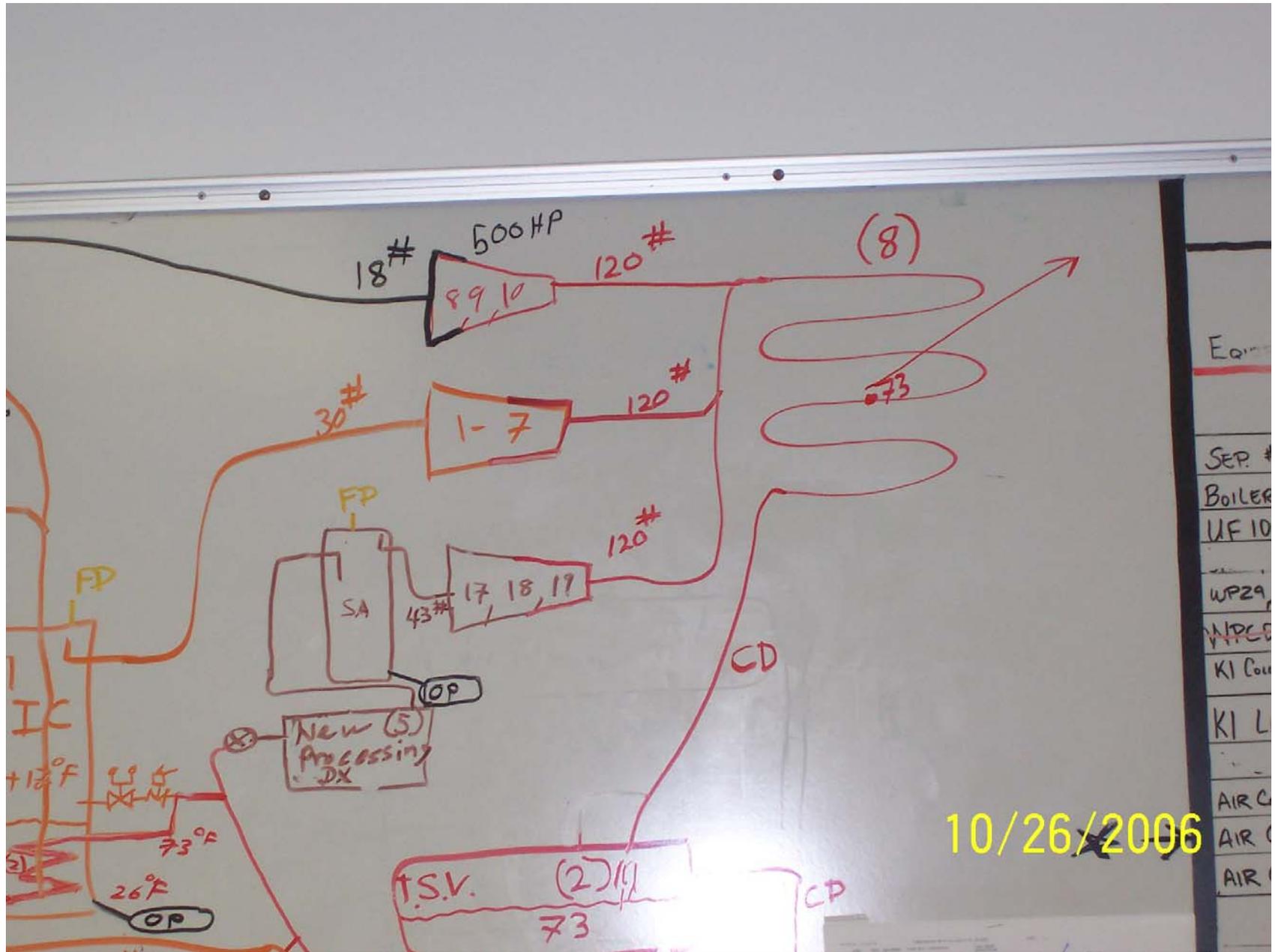




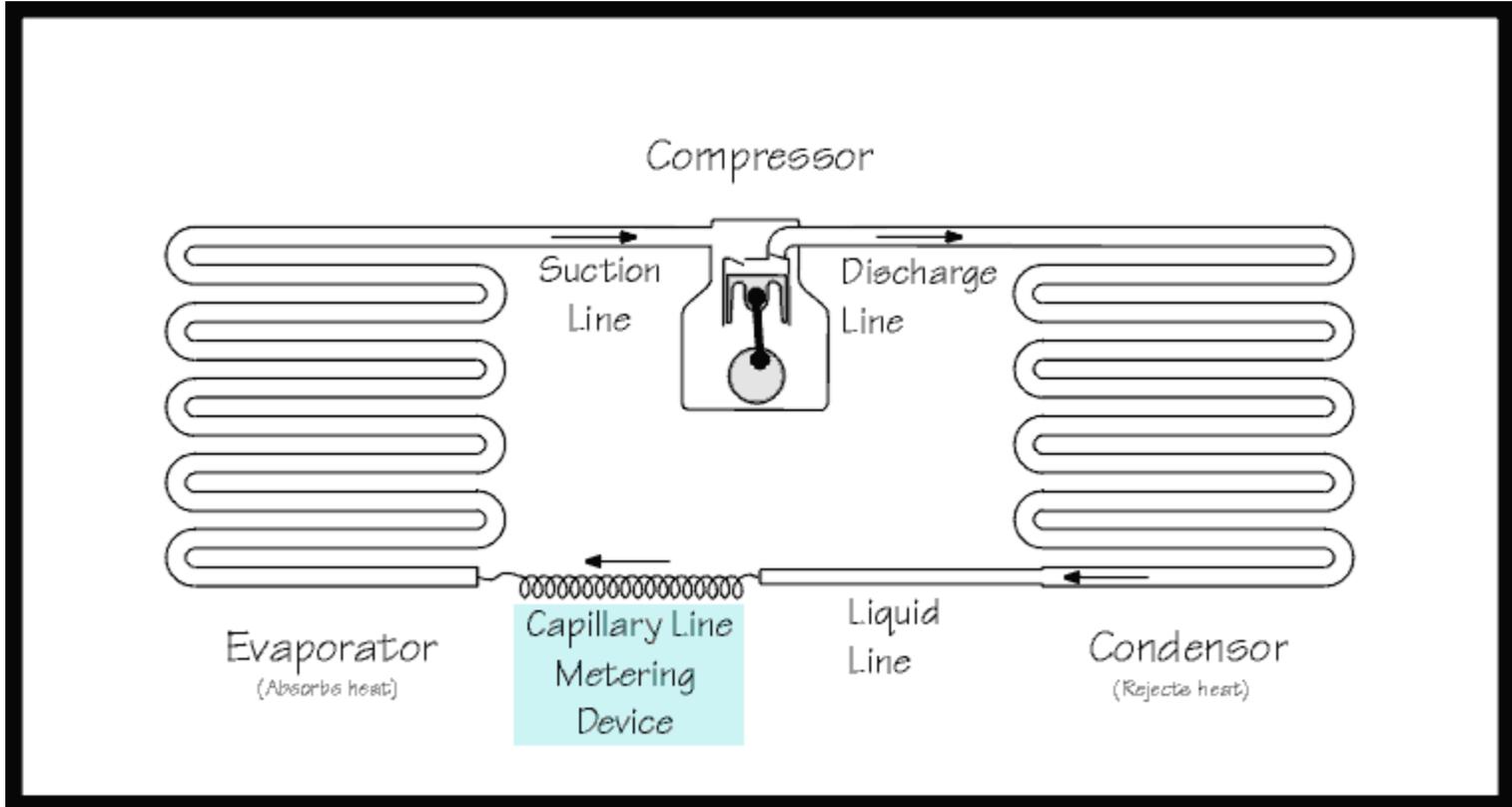
Auxillary Sub Systems:

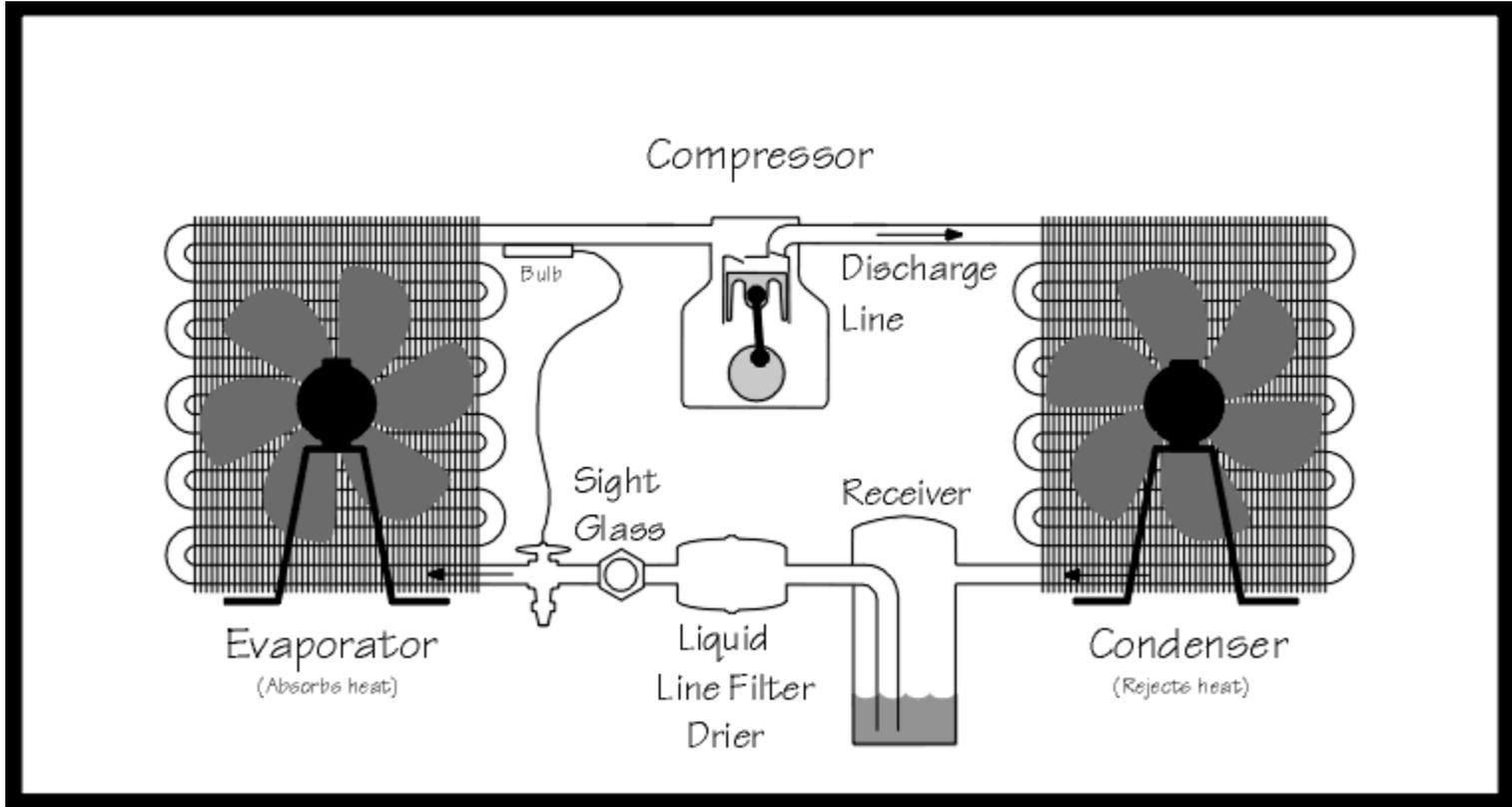
- Purgers
- 
- Hot Gas Defrost
- Liquid transfer
- Brine CIP Pumpdown
- (OP) - Oil Pots (13)
  - Pump Down Comp.
  - Thermosyphon Oil Coolers
  - Ammonia Charging System
  - Safety Relief Valve System Vents
- D - Emergency Fire Diffusion (Atmosphere Manual Overf)

10/26/2006



10/26/2006





# Challenge to all Operators-Old and New

(Short list of things you need to be  
able to know and do. Courtesy of  
Russ Ramos)

#1: You need to have the attitude that  
**Learning Is Fun.**

**#2: You should be able to draw a sketch of your HPR and accurately locate and describe all the piping connections, especially the HPL line and the King Valve.**

**#3: You should be able to draw your entire system** (in a block flow diagram format) and represent every compressor, condenser, metering device, and evaporator, along with all vessels and pressure regulators if present. You should be able to draw and explain this system to all of the top management and engineers in your organization, with no notes, explaining all the pressures and temperatures, the condition and relative speed of flow of the refrigerant in every component.

#4: You should know “**how close to perfect**” you can operate your system in regards to head pressure and non-condensables. In other words how close can you get your actual system head pressure to the pressure that corresponds to your actual system condensing temperature. Within 6 psig, 5? 3? 2 psig?

#5. You must be able to explain to me why the evaporative condenser is the most important component in the system. (Hint: How maintaining it properly can pay for your salary; or how not maintaining it can cost your company big bucks).

**#6: You must be able to explain all these things in great detail.** (My philosophy is this...if you can't explain it, then you don't know it well enough yet. Keep practicing until you can).

When you accomplish  
these things  
grasshopper, then  
you will be in a very  
elite group of  
operators.

