

Energy & Store  
Development  
Conference

E+SD<sup>2011</sup>

# Refrigeration 201

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Husmann

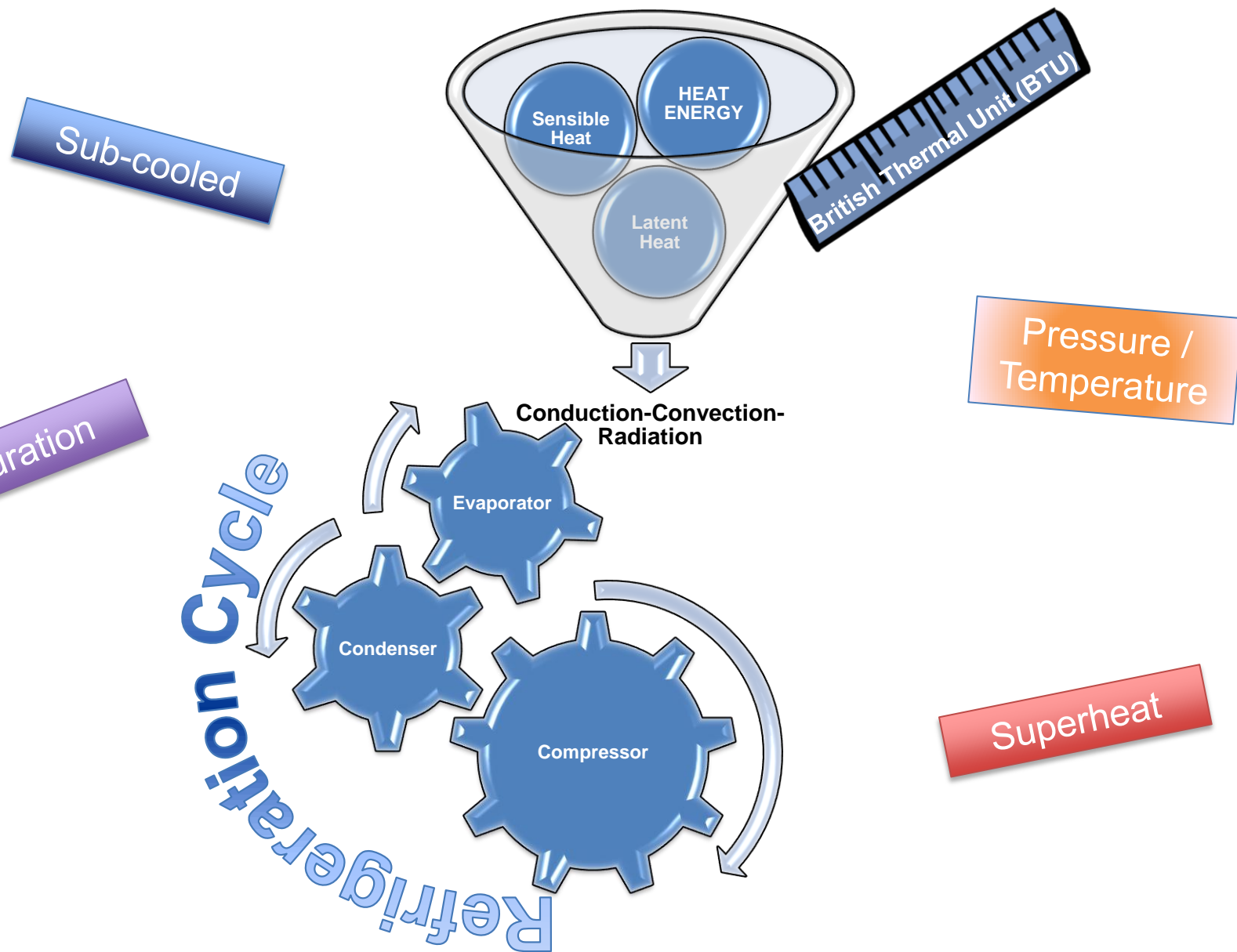
September 2011

# Key Learning's

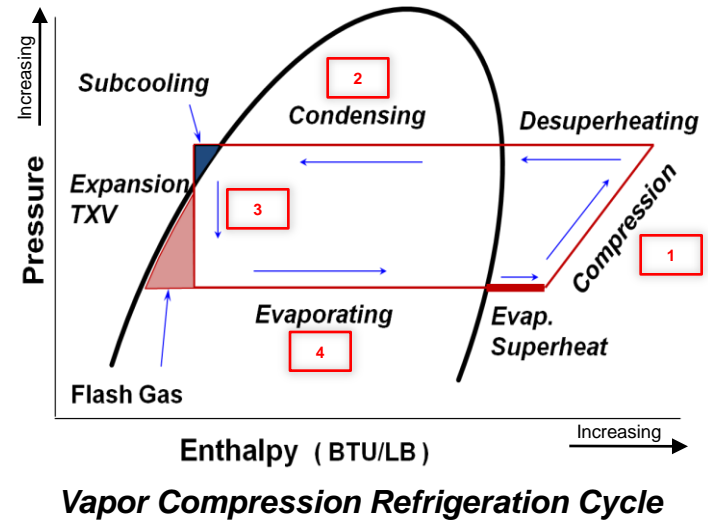
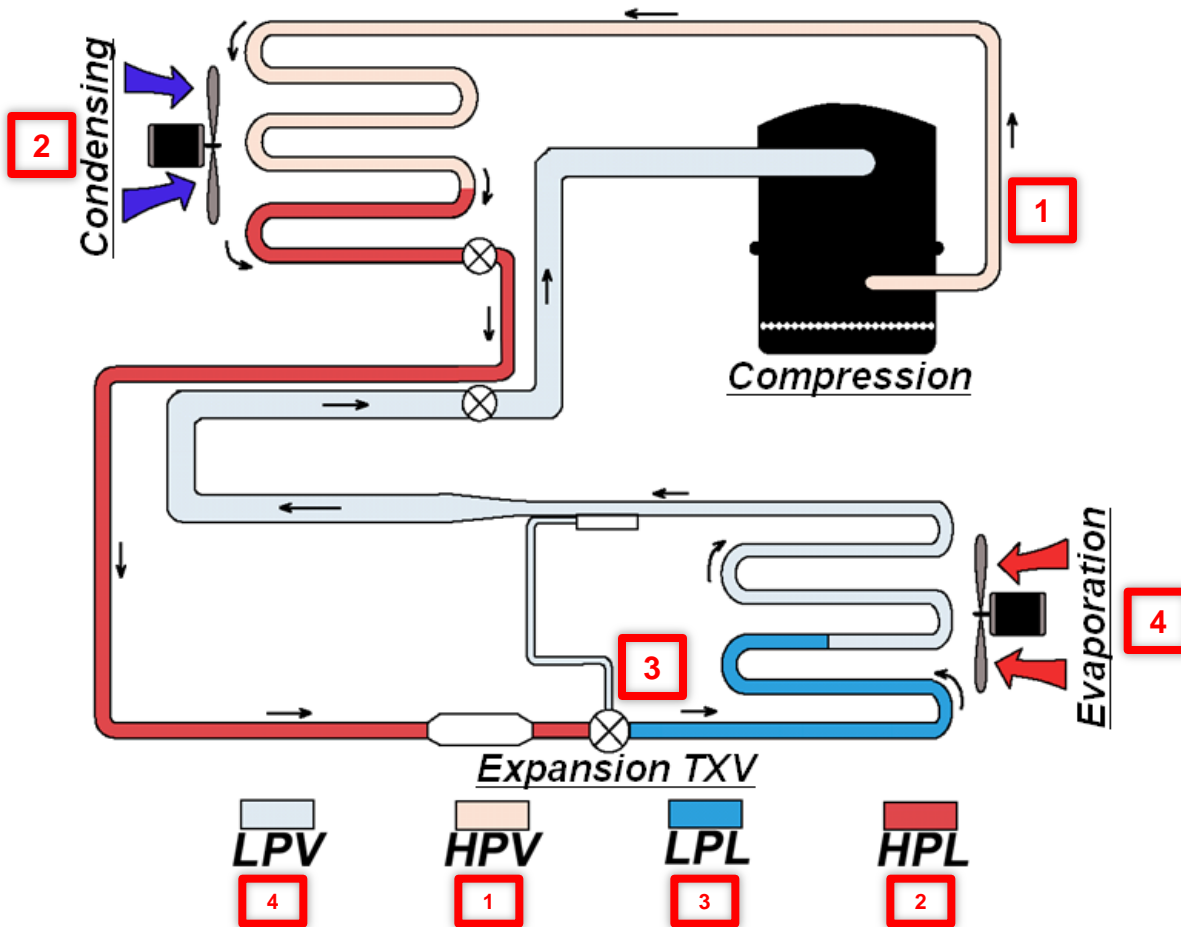
- Review of Refrigeration 101
- Basic understanding of more complex components of a refrigeration system
- Overview of more complex mechanical refrigeration systems
- Interaction of the mechanical system with the building
- Equipment planning and location



# REFRIGERATION 101 REVIEW



### Refrigeration Cycle

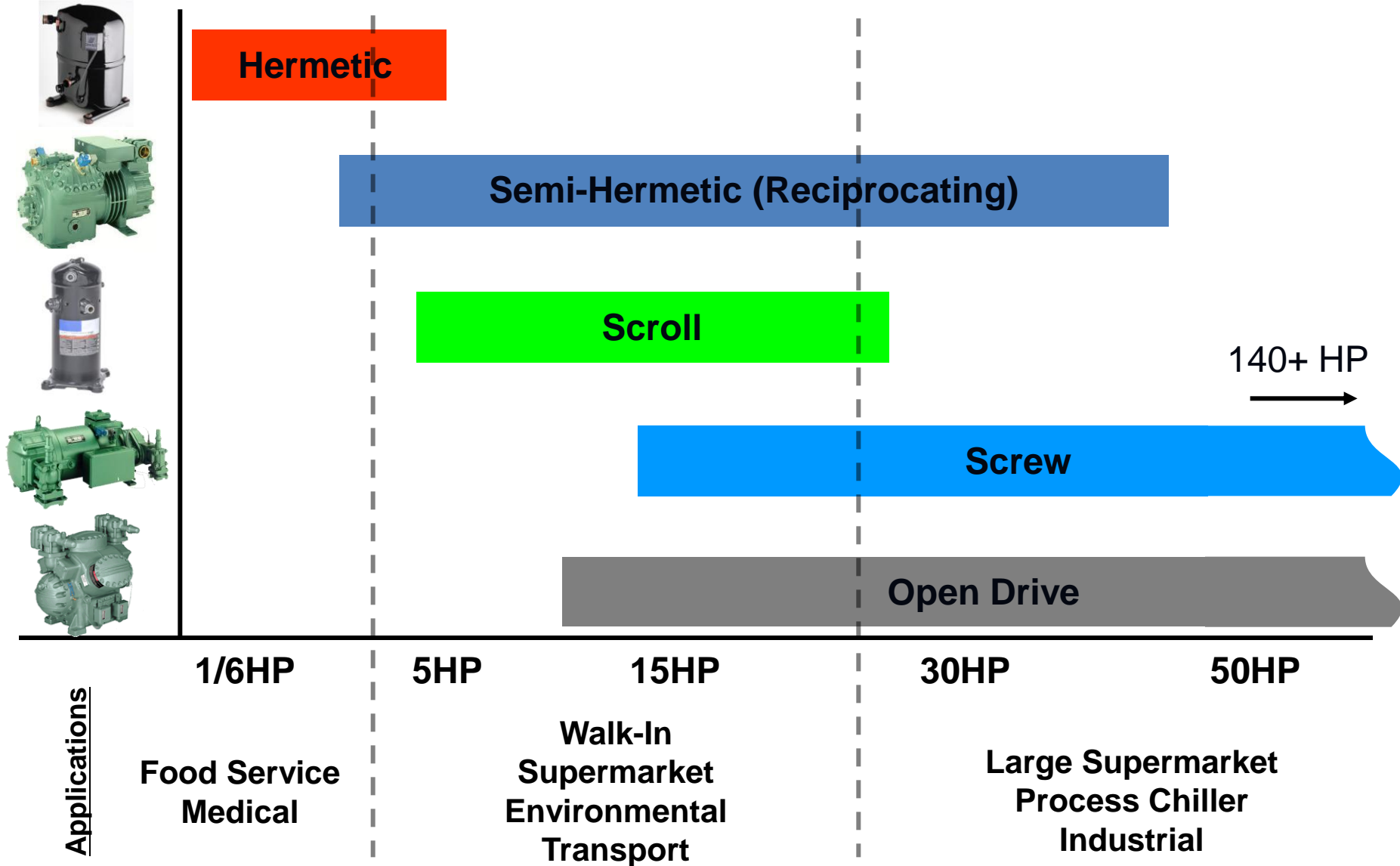


*Enthalpy* – measure of the heat energy of a substance.

LPV - Low Pressure Vapor    LPL - Low Pressure Liquid  
 HPV - High Pressure Vapor    HPL - High Pressure Liquid



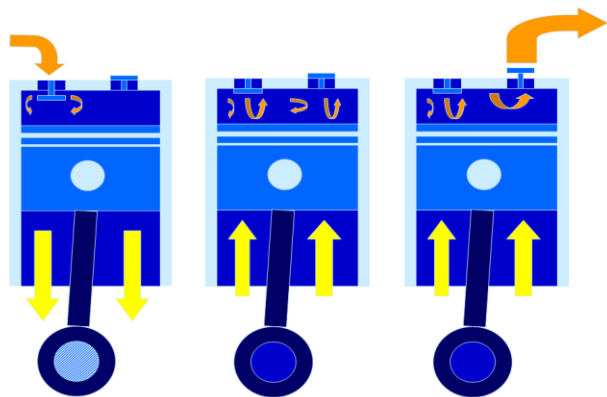
# **SYSTEM MAJOR COMPONENTS OVERVIEW**



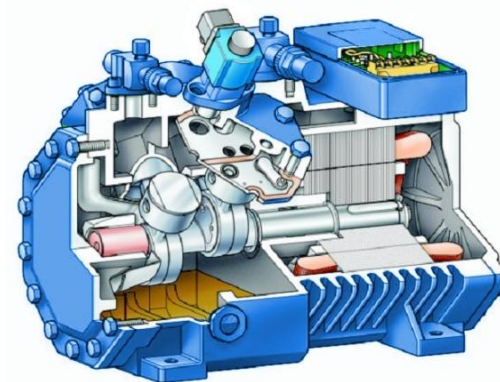
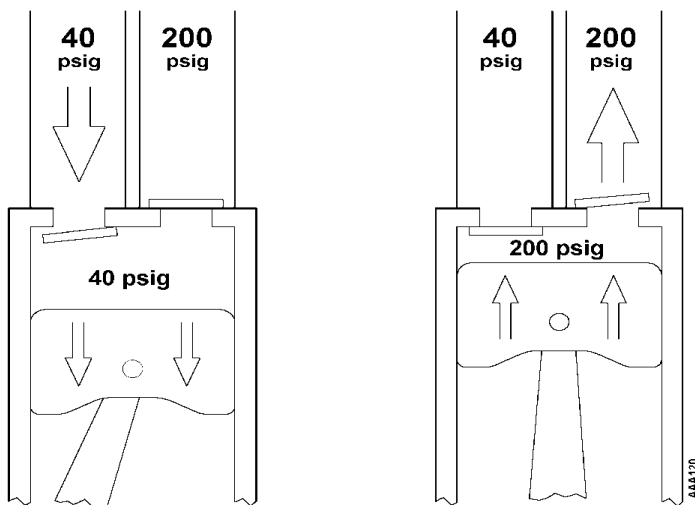
Select the proper compressor for the appropriate application



### Reciprocating Compressor

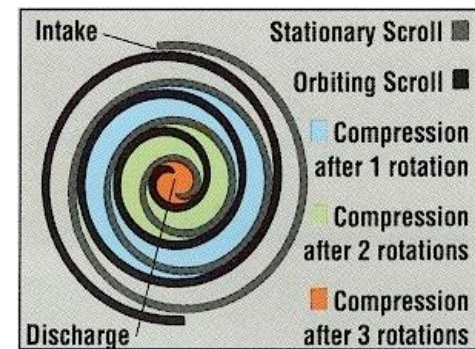


#### MEDIUM TEMP PRESSURES



- **Moving pistons** compress refrigerant gas within cylinders.
- On the downstroke, the suction inlet valve is open as low pressure gas refrigerant is drawn into the cylinder.
- When the piston begins its upstroke, the suction inlet valve is closed and pressure increases.
- High pressure gas exits through the discharge port .

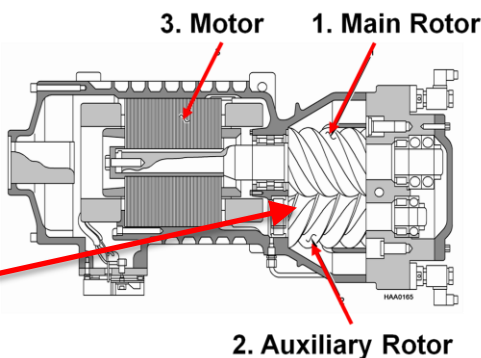
# Scroll Compressor



- Rotation is critical on scroll compressors.
- An **orbiting scroll** moves in a circular motion within a second, fixed scroll.
- The gas entering the low pressure inlet is pressurized into continuously smaller areas until it exits through the discharge line.



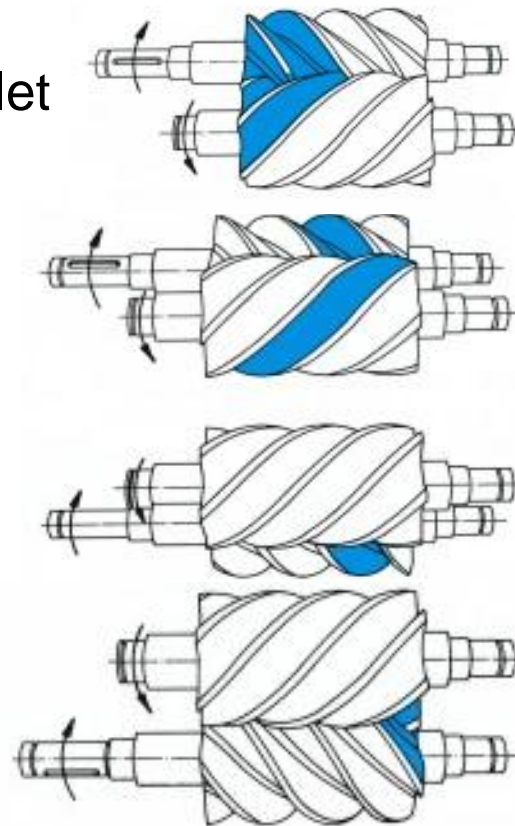
### Screw Compressor



**Intake:** the vapor passes through the inlet and into the void which is wide open at the suction end.

**Compression:** as the rotors contra-rotate, the inlet void closes, the volume is reduced and the pressure increases.

**Discharge:** compression is completed, final pressure achieved and the vapor is discharged.





## Round Tube Plate Fin (RTPF) Air Cooled Condenser

- Coil comprised of:
  - copper tubes to transport refrigerant
  - aluminum fins to increase heat transfer capability
- Fans pull **ambient air** across coil section
- Heat is rejected to atmosphere
- Refrigerant changes from superheated vapor to sub-cooled liquid



## MicroChannel Air Cooled Condenser

- Same operation as RTPF air cooled condenser
- Coil comprised of:
  - flattened aluminum tube with narrow channels
  - aluminum fins in between
- Reduced refrigerant charge
- Smaller size with less weight



## Evaporative Cooled Condenser

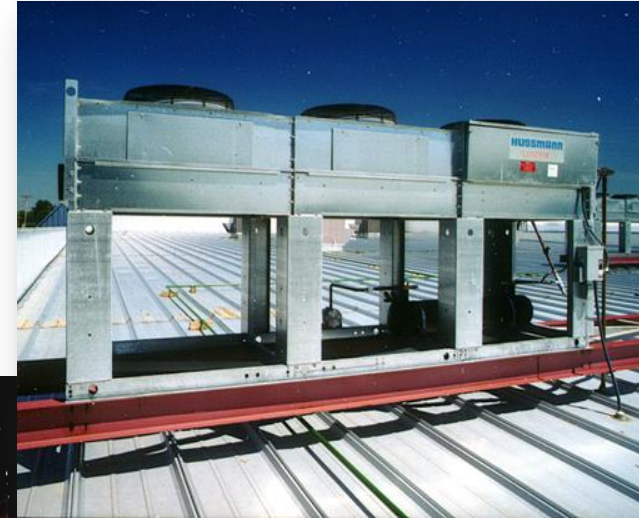
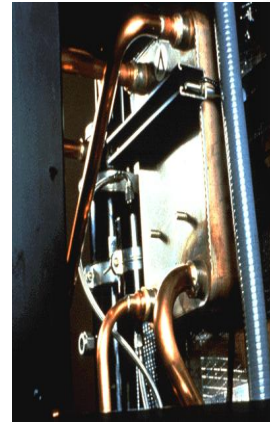
- Copper tubes transport refrigerant through coil slab
- **Ambient air** blown over coils
- **Water** from a sump is sprayed over the coils to increase heat removal
- Allows the condensing temperature to approach the wet bulb (WB) temperature of the ambient air versus the dry bulb (DB) temperature, which is normally higher.
- **Increases system efficiency**





### Dry Fluid Cooler / Plate-to-Plate Condenser

- Fan cooled coil assembly
- Draws **ambient air** across coil slab to remove heat from **glycol mixture**
- Glycol mixture used as condenser fluid for refrigeration system
- Refrigeration system uses heat exchanger (plate-to-plate shown) to condense compressor discharge gas
  - Located near compressors



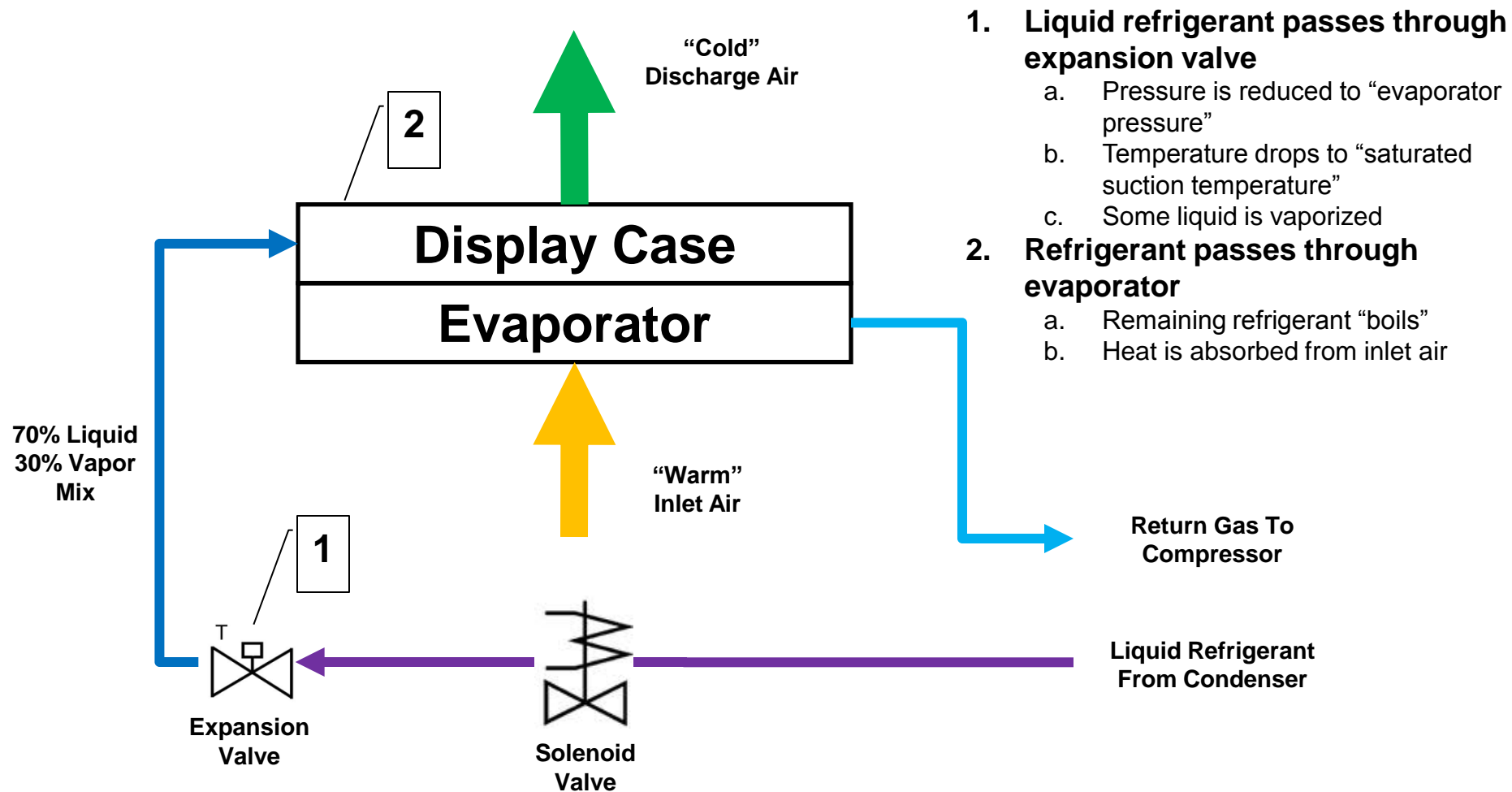
## Hybrid Fluid Cooler / Condenser

- Uses RTPF coil or microchannel coil
- Equipped with **pre-cooling pads** to cool incoming ambient air with **water** that is distributed over the cooling pads
- Air is drawn through the cooling pads and the heat exchangers
- **Increases system efficiency**

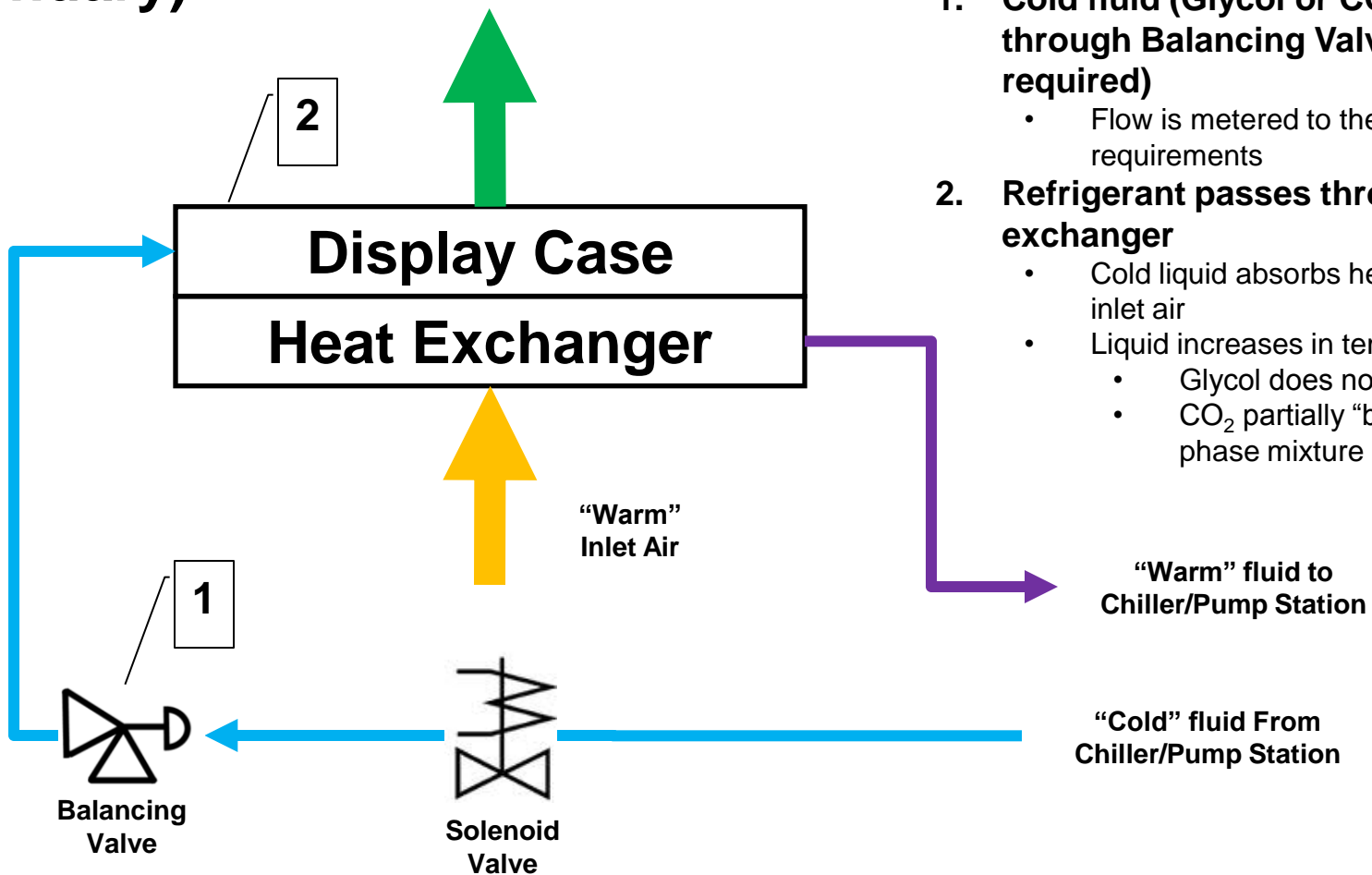




## Display Case Operation (DX)



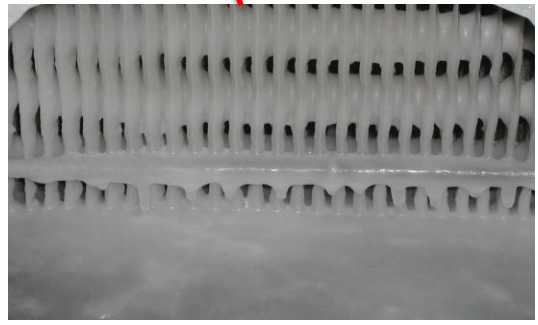
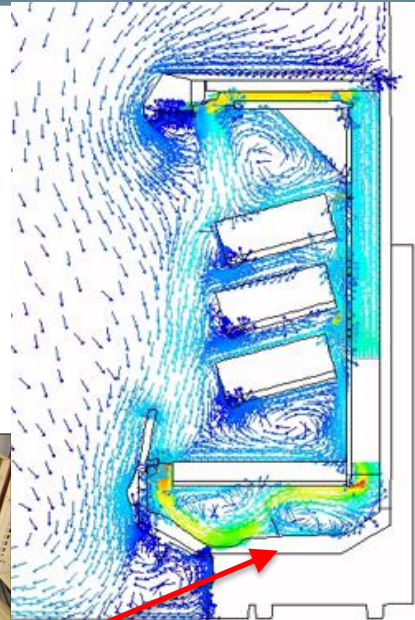
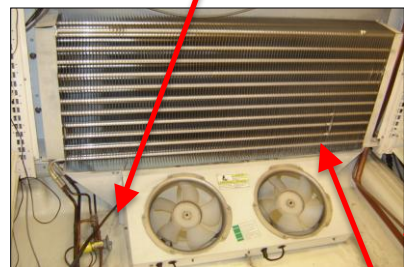
### Display Case Operation (Secondary)



1. **Cold fluid (Glycol or CO<sub>2</sub>) passes through Balancing Valve (when required)**
  - Flow is metered to the case requirements
2. **Refrigerant passes through heat exchanger**
  - Cold liquid absorbs heat from the inlet air
  - Liquid increases in temperature
    - Glycol does not “boil”
    - CO<sub>2</sub> partially “boils” – two phase mixture

### Display Case Equipment

- **Reduces the temperature of the air** passing through it (sensible heat)
- **Removes humidity** (latent heat)
- Low pressure liquid refrigerant is boiled off into low pressure vapor
- Proper airflow through the evaporator coil is critical to its function
- Moisture from ambient air freezes on coil tubes. This frost or ice prevents proper air flow across the coil and air curtain velocities.
- Defrost is the removal of frost or ice from an evaporator coil
  - **Off time** – MT Coils
  - **Electric** – LT / MT Coils
  - **Hot Gas** – LT / MT Coils
  - **Cool Gas** – LT / MT Coils
  - **Warm Fluid** – MT Glycol Coils



### Case Temperature Control



Thermostatic  
Expansion Valve  
(TXV)



Electronic  
Expansion Valve  
(EEV)

- Expansion Valve (EV)
  - Regulates **refrigerant flow**
  - Maintains superheat at the evaporator outlet

- Evaporator Pressure Regulator (EPR)
  - Maintain accurate **display case pressure** and temperature
  - Allows multiple evaporator systems to operate at different temperatures when piped to a common suction group



Mechanical EPR  
w/solenoid

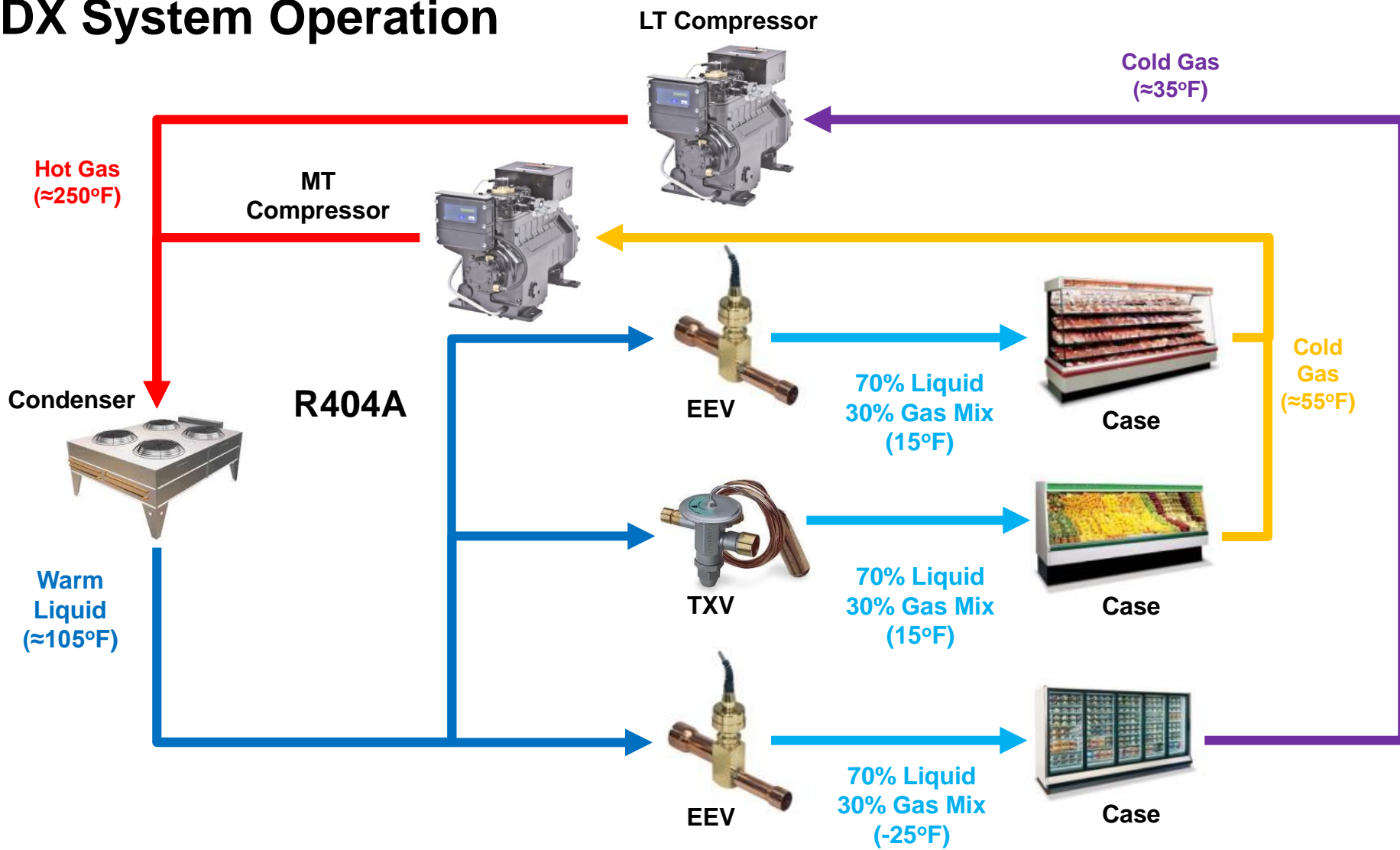


Electronic EPR  
(EEPR)



# SYSTEM TYPES

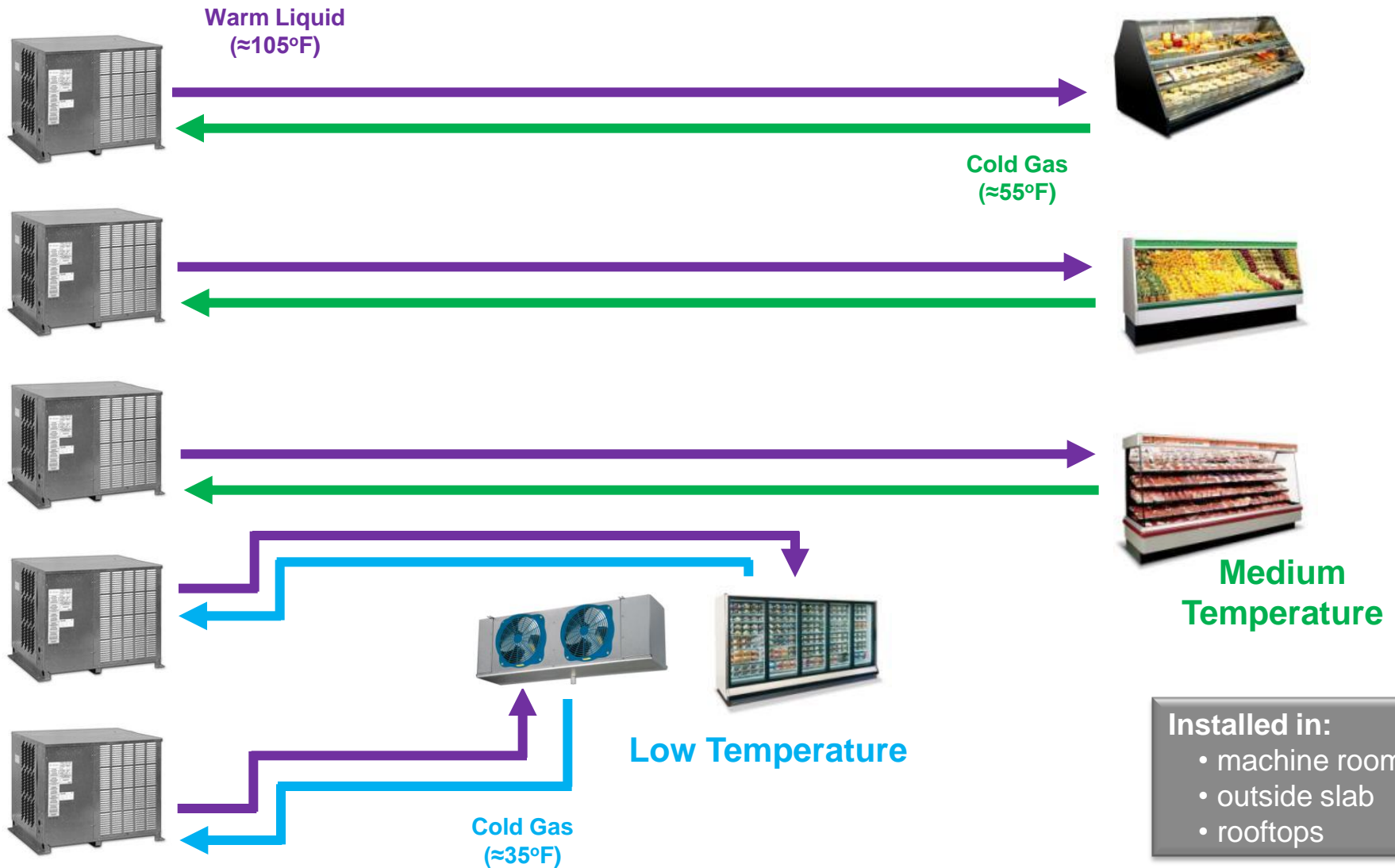
### DX System Operation



DX – Direct Expansion refrigeration system

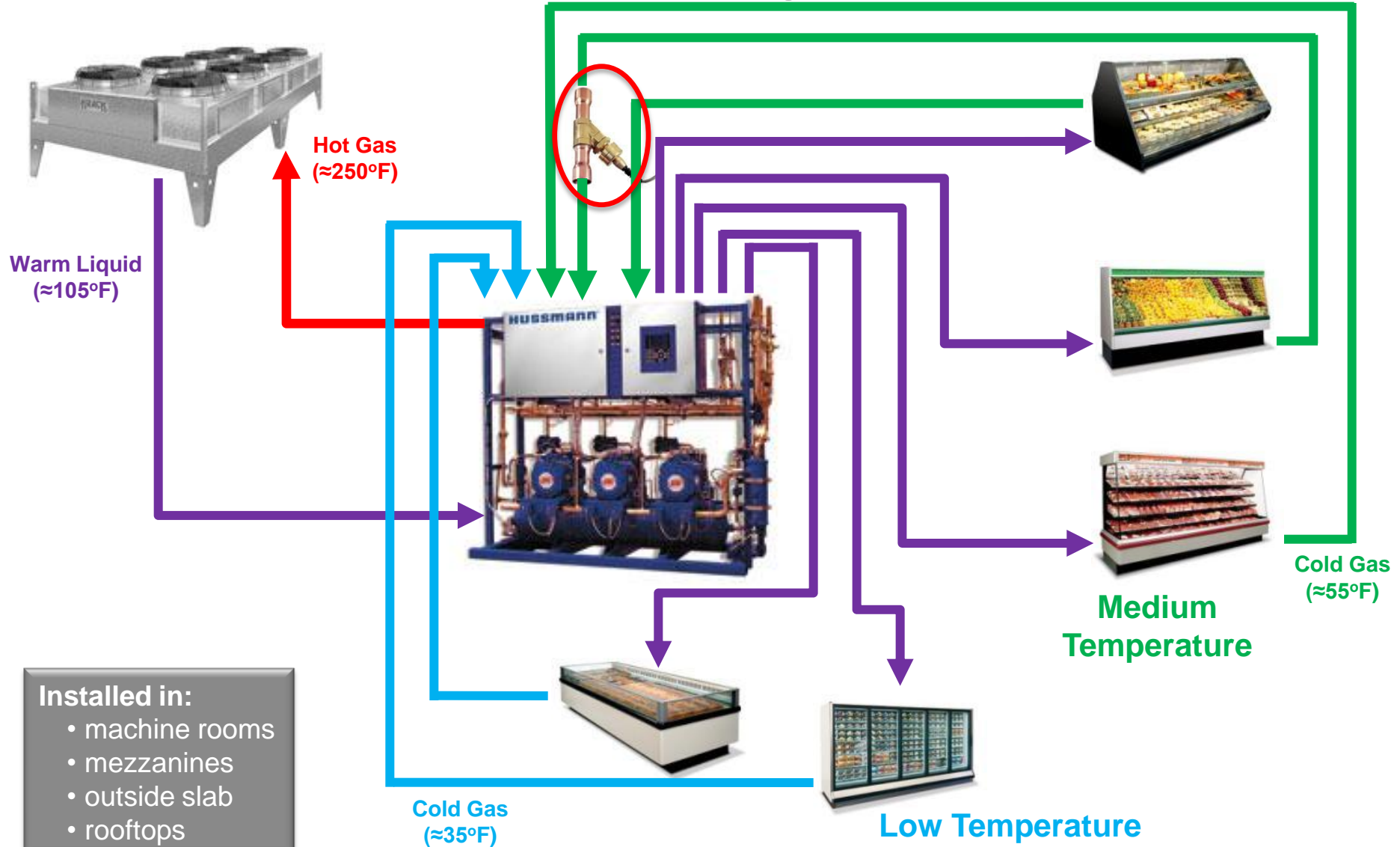


### DX Condensing Unit Equipment



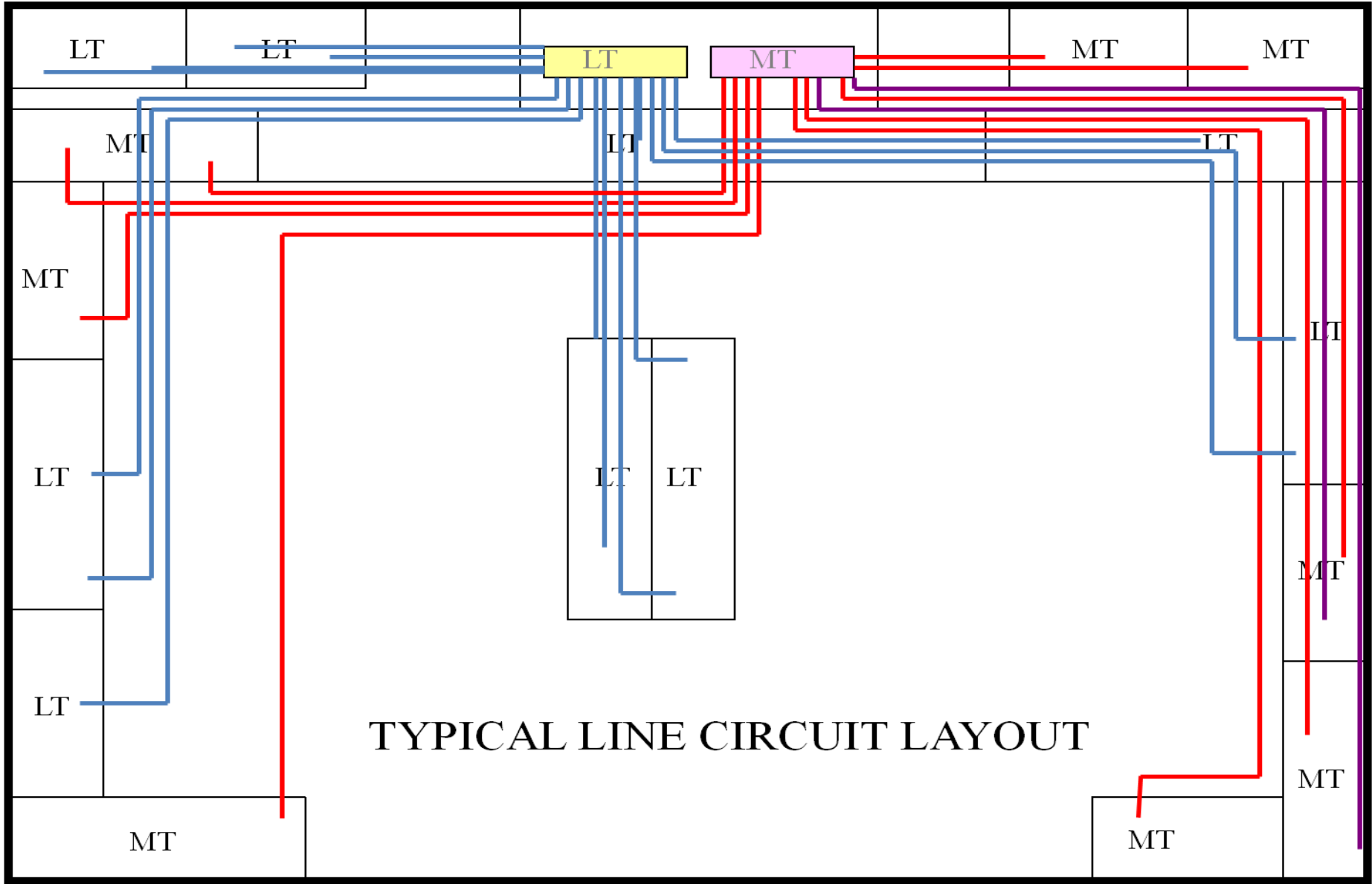


### DX Rack Equipment (Circuit Piping)



- Installed in:**
- machine rooms
  - mezzanines
  - outside slab
  - rooftops

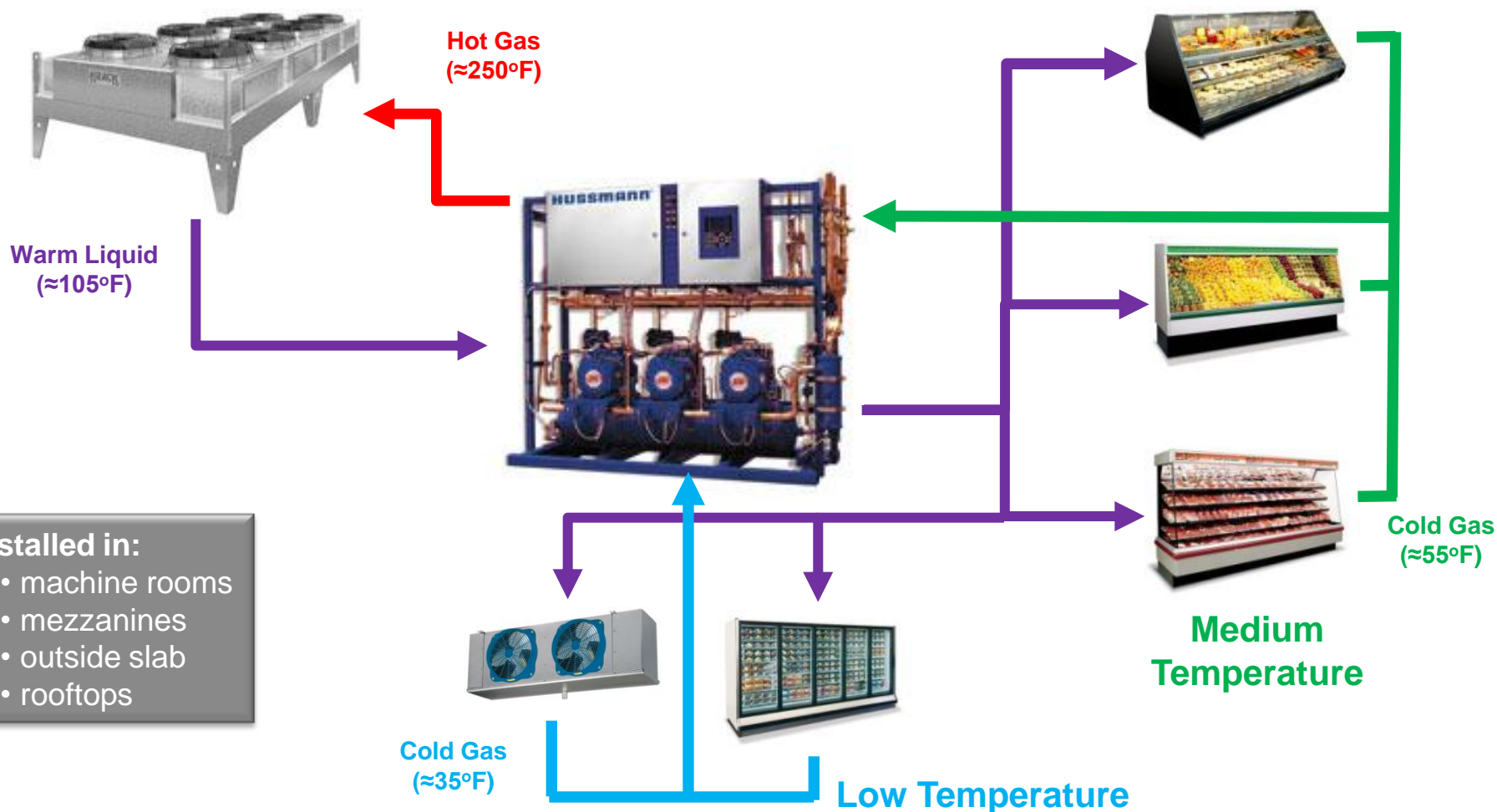




TYPICAL LINE CIRCUIT LAYOUT



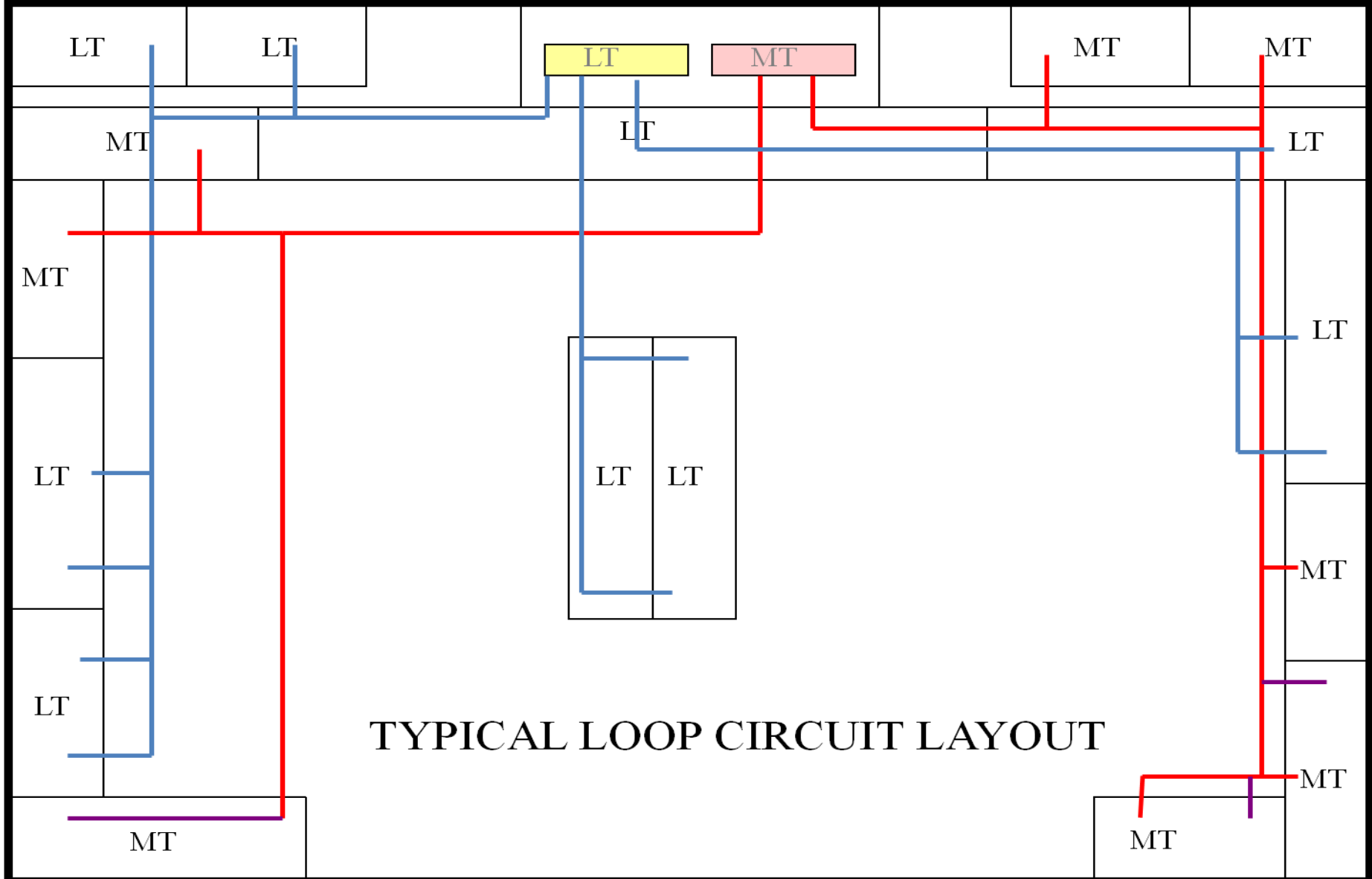
### DX Rack Equipment (Loop Piping)



#### Installed in:

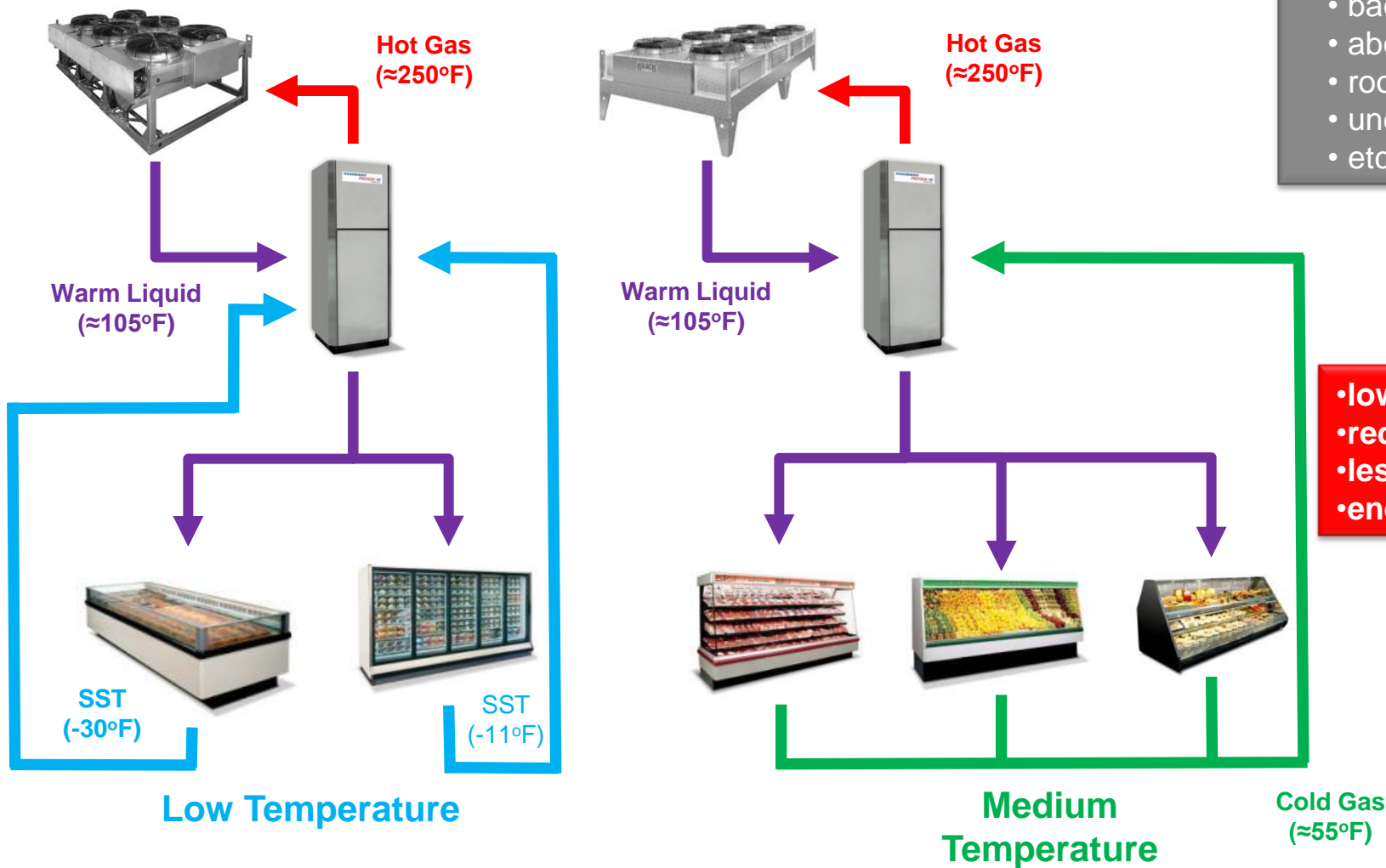
- machine rooms
- mezzanines
- outside slab
- rooftops

Lower refrigerant charge than circuit piping



TYPICAL LOOP CIRCUIT LAYOUT

### Distributed DX Equipment (Loop)



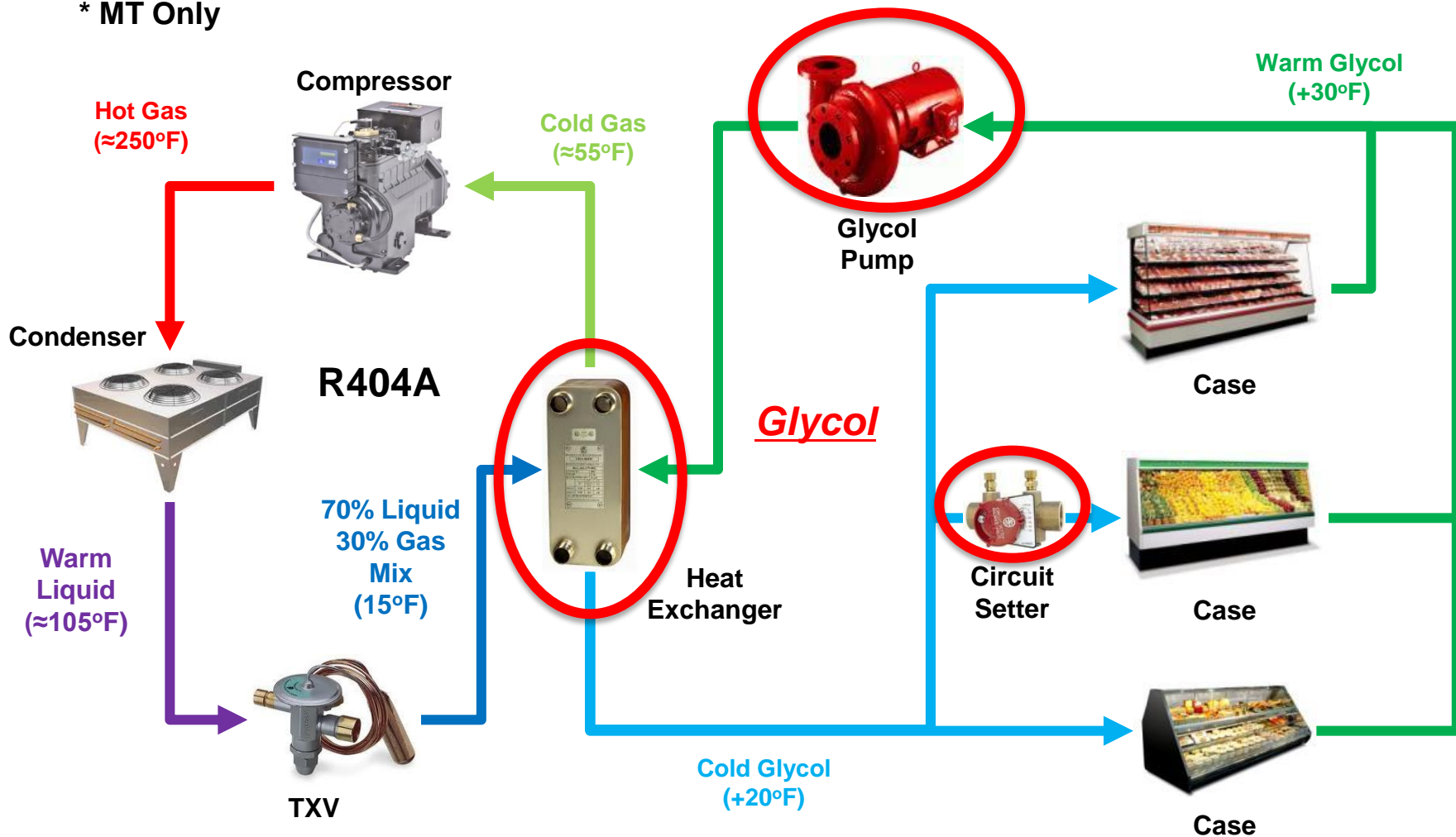
- Installed in:**
- back hallways
  - above walk-ins
  - rooftops
  - under racking
  - etc

- low charge
- reduced leaks
- less copper
- energy efficient

**Distributed** – Multiple small compressor units located close to their loads throughout the store

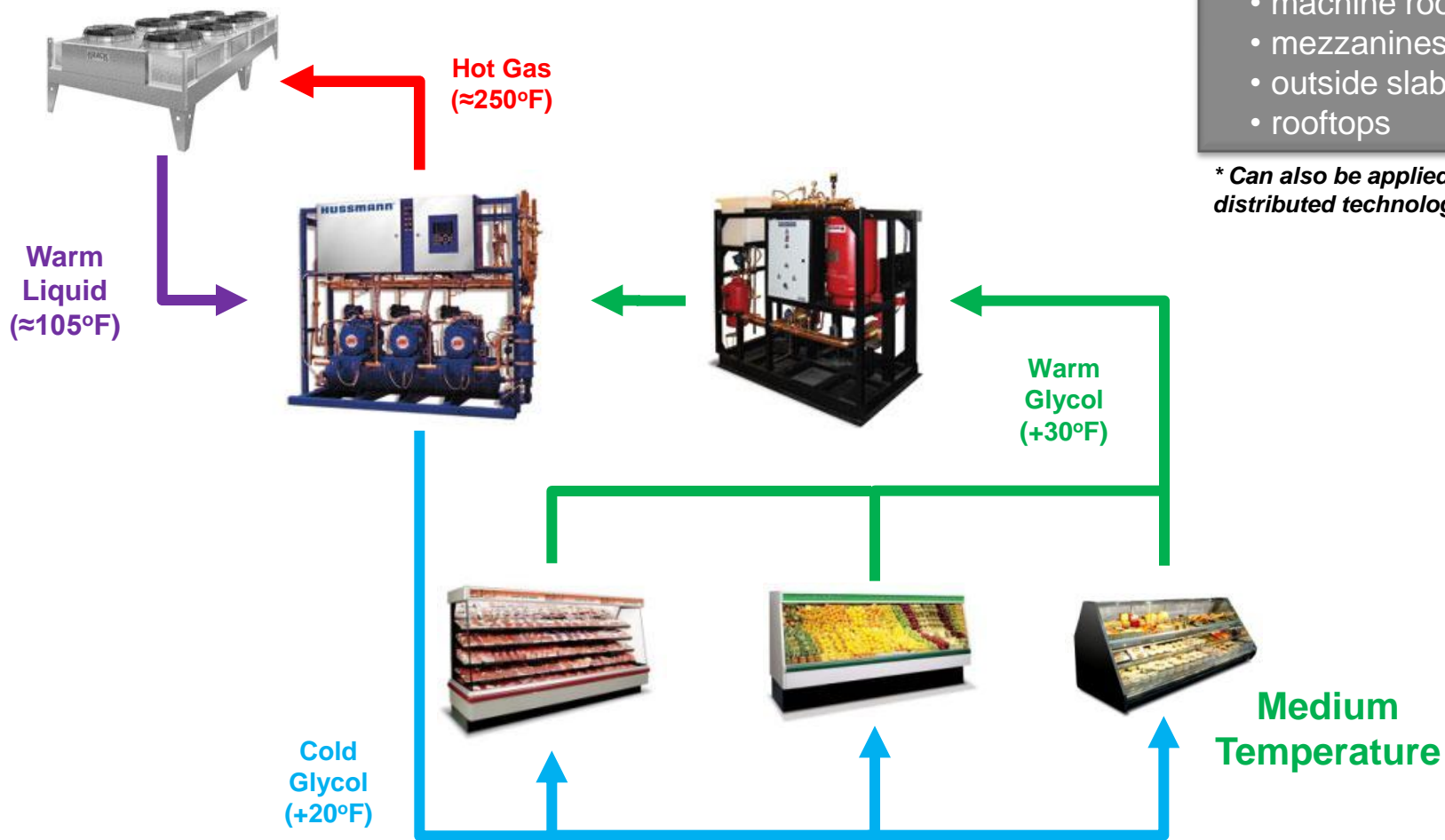
# Secondary Glycol System Operation

\* MT Only



**Secondary** – Intermediate medium for heat transfer between cooling load and refrigerant

### Secondary Glycol Equipment (Loop)



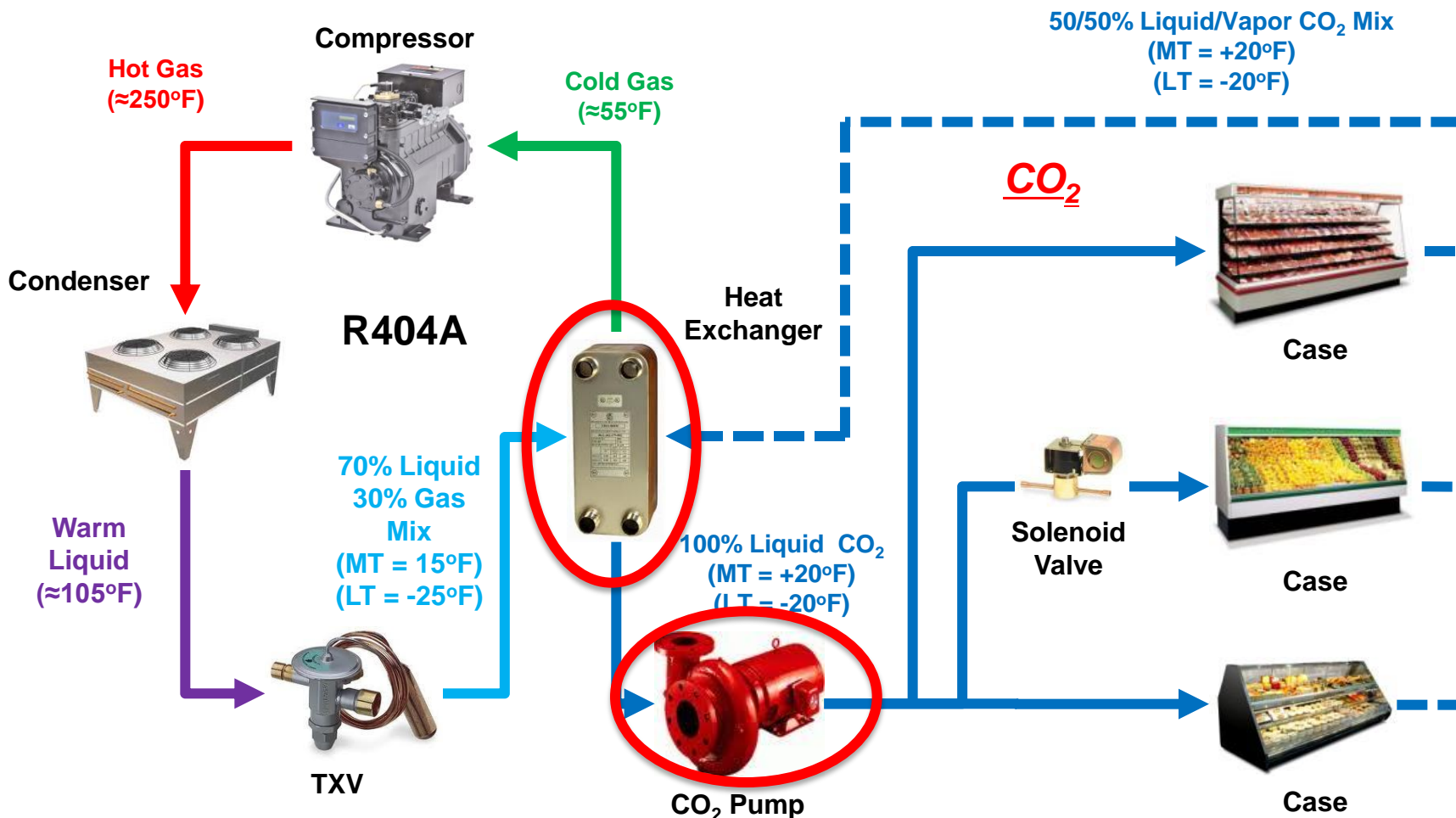
Installed in:

- machine rooms
- mezzanines
- outside slab
- rooftops

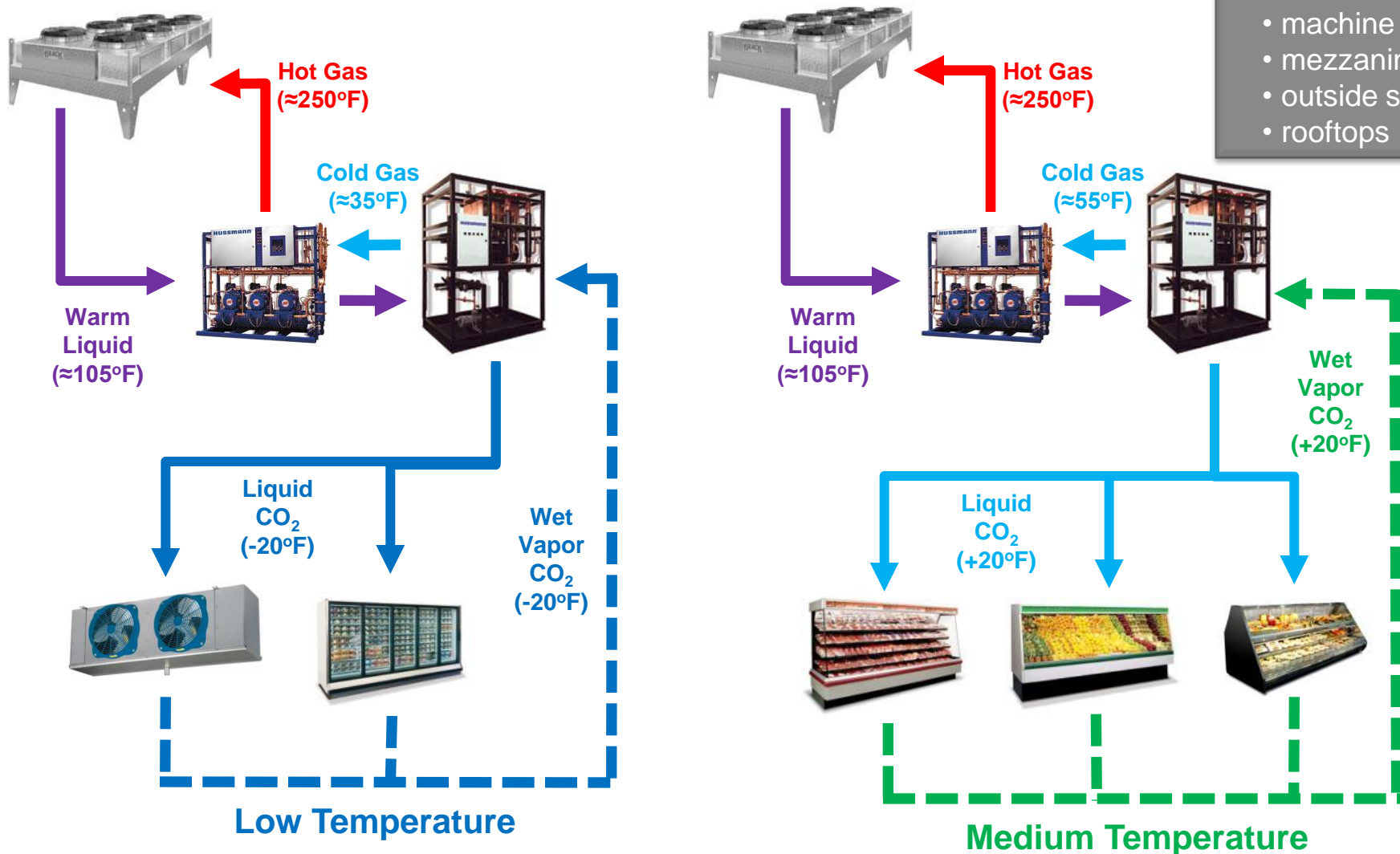
\* Can also be applied with distributed technology

# Secondary CO<sub>2</sub> System Operation

\* LT and MT



### Secondary CO<sub>2</sub> Equipment (Loop)

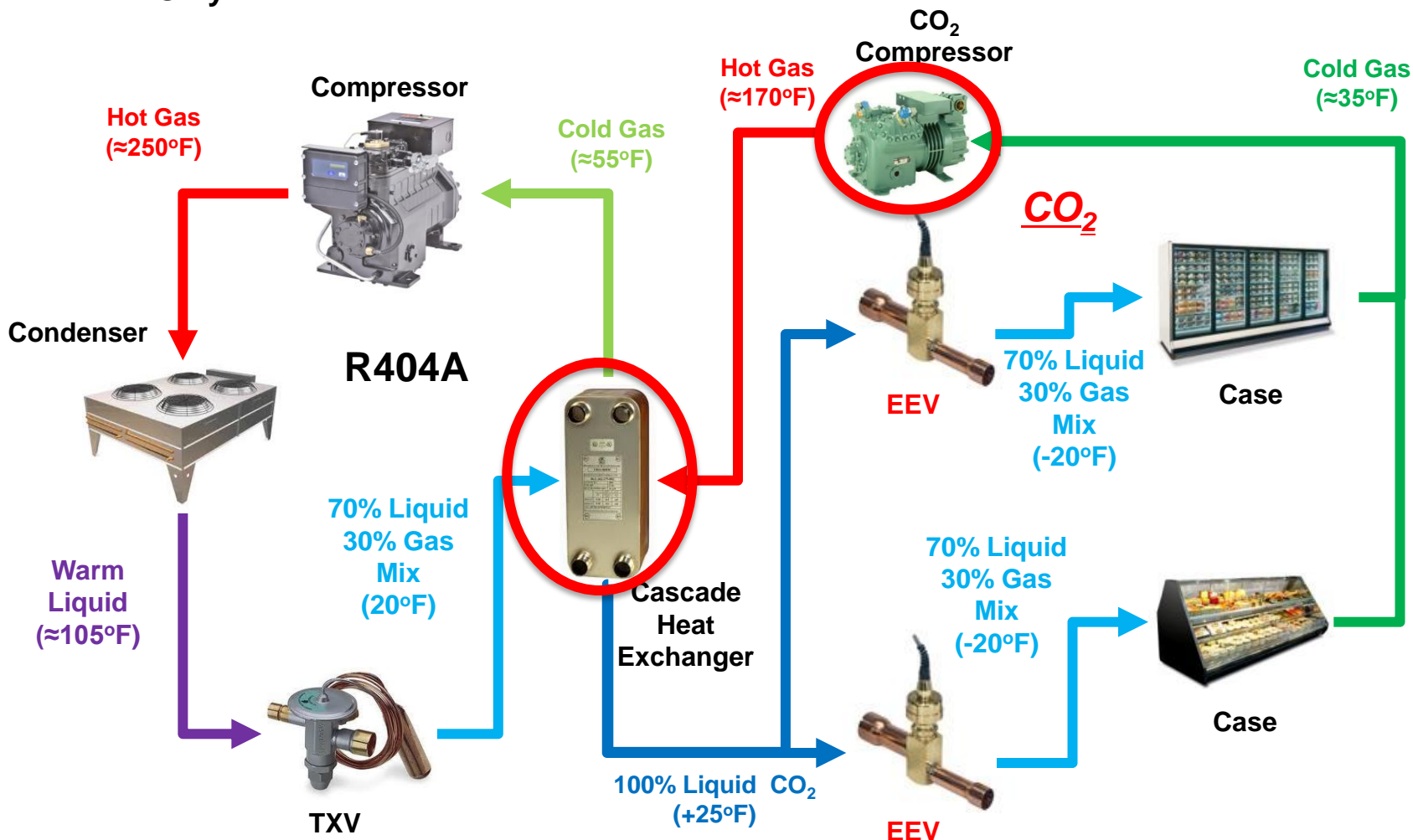


- ◆ Low refrigerant charge
- ◆ Reduced leaks
- ◆ less copper
- ◆ Uses natural CO<sub>2</sub>



# Cascade CO<sub>2</sub> DX System Operation

\* LT Only

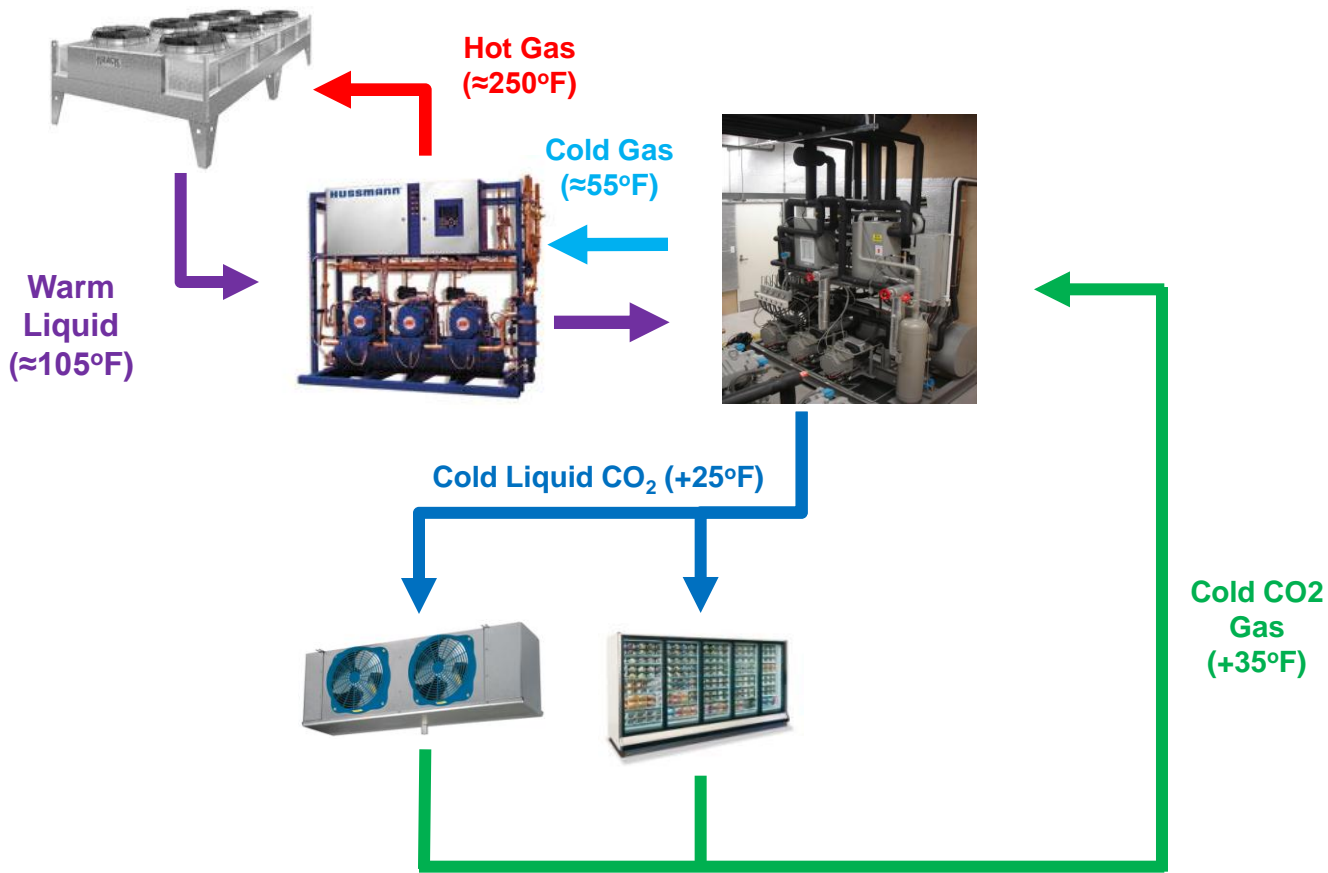


**Cascade** – Two independent refrigeration systems in series sharing a common heat exchanger



### Cascade CO<sub>2</sub> DX Equipment

- Installed in:
- machine rooms
  - mezzanines
  - outside slab
  - rooftops



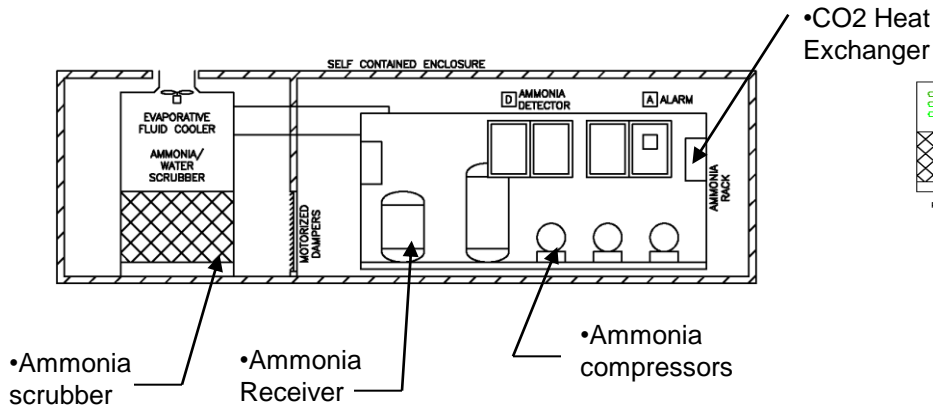
Low Temperature

\* Loop Piping Shown

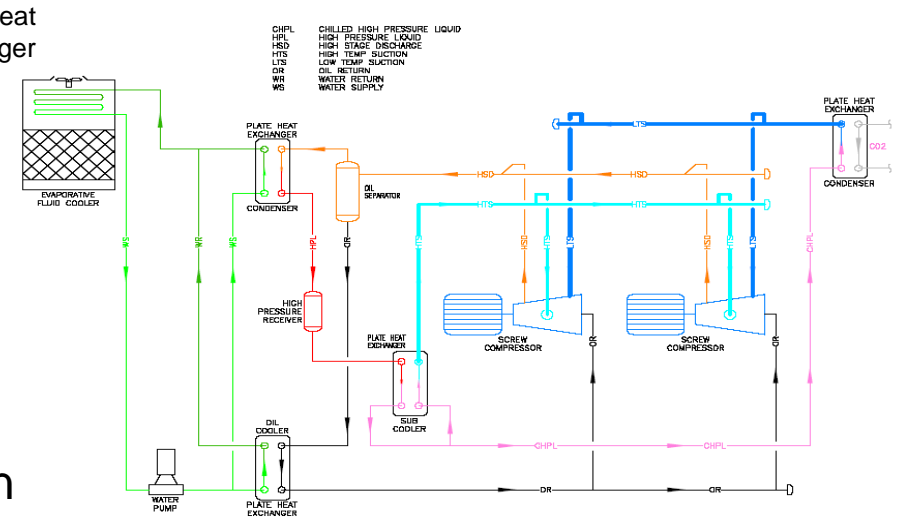
- ◆ Low refrigerant charge
- ◆ Reduced leaks
- ◆ less copper
- ◆ Uses natural CO<sub>2</sub>

### Ammonia (NH3) Primary System

#### • Primary Refrigeration Enclosure



#### • Primary Refrigeration Loop



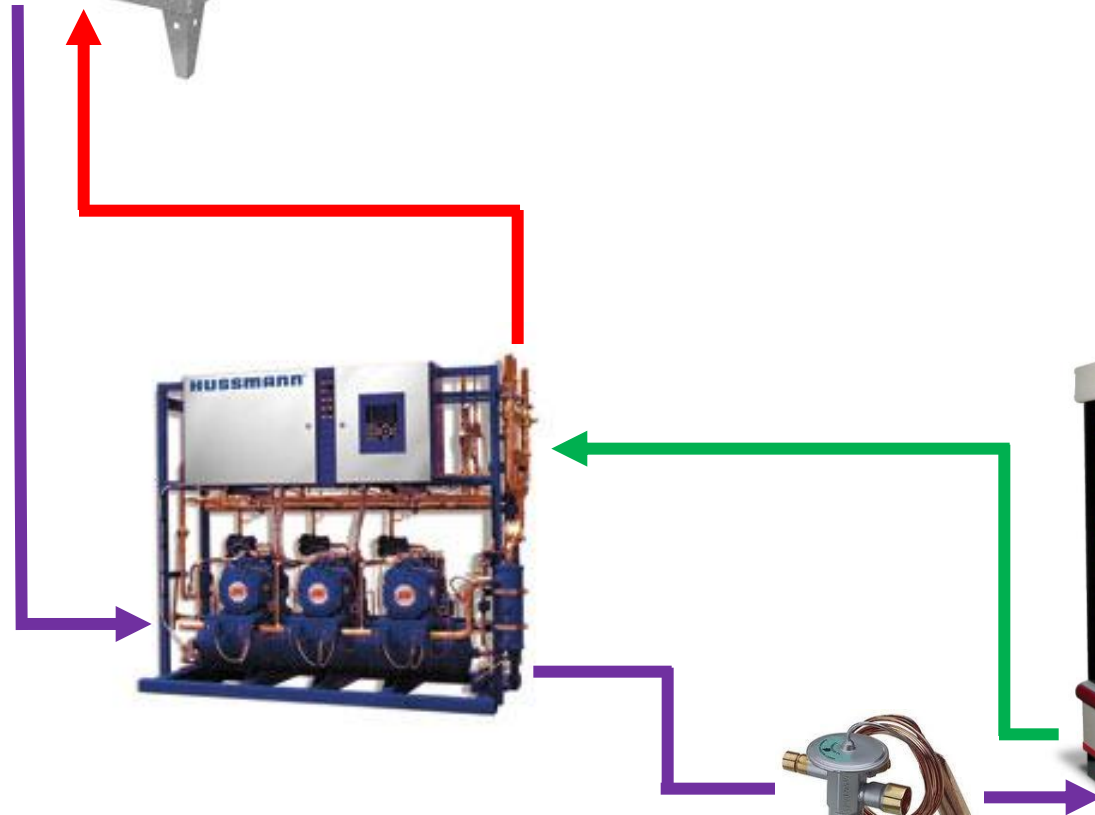
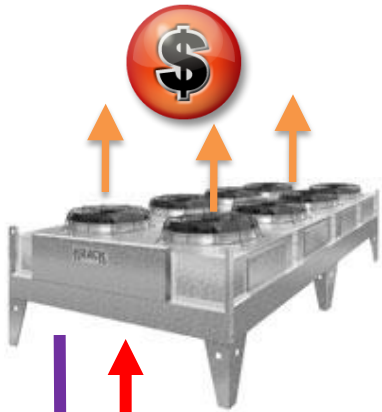
- Primarily used in industrial application
- Typically used with secondary systems
  - Example range of operation (-60°F to +60°F)
- Displaces use of HFC's
- Can not be used with copper
- Use of water system for scrubbing in case of leak



# **SYSTEM & BUILDING INTERACTION**

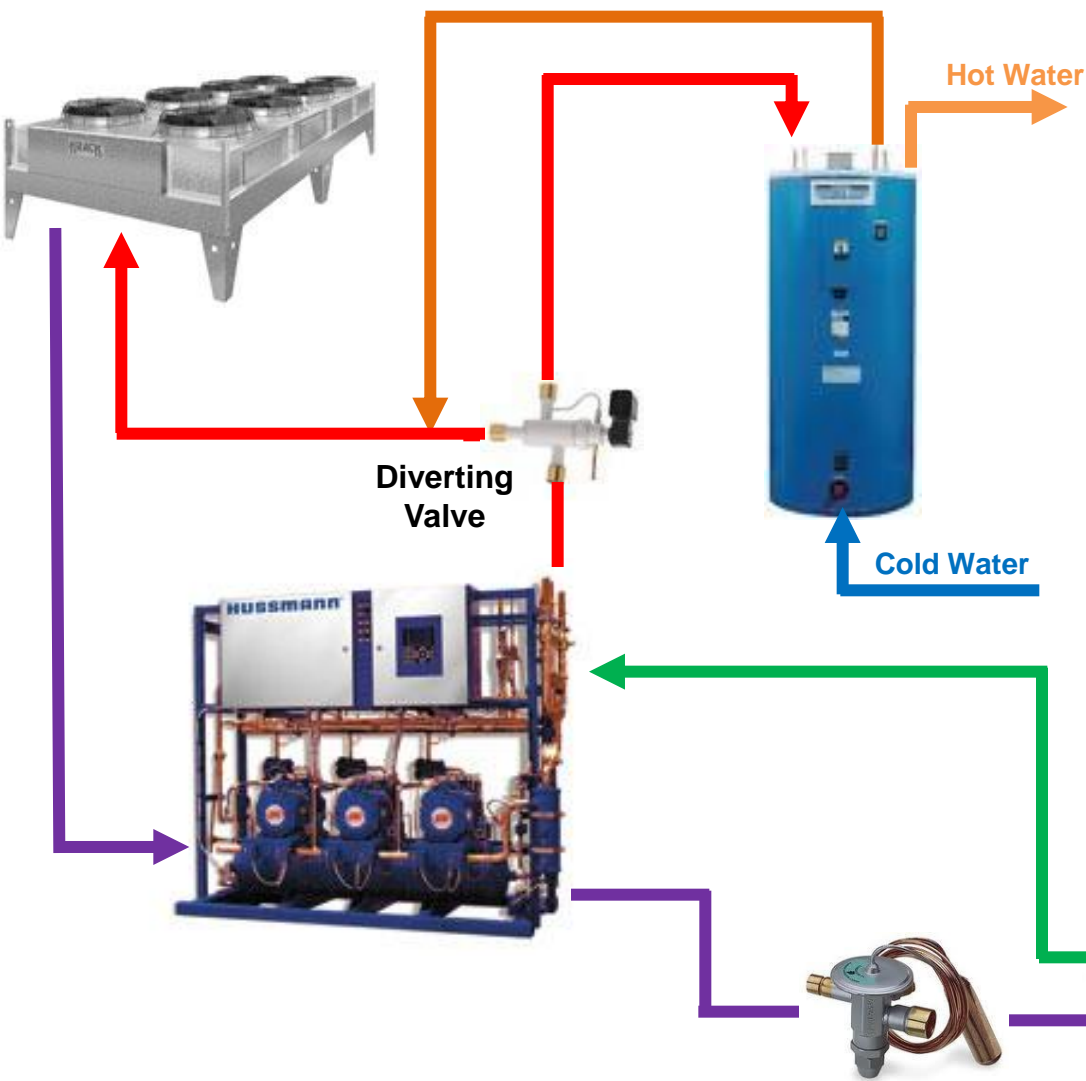


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### Water Heat Reclaim



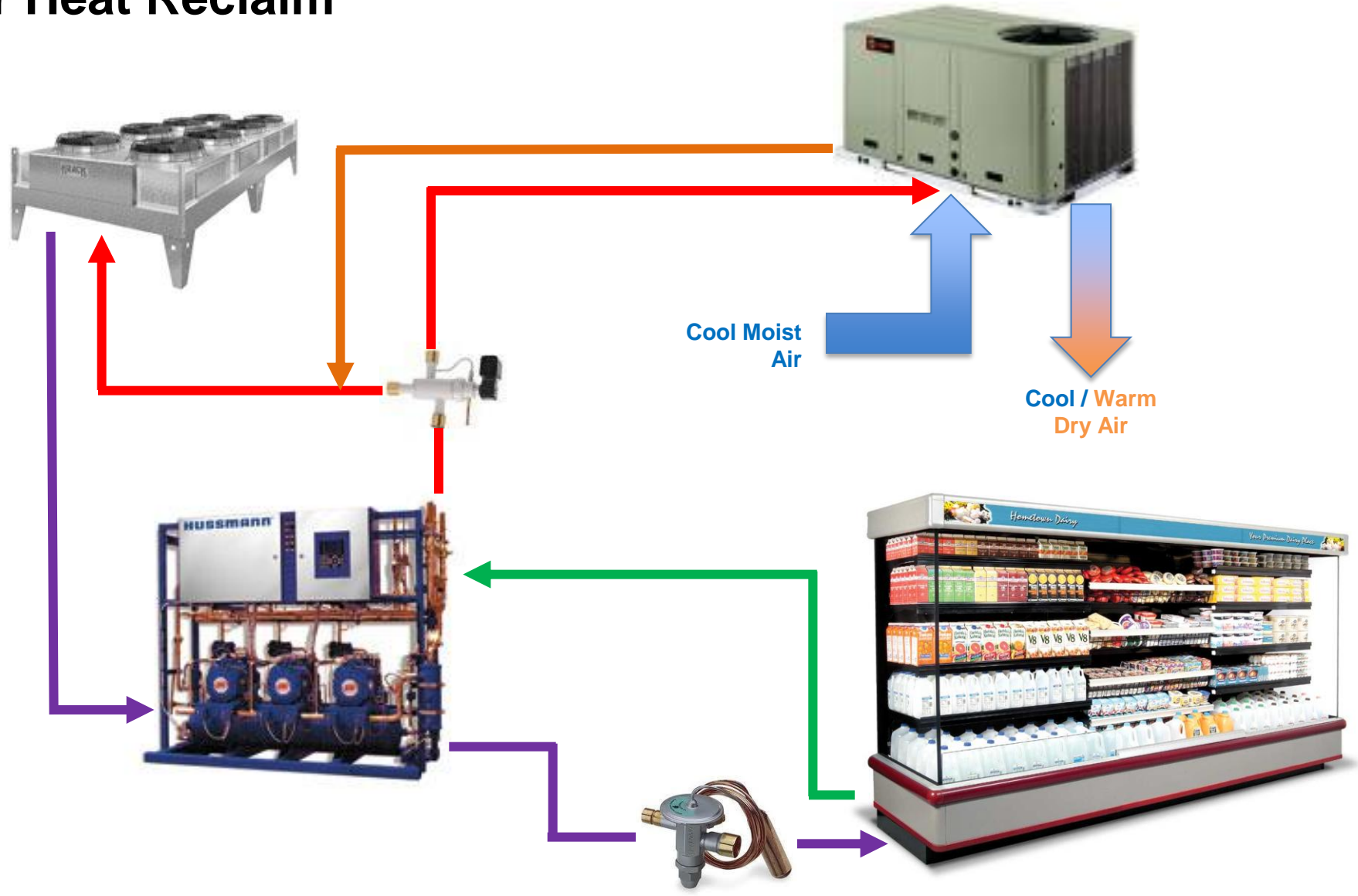
### Heat Reclaim

- Uses available compressor heat to **heat building water or air** rather than rejecting to atmosphere
- Good source for air reheat or dehumidification
- **Increases refrigerant charge**

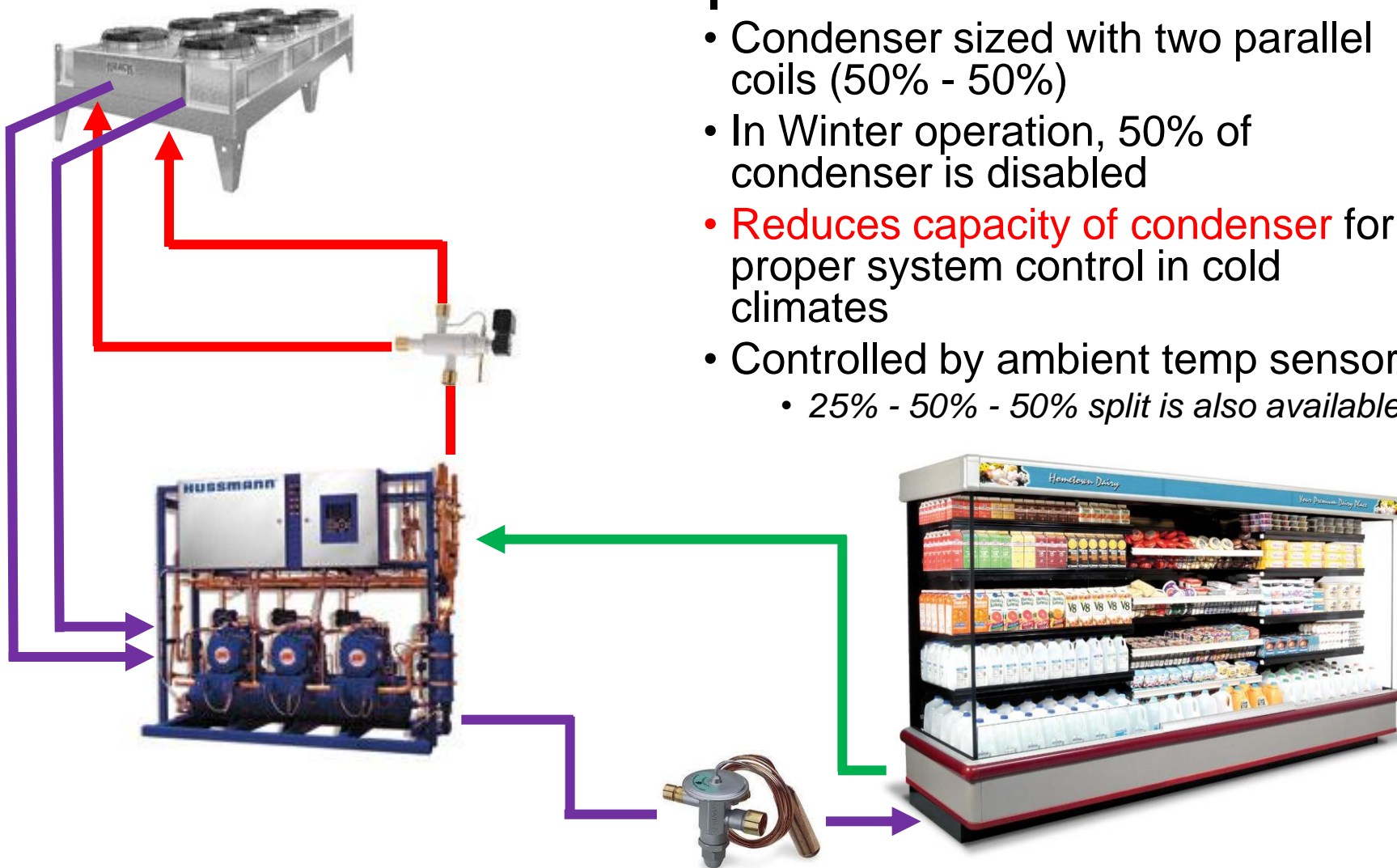




### Air Heat Reclaim



### Split Condenser



### Split Condenser

- Condenser sized with two parallel coils (50% - 50%)
- In Winter operation, 50% of condenser is disabled
- **Reduces capacity of condenser** for proper system control in cold climates
- Controlled by ambient temp sensor
  - 25% - 50% - 50% split is also available



### Heat Reclaim & Split Condenser



\* Water reclaim shown

\*\* Can substitute with air if desired



## Condensers

- Enhances condenser performance



## Suction groups

- Manages multiple compressor racks
- Optimizes compressor cycling and energy savings



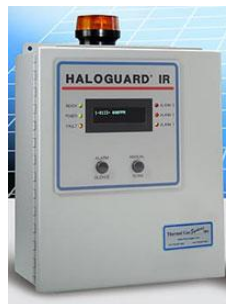
## Microprocessor Controller

- Central point of equipment control and monitoring
- Increases equipment life and energy with logical control algorithms
- Allows equipment monitoring, alarming and optimization



## Controller boards

- Expandable I/O system
- Allows for multiple control and monitoring points



## Refrigerant leak detectors

- Immediate notification when leak occurs
- Program multiple set points



## Circuits/display cases

- Flexible control options to choose from
- Supports multiples of cases and case types

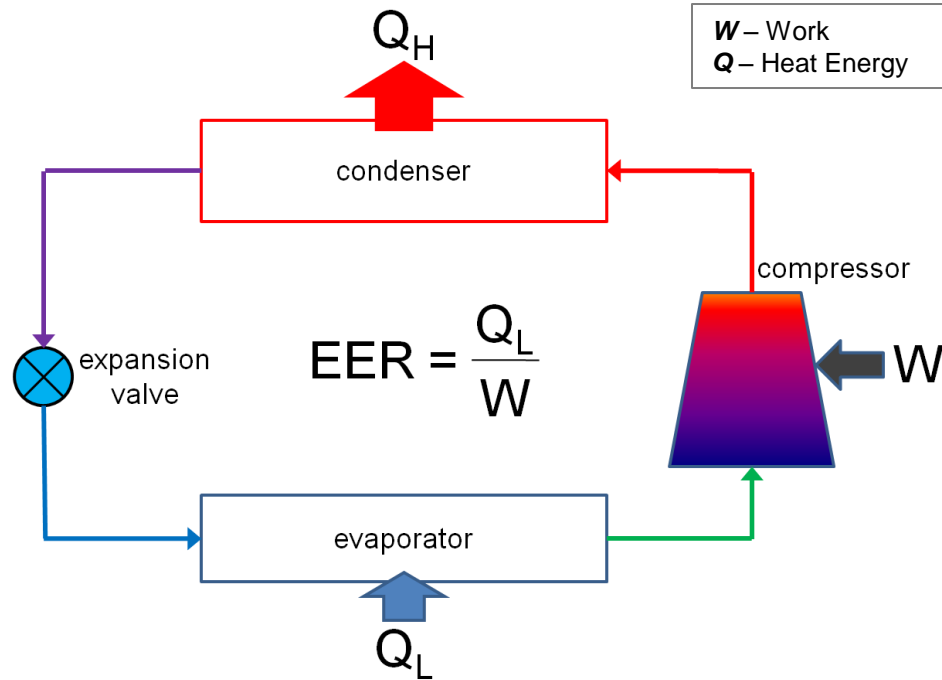


Tools Used by Engineers / Designers

# **ANALYSIS & COMPARISONS**

### Energy Analysis

W – Work  
Q – Heat Energy



- Energy Efficiency Ratio (**EER**)
  - Btu/hour per watt
- Coefficient of Performance (**COP**)
  - Unitless
- The amount of cooling divided by the power needed to do the cooling
- **A higher value is better**
  - it means less energy is used to do a given amount of cooling
- EER and COP depend on many factors

- evaporating temperature
- condensing temperature
- size of condenser
- type of compressor
- etc

**EER is heavily influenced by ambient temp:**

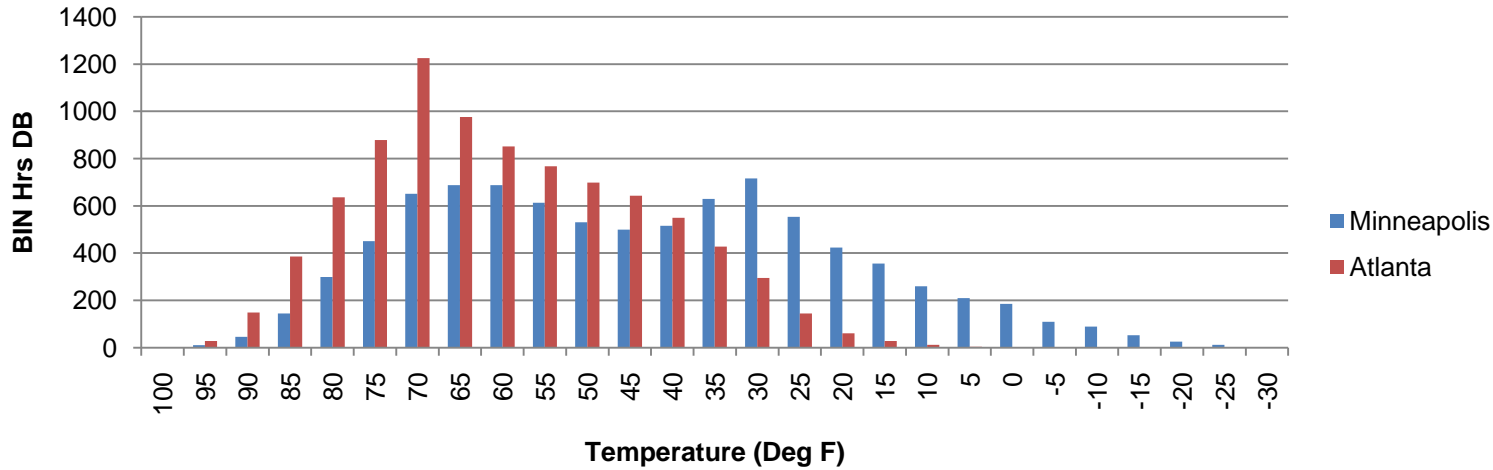
<b>Hot day</b>	<b>Cold day</b>
▪ COP = 2	▪ COP = 5
▪ EER = 7 Btu/hr/watt	▪ EER = 17 Btu/hr/watt

**Energy use is less than half on cold days**

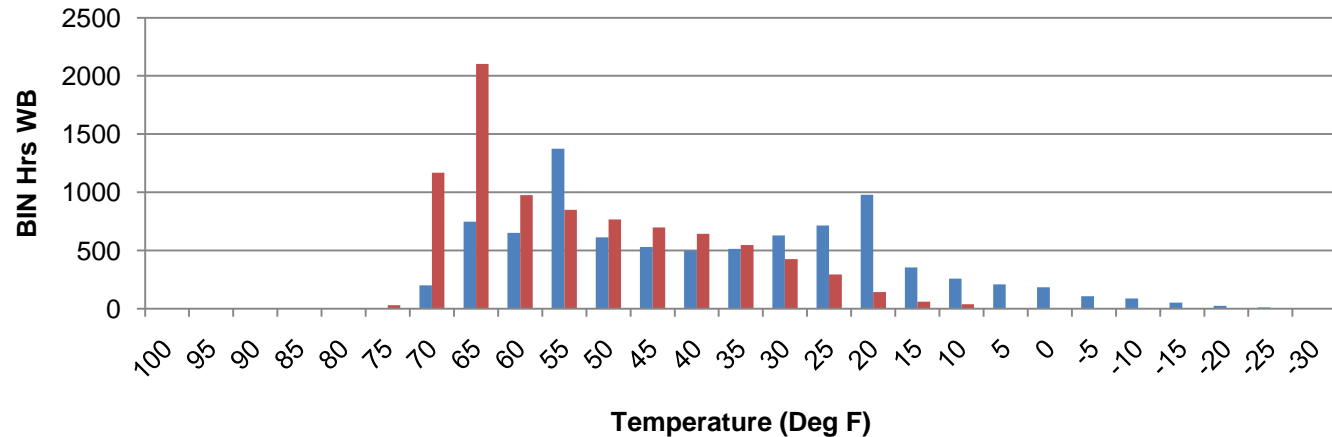


# Ambient Temperature Bin Hours

## Dry Bulb BIN Hour Comparison





## Wet Bulb BIN Hour Comparison



### Technology Comparison



Approach	Central DX	Distributed DX	Distributed Glycol Secondary	Central Glycol Secondary	Liquid Recirc CO <sub>2</sub>	Cascade CO <sub>2</sub>
Equipment 1 <sup>st</sup> Cost	Baseline	—	— —	— —	— —	—
Energy Efficiency	Baseline	+	—	— —	—	+
Refrigerant Charge	Baseline	+	+	+	+	+
Total Cost of Ownership	Baseline	+	—	—	— —	—
Carbon Footprint	Baseline	+	+	+	+	+
Service and Complexity	Baseline	+	—	—	+	—

 Better than Baseline  
 Worse than Baseline



System Type	Possible Level Attainable
Distributed	Silver when air-cooled Gold when air-cooled with microchannel
Secondary Distributed	Gold when air-cooled condenser Platinum when water-cooled
MT Secondary Glycol	Silver with centralized LT DX Gold with other advanced LT
Secondary CO <sub>2</sub>	Gold when used for both LT & MT Loads
LT CO <sub>2</sub> Cascade	Gold when combined with MT secondary glycol or secondary CO <sub>2</sub> MT
MT Glycol Compact Chiller	Platinum when water cooled and combined with LT CO <sub>2</sub>

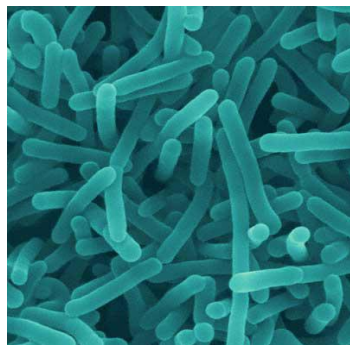


**Application of any system type does not guarantee certification ability. Proper planning, equipment selection, application, placement, and refrigerant are required.**

# Risk Increases Significantly w/ Product Temp



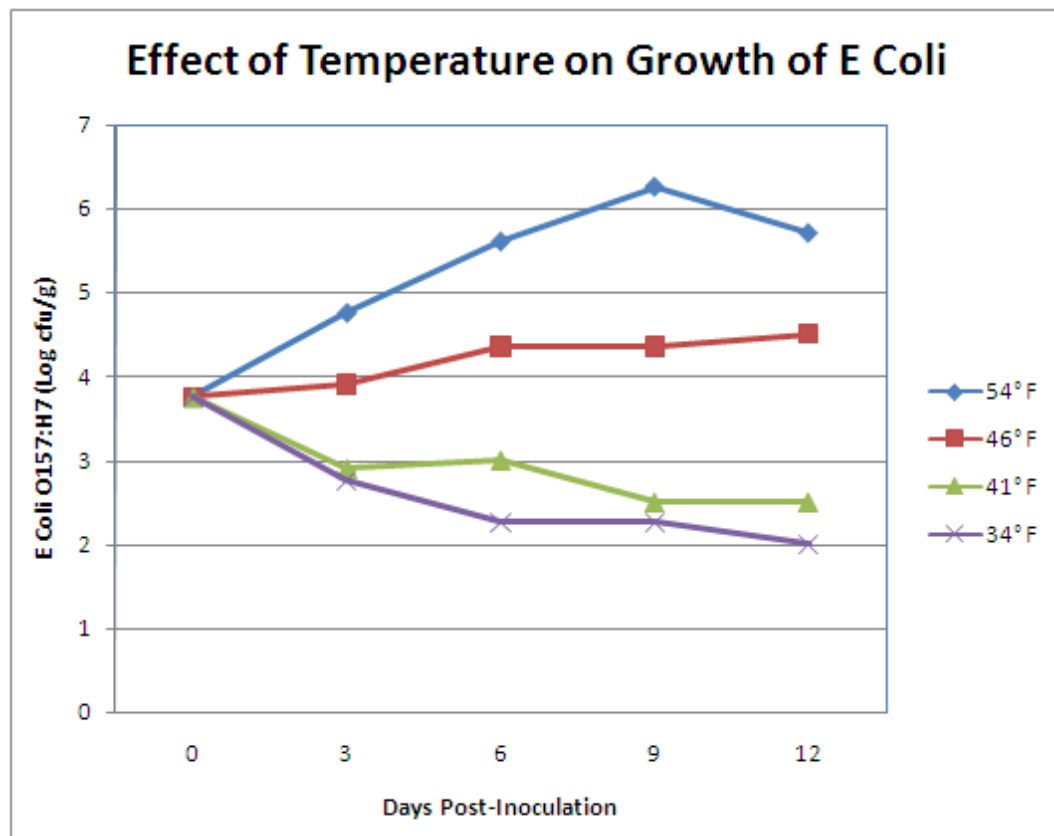
•Salmonella



•Listeria



•E Coli on Beef



•Note: Y axis is 1000's of colony forming units per gram.  
It only takes < 100 cells to cause illness

**Why refrigeration is important - for the preservation and distribution of food...**





# Thank you for your attention!

## Questions?

**Travis D. Lumpkin, PE**

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Leader Refrigeration Systems

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