

# System Measurement: Demand Side

Best Practices

IETC, December 9, 2020

# Introduction

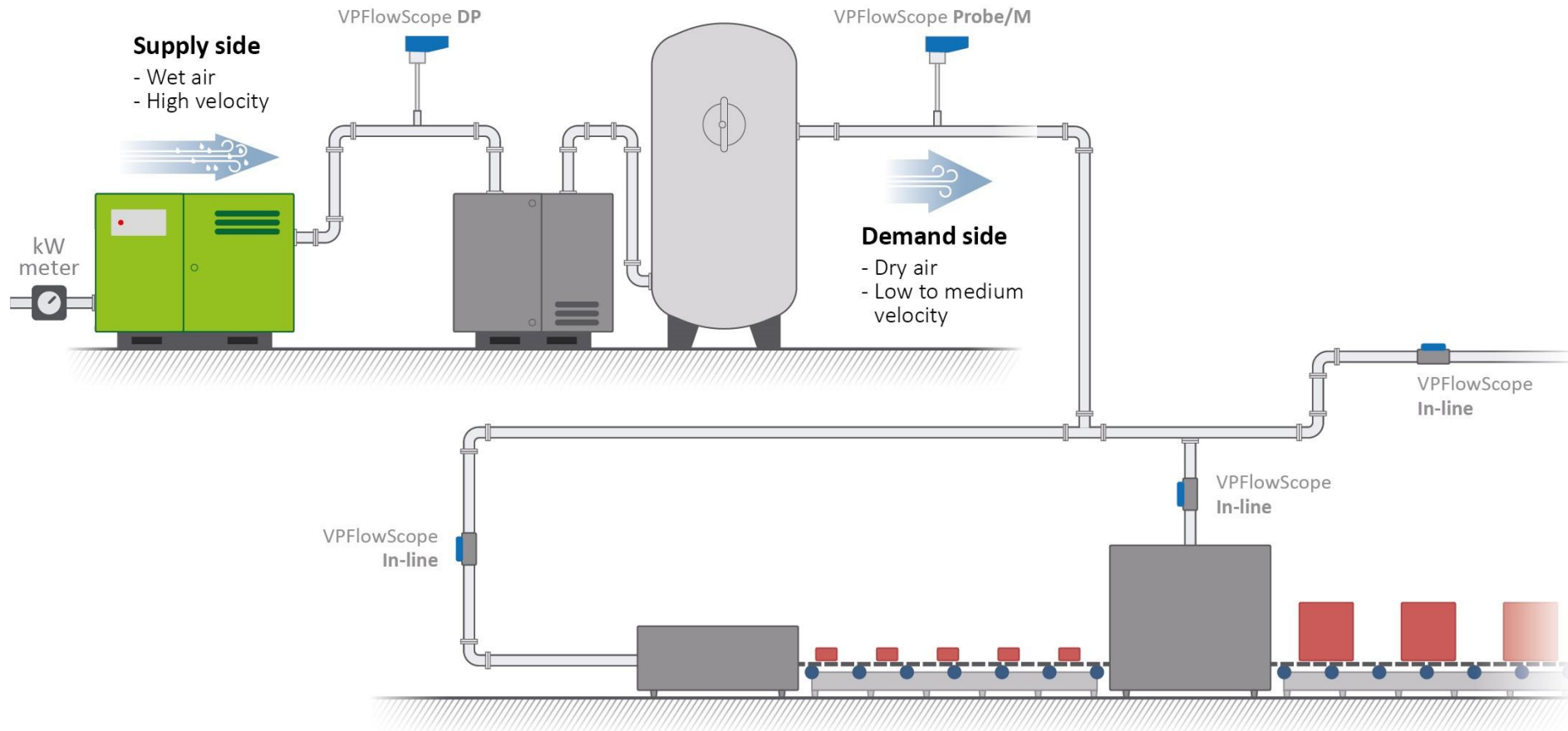


## Chuck Mays

- Sales Manager VPInstruments North America
- VPInstruments has developed and supplied Energy Management Solutions for compressed air, technical gasses as well as other utilities for more than 20 years

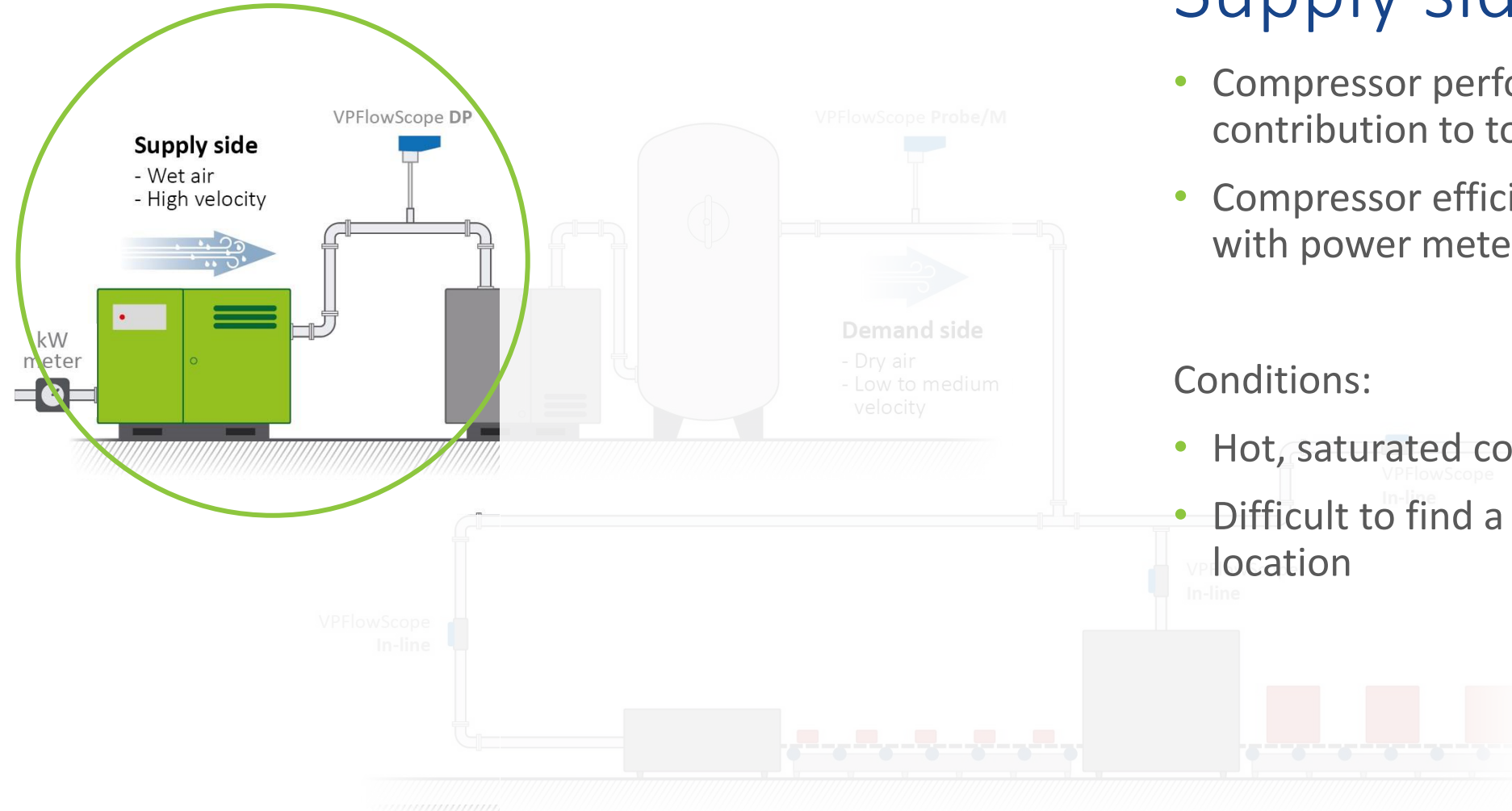
# Flow measurement locations

## In compressed air systems



# Supply side

## In compressed air systems



## Supply side:

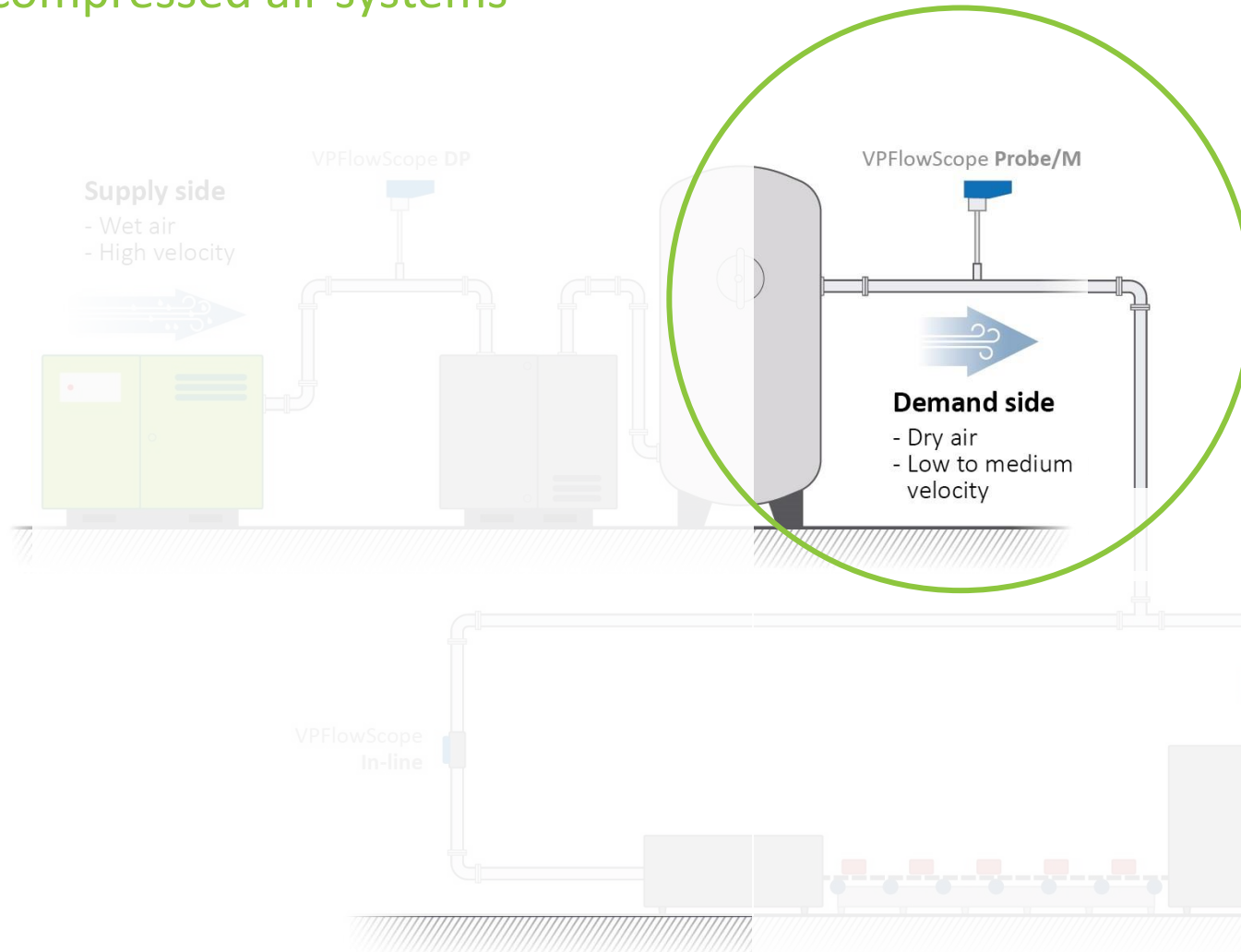
- Compressor performance / contribution to total flow
- Compressor efficiency (combined with power meter)

### Conditions:

- Hot, saturated compressed air
- Difficult to find a good metering location

# Demand side

## In compressed air systems



## Demand Side:

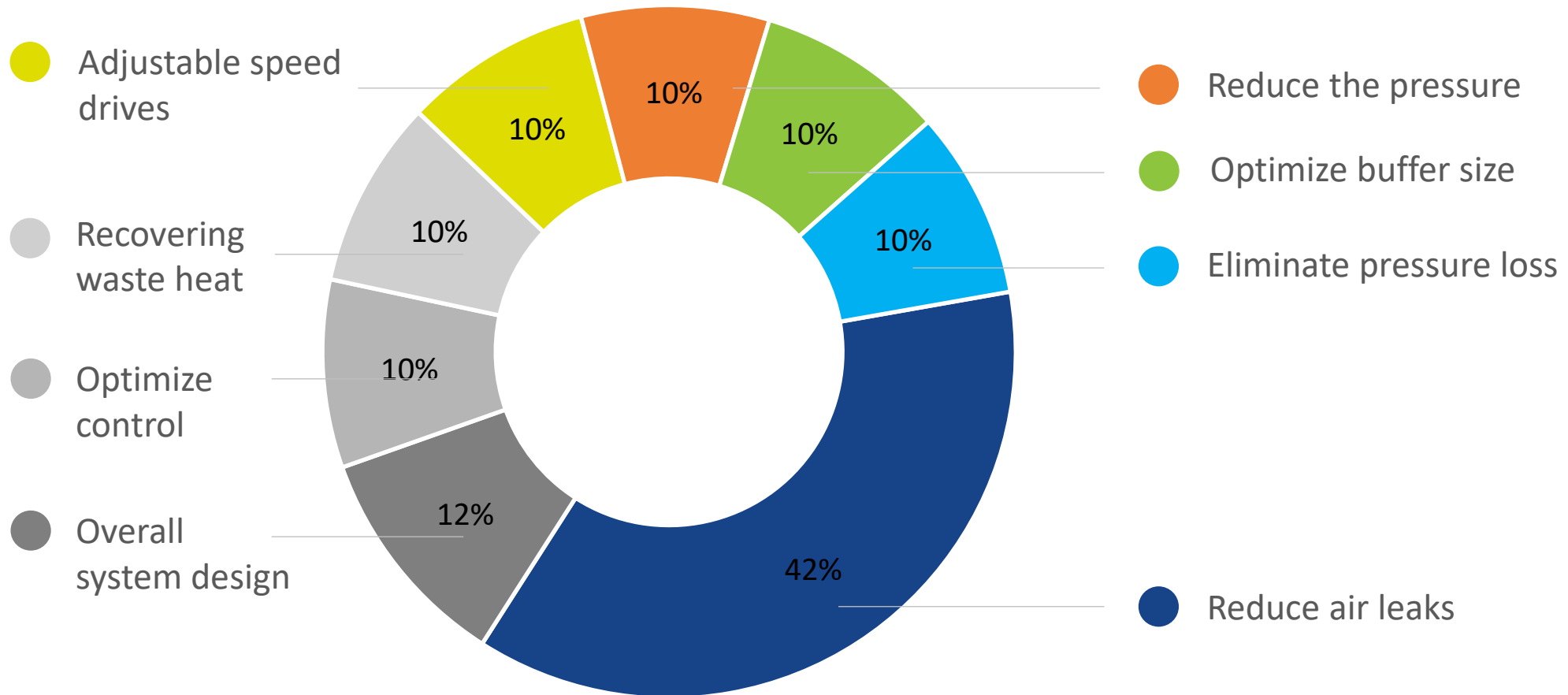
Main header:

- Collect a total demand profile
- Total leakage level during non production hours

Branch lines

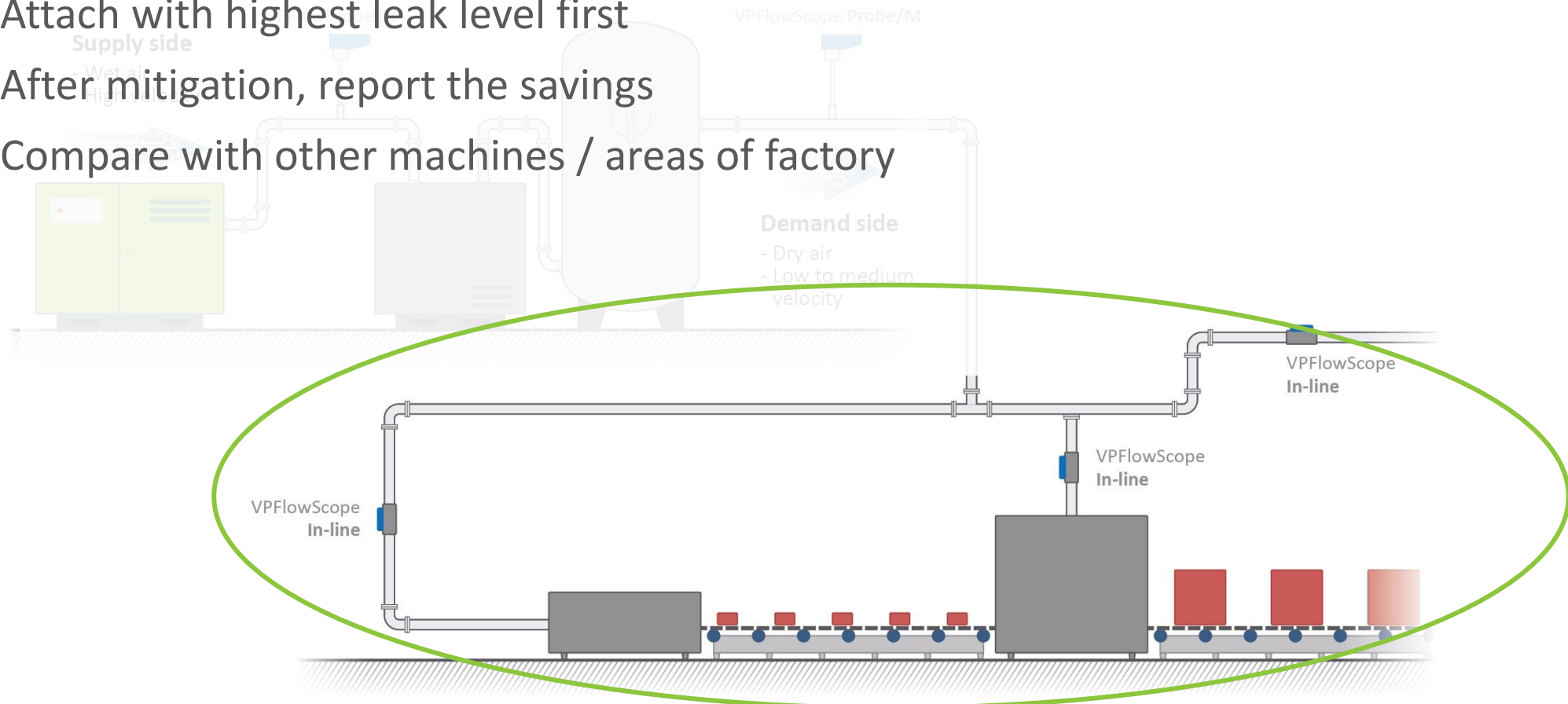
- Consumption per department / machine
- Cost allocation
- Point of use measurement data
- Leak measurement

# Where to find savings



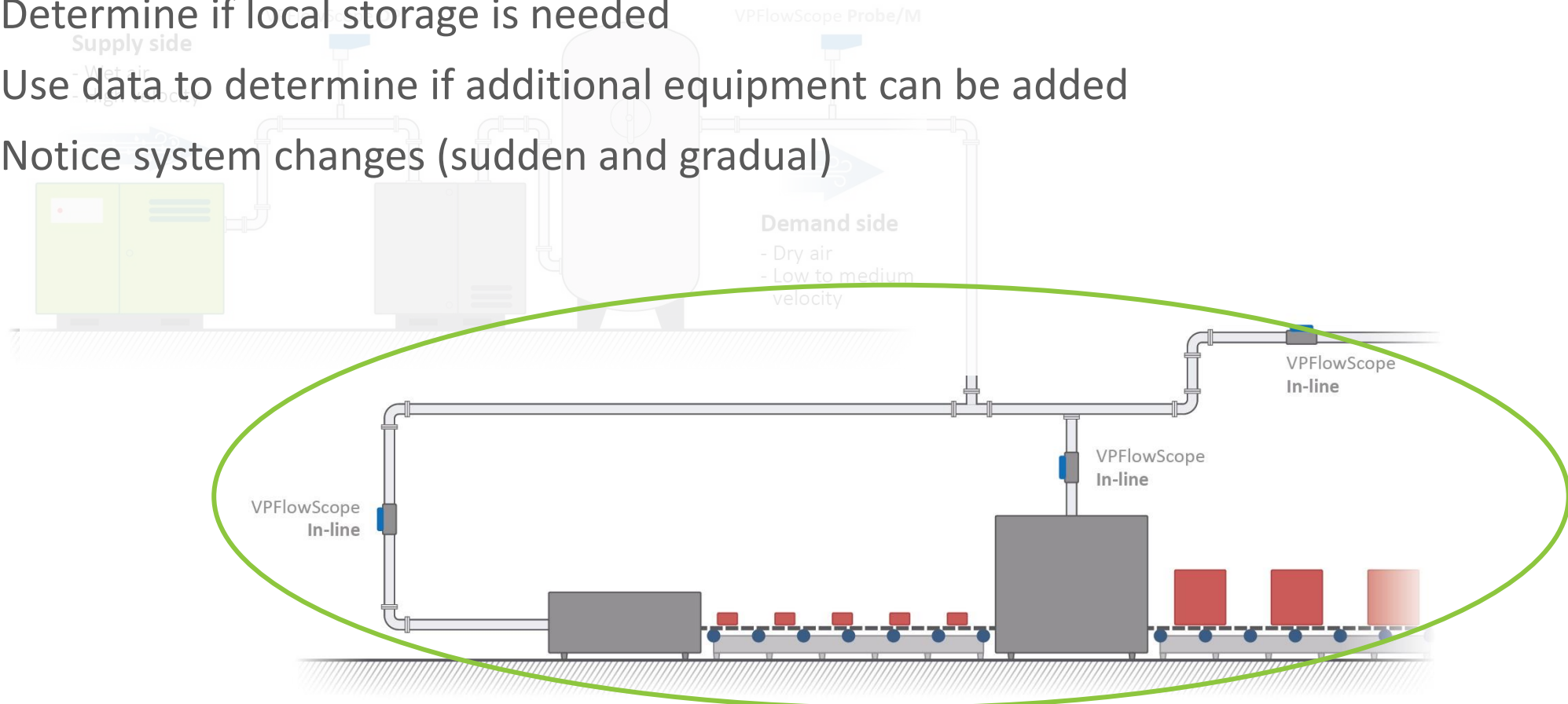
# Leaks

- Measure flow with machines off
- Determine the cost for leaks
- Attach with highest leak level first
- After mitigation, report the savings
- Compare with other machines / areas of factory



# Data for decisions & problem detection

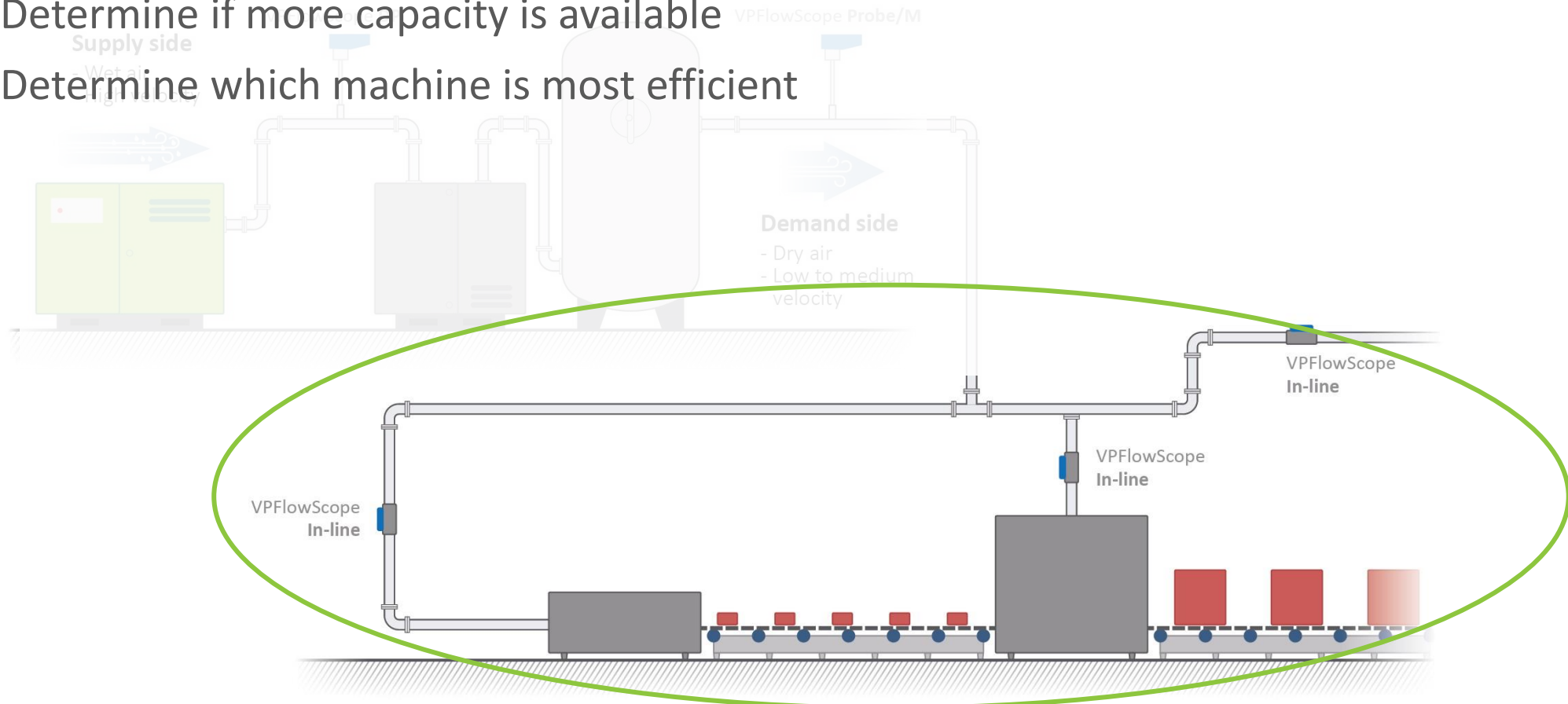
- See what pressure is being used / is available
- Monitor pressure changes due to equipment
- Determine if local storage is needed
- Use data to determine if additional equipment can be added
- Notice system changes (sudden and gradual)





# Costs per widget

- Determine the air cost for a machine / factory area
- Allocate cost per widget / ton of product
- Determine if more capacity is available
- Determine which machine is most efficient



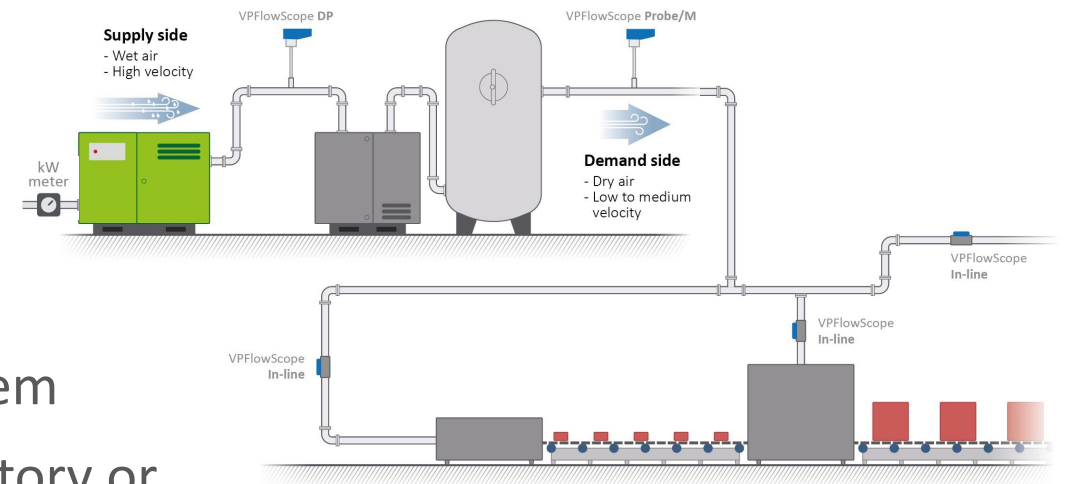
# Example: Cost allocation

## In this example:

- Accounting determines that the monthly cost for electricity is \$5400
- There are three areas in the factory
- How do you allocate costs?

## What you need:

- Energy measurement of the compressed air system
- A measurement of the air to each area of the factory or machine.



# Example: Cost allocation

## Cost/CFM of Air Used

- Based on an average of 450 CFM and \$0.10 per kW-h
- Total Cost for the Month: **\$5,400**
- Cost per 1,000,000 CF: \$278

	Factory Area 1	Factory Area 2	Factory Area 3	Total
Cubic Feet (CF)	4 M CF	5M CF	8M CF	17 M CFM
Allocation	\$1,112	\$1,390	\$2,224	<b>\$4,726</b>

- **Hold On! The total cost does not equal \$5,400.**
- \$674 dollars of air was used that is not being metered!

# Accuracy and repeatability (precision)



Not accurate, not precise



Not accurate, but precise



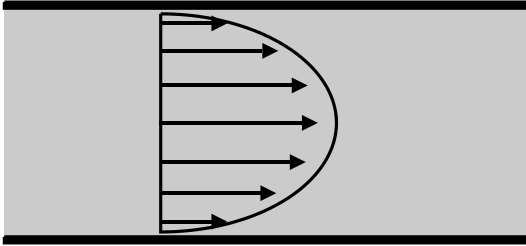
Accurate, but not precise



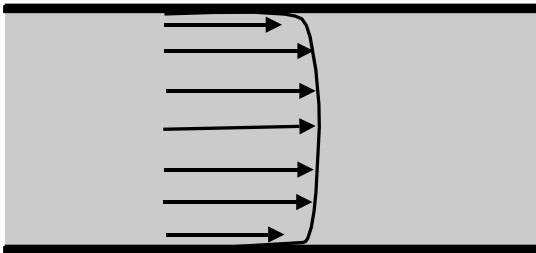
Accurate, and precise

# Turbulent flow profile

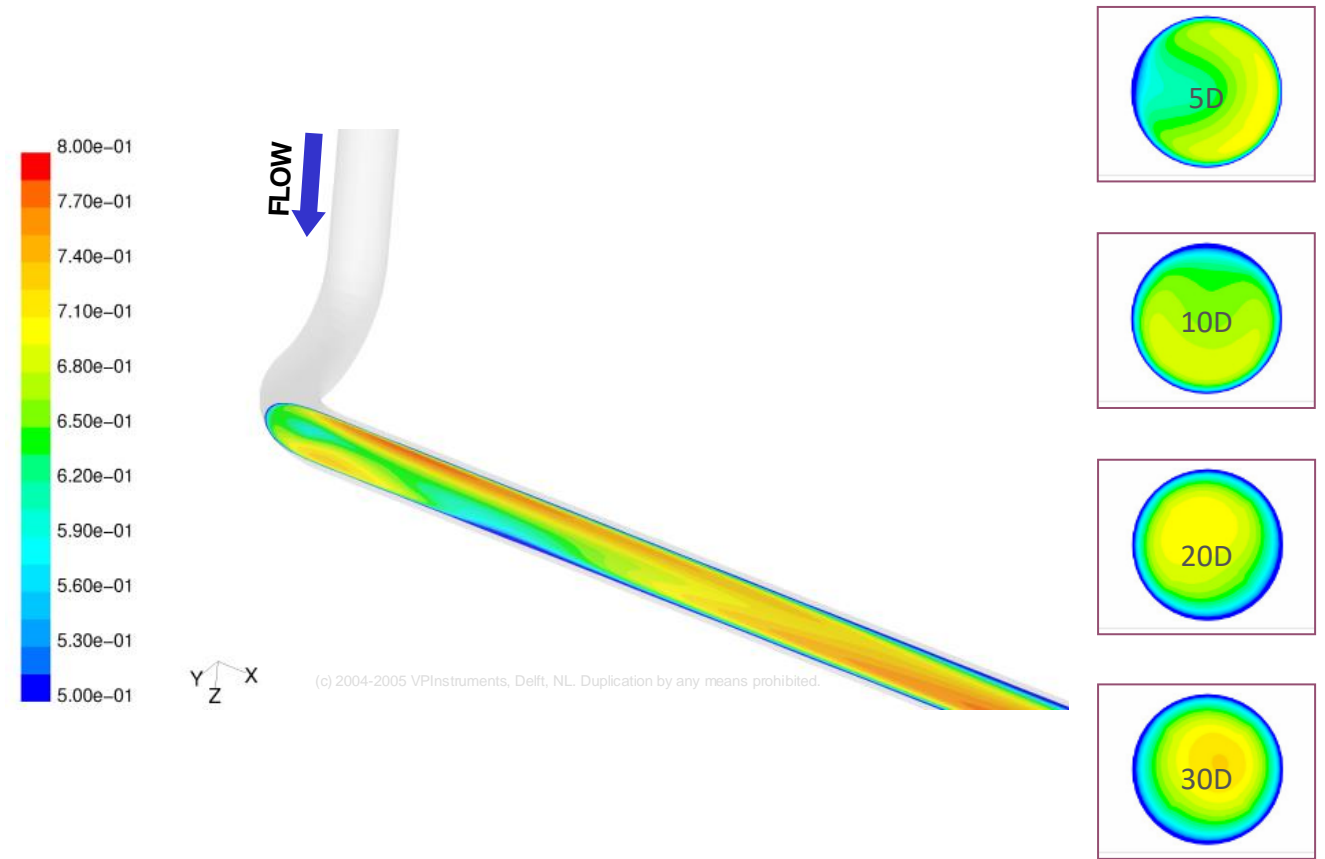
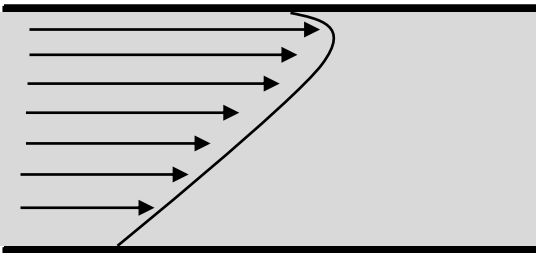
Laminar flow profile



Turbulent flat profile after 20..40 D



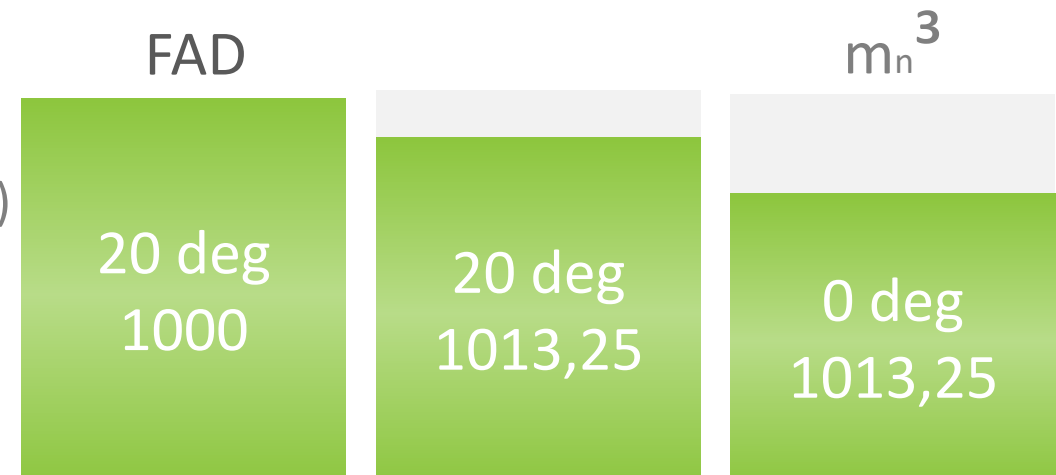
Distorted Turbulent profile 10D and elbow



# Which Standard? Comparing apples with apples

- Volume flow vs. mass flow. (m<sup>3</sup>/time vs kg/time)
- Reference conditions:
  - 0°C reference (Normalized): DIN 1343
  - 20°C reference (FAD): See ISO 1217
  - 15° reference: See DIN 1533 or ISO 2533
  - CAGI: 68 F, 14.5 PSIA, 0% water vapor pressure

- From FAD to normal: 8,7% difference!
  - **100 m<sup>3</sup>/hr FAD** \* 273,16/(273,16+20)  
\* 1000/1013,25 = **91,95 m<sub>n</sub><sup>3</sup>/hr** (Normalized)



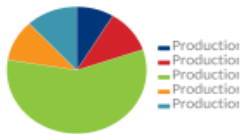
# Energy Management Report

## OVERVIEW AIR USAGE

PARAMETER	CURRENT PERIOD	LAST PERIOD	DELTA	YTD	
Production 1 [Totalizer]	33737	35786	-2049	15931	m3n
Production 2 [Totalizer]	-183745	616017	-799762	171900	m3n
Production 3 [Totalizer]	481316	471405	+9911	1541188	m3n
Production 4 [Totalizer]	132742	27602	+105140	442695	m3n
Production 5 [Totalizer]	44988	16392	+28596	132997	m3n
Total	509038	1167202	-658164	2304711	m3n

## AIR DISTRIBUTION

> Production 1:	31412 m3n
> Production 2:	40292 m3n
> Production 3:	210408 m3n
> Production 4:	38131 m3n
> Production 5:	43126 m3n
> Total:	363371 m3n



## ELECTRICITY USAGE

PARAMETER	CURRENT PERIOD	LAST PERIOD	DELTA	YTD	
Compressor 1 [Input 0]	2105	644	+1461	36643	kWh
Compressor 2 [Input 1]	94787	114759	-19972	327341	kWh
Compressor 3 [Input 2]	103669	100176	+3493	318100	kWh
Machine 1 [Input 3]	8148	2202	+5946	18741	kWh
Machine 2 [Input 4]	18265	7050	+11215	36380	kWh
Total	226974	224831	+2143	737205	kWh

## KPIS

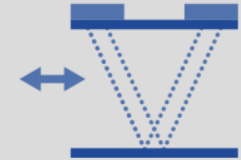
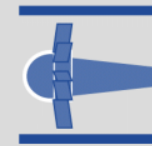
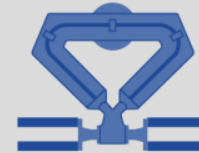
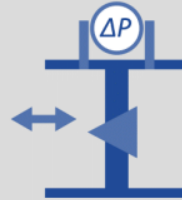
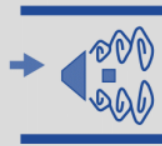
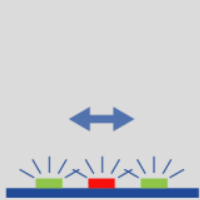
KPI	CURRENT PERIOD	LAST PERIOD	DELTA	UNIT	STATUS
Average usage	97.68	107.81	-10.13	m3n / hour	●
kWh today	679586453....	521433752....	+158152700...	kWh	●
Efficiency	112213.73	78010.86	+34202.87	kW / m3n / min	●
Costs per m3n	37.40	26.00	+11.40	Euro / m3n	●
m3n today	363370.75	401047.03	-37676.28	m3n	●



# Flow meter selection



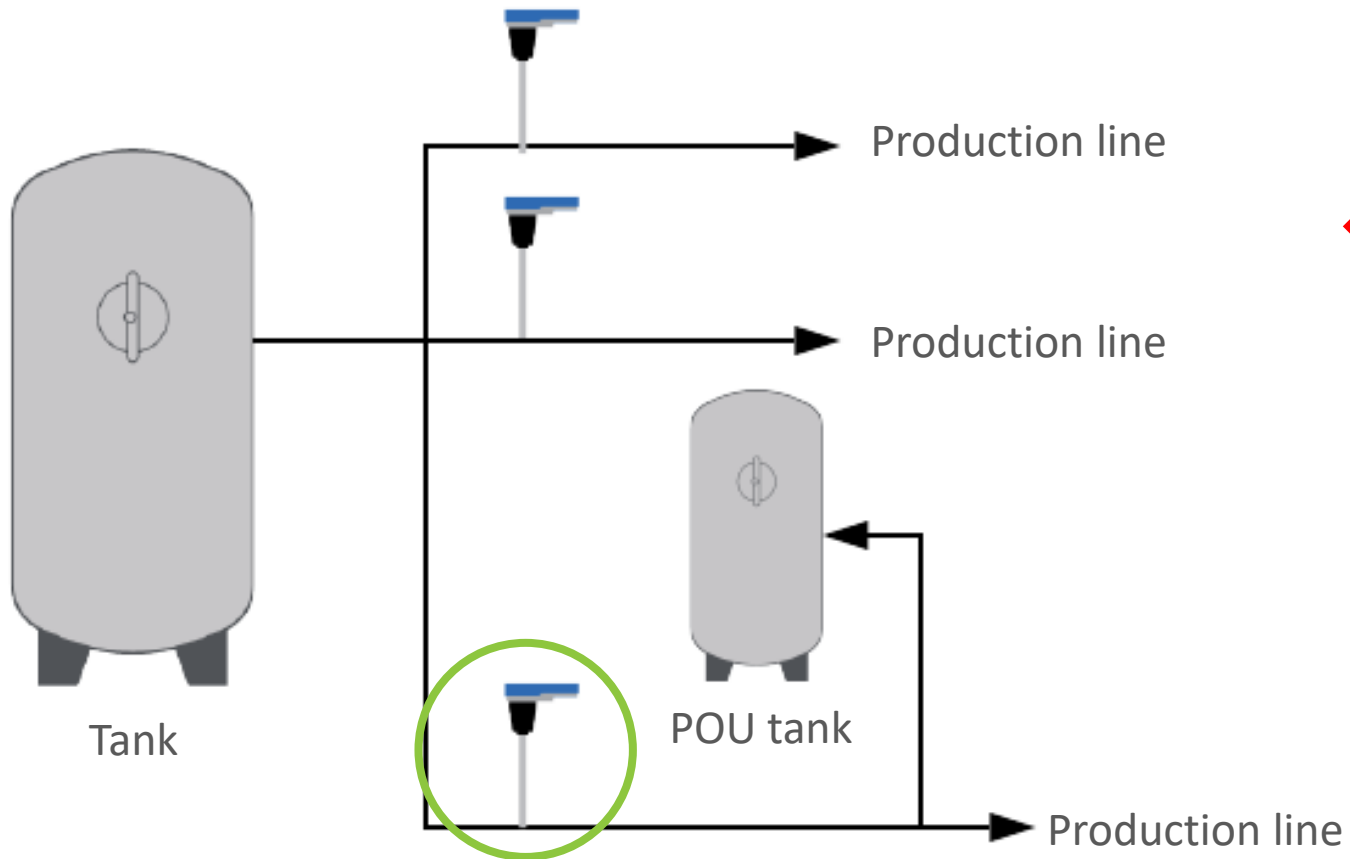
# Principles compared



	Thermal	Vortex	DP – Orifice plate	DP – Cone meter	Coriolis	Turbine/ rotary displacement	Clamp on ultrasonic
Mass flow	Yes	Optional	Optional	Optional	Yes	Optional	Optional
Meter run	20D	15D	15D	5D	0D	10D	20D
Pressure loss	Low	Medium/high	high	high	Low	Low	Low
Dirty air	Fouling	OK	Clogging	Clogging	Internal fouling	Failure	OK
Wet Air	Spikes	OK, spikes	OK	OK, orientation	Yes, but affects reading	Failure	Spikes
Range	1:250	1:10	1:10	1:10	1:100	1:100	1:100
Accuracy	2%	2%	2%	2%	0.5 .. 1%	0.5...1 %	1%
Purchase price	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$\$\$\$	\$\$	\$\$\$
Maintenance	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Low	High	Low

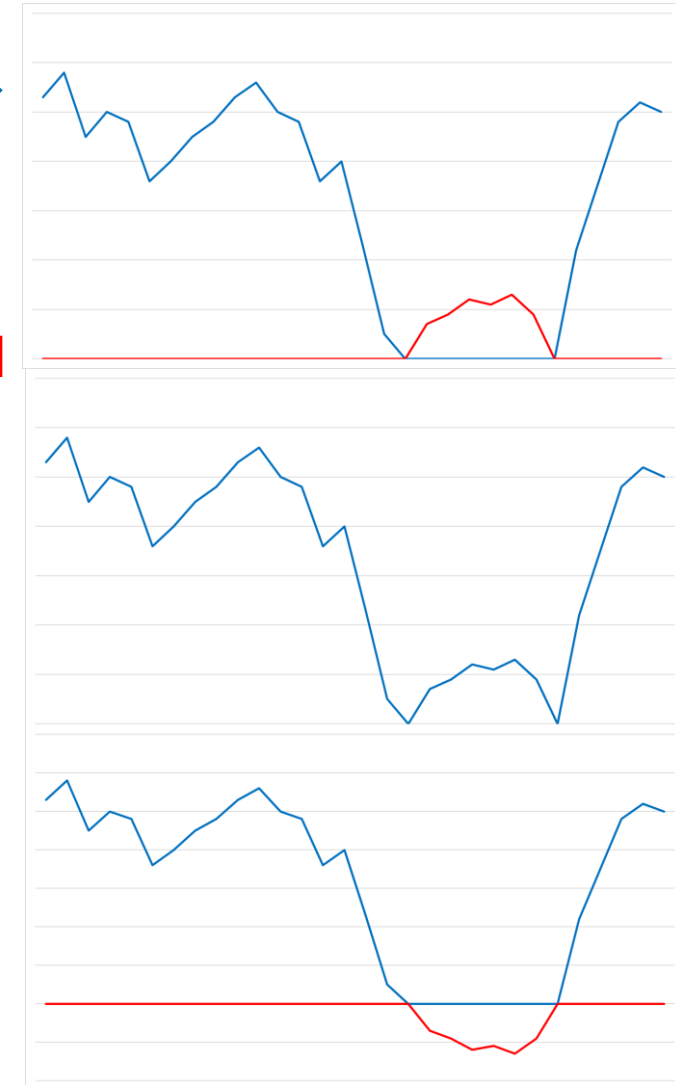
# Do you need Bi-directional?

Demand side (reverse flow)



Flow →

← Flow



+1002 m<sub>n</sub><sup>3</sup>

+941 m<sub>n</sub><sup>3</sup>  
- 61 m<sub>n</sub><sup>3</sup>

+880 m<sub>n</sub><sup>3</sup>

# Selecting a flow meter

## Some basic considerations

- Type of gas
- Flow range
- Humidity (dry/saturated)
- Diameter
- Pressure
- Temperature range



# Consider the external environment

- Accessibility (e.g. for maintenance)
- Excessive heat/radiation
- Water ingress
- Corrosive atmosphere
- High voltage lines
- Vibration
- Traffic
- Outside installation / IP Rating
- Country certification



# Other things to consider

## Model selection

### In-line / flanged / ultrasound meters:

- Differently priced. Expensive for large pipes or chosen measurement technology
- Possible with inlet tubing for right upstream length
- More expensive when by pass is needed
- May require depressurizing the CA system
- Some may require additional pressure and temp sensor for mass flow



### Insertion probes (2 inch and up)

- Installation possible in pressurized conditions
- Easy to insert or to take out for service or mobile measurements



## Example: Textile factory

### Solution

- Central compressed air monitoring system
- 3 x flow meters for dry air measuring flow, pressure, temperature, total flow

### Added Value

- Losses are identified immediately
- Leakage management
- Possible pressure reduction 7.25 psi
- Increased production efficiency
- Increase production by adding 4 loom machines



“Compressed air management allows us to increase our production!”



## Example: Cocoa factory

### Results

- Efficiency increase from 7,36 to 5,83 kW/m<sup>3</sup>
- Leakage volume: 50%.  
Savings potential > \$ 100,000 USD
- Increase in production by solving leakages in machines



# Conclusions

- Demand side flow measurements provide many possibilities
- Permanent flow measurements provides the right data for proper investment decisions
- Flow measurement leads to energy savings and even to production increase
- Key is to determine first your purpose of the flow measurement
- For proper flow measurement, location and installation are key





# THANK YOU!

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