



# HOT AIR

## YOUR GREEN ALTERNATIVE

**Sixth Heat Treatment Workshop**  
**A Practical Methyl Bromide Alternative for 2009 and Beyond**  
**IGP Conference Center, Manhattan, KS**  
**May 13-15, 2009**

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# Presentation Outline

**Heat**

- Perspective – Then & Now
- Advantage
- Insect death
- Process – Pros & Cons
- Research & Application
  - KSU, Purdue, Minnesota
  - Food Proc. Plants
- Our Company
- Conclusions
- Application images

# Heat Treatment – Historical Look

- 1762, France: 69°C / 156 °F for 3 d, moth
- 1860, England: 57°C / 135 °F for grain
- 1910, USA: heat treatment of mills
- 1920, USA: 30 mills use heat in OH, PA
- 1932, France: MB as insecticide

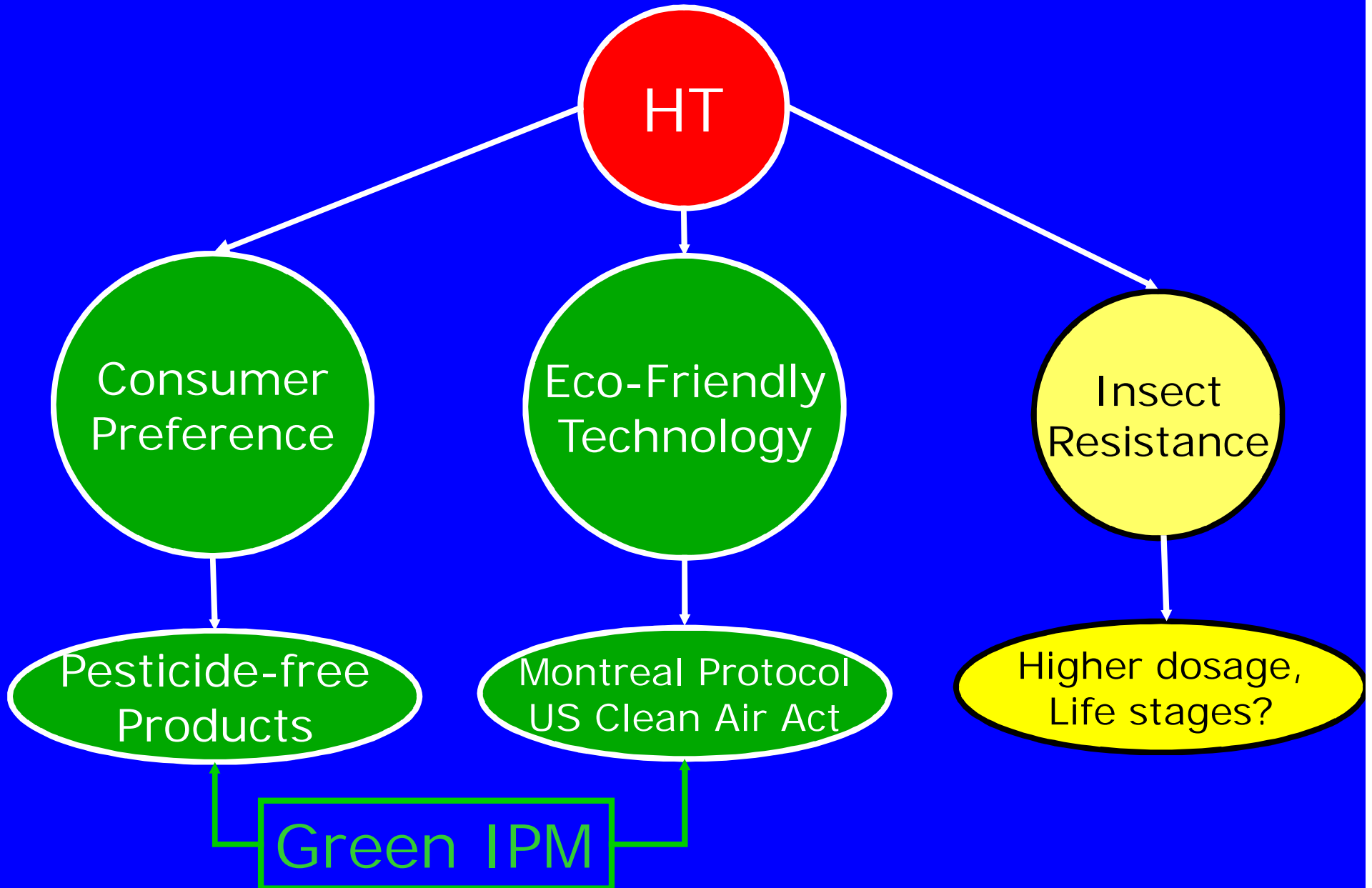
Used first 247 yrs ago!



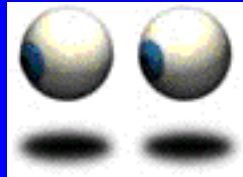
# History of Heat Treatments

- 1950's: Quaker Oats using heat
- 1983: EDB banned
- 1990's: increased interest in heat
- 1992: MB found ozone unfriendly
- 1994: Dursban in Cheerios
- 2005: MB to be phased out
- 2006: MB extension US, Canada ???

# Drivers - Heat Treatment (HT)?



# Heat Advantages



- **Safe:** non-chemical, people-safe
- **Effective:** kills all life stages
- **Eco-friendly:** no ozone depletion, toxic fumes, or corrosive effect

**Heat treat: Facilities, Bins & Silos**

# Heat Advantages



SEE

Safe

Effective

Eco-friendly

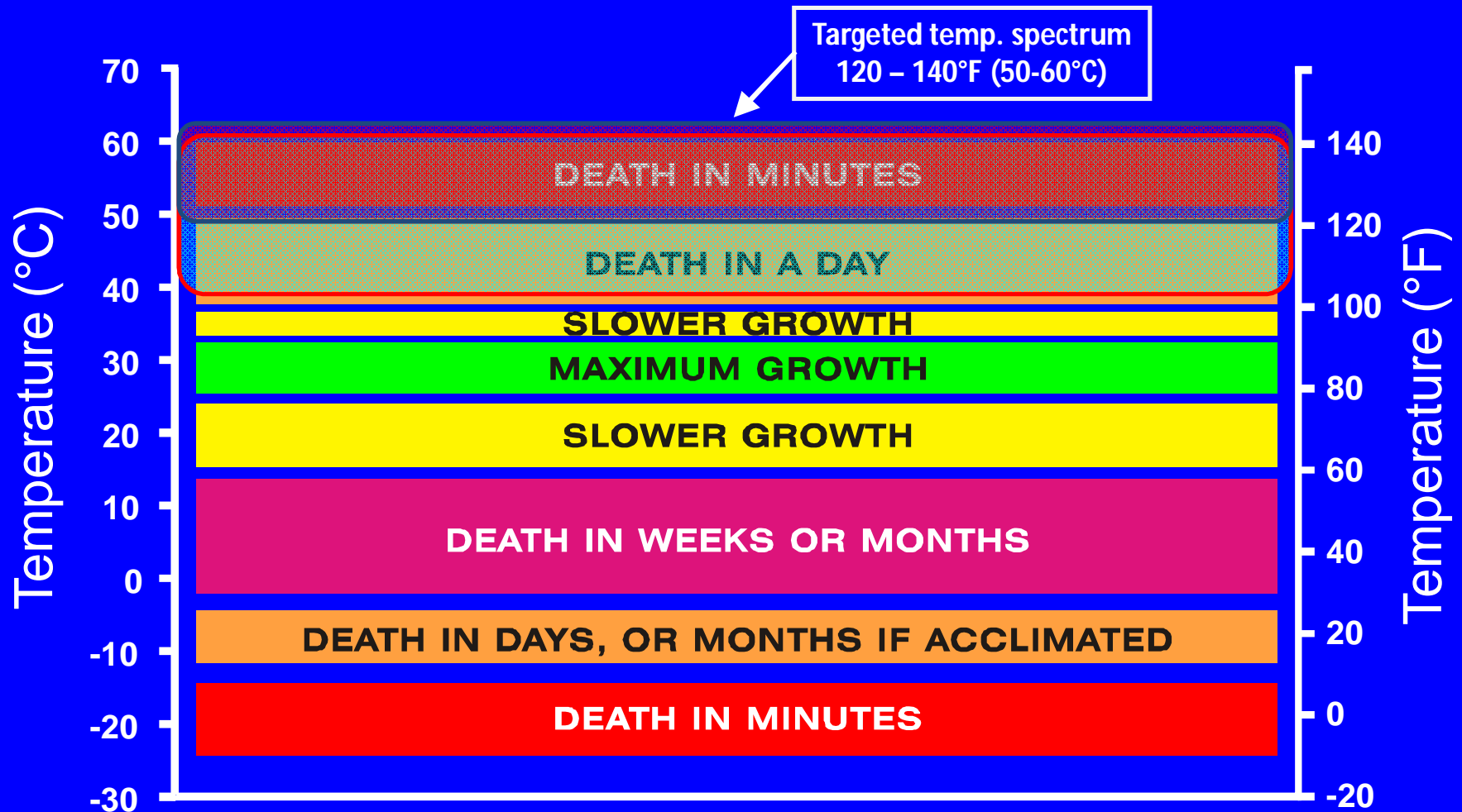
- No evacuation of personnel
- No Sealing (except doorways, loading docks etc.)
- Spot Treatments — continued productivity within plant, offices, warehouse etc.

# Heat & Insect Death

- High temperature –
  - Death by Dehydration (low RH)/desiccation
- Above 50 °C / 120 °F
  - Cell membranes “melt”
  - Enzyme destruction
  - Change in salt balance
  - Protein coagulation



# Temperature Effects on Insects



Source: P. Fields, AAFC, Canada

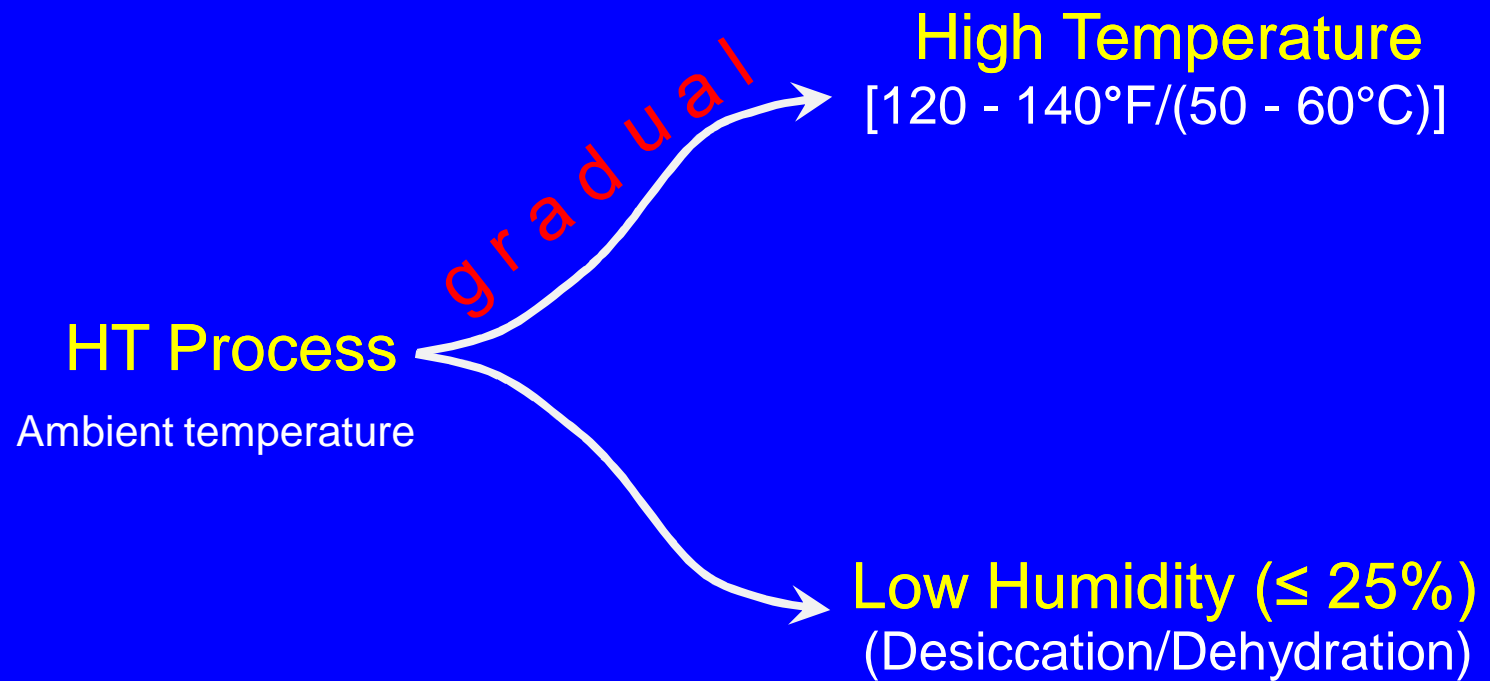
# Efficacy to Control Pests

- MBr – Methyl bromide
- $\text{PH}_3$  - Phosphine
- SF (Profume)
- $\text{CO}_2$  – Carbon dioxide
- $\text{O}_3$  - Ozone
- . . . . .

**Efficacy – function of temperature**

# Heat Treatment

## Insects – lethal threshold temperatures



# Heat Vs MB - Downtime Comparison (hours)

## Methyl Bromide

- Sealing.....0
- Set up.....4-6
- Fumigation.....24
- Aeration.....12-24
- TOTAL.....40-54

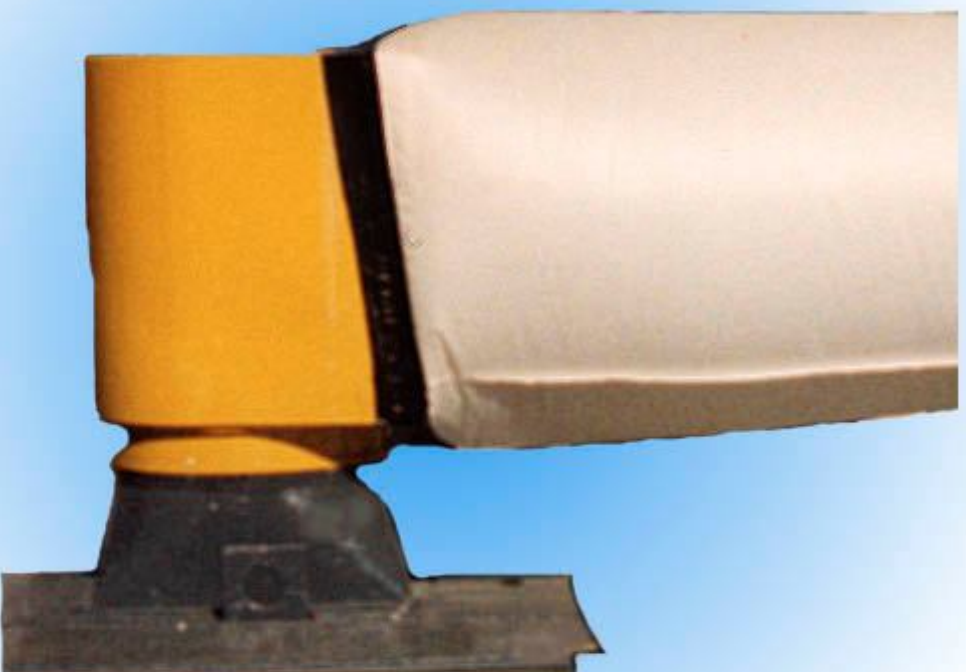
Plant evacuation mandatory

## Thermal Remediation

- Set up.....0
- Heat up.....6-8
- Kill Period.....24
- Cool down.....2-4
- Tear down.....1-2
- TOTAL.....33-40

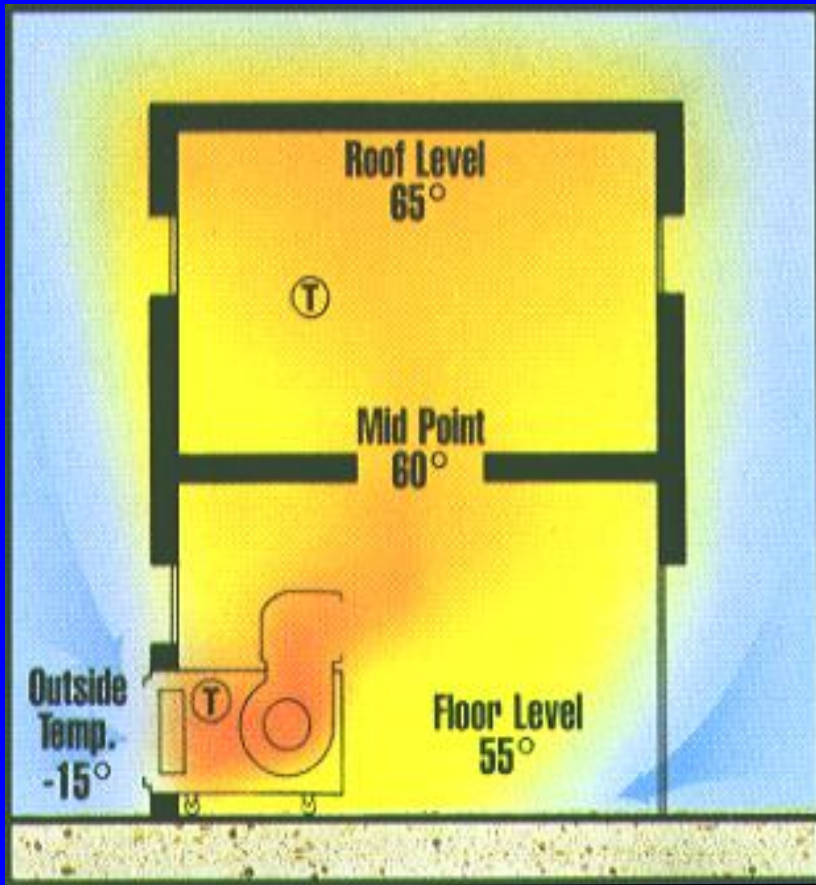
Untreated areas operational

# Process



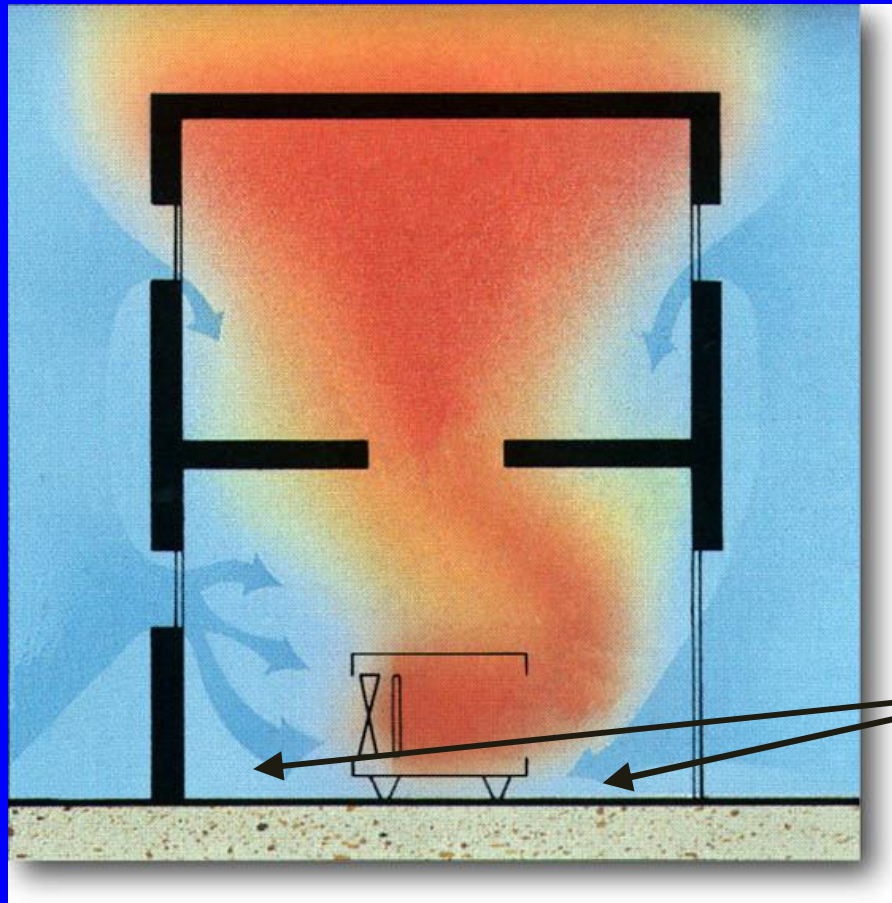
# Positive Pressurization – Forced ambient air (Patented Process)

## US & Canadian Patents



- Positive pressure
  - Good air distribution
  - Hot air is pushed into corners, cracks and crevices
- Calculated and controlled infiltration (4-6 air changes per hour)
- Lower relative humidity

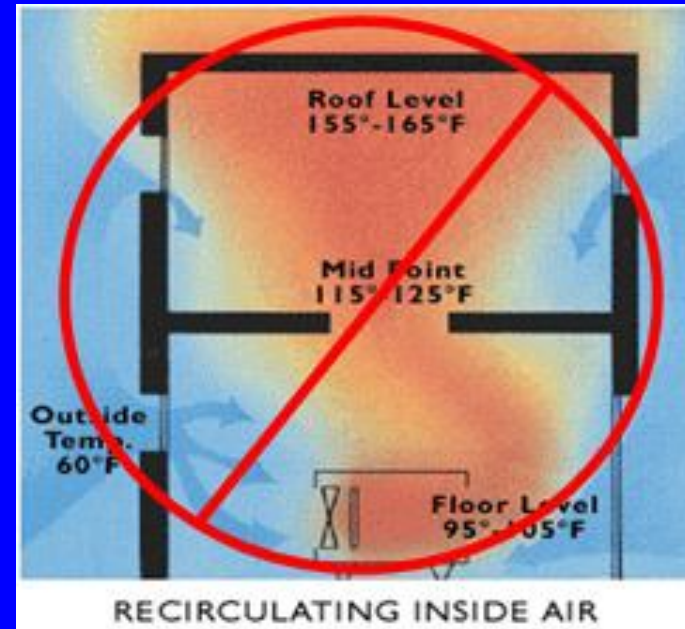
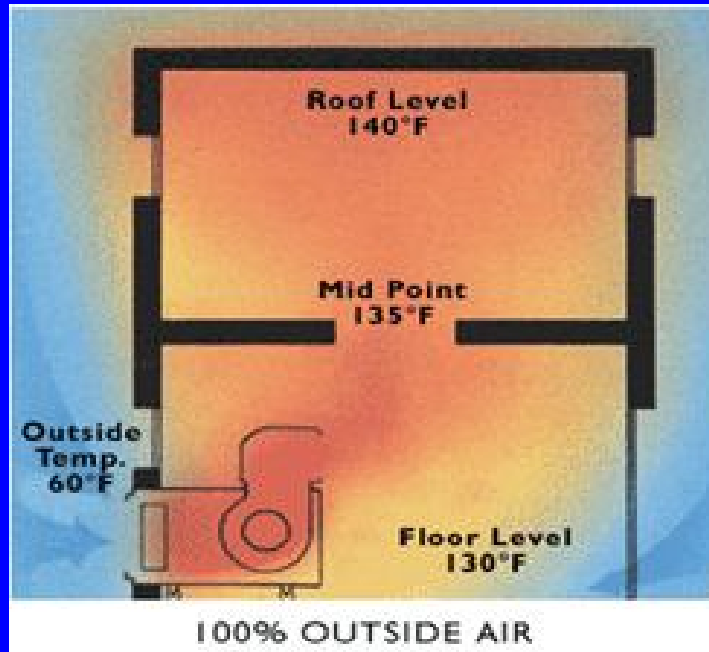
# Re-circulating Inside Air



- Negative pressure
- Poor air circulation
- Uncontrolled infiltration
  - **No air changes**

Low temperature zones  
(cold spots)

# Construction Heat Principles: Make-Up vs. Recirculating



- Recirculating heaters promote thermal stratification and infiltration
- Make-up air heaters provide uniform temperatures, pressurize the structure, and exhaust moisture and fumes



# Steps in Heat Treatment



Visit & Feasibility



Engineering, Equipment & Estimate

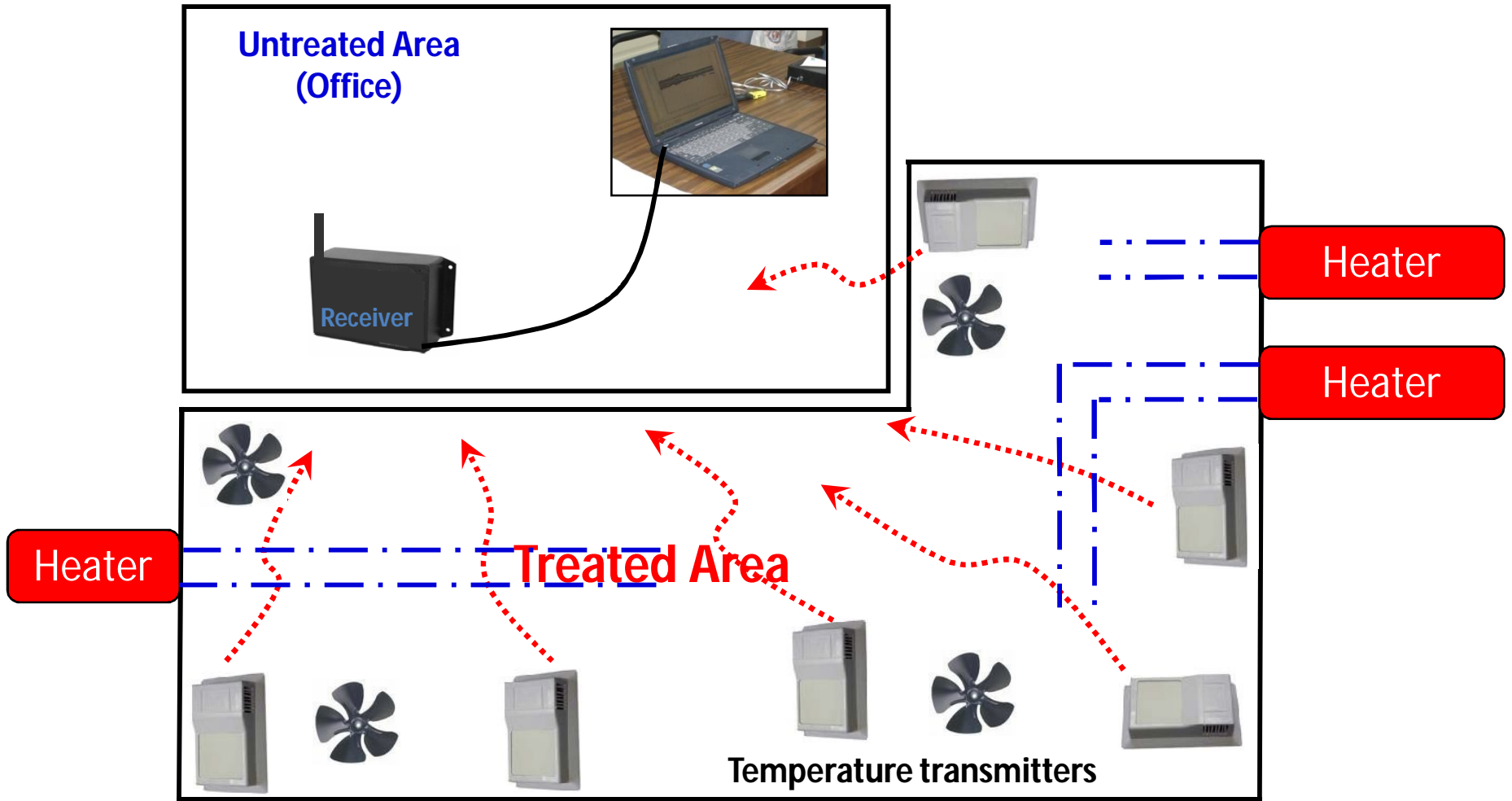


Setup, HT, Document & Review

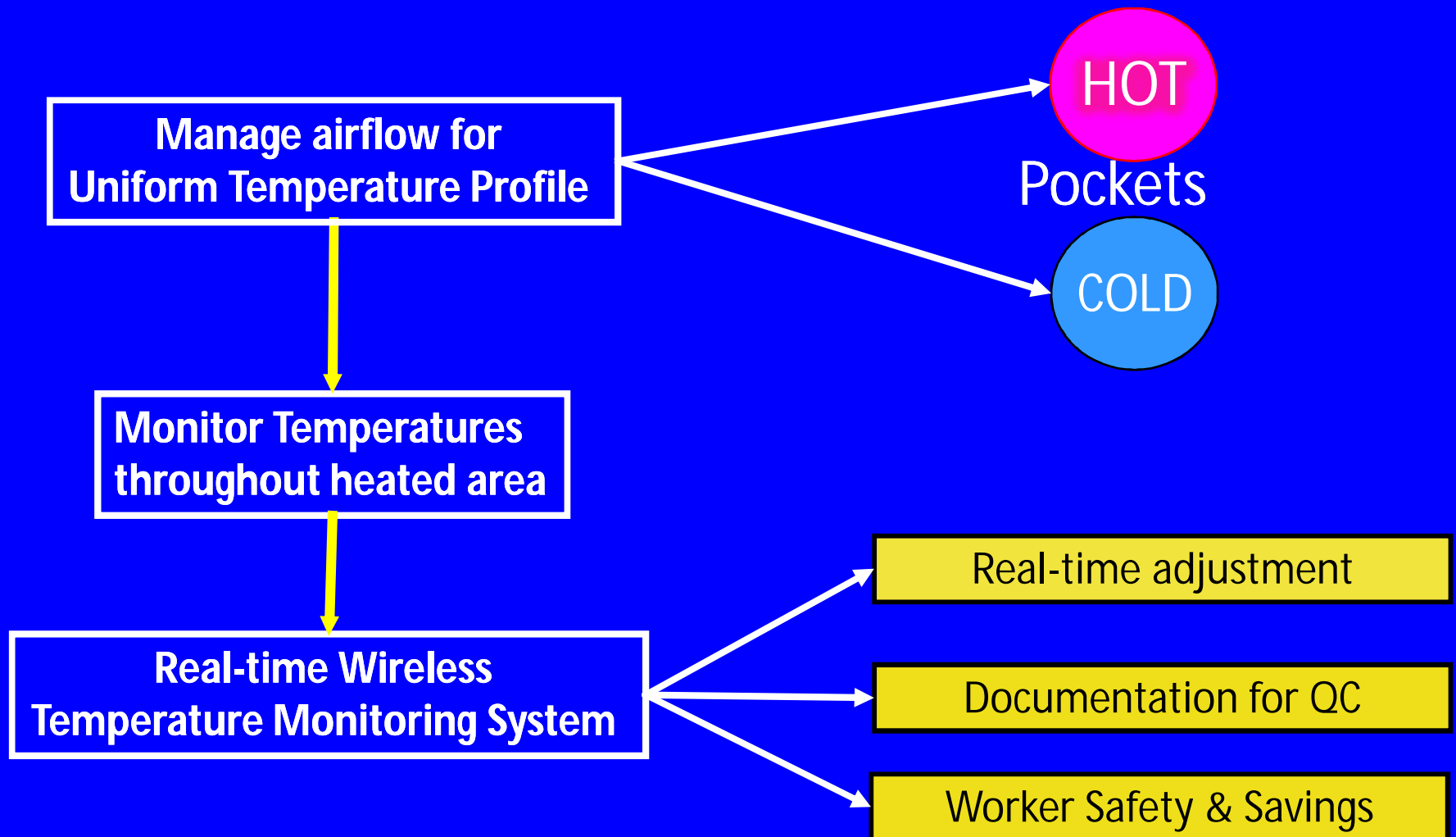


Equipment mobilization

# Real-time Wireless Temperature Monitoring



# Effective Heat Treatment



# Start of the Heat Treatment

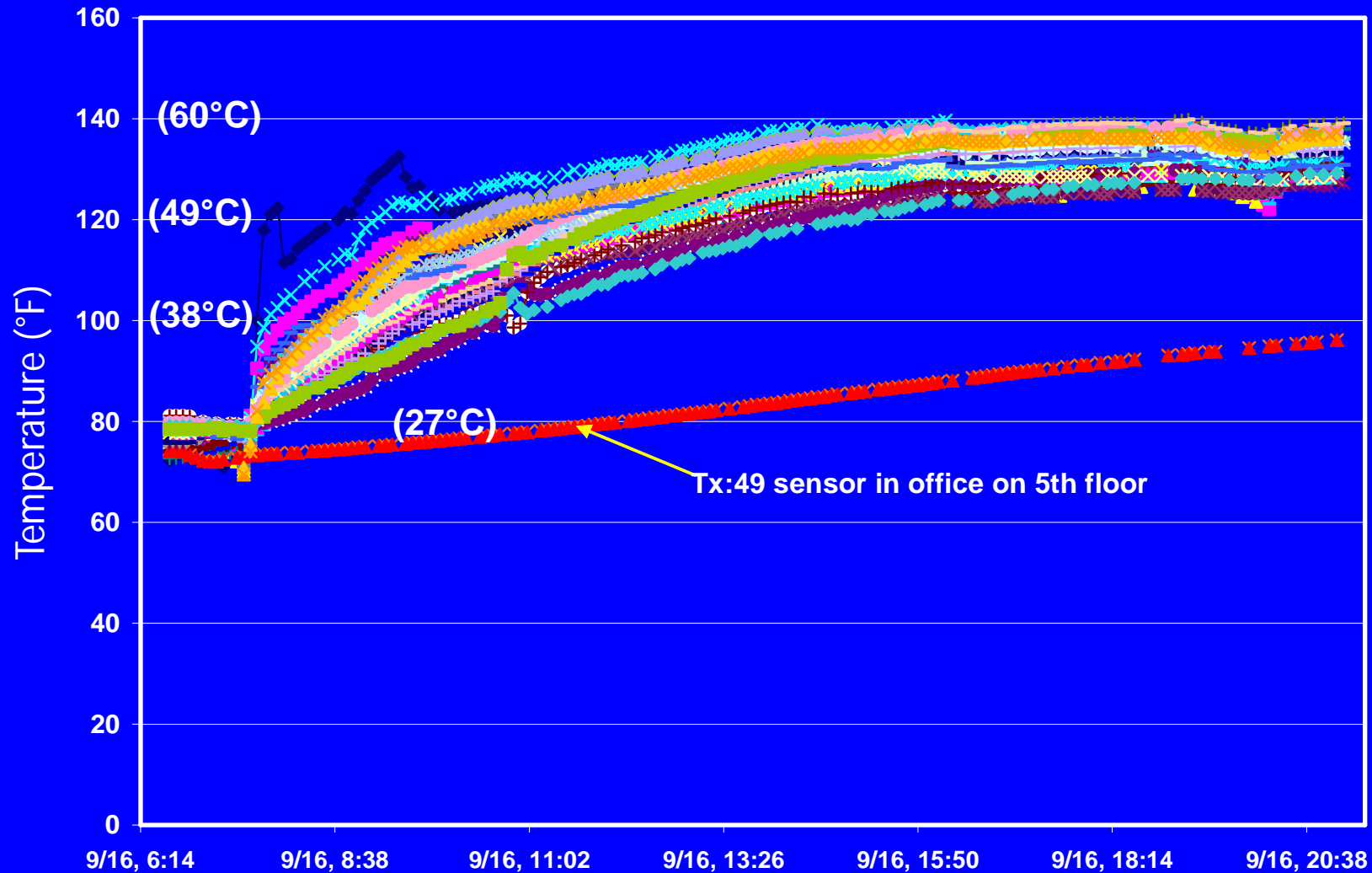


Fig. 1: Real-time Temperature Profile

# End of the Heat Treatment

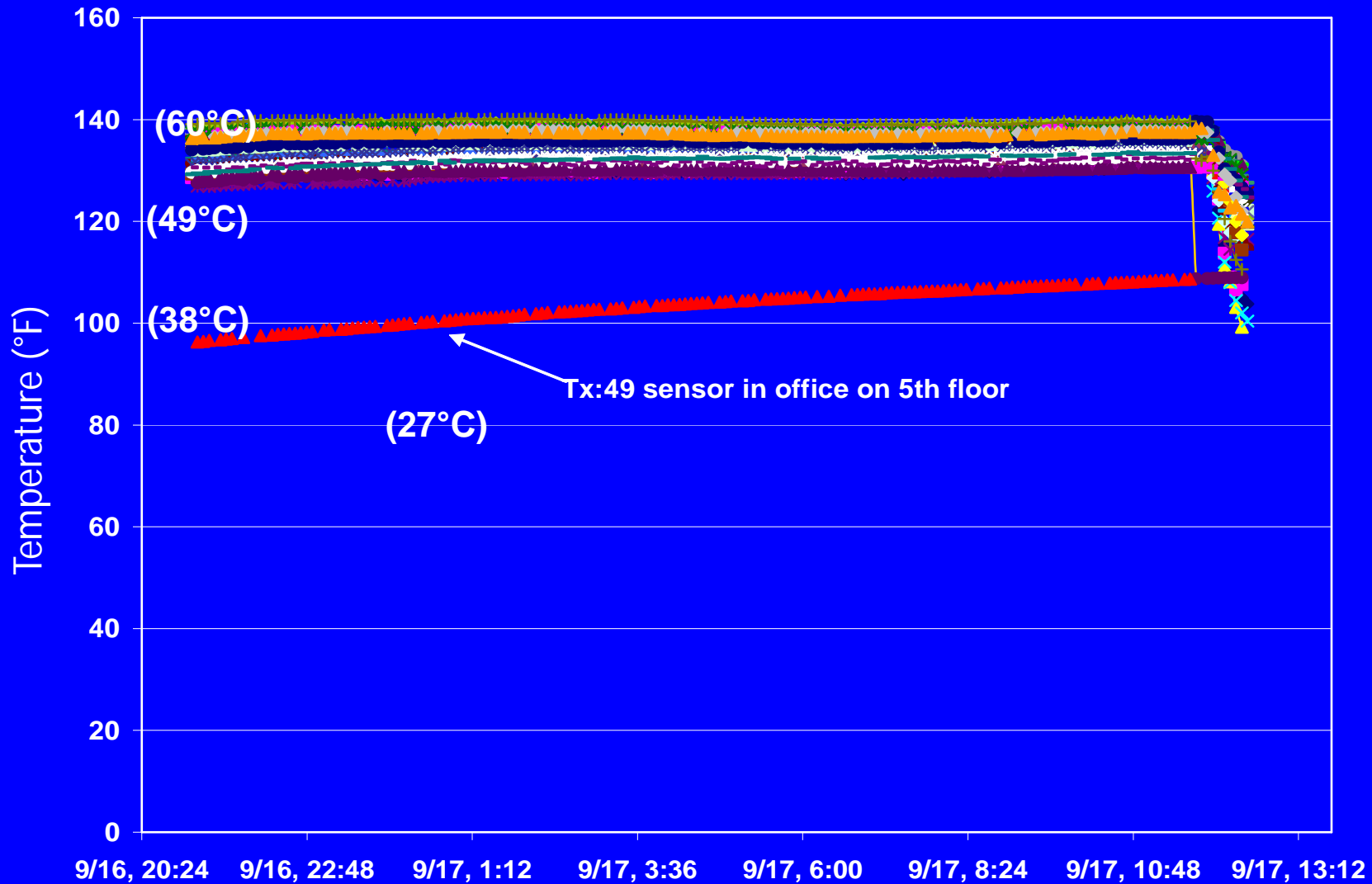


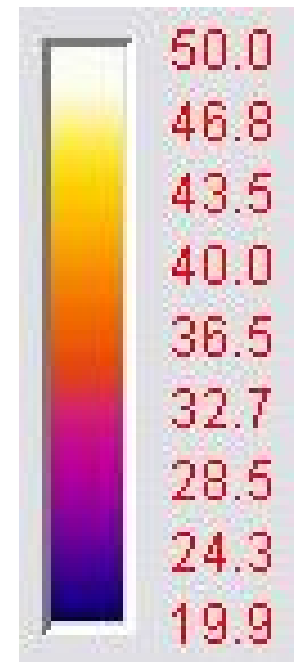
Fig. 2: Real-time Temperature Profile

# Heating in Mill

Time (h)



0  
0  
1  
3  
4.5



# Spread of Heat Treatment

- USA
  - California, Indiana, Minnesota, Kansas, Dakotas, Arkansas, NJ, Florida, Wisconsin. . . . .
- Canada
  - Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, Maritime provinces

# THERMAL REMEDIATION

## Industrial Applications

- Food Processing
- Rice Mills
- Flour Mills
- Pet Food
- Corn Mills
- Cereal Processing
- Bakeries
- Warehouses
- Pork Industry
- Baby Food
- Wood Packaging
- Finished Furniture
- Tobacco Companies
- Custom Cabinetry
- Hospitality / Hotels

Organic processing plants/storages

Entire structure or spot treatment



# Heat Treatment of Bins & Silos

Proactive – Preventative  
&  
Reactive - Response



# Bins & Silos

- **Pre-loading or Pre-harvest HT**
  - **On-farm bins**
  - **Elevators storages**
  - **Processing facilities**
  - **Organic processing plants**
- **Bin/Silo types**
  - **Concrete**
  - **Metal**
    - **GI bins**
    - **Tanks**

# Empty Bin Sanitation

- **Accumulation of BGFM under bin floors**
  - **Insect harborage**
  - **Mold spore accumulation**
- **Difficult to clean bin floors**
- **Available tools difficult to use or unavailable**
  - **Insecticide sprays have to drip through floor perforations**
  - **Blowing DE through fan does not guarantee uniform application**
  - **Chloropicrin no longer available**
  - **Phosphine requires applicator license**



# PERC Project – Purdue University Heat Treatment of Bins & Silos

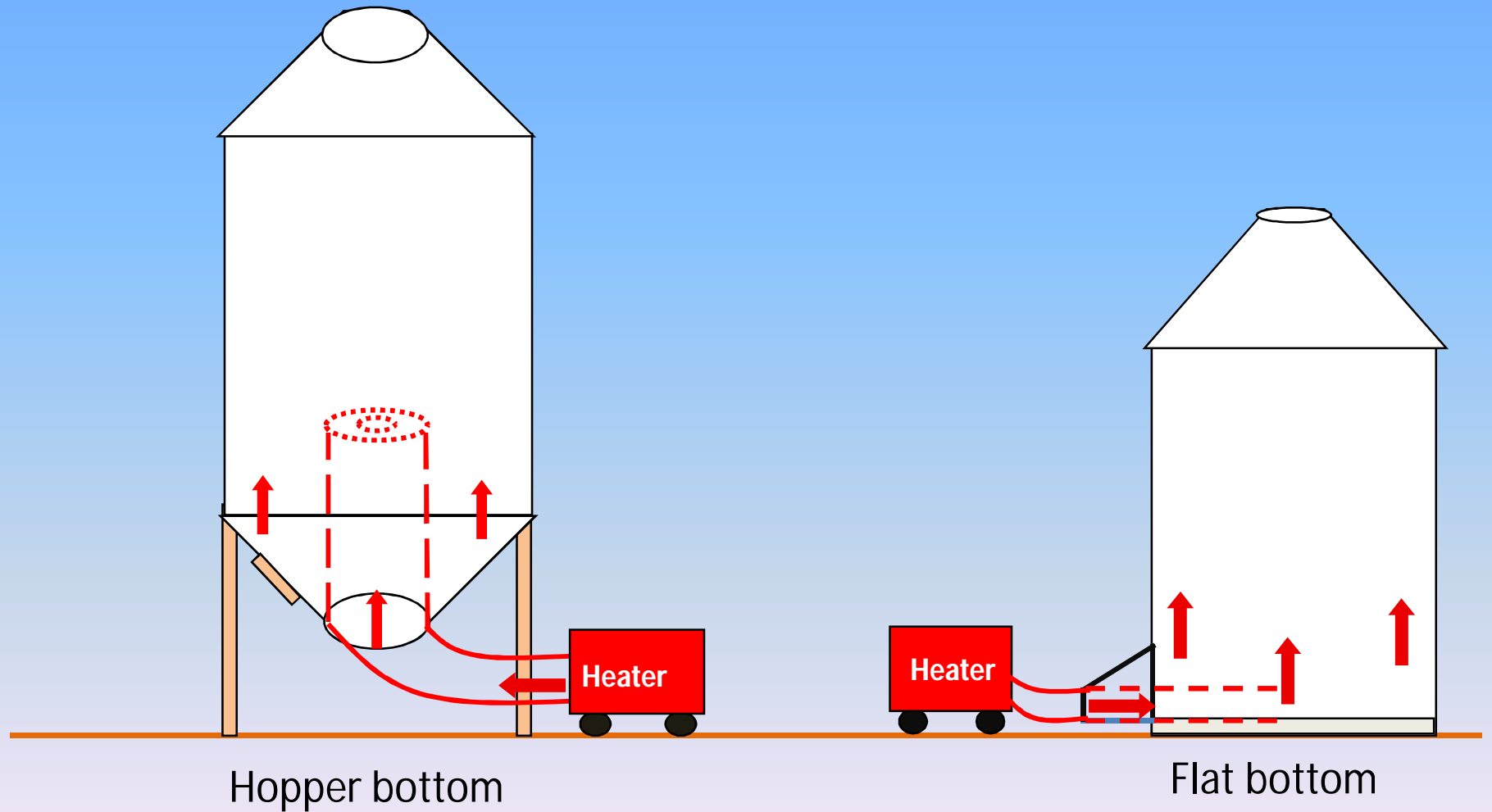
## TEMP-AIR MHT-1500:

- Self contained mobile unit
- 7.5 Hp blower motor
- 30 KW, 230 V, 3 phase generator
- 150 gal. capacity LPG tank
- 1.5 million BTU/hr heater output



**Portable Self Contained Unit  
Mobility with Simplicity!**

# HT of bins and silos



# Advantages of HT of Bins/Silos

- S E E
- Shorter treatment times (4 to 12 hours)
- Bins/Silos in facilities
  - Treated in rotation without shut-down
- On farm or warehouses – no extensive sealing or evacuation
- No retrofitting – existing transition, bin-entry



**CAN YOU  
REDUCE IT?**

- 
- 





## CAN YOU REDUCE IT?

- Facility C – all adults/larvae of RFB dead at 50°C/122°F within 12 hours – Dr. Subi
  - Facility X: 10- 12 hrs at 50 to 55°C/(122 - 131°F)
    - Adults: Drug store beetle, Tobacco beetle, RGB, RFB, CFB
    - Larvae: Drug store beetle, yellow meal worm
- (Source: Dr. Paul Fields, AAFC, Canada)*
- Predictive model: Thermal Death Kinetic model (Dr Subi)
  - Smaller areas – bakeries, silo rooms ( 8 to 10 hours)
  - Treatment time = f (structural elements, size, rate of temperature rise and  $\Delta T$ )



# Collaborative Research

- **Kansas State University**
  - Basic research (1999) – Dr. Subi (Stored Product pests)
- **CNMA – (2002-06) Canadian National Millers Association**
  - In collaboration with Dr Paul Fields, Winnipeg
- **PERC – Propane Edu. Res. Council**
  - Purdue University (2007-08) – Dr. Maier (bins/silos)
  - University of Minnesota (2008) - Dr. Kells (bed bugs)
- **Oklahoma State University (2007)**  
concrete silos
- **GTI – Gas Technology Institute (2007-08)**
  - Soil Nematodes – MB alternative

# Conclusions

- Heat kills all life stages of insects
- Good method to locate insect problems in industrial plants
- Repeat customers = efficacy of heat
- Viable alternative to methyl bromide
- Economies of scale - will make it more affordable
- Effective Bedbug control

# TEMP-AIR

- Largest provider of temporary heating & cooling equipment in US
- Custom manufactures HVAC for rental fleet
- 11 regional offices serving northern US



**Heat treatments for Stored Products Pest Control since 2000**

# Construction Heating Equipment



- 6,000+ rental units
  - Up to 4,500,000 Btu/hr
  - Fleet rating 4 BCF/hr
- Natural gas- and propane-fueled heaters
- Steam, hot water, and electric available
- Primary market is commercial/industrial; residential growing

# On Site Images



Heater Placement on multiple floors



Heater Placement in rolling shutter

# Heater Placement & Layout



Heater Partially inside Packaging Plant

## Duct & Fan Layout - Packaging



# Basement, Sensitive Equipment

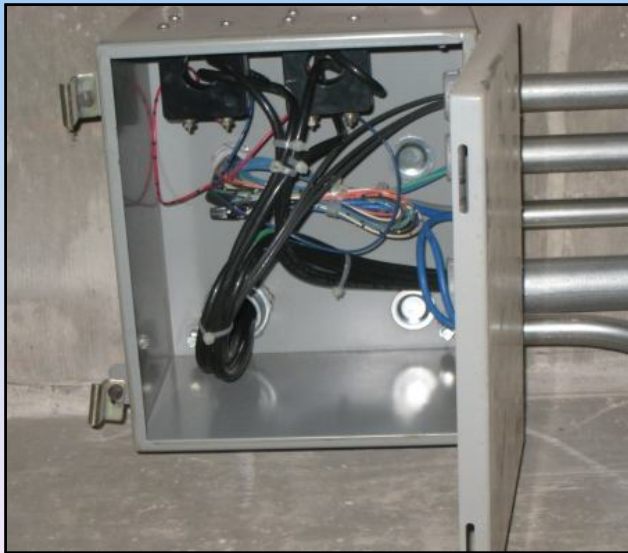


Basement



Wireless Temperature Sensors  
Placed Inside Sensitive Equipment

# Detecting hidden infestations



Overhead electrical junction box



10,000s of adults, larvae, pupae!!



# Partial/Spot heat treatment in a warehouse



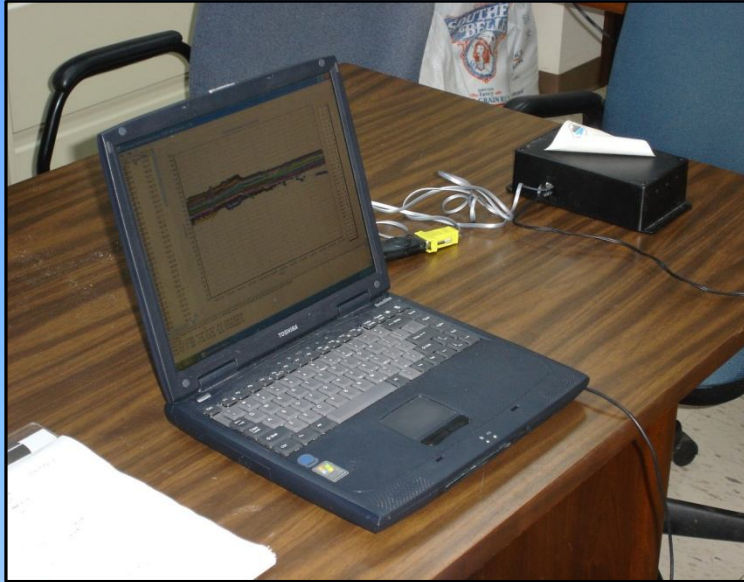
# Partial/Spot heat treatment in a warehouse



# Sprinkler heads and opening the machines



# Temperature Profile, Beetles, & Rats!!!!



# Concrete Bin Basement and Head house



# Concrete Bin Basement and Head house



# IPM, Pest Control Co., & Heat Treatment

- IPM - An approach to pest control that includes biological, cultural, genetic, mechanical and chemical means with least environmental damage
- Pest Control Cos.: *Uniquely qualified to use multiple strategies*
- Heat Treatment can be *a tool* in the arsenal of pest control methods and *not necessarily a replacement*

## Heat Treatment: Patented scientific process

It's more of an Art – HOW you apply it



**Thank You**



Questions?

**HOT AIR.**



**YOUR NEW  
INSECTICIDE.**

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