



Sustainable Commercial Refrigeration

Webinar - November 13, 2024



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This webinar was developed in partnership with The LEARN Program.

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Sustainable Commercial Refrigeration

In today's webinar we'll discuss:

Project Case Study

- Team
- Challenges and solutions

Technology: Refrigerants, Defrost, Simultaneous Heat Cool with Storage

- Refrigerants and where regulations are going
- How we can defrost with minimal additional energy
- Storage of Industrial Cold

Grid Integration and Load Shifting

- Dollars and cents
 - Load shift ability
 - Grid Edge Control
- Possibilities for incentivization

Q&A



Image courtesy Straus Family Creamery

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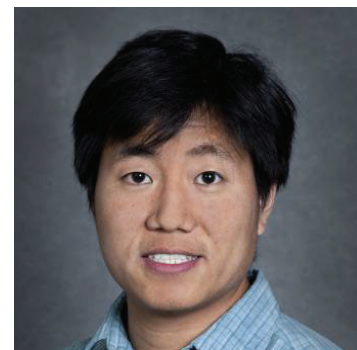
Today's Panelists



Doug Davenport
Prospect Silicon Valley



Sean Jarvie
Flow Environmental
Systems



Rongxin Yin
Grid Integration Group,
Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory

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Refrigeration & Cold Storage: The Potential

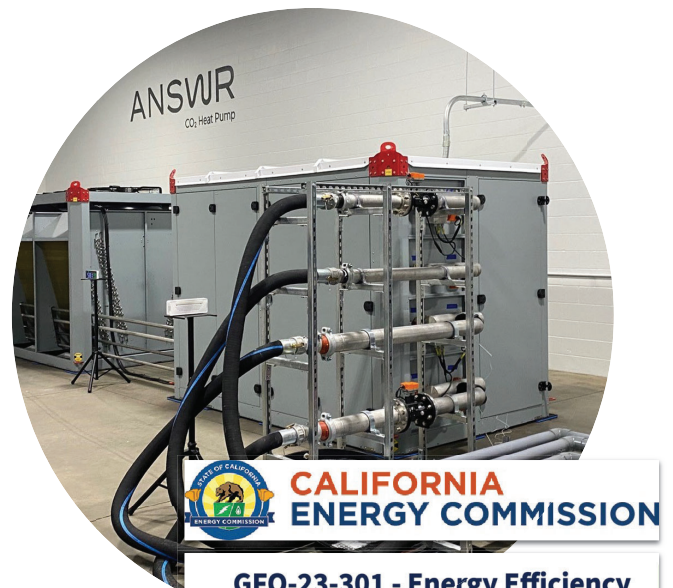


Courtesy Straus Family Creamery, Craig Cozart Photography

- Refrigeration accounts for ~ 1/3 of the total electricity usage for the food processing industry
- Demand for cold storage is expected to increase
- Potential for reducing electrical grid stress:
 - Significant power demand
 - Refrigeration load is a significant portion of a facility's total energy usage
 - # of processes are limited
 - Products are not sensitive to short-term power reductions

Advancing Innovation in Commercial Cold Storage

- Rigorous system demonstration, with 3rd party verified data
- Leading advisors and design engineering reviews
- Design guidance and reference information
- Contractor and engineering training
- Outreach to the industry
- A direct path to project opportunities



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

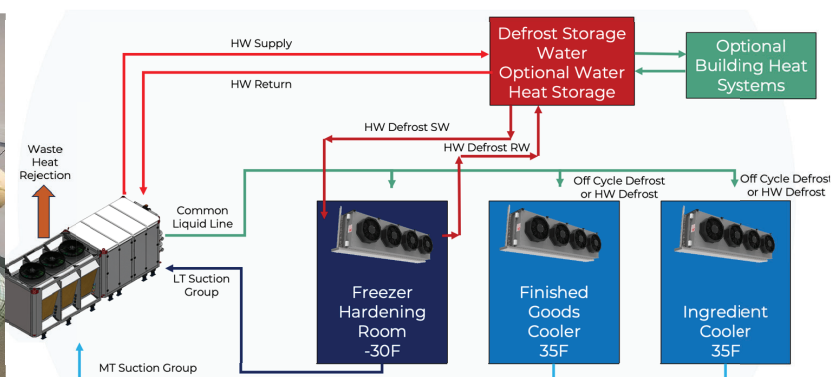
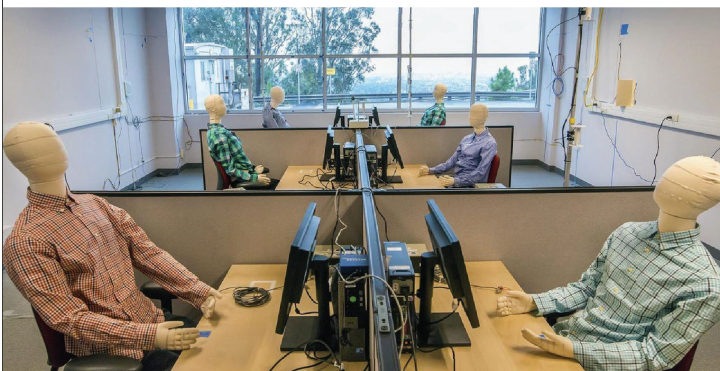
GFO-23-301 - Energy Efficiency and Load Flexibility in Industrial and Commercial Cold Storage Facilities

The Team



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Two Heat Pump Demonstrations



HVAC in Large Commercial Buildings

FlexLab – Berkeley CA

- Simultaneous Heating/Cooling/HW
- Advanced HVAC Controls
- Model Predictive Grid Response

Commercial Cold Storage

Straus Family Creamery – Rohnert Park, CA

- Multiple Facility Cold Rooms
- Supplemental Process HW
- Advanced Defrost Controls
- Model Predictive Grid Response

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Heat Pump Demo: Commercial Cold Storage

Goal: Demonstrate a Commercial Cold Storage solution that will reduce GHG emissions, save cost, improve energy efficiency and demand flexibility, apply advanced defrost controls, and improve process control.

Demonstration Site: Straus Family Creamery – multiple cold storage sites, -30F to +35F

Technology: 60-ton ANSWR heat pump system + thermal energy storage & advanced defrost controls

M&V: Independently verified performance by LBNL

Industry Engagement: Testing results, modeling work & products, ANSWR performance factors (\$, kW, CO2), DMG Training Program



Courtesy Straus Family Creamery

Stay Involved

- **Outreach Campaign** – Building owners, operators, engineers, contractors, public and private sector
- **Performance Data** – Results of testing program, financial analysis
- **Design Resources** – Performance curves, BIM HP model, Modelica model
- **Controller Beta** – System specs and control sequences, public domain downloads



 ProspectSV | **PATHWAYS**



Flow

Environmental Systems Inc

Who We Are

US company bringing commercially viable and environmentally responsible HVAC&R technologies to market.

Our Purpose

1. Decarbonize and Detoxify
2. Eliminate the need for fossil fuels
3. Serve harder to electrify end-use cases

Our Mission

To leave the planet in a better state than we found it.

The Problems

The EXISTING Built Environment contributes to ~40% of all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

How do we retrofit existing systems?

The NEW global building stock is expected to double by 2060.

How do I build a better building?

We need to reduce building emissions.

- Voluntarily
- Regulatory

Right Size The Load

Energy Efficiency

Stop Burning Things

Heat Pumps

Refrigerants



Reducing
GHG
Emissions

Refrigerants

GWP 700 Nationally Starting 2025, End Goal GWP 10 or Less
Phase Downs on the Production of High GWP Refrigerants

HVAC

Regulation Targets	Naturals			Synthetic High Pressure			Synthetic Low Pressure					
	R-744 CO2	R-290 Propane	R-717 Ammonia	R-410A	R-32	R-454B	R-134A	R-513A	R-1234YF	R-1234ZE	R-1233ZD	
GWP ₁₀₀	<700	1	4	0	1924	677	467	1300	575	1	1	1
ODP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00034
Safety Class	A1	A1	A3	B2L	A1	A2L	A2L	A1	A1	A2L	A2L	A1
PFAS	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* GWP is defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). There are different editions. The latest approved is AR5.

Refrigeration

Regulation Targets	Naturals			Industrial and Supermarket							
	R-744 CO2	R-290 Propane	R-717 Ammonia	R-404A	R-507A	R-407A	R-407C	R-407F	R-448A	R-449A	
GWP ₁₀₀	<150	1	4	0	3942	2985	1923	1624	1674	1273	1282
ODP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Safety Class	A1	A1	A3	B2L	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1
PFAS	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* GWP is defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). There are different editions. The latest approved is AR5.

Transcritical

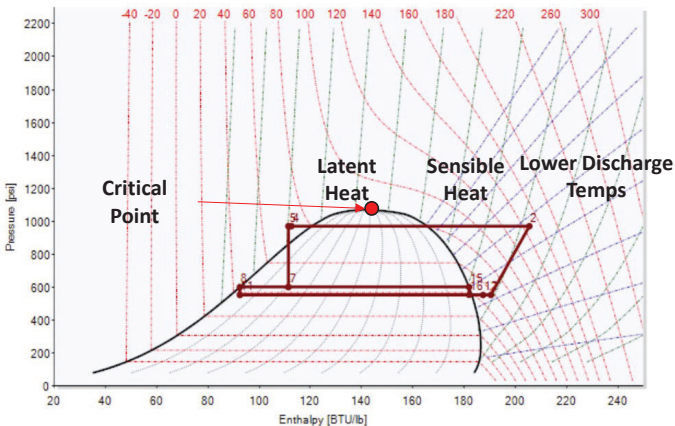
Subcritical

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What is different with a CO2 Heat Pump?

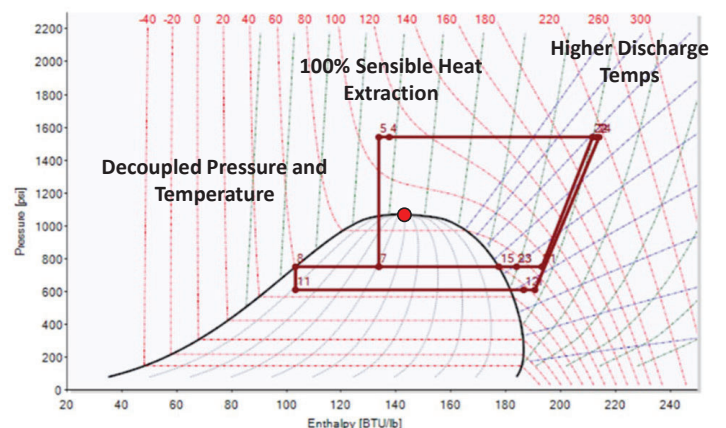
Subcritical

Refrigerant condenses in the condenser



Transcritical

Refrigerant does NOT condense in the gas cooler



ANSWR

CO₂ Heat Pump



ANSWR

CO₂ Heat Pump

Air-to-Water and Water-to-Water

HVAC Heating and Cooling

Simultaneous Heating and Cooling

Split System

Heat Pump



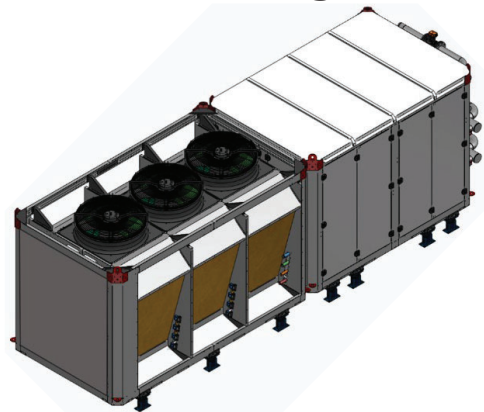
Gas Cooler



Domestic Hot Water Production

Hot Water Boilers

Packaged



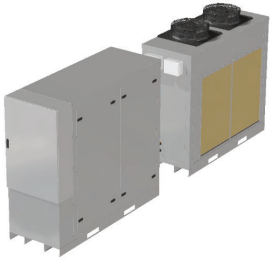
ANSUR

Heat Pumps Are Configurable

Nominal Sizes: 20, 60, 90, 120 Tons

20TR Model

(fits through door and elevator)



Heat Pump(s)



Gas Cooler(s)

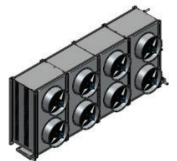
V-Bank



Horizontal



Vertical

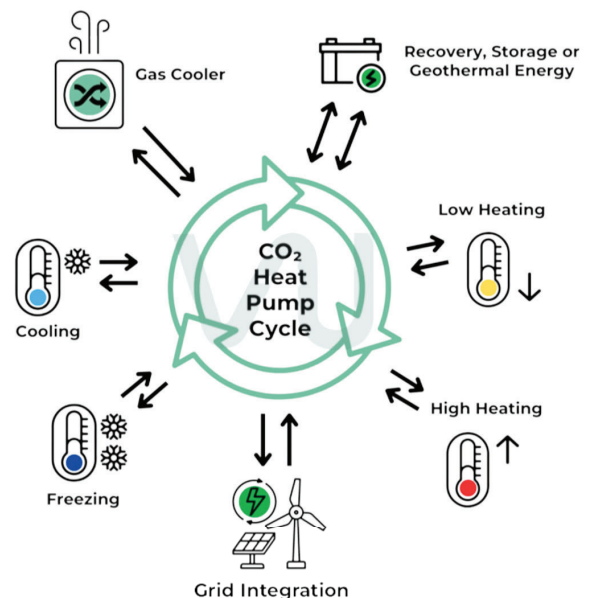


Modules are designed for parallel installation

Key Benefits

- Environmentally friendly natural refrigerant (CO₂/R744)
- Simplified system design and installs
- High delivery temperatures (up to 180°F)
- Cold climate performance (down to -40°F)
- Efficient (High COP, no defrost, no derates, etc...)
- Seamless transition between heat, cool, and simultaneous heating and cooling
- Robust supply chain
- Low carbon emissions
- Low total cost of ownership
- Minimal infrastructure changes
- Future proof (Regulations)

Energy Optimization



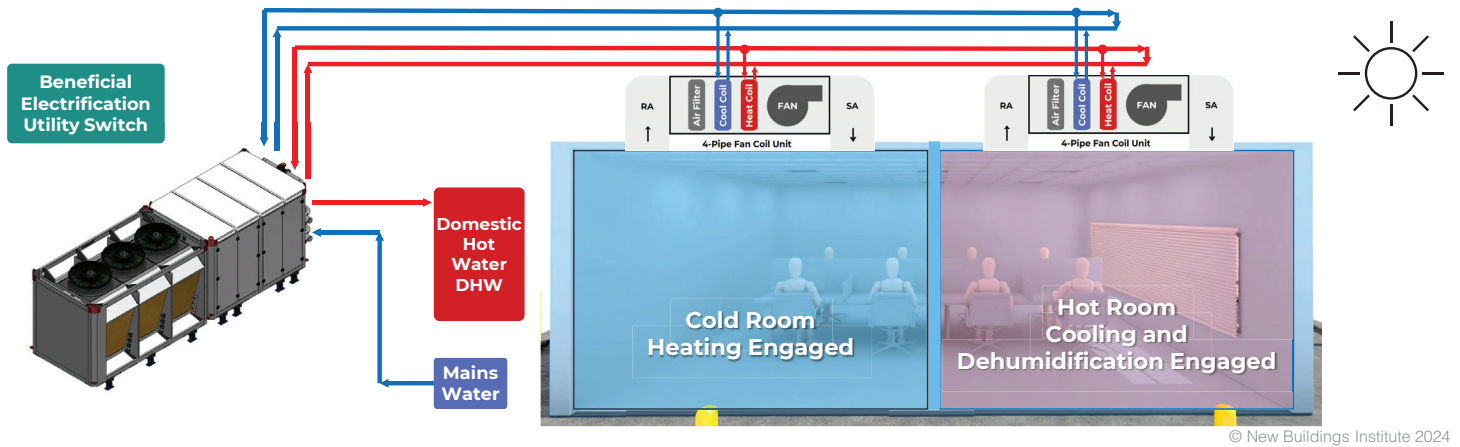
Example HVAC

Baseline

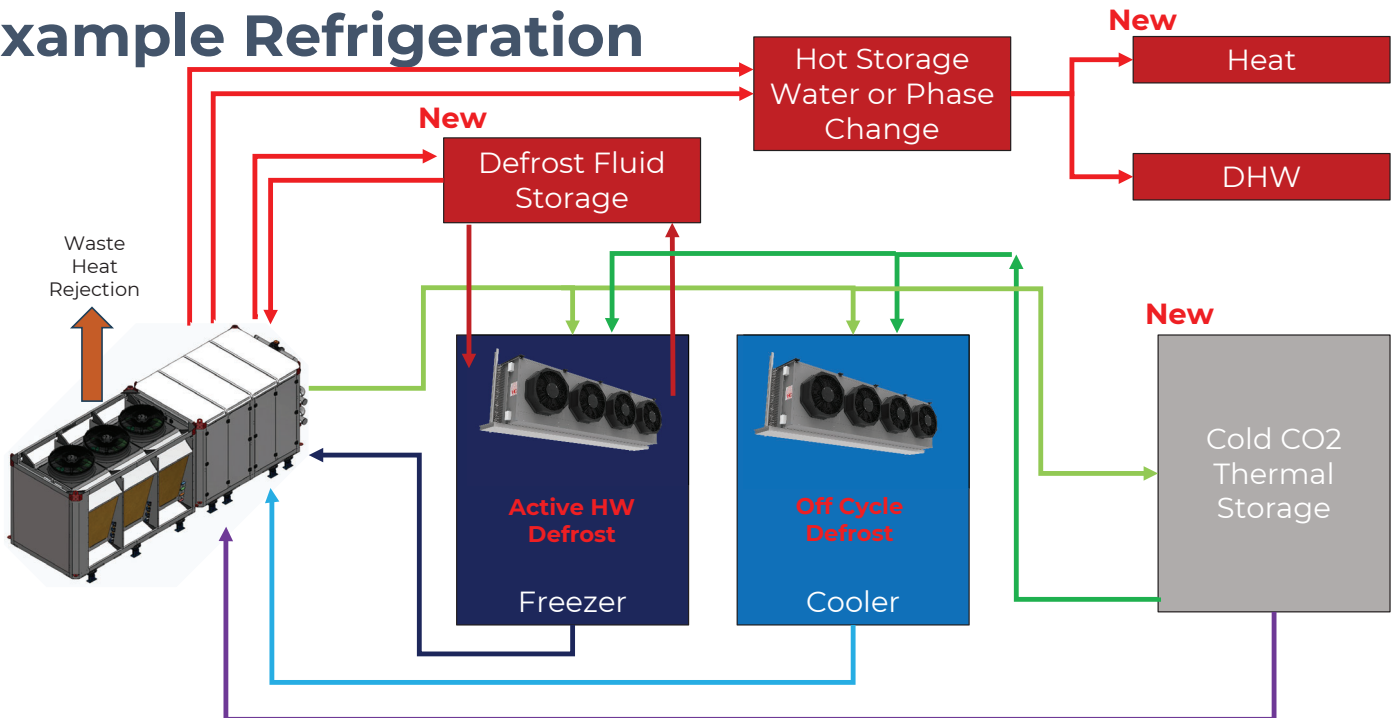
- 3 Independent Systems (Chiller, Boiler, DHW)
- No thermal sharing between systems
- No simultaneous heating and cooling
- Defrost concerns

Solution – Answer CO2 Heat Pump

- Simplified design: 1 Heat Pump replaces 3 systems
- Thermal energy sharing with high COP_{SCH}
- Optimization of energy balance and setpoints (minimize over-cool and over-heat)
- 100% electric that meets current and future regulations
- Advanced defrost design
- Designed for grid flexibility and resiliency



Example Refrigeration



Flow

Environmental Systems Inc

Webpage



sales@flowheatpump.com
flowheatpump.com

Energy and Demand Performance

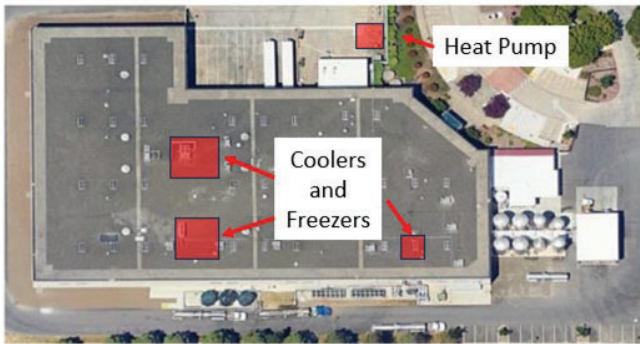


Energy Technologies Area
BERKELEY LAB

Commercial Cold Storage Demonstration Site

Demonstration Site - Straus

- A total of 2,638 square feet of separate refrigerated spaces
- Freezer and cooler spaces
- Currently uses the high-GWP refrigerant R448a



Storage Type	Floor Area (sq ft)	Setpoint (°F)
Freezer	840	-30
Finished Goods Cooler	1,305	35
Ingredient Cooler	493	35

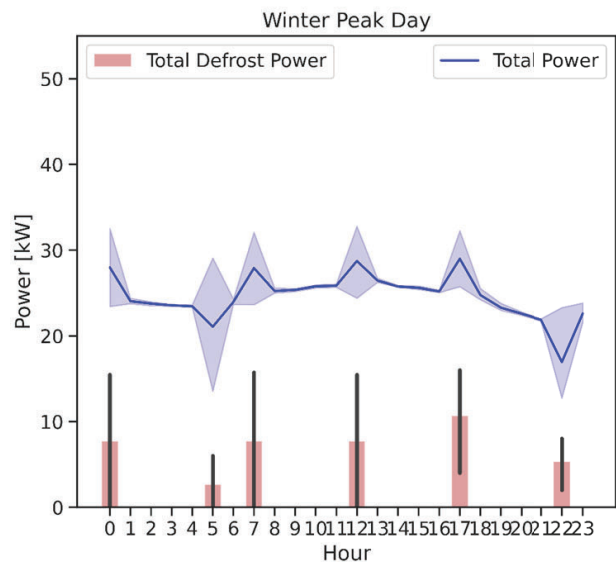
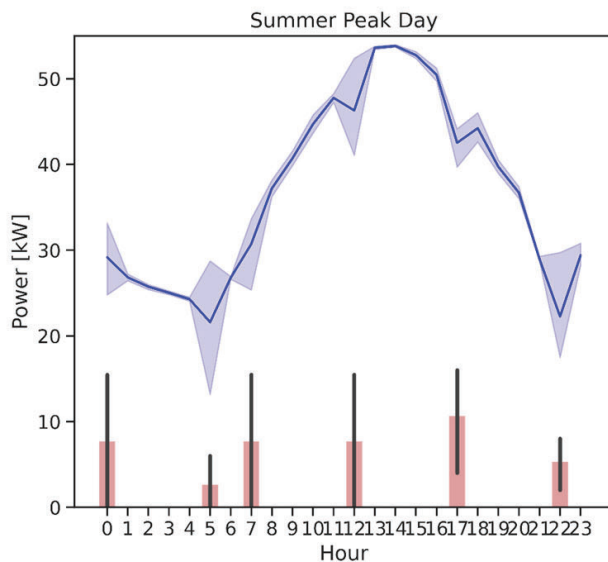
Low Temperature refrigeration system capacity: 206 MBH

High Temperature refrigeration system capacity: 350 MBH

R448a Charge (lbs): 450 lbs in total

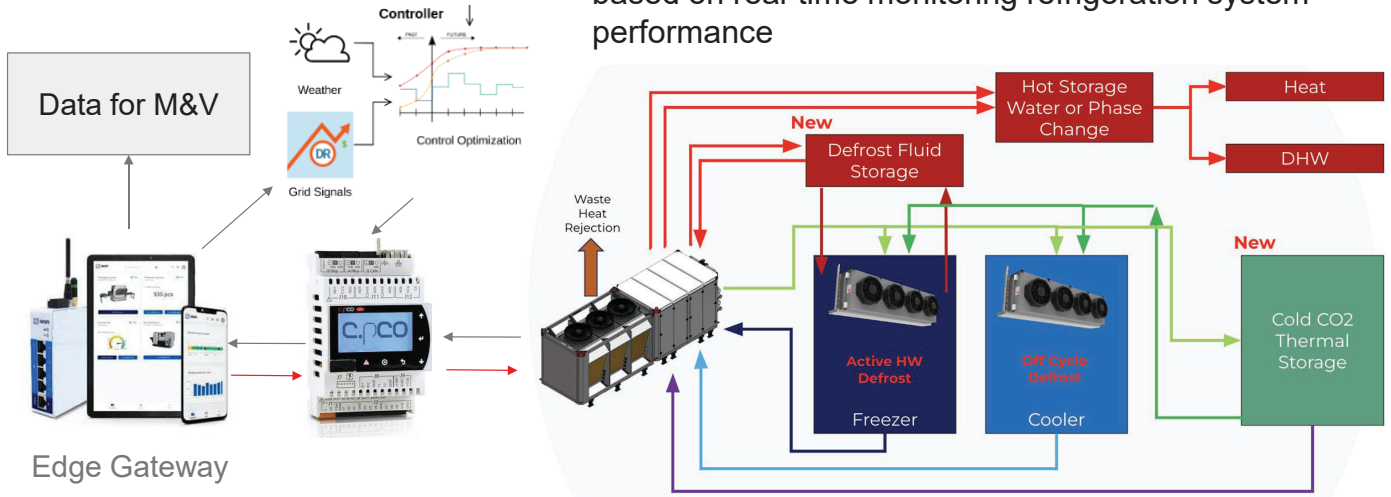
Electric Defrost: 32.9 kW in total

Electric defrost has a higher impact on the total system peak demand during the winter season, with variations observed between summer and winter peak days.



Proposed Flow CO2 Heat Pump + Thermal Energy Storage System

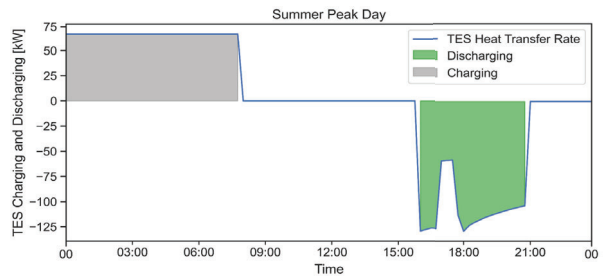
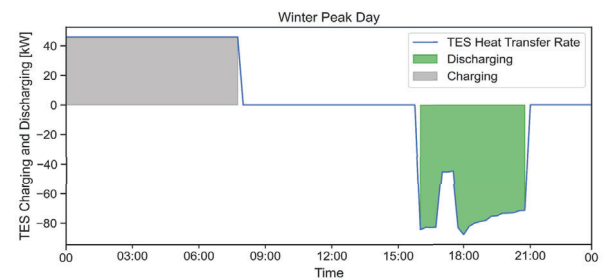
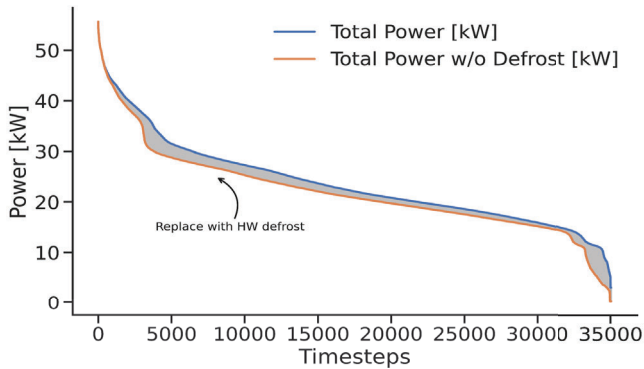
Advanced defrost control and TES operation sequences based on real-time monitoring refrigeration system performance



Packaged defrost and TES control can completely shift refrigeration system load from peak hours (e.g., 4-9 PM) to off-peak hours.

Defrost control algorithm

- Ensures defrosting is triggered as soon as evaporator performance begins to degrade
- Prevent synchronized defrost power surges



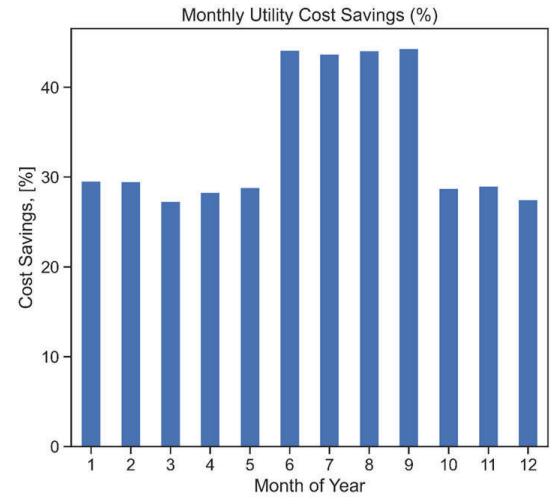
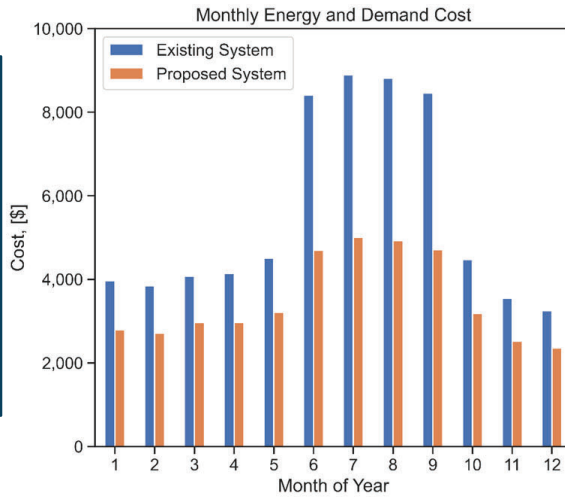
The proposed system significantly reduces monthly energy and demand costs compared to the existing system, resulting in substantial utility cost savings by 28~44%.

Cost savings

\$9.2/ft²

Carbon emission savings

15.1 MTCO₂e



PANEL DISCUSSION