

A Brief Status, Current Powerplant Halon Replacement Activity

Presented to:

The Combined International Aircraft Materials Fire Test & International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Forum Meetings

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Systems Fire Protection Forum Meetings, 16-17/18-19oct2023,
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Presentation Purpose & Content

- **...a Brief Overview & Status on Local Powerplant Halon-Replacement Fire Testing^[2a]**
- **Presentation contents...**
 - ✈ Brief Overview of the Test Process
 - ✈ Illustrations of the Local Test fixtures
 - ✈ Tabular Listing of Candidate Results to Date
 - ✈ Background Reference Presentations
 - ✈ Appendices

[2a] known in short-hand as "MPSHRe/rev04", the "Minimum Performance Standards for Halon 1301 Replacement in the Fire Extinguishing Agents/Systems of Civil Aircraft Engine and Auxiliary Power Unit Compartments (MPSHRe rev04)"



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A Brief Test Process Overview

- **Proposed certification criteria from 2 revisions**
 - ✈ directly relate to halon 1301^[3a] performance
 - ✈ based on replicate, multi-condition testing
 - concentration measurements
 - fire-suppression observations
 - ✈ candidate's performance will equal or exceed CF3Br's
 - ✈ is a part of aircraft certification, although passing the MPSHRe does not guarantee certification

[3a] halon 1301 is CF3Br, bromotrifluoromethane; the 6%v/v halon 1301 concentration criterion from the FAA certification criteria is a significant contributor to the state of the art [SotA]; this CF3Br concentration criterion is analogous to a peak-inertion concentration, as derived from bench-scale testing & reported in literature.



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A Brief Test Process Overview [continued]

- **MPSHRe/rev03 : 2003-2008, implicit empiricism**
 - ✈ rev03 built around CF3Br
 - ✈ initially uninformed, tested to find parity, & then characterized it
 - ✈ candidate firex^[4a] agents became less like state-of-the-art CF3Br; i.e. CF3I, 2-BTP, C6F12O, NaHCO₃ aerosol
 - ✈ ...empiricism falters, rev03 retired

[4a] firex = fire-extinguishing or fire extinguisher



A Brief Test Process Overview [continued]

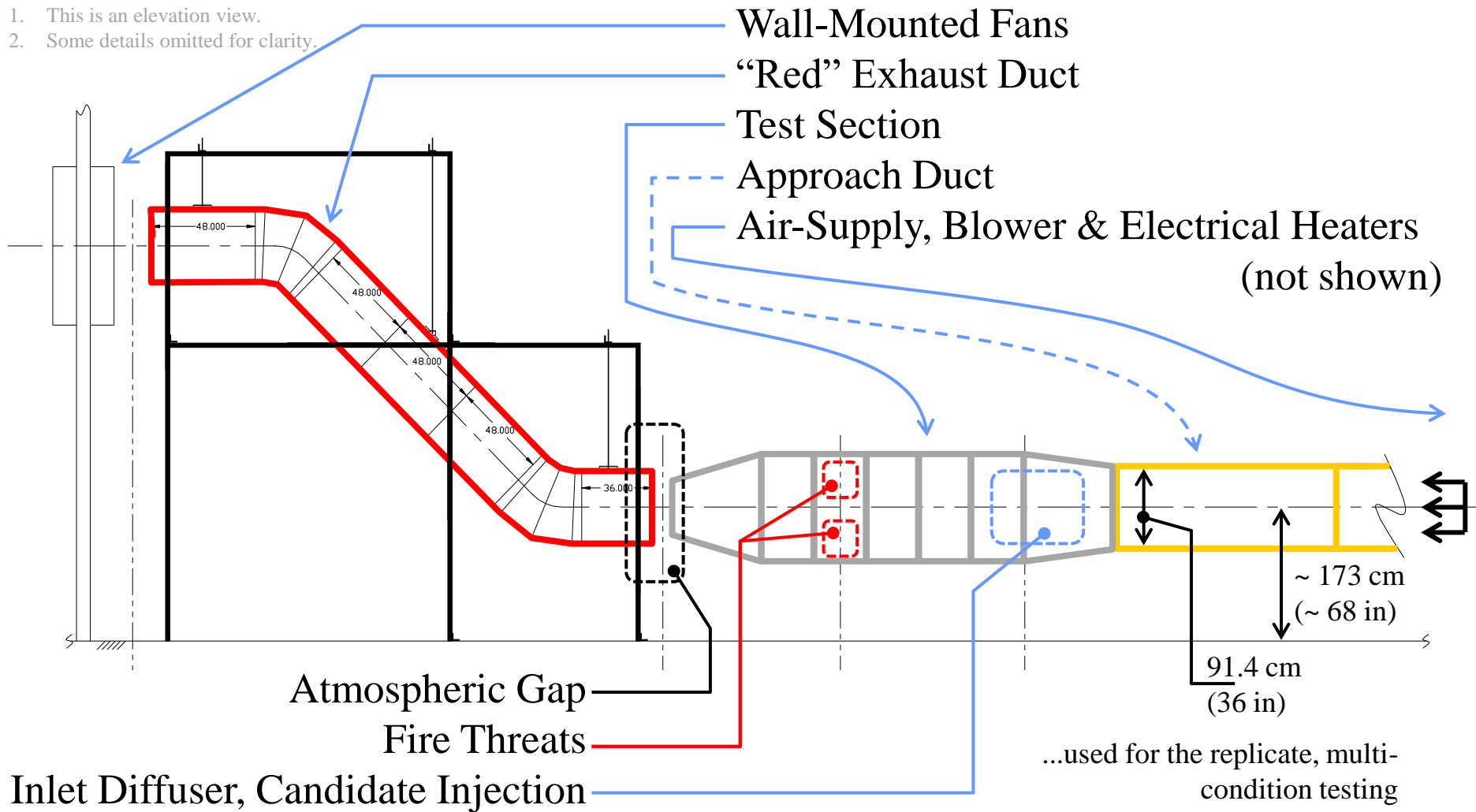
- **MPSHRe/rev04 : 2010-?, active, a proof-test**
 - ✈ must know candidate firex agent's bench-scale/flame-inhibition characteristics before commencing this testing
 - ✈ if initial criteria test faulty, need to review situation...
 - ✈ if candidate different than SotA :
 - real-scale/high-fidelity demonstration testing is required
 - based on dissimilarity between candidate circumstances & :
 - CF3Br
 - legacy aircraft-based storage/delivery methods
 - legacy concentration measurement technique; Statham-derivative...



Local Test Fixtures ~ generic nacelle fire simulator

NOTES :

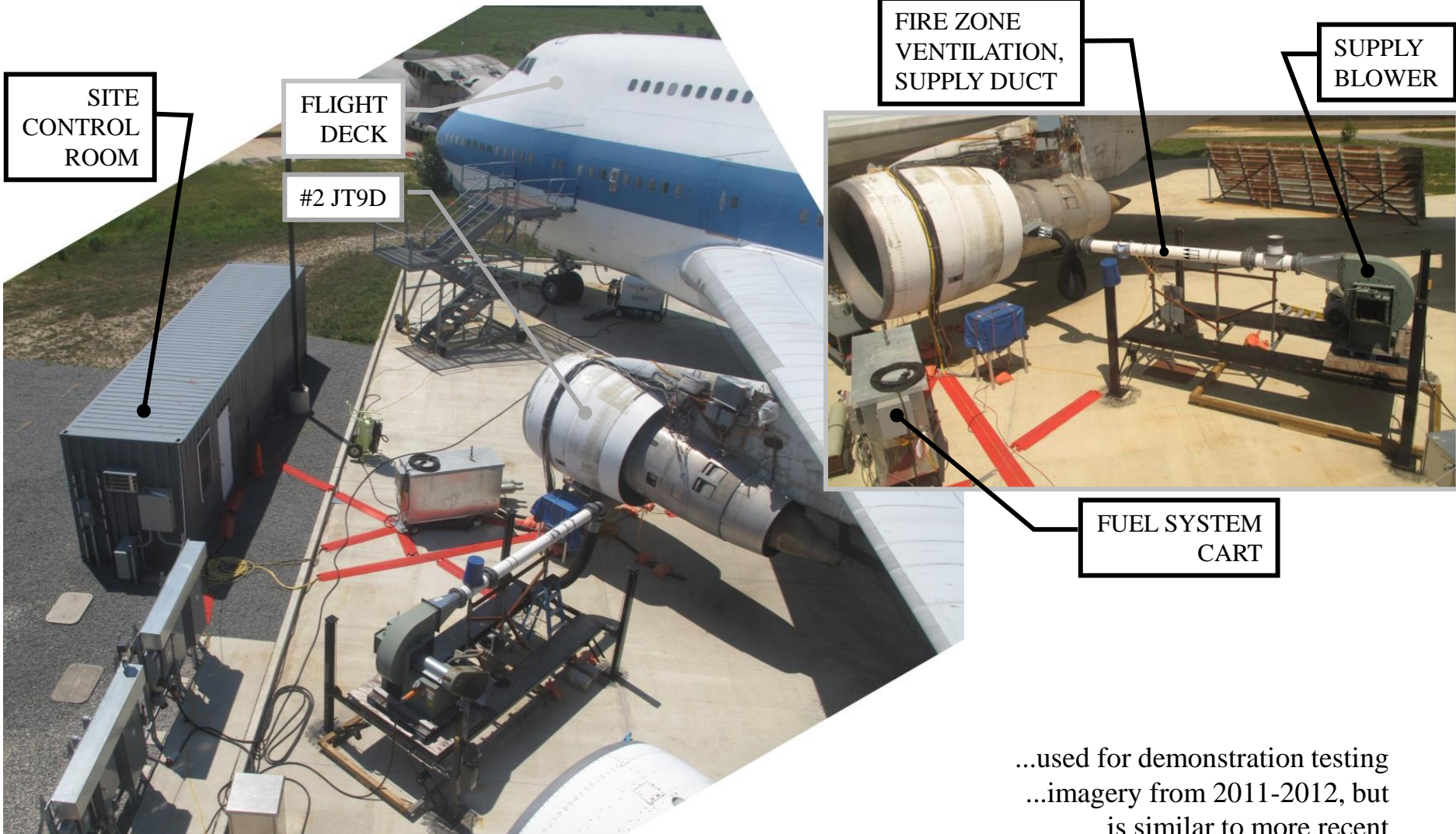
1. This is an elevation view.
2. Some details omitted for clarity.



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Local Test Fixtures ~ FAA-owned 747SP's #2 JT9D



...used for demonstration testing
...imagery from 2011-2012, but
is similar to more recent



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Tabular Candidate Overview

Candidate [chemical, ASHRAE, & example product names]	Year[s] Any Testing Occurred In	MPSHRe Revision & Associated LEC ^[8a]	Comment[s]
pentafluoroethane, C₂HF₅ HFC-125 Chemours FE-15	2003-2004	3, 17.6 %v/v 47.4 %m/m	➤ LEC > CPIC ^[8b]
iodotrifluoromethane, CF₃I FIC-131I Ajay-SQM Group Triodide	2003-2004, 2006, 2019, 2021-2022	3 & 4, 7.1 %v/v 33.8 %m/m	➤ LEC ≈ CPIC ➤ atypical flame attachment ➤ defeated “version-2 cold” testing ^[8c]
2-bromotrifluoropropene, C₃H₂BrF₃ Halotron BrX	2004	3, none	➤ withdrawn before completion ➤ enhanced combustion, generated audible cues...
dodecafluoro-2-methylpentan-3-one, C₆F₁₂O FK-5-1-12 3M Novec 1230	2006, 2011	3, 6.1 %v/v 42.8 %m/m	➤ LEC < CPIC; ABNORMAL ; future action will spawn review ➤ atypical flame attachment ➤ failed “version-1 cold” testing ^[8c]
sodium bicarbonate aerosol, NaHCO₃ Collins Aerospace/Kidde Aerospace KSA	2007-2008, 2010-2012, 2018-?	3 & 4, ? g/m ³ ? %m/m	➤ work continues...
equal-mass blend, CO₂ & C₆F₁₂O Parker-Meggitt Blend A	2014-2015	4, 30.6 %v/v 54.2 %m/m	➤ blended composition requires added situational attention in the end-use...

[8a] LEC = *Largest Equivalent Concentration* from the MPSHRe testing. See Appendices A1 & A2 for mass concentration calculations included in this column.

[8b] CPIC = *Candidate's Peak-Inertion Concentration*. Recall, 6%v/v CF₃Br is comparable to its peak-inertion concentration.

[8c] See Appendix B for high-level detail differentiating the 2 “cold” testing projects.



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Additional Background References

- A. “Minimum Performance Standards for Halon 1301 Replacement in the Fire Extinguishing Agents/Systems of Civil Aircraft Engine and Auxiliary Power Unit Compartments (MPSHRe rev04)”.
 - >>> FAA Fire Safety Website’s International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Forum webpages
https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/pdf/systems/MPSErev04_MPSeRev04doc-02submtd.pdf
- B. “Engine Nacelle Halon Replacement”, 26oct2006.
 - >>> International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Working Group meeting
<https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/pdf/systems/Oct06Meeting/Ingerson-1006-HalonReplacement.pdf>
- C. “Halon Replacement in the Civil Transport Aircraft Engine Nacelle (2013)”, 5dec2013.
 - >>> Fifth Triennial International Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference
https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/2013Conference/files/Halon_Replacement_/IngersonEngineHalonReplacement/IngersonHalonreplacementenginePres.pdf
- D. “Engine Nacelle, Halon Replacement Overview & Update”, 31oct2018.
 - >>> International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Forum meeting
<https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/pdf/systems/Oct18Meeting/Ingerson-1018-PwrplantHalRepOvrview.pdf>
- E. “Investigating Powerplant Halon Replacement in a Generic Nacelle Fire Simulator”, 18oct2022.
 - >>> The Tenth Triennial International Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference
https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/2022Conference/files/Powerplant_Propulsion_Fire_Protection_/IngersonGenericNacelle/Ingerson_GenericNacelle_Pres.pdf



The End,
Thank You, &
Good day.



Appendices

- ❑ Appendix A1 ~ mass concentrations, pure gaseous
- ❑ Appendix A2 ~ mass concentrations, blended gaseous
- ❑ Appendix B ~ versions of “cold” testing...



Appendix A1 ~ mass concentrations, pure gaseous

...variables...

Y = volume fraction [volume concentration/100]
 V = volume
 T = temperature of the system
 P = total pressure of the system
 R = ideal gas constant
 D = density
 m = mass
 X = mass fraction

...subscripts...

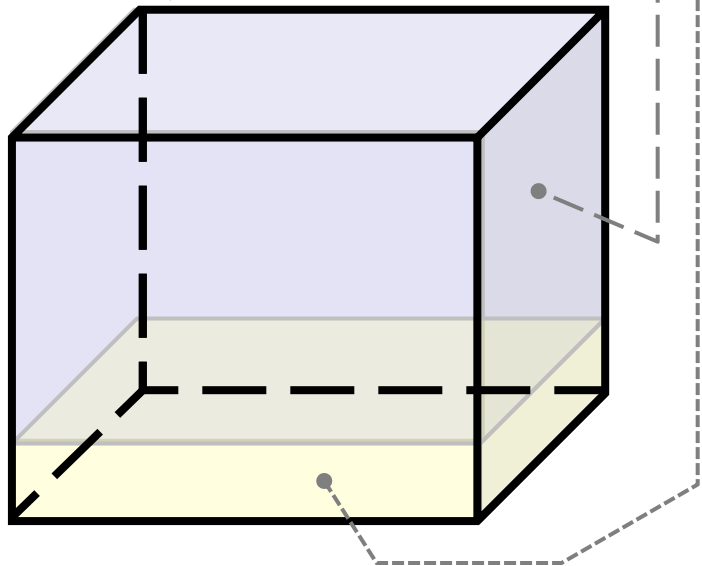
T = total
 A = air
 FA = fire-extinguishing agent
 FA_v = fire-extinguishing agent vapor

System of V_T at T & P with Y_{FA} & balance is air...
 ...utilizing partial volumes

$$P = 1 \text{ atm}, 101.3 \text{ kPa}$$

$$T = 77^\circ\text{C}, 25^\circ\text{C}, 298.15 \text{ K}$$

$$V_T = V_A + V_{FA} = \{ [1 - Y_{FA}] * V_T \} + \{ Y_{FA} * V_T \}$$



Given a system of V_T at T & P with Y_{FA}, & balance is air...

$$m_A = P * \{ V_T * [1 - Y_{FA}] \} / [R_A * T]$$

$$m_{FA} = V_T * Y_{FA} * D_{FAv}$$

$$X_{FA} = m_{FA} / [m_{FA} + m_A]$$

$$D_{FAv} [\text{kg/m}^3] = 1 / [a + b * T[^\circ\text{C}]]$$

firex agent : a, b

$$\text{CF3Br}^{[12a]} : 0.14781, 0.000567$$

$$\text{C2HF5}^{[12b]} : 0.1826, 0.0007$$

$$\text{CF3I}^{[12b]} : 0.1138, 0.0005$$

$$\text{C6F12O}^{[12b]} : 0.0664, 0.0002741$$

Given : P=101.3 kPa, T=298.15 K, V=1 m³, R_A= 0.287 kJ / [kg K]

frx agent	volume concentration	Y _{FA}	D _{FAv} [kg/m ³]	m _{FA} [kg]	m _A [kg]	mass concentration
CF3Br	6.0	0.060	6.17	0.370	1.11	25.0
C2HF5	17.6	0.176	5.00	0.880	0.976	47.4
CF3I	7.1	0.071	7.92	0.562	1.10	33.8
C6F12O	6.1	0.061	13.6	0.830	1.11	42.8

[12a] National Fire Protection Association, 1989, "NFPA 12A Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems 1989 Edition", Quincy, MA; table 2-5.2, pg. 12A-18.

[12b] National Fire Protection Association, 2008, "NFPA 2001 Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems 2008 Edition", Quincy, MA; Appendix A, tables A.5.5.1.



Appendix A2 ~ mass concentrations, blended gaseous

...variables...

...subscripts...

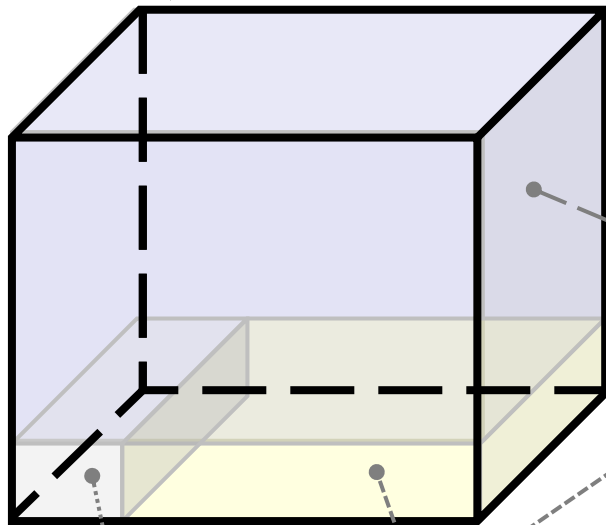
- Y = volume fraction [volume concentration/100]
- V = volume
- T = temperature of the system
- P = total pressure of the system
- R = ideal gas constant
- D = density
- m = mass
- X = mass fraction
- T = total
- A = air
- BFA = Blend-A fire-extinguishing agent
- FK, FKv = C6H12O, C6H12O vapor
- CO2, CO2v = carbon dioxide, CO2 vapor

System of V_T at T & P with Y_{BFA} & balance is air...
...utilizing partial volumes

$$P = 1 \text{ atm}, 101.3 \text{ kPa}$$

$$T = 77^\circ\text{C}, 25^\circ\text{C}, 298.15 \text{ K}$$

$$V_T = V_A + V_{BFA} = V_A + V_{CO2v} + V_{FKv}$$



Given a system of V_T at T & P with Y_{BFA} & balance is air...

$$m_A = P * \{ V_T * [1 - Y_{BFA}] \} / [R_A * T]$$

for Blend A, $m_{CO2} = m_{FK}$ & all is vaporous

$$V_{BFA} = V_T * Y_{BFA} = V_{CO2v} + V_{FKv} = V_{CO2} + V_{FK}$$

$$\dots V * D = m$$

$$= m_{CO2} / D_{CO2} + m_{FK} / D_{FK}$$

$$\dots m_{CO2} = m_{FK}$$

$$= m_{CO2} * [1 / D_{CO2} + 1 / D_{FK}]$$

$$m_{CO2} = m_{FK} = V_{BFA} / [1 / D_{CO2} + 1 / D_{FK}]$$

$$X_{BFA} = [m_{CO2} + m_{FK}] / [m_{CO2} + m_{FK} + m_A]$$

$$D_{FKv} [\text{kg/m}^3] = 1 / [a + b * T[^\circ\text{C}]]$$

firex agent [reference] : a, b
C6F12O^[12b] : 0.0664, 0.0002741

$$D_{CO2v} [\text{kg/m}^3] = m_{CO2} / V_{CO2} = P / [R_{CO2} * T]$$

...via Ideal Gas Law, $PV = mRT$; $m/V = P / [R * T]]$
 $R_{CO2} = 0.18892 \text{ kJ} / [\text{kg K}]$

Given : P=101.3 kPa, T=298.15 K, V=1 m³, $R_A = 0.287 \text{ kJ} / [\text{kg K}]$

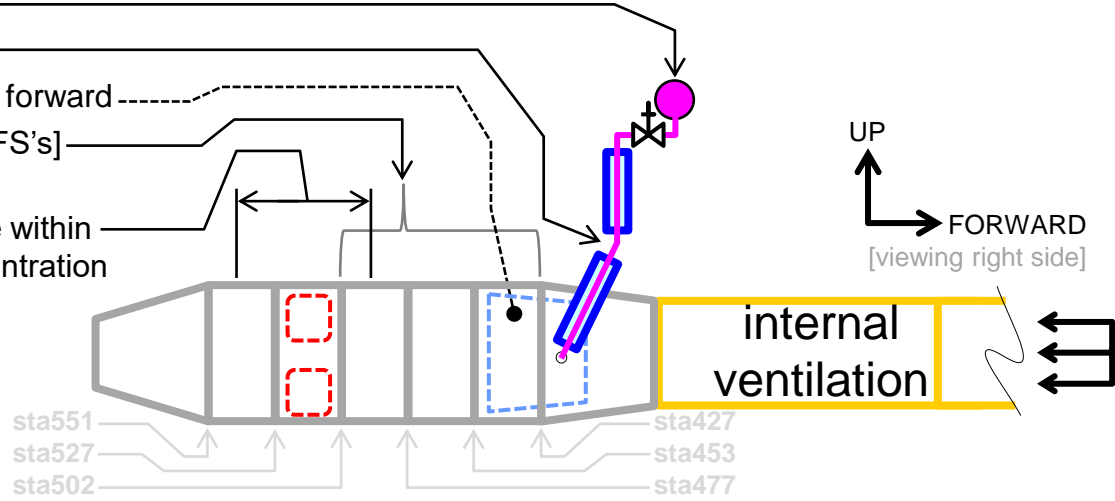
frx agent	volume concentration	Y_{FA}	D_{FAv} [kg/m ³]	m [kg]	m_A [kg]	mass concentration
Blend A	30.6	0.306	3.18	0.973	0.822	54.2
C6F12O	3.56	0.0356	13.6	0.486	0.822	27.1
CO2	27.0	0.270	1.80	0.486	0.822	27.1

[12b] National Fire Protection Association, 2008, "NFPA 2001 Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems 2008 Edition", Quincy, MA; Appendix A, tables A.5.5.1.



Appendix B ~ versions of “cold” testing...

- fire extinguisher [firex] bottle & contents
- firex agent injection plumbing network
- firex agent injection, within cross-sectional plane or forward
- portion of the Generic Nacelle Fire Simulator’s [gNFS’s] exterior shell boundary chilled for the “cold” testing
- “protected” volume, the longitudinal annular volume within the gNFS sampled to define the firex agent’s concentration field during the “cold” testing



NOTES :

1. This is a schematic elevation view. Not drawn to scale.
2. Station (sta) numbers are incremented as inches.
3. Many details omitted for clarity.

“cold” test version	1		2	
	[march-april2011]	[jun-aug & sep-oct2022]	[march-april2011]	[jun-aug & sep-oct2022]
test phase	conditions to establish the concentration field		conditions for the fire extinguishment test	
Various Aspects of the Test Environment	Thermal States of Various Aspects of the Test Environment ^[14b]			
internal ventilation	MPSHRe/rev04, “high-vent”	“mod-low” & “mod-high”, each at ambient	“mod-high” & ambient	“mod-low” & “mod-high”, each at ambient
firex bottle & contents	MPSHRe/rev04, ≈ +100°F/38°C	approximately -65°F/-54°C	approximately -65°F/-54°C	approximately -65°F/-54°C
firex injection plumbing network	ambient	ambient	ambient	“chilled” along parts of plumbing lengths
gNFS shell	ambient	ambient	“colder_cool”	“colder_cool”

“cold” test version	“Protected” Volume Gas-Concentration Sampling Configuration
1 C6F12O [march-april2011]	MPSHRe/rev04, 12 sample points, sta490 to sta514
2 CF3I [jun-aug & sep-oct2022]	analogous to FAA AC 20-100 ^[14a] , 12 sample points, sta502 to sta535

[14a] FAA AC 20-100 : Advisory Circular 20-100, 1977, "General Guidelines for Measuring Fire-Extinguishing Agent Concentrations in Powerplant Compartments", United States Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Washington, D.C.

[14b] “colder_cool” indicates thermal gradient from 12:00/“colder” to 06:00/“cool”; “colder”≈ -94°F/-70°C, “cool”≈ +59°F/+15°C; measured “chilled” temperatures -80°C to +25°C

