

NEW PROCESS TECHNOLOGY

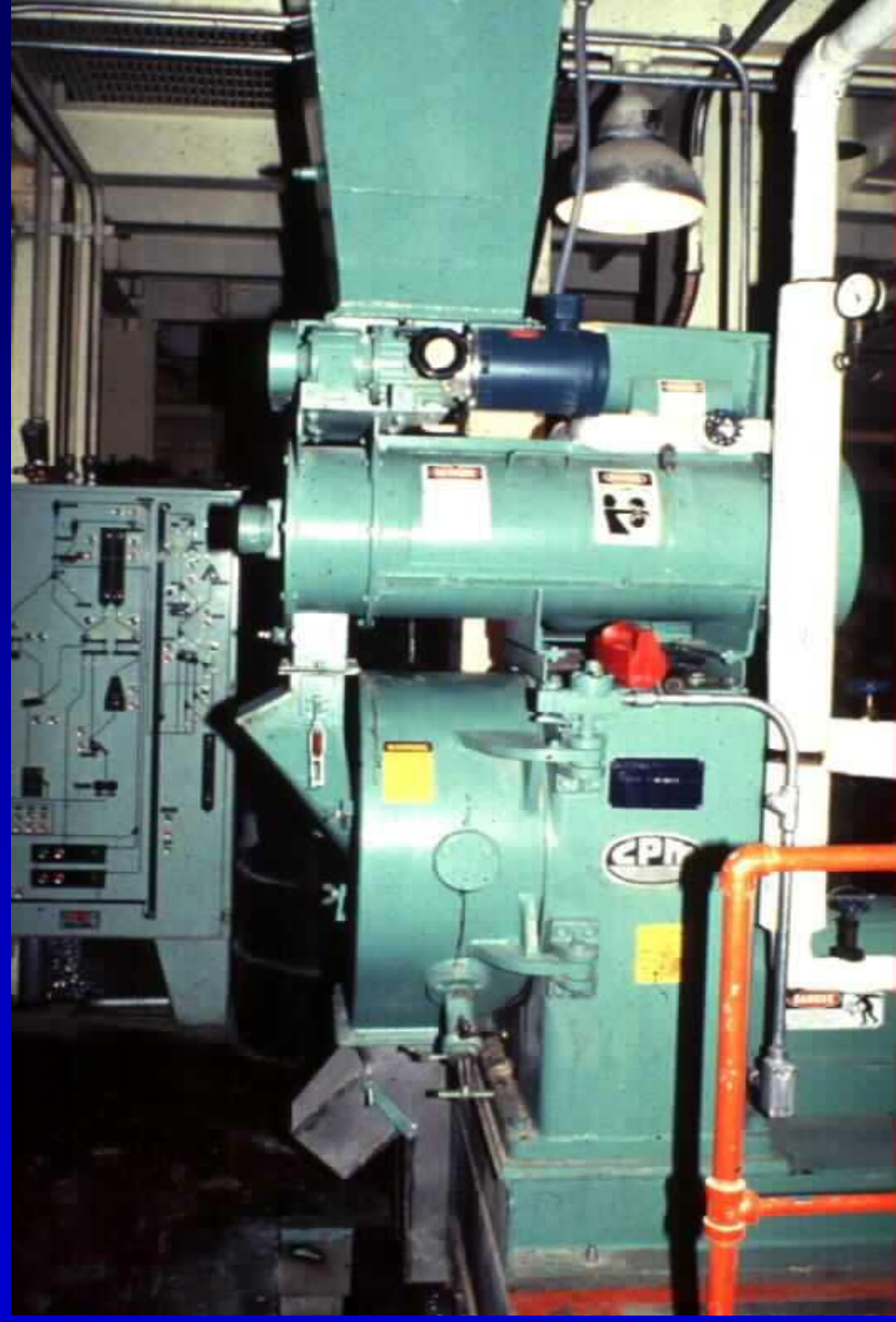
**PROPER STEAM CONDITIONING
AND
CONTROL**

**Keith Behnke
Kansas State University**

**2001 AFIA Feed Production School
Indianapolis, IN
May, 2001**

PELLETING

Myths vs Facts



ISSUES IN PELLETTING?

PELLET QUALITY

VS

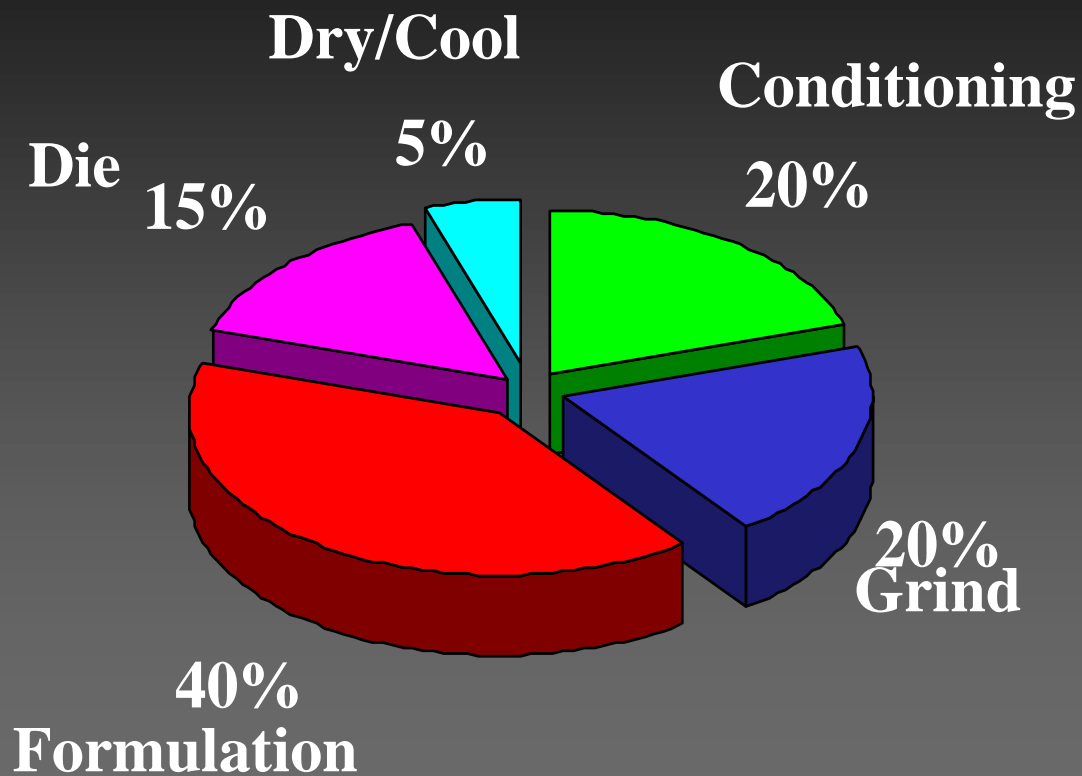
PRODUCTION RATE

PELLET QUALITY

IS:

**...the ability of pellets to take handling
without generating excessive fines.**

PELLET QUALITY FACTORS



Pellet Quality Issues

Durability?

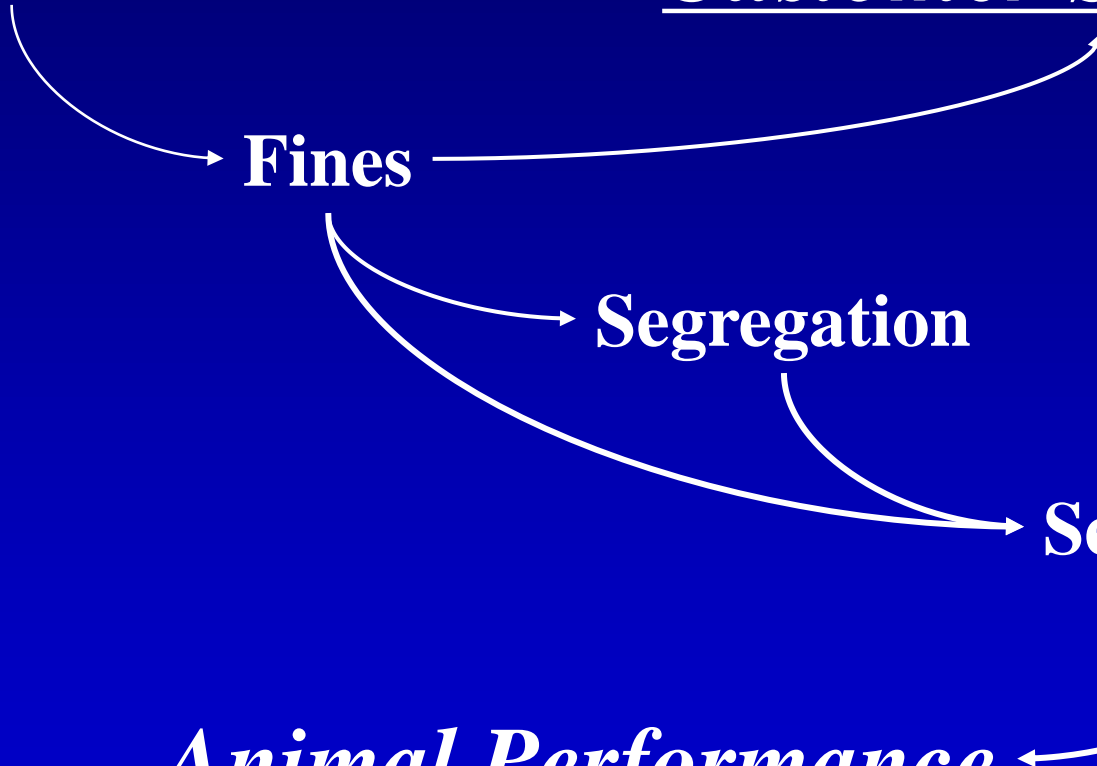
Customer Satisfaction

Fines

Segregation

Selective Feeding

Animal Performance



PELLET QUALITY FORMATION

Pellet Quality is Primarily
Established in the
Conditioner,
Not in the Pellet Die.

FORMULATION

Diet formulation is based on meeting the nutrient requirements of the animal at the least possible cost per ton.

Little consideration for:

-Pellet Quality

-Production Rate

CONDITIONING:

...any modification or addition made to the mash after it leaves the mixer *and* before it reaches the pellet die chamber...

MAJOR FACTORS AFFECTING PRODUCTION RATE and PELLET QUALITY

Steam Conditioning

The level of steam conditioning possible depends on the:

- Formula moisture content**
- Formula fat/oil content**
- Steam quality**
- Die resistance and condition**
- Roll surface and condition**

MAJOR FACTORS AFFECTING PRODUCTION RATE and PELLET QUALITY

Steam Conditioning

**As a rule, the higher the level of conditioning,
the higher the throughput and pellet quality.**

**Condensed steam acts as a lubricant
(up to a point!!)**

STEAM CONDITIONING

Steam has the ability to carry and transfer both heat and moisture efficiently through the process of “CONDENSATION”.

STEAM CONSIDERATIONS!!

-Quality?

- *Insulation

- *Traps

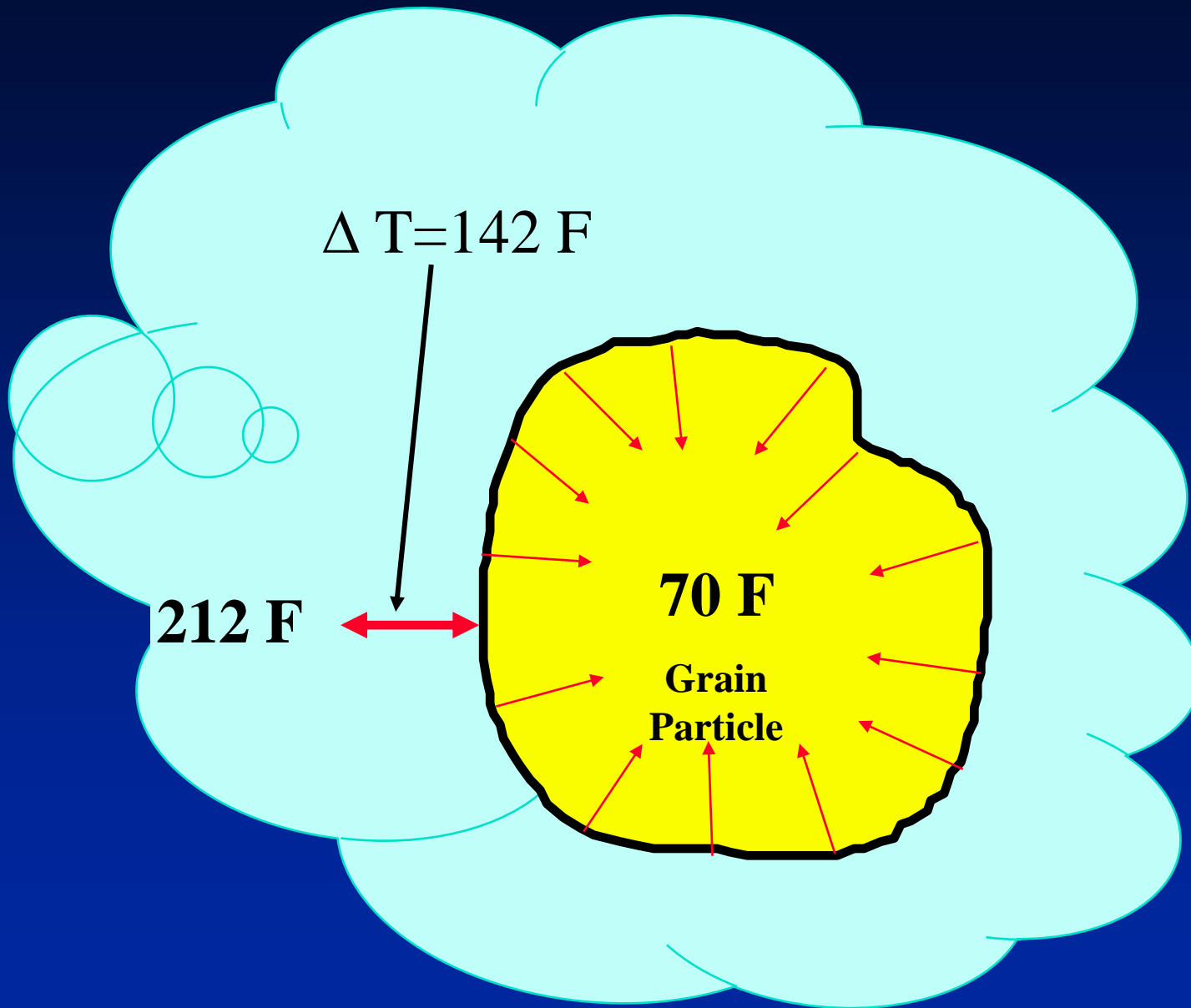
- *Valves

-Pressure?

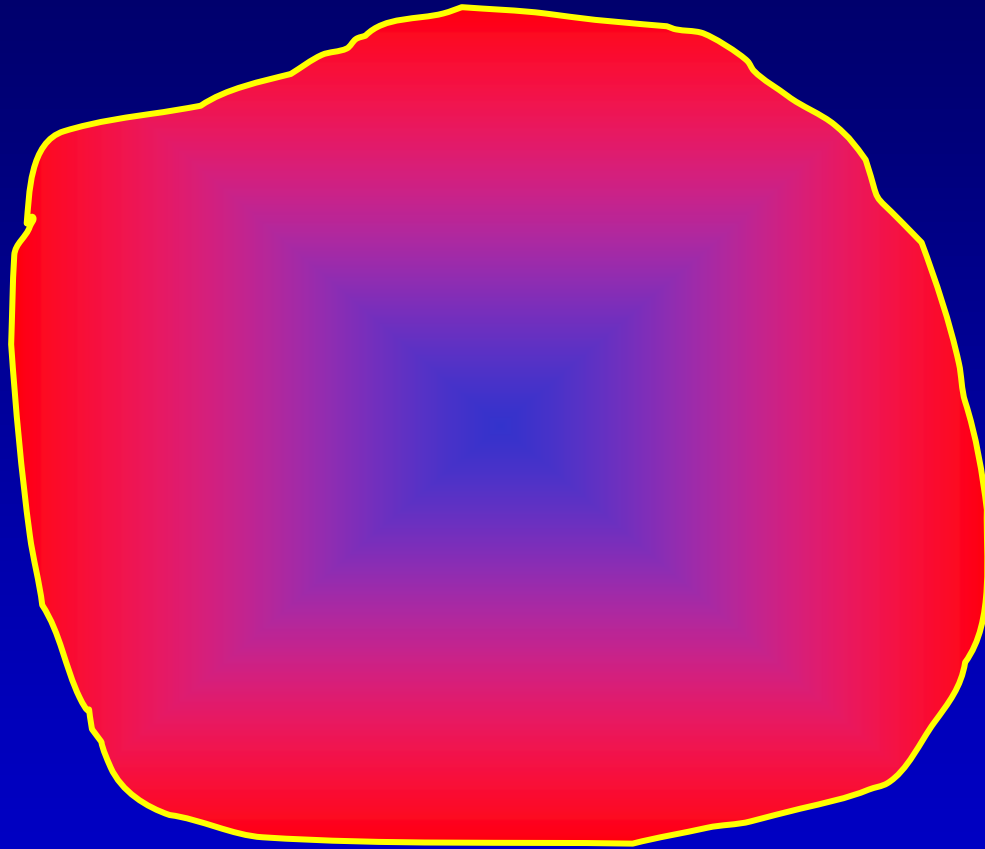
- *Constant not Fluctuating

- *Makes little difference in heat content.

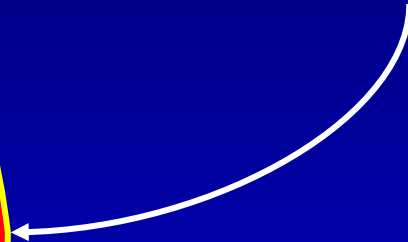
STEAM CONDENSATION



HEAT/MOISTURE DIFUSION

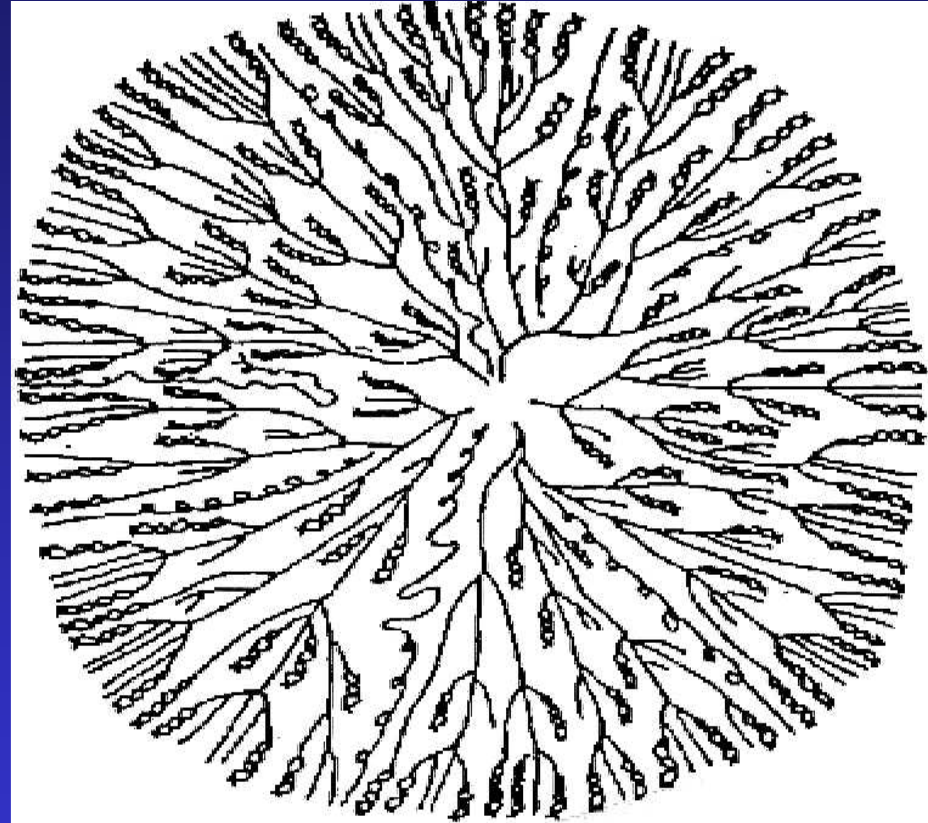
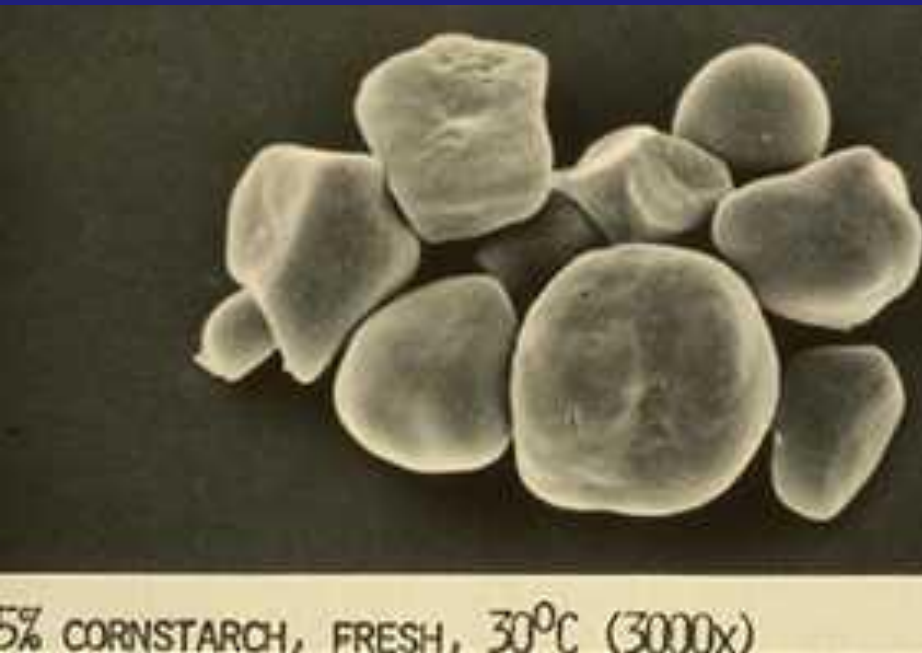


Starch at the surface of
The particle is gelatinizes
And becomes soluble



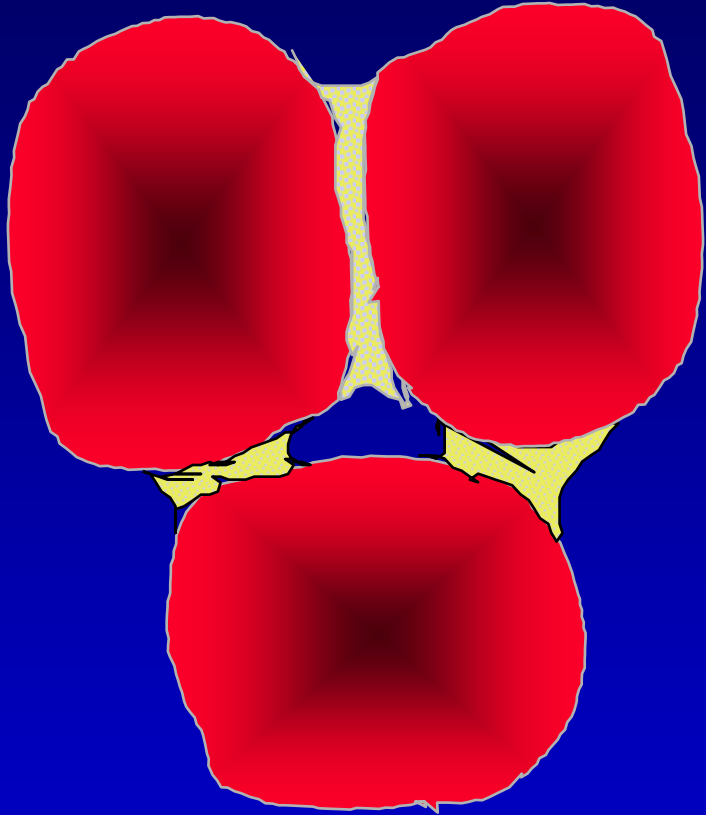
TIME!!!!

Starch Granules

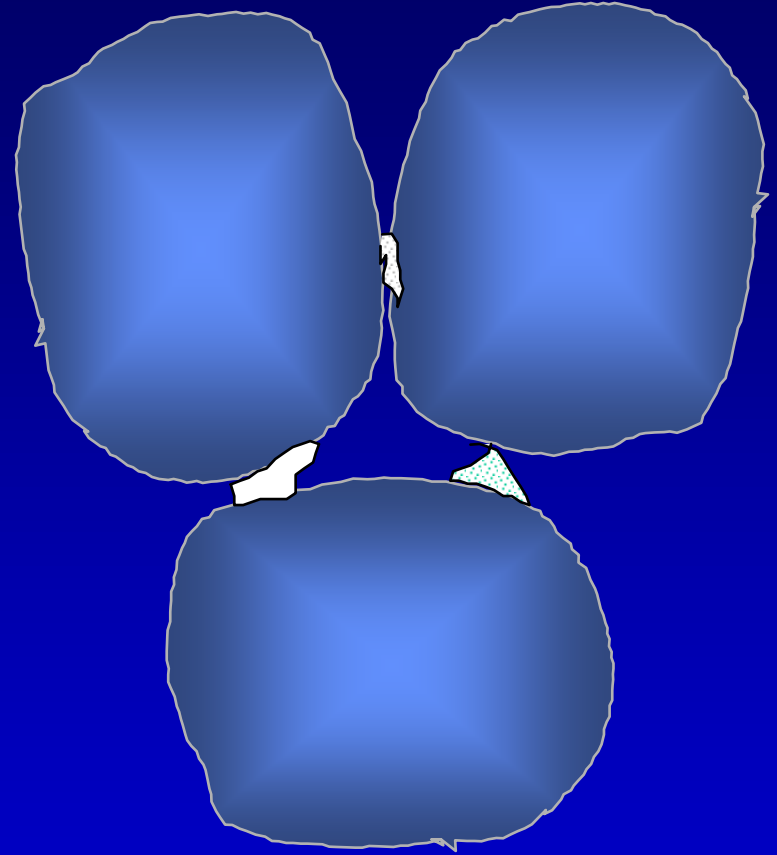


Amylopectin
Molecule

PARTICLE ADHESION

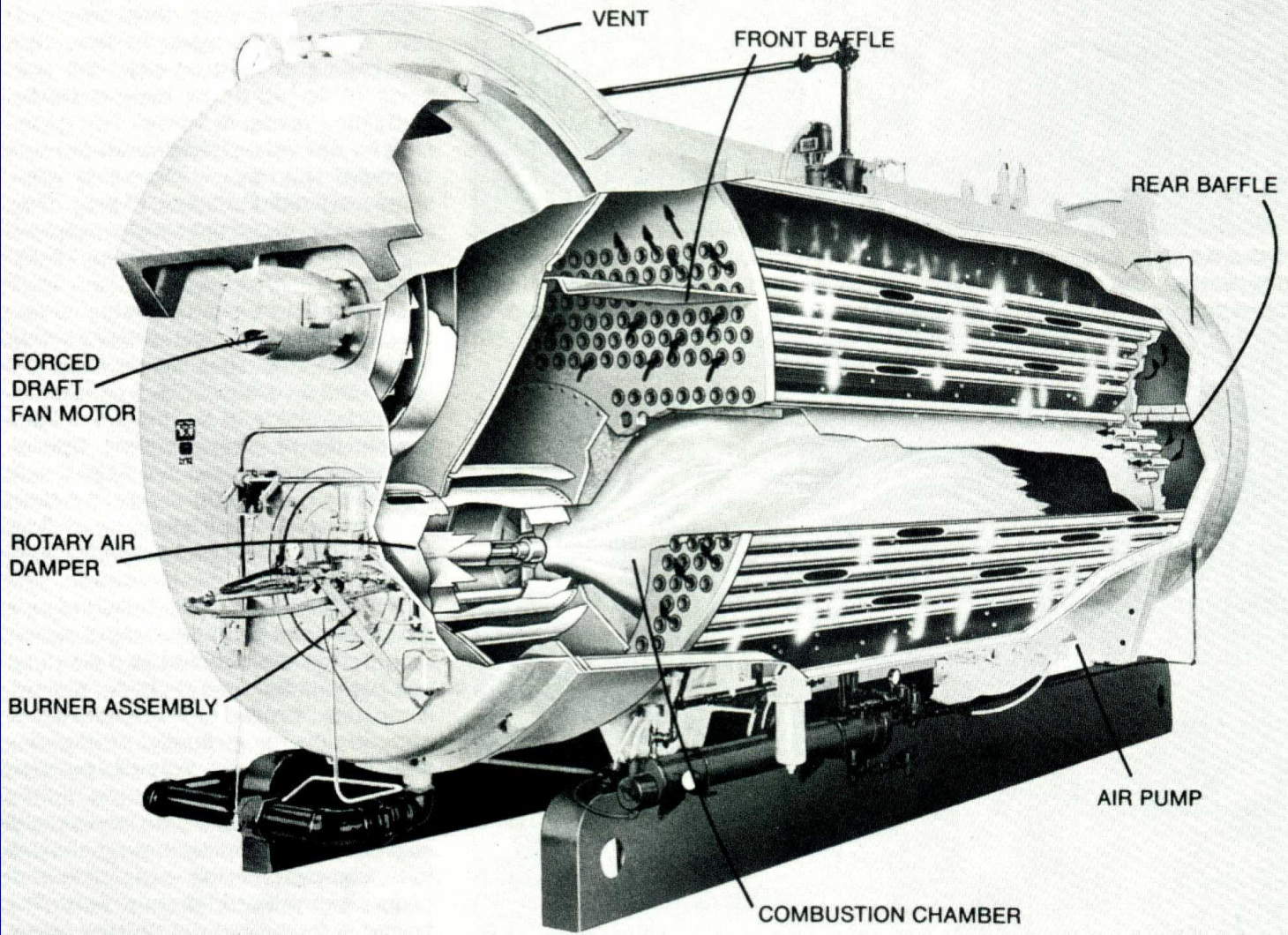


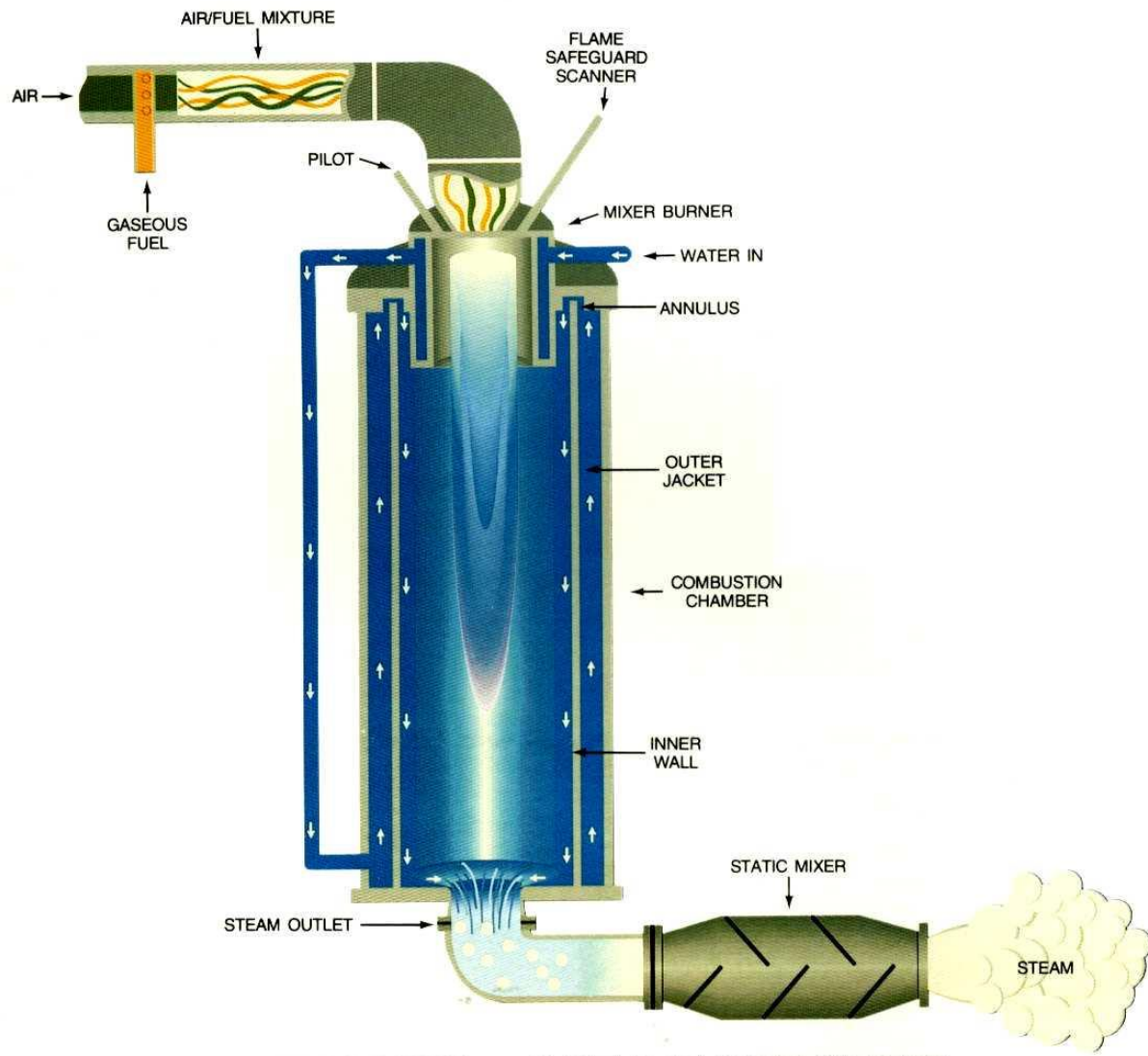
HOT/MOIST
CONDITIONING



COOL/DRY
CONDITIONING

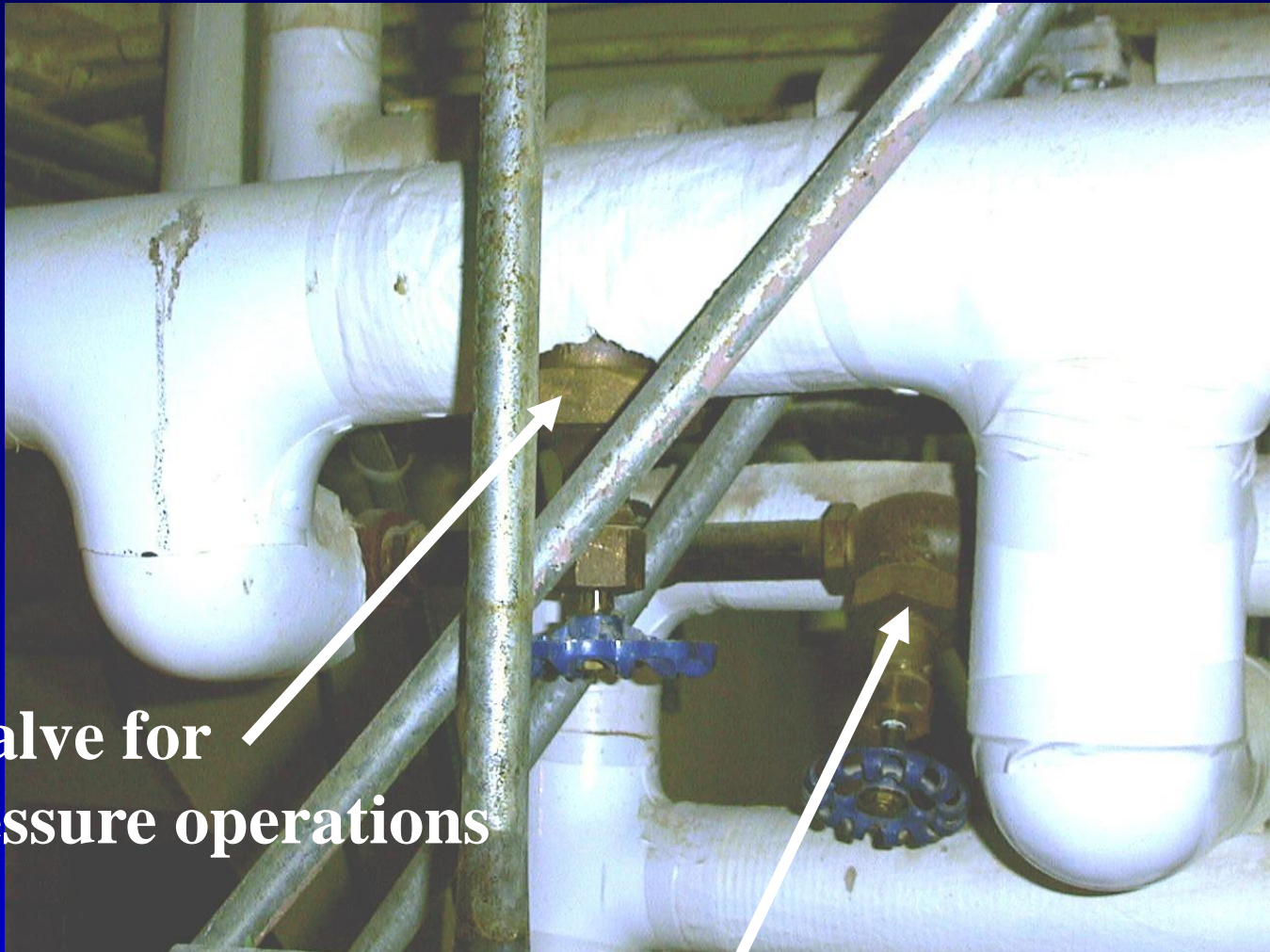
FIRETUBE BOILER





*HYDROFIRE – INSTANT HOT WATER
 VAPORATOR – INSTANT STEAM*

**Steam Fittings, Piping
And
Control Valves**



**Large valve for
Low pressure operations**

**Small valve for
High pressure operations**

STEAM SYSTEM DESIGN

* Size supply piping so that steam velocity is About 100 ft/sec.

• Install a steam trap at every low point.

• Insulate entire system, including valves, to reduce heat loss.

• Final pressure reducing station should be no closer than five yards from use point.

STEAM SYSTEM DESIGN

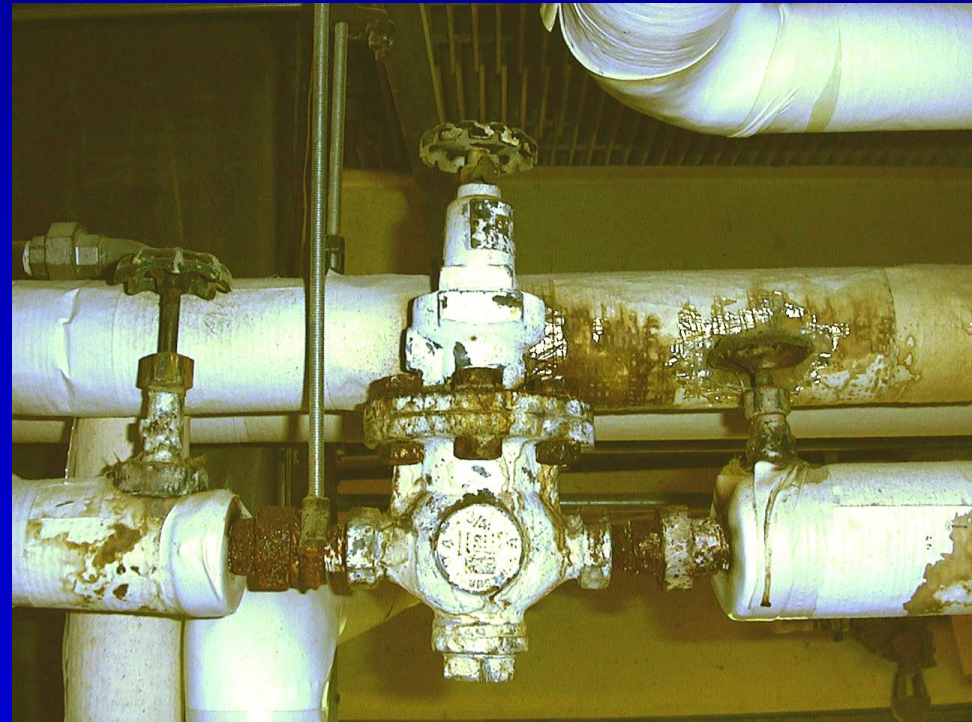
- Control valves must be sized to give reasonable control of steam flow at the intended use pressure.**
- If automatic pelleting is used, make sure the control valve and orifice is sized right and that the proportioning response is appropriate.**

**PRESSURE REGULATION
AND
STEAM QUALITY CONTROL**



Steam Separator
(upstream from
Pressure regulator)

**Pressure
Regulator**





Combined Pressure Regulator And Strainer

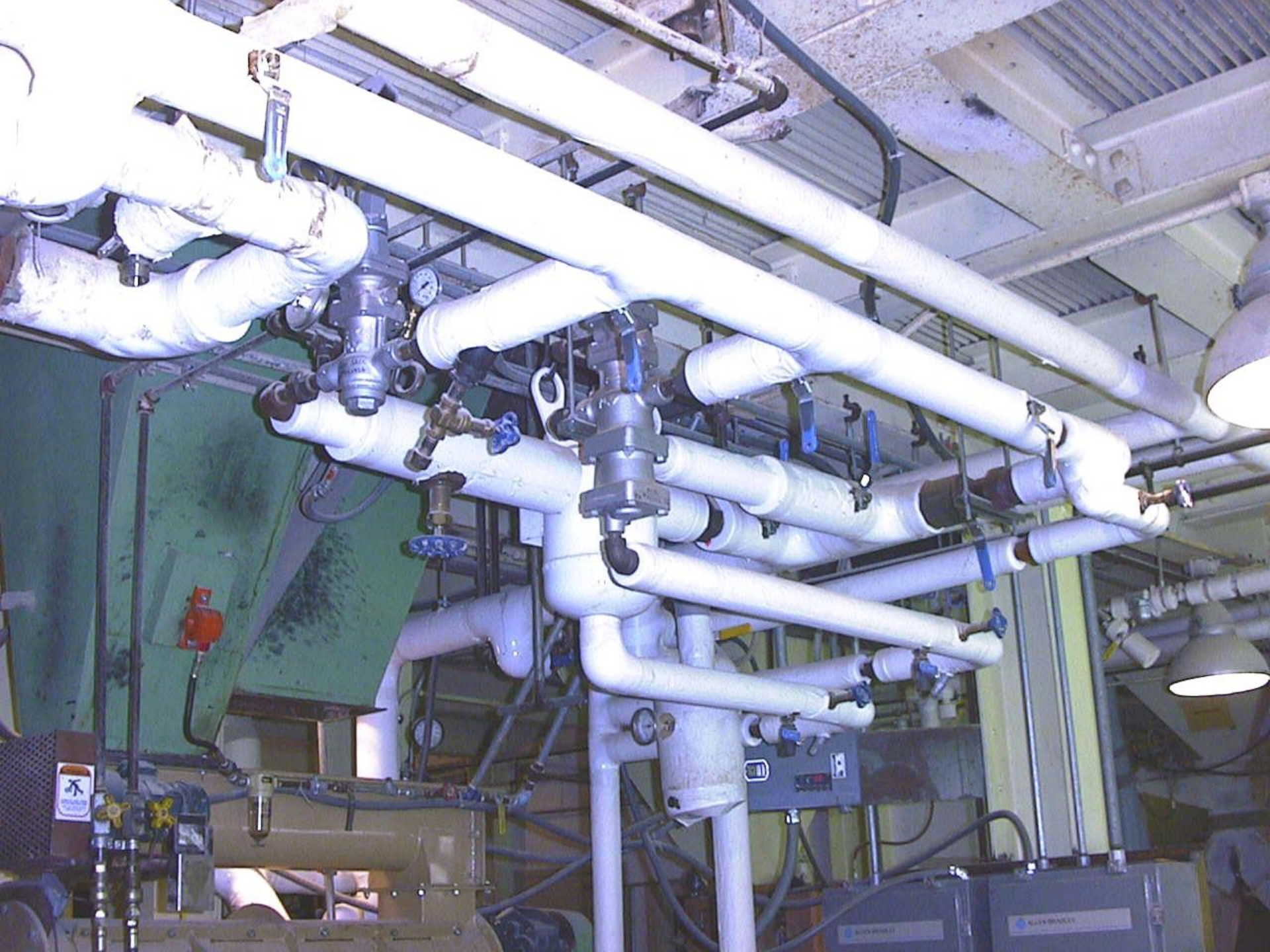


“PURIFIER” Steam Separator (down stream from Pressure regulator)



Combined Pressure Regulator, Separator, and Trap





HIGH vs LOW PRESSURE STEAM

Does it really matter??

Major Concerns are:

- Pipe and Valve Sizing
and System Design.**
- Little difference in Heat Content**

**CONDITIONER
DESIGN, SELECTION AND
OPERATION**

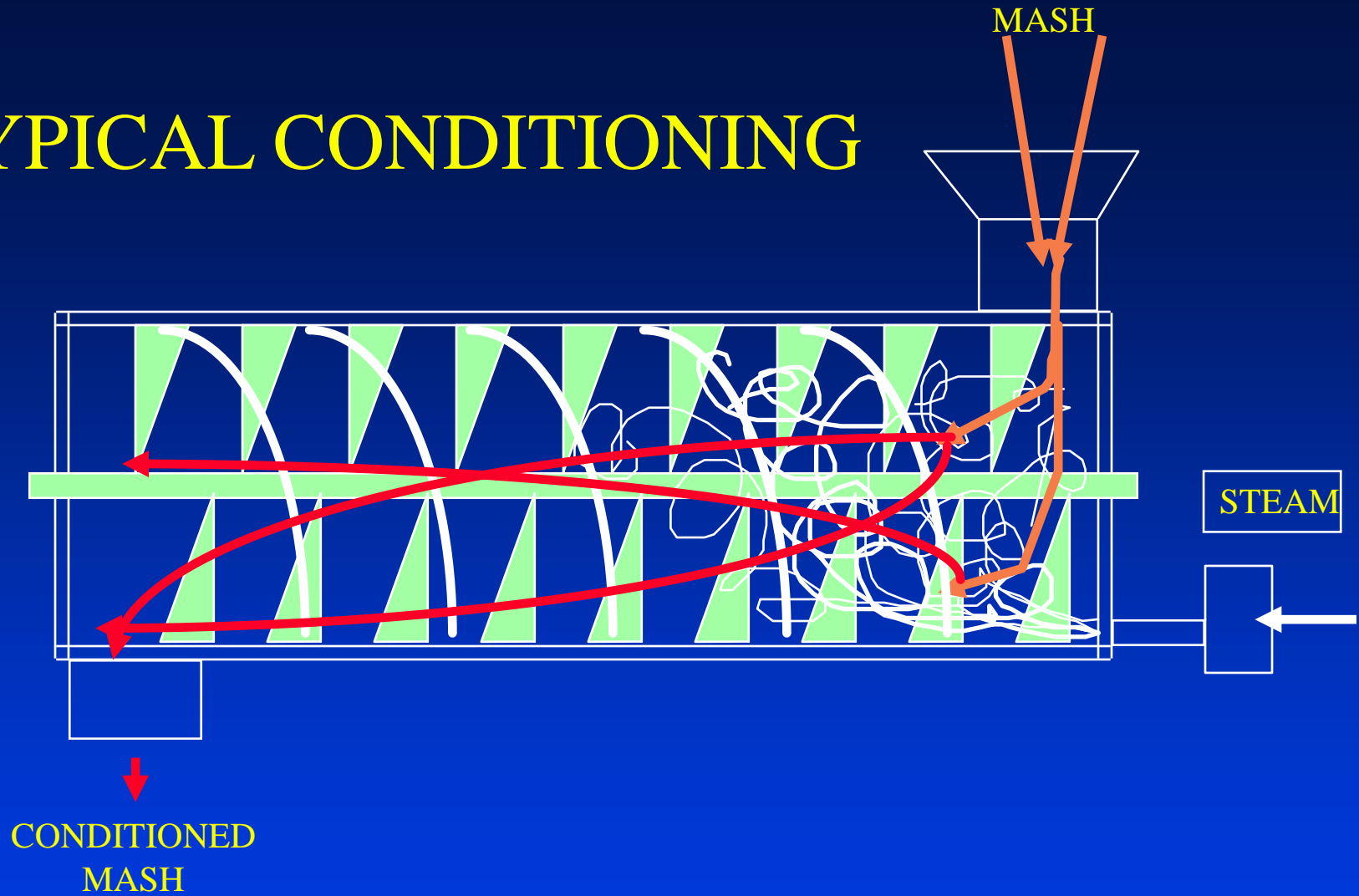
CONDITIONING ALTERNATIVES

- Steam Addition-----Atmospheric.
- -----Pressure.
- Water Addition.
- Expanding.
- Compacting.
- Re-Pelleting.
- Ripening.

JACKETED CONDITIONER



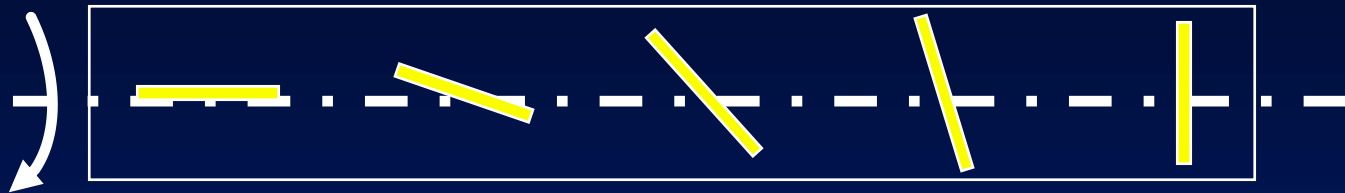
TYPICAL CONDITIONING



CONDITIONER OPTIONS

RETENTION TIME

1. Conditioner Volume- $L \times W$
2. Pick (paddle) Angle.
3. Shaft Speed.



0 15 45 75 90

Pick Angle (degrees)

PADDLE ANGLE ADJUSTMENT

CONDITIONER VOLUME

Large Length to Diameter Ratio

VS

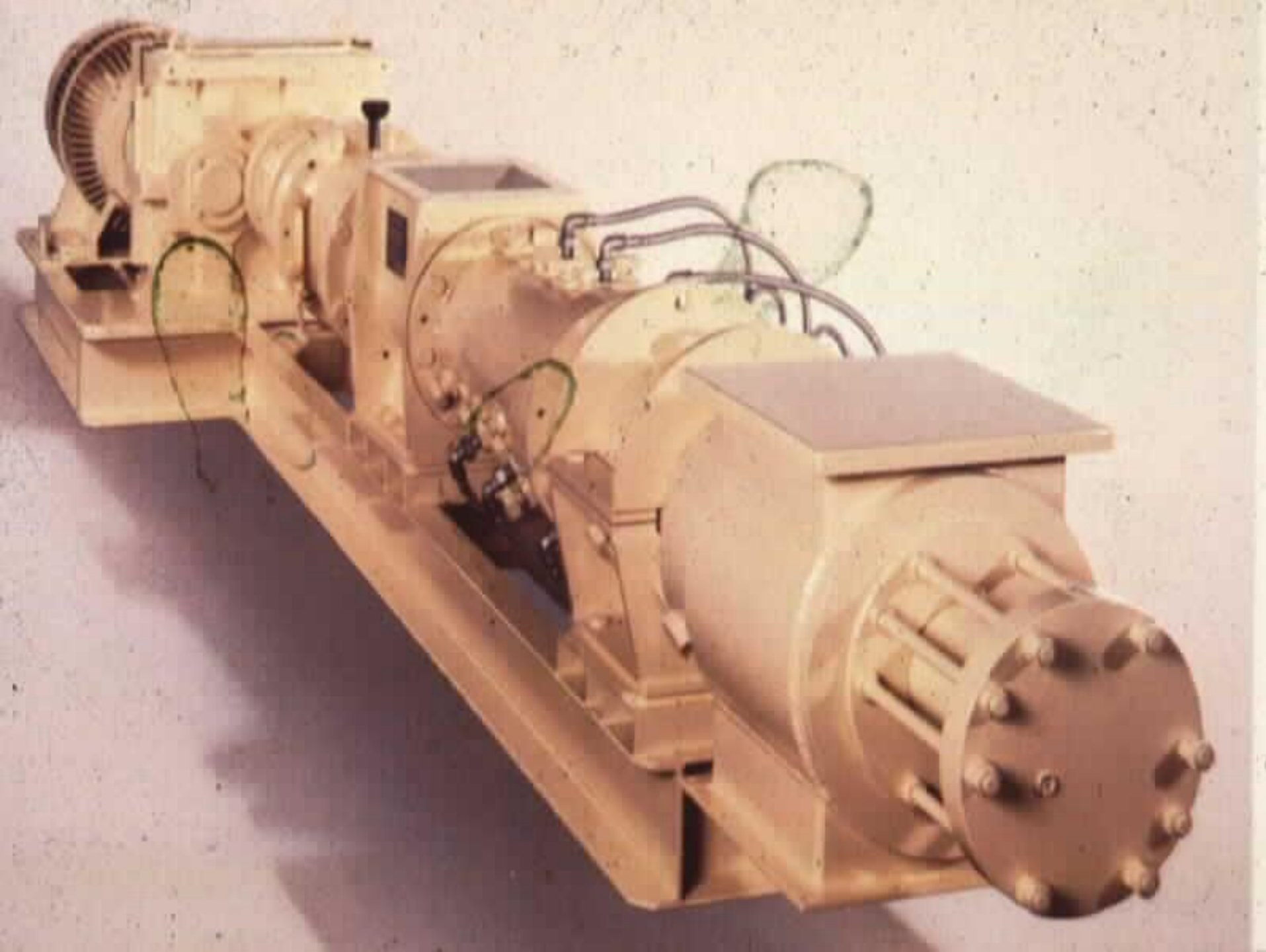
**Small Length to
Diameter Ratio**



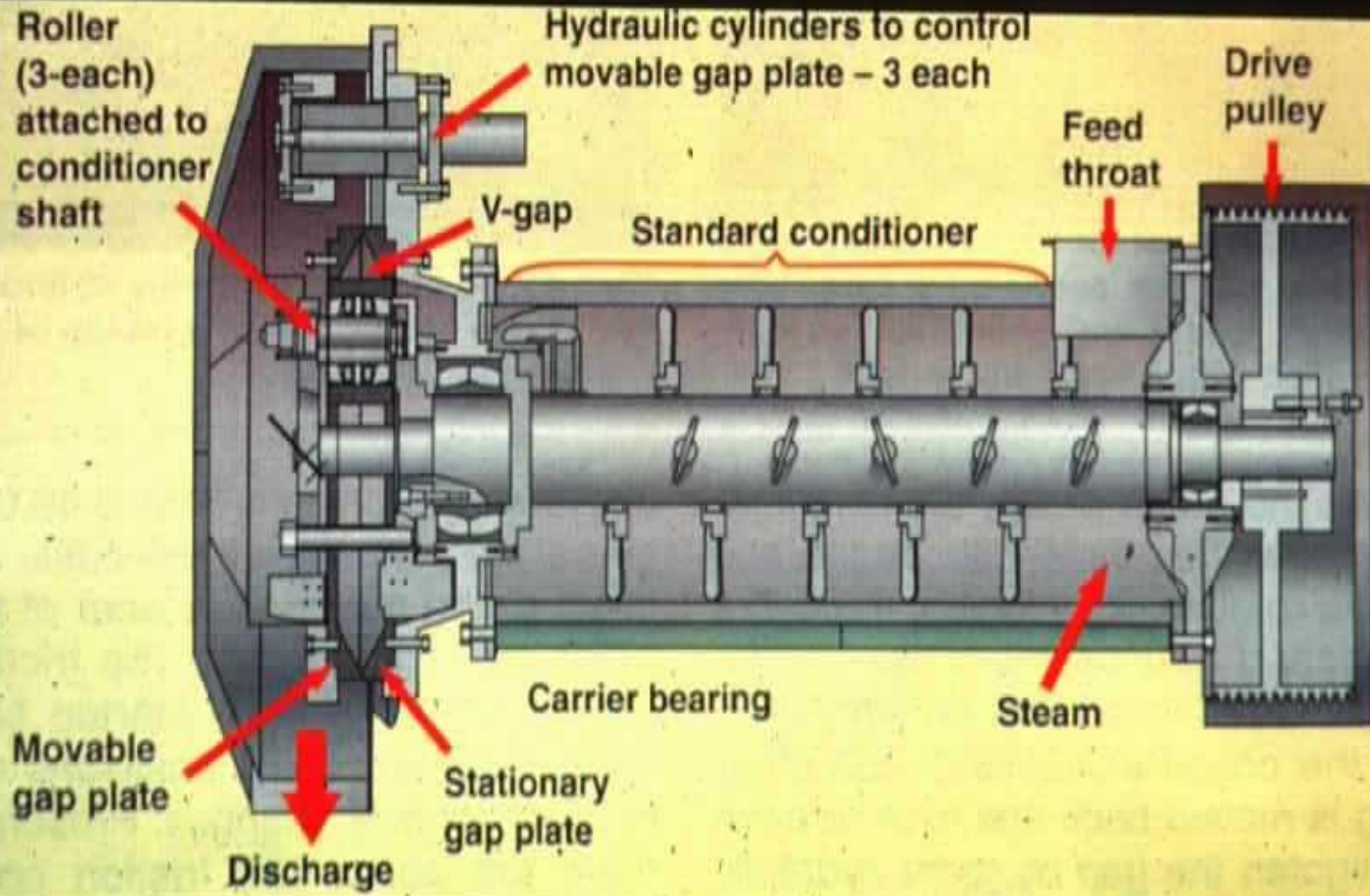


EXOTIC CONDITIONING

EXPANDERS



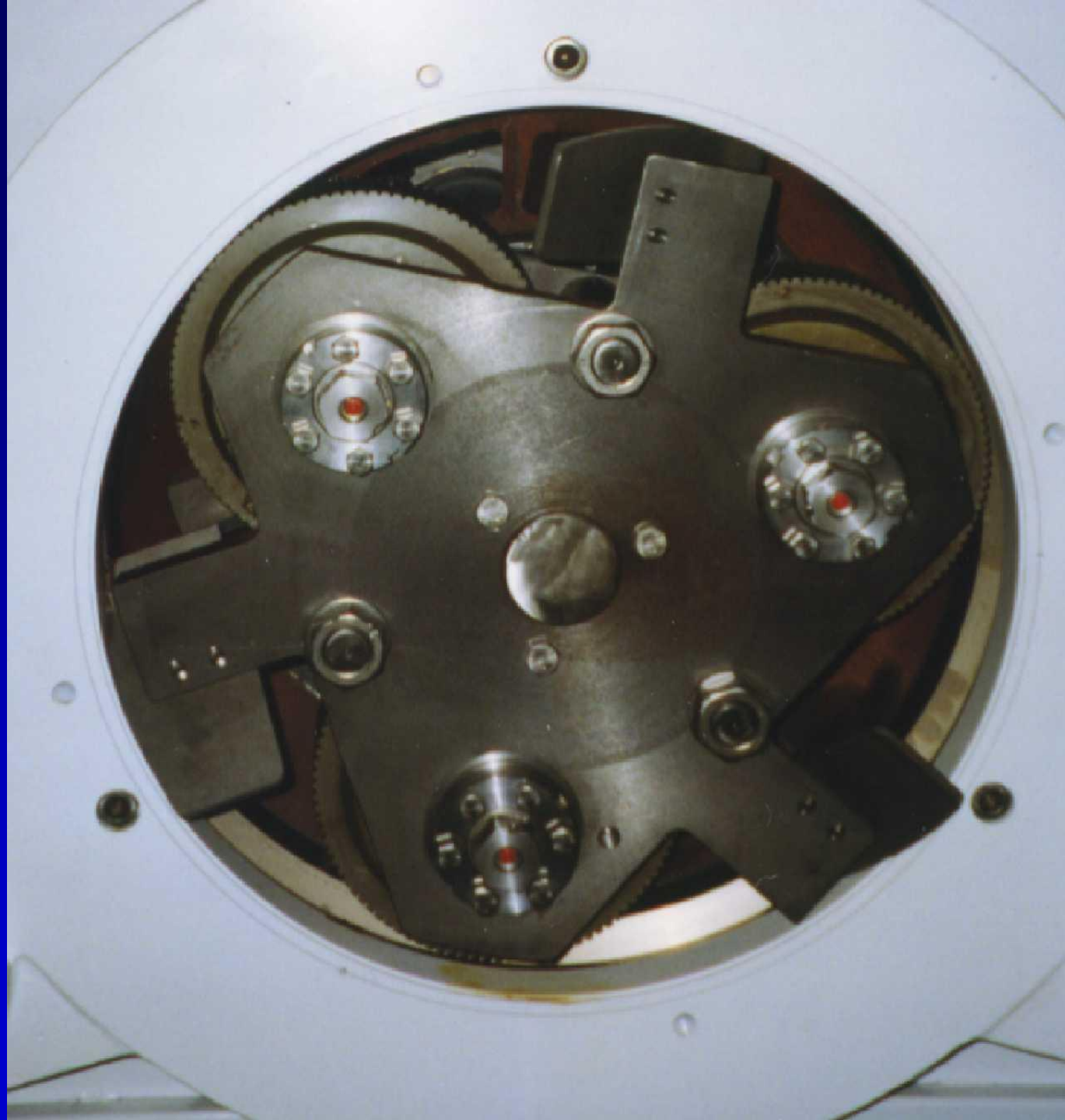
COMPACTOR



BOA COMPACTOR



**Compactor
Roll
Assembly**

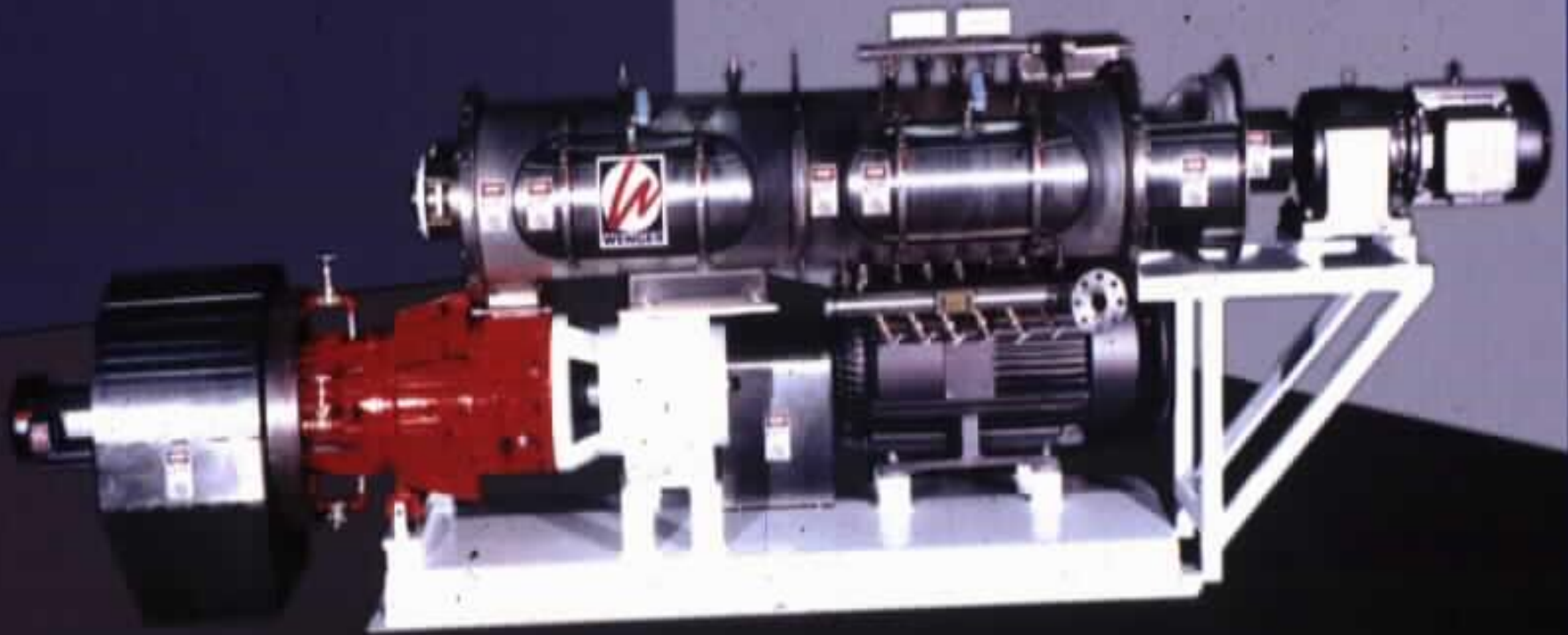


THE FUTURE!

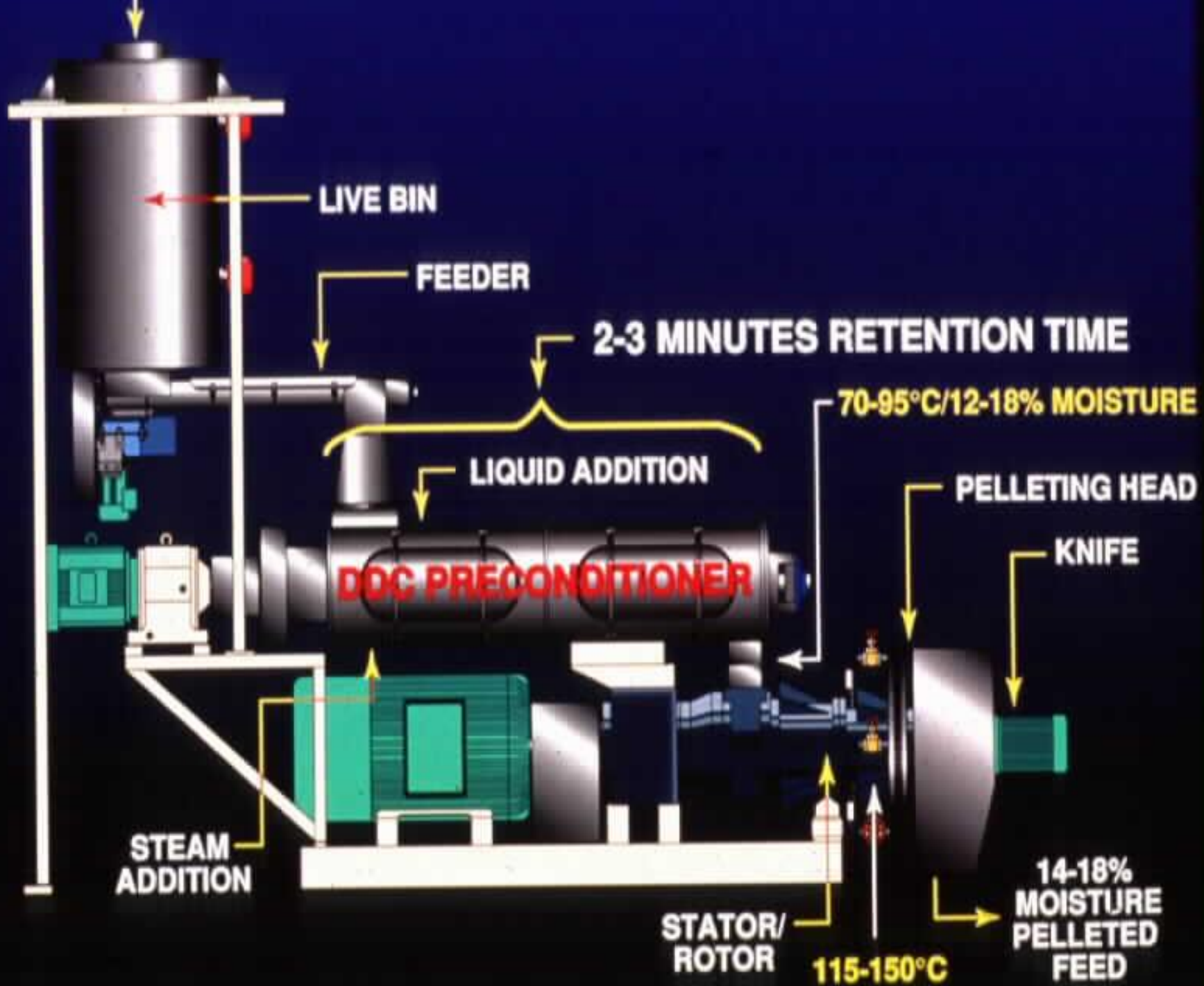
PELLETING AND OTHER HYDROTHERMAL PROCESSES

UNIVERSAL PELLET COOKER

The “UPC”



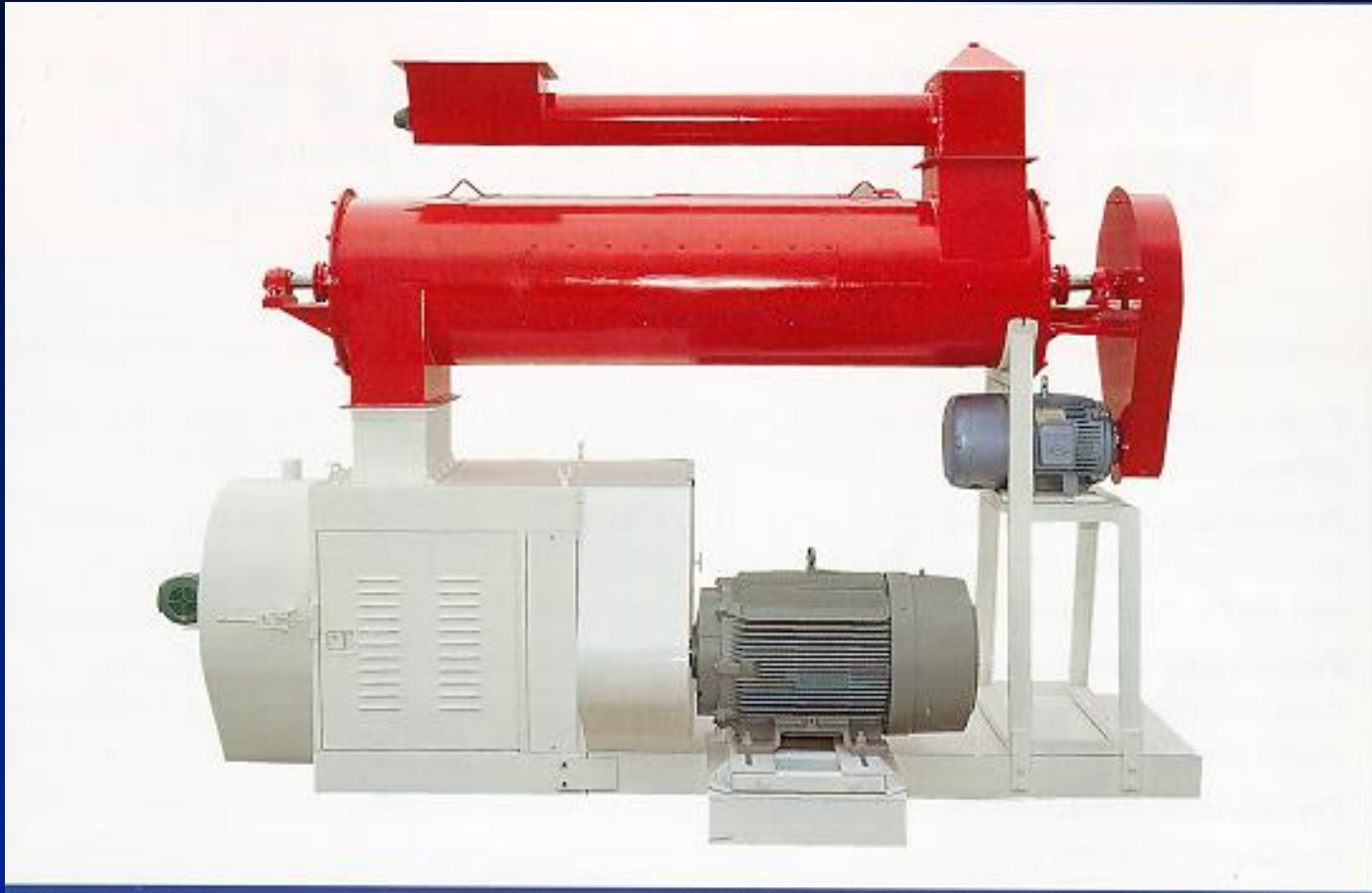
**Wenger Manufacturing
Sabetha, KS**



THE FUTURE!

PELLETING AND OTHER HYDROTHERMAL PROCESSES

Pressure Pelleting

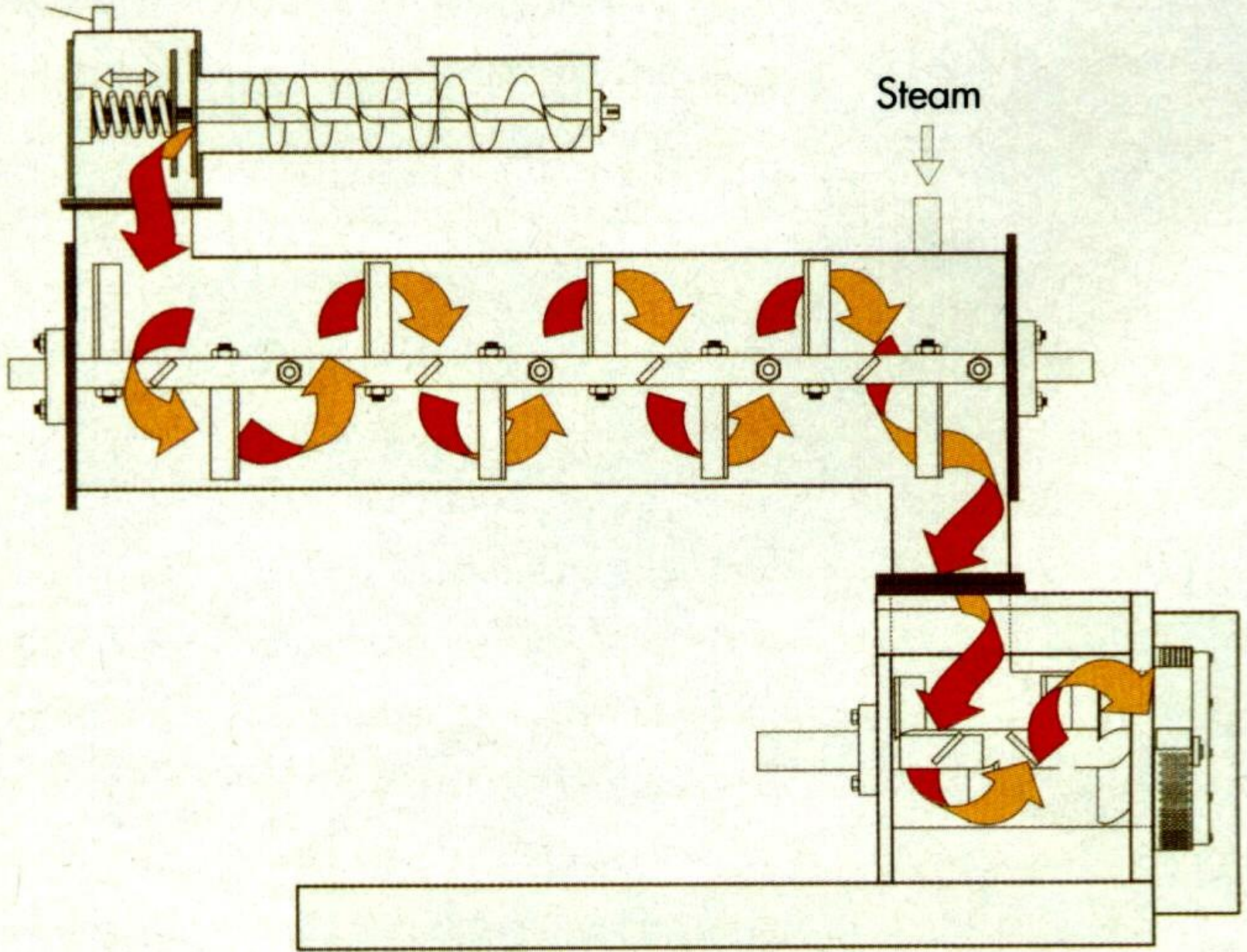


PRESSURIZED CONDITIONING

PCI, Inc. Wichita, Ks.

Vent

Steam



In-Line Moisture Control

The Effect of Precise Moisture Control on Pelleting Operations

OBJECTIVE:

To determine if precise moisture control at the Mixer would affect pellet mill operations and pellet quality.

PROCEDURE:

1. Corn was low-temp. dried and ground through a 8/64” HM screen.
2. Feed Type- corn-soy pig finishing ration.
3. Feed mixed in a 1,000 lb (454 Kg) ribbon mixer.
4. Pelleting done w/ a CPM Master model pellet mill equipped w/ a 3/16”X1.5” die.
5. Water was applied to the mash in the mixer using a “Grain Prep” auto delivery system.

Moisture and Conditioning Results

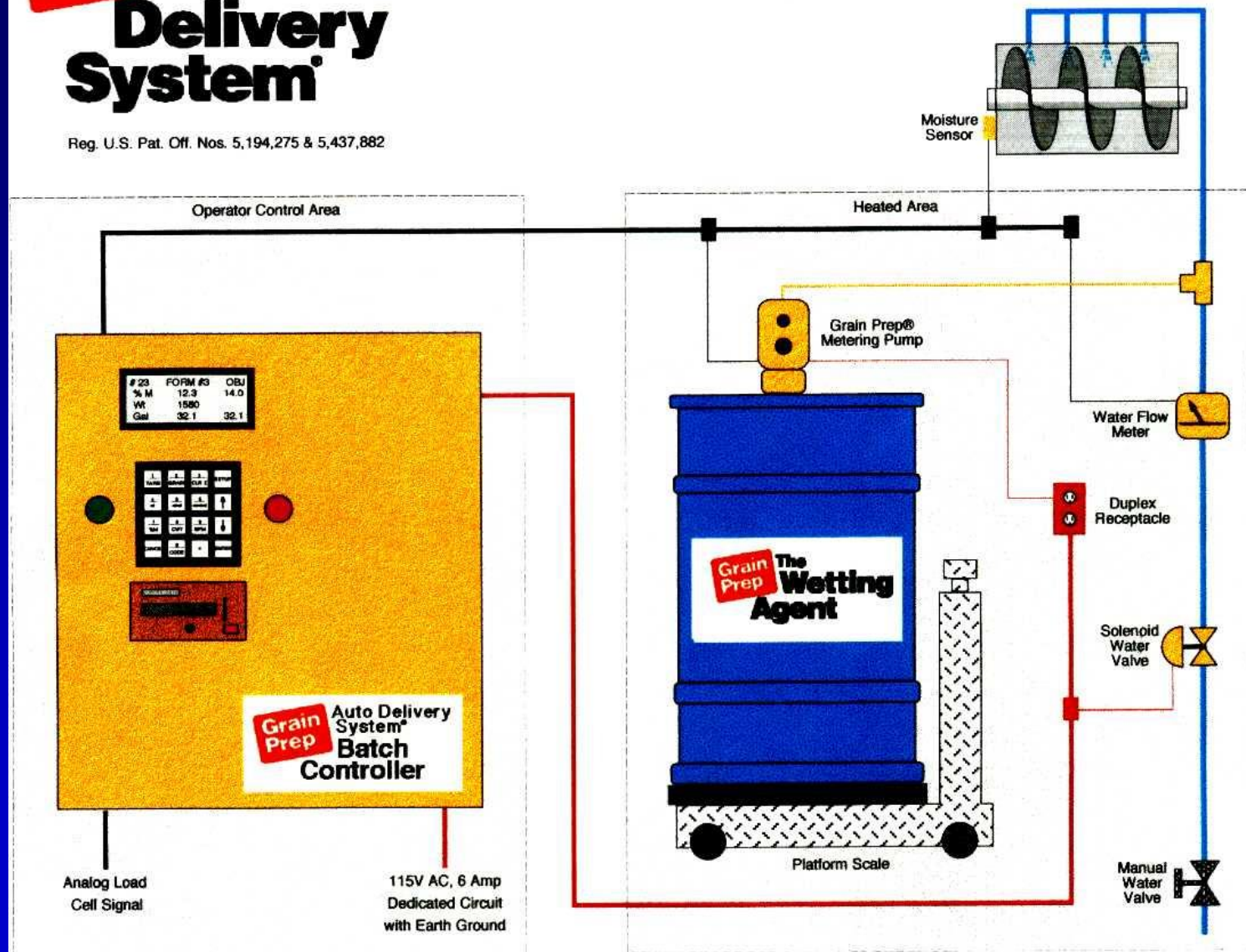
Incoming (%)	Target (%)	Actual (%)	Conditioned (%)
11.4	12.0	12.2	15.1
11.0	13.0	13.0	15.9
10.9	14.0	14.0	16.8
10.7	14.5	14.7	17.0
11.1	15.0	15.1	18.5

**Grain
Prep**

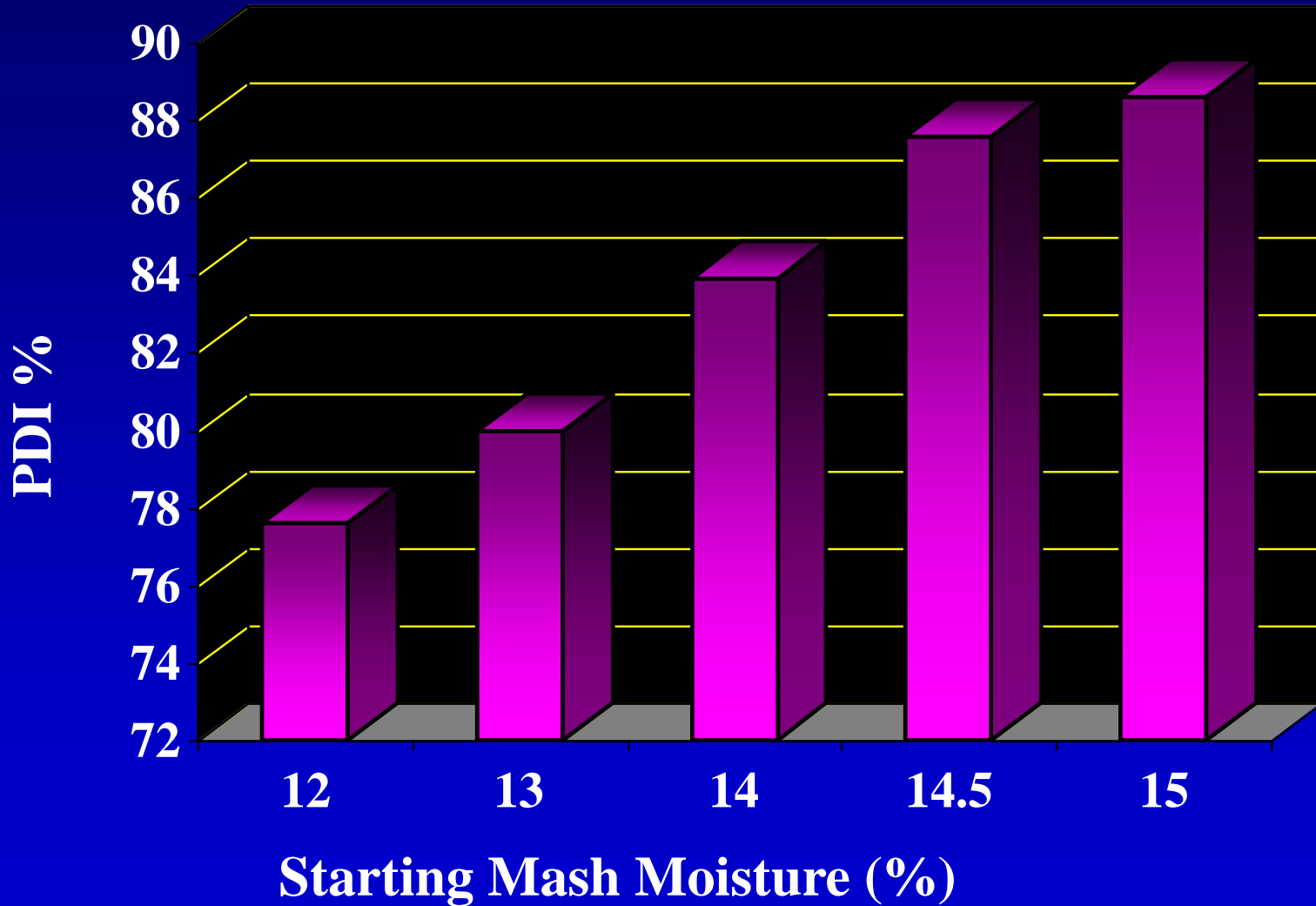
Auto Delivery System[®]

Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. Nos. 5,194,275 & 5,437,882

Batch Version



Effect of Added Moisture on Pellet Quality



Summary

- 1. Conditioning has the greatest effect on pellet quality of any operation in the plant.**
- 2. Steam quality and control is a major issue.**
- 3. Conditioner design and operation is critical to successful pelleting operations.**
- 4. Moisture control can have a significant effect on pellet quality and production rate.**