

NO REFRIGERANT IS GOOD
LESS IS MORE

ERAS OF REFRIGERATION

- ▶ Before 1930's – Ammonia absorbers, and various refrigerants—mostly secondary (brine)
- ▶ After WWII, Ammonia liquid overfeed – recirculation
Efficient but large charges; flooded evaporators

▶ Now and Forward – Ammonia small charge

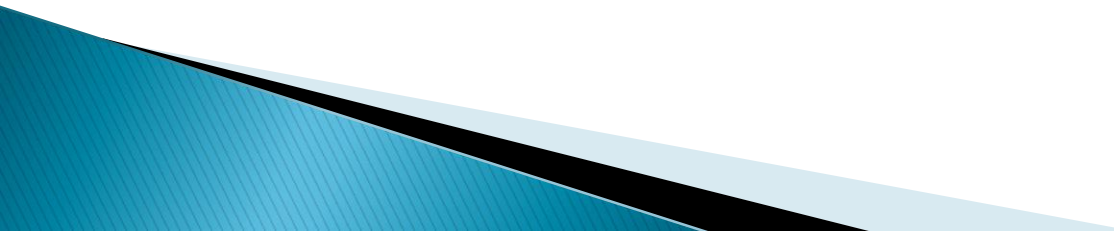
- 1) Ammonia / CO₂
- 2) Improved direct expansion
- 3) Desiccant
- 4) Low pressure receiver

Charges down to 1 lb/ton

Public Refrigerated Warehouse

- ▶ About 80% of the country's Refrigerated Warehouse space
- ▶ 92–95% Ammonia, almost all liquid recirculation with
 - ▶ Large charge 10,000 lbs plus
- ▶ All PRWs in New Jersey use R22 – operating engineers requirements – union pressure in the 1920's
- ▶ We replaced ammonia with R22 in the mid – 90's
- ▶ Misguided regulation determines the refrigerant – look at New Jersey, Northern Europe and Southern Europe – Not rational decision making

National Regulatory Climate

- ▶ Last 4 years excess ammonia regulation has been brutal
 - ▶ Only solution – very small charges
 - ▶ Investment required, return is fewer operating engineers, lower regulatory and insurance costs
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Performance of Refrigerants

Refrigerant COP	%	Net Refrigerant Effect BTU/lb	Refrigerant circulated) (lbs/min
Ammonia 4.76	100	474	.12
R22 4.66	98	70	.81
CO ₂ 2.69	56	57	.51
Propane 4.50	95	120	.47
R507 4.18	88	47	.47

Difficulties with CO₂

- ▶ Will not condense above 88°F; need cascade
- ▶ Will freeze at -70°F
- ▶ Low COP, 49% less than ammonia

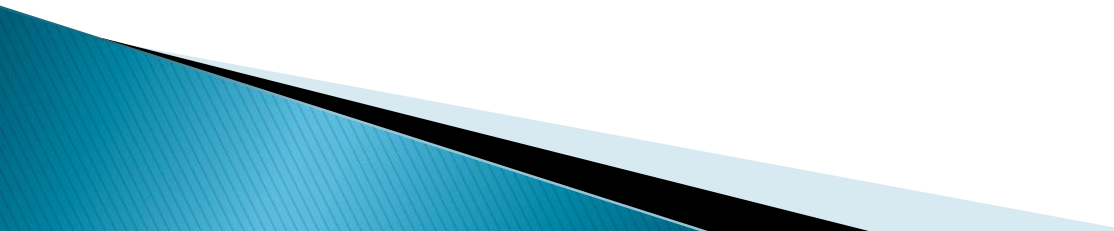
Difficulties with R22

- ▶ Average leak rate 35%
- ▶ Price to replace \$23/lb
- ▶ A pound of R22 does much less refrigerating than ammonia
- ▶ Production banned in 2020, limited by EPA now

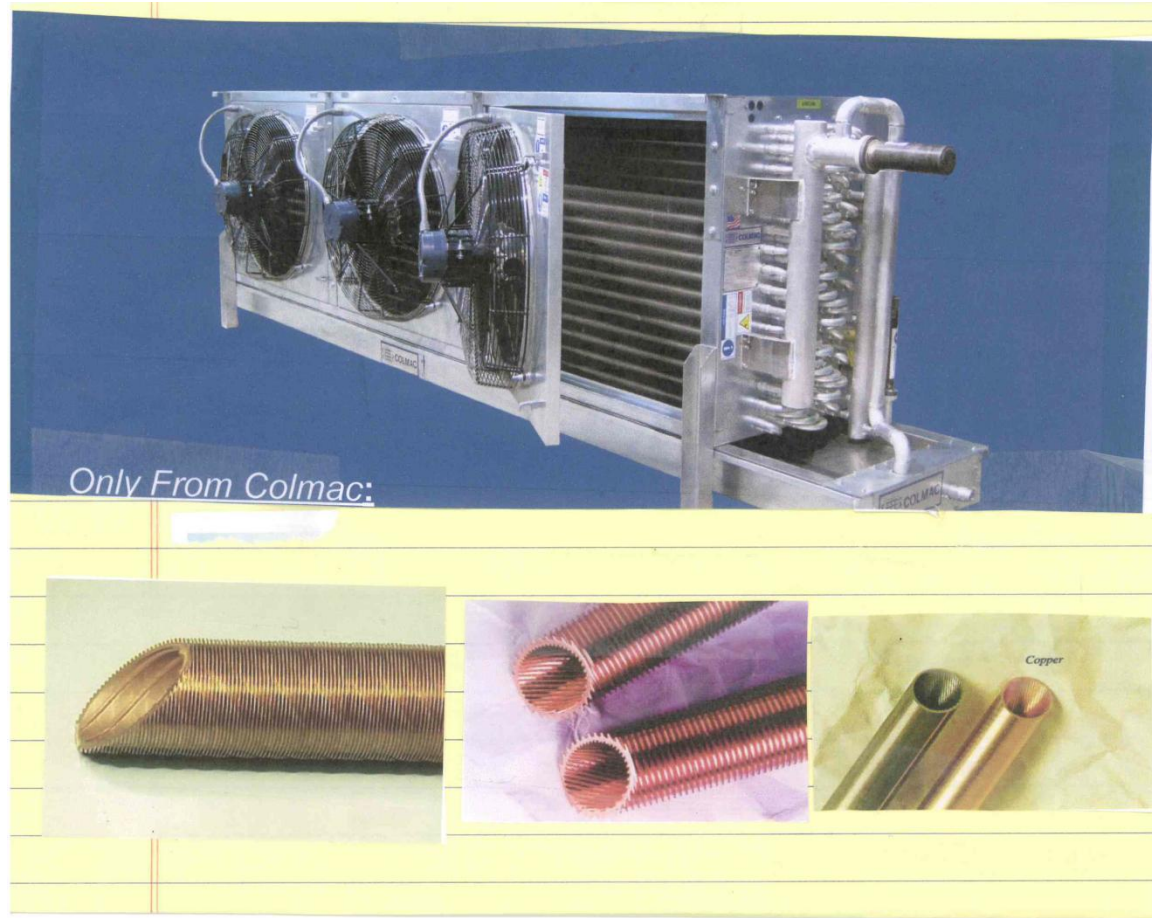
Difficulties with R507

- ▶ Will get banned
 - ▶ 12% lower COP than ammonia
 - ▶ Leaks more than R22 and costs more
- Ammonia is the best industrial refrigerant

Difficulties with Ammonia

- ▶ Low density at low temperatures
required compressor displacement is 7 X
CO₂
 - ▶ 10,000 lbs (5,000 lbs in some states)
requires PSM and RMP
 - ▶ Refrigeration expertise needed for large
central systems.
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New Direct Expansion Evaporators



Small charge system – improved evaporators Dx not recirculation

Best Solutions – Warehouses

- ▶ Small charge ammonia systems (1 to 7 lbs/ton)
 - ▶ Roof top mounted, factory fabricated and manufactured system 40' – 140' in the air. Virtually no exposure to people or product
 - ▶ As energy efficient as liquid recirculation with virtually no refrigeration engineers
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