

solutions for europe

natural refrigerants

15-16 October 2013, Brussels

Institute of Air-handling and Refrigeration (ILK Dresden)

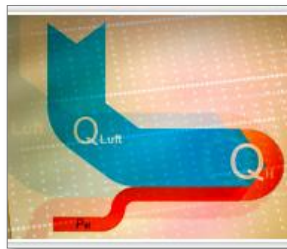
Energy efficient vacuum freezing ice slurry
generation using a R718 compressor

ATMOsphere Europe 2013



- ▶ **Founded in 1964**
- ▶ **Re-established as independent research institute in 1990**

- ▶ **Employees: 145**
- ▶ **Academics: 72 %**
- ▶ **Laboratory area: ~3000 m²**
- ▶ **Test rigs: ~56**
- ▶ **Phys. / Chem. Laboratories: 25**



R718 - Water as refrigerant 1st generation



For over 20 years ILK works in the field of refrigeration using water as refrigerant



- ▶ world's first practicable R718 chillers with centrifugal compressors
1999-2002: 9 chillers with capacities of 400 - 1.000 kW installed,
some still in operation today
- ▶ Demonstrating the feasibility of this new cooling technology in practical use



Chillers with water as refrigerant will never be „small“ ...

Example for a chiller with:

Cooling capacity of 1000 kW

Evaporation temperature of 1 °C

Condensation temperature of 37 °C

| | R717 NH₃ | R718 H₂O |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Suction flow rate [m ³ /h] | 620 | 295 000 |
| Evaporation pressure [bar] | 4.46 | 0.0065 |
| Pressure ratio [-] | 3.20 | 9.55 |
| Specific performance [kJ/kg] | 1 220 | 2 500 |



Water ...

- Is environmentally friendly
- Is non-toxic
- Is non-flammable
- Is much cheaper than any other refrigerant
- Is everywhere available
- Is an very efficient refrigerant
- Doesn't need oil circulation or oil reservoir
- Doesn't require a refrigerant stock,
- Turbo compressors have low sound emissions
- Causes no hazards
- Requires no on-site security facilities
- Is very well suited for office / building applications
- Can work with heat exchangers with low nominal pressure



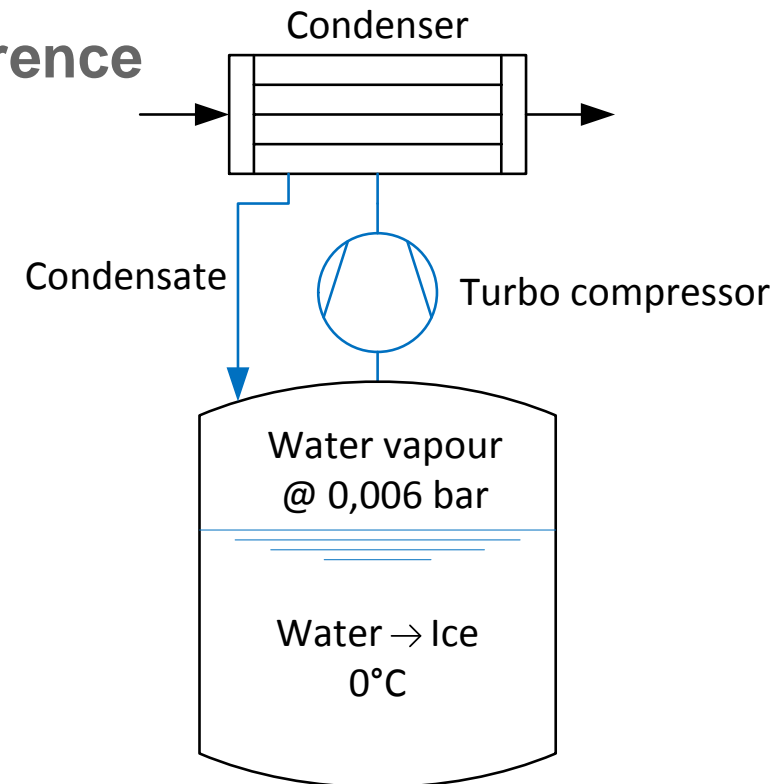
Water is one of the refrigerants of the future!

Ice slurry generation by vacuum freezing

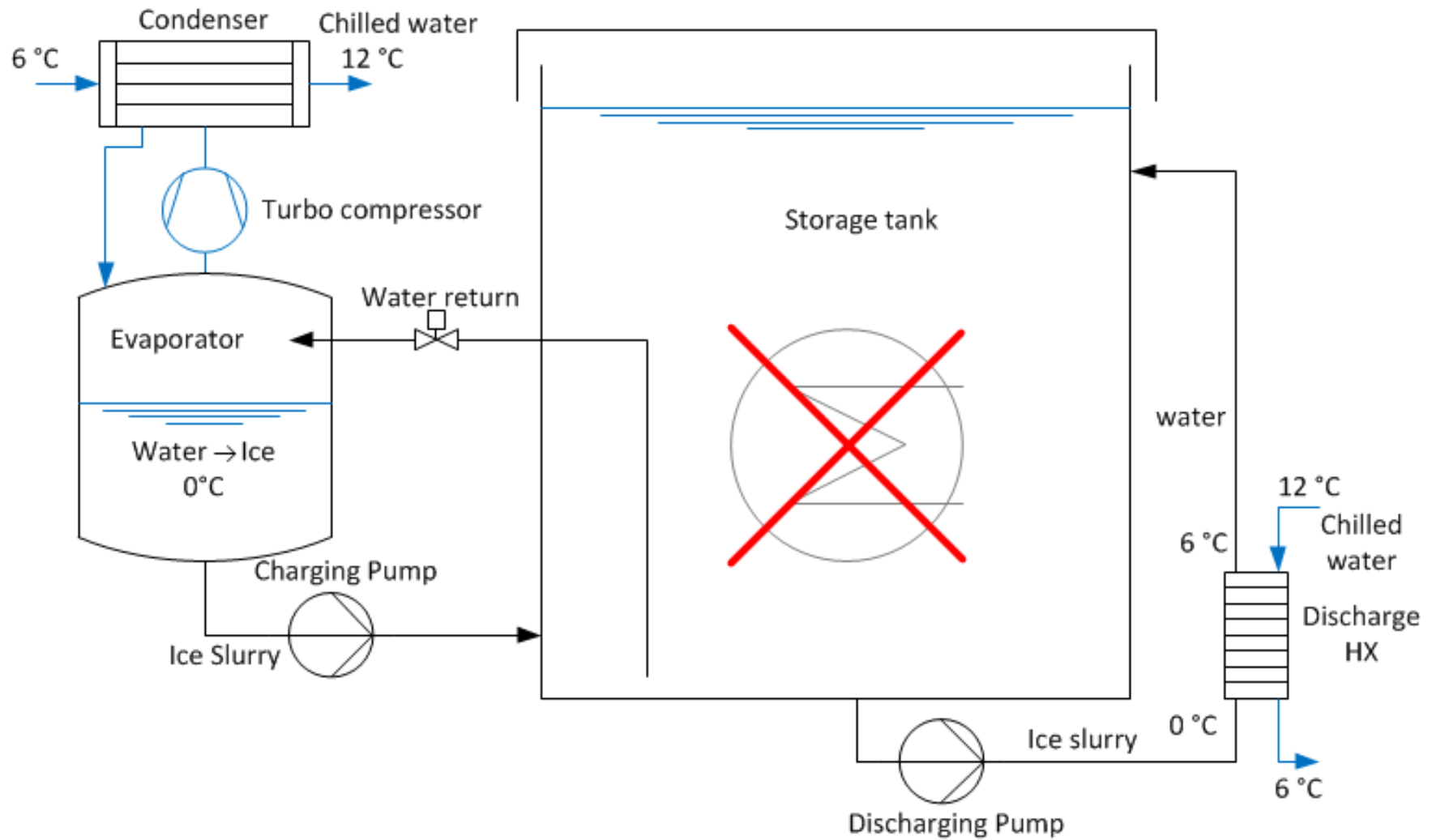
How does it work?



- ▶ Method to generate a pumpable water/ice mixture by direct evaporation of the refrigerant water under low vacuum conditions
- ▶ Evaporation at the triple point of water (550 Pa, 0 °C)
- ▶ Evaporation with low temperature difference
- ▶ Storage as a single substance binary mixture of water/water ice
- ▶ Generation with low capacity
- ▶ High discharge capacity possible
- ▶ Constant discharge capacity
- ▶ Partial discharge of storage possible

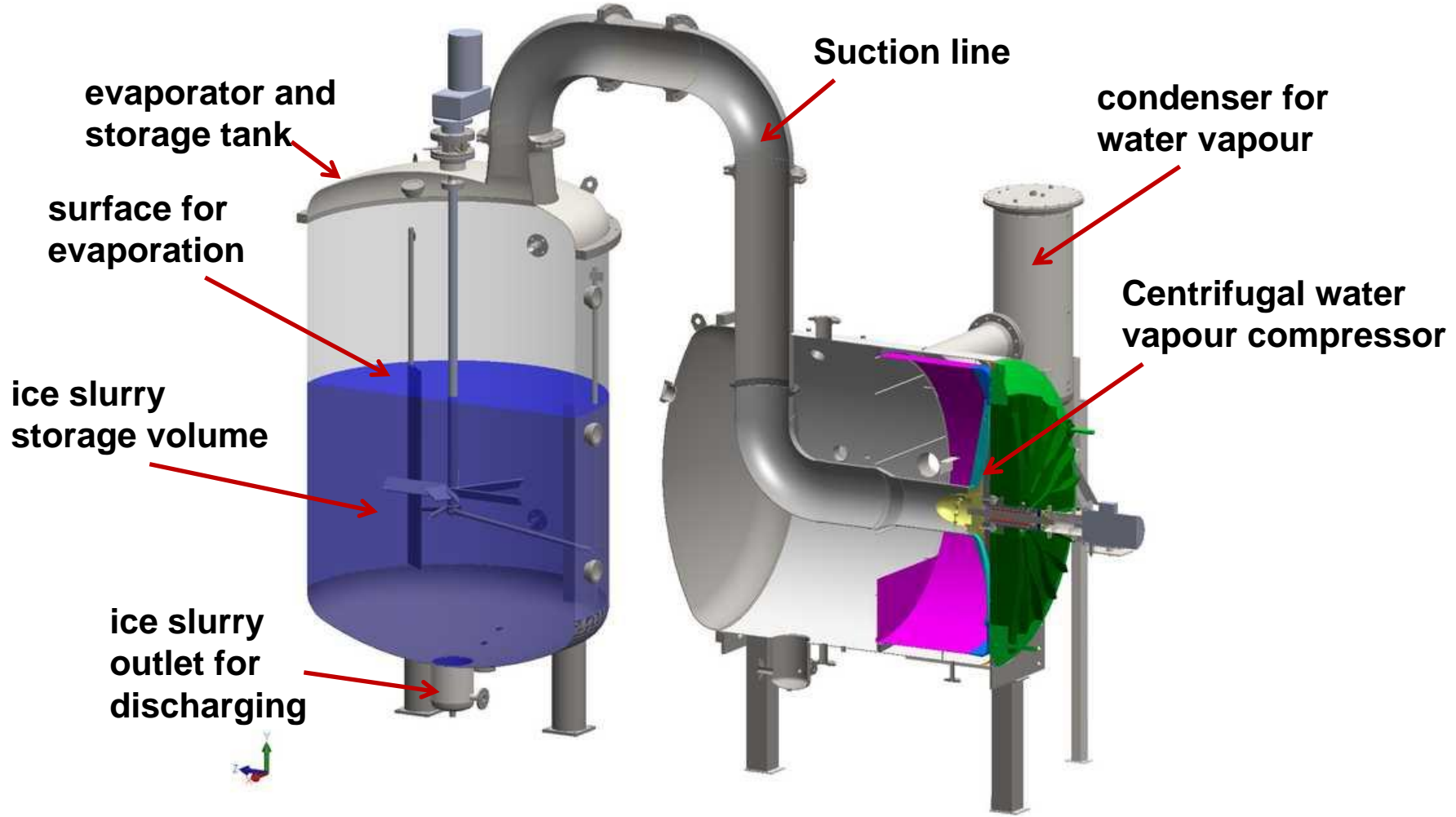


System layout



Vacuum freezing ice slurry generation

Design of the experimental plant



Demonstration project: Vacuum ice generation and storage at the University of Applied Sciences in Zwickau, Germany

Mission: Load management / additional peak capacity for the cooling network of the university and education of students



Parameters

- ▶ **Evaporator capacity: 50 kW (Charging capacity)**
- ▶ **Storage capacity: 350 kWh**
- ▶ **Storage volume: 6 m³**
- ▶ **Discharging capacity: 100 kW**

Commissioning Nov. 2013



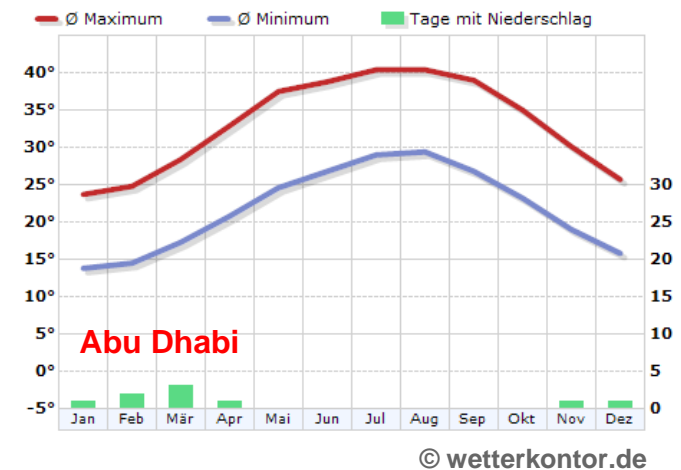
Ice storage as energy storage I

- ▶ **Ice storage ... why?**
- ▶ **Cooling applications need energy**
 - Air conditioning, food processing and storage, industrial processes
- ▶ **(most) chillers driven by electricity**
- ▶ **Cooling related loads dominate in many regions**
e.g. southern China: 40 % of electricity for AC
- ▶ **High peak power demand especially caused by air-conditioning**
- ▶ **Without storage dimensioning of chillers for peak load**
- ▶ **Ice storage for decoupling of cooling demand and cooling generation**



Ice storage as energy storage II

- ▶ Renewable energies require energy storage
- ▶ Ice storage provides possibility to directly store final energy
- ▶ No other lossy conversion steps required
- ▶ Efficiency increase of cold generation at favourable re-cooling/condensation conditions (day-night temperature difference)



 Innovative ice storage system with vacuum ice

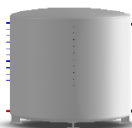


Sensible heat storage

- ▶ Uses temperature difference (typ. 6/12 °C -> 25 kJ/kg)
- ▶ Very small difference usable
- ▶ Leads to very big tanks
- ▶ Stratification issues



© T.Urbaneck



Latent heat storage

- ▶ Uses latent heat of fusion Water / Ice (333 kJ/kg)
- ▶ High storage density
- ▶ Melting point close to application temperature



© Calmac



Ice banks

- ▶ Low evaporating temperature
- ▶ At least one heat exchanger between evaporating refrigerant and ice
- ▶ Temperature difference increases with thickness of ice layer
- ▶ Big heat exchanger needed for high charging and discharging power

Vacuum ice (Slurry ice)

- ▶ Only ice storage technology with evaporating temperature comparable to chilled water generation
- ▶ low charging, high discharging capacity possible
- ▶ No complete discharging necessary

Efficiency considerations



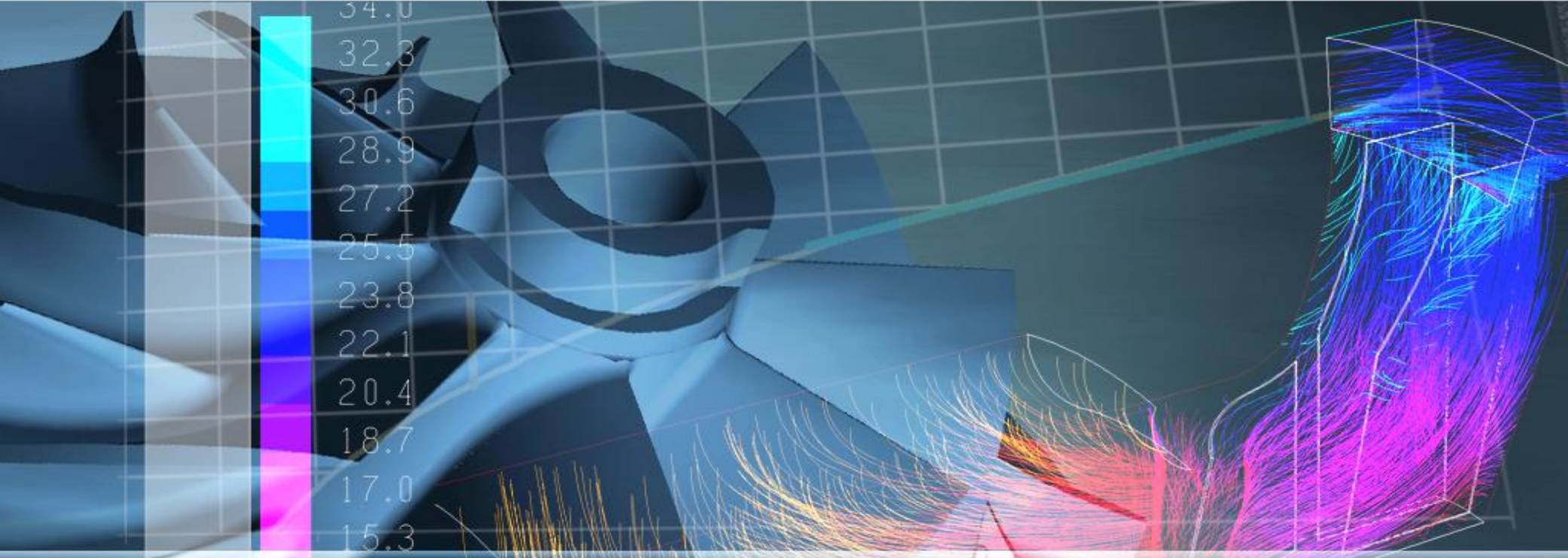
| | t_0 [°C] | t_c [°C] | COP | π | Spec. demand [kW _{el} /kW ₀] |
|--|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------|--|
| R718 – ice generation $\eta_{is} = 0,65$ | -0.5 | 6 | 26.2 | 1.59 | 0.038 |
| R717 – water chiller $\eta_{is} = 0,7$ | 4 | 34 | 5.71 | 2,64 | 0.175 |
| Combined R718 R717 $\eta_{is} = 0,65$ $\eta_{is} = 0,7$ | -0.5 | 34 | 4.69 | | 0.213 |
| Combined – nighttime R718 R717 $\eta_{is} = 0,65$ $\eta_{is} = 0,7$ | -0.5 | 24 | 6.67 (8.91) | | 0.150 (0.112) |
| Conventional ice (slurry) R717 $\eta_{is} = 0,7$ | -10 | 34 | 3.49 | 4.51 | 0.287 |



Benefits of vacuum ice slurry technology

- ▶ **Effective evaporation temperature as high as $-0.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$**
- ▶ **Ice particle generation at free water surface – no scraping, lower maintenance**
- ▶ **Higher efficiency than conventional ice bank storage or scraped surface slurry**
- ▶ **Storage size (HX) not linked to cooling capacity**
- ▶ **Storage/System efficiency above 100 % possible by using day/night ambient temperature difference**
- ▶ **No degradation of storage material; unmatched durability**
- ▶ **Storage material water is cheap and sustainable**
- ▶ **Ice slurry is pumpable -> distribution networks possible**
- ▶ **Ice slurry can be used as secondary refrigerant**
- ▶ **50...500 kW ice generation capacity with ILK turbo compressor technology**
- ▶ **Can be used for demand side load management**





Thanks for your attention!

Questions?

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