



# **OBOGS Chemical Challenge Test Stand Development UPDATE**

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Presented to:  
2023 OSCG Annual Meeting

Presented by: Dr. Leah R. Eller, NAWCAD HSE ARI Senior Chemist

# DISCLAIMERS

- The opinions expressed in this brief are those of the presenter and do not represent an official position of the US Government
- I have no financial relationships to disclose





# Purpose of this brief

- Provide stakeholders and other interested parties with the current state of this work effort
- Highlight technical accomplishments in the area of chemical challenge testing
- Provide the most current timeline for this work effort
- Discuss implications for future OBOGS testing against MIL-STD-3050 requirements/recommendations regarding chemical protectiveness of oxygen equipment

NOTE: Use slide show to view this chart

Small suggestions for improvement

This chart illustrates DoDI 5000.85, Major Capability Acquisition model; tailoring to individual program circumstances is essential.

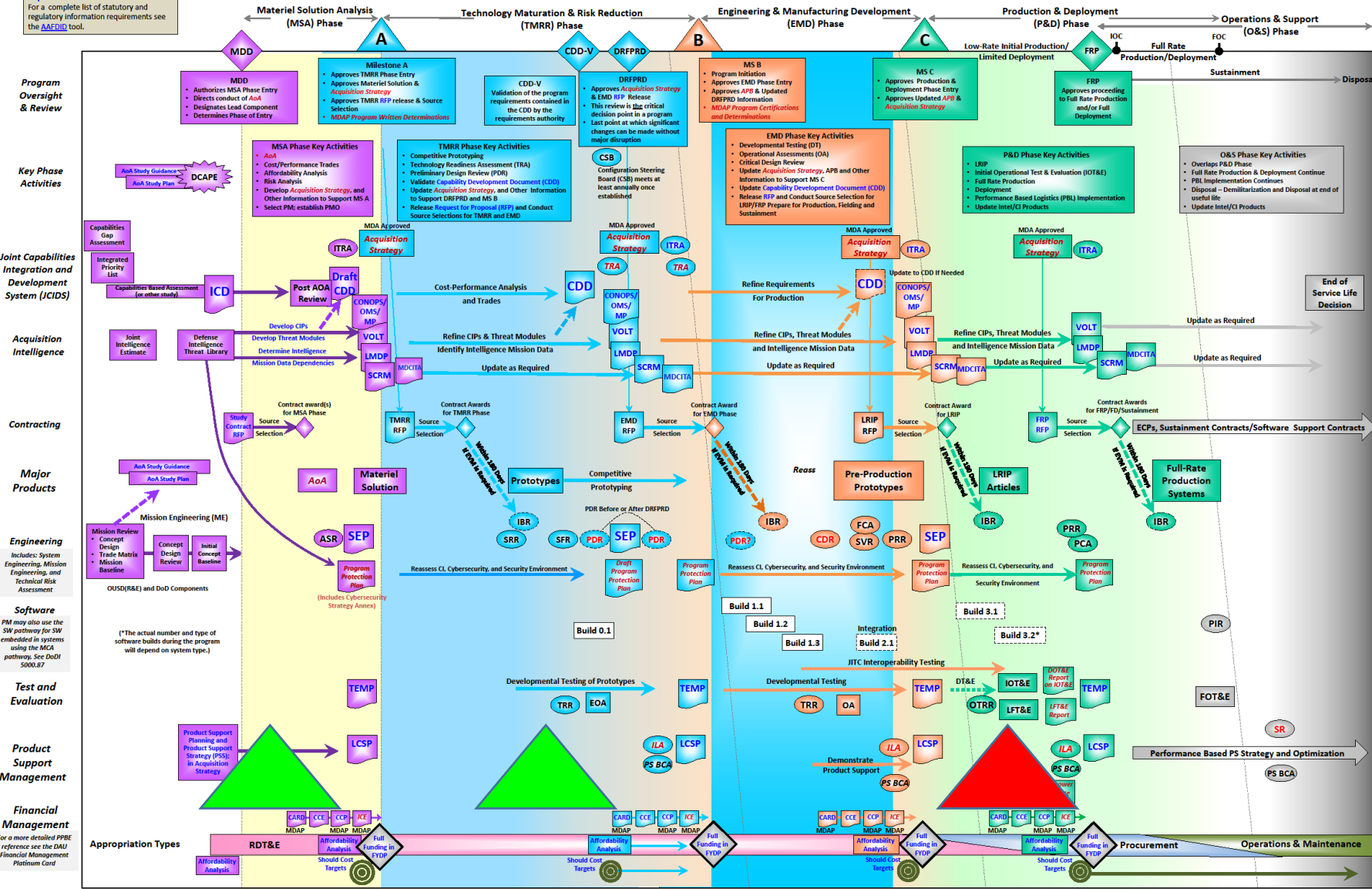
# Major Capabilities Acquisition (Pre-Tailoring) Acquisition & Procurement Milestones, Phases and Decision Points

See the Adaptive Acquisition Framework for other approaches to acquiring capability.

Ver. 2.1 October 21, 2022

**Milestone & Phase Information Requirements**  
Statutory information requirements are shown in dark red bold italics. Regulatory and best practice information requirements are shown in blue bold. For a complete list of statutory and regulatory information requirements see the AAFID tool.

These decision points, milestones and phases are standard elements of the Defense Acquisition System; however, MDAs, with PM input, have full latitude to tailor programs in the most effective and efficient structure possible, unless constrained by statute



## Acronyms & Abbreviations

- ACAT – Acquisition Category
- AoA – Analysis of Alternatives
- APB – Acquisition Program Baseline
- ASR – Alternative Systems Review
- CARD – Cost Analysis Requirements Description
- CCE – Component Cost Estimate
- CCP – Component Cost Position
- CDD – Capability Development Document
- CDD-V – Capability Development Document Validation
- CDR – Critical Design Review
- CI – Counterintelligence
- CIPs – Critical Intelligence Parameters
- CONOPS/OMs/MP – Concept of Operations/Operational Mode Summary/Mission Profile
- CSB – Configuration Steering Board
- DCAPE – Director, Cost Assessment & Program Evaluation
- DRFPRD – Development Request for Proposal Release Decision
- DT&E – Developmental Test & Evaluation
- DoDI – Department of Defense Instruction
- DOT&E – Director of Operational Test & Evaluation
- ECS – Engineering Change Proposals
- EMD – Engineering & Manufacturing Development
- ECA – Early Operational Assessment
- EVM – Earned Value Management
- FA – Functional Configuration Audit
- FD – Full Deployment
- FOC – Full Operational Capability
- FOT&E – Follow-on Operational Test & Evaluation
- FRP – Full-Rate Production
- FRP/ED – Full-Rate Production / Full Deployment Decision Review
- FYDP – Future Years Defense Program
- IBR – Integrated Baseline Review
- ICD – Initial Capabilities Document
- ICE – Independent Cost Estimate
- ILA – Independent Logistics Assessment
- IOC – Initial Operational Capability
- IOT&E – Initial Operational Test & Evaluation
- ISR – In-Service Review
- ITRA – Independent Technology Risk Assessment (MDAPs Only)
- JIE – Joint Intelligence Estimate
- JITC – Joint Interoperability Test Command
- JROC – Joint Requirements Oversight Council
- LCCE – Life Cycle Cost Estimate
- LCSPP – Life Cycle Support Plan
- LFT&E – Live Fire Test & Evaluation
- LMDP – Life Cycle Mission Data Plan
- LRIP – Low-Rate Initial Production
- MDA – Milestone Decision Authority
- MDAP – Major Defense Acquisition Program
- MDCITA – Multi-Duplicate Countersintelligence Threat Assessment
- MDD – Materiel Development Decision
- MS – Milestone
- MSA – Materiel Solution Analysis
- OA – Operational Assessment
- OTRR – Operational Test Readiness Review
- PBL – Performance-Based Life-Cycle Product Support, Performance-Based Logistics
- PCA – Physical Configuration Audit
- PDR – Preliminary Design Review
- PIB – Post Implementation Review
- PM – Program Manager
- PMO – Program Management Office
- PPBE – Planning, Programming, Budgeting & Execution
- PRR – Production Readiness Review
- PSS – Product Support Strategy
- PS BCA – PS Business Case Analysis
- RT&E – Research, Development, Test & Evaluation
- RFP – Request for Proposal
- SCRM – Supply Chain Risk Management
- SEP – Systems Engineering Plan
- SRR – System Requirements Review
- SFR – System Functional Review
- SVR – System Verification Review
- TEMP – Test & Evaluation Master Plan
- TMRR – Tech Maturation & Risk Reduction
- TRA – Technology Readiness Assessment
- TRR – Test Readiness Review
- VOLT – Validated Online Lifecycle Threat

For a more detailed PPBE reference see the DAU Financial Management Platinum Card

<https://www.dau.mil/tools/dau-dssss>



# Target Chemicals for Test Stand

MIL-STD-3050A Table IV	INLET AIR CONTAMINANT	OUTLET AIR CONTAMINANT	Room Temp. State	Representative compound(s)	Comments
Acrolein	0.1 ppmv	0.05 ppmv	liquid	acetone, acrolein	
Aldehydes	1 ppmv	0.2 ppmv	liquid or gas	acetaldehyde, propanal	
Aromatics	10 ppmv	0.1 ppmv	liquid	toluene, xylenes	
Carbon Dioxide	5000 ppmv	500 ppmv	gas	carbon dioxide	
Carbon Monoxide	50 ppmv/250 ppmv (Navy)	10 ppmv	gas	carbon monoxide	
Cobalt	0.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.025 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	solid	N/A	
Ethanol	1000 ppmv	500 ppmv	liquid	ethanol	
Fluorine (as HF)	0.1 ppmv	0.05 ppmv	liquid	HF	recommend separate filter testing
Halogenated Solvents	2 ppmv	0.2 ppmv	liquid or gas	dichloromethane, trichloroethylene	
Hydrogen Peroxide	1 ppmv	0.5 ppmv	liquid solution	hydrogen peroxide	material incompatible with zeolites
Methyl Alcohol	200 ppmv	100 ppmv	liquid	methyl alcohol	
Methyl Bromide	20 ppmv	1 ppmv	gas	methyl bromide	
Nickel	0.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.125 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	solid	N/A	
Nitrogen Oxides	5 ppmv	0.1 ppmv	gas	nitrogen dioxide	
Oil Breakdown Products	1 ppmv	0.1 ppmv	particles	N/A	
Oil and Particulate Matter	2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.2 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	particles	N/A	
Ozone	0.1 ppmv	0.05 ppmv	gas	ozone	
Sub-micron particles	0.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	particles	N/A	
Total hydrocarbons	250 ppmv	25 ppmv	liquid or gas	n-heptane, n-octane	
Unsaturated hydrocarbons (alkenes, alkynes)	2 ppmv	0.2 ppmv	liquid or gas	ethylene, propyne	
Vapor Phase Water	≤ 95% non-condensing	-4° F dew point	liquid	N/A	

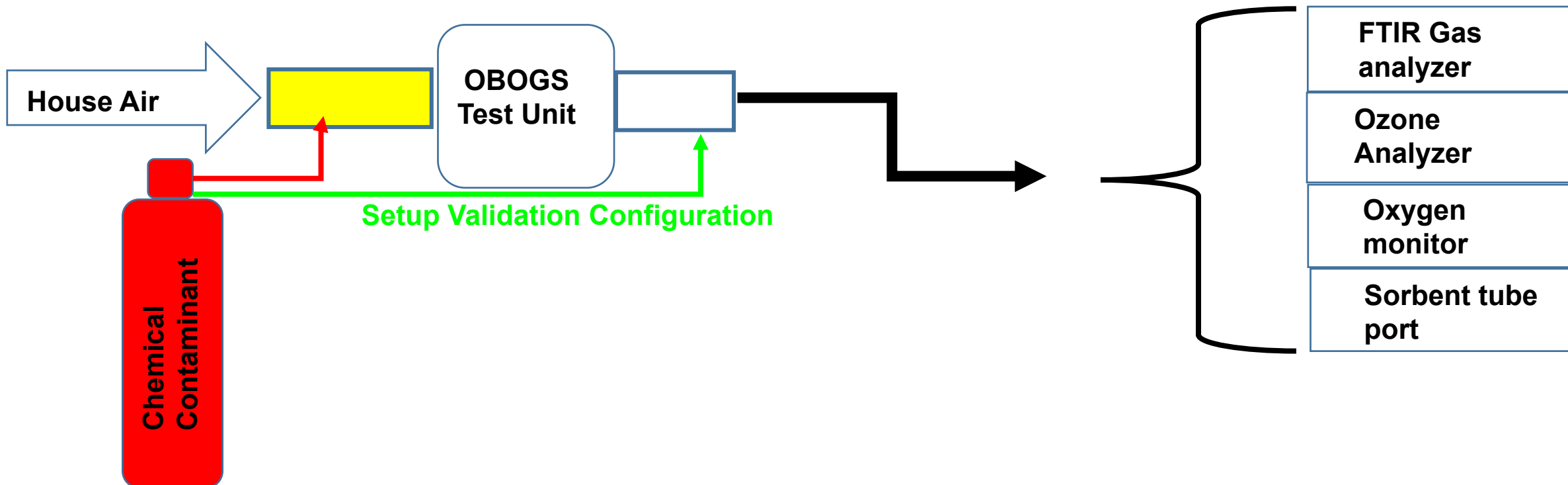


## Challenges to Address

- Low target concentrations
  - Difficult to hold consistent vapor concentration
  - Signal-to-noise ratios in detection equipment
- Low vapor pressures in some target chemicals
  - COTS vapor generation insufficient
  - Maintain vapors at room temperature to avoid condensation during testing
- High oxygen concentrations can reduce sensitivity of industrial gas analyzers
  - Raises the LOD during testing with running OBOGS
- Pressure pulses from running OBOGS
  - Less stable baselines
  - Reduced signal-to-noise ratio



# Test Rig Capability Overview



- High-flow vapor generation system
- Low-flow vapor generation system
- Ozone generation system
- Gas cylinder dilution system

- Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectrometer (FTIR) detector/analyzer
- Ozone analyzer
- Sorbent tube port



# Theoretical Capability of FTIR vs MILSTD3050A

Chemical	Wavelength (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Absorption cross section (cm <sup>2</sup> /molecule)	MIL-STD Max Outlet concentration (ppmv)	LoD from averaging 100 scans (ppmv)	Factor above MILSTD
Acrolein	1730	9.33E-19	0.05	0.044	1.1
Carbon Dioxide	2361	1.48E-17	500	0.003	181000
Carbon Monoxide	2173	2.04E-18	10	0.020	500
Ethanol	1066	3.03E-19	500	0.135	3711
Hydrogen Peroxide	1250	3.74E-19 [13]	0.5	0.109	4.6
Methanol	1033	1.05E-18	100	0.039	2568
Methyl Bromide	1450	4.57E-19	1	0.089	11
Ozone	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Acetaldehyde	1761	4.56E-19	0.2	0.089	2.2
Propanal	1754	4.76E-19	0.2	0.086	2.3
Toluene	829	9.25E-19	0.1	0.044	2.3
m-Xylene	769	7.18E-19	0.1	0.057	1.8
Dichloromethane	750	7.76E-19	0.2	0.053	3.8
Trichloroethylene	849	8.19E-19	0.2	0.050	4.0
Nitrogen Dioxide	1603	2.63E-18	0.1	0.016	6.4
Nitric Oxide	1900	6.47E-19	0.1	0.063	1.6
n-heptane	2936	1.02E-18	25	0.040	623.7
n-Octane	2933	1.33E-18	25	0.031	813.0
Ethylene	949	1.88E-18	0.2	0.022	9.2
Propyne	635	1.53E-18	0.2	0.027	7.5

**From first principles, FTIR spectroscopy can reasonably detect MILSTD chemicals of interest at required concentrations**

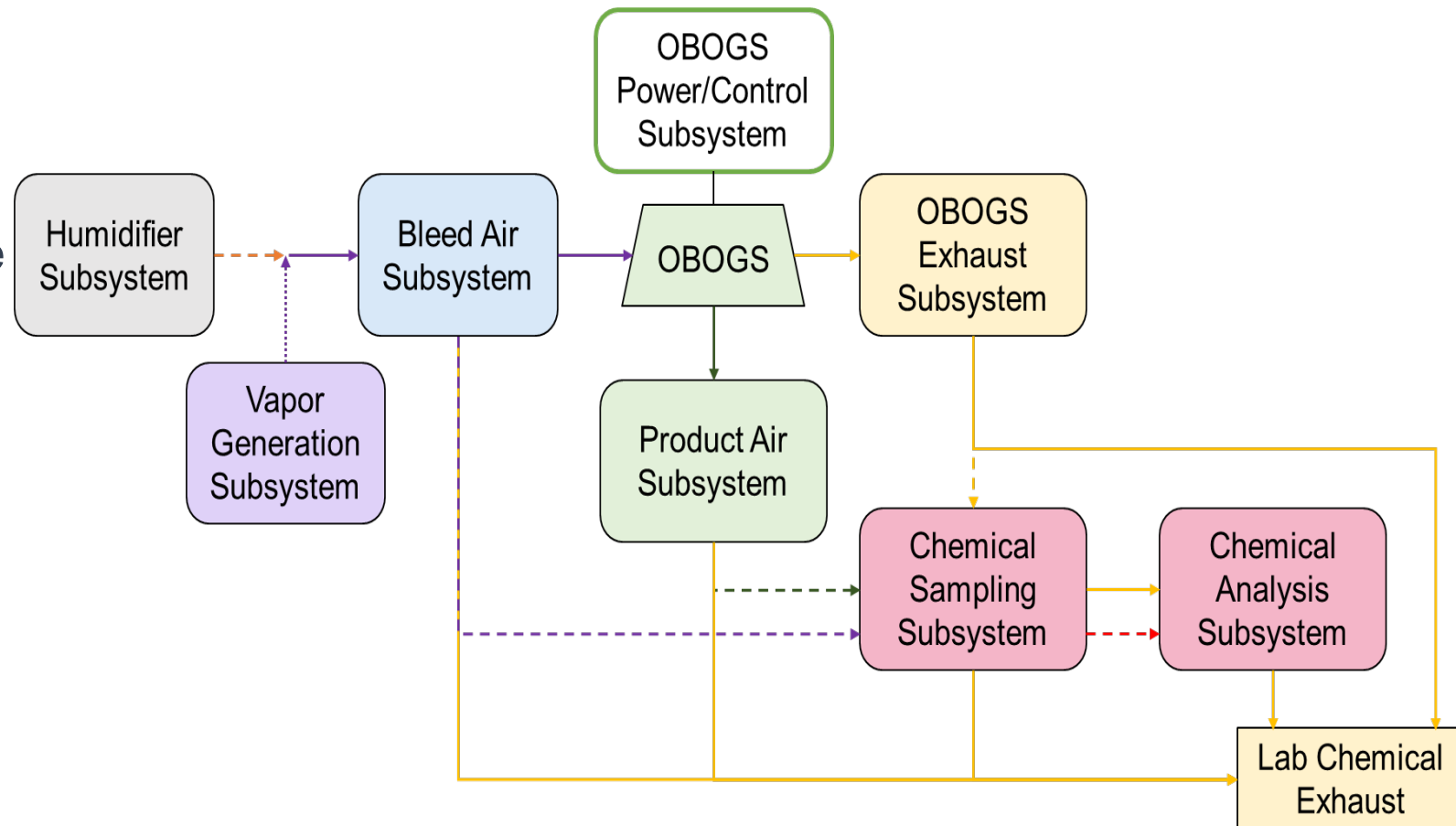




## FY22-23:

- Develop new capability to generate MIL-STD-3050 chemical vapors at required pressures, flow rates, and controlled concentrations to introduce into an operating OBOGS.
- Verify vapor generation methods with multiple chemicals at a range of experimental conditions.
- Build a test stand that is capable of evaluating the chemical filtration performance of an OBOGS to ensure it meets MIL-STD-3050 requirements.

## OBOGS Test Stand System Overview





## Some RDTE Focus Chemicals

- Acrolein (Acetone proxy)
- Acetaldehyde
- Octane
- Ozone
- Lowest target outlet concentration; low detection factor above need based on absorption cross-section
- Fairly polar; test gas-dilution system
- Higher concentrations to test; testing high-flow vapor generator developed by JHU/APL
- Test ozone generator and detector



# Acrolein vs Acetone in RDTE Testing

Chemical classification	Chemical	Polarity	Dipole moment (d)	Density (g/mL)	Surface Tension (mN/m)	MW (g/mol)	Viscosity (mPa-s)	Boiling Point (1 atm)
Aromatics	Benzene	nonpolar	0	0.879	28.22 at 25 °C	78.11	0.604 at 25 °C	176.2 °F
Aromatics	Toluene	nonpolar	0.375	0.867	27.73 at 25 °C	92.14	0.560 at 25 °C	231.1 °F
Alcohols	Ethanol	polar	1.66	0.79	21.97 at 25 °C	46.07	1.074 at 25 °C	173.3 °F
Alcohols	Methyl Alcohol	polar	1.7	0.792	22.07 at 25 °C	32.04	0.544 at 25 °C	148.3 °F
Alkane	Decane	nonpolar	0.07	0.73	23.37 at 25 °C	142.28	0.838 at 25 °C	345.4 °F
Halogenated Solvents	Dichloroethene	polar	1.9	1.21	24 at 20 °C	96.94		118 to 140 °F
Organobromine	Methyl Bromide	polar	1.83	1.73	24.5 at 15 °C	94.94	0.397 at 0 °C	38.4 °F
<b>Aldehyde</b>	<b>Acrolein</b>	<b>polar</b>	<b>3.11</b>	<b>0.838</b>	<b>24 at 20 °C</b>	<b>56.06</b>	<b>0.35 at 20 °C</b>	<b>126 °F</b>
	Water	polar	1.8546	1	71.97 at 25 °C	18.015	0.8949 at 25 °C	212 °F
Carboxylate ester	Ethyl Acetate	polar	1.78	0.902	24 at 20 °C	88.11	0.423 at 25 °C	171 °F
<b>Ketone</b>	<b>Acetone</b>	<b>polar</b>	<b>2.88</b>	<b>0.791</b>	<b>23.7 at 20 °C</b>	<b>58.08</b>	<b>0.32 at 20 °C</b>	<b>133 °F</b>
Ether	Diethyl ether	nonpolar	1.15	0.714	17.06 at 20 °C	74.12	0.2448 at 20 °C	94.3 °F
Nitrile	Acetonitrile	polar	3.92	0.787	29.04 at 20 °C	41.05	0.35 at 20 °C	178.9 °F
Ketone	2-pentanone	nonpolar	2.7	0.809	25.09	86.13	0.473 at 25 °C	212 to 214 °F
Ketone	cyclohexanone	nonpolar	2.9	0.945	35.05 at 20 °C	98.14	2.2 at 25 °C	312.1 °F
Alcohols	Glycerol	polar	2.56	1.261	63.4 at 20 °C	92.09	954 at 25 °C	554 °F

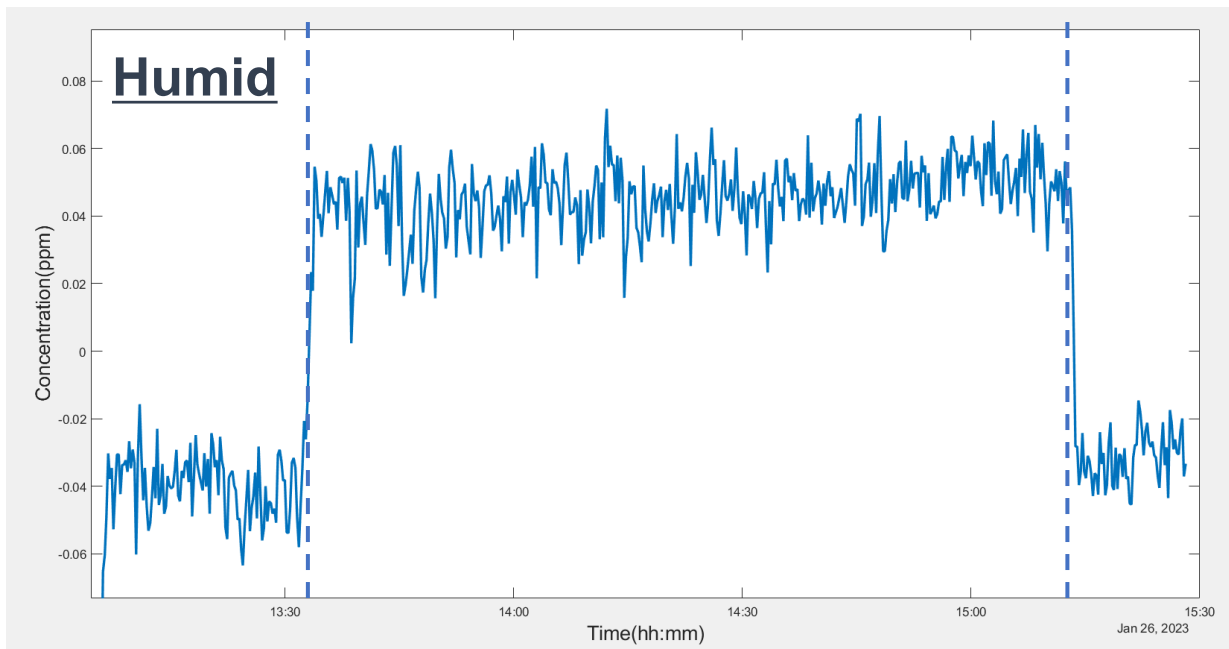
- Acrolein NIOSH TWA REL 0.1 ppm; 15 min REL 0.3 ppm; IDLH 2 ppm

- Acetone NIOSH TWA REL 250 ppm; IDLH 2500 ppm

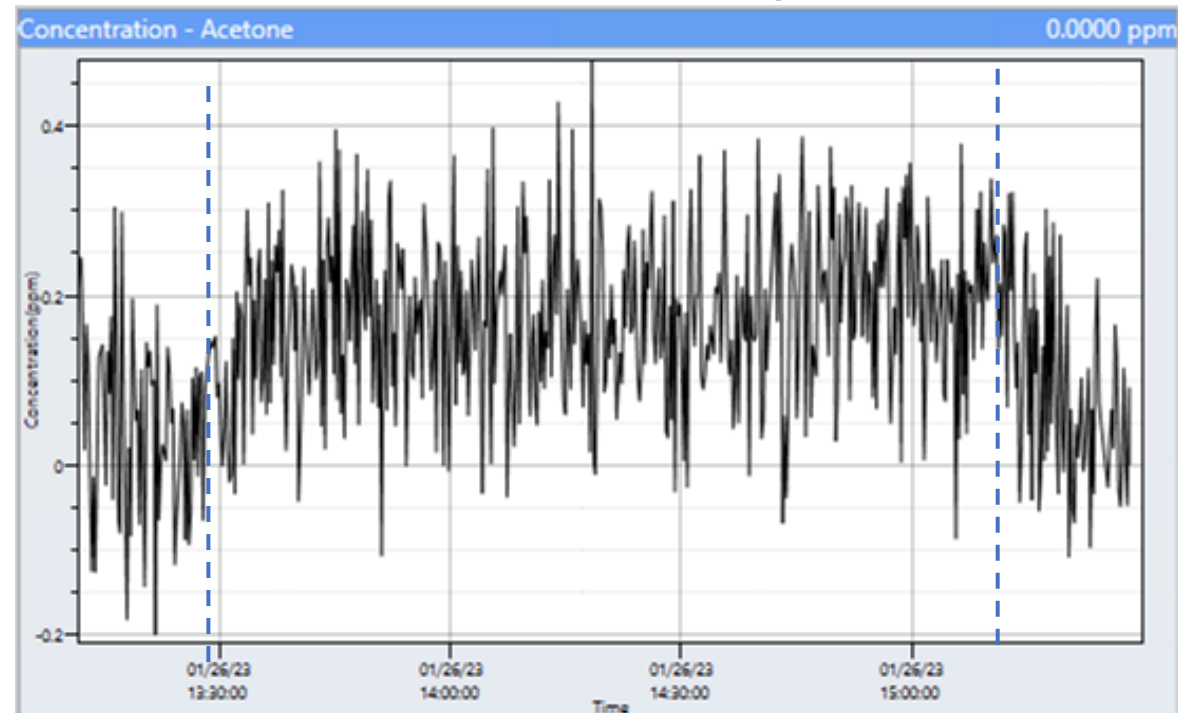


# 100 ppb acetone in humid conditions – APL FTIR analysis compared to commercial analysis

## APL FTIR Analysis



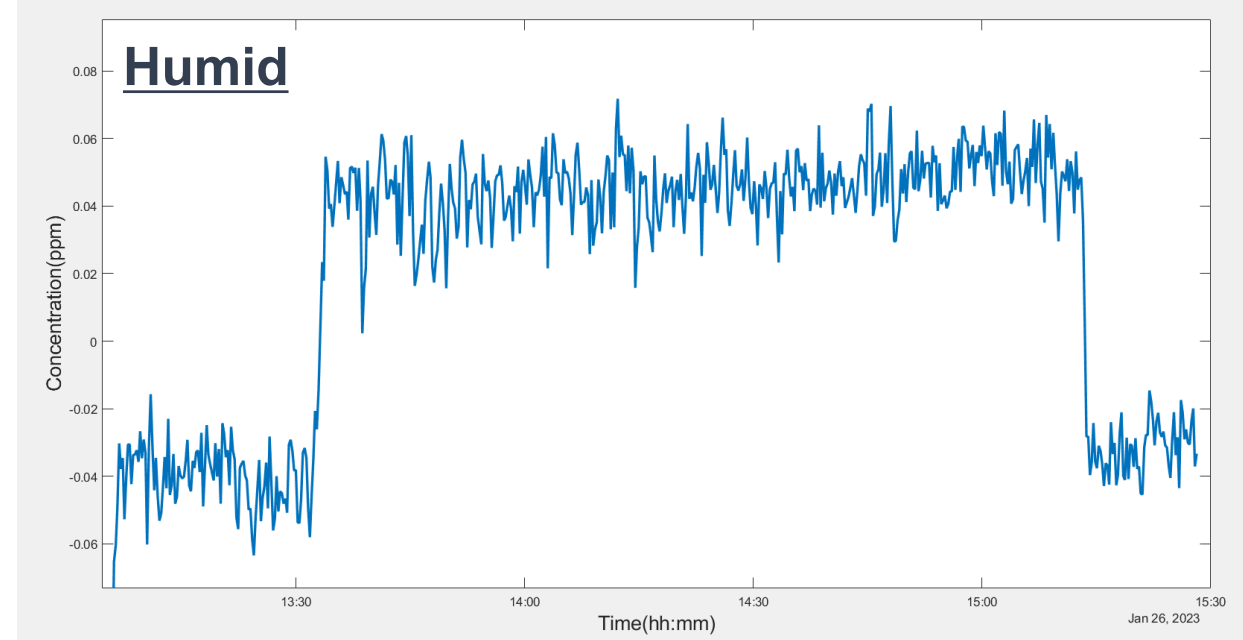
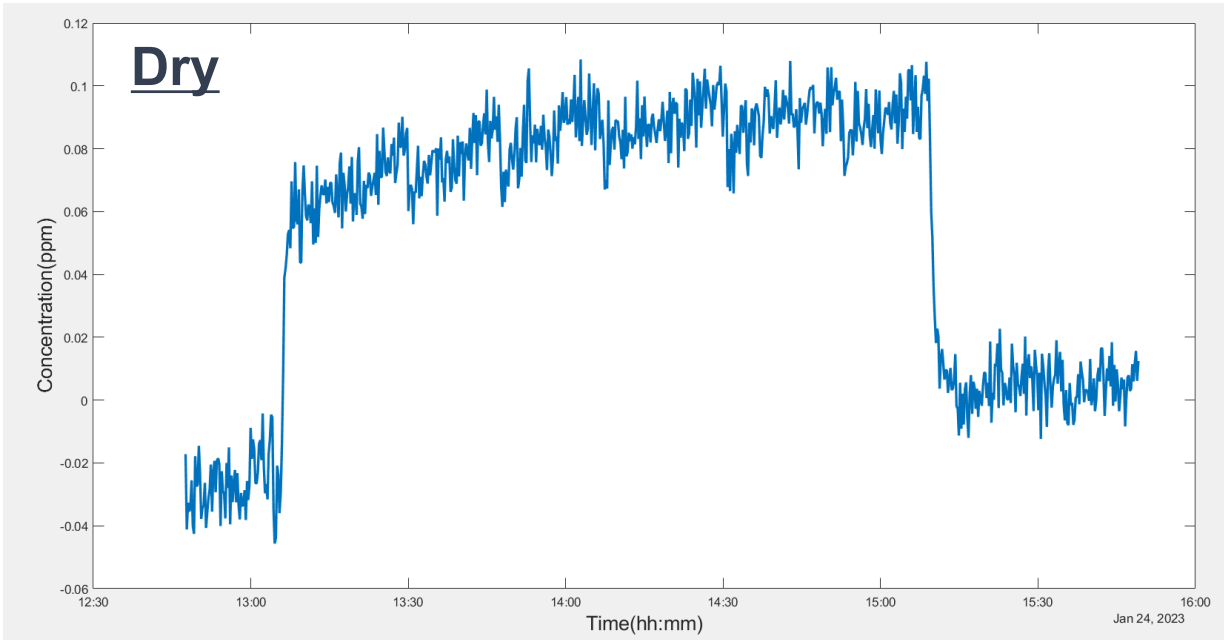
## Commercial software analysis



- Plots show analysis from same experimental data set using APL developed method (left) versus software (right) INJECTION LOCATION DOWNSTREAM OF RUNNING OBOGS
- Blue dashed lines indicate when chemical was introduced to bleed air and shut off.
- Obtaining much higher signal to noise using APL analysis compared to COTS software



# Acetone at 100 ppb in dry/humid conditions

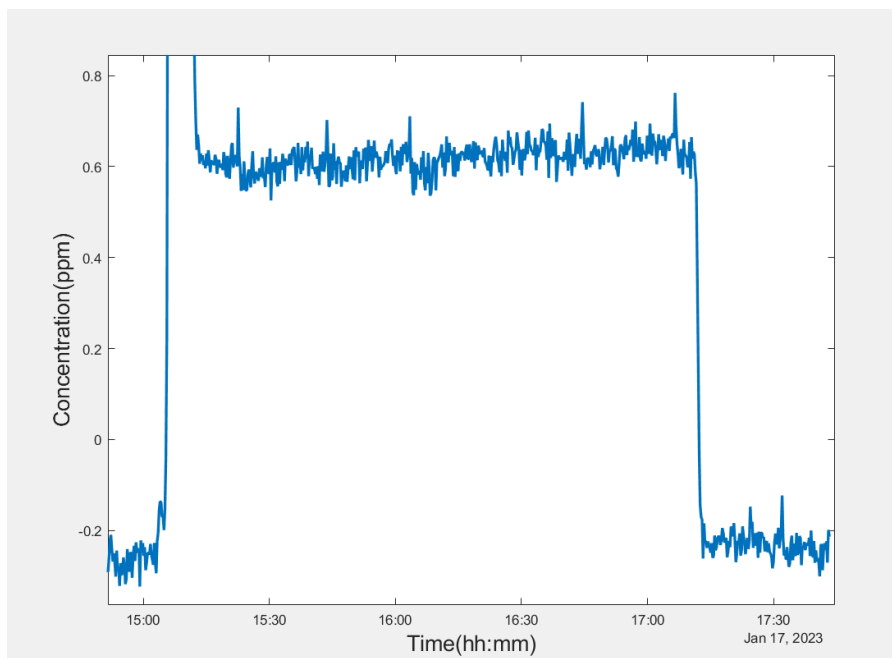


- FTIR instrument and APL analysis able to detect 100 ppb of acetone in dry and humid bleed air
- There is a zero baseline offset for acetone that needs to be taken into consideration.
- After accounting for baseline and cross calibrating, concentrations generated are 113 and 99.7 ppb in dry and humid conditions, respectively.
- Note the standard deviation in the measurement for humid conditions was observed (strongest acetone IR features overlap with water vapor)

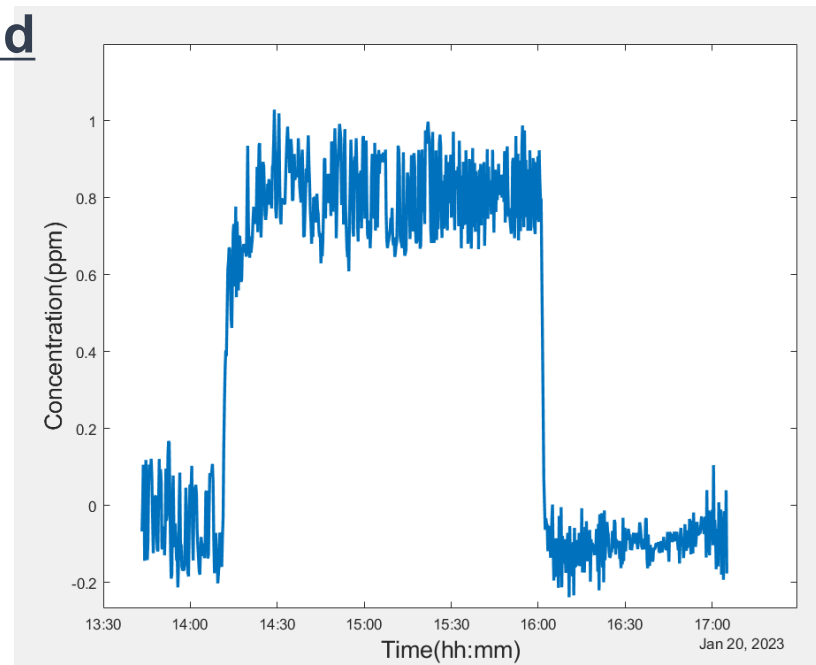


# Acetaldehyde at 1 ppm in dry/humid conditions

Dry



Humid

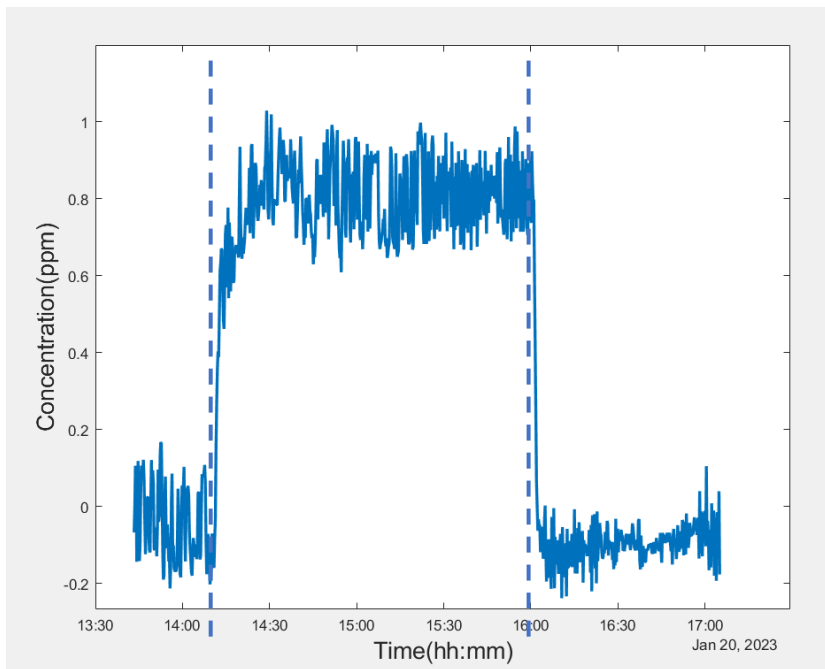


- There is a zero baseline offset ( $\sim 0.1$ - $0.25$  ppm).
- After accounting for baseline and using calibration curve from previous collected data, concentrations generated are 1.03 ppm and 1.04 ppm in dry/humid conditions, respectively.
- Note there was a larger standard deviation in the measurement for humid conditions (strongest acetaldehyde IR features overlap with water vapor)

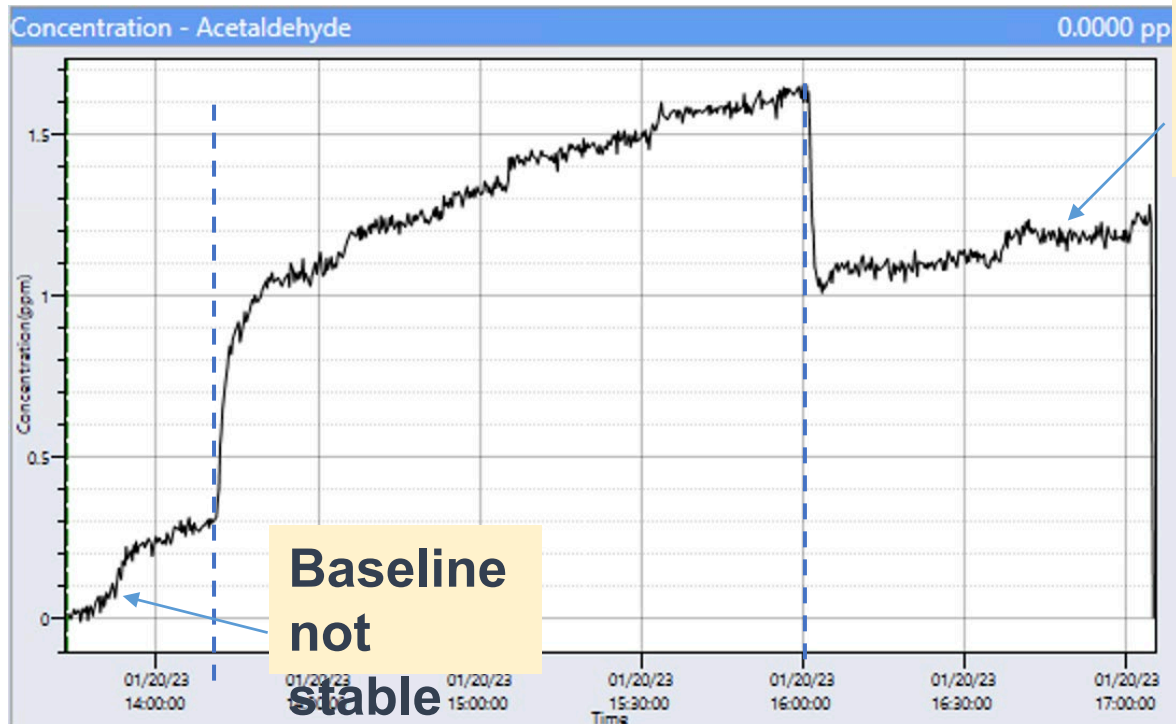


# 1 ppm acetaldehyde in humid conditions – APL FTIR analysis compared to commercial software analysis

## APL FTIR Analysis



## Commercial software analysis

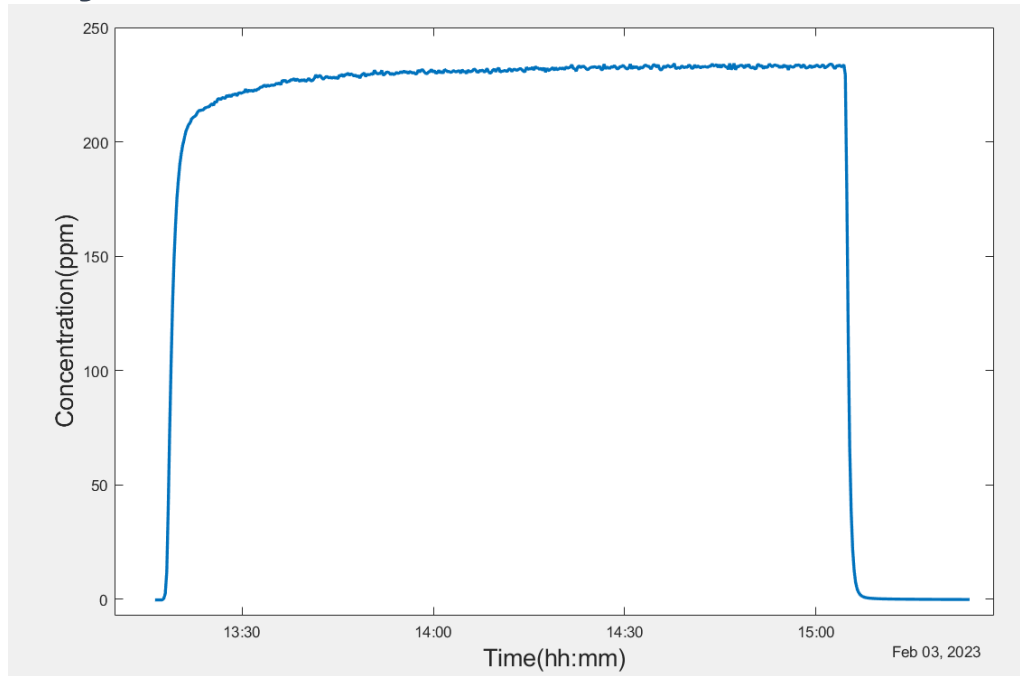


- Plots show analysis from same experimental data set using APL developed method (left) versus commercial software (right)
- Orange dashed lines indicate when chemical was introduced to bleed air and shut off.
- Commercial software real time analysis is not adequate for certain chemicals

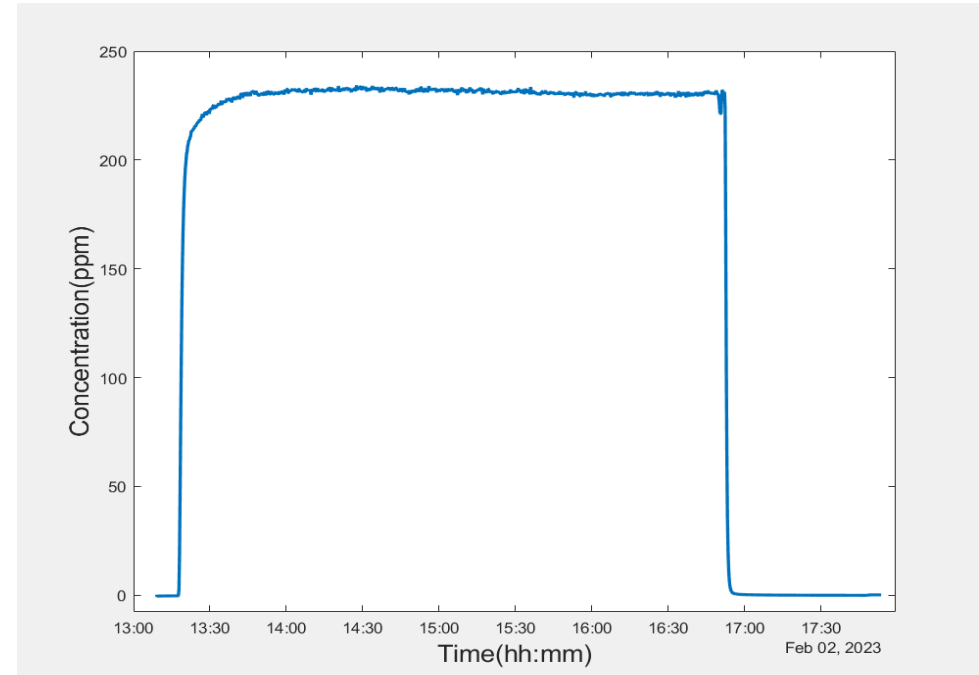


# HFVG of octane at 250 ppm in dry/humid conditions

Dry



Humid



- Irrespective of humidity, FTIR analysis showed concentration generated was reproducible (within 5 ppm between dry and humid conditions) and was within 8% of target concentration
  - FTIR analysis reading is ~232 ppm in both dry and humid conditions
- Humidity appeared to have little or no impact on vapor generator response time





# A Look at the Control Software Design and Graphical User Interface (GUI)

## Notifications Tab on GUI

**Humidifier**

MFC Mass Flow

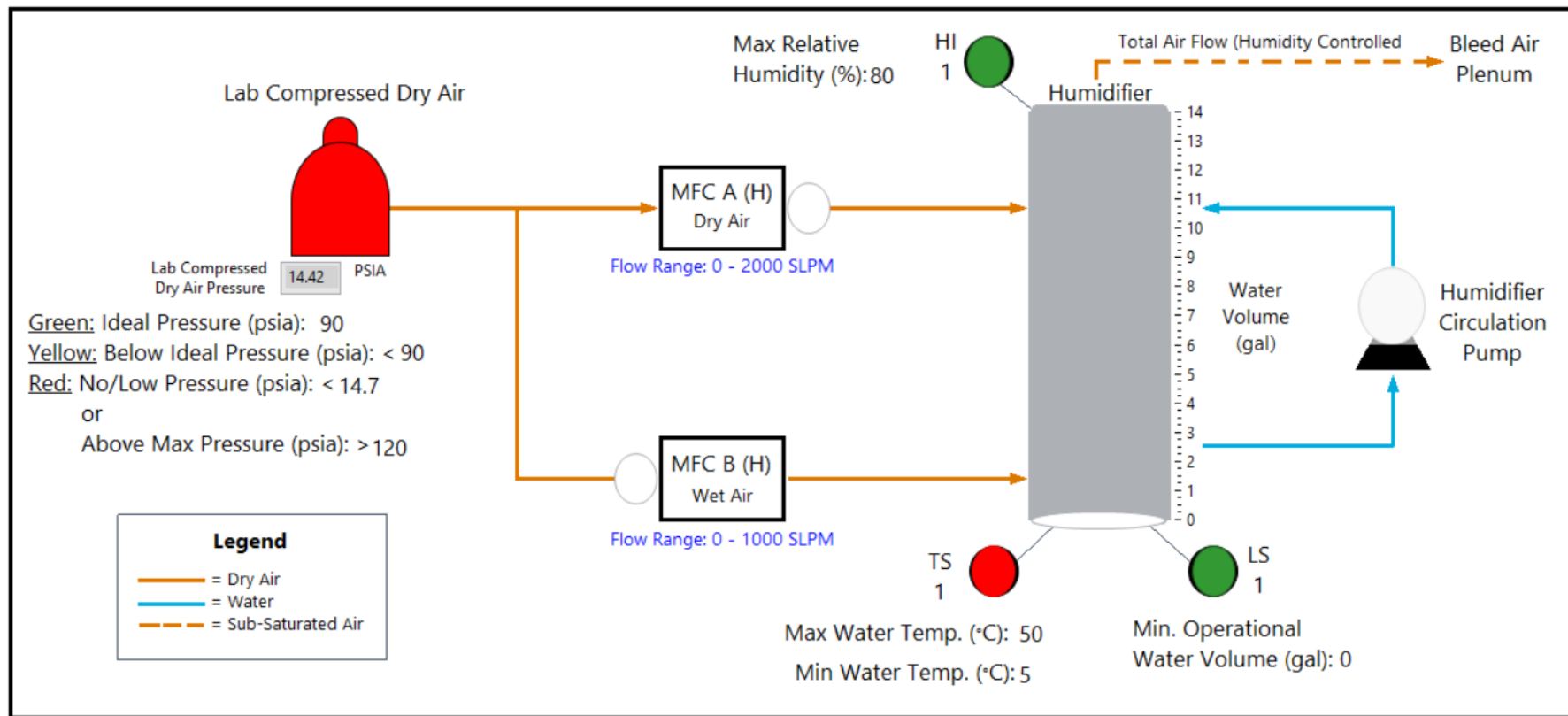
Water Level

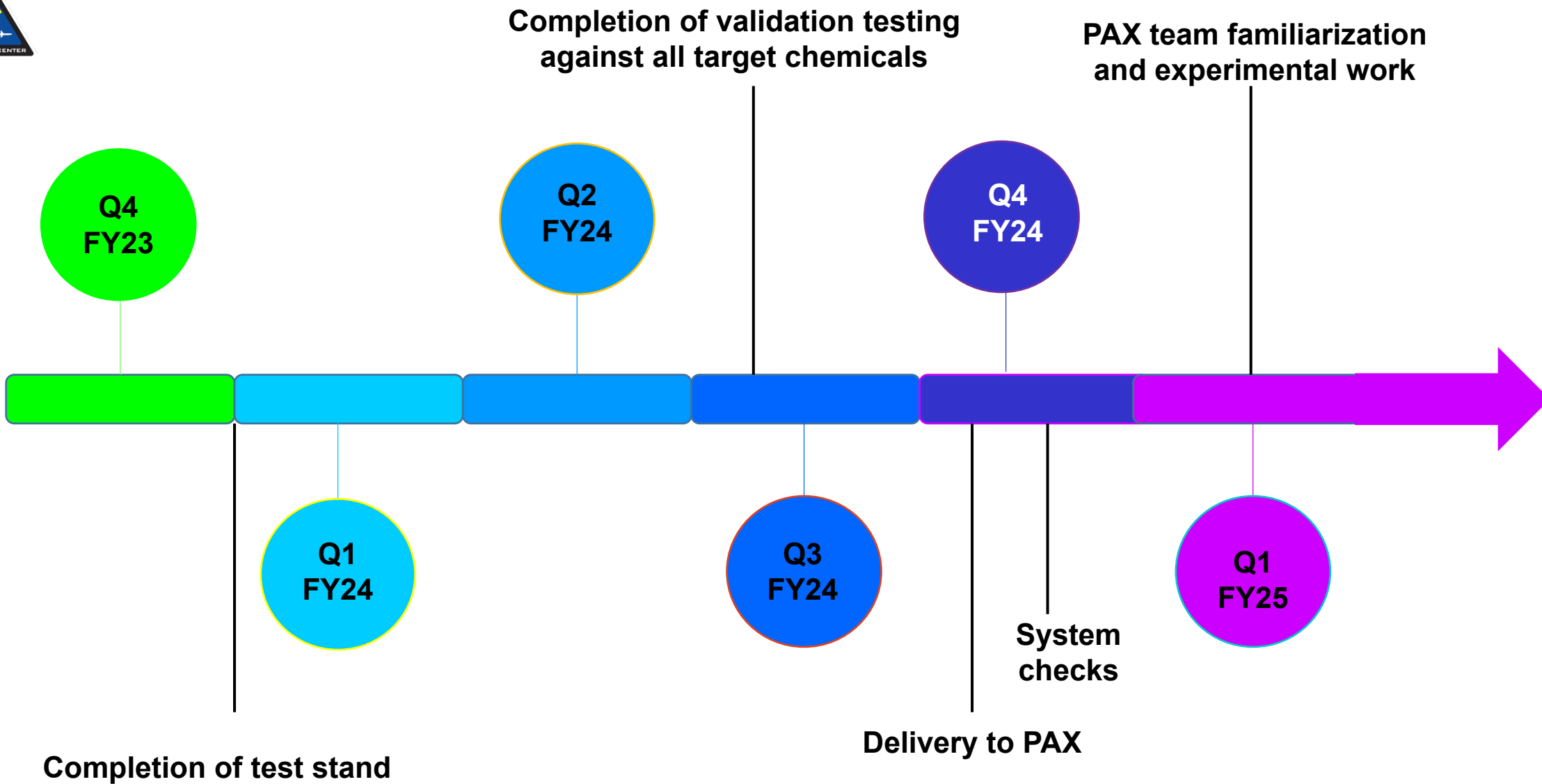
Water Temperature

Relative Humidity

Lab Compressed Air

## Humidifier subsystem page







# Bottom Line In Back (BLIB)

- All components of the test stand are in-hand and initially tested against a subset of target chemicals to address the hardest challenges
  - Low-flow vapor generator
  - High-flow vapor generator
  - Gas-dilution system
  - Ozone generator
  - FTIR gas analyzer
  - Ozone analyzer
- Final completed test stand assembled and functioning by end of fiscal year
  - Software interface
  - Power
  - Control software, etc.
- FY24 goals:
  - Complete all validation testing
  - Deliver test stand to PAX
- FY 25 and beyond: Utilize the test stand for acquisition testing, developmental testing, engineering investigations as needed



# Our most sincere thanks to

- Asymmetric Operations Sector Applied Chemistry and Physics at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
- NAWCAD Life Support and Aeromedical Division
- Naval Undergraduate Flight Training Systems Program Office
- NAWCAD HSE Department
  
- OSCG 2023 attendees

# **Questions?**

**leah.r.eller.civ@us.navy.mil**