

"Strategy to Improve Air Preheater Performance via SO₃ Control"

Sterling Gray, URS Corporation

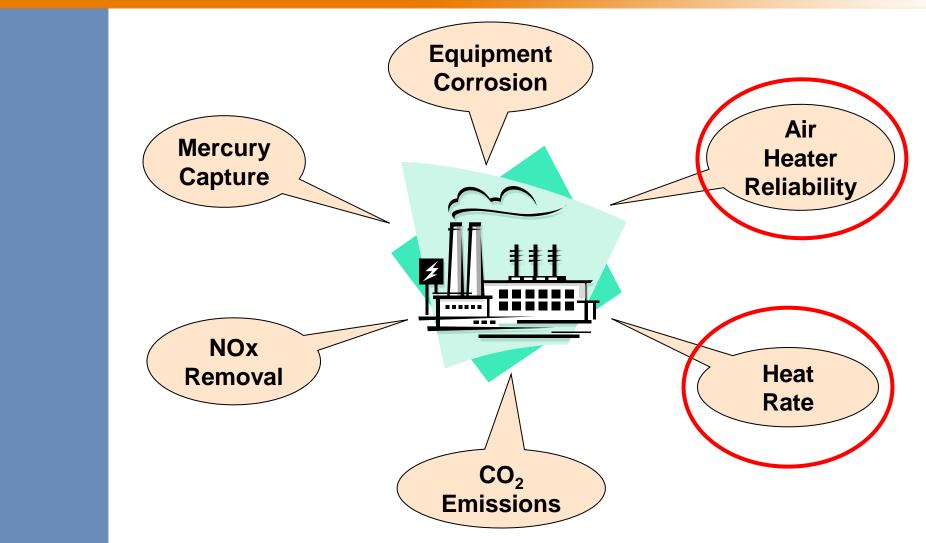
McIlvaine Hot Topic January 9, 2014



- SO₃ Impacts
- APH Fouling Mechanisms
- APH Performance Strategy
- Pilot Demonstration Results
- Economic Analysis
- Other Co-Benefits

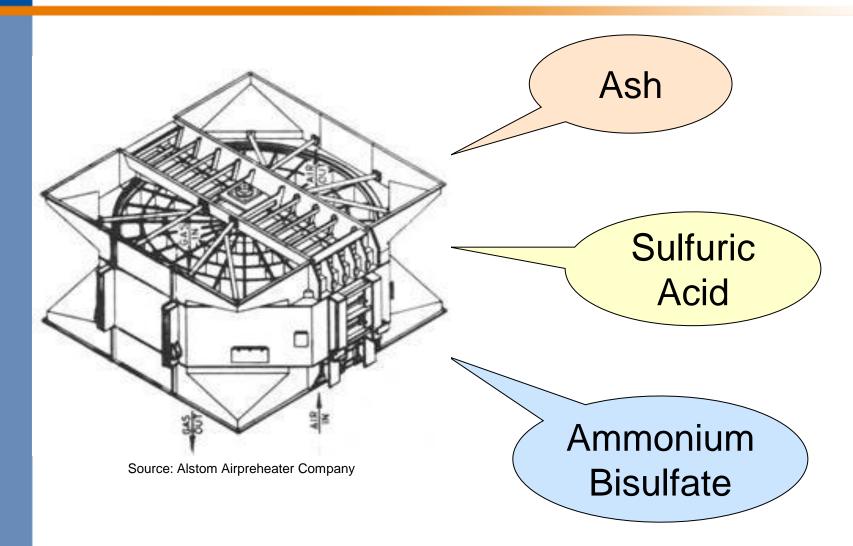
SO₃ Adversely Impacts ...

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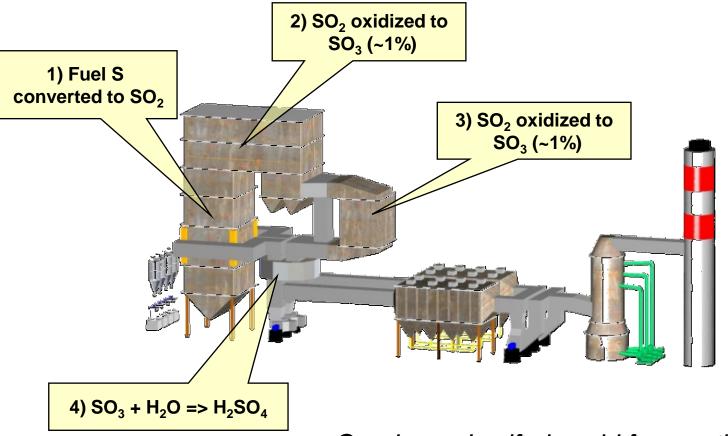
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Air Heater Fouling Agents



Sulfuric Acid Formation

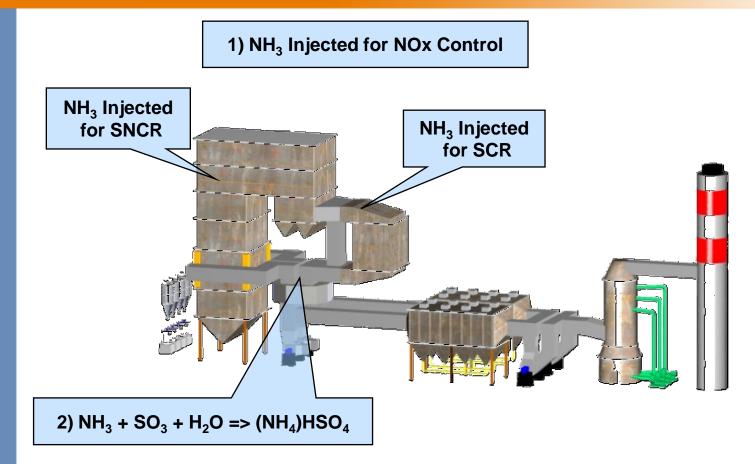
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Condensed sulfuric acid forms sticky, corrosive deposits in "cold-end" of APH

Ammonium Bisulfate (ABS)

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Condensed Ammonium Bisulfate forms sticky, corrosive deposits in "middle" of APH

Strategy: APH Performance

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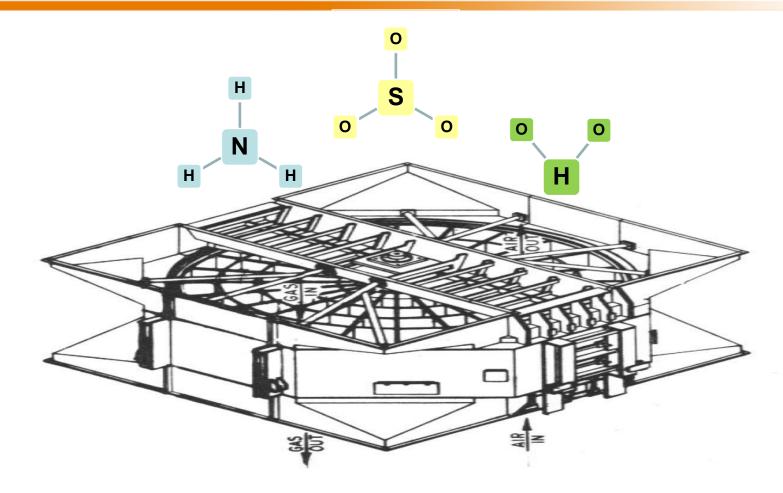
1) Inject Sorbent to Remove SO₃ Prior to Air Heater

$$NH_3 + SQ_3 + H_2O - NH_4HSO_4$$

 $SQ_2 + H_2O - H_2SQ_4$

2) Reduce Exit Gas Temp from Air Heater

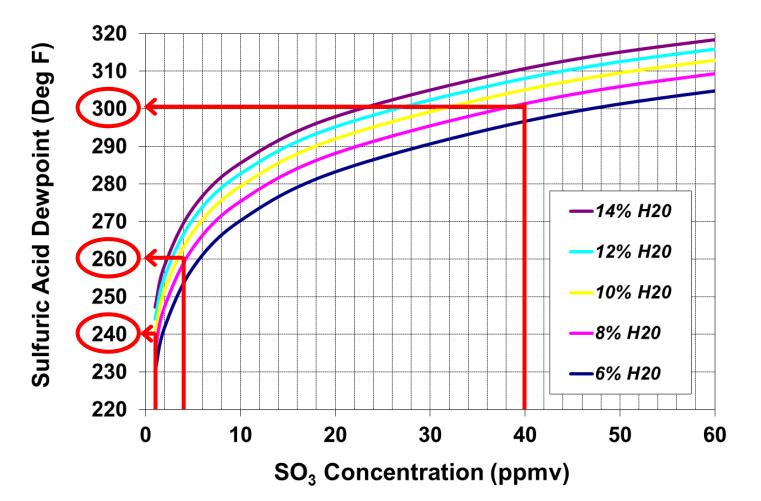
URS Strategy: Step 1



Result: No Fouling of Air Heater

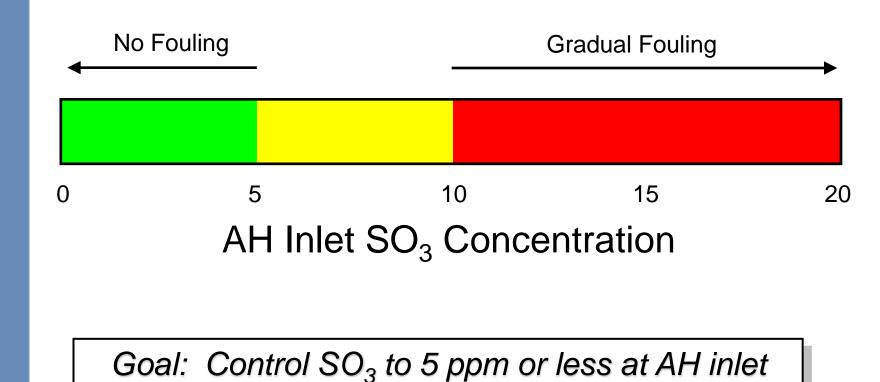
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Strategy: Step 2

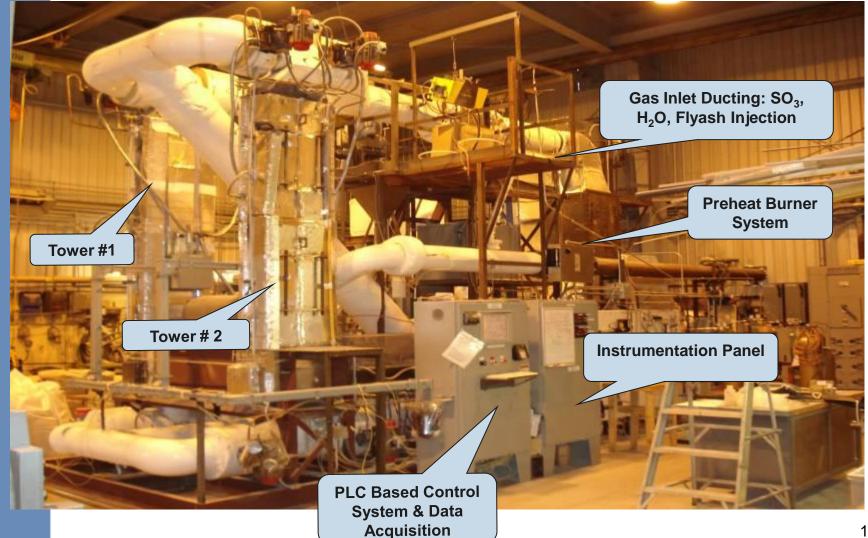


Air Heater Fouling Impact

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URS Alstom Pilot APH Test Facility

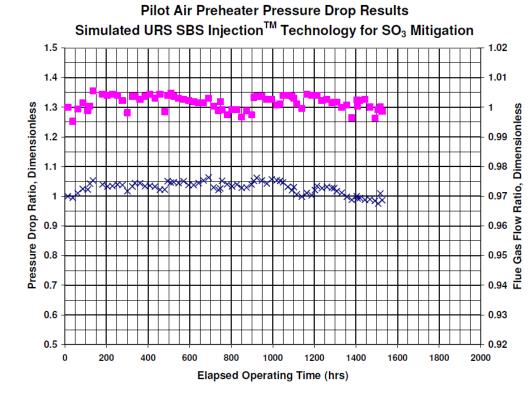


Alstom Low-T AH Pilot Testing

- Sodium in Ash
- 5 ppm SO₃

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- Operated 24/7
- 220 F gas out
- Typ. Soot-blowing
- 1500 hrs total
- No dP rise



[×] Cold Layer Pressure Drop Flue Gas Flow

Full-scale implementation planned at SBS site in 2014

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Simulated SBS Injection (220°F)

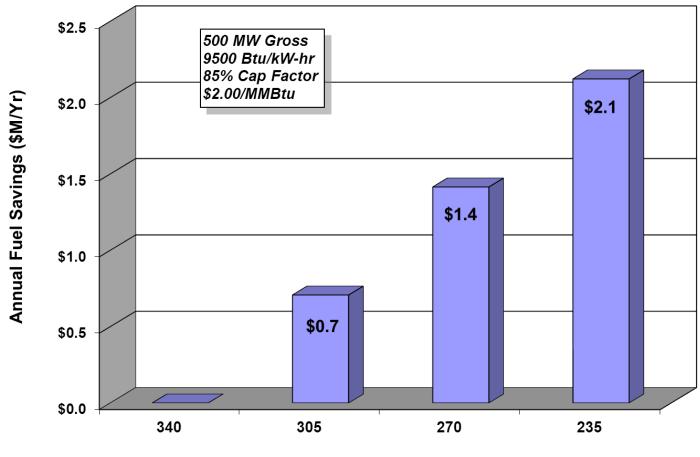




No Significant Deposit Thickness Was Found

Strategy: Heat Rate Benefit

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APH Exit Temperature (F)

Strategy: Other Co-Benefits

Reduced CO₂ Emissions

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- higher unit energy efficiency
- Enhanced Mercury Capture
 - greater carbon absorption capacity
 - less SO₃ interference
- Enhanced ESP Performance
 - lower gas volumetric flow (higher SCA)
 - lower ash resistivity (temp and SO₃ effect)
- Reduced Gas Path Pressure Drop

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