



Smart Labs

Improving Lab Facilities to Meet Decarbonization Goals



Instructors



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Learning Objectives



- Understand key elements of a Smart Lab, which are the key drivers of researcher safety and energy use within lab spaces;
- Understand the significance of ventilation in laboratory decarbonization efforts;
- Understand the complexity of the challenges that laboratories face in regard to decarbonization;
- Develop a culture of sustainability to engage occupants in integrating decarbonization into operational best practices



Agenda



- Introductions
- Introduction to Smart Labs
- Best Practices in Lab Design
- Plan
- Laboratory Benchmarking Tool
- Break (15 Minutes)
- Assess
- Choose Your Own Adventure
- Optimize
- Break (15 Minutes)
- Manage
- Working with Scientists
- Decarbonizing Labs
- Closing



A bright sun in a clear blue sky over a snowy mountain range.

Icebreaker

Describe your position at your organization in **one** word

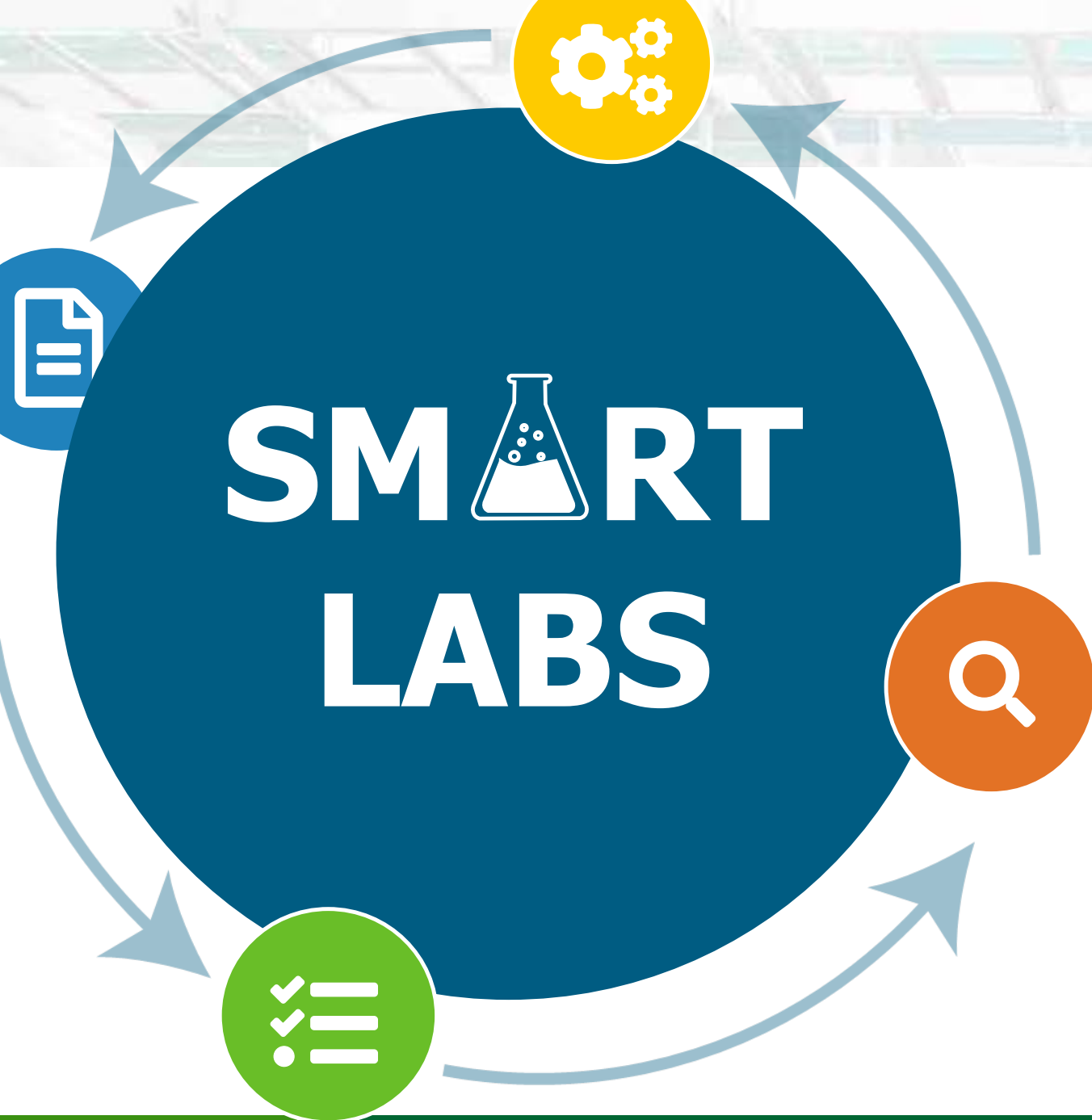
Share your challenges

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✓ Name

✓ Affiliation

✓ Share 1 challenge in your lab spaces



Introduction

Understanding Smart Labs
and the Smart Labs Toolkit

Why Labs?

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Laboratories typically use **3 - 4 (up to 10) times more energy** than an average office building.



20% - 40%

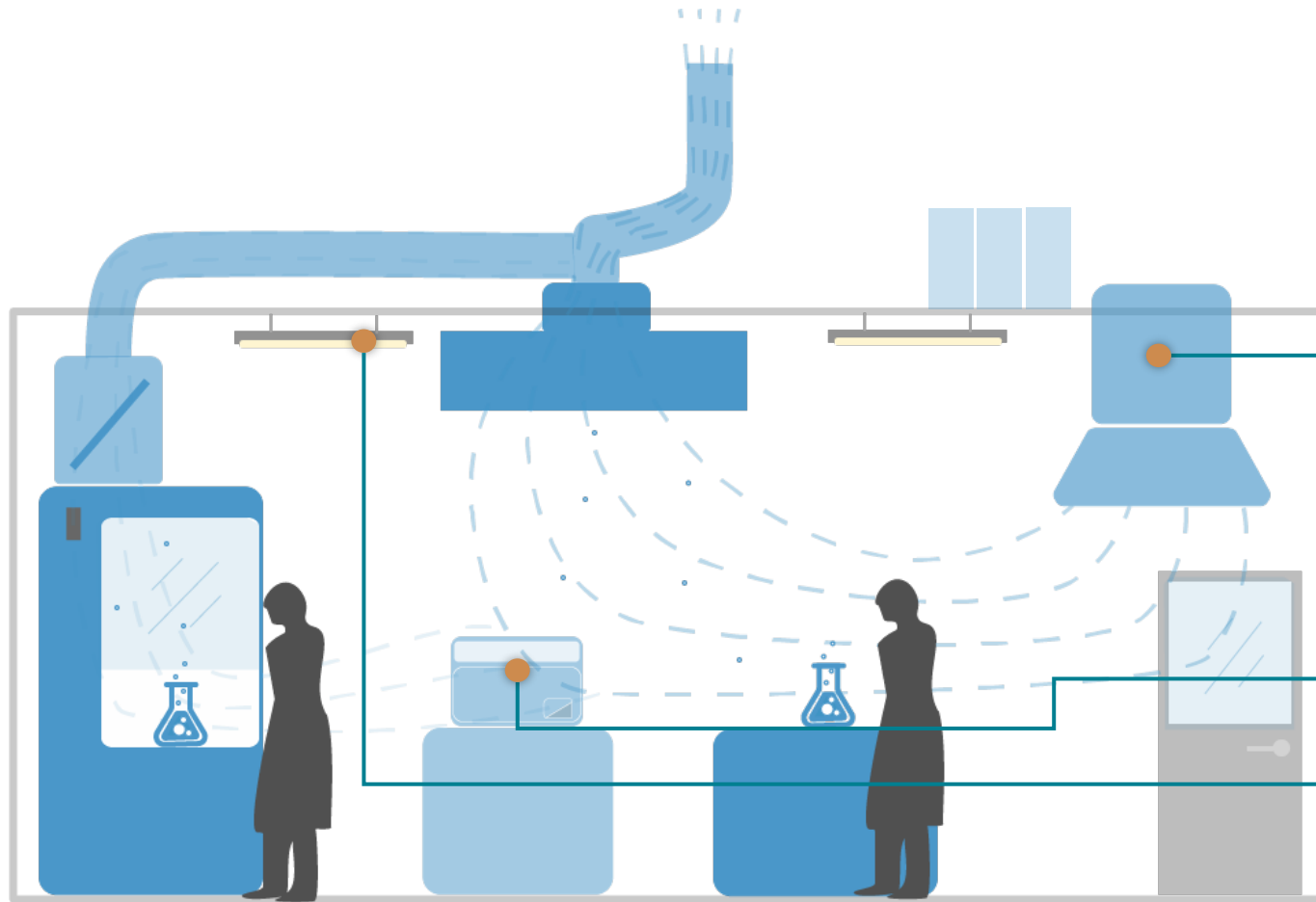
Cost-saving opportunities in labs



\$1-2 Billion

Potential energy savings across US labs





Top 5 Energy Users

- 1 Ventilation
- 2 Cooling
- 3 Heating
- 4 Plug Loads
- 5 Lighting

Big Picture Impact



There are over **150,000 U.S. lab buildings** where **500,000 people** collectively depend on laboratory systems to **keep them safe**.

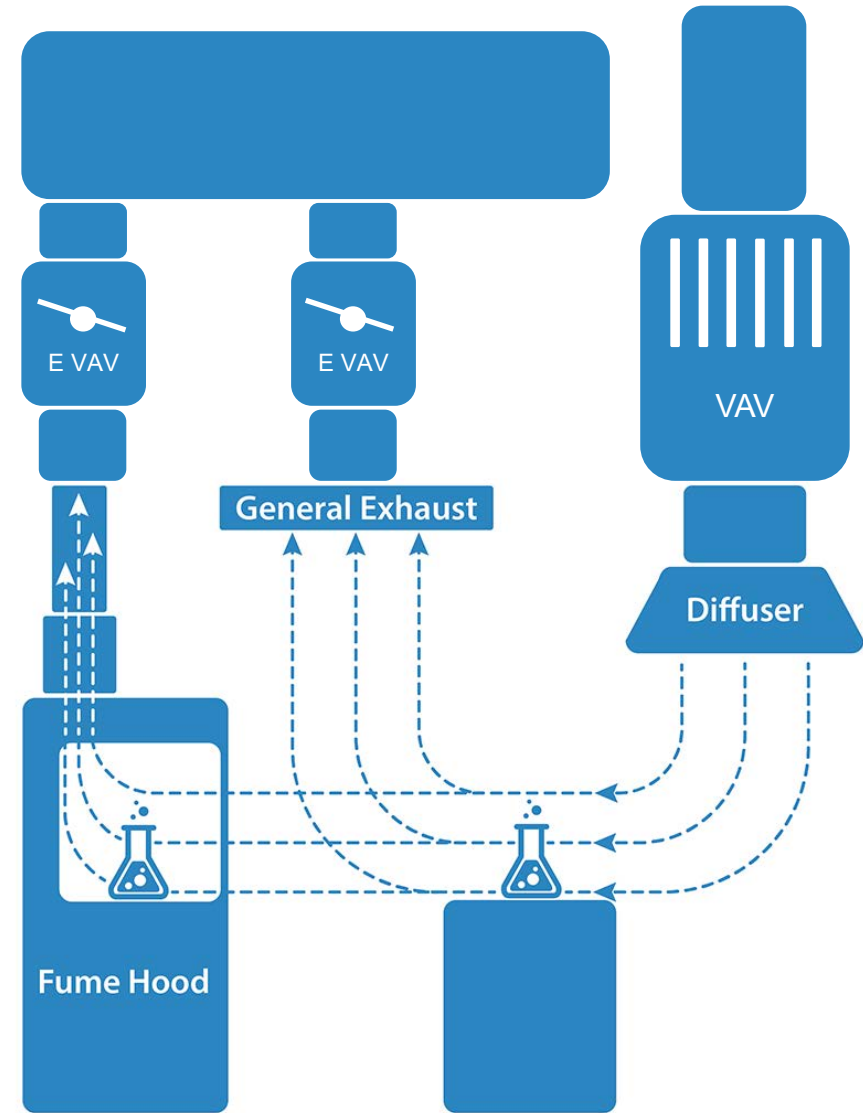


Even high-performance airflow systems **can lose up to 50% of their controlability** within five years.

Yet...



ACH ≠ Improved Safety



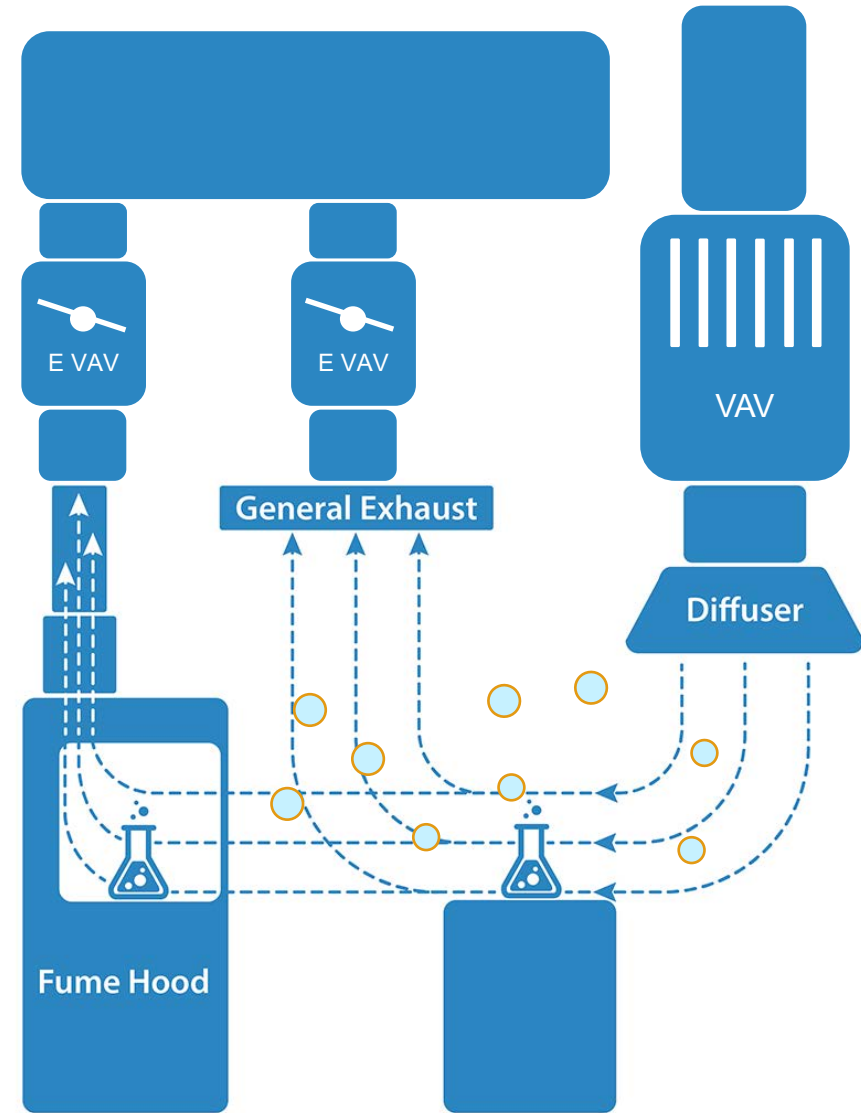


ANSI Z9.5: Laboratory Ventilation...

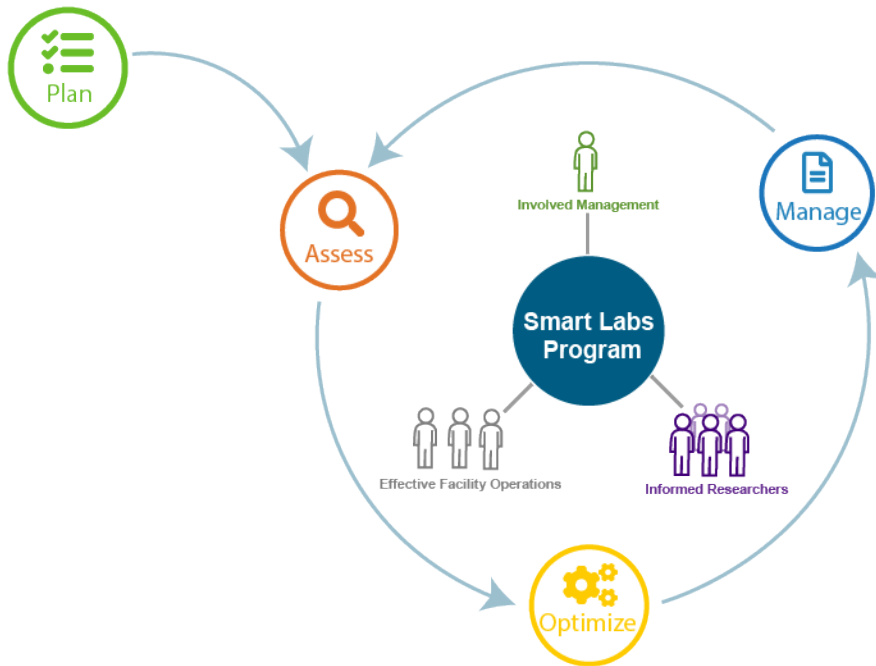
- Discusses how air flow rate is just one factor that **safeguards** workers from harmful airborne contaminants
- Recommends a **ventilation risk assessment** to determine minimum airflow rates



ACH ≠ Improved Safety



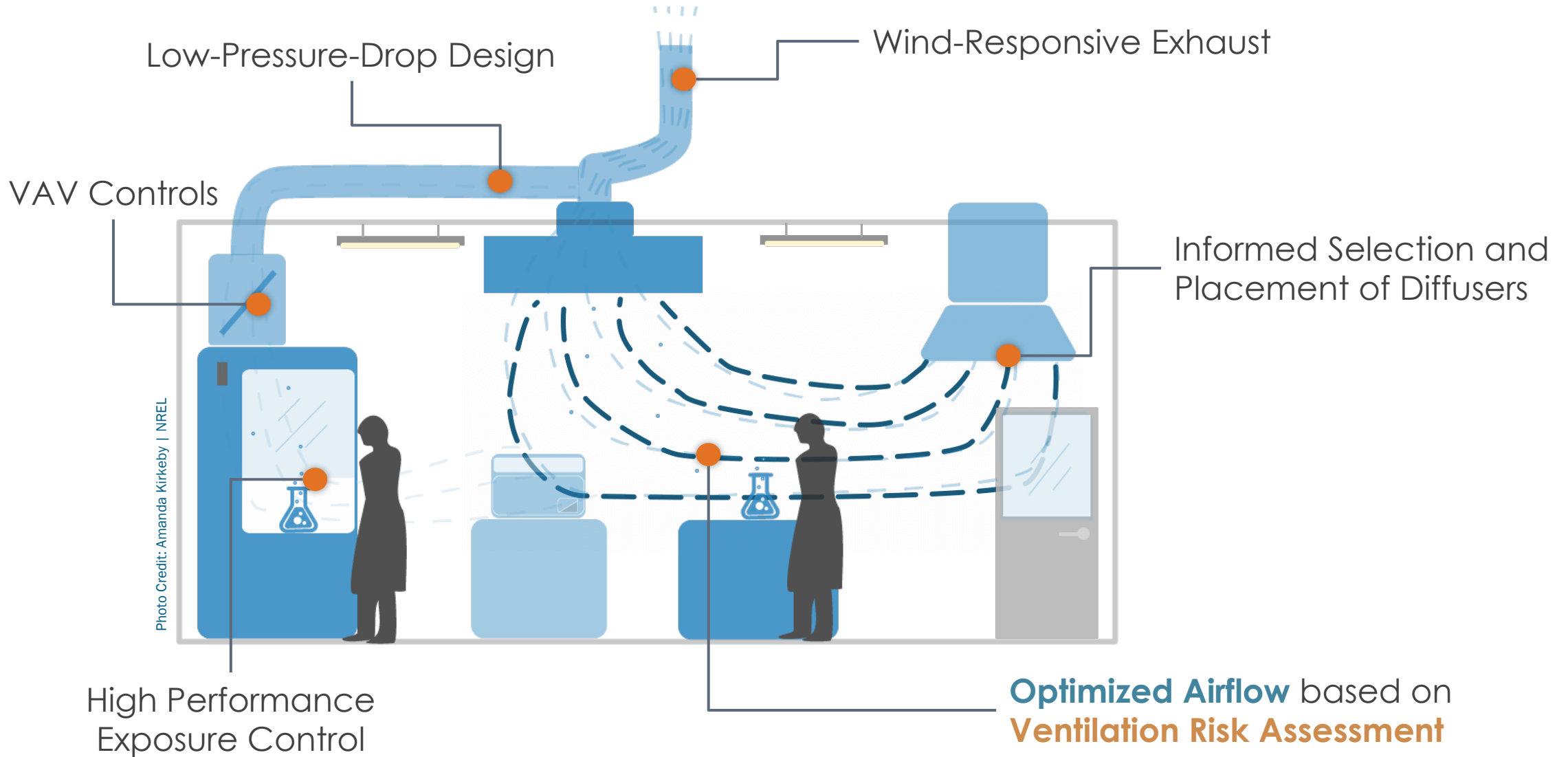
The Future is...Smart Labs!



A Smart Labs program enables **world class science** through the design and operation of **safe and efficient** high-performance labs.

- ✓ Optimize safety
- ✓ Improve energy efficiency
- ✓ Reduce costs
- ✓ Maintain high performance laboratories

High Ventilation Effectiveness



The Smart Labs Process



Plan

Form a team comprised of lab stakeholders, profile buildings, and develop a strategic plan for cost-effective implementation.



Assess

Review the laboratory ventilation system and other building systems to develop a scope of work for optimizing systems.

Optimize

Execute meaningful projects to improve building systems in laboratories.



Manage

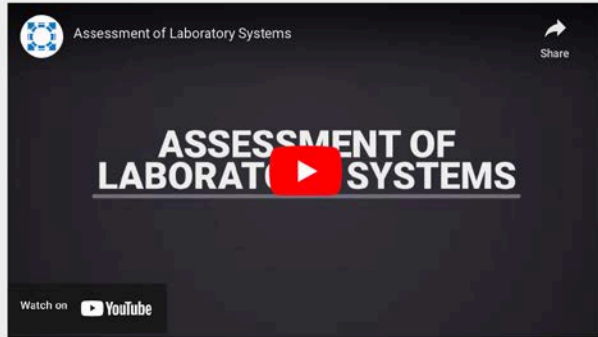
Implement a lifecycle performance management plan to continue to achieve safe and efficient labs.





Assess

Once the team has a roadmap for the Smart Labs program, the next step is to thoroughly assess the first building on the roadmap. Comparing the baseline performance metrics to design specifications and safety requirements will enable the Smart Labs team to identify appropriate measures and opportunities to optimize laboratory system performance. The goal of the Assess phase is to identify areas in which the lab facility can be improved. Once an assessment process is established, it will be incorporated into the Smart Labs management plan in the Manage Phase and continue to inform areas of improvement in the facilities.



General Guide for Laboratory Building System

ON THIS PAGE

- Review General Guide for Laboratory Building System Assessments
- Conduct a Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment
- Complete Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment Deliverables
- Execute an Energy Assessment
- Perform a Water Assessment
- Perform a Resilience Assessment
- Deliverable: Scope of Work for Lab Upgrades

- ✓ Partner Case Studies
- ✓ Step-by-step Guidance
- ✓ User Friendly Tools & Calculators
- ✓ Helpful Resources & Templates
- ✓ Best Practice Guides

LVRA User Guide

Range of Risk (Spectrum)				
0	1	2	3	4
Negligible	Low	Moderate	High	Special

Figure 5 Spectrum of risk divided into risk control bands. Each RCB reflects a range of risk scores. The Risk Score will fall within one of the RCB segments in the distribution of risk for assignment to the RCB. The range of scores for each RCB can be adjusted based on the tolerance for risk. Figure 7 shows the distribution recommended for a moderate tolerance for risk with RCB-4 used to capture extreme risk activities or activities requiring special attention rather than prescriptive specifications

Distribution of Risk						
Tolerance for Risk	Even	0	1	2	3	4
	High	0	1	2	3	4
	Moderate	0	1	2	3	4
	Low	0	1	2	3	4

Figure 6 Distribution of RCBs by the different tolerances for risk. A high tolerance for risk enables higher risk scores to be assigned to a lower risk control band. A low tolerance for risk allows for scores to be assigned to a higher risk control band.

ECD	Risk Control Bands				
	Negligible	Low	Moderate	High	Special (Extreme)
Moderate Tolerance	0	1	2	3	4
Range of Risk Score	< 9	10 - 23	24 - 37	38 - 69	> 69

Figure 7 Range of scores for each ECD RCBs using a moderate tolerance for risk.

LAB Environment	Risk Control Bands				
	Negligible	Low	Moderate	High	Special (Extreme)
Moderate Tolerance	0	1	2	3	4
Range of Risk Score	< 24	25 - 52	52 - 80	81 - 108	> 108

Figure 8 Range of scores for each Lab Environment RCBs using a moderate tolerance for risk.

INTRODUCTION

Smart Labs Toolkit

The Smart Labs Toolkit describes a systematic process that helps laboratory owners and operators design, build, efficient, and sustainable laboratories. This Toolkit was developed by several contributors and improved over time through feedback learned from the [Better Buildings Smart Labs Accelerator](#).

PLAN

ASSESS

OPTIMIZE

MANAGE

NEW

CONSTRUCTION

WORKING



Click on each dot in the graphic to learn about Smart Lab components that increase safety, reduce hazards, and increase energy efficiency.

What is a Smart Lab?

Smart Labs enable safe and efficient world class science to occur in laboratories through high-performance methods. A Smart Labs program employs a combination of physical, administrative, and management techniques to assess, optimize, and manage high performance laboratories. A smart lab program designs and operates



Best Practices in Lab Design

Smart Labs

The HVAC Resource Map for Laboratories



The **HVAC Resource Map** is..

The Resource Covers...

- ✓ The Central Plant
- ✓ Distribution Systems
- ✓ Zone Systems

A graphical interface that provides quick access to information on:

- ✓ **Design**
- ✓ **Operations** and **maintenance** best practices
- ✓ **Energy** and **water** efficiency measures

In 100% outside air HVAC systems.

Who Should Use the Map?

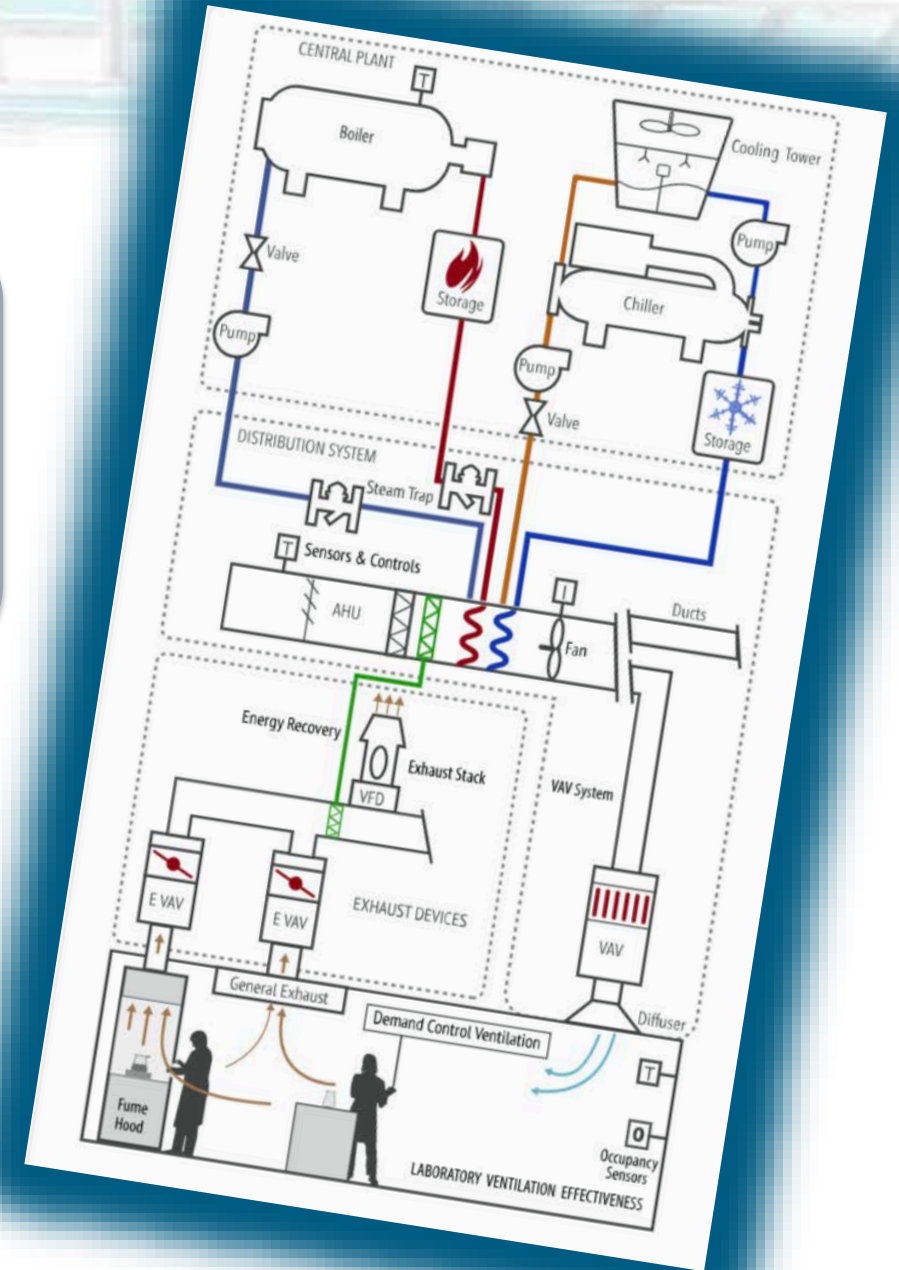


The Primary Audiences for the map are

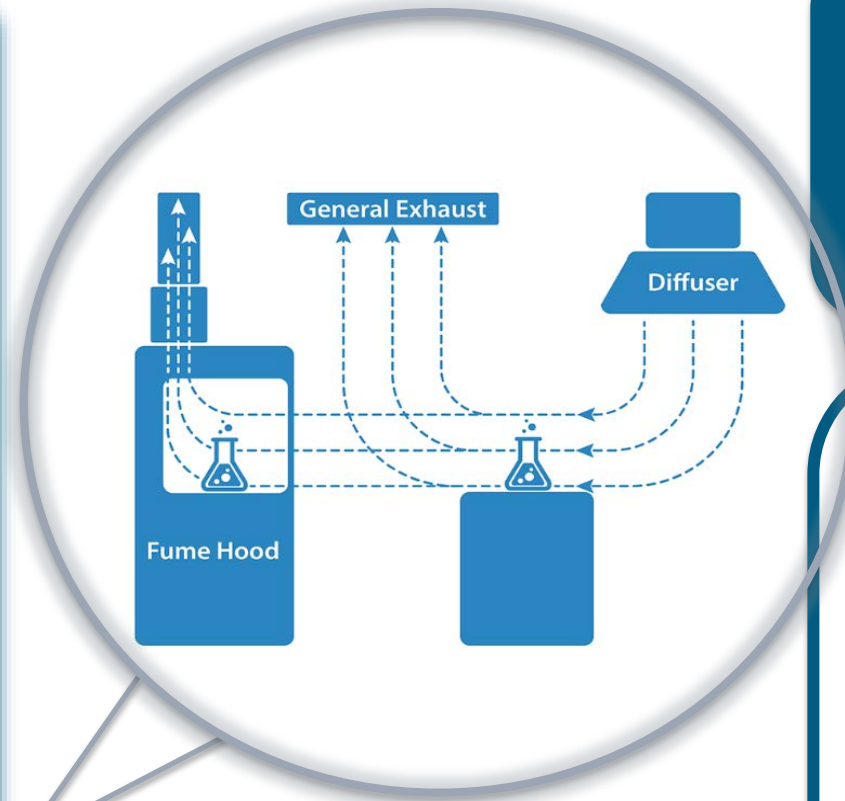
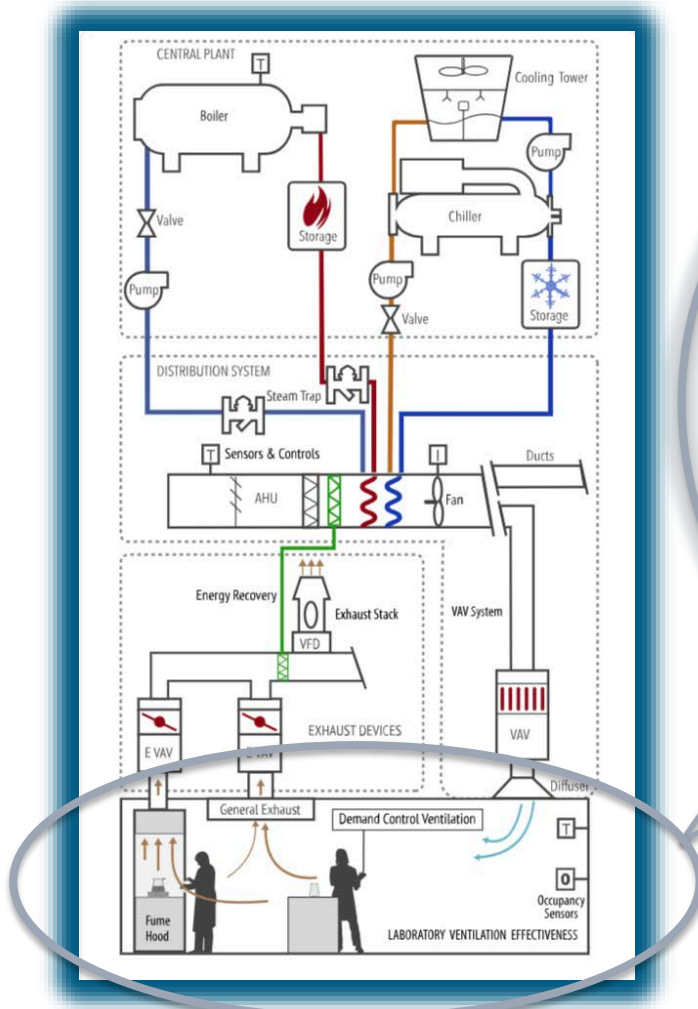
- ✓ Facilities Managers
- ✓ Operations Staff
- ✓ Design Engineers



Photo Credit: Bryan Bechtold/ NREL 77427



Lab Space: Laboratory Ventilation Effectiveness



Airflow patterns determine:

- Air velocities**
- Air temperatures**
- Concentration of contaminants**

Optimizing the flow path of supply and contaminated air improves the ventilation effectiveness for:

- ✓ Safe Labs
- ✓ Energy Efficient Labs
- ✓ Sustainable Labs

What is CFD?

A science that deals with the simulation and analysis of

- ✓ Fluid flow
- ✓ Heat Transfer
- ✓ Mass Transfer
- ✓ Similar transport processes

Why CFD?

Yield 3D information on **HVAC** design like...

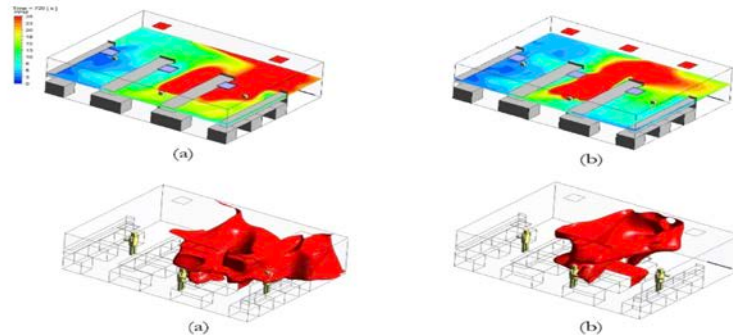
✓ Air velocity

✓ Pressure

✓ Temperature

✓ Chemical concentrations

✓ Plume dispersion



Lab Space: Demand Control Ventilation

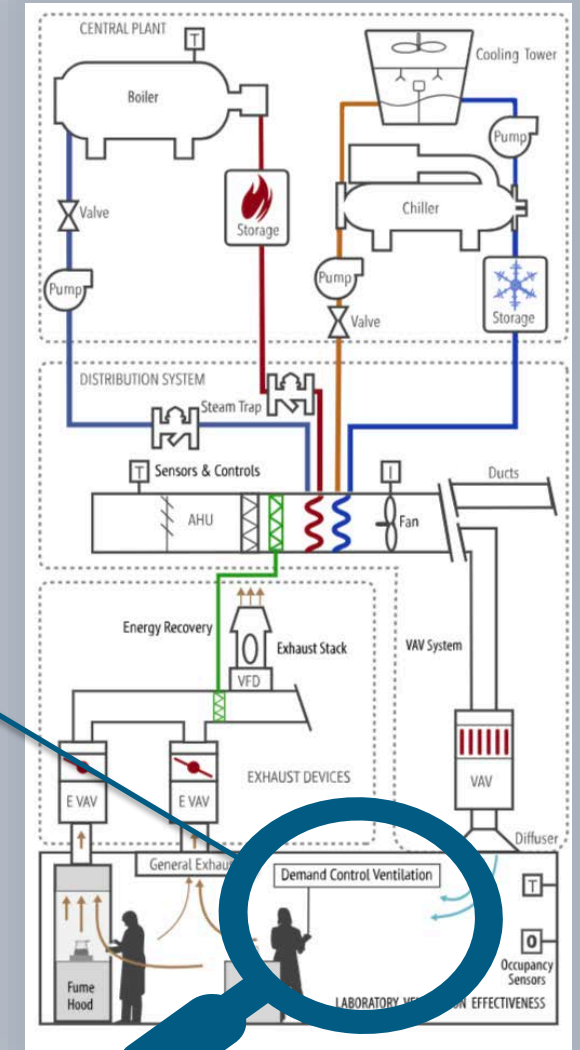
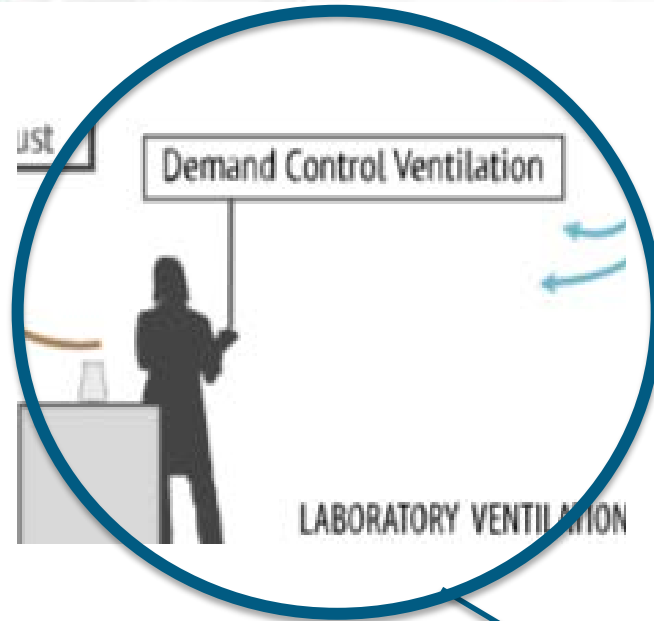


- Demand-controlled ventilation (DCV) uses **real-time** information
- **Vary ventilation rates** to directly meet needs at a given time

DCV Systems Improve:

Lab Safety and Cleanliness

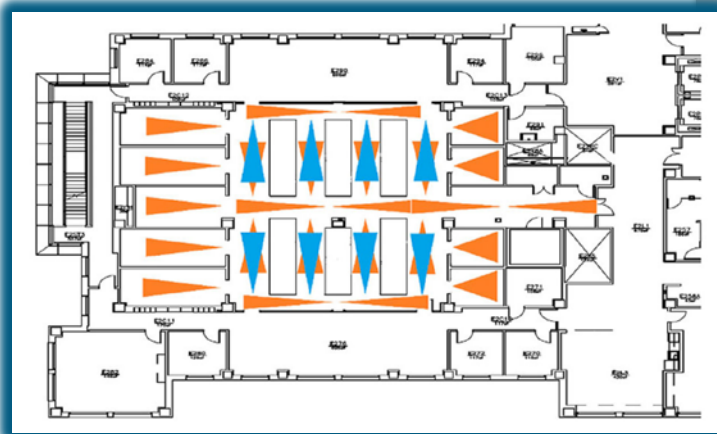
Energy Efficiency



Lab Space: Occupancy Sensors



Presence or lack there of of occupants within an environment will alter what lighting and ventilation would result in such optimal conditions.



Innovative Occupancy Sensor Layout by Emory University to control laboratory ventilation.
Image courtesy of Chris Fox, Emory University

- ✓ Lights can be shut off
- ✓ The ventilation air is reduced
- ✓ Results in **energy savings**

This is accomplished using **occupancy sensors**.



Lab Space: Exposure Control Devices

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Contain the hazardous chemical in the laboratory environment at the source

(Primarily **Fume Hoods**)



“Shut the Sash”

Laboratory Ventilation
Risk Assessment



Operations & Training
(ASHRAE 110)



Photo Credit: Shames Stevens/ NREL



Assumptions

To create comparative energy use scenarios, vary inputs under each hood as desired

Choose a location: Washington RESET INPUTS

Input	Hood 1	Hood 2	Units
Energy Prices			
Electricity	0.1227	0.1227	\$/kWh
Electricity Demand	120	120	\$/kW-yr
Fuel	10.83	10.83	\$/MMBtu
Fumehood or Room Airflow			
Operating Hours	24	24	hr/day
Hood Opening (horizontal)	62	62	inches
Hood Opening (vertical)	29	29	inches
Face Velocity	100	100	ft/min
HVAC System Efficiency			
Fan System Efficiency	1.8	1.8	W/cfm
Cooling Plant Efficiency	0.8	0.8	kW/ton
Heating System Efficiency	80	80	%

Results Graph

Total Cost: ▼

Results Table

Metric	Hood 1	Hood 2	Difference	Units
Air Flow				
Flow Rate	1,249	1,249	0	cfm
Cooling & Fan Energy				
Total Energy	30,506	30,506	0	kWh/yr
Chiller Energy	10,818	10,818	0	kWh/yr
Fan Energy	19,688	19,688	0	kWh/yr
Total Power	6.7	6.7	0.0	kW
Chiller Power	4.5	4.5	0.0	kW
Fan Power	2.2	2.2	0.0	kW

✓ Estimates annual fume hood or room airflow energy use and costs

✓ Compare two operating modes

✓ Outputs in heating energy, cooling energy, fan energy, and costs

<https://fumehoodcalculator.lbl.gov/>



Provides helpful insight into how energy is used throughout a building

For **new construction**..

- ✓ Predict energy performance
- ✓ Model capacity of systems to meet changing requirements



Lab Energy Model

- ✓ Open-source building energy modeling platform
- ✓ Create laboratory prototype building



Lab Space: Energy Benchmarking for Labs



Compares the energy use of your lab buildings with similar facilities



Start by selecting the metrics to benchmark like **HVAC energy** and collect data for each metric.



Can link between the LBT and ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager

Low Pressure Drop design

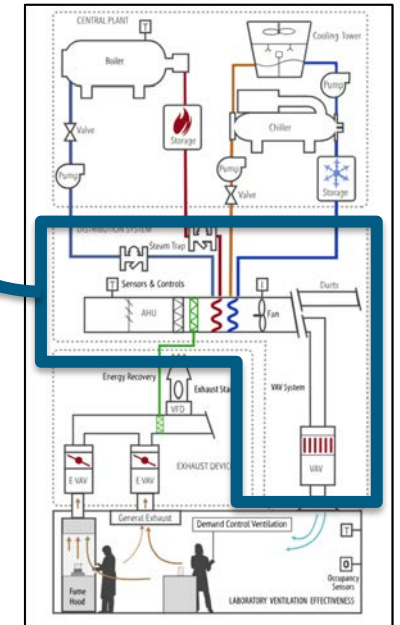
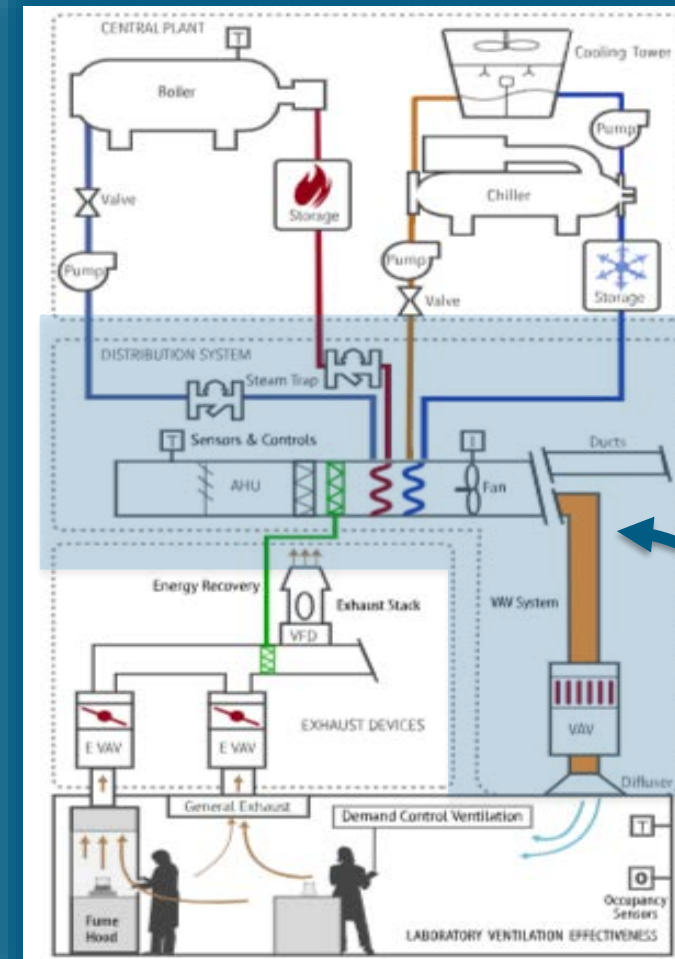
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✓ Low pressure drop design has savings potential of up to **65%**

✓ **Minimizing** pressure drop starts by establishing a system pressure requirements

✓ Mindful **equipment** selection and exhaust ductwork can reduce pressure drop

Refer to: [I2SL Best Practice Guide on Low Pressure Drop HVAC Design for Laboratories](#)



Air Handling Units



✓ Air handling units (AHUs) are devices that **transfer heat** between water/refrigerant and air

✓ These devices **provide** air supply throughout a building

✓ An important component of the AHU is the filter and its **effectiveness.**

✓ Design face velocity of **400 FPM** or less, operate all AHUs (including backup) to **minimize face velocity**

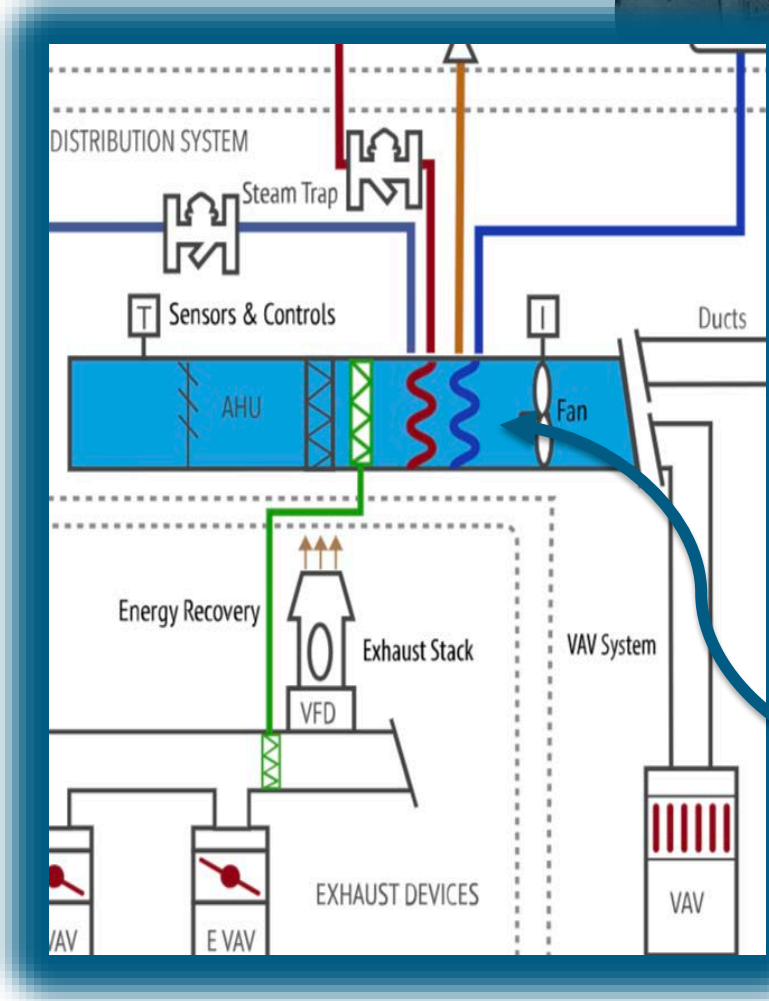
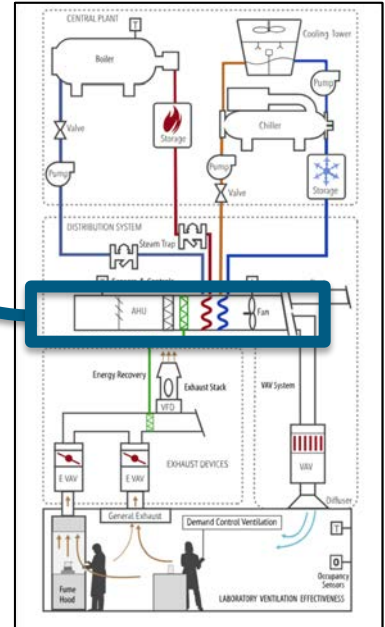


Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder/NREL 38457



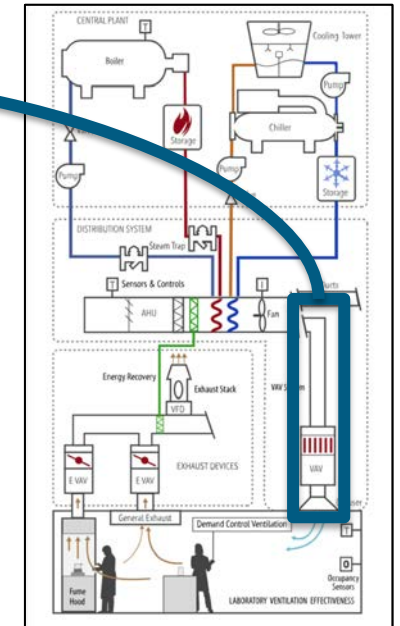
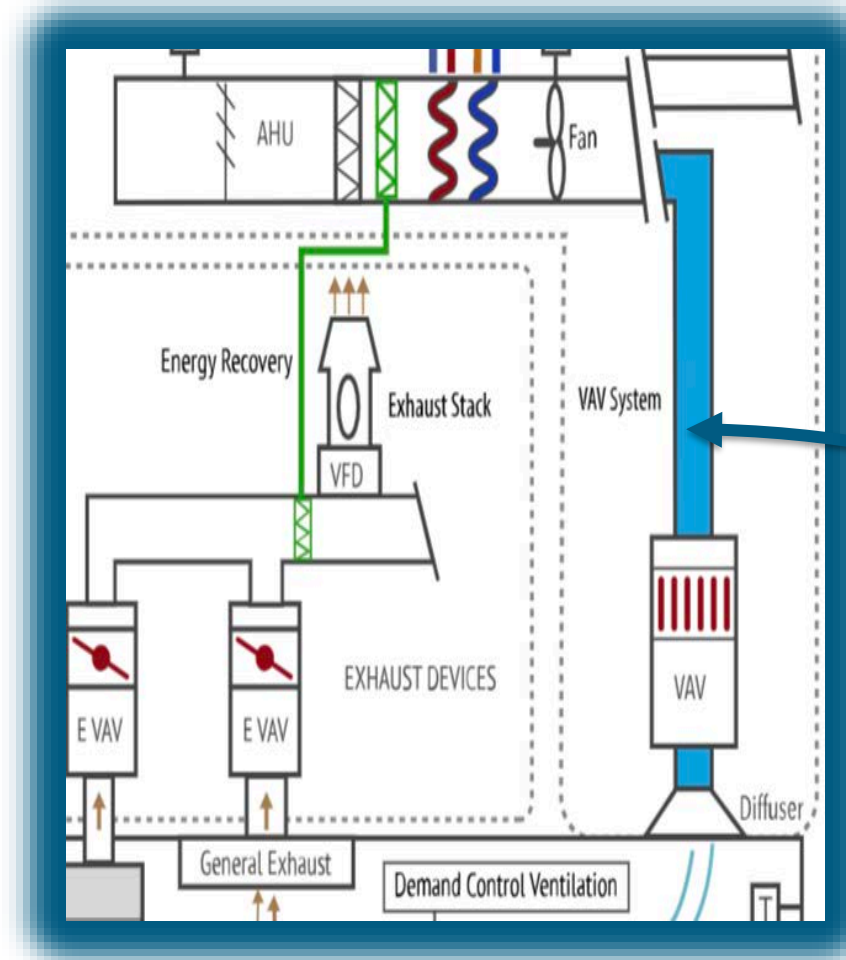
Variable Air Volume Systems (VAV)



✓ VAV systems **solve** issues of excess airflow

✓ Improves **energy efficiency** by optimizing airflow

✓ Laboratory VAV system must control the exhaust and supply air systems **together**



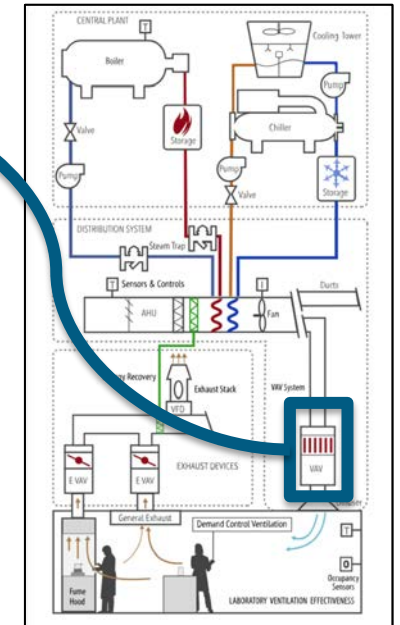
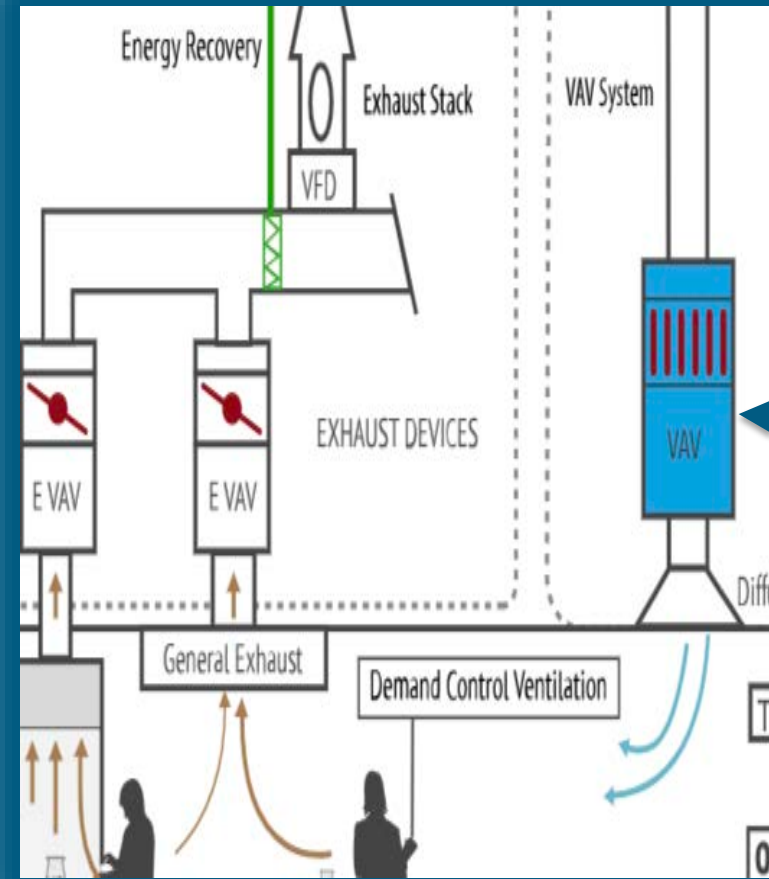
Variable Air Volume (VAV) Boxes

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✓ VAV box is an **airflow control** device at the zone level

✓ Box selection is important to ensure **overall efficiency** of the ventilation and heating/cooling system

✓ The supply air and exhaust air must be **tracked** to ensure proper lab pressurization



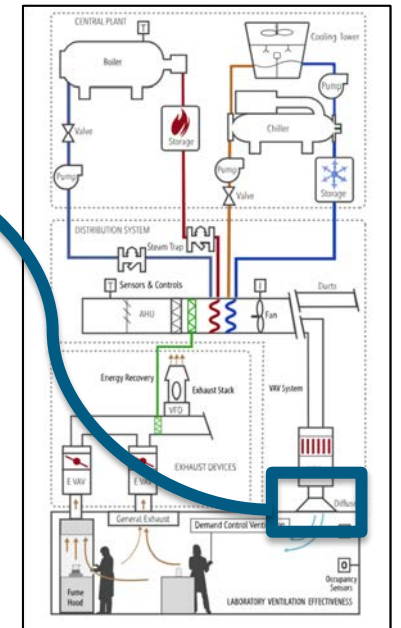
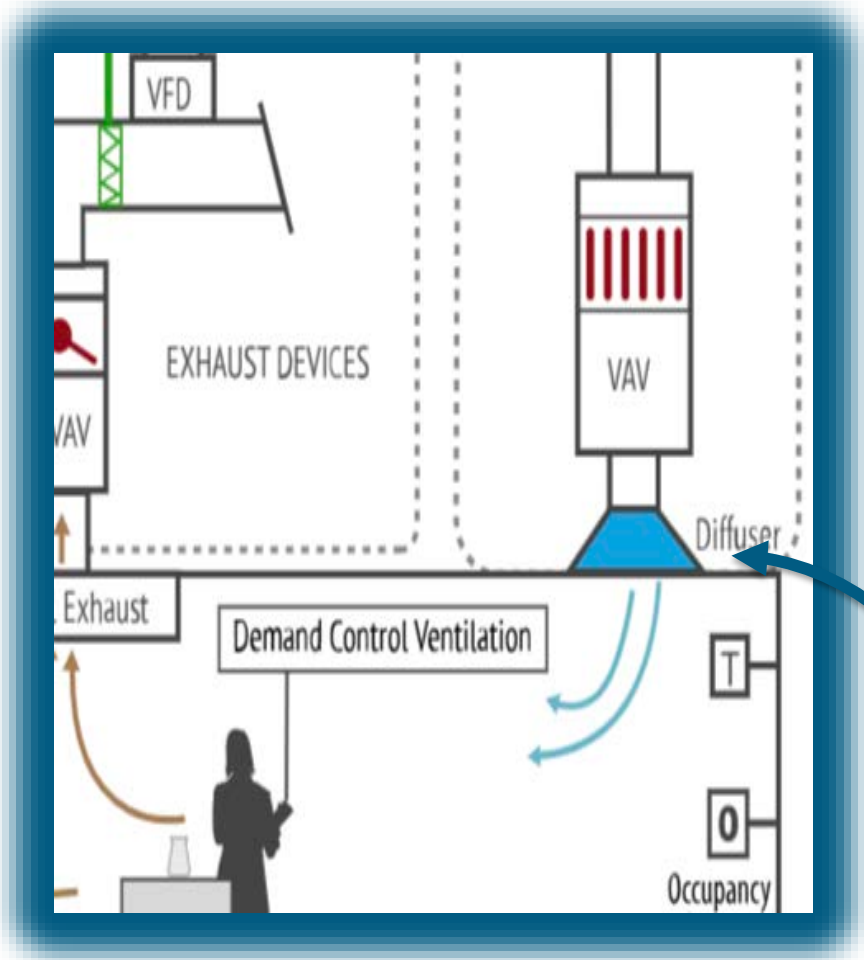
Diffusers



✓ Laboratories present **unique** requirements for supply air to provide a safe environment

✓ Location and sizing of **diffusers** are important for ventilation effectiveness

✓ Use **radial** or **laminar** flow diffusers in labs, do **NOT** use mixing flow diffusers



Energy Recovery



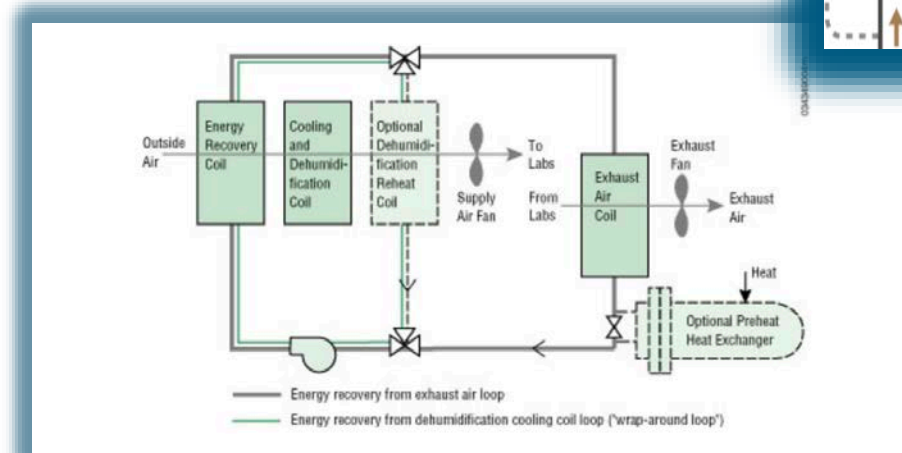
Energy recovery systems transfer heat between the outdoor air and exhaust air streams.

Strategies for energy recovery

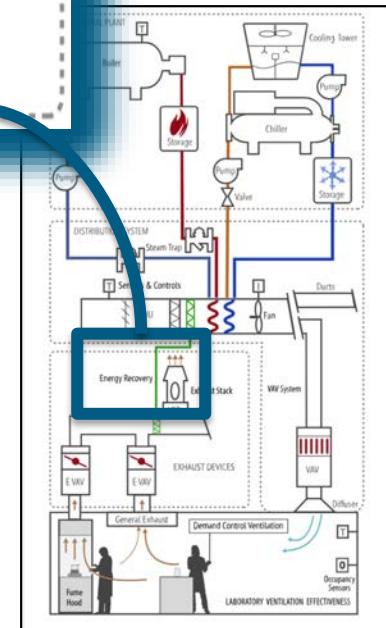
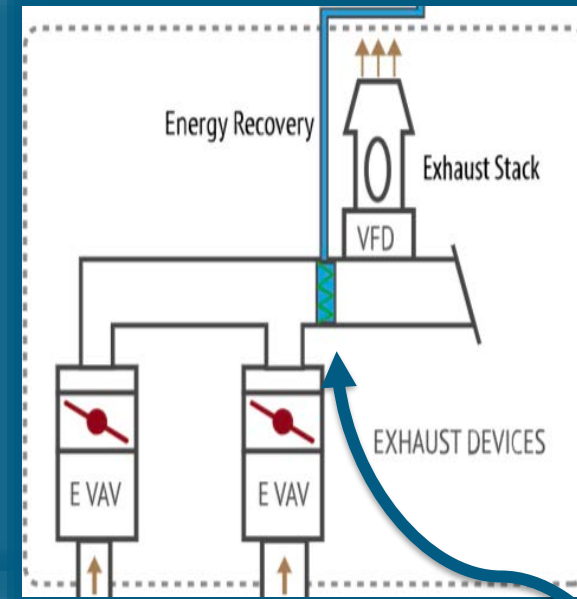
✓ Run Around Loops

✓ Energy Recovery Wheels

✓ Heat Pipes



Run-Around Energy Recovery Loop with Dehumidification
https://www.i2sl.org/documents/toolkit/bp_recovery_508.pdf

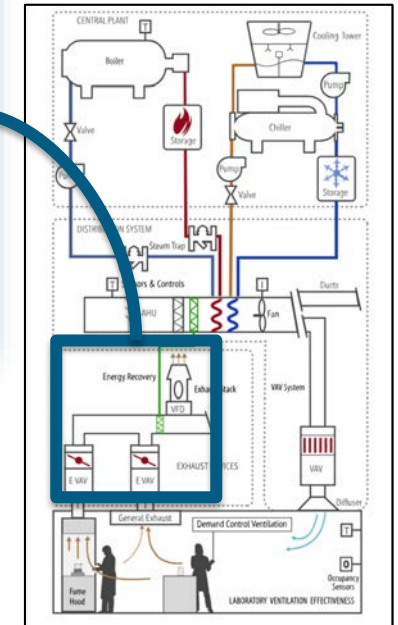
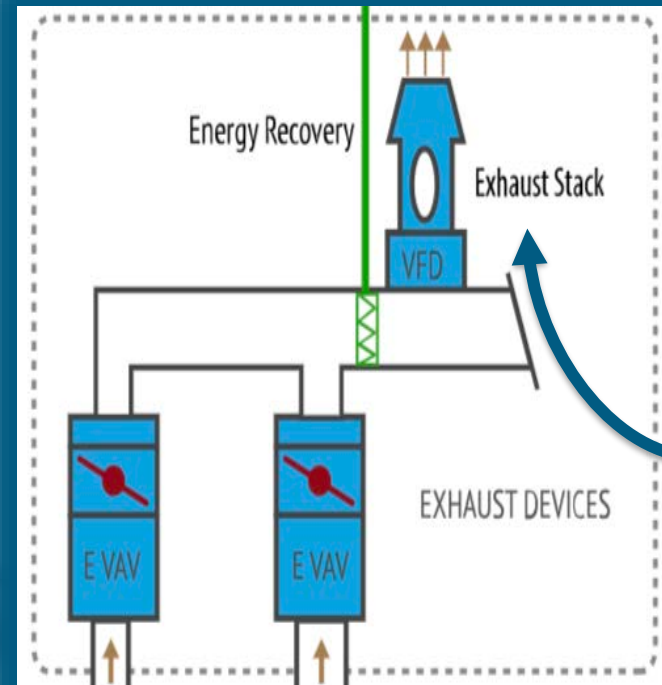


Optimized Exhaust Stack Design

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Ways to design an optimized stack discharge system

- ✓ Strategy 1: Passive VAV
- ✓ Strategy 2: Active VAV with Anemometer
- ✓ Strategy 3: Active VAV with Chemical Monitor



Optimized Exhaust Stack Design



Optimized Stack Design Tab on HVAC Resource Map:

References:

**I2SL Best Practice Guide:
Designing and Operating Sustainable
Laboratory Exhaust Systems.**



- ✓ Guide provides guidance on the **design and operation of laboratory exhaust systems.**
- ✓ Various **quantitative approaches** used to determine expected concentration levels.
- ✓ Describes methodologies used in a **safe and energy efficient** manner.



Smart Labs

Plan



Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org



The Smart Labs Process



Plan

- Build a team of lab stakeholders
- Profile buildings to prioritize efforts
- Develop a strategic plan for cost-effective implementation

Build Your Smart Labs Team



Identify Smart Labs Coordinator

- ✓ Maintain lines of communication
- ✓ Schedule tasks
- ✓ Manage information
- ✓ Implement projects
- ✓ Ensure program deliverables



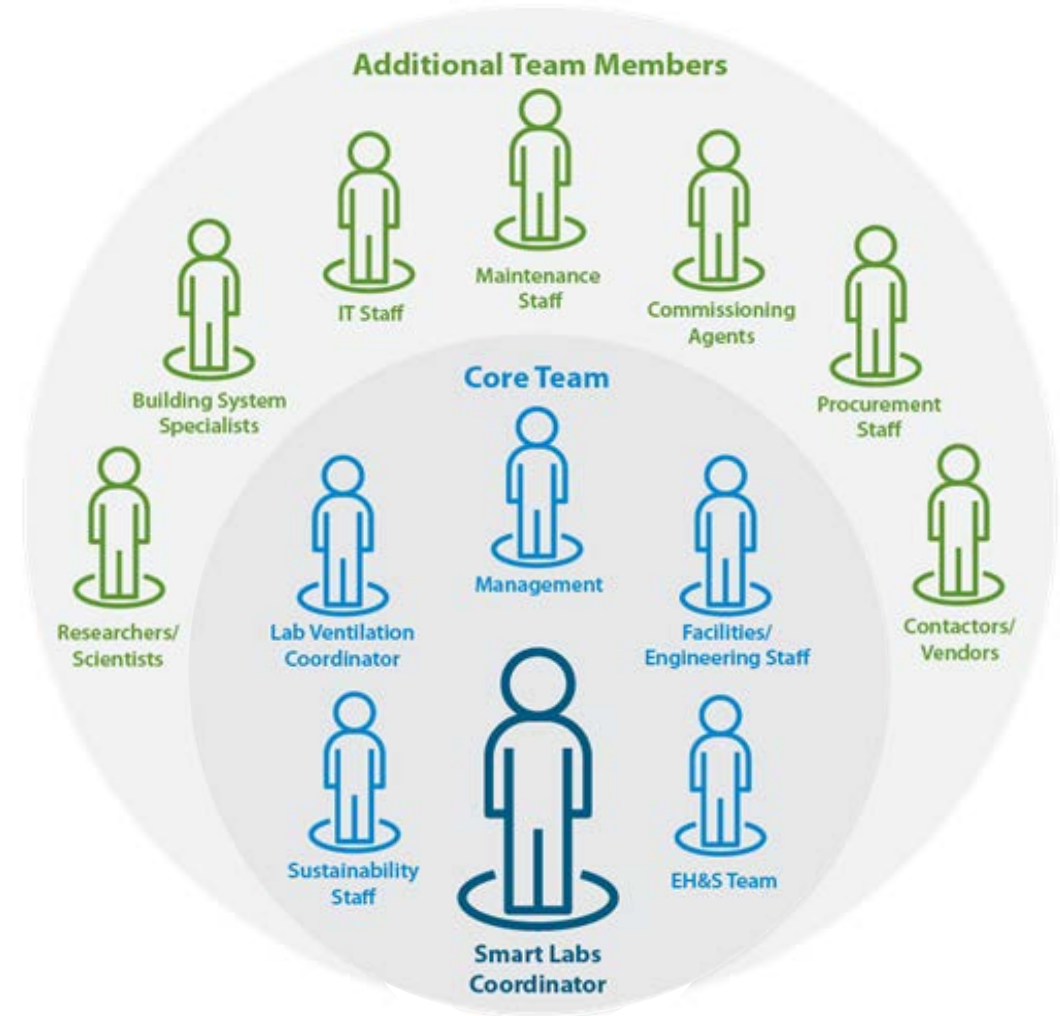
Engage management

- ✓ Understand complexity, safety, and efficiency of laboratories
- ✓ Ensure program has the necessary support to succeed



Create a diverse team of experts

Smart Labs Program

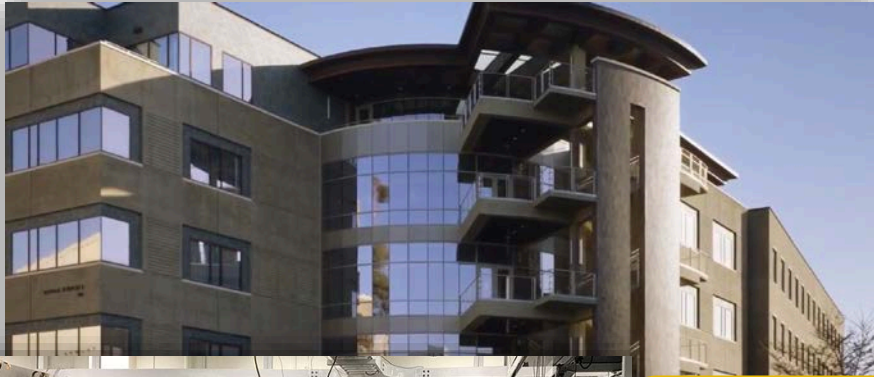


Working Together in Labs



- ✓ Smart Labs principles require both parties to be involved
- ✓ Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment (LVRA) takes inputs from both parties

University of California - Irvine



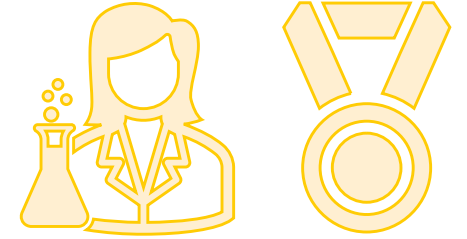
61% energy savings

Improved safety through
fault detection

*“People willing to buck the status quo
and question all the assumptions which
have been touted as best practices for
not just years but decades.”*

-Wendell Brace, UC Irvine

Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org



Become a Smart Labs Champion



Could be you!



NREL 42538



Suzy Belmont, NREL

Define Program Goals

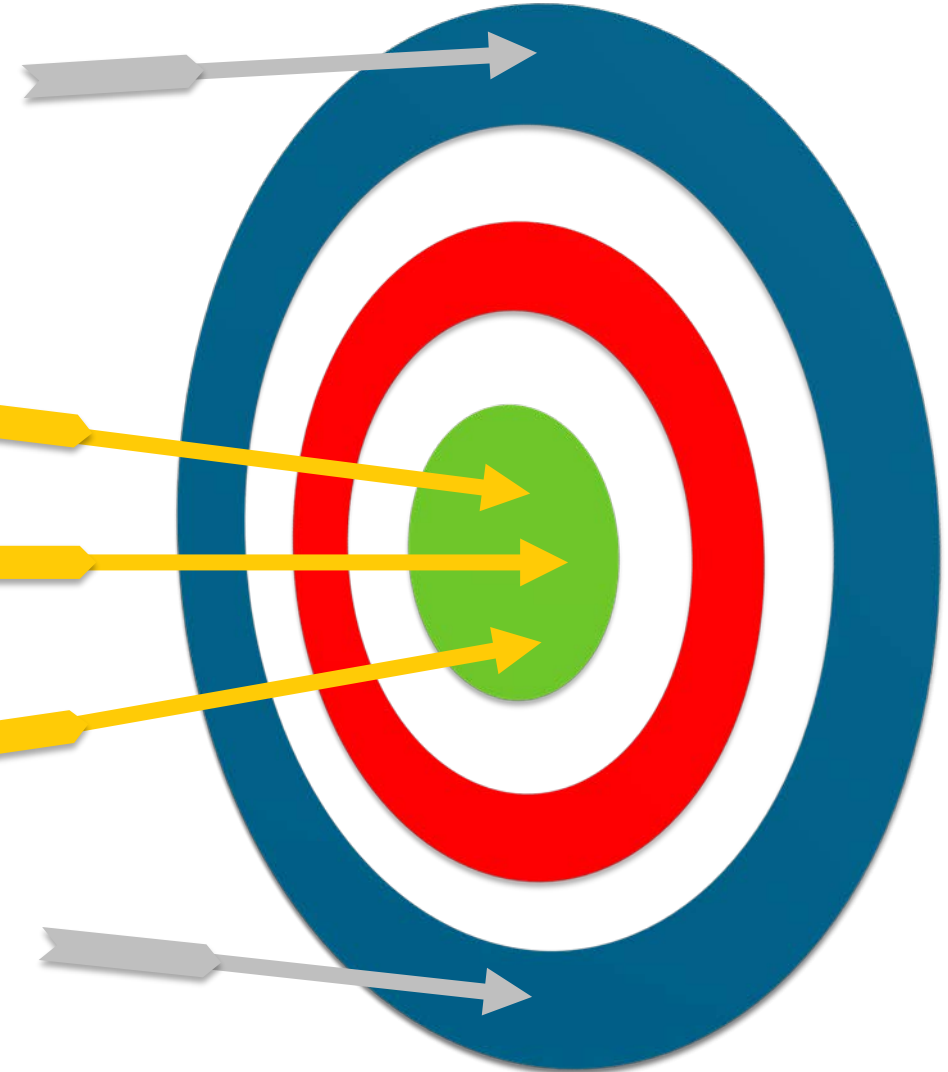
Common Goals and Priorities:

- Improve safety
- Reduce energy use
- Optimize lab conditions
- Lower operating costs
- Reduce deferred maintenance

Measurable

Well understood

Supported by management



Gather Your Baseline



Baseline

Set of metrics for buildings that describe the **current status** of energy, airflow, water, and other **consumers**.

✓ Gather Building Documentation

✓ Inventory Hazardous Chemicals

✓ Calculate Key Performance Metrics

Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org



Building Information Example



Building Name	Lab #1	Lab #2
Year Built	1988	2002
Building Area (ft ²)	71,000	80,800
Total Lab Area (ft ²)	35,500	24,240
Number of Labs	15	17
Lab Type(s)	Chemistry	R&D
Number of Occupants	115	233
Occupancy Hours	12	10
HVAC System Type(s)	CAV	VAV
Lighting System Type(s)	Fluorescent	LED
Fuel Type(s)	Boiler	Boiler
Analytics	Sensors	EMIS
EUI	311	353

- ✓ Total energy consumption (EUI, CFM in lab areas)
- ✓ Establish current conditions
- ✓ Identify major consumers
- ✓ Evaluate usage patterns or anomalies

Smart Labs Roadmap



Smart Labs Roadmap

- ✓ Guiding document/project deliverable
- ✓ Inform management and stakeholders on progress and future direction

Information about the team

Conditions assessment

Performance management plan

Laboratory building inventory

Lab priorities

Timeline for assessments



Home | Benchmark Analysis | Operational Practices | Actionable Insights | Portfolio Manager | FAQ | About | I²SL | | Log In

Welcome to the Laboratory Benchmarking Tool

Use the LBT to compare the energy use, emissions and operational practices of your lab buildings with those of similar facilities. The tool's peer-group database contains owner-submitted data from an ever-growing number of lab buildings.

Current total: **953** peer-group facilities

[Login](#) [View data as guest](#)

Don't have an account? [Sign up!](#)

NEW (Oct 2022): The LBT now accepts buildings from anywhere in the world! The internationalization project was generously sponsored by Siemens Smart Infrastructure. See the [release notes](#) for additional details on the upgrades.



Pacific Northwest NATIONAL LABORATORY

PNNL's sustainability team focused on reducing water and energy consumption

Implemented a **Smart Labs** program

Working with Emory University, PNNL developed a **Smart Labs Checklist**

Capability	Metric	Impact	Notes
A1. HVAC energy recovery (cools & heats) on lab supply	Yes	High	Heat pipe between supply & exhaust
A2. Variable frequency drives on fan motors with static pressure sensors	Yes	High	
A3. Variable air volume lab trays & exhaust terminals	Yes	High	
A4. HVAC energy recovery (cools & heats) non-lab	No	Low	Fan coil unit with dedicated OA
A5. HVAC Zones for temperature control in offices (VAV)	No	Medium	Constant volume fan coil unit serves all office spaces
A6. Common stack for exhaust system	Yes	Medium	
A7. Exhaust stack heights designed for optimal plume height*	Partial	Low	Good candidate for stack assessment, wind sensor
A8. Office and lab ventilation systems appropriately separated (e.g. Once through air is limited in the office)	Yes	High	
A9. Appropriate vestibules and doors for adjacent zones	Yes	Medium	
A10. High efficiency motors on phos. supply, exhaust	Yes	Medium	
A11. Fan coil units in mechanical, electrical rooms, data, etc.	Yes	Low	
A12. Fan powered bases/VAVs on perimeter office zones	Yes	Low	

Capability	Metric	Impact	Notes
A1. Energy recovery in performing well (both heating & cooling) for labs	Partial	High	Heat recovery is underperforming, some disabled, compare Design
A2. Static pressure control is utilized on supply and exhaust fans	Yes	High	
A3. VAV minimums and maximums are established for labs	Yes	High	
A4. Energy recovery in performing well for heating & cooling for offices	NA	Low	< 500 cfm of OA fresh air
A5. VAV minimums and maximums are established for offices	NA	Medium	Constant volume fan coil unit serves all office spaces
A6. Exhaust fans not in parallel, with backlag configuration	Yes	Medium	
A7. Exhaust fan minimum speeds are maintained to maintain minimum and maximum outlet velocities	Partial	Low	
A8. Office HVAC setbacks off hours/weekends, holidays, with optional date	Yes	High	
A9. Doors between areas and air vestibules are kept closed and monitored if left open	Yes	Low	
A10. High efficiency motors are included in specs and requirements	Yes	Medium	
A11. Mechanical, electrical rooms, data rooms are maintained at unoccupied temperatures 24/7	Yes	Low	
A12. Perimeter office zones when not unoccupied temps start off hours and don't start the main day	NA	Low	

The checklist analyzes:

- ✓ Air
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Controls
- ✓ Lighting
- ✓ Energy

See more on the Smart Labs Checklist Case Study at [Smart Labs Toolkit- PNNL](#)

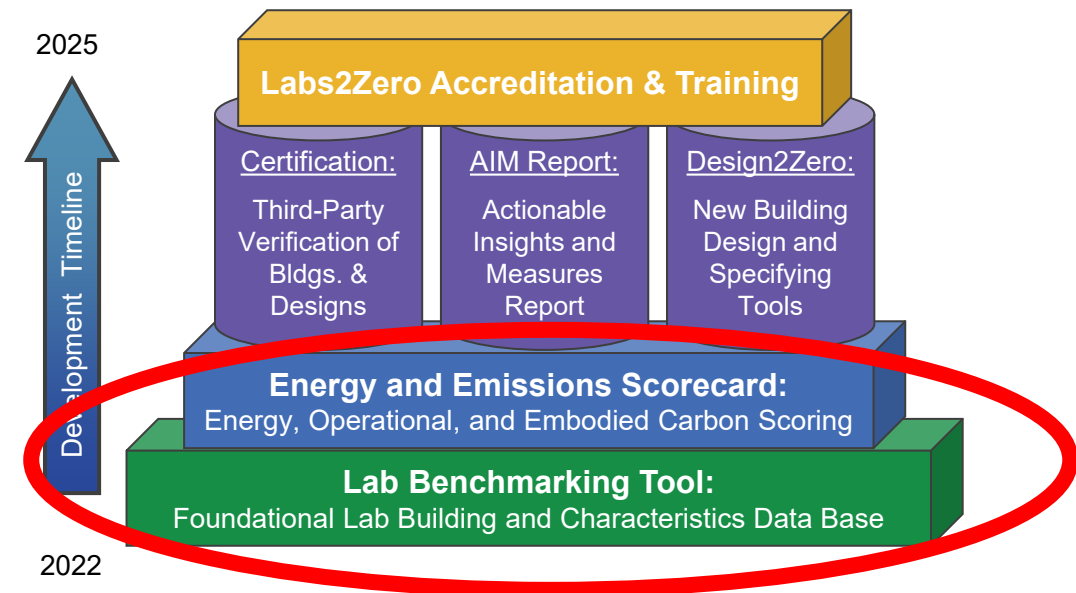


**Intro to the Laboratory
Benchmarking Tool and the
Labs2Zero Energy Score**

Two Labs2Zero Tools You Can Use Today



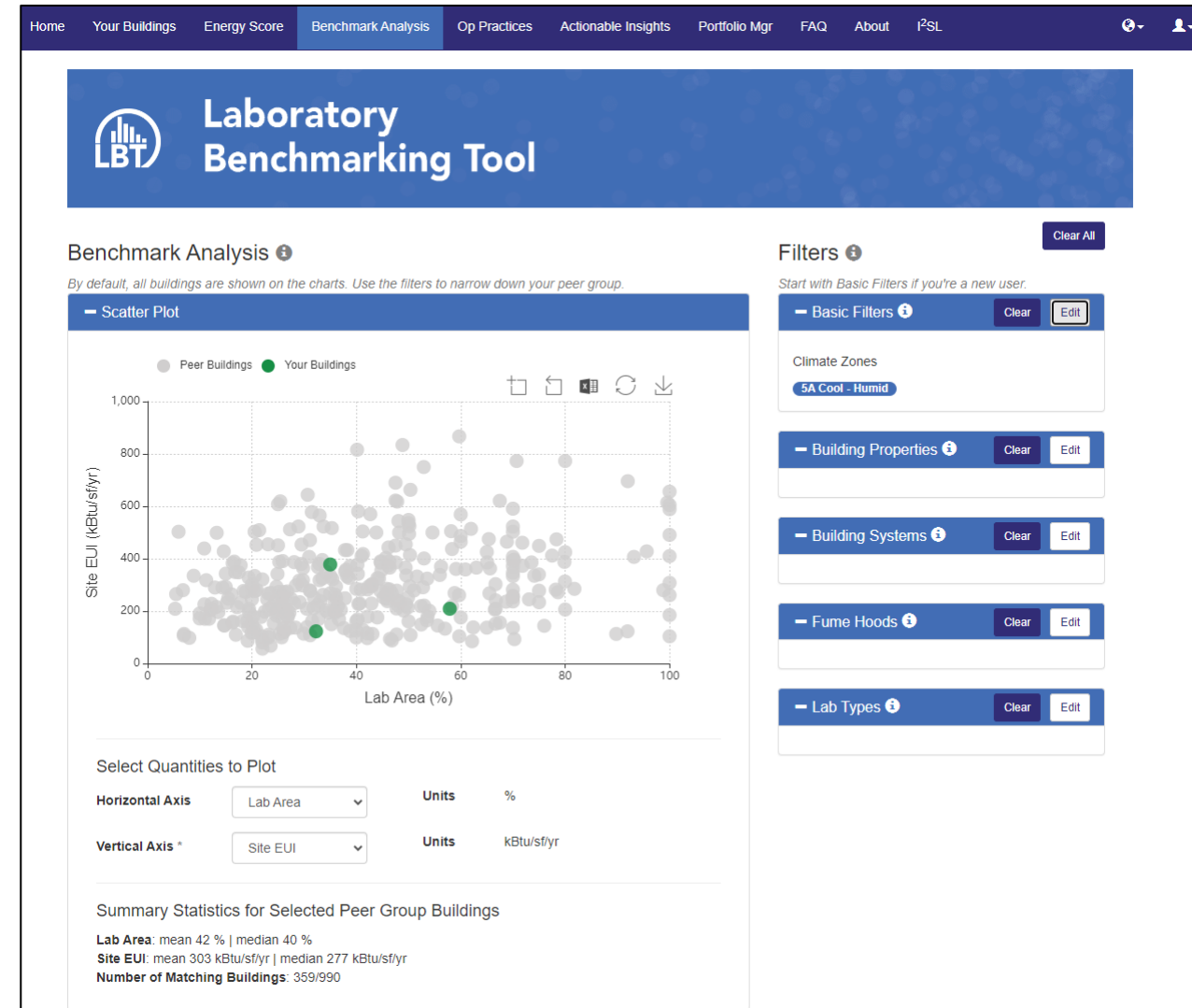
- The Laboratory Benchmarking Tool
 - The only meaningful way to compare lab building energy performance
- The Pilot Energy Score
 - A new, better way to compare lab building energy performance



The Laboratory Benchmarking Tool



- Analytics tool & database of 1000+ buildings
- Benchmarking by filtering
 - Select peer buildings with similar functional requirements
 - Compare EUIs and other metrics
- **Free to use**
- lbt.i2sl.org



Benchmarking Example

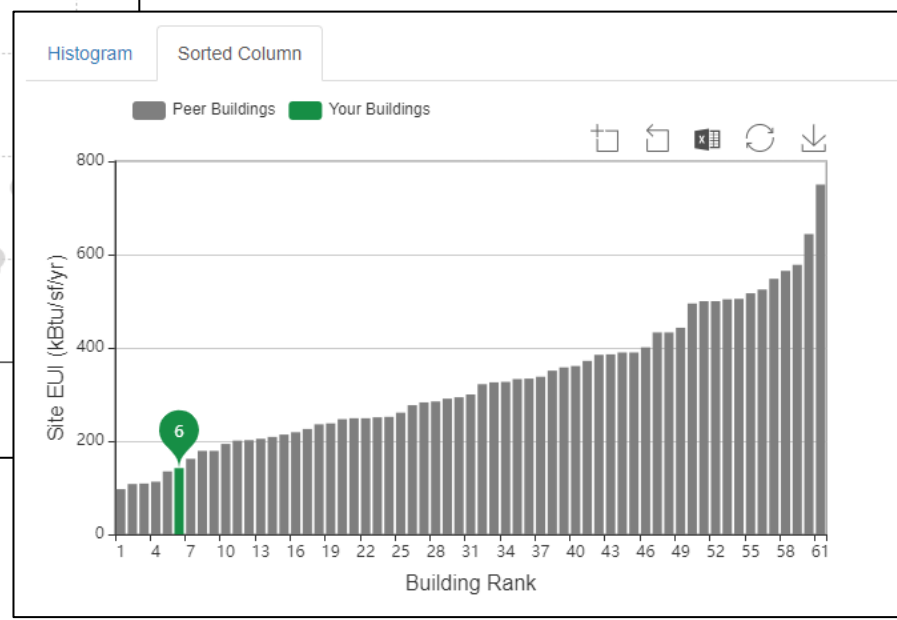


- **Example:** bio/biochem university building with 45% lab space by area in Toronto (climate zone 5A)
- Iterative process



Summary Statistics for Selected Peer Group Buildings

Lab Area: mean 44 % | median 44 %
Site EUI: mean 330 kBtu/sf/yr | median 311 kBtu/sf/yr
Number of Matching Buildings: 60/990



Filters ⓘ Clear All

Start with Basic Filters if you're a new user.

Basic Filters ⓘ Clear Edit

Lab Types

Biology Combination (Bio/Chem)

% Lab Area (Net Lab Area / Total Gross Area)

30.00 to 60.00 %

Climate Zones

5A Cool - Humid

Building Properties ⓘ Clear Edit

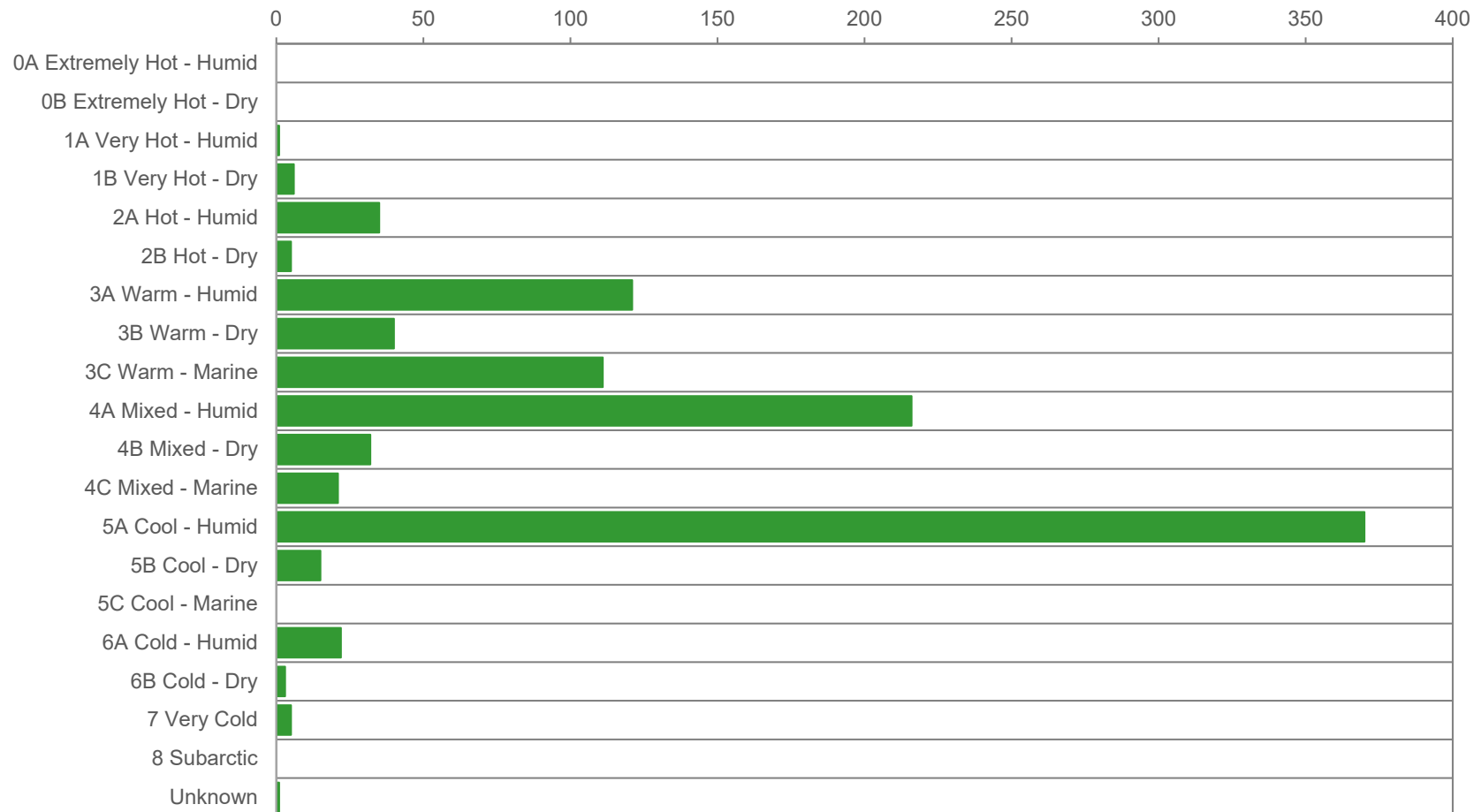
Organization Type

Academic: Higher Ed

Other Climate Zones in the Peer Group



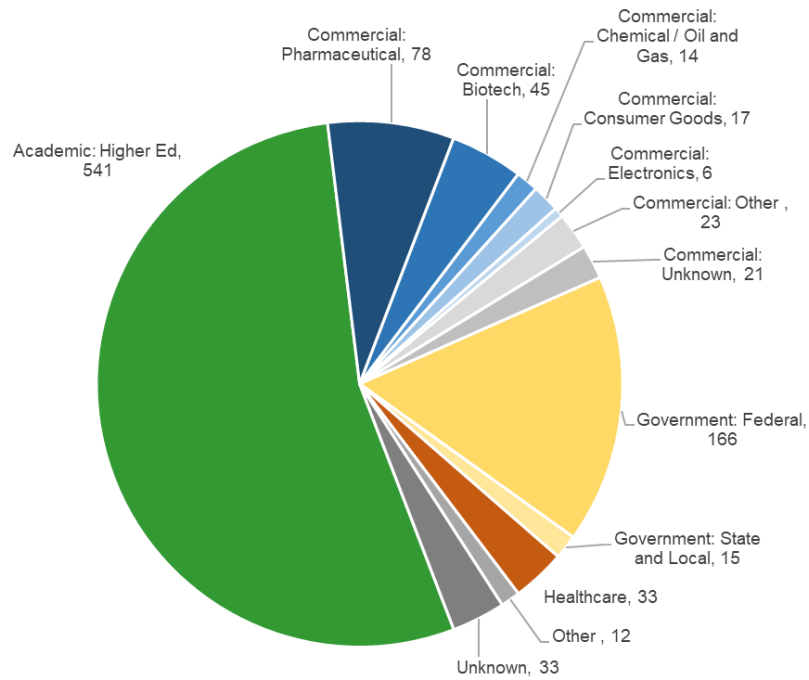
- 5A is the richest dataset
- Some colder zones are not as well represented



More Peer Group Database Stats

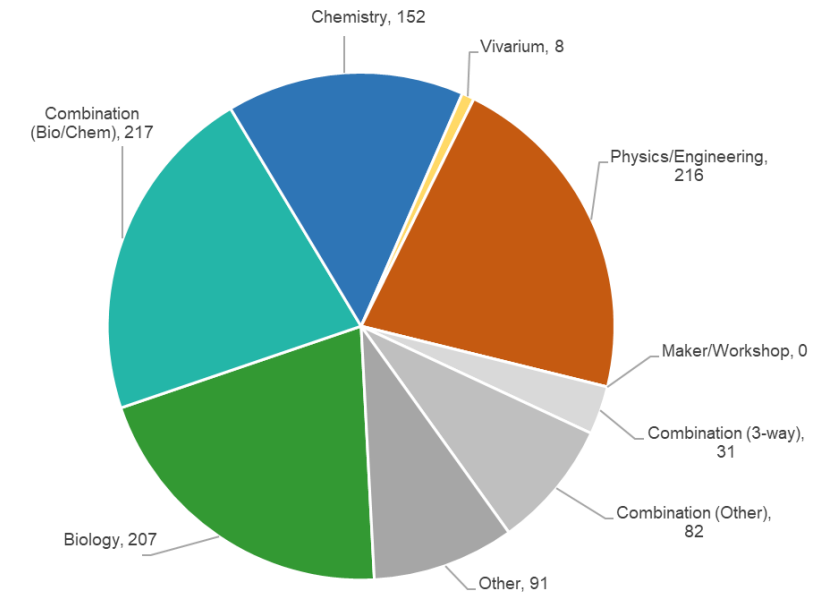


Organization Type

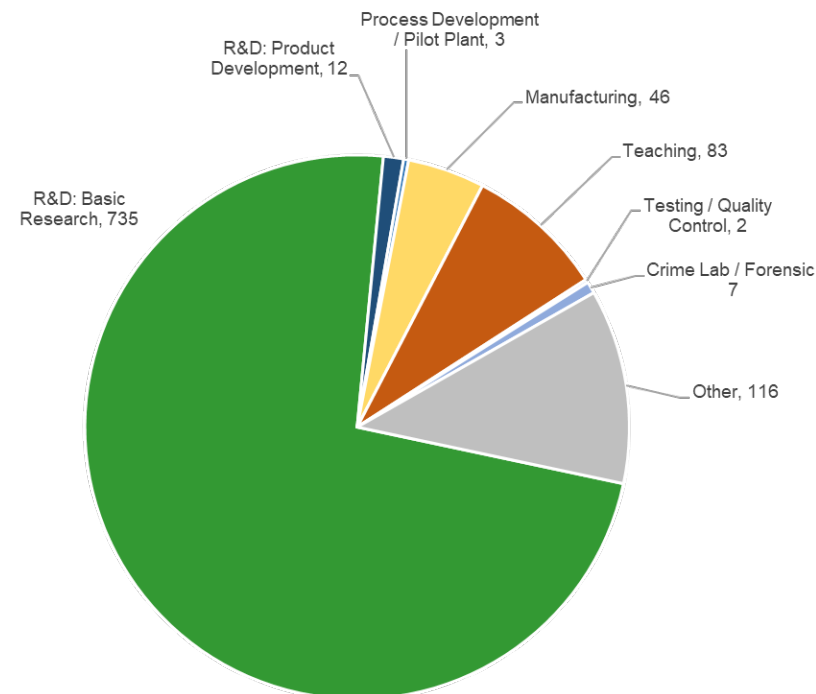


- Many types are represented
- Largest groups are Higher Ed, R&D, Bio/Chem

Lab Type



Predominant Lab Use



The LBT: A Community Tool



Laboratory Benchmarking Tool

Edit Building: Bio Hub Submit Cancel Delete Building

Building Details | Lab Area | **Building Systems** | Management | Utility Usage

Predominant HVAC System Type: Variable Volume with Reheat

OP Predominant HVAC Control Type: Direct Digital Control

Predominant Cooling System Type: District Cooling / CHW from Campus Central Plant

Predominant Heating System Type: Boiler Plant in Building: Condensing HW Boilers

Exhaust Air Energy Recovery: Glycol Run-Around

Building-level CHP: None

Renewable Energy Generation at Building: None

Geothermal Heat Pump: Y N

Heat Recovery Chiller: Y N

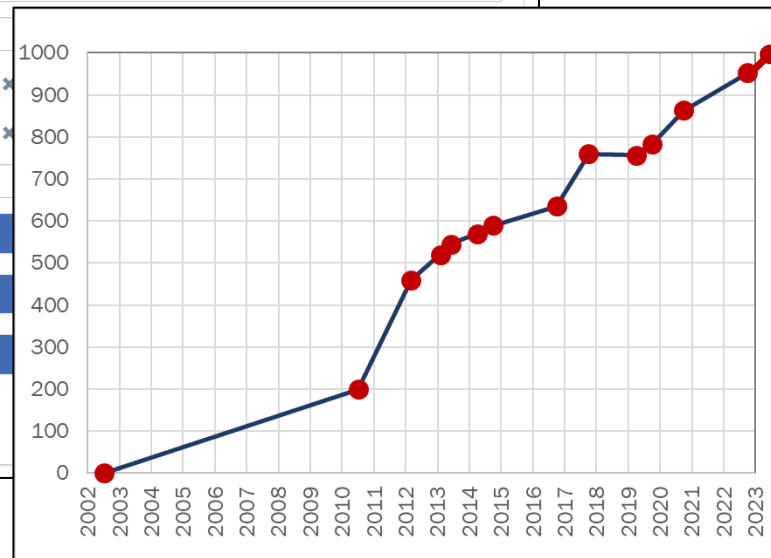
Data Center kW: 5

+ Fume Hoods and Ventilation Rates ⓘ

+ Building Controls Features ⓘ

+ Other Design Features ⓘ

Previous



Number of buildings in database

- The LBT collects data too
- Enter data in the **Your Buildings** tab of the LBT
- User-submitted data is QC'd, anonymized, and added to the peer group database
- **Internationalized in 2022**
 - Metric units and global locations
 - Only a few non-US peer group buildings so far



Getting Started With The LBT: Tips



- **100+** data fields per building
- Only **~1 dozen** mandatory entries (marked with *****)
- Basic data entry: **15 min** per building if data available
- Entering more data allows more detailed comparisons with other buildings

Quick Start Guide

- linked [here](#)

Quick Guide to Using the Laboratory Benchmarking Tool for a Lab Energy Score

Labs2Zero is a voluntary program sponsored by the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) that is dedicated to advancing the decarbonization of laboratories globally by scoring and suggesting improvements to labs to save energy, reduce emissions, and improve performance. At the heart of Labs2Zero is the I2SL Laboratory Benchmarking Tool (LBT), through which I2SL launched the first major Labs2Zero offering, the Energy Score, in October 2023. Through the LBT, a lab building's energy performance is rated from 1 to 100, where 100 represents the highest performance. This is a percentile score, meaning a lab building with an Energy Score of 85 has better energy performance than 85 percent of similar facilities.

The Labs2Zero Energy Score is free! Users just need access to building utility records and facility data. This quick-start guide will walk you through the process of using the LBT to get a lab building's Energy Score and briefly describe the minimum data needed to benchmark a lab building in the LBT.

Note: The I2SL Lab Energy Score is currently in a pilot phase, and I2SL welcomes feedback from users to improve accuracy and usability. Let us know what you think by emailing i2sl@i2sl.org!

Setting Up an Account

Go to <https://lbt.i2sl.org> and create an account [here](#) or by clicking on the "Sign up!" link shown here. Once you sign up, you will receive an email from i2sl@i2sl.org or lbt@i2sl.org to activate your account. If not, check your spam folder! Want to know ahead of time what data you'll need? A full list of LBT data fields is available [here](#); the basic data needs are outlined below.

What's the Minimum Data Entry Needed to Get a Lab's Energy Score?

Start entering your building's data via the Your Buildings tab. Click on "New Building" to get started on the first facility. Following are tips for what to enter in the **Building Details** section:

- **Facility Name:** Give your lab building a name you will easily recognize.
- **Year Built:** Use the year of construction, or the most recent gut renovation.
- **Building Status:** Indicate whether it is test data or a real building (existing or in design).
- **Building Address:** Begin typing the address and choose from the dropdown (Google lookup). All worldwide addresses are accepted, and approximate locations (e.g., just the city name) can be entered if needed. *Note: this data will not be visible to others!*
- **Organization Type:** Choose the dropdown option that most closely matches the type of organization that occupies the building.
- **Predominant Lab Use Type:** Choose the dropdown option that most closely represents the type of work done in the facility's labs. If multi-purpose, choose the most prevalent.
- **Occupied Hours per Week:** Enter the number of hours per week when the building is occupied at normal levels (do not include occasional overnight use).

You'll also be asked for the total gross square footage of the building, the total lab area, and the square footage of specific lab components; use the definitions on the next page.

Full list of fields

- [link to doc](#)

Basic benchmarking process

- [link to doc](#)

Laboratories for the 21st Century

Technical Bulletin

Guidance on Using the Labs21 Benchmarking Tool for LEED-EB-O&M

This technical bulletin provides guidance on how to use the Labs21 benchmarking tool in the context of the LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance (LEED-EB-OM) rating system, version 2009. The bulletin assumes that the reader is familiar with LEED-EB-OM as well as the Labs21 benchmarking tool. Procedures described here also apply to LEED EB: O&M v2009, though some scoring may differ slightly between the two programs.

1. Introduction: Benchmarking Requirements in LEED-EB-OM

LEED-EB-OM requires the use of energy benchmarking in EA prerequisite 2 and EA Credit 1. There are two cases:

Case 1: Buildings that are eligible for an Energy Star rating are required to use the Energy Star Portfolio Manager tool to obtain a rating.

Case 2: Buildings that are not eligible to receive an Energy Star rating have to use an off-line spreadsheet calculator provided by the USGBC. There are two options under case 2:

- Option 1: Obtain a score based on national average source energy intensity for similar buildings. The USGBC calculator provides national average source energy intensity for several building types not enable by Energy Star.
- Option 2: Obtain a score based on historical data and/or comparable buildings.

Case 1 does not apply to laboratories because they are not eligible to receive an Energy Star rating. A Case 2, Option 2-like approach is available, which allows applicants to use the Labs21 tool to find a set of comparable buildings most appropriate for benchmarking the applicant building. Lab21 analysis shows that the average source energy intensity can vary considerably based on parameters such as lab area ratio, type, schedule, and climate, which in turn impacts the number of points obtained under EA credit 1. Note that this option only applies to buildings with a net lab area that is at least 10% of gross area.

The USGBC previously issued a credit ruling allowing the use of the Labs21 tool for LEED-EB v2.0. However, that ruling was issued prior to the introduction of LEED EB: O&M, and does not apply to projects applying under the newer rating system.

2. Selecting a Peer Group in the Labs21 Tool

Projects using the Labs21 tool for Case 2 Option 2-Labs must register their building in the tool and then filter the dataset based on lab area ratio, lab type, occupancy hours, and climatic region, and thereby obtain the average source energy intensity for a subset of buildings that are more comparable to the subject building.

As of November 2009, the Labs21 database has just over 200 buildings in the core dataset. It continues to grow and is the largest publicly accessible dataset of benchmarking data for laboratories in the U.S. However, it with any dataset, if the filtering is too restrictive there may not be enough buildings to benchmark against. When selecting a subset, it is important to ensure that a) there are enough buildings in the subset, and b) that the filters have been applied appropriately. In order to provide a consistent approach to filtering the dataset for LEED-EB-OM, Labs21 provides the following procedure, which starts with the whole dataset and sequentially applies filters in the order that the data allow. The definitions for these filters are provided in the tool and also summarized in Appendix A.

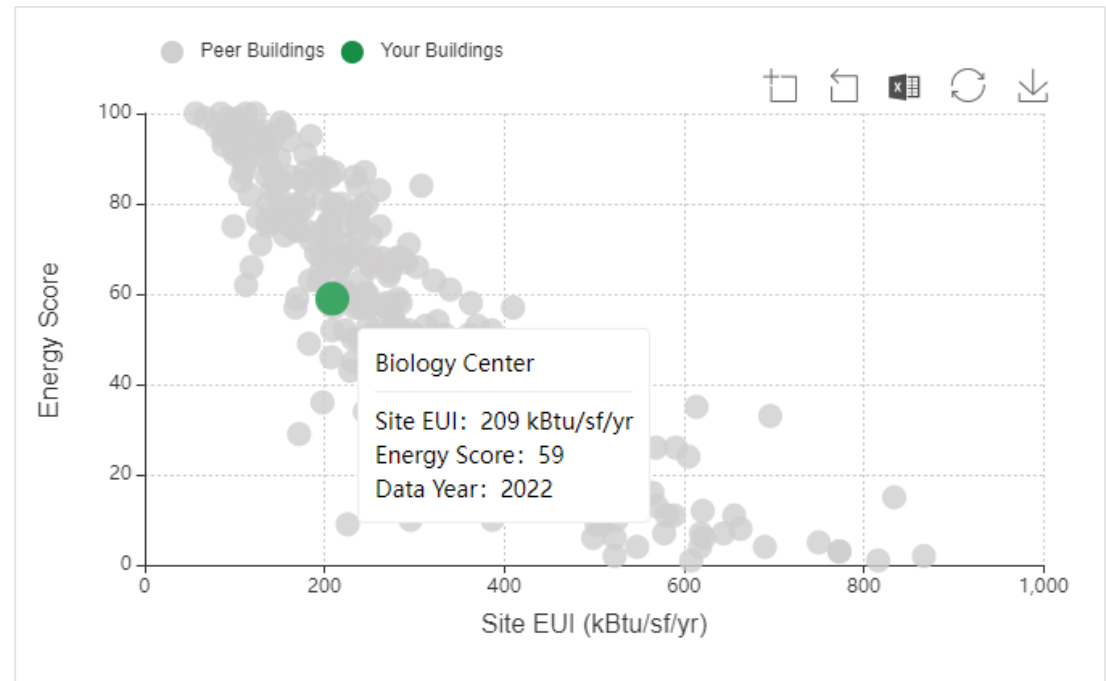
Applying Labs21 Benchmarking for LEED-EB-OM 13 December 2010



NEW: Pilot Energy Scores



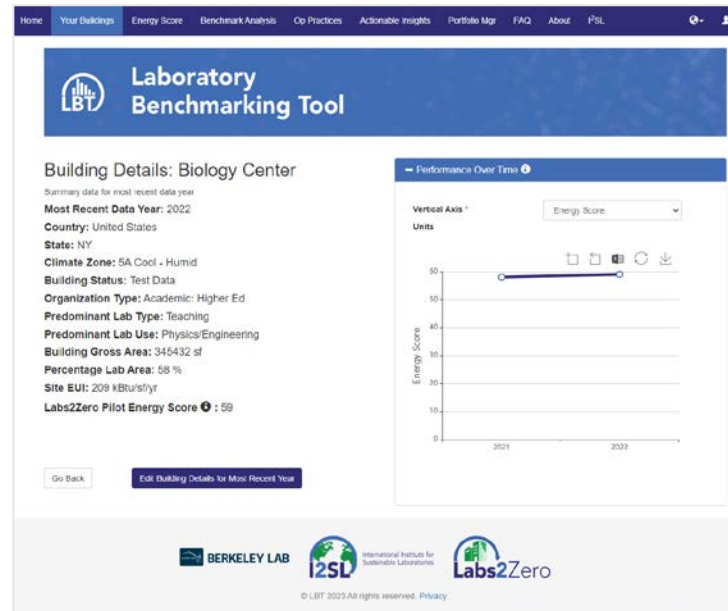
- **Now displayed for all buildings**
 - Your scores are only visible to you
 - Peer group building scores are shown; peer group buildings are anonymous



NEW: Pilot Energy Scores



- See a summary of your buildings' scores in Your Buildings tab
- Click on Building Details to see more info on individual facilities



Laboratory Benchmarking Tool

Your Buildings New Building

Building Name	Data Years	Actions	Labs2Zero Pilot Energy Score for most recent data year	Site EUI for most recent data year (kBtu/sf/yr)
Bio Example	2021, 2022, 2020	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	63	276
Chemistry Center	2022, 2021	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	39	378
Product Development Site	2017, 2021, 2022, 2020	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	58	513
All The Biology	2022, 2020	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	59	209
Bio Hub	2021	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	N/A	0
Medium-Performance Lab	2021	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	52	377
Biology Bonus Facility	2020	Building Details, Delete Building, Add Data Year	86	145

Click on the Building Details button to track your building's performance over time. Visit the Benchmark Analysis and Operational Practices tabs to benchmark against your peers, and the Actionable Insights tab to get customized ideas for energy efficiency projects! See the Energy Score tab for information about the Labs2Zero program and how you can help i2SL improve the scoring accuracy during the Pilot Phase. And for a list of all the LBT data fields (required and optional), please see this document.

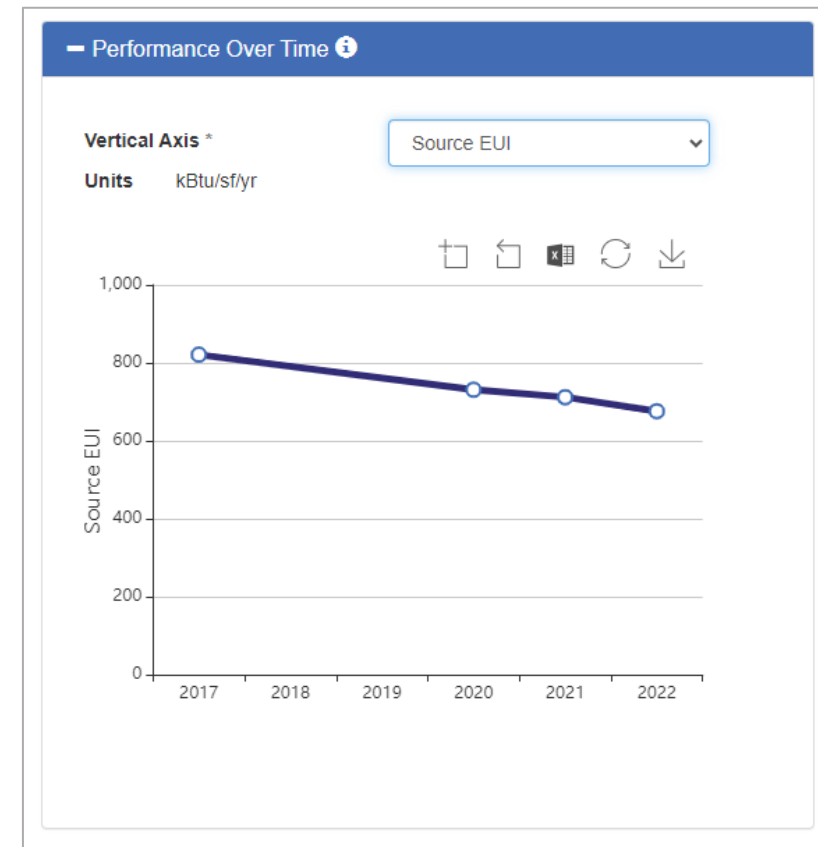
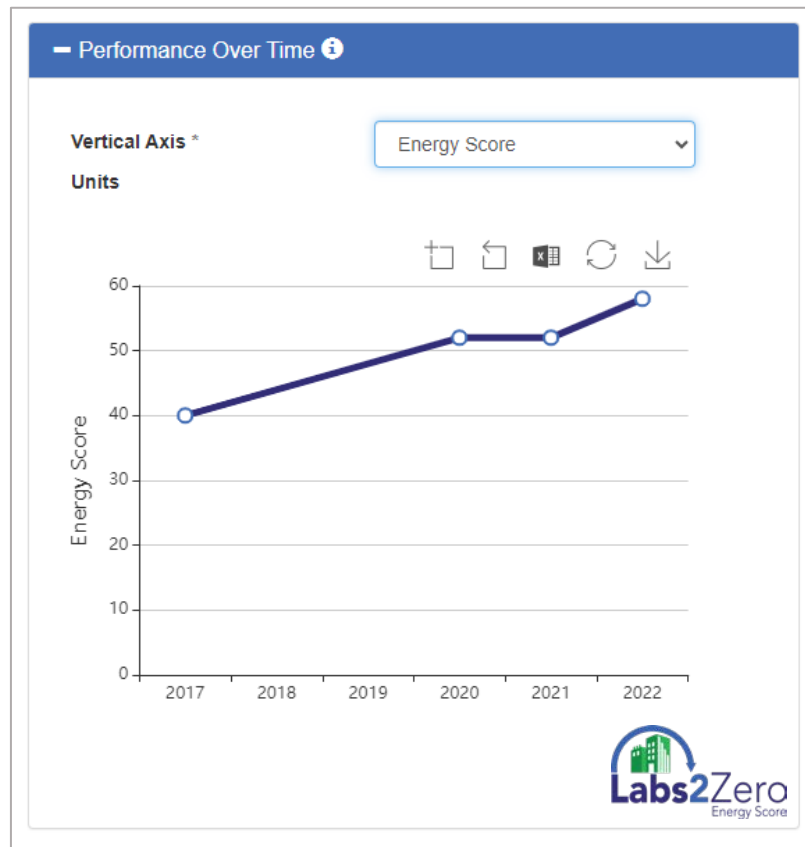
BERKELEY LAB | i2SL International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories | Labs2Zero

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NEW: Longitudinal Benchmarking



- View building performance over time for many metrics
 - Only Energy Score is weather normalized



Development of the Energy Score



- The LBT peer group database of ~1000 buildings was used to develop the score
 - Statistical analysis used to develop a rating system
 - Buildings rated relative to others in the database by adjusting for functional requirements of each lab building
 - Similar to the method used by the EPA to generate ENERGY STAR® scores



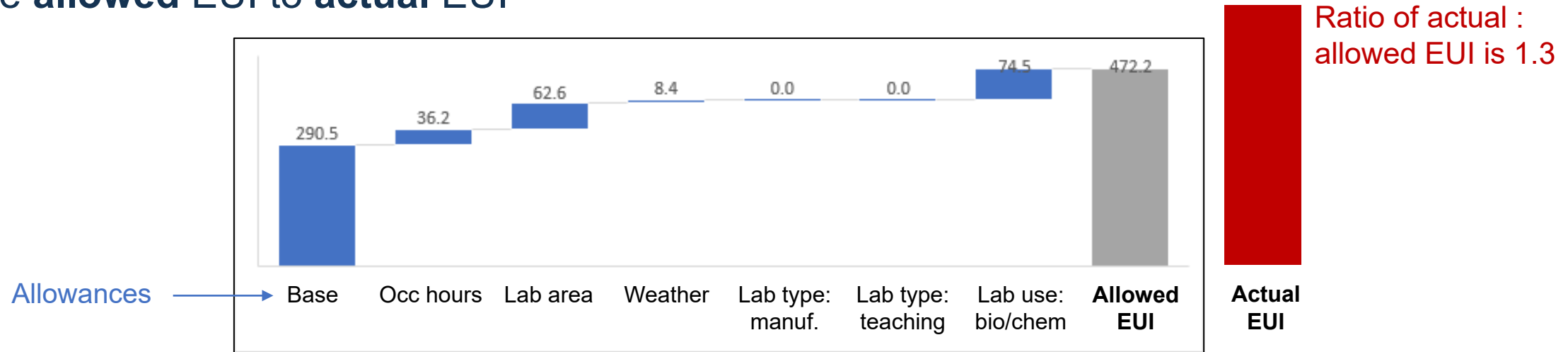
Scoring methodology was developed by **LBL** in collaboration with the Labs2Zero Energy Score **Technical Advisory Council**



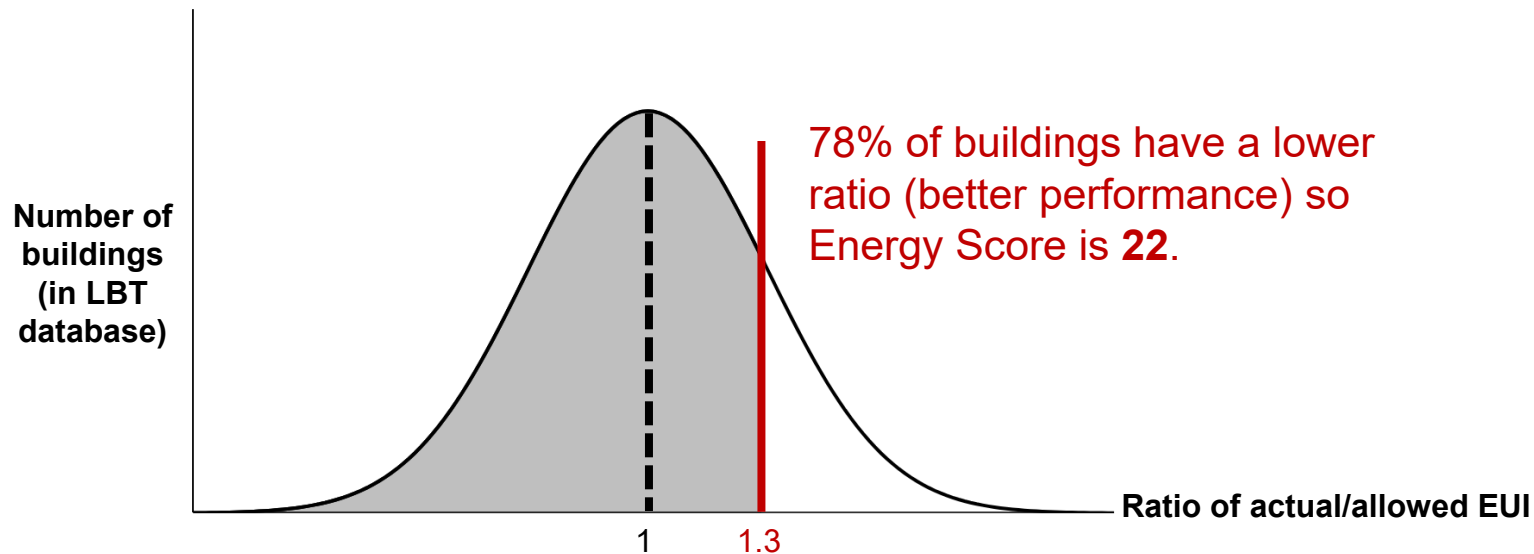
How The Energy Score Works



1. Compare **allowed EUI** to **actual EUI**



2. Convert ratio to a **1-100 score**



The Energy Score Pilot Phase



- **Pre-launch**
 - Piloted with ~8 organizations
 - Database-wide checks to look for bias
- **Post-launch pilot phase** October 2023 to mid-2024
 - Rev1 score will follow
- **Seeking feedback** from you on the Pilot Energy Score

Now is the best time to provide feedback:

1. Enter your data via the LBT (lbt.i2sl.org)
2. View your scores
3. Send us feedback at lbt@i2sl.org



Pilot Phase: Caveats and Needs



- Warnings generated where we need more data or analysis:



Warning Type	Building Properties	Action for Users
Unreliable Score (not enough data)	Vivarium, Maker/Workshop, Manufacturing, R&D: Process Development, Pilot Plant, Testing/QC, Crime Lab/Forensic, Healthcare labs.	Request to submit more data for these types of facilities so we can incorporate them in the Rev1 score.
Unreliable score (more analysis needed)	Low lab area, esp. for bio/chem facilities.	Use scores with caution; await updated analysis in Rev1.
Unreliable score (user input issues)	Lab types of Unknown or Other, very high or very low energy score, high % lab area, low occupancy hours/wk.	Check data entries and contact us with any feedback.
Unreliable score (historical issues)	Data year = 2020.	Use Covid-era scores with caution.

- More data known to be needed for some facility types:
 - Vivarium, manufacturing, crime labs**
 - Labs in very cold climates**

What's Next?



Questions?
Please contact
info@i2sl.org

- **Energy Score**

- Data collection during pilot phase – your input is requested
- Release rev1 score in 2024

- **Operational Emissions Score**

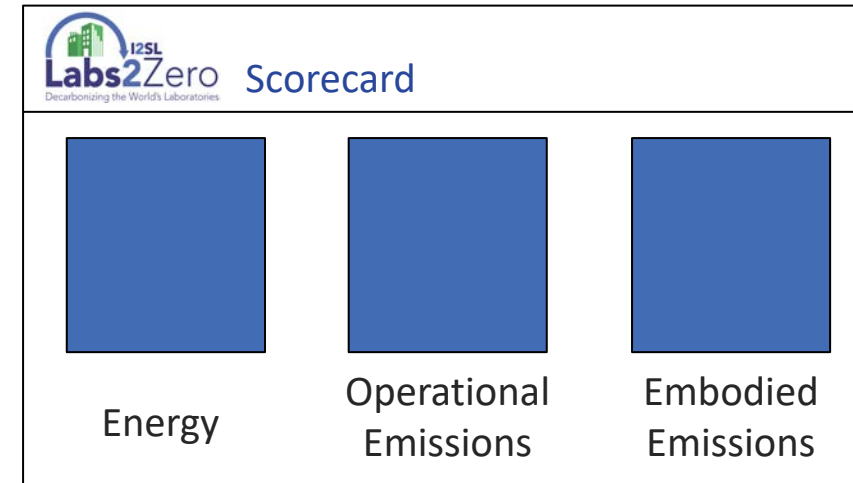
- Aiming for pilot release in 2024
- Location-based emissions only for pilot

- **Embodied Carbon Score**

- Data collection effort is underway – please contribute if you have LCA data
- Benchmarking tool and pilot score planned for 2024

- **AIM Report**

- In development
- Initial release planned for 2024



Plan: Key Takeaways



Gather **available data on building system performance** using Toolkit resources



Assemble a **diverse Smart Labs team** with management “buy in”



Define **clear and measurable** implementation goals



Produce a **Smart Labs roadmap** prior to conducting a building assessment and implementing any measures

15 Minute Break!

1



Smart Labs

Assess



Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org



The Smart Labs Process

Assess

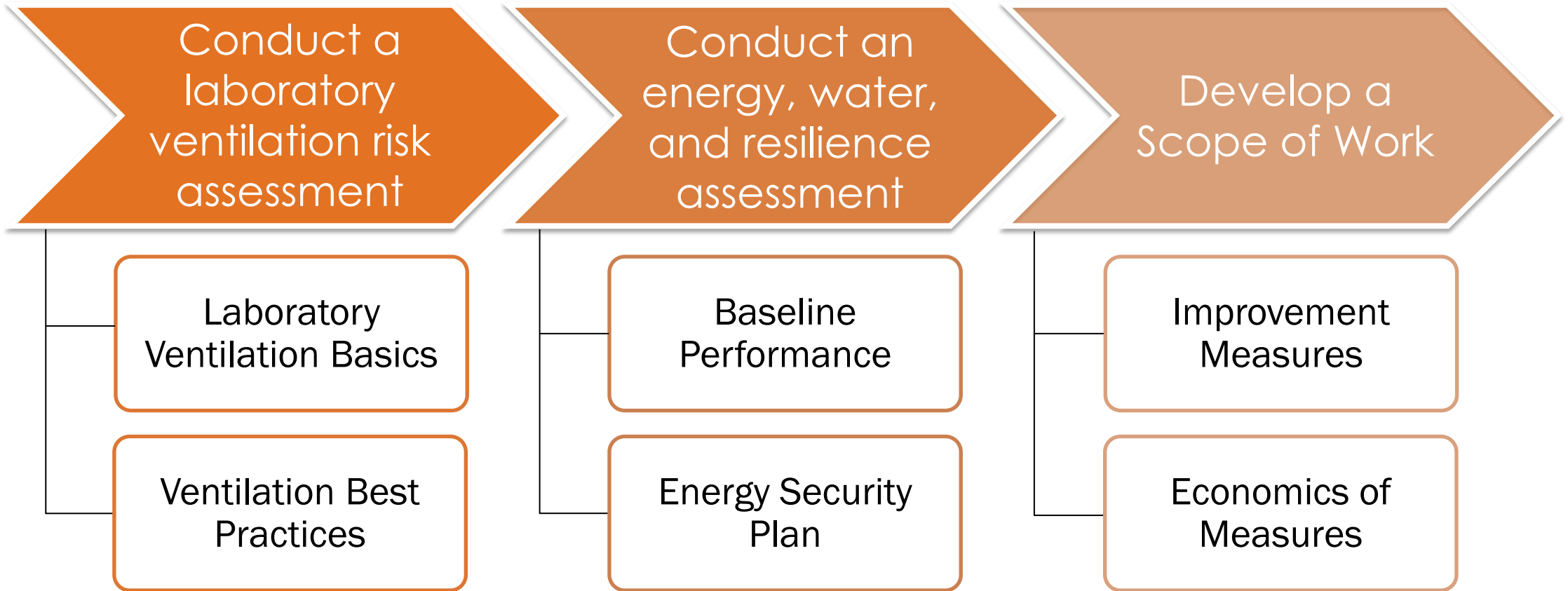
- Conduct in-depth audits of laboratory buildings
- Focus on the ventilation systems
- Develop a scope of work for system optimization

Plan

- Build a team of lab stakeholders
- Profile buildings to prioritize efforts
- Develop a strategic plan for cost-effective implementation



Module Overview



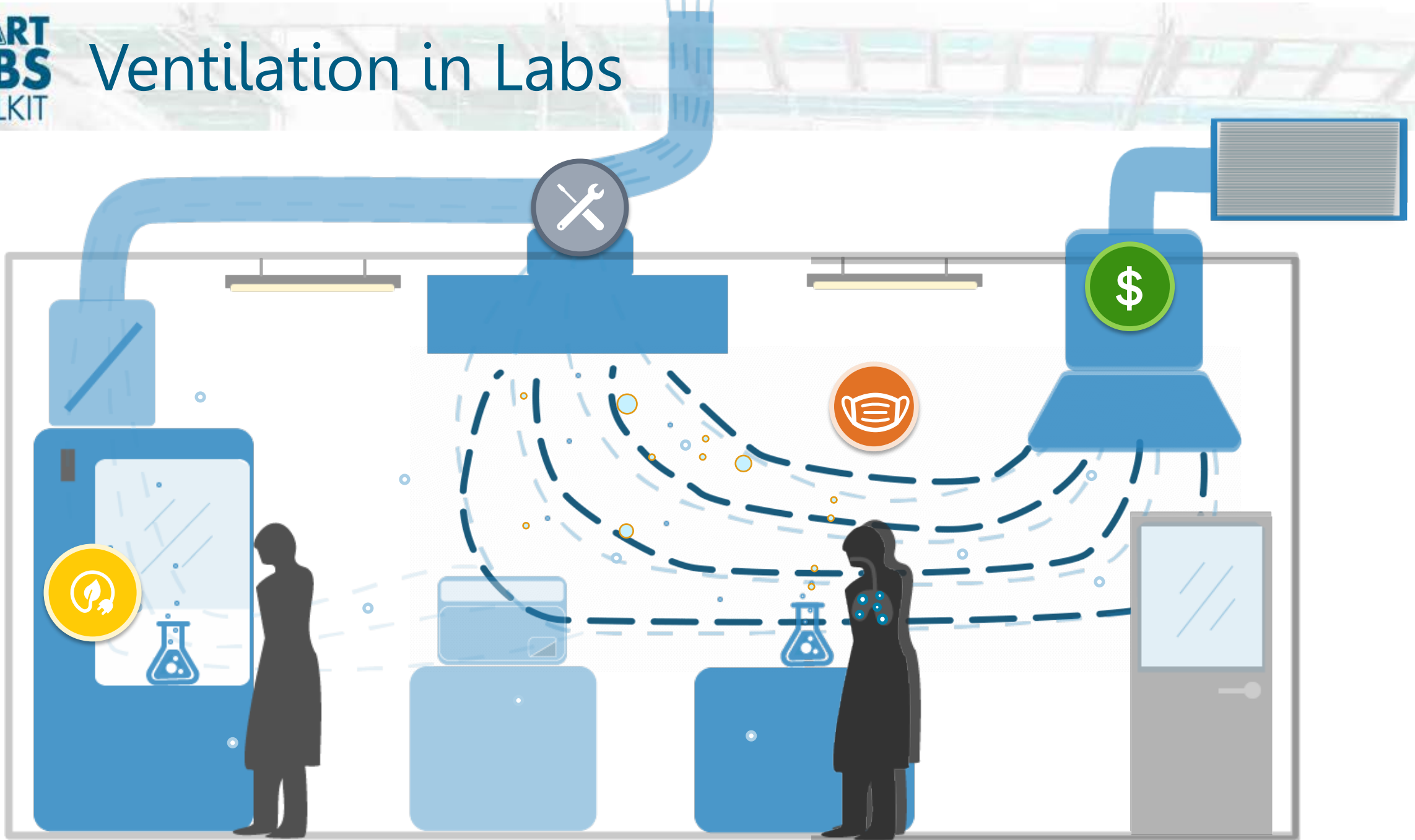


Assess

Conduct a Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment



Ventilation in Labs



Ventilation in Labs



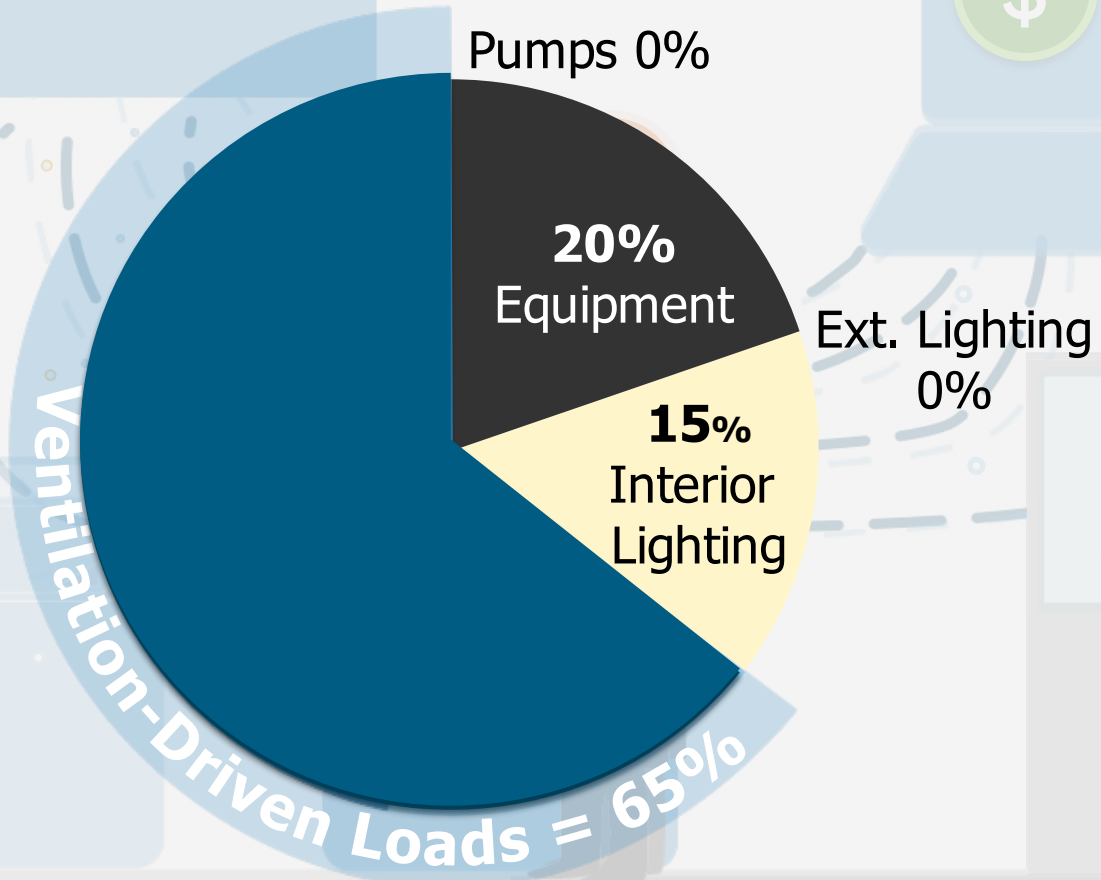
First line of defense in controlling airborne hazards

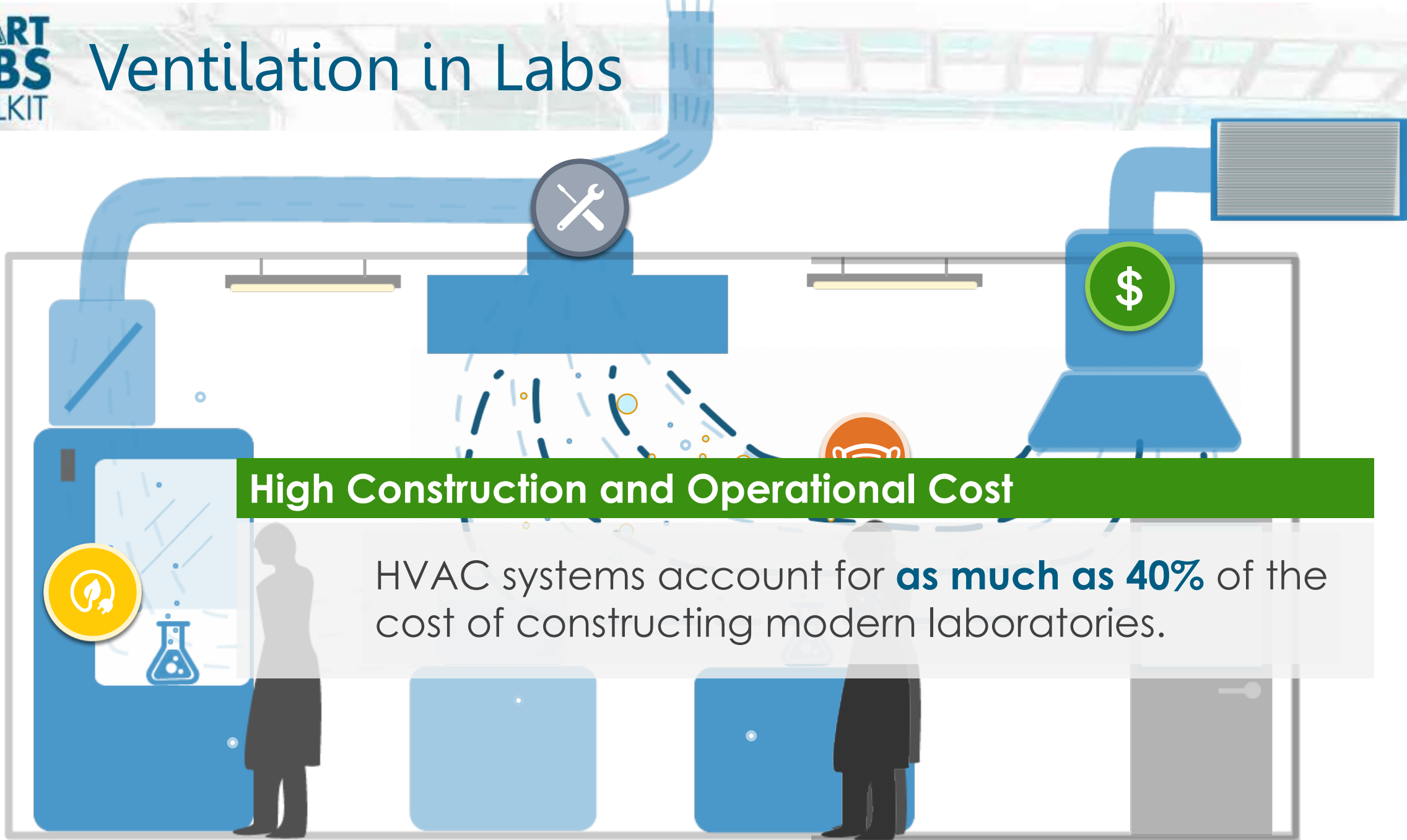
- 1** **Safety** is the number one priority
- ?** **Question** everything
- ⊘** **Avoid** assumptions

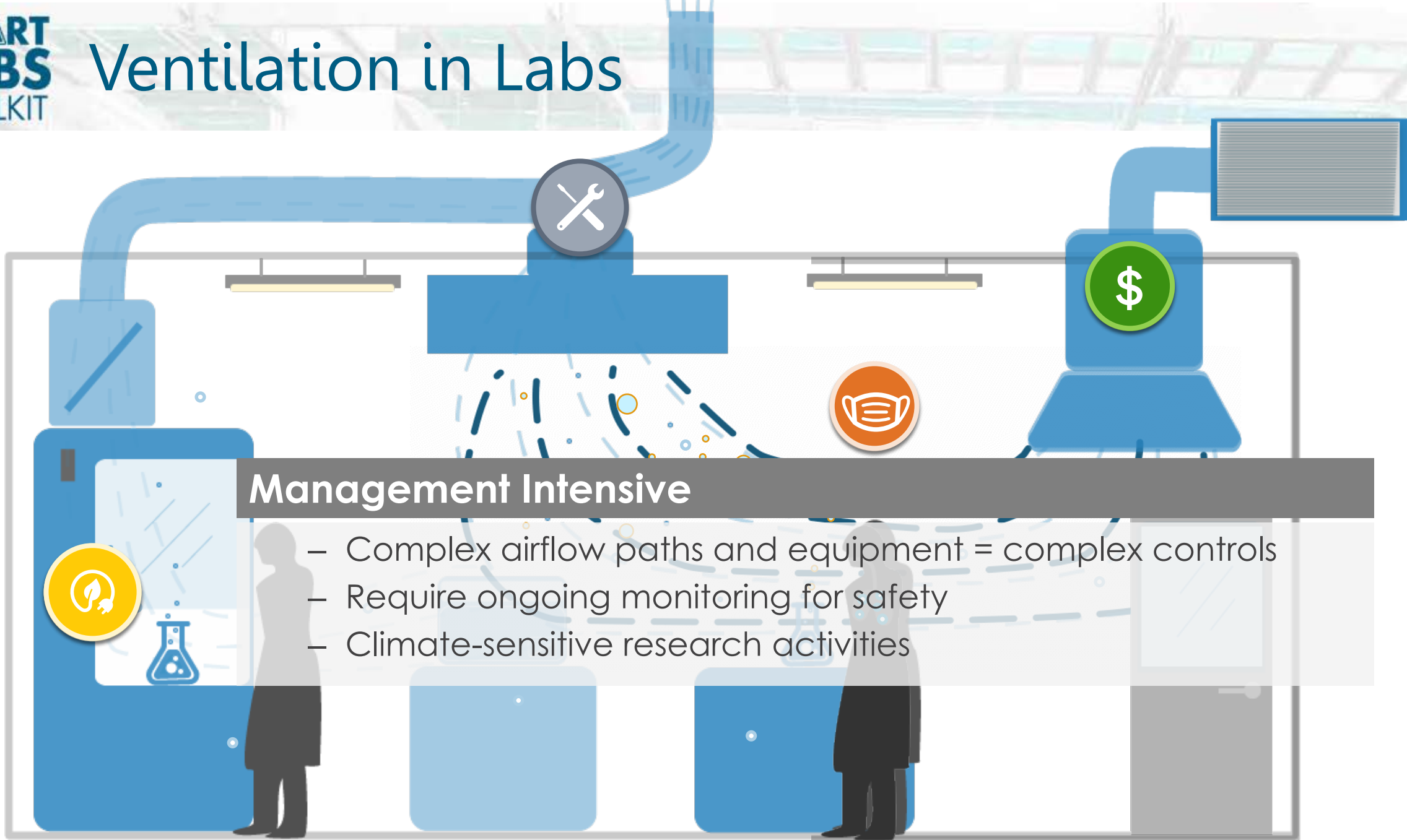
Ventilation in Labs

Largest energy consumer in a laboratory

Baseline Annual Energy by End Use







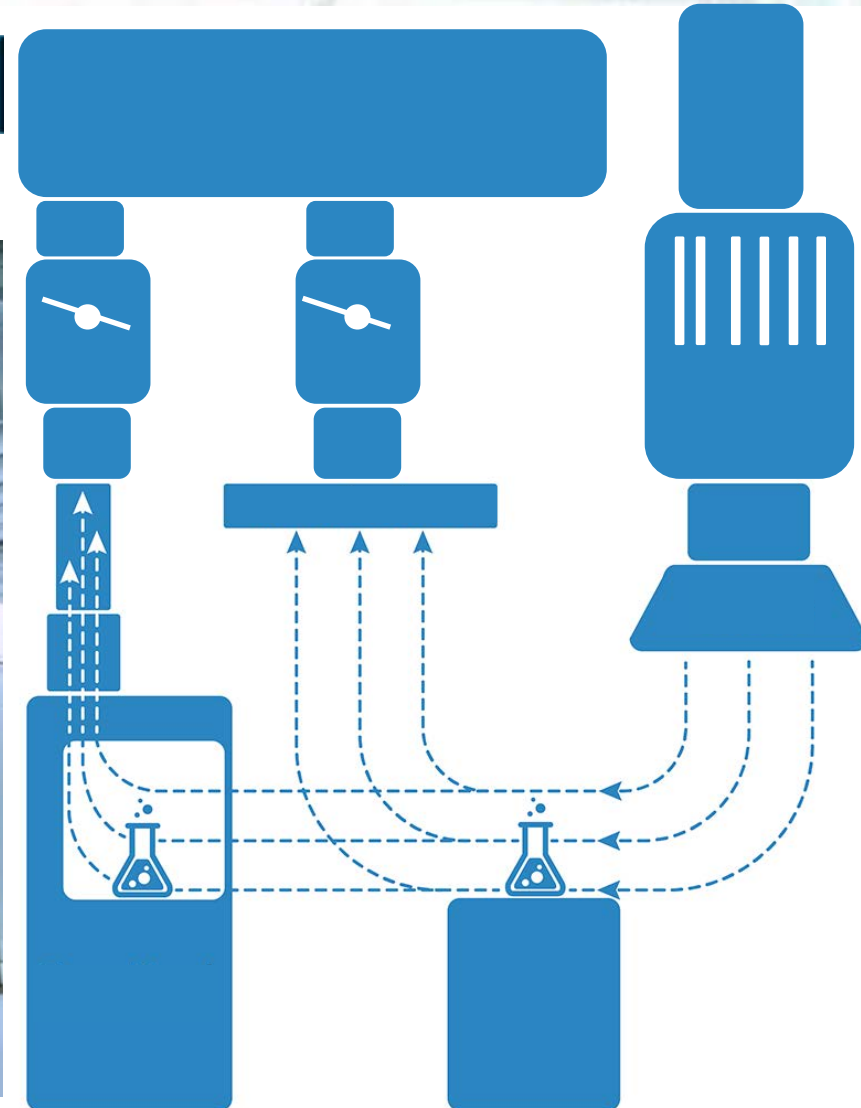
Management Intensive

- Complex airflow paths and equipment = complex controls
- Require ongoing monitoring for safety
- Climate-sensitive research activities

Laboratory Ventilation Basics

Gather available system data

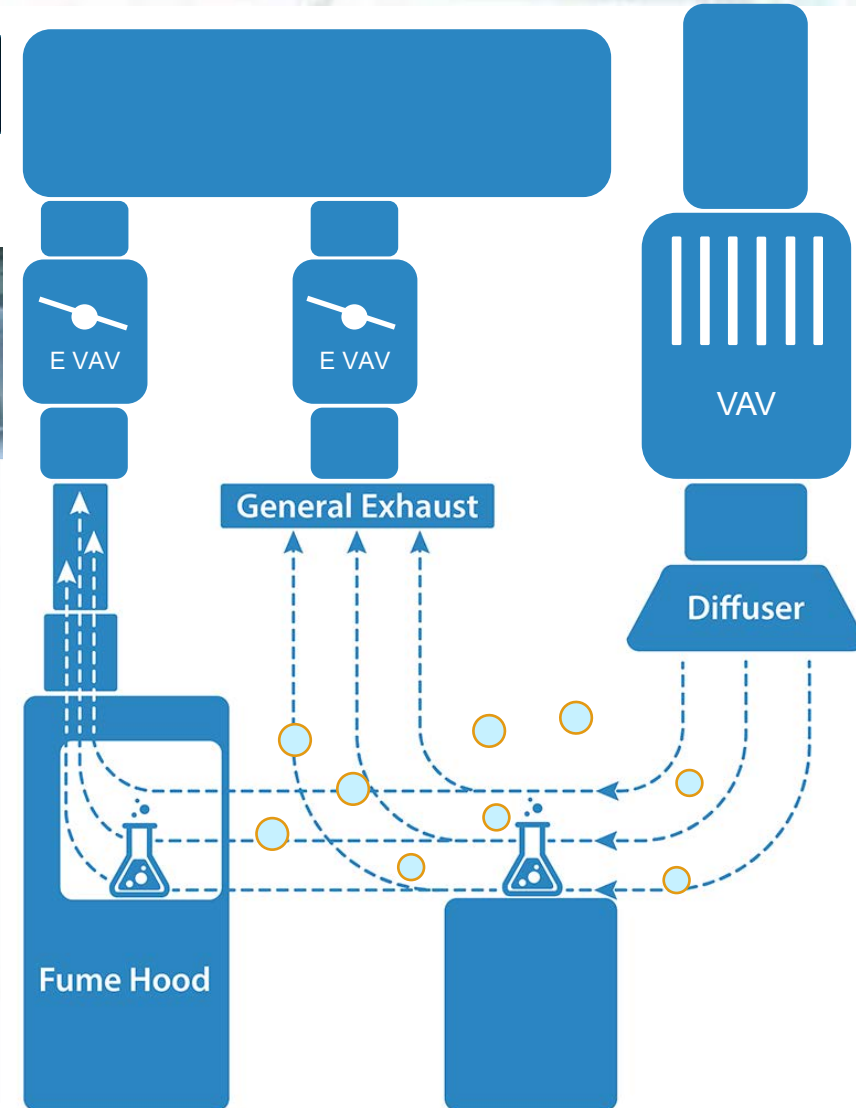
1. Understand Design Specifications



Laboratory Ventilation Basics

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



Typical Office Air Changes per Hour

2-3 ACH

Airflow Requirements

- ✓ **Occupant** safety and comfort
- ✓ **Meet** of required differential pressure between adjacent spaces

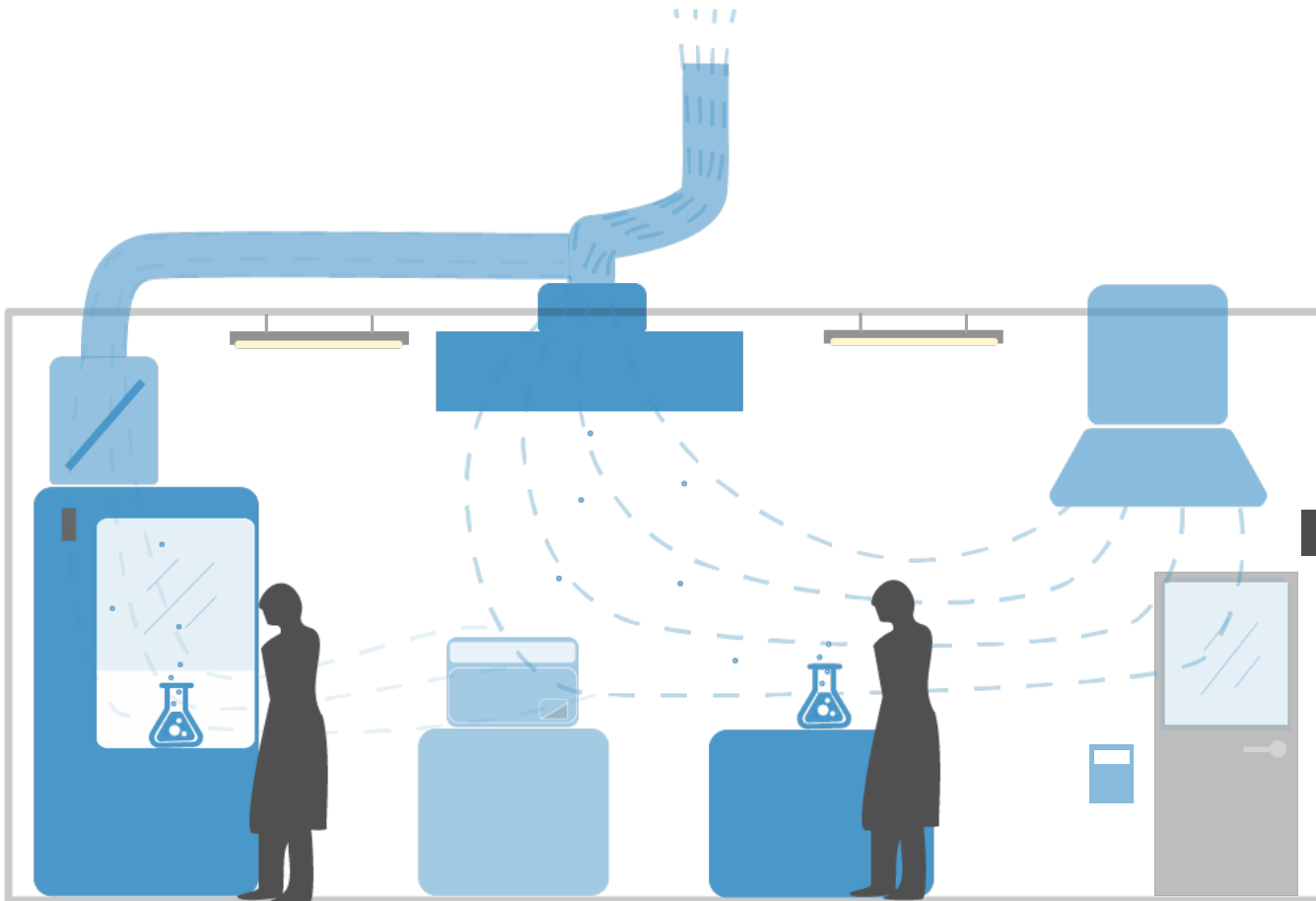
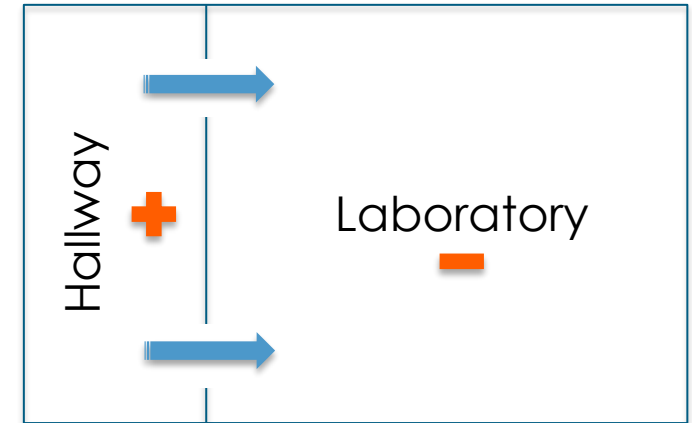


Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



Airflow Requirements

- ✓ **Occupant** safety and comfort
- ✓ **Meet** of required differential pressure between adjacent spaces

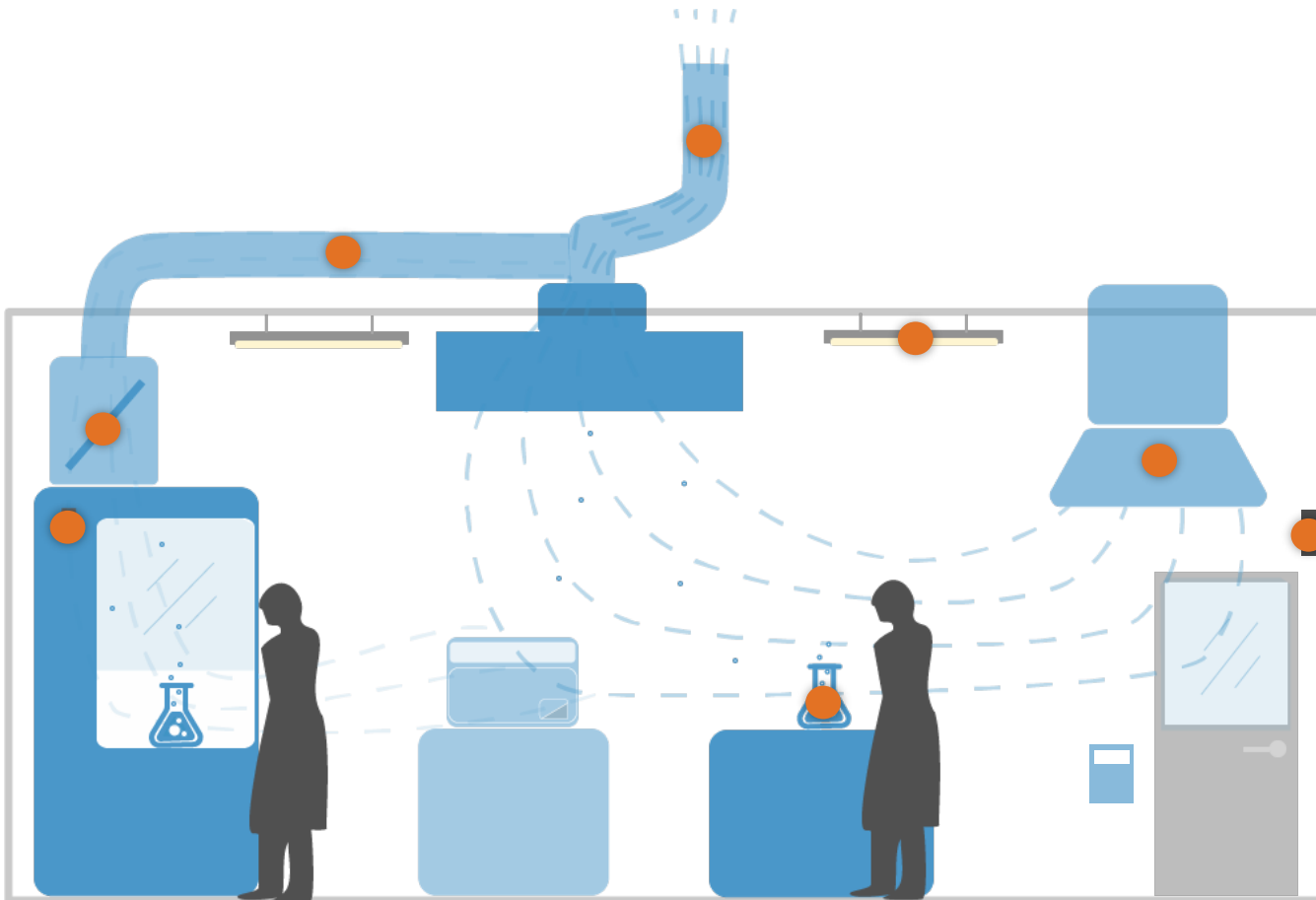
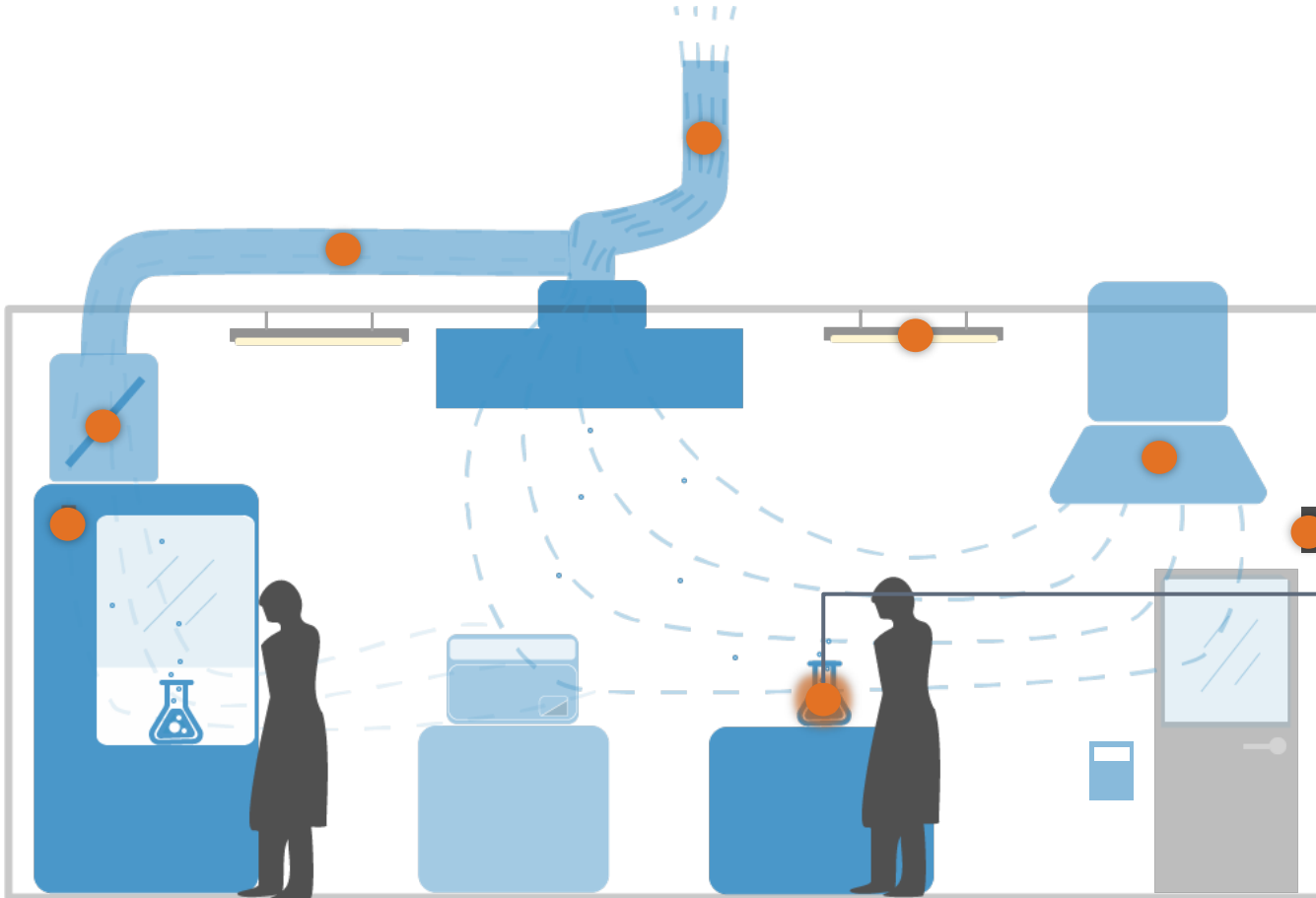


Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



LBNL XBD202003-00075

NREL 03350

Hazard Evaluation

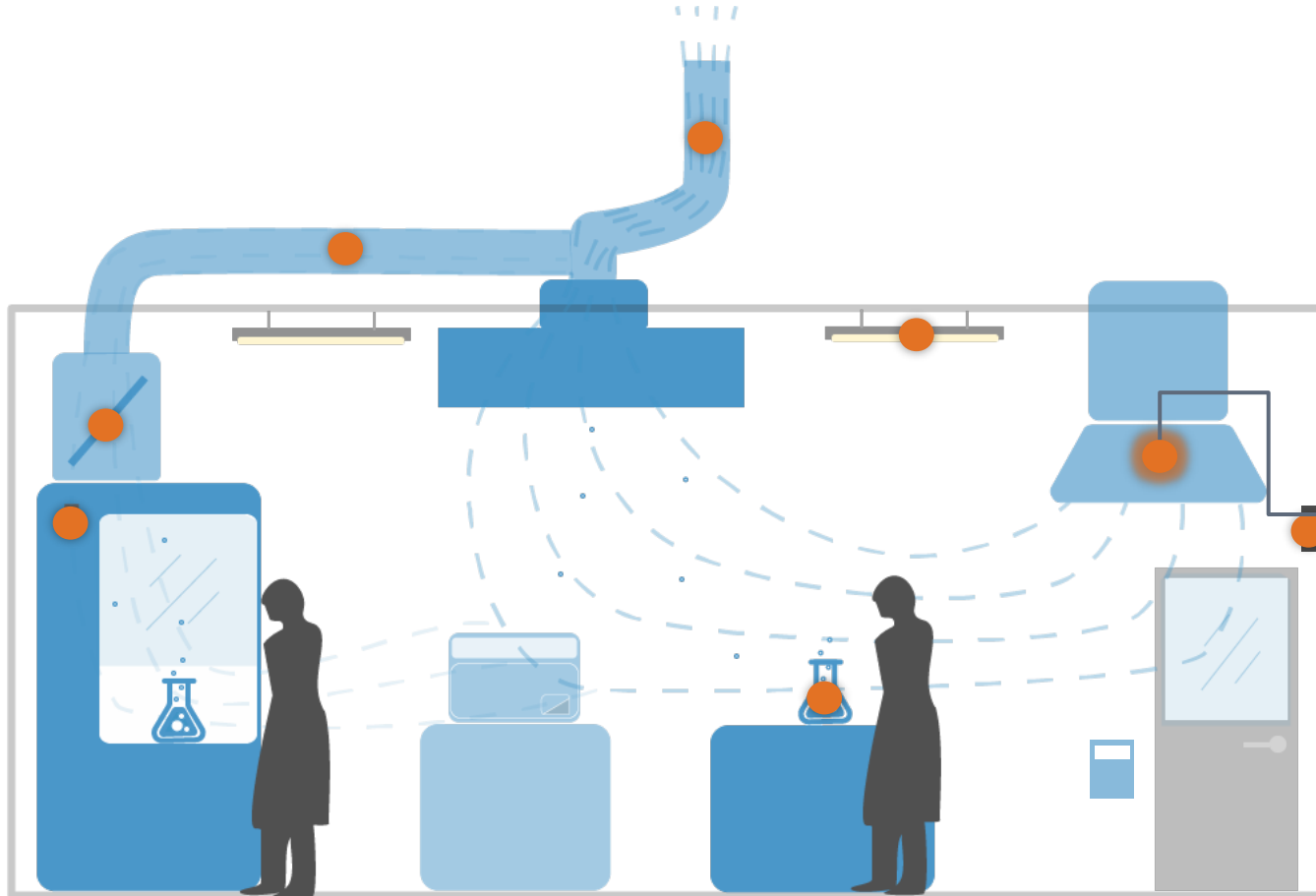
A systematic process for **determining the level of risk associated with airborne hazards** that can be mitigated through use of ventilation.

Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



Ventilation System Layout

An **informed ventilation design** should consider the:

- ✓ Type
- ✓ Placement
- ✓ Quantity of ventilation devices.

Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications

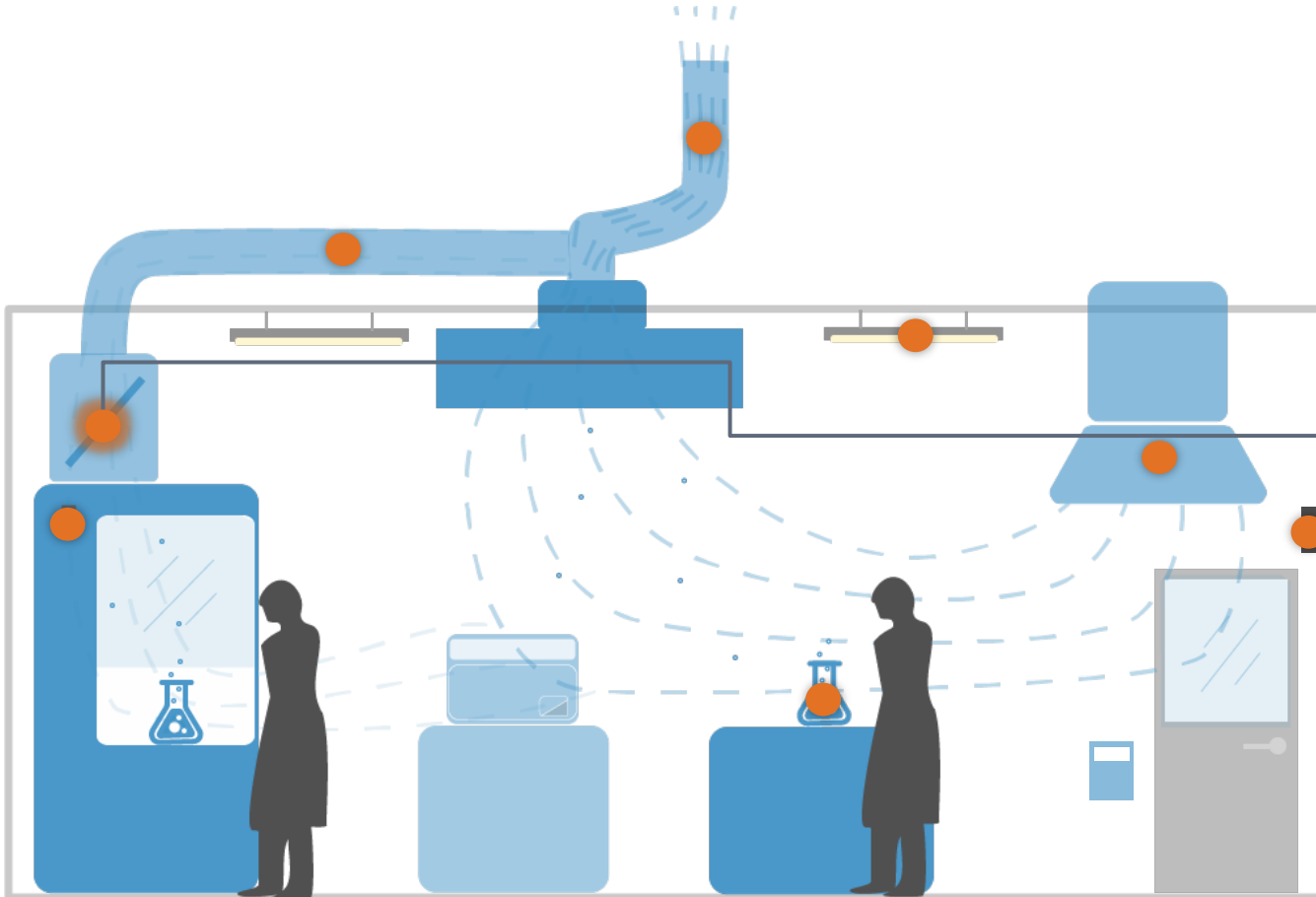


Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

NREL 10988

NREL 10985



NREL 19320

Air Volume Controls

Variable (VAV)

Comprised of **sensors, actuators, and flow dampers** to modulate flow.

Constant (CAV)

Provide a **constant flow of air** to satisfy the maximum demand.

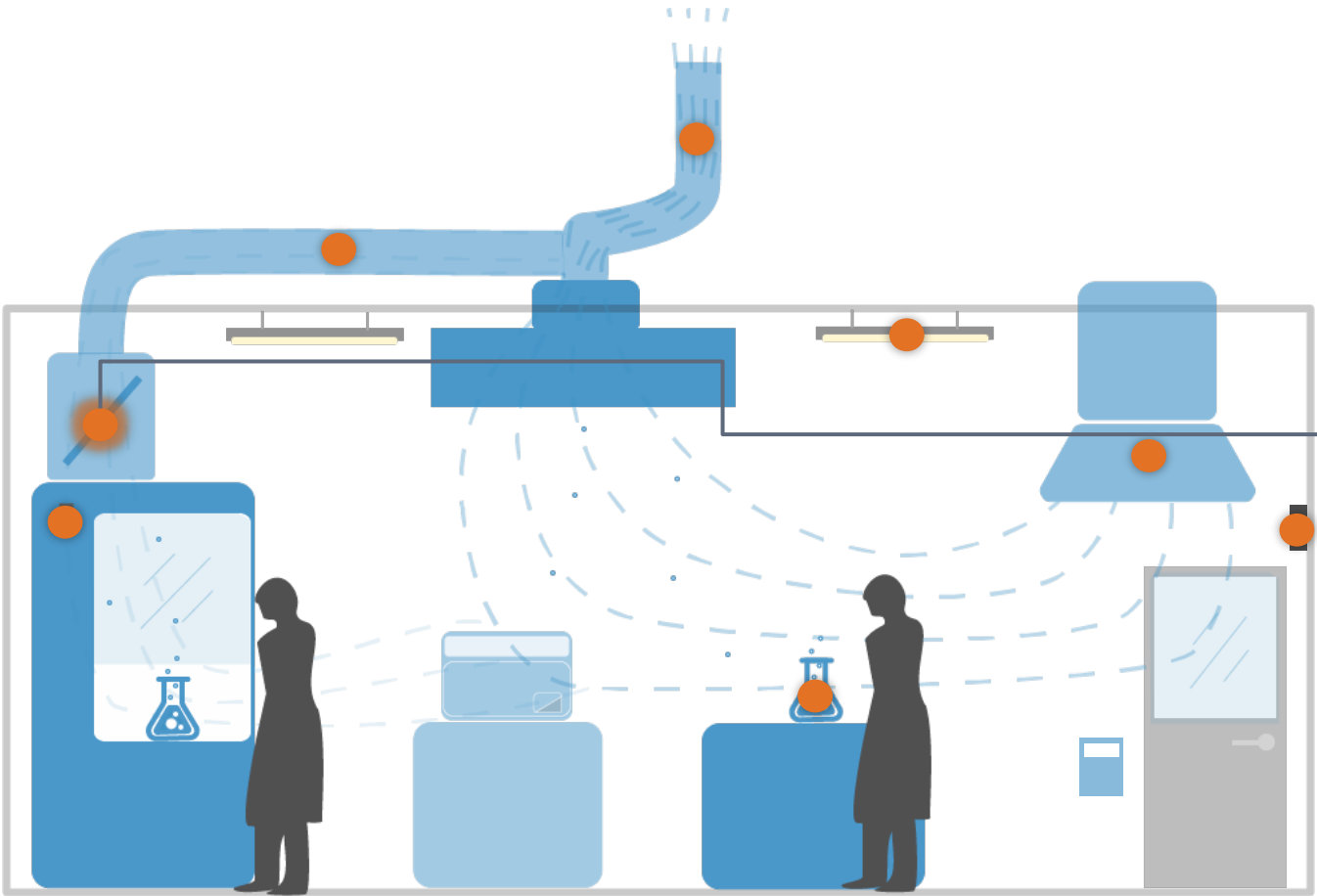
Ventilation Design Specifications



Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications



NREL 10988

NREL 10985



NREL 19320

Air Volume Controls	
<u>Variable (VAV)</u>	<u>Constant (CAV)</u>

Ventilation Design Specifications

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications

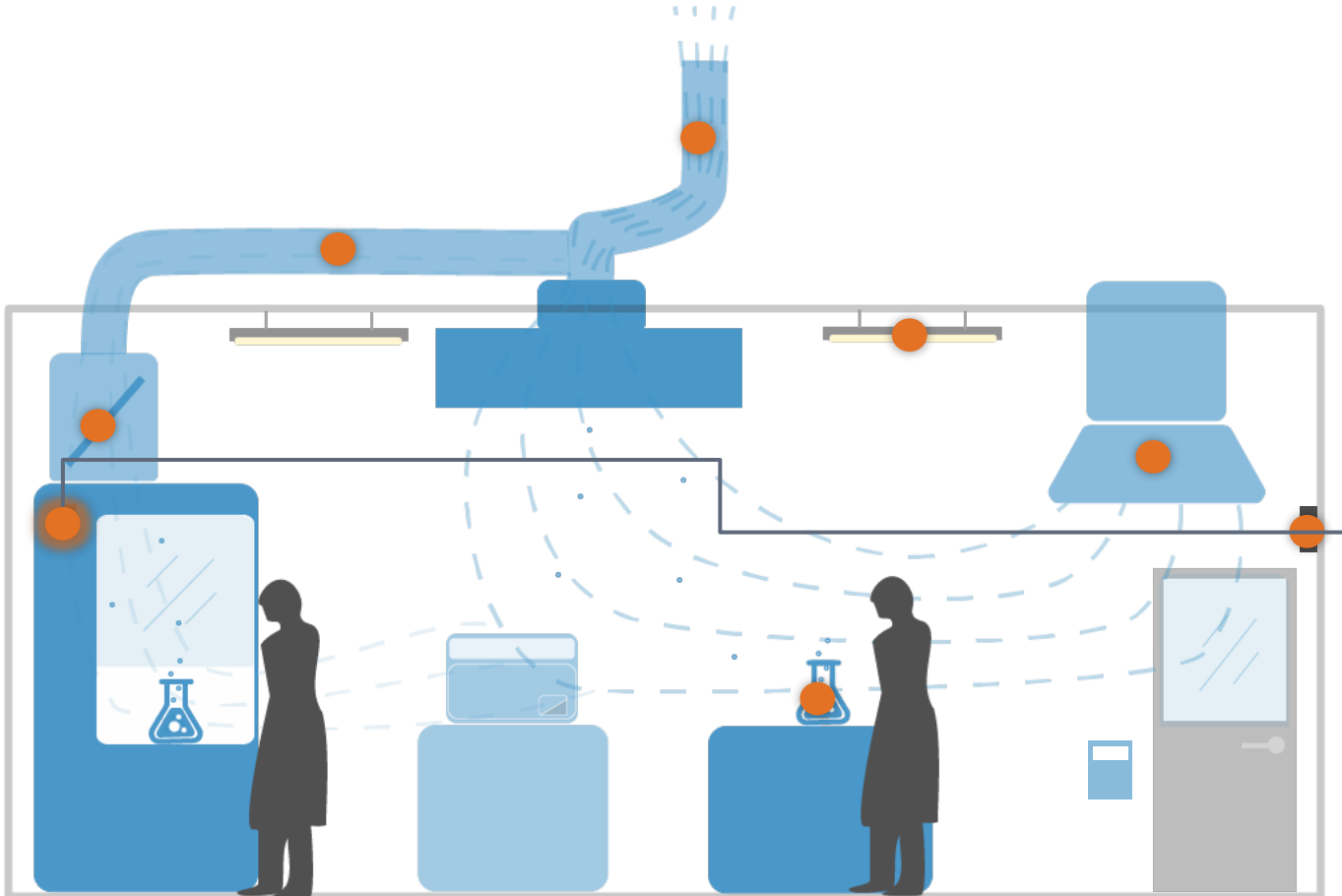


Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL



NREL 15436



NREL 70142

Exposure Control Devices

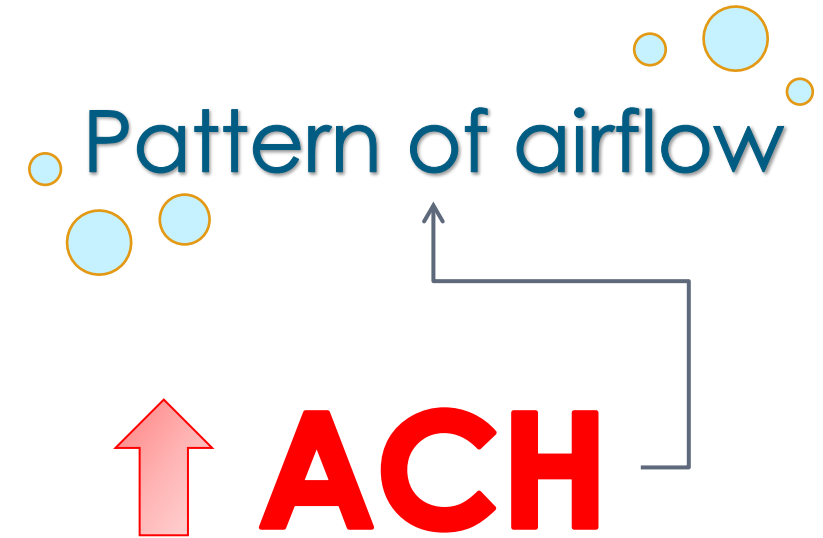
Assist with the **source capture of contaminants.**

- ✓ Decrease reliance on room dilution ventilation
- Document the **which** and **where?**

Ventilation Codes and Standards

Gather available system data

1. Understand Design Specifications

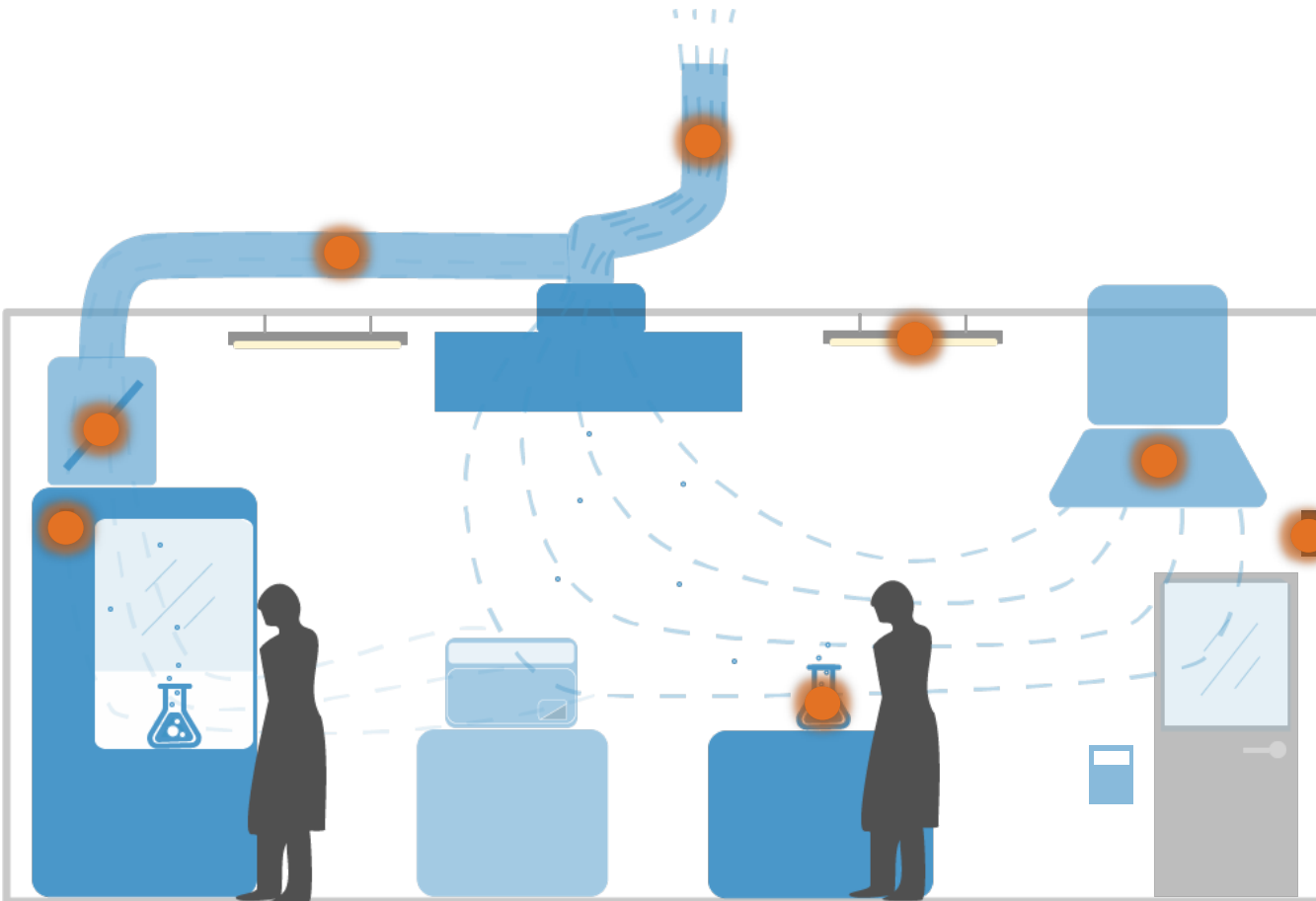


System Design and Operating Requirements

Must comply with mandatory provisions set by **related codes and standards**.

- ✓ Waivers granted for quantitative testing.

Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL



Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

Establish a Baseline

1. Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

Risk Level	Description
0	Negligible
1	Low
2	Moderate
3	High
4	Extreme

Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment (LVRA)

Method to provide ventilation designers and laboratory safety personnel with **a systematic, effective process to assess risk.**

Assessment Categories

- ✓ Type of hazards and procedures



NREL 36559

Establish a Baseline

1. Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

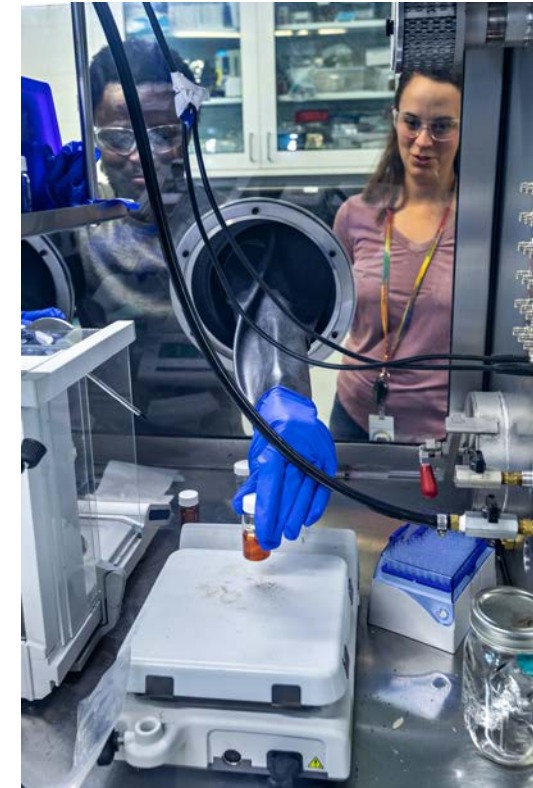
Risk Level	Description
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4	Extreme

Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment (LVRA)

Method to provide ventilation designers and laboratory safety personnel with **a systematic, effective process to assess risk.**

Assessment Categories

- ✓ Type of hazards and procedures
- ✓ Generation characteristics of each hazard
- ✓ Quantity of materials used or generated
- ✓ Frequency and duration of hazard generation
- ✓ Containment by exposure control devices



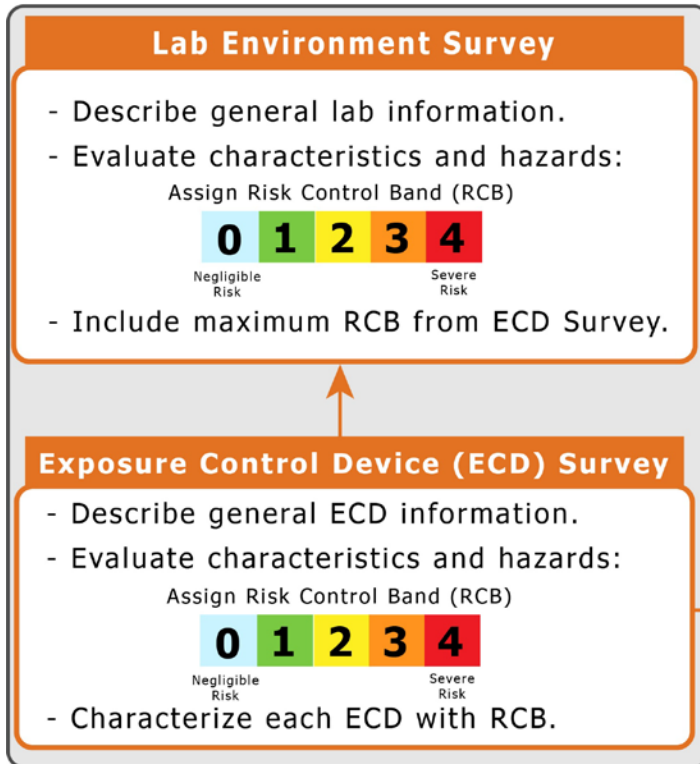
NREL 70139

Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

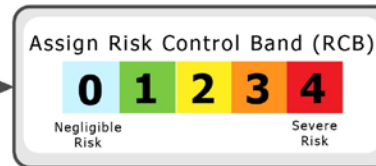
Establish a Baseline

1. Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

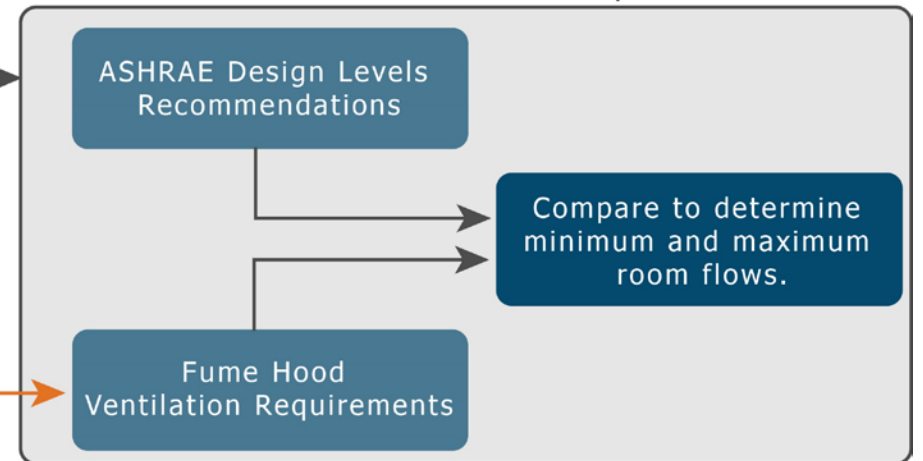
1. Perform Surveys



2. Characterize Overall Lab



3. Determine Ventilation Requirements



Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment Tool

White cells indicate information should be entered manually by the user.

Key
Gray cells contain calculated values.

Click here to select tolerance to risk from drop down.

Click "Add New ECD" to enter additional ECDs.

Lab Environment Survey

Lab ID#	Lab Description	Additional Notes/Comments	Lab Area (ft ²)	Lab Height (ft)	Lab Volume (ft ³)
[Enter Lab ID or room number here.]	[Enter a brief description of the lab being surveyed here.]	[Document notable characteristics and hazards here.]	[Enter Lab Floor Area Here]	[Enter lab height here]	Volume will be calculated here

ECD Survey

Add New ECD

Enter additional information for fume hoods here. These values are used to calculate required ventilation rates

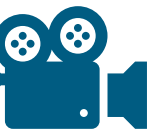
Survey Entry

Dropdown Details

ECD Band Calculation

Lab Env. Band Calculation

+



Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment Tool



The screenshot displays the LVRA Tool interface with three lab facility examples. Each example includes a photo of a person in a lab setting, a unique facility ID, and a user role label. The interface also shows various input fields and navigation tabs.

- Facility 1:** ID NREL 46866, photo of a woman with safety glasses, role: Facility and Research Staff.
- Facility 2:** ID NREL 56800, photo of a man in a hard hat and safety vest, role: Environmental Health & Safety Professionals.
- Facility 3:** ID NREL 1775, photo of a man in a hard hat and face covering, role: Industrial Hygienists.

Navigation tabs at the bottom: Summary, Survey Entry, Dropdown Details, ECD Band Calculation, Lab Env. Band Calculation, +

Each lab facility has its own unique hazards...

...use the LVRA Tool as a framework to get in the right direction.



Identify Improvement Measures



Develop a Scope of Work



Tips for Success



Start with an almost-Smart Lab.



Customize to your organization's processes.



Develop a plan for recurring LVRAs.

Assess Key Takeaways



Ventilation best practices in **laboratories are critical to reducing exposure** to hazards



Conducting a **ventilation risk assessment** is a **vital step** to ensuring staff safety



Determine the **right amount of ventilation** includes many considerations



Ventilation performance testing will **determine current airflows and improvements** for peak performance



Choose Your Own Adventure

Complete the Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment (LVRA)

Setting the Stage



Join Suzy, Energy Manager, and Phil, Industrial Hygienist, for a LVRA!



Note: This is a simplified example of an LVRA; there are more inputs into this analysis than reflected here.

Phil has completed the ECD Survey. He reports:

- ✓ The organization has a **medium** risk tolerance
- ✓ The **maximum RCB** for an exposure control device was 3 - moderate
- ✓ The exposure control devices (ECDs) are **appropriate** for the lab
- ✓ There are enough ECDs **available** in the lab.

Let's go!

Where would you like to go?

Chemistry Building

- Aging infrastructure
- Currently running at 8 ACH all the time
- 1000 ft² lab with 10 ft tall ceilings



Photo Credit: Rachel Romero, NREL

Life Sciences Building

- Brand new equipment and digital controls
- Currently running at 8 ACH all the time
- 1000 ft² lab with 10 ft tall ceilings

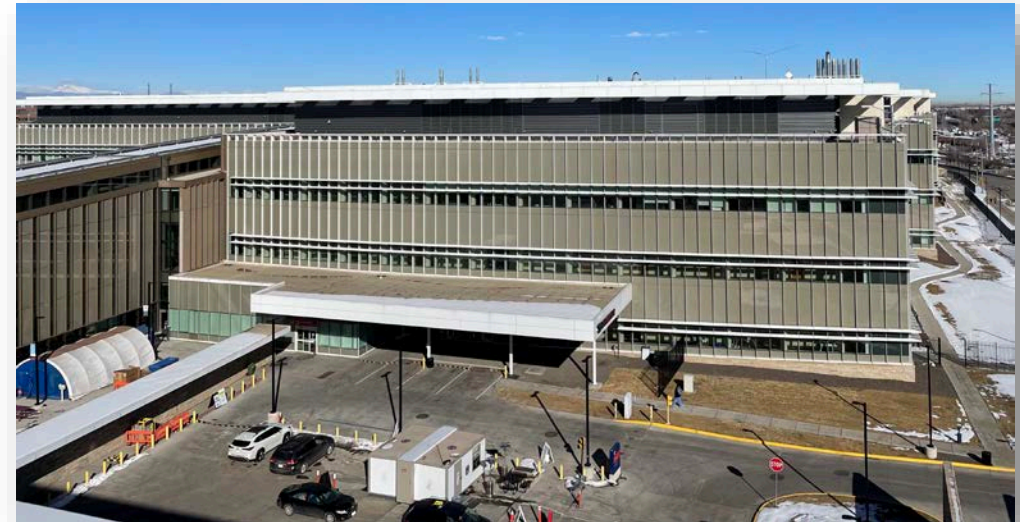
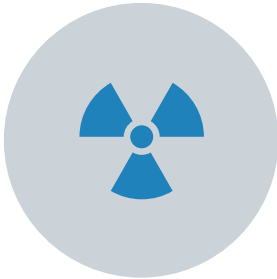


Photo Credit: Rachel Romero, NREL



Enter the Chemistry Lab



Peak hazard on the bench is calcium chloride with an exposure limit of 600 ppm



Aggregate volume of all hazards stored in the lab (excluding the fume hoods) is 25 grams



Research in the lab changes about once a month

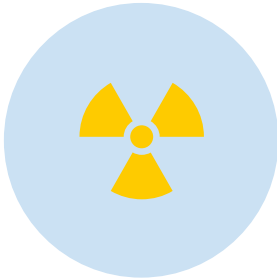


Researchers try to keep their lab in good condition, but many times it can get cluttered

How would you rate the risk level?

	Risk Level A	Risk Level B
Hazard Exposure	2 Moderate	0 Negligible
Quantity of Hazard	3 High	2 Moderate
Change and Housekeeping	0 Negligible	2 Moderate

Enter the Life Sciences Lab



Peak hazard on the bench is isopropyl alcohol with an exposure limit of 200 ppm



Aggregate volume of all hazards stored in the lab (excluding the fume hoods) is 12 liters



Research in the lab changes usually about once a year



Researchers keep the lab clean with only slight clutter

How would you rate the risk level?

	<u>Risk Level A</u>	<u>Risk Level B</u>
Hazard Exposure	2 Moderate	3 High
Quantity of Hazard	3 High	4 Extreme
Change and Housekeeping	1 Low	0 Negligible



Chemistry Lab with Calcium Chloride



Only a small number of small containers are seen in the workspace



The containers with calcium chloride are not located very close to an ECD



Researchers work with hazards on the benchtop manually and sometimes with a piece of equipment



Facility manager says the supply and exhaust have a 1.4 V^{EFF} (ventilation effectiveness) rating, considered moderately effective

How would you rate the risk level?

	<u>Risk Level A</u>	<u>Risk Level B</u>
Generation Potential	1 Low	3 High
Generation Location	3 High	2 Moderate
V^{EFF} & Generation Method	2 Moderate	1 Low

Chemistry Lab with Calcium Chloride



Only a small number of small containers are seen in the workspace



The containers with calcium chloride are not located very close to an ECD



Researchers work with hazards on the benchtop manually and sometimes with a piece of equipment



Facility manager says the supply and exhaust have a 1.4 V^{EFF} (ventilation effectiveness) rating, considered moderately effective

How would you rate the risk level?

	<u>Risk Level A</u>	<u>Risk Level B</u>
Generation Potential	1 Low	3 High
Generation Location	3 High	2 Moderate
V^{EFF} & Generation Method	2 Moderate	1 Low

Life Sciences Building with Isopropyl Alcohol



IPA has a low vapor pressure with a generation potential of 0.2 lpm



Most of the benchtop work with isopropyl alcohol is located very close to an ECD



Researchers manually work with hazards on the benchtop (no equipment)



Facility manager tells you the supply and exhaust have a V^{EFF} (ventilation effectiveness) rating of 1.2, considered effective

How would you rate the risk level?

	<u>Risk Level A</u>	<u>Risk Level B</u>
Generation Potential	2 Moderate	4 Extreme
Generation Location and Method	1 Low	2 Moderate
Ventilation Effectiveness	1 Low	0 Negligible

Life Sciences Building with Isopropyl Alcohol



IPA has a low vapor pressure with a generation potential of 0.2 lpm



Most of the benchtop work with isopropyl alcohol is located very close to an ECD



Researchers manually work with hazards on the benchtop (no equipment)

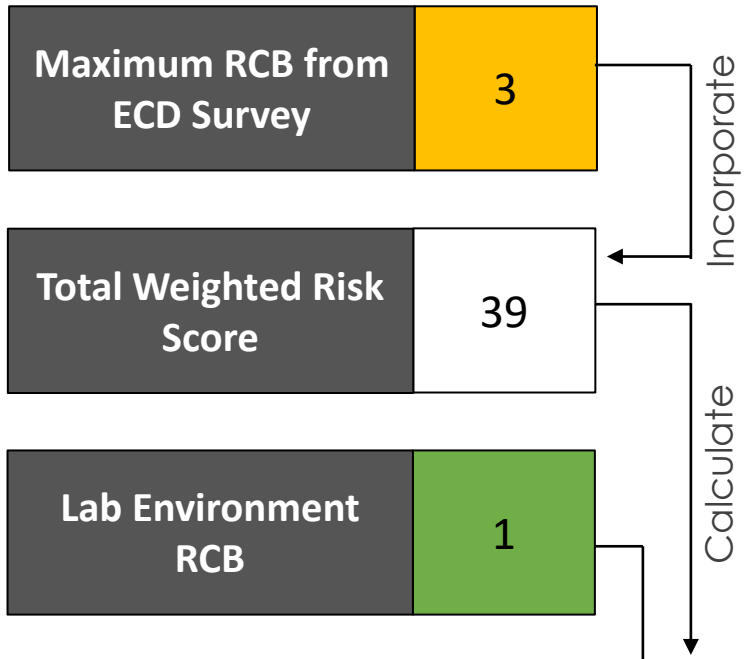
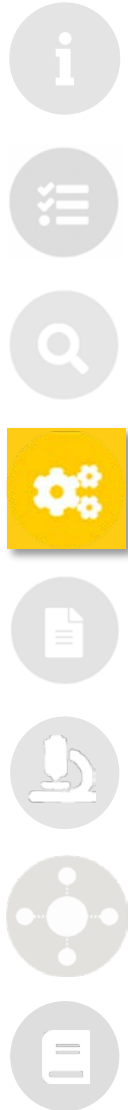


Facility manager tells you the supply and exhaust have a V^{EFF} (ventilation effectiveness) rating of 1.2, considered effective

How would you rate the risk level?

	Risk Level A	Risk Level B
Generation Potential	2 Moderate	4 Extreme
Generation Location and Method	1 Low	2 Moderate
Ventilation Effectiveness	1 Low	0 Negligible

Congratulations!!



Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

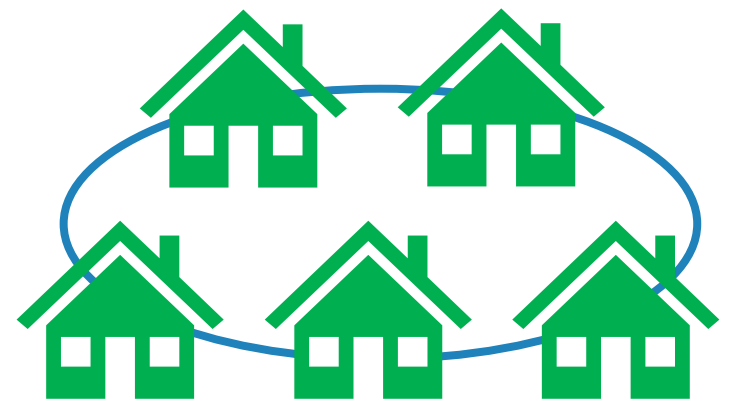
ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

The lab's new air change rate is now:

4 ACH Occupied & 2 ACH Unoccupied

In just one lab, you avoided...

63% of Energy Costs = \$4,387 per year

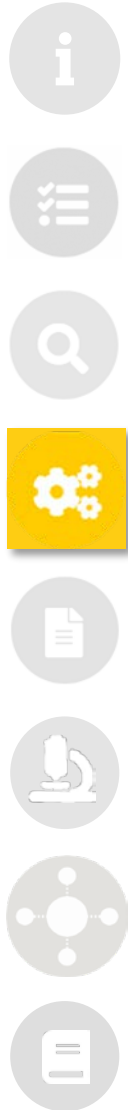


[What Now?](#)

[Return to Labs?](#)

[Managing Change?](#)

Uh-oh! Mistake Made Somewhere



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 63

Lab Environment RCB: 2

Incorporate

Calculate

The lab's new air change rate is now:

6 ACH Occupied & 3 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

34% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$1,300 per year**

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160



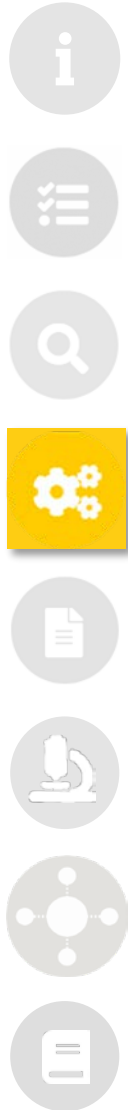
[What Now?](#)

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ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

Uh-oh! Mistake Made Somewhere



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: **3**

Total Weighted Risk Score: **57**

Lab Environment RCB: **2**

Incorporate

Calculate

The lab's new air change rate is now:

6 ACH Occupied & 3 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

34% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$1,300 per year**

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

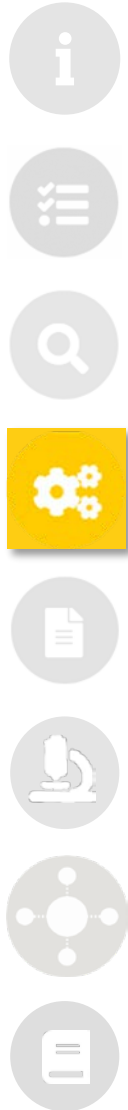


[What Now?](#)

[Return to Labs?](#)

[Managing Change?](#)

Oof! Multiple Mistakes Made



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 81

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

50% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$2,600 per year**

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160



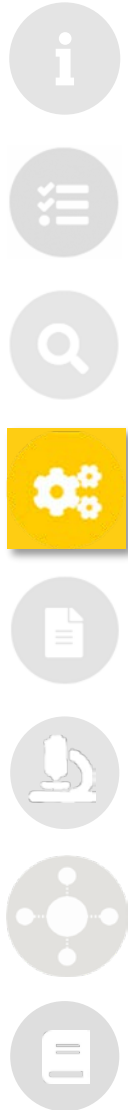
[What Now?](#)

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ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

Congratulations!!



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey **3**

Total Weighted Risk Score **70**

Lab Environment RCB **2**

Incorporate

Calculate

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

The lab's new air change rate is now:

6 ACH Occupied & 3 ACH Unoccupied

In just one lab, you avoided...

44% of Energy Costs = \$3,071 per year

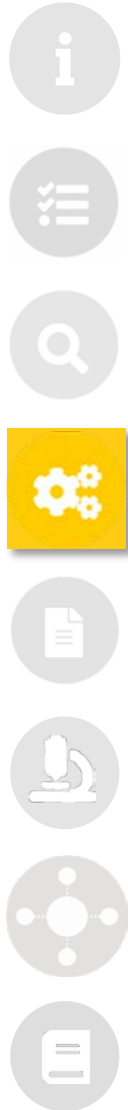


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Uh-oh! Mistake Made Somewhere



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 83

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

25% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$1,300 per year**

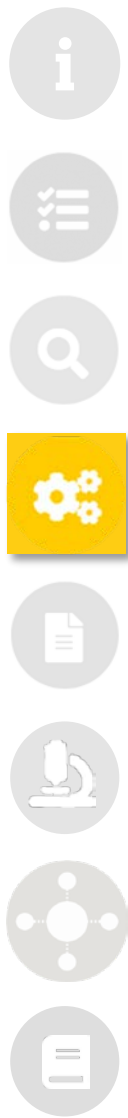


What Now?

Return to Labs?

Managing Change?

Uh-oh! Mistake Made Somewhere



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 94

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

25% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$1,300 per year**

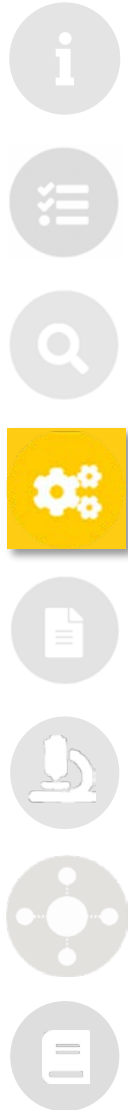


What Now?

Return to Labs?

Managing Change?

Oof! Multiple Mistakes Made



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 107

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

Close! Not quite...

25% more energy than necessary = Waste **\$1,300 per year**

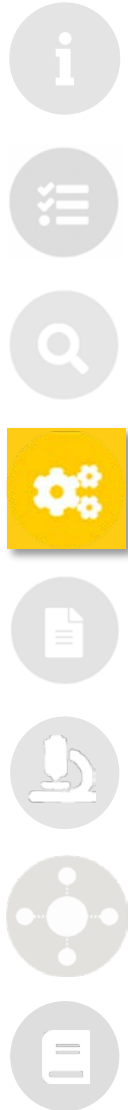


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Managing Change



A couple months go by when the researchers from the chemistry lab come back to you, Suzy, and Phil.

They want to use **dichloroethylene** in an upcoming experiment.

If everything else at the lab remains the same....

How would you rate this new risk level?

Assessment Categories	
Hazard Exposure	?
Quantity	2
Generation Rate or Potential	1
Generation Method	2
Generation Location	3
Change Dynamics	2
Housekeeping	2
Ventilation Effectiveness	2

	Risk Level A	Risk Level B
Hazard Exposure	2 Moderate	3 High

Managing Change



A couple months go by when the researchers from the life sciences lab come back to you, Suzy, and Phil.



They want to use **dichloroethylene** in an upcoming experiment.



If everything else at the lab remains the same....



How would you rate this new risk level?



Assessment Categories	
Hazard Exposure	?
Quantity	3
Generation Rate or Potential	2
Generation Method	1
Generation Location	1
Change Dynamics	1
Housekeeping	1
Ventilation Effectiveness	1

	Risk Level A	Risk Level B
Hazard Exposure	2 Moderate	3 High

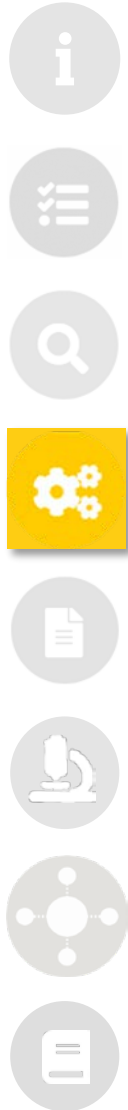
Congratulations!!

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

...since a level-3 carcinogen has been introduced to the lab.

Improved safety



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 81

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

Remember the weight

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
TL. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

Evaluation Criteria	Weight Multiple
Hazard	14
Quantity	2
Potential or Rate of Generation	12

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ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

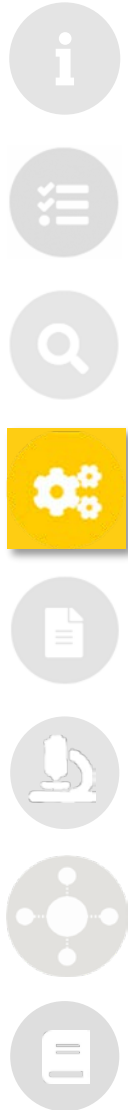
Congratulations!!

The lab's new air change rate is now:

8 ACH Occupied & 4 ACH Unoccupied

...since a level-3 carcinogen has been introduced to the lab.

Improved safety



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 84

Lab Environment RCB: 3

Incorporate

Calculate

Remember the weight

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

Evaluation Criteria	Weight Multiple
Hazard	14
Quantity	2
Potential or Rate of Generation	12

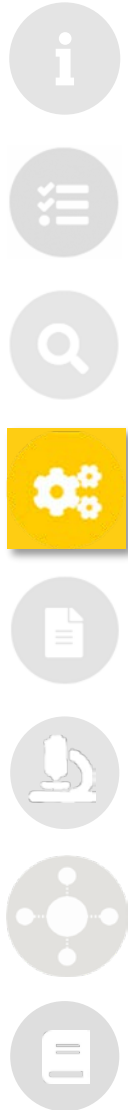
[What Now?](#)

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[Try Again?](#)

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

Uh oh! Mistake Made



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey: 3

Total Weighted Risk Score: 70

Lab Environment RCB: 2

Incorporate

Calculate

The lab's air change rate remains at:

6 ACH Occupied & 3 ACH Unoccupied

...even though a level-3 carcinogen has been introduced to the lab.



Remember the weight

✗ Less safety

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
TL. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

Evaluation Criteria	Weight Multiple
Hazard	14
Quantity	2
Potential or Rate of Generation	12

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ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

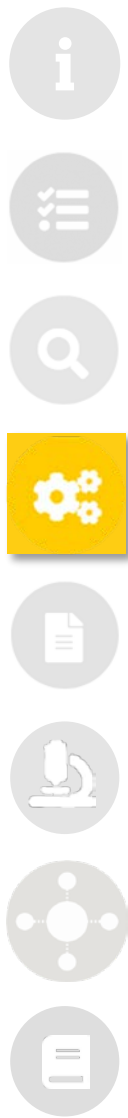
Uh oh! Mistake Made

The lab's new air change rate is now:

6 ACH Occupied & 3 ACH Unoccupied

...but a level-3 carcinogen has been introduced to the lab.

✗ Less safety



Maximum RCB from ECD Survey **3**

Total Weighted Risk Score **67**

Lab Environment RCB **2**

Incorporate

Calculate



Remember the weight

Risk Control Band	0	1	2	3	4
Occupied ACH Recommended	1.7	4	6	8	10
Unoccupied ACH Recommended	1.7	2	3	4	10
Tl. Weighted Risk Score	0-24	25-52	53-80	81-108	109-160

Evaluation Criteria	Weight Multiple
Hazard	14
Quantity	2
Potential or Rate of Generation	12

[What Now?](#)

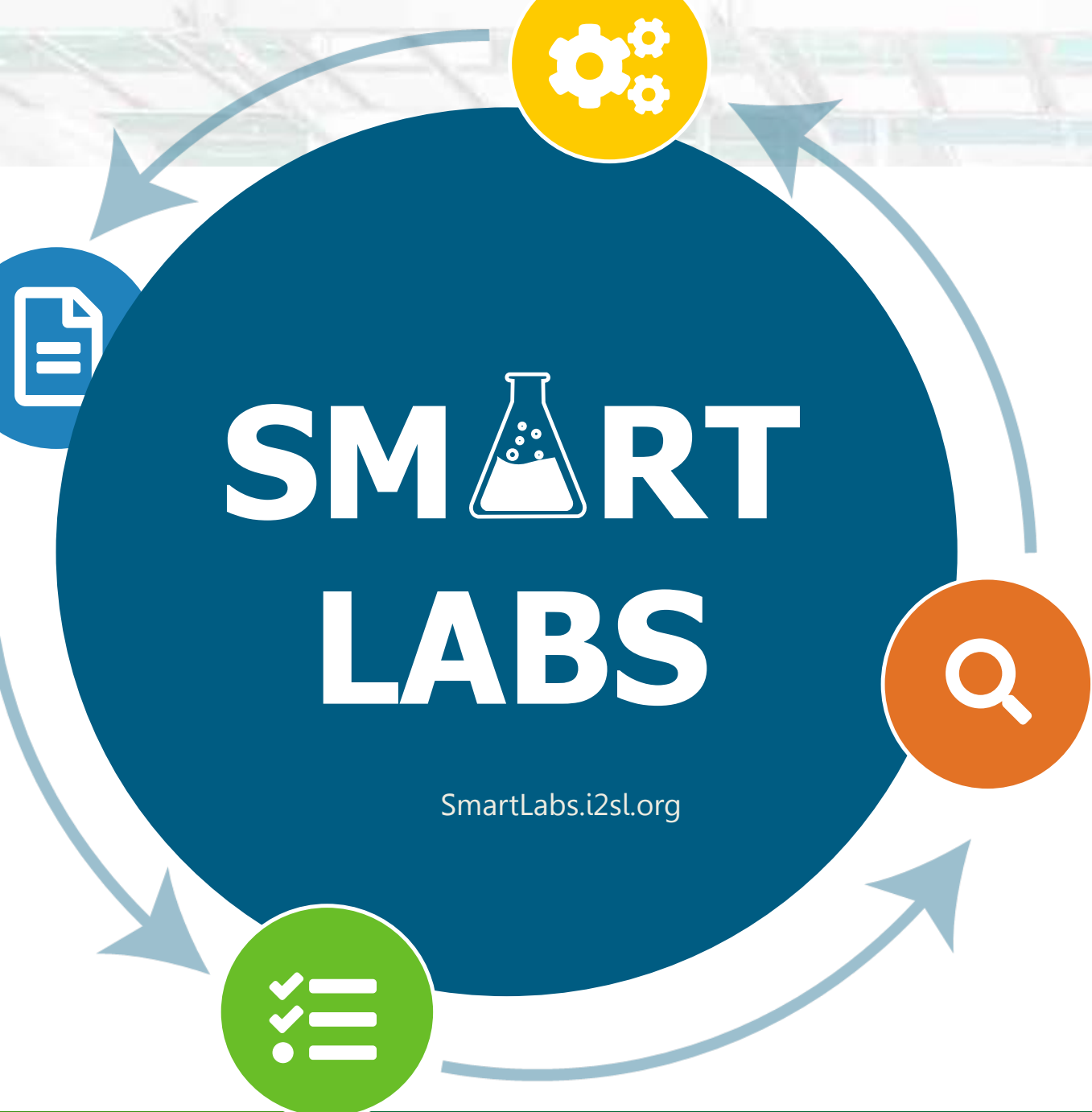
[Return to Labs?](#)

[Try Again?](#)

ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Design Levels

Optimize – Coming Soon









Assess

Conduct an Energy,
Water, and Resilience
Assessment

Execute an Energy Assessment

Gather available system data

1. Energy Consumption Data
2. Water Consumption Data

-  HVAC systems
-  Lighting
-  Plug loads
-  Controls



Execute an Energy Assessment

Gather available system data

1. Energy Consumption Data
2. Water Consumption Data



HVAC systems

- ✓ Account for:
 - ✓ 45 – 85% of total energy use
 - ✓ 40% construction cost.
- ✓ Collect nameplate data
- ✓ Conduct a performance test
- ✓ Visually inspect for maintenance issues



NREL 63094



Execute an Energy Assessment

Gather available system data

1. Energy Consumption Data
2. Water Consumption Data

Plug loads

Refers to **any energy** used by **equipment** that is **plugged into an outlet**.

- ✓ Which devices?
- ✓ How much?

- ✓ Water baths
- ✓ Ice machines
- ✓ Centrifuges
- ✓ Microscopes
- ✓ Computers
- ✓ ...and more!

On average, a conventional ultra-low temperate (ULT) freezer uses **20 kWh of energy per day**.

- ✓ Metering and utility bill data
- ✓ Data plate information
- ✓ Document the **age** of the equipment



NREL 27375



NREL 46053



Execute an Energy Assessment

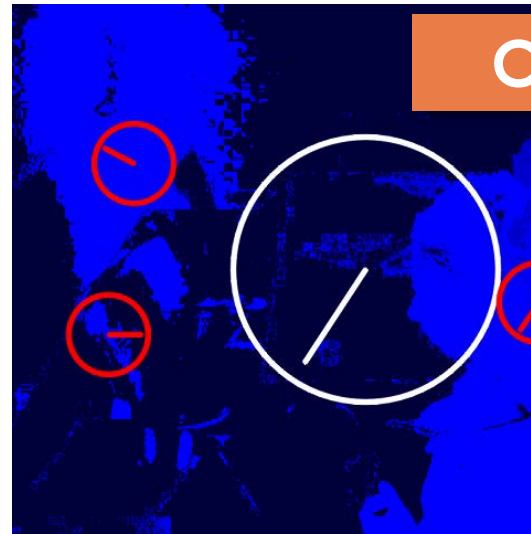


Gather available system data

1. Energy Consumption Data
2. Water Consumption Data



NREL 27415



NREL 500056

Controls

Devices that help laboratory facility managers monitor the building's current set of conditions.

Devices that are essential to a building automation system (BAS), so that the right energy is supplied at the right time.

Occupancy sensors:

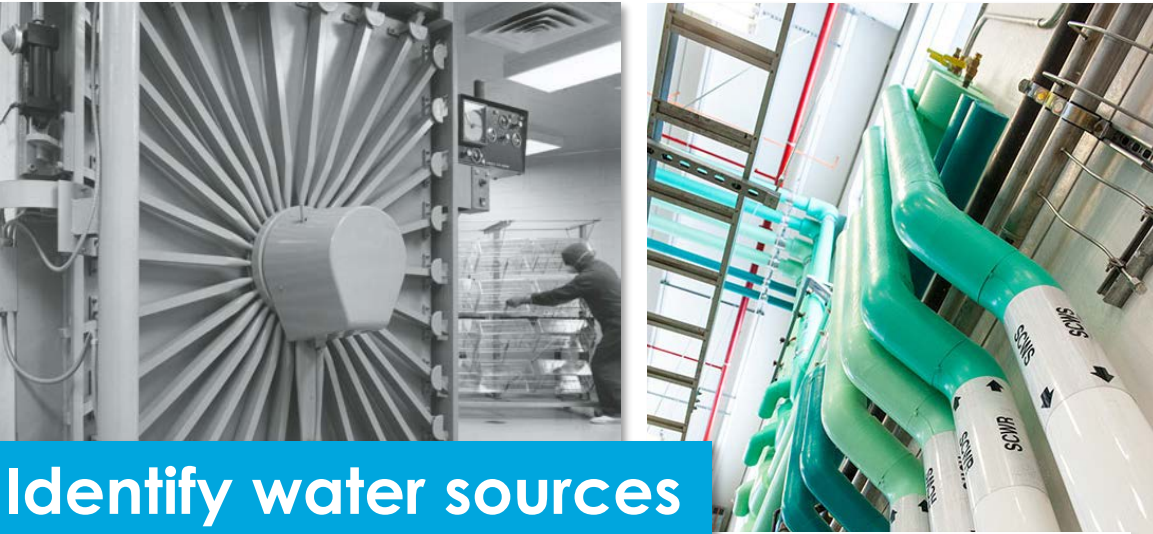
- ✓ Fume hood velocity
- ✓ Lighting

Execute a Water Assessment

Gather available system data

1. Energy Consumption Data
2. Water Consumption Data

PNNL 2016



Identify water sources

- ✓ Larger cooling and process loads
- ✓ Operation of specialized equipment (autoclaves, glasswashers)

Dennis Schroeder / NREL



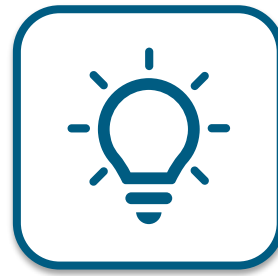
Execute a Resilience Assessment

Gather available system data

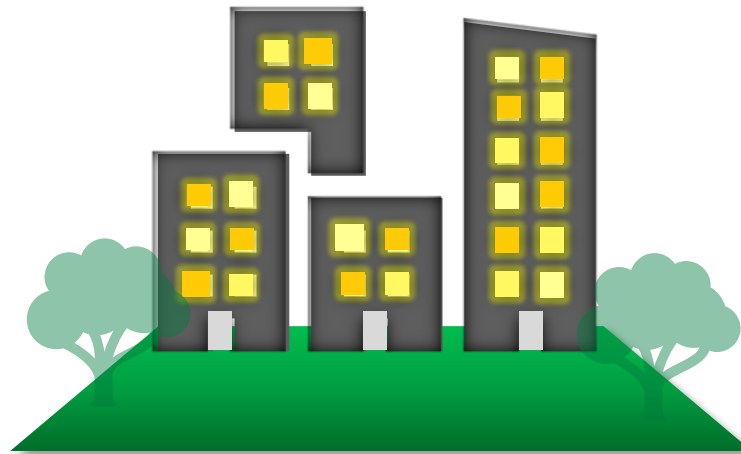
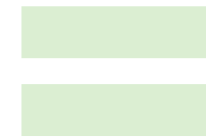
1. Vulnerability Assessment



Resilience



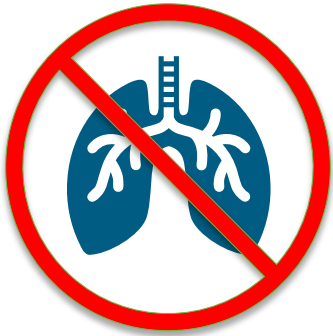
Efficiency



Execute a Resilience Assessment

Gather available system data

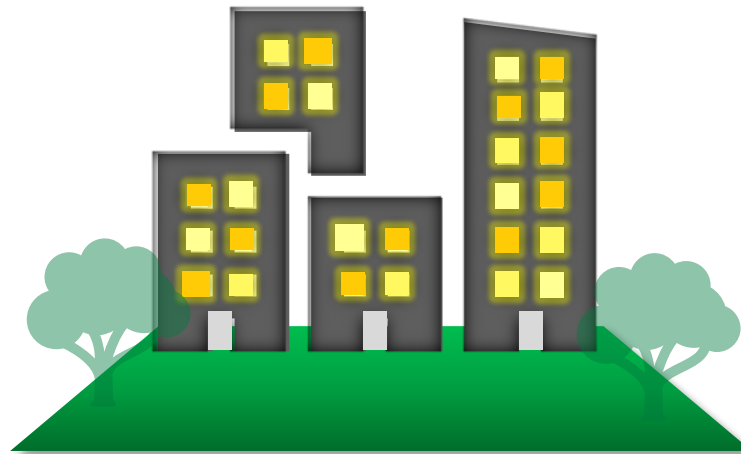
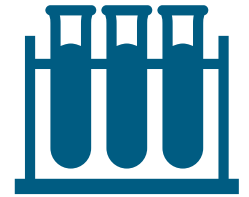
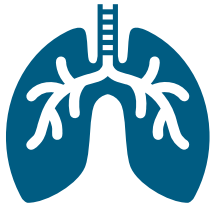
1. Vulnerability Assessment



Execute a Resilience Assessment

Gather available system data

1. Vulnerability Assessment





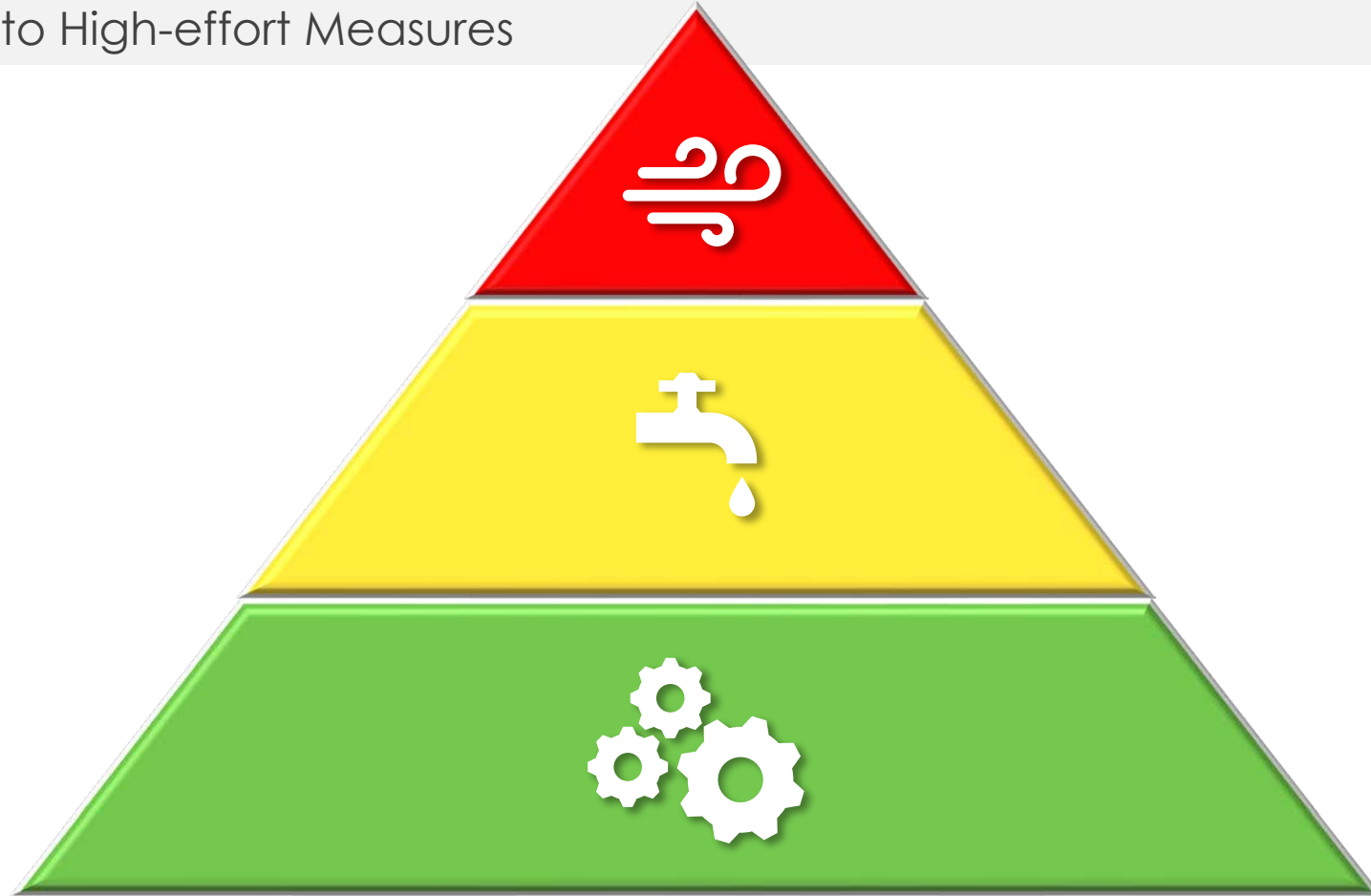
Assess

Develop a Scope of Work



Identify Improvement Measures

1. Low-effort to High-effort Measures





Identify Improvement Measures

1. Low-effort to High-effort Measures

Be Safe. Save Energy.

Shut the Sash

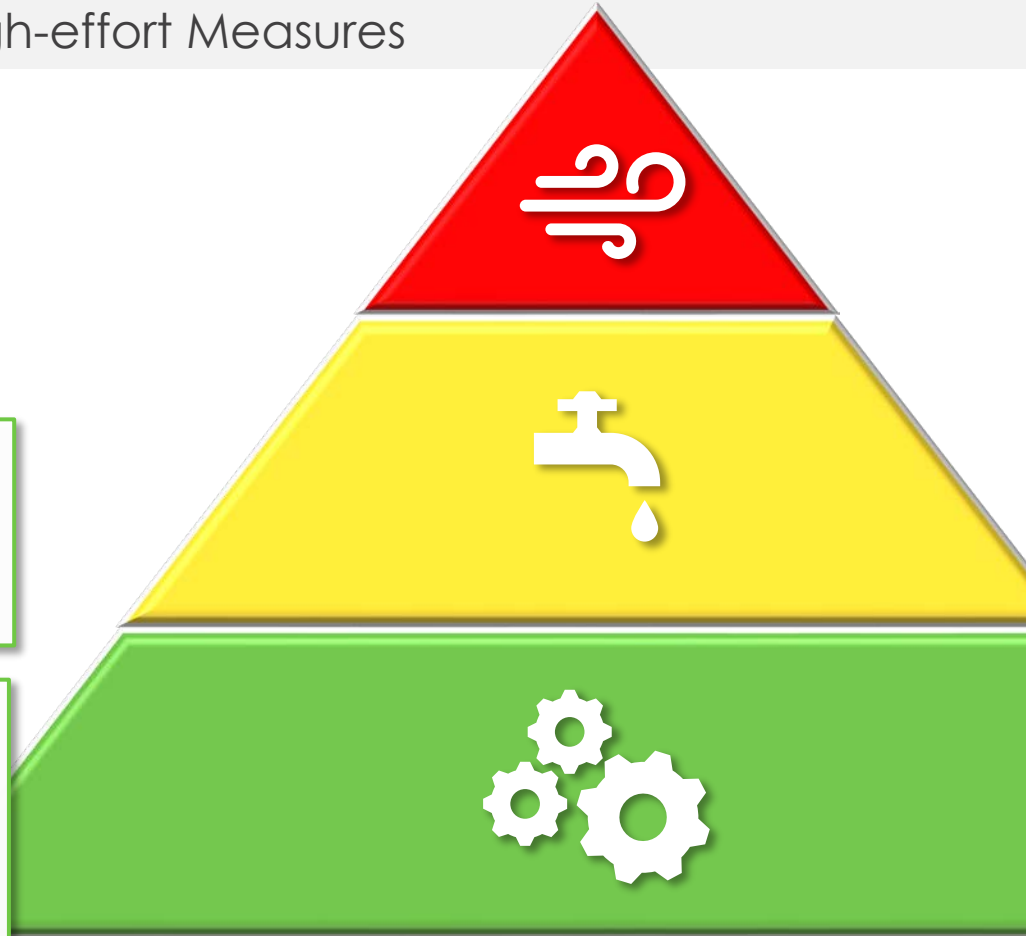
An open fume hood wastes **\$1,100** in energy per year – roughly the amount needed for an entire home.

Protect yourself, keep the hood as low as comfortable, and SHUT THE SASH when not in use.

Colorado School of Mines

✓ **Calibrate** building automation system, airflow controls, and system sensors

✓ **Challenge** operation of systems, such as lab environment, exposure control devices, and fume hood controls



✓ **Adjust flow and calibrate** all terminals and flow control components

✓ **Modify** setpoints and operating specifications to **optimize HVAC systems**

Low Effort





Identify Improvement Measures

1. Low-effort to High-effort Measures

✓ **Upgrade** lab lights to efficient LED lighting

✓ **Install** high-efficiency aerators

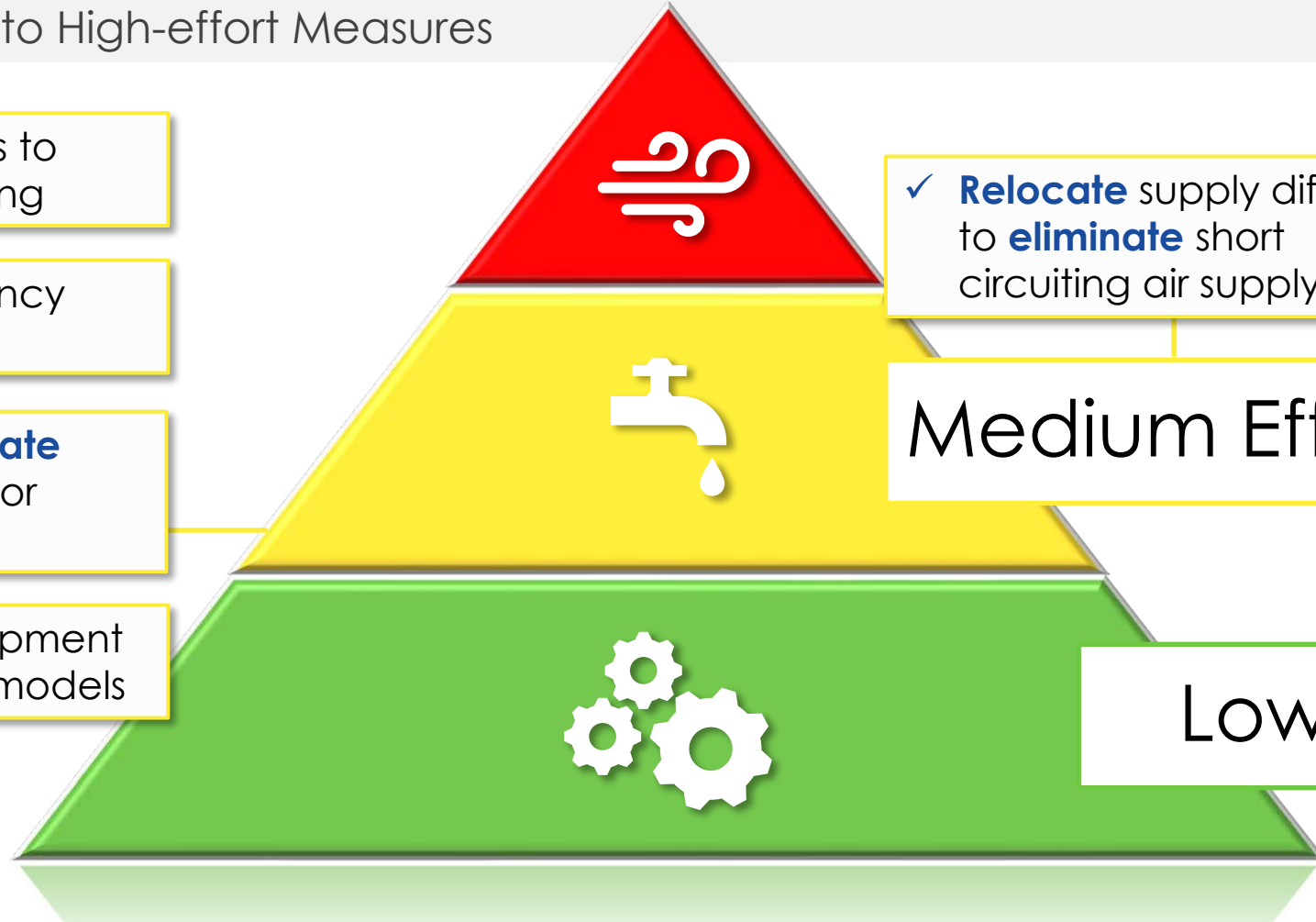
✓ **Remove or hibernate** hoods, canopies, or snorkels

✓ **Upgrade** lab equipment to more efficient models

✓ **Relocate** supply diffusers to **eliminate** short circuiting air supply

Medium Effort

Low Effort





Identify Improvement Measures

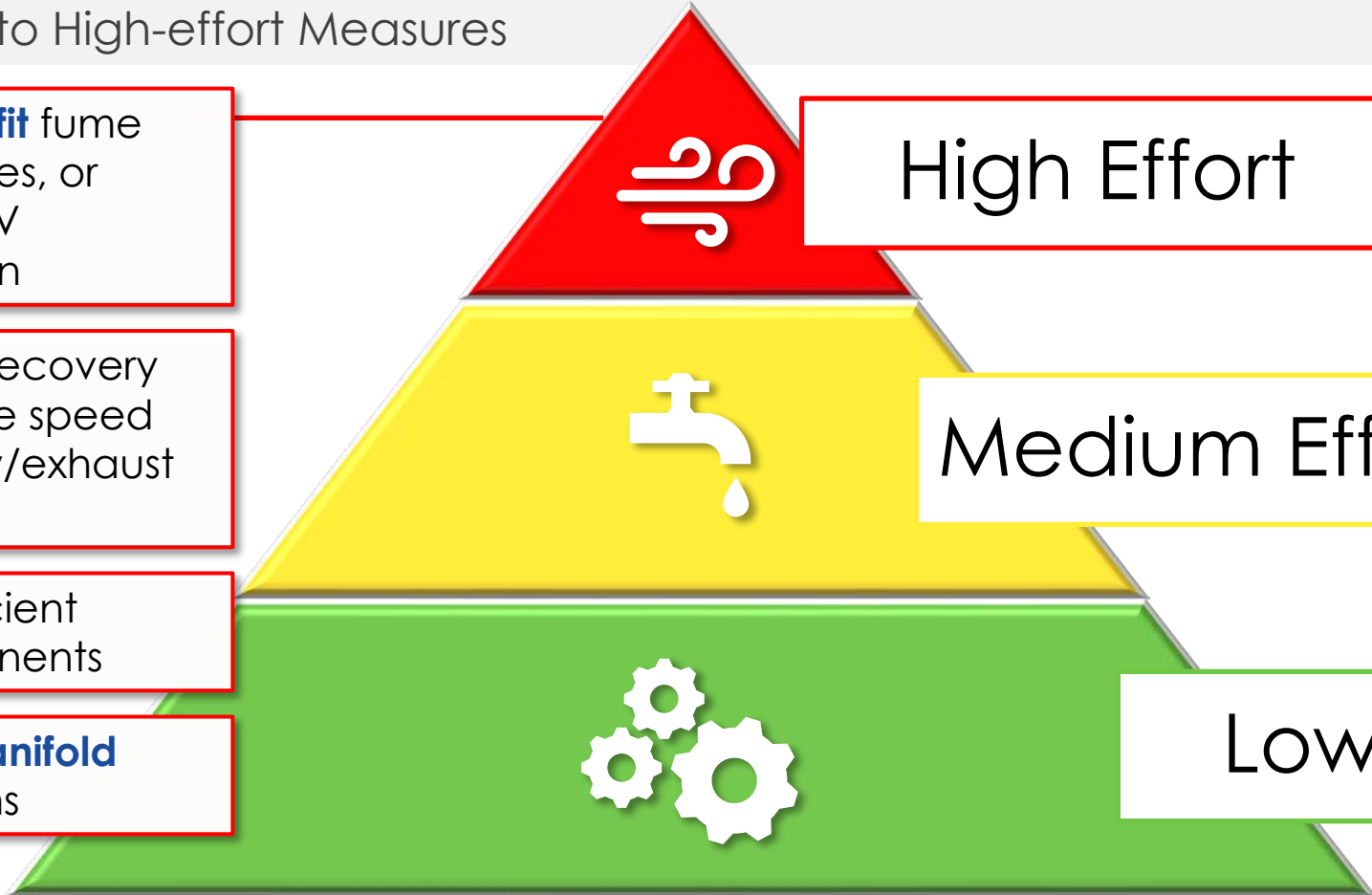
1. Low-effort to High-effort Measures

✓ **Modify or retrofit** fume hoods, canopies, or snorkels for VAV implementation

✓ **Install** energy recovery and/or variable speed drives in supply/exhaust systems

✓ **Replace** inefficient system components

✓ **Upgrade or manifold** exhaust systems



High Effort

Medium Effort

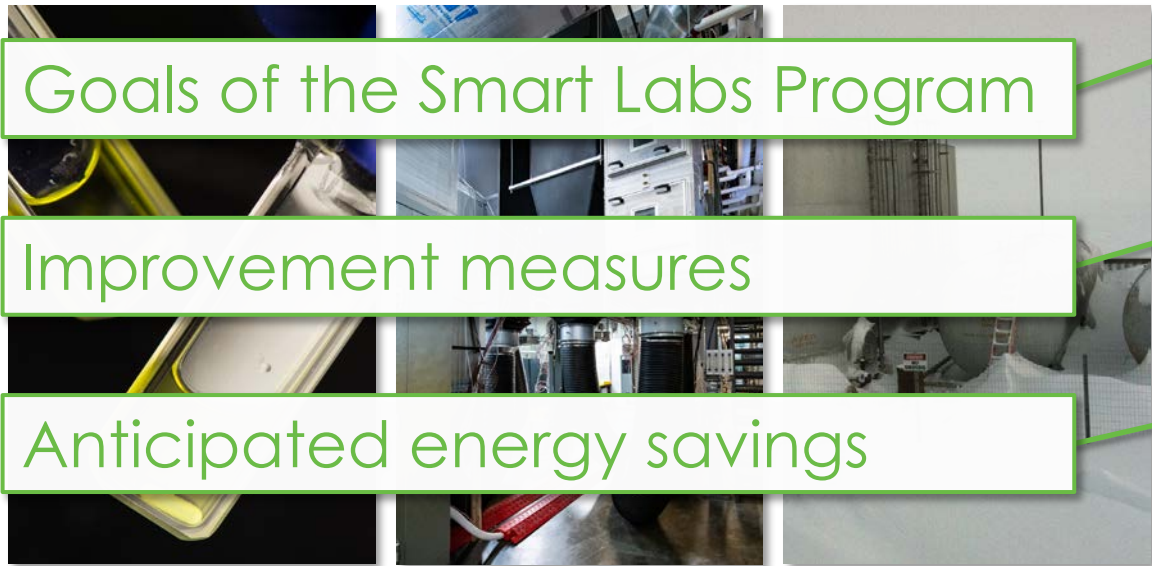
Low Effort



Develop a Scope of Work

1. Components to a Scope of Work
2. Economics of Measures

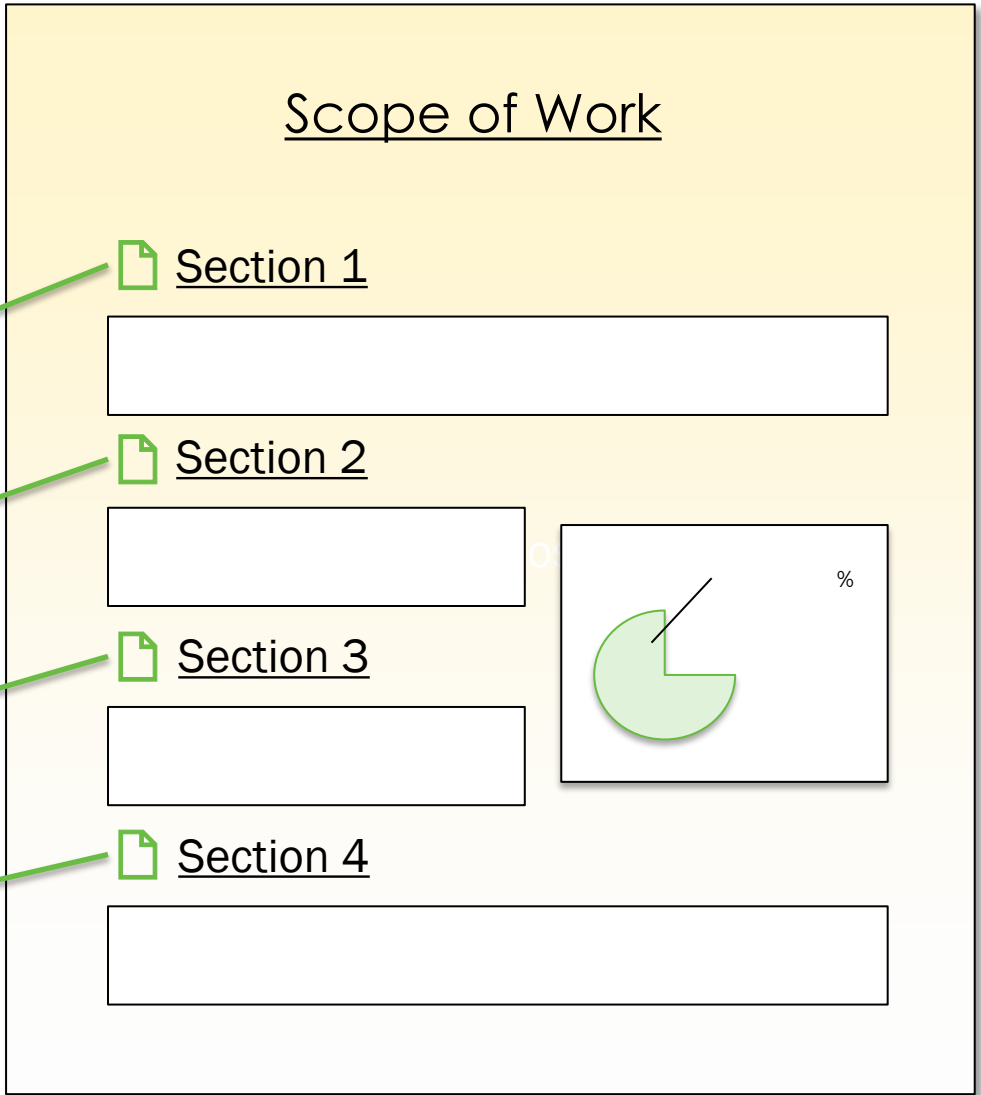
Results from systems assessment



Goals of the Smart Labs Program

Improvement measures

Anticipated energy savings



Argonne National Laboratory Incorporates a Smart Labs Program



ANL enhanced existing campus-wide sustainability efforts with new resources and a network of laboratory partners

2017

ANL launched a pilot of its retro commissioning program

2018

ANL joined the SLA, a DOE program committed to the adoption of best practices

2019

Foundation set by ANL's existing sustainability infrastructure for its Smart Labs program

Assess Key Takeaways



Verify performance of all building systems



Integrate energy security systems to strengthen lab capabilities



Incorporate labs into resilience planning



Develop scope of work to optimize building systems



Smart Labs

Optimize

The Smart Labs Process

Assess

- Conduct in-depth audits of laboratory buildings
- Focus on the ventilation systems
- Develop a scope of work for system optimization

Plan

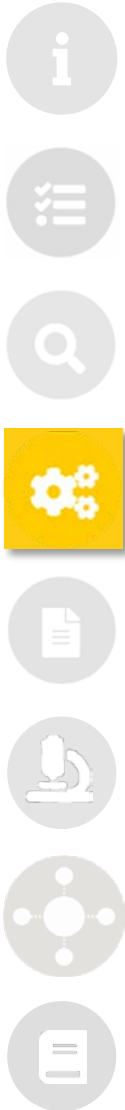
- Build a team of lab stakeholders
- Profile buildings to prioritize efforts
- Develop a strategic plan for cost-effective implementation

Optimize

- Execute meaningful projects with demonstrable payback
- Develop a building management plan outlining dynamic management to further optimize operations



Implement Improvement Measures



LBNL XBD200002-002333-02



LBNL XBD200406-00269-04

Low Effort



NREL 75785 & NREL 75726

Examples

- ✓ Modify HVAC setpoints
- ✓ Calibrate building automation systems
- ✓ Adjust air flow controls
- ✓ Tune operational systems



Implement Improvement Measures

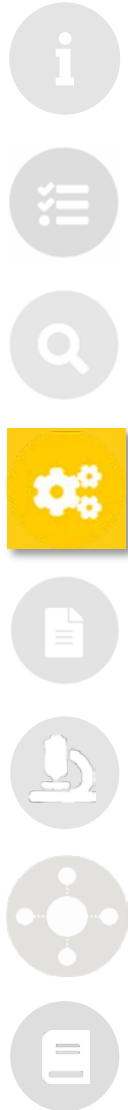
Medium Effort

- ✓ **Efficient** LED lighting, including LED microscopy
- ✓ **High-efficiency** faucet aerators
- ✓ **Upgrade** lab equipment (autoclaves, freezers)
- ✓ **Remove** hibernate hoods, canopies, or snorkels
- ✓ **Relocate** supply diffusers to eliminate short circuiting

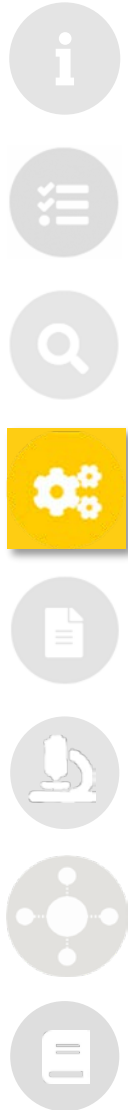
High Effort

- ✓ Fume hoods, canopies, or **VAV snorkels**
- ✓ VAV controls and **demand control ventilation**
- ✓ Energy recovery or **variable fan drives**
- ✓ Inefficient system **replacement**
- ✓ **Upgrade or manifold** exhaust stack and fan systems

LENL XBD20002-00233-02



Optimize: Alternative Financing



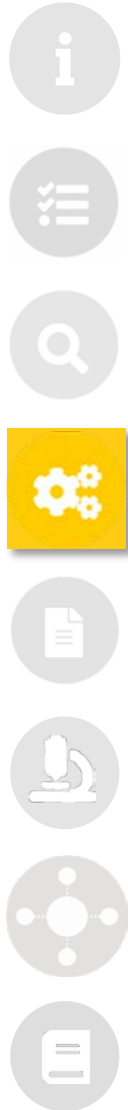
Alternative Financing

- When traditional funding does not exist:
 - ✓ Third party financing strategies
 - ✓ Public-Private Partnerships
 - ✓ Alternative Procurement Methods

Project Funding

- + Up-front Capital or Internal Funding
- + Federal and State Incentives
- + Bonds
- + Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs)
- + Utility Energy Services Contracts (UESCs)
- + Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)

Project Funding Sources



Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC)

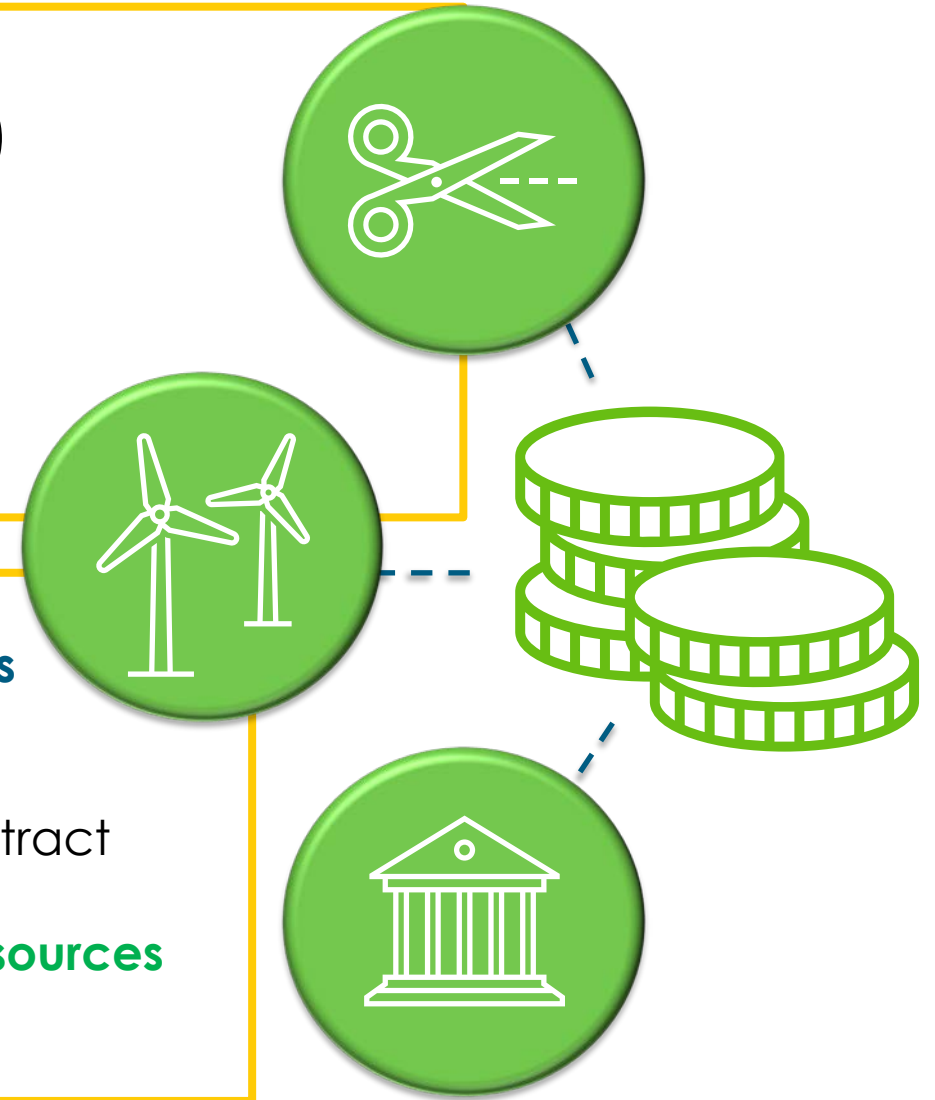
- Partnership with energy savings company (ESCO)
- An ESCO:
 - ✓ **Constructs** energy-reduction projects
 - ✓ **Conducts** comprehensive energy audit
 - ✓ **Arranges** necessary financing for project
 - ✓ **Guarantees** energy savings



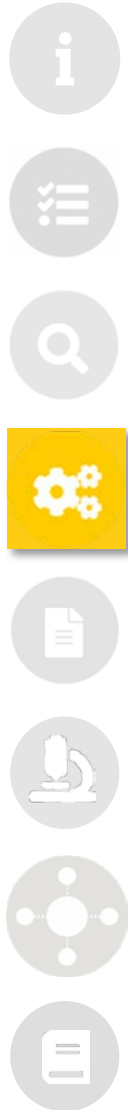
NREL 48962

Utility Energy Savings Contract (UESC)

- Performance contract with utility
- Save **time and resources**



Basic Beginning ESPC Process Steps



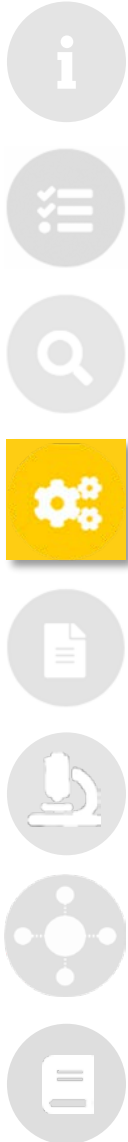
The agency or site puts their team together to decide their goals and acquisition strategy



If the acquisition is ESPC, use NOO (Notice of Opportunity) as a starting point to capture facility description, project goals and requirements



ESCO is then selected and then the Preliminary Assessment begins with agency support



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
 Clear All Forms

ESCO Selector

[Home](#) | [1 Notice & Invitation](#) | [2 Facility Overview](#) | [3 Objectives](#) | [4 ESCO Selection](#) | [5 Required Submittals](#) | [6 Evaluation Factors](#) | [7 Submittal Instructions](#) | [8 Evaluation Criteria](#)

ESCO Selector

This tool helps agencies create an NOO that complies with federal requirements and meets agency needs. It is a standard NOO template that is easily tailored via the tool. The tool produces an NOO in Word format that is further editable as needed. The tool also generates an editable NOO response evaluation form that incorporates the evaluation factors.

Get started:

- Click the "Start Now" button below or "1 Notice and Invitation" in the menu.
- Proceed by completing the seven sections of the NOO in the menu.
- Finish by selecting the "Download Documents" option desired. The current document will be downloaded.

Note that the form fields will stay populated within your browser session.

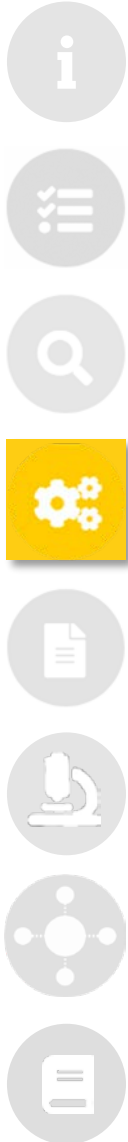
Start Now »

U.S. Department of Energy: ESCO Selector Tool

- A tool that helps agencies create a **Notice of Opportunity (NOO)** that complies with federal requirements
 - ✓ Seven Sections of NOO tool
 - ✓ Various templates available for NOO drafting
 - ✓ Easily tailored

Visit esco-selector.ornl.gov

Select Building Type as Laboratory (Step 2)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Download Documents -

ESCO Selector

Home 1 Notice & Invitation **2 Facility Overview** 3 Objectives 4 ESCO Selection 5 Required Submittals 6 Evaluation Factors 7 Submittal Instructions 8 Evaluation Criteria

2 Facility Overview

Section 2 is required information about the project site, facility types the agency is considering, and a summary of site utility usage.

FILL IN THE FIELDS TO POPULATE THE NOO

2.1 Agency Mission Statement

Mission Text:

2.2 Facility Information [See Example facility description »](#)

Facility Description:

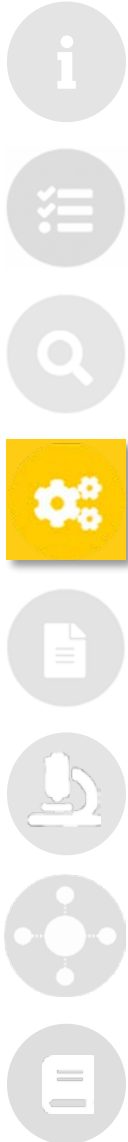
2.2.1 Federal Building/Facility Types

(To select more than one option in the list: for Windows or Linux CTRL+click each item, for Mac Cmd+Click)

Select Building Types:

- Office Space
- Foreign Sites
- Hospitals/medical/healthcare facilities
- Prisons
- Laboratories/clean rooms**
- Dining facilities
- Data centers
- Process facilities
- Aircraft hangars
- Motor pools

2.2.2 Site Conditions to be considered



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Download Documents ▾

ESCO Selector

Home 1 Notice & Invitation 2 Facility Overview 3 Objectives 4 ESCO Selection 5 Required Submittals 6 Evaluation Factors 7 Submittal Instructions 8 Evaluation Criteria

3 Statement of Objectives

Section 3 is the agency's statement of objectives for the procurement described by the NOO. Section 3.1 is a general statement of objectives and Section 3.2 calls for statement of 2 - 3 of the agency's highest-priority objectives.

[Learn more about stating objectives»](#) [Learn more about objectives and matching evaluation criteria»](#)

ECM(Energy/Water Conservation Measures)

3.2.5 Objectives for Specific ECMs »

- and automation system points
- Consider Monitoring-Based Commissioning
 - Consider Data Center Improvements
 - Implement 50001-Ready Program
 - Implement a Smart Laboratories Program

3.2.1 General Project Objectives »

Entering objectives and related evaluation criteria

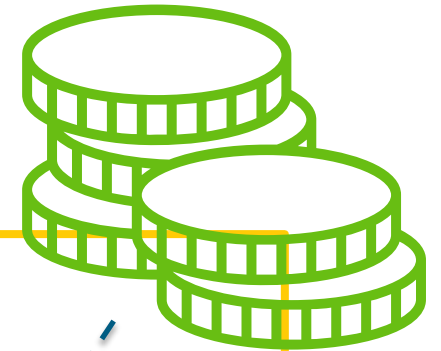
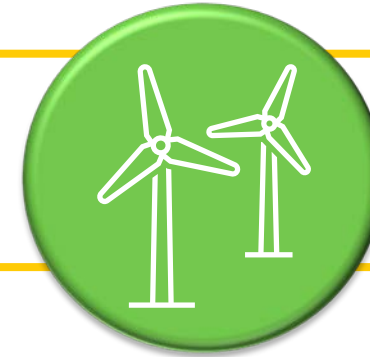
Implement a Smart Laboratory Program

Project Funding Sources



Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

- Finance renewable energy projects on-site or off-site
- Agreement to **purchase power system generates**
- Developers own, operate, and maintain system



NREL 17393

Appropriated Funds

- Labs vary in **age, size, function,** and type of systems
- Identify appropriate measures to **optimize** lab system performance

Supervise Project Upgrade Activity



NREL 69958



Planning

NREL 10854



Design

NREL 65827



Construction

Tips for success

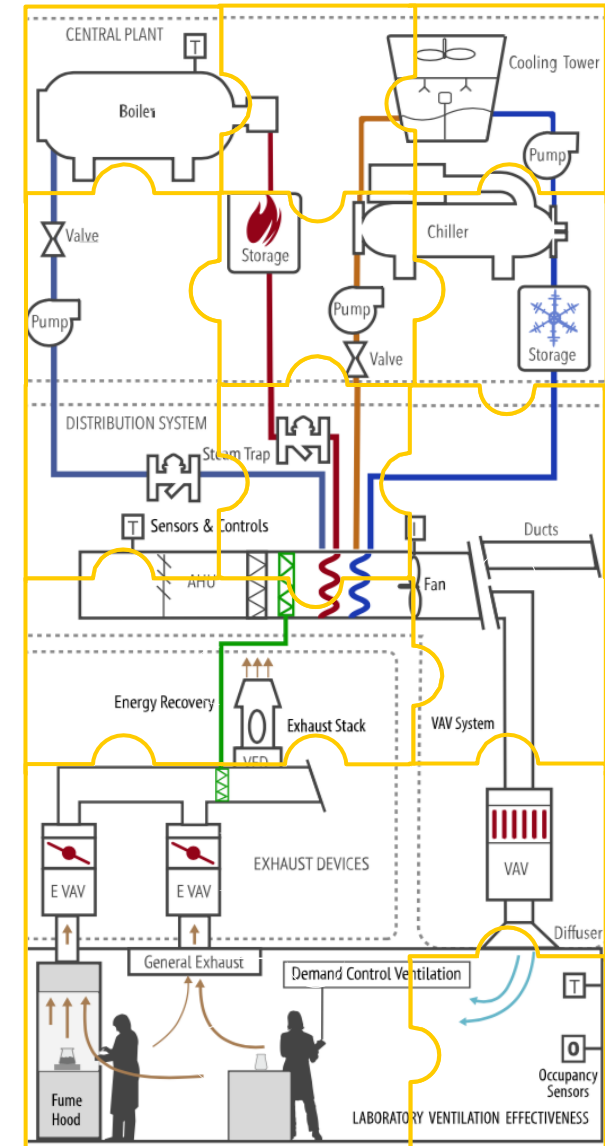
- ✓ Select contractors **with lab experience**
 - Validate qualifications
- ✓ Seek out multiple bids
 - **Lowest bid ≠ best value**
- ✓ Be **specific** in scope of work
- ✓ Define **process and expectations**
- ✓ Maintain **open lines** of communication
- ✓ **Be a champion** from start to finish

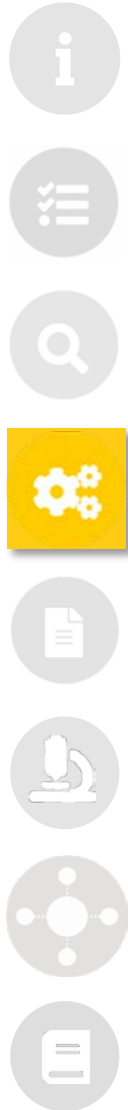
Optimize Through Commissioning

Commissioning

Process to ensure a building's operating systems are working as designed.

- High-performance airflow systems can lose up to **50% of their control ability within 5 years**
- Perform **lab surveys** and **system tests**
- Work with **third-party companies** that provide commissioning services
- **Fault detection sensors** notify staff automatically of changes in performance





Building Management Plan

- ✓ Documentation on **new baselines**
- ✓ Equipment **inventories**
- ✓ **Up-to-date** airflow specifications
- ✓ Key **performance** indicators
- ✓ Standard **operating procedures** for tests, maintenance, and schedules



NREL 38455

Laboratory Benchmarking Tool

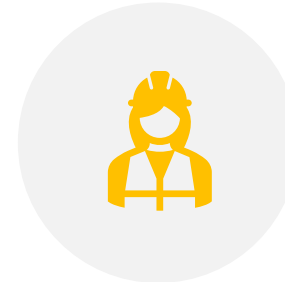
Risk Level	Description
0	Negligible
1	Low
2	Moderate
3	High
4	Extreme

Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org

Key Takeaways



Identify **funding streams** early on to maximize impact



Seek out contractors with a **proven track record** of successful upgrades in laboratory buildings



Use **commissioning as a tool** to improve lab operations and identify future projects



Finish with documenting a **Building Management Plan**

15 Minute Break!



1



Smart Labs

Manage

The Smart Labs Process



Assess

- Conduct in-depth audits of laboratory buildings
- Focus on the ventilation systems
- Develop a scope of work for system optimization



Plan

- Build a team of lab stakeholders
- Profile buildings to prioritize efforts
- Develop a strategic plan for cost-effective implementation

Optimize

- Execute meaningful projects with demonstrable payback
- Develop a building management plan outlining dynamic management to further optimize operations

Manage

- Implement a lifecycle performance management plan
- Apply lessons learned in improving additional facilities on the campus

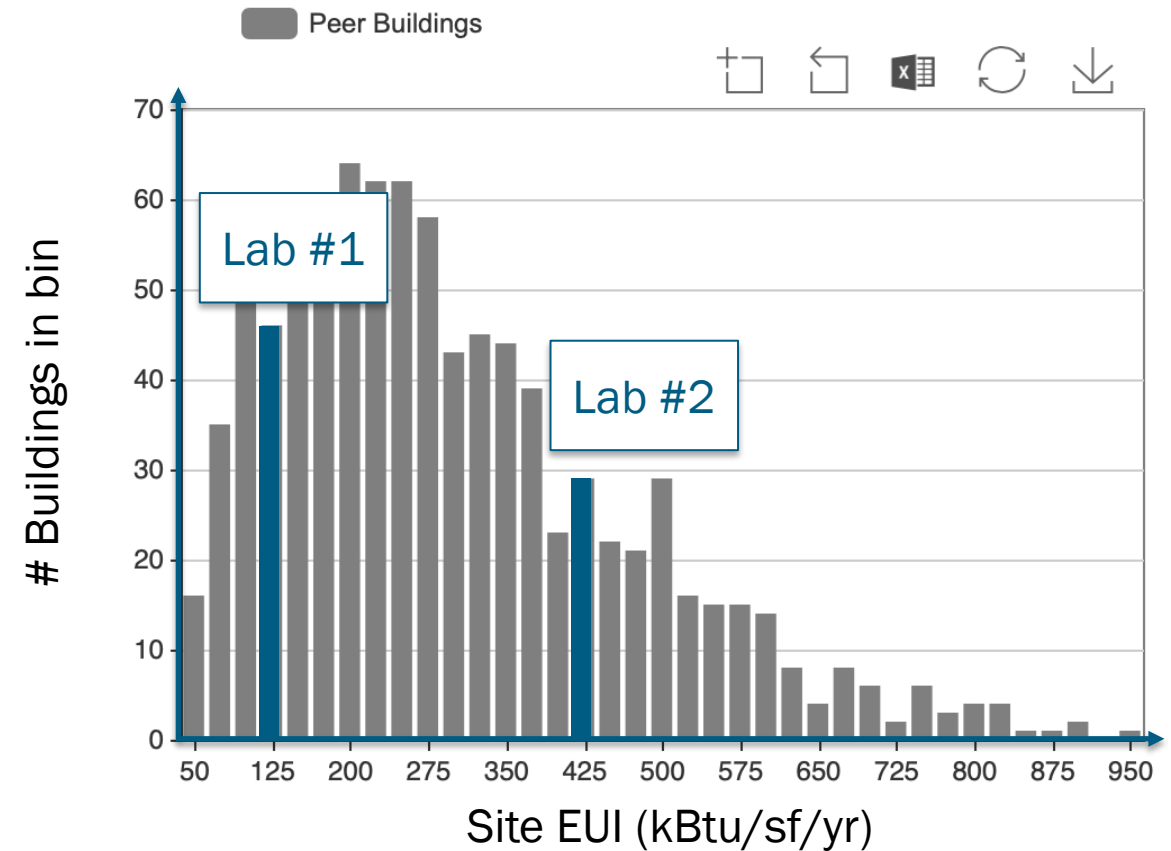


Ongoing Benchmarking and Analytics



Building Name	Lab #1	Lab #2
Year Built	1988	2002
Building Area (ft ²)	71,000	80,800
Total Lab Area (ft ²)	35,500	24,240
Number of Labs	15	17
Lab Type(s)	Chemistry	R&D
Number of Occupants	115	233
Occupancy Hours	12	10
HVAC System Type(s)	CAV	VAV
Lighting System Type(s)	Fluorescent	LED
Fuel Type(s)	Boiler	Boiler
Analytics	Sensors	EMIS
EUI	311	353

Laboratory Benchmarking Tool



Managing Change

Change Management Plan

Ensures **safe and efficient operation** of laboratory buildings by providing the necessary steps to:

- ✓ Control appropriate improvements
- ✓ Prevent uncontrolled changes to ventilation systems

Changes to key performance metrics

Changes in risk profile

Routine certification testing

Need for HVAC system modifications

Changes in hazardous waste records

Changes in chemical procurement

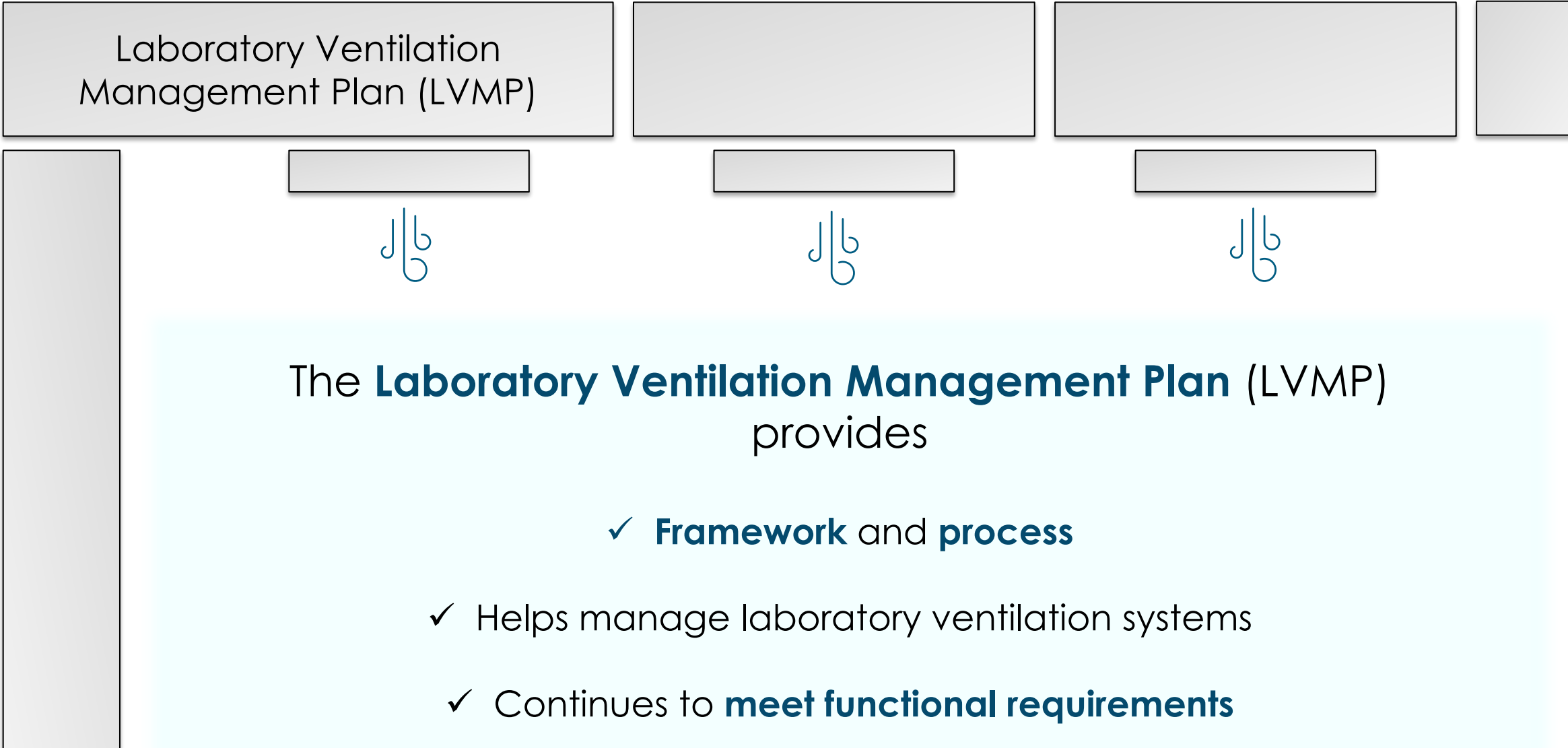
Changes in personnel

Changes in chemical inventory

Space planning



Laboratory Ventilation Management Plan



LVMP Objectives

Provide a Framework to Balance...

- ✓ Laboratory safety
- ✓ Financial Costs
- ✓ Energy Efficiency
- ✓ Carbon Emissions
- ✓ Equipment Lifetime and Operation



Photo Credit: Werner Slocum | NREL



The LVRA and the LVMP



The **Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment** sets the **baseline** for the **Laboratory Ventilation Management Plan**



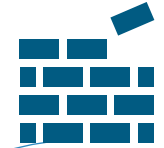
The LVMP **includes** the LVRA Process



LVRA's **conducted annually** and when new hazards enter the lab



LVMP **manages** change with information from the LVRA



Both LVRA and LVMP **build** on each other



ANSI/ASSP Z9.5

Standard on lab ventilation

Describes:

- Recommended practices for design and operation of ventilation systems
- Defines requirements for organization LVMPs

LVMP

Laboratory Ventilation Management Plan


- “Sets forth procedures, guidelines and specifications for design, selection, operation, use, and maintenance of laboratory ventilation equipment”

The LVMP Template

Non-regulatory standards include: *[some possible standards to consider are listed, add or remove from the list as you see fit]*

- *ASHRAE Classification of Laboratory Ventilation Design Levels*
- *ANSI/ASSP Z9.5-2022 Standard on Laboratory Ventilation*
- *ANSI Airborne Hazards Safety Standard*
- *BMBL (Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories) standards*

Pick, choose, or insert your own information




b) Internal Requirements

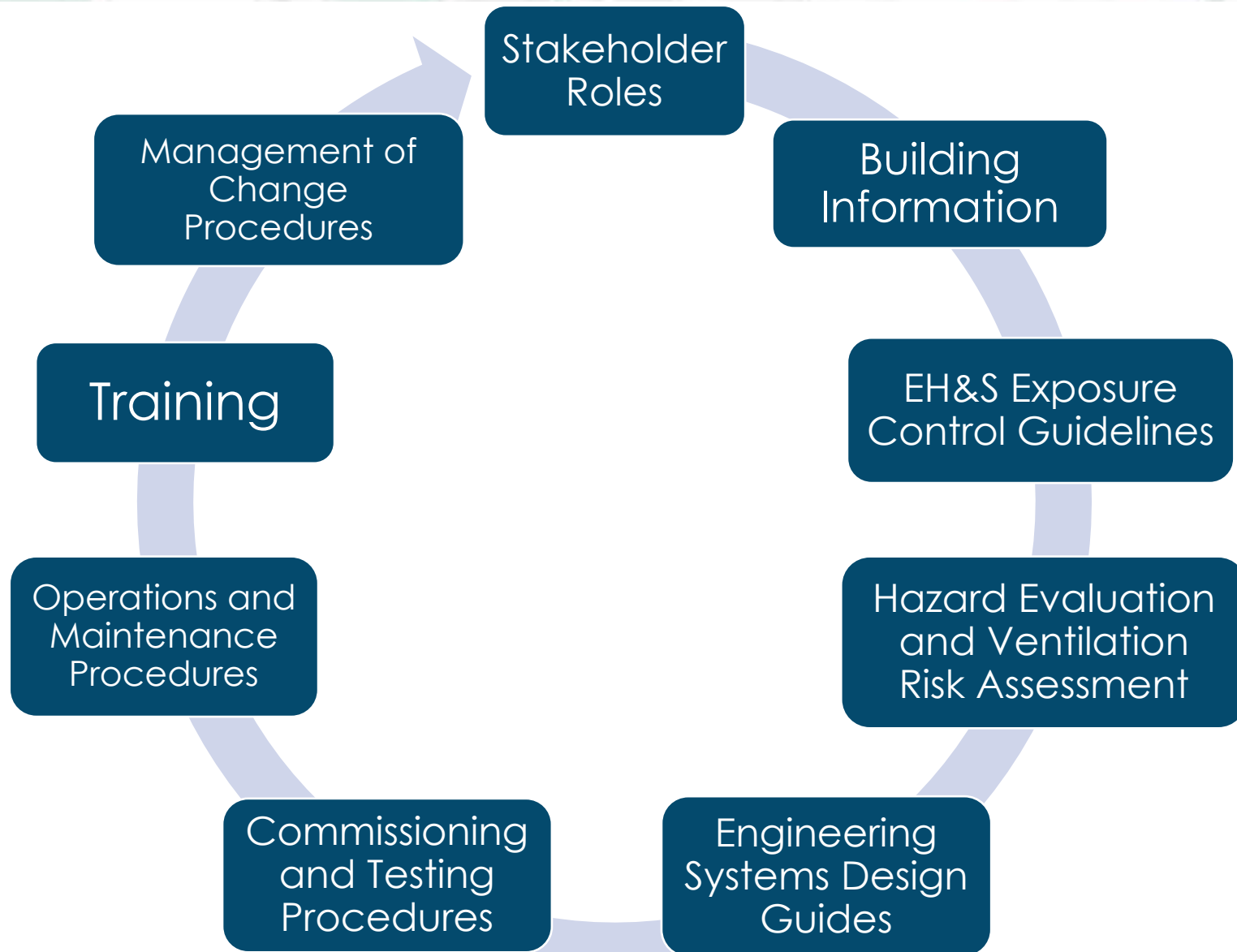
In order to meet *[your organization name]*'s standards, this program complies with:

- *[insert links to organization plan, program, policy, standard, guide, or requirement such as a design guide, university energy plan, or local exhaust program] and [insert link to other organization plan, standard, guide, or requirement].*

Links/places to insert your own documentation




LVMP Components



The LVMP Template



The LVMP template is the **KEY** to maintaining everything the Smart Labs program implements



The document maintains safety and high performance



Continue to complete the form for ongoing operational efficiency

LVMPs are the primary way to control exposure to airborne hazards and improve air quality.



Coordinator Responsibilities

Implementation and Administration of the Building LVMP

Document, Review, Organize, and Control

Monitoring HVAC Performance

Management of Change



Key Takeaways



Verify **performance** and quality of upgrade measures



Create a management plan that includes how to **adapt to future needs**



Continually **monitor equipment and adjust operation** as required



Report early success and summarize savings including lessons learned



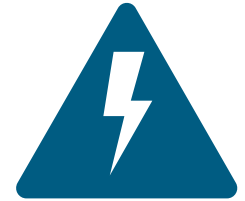


Working with Scientists

Why Scientists and Researchers?



Researchers dictate how a lab operates



Researchers affect safety and energy consumption



Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder | NREL



Many scientists are unaware of their impact

Scientists can become partners in Smart Lab efforts



Green Chemistry Principles

Aid researchers to make **safer and less hazardous** choices in labs

The 12 Principles of Green Chemistry

A framework for designing or improving materials, products, processes and systems.

1. Prevent Waste
2. Atom Economy
3. Less Hazardous Synthesis
4. Design Benign Chemicals
5. Benign Solvents & Auxiliaries
6. Design for Energy Efficiency
7. Use of Renewable Feedstocks
8. Reduce Derivatives
9. Catalysis (vs. Stoichiometric)
10. Design for Degradation
11. Real-Time Analysis for Pollution Prevention
12. Inherently Benign Chemistry for Accident Prevention

Photo Credit: American Chemical Society



Air Changes per Hour (ACH)

Step 1: Read the 12 principles and determine **how they apply** to the lab

Biology labs

Engineering labs

Biophysics labs

Step 2: Use the **DOZN Tool** to identify the impact of specific chemicals

Score chemicals according to 12 principles

Improve experimental design for synthesis



Autoclaves



Turn off or put in standby mode when not in use



Consolidate loads through sharing or schedules



Install a water-saving device



Upgrades to more efficient models

Equipment Best Practices



↑ **ACH**



Fume Hoods



Keep fume hoods shut for occupant safety



VAV fume hoods can lead to energy savings

Keep Sash Below RED ZONE
RED ZONE For Hood Set-up Only!

KEEP SASH AT OR BELOW THIS LEVEL

MORE SAFE, LESS ENERGY



ALWAYS CLOSE SASH WHEN NOT WORKING IN HOOD.

Photo Credit: Harvard University

Equipment Best Practices



Defrost freezers regularly (**10% reduction**)



Clean units, inventory samples, and share space



Adjust setpoints from -80°C to -70°C (**30% reduction**)



Replace old units with more efficient freezers

Ultra-Low Temperature (ULT) Freezers



freezer
challenge

Starts **January 1st**
through **July 1st**

Any lab around the
world can
participate!

2024

**INTERNATIONAL
LABORATORY FREEZER
CHALLENGE**

WWW.FREEZERCHALLENGE.ORG

- ✓ The Freezer Challenge is a program organized by My Green Lab and the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL)
- ✓ Promotes cold storage best practices
- ✓ Take actions that benefit the planet through energy efficiency also benefiting the scientists

Green Lab Ambassador Program





Introductory training resource offered through **My Green Lab** to drive sustainability in laboratories.

Educates lab professionals on how they can:

- **Reduce** the impact of their research on
 - Energy, waste, and water through
 - Green chemistry and procurement
- **Distinguish** themselves in the lab community
- **Demonstrate** commitment to Smart Lab principles

MyGreenLab.org

 US	
Product Name	
Product Location	SKU 0000
Environmental Impact Scale Decreasing Environmental Impact	
1	10
Manufacturing	
Manufacturing Impact Reduction	3
Renewable Energy Use	Yes
Responsible Chemical Management	5
Shipping Impact	9
Product Content	1
Packaging Content	5
User Impact	
Energy Consumption (kWh/day)	2.5
Water Consumption (gallons/day)	13.1
Product Lifetime	4
End of Life	
Packaging	5
Product	1
Innovation	
Innovative Practices	-1
Environmental Impact Factor: 50.1	
Label Valid Through:	January 2021
 act.mygreenlab.org	

Green Lab Ambassador Program



Scientists and researchers offer **deep insights** into lab operations



My Green Lab Ambassador Program can **engage staff in sustainable** lab behavior



Green chemistry is **smart chemistry**




Equipment-specific best practices lead to **reduced energy consumption** and better outcomes



Apply

Decarbonizing Labs

What is Decarbonization?



Remove carbon emissions from an organization's systems and operations

- 
- ✓ Minimizes the **impact** a facility has on **climate change**
 - ✓ Ensures **world class science** is being done in a **sustainable manner**

Photo Credit: Werner Slocum / NREL

Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL



Photo Credit: Werner Slocum / NREL

Decarbonizing Labs



Energy Efficiency

Reduces a building's energy loads, decreasing dependence on fossil fuels

Converts technologies that rely on fossil fuels to using electricity



Electrification

Scope 1



Scope 2



Scope 3

Renewable Generation

Produces energy from clean energy sources where the supply cannot be depleted or can be reliably restored

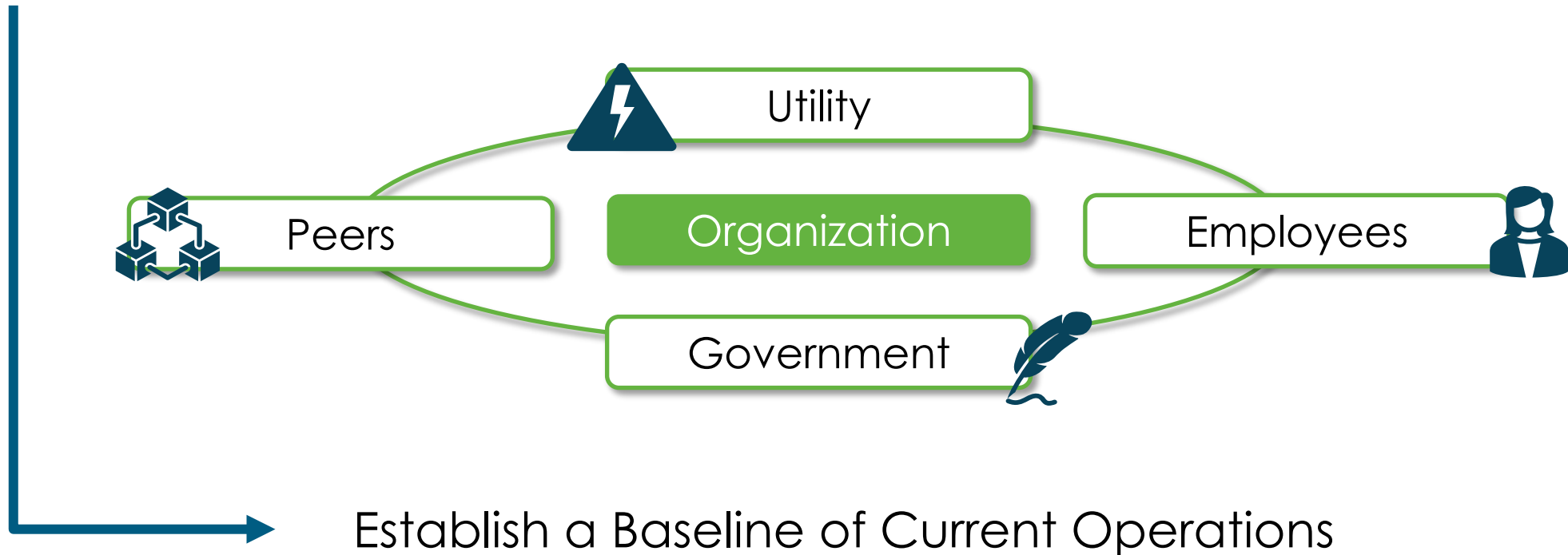
Shifts a building's energy loads to non-peak demand, reducing strain on the grid

Demand Flexibility and Grid Interaction



Plan: Decarbonization Roadmap

- Contain existing goals and commitments
- Understand regulatory compliance standards your organization
- Collect resources and guidelines that can be used in the planning process
- Encourage employee personal engagement



Plan & Assess: Carbon Emissions Metrics



Scope 1

What are they?

Any GHG emissions that take place directly on the facility's site. The most substantial source comes from the direct combustion of fossil fuels.

Common Fuels

- ✓ Natural Gas
- ✓ Diesel
- ✓ Gasoline
- ✓ Fuel oil
- ✓ Biomass (in some cases)

Common Sources

- ✓ Facility operations for normal use
- ✓ Back-up generators for emergency use
- ✓ Chemical usage

HVAC systems account for 45-85% of the total energy used in laboratories.

Establish a Baseline

- ✓ Collect fuel consumption data
- ✓ Translate into emissions from direct combustion data
- ✓ Evaluate long-term property plans



Photo Credit: Werner Slocum / NREL



Scope 2

What are they?

GHG emissions that result from a facility's activities but only occur indirectly as the sources that create emissions are owned or controlled by a different organization.

Establish a Baseline: Two Approaches

Location-Based

Calculates the average GHG emissions from the electric grid at a specific location after establishing a boundary.

Market-Based

Looks at an organization's contractual obligations with different energy providers to determine individual emissions.

Scope 2 emissions account for at least a third of the world's total GHG emissions.

Source: Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance

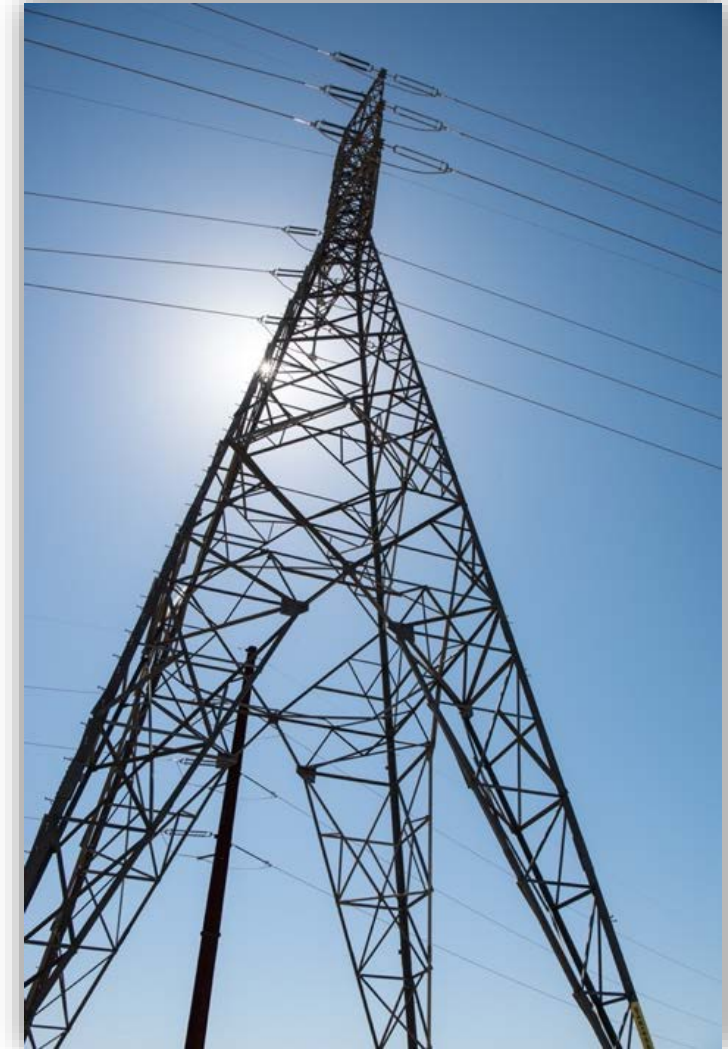


Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL

Plan & Assess: Carbon Emissions Metrics



Scope 3

What are they?

GHG emissions that occur throughout an organization's respective value chain, where activities extend beyond the scope of an organization's ordinary operations.

Establish a Baseline

- ✓ Identify organization's upstream and downstream activities
- ✓ Expect to encounter significant informational barriers

Upstream Activities

Materials that flow **into** an organization:

- ✓ Commuting to work
- ✓ Capital goods like equipment

Materials that flow **out** of an organization:

- ✓ Project deliverables
- ✓ End-of-life treatment of products

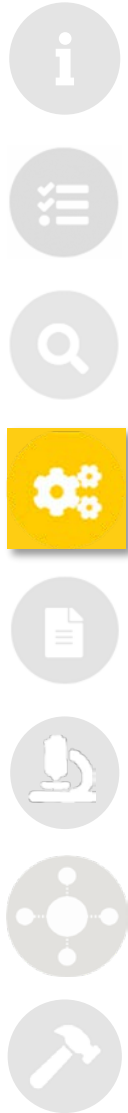
Downstream Activities

Scope 3 emissions often make up most of an organization's carbon footprint.



Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL

Optimize: Four Pillars of Decarbonization



Energy Efficiency

Reduces a building's energy loads, decreasing dependence on fossil fuels.

Demand-Based Controls
(Air sampling and/or Occupancy Sensors)

LED Lighting

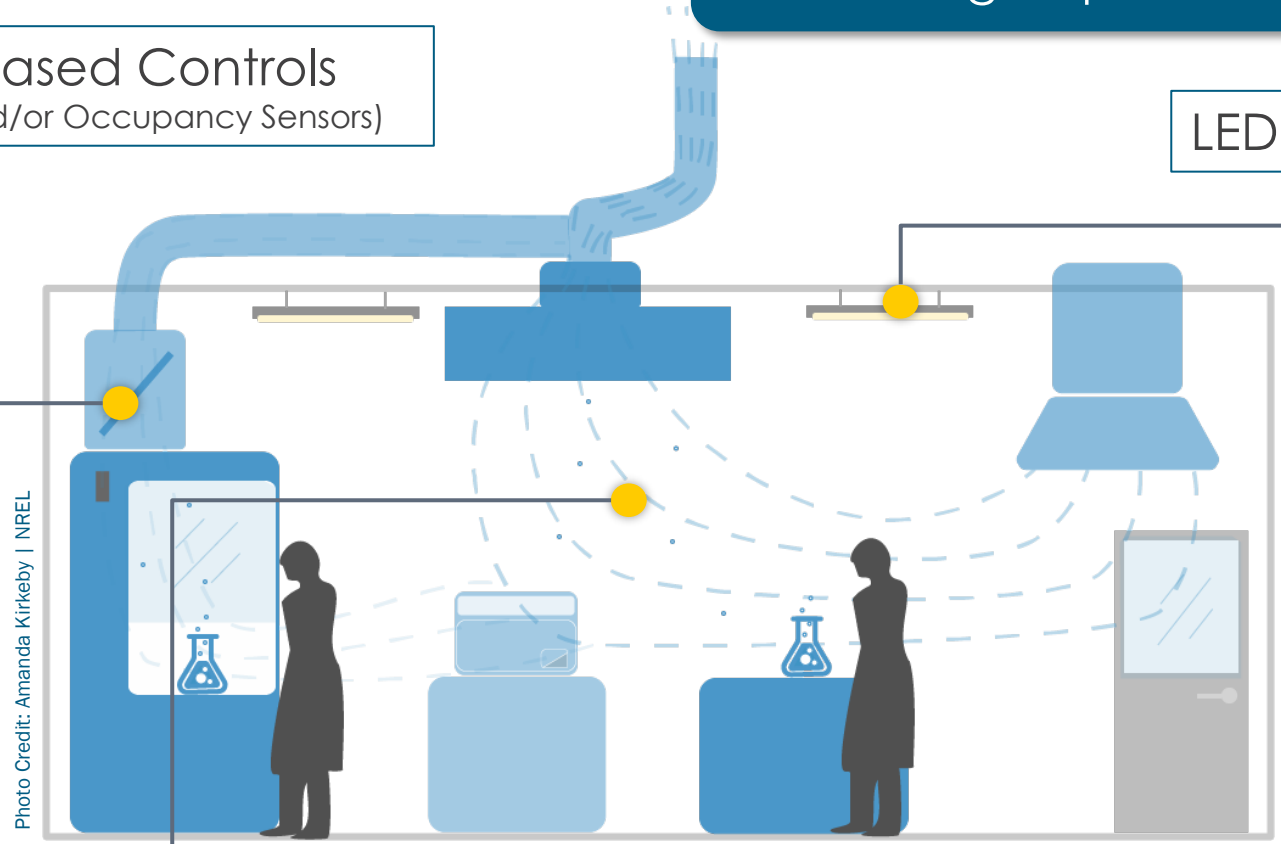
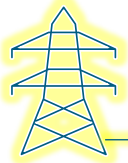


Photo Credit: Amanda Kirkeby | NREL

Laboratory Ventilation Risk Assessment

Optimize: Four Pillars of Decarbonization



Electrification

Converts technologies that rely on fossil fuels to electricity.

Common technologies to replace:

- ✓ Boilers, Furnaces
- ✓ Water heaters
- ✓ Vehicle Fleets

Alternative technologies:

- ✓ Low-energy heat pumps
- ✓ Heat recovery chillers

Benefits:

- ✓ 100% energy efficient in heating a space
- ✓ Lower emissions and reduced hazard

Drawbacks:

- x First costs can be more expensive than fossil fuel heating methods

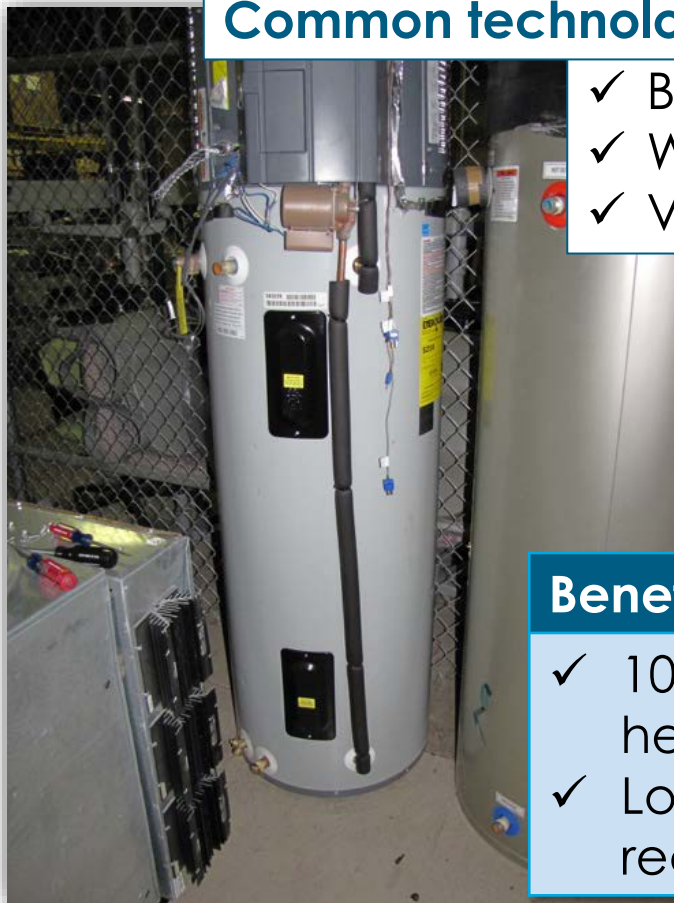
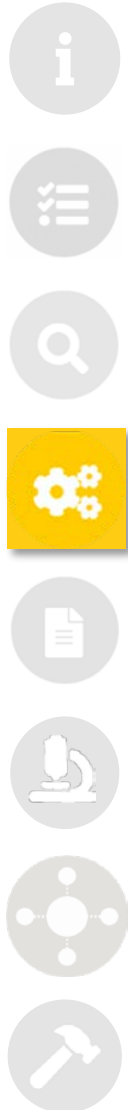


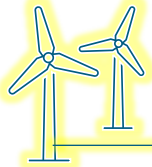
Photo Credit: Bethany Sparr / NREL



Photo Credit: Rachel Romero, NREL



Optimize: Four Pillars of Decarbonization



Renewable Generation

Produces energy from clean energy sources where the supply cannot be depleted or can be reliably restored.

Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL



On-site Generation

- ✓ Solar Photovoltaics
- ✓ Wind
- ✓ Solar Thermal

Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL



Storage Options

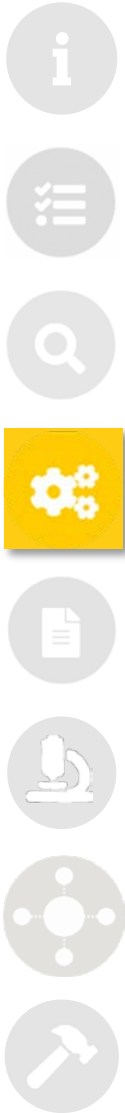
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Thermal energy storage tanks

Photo Credit: Pat Corkery

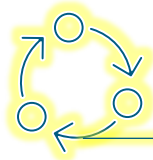


Off-site Generation

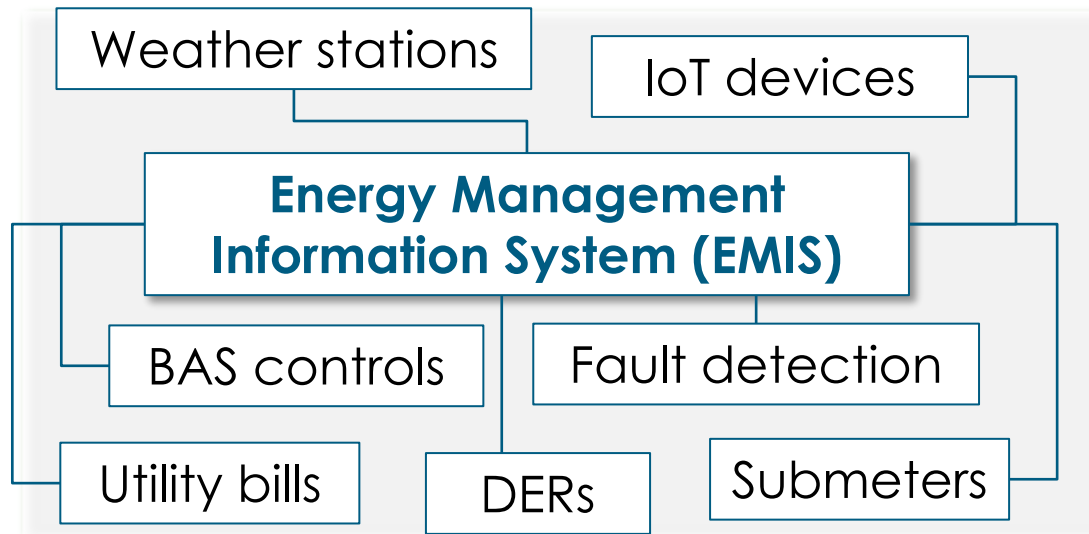
- ✓ Green electricity programs
- ✓ Off-site PPAs
- ✓ RECs



Optimize: Four Pillars of Decarbonization



Demand Flexibility and Grid Interaction



Benefits in a Lab

- ✓ Operate equipment outside of peak hours
- ✓ Condense equipment loads



Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL

Shifts a building's energy loads to times of outside of peak demand, reducing strain put on the grid.

Manage: Progress on Decarbonization Goals



“Are we seeing the carbon savings we want?”

If No...

“What needs to change?”

- ✓ Formulate new plan
- ✓ Consult alternative resources

If Yes...

“How can savings be maintained?”

- ✓ Document successful strategies
- ✓ Quantify GHG emissions
- ✓ Identify further reduction opportunities
- ✓ Continuously monitor building performance

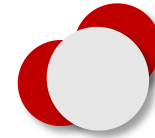


Photo Credit: Dennis Schroeder / NREL



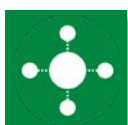
Get the ventilation right!

- Conduct recurring LVRAs
- Modify setpoints and operating specs to optimize HVAC systems



Consider energy recovery

- Exhaust energy recovery
- Heat recovery chillers
- Other sources of waste heat:
 - Data centers
 - Sewer pipelines



Install heat pump, air-source or ground source



Key Takeaways



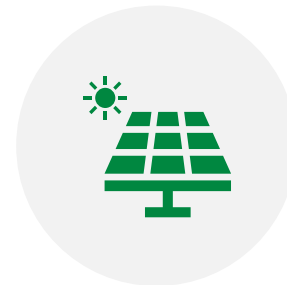
Take inventory of how building operations impact emissions



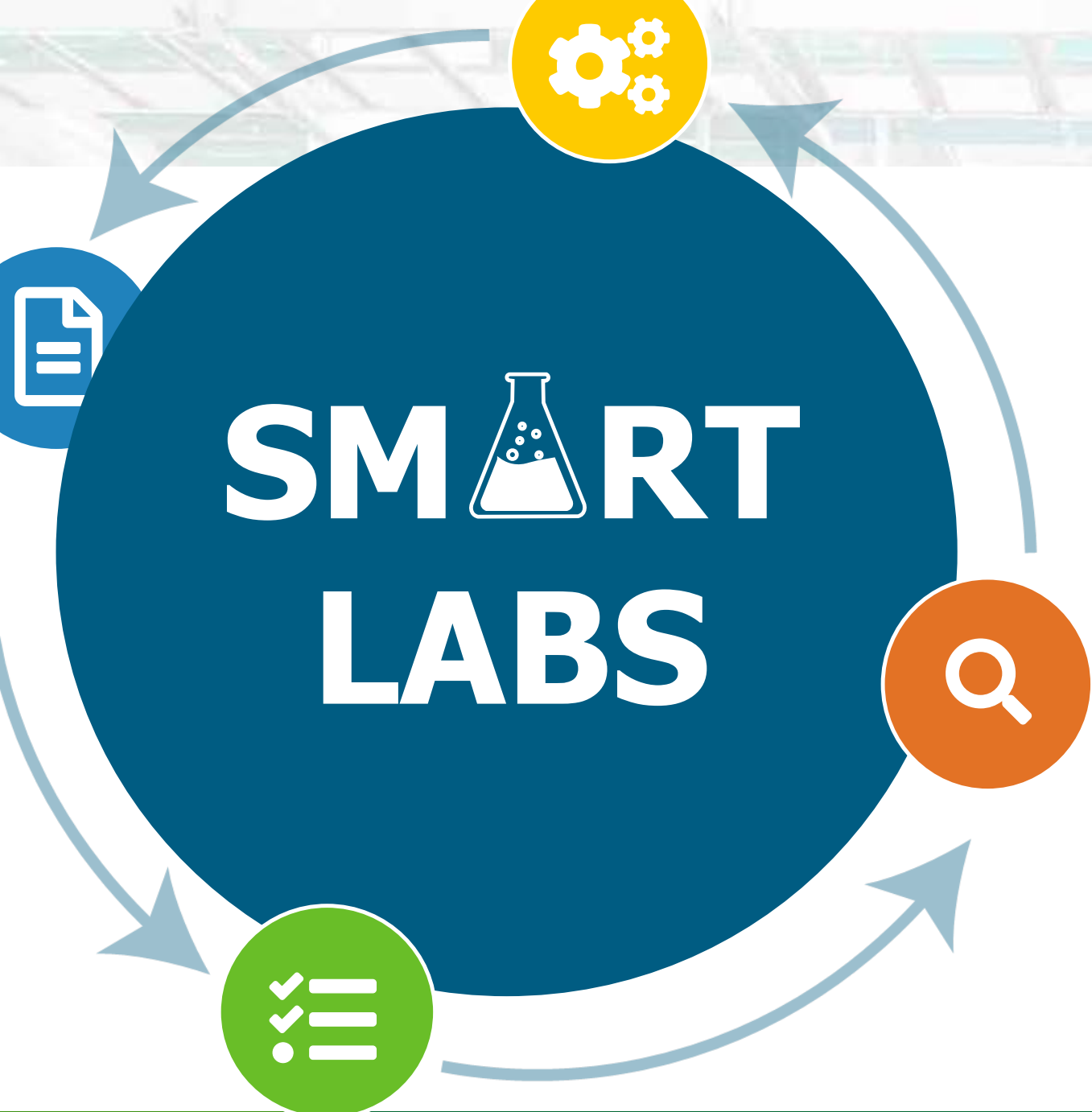
Set goals for your lab to reduce its emissions



Define your **decarbonization goals**



Determine steps to incorporate the four pillars into operations



Closing

Key Takeaways





Share 1 action/item you will take away from this workshop

Overview of Working Groups

Why Working Groups?

Huge opportunity to...

- Generate energy savings
- Reduce GHG emissions

Working Group will help organizations work towards...

- Energy efficiency requirements for federal buildings
- Decarbonization goals listed under E.O. 14057

Since organizations...

- Face similar challenges
- Share joint processes

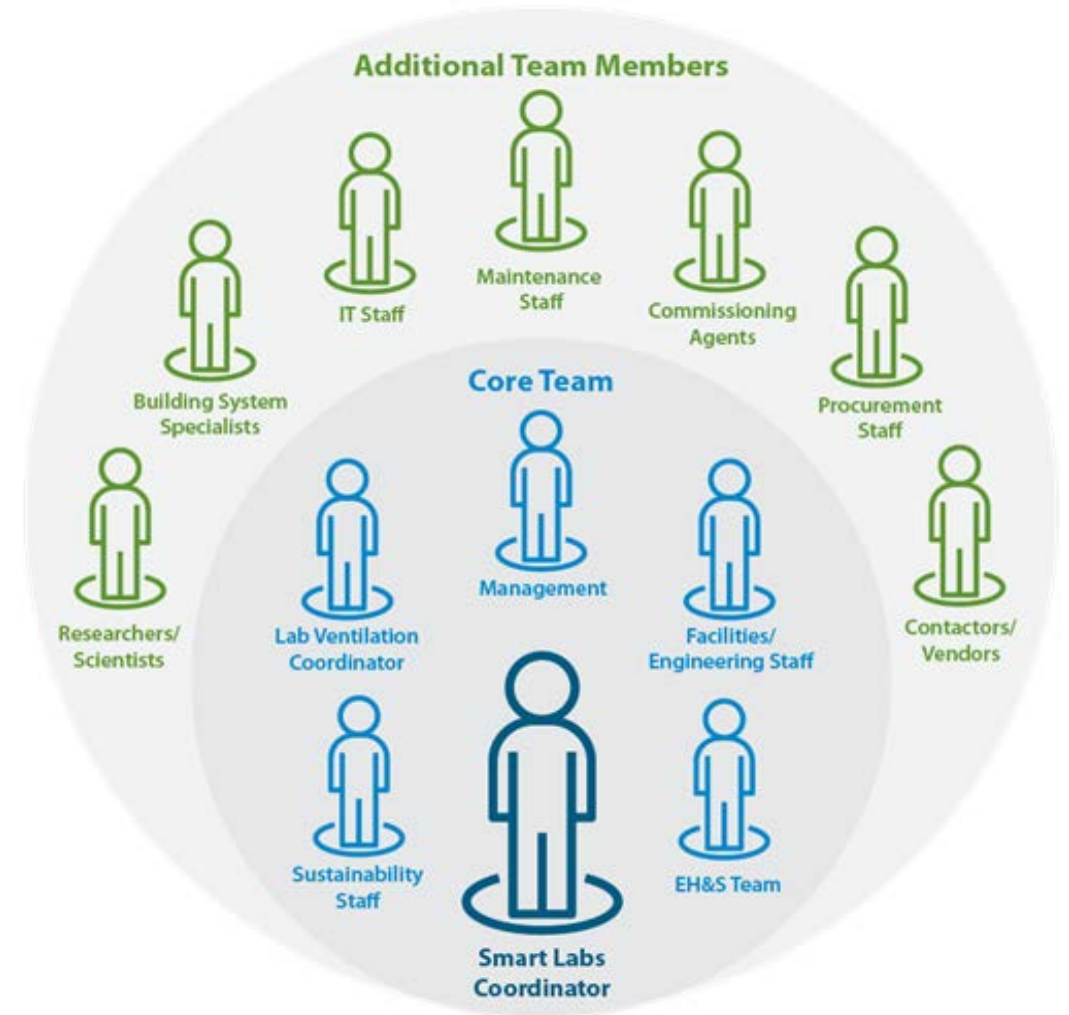


Use the QR Code to join the Smart Labs
Partner List

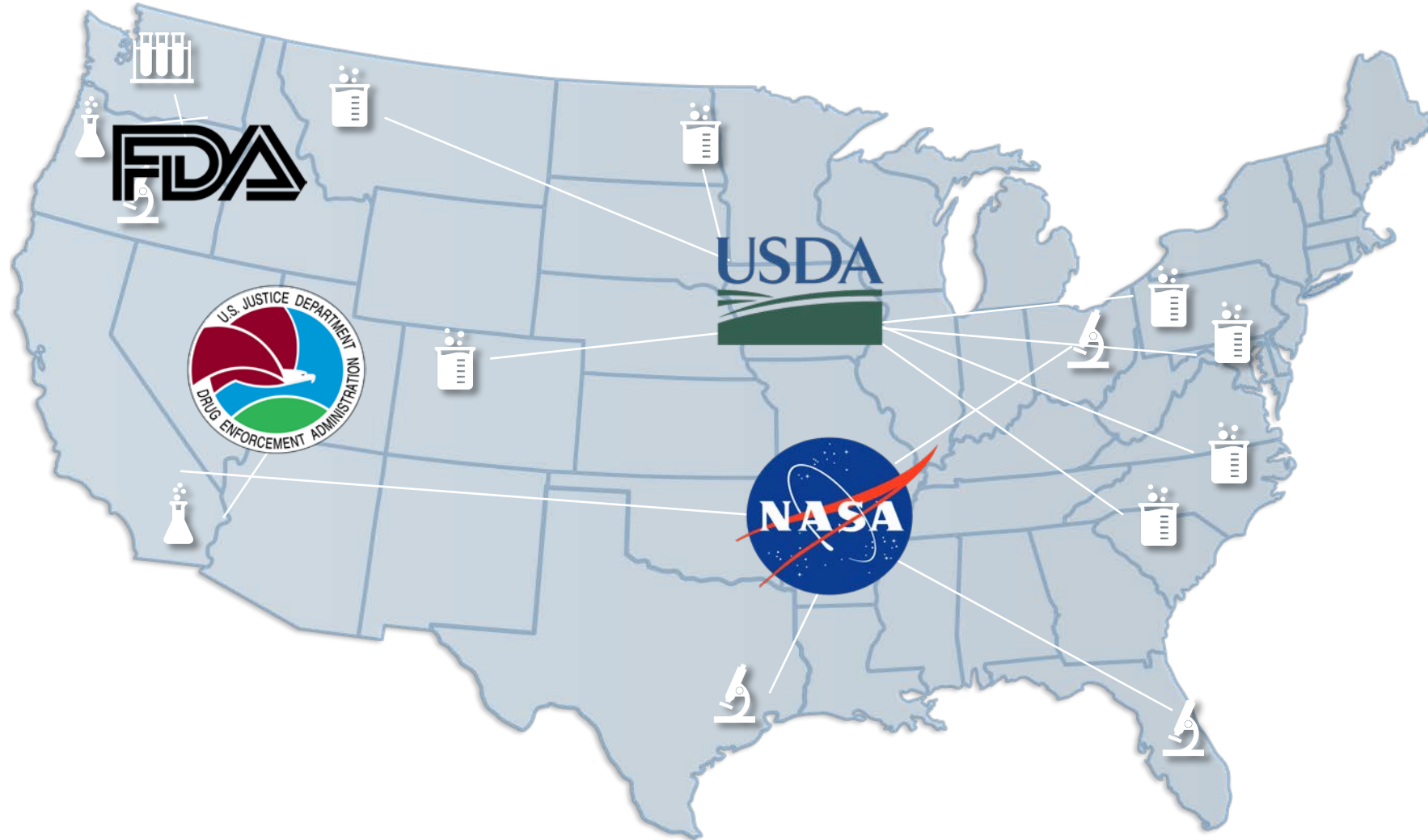
Who is this Group For?

- Building managers
- Environmental health and safety professionals
- Industrial hygiene professionals
- Facility engineering
- Sustainability managers
- Energy managers
- Analytics and controls maintenance staff
- Engaged researchers
- Principal investigators
- Program managers

Smart Labs Program



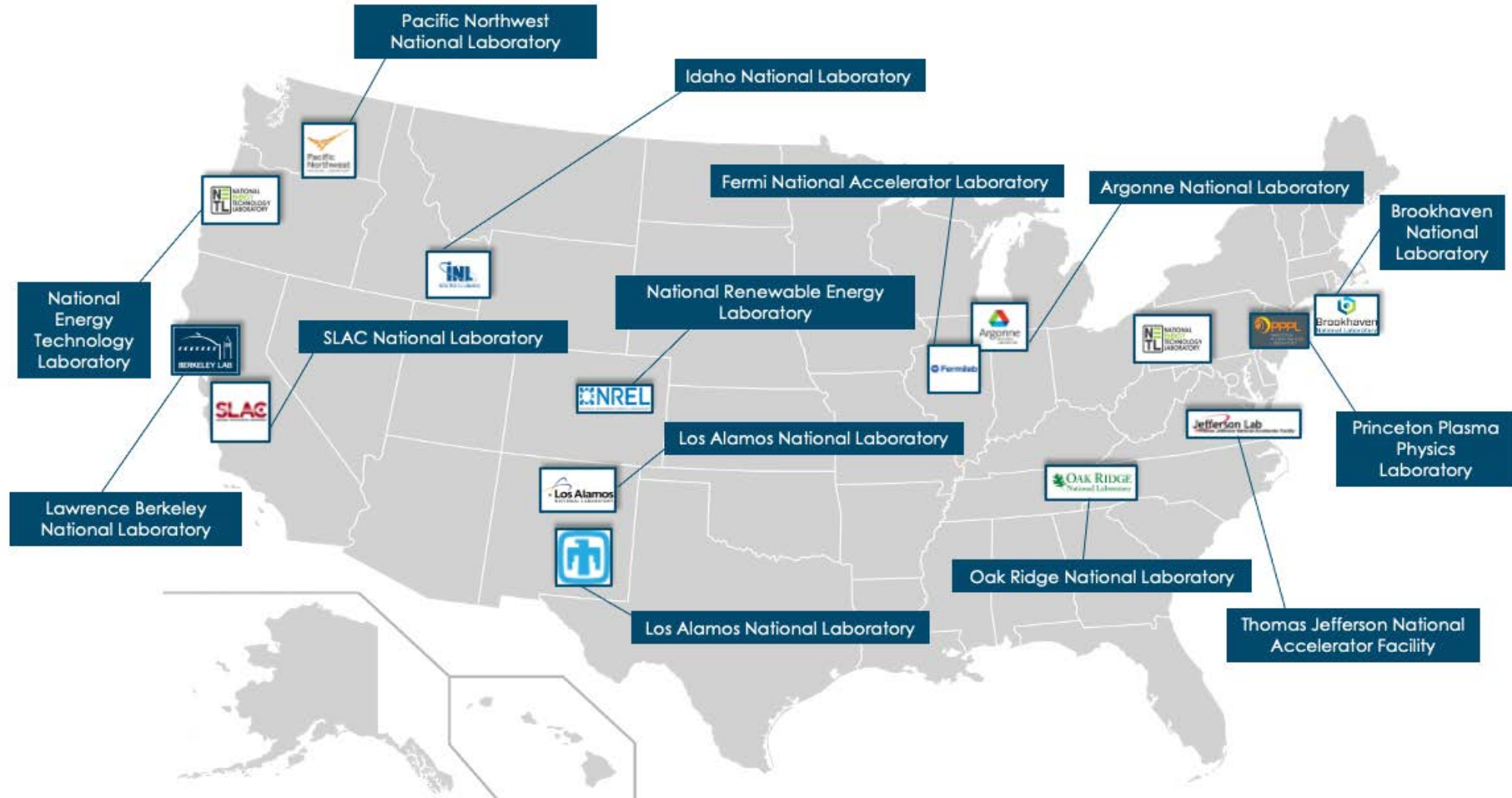
Federal Labs Working Group



The Federal government owns over 310+ laboratories!

* Number of federally-owned laboratories estimated from [Advancing Commercialization of Digital Products from Federal Laboratories](#), published under the National Library of Medicine.

Smart Labs for National Labs



Ways We Can Help



✓ Provide technical assistance



✓ Review program of requirements, designs, etc.



✓ Identify funding opportunities and savings



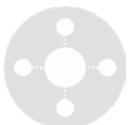
✓ Give feedback on LVRAs



✓ Connect with training resources



✓ Create networking within lab communities



Reach out to us!



Smart Labs: Advancing Safety and Efficiency in Labs

Summary Mod: Introduction Mod 1

MENU

- Introduction to Smart Labs ✓
- Learning Objectives
- Training Overview
- Introduction
- Learning Objectives
- Why Labs?
- Smart Labs Program
- Energy Use in Labs
- Smart Labs Toolkit
- Researchers on the Smart Labs Process
- Key Takeaways

Smart Labs: Introduction

Welcome!

Introduction to Smart Labs

Visit the Toolkit @ SmartLabs.i2sl.org

SMART LABS TOOLKIT U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



The Smart Labs training provides:

- ✓ The framework necessary to assemble a collaborative team
- ✓ Identify and implementing efficiency improvements.

 [The Smart Labs Training](#)



**I2SL Annual
Conference**

September 29 - October 3, 2024 | St. Louis, Missouri



The I2SL Annual Conference and
Technology Fair focuses on laboratory:

- ✓ Energy Efficiency
- ✓ Decarbonization
- ✓ Sustainability

Nearly 600...

- ✓ Lab owners
- ✓ Operators
- ✓ Designers
- ✓ Engineers
- ✓ Managers
- ✓ Builders
- ✓ Developers

- ✓ Education Week 2024 brings the combined braintrust of I2SL, SLCAN, and other international partners right to your laptop
- ✓ Lab owners, managers, operators, and supporters from the university, government, or nonprofit community can save on registration, and members receive an even bigger discount!



April 15-18

2024 Education Week

Cohosted by I2SL, EGNATON, and SLCAN



Register Today!

A Global View on
Laboratory Sustainability



Federal and National Labs Meetup

Room 403 on Tuesday, March 26 from **12:30pm-1:30pm**

- ✓ Meet up with other lab professionals at EEx to discuss shared successes and challenges!
- ✓ Please grab your lunch and join us for a low key discussion around improving lab facilities. No need to register; just show up!



Rachel Romero
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Rachel.Romero@nrel.gov



Otto Van Geet
National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Otto.VanGeet@nrel.gov





References and Resources



Correct Pathway for the Chemistry Lab: Assessment Categories

Choose the most accurate description for each characteristic from the dropdown menu. All characteristics must be assigned a value for the risk control band to be calculated. A rating from 1 to 4 will be assigned automatically based on your choice. (Additional details available in the Dropdown Details and Lab Env. Band Calculation tabs.)

Hazard Exposure limit for the peak hazard not contained by ECD	Quantity Aggregate volume of all hazards	Generation Rate Peak generation rate for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Generation Method Peak generation method for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Generation Location Peak generation location for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Change Dynamics Frequency of changes in the lab environment	Housekeeping General order and cleanliness of the lab	Availability of Exposure Control Devices	Appropriateness of Exposure Control Devices	Ventilation Effectiveness	Maximum Risk Control Band from ECD survey	Lab Environment Risk Control Rating
> 500 ppm or >2000 mg/m3	1-10 L or 10-100 g	<0.1 lpm small # of small containers Low VP	Intermittent (Manual or equipment)	Low-Middle or High-Middle (not very close)	1 change/month	Cluttered	Yes	Yes	Moderately effective	3	39
0	2	1	2	3	2	2	0	0	2	3	1

After the survey information for each ECD is entered below in Step 3, the maximum value will be populated here.

Choose the most accurate description for each characteristic from the dropdown menu. All characteristics must be assigned a value for the risk control band to be calculated. A rating from 1 to 4 will be assigned automatically based on your choice. (Additional details available in the Dropdown Details and ECD Band Calculation tabs.)

Hazard - Enter the exposure limit for the peak hazard contained by ECD	Quantity - Enter the total volume of all hazards	Generation Rate - Enter the peak generation rate for any hazard contained by ECD	Generation Method Peak generation method for any hazard contained by ECD	Generation Location Peak generation location for any hazard contained by ECD	Change Dynamics Frequency of change in the ECD	Housekeeping General order and cleanliness of the lab	ECD Risk Rating	ECD Risk Control Band	Minimum Fume Hood ACH Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5	Minimum Fume Hood Flow (cfm) Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5	Maximum Fume Hood Flow Rate (cfm) permitted to avoid turbulence
5-50 ppm or 20-250 mg/m3	1-500 ml or 1-100 g	<0.1 lpm (e.g., evaporation)	Manual	Well contained by ECD/Very close to capture device	1 change/month	Some Clutter	38	3	250	71	600
2	2	1	1	1	2	1					

Given the risk control band for each fume hood, the following flows are required for each hood by ANSI Z9.5:

Minimum Fume Hood ACH Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5: 250

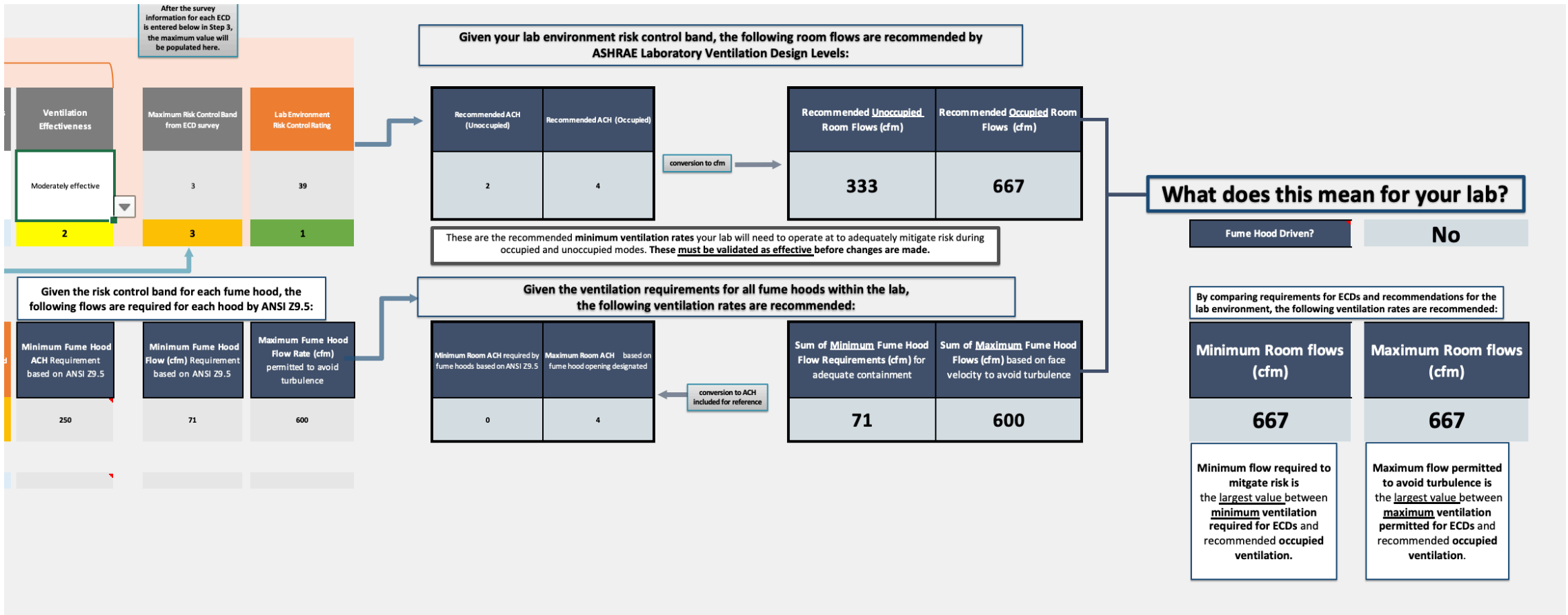
Minimum Fume Hood Flow (cfm) Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5: 71

Maximum Fume Hood Flow Rate (cfm) permitted to avoid turbulence: 600

Instructions Summary Survey Entry Dropdown Details ECD Band Calculation Lab Env. Band Calculation +



- Correct Pathway for the Chemistry Lab: Recommended ACHs





- Correct Pathway for the Life Sciences Lab: Assessment Categories



Hazard Exposure limit for the peak hazard not contained by ECD	Quantity Aggregate volume of all hazards	Generation Rate Peak generation rate for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Generation Method Peak generation method for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Generation Location Peak generation location for any hazard not contained by an ECD	Change Dynamics Frequency of changes in the lab environment	Housekeeping General order and cleanliness of the lab	Availability of Exposure Control Devices	Appropriateness of Exposure Control Devices	Ventilation Effectiveness	Maximum Risk Control Band from ECD survey	Lab Environment Risk Control Rating
150-300 ppm or 500-1000 mg/m3	10-20 L or 0.1-1 kg	<0.3 lpm [Large # of small containers Small # of large containers, Low Vapor Pressure](e.g., High VP/Stirring)	Manual	Low (very close to capture device)	1 change/year	Some Clutter	Yes	Yes	Effective	3	70
2	3	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	3	2

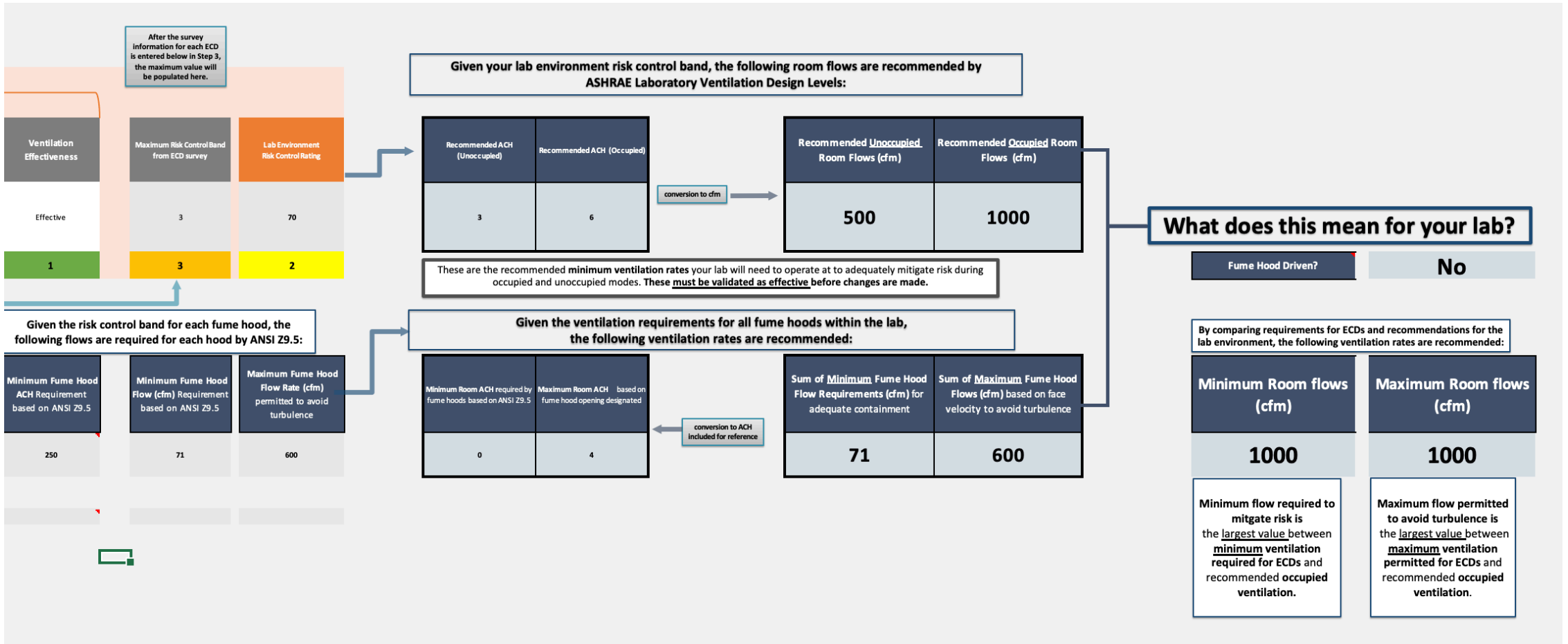
Choose the most accurate description for each characteristic from the dropdown menu. All characteristics must be assigned a value for the risk control band to be calculated. A rating from 1 to 4 will be assigned automatically based on your choice. (Additional details available in the Dropdown Details and ECD Band Calculation tabs.)

Hazard - Enter the exposure limit for the peak hazard contained by ECD	Quantity - Enter the total volume of all hazards	Generation Rate - Enter the peak generation rate for any hazard contained by ECD	Generation Method Peak generation method for any hazard contained by ECD	Generation Location Peak generation location for any hazard contained by ECD	Change Dynamics Frequency of change in the ECD	Housekeeping General order and cleanliness of the lab	ECD Risk Rating	ECD Risk Control Band	Minimum Fume Hood ACH Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5	Minimum Fume Hood Flow (cfm) Requirement based on ANSI Z9.5	Maximum Fume Hood Flow Rate (cfm) permitted to avoid turbulence
5-50 ppm or 20-250 mg/m3	1-500 ml or 1-100 g	<0.1 lpm (e.g., evaporation)	Manual	Well contained by ECD/Very close to capture device	1 change/month	Some Clutter	38	3	250	71	600
2	2	1	1	1	2	1					

Given the risk control band for each fume hood, the following flows are required for each hood by ANSI Z9.5:



- Correct Pathway for the Life Sciences Lab: Recommended ACHs



Weighted Calculations for ECD Survey

How it Works

This is a reference sheet only; no data entry is required.
This sheet describes how the ECD weighted risk score is calculated.

1. Ratings, on a scale of 1 to 4, are inputted for each evaluation criteria in ECD Survey tab. (Ratings in table below represent maximum values.)

2. Each rating is weighted by the associated weight multiple in this table to calculate weighted risk score. The sum of these scores is the **Total Weighted Risk Score**.

3. The **Total Weighted Risk Score** is used to determine the appropriate Risk Control Band from the Risk Score ranges in the table below. Tolerance level is determined by the organization's tolerance for risk. The table below is used as a reference for the ECD Risk Control Band designated for the weighted risk score calculated in the Survey Entry Tab.

ECD Parameter Rating and Weighting Table				
Evaluation Criteria	Rating	Weight Multiple	Weighted Risk Score	Sensitivity or Importance
Hazard	4	10	40	43%
Quantity	4	3	12	13%
Potential or Rate of Generation	4	5	20	22%
Method of Generation	4	1	4	4%
Generation Location	4	1	4	4%
Dynamic or Potential for Change	4	2	8	9%
Housekeeping	4	1	4	4%
Totals	28	Total Weighted Risk Score	92	100%

Risk Score Range for each Risk Control Band (Based on Tolerance of Risk)			
Low Tolerance	Medium Tolerance	High Tolerance	Risk Level
0- 4.6	0- 9.2	0- 18.4	0
4.7- 9.2	9.3- 23.0	18.5- 46.0	1
9.3- 18.4	24- 36.8	46- 64.4	2
18.5- 50.6	36.9- 69.0	64.5- 82.8	3
50.7- 92.0	70- 92.0	82.9- 92.0	4

Total Weighted Risk Score = Sum of weighted risk scores for all evaluation criteria.



LVRA Tool

Weighted Calculations for Lab Survey

This is a reference sheet, no entries are required.
It is password protected to prevent unintentional changes that may alter the integrated formulas and calculations in the ECD Survey tab. To make changes, click "Review" > "Unprotect Sheet" and enter the password LVRAtool.

1. Ratings, on a scale of 1 to 4, are inputted for each evaluation criteria in ECD Survey tab. (Ratings in table below represent maximum values.)

2. Each rating is weighted by the associated weight multiple in this table to calculate weighted risk score. The sum of these scores is the total weighted risk score.

3. The Total Weighted Risk Score is used to determine the appropriate Risk Control Band from the Risk Score ranges in the table below. Tolerance level is determined by the organization's tolerance for risk. (The default is Medium tolerance).

Lab Environment Rating and Weighting Table				
Evaluation Criteria	Rating	Weight Multiple	Weighted Risk Score	Sensitivity or Importance
Hazard	4	14	56	35%
Quantity	4	2	8	5%
Potential or Rate of Generation	4	12	48	30%
Method of Generation	4	1	4	3%
Generation Locations	4	2	8	5%
ECD Availability	4	1	4	3%
Appropriate ECDs	4	1	4	3%
Ventilation Effectiveness ($V_{e,n}$)	4	3	12	8%
Dynamic or Potential for Change	4	2	8	5%
Housekeeping	4	1	4	3%
Maximum ECD	4	1	4	3%
Totals	44	Total Weighted Risk Score	160	100%

Risk Score Range for each Risk Control Band (based on Tolerance level)			
Low Tolerance	Medium Tolerance	High Tolerance	Risk Level
0 - 8.0	0 - 24.0	0 - 40.0	0
8 - 16.0	25 - 52.0	41 - 80.0	1
17 - 32.0	53 - 80.0	81 - 112.0	2
33 - 88.0	81 - 108.0	113 - 144.0	3
89 - 160.0	109 - 160.0	145 - 160.0	4

Total Weighted Risk Score = Sum of weighted risk scores for all evaluation criteria.

