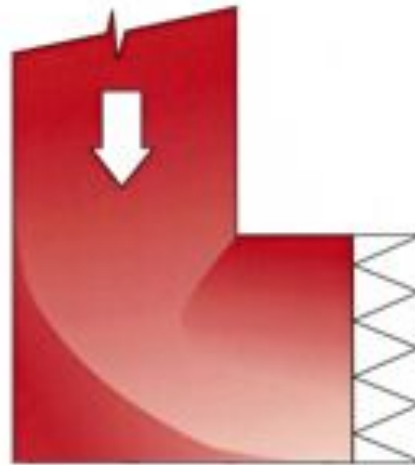


# Basics of Air



**An Introduction to the Principles  
of Moving Air Quietly & Efficiently**

**1st Edition, October 2008**







# Vancouver Test Hut





# Satisfy Marc? Technical 'Guard Dog'





# Harmony House

3500 sq. ft. Net Zero 30,000 BTU design loss





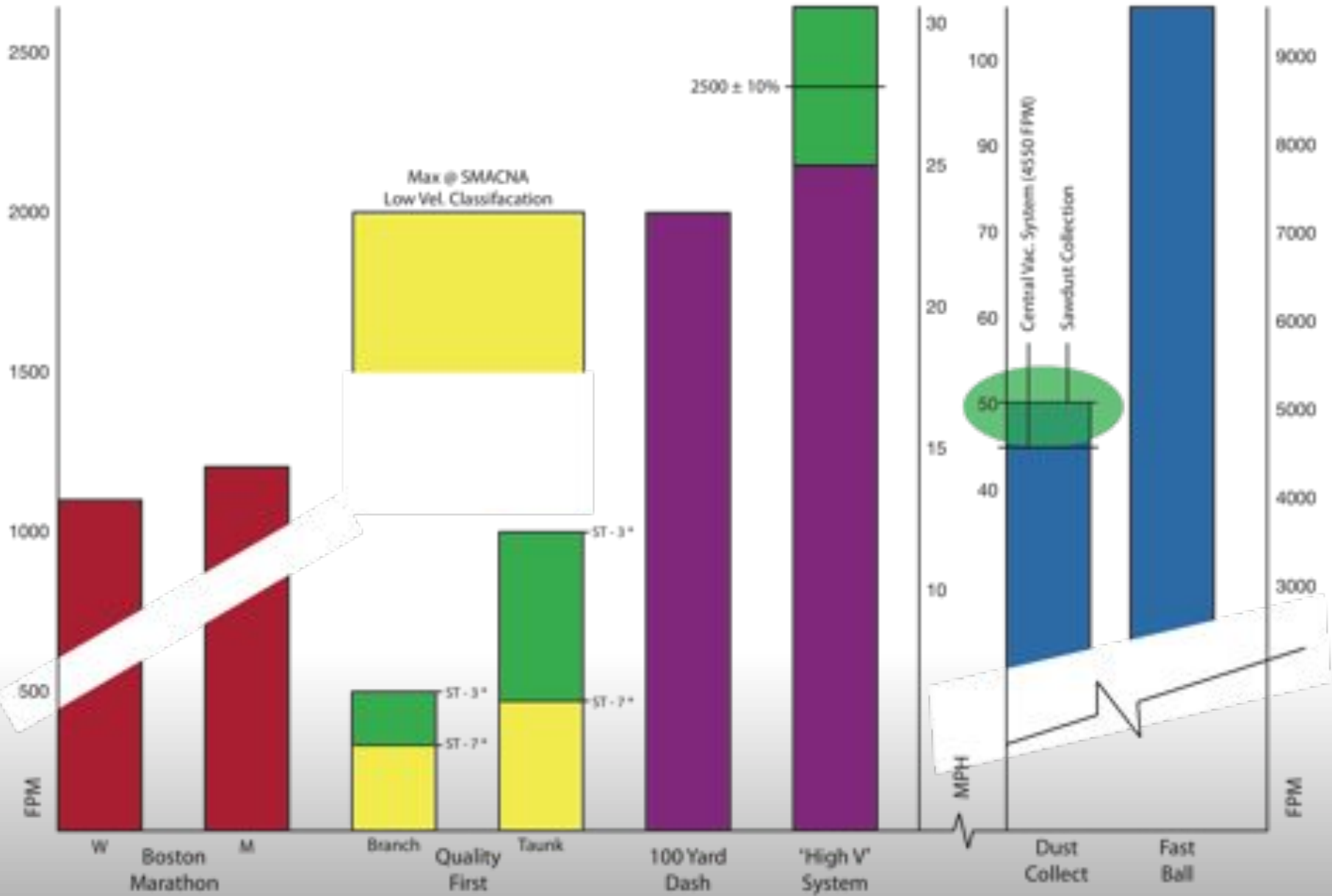
# PITFALLS (if you don't know)

- Lack of Comfort
  - Poor heat/cool to distant rooms
  - Loss of heat/cool capacity
  - Excessive air noise
- Equipment failure
  - Compressor failures
  - Very short filter life
- High utility bill
  - Electricity, fighting duct losses
  - Gas, not scrubbing off heat

1 cubic foot weighs 1/10 lb.  
(almost)



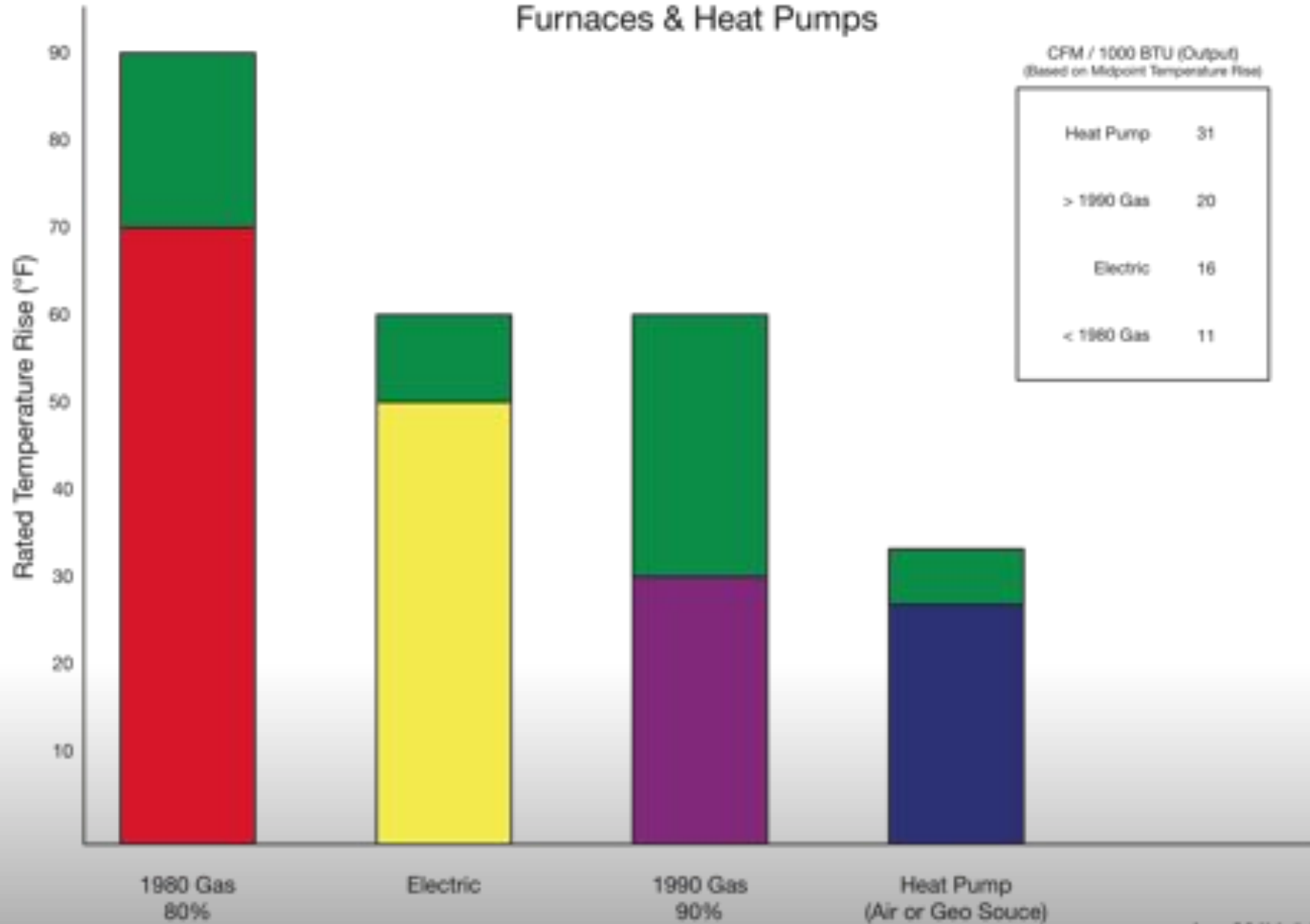
# COMMON VELOCITIES



\* Number of 90° direction changes between air handler and supply air grille of longest run

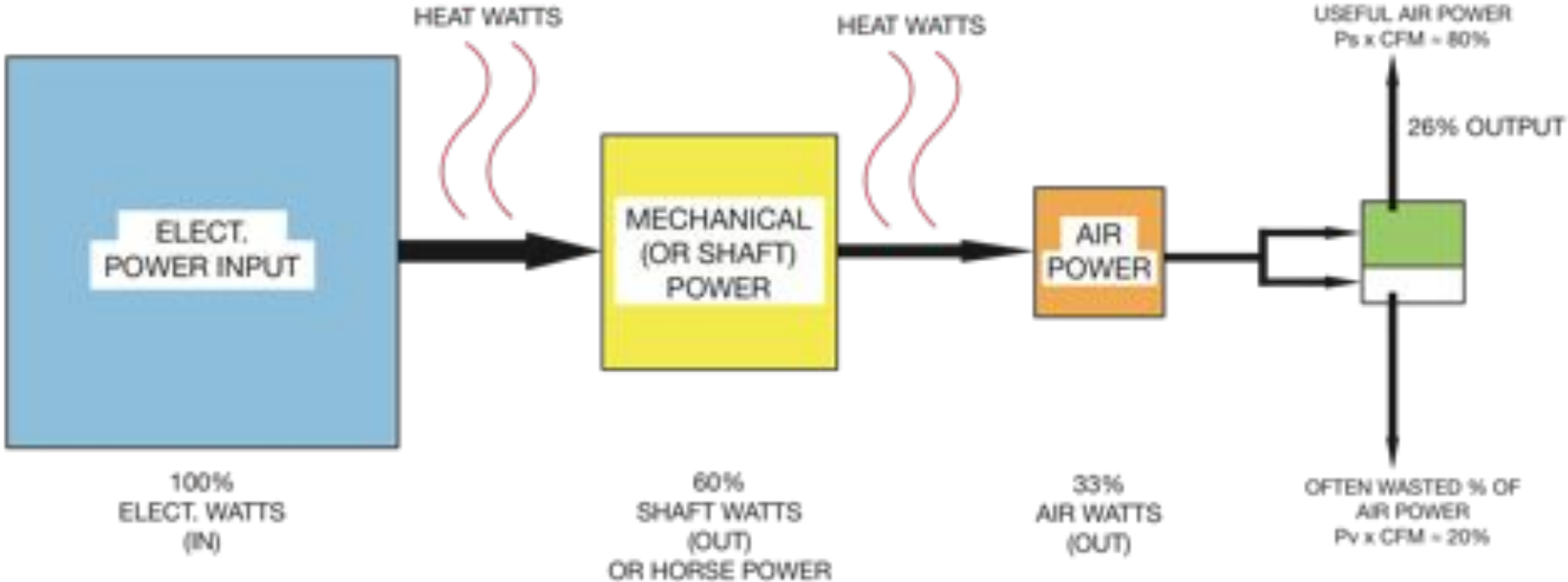
# AIR CIRCULATION REQUIREMENTS

## Furnaces & Heat Pumps



Jun. 28/11 © EPL

# FAN POWER



$W = \text{VOLTS} \times \text{AMPS}$

$W = \text{HORSE POWER} \times 746$   
 EFFICIENCY FROM ELECT. INPUT 50%-80%  
 (ASSUME 60% UNLESS ECM AT 80%)

$W = 117 \times \text{CFM} \times P_t$   
 EFFICIENCY FROM SHAFT INPUT  
 (ASSUME 55%)

AT RESIDENTIAL PRESSURES AND VELOCITIES  
 $P_s = 80\%$  OF TOTAL AIR WATTS

W = Watts, which is the same as horse power. Except 1 horse power is 746 times larger than 1 watt.  
 Air Watts: Used by leading central air vac manufacturers to rate suction power.

Electrolux Serenity QS\* generates 640 air watts from 1500 watts electrical input. This is high, 43% overall efficiency.  
 \*Central vac type unit

# Credit side of the Air Moving ledger = 'Air Power'

Source of the power to move air  
through the system

$$\text{Air Power (hp)} = .000157 \times \text{cfm} \times \text{Pt}$$

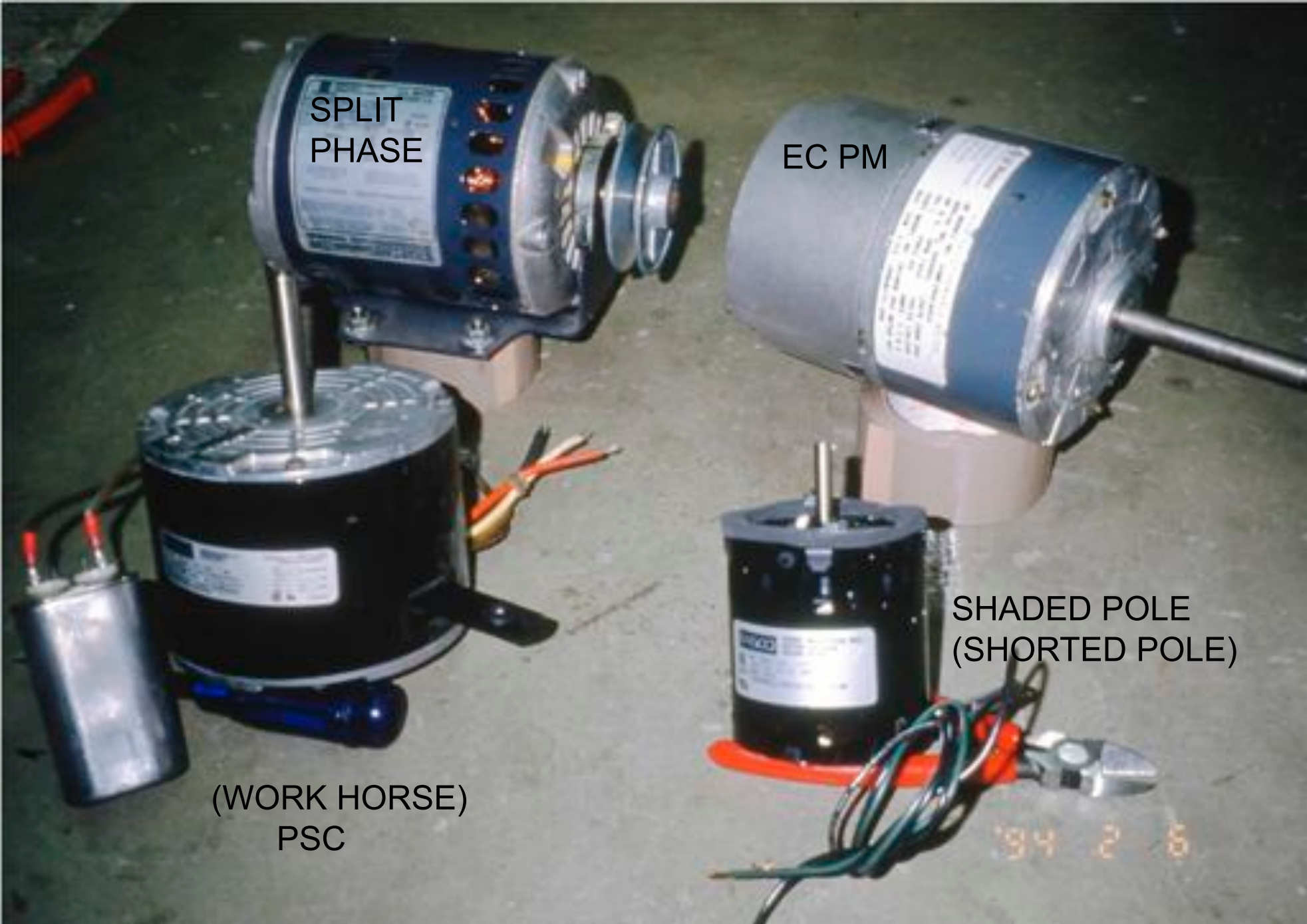
$$\text{Air Power (watts)} = .117 \times \text{cfm} \times \text{Pt}$$

(Pt in inches WC)

Total pressure = Velocity  
pressure + Static Pressure

$$P_t = P_v + P_s$$





SPLIT  
PHASE

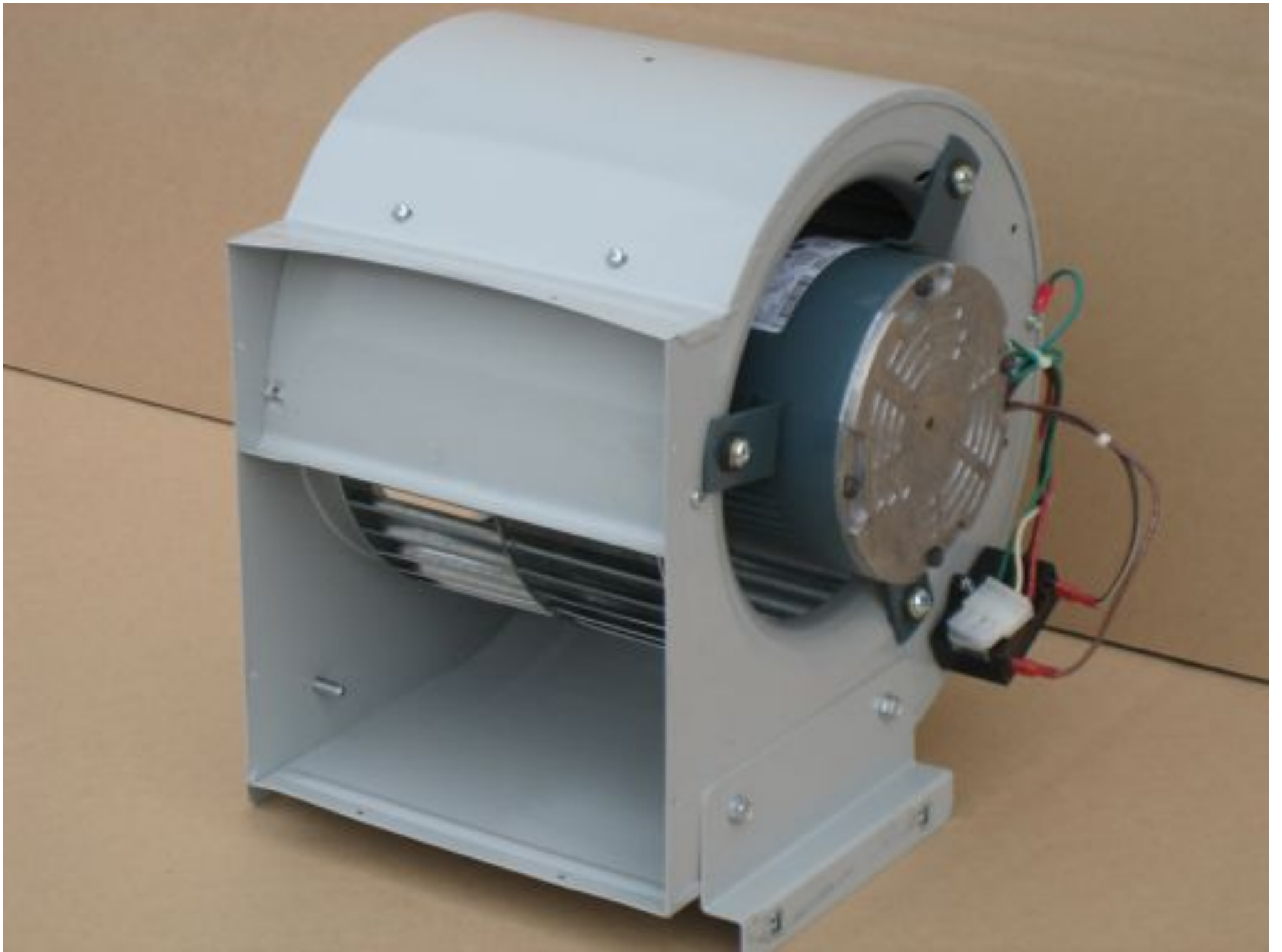
EC PM

SHADED POLE  
(SHORTED POLE)

(WORK HORSE)  
PSC

194 2 5

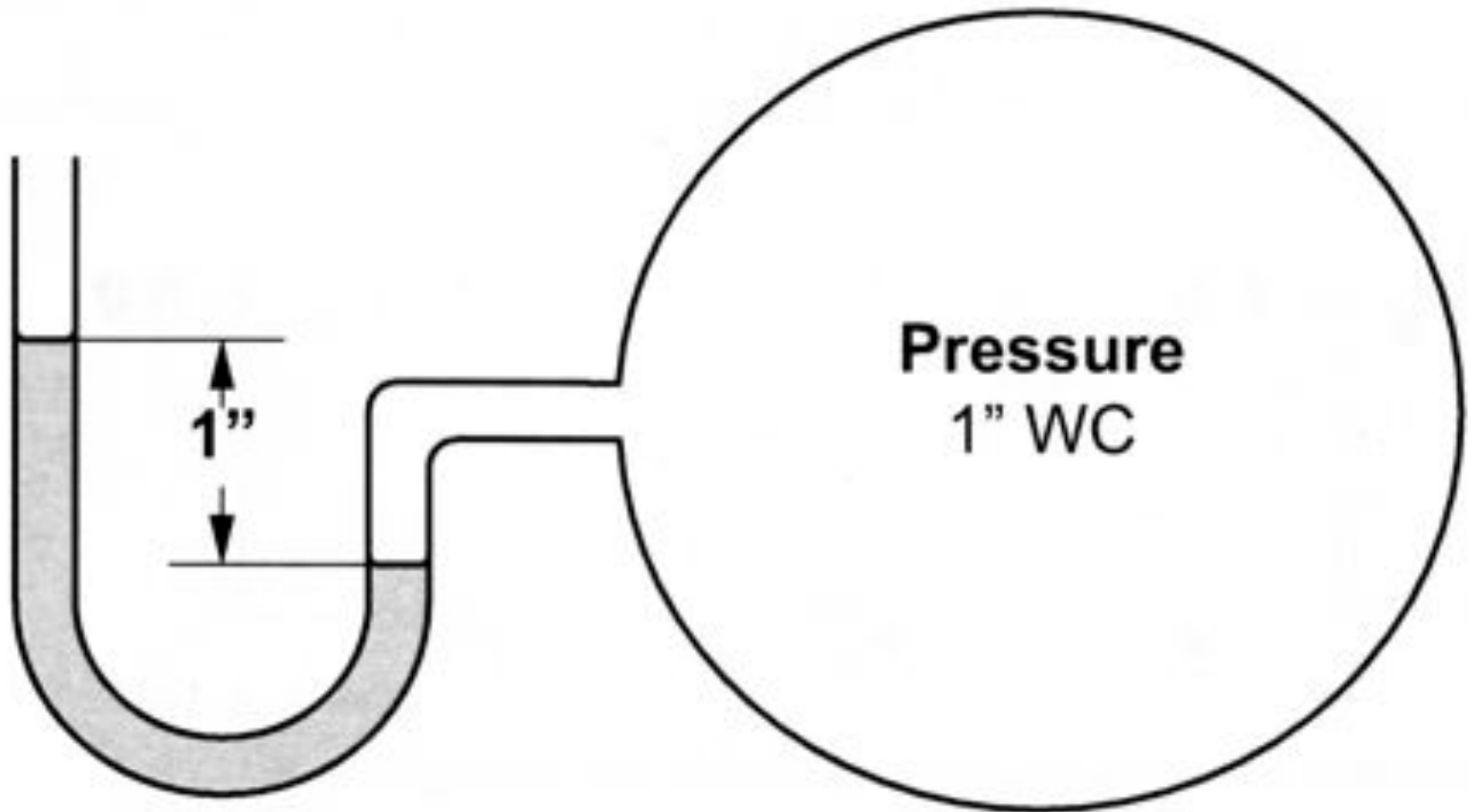






# Duct pressure ( $P_s + a_s$ as shown or -)

Figure 9: MANOMETER

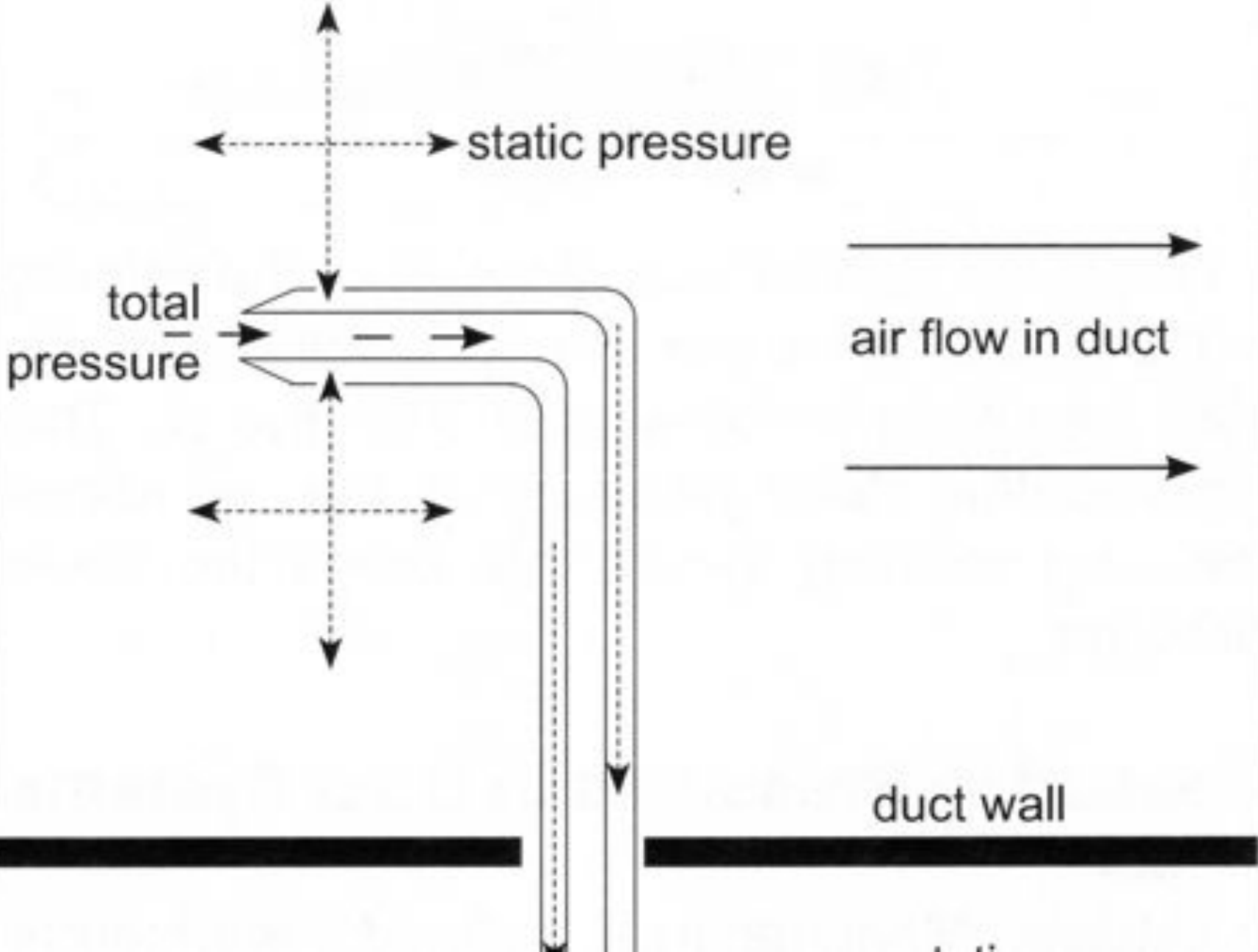


# R/A Static Pressure (Ps)





Figure 11: PITOT TUBE MEASUREMENT OF VELOCITY PRESSURE





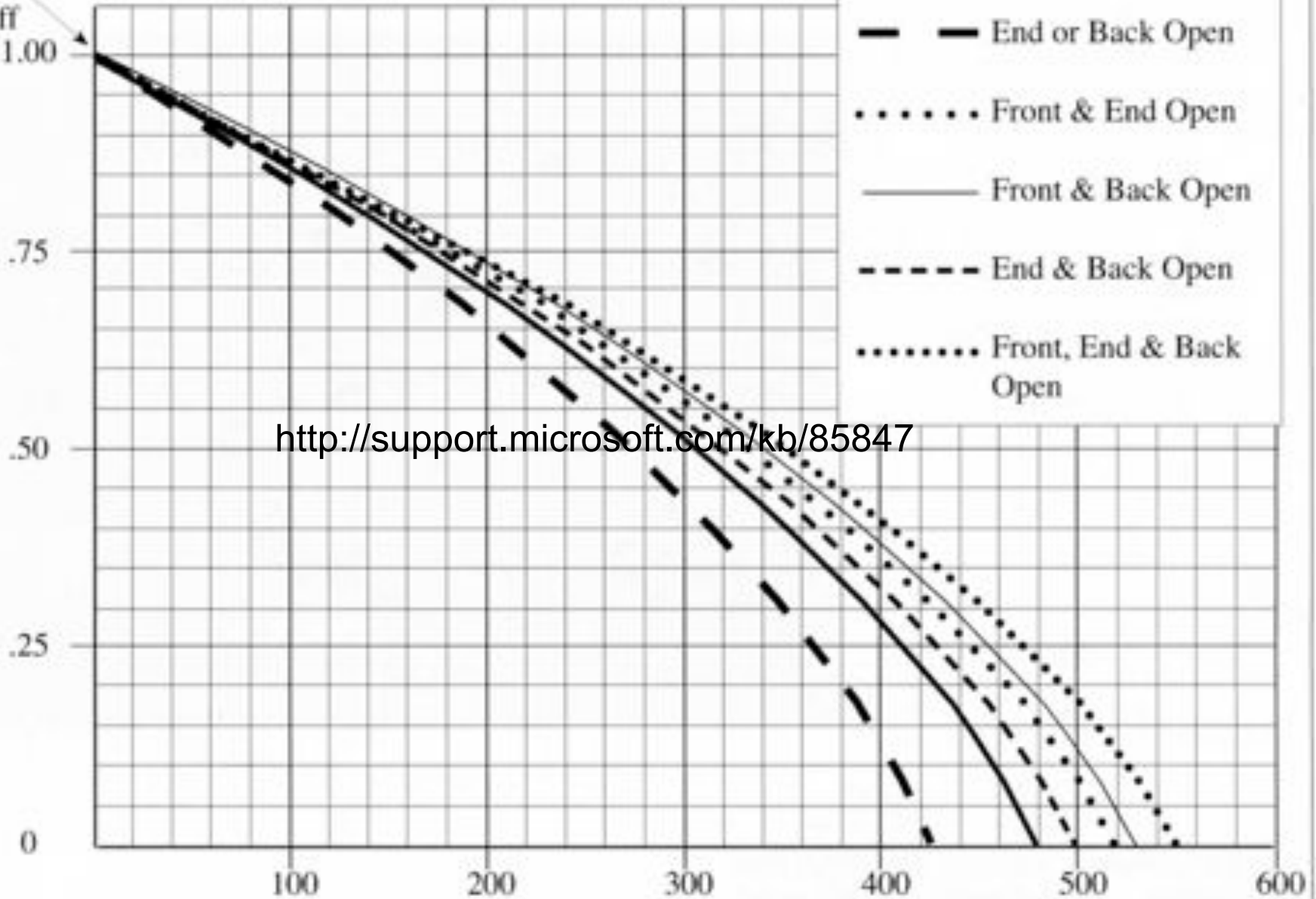
## Velocity Pressure

Correction to Pg. 26A Pv "WC	V fpm	From Formula Pv (in ir V mph
.01*	400	4.5
.02	566	6.4
.03	694	7.9
.04	801	9.1
.05	896	10.2
.06	981	11.1
.07	1060	12.0
.08	1133	12.9
.09	1201	13.6
.10	1265	14.3

# Demo Model Fan Curve

fan  
shut off  
1.00

Static Pressure Inches WC



<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/85847>

Volume Flow Rate CFM

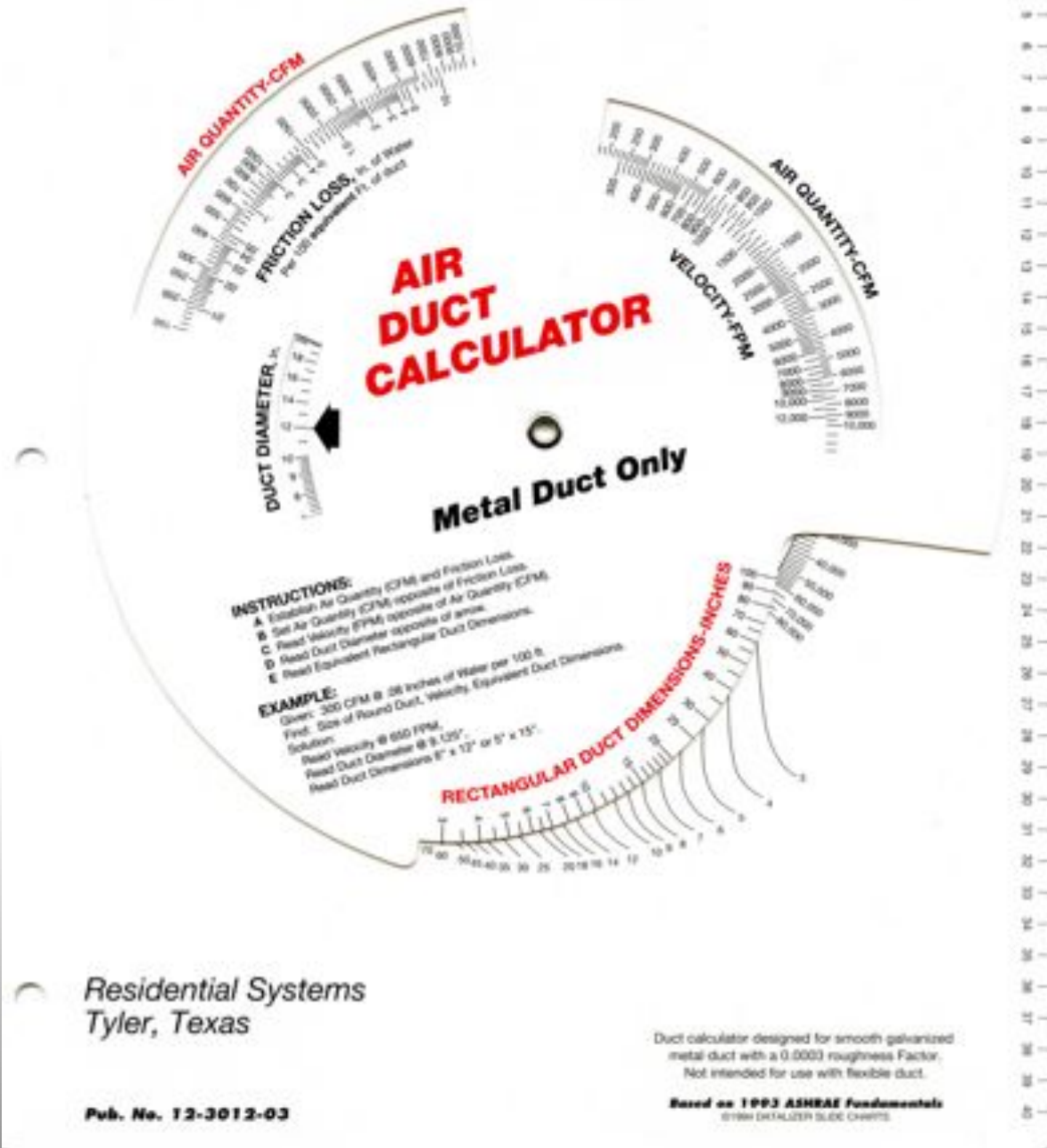


# Debt Side of the Air Moving ledger = parasites and 'OK Things'

- Friction
  - Drag on duct walls
- Fittings
  - Change of direction
- System Effects
  - Cramping inlet or discharge of fan
- OK things, ie: Coils & Filters

# American Standard

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING



Residential Systems  
Tyler, Texas

Pub. No. 12-3012-03

Duct calculator designed for smooth galvanized metal duct with a 0.0003 roughness factor. Not intended for use with flexible duct.

Based on 1993 ASHRAE Fundamentals  
©1994 DATALIZER SLIDE CHARTS

# Equivalent Lengths (Le) for Flex Ducts

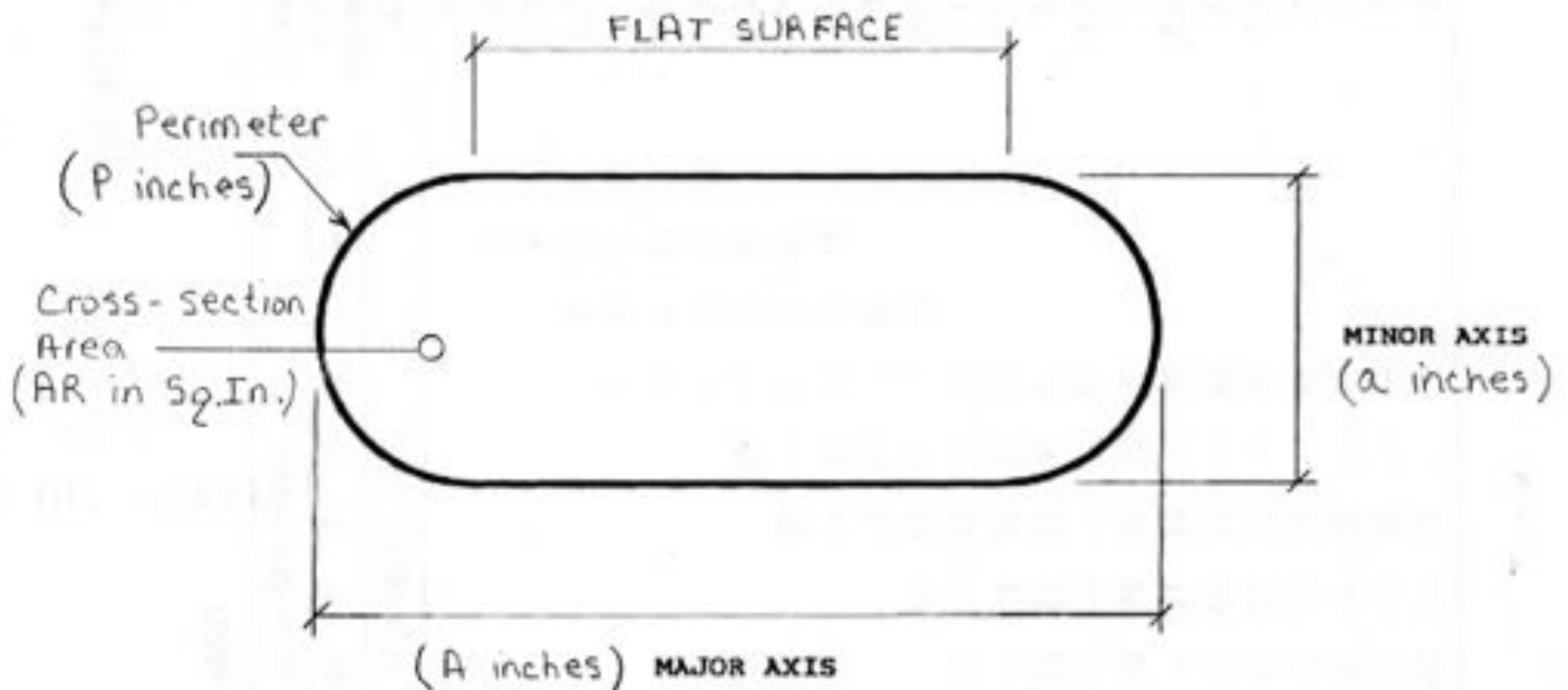
FOR NON-METALIC FLEX DUCT

Velocity @ 500 ft/min						
Flex Dia in. Ø	Fully Extended		90% Extended		70% Extended	
	Le	De	Le	De	Le	De
5	1.9	4.2	3.8	3.5	14.2	2.9
8	1.9	7.0	3.8	5.6	13.8	4.5
12	1.7	10.8	3.6	8.8	12.8	7.1
16	1.7	14.2	3.7	11.5	12.4	9.5
18	1.9	16.1	3.6	13.0	12.6	11.0

Velocity @ 1000 ft/min						
Flex Dia in. Ø	Fully Extended		90% Extended		70% Extended	
	Le	De	Le	De	Le	De
5	2.2	4.2	3.9	3.5	16.0	2.8
8	2.1	7.0	3.9	5.7	15.2	4.8
12	2.0	10.6	3.7	8.5	14.5	7.2
16	1.9	14.7	3.8	11.5	14.2	9.4
18	1.9	16.0	3.5	12.8	14.0	10.5

### 5.21 Equations for Flat Oval Ductwork



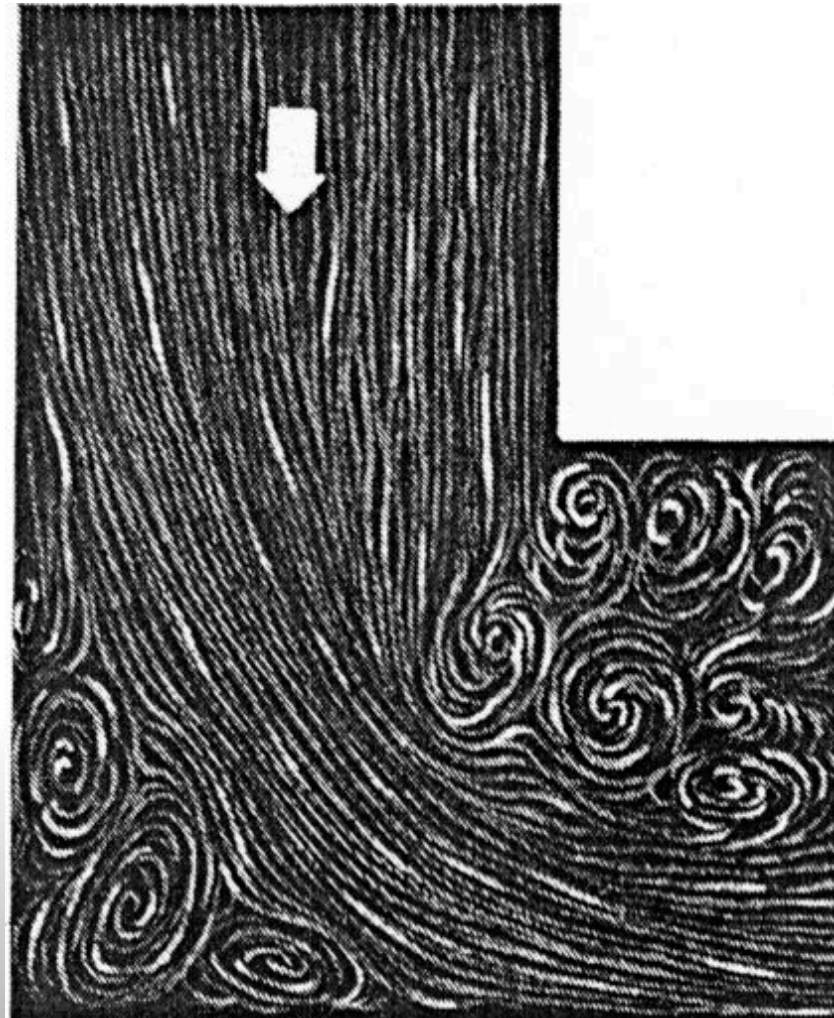
## ASHRAE Fundamentals 2009

**Example:** 3" x 8" (nominal) flat oval all info in inches and sq. in. Apr. 3, '10

Shape (nominal size, in.)	Actual Size inch	Perimeter inch	Actual area in sq. in.	Diameter based on 'actual' area	De inch
Round 6"	6"ø	18.84	28.26	6"	6.00
Flat oval 3 x 8	3 x 7.71	18.84	21.20	5.20	5.02
Flat oval 3 x 8	3.25 x 7.57	18.84	22.33	5.33	5.18

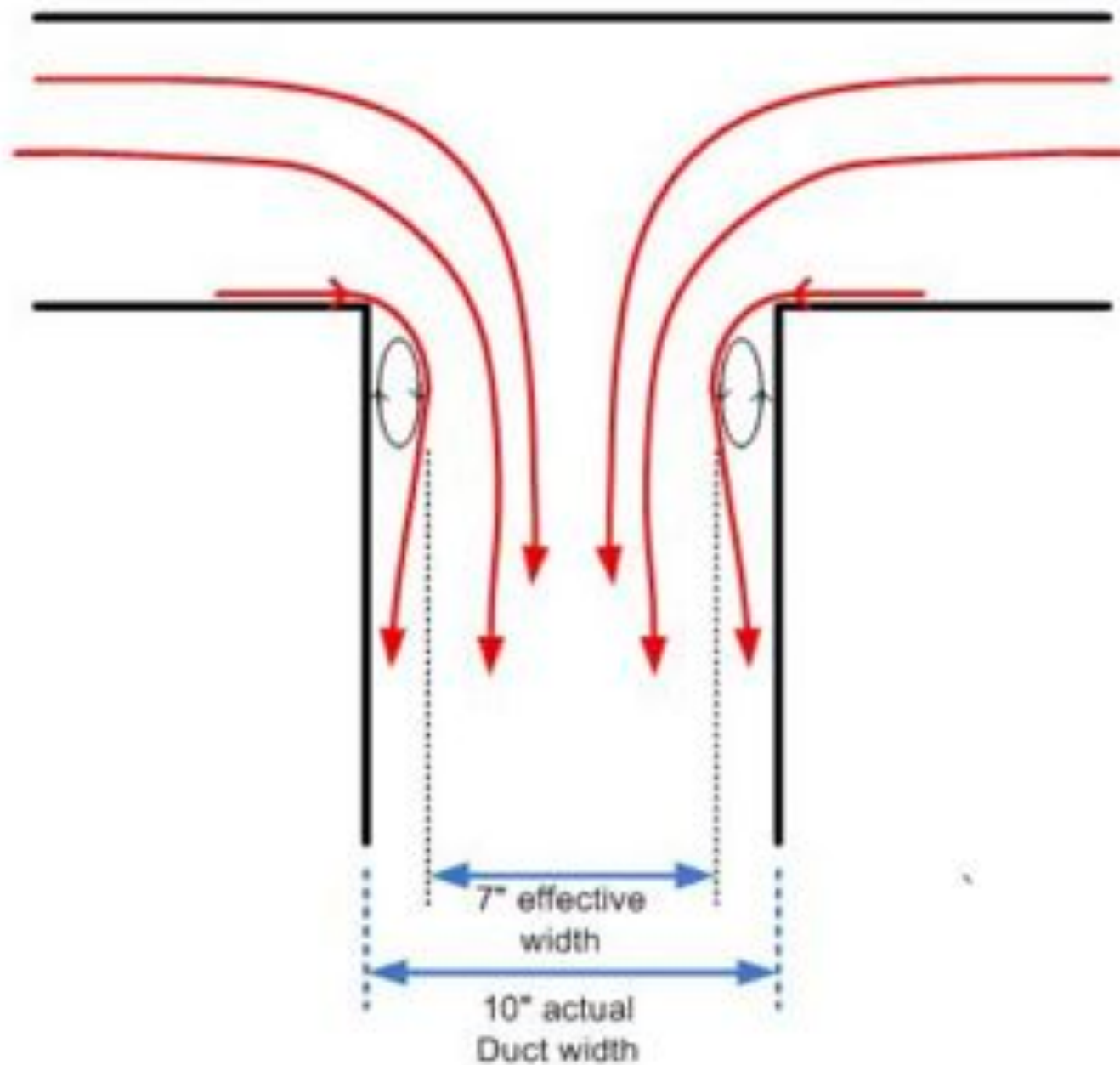
De = Diameter, equivalent (if equivalent friction round duct were substituted)

# Heel/Drop Elbow/Bottom of Drop





# Typical return air duct transition



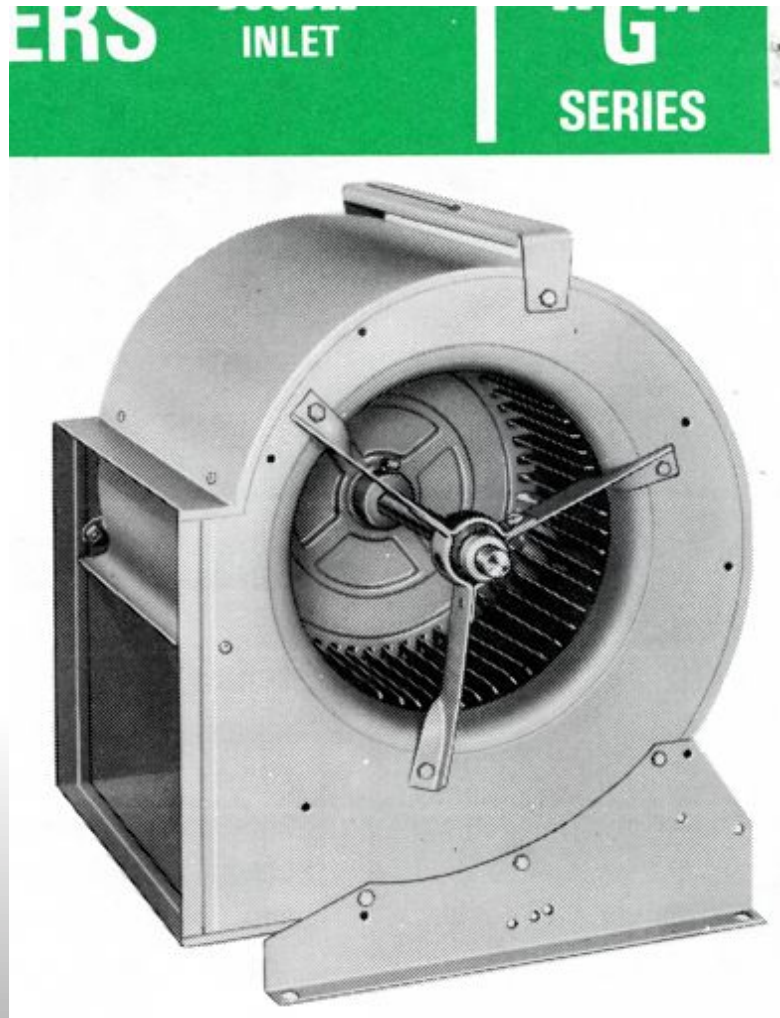
## Equivalent Pressures

Unit	psi	Inches water	Inches mercury	Atmosphere	Pa
psi	1	27.693	2.036	0.06804	6895
Inches of water @ 4°C	0.0361	1	0.0735	0.00224	248.843
Inches of mercury @ 32°F	0.49116	13.595	1	0.03342	3374
Atmosphere @ 68°F	14.696	406.8	29.921	1	101.325x10 <sup>3</sup>

1 psi = 27.693 inches of water  
= 2.036 inches of mercury  
= 0.6804 atmospheres

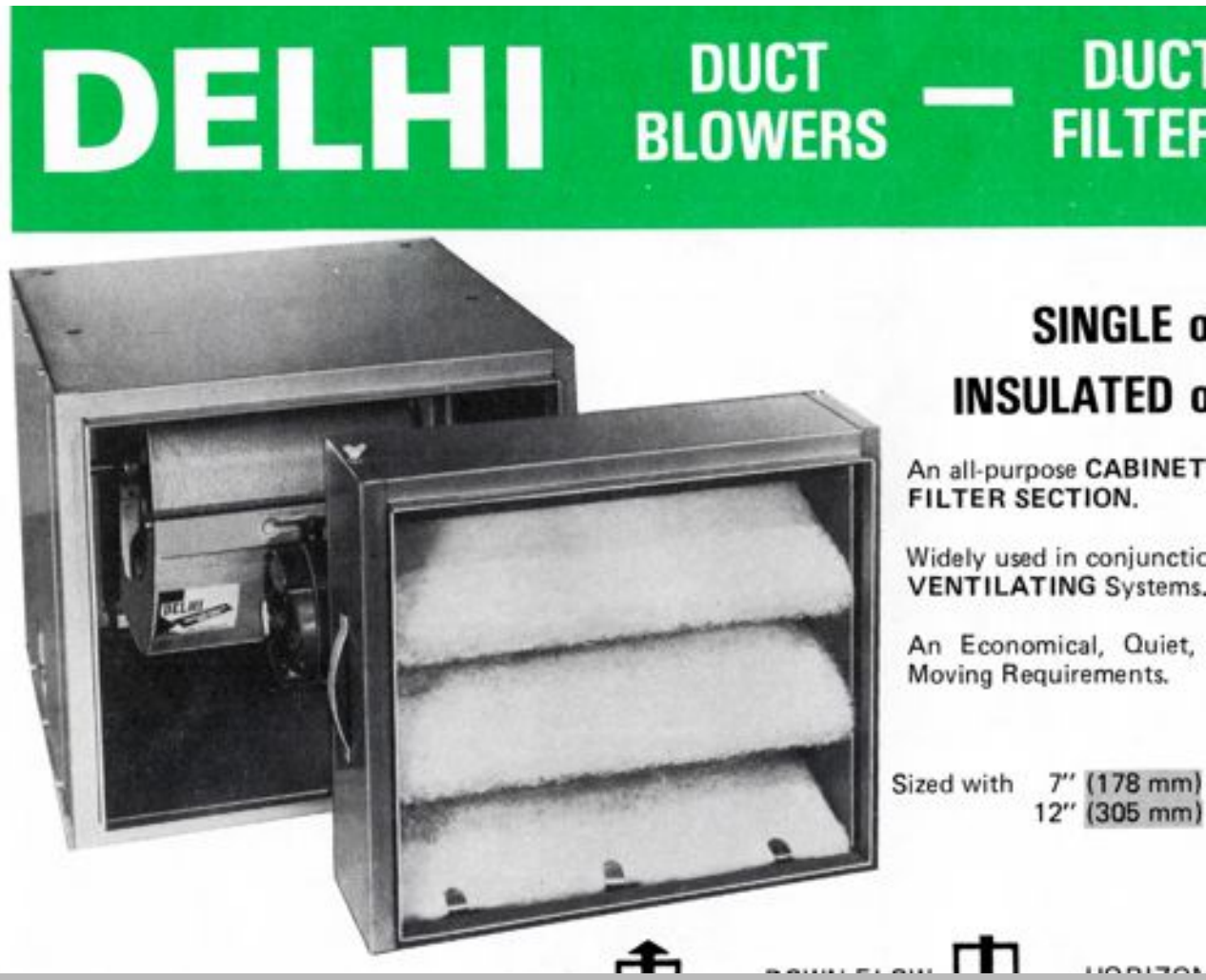
# Double Inlet, Forward Inclined

1000 cfm @ .75" Ps, e = 49 +/- 7%



# Previous in Cabinet

1000 cfm @ .75" Ps, e = 40 +/- 4%



**DELHI** DUCT BLOWERS — DUCT FILTER

**SINGLE**  
**INSULATED**

An all-purpose **CABINET FILTER SECTION**.

Widely used in conjunctic **VENTILATING** Systems.

An Economical, Quiet, Moving Requirements.

Sized with 7" (178 mm)  
12" (305 mm)

↑ DOWNFLOW ↓ HORIZONTAL

# MODEL (key parts)

- Fan/Blower & Straight Section
- Pressure Gauges
- Measuring Section & Watts
- R/A fittings
- S/A fittings
- Venturi
- Evase







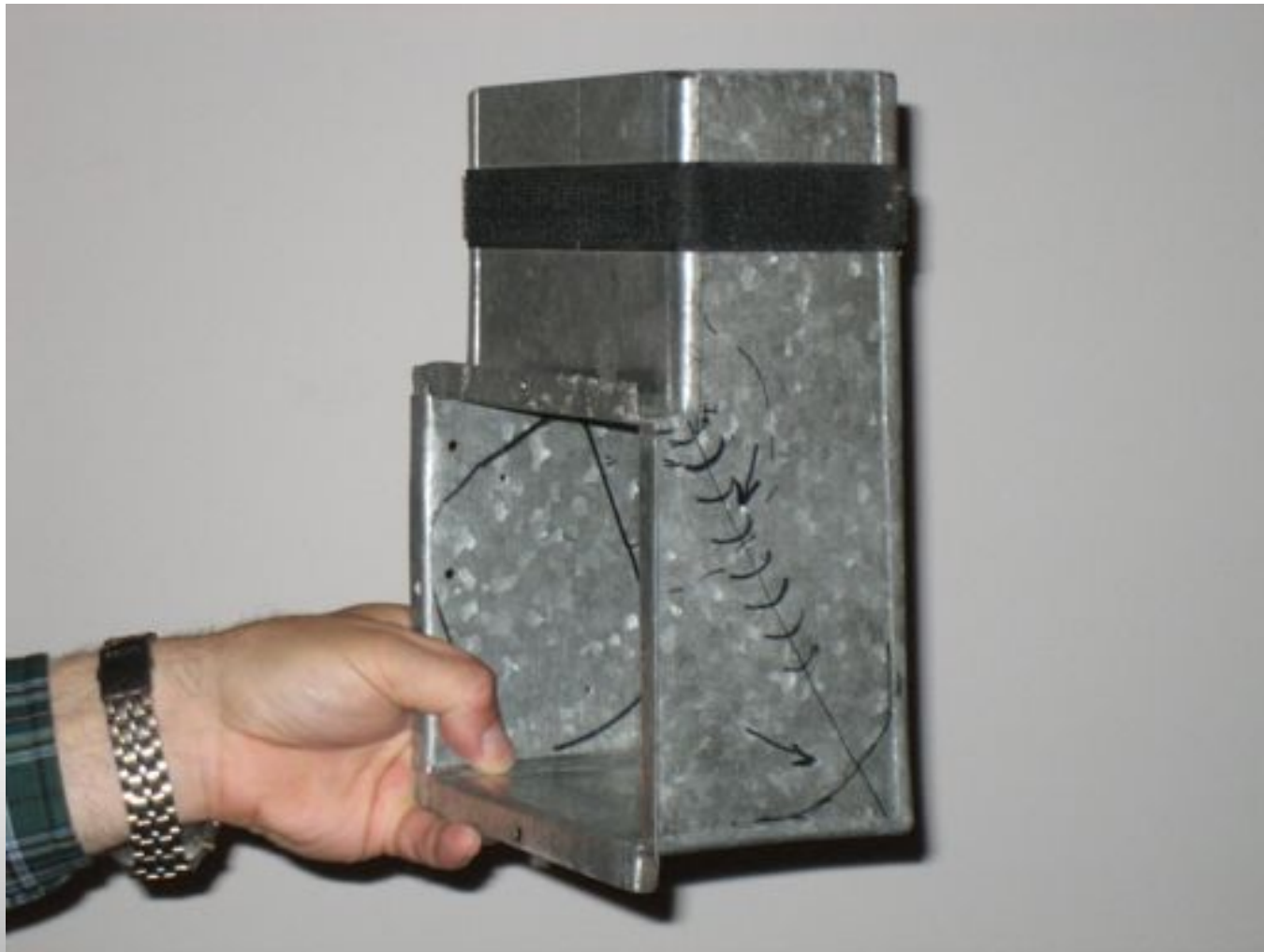


# Measuring Section & Watts





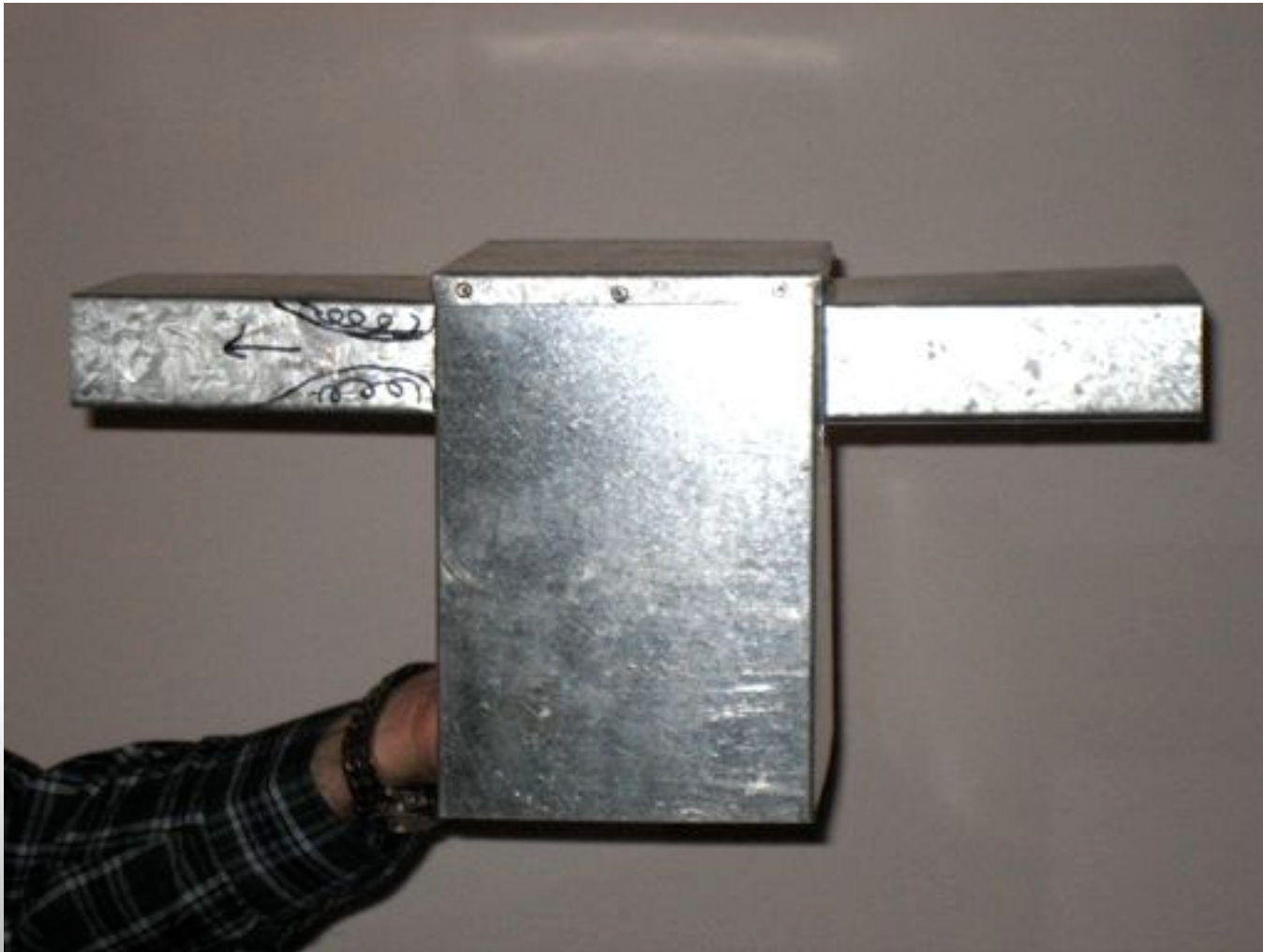
# Elbow, sharp throat, sharp heel



# Elbow, radiused throat, radiused heel, e/w turning vanes



# Plenum Take-off/PTO (Poor)



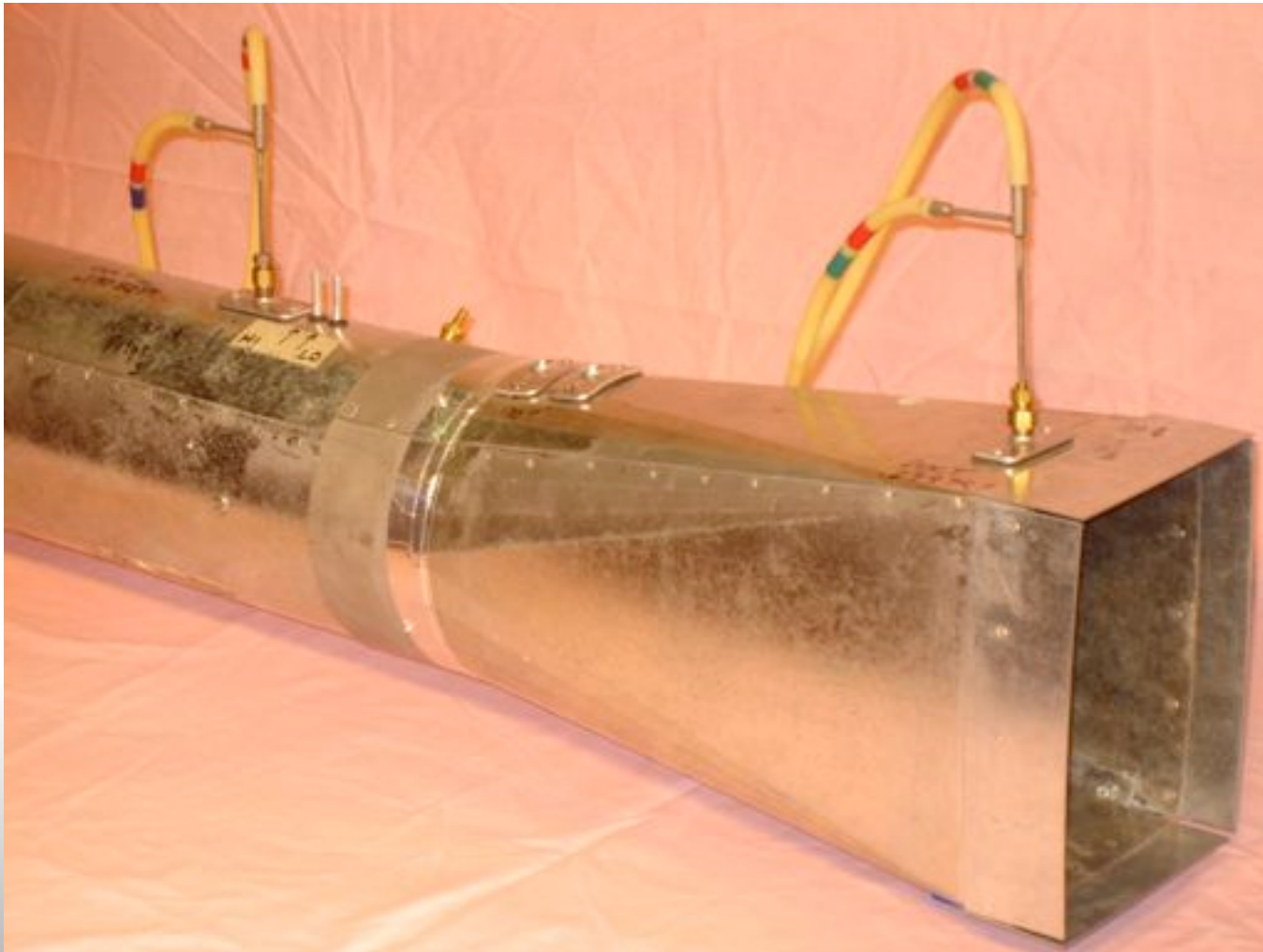
# Plenum Take-off/PTO (near) standard



# Plenum Take-off/PTO 'Pair of Pants'



# SMOOTH TRANSITION/EVASE





# Model, show & tell

Conversion Chart: Pitot Tube A VP to CFM							
Centre		90% Centre	Meas. Sec.	Centre		90% Centre	Meas. Sec.
VP in WC	FPM	FPM	CFM	VP in WC	FPM	FPM	CFM
.01	400	360	68	.22	1879	1691	321
.02	566	509	97	.23	1921	1729	328
.03	694	624	119	.24	1962	1766	336
.04	801	721	137	.25	2003	1802	342
.05	896	806	153	.26	2042	1838	349
.06	981	882	168	.28	2119	1907	362
.07	1060	954	181	.30	2193	1973	375
.08	1133	1020	193	.32	2260	2034	386
.09	1201	1081	205	.34	2335	2101	399
.10	1266	1139	216	.36	2403	2163	411
.11	1328	1195	227	.38	2469	2221	421
.12	1387	1248	237	.40	2533	2280	433
.13	1444	1300	247	.42	2595	2336	444
.14	1498	1348	256	.44	2656	2390	454
.15	1551	1396	265	.46	2716	2444	464
.16	1602	1442	274	.48	2775	2498	475
.17	1651	1486	282	.50	2832	2549	484
.18	1699	1529	290	.55	2970	2673	508
.19	1746	1571	299	.60	3102	2792	530
.20	1791	1612	306	.65	3229	2906	552
.21	1835	1651	314	.70	3351	3016	573

# MODEL DEMO

- Vary flow using R/A damper
  - S/A with R/A fully open
- Shut off Condition
- R/A variable set  $P_v = .14''$ 
  - S/A sharp PTO
  - S/A pair of pants PTO
- S/A variable set  $P_v = .14''$  with S/A damper in place
  - Sharp heal
  - Best heal
- Evase, static regain (e/w pair of pants)

# Lets fix it

- Forget (almost) friction
- Count Fittings
- Select smooth fittings, bad fittings suffocate flow; especially those which
  - handle 100% flow or
  - are used in longest runs
- System effects, don't abuse fans
- Fan Laws
- Other neat stuff!

# Forced Air Guidelines



Heat Loss & Heat Gain - Appliance Selection  
Duct System Layout & Sizing

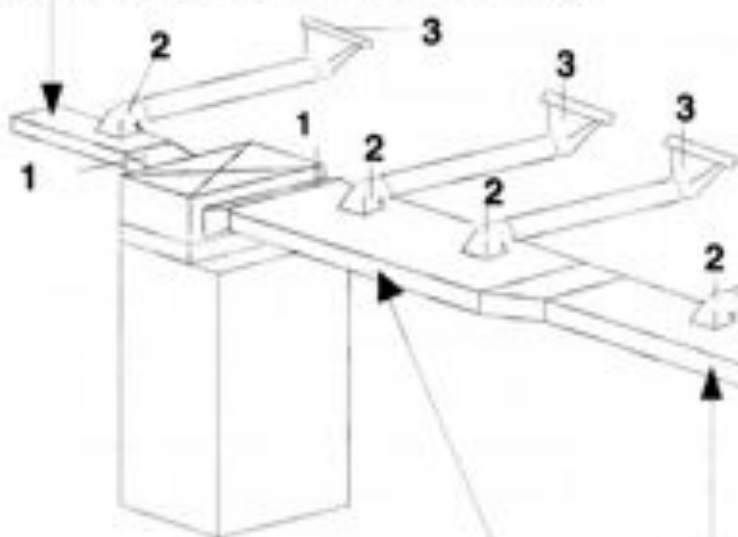
5th Edition, January 2008



# Supply Air Trunk Duct Sizing

## CONVENTIONAL: 0.3 IN WC ESP

Size Trunk to ST 3-4 to serve 3 fitting run



Example 3 fitting Run

Size four Trunks to ST 7 to serve 7 fitting run

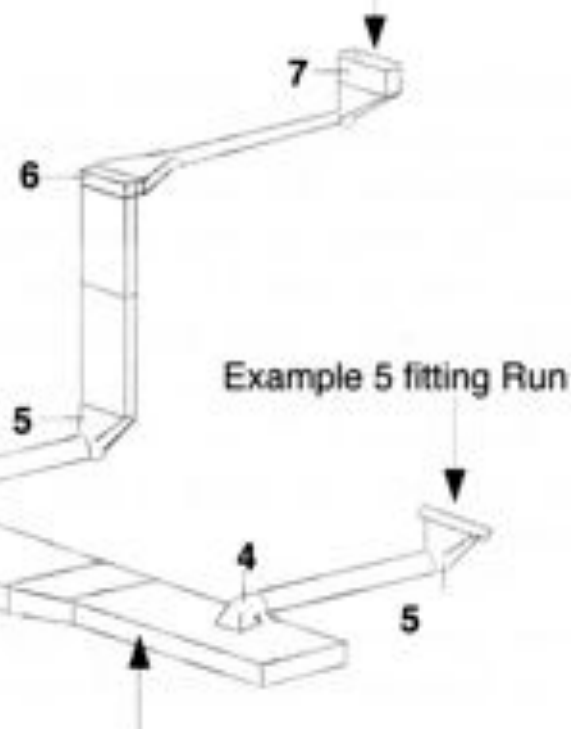
Use **TABLE ST 3-4** when trunk duct serves only runs to first floor or basement with a **maximum of 4 fittings**.

Use **TABLE ST 5-6** when trunk duct serves second floor runs or any runs with a **maximum of 6 fittings**.

Size Trunk to ST 5-6 to serve 5 fitting run

Use **TABLE ST 7** when the trunk duct serves runs with **7 or more fittings**.

Example 7 fitting Run



Example 5 fitting Run

**Table ST 3-4 @.3"WC**

Supply Air CFM	Trunk Duct Size
142 - 179	7 x 6 (7"Ø)
180 - 220	8 x 6 (8"Ø)
221 - 268	8 x 7 (8"Ø)
269 - 355	10 x 7 (9"Ø)
356 - 440	12 x 7 (10"Ø)
441 - 535	14 x 7 (11"Ø)
269 - 320	8 x 8 (9"Ø)
321 - 420	10 x 8 (10"Ø)
421 - 530	12 x 8 (11"Ø)
531 - 650	14 x 8 (12"Ø)
651 - 760	16 x 8 (13"Ø)
761 - 860	18 x 8 (13"Ø)
861 - 980	20 x 8 (14"Ø)
981 - 1125	22 x 8 (14"Ø)
1126 - 1225	24 x 8 (15"Ø)
1226 - 1270	25 x 8 (15"Ø)
1271 - 1340	26 x 8 (15"Ø)
1341 - 1480	28 x 8 (16"Ø)
1481 - 1560	30 x 8 (16"Ø)
1200 - 1360	20 x 10 (16"Ø)
1361 - 1510	22 x 10 (16"Ø)
1511 - 1710	24 x 10 (17"Ø)
1711 - 1850	26 x 10 (17"Ø)
1851 - 2050	28 x 10 (18"Ø)
2051 - 2210	30 x 10 (18"Ø)
2211 - 2400	32 x 10 (19"Ø)
2401 - 2475	34 x 10 (19"Ø)

**Table ST 5-6 @.3"WC**

Supply Air CFM	Trunk Duct Size
120-159	7 x 6 (7"Ø)
160-188	8 x 6 (8"Ø)
189-230	8 x 7 (8"Ø)
231-310	10 x 7 (9"Ø)
311-380	12 x 7 (10"Ø)
381-455	14 x 7 (11"Ø)
230-275	8 x 8 (9"Ø)
276-365	10 x 8 (10"Ø)
366-460	12 x 8 (11"Ø)
461-570	14 x 8 (12"Ø)
571-650	16 x 8 (13"Ø)
651-750	18 x 8 (13"Ø)
751-850	20 x 8 (14"Ø)
851-950	22 x 8 (14"Ø)
951-1050	24 x 8 (15"Ø)
1051-1100	25 x 8 (15"Ø)
1101-1160	26 x 8 (15"Ø)
1161-1280	28 x 8 (16"Ø)
1281-1340	30 x 8 (16"Ø)
1050-1180	20 x 10 (16"Ø)
1181-1310	22 x 10 (16"Ø)
1311-1500	24 x 10 (17"Ø)
1501-1600	26 x 10 (17"Ø)
1601-1780	28 x 10 (18"Ø)
1781-1920	30 x 10 (18"Ø)
1921-2080	32 x 10 (19"Ø)
2081-2130	34 x 10 (19"Ø)

**Table ST 7@.3"WC**

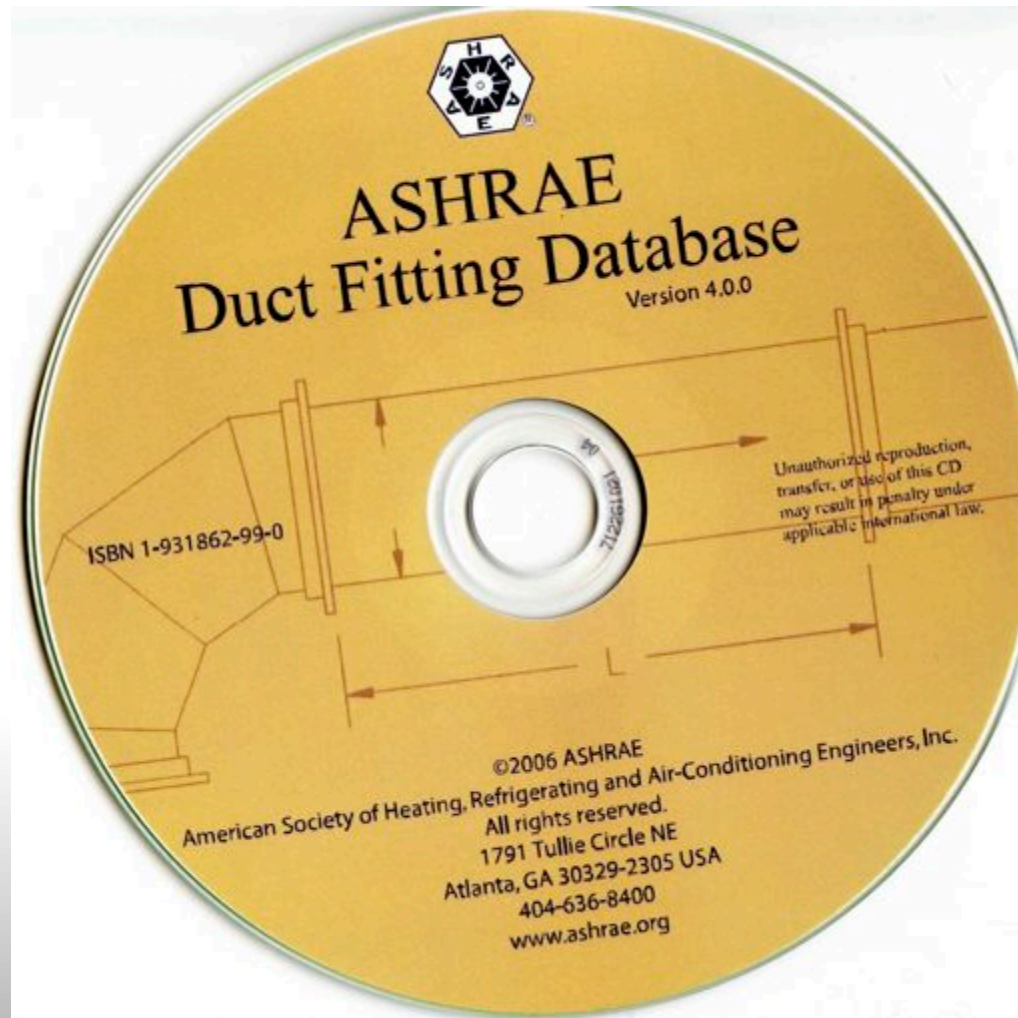
Supply Air CFM	Trunk Duct Size
97-124	7 x 6 (7"Ø)
125-150	8 x 6 (8"Ø)
151-188	8 x 7 (8"Ø)
189-245	10 x 7 (9"Ø)
246-305	12 x 7 (10"Ø)
306-370	14 x 7 (11"Ø)
189-225	8 x 8 (9"Ø)
226-290	10 x 8 (10"Ø)
291-370	12 x 8 (11"Ø)
371-455	14 x 8 (12"Ø)
456-520	16 x 8 (13"Ø)
521-600	18 x 8 (13"Ø)
601-685	20 x 8 (14"Ø)
686-765	22 x 8 (14"Ø)
766-860	24 x 8 (15"Ø)
861-880	25 x 8 (15"Ø)
881-940	26 x 8 (15"Ø)
941-1020	28 x 8 (16"Ø)
1021-1080	30 x 8 (16"Ø)
860-950	20 x 10 (16"Ø)
951-1050	22 x 10 (16"Ø)
1051-1200	24 x 10 (17"Ø)
1201-1290	26 x 10 (17"Ø)
1291-1425	28 x 10 (18"Ø)
1426-1550	30 x 10 (18"Ø)
1551-1680	32 x 10 (19"Ø)
1681-1720	34 x 10 (19"Ø)

# SA Branch Run Sizing .3 In. wc ESP

## Maximum CFM per Branch Run

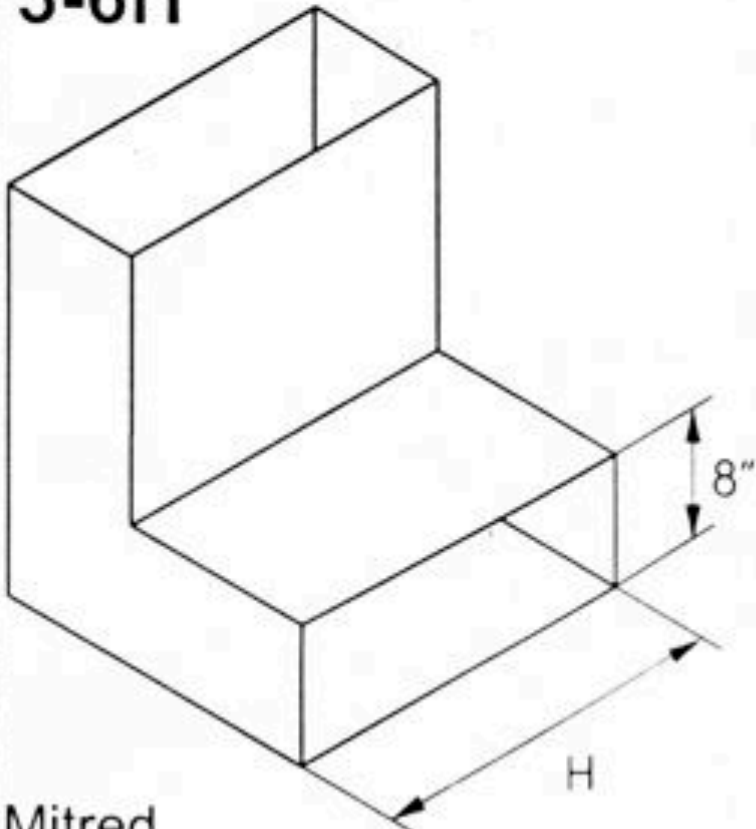
Branch Duct Size	Max. No. of fittings per branch		
	4 ftg	6 ftg	7 ftg
4"Ø	35	30	25
5"Ø	65	55	45
6"Ø	100	90	75
7"Ø	160	135	110

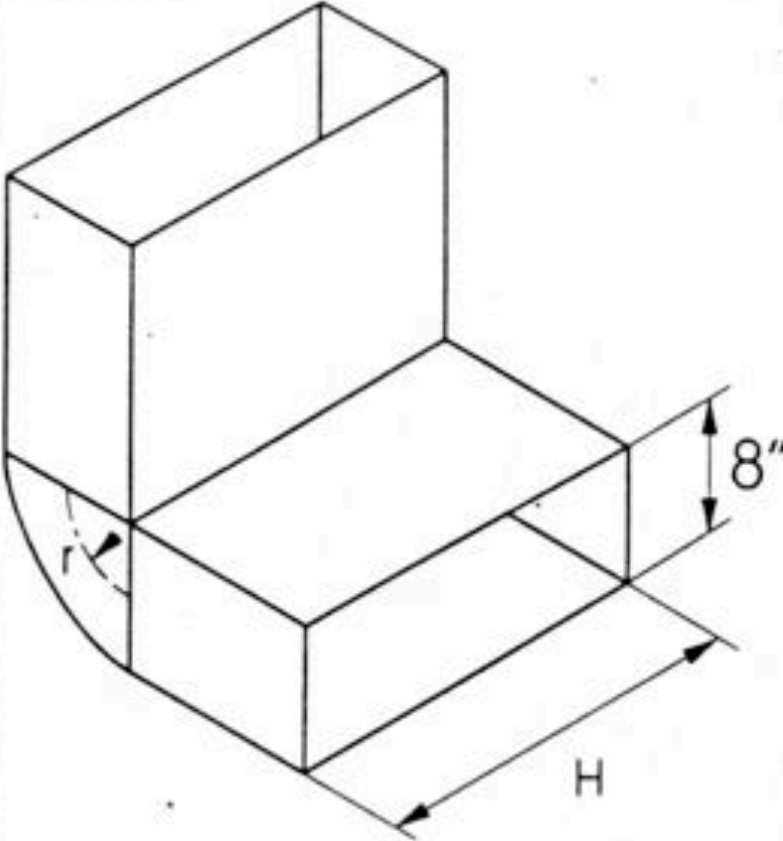
# Eli Howard SMACNA/ASHRAE chair tech committee





# tangular 90° Fittings — Short Way (H)

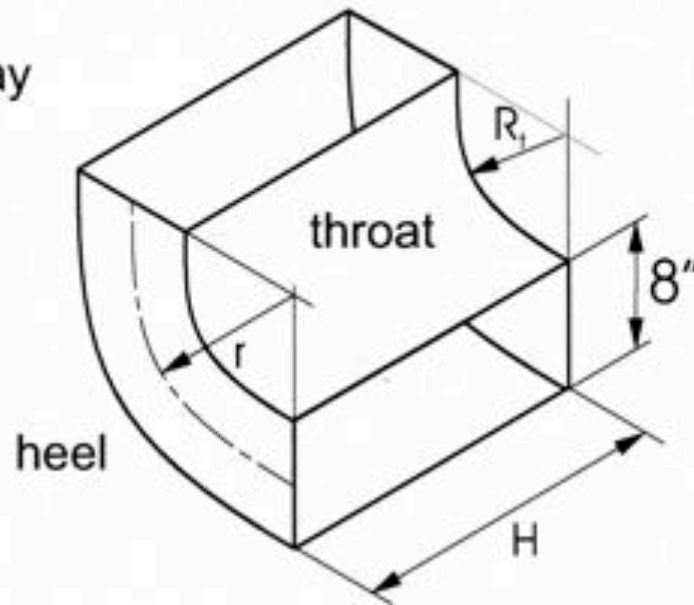
Elbow Fitting R <sub>t</sub> Throat Radius r Centreline Radius r/W Radius Ratio	WxH in	Velocity (fpm)			
		500		1000	
		Le ft	CFM	Le ft	CFM
<b>3-6H</b>  Mitred Sharp Heel & Throat No Vanes	8x8	31	222	36	444
	8x12	37	333	43	667
	8x14	39	387	45	778
	8x20	42	556	49	1111
	8x24	43	667	49	1333
	8x32	43	889	50	1778

Elbow Fitting	WxH in	Velocity (fpm)			
		500		1000	
		Le ft	CFM	Le ft	CFM
<b>3-2H</b>  Smooth Heel, Sharp Throat No Vanes	8x8	31	222	36	444
8x12	35	333	40	667	
8x14	36	387	42	778	
8x20	41	556	47	1111	
8x24	43	667	50	1333	
8x32	50	889	57	1778	

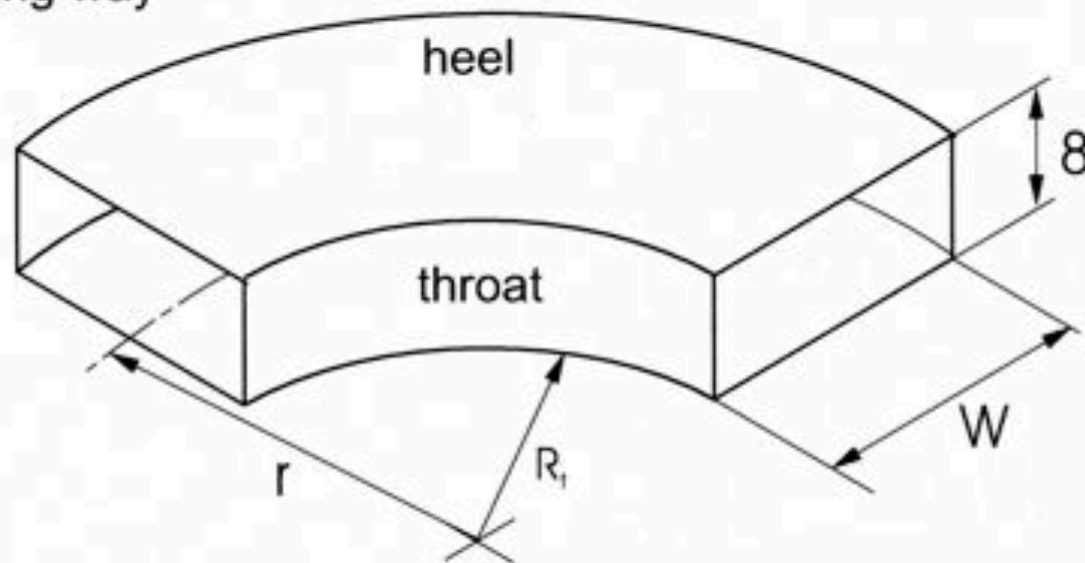
# Fittings & Turning Vanes

Figure 36: 90° FITTINGS — SHORT WAY & LONG WAY, SMOOTH THROAT & HEEL

short way



long way



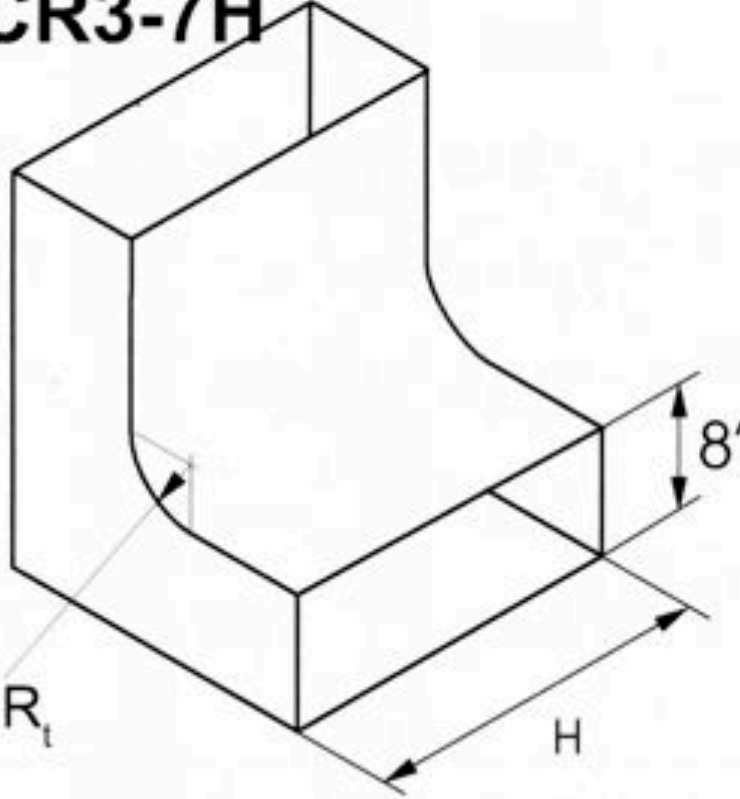
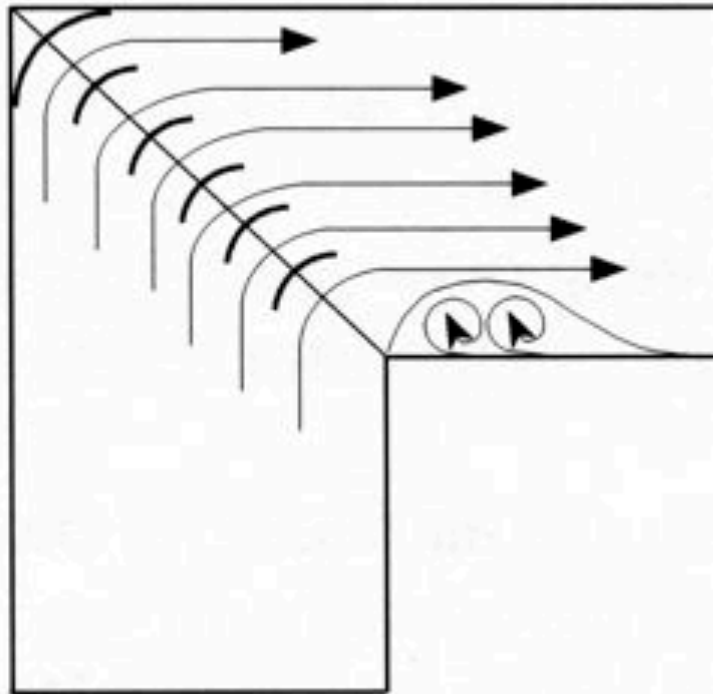
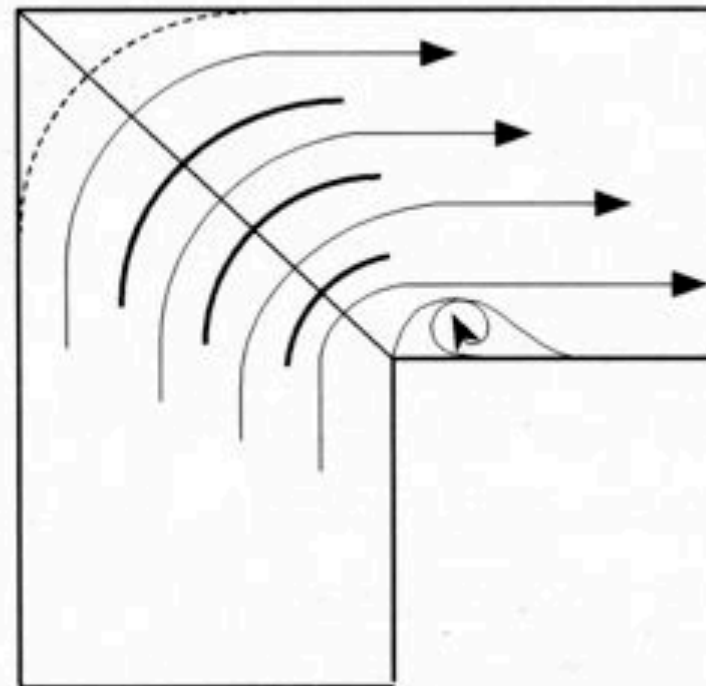
<b>Elbow Fitting</b> $R_t$ Throat Radius $r$ Centreline Radius $r/W$ Radius Ratio	<b>WxH</b> in	<b>Velocity (fpm)</b>			
		500		1000	
		<b>Le</b> ft	<b>CFM</b>	<b>Le</b> ft	<b>CFM</b>
<b>CR3-7H</b>  <p>Sharp Heel, Smooth Throat, No Vanes <math>R_t = 6''</math></p>	8x8	11	222	13	444
	8x12	12	333	14	667
	8x14	13	387	16	778
	8x20	15	556	18	1111
	8x24	16	667	19	1333
	8x32	18	889	21	1778

Figure 37: TURNING VANES INSTALLED IN MITRED 90° FITTING



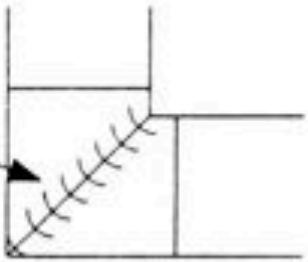
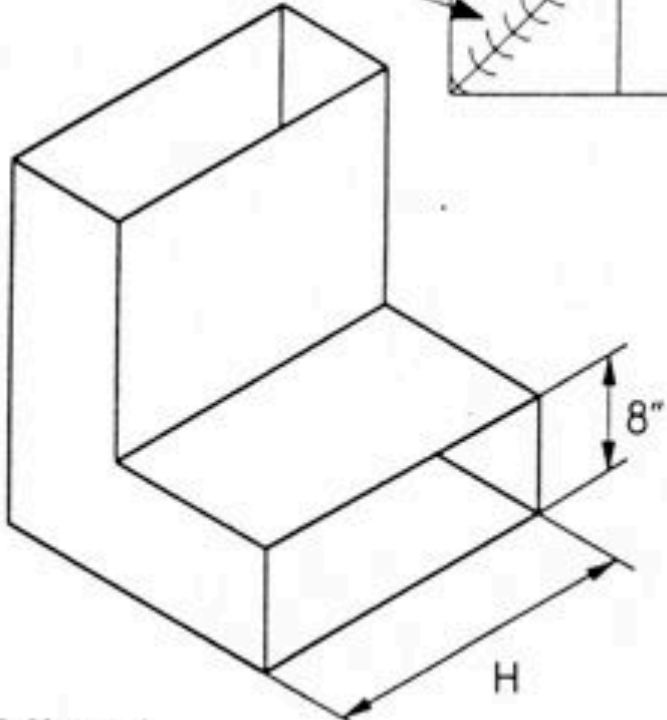
**constant radius vanes**

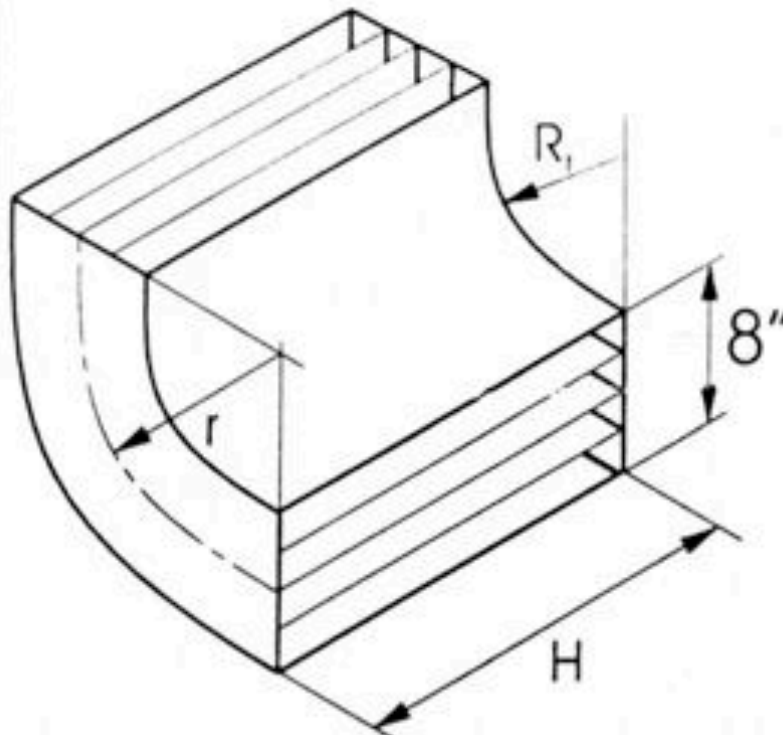
- less turbulence with vanes installed



**full radius vanes**

- turbulence reduced more
- harder to install—  
accurate positioning required

<b>Elbow Fitting</b>		<b>WxH</b>		<b>Velocity (fpm)</b>			
				500		1000	
		$R_t$ Throat Radius	in	<b>Le</b>	<b>CFM</b>	<b>Le</b>	<b>CFM</b>
$r$ Centreline Radius	ft			ft			
$r/W$ Radius Ratio							
<b>3-9H</b>							
Cross Section view: Vanes 							
							
Mitred Single Thickness Vane 1 1/2" Spacing							
		8x8	3	222	3	444	
		8x12	4	333	4	667	
		8x14	4	387	4	778	
		8x20	5	556	5	1111	
		8x24	5	667	6	1333	
		8x32	5	889	6	1778	

<b>Elbow Fitting</b> $R_t$ Throat Radius $r$ Centreline Radius $r/W$ Radius Ratio	<b>WxH</b>  in	<b>Velocity (fpm)</b>			
		500		1000	
		<b>Le</b> ft	<b>CFM</b>	<b>Le</b> ft	<b>CFM</b>
<b>3-5H</b>  <p>Smooth Heel &amp; Throat            3 Splitter Vanes  <math>R_t = 6"</math> Radius Ratio = .75</p>	8x8	1	222	1	444
	8x12	1	333	1	667
	8x14	1	387	1	778
	8x20	1	556	1	1111
	8x24	1	667	1	1333
	8x32	1	889	1	1778





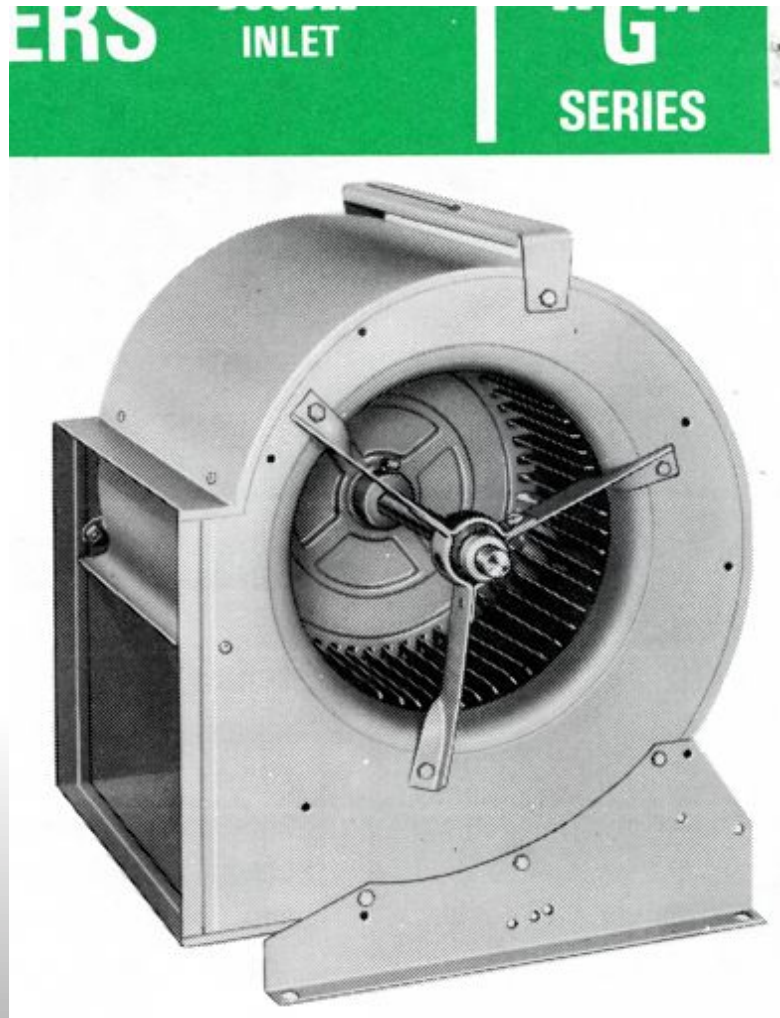


# System Effects

- Fancy word for aerodynamic screw-up right next to the fan!
- Unfortunately you screw-up successfully on BOTH the inlet (intake) and the outlet (discharge) of the fan

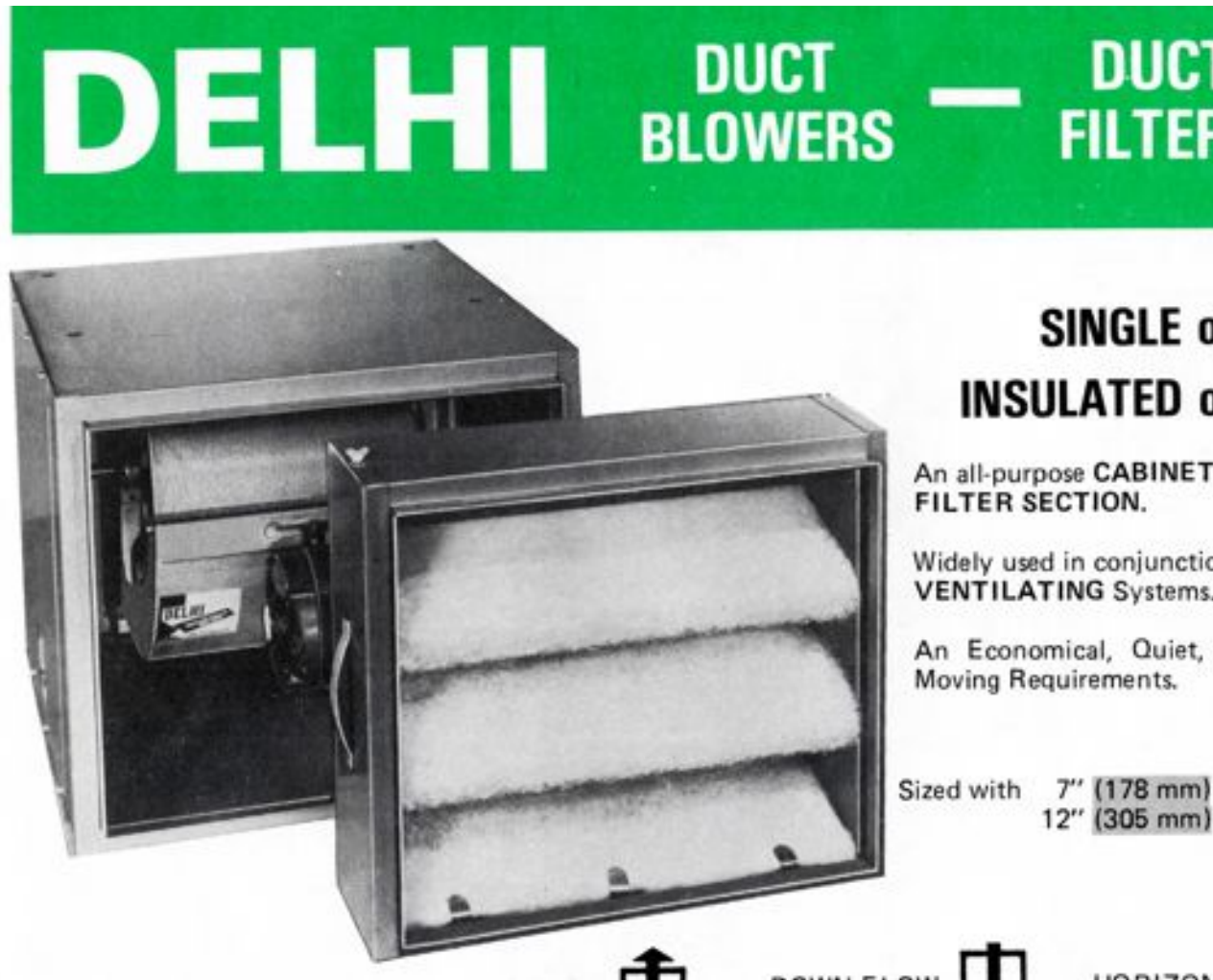
# Double Inlet, Forward Inclined

1000 cfm @ .75" Ps, e = 49 +/- 7%



# Previous in Cabinet

1000 cfm @ .75" Ps, e = 40 +/- 4%



**DELHI** DUCT BLOWERS — DUCT FILTER

**SINGLE**  
**INSULATED**

An all-purpose **CABINET FILTER SECTION**.

Widely used in conjunctic **VENTILATING** Systems.

An Economical, Quiet, Moving Requirements.

Sized with 7" (178 mm)  
12" (305 mm)

↑ DOWN FLOW ↓ HORIZONTAL

Figure 28: AIR FLOW STABILIZATION AT FAN OUTLET

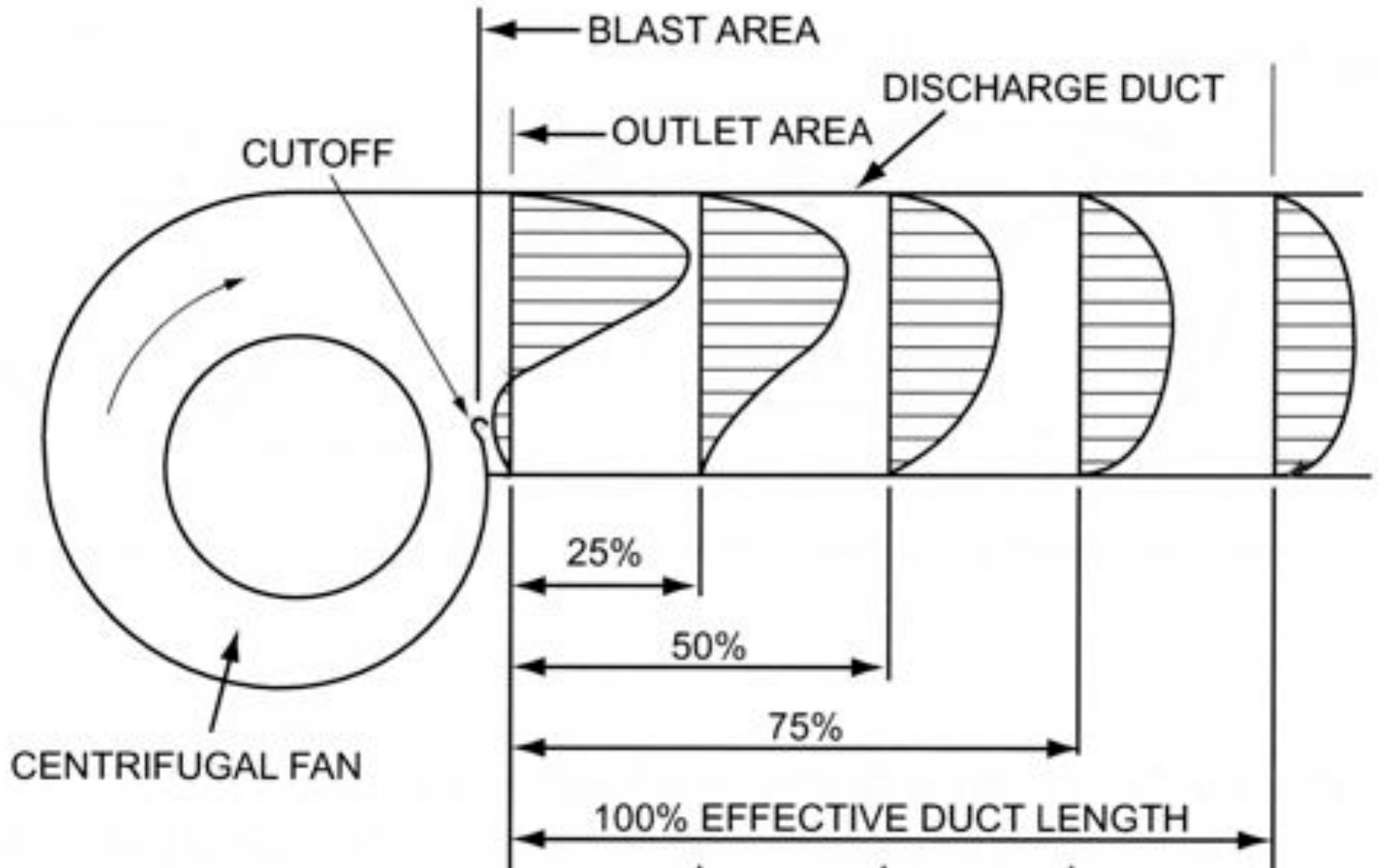
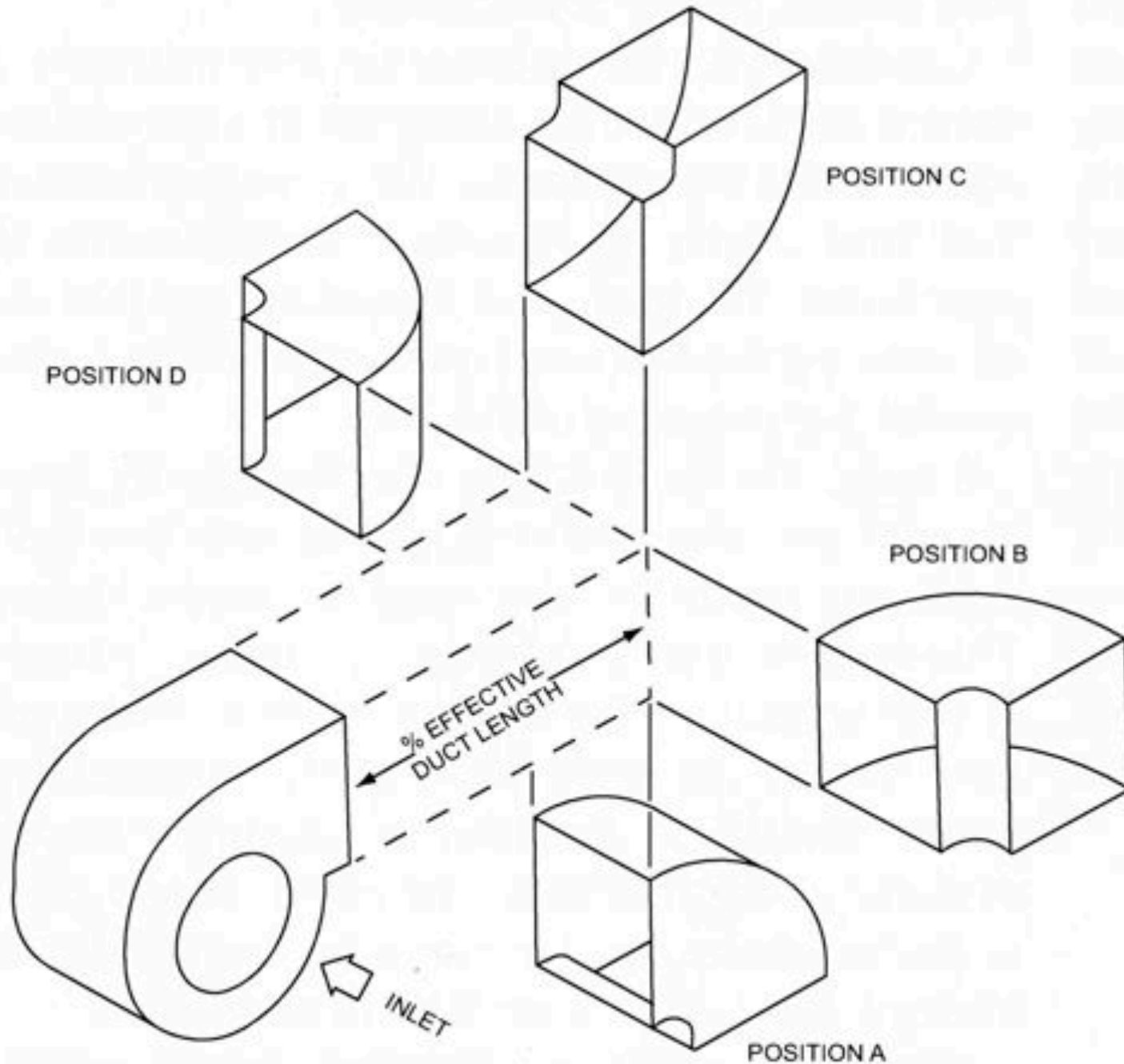


Figure 29: FITTING POSITION AT FAN OUTLET





# Fan Laws

- 1) CFM varies directly with RPM
- 2) doubling cfm requires 4 x Ps (static pressure)
- 3) doubling cfm requires 8 x air power (and hence motor power)
- Conclusion: The moment the duct is installed the (air flow/cfm capacity of the system is 'baked in the cake')

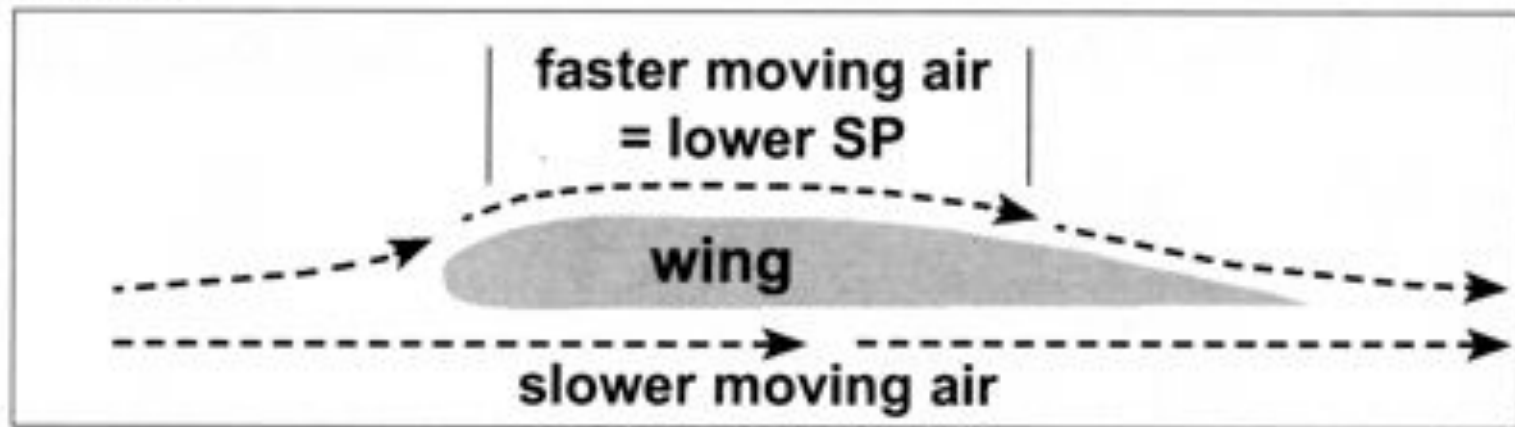


# Other Neat Stuff

- Evase (with moving air there is only 1 free lunch!)
- Motors
- Filters & Coils
- Trunk duct sizing
- Suggestions, from HVAC trade)

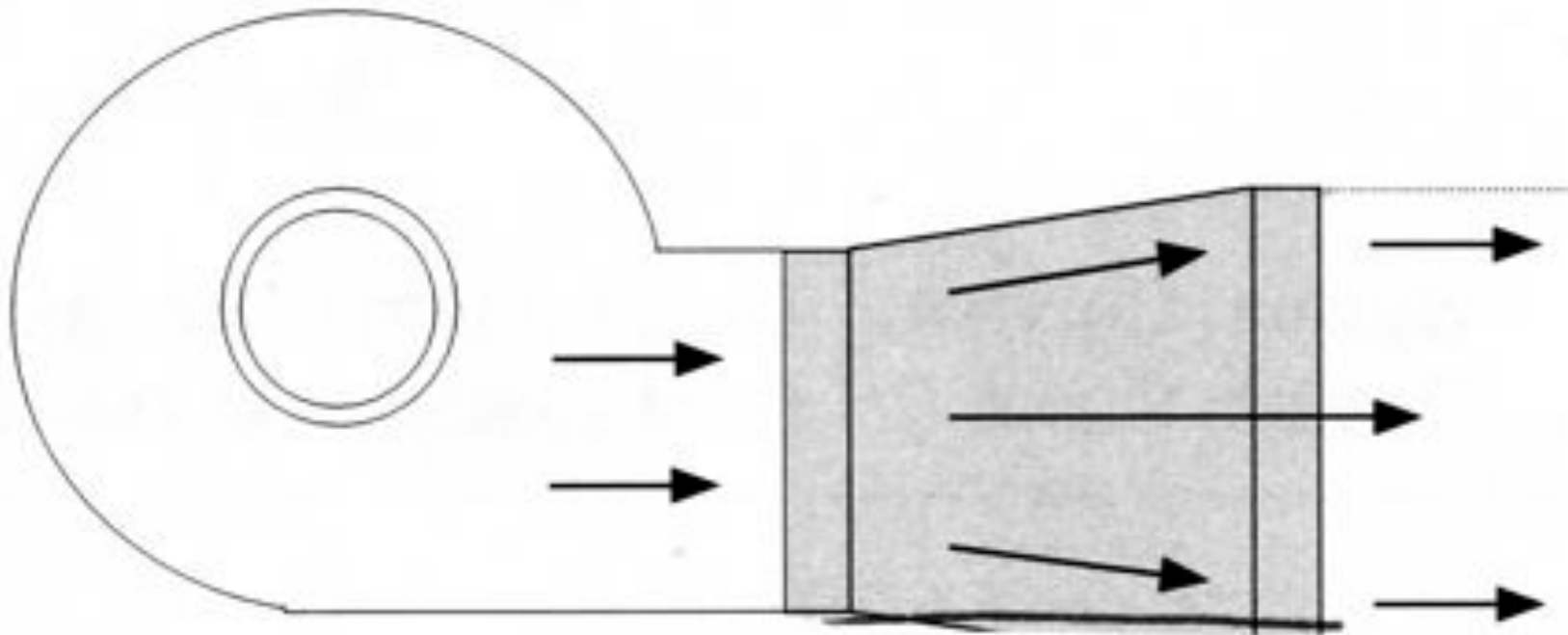
## Bernoulli's Law

Daniel Bernoulli concluded in the 1700's that increasing air velocity reduces its static pressure. This is the principal that explains how an airplane can fly.



Due to the airfoil shape of the wing, the velocity of the air that flows over the wing will be greater than the speed of the wing through the air. This reduces the static pressure of the air above the wing creating the lift that keeps the plane airborne.

Figure 27: 7° EVASE FITTING ON FAN OUTLET



Total pressure = Velocity  
pressure + Static Pressure

$$P_t = P_v + P_s$$

# Velocity Pressure

Correction to Pg. 26A      From Formula Pv (in inches WC)

Pv "WC	V fpm	V mph
.01"	400	4.5
.02	566	6.4
.03	694	7.9
.04	801	9.1
.05	896	10.2
.06	981	11.1
.07	1060	12.0
.08	1133	12.9
.09	1201	13.6
.10	1266	14.4
.11	1328	15.1
.12	1387	15.8
.13	1444	16.4
.14	1498	17.0
.15	1551	17.6
.16	1602	18.2
.17	1651	18.8
.18	1699	19.3
.19	1746	19.8
.20	1791	20.4
.21	1835	20.9
.22	1879	21.4
.23	1921	21.8
.24	1962	22.3
.25	2003	22.8
.26	2043	23.2

# Motor Current



# No Filter



# Equipment Protection (5% efficiency) Filter



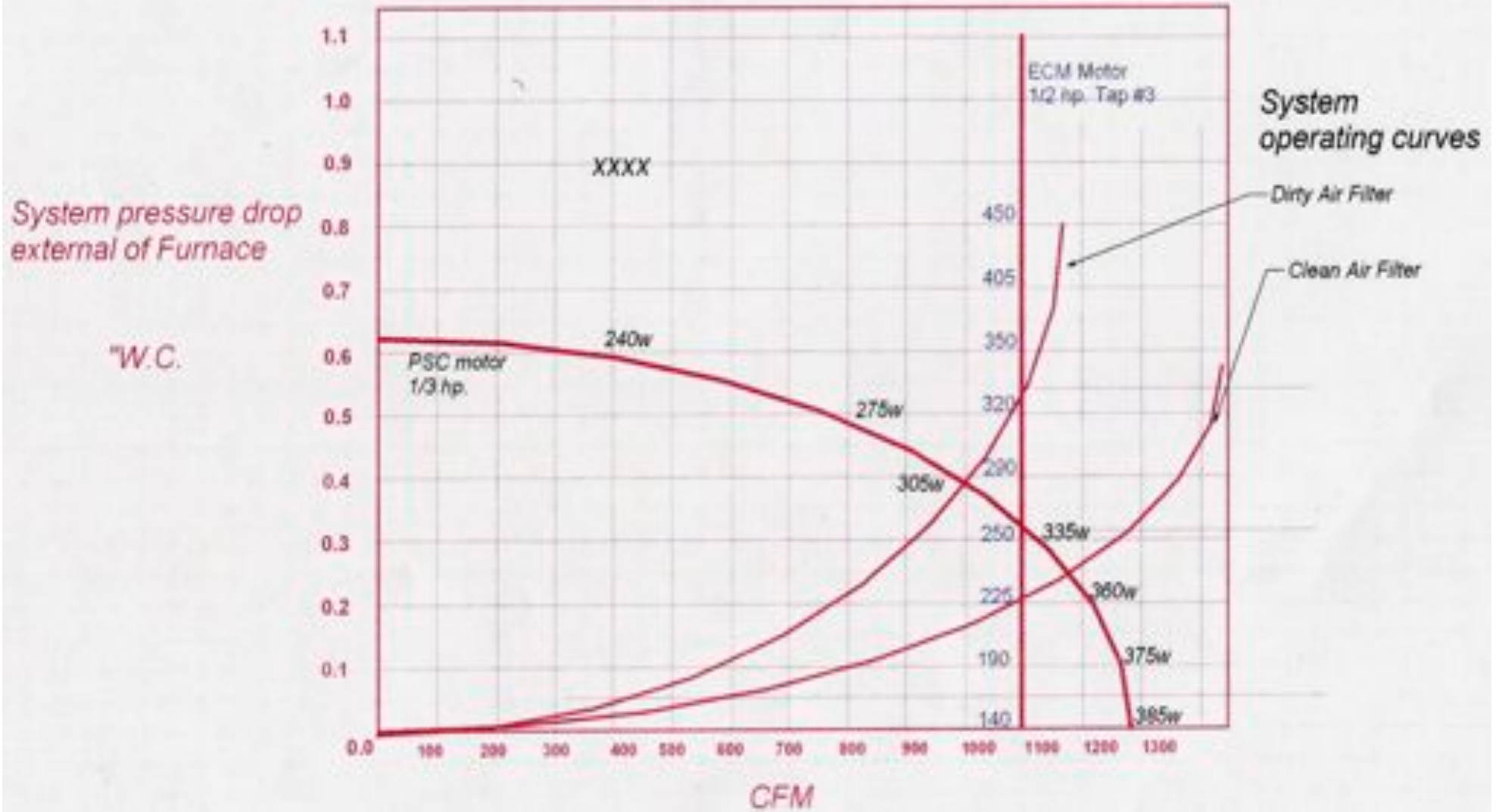


# Respiratory protection pleat filter

(45% efficiency)



## 2 1/2 ton Forced Air Geothermal Heat Pump or Air to Air Heat Pump

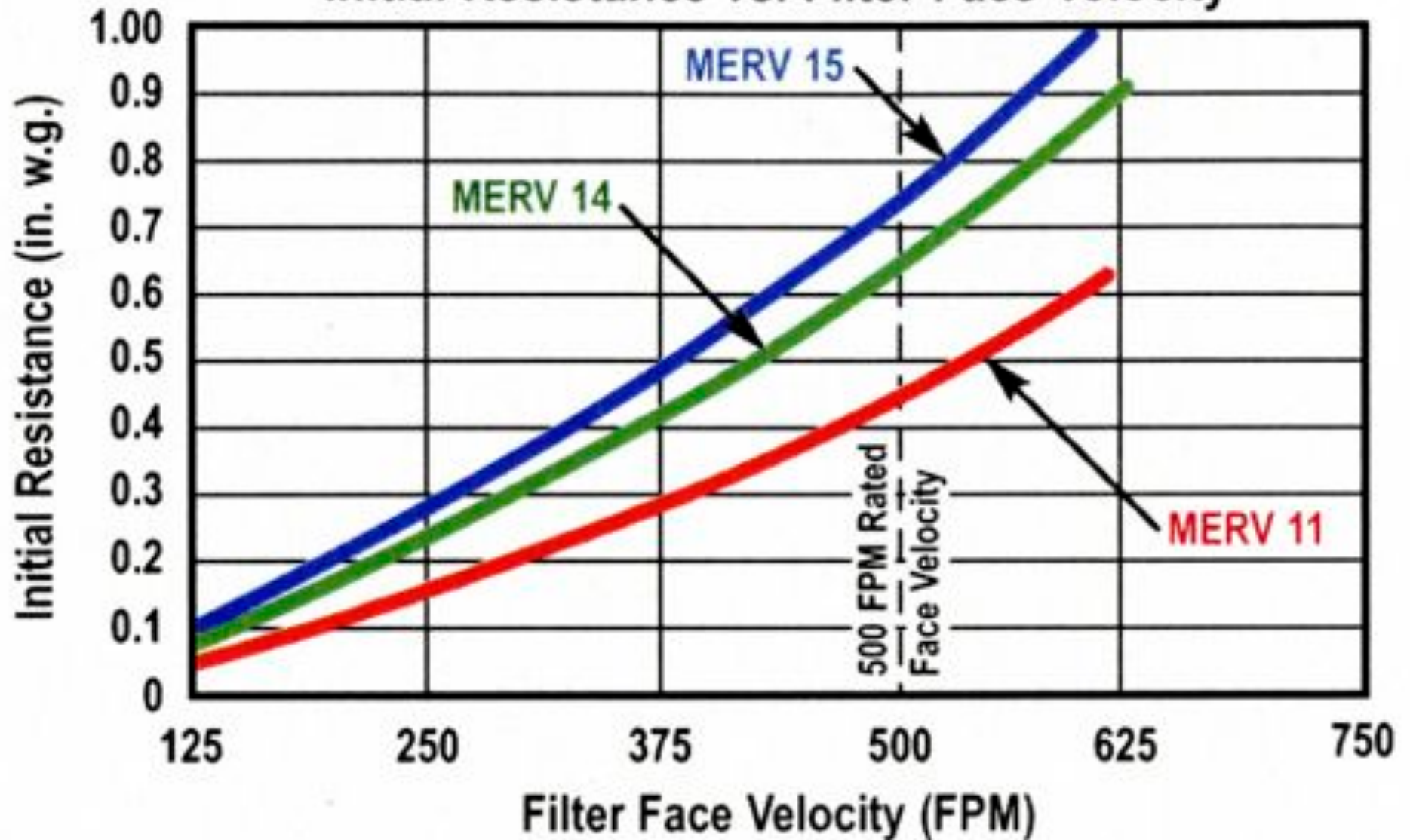


# Filter, horrible (std.) location



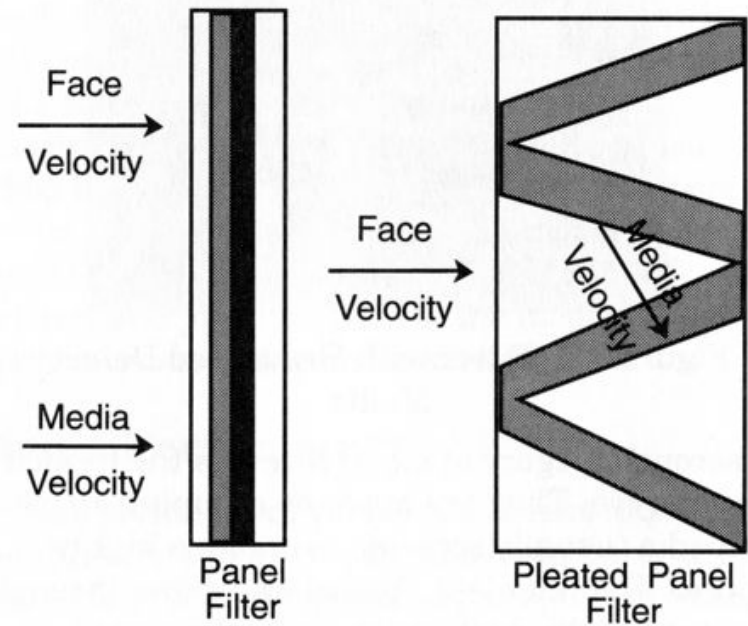
## Operating Data

### Initial Resistance vs. Filter Face Velocity



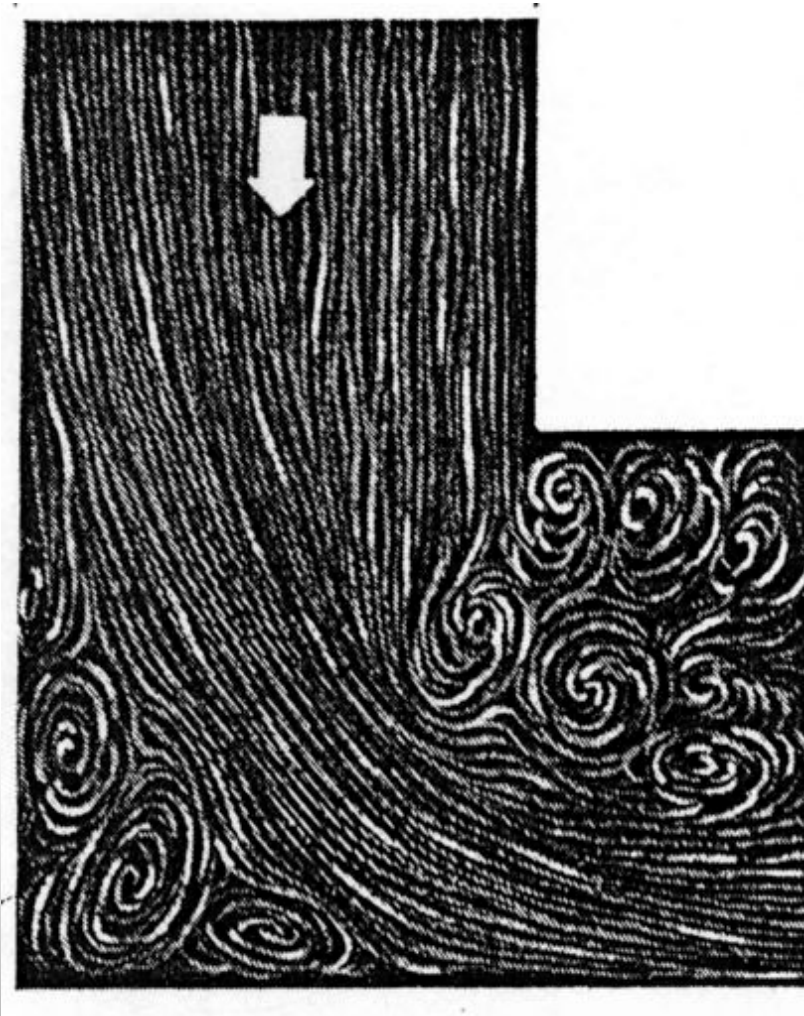
# Air must approach filters 'square on'

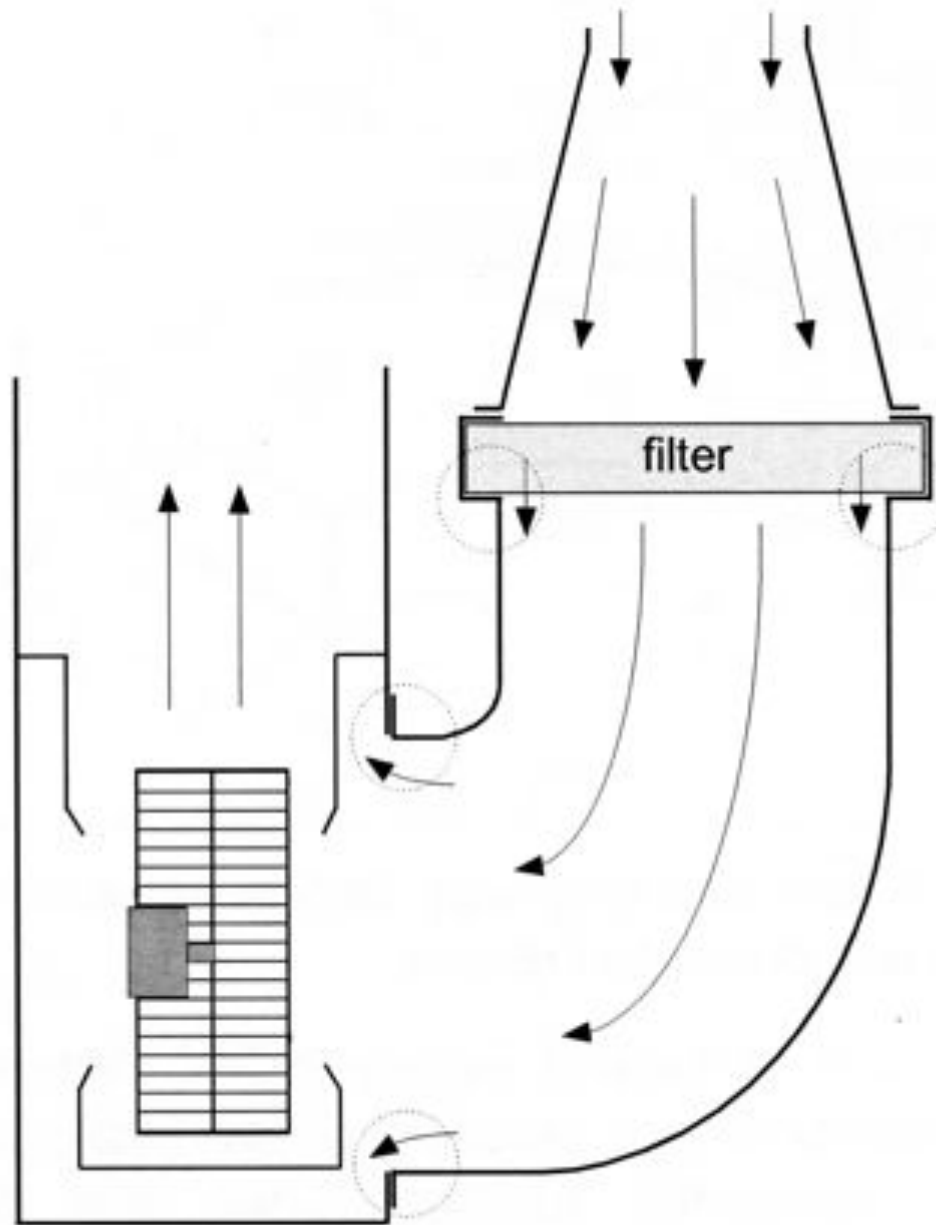
National  
Air  
Filtration  
Association



**First Edition, 1993**

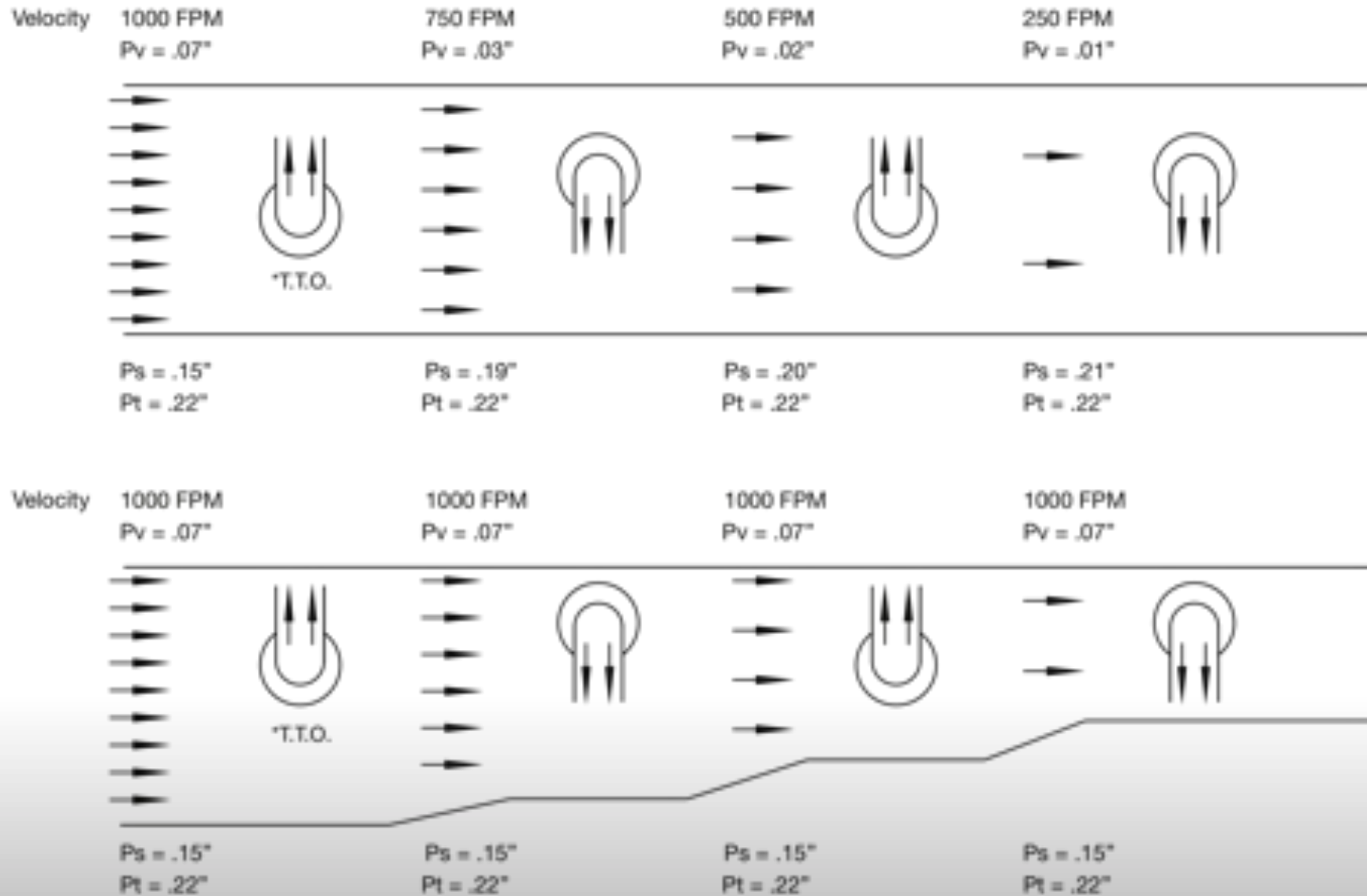
# Heel, Drop elbow, Bottom of Drop





Results: more air moved per watt of electricity  
quieter operation  
longer filter life  
better quality filter can be used

# TRUNK DUCT (without & with reducing X section area)



Note: In both cases the Pt remains constant along the length of the duct because duct is short fat & straight.

\*T.T.O. - Top Take Off

Jun. 28/11 © EPL



# Conclusion: (requests/notes from HVAC Trade)

- Leave adequate space for duct, or, Ms. Smith will pay
- Today, appliances **are** smaller, but duct must be larger
- Equipment Safety!, check temperature rise!!!!