

# FIGHTING COVID-19 WHILE IMPROVING SUSTAINABILITY

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**AEROSEAL**<sup>®</sup>  
Certified Duct Diagnostics & Sealing

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*SALES/PROJECT MANAGER - AIRWAYS SYSTEMS, INC*



**UC DAVIS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- **IMPACTS OF AIR LEAKAGE IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS**
- **INTERACTIONS BETWEEN AIR LEAKAGE AND INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (IEQ)**
- **USING AEROSOLS TO SEAL AIR LEAKAGE REMOTELY**
  - DUCTS
  - ENVELOPE
- **AEROSOL DUCT SEALING – JOE ST. PIERRE**
  - HOW IT WORKS
  - FAQs
  - APPLICATION EXAMPLES

# UNCONTROLLED AIR FLOWS IN BUILDINGS

## BUILDING ENVELOPE LEAKAGE

- DEFEATS DESIRE TO THERMALLY CONDITION AND FILTER VENTILATION AIR
- CREATES OFF-DESIGN LOADS IN PARTICULAR ZONES (E.G. COLD AIR ENTRY IN THE WINTER)
- WASTES ENERGY DUE TO CONDITIONING OF INFILTRATING AIR THAT CANNOT BE COUNTED FOR VENTILATION



## DUCT LEAKAGE

- WASTES ENERGY DUE TO INCREASED FAN POWER TO MOVE UNDELIVERED AIR
- WASTES ENERGY DUE TO THERMAL EXCHANGE WITH UNCONDITIONED SPACES
- PRODUCES INADEQUATE DILUTION OF INTERNAL POLLUTANTS



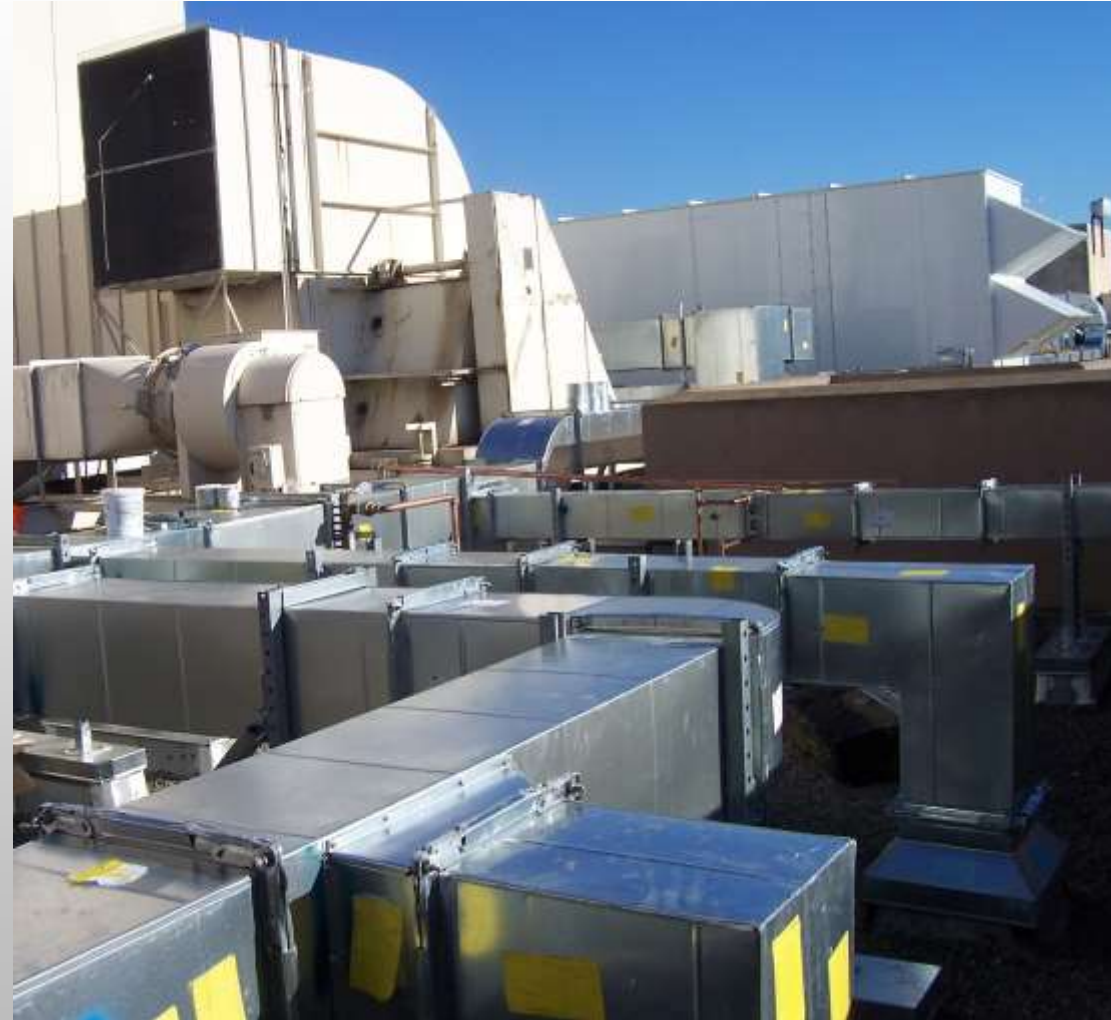
# AIR FLOW CONTROL IN HOSPITALS

## DUCT LEAKAGE

- » MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE DESIGN FLOWS
- » MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE FLOWS REQUIRED FOR PRESSURE CONTROL

## BUILDING ZONE LEAKAGE

- MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO CONTROL PRESSURES IN BUILDING ZONES
  - PRESSURIZED OPERATING ROOMS
  - DEPRESSURIZED CONTAGIOUS DISEASE ROOMS



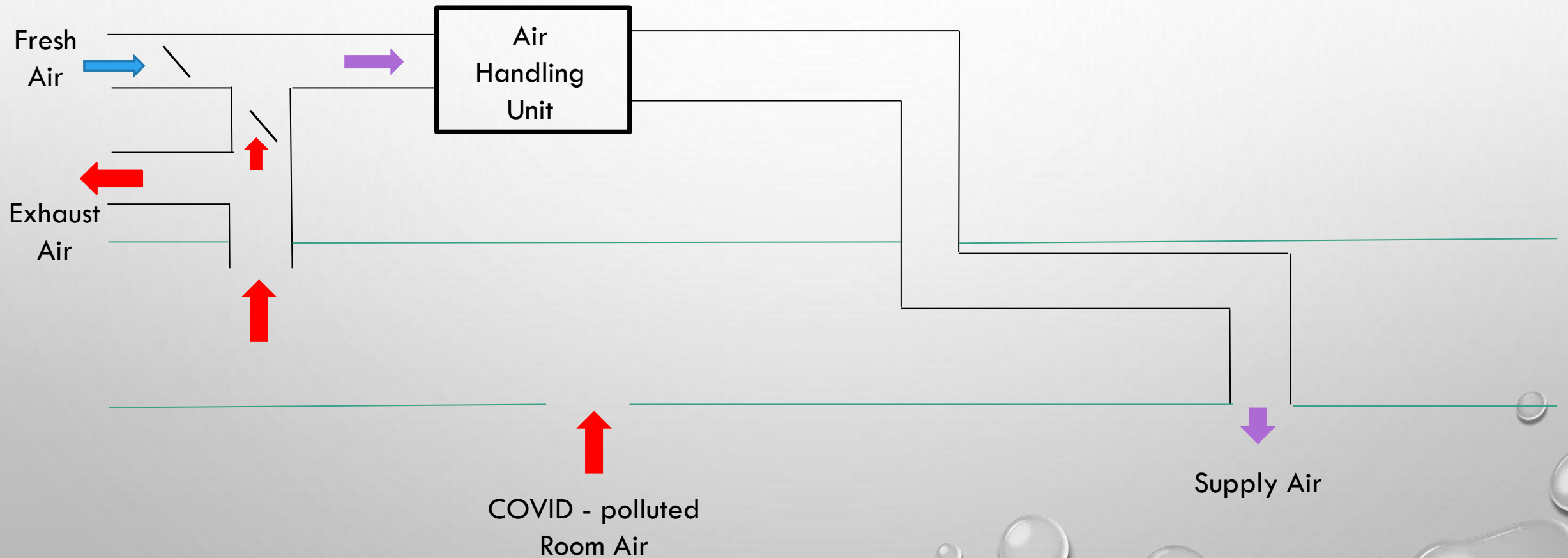


# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

- **KEY GOAL:** LIMIT EXPOSURE TO BELOW INFECTIOUS DOSE
  - LIMIT QUANTITY OF VIABLE VIRAL MATERIAL ENTERING YOUR BODY
- VIRUS CONCENTRATION REDUCTION IN INDOOR AIR
  - FILTRATION
  - DESTRUCTION
  - **DILUTION**

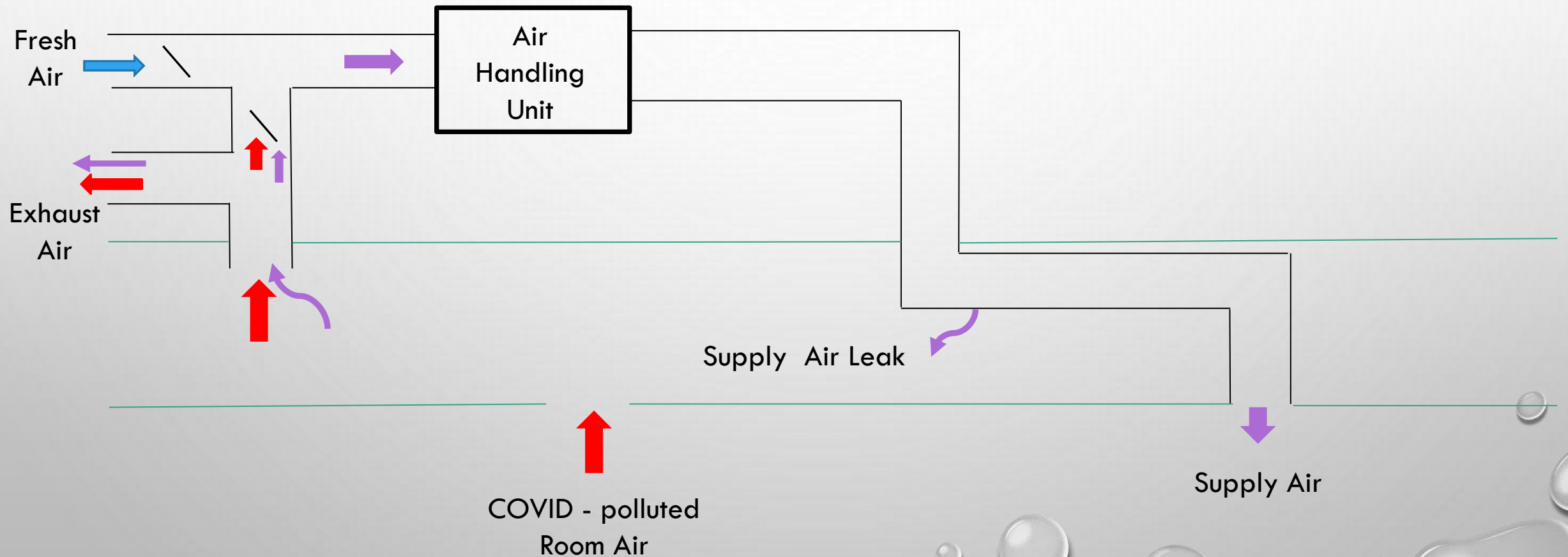
# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## SUPPLY AIR



# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## SUPPLY AIR WITH DUCT LEAKAGE



# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## IMPLICATIONS OF SUPPLY DUCT LEAKAGE

- SHORT-CIRCUITING OF FRESH AIR TO RETURN/EXHAUST AIR
- SOME FRACTION OF FRESH AIR NEVER GETS TO CONDITIONED SPACE
  - SHORT CIRCUITED AIR SENT BACK TO SUPPLY FAN OR EXHAUSTED FROM THE BUILDING
  - FRACTION EXHAUSTED DEPENDS UPON OUTDOOR AIR FRACTION AND/OR NEED FOR BUILDING PRESSURIZATION/DEPRESSURIZATION
- VIEWED ANOTHER WAY, DUCT LEAKAGE **REDUCES THE CONCENTRATION OF COVID-19 IN THE EXHAUST AIR**



# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## IMPLICATIONS OF SUPPLY DUCT LEAKAGE – EXAMPLE CALCULATION

### • ASSUMPTIONS

- **20% DUCT LEAKAGE** AT FULL LOAD (10% UPSTREAM OF VAV BOXES, 10% DOWNSTREAM)
- **UPSTREAM LEAKAGE FLOW IS CONSTANT** ( $\Delta P$  IS CONSTANT)
- **DOWNSTREAM LEAKAGE FRACTION IS CONSTANT** (LEAKAGE  $\sim \Delta P^{0.6}$ , FLOW  $\sim \Delta P^{0.5}$ )
  - ⇒ 30% LEAKAGE AT 50% LOAD (I.E. 50% FLOW)
- **FIXED VENTILATION AIR FLOWRATE** - 20% OUTDOOR AIR AT FULL LOAD
  - ⇒ 40% OUTDOOR AIR AT 50% LOAD

# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## IMPLICATIONS OF SUPPLY DUCT LEAKAGE – EXAMPLE CALCULATION

- FRACTION OF OUTDOOR AIR REACHING THE SPACE

$$(1 - \text{LEAK FRACTION}) * (1 + (\text{LEAK FRACTION})(1 - \text{OUTDOOR-AIR FRACTION}))$$

- ANALYSIS – **FULL LOAD**

$$= (1 - 0.2) * (1 + (0.2)(1 - 0.2)) = 0.8 * (1 + 0.2(0.8)) = \mathbf{93\% \text{ OF OA REACHES ROOM}}$$

- ANALYSIS – **50% LOAD**

$$= (1 - 0.3) * (1 + (0.3)(1 - 0.4)) = 0.7 * (1 + 0.3(0.6)) = \mathbf{83\% \text{ OF OA REACHES ROOM}}$$

# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## ENERGY IMPLICATIONS OF SUPPLY DUCT LEAKAGE

- ANALYSIS – **FULL LOAD**

93% OF OA REACHES ROOM  $\Rightarrow$  NEED TO MOVE  $(1/0.93-1) = 8\%$  MORE AIR  $\Rightarrow$   
**20% MORE FAN ENERGY TO GET SAME OUTDOOR AIR AS AIRTIGHT SYSTEM**

- ANALYSIS – **50% LOAD**

83% OF OA REACHES ROOM  $\Rightarrow$  NEED TO MOVE  $(1/0.83-1) = 21\%$  MORE AIR  $\Rightarrow$   
**58% MORE FAN ENERGY TO GET SAME OUTDOOR AIR AS AIRTIGHT SYSTEM**

# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

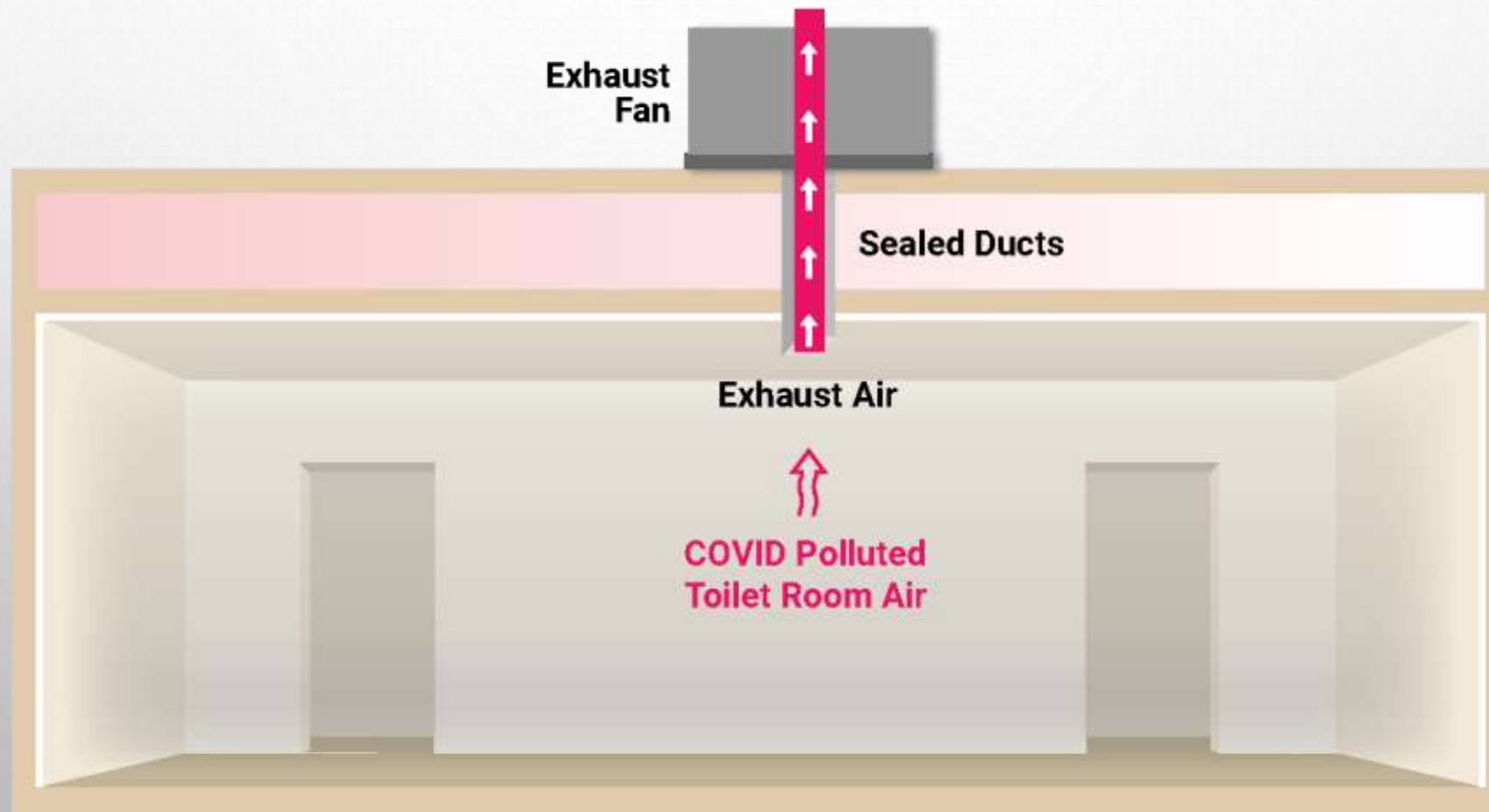
## IMPLICATIONS OF SUPPLY DUCT LEAKAGE

- FRACTION OF VENTILATION AIR REACHING THE SPACE IS LOWER AT PART LOAD
- FRACTION OF VENTILATION AIR REACHING THE SPACE IS LOWER AT HIGHER OUTDOOR AIR FRACTIONS
- ACHIEVING THE DESIRED OUTDOOR AIR FLOWRATES TO THE SPACES REQUIRES MOVING MORE AIR AT THE FAN
- MOVING MORE AIR REQUIRES MORE ENERGY CONSUMPTION
- ALTERNATIVE IS TO EXPERIENCE HIGHER COVID-19 CONCENTRATIONS



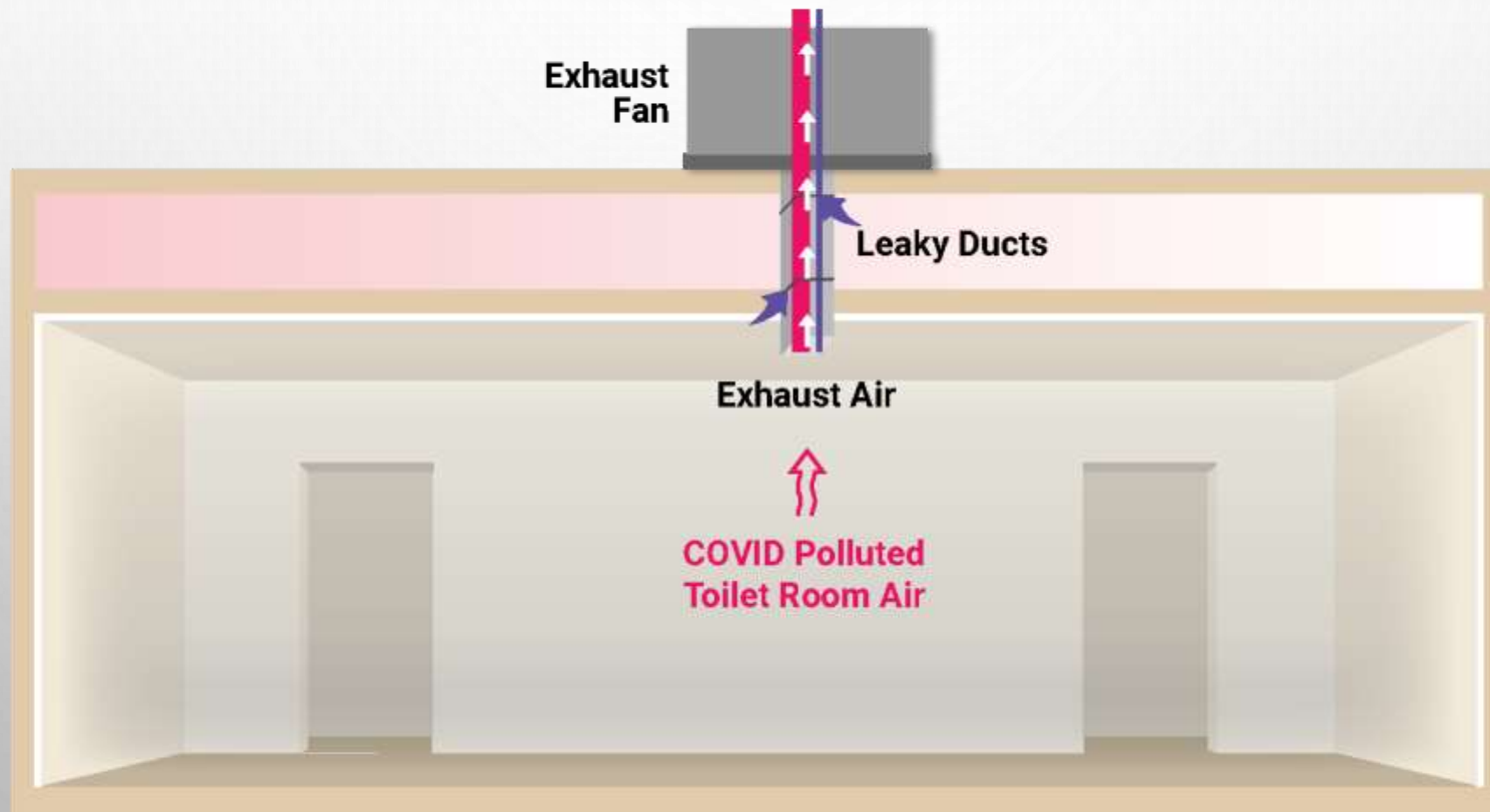
# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## EXHAUST DUCT WITHOUT LEAKAGE



# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## EXHAUST DUCT WITH LEAKAGE



# MANAGING COVID-19 TRANSMISSION IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

## IMPLICATIONS OF EXHAUST DUCT LEAKAGE

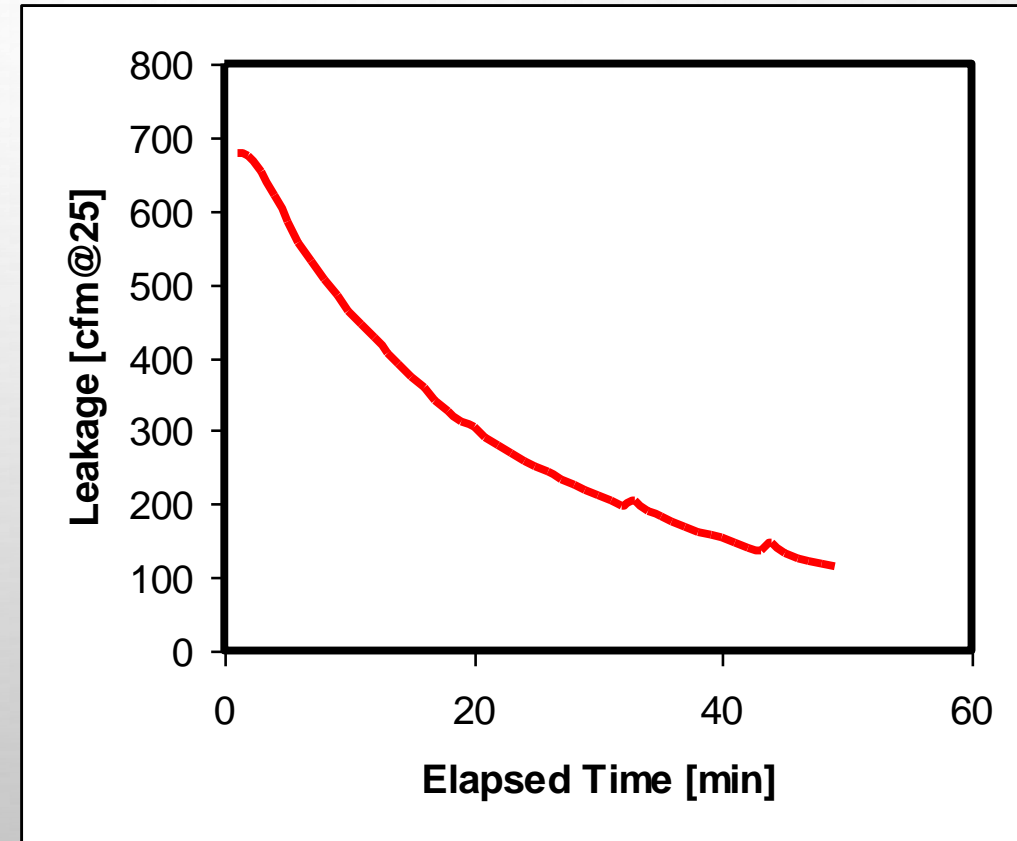
- **EXHAUST DUCT LEAKAGE REDUCES EXTRACTION OF COVID-19 FROM INTERIOR ZONES**
- NEED TO INCREASE FAN FLOW TO GET SAME EXTRACTION
- FAN POWER GOES ROUGHLY WITH CUBE OF FLOW RATE
  - **20% LEAKAGE** MEANS 25% MORE FLOW  $\Rightarrow$  **95% MORE FAN POWER**
- MOST OF THE TIME THIS ENERGY IMPLICATION WILL NOT BE REALIZED
  - FAN CANNOT KEEP UP
  - EXTRACTION IS LOWER

# MEASURED EXHAUST SYSTEM LEAKAGE (U.S.)

| <b>Building</b>                     | <b>Fan Flow [cfm]</b> | <b>Leakage [%]</b> | <b>Notes</b>                         |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Condominium (40-Story)              | 950                   | 74%                | Building-Cavity Bathroom Exhaust     |
| NYS University Dorm (10-story)      | 2,300                 | 70%                | Bath/Shower Exhaust                  |
| NYS University Dorm (7-story)       | 2,050                 | 54%                | Bath/Shower Exhaust                  |
| Navy BEQ (10-story dorm)            | 6,300                 | 18%                | Ducted Supply w/heat wheel           |
| Navy BEQ (10-story dorm)            | 6,470                 | 54%                | Building-Cavity Exhaust w/heat wheel |
| Barracks (8 3-story buildings)      | 20,000                | 20%                | Bath/Shower Exhaust                  |
| Office Toilet Exhaust (3-story)     | 8,700                 | 9%                 | No pre-qualification of leakage      |
| Hospital Exhaust (9-story)          | 8,200                 | 19%                | Sterilization room riser             |
| <b>Seven NYC Apartment Exhausts</b> | <b>2,450</b>          | <b>36%</b>         | <b>Kitchen/Bath Exhausts</b>         |
| <b>AVERAGE</b>                      |                       | <b>39%</b>         |                                      |



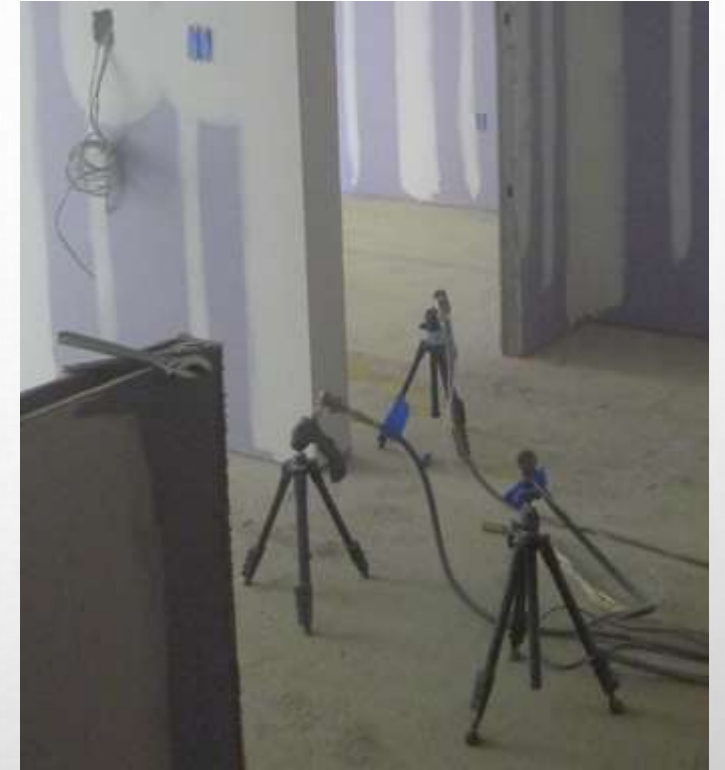
# ONE EXISTING-BUILDING OPTION - REMOTE SEALING OF DUCTS WITH AEROSOLIZED SEALANT



# AEROSOL BUILDING SEALING TECHNOLOGY

## BASIC CONCEPT

- USE BLOWER DOOR TO PRESSURIZE ZONE TO BE SEALED
- FOG ZONE WITH AEROSOLIZED SEALANT PARTICLES
- UTILIZE SEALANT MATERIAL WITH NO RESIDUAL TACK

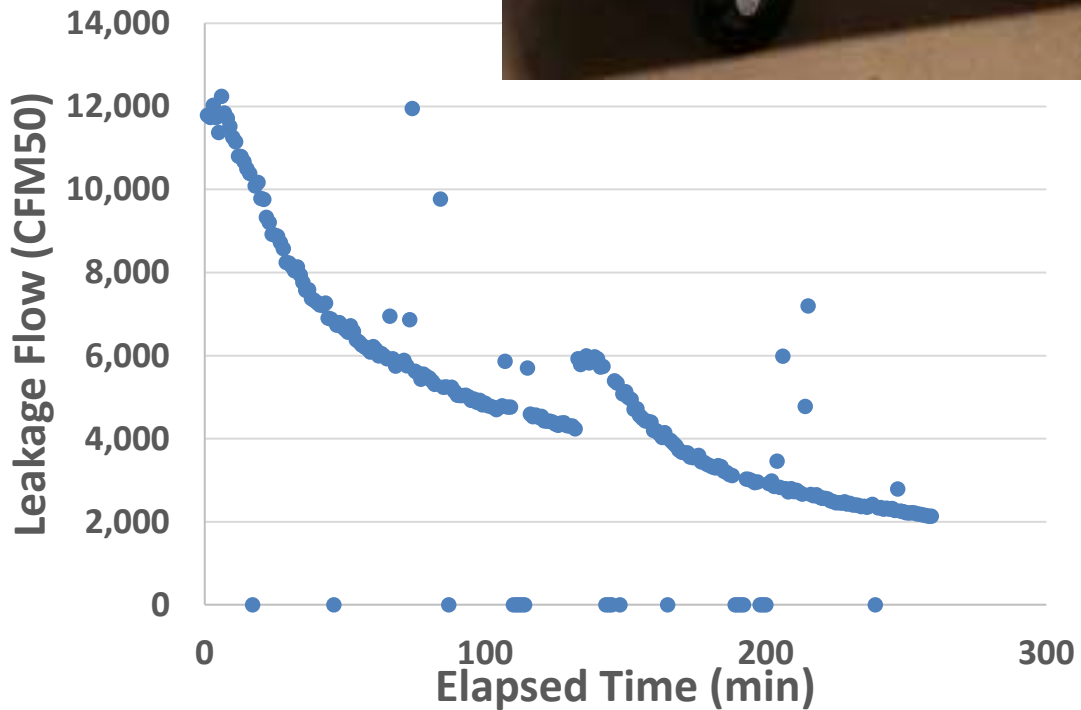
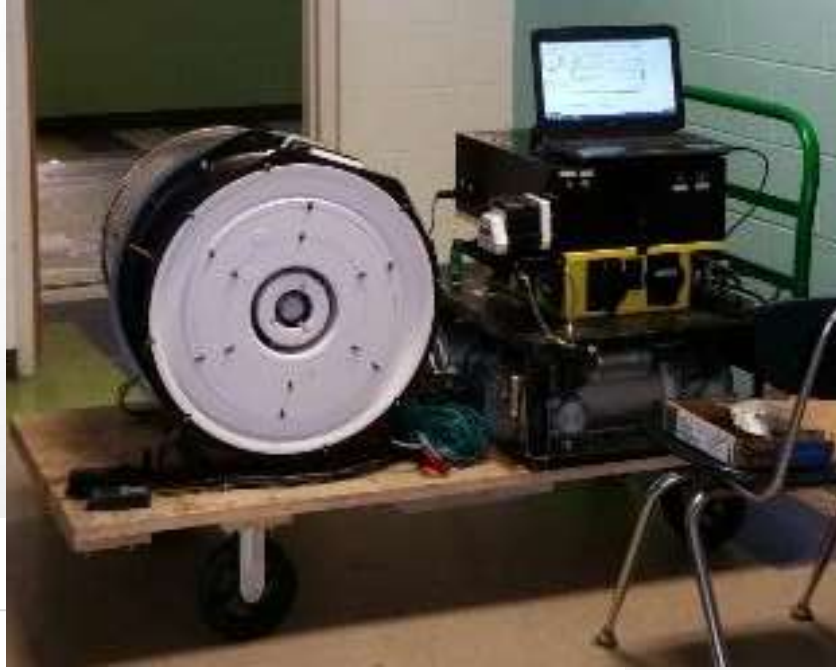


# POST-SHEETROCK AEROSOL-SEALED LEAKS





# AEROSOL BUILDING SEALING TECHNOLOGY – DOD BUILDINGS





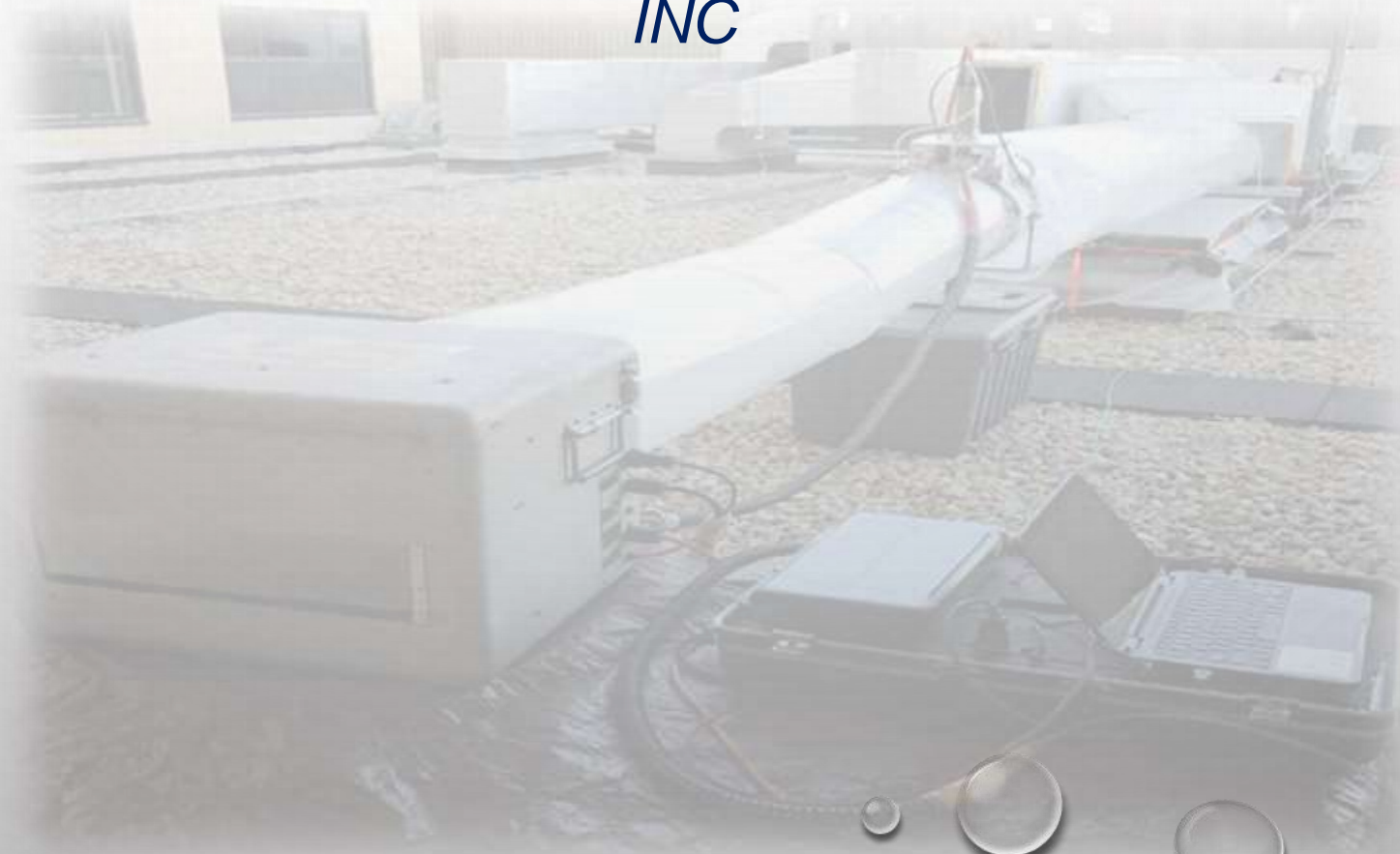
# REMOTE SEALING OF BUILDING ZONES WITH AEROSOLIZED SEALANT

- **NEW APPLICATION BEING EXPLORED – SEALING LEAKS BETWEEN CEILING PLENUM RETURN AND OUTDOORS**
  - PRESSURIZE ROOM WITH A BLOWER DOOR
  - PLACE INJECTORS ABOVE THE CEILING TILES
  - SEALANT CONTROLLED BY AIR FLOW FROM ROOM TO CEILING PLENUM



# AEROSOL SEALING PROCESS

*JOE ST. PIERRE  
SALES/PROJECT MANAGER - AIRWAYS SYSTEMS,  
INC*



# AEROSOL SEALING PROCESS

- CUT ACCESS HOLES
- ISOLATE FAN(S)
- BLOCK DIFFUSERS, VAV'S, COILS, ETC.
- CONNECT INJECTION EQUIPMENT
- PRE-SEAL TEST (BASELINE)
- INJECT ATOMIZED SEALANT
- POST-SEAL: MEASURE FINAL LEAKAGE
- PRESENT FINAL CERTIFICATE(S)





# DUCT SEALANT

- VINYL POLYMER
- REMAINS FLEXABLE
- NO OFFGASSING
- UL 1381
  - MOLD GROWTH
  - EROSION
  - FLAME SPREAD
  - DURABILITY



## AEROSEAL DUCT SEAL



AeroSeal DUCT SEAL is a stable, non-toxic, non-flammable emulsion of water and vinyl acetate polymer that is aerosolized into 4-10 micron-sized particles and distributed under pressure throughout the inside of the duct system. The particles deposit only at the leak sites and build to form a tenacious and tight air seal, remaining firmly in place for years while staying completely pliable and flexible. Seal remains effective over a wide range of operating pressures, temperatures and humidity levels found in residential, commercial and industrial air duct systems.

### TECHNICAL DATA

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Part number         | AERO-006B  |
| Packaging           | 4 x 1-gallon plastic bottles per case  |
| Color               | Milky white (wet); Clear (dry)   |
| Base                | Vinyl acetate polymer  |
| Dispersion          | Water  |
| Weight              | 8.2-8.8 lb. per gallon   |
| Solids content      | 35%-40% max  |
| Viscosity           | > 1 centistoke @ 68°F  |
| Coverage            | 0.4 to 2 gal/hr seal rate  |
| Flexibility         | Remains flexible indefinitely  |
| Time to test        | Dry to the touch upon application.<br>Can test within 10 min. of application |
| Service temp.       | Approximately -20°F to 480°F   |
| Moisture resistance | Very good  |
| Mildew resistance   | Mold & mildew resistant  |
| VOC                 | 10.7 g/l (Dried sealant)   |
| Pressure            | SMACNA: Up to 10 inches w.g.   |
| Seal Class          | Meets SMACNA Seal Class A  |

|  |                                 |      |
|--|---------------------------------|------|
| UL 1381  | CAULKING AND SEALANTS           | 32HK |
|  | SURFACE BURNING CHARACTERISTICS |      |
|  | FLAME SPREAD                    | 0    |
|  | SMOKE DEVELOPED                 | 0    |
| * Applied to inorganic reinforced cement board tested as applied at a rate of 400FT <sup>2</sup> per gallon. |                                 |      |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| UL | UL1381  |
|    | Outline of Investigation for AeroSeal Duct Sealants |

### PREPARATION

First, manually repair any leaks found during duct inspection >5/8" span, and remove accumulated dust/dirt build-up in ducts if >1/8".

NOTE: Ducts can be cleaned after AeroSeal application.

### APPLICATION

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Temperature | 0°F to 110°F  |
| Method      | AeroSeal SmartSeal or HomeSeal machines only  |
| Rate        | Internal coverage at all joints, seams and penetrations, 0.4 to 2 gal/hr seal rate                                    |
| Clean up    | (Liquid) Mild soap and hot water or AeroSeal emulsifier<br>(Dried) AeroSeal adherent remover or citrus-based cleaners |

### STORAGE

|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Temperature  | 32° to 120°F; DO NOT FREEZE |
| Shelf Life   | Indefinite (Unopened)       |
| Flammability | Non-flammable               |

### SPECIFICATION/STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

| Property          | Test Method   | Results               |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Mold Growth       | UL1381        | No evidence of growth |
| Accelerated Aging | ASTM E2342-10 | Pass                  |
| Leakage Reduction | ASTM E2342-10 | Pass                  |
| Erosion           | UL1381        | Pass                  |
| Burning           | UL1381        | Pass                  |
| Durability        | UL1381        | Pass                  |

Packed 4 one-gallon bottles per case.



### PRECAUTIONS

Use only in well-ventilated areas. Installers should wear dust or fume respirator if inhalation exposure is possible. Fume respirator should have organic vapor-type breathing cartridge if full, prolonged exposure to aerosol is necessary. Keep out of reach of children. Refer to full MSDS sheet for health hazard information. For use and application by trained AeroSeal professional installers only.

Phone: 937.428.9300  
Fax: 937.428.9304

**AEROSEAL**  
Duct Sealing From The Inside

7989 S. Suburban Road  
Centerville, OH 45458  
www.aeroseal.com

Updated: 12/14



# CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION



## Certificate of Completion

Duct Sealing Performed For:

Chicagoland Local  
Area Hospital

### Overall Sealing Results

When we arrived,  
YOUR DUCTS HAD:

**1247.5 CFM of Leakage**, equivalent to a  
**30.6 Square Inch Hole**

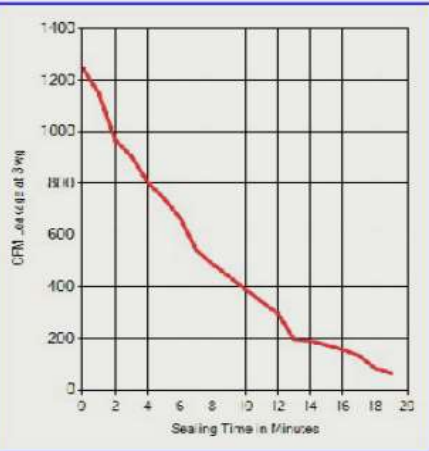
After we finished,  
YOUR DUCTS HAVE:

**63.9 CFM of Leakage**, equivalent to a  
**1.6 Square Inch Hole**

This corresponds to a **94.9% Reduction** in  
Duct Leakage.

Note: Duct Leakage results are calculated in  
Cubic Feet per Minute (CFM) measured at a  
standard OPERATING PRESSURE of 3 wg.

**AEROSEAL**  
Duct Sealing From The Inside



Aeroseal Technician: Joe  
Aeroseal Case ID: 3323  
Date of Seal: 2/26/2018  
System Description: AHU - Q Supply - vav 4  
Seal Description: AHU - Q Supply - vav 4  
Hardware: Gen2

Duct Sealing Performed By:

Airways Systems Inc.  
1100 Tower Ln  
Bensenville, IL 60106  
Phone: 630-595-4242

When we arrived  
**YOUR DUCTS HAD:**

**1,247.5 CFM** of Leakage equivalent

After we finished

**YOUR DUCTS HAVE**  
**63.9 CFM** of Leakage equivalent

This corresponds to a **94.9%**  
**Reduction** in Duct Leakage

# LOCAL AREA HOSPITAL

## GOAL

MEET DESIGN FLOW AT GRILLES FOR A  
BRONCHOSCOPY LAB

- CLEANED/SEALED EXHUAUST RISERS
- INITIAL LEAKAGE **514 CFM**
- POST LEAKAGE **33 CFM**
- LEAKAGE REDUCTION **94%**
- COMPLETED IN 1 DAY

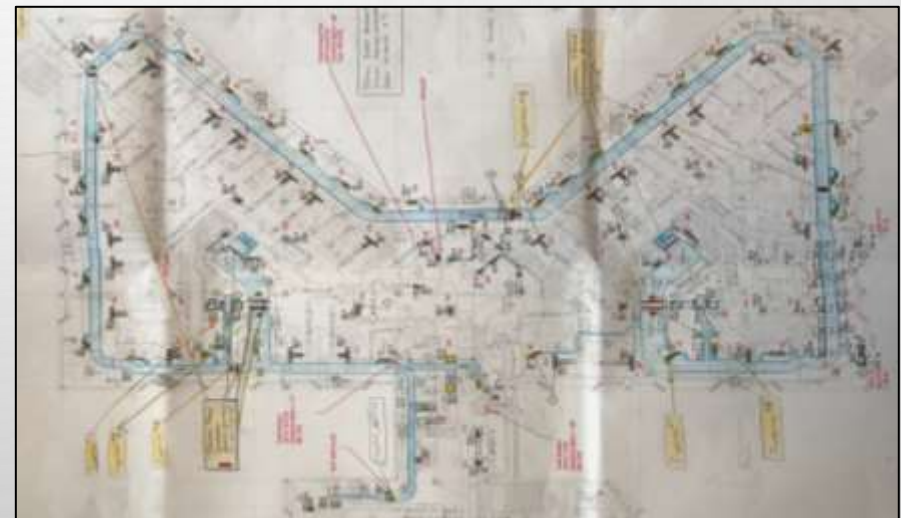


# LOCAL AREA HOSPITAL

## GOAL

IMPROVE AIR DISTRIBUTION IN A PATIENT WING

- CLEANED/SEALED OVER 500' DUCT
- 7 SEPARATE INJECTIONS
- MET DESIGN AT DIFFUSERS
- INITIAL LEAKAGE **1,867 CFM**
- POST LEAKAGE **230 CFM**
- REDUCTION **97.6%**
- COMPLETED IN 2 DAYS

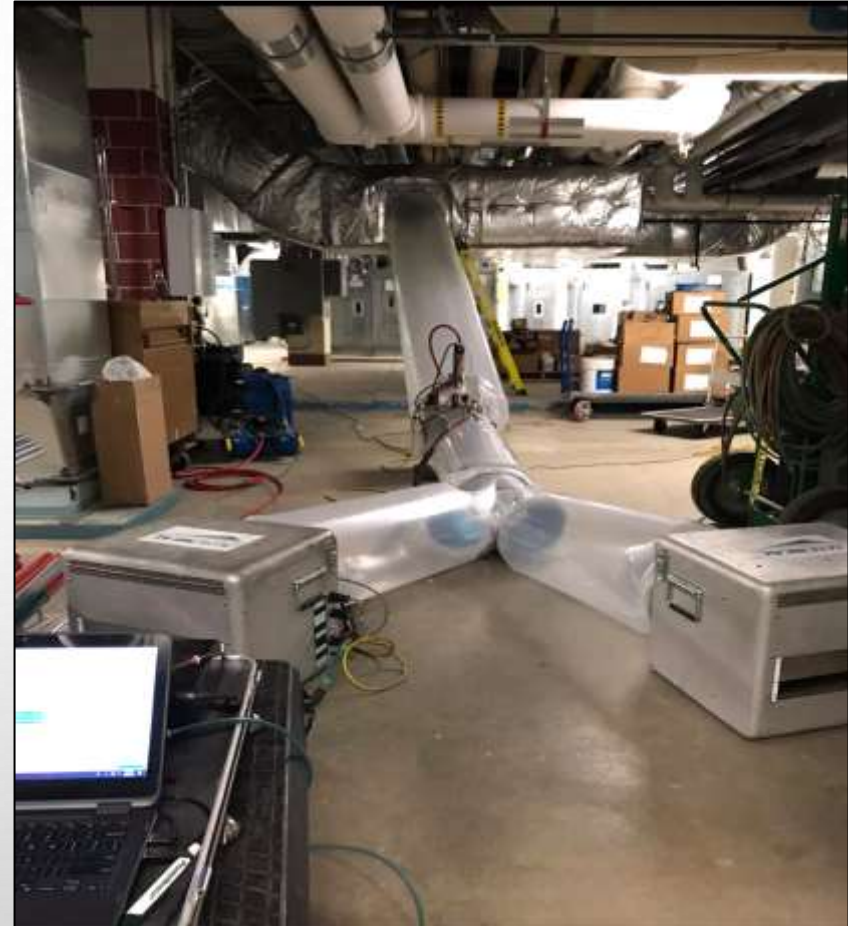




# LOCAL AREA HOSPITAL

## GOAL

- IMPROVE AIR DISTRIBUTION OVER 7 AHU'S (TOTAL FAN DESIGN 152,700)
  - INITIAL LEAKAGE **20,646 CFM**
  - POST LEAKAGE **845 CFM**
  - RECOVERED **19,801 CFM**  
(49.50 COOLING TONS)
  - REDUCTION **95.9%**





# CASE STUDY

## University of Ottawa's Heart Institute

### GOAL

- Eliminate duct leakage as a cause of building-to-building air contamination
- Initial Leakage **800 CFM**
- Post Leakage **10 CFM**



### PROJECT OVERVIEW

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>BUILDING</b><br>University of Ottawa Heart Institute | cause of building-to-building air contamination   |
| <b>LOCATION</b><br>Ottawa, Ontario                      | <b>BEFORE AEROSEAL</b><br>Up to 800 CFM* of leakage   |
| <b>ENGINEER</b><br>GENIVAR   Constructive People        | <b>AFTER AEROSEAL</b><br>10 CFM of leakage  |
| <b>DUCT SPECIALISTS</b><br>AWS Technologies             | <b>RESULTS</b><br>Virtually eliminated ventilation leakage; Improved system efficiency; Reduced utility costs |
| <b>GOAL</b><br>Eliminate duct leakage as                |   |

# SEALING TECHNOLOGY FAQS

- DOES NOT COAT THE DUCTS
- VINYL POLYMER IS SAFE
- NO LINGERING ODORS OR OFF-GASSING
- LASTS 10+ YEARS
- SEALS HOLES UP TO 1/2" ACROSS
- SEALANT REMAINS RUBBERY
- NEED NOT CLEAN BEFORE SEALING, HOWEVER IT IS BETTER TO CLEAN VERY DIRTY EXHAUSTS
- CLEANING AFTER SEALING GENERALLY DOES NOT HURT SEALS

# CONCLUSIONS

- **Supply or Exhaust Duct Leakage** either reduces COVID dilution or results in larger energy use (or some of each)
- **Envelope Leakage** increases air flows needed to maintain building pressure control
- **Envelope and Duct Leakage** can be addressed in existing buildings



Questions?