

# Multicyclone Dust Collectors

## Abrasion in Mechanical Dust Collectors

By Dave Sharpe  
Boiler & Steam Systems LLC

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# Dave Sharpe

## President of Boiler & Steam Systems LLC

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- University of Washington (Engineering)
- 34 Years experience Boilers & Related Equipment
- Wood, Natural Gas and Oil fired boilers
- Multiclones, Baghouses, and Scrubbers
- Combustion and combustion control
- Low NOX emissions
- Economizers and heat recovery systems
- Industrial fans and blowers
- Steam and condensate return systems

# Boiler & Steam System

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- Supply castings and parts for Mechanical Dust Collectors
- Trouble shooting, audits—abrasion reduction, life expectancy of components, efficiency improvements
- Design & manufacture high efficiency collectors
  - Collectors custom designed for limited space
  - Custom designs for increase gas flow capacity
  - Reduced collector abrasion
- Design retrofit parts for faster collector rebuilds
- Supply help and guidance with combustion, emissions, ash, slag, or fuel related issues

# Multicyclone Dust Collectors – Purpose

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- Separate particulate from flue gas
  - No longer sole air pollution control device on boilers
  - Reduce plant emissions
    - Improve down stream pollution control equipment
  - Protect down stream equipment
    - Induced Draft Fan (I D Fan)
    - Air heater
    - Economizer
    - Ducting

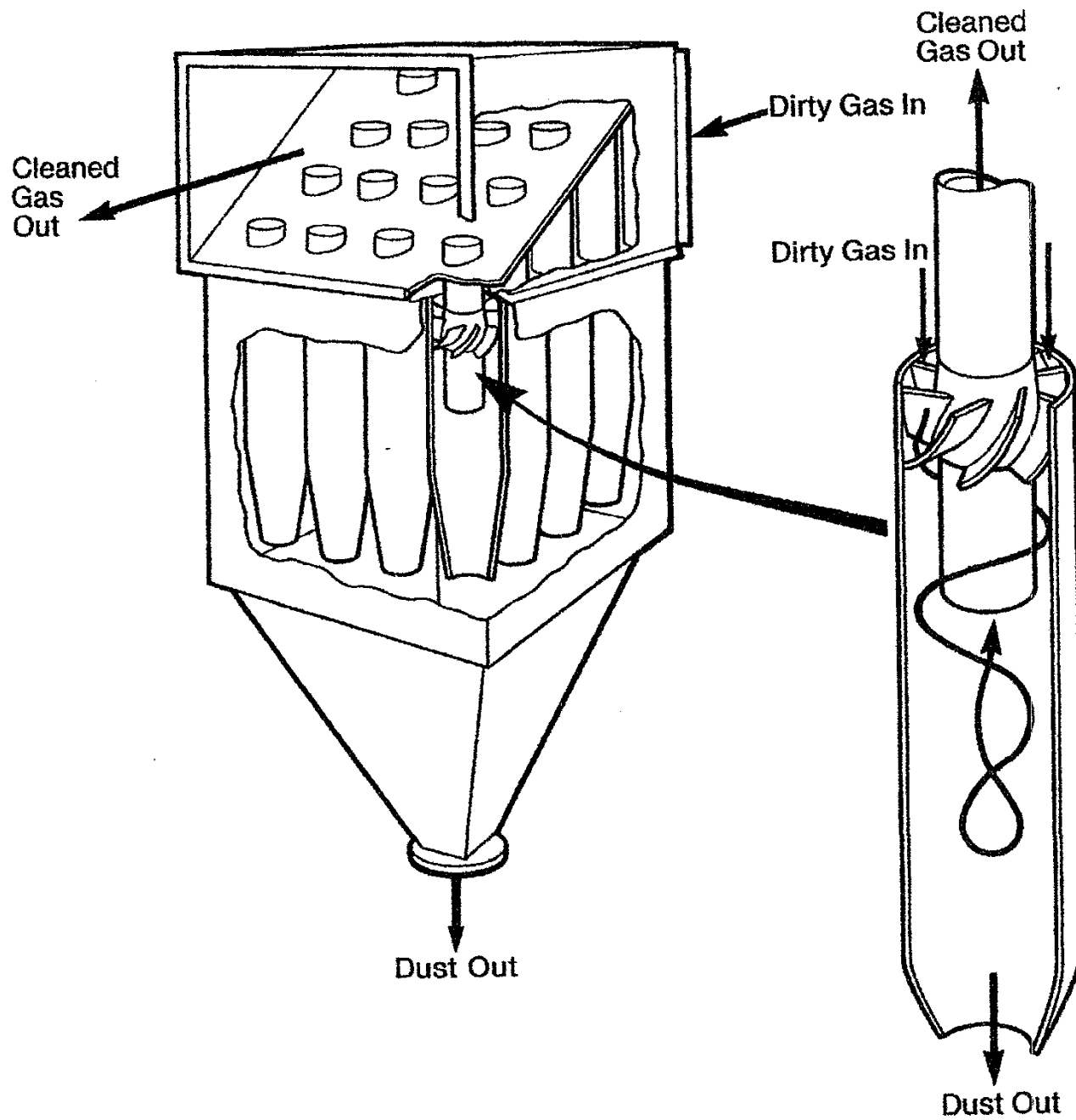
# Multicyclones – How They Work

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- I D Fan suction creates air velocity through cones that spins particulate to outside wall of the cone where ash spirals down the cone discharging through bottom outlet into hoppers
- The particulate separates because it has higher specific gravity and its momentum drives it to the outside wall as the air turns. The viscosity of the air slows the smaller particles migration to the outside wall of the multiclone.
- Clean air spins up the outlet tube

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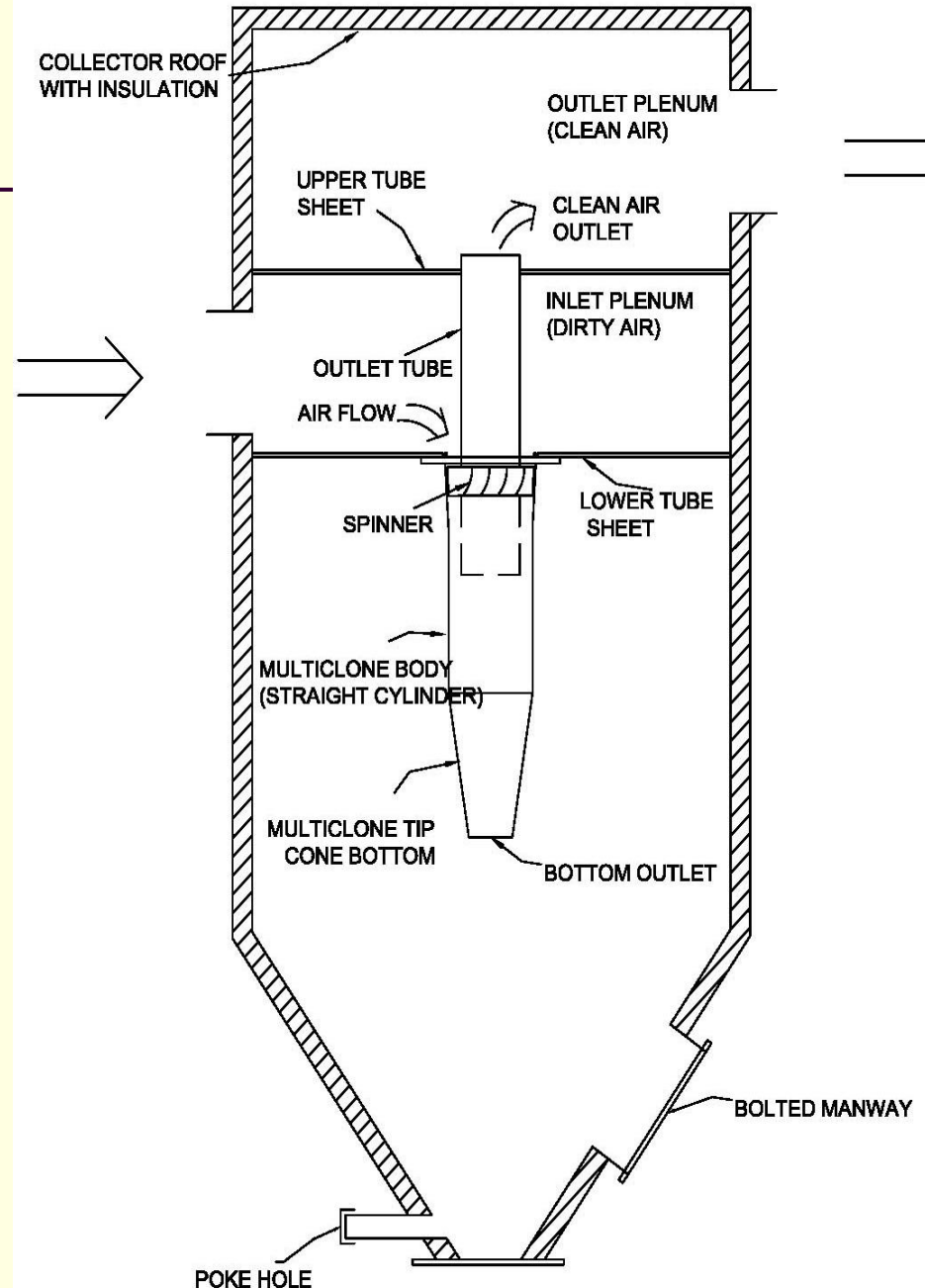
Mechanical collector.

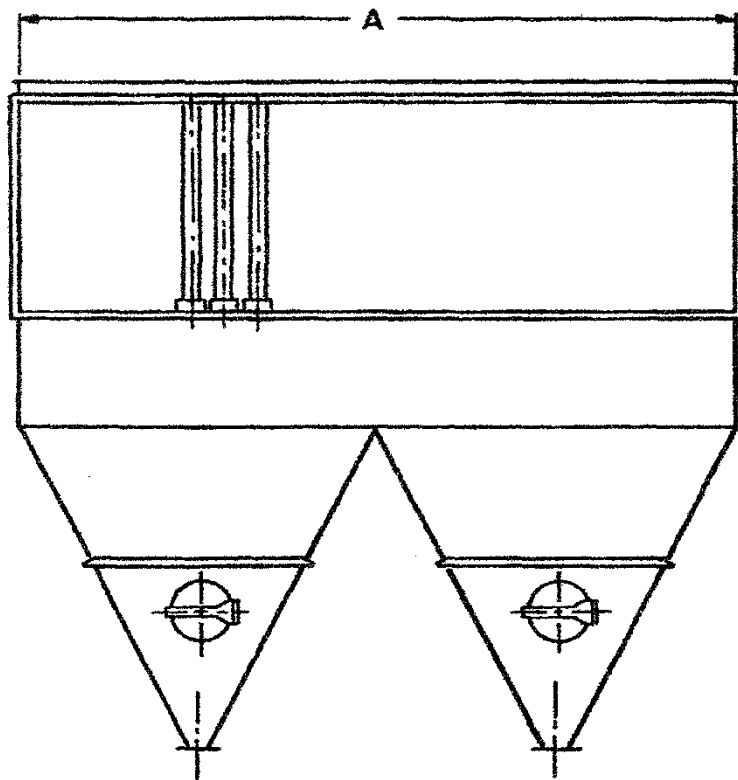


# Components

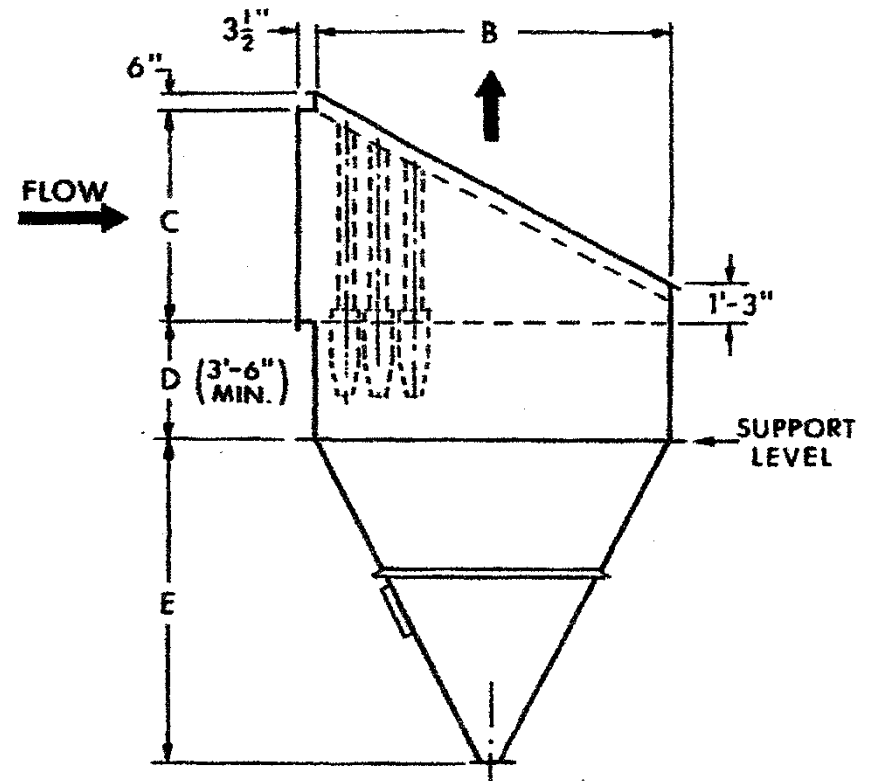
- Inlet plenum (dirty plenum)
- Outlet plenum (clean plenum)
- Hopper section
  - Integral
  - Separate
- Cone Casting
  - Tapered cone tip
  - Flat bottom
- Outlet tube
- Dirty air tube sheet (bottom - horizontal)
- Clean air tube sheet (top – sloped, stepped, or horizontal)
- Hopper outlet flange
- Airlock or seal valve
- Poke hole
- Manway

## MULTICLONE GENERIC LAYOUT





END ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION









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# Multicyclone Dust Collectors

## Abrasion

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Multiclones are subject to high abrasion :

High velocity gas flows

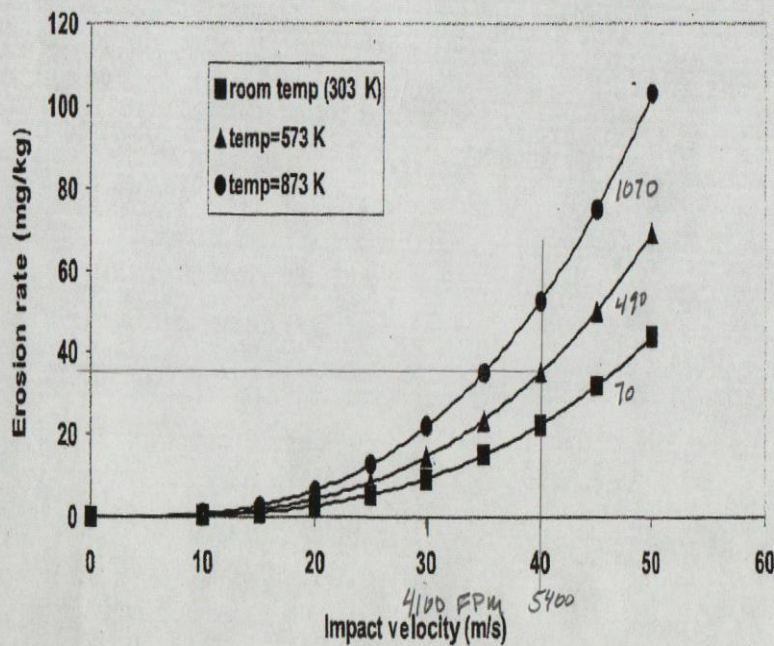
- High particulate loading (mass)
- High amounts of abrasive dust (Fly ash)
- High temperatures
- Chemical attack

# Abrasion

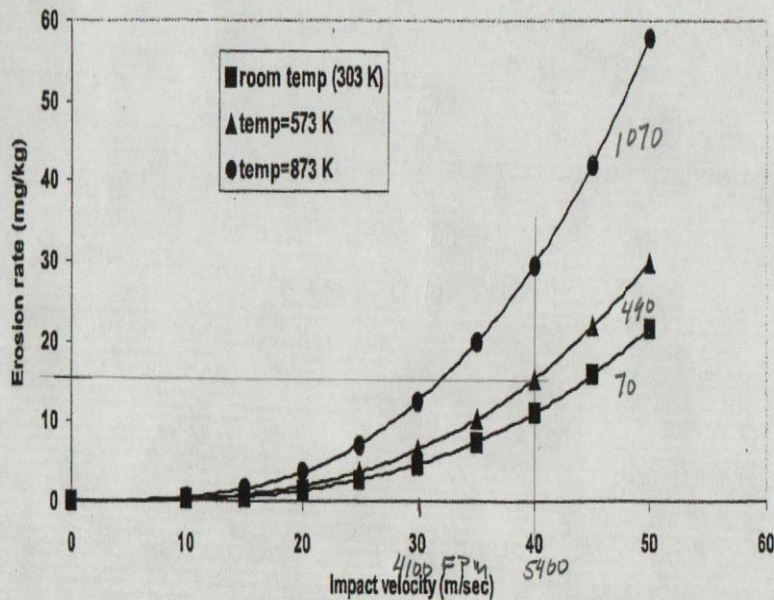
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- Third power relationship of velocity  
Increase gas flow by 25% and abrasion can increase by a factor of ~2
- Requires particulate in the gas stream
- First power relationship of the mass
- Hard particles increase wear SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (all first class abrasives)
- Particle specific gravity and particle shape
- Under 7-10 microns abrasion goes down
- Abrasion is affected by angle of impact



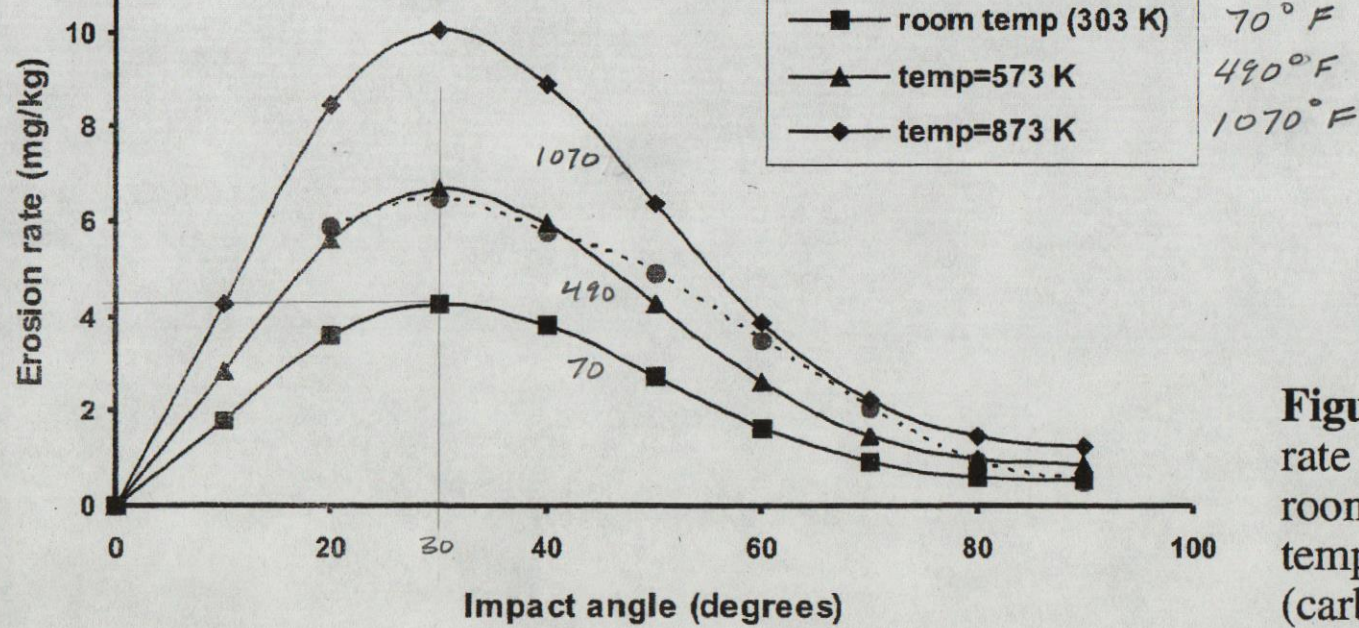


**Figure 9.** Variation of erosion rate with impact velocity at room temperature and elevated temperatures at 573 K and 873 K (carbon steel).

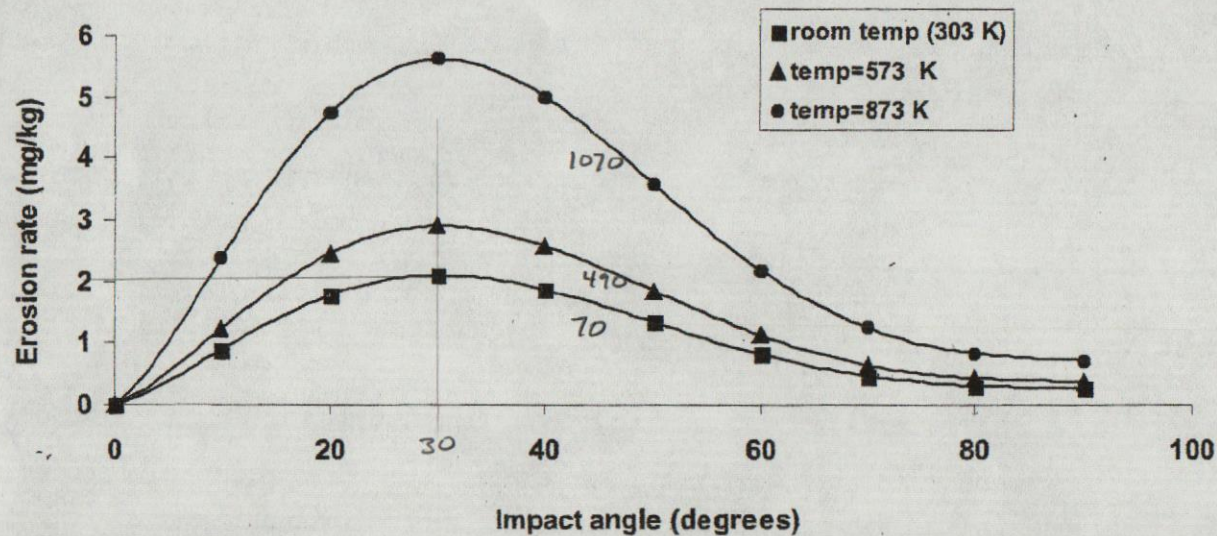


**Figure 10.** Variation of erosion rate with impact velocity at room temperature, and elevated temperatures at 573 K and 873 K (1.25Cr-1Mo-V steel).





**Figure 7.** Variation of erosion rate with impingement angle at room temperature and elevated temperatures at 573 K and 873 K (carbon steel).



**Figure 8.** Variation of erosion rate with impingement angle at room temperature and elevated temperatures at 573 K and 873 K (1.25Cr-1Mo-V steel).

# Abrasion Victims

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- Cones (inlet tubes)
- Spinners
- Outlet Tubes
- Recovery Vanes
- I D Fan wheel and housing
- Lower Tube Sheet
- Collector Housing- inlet side
- Upper Tube Sheet
- Air heater –Economizer





# Multicyclone Castings

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- Many different designs
- Different diameter cones or inlet tubes (3", 4", 6", 8", 9", 10", 12", 15", 18", 20", 24", 30" & 36")
- Different angle spinners for different efficiency's
- Different capacities with the different spinners
- No significant design changes in 50 years

# Casting Materials

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Inlet tubes and spinners

- Mild steel--fabricated-- Brinell 200
- Ductile Iron--Cast-- Brinell 200
- White Iron--Cast--Brinell 400
- Ni Hard--Cast--Brinell 600
- High Chrome Alloy--Cast-- Brinell 450-600
- Ceramic--Cast

# Outlet Tubes

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- Mild steel
- Tubing- .095" .109" 11ga. 1/8"—soft steel
- Pipe-
  - Sch 10, .120", .134", .148"
  - Sch 40 .237", .280", .322"
- Stainless steel tubing .095" .125" (304, 316)
- Shields
  - Angle iron
  - Channel
  - Formed plate 170 degree

# Reducing Velocity

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- Reduce velocity thru the system
  - Boiler efficiency = lower gas flow
  - Lower excess air, lower oxygen in flue
  - Less moisture in fuel
  - Lower stack temperature
  - Reduce air infiltration, negative pressure leaks
  - Aggressive maintenance

# Reducing Abrasives

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Reduce abrasive in flue gas

Lower ash content fuel--fuel buyer--testing

Lower moisture in fuel--fuel buyer--testing

Mechanical carryover, underfire air

Char recycle system, screens,-- test ash

Air leaks generating bank, Airheater hoppers

Multiclone Airlock

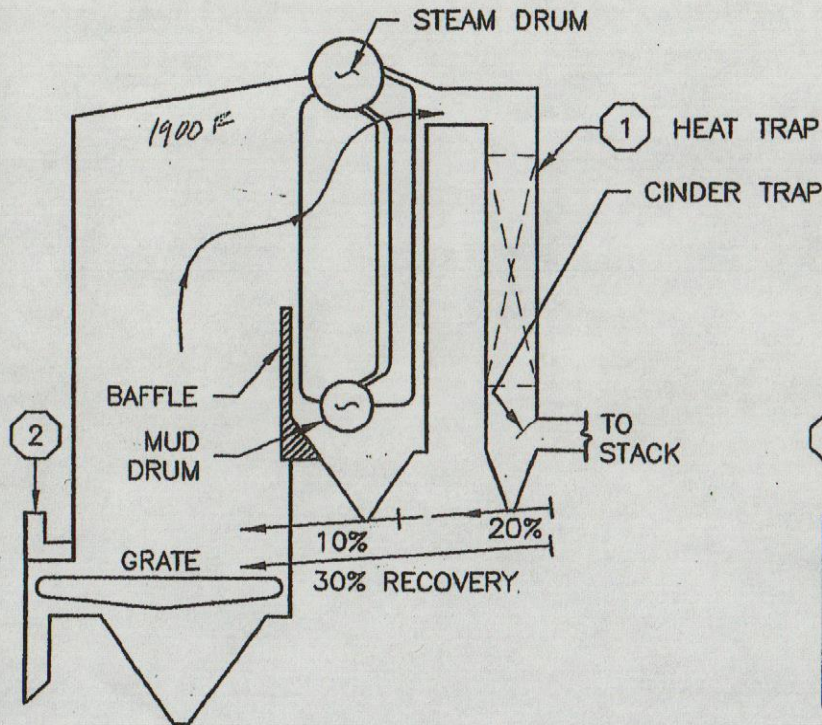
Multiclone leaks, tube sheet, cones

Aggressive maintenance flue/ash pathway



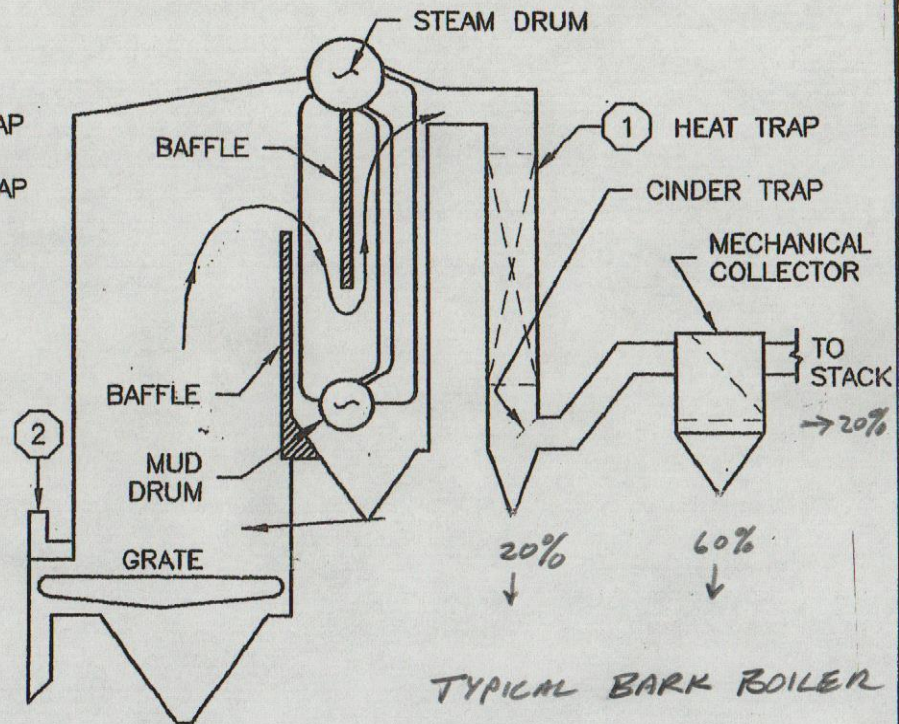
**CODED NOTE:**

1. ECONOMIZER AND OR AIR HEATER
2. COAL FEEDER



**SINGLE OR OPEN PASS BOILER SECTION**  
**NO SCALE**

1. 10% RECOVERY - BOILER HOPPER ONLY
2. 30% RECOVERY - BOILER HOPPER + CINDER TRAP



**MULTIPLE PASS BOILER SECTION**  
**NO SCALE**

1. 30% RECOVERY - BOILER HOPPER ONLY
2. 50% RECOVERY - BOILER HOPPER + CINDER TRAP
3. 70% RECOVERY - BOILER HOPPER + CINDER TRAP + MECHANICAL DUST COLLECTOR

*COAL FIRED*



# Hog Fuel Ash

**SGS**

January 27, 2006

**BOILER & STEAM SYSTEMS**

4675 174TH COURT SE  
BELLEVUE WA 98006

ATTN: DAVE SHARPE

Page 1 of 1

Client Sample ID: Hog Fuel #2  
Date Sampled: January 11, 2006  
Date Received: Jan 23, 2006  
Product Description: WOOD *ponderosa*

Sample ID By: *John P. 86213*  
Sample Taken At: *015-462-9*  
Sample Taken By: **Boiler & Steam Systems**  
P. O. #: D. Sharpe  
J-152-06

SGS Minerals Sample ID: 491-0606251-002

|                                | <u>As Received</u> | <u>Dry</u> | <u>MAF</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| % Total Moisture               | 49.30              |            |            |
| % Ash                          | 2.30               | 4.53       |            |
| Gross Calorific Value (Btu/lb) | 4570               | 9014       | 9442       |
| % Volatile Matter              | 31.00              | 61.14      |            |
| % Fixed Carbon                 | 17.40              | 34.33      |            |
| % Sulfur                       | 0.041              | 0.082      |            |
| % Chlorine                     | 0.010              | 0.019      |            |

Analyte

**FUSION TEMPERATURE OF ASH, REDUCING**

Initial Deformation  
Softening  
Hemispherical

Result

2020 °F  
2040 °F  
2065 °F



October 14, 2005

**BOILER & STEAM SYSTEMS**  
4675 174TH COURT SE  
BELLEVUE WA 98006

Page 1 of 1

ATTN: DAVE SHARPE

Client Sample ID: #5 1/8 MinusFines Fir&Larch  
Date Sampled: October 6, 2005  
Date Received: Oct 10, 2005  
Product Description: WOOD

Sample ID By  
Sample Taken At  
Sample Taken By  
P. O. #

Boiler & Steam Systems  
[REDACTED]  
D. Sharpe  
J-119-05

**SGS Minerals Sample ID: 491-0503969-005**

|                                | <u>As Received</u> | <u>Dry</u> | <u>MAF</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| % Total Moisture               | 27.50              |            |            |
| % Ash                          | 9.53               | 13.14      |            |
| Gross Calorific Value (Btu/lb) | 5627               | 7762       | 8937       |
| % Volatile Matter              | 46.94              | 64.74      |            |
| % Fixed Carbon                 | 16.03              | 22.12      |            |
| % Sulfur                       | 0.017              | 0.024      |            |



Sample Identification  
 [REDACTED] Log Yard Cleanup

Reporting  
 Basis >

As Rec'd

Dry

Air Dry

Proximate (%)

|            |        |        |        |   |
|------------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| → Moisture | 46.79  | 0.00   | 3.08   | ← |
| Ash        | 8.51   | 16.00  | 15.51  |   |
| Volatile   | 33.85  | 63.62  | 61.66  |   |
| Fixed C    | 10.85  | 20.38  | 19.75  |   |
| Total      | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |   |

|                  |       |       |       |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Sulfur           | 0.010 | 0.020 | 0.019 |
| Btu/lb (HHV)     | 4212  | 7915  | 7672  |
| MMF Btu/lb       | 4638  | 9569  |       |
| MAF Btu/lb       |       | 9423  |       |
| Air Dry Loss (%) | 45.10 |       |       |

Ultimate (%)

|          |        |        |        |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Moisture | 46.79  | 0.00   | 3.08   |
| Carbon   | 25.97  | 48.81  | 47.31  |
| Hydrogen | 2.76   | 5.20   | 5.04   |
| Nitrogen | 0.14   | 0.26   | 0.25   |
| Sulfur   | 0.01   | 0.02   | 0.02   |
| Ash      | 8.51   | 16.00  | 15.51  |
| Oxygen*  | 15.82  | 29.71  | 28.79  |
| Total    | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Chlorine\*\*

Forms of Sulfur (as S,%)

|         |      |      |
|---------|------|------|
| Sulfate |      |      |
| Pyritic |      |      |
| Organic |      |      |
| Total   | 0.01 | 0.02 |

Water Soluble Alkalies (%)

Na2O  
 K2O

Lb. Alkali/MM Btu=  
 Lb. Ash/MM Btu= 20.22  
 Lb. SO2/MM Btu= 0.05  
 HGI= @ % Moisture  
 As Rec'd. Sp.Gr.=  
 Free Swelling Index=  
 F-Factor(dry), DSCF/MM BTU= 10,104

Report Prepared By:

*Gerard H. Cunningham*  
 Gerard H. Cunningham  
 Fuels Laboratory Supervisor

March 12, 2004

SOUTH HOLLAND, IL 60473  
TEL: (708) 331-2900  
FAX: (708) 333-3060

BOILER & STEAM SYSTEMS, LLC.  
4675 174th Court SE  
Bellevue, WA 98006  
Attn: Dave Sharpe

Sample identification by  
Boiler & Steam Systems, LLC.

Kind of sample  
reported to us Wood Ash

Sample ID: D.C. Ash  
03/04/04

Sample taken at [REDACTED]

Sample taken by -----

Date sampled March 4, 2004

Date received March 9, 2004

P.O. No. J-054

Analysis Report No. 71-228919

Page 1 of 1

Chloride  
Dry Basis, % Wt.  
0.06

| <u>MINERAL ANALYSIS</u>                             | <u>Ignited Basis, % Weight</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Silica, SiO <sub>2</sub>                            | 1.21 ←                         |
| Alumina, Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>             | 0.73 ←                         |
| Titania, TiO <sub>2</sub>                           | 0.10 ←                         |
| Iron oxide, Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>          | 1.96 ←                         |
| Calcium oxide, CaO                                  | 6.08                           |
| Magnesium oxide, MgO                                | 1.40                           |
| Potassium oxide, K <sub>2</sub> O                   | 27.06                          |
| Sodium oxide, Na <sub>2</sub> O                     | 13.86                          |
| Sulfur trioxide, SO <sub>3</sub>                    | 9.90                           |
| Phosphorus pentoxide, P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | 1.25                           |
| Strontium oxide, SrO                                | 0.04                           |
| Barium oxide, BaO                                   | 0.08                           |
| Manganese oxide, Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>     | 0.43                           |
| Zinc oxide, ZnO                                     | 17.70                          |
| Undetermined  | <u>18.20</u>                   |
|   | 100.00                         |
| LOSS ON IGNITION @ 950°C                            | 17.52                          |





# Benefits

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- Reduced abrasion Boiler Tubes, Airheater, Economizer, Multiclone, I D Fan, Ductwork
- Reduced fan horsepower, ID Fan, FD fan
- Lower fuel requirements
- Less major maintenance, delayed maintenance
- Life cycle extended
- Additional boiler capacity (We just shot a hole in our foot!)





# Things to not tell the Boss

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- Rocks and sand have zero fuel value
- Equipment doesn't heal or fix itself
- Water doesn't burn
- During unplanned outages UPS only deliverers non-critical parts
- We have no Standard Operating Procedure's because we have no standard operating days
- We did nothing different, but we will take full credit for the improvement

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