



**QEPAC**<sup>TM</sup>



Air Movement Systems  
with ECM Technology



# CONTENT AGENDA

Fan Efficiency Drivers: Codes and Standards - 01

History and Operation of ECM Technology - 02

ECM Fan Systems Benefits - 03

Questions - 04

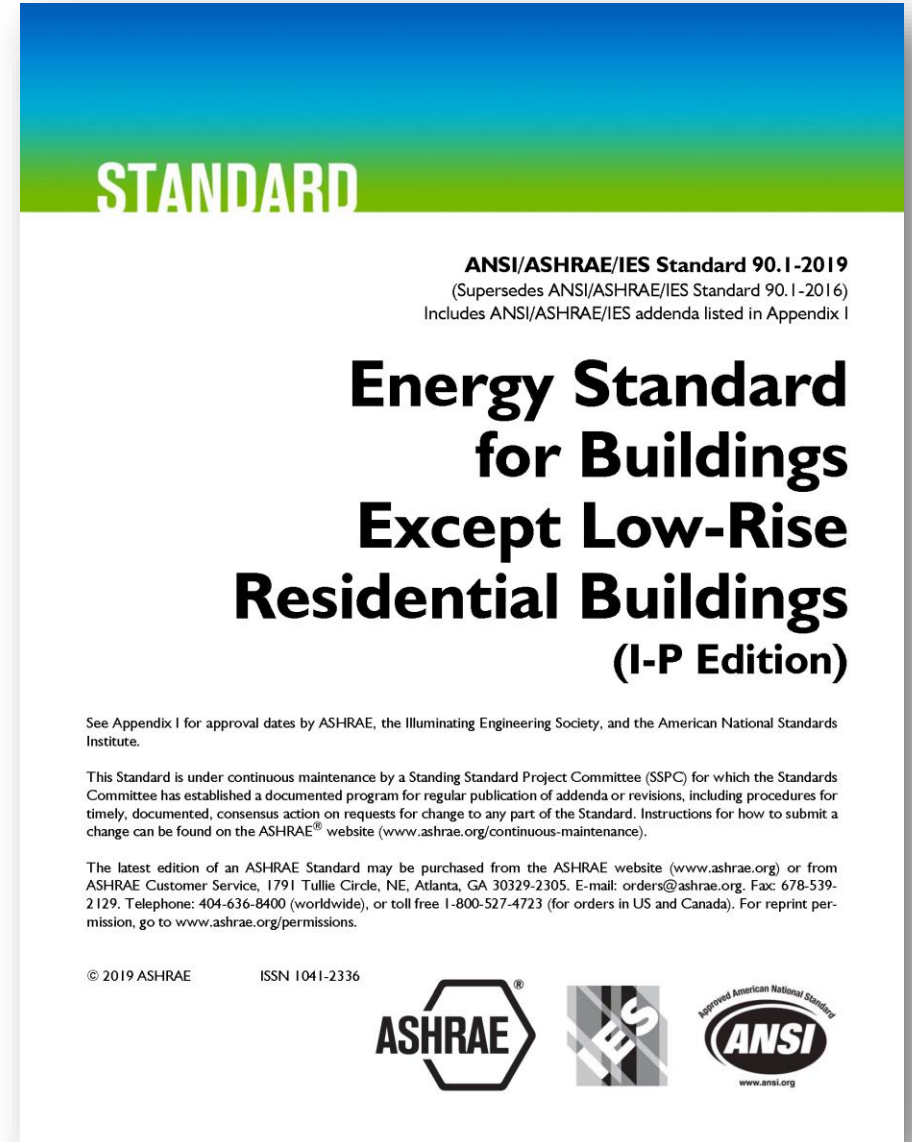
# Presenter Intro

- MAsc in Mechanical Engineering
- Professional Engineer
- Chair of ASHRAE TC 5.5; Air-to-Air Energy Recovery Equipment
- Member of ASHRAE TC 5.1; Fans
- Member of ASHRAE Standard 62.1: Ventilation Committee
- Sales and Applications Engineer
- ASHRAE British Columbia Past President



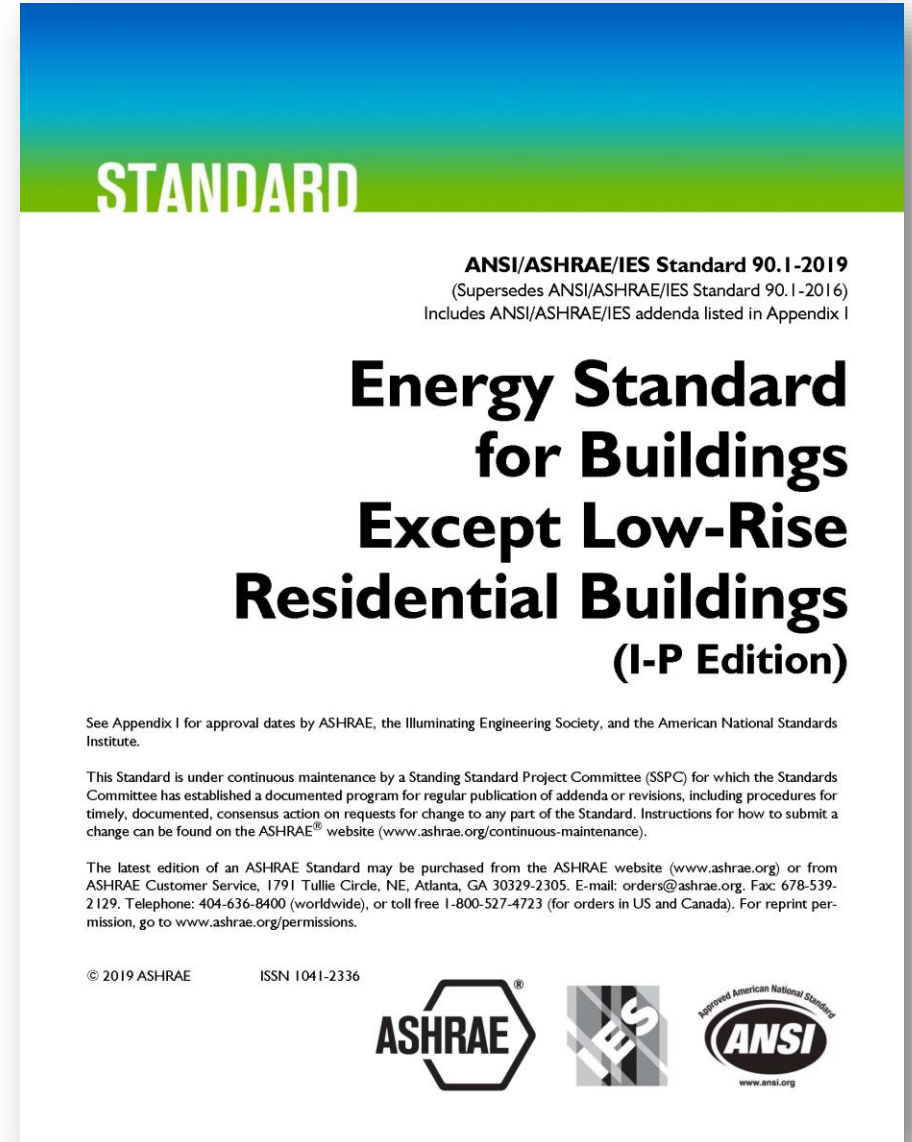
# Drivers of Efficiency: Codes and Standards

- **ASHRAE 90.1: Energy Standard for Buildings**
- ASHRAE 90.1 is the basis of International Energy Conservation Code that is adopted by most US States and Canadian Provinces
- Revised every 3 years
- Standard 90.1 is a **minimum** efficiency code
- Other codes like LEED and ASHRAE 189 are more stringent



# Drivers of Efficiency: Michigan Energy Conservation Code

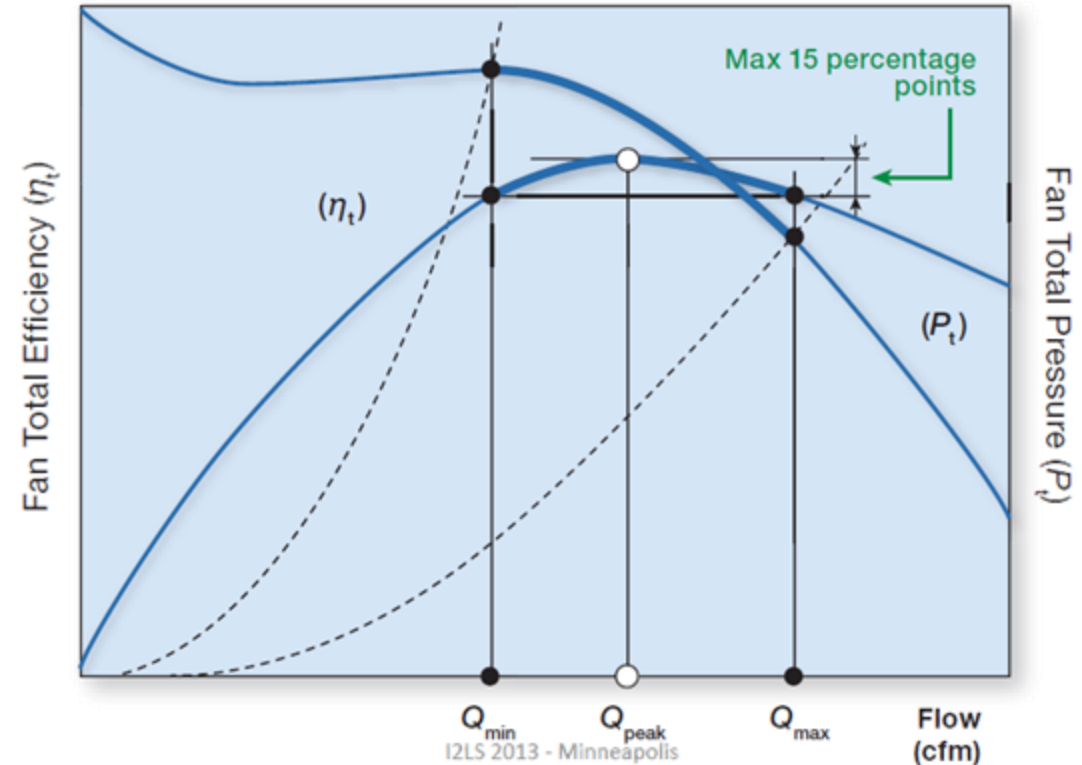
- Current Michigan ECC based on ASHRAE 90.1-2013
- Being revised in 2022 to update to ASHRAE 90.1-2019 (with updates)



## ASHRAE 90.1-2013:

**6.5.3.1.3 Fan Efficiency.** Fans shall have a fan efficiency grade (FEG) of 67 or higher based on manufacturers' certified data, as defined by AMCA 205. The total efficiency of the fan at the design point of operation shall be within 15 percentage points of the maximum total efficiency of the fan.

Fan Efficiency Grade (FEG) is a unique metric only valid at peak efficiency, **does not address efficiency at part load**



# ASHRAE 90.1-2013

# ASHRAE 90.1-2019: What changed in 2019 revision

ASHRAE 90.1-2019:

Each fan and *fan array* shall have a *fan energy index (FEI)* of 1.00 or higher. Each fan and *fan array* used for a *variable-air-volume system* that meets the requirements of Section 6.5.3.2.1 shall have an *FEI* of 0.95 or higher. The *FEI* for *fan arrays* shall be calculated in accordance with AMCA 208 Annex C.

Fan Energy Index (FEI) addresses efficiency at operating point

FEI is the best metric to compare fan efficacies at any operating point



# ASHRAE 90.1-2019: What changed in 2019 revision

ASHRAE 90.1-2019:

EC motors are exempt from nameplate HP limitations:

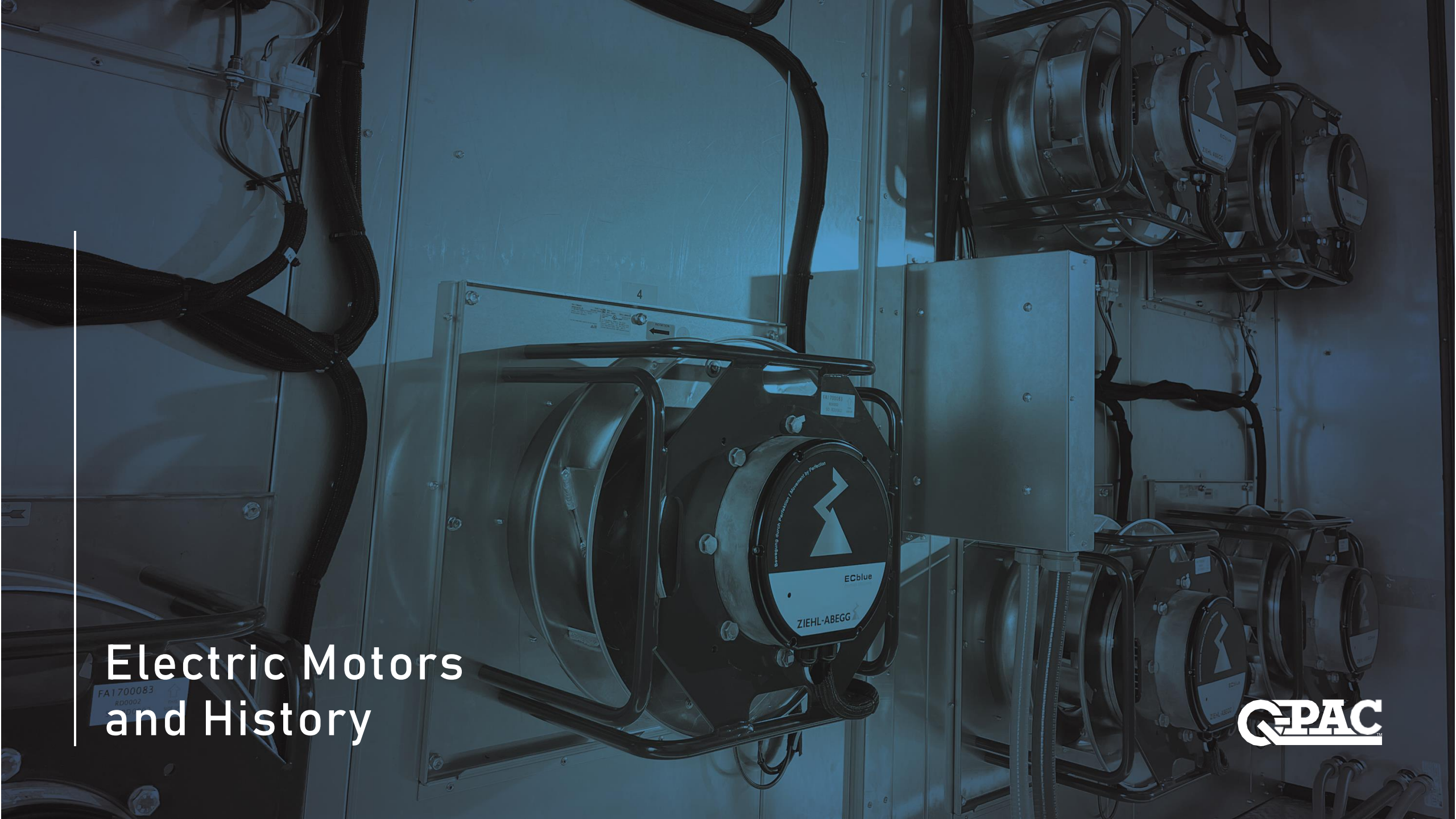
- a. For each fan less than 6 bhp, the selected fan motor shall be no larger than the first available motor with a *nameplate rating* greater than 1.5 times the bhp.
- b. For each fan 6 bhp and larger, the selected fan motor shall be no larger than the first available motor with a *nameplate rating* greater than 1.3 times the bhp.

## **Exceptions to 6.5.3.1.2**

1. *Motors* equipped with **electronic speed control devices** to vary the fan airflow as a function of load.

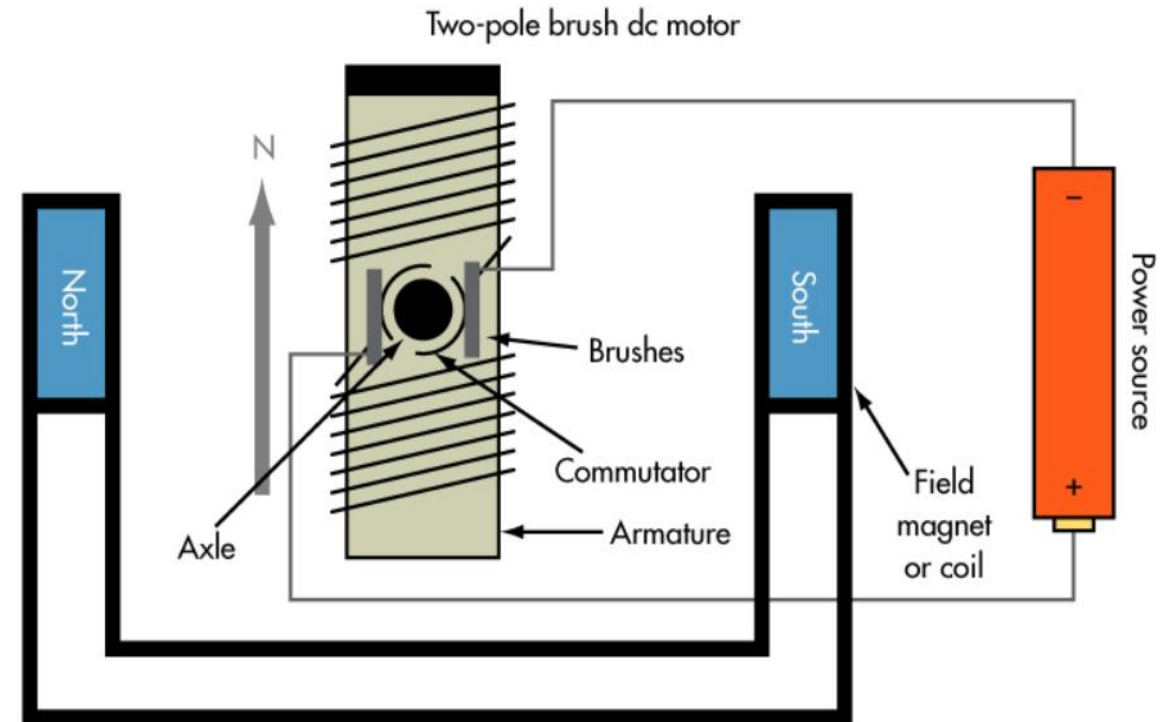
Reason: EC motors are highly efficient at part-load

# Electric Motors and History



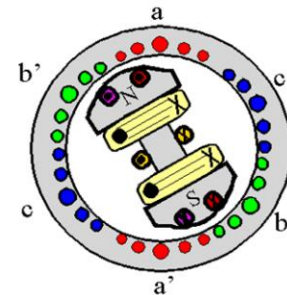
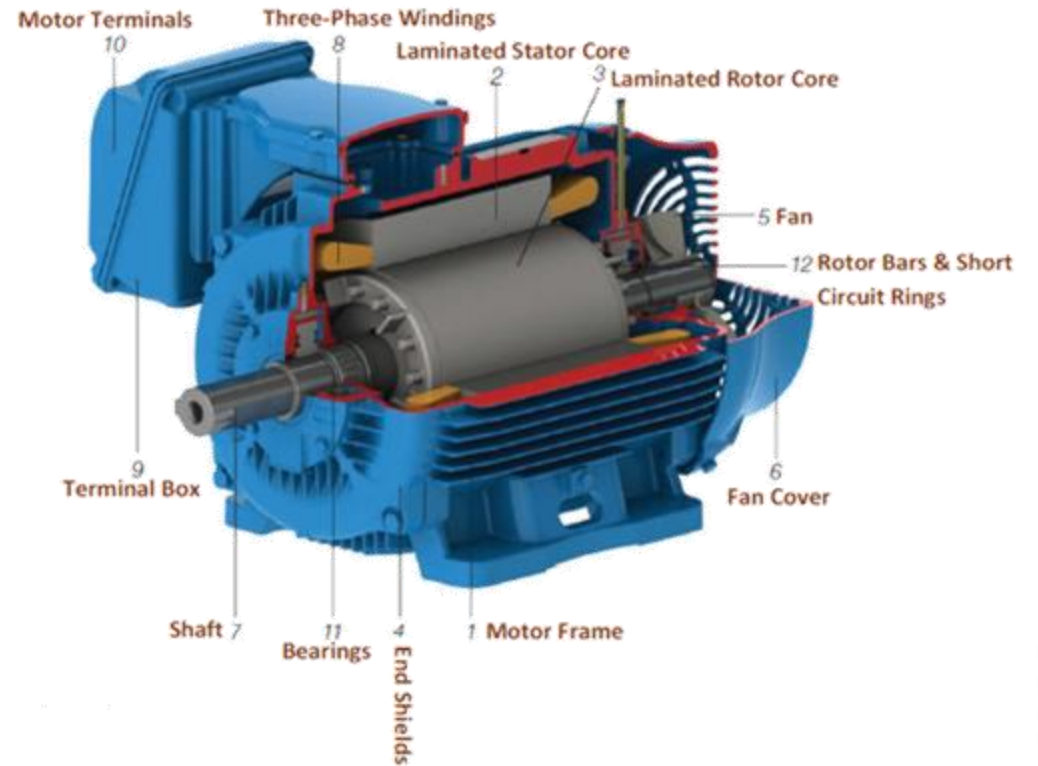
# Electric Motors: Brushed DC Motors

- The oldest form of motor technology
- Permanent magnet stator pole
- Rotor poles vary in polarities
- “Brushes” make contact with a commutator to change polarity in rotor



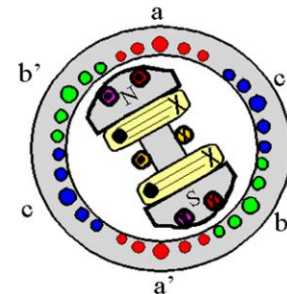
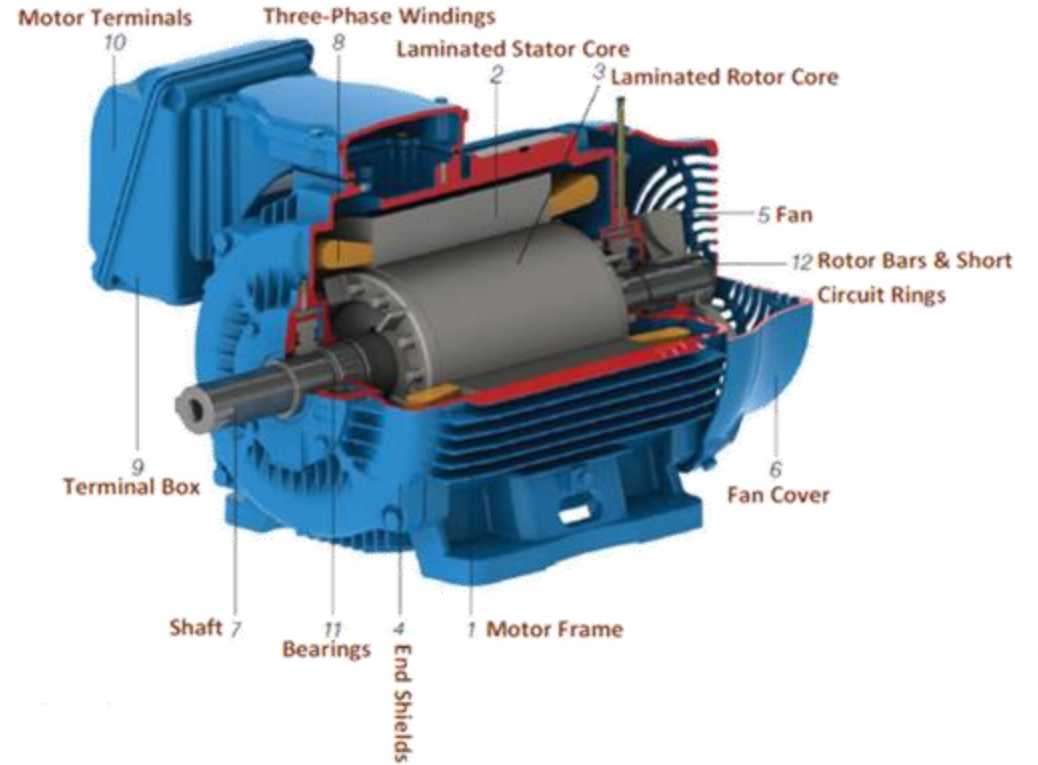
# Electric Motors: AC Induction Motors

- Nominal RPM based on electrical frequency and number of poles
- Asynchronous
- As load increases, motor rpm “slips”
- Slippage provides the torque
- Once there is a magnetic force created in rotor, the rotor “chases” the rotating field in the stator



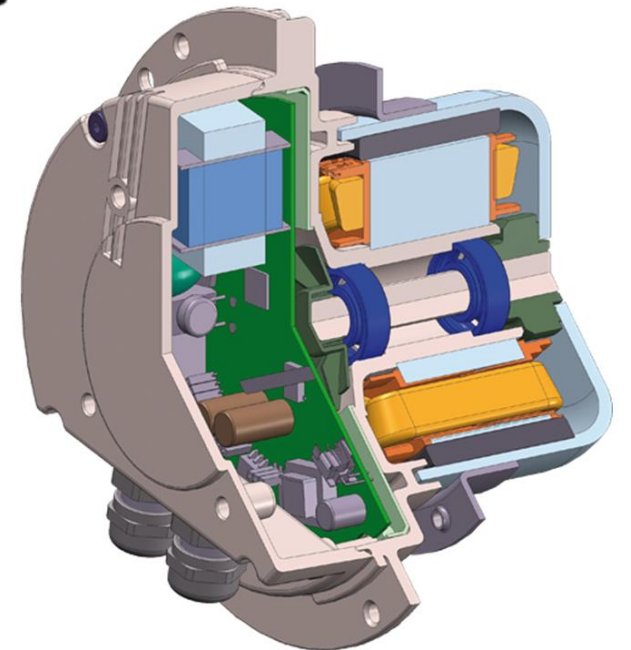
# Electric Motors: AC Induction Motors

- Simple construction
- Simple maintenance
- No commutator or slip rings
- Low Price
- Asynchronous
- Good efficiency at peak load
- Familiar –served well for decades
- Stand-alone fixed speed
- Require VFD for speed modulation



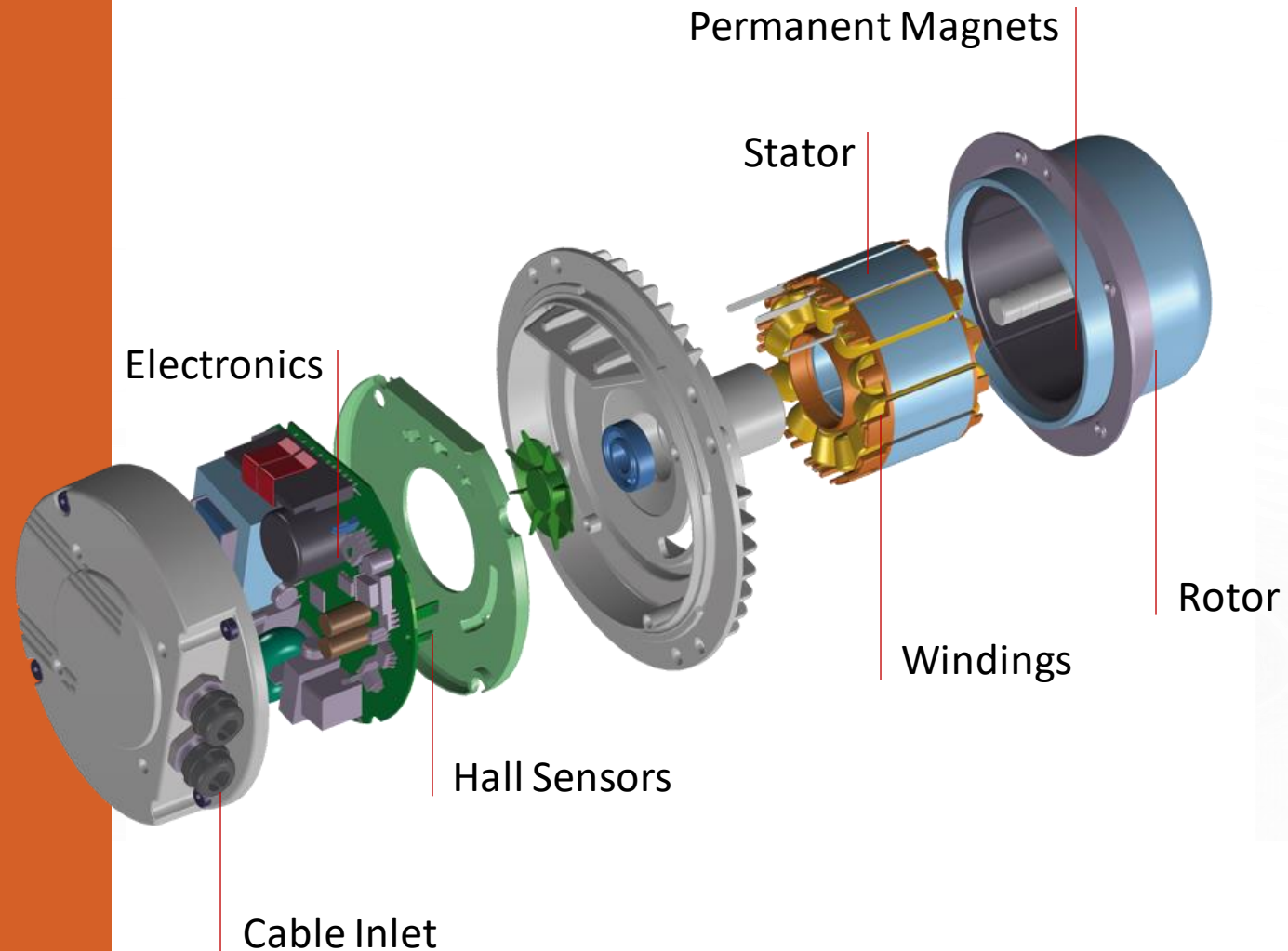
# EC Motors: History and Operation

- ECM: Electronically Commutated Motor
- History in 1960's locomotive motors
- DC Native Motor (incoming AC is rectified to DC)
- Utilize Permanent Magnets

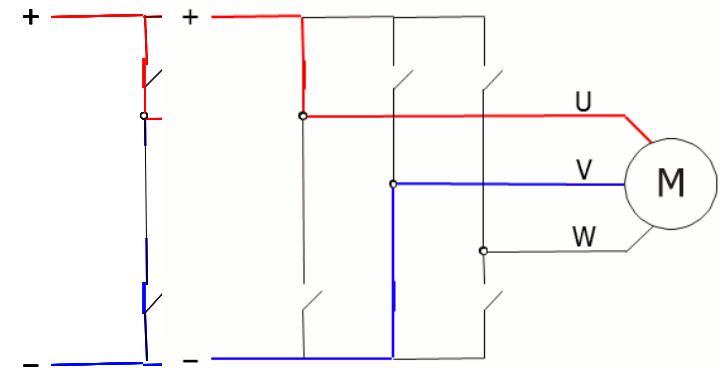
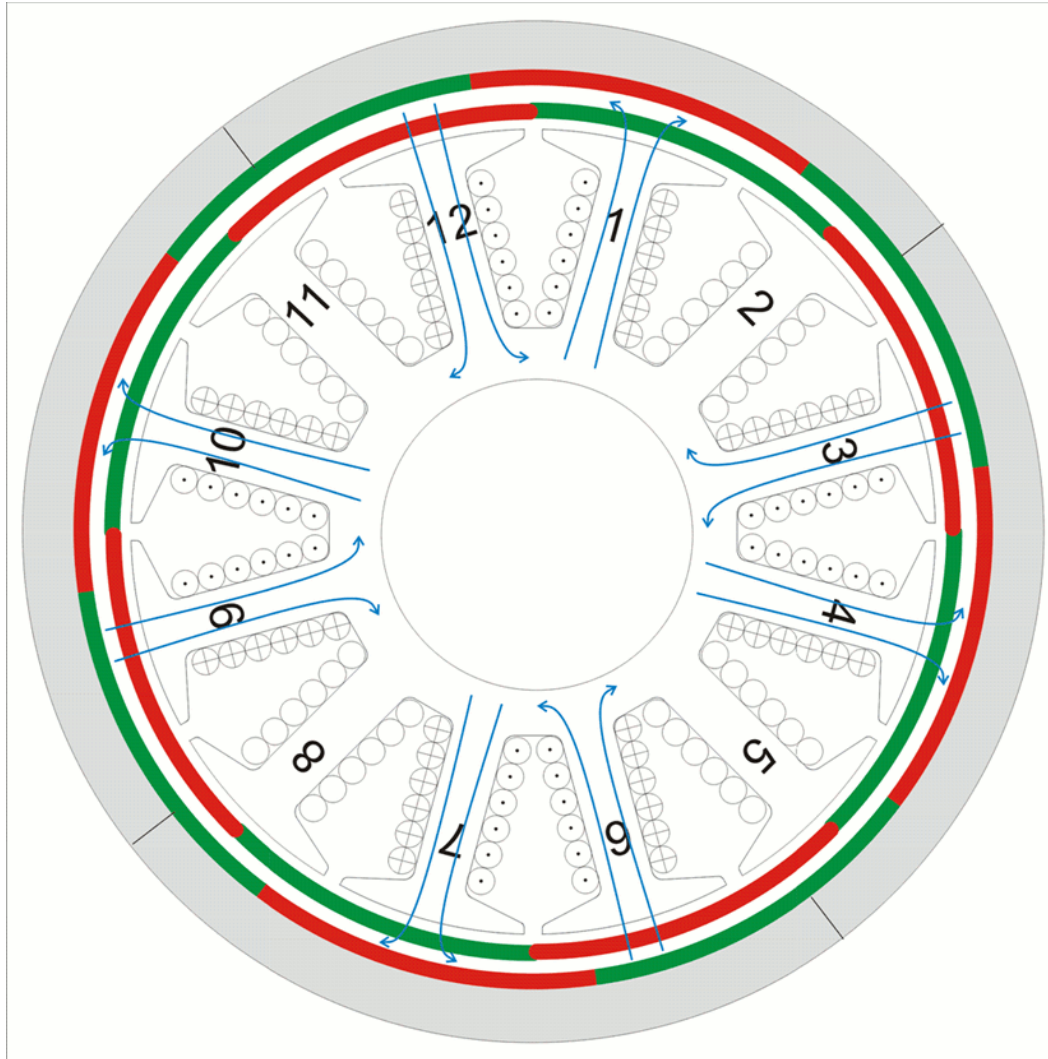


# EC Motors: History and Operation

- Takes in AC power and converts to DC
- Output DC is switched on and off in different poles in the stator
- Switching is done through transistors
- Stator magnetic field creates a simultaneous push/pull on the magnet in the rotor
- Hall effect sensors indicate motor position to controller



# EC Motors: History and Operation





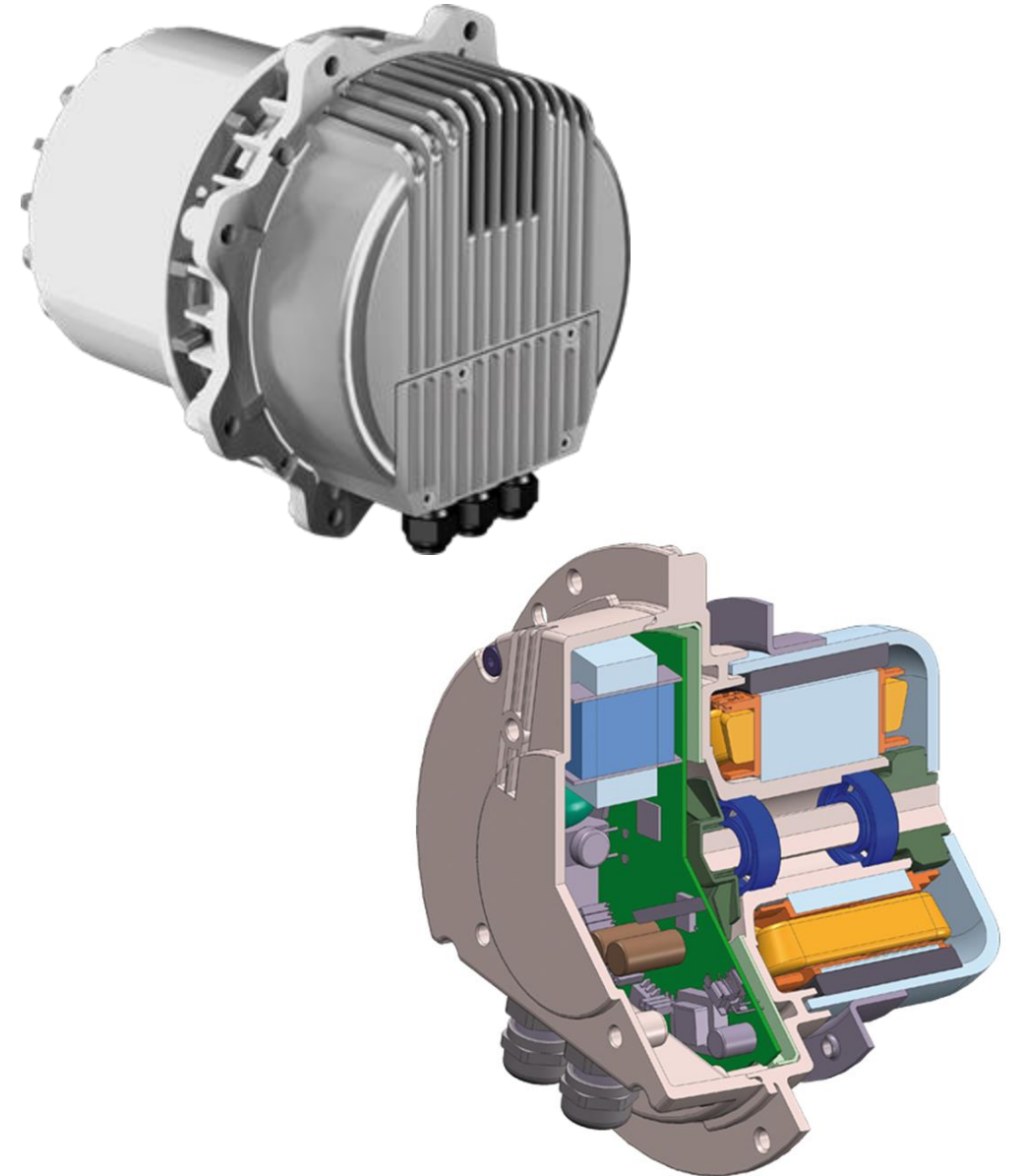


# EC Fan Systems: Benefits

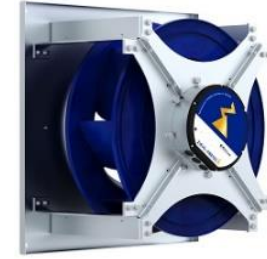


# EC Motors: Benefits

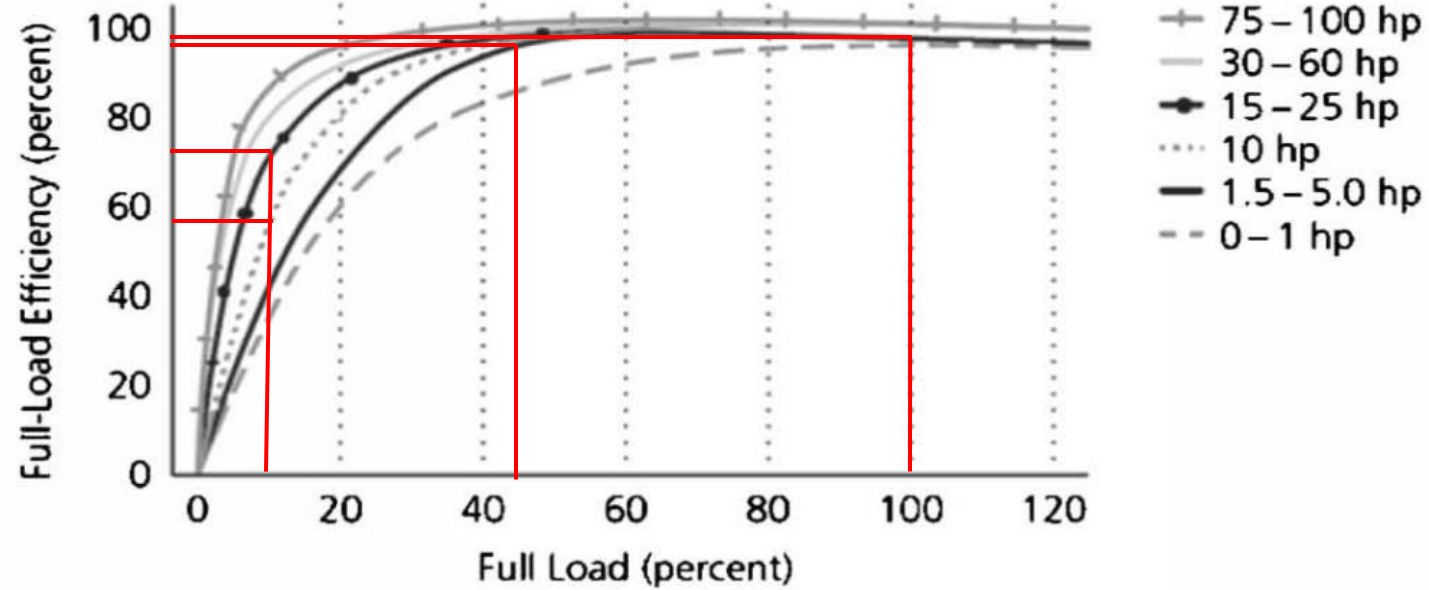
- Better efficiency throughout range of operation
- Compact footprint
- Dust-proof and watertight – IP54
- No bearing currents: **no shaft grounding required**
- Wider operating range than induction motors
- Maintenance benefits



# EC Motors: Efficiency



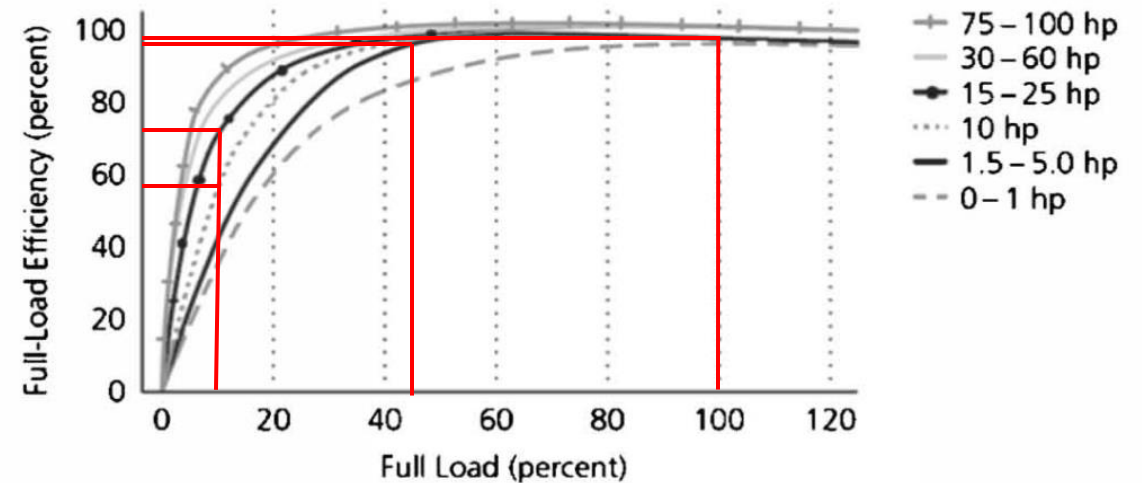
Reported	BHP	Input Power
Bearing Losses	2%	Included
VFD Losses	4 - 8%	N/A
Part Load Efficiency	Significant	Minor
Actual KW Consumed	BHP -10 – 15%	Input Power



**Fig. 1.** Induction motor efficiency as a function of load (Natural Resources Canada 2004)

# AC Induction Motors: Part-load Efficiency

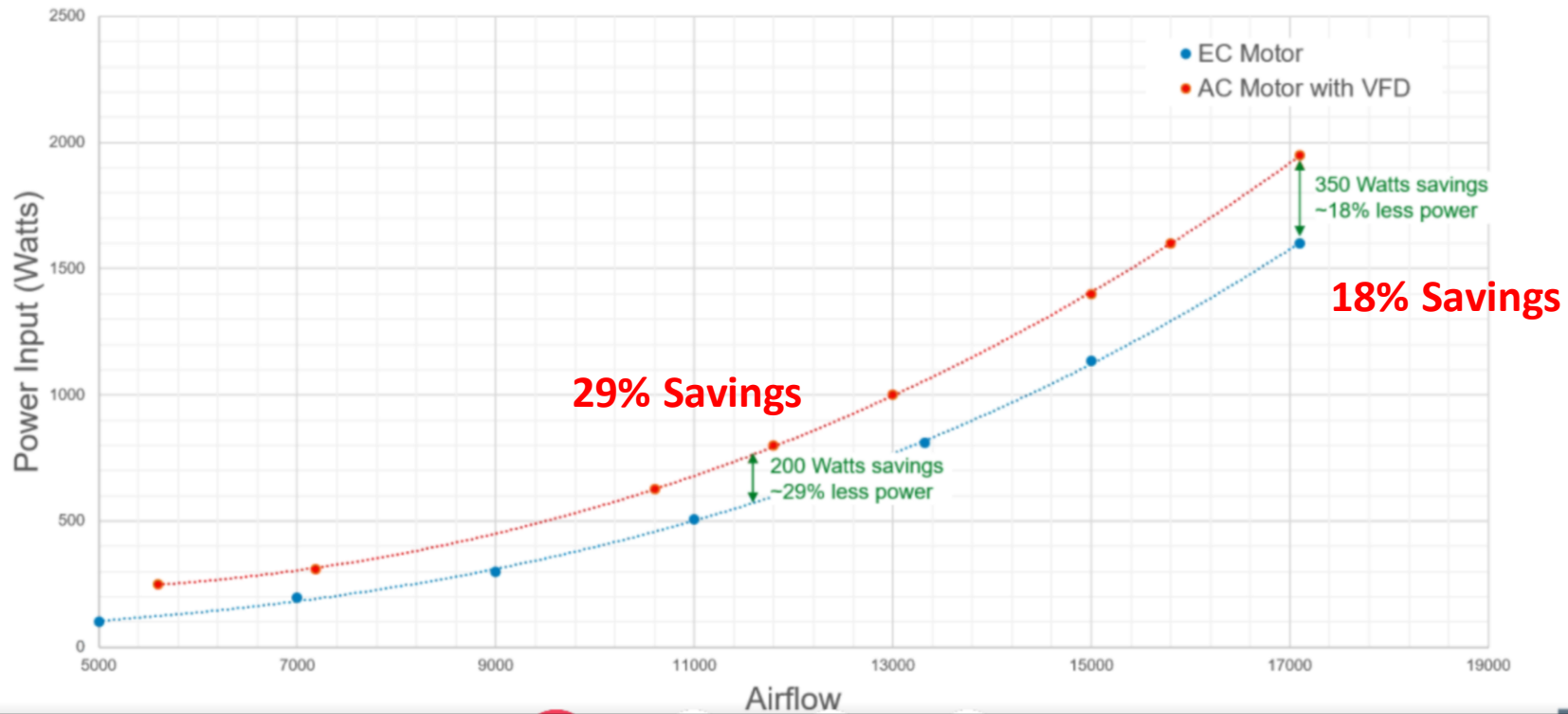
- EC motors are highly efficient especially at part-load
- Load  $\sim$  (CFM)<sup>3</sup>
- At 50% CFM, Load is 12.5% of full load
- At 75% CFM, Load is 41% of full load
- A 25hp AC motor is 72% efficient at 50% CFM
- A 10hp AC motor is 55% efficient at 50% CFM



**Fig. 1.** Induction motor efficiency as a function of load (Natural Resources Canada 2004)

# AC Induction Motors: Part-load Efficiency

## Power Input Comparison with various Control Methods

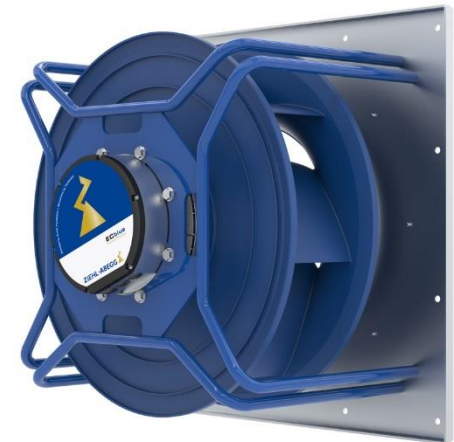


**AC Induction Motors: Part-load Efficiency**

# EC Fans: Fan Blade Design

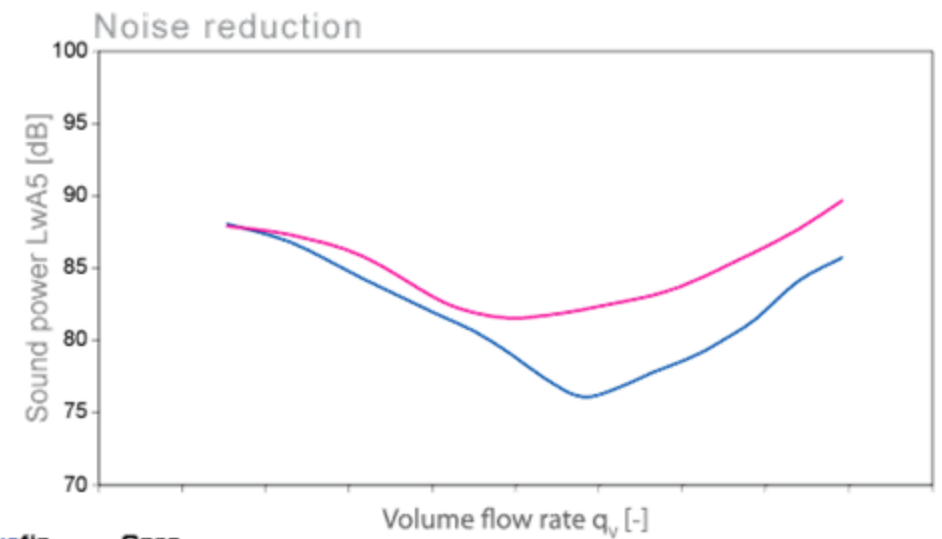
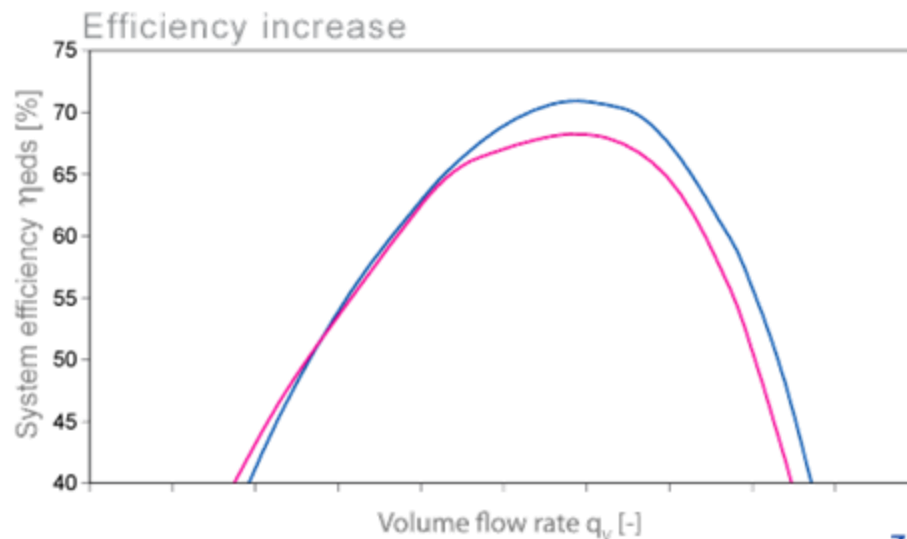
## Aluminum, Steel or Composite blades

Slight performance advantage for composite blade (light weight/complex shape)  
= increased efficiency + better acoustic performance



# EC Fans: Fan Blade Static Efficiency

- Injection molded composite
- Steel/Aluminum
- Bionic, corrugated blade edge
- Corrugated fin
- V-Shape trailing edge
- Improved efficiency and reduced noise





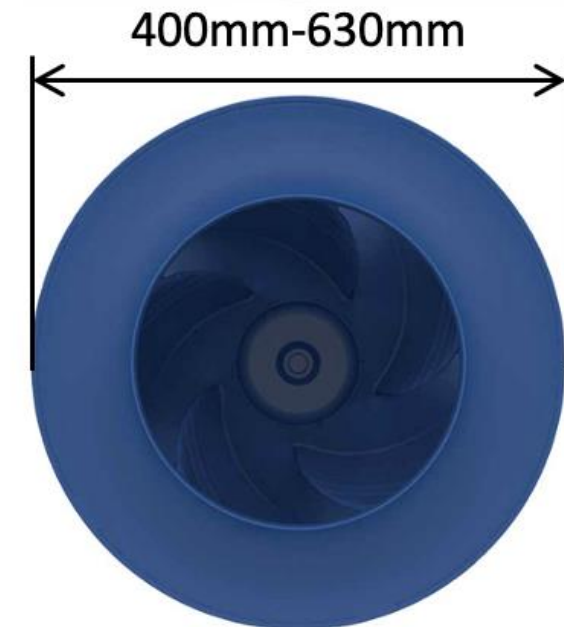
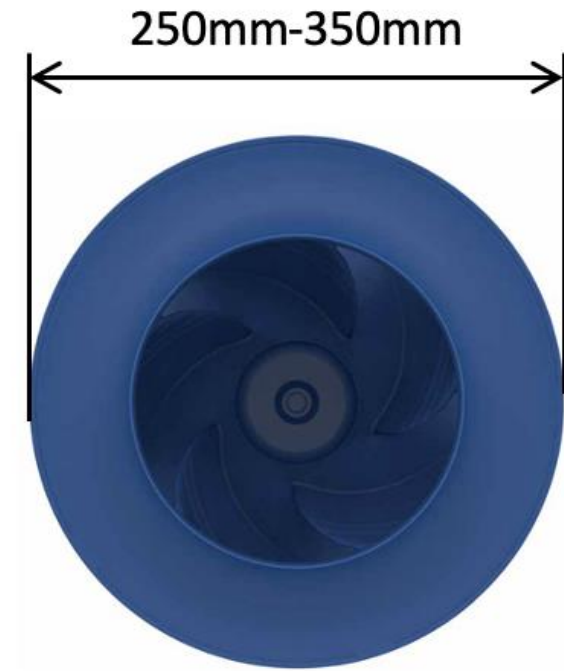
# EC Fans: Fan Blade Design

| 250mm (10") to 630 mm (25")



# EC Fans: Vibration

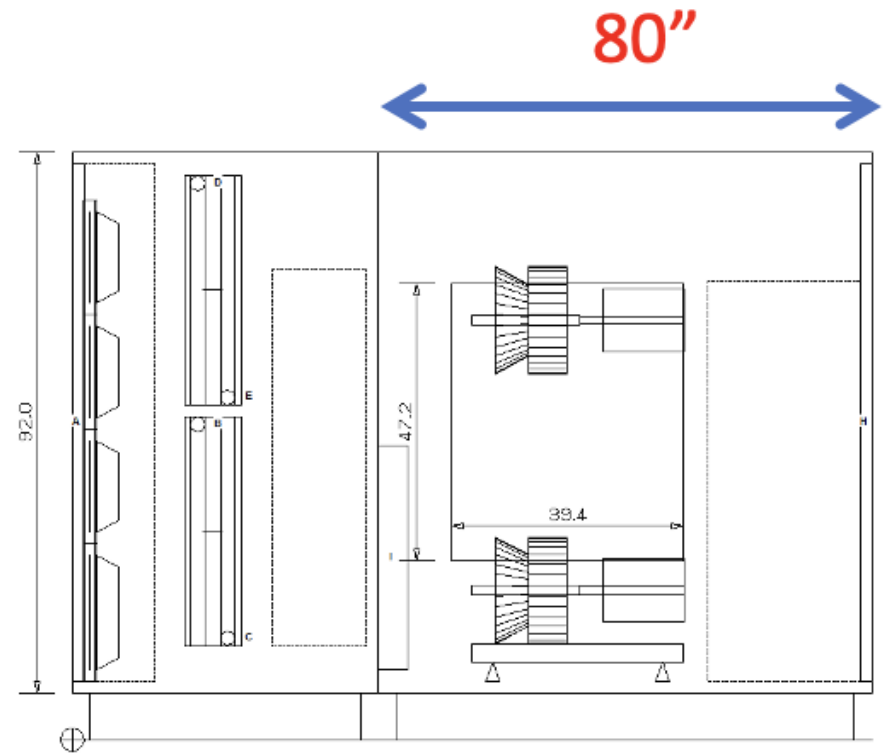
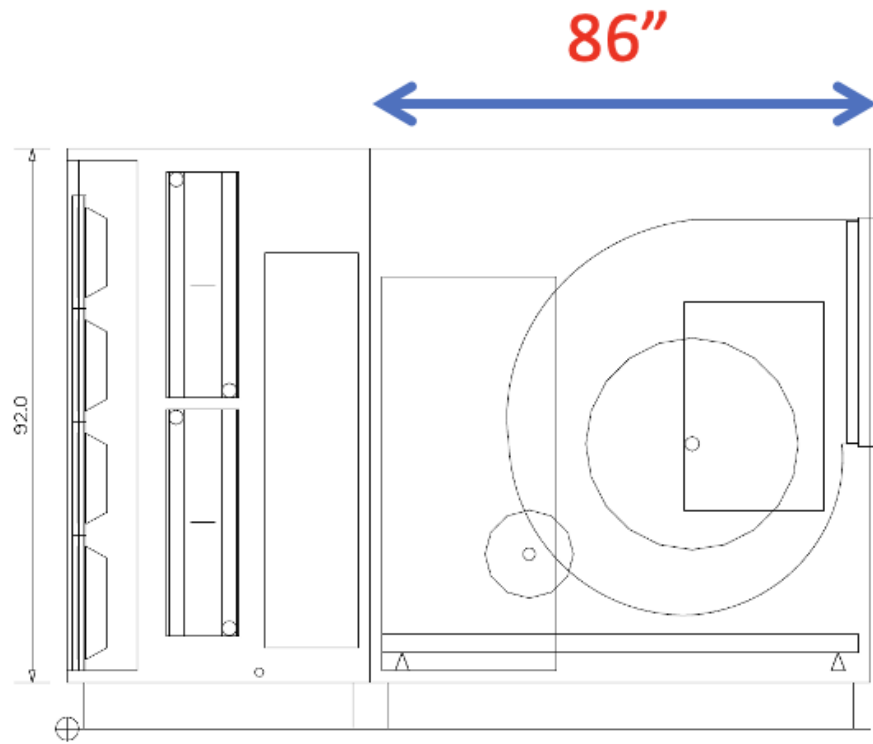
- Fan wheels 250mm-350mm:  
G6.3/BV3
- Fan wheels 400mm-630mm:  
G2.5/BV4



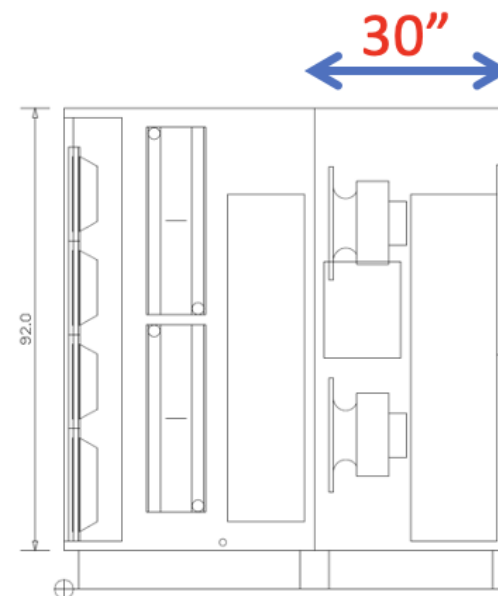
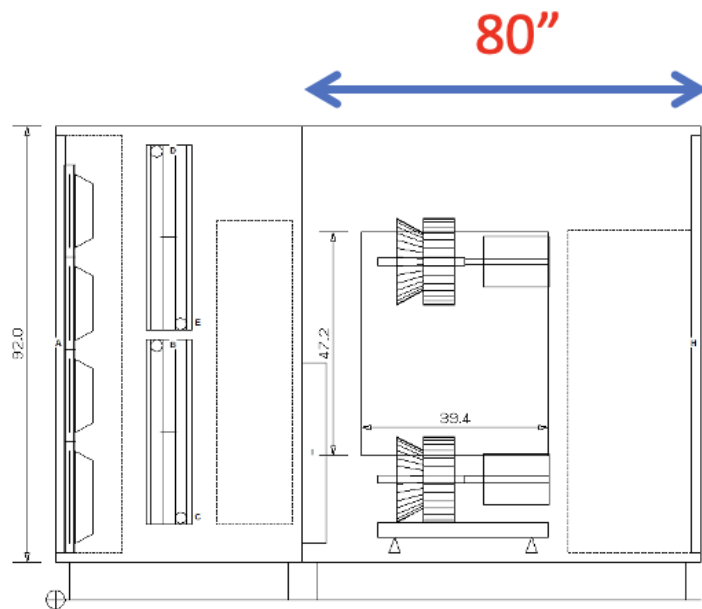
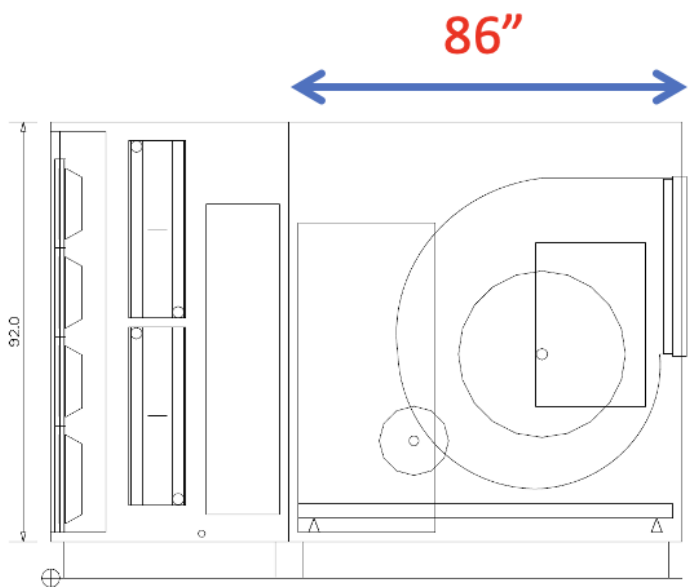
# EC Fans: Vibration; AMCA 204 Fan Categories

Table 6.1—Fan Application Categories for Balance and Vibration

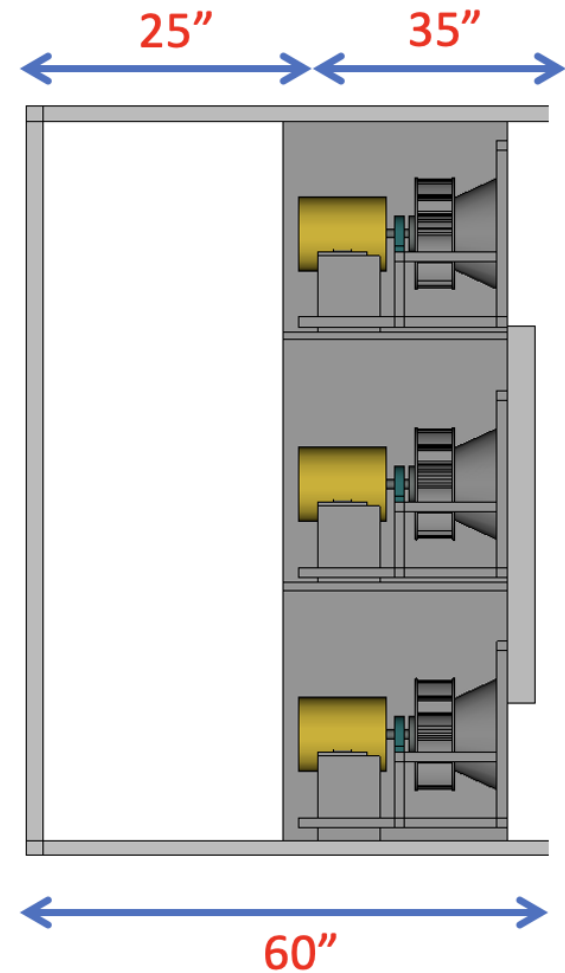
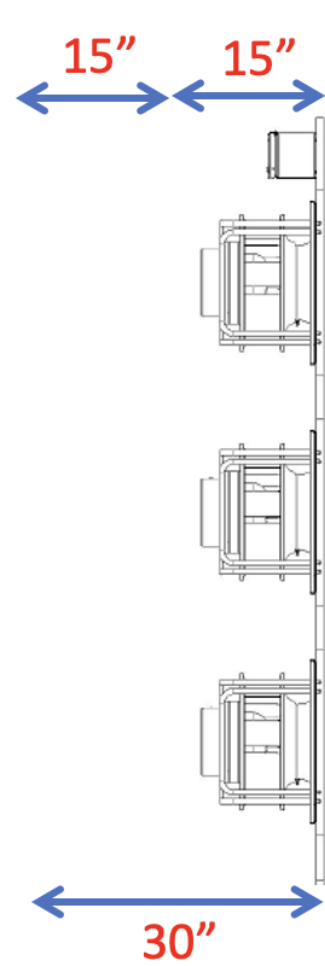
Application	Examples	Driver Power Limits, kW (hp)	Fan Application Category, BV
Residential	Ceiling fans, attic fans, window air-conditioning unit	≤ 0.15 (0.2) > 0.15 (0.2)	BV-1 BV-2
HVAC and agricultural	Building ventilation and air-conditioning systems; commercial systems	≤ 3.7 (5.0) > 3.7 (5.0)	BV-2 BV-3
Industrial process and power generation etc.	Baghouse, scrubber, mine, conveying, boilers, combustion air, pollution control, wind tunnels	≤ 298 (400) > 298 (400)	BV-3 BV-4
Transportation and marine	Locomotives, trucks, automobiles	≤ 15 (20) > 15 (20)	BV-3 BV-4
Transit and tunnel	Subway emergency ventilation, tunnel fans, garage ventilation	≤ 75 (100) > 75 (100)	BV-3 BV-4
	Tunnel jet fans	ALL	BV-4
Petrochemical process	Hazardous gases, process fans	≤ 37 (50) > 37 (50)	BV-3 BV-4
Computer chip manufacturer	Clean room	ALL	BV-5



# EC Fans: Footprint



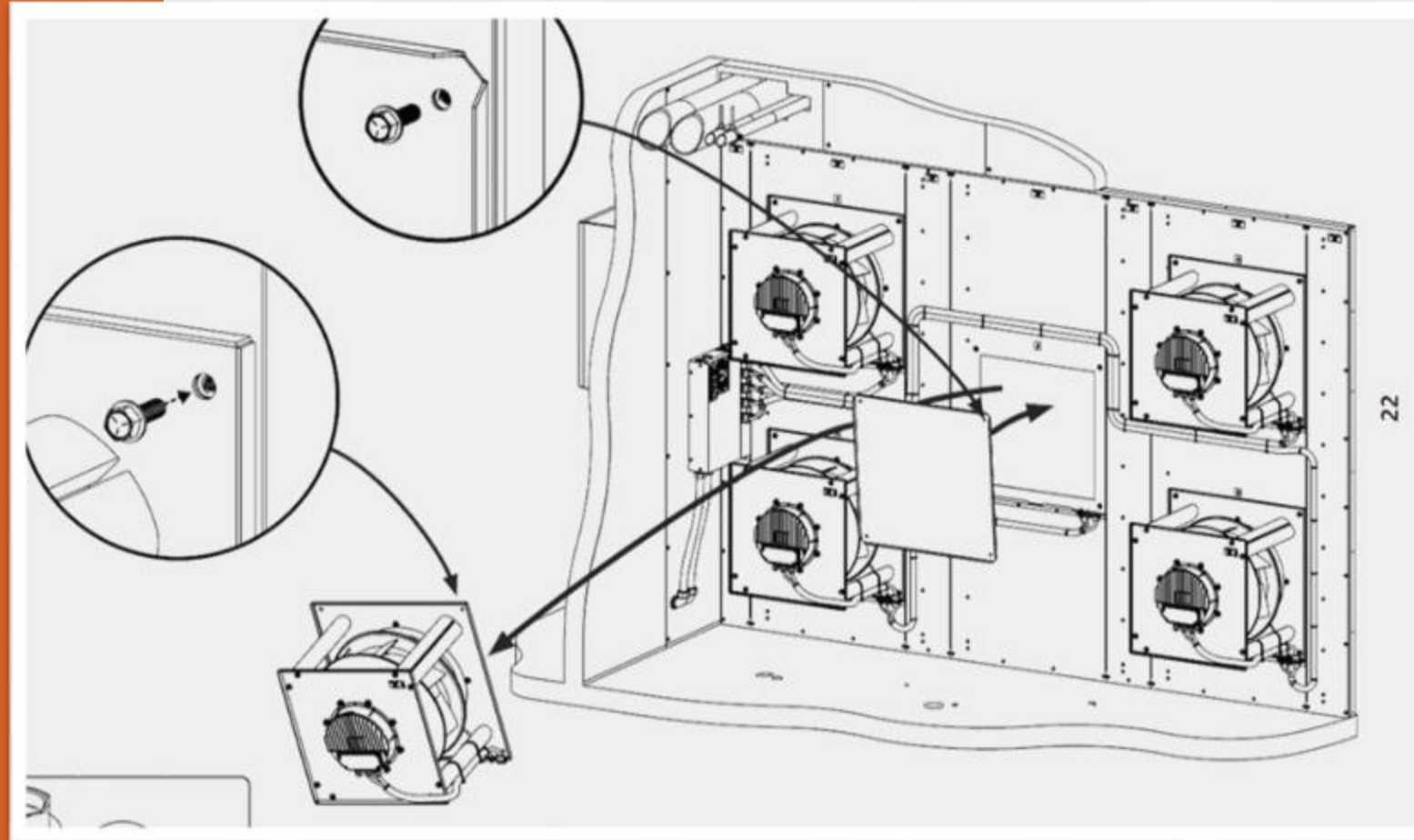
# EC Fans: Footprint



# EC Fans: Footprint vs Direct Drive Plenum Fans

# EC Fan Systems: Backdraft Dampers

- No fan cycling required with EC fan arrays (high part-load efficiency)
- Fans run continuously at all times
- BD dampers not required at operation
- Failed fans can easily be covered until replaced



# EC Fan Systems: Installation

**Kitted Solution:** all components fit through 24"x24" door

**Light Weight:** all components can be carried by one person

**Fast Installation:** a 5-fan array can be installed in 5 hours or less



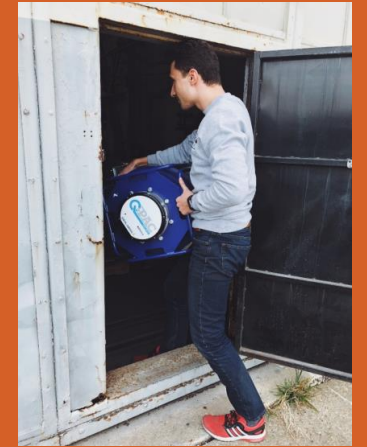


# EC Fan Systems: Installation

## Conventional Induction with VFD

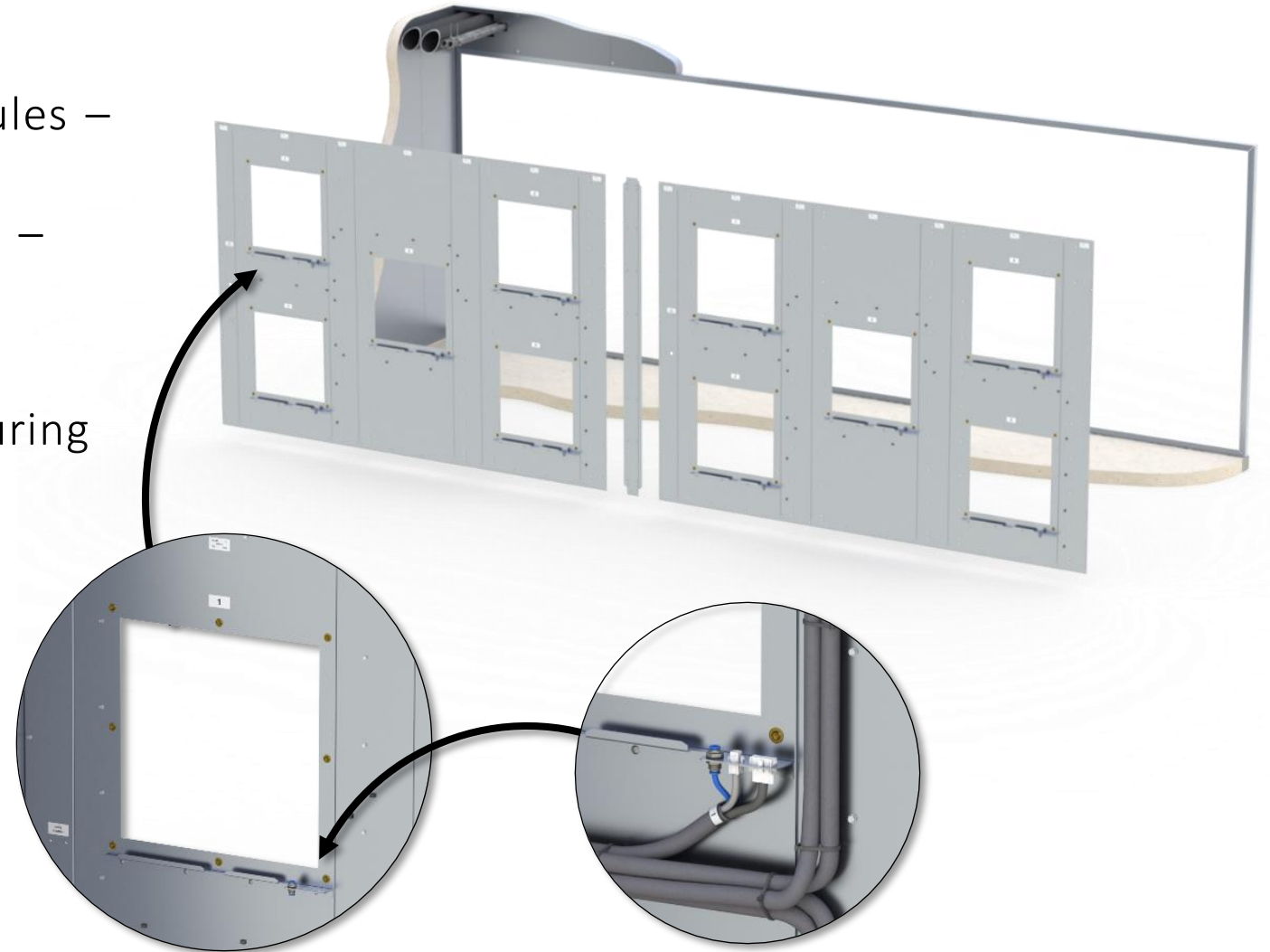


## ECM



# EC Fan Systems: Installation

- EC fans are bolted on modular bulkhead wall
- One or more Fan Integrator Modules – consisting of a set of interlocking panels and up to 9 fan assemblies – joined by couplers to form larger systems
- Fan Ledges for supporting fans during installation



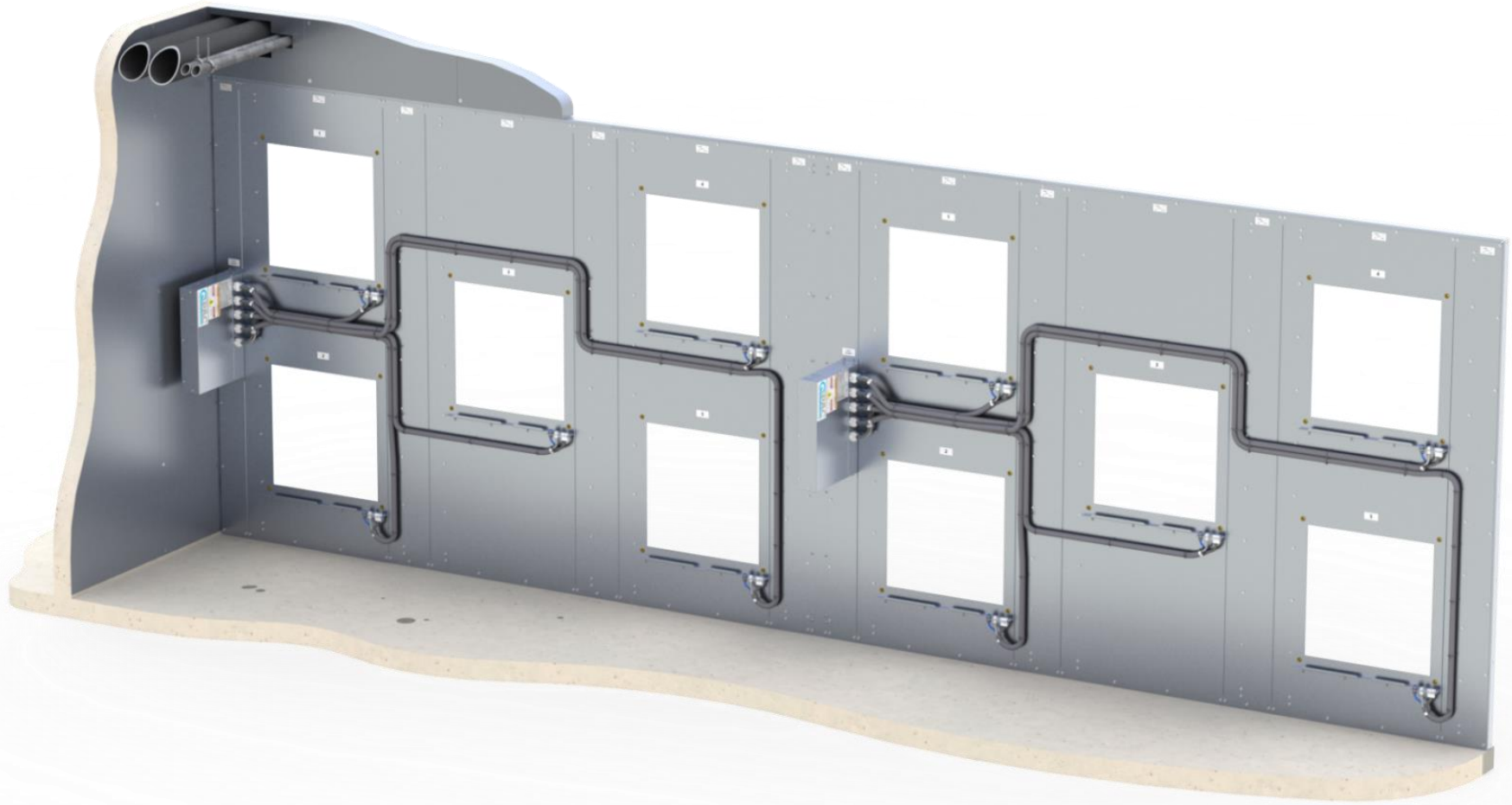
# EC Fan Systems: Installation

Fan systems are **plug and play**



# EC Fan Systems: Installation

Internal junction box (Quick Connect Box) for ease installation



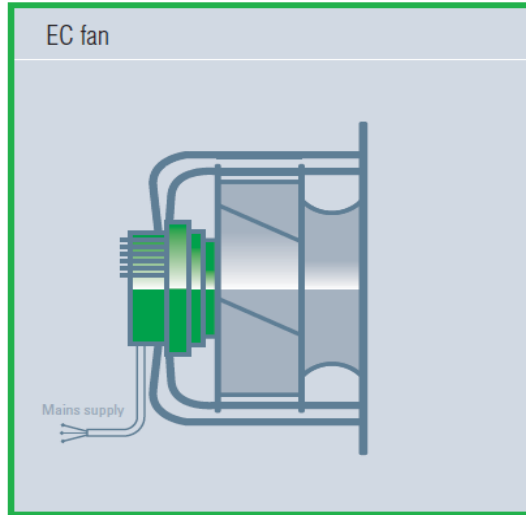
# QUICK CONNECT BOX

- Design enables faster and easier fan system installation and startup, serving as a single point connection between the Control Panel and each set of fans
- Enables fan interchangeability
- Daisy chain connections between fans are *not necessary*
- Modbus *not required* for communication between the
- Overcurrent protection for each fan motor
- Allows for individual fan status and air volume monitoring



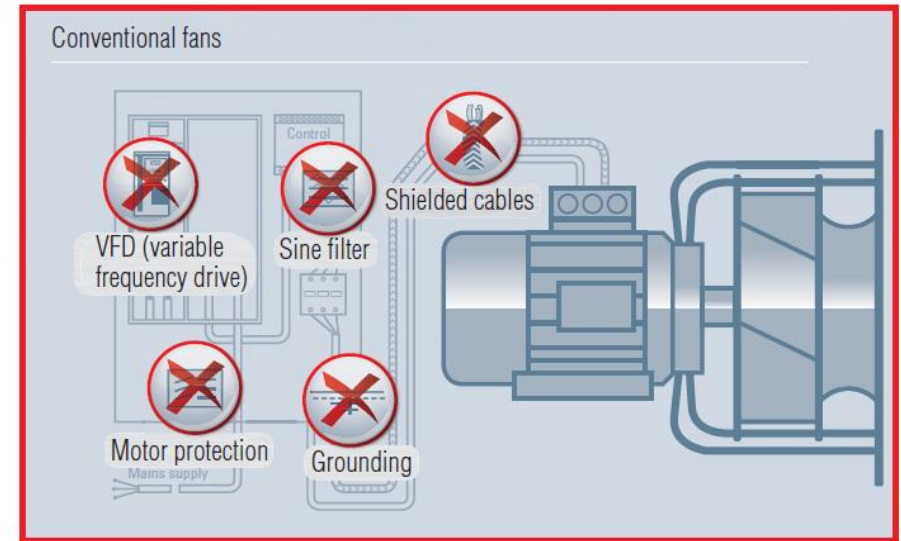
## ECM

- Built in controls/electronics
- No special cabling
- No belts



## Conventional Induction w/VFD

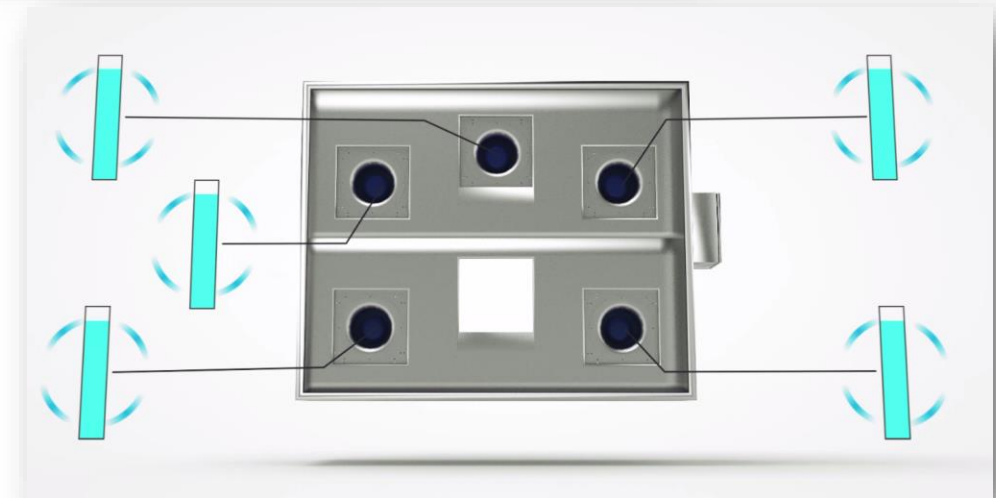
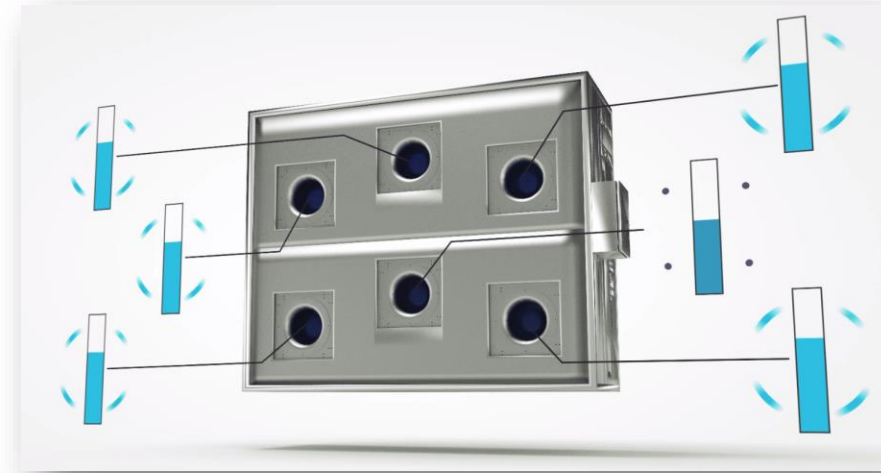
- VFD is separate to motor
- No Special shielded cables from VFD to motor
- No belts



EC Fan Systems: **Maintenance**

# EC Fan Systems: Other Benefits

- Flexibility
- Redundancy
- No VFD's
- 10"+ of total static pressure



# Controls

- Centrally controlled/powering
- BACnet compatible
- Flow rate/Static pressure monitoring
- Power monitoring in addition to hand off auto
- Safety/Interlock
- Individual fan alarms
- Digital display
- Speed control through digital/analogue signal





# Controls

Potentiometer

Hand/Off/Auto

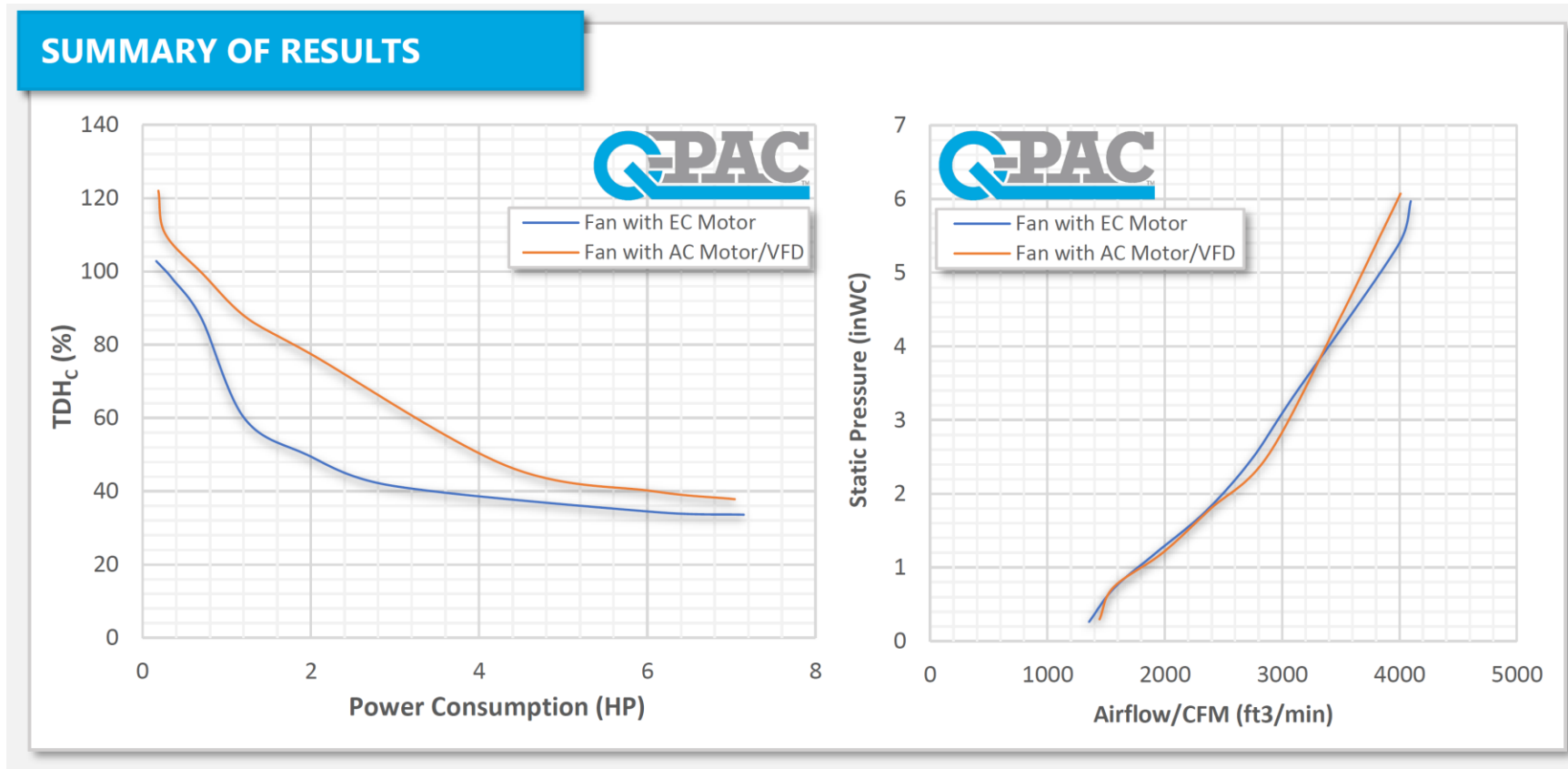
Fused Disconnect

Digital Display



# Harmonics

ECM harmonic levels compared to AC Induction motors (no harmonic filters)



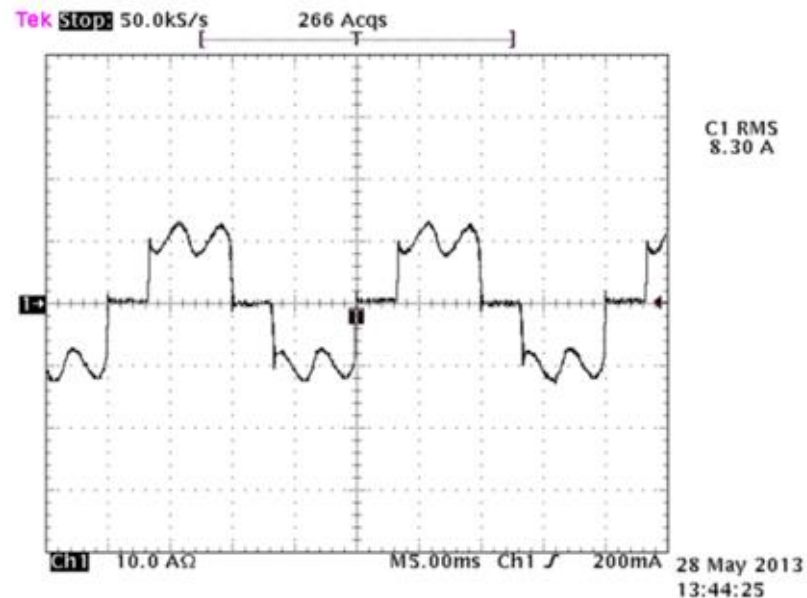
*Follow IEEE 519 Recommendations:*

- Measure Total Harmonic Distortion at Building's PCC (Point of Common Coupling)*
- Apply filtration as necessary at PCC—NOT individual load points.*

# Harmonics Mitigation

- Integrated Line Reactors
- Passive Harmonic Filters
- Active Harmonic Filters

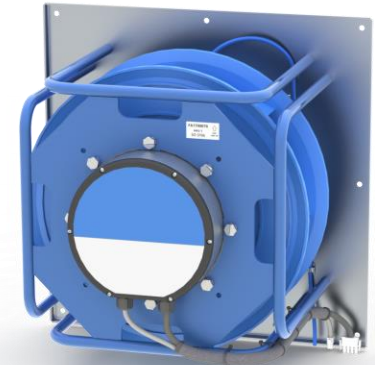
Line current harmonics with dc-link-choke



EC fans w their integrated drive

THD(i) approx. 33.5%

Power Factor approx. 0.94%



**ebmpapst**



**ZIEHL-ABEGG** 

EC Fan Manufacturers: **Commercial Products**

# 440-480V

## CFM + Static Pressure Fan Capability



Rosenberg

1700523



1700526



Ziehl-Abegg

1700054



1700069



1700076



1700077



1700078



1700079



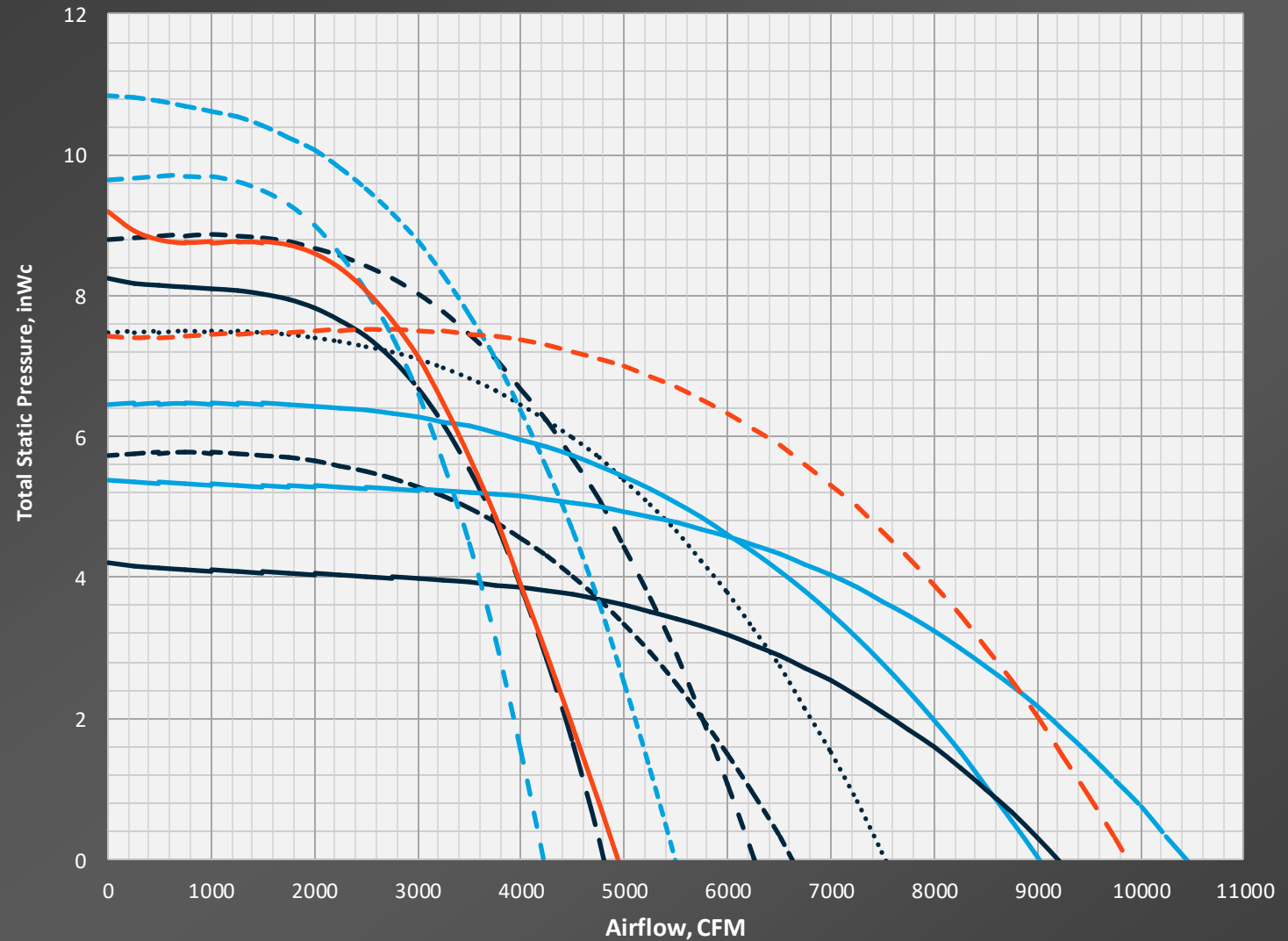
1700081



1700082



1700083



# 200-240V

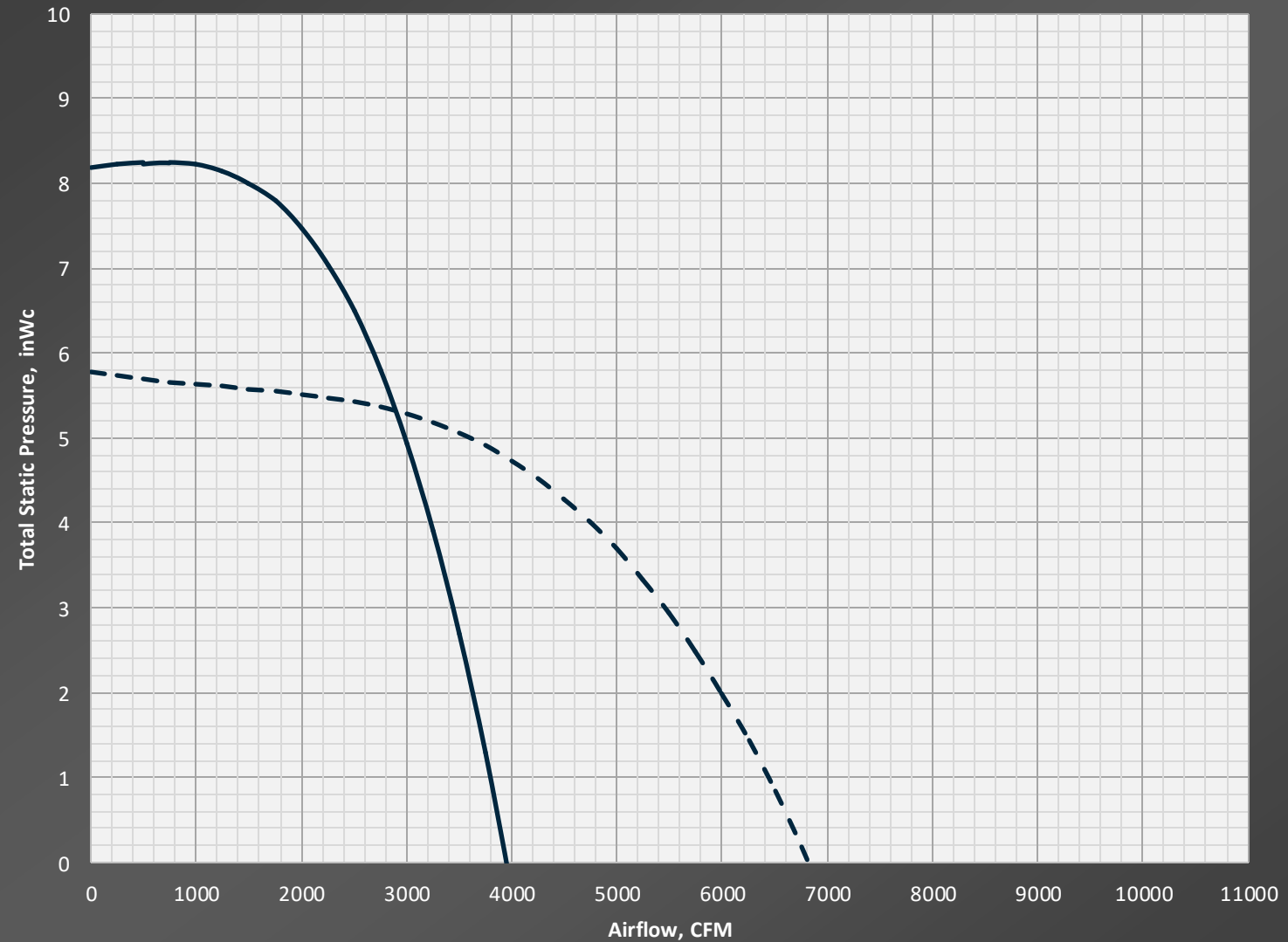
## CFM + Static Pressure Fan Capability



Ziehl-Abegg

1700071 ———

1700072 - - - -





QUESTIONS?



**Mo Afshin**

*Account Manager*

[mafshin@q-pac.com](mailto:mafshin@q-pac.com)

**Chris Willemssem**

*Account Manager*

[cwillemssem@q-pac.com](mailto:cwillemssem@q-pac.com)

**Aaron Levy**

*Account Manager*

[alevy@q-pac.com](mailto:alevy@q-pac.com)



q-pac.com



904.863.5300



[sales@q-pac.com](mailto:sales@q-pac.com)

