



THE **GREENCHILL** PARTNERSHIP



## *Ammonia Cascade Systems*

November 15, 2012



# Welcome / Webinar Etiquette

- ▶ Webinar is being recorded
- ▶ Recording will be available on GreenChill LinkedIn site and GreenChill website, under “Events and Webinars”: [www.epa.gov/greenchill](http://www.epa.gov/greenchill)
- ▶ Phones are muted (#6 to unmute)

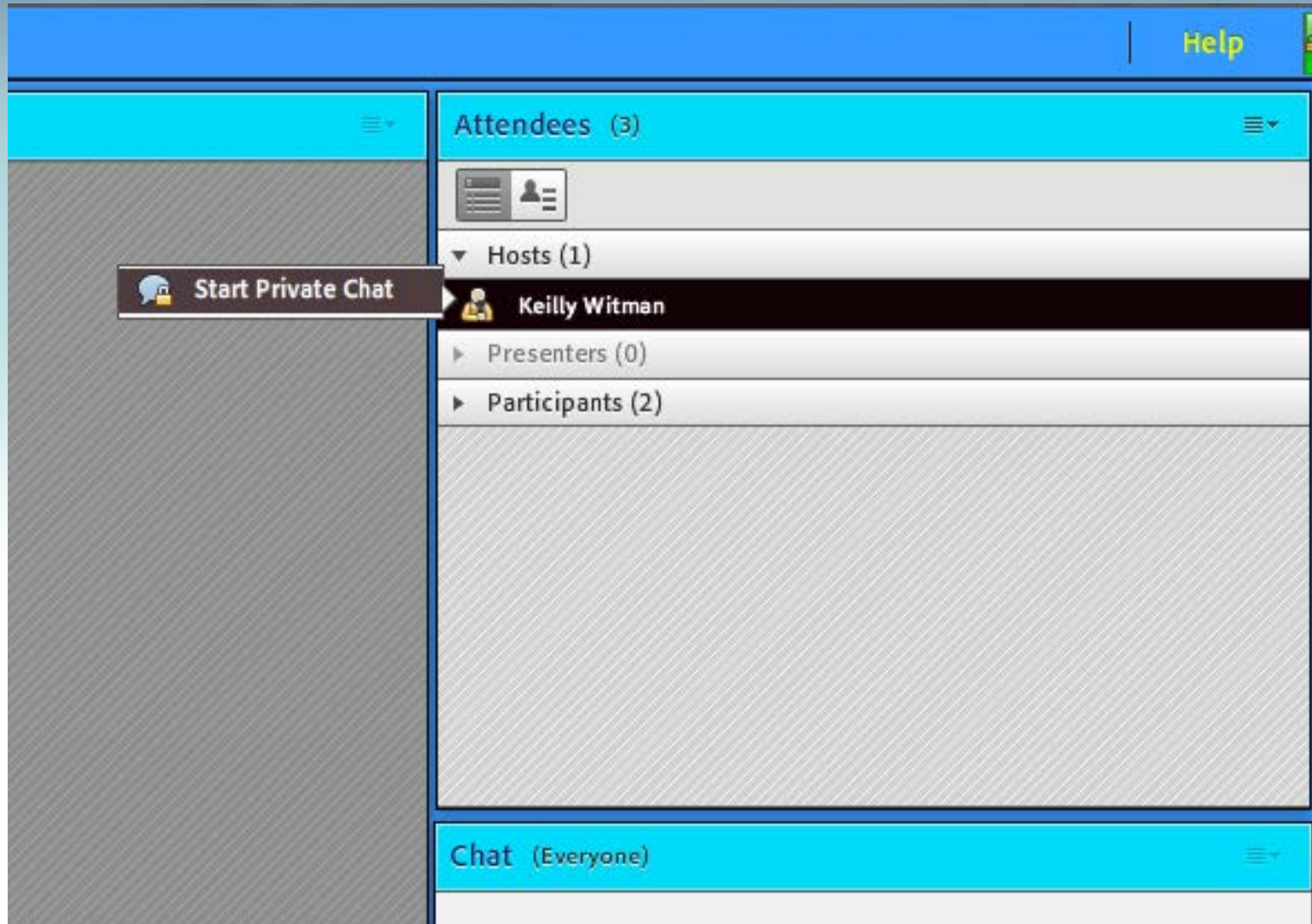


# Q & A

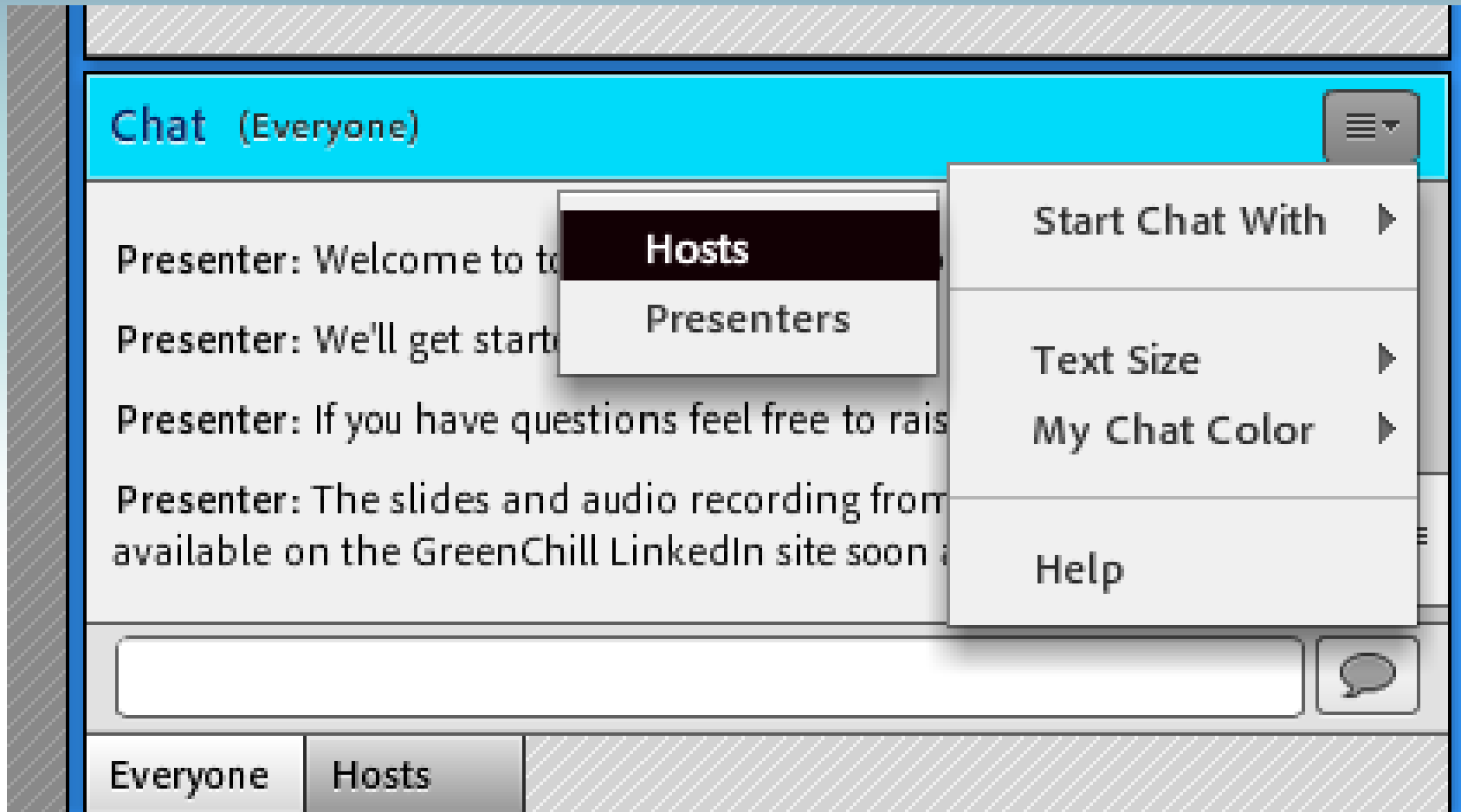
- ▶ Q&A session after presentation
- ▶ Submit your questions using CHAT at anytime; we'll go through them during Q&A
  - ▶ If you'd like to remain anonymous, send your question by CHAT to Keilly Witman instead of to all participants
- ▶ Raise your hand during Q&A (hand button is on the upper right part of the screen)



# Sending Questions via Chat



# Sending Questions via Chat



# Raising Your Hand



# Please Note!

- ▶ GreenChill and EPA do not endorse products or companies.
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- ▶ The opinions of the presenters are their own, and they do not represent GreenChill or EPA.
- ▶ We are not webinar-ing experts.



**Today's speakers...**





# George Ronn SUPERVALU

George Ronn  
SUPERVALU

Office: 651-779-4098

Email: [george.h.ronn@supervalu.com](mailto:george.h.ronn@supervalu.com)



**George Ronn** is the Senior Manager of Refrigerant Compliance and Control Systems at SUPERVALU. He manages refrigerant compliance activities for SUPERVALU, which includes training in-house service technicians and outside contractors on the company's expectations regarding leak repair and refrigerant use in 1,500 stores across the country. In his role, he is also responsible for leak reduction measures, including the R-22 Initiative referenced in this presentation.



# Richard Heath

## SUPERVALU

Richard Heath

Director Energy Innovations & Projects

SUPERVALU

Office: 208-380-4361

Email: [richard.heath@supervalu.com](mailto:richard.heath@supervalu.com)



**Richard Heath** and his team in Boise work with OEMs, design engineering firms, and government agencies to develop and validate technologies needed to meet enterprise and industry sustainability goals and requirements. His team also manages all energy efficiency projects and is responsible for meeting corporate energy reduction goals.



# Caleb Nelson

## CTA

Caleb Nelson

Mechanical Engineer

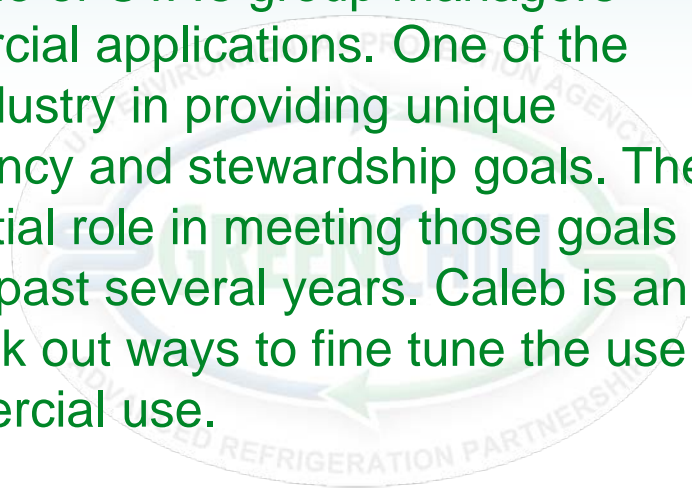
CTA

Office: 406-258-7325

Email: [calebn@ctagroup.com](mailto:calebn@ctagroup.com)



**Caleb Nelson** is a Mechanical Engineer and one of CTA's group managers specializing in refrigeration systems for commercial applications. One of the main goals of his group at CTA is to lead the industry in providing unique solutions for end-users to meet their own efficiency and stewardship goals. The use of natural refrigerants has played an essential role in meeting those goals and has been a primary focus for Caleb for the past several years. Caleb is an active member of the IIAR and continues to seek out ways to fine tune the use of NH<sub>3</sub> and other natural refrigerants for commercial use.



# Journey to Net-Zero



**BETTER  
BUILDINGS  
CHALLENGE**



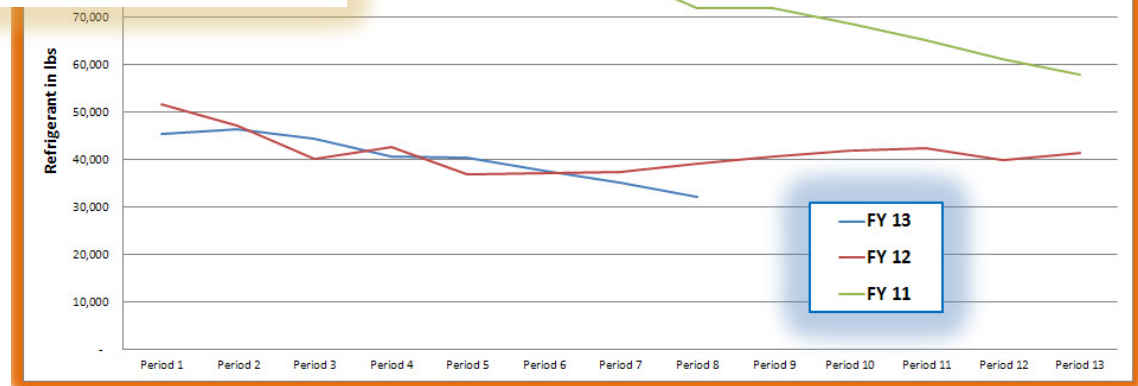
- Superior Goal Achievement – 2008, 2009, 2010
- Distinguished Supermarket Partner – 2009, 2011
- Best of the Best Award
  - Shaw's/Star Market Chestnut Hill, MA – 2010
  - Albertsons Carpinteria, CA – 2012

- First GreenChill Certified Store - Gold
  - Cub Foods Phalen – December 2008
  
- First GreenChill Platinum Certified Store
  - Shaw's/Star Market – Chestnut Hill, MA - September 2009
  
- First Natural Refrigerant Store
  - Albertson's – Carpinteria, CA - July 2012

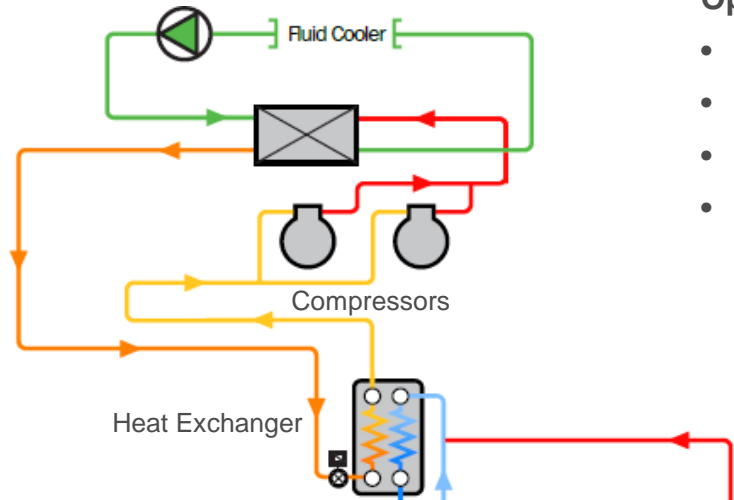


- Reducing refrigerant use year-over-year is one of our facility team's 3 key metrics; and our individual and collective annual performance is measured against it within SUPERVALU!
- Re-enforced after joining GreenChill, but part of our corporate culture since 2003.

Rolling 13 Period Refrigerant Usage



Upper Cascade  
Outside on Roof



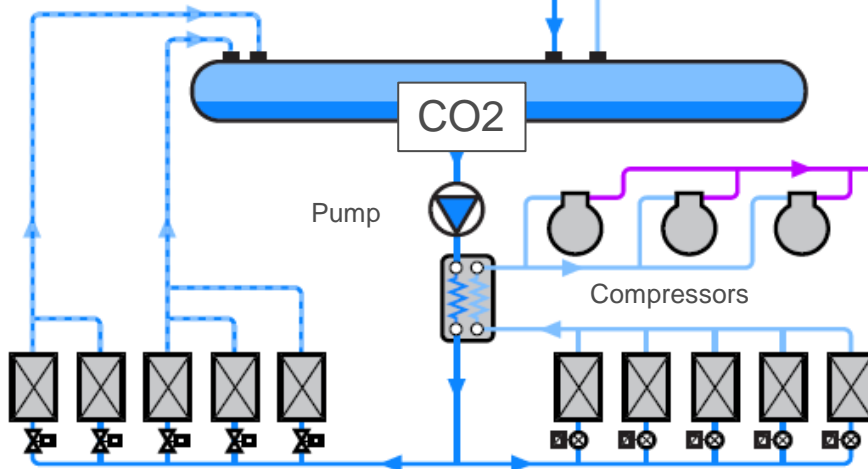
### Options for the Upper Cascade System:

- Low-charge **Synthetic** Refrigerant (**Existing Assets**)
- **Natural** Ammonia (NH3) Chiller. (**NEW Assets**)
- **Natural** Hydrocarbon (**NEW Assets**)
- Future ???

10%  
Total Charge

Inside Store

90%  
Total Charge



Using CO2 as the in-store refrigerant eliminates 90% of the non-natural refrigerants:

- This is a feasible and proven technology available for all supermarket projects now.

Medium Temperature Display Cases

Low Temperature Display Cases



## *Why NH3?*

# Better Refrigerant, Better Environment, and We Know it Works Don't reinvent the wheel

Supermarket Distribution Center  
Anywhere, USA



Albertsons Supermarket  
Carpinteria, California



Ammonia has been used as a refrigerant far longer than **any** of the Synthetic Refrigerants. We do not need to prove that it works; we need to prove that we can apply the technology to Supermarkets, validate the benefits, and determine the feasibility point.

- Why Reciprocating Compressors?
  - Proven, work-horse of Industrial systems for decades.
    - Simple, Cheap & Familiar
  - Full and part load efficiency
- Why Open-Drive?
  - Efficiency
  - Recip. application range (high discharge temps with NH3)
  - Small leakage through shaft seal is insignificant and not an issue.
- Why Flooded Evaporator?
  - Efficiency
    - No “Hot Spots”
    - Practically no superheat at compressor suction
  - Allowed use of standard Non-miscible, Mineral Oil.
    - Able to use and Automatic Oil Return System.

- Challenges with Dry Expansion and Miscible Oil
  - Evaporator loses efficiency
  - Miscible Oils such as PAG are very Hygroscopic! ...So is NH3.
  - Need superheat to separate miscible oil and NH3.
    - Compressor Efficiency
    - Reciprocating Application Range
  - Specific Volume of NH3—approximately 6 times R-22 or R404a

**\*A Dry Expansion System boasts many attractive benefits, but not without concerns that must be addressed.**

# Real vs. Perceived Obstacles

- Regulations → • Keep Charge below 500 pounds
- Safety → • Standard OSHA Requirements
- Energy Use → • > 25% Increase in Efficiency
- Design Complexity → • Use Dedicated System Engineering vs. Equipment OEM
- Operational Complexity → • Very similar to standard DX Racks
- Controls Complexity → • Need to work with Control OEMs to develop canned packages similar to existing refrigeration controls.
  
- Service Contract Cost → • Here's our Hurdles: Costs are prohibitive at this point for large scale roll-out.
- First Cost Premium →

# Environmental and Financial Viability of 100% Natural Refrigeration



**The Carpinteria refrigeration system is a Cascade design with CO<sub>2</sub> as the in-store refrigerant:**

The CO<sub>2</sub> is cooled by the Upper Cascade located on the roof .

- For the Upper Cascade on this project we have (2) independent technologies; Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and R-407A.
- NH<sub>3</sub> cascaded with CO<sub>2</sub> provides us with a 100% natural solution. This is the first application for NH<sub>3</sub> in supermarket commercial refrigeration in the U.S.
- The overall feasibility and lifecycle environmental benefits of NH<sub>3</sub> will be evaluated with this project.
- The R-407A system is installed for the sole purpose of direct comparison and real-time validation of the expected benefits of the NH<sub>3</sub> system.



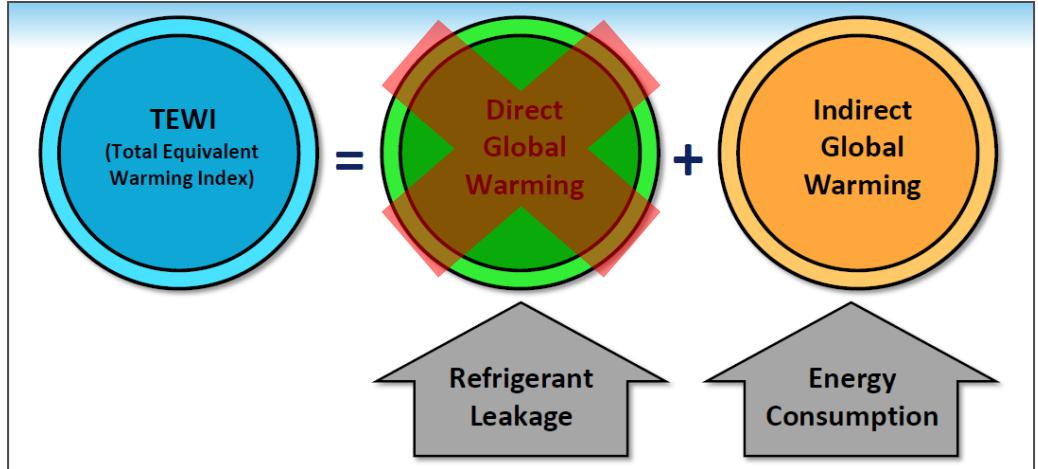
Working with the DOE and EPA through GreenChill and NREL, we will conduct a complete comparative analysis of the two options. The result will be a validated Total Equivalent Warming Impact (TEWI) for both options and the results will be shared with the industry.



# Additional System Information

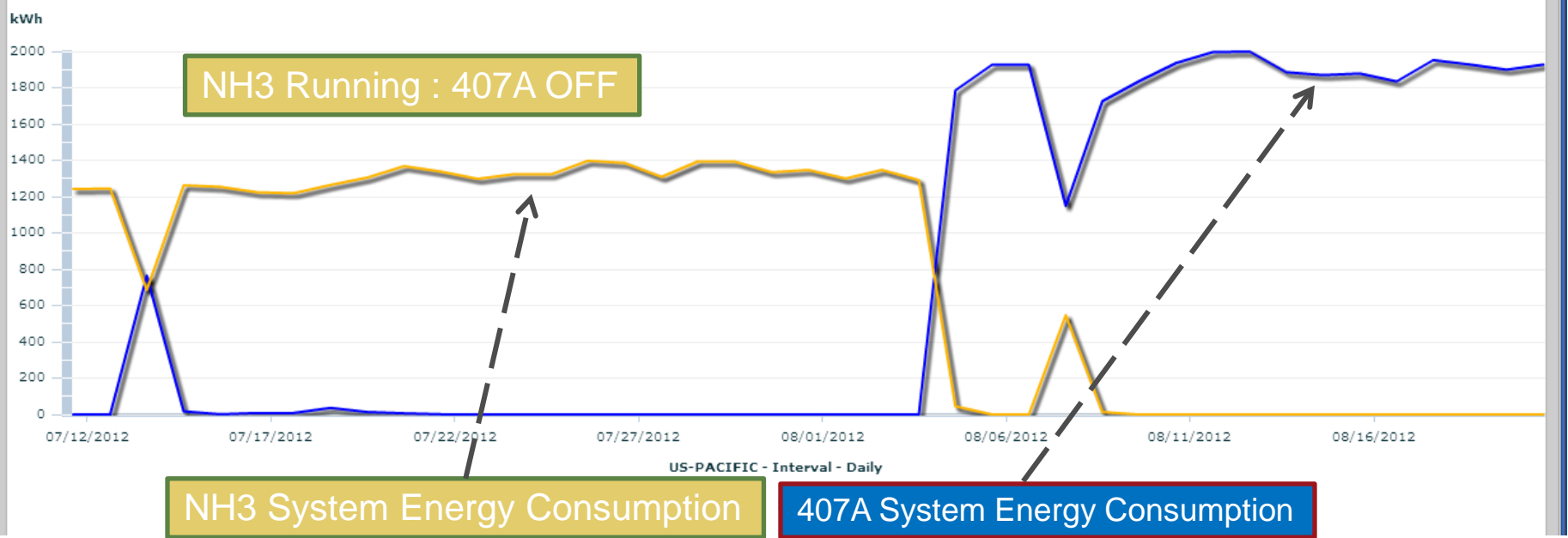
- Charges:
  - R717: 300#.
  - R407a: 350#
  - R744: 1600#
- Capacities:
  - C02 Combined System: Approx. 70 TR (Low and Med Temp)
  - R407A & NH3 Systems: Approx. 85 TR (+13 evap)

# Use of All-natural Refrigerants Reduces TEWI both Directly and Indirectly!



The all-natural refrigeration solution deployed at the Carpinteria store reduces the primary refrigeration energy by >25%.  
And eliminates all Direct Emissions.

407A System Running : NH3 OFF



# NH3 vs 407A Daily Energy Use Comparison

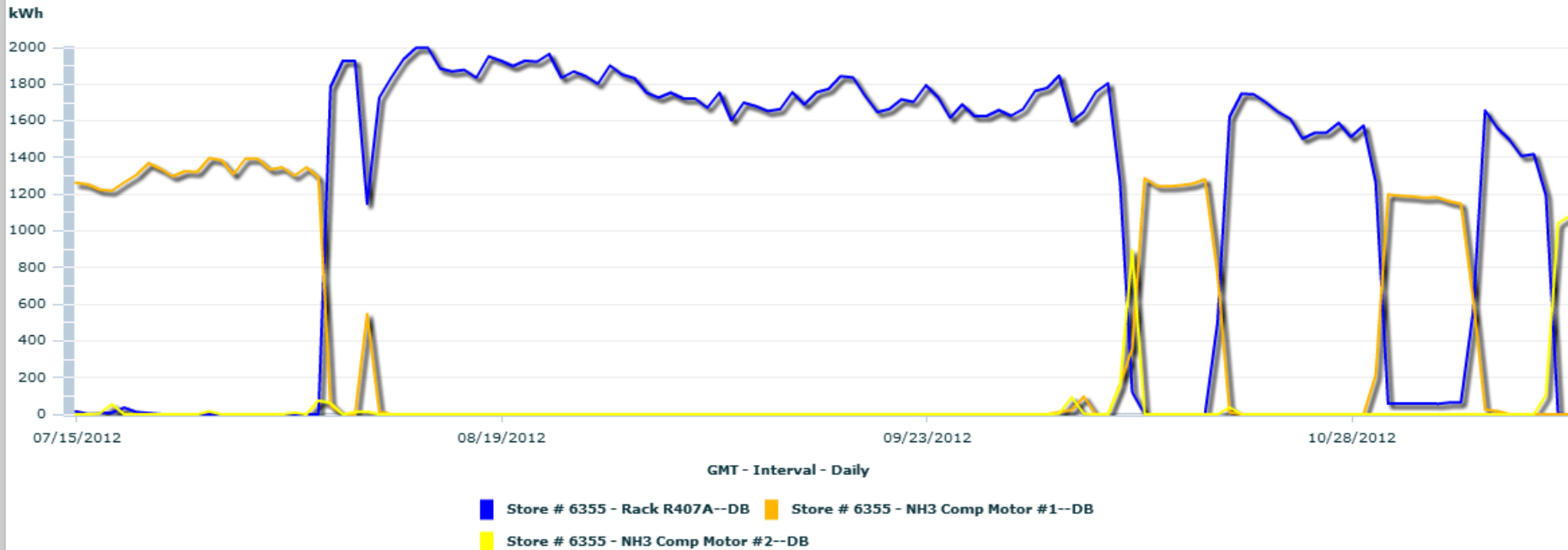
(Actual Data to-date as of 11/14/2012)

Start Date: 07/14/2012 End Date: 11/14/2012 [D] [W] [M] [Q] [Y]

Interval: Daily Time Zone: GMT

Serial No.	Channel	Name
001EC6001910012	5	Store # 6355 - Rack R407A--DB
001EC6001910019	5	Store # 6355 - NH3 Comp Motor #1--DB
001EC6001910020	5	Store # 6355 - NH3 Comp Motor #2--DB

Clear Channel List Remove Channel(s)







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Carpinteria remodel produce area

## ALBERTSONS CARPINTERIA REMODEL & EXPANSION

### Showcase Project: SUPERVALU

LOCATION  
Carpinteria, CA

PROJECT SIZE  
Original: 18,850 SF; Final: 40,200 SF

#### Annual Energy Use (Source EUI)

Baseline <small>(2010)</small>	788 kBtu/sq. ft.
Expected <small>(2012-13)</small>	558 kBtu/sq. ft.
Actual	COMING SOON

Expected Energy Savings: **30%**

#### Annual Energy Cost

Baseline <small>(2010)</small>	\$340,000
Expected <small>(2012-13)</small>	\$240,000
Actual	COMING SOON

Expected Savings: **\$100,000**