Presented by



## Next Generation Residential Space Conditioning System for California CEC EPIC Project EPC-14-021

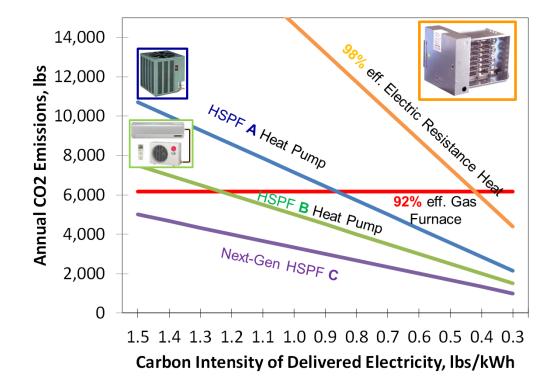
Ammi Amarnath

Sr. Technical Executive

**Electric Power Research Institute** 



## **Heating with Heat Pumps – Decarbonization Opportunity**



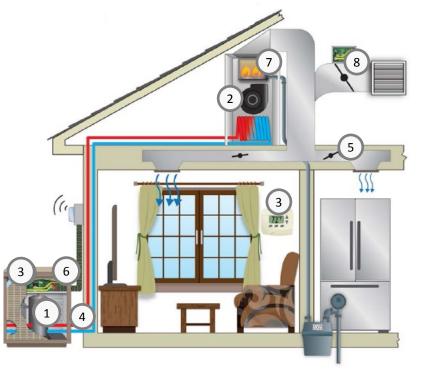
#### Next Gen HP System – Potential of Meeting Non-Attainment Goals

## CEC EPIC Project: Next-Generation Space Conditioner (Variable Capacity Heat Pump System)

multiple energy efficiency features integrated into single system

- 1. Variable Capacity Compressor
- 2. Variable Speed Indoor Blower
- 3. Auto Demand Response
- 4. Alternative Refrigerant
- 5. Zonal Control
- 6. Fault Detection & Diagnostics
- 7. Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
- 8. Integrated Ventilation Control







EMERGING TECH

ETCCCEMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Daikin/Goodman residential heat pump units undergo testing at EPRI Thermal Laboratory, PG&E Applied Technology Services, and UC Davis Western Cooling Efficiency Center



Indoor Unit Setup at PG&E

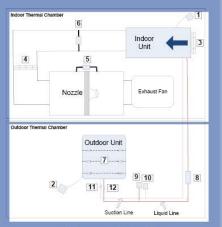


EPRI Thermal Lab Environment Chambers





Ductwork Setup in WCEC Testing Chamber



Schematic of Test Setup

## Laboratory Evaluation: Phase 1 and Phase 2

## **Field Installation: Host Sites**

PG&E site Sacramento Climate Zone 12



SCE site Chino Hills Climate Zone 10



SDG&E site San Diego Climate Zone 7



## **Project Summary Results**

- Variable Capacity Compressor and Variable Speed Indoor Blower
  - Next-Gen RSCS provides 22-32% cooling energy savings and over 90% of annual heating load without backup for CA.
- Auto Demand Response (DR)
  - Variable capacity heat pump maintains customer comfort during DR event.
- Alternative Refrigerant
  - R-32 improves cooling efficiency by 2-3% and peak demand reduction by 7-8% compared to R-410A across CA climate zones.
- Zonal Control
  - Zoning should be required for variable capacity heat pumps with ducts in unconditioned space.
- Fault Detection and Diagnostics (FDD)
  - Inform maintenance alerts to avoid inefficient operations. High energy reductions possible.
- Integrated Ventilation
  - Additional 1-4% cooling energy savings and 1% for heating using VCHP with heat recovery ventilator (HRV).
- Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
  - Dual fuel functionality adds system versatility for future intelligent heating capability.



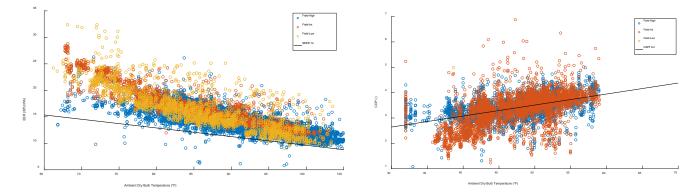
EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

- 1. Variable Capacity Compressor
- 2. Variable Speed Indoor Blower
- 3. Auto Demand Response
- 4. Alternative Refrigerant
- 5. Zonal Control
- 6. Fault Detection & Diagnostics
- 7. Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
- 8. Integrated Ventilation Control

## **Heat Pump Evaluation Results**

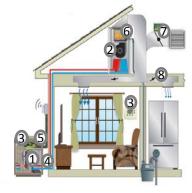
• Variable Capacity Compressor and Variable Speed Indoor Blower

Variable capacity heat pump (SEER 21/HSPF 9.6) field data shows efficiency improvements over baseline (single speed SEER 14/HSPF 8.2)



Unit cooling efficiency results @ PG&E site

Unit heating efficiency results @ PG&E site



- 1. Variable Capacity Compressor
- 2. Variable Speed Indoor Blower
- 3. Auto Demand Response
- 4. Alternative Refrigerant
- 5. Zonal Control
- 6. Fault Detection & Diagnostics
- 7. Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
- 8. Integrated Ventilation Control

Next-Gen RSCS provides 22-32% cooling energy savings and over 90% of annual heating load without backup for CA

## **Alternate Refrigerant Testing Results**

Alternative Refrigerant tested at EPRI lab (awaiting EPA approval)

R-32 (GWP 675) Effective drop-in refrigerant in a Variable Capacity Heat Pump (VCHP) compared to R-410A (GWP 2100)

R-32 reduced system charge by 29%.

**ET Summit** 2019

- R-32 improved cooling performance by 1.2 3.0%.
- R-32 provided peak power reduction of 6-8% at 95- 115°F.
- R-32 increased heating capacity by 5% at 25°F and by 10% at 62°F.



EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

- 1. Variable Capacity Compressor
- 2. Variable Speed Indoor Blower
- 3. Auto Demand Response
- 4. Alternative Refrigerant
- 5. Zonal Control
- 6. Fault Detection & Diagnostics
- 7. Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
- 8. Integrated Ventilation Control

#### Lower GWP refrigerant improves energy efficiency Lower GWP refrigerant reduces refrigerant charge

#### ETCCCEMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

## **Dual Fuel Heating Capability**

#### Dual Fuel Heating

means electric variable capacity heat pump with natural gas furnace for back up

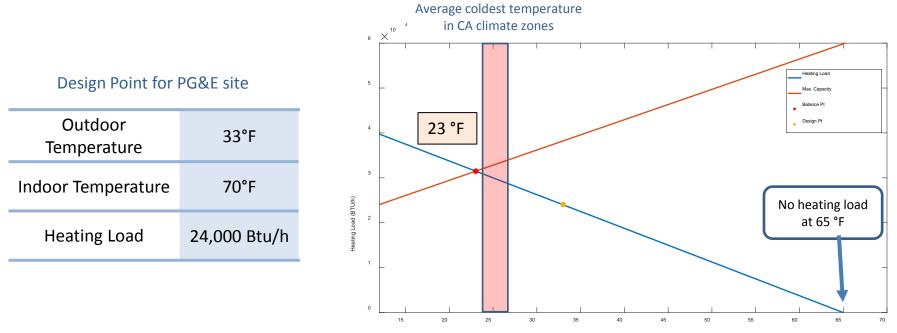
- Key Metrics to Assess:
  - **Breakeven temperature**: *Temperature below which it is cheaper to provide heat with natural gas*
  - **Balance point**: Temperature below which heat pump can no longer provide all the heating requirements of the space



- 1. Variable Capacity Compressor
- 2. Variable Speed Indoor Blower
- 3. Auto Demand Response
- 4. Alternative Refrigerant
- 5. Zonal Control
- 6. Fault Detection & Diagnostics
- 7. Dual Fuel (Intelligent Heating)
- 8. Integrated Ventilation Control

# Dual fuel functionality adds versatility to Next-Gen HP system to provide intelligent heating capability in the future

## **Dual Fuel Heating Capability**

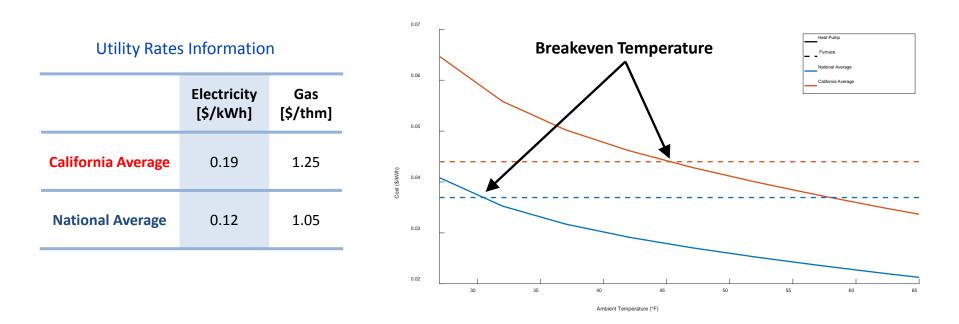


Ambient Temperature (°F)

Heat pumps are well suited for CA climate zones since they can meet almost all loads in the heating season *without backup* 



## **Dual Fuel Heating Capability – Continued**



#### Utility rates are primary drivers for incentivizing heat pump usage

## **Homeowner's Feedback**

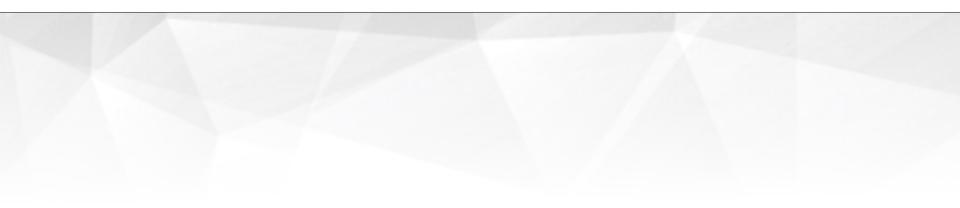
- Homeowners appreciate how much quieter the Next-Gen HP System operates compared to previous singe speed AC unit
- Homeowners like how quickly it cools or heats the space
- Homeowners like having app-based controller with Thermostat to turn on specific zones
- Homeowners like the ability to control temperatures in individual spaces (control zones independently
- Zonal control added complexity to the system use
  - Airflow was too forceful in certain zones, thus noisy in certain rooms
  - Adjusting weighting of the zones with Zonal Control board mitigated this effect

## **Some Thoughts**

- Variable capacity heat pumps are here today
- Higher efficiency during cooling
- Can meet most heating climates in Western USA
- Other advantages Customer comfort, zoning, FDD, etc.
- Can be combined with gas heating for colder climates
  - Electricity and gas rates drive customer behavior



## Thank you!





## **Together...Shaping the Future of Electricity**

Ammi Amarnath

Sr. Technical Executive

EPRI

aamarnath@epri.com

www.epri.com





## **Back up Slides**

Percentage of Modeled Annual Heating Load Satisfied by VCHP 91.3%

91.1%

94.2%

91.6%

93.9%

88.6% 87.5%

87.5%

88.9%

95.5%

59.6%

#### **Climate Zone Impact: Modeled Equipment Performance**

CA Climate Zone	City	Annual Energy Savings for	CA Clim Zone	Citv	Percentage of M Heating Load Sa	
20116		<b>Cooling Season</b>	1	Arcata	91.3	
1	Arcata	-	2	Napa	91.3	
2	Napa	32.3%	4	San Jose	94.2	
3	Oakland	25.5%	5	Santa Maria	91.6	
4	San Jose	29.6%	10	Riverside	93.9	
5	Santa Maria	28.8%	11	Red Bluff	88.6	
6	Los Angeles	30.2%	12	Stockton	87.5	
7	San Diego	28.3%	13	Fresno	87.5	
8	Long Beach	29.9%	14	29 Palms	88.9	
9	Burbank	29.7%	15	Blythe	95.5	
10	Riverside	30.3%	16	Bishop	59.6	
11	Red Bluff	28.5%				
12	Stockton	28.6%				
13	Fresno	28.2%	• \	VCHP: Variable Capac	ity Heat Pump	
14	29 Palms	25.7%	• \	VCHP Specs: SEER 19-	21 / HSPF 9.6-10.0	
15	Blythe	22.4%	• Cooling Baseline: SEER 14 single speed AC			
16	Bishop	28.2%	•	Heating Baseline: HSP	PF 8.2	

18
----

### Comparison of R-32 and R-410A in Variable Capacity Heat Pump

#### Equipment Cooling Efficiency Improvement for California Residences

California Climate Zone	Representative City	VCHP R-410A	VCHP R-32
1	Arcata	-	-
2	Napa	32.3%	+1.8%
3	Oakland	25.5%	+2.4%
4	San Jose	29.6%	+2.5%
6	Los Angeles	30.2%	+2.2%
7	San Diego	28.3%	+2.2%
8	Long Beach	29.9%	+3.0%
10	Riverside	30.3%	+2.2%
12	Stockton	28.6%	+2.5%
13	Fresno	28.2%	+2.6%
15	Blythe	22.4%	+2.7%
		22 – 32% cooling efficiency improvement with R-410A VCHP	

#### Equipment Cooling Peak Demand Reduction for Residences

Outdoor Temperature (F)	VCHP R-410A	VCHP R-32
95	3.7%	10.4%
105	3.3%	10.3%
115	2.6%	10.8%
	3 – 4% peak demand reduction with <b>R-410A VCHP</b>	Additional 7 – 8% with R-32 VCHP

R-32 improves cooling efficiency by 2-3% and peak demand reduction by 7-8% compared to R-410A across CA climate zones