

# SEMINAR 43 – IMPROVED INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND REDUCED MAINTENANCE UTILIZING CHILLED BEAM SYSTEMS

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CHILLED BEAM IMPACT ON  
PRIMARY AIR SYSTEMS TO  
IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY

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# Learning Objectives

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1. Establish steps for proper primary air design for chilled beams including considerations for ASHRAE 62
2. Describe application impact to maximize indoor air quality in four room types: open office, closed office, classroom and laboratory
3. Explain Maintenance and control requirements for proper operation to maximize upkeep
4. Describe the process to balance chilled beam systems with regards to air and water

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**Every day we consume 4 pounds of food and drink  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon (2 liters) of water, but we inhale approximately 700 cfm (20,000 liters) of air...**



# Types of Chilled Beams

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## Passive Beam



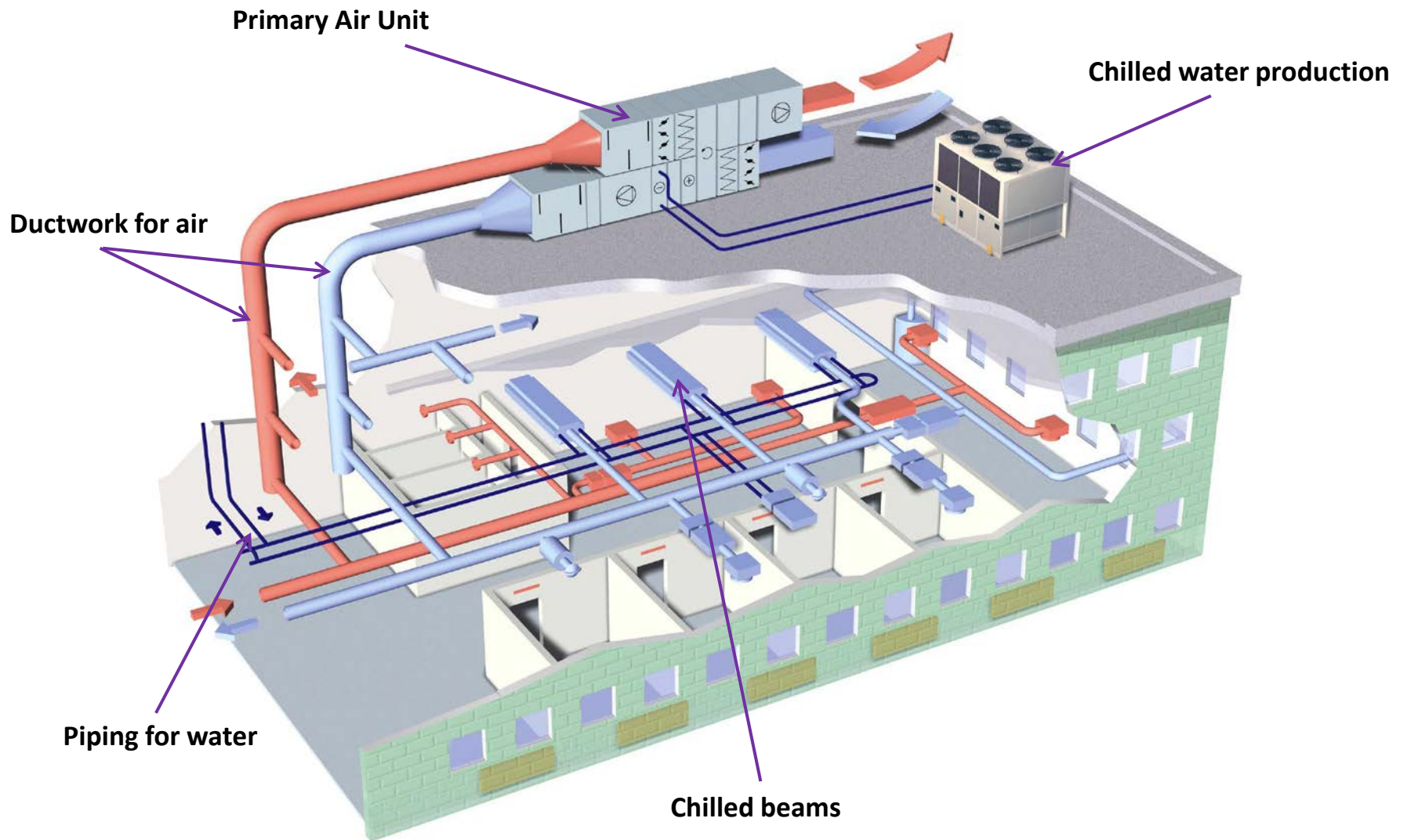
Uses natural convection to circulate air

## Active Beam



Uses primary air to circulate room air

# Building Overview



# Indoor Air Quality Considerations

*Fresh air*

*Low velocity  
(No draft)*

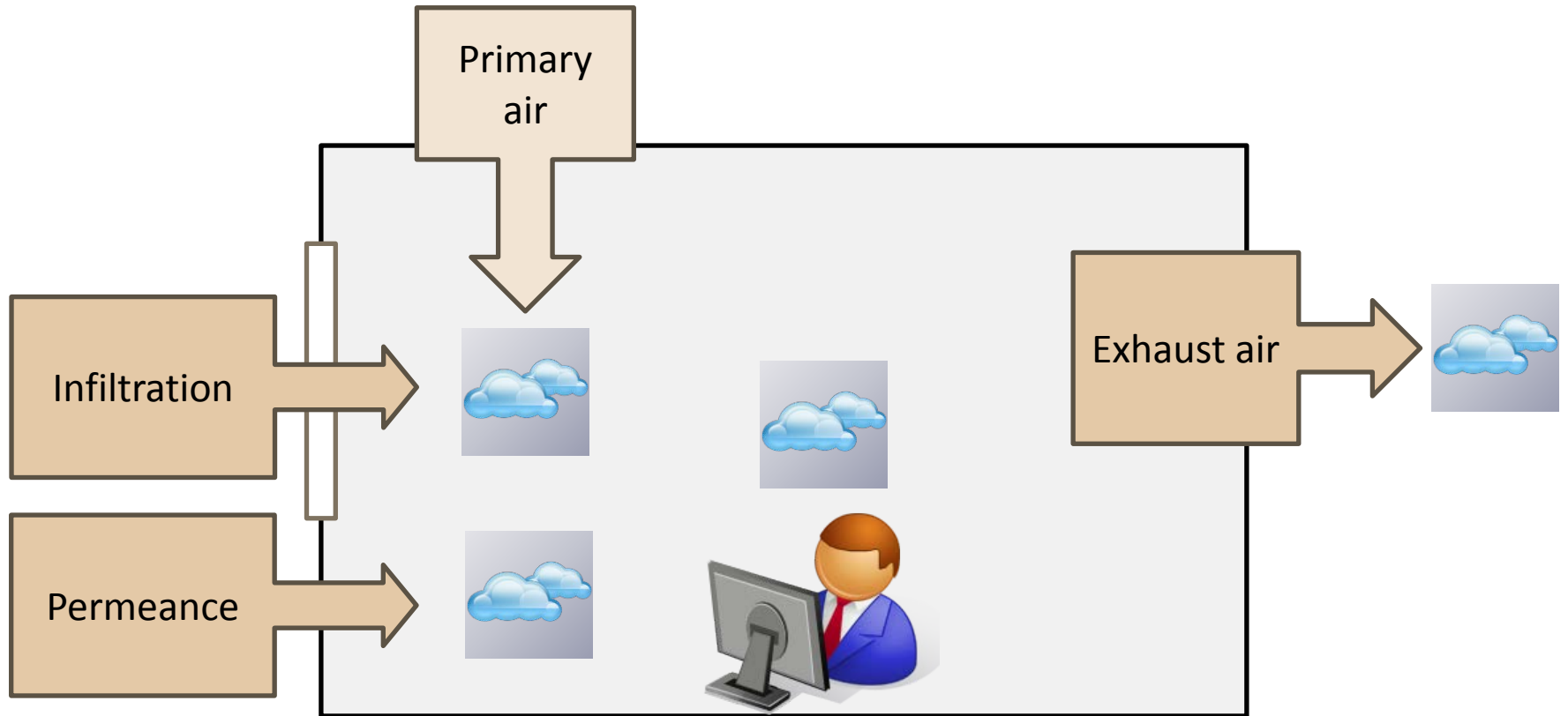


*Low noise level*

*Desired air temperature  
and humidity*

*On average, we spend 90% of our lives indoors*

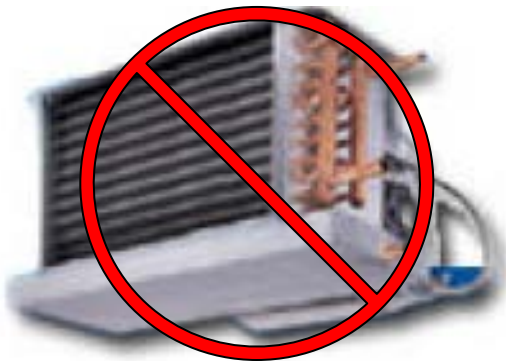
# Humidity consideration



- Humidity control a key component to chilled beam design

# ASHRAE 62.1-2013 Regarding Mold

- 5.8 – Particulate Matter Removal
  - Filtration is not required on coils that are designed, controlled and operated to provide sensible cooling only.
- 5.9.1 – Relative Humidity
  - Standard allows for RH as high as 65%, but inherent within Chilled beam design is to maintain the space at 55 dew point that results in a 50-55% rh at 75/72 respectively
- 5.10 Drain Pans
  - Since the coils are designed to run dry, drain pans are not required
  - IBC 2015 has exempted chilled beams from requiring drain pans
- 5.14.2 – Condensation on Interior Surfaces
  - Water temperature higher than space dew point means condensation on piping, ducts and other surfaces is avoided except in the primary air system



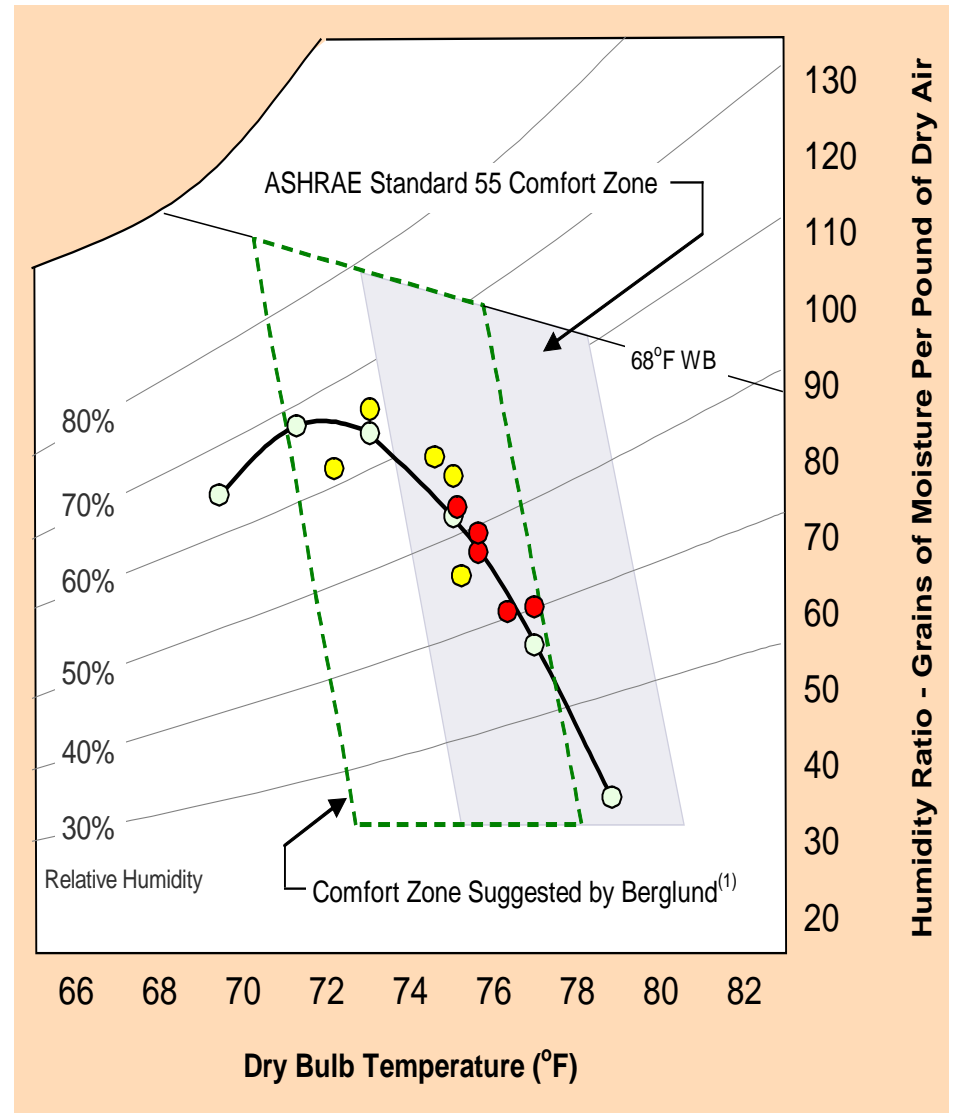
**No condensate  
No Mold**





# Temp and Humidity Space Design For IAQ

- Typical space design  
= 75 db and 50% rh
- Dryer the space  
= comfort increases
- Dryer the space  
= warmer room temp
- Warmer room temp  
= more cooling capacity
- **DESIGN CHALLENGE**  
= 76 db and 42% rh



# ASHRAE 62.1-2013 Regarding Ventilation

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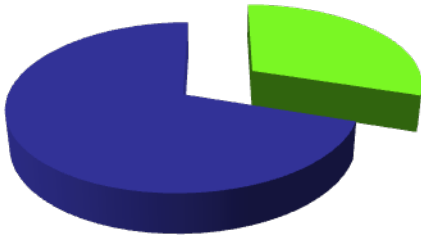
- 6.2.2.1 - Minimum Breathing Zone Outdoor Airflow ( $V_{bz}$ )
  - Zone floor area, sq ft (sq m)
  - Zone population (number of people in the zone during typical usage)
  - OA rate required per person per Table 6.2.2.1
  - OA rate required per unit area per Table 6.2.2.1
  - $\text{Min OA} = \text{OA per person} \times \text{zone population} + \text{OA per unit area} \times \text{zone floor area}$
- Classroom example
  - 900 square foot classroom
  - 30 kids, 1 teacher
  - OA rate per person = 10 cfm/person = 310 cfm
  - OA rate per unit area = 0.12 cfm/sq ft = 108 cfm
  - Min OA = 418 cfm
- Office example
  - 1200 square foot open office
  - 24 workers
  - OA rate per person = 5 cfm/person = 120 cfm
  - OA rate per unit area = 0.06 cfm/sq ft = 72 cfm
  - Min OA = 192 cfm

- 6.2.2.2 – Zone Air Distribution Effectiveness
  - Ceiling supply of cool air = 1.0 effectiveness
  - Ceiling supply of warm air  $> 15^\circ$  of space temp = 0.8 effectiveness
  - Ceiling supply of warm air and floor return = 1.0 effectiveness
- 6.2.4 – 100% Outdoor Air Systems
  - Total OA Flow = sum of all zones x OA rate adjusted by distribution
- 6.2.5 – Multiple zone Recirculating Systems
  - Calculate OA fraction by dividing OA by total circulation
  - Use table 6.2.5.2 to determine ventilation efficiency
  - OA intake must be adjusted by the ventilation efficiency by dividing Total OA Flow divided by Ventilation effectiveness

# Conventional versus Chilled Beams

## VAV Office (low Occupancy)

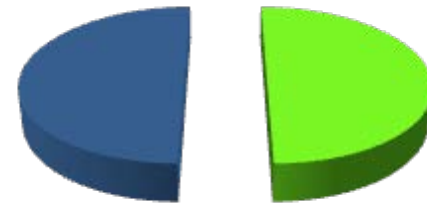
25  
%  
OA



■ Outdoor Air  
■ Recirc Air

## VAV Classroom (High Occupancy)

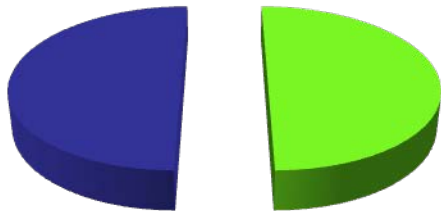
50  
%  
OA



**Chilled Beams require ½ the airflow of a traditional VAV system design**

## PVS/CB Office (low Occupancy)

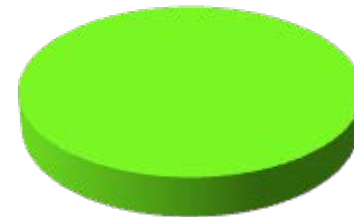
50  
%  
OA



■ Outdoor Air  
■ Recirc Air

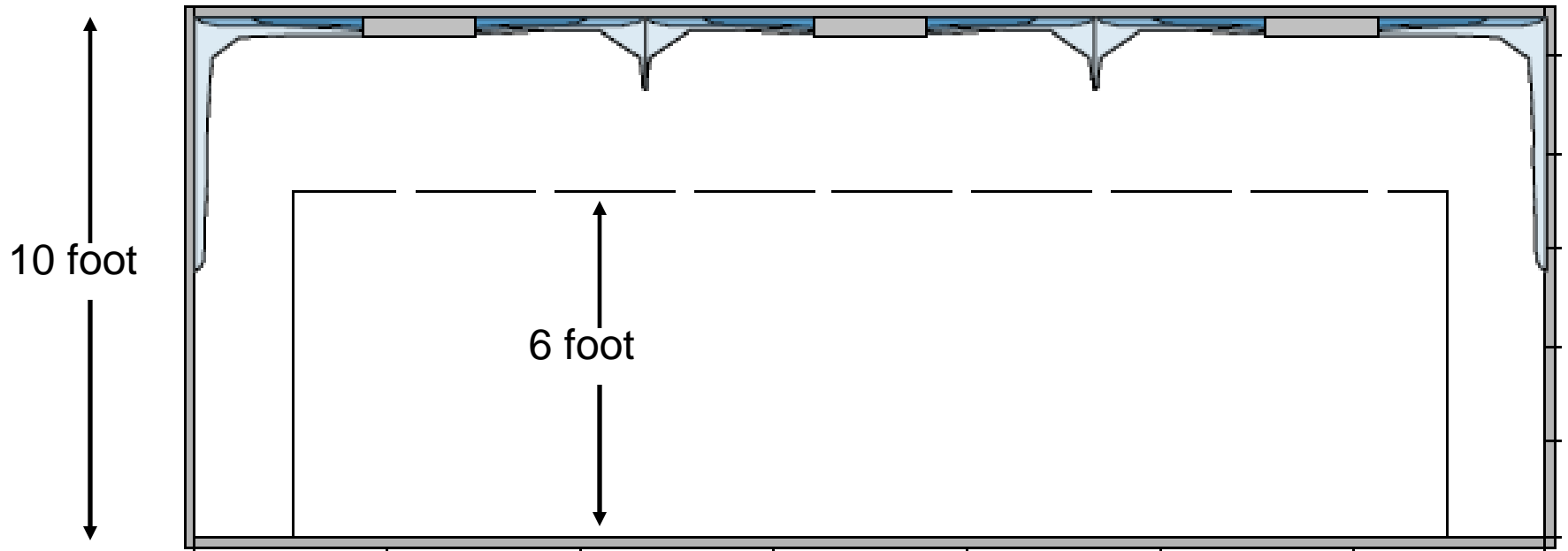
## PVS/CB Classroom (High Occupancy)

100  
%  
OA



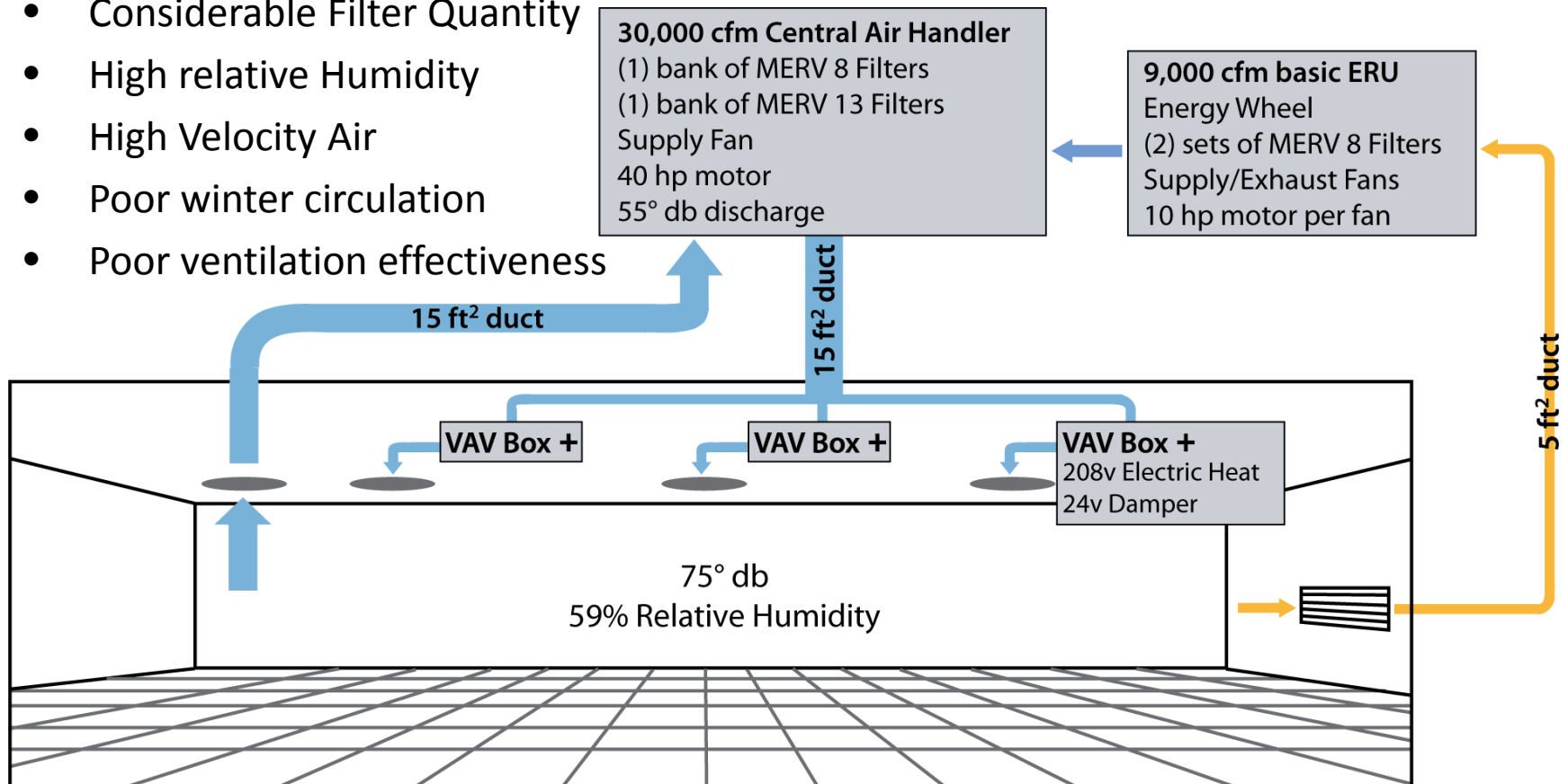
# Beam placement and Air Distribution

## Flow pattern



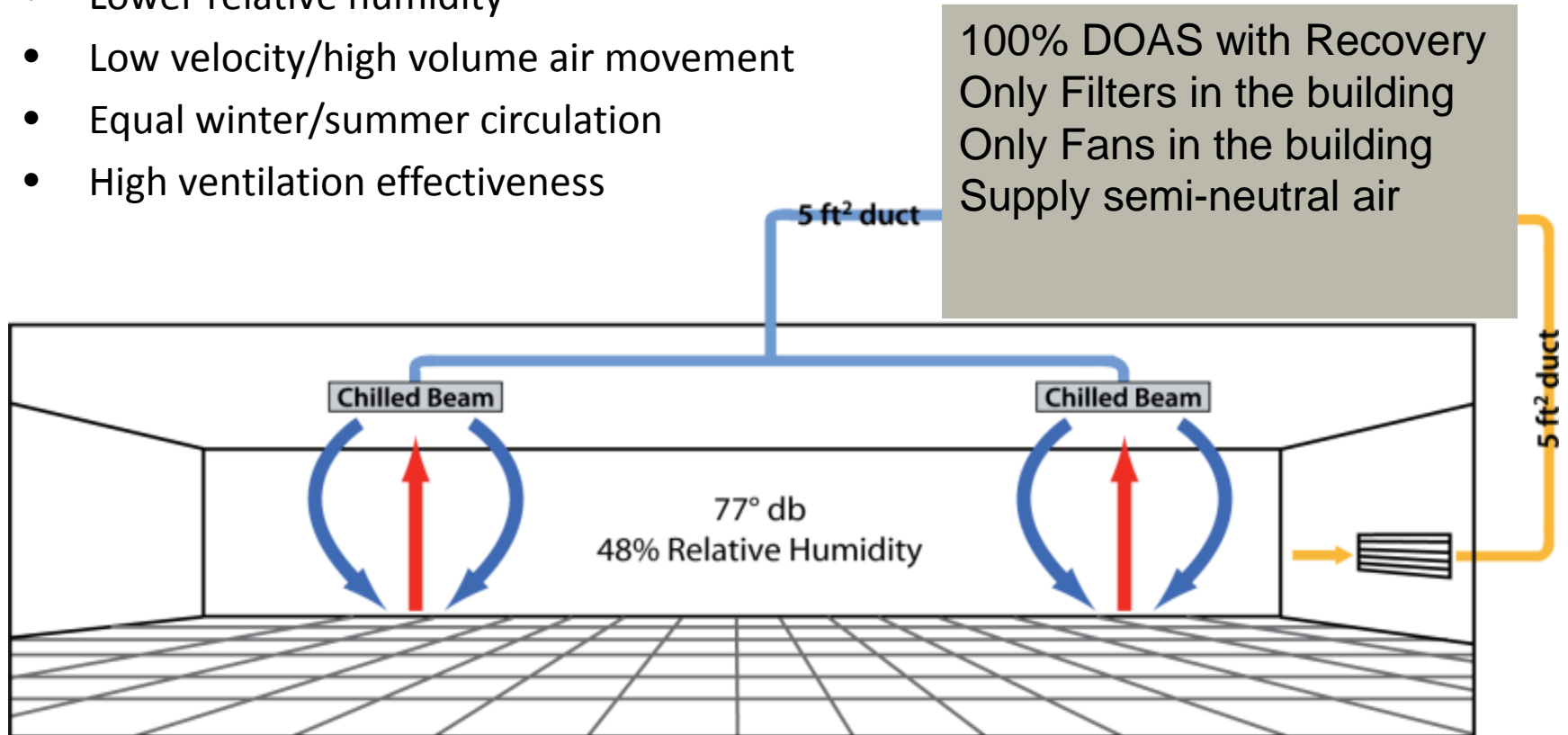
# Conventional System

- Low temp water
- Considerable Filter Quantity
- High relative Humidity
- High Velocity Air
- Poor winter circulation
- Poor ventilation effectiveness



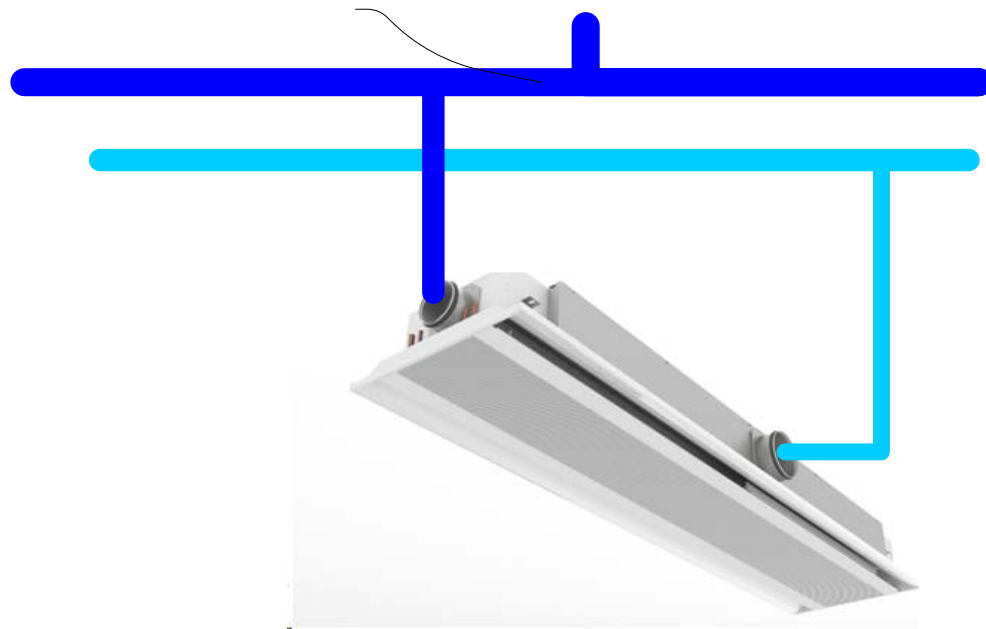
# School or Laboratory Chilled Beam System Design

- Low temp water ONLY in DOAS
- Filtration ONLY in DOAS
- Lower relative humidity
- Low velocity/high volume air movement
- Equal winter/summer circulation
- High ventilation effectiveness



# Open or Closed Office Design

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# Primary Air Considerations

1. ASHRAE 62 Minimum Ventilation Requirement
  - 100% Outside Air
2. Minimum to satisfy space latent load
  - Depends on primary air discharge dewpoint
  - Depends on occupancy of the space
3. Minimum to satisfy space sensible load
  - Depends on space loading (computers, window load, etc)
4. Make-up air requirement\*
  - \*Lab exhaust, kitchen exhaust, etc.

Classroom Example:

- **30 kid and 1 teacher – 900 sq ft**
1. 418 cfm ventilation required
    - **6,200 btu latent (31 x 200 btu)**
  2. At 45 dewpoint 456 cfm required (6200 btu / 0.68 / 20 grains)
    - **19,440 btu sensible**
  3. Four Beams at 114 cfm ea satisfies (70% of load is on coils)
  4. Make up requirement not applicable for this example

**Thank You!**

**Questions?**

