

**Chillventa Specialist Forums 2022**  
**Chillventa Fachforen 2022**

**CONNECTING  
EXPERTS.**

**Low charge R717  
Refrigeration**

**Javier Cano**



# CHILLVENTA

International Exhibition  
Refrigeration | AC & Ventilation | Heat Pumps

Nuremberg 11–13.10.2022

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EXPERTS.**

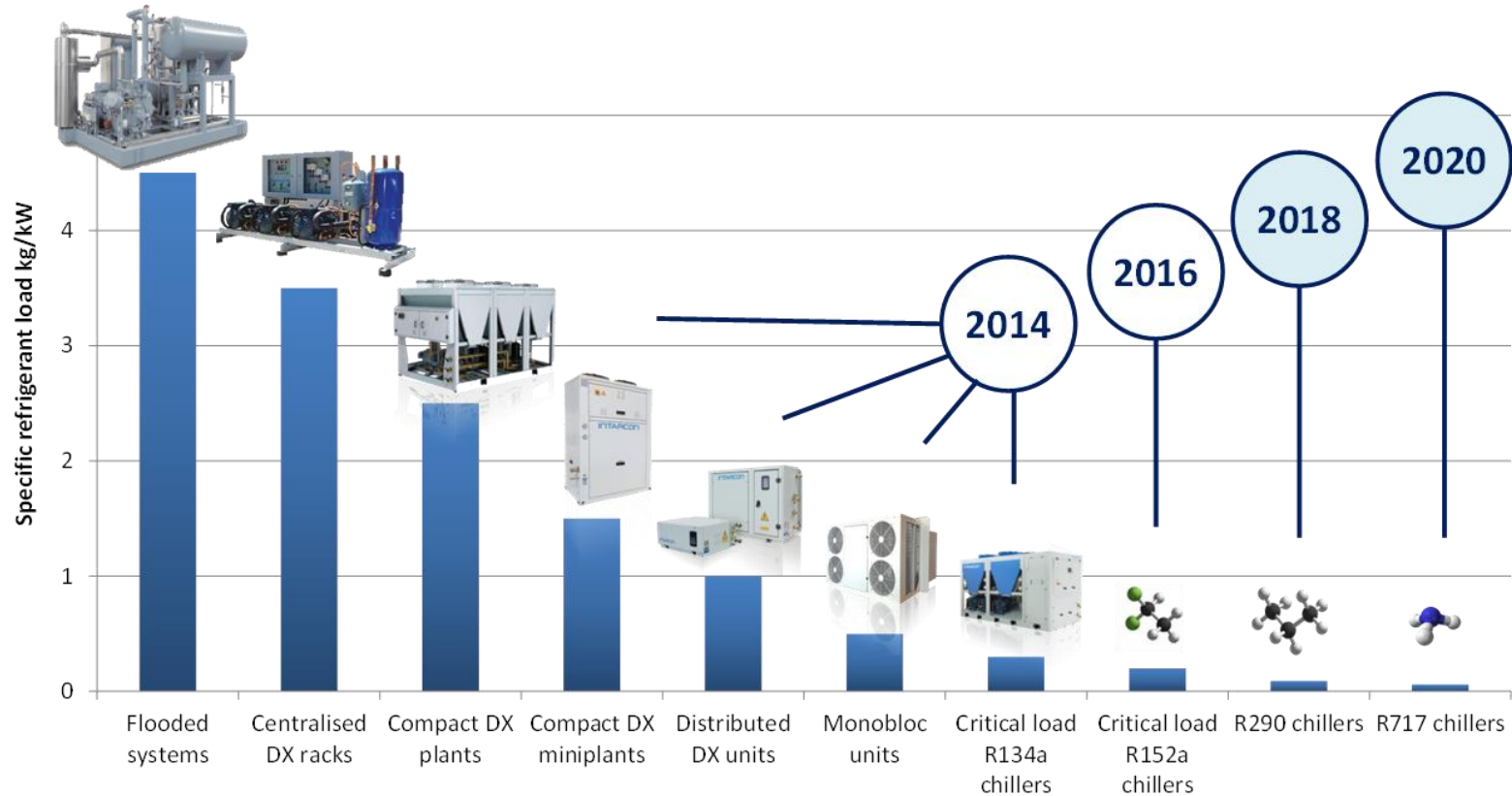
## Low charge R717 Refrigeration

Javier Cano



- Low-charge concept
- Low charge technology in Ammolite units
- Key issues
- Packaged chillers
- Packaged DX systems
- Life cycle cost
- Conclusions

# How much is low-charge?



# What is a low charge system?

## Specific load

Type of R717 system	Specific R717 Load
Conventional pumped systems.	~ 2.5 - 4 kg/kW
Low-overfeed pumped systems	~1.5 kg/kW
Centralised R717 DX systems	~1 kg/kW
Cascade R717 Systems	~0.6 kg/kW
Distributed DX Systems	~0.3 kg/kW
Secondary systems	~0.07 kg/kW

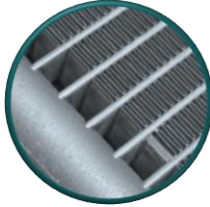
## Total load

Safety requirement	R717 Load
EN 378 – Access cat. C, loc.1	< 4.5kg per system
EN 378 – Access cat. C, loc. 2	< 25kg per system
EN 378 – Additional safety req.	> 50kg
Transport by road cat.1 (ADR)	< 50kg total charge
USA EPA (release reporting)	> 100 lbs (45 kg)
France (hazard declaration, arrêté 19/11/2009)	> 150 kg total charge
USA EPA (hazard declaration)	> 500 lbs (225 kg) total charge.
EN 378 – Further requirements	> 500kg ...

# Low-charge technology in Ammolite DX

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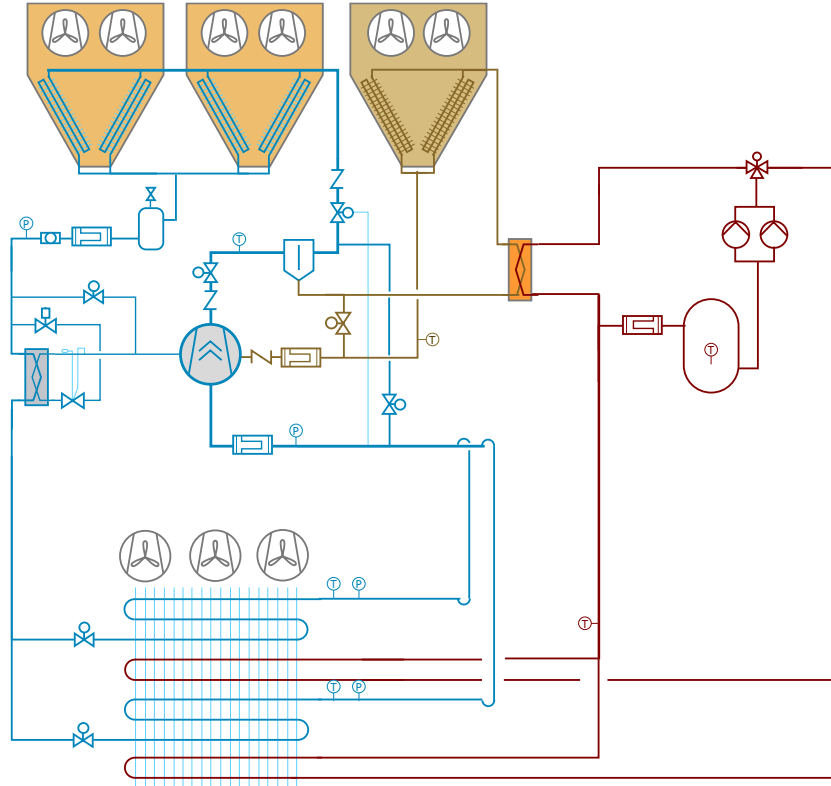
Microchannel condenser



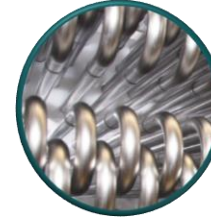
Semihermetic screw compressor with permanent magnet motor.



DX evaporator



Air-cooled oil circuit



Heat reclaim for hot glycol desfrot



Miscible oil One-stage separator

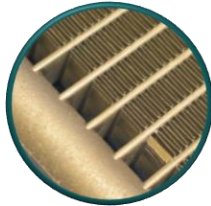


# Low-charge technology in Ammolite chillers

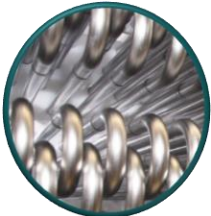
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## Critical load cooling circuit

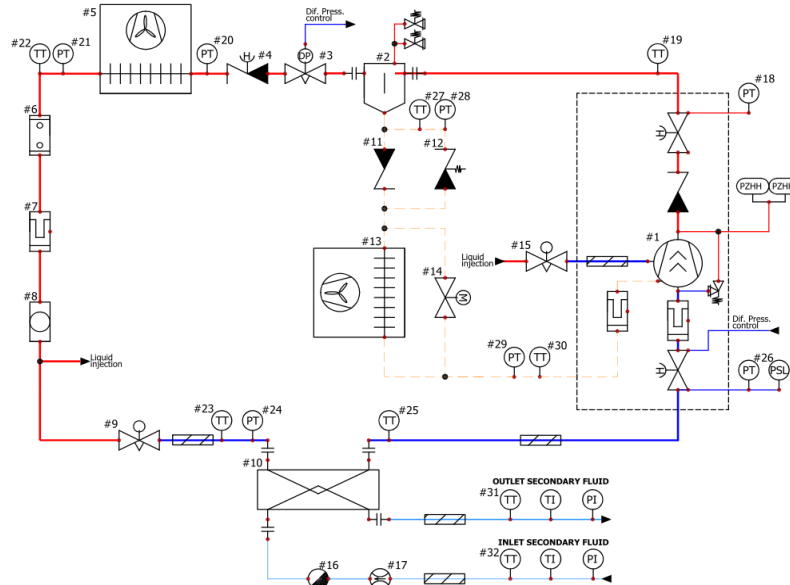
Microchannel condenser



Air-cooled oil circuit



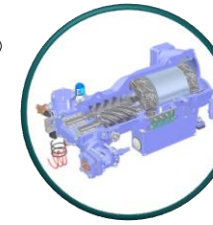
Direct expansion VEE



Miscible oil  
One-stage separator



Semihermetic screw  
compressor with  
permanent magnet  
motor.

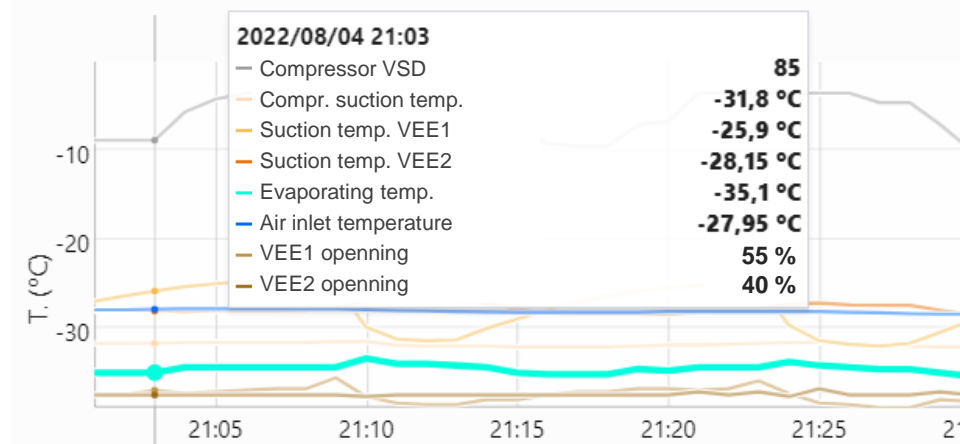


Full stainless steel  
plate evaporator



# Key issues in DX R717 systems

- Direct Expansion evaporators
  - Refrigerant distribution
  - Enhanced exchange surface for complete wetting
  - Oil fouling on exchange surface
  - Precise injection control
  - Floodback prevention, smooth operation
- Compressor
  - Gas-cooled semihermetic compressor
  - High efficiency motor (permanent magnet rotor)
- Liquid subcooling
  - Economiser subcooler
- Water content in ammonia
  - Water significantly increases the boiling point of ammonia
  - Ammonia-water solution at a concentration of 20% water will return from DX evaporators



Monitoring of a fin & tube DX evaporator in a blast freezer

DT1: ~7K

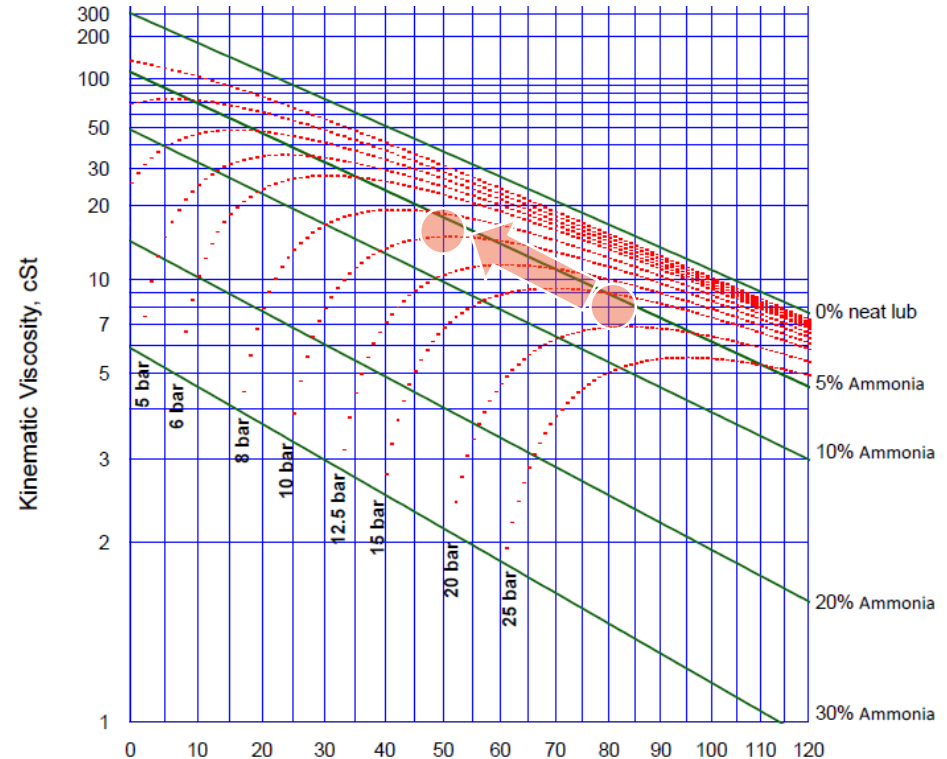
SC: ~3K



# Key issues in DX R717 systems

- Oil management
  - Oil migrates to the evaporator and need to be returned to the compressor
  - Miscible oil solution
    - Oil is miscible through the entire operating envelope.
    - One-stage oil separation is enough.
    - Oil traps needed in suction risers
  - Direct air-cooling
    - Direct air cooling is preferred to thermosiphon oil coolers.
    - Increased efficiency.
    - No extra charge of R717 needed
  - Solubility of ammonia in oil
    - Oil must be kept warm to reduce ammonia solubility during stand-by.
  - PAG oil traps moisture into the PAG polymer chain.

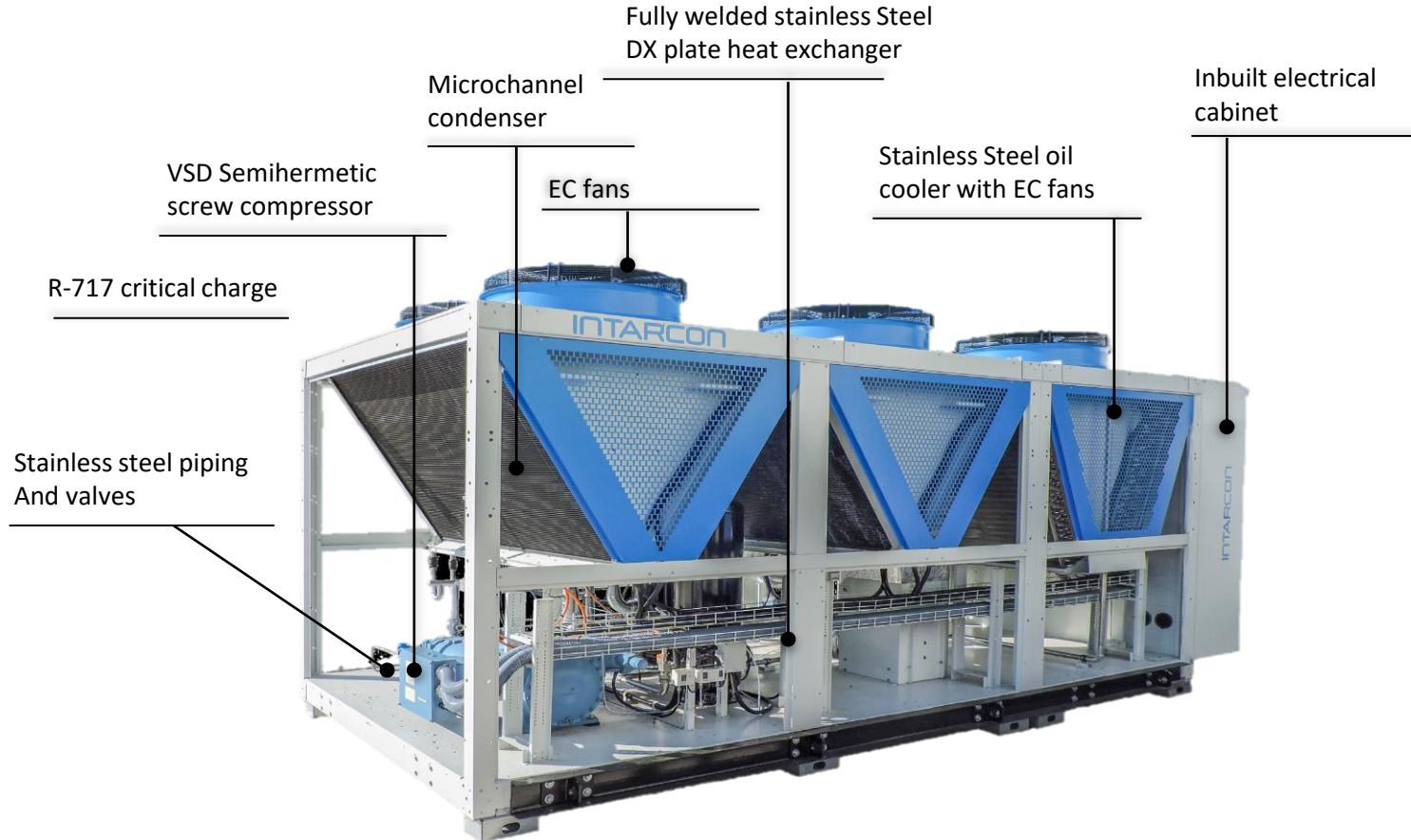
R717/PAG PVT chart



Source: Muñoz, M. 2018

# Ammolite packaged chillers

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Ammolite chiller

Meat processing industry, Mataró, Spain

Cooling capacity: 720 kW (MPG35% @ -8°C)

R717 charge: 2x 25kg

# Túrbofreezer Ammolite DX

Meat processing industry, Tarancón, Spain.

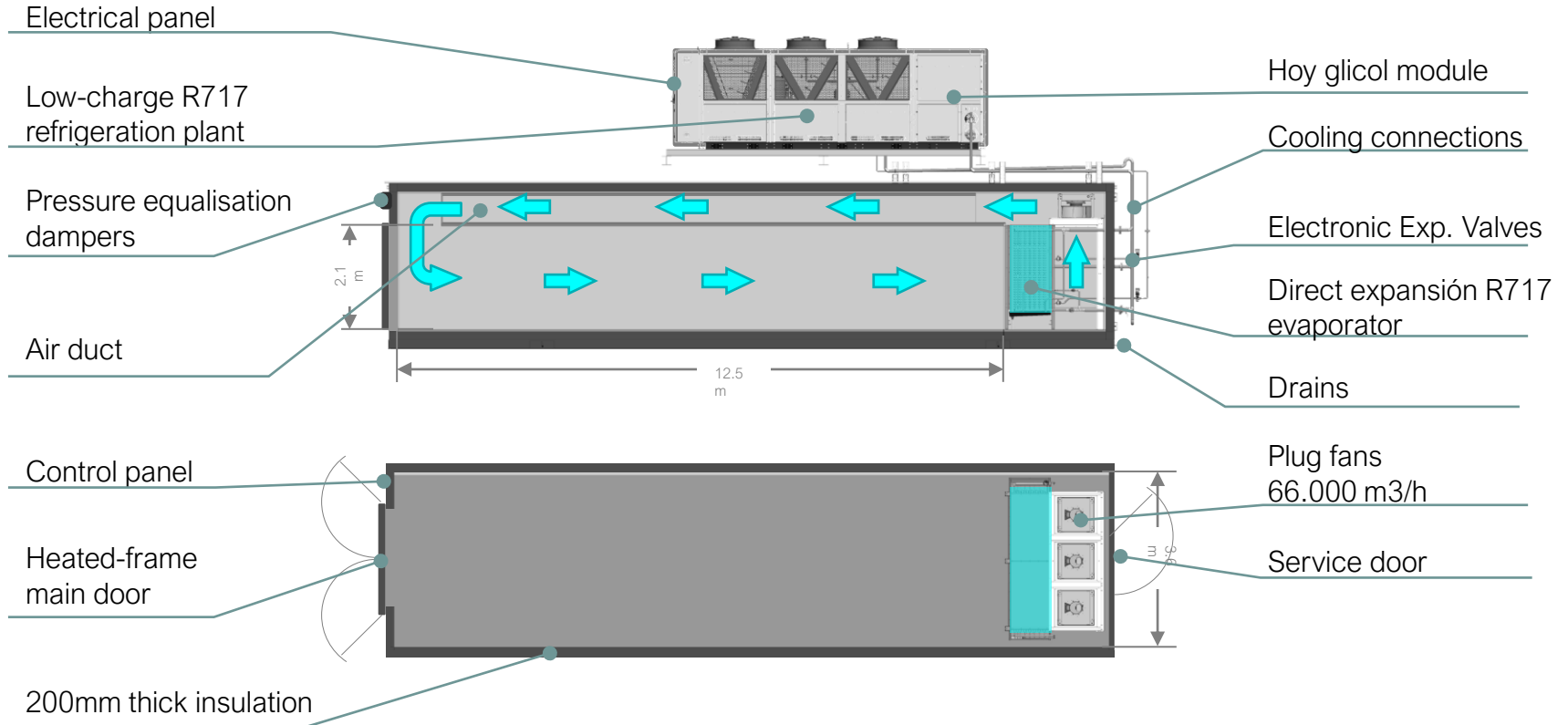
Cooling capacity per unit: 125kW @ -35°C

R717 charge per system: 50kg



# Turbofreezer Ammolite DX

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- Vista general
- Alarmas
- Instalaciones
- Gráficas
- Diagramas
- Documentación
- Librerías
- Configuración

# TURBOFREEZER Ammolite 7



Estado de funcionamiento  
**Encendido**  
Ciclo de ultracongelación  
**INICIADO**

Alarma  
**OFF**  
Puerta  
**CERRADA**

Funcionamiento refrigeración **ON**

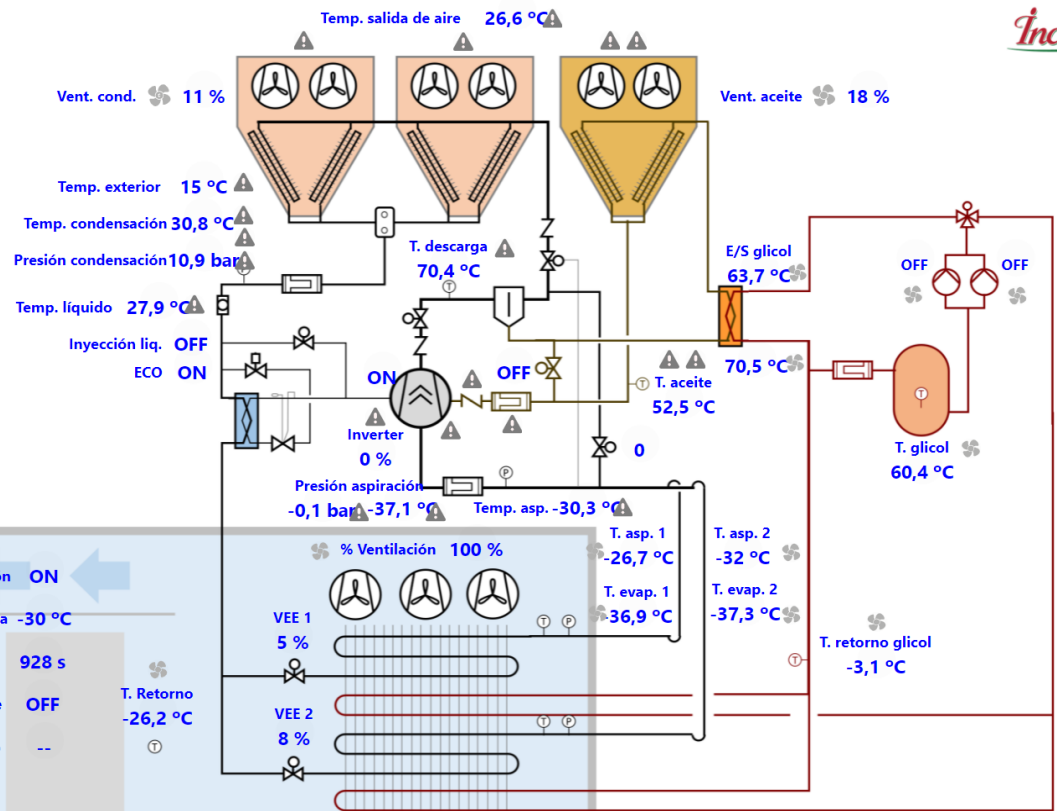
Consigna de temperatura **-30 °C**

Tiempo para desescarche **928 s**

Ciclo de desescarche **OFF**

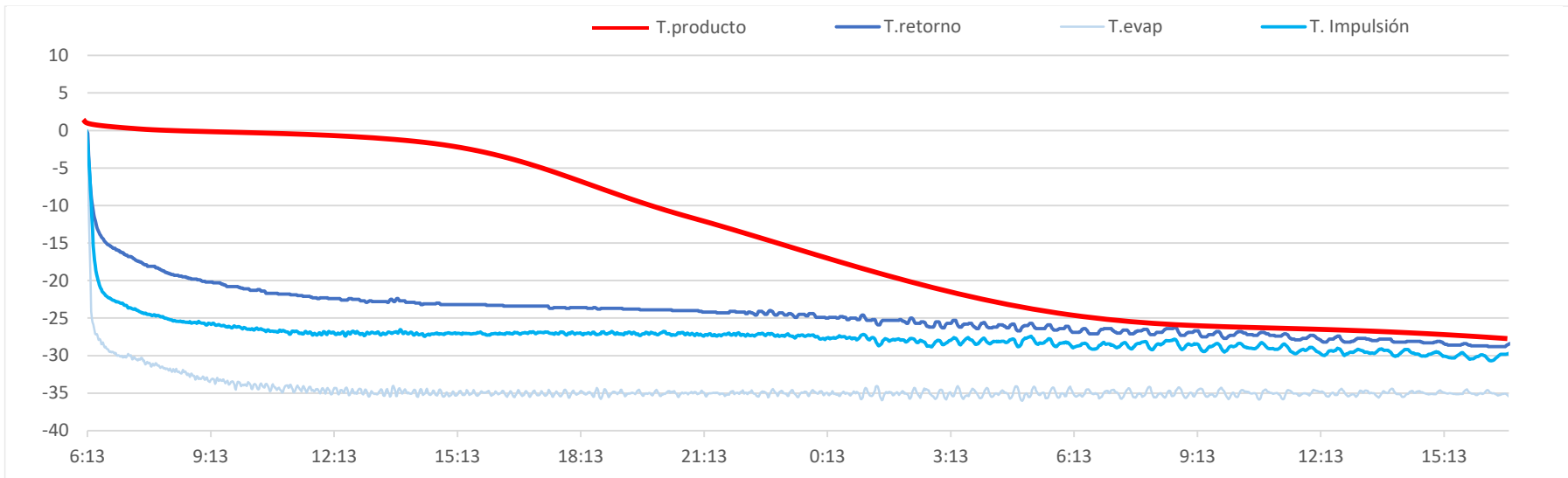
En tiempo de goteo **--**

T. Retorno **-26,2 °C**



### Gráfica

🕒 2022-02-24 07:15:00 - 2022-02-25 19:15:00

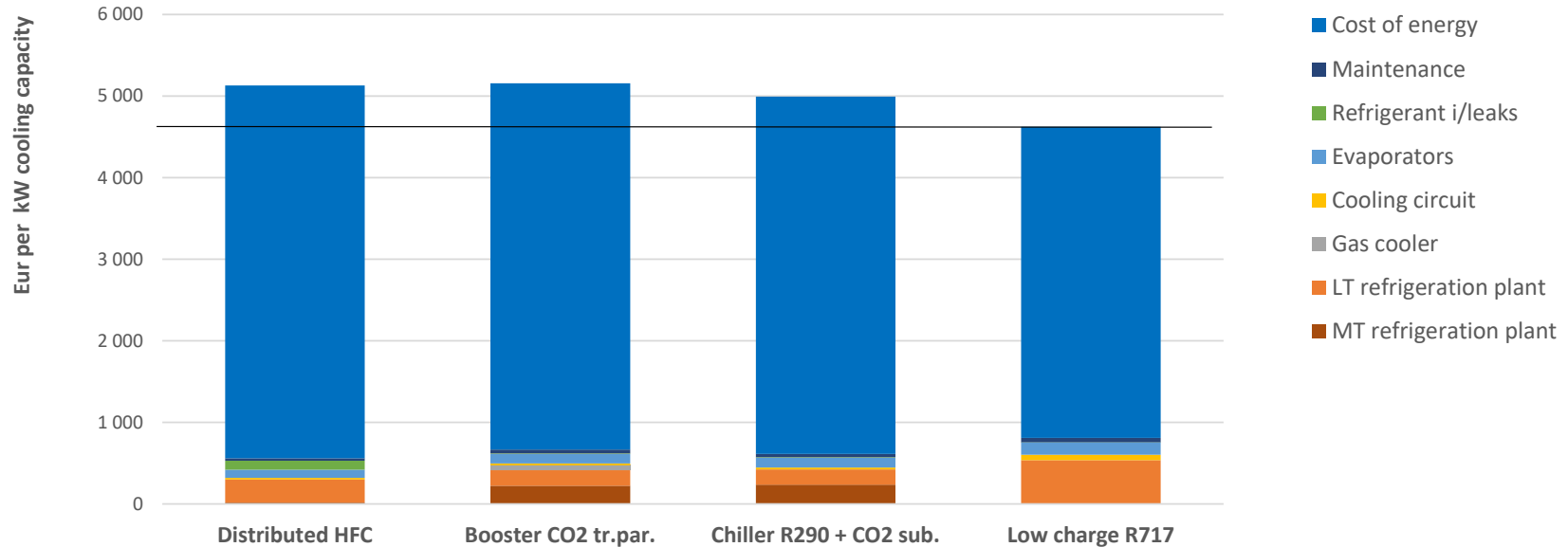


# Life Cycle Cost for a LT cold room

250 kW cooling capacity

20.000 sqm

Life span: 15 years



Cost of energy: 0.15 Eur/kWh,

Seasonal energy performance according to Ecodesign regulation (UE) 2015/1095,

Isentropic efficiency of compressors = 60%, DT<sub>1</sub> in condenser = 10K, Evaporating temperature: -30°C



## Low charge R717 technology - conclusions

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R717

ECOfriendly solution

Minimal TEWI factor



Safe and reliable

Minimal H&S hazard (< 70gr per kW)



Quick and easy installation

Plug & Play



4.0 Industry

Cloud based monitoring.

\$

Quick pay-back vs HFC systems

Optimal Life Cycle Cost.

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