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## **VENTING:**

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### **PRESSURIZATION**

*R. Dru Laws – Seljan Company  
Regional Meeting, Rolling Meadows, IL  
June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013*



## **Presentation Outline**

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- Introduction
- Classic Temperature Profile
- Layer Maturation
- Pressure in the Oven Station
- Pressure in the Cooling Station
- Venting/Pressure when Foaming
- Conclusion

## A Thought on Training

- By my definition, training is not an investment
- It's a liability ...
  - ... until you can at least "pay back" the cost associated with the training
- Do you know how much your company spent to get you here?

## Training



## Finishing is the key

- The hidden value of "investment training" is in the finishing of it
- Our industry is not at a shortage of starters
  - We need finishers
  - (Imagine trying to sell an un-finished rotomolded part)
- Decide now you will be a finisher, and turn your attendance here into *investment training*
- Finishers will always be allowed to return



## INTRODUCTION

## Introduction

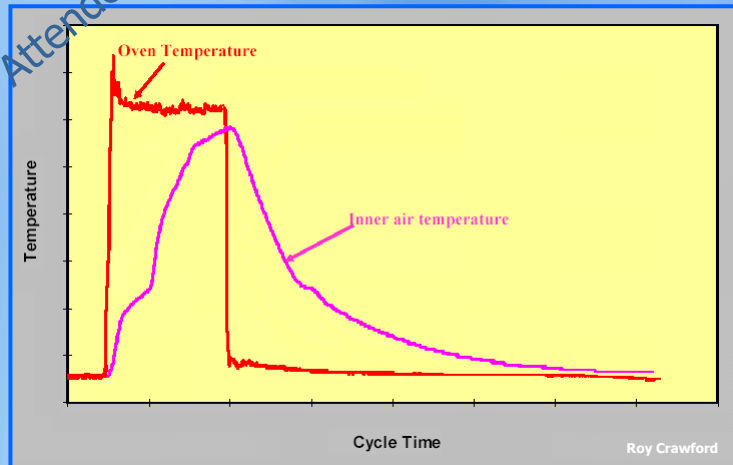
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- Pressure is just as valuable to our process as temperature
- It provides valuable benefits in the heating and cooling portions of the cycle
- We need to understand it, so we can learn to control it.

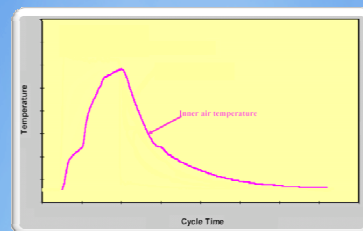
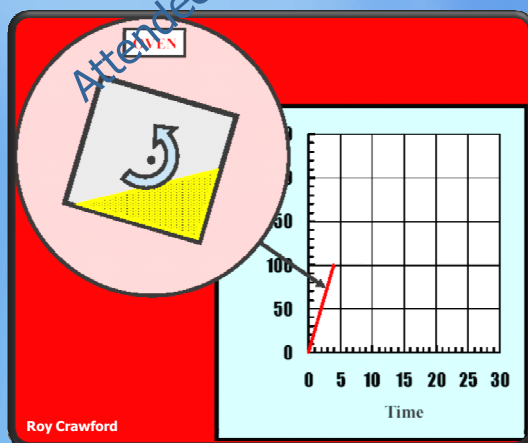
## TEMPERATURE PROFILE



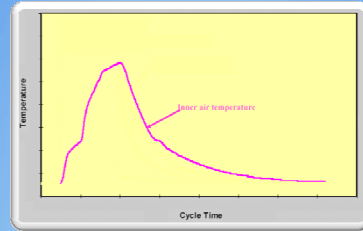
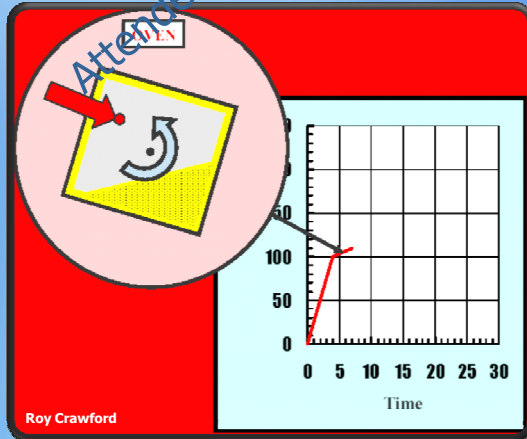
## Temperature Profile



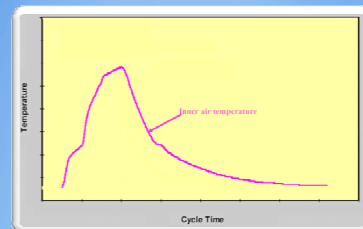
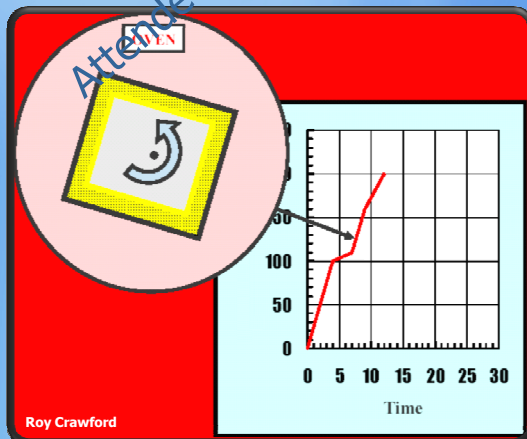
## Temperature Profile



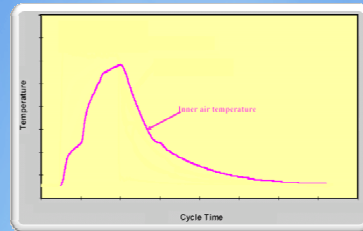
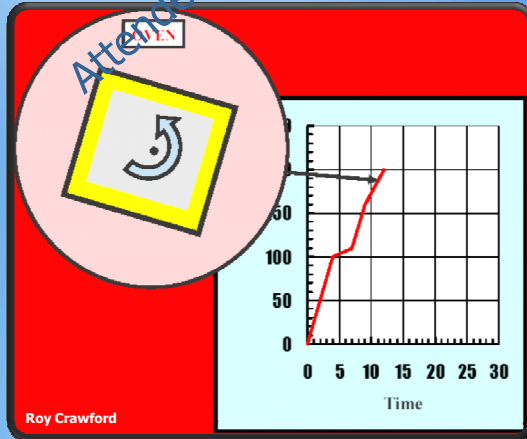
## Temperature Profile



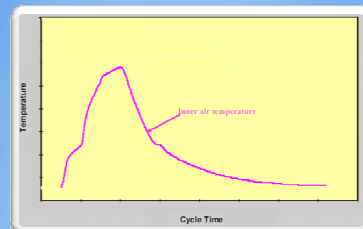
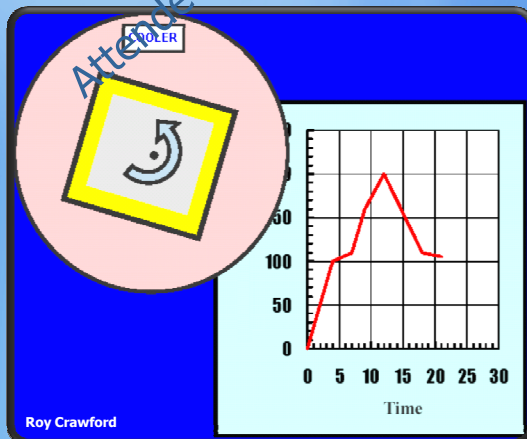
## Temperature Profile



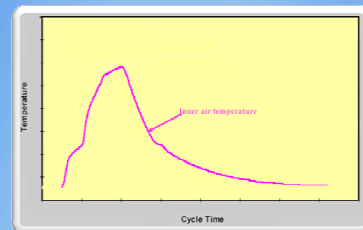
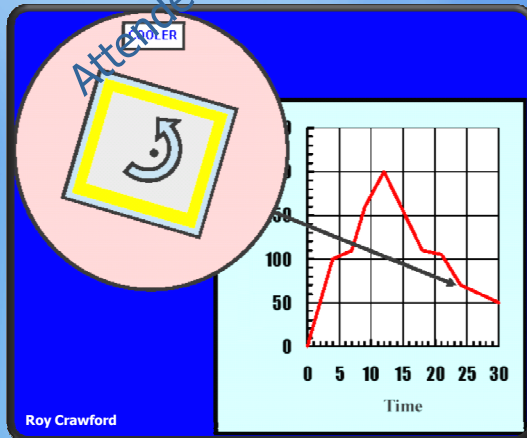
## Temperature Profile



## Temperature Profile



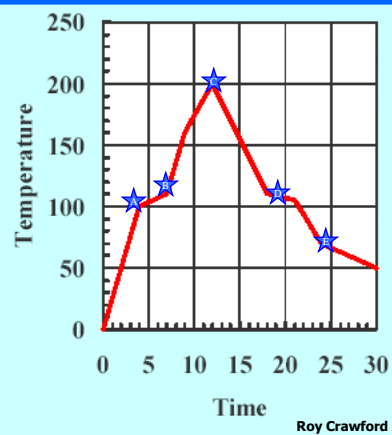
## Temperature Profile



## Temperature Profile

### We can thus observe:

- When powder first sticks to the mold
- When the powder has been consumed
- When optimal melt sintering has occurred
- When solidification is occurring
- When the plastic separates from the mold

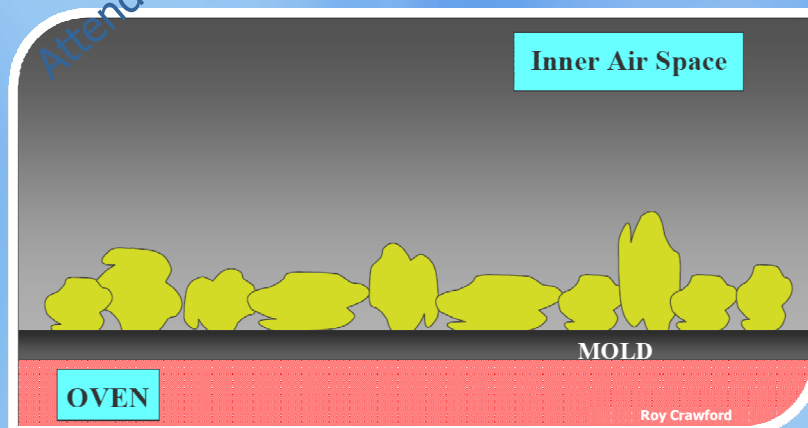


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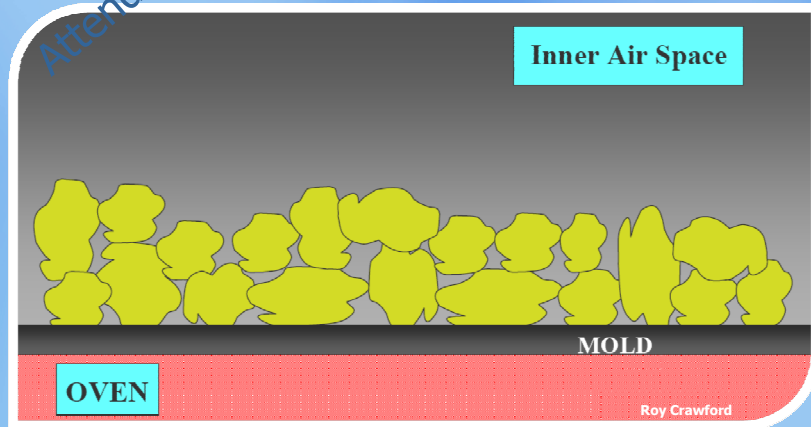
# LAYER MATURATION

## Layer Maturation

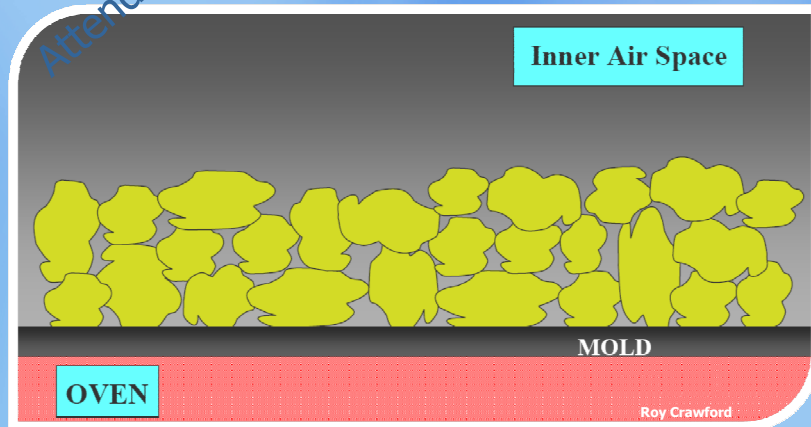


Roy Crawford

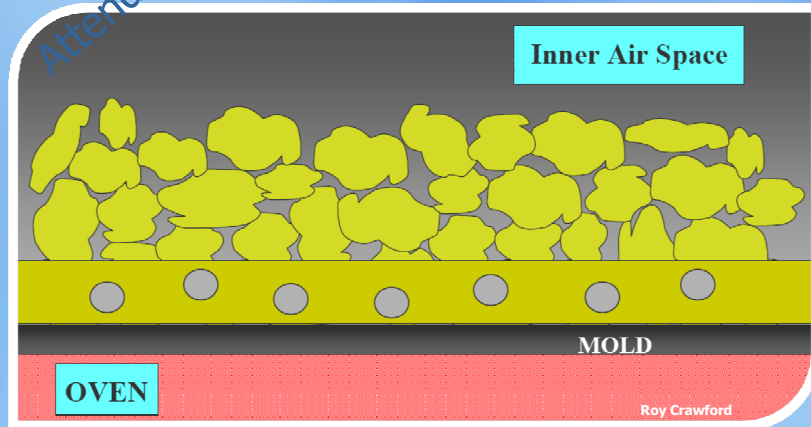
## Layer Maturation



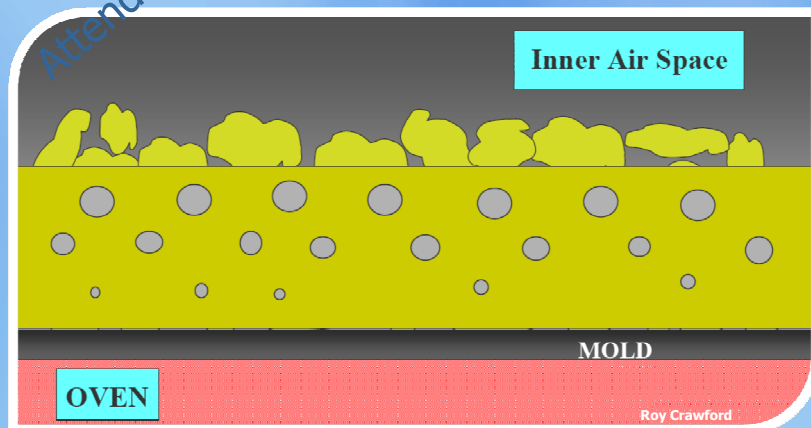
## Layer Maturation



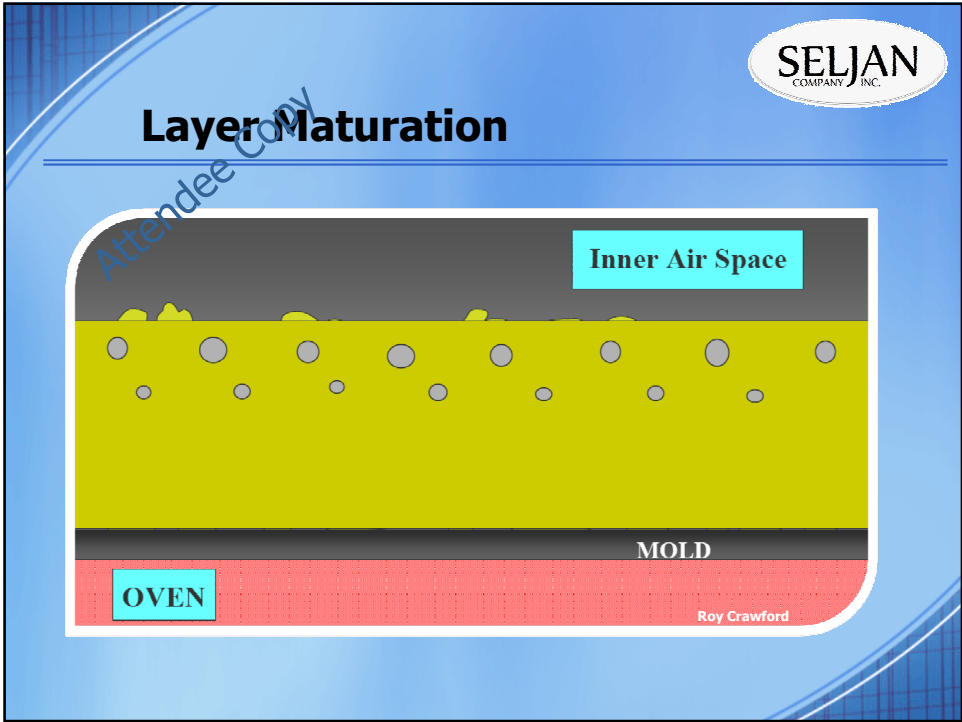
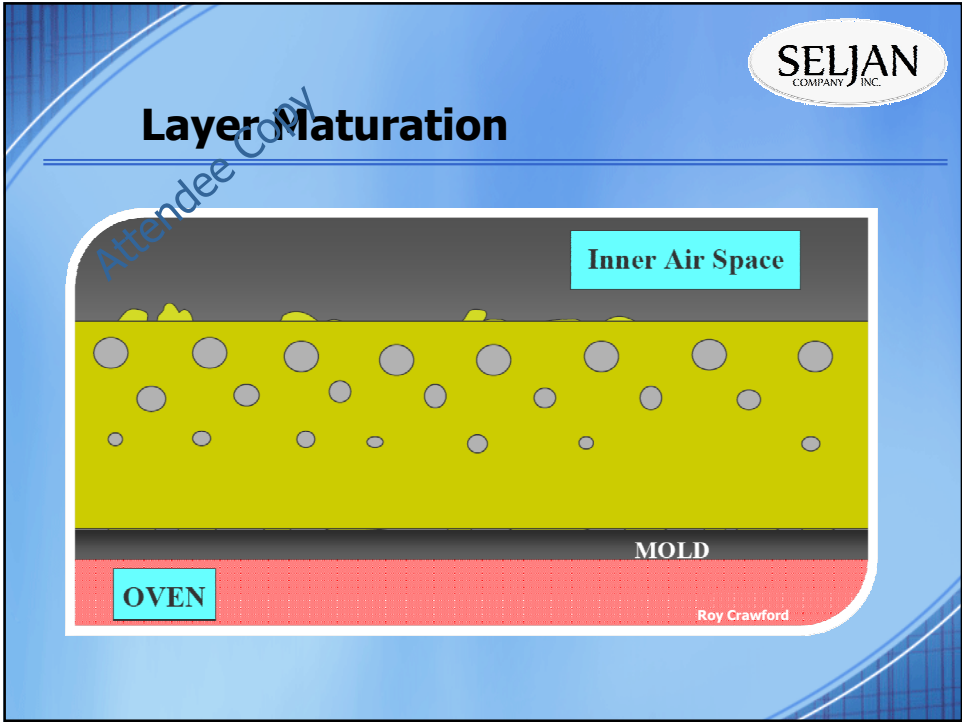
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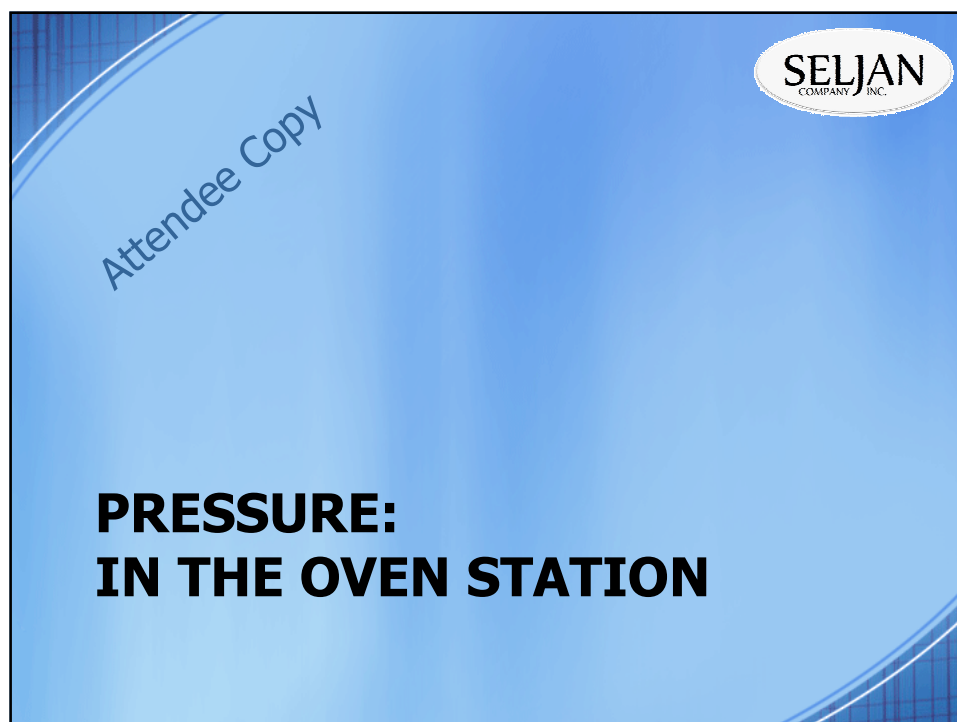
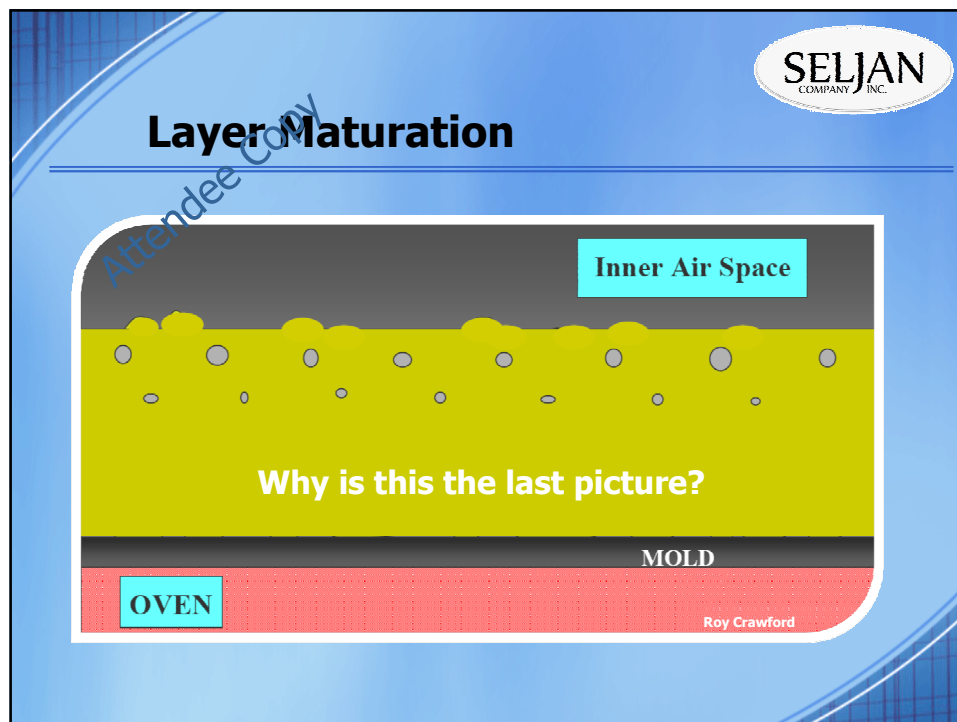


## Layer Maturation



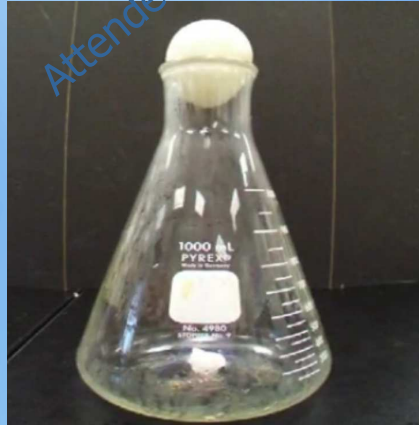






## What about ... Venting & Pressure?

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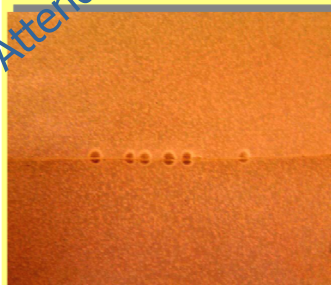


Go here to watch  
the video

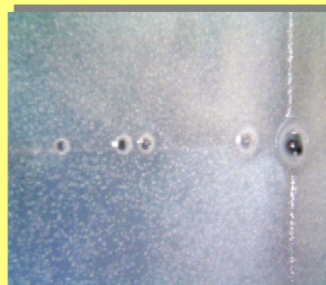
<http://youtu.be/xceBXe5YHj0>

## What about ... Venting & Pressure?

SELJAN  
COMPANY INC.



Blow-holes at parting line,  
viewed from the outside



Blow-holes at parting line,  
viewed from the inside

Roy Crawford

## What about ... Venting & Pressure?

SELJAN  
COMPANY INC.

**What is the difference  
between blow-holes  
and suck-holes?**

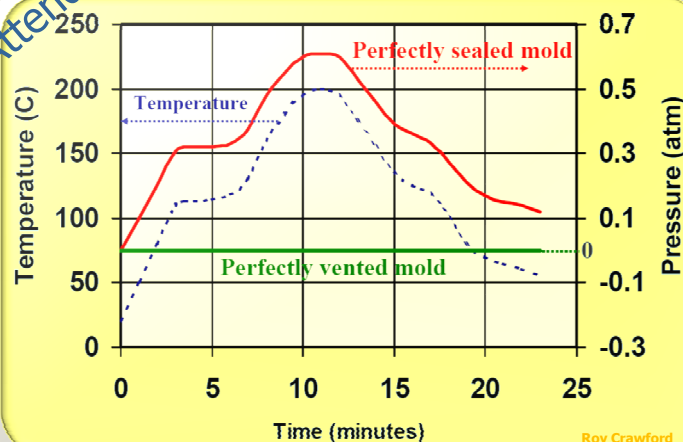
Blow-holes at parting line,  
viewed from the outside

Blow-holes at parting line,  
viewed from the inside

Roy Crawford

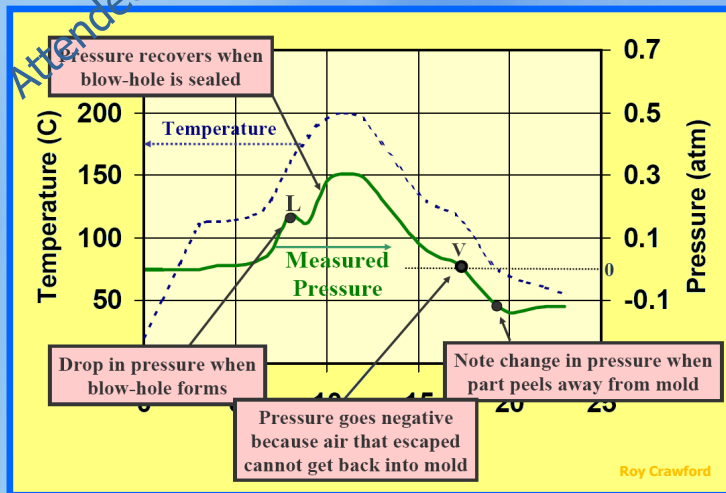
## What about ... Venting & Pressure?

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## What about ... Venting & Pressure?

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*The next 20 slides are taken from research conducted by Lorenzo Bergamo of Persico in Italy and Dr. Roy Crawford of University of Waikato in New Zealand.*

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*Credit goes to the authors of said publication.*



## Pressurization R&D Leonardo Mold

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## Pressurization R&D Leonardo Part

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## Baseline Cycle

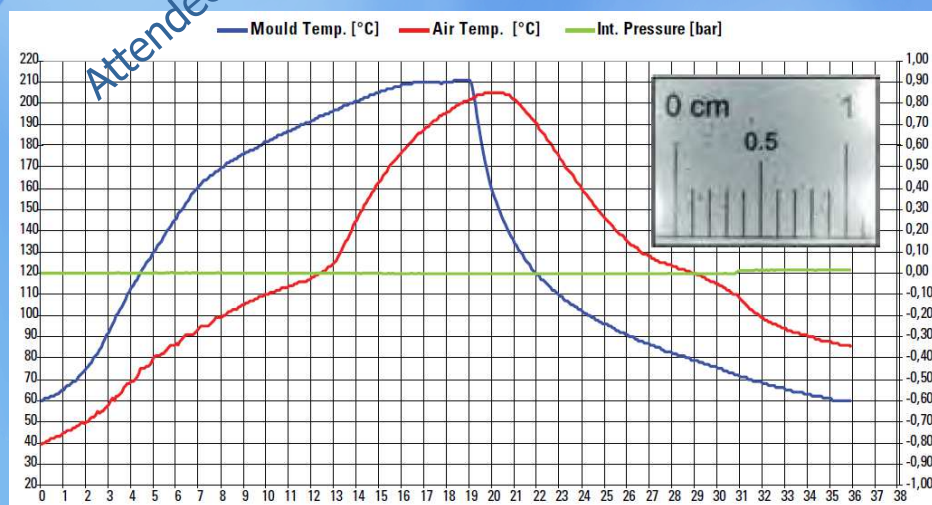
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 205°C

Vent = open

MFE = 101 ft-lbs

## Baseline Cycle





## Max Pressurized Cycle

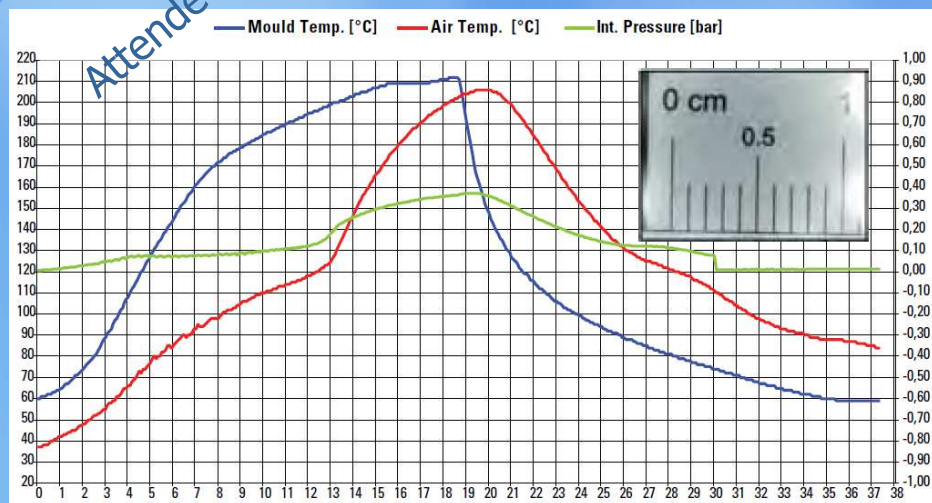
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 205°C

Vent = closed (1.4 atm)

MFE = 118 ft-lbs

## Max Pressurized Cycle



## Pressure: Theory vs. Actual

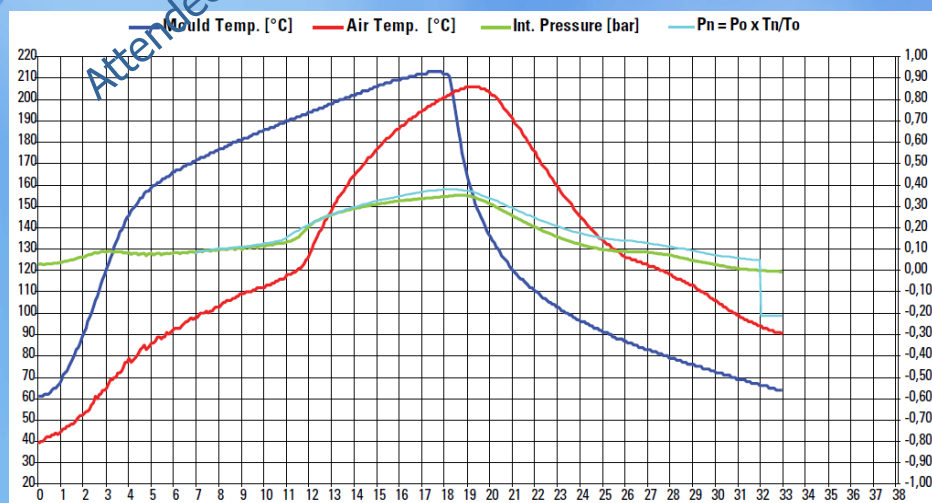
$$\text{Thickness} = n/a$$

$$\text{PIAT} = 205^{\circ}\text{C}$$

Vent = theory vs. actual

$$P = P_0 * (T/T_0)$$

## Pressure: Theory vs. Actual



## Reduced PIAT to 180°C, open vent

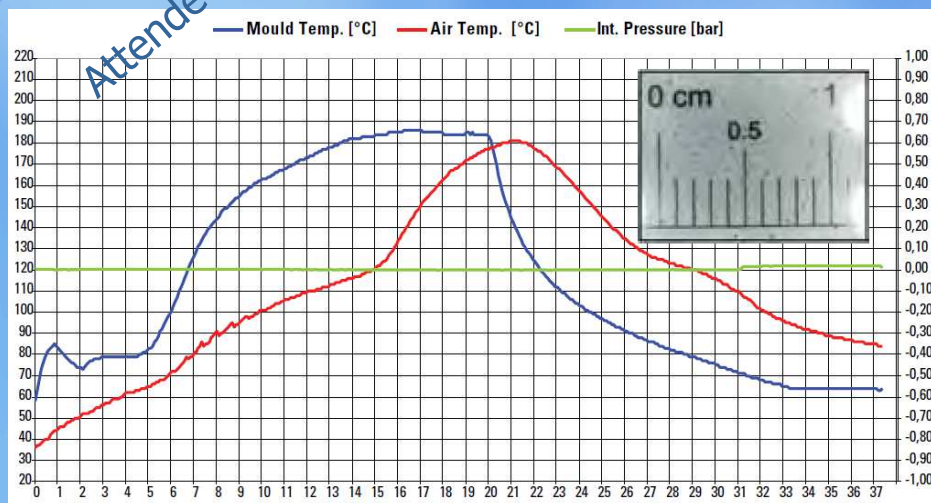
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 180°C

Vent = open

MFE = 87 ft-lbs

## Reduced PIAT to 180°C, open vent



## Reduced PIAT to 180°C, closed vent

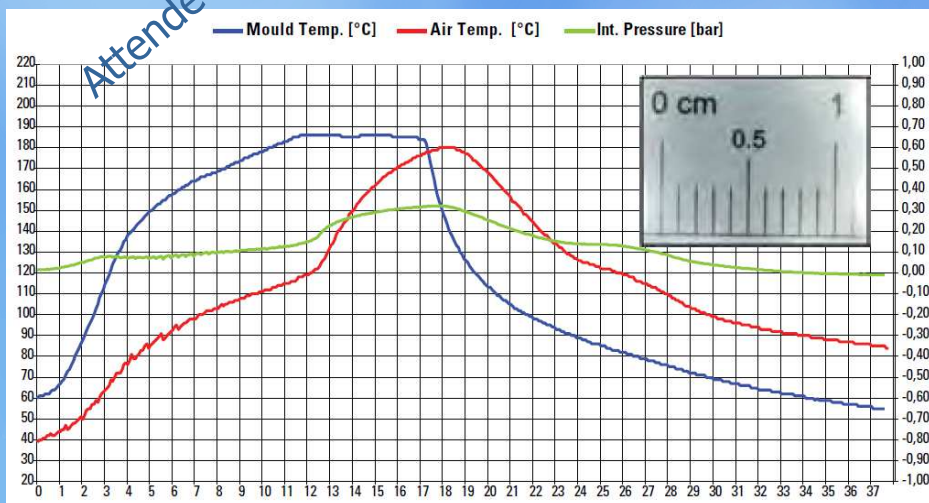
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 180°C

Vent = closed (1.32 atm)

MFE = 116 ft-lbs

## Reduced PIAT to 180°C, closed vent



## Reduced PIAT to 163°C, closed vent

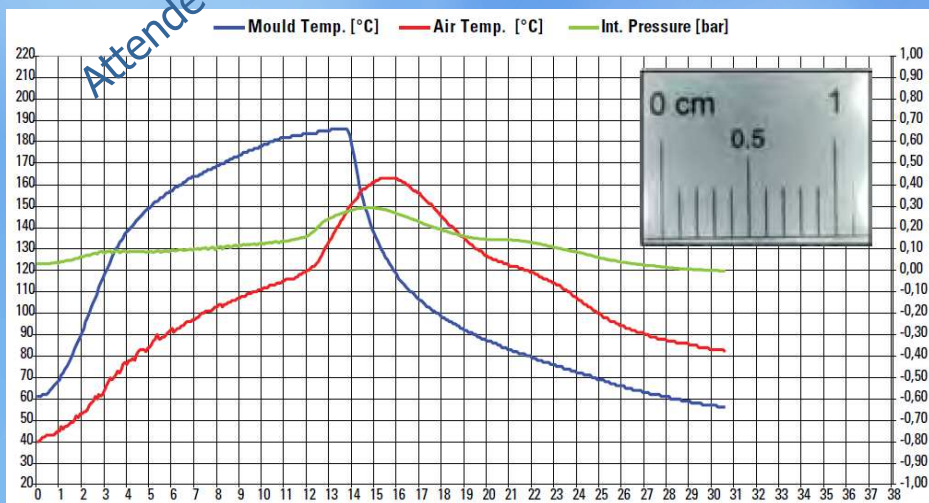
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 163°C

Vent = closed (1.29 atm)

MFE = 103 ft-lbs

## Reduced PIAT to 163°C, closed vent





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## **PRESSURE: IN THE OVEN with Supavent**

**Supavents™**

What about those of us who  
don't have pressure  
monitoring equipment?



## PIAT to 180°C, Supavent

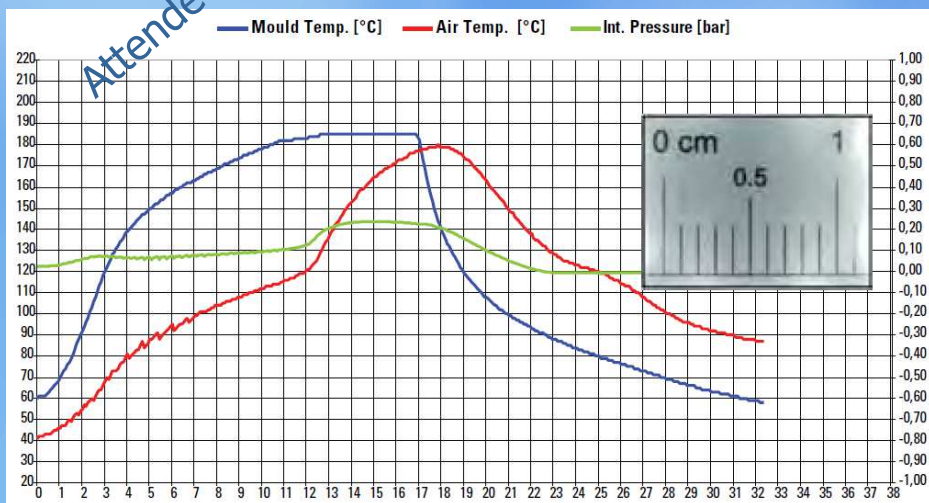
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 179°C

Vent = Supavent (1.23 atm)

MFE = 98 ft-lbs

## PIAT to 180°C, Supavent





## PIAT to 205°C, Supavent

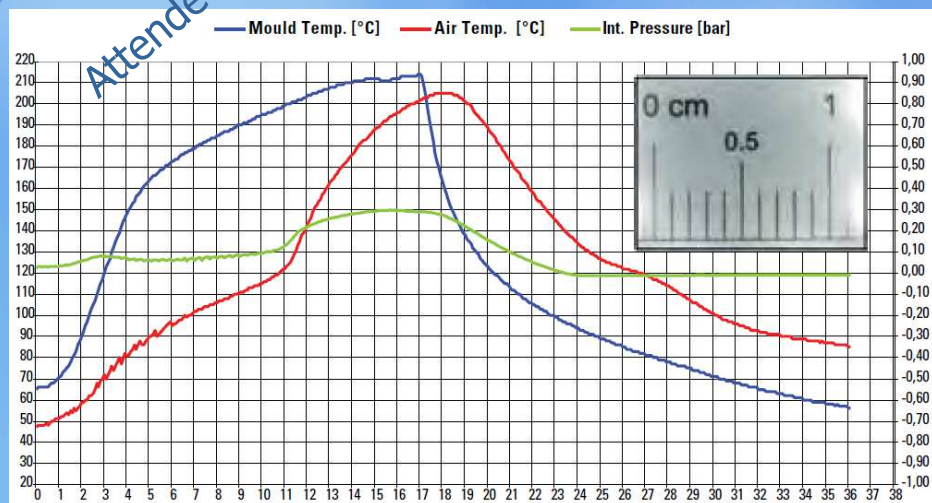
Thickness = 10mm

PIAT = 205°C

Vent = Supavent (1.29 atm)

MFE = 113 ft-lbs

## PIAT to 205°C, Supavent



## Comparison

Thickness (mm)	PIAT (°C)	Vent	Pressure (atm)	Bubbles	MFE (ft-lbs)
<b>10</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>101</b>
		<b>Supavent</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>113</b>
		<b>Closed</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>118</b>
	<b>180</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>87</b>
		<b>Supavent</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>98</b>
		<b>Closed</b>	<b>1.32</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>116</b>
	<b>160</b>	<b>Closed</b>	<b>1.29</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>103</b>
		<b>Supavent</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>91</b>

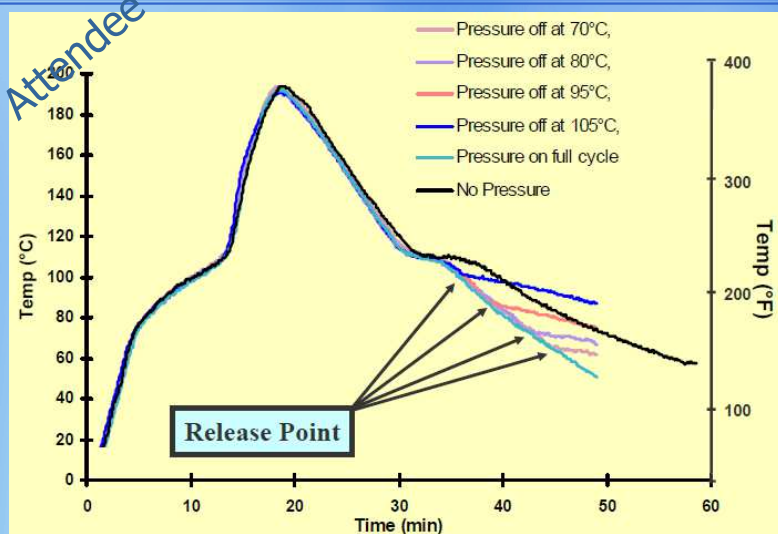
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**PRESSURE:  
IN THE COOLING STATION**

## Post PIAT Pressure

- So long as the plastic stays in COMPLETE contact with the mold, you have total control over the long-term shape of the molded part.
- It's only after it begins to pull away from the tool that you start to lose control over the dimensional stability of the part
- Imagine the extremes!
  - Rotolining
  - Extreme Pre-release

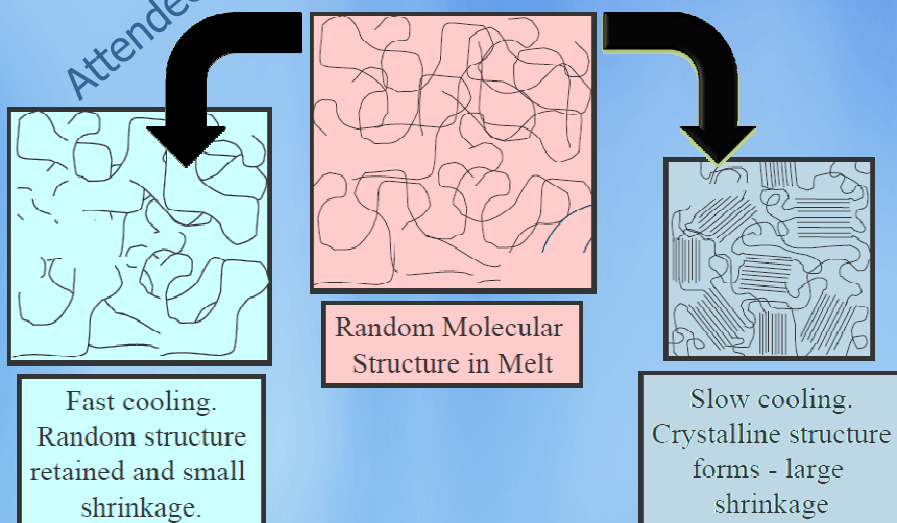
## Post PIAT Pressure



## Post PIAT Pressure

- Using pressure to keep the part against the mold wall as long as possible will aid in reducing warpage.
- As well as shorten the cooling time
- However, it will also alter other part properties.

## Post PIAT Pressure



## Post PIAT Pressure



## Post PIAT Pressure

### Early Release

- Slower cooling
- More crystallization
- More shrinkage
- Reduced toughness
- Increases stiffness

### Late Release

- Faster cooling
- Less crystallization
- Less shrinkage
- Improves impact
- Reduces stiffness

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## FOAMING

### Pressure/Venting when Foaming

- Note: Foam expansion is only possible in the absence of resistance.



- Strategic vent placement is crucial.



## Pressure/Venting when Foaming

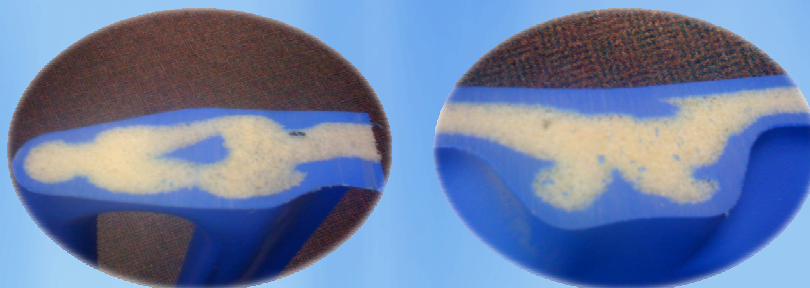
- Note: Foam is soft and does not increase stiffness until cooled



- Thus, it needs to be treated similar to non-foamed parts.

## Pressure/Venting when Foaming

- Note: Foam migration can manipulate the already formed skin.



- Calculated foam quantity is crucial.



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## **CONCLUSION**

### **Conclusion**

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- Pressure is just as valuable to our process as temperature
- It provides valuable benefits in the heating and cooling portions of the cycle
- We need to understand it, so we can learn to control it.



## Acknowledgments

- Seljan Company
- University of Waikato & Persico
- RotoWorld Magazine
- Adam @ ARM
- Daven @ Dutchland
- Tom @ Schulman
- You, for your participation

## THANK-YOU

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