

# Considerations for Electronic Equipment Rooms



**NEW DIRECTIONS**  
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SERVICES PTY LTD  
ACN 883 183 751

# Considerations for Electronic Equipment Rooms

- Normal Load Density
- Preferable for the room to be in an interior zone.
- Isolation from base building air conditioning.
- Vapour sealing of room

# Considerations for Electronic Equipment Rooms

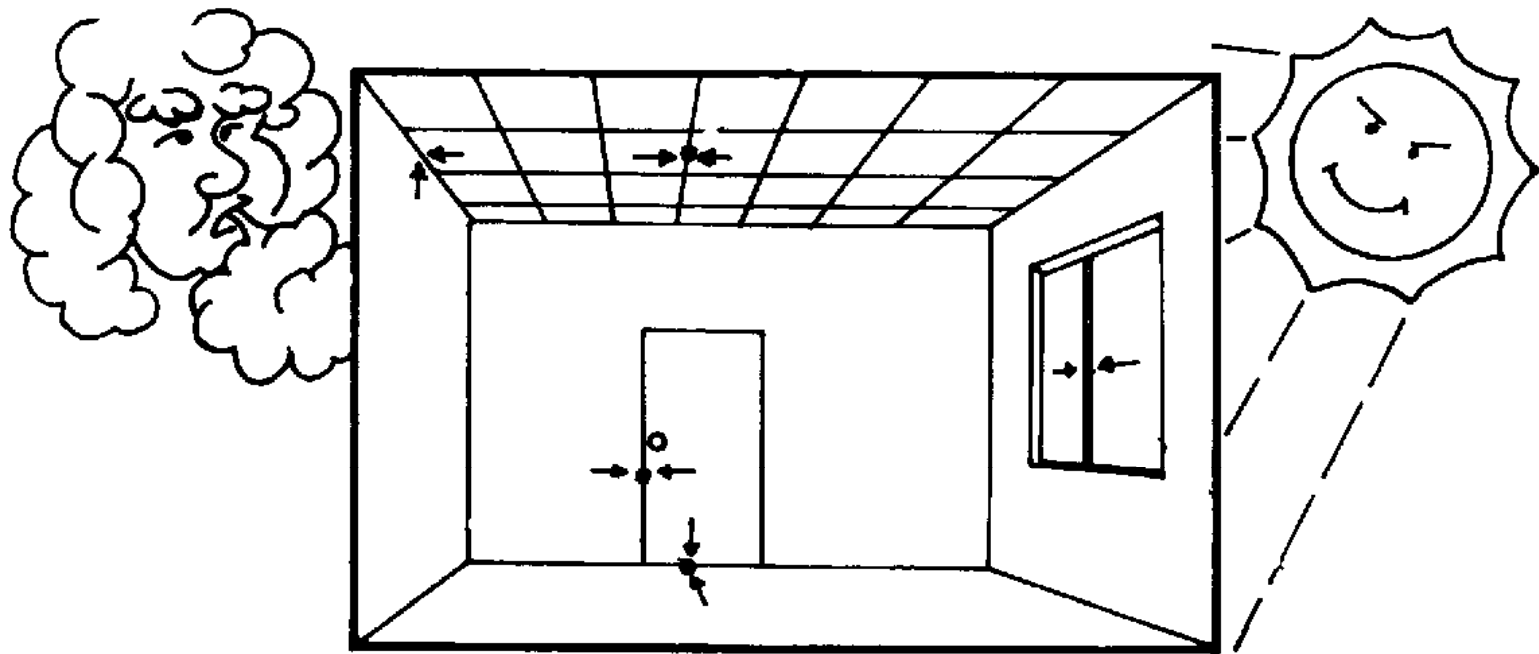
- Normal Load Density
  - Building Fabric Load
  - Equipment Load
- $0.35 \sim 0.85 \text{ kW/m}^2$ 
  - $0.1 \sim 0.2 \text{ kW/m}^2$
  - $0.15 \sim 0.65 \text{ kW/m}^2$

In base building load **sensible 75%** approx  
latent approx 25% - the sensible load  **$0.15 \text{ kW/m}^2$**   
equipment load is **all sensible**.

Hence

**“SHF”** is then **90 ~ 98%**

# Preferable for the room to be in an internal zone



- Isolation from base building air conditioning.  
Vapour sealing of room.

# Vapour sealing of room

- Walls slab to slab
- Doors well-fitted with seals and open out.
- If on an exterior zone, seal window frames.
- Seal all cable and other penetrations

# Vapour sealing of room

A 6m x 10m room with and 2.7m in height  
= 162m<sup>3</sup> which is ~190kg of air.

@24°C 60%RH = 11.3 g/kg or 2.15 kg

@24°C 50%RH = 9.3 g/kg or 1.77 kg

@24°C 40%RH = 7.5 g/kg or 1.42 kg

Differential = **3.8 g/kg** or 722 grams of moisture

# Why vapour seal a room

If a 5kW humidifier runs 25% of the time - this is 2,190 hours/annum and at 14c/kWh = \$1,500/annum.

Add additional maintenance to this (replacing consumable items) and it represents over \$2,000 additional costs per annum

*Advantage: improved room gradients*

# Small Rooms

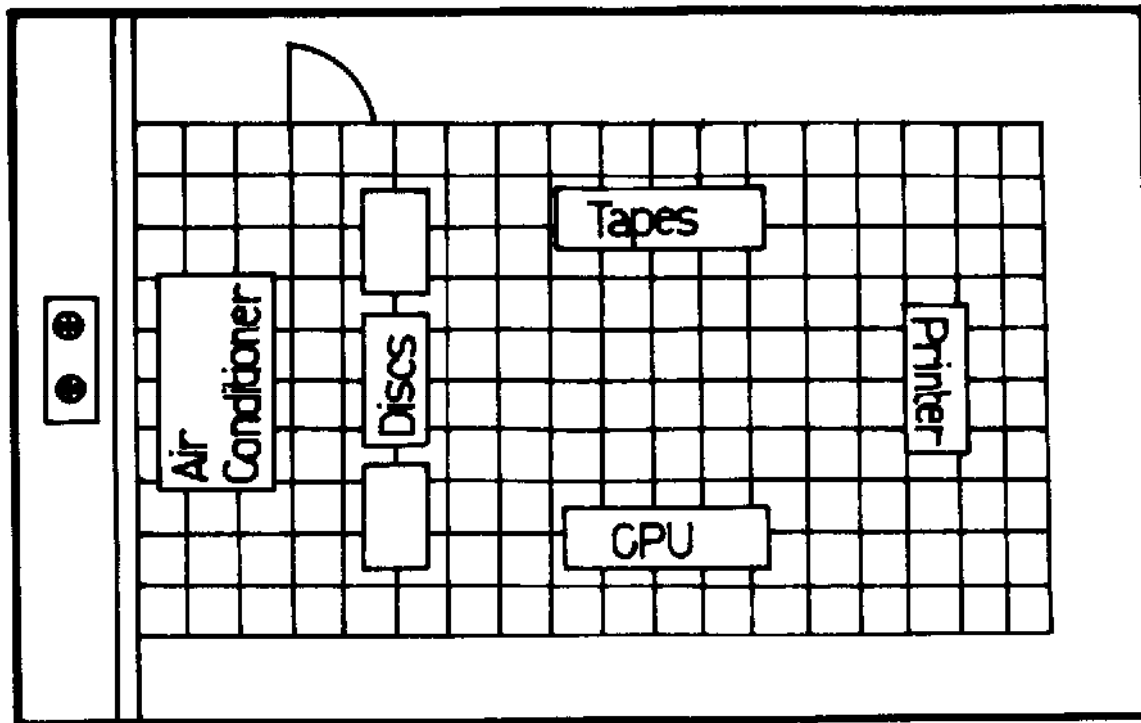
- Small rooms are more difficult to control than larger, multiple unit, rooms.
  - *Because the room has all the constraints (doors, windows, people movement, etc.) of large rooms.*
  - Small rooms have less capacity to humidify or dehumidify.

*A 5 kW unit with 90% sensible heat factor, has only 0.5 kW of Latent capacity*

*(can dehumidify/remove only ~0.5 litre of water per hour).*



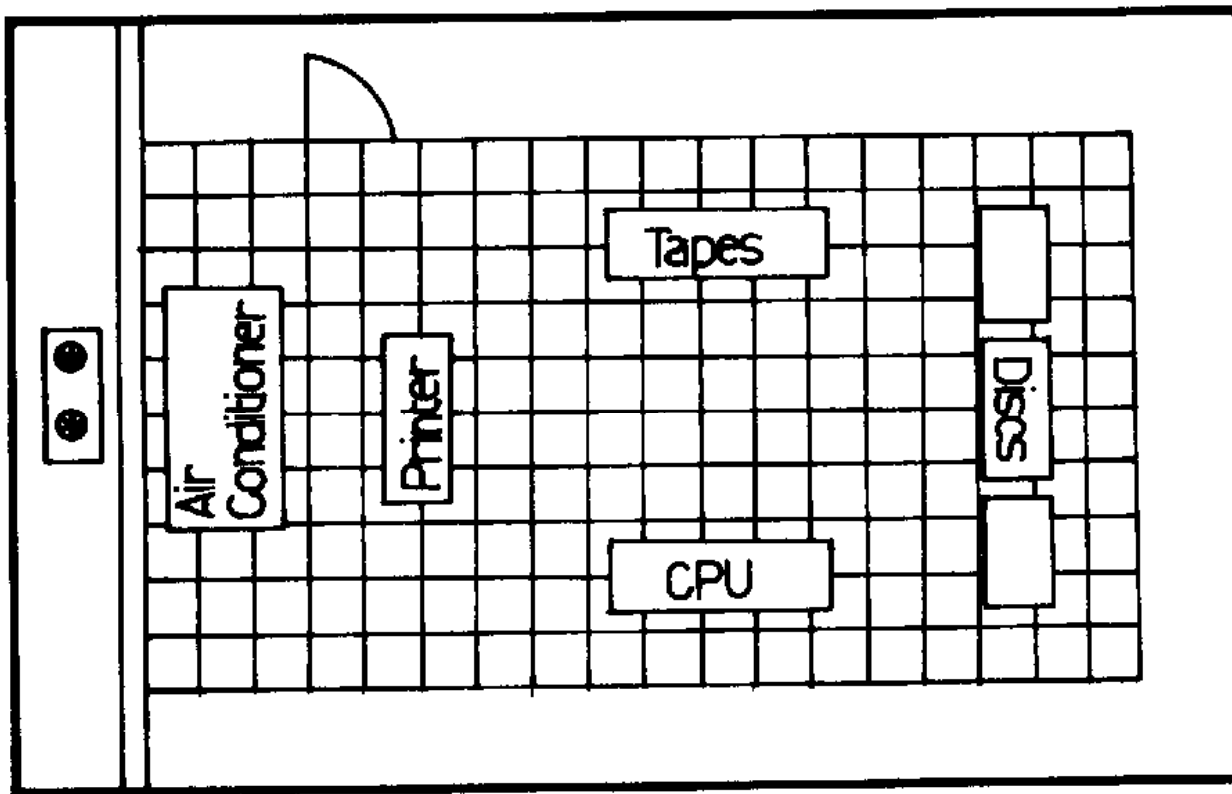
# Do's and Don'ts



BAD  
LAYOUT



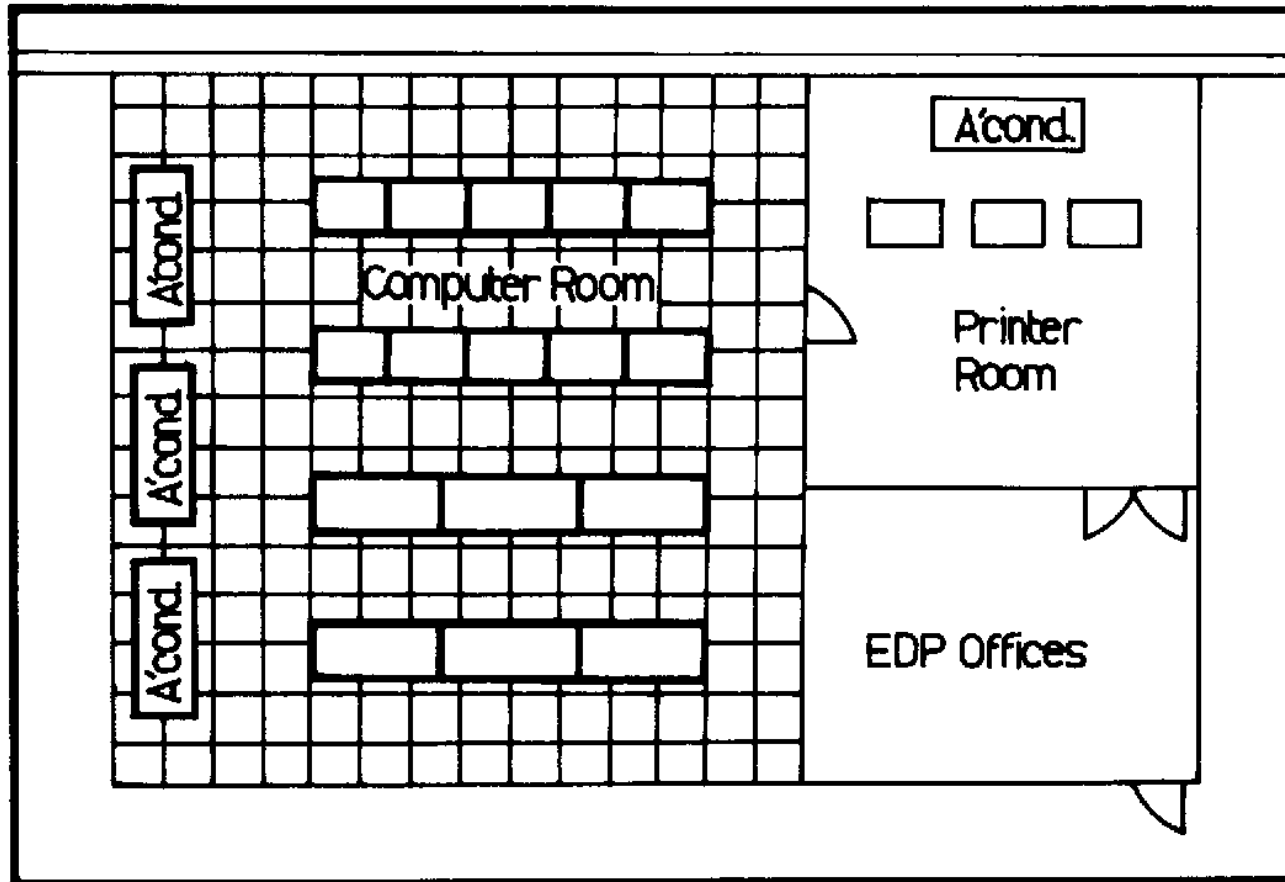
# Do's and Don'ts



GOOD  
LAYOUT



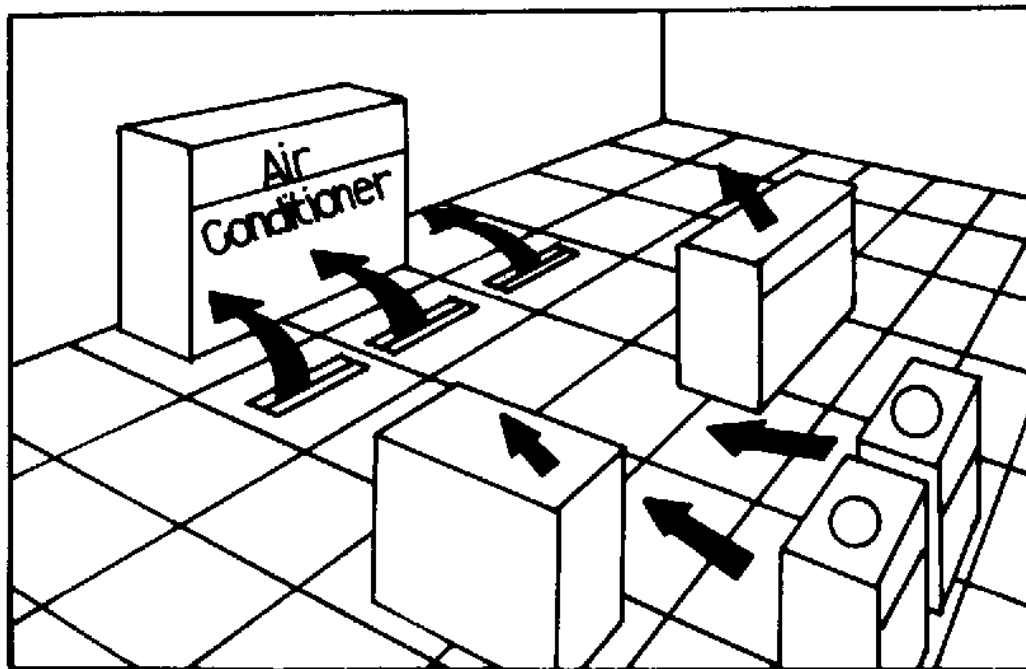
# Do's and Don'ts



# Do's and Don'ts

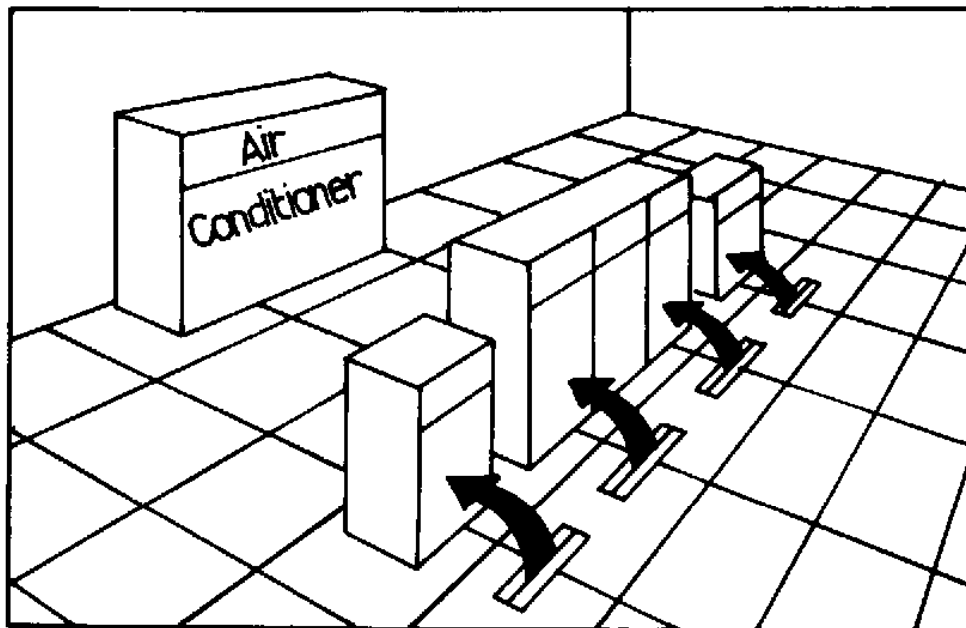
## EQUIPMENT CONFIGURATION

- Avoid floor grilles adjacent to air conditioning equipment otherwise computer heat is not cooled by supply air and bad room conditions result



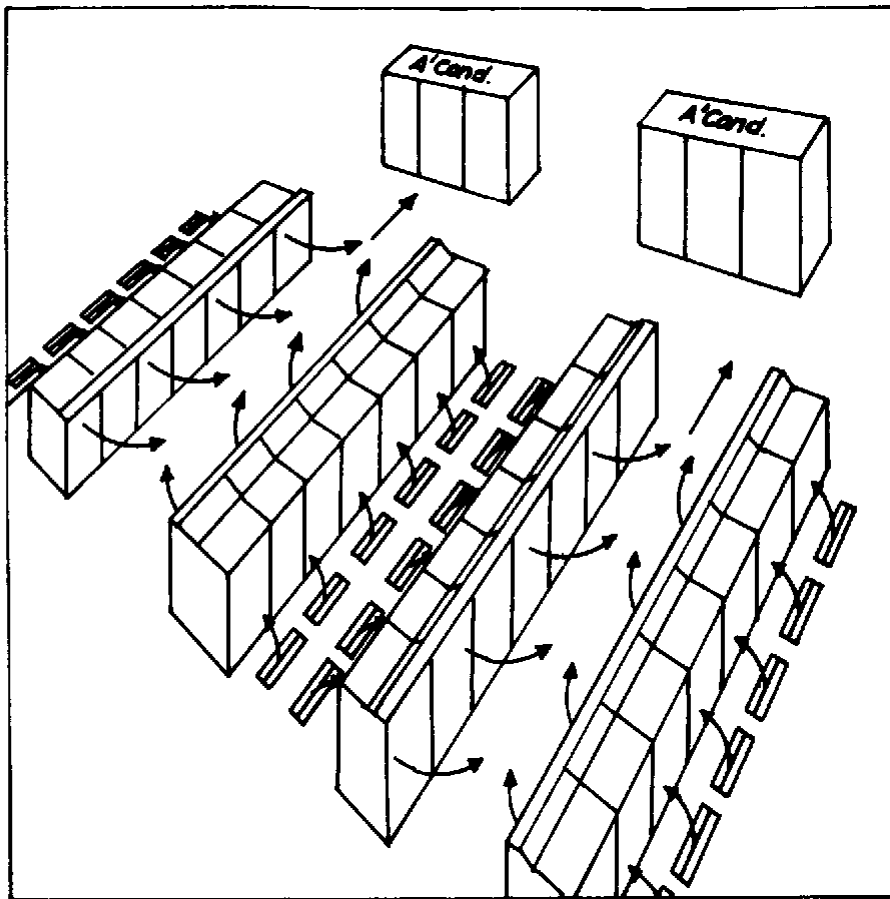
# Do's and Don'ts

- Locate air conditioning behind heat sources for smaller configurations and position floor grilles to cool individual computer cabinets.



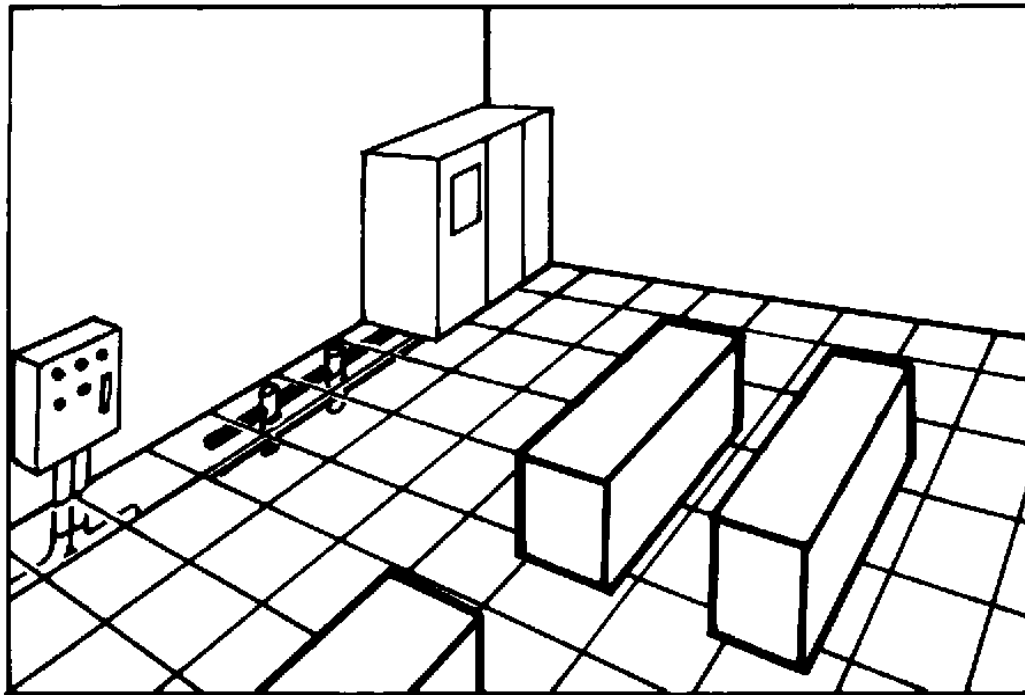
# Do's and Don'ts

- For installations with multiple rows of equipment, locate air conditioning at the ends of the rows to prevent hot air from one row entering adjacent equipment - eg: disc drives



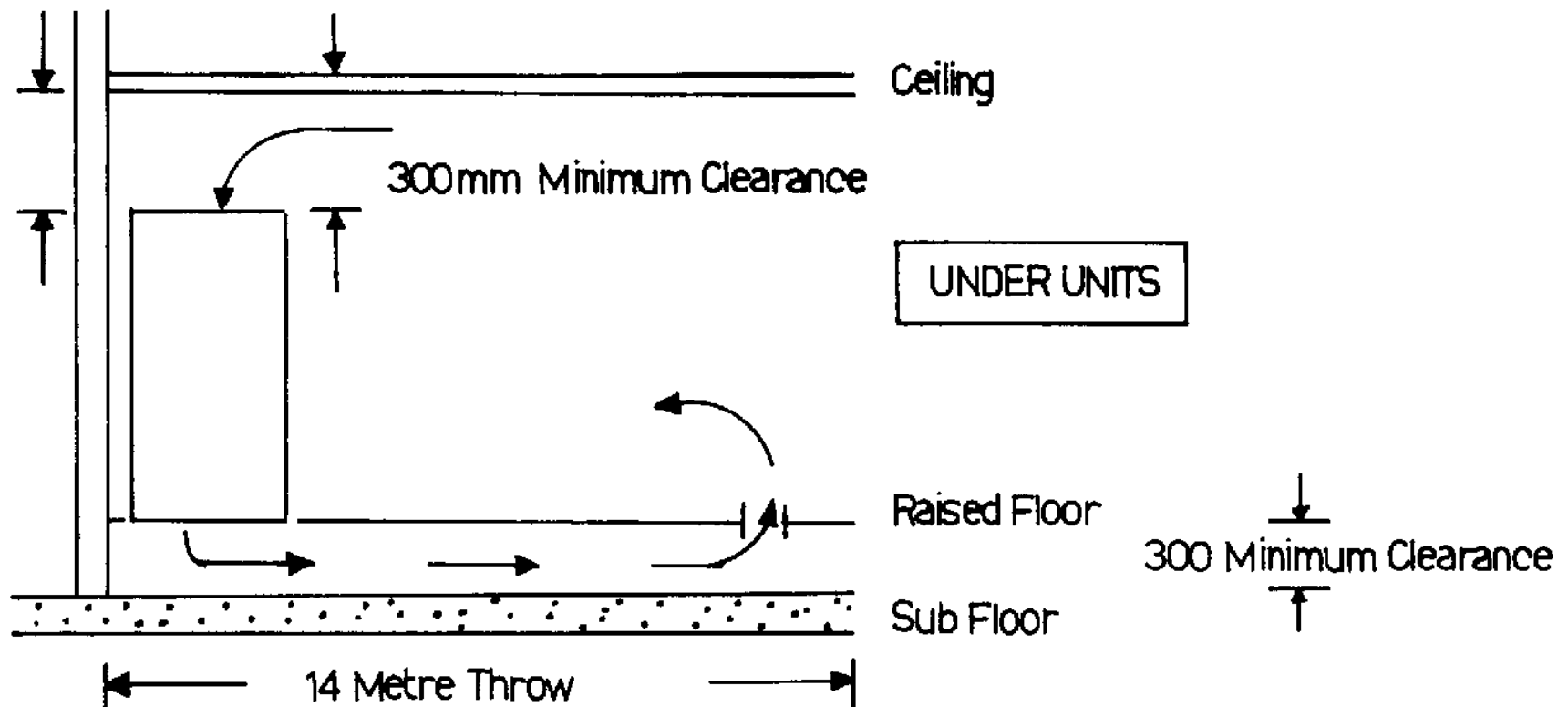
# Do's and Don'ts

- Install air conditioning power and pipework systems around the perimeter of the room to eliminate interference with the computer operations



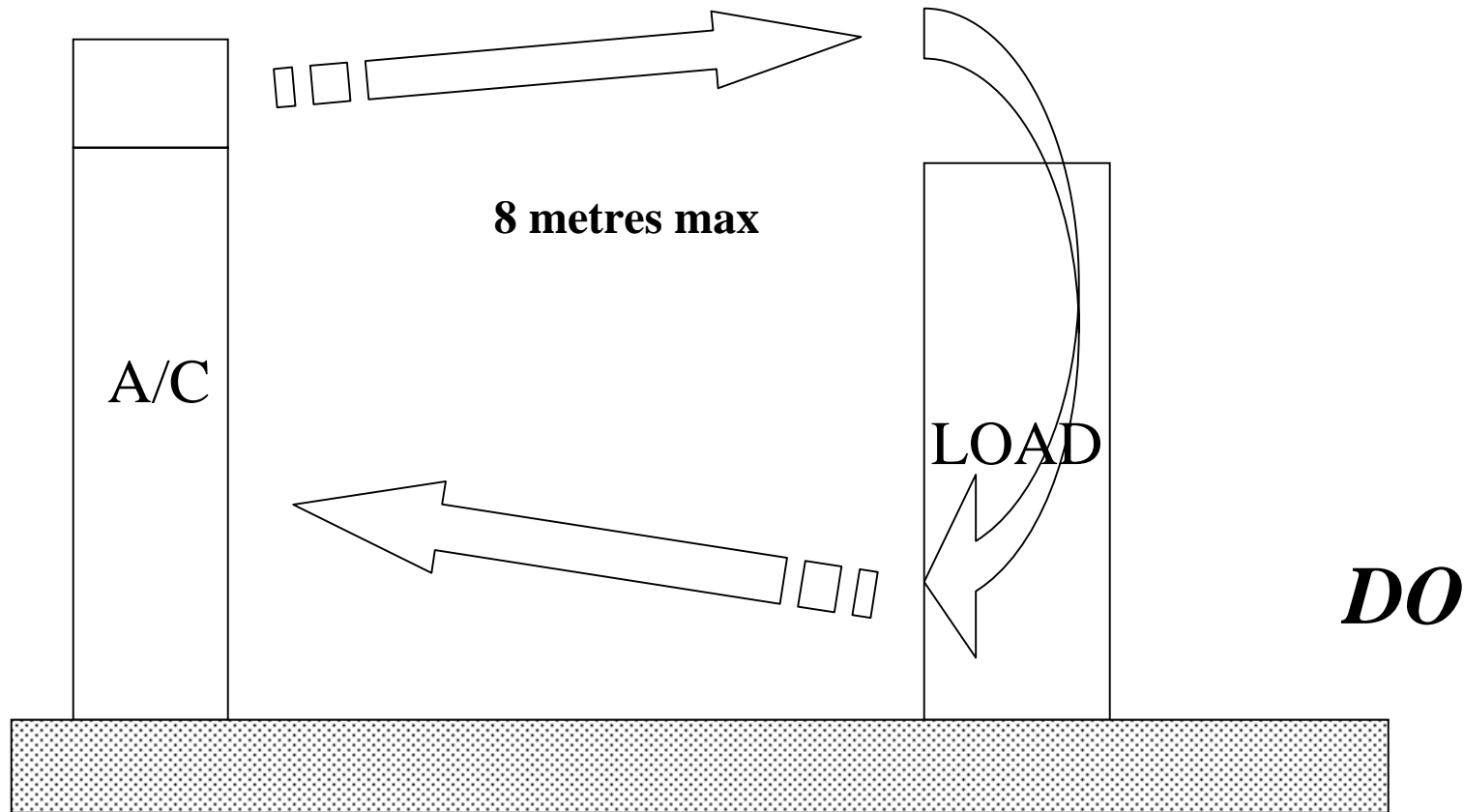
# Do's and Don'ts

## ROOM APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

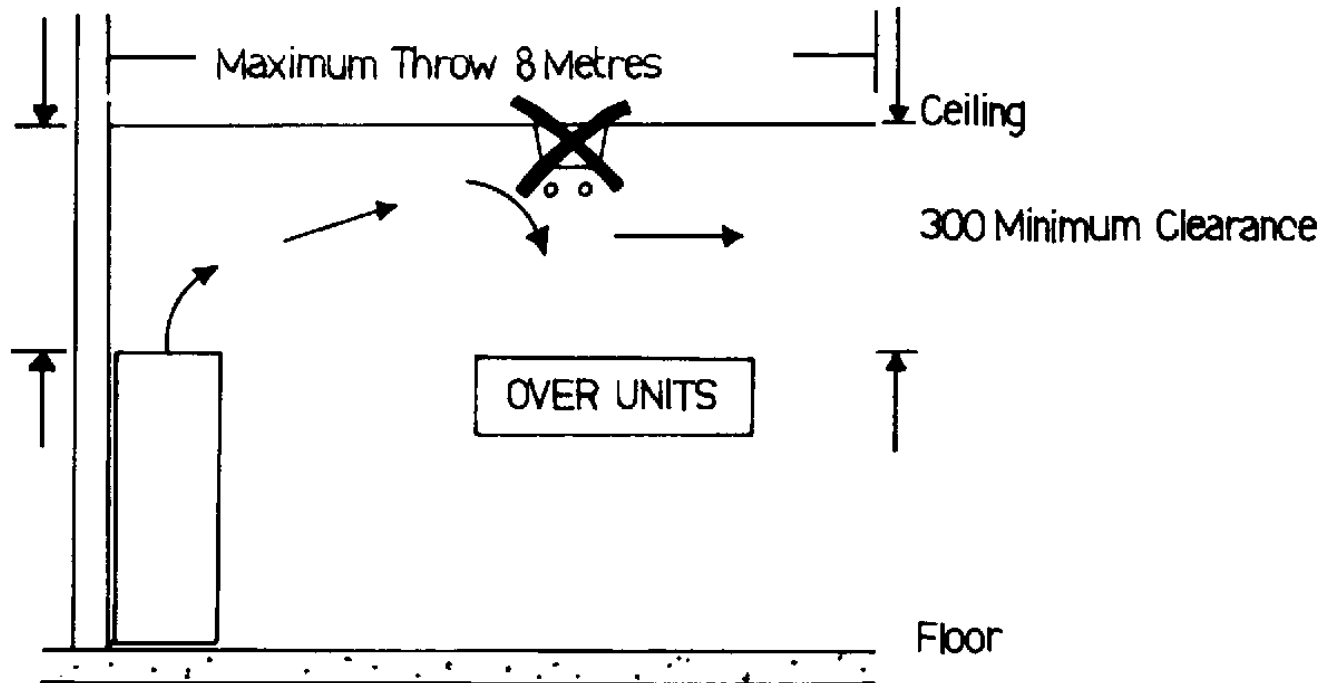




# Do's and Don'ts

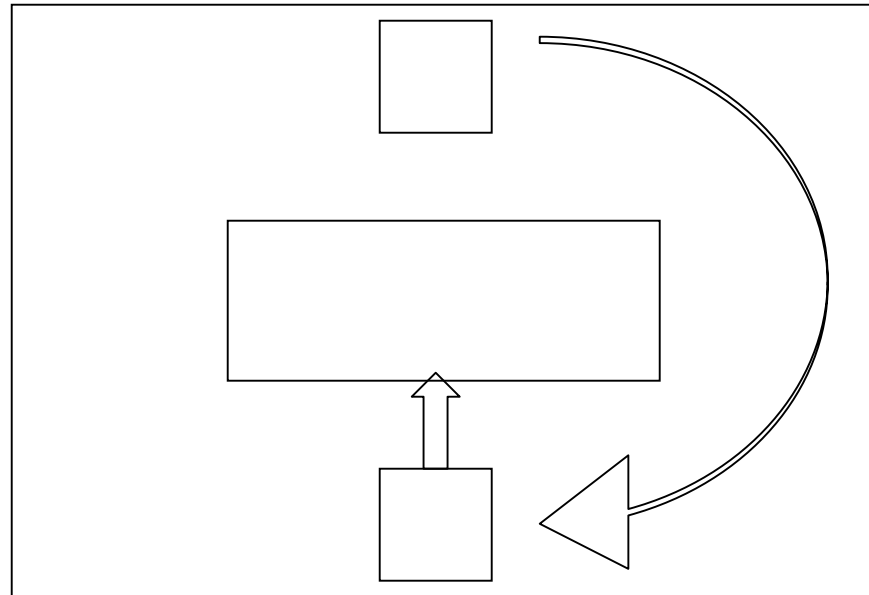
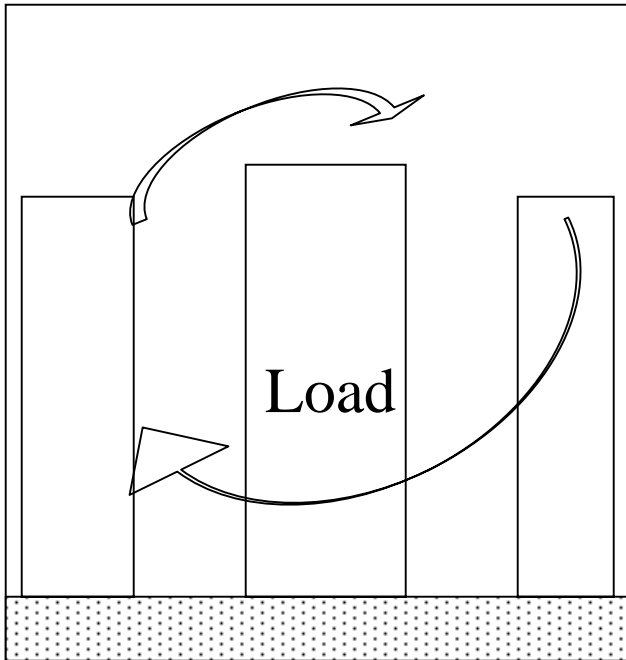
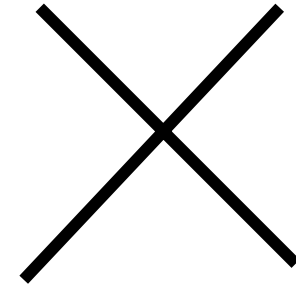


# Do's and Don'ts

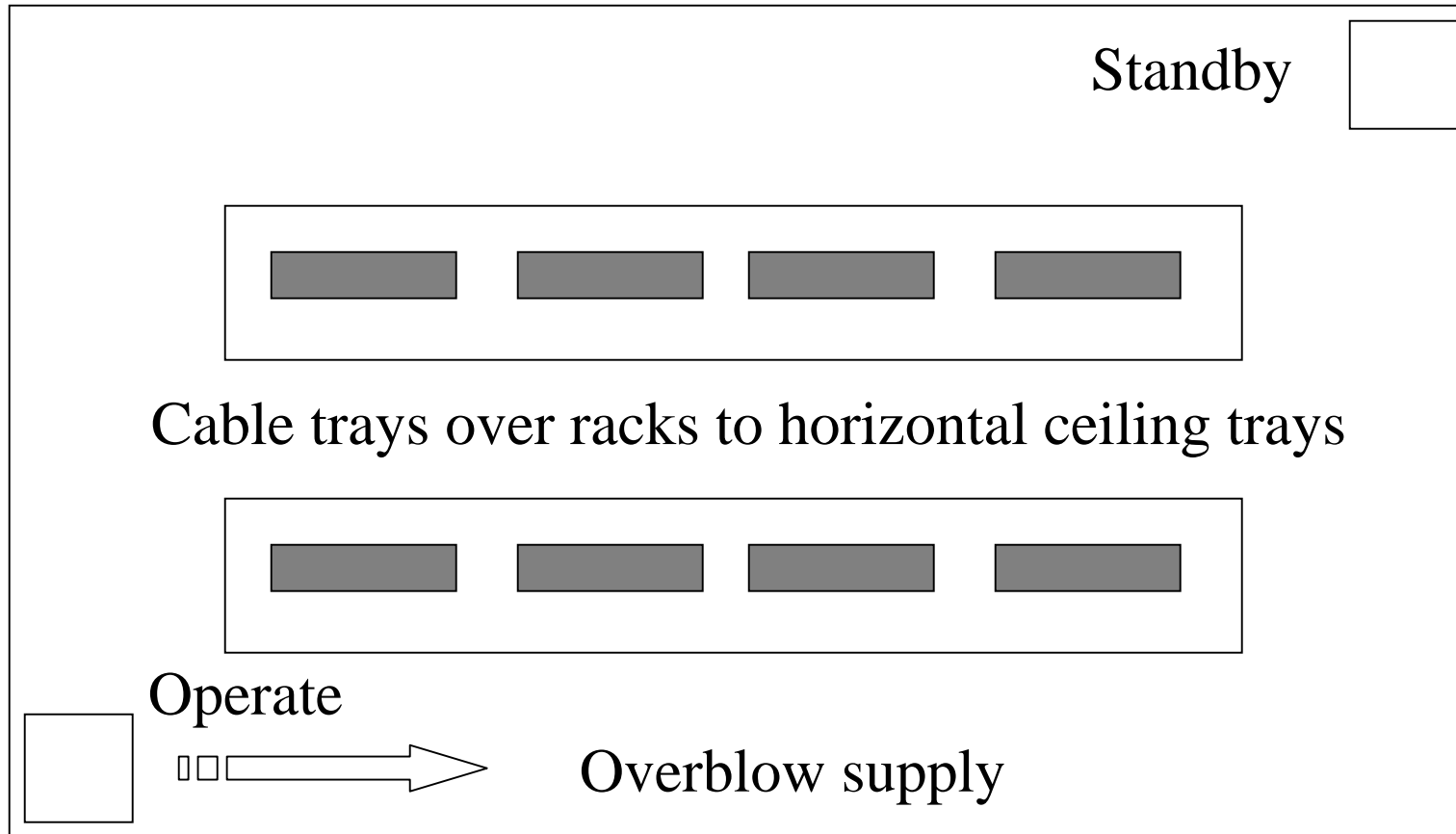
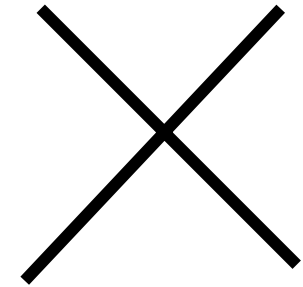


Exposed light fittings in over systems can interrupt airflow and affect room conditions.

# Do's and Don'ts



# Do's and Don'ts



# Controls response

The air change rate in a room with 0.6 kW/m<sup>2</sup> with 2.4 m ceiling height and an airflow of 100 l/s per kW of cooling  
= 90 air changes/hour

# Controls response

Changes in Load conditions are reflected at the unit (controls) in **under 1 minute** (delivery)

*This requires that the Load calculation plus the equipment are selected carefully so that temperature tolerances can be met.*

# Equipment Selection

A room of 60m<sup>2</sup> with 2.7 m room height (floor to ceiling incl. floor plenum) with a room load of 40kW (0.67 kW/m<sup>2</sup>) and an airflow of 4000 l/s

Selection:

1 x 40 kW 2 circuit unit (operative) plus,  
1 x 40 kW 2 circuit unit (standby).

*Selected equipment which provides 50 kW  
Gross total and sensible.*

# Equipment Selection

*Selected equipment which provides 50 kW Gross total and sensible.*

Room fabric  $0.1 \text{ kW/m}^2 = 6 \text{ kW}$ .

When fabric load is zero - Load = 34 kW

Winter operation                      Load = 31 kW



# Equipment Selection

*With 50 kW 2 step unit*

Step 1 = **22 kW** (25 kW minus 3 kW fan heat)

+Step 2 = **47 kW**

The 31 kW cooling requirement is met by the Step 1 continuous cooling and Step 2 cycling 36% on.

When two steps room over-cooled by **16 kW**

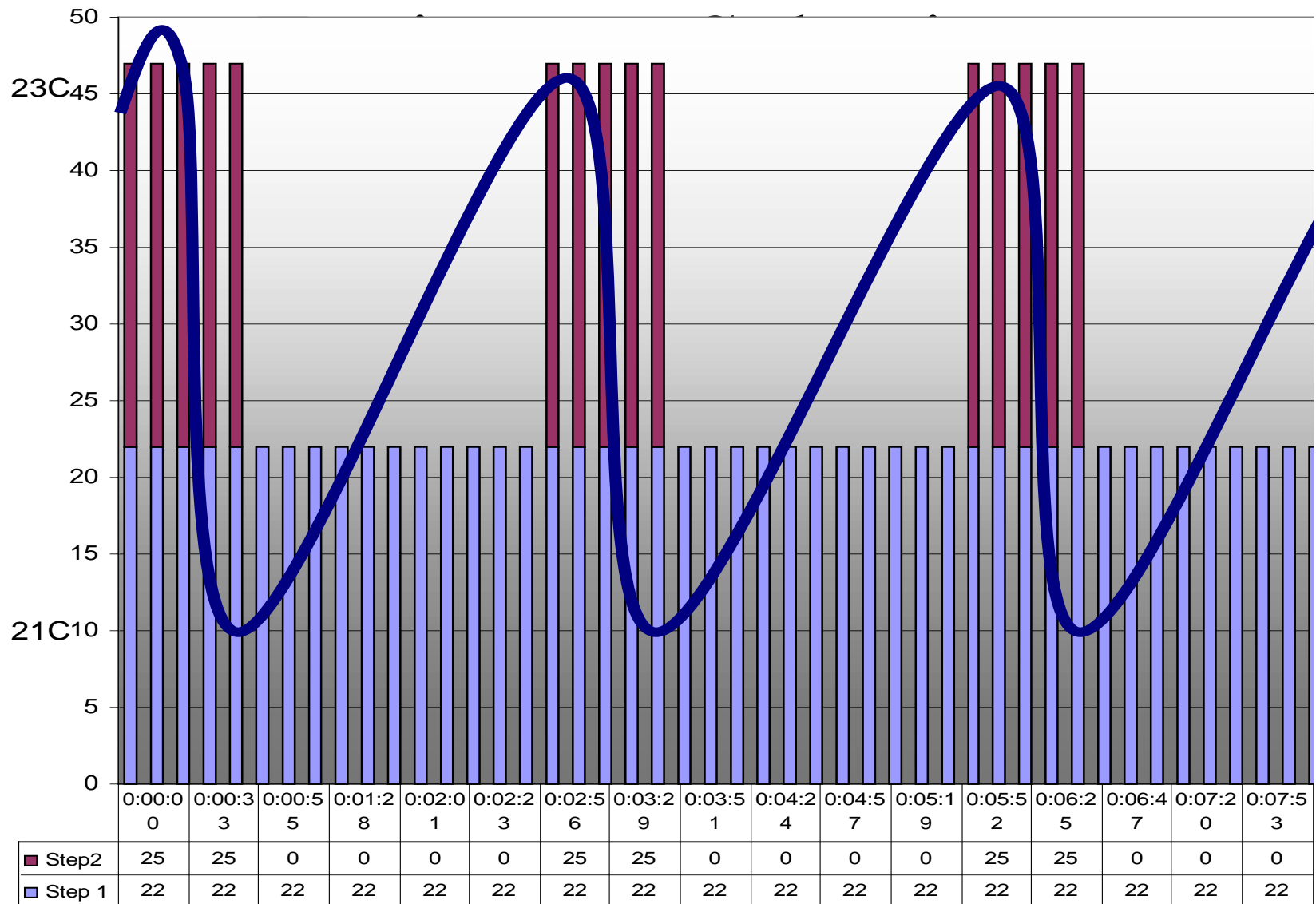
When one step room under-cools by **9 kW**

# Equipment Selection

Hence pull-down time on 2 Step cool is 2 °C ( $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in 25 seconds + delivery (~20 seconds).

Then time to next cooling call for Step 2 is 44 seconds plus delivery (~ 20 seconds).

*Cycles ~ every 2½ minutes or*  
***24 starts per hour.***



# Equipment Selection

Same room / same conditions - With **3 x 26 kW** units selecting **2 operating** and 1 standby.

4 available compressors

Unit 1 Step **1 & 2** (2 steps) = **24 kW** net  
(*26 kW minus 2 kW fan heat*)

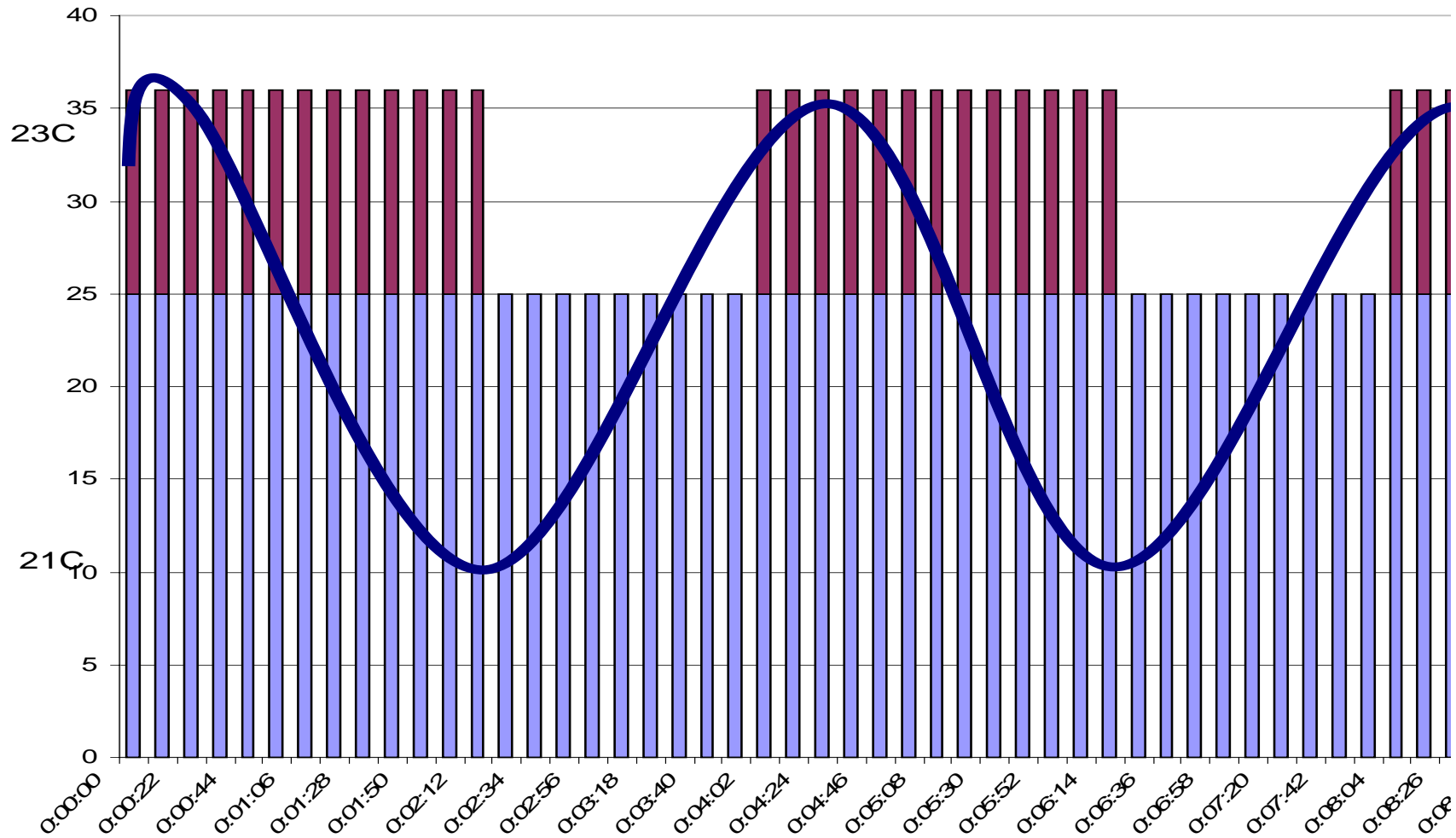
Unit 2 Step 1 (3rd step) = 11 kW

total cooling = **35 kW**

# Equipment Selection

Hence compressor Unit 2 Step 1 (3rd step) runs 64% of the time *cooling requirement is met by the Step 1 & 2 continuous cooling and 3rd Step cycling 64% on.*

# Equipment Selection



# Equipment Selection

Three steps over-cools by **4 kW**

Two steps under-cools by **7 kW**

Hence pull-down time on 3rd Step is  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ )  
in 100 seconds plus delivery (20 seconds).

Then time to next cooling call for 3rd Step is 60  
seconds plus delivery ( $\sim 20$  seconds).

Cycles  $\sim$  every 4 minutes or **15 starts per hour.**

# Equipment Selection

## *Initial Investment Increase:*

3x 26 kW units = ~\$80,000

2x 40 kW units = ~\$70,000

Difference (equipment) ~\$10,000

plus installation ~\$ 5,000

~\$15,000



# Air Cooled Condenser Selection

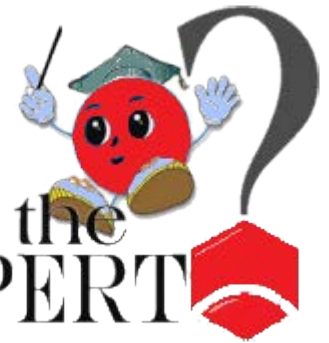
***Select condensers for normal design ambient  
- not abnormal ambient temperatures:***

Sydney = 32 °C - not 40 °C

Higher ambient temperatures usually last but a few hours and result in performance reductions of possibly 5% capacity.

These units run 24 hours/day year-through, so oversizing of condensers causes greater problems during low (winter) ambient temperature conditions.

Low condensing pressures force down unit suction temperatures which cause unnecessary dehumidification - which then requires the humidifier to operate unnecessarily.



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