



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# International Aircraft Materials Fire Test Working Group Meeting

## **Seat Test Training Video, Handbook Updates, and Cargo Airflow Study**

Presented to: International Aircraft Materials  
Fire Test Working Group

By: Tim Salter, FAA Technical Center

Date: October 30-31, 2017, Atlantic City, NJ



# Presentation Outline

- **Sonic Burner Seat Test Training Video**
  - Finalized and available for viewing
- **New Video Releases**
  - Plans for future instructional videos
- **Fire Test Handbook Chapters**
  - Formatting, version identification, and notes
- **2017 Sonic Cargo Liner Test Airflow Study**
  - Updates, latest test results, and planned outcome
- **Sonic Burner Configuration Notes**



# Sonic Seat Test Training Video



# Sonic Seat Test Training Video

- **Video production timeline**
  - Initial video footage created in March 2017
  - Preview of video reviewed by seat task group members during previous meeting in June 2017
  - Feedback provided from seat task group members and incorporated into video footage
  - Additional video footage shot following June meeting
  - Final video edits completed and reviewed
  - Completed video posted to Fire Safety website for download or online viewing September 2017

# Sonic Seat Test Training Video

- **“Oil Burner Test for Seat Cushions”**
  - Video is intended as a “supplement” to Chapter 7 of the Fire Test Handbook, not alternative instruction
  - Handbook chapter text supersedes video
- **Instructions specific to the Sonic burner**
  - Test method background information
  - Sonic burner and test sample apparatus design
  - Sample construction and preparation
  - Test procedures and acceptance criteria
  - Examples of pass/fail test scenarios

What's New

Announcements

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**www.fire.tc.faa.gov**

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**“Handbook” link at the top of the page**

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Statement on the Use of Aircraft Cabin Cabins

DOT - Hand Fire

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## Individual Chapters and Appendixes (Latest Update)

**www.fire.tc.faa.gov/Handbook**

noted in [Chapter 5](#)  
and should actually be

Chapter	Title
<a href="#">Chapter 1</a>	Vertical Bunsen Burner Test for Cabin & Cargo Compartment Materials Burn Length Determination Lab Test Form - Bunsen Burner Test
<a href="#">Chapter 2</a>	45-Degree Bunsen Burner Test for Cargo Compartment Liners and Waste Stowage Compartment Material Lab Test Form - Bunsen Burner Test
<a href="#">Chapter 3</a>	Horizontal Bunsen Burner Test for Cabin, Cargo Compartment, and Miscellaneous Materials Lab Test Form - Bunsen Burner Test
<a href="#">Chapter 4</a>	60-Degree Bunsen Burner Test for Electric Wire Lab Test Form - Bunsen Burner Test
<a href="#">Chapter 5</a>	Heat Release Rate Test for Cabin Materials Lab Test Form - OSU Heat Release Test Heat Release Rate Calibration Factor
<a href="#">Chapter 6</a>	Smoke Test for Cabin Materials Lab Test Form - NBS Smoke Burner Test Report on the Smoke Chamber Furnace New Furnace
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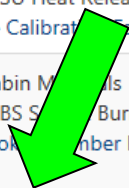
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## Chapter 7: Oil Burner Test for Seat Cushions



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https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/Handbook

Dockets for Pending Rule

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Video Links

# Sonic Seat Test Training Video

- **Video viewing for Seat Task Group**
  - Meeting tomorrow 10:00-12:00 PM
  - Question and answer session after video
- **View video from Fire Safety website**
  - Streaming “online video” from website has better resolution than “download” or DVD
- **Limited DVD hardcopies available**
  - No closed caption on DVD hardcopies

# Planned Video Production



# Planned Training Videos

- **Sonic Burner Assembly and Operation**
  - Video shooting to begin 2018
  - Details of burner components
  - Assembly and configuration
  - Working principles
  - User operation instruction
  - Proper calibration (fuel flow, air metering, etc.)
  - Common issues and troubleshooting tips
  - Additional suggestions from task group members

# Planned Training Videos

- **Cargo Liner Patching**
  - Video shooting to begin 2019
  - Method of conducting certification testing
  - Liner patch types
  - Construction of patch samples
  - Test sample and frame configuration
  - Deviations from typical liner tests
  - Specific testing procedures
  - Additional suggestions from task group members

# Planned Training Videos

- **Current video production rate is one yearly**
  - Limited availability of video lab personnel
- **Planned order of future training videos:**
  - Bunsen Burner Testing
  - OSU Heat Release Apparatus
  - Magnesium Flammability Test
  - Insulation Burnthrough Test
  - Additional test method videos to follow.....
- **Order of video release subject to change**



# Fire Test Handbook Updates



# Fire Test Handbook Updates

- **Fire Safety Website (New Look!)**
  - Recently updated the look of the website
  - Layout and location of items has not changed
- **Fire Test Handbook Update Frequency**
  - May occur as frequently as once a month
  - Only if changes or additions are required
  - Updates to Handbook and all other updates on the Fire Safety website are listed on the front page



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## What's New

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Click "link" to go directly to updated item or document



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# Fire Test Handbook Updates

- **Chapter release version identification**
  - Month and year of release located at the bottom (footer) of the chapter document pages
  - Previous versions archived on website
- **Edits, additions, other changes**
  - **Red text** indicates updated chapter information
- ***“NOTE”***
  - Supplemental instruction, information or example
  - Not required unless explicitly stated in *“NOTE”*



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https://www.fire.tc.faa.gov/Handbook#ch7

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Heat Release Rate Calibration Factor

Chapter 6

Smoke Test for Cabin Materials  
Lab Test Form - NBS Smoke Burner Test  
Report on the Smoke Chamber Furnace  
New Furnace

Chapter 7

October Update

Oil Burner Test for Seat Cushions  
Advisory Circular on Flammability Requirements for Aircraft Seat Cushions.  
Lab Test Form - Oil Burner Seat Cushion Test  
Seat Cushion Test Procedures Training Video: View Online | Download

Chapter 8

October Update

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Chapter 9

Radiant Heat Testing of Evacuation Slider, Ramps, and Rafts

Chapter 10

Fire Containment Test of Waste Stowage Compartments

Chapter 11

Updated

Powerplant Hose Assemblies Test

Chapter 12

Powerplant Fire Penetration Test

Chapter 13

Test for Electrical Connectors used in Firewalls

Chapter 14

Test for Electrical Wire used in Designated Fire Zones

Chapter 15

Two Gallon per hour Oil Burner Certification Testing for Repaired Cargo Compartment Liners

Chapter 18

Recommended Procedure for the 4-Ply Horizontal Flammability Test for Aircraft Blankets  
Lab Test Form - Bunsen Burner Test

Chapter 19

Smoke test for Insulated Aircraft Wire

Chapter 20

Dry Arc Tracking Test Procedure

Chapter 21

Dry Arc-Propagation Resistance

Chapter 22

Cotton Swab Test for Thermal Acoustic Insulation Blankets

Chapter 23

Updated

Test Method To Determine the Flammability and Flame Propagation Characteristics of Thermal/Acoustic Insulation Materials  
Advisory Circular on Thermal/Acoustic Insulation Flame Propagation Test Method Details  
Radiant Panel Procedures Training Video: View Online | Download

Chapter 24

Test Method To Determine the Burnthrough Resistance of Thermal/Acoustic Insulation Materials  
Advisory Circular on Installation of Thermal/Acoustic Insulation for Burnthrough Protection

Handbook : FAA Fire Safety

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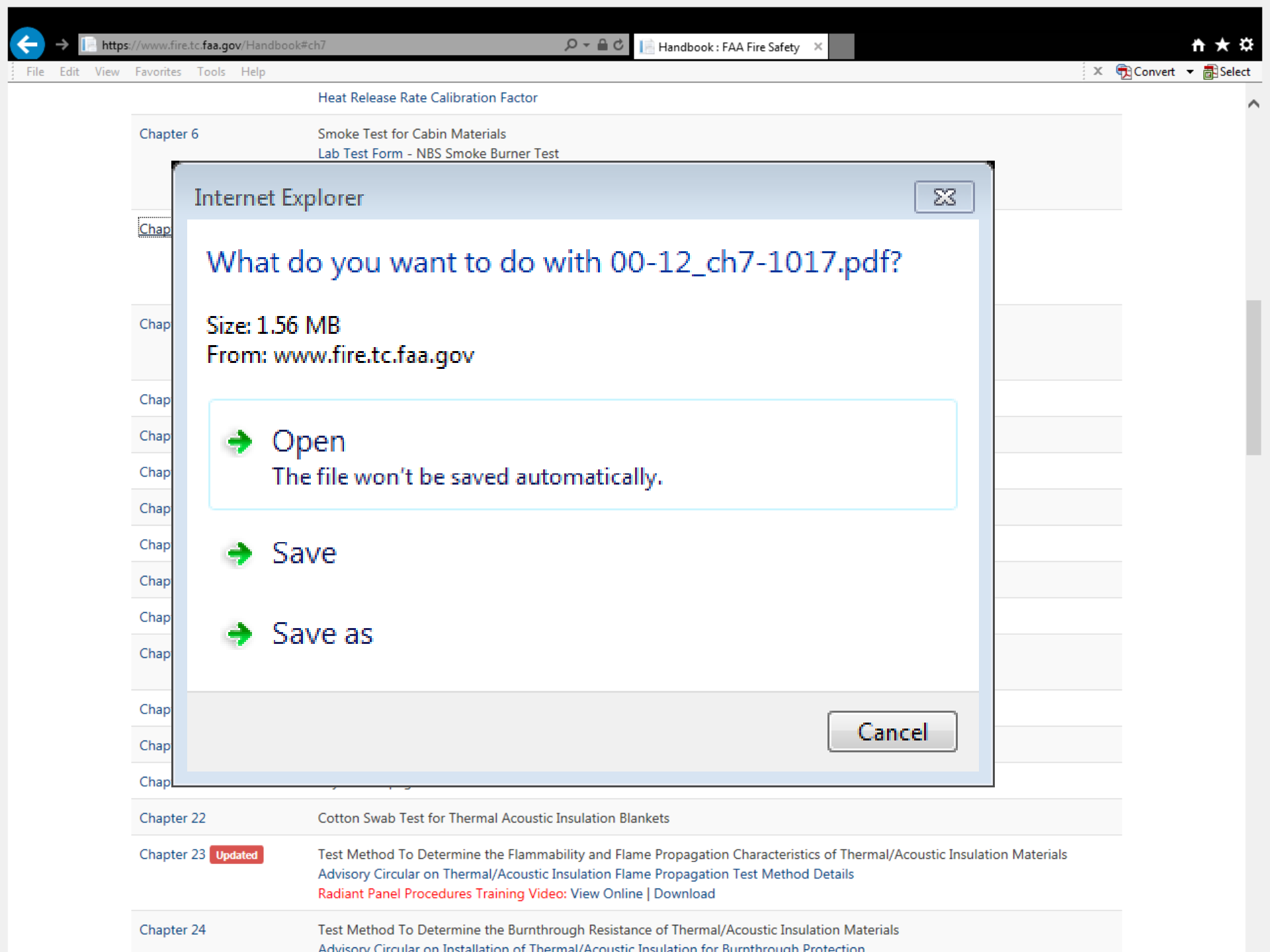
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Chapter 7

October Update



## Heat Release Rate Calibration Factor

### Chapter 6

Smoke Test for Cabin Materials

Lab Test Form - NBS Smoke Burner Test

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### Chapter 22

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Advisory Circular on Installation of Thermal/Acoustic Insulation for Burnthrough Protection

orientation and/or distance from the end of the draft tube may be necessary, provided the adjustments are within allowable tolerances. If no problems are found with the burner, any thermocouple reading outside of this range may require replacement. **It is recommended that the burner flame temperature be validated at the beginning and end of each day testing is performed.**

*NOTE 1: The thermocouples are subjected to high temperature durations during calibration. Because of this type of cycling, the thermocouples may degrade with time. Small but continuing decreases or extreme variations in temperature or “no” temperature reading at all are signs that the thermocouple or thermocouples are degrading or open circuits have occurred. In this case, the thermocouple or thermocouples should be replaced in order to maintain accuracy in calibrating the burner. It is recommended that a record be kept for the amount of time the thermocouples are exposed to the oil burner’s flame.*

*NOTE 2: The Sonic burner is sensitive to proper alignment of the fuel nozzle. It is crucial that the fuel nozzle be aligned to the geometric center of the turbulator. A slight adjustment of the fuel tube between the stator and fuel nozzle may be required to obtain an even temperature profile across the thermocouple rake. The center point of the nozzle where the fuel exits should not deviate more than 0.0625 inches from the geometric center of the turbulator exit plane when looking into the burner draft tube. This should be performed only after checking the burner for proper configuration.*



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(October 2017)

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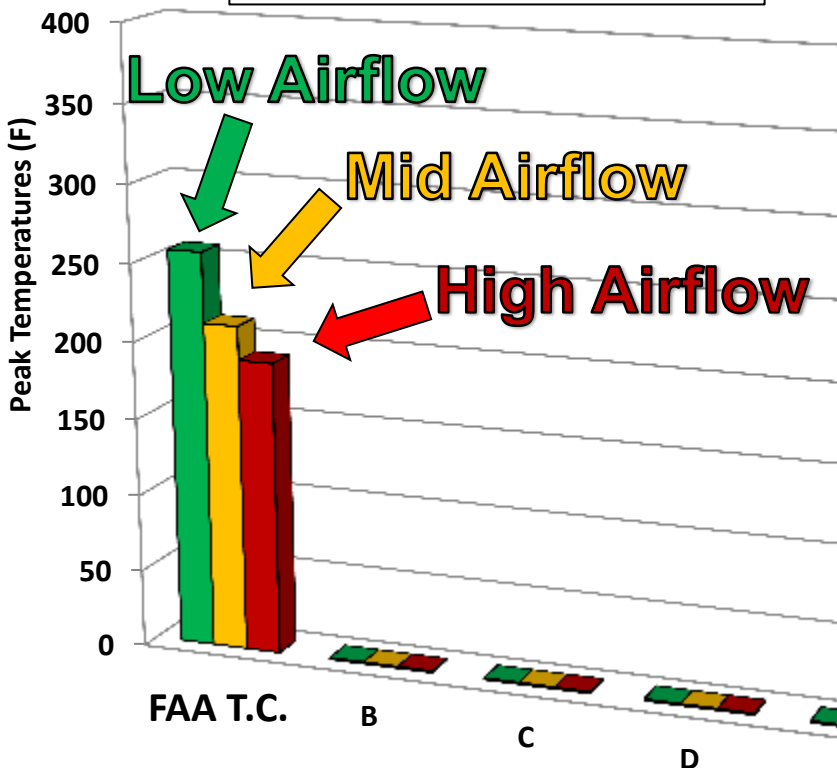


# Sonic Burner Cargo Liner Test Airflow Study Update



# Test Cell Airflow Interlab Study

Small Test Cell Peak Temperatures



- FAA T.C. test results showed lower peak temperatures measured above liner samples with increased exhaust airflow
- Interlab study performed in 2016 to further investigate relationship
- Study results were inconclusive
- Continued study ongoing at FAA T.C. test facilities

# Sonic Cargo Liner Airflow Study

- **Small test cell**
  - Limited control of exhaust airflow rate
  - No means to alter test cell size/configuration
  - Limited use for extensive airflow study of this nature





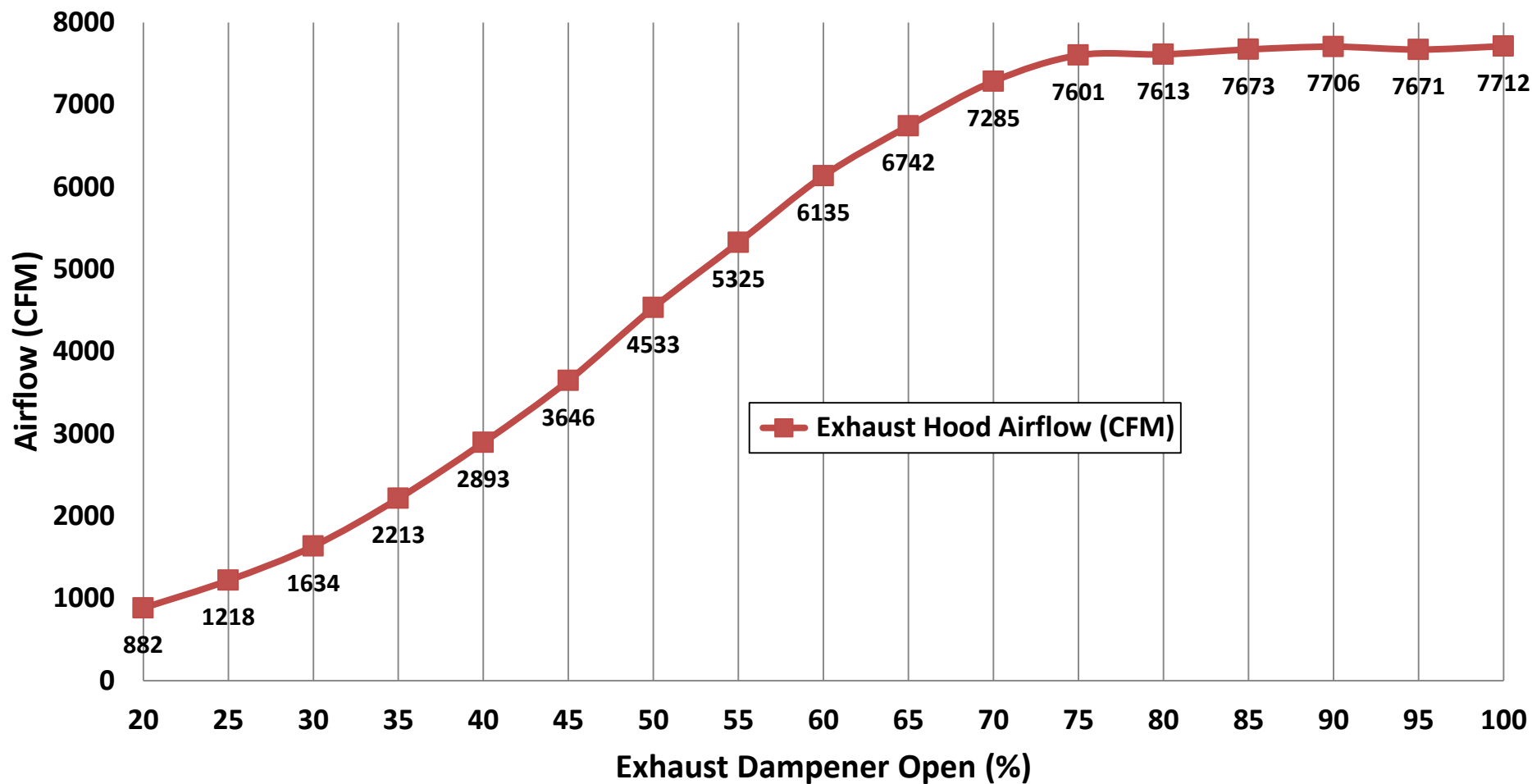
# Sonic Cargo Liner Airflow Study

- **Large test cell**
  - Wide range of exhaust airflow rates
  - Digital control of exhaust dampener
  - Excellent repeatability of desired airflow
  - Ability to reduce test cell size using partitions if necessary



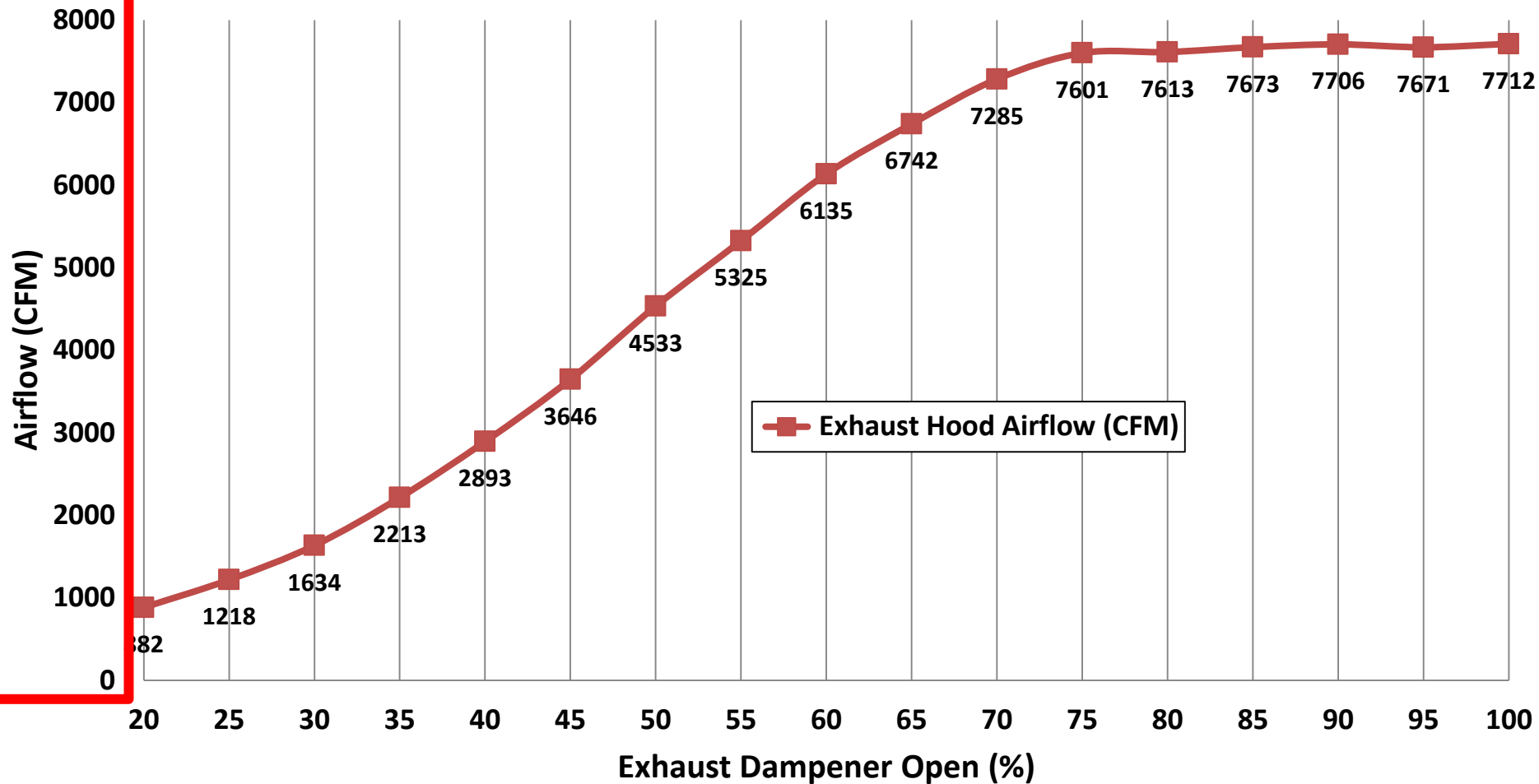
# Sonic Cargo Liner Airflow Study

Exhaust Airflow vs. TC Peak Temperatures above Ceiling Sample Panel



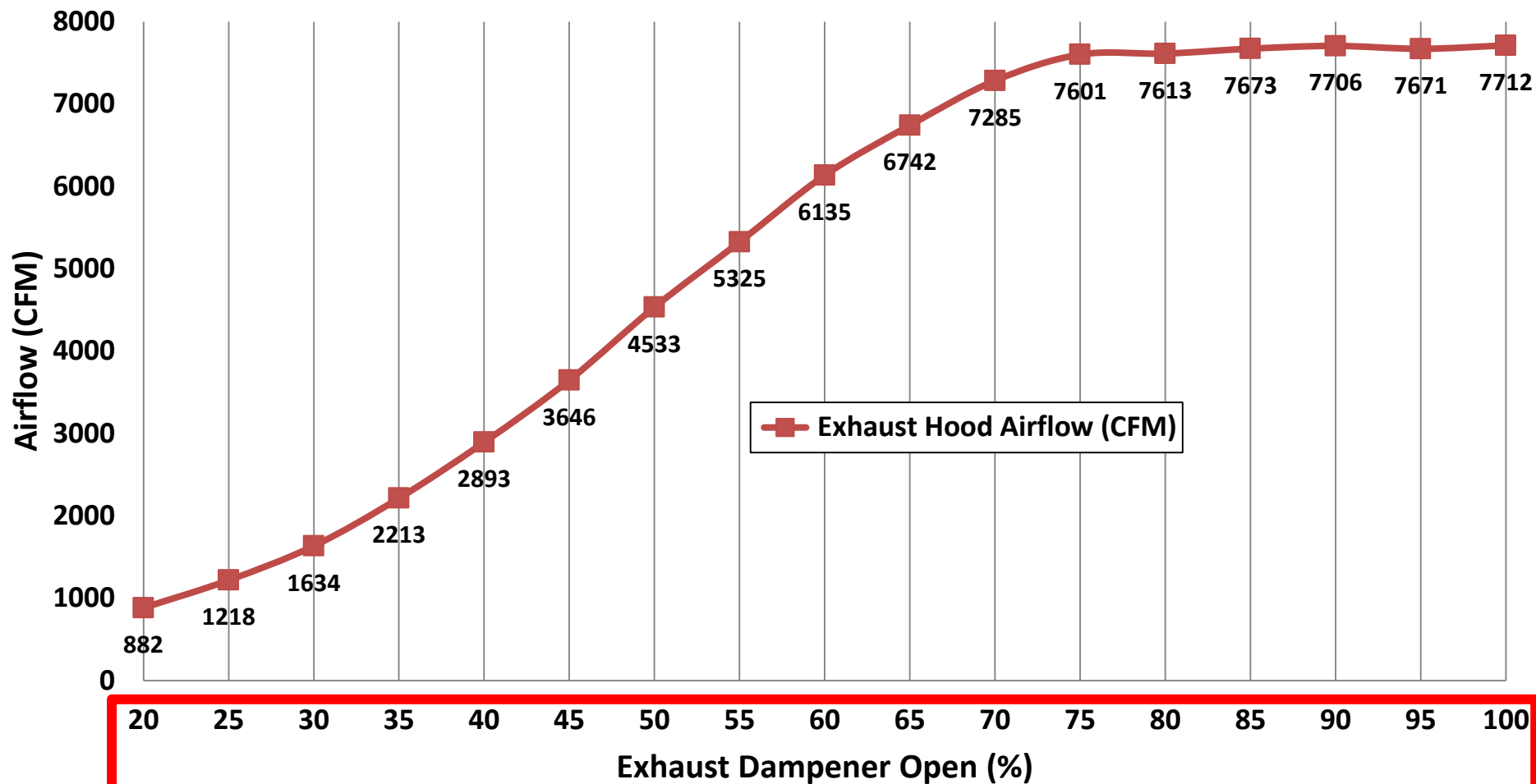
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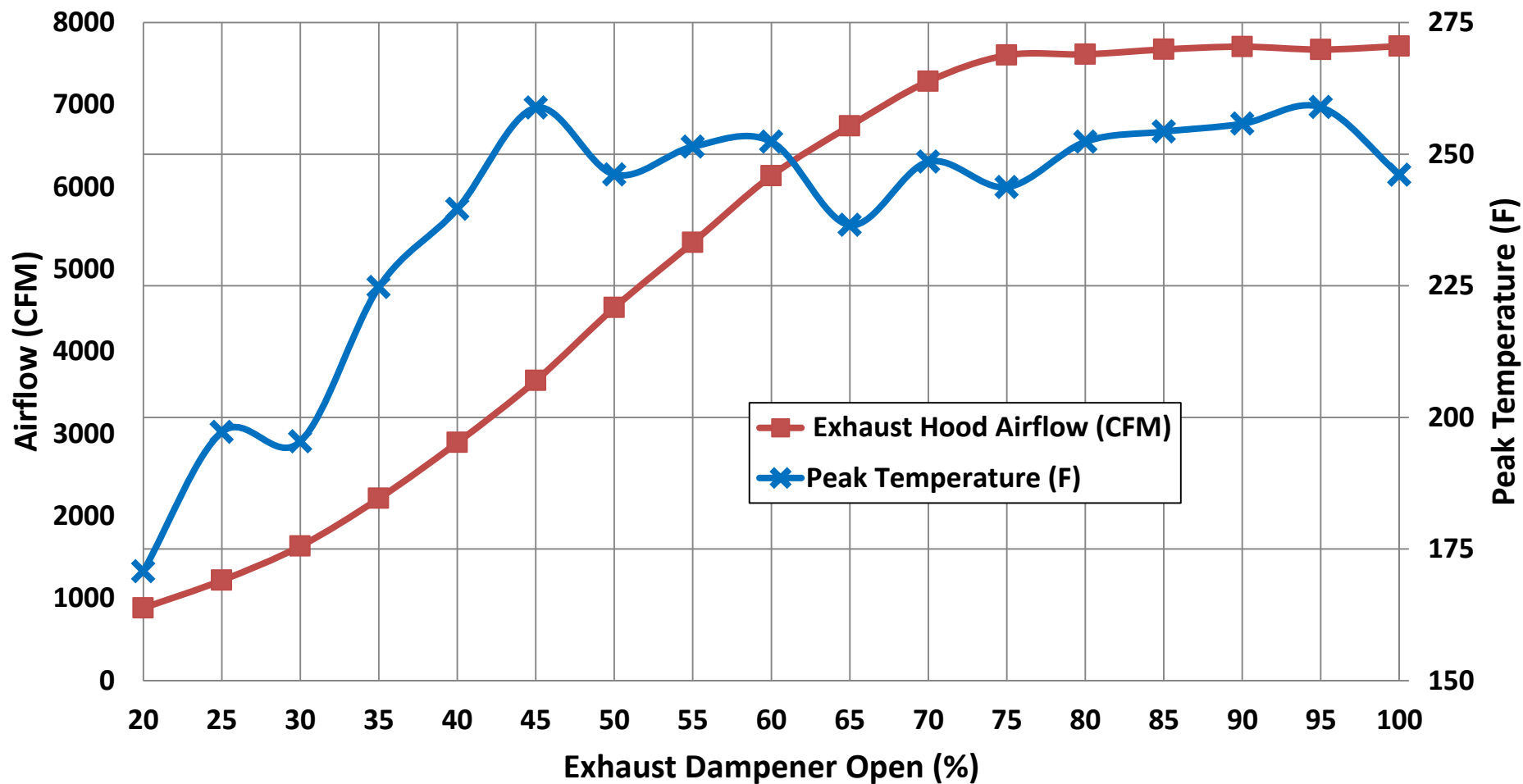
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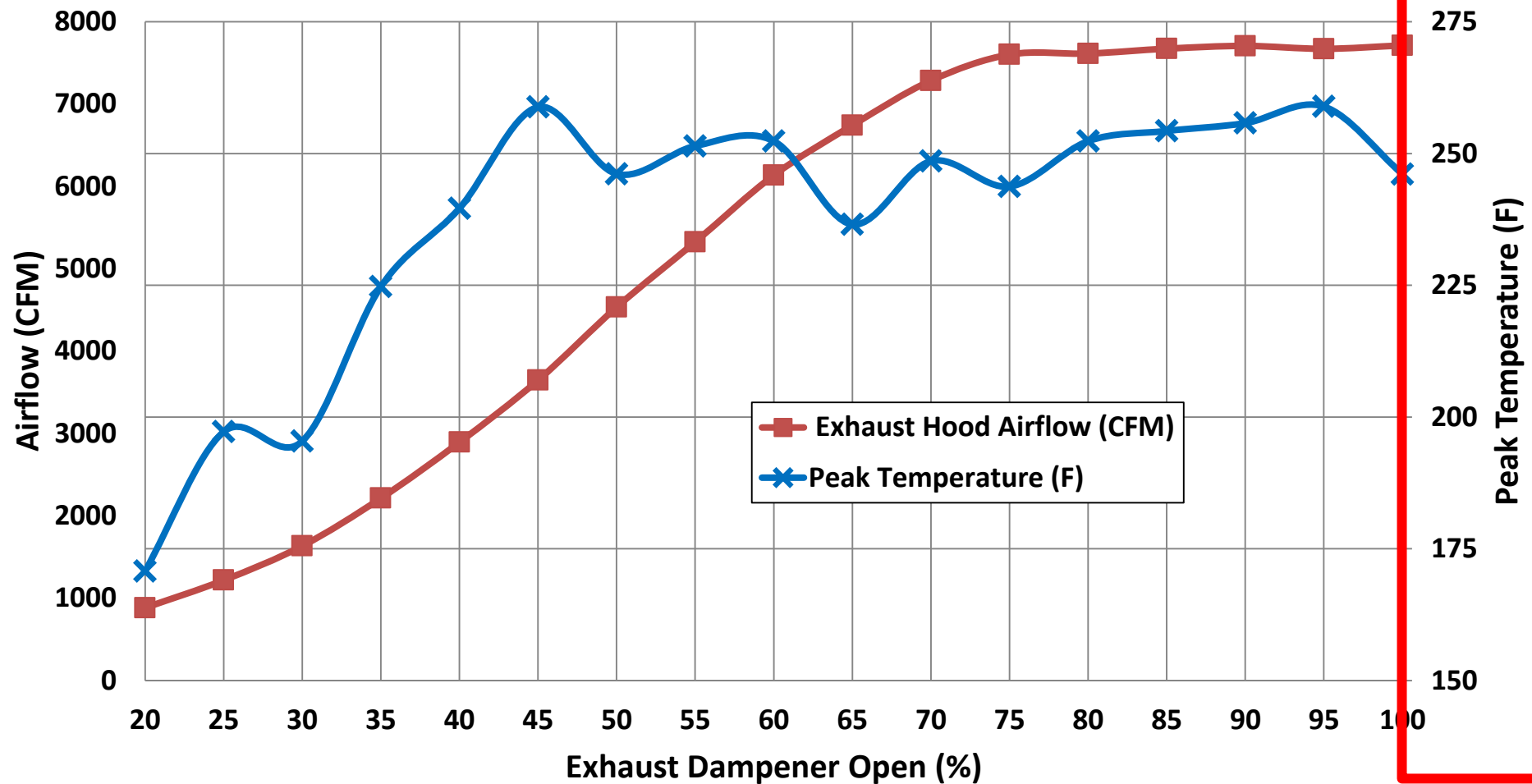
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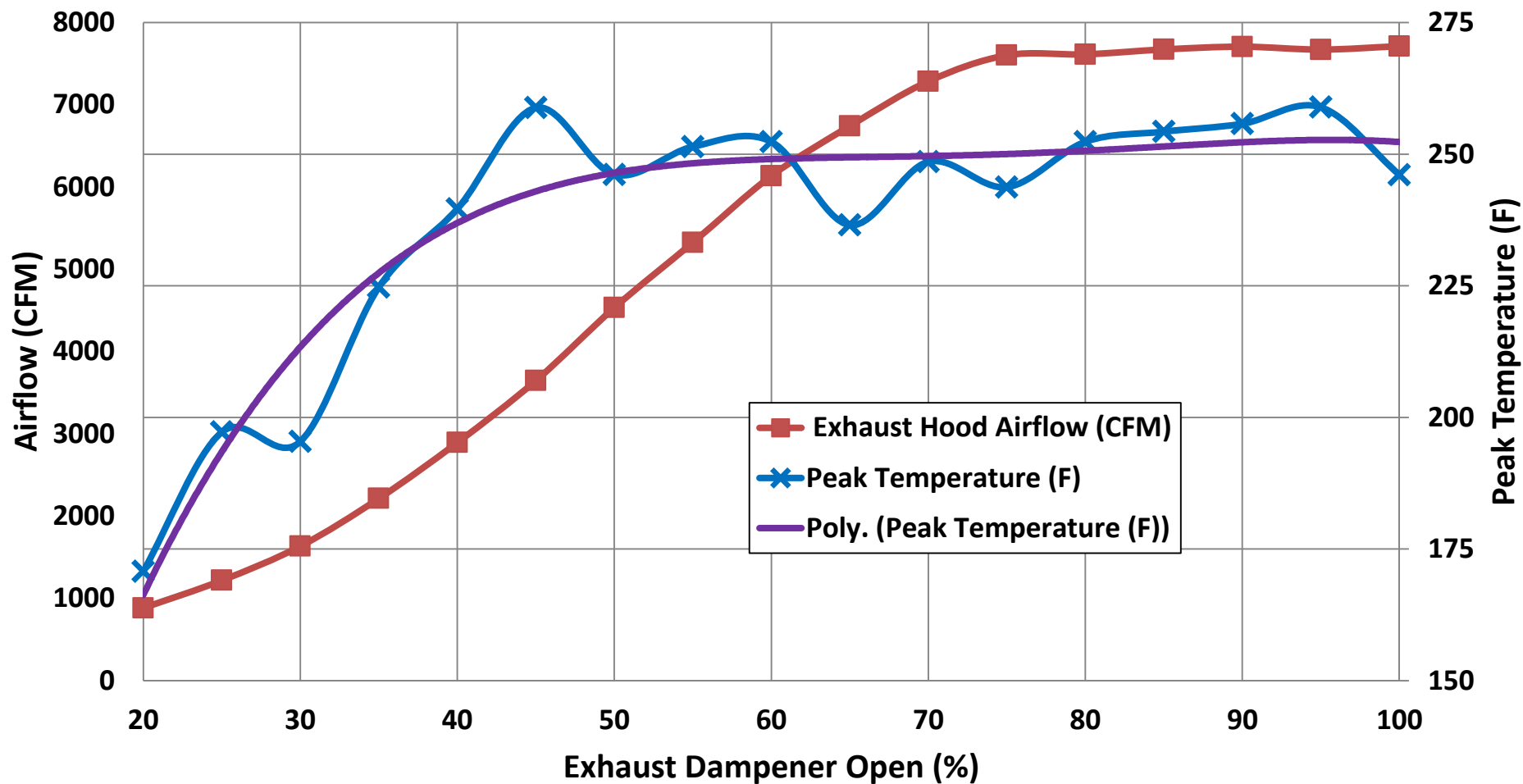
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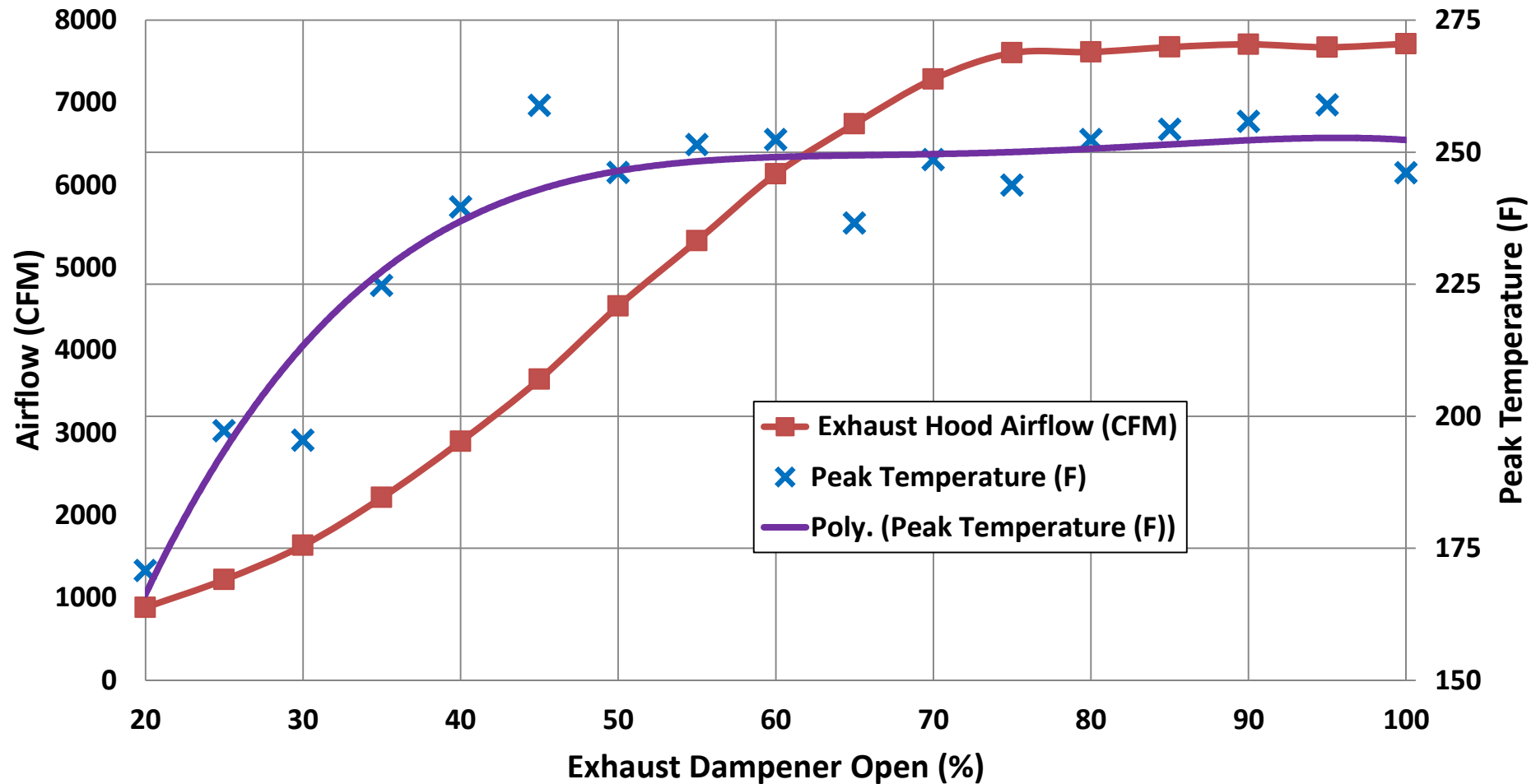
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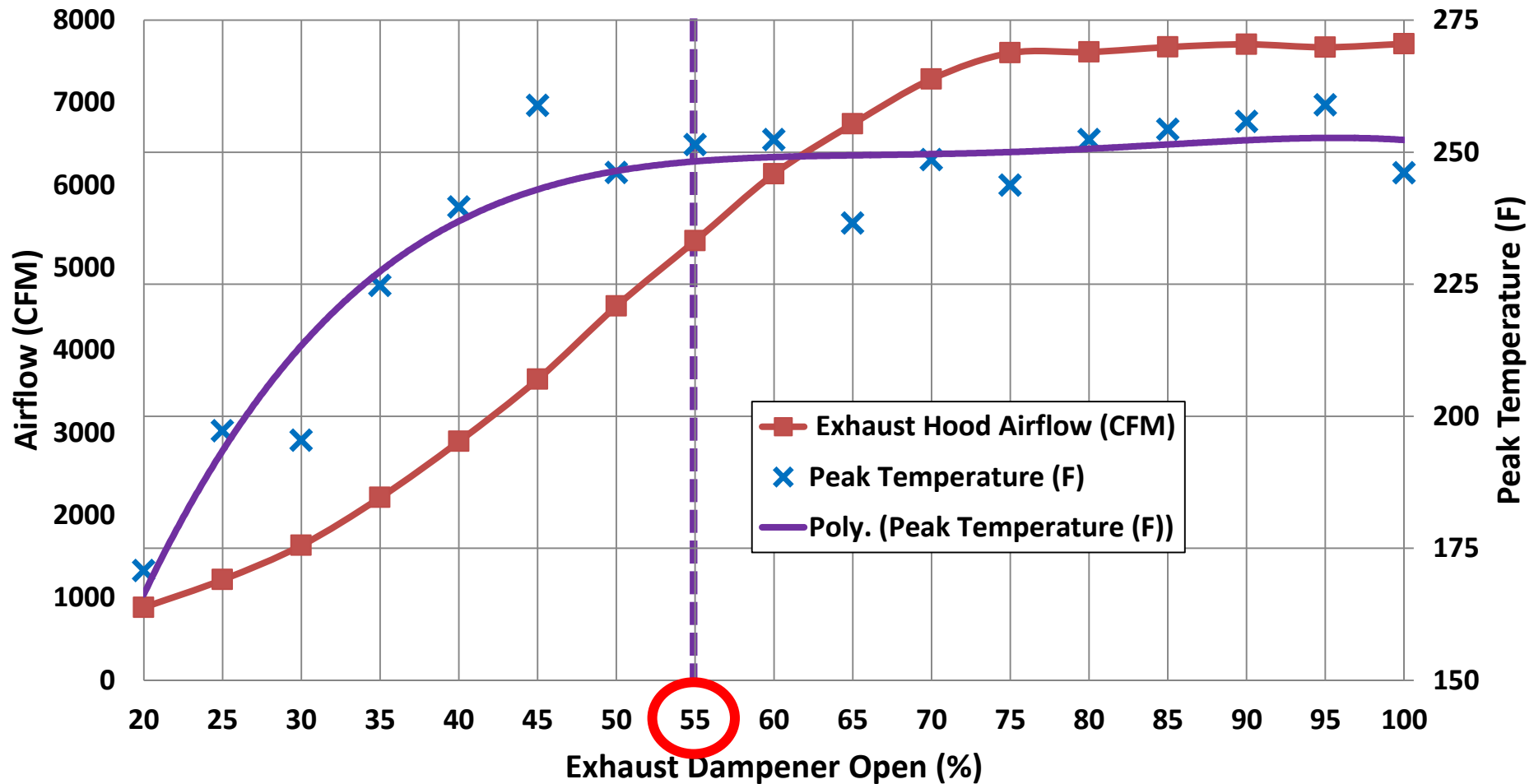
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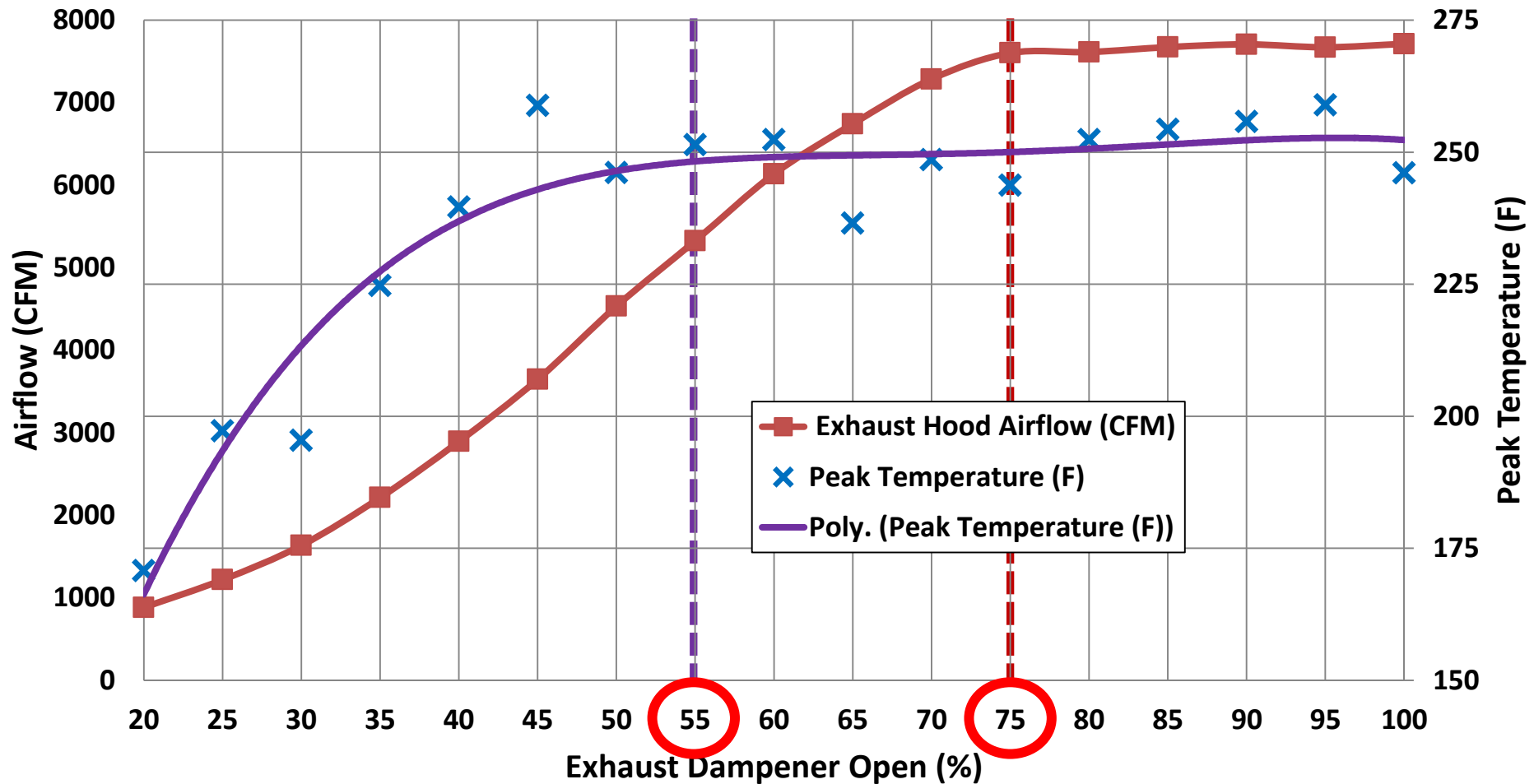
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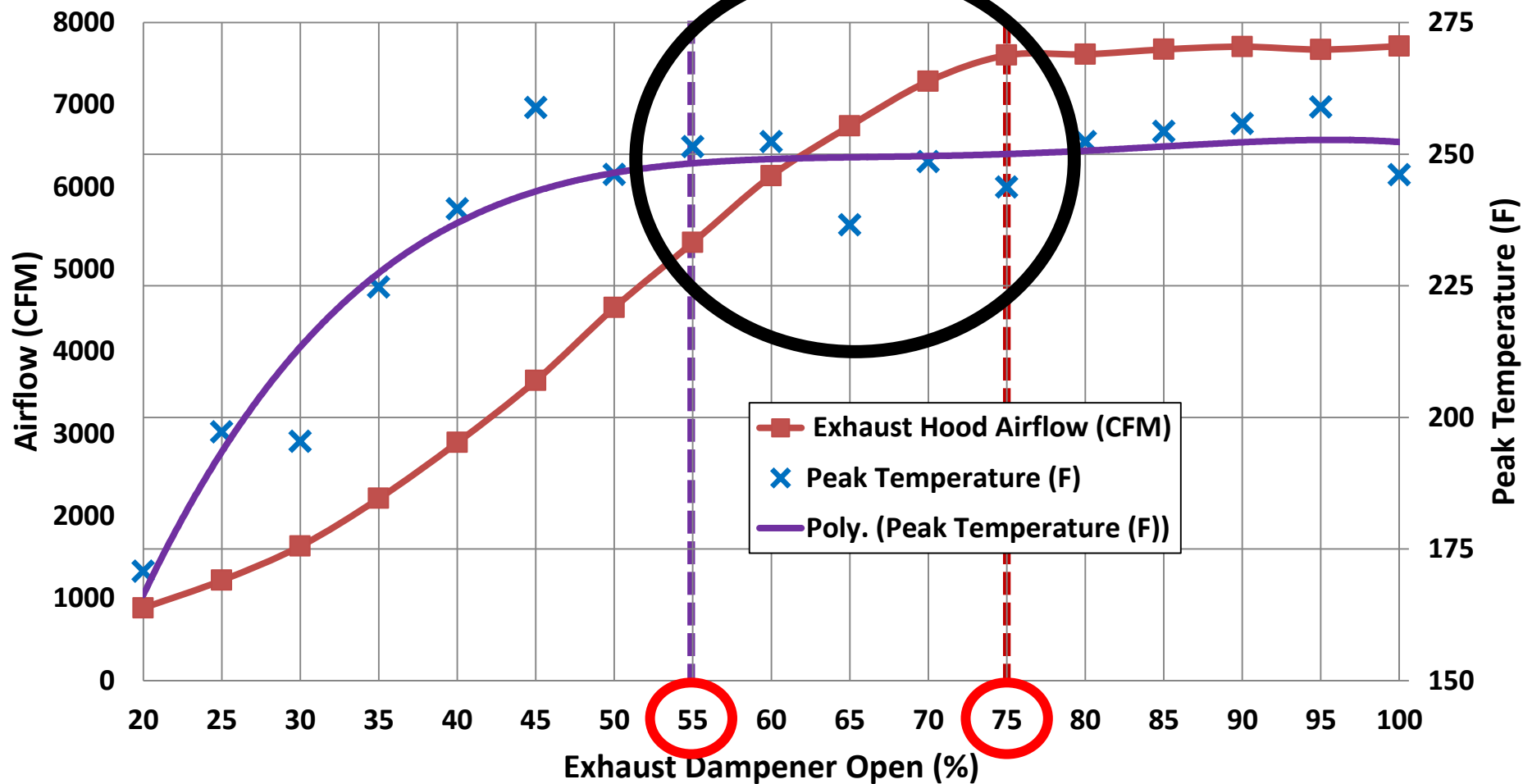
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# Sonic Cargo Liner Airflow Study

Exhaust Airflow vs. TC Peak Temperatures above Ceiling Sample Panel



# Sonic Cargo Liner Airflow Study

- **Summary**

- Results indicate an exhaust airflow range at which measured sample peak temperatures remained relatively steady
- May be possible to specify an airflow or air velocity range to minimize test result disparities among labs

- **Next phase**

- Collect air velocity data at multiple points near the sample throughout this range
- Repeat process in a more confined test space

# Correct Configuration of the Sonic Burner



# Sonic Burner Configuration

- **Instances where Sonic burners have not been configured properly**
  - Must follow configuration in the respective chapter
  - Deviations will alter flame characteristics
  - This includes all burner components from the sonic nozzle inlet to the burner cone exit plane
- **Examples**
  - Improper sonic nozzle orientation relative to burner, stator clocking (rotation) incorrect, fuel rod enters burner housing on opposite side as specified

# Planned Research and Work



# Planned Research and Work

- **Produce new training videos**
  - Sonic Burner Assembly and Operation (2018)
- **Update Handbook chapters**
  - On an as-needed basis
- **Continue cargo liner airflow study**
  - More updates for next meeting
- **Additional items**
  - Task group suggestions



A full-body image of Beetlejuice from the 1987 film "Beetlejuice". He is standing in a graveyard at night, with tombstones and dark, gnarled trees in the background. He is wearing his signature black and white vertically striped suit and has his wild, white hair. He is holding a small, thin object in his right hand and has his left hand outstretched. Two speech bubbles are overlaid on the image: one on the left containing the text "Well..." and one on the right containing the text "Whatcha' wanna know?".

**Well...**

**Whatcha'  
wanna  
know?**

# **Questions?**

**timothy.salter@faa.gov**

**(1)-609-485-6952**