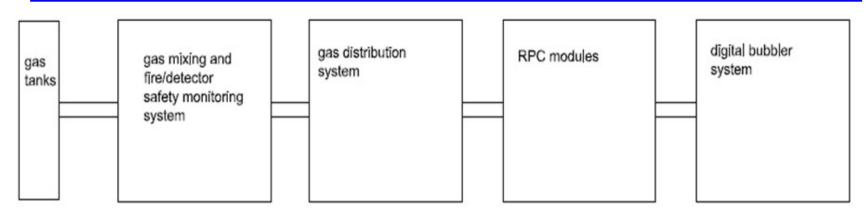
Outlines

- Gas system overview;
- Location of gas system;
- Plan view of gas/gas mixing room;
- Daya Bay RPC gas mixture flammability analysis;
- Gas cylinders underground;
- Isobutane gas cabinet, HAD sensor; air flow sensor and controller, cylinder switchover panels;
- Gas pressure rating of tubing and fitting used in gas system;
- Schematic diagram of gas system plumbing.





Overview of the RPC Gas System



The RPC gas system has five major components:

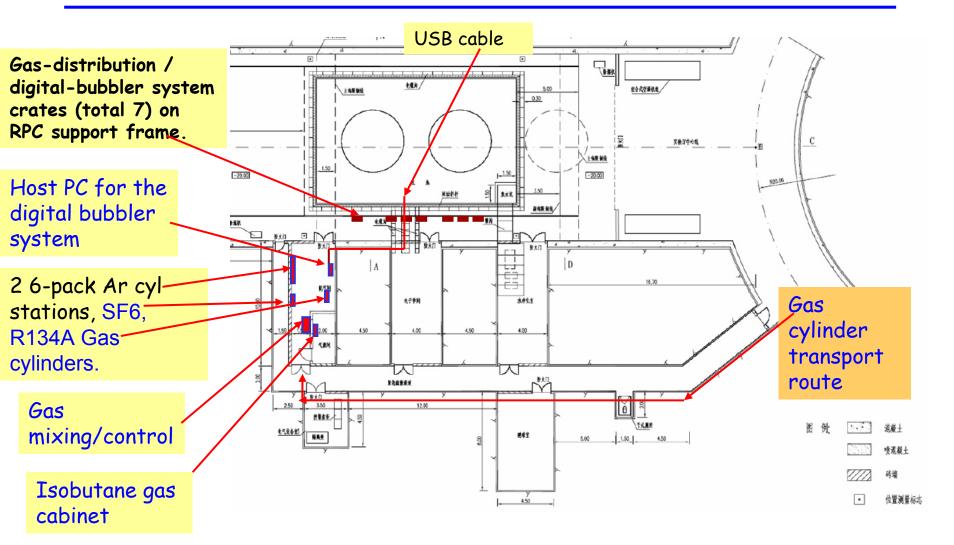
- The gas storage bottles, including the bottle changeover system
- The gas mixing and fire/detector safety monitoring system
- The gas distribution system
- The RPCs
- The gas exhaust system, including the output bubbler system.

The hazardous gas safety system. but not the ODH system, is part of the RPC gas system scope.





Location of the Gas System in the Daya Bay Near Hall (#1)



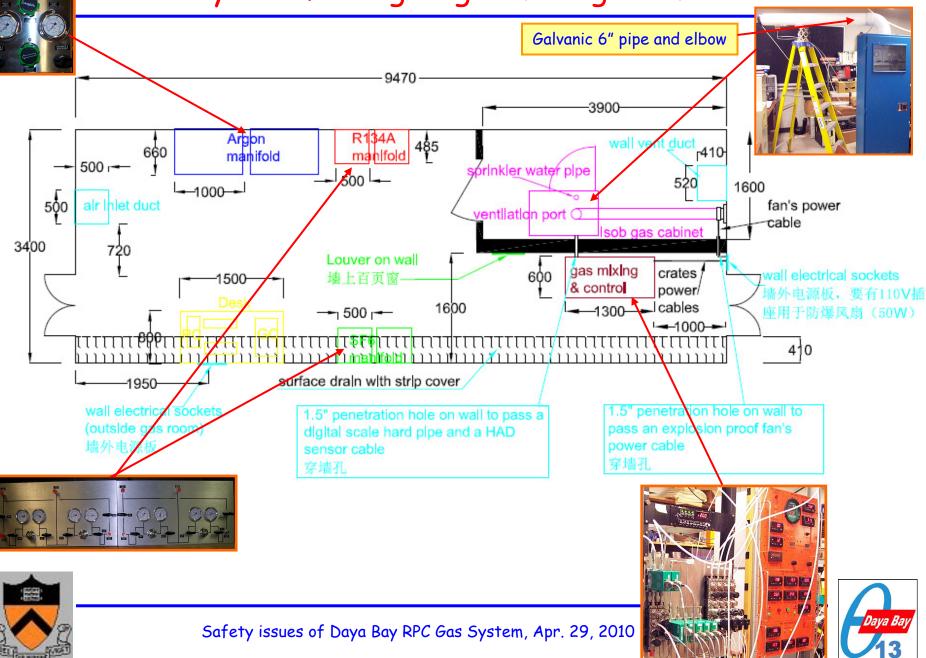




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Layout of the gas/gas mixing rooms



RPC Gas Flammability Analysis

During the BaBar detector construction SLAC hired Hughes Associates, Inc. to perform an analysis of flammability hazards for the entire detector.

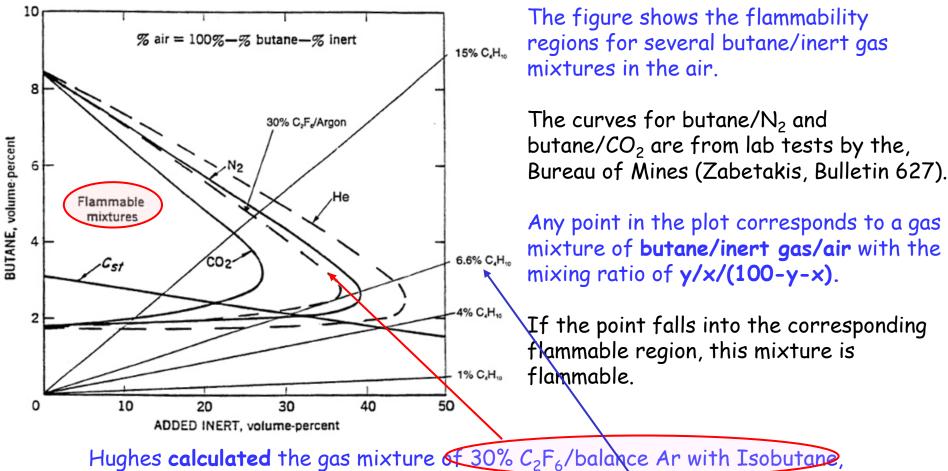
The fire hazard associated with the use of butane (C₄H₁₀) gas mixtures in BaBar was one of the analyzed items. (Hughes report: Doc-DB #574) <u>http://puhep1.princeton.edu/~mcdonald/dayabay/BaBar_gas_system/SLAC-FHA.pdf</u>

Here we shall briefly mention the main conclusion that is relevant to our assessment.





Flammability Diagram for Butane with $Argon/C_2F_6$ in Air



because C_2F_6 is very similar to R134A ($C_2H_2F_4$), especially in heat capacity.

The flammability limit of Isobutane in this gas mixture is 6.6%



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Daya Bay Gas Mixture Flammability Analysis

• To be conservative we could use an alternative gas mixture: $Ar/R134A/Isobutane/SF_6$ (65.5/30/4/0.5).

The previous slide shows this to be non-flammable.

Recent tests done by OPERA RPC group (DocDB #2278) show a very similar gas mix with good performance and ~1000V HV plateau higher than original OPERA gas mix.

Since our HV supply can provide +/- 4000V, this gas mixture won't call for any modification to the present RPC and HV design.

 $\underline{http://puhep1.princeton.edu/~mcdonald/examples/detectors/paoloni_lnf-08-14.pdf}$

• The advantage of this gas mixture is obvious: the RPC system downstream from gas mixing panel won't need to be categorized as a flammable gas control area.





Number of Cylinders Underground

There is a tradeoff between frequency of transport/changeover of bottles *vs*. degree of oxygen deficiency hazard and flammable gas hazard from leaks at bottles.

In addition to bottles in use, a second set of bottles should be underground at all times.

The following configuration \Rightarrow 60 bottles underground

[plus 3 more argon bottles for the Emergency Purge System (slides 24-26)].

Exp. Hall	Gas	Cylinder	Location	Days/90% of cylinder used
Near Hall	Ar	6 cyl. @1800psi	Mix. Room	30
	R134A	100kg	Storage Room	39
	Isobutane	9kg	Mix. Room	43
	SF ₆	4kg	Storage Room	61
	He	Cyl. 80, 85 ft^3	Mix. Room	≻180 days
	N ₂	Cyl. 80, 85 ft^3	Mix. Room	> 1 year
Far hall	Ar	6 cyl. @1800psi	Mix. Room	19
	R134A	100kg	Storage Room	25
	Isobutane	9kg	Mix. Room	27
	SF ₆	4kg	Storage Room	38
	He	Cyl. 80, 85 ft^3	Mix. Room	≻180 days
	N ₂	Cyl. 80, 85 ft^3	Mix. Room	> 1 year



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Isobutane Gas Cabinet

As suggested by D. Beavis, isobutane cylinders will be stored in a gas cabinet, which incorporates Class I, Div. 1 electrical devices, such as gas sensors, sprinklers, and solenoid valve.

In each gas cabinet we'll install two HAD sensors (one inside and the other outside), one air-flow sensors, an electronic digital scale, a manual scale, and cylinder changeover panel.

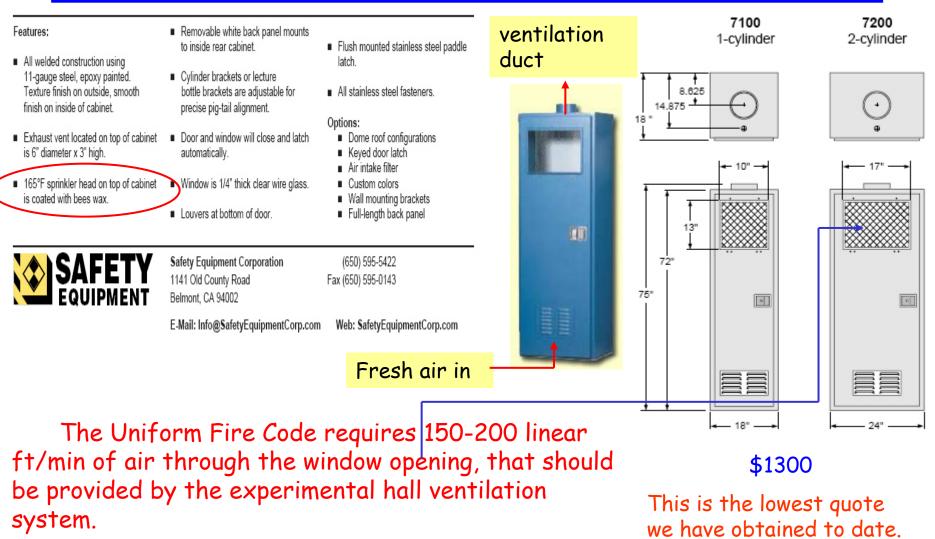
In addition, the cabinet volume must accommodate two 9-kg Isobutane cylinders.

Water sprinklers will be installed inside of the gas cabinet and in the gas room.





Isobutane Gas Cabinet (cont'd)







HAD Sensor

One candidate of such HAD sensor is RAEGuard LEL.

The RAEGuard LEL is a permanently mounted (fixed) catalytic bead combustible gas transmitter that operates from 9 to 36 VDC power source and provides a 4-20mA analog output in the range of 0-100%LEL combustible gas. The microprocessor based circuit is housed in an explosion-proof enclosure, the RAEGuard LEL is equipped with a local digital display of the gas concentration and function keys for performing calibration. The RAEGuard LEL is operated with a standard 4-20mA controller or as a stand-alone sensor module.

Key Features

 Highly poison-resistant catalytic bead combustible

gas LEL sensor

4-20mA analog output of 0-100%LEL combustible gas including methane, acetylene, propane or other

combustible gases

- Explosion-proof enclosure for hazardous environment application
- Magnetic key interface eliminates need to open explosion-proof housing when making calibration or other minor adjustments
- Operation at 9 to 36 VDC
- Dry contact output (<30V, 2A)

Applications:

- Refineries
- Oil production
- Chemical plants
- Industrial safety
- Shipyard and maritime
- Power plants
- Steel mills

Hazardous Location Classification:

- UL: Class I, Division 1, Groups B, C and D
- Temperature Code T6

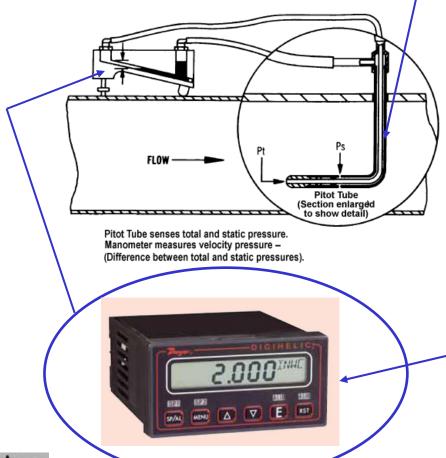






Air Ventilation Sensor and Controller

Working principle: Pitot tube to measure the air velocity.



Pt is the total pressure, Ps is the static pressure.

Notice the sensing holes for these two pressures.

The manometer shown on the left can measure the pressure difference between Pt and Ps, this is Pv, the air velocity pressure.

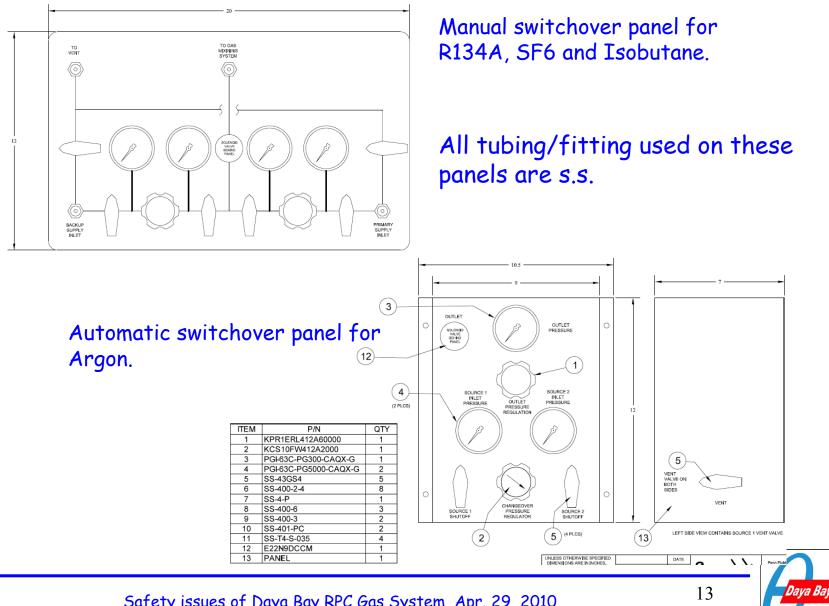
Dwyer seriies DH Digihelic differential pressure controller



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Gas switchover panels



Safety issues of Daya Bay RPC Gas System, Apr. 29, 2010

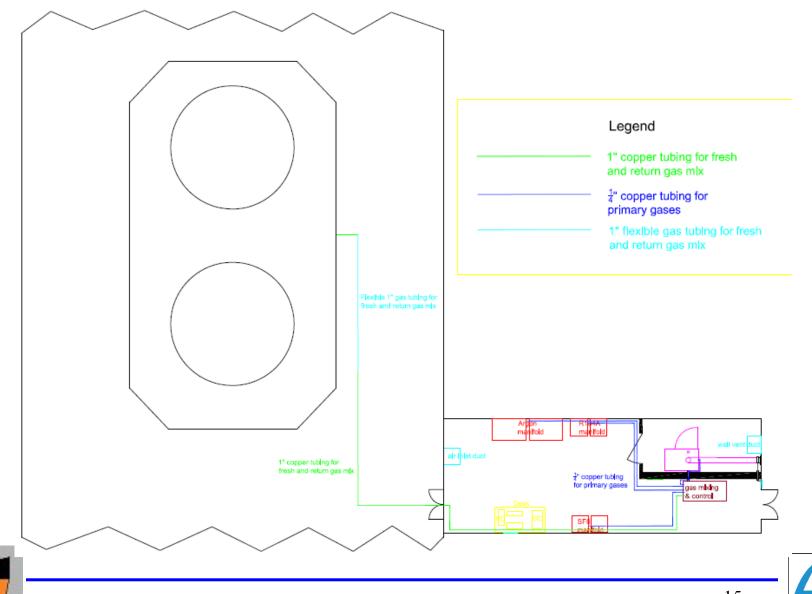
Swagelok fitting/copper tubing rating

Swagelok tube fitting ends are rated to the working pressure of tubing. For $\frac{1}{4}$ " pipe, 316 S.S. male fitting up to 8000 psig, female fitting up to 6600 psig; brass male fitting up to 4000 psig; female fitting up to 3300 psig. These ratings are much higher than highest pressure in our gas system (primary pressure of the argon cylinder is ~2100 psig). All tubing before the outlet of gas mixing panel is either stainless steel or copper. The plastic tubing is only used for connecting the gas distribution crate and RPC module where the gas pressure is just few cm water column above ambient pressure.





Schematic diagram of gas system plumbing



Safety issues of Daya Bay RPC Gas System, Apr. 29, 2010



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