



# Flexiva™ FLX

## *Liquid-Cooled High-Power FM Transmitters*

April 17, 2016

GatesAir Connect | NAB Show 2016

Featuring  
GatesAir's



**Tim Anderson**  
Radio Product & Business  
Development Manager

# Flexiva FLX™ Liquid-Cooled High-Power FM Transmitters

Tim Anderson  
Product & Business Development



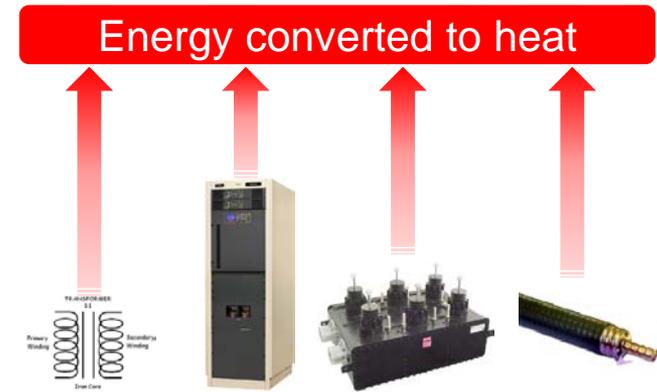
# TCO versus Efficiency

## ■ TCO is what is really important to a transmission operator:

- It's the total cost to own and operate the transmitter system over time
- Includes initial equipment cost and delivery
- Includes the installation/commissioning cost
- Includes routine and unscheduled maintenance costs
- Repair/replacement and other operational costs

## ■ AC power consumed by the transmitter is important

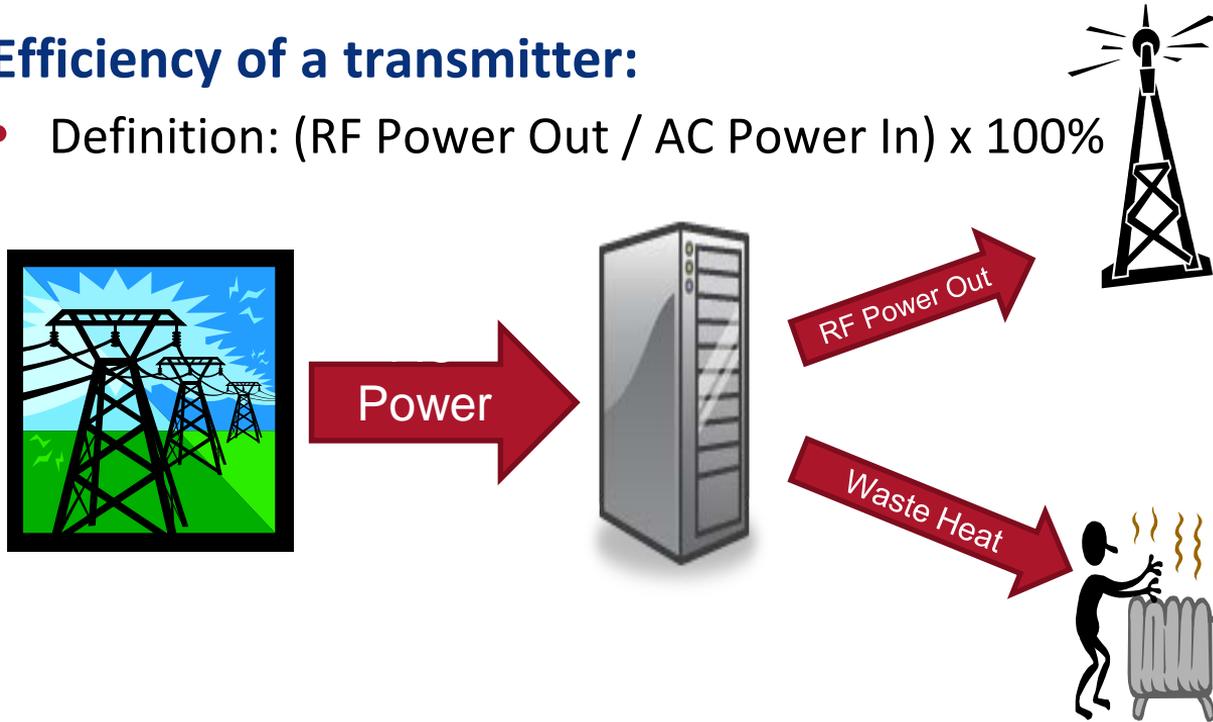
- However, other factors also affect the system efficiency:
  - AC transformers and voltage regulators
  - Heat load to the room (HVAC costs)
  - RF system losses (often significant)
  - RF feeder losses
    - ex: 98.1MHz, 2,000ft, 3-1/8" rigid line, energy loss = 35%
  - Non-optimal antenna pattern (throwing RF energy away)



# Efficiency: What Does It Mean?

- **Efficiency of a transmitter:**

- Definition:  $(\text{RF Power Out} / \text{AC Power In}) \times 100\%$



**Increased efficiency: reduces power consumed and reduces energy wasted**



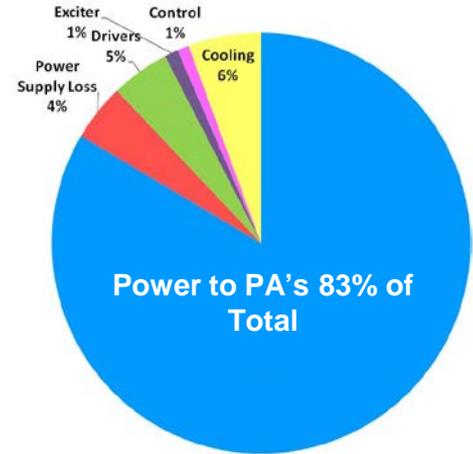
# Every Part of The Transmitter Matters

## Effect of power supply efficiency on overall system efficiency

|                                | Tx with older PS | Tx with new High Eff. PS |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| RF Power Output (kW)           | 10.00            | 10.00                    |
| Power Amplifier Efficiency     | 76%              | 76%                      |
| DC Power to PA's               | 13.16            | 13.16                    |
| <b>Power Supply Efficiency</b> | <b>84%</b>       | <b>96%</b>               |
| AC Power to PA's               | 15.59            | 13.65                    |
| Power Supply Loss              | 2.43             | 0.49                     |
| Drivers                        | 0.60             | 0.60                     |
| Exciter                        | 0.14             | 0.14                     |
| Control                        | 0.12             | 0.12                     |
| Cooling                        | 0.75             | 0.75                     |
| Total AC Input (kW)            | 19.63            | 15.75                    |
| <b>Overall Tx Efficiency</b>   | <b>51%</b>       | <b>63%</b>               |



**Distribution of Power Usage with Older Technology Power Supplies**



**Distribution of Power Usage with High Efficiency Power Supplies**



**Power Supplies make 13% difference!**

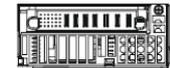
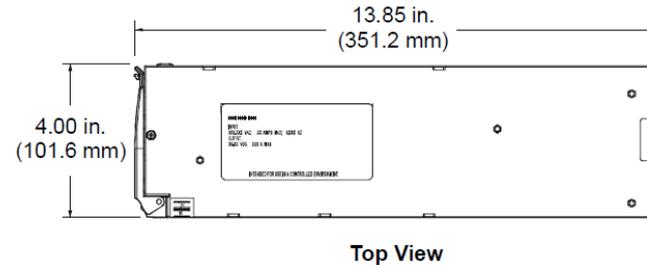


# Power Supply Technology

- Improvements in Power density/weight
- Very high conversion efficiency
  - 96.3% versus 84% only 6 years ago
- With 48-50V DC requirement, can leverage the Telecomm industry:
  - Very high MTBF (900,000hrs)
  - High volume part
  - Widely available Worldwide
- Versatile
  - Use same part in FM and TV products



2,725 Watt high-efficiency power supply (weight 2kg)



Rear View

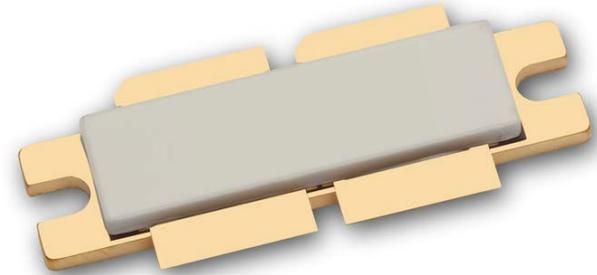


Front View

|                          |         |       |  |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|--|
| Reliability (calculated) | 900,000 | Hours | At ambient of 25°C at full load per Telcordia SR-332, issue 2, Reliability Prediction for Electronic Equipment, Method I Case III. |
|--------------------------|---------|-------|--|

- **Latest 50V LDMOS Power FET devices dramatically increase power density, efficiency and reliability**

- Higher peak power (1400W)
- Higher Gain (> 22dB)
- High DC-RF Efficiency (> 82%)
- Improved thermal characteristics
- Improved Ruggedness
- Very High MTBF (> 20K years)



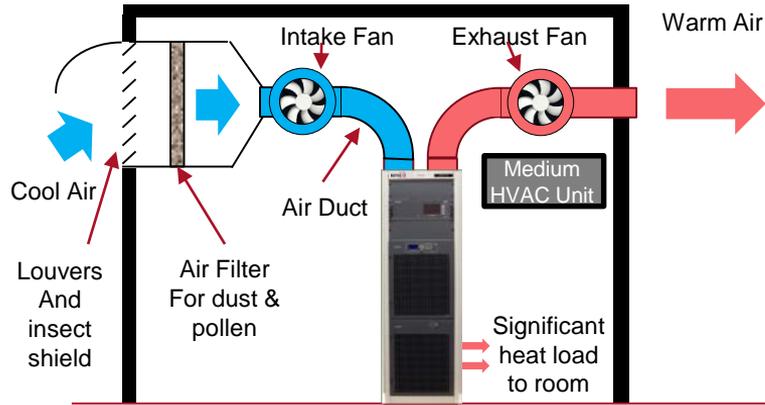
## Features and benefits

- High power
- High power gain
- High efficiency
- Designed for broadband operation (HF to 600 MHz)
- Excellent ruggedness (VSWR > 65 : 1 through all phases)
- Excellent thermal stability and transfer properties
- Integrated ESD protection
- Internal input matching for ease of use
- Designed for broadband operation (HF to 600 MHz)

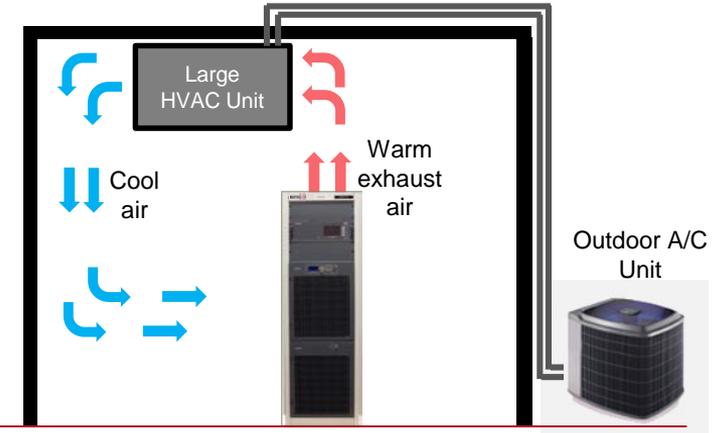
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# Three Ways to Cool the Transmitter

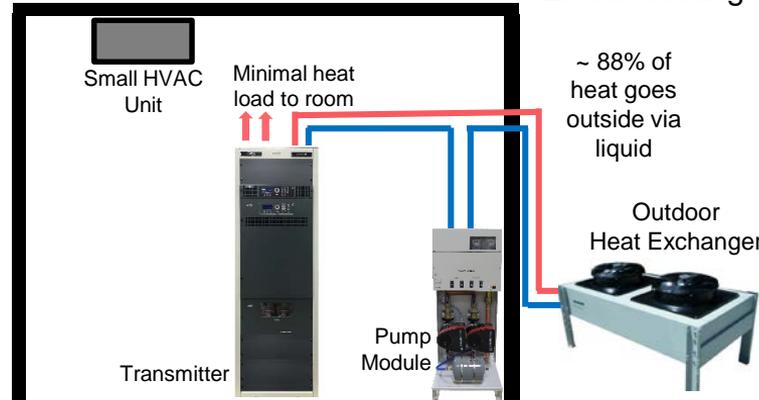


1. Air-cooling using outside air



2. Air-cooling using inside air and Air-Conditioning

3. Liquid-cooling



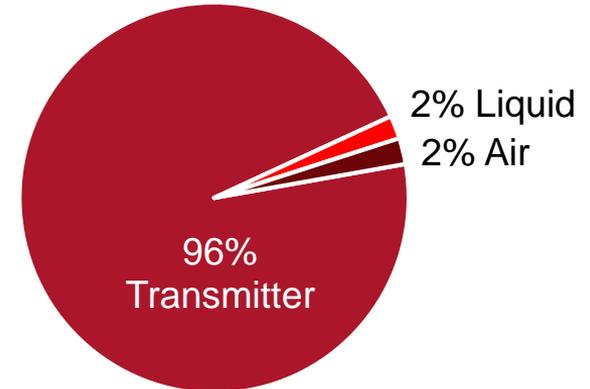
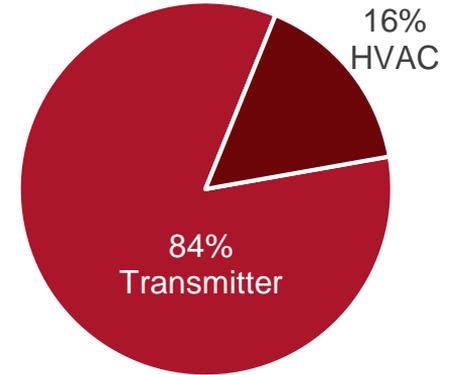
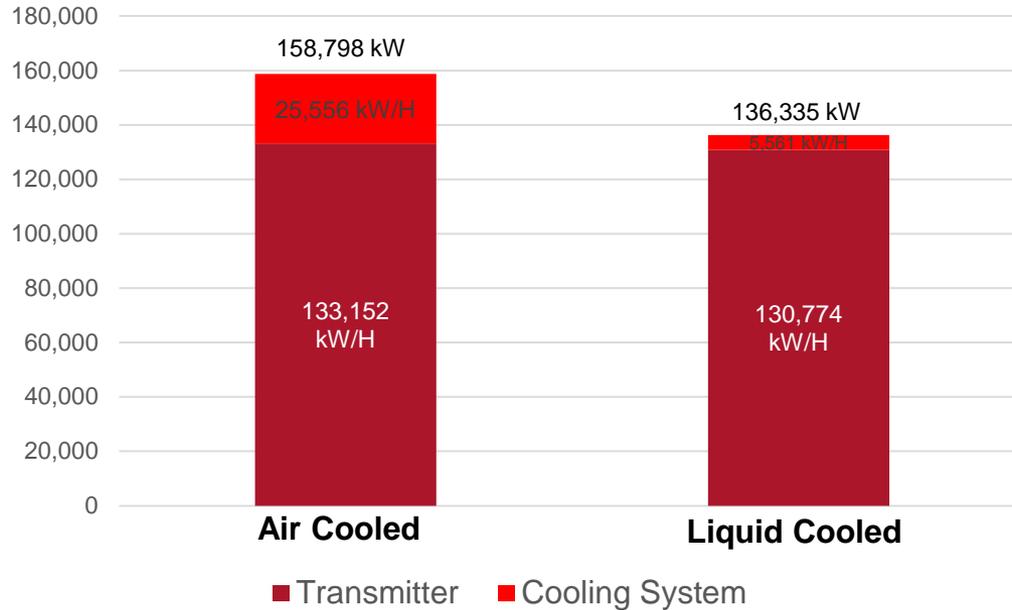
# Cooling Comparison

| Item              | Air-Cooled (outside air) | Air-Cooled (HVAC) | Liquid Cooled |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Energy cost       | Low                      | Very High         | Low           |
| Maintenance       | Very High                | High              | Low           |
| Installation cost | High                     | Medium            | Medium/Low    |
| Site visits       | Frequent                 | Infrequent        | Infrequent    |
| Humidity control  | None                     | Good              | Excellent     |
| Dust & dirt       | Filter dependent         | Good              | Excellent     |
| Reliability       | Medium                   | Low               | Excellent     |
| <b>TCO Rank</b>   | <b>3</b>                 | <b>2</b>          | <b>1</b>      |



# HVAC vs. Liquid Cooled Power Consumption

## 10kW Transmitter System Total Annual Power Consumption





## Flexiva™ FLX Liquid-Cooled FM Transmitters

- Up to 86% heat to liquid transfer efficiency reduces room heating
- Two 10kW transmitters with dual exciters, in a single rack
- 20kW with dual exciters in a single rack
- 30 & 40kW in two racks
- Single High Efficiency Pump Module and Heat Exchanger up to 40kW.
- Dual High Efficiency Pump Modules and Heat Exchangers for redundancy or above 40kW

PowerSmart® 



# Flexiva™ FLX Liquid-Cooled FM Transmitters



**Scalable to 80kW  
Liquid Cooled**



# FLX10K PowerBlock

## 10kW Power Block

Integrated IPA switching  
(Automatic drive chain redundancy)

Hot-Swappable, Hot  
Pluggable 2725W High  
Efficiency PS  
1 to 1 PS to PA Ratio

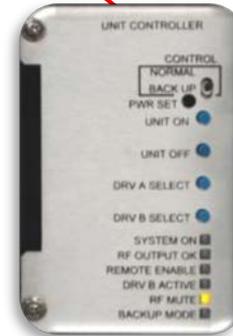


Hot Pluggable Dual IPA  
module Same module as PA

Seven Hot-Pluggable, Hot  
Swappable 1750 Watt PA  
modules for redundancy



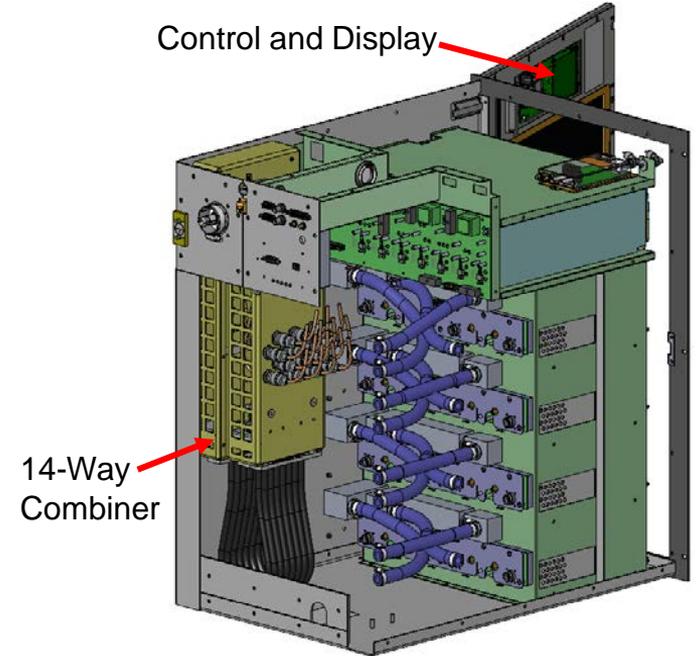
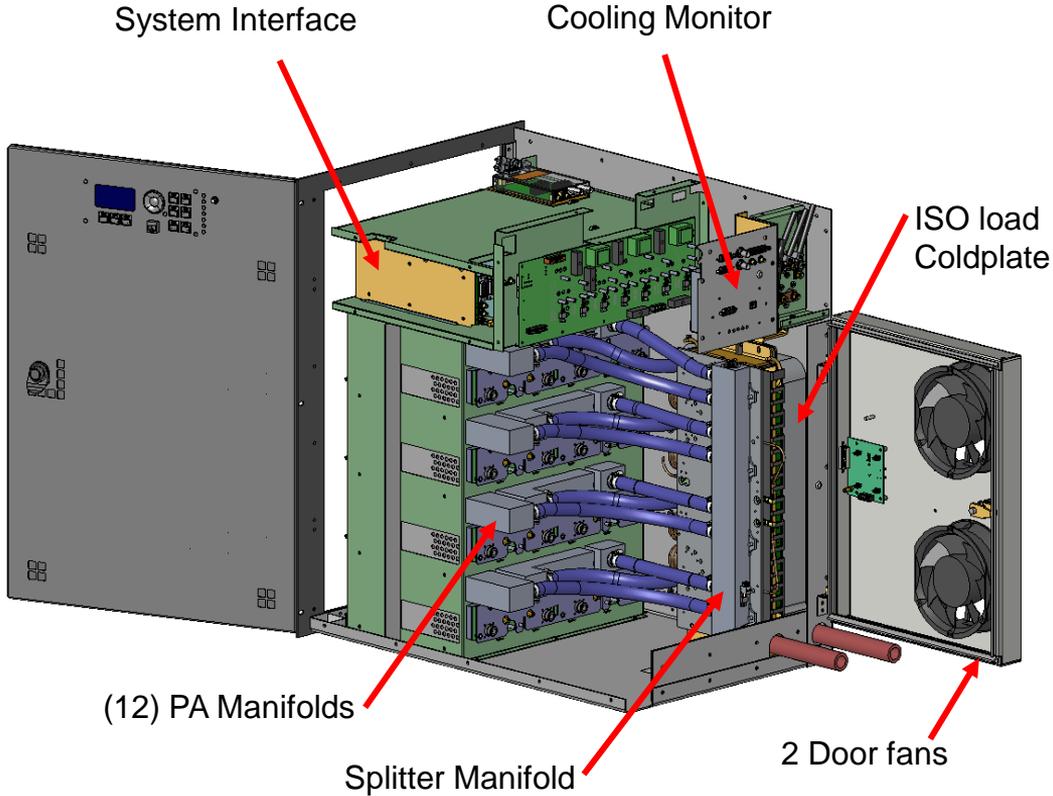
Microcontroller for  
Local Display, Remote  
Web Interface, SNMP  
Support



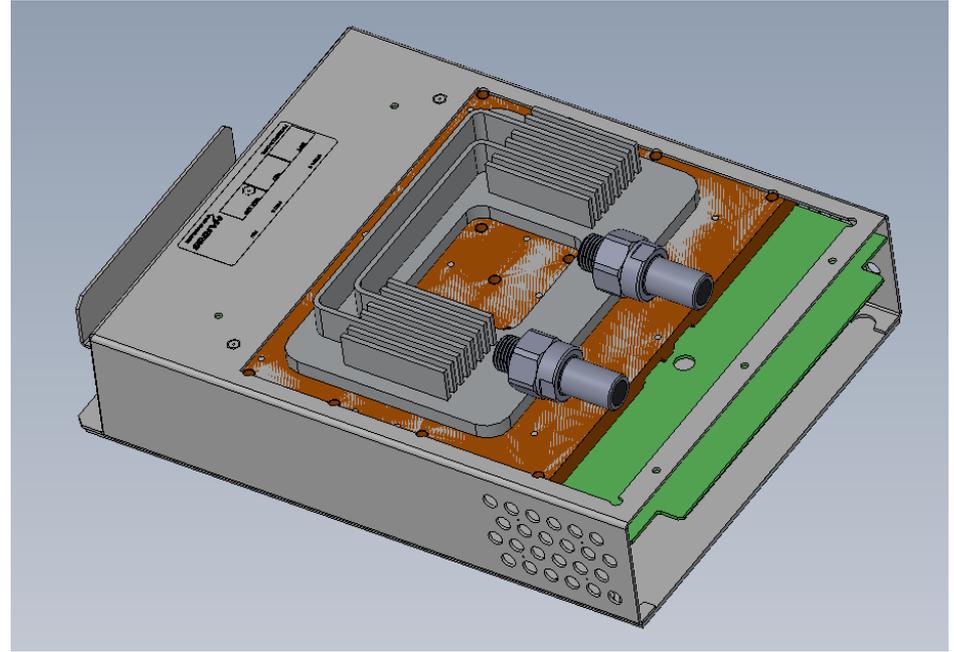
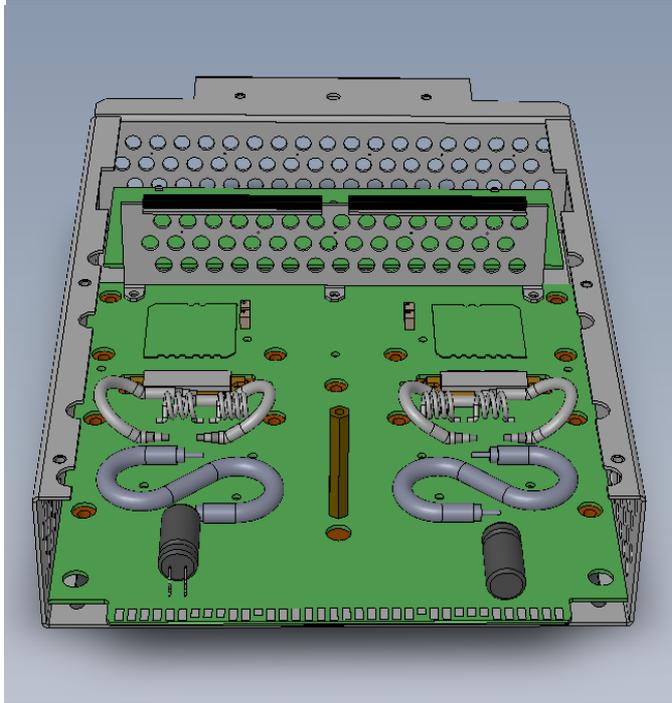
Hardware based controller with  
backup controller & life-support  
maintains basic functions and  
provides system operation  
without reliance on the  
microprocessor

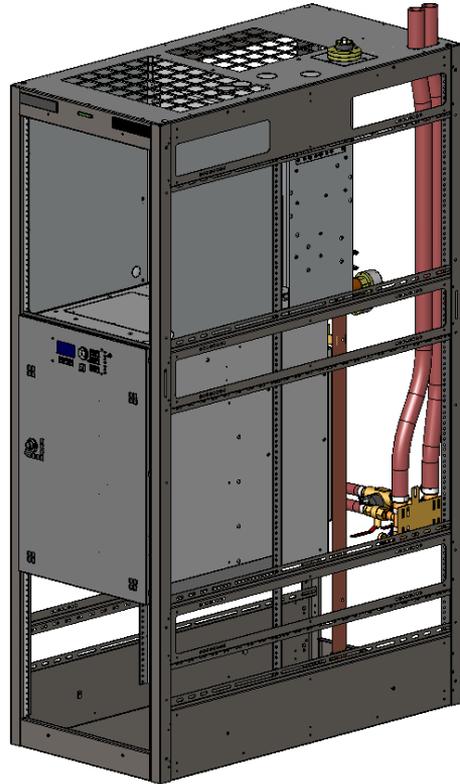


# FLX10K PowerBlock



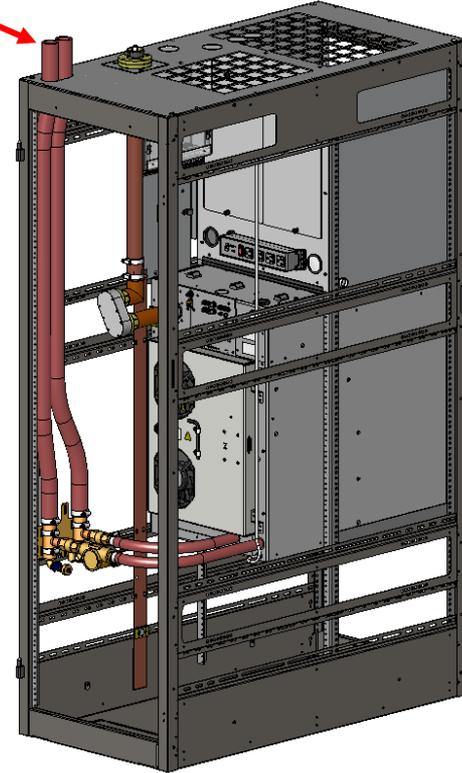
# FLX Liquid Cooled PA Module with Chiller Plate



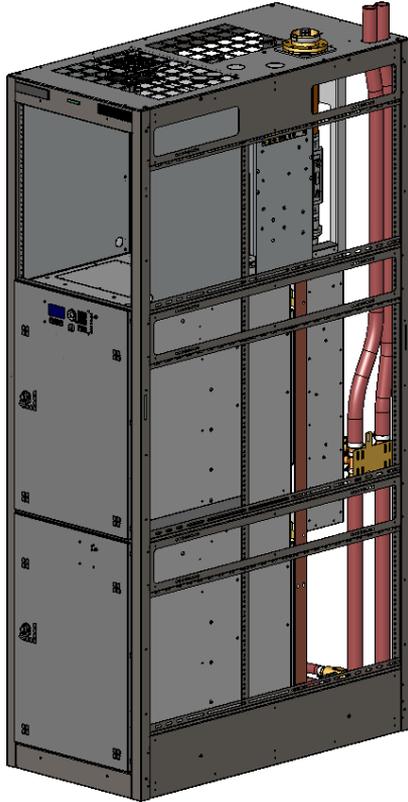


Supply/Return 

- Xmtr Size
- 23.51 wide
  - 71.00 tall
  - 45.75 deep with doors
  - 44.43 deep without doors

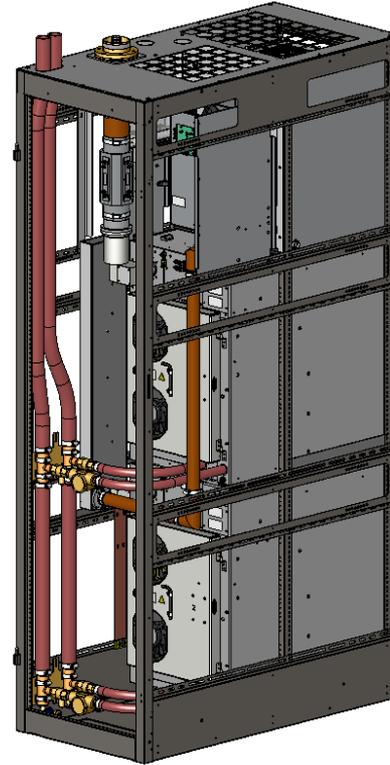


# FLX20K Xmtr

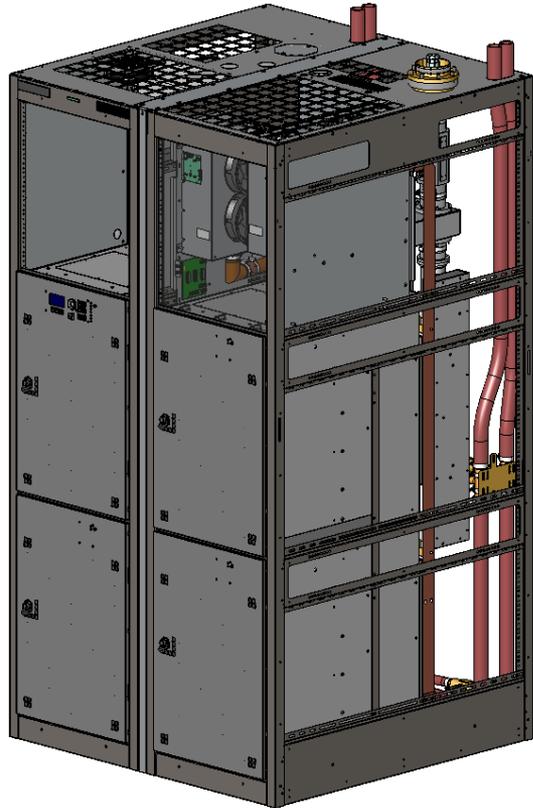


## Xmtr Size

- 23.51 wide
- 83.25 tall
- 45.75 deep with doors
- 44.43 deep without doo

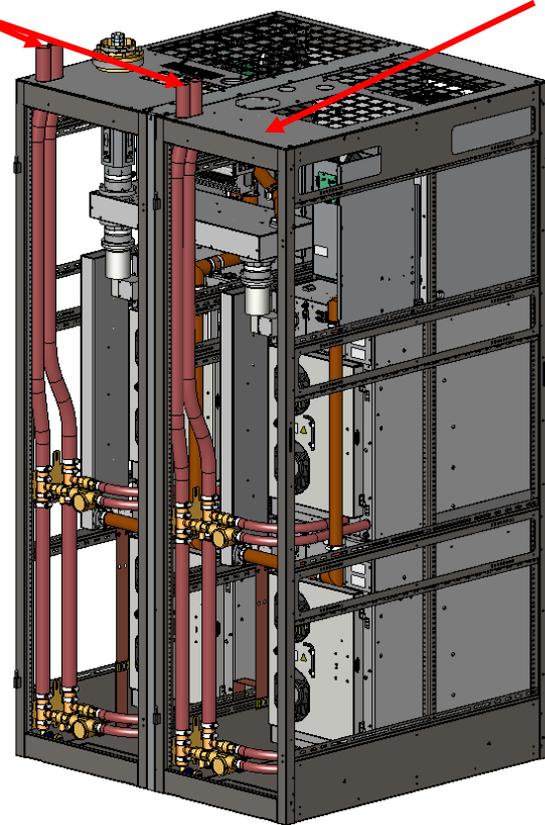


# FLX40K Xmtr



Supply/Return

PWA, Pump  
Diode Gating

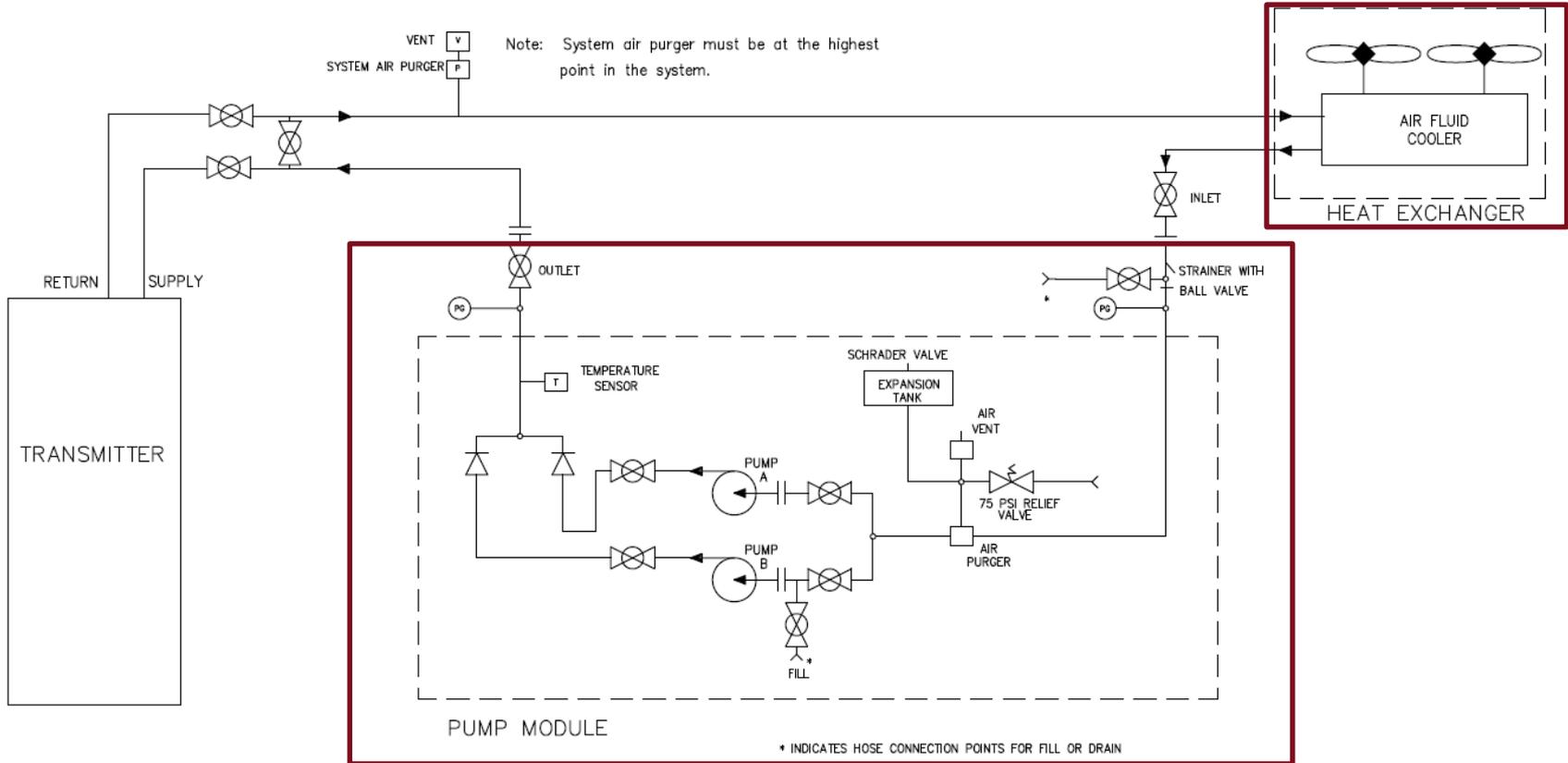


## Xmtr Size

- 47.09 wide
- 83.25 tall
- 45.75 deep with doors
- 44.43 deep without doors



# COOLING SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM



# High Efficiency Pump Module

- GatesAir design and manufacture
- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation – Optimized for High Efficiency
- Small physical size
- 2 Pumps, with auto/manual changeover
  - Low-noise, high efficiency pumps
  - Replace a pump during on-air operation!
- Low maintenance, closed-loop pressurized system
- Quiet – Designed for indoor installation
- Pump speed adjustable to optimize flow rate and efficiency



# High Efficiency Heat Exchanger

- GatesAir manufacture
- Dual fans - on-air replacement
- Low noise, high-efficiency fan blades
- Speed controlled for maximum efficiency
- Vertical or horizontal airflow (mounting can be adapted on site for either configuration)
- Two sizes available 20kW & 50kW heat dissipation



Vertical Air Flow



Horizontal Air Flow

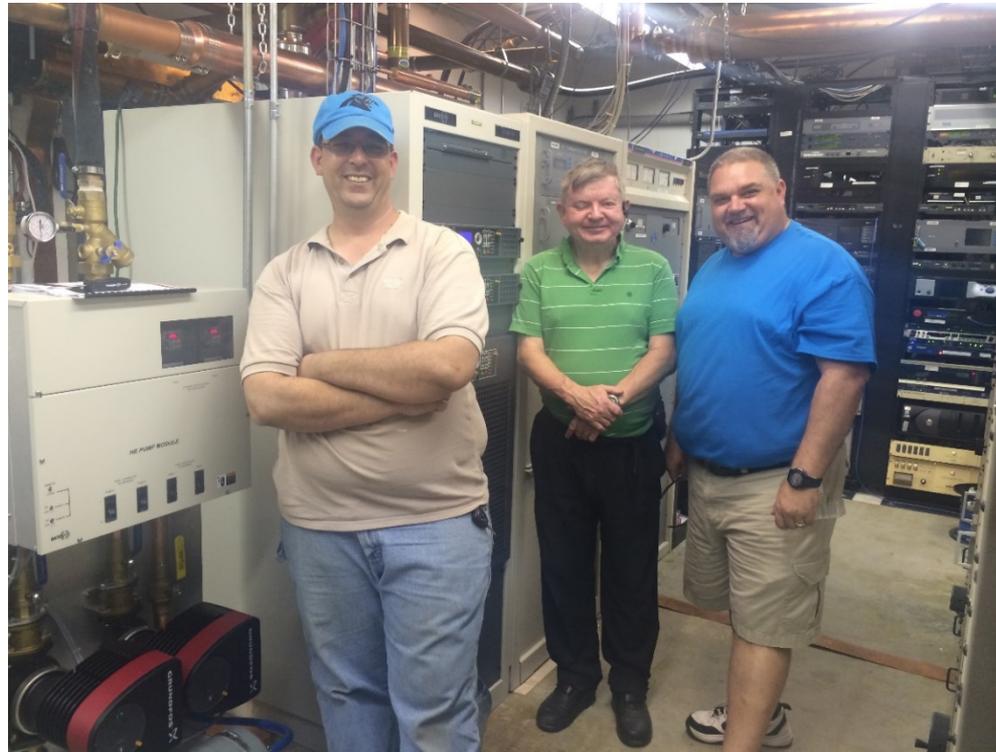


1<sup>st</sup> FLX20K  
Acceptance Testing in  
Quincy

**Ed Allen**  
**Transmission Chief**  
**Engineer**  
**Cox Media, Tampa**  
With WSUN's FLX10K at  
Factory Acceptance Testing  
in Quincy  
October 20, 2015



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GatesAir Field Service Engineer Dan Carcopo, Market Transmitter Chief Ed Allen, Market Operations Manager Dylan Scott commissioning the 1<sup>st</sup> FLX10k at COX Media Group's WSUN, in Tampa.

## Thank You!

## Questions?

*CONNECT WITH US*

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[GatesAir.com](http://GatesAir.com)

