

Internal Corrosion Basics



Welcome and Introductions

Pipeline Internal Corrosion Agenda

Morning Session

8:30-11:30 a.m.

- Basics of Internal Corrosion
- Monitoring Equipment
- What Tests Should I Be Doing

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - Lunch

Afternoon Session

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

- Tanks and Vessels
- The Chemical Dilemma: to Treat or Not to Treat
- Question and Answer

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

- Southern Star – “What we do in the field” – Bryan Vierthaler and Jason Sparks

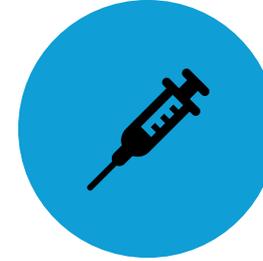
Pipeline Internal Corrosion Agenda



INDUSTRY OVERVIEW



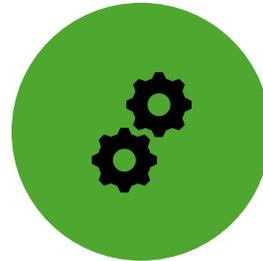
CORROSION BASICS



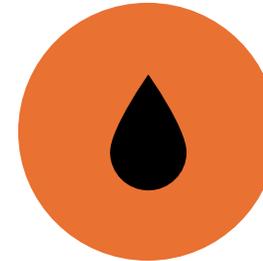
MONITORING
EQUIPMENT



TESTING –WHAT SHOULD
I DO?



TANKS AND VESSELS



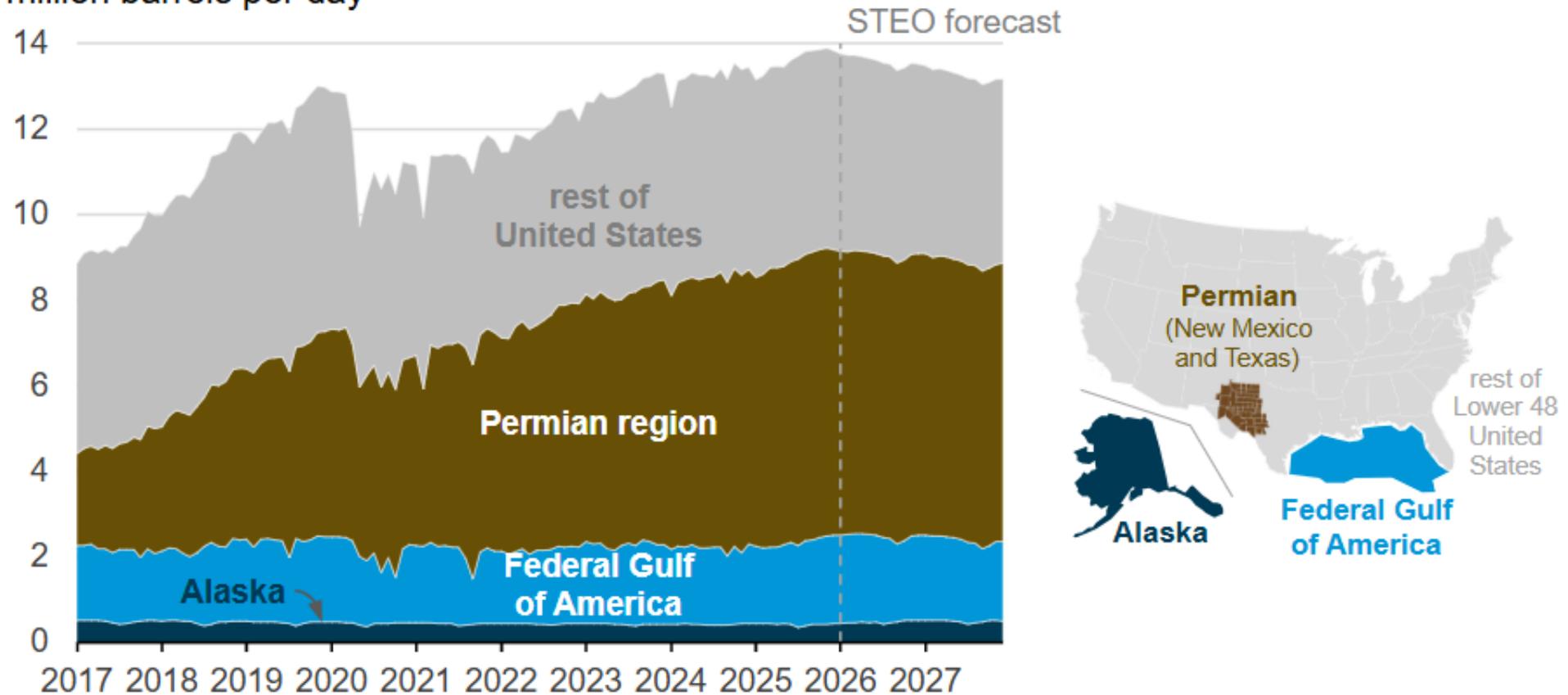
THE CHEMICAL DILEMMA
TO TREAT –OR NOT???

Production Industry Overview

Crude Oil Production (2017-2027)

Monthly U.S. crude oil production by region (Jan 2017–Dec 2027)

million barrels per day



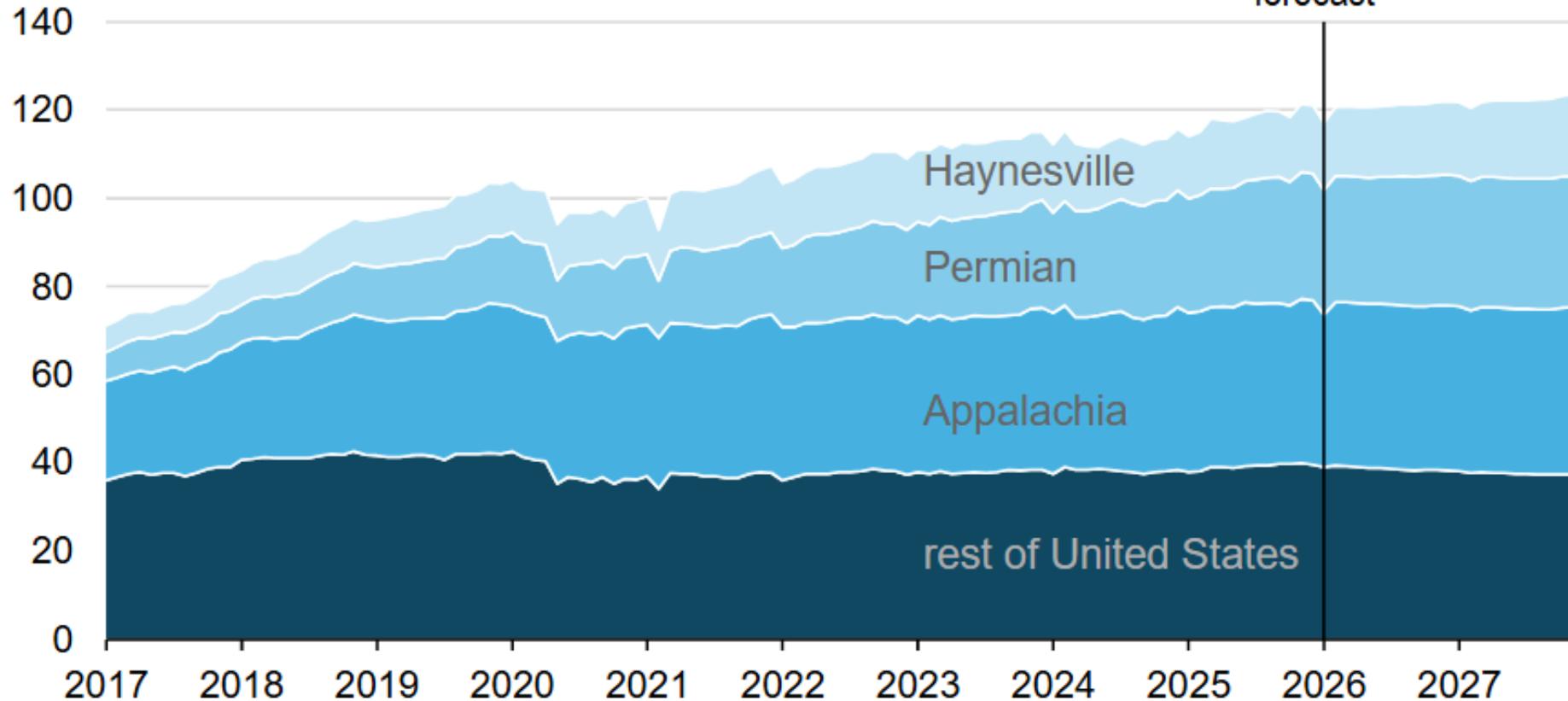
Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Short-Term Energy Outlook* (STEO), January 2026

Data values: U.S. Petroleum and Other Liquids Supply, Consumption, and Inventories

Gas Production (2017 - 2027)

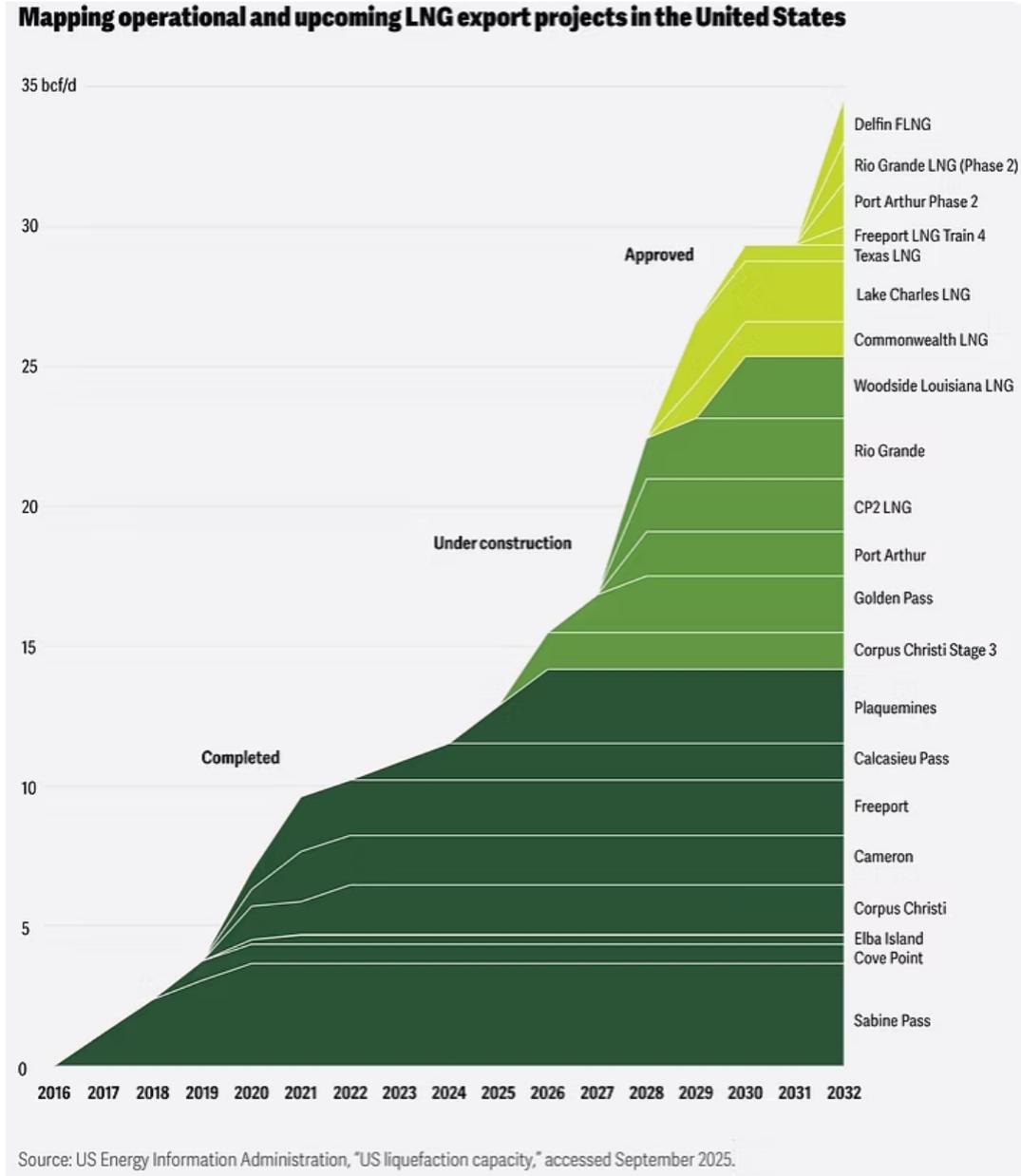
U.S. monthly marketed natural gas production (January 2017–December 2027)

billion cubic feet per day



Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, February 2026

Why is the gas demand increasing?



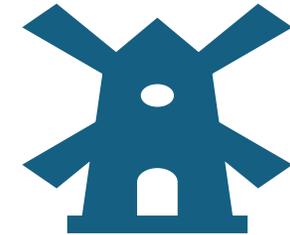
LNG Export Expansions
expected to double by
2030



Increased power
demand



Increase in data
centers



Change to
cleaner/dependable
power generation

- Operate Safely
- Keep the product in the pipe
- Maintain profitability
- Continue to be employed

What is our Ultimate Goal?

What is Corrosion



Degradation of a material

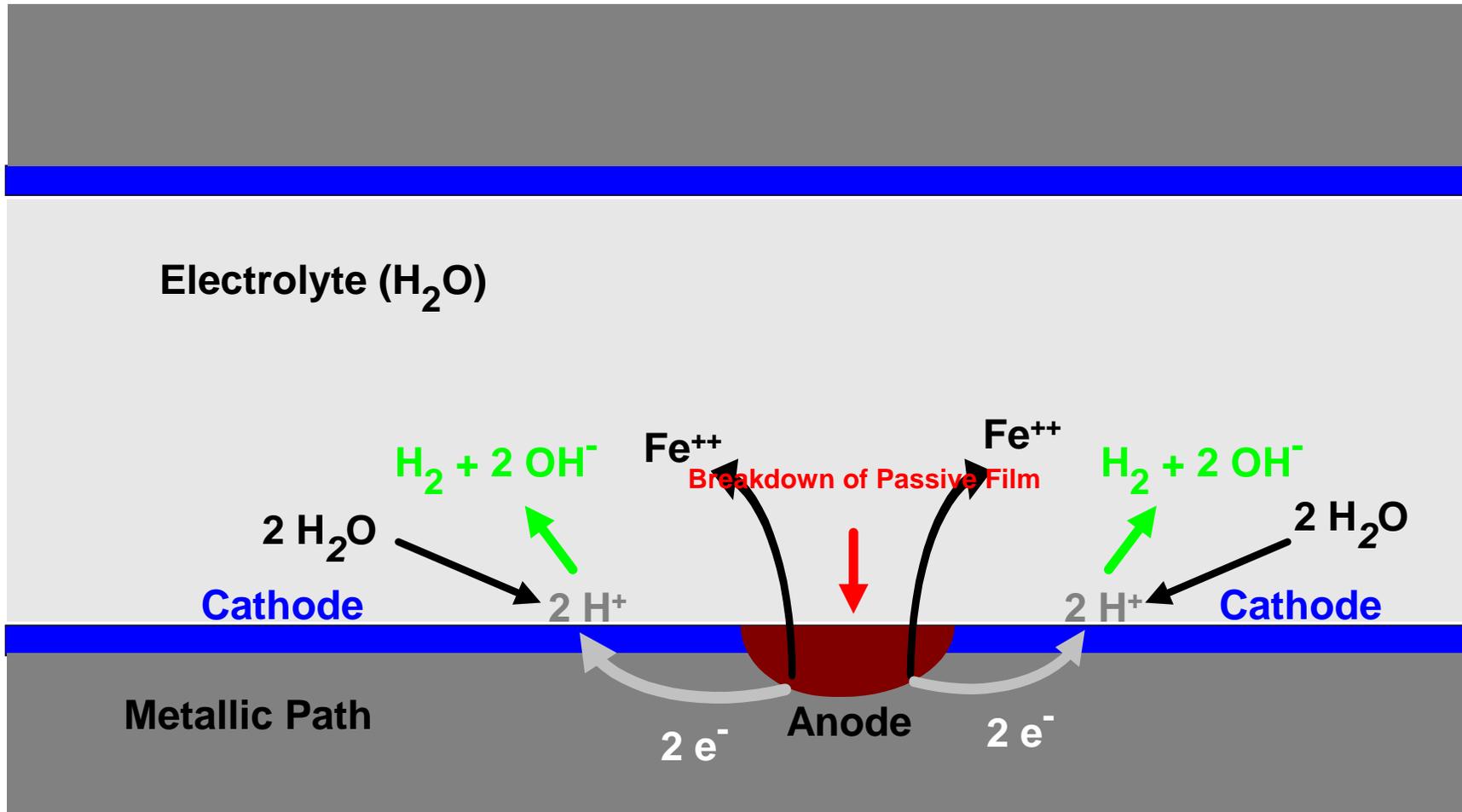
Carbon Steel
Plastic
Wood
Skin



NACE definition - The degradation of a material, usually carbon steel, due to the reaction with its environment

- Eliminate one part of the circuit and corrosion stops.
- **ANODE** - More anodic (CP), CRA's
- **Cathode** – Coating , inhibitor film, CRA's
- **Metallic Path**- Use non metallic's
- **Electrolyte** – Get rid of water, inhibitors, coatings.

Corrosion Circuit



Cathodic Reaction Involving Hydrogen Evolution

- Oxidation Reaction – *Corrosion of Iron*

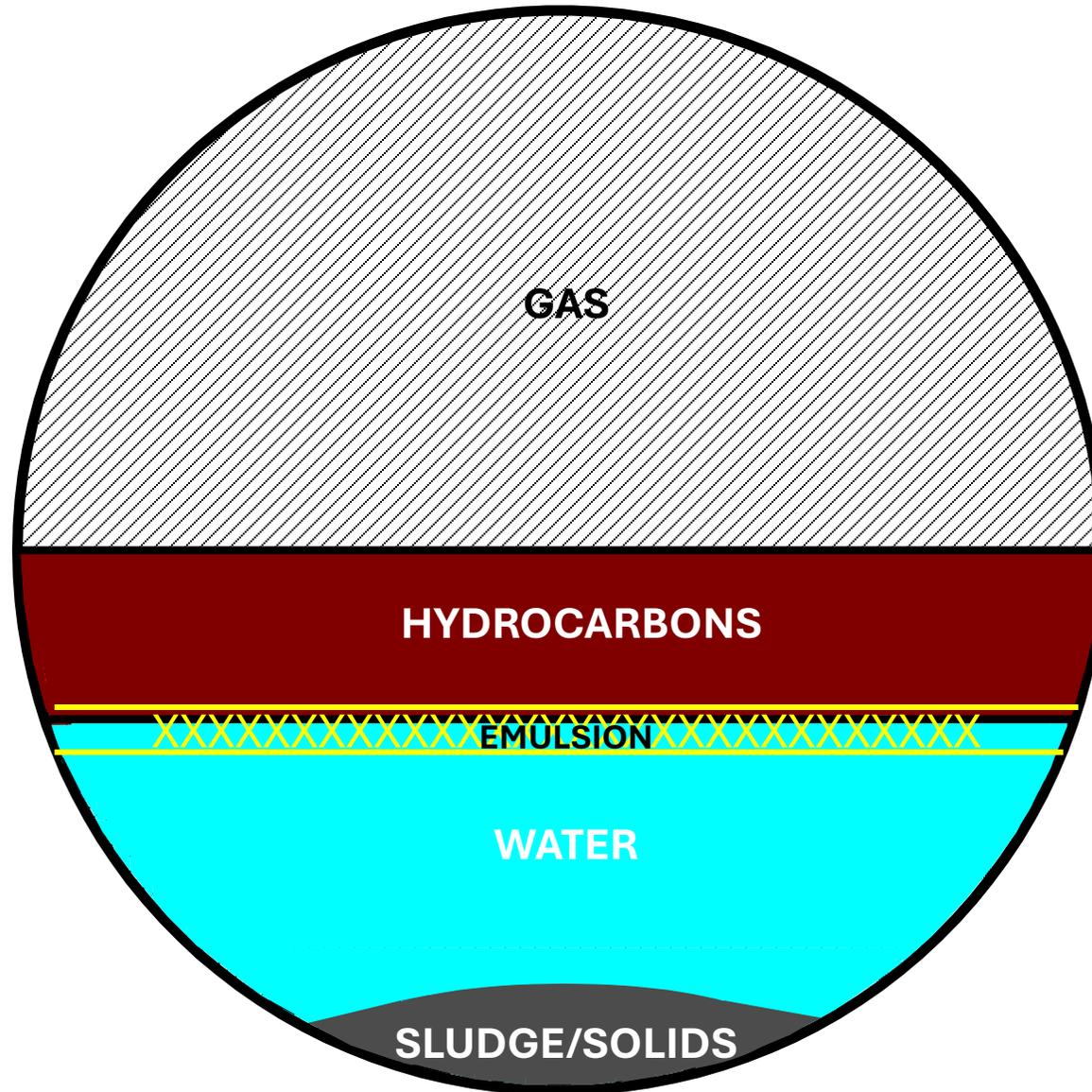


- Reduction Reaction – *Hydrogen Evolution*

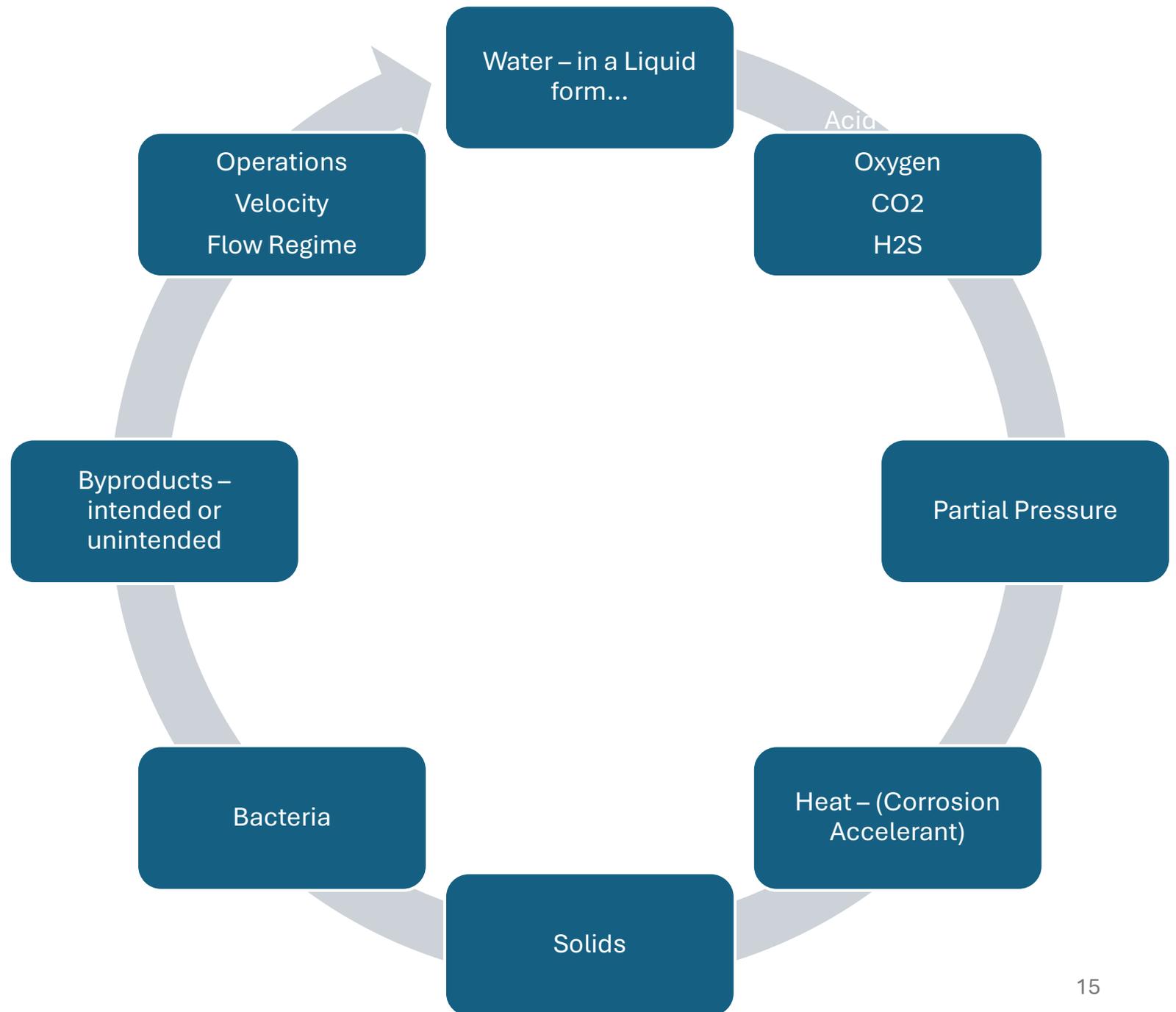


Electrochemical Reactions

INTERNAL PIPELINE ENVIRONMENT



What Causes Corrosion?



What Are The Components We Worry About?

GAS:

Moisture

Oxygen

CO₂

H₂S

Liquids:

Water Volume

Water Composition

Anions

Cations

pH

Alkalinity

Conductivity/Resistivity

Scaling Tendencies

Water /Solids /Product Chemistry

Advantages:

- Gives an indication of corrosive components
- Shows changes in the quantity of potentially corrosive components over time
- Provides data on how potentially corrosive the system could be.
- Provides a method of monitoring product quality

Disadvantages:

- Some tests must be done on site to maintain accuracy
- Sample transportation and preservation is key to accurate results.
- Results can be difficult to interpret
- Requires an understanding of the Methods

Henry's Law – Partial Pressures, and Why They Are Important....

*At a constant temperature, the amount of a given gas dissolved in a given type and volume of liquid is directly proportional to the **partial pressure** of that gas in equilibrium with that liquid.*

▶ More simply stated:

▶ The **solubility** of a gas in a liquid is proportional to the pressure *of that gas* above the liquid.

- $$\text{ppCO}_2 = \frac{\text{System CO}_2 \text{ (Mole \%)} \times (\text{System Pressure} + \text{Atmospheric Pressure})}{100}$$

Acid Gases - Oxygen (O_2)

Strong “Depolarizer”

Forms deep pits

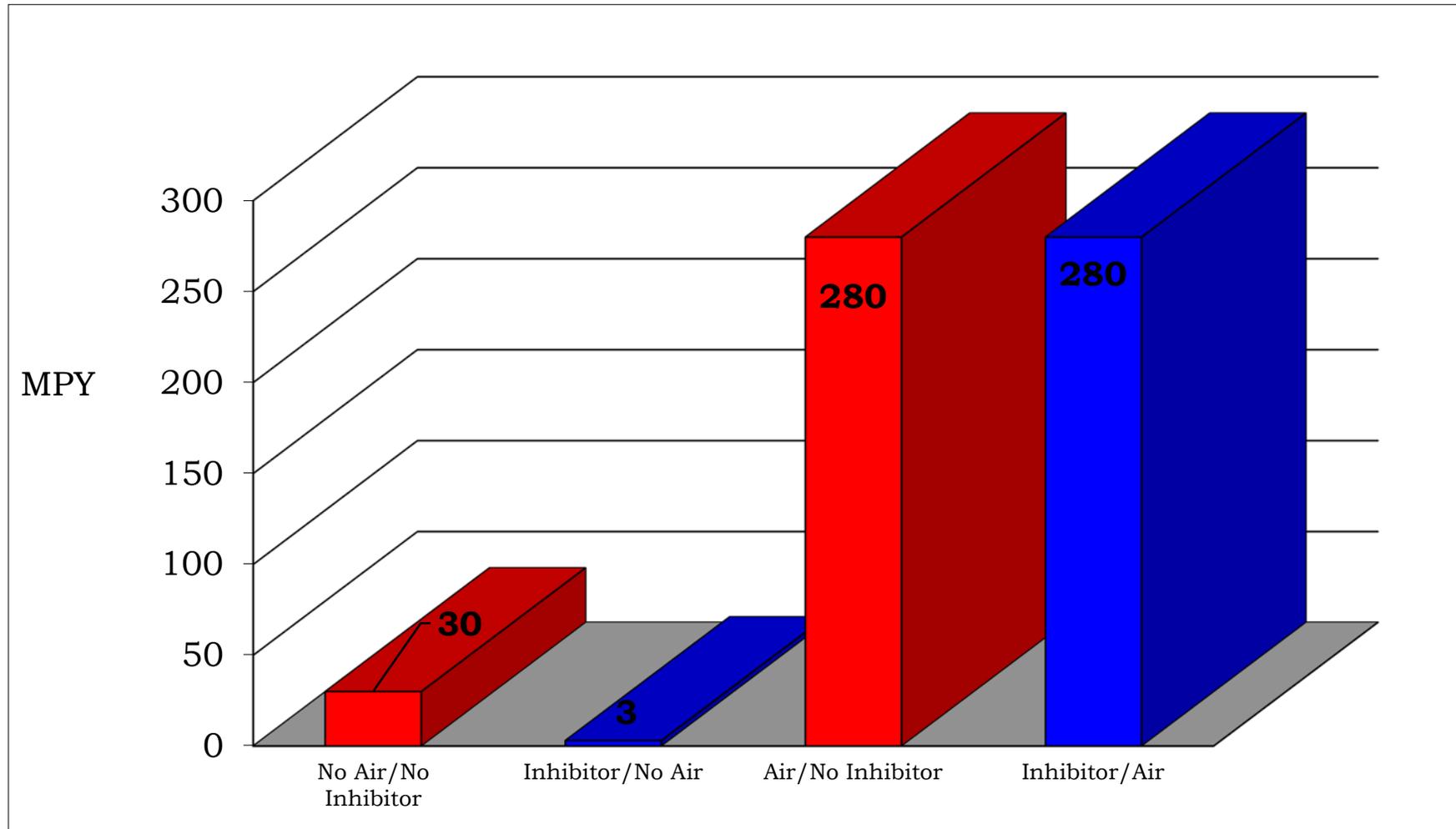
Usually found in surface equipment where air has entry point.

Can greatly accelerate other corrosive agents

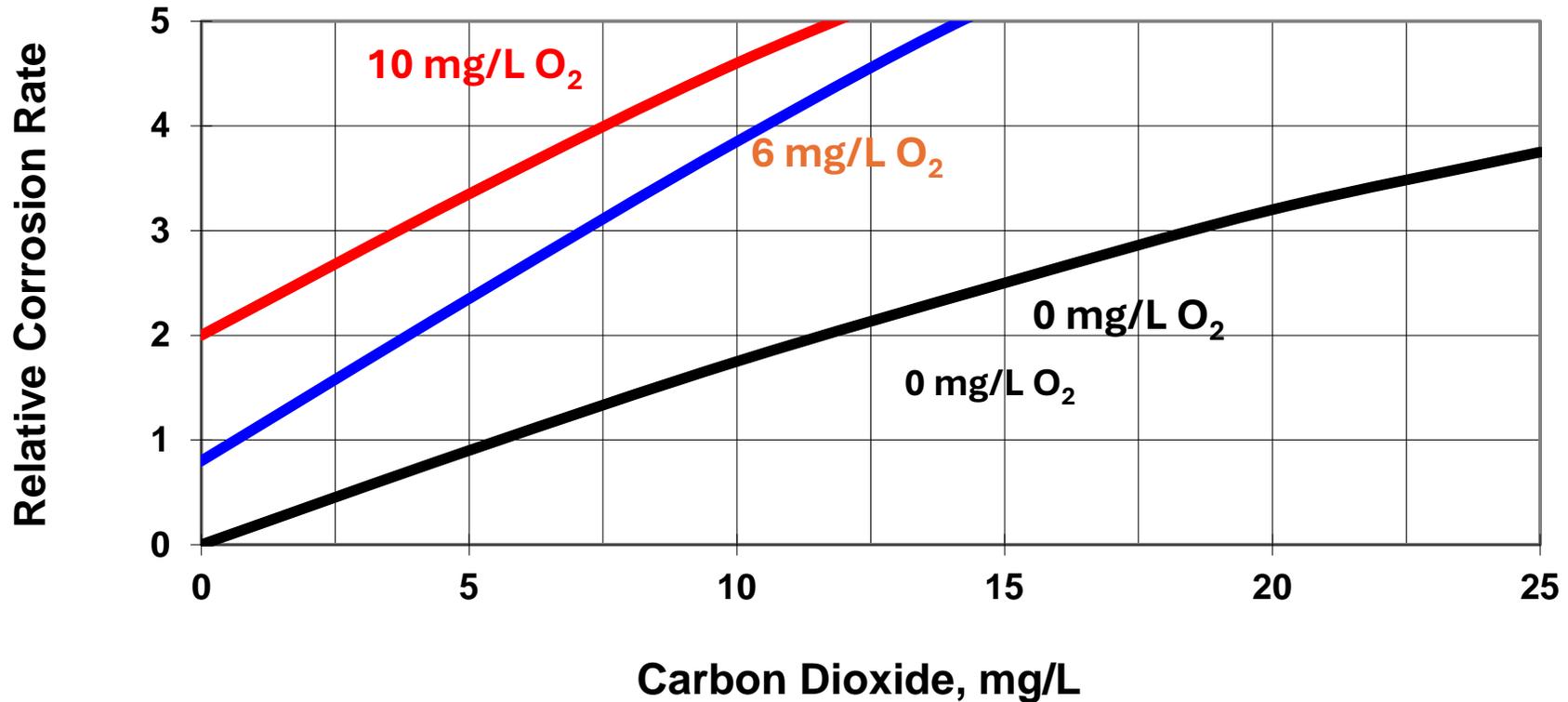
Usually caused by a mechanical problem (Seals, Thief Hatches, Packings, Open Valves etc.)



Effect Of O₂ On Sour Corrosion With And Without Inhibitor



Carbon Dioxide Corrosion Rates with the Addition of Oxygen in Surface Water



Estimation: $\text{ppm O}_2 = 10 - 0.555 (X^\circ\text{F} - 30^\circ\text{F})$, where $X^\circ\text{F}$ is the water temperature.



Acid Gases

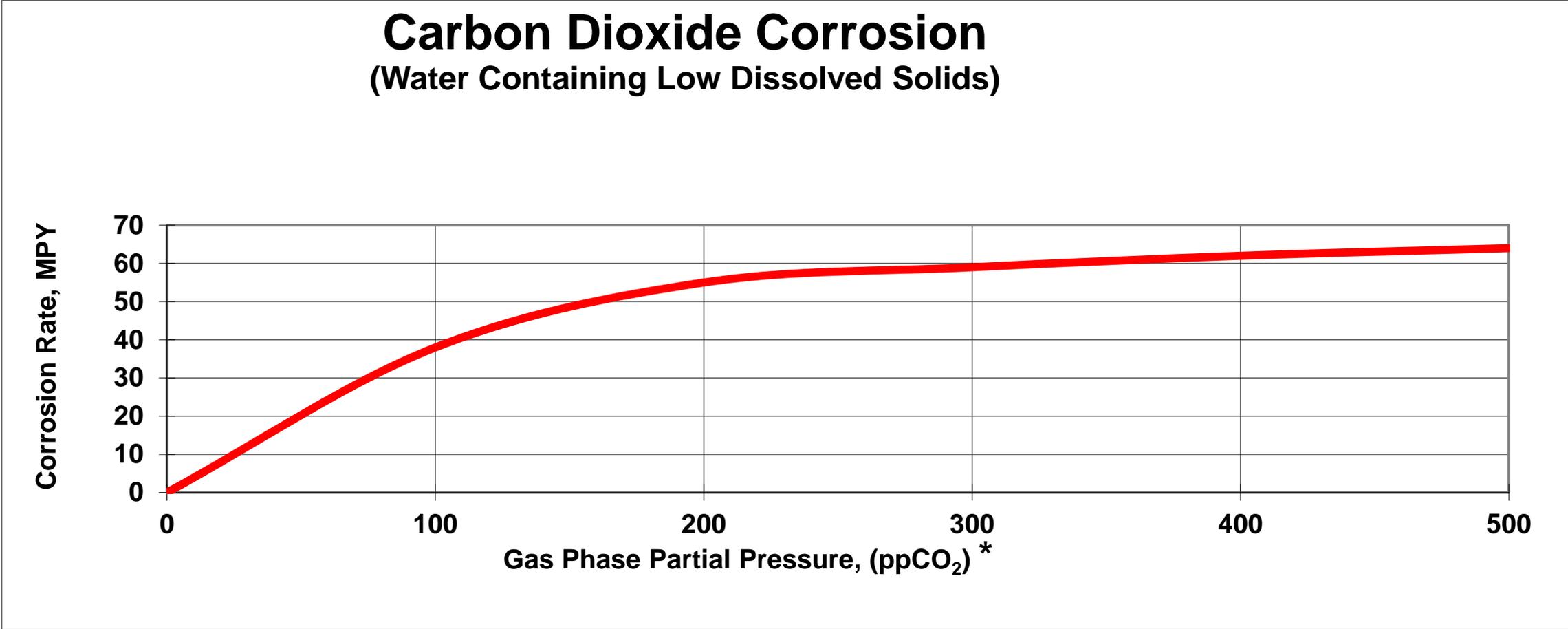
Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)



- CO₂ forms a weak acid that attacks metal
- Often takes the form of “Mesa” pitting type attack



Partial Pressure of Carbon Dioxide Vs. Corrosion Rate



- $ppCO_2 = \frac{\text{System } CO_2 \text{ (Mole \%)} \times (\text{System Pressure} + \text{Atmospheric Pressure})}{100}$

100

Acid Gas - Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S)



Has characteristic “rotten egg” smell

Creates a black deposit FeS

Usually a shallow “dish” type attack, but may have pitting

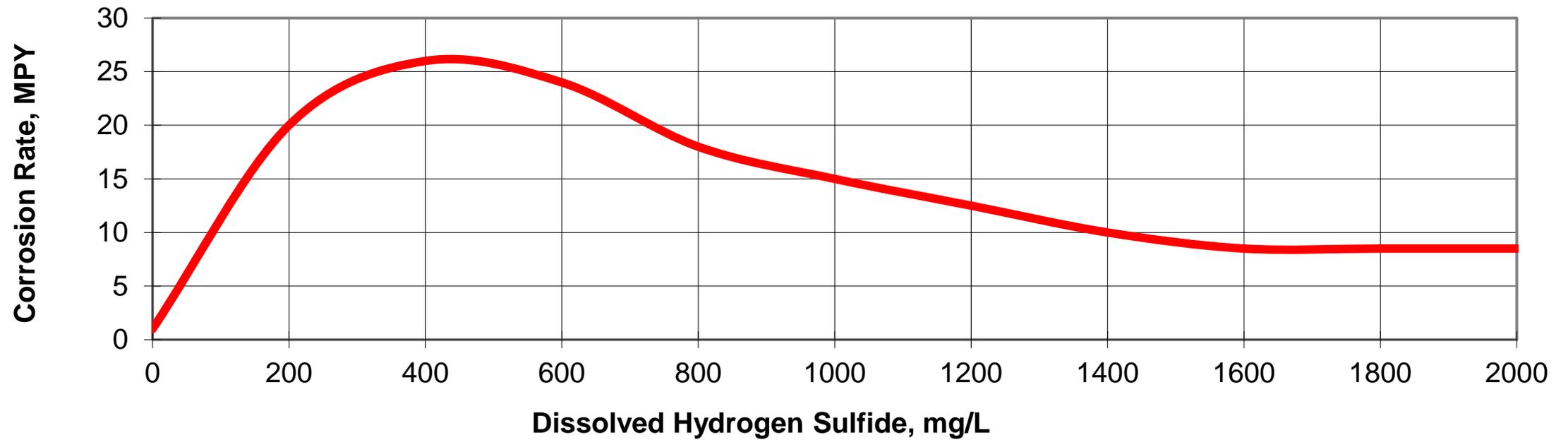
H₂S forms a weak acid that attacks metal

Usually has etching in the bottom of the pits

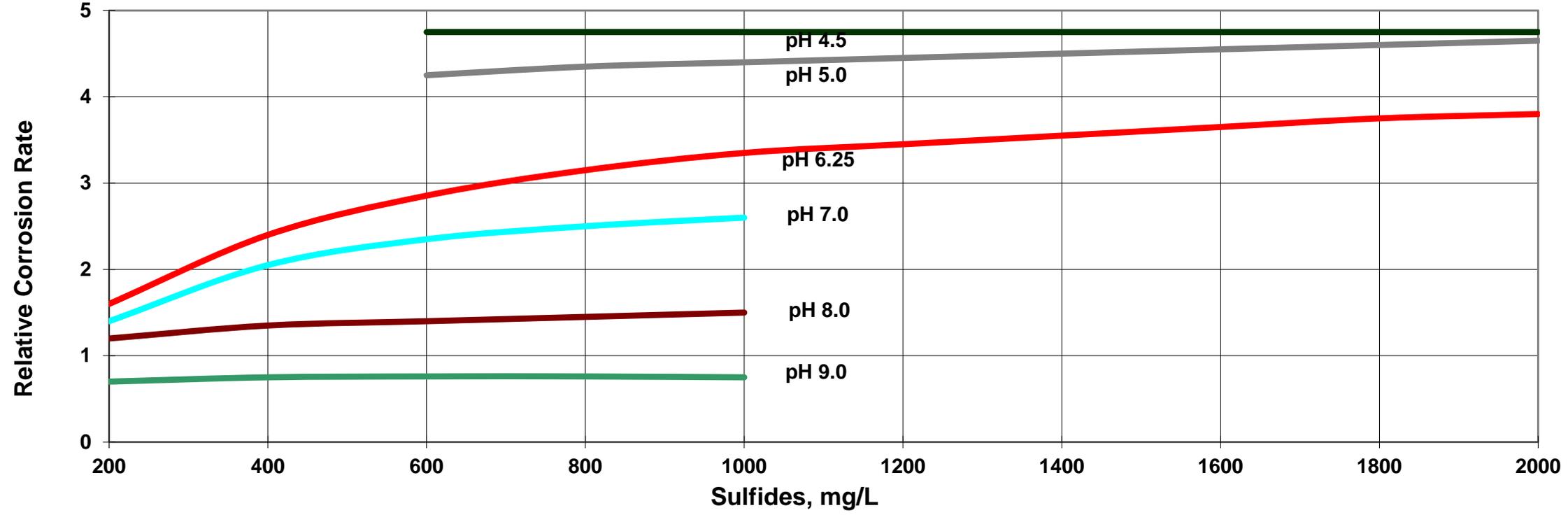


Courtesy- Corrosion of Oil and Gas Well Equipment, API cc 1958

Hydrogen Sulfide Corrosion (Water Containing Low Dissolved Solids)



Hydrogen Sulfide Corrosion With Respect to pH



Acid Gas “Worry Levels”

Sweet	Any amount of CO ₂ with 5 ppm or less H ₂ S.
Sour	Any amount of CO ₂ with 10 ppm or more H ₂ S.
Oxygen Assisted	Any amount of CO ₂ and / or H ₂ S with 10 -20 ppb or more O ₂ .

- Levels relative to measurements made on fresh samples.
- Your “Worry Levels” may change with Temperature, Pressure and other corrosive constituents

Water /Solids /Gas / Product Chemistry

Advantages:

- Gives an indication of corrosive components
- Shows changes in the quantity of potentially corrosive components over time
- Provides data on how potentially corrosive the system could be.
- Provides a method of monitoring product quality

Disadvantages:

- Some tests must be done on site to maintain accuracy
- Sample transportation and preservation is key to accurate results.
- Results can be difficult to interpret
- Requires an understanding of the Methods

Velocity Effects

Pipeline Flow Conditions - Water

Gas (ft/sec):

0 - 7.5	Stratified
7.5 - 15	Slug
15 - 25	Annular Mist
> 35	Erosion

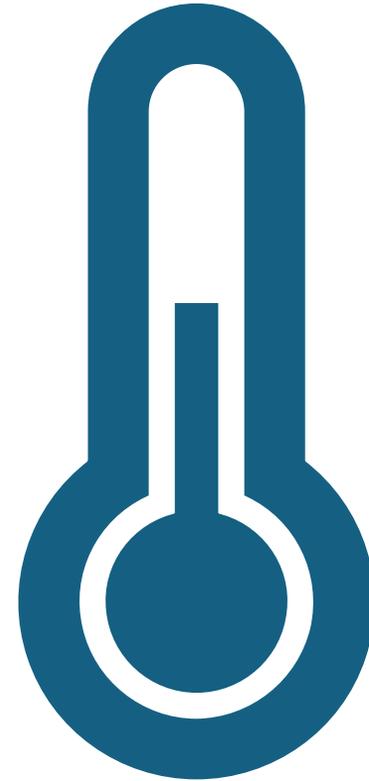
Liquids (ft/sec):

0 - 3.5	Stratified
3.5 - 7	Slug
> 7.5	Turbulent

Temperature Effects

Rule of Thumb:

**Corrosion rates double
for every 10 C° (18 F°)
increase in
temperature.**



Free Water and Solids

- Acid Gases
- Anions
- Cations
- pH
- Alkalinity
- Scaling Indices

Questions?

Thank you for your attention and for allowing me to present this information

Tom Pickthall

tomp123@gmail.com

713-906-4841

Lance Barton

Lancebarton.enhanceco@gmail.com

417-204-1614

