

Liquid Cooling System for Battery/Electric Testbed

Richard Hainey¹, Leighton Gay¹, Josiah Worch¹, Kerry Sado², H.J Fought², Austin R.J. Downey¹, Jamil Khan¹

¹University of South Carolina, Department of Mechanical Engineering

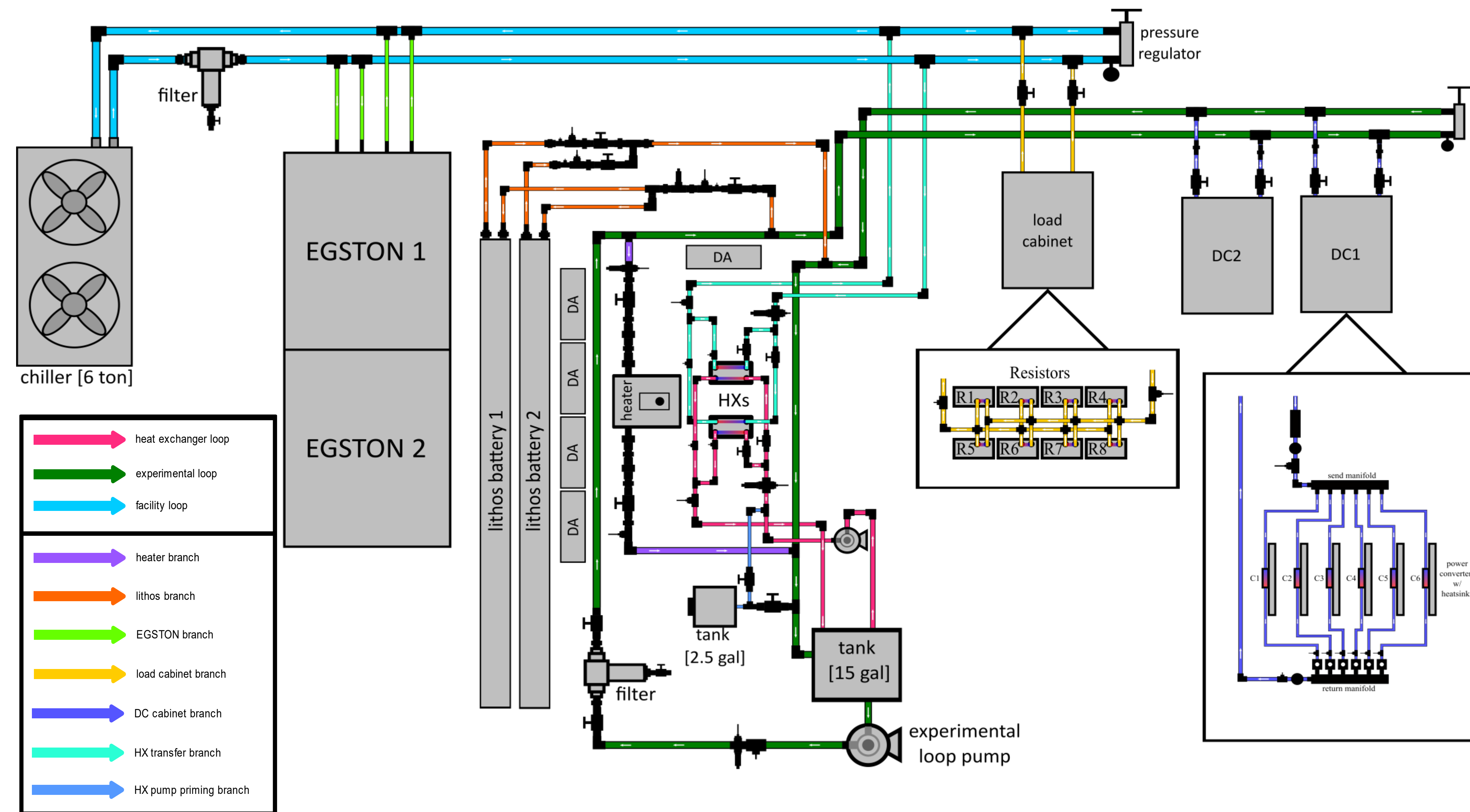
²University of South Carolina, Department of Electrical Engineering

SCEPTER LAB Cooling Network

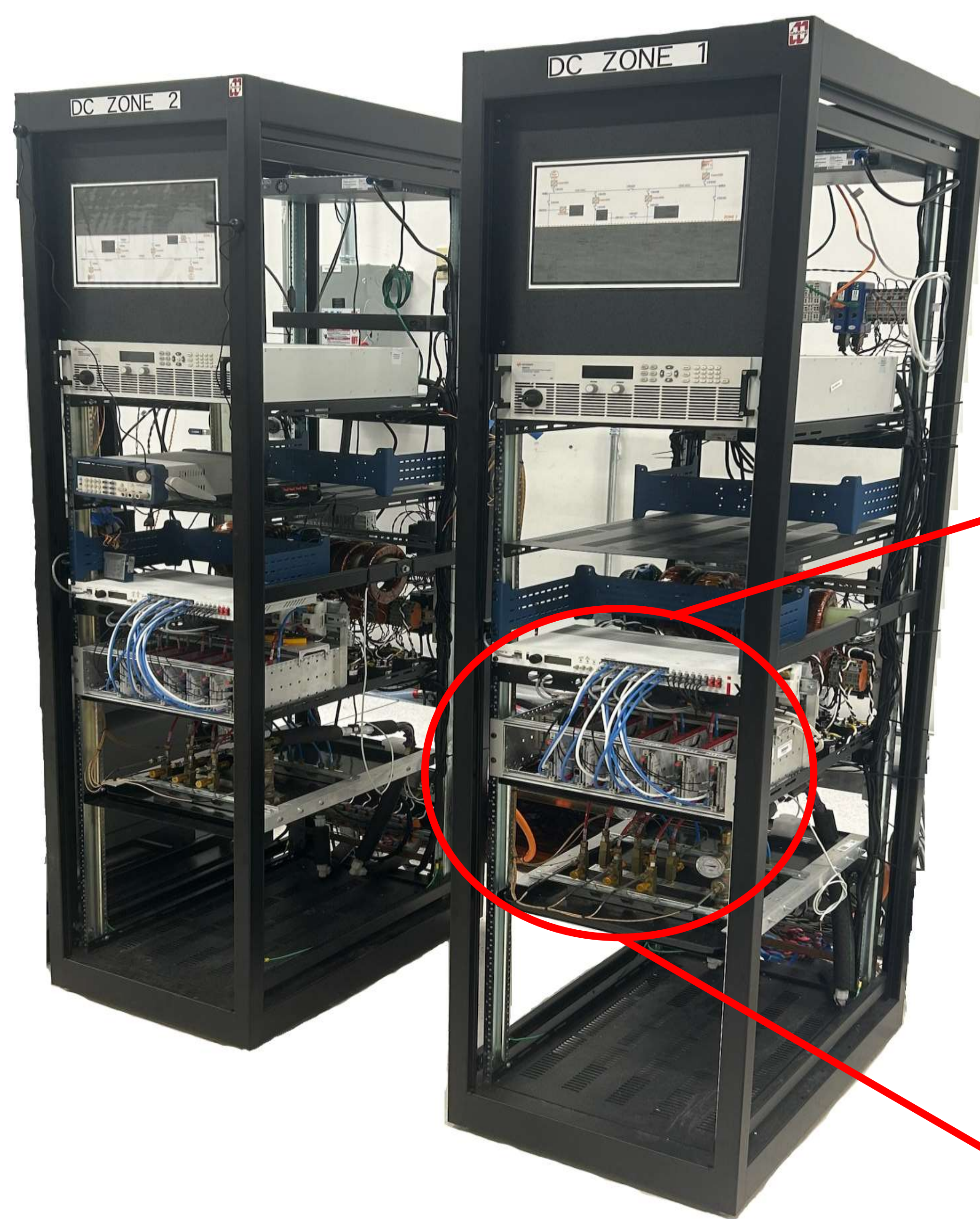
- The SCEPTER [South Carolina Energy and Power Testbed for Engineering Research] lab cooling system is a collection of interconnected cooling loops designed to maintain the effective cooling of the equipment in the lab.
- The system consists of three cooling loops: experimental, facility, and heat exchanger.
- Experimental loop:**
 - Supplies coolant [propylene glycol water mixture] to power electronics within the DC cabinets.
- Facility loop:**
 - Supplies coolant to EGSTON power amplifiers, load cabinet, and equipment not used in experiments.
- Heat exchanger loop:**
 - Circulates coolant from experimental loop through heat exchangers to transfer heat to the facility loop.
 - From here heat is expelled out to the local atmosphere through liquid to air heat transfer.

Testbed Coolant Network Diagram

- Heat exchange between cooling loops:**
 - After heating, coolant within the experimental loop [dark green] returns to the 15 U.S gallon tank featured in the right-side diagram.
 - This heated coolant then travels through the heat exchanger loop [pink loop]. Here it enters two 24k BtuH brazed plate heat exchangers.
 - Heat transfer occurs between this loop and the HX [blue green] branch. This branch connects into the facility loop.
- Heat removal from testbed:**
 - Heat is expelled from the testbed via the, six-ton cooling capacity, chiller into the local environment.
- Heat addition into testbed:**
 - Heat is added to the testbed via the heater, DC cabinet converters, load cabinet, EGSTONS, and centrifugal pump via impeller inefficiencies.

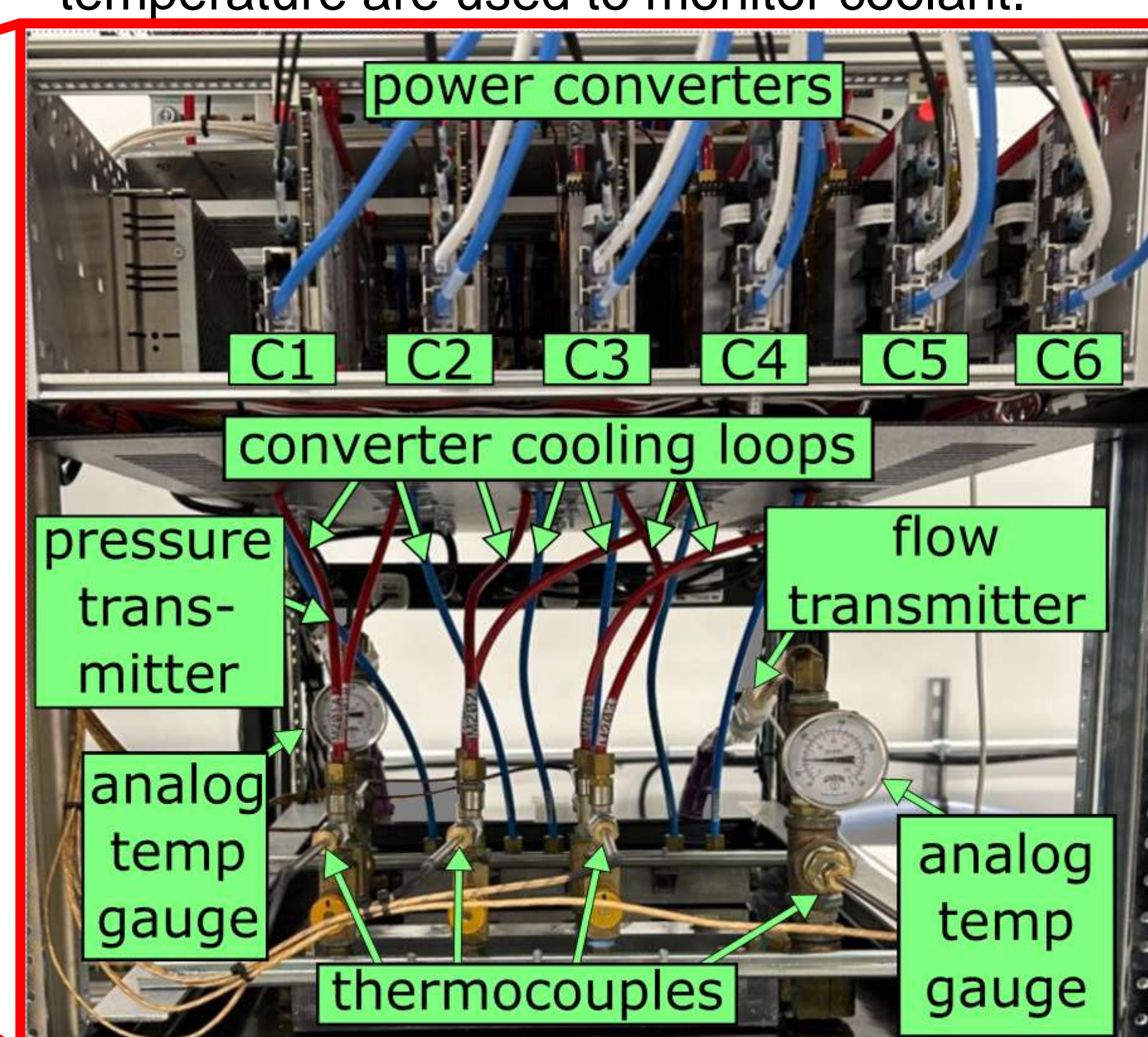


DC Cabinets

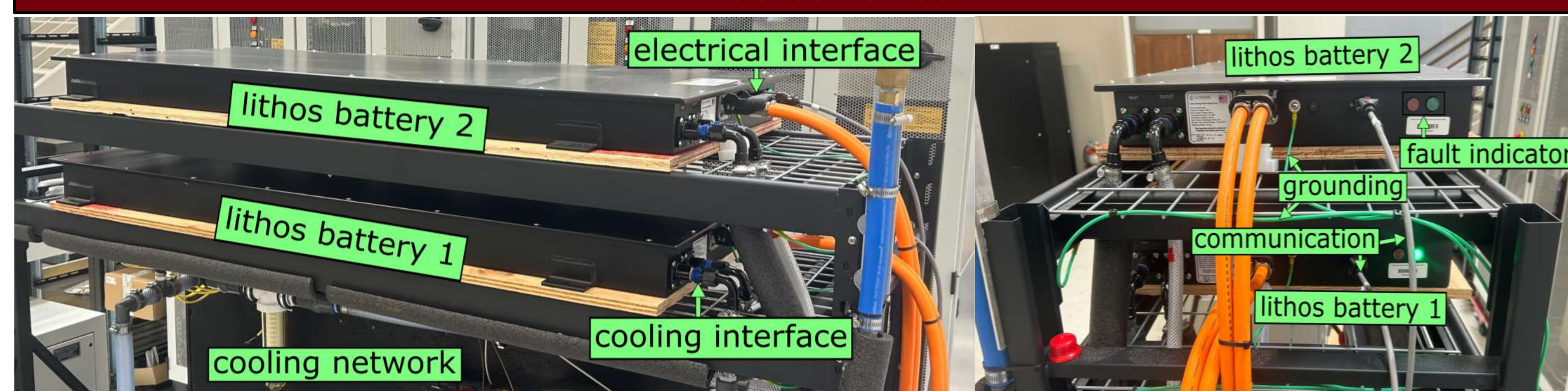


Power Converters

- Waste heat production in converters:**
 - Waste heat generated by the power converters is removed via coolant flowing through cooling chambers within cooling blocks installed in converters.
 - Coolant distribution is controlled via the manifold network below.
 - Gauges and sensors for pressure, flow, and temperature are used to monitor coolant.



Lithos batteries



DC Cabinets/ Lithos Functionality

- The DC cabinets house the main electronic suites used during testing.
- Features six individual power converters per cabinet, for a total of 12.
- Control for these cabinets is through a nearby operations area where operators manipulate power input via generators and the Lithos batteries featured above.
- Minimum flow requirements is 0.33 gpm per set of converters.
- Waste heat generated by the power converters is removed via coolant flowing through cooling chambers within cooling blocks installed on the converters.
- Featured right is the specifications for the Lithos batteries.
- Minimum flow requirements for the Lithos batteries is one - two gpm per battery.

Nominal Voltage, V	350
Operating Voltage, V	240-403
Nameplate Energy, kWh	12.7
Nameplate Capacity, Ah	36
Cont. Discharge Current, A	150
10s Pulse Current, A	300
Std Charge Current, A	18
Max Charge Current, A	48
Cycle Life*	500
Mass (dry), kg**	100
Cooling System	Liquid Cooled
Environmental Protection***	IP67
Cell Discharge Temp, °C	-10 to 65
Cell Charge Temp, °C	0 to 65
Recommended Storage Temp, °C	-30 to 65
Maximum Storage Temp, °C	5 to 25
Passive Safety Features	Individual Cell Fuses Pack Fuse Safety Vent
BMS Features	X Form Contactor Pre-charge Circuit Passive Balancing Cell Temp. Sensing Isolation Monitor

This work was supported by the Office of Naval Research under contract NOs.N00014-22-C-1003, N00014-23-C-1012, and N00014-24-C-1301. The support of the ONR is gratefully acknowledged. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Navy.



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina