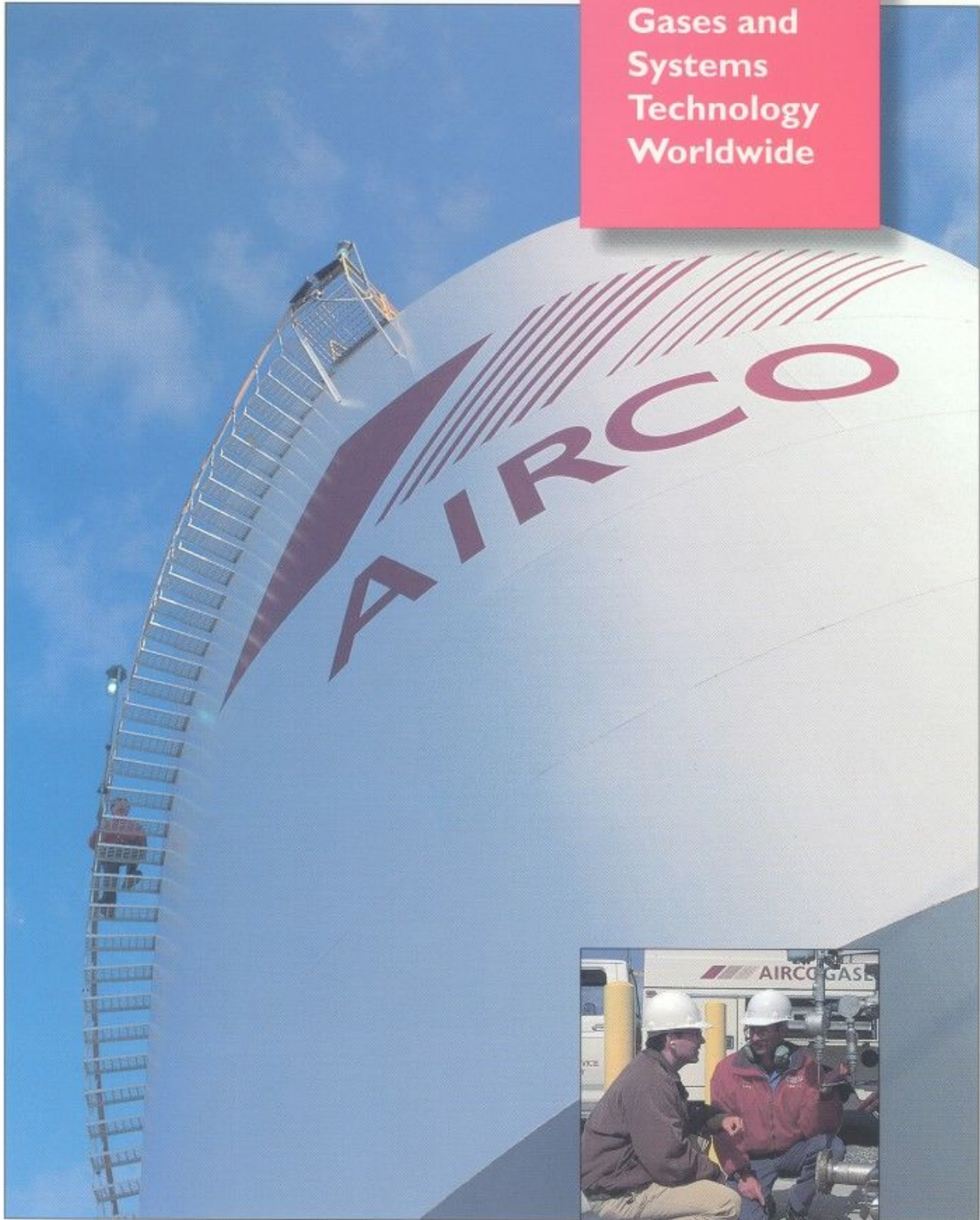
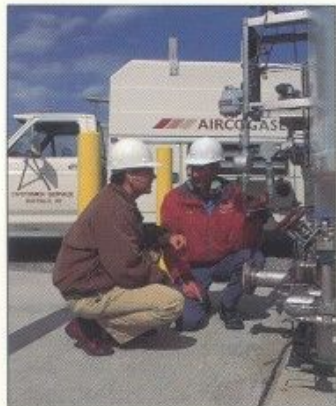


Gases and
Systems
Technology
Worldwide



 **AIRCO**



Airco's nationwide network of field engineers, technicians, and representatives provides you with the best technical support and customer service in the industry.

The Airco staff includes scientists, engineers, and technologists with vast experience solving difficult technical problems in a wide range of industries and applications.





A century of leadership in gas supply and technology

For nearly 100 years, Airco Gases and other members of The BOC Group have provided innovative gas technology solutions to meet the process and production needs of our customers worldwide.

From cylinders and bulk liquid, to noncryogenic and cryogenic on-site systems, Airco can custom-tailor a gas supply method that's right for your process. We'll take a close look at your plant location, power costs, and special circumstances. Through this customized approach, Airco can design, engineer, and install the most efficient, cost-effective, and *reliable* supply solution for your particular requirements.

Extensive applications engineering expertise and the industry's leading R&D program allow us to find the best solution for your process. That's why thousands of satisfied customers nationwide rely on Airco for all their gas needs.

For nearly a century, customers have counted on Airco for dependable, on-time, and reliable gas delivery and supply.



Airco offers the most extensive line of gas products in the industry.

Airco is the only U.S. supplier with the complete line of gases including nitrogen, oxygen, argon, carbon dioxide, helium, and hydrogen, as well as special and rare gases and gas mixtures for any application. Gases are available in all purities for every industrial application, including the highest-purity requirements for semiconductor fabrication. We will provide the most cost-effective mix of product and purity for your needs.

Airco's vast nationwide distribution network and large production capacity ensure *reliable* supply and the availability of all the gases you need. Our patented technology and systems enable us to deliver gas from the source of supply to the point of use in the safest, most efficient, and most cost-effective manner possible.

The cold facts about Airco gases...

Nitrogen Nitrogen makes up almost four-fifths of the Earth's atmosphere by volume and is the biggest-selling industrial chemical in the world. Airco Gases operates 27 air separation plants across the U.S.

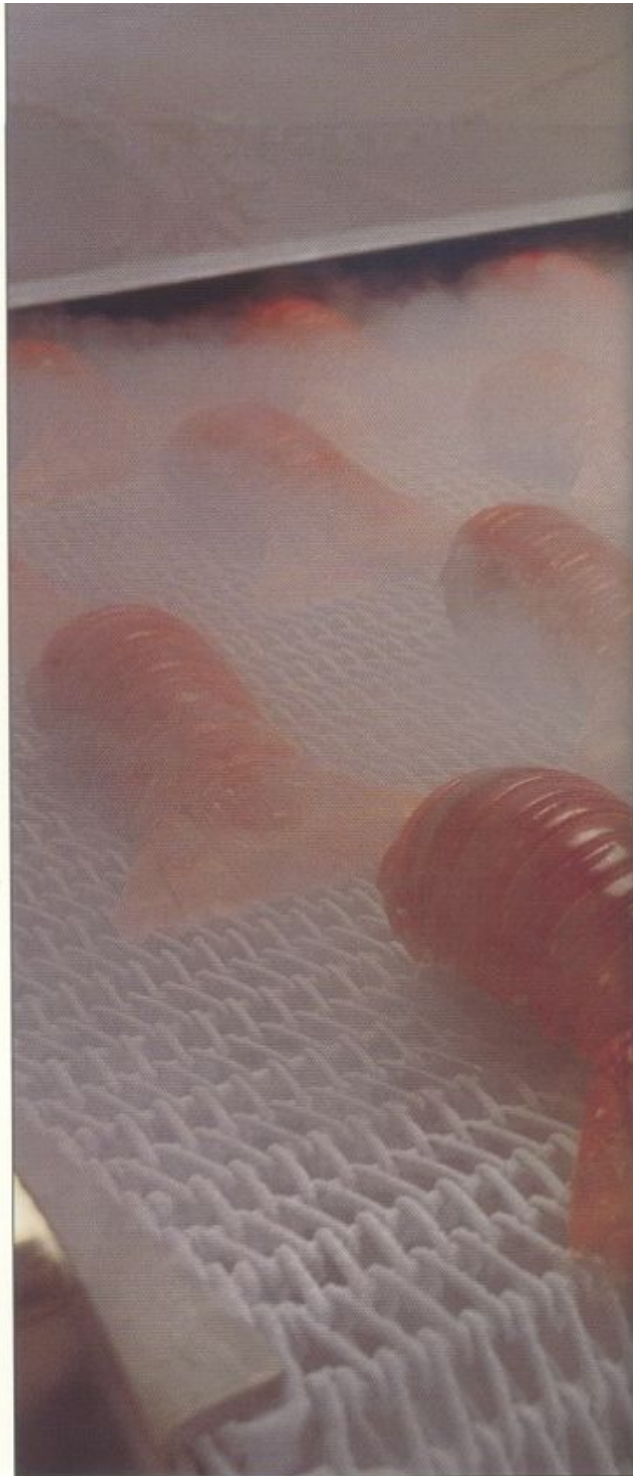
Oxygen Oxygen, the most abundant element on Earth, combines readily with almost every other element. Airco has developed advanced technology for applying oxygen in a wide range of applications, from chemical processing and wastewater treatment, to welding, steelmaking, and nonferrous melting.

Carbon dioxide Carbon dioxide is the leading gas for freezing, chilling, and refrigeration of food products. With a wide range of immersion and tunnel freezers, Airco Gases is an innovator in this important application. We're also the #1 supplier of carbon dioxide in the U.S.

Helium Helium is the second most abundant element in the universe. Liquid helium, with a temperature of -459°F , is the coldest substance known, and the only element that can achieve critical superconductivity. Airco Gases specializes in MRI, cryogenic cooling, welding, and other applications.

Hydrogen Hydrogen, the lightest of all elements, makes up less than one percent of the Earth's crust, but is the most abundant element in the universe, constituting a major component of stars. It also has the fastest-growing number of applications of any industrial gas.

Argon Argon was discovered in 1894 by physicist John Rayleigh. Dry air is less than one percent argon by volume. Argon is used mainly in arc welding, lighting, and steelmaking.



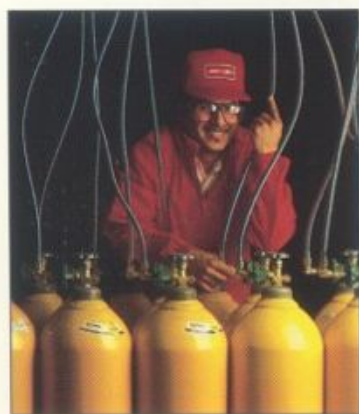


(Above) Only Airco offers systems using either carbon dioxide or nitrogen for freezing, chilling, and refrigerating food products.

(Left) Airco's plant in Magog, Quebec, produces 15 tons of hydrogen per day and has made Airco the lowest-cost producer of industrial hydrogen in North America.

Airco provides the gaseous and liquid helium and liquid nitrogen required for the start-up, operation, and maintenance of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems, which are used to produce cross-sectional images of the human anatomy.

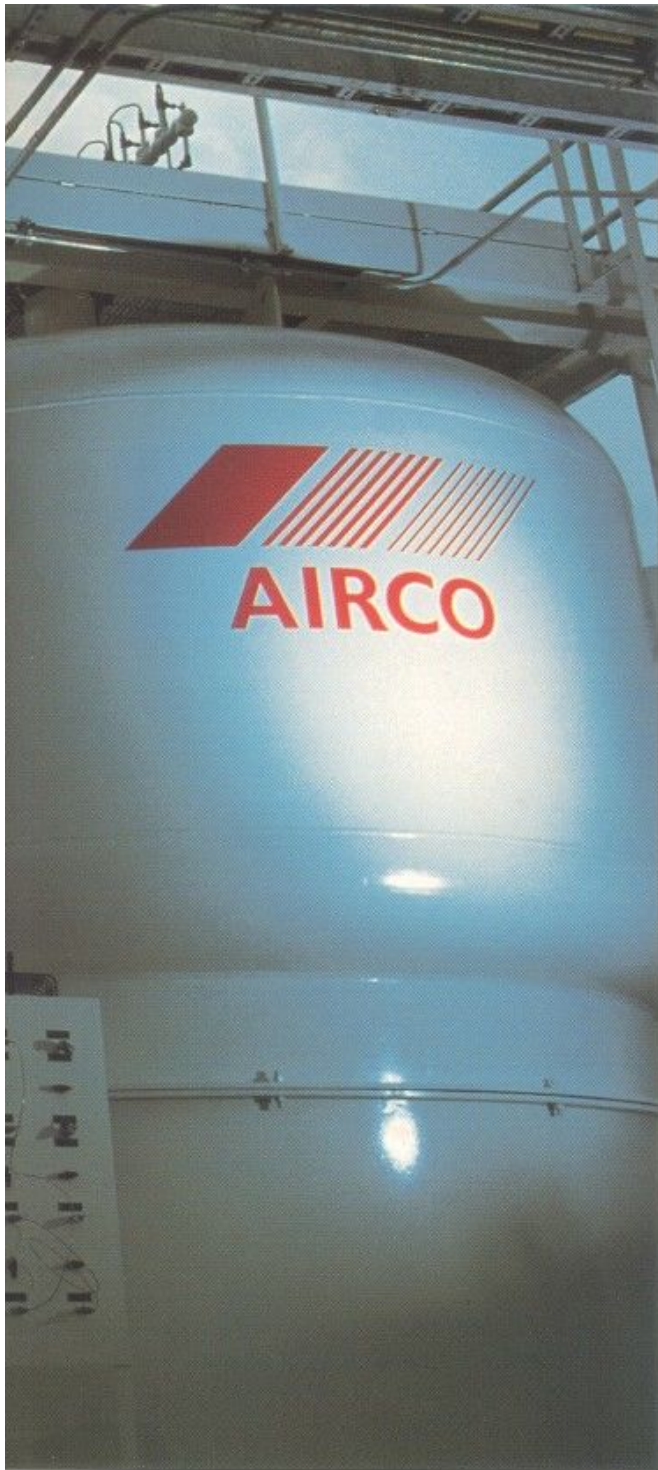




(Left) The interior surfaces of Airco's Spectra-Seal® aluminum cylinders are enhanced by a special anodizing process that renders them chemically inert. A second proprietary process converts this passivation layer into a smooth, unreactive, tightly adherent surface, virtually eliminating adsorption and desorption.

Airco's noncryogenic, on-site supply systems use the most advanced adsorption and membrane technologies available.





(Above) Airco supply options range from cylinder or bulk delivery to on-site generation and cryogenic systems.

Airco will help you select the supply mode that's right for your application.

At Airco, we provide our customers with the supply mode that best suits their needs. No industrial gas manufacturer offers more supply options than Airco. These supply modes include:

- **Cylinder and compressed gas.** Airco offers compressed gas in cylinders and tube trailers and liquefied gas in dewars. This gives customers requiring small quantities of gas a cost-effective supply method tailored to their level of consumption.
- **Bulk liquid.** Airco can ship liquefied bulk gases to you in specially insulated trailers and railroad cars. For many customers, delivery of liquefied bulk gas is often the most cost-effective supply mode.
- **Membrane and PSA noncryogenic systems.** Airco is the leader in membrane and PSA (pressure swing adsorption) technology for economical on-site generation of gaseous nitrogen and oxygen. Depending on your application, these noncryogenic systems may offer the most cost-effective supply for you.
- **Cryogenic on-site plants.** On-site cryogenic plants are recommended for customers consuming large quantities of gas. Our superior plant engineering and manufacturing experience assures the most technically advanced and energy-efficient cryogenic separation process for your requirement.

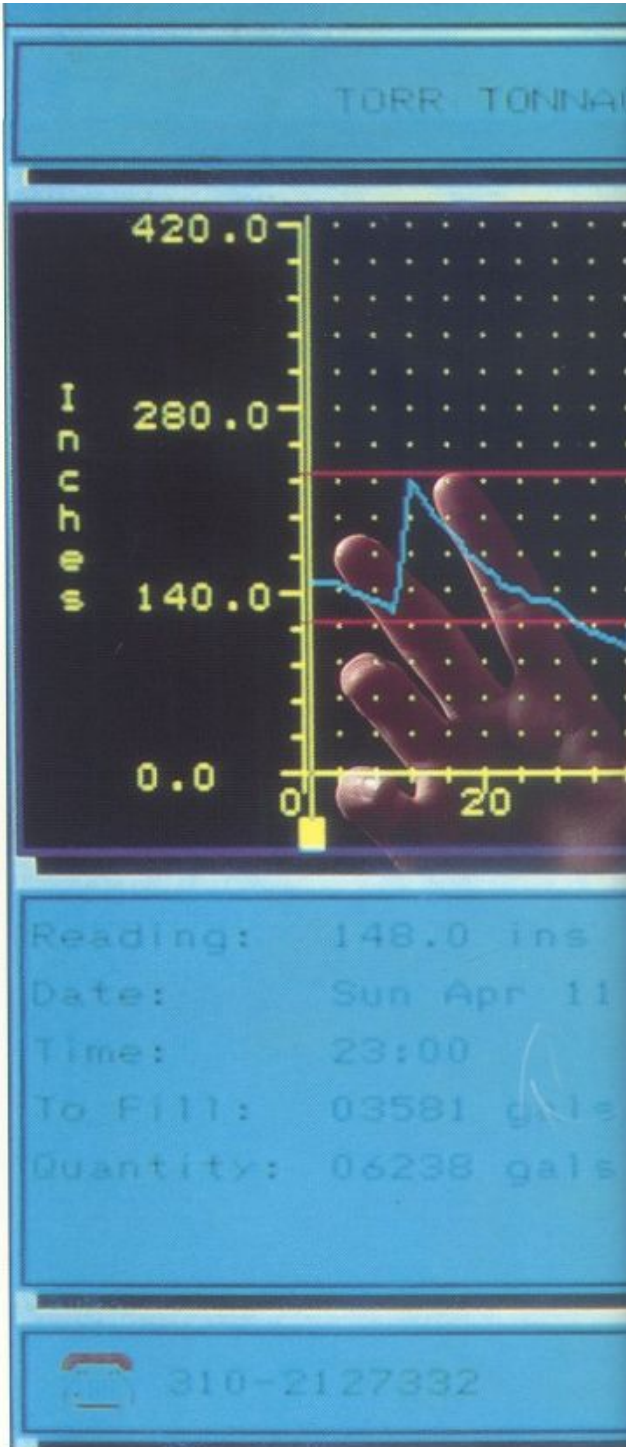
Airco Gases is the leader in gas distribution with the most advanced technology and the most extensive distribution network.

Airco has invested millions of dollars in developing a distribution network that is the most reliable in the industry and ensures availability of gases where and when you need them.

For example, our sophisticated TEL-TANK™ telemetry system enables us to monitor product levels in your bulk liquid stations, alerting us to potential supply or tank problems *before* they occur. Plus, with a personal computer and Airco's AIR-WARE™ software, you can gain direct access to the information the TEL-TANK system records and use it to analyze and improve your operation's efficiency.

Airco's National Scheduling Center uses inventory data from the TEL-TANK system and our own proprietary scheduling software to provide reliable, on-time delivery of gases to your plants. Our National Scheduling Center, with its 1-800-CD-AIRCO 24-hour hotline, operates round the clock to handle routine as well as emergency deliveries.

What's more, Airco has the largest network of distributors and retail locations of any U.S. gas supplier, with more than 650 independent distributor and Airco-owned stores nationwide.

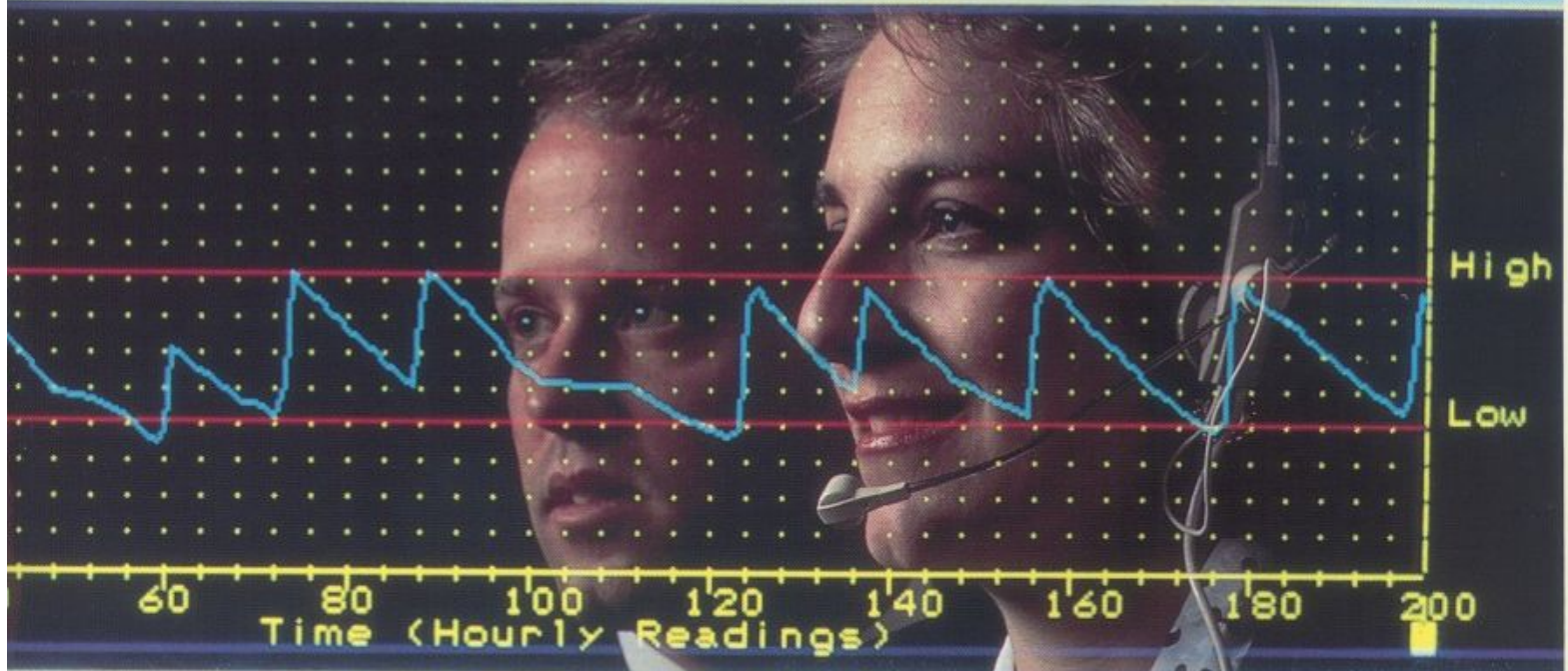


Your bulk liquid stations can be equipped with Airco's TEL-TANK telemetry system so you can continuously monitor product levels.

Nitrogen

Tank: 01

0000059



Reading: 211.0 in
Date: Apr 20
Time: 06:00
Status: Normal
Usage: 0.0 in/hr
Refill: 03:00 Apr 21

Reading: 211.0 ins
Date: Tue Apr 20
Time: 06:00
To Fill: 00830 gals
Quantity: 08989 gals

Channel: 2

RTU: 11-054

Tank Type: 050

(Above) Airco's National Scheduling Center can monitor your gas supply remotely via the TEL-TANK system and our computerized Liquid Scheduling System, which tracks, stores, and analyzes your usage rates to precisely gauge and anticipate your supply needs.

A network of production facilities, service centers, and distributor and Airco-owned stores ensures that wherever you need gases and gas systems, Airco is there to provide supply and support.



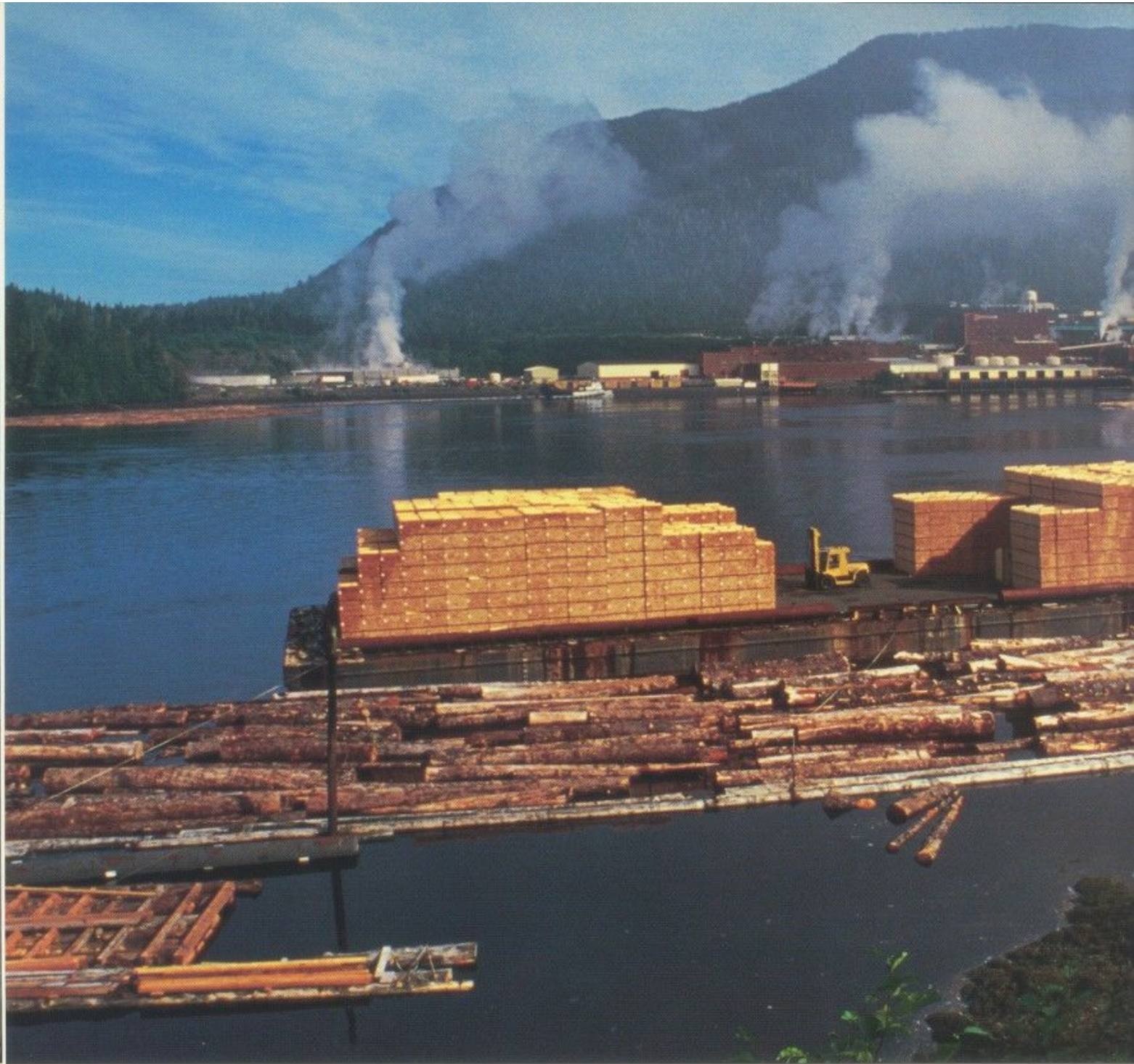
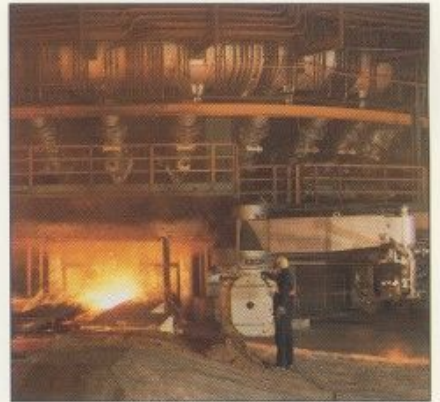


Photo courtesy of Elmer

(Left) Airco is an innovator in a wide range of industries and applications. In controlled atmospheres, for example, we pioneered the breakthrough Zoning Concept that has improved quality, increased throughput, and enhanced safety in furnaces worldwide.

Airco supplies gases to more than 50 percent of the stainless steel market, and has on-site supply schemes at major integrated steel plants.

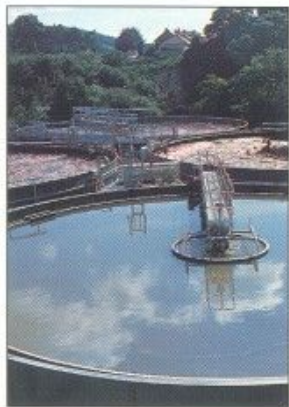
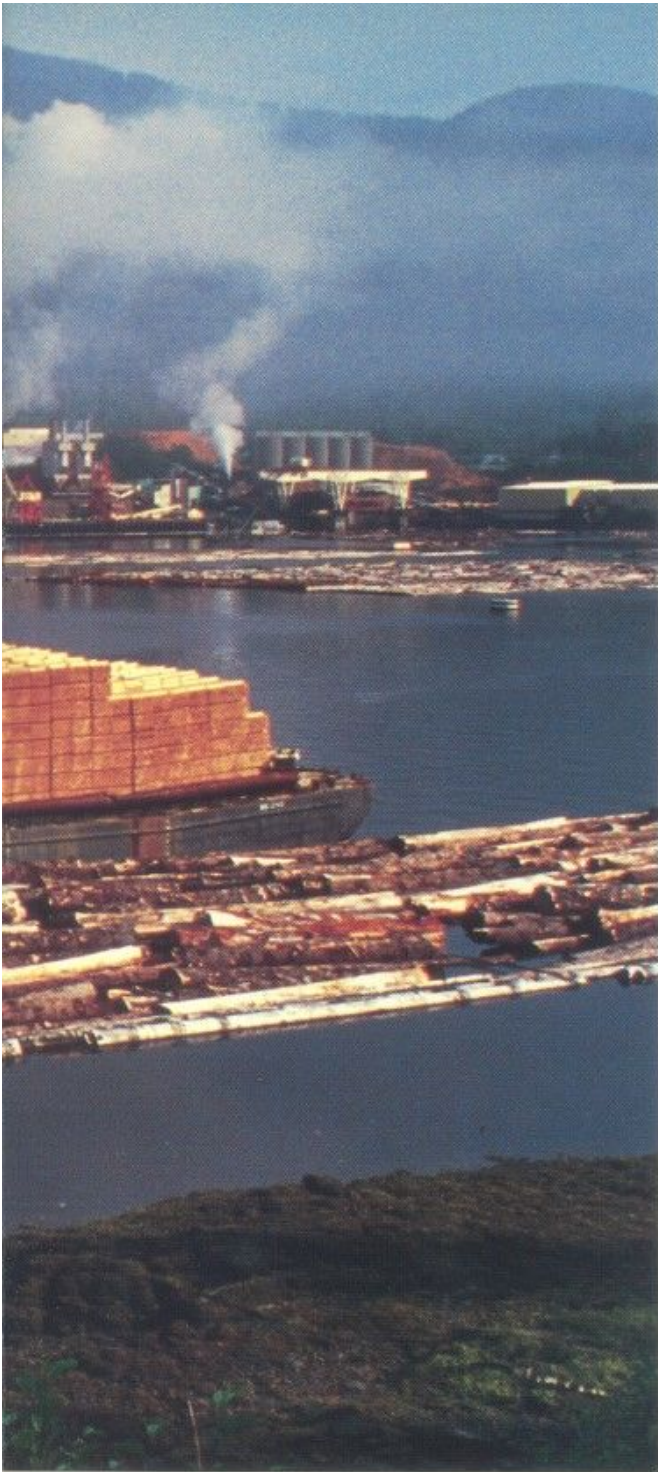


Airco applications engineering expertise and technology can make the difference in your operation.

As part of a company-wide commitment to Total Gas Management, Airco works in partnership with its customers, finding new and innovative ways to use gas to solve process problems in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

Airco employs teams of engineers that work with our customers in specific vertical industries and areas of application, enabling us to focus on solving problems rather than merely selling gases. Through this focus on applications, Airco has developed proprietary technologies for better utilization of gases in a wide range of processes — from the manufacture of chemicals, metals, pulp and paper, and glass, to food processing, environmental, health care, plastics, power generation, aerospace, cryogenic cooling...and many others.

From research and application technology, to implementation and market development, through actual installation and start-up, Airco scientists and engineers are committed to providing our customers with innovative solutions through leading-edge technology.



At Airco, we are proactively working on using gas technology to find solutions to many of the environmental and safety challenges our customers in all industries are facing — from leak detection, waste incineration, and emissions monitoring, to solvent recovery and wastewater treatment.

Airco Gases: making a total commitment to quality, safety, and the environment

Airco's commitment to quality maximizes our responsiveness, service levels, on-time delivery, and overall customer satisfaction. In our manufacturing operations, we pursue the highest quality standards of ISO 9000, an internationally recognized quality standard for excellence in manufacturing.

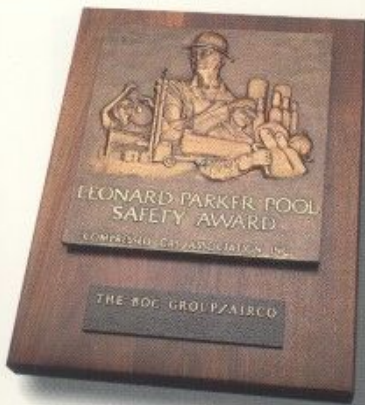
Airco Gases is an active participant in the Chemical Manufacturers Association's Responsible Care® initiative, designed to advance the cause of responsible management of operations and improve performance in terms of health, safety, and the environment.

We strive to be environmental leaders. In our gas manufacturing operations, many of the raw materials we use and the end-products we produce are substances that occur in nature and are therefore non-polluting. We are also proactively working on using gas technology to find solutions to many of the environmental challenges our customers are facing, from leak detection, waste incineration, and emissions monitoring, to solvent recovery and wastewater treatment.

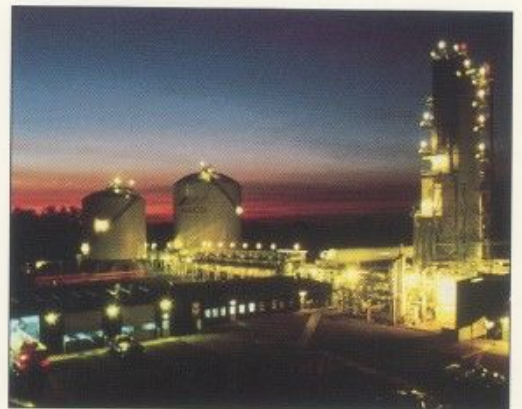


Responsible Care.®
A Public Commitment

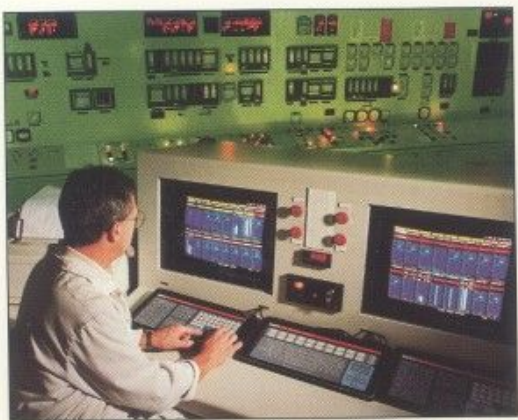
Airco is an active participant in the Chemical Manufacturers Association's Responsible Care® initiative, designed to advance the cause of responsible management of operations and improve performance in terms of health, safety, and the environment.



(Left) The Compressed Gas Association recently awarded its prestigious Leonard Parker Pool Safety Award to Airco Gases for achieving a 61 percent improvement in plant safety.

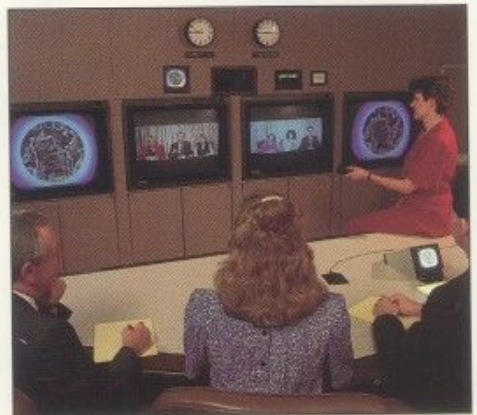


Airco's air separation plant in Nashville, Tennessee, is an accredited ISO 9002 facility.



(Left) BOC Process Plants has built hundreds of plants for customers worldwide.

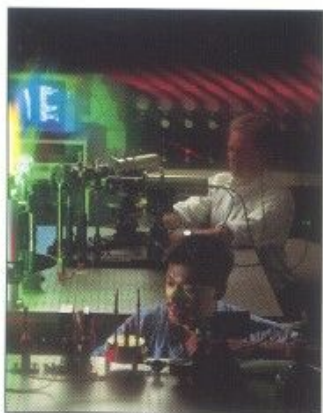
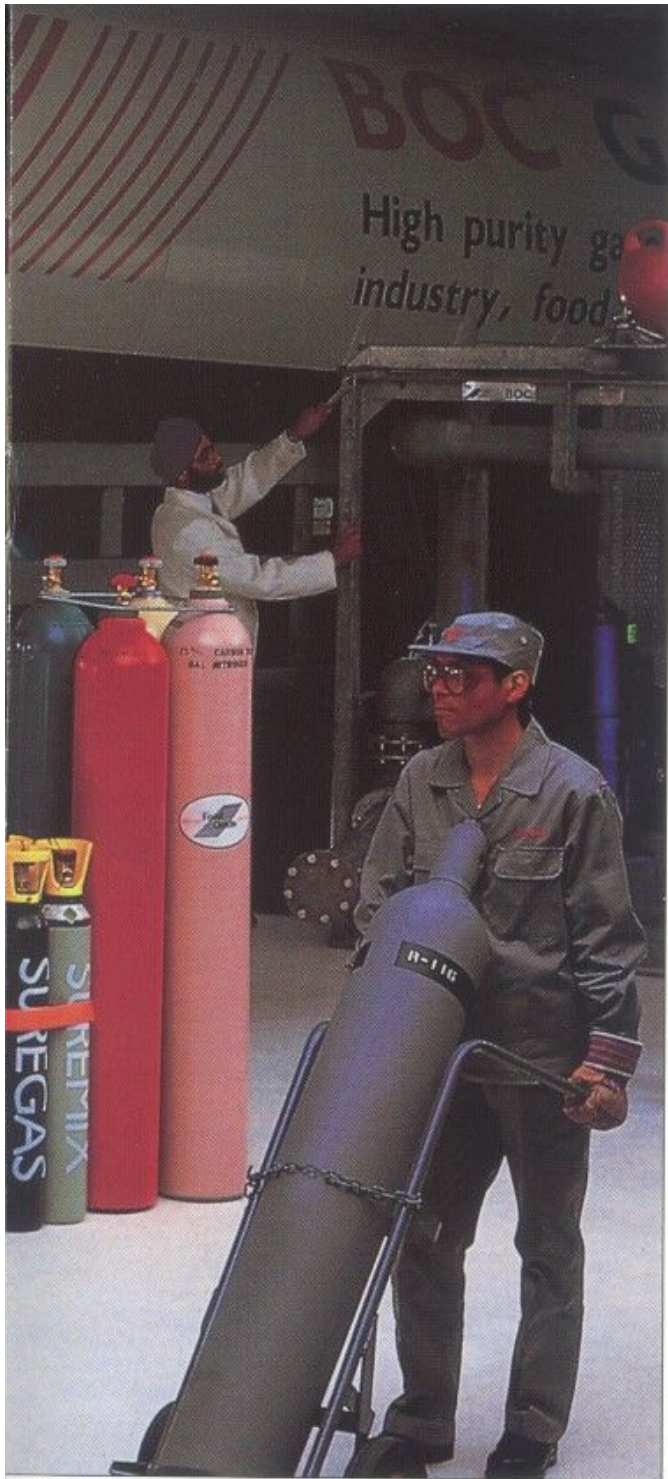
Our state-of-the-art teleconferencing center in Murray Hill, New Jersey, facilitates communication with our customers and business partners.



The BOC connection

The BOC Group consists of some 100 companies in more than 60 countries. With annual sales of over \$5 billion, The BOC Group concentrates its business activities in four major areas: health care, vacuum technology, distribution services, and gases and related products. As a member of this multinational organization, Airco has access to extensive research and development efforts around the world and the ability to transfer technological achievements and best practices directly to our customers. Being part of The BOC Group's global network enables us to meet your gas supply needs in the U.S. and overseas.

The BOC Group Technical Center in Murray Hill, New Jersey, is the focus of our worldwide gases R&D activities. Here our researchers conduct a wide range of R&D programs, many of which are fundamental and long-term, complementing the R&D activities of the company's worldwide operating units. The goal of these research programs — which include development of new methods for separation, purification, supply, distribution, and application — is not to advance technology for its own sake, but to produce technological breakthroughs that speak to the needs and business activities of our customers.



From basic research in aerothermochemistry and computational fluid dynamics, to specific development projects such as our Flat-Flame Technology, our R&D efforts help increase our customers' productivity and profits.

Put Airco's total resources for gas supply, technology, service, and support to work for your company.

When it comes to offering you a level of service and support unduplicated by any other gas manufacturer in the industry, no one comes close to Airco Gases.

We provide the most complete line of gases, with the broadest range of supply mode options, all supported by the most extensive manufacturing, distribution, and R&D available today. In short, Airco resources guarantee you reliable gas supply along with the know-how and technology to solve your most difficult process challenges. For more information, contact the Airco Customer Information Center, 114 Mayfield Avenue, Edison, NJ 08813-3053, phone 1-800-74AIRCO (1-800-742-4726).

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Pennsylvania 301 Lindenwood Drive, Suite 210, Malvern, PA 19335
Phone: 215-296-0300 Fax: 215-889-9044

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