

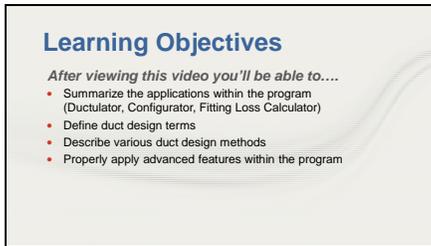
Slide  
1



Hello, my name is Ray Slaughter and I'm with the C.D.S. group here at Trane.

Today, we will be offering an introduction to VariTrane Duct Designer. We'll review the capabilities of Duct Designer and I will highlight key features.

Slide  
2



Learning objectives

- After viewing this video you'll be able to....
- Summarize the applications within the program (Ductulator, Configurator, Fitting Loss Calculator)
  - Define duct design terms
  - Describe various duct design methods
  - Properly apply advanced features within the program

Slide  
3



Duct Designer will model supply duct systems from the main fan all the way to the diffuser or VAV box. It's important to note that this software is used to design supply ducts, not return ducts.

The ASHRAE fitting database is included with the application.

It is possible to model rectangular, oval, or round duct work in duct designer. Transitions and junctions are available in the program that allow you to move between form factors as you create your design.

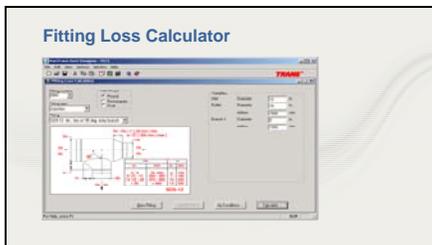
The customer version of TOPSS is integrated with duct designer. This allows you to pull detailed vav box selection data into duct designer for use in your model.

Slide  
4



If you are accustomed to using the cardboard Ductulators, you can throw them away. Duct Designer includes an electronic version of the Ductulator for free. The electronic Ductulator is faster and easier to read. Data entry is simple and straightforward, calculation results appear almost instantly.

Slide  
5



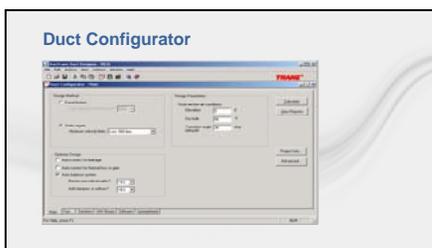
Fitting Loss Calculator computes the total pressure drop of a fitting based on its configuration, dimensions and the airflow passing through it. The calculation are based on an extensive library of fittings originating from United McGill and ASHRAE's 1993 duct fitting database. There are two ways to use Fitting Loss Calculator:

1) Within Duct Configurator to add and size fittings within duct sections. In this case, the applet opens in a window labeled **Fitting Input** when you click **Add Inline** on the Sections worksheet.

2) By itself to compare fitting efficiencies. To use the Fitting Loss Calculator this way, click on the **Fitting Loss Calculator** tab. Describe the fitting(s) and applicable air conditions, and the applet calculates: **velocity** and **velocity pressure** at the inlet and at each outlet, and the **pressure drop** and **loss coefficient** at each outlet

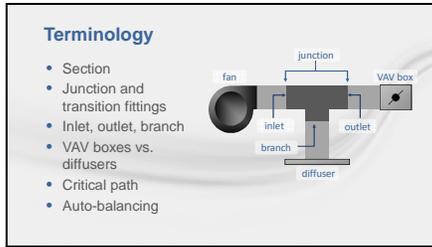
The Duct Configurator helps you size the supply-duct system, identify its critical path, and determine the static pressure and the airflow required at the supply fan.

Slide  
6



If you choose, it also helps you resize non-critical paths by identifying the fitting sizes and placement needed to balance the system.

The other tabs at the bottom of the screen allow you to enter the details of your planned duct network.

Slide  
7

To use Duct Designer, you'll need to understand the terminology used in the application.

A **section** is all ductwork from the inlet of a junction or transition fitting to the inlet of the next downstream junction or transition fitting. A root section is connected directly to the supply fan outlet.

**Junction** and **transition fittings** connect the sections of ductwork.

**In-line fittings** join, adjust, or adapt other duct system components within duct sections. VariTrane Duct Designer's database contains hundreds of ASHRAE and United McGill fittings.

Junctions have an **inlet**, **outlet**, and **branches**. The inlet is where the airflow enters the junction. The outlet is the straight thru path of a junction. A branch is any other leaving path from the junction.

Variable-air-volume systems use **VAV boxes** to terminate a duct run. **Diffusers** are the final link in constant-volume duct systems connecting the duct system directly to the space.

A **variable-air-volume (VAV) system** consists of a fan, duct sections, and modulating terminal devices (VAV boxes). Ductwork and diffusers are downstream from these terminals.

**Constant-volume (CV) systems** consist of a fan, sections, and a diffuser for each terminal device. The diffusers do not modulate airflow.

A **path** is the connected sections and fittings between a fan and a terminal device. Each section and fitting may belong to several paths, but each path is unique.

The **critical path** has the largest pressure drop of all the paths associated with a fan. Therefore, all **noncritical paths** are over-pressurized and require resizing, or the addition of dampers and/or orifices to balance the system.

**Auto-balancing** is a feature available in the Duct Configurator that allows designers to downsize non-critical paths and/or add dampers or orifices to use up

excess pressure in the system without affecting the critical path.

Slide 8

**Design Methods**  
**Equal Friction:** Attempts to keep the pressure drop per unit length (generally 100 ft.) of duct relatively constant throughout the system.

- Calculation revolves around the design friction rate
- Typical friction rates range: 0.05 in. w.g. per 100 ft. to 0.15 in w.g. per 100 ft.

Design Friction Rate		Determined by first trunk... unless overridden						
Section	Length	Friction Rate	Airflow	Velocity	Diameter	SP Loss	Height	Width
0001	20	0.047	3740	991		0.0053	24	24
001A	1	0.047	3740	875	28	0.0003		
0005	27	0.031	2929	794	26	0.0085		
0009	27	0.036	2035	771	22	0.0098		
0013	37	0.029	1059	672	18	0.0108		
0015	45	0.020	550	587	14	0.0137		
0023	1	0.472	550	1576	8	0.0047		

Duct Designer supports both the equal friction and static regain methods of duct design. If you have been using the Ductulator to design your duct runs, you are already familiar with the equal friction method. It attempts to keep the pressure drop per unit of duct length relatively constant throughout the system.

Slide 9

**Design Methods**  
**Static Regain:** Attempts to maintain a constant static pressure throughout the duct system (a balanced system).

- Calculation is limited by parameters such as minimum velocity, fan size, and sometimes fitting selections (rectangular)
- Fan outlet size is critical
- Typical minimum velocity = 500 fpm...when increased the method can actually be limited in it's effectiveness

Size of section 0002 is increased (converting velocity pressure to static pressure) until:  
 $\Delta SP_{A,B} = \Delta SP_{B,D}$

Size of section 0003 is increased until:  
 $\Delta SP_{A,C} = \Delta SP_{C,E}$

In contrast, the static regain method attempts to maintain a constant static pressure throughout the duct system. Due to the calculations required, the static regain design method is impractical to use for hand calculations. However, it is the ideal method to use when designing a duct network on a computer.

Slide  
10

Advanced features

### Leakage Analysis

- Based on section tab entries and airflow properties
- Causes the sizing algorithm to repeat up to 11 times!
  - Causes all Trane VAV box selections to re-run for each repetition of the sizing algorithm
  - Any error causes cancellation in box runs

Design Results: Section report

Airflow cfm	Leakage cfm	Temp. Change in Section °F
3,753	1.51	0.00
1,061	0.44	0.00
990	0.33	0.00
352	1.49	0.00
2,939	1.74	0.00

Design Results: Project summary report

Static Pressure Through Equipment and Return (At Altitude)		2.00 in. w.g.
Leakage Airflow		19.60 cfm
Thermal Losses/Gains Airflow		1,258.37 cfm

Duct Configurator can automatically recalculate the airflow needed at the supply fan based on how much air leaks from the system. That value, in turn, is based on the value specified for **Leakage Class** on the Sections worksheet.

Slide  
11

Advanced features

### Thermal Analysis

- Similar to leakage analysis in how this affects runtime and VAV box calculations
- Fan airflow increases for FPVAV by the same ratio as the design cooling airflow changed
- Recalculates airflow based on heat pickup

Design Results: Section report

Airflow cfm	Leakage cfm	Temp. Change in Section °F
4,423	0.00	0.43
1,239	0.00	0.48
804	0.00	0.75
983	0.00	2.83
3,665	0.00	0.63

Design Results: Project summary report

Static Pressure Through Equipment and Return (At Altitude)		2.00 in. w.g.
Leakage Airflow		19.60 cfm
Thermal Losses/Gains Airflow		1,258.37 cfm

### Thermal Losses or Gains:

If “Auto Correct” for “Thermal Gain/Loss” is activated, the program will take temperature change into account when sizing the duct sections. For example, if the user specifies that the air leaving the coil is 55 °F and the system picks up 5 °F before entering the space, the program will recalculate the new supply CFM and size the duct system based on the new “corrected” CFM. The amount of heat pick up is determined by the properties of the air in the section and the thermal U factor for each duct section. The temperature change is displayed on a section by section basis on the **Design Results: Section** report. The total airflow added to the system is displayed in the **Project Summary** report.

Slide  
12

Advanced features

### Auto-Balancing

- Orifices used when over-pressurization > 1.0 in. w.g.
- Program added perforated plates have only one hole
- The “Runout Analysis” report displays the effectiveness of auto-balancing in the “Static Over-Pressurization” column.

Every non-critical path in a duct system will be over-pressurized by some amount. Auto-balancing the system inserts dampers or orifice plates in sections to equalize the pressure in the system

Note: Often restrictions within the file will prevent some paths from being completely balanced.

Resize NCP

When “Auto-Balance” is selected by itself, the program will add dampers and adjust them in sections where over-pressurization is present in an effort to decrease the excess static available. Perforated or orifice plates are added to sections with over-pressurization that exceeds 1 in w.g for acoustical purposes. Dampers or plates added to the system contain the prefix “aut” in their fitting ID.

To remove program added fittings from the system, uncheck the auto-balance check box. A prompt will popup asking if the program-added fittings should be removed. Sections can be selected to have no fittings added despite being over-pressurized by selecting the “Don’t Add Dampers/Orifices” checkbox on the sections tab.



Slide  
16



This completes our discussion on the capabilities of the Duct Design program. Hopefully, we've given a basic understanding of the capabilities of Duct Designer and the type of output you can expect from the application.

If you need assistance in other areas of the program or just want a better understanding of some of the concepts we talked about today, here are some additional resources available to you.

Slide  
17



As always, please feel free to contact the C.D.S. Support Center by phone or email with any comments, questions or modeling concerns you have.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Duct Designer!