

# Advanced Mercury Removal Technologies

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**uop**  
A Honeywell Company

# Why Remove Mercury?

## 1. Equipment Protection



## 2. Improving product quality

- Mercury found in refinery naphtha
- >50% of world's ethylene plants are naphtha fed

## 3. Catalyst protection

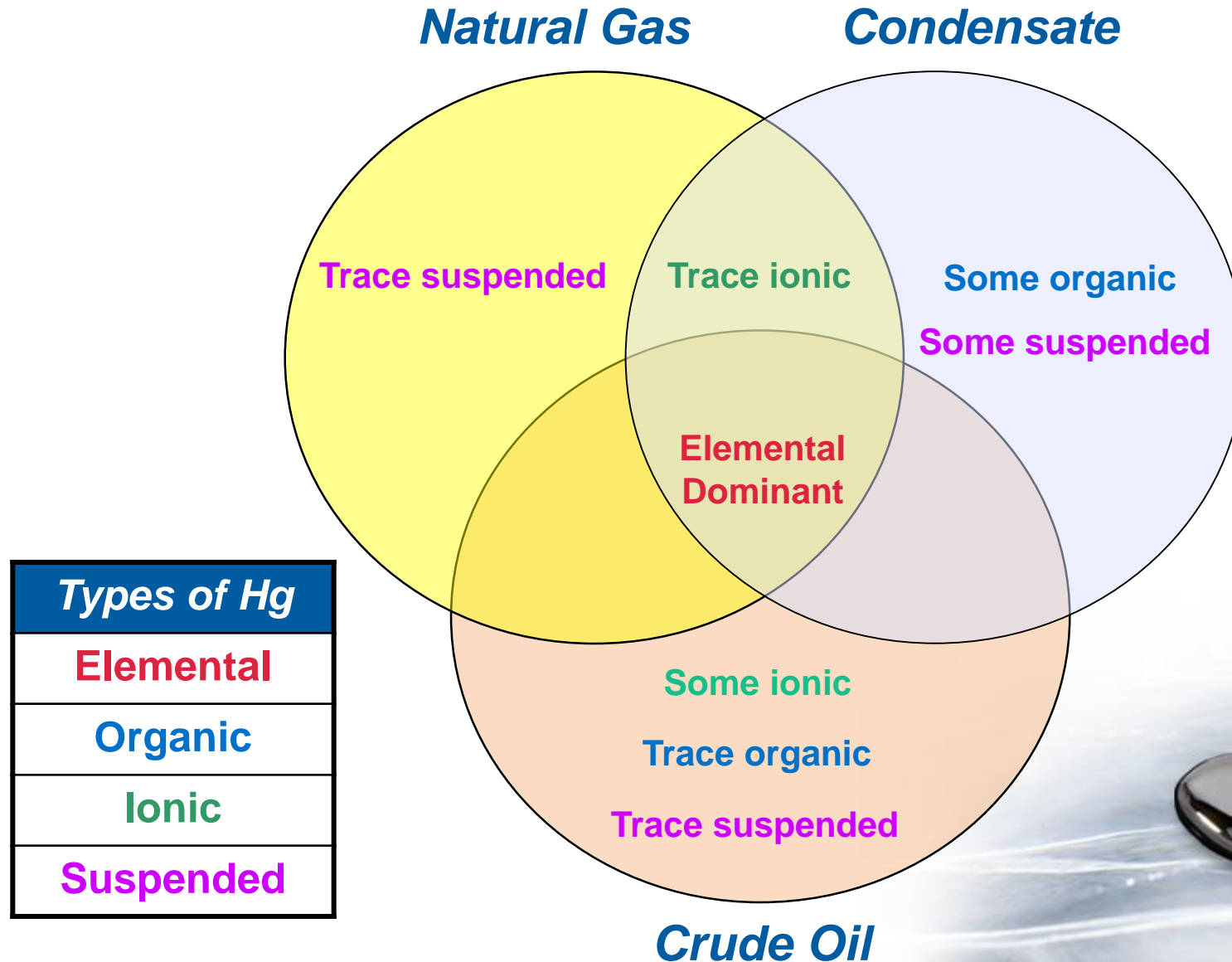
- Many precious metal catalysts are susceptible to mercury poisoning
- 1:1 Hg amalgams with Pt, Pd are stable at temperatures <150°C

## 4. HS&E

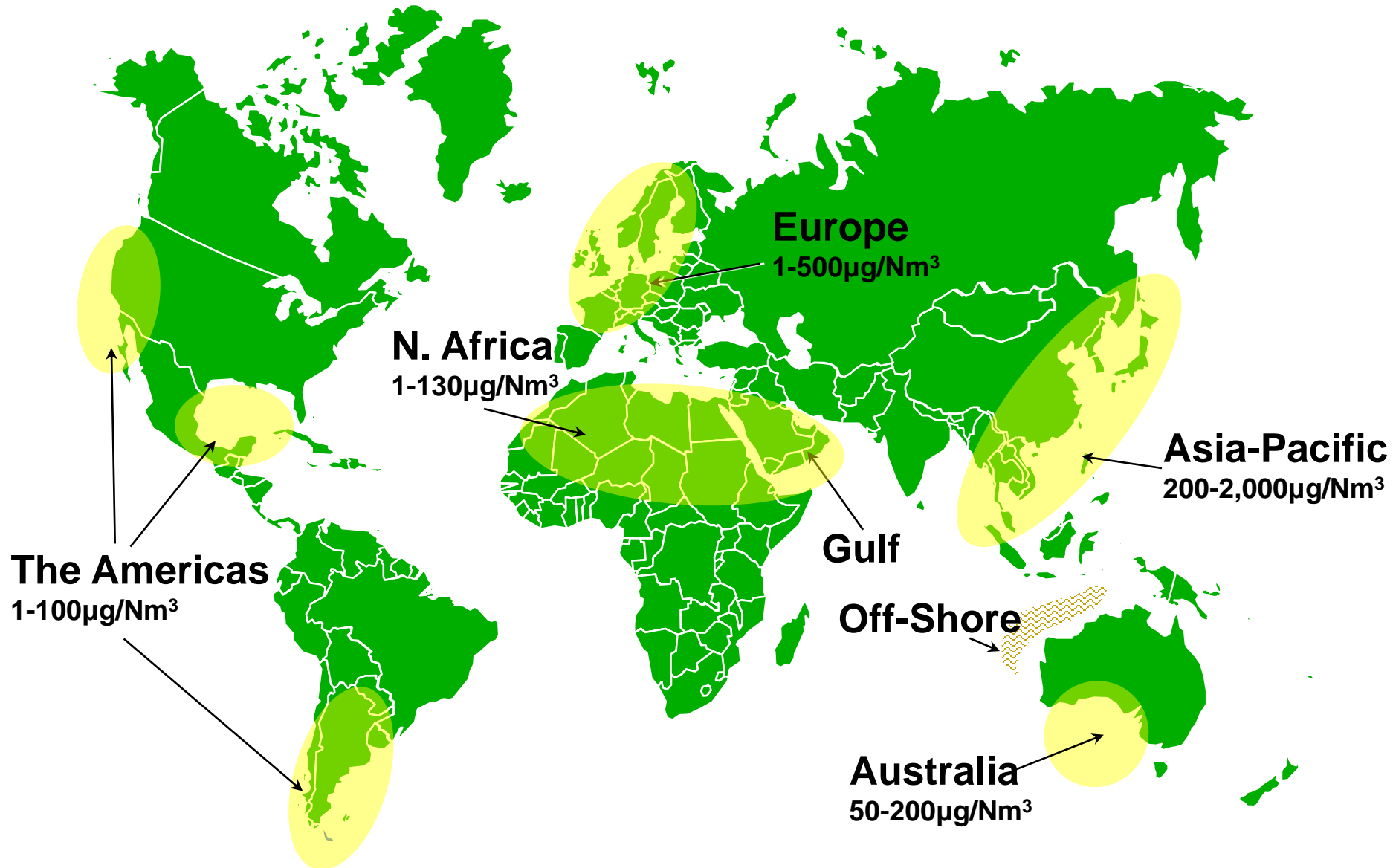
- TLV Limit = 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup> air
- >> 1.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup> has been measured



# Natural Occurrence of Mercury Compounds in Hydrocarbon Streams



# Natural Gas Mercury Levels





# Existing Mercury Removal Technologies

	<i><b>Sulphur Impregnated Activated Carbon</b></i>	<i><b>Silver Impregnated Molecular Sieve</b></i>	<i><b>Metal (Copper) Oxides and Sulphides</b></i>
<b>Technology</b>	Non-regenerable fixed bed	Regenerable fixed bed	Non-regenerable fixed bed
<b>Reactor fill volume</b>	Larger	Smaller	Medium
<b>Contributory <math>\Delta P</math></b>	High	Lowest	Low
<b>Capex</b>	High	Lowest	Low
<b>Flow-sheet location</b>	Dry gas	In mol sieve dryer vessels	Flexible
<b>Disposal</b>	No use	Hg-free	Fully recyclable
<b>Stability</b>	Sulphur dissolution	Very stable	Very stable

# “Must Have” MRU Product Features

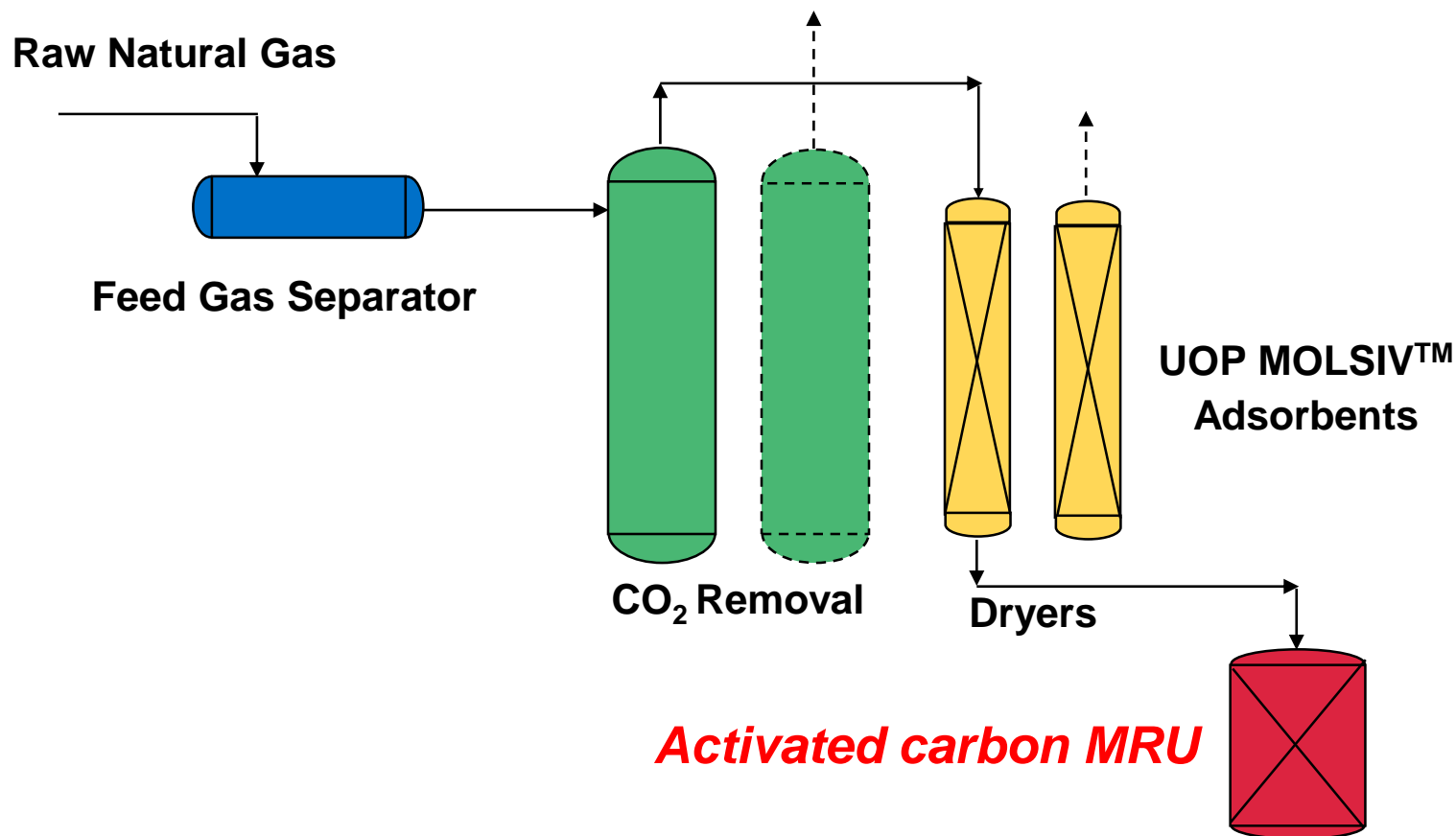
<i><b>Feature</b></i>	<i><b>Benefits</b></i>
Large pore volume	Superior Hg capacity. Better resistance to liquid carry-over
Specifically engineered pore size distribution	Superior Hg capacity
High surface area substrate	Superior Hg capacity
Highly dispersed active phase	Superior pick-up capacity
High crushing strength	Low & stable pressure drop with plug flow & no channelling
High attrition resistance	No powder formation, no downstream powder issues

# Treatment Locations Within the Gas Plant

- Downstream of the dryers
- Inside the dryers
- On the regeneration gas from the dryers
- Upstream of the amine and dryer units

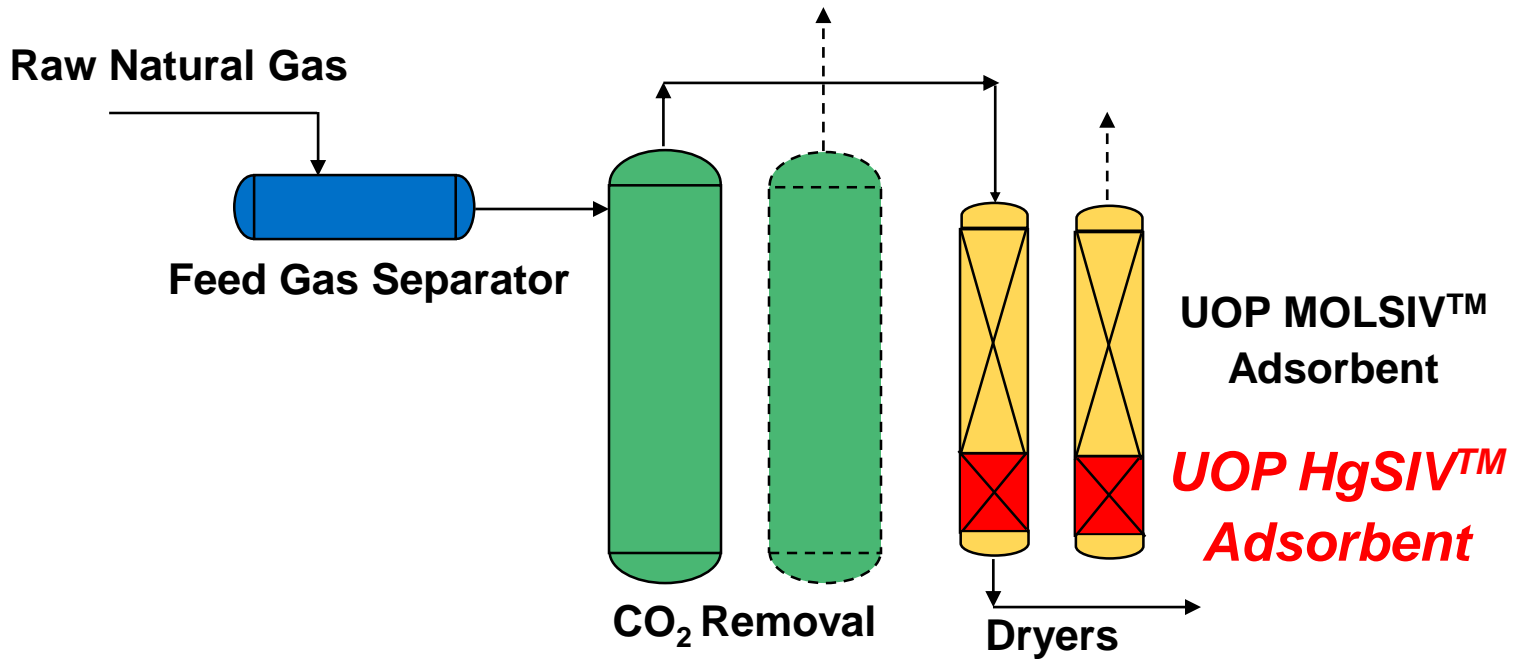


# Downstream of the Dryers

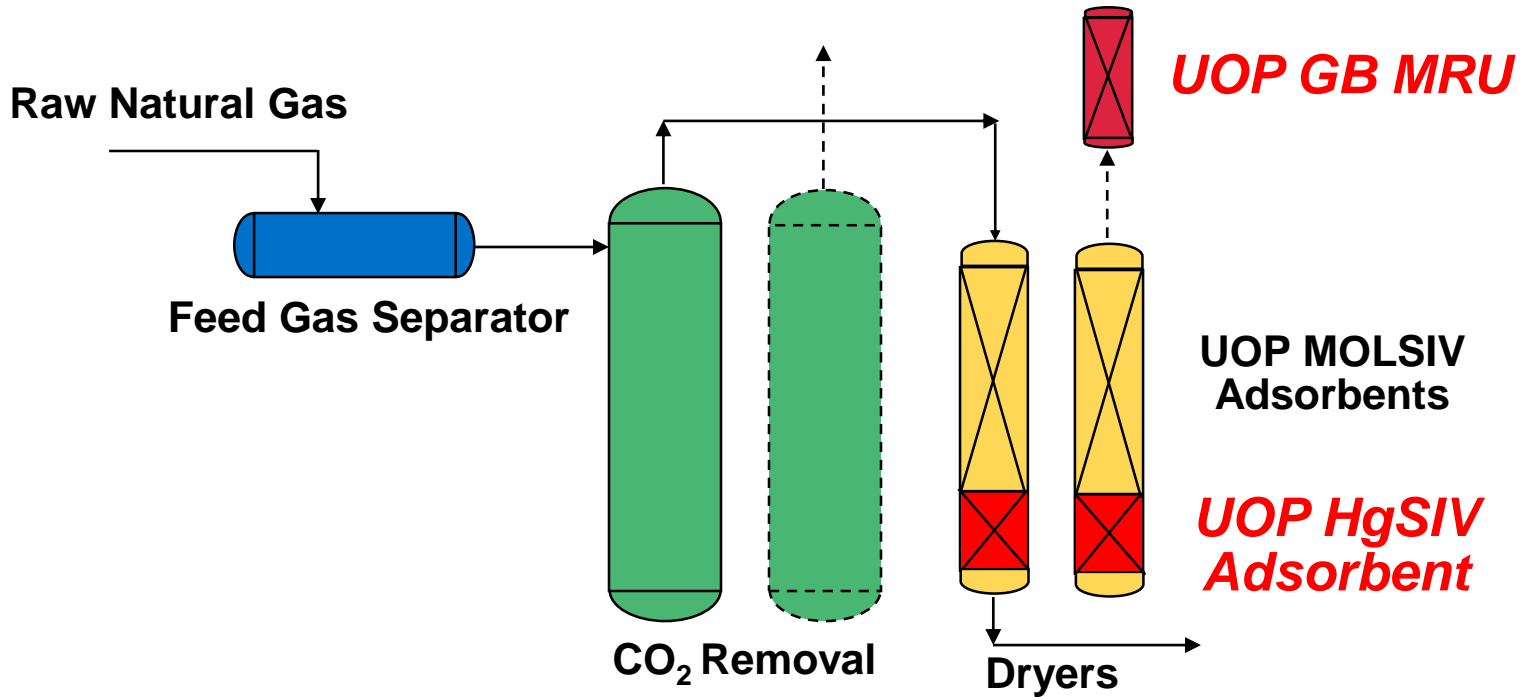




# In the Dryers



# In the Dryers & on the Regeneration Gas

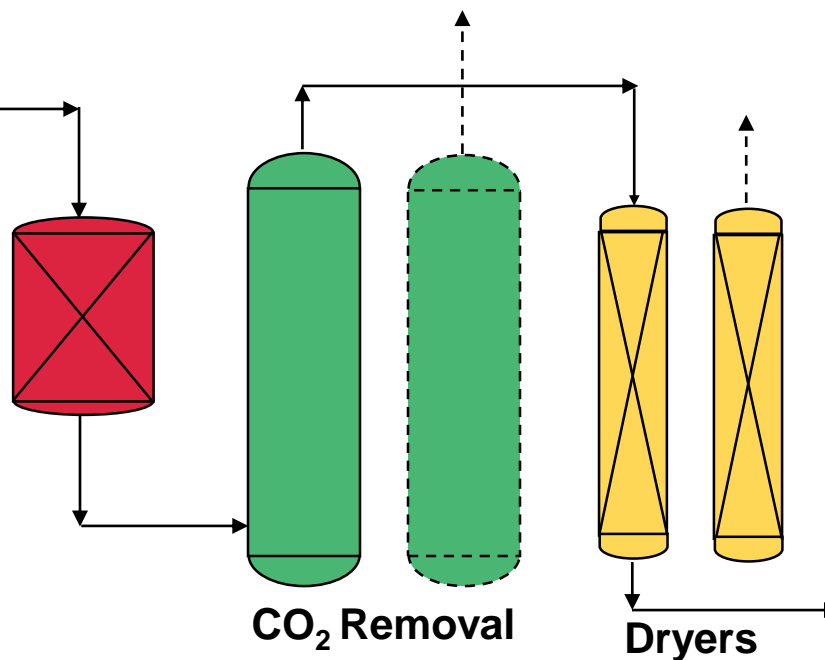


# Upstream of the Amine and Dryer Units

Raw Natural Gas

Feed Gas Separator

***UOP GB MRU***



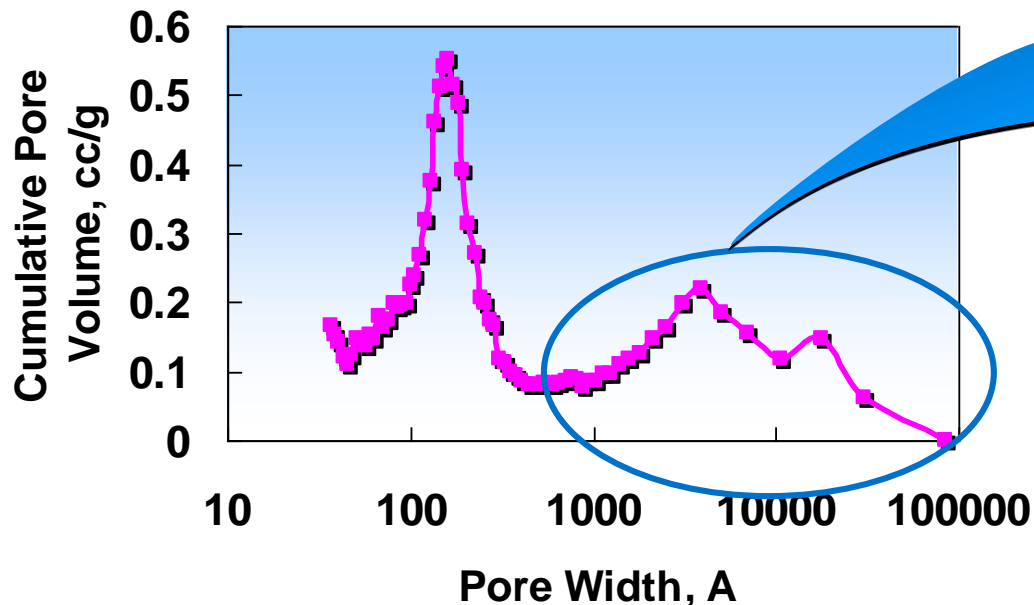
**UOP MOLSV  
Adsorbents**

**Driers**

# MRU Resistance to Liquid Carry-over

- More gas processors require the treatment of on and off-shore raw gas streams close to their dew point
- Both liquid hydrocarbons and water can be an issue with some MRU products
- Successful MRU products are developed to withstand transient carry-over

*Pore Size Distribution  
of an Ideal MRU Product*



**Large macro pores are  
preferable in handling  
liquid carry-over**

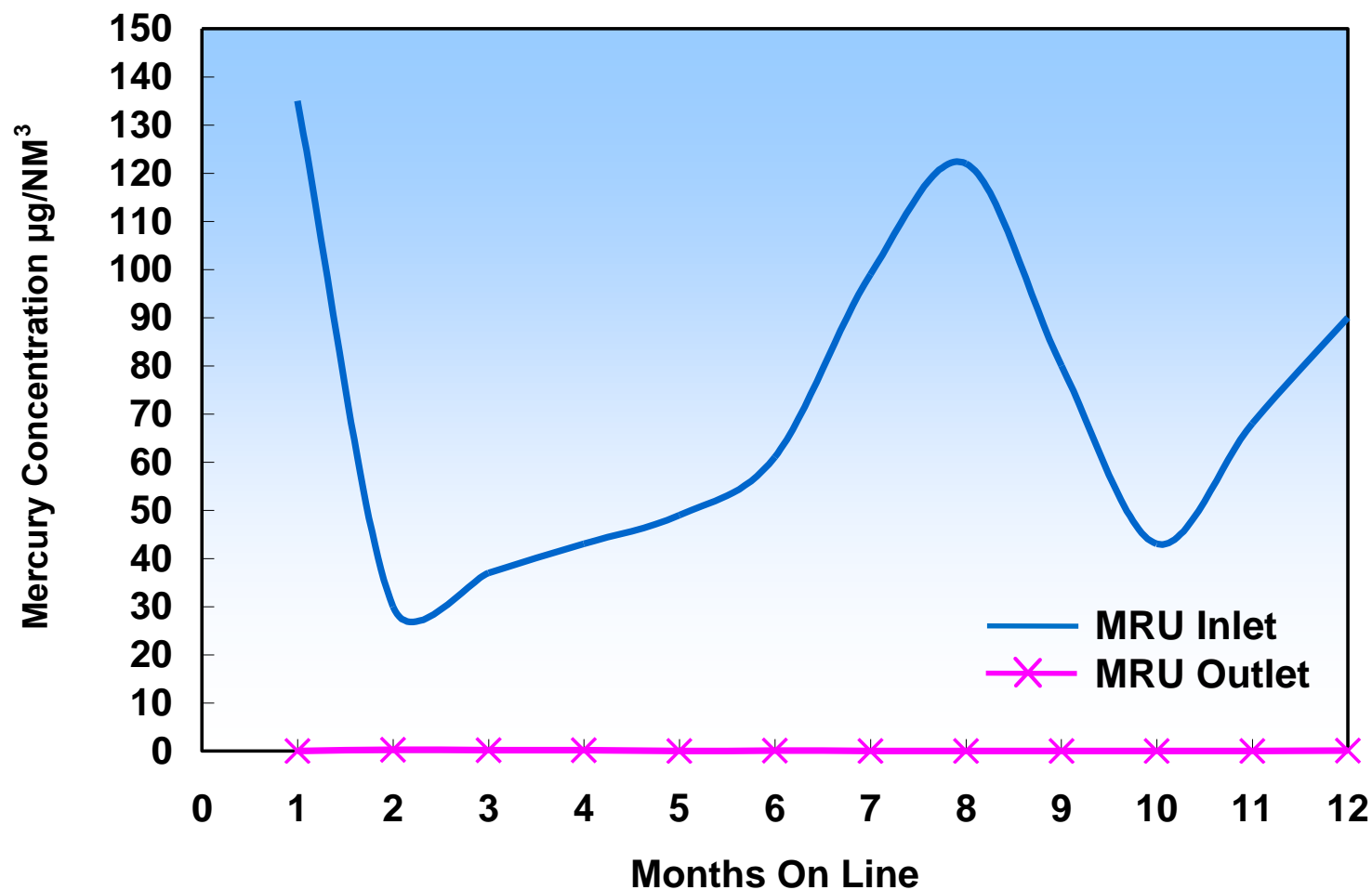
# Case Study 1: Gas Phase GB-562

- PTT GSP-5
- S-Up March 2008
- Flow-rate 265MMSCFD/vessel
- Operating pressure 48 Kg/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Operating temp 18°C
- 4 year design life
- Replaced carbon



# Case Study 1: *Continued*

## *PTT GSP-5 MRU GB-562*





# CASE STUDY 2: Mercury Removal From Condensate

- PTT GSP- 4
- S-Up December 2009
- Flow-rate 6,962 Kg/Hour
- Operating pressure 31 BarG
- Operating temp 12°C
- 4 year design life



<1 ppb W



2000 ppb W

# Case Study 3: Liquid Phase GB-346

- Oil refiner
- Successful operation since 2006
- 70% propylene / 30% propane
- Flow-rate 14,000 Kg/H
- Operating temperature 35 °C
- Operating pressure 2045 KPaG

<10ppbW Hg  
<20ppbW H<sub>2</sub>S  
<10ppbW AsH<sub>3</sub>



3.5ppmW Hg  
1.0ppmW H<sub>2</sub>S  
1.0ppmW AsH<sub>3</sub>

# Mercury Management: From On Site Analysis to Hg Recovery

- Important to measure Hg to  $0.01 \mu\text{g}/\text{Nm}^3$  at the plant site
- Each sample gathered and analysed within hours
- Level of Hg quantified before the analytical team departs
- Liquid analysis is available
- GB products are compatible with Hg recovery processes
- Clients are placed in touch with certified mercury recovery outlets
- Hg is separated via retort oven & vacuum distillation at  $600^\circ\text{C}$
- Reclaimed Hg is used in existing industries
- Copper waste goes to smelters and is sold onto the open market



# UOP Mercury Removal Philosophy

- **Gas processors need the choice of non-regenerable and regenerable mercury removal options, as applicable**
- **Flexible flow-sheet location choices are paramount in positioning an MRU**
- **Raw gas MRU technology should be able to resist transient, episodic liquid carry-over**
- **Mercury measurement techniques need to provide dependable, accurate and precise analytical data**
- **Secure and reliable mercury recovery is essential**





# Q & A