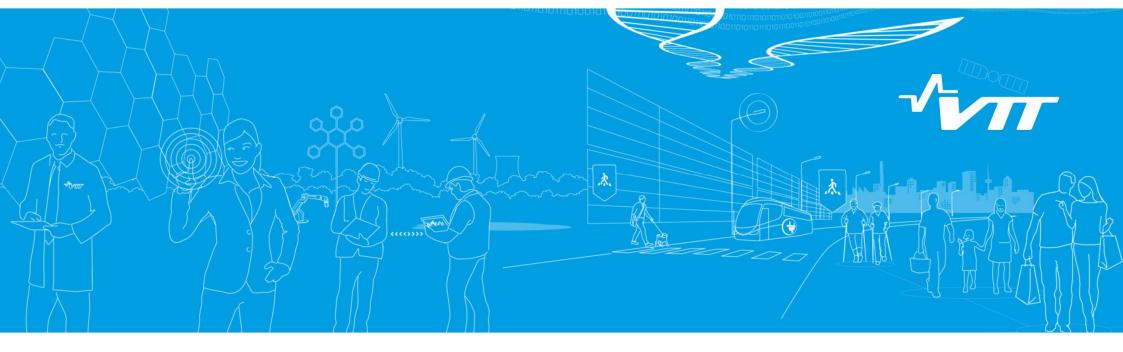


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# On site air filter test system

Aerosol Technology 2015 VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ilpo Kulmala, Tapio Kalliohaka, Aimo Taipale and Hannu Salmela

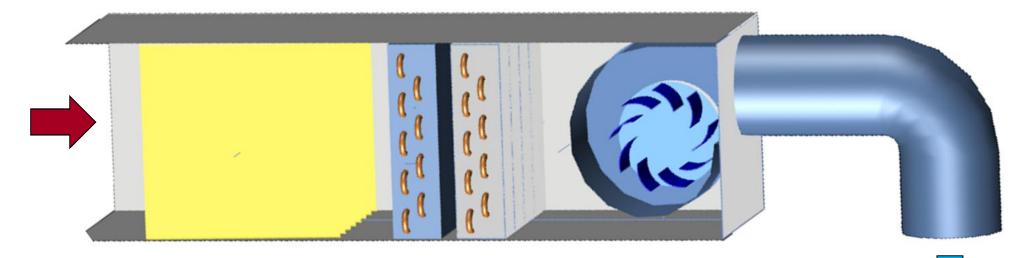


## Contents

- Background
- Current European filter test method
- On-site test system and measurement site
- Results
- Conclusions



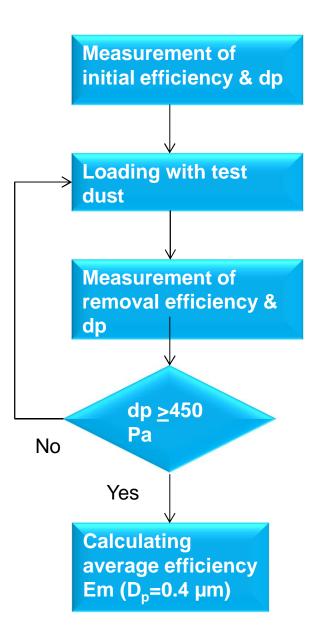
## **General ventilation air filters**

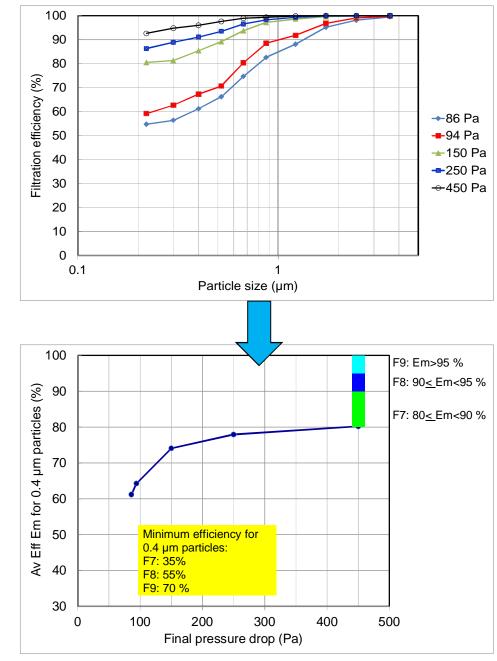


- Protect building occupants from outdoor contaminants
- Reduce the soiling of the HVAC system (heating and cooling) coils, ductwork)
- Key properties:
  - Filtration efficiency
  - Pressure drop
- Dust holding capacity 26/06/2015



# Filter testing according to EN 779

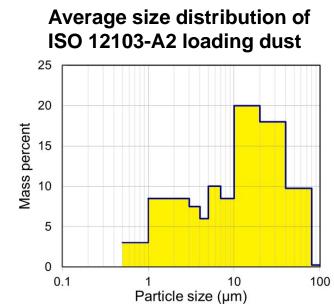






## Why additional tests are needed?

- The EN 779 provides a comparable but simplified evaluation process of air filters which does not describe the real life behaviour
- In real operating conditions, the filter performance may differ greatly from that obtained in laboratory due to
  - Differences between ambient aerosol characteristics and the test dust used in EN 779: concentrations and particle size distributions
  - Ambient conditions
  - Filter face velocity distribution, and filter operating and loading conditions.
- Some parameters are time-dependent!

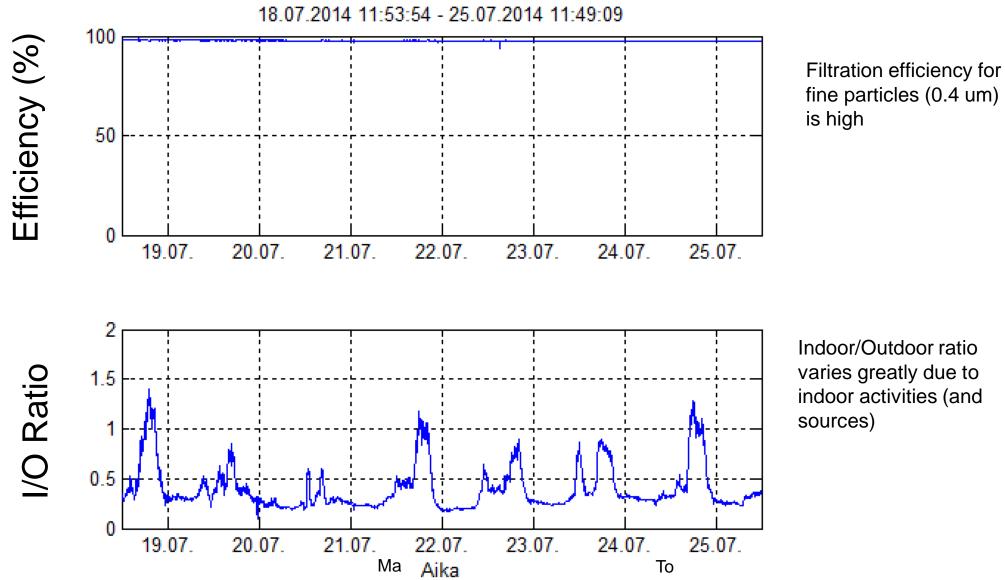




#### **On-site on-line USB-modem** PC (1) test system Particle counter dp Valve system ⊘ 3G Filter Æ $\triangleleft$ $\triangleleft$ $\triangleleft$ $\triangleleft$ L

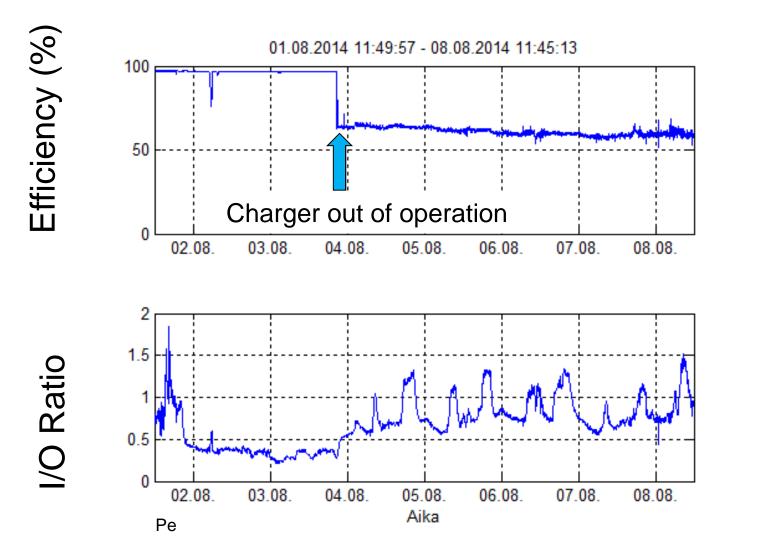


#### **Test results – filter used for 2 weeks**





#### **Test results: detection of anomalies**

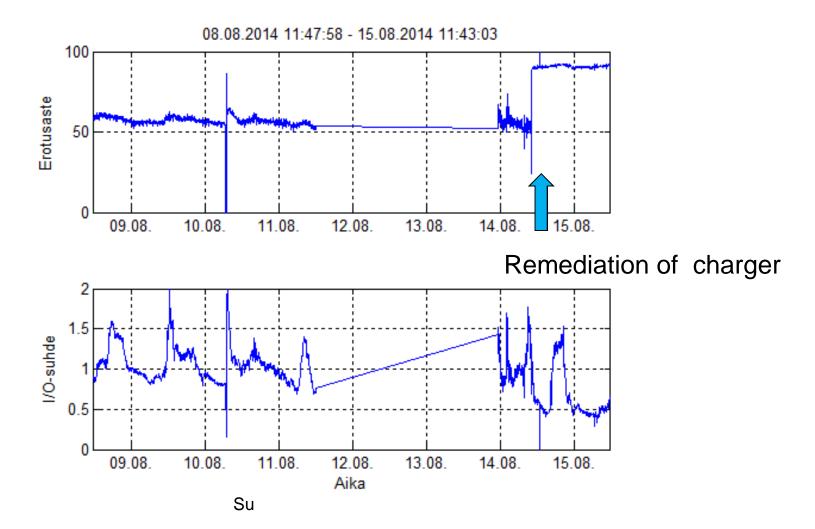


Changes in performance affecting the protection efficiency can be seen in real time

Indoor/Outdoor ratio changes due to reduced efficiency

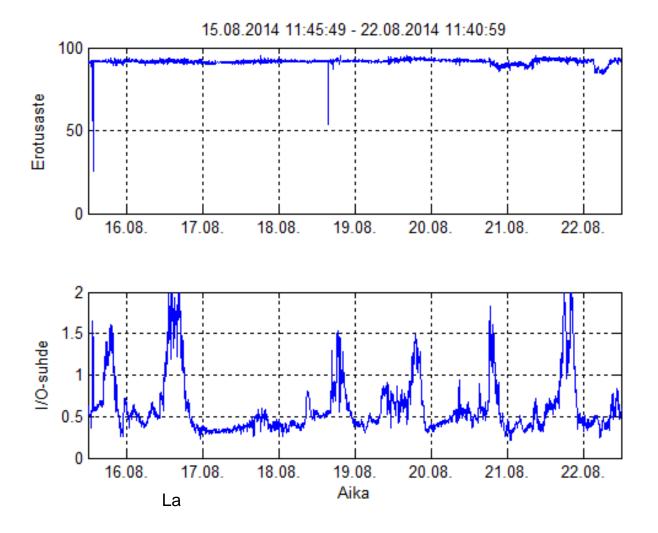


#### Filter used for 6 weeks – charger back in operation



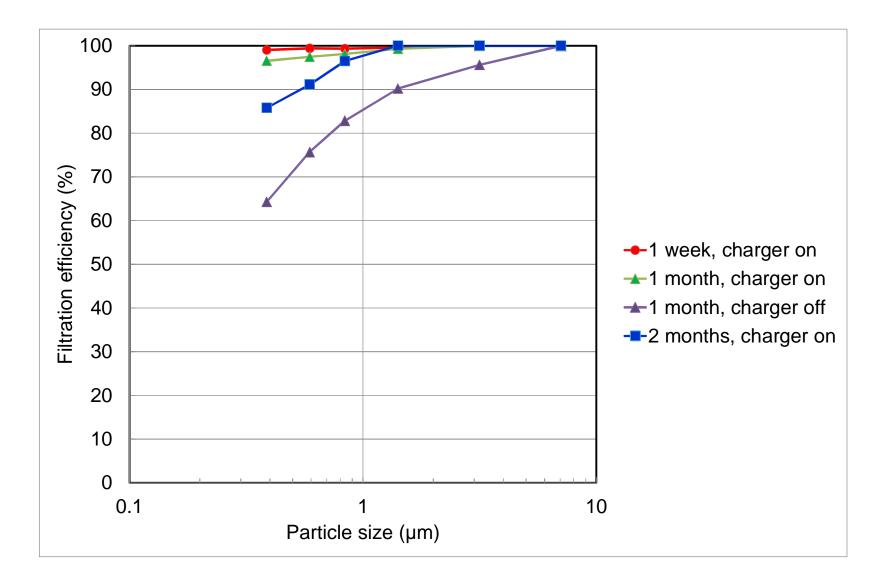


#### **Filter used for 7 weeks**





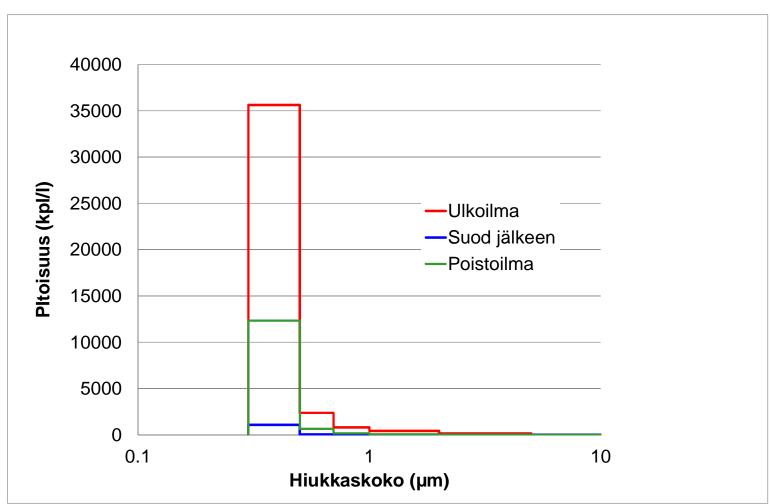
### **Fractional filtration efficiency**





### **Particle size distributions**

Size distribution 1.8.2014 in the range 0.3 - >5  $\mu$ m





# Conclusions

- The developed test system can measure and monitor filter performance in real time and on-line
- The results describe real life behaviour of the filter:
  - Filtration efficiency
  - Pressure drop increase due to loading
  - Dust holding capacity
- Based on the results the optimal filter change time can be estimated accurately
- It is possible to enhance the filtration efficiency for electret filters with High Voltage charging
- The effect of enhanced filtration efficiency on indoor air quality and improved protection of occupants could be clearly seen



## Acknowledgements

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme under grant agreement n° 313077 within the EDEN Project (End-user driven DEmo for cbrNe).



