



PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF AN AIR PURIFICATION SYSTEM IN AN ITALIAN "SAURO" CLASS SUBMARINE

Paolo ROTONDO

Italian Navy

INDEX



- **ITALIAN SUBMARINES**
- **INTRODUCTION**
- **MATERIALS AND METHODS**
- **RESULTS**
- **CONCLUSIONS**

ITALIAN SUBMARINES

SAURO Class



**PELOSI
PRINI
LONGOBARDO
GAZZANA**



ITALIAN SUBMARINES

SAURO Class



Characteristics

Weight surface: 1476 tons

Weight dive: 1662 tons

Length: 64,36 m

Beam 6,8 m

Propulsion: 3 diesel engine generators

1 propulsion electric engine

1 accumulator of 500 elements

Speed surface 11 kn

Speed dive 20 kn

Crew: 51

ITALIAN SUBAMARINES

TODARO Class (U212A)



S. TODARO



SCIRE'

INTRODUCTION



POLLUTION ON BOARD

- Gaseous
- Particulate (dust and particles)
 - Microbiologic
 - Electrical
- Electromagnetic waves

INTRODUCTION



The importance of particulate size

The more common mechanical filters used in Conditioning & Ventilation systems are able to capture particulate pollutant greater than 5 μm .

The PM10 dusts, have to be considered indicative to evaluate the air pollution because they are captured by the ciliary membrane of the respiratory tree and could produce important breathing pathology,

The PM2 dusts instead are able to cross the respiratory tree and to be adsorbed by the blood ;

INTRODUCTION



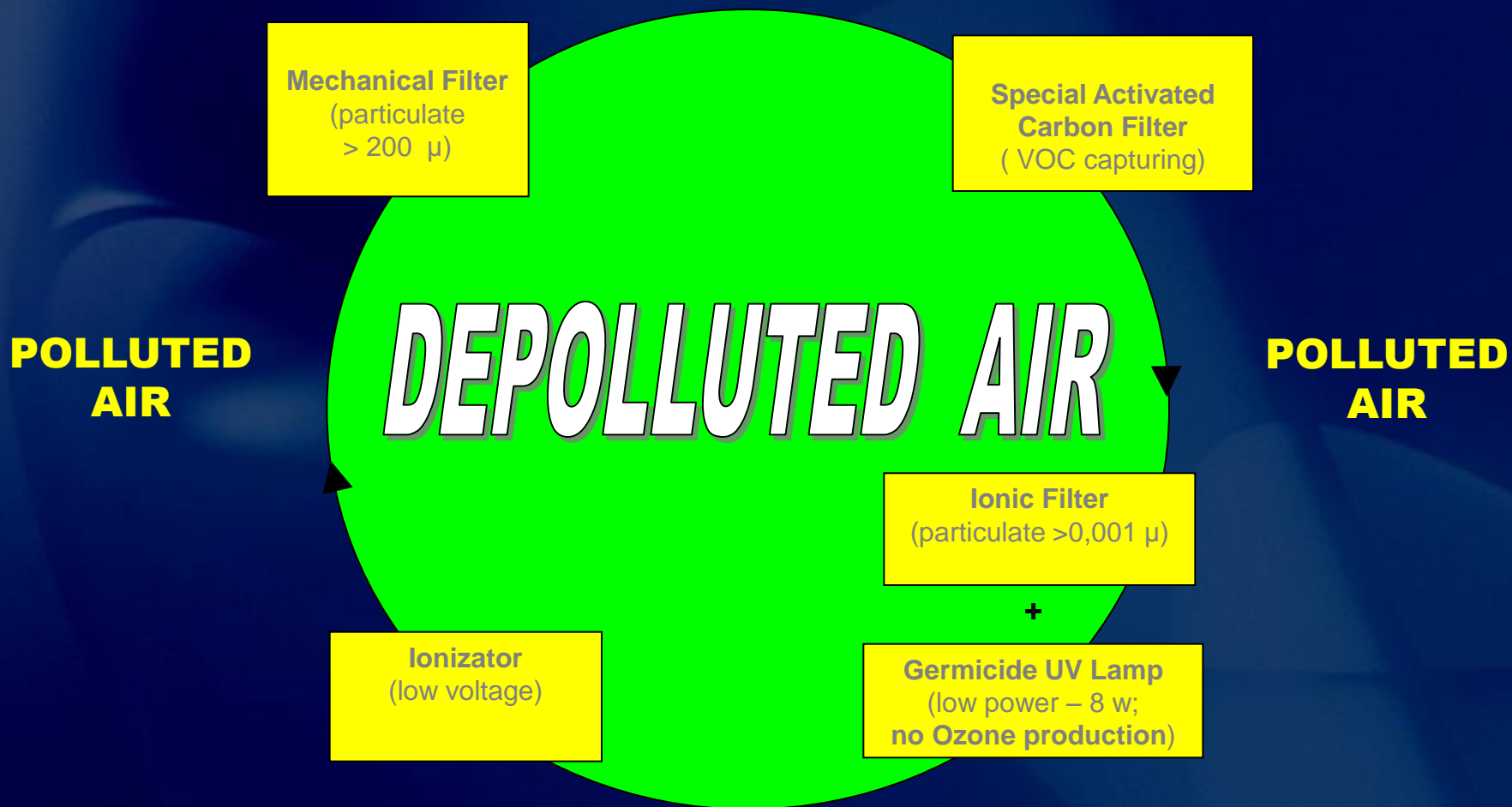
Sinergy between various state of pollution

For example the dust sedimentation, facilitate micro-biologic and fungal transfer from the environment to the human body. The same kind of sub-micron dusts absorbs gases.

INTRODUCTION



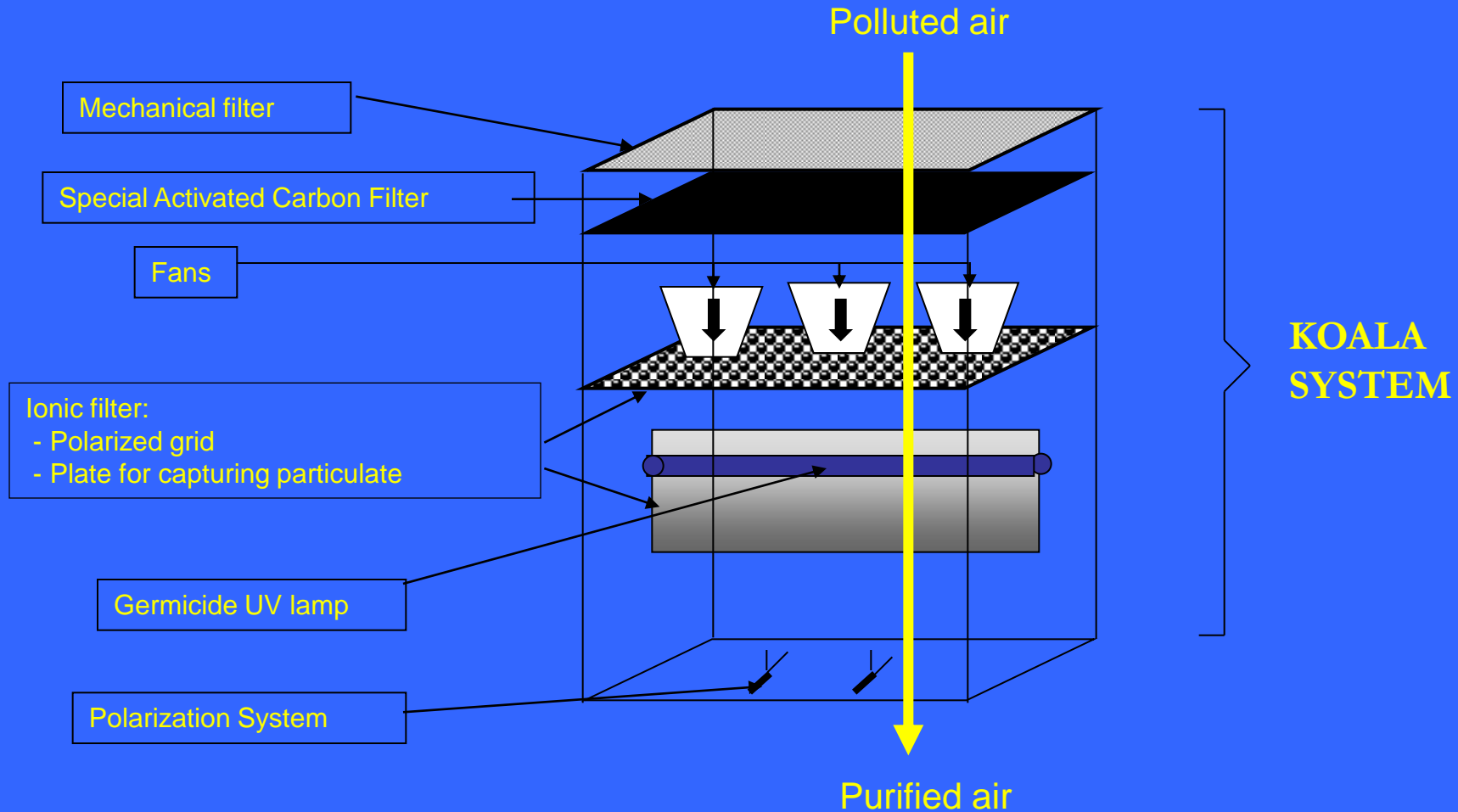
Koala Sub – Application of clue





INTRODUCTION

Koala Sub - Functional technical scheme



INTRODUCTION



Ionic filter (non HEPA)

The system is formed by a stainless steel grid where the air is forced to go through and where it is charged with negative polarity . Following its way the air moves across electrically opposite-charged plate that capture all the polarized particulate. Its skill of capturing particulate arrives to the size of nanometer absolutely no-eliminable with traditional filtering

INTRODUCTION



External ionization system

There is a double ionizing points, positioned where the air flow came out; it's capable to associate to this quantity of air (can be seeted between 30÷60 m³/h for each) a significant quantity of negative ions:

- avoid the fall of the remaining particulate
- force the particulate to remain in suspension in order to be captured in a further passage
- give to the outgoing air flow the special electric charge that seconds the natural exchange lungs

INTRODUCTION



Dimensions : 53 x 39 x 15 cm

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION



SCENARIO



History of events on board

AM

- 8.00 - Start mission - Boat departure
- 8.55 - Doors Closed
- 9:15 - Dive
- 9.35 - Start baseline measures (Koala-Sub off)
- 10.30 - Koala-Sub activated in sequence
- 11.30 - Koala-Sub off in sequence
- 11.55 - Start continuous monitoring (baseline)

PM

- 01.05 - Koala Sub-activated
- 01.35 - Periscope depth
- 01.45 - Snorkel and engines on
- 03.45 - Snorkel and engines off
- 05.00 - Surface
- 05.05 - Doors Open (Koala-Sub off)
- 05.30 - End of the measures
- 08.00 - End mission – Boat at the pier

MATERIALS AND METHODS



Parameters investigated

- Particulate fractions
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), as ppm of CH₄
- Nitrogen oxides NO_x
- Carbon monoxide CO
- Carbon dioxide CO₂
- Volatile organic compounds containing the SO bond (SO_x)

MATERIALS AND METHODS



Analisis Instruments:



(Bruel-Kjaer infrared analyzer)

VOCs, CO₂, CO, NO_x, SO_x compounds

MATERIALS AND METHODS



Analisis Instruments:



Particulates

(Bio-Test Diagnostic laser counter)



(Aquaria-Microflow sampler)

Microorganisms

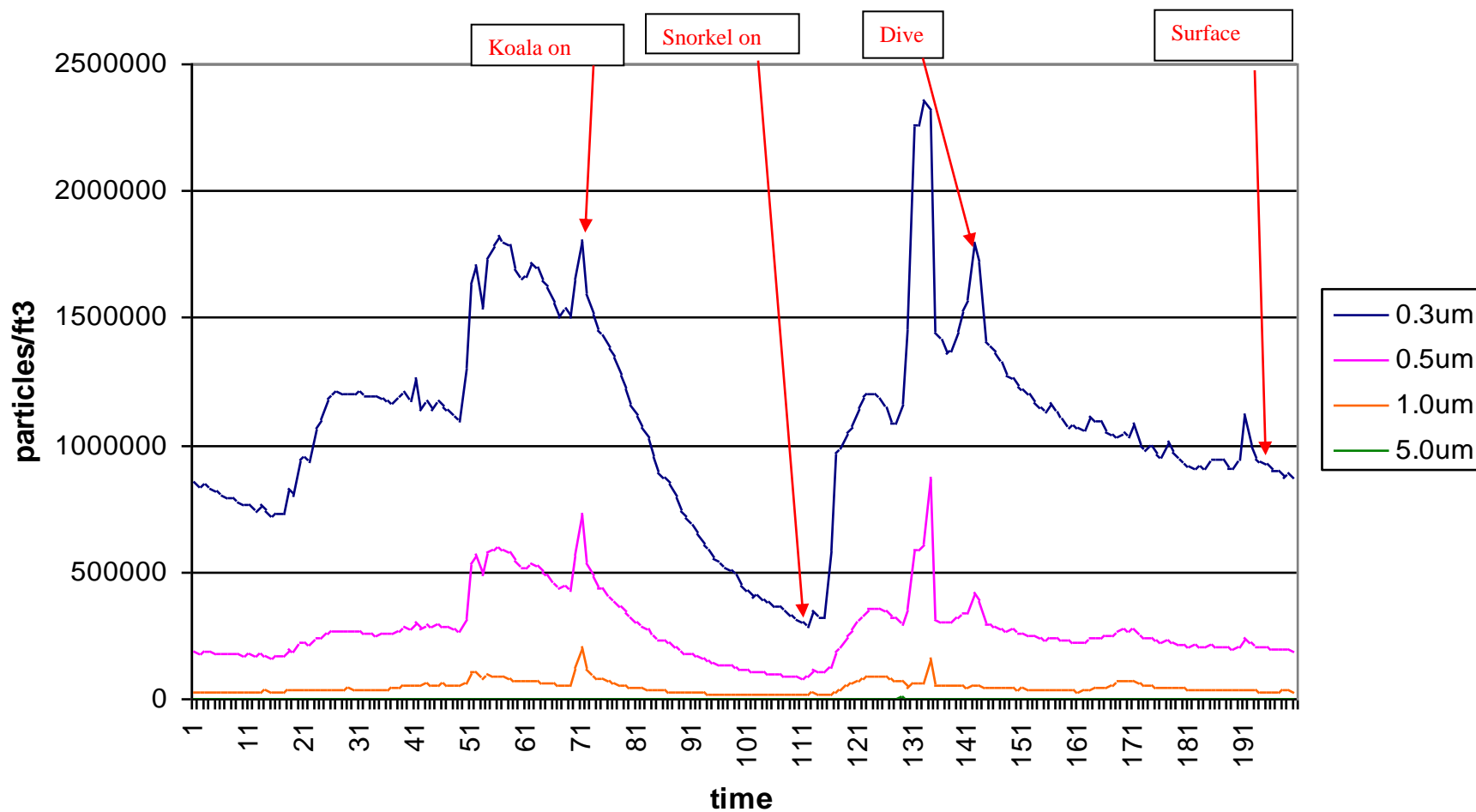
(Merck Rodac Culture plates)



RESULTS



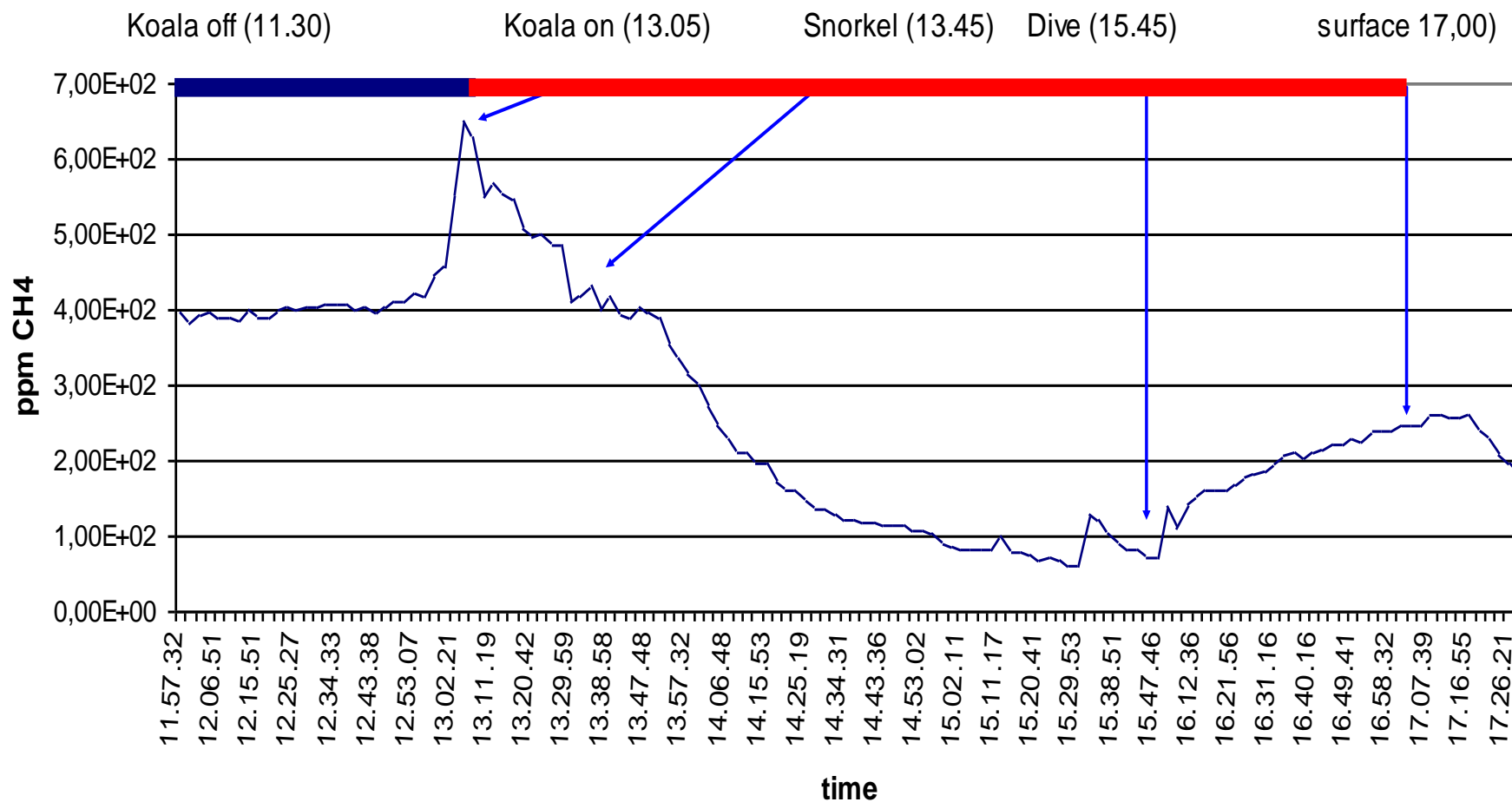
Particulate



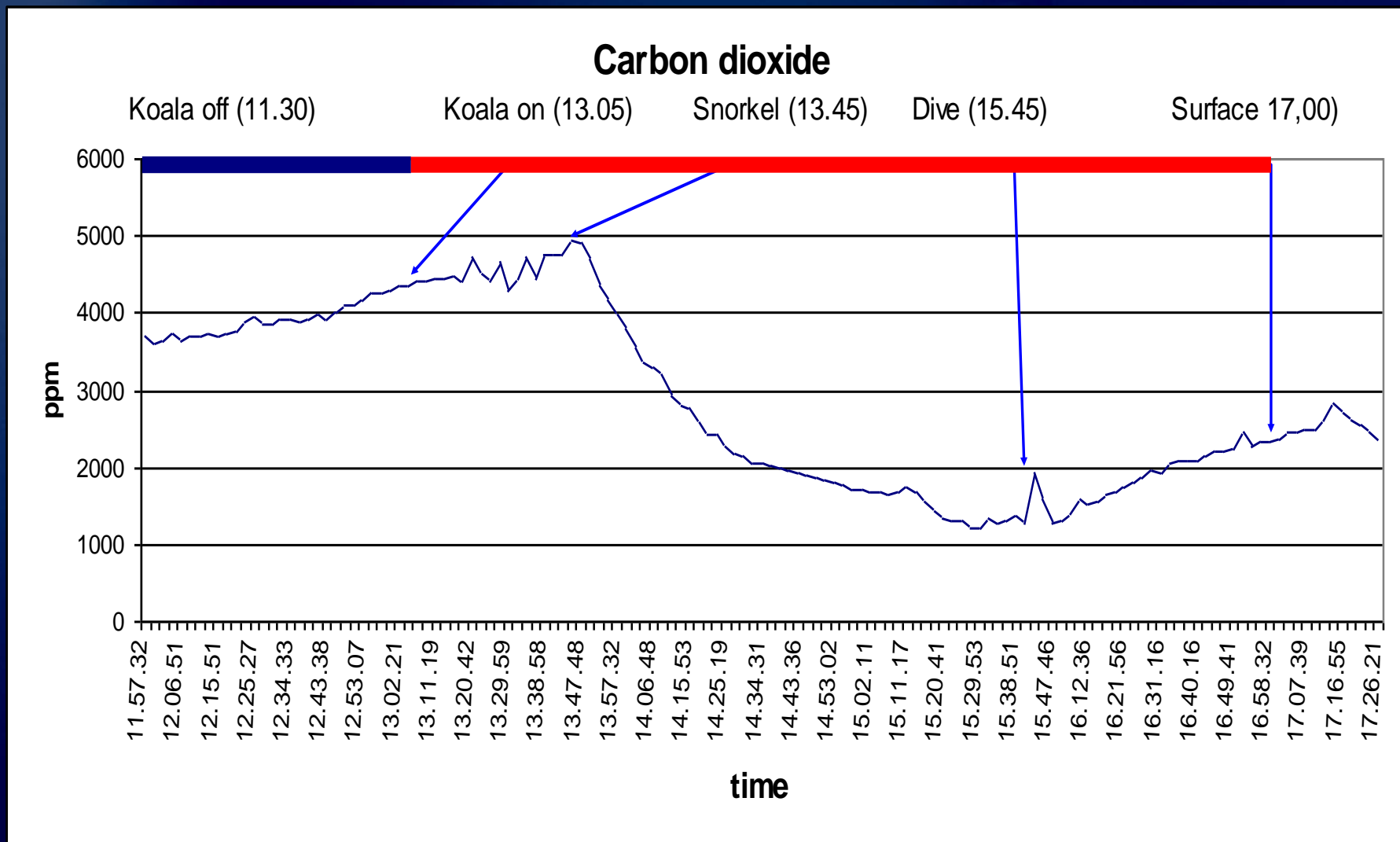
RESULTS



V.O.C.s



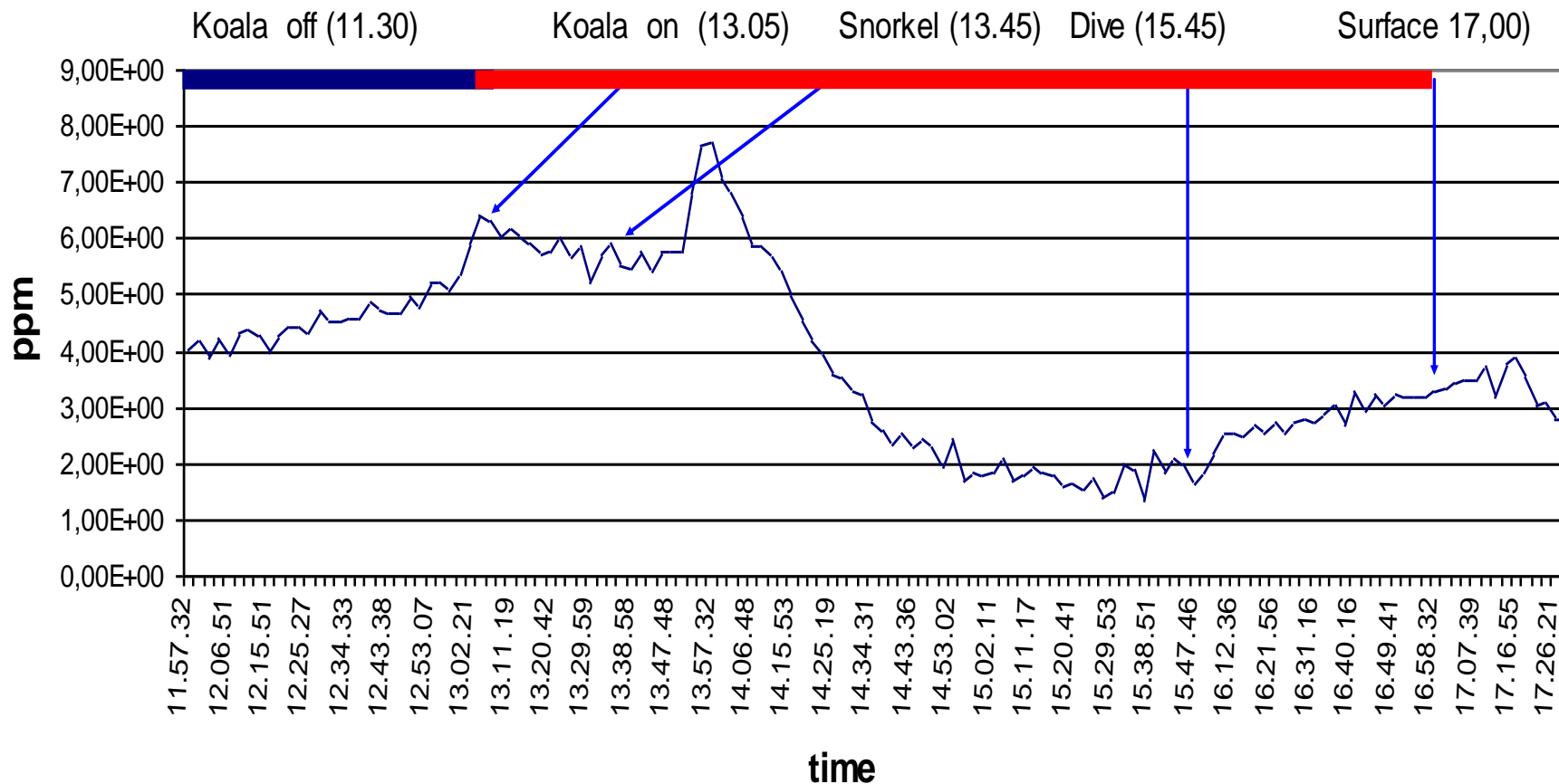
RESULTS



RESULTS



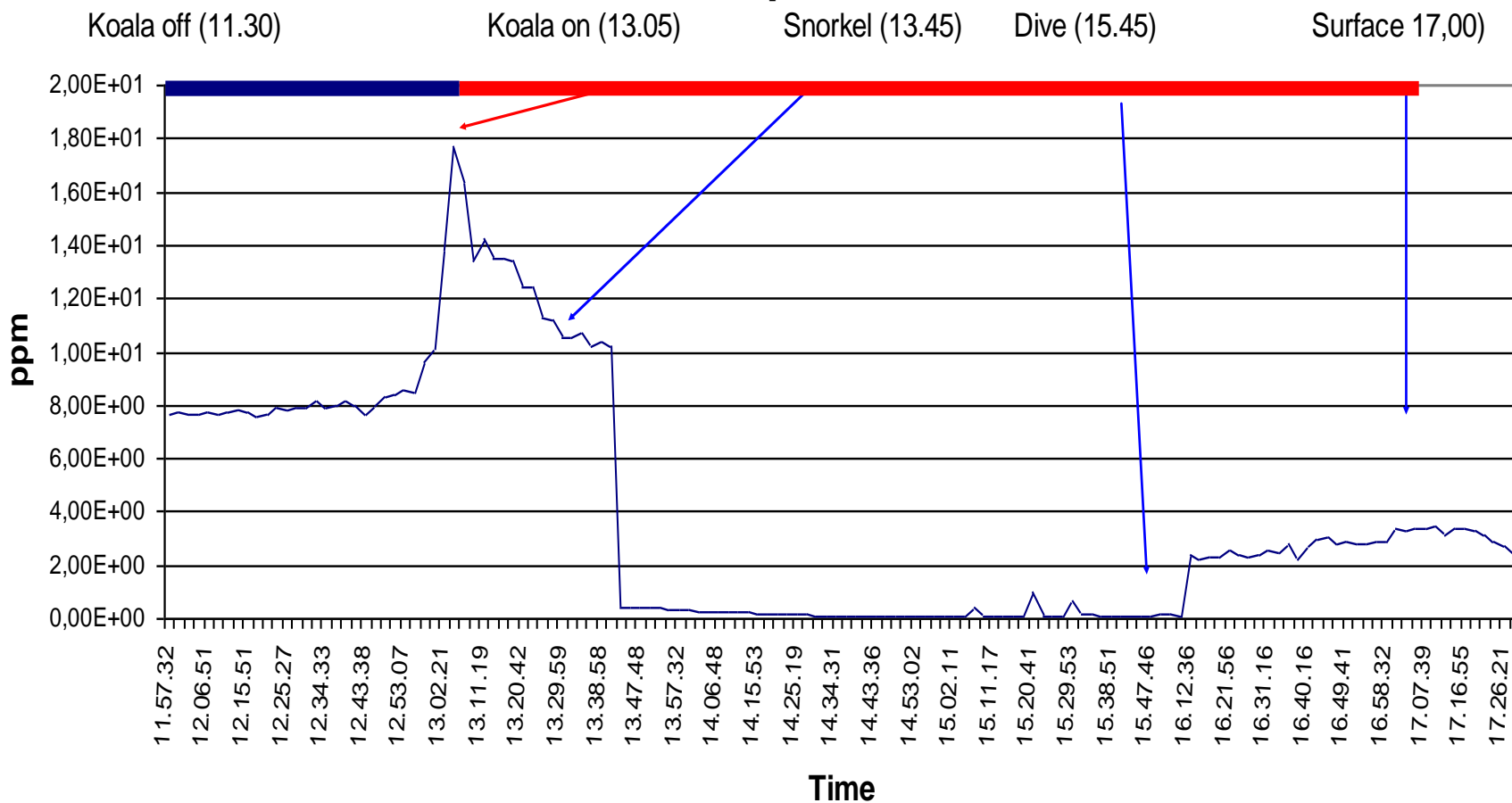
Carbon monoxide



RESULTS



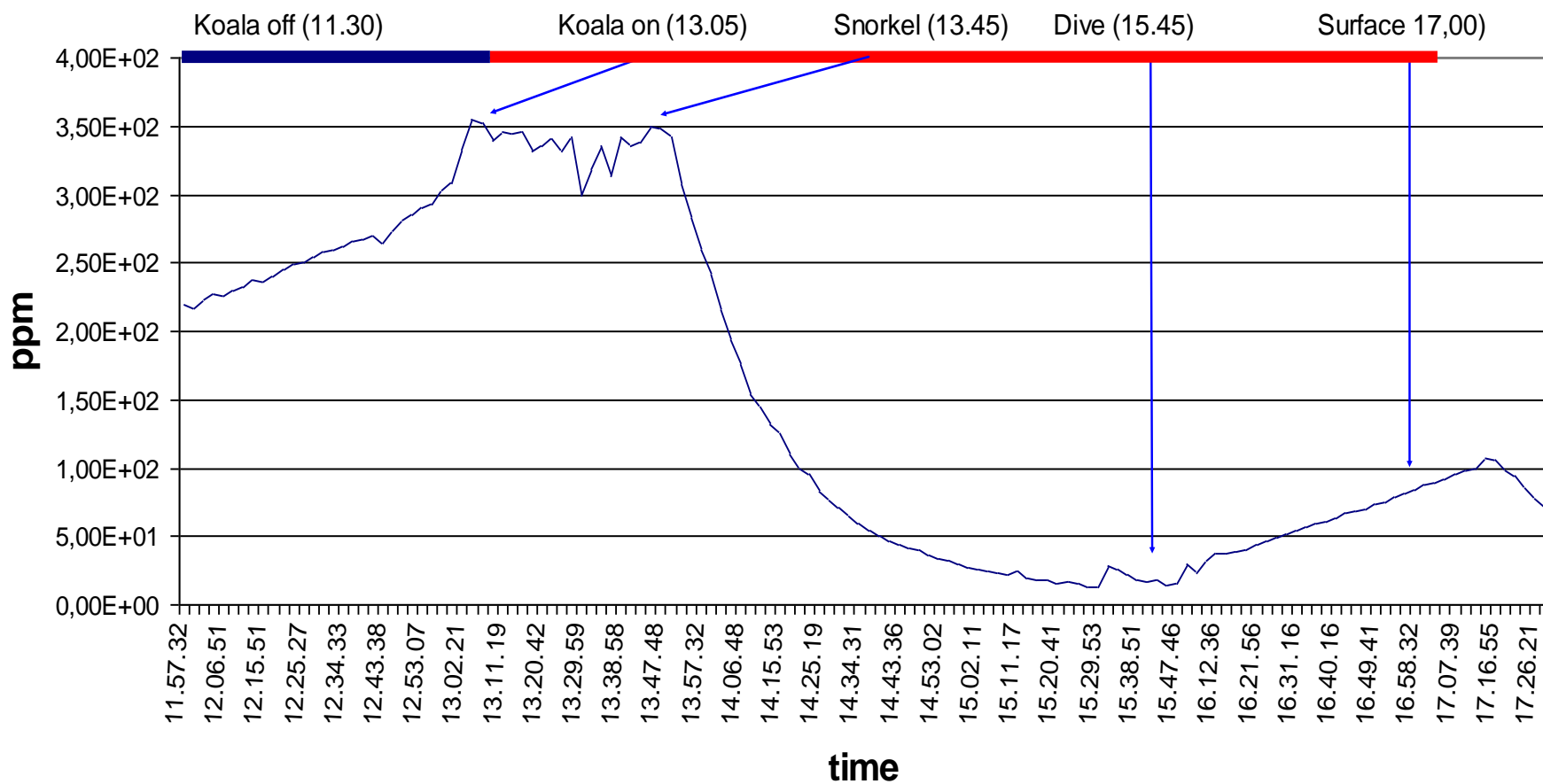
Nox compounds



RESULTS



Sox compounds



RESULTS



Microbiological

	KOALA-SUB off	KOALA-SUB on
Room	Units for colony.	Units for colony
	C.F.U.	C.F.U.
Torpedo room	800	300
CIC deck - A	60	40
CIC deck - B	110	42
Mess room	41	29
Electric board room	36	19
Engine room	220	105
Sleeping room	300	4
average	223.8	77
Percent Reduction average		-65%

CONCLUSIONS



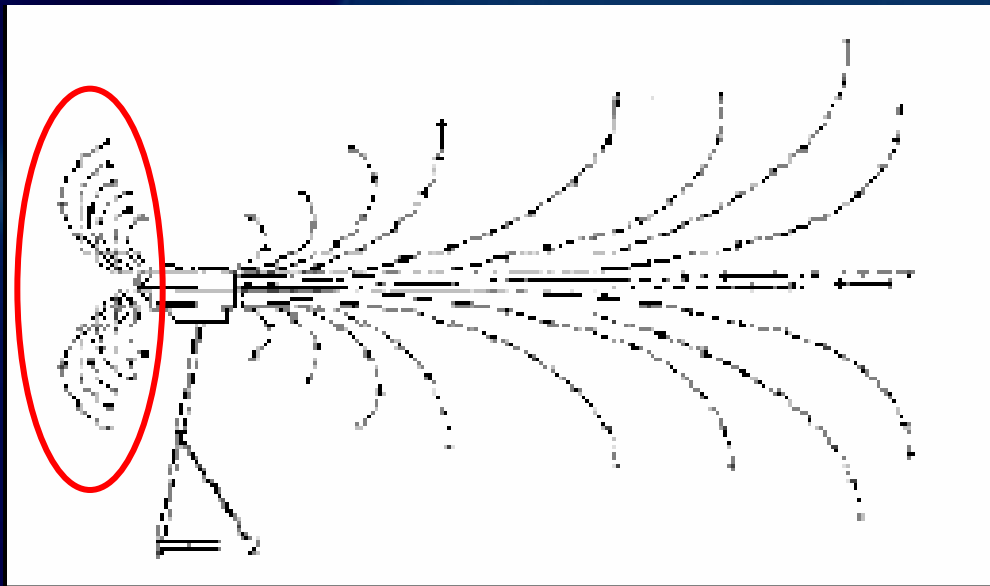
Koala Sistem is good system
to purify the air by

particulate
microorganism
VOCs

CONCLUSIONS



Best result in closed environments.
Close to the Koala there is an
increase of air effective replacement



CONCLUSIONS



Why Italian Navy chose it

Compact
Integrated

Easy manuntenibile (and cheap)

Easy cleanable

Very low energy absorbtion



Submarine Air Monitoring Air Purification Conference



**Thanks for
attention**

**Oct 19-22, 2009
San Diego
USA**