

**LAX AIR QUALITY and SOURCE  
APPORTIONMENT STUDY (AQSAS)  
PHASE III**

**Board of Airport Commissioners  
Los Angeles World Airports**

***June 18, 2013***



*Los Angeles World Airports  
Facilities Management Group*



# AQSAS Requirement

**LAWA is required to:**

**“..... conduct an air quality source apportionment study to evaluate the contribution of on-airport aircraft emissions to off-airport pollutant concentrations.....”**

- **Commenced: 2008**
- **Spent: \$5,150,000**
- **Report completed: June 2013**

***Phase III completes AQSAS Study  
and fulfills LAWA's commitments***

# Landmark Study



- **First apportionment study of its kind at an airport.**
- **Study was conducted by internationally recognized team of independent experts in the field of air quality and source apportionment.**
- **Met the objective of apportioning emissions.**
- **A supplemental study was performed to further investigate ultrafine particle (UFP) sources.**
- **Produced valuable new information that will support future research by the scientific community.**

# AQSAS Study Team



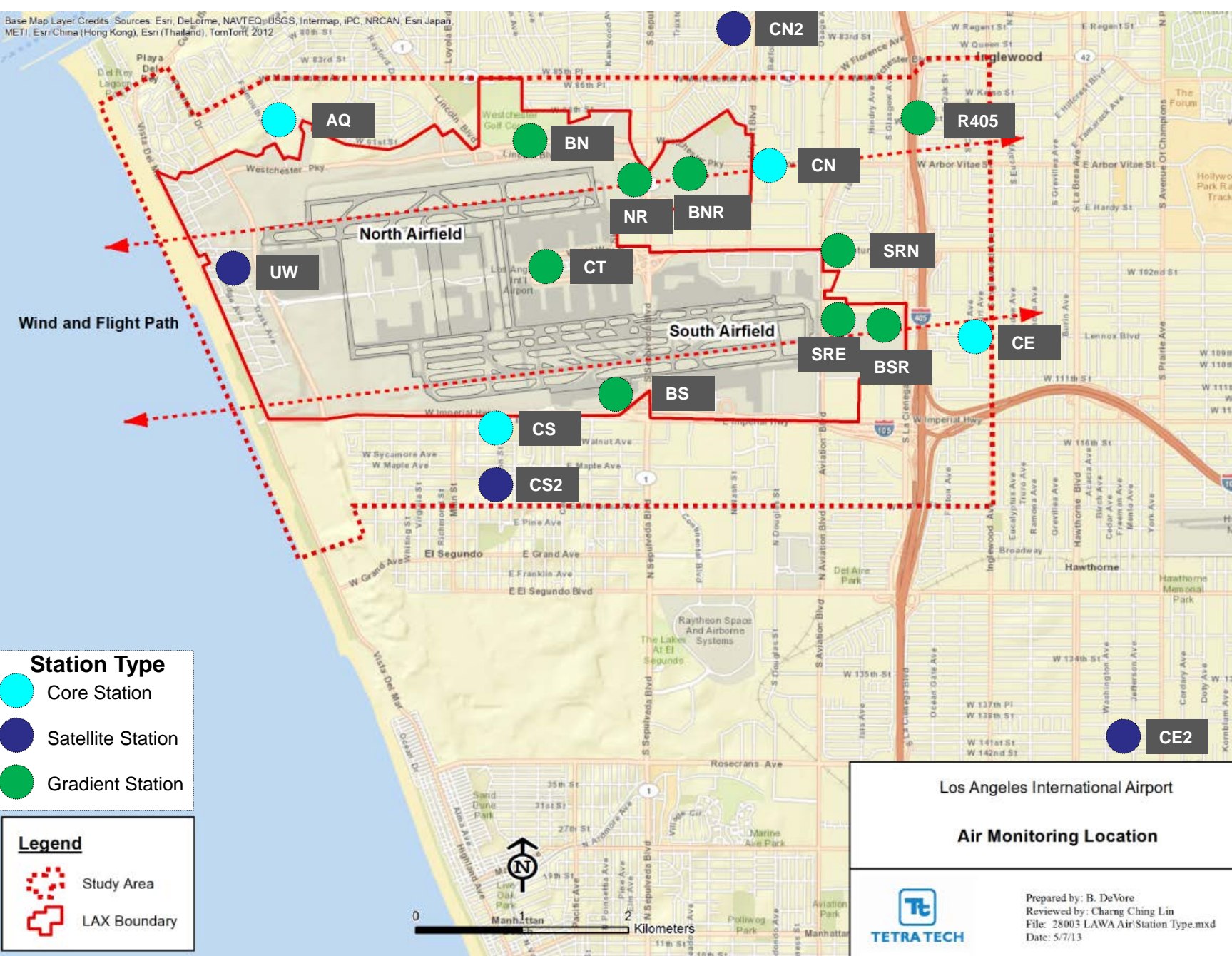
- **Salar Niku, Ph.D., Program Manager, Charng-Ching Lin, Ph.D., Technical Project Manager, & Eddy Huang, Ph.D., QA/QC - Tetra Tech, Inc.**
- **Eric Fujita, Ph.D., Source Apportionment - Desert Research Institute**
- **Ronald Henry, Ph.D., Nonparametric Trajectory Analysis - USC**
- **Sarav Arunachalam, Ph.D., Dispersion modeling - UNC, Chapel Hill**
- **Charles Blanchard, Ph.D. & Ivar Tombach, Ph.D., Technical Advisors**
- **Paul Schafer, Field Measurements - SCS Tracer Environmental**
- **Robert Baxter, Field/Data Quality Assurance - T&B Systems, Inc.**
- **Michael Ratte, Emissions Inventory - K&B Environmental Sciences, Inc.**
- **Robert Freeman, Airport Environmental Manager – LAWA**
- **Norene Hastings, Project Manager - LAWA, Environmental Services Div.**
- **CDM Smith – LAWA’s Scientific Advisor**
- **Technical Working Group - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Board, South Coast Air Quality Management District , Federal Aviation Administration, and California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, & community organizations**



# Complexity of Apportionment Modeling

## ➤ **Not possible to assign one single percentage for airport-related contributions, or any other sources because:**

- Airport is not a single stationary emission source, but a collection of stationary and mobile source activity that rise and fall all day.
- Meteorological variables (wind speed, wind direction, ambient temperature, and others).
- Air quality varies by hour of the day, day of the week, and by season.
- Different models have different limitations and generate different results.
- When concentrations are low, a small change in value results in a major change in percentage.



**Station Type**

- Core Station
- Satellite Station
- Gradient Station


**Legend**

- Study Area
- LAX Boundary

**Los Angeles International Airport**

**Air Monitoring Location**

---



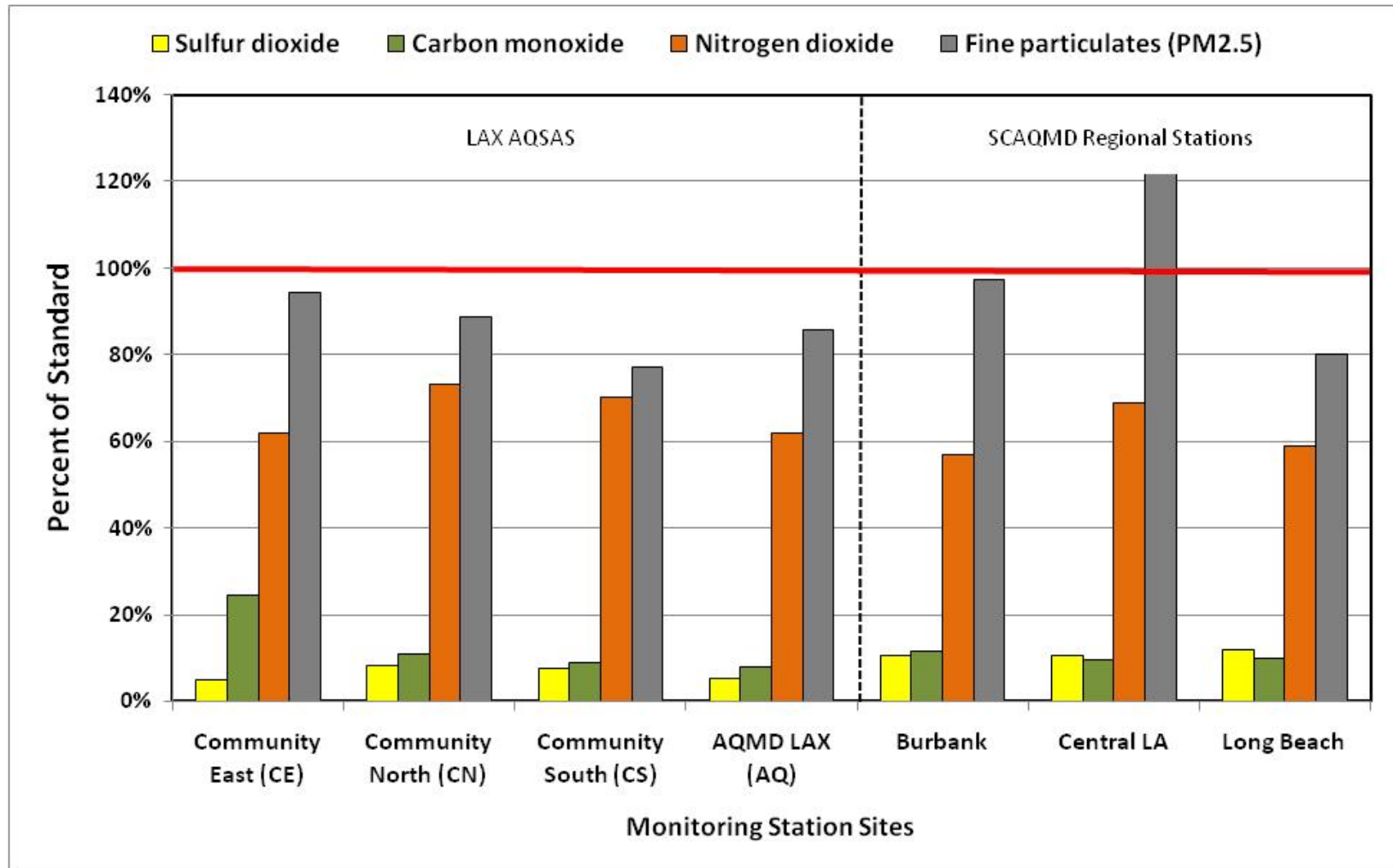
Prepared by: B. DeVore  
 Reviewed by: Chang Ching Lin  
 File: 28003 LAWA Air Station Type.mxd  
 Date: 5/7/13



# Key Findings & Conclusions



## All major pollutants were below National Ambient Air Quality Standards & California Ambient Air Quality Standards



# Key Findings & Conclusions (cont.)



- **Air Toxics are comparable or lower than elsewhere in the South Coast Air Basin.**
- **Air pollutant concentrations show sharp decreases as distance from the source of emissions increases.**
- **Main sources of Oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>), Carbon Monoxide (CO), and Black Carbon (BC) in the Study Area were local traffic on or near the I-105 and I-405 freeways.**
- **90 percent of the ambient Particulate Matter 2.5 μm (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) concentration in the Study Area is from non-airport related sources and regional background including secondary aerosols.**
- **Main source areas for Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) are the Central Terminal Area (CTA), and the North and South Airfields.**

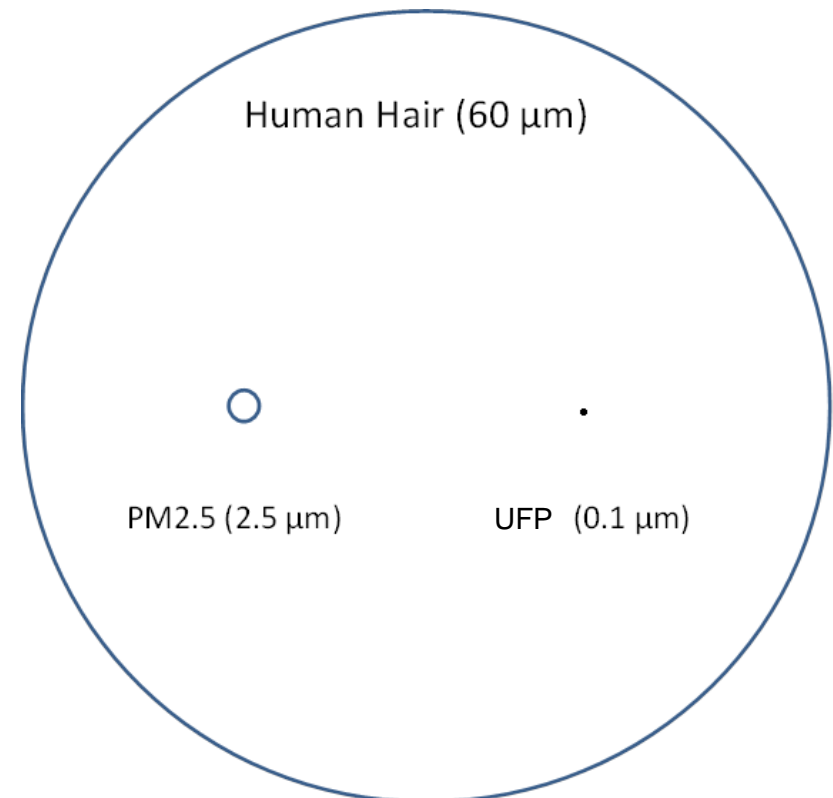


# Apportionment Modeling Findings



- **PM<sub>2.5</sub>:** 10% airport-related contribution
- **CO:** 11 to 51%
- **NO<sub>x</sub>:** 16 to 76%
- **BC:** 17 to 70%
- **SO<sub>2</sub>:** 9 to 84%
- **UFP:** 52 to 94%

## Comparison of PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Ultrafine PM



# AQSAS UFP Supplemental Study



- **Based on data analysis from first season sampling, a supplemental study was conducted to further investigate UFP sources.**
- **Larger UFP particles indicated an association with vehicle emissions.**
- **Smaller UFP particles indicated an association with jet exhaust and possibly secondary particles.**
- **Currently no regulatory standard for UFP.**



## **Next Steps**

---

- **June 18, 2013 – Report posted to project website/printed copies to be provided to local libraries by end of June 2013**
- **June to October 2013 - Public review period**
- **September 2013 - Public information meeting**
- **Late 2013 - An appendix noting public feedback received will be posted on the project website.**

**<http://www.lawa.org/airqualitystudy>**