# BRICK MANUFACTURING: AN OVERVIEW OF TECHNOLOGIES



Satyendra Rana
Sonal Kumar
20 December 2017

## FIRED-CLAY BRICKS PRODUCTION PROCESS







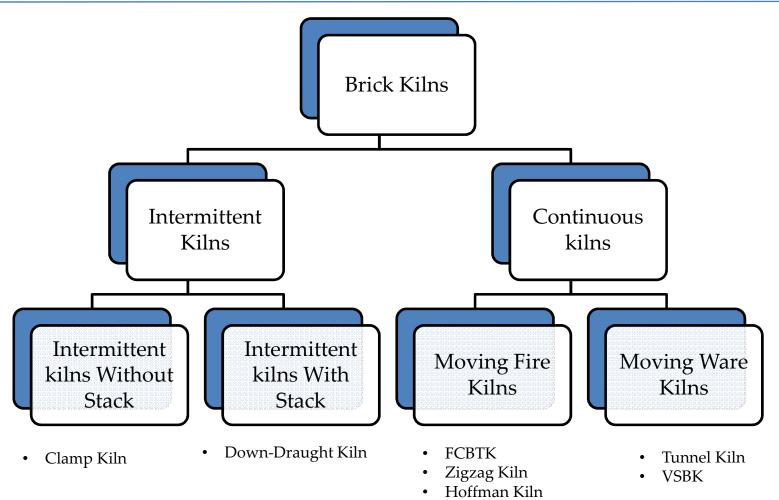






#### KILN CLASSIFICATION





#### **OVERVIEW OF KILNS**



- Fixed Chimney Bulls Trench Kiln
- Zigzag kiln
  - Natural Draught
  - Induced Draught
- Hoffman Kiln
- Vertical Shaft Brick Kiln
- Tunnel Kiln
- Clamp Kiln
- Down-Draught kiln

## FIXED CHIMNEY BULL'S TRENCH KILN (FCBTK)



- Produces 60-65% of the total brick production in India.
- ~ 40,000 FCBTK operational in India.

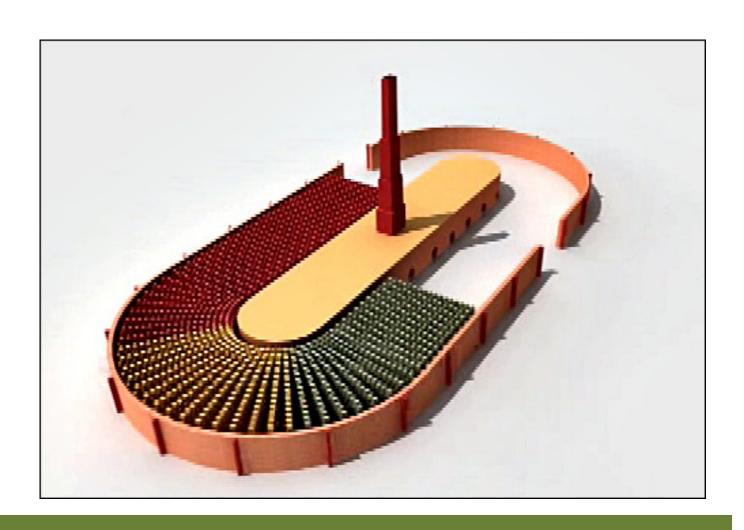


## FIXED CHIMNEY BULLS TRENCH KILN (FCBTK): WORKING



## Animation

- Fire moves in closed oval circuit through the brick stacked in Trench.
- Operates under natural draught mode.
- Three zones:
  - Firing zone
  - Pre-heating zone
  - Cooling zone
- Solid fuel fed from the top intermittently.
- Column type brick setting.



## FIXED CHIMNEY BULLS TRENCH KILN (FCBTK): WORKING







## FIXED CHIMNEY BULLS TRENCH KILN (FCBTK): MAIN FEATURES

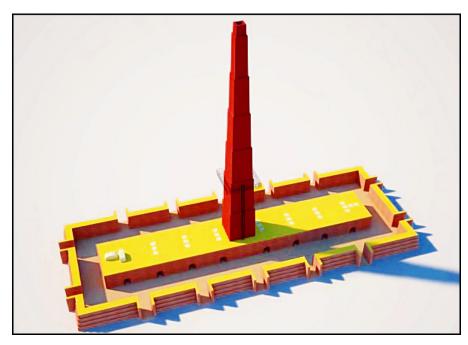


- Production Capacity: 20,000 60,000 Bricks per day.
- Product Quality:
  - Class-I bricks: 50-60%
  - Underfired, over-fired or breakages: 40-50%
- Capital Investment (excluding land cost): Rs 30-50 lakh
- High emissions of PM and gaseous pollutants.

## ZIGZAG KILN (NATURAL AND INDUCED DRAUGHT)



- Improved version of FCBTK.
- Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) first introduced the zigzag firing technology based during early 1970s.
- 3,000 4,000 kilns in India.

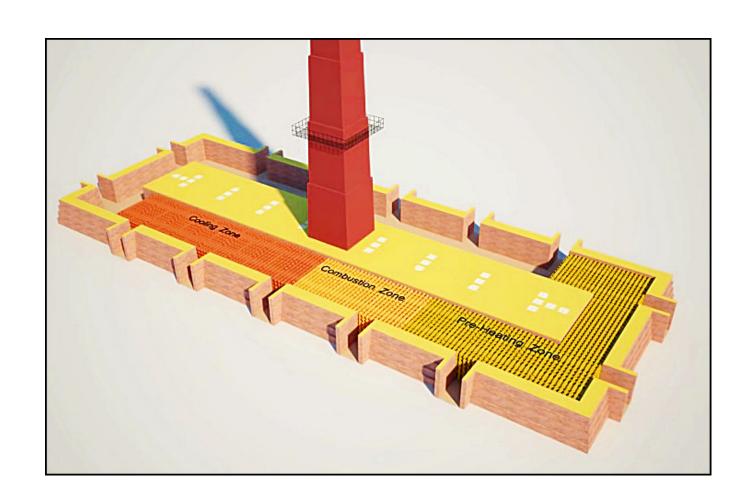




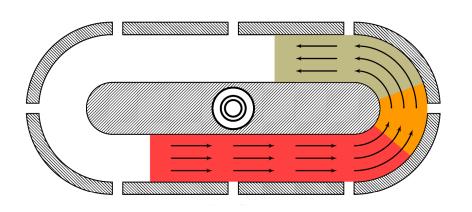


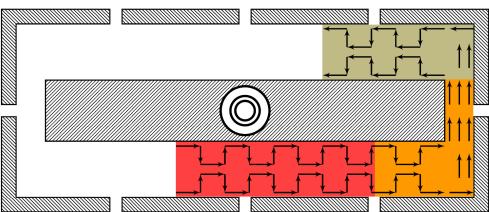
### • Animation

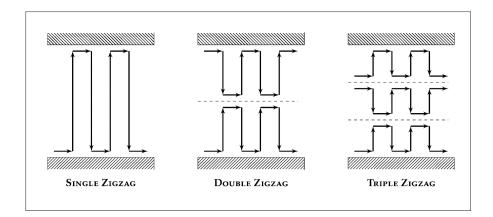
- Fire moves in closed rectangular circuit through the brick stacked in trench.
- Operates under natural or induced draught mode.
- Three zones:
  - Firing zone
  - Pre-heating zone
  - Cooling zone
- Solid fuel fed from the top continuously.
- Chamber type brick setting.





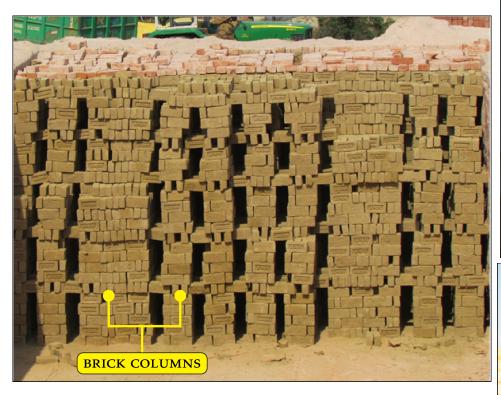








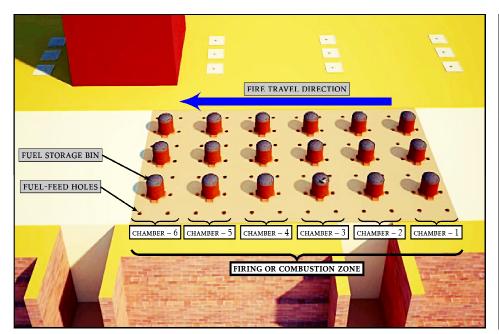














#### **ZIGZAG KILN: MAIN FEATURES**



- Production Capacity: 20,000 60,000 Bricks per day.
- Up to 25% less fuel consumption compared to FCBTK.
- Product Quality:
  - Class-I bricks: 80% 90%
  - Underfired, over-fired or breakages: 10-20%
- Capital Investment (excluding land cost): Rs 30-50 lakh
- Emits 70-80% lower PM as compared to FCBTKs.

#### **HOFFMAN KILN**



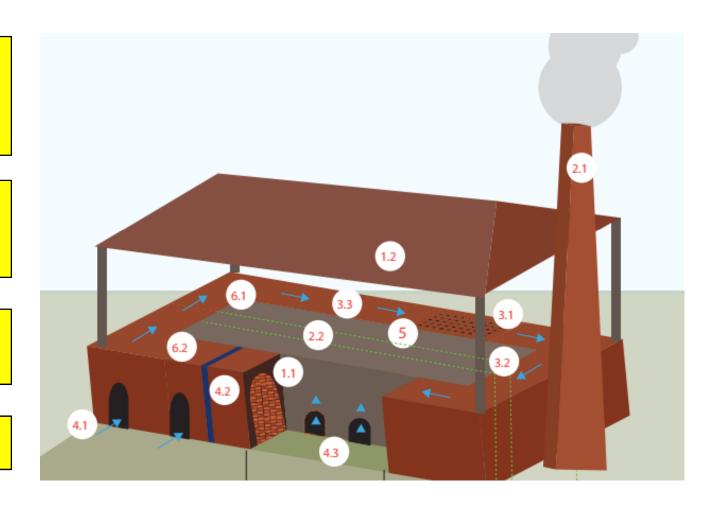
- Hoffman kiln was developed and patented by Friedrich Hoffman in Germany in the year 1858.
- In India, there are ~500 Hoffman kilns in operation.



#### HOFFMAN KILN: WORKING



- Fire moves in closed rectangular circuit through the brick stacked in the annular space.
- Three zones:
  - Firing zone
  - Pre-heating zone
  - Cooling zone
- Operates under natural or induced draught mode.
- Solid fuel fed from the top intermittently.



## HOFFMAN KILN: WORKING





## **HOFFMAN KILN: WORKING**







#### **HOFFMAN KILN: MAIN FEATURES**



- Production Capacity: 10,000 20,000 bricks per day.
- The cost of setting up a Hoffman kiln is around 60 90 lakh.
- Can be operated all year around with a flexibility in production capacity.
- Suitable for any type of green bricks or tiles.
- Around 80% of the total bricks produced are of good quality.
- Relatively higher energy consumption because of high thermal mass.

## VERTICAL SHAFT BRICK KILN (VSBK)



- Developed in rural Chins during late 1960s and early 1970s.
- About 110 kilns installed in India.

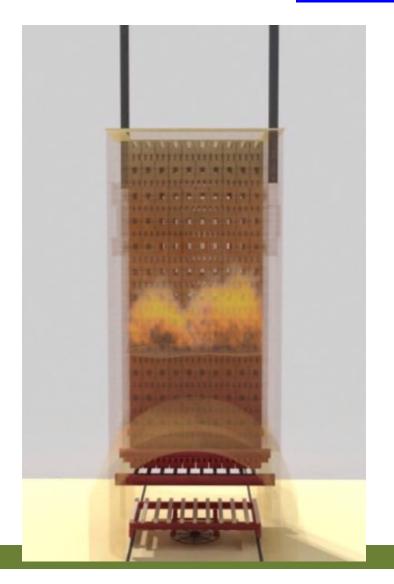


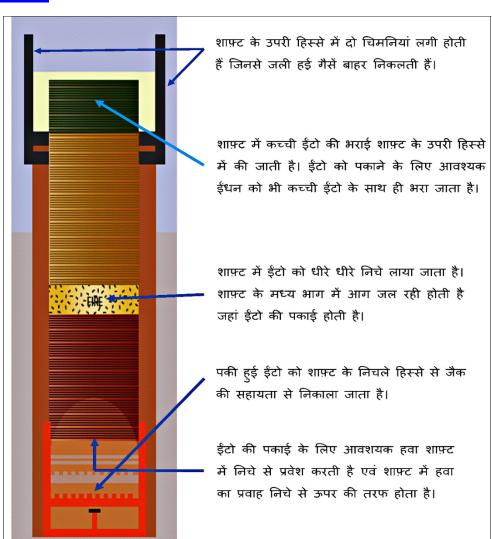


## VERTICAL SHAFT BRICK KILN (VSBK): WORKING



#### **ANIMATION**





## **LOADING OF BRICKS**

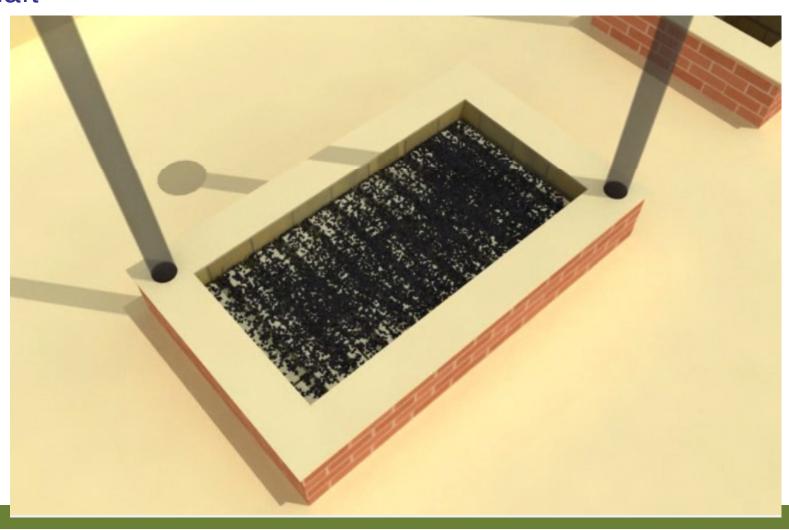




## **FUEL FEEDING**



 Additional fuel is loaded along with the bricks from top of the shaft



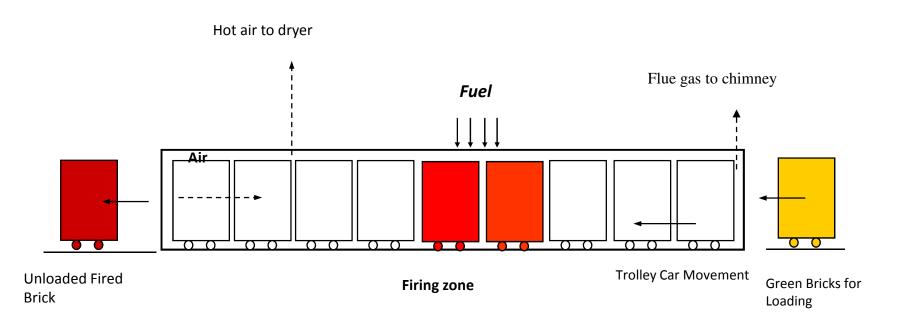
## VERTICAL SHAFT BRICK KILN (VSBK): MAIN FEATURES



- Production Capacity: 5,000 30,000 bricks per day.
  - 4,000-5,000 bricks per day per shaft
- Consumes 30-40% less fuel as compared to FCBTK
- Requires less space area to setup as compared to other brick kilns.
- Capital Investment (excluding land cost): Rs 15-50 lakh
- Impact on product quality because of fast firing process
- Requires conveyor/lift (and electricity) for lifting of bricks to the top.
- Emits ~80% lower PM as compared to FCBTK.

## **TUNNEL KILN**





## **TUNNEL KILN**



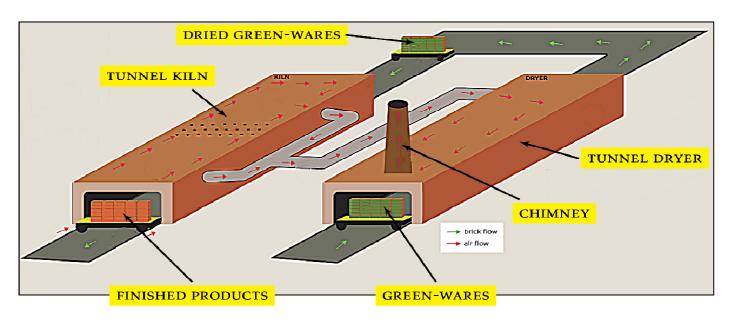
- Developed around mid-19th century in Germany.
- In India, there are very few (~5) tunnel brick kiln units.





#### **TUNNEL KILN: WORKING**



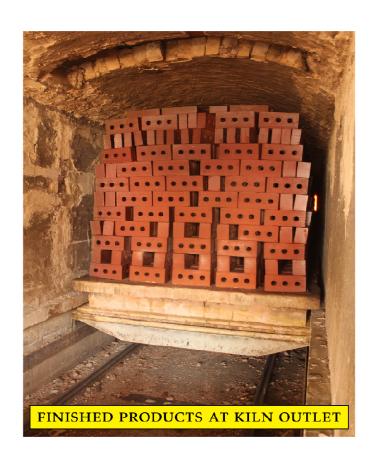




### **TUNNEL KILN: WORKING**







#### **TUNNEL KILN: MAIN FEATURES**



- Production Capacity: 50,000 2,00,000 bricks per day.
- The cost of setting up a tunnel kiln is around Rs 4 10 crore.
- Can be operated all year around with a flexibility in production capacity.
- Suitable for any type of green bricks or tiles.
- Around 100% good quality (properly fired) products.
- Significantly less pollutant emission.
- Hollow blocks and any other type of bricks/block/tile can be produced

#### **CLAMP KILN**



- The clamp is the most basic type of kiln since no permanent kiln structure is built.
- It consists essentially of a pile of green bricks interspersed with combustible material.





### **CLAMP KILN: WORKING**



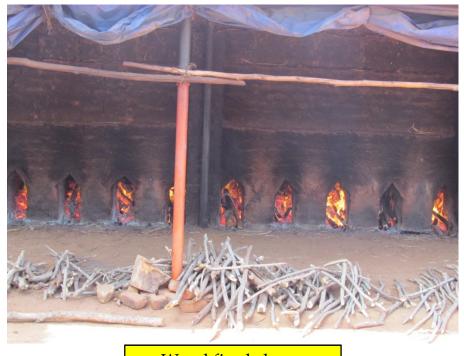




Coal fired clamp

### **CLAMP KILN: WORKING**







Wood fired clamp

Rice husk fired clamp

#### **CLAMP KILN: MAIN FEATURES**



- Production Capacity: 10,000 200,000 bricks per batch.
- Types of Products:
  - Solid bricks
- Around 50-60% of the total bricks produced are of good quality.
- Suitable for solid fuels like coal and biomass.
- Concentration of air pollutants is very high around clamps.
- Larger clamps are relatively more energy efficient.

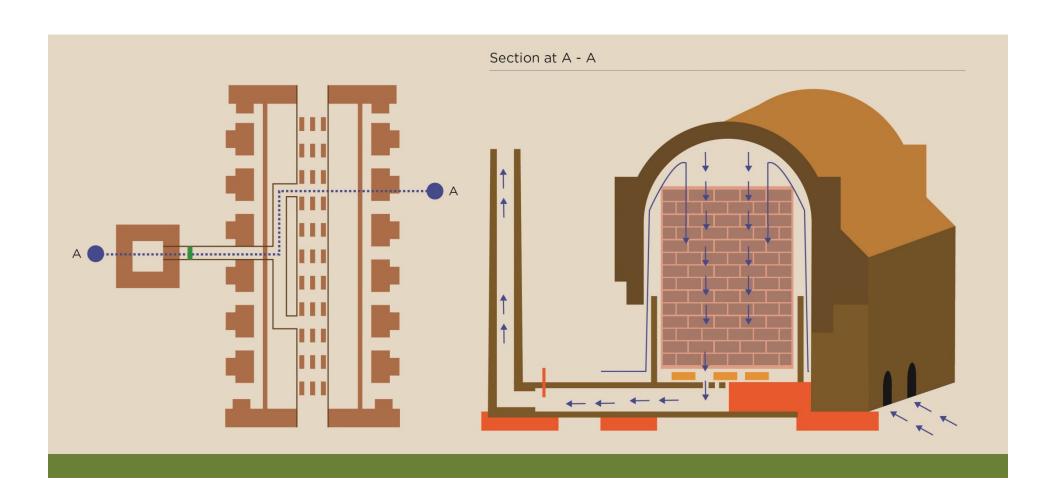
## **DOWN DRAUGHT KILNS**





## **DOWN DRAUGHT KILNS - WORKING**





## **DOWN DRAUGHT KILNS**



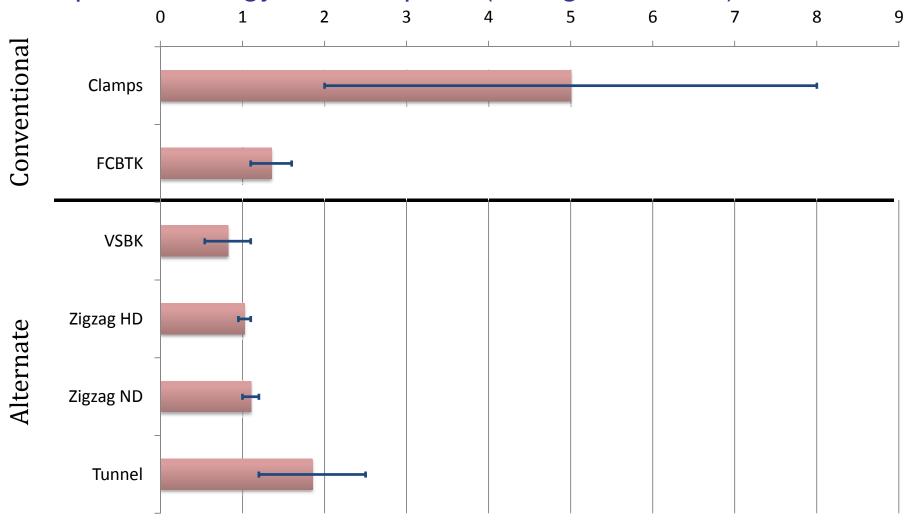
#### Key aspects

- Relatively higher investment than clamps due to permanent kiln structure
- Suitable for small to medium scale batch production
- Can be used for year round production
- Capital Investment (excluding land cost): Rs 14-20 lakh
- Production capacity: 20,000 40,000 bricks per batch.
- Good quality products: 85%
- Type of products: All types
- Quality of fired bricks better than clamp.
- High sensible heat losses because of higher thermal mass of the kiln
- Relatively better and homogeneous brick quality as compared to clamps because of uniform temperature distribution

#### **ENERGY CONSUMPTION - FIRING TECHNOLOGIES**



Specific Energy Consumption (MJ/kg fired brick)

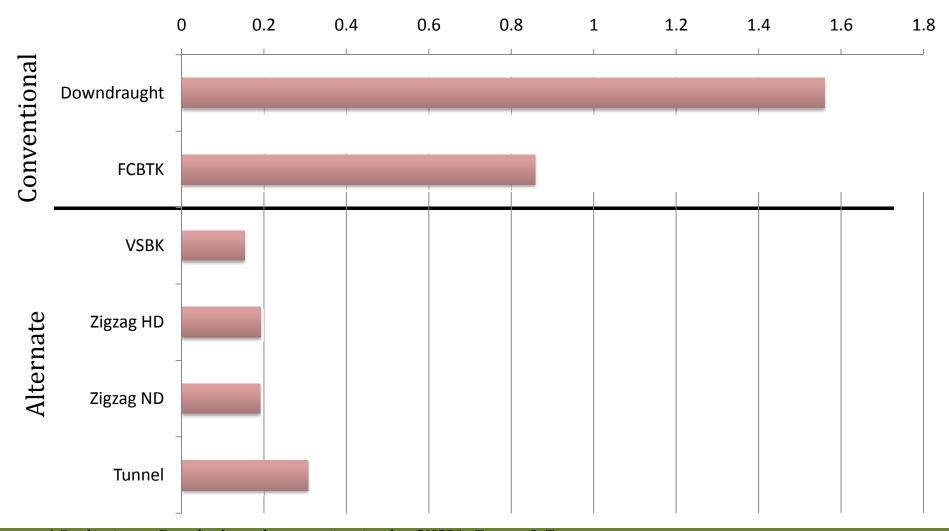


Source: Energy utilization in brick kilns, Sameer Maithel, PhD thesis, IIT Bombay,

## **ENVIRONMENT PERFORMANCE**



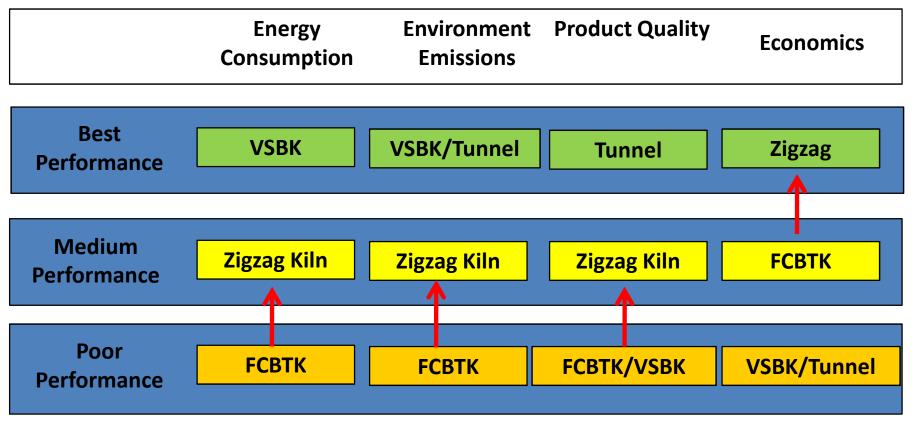
Suspended Particulate Matter\* (g/kg fired brick)



<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary Results based on monitoring by GKSPL, Enzen & Entec

## **Comparison of Brick Kiln Technologies**





Conversion from FCBTK to Zigzag will move the industry one step ahead

## THANK YOU!!!

Contact: Satyendra Rana

Email: satyendra@gkspl.in

Mobile: +91 9953859041



www.gkspl.in