

## Relative Brine Release Capacity Rapid Screening Test for Lithium Mining Operations

DBS&A Albuquerque Soil Testing and Research Laboratory, New Mexico

### Client

Lithium mining companies worldwide

### Highlights

- ◆ Developed industry standard method
- ◆ Perform RBRC testing to aid resource estimation

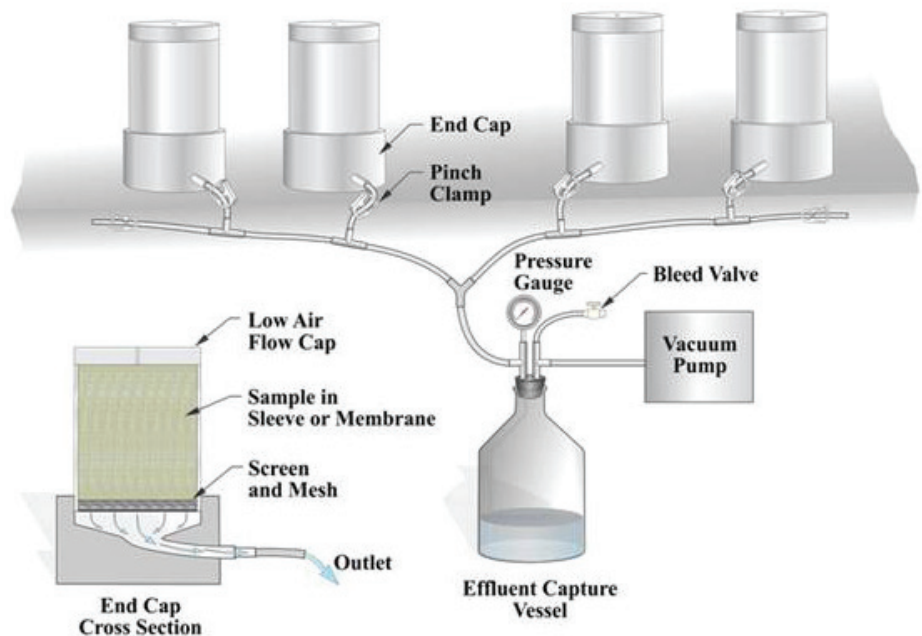
DBS&A's Soil Testing and Research Laboratory developed a rapid screening test for relative brine release capacity (RBRC) using samples from lithium mining sites in the U.S. and abroad.

RBRC testing is used to estimate the brine released by pumping a brine-saturated geologic unit. The method was developed by DBS&A in conjunction with the University of New Mexico's Department of Civil Engineering.

The method has been adopted as the industry standard. DBS&A's laboratory has performed over one thousand RBRC tests for more than 18 major international mining companies. To conduct RBRC testing, laboratory technicians apply a vacuum to the group of saturated samples in a parallel configuration, allowing rapid analysis of 10 samples. The amount of brine produced in response to the vacuum (i.e., RBRC) provides a basis for comparison of the amount of brine produced from different samples. The RBRC is related to the specific yield of a material, a principal function of material texture.



A vacuum is applied to the group of saturated samples in a parallel configuration



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