

# Advanced Reaction Systems Overview



James C. Fisher II Ph.D. MBA  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
03/13/2017

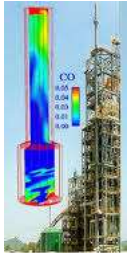


Solutions for Today | Options for Tomorrow



# Advanced Reaction Systems

Converting Fossil Fuels for Multiple Applications



**Objective:** Move away from “bigger is better” to a decentralized locality based processes that utilizes local feed stocks to create needed products in the most economic method

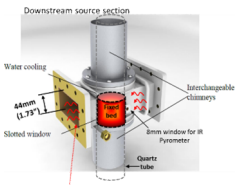
**How to do this:**

1. Develop a toolset that can autonomously design a process that utilizes local feed stocks (coal, natural gas, biomass, and/or MSW) to produce locally needed goods (power, heat, liquids, etc.)
2. Utilize mass manufacturing for “common to all” parts to drive costs down while using Advanced Manufacturing to fabricate critical performance parts that enable high performance (e.g. fuel injectors).
3. Manufacture the process to fit and operate in standard ISO shipping containers such that untrained work force with common tools can construct
4. Operate remotely to reduce O&M costs and only require onsite for fuel stock feed.



**Key Advantages:**

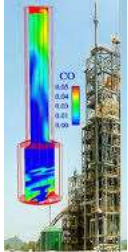
- The financial risk associated with small-scale modular systems does not present as difficult a challenge as it does with large-scale central systems.
- Reduction in transpiration of feedstocks and end products will reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, biomass and MSW can be used to also reduce emissions
- Advanced modular reactors will be designed to enhance reactions, e.g., microwaves, wall effects.
- Advanced computational techniques can reduce design costs and optimize reaction parameters to provide increased performance at lower costs.
- Advanced modular systems will be “right-sized” for each application or small units will be replicated for larger applications





# Advanced Reaction Systems

## Project Overview



### Task 1: Project Management

### Task 2: Microbial Enhanced Coalbed Systems (MECS)

- Coal/Coalbed characterization
- Microbial community from 5 coal basins
- Microbial functional potential from Appalachian basin

### Task 3: Process and Reaction Intensification

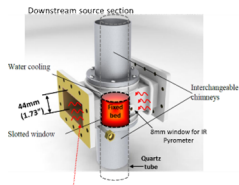
- Microwave enhanced reaction systems
- Non-traditional thermal systems
- Enabling materials
- Oxygen carrier development for chemical looping gasification

### Task 4: Virtual Reactor Design, Validation, and Optimization

- Basic MFiX code development
- Test system validation with physical experiments
- Optimization toolsets

### Task 5: Systems Engineering and Analysis

- Feasibility and baseline study
- Metric development
- Pathway studies



# FY17 Advanced Reactions Systems FWP



## FY17 for R&IC

- Develop virtual toolsets
  - Assess new reactors performance → feed to future system analysis
- Gather information on new/novel reaction systems for system analysis
- Develop a “Baseline” 1-5 MW<sub>e</sub> modular system for power and liquids
  - Compare to commercial SOTA at utility scale to develop programmatic targets (input from FY16 market analysis as well)

## FY18 for R&IC

- Focus FWP on areas with most impact on driving cost down and performance up (based on FY17 TEA by SEAD)
- Target best performing reactors and continue a systematic study of reported reactor/reactions
- Prototype 1-2 hot reacting reactors optimized by virtual toolset

FY20 design of 1-5 MW<sub>e</sub> power system with optimized reactors

FY22 design of 1-5 MW<sub>e</sub> liquids system with optimized reactors

# Advanced Reaction Systems

