

*Combinatorial Design of Pd  
Ternary Alloys for Sulfur/Carbon  
Tolerant Hydrogen Separation  
(Pre-Combustion Capture)*



2010 NETL CO2 Capture Technology Meeting  
Sheraton Station Square Pittsburgh, PA

Dan Henkel  
Pall, Technical Director  
September 16, 2010

Introduction to Pall Corporation ([www.pall.com](http://www.pall.com))

Project Overview

Technology Fundamentals

Progress and Current Status

Plans for Development and Commercialization

- Annual sales of +US \$ 2.2 Billion
- 78 Locations in 34 Countries
- Approximately 10,000 Employees
- Traded on the NYSE (PLL)

## Offices and Plants

### Market Segments

Pall Life Sciences

Medical

Biopharm

Pall Industrial

Aerospace & Transportation

Food & Beverage

Fuels & Chemicals

Industrial Manufacturing

Materials

Microelectronics

Power Generation

Water



## Funding:

- \$1,517,000 total
- \$1,207,000 (NETL)
- \$310,000 (Pall)

## Performance:

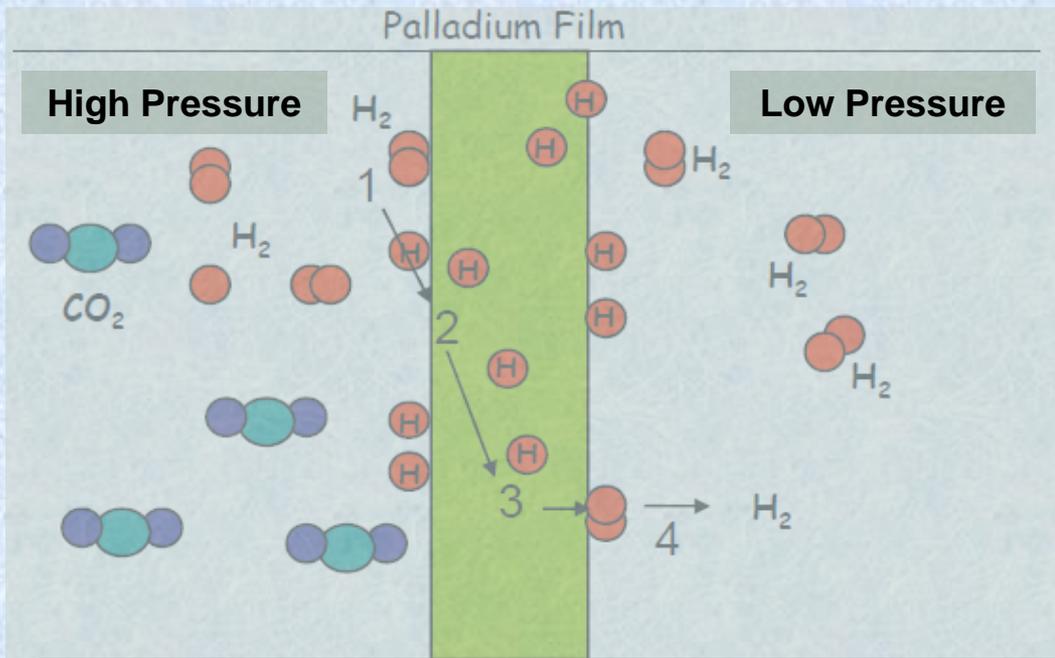
- Oct 1, 2009 to Sept 31, 2012

## Participants:

- Pall Corporation
- Cornell University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Southern Company

## Objectives:

- Develop an economic, high temperature and pressure, hydrogen separation membrane system for CO<sub>2</sub> capture that resists moderate levels of contaminants, typical in gasified coal.
- Create an advanced palladium alloy for optimum hydrogen separation performance using combinatorial material methods for high-throughput screening, testing, and characterization.
- Demonstrate durability by long term testing of a pilot membrane module at a commercial coal gasification facility.
- Understand long term effects of the coal gasifier environment on the metallurgy of the membrane components.



## H<sub>2</sub> Permeation Mechanism

1. H<sub>2</sub> dissociation on metal
2. H dissolves into metal
3. H diffuses through metal
4. Recombination to form H<sub>2</sub>

### Hydrogen Permeation Rate

$$J_{H_2} = \frac{Q}{L} (P_{H_2, feed}^{0.5} - P_{H_2, permeate}^{0.5})$$

**Q** - Hydrogen permeability of Pd alloy

**L** - thickness of Pd membrane

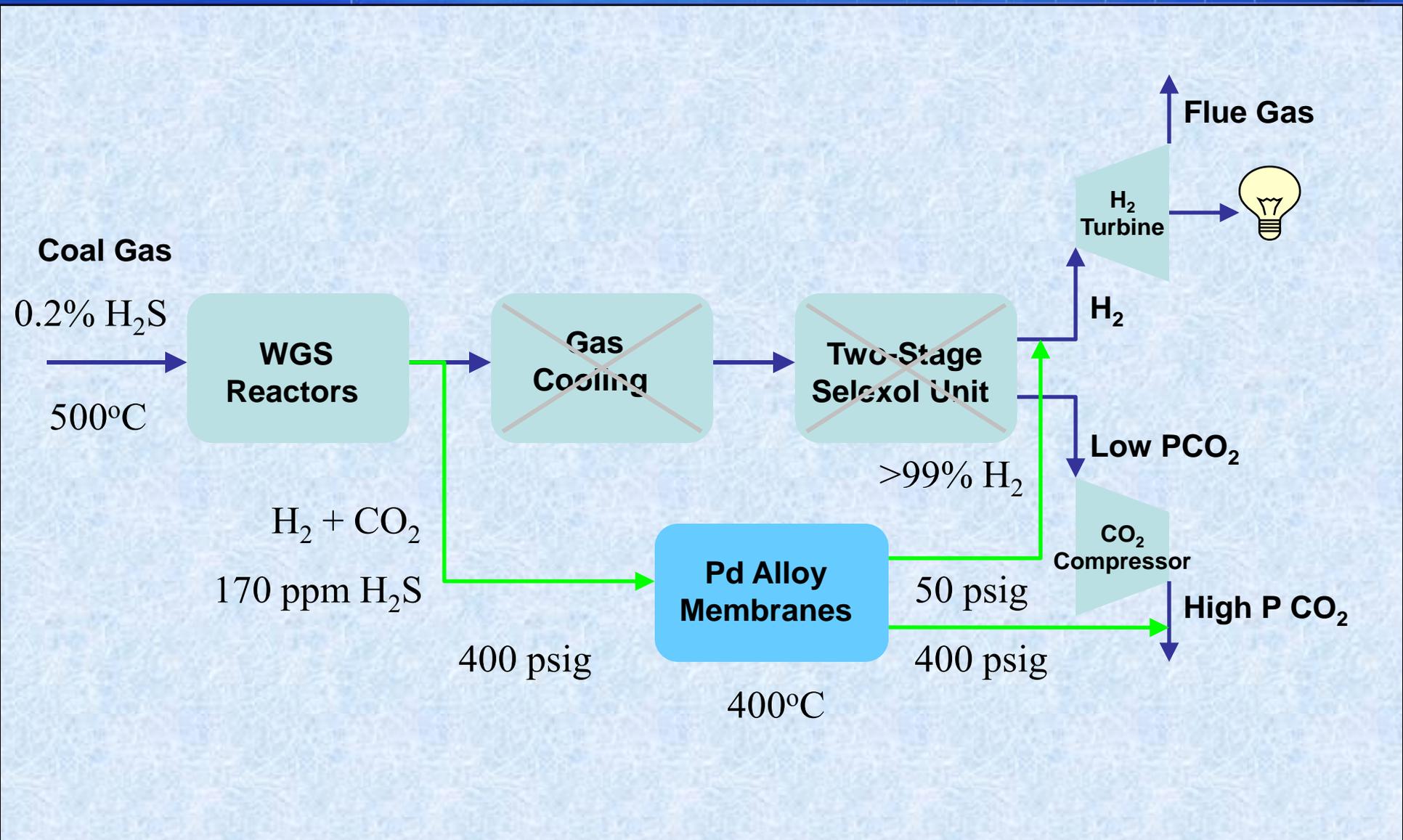
**P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>, feed</sub>** - hydrogen partial pressure in feed

**P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>, permeate</sub>** - hydrogen pressure in permeate

### H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity

$$\alpha_{H_2/CO_2} = \frac{Q_{H_2}}{Q_{CO_2}}$$

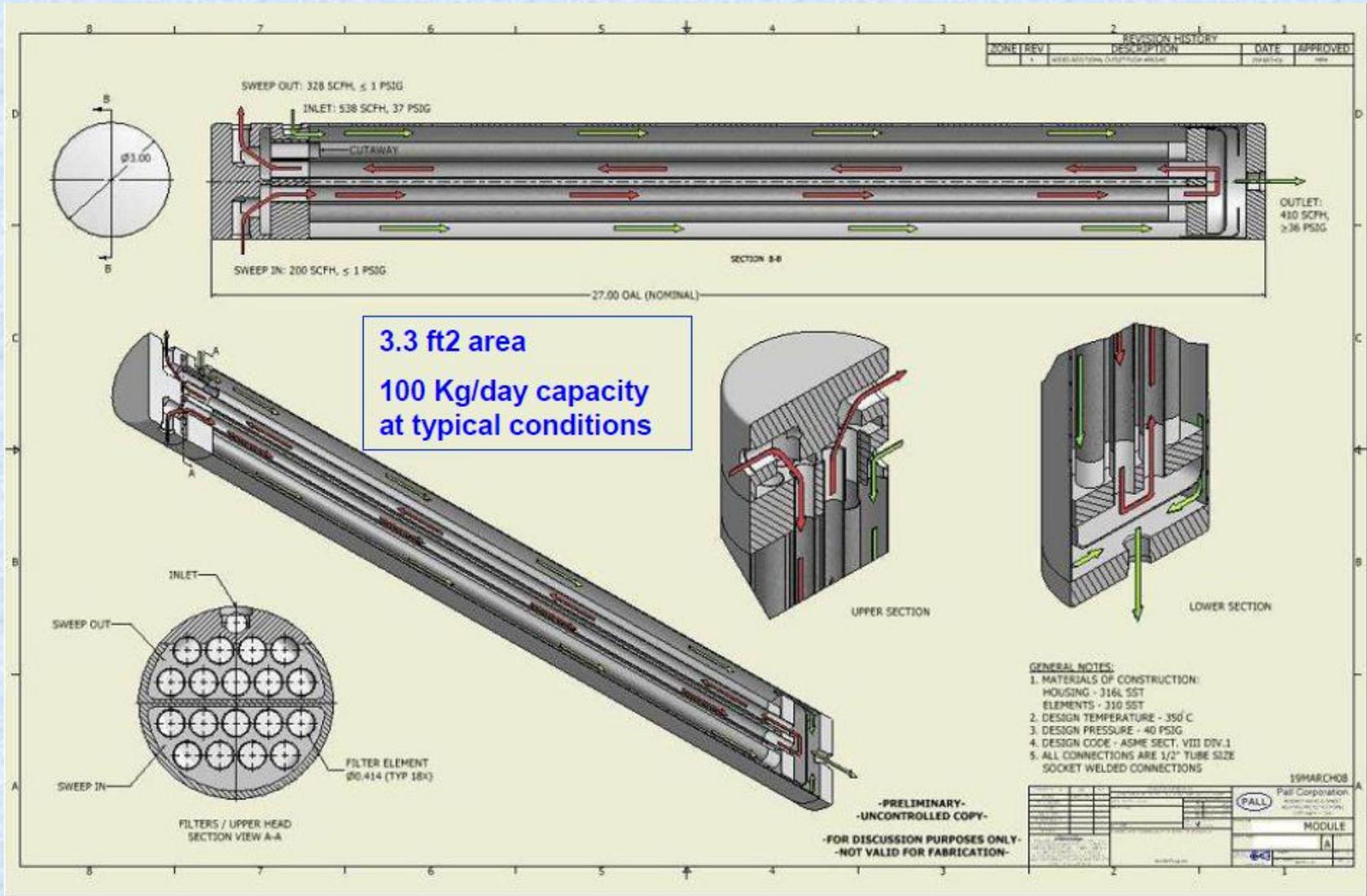
# The Technology – In Operation



**Pall's palladium alloy membrane system will include:**

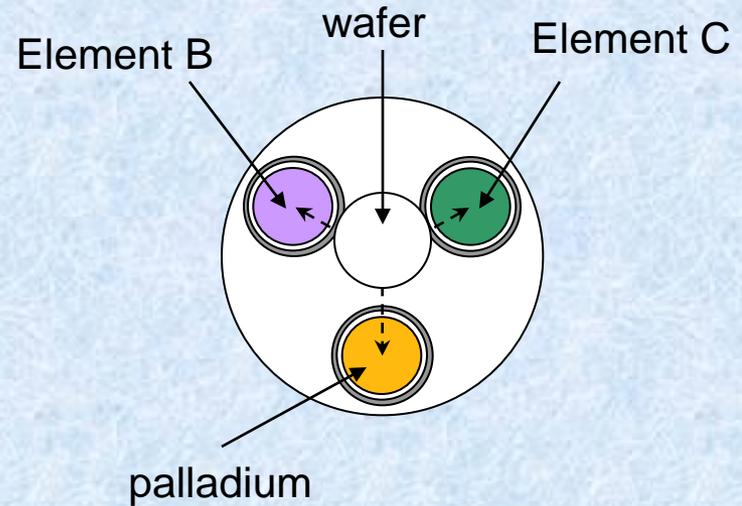
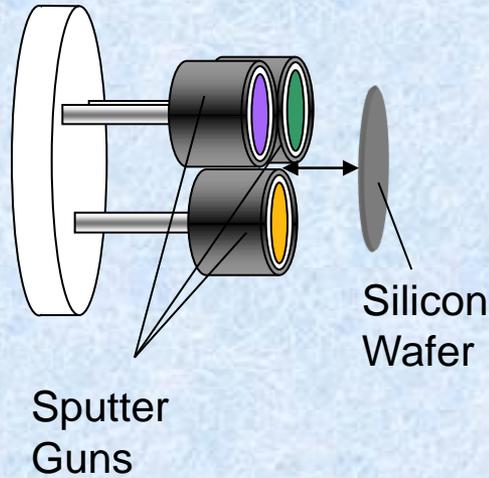
- **Porous 310 stainless steel support tube; solid end fittings**
- **Nanoporous yttria-stabilized zirconia (YSZ) substrate**
- **Directly welded to tube sheet without need for sealing**
- **Uniform thermal expansion of housing and module.**





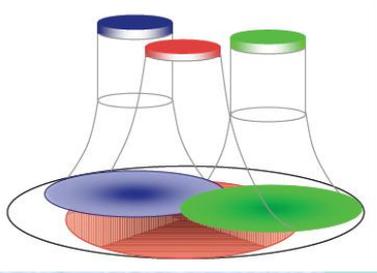
- Any alloy composition can be fabricated
  - CO<sub>2</sub> is produced at a higher pressure
  - The hydrogen product is high purity
  - Hydrogen is produced at higher temperature
  - Lower parasitic loading (no compressor, etc.)
- 
- Lack of ternary phase diagrams
  - Membranes must remain defect-free for years
  - Long term microstructural changes are unknown.
  - Long term hydrogen flux, separation data are unknown

		2009		2010				2011				2012					
		Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4		
1	Project Management and Planning	→															
2	Literature and Patent Search	→															
	Milestone 1 Report demonstrating understanding			◆													
3	Design and modeling of binary and ternary Pd alloys	→															
	Milestone 2 Report on use of combinatorial method					◆											
4	Construct and test 15 cm <sup>2</sup> active surface area prototypes					→											
	Milestone 3 Report on testing of small scale membranes									◆							
5	Scale up active surface area from 15 cm <sup>2</sup> to 75 cm <sup>2</sup>									→							
	Milestone 4 Report on testing of scaled up membranes											◆					
6	Construct and test a working membrane module									→							
	Milestone 6 Report on long-term performance													◆			
7	Provide complete analysis of relevant data sufficient to permit economic evaluation of the process													→			
	Milestone 7 Report on advancement necessary to commercialize															◆	



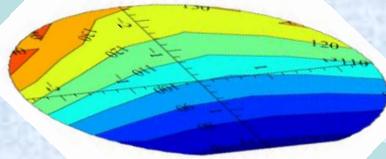
A continuous spread of ternary alloys are synthesized at once into a single thin film

Quick, high throughput

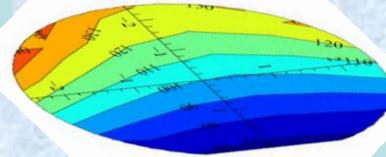


**Compositional  
Spreads**

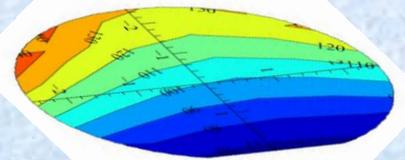
**Exposure to  
Coal Gas**

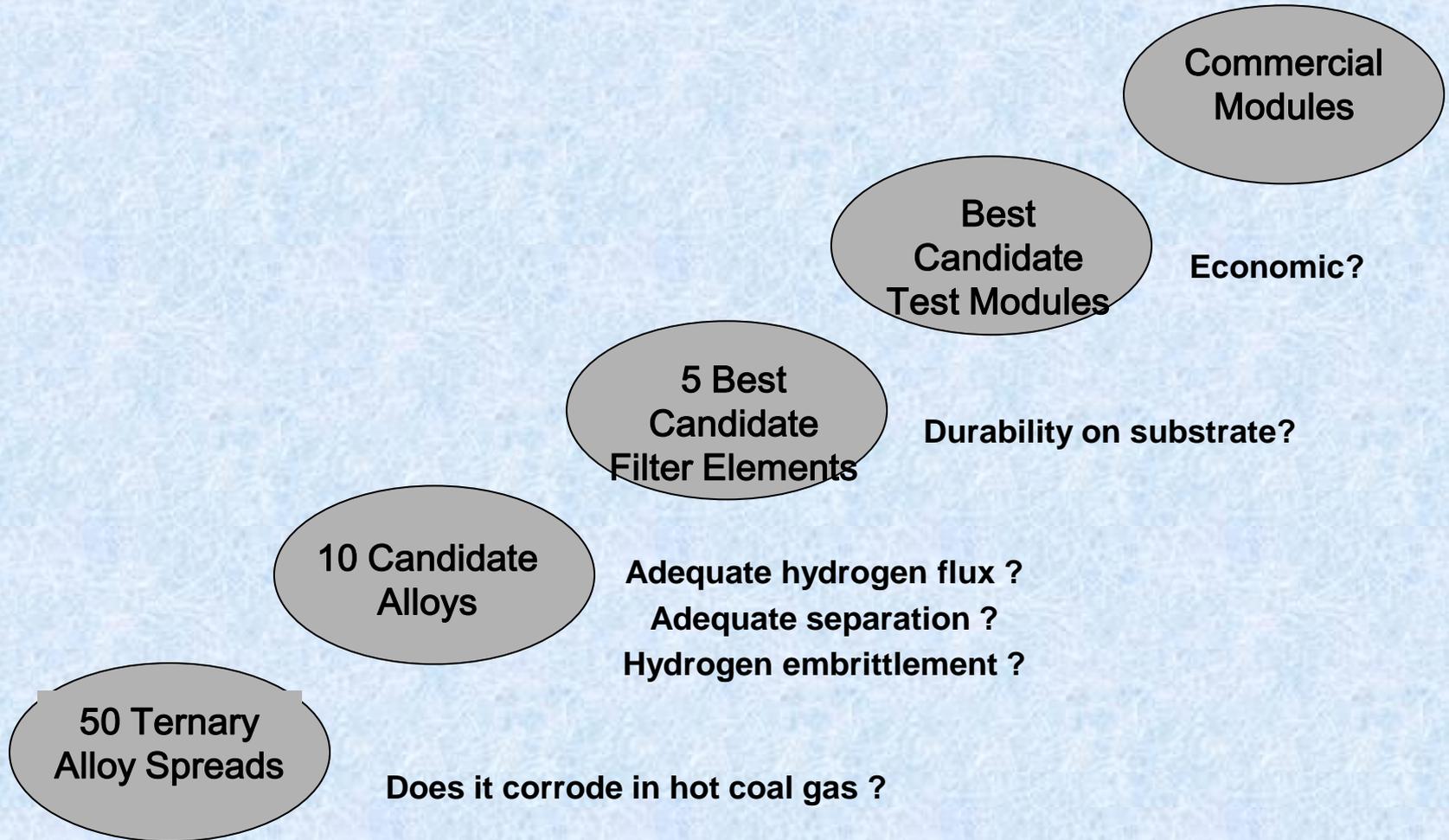


**Visual  
High-Throughput  
Screening**



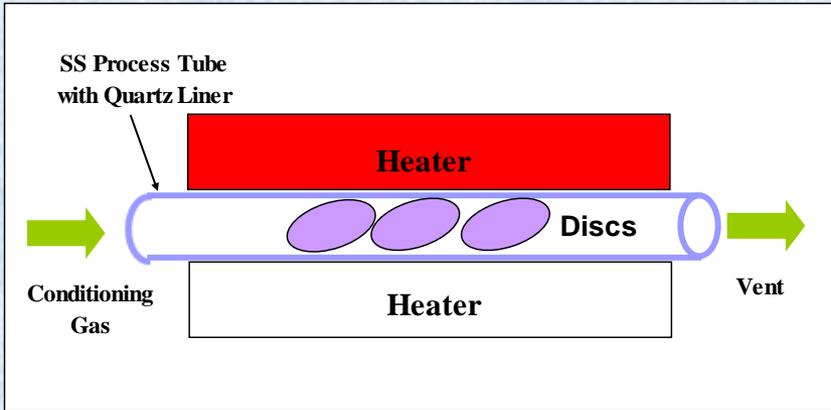
**Raman Mapping  
"Sweet" Spots**





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<b>Task 2.0</b>	<b>Literature and patent search of previous work on metallic hydrogen separation membranes.</b>	<b>Dec 1, 2009 to Feb 28, 2010</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Long-term effects of syngas constituents on metallic membrane surfaces</li><li>▪ Combinatorial materials development</li><li>▪ Substrate quality and its characterization</li><li>▪ Chemical modeling</li></ul>		
<hr/>			
<b>Task 3.0</b>	<b>Design and modeling of binary and ternary palladium alloys for use as high temperature, high pressure gas separation membranes under coal gasifier conditions.</b>	<b>Dec 1, 2009 to Sept 30, 2010</b>	<b>In progress</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Baseline testing of Pd-Au membranes in coal gas</li><li>▪ Combinatorial fabrication of ternary alloys to identify those resistant to coal gas</li><li>▪ Model hydrogen permeation of candidate Pd alloys</li></ul>		



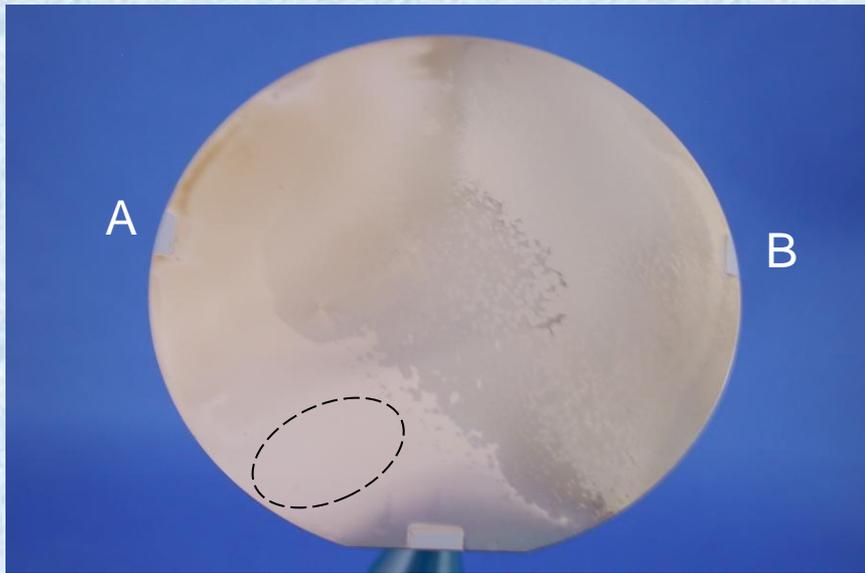
- A setup was built to expose compositional spreads to typical coal gas conditions
- 350°C for 24 hr, 1 atm
- 17.6\* H, 17.9\* CO<sub>2</sub>, 2.6\* H<sub>2</sub>O, 2.6\* CO, 59.3\* N, 170 ppm (bottle gas w/ injected steam)
- Visually examine if any spots across composition spread film still appear metallic and shiny.

▪Volume Percent

# Visual Screening Example 1

**Spread Pd-A-B Coal Gas Exposure**

**Spread Pd-A-B No Exposure**



Pd

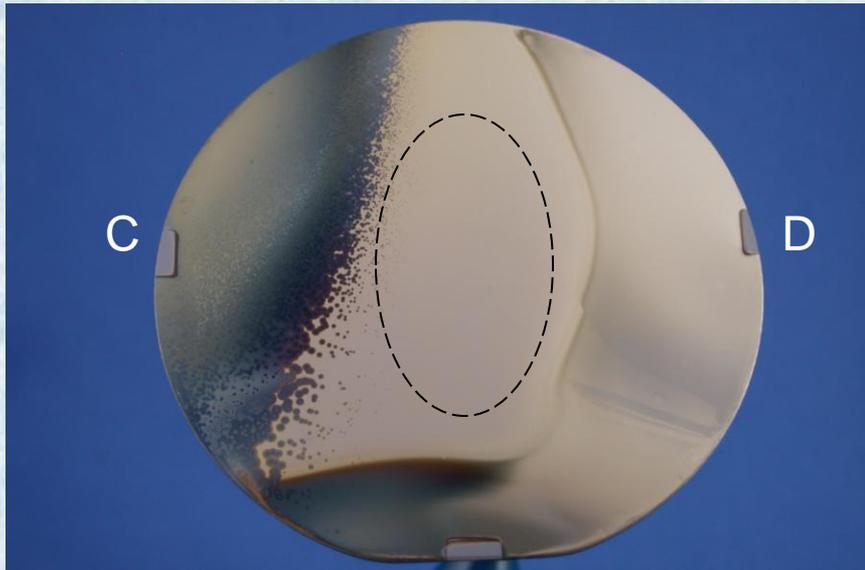
Pd

Small range of unaffected surface  
Demonstrated hydrogen permeability

# Visual Screening Example 2

**Spread Pd-C-D Coal Gas Exposure**

**Spread Pd-C-D No Exposure**



Pd

Pd

Balanced range of C and D  
Low to high level of Pd

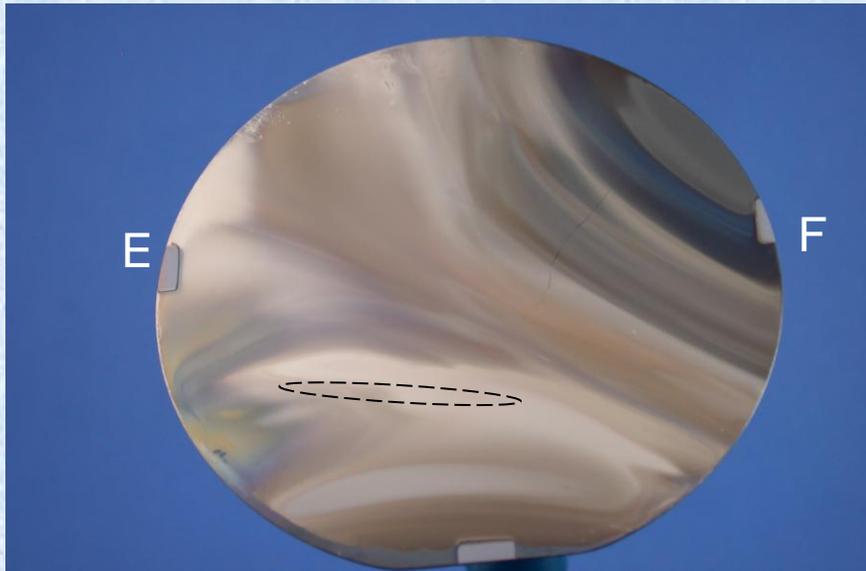
# Visual Screening Example 3

**Spread Pd-E-F**

**Coal Gas Exposure**

**Spread Pd-E-F**

**No Exposure**



Pd



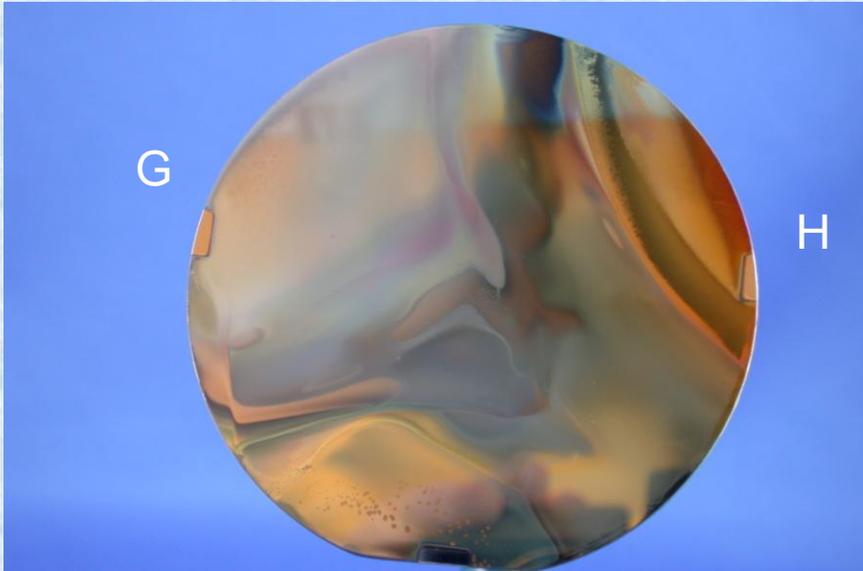
Pd

Narrow compositional range  
High Pd level

# Visual Screening Example 4

**Spread Pd-G-H Coal Gas Exposure**

**Spread Pd-G-H No Exposure**

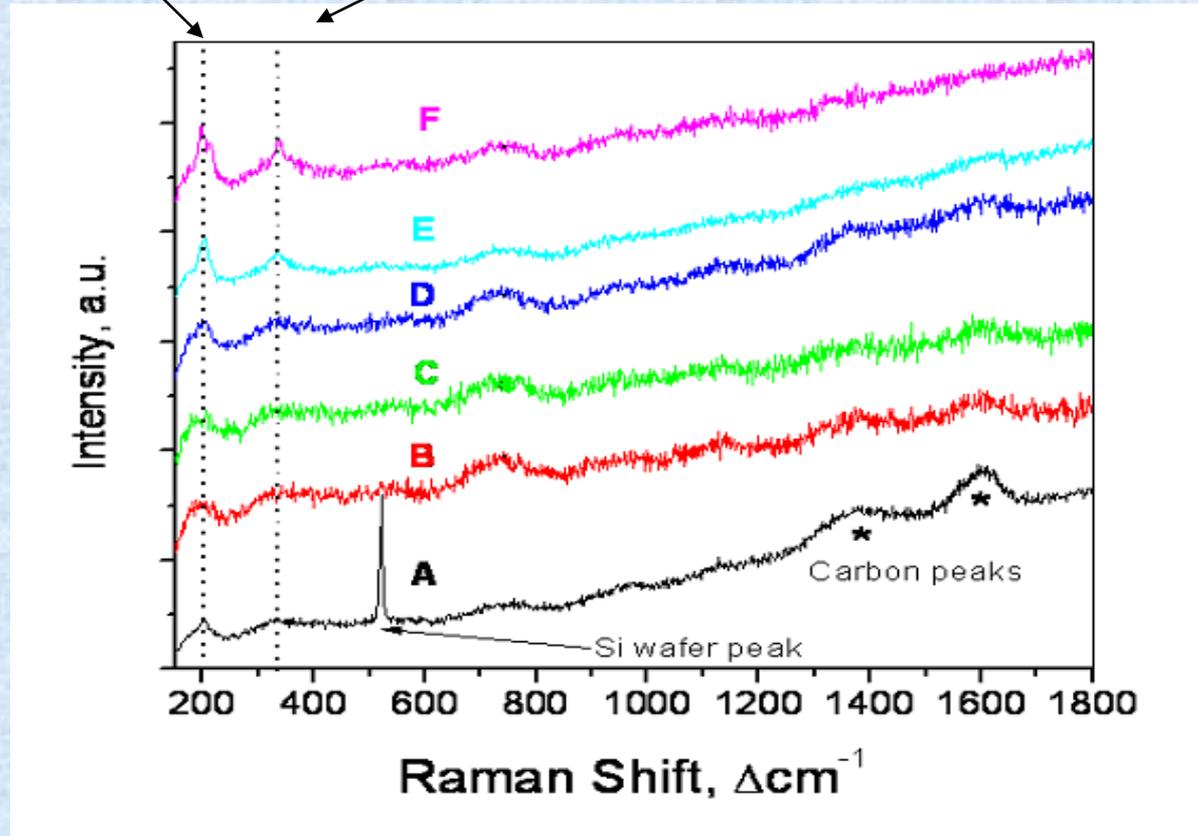
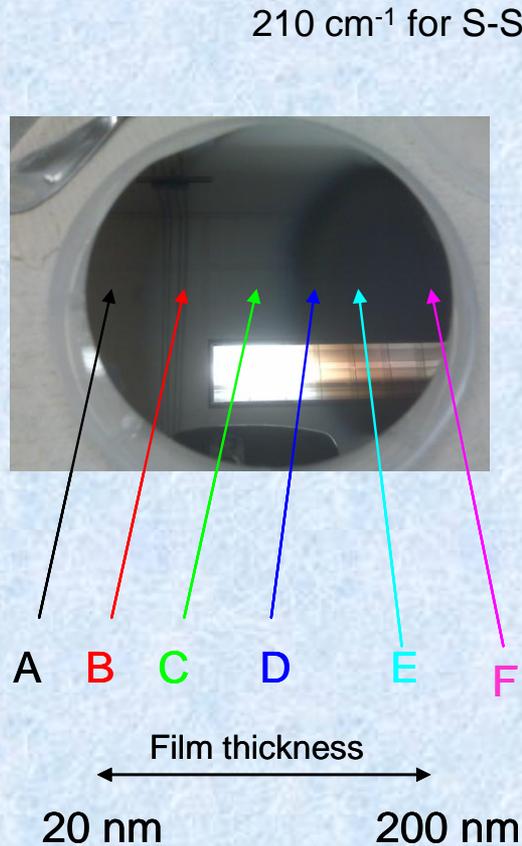


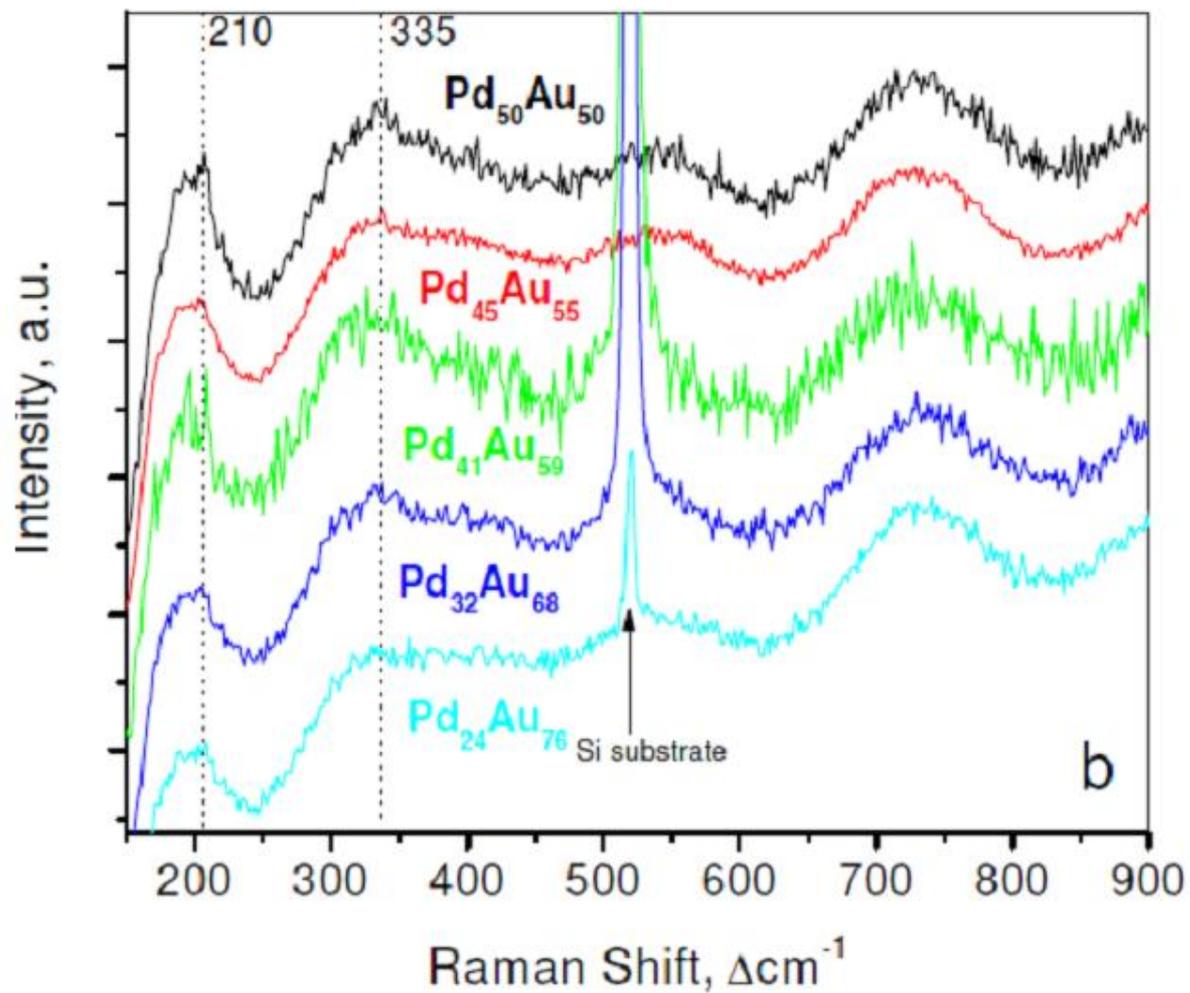
Pd

Pd

Entire surface affected by coal gas  
No shiny area visible

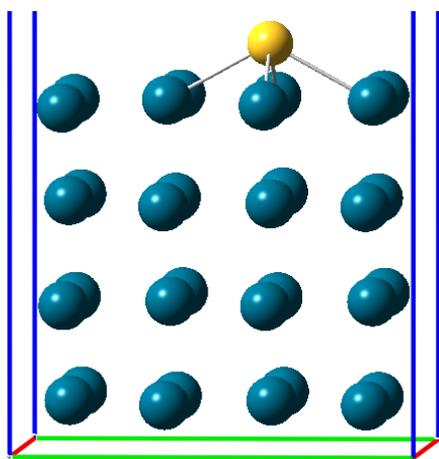
# Raman Signal – A Function of Thickness





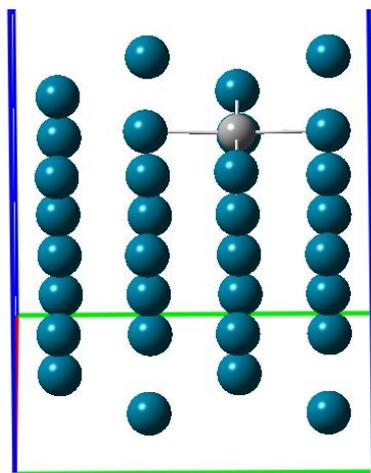
b

S-Pd on Pd(100)



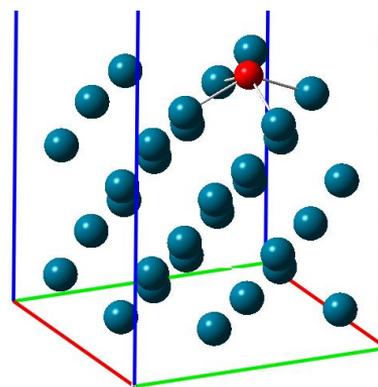
BE -130 kcal/mole

C-Pd on Pd(100)



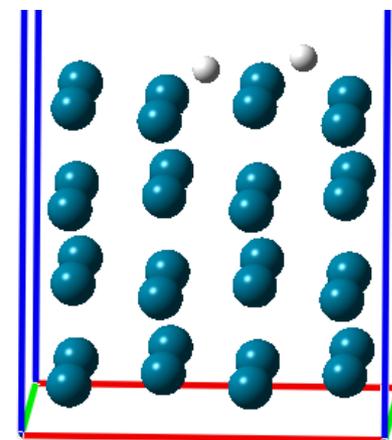
BE -184 kcal/mole

O-Pd on Pd(100)



BE -105 kcal/mole

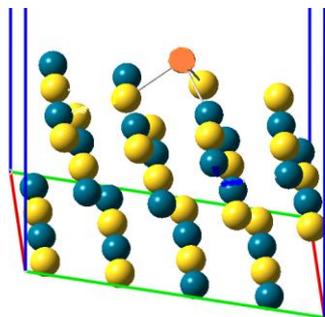
H-Pd on Pd(100)



BE -19 kcal/mole

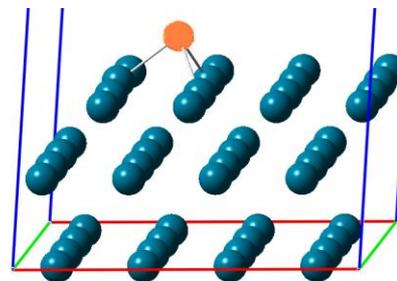
The projector-augmented wave (PAW) method using the Perdew-Wang (PW91) GGA functional by the VASP code was performed for the structure optimization, frequency, and PES calculations. The nudged elastic band (NEB) method was applied to the located transition states.

S on Pd<sub>50</sub>Au<sub>50</sub>(111)



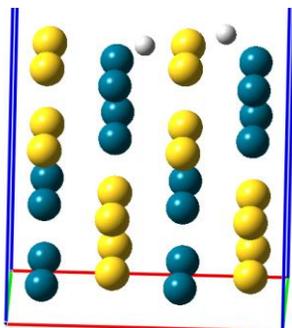
BE -117 kcal/mole

S on Pd(111)



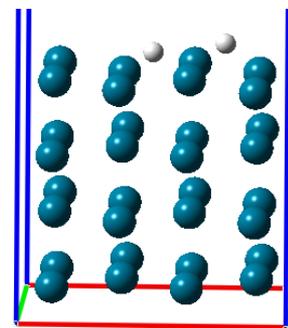
BE -133 kcal/mole

H on Pd<sub>50</sub>Au<sub>50</sub>(100)



BE -16 kcal/mole

H on Pd(100)



BE -19 kcal/mole

## **Task 3.0 Design and modeling of binary and ternary alloys**

- Continue using combinatorial spreads to identify alloys resistant to coal gas
- Continue modeling alloys that optimize the membrane's corrosion resistance and hydrogen flux

## **Task 4.0 Construct and test 15 cm<sup>2</sup> active surface area prototypes**

- Optimize process for porous YSZ-coated stainless substrates for Pd alloy coatings.
- Fabricate best candidate palladium alloys into membrane prototypes with 15-cm<sup>2</sup> active surface area over optimized ceramic-coated substrate tubes.
- Test hydrogen separation performance and longevity of best alloys in coal gas

## **Task 5.0 Scale up active surface area from 15 cm<sup>2</sup> to 75 cm<sup>2</sup>**

- Develop or modify membrane fabrication to increase surface area by a factor of five
- Build test stand and membrane module for use in coal gasification conditions.
- Test hydrogen separation performance and longevity of best alloy in a 75-cm<sup>2</sup> membrane module under coal gas conditions in 100-500 hours campaigns.