

## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fossil Energy Materials Conference

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Pittsburgh, PA  
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# DOE Office of Fossil Energy (FE)

## Advanced Power Systems Goals

- **2010:**
  - 45-50% Efficiency (HHV)
  - 99% SO<sub>2</sub> removal
  - NO<sub>x</sub> < 0.01 lb/MM Btu
  - 90% Hg removal
  - \$1600 / kW (\$2007)
- **2012: - Carbon Capture**
  - 90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture
  - <10% COE increase for IGCC
  - <30 % COE increase in PC
- **2015**
  - Multi-product capability
  - 60% efficiency (w/o CCS)

### DOE FE programs:

- **Advanced Turbines**
- **Gasification**
- **Advanced Research**
- **Fuel Cells**
- **Innovations for Existing Plants**
- **Sequestration**
- **Fuels from Coal**

# FE Materials Program Goals

- **Development of new materials that have the potential to improve the efficiency, performance, and/or reduce the cost of existing technologies.**
- **Development of a technology base in the synthesis, processing, life-cycle analysis, and performance characterization of advanced materials.**
- **Development of materials for new systems and capabilities.**

# Advanced Research Materials Program

## HIGH TEMPERATURE APPLICATIONS

### New Alloys



To increase the temperature capability of alloys for use in specific components required for advanced power plants by understanding the relationships among composition, microstructure, and properties.

### Breakthrough Materials



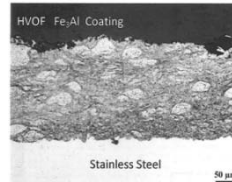
To explore routes for the development of materials with temperature/strength capabilities beyond those currently available.

### UltraSupercritical Materials



To evaluate and develop materials technologies that allow the use of advanced steam cycles in coal-based power plants to operate at steam conditions of up to 760 C (1400 F) and 5,000 psi

### Coatings and Protection of Materials



To develop the design, application, and performance criteria for coatings intended to protect materials from the high-temperature corrosive environments encountered in advanced fossil energy plants.

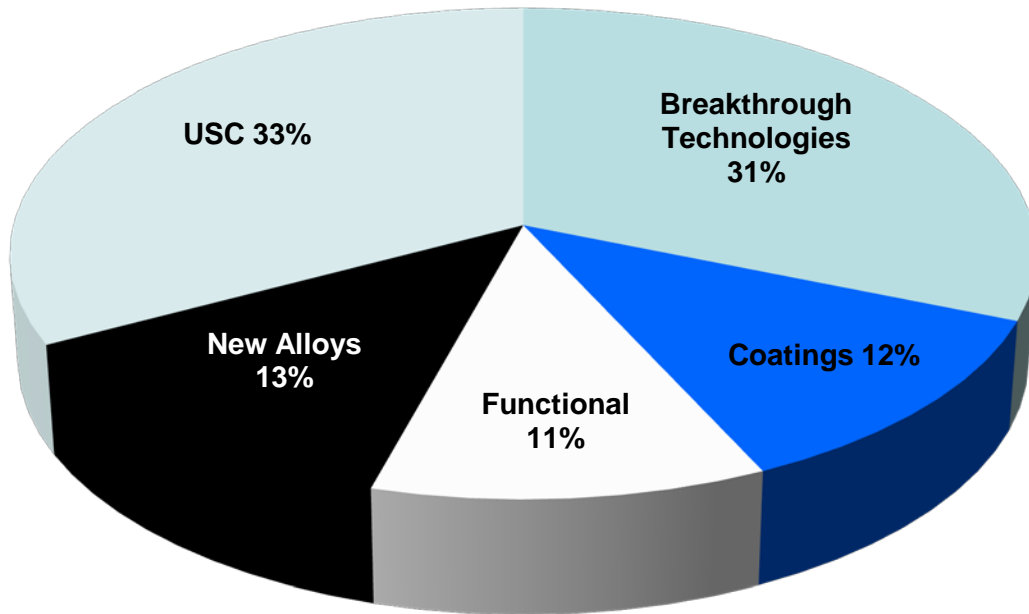
### Functional Materials



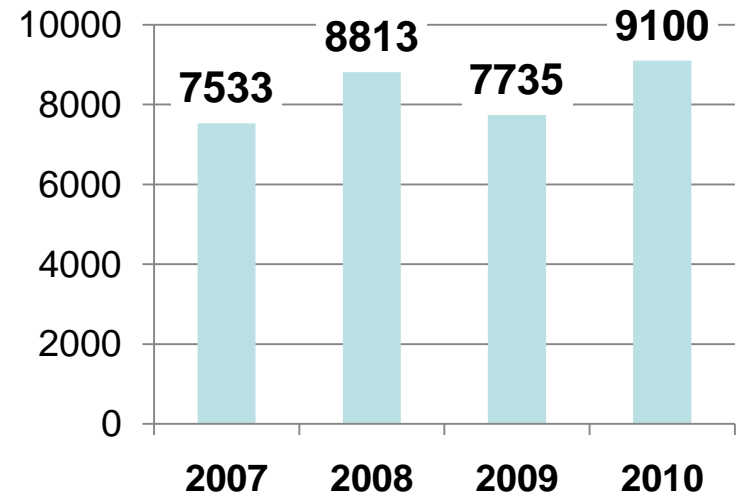
To understand the special requirements of materials intended to perform specific functions, such as energy storage systems.

# Advanced Research Materials Program Funding Profile

## FY10 Material Program



## Annual Budget



### Projects by Organization

• Industry	8
• National Laboratories	<u>21</u>
<b>Total Projects</b>	<b>29</b>

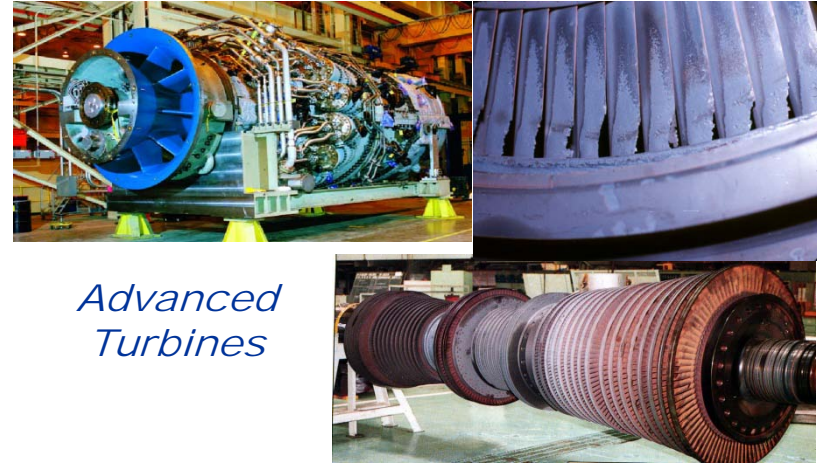
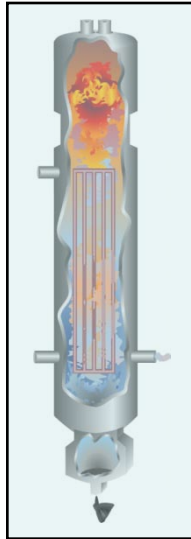


# Fossil Energy Key Material Research Areas

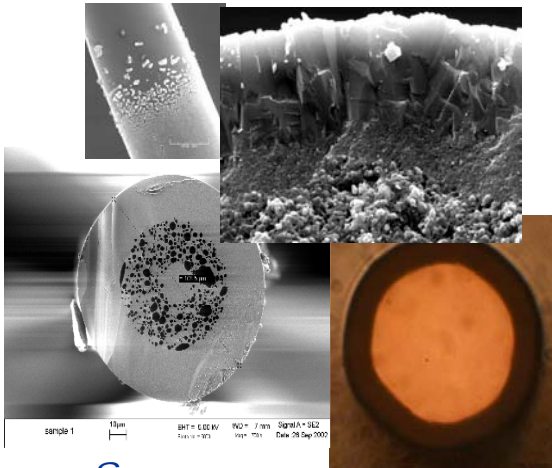
*USC Boilers/Turbines*



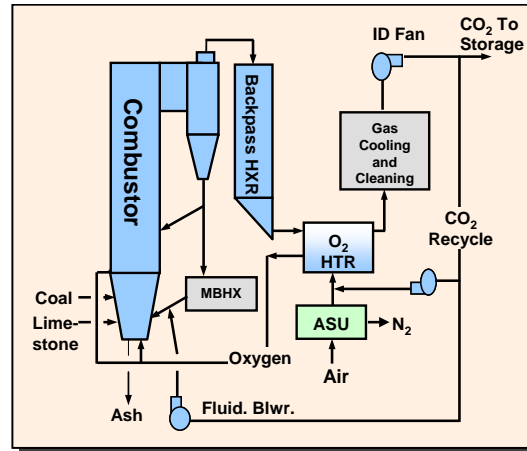
*Gasifier*



*Advanced Turbines*



*Sensors*

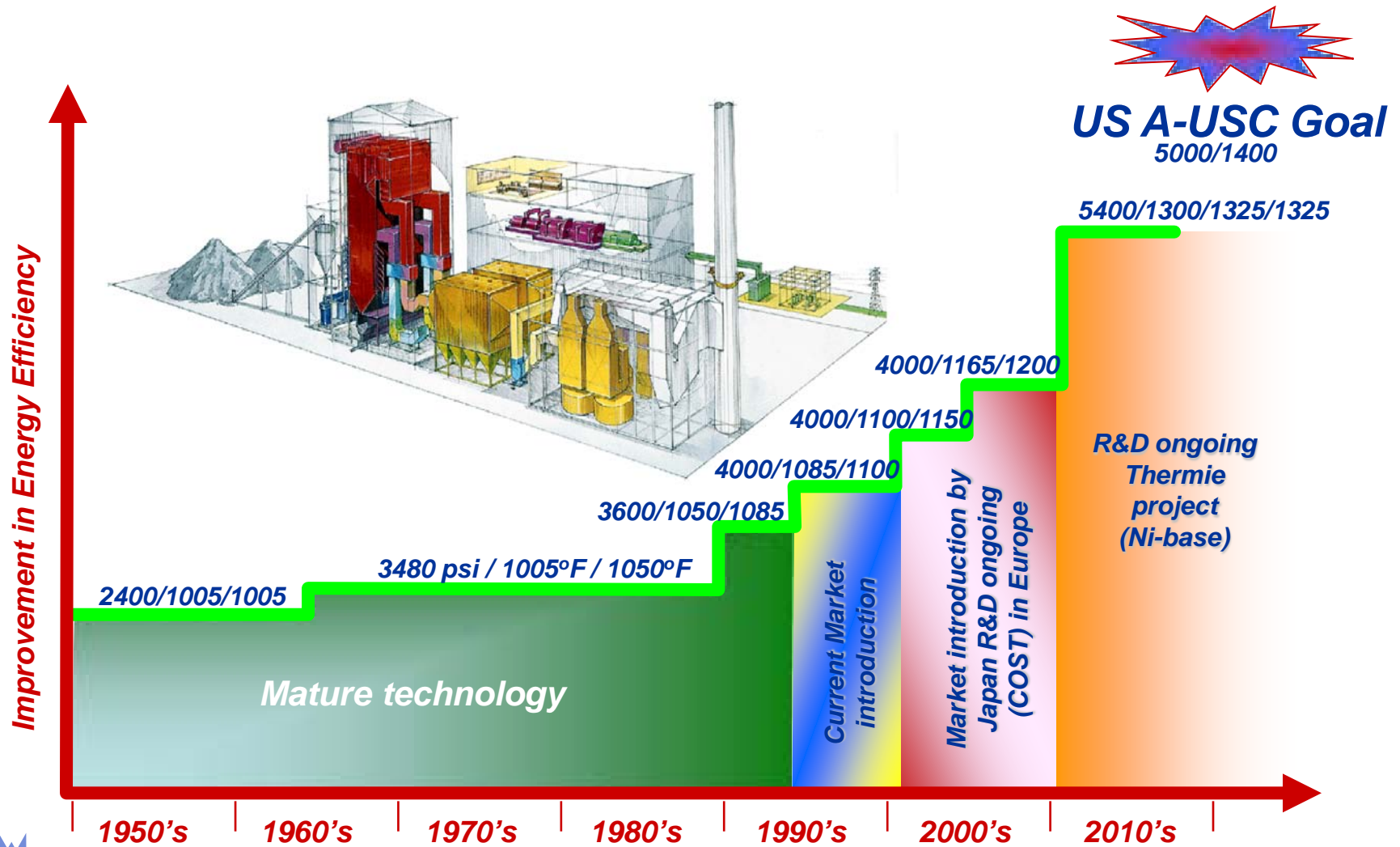


*Oxy-Firing*

*Fuel Cells*



# Evolution of Boiler Technology



Illustration/data: Alstom

# US A-USC Materials Programs

- Identify and evaluate **advanced materials** that help achieve highly efficient, cost competitive, and environmentally acceptable pulverized coal combustion based electric power generation (A-USC)
  - Steam conditions of 760 C (1400 F) and 5000 psi
  - Plant efficiency increases to 45 -47%
- Primarily a Materials Technology Evaluation Program
  - Focus on **nickel-based alloys** including gamma prime (age-hardenable) strengthened alloys for highest temperature regions of the boiler and steam turbine
  - Develop fabrication and joining technology for new alloys
  - Continue research on stainless and ferritic steels for economy of new plant
- Unique Conditions for US Program
  - Higher-temperatures than European Program (760 C versus 700 C) means **different alloys** are being evaluated
  - High Cr Alloys and extensive testing of coatings and surface modification for **US coals**
  - Data for **ASME code** acceptance of new materials
  - Phase II Boiler work includes focus on **Oxycombustion**



# Gasification Technology

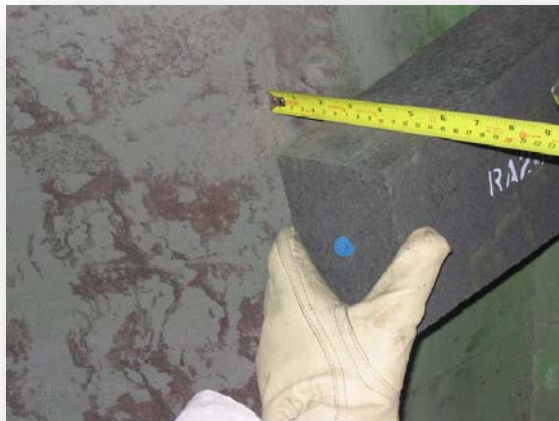
Advanced Refractories for Gasifiers

Office of Research and Development

**Enhancing  
reliability,  
performance,  
and on-line  
availability of  
gasification  
systems**

## Project Objectives:

- Develop refractories with improved performance longer and predictable service life
- Develop refractories that are environmentally friendly and cost effective low/no chrome, minimize Cr+6 formation
- Develop refractories with carbon feedstock flexibility
  - model gasifier slag predict chemistry, viscosity, and phases formed
  - control slag/refractory interactions and slag viscosity
  - design slag to increase refractory service life
- Develop reliable sensors to accurately monitor gasification temperature



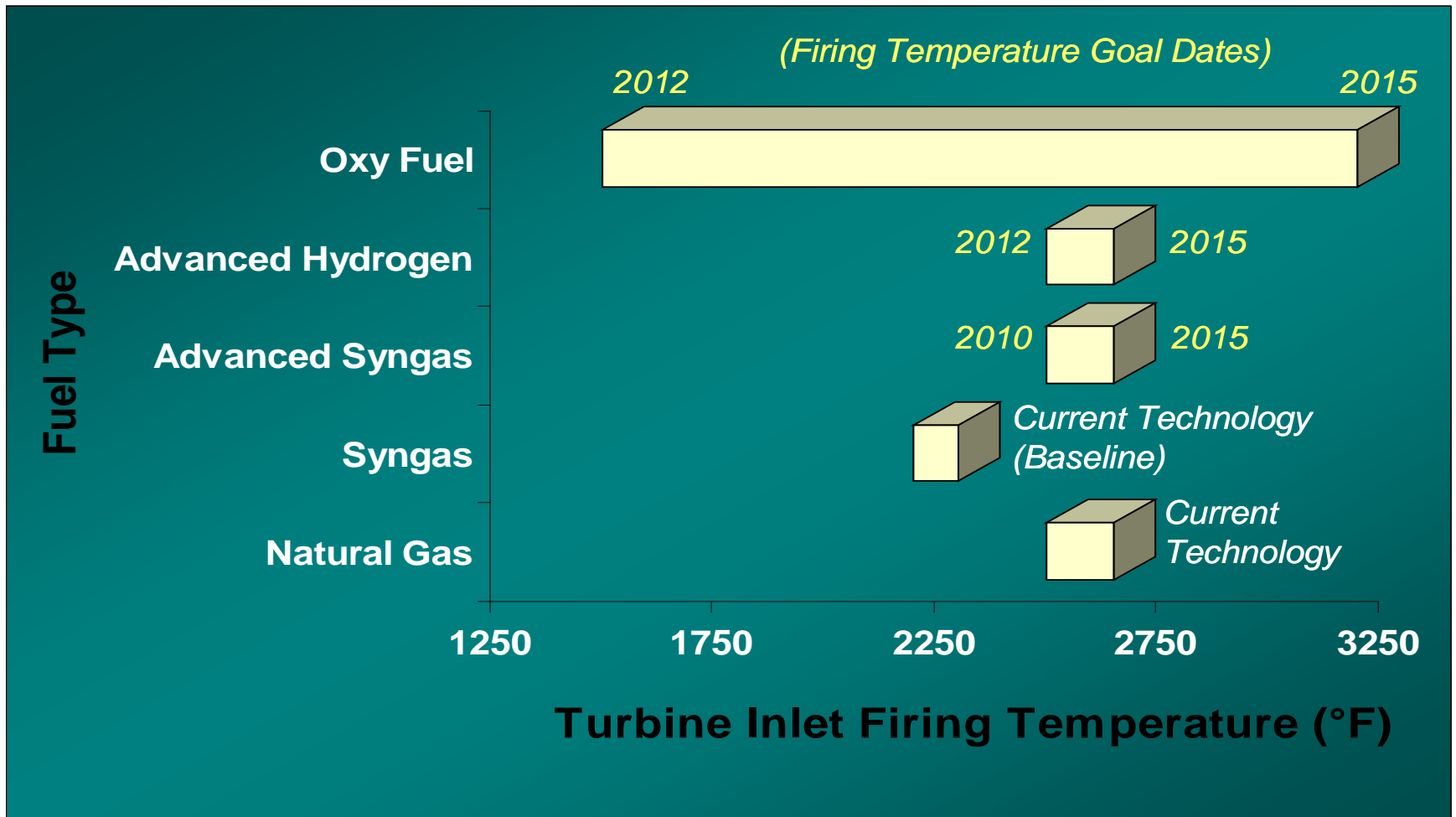
***Failed refractory material***



***Failed thermocouple***



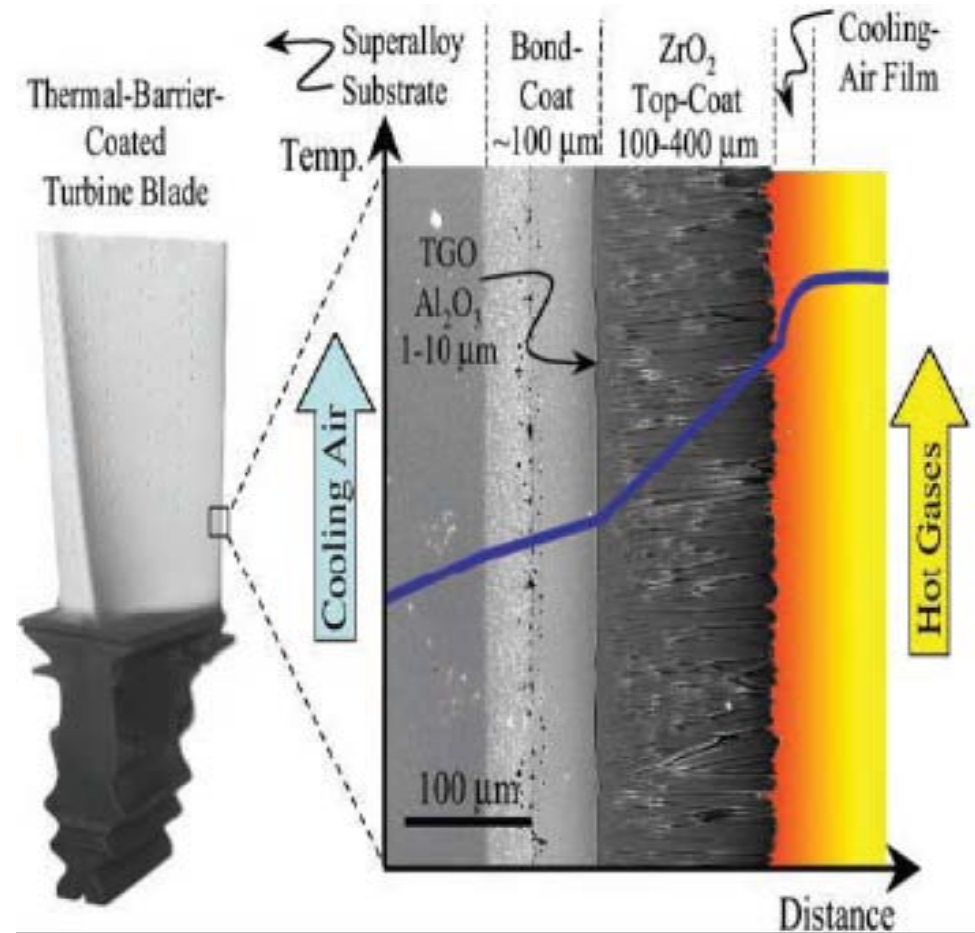
# Advanced Turbines Technology



# Advanced Turbines Technology

## Advanced Turbine Materials

- Investigating the role of super alloy dopants on performance - ORNL
- Materials issues for innovative spare and shell turbine blade designs - ORNL
- Bond Coat Development (UPitt)
- Advanced APS TBC Development (UPitt)
- Diffusion Barrier Coating Development (UPitt)
- TBC Overlay Development (UPitt)



# Innovations for Existing Plants Technology

## Advanced Flue Gas CO<sub>2</sub> Membranes

### Membrane Advantages

- Simple operation; no chemical reactions, no moving parts
- Tolerance to contaminants
- Compact, modular → small footprint

### Challenges

- Low flue gas CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure
- Particulate matter
- Cost reduction and device scale-up
- Power plant integration

### Current State: Small Pilot-scale

2011: Large Pilot Scale 1 – 5 Mwe

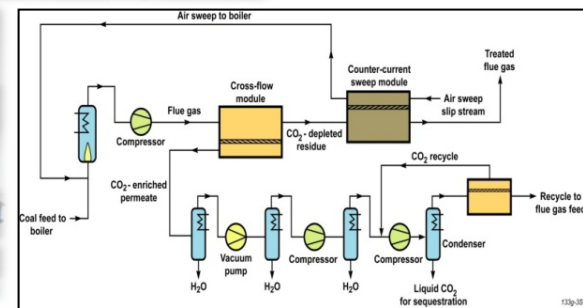
2015: Demonstration Scale

### Advanced Membrane R&D Focus

- High CO<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> selectivity & permeability
- Durability
  - Chemically (SO<sub>2</sub>), thermally
  - Physically
- Membrane systems
  - Process design critical
- Low cost
  - Capital and energy penalty



1 TPD CO<sub>2</sub>, 6 month test



# Innovations for Existing Plants

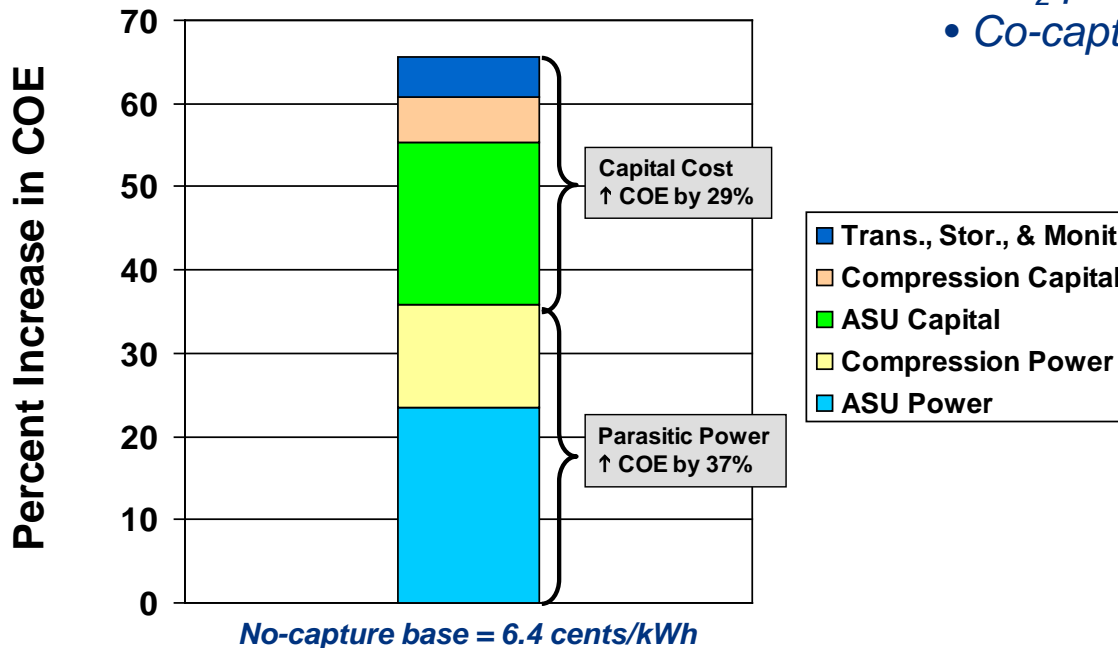
## Pulverized Coal Oxy-combustion

### Challenges

- Cryogenic ASUs are capital and energy intensive
- Existing boiler air infiltration
- Corrosion and process control
- Excess O<sub>2</sub> and inerts (N<sub>2</sub>, Ar) ↑ CO<sub>2</sub> purification cost

### Advanced Oxy-combustion R&D Focus

- New oxyfuel boilers
  - Advanced materials and burners
  - Corrosion
- Retrofit existing air boilers
  - Air leakage, heat transfer, corrosion
  - Process control
- Low-cost oxygen
- CO<sub>2</sub> purification
- Co-capture (CO<sub>2</sub> + SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>)



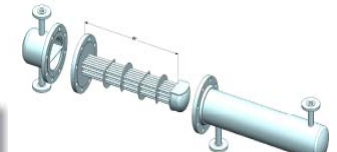
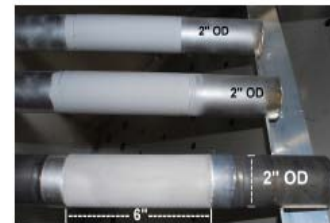
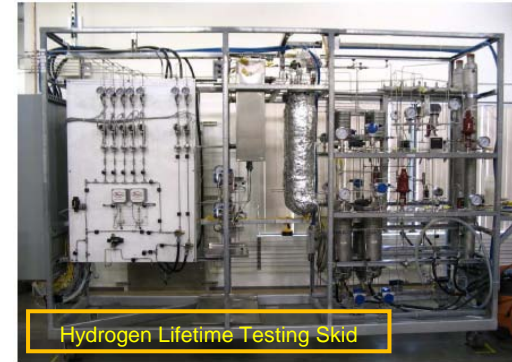
Laboratory to 5 MWe Pilot-scale



# Fuels Technology

## Membrane Development Status

- **Developers Achieving Targets**
- **Eltron tests under water-gas shift feed streams initiated; best alloy membrane has demonstrated a H<sub>2</sub> flux rate of 411 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup>**
  - Lifetime testing reactor operated several tests to 600 hours; initial baseline membrane testing in H<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> feed streams show stable performance at 200 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup>.
  - down-selected catalyst tested in streams with 20 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S. Stable H<sub>2</sub> flux observed for 160 hours.
- **WPI achieved 359 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup> H<sub>2</sub> flux with 3-5 μm Pd/Inconel membrane at 442°C and 100 psi ΔP.**
  - Built engineering-scale prototype membrane (2"OD, 6"length, 8.8 μm).
  - Total test 63 days at 450°C, 15 psi ΔP, 80 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup> H<sub>2</sub> flux, 99.99% purity (calculates to 340 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup> H<sub>2</sub> flux)
- **UTRC tested five separators using PdCuTM alloy which showed increased surface stability in bench-scale tests**
  - Colloidal Pd/Nano Oxide membrane to show H<sub>2</sub> flux 400 scfh/ft<sup>2</sup>
- **Unbiased verification testing (NETL)**

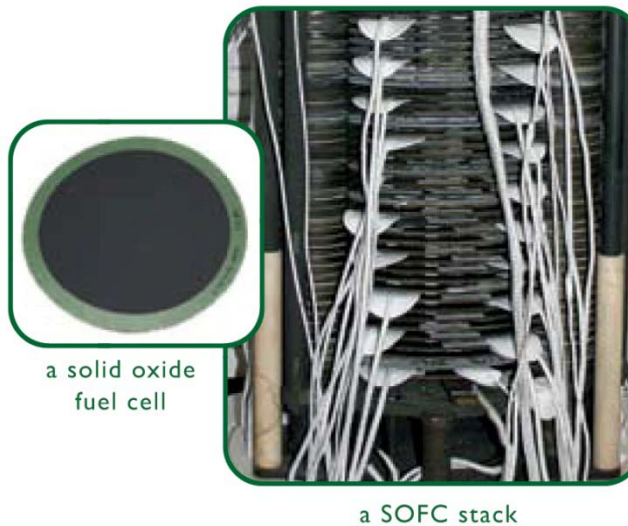
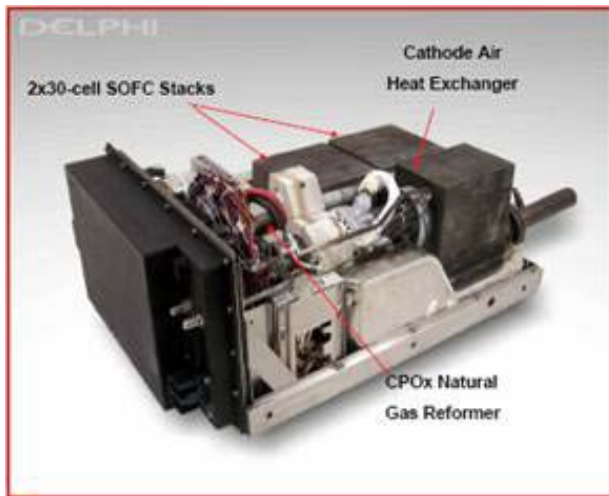


Prototype PDU Membrane Module Configuration



# Fuel Cells

- Extreme System Conditions
- Material Improvement Process
- Research Underway



# Fuel Cell Materials

## *Extreme System Conditions*

- **For SOFC cathodes extreme conditions are:**
  - high temperatures
  - large oxygen activity gradients
  - heterogeneous interfaces
  - complex dopant distributions
  - high electrical conductivity requirements
  - high transport current densities
- **Oxidant chamber operates:**
  - in the 650 to 850°C temperature range
  - requires a mechanically stable electrical path between the membrane walls that separate oxidant and fuel in the repeating cell units of the SOFC stack.
- **Material improvements process**
  - Faster kinetics for oxygen reduction to lower the irreversible losses for electrochemical charge transfer.
  - Stable surface chemistries are sought with active sites for dissociative adsorption of oxygen
- **Technical barriers**
  - Cathode performance correlated with oxide surface chemistry in high partial pressures of oxygen

# What Does the Future Look Like?

- **The USA and the world will face great energy challenges with ever increasing environmental constraints**
- **Advanced fossil energy power systems will be needed**
- **The Advanced Research Materials Program is poised to have even greater impacts on future energy systems**
  - Novel materials for high temperature applications
  - Next generation ferritic steels with higher strength and better oxidation resistance
  - Advanced coatings
  - Computational materials design and lifetime prediction for extreme environments



# Contact Information

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