



# ASU and CO<sub>2</sub> Processing Units for Oxyfuel CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Plants

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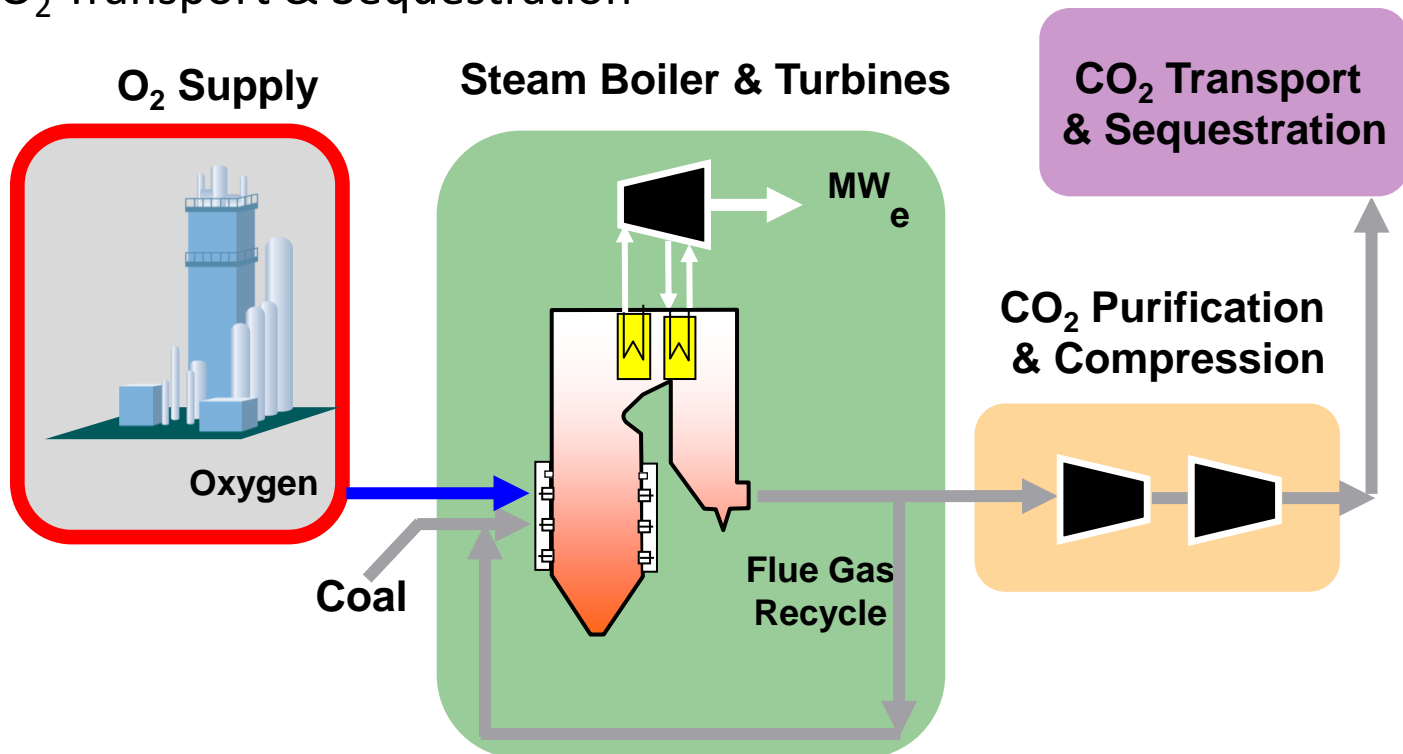
25<sup>th</sup> April 2012

DRAX Power Ltd, DRAX Power Station,  
Selby, North Yorkshire, UK



# Oxyfuel Combustion Requires...

- Air Separation Units
- Steam Boiler & Turbine
- CO<sub>2</sub> Purification & Compression
- CO<sub>2</sub> Transport & Sequestration



# Air Separation Processes

- Adsorption
  - Pressure swing (PSA) and Vacuum swing (VSA)
  - Small scale, up to ~200 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub> single train
  - Limited purity O<sub>2</sub> (~93%)
- Cryogenic distillation
  - Most flexible – higher purity, liquids
  - Large scale, up to ~5000 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub>
- Other
  - Ion Transport Membrane – in development at ~100 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub>

# Overview Of The Process

**Main and Boost  
Air Compression**

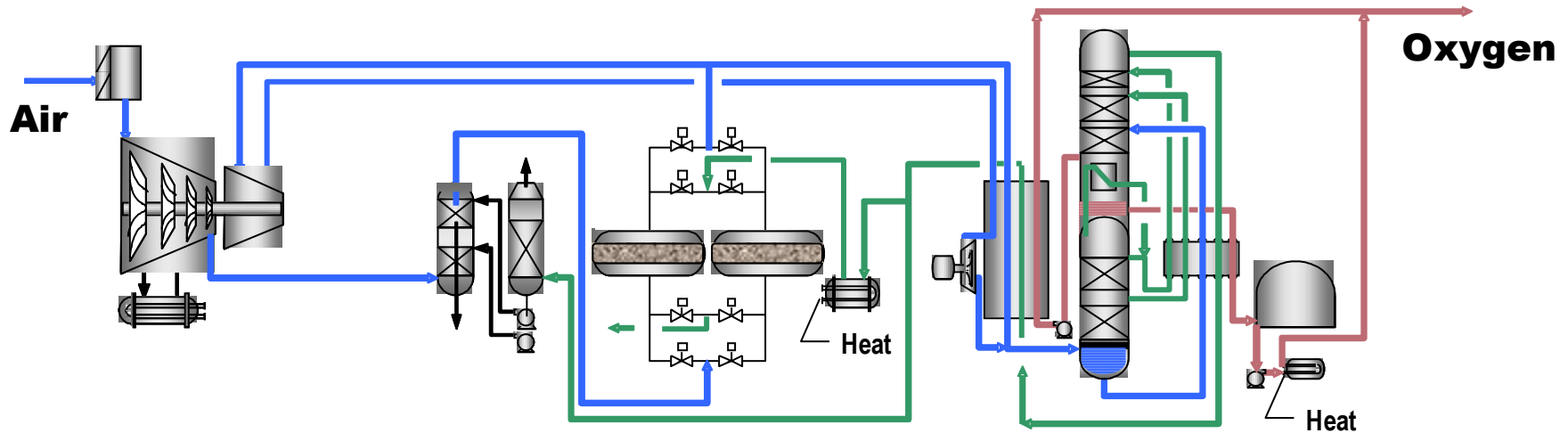


**Air Cooling and  
Pretreatment**



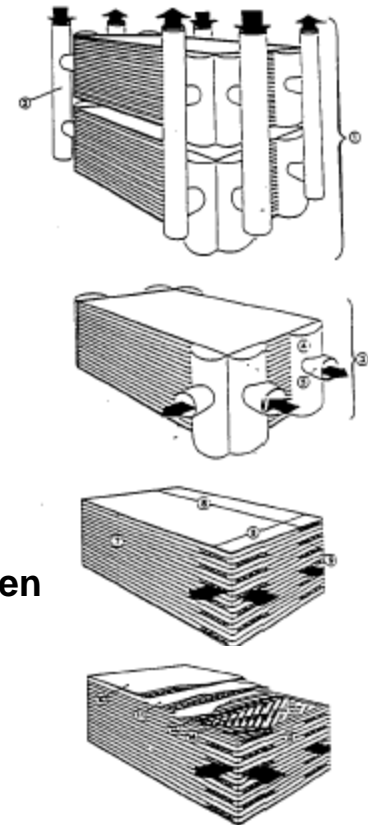
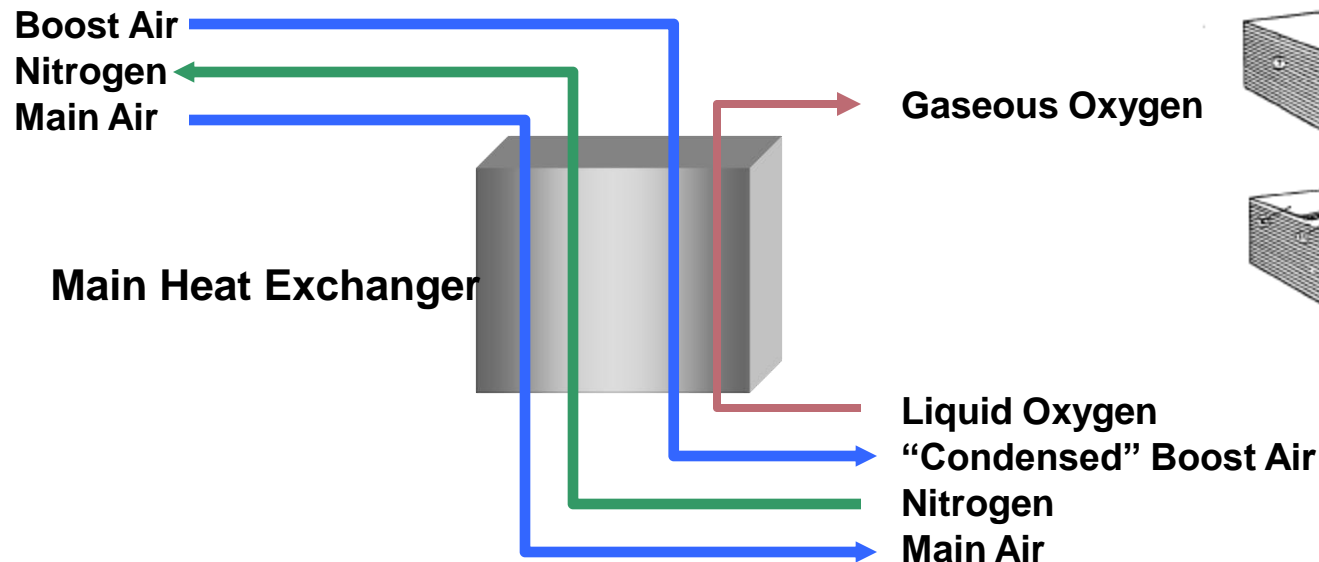
**Cryogenic  
Separation**

**Storage**



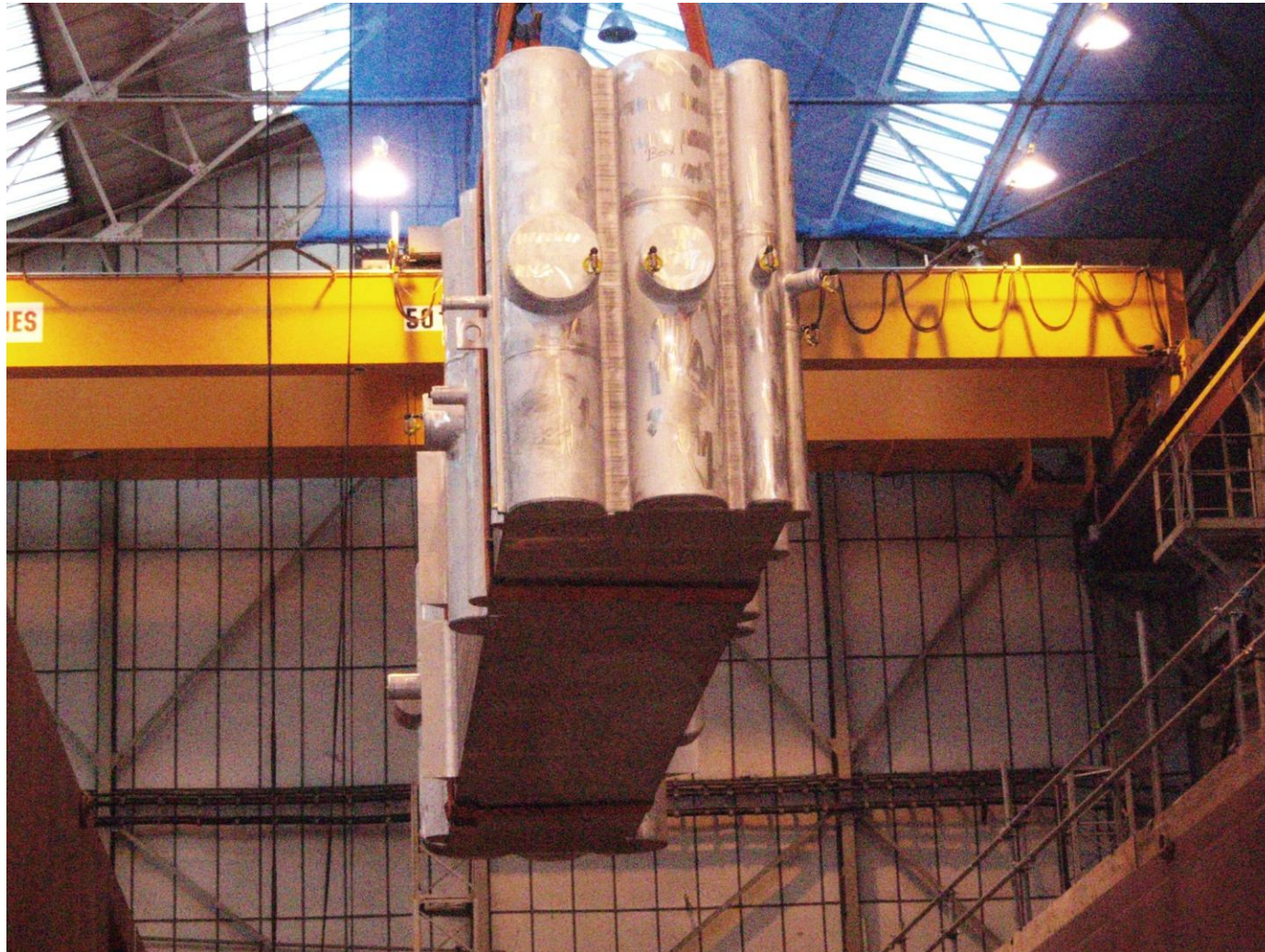
# Cryogenic Heat Exchange

- Brazed aluminium plate fin exchangers
- Cools air streams against product streams to recover refrigeration
- Ambient to cryogenic temperatures



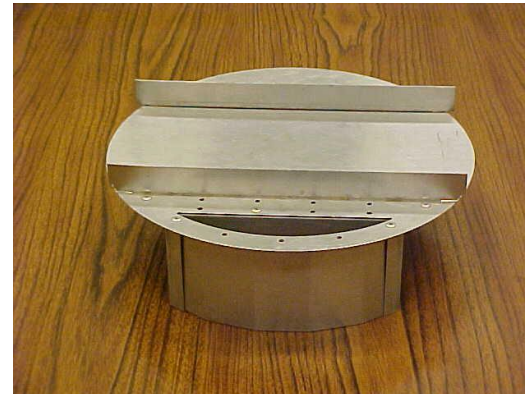
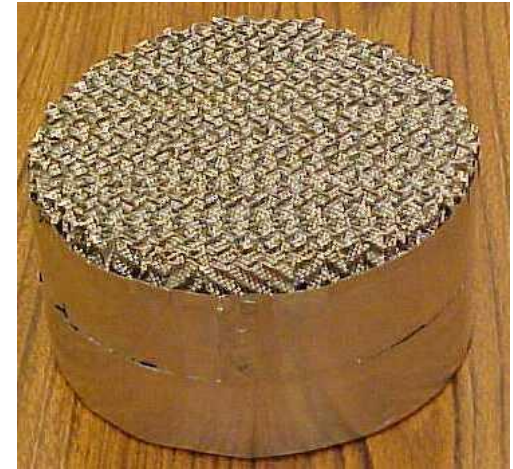


# Aluminium Plate-Fin Heat Exchanger Completed Core



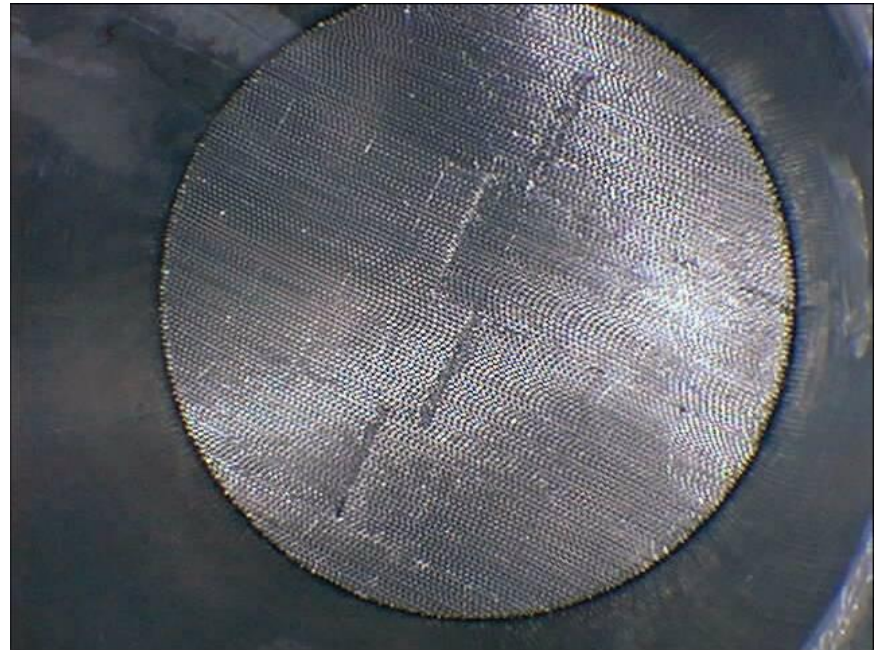
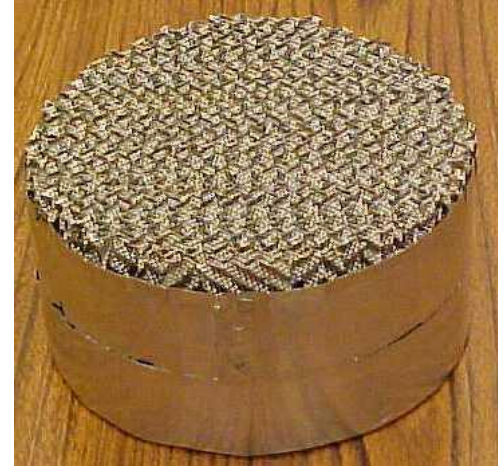
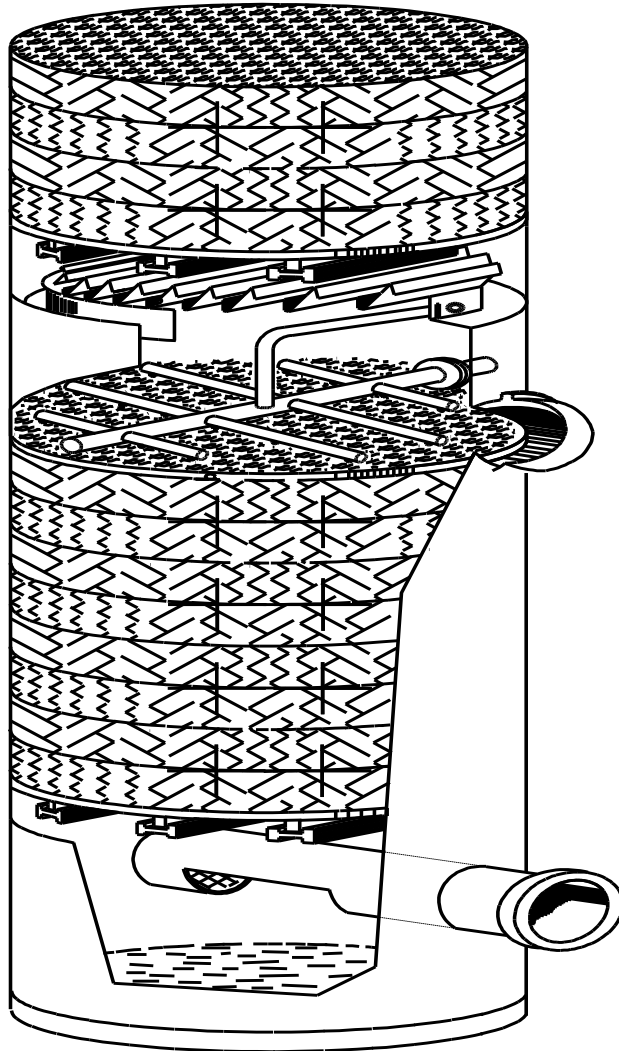
# Distillation Technology

- Structured Packing
  - Lower pressure drop – saves up to 10% of air compressor power
  - Better turndown
  - Higher plant capacity
- Sieve trays
  - Shorter columns





# Structured packing

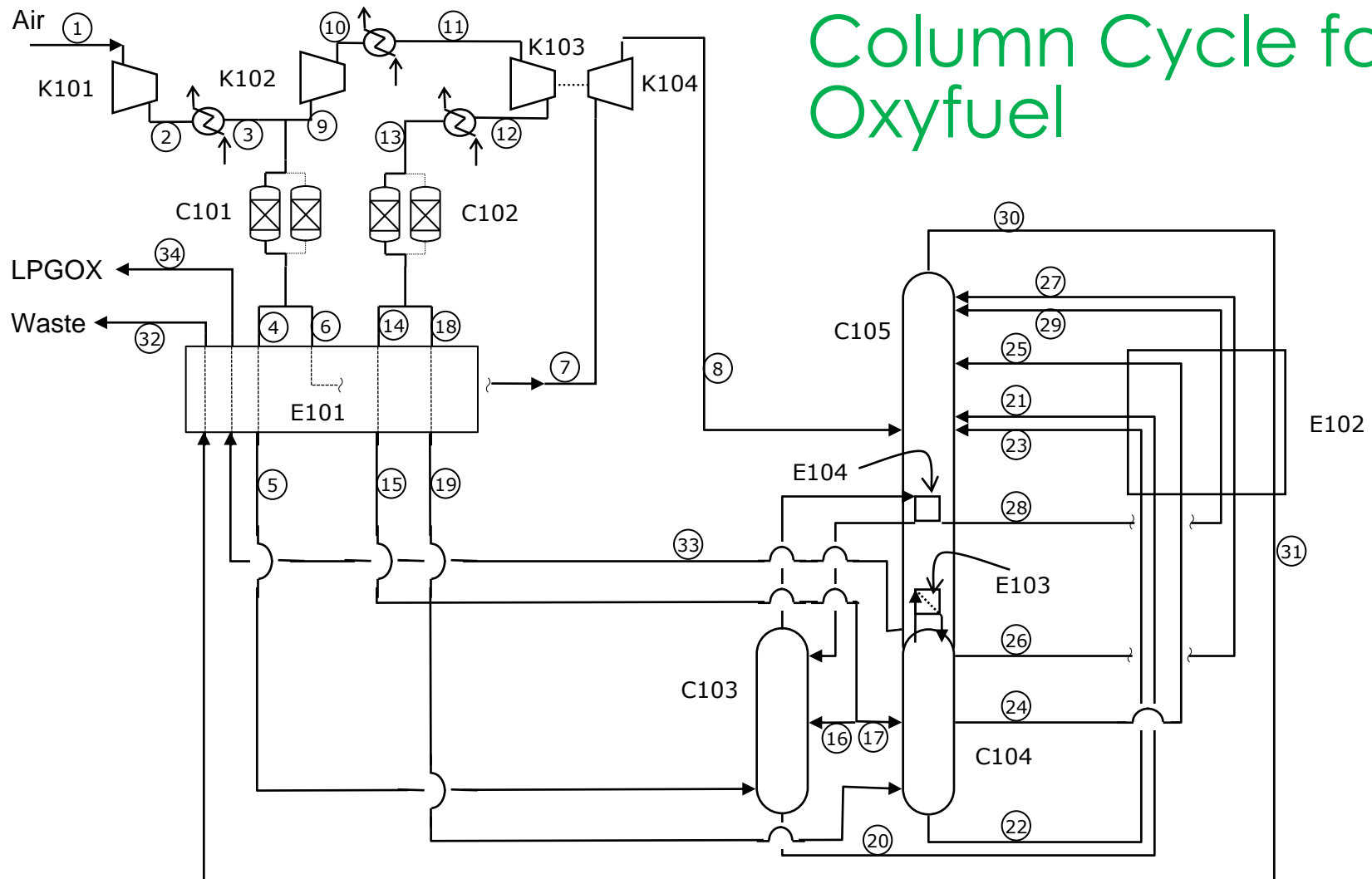




# Oxygen Requirements for Oxycoal CO<sub>2</sub> Capture

- Oxygen pressure is low
  - Boiler runs close to atmospheric pressure
- Oxygen purity is low (<97%)
  - Air leaks into boiler, impurities must be removed from CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Easier to remove argon from CO<sub>2</sub> than from O<sub>2</sub>
- Oxygen demand is large
- 500MWe power plant needs ~10,000 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub>
- No use for co-products
- High efficiency and low capital desirable
  - New opportunities to optimise the ASU

# Low Purity, Low Pressure Dual HP Column Cycle for Oxyfuel



# Oxycoal “Reference ASU” Cycle

- Integration is not always required or desirable
- With no integration, three column cycle is best
  - Minimum power input, high O<sub>2</sub> recovery
- But three column cycle still ideal for integration
  - Adiabatic compression with heat recovery
  - Optional N<sub>2</sub> at 2.5 bar(a) if it can be used
- So Reference ASU based on three column cycle



# ASU Machinery and Drives

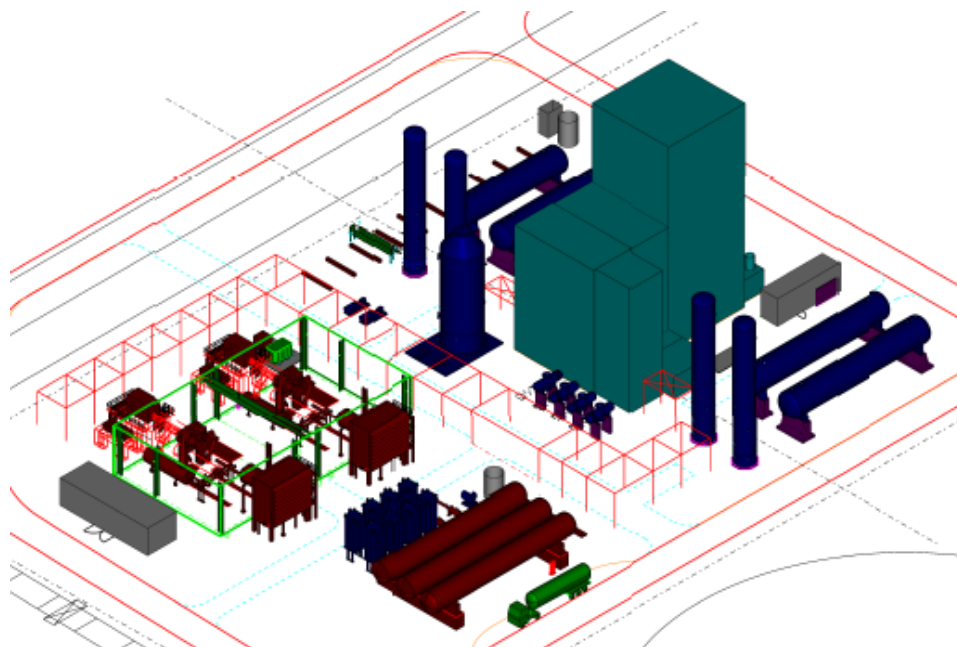
- Significant part of ASU cost (capital and power)
  - Critical to optimise efficiency vs. capital cost
- Likely to reach referenced machinery limits
  - Can use multiple trains for a single cold box
- Centrifugal or axial air compressors
  - Centrifugal up to ~5000 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub>
  - Axial up to ~8000 tonnes/day O<sub>2</sub>
- GT derived units will be even larger
- Electric Motor or Steam Turbine drive (GT unsuitable)
  - Motors simplify operation but may have starting issues
  - Steam turbines more efficient for power generation than mechanical drives – balances extra electrical losses





# Oxycoal “Reference ASU”

- Designs developed for a scalable reference plant
- Column diameters within manufacturing capabilities (referenced to 7000 te/d)



Size te/d O <sub>2</sub>	Machinery options	Power MW
3,000 – 4,000	Centrifugal 1 or 2 train or axial 1 train	22-33
4,000 – 5,500	Centrifugal 1 or 2 train or axial 1 train	30-45
5,500 – 7,000	Centrifugal 2 train or axial 1 train	41-58
7,000 -10,000	Centrifugal or axial 2 train	53-82

# Oxycoal ASU Flexibility

- Turndown limited by compressors not cold box
  - Normally 75-100%
  - Can increase range with efficiency penalty
  - More compression trains or multiple plants give wider, more continuous range
- Rapid ramping possible
  - Dynamic modelling: 5% / minute within  $\pm 2\%$  purity
  - Model predictive control (MPC) will be used
- Instantaneous back-up system
  - For plant trip and peak shaving
  - ASU make liquid for tank refill

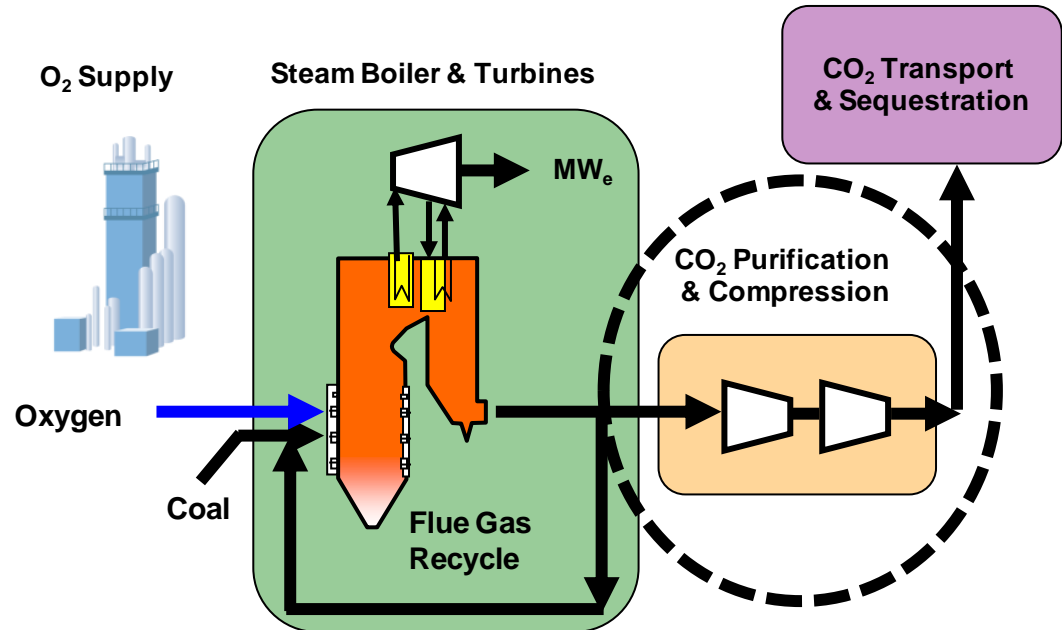


# Conclusions

- Air Products Oxycoal ASU has low specific power
  - with or without power cycle integration
- Integration needed to get lower specific power
  - boiler modification & novel expanders
- Single cold box to 10,000 te/d O<sub>2</sub> - modest scale-up
- Single train machinery up to about 8,000 te/d O<sub>2</sub>
- Rapid load change possible
- Heat integration beneficial – depends on specifics

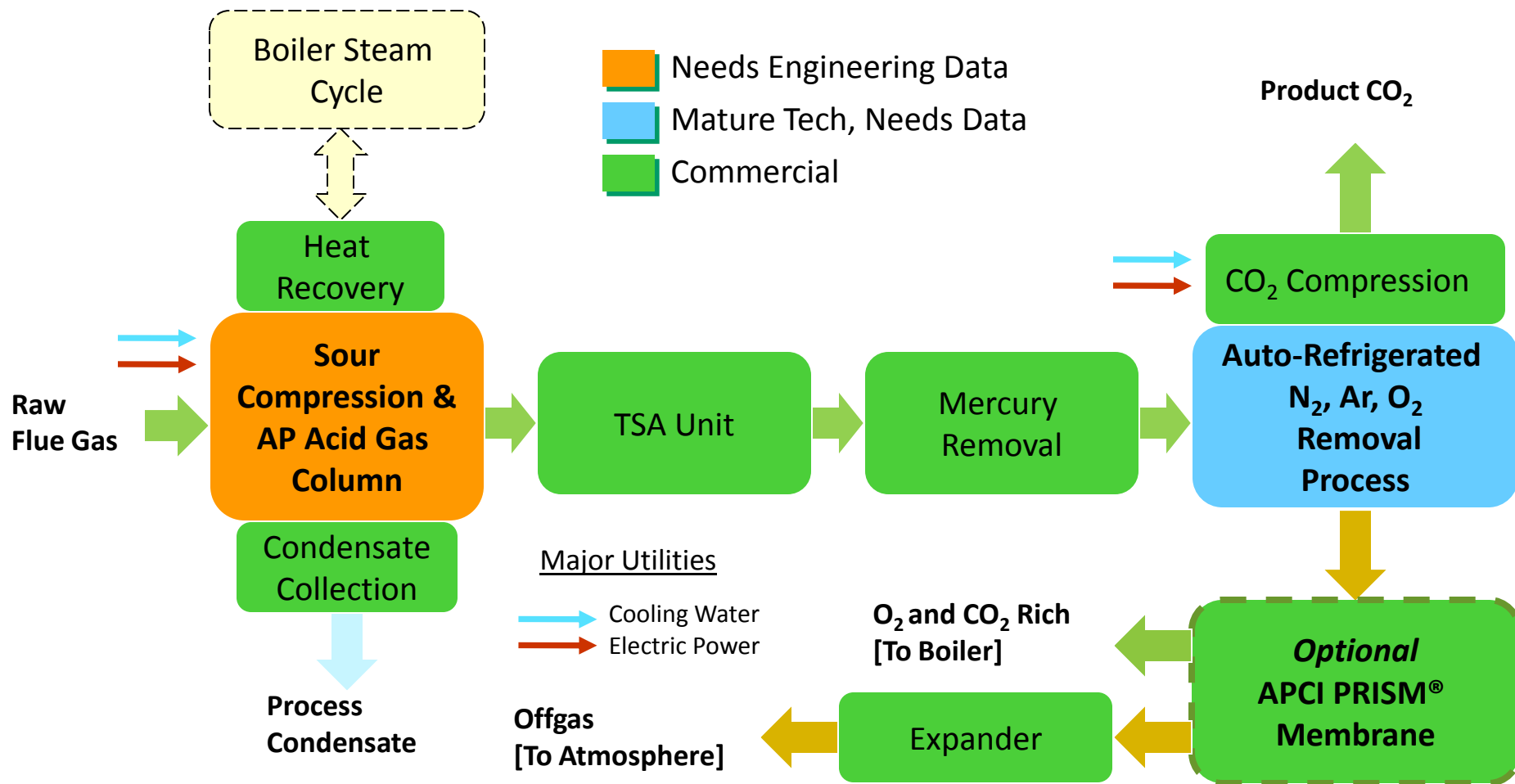
# Oxyfuel CO<sub>2</sub> Purification

- Oxyfuel combustion of coal produces a flue gas containing:
  - CO<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O
  - Any inerts from air in leakage or oxygen impurities
  - Oxidation products and impurities from the fuel (SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, HCl, Hg, etc.)
- Purification requires:
  - Cooling to remove water
  - Compression to 30 bar: integrated SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>/Hg removal
  - Low Temperature Purification
    - Low purity, bulk inerts removal
    - High purity, Oxygen removal
  - Compression to pipeline pressure





# Air Products Oxy-Fuel CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Purification – with Air Products PRISM<sup>®</sup> Membrane



# Air Products' CO<sub>2</sub> Purification and Compression Technology for Oxyfuel

## Sour Compression SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, Hg Removal




- SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> removed in compression system
  - NO is oxidised to NO<sub>2</sub> which oxidises SO<sub>2</sub> to SO<sub>3</sub>
  - The Lead Chamber Process
- FGD and DeNO<sub>x</sub> systems
  - Optimization
  - Elimination
- Low NO<sub>x</sub> burners are not required for oxyfuel combustion
- Hg will also be removed, reacting with the nitric acid that is formed

## Auto-Refrigerated Inerts Removal Ar, N<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>

- Removal minimises compression and transportation costs.
- Optional O<sub>2</sub> removal for EOR-grade CO<sub>2</sub>
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate of 90% with CO<sub>2</sub> purity >95%
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate depends on raw CO<sub>2</sub> purity which depends on air ingress

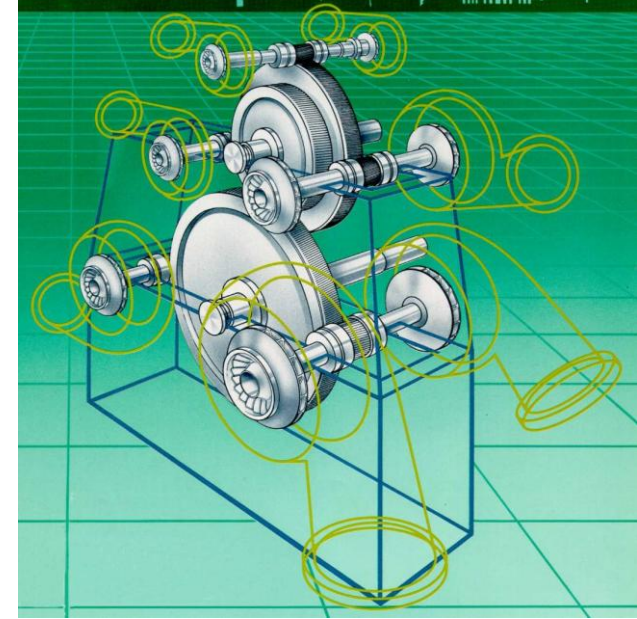
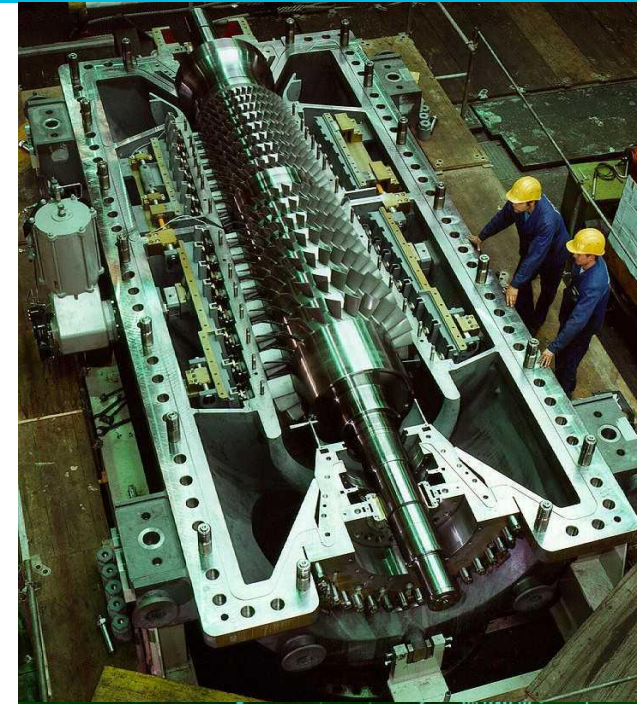
## Air Products' PRISM<sup>®</sup> Membrane For Enhanced CO<sub>2</sub> + O<sub>2</sub> Recovery

- Inerts vent stream is clean, at pressure and rich in CO<sub>2</sub> (~25%) and O<sub>2</sub> (~20%)
- Polymeric membrane unit – selective for CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> – in vent stream will recycle CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> rich permeate stream to the boiler.
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate increases to >97% and ASU size/power reduced by ~5%

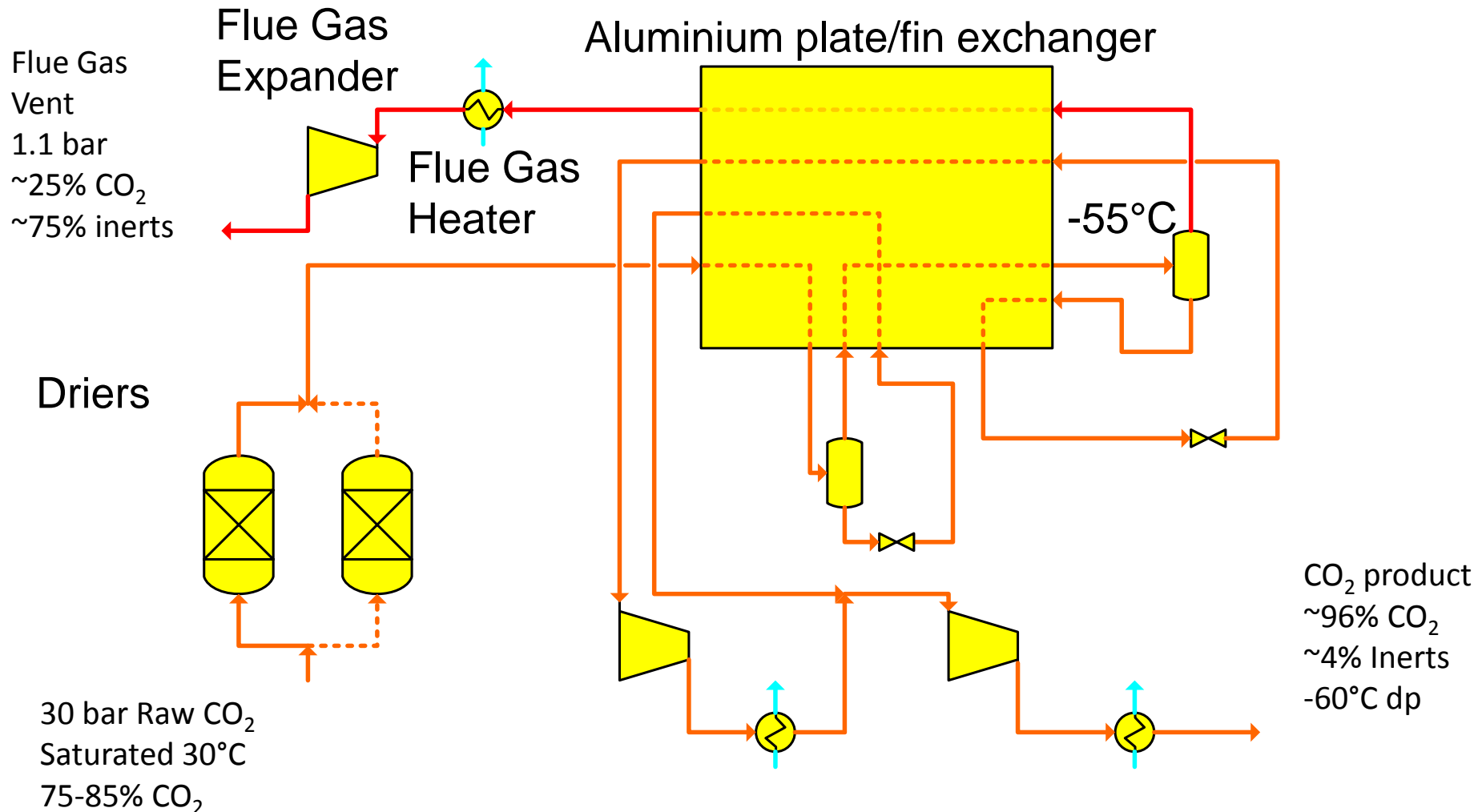
-  Needs Engineering Data
-  Mature Tech, Needs Data
-  Commercial

# Compression Options to 30 bar

- Axial Compressor (plus inline radial)
  - Higher compression ratios
  - Higher outlet temperature
    - So better integration options
  - Simpler configuration
    - No intercoolers
  - But higher power consumption
    - Offset with integration opportunities
  - Can be single train to ~8-900MWe
- Integrally geared compressor
  - Lower power consumption
  - Less opportunity for integration
  - Might need multiple trains for >500 MWe plants



# CO<sub>2</sub> Compression and Purification System – Inerts removal and compression





# CO<sub>2</sub> Purity and Recovery

- -55°C is as cold as we can make the phase separation
- CO<sub>2</sub> purity depends on pressure
  - With 75% CO<sub>2</sub> in the feed, at 30 bar and -55°C, CO<sub>2</sub> purity is 95%
  - Higher pressure gives lower purity CO<sub>2</sub>
- CO<sub>2</sub> recovery depends on pressure
  - Lower pressure gives lower CO<sub>2</sub> recovery
  - At 15 bar and -55°C, CO<sub>2</sub> recovery is 75%
  - At 30 bar and -55°C, CO<sub>2</sub> recovery is 90%
- CO<sub>2</sub> recovery depends on feed composition
  - Increases from zero at 25mol% to 90% at 75mol%
  - Reducing air ingress increases CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate



# Compression Options from 30 bar to Pipeline Pressure

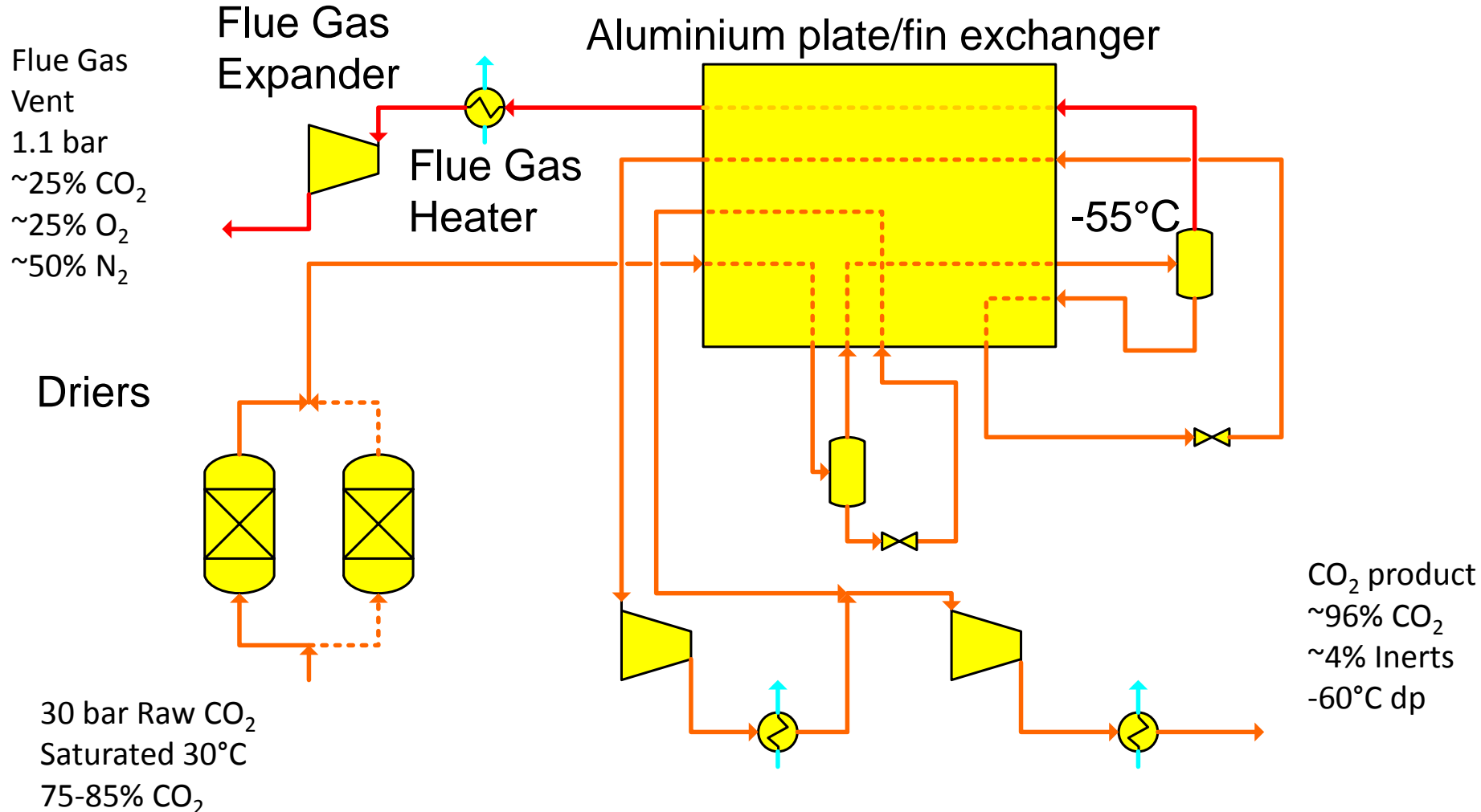
- Integrally geared compressor only feasible option
- Expander wheels can be integrated onto compressor bull wheel



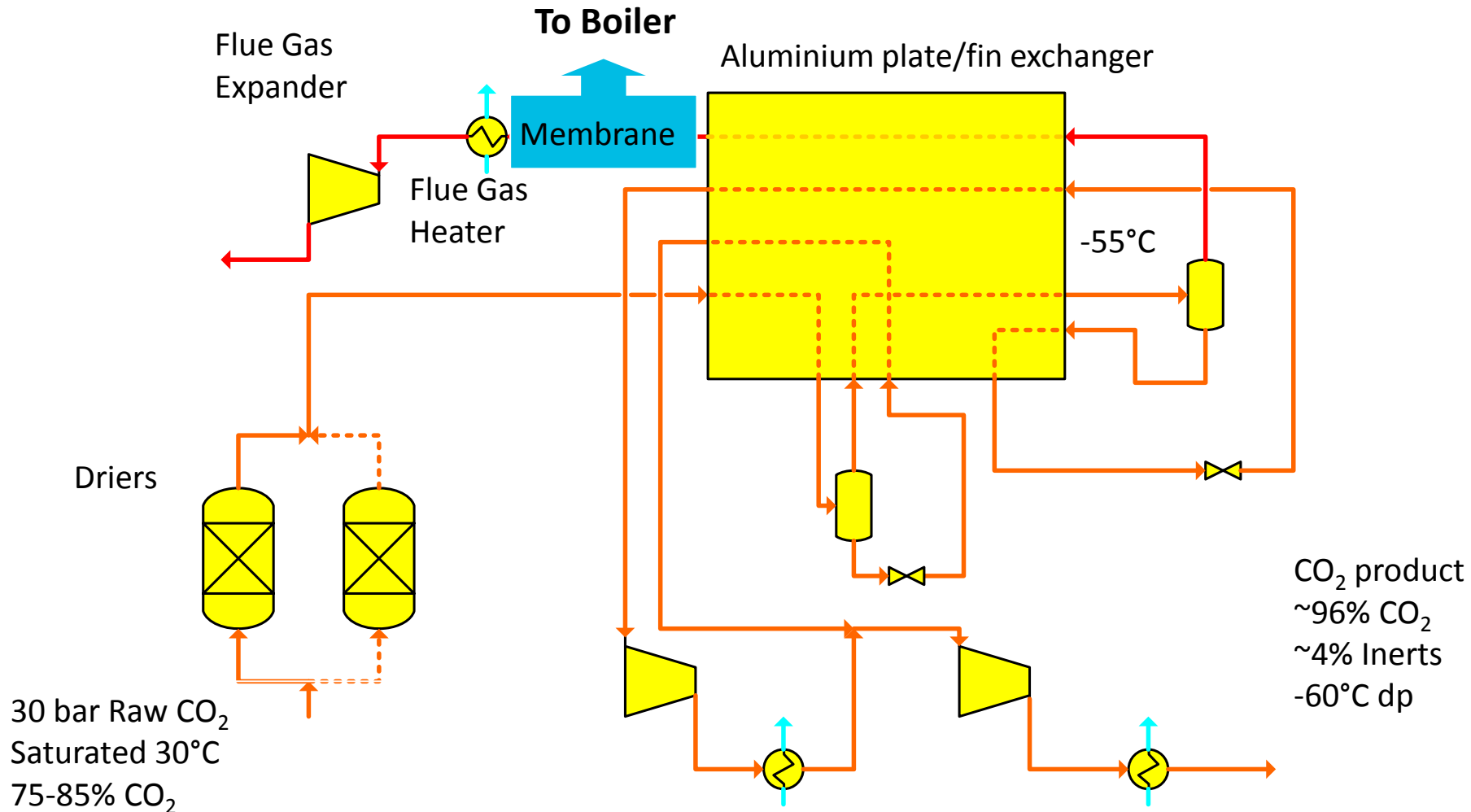
10-stage Integrally Geared Compressor

# Can we improve on ~90% CO<sub>2</sub> Capture?

Vent stream is at pressure and is CO<sub>2</sub> (and O<sub>2</sub>) rich



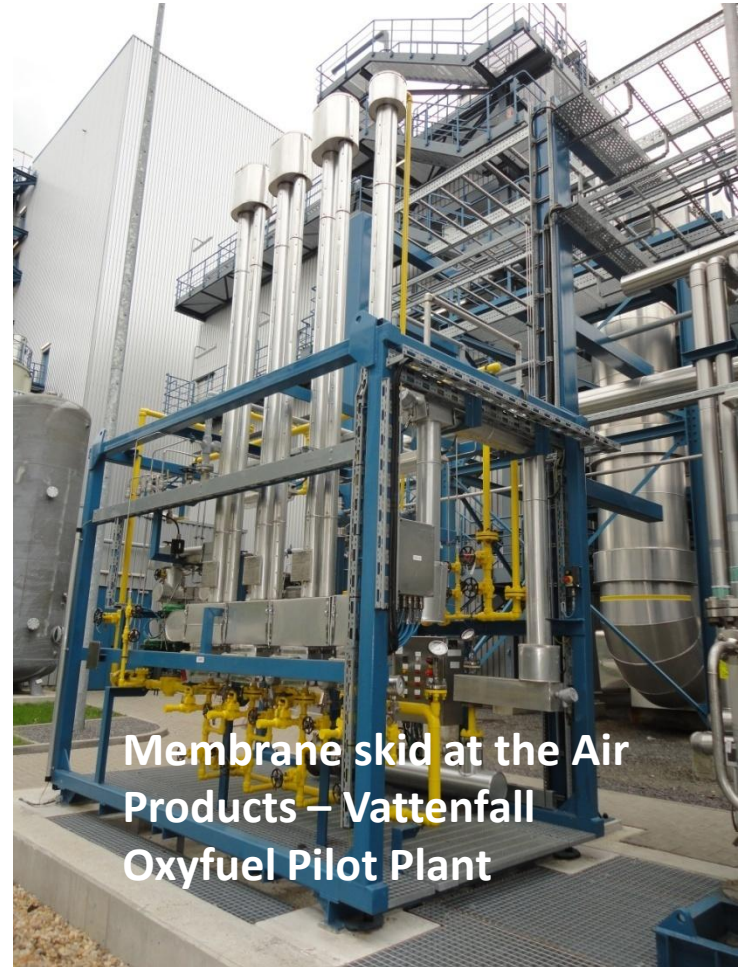
# Air Products Oxy-Fuel CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Purification – with Air Products PRISM<sup>®</sup> Membrane





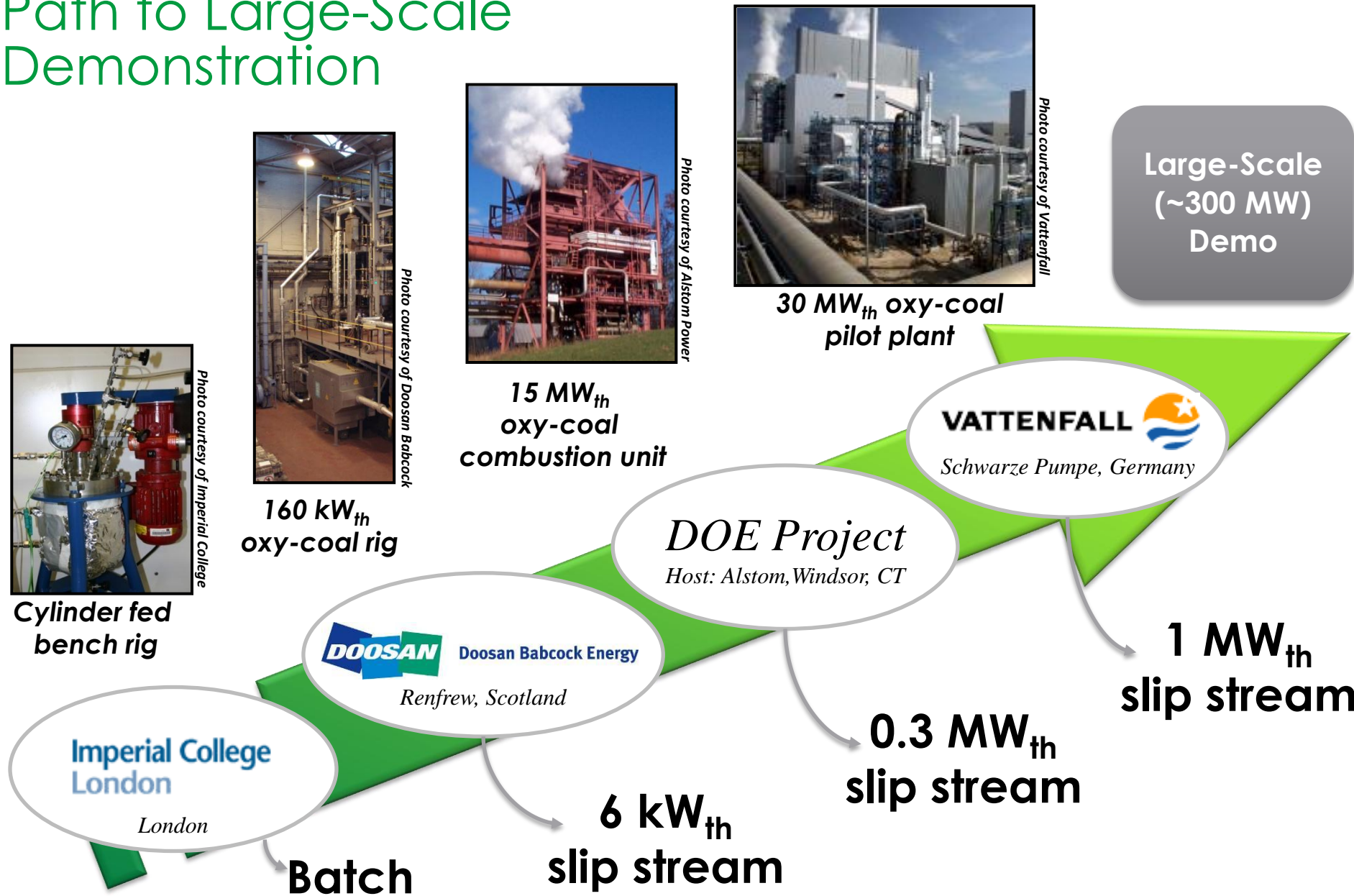
# Advantages of Air Products' CO<sub>2</sub> Purification Technology for Oxyfuel

- Vent stream is clean, at pressure and rich in CO<sub>2</sub> (~25%) and O<sub>2</sub> (~20%)
  - Polymeric membrane unit – selective for CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> – in vent stream will recycle CO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> rich permeate stream to boiler.
  - CO<sub>2</sub> Capture increase to >97%
  - ASU size/power reduced ~5%

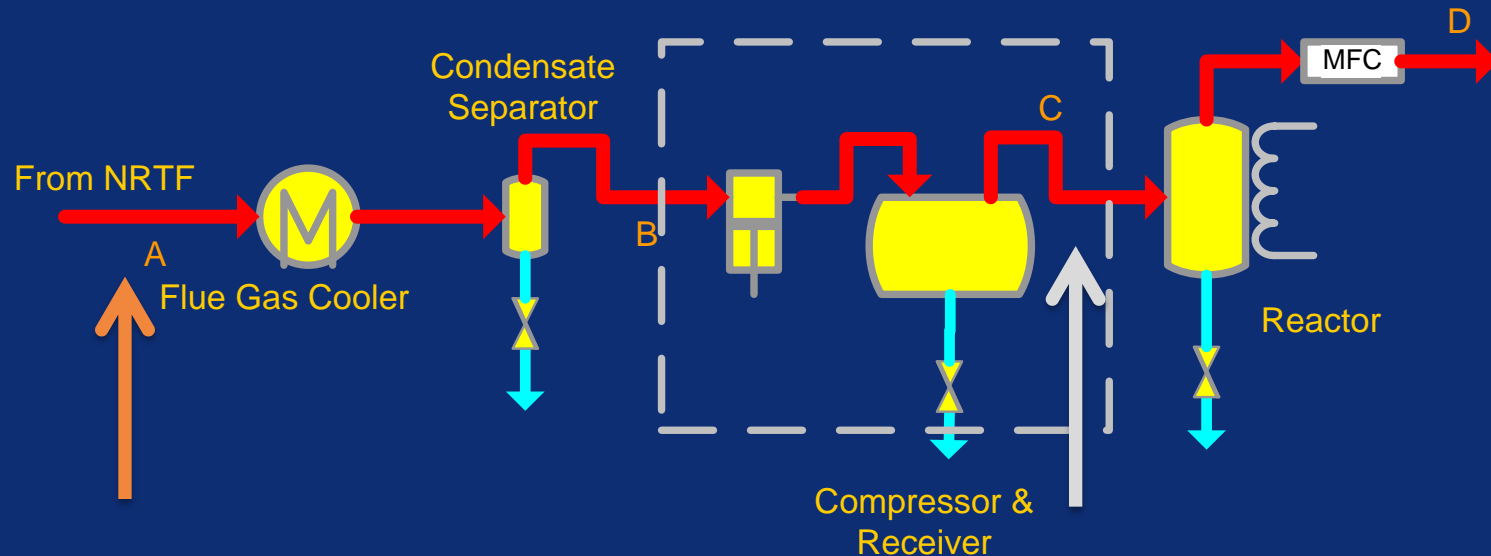


**Membrane skid at the Air Products – Vattenfall Oxyfuel Pilot Plant**

# Path to Large-Scale Demonstration



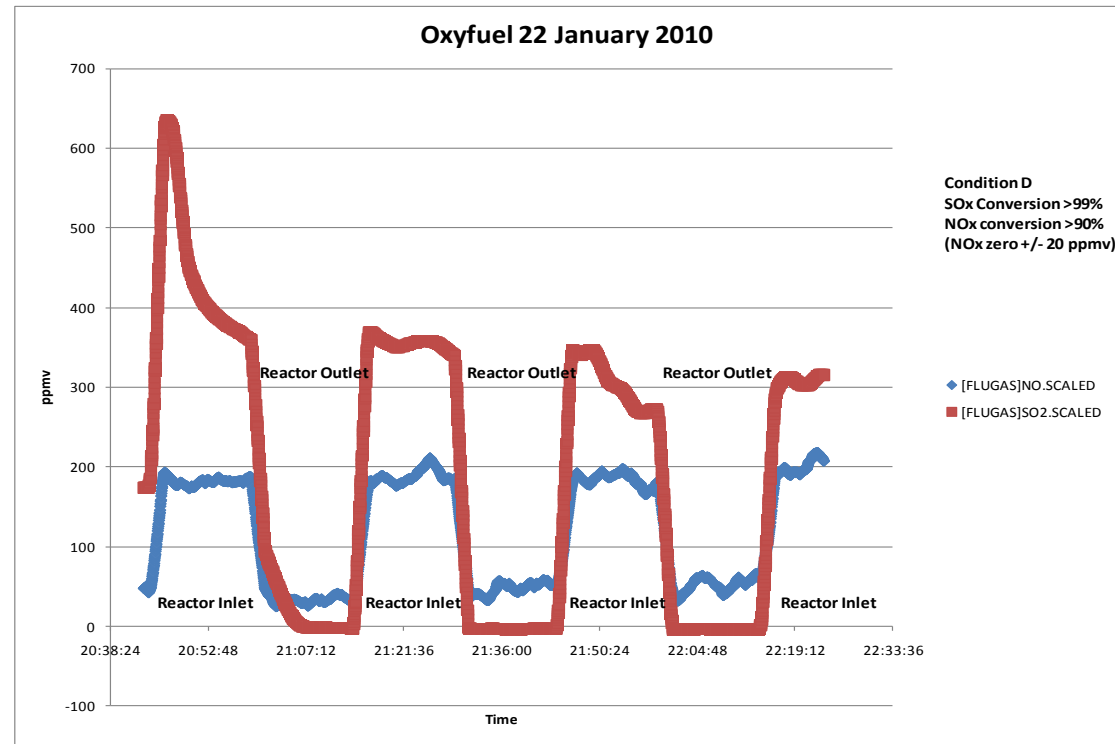
# The effect of Pressure on SO<sub>2</sub> and NO Conversion (1 sl/min, 7 and 14 barg)



	14 bar g			7 bar g		
	Inlet (Point A)	After Compressor & Receiver (Point C)	Conversion	Inlet (Point A)	After Compressor & Receiver (Point C)	Conversion
ppm SO <sub>2</sub>	900	20	98%	950	150	84%
ppm NO <sub>x</sub>	520	50	90%	390	120	68%

# DOE Project: Air Products' Sour Compression PDU – Key Results

- For the overall process, total SO<sub>2</sub> removal was 20-100 % (based on gas compositions).
- For the overall process, total NO<sub>x</sub> removal was 60-90 % (based on gas compositions).



- The effects of variations in the SO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> feed ratio, column pressure, gas flowrate and liquid recirculation on the reactor performance were explored. Process performance was most sensitive to SO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> feed ratio, over the range of parameter values investigated.
- SO<sub>2</sub> was removed from the flue gas through both sulfite and sulfate mechanisms.



# The Vattenfall – Air Products Oxyfuel CPU Pilot Plant

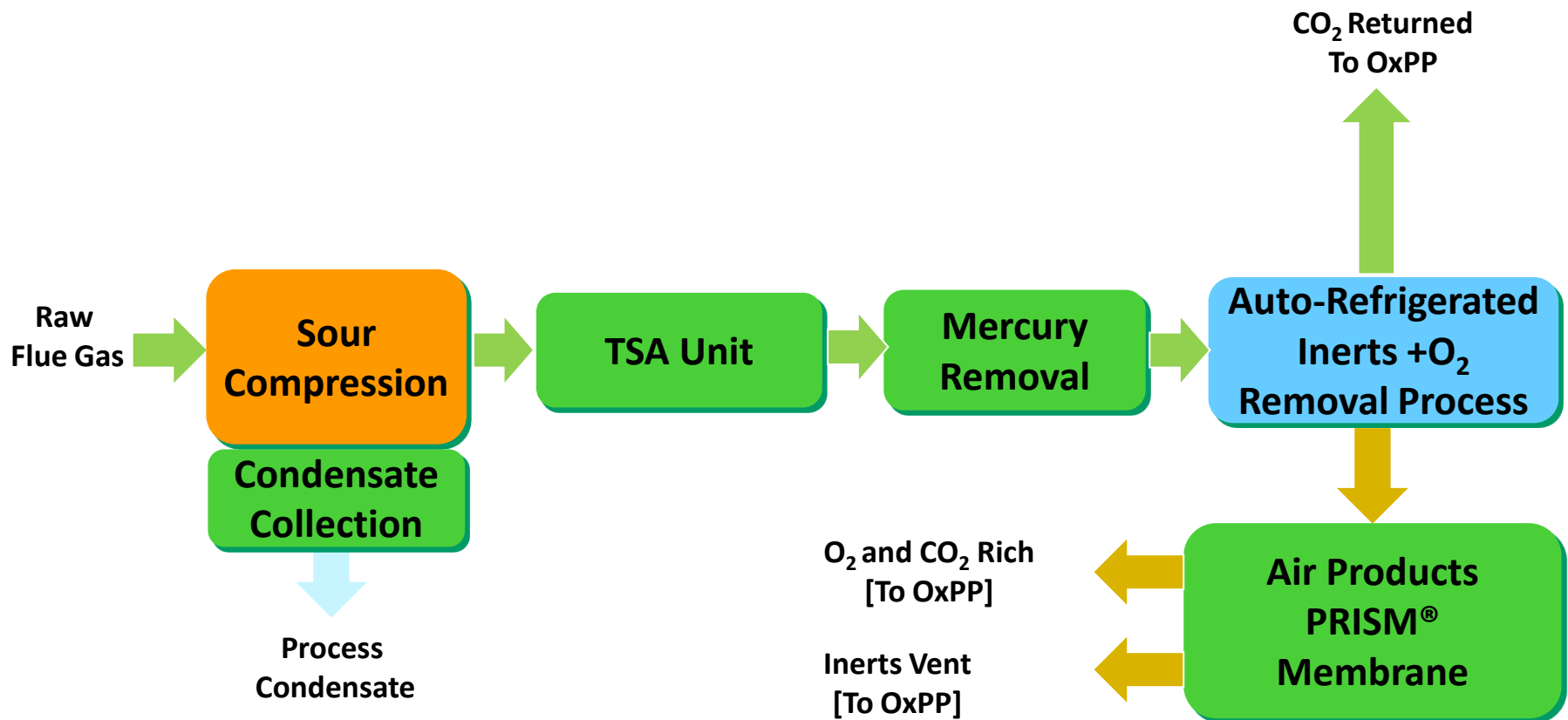
**Air Products' Proprietary Technology Joins World's First Full Demonstration of Oxyfuel CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration at Vattenfall**

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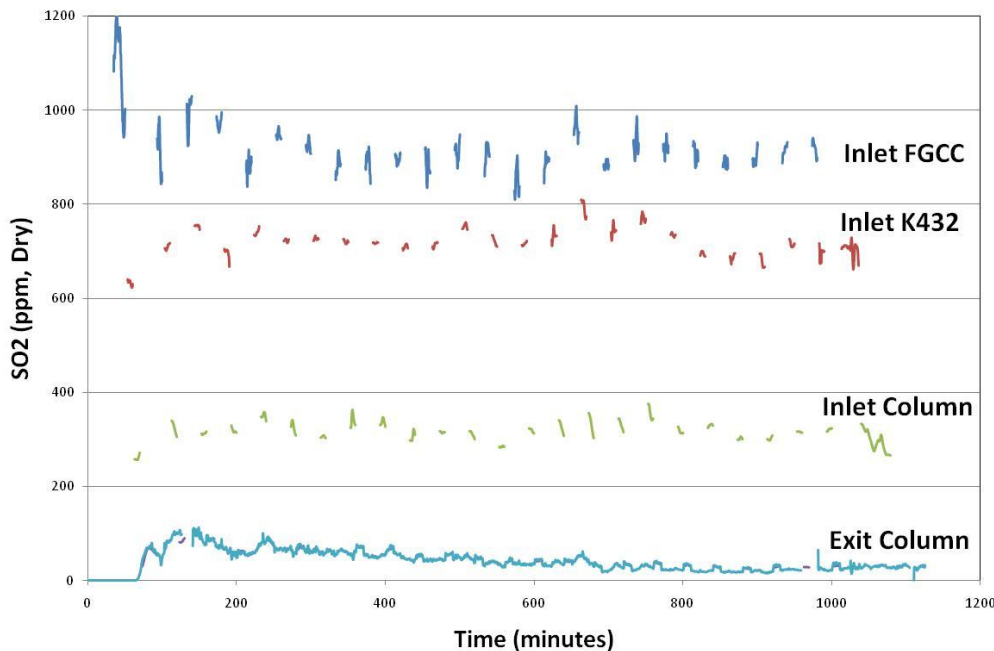
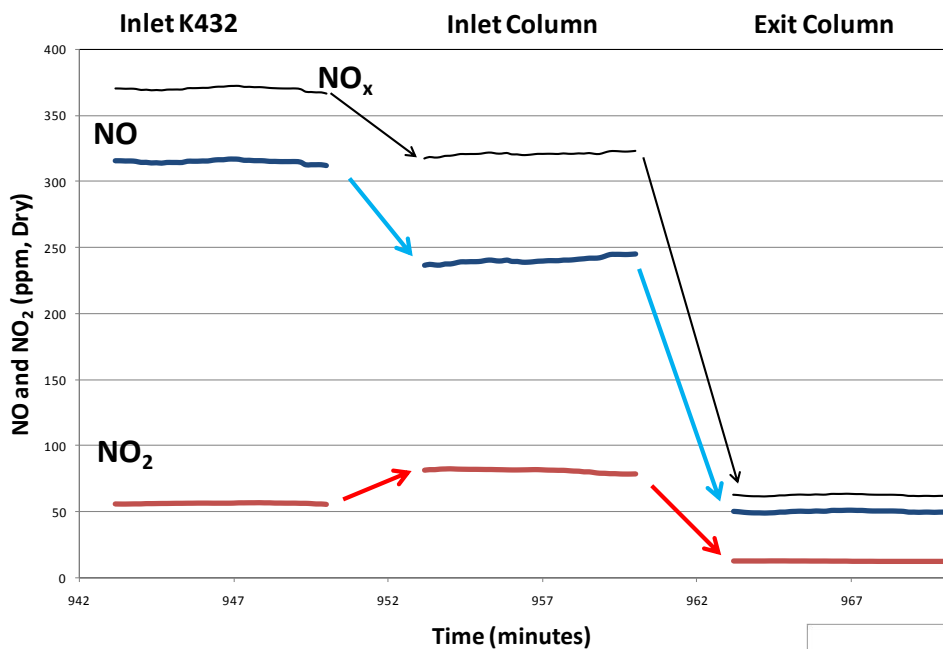
LEHIGH VALLEY, Pa. (March 31, 2009) - Air Products (NYSE: APD) today announced it will play a key role in the world's first full demonstration of oxyfuel carbon capture and sequestration with the signing of an agreement with Vattenfall AB, one of Europe's leading energy companies. Air Products will install its proprietary carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) capture, purification and compression system at Vattenfall's research and development facility in Schwarze Pumpe, Germany, which is viewed globally as the preeminent CO<sub>2</sub> oxyfuel project. Air Products will focus specifically on the purification and compression of oxyfuel combustion flue gas. The two companies also executed a joint research and development agreement related to the project. Air Products' pilot plant is to be operational at Schwarze Pumpe in December 2010.



# Air Products' CO<sub>2</sub> Purification Unit (CPU) Pilot Plant at Vattenfall's Schwarze Pumpe



# 50/50 Flue Gas Mix From Before and After OxPP FGD





# Conclusions

- First demonstration of Sour Compression in representative equipment
- First demonstration of auto-refrigerated inerts removal
- Learned many lesson relevant to full scale plant design and operation
- Purification of the CO<sub>2</sub> from oxyfuel-fired coal power plants is a technology ready for commercialisation
- Several advances in CPU technology have been described which will improve the performance of the CPU and the power plant
- Air Products is developing commercial offerings for CPU plants on demonstration plants





# Thank you

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