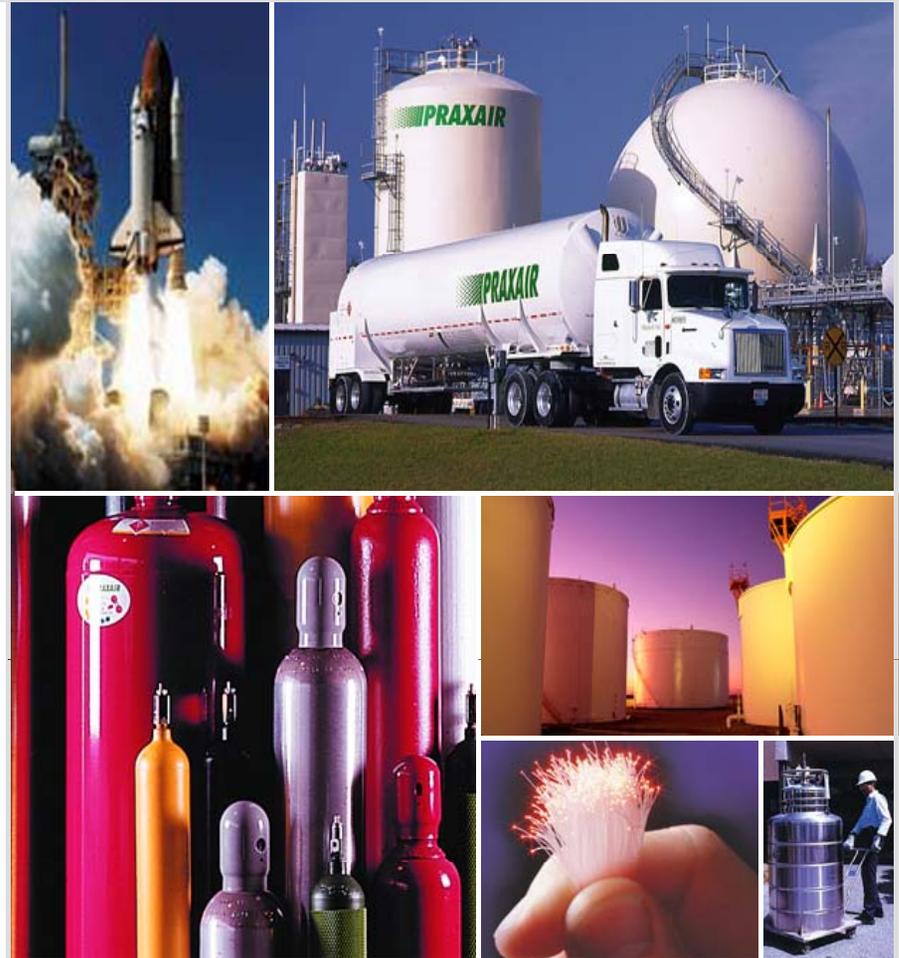




# Near Zero Emissions Oxy-combustion Flue Gas Purification

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Zanfir, Rahul Solunke, Ravi Kumar,  
Jennifer Bugayong and Ken Burgers  
2011 NETL CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Technology  
Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA  
August 22 – 26, 2011



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# Praxair At A Glance

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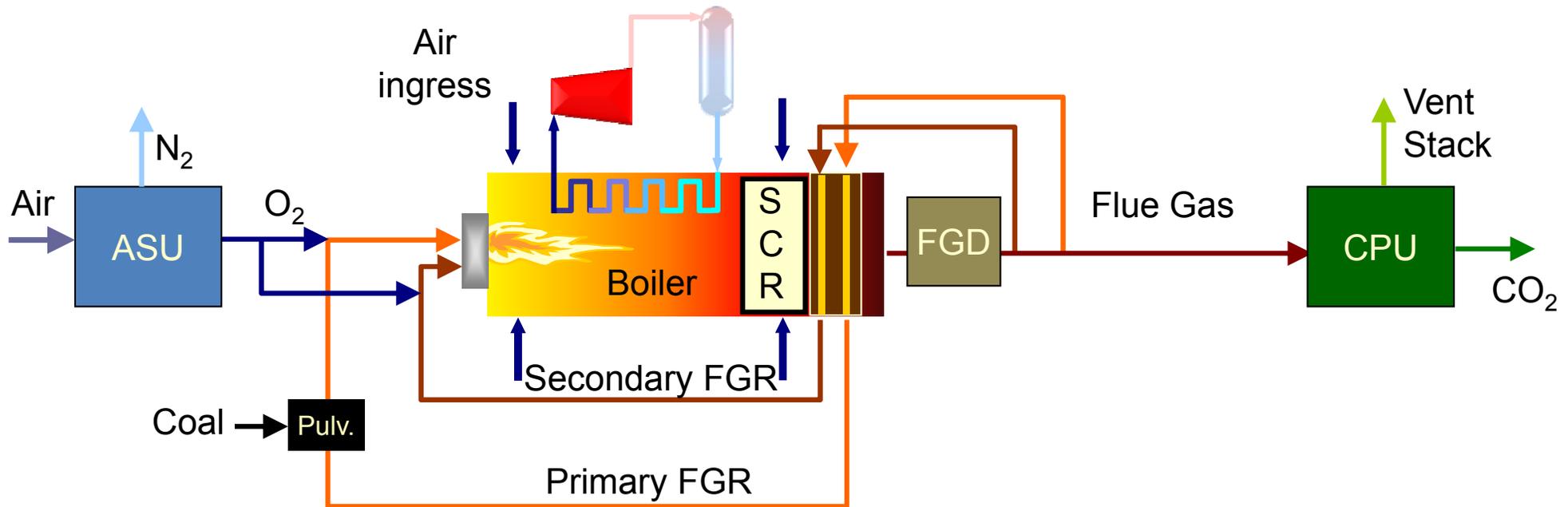
- ◆ **A Fortune 300 company with 2010 sales of \$10 Billion**
- ◆ **One of the largest industrial gases companies in the world and the largest in North and South America**
- ◆ **Markets served**
  - Aerospace, Chemicals, Electronics, Energy, Food and Beverage  
Healthcare, Manufacturing, and Metals
- ◆ **Major gas products**
  - Oxygen, nitrogen, rare gases (argon, xenon, krypton, neon)
  - Hydrogen, carbon dioxide, helium, acetylene
  - Specialty gases
- ◆ **Core technologies applicable to CCUS**
  - Cryogenic air separation
  - Hydrogen production and purification
  - Carbon dioxide capture and purification
  - Oxy-fuel combustion

# Project Overview

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- ◆ **Goal: Develop a near-zero emissions oxy-combustion flue gas purification technology**
  - >95% CO<sub>2</sub> capture for existing plants with high air ingress
  - Produce high purity CO<sub>2</sub> by removing >99% of SO<sub>x</sub>/Hg and >90% NO<sub>x</sub>
- ◆ **Total cost: \$5.4MM**
  - DOE           \$3.24 MM
  - Praxair       \$2.16 MM
- ◆ **DOE Project # NT0005341**
  - DOE Program manager – Mike Mosser
- ◆ **Project performance dates: 1/1/09 – 12/31/11**
- ◆ **Project participants**
  - Praxair
  - Foster Wheeler
  - AES
  - WorleyParsons Canada

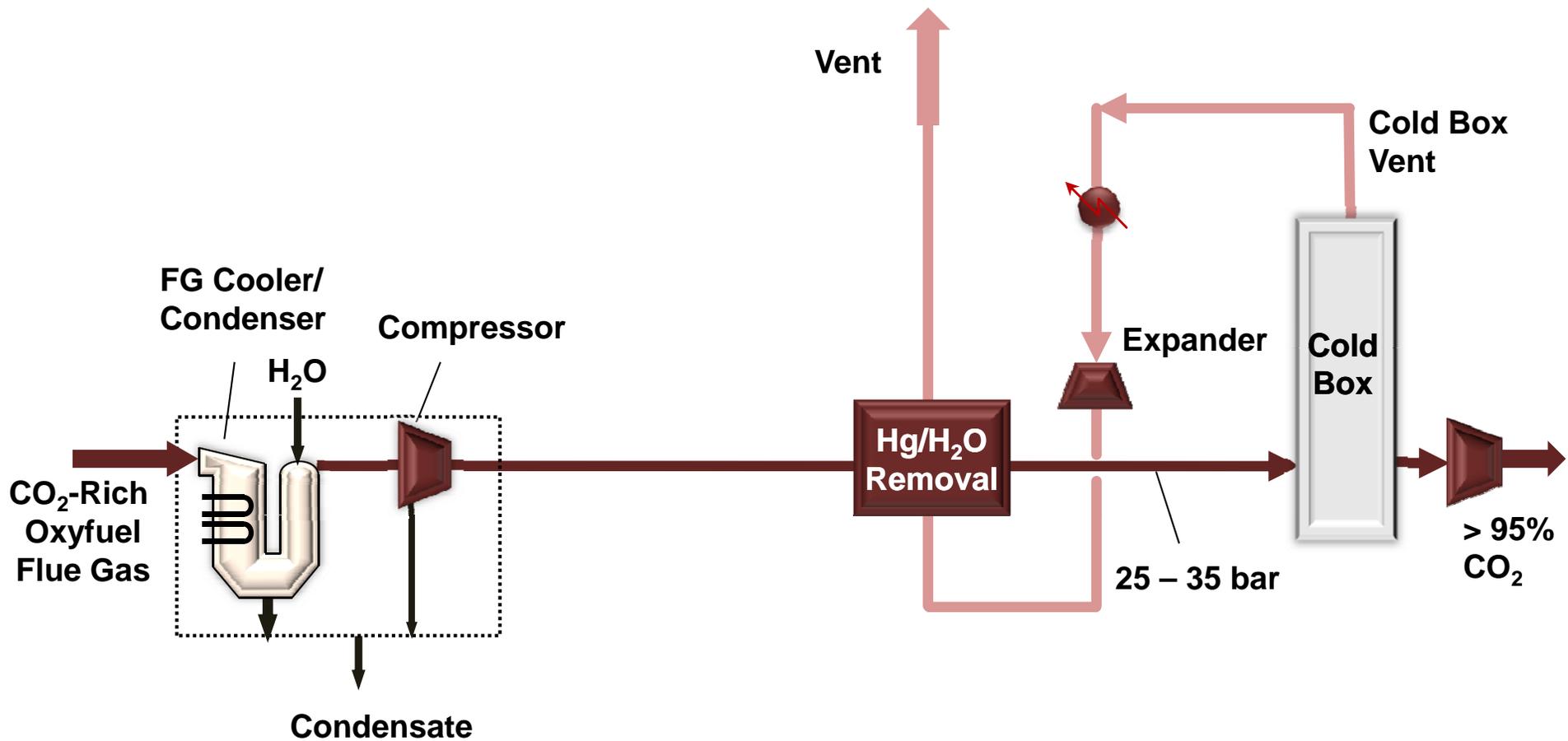
# Problem Description



- ◆ Existing plants could have high (10 – 15%) air ingress → Lower CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in flue gas → low CO<sub>2</sub> capture rate
- ◆ >50% of plants do not have FGD and SCR; to produce high purity CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Plants without FGD & SCR will require significant investment
  - Plants with FGD & SCR will still require additional polishing steps to remove SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>

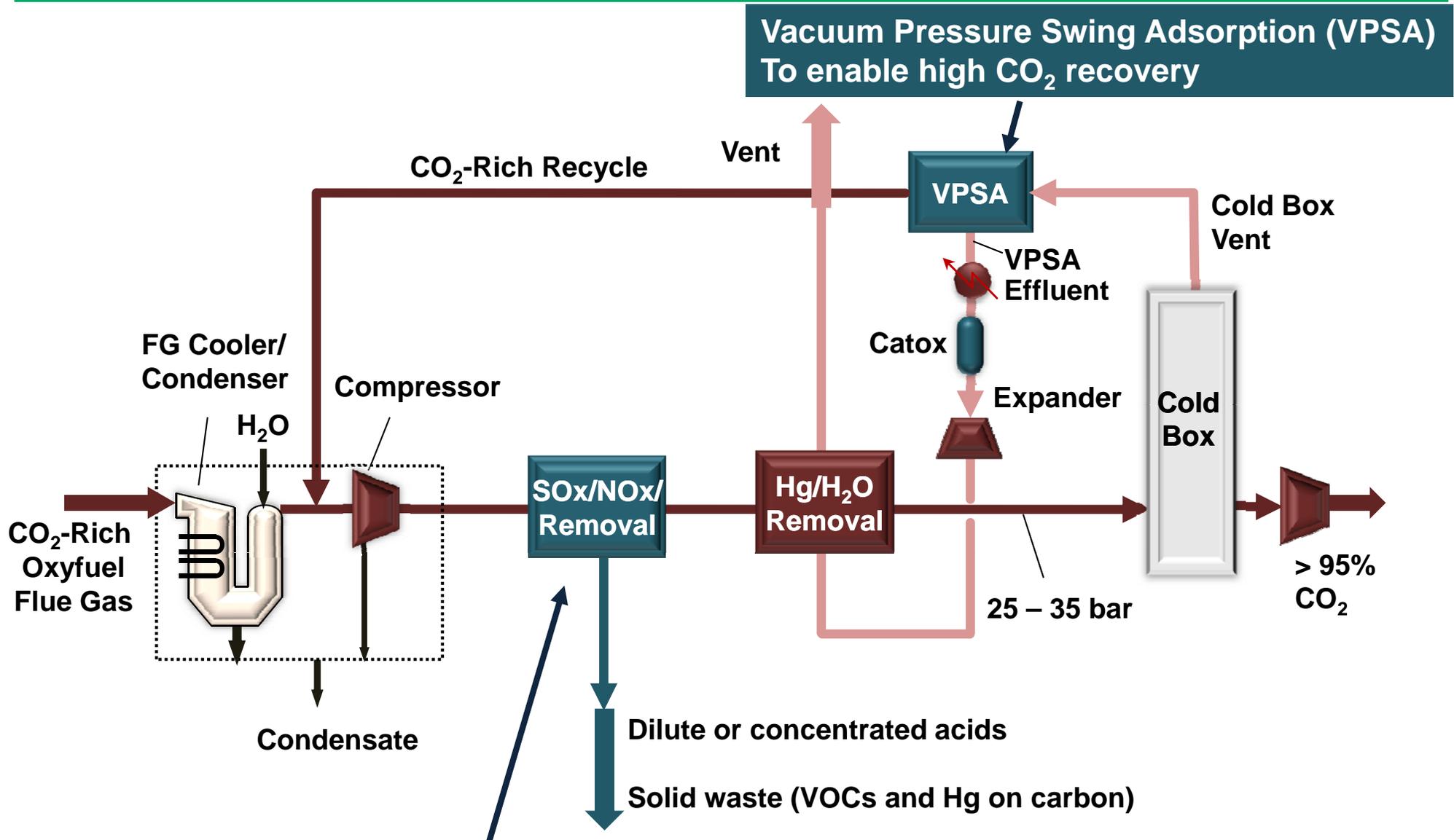
# Technology Fundamentals

## Conventional CO<sub>2</sub> Processing Unit (CPU)



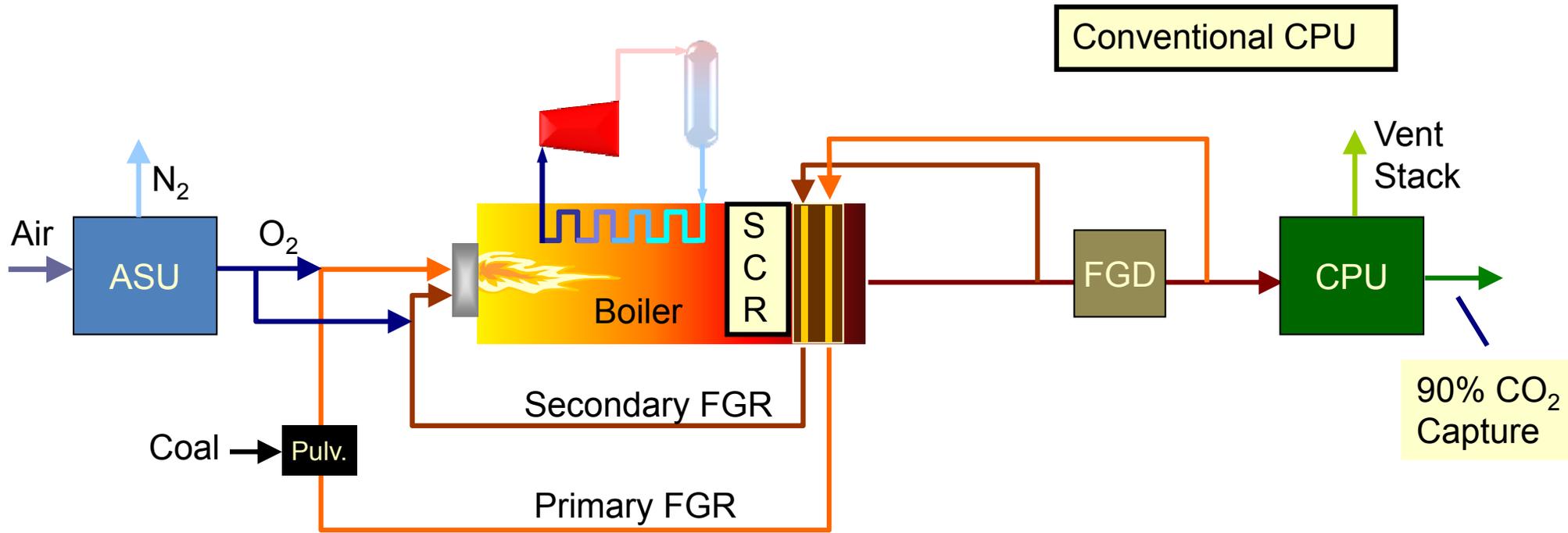
# Technology Fundamentals

## Near Zero Emissions CO<sub>2</sub> Processing Unit (CPU)

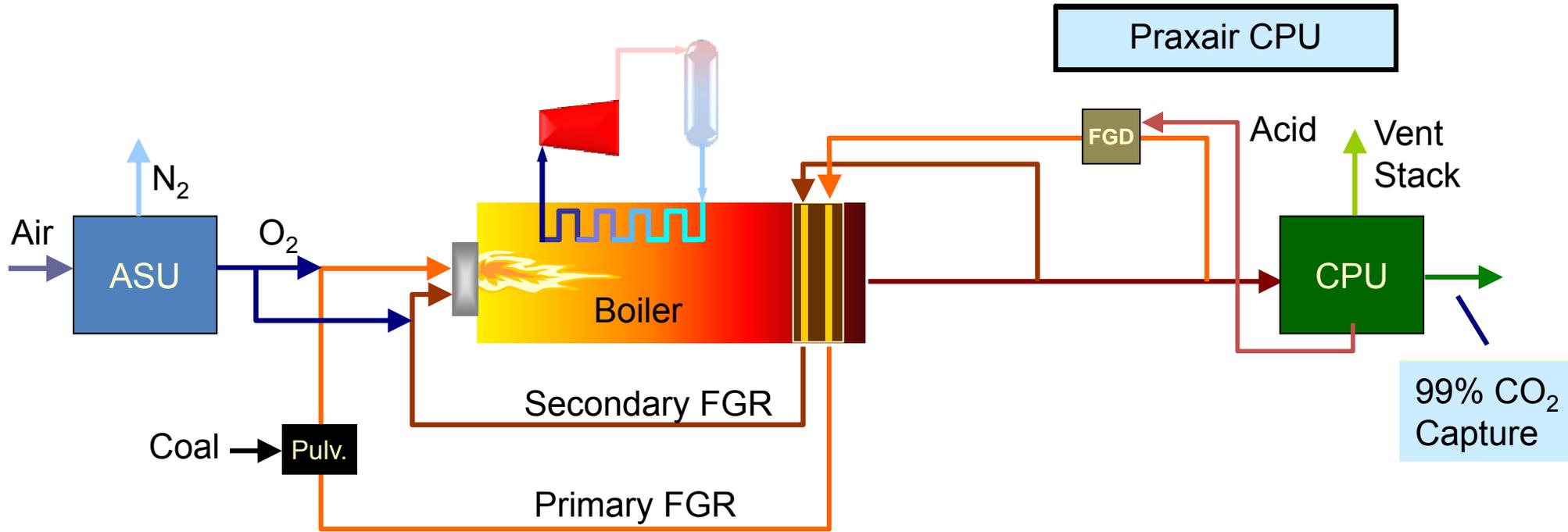


Two alternatives for SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> Removal  
H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> process for high sulfur coal  
Activated carbon process for low sulfur coal

# Benefits of Praxair CPU in Comparison to Conventional CPU



# Benefits of Praxair CPU in Comparison to Conventional CPU



# Benefits of Praxair CPU

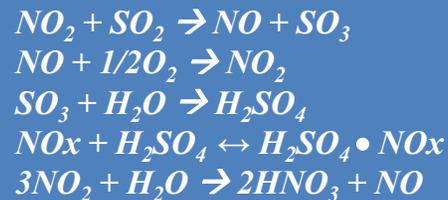
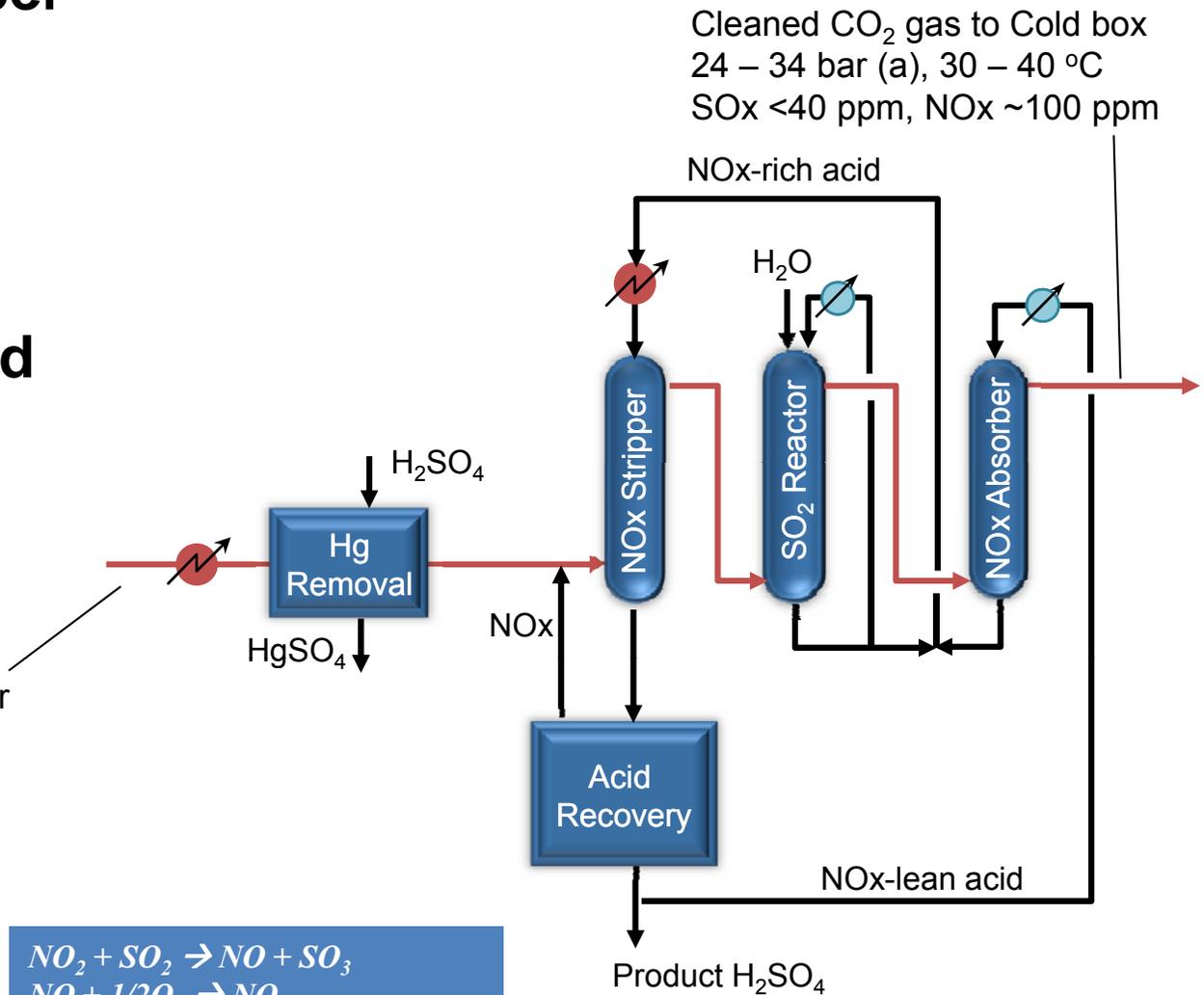
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- ◆ **Near zero stack emissions**
- ◆ **High CO<sub>2</sub> recovery**
  - >95% for old plants with 10% air ingress
  - >99% for new plants with 2% air ingress
- ◆ **High CO<sub>2</sub> purity**
- ◆ **Lower CAPEX for SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> removal**
  - Elimination of SCR and reduced size FGD in the boiler island
  - Much smaller vessel sizes in the CPU
- ◆ **Lower CO<sub>2</sub> capture costs; Benefit maximized when**
  - Existing plant does not have FGD/SCR and high purity CO<sub>2</sub> is desired → conventional process will require installation of FGD/SCR
  - FGD/SCR exists, but CO<sub>2</sub> purity spec for SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> is very stringent → conventional process will require a polishing unit
  - Existing plant has high air ingress → conventional process will have poor CO<sub>2</sub> recovery

# Sulfuric Acid Process for SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>/Hg Removal Technology Fundamentals

- ◆ Modified lead chamber process to produce saleable H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and HNO<sub>3</sub>
- ◆ Recirculating H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> removes Hg, SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> in a series of contact towers

Raw CO<sub>2</sub> gas from Compressor  
25 – 35 bar (a), 70 – 80 °C  
SO<sub>x</sub> 4000 ppm, NO<sub>x</sub> 400 ppm



# Sulfuric Acid Process

## Current Status

### ◆ Bench-scale tests concluded in Q4 2010

- Single column (1' L, 1.5" ID) unit used to test various unit operations
- Capacity – 0.06 tpd CO<sub>2</sub> in flue gas
- Gas phase nitric oxide (NO) oxidation kinetics confirmed
- NO<sub>x</sub> mass transfer in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> evaluated under the conditions of NO<sub>x</sub> absorber and NO<sub>x</sub> stripper
- Effect of various process variables in SO<sub>2</sub> reactor investigated
  - Residence time, temperature, SO<sub>x</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> levels in the feed, acid flow rate



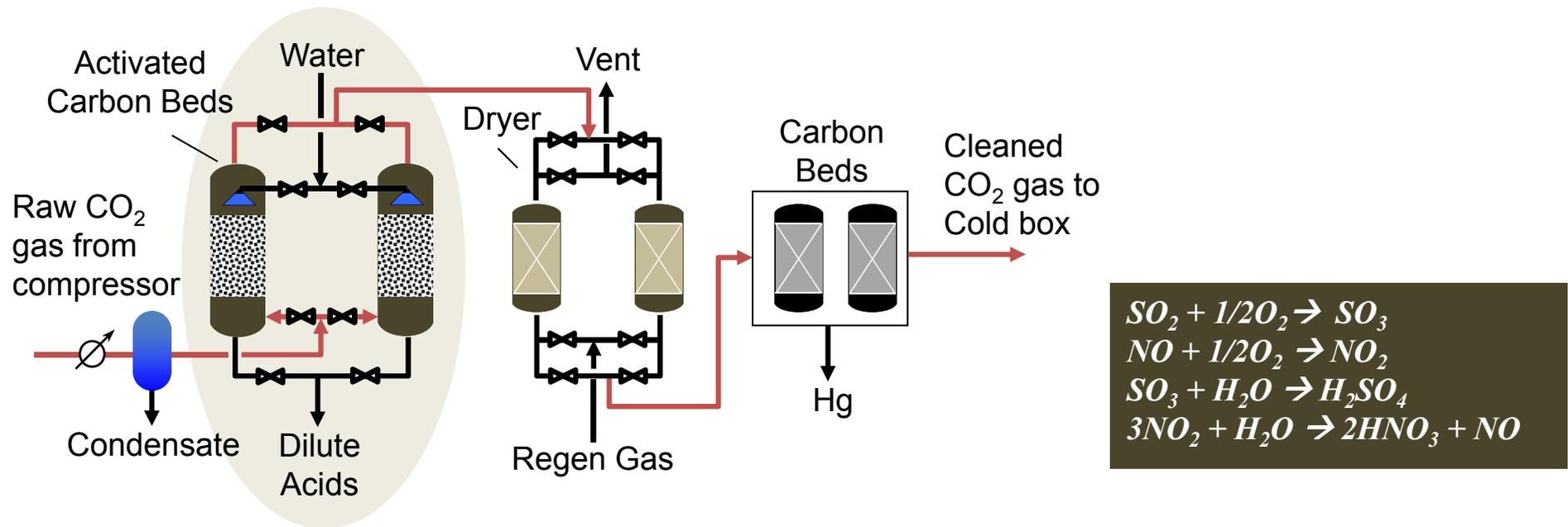
# Sulfuric Acid Process

## Current Status and Future Plans

- ◆ **Process simulations used to predict process performance**
  - >99% SO<sub>x</sub> removal will be achieved by SO<sub>2</sub> reactor
  - >98% NO<sub>x</sub> removal will be achieved by NO<sub>x</sub> absorber;
  - NO<sub>x</sub> removal from 93% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> not achieved in NO<sub>x</sub> stripper
  - Accumulation of NO<sub>x</sub> in the loop limited overall NO<sub>x</sub> removal to ~75%
  - Residual NO<sub>x</sub> in flue gas present as NO<sub>2</sub>; it can be removed by water wash
- ◆ **Commercial viability assessment**
  - CAPEX of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> process will be >90% lower than the full size FGD
  - However, 60% of the full size FGD is required in the boiler island
  - H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> containing high level of NO<sub>x</sub> unlikely to be marketable
  - Therefore, produced H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> must be neutralized and disposed off
- ◆ **Final report will be issued in Q4 2011**

**No further development on this process is planned**

# Activated Carbon Process for SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>/Hg Removal Technology Fundamentals



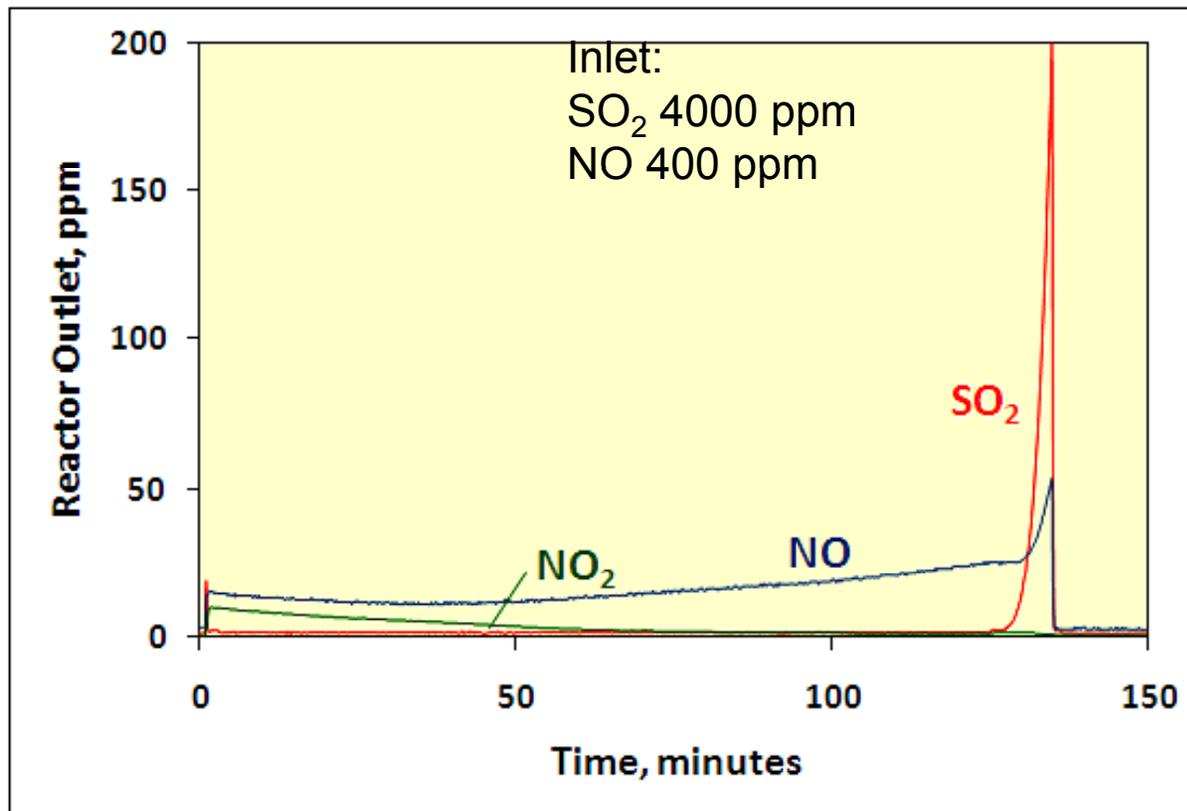
- ◆ SO<sub>2</sub> and NO are oxidized and retained on activated carbon
- ◆ Carbon is regenerated by water wash followed by drying
- ◆ Dilute acid stream is produced

# Activated Carbon Process – Single Bed Unit

## Current Status

### ◆ Bench-scale tests

- Single-bed batch unit (1' L, 1" ID)
- Capacity – 0.02 tpd CO<sub>2</sub> in flue gas
- Synthetic flue gas is fed until breakthrough of SO<sub>x</sub> or NO<sub>x</sub>



# Activated Carbon Process – Single Bed Unit

## Current Status

	Inlet ppm		Average Outlet ppm		Removal eff. %	
	SOx	NOx	SOx	NOx	SOx	NOx
Low Sulfur Coal	450	200	2.3	13.0	99.8	93.9
Intermediate S Coal	2000	750	1.6	17.1	>99.9	98.2
High Sulfur Coal	4000	400	1.5	22.8	>99.9	95.2

- ◆ **Excellent simultaneous SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> removal achieved**
  - SO<sub>2</sub> >99.9 % and NO<sub>x</sub> up to 98%
- ◆ **Preliminary longevity test results were favorable**
  - Performance could be maintained over 20 cycles
- ◆ **Technology also applicable for high sulfur coal flue gas**

# Activated Carbon Process – Dual Bed Continuous Unit

## Current Status and Future Plans

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### ◆ Objectives

- Collect data for engineering design of a larger unit of 10 – 50 tpd capacity
- Test longevity of activated carbon material

### ◆ Design and construction are complete

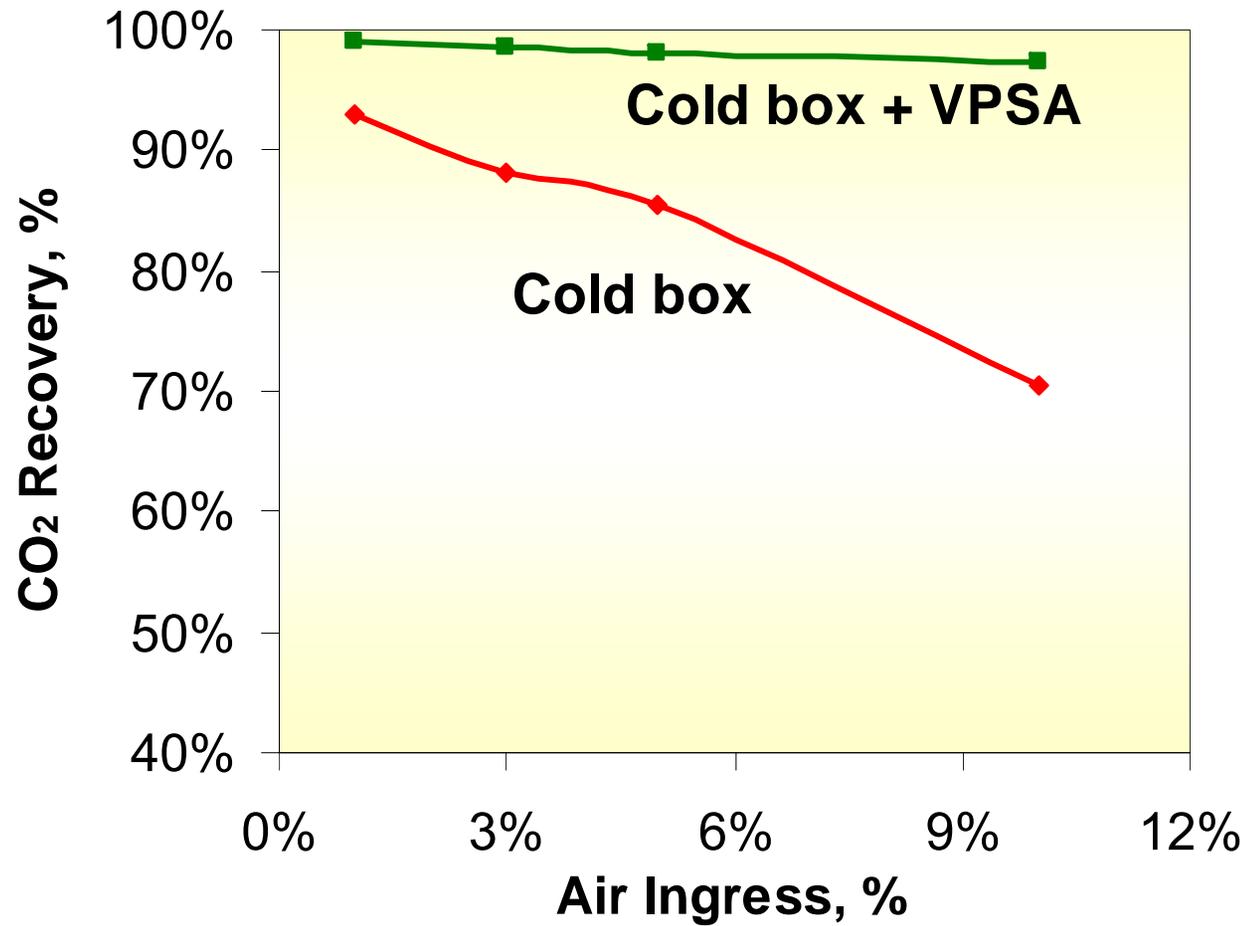
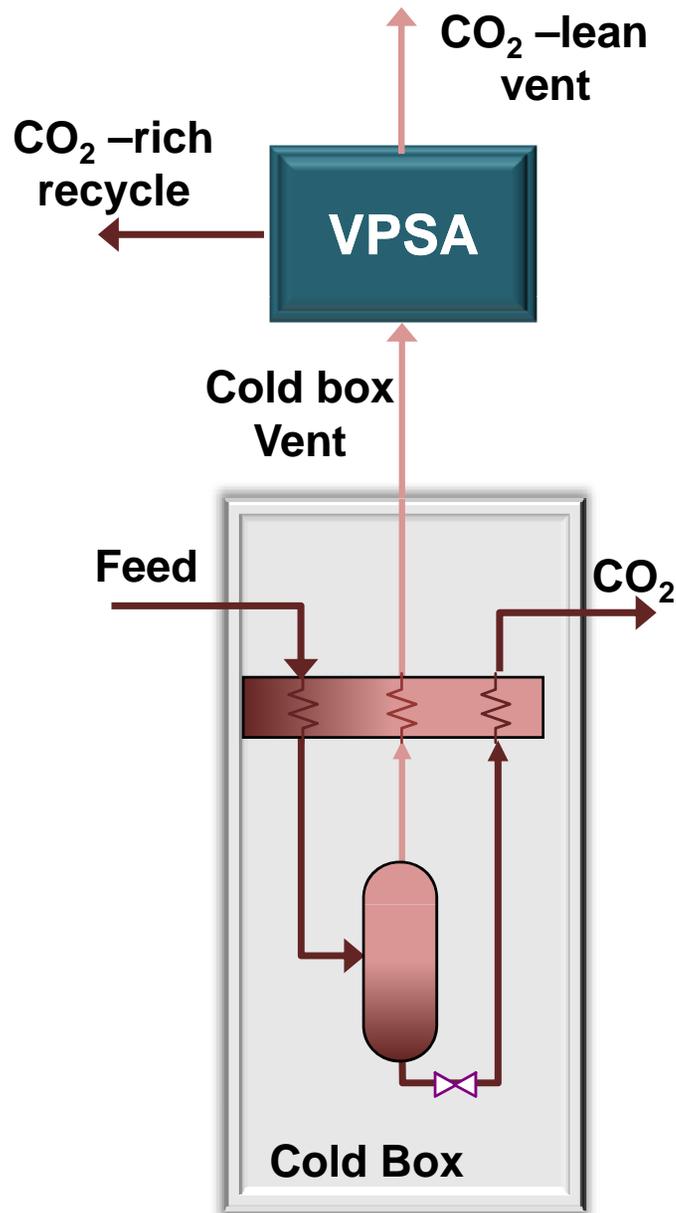
- Reactor size – 2” D and 20” L; 0.125 tpd CO<sub>2</sub> capacity
- Designed for automated continuous operation (24 hours x 5 days at a time)

### ◆ Instruments check out and control system programming are in progress

### ◆ Commissioning is planned in September

### ◆ Complete longevity tests in Q4 2011

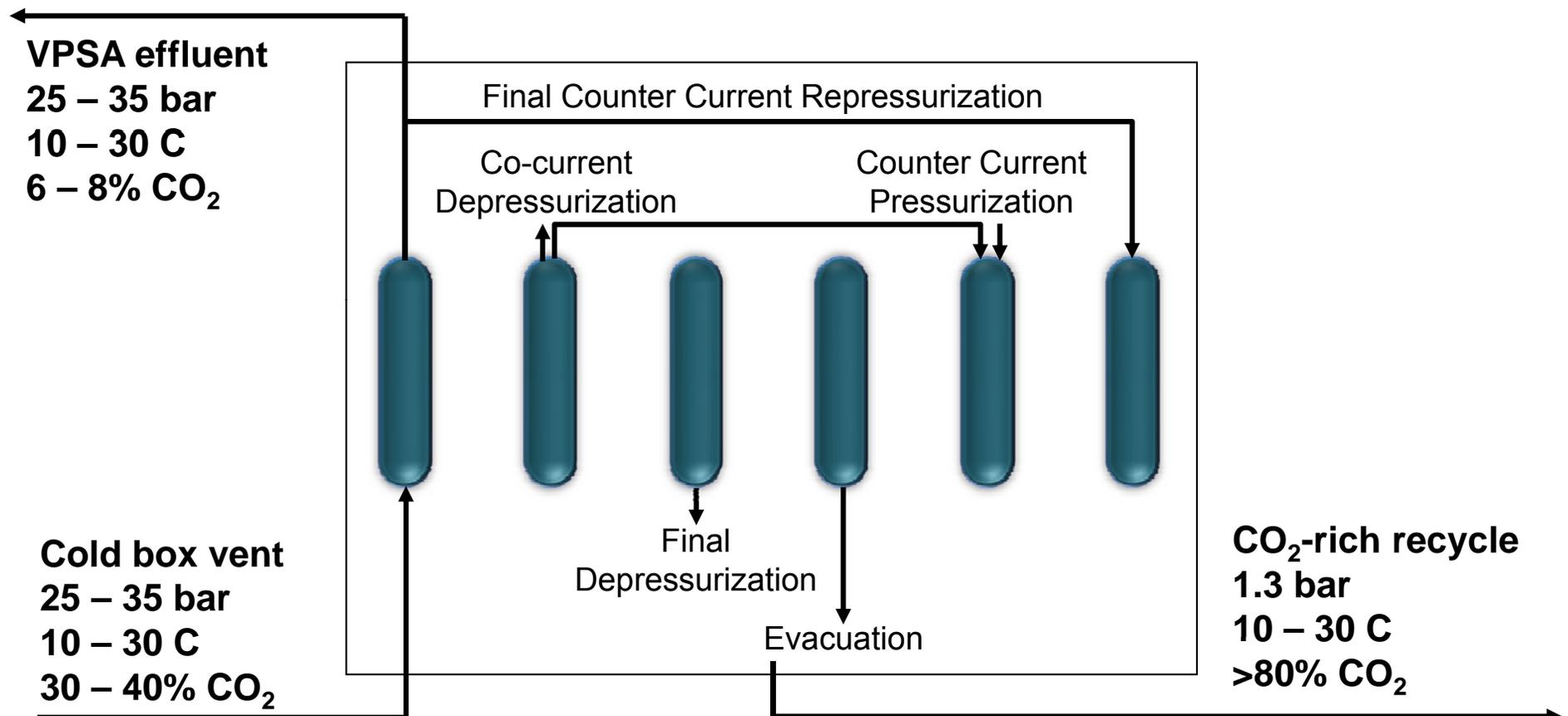
# VPSA (Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption) Technology Fundamentals



# VPSA

## Technology Fundamentals

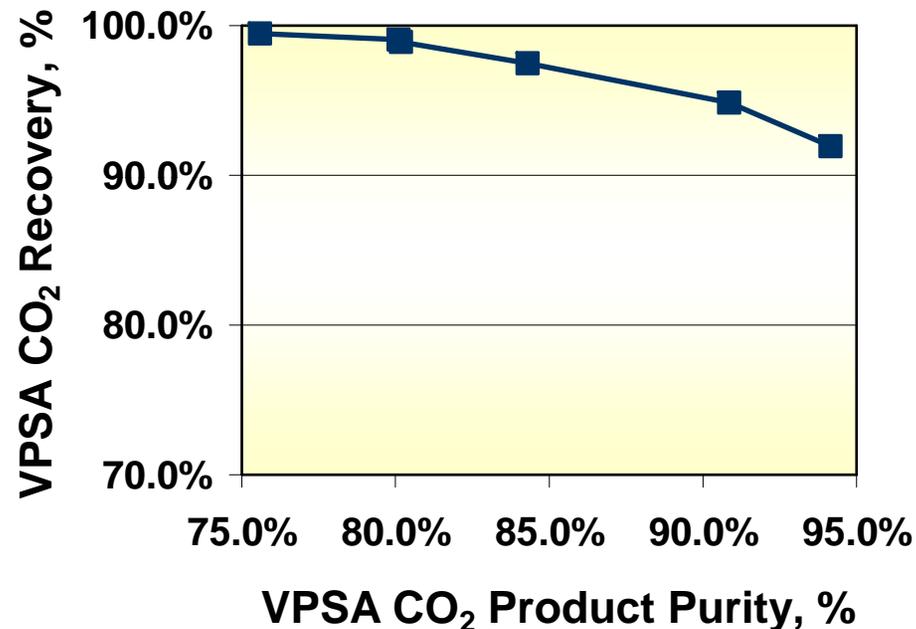
- ◆ Multi-bed unit for separating CO<sub>2</sub> from cold box vent stream
- ◆ Simple cycle with minimum rotating equipment
- ◆ Shallow evacuation level



# VPASA

## Current Status and Future Plans

- ◆ **Pilot unit with 12 vessels (L ~ 11', ID ~ 2.5") built**
  - Capacity – cold box vent 0.3 tpd CO<sub>2</sub> (equiv. to 3 tpd CO<sub>2</sub> in FG)
- ◆ **VPASA performance targets exceeded**
  - > 80% CO<sub>2</sub> purity and > 90% CO<sub>2</sub> recovery with VPASA
  - > 99% capture rate with VPASA + cold box
- ◆ **Complete pilot tests (Q4 2011)**



# Commercial Viability – Design Basis

## Current Status

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### ◆ Subcritical power plant

- 550 MW (net) for both air and oxy-firing modes
- Site ambient conditions: 14.7 psia, 59 F, 60% RH
- PRB coal (low sulfur)
- FGD and SCR are not included in air-fired power plant

### ◆ Air separation unit (ASU)

- 97% O<sub>2</sub>

### ◆ CO<sub>2</sub> processing unit (CPU)

- CO<sub>2</sub> purified to >95% purity and compressed to 153 bar

### ◆ Oxy-fired plant with conventional CPU

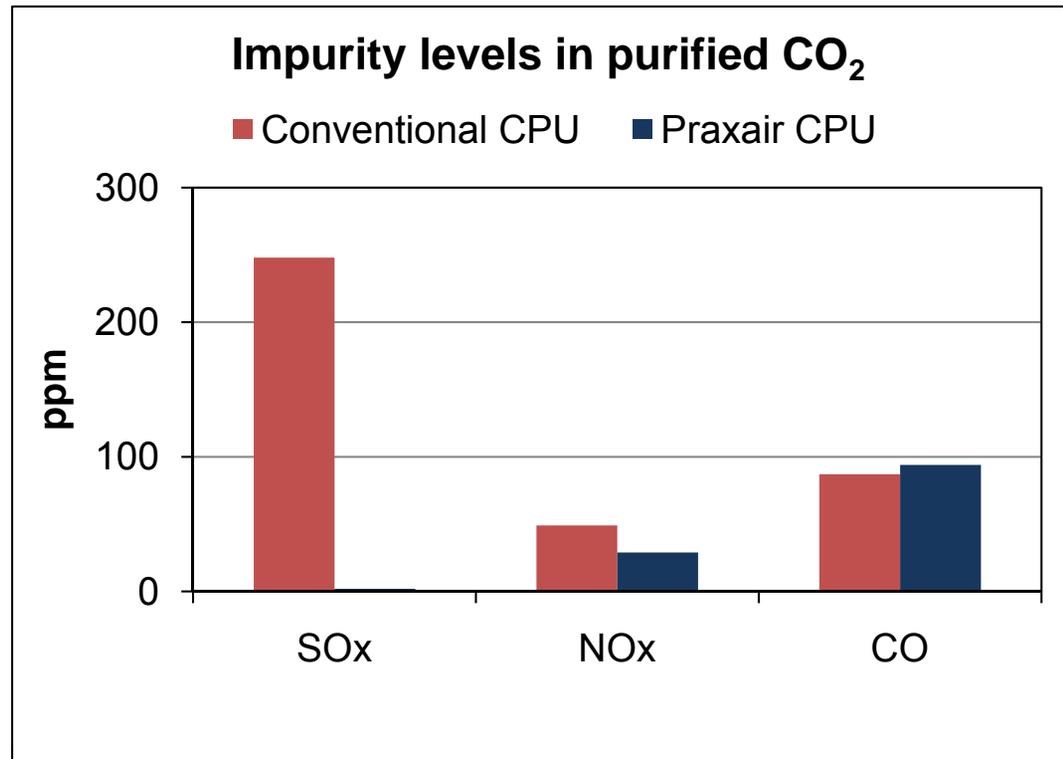
- FGD (for ~55% of flue gas) and SCR are installed

### ◆ Oxy-fired plant with Praxair CPU

- FGD (for ~27% of flue gas) installed
- Activated carbon process and VPSA included in Praxair CPU

# Commercial Viability

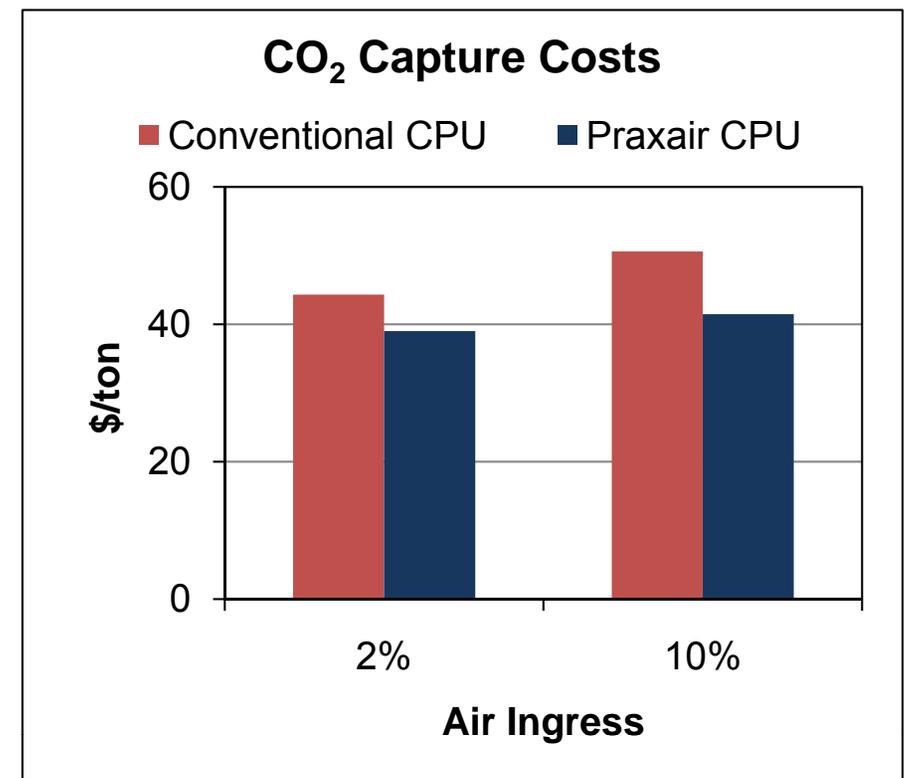
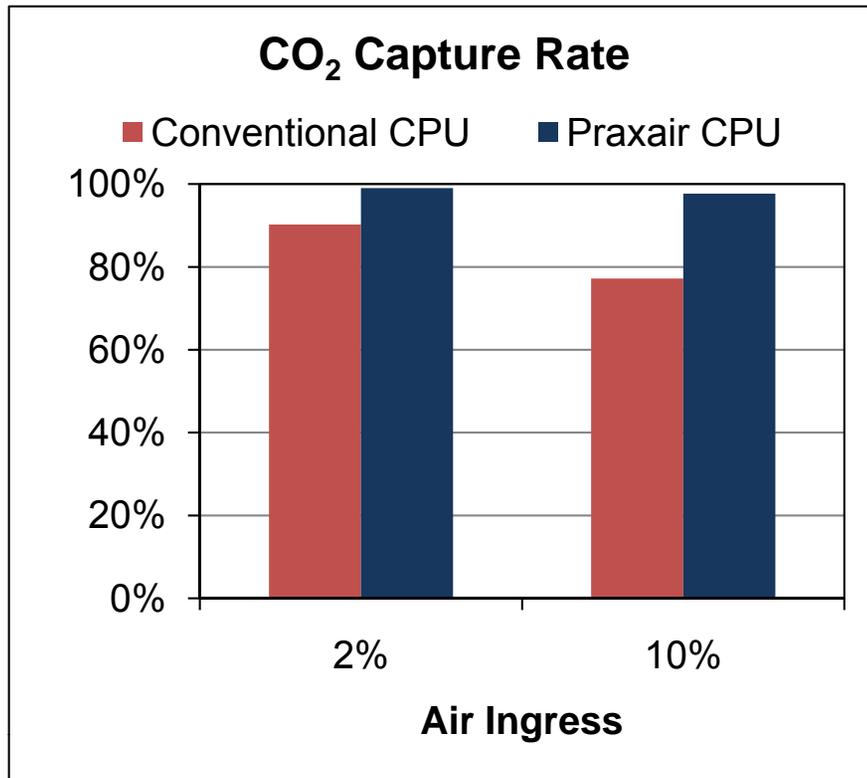
## Current Status



Concentrations in CPU Vent		
Vol. % or ppm	Conventional CPU	Praxair CPU
CO <sub>2</sub> , %	37%	7%
SOx, ppm	9	0
NOx, ppm	24	23
CO, ppm	1448	24

# Commercial Viability

## Current Status and Future Plans



### ◆ Cost analysis for various scenarios (Q4 2011)

- Existing plants with FGD and SCR
- High sulfur coal
- Supercritical and ultra supercritical steam cycles

# Commercialization

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- ◆ **Technology is ready for 10 – 50 tpd demonstration**
- ◆ **Currently estimating costs of a 20 tpd CPU demonstration**
  - 2 MW<sub>th</sub> oxy-coal boiler at U. of Utah
  - Near zero emissions CPU to produce ~20 tpd purified CO<sub>2</sub>
  - CPU will include all the unit operations except final product compression
- ◆ **Proposed commercialization timeline**
  - 10 – 50 tpd CPU demo (2012 – 2014)
  - Design for larger CPU (for 250+ MW plants) to be available in 2015

# Summary

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- ◆ **Successful development of one near zero emissions technology option based on activated carbon and VPSA**
- ◆ **High CO<sub>2</sub> recovery, high purity CO<sub>2</sub> and near zero stack emissions while lowering capture costs**
- ◆ **Ready for 10 – 50 tpd CPU demonstration**

# Acknowledgement & Disclaimer

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- ◆ *Acknowledgment:* “This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy under Award Number DE-NT0005341.”
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