

*the Energy to Lead*

# ADVANCED GASIFIER AND WATER GAS SHIFT TECHNOLOGIES FOR LOW COST COAL CONVERSION TO HIGH HYDROGEN SYNGAS

DOE/NETL Cooperative Agreement DE-FE0023577

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- > **Don Stevenson, Executive Director**
  - > DOE Gasification and C&CBTL Workshop  
Morgantown, WV  
August 10, 2015

# AGWGST Program Team



> Gas Technology Institute

- Compact gasifier technology



> RTI International

- Advanced Water Gas Shift reactor technology



*Coanda*

> Coanda Research & Development

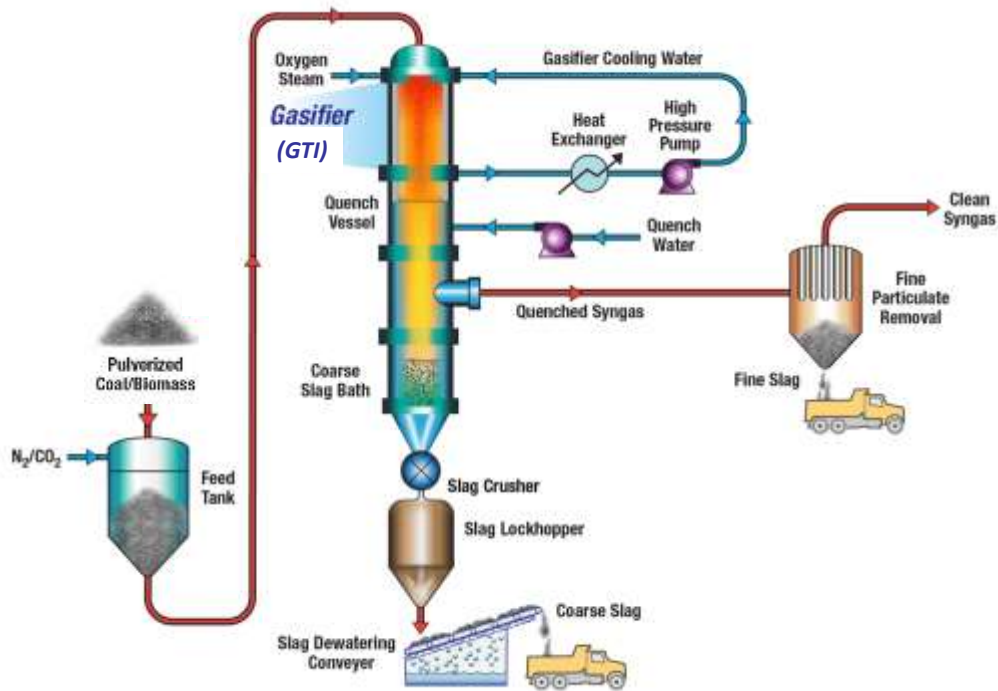
- Cold flow simulation of gasifier quench zone



> Nexant, Inc.

- Techno-economic analysis showing integrated benefits of GTI, RTI technologies

# Compact Gasifier Overview



## Compact Gasifier Attributes:

- Dry feed for high efficiency, feedstock flexibility
- Rapid mix injector + plug flow reactor for 90% smaller volume
- Advanced cooling design for robust thermal margins, long component life
- Eliminates black water system
- Long MTBF, short MTTR for high availability

## Benefits:

- High CGE: 2-4% > than other dry feed, 7%-9% > than slurry
- Lower capex: ~15-25% plant cost reduction vs. lowest cost entrained flow tech
- 15%-25% reduction in cost of product (power, chemicals, liquids)

# Principles of Operation

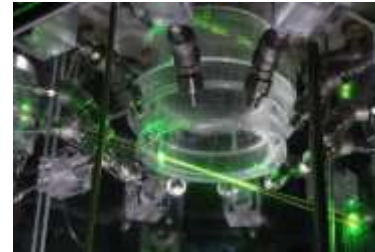
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- > Dry feed system enables use of low rank coals
- > Multi-element feed splitter
  - Uniform splitting assures good  $O_2$ /coal ratio at each element
  - Establishes “plug flow” to minimize recirculation, accelerate gasification
- > Advanced cooled liner design
  - Keeps metal temperatures  $< 550^\circ\text{C}$  for long life
  - High thermal margins enables operation on coals with high ash fusion temperature (AFT)
- > Rapid spray quench
  - Flexibility to provide dry syngas from  $350^\circ\text{C}$  to  $800^\circ\text{C}$
  - High degree of flexibility for process optimization

# Gasifier Development Needs

## > Quench Zone Modeling

- Slag blockage, misdirected syngas flow



## > Highly Reactive Feedstocks

- Potential for aggressive thermal environments near burner

## > High AFT + High Ash Coals

- AFT >1500°C, >25% ash
- Significant limitation for existing technologies

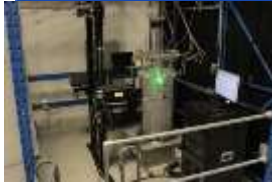


## > Carbon Conversion Kinetics

- Need better data to address final ~5% carbon conversion
- Study porosimetry, surface area per unit mass as function of conversion



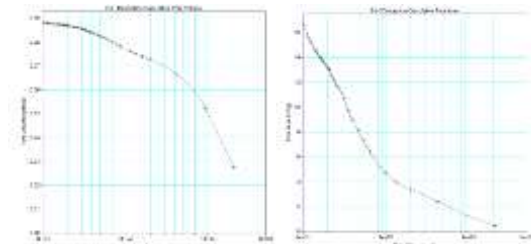
# Test Program Matures Technology to Readiness for 500-1000 TPD Demonstration



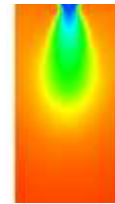
Quench Zone Flow Visualization,  
Localized Spray Data



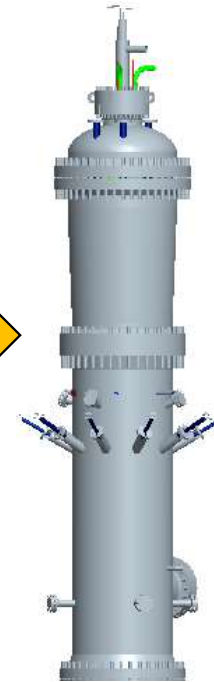
Quench Zone Design  
Guidance



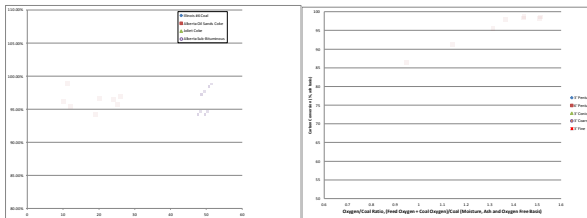
Char Porosimetry Data



CFD Model: Scale-up,  
Environments, Mixing

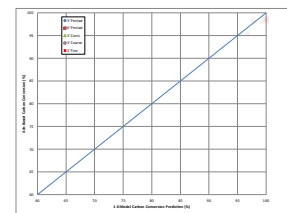


500-1000 TPD  
Gasifier



Carbon Conversion & Heat Load Data

Pilot Scale Test Data

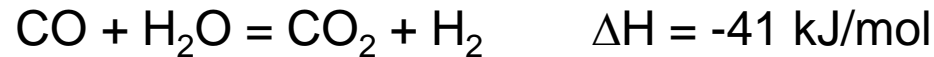


1-D Model: Carbon  
Conversion, Heat Loss

Validate Scale-up &  
Performance Design  
Tools

# Advanced Water Gas Shift Technology

Primary reaction pathway is the Water Gas Shift (WGS) reaction



## Challenges

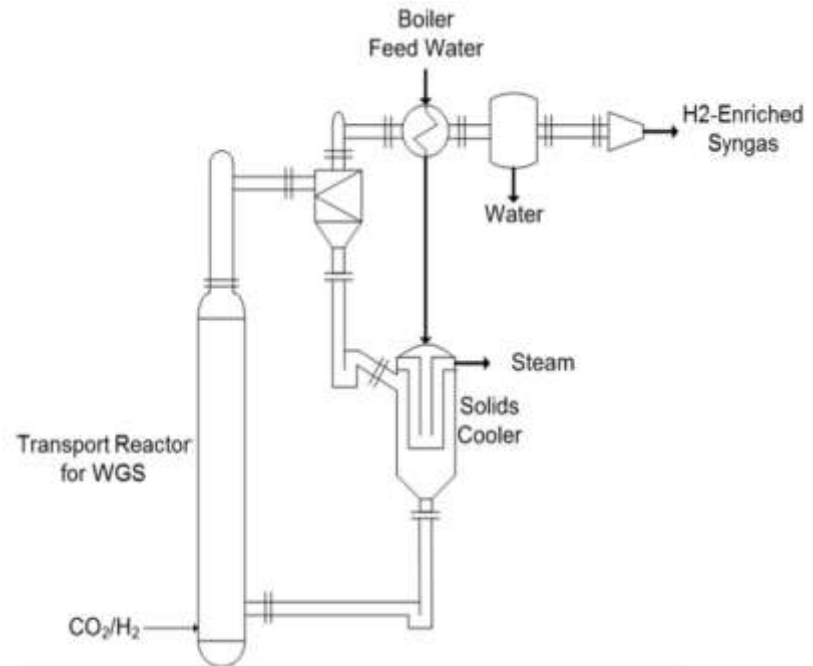
- Proactive reactor temperature control required
  - WGS reaction is exothermic
  - Coal-derived syngas has high CO concentration
- WGS reaction is equilibrium limited
  - Lower temperatures maximize H<sub>2</sub> production
  - High-activity lower-temperature catalysts are poisoned by syngas contaminants

## Conventional solutions

- Large additions of steam
- Multiple reactor stage with inter-stage cooling

## Proposed solution

- Leveraging commercial FCC technologies (transport reactor with solids cooler)
- RTI's expertise in developing attrition-resistant fluid-bed materials



# AWGS Technology Road Map

## Critical technical challenges

- Development of attrition-resistant WGS catalyst formulation
- Successfully leveraging existing commercial technologies

Stage	Research Objectives	Status
Technical feasibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate fluidizable WGS catalysts that possess attrition resistance and WGS activity.</li> <li>• Perform preliminary techno-economic analysis to assess cost and efficiency benefits</li> </ul>	Completed by 12/31/2014 (DE-FE0012066)
Catalyst Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimize fluidizable WGS catalyst for attrition resistance and WGS activity</li> <li>• Complete lab-scale testing of catalyst performance using simulated syngas mixtures at typical operating conditions to determine catalytic performance (activity, stability and selectivity)</li> <li>• Update preliminary TEA to assess cost and efficiency benefits</li> </ul>	In Progress (DE-FE0023577)
Pilot-plant Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate performance of fluidized-bed catalyst in a pilot-scale transport reactor with a solids cooler using real coal-derived syngas.</li> </ul>	Optional Task (DE-FE0023577)
Demonstration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate expected commercial performance in demonstration-scale equipment with real commercial syngas and a commercially produced catalyst.</li> </ul>	Future project

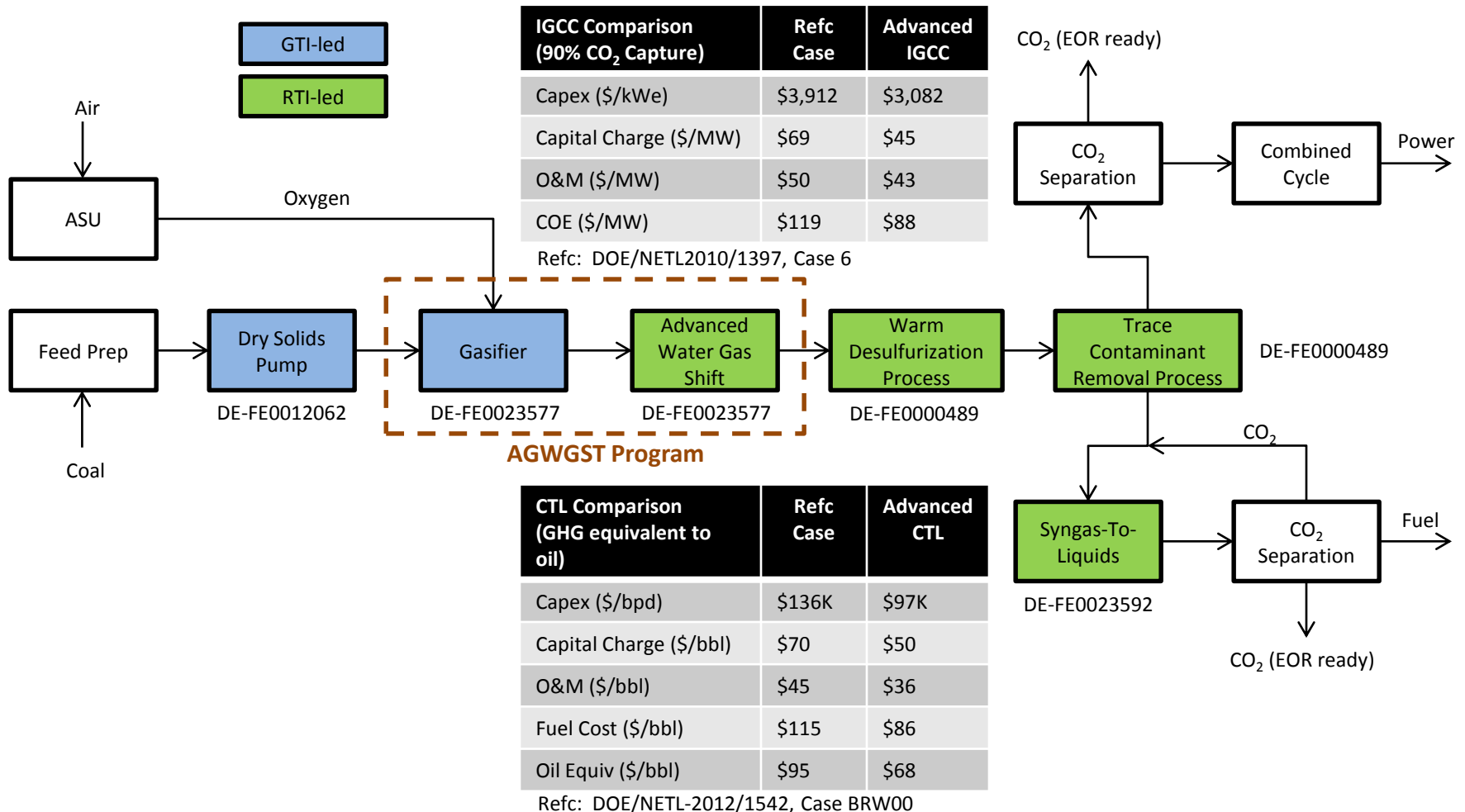


# Integration with Balance of Plant

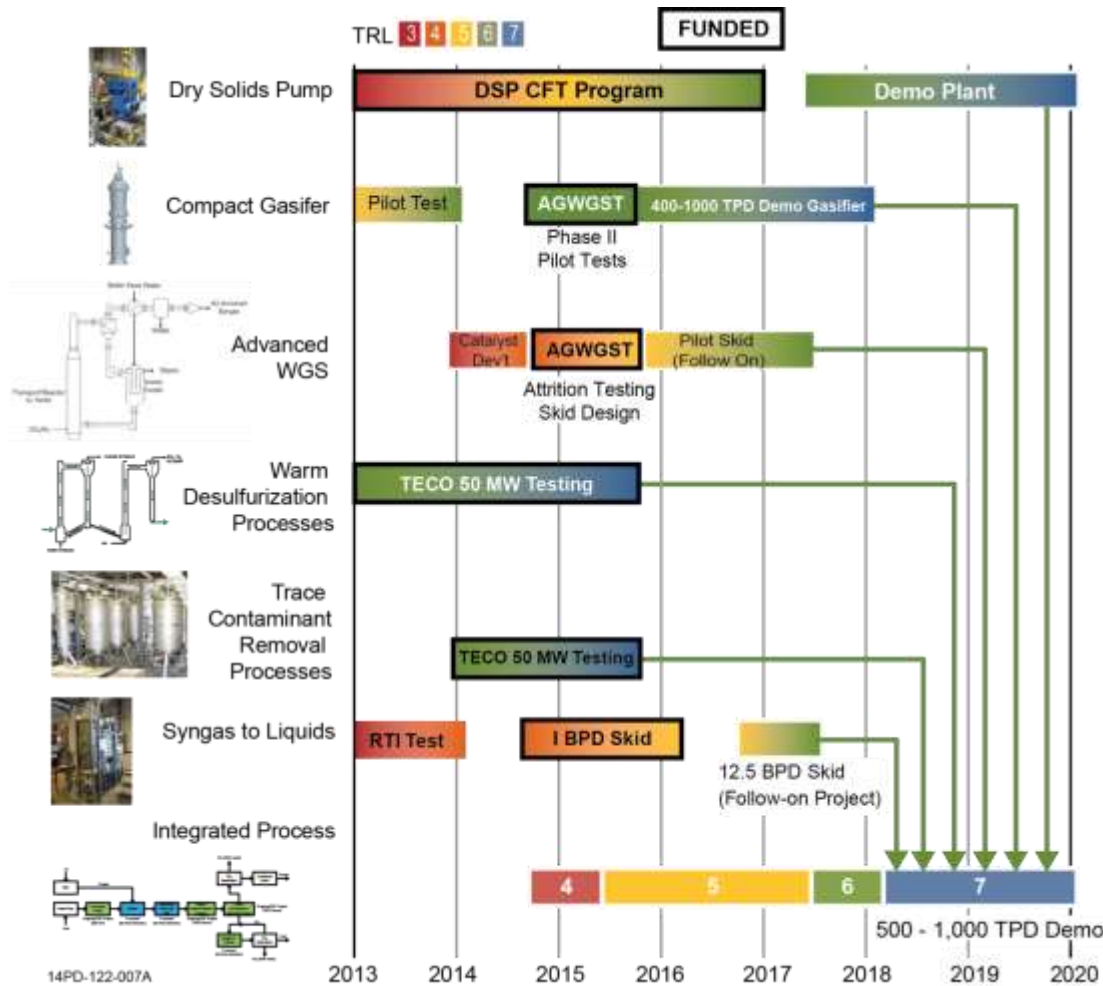
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- Standard coal pulverization equipment
- Ultra-dense phase feed system, fed by conventional lock hoppers or Dry Solids Pump
- Standard oxygen, steam supply to gasifier
- Reactant supply skid for high pressure torch igniter (GTI supplied equipment)
- High pressure BFW in closed loop gasifier cooling system
- Recycled process condensate for quench
- Standard slag bath process
- Cyclone/candle filters for fines removal (dry recovery)

# Integration With Other DOE Projects – 25% Reduction in Cost of Products



# Technologies on Path for 2020 FOAK Commercially Relevant Demo



# Conclusion

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- GTI and RTI technologies offer potential for >25% reduction in cost of power, fuels
- GTI compact gasifier is ready for demonstration plant scale up after program
- RTI AWGS technology ready for pilot plant test after program
- Techno-economic analysis will assess integrated benefits of these technologies
- Technologies on track for 2020 demonstration

# Turning Raw Technology into Practical Solutions



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