



2017 NETL CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Technology Project Review Meeting

## Development of Mixed-Salt Technology for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture from Coal Power Plants

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SRI International

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# **Technology Background and Project Details**

# Mixed-Salt Process Details

## How it works:

Selected composition of potassium carbonate and ammonium salts

- Overall heat of reaction 35 to 60 kJ/mol (tunable)

Absorber operation at 20° - 40° C at 1 atm with 30-40 wt.% mixture of salts

Regenerator operation at 120° - 180° C at 10-20 atm

- Produce high-pressure CO<sub>2</sub> stream

K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>-NH<sub>3</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O system

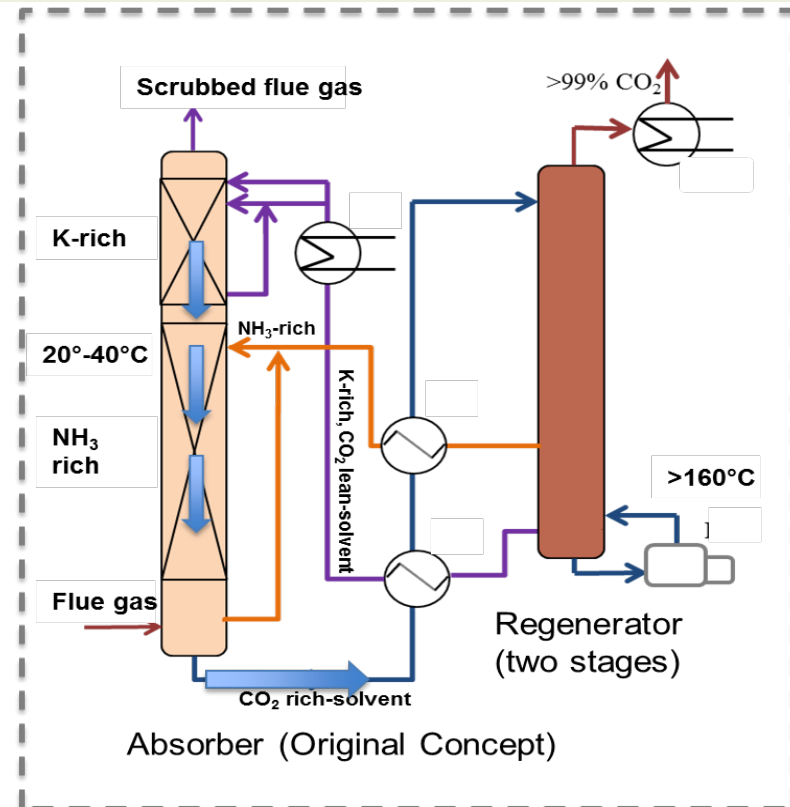
**High CO<sub>2</sub> cycling capacity**

**No solids**

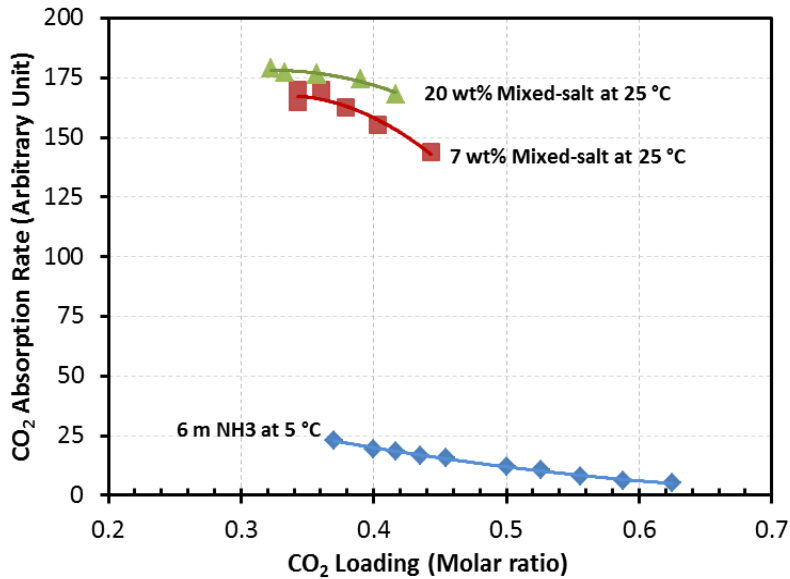
## Key benefits:

- Reduced ammonia emissions
- Enhanced efficiency
- Reduced reboiler duty
- Reduced CO<sub>2</sub> compression energy

**A SIGNIFICANT PARASITIC POWER REDUCTION  
COMPARED TO MEA !**

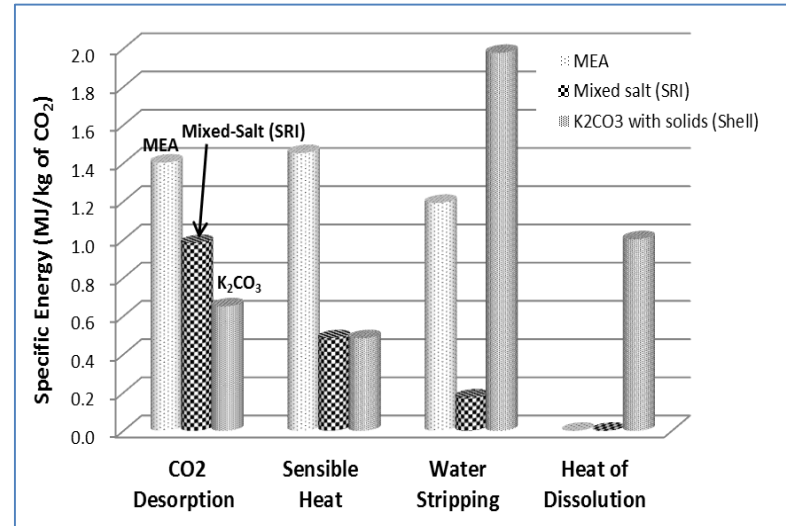


# Enhanced Kinetics at High Temperature



Observed rate enhancement of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption efficiency by comparison of mixed-salt with NH<sub>3</sub>

# Low Energy Requirement for CO<sub>2</sub> Stripping

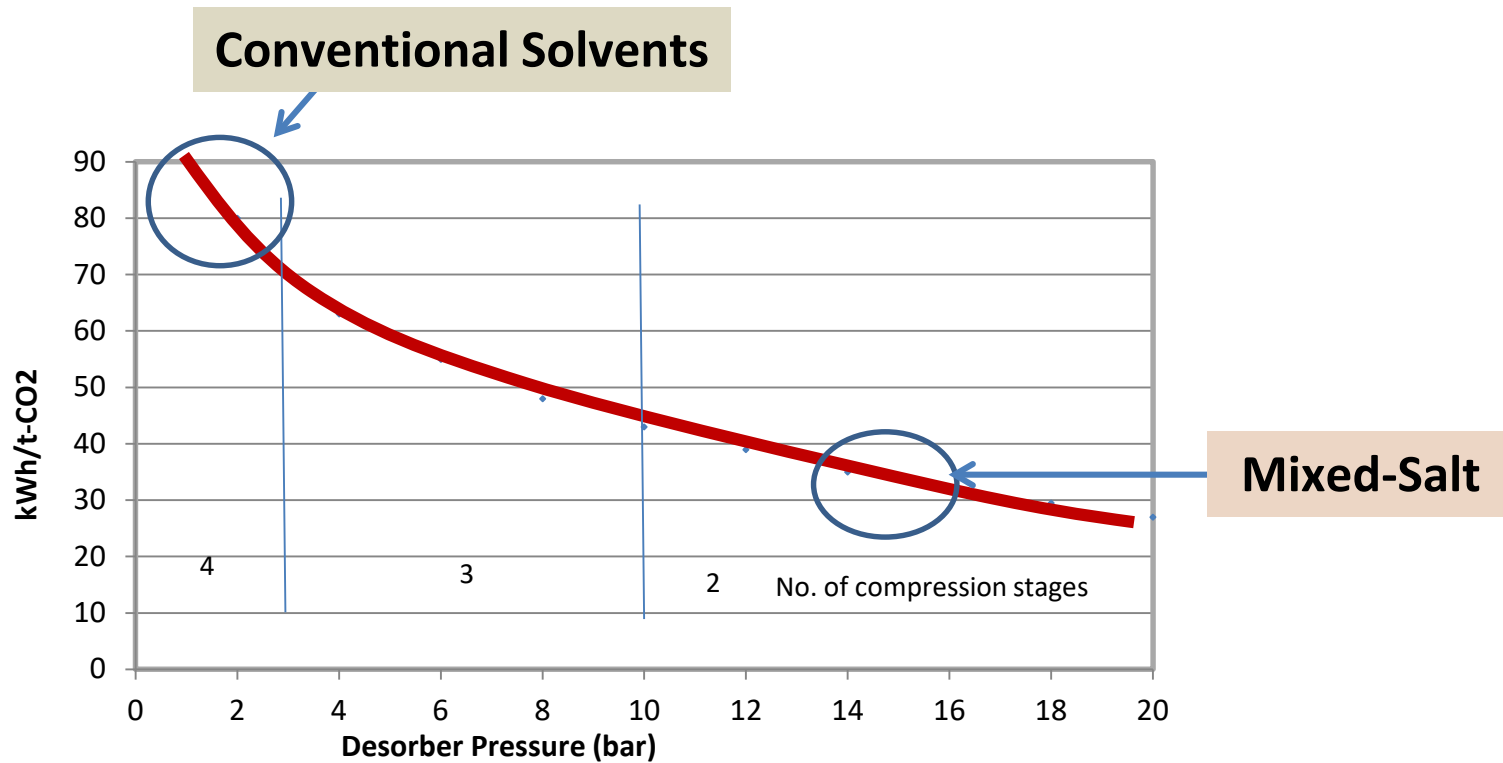


Estimated regenerator heat requirement for mixed-salt system with 0.2 to 0.6 cyclic CO<sub>2</sub> loading. Comparison with neat K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and MEA is shown

(Source for the Shell K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> process, Schoon and van Straelen, 2011).

**Absorber side: Reduced packing height**  
**Regenerator side: Reduced water evaporation**

# Mixed-Salt System Requires Less Energy for CO<sub>2</sub> Compression



**Electricity output penalty of compression to 100 bar as a function of desorber pressure**

Source: Luquiaud and Gibbins, Chem Eng Res Des (2011).

# Project Budget, Team, and Work Organization

**DE-FE0012959**

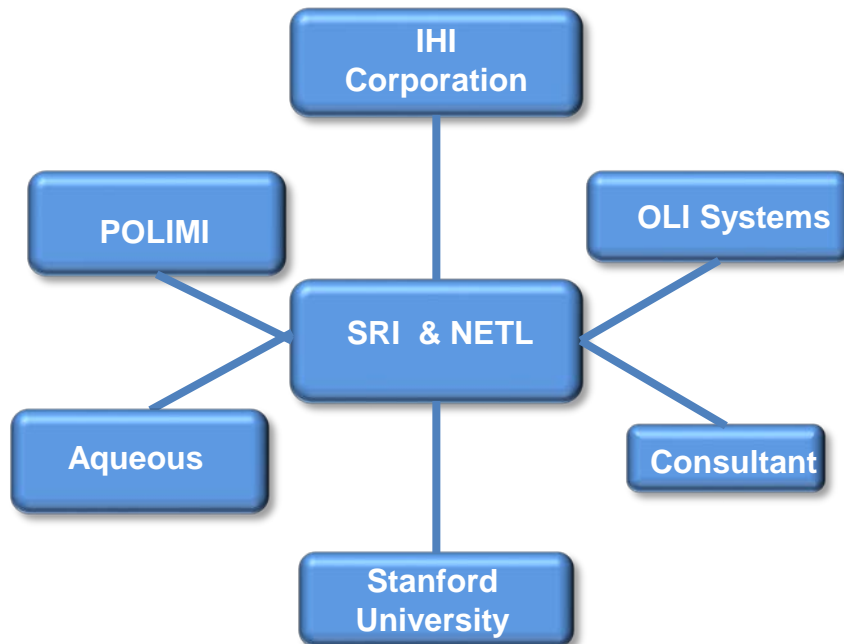
**DOE Funding: \$2,817,989**

**Partner Share: \$705,660 (50% in-kind)**

**Project Manager: Mr. Steven Mascaro, NETL**

**Prime Contractor: SRI International**

**Project Team: US and International Partners**



## Work Organization

- SRI International
  - System design, installation and testing
- IHI Corporation, Japan
  - Industrial partner/ technology evaluator
- OLI Systems, USA
  - Process modeling (energy and mass balance)
- Aqueous Systems Aps, Denmark
  - Thermodynamic modeling (Dr. Kaj Thomsen)
- POLIMI, Italy
  - Techno-economic analysis
- Stanford University (BP1), USA
  - Technology comparisons
- Consultant (BP1)

# Project Goals

- Budget Period 1 (BPI)
  - Demonstrate the absorber and regenerator processes individually with high efficiency and low NH<sub>3</sub> emissions
  - Develop comprehensive thermodynamic modeling package
- Budget Period 2 (BP2)
  - Demonstrate the complete CO<sub>2</sub> capture system, optimize system operation, and collect data to perform the detailed techno-economic analysis (TEA) of the CO<sub>2</sub>-capture process integration to a full-scale power plant
  - Test two alternative flowsheets for process optimization, test the system at highest possible CO<sub>2</sub> loadings, and determine the steam usage for regeneration
  - Update the TEA and conduct EH&S analysis of the process

**The overall program objective is to demonstrate that mixed-salt technology can capture CO<sub>2</sub> at 90% efficiency and regenerate (95% CO<sub>2</sub> purity) at a cost of ≤\$40/tonne to meet the DOE program goals.**



# Work Performed



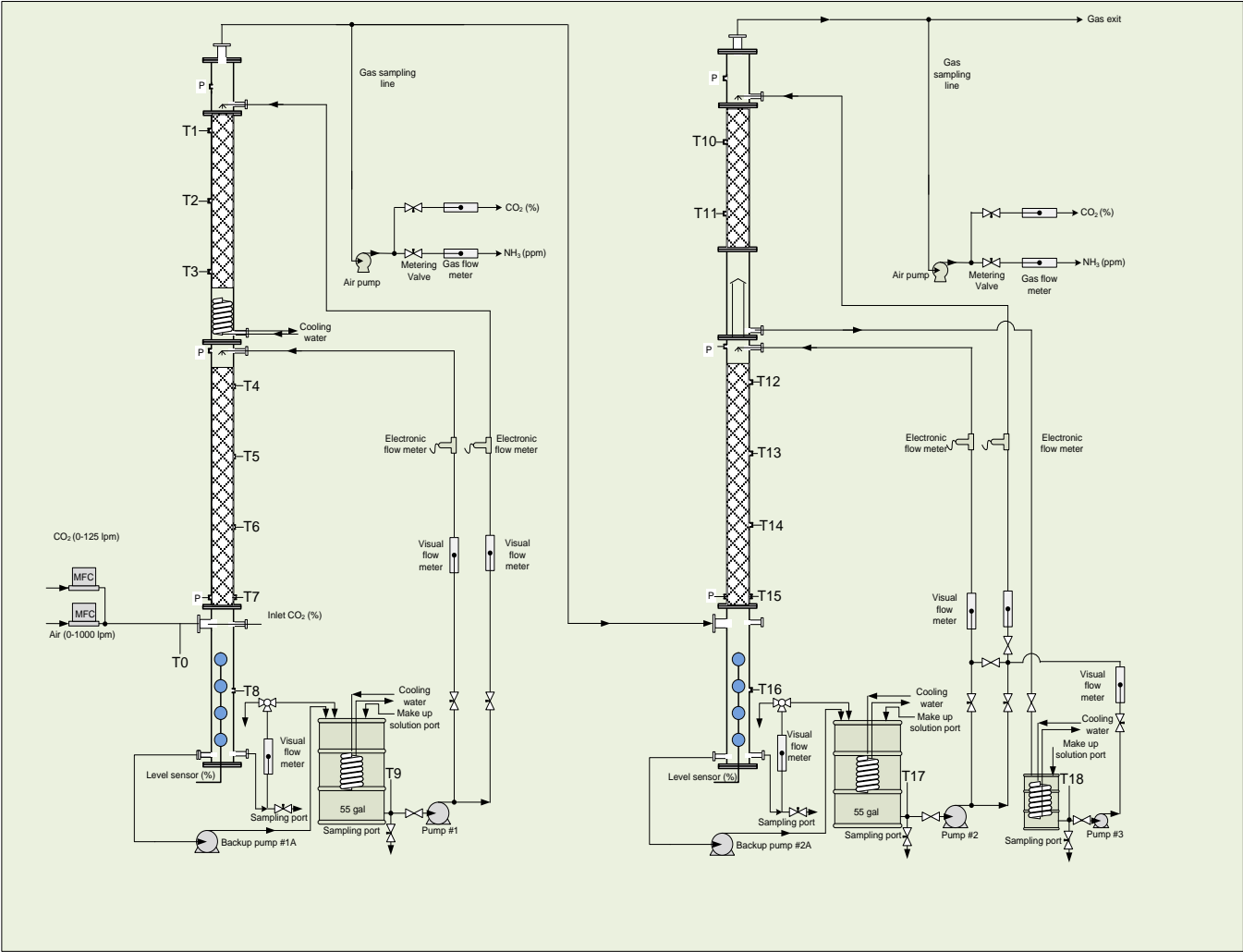
# Project Status Update

<b>BP2 Extended Program (2/28/2018)</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Task 1.0 - Project Management and Planning</b>	
<b>Task 7.0 - Integrated System Testing (Variant 1)</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Subtask 7.1 - System Modification	
Subtask 7.2 - Operation with Variant 1	
Subtask 7.3 - Operational Data Analysis	
<b>Task 8.0- Integrated System Testing (Variant 2)</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Subtask 8.1 - System Modification	
Subtask 8.2 - Operation with Variant 2	
Subtask 8.3 -Operational Data Analysis	
<b>Task 9.0- High-Capacity Runs and Modeling Update</b>	
Subtask 9.1 - Modeling of High-capacity Solvent	Completed
Subtask 9.2 - System Operation at High Capacity	Ongoing
Subtask 9.3 - Mass Balance and Energy Update (OLI)	Completed
Subtask 9.4 - TEA update (POLIMI, SRI, & OLI)	Completed
<b>Task 10.0- Regenerator Steam Use Measurement and Modeling</b>	
Subtask 10.1 - Regenerator Steam Use Measurement	Ongoing
Subtask 10.2 - IHI System Testing and Modeling	Ongoing

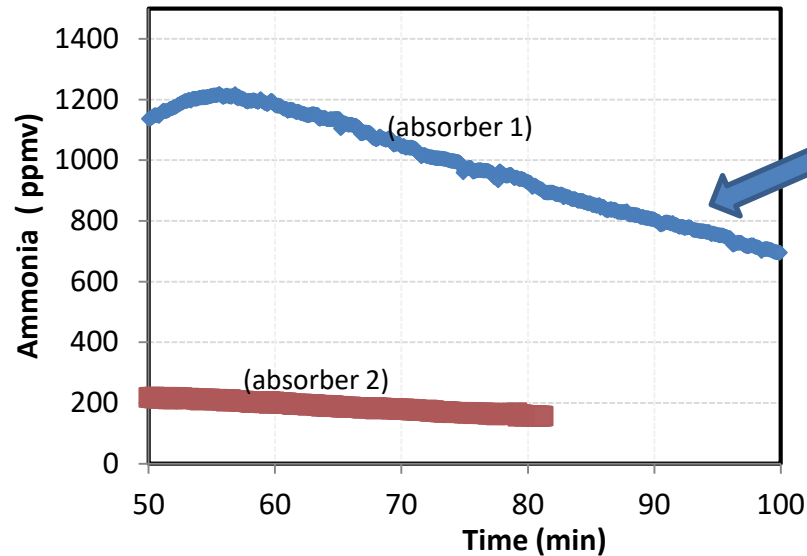
We completed the BP1 and BP2 Tasks 7 & 8 on time and updated the TEA after completing Task 8. Tasks 9 & 10 will be completed on schedule.

# Schematic of the Absorber System (BP1)

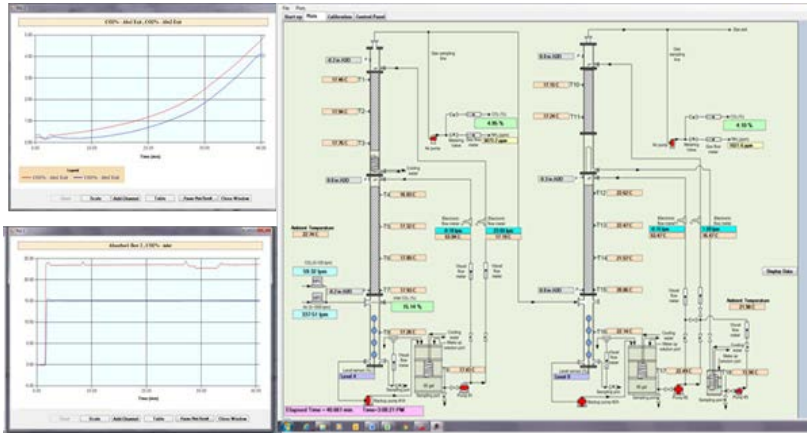
April, 2014



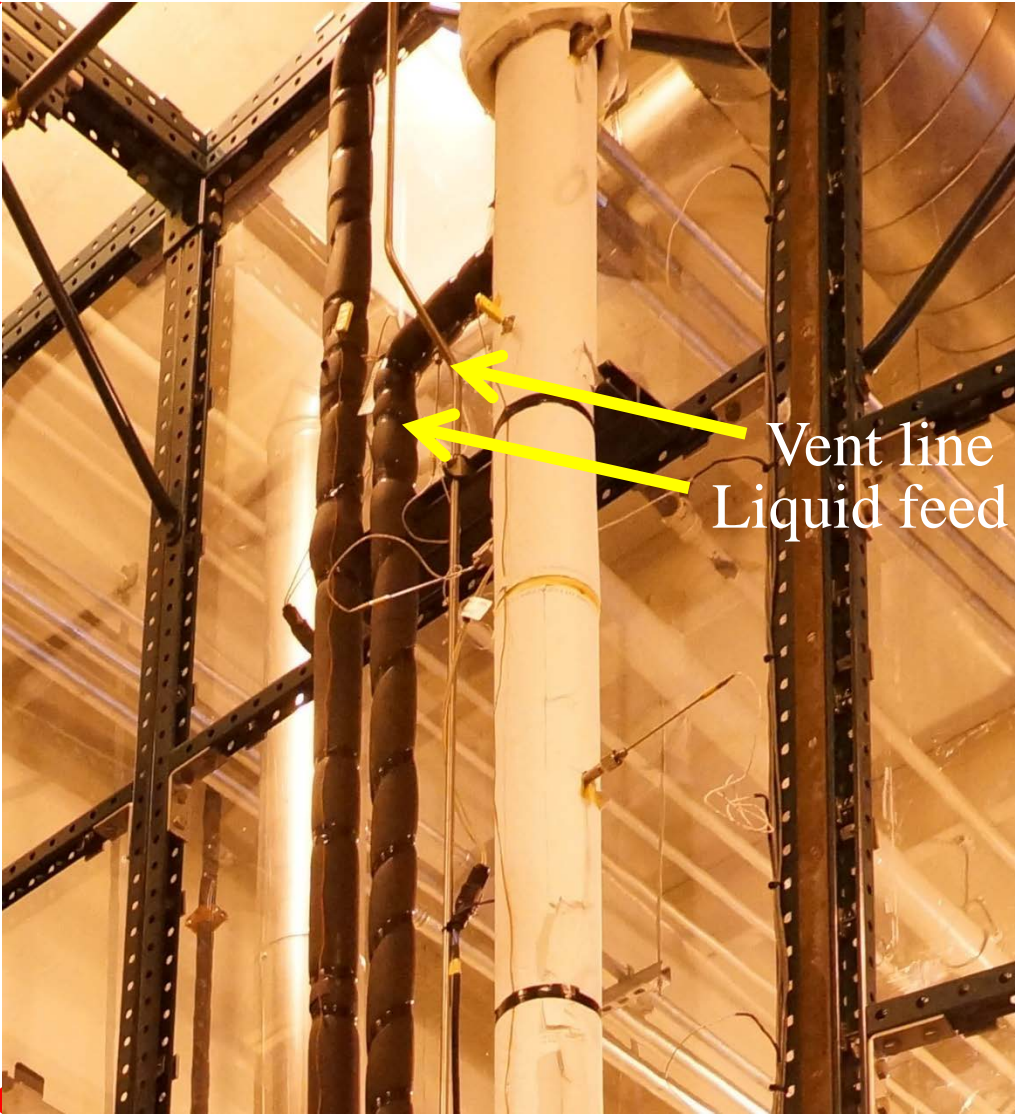
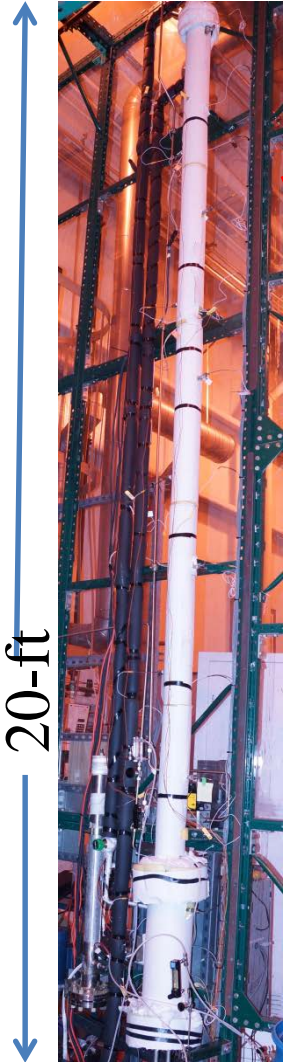
# Process Control And Monitoring



Data acquisition and control hardware interface

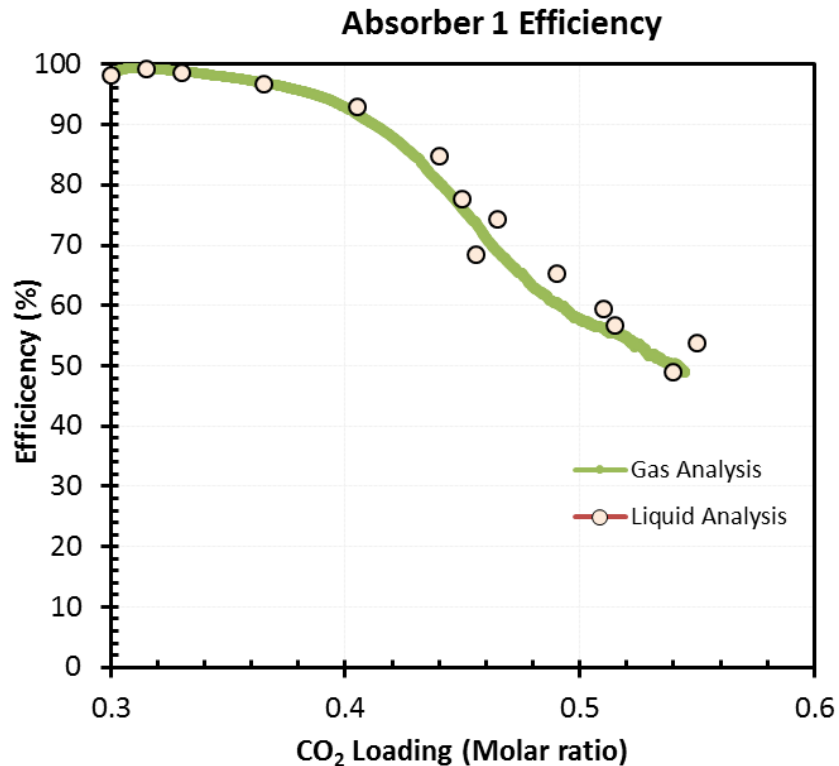


# Regenerator System (BP1)



# Bench-Scale Absorber Performance (BP1)

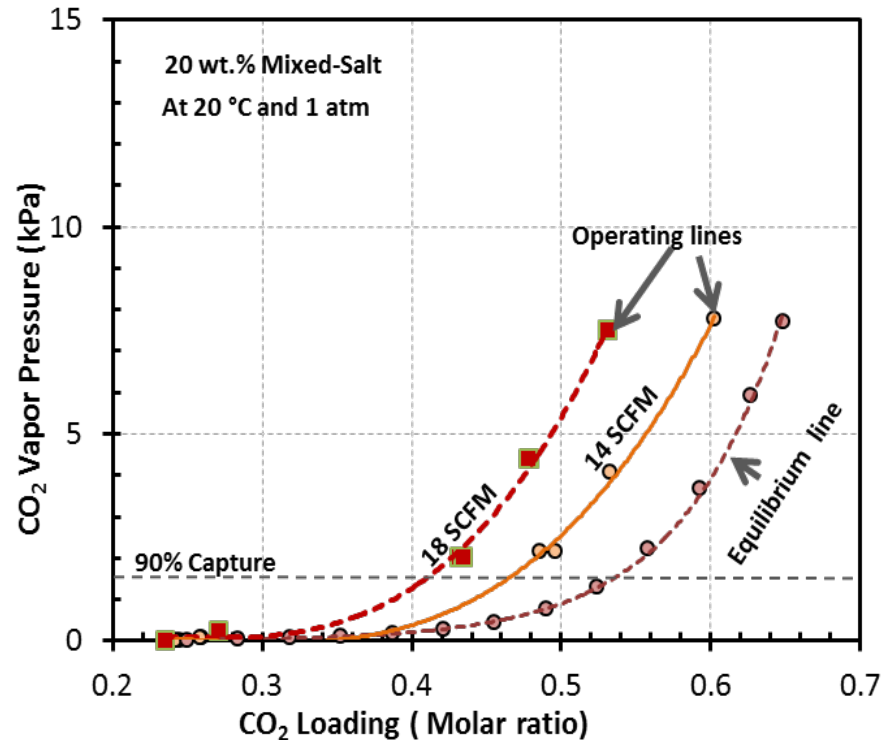
## Test Data



**Better than 90% efficiency with incoming lean absorption solution and < 0.4 CO<sub>2</sub> loading at 25°C.**

**The observed overall rates for CO<sub>2</sub> absorption are on the same order as those of MEA-based systems and about 5-7x higher than conventional ammonia systems.**

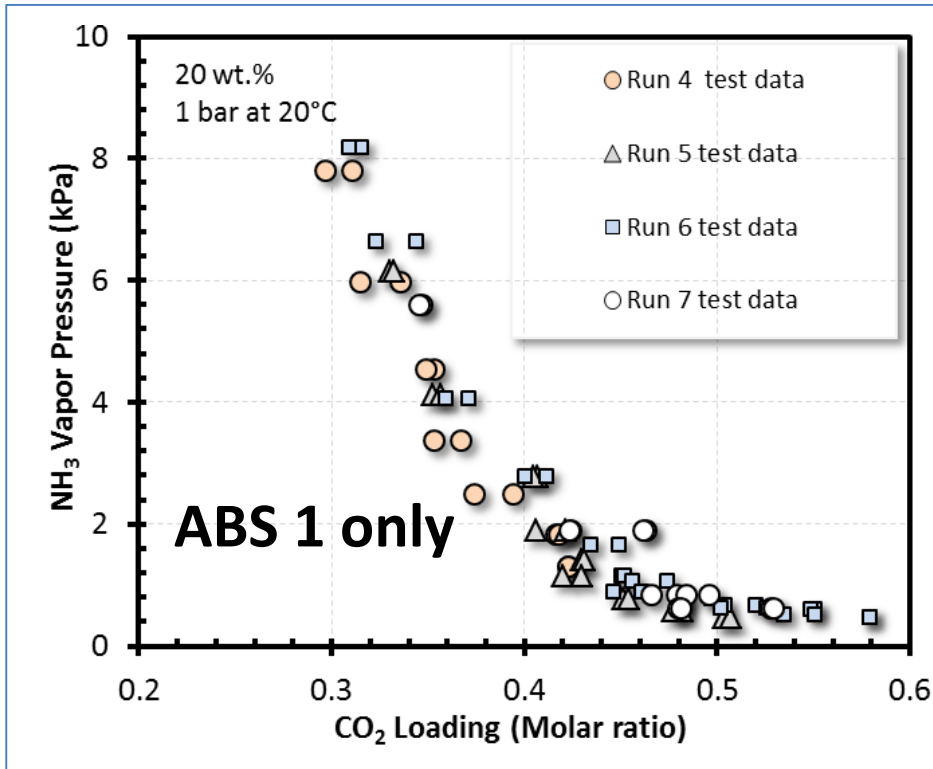
## Modeling and Test Data



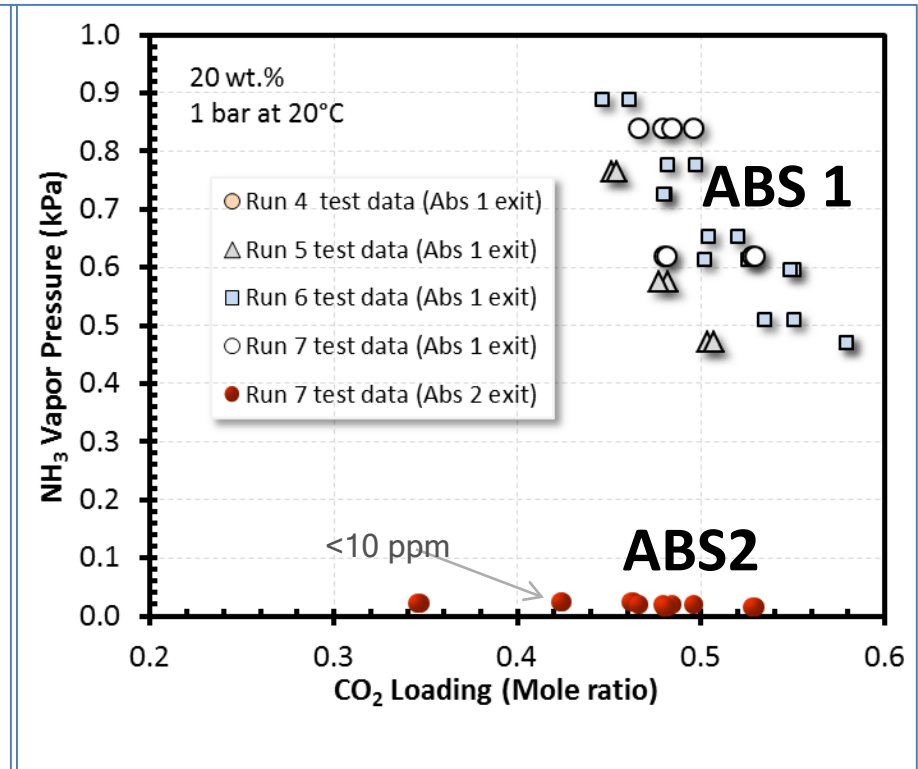
**CO<sub>2</sub> vapor pressure at the absorber exit under various CO<sub>2</sub>-loading conditions**

# Absorber Ammonia Management (BP1)

## Test Data



NH<sub>3</sub> vapor pressure at the Absorber 1 exit under various CO<sub>2</sub>-loading conditions

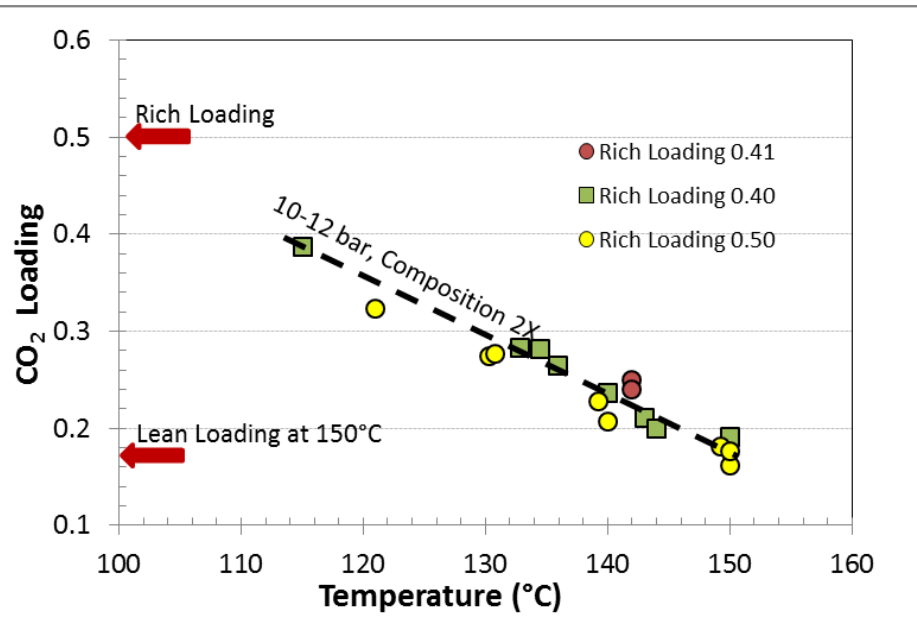


NH<sub>3</sub> vapor pressure at the Absorber 1 and 2 exits under various CO<sub>2</sub>-loading conditions

# Regenerator Performance (BP1)

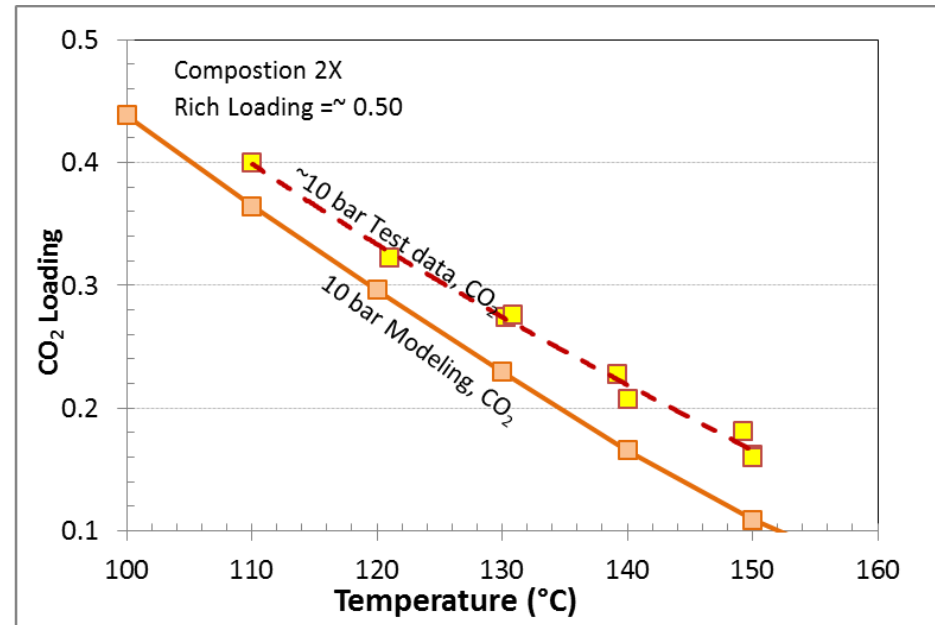
## Single-Stage Regenerator (Oil heated)

### Test Data



Variation of attainable CO<sub>2</sub>-lean loading level with temperature for rich loadings of 0.40 to 0.50 at 10-12 bar.

### Modeling and Test Data



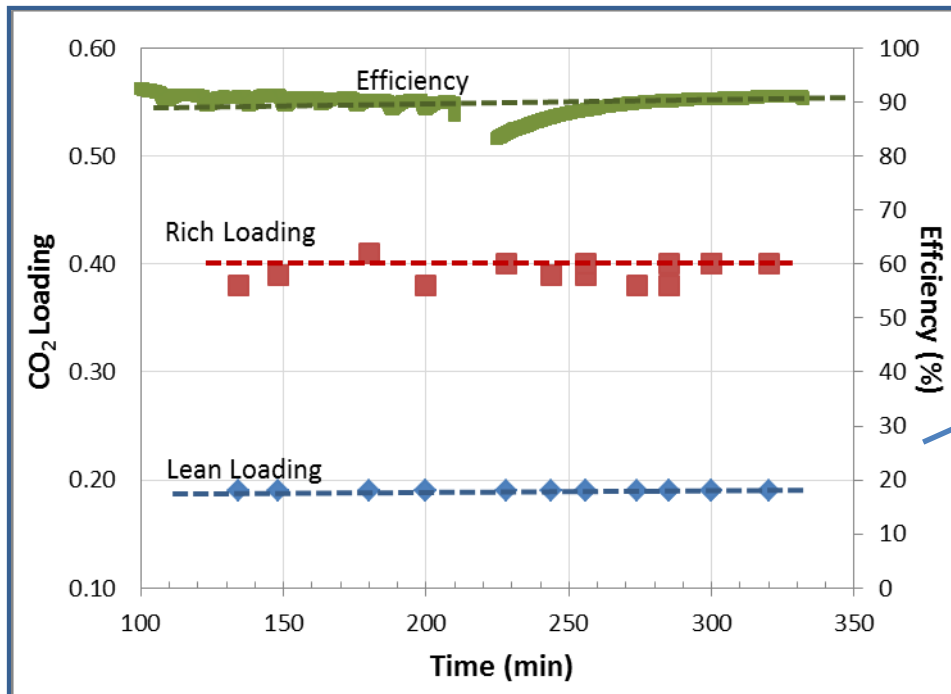
Comparison of measured and modeled attainable CO<sub>2</sub>-lean loading at 100 to 150 °C.

Process was demonstrated with cyclic loading from 0.2 to (lean) to 0.5 (rich) at 150° C

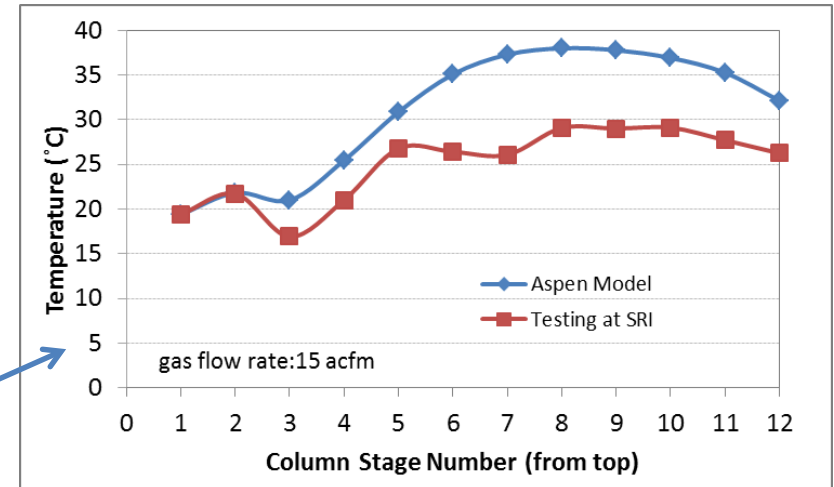
The produced lean loading far exceeds that required for > 90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture from flue gas streams

# System Testing in Continuous Mode (BP1)

## Test Data



## Modeling and Test Data



90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture efficiency with 0.19 to 0.40 cyclic CO<sub>2</sub> loading in Absorber 1 (regenerator at 140 °C)  
Gas flow rate = 15 acfm



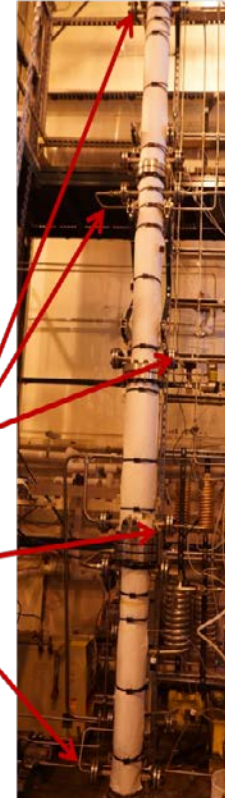
# Large Bench-Scale Mixed-Salt System at SRI (BP2)

0.25 t-CO<sub>2</sub>/ day capacity; operational since January 2016



20-ft

Absorbers



A : Rich solution inlet locations.

B : Discharge location for high NH<sub>3</sub>/K ratio solution

C : Discharge location for low NH<sub>3</sub>/K ratio solution

D : Heat exchangers (Cold rich ↔ Hot lean)

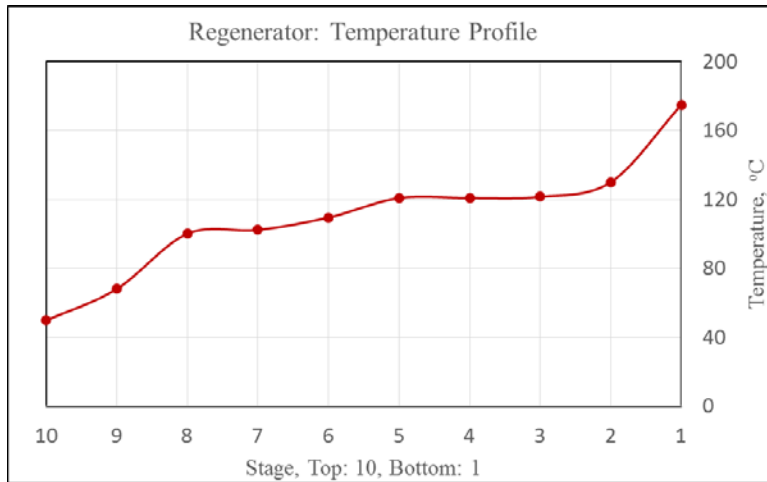
Regenerator pictures from different angles

Continuous operation of the integrated system has gone very smoothly during 1.5 years of operation

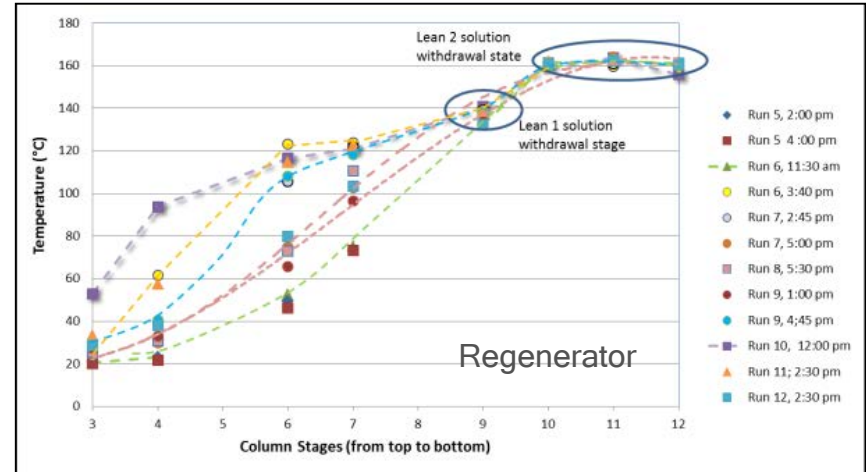
# Absorber and Regenerator Temperature Profiles (BP2)

## Integrated System (Regenerator: Steam heated reboiler)

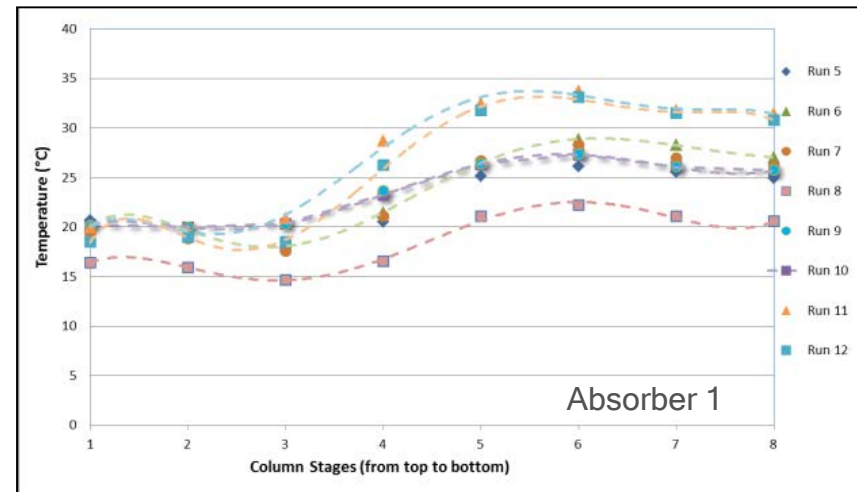
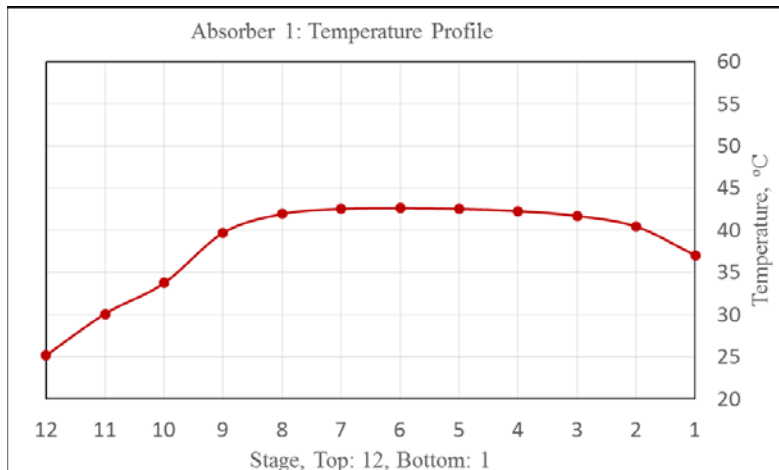
### Modeling Data



### Test Data



### Absorber 1: Temperature Profile

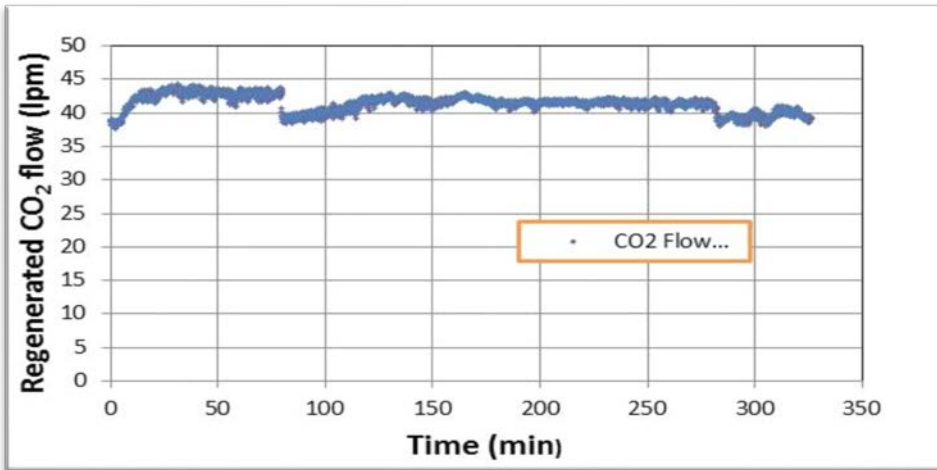


OLI Modeling 550-MW System

SRI Bench-Scale System

# Data from Integrated System Testing in 2016

## Excellent Performance

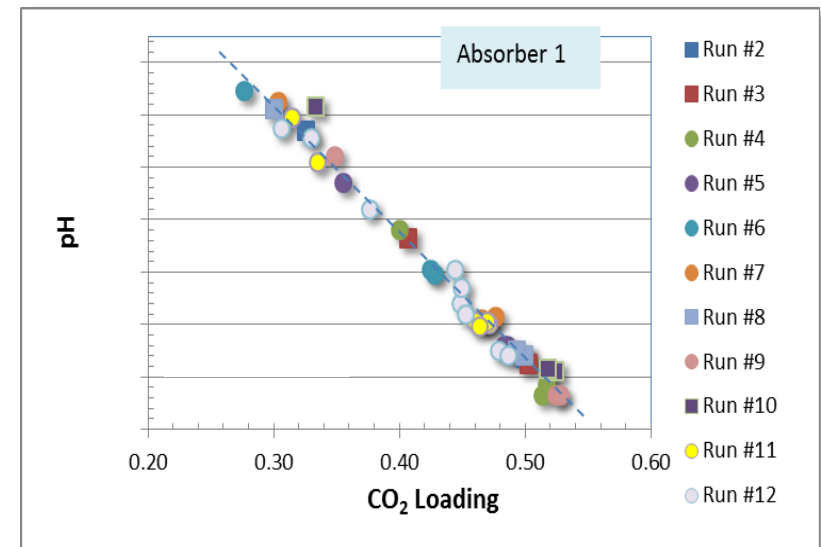


Observed 90% capture efficiency and regeneration with cyclic loading of ~0.7 mole of CO<sub>2</sub>/mole of ammonia



Alkalinity of rich and lean solutions circulating in the integrated system

- 300 to 400 *slpm* simulated flue gas with 15% CO<sub>2</sub>



Data showing relationship of the measured pH of rich and lean solutions from Absorber 1

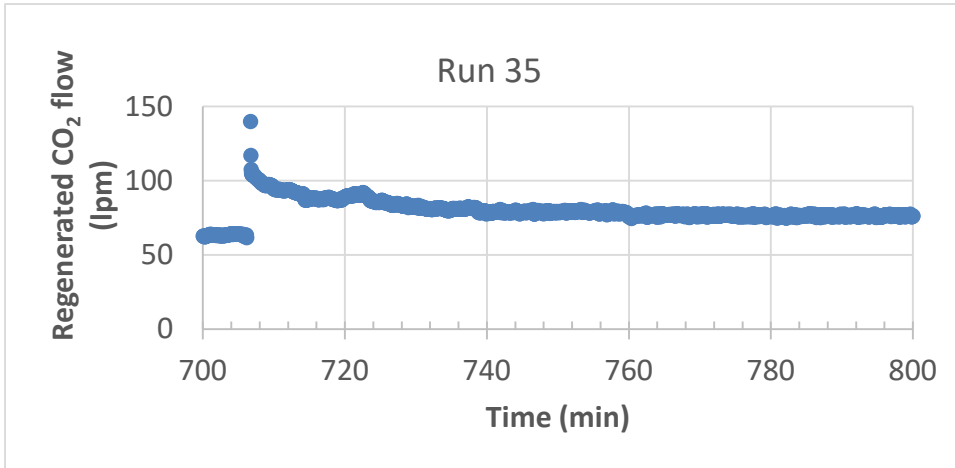
Absorber: 20-35°C

Regenerator stage 1:140 °C

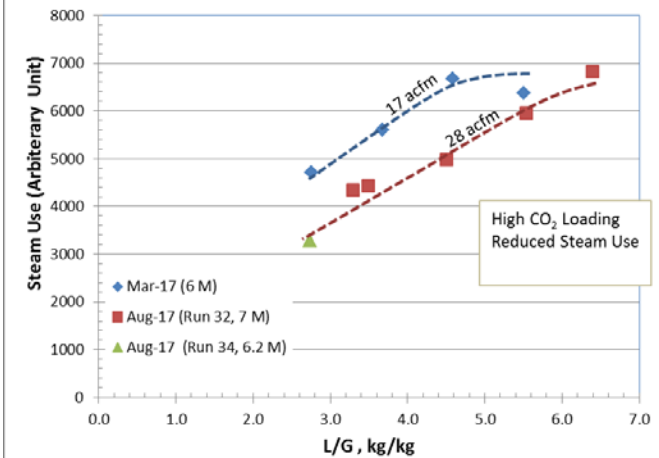
Regenerator stage 2:160 °C

# Data from Integrated System Testing in 2017

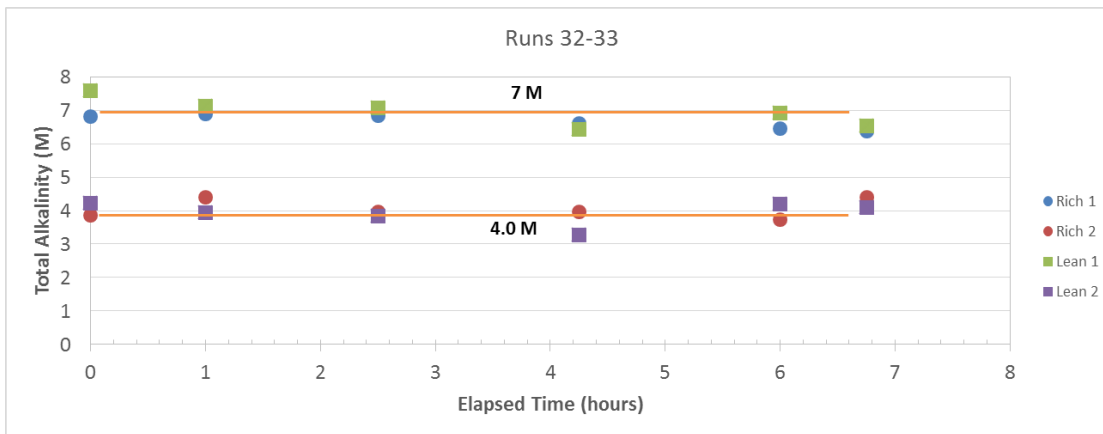
## High-throughput Runs



- 600-800 *slpm* simulated flue gas with 15% CO<sub>2</sub>



Observed 85-90% capture efficiency and regeneration with cyclic CO<sub>2</sub> loading of ~ 8 - 9 wt.%



Data showing specific steam consumption at varying L/G ratios

Absorber: 20-35°C

Regenerator stage 1: 135 °C

Regenerator stage 2: 160 °C

Alkalinity of rich and lean solutions circulating in the integrated system

# Techno-economic Data

## Comparison between mixed-salt technology and DOE baseline case

Performance Factors	Econamine Baseline	SRI's Mixed-Salt Technology*
CO <sub>2</sub> capture, %	90.2	90.3
CO <sub>2</sub> purity (before compression), %	99.61	> 99.0
Stripper pressure, atm	1.0	10.0
Raw water recycle, gpm	~325,000	<100,000
Auxiliary power, KWe	20,600	3,581
Heat duty, MJ/kg of CO <sub>2</sub>	3.56	2.0

### Process Modeling: OLI, IHI and POLIMI

Cyclic loading: 0.18 to 0.58

Reboiler duty: 2.0 (OLI); 2.3 MJ/kg-CO<sub>2</sub> (POLIMI); 2.1 to 2.3 MJ/kg-CO<sub>2</sub> (IHI Measured)

Ammonia emission < 10 ppm

Cost of CO<sub>2</sub> Captured (Excluding T&S): ~\$38/tonne-CO<sub>2</sub> for Mixed-Salt; \$54/tonne-CO<sub>2</sub> for Case 12B

Reference: Jayaweera et al. Energy Procedia 63 (2014) 640-650 and Energy Procedia (2017)

# Project Accomplishment Summary

- Collected experimental and modeling data available in the literature for the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2-\text{NH}_3-\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  system; developed a software package to determine speciation and compositions.
- Developed a rate-based model from the SRI test data; mass and energy balance were determined for a two-process layout to add a  $\text{CO}_2$ -capture system for DOE Case 11. The comparison was made between the mixed-salt process and DOE Cases 12 and 12B.
- Demonstrated the operation of the absorber at high temperature (20 to 40°C).
- Demonstrated ammonia emission reduction by using the two-stage absorber approach.
- Demonstrated system cyclic operation with cyclic loading between 0.2 and 0.59.

# Project Accomplishment Summary (continued)

- Demonstrated high CO<sub>2</sub> loading and >90% CO<sub>2</sub> capture with regeneration of > 99% purity CO<sub>2</sub> at high pressure.
- Collected test data over a wide range of conditions. Parameters varied included feed gas flow rate, mixed-salt composition, CO<sub>2</sub> loading, and the L/G ratio.
- Demonstrated cyclic operation of the integrated system with 90% efficiency (~ 0.3 ton/day CO<sub>2</sub> capture) and the generation of lean solutions with two compositions (ammonia rich, potassium rich) using a two-stage regenerator.
- Demonstrated long-term operability of the integrated system (1.5-year operation).

# Mixed-Salt Technology Summary

US Patent 9,339,757 issued on May 17, 2016

## Process Summary

- Uses inexpensive, industrially available material (potassium and ammonium salts)
- Requires no feedstream polishing
- Does not generate hazardous waste
- Has the potential for easy permitting in many localities
- Uses known process engineering

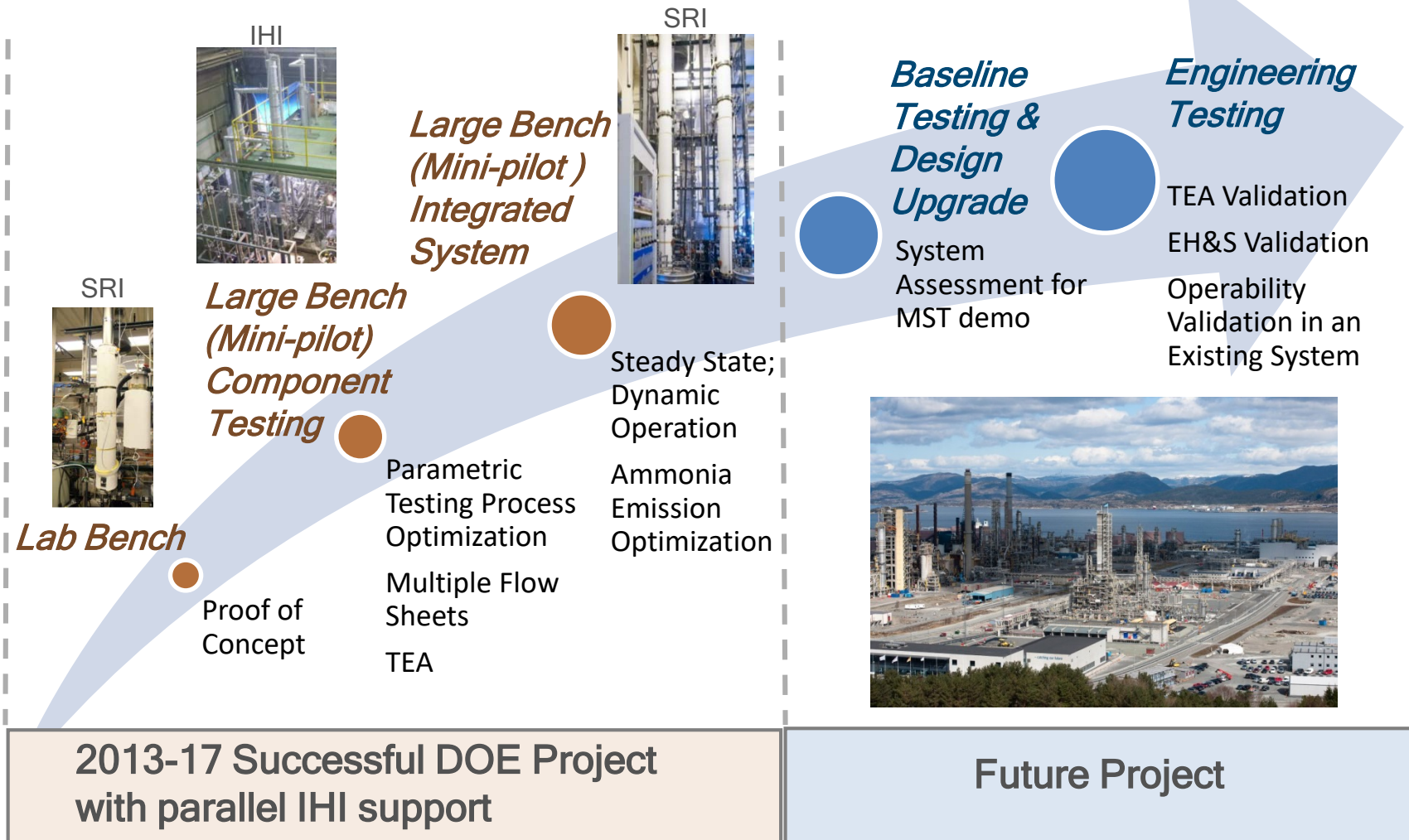
## Demonstrated Benefits

- **Enhanced CO<sub>2</sub>-capture efficiency**
- **High CO<sub>2</sub>-loading capacity**
- **High-pressure release of CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **Reduced energy consumption compared to MEA**
- **Reduced auxiliary electricity loads compared to the conventional ammonia processes**
- **Possible flexible carbon capture operation**



# Overall Strategy & Timeline

Commercialization



SRI has the patent coverage for mixed-salt technology in the US, Japan, and Europe

Multiple flow-sheets have been modeled and tested for process optimization  
 Next step in scale-up is to test the technology in an existing demonstration site

# Acknowledgements

## NETL (DOE)

- Mr. Steven Mascaro, Ms. Lynn Bricket, Mr. John Litynski and other NETL staff members

## SRI Team

- Dr. Indira Jayaweera, Dr. Palitha Jayaweera, Ms. Elisabeth Perea, Ms. Regina Elmore, Dr. Srinivas Bhamidi, Mr. Bill Olsen, Dr. Marcy Berding, Dr. Chris Lantman, and Ms. Barbara Heydorn

## Collaborators

- OLI Systems (Dr. Prodip Kondu and Dr. Andre Anderko), POLIMI (Dr. Gianluca Valenti and others), Stanford University (Dr. Adam Brant and Mr. Charles Kang), Dr. Eli Gal, and Dr. Kaj Thomsen

## Industrial Partner

- IHI Corporation (Mr. Shiko Nakamura, Mr. Okuno Shinya, Mr. Yasuro Yamanaka, Dr. Kubota Nabuhiko, and others)

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# Thank You

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