



mtc  where
progress
happens

Proud to be part of

CATAPULT
High Value Manufacturing

About us

Our purpose

To harness the power of our pioneering mindset and engineering excellence to positively impact society

- ✦ Independent Research Technology Organisation (RTO)
- ✦ Opened in 2011
- ✦ Opened training facility in 2015
- ✦ £120 million+ in turnover
- ✦ 1000+ staff members over 600 engineers & 100 apprentices

Market sectors

Our broad experience across a range of sectors means we can transfer valuable knowledge and insights, giving us the expertise to help with your next challenge.



Energy & Utilities

Civil nuclear, Hydrogen, Electrification, Renewables & Water



Defence & Security

Air, Land, Sea, Platform systems, Sub systems & Government security



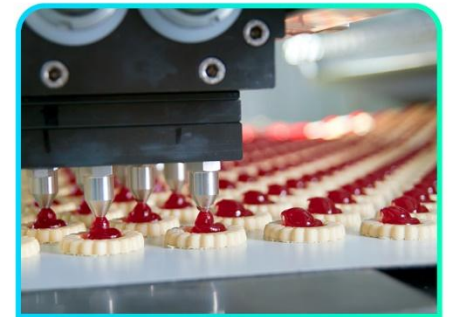
Built Environment

Construction, Rail & Road



Future Mobility

Automotive, Aerospace & Space



Emerging Markets

Agri-food, FMCG, Circular economy & Life sciences

Business challenges

We work with businesses of all sizes, from SMEs, start-ups, and entrepreneurs to large and multinational organisations, helping solve challenges and achieve goals.



Product
innovation &
development



Process
innovation &
development



Digital
transformation
& servitisation



Industrialisation
& scale-up



Supply chain
transformation

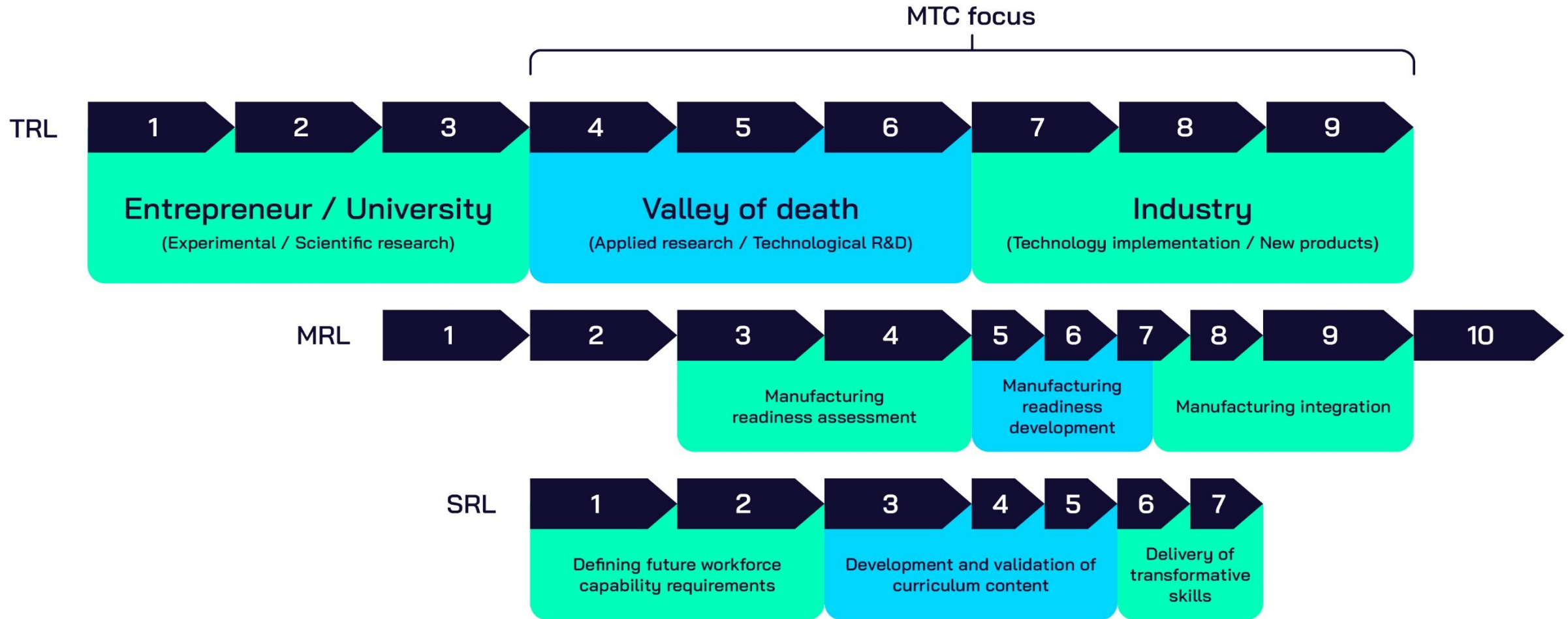


Sustainable
manufacturing
& net zero



Skills & training

Bridging the valley of death



TRL = Technology readiness level

MRL = Manufacturing readiness level

SRL = Skills readiness level

Progressing innovation into industry

Challenges



MTC innovation toolkit	
Industrial transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business transformation Digital transformation Technology transformation
Digital engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modelling & simulation Metrology & NDT Informatics
Advanced production systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robotics & automation Design & build Process, product & equipment
Component manufacturing technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additive manufacturing Laser processing Advanced materials processing
Future skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manufacturing engineering apprenticeships Advanced manufacturing training & workforce foresighting Bespoke course creation & delivery



Solutions

MTC value



Maximising return
on investment



De-risking
strategic
decisions



Trusted
impartiality



Agnostic
innovation
partner



End-to-End
capability support



Skills &
training



Cross sector
transfer
of knowledge



Connecting
people through
events

How we work

One-to-one
Single client project

1400+ industrially
funded projects

Company owns
all IP generated

Government backed
Collaborative R&D projects

Involvement in 2000+
CR&D projects

IP ownership determined
by partnership

Membership
Collaborative R&D projects

£10m+ total core
research project value

IP owned by MTC and
licensed to members

Our impact in numbers

9000+

Projects
delivered



600+

Multi-disciplinary
engineers



90+

Collaborative
members

1200+

Apprentices
trained



200+

Upskilling
courses available



3500+

SMEs
worked with

Our members



Part of something bigger

Proud to be part of
High Value Manufacturing Catapult



Supported by Innovate UK



Founded by



MTC hydrogen activities



Overview of key challenges and drivers

- ▶ **HYDROGEN** is an important solution for the hard to decarbonise sectors of industrial and domestic heat and elements of transport as a replacement for hydrocarbons
- ▶ **UK ENERGY WHITE PAPER** and the 10-point plan state latest intention for 10GW of low carbon hydrogen production capacity by 2030, along with industrial and domestic trials
- ▶ **INITIAL WORK** is supporting the evidence base for UK wide policy decisions which will quickly turn to rapid scale up and deployment, with focus likely around Industrial clusters
- ▶ **UK APPROACH** is focusing on the twin streams of blue hydrogen production through methane reforming with associated carbon capture and storage as well as green hydrogen through electrolysis



Power and energy

There is growing support for hydrogen in deep decarbonisation

H2 production



Power generation



Domestic heat



Industrial heat



Aerospace



Rail and infrastructure



Automotive



Marine



MTC core services

DISCOVERY



DfX

Component and product Design
Physics Modelling
Design for Additive
Automated Design

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY

Technology Down-selection
Additive Manufacturing
Laser Processing
Automation and Robotics
Electronics Manufacturing

EQUIPMENT DESIGN

Special Purpose Machines
Robotic Workstations
End Effectors and Fixtures
Bespoke Machine Builds

FACTORY DESIGN

Scenario Mapping
Layout Optioneering
Discreet Event Simulation
Virtual Build Event
Visualisation

SKILLS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Future Skills Foresighting
National Apprentice Standards Creation
Upskilling and Reskilling
Training and Apprenticeship Delivery

SUPPLY CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

Assessment and Oversight of Supply Chain
Targeted Supplier Development Programme

DIGITAL ADOPTION

Simulation and Modelling

Digital Enterprise Down-selection

Digital Twins

AI and Machine Learning

IIoT

Predictive Analytics

How MTC is helping



WHO MTC IS HELPING

HOW MTC IS HELPING

1 Wider understanding of sector and common industrial challenges and **creating communities** to solve problems

2 Delivering **Innovative Technical Solutions** and introducing solutions from different sectors

3 Delivering **Transformational Change:**

- Business
- Technology Transformation
- Supply chain

Create a **significant positive impact** on society by enabling product-based business to generate **zero carbon** economic growth and people to develop technical skills and knowledge.

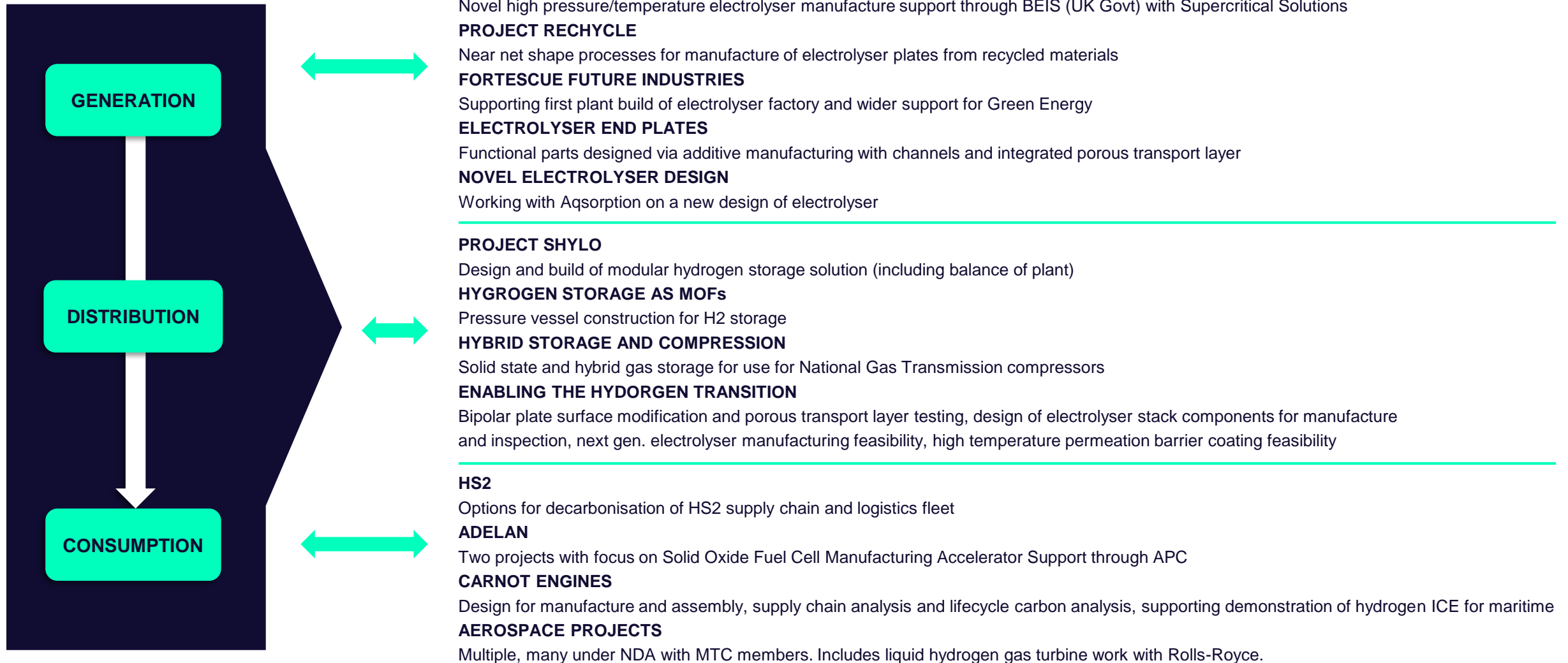
TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS

- Additive Manufacturing
- Non-conventional machines
- High integrity fabrication
- Intelligent automation
- Design and simulation
- Manufacturing informatics
- Metrology and NDT
- Electronics manufacturing
- Tooling and fixturing

How the MTC is supporting the hydrogen sector



Projects across the value stream

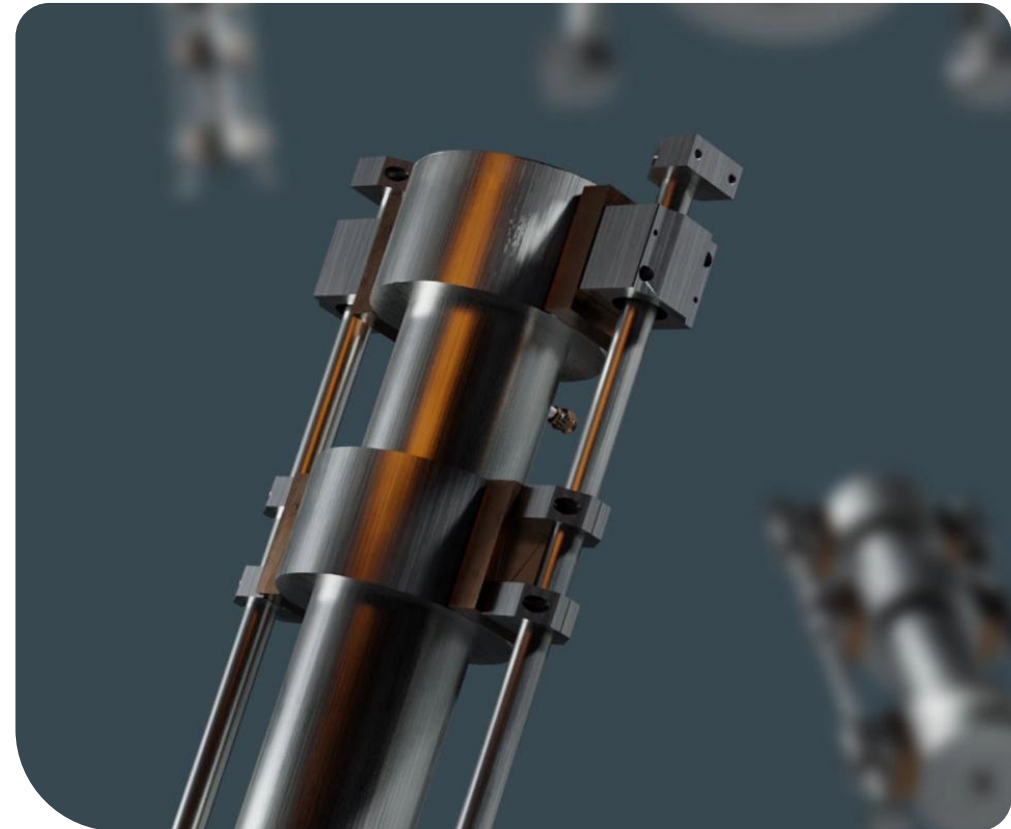


Project WhiskHy – Supercritical electrolyser

MANUFACTURING PROCESS AND
MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

Supercritical has solved the biggest inherent problem of membraneless electrolysers, gas separation, achieving over **99% purity** in both the oxygen and hydrogen outlets, with the system running at as low as **42 kWh/kg of H₂** and delivering **220 bar of pressurised gases**, without gas compressors

- 220 bar high pressure separated oxygen and hydrogen
- >50% emission reduction vs PEM
- Planet first - no iridium, no PFAS (forever) chemicals
- <€2 /kg of hydrogen, this decade
- Use case is whisky distilling



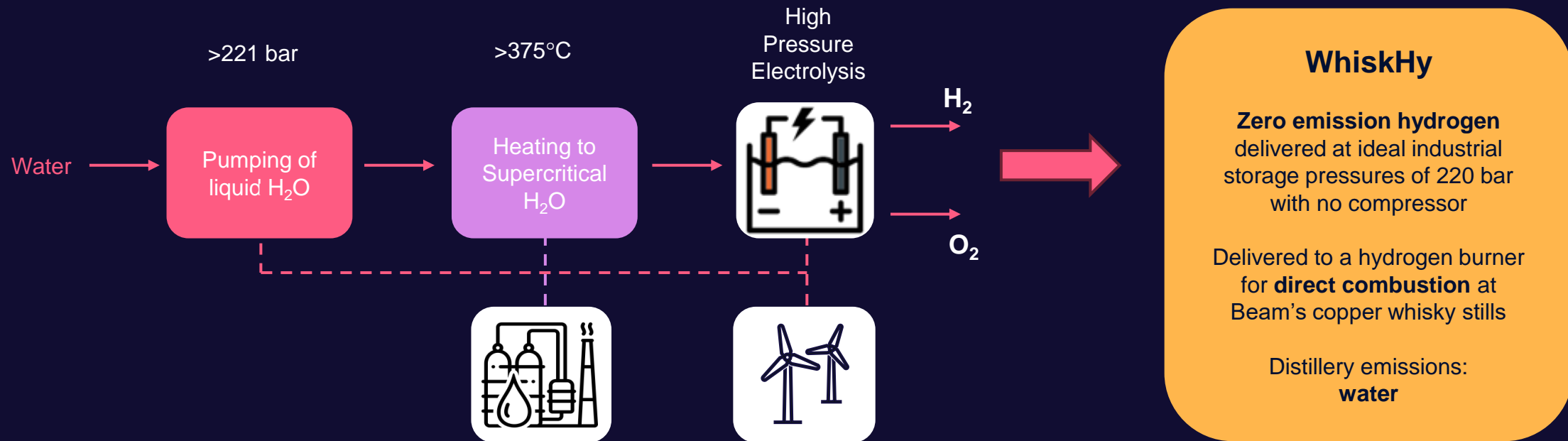
 **SUPERCritical**

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SUNTORY
GLOBAL SPIRITS

Project WhiskHy – how it works

High-level diagram of Supercritical's novel high pressure electrolysis process



Project WhiskHy - demonstrator

MTC is supporting the manufacture of elements of the plant utilising advanced manufacturing laser processing



Project Shylo

DESIGN, PROTOTYPE, TEST

- ▶ **CONSORTIUM** awarded £4.3m by the UK former department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS now DESNZ)
- ▶ **GREEN HYDROGEN** produced by wind and tidal power stored in proprietary hydrogen system and fed into the local system
- ▶ **SAFER** and lower cost alternative to compressed hydrogen as hydrogen is locked away in a metal hydride
- ▶ **OPTIMISATION** software will optimise and manage the hydrogen hub
- ▶ **WORLD FIRST** tested in summer 2024



Shylo project principle

EFFICIENCY

- ▶ Up to 95% RTE
- ▶ Operated at ambient conditions
- ▶ No compression in storage
- ▶ Compress at point of use, if required
- ▶ Smaller compressor infrastructure
- ▶ No H₂ leakage

AUTONOMY

- ▶ Smart decision making through HyAI product
- ▶ ML on the edge enabled
- ▶ Remote operation

INNOVATION

- ▶ Proprietary IP and module design
- ▶ Proprietary safety systems
- ▶ Proprietary software developed in house
- ▶ Significant know-how



PERFORMANCE

- ▶ Market beating hydrogen flow rates and system charge/discharge rates
- ▶ Commercialising materials storage

SAFETY

- ▶ Low pressure: 1% of compressed H₂
- ▶ H₂ bonds to material
- ▶ Low risks; benign failures
- ▶ Reduced site H&S, e.g. COMAH, Seveso

DENSITY

- ▶ Volumetrically dense
- ▶ H₂ chemically bonded

COST

- ▶ Lower OPEX
- ▶ High efficiencies
- ▶ Lower infrastructure requirement
- ▶ Lower H&S overheads

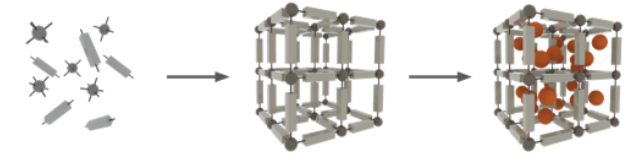
MTC supported the programme through support to the design and undertaking the full pilot build

Immaterial

- ▶ **Immaterial** developed a novel proprietary monolithic Metal Organic Framework (mMOF) that has superior hydrogen storage properties.
- ▶ Project funded under DESNZ Hydrogen Supply 2 funded project focuses on developing a **Cryo-adsorbed hydrogen storage demonstrator for transport applications**.
- ▶ **MTC designed and built** prototype hydrogen storage pressure vessels that is suitable for cryo-adsorbed process at 77K and upto 40 bar.
- ▶ Various **simulation processes, materials characterisation, design and safety regulations** are employed to design and build prototype vessels.
- ▶ MTC performed **Manufacturing feasibility, Technical, Economical and Life Cycle Assessments** for the MOF based hydrogen storage demonstrator.
- ▶ The analysis show that the cryo-adsorbed hydrogen storage systems have a great potential at a large scale in the future.

DESIGN, PROTOTYPE

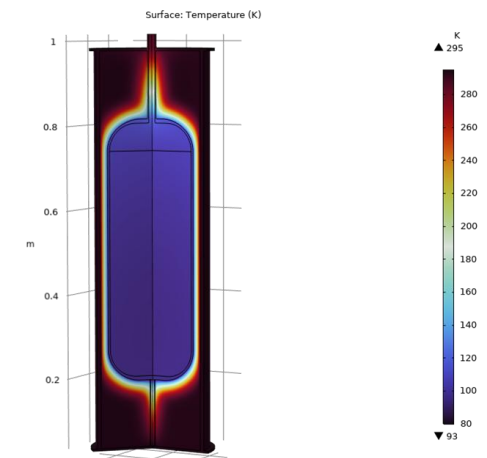
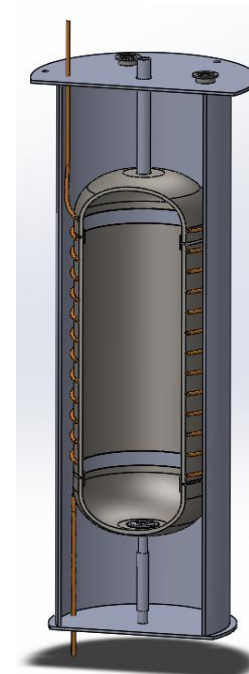
Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)



Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are synthesised from **metal clusters** and **organic linkers**.

They form regular lattices with significant pore volumes, giving them the largest surface areas of any material.

MOFs are highly tunable and can be designed to allow molecules to be **selectively adsorbed** onto this surface.



National Gas hybrid hydrogen storage

DESIGN

Gas turbines at compressor stations are the **largest source of emissions** on the National Transmission System (NTS). Under the Medium Combustion Plant (<50 MW) Directive (MCPD), many units will be non-compliant by 2030.

Hydrogen has shown to be a viable solution for reducing emissions from gas turbines, especially when using **green** hydrogen from renewable electrolysis. Due to the intermittency of renewable electricity generation, we will need to **store hydrogen on site** to meet demand, where a challenge on safe and cost-effective manner still appear.

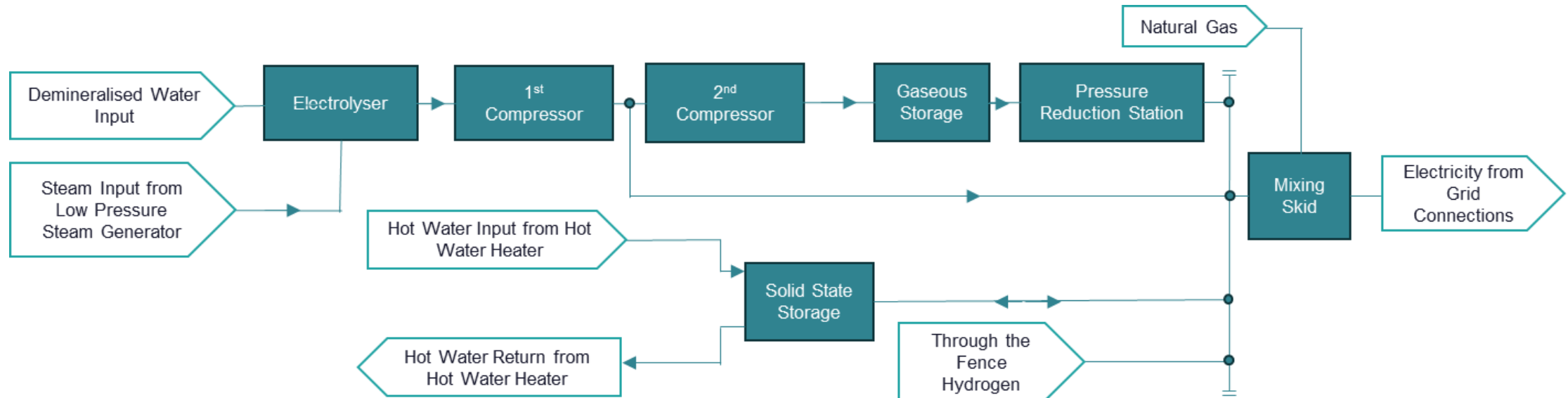
Solid state storage of hydrogen is an emerging technology which will allow storage of hydrogen at high density (50-100 gH₂/L) at ambient temperature and low pressures. However, the flow rates from solid-state storage are lower than for compressed gas systems and **may not be sufficient for fuelling the gas turbines.**



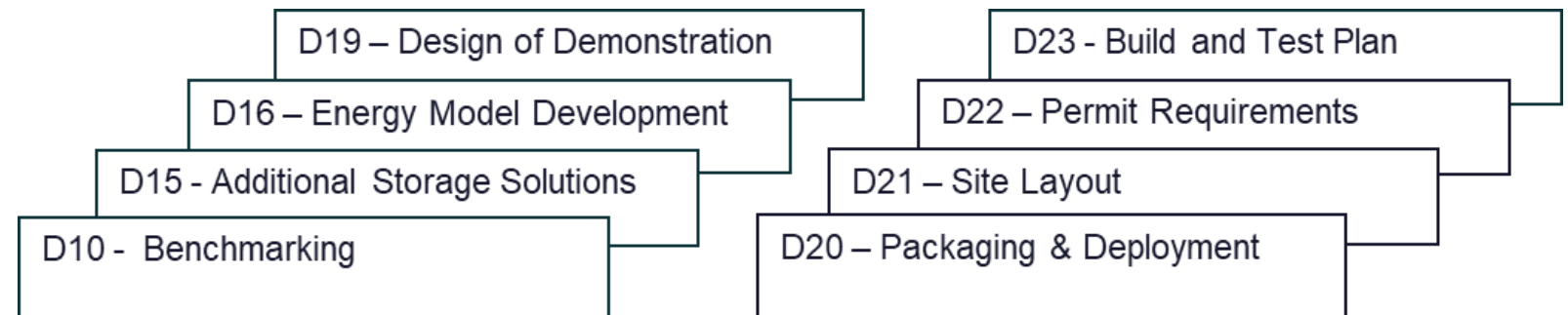
A **hybrid solid-state storage system optimised by AI** could be the solution to balance long-term high density solid-state storage with short term compressed gas storage, **without entering COMAH regulations.**

This project will investigate the use of a **hybrid storage system** to provide **safe and efficient** storage of hydrogen for gas turbines.

National Gas hybrid hydrogen storage - MTC work

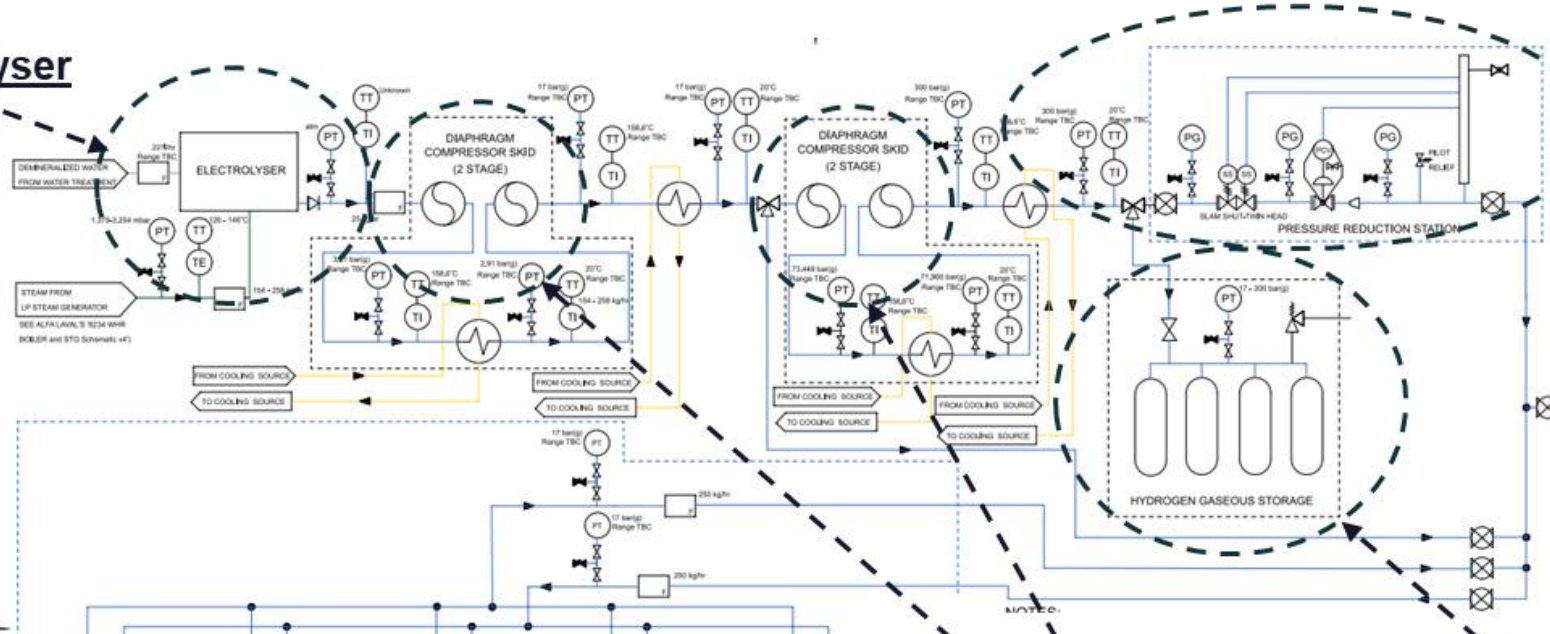


MTC Alpha Phase deliverables



National Gas hybrid hydrogen storage - demonstrator design

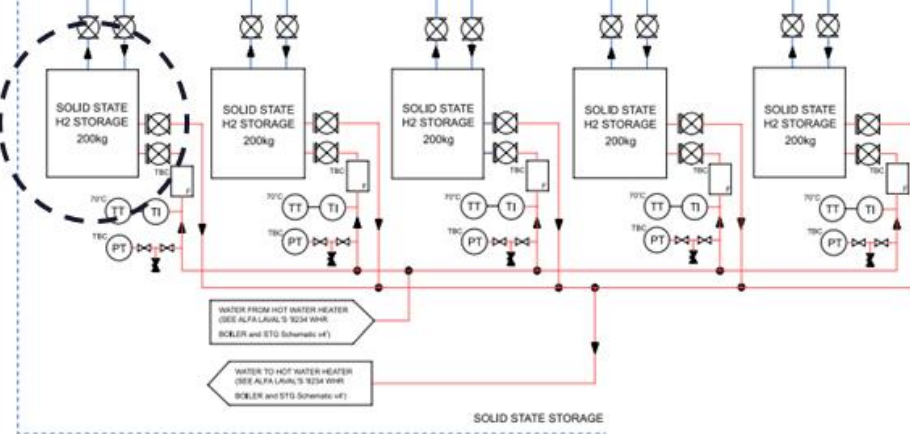
Solid Oxide Electrolyser



Pressure Reduction Station



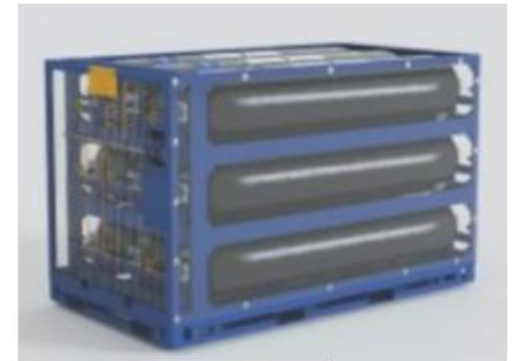
Solid State Storage



Compressors



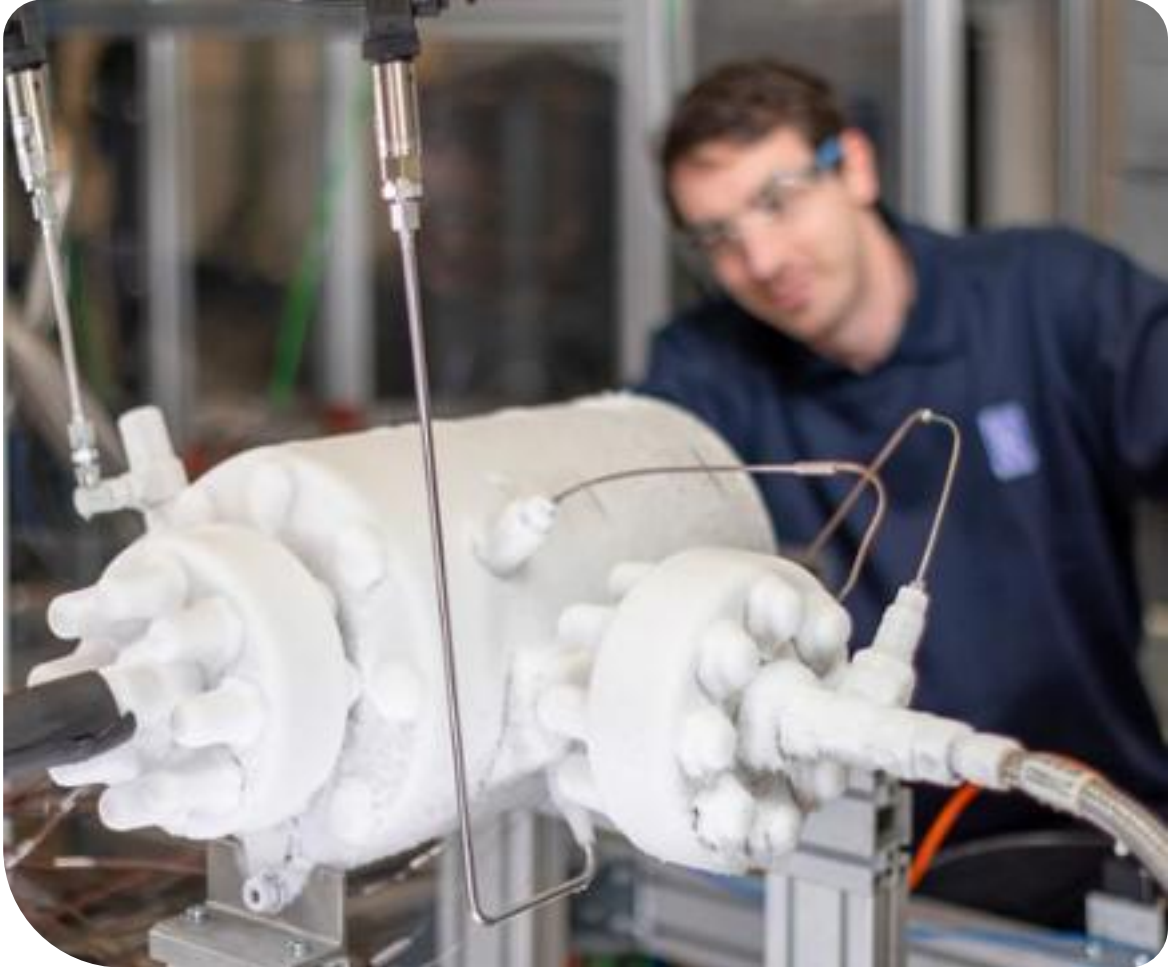
Gaseous Storage



TO MIXING SKID

Rolls-Royce liquid hydrogen gas turbines

DESIGN, PROTOTYPE, TEST



ATI-funded £31.4m programme through to September 2025

A consortium led by Rolls-Royce, including Cranfield University, easyJet, Heathrow Airport, MTC, Reaction Engines, UCL and University of Oxford to develop gas-turbine control system technologies that will enable aircraft engines to operate on liquid hydrogen.

The programme and wider work is covering technologies to control and transport the fuel from the aircraft's liquid hydrogen fuel tank to the engine combustor, including cryogenic pumping, fuel metering, system thermal management, intelligent control systems and component life optimisation.

Here we can see initial tests taking place, focused on pressurizing low-pressure liquid Nitrogen to understand behaviour at cryogenic conditions.

Carnot Engines – virtual build simulation

DESIGN



CARNOT developed an ultra-efficient thermally insulated internal combustion engine targeting auxiliary and main propulsion engines for all vessel types up to 10MW.

With the CARNOT engine still under development, additional refinement into the best approach to assemble the design was required.

MTC developed a virtual build simulation of the whole CARNOT engine following the assembly sequence. This represented the approach likely needed to build the assembly with each component coming together.

HS2 – case study

SUPPLY CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

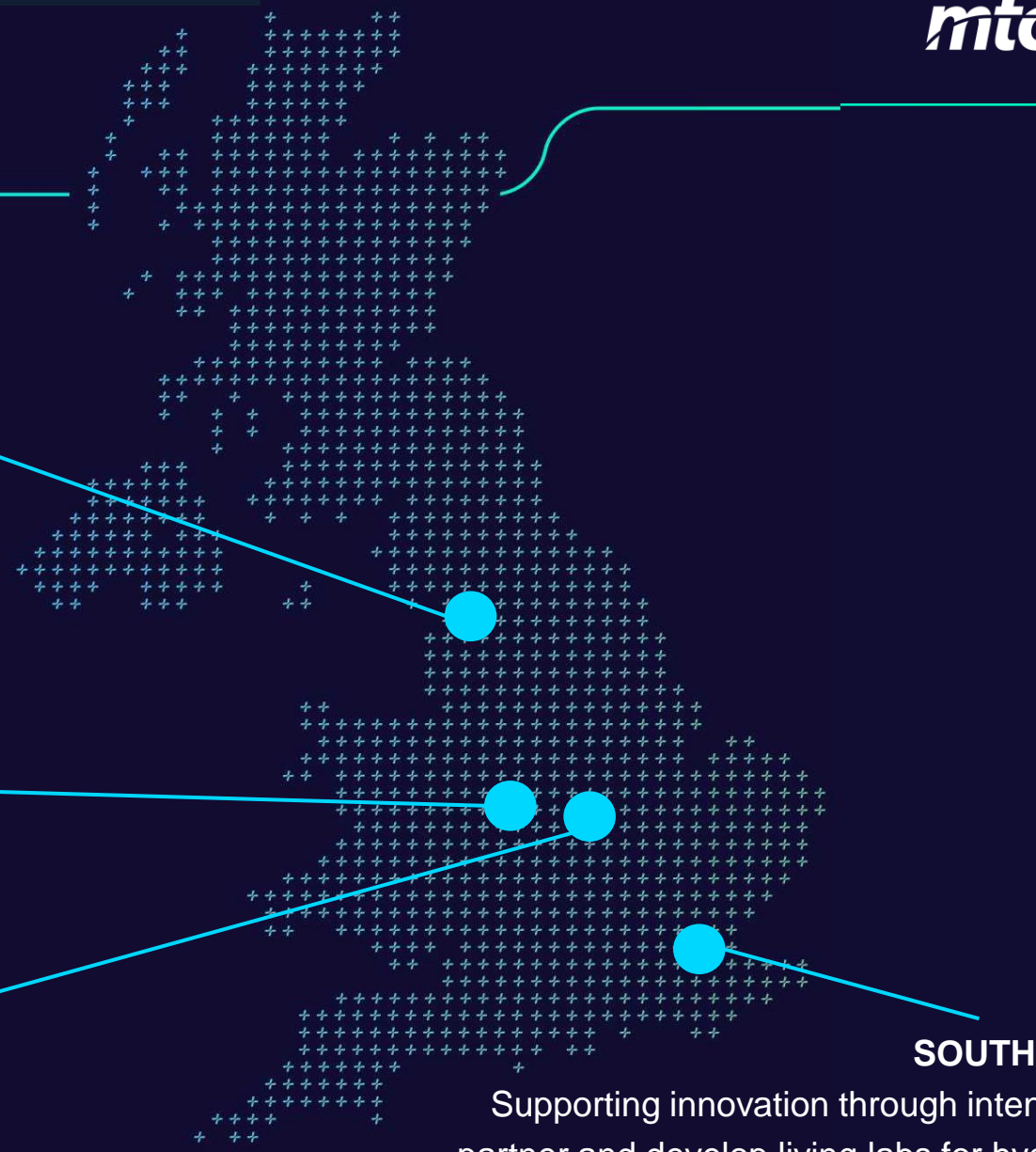
Feasibility of hydrogen HGV fleet for HS2

Assessing the hydrogen HGV supply chain for HS2

- ▶ **HS2** through the HS2 innovation programme is investigating the use of hydrogen as an alternative fuel for HGVs for construction, starting with a dual-fuel system.
- ▶ **MTC** has supported this by mapping the hydrogen landscape and supply chain and developing a strategic business case for the use of hydrogen in HGVs, considering both risks and benefits of entering into an emerging market.
- ▶ **FUNDED** by HS2
- ▶ [Hydrogen HGVS In Construction \(the-mtc.org\)](https://www.the-mtc.org/)



MTC in the regions



NORTH WEST
Supporting manufacturing growth and innovation within the Liverpool City region, and active member of the North West Hydrogen Alliance.



MIDLANDS
Supporting Midlands strategy through participating in the Technology Strategy group.



EAST MIDLANDS
Leading innovation theme for East Midlands Hydrogen.

SOUTH EAST
Supporting innovation through intention to partner and develop living labs for hydrogen business and technology development focused on transport use cases.

Future skills

Advanced engineering apprenticeship



Seeding UK employers



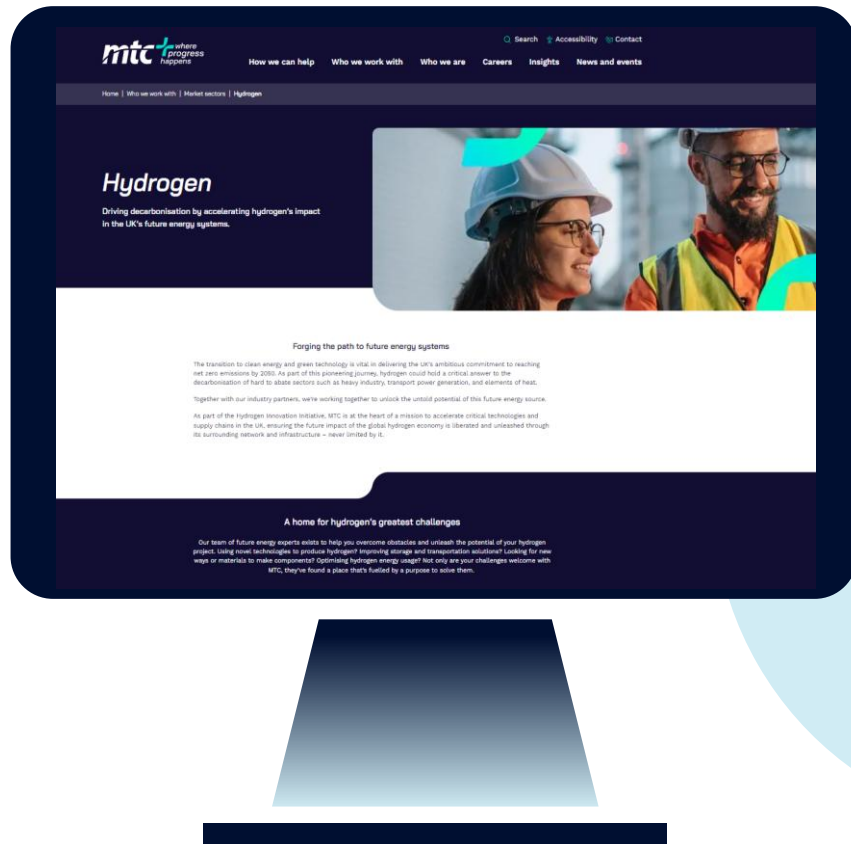
Engineering upskilling



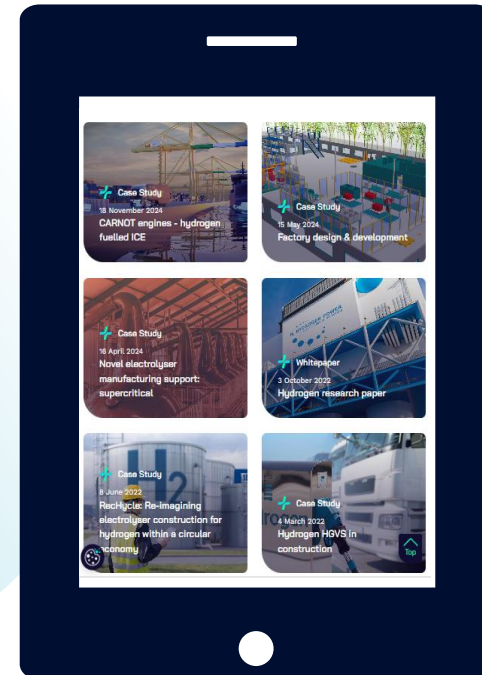
Hydrogen awareness for manufacturing



Hydrogen on MTC website

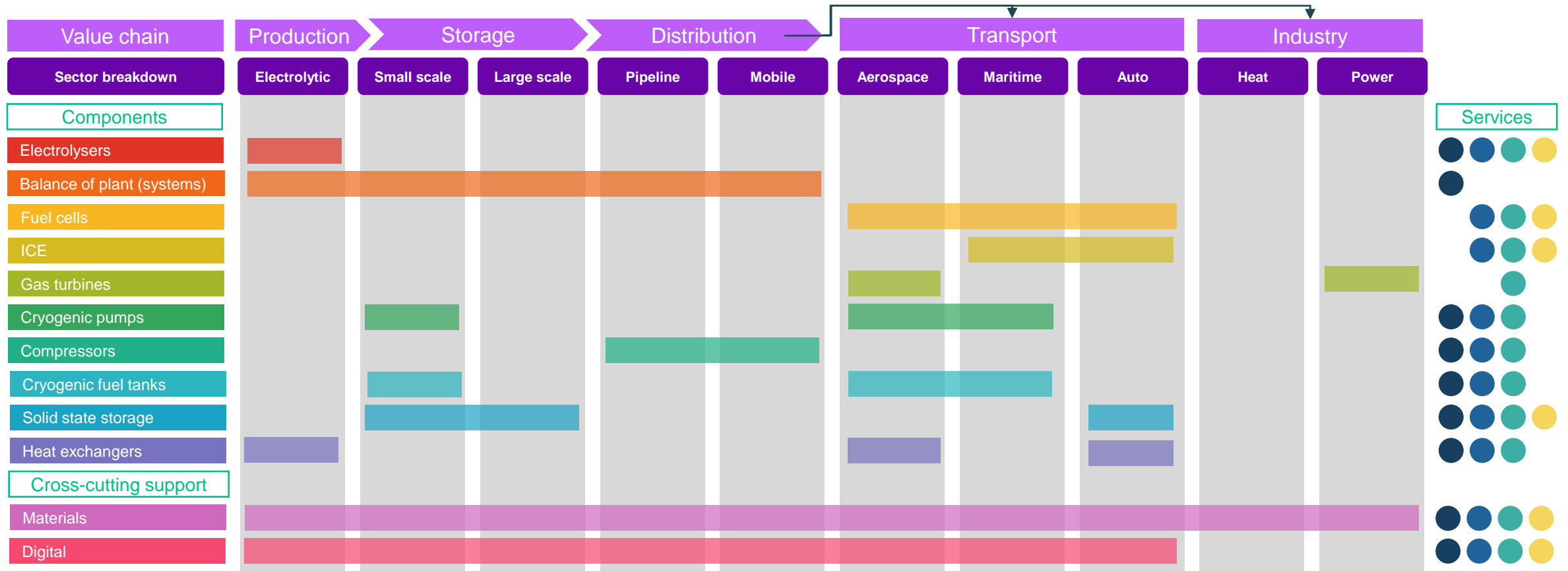


H₂



MTC hydrogen roadmaps and internal projects

MTC capability across hydrogen products



DESIGN, PROTOTYPE, TEST

DESIGN FOR MANUFACTURE

MANUFACTURING PROCESS AND MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

AUTOMATION AND SCALE-UP

Services

Hydrogen capability roadmap

		MTC Services			Technology Groups			
		● Design, Prototype, Test	● Manufacturing process and materials development	● Design for manufacture	● Automation and scale-up	● CMT	● APS	● DE
Deliver Value	Hydrogen systems design and integration	BOP design optimisation and build for safe operation and lightweighting	Systems engineering and design of heat recovery and boil-off management systems	Optimised design for novel boil-off strategy with valorisation				
		Automated refuelling infrastructure development						
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing cost of balance of system equipment through improved fuel cell integration Increasing storage capacity, safety, and reducing cost through development and validation of solid-state storage solution Enabling safe and timely refuelling of fleets and off-highway vehicles through the development of remote, mobile refuelling solutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boil-off management development for cryogenic storage Increasing durability and efficiency of H2-ICE through design including integrating new coatings, injectors and adoption of heat recovery 					
Develop Capability	Thermal management	Design and manufacture of next generation hydrogen compatible heat exchangers	Scale-up manufacturing of LH2 heat exchangers					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of HEX for LH2 fuel and water exhaust management thermal management for hydrogen powered aerospace Lightweighting power electronic systems through development of novel cooling systems 							
Develop Capability	Design and process efficiency for circular economy	Design for manufacture guidelines for Hydrogen related products	High tolerance, low cost manufacturing development	Manufacturing and design rulebook for hydrogen related products				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspection development for right-first-time manufacture and assembly of FC / EC Reducing the manufacturing cost of FC and EC through automation, scale-up and digital monitoring to reduce scrap Development of range of compressors to meet hydrogen economy needs – including cryogenic, storage and distribution Developing supply chain recycling paths for components containing platinum group metals 							
Create Capability	Materials degradation knowledge & mitigation	Understand susceptibility of metal processing route to hydrogen embrittlement	Modelling of material behaviour in hydrogen environment for durability assessment	Knowledge hub on impact of manufacturing process route of material behaviour in H2				
	Coating technology for high temperature permeation barrier	Development of multi-material manufacturing technologies	Processing of refractory materials for hydrogen atmospheres					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of understanding or materials degradation to support new material development and enable life time prediction of componentry Increasing durability and efficiency of fuel distribution line, gas turbines, H2-ICE, long-term storage and furnace components 							
Create Capability	Low cost, durable, high efficiency FC and EC	Develop porous structure manufacturing to improve function, repeatability and cost	Design for higher temperature operating PEM fuel cells	Hydrogen production process simulation for design optimisation				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radical redesign and development of manufacturing for novel electrolyser concept							

This Year (24/25)

In 3 Years

In 5 Years

MTC internal capability research activities

Modular build for energy plant MEP

- 2 concept corner connector design
- Automated design tool, proof-of-concept



Dissimilar material joining

Adhesive free polymer-metal joining for lightweight storage



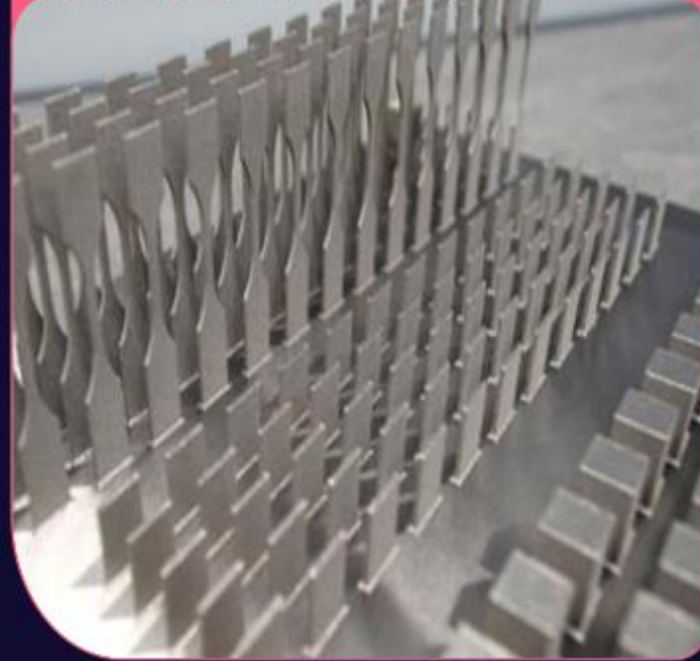
Next generation electrolyser design

Single cell concept design for next gen. electrolysers



Material degradation

Testing hydrogen charged, wrought and AM material testing at ambient and cryogenic temperatures



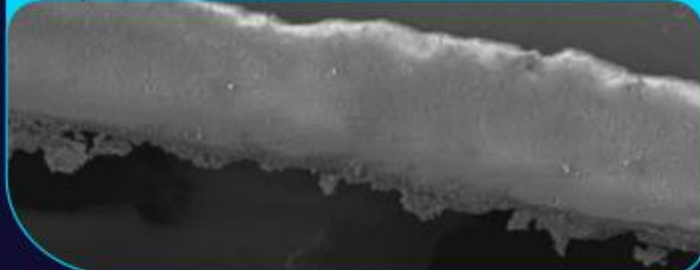
Porous structures

Structured porosity via AM, laser drilling, and net-shape processing



Permeation barrier coatings

Hydrogen permeation barrier coating at elevated temperatures



Stack assembly and inspection

Automation to scale up FC and EC manufacture



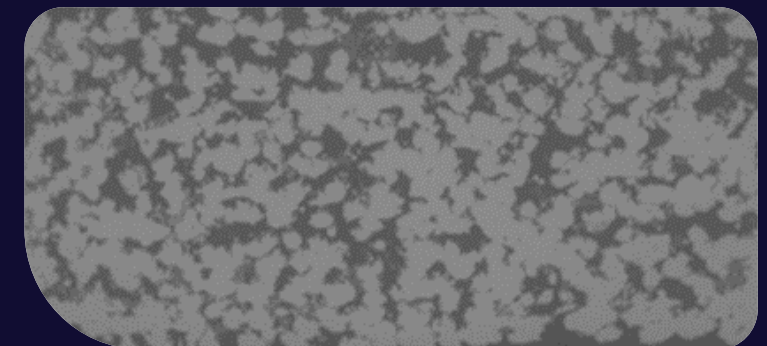
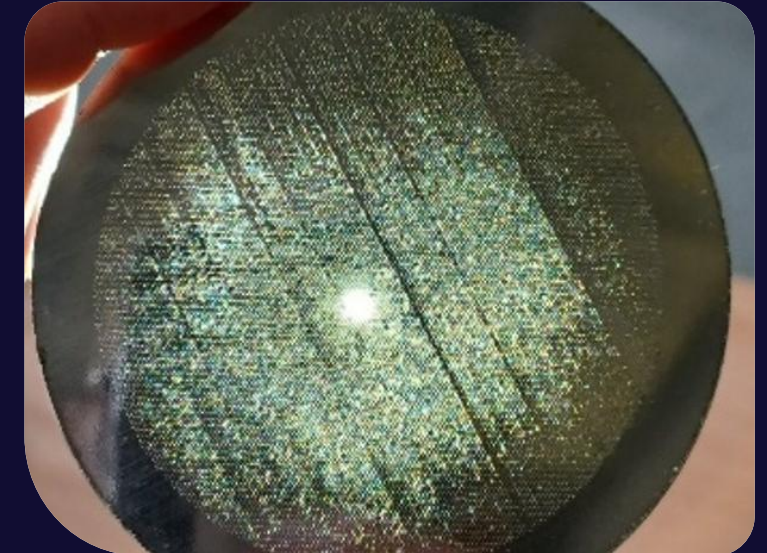
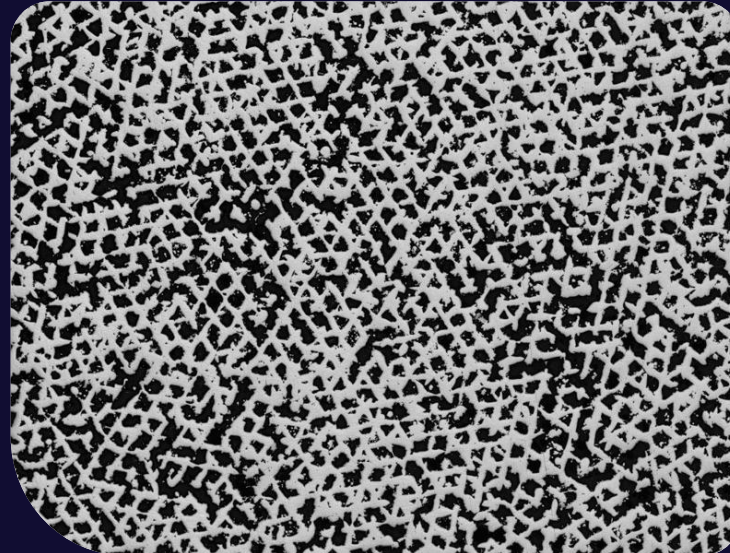
Optimisation of metallic porous structures

Drivers

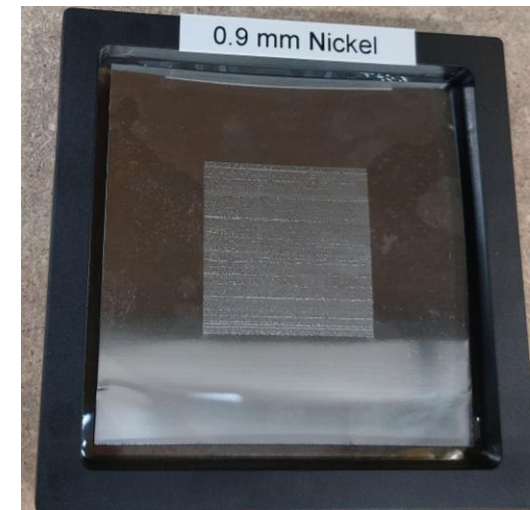
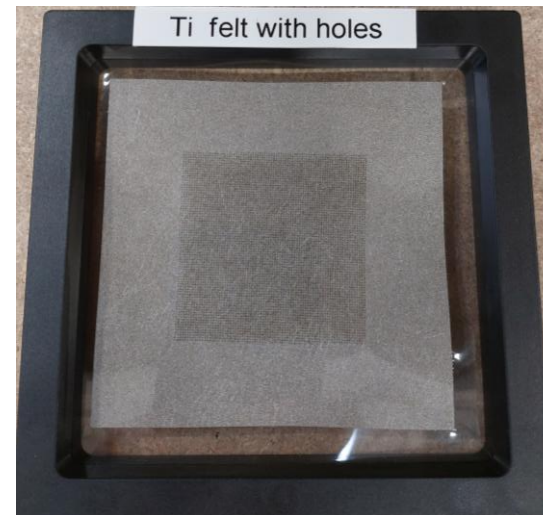
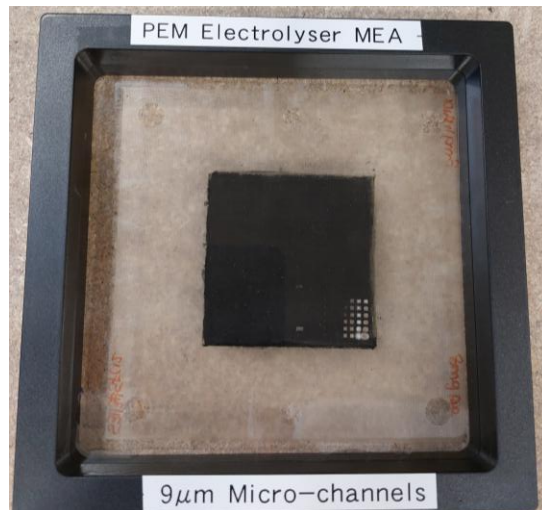
- ▶ **THE TAILORING** of porous structures (including graded features) is becoming of greater interest in thermal management and gas separation technologies
- ▶ **APPLICATIONS** include filtration systems, heat exchanges and porous transport layers (electrolysers and fuel cells)

Demonstrator project

- ▶ **CREATION** of material demonstrators showcasing MTC's capability to manufacture porous structures
- ▶ **FOCUS** on metals
- ▶ **INVESTIGATION** using field-assisted sintering technology, additive manufacturing and laser drilling



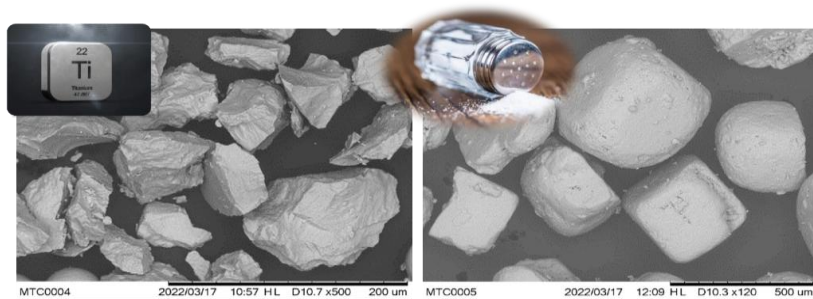
Laser drilling trials examples



Project RecHycle

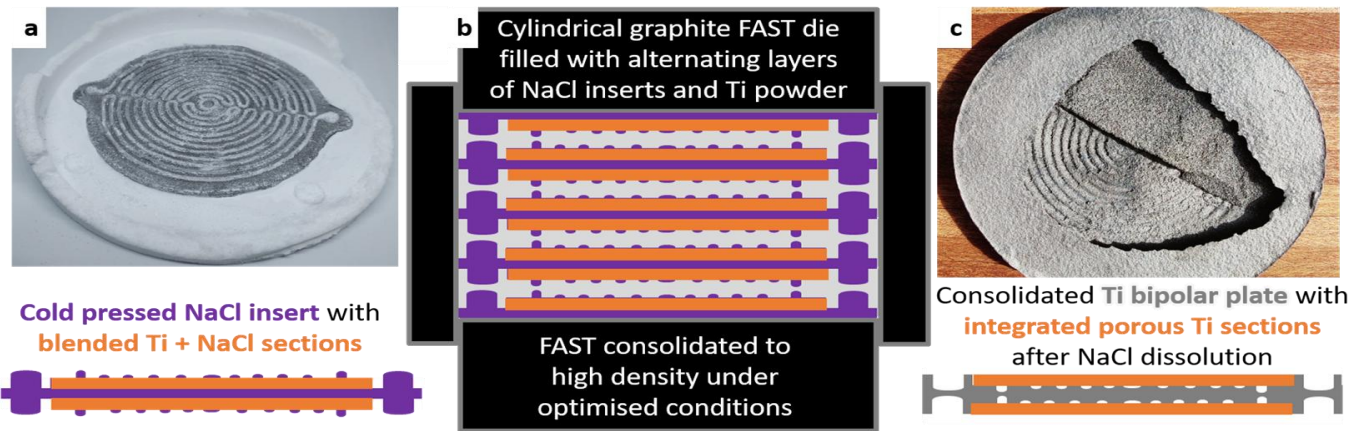
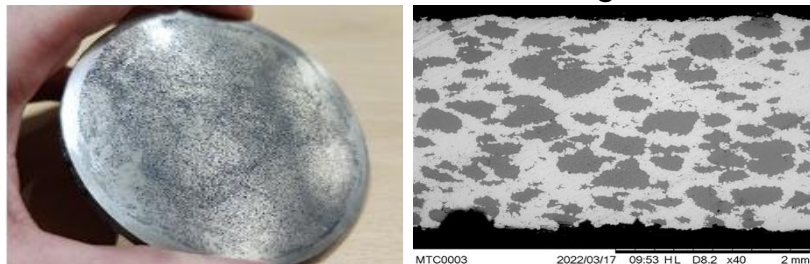
Re-imaging Electrolyser Construction for HYdrogen within a CircuLar Economy

Supporting the drive towards cost-effective hydrogen production by utilising net shape manufacturing of electrolyser components with sustainably sourced powder materials



Utilising titanium waste streams

Dissolvable shape holding inserts



Innovative space-holder technique allows freedom to re-imagine bipolar plate design and integrate the porous transport layer

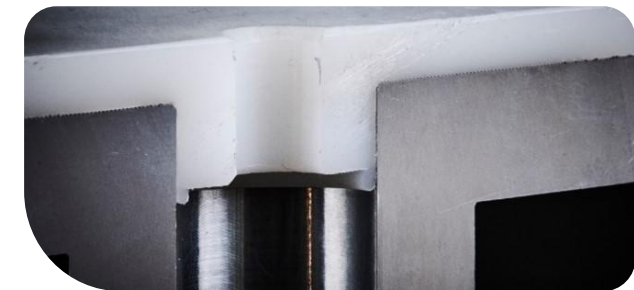
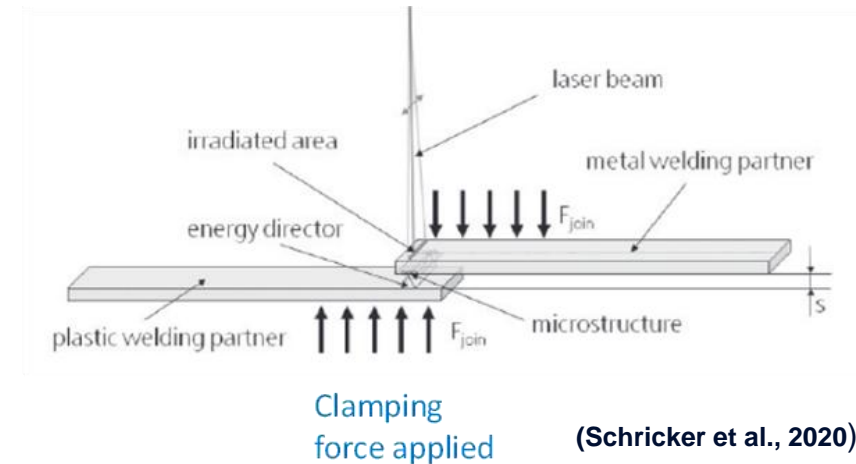
Dissimilar material joining

Drivers

- ▶ **JOINING** of dissimilar materials requires development in many applications for enhanced sealing and joint integrity, and tailored heat and electrical conductivity
- ▶ **APPLICATIONS** include fusion, type-IV hydrogen tank storage and electrical powertrains

Demonstrator project

- ▶ **CREATION** of two demonstrators showcasing MTC's capability to join dissimilar materials
- ▶ **POLYMER-METAL** adhesive free joining
- ▶ **COLLABORATING** with the National Composites Centre (NCC) on applications



Hydrogen permeation barriers

Case study: hydrogen permeation barriers and functional testing

Overview

MTC measured the performance of a range of ceramic coatings to assess their suitability for use at high temperatures in fusion applications as tritium or hydrogen permeation barrier.

The challenge

- Stainless steels are widely used due to their excellent mechanical properties, corrosion resistance and resistance to hydrogen embrittlement. However above 700°C the corrosion and hydrogen embrittlement resistance is reduced significantly.
- In fusion applications the stainless steel would be exposed to high temperatures and high concentrations of hydrogen presenting a risk of the steel failing due to hydrogen embrittlement.
- A suitable coating is needed that allows steels to be used in the fusion environment.

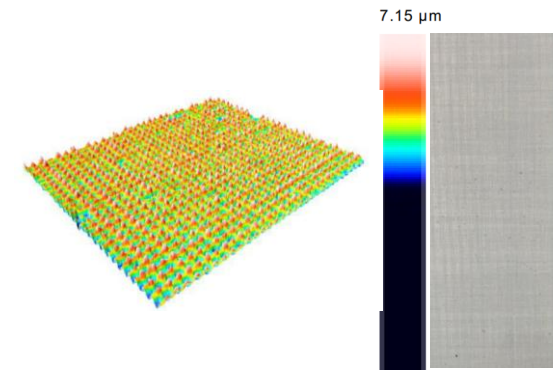
MTC's solution

- Alumina, Ytria and Ytria + Tungsten coatings were selected. Physical Vapour Deposition (PVD) was used to coat P91 pipe demonstrators.
- Laser surface texturing was carried out on the P91 steel substrate to increase the adhesion of the coatings.
- The hydrogen permeability of each selected coating was measured at temperatures up to 450°C.

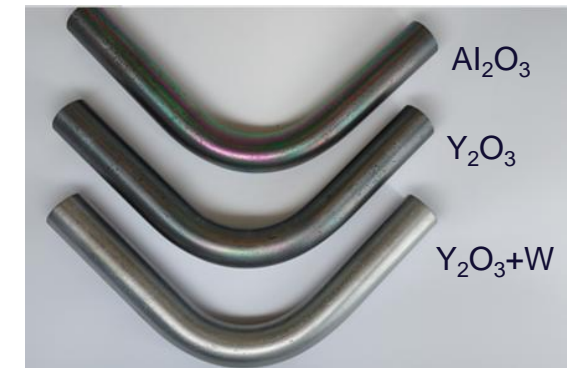
Benefits to the client

- Application of a few microns of ceramic was shown to increase the resistance to hydrogen embrittlement by a factor of 20 at 450°C greatly reducing the rate at which hydrogen embrittlement of steels occurs in fusion applications.
- A novel laser texturing technique and development of the scratch testing methodology provided a solution to increase the quality of coating therefore extending the service life of the fusion components.

↓ 20x
Reduction in H₂ permeability



Laser surface texturing



Coatings on P91 steel pipes

Low cost electrocatalyst coatings

Case study: novel low-cost hard-facing materials for hydrogen energy applications

Overview

MTC explored the feasibility of using of low-cost Tungsten Carbide (WC) based materials for water electrolysis applications as a low-cost coating replacement for platinum.

The challenge

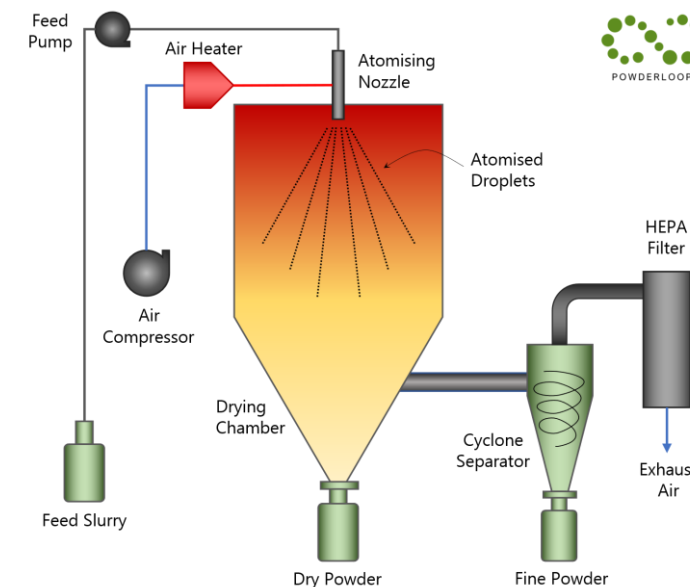
- One barrier to industrial-scale hydrogen generation is the processing cost, partially driven by the high cost of platinum in electrolyzers.
- This project investigated tungsten carbide-based materials as a low-cost and energy efficient feedstock alternative to platinum.
- A wide range of WC-based materials have been tested for Hydrogen Evolution Reaction (HER) performance. There exists a research gap for electrodes based on WC-metal additives combinations which could increase HER performance of the electrodes.

MTC's solution

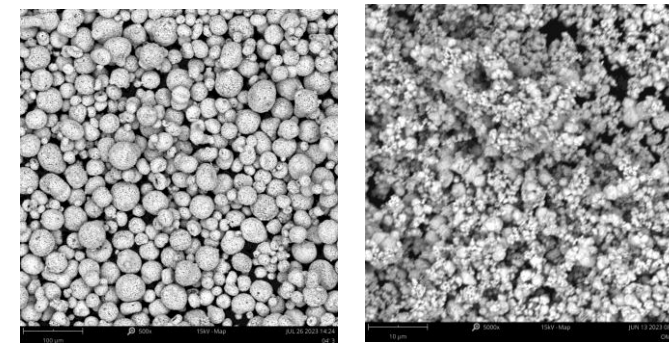
- Powderloop Technology Ltd, will manufacture WC-based metal powders using an energy-efficient environmentally friendly method.
- MTC will formulate and deposit electrocatalyst coatings.
- Our Royce partner will determine functional performance by conducting electrochemical measurements.

Benefits to the client

- This project will help develop a UK-based supply chain for future energy materials and ultimately help enable the scale-up of cost-effective hydrogen generation, supporting future clean energy solutions.
- The analysis of electrocatalyst performance will identify potential improvements required for the catalyst material synthesis process, and future insights for Powderloop.



Powder Agglomeration Process



Tungsten Carbide Powder

Thank you

