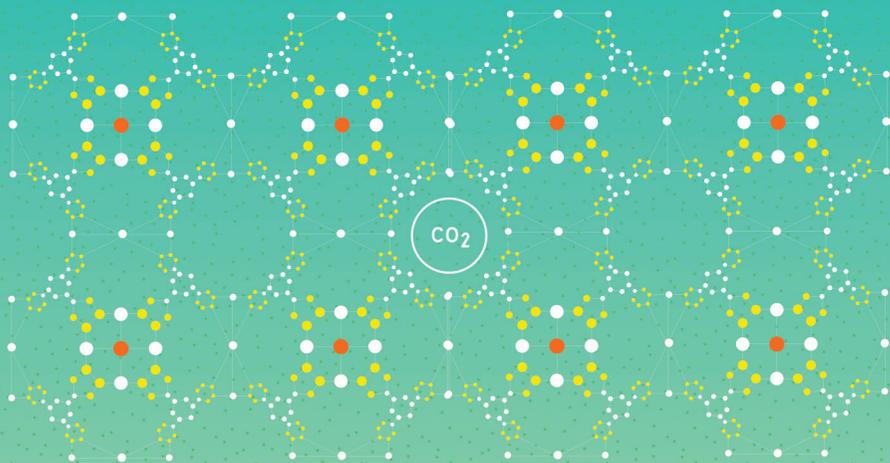


Emerging Carbon Capture Technologies Overview

A Review of New Post-Combustion Technologies and Processes
that Capture Industrial Carbon Dioxide Emissions at Power Plants





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Overview

To date, most reviews of carbon capture technologies are accompanied by a discussion of sequestration, which is the process of burying carbon dioxide (CO₂) deep into the ground where it will remain out of the atmosphere. This paradigm views CO₂ as a liability and a waste product, and avoids liability issues and regulatory challenges. Thus, burying it deep in geologic formations for eternity makes sense.

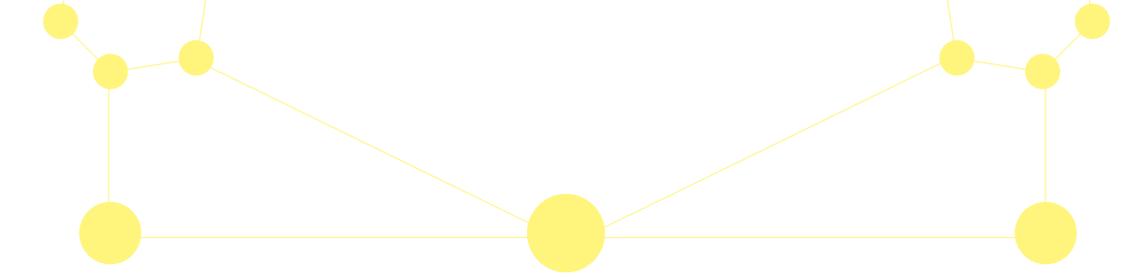
Our review of CO₂ technologies is different, for while we acknowledge the potential of sequestration to provide a long-term environmental service, it is by no means the only method of handling CO₂ to lead to the emergence of this service.

Specifically, a previous Prize Capital report that was released in 2011 discussed “carbon capture and recycling” (CCR), a process by which carbon is recognized as a fundamental building block in the production of numerous products, such as fuel and building materials, and thus treated as an asset.

While many of the emerging 136 CCR entities profiled in that previous report are able to handle raw flue gas from power plants and thus avert the need for a separate carbon capture function, a significant portion of these technologies do not.

So while CCR can bypass some of the technological and perceptual challenges that have delayed the emergence of sequestration, the CCR approach that proves most effective in scaled, real-world applications may itself depend on the emergence of a scalable, real-world carbon capture technology at significantly lower costs and lower energy consumption than currently possible.

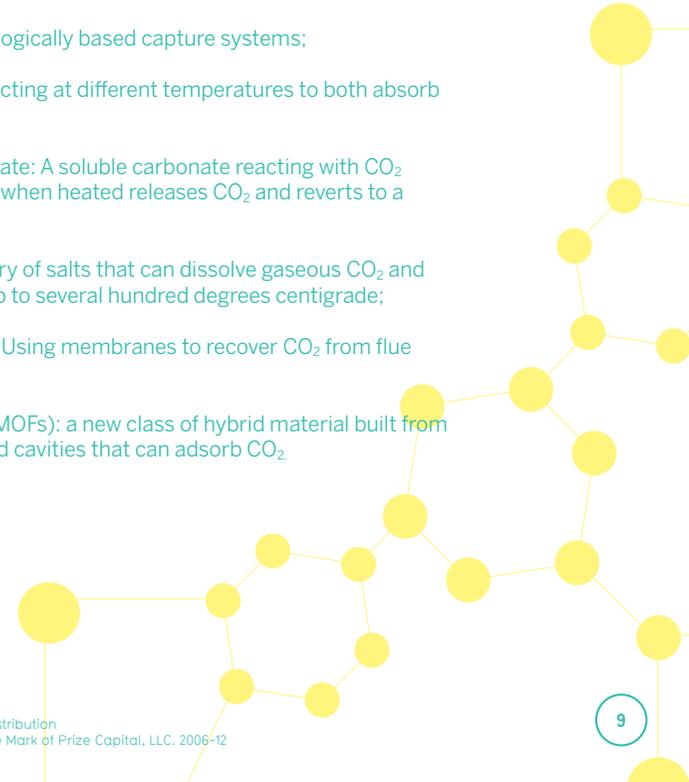
To date, the primary carbon capture demonstration technologies have focused on amines and chilled ammonia. These approaches were developed decades ago for use in other industries, such as synthetic ammonia production, H₂ production, and limestone calcination, where they have served these industries well given the relatively low volumes of carbon captured and high price points. Yet now that the power industry is examining carbon capture approaches and experimenting with scaling up these existing technologies to meet their volumetric needs and price-points, the industry is realizing that these traditional technologies are falling far short.



One statistic alone –that power plants need to devote approximately 30 percent of their electric output, so called “parasitic” load, from a given plant to power an accompanied traditional carbon capture technology to isolate and bury a product – is enough to keep the carbon capture industry (as applied to power plants) at bay. One of the most well known and thorough carbon capture demonstrations in the United States (at AEP’s Mountaineering Plant) shut down in 2011 after a successful two-year run because, as the company stated, there was no compelling regulatory or business reason to continue the program.¹

In order to spur advancements, governments around the world have provided billions of dollars in funding to support the development of carbon capture breakthroughs. In the United States, the Department of Energy (DOE) has been actively funding technological development of advanced technologies for a decade, and has dramatically increased its level of financial support in recent years, largely through its National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) and Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E).

Through these DOE programs, breakthrough technologies have been targeted in the areas of:

- Solvents: Improved primary, secondary, and tertiary amines;
 - Enzyme Based Systems: Biologically based capture systems;
 - Physical Sorbents: Solids reacting at different temperatures to both absorb and release CO₂;
 - Precipitated Calcium Carbonate: A soluble carbonate reacting with CO₂ to form a bicarbonate, which when heated releases CO₂ and reverts to a carbonate;
 - Ionic Liquids: A broad category of salts that can dissolve gaseous CO₂ and are stable at temperatures up to several hundred degrees centigrade;
 - Gas Separation Membranes: Using membranes to recover CO₂ from flue gas;
 - Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs): a new class of hybrid material built from metal ions with carefully sized cavities that can adsorb CO₂
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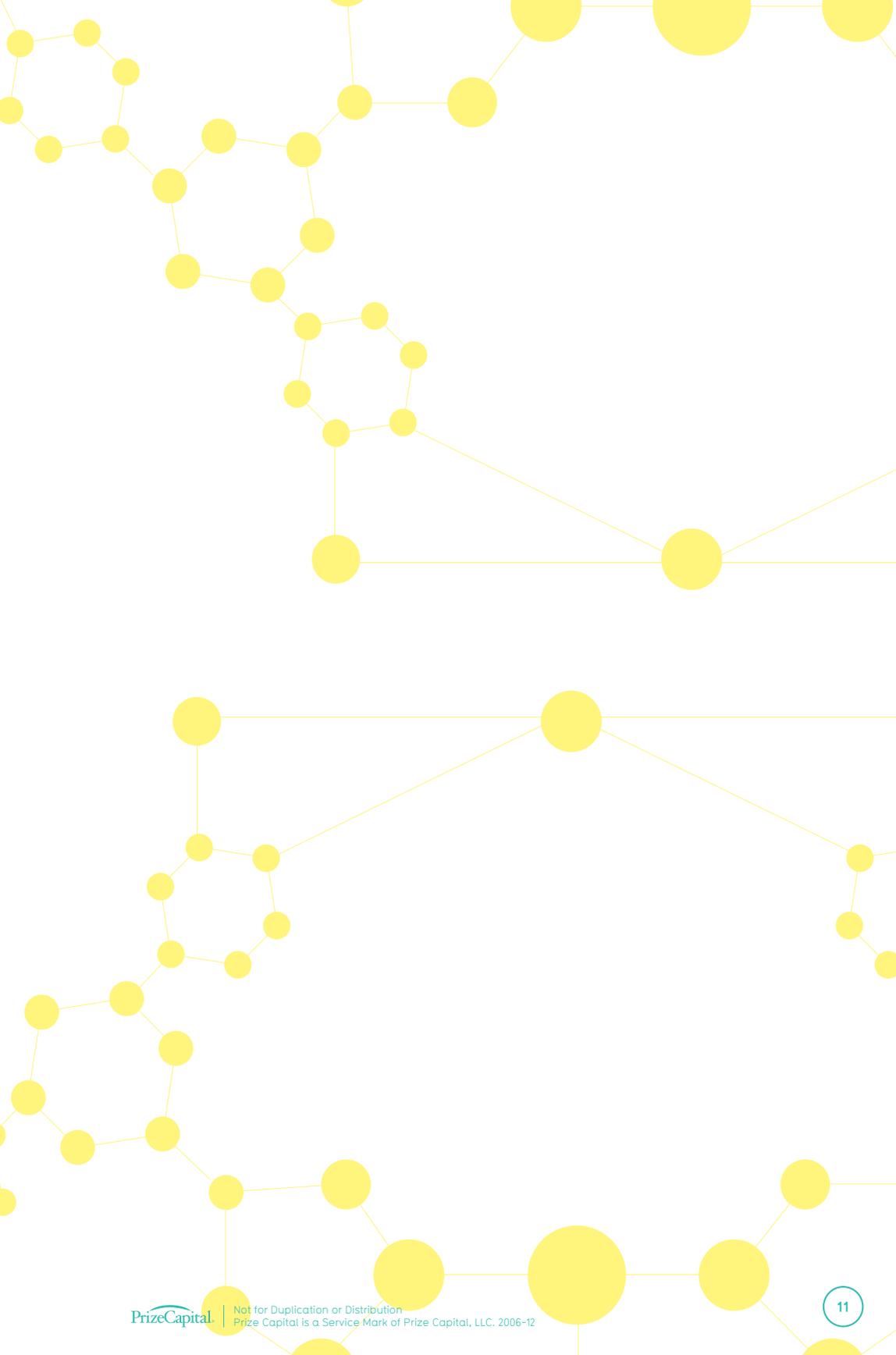


This report examines these emerging technologies. We narrow our focus specifically to post-combustion carbon capture technologies, given that there is an existing power generation infrastructure to address and equip. Contrary to Prize Capital's CCR Industry Overview, this report is largely not an original nor a comprehensive piece of literature, but rather an aggregation of partial information, data, and developments in this field, with a particular eye towards the targets of recent government funding (given that the government has been by far the industry's largest funding source).

The true value of this report is in its accompaniment of the CCR Industry Overview. Reviewing the two reports side-by-side reveals the complementary nature of the technologies, the mutual nascency of both industries, and the overwhelming potential that is presented not just by these industries respectively, but in the combination of these industries to form effective end-to-end (i.e. flue gas to sellable product) solutions.

Note that we use the term "solutions" in its plural form, for our analyses in both reports indicates that multiple technologies may emerge as scalable, affordable, real-world solutions. Given that there are 136 (and counting) emerging CCR entities and 90 emerging carbon capture entities presented in this report alone, simply providing a platform to allow these various entities to experiment with each other leaves the door open for nearly 13,000 possible end-to-end solutions.

As we move forward, the key to realizing the reality and potential of end-to-end solutions is constructing the platform that allows for and encourages just such experimentations and radical breakthroughs, through the diversification of innovation, that traditional R&D approaches do not achieve. A centralized test center at a real world, functioning power plant that leverages existing government and industry support, deliberately fosters collaboration, and incorporates competitive elements may be precisely the platform needed to catalyze and fuse these two industries and create the radical breakthroughs society needs to deal with CO₂.



Carbon Capture Without Sequestration?

Most discussions about carbon capture are accompanied by a discussion of sequestration. In this report, we deliberately avoid this accompaniment. Instead, we look at carbon capture through the prism of “carbon capture and recycling” and the potential for viable end-to-end (i.e. flue gas to sellable product) solutions to emerge.

Carbon Capture and Recycling (CCR)

An industry is emerging with a new option to mitigate industrial CO₂ emissions while generating additional revenue.²

Dubbed “Carbon Capture and Recycling”, this new industry dispels the notion that CO₂ is a liability that needs to be buried – as is the case with carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) – and instead views the gas as a resource to be capitalized upon, using it as a feedstock in the production of valuable products such as fuel, building materials, animal feed, specialty chemicals, and plastics, among other things. In the near-term, this new industry represents a paradigm change that could avert the need to resolve complex issues associated with CCS (given that several CCR entities are able to handle raw flue gas) and instead prompt renewed action on CO₂ mitigation. Such action is essential as a carbon-constrained world emerges.³

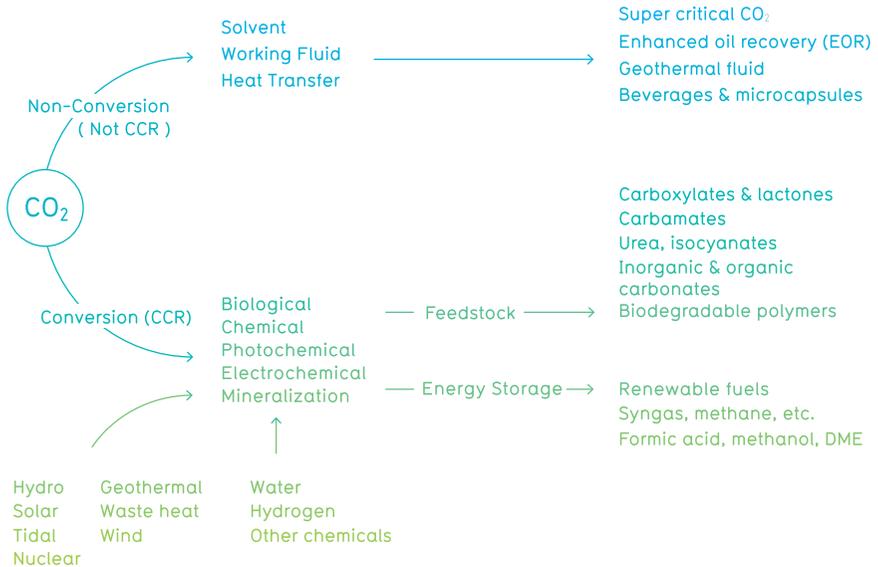
CCR approaches fall into three categories:⁴

- **Biological:** a biological organism rapidly absorbs CO₂ to produce a product (e.g. algae oil refined to fuel)
- **Chemical and catalytic:** a catalyst prompts donor electrons to break or augment the carbon-oxygen bond in CO₂ molecules, then combines the carbon with other elements to produce a product (e.g. concentrated solar reforms CO₂ into CO, which then combines with hydrogen to produce synthetic diesel fuel)
- **Mineralization:** Through the use of feldspars and carbonization, CO₂ is locked into solid structures that can then be incorporated into products (e.g. CO₂ is reduced via anorthite to produce aluminum oxide, which is then sold to the advanced ceramic and chemical processing industries)

By absorbing, rearranging, and combining CO₂ to produce new products, well-established markets of sizeable proportion (i.e. the market for gasoline alone is approximately \$700 billion

per year) are fed, and new revenue streams are established for their producers,⁵ some of which are presented in Figure 1:

Figure 1
Different Pathways for Utilizing CO₂



Source: DNV

The CCR industry is nascent, but already is comprised of at least 136 total entities (37 biological, 63 chemical/catalytic, 23 mineralization, 1 blended approach, and 12 uncategorized entities). These entities vary in size from unfunded concept to >\$50 million. They have received government and private funding totaling approximately \$1 billion. Some are offering full spectrum solutions from capture to reuse, others focus on reuse and need viable capture solutions to promote their value proposition.⁶

These entities and others are working to overcome the challenges associated with commercializing and deploying CCR technologies. These challenges include: being able to recycle carbon year round, in various climactic conditions; thermodynamic and thermochemical logistics and efficiencies; scalability; proximity to necessary resources; and many others. With the emerging array of technologies and producers, as well as the current slate of technological challenges, this industry would benefit from models that promote diversity of innovation as well as financial diversity, rather than placing “bets” on single technologies and producers.⁷

Prize Capital’s CCR Industry Overview took an initial look at this emerging industry and the innovators within it, given that little aggregated, public data is currently available. It examined the rationale for CCR, current CCR approaches, the forces emerging to shape such approaches, and focused the majority of its content on providing snapshots of the innovators leading the creation of this new industry, including their respective stages of development as they march towards commercialization.⁸

The Value of End-to-End Solutions

This previous examination of the CCR industry revealed that the CCR approach that proves most effective in scaled, real-world applications may itself depend on the emergence of a scalable, real-world carbon capture technology, for a significant portion of the identified CCR technologies are not able to handle raw flue gas.

The package that is of most value to point source carbon emitters, such as those that comprise the power industry, is one that is end-to-end. In other words, as case studies indicate, point source operators have no compelling regulatory or business reason to simply capture carbon dioxide for the sake of capturing it. They also have no need for equipment that produces marvelous products from gas streams (i.e. CO₂) but is not compatible with their plant's particular gas stream (i.e. flue gas).

Yet if a solution that can plug in to existing point-source infrastructure and, in one approach, convert something that is currently discharged into something that creates value, a package of tremendous importance is presented to point-source emitters. Such is the value of end-to-end solutions.

Arriving at an end-to-end solution will require cross-pollination between the CCR and carbon capture industries and a significant level of experimentation to determine which combination of CCR and carbon capture technologies perform best.

One format that could encourage just such cross-pollination and experimentation is a centralized test center at a real world, functioning power plant. Many of the future needs of the electric industry are being developed primarily in laboratory settings, which could be significantly advanced through research and testing at an operating coal-fired electric plant.

Unfortunately, laboratory conditions don't mimic the real world, where large-scale energy providers are chartered with the responsibility to provide consistent, affordable electricity to their customers. Innovators find it difficult to test their technologies in the real world because of utilities' "stack risk" – the legal, permitting, operational, and cost burdens encountered by a utility seeking to test one single technology.

A centralized test center can mitigate this risk by providing a working environment for research and testing in not just one but numerous areas that will be critical to the future viability and affordability of the electric sector.

Such a center can complement the existing government-supported National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC), which is a proven technology accelerator in the area of mostly conventional carbon capture. It can particularly complement the Post-Combustion Carbon Capture Center (PC4) located within the NCCC. The PC4 provides access to coal combustion flue gas streams for testing of post-combustion carbon capture regimes but requires substantial capital investment and does not pursue CO₂ utilization approaches.

A new test center can build upon the successful approaches of the NCCC and the PC4 to accelerate development of unconventional carbon capture technologies that breakthrough the current capital and parasitic load burdens and pair with CO₂ utilization technologies to create value out of what is currently a waste product.

It could also be of value to integrate competitive inducement prize(s) with the new center. Such prizes could provide cash (and other) awards to carbon capture and their recycling partners to further incentivize the pairing and experimentation of carbon capture with recycling technologies and facilitate breakthroughs in end-to-end applications. The art and science of inducement prize competitions is well understood.⁹

Conventional Post-Combustion Carbon Capture

Given that, on a mass basis, CO₂ is the 19th largest commodity chemical in the United States, CO₂ is routinely separated and captured as a by-product from industrial processes, which include synthetic ammonia production, H₂ production, and limestone calcination.¹⁰

Conventional post-combustion carbon capture processes implemented at power plants have simply scaled up these smaller scaled processes. The dominant methods of carbon capture include the use of bases: amine solvents and chilled ammonia.

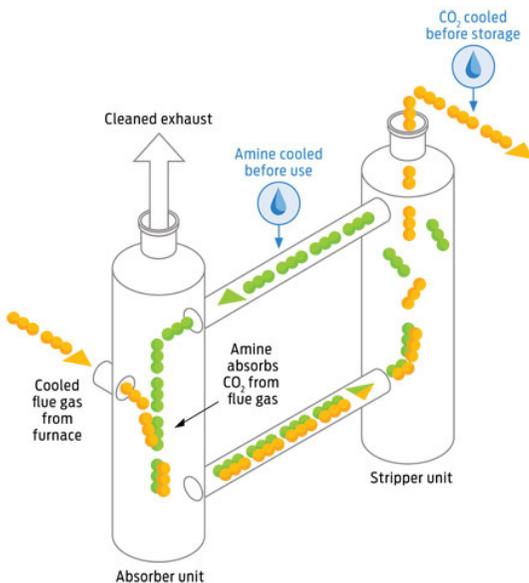
Amine Solvents

Gas absorption processes using chemical solvents, such as amines, to separate CO₂ from other gases have been in use since the 1930s in the natural gas industry. These processes are also used to produce food and chemical grade CO₂ from gas streams containing 3 to 25 percent CO₂.¹¹

In this process, CO₂ is recovered from combustion exhaust by using amine absorbers and cryogenic coolers.¹² Amines react with CO₂ to form water-soluble compounds.¹³ Because of this compound formation, amines are able to capture CO₂ from streams with a low CO₂ partial pressure, but capacity is equilibrium limited.¹⁴ Thus, amine-based systems are able to recover CO₂ from the flue gas of conventional pulverized coal (PC) fired power plants.¹⁵

The process is illustrated in Figure 2:

Figure 2
A Typical Amine-Based Carbon Capture Process



Source: The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

Ammonia

The easiest way of looking at the basic properties of amines is to think of an amine as a modified ammonia molecule. In an amine, a hydrocarbon group has replaced one or more of the hydrogen atoms in ammonia.¹⁶

Replacing the hydrogen atoms still leaves the lone pair on the nitrogen unchanged – and it is the lone pair on the nitrogen that gives ammonia its basic properties. Amines will therefore behave much the same as ammonia in all cases where the lone pair is involved.¹⁷

Accordingly, AEP implemented an Alstom patented chilled post-combustion ammonia system at its 1300-megawatt coal-based Mountaineer Plant in New Haven, West Virginia,¹⁸ as pictured in Image 1, where a 20-megawatt validation project ran between September 2009 and May 2011.

At the facility, the plant's slipstream was chilled and combined with a solution of ammonium carbonate, which absorbs the CO_2 to create ammonium bicarbonate.¹⁹ The ammonium bicarbonate solution was then pressurized and heated in a separate process to produce a high-purity stream of CO_2 , which was in turn sequestered.²⁰

This was the first fully integrated CCS project at an existing coal-burning power plant.²¹

Image 1

AEP's Mountaineer Chilled Ammonia Carbon Capture Plant Built by Alstom



Source: Alstom

Challenges with Conventional Carbon Capture

Existing capture technologies are not cost-effective when considered in the context of sequestering CO₂ from power plants.²²

Unlike previous industrial applications, most power plants and other large point sources use air-fired combustors, a process that exhausts CO₂ diluted with nitrogen. Flue gas from coal-fired power plants contains 10-12 percent CO₂ by volume.²³ For effective carbon recycling, the CO₂ in these exhaust gases must be separated and concentrated and the solvent must be regenerated, as previously described.

These processes currently consume a tremendous amount of energy. A common estimate is that the energy required per MWh would rise 36% for a typical post-combustion plant retrofit.²⁴

Accordingly, the cost of CO₂ capture using current technology is on the order of \$150 per ton of carbon.²⁵ Analysis indicates that adding existing technologies for CO₂ capture to an electricity generation process could increase the cost of electricity by 2.5 cents to 4 cents/kWh depending on the type of process.²⁶

Furthermore, the conventional carbon capture technologies are water intensive. Cooling the amines for CO₂ absorption, which generates heat, leads to an additional load on the cooling tower, causing more water to be lost.²⁷ Compressing the CO₂ to the supercritical conditions needed for storage requires cooling, too.²⁸ Thus, conventional technologies increase water requirements at a given plant by 33%.²⁹ If the energy lost in the carbon capture process is accounted for by adding additional capacity, then water consumption would increase by 80 percent.³⁰

Finally, there is a general lack of experience with current carbon capture systems at the appropriate scale at power plants. Currently operating CO₂ capture systems in coal-based power plant applications (i.e. amine and chilled ammonia solvent systems) process about 75,000 to 300,000 tons of CO₂ per year. By comparison, a single 550-megawatt (MW) net output coal-fired power plant capturing 90 percent of the emitted CO₂ will need to separate approximately 5 million tons of CO₂ per year.³¹

Emerging Carbon Capture Technologies »

A variety of technologies are emerging that introduce new approaches to carbon capture geared specifically towards large point-source CO₂-emitting sources, rather than simply scale-ups of older applications in different industries. These technologies – which include new solvents, enzyme based systems, physical sorbents, precipitated calcium carbonate, ionic liquids, gas separation membranes, and metal organic frameworks – have the potential to break through the energy, water, and cost barriers that afflict traditional carbon capture technologies.

Solvents

Amines are available in three forms (primary, secondary, and tertiary), each with its advantages and disadvantages as a CO₂ solvent. In addition to options for the amine, additives can be used to modify system performance. Also, design modifications are possible to decrease capital costs and improve energy integration.³²

Improvements to amine-based systems for post-combustion CO₂ capture are being pursued by a number of process developers. R&D pathways to improved amine-based systems include modified tower packing to reduce pressure drop and increase contacting, increased heat integration to reduce energy requirements, additives to reduce corrosion and allow higher amine concentrations, and improved regeneration procedures.³³

Aqueous ammonia is a related emerging option. Ammonia-based wet scrubbing is similar in operation to amine systems. Ammonia and its derivatives react with CO₂ via various mechanisms, one of which is the reaction of ammonium carbonate (AC), CO₂, and water to form ammonium bicarbonate (ABC). This reaction has a significantly lower heat of reaction than amine-based systems, resulting in energy savings, provided the absorption/desorption cycle can be limited to this mechanism.³⁴

Ammonia-based absorption has a number of other advantages over amine-based systems, such as the potential for high CO₂ capacity, lack of degradation during absorption/regeneration, tolerance to oxygen in the flue gas, low cost, and potential for regeneration at high pressure.³⁵

Enzyme Based Systems

Biologically based capture systems are another potential avenue for improvement in CO₂ capture technology. These systems are based upon naturally occurring reactions of CO₂ in living organisms. One of these possibilities is the use of enzymes. One process, utilizing carbonic anhydrase (CA) in a hollow fiber contained liquid membrane, has demonstrated in the laboratory a significant technical improvement over the MEA temperature swing absorption process.³⁶

The rate of CO₂ dissolution in water is limited by the rate of aqueous CO₂ hydration, and the CO₂-carrying capacity is limited by buffering capacity. Adding the enzyme CA to the solution speeds up the rate of carbonic acid formation; CA has the ability to catalyze the hydration of 600,000 molecules of carbon dioxide per molecule of CA per second compared to a theoretical maximum rate of 1,400,000. This fast turnover rate minimizes the amount of enzyme required.³⁷

Coupled with a low make-up rate, due to a potential CA life of 6 months based on laboratory testing, a biomimetic membrane approach has the potential for a step change improvement in performance and cost for large scale CO₂ capture in the power sector. The idea behind this process is to use immobilized enzyme at the gas/liquid interface to increase the mass transfer and separation of CO₂ from flue gas.³⁸

Technical challenges exist before this technology can be pilot tested in the field. These limitations include membrane boundary layers, pore wetting, surface fouling, loss of enzyme activity, long-term operation, and scale-up, which are being addressed in a current project.³⁹

Physical Sorbents

A number of solids can be used to react with CO₂ to form stable compounds at one set of operating conditions and then, at another set of conditions, be regenerated to liberate the absorbed CO₂ and reform the original compound. However, solids are inherently more difficult to work with than liquids, and no solid sorbent system for large scale recovery of CO₂ from flue gas has yet been commercialized, although molecular sieve systems are used to remove impurities from a number of streams, such as in the production of pure H₂.⁴⁰

Precipitated Calcium Carbonate

Carbonate systems are based on the ability of a soluble carbonate to react with CO₂ to form a bicarbonate, which when heated releases CO₂ and reverts to a carbonate.⁴¹

A major advantage of carbonates over amine-based systems is the significantly lower energy required for regeneration. Analysis has indicated that the energy requirement is approximately 5% lower with a higher loading capacity of 40% versus about 30% for MEA. System integration studies indicate that improvements in structured packing can provide an additional 5% energy savings, and multi-pressure stripping can reduce energy use 5–15%.⁴²

Ionic Liquids

Ionic liquids (ILs) are a broad category of salts, typically containing an organic cation and either an inorganic or organic anion shows the computed electron density for a CO₂ molecule interacting with the ionic liquid [hmim][Tf₂N].⁴³

ILs can dissolve gaseous CO₂ and are stable at temperatures up to several hundred degrees centigrade. Their good temperature stability offers the possibility of recovering CO₂ from flue gas without having to cool it first. Also, since ILs are physical solvents, little heat is required for regeneration.⁴⁴

Some ionic liquids are commercially available, but the ones most suited for CO₂ separation have only been synthesized in small quantities in academic laboratories. As such, current unit costs are high, but should be significantly lower when produced on a commercial scale for the volumes that would be needed by the power generation sector.⁴⁵

The viscosity of many ILs is relatively high compared to conventional solvents. Viscosities for a variety of ILs are reported to range from 66 to 1110 cP at 20 to 25 °C, and high viscosity may be an issue in practical applications.⁴⁶

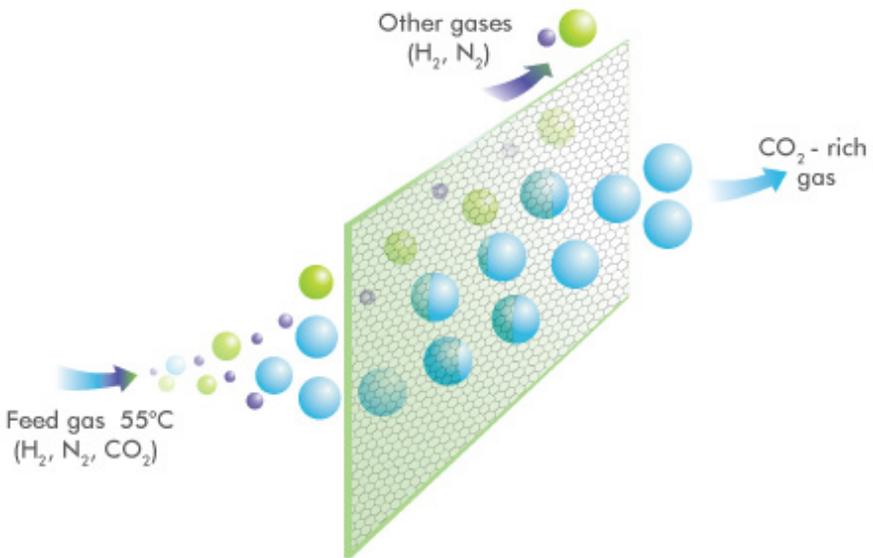
Based on the finding that the anion is critical in determining CO₂ solubility, several ionic liquids have been developed that have exhibited CO₂ solubilities 40 times greater than traditionally achieved. Capacity still needs to be significantly improved, however, to meet cost targets. Task specific ILs (TSIL) that contain amine functionality are being investigated to provide the next step change improvement in CO₂ solubility.⁴⁷

Gas Separation Membranes

There are a variety of options for using membranes to recover CO₂ from flue gas. In one concept, flue gas would be passed through a bundle of membrane tubes, while an amine solution flowed through the shell side of the bundle. CO₂ would pass through the membrane and be absorbed in the amine, while impurities would be blocked from the amine, thus decreasing the loss of amine as a result of stable salt formation. Also, it should be possible to achieve a higher loading

differential between rich amine and lean amine. After leaving the membrane bundle, the amine would be regenerated before being recycled. R&D pathways to an improved system include increased membrane selectivity and permeability and decreased cost.⁴⁸ Another concept under development is the use of an inorganic membrane (see Figure 3). Such membranes can selectively separate CO₂ from CH₄; others can contain amine functional groups for the separation of CO₂ from flue gas. Such a membrane can have better CO₂ selectivity than a pure siliceous membrane, if the illusive balance between permeance and selectivity can be achieved.⁴⁹

Figure 3
Gas Separation Membrane Flatsheet Module



Source: CO2CRC

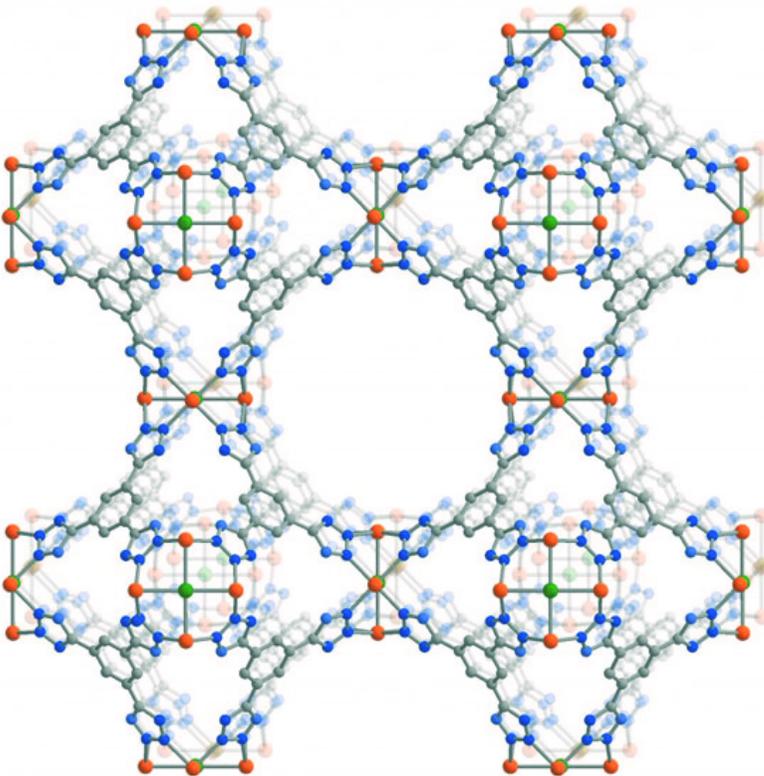
Membrane gas separation processes have been widely used for hydrogen recovery in ammonia synthesis, removal of CO₂ from natural gas, and nitrogen separation from air. Each of the membranes used in these capacities could be applied to carbon capture. Commonly used membrane types for CO₂ and H₂ separation include polymeric membranes, inorganic microporous membranes, and palladium membranes.⁵⁰ Polymeric membranes, including cellulose acetate, polysulfone, and polyimide are the most commonly used for separation of CO₂ from nitrogen, but have relatively low selectivity to other separation methods.⁵¹ Inorganic membranes, able to withstand high temperatures, are capable of operating inside combustion or gasification chambers.⁵² Membrane reactors based on inorganic membranes with palladium catalyst can reform hydrocarbon fuels to mixture of H₂ and CO₂ and at the same time separating the high-value H₂.⁵³ Combining membranes with chemical solvents has also been proposed.⁵⁴ Despite an extra energy requirement, this arrangement may eliminate problems associated with direct contact between the liquid solvent and gas mixture.⁵⁵

Most membranes have inherent difficulty achieving high degrees of gas separation due to varying rates of gas transport. Stream recycling or multiple stages of membranes may be necessary to achieve CO₂ streams amenable to geologic storage, increasing energy consumption.⁵⁶ However, the potential for high surface area could reduce the chemical potential difference required to drive gas separation.⁵⁷

Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs)

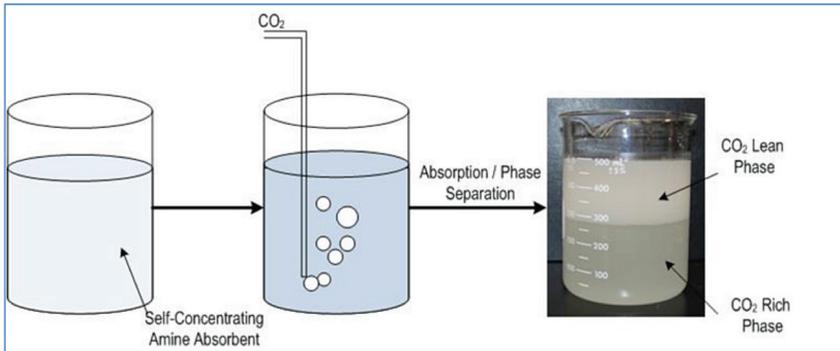
Metal organic frameworks (MOFs) are a new class of hybrid material built from metal ions with well-defined coordination geometry and organic bridging ligands (see Image 2). They are extended structures with carefully sized cavities that can adsorb CO₂. High storage capacity is possible, and the heat required for recovery of the adsorbed CO₂ is low. Over 600 chemically and structurally diverse MOFs have been developed over the past several years. MOF-177 has shown one of the highest surface areas and adsorption capacity for CO₂ at elevated pressure.⁵⁸ Additional work is needed to determine stability over thousands of cycles and the effect of impurities at typical flue gas temperature and pressure.⁵⁹

Image 2
Typical Illustration of a Metal Organic Framework for Carbon Capture



Source: Jeffrey Long, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

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Source: NETL

Concept of the Proposed Self-Concentrating Amine Absorbent Process.

3H Company, LLC

3H Company received \$2.7M in July 2010 from the DOE and is contributing additional funds to bring the total to \$3,484,770 to evaluate the feasibility of its "Self-Concentrating Absorbent CO₂ Capture Process."

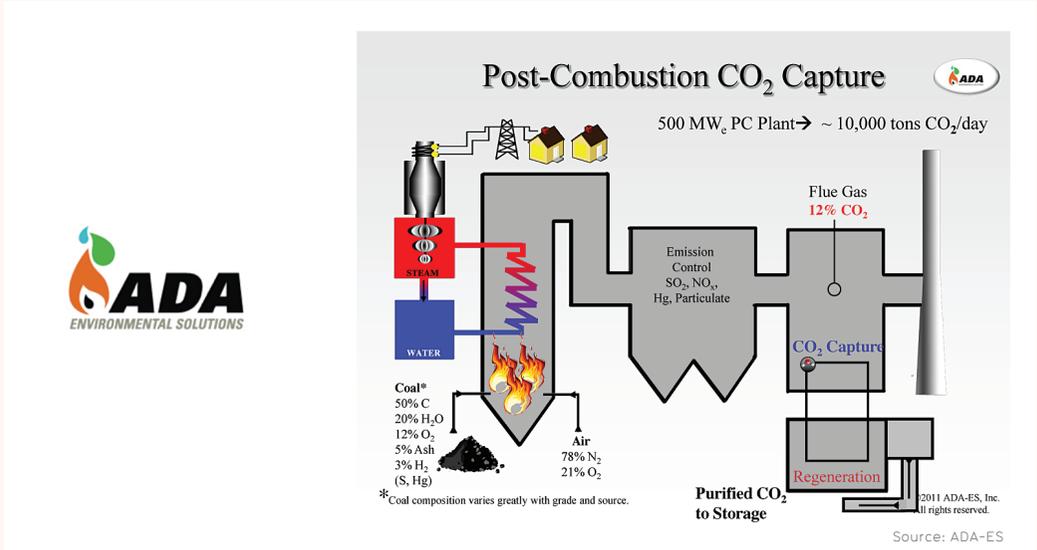
The process is based on amines in a non-aqueous solvent that, upon reaction with CO₂, separate into two distinct phases: a CO₂-rich liquid phase and a dilute lean phase.

The proposed process offers several potential advantages. Preliminary experimental data show that the process has the potential of reducing the total regeneration energy by as much as 70 percent. The solvent has high working capacity, thus required solvent volume would be lower than that required in a currently available amine system. This results in lower pumping requirements, lower auxiliary power demands, and reduced equipment size. In addition, since

the solvent is non-aqueous, corrosion issues would be reduced.

During the three-year project (between 4/11 and 9/13), an engineering design supported by laboratory data and economic justification will be developed to construct and operate a slipstream demonstration facility at an E-ON power plant in the United States as a next stage of commercialization development.

The company is working with the Electric Power Research Institute, LG&E and KU Energy LLC, Nexant, Inc., and the University of Kentucky. The company also partners with Bechtel Power Corporation, Western Kentucky University, and Sask Power.



ADA-ES

ADA-ES modeled its approach to CO₂ capture on 20 years of experience developing and commercializing solutions for particulate and mercury control. The company has set the goal of developing a commercially available, cost effective, post-combustion CO₂ capture technology by the year 2020. The company is currently working on several projects to develop a CO₂ capture technology based on solid regenerable sorbents.

In the company's CO₂ capture system, located immediately upstream of the stack, the flue gas is sent through a contactor where a solid sorbent separates the CO₂ from the other flue gas constituents. Then the CO₂-laden sorbent material is moved out of the flue gas into the re-generation chamber where it is regenerated through a change in temperature or pressure. During this regeneration step, the CO₂ gas is released in a nearly pure stream and collected in a separate vessel. This purified CO₂ is now ready for beneficial re-use or sequestration. The regenerated sorbent material can be used again to capture more CO₂.

The most important advantage of solid sorbents

is the potential to significantly reduce the amount of energy required to capture and release the CO₂. The company's initial research using solid sorbents indicates that this process may use as much as 50% less energy than other CO₂ capture technologies.

In 2008, ADA-ES was awarded a \$2.0 million collaborative research and development agreement from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) and the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) for CO₂ capture research. In addition, we have received \$1.2 million in cost share funding and technical guidance from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and several electrical utility companies that will also participate in the research.

Based on the success of the initial phase of research and development, in 2010, ADA-ES was awarded a \$15 million collaborative agreement from the U.S. DOE, with another \$3.75 million in cost share provided by several utility partners, to move the technology development and pilot-scale demonstration phase.

Project Leader(s): James R. Markham

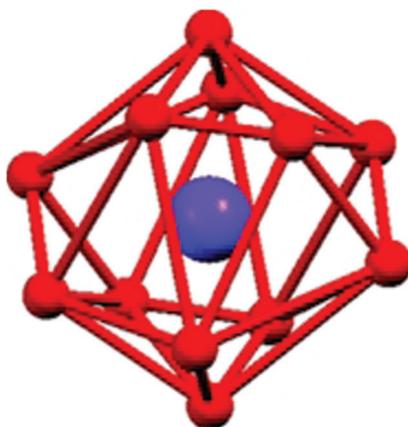
Weblink: afrinc.com

Phone: 860.528.9806 ext. 104

Level of Funding: \$99,969

Location: East Hartford, CT

E: jim@AFRinc.com



Source: AFR and NETL

Advanced Fuel Research, Inc.

Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. was awarded in 2005 and has since completed a small business innovative research (SBIR) project that initiated development of a novel sorbent for the removal of CO₂ from combustion flue gas. The primary goal of this project was to develop a process using a supported amine for CO₂ capture that exhibits better system efficiency, lower cost, and less corrosion than current aqueous amine-based processes.⁶⁰

The project was to demonstrate performance of carbon-supported amine sorbents under simulated flue gas conditions. Three tasks were undertaken: (1) the development of six to ten carbon-supported amine sorbents for CO₂ adsorption testing; (2) the sorbents were to undergo CO₂ adsorption and desorption tests to determine the effect of temperature on adsorption capacity and make recommendations for sorbent-regeneration conditions; and (3) an

assessment was to be conducted to evaluate the concept in terms of comparison with alternative technologies, materials requirements, economics, and life-limiting factors.⁶¹



AIL Research, Inc.

AIL Research, Inc.

AIL Research, Inc. (AIL) is in the second phase of a small business initiative research (SBIR) project that is assessing the economic and technical feasibility of a CO₂ stripper that uses an internally heated contactor. The project will determine whether the construction of the internally heated contactor is compatible with the operating conditions of a monoethanolamine stripper and an advanced scrubber (e.g., one that uses a mixture of potassium carbonate and piperazine) and it will also determine the maintenance procedures required to fall within acceptable operation and maintenance practices at power plants.⁶²

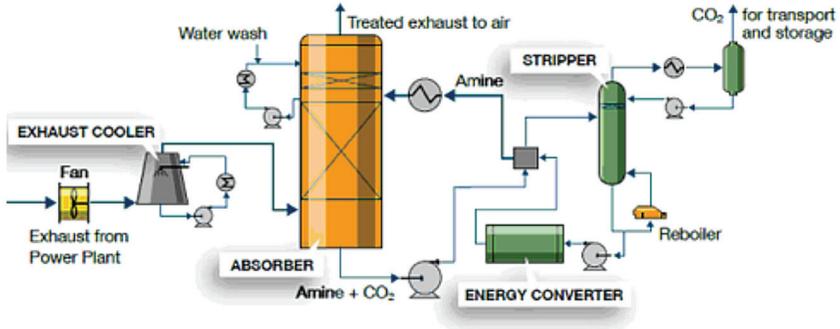
AIL will also work to scale-up the CO₂ stripper concept that utilizes an internally heated contactor. This work includes the development of both the surface treatment and physical structure for the contact surface of the internally heated stripper. Researchers will also identify a solvent that will produce the most economically

viable CO₂ scrubber system by testing several thermally regenerated CO₂ absorbents under controlled laboratory conditions, while gaining a better understanding of the operating parameters that control scrubber performance.

In addition, this project will evaluate the impact that the proposed CO₂ capture system will have on the performance and economics of coal-fired power plants.⁶³



The CO₂ capture process:



Source: Aker Clean Carbon

Aker Clean Carbon

Aker Clean Carbon has developed its own technology for carbon capture. The basis of the process is the chemical reaction between a liquid absorbent, normally an amine, and CO₂.⁶⁴

In the capture plant, the exhaust containing CO₂ is routed via inlet coolers to a large absorption tower. The gas enters at the bottom of the absorber and gets in contact with the (liquid) amine, which flows downwards. The amine will absorb most of the CO₂ by a chemical reaction. The remaining flue gas is treated in the water wash unit, to ensure removal of all amines before disposal to air from the top of the absorber.⁶⁵

The amine containing CO₂ is pumped via heat exchangers to the stripper part where CO₂ is “stripped” off (or boiled off) by heat from the re-boiler. After the stripping process the amine is pumped back to the absorber via an energy converter, and the cycle is repeated.⁶⁶

Aker Clean Carbon is a private company owned 50 per cent by Aker ASA and 50 percent by Aker Solutions.

Project Leader(s): Barry Blackwell

Weblink: akermin.com

Phone: 314.824.1952

Level of Funding: \$14.6 Million

Location: St. Louis, MO

E: blackwellb@akermin.com



Source: Akermin

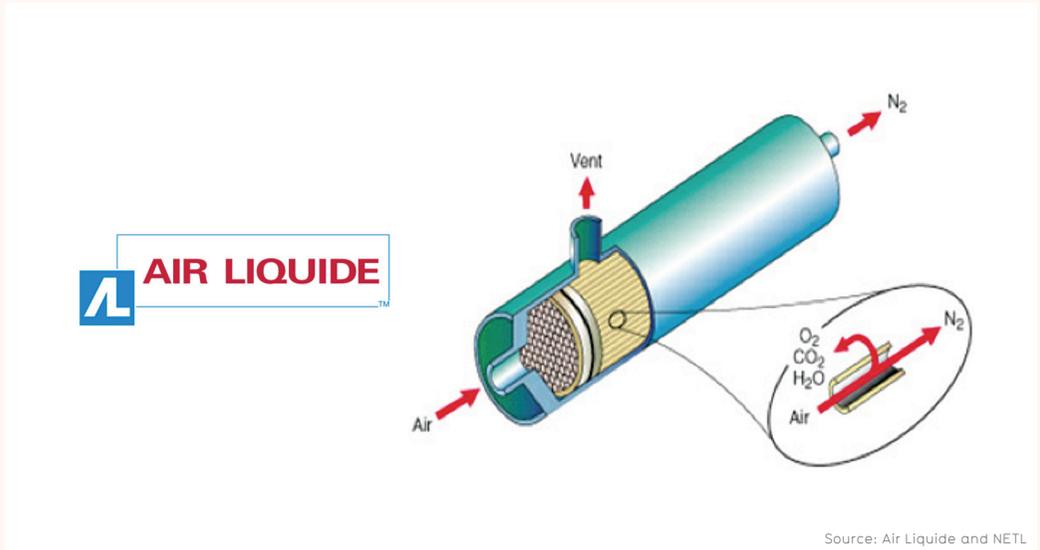
Akermin

Akermin's technology uses an enzyme, Carbonic Anhydrase, to accelerate absorption of carbon dioxide. Carbonic Anhydrase is a naturally occurring enzyme that catalyzes the hydration of CO₂ to carbonate. The Akermin technology immobilizes and stabilizes an engineered version of this enzyme in a polymer structure and enables them to operate under the extreme pH levels, higher temperatures and shear forces that exist in the harsh environments of industrial processes. This enables the enzyme to operate for the extended periods necessary to make the process economically attractive for carbon capture and separation.

Akermin technology enhances the rate of CO₂ absorption using a naturally occurring enzyme that does not affect the energy consumption for CO₂ desorption. It can be applied to cost effectively reduce the size of the CO₂ absorber column for any process that applies carbonate solution chemistry to capture CO₂ in an energy

efficient and environmentally-friendly manner. And by reducing the required capital and energy requirements, initial estimates supported by third-party analysis suggest that this technology can capture CO₂ at a cost up to 50% lower than commercially available technologies.

In August 2010, Akermin was awarded \$4.6 million in grants and contracts. \$3.2 million of that figure comes from a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) grant to develop a bench scale reactor for demonstration of Akermin's carbon capture process.⁶⁷



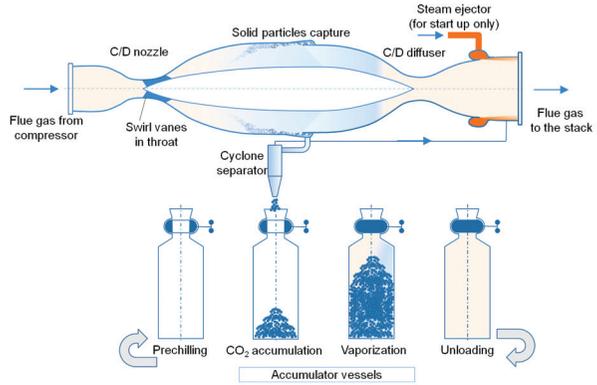
American Air Liquide, Inc.

Between October 2010 and September 2012, American Air Liquide, Inc. will develop a system for CO₂ capture based on sub-ambient temperature operation of a hollow fiber membrane.

The membrane will be coupled with cryogenic processing technology in a closed-loop test system that will verify the effect of possible contaminants, such as SO_x, NO_x and water, on membrane performance. Experimental results will be used to refine the integrated process simulation and to design a slipstream facility.

Other objectives of the project are to demonstrate high selectivity and permeance performance with a commercial scale membrane module in a bench-scale test skid, verify mechanical integrity of commercial scale membrane module structural components at sub-ambient temperatures, and demonstrate the long-term operability of the sub-ambient

temperature membrane skid. Cryogenic operating temperatures will be achieved through the controlled expansion of the gas across the test system valves.⁶⁸



Source: ATK and ARPA-E

ATK (and ACEnT Laboratories)

Aerospace/defense contractor ATK and small business ACEnT Labs are developing Inertial CO₂ Extraction System (ICES) based on rocket nozzle and wind tunnel applications.⁶⁹

This technology offers the potential for the lower COE increase and simplified integration with the existing power plants. ICES process comprises the steps of: swirling/expansion/cooling in convergent/divergent nozzle, CO₂ desublimation/precipitation, solid CO₂ particles capture and accumulation, CO₂ self-pressurization through sublimation back to the gaseous phase.⁷⁰

ATK and ACEnT Laboratories received a \$1 million ARPA-E award in April, 2010.

Project Leader(s): Kevin McCauley

Weblink: babcock.com/about/business_units/power_generation_group/

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Level of Funding: \$3,544,600

Location: Barberton, Ohio

E: kjmccauley@babcock.com



Babcock & Wilcox Power Generation Group

The Power Generation Group will identify chemical additives that will improve overall performance of B&W's amine-based CO₂ capture technology. Recent testing at B&W indicates that blends of the solvent with additives capture CO₂ more effectively when combined versus the pure solvent. Technology objectives include improving the CO₂ capture system operability and reliability, minimizing environmental impacts, reducing corrosion potential in the system, and maximizing solvent durability.⁷¹

Babcock & Wilcox Power Generation Group was awarded \$2,835,680 in August 2011 by the Department of Energy, as part of a larger \$41 million investment in carbon capture technologies, to support this effort.

Project Leader(s): Andreas Northemann

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Phone: +49 621 60-95138

Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Cologne, France

E: andreas.northemann@basf.com



The Chemical Company

BASF

Since 2009 RWE, Linde and BASF have been testing a new technology for separating CO₂ from flue gas. The results of the practical test are were announced in September 2010: compared to processes commonly run today, the new chemical solvents can reduce energy input by about 20 percent and have clearly superior oxygen stability, which reduces solvent consumption significantly.⁷²

Now the partners are working on solutions for demonstration and large-scale power plants. RWE Power will spend about nine million euros in total while the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology contributed about four million euros to the cost of the pilot plant.⁷³

In February 2011, BASF announced its "High Pressure Acid Gas Capture Technology" (HiPACT) technology, which was co-developed with Japanese corporations JGC and INPEX. Yet current applications are focused on natural gas.⁷⁴

The testing with RWE and Linde has taken place at in a pilot plant at RWE's Niederaussem power station near Cologne. The pilot plant is part of the Coal Innovation Center of RWE Power. BASF is testing the newly developed solvents while Linde was responsible for pilot plant engineering and construction.⁷⁵

Project Leader(s): David Heldebrant

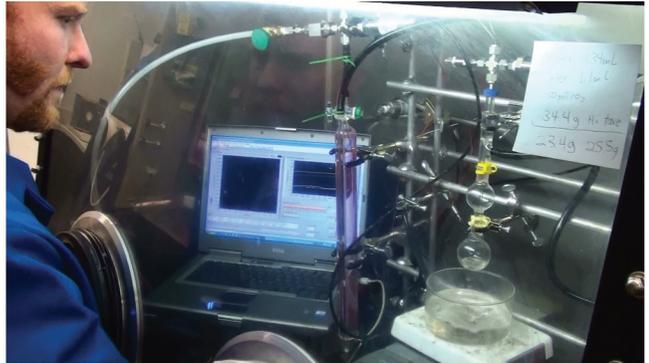
Weblink: battelle.org

Phone: 509.372.6359

Level of Funding: \$2,499,693

Location: Richland, WA

E. david.heldebrant@pnnl.gov



Source: PNNL

Battelle/Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

The bench-scale project investigates new organic-based solvents designed specifically for capturing post-combustion CO₂ emissions from coal-fired power plants.⁷⁶ The technology is dubbed Polarity Swing Assisted Regeneration (PSAR).

The low solvent regeneration temperatures of the proposed technology facilitates energy integration that has the potential to reduce overall CO₂ capture energy penalty by more than 50 percent compared to commercial systems.⁷⁷

The PSAR process uses organic liquids to capture and separate out the carbon dioxide from flue gas at a much lower temperature than the process currently used in coal-fired power plants. That process, called thermal swing regeneration, requires significant power to heat, boil and cool harsh chemical sorbents in a series of steps to remove the CO₂ from the flue gas.⁷⁸

Continuous absorption-desorption tests will be performed on the optimal solvents over a one-year period.⁷⁹

Babcock & Wilcox Power Generation Group was awarded \$1,999,693 in August 2011 by the Department of Energy, as part of a larger \$41 million investment in carbon capture technologies, to support this effort.

Battelle scientists will work with the Fluor Corporation and Queens University to evaluate the advanced carbon capture system.⁸⁰

Project Leader(s): Justin Dawe

Weblink: c12energy.com

Phone: 617.895.7276

Level of Funding: \$4.5 Million

Location: Berkeley, CA

E: justin.dawe@c12energy.com

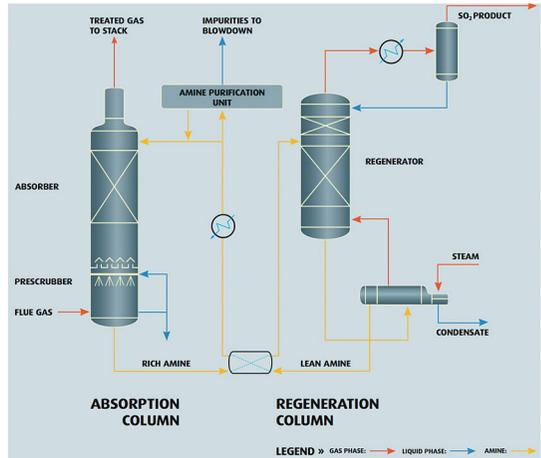


C12 Energy

Very little is known about the company's technology or what it does — except that its chief scientist just registered a patent for electrochemical weathering, a process that allows the ocean to effectively absorb carbon dioxide.⁸¹

In a previous paper, C12's co-founder stated that "by electrochemically removing hydrochloric acid from the ocean and then neutralizing the acid by reaction with silicate (volcanic) rocks, the researchers say they can accelerate natural chemical weathering, permanently transferring CO₂ from the atmosphere to the ocean,"⁸² which has led many to assume that this is the focus of C12's work.

C12 Energy, Inc. was founded in 2008 and is based in Berkeley, California.



Source: Cansolv

Cansolv Technologies

Cansolv Technologies, Inc. proposes to reduce costs by incorporating CO₂ capture in a single column with processes for capturing pollutants, such as SO₂, NO_x, and Hg.¹⁰⁸

The company's new DC1031 tertiary amine solvent has demonstrated fast mass transfer and good chemical stability with high capacity—a net of 0.5 mol of CO₂/mole of amine per cycle compared to 0.25 mol/mol for monoethanolamine (MEA) (Hakka, 2007).¹⁰⁹

The CANSOLV CO₂ Capture System enables CO₂ to be absorbed from the feed gas by counter-current contact with the regenerable absorbent in the absorption tower. Since CANSOLV Absorbent DC reacts reversibly with CO₂, multi-stage counter-current contacting is used to achieve maximum loading of the CO₂ into the regenerable absorbent. The solvent is fed to the top of the absorption tower and as it flows down the tower it selectively reacts with CO₂. At the

bottom of the absorption tower, the CO₂-laden or "rich" amine is pumped to a regeneration tower where it is heated to reverse the absorption reaction. As CANSOLV Absorbent DC moves down the regeneration tower, it is gradually stripped of CO₂. At the bottom, the CO₂-depleted absorbent is referred to as "lean" amine. Sensible heat from the lean amine is then used to heat incoming rich amine to maximize heat recovery.¹¹⁰

Carbon Capture Scientific, LLC

Carbon Capture Scientific

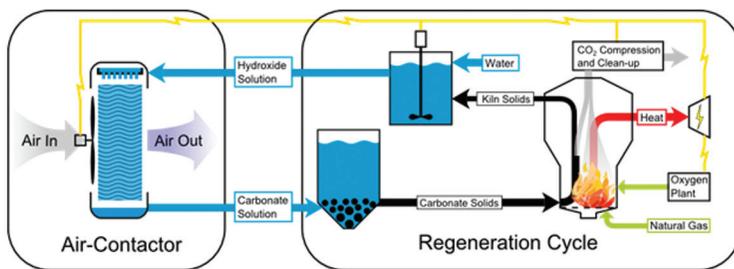
Carbon Capture Scientific received DOE funding to pursue a project that will perform bench-scale development and testing of a novel solvent-based CO₂ scrubbing technology, known as Gas Pressurized Stripping (GPS).⁸³

The GPS technology has the potential to significantly reduce the energy penalty associated with solvent regeneration by operating at higher pressures, which in turn reduces the compression requirements for placement of CO₂ in pipelines.⁸⁴

The GPS technology seamlessly integrates CO₂ separation and compression into one step. This approach could potentially eliminate CO₂ compression entirely, hence reducing the total parasitic power load of a CO₂ capture process to about 0.14kWh/kg CO₂. This parasitic power load is a 60% reduction compared to baseline case of 0.38kWh/kg CO₂ and meets the DOE's target set for the total parasitic power reduction.⁸⁵

Successful results could reduce the total parasitic power load of a CO₂ capture process by 60 percent compared to the DOE baseline case.⁸⁶

Carbon Capture Scientific was awarded \$2,999,756 in August 2011 by the Department of Energy, as part of a larger \$41 million investment in carbon capture technologies, to support this effort.



Source: Carbon Engineering

Carbon Engineering

Carbon Engineering's (CE's) air capture method is known as "wet scrubbing" because it uses a water-based solution to absorb CO₂ out of air passed through a contactor device.⁸⁷

CE's patented technology integrates two processes: an air contactor, and a regeneration cycle, for continuous capture of atmospheric carbon dioxide and production of pure CO₂.⁸⁸

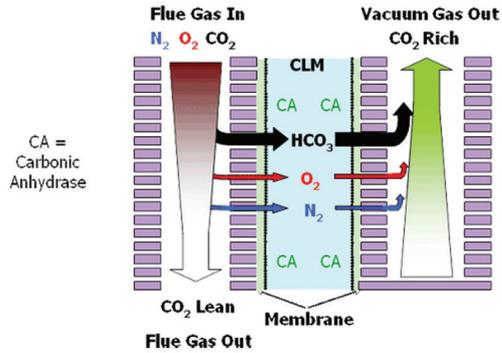
These two processes work together to enable continuous capture of CO₂ from atmospheric air, with energy (and small amounts of make-up chemicals) as an input, and pure CO₂ as an output. The stream of pure CO₂ can be sold and used in industrial applications and/or permanently sequestered (geologically stored) deep underground.⁸⁹

Our capture system brings atmospheric air containing CO₂ into contact with a chemical solution that naturally absorbs CO₂, in a device called a contactor. This solution, now containing the captured CO₂, is sent to a regeneration cycle that simultaneously extracts the CO₂ as a high-pressure pipeline-quality product while regenerating the original chemical solution, for re-use in the contactor.⁹⁰

CE's air capture facility requires an input of high-temperature heat to drive the chemical reactions and produce all the electricity required to carry out the process. Our design is flexible enough that natural gas combustion, solar thermal generation, or even nuclear power could supply this energy input. CE's air capture facility takes in air and outputs air with reduced amounts of CO₂, along with a pipeline-quality stream of pure CO₂ that can be sold for industrial applications or permanently sequestered (geologically stored) deep underground.⁹¹

Since 2010, one of CE's principal efforts has been the design, engineering, and fabrication of its "Outdoor Contactor" (OC) prototype. The OC has been designed to test critical aspects of our full-scale air contactor design, and to gain us the operational experience in running our device outdoors in the harsh spectrum of weather we will see over several seasons here in Alberta.

Carbozyme, Inc.



Source: Carbozyme

Carbozyme

Carbozyme Inc. is conducting the second of two projects (NT43084 active, NT42824 completed) for the Department of Energy with the goal of developing a cost efficient, low energy, CO₂ capture system applicable to coal-fired power plant flue gas exhaust streams, while achieving an energy consumption target of less than 15 percent.⁹²

Carbozyme, Inc. has developed an enzyme-catalyzed, contained liquid membrane (CLM) permeator that selectively extracts CO₂ from mixed gas streams. Initial efforts will demonstrate the ability of the CLM permeator to efficiently extract CO₂ from a variety of flue gas streams, including coal and natural gas. The permeator performance will be considered successful if it achieves the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) targets of at least 90 percent separation and 95 percent purity in the captured flue gas stream with a cost of energy of less than 20 percent by 2012. The project objective is to achieve a parasitic load of less than 15 percent. The project will demonstrate progressive cost, performance, and feature improvements that will support acceptance of the CLM permeator system for both retrofit and greenfield power plants.⁹³

The performance of Carbozyme's EBCLM

technology depends upon more fully matching coal-based power plant operating conditions and economic constraints. This relies on appropriate use of the information on the chemical, physical, and process-engineering characteristics of the EBCLM design.⁹⁴

The successful EBCLM permeator will have high CO₂ permeance and high selectivity while maintaining low energy requirements for regeneration. Carbozyme will scale the permeators and test them under controlled actual conditions to focus on the ability to manage the flue gas streams from different ranks of coal.⁹⁵

Carbozyme process has demonstrated at laboratory-scale the potential for 90% CO₂ capture followed by regeneration at ambient conditions. The Carbozyme process has been shown to have a very low heat of absorption that reduces the energy penalty typically associated with absorption processes.⁹⁶

The DOE provided a grant of \$5,743,981 to support this work between May 2006 and May 2007.

Project Leader(s): William Whittenberger

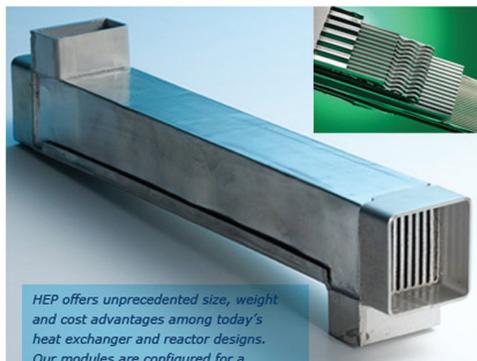
Webink: catacel.com

Phone: 330.527.0731

Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Garrettsville, OH

E. waw@catacel.com



HEP offers unprecedented size, weight and cost advantages among today's heat exchanger and reactor designs. Our modules are configured for a variety of uses, currently including fuel cell system, medical and aerospace applications.

Source: Catacel

Catacel Corporation

Catacel Corp. was awarded an ARPA-E grant to display novel DOE sorbent materials in power plant exhaust for effective post-combustion CO₂ capture.

The company's sorbent materials are coated on thin metal foils, which are packaged in a heat-exchange relationship in exhaust stream. Heat exchange prevents material degradation and enables easy CO₂ extraction from the sorbent.

The technology permits low parasitic pressure drop and easy change-out of spent sorbent material. It claims to be a low-risk technology similar to that used to display catalytic materials in gas turbine exhausts. Its goals for reducing CO₂ from coal-fired power plants are: - 90% capture - 1.7 billion tons/year impact - 31% cost of electricity increase.

Catacel was promoted as an "Encouraged Applicant" by ARPA-E.

Project Leader(s): Alex Vasenkov

Weblink: cfdr.com

Phone: 256.726.4886

Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Huntsville, AL

E: avv@cfdr.com



CFD Research Corporation

The company is working on carbon dioxide capture and resonance desorption based on carbon nanofibers.

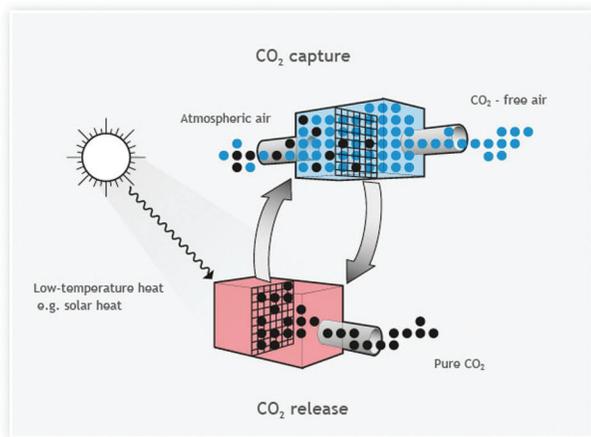
The company was highlighted by the DOE's ARPA-E, where the agency focused on the program to develop, demonstrate, and validate innovative technology with the following components: (1) carbon nanofiber (CNF) material with adsorption capacity 10x of CNTs and (2) energy-efficient CO₂ regeneration with 10x saving in energy over current regeneration methods.

The proposed CNFs consisting of stacked cones of graphene sheets will preserve many unique properties of CNTs such as natural ability for CO₂ physisorption, high thermal and chemical stability and will be 1,000x cheaper than CNTs (\$10 per pound).

This program is meant to form the basis of a scalable, fieldable system with the following

attributes: Power plant parasitic power loss ≤ 4.4%; CO₂ regeneration temperature close to room temperature due to resonance desorption nature of proposed technology; Potentially cheap carbon nanofiber sorbent material.

Currently, the carbon nanofiber price is \$85 per pound and is projected to drop to \$10 per pound in the few next years. Stable performance of carbon nanofiber material over 1,000 adsorption/desorption cycles with attrition below 5%.



Source: Climeworks

Climeworks

Climeworks is an ETH Spin-off company that is working to commercialize a patent-pending, highly efficient technology for CO₂ capture from ambient air that has been developed at ETH Zurich.⁹⁷

The CO₂ capture technology of Climeworks is based on a cyclic adsorption-desorption process that occurs on a novel filter material ("sorberent"). During adsorption, atmospheric CO₂ is chemically bound to the sorberent's surface. Once the sorberent is saturated with CO₂, the CO₂ is driven off the sorberent through heating the sorberent to around 60-100°C, thereby delivering high-purity gaseous CO₂. The CO₂-free sorberent can be re-used for many adsorption-desorption cycles.⁹⁸

Over 90% of the system's energy demand can be supplied by low-grade heat; the remaining energy is required in the form of electricity for pumping and control purposes.⁹⁹

The patent-pending technology has been developed in collaboration with the Professorship of Renewable Energy Carriers at ETH Zurich. The optimization of the sorberent and scale-up of the sorberent synthesis process is carried out in collaboration with the Swiss Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology.

Project Leader(s): Jonathan A. Carley

Weblink: co2solution.com

Phone: 905.320.6260

Level of Funding: ~\$16 million

Location: Quebec, Canada

E: jonathan.carley@co2solution.com



Source: CO2 Solution

CO2 Solution

CO2 Solution Inc. has developed a proprietary bio-technological platform for the efficient capture of CO₂, the most important greenhouse gas (GHG, from power plants and other large stationary sources of emission).¹⁰⁰

The technology platform exploits the natural power of a biocatalyst (enzyme), carbonic anhydrase (CA), which functions within humans and other mammals to manage CO₂ during respiration. CO2 Solution has successfully adapted the enzyme to function within a reactor so that it could act as an industrial lung to capture CO₂ from industrial flue (exhaust) gases. Once the CO₂ is captured, the enzyme assists in subsequent production of pure CO₂ for underground storage and/or use in oil recovery. In this way, the Company has taken advantage of a biomimetic approach to CO₂ capture based on millions of years of evolution.¹⁰¹

CO2 Solution's technology has been proven successful at prototype scale. The prototype

reactor underwent first testing in an industrial environment at Alcoa Inc.'s aluminum smelting facility at Deschambault, Quebec, Canada. Subsequent to this, the Company conducted a continuous (24 / 7) trial of the prototype at the Quebec City, Canada waste incinerator. This test demonstrated that the enzyme functioned effectively and was stable in a real world environment.

In December 2009, CO2 Solution said that it's received a \$2 million investment from Codexis, and that the two companies will work together under an exclusive joint development agreement on what's called enzymatic carbon capture technology. Codexis will be using its technology to toughen up the natural enzyme in CO2 Solution's method, improving its performance in the harsh conditions of an industrial flue.

Project Leader(s): James Lalonde

Weblink: codexis.com

Phone: 650.421.8100

Level of Funding: \$4,657,045

Location: Redwood City, CA

E: jim.lalonde@codexis.com



Codexis

Codexis, Inc., a California-based company, is seeking to improve the process used to capture carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, produced as a result of burning coal in coal-fired power plants.¹⁰²

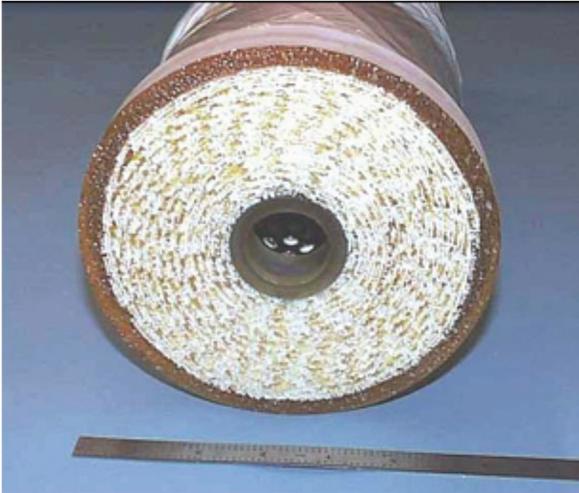
In an effort to develop a low cost catalyst for efficient carbon capture, Codexis is developing new forms of carbonic anhydrase to accelerate the absorption of carbon dioxide within the solvents. Despite the many attempts to engineer a robust carbonic anhydrase, no previous methods have succeeded in creating an enzyme that both withstands the harsh chemical environment found in coal-fired power plants and that is economically viable.¹⁰³

Codexis is creating new forms of carbonic anhydrase enzyme that, if successful, would enable carbon dioxide capture under the challenging conditions in coal-fired power plants and transform the best available carbon dioxide capture processes into significantly more economical processes.¹⁰⁴

In April 2010, Codexis and its partner Nexant received nearly \$5 million from the ARPA-E Innovative Materials & Processes for Advanced Carbon Capture Technologies (IMPACCT) program.

Project Leader(s): John Bowser
Weblink: compactmembrane.com
Phone: 302.999.7996

Level of Funding: \$100,000
Location: Wilmington, DE
E: john.bowser@compactmembrane.com



Source: NETL

Compact Membrane Systems, Inc.

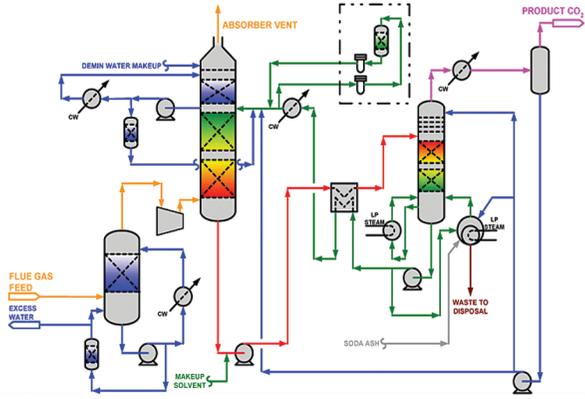
Compact Membrane Systems, Inc. developed and tested a CO₂ removal system for flue gas streams from large point sources that offers improved mass transfer rates compared to conventional technologies.¹⁰⁵

The project fabricated perfluorinated membranes on hydrophobic hollow fiber membrane contactors, demonstrated CO₂ removal from a simulated flue gas mixture via amine absorption using the fabricated membranes, examine chemical compatibility of the membrane with amines, and demonstrate enhanced stability of the perfluoro-coated membranes.¹⁰⁶

In addition, an economic analysis was performed to demonstrate that the perfluoro-coated hydrophobic hollow fiber membrane contactors are superior to existing commercial CO₂ removal technology.¹⁰⁷

In 2006, Compact Membrane Systems, Inc. received \$100,000 from the National Energy Technology Laboratory to support the development of this technology.

FLUOR



Source: Fluor

Fluor Corporation

Econamine FG Plus is a Fluor proprietary, amine-based technology for large-scale, post-combustion CO₂ capture.¹¹¹

The Econamine FG Plus technology is one of the first and among the most widely applied commercial solutions that has been proven in operating environments to remove carbon dioxide from high oxygen content flue gases (up to 20% by volume).¹¹²

The Econamine FG Plus solvent formulation is specially designed to recover CO₂ from low-pressure, oxygen-containing streams, such as boiler and reformer stack gas and gas turbine flue-gas streams.¹¹³

The CO₂ recovered by the Econamine FG Plus process can be tailored to meet the end user's specifications. The CO₂ can be compressed

for use within a chemical plant, liquefied for transport, compressed to supercritical pressures for Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) applications, or further purified for use in the food and beverage industry.¹¹⁴

Fluor's Econamine FG Plus is a proprietary acid gas removal system that has demonstrated greater than 95% availability with natural gas fired power plants, specifically on a 350 ton/day CO₂ capture plant in Bellingham, MA. It is currently the state-of-the-art commercial technology baseline and is used in comparing other CO₂ capture technologies.¹¹⁵

Project Leader(s): Chip Bottone

Weblink: fce.com

Phone: 203.825.6000

Level of Funding: \$3,742,635

Location: Danbury, CT

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FuelCell Energy



Source: FuelCell Energy

FuelCell Energy

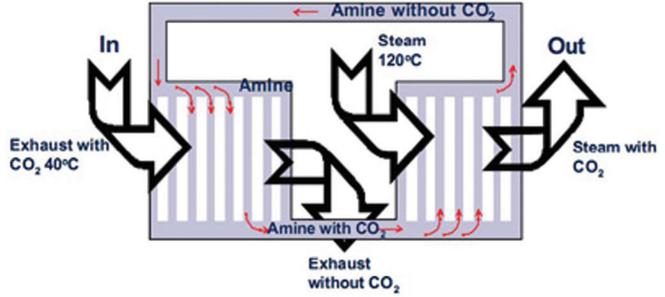
FuelCell Energy's molten carbonate fuel cell (MCFC) technology separates and concentrates carbon dioxide as a side reaction during the power generation process. Research by the company has demonstrated that this is a viable technology for efficient carbon capture from a variety of industrial flue gases. The research also showed that the fuel cell technology can help destroy the nitrogen oxides (NOx) in the flue gas.¹¹⁶

According to the company's Direct FuelCells® (DFC®) carbon capture research conducted by the company, DFC is a viable technology for the efficient separation of CO₂ from a variety of industrial facility flue gases such as cement plants and refineries.¹¹⁷

The DFC consists of ceramic-based layers filled with carbonate salts, separating CO₂ from the flue gas with a selectivity of 100 percent over the nitrogen present in the gas.¹¹⁸

Because of fast reactions, the CO₂ concentration of less than 15 percent normally found in the PC plant flue gas is suitable for this application.¹¹⁹

The Department of Energy provided nearly \$3 million to FuelCell Energy in mid 2011 to verify that the company's patented membrane-based DFC® can achieve at least 90 percent CO₂ capture from flue gas of an existing PC plant with no more than 35 percent increase in the COE.¹²⁰



Source: GTI

Gas Technology Institute (GTI)

The Gas Technology Institute (GTI), in partnership with PoroGen Corporation and Aker Process Systems, is developing a cost-effective separation technology to capture CO₂ from coal-fired power plant flue gas based on the combination of a hollow fiber membrane contactor with absorption technologies.¹²¹

The hybrid process utilizes solvent absorption, which performs as the selective layer, within a hollow fiber configured membrane contactor made of the chemically and thermally resistant polymer polyether ether ketone (PEEK). With the novel hollow fiber configuration, the interfacial area is increased by an order of magnitude compared to conventional packed or tray column systems, increasing CO₂ mass transfer rates and reducing the overall size of the processing equipment.

The reduced size requirements translate to lower solvent inventories, less metal exposure to corrosive liquids, and lower space impact for siting at congested power plants, ultimately leading to reduced capital and operating costs. The membrane contactor process combines the advantageous features of both membrane and absorption technologies and enables economical utilization of advanced absorption solvents.

The company is working with PoroGen Corporation and Aker Process Systems on this project, which was provided with a \$2,986,063 DOE grant in October 2010.

Project Leader(s): Bob Enick

Weblink: recovery.gov/Transparency/RecipientReportedData/pages/RecipientProjectSummary508.aspx?AwardIdSur=113718

Phone: 412.624.9649

Level of Funding: \$3,017,511

Location: Niskayuna, NY

E: rme@pitt.edu



GE and the University of Pittsburgh

In a two-year project, GE and the University of Pittsburgh will jointly develop a novel CO₂ capture process in which a liquid absorbent, upon contact with CO₂, changes into a solid powder.

The solid can then be separated, and the CO₂ released for sequestration by heating. Upon heating, the absorbent returns to its liquid form, where it can be reused to capture more CO₂.

Because the absorbent solid contains a high percentage of CO₂, the energy efficiency of the process is improved over current technology, and compression and capital costs are reduced. This ultimately leads to a lower cost of CO₂ capture and a lower cost of electricity compared to plants retrofitted with existing technology.

GE Global Research, GE Energy, and the University of Pittsburgh are working together on this project.



Source: GE and NETL

GE Global Research

GE Global Research, in collaboration with GE Energy and the University of Pittsburgh, is working to develop a novel oligomeric solvent and process for post-combustion capture of CO₂ from coal-fired power plants. An oligomer is a short chain polymer with relatively few repeating units that can be synthesized with varying chain lengths and a wide variety of functional groups. Both the chemical and physical CO₂ absorption / desorption properties can be adjusted to achieve optimal CO₂ capture performance (high CO₂ carrying capacity, low heat of absorption, thermal and chemical stability).¹²²

Researchers will utilize both computational and laboratory methods to identify and produce oligomeric solvents for post-combustion capture of CO₂. Molecular modeling will be employed to identify oligomeric solvents having potential for high CO₂ capture capacity under low energy usage conditions. Researchers will use advanced synthetic methods to synthesize and modify

the solvents and determine their ability to absorb and desorb CO₂ using high throughput screening.¹²³

In order to determine the overall feasibility of the proposed process, a rigorous model of the solvent absorption- desorption system will be developed and combined with an existing power plant model. The combined model will use a cost of energy (COE) analysis based on existing power plant operational models to optimize the integrated system for minimum capital and operational cost with maximum CO₂ capture.¹²⁴

GE Global Research is working with GE Energy and the University of Pittsburgh on this technology. In 2009, the Department of Energy provided \$2,473,162 to support this effort.



GE Global Research

GE Global Research, along with their partners GE Energy and SiVance LLC, will continue the development and testing of a novel aminosilicone-based solvent using a continuous bench-scale system to capture CO₂ from simulated coal-fired flue gas. In a previous DOE-funded project (DE-NT0005310), the novel solvent was developed and tested in a laboratory-scale continuous CO₂ capture system. The testing and associated detailed cost modeling and analysis demonstrated that the novel solvent has superior performance for CO₂ capture as compared to a baseline monoethanolamine (MEA) process.¹²⁵

As this solvent system effectively demonstrated cost-effective CO₂ capture from flue gas at the laboratory scale, development and testing of a bench-scale system represents a readily achievable next step on the path to commercialization.¹²⁶

Previously measured experimental data from the laboratory-scale CO₂ capture system will be used to design the continuous bench-scale system. Basic engineering data, such as kinetics and mass trans-

fer information, will be obtained at the bench scale to determine process scalability and likely process economics. A manufacturing plan for the aminosilicone solvent and price model will be used for optimization of the solvent system. GE Global Research will design, build, and operate the bench-scale system and gather the engineering and property data required to assess the technical and economic feasibility of the process. GE Energy will be responsible for developing a model of the bench-scale process and the cost of electricity (COE), performing the technical and economic feasibility studies, and developing the scale-up strategy. SiVance will evaluate the manufacturability of the aminosilicone capture solvent, analyze the cost to manufacture the solvent, provide material for bench-scale and property testing, and perform a technology Environmental, Health, & Safety (EH&S) risk assessment.¹²⁷

GE Global Research is working with GE Energy and SiVance LLC on this technology. In 2011, the Department of Energy provided \$2,998,303 to support this effort.



GE Global Research

The group is developing novel polymer membranes at bench scale, including modifying the properties of the polymer in a coating solution and fabricating highly engineered porous hollow fiber supports that have the potential to meet DOE's CO₂ capture goals.¹²⁸

These membranes permit CO₂ to pass through to produce a concentrated CO₂ stream while blocking all other gases.¹²⁹

Physical, chemical, and mechanical stability of the materials (individual and composite) toward coal flue gas components will be evaluated using exposure and performance tests. Module design, technical, and economic feasibility analyses will be conducted to evaluate the overall performance and impact of the process on the cost of electricity.¹³⁰

GE Global Research was awarded \$2,434,282 in August 2011 by the Department of Energy, as part of a larger \$41 million investment in carbon capture technologies, to support this effort.

Project Leader(s): Teresa Grocela-Rocha

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Phone: 518.387.6220

Level of Funding: \$3,017,511

Location: Niskayuna, NY

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GE Global Research

This General Electric-led team will develop a novel, cost-efficient carbon dioxide capture process that uses a liquid absorbent that changes into a solid powder upon contact with carbon dioxide.¹³¹

The solid can then be isolated and the carbon dioxide can be released by heating. The absorbent then returns to its liquid form so that it can be reused. Because the absorbent solid contains a high percentage of carbon dioxide, the energy efficiency of the process is improved over current technology, and compression and capital costs are reduced.¹³²

The goal is to achieve less than 10 percent parasitic power load at 90 percent carbon dioxide capture and at less than \$25 per ton carbon dioxide capture cost. This approach also offers a smaller footprint than existing processes and could be retrofit onto existing plants.¹³³

GE Global Research received a \$ 3,017,511 ARPA-E award in April, 2010.

Project Leader(s): Graciela Chichilnisky

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Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: New York, NY

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Source: Prize Capital, LLC

Global Thermostat

Global Thermostat's (GT's) patent-pending technology uses low-cost left over process heat as energy for the capture of CO₂ from the atmosphere.

It can be installed at new or legacy power plants, cement smelters, refineries, etc. Since energy typically accounts for two-thirds of the total operating cost with other carbon capture technologies, Global Thermostat's solution allows for dramatic cost efficiencies in reducing carbon emissions.

Global Thermostat has found a way to use chemicals known as amines to bind with CO₂ from the air; the CO₂ is then separated from the amines in a process that uses low-temperature heat. Relying on low-temperature heat keeps costs down because it is widely available at little or no cost as a waste product from power plants or energy-intensive factories. Global Thermostat has retained Carmagen Engineering, a New Jersey firm led by former Exxon engineers, to

design its carbon-capture machines, which are envisioned as tall, narrow structures through which air flows. Corning helped the company develop honeycomb-like structures called monoliths on which the carbon is trapped, and BASF is working to develop the required sorbents.¹³⁴

Global Thermostat estimates that its process can remove 5lb of CO₂ per kWh of electricity.¹³⁵

Global Thermostat works in partnership with Corning and BASF, who supplies the technology's proprietary absorbent. The company is also working with Summit Power, and has a partnership with Algae Systems, whereby Global Thermostat provides CO₂ to Algae Systems for algae growth.

Project Leader(s): Yuandong (Alex) Gu

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Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Plymouth, MN

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Honeywell

Honeywell

Honeywell's technology marries an Ultrasound Assisted Electrospray (UAE) process with the desirable properties of novel Ionic Liquids (ILs), where UAE generates a high surface area plume of the IL at very low power and the IL promises 0.4 mole of CO₂ capture in 1 mole of IL.¹³⁶

The undetectable vapor pressure and low desorption enthalpy of CO₂ from IL enables significant infrastructure and operation cost reductions.¹³⁷

This synergistic approach will result in a COE increase of between 26 and 43% (vs. 81% increase for MEA CCS), relative to non-CCS-equipped pulverized coal (PC) power plants.¹³⁸

This technology was listed as an "Encouraged Applicant" and showcased by DOE's ARPA-E.

Project Leader(s): Ravi Jain

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Level of Funding: \$3,244,885

Location: Bridgewater, NJ

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InnoSeptra

InnoSeptra

This process utilizes sorbents with much lower CO₂ capture energy requirements compared to competitive processes and has been successfully demonstrated at the lab scale to obtain greater than 99 percent CO₂ purity, and more than 90 percent CO₂ recovery.¹³⁹

The ultimate goals of the project are to confirm the projected performance of the InnoSeptra process at the bench scale; provide sufficient data for design of a commercial-scale plant; and provide a high degree of confidence in the applicability, cost effectiveness and practical feasibility of this process.¹⁴⁰

Projections based on detailed engineering evaluations show that the technology can reduce the power consumption for CO₂ capture by more than 40 percent, and the capital cost for the CO₂ capture equipment by more than 60 percent at commercial scale, resulting in a more than 40 percent reduction in the CO₂ capture cost

compared to alternate technologies such as amines.

InnoSeptra was awarded \$2,594,885 by the DOE in August 2011.

Project Leader(s): André Boulet

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Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Burnaby, BC Canada

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Inventys

The VeloxoTherm™ intensified temperature swing adsorption (TSA) process provides significant benefits over incumbent technologies for the post-combustion capture of CO₂ from industrial flue gases.¹⁴¹

The heart of the VeloxoTherm™ process is its proprietary structured adsorbent. When flue gases contact the structured adsorbent, CO₂ becomes trapped on the material while allowing other gases such as nitrogen and water vapor to pass through it. Once the structured adsorbent becomes saturated with CO₂, the adsorbent is regenerated using low quality steam.¹⁴²

The key to the low operating cost of the VeloxoTherm™ process is energy management. The structured adsorbent has enhanced heat and mass transport properties that ensure a minimal amount of energy is required to regenerate the adsorbent. This distinctive property ensures that a minimum of energy is required for regeneration. The adsorbent structure has an extremely low pressure drop, which allows flue gases to readily flow through the VeloxoTherm™ gas separation system.¹⁴³

The VeloxoTherm™ process is scalable and can be readily integrated into new and existing combustion and chemical processes (heaters, boilers, crackers, cement kilns, blast furnaces, and gas turbines). Any facility can continue operating during the installation, commissioning, and maintenance of a VeloxoTherm™ plant as it is downstream of all unit operations within the facility.¹⁴⁴

Project Leader(s): Alfred (Buz) Brown

Weblink: ion-engineering.com

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Level of Funding: \$3,736,936

Location: Boulder, CO

E. brown@ion-engineering.com



ION Engineering, LLC

ION Engineering, in collaboration with its partners, will design, construct, operate, and evaluate a bench-scale CO₂ capture system using simulated flue gas at ION Engineering's laboratories.¹⁴⁵

The project will demonstrate ION's innovative solvent approach for amine-based CO₂ capture, using amines as chemical solvents with ionic liquids (IL) as the physical solvent. ION's IL-amine solvent system is related to well understood aqueous amine solvent-based processes in that it utilizes proven amines as chemical solvents for CO₂ capture; however, it differs significantly with the use of an IL rather than water as the physical solvent.¹⁴⁶

Because ILs do not incur the high energy penalties of an aqueous system, utilizing ILs in place of water can significantly reduce energy requirements compared to aqueous amine systems. Higher CO₂ loading capacities can also be achieved by selectively balancing the amines and ILs. The 18-month project will demonstrate the ability of the IL-amine solvent system to capture CO₂ using a 1.0 gallon per minute (gpm) bench-scale process unit, and will include simulation modeling to finalize process de-

signs, laboratory evaluations, solvent selection, and scale-up from the existing laboratory units to the bench-scale process unit.

Design, construction, installation, integration, operation, monitoring, and decommissioning of the bench-scale unit will be performed, as well as commercial and operational assessments of the technology's ability to perform at full-scale. Project success will advance the achievement of DOE's goals of 90 percent CO₂ capture with less than a 35 percent increase in the cost of electricity (COE) with a viable retrofit solution for existing coal-fired power plants.¹⁴⁷

In July 2010, ION Engineering received a grant of \$2.8 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to design, build and conduct a field test for a carbon dioxide-capture unit to process flue gas from Xcel Energy's coal-fired power station in Boulder. Ion also will partner with the Electric Power Research Institute, the University of Alabama, Boulder-based Eltron Research and Development Inc., Evonik Goldschmidt and WorleyParsons Group on the project.

Project Leader(s): Nathaniel David

Weblink: kilimanjaroenergy.com

Phone: 773.380.6600

Level of Funding: \$11.5 million

Location: San Francisco, CA

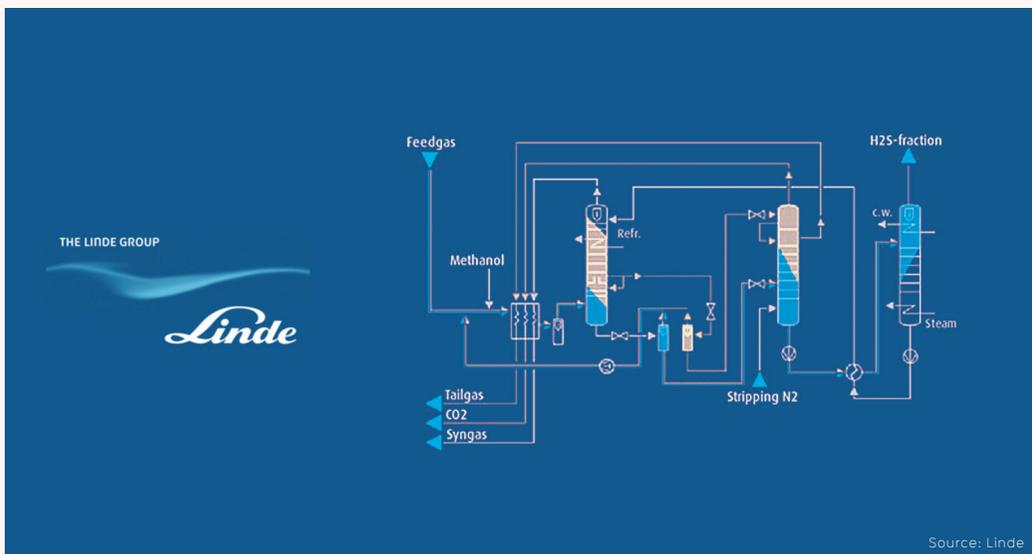
E. nathanieldavid@archventure.com



Kilimanjaro Energy

Kilimanjaro Energy is developing technologies to capture carbon dioxide from the air for beneficial commercial use in a variety of existing and new industries. Our technologies will economically capture CO₂ wherever and whenever it is needed. Atmospheric CO₂ is a vast resource whose transformation into useful products can help humanity close the carbon cycle.¹⁴⁸

Dr. Klaus Lackner and Allen Wright discovered Kilimanjaro's core technology with the generous financial support of the late Gary Comer and the Comer Science & Education Foundation. As of 2010, the Company has begun commercializing its developments with the added support of ARCH Venture Partners.¹⁴⁹



Linde Engineering

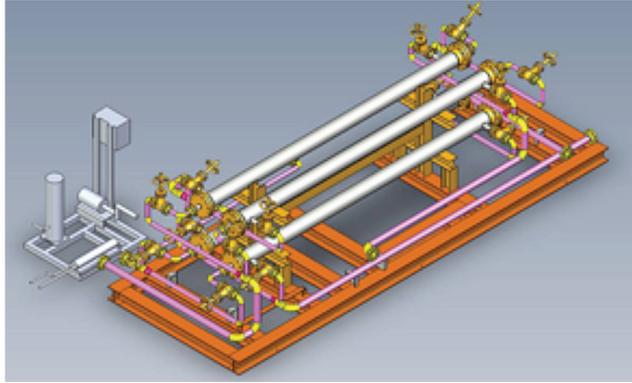
Linde has developed a technology it calls the RECTISOL® Wash. RECTISOL® is a physical acid gas removal process using an organic solvent (typically methanol) at subzero temperatures. RECTISOL® can purify synthesis gas down to 0,1 vppm total sulphur (including COS) and CO₂ in ppm range.¹⁵⁰

The main advantages of the process are the rather low utility consumption figures, the use of a cheap and easily available solvent and the flexibility in process configuration.¹⁵¹

A simplified flow scheme of the RECTISOL® process is shown above. CO₂ and sulphur compounds are removed in separate fractions, resulting in a pure CO₂ product (for example for urea production) and an H₂S/COS enriched Claus gas fraction. Due to the application of RECTISOL® in connection with various upstream and downstream processes, a large design and operational experience is available also regarding handling of trace components.¹⁵²

A special feature of the process is the coil-wound heat exchangers supporting energy efficiency and plant economics.¹⁵³

In August 2011, Linde Group was awarded a \$15 million from the US Department of Energy to pioneer the advancement of carbon capture technologies, with a pilot plant in Wilsonville, Alabama aiming to be up and running by early 2014.



Source: MTR

Membrane Technology and Research, Inc.

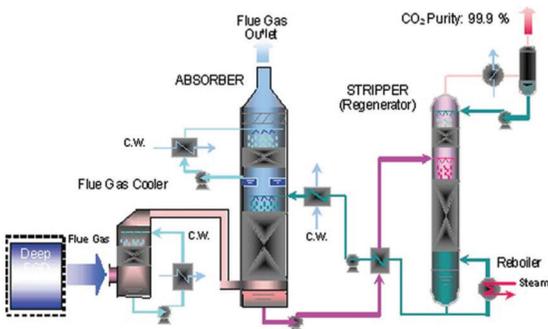
The DOE provided \$3,347,119 in 2008 to support this project to demonstrate a cost-effective membrane-based process to capture CO₂ from coal-fired power plant flue gas.¹⁵⁴

The process will reduce power plant CO₂ emissions and mitigate the potentially damaging effects of global warming. This project will provide a demonstration of CO₂ capture from actual coal-fired flue gas with a membrane system using commercial-scale components. Results from this field test will provide key performance data to allow a thorough technical and economic evaluation of the proposed membrane process.¹⁵⁵

The impact of system scale-up and the development of low-cost components on the capture process economics will be determined. The endpoint and primary technical objective of the program will be to complete a field test of MTR's CO₂ capture membrane process at a coal-fired power plant.¹⁵⁶

This project is a collaborative effort between Membrane Technology and Research, Inc. (MTR), Arizona Public Service (APS), and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) that will demonstrate a cost-effective membrane-based process to separate CO₂ from coal-fired power plant flue gas through laboratory and slipstream field tests at an operating coal-fired power generation plant.¹⁵⁷

Testing results will provide vital performance data to allow thorough technical and economic evaluations of the proposed membrane process. Further analysis will focus on the economics behind clarifying the challenges to scaling-up the system to meet commercial demands and on developing low-cost plastic components on the capture process in order to lower operational and maintenance costs.



Source: Carbon Capture Journal

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI)

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) has developed a new absorption process, referred to as KS-1. A key factor in this development is the utilization of a new amine-type solvent for the capture of CO₂ from flue gas.¹⁵⁸

MHI has successfully used KS-1 at several large-scale commercial plants for fertilizer and heavy oil production. The first testing of KS-1 on coal-generated flue gas is under way at a 10 tpd CO₂ pilot at J-POWER's Matsushima Plant in Nagasaki, Japan.¹⁵⁹

MHI's KS-1 solvent is a "sterically hindered amine" which tends to form weaker bonds with CO₂, thereby decreasing the energy required for regeneration. MHI's system is called KM CDR for "Kansai Mitsubishi Carbon Dioxide Recovery" and features a conventional scrubber and stripper configuration. The flue gas enters an absorption column with two packed beds and solvent intercooling. Lean solvent is injected between the upper and lower packed beds and trickles

down, mixing with the flue gas in counter-flow. A second amine stream is injected at the top of the absorber and allowed to trickle down through both the upper and lower packed beds. The loaded solvent enters the thermal stripper where low-pressure steam heats the rich amine to the point of regeneration, liberating the absorbed CO₂.¹⁶⁰

Project Leader(s): Wayne Carlson

Weblink: nalco.com

Phone: 630.305.1000

Level of Funding: \$2,250,487

Location: Naperville, IL

E: Unknown



Nalco Company

With ARPA-E's financial support, Nalco Company is developing a novel process to capture carbon in the smokestacks of coal-fired power plants.¹⁶¹

Nalco Company's electrochemical platform will rapidly capture carbon dioxide and desorb it at atmospheric pressure without heating, vacuum, or consumptive chemical usage. If successful, this technology will reduce the incremental carbon capture costs by up to 50 percent and make it more affordable for coal-fired power plants to clean their smokestack emissions.¹⁶²

The CO₂ RW-EDI (CO₂ Resin Wafer-Electrodeionization) platform is a transformational process to capture CO₂ with significant improvements to parasitic energy losses.¹⁶³

The purpose of this project is to develop an electrochemically driven platform to capture CO₂ from coal flue gas without requiring heat

or vacuum to desorb CO₂ from an amine or basic solution. The proposed process leverages an elegant design that switches the acidity in the process stream. The result is a method to rapidly capture CO₂ from flue gas and desorb it at atmospheric pressure without heating, vacuum, or consumptive chemical usage.¹⁶⁴

This technological advance will minimize the impact on cost of electricity for carbon capture as it could reduce incremental capture costs by as much as 50% to keep coal-fired power production affordable. Additionally, water consumption is minimized since the process solution can be re-circulated through the process for additional capture/release cycles.¹⁶⁵

The company received \$2,250,487 from ARPA-E to support this work.

Project Leader(s): Joseph McLellan

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Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: Brighton, MA

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Nano Terra, Inc.

Nano Terra, Inc. is developing a new Nanofiber Absorbent (NFA) for use in carbon capture and sequestration (CCS).¹⁶⁶

This technology will reduce energy for capture by ~50% over current state of the art (i.e. reduce the cost per ton of CO₂ avoided from \$52 to \$28) and will enable the US to take significant steps towards CO₂ reduction.¹⁶⁷

The technology employs a novel, reusable nanofiber absorbent material with a functional coating that is similar to monoethanolamine (MEA; the current state of the art). The system differs from MEA systems in that it uses polymeric amines on a solid nanofiber support instead of molecular amines in solution.¹⁶⁸

The use of NFA materials eliminates the need for boiling and condensing of water during each regeneration cycle (the major source of parasitic energy in MEA systems). The NFA materials

also remove the requirement for handling highly corrosive liquids (i.e. MEA solutions).¹⁶⁹

This technology was listed as an "Encouraged Applicant" and showcased by DOE's ARPA-E.



Neumann Systems Group, Inc.

Neumann's approach breaks the shower apparatus into small modules and uses a specially designed nozzle that sprays thinner streams of a clear liquid through the emissions. Because they provided greater contact with pollutants, Rankin found the modules removed a higher level of them. There were also other benefits: The devices took up about a third of the space and appeared to need only half of the water and half the maintenance required by a conventional scrubber.

NSG's Carbon Absorber Retrofit Equipment (CARE) project will be located at the Colorado Springs Utilities' Martin Drake Power Plant Unit 7. Patented NeuStream™ absorber technology will be used in combination with an advanced solvent for capture and regeneration of CO₂ from a .5 MW flow of flue gas. The NeuStream™ absorber technology is applicable to a variety of solvents and can be added to existing pulverized coal power plants at reduced cost and in a smaller footprint when compared to conventional technologies. The modularity of the NeuStream™ technology contributes to rapid fielding of larger systems and retrofit of existing plants.

Colorado Springs Utilities is a vital partner in the CARE project. Test equipment at the plant from the previous sulfur dioxide (SO₂) pilot plant project will be adapted for the CARE CO₂ program. NSG's SO₂ control technology is now being designed and constructed for operation by 2014 on Martin Drake Units 6 and 7. The system performance will exceed the new and more stringent EPA and State Air Quality requirements. Colorado Springs Utilities' progressive actions have been the means for bringing the NSG technology to the marketplace while at the same time improving the environment and achieving low cost, reliable energy solutions for their customers.

The overall goal of the DOE research is to develop CO₂ capture and separation technologies that can achieve at least 90 percent CO₂ removal at no more than a 35 percent increase in the cost of electricity.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy selected Neumann Systems Group, Inc. (NSG) in August 2011 for a \$7,165,423 grant. The grant is aimed at reducing the energy and cost penalties of advanced carbon capture systems applied to power plants.

Project Leader(s): Sonja Salmon

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Phone: 919.494.3196

Level of Funding: \$2,088,643

Location: Franklinton, NC

E: SISA@novozymes.com



Novozymes

Novozymes North America, Inc. (Novozymes) has teamed with the University of Kentucky, Doosan Power Systems, Ltd., and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to design, build, and test an integrated bench-scale CO₂ capture system that combines the attributes of the bio-renewable enzyme catalyst carbonic anhydrase (CA) with low-enthalpy absorption liquids and novel ultrasonically-enhanced regeneration. This unique CO₂ capture system is expected to achieve improved efficiency, economics, and sustainability in comparison with existing CO₂ capture technologies.¹⁷⁰

The capture process will use a potassium carbonate solvent with low regeneration energy coupled with CA as a catalyst to promote higher rates of absorption in the carbonate solution. The application of ultrasonic energy forces dissolved CO₂ into gas bubbles, thereby increasing the overall driving force of the solvent regeneration reaction. Additionally, through ultrasonics, a coupled effect of rectified diffusion is also believed to have the potential to drive dissolved CO₂ into gas bubbles at pressures greater than the equilibrium pressure for CO₂ over the solution. The combination of these

synergistic technologies is projected to reduce the net parasitic load to a coal-fired power plant by as much as 51 percent compared to conventional monoethanolamine (MEA) scrubbing technology.¹⁷¹

The project team will build on previous laboratory tests of the novel solvent and CO₂ recovery technique to obtain additional laboratory data sufficient to design a bench-scale system and perform a final analysis of the technology. This bench-scale study will validate the potential of the system to provide a low cost of energy solution for post-combustion CO₂ capture.¹⁷²

In November 2011, the DOE's NETL provided \$1,658,619 to Novozymes to support this effort.

Project Leader(s): Olgica Bakajin

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Phone: 510.695.2777

Level of Funding: \$1,153,975

Location: Hayward, CA

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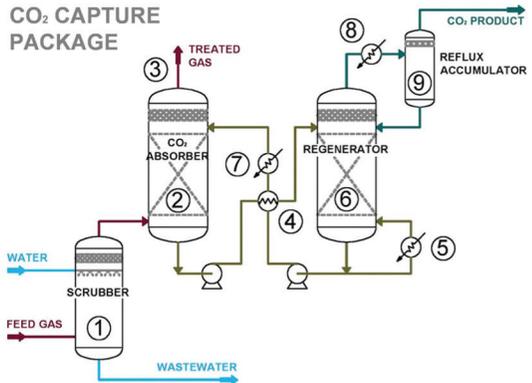
Porifera Nano, Inc.

This \$1,153,975 ARPA-E project is developing high flux/selectivity carbon nanotube (CNT) membranes for efficient separation of CO₂ from the industrial emission streams.¹⁷⁸

Current commercial operations manage CO₂ from the power station emissions using chemical absorption, which is inherently expensive, energy-intensive, and produces negative environmental impact of its own. Membrane-based CO₂ separations could potentially deliver better efficiency, cheaper sequestration, and low energy consumption, but the development of this technology has been hampered by the lack of membranes that can combine sufficiently high CO₂ selectivity with high flux necessary for viable industrial use.¹⁷⁹

Unique structure of sub-2-nm carbon nanotube-based membrane pores results in gas permeation fluxes that are two orders of magnitude higher than any other membrane of comparable pore size. This work seeks to develop a breakthrough technology that will capitalize on these advantages. The team will develop and demonstrate a comprehensive set of chemical and physical modifications of CNT membranes that enhance their CO₂ selectivity to

reach industrially-viable levels of >100 (CO₂/N₂) and permeability of 104 barrer.¹⁸⁰



Source: Process Group

Process Group

Process Group's carbon capture technology can be instantly retrofitted to virtually any exhaust gas system, including coal or gas-fired boilers, gas turbines, blast furnaces, and cement kiln off-gas. The capture process enables carbon dioxide to be selectively absorbed from flue gas via counter-current contact with a regenerable solvent. The solvent is typically an amine-based aqueous solution specially designed to selectively absorb CO₂ from gas streams.¹⁷³

In a typical CO₂ Capture package, hot flue gas passes through the scrubber tower where it is cooled with cooling water (1), before being fed to the absorber tower. The gas enters near the bottom of the absorber tower and flows upward through the internal packing (2), coming into contact with the solvent, which enters near the top of the tower, as the solvent cascades down through the tower. As the flue gas rises through the tower the carbon dioxide level is progressively reduced as it is absorbed by the solvent, meaning the treated gas vented from the absorber (3) is virtually free of CO₂.¹⁷⁴

From the bottom of the absorber tower the CO₂-rich solvent is pumped through the lean-rich exchanger (4) to pre-heat the solvent before it

enters the regenerator tower. In the regenerator the solvent is heated via the reboiler (5) to reverse the absorption reaction. As the solvent cascades down through the tower, CO₂ is gradually desorbed from the solvent (6). By the time the solvent reaches the bottom of the tower virtually all of the absorbed CO₂ has been released, and the CO₂-lean solvent is cooled and pumped back to the top of the absorber tower to repeat the process (7).¹⁷⁵

The desorbed CO₂ exits the regenerator tower as a pure, water-saturated gas where it is cooled (8) and then passes through the reflux accumulator to remove excess water (9). The pure carbon dioxide product gas is then ready for direct use or further processing.¹⁷⁶

Process Group is closely associated with The Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO₂CRC). Participation in the CO₂CRC, combined with our activity in the design and construction of carbon capture packages, provides us with access to the latest advances in carbon capture technologies. Process Group will continue to be in the vanguard of carbon capture and storage innovation, and help more companies and governments achieve their emissions objectives.¹⁷⁷

Project Leader(s): John Winkler

Weblink: energy.siemens.com/co/en/power-generation/power-plants/carbon-capture-solutions/post-combustion-carbon-capture/

Phone: 412.563.7004

Level of Funding: \$18,750,000

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

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SIEMENS



Source: NETL

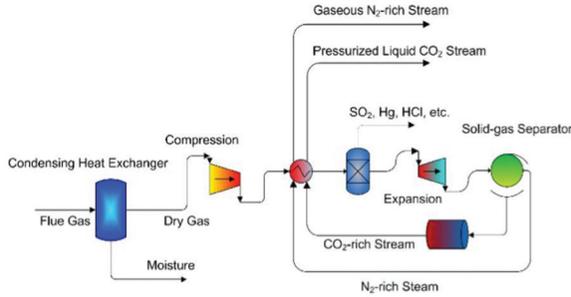
Siemens

Siemens Energy, Inc. will design, install, and operate a pilot plant for treating a 2.5 MW equivalent slipstream at the TECO Energy Big Bend Station to demonstrate POSTCAP technology for post-combustion CO₂ gas capture.¹⁸¹

POSTCAP based technology utilizes an amino acid salt (AAS) that can operate in a conventional scrubber system similar to that for MEA, but with negligible solvent volatility, less corrosion, very low degradation and lower regeneration energy.¹⁸²

The absorption activity is believed to be similar to MEA, but the capacity of AAS is theoretically double that of MEA. Design capacity is close to this theoretical capacity, which will lead to lower solvent flow rate and inventory for AAS. The solvent is an aqueous solution of approximately 30 – 40 percent AAS and water.¹⁸³

In 2010, the DOE's NETL provided \$15 million to support this project.



Source: Sustainable Energy Solutions

Sustainable Energy Solutions

Under an ARPA-E supported project, Sustainable Energy Solutions will develop and validate novel process components, and design a cryogenic carbon capture prototype system suitable for testing at coal-fired power plants.¹⁸⁴

Cryogenic Carbon Capture (CCC) is designed to separate a nearly pure stream of CO₂ from power plant gases. This technology adds a process to the plant after the normal energy production and there separates the CO₂ from the other gases. In conservative estimates Cryogenic Carbon Capture technology provides a significantly more cost effective and practical solution to carbon capture in today's market.¹⁸⁵

The cryogenic CO₂ capture (CCC) process (Figure 1) dries and cools flue gas from existing systems, modestly compresses it, cools it to a temperature slightly above the point where CO₂ forms a solid, expands the gas to further cool it, precipitating an amount of CO₂ as a solid that depends on the final temperature, pressurizes

the CO₂, and reheats the CO₂ and the remaining flue gas by cooling the incoming gases. The final result is the CO₂ in a liquid phase and a gaseous nitrogen stream. CO₂ capture efficiency depends primarily on the pressure and temperature at the end of the expansion process. At 1 atm, the process captures 99% of the CO₂ at -211 °F (-135 °C) and 90% at -184 °F (-120 °C). Compared to competing processes, these are relatively mild conditions.¹⁸⁶

Furthermore, the captured CO₂ has virtually no impurity in it. A thermodynamic feature of CO₂ in flue gases (< 15% CO₂ on a dry basis) is that the CO₂ will not form a liquid phase at any temperature or pressure. Rather, the CO₂ desublimates, forming an essentially pure solid phase rather than a liquid solution that must be distilled.¹⁸⁷

The approach is estimated to provide a 50 percent energy reduction for capturing carbon dioxide, in comparison to state-of-the-art amine-based solvent processes.¹⁸⁸

Project Leader(s): Jeannine E. Elliott

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Phone: 303.261.1142

Level of Funding: \$1,374,380

Location: Wheat Ridge, CO

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TDA Research, Inc.

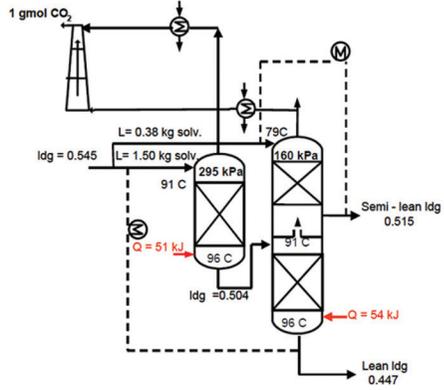
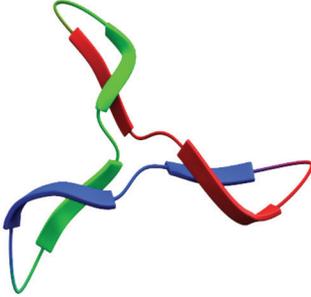
TDA will produce a low-cost solid alkalized alumina sorbent, evaluate its cyclic life, and measure its performance in a bench-scale test apparatus on simulated coal gases at TDA and then on a slipstream of a coal-derived flue gas at Western Research Institute's (WRI's) coal combustion test facility. The mass and energy balances for a commercial-scale PC-fired power plant retrofit with TDA's CO₂ capture system will be modeled and losses in plant efficiency will be calculated by Louisiana State University (LSU) using Aspen Plus®. The experimental and simulation data will be used to carry out an extensive engineering and economic analysis of the post-combustion CO₂ capture system. The analysis will be done using the DOE National Energy Technology Laboratory's (NETL) 2005 "Carbon Capture and Sequestration Systems Analysis Guidelines."¹⁸⁹

The objective of this project is to demonstrate that TDA's low-cost sorbent can cost-effectively and efficiently capture CO₂ produced by existing

PC-fired power plants. More specifically, this project will develop a low-cost CO₂ sorbent and evaluate its performance by fabricating a bench-scale unit, testing with simulated and real coal-derived flue gases, modeling the mass and energy balances, and calculating the loss in plant efficiency for a commercial-scale PC-fired power plant.¹⁹⁰

The goal for this project is to develop a low-cost, regenerable CO₂ sorbent system capable of removing and concentrating 90 percent of the CO₂ emissions from PC-fired power plant flue gas.¹⁹¹

The DOE's NETL provided \$1,097,839 towards this project, which began in November 2008 and ended October 2011.



Source: NETL

Trimeric Corporation

Under a NETL contract, Trimeric Corporation investigated the feasibility of a highly-integrated, advanced amine scrubbing system, along with a novel amine solvent, that can significantly reduce the parasitic energy requirements.¹⁹²

In Phase I, detailed costs for full-scale units were prepared on the basis of rigorous process models, detailed heat and material balances, and equipment selection. An economic and engineering analysis were conducted and the results compared with the baseline monoethanolamine scrubbing system.¹⁹³

The appropriate construction materials were to be evaluated and selected and Trimeric was to work with contacts within the utility industry to develop realistic and effective process integration strategies for steam system tie-ins, additional heat recovery options, and operability.¹⁹⁴

A plan for integrating these amine units in a full-scale, coal-fired power plant was also to be developed.¹⁹⁵

Project Leader(s): J. Michael McQuade

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Level of Funding: \$2,263,898

Location: East Hartford, CT

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**United Technologies
Research Center**

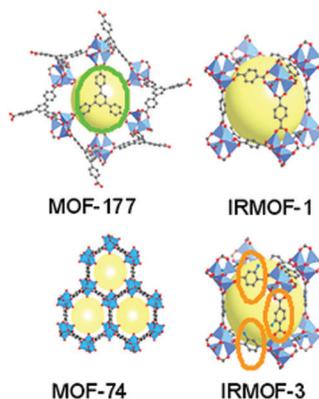
United Technologies Research Center

United Technologies Research Center (UTRC) is using ARPA-E funding to develop a new process for capturing the carbon dioxide emitted by coal-fired power plants.¹⁹⁶

UTRC is focusing its research on a naturally-occurring enzyme that is used by nearly every organism on Earth to manage carbon dioxide levels. The naturally occurring form would not survive within a smokestack environment, so UTRC seeks to develop a synthetic analogue of the enzyme that could be used to study aspects of its catalytic mechanism.¹⁹⁷

The ultimate objective of this research is to create an enzyme analogue / polymer nano-composite thin-film structure that could act as a selective membrane to separate carbon dioxide from other gases in power plant smokestacks.¹⁹⁸

The proposed technology maybe easier to install and more reliable than existing technologies because it does not involve any moving parts or consumables. If successful, the proposed technology would allow coal-fired power plants to capture up to 90 percent of carbon at a significantly lower incremental cost.¹⁹⁹



Source: NETL

UOP, LLC.

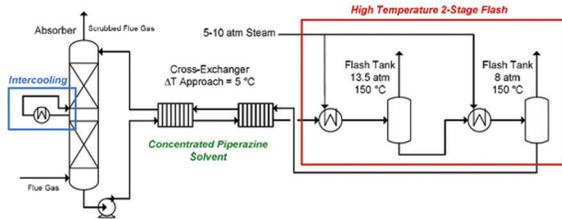
UOP LLC, in collaboration with Vanderbilt University, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Michigan, and Northwestern University is working to develop a MOF-based CO₂ removal process and to design a pilot study to evaluate the performance and economics of the process in a commercial power plant.²⁰⁰

During Phase I, UOP will use its combinatorial chemistry capabilities to systematically synthesize a wide range of state-of-the-art MOFs and related materials. UOP will screen the materials for hydrothermal stability and characterize materials of particular interest. Detailed isotherm data will be collected in the low-pressure regime in order to establish a consistent, relevant baseline for subsequent development and optimization. The results of the baseline studies will be used to guide the ongoing synthesis, screening, and measurement of new MOFs.

In Phase II, up to 10 candidates will be selected for optimization, based on Phase I results. The effects of water on CO₂ adsorption will be measured in parallel with the development and validation of material scale-up and forming procedures.²⁰¹

During Phase III, one or two of the best materials will be selected for final optimization and scale-up to pilot-scale quantities. The effects of contaminants on the performance of scaled-up, formed materials will be optimized and detailed kinetic and equilibrium data will be collected. These data will be incorporated into a process design and process economic analysis, leading to the design of a pilot study.²⁰²

UOP received two NETL grants to support this work. One was for \$900,000 in 2004 and the other was for \$2,256,750 in 2007.



Source: NETL

URS Corporation

URS Group, in collaboration with the University of Texas and Trimeric Corporation, will investigate the use of concentrated piperazine (PZ) as a solvent for absorbing CO₂ from coal-fired power plant flue gas.²⁰³

Laboratory research, CO₂ capture process modeling, and preliminary pilot results with synthetic flue gas have shown concentrated PZ to have several advantages over other solvents. When coupled with a novel, high-temperature regeneration system that takes advantage of PZ's enhanced thermal stability, the modeled process has demonstrated significant progress toward meeting the DOE goal of capturing 90 percent of the CO₂ with less than a 35 percent increase in the cost of electricity (COE). This project will investigate the concentrated PZ process for the first time with coal-fired flue gas and at scales of 0.1 MWe and 0.5 MWe to provide data to assess the technical and economic feasibility

of a potential future full-scale version of this technology.²⁰⁴

The PZ-based CO₂ absorption process will undergo a series of three field tests to gain operational experience with the solvent in coal-fired flue gas, while employing a novel, high-temperature, two-stage flash regeneration design. The tests will be conducted at Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization's (CSIRO) Post-Combustion Capture (PCC) facility, University of Texas' Separations Research Program (SRP) plant, and DOE's National Carbon Capture Center (NCCC).²⁰⁵

The DOE's NETL contributed \$3 million towards this project, for a start date of October 2010.

Project Leader(s): George Young

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Level of Funding: \$3,748,626

Location: Columbia, MD.

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GRACE

W.R. Grace

ARPA-E funded this project with \$2,998,705 to develop a cost-effective CO₂ capture process known as pressure swing adsorption (PSA), which utilizes rapid pressure changes to capture and release CO₂.²⁰⁶

Key to this project is finding a suitable match between the adsorbent and the pressure change cycle configuration. The applicants will develop a low-pressure-drop, structured adsorbent material, based on commercially available materials that are suitable for use in a rapid PSA cycle configuration.²⁰⁷

The proposed work builds upon promising results for CO₂ capture from flue gas obtained in a previous project employing a traditional PSA cycle configuration with long cycle times of 300 seconds or so.²⁰⁸

Columbia-based Grace (NYSE: GRA) will partner with Battelle Corp. of Columbus, Ohio, Catacel Corp. of Garrettsville, Ohio, and researchers at the University of South Carolina on the project.

Select Emerging
Carbon Capture
University and
Laboratory
Overviews »

Project Leader(s): Ah-Hyung Alissa Park

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Level of Funding: \$1,014,707

Location: New York, NY

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COLUMBIA | ENGINEERING
The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

Columbia University

The focus of this ARPA-E sponsored work is on enhanced weathering by the acceleration of the natural reaction between CO₂ and minerals such as magnesium silicates by using chelating agents that target brucite and silica layers to produce a stable precipitate.²⁰⁹

Enhanced weathering could provide an alternative to carbon sequestration that does not require monitoring, verification or accounting for stored carbon.²¹⁰

ARPA-E provided \$1,014,707 in April 2010 to support this work.

Project Leader(s): Klaus Lackner

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Level of Funding: Unknown

Location: New York, NY

E: kl2010@columbia.edu

Lenfest Center for Sustainable Energy
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

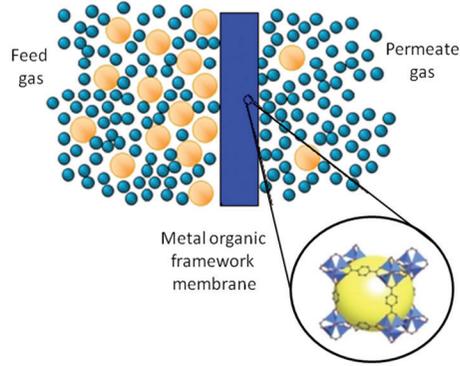
Columbia University Earth Institute

The Earth Institute proposes to develop and demonstrate a novel technology for capturing CO₂ from a range of dilute sources, based on an approach originally developed for capture from air, the ultimate dilute source of CO₂.²¹¹

The Earth Institute will use the dilute CO₂ capture resin as a CO₂ concentration booster pump and cleaning filter that avoids contamination of the conventional sorbent with sulfur and nitrogen oxides. With the booster pump, the conventional sorbent does not need to work as hard as before, enabling the use of a weaker sorbent than MEA, which is the current standard.²¹²

The Earth Institute's goal is to take the process successfully designed for air capture, and modify it to apply to other dilute streams of CO₂ spanning the range from air to natural gas-fired power plants and finally to flue gas from coal-fired power plants.²¹³

This project was highlighted as an "encourage applicant" by ARPA-E in March 2011.



Source: Georgia Tech

Georgia Institute of Technology

Researchers at Georgia Tech will incorporate metal organic frameworks, new compounds that show great promise in carbon capture, into hollow fiber membranes for improved carbon dioxide selectivity.²¹⁴

The use of hollow fiber membranes allows for high surface area, and the selective incorporation of metal organic frameworks into the polymer matrix will improve throughput and selectivity, helping to reduce capture costs.²¹⁵

Experimental partners in this work include the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), the University of Maine, Georgia Tech, and Exxon Mobil.²¹⁶

This project received a \$1 million ARPA-E grant in April 2010.

Project Leader(s): Christopher Jones

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Level of Funding: \$3,023,680

Location: Atlanta, GA

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Georgia Tech Research Corporation

By using a rapid temperature change, a novel process, referred to as rapid temperature swing adsorption (RTSA), is being investigated for CO₂ capture.²²¹

The CO₂ is captured on hollow fibers loaded with silica-supported adsorbents. The outcomes of the project will be bench-scale demonstration of the concept of RTSA for CO₂ capture, coupled with preliminary design, optimization and economic analysis of a full-scale system to demonstrate the potential for this technology to meet cost and performance goals set by DOE.²²²

Georgia Tech Research Corp was awarded \$2,386,633 in August 2011 by the Department of Energy, as part of a larger \$41 million investment in carbon capture technologies, to support this effort.



GKSS-Research Centre

Researchers from the Institute of Materials Research and Institute of Polymer Research, both at GKSS-Research Centre Geesthacht, have fabricated multiblock copolymers consisting of polyethylene oxide and polybutyleneterephthalate into thin-film composite membranes on laboratory and technical scales.²²³

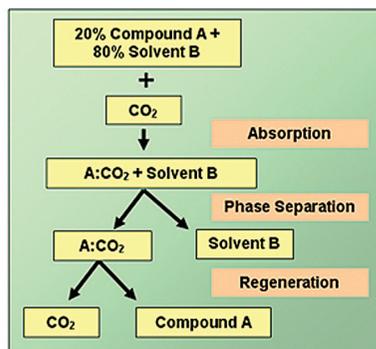
In order to manufacture their ultra-thin defect-free coatings with extremely high CO₂ permeance and high selectivity, the researchers used a highly permeable intermediate layer (PDMS; thickness <300 nm) between the microporous support and the selective coating. The highly permeable intermediate layer worked as a gutter and protective coating which prevents the diluted polymer solution penetration into the porous structure, and at the same time renders the entire membrane surface smoother.²²⁴

To test the performance of their membranes, the researchers performed experiments with gas mixtures in order to evaluate the application

in power plants. They found that their ultra-thin film membrane has roughly a 20 times higher CO₂ permeance than commercial membranes, combined with one of the highest CO₂/N₂-selectivities known (facilitated transport materials excluded).²²⁵

According to the team, a preliminary technical and economical analysis shows that this membrane has potential for carbon capture in coal-fired power plants. They note that the capture cost using the conventional amine absorption process is in the range of 30-50 Euro per ton recovered CO₂.²²⁶

By applying a membrane-based process design the separation costs can be lower than 30 Euro/t using the high permeance membrane developed at the Institute. These membranes are currently under evaluation at pilot scale in a German project for CO₂ capture in power plants (MEM-BRAIN).²²⁷



Note: Compound A and Solvent B are proprietary components.

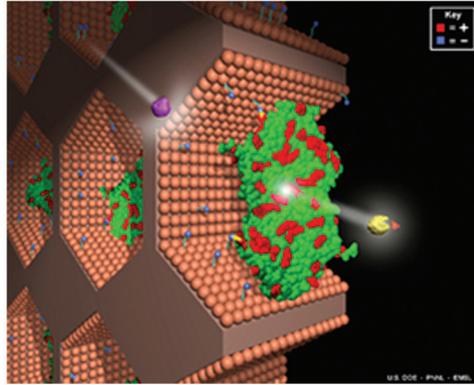
Source: NETL

Hampton University

Hampton University researched a novel CO₂ absorption concept, phase transitional absorption that utilizes a two-part proprietary absorbent consisting of an activated agent dissolved in a solvent.

Phase separation of the activated agent from the chemical solvent occurs during CO₂ absorption and physical separation of the two phases exiting the absorber reduces the volume of process liquid requiring thermal regeneration. This unique aspect of phase transitional absorption also decreases the amount of energy (i.e., steam) required to liberate the CO₂. If the proper liquid phases are selected, the absorption rate of CO₂ may also be enhanced. Following regeneration, the activated agent and solvent are mixed and recycled back to the CO₂ absorber vessel.²²⁸

Researchers will investigate the effects of liquid phase ratios, temperature, agitation speed, CO₂ partial pressure, liquid holdup, and the gas-liquid interface.²²⁹



Source: NETL

Illinois State Geological Survey

The Illinois State Geological Survey is developing an integrated vacuum carbonate absorption process (IVCAP) for post-combustion CO₂ capture.²⁹²

This process employs potassium carbonate solution as a solvent that can be integrated with the power plant steam cycle by using low-quality steam.²⁹³

Researchers will confirm IVCAP process parameters through laboratory testing, identify an effective catalyst for accelerating CO₂ absorption rates, and develop an additive for reducing regeneration energy.²⁹⁴

In 2008, the DOE's NETL provided \$691,191 to support this technology.

The logo for the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IME) is displayed within a red, trapezoidal shape that tapers to the right. The text is white and reads "Institution of MECHANICAL ENGINEERS" in a bold, sans-serif font, with "MECHANICAL" and "ENGINEERS" in all caps and "Institution of" in title case.

Institution of
MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS

Institution of Mechanical Engineers

The UK-based institution is demonstrating the air capture technology on a small scale as the UK government and academics meet to discuss its potential.²³⁰

The device, resembling a giant fly swat, is a thousand times more effective at absorbing carbon dioxide from the air than a tree of about the same size, according to the IME, whose members are developing it.²³¹

The Institution projects that the technology will be ready in 2018.²³²

Project Leader(s): Jeffrey Long
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Phone: (510) 642-0860

Level of Funding: \$3,663,696
Location: Berkeley, CA
E: jrlong@berkeley.edu



Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

The team led by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory will utilize robotic instrumentation tools and computational algorithms to accelerate the development of metal organic framework materials to capture carbon dioxide.²³³

There are many different metal organic framework structures that can be made, and the team will use nuclear magnetic resonance signals to quickly identify promising structures.²³⁴

This research is expected to lead to materials with improved selectivity and robustness that are worthy of large-scale testing and commercialization for carbon dioxide capture in power plants.²³⁵

DOE's ARPA-E provided \$3,663,696 in funding in April 2010 to support this project.

Project Leader(s): Roger Aines

Weblink: llnslc.com

Phone: 925.423.7184

Level of Funding: \$3,665,000

Location: Livermore, CA

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Lawrence Livermore National Security

This project combines scientific experience in creating synthetic small-molecule catalysts with industrial experience to make them operationally useful.²³⁶

The approach will also demonstrate the effective use of the catalysts under a range of process conditions.

DOE's ARPA-E provided \$3,665,000 in April 2010 to support this project.



Lehigh University

With ARPA-E's financial support, Lehigh University is developing an innovative approach to separate carbon dioxide from other gases in the smokestacks of coal-fired power plants.²³⁷

Lehigh University intends to use electric fields to reversibly and selectively enhance the affinity of certain high-surface-area, solid, absorbent materials for carbon dioxide. By flicking a switch, coal-fired power plants could control whether the materials adsorb carbon dioxide or release it for collection.²³⁸

Electric Field Swing Adsorption (EFSA) is a fundamentally new approach for separation of carbon dioxide from flue gases of coal-fired power plants. The key feature of this new technology is the use of electric fields to reversibly and selectively enhance the affinity of CO₂ for high surface area solid sorbent materials. This means that both adsorption and desorption can be done under ambient conditions, simply by switching the electric field on and off, avoiding the need for

costly heating or pressurization cycles. The current project is focused on developing the scientific basis of the EFSA technology, and determining its practicality for carbon capture applications. The first phase of the project aims to establish proof of concept of the EFSA technique, and to tailor solid sorbent materials and to optimize the field induced adsorption change. Once a suitable system has been identified, we will initiate the second phase of the project, to develop a bench-top gas separation reactor that is capable of CO₂ separation from a simulated flue-gas mixture.²³⁹

ARPA-E funding will be used to develop appropriate materials and optimize the adsorption process. If successful, this technology would significantly reduce the time and energy required for carbon capture.²⁴⁰



**Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The MIT-led team will develop electrochemically mediated separation processes for post-combustion carbon dioxide capture at coal-fired power plants.²⁴¹

Anticipated benefits include greatly increased energy efficiency for carbon dioxide capture, easier retrofitting of existing coal-fired power plants, and simpler integration with new facilities.²⁴²

The project will involve molecular modeling and experimental optimization of carrier structure, fabrication and evaluation of prototype separation units.²⁴³

DOE's ARPA-E provided \$1,000,000 in April 2010 to support this project.



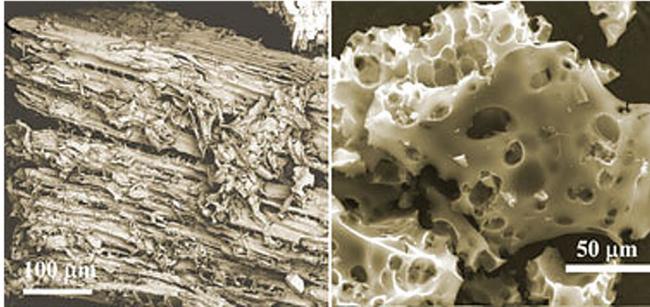
National Energy Technology Laboratory

NETL scientists have developed an amine-enriched sorbent that has been investigated with flue gas streams at temperatures similar to those found after lime/ limestone desulfurization scrubbing.²⁴⁴

The CO₂ capture sorbents are prepared by treating high surface area substrates with various amine compounds. The immobilization of amine groups on the high surface area material significantly increases the contact area between CO₂ and amine. This advantage, combined with the elimination of liquid water, has the potential to improve the energy efficiency of the process compared to MEA scrubbing.²⁴⁵

Application of this technology reduces the costs and energy associated with more conventional scrubbing processes to capture CO₂ in large-scale power generation facilities; consequently, its transfer from the laboratory to the marketplace is another important step in moving forward the commercialization and deployment of innovations that help decrease atmospheric emissions of greenhouse gases.²⁴⁶

The "BIAS" Process will use low-cost, regenerable, solid CO₂ sorbents in large-scale fossil fuel-burning power plants. An amine compound, composed of nitrogen and hydrogen atoms, is treated to make it more selective and reactive towards CO₂. Combined with a porous solid support, the amine becomes a sorbent, which selectively reacts with CO₂ to extract it from the flue gas. The sorbent is then heated to release the CO₂ for storage, thereby refreshing the sorbent for reuse.²⁴⁷



Source: Royal Society of Chemistry

National Institute of Carbon, Oviedo

Antonio Fuertes and his group at the National Institute of Carbon, Oviedo, have made a porous carbon material that performs better than other currently available ones, using a simple and inexpensive process. The major difference in this work, however, is that the raw material is sawdust.²⁴⁸

The two-step synthesis involves hydrothermal carbonisation of the sawdust, creating a hydrochar, which is then activated using potassium hydroxide. The KOH treatment creates pores in the sawdust structure by oxidation of carbon and carbon gasification from K_2CO_3 decomposition. These pores are responsible for the material's uptake capabilities, bestowing it with a capacity as high as $4.8 \text{ mmol CO}_2/\text{g}$. In addition, Fuertes' material has good selectivity for CO_2 over N_2 , fast adsorption rates and can be easily regenerated.²⁴⁹

Sustainable porous carbons have been prepared by chemical activation of hydrothermally carbonized polysaccharides (starch and cellulose) and biomass (sawdust). These materials were investigated as sorbents for CO_2 capture.

The activation process was carried out under severe (KOH/precursor = 4) or mild (KOH/precursor = 2) activation conditions at different temperatures in the $600\text{--}800\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ range. Textural characterization of the porous carbons showed that the samples obtained under mild activating conditions exhibit smaller surface areas and pore sizes than those prepared by employing a greater amount of KOH. However, the mildly activated carbons exhibit a good capacity to store CO_2 , which is mainly due to the presence of a large number of narrow micropores ($<1 \text{ nm}$). A very high CO_2 uptake of $4.8 \text{ mmol}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$ ($212 \text{ mg CO}_2\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$) was registered at room temperature ($25\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) for a carbon activated at $600\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ using KOH/precursor = 2. To the best of our knowledge, this result constitutes the largest ever recorded CO_2 uptake at room temperature for any activated carbon. Furthermore, we observed that these porous carbons have fast CO_2 adsorption rates, a good selectivity for $\text{CO}_2\text{--N}_2$ separation and they can be easily regenerated.²⁵⁰



NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

Northwestern University

Chemists from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois created a carbon capture and storage material which is made of sugars, salt and a little bit of alcohol - organic compounds that produce less emissions.²⁵¹

Because the materials, known as metal-organic frameworks or MOFs, are made from naturally derived ingredients, they are not only non-toxic but carbon-neutral too, the researchers said.²⁵²

The researchers found that their all-natural metal-organic framework reacted with carbon dioxide in a process akin to carbon fixation that binds the carbon dioxide to the crystals.²⁵³

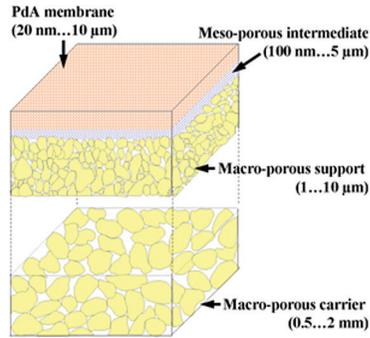


Oak Ridge National Laboratory

A team from Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Georgia Tech will integrate new designer ionic liquids that capture carbon dioxide in flue gas with hollow fiber membranes that provide a robust, high surface area support.²⁶²

The objectives of this catch-and-release system are to cut the cost and energy associated with capturing carbon dioxide, as well as to design a platform that can be scaled up to coal-fired power plants across the country.²⁶³

DOE's ARPA-E provided \$987,547 in April 2010 to support this effort.



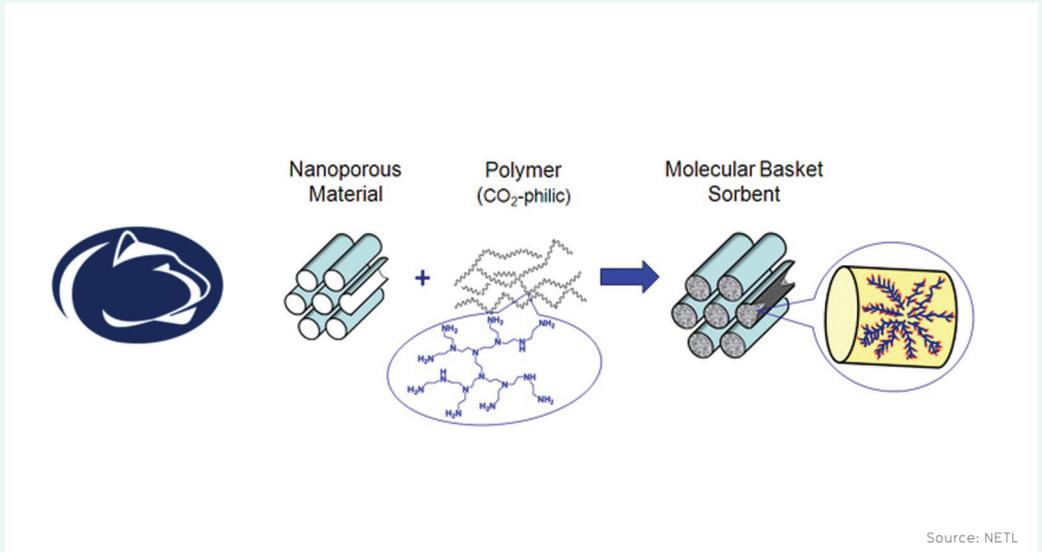
Source: NETL

Ohio State University

The objective of this \$3,000,000 DOE project is a cost-effective design and manufacturing process for new membrane modules that separate CO₂ from flue gas.²⁶⁴

The membranes consist of a thin selective inorganic layer embedded in a polymer structure so that it can be made in a continuous manufacturing process. They will be incorporated in spiral-wound modules for bench-scale tests at actual conditions.²⁶⁵

Preliminary cost calculations show that options of using a single-stage membrane process or a two-stage process can meet or exceed the DOE cost goals.²⁶⁶



Pennsylvania State University

Pennsylvania State University (PSU) will develop a new generation of solid polymer-based sorbents for more efficient capture and separation of CO₂ from flue gas of coal-fired power plants. The project is based on the concept of a molecular basket sorbent (MBS), which was invented and developed at PSU. The idea of MBS development is to load CO₂-philic polymers onto high surface area nanoporous materials. This process increases the number of approachable sorption sites on/in the sorbent and enhances the sorption/desorption rate by increasing the gas-sorbent contacting interface and by improving the mass transfer in the sorption/desorption process. The expected result of this project will be a concentrated CO₂ stream that can be directed to CO₂ sequestration or CO₂ utilization.²⁶⁷

Development of the new generation of MBS involves the selection of the best performing, most cost-effective CO₂-philic polymer and nanoporous materials. Different types of nanoporous materials will be purchased as support ma-

terials. A series of polymers will be immobilized in the nanoporous materials to prepare different sorbents. The prepared sorbents will be tested and evaluated for CO₂ capture in a fixed-bed flow system. The promising MBSs will be further characterized to determine their structure; surface properties; thermal, physical, and chemical properties; and CO₂-sorption/desorption properties. Advanced molecular modeling will be used to facilitate the screening of the polymer sorbents and the design of novel polymers. Computational results will be utilized to guide project experimental approaches. A techno-economic analysis will also be performed on the new MBSs and CO₂ capture process. The analysis will focus on energy consumption and the cost of the sorbents in comparison to a conventional post-combustion CO₂ capture process.²⁶⁸

The DOE provided \$456,992 to support this project between September 2009 and 2012.



Previous membrane test skid built
(Skid footprint ~ 4 ft. x 6 ft.)

Source: NETL

Research Triangle Institute – Fluorinated Polymer Membranes

Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International is researching fluorinated polymer membranes for carbon dioxide capture. RTI's research effort includes membrane materials development, module design, and process design. RTI is pursuing the development of two hollow-fiber membrane materials. First, RTI is working with Geneneron to develop a membrane material constructed of polycarbonate-based polymers. Lab-scale membrane modules are being studied with simulated flue-gas mixtures with and without flue gas emission contaminants. Two larger-scale polycarbonate membrane module prototypes are being tested with a slipstream of actual flue gas from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Multipollutant Combustion Research Facility (MPCRF). RTI is also working with Arkema to develop the second membrane material constructed of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF)-based polymers.²⁷²

Membranes could provide PC-fired power plants with a cost-effective method for CO₂ capture. The membrane module system is relatively easy to install within an existing PC-fired plant and does not require any major modifications to the existing equipment and infrastructure. The membrane utilizes passive separation of gases, making it energy efficient because it does not require regeneration energy, as do solvent and sorbent processes. The module's compact design and ability to link with hundreds of modules in tandem makes the hollow fiber membrane system easy to scale and retrofit. The membrane also lacks any moving parts, reducing the risk of a mechanical failure.²⁷³

The DOE's NETL provided \$1,944,821 towards this project in 2008.

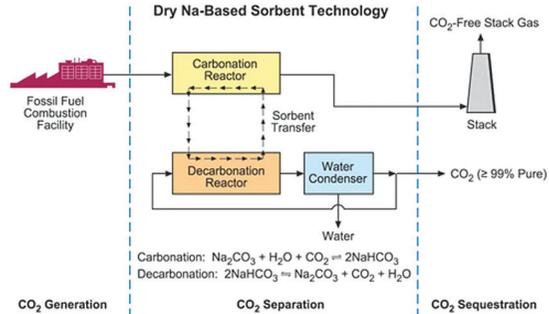


Research Triangle Institute – Non-Aqueous Solvents

RTI International and BASF are teaming up to explore a new class of non-aqueous solvents that exploit a new reversible carbon dioxide-solvent chemistry.²⁷⁴

The lower energy penalty results from the milder regeneration temperature that allows carbon dioxide to be released using less energy. The team estimates that this approach could reduce the regeneration energy so that it is 40 percent lower than that of conventional, state-of-the-art amine based solvent processes.²⁷⁵

RTI International and BASF received a \$2 million ARPA-E grant in June 2010 to support this work.



Source: NETL

Research Triangle Institute - Regenerable Sorbent

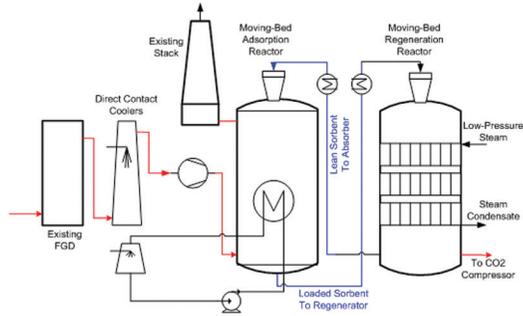
Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International completed two projects, NT43089 and NT40923, to investigate the use of sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3 or soda ash) as an inexpensive, dry, and regenerable sorbent for CO_2 capture in the Dry Carbonate Process.²⁶⁹

In this process, Na_2CO_3 reacts with CO_2 and water to form sodium bicarbonate at the temperature of the flue gas exhaust; the sorbent is then regenerated at modest temperatures ($\sim 120^\circ\text{C}$) to yield a concentrated stream of CO_2 for sequestration or other use.²⁷⁰

This process is ideally suited for retrofit application in the non-power and power generation sectors. Laboratory and pilot plant tests have consistently achieved over 90% CO_2 removal from simulated flue gas. RTI's process has advanced through pilot-scale testing with simulated and coal combustion flue gases. In

addition, the reproducibility of their sorbent at a commercial operating facility has been confirmed. The process advantages translate into lower capital costs and power requirements than conventional MEA technology (based on a preliminary economic analysis).²⁷¹

DOE's NETL provided \$2,026,724 for the first phase of the project and \$3,217,056 for the second phase.



Source: NETL

SRI International

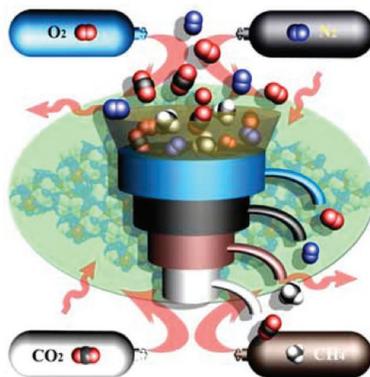
In collaboration with Advanced Technology Materials Inc. (ATMI), SRI International (SRI) will develop an innovative, low-cost, and low energy-consuming CO₂ capture technology based on adsorption on a high capacity and low-cost carbon sorbent.²⁷⁶

SRI will identify and determine the chemical, physical, and mechanical properties of the sorbent that are relevant to the effective capture of CO from PC-fired flue gas streams. SRI will achieve this by chemically functionalizing the high surface area sorbent in order to increase the selectivity and loading for CO₂ capture and reduce thermal requirements for CO₂ desorption.²⁷⁷

A bench-scale, fixed-bed reactor system will be designed and constructed for performing adsorption and regeneration studies. In addition, a simulated flue gas stream containing both major gases and minor contaminants will be used to determine the CO₂ capture rates.²⁷⁸

Based on the results of the adsorber and regenerator parametric tests, a selected set of conditions will be used to perform cyclic tests with the reactors operating in adsorption and regeneration modes. Finally, a technical and economic evaluation will be conducted on the feasibility of the novel carbon sorbents for cost-effective CO₂ capture from PC-fired power plants. The information obtained from this project will be used to design a 0.25 MW or larger capacity pilot unit that will treat a slipstream from an operating PC-fired power plant in a future phase.²⁷⁹

In 2008, the DOE's NETL provided \$1,799,957 to support this project.



Source: Texas A&M

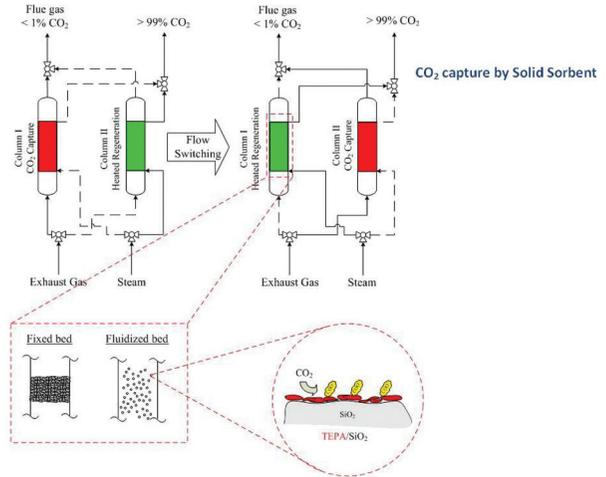
Texas A&M

Texas A&M will develop innovative metal organic framework based molecular sieves whose adsorption and desorption properties can be finely tuned by controlling their mesh size.²⁸⁰

This will enable more energy-efficient carbon dioxide capture and will reduce the cost of carbon dioxide capture by enhancing carbon dioxide/N₂ selectivity at high carbon dioxide loadings²⁸¹ and by greatly lowering the cost of regeneration.

The team will demonstrate a process that it predicts can capture 90 percent of the carbon dioxide in flue gas with substantially reduced parasitic power demand.²⁸²

The DOE's ARPA-E provided \$1,019,874 in April 2010 to support this technology.



Source: University of Akron

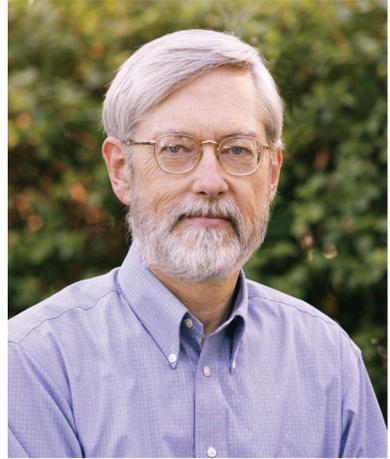
University of Akron

The University of Akron is investigating a new sorbent for CO_2 capture that involves the novel integration of metallic monolith structures coated with amine-grafted zeolites.²⁸³

This sorbent would eliminate the use of corrosive liquid amine and decrease the energy required for sorbent regeneration. The metal monoliths consist of straight channels: one row of channels coated with amine-grafted zeolite and one used for heat transfer media for either cooling for adsorption or heating for regeneration.²⁸⁴

In combination with the innovative applications of metal monoliths as an adsorbent structure, the low cost of raw materials for the synthesis of zeolite-grafted amine sorbents may result in a breakthrough technology for the effective capture of CO_2 from flue gas of coal-fired power plants.²⁸⁵

In 2007, the DOE's NETL provided \$764,995 to support this project.



Source: LLNL

University of California, Santa Cruz

Greg Rau, a senior scientist with the Institute of Marine Sciences at UC Santa Cruz and who also works in the Carbon Management Program at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, conducted a series of lab-scale experiments to find out if a seawater/mineral carbonate (limestone) gas scrubber would remove enough CO_2 to be effective, and whether the resulting substance -- dissolved calcium bicarbonate -- could then be stored in the ocean where it might also benefit marine life.²⁸⁶

In addition to global warming effects, when carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere, a significant fraction is passively taken up by the ocean in a form that makes the ocean more acidic. This acidification has been shown to be harmful to marine life, especially corals and shellfish.²⁸⁷

In his experiments, Rau found that the scrubber removed up to 97 percent of CO_2 in a

simulated flue gas stream, with a large fraction of the carbon ultimately converted to dissolved calcium bicarbonate.²⁸⁸

At scale, the process would hydrate the carbon dioxide in power plant flue gas with water to produce a carbonic acid solution. This solution would react with limestone, neutralizing the carbon dioxide by converting it to calcium bicarbonate -- and then would be released into the ocean. While this process occurs naturally (carbonate weathering), it is much less efficient, and is too slow paced to be effective.²⁸⁹

Chemical and Biological Engineering

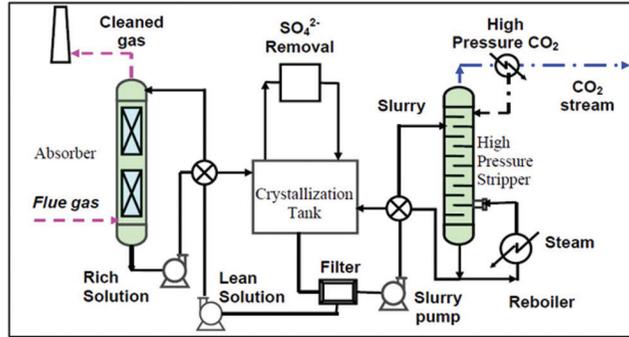
University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Colorado at Boulder will develop a novel gelled ionic liquid membrane, which provides mechanical rigidity into what is normally a liquid solvent, allowing extremely thin membranes to be fabricated.²⁹⁰

Since the membrane permeance increases as the membranes become thinner, higher fluxes of carbon dioxide can be selectively passed through the membrane, reducing the cost and size of membrane treatment for flue gas.²⁹¹

The DOE's ARPA-E provided \$3,144,646 in April 2010 to support this project.



Source: NETL

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will evaluate the Hot Carbonate Absorption Process (Hot-CAP) process with crystallization-enabled high pressure stripping. The Hot-CAP is an absorption-based, post-combustion CO₂ technology that uses a carbonate salt (K₂CO₃ or Na₂CO₃) as a solvent. The process integrates a high temperature (70-80°C) CO₂ absorption column, a slurry-based high-pressure (up to 40atm) CO₂ stripping column, a crystallization unit to separate bicarbonate and recover the carbonate solvent, and a reclaimer to recover CaSO₄ as the byproduct of the SO₂ removal.²⁹⁵

A preliminary techno-economic evaluation shows that energy use with the Hot-CAP is about half that of a conventional MEA process. In a typical MEA process there are three components of heat: the heat of reaction, the sensible heat, and the stripping heat. The Hot-CAP reduces all three heat components.²⁹⁶

Because the bicarbonate slurry comes from the crystallizer, the stripping process is decoupled with, and thus independent of, the absorption process. The carbonate solution has a smaller heat of absorption than the MEA. With the inclusion of the heat of crystallization, the overall heat of reaction ranges between 7 and 17 kcal/mol CO₂ compared to 21 kcal/mol CO₂ for MEA. In addition, the use of the bicarbonate slurry results in a significant increase in the working capacity of the solvent.²⁹⁷

A higher working capacity reduces the energy required to heat the slurry, or the sensible heat. Finally, since the carbonate salt does not degrade at a high regeneration temperature, the Hot-CAP can be operated at higher pressures. A higher stripping pressure reduces the stripping heat as well as the compression work.²⁹⁸

The DOE's NETL provided \$1,277,118 in 2011 to support this technology.



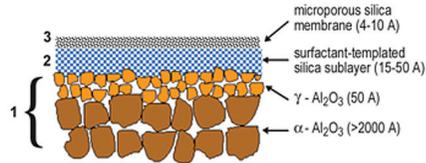
University of Kentucky- Center for Applied Energy Research

The University of Kentucky research team will develop a hybrid absorption solvent/catalytic membrane for post-combustion carbon dioxide capture process that can be retrofit onto existing coal-fired power plants.²⁹⁹

The membrane is a catalytic separator that couples nanofiltration separation and catalysis to produce a concentrated permeate. The membrane can be used with aqueous ammonium and some typical alkyl amines solutions.³⁰⁰

This catalytic membrane reactor could greatly reduce the energy penalty for carbon dioxide capture. Moreover, it could be conveniently integrated with traditional carbon capture processes.³⁰¹

The DOE's ARPA-E provided \$1,955,078 in April 2010 to support this technology.



Source: NETL

University of New Mexico

This completed University of New Mexico project was to develop a dual-function amine modified membrane capable of economically and efficiently removing CO₂ emissions from the flue gas of coal-fired power plants. The use of such an amine-modified membrane, with high CO₂ permeance and selectively, holds promise for reducing costs by avoiding the expensive absorber/stripper system required with existing amine-based technology.³⁰²

This dual-function membrane is prepared by a unique sol-gel dip-coating process for depositing a microporous amino-silicate membrane on a porous tubular ceramic support. It consists of a microporous inorganic siliceous matrix, with amine functional groups physically immobilized or covalently bonded on the membrane pore walls.³⁰³

Strong interactions between the permeating CO₂ molecules and the amine functional

membrane pores will enhance surface diffusion of CO₂ on the pore wall of the membrane, subsequently blocking other gases.³⁰⁴

The new membrane is expected to exhibit higher CO₂ selectivity compared to prior membranes that separate gases based on differences in molecular size only.³⁰⁵

The DOE's NETL provided \$886,827 in 2005 to support this technology.



University of North Dakota – EERC

The EERC's PCO2C Program is researching capture technologies to identify the most efficient, cleanest, and most cost-effective for implementation in the electric utility fleet or in CO₂ sequestration.³⁰⁶

Besides the EERC, the PCO2C Partnership includes the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the North Dakota Industrial Commission, and some 15 industrial partners.³⁰⁷

The first phase of the project began in July 2008 and wraps up in July 2010 as the project moves into Phase II. Phase I concentrated on designing and fabricating an oxygen-fired combustion technology and a postcombustion high-efficiency, flexible scrubber system, both for use on the EERC's existing 550,000-Btu/hr suspension-fired pilot-scale combustion test facility (CTF). The postcombustion system evaluated the performance of several CO₂-scrubbing solvents in flue gas streams derived from the combustion of selected fossil fuels,

biomass, and blends. Phase II will test the most promising solvents as well as some novel technologies.³⁰⁸

Project Leader(s): Steve Benson

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Phone: 701.213.7070

Level of Funding: \$3,690,000

Location: Grand Forks, ND

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University of North Dakota – Institute for Energy Studies

The objective of this project is to scale up and demonstrate a hybrid solid sorbent technology, referred to as the CACHYSTM process, for CO₂ capture from coal combustion-derived flue gas.³⁰⁹

The technology involves a novel solid sorbent based on the following ideas: reduction of energy for sorbent regeneration, utilization of novel process chemistry, contactor conditions that minimize sorbent-CO₂ heat of reaction and promote fast CO₂ capture, and low-cost method of heat management.³¹⁰

The project will develop key information for the CACHYS process-sorbent performance, energy for sorbent regeneration, physical properties of the sorbent, the integration of process components, sizing of equipment, and overall capital and operational cost of the integrated system.³¹¹

The DOE's ARPA-E provided \$2,952,000 in August 2011 to support this work.



University of Notre Dame – Brennecke Research Group

A recent discovery by researchers at Notre Dame University have identified a class of ionic liquid materials which undergo a phase transition from solid phase to liquid when reacting with carbon dioxide.²⁵⁷

A detailed synthetic study of these new compounds will aim to identify materials that are best suited for post-combustion capture applications.²⁵⁸

The potential of these projects as a more economical means of CO₂ capture depends upon the efficient use of ILs as CO₂ absorbents in coal-fired power plants. Compared to existing amine-based technologies, these designs would reduce costs through higher CO₂ loading in the circulating liquid and lower heat requirements for regeneration.²⁵⁹ Research has indicated that, for flue gas application, ILs have demonstrated SO₂ solubility 8 to 25 times that of CO₂ at the

same partial pressure, thereby allowing this novel solvent to not only remove CO₂ but also serve as an SO₂ polishing step.²⁶⁰

Lower heats of regeneration are required with these materials because the heat of fusion during the phase change from liquid to solid reduces the amount of energy needed to release the carbon dioxide that is captured.²⁶¹

DOE's ARPA-E provided \$2,559,563 in April 2010 to support this effort.



University of Notre Dame – Maginn Group

The University of Notre Dame is conducting the Ionic Liquids: Breakthrough Absorption Technology for Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture project (FC26-07NT43091), that builds on the work of its earlier project (FG26-04NT42122), to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the feasibility of using a novel class of compounds – ionic liquids (ILs) – for the capture of CO₂ from the flue gas of coal-fired power plants.²⁵⁴

Initial efforts focused on “proof-of-concept” exploration, followed by a laboratory-/bench-scale effort. ILs include a broad category of salts, typically containing an organic cation and either an inorganic or organic anion.²⁵⁵

Since ILs are physical solvents, less heat is required for regeneration compared to today’s conventional chemical solvents. Task-specific ILs that contain amine functionality are being investigated to further improve CO₂ solubility.²⁵⁶

The DOE’s NETL provided \$434,076 to support this project between 2004 and 2007.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

University of Sydney

Splitting her work between California and Sydney, Dr. Deanna D'Alessandro has constructed crystals full of minute holes that can trap CO₂, and theoretically almost any gas.³¹²

Dr. D'Alessandro's high-tech crystals are known as metal-organic frameworks, which are clusters of charged metal atoms linked by carbon-based groups. Their molecular structures are essentially similar to the molecular structures of seashells and microscopic marine plants called diatoms. One teaspoon of these molecular sponges has a surface area equivalent to a rugby field.³¹³

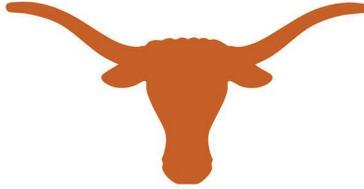
The concept is not new, but Dr. D'Alessandro's crystals are more robust with molecular pores that could even be shaped using light. This gives them the ability to capture and release gases on cue.³¹⁴

They can also withstand the hot, wet environments of power station flues that currently use carbon capture technology based

around toxic chemicals. And which can require up to 40 per cent of the power generated by the station to successfully capture CO₂.³¹⁵

The scientist was awarded the L'Oréal Australia For Women in Science Fellowship for her achievement, which will provide \$20,000 worth of equipment, travel support and a summer vacation student to assist her research.³¹⁶

The crystals may have other important applications including hydrogen storage, gas separation, and electrodes for sensors.³¹⁷



University of Texas at Austin

The University of Texas at Austin investigated an improved process for CO₂ capture by alkanolamine absorption that uses an alternative solvent, aqueous potassium carbonate (K₂CO₃) promoted by piperazine (PZ).³¹⁸

The K₂CO₃/PZ system (5 molar K; 2.5 molar PZ) has an absorption rate 10–30% faster than a 30% solution of MEA and favorable equilibrium characteristics. A benefit is that oxygen is less soluble in K⁺/PZ solvents; however, piperazine is more expensive than MEA, so the economic impact of oxidative degradation will be about the same.³¹⁹

If successful, this process would use less energy for CO₂ capture than the conventional monoethanolamine (MEA) scrubbing process. An improved capture system would mean a relative improvement in overall power plant efficiency.³²⁰

The project developed models to predict the performance of absorption/stripping of CO₂ using the improved solvent and perform a pilot plant study to validate the process models and define the range of feasible process operations.³²¹

As part of the pilot plant study, a test with MEA was conducted as a baseline to compare CO₂ absorption and stripping performance with tests using the K₂CO₃/PZ solvent. Researchers also investigated key issues such as solvent degradation, solvent reclamation, corrosion, and alternative stripper configurations.³²²

The DOE's NETL provided \$1,565,275 in 2002 to support the development of this technology.



University of Wyoming

The university is creating a low-pressure Carbon Filter Process (patent pending) to capture CO₂ from flue gas.³²³

This filter is filled with a low-cost carbonaceous sorbent, such as activated carbon or charcoal, which has a high affinity (and, hence, high capacity) to CO₂ but not to nitrogen (N₂). This, in turn, leads to a high CO₂/N₂ selectivity, especially at low pressures.³²⁴

The Carbon Filter Process proposed in this work can recover at least 90% of flue-gas CO₂ of 90%+ purity at a fraction of the cost normally associated with the conventional amine absorption process.³²⁵

The Carbon Filter Process requires neither expensive materials nor flue-gas compression or refrigeration, and it is easy to heat integrate with an existing or grassroots power plant without affecting the cost of the produced electricity too much.³²⁶

Project Leader(s): George Hirasaki

Weblink: ruf.rice.edu/~che

Phone: 713.348.5416

Level of Funding: \$960,811

Location: Houston, Texas

E. gjh@rice.edu



William Marshall Rice University

Researchers will construct and test at the bench-scale a novel CO₂ capture process that includes combining the absorber and stripper columns into a single integrated unit.³²⁷

The two functions of this integrated unit are separated by a ceramic membrane that enhances the capture of the CO₂ from the flue gas and the production of a concentrated stream of CO₂ for storage.³²⁸

A computer simulation model will be developed for the process, and the results will be used to optimize the properties of ceramics being used and the process operating conditions. The expected outcomes of this project include significant reduction in the capital and operating costs of the gas absorption process and the resulting increase in COE.³²⁹

In August 2011, the DOE provided \$768,647 to support this technology.

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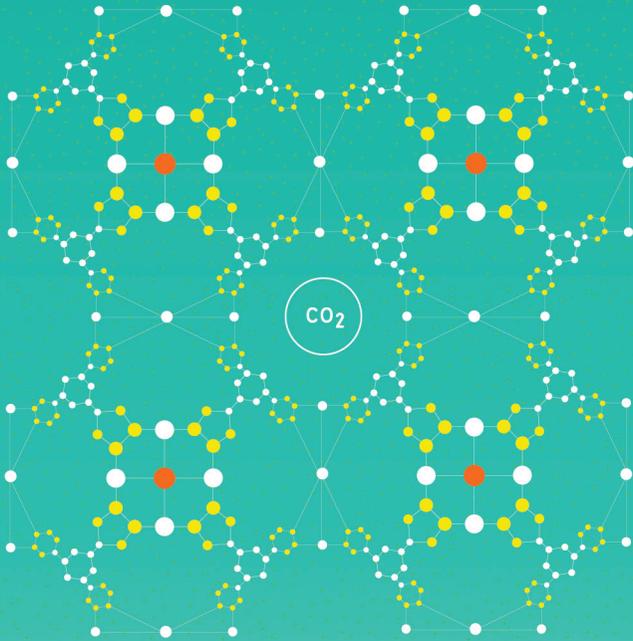
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