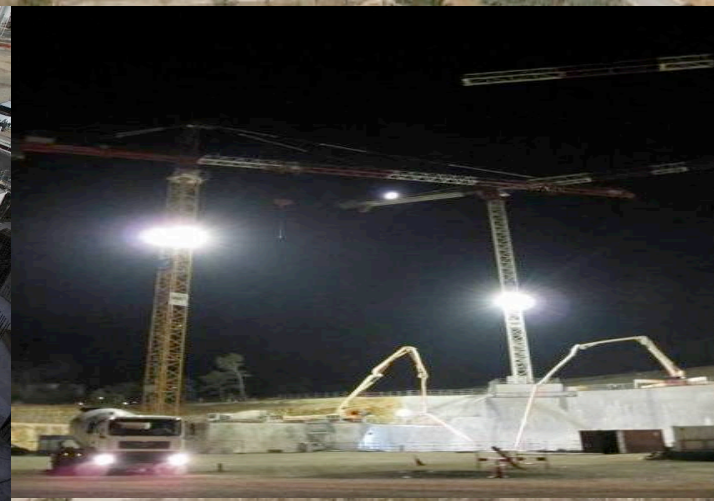
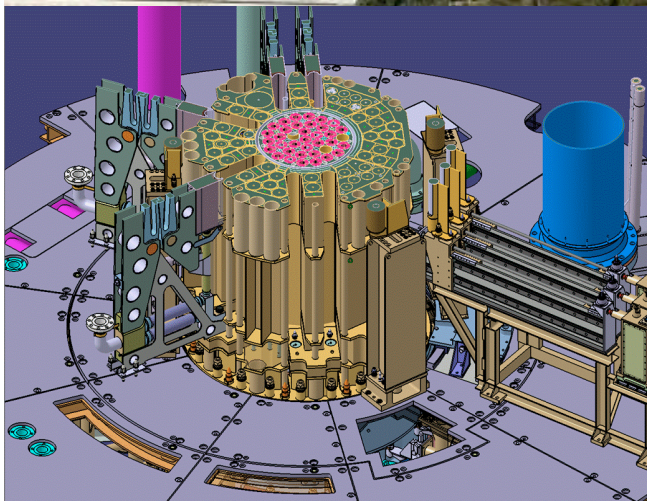


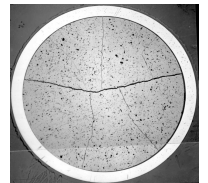
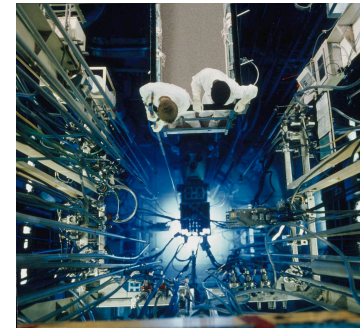
# The Jules Horowitz Reactor: a new High performances European MTR open to international community

Dr Gilles Bignan  
CEA/French Atomic Energy Commission  
JHR User Facility Interface Manager

[gilles.bignan@cea.fr](mailto:gilles.bignan@cea.fr)



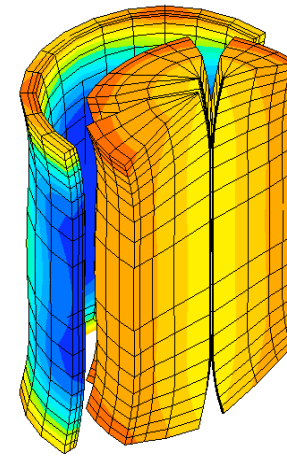
- ↳ MTRs have provided valuable support to develop nuclear energy and are still necessary to sustain industry and public bodies
- ↳ Existing MTRs providing support to industry are ageing
  - ✓ Ex. Halden (50 y.), OSIRIS (44 y.)...
  - ✓ With increasing risk of shut-down
    - ↳ R2 in Sweden shut-down at 45 y. with a 6 month notice !
  - ✓ With increasing probability of incident after 40 years of operation
    - ↳ NRU (52y.), HFR (48 y.)
- ↳ At least one new MTR dedicated to nuclear energy support is necessary (requirement from the ESFRI roadmap)
  - ✓ As an international user-facility (mature industry, large available knowledge)



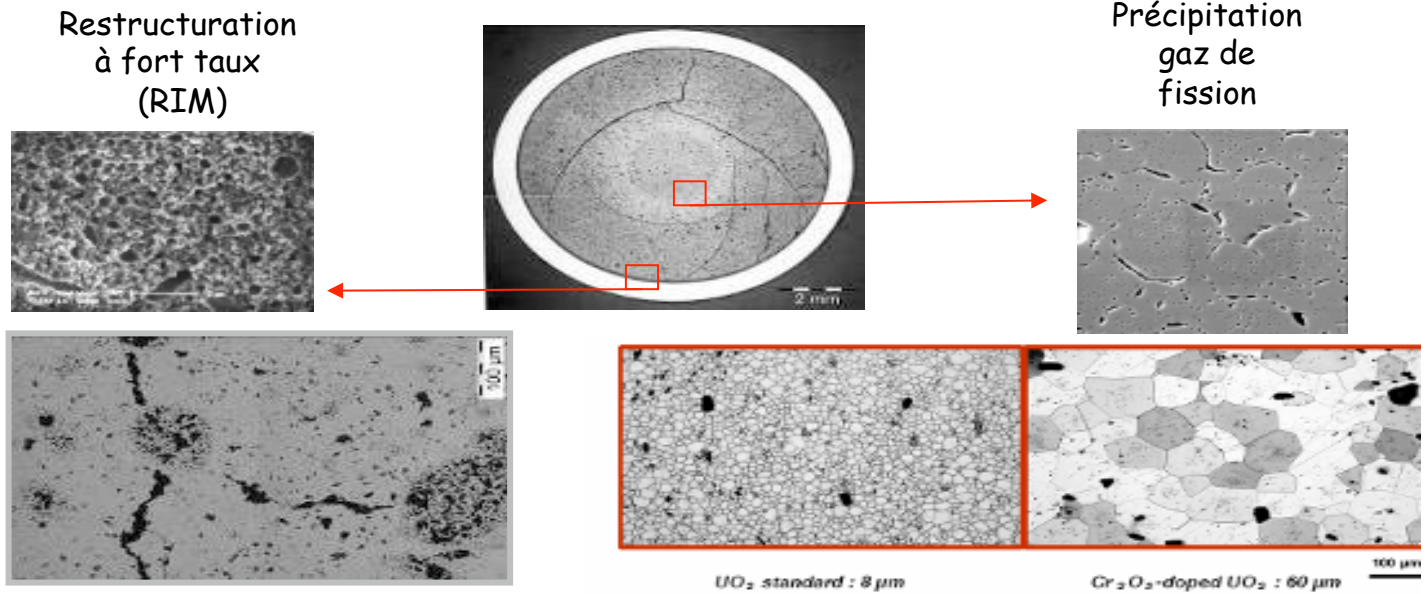


## Material Ageing under irradiation

- ✓ dpa, ...
- ✓ Corrosion, Radiolyse ...



## Fuel Behaviour under irradiation (PCI, FGR...)





# JHR meets key needs for Industry and public bodies



## ↪ Plant life time management for a capital intensive technology

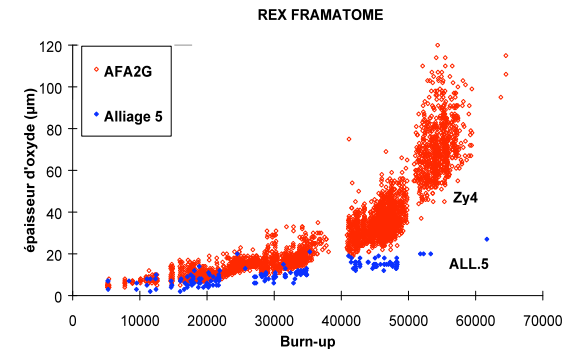
- ✓ Plant operation optimisation
- ✓ Ageing management
- ✓ New plant business case
- ✓ Support to national licensing process

## ↪ Fuel evolution and related safety demonstration

- ✓ Product optimisation by the Vendors
- ✓ Fuel behaviour validation by Utilities in incidental and accidental situation
- ✓ Innovations to improve U consumption in Gen 3 and for sustainability in Gen 4
- ✓ Support to national licensing process

## ↪ To support expertise

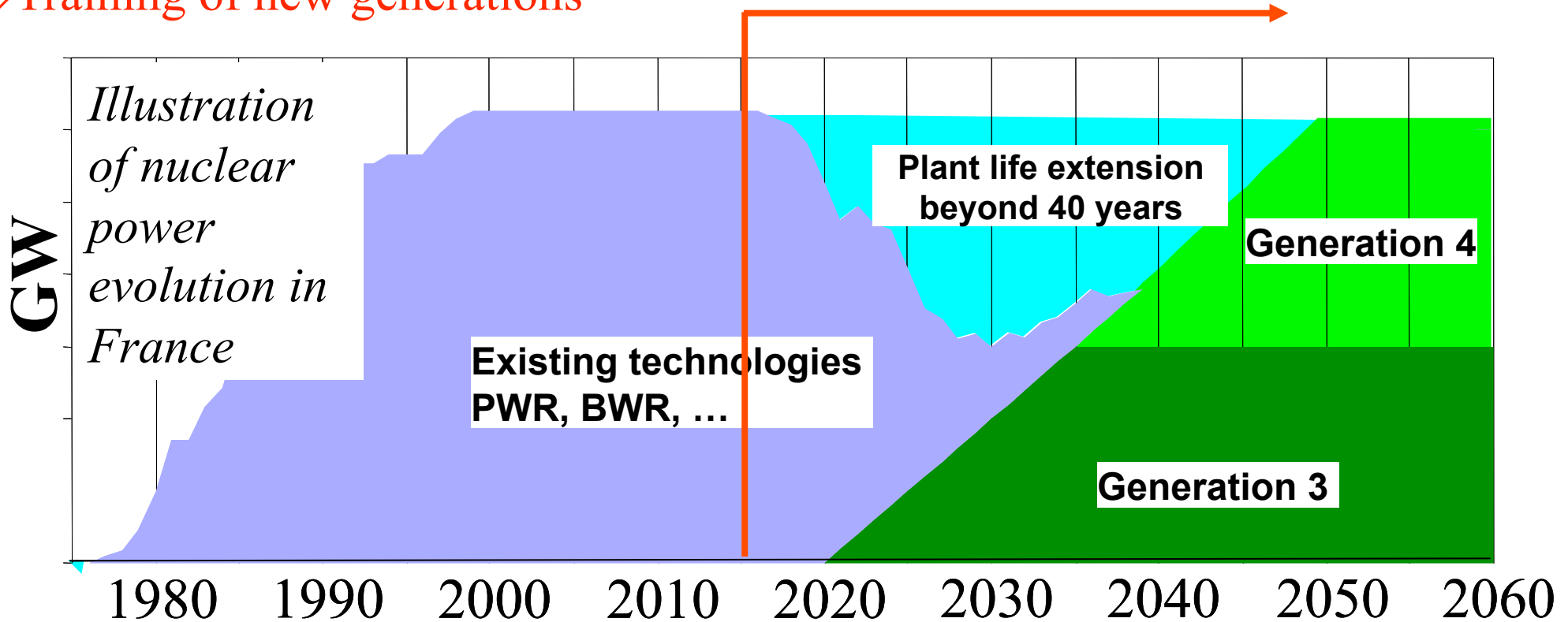
- ✓ Training of new generations
- ✓ Credibility for public acceptance
- ✓ Assessment of safety requirements evolution and international regulation harmonisation



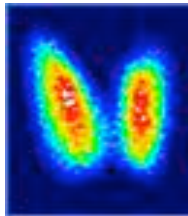


# JHR status: an MTR optimised to support industrial & public needs

- ↪ Safety and Plant life time management (ageing & new plants)
- ↪ Fuel behaviour validation in incidental and accidental situation
- ↪ Assess innovations and related safety for future NPP: Gen 3 and Gen 4
- ↪ Training of new generations



- ↪ JHR optimised for fuel and material testing for the benefice of industry and public bodies
- ↪ JHR will also provide significant MOI production for medical purposes  
*(see Mr Gaillot presentation , this conference)*
- ↪ JHR is now under construction
  - ✓ Design completed, Site excavation completed
  - ✓ First concrete : 6/08/09 ; Lower basement completed end September 09
  - ✓ Upper Basement concrete poured beginning of June 2010 (completed fall 2010)
- ↪ On going procurement process
  - ✓ Engineering for the realisation phase, civil work, pumps for the primary circuit, ...
  - ✓ More than 90% of the project cost engaged fall 2010 (700 M€)
- ↪ Licensing process: Preliminary Safety Analysis Report assessment
  - ✓ Start of the process: public consultation 2005, public enquiry 2006
  - ✓ A large effort in the technical assessment (2007, 2008)
  - ✓ Nuclear Installation Decree: 12th October 2009



**NUCLEAR AUXILIARIES  
BUILDING**

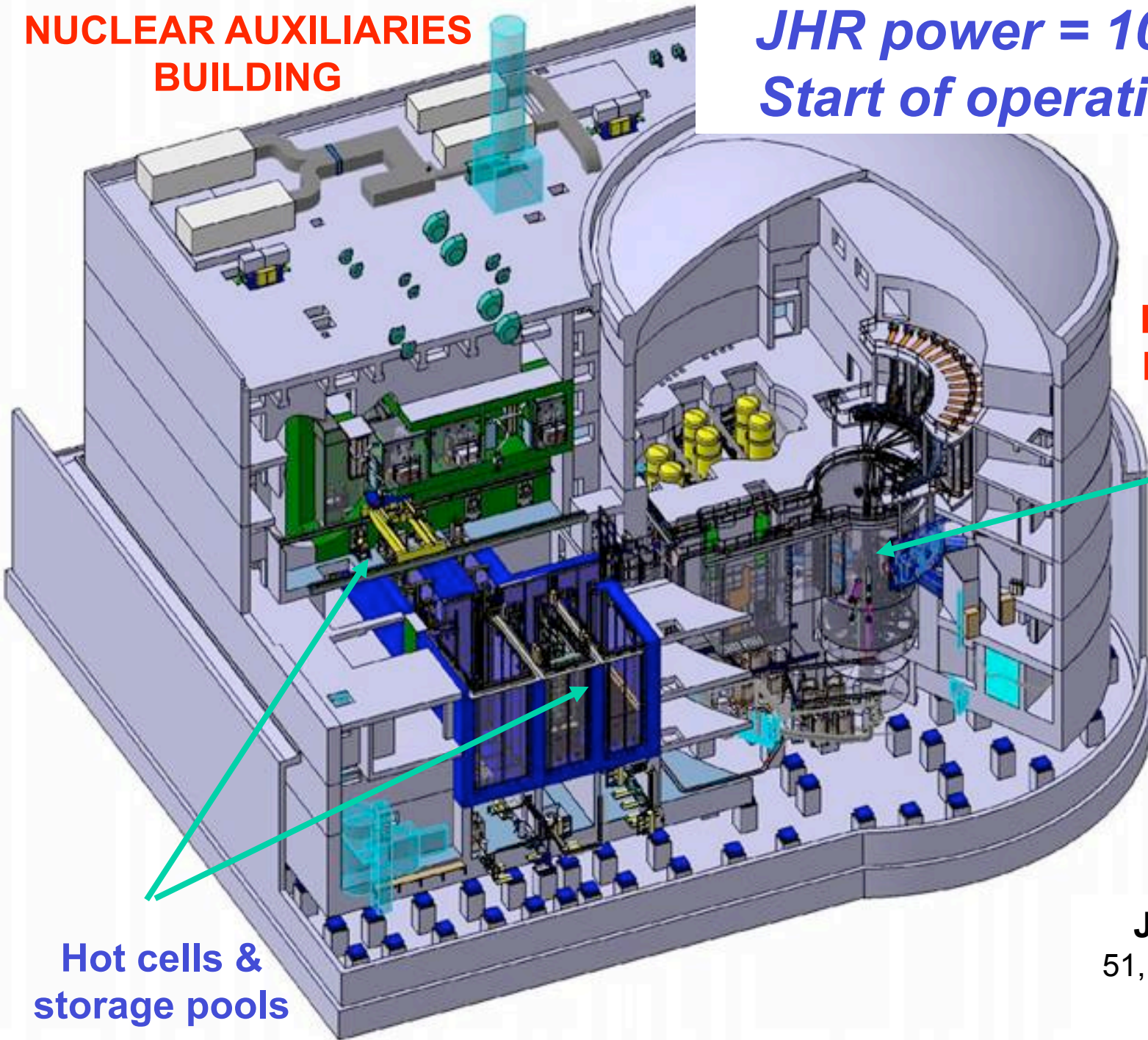
***JHR power = 100MW/70MW  
Start of operation mid 2014***

**REACTOR  
BUILDING**

Reactor  
pool

Hot cells &  
storage pools

**JHR characteristics**  
51,12m x 46,75m +  $\Phi$ 36.6m  
H 34,4m + H44,9 m

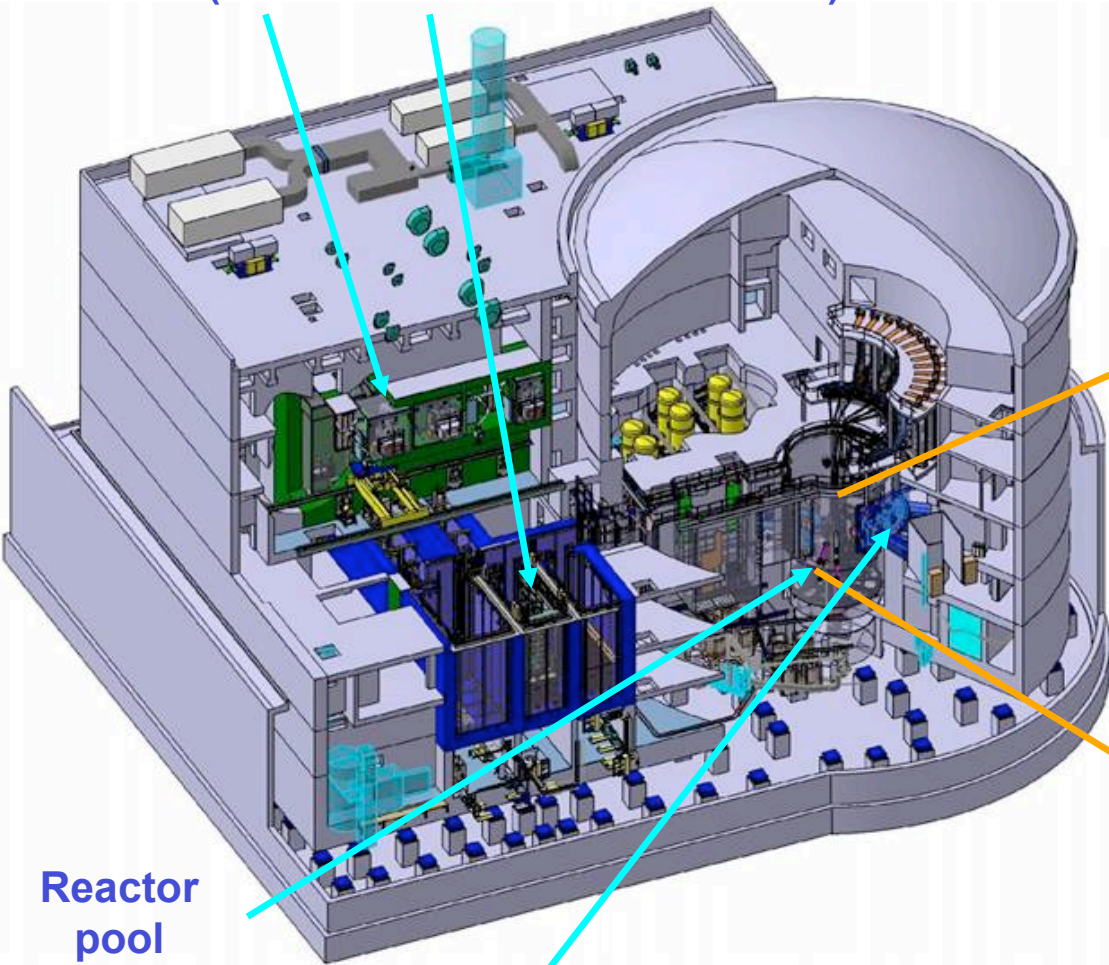




# JHR General presentation

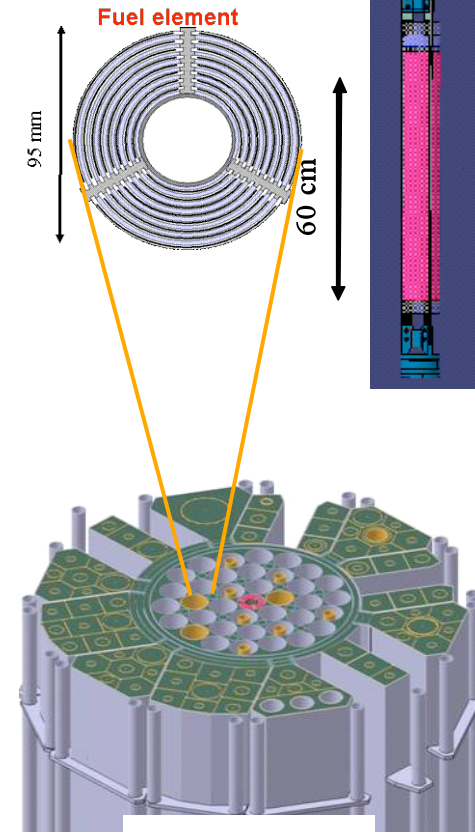
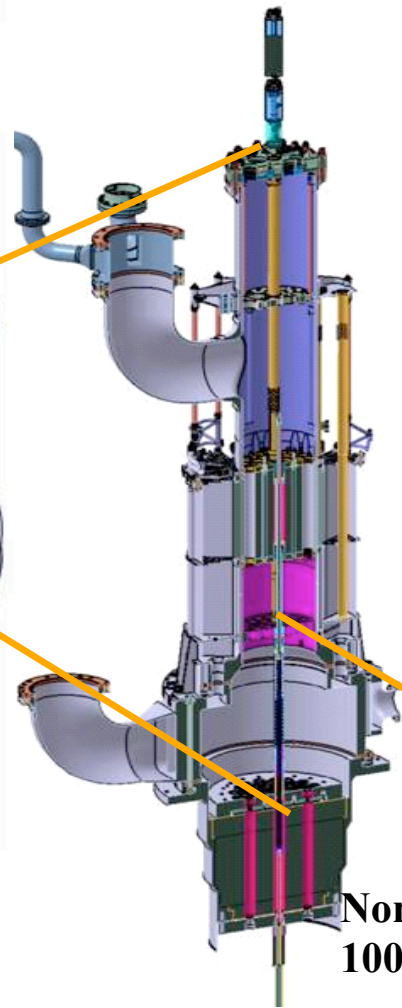


Hot cells and storage pools  
(Non destructive examinations)



Reactor pool

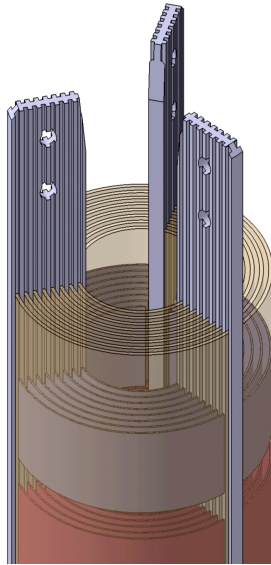
FP lab and experimental cubicles



Core and reflector  
(60x60 cm<sup>2</sup>)

**Nominal Operating conditions:  
100 MW/70 MW**

# Fuel elements and in-core experimental location

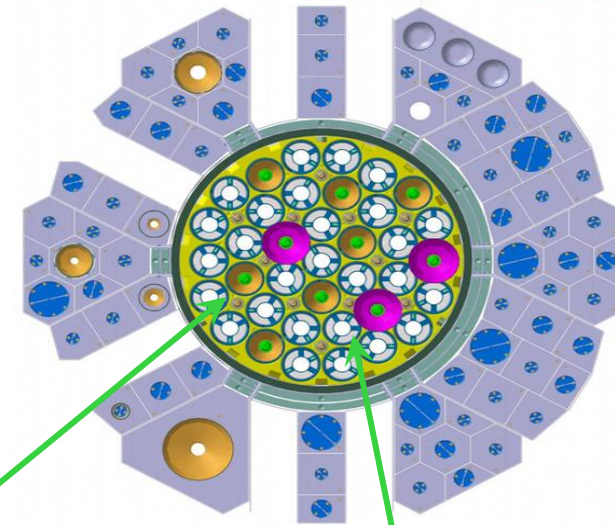


Reference LEU high density  
 Fuel for the JHR Project :  
 UMo 8g/cc (19.75%)

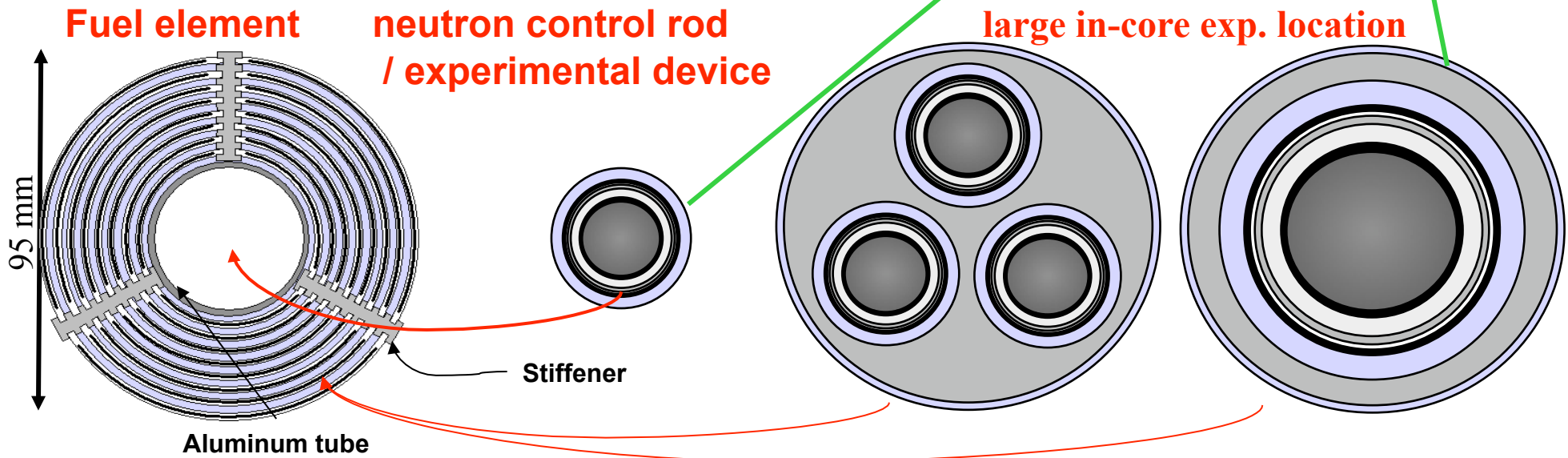
Back-Up:

$U_3Si_2$ :  $\leq 27\%$  U5, 4,8gU/cm<sup>3</sup>

Cladding Al FeNi



experimental locations:  $\varnothing 32$  or  $\varnothing 80$  mm





## In core

Up to  $5.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ n/cm}^2 \cdot \text{s} > 1 \text{ MeV}$   
 Up to  $10^{15} \text{ n/cm}^2 \cdot \text{s} > 0.1 \text{ MeV}$

Small locations ( $\Phi \sim 32 \text{ mm}$ )  
 Large locations ( $\Phi \sim 80 \text{ mm}$ )

## In reflector

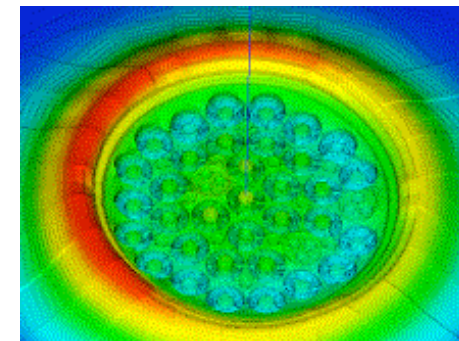
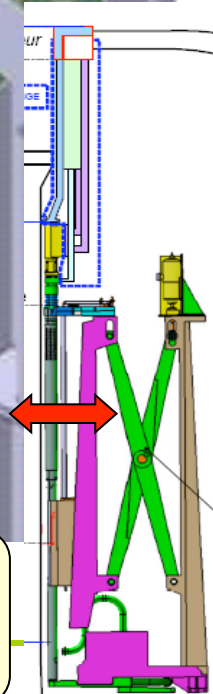
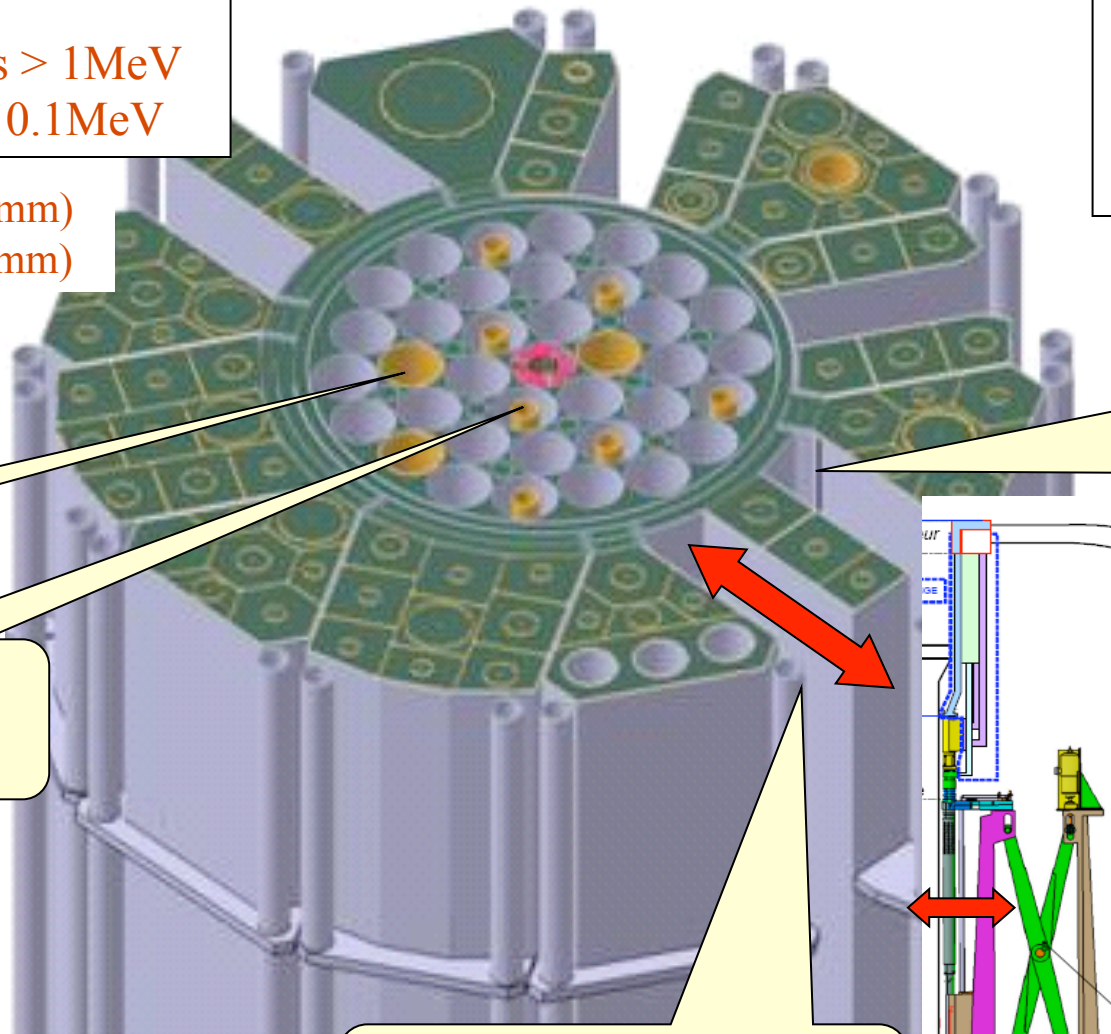
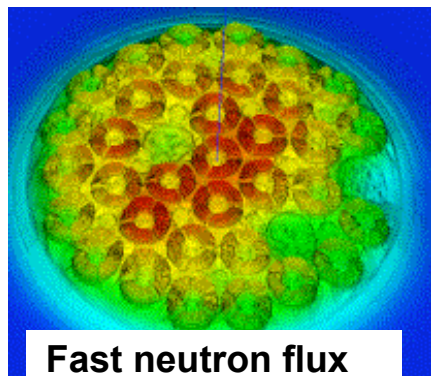
Up to  $5.5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ n/cm}^2 \cdot \text{s}$   
 Fixed positions and displacement systems

Fuel studies: up to  $600 \text{ W/cm}$  with a  $1\% \text{ }^{235}\text{U}$  PWR rod

Fuel experiment

Material ageing (up to  $16 \text{ dpa/y}$ )

Displacement systems:  
 • Adjust the fissile power  
 • Study transients







## JHR Consortium, a framework to operate JHR as a User-Facility open to International collaboration



### JHR Consortium, economical model for investment & operation

- ✓ CEA, owner & nuclear operator with all liabilities
- ✓ JHR Members owner of Guaranteed Access Right
  - ☞ In proportion of their financial commitment to the construction
  - ☞ With a proportional voting right in the Consortium Board
- ✓ A Member can use totally or partly his access rights
  - ☞ For implementing **proprietary programs** with full property of results
  - ☞ and/or for participating to the **Joint International Programs** with other Partners
    - To address issues of common interest & key for operating NPPs
  - ☞ Operation cost paid only for utilized access rights

### JHR present partnership: research centers & Industrial companies





# JHR

## Civil construction works





## ↪ Installation of the inferior basement reinforced bars

- ✓ Around 275 kg of steel bars per concrete cubic meter
- ✓ Up to 3 layers of bars, 32mm in diameter, per face and per horizontal direction





# Civil works

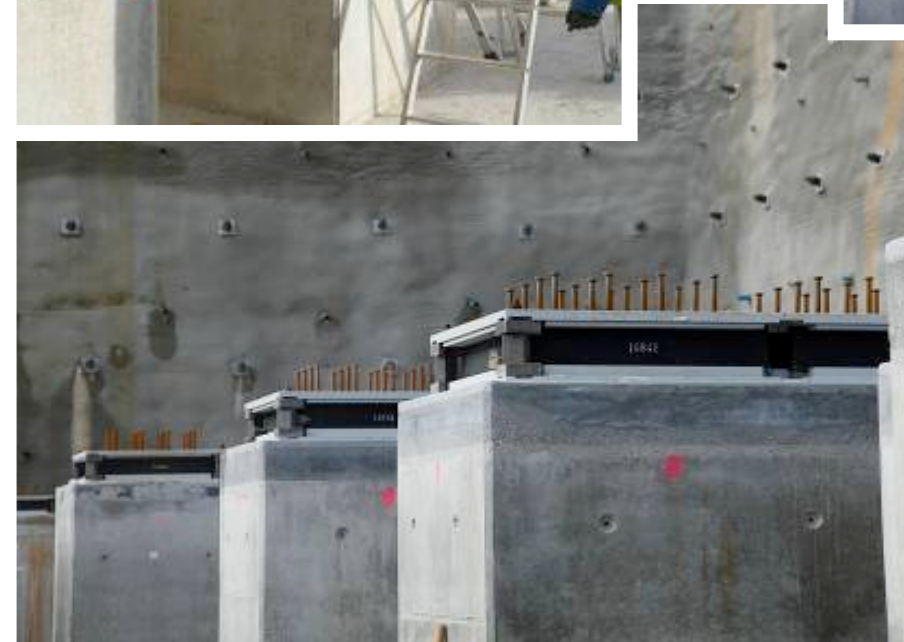
## ↳ Pouring of the inferior basement

- ✓ 4,000 concrete m<sup>3</sup> August 2009
- ✓ Performed in 5 phases (5 blocks), from 200 m<sup>3</sup> to 1500 m<sup>3</sup>
- ✓ The job was managed by night:
  - ↳ to have acceptable temperatures for the concrete
  - ↳ to avoid the traffic

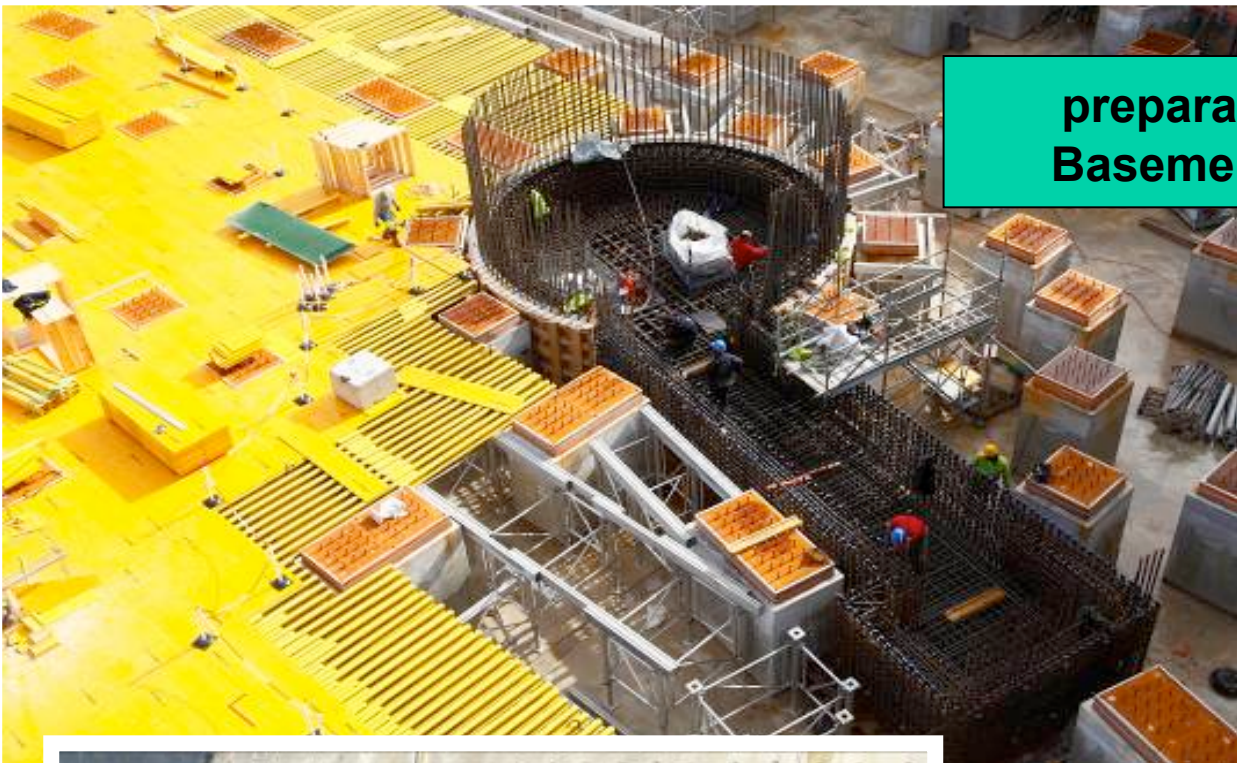




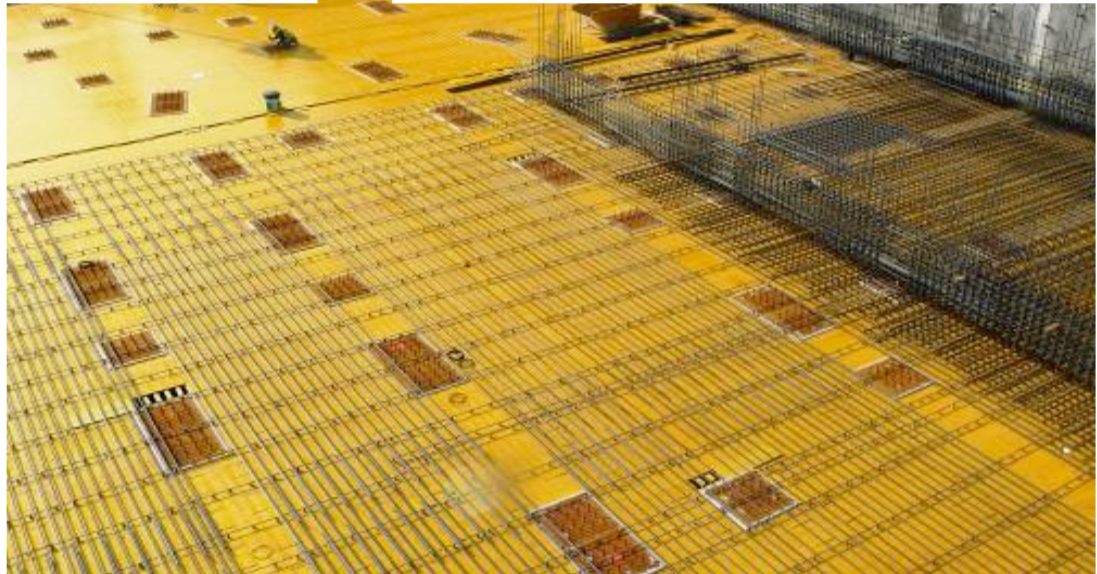
# Anti-sismic pads





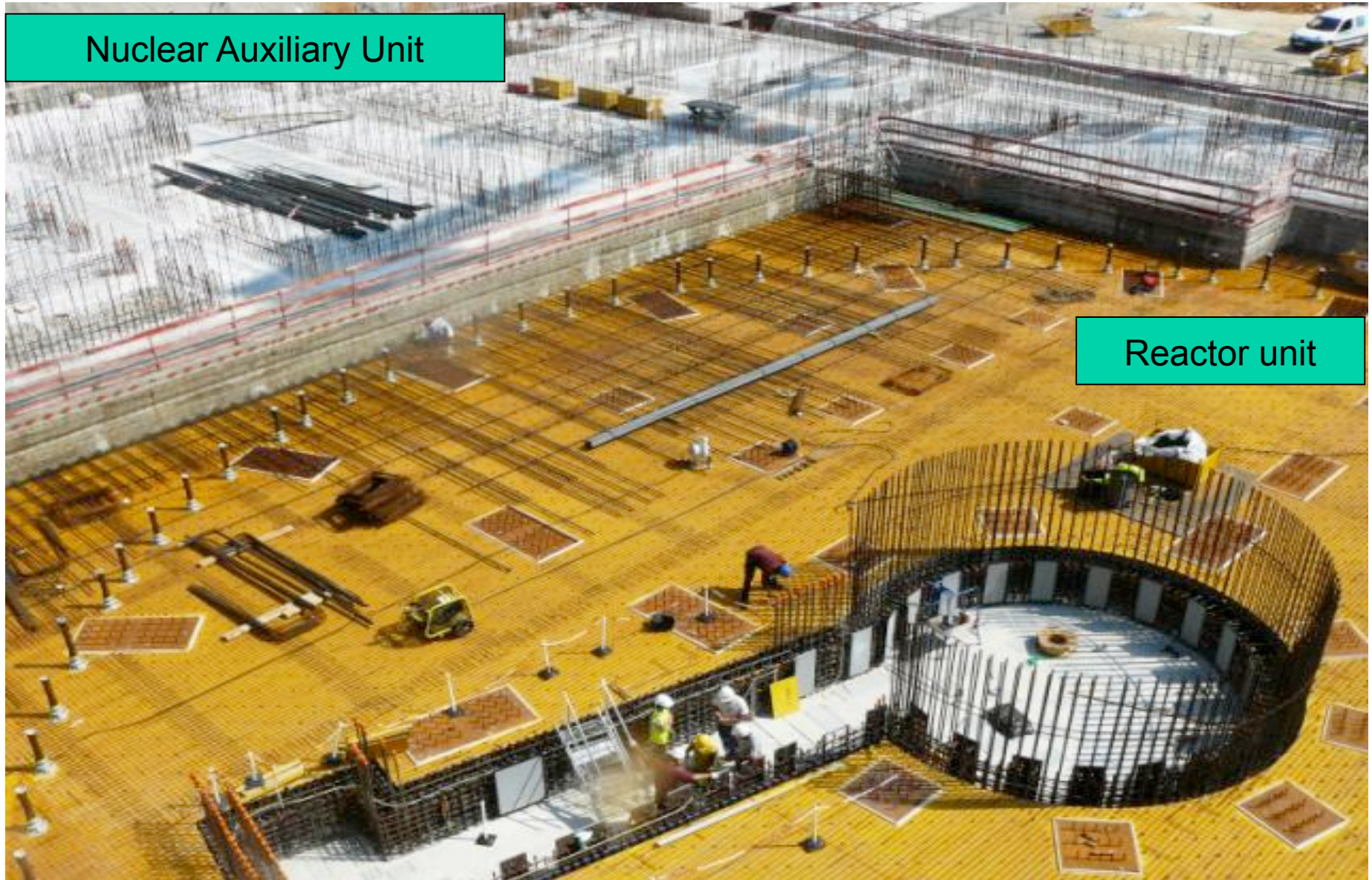


preparation of upper  
Basement (June 2010)





# View of Nuclear Unit –July 2010



Nuclear Auxiliary Unit

Reactor unit



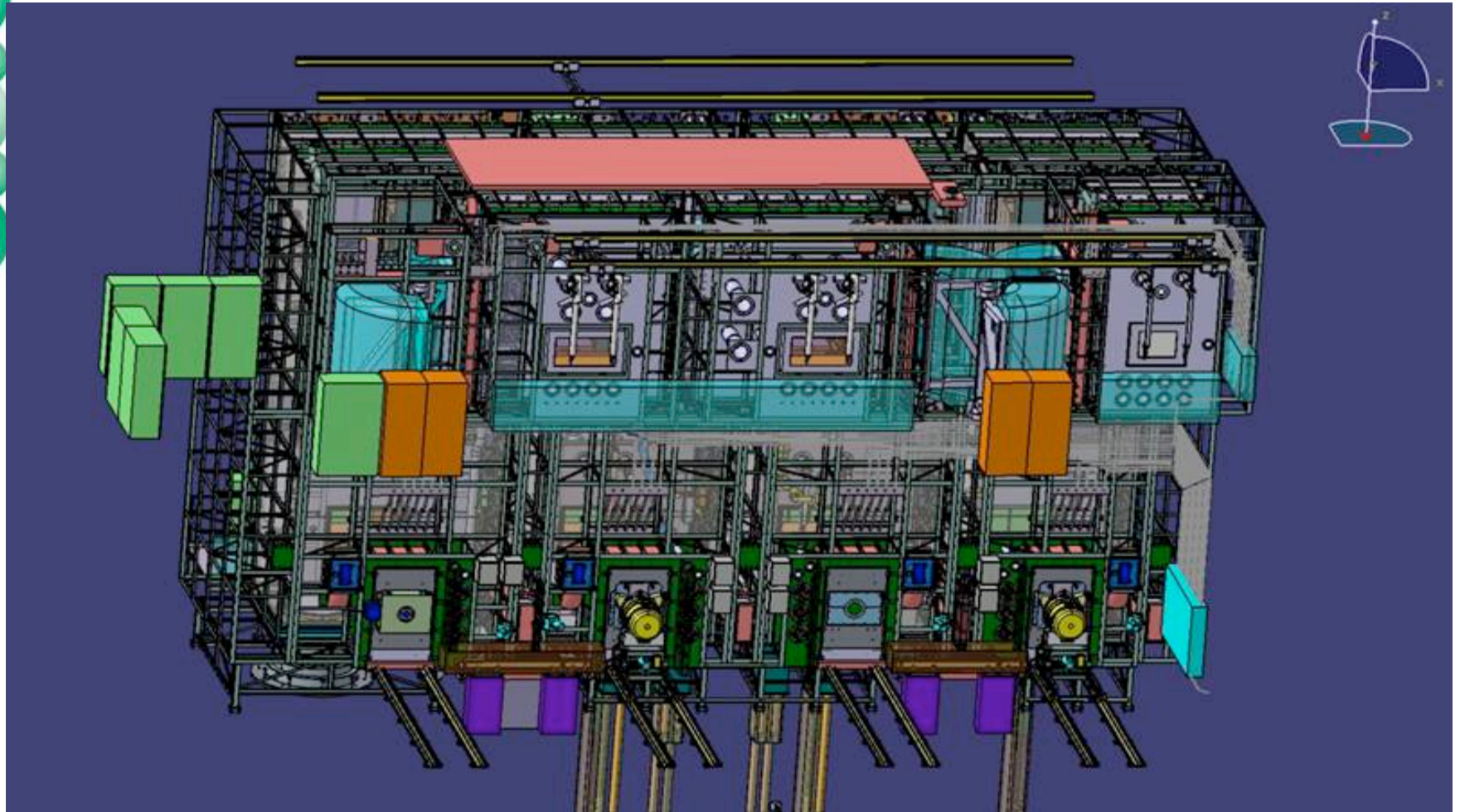
---

# The Hot Cells for the Jules Horowitz Reactor

Ing. Jiří Žd'árek CSc.



# Hot Cells



# Spanish in-kind contribution to the JHR project

## Heat EXchangers + EXperiment SIMUlator (EXSIMU)

*E. González*

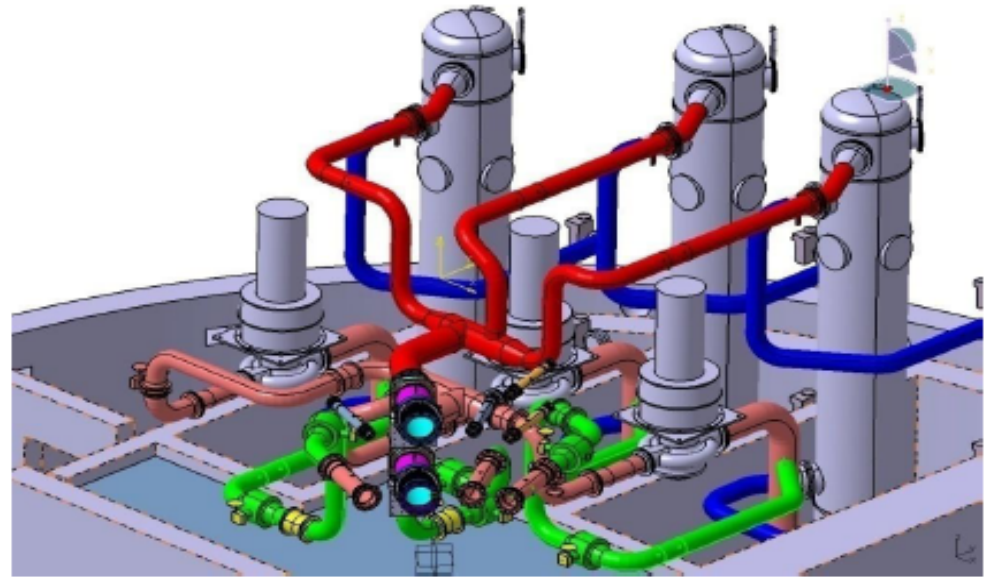
CIEMAT, CSN, EA, ENSA, ENUSA, SOCOIN, TECNATOM





# Heat Exchangers CONCEPT

Design, manufacturing and supply of Three (3) Heat Exchangers for Primary Circuit (RPP)



General view of complete RPP

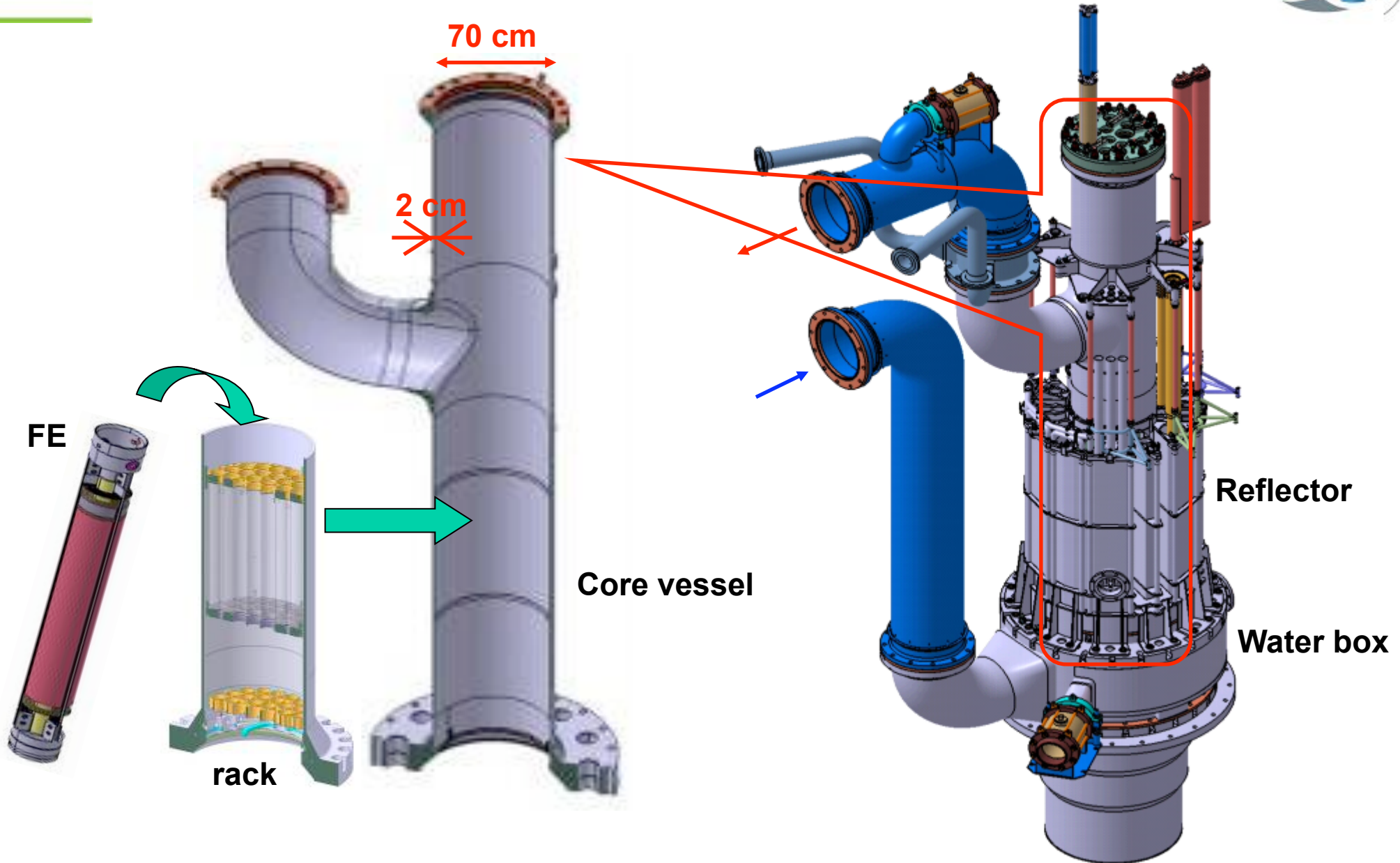
## OBJETIVES:

1. To guarantee a thermal power of 110MWt (36,67 MW) under normal conditions of primary and secondary circuit
2. To act like secondary barrel of primary fluids



## **Some Technical highlights**

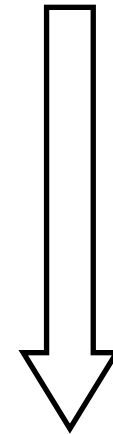
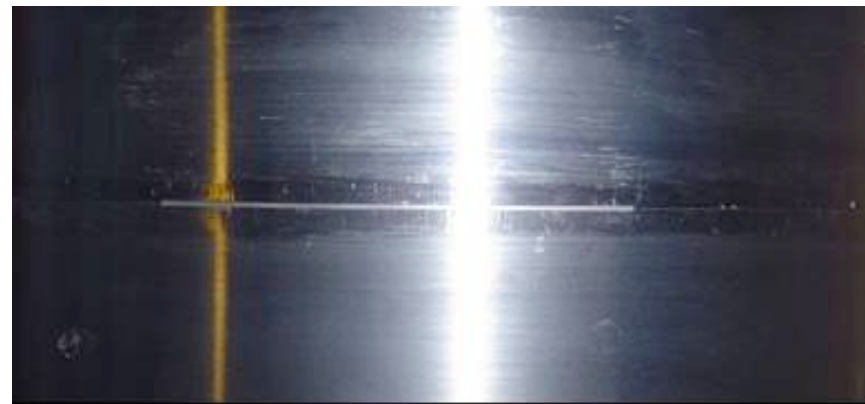
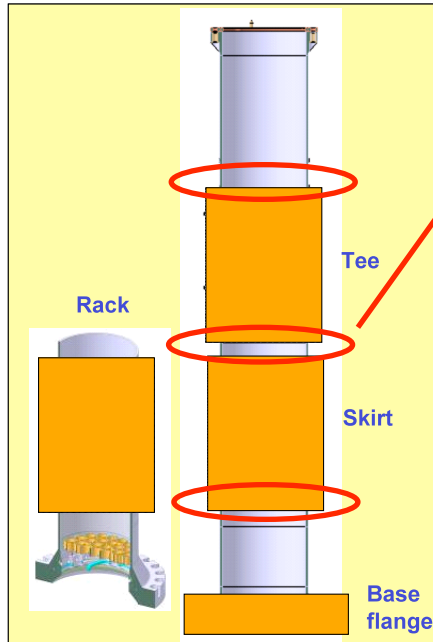




# Qualification program

## Main stages and decisions

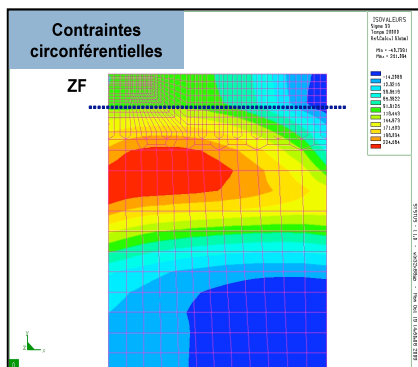
**2009 – 2010 : Welding process qualification and optimisation on full size skirts on demonstrator**



**End 2009 :**

**Two welding solutions  
capables for qualification  
phase**

**End 2010 : Regulatory  
qualification (QMOS)**



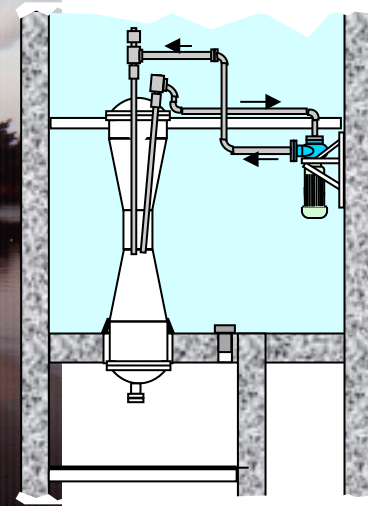
Circumferential welding  
strength simulation



## JHR Fuel Qualification

### The EVITA program in BR2

*(see Mr Koonen presentation this conference)*



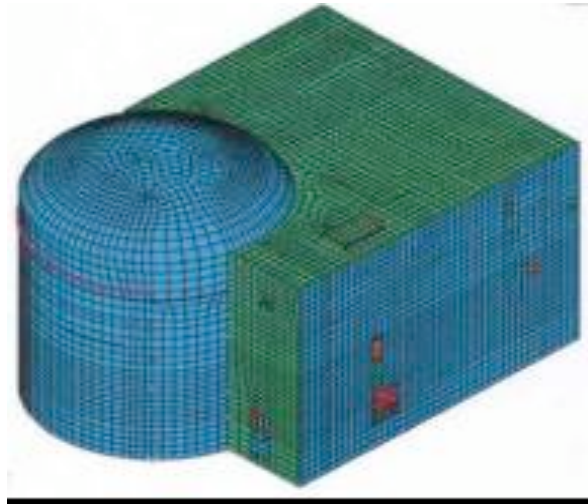


# **Impact on new Safety regulation on building a new MTR**

*(see Mr Pascal presentation this conference)*

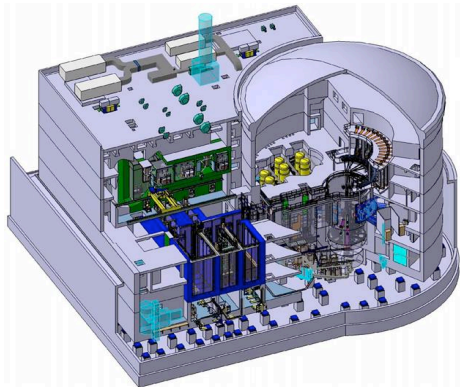


## ↪ BUILDING



### Confinement :

- Partially pre-stressed containment complying with large margins with leak tightness criteria, in case of Master Severe Accident (BORAX type)
- Automatic isolation in case of BORAX type accident
- Leak off zone and dynamic confinement with double isolation of penetrations



Installation on aseismic pads



Columns bear and aseismic pads

### Sismic risk :

- ~200 aseismic pads and suitable rebars
- Distorsion limitations and easier design of the water block

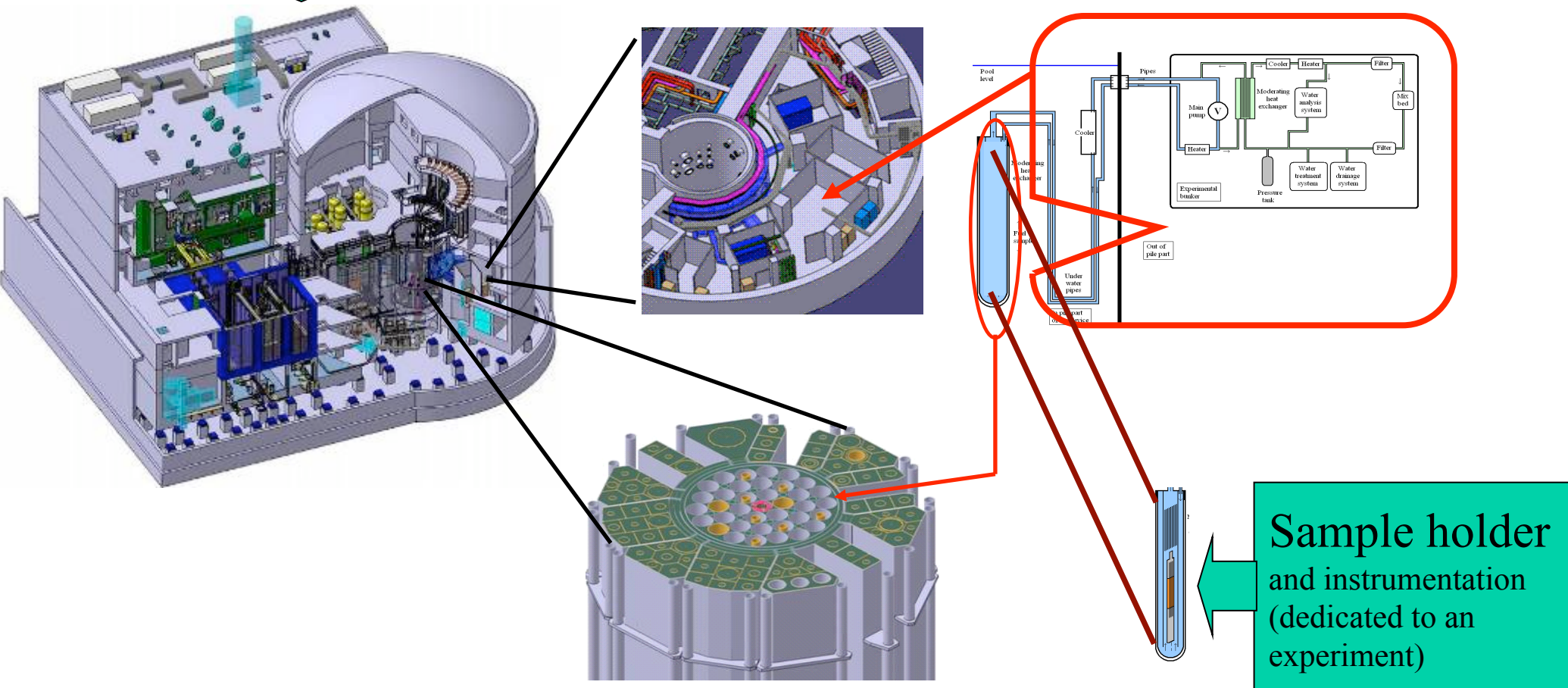


# **JHR Experimental Capacity**



Reactor capacities

The experimental hosting system capacities (dedicated to an experimentation family)



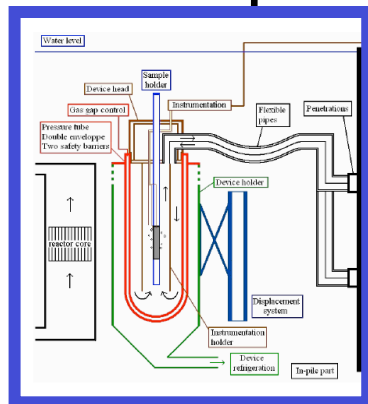
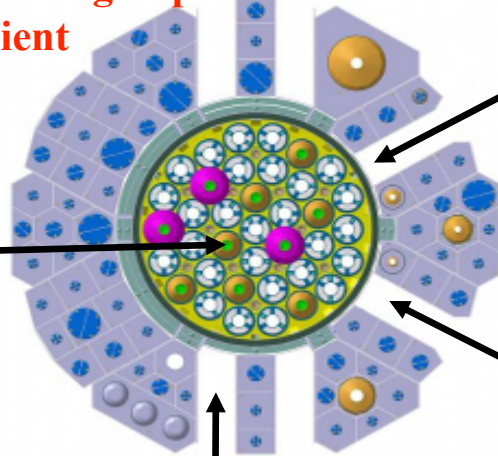
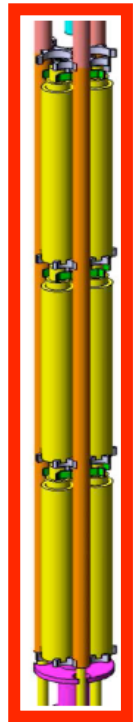
Sample holder and instrumentation (dedicated to an experiment)

# Hosting experimental systems under development

SCIENCE,  
MODELLING,  
TECHNOLOGIES  
TRAINING

**CALIPSO & MICA** (See Mr Moulin presentation this conference)

For material testing under high dpa and controlled thermal gradient



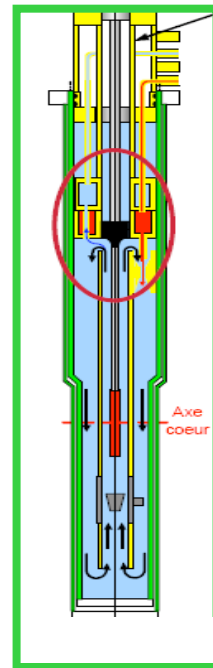
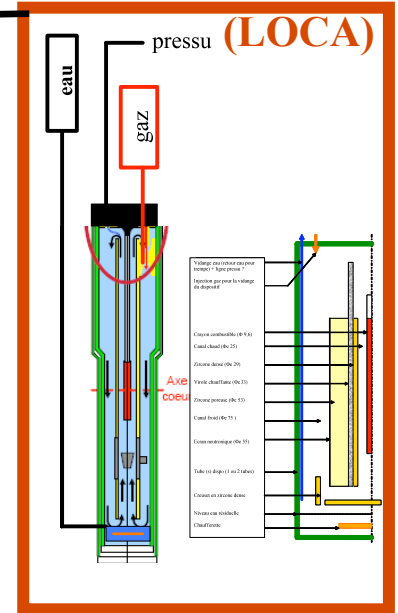
**MADISON**

For fuel testing under nominal conditions  
(see Mr Roux presentation this conference)

For fuel testing under accidental conditions

**LORELEI**

pressu (LOCA)

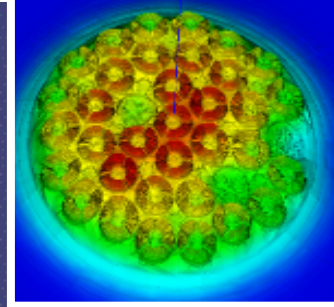
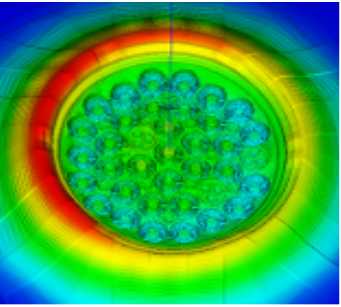


**ADELINE**

For fuel testing under off-normal conditions and FP online measurements



Up to 20 simultaneous experiments

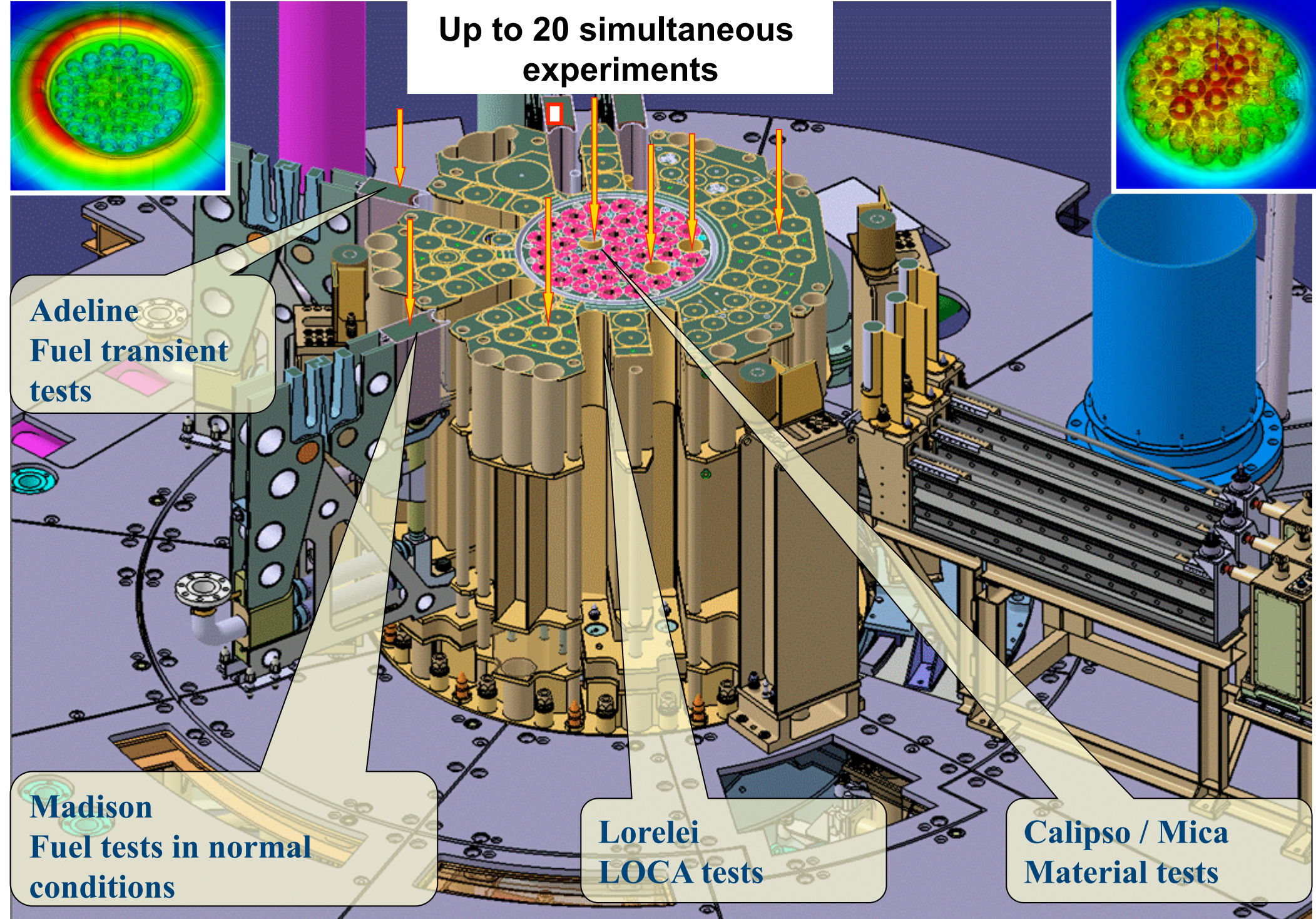


Adeline  
Fuel transient tests

Madison  
Fuel tests in normal conditions

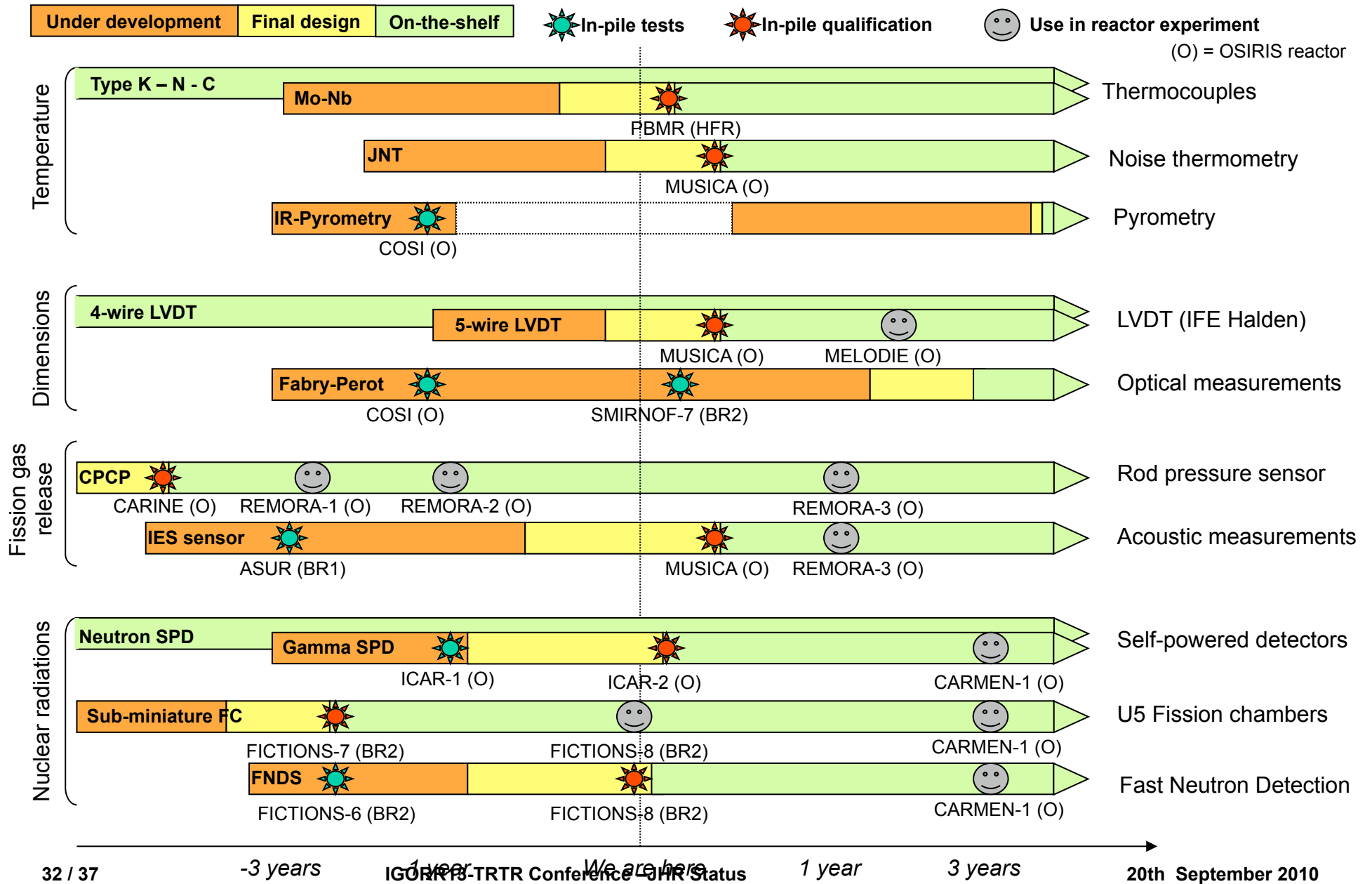
Lorelei  
LOCA tests

Calipso / Mica  
Material tests





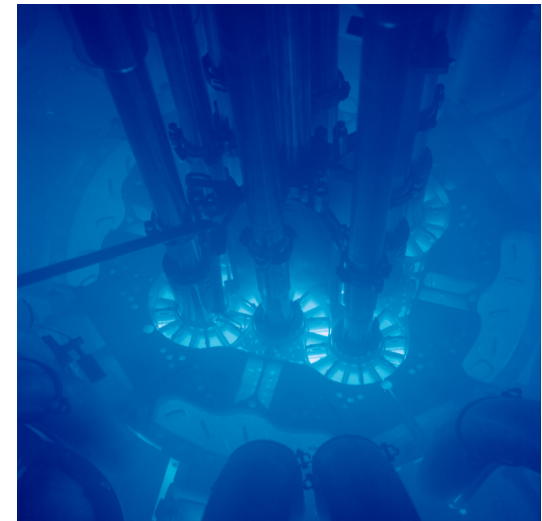
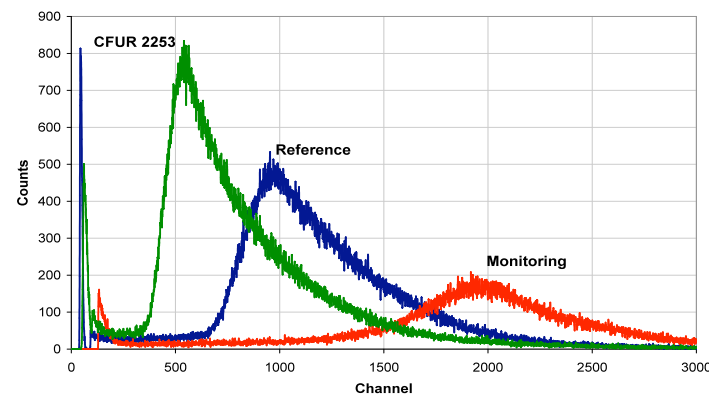
# Importance of on-line measurement: the R&D program on instrumentation within an international framework





# Example: MOU between INL and CEA for Cooperation in Instrumentation for Research Reactors

## Phase 1 : fission chamber measurements in ATR-C (Oct. 2010)



# Non Destructive Examination Benches in JHR –VTT collaboration

*(see Dr Parrat presentation this conference)*

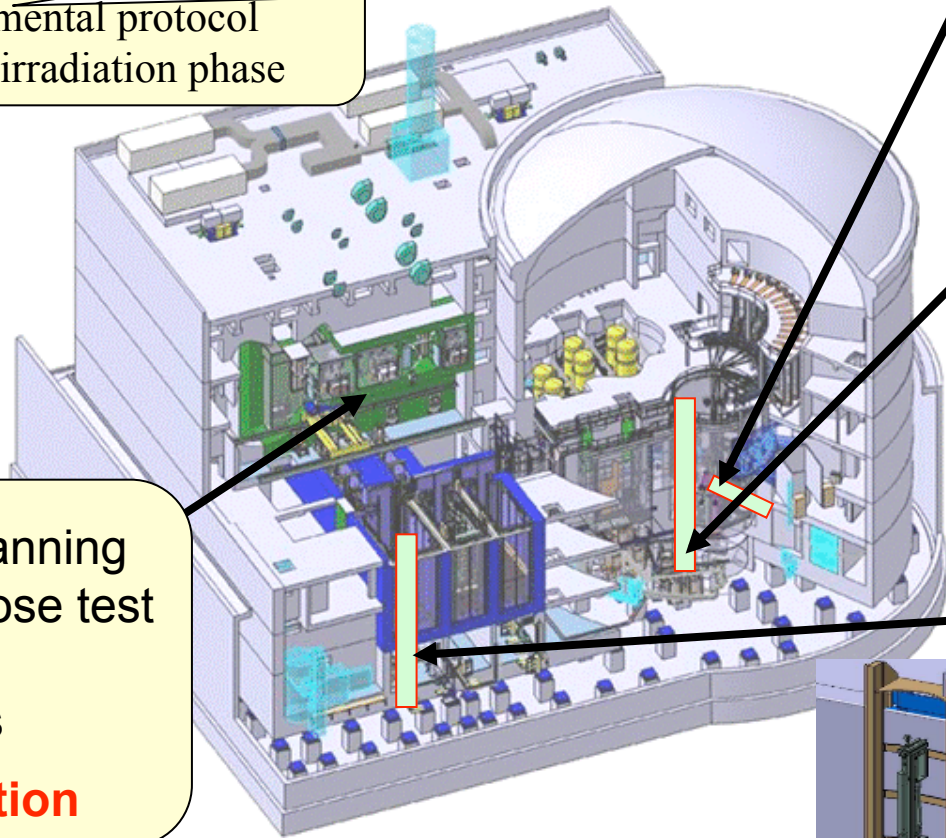
## Objectives

Initial checks of the experimental loading  
Adjustment of the experimental protocol  
Final NDE tests after the irradiation phase

Gamma and XR scanning system & multipurpose test benches

in Hot cells

**Sample examination**



Neutron imaging stand  
in reactor pool

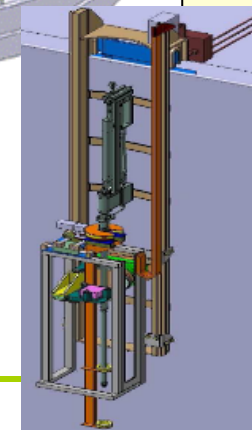
**Test device  
examination**

X-ray &  $\gamma$  stands

in reactor pool

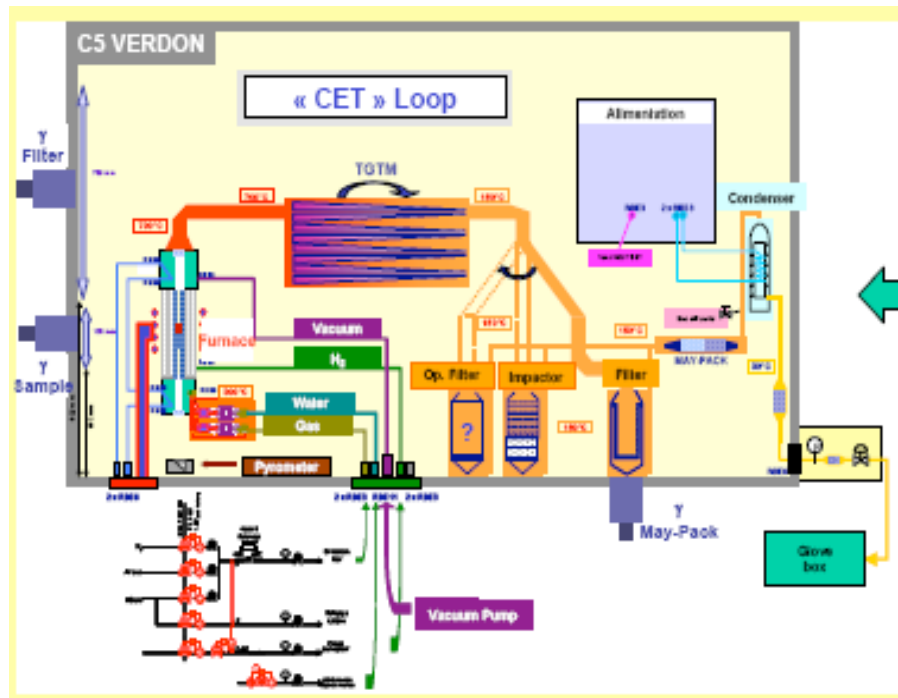
(short lived  $\gamma$  emitters ;  
examinations during intercycles)

X-ray &  $\gamma$  stands  
in storage pool

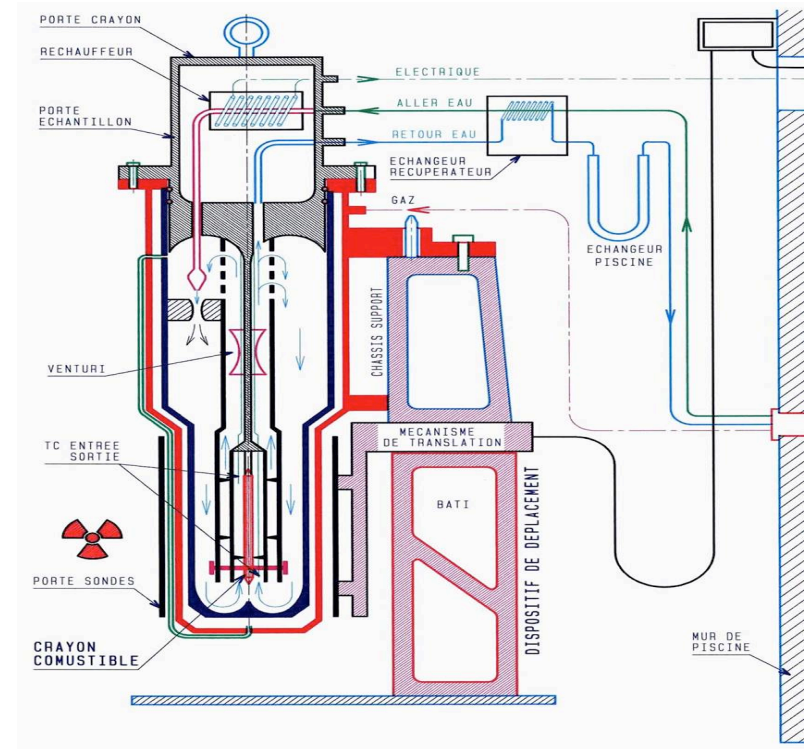




# Building-up the scientific community around JHR: the Jules Horowitz International Programme (JHIP) Approach



CEA Hot-Cell Loop VERDON



CEA Ramps Test device in OSIRIS ISABELLE



# Jules Horowitz International Programme (JHIP)



## ↪ Strategic Scope

- ✓ To address fuel and materials issues of common interest that are key for operating plants and future NPP
- ✓ Centred around an efficient utilization of JHR features
- ✓ Operates in synergy with technical infrastructure and expertise available in member country laboratories

## ↪ Organisation: To implement the JHIP as an OECD/NEA project

## ↪ Propose a two phases project:

↪ Phase 1: R&D programs on CEA existing facilities (OSIRIS, LECl, LECA...) to prepare future JHR experimentations (2012-2015)

↪ Phase 2: R&D programs on JHR (2016-2019)







*Thank you for your attention...*

[gilles.bignan@cea.fr](mailto:gilles.bignan@cea.fr)

