



U.S. Department of Energy  
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

# *SuperBoiler and Energy Intensive Processes Update*

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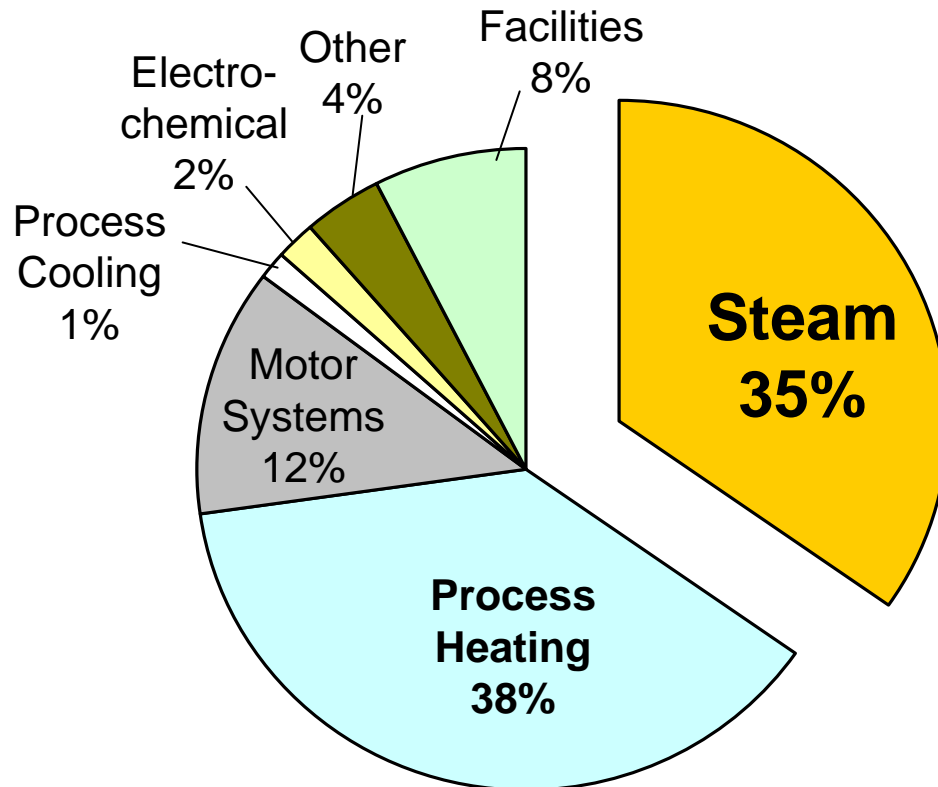
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# Industrial Boilers and Steam Use



# Manufacturing and Mining Energy End Use



- **Steam Use: ~6,200 trillion Btu/yr**
- **Steam Onsite Losses: 2,800 Tbtu/yr**
  - **Generation ~ 1,200 Tbtu/yr**
  - **Distribution ~ 1,000 Tbtu/yr**
  - **Conversion ~ 600 Tbtu/yr**

*Note: Does not include offsite losses*



# Age of Boilers

- Total sales of new boilers over the last 40 years are smaller than the current boiler inventory. This suggests that many boilers used today are more than 40 years old
- Approximately 7% of boiler capacity is less than 10 years old

***2005 DOE Report:*** “Characterization of the U.S. Industrial Commercial Boiler Population”



# Target Opportunity: Steam Generation



Big numbers

- Boiler population
- Energy consumption
- Emissions

Aging Boiler Fleet Creates Opportunities for New Technology!

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# SuperBoiler Vision



# Target – Steam Generation

## Potential Impacts:

- ✓ Increase industrial package boiler efficiency from 75% to 95%
- ✓ Reduce emissions of SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and carbon oxides

**Energy Savings  
of 1,049 TBtu in  
2030**

## Controls

- “Smart” system controls
- Modeling

## System Engineering

- System integration approach
- Modeling to expedite overall design



## Heat Transfer

- Innovative heat transfer concepts
- Modeling and materials

## Heat Production

- Fundamental R&D
- CFD Modeling
- “Smart” burners

## Heat Recovery

- Improved materials
- Innovative concepts for heat recovery

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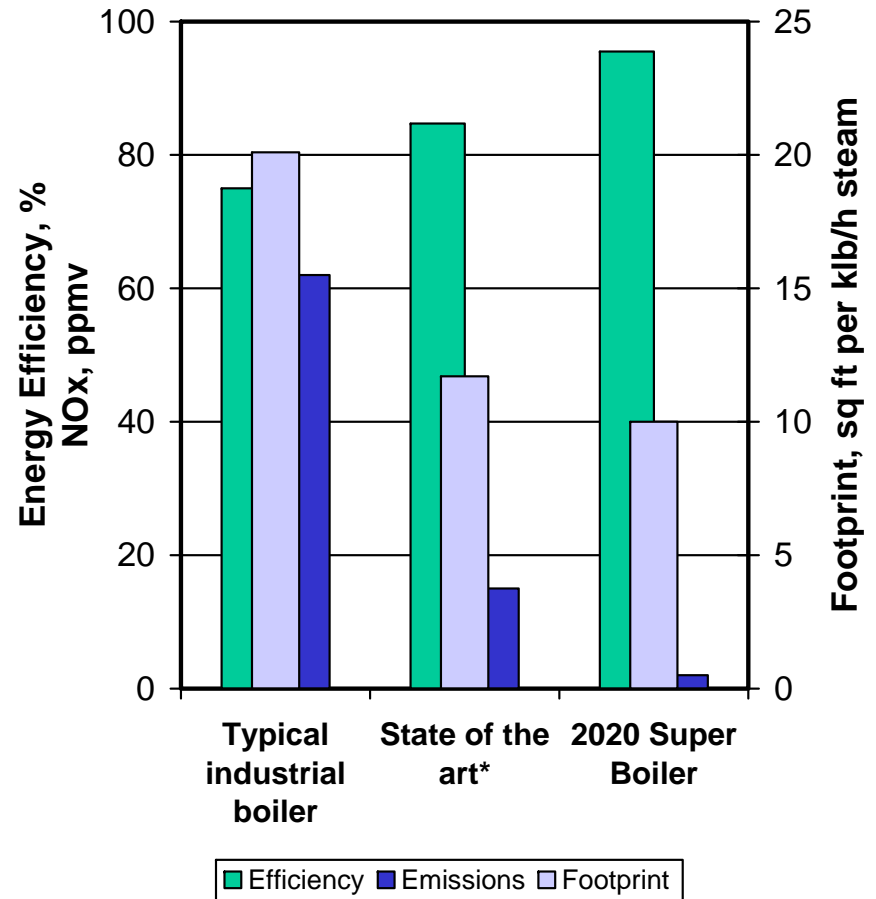


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# SuperBoiler?

- Not a bigger boiler but a **better** boiler!
  - Higher energy efficiency - more than 95% HHV
  - Super-low emissions - down to 2 ppm NOx and 5 ppm CO
  - Smaller and lighter - reduce size and weight by 50 percent
  - Competitive performance
  - Cost-effective



\* Not all in the same boiler





# First Generation SuperBoiler



# 1<sup>st</sup> Generation SuperBoiler Concept

- Evaluate four fundamental components in modern boilers
  - Combustion
  - Heat Transfer
  - Heat Recovery
  - Control
- R&D focus
  - Advancements in all 4 boiler components
  - System integration
  - Evaluate a near-term product design that “meet” the RFP goals



# Potential Benefits of 1<sup>st</sup> Generation SuperBoiler

- ❑ 499,900,000 MMBtu/year energy savings
- ❑ \$2 billion/year fuel cost savings
- ❑ 18,386,000 ton/year CO<sub>2</sub>
- ❑ 580,700 ton/year CO
- ❑ 205,600 ton/year NO<sub>x</sub>
- ❑ ***Compelling economic benefits to accelerate replacement of aging boilers***



# First Generation SuperBoiler Project

## Project Description:

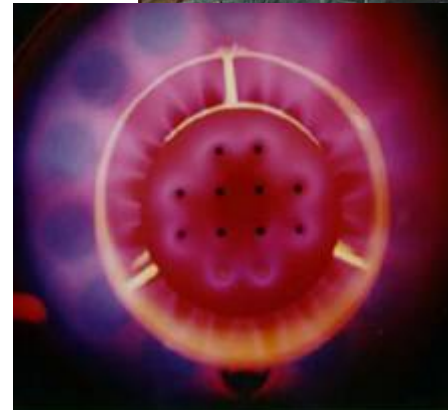
- Gas-fired firetube boiler using innovative concepts in burner, heat transfer, heat recovery & control
- Develop and test a prototype at industrial host site
- Meet aggressive performance targets
- Partnered with Cleaver-Brooks

## Technical Objectives

- 94% efficiency (from 70-83%)
- <5 ppm NOx (from 30-100 ppm)

## Funding

- \$2,600,000 -- DOE
- \$3,500,000 – industry cost share



# Where are We?

## □ Lab testing Complete

- Optimized combustion performance
- Validated computer models for scale-up
- Optimized heat recovery system performance
- Optimized control strategy

## □ Field demonstration

- First field demonstration at a site in Alabama complete
  - Single stage combustion design with transport membrane condenser to recover latent heat
  - Over 6,000 hours of operation with no significant problems
- Currently installing dual stage combustion design at a fruit processing plant in Ontario, California
- Planning underway to demonstrate retrofit of transport membrane condenser

## □ Commercialization (Role of Private Sector)

- Introduce into commercial and light industrial market



# SuperBoiler

## Next Steps



# SuperBoiler Vision – Next Steps

- August 2004 Workshop on Ultra-High Efficiency Industrial Steam Generation R&D Opportunities
- FY 2005 Solicitation Objectives:
  - Thermal efficiency greater than 94% (HHV)
  - NOx emissions below 2 vppm
  - CO emissions below 2 vppm
  - VOC emissions below 1 vppm
  - Capable of operating on multiple fuels
  - ***Capable of producing high temperature/high pressure steam (greater than 1500°F/1500 psig)***
  - System weight and footprint 50% of currently available boilers with comparable performance



# SuperBoiler Vision – Next Steps

- ❑ Solicitation for Second Generation Watertube SuperBoiler closed April 14, 2005
- ❑ Three proposals selected for funding
  - Babcock and Wilcox
  - Gas Technology Institute
  - Research Engineering Incorporated
- ❑ Research delayed due to elimination of Combustion budget in 2006
- ❑ Two of three projects restarted in 2007
  - Gas Technology Institute
  - Research Engineering Incorporated
- ❑ Two phases:
  - Phase I
    - Up to two years
    - Preliminary design and development
  - Phase II (Following down select)
    - Prototype development and field trial





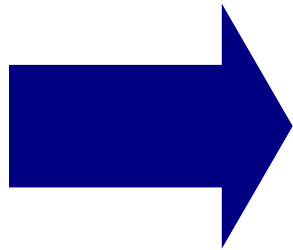
# Energy Intensive Processes



# Crosscutting: Energy Intensive Processes

## Four Technology Platforms:

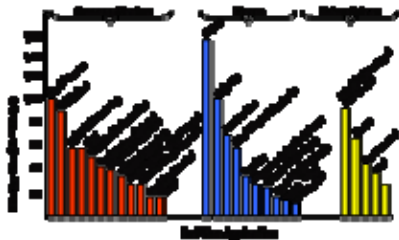
*Maximize energy and carbon reduction throughout industry*



- **Industrial Reactions & Separations**
- **High-Temperature Processing**
- **Waste Heat Minimization & Recovery**
- **Sustainable Manufacturing**

*Platform selection criteria included alignment with:*

- Industry's top energy-saving opportunities
- Industry priorities
- ITP mission and goals
- Existing R&D projects



# Energy Intensive Processing (EIP): Strategy

*Energy-intensive process R&D will focus on the following four platform areas:*

- ❑ Waste Heat Minimization and Recovery
  - ❑ Industrial Reactions and Separations
  - ❑ High-Temperature Processes
  - ❑ Sustainable Manufacturing
- 
- ❑ Technology platform approach to address broad industry needs
    - Consistent, long-term R&D agenda
    - Maximum synergy among technologies
    - Greater flexibility in launching new initiatives
  - ❑ Leveraging national labs to include
    - Review of existing IP and results of prior investments
    - Building cross-lab teams with appropriate industry partners
  - ❑ Continue to solicit industry proposals to address R&D focus areas and restock our “pipeline” of advanced technologies
  - ❑ Focus on concept definition studies and limited prototype development and field testing (FY08)



# Energy Intensive Processes – 4 Technology Platforms

## Industrial Reactions & Separations



- Advanced Water Removal
- Advanced Gas Separations
- Hybrid Distillation
- Energy-Intensive Conversion Processes

## High-Temperature Processing



- Low-Energy, High-Temperature Materials Processing
- New Materials Development
- Materials Processing for Enabling Emerging Industries

## Waste Heat Minimization & Recovery



- Super Boiler
- Ultra-High Efficiency Furnace
- Waste Heat Recovery Systems

## Sustainable Manufacturing



- Net and Near-Net Design & Manufacturing
- Engineered Functional Materials and Coatings
- Advanced Casting, Forming, Joining, and Assembly
- Integrated, Predictive Manufacturing & Energy-Efficient Material Handling and Plant Operations 20



# EIP Waste Heat Minimization/Recovery Portfolio

## *Key Market Facts*

- ❑ Waste heat minimization/recovery consists of equipment and technologies used to convert, transport, manage, and recover or reuse energy needed for industrial processes
  - Process heating
  - Steam

## *Key Energy Facts*

- ❑ Combustion systems account for nearly two thirds (15 quads) of the energy used in manufacturing
- ❑ Waste heat recovery potential of 1.8 quads has been identified in select industrial processes

## *Key Stakeholders*

- Chemicals, petroleum, and bio-based products
- Metals
- Pulp and paper
- Food processing
- Other industries that use steam and process heat
- CIBO
- ABMA
- IHEA

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# EIP Reactions and Separations Portfolio

## *Key Market Facts*

- Reaction and separation processes transform raw materials (e.g., oil, natural gas, biomass) into energy, paper, chemicals and other products for use by utilities, manufacturing, and consumers
  - Crude oil into the gasoline and essential chemical feedstocks
  - Feedstocks and natural gas into basic inorganic and organic chemicals
  - Wood into paper products

## *Key Energy Facts*

- Chemical and petrochemical reaction/separation processes account for over half of total U.S. manufacturing energy use
  - Distillation alone accounts for 15% of the total

## *Key Stakeholders*

- Chemicals and petrochemicals producers
- Pulp and paper manufacturers
- Food and agricultural processors
- Biomass processors
- Biotechnology and pharmaceuticals
- Biorefineries



# EIP High-Temperature Processing Portfolio

## *Key Market Facts*

- High-temperature processing covers the processing of raw materials and intermediate products at elevated temperatures
  - Produce intermediate or finished products and alter the thermo-physical and chemical properties of the materials being heated

## *Key Energy Facts*

- High-temperature processes in the steel industry consume >1 Quad/yr
- Heat treating presently accounts for energy use of more than 500 TBtu/yr at a cost of nearly \$20 billion

## *Key Stakeholders*

- Metals and metal casting companies
- Metal fabricators
- Automotive companies
- Glass and ceramic manufacturers
- Photovoltaic and battery industries



# EIP Sustainable Manufacturing Portfolio

## *Key Market Facts*

- ❑ Sustainable manufacturing supports the entire spectrum of manufacturing industries
- ❑ Yield losses during the manufacture of finished components from raw materials can be as high as 30%

## *Key Energy Facts*

- ❑ The additive energy costs that result from each step in the manufacturing supply chain are a large fraction of the ultimate product cost
- ❑ Improved yields per unit energy used will significantly impact overall product costs

## *Key Stakeholders*

- Energy-intensive process industries
- Transportation and aerospace
- Equipment and component suppliers
- Manufacturers of advanced energy conversion devices

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# Current Status

- Laboratory call issued in February, 2008
  - All four platforms addressed
  - Solicitation closed April 1, 2008
  - 35 proposals received, covering all four platforms
  - Review concluded May 16, 2008
  - Winners to be announced in June/July
  
- Industry call issued March 6, 2008
  - All four platforms addressed
  - Solicitation closed May 7, 2008
  - 63 proposals received, covering all four platforms
  - Review in late June
  - Winners to be announced in late summer

