

General Fusion



Fusion Power Associates, 2011 Annual Meeting



General Fusion

Making commercially viable fusion power a reality.

- Founded in 2002, based in Vancouver, Canada
- Plan to demonstrate a fusion system capable of "net gain" within 3 years
- Industrial and institutional partners including Los Alamos National Lab and the Canadian Government
- \$32.5M in venture capital, \$4.5M in government support

General Fusion's Acoustically Driven MTF





Commercialization Advantages

Fusion Challenge	General Fusion Solution
Neutron activation and embrittlement of structure	1.5 m of liquid lead lithium greatly lowers the neutron energy spectrum Low neutron load at the metal wall Low activation Low radiation damage
Tritium breeding	n,2n reaction in lead 4π coverage Thick blanket High tritium breeding ratio of 1.6
Heat extraction	Heat extraction by the working fluid Pb-Li
Tritium safety	Solubility of tritium in Pb-Li is low 100 MW plant size Low tritium inventory (2g)
System cost	Pneumatic energy storage >100X lower cost than capacitors
Cost of targets in pulsed systems - "kopeck" problem	Liquid metal compression No consumables



Development Plan



Plasma Injector Simulation



0.0 microseconds

Plasma Injector



Plasma Injector Science



	Density (cm ⁻³)	Lifetime (µs)	Temperature (eV)
Formation	2x10 ¹⁴	500	87
Target	2x10 ¹⁶	80	300



Power Supply

- 2.4 MJ pulse power supply (22 kV formation, 44 kV acceleration)
- programmable pulse shaping control
- 1 MW DC stuffing flux power supply

Diagnostics

- Thomson scattering
- X-ray photo diodes
- triple Langmuir probe
- 5 interferometer chords
- >12 Rogowski coils
- >50 B-dot probes with in-situ integration
- high resolution time resolved spectroscopy
- 1 million frame/second video camera

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Acoustic Driver Development

- Full scale piston for servo development
- Servo control meeting requirements
- Material failures at higher velocities being addressed



Single Piston Requirements	Impact Velocity (m/s)	Impact Timing (μs)
Target	50	± 10
Achieved	40	± 4

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Acoustic Driver: Mini-Sphere











12 people \$3.5M 14 months



Plasma Compression Experiments



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Plasma Compression Experiment Preparation



6.5 µs

Radial compression =0

32.5 µs

Radial compression = 1.42 Velocity ~ 3200 m/s





general fusion

45.5 µs

Radial compression = 2.22

58.5 µs

Radial compression = 7.44 Velocity ~ 4500 m/s





X-ray Imaging of Compression Chamber



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June, 2009

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TR





- 60 Employees, 5 more expected this year.
- 50 R&D staff
- 29 engineers, 12 PhDs
- Expertise in plasma physics, simulation, mechanical and electrical engineering, regulatory/nuclear safety, project management, prototyping, materials, business development, IP, and finance

Phase IIb, IIc - Net Gain Prototype

- Construct a full scale system, 2012-2015
- Objectives:
 - Address major fusion system integration risks
 - Demonstrate net gain in a full scale system configuration
- Control costs:
 - 1000 shot life
 - Repetitive operation optional
- Investment: \$50M \$100M



MTF projects

- LINUS NRL (10 ms)
- General Fusion spheromak (100 us)
 - Heating of spheromaks by compression, 300eV temperatures
- Los Alamos/AFRL FRX-L (10 us)
 - MTF experiment using Shiva Star

OMEGA laser (1 ns)

- 30% neutron yield improvement via magnetized ICF implosion

Sandia Z-Pinch (100 ns)

- MagLIF research proposal

Private Fusion Efforts

General Fusion (32 M\$)

– Thick Liquid Liner Magnetized Target Fusion

Tri Alpha Energy (120 M\$)

- Fast ions stabilized colliding FRC
- Helion
 - Compressed Colliding FRC

Woodruff Scientific

Compact toroid plasmas

Lawrenceville Plasma Physics (2M\$)

- Dense Plasma Focus
- MIFTI
 - Staged Z-Pinch for Magneto Inertial Fusion
- EMC² (~5M\$)
 - Polywell Inertial Electrostatic Confinement
- Fusion Power Corporation
 - Heavy Ion Fusion

THANK YOU

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