

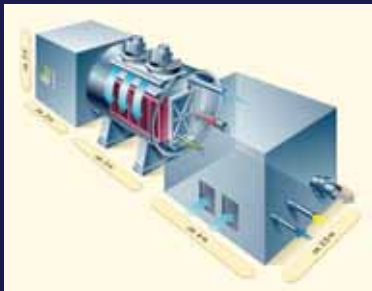
MTU CFC Solutions GmbH



## Biogas and the HotModule®: From Waste to Clean Energy



The MCFC flexibility  
towards Fuel Utilization:



Utilization of Biogas and  
Other Gasification Products  
for Decentralized Consumable  
Energy Production

**Gerhard Huppmann**

New Fuel Cell Concepts and Applications  
MTU CFC Solutions GmbH  
D - 81663 München

## Decentralized Consumable Energy Production: The MTU Fuel Cell HotModule Unit 250 kW el



### Content:

- MTU CFC Solutions GmbH: A portrait
- Decentralized stationary energy supply using decentralized secondary energy sources:  
Targets – the system – experience and challenges
- Research in biogas and other secondary gas utilization
- Economical aspects and outlook

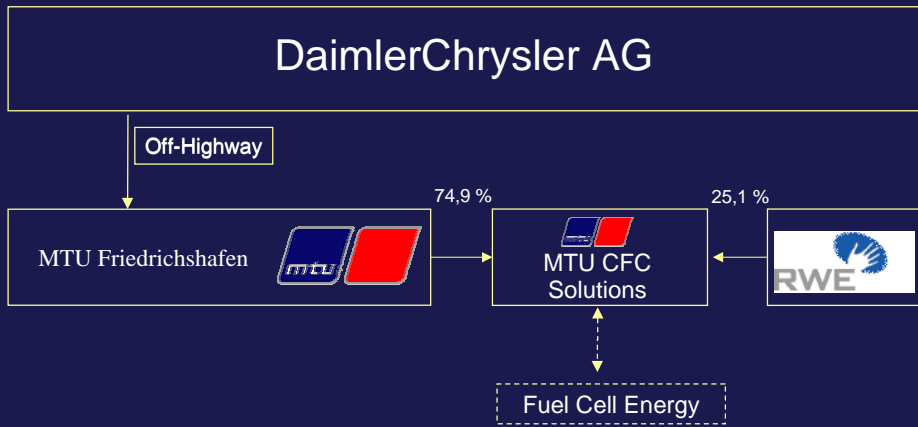
## MTU CFC Solutions GmbH



- Spin off in January 2003
- Located near Munich / Germany
- 80 Employees
- Research & Development
- HotModule Assembly and Test
- Pilot Cell Manufacturing



# Structure



# Alliances & Partnerships



# Strong and Sustainable Commitment



Research & Development

Product Development

Product Maturing

Field Trials

Commercialization



1990

1997

2003

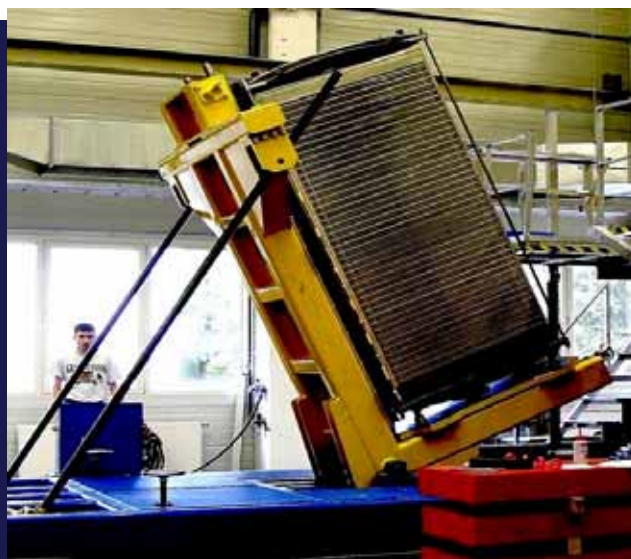
2006



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# HotModule Manufacturing



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## Stack, ready for Integration



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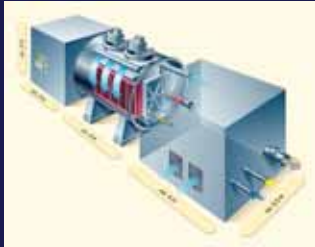
## Module Assembly



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## Shipment



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# Decentralized Stationary Consumable Energy Supply



## Target: Stationary Energy Supply based on Fuel Cells

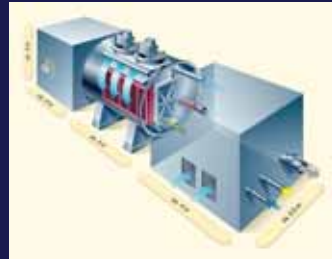


Production **on demand** of consumable energies

- electrical power
- heat
- cold

using decentralized energy sources

- natural gas, mine gas
- other gasified energy carriers
- secondary gases from biomass and waste**



# Two Classes of Secondary Fuels



### •Gaseous or gasified Hydrocarbons:

- biogases from anaerobic fermentation
- sewage gas, landfill gas, coal mine gas
- gasified liquid and solid hydrocarbons, methanol, ethanol, gasoline, diesel, etc.

### •Synthesis gases:

- coal gas
- biogases from thermal gasifiers
- purge gases e. g. from refineries, chemical industry

## Secondary Fuels: Characteristics



- High Contents of inert components:  
N<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O
- Low heating value
- Decentral available
- Fluctuating properties
- Contents of a variety of different contaminants

## Consumable Energies from Secondary Energy Sources



### Reasons, necessities for and advantages of the utilization of decentralized secondary energy sources for production of consumable energies:

#### Saving primary energy sources:

- Reduction of dependance on primary energy sources
- Reduction of pollution by greenhouse gases and contaminants
- Reduction of transport losses by in situ utilization of energy sources and in situ production of consumable energy forms

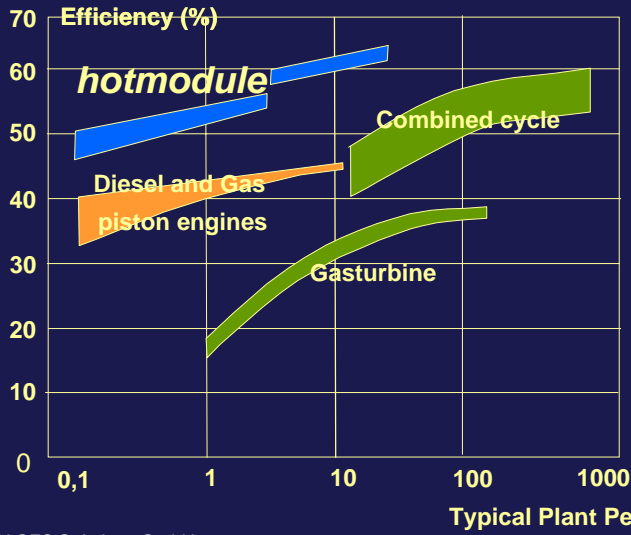
#### High quality utilization of secondary fuels:

- Trigeneration – electrical energy, thermal energy, cooling energy

#### To make use of the high efficiency of fuel cells



# High performance with natural gas and biogas

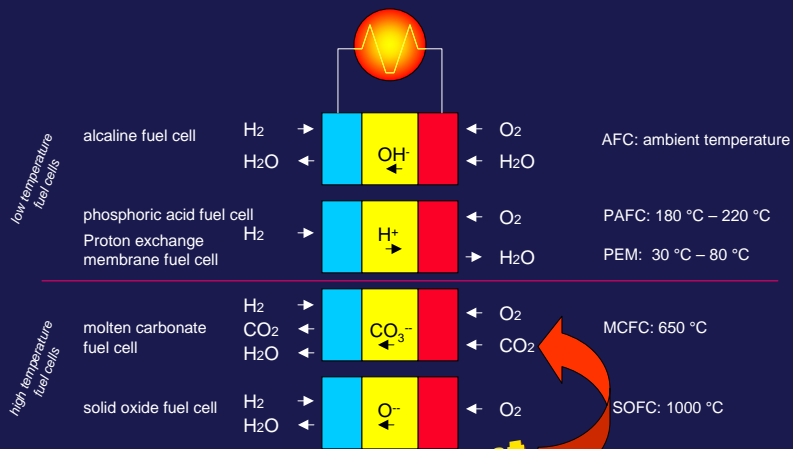


- Today: > 47%
- Target: > 50%
- Top Performance for 250 kW Units
- Superior to Conventional Solutions

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# Types of Fuel Cells



**CO<sub>2</sub> is Reactant**

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# Why MCFC?



right operating temperature

- utilization of „waste“heat  
With high exergy
- Internal reforming
- metallic compoments

due to CO2 as reactant  
high fuel flexibility

### gaseous hydrocarbons

- natural gas
- biogas (digestion gas)
- sewage gas, landfill gas
- mine gas

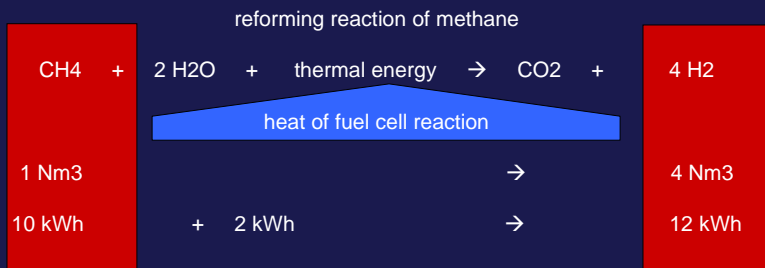
### Synthesis gases

- biogas from thermal gasification
- Pyrolysis gas
- gasification products from waste material
- coalgas

# Why MCFC? Operating Temperature



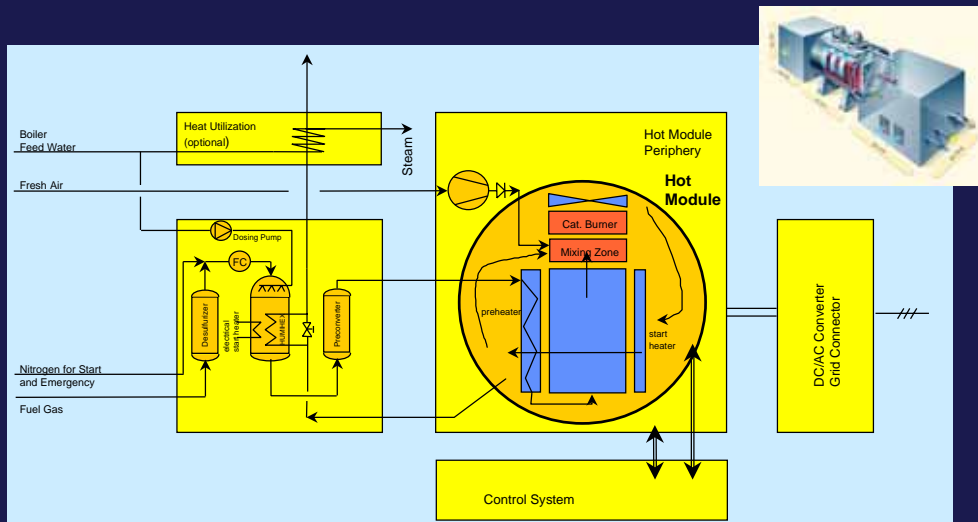
## Efficiency Increase by *Internal Reforming* within High Temperature Fuel Cells



2 kWh primary energy production in form of hydrogen from „waste“ heat

15 % gain of efficiency at 75 % fuel utilization

# The HotModule System



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## Feasibility of secondary fuel utilization with the MTU Fuel Cell HotModule



The Molten Carbonate Fuel cell HotModule is most suitable for direct use of hydrocarbons and synthesis gases:

- Compact and reliable for cogeneration and trigeneration
- Right power class (220 kW el) for secondary energy sources and decentralized power and heat demands
- Highest electrical and thermal efficiencies even fueled by low caloric gases with high amounts of inert components with the result of a very low specific CO<sub>2</sub> production rate, - in the case of biomass based secondary energy utilization no CO<sub>2</sub> production
- Adjustable power to heat ratio in a wide range

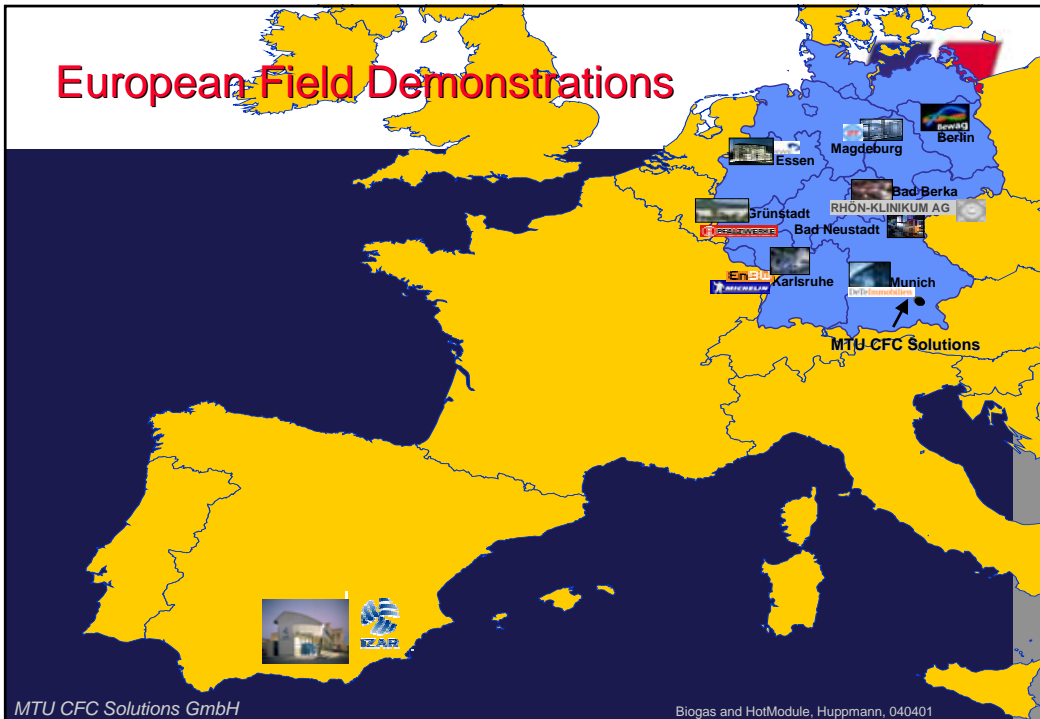
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# Hot Module Plants Worldwide



# European Field Demonstrations



# MTU Field Test Installations in Germany



# MTU Field Test Installations – Operating hours



# Ongoing Field Test Installations



Grünstadt Hospital / Germany



RWE / Germany



Otto-von-Guericke Clinic / Germany



Telekom / Germany



IZAR / Spain



Mercedes Benz / USA



LADWP / USA



Bad Berka Hospital / Germany



Michelin / Germany



Rhön Klinikum / Germany

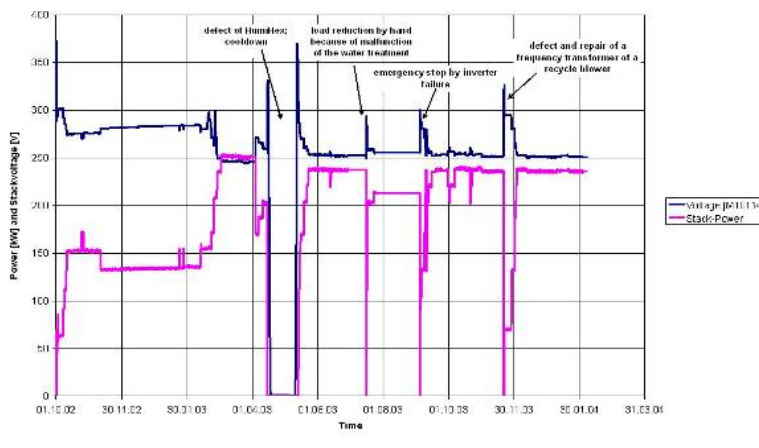
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# Load Profile Telekom Unit



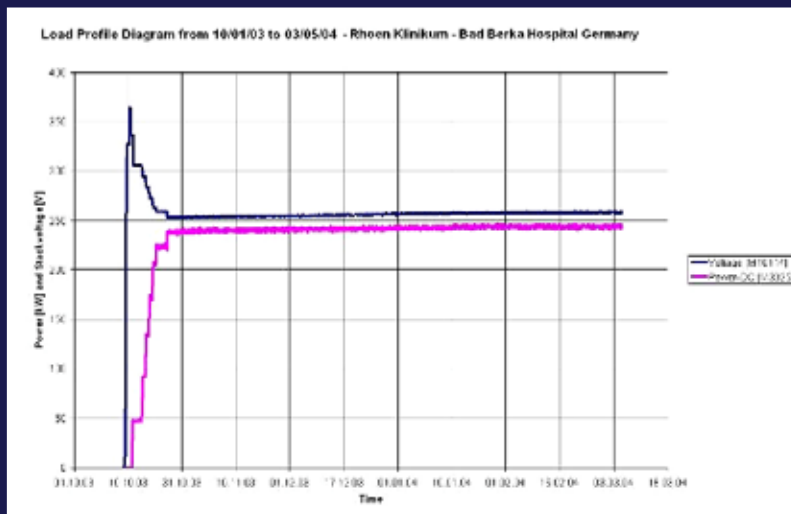
Load-Profile HM300-12 DeTeImmobilien (German Telekom - Muenchen)



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## e.on / Bad Berka Hospital– Germany



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## Field Test Experience



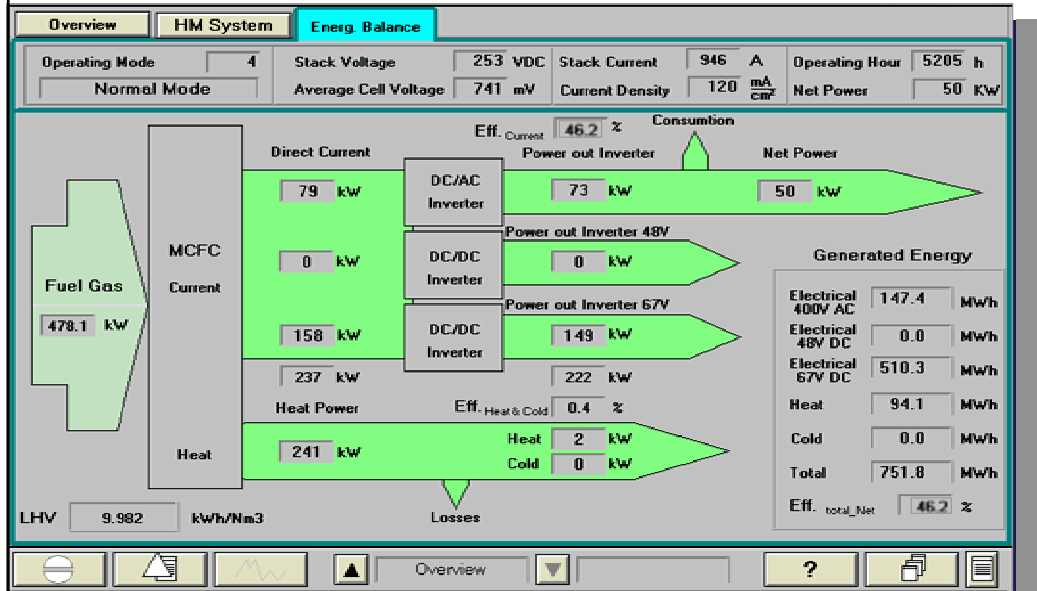
- ✓ Electrical Plant Efficiency: 47 % Demonstrated
- ✓ Operating Time of First Field Test Unit > 20.000 h
- ✓ Total Accumulated Operating Time > 100.000 h
- ✓ Variable Power to Heat Ratio
- ✓ Over 90 % Total Efficiency by Multistage Heat Utilization
- ✓ Trigeneration Demonstrated: Power, Heat, Cooling
- ✓ DC Application Demonstrated



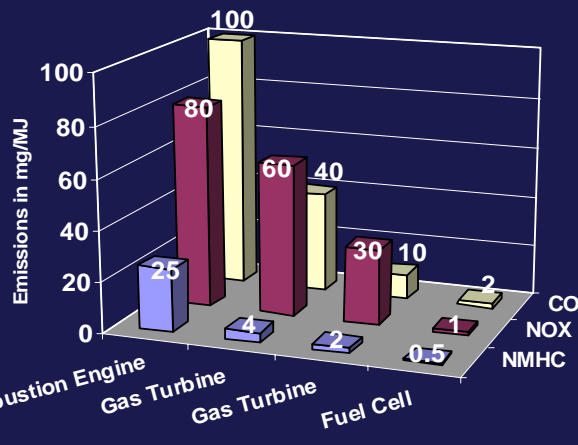
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# Operation and Monitoring Entirely remote controlled Test Operation



# Comparison of Specific Emissions





Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell  
 The MTU Fuel Cell HotModule  
 Cogeneration Unit 250 kW el



■ **Emissions Measured:**



		HotModule Pilot Plant	Piston Engine Cogeneration Unit
CO	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	14	30 – 480
NO <sub>x</sub>	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	< 2	10 – 750
Total Carbon	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	< 5	310 – 450
Organic Carbon	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	< 1	

Decentralized Consumable Energy Production:  
 The MTU Fuel Cell HotModule Unit 250 kW el



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## Sustainable Energy Source: Secondary Gas Utilization



- **Anaerobic Digester Gas**
  - Agricultural biogas
  - Sewage gas
  - Landfill gas
- **Synthesis Gas**
  - from thermal gasification processes of biomass and organic waste material
  - Residual gases in industry
- **Coal mine gas**



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## Gas Availability



### Biogas:

Potential number of plants in the performance range of 400 to 2000 kW gas output in Germany 4000, realized till now ca. 1600. In case of consequent utilization of the gas produced for CHP 12 to 15 % of consumable energy can be reached.

(Meyer-Pittroff, TU München)

### Sewage Gas:

Increasing number of biological sewage treatment plants. Most of the plants are equipped with piston engines already. Only replacement and small additional potential.

Synthesis gas from thermal gasification of waste material: Several gasification systems under development (Choren, Thermoselect, ElectroFarming, DMT and others). Potential for MCFC dependent on development of gasification systems.

High potentials in purge gas in chemical and petrochemical industry, in particular at methanol production from synthesis gases: Choren et al.

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## Secondary Gas Utilization: Research Projects



- Lab-Scale Testbed Operation with:
  - Agricultural Fermentation Gas – Seaborne (G), Univ. Nitra (Sk), Schmack (G) - 2002 – 2004
  - Municipal Sewage Gas or Landfill Gas – Linz AG (A) - 2003
  - Fermentation Gas from Organic Waste and Landfillgas – Urbaser/Madrid (E) - 2004
  - gasified Coal – RWE Essen (G) – 1993

## Fuel - Contamination



O <sub>2</sub>	Peak Shaving Gas, Air from Cleaning Process
Sulfur Containing Compounds	H <sub>2</sub> S, THT, Mercaptanes, Thioester, Thioether, COS, (SO <sub>2</sub> )
Nitrogen Containing Compounds	NH <sub>3</sub> , NOx, Amines, N <sub>2</sub> (Gasification)
Olefinic Hydrocarbons, Tar	R <sub>2</sub> C=CR <sub>2</sub> , aromatic HC, undefined products from cracking reactions
Halides	F, Cl, Br, I, aliphatic, aromatic
Volatile metalorganic Compounds	R <sub>3</sub> -Si-O-Si-R <sub>3</sub> (Siloxanes)
Moisture	Problem during Compression of the Biogas < 60% rel.
Heavy Metal Dust	

## Experience with Secondary Gas



### Effective Testbeds

Designed and  
constructed by  
MTU CFC Solutions

Right  
Control Unit

Center  
Supervisor Control  
System

Left  
Operation Unit



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## EFFECTIVE Stack



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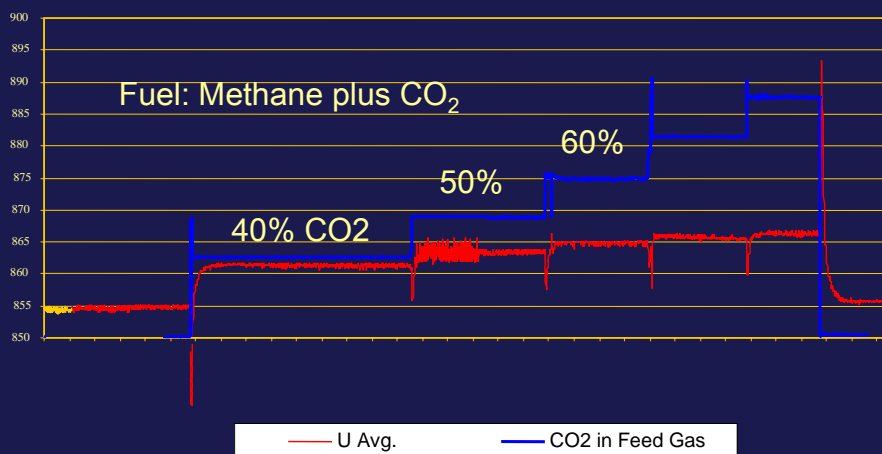


## HotModule Simulation of Field Conditions



- Addition of CO<sub>2</sub> to Natural Gas increases performance of MTU's HotModule significantly

## Cell Voltage depends on CO<sub>2</sub>-Content in Fuel



## HotModule Simulation of Field Conditions



- $\text{NH}_3$ -Reduction

## HotModule $\text{NH}_3$ -Decomposition



- Conversion of more than 99%  $\text{NH}_3$  (initial concentration > 5000 ppmV  $\text{NH}_3$  added to natural gas)
- $\text{NH}_3$ -Decomposition depends on Fuel-Utilization (high Fuel-Util. results in lower  $\text{NH}_3$ -exhaust concentration)

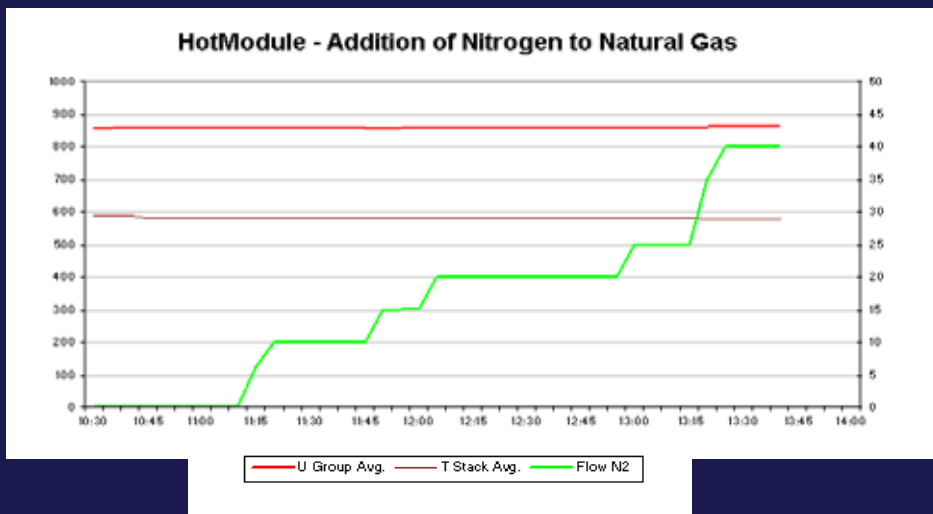
# HotModule Simulation of Field Conditions



- Addition of N<sub>2</sub> to Natural Gas had no influence on the performance

(simulating gases which are formed in the auto-thermal gasification of biomass)

# HotModule – Nitrogen





## Conclusions



- Biogas-fueled operation of MCFC-stacks has been demonstrated in Field Tests
- High performance of the tested fuel upgrading systems
- No negative influence of biogas contaminants if eliminated
- Performance-dependence on CO<sub>2</sub>-concentration
- Decomposition of NH<sub>3</sub>
- No significant influence of inerts (N<sub>2</sub>)

## Decentralized Consumable Energy Production: The MTU Fuel Cell HotModule Unit 250 kW el

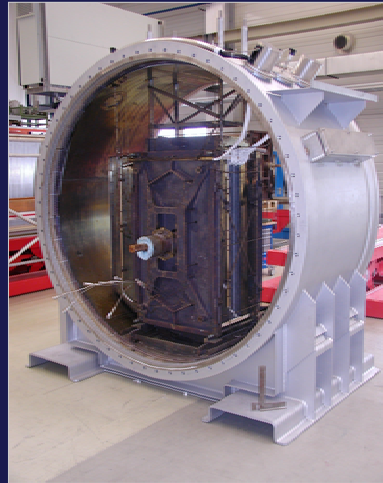


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# Outlook



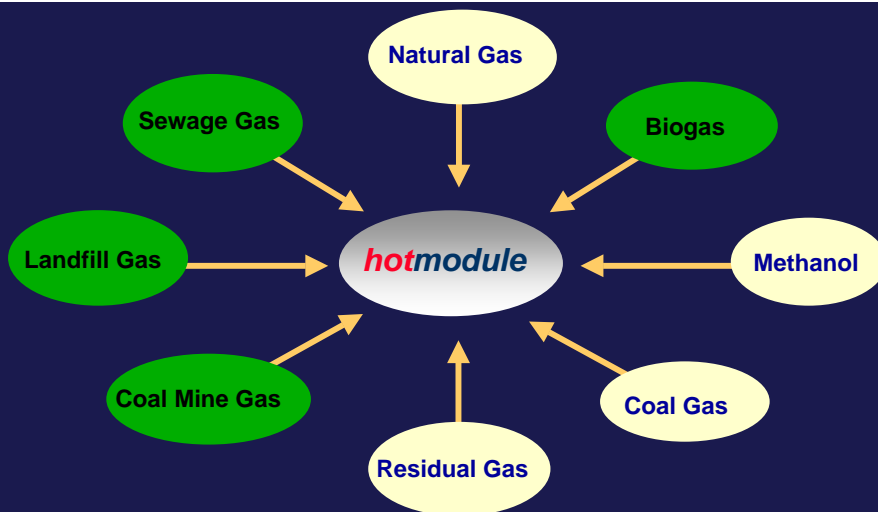
- Maturing & Extension of the Product Line
- Value Engineering for Cost Reduction
- Large Scale Serial Production and Assembly
- Market and Customer Development
- Development of a MegaWatt Module
- Domestic Heating Appliances / APU



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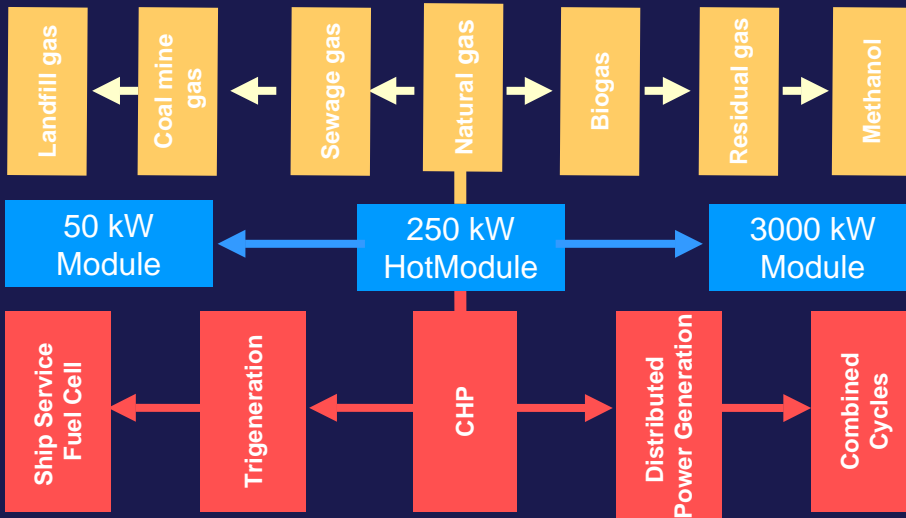
# Challenges Fuel Flexibility opens different Markets



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## Full Range Product Portfolio



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## Cost Effective Power Production: Lessons Learned



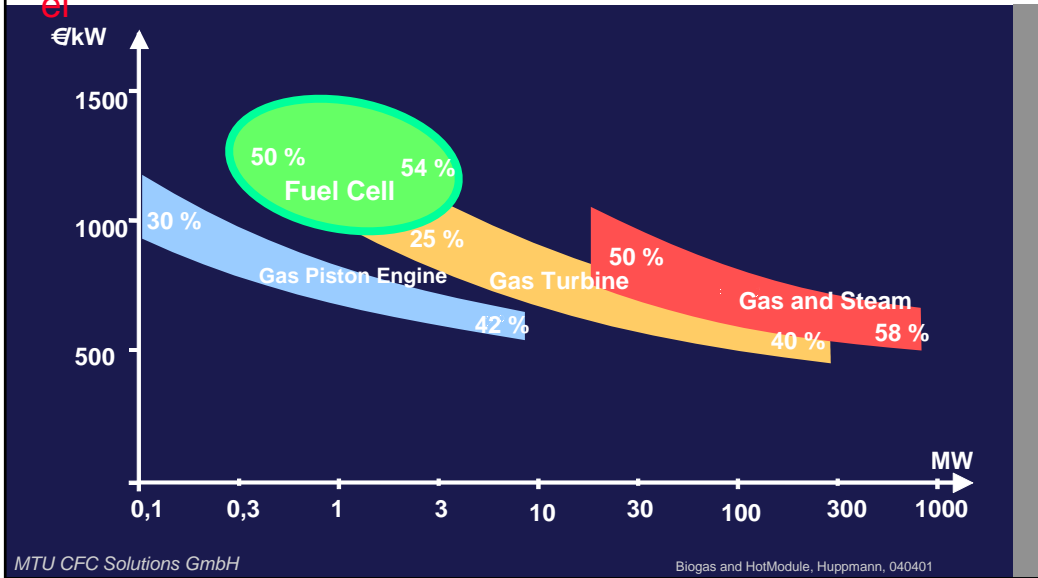
- Avoided T&D Costs
- Base Load Operation
- Low Operating Costs
- High Reliability
- Excellent Partload Behaviour
- Variable Power to Heat Ratio
- Emission Benefits



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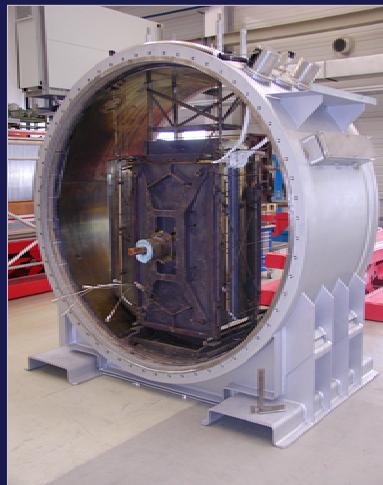
# Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell The MTU Fuel Cell HotModule Cogeneration Unit 250 kW



## Looking Ahead



- Maturing & Extension of the Product Line
- Value Engineering for Cost Reduction
- Large Scale Production and Assembly
- Market and Customer Development



## End of Beginning



“This is not the end,  
this is not even the beginning of the end,  
but perhaps this is the end of the  
beginning.”

*Sir Winston Churchill*

**Thank you for your kind attention**