

# Piloting CO<sub>2</sub> Post-Combustion Capture

*CO2NET East workshop, 3-4 March 2009, Bratislava, Slovakia*

**TNO | Knowledge for business**



**Mohammad Abu-Zahra**

Senior process engineer Energy/CO<sub>2</sub>  
TNO Science & Industry

E: [mohammad.abuzahra@tno.nl](mailto:mohammad.abuzahra@tno.nl)

T: +31 15 269 2861



# Overview

- Introduction
- CCS in the Netherlands
- Rotterdam Climate Initiative
- TNO post-combustion capture pilot plant
- Solvent/process benchmarking
- The way forward



# TNO profile and core areas

CCS Expertise



**Quality of Life**



**Defense, Security & Safety**



**Science & Industry**



**Built Environment & Geo-Sciences**



**ICT**

## **FY2007 Key Figures**

- € 579 million turnover
- 2/3 market, 1/3 government supported research
- approximately 4600 employees

# Getting CCS Technologies to Work

- R&D and Engineering - Lab → Bench → Pilots & Demos
- Building the Chain - Capture → Transport → Storage
- Support - Corrosion, Risk Management, Policies



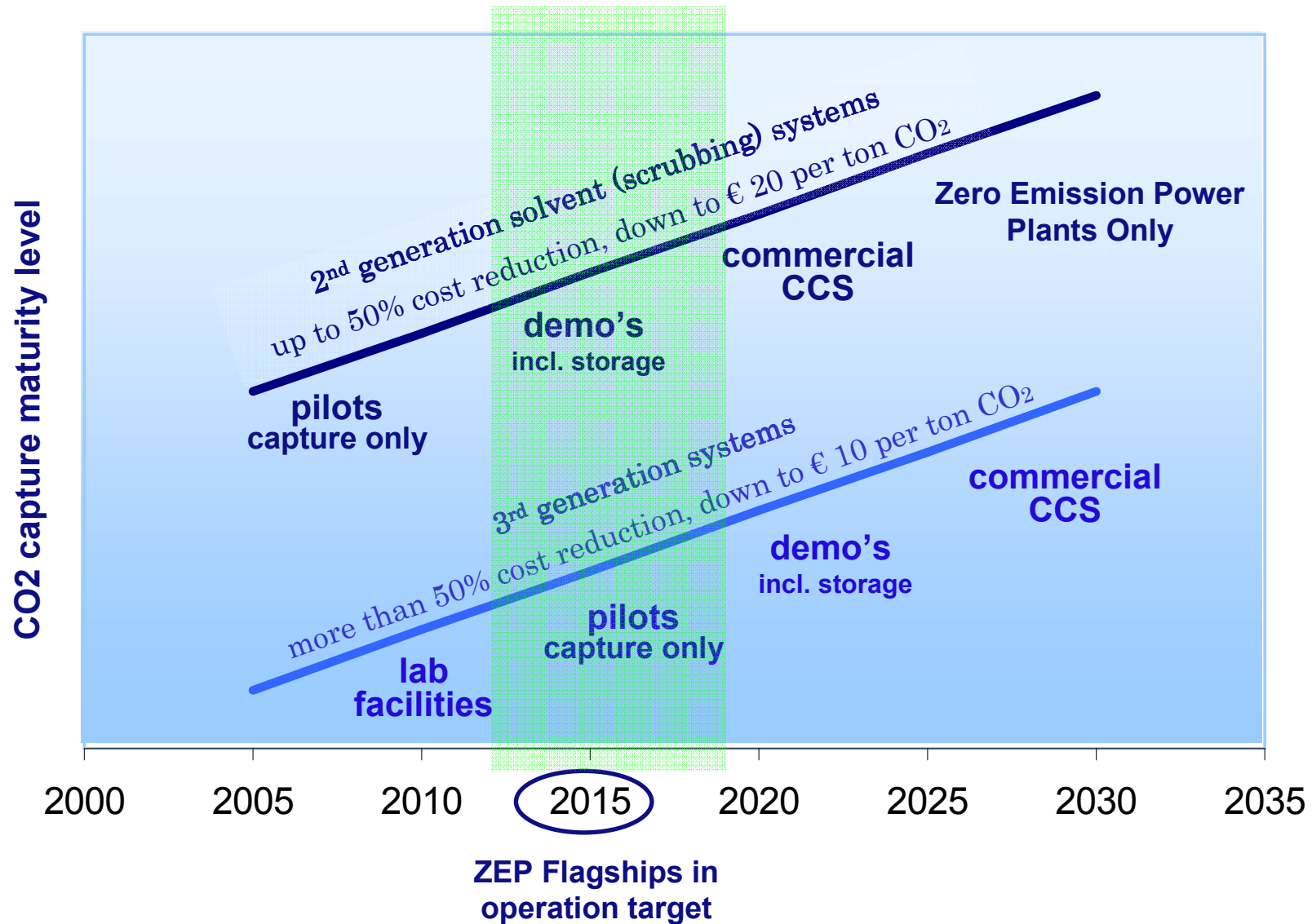
Science &  
Industry



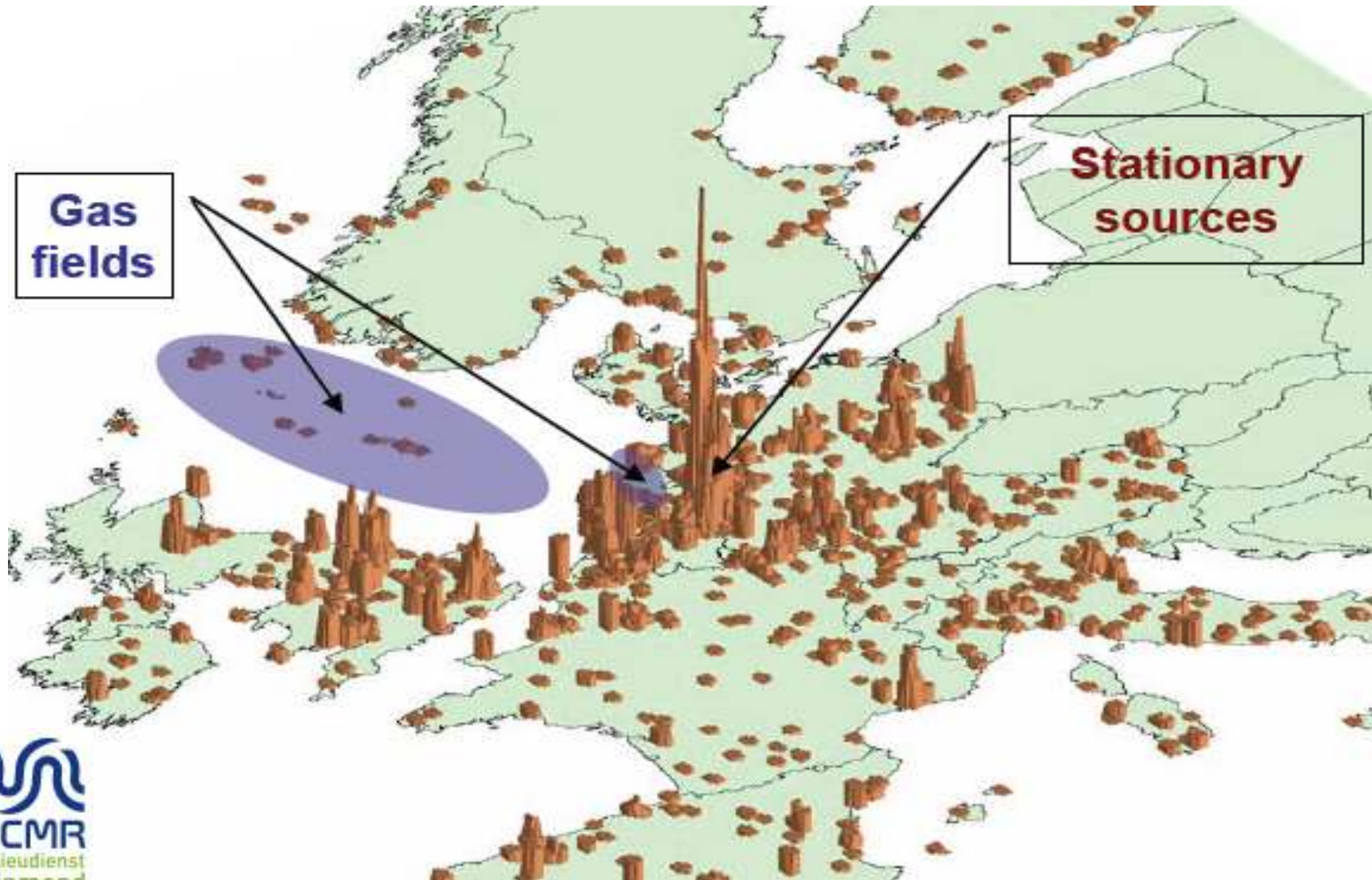
Built Environ-  
ment & Geo-  
Sciences

- 50+ Employees working in the CCS field
- EU and national programmes
- Joint development projects
- Industrial bilateral projects

# CCS – Capture Implementation Roadmap



# CO<sub>2</sub> sources in Europe

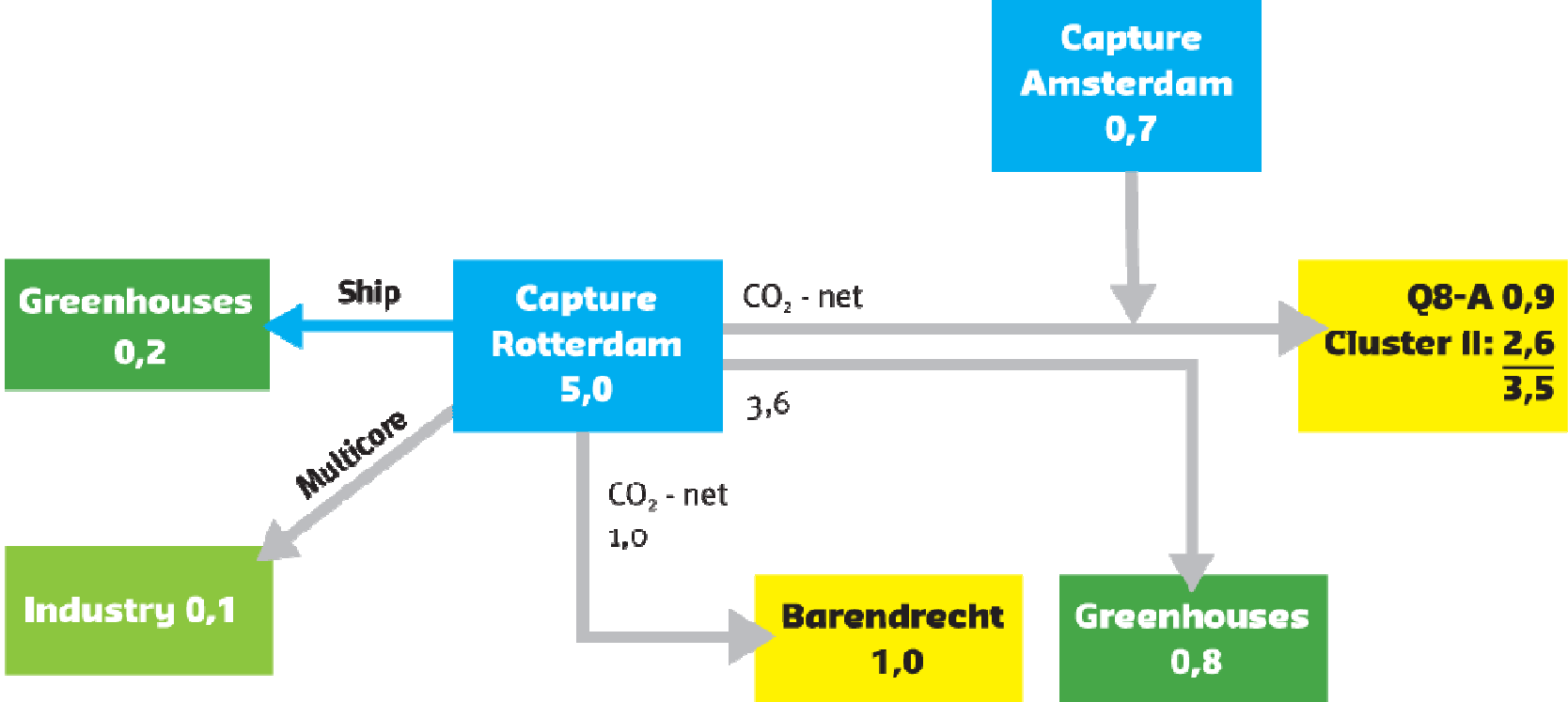


# Rotterdam Energy port

Rotterdam Climate Initiative



# First businesscase: 5 Mton in 2015



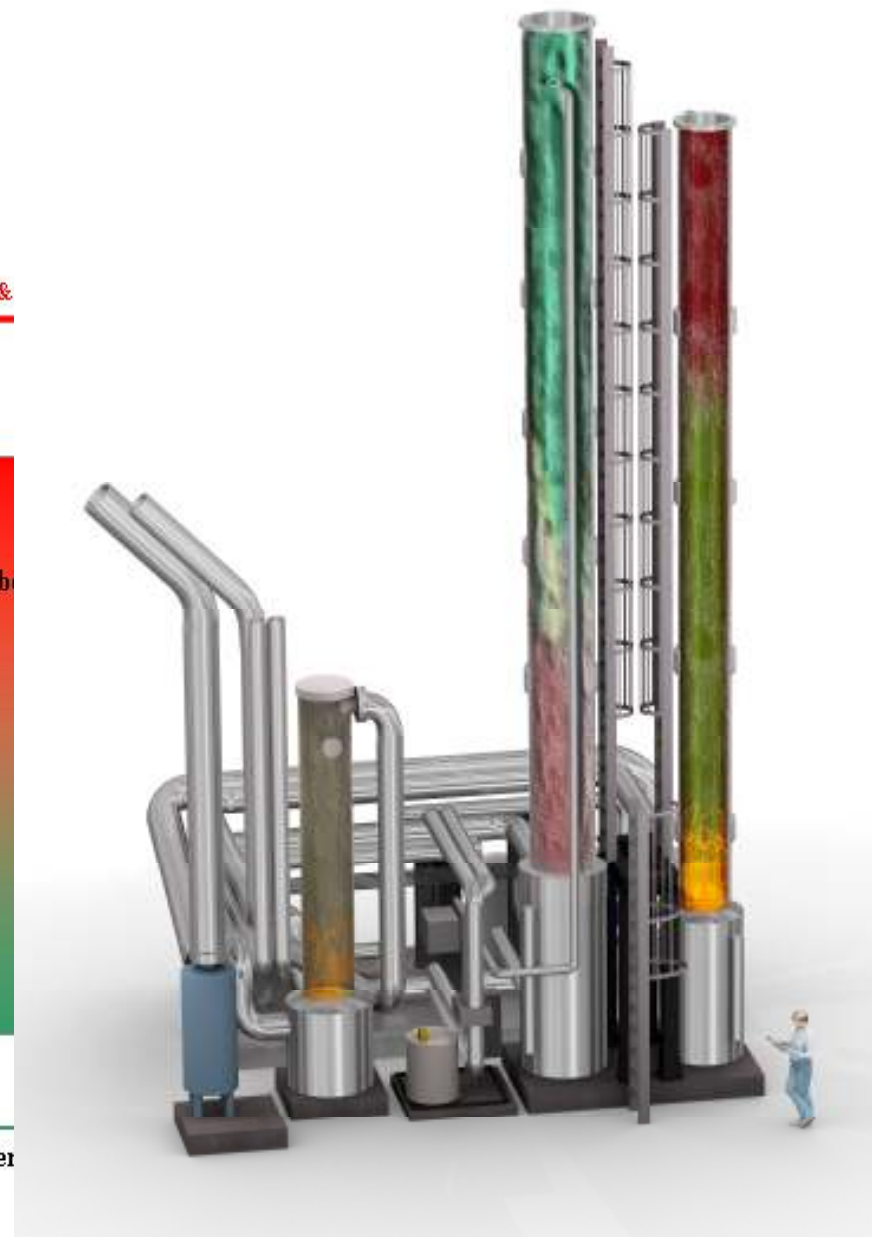
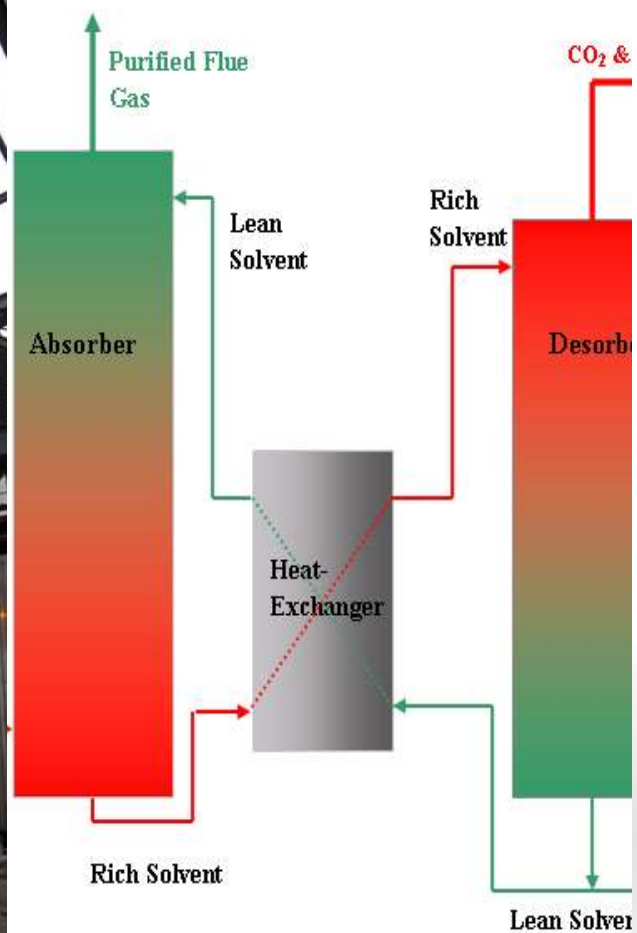


# CATO CO<sub>2</sub> Catcher - Main Facts



- First CO<sub>2</sub> capture pilot plant in the Netherlands
- First flexible multi-purpose pilot plant in Europe:
  - testing/benchmarking CO<sub>2</sub> absorption solvents
  - different types of gas/solvent contactors
  - validating and developing process models
- Developed & operated by TNO in cooperation with E.ON and CATO partners
- Investment € 2 million, about 1/3 financed by Ministry of Economic Affairs via CATO
- Real flue gas conditions at power plant of E.ON, Rotterdam

# CO<sub>2</sub> capture process



# Solvent Testing Workflow - From Lab to Pilot



**Lab tests**

Solvents screening  
Thermo data  
Basic characteristics



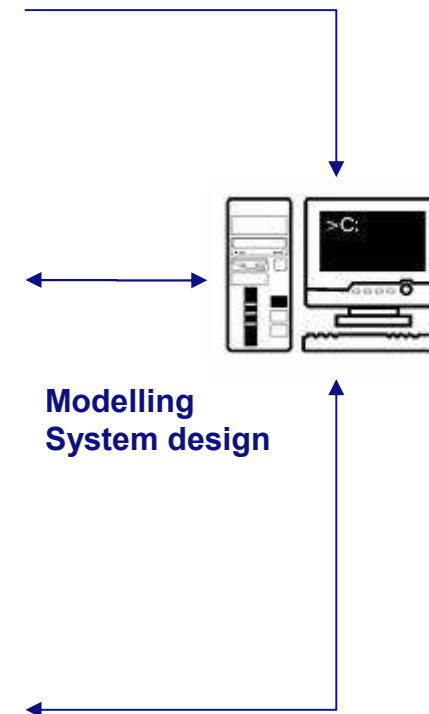
**Micro & Mini plant**

System performance  
Model validation



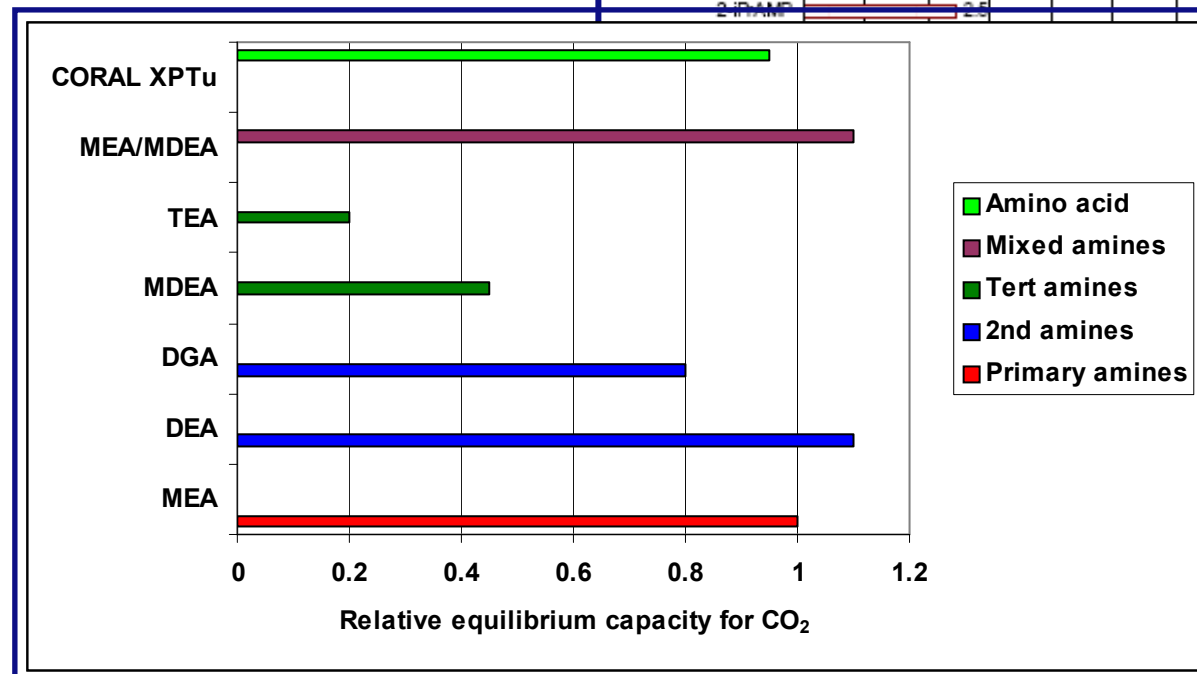
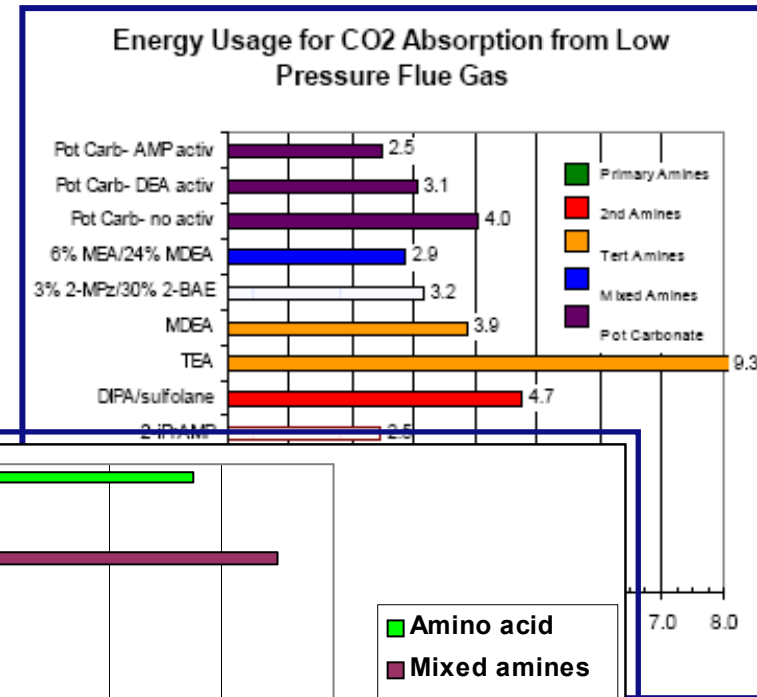
**Pilot plant**

Scale up effects  
Industrial conditions  
Model validation  
Long term effects

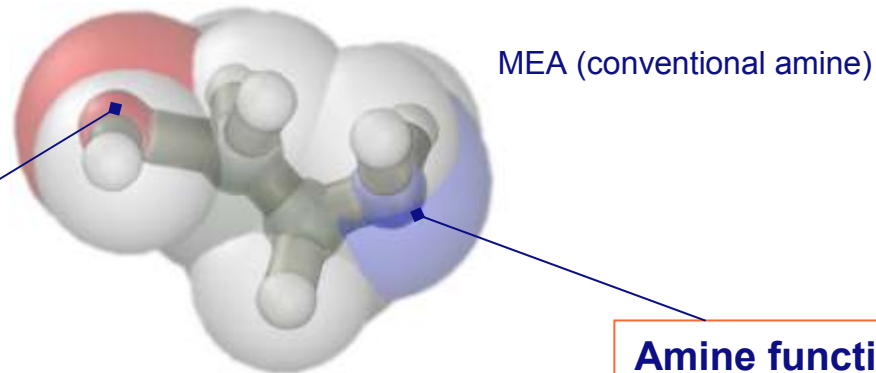


# Solvent benchmarking parameters

- Capacity for CO<sub>2</sub>
- Heat of reaction/regeneration energy
- Solvent losses/stability/degradation
- Functional group
- Toxicity
- Environment
- Cost



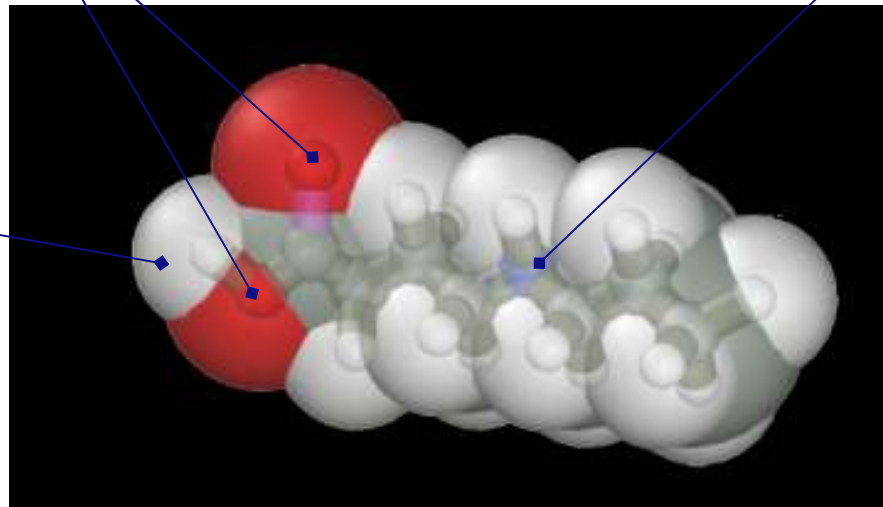
# Amino acids and MEA chemical structure



Oxygen molecule

Amine functional group  
(reacts with CO<sub>2</sub>)

Hydrogen molecule  
Replaced by Ion +



**Chemically stable**

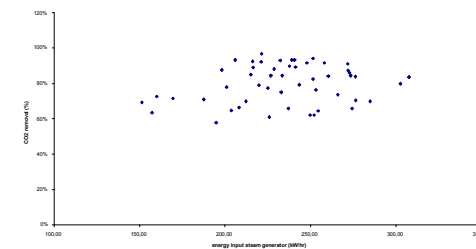
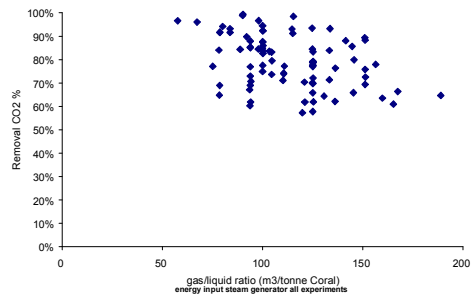
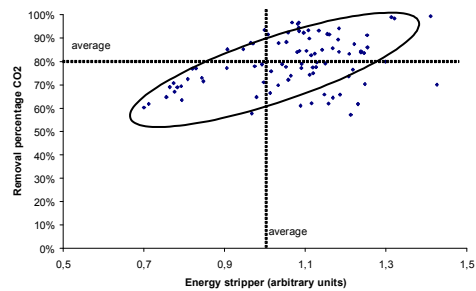
**Biologically degradable**

**No vapour pressure**

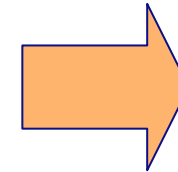
# Solvents benchmarking methodology

→ Pilot

→ Translation

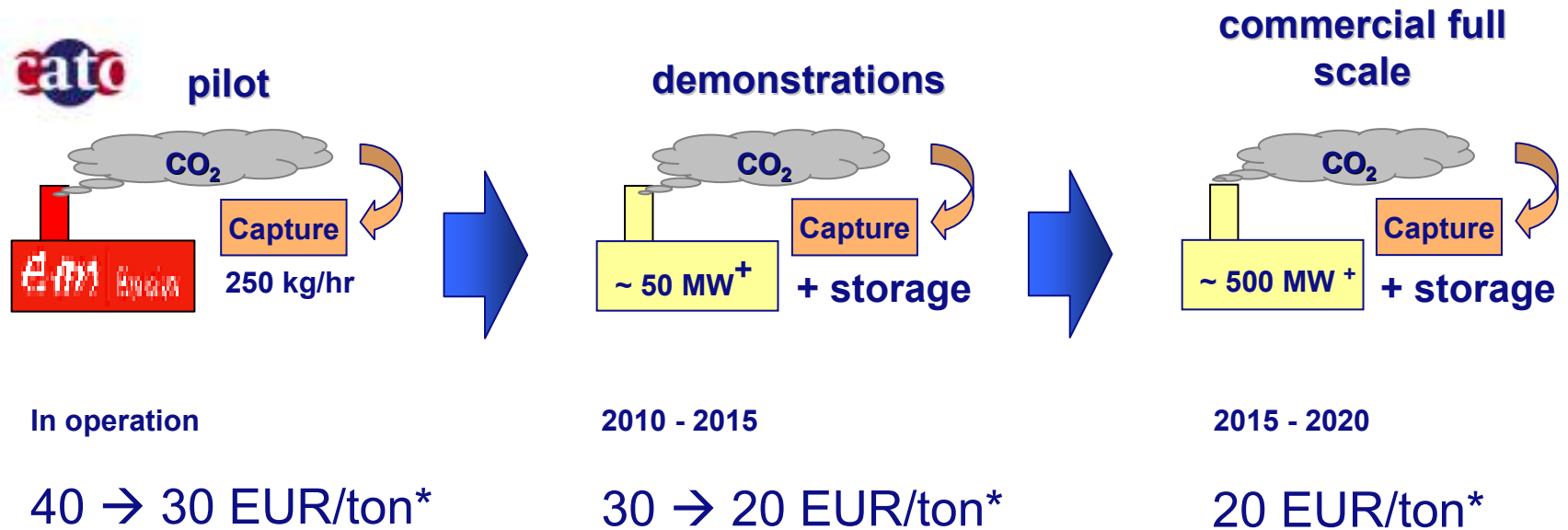


Energy requirement  
Gas/liquid ratio  
Stability solvent  
Loading solvent

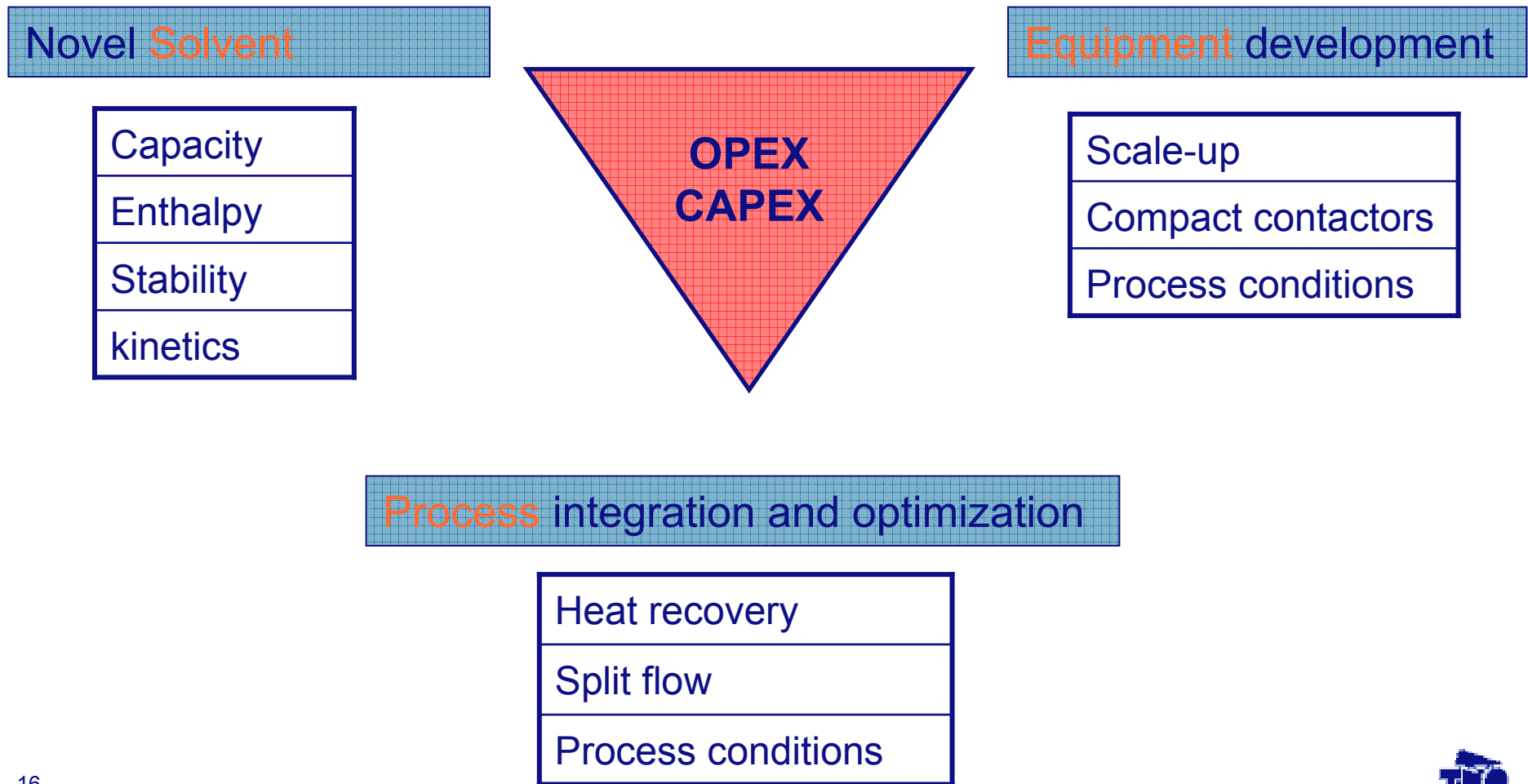


Techno-  
Economic  
Evaluation

# Scale-Up & Improvement Strategy



# Improving capture cost efficiency





# Way Forward

- **CORAL solvent family** – Promising replacement for MEA
- Support in **benchmarking** and **testing for third parties**
- CATO-2 important national platform to prepare basic design packages for **large scale demonstration**
- CESAR/CLEO new industrial sponsors (**open running programme**).
- Further 2<sup>nd</sup> generation development:
  - **Solvent, contactors** and **Process** development and optimization
- Development of 3<sup>rd</sup> generation processes:
  - combined CO<sub>2</sub>/SO<sub>2</sub> removal (e.g. DECASOX)
  - multi-phase solvent systems (e.g. DECAB)