

# ACCELERATOR- PATHWAY FOR $^{99}\text{MO}$ PRODUCTION WITHOUT HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM

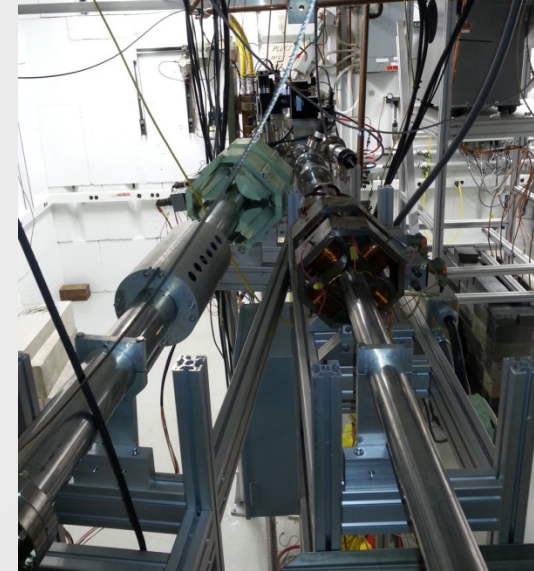
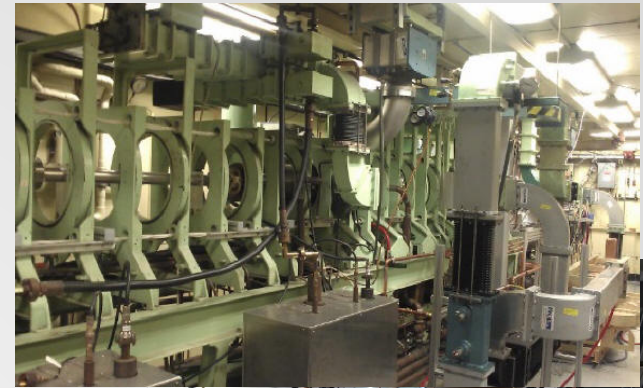


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Mo-99 Topical Meeting  
St. Louis, Missouri  
September 14, 2016

# OUTLINE

- Support for SHINE Medical Technologies
  - Phase 1 mini- and micro-SHINE experiments gas generation results
  - Transition to mini-SHINE phase 2 experiments
- Support for NorthStar Medical Isotopes
  - Beamline design
    - Beamline configuration
    - Beam diagnostic
    - High power targets
  - Van de Graaff testing for product development



# SHINE SUPPORT: ARGONNE MINI-SHINE EXPERIMENT

- Argonne's mini-SHINE experiment use fissioning of uranyl-sulfate solutions using photo-neutron target at Argonne electron linac to produce Mo-99, this experiment is designed to:
  - Study the effects of fission on target-solution chemistry and radiolytic off-gas generation
  - Demonstrate the recovery and purification of Mo-99 from an irradiated target solution
  - Produce Mo-99 to ship to potential Tc-99m generator manufacturer partners

## Phase 1 (completed January 2016 )

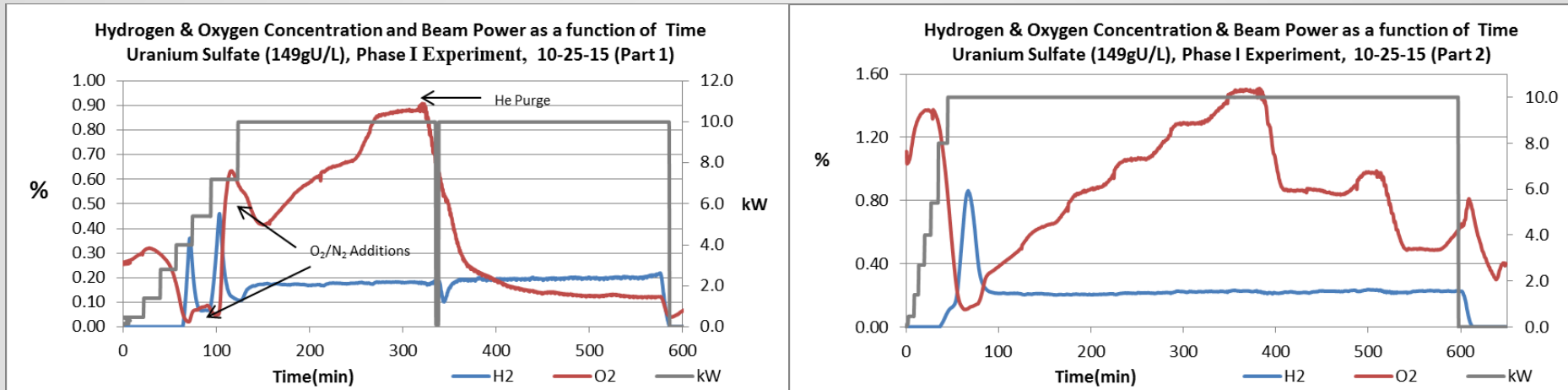
- Linac was operated at 35 MeV and 10 kW beam power on the Ta target
- 5 L solution (140 g-U/L) were irradiated with neutrons generated through gamma-n reaction in tantalum target
- Maximum solution fission power was  $\leq 0.05$  kW/L
- Up to 2 Ci of Mo-99 was produced per run

## Phase 2

- Experiment will be conducted at 35 MeV beam energy and up to 20 kW beam power
- 20 L solution will be irradiated with neutrons generated in a depleted-uranium (DU) target (Zr clad DU discs were manufactured at LANL)
- Maximum solution fission power will be  $\leq 0.5$  kW/L
- Up to 20 Ci of Mo-99 will be produced



# GAS GENERATION IN MINI-SHINE EXPERIMENT



- 1% safety limit for maximum hydrogen gas concentration in head space of mini-SHINE experiment has significantly constrained gas generation measurements. Oxygen addition had to start 30-60 min into irradiation. Hydrogen concentration reached steady-state in ~100 min. After that time no addition of oxygen to the headspace was necessary.



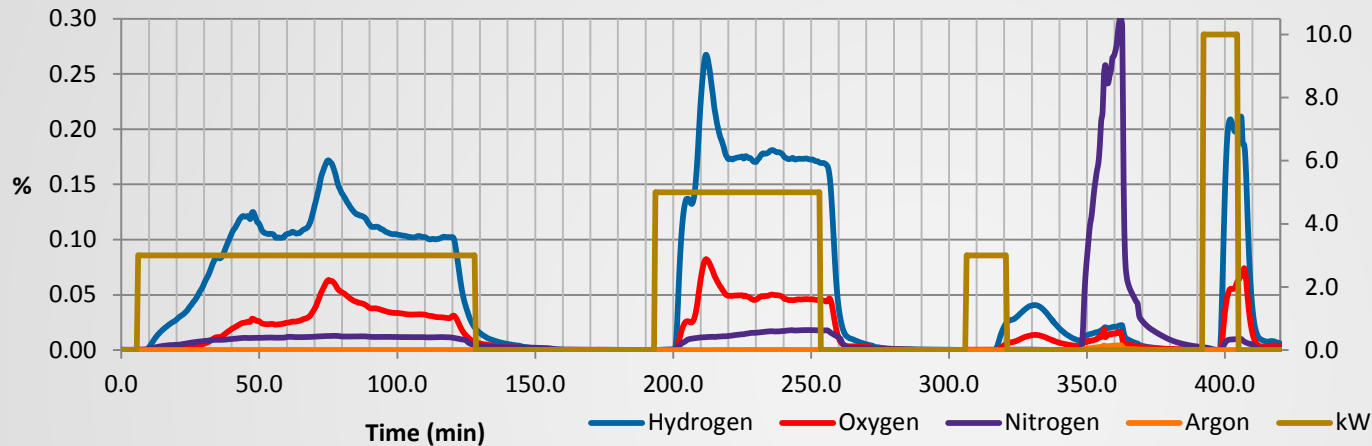
# GAS GENERATION IN MICRO-SHINE EXPERIMENTS

- Small samples ~2 ml were irradiated in dry tubes of the mini-SHINE experimental setup
- Gas generation rates were measured using flow through approach, which kept concentration of hydrogen below 1%
- Irradiation of the samples with different enrichments allowed separation of gas generation due to fission and photon radiolysis
- Fraction of gas production due to fission fragment radiolysis in LEU solution to total gas production is ~67%

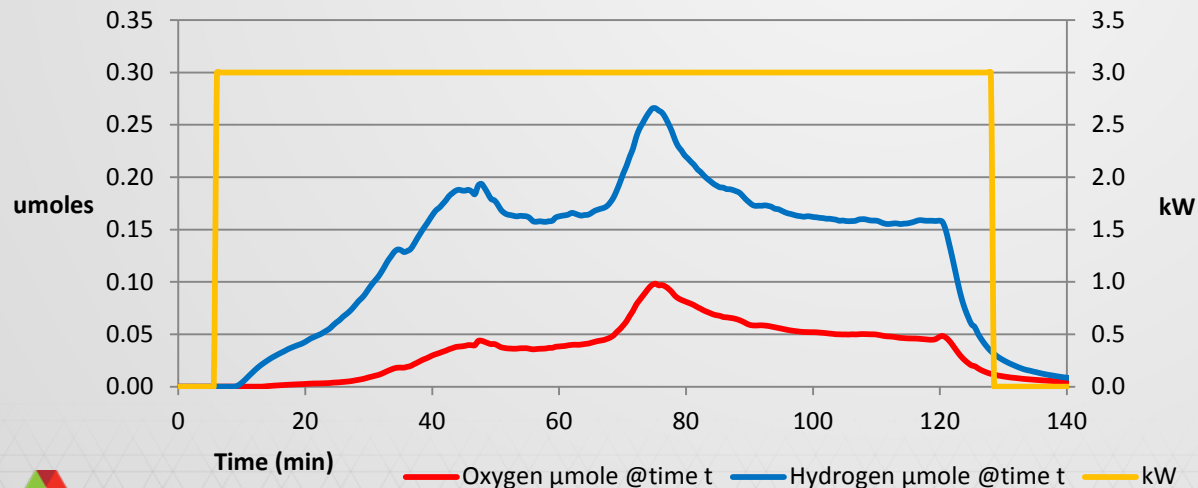


# GAS GENERATION IN MICRO-SHINE EXPERIMENTS LEU

LINAC Microshine Gas Measurements  
(LEU, U-Sulfate at 157 gU/L, 12/14/15)



Micro-SHINE LEU 157gU/L, 12-14-15

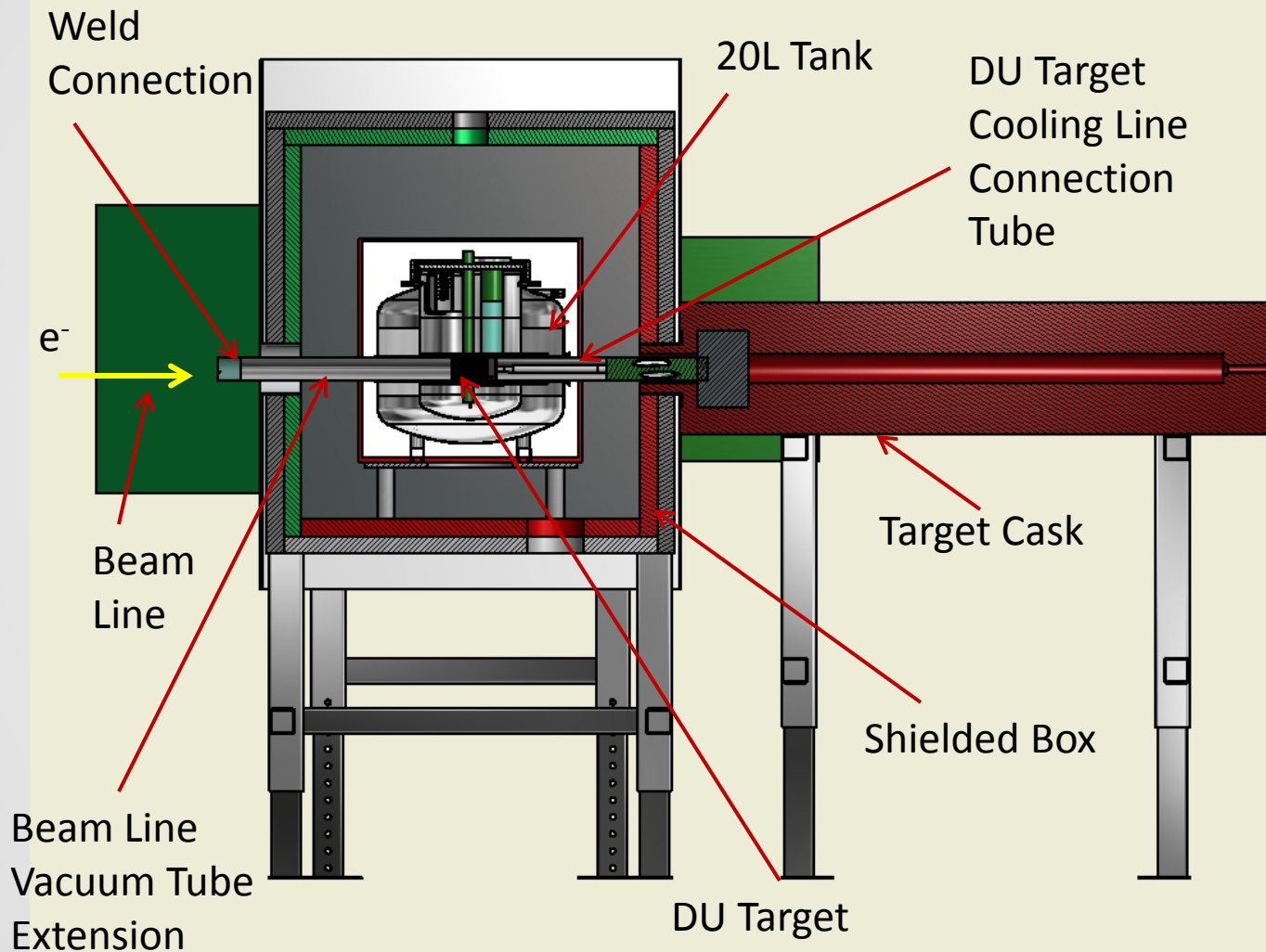


- Hydrogen generation rate for LEU  $\sim 75 \text{ mole/kWh}$  of fission power in solution

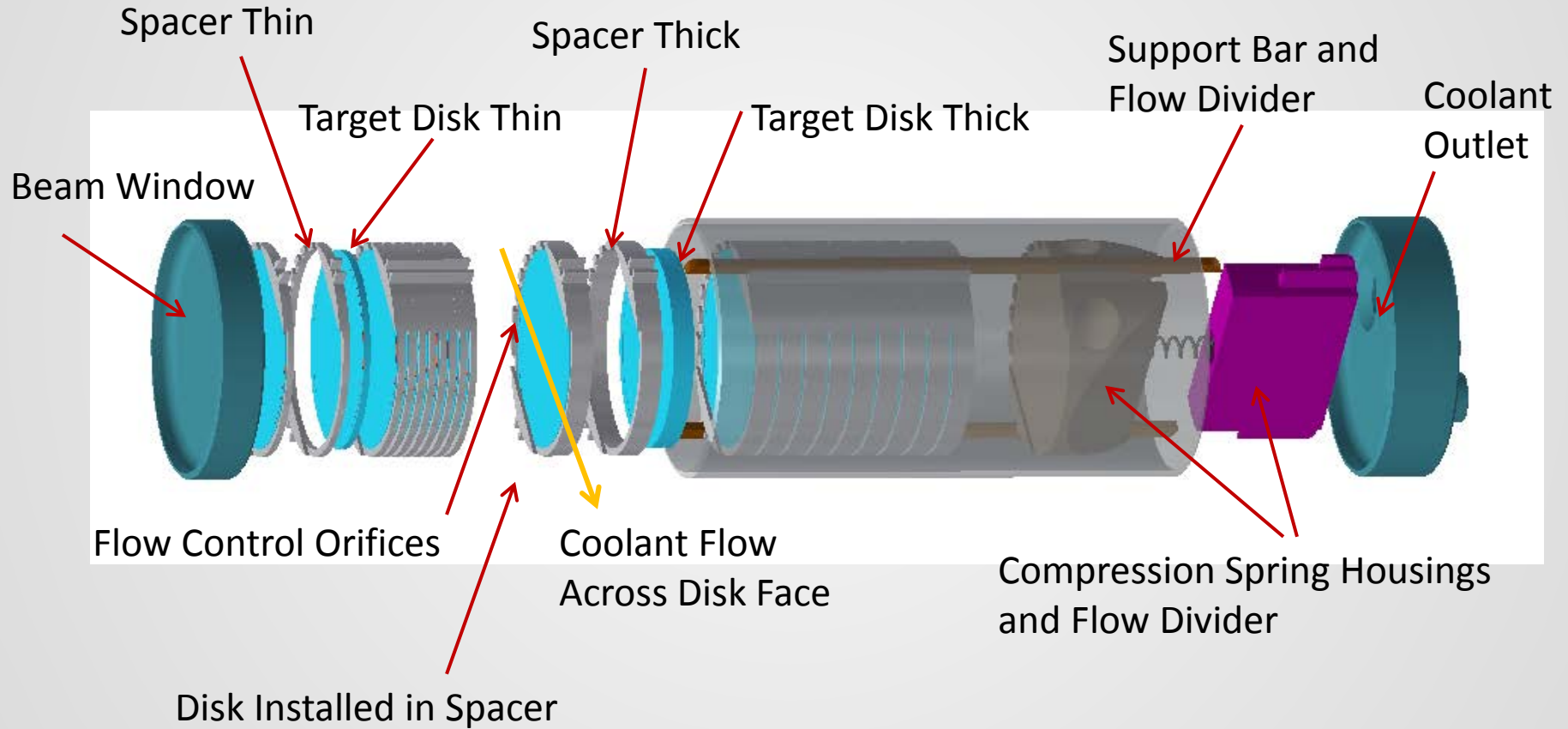




# PHASE 2 MINI-SHINE IRRADIATION SETUP

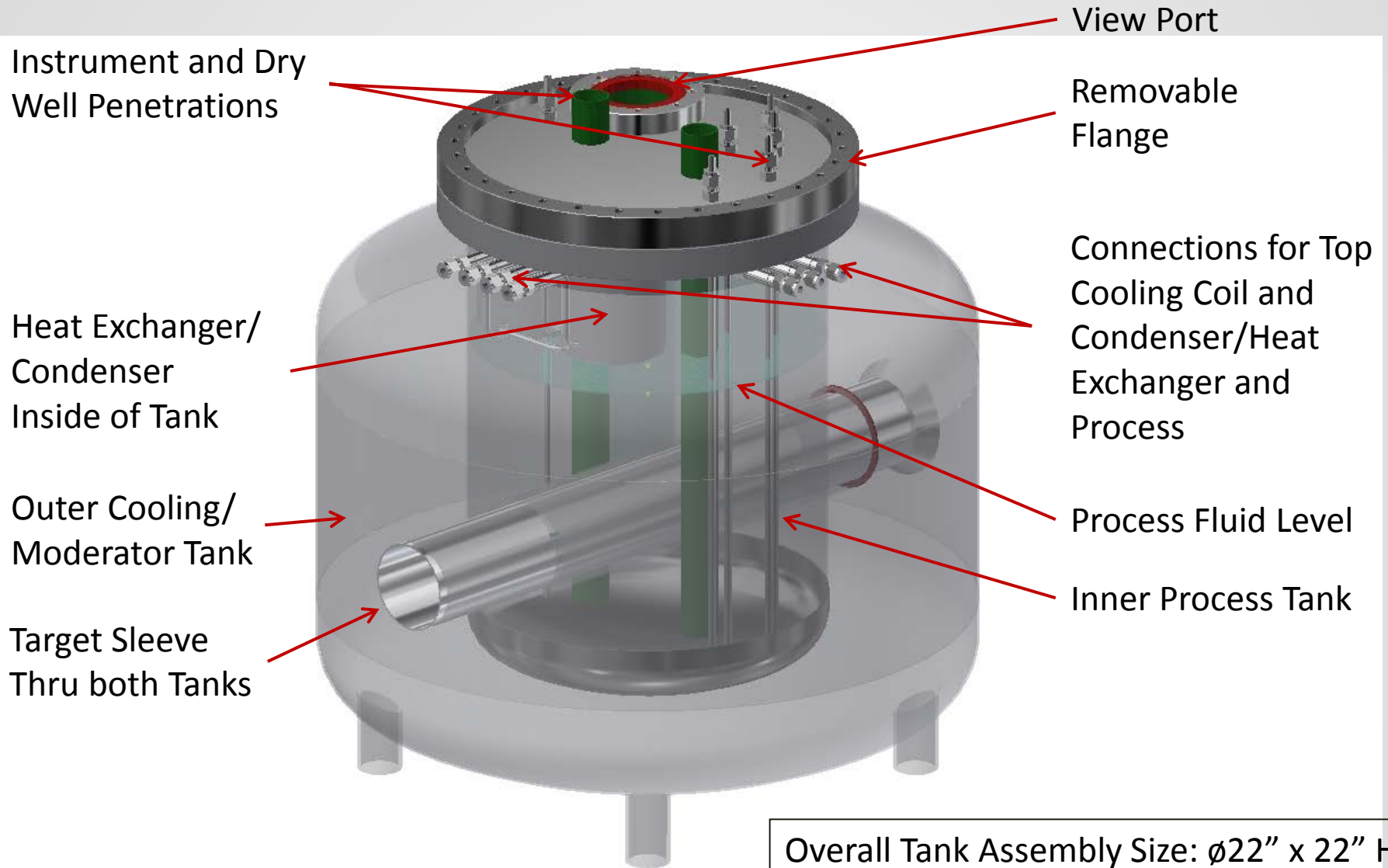


# DU TARGET DESIGN

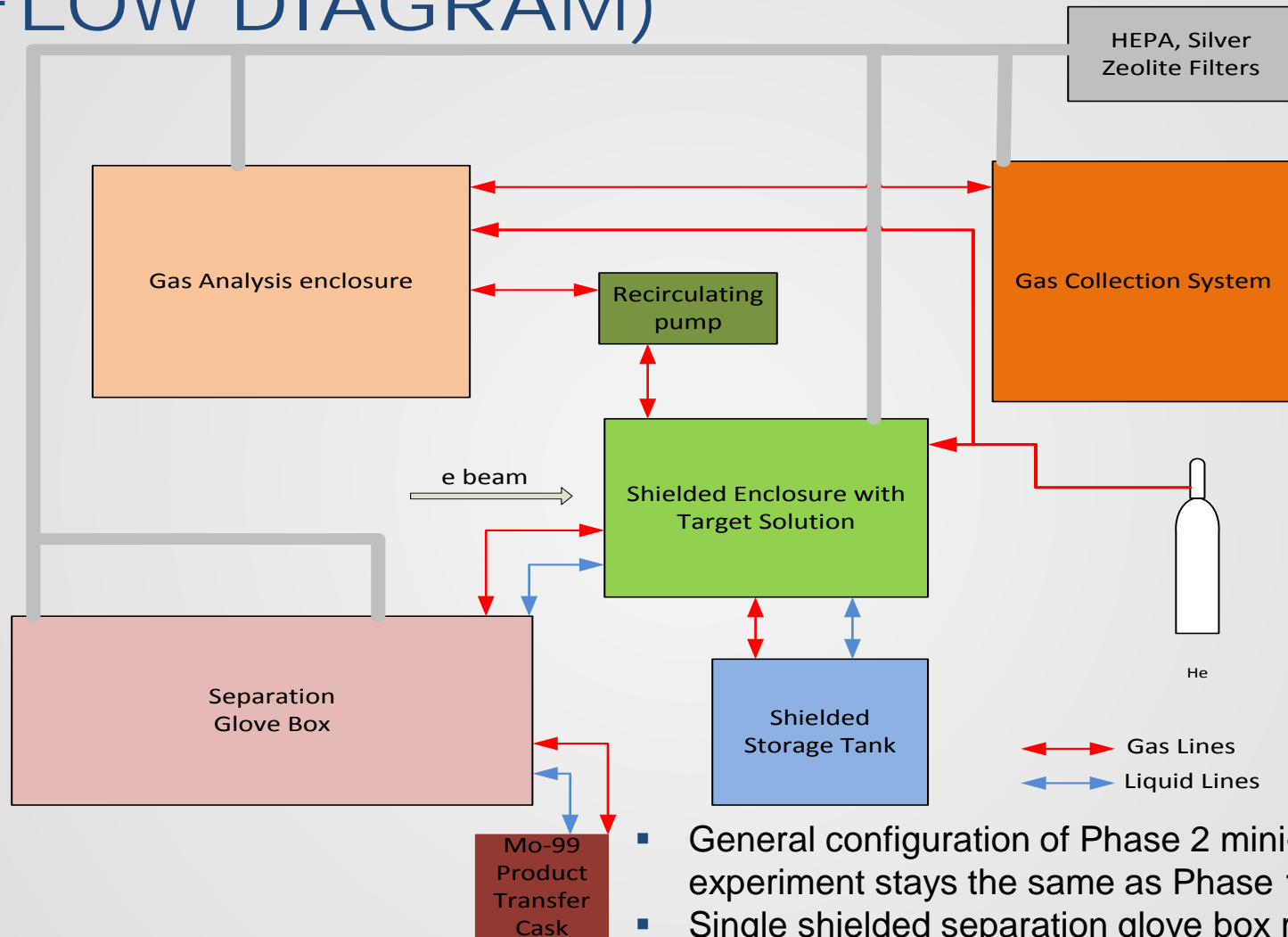




# OVERVIEW OF 20 L PROCESS TANK DESIGN



# MINI-SHINE PHASE 2 EXPERIMENT (FLOW DIAGRAM)



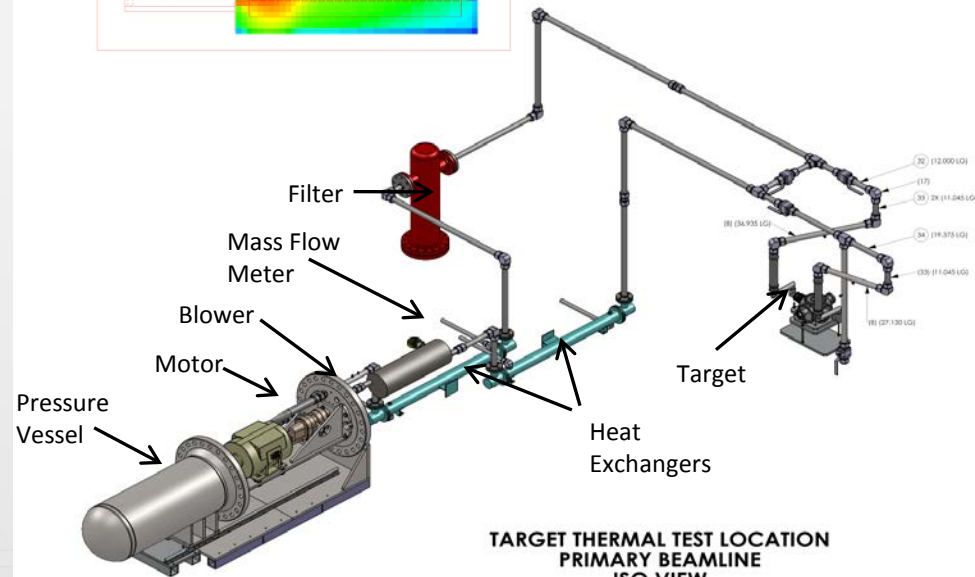
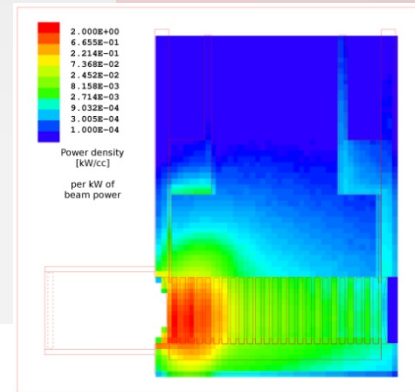
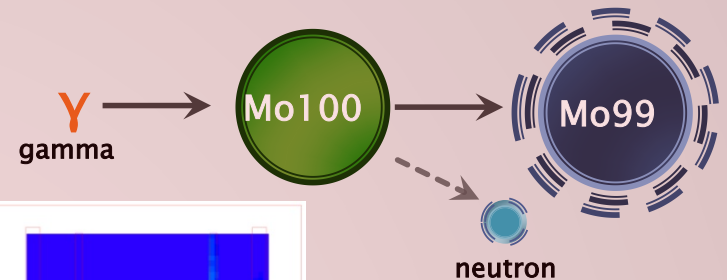
- General configuration of Phase 2 mini-SHINE experiment stays the same as Phase 1 experiment
- Single shielded separation glove box replaces two glove boxes used in Phase 1
- Relocation of equipment based on lessons learned from Phase 1



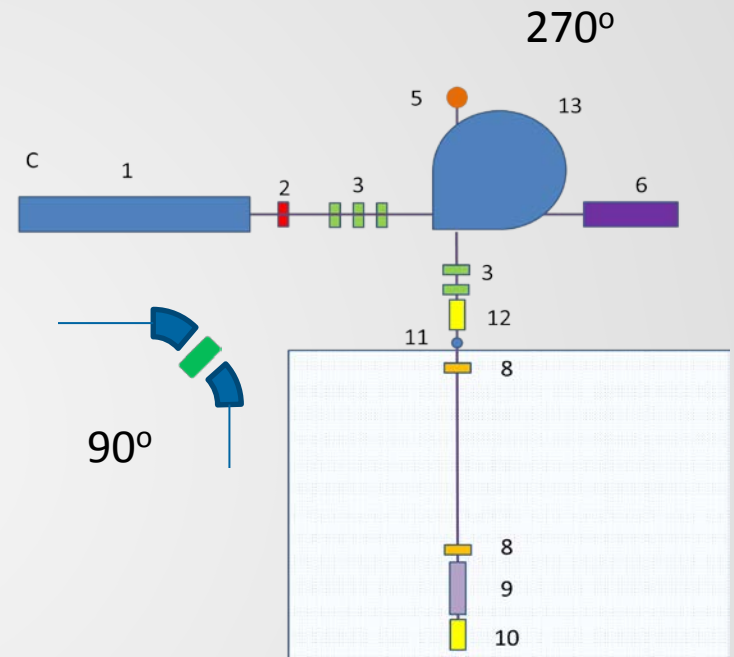
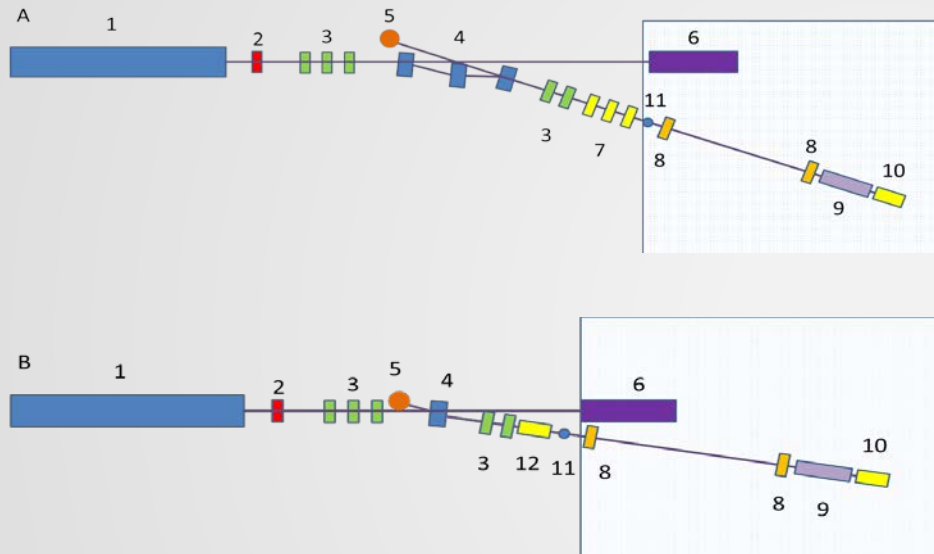
# SUPPORT FOR NORTHSTAR MEDICAL RADIOISOTOPES

- Major challenges
  - Efficient delivery of high power electron beam to the target
  - Stability of the beam position on the target
  - High power beam tune-up and diagnostic
  - Cooling of high power density target

## Accelerator production



# BEAM LINE CONFIGURATIONS FOR ACCELERATOR BASED PRODUCTION FACILITY

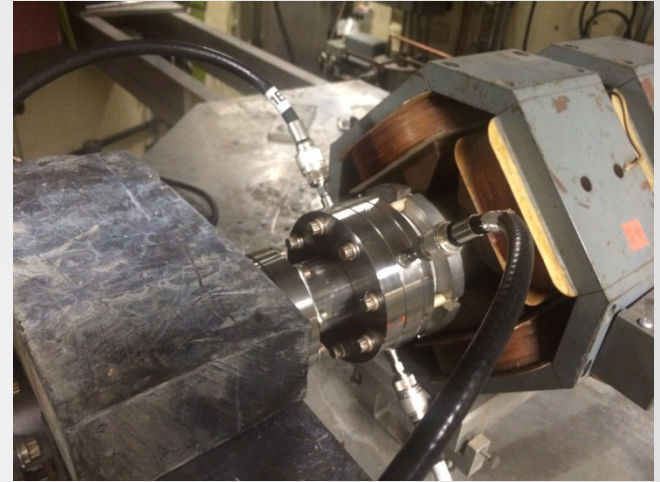


- Beam line elements: 1-linac, 2-fast acting gate valve, 3-quad magnets, 4-bending magnets, 5-OTR and IR cameras, 6-Beam stop, 7-non-linear beam optics, 8-beam position monitors, 9-collimator, 10-target, 11-gate valve vacuum sensor, 12-rastering magnet, 13-270° magnet



# BEAM LINE COMPONENTS DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING

- 20° two bend achromatic magnet system was designed and will be installed and tested in October 2016.
- Beam position monitors were installed and tested during multiple production runs. Software for control and data acquisition was developed.
- Performance of the fast acting beam valve system was evaluated in a facility relevant configuration.
- High power collimator and beam stop was designed and fabricated. Those components will be tested in September 2016.





# MATERIALS SELECTION FOR HIGH POWER TARGET

Material	Density (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Thermal Conductivity (W/m-°C)	Maximum Stress (MPa)	Minimum Window Thickness (mm)	Maximum Temperature (°C)	Figure of Merit (FOM)
INCONEL 718	8,221	17.3	456	1.15	403	1
Hastelloy X	8,221	26.0				*Disqualified
INCONEL 706	8,055	22.5	75	2.87	1,280	2.45
Waspaloy	8,193	17.3	357	1.30	481	1.13
Rene 41	8,249	17.3	507	1.09	388	0.96
L-605 Haynes Alloy 25	9,134	19.0				*Disqualified
316 SS	7,806	22.5				*Disqualified
250 Maraging Steel	7,916	29.4	706	0.93	269	0.78
AerMet 100	7,889	31.2	793	0.87	249	0.73
2024-T81 Aluminum	2,768	173.1				*Disqualified
6061-T6 Aluminum	2,713	173.1				*Disqualified
Titanium alloy AMS 4910	4,484	13.9	175	1.88	497	0.90
Beryllium Standard grade	1,855	138.5	147	1.96	131	0.39
Magnesium alloy	1,800	77.0				*Disqualified

$$FOM = \frac{\rho t}{\rho_I t_I}$$

$\rho$  = density of material to be evaluated

$t$  = minimum acceptable thickness of material to be evaluated

$\rho_I$  = density of INCONEL 718

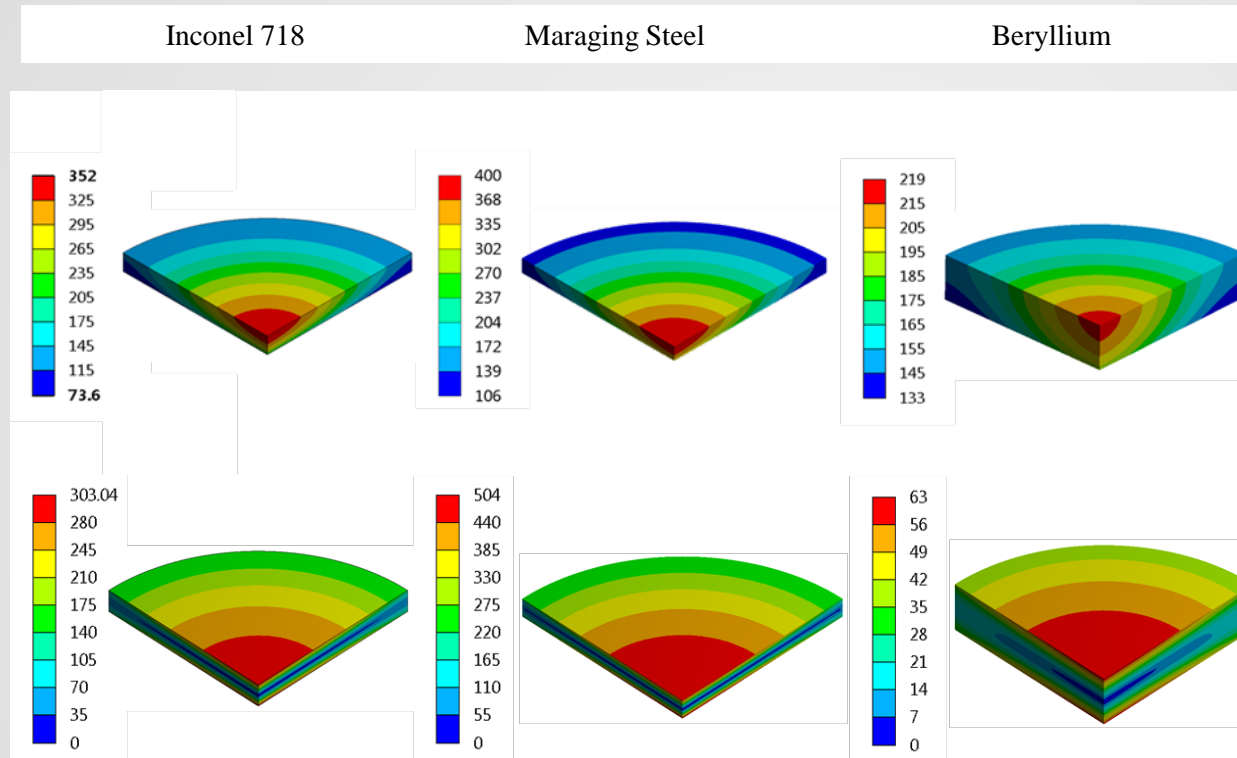
$t_I$  = minimum acceptable thickness of INCONEL 718

FOM = Factor of Merit





# FINAL MATERIAL CANDIDATES FOR TARGET WINDOW



- Results of the thermal modeling are shown here as plots of temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Stress due to pressure loading plotted as stress intensity in MPa

Material	Maximum Beam Power (kW)
Inconel 718	18
Beryllium	40
250 Maraging Steel	39

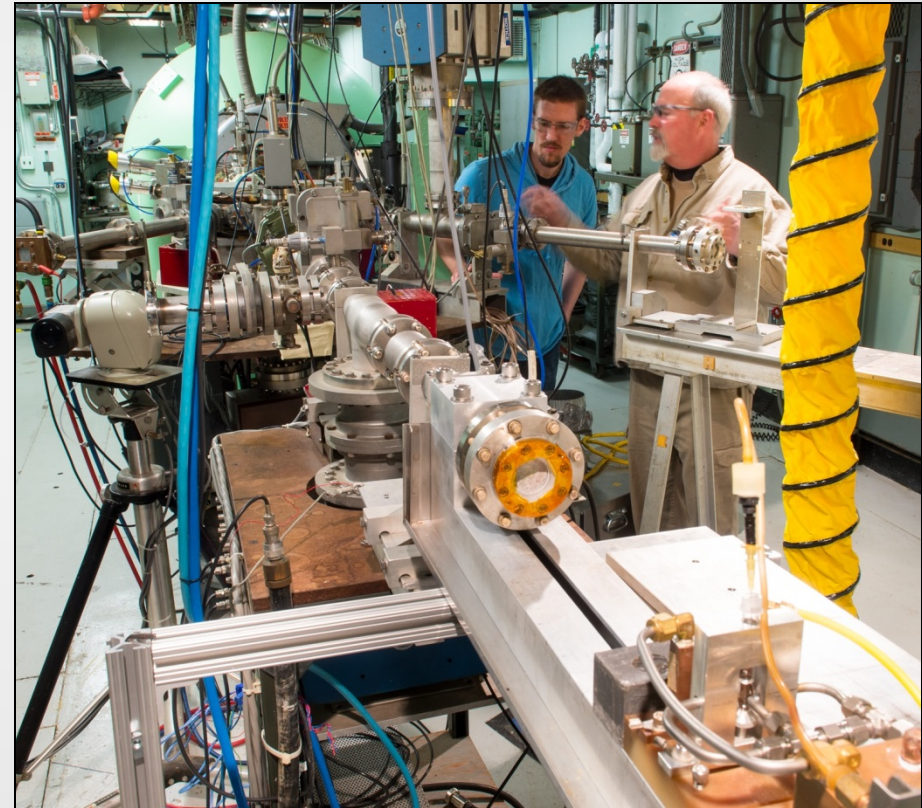
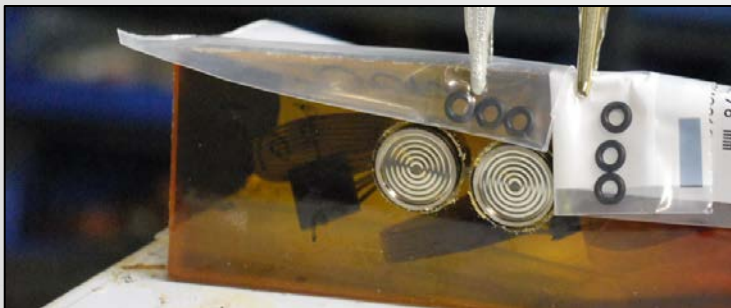


# VAN DE GRAAFF (VDG) ACCELERATOR

Testing of radiation stability of process equipment



- Radiation damage tests using the VDG
- Effects of photon radiation on HDPE bottles containing  $K_2MoO_4$  in 6 M KOH
- Zero to 6.5 MRad shown (up to twice calculated dose expected)
- Testing of RadioGenix generator components



# SUMMARY

- Scope of phase 1 mini-SHINE experiment was completed in January 2016.
- Gas generation rates were measured in phase 1 micro-SHINE experiments and results are in good agreement with literature data.
- Installation of phase 2 mini-SHINE equipment is nearly complete. Commissioning of the phase 2 mini-SHINE experimental setup will start in September 2016.
- Different configurations of the beam line were evaluated. 90° or 270° configuration is proposed for the production facility.
- Beam position monitors and the fast acting gate valve system were tested in plant relevant conditions.
- High power beam dump and collimator were designed and built and will be tested in September 2016.
- Components of the RadioGenix system were tested at Van de Graaff accelerator. Results of those tests are helping NorthStar in developing a more robust system and in the FDA approval process.



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