

**SAACKE**

# SAACKE

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## ***Alternative Fuel Firing - A Modern Approach***

*Moving beyond a heuristic approach - exploring how innovative modelling, research, and real-world experience are redefining the safe and efficient use of alternative fuels on the path to Net Zero.*

# Agenda

1. Fuels We Have Fired
2. Bio Oil Firing - A More Common Approach
3. A Different Approach
4. Alternative Gas Firing
5. Feasibility Study - UK
6. Proven Technology - The Switch to Hydrogen Fuel

*Moving beyond a heuristic approach - exploring how innovative modelling, research, and real-world experience are redefining the safe and efficient use of alternative fuels on the path to Net Zero.*

# Alternative Fuels

*What have we fired?*



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- ⊙ Anthracite Dust
- ⊙ Bioethanol
- ⊙ Bio Gas
- ⊙ Blast Furnace Gas
- ⊙ Carbonisation Gas
- ⊙ CO Gas
- ⊙ Coke Oven Gas
- ⊙ Converter Gas
- ⊙ Corex Gas
- ⊙ Diesel
- ⊙ Ethanol
- ⊙ FAME
- ⊙ Furnace Gas
- ⊙ Generator Gas
- ⊙ Glycerol
- ⊙ Heavy Fuel Oil
- ⊙ Hydrotreated Veg Oil
- ⊙ Kerosene
- ⊙ Landfill Gas
- ⊙ Lignite Dust
- ⊙ LPG
- ⊙ Medium Fuel Oil
- ⊙ Molasses
- ⊙ Naphtha
- ⊙ Natural Gas
- ⊙ Petroleum Coke Dust
- ⊙ Process Gas
- ⊙ Pyrolysis Oil
- ⊙ Rapeseed Oil
- ⊙ Refinery Gas
- ⊙ Saw Dust
- ⊙ Sewage Gas
- ⊙ Solvent
- ⊙ Sulphur
- ⊙ Tallow
- ⊙ Vent Gas
- ⊙ Vinasse
- ⊙ Waste Water Treatment Gas
- ⊙ etc. etc. etc.....

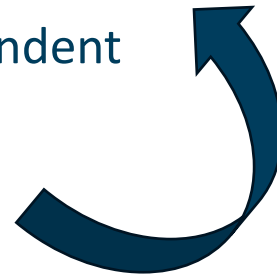
# Bio Oil Firing

## Sample Analysis/Sample Firing



### Before we look at firing a fuel:

- ⦿ Research the fuel.
- ⦿ Have we any experience with this or a similar fuel?
- ⦿ Obtain a small sample of fuel for independent analysis.
- ⦿ Compare the analysis with known fuels.
- ⦿ Prepare a report on the findings.
- ⦿ This maybe the end of the process for some customers.



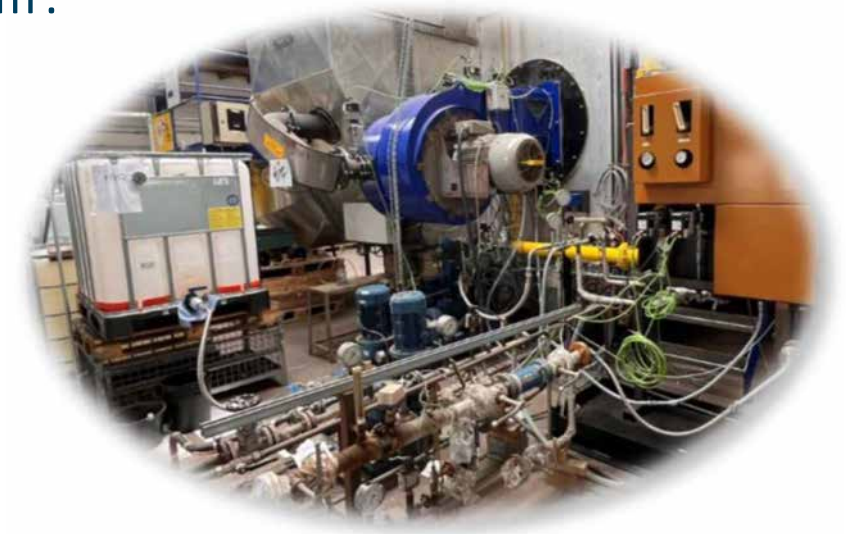
# Bio Oil Firing

## *Sample Analysis/Sample Firing*



### Following research and analysis:

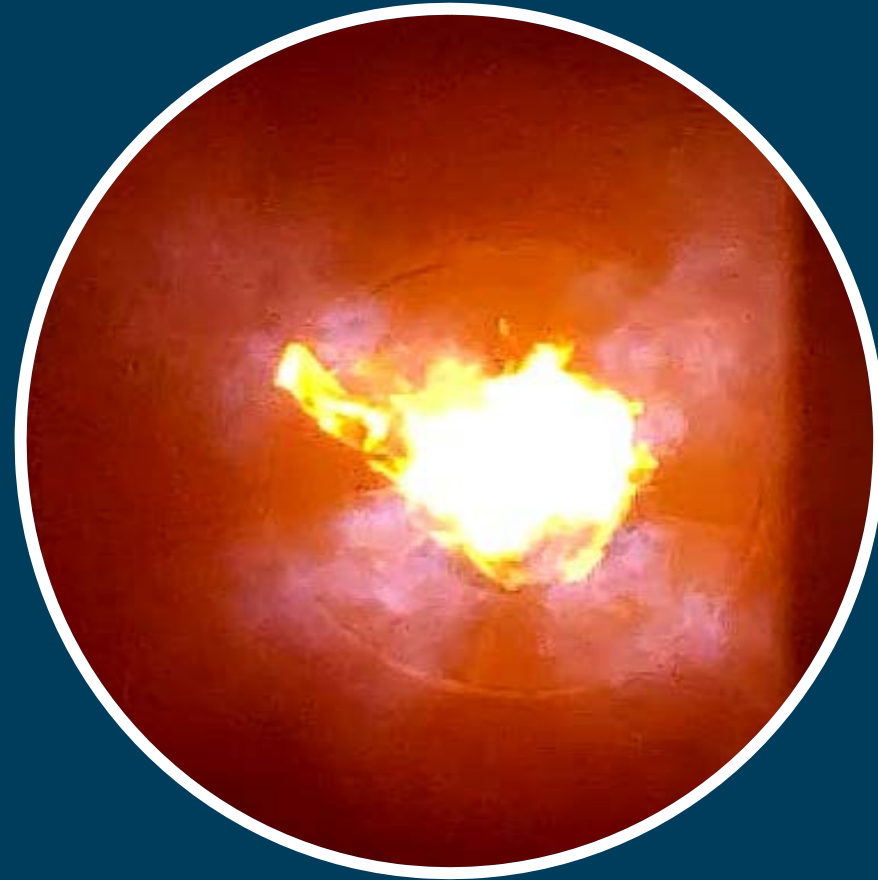
- ⌚ Larger sample obtained for test firing in the SAACKE 'Technikum'.
- ⌚ Selection of boiler types available.
  - ⌚ Shell
  - ⌚ Water tube
- ⌚ Selection of burner types available.
  - ⌚ Rotary Cup
  - ⌚ Pressure Jet
  - ⌚ Atomised (either steam or air)
- ⌚ Test fuel at various temperatures and pressures.
- ⌚ Compare results with known fuels.
- ⌚ This may also be the end of the process for some customers.



# Bio Oil Firing

Test Firing

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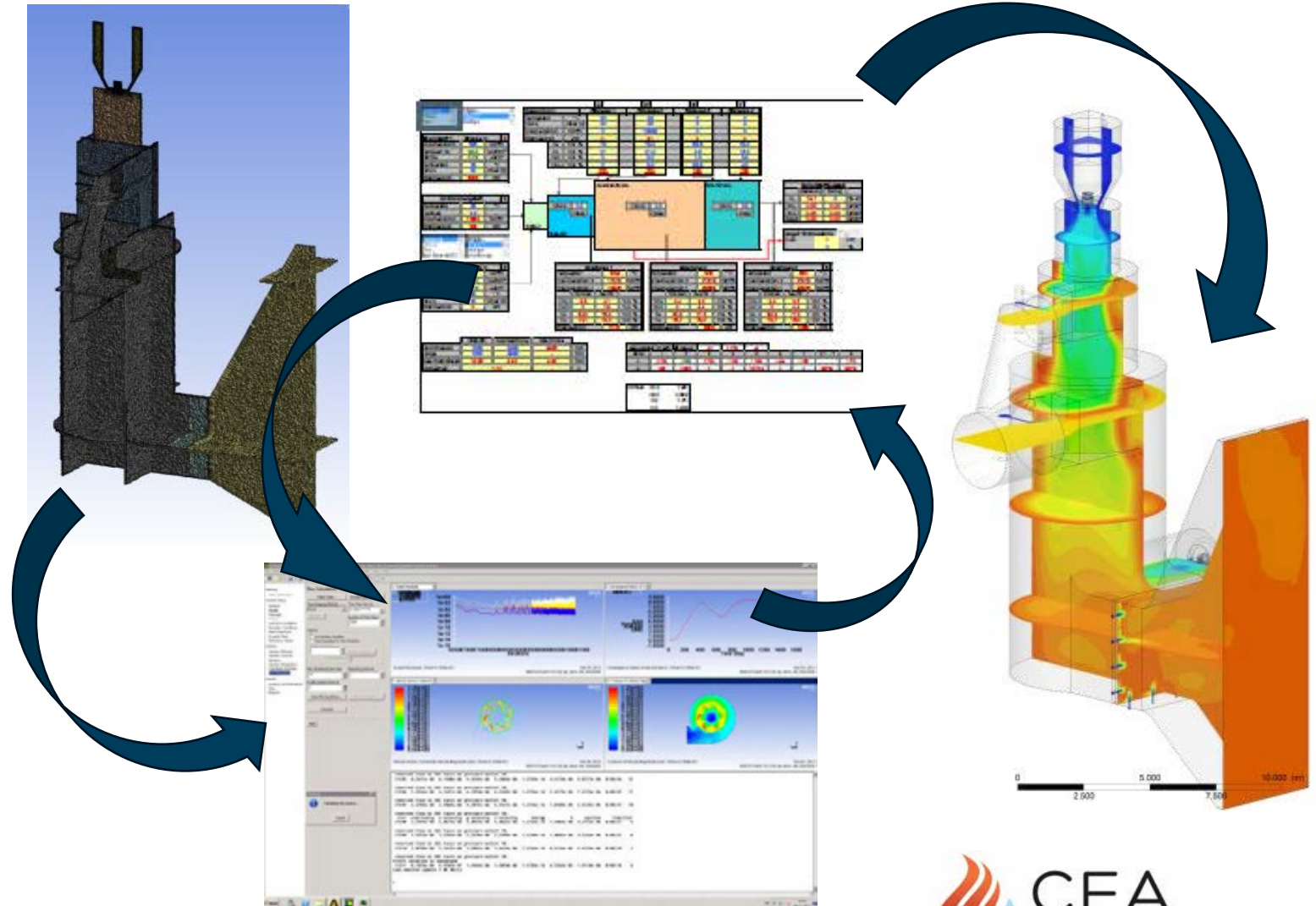


# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## *CFD modelling*

### Actual set up:

- ⦿ Geometry, Boundary Limits, Mesh model
- ⦿ Combustion Model Setup and Processing
- ⦿ Validation and check
- ⦿ Revalidation
- ⦿ Interpretation of Results



# Computational Fluid Dynamics

*CFD require Computing Power!*

**SAACKE**



## CFD needs High Performance Computing

- ④ ANSYS Fluent (Software)
- ④ Computing cluster with:
  - ④ 288 processor cores
  - ④ 36 racks
  - ④ 1.5 TB RAM
  - ④ 160 TB HDD

**>10 Years of experience with CFD**

**>100 Years combustion experience**



# Computational Fluid Dynamics

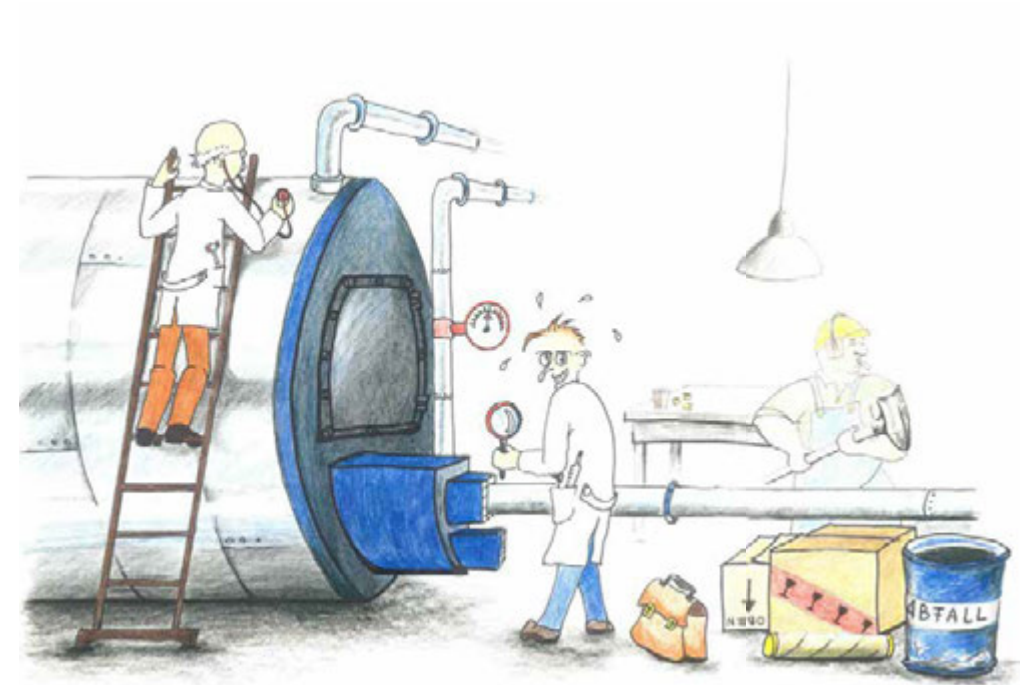
*CFD requires Computing Power!*

**SAACKE**



## How does CFD help?

- ① Theoretical testing before arriving on site.
- ① Reduced risk:
  - ① Lower down time
  - ① Forecasting issues
  - ① Predicting adjustments
  - ① Know what to expect
- ① Predicted limitations of operation.
- ① Known commissioning process.
- ① Operators shown the modelling will know what to expect.



# Bio Oil Firing

## On-Site Firing



*SAACKE SSB Burner on site*

*Flame seen on site*



- ⦿ Actual on-site testing.
- ⦿ Proving the research.
- ⦿ On-Site Support for Bio Oil firing, was included.
- ⦿ Commissioning or reset. combustion if required.
- ⦿ **Results were as predicted.**
- ⦿ The burners continues to run smoothly.

# Bio Oil Firing

## *Possible difficulties with some Bio Oils*

### Bio Oil problems:

- ⌚ Unwanted content
- ⌚ Acidic abrasive liquid
- ⌚ Fuel handling
- ⌚ Atomising temperature
- ⌚ Pump pressure
- ⌚ Variable quality

### Other issues:

- ⌚ Fuel handling prior to combustion
- ⌚ May cause excessive fouling of the boiler

### SAACKE answer:

- ⌚ Correct level of filtration
- ⌚ Stainless steel components
- ⌚ Correct equipment selection:
  - ⌚ Low temperature for rotary atomiser
  - ⌚ Low pressure for rotary atomiser
- ⌚ O2 trim



*Residue from Glycerol firing*



# Bio Oil Firing

## Summary

### Using liquid Biofuels in industrial firing plants

- ⌚ Requires taking **specific properties** into consideration.
- ⌚ Places high demands on:
  - ⌚ The burner and plant engineering
  - ⌚ The storage facilities
  - ⌚ Control of the combustion process  
*(these all require careful planning!)*
- ⌚ May help with Net Zero targets.
- ⌚ It may be **inexpensive or free** but consider other costs.
- ⌚ Combustion requires **well proven** technology.
- ⌚ **Matching** the burner to the **fuel** is essential.



# Bio Oil Firing

*Where heat potential has been realised*

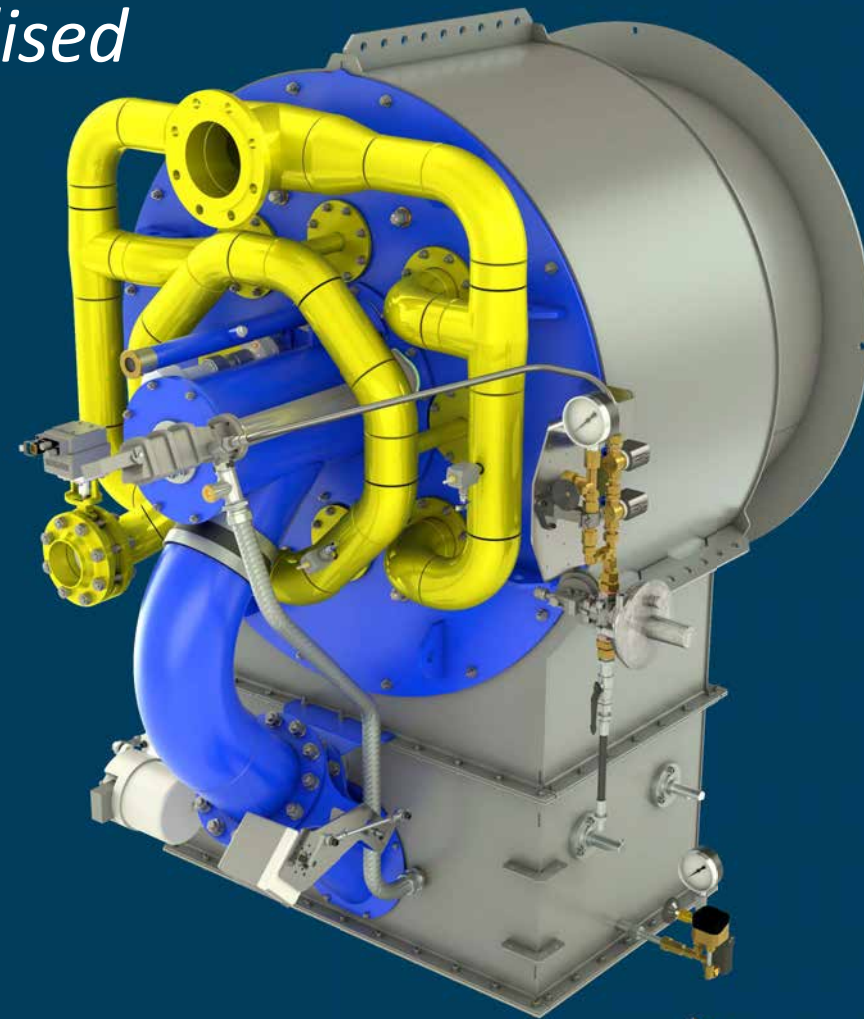
- ③ Ethanol
- ③ FAME
- ③ Glycerol
- ③ Rape oil
- ③ Tallow



# Bio Oil Firing

*Where heat potential has been realised*

- ⤵ Ethanol
- ⤵ Rapeseed Oil
- ⤵ Molasses
- ⤵ Naphtha
- ⤵ Vinasse

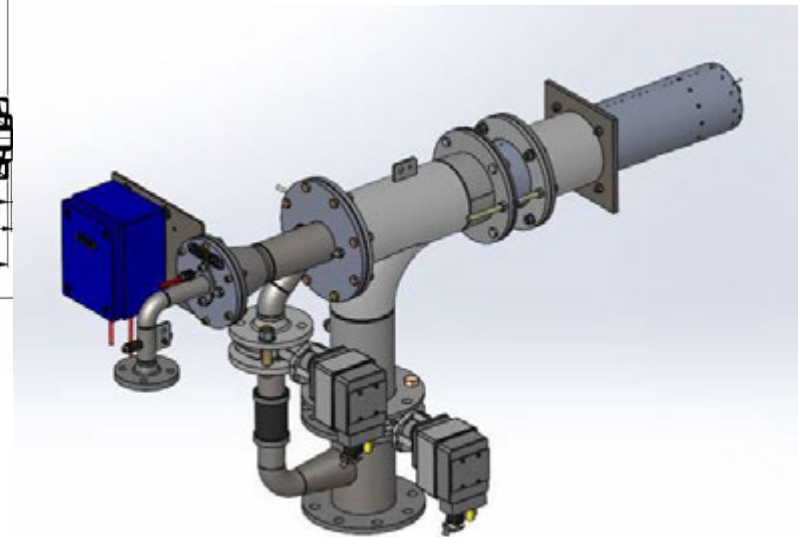
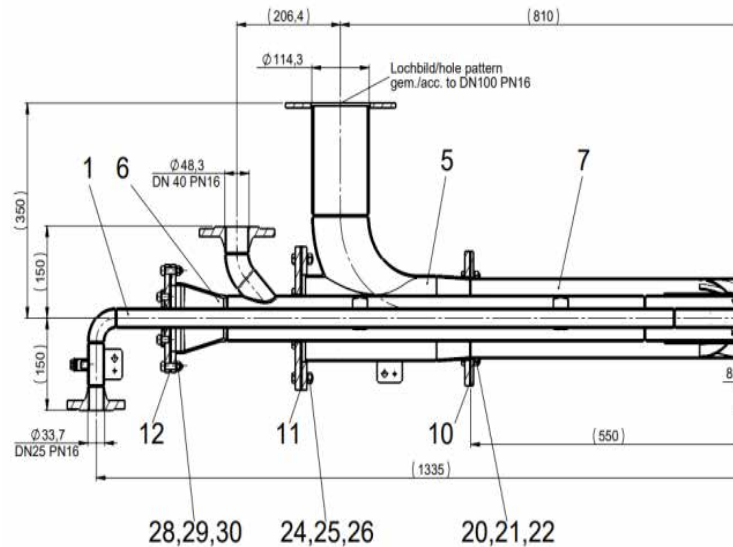


# Alternative Gas Firing

## Project Development

### Car manufacturer (Germany)

- ⦿ CO2-free car production at the plant by 2025
- ⦿ Installed thermal output in production > 40 MW
- ⦿ Conversion from natural gas to pure hydrogen

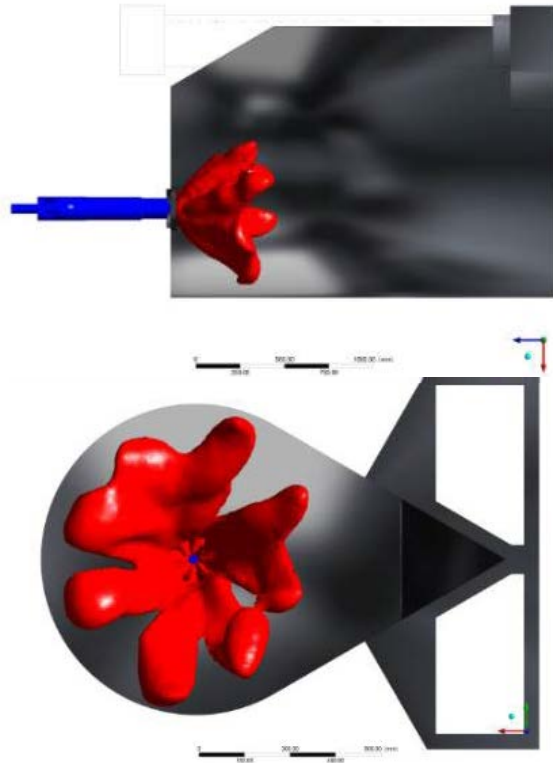


## Project Structure



# Alternative Gas Firing

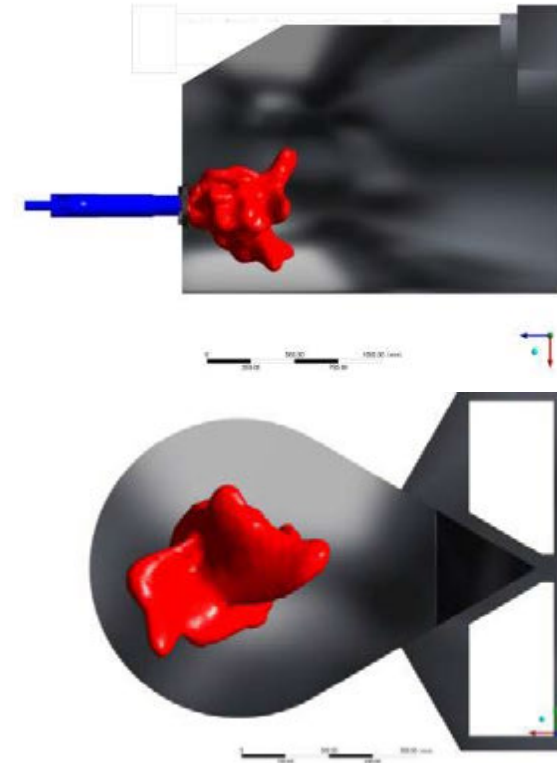
## *CFD Modelling of New Burner*



*CFD flame shape  
for Natural Gas*

### Phase 1 – Engineering

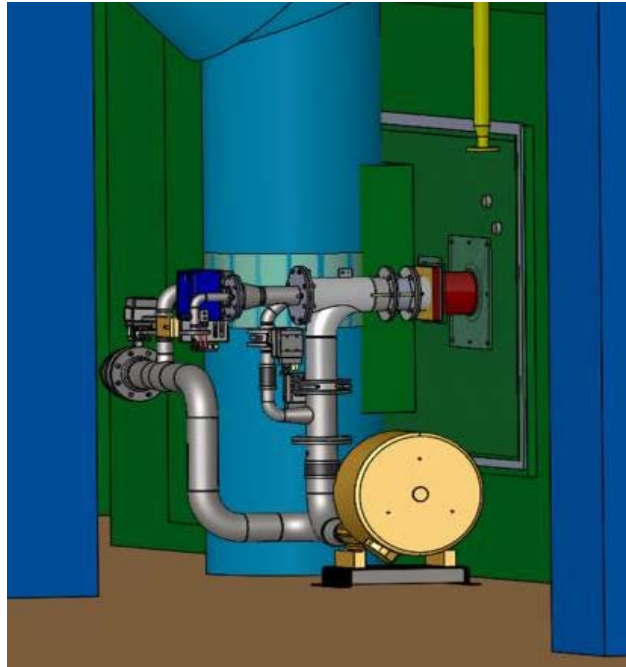
- ⌚ Simulation paint dryer, 250/500 kW new burners.
- ⌚ CFD comparison flame shape for natural gas /H2.
- ⌚ CFD comparison temperature profile for natural gas /H2.
- ⌚ Is the correct heat where it is needed?



*CFD flame shape  
for H2*

# Alternative Gas Firing

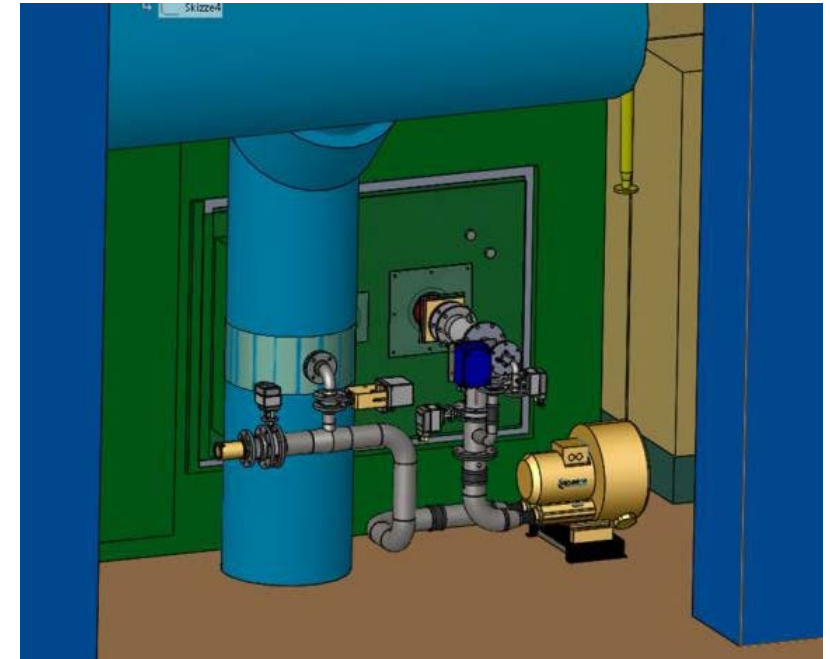
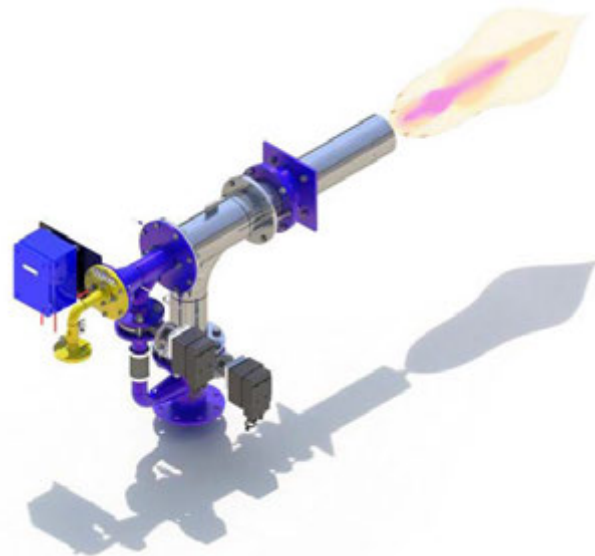
## Prototyping



*Prototype Designs*

### Phase 2 - Prototyping

- ⌚ Following CFD Modelling
- ⌚ Test of two prototypes on the paint dryer
- ⌚ Firing capacity of 250 kW and 500 kW



# Alternative Gas Firing

## *Further Testing*

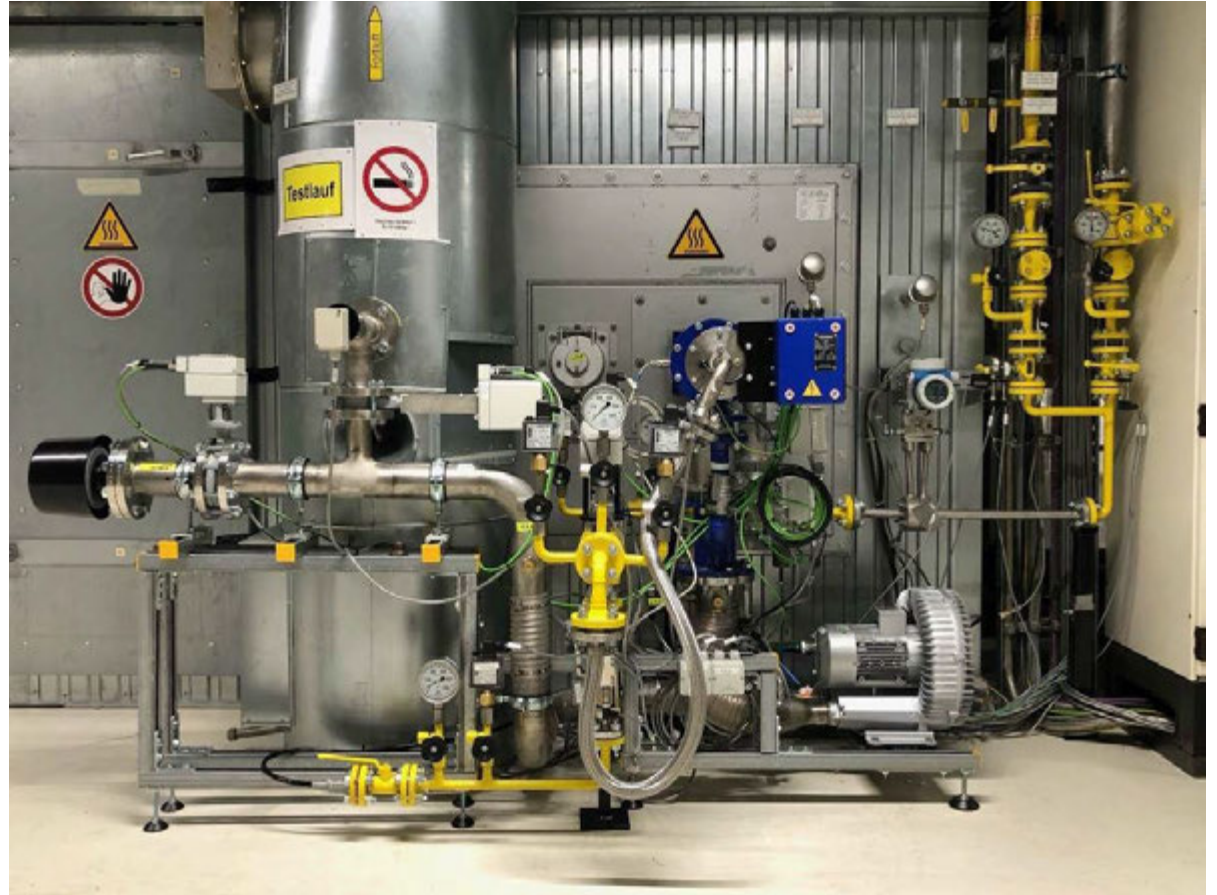


### Concept

- ⦿ Common gas line, at the burner
- ⦿ No separate gas lance
- ⦿ Flue gas recirculation via the combustion air fan → Only **low** flue gas recirculation required

### Result

The tests were **successfully** completed!



*Concept of New Burner in place*

# Alternative Gas Firing

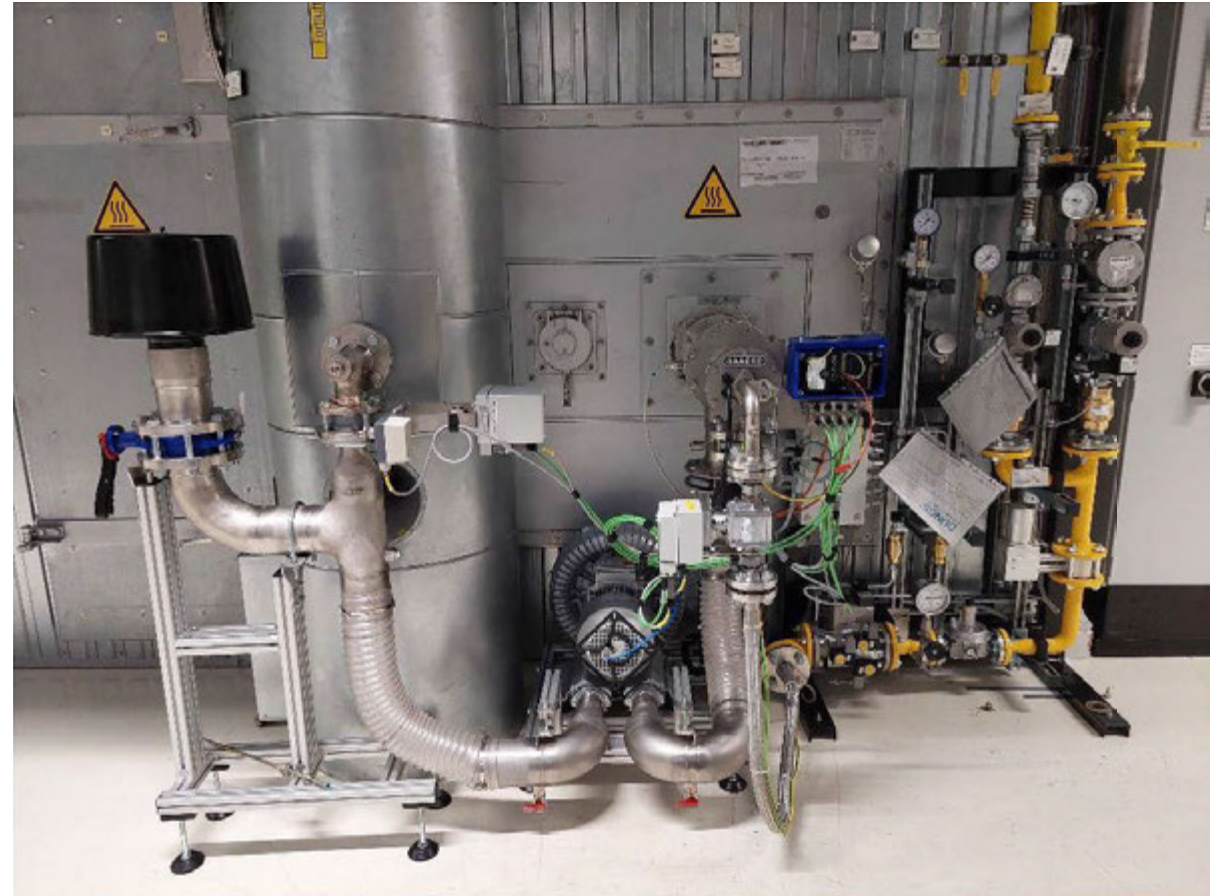
## Moving Forward



### Phase 3 – Piloting

- ⌚ Initial installation of 5 pilot burners on a paint drying line
- ⌚ Firing capacity of 250 kW and 500 kW
- ⌚ Installation of a further 6 burners, with a firing capacity from 250 - 600 kW

All burners now successfully operating on Hydrogen



*New Burner in place*

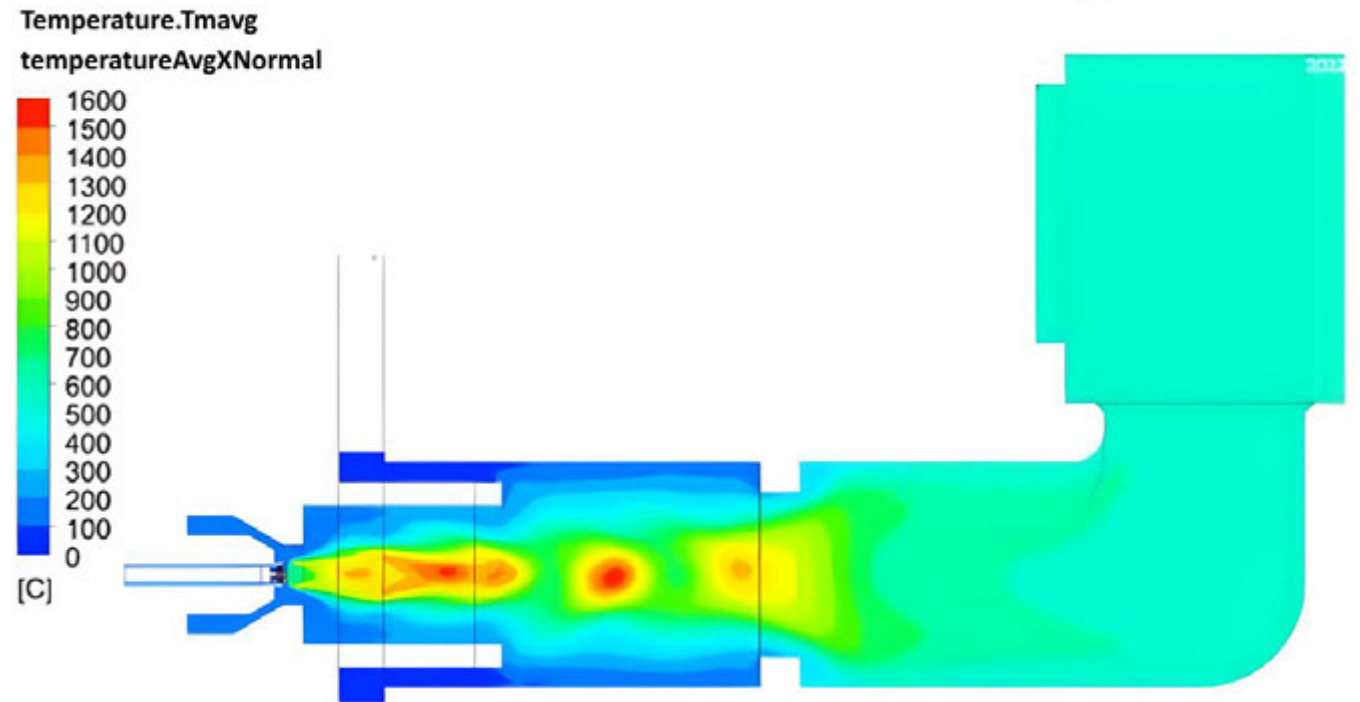
# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## Feasibility Study - UK

### Early-Stage Study

- ① Large food manufacturer in the UK
- ① Looking at Carbon Reduction/H2 firing
- ① Currently firing Natural Gas
- ① Indirect heating - for drying and frying processes
- ① High CO produced
- ① Little control of flame shape
- ① Often seeing damage down stream in the system

### Model burner with natural gas



Temperature distribution on Existing Burner

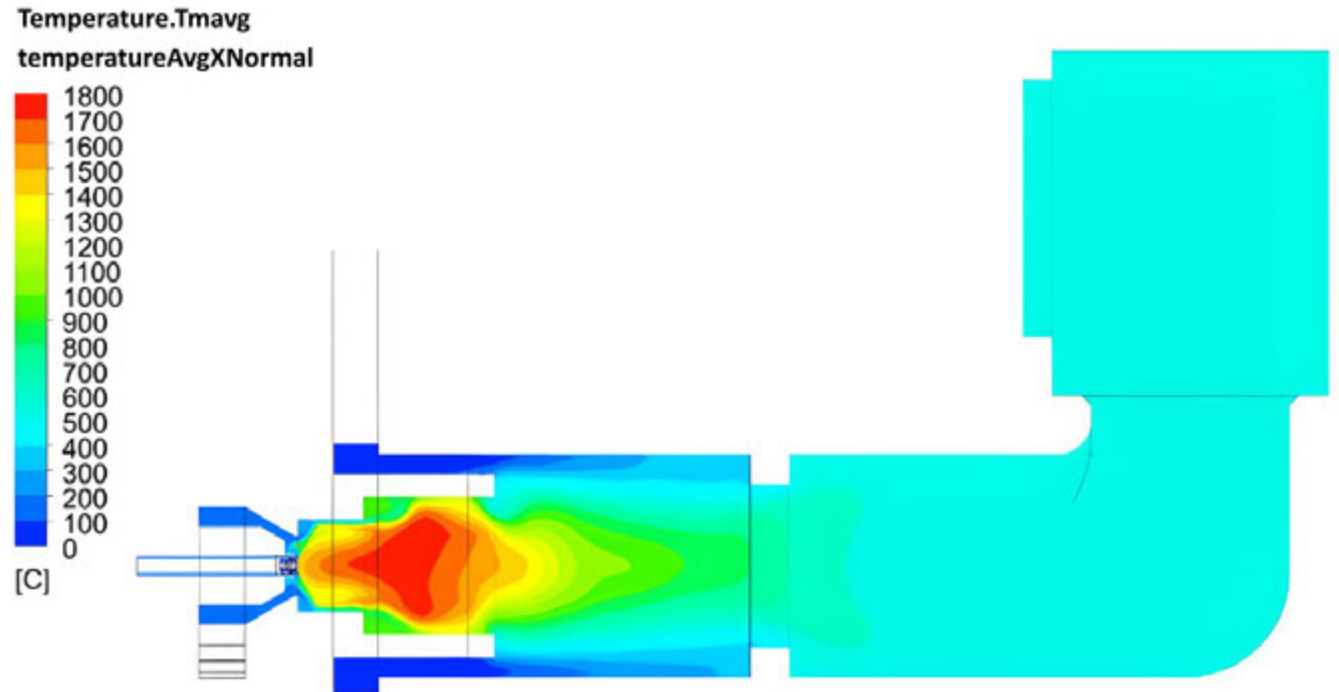
# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## Feasibility Study - UK

### Where next?

- ① *What would the SAACKE option look like?*
- ① *How will the new flame shape react?*
- ① *What is the temperature profile?*
- ① *Will this help with existing issues, damage/high CO?*
- ① *Will the new shape cause other issues?*

### Process burner with natural gas



*Temperature distribution new burner- natural gas*

# Computational Fluid Dynamics

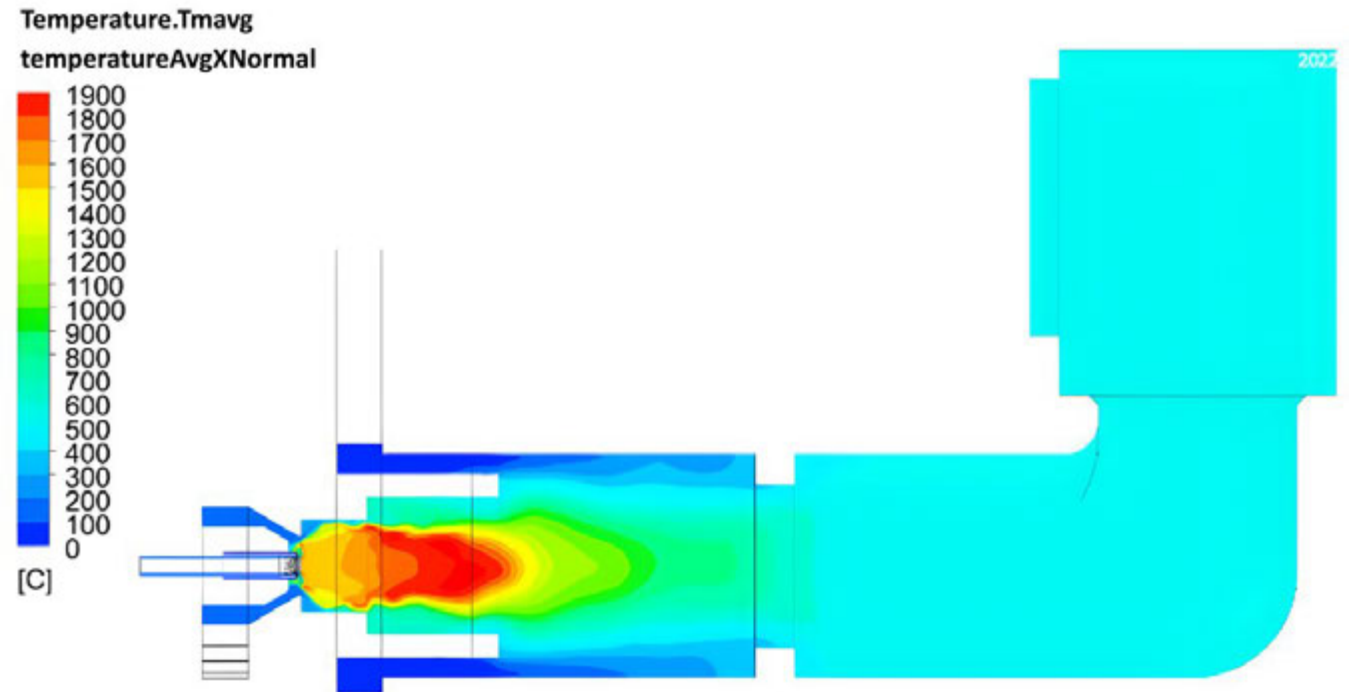
## Feasibility Study - UK

### Where next?

- ① What about an Alternative Fuel (H<sub>2</sub>)?
- ① Do we predict any adverse effects?
- ① What is the expected flame shape?
- ① Do we still get the required Heat transfer?

*The future is to test this theory on a real plant, with the confidence gained through modelling.*

## Process burner with hydrogen



*Temperature distribution new burner - hydrogen*

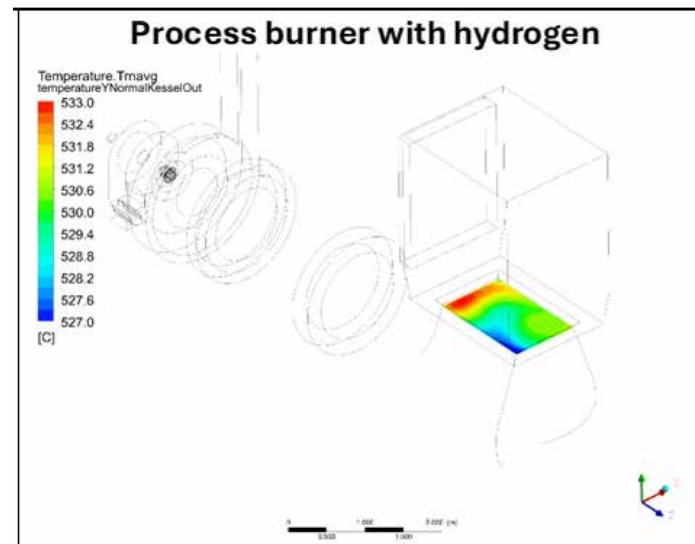
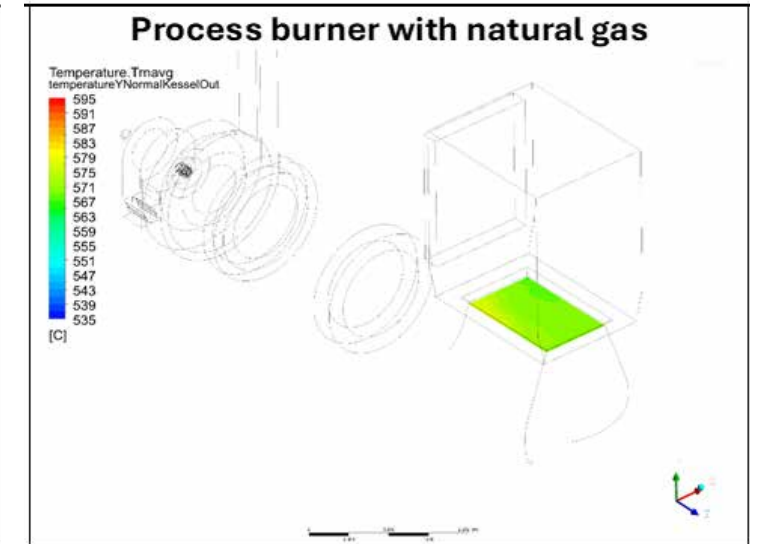
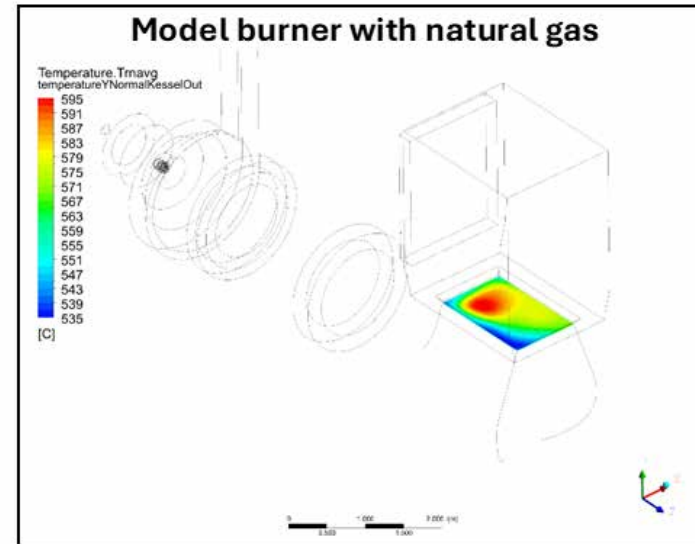
# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## Feasibility Study - UK



### Where next?

- ① *Checking heat profile  
Combustions Chamber outlet*
- ① *New burner provides a more  
even temperature profile*
- ① *Even with Hydrogen - the profile,  
although different, is relatively  
even.*



*Cross-sectional  
temperature profiles*

# Alternative Gas Firing

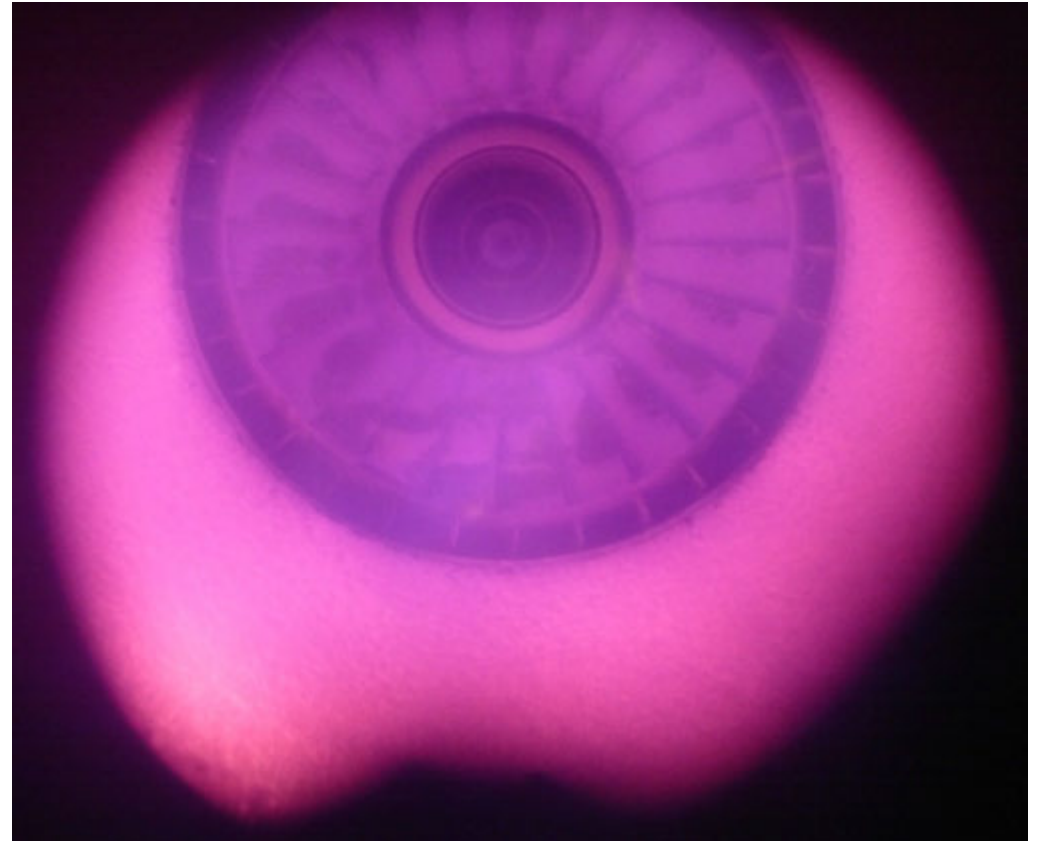
## Next Steps



### Why does this success matter?

- ① Being able to checkout the theory in a computer programme, reduces risk.
- ② Confidence in moving forward safely and efficiently.
- ③ Where can this be taken?

This success is not just for SAACKE, and not just for the customer, but a **big leap forward for the approach to firing Alternative Fuels.**

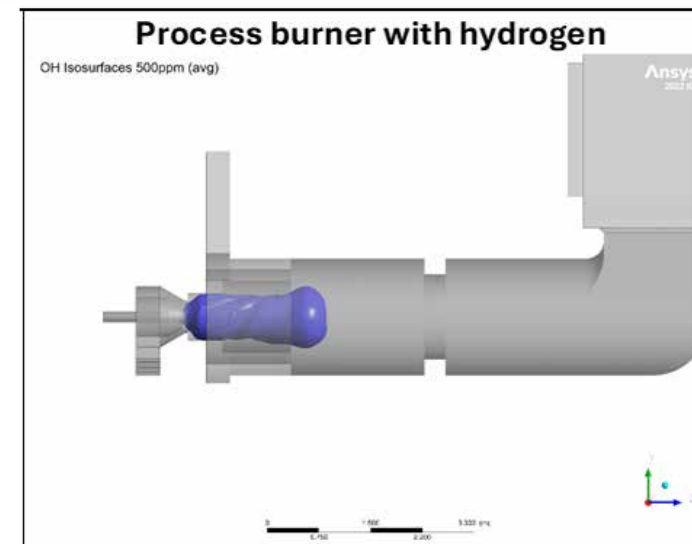
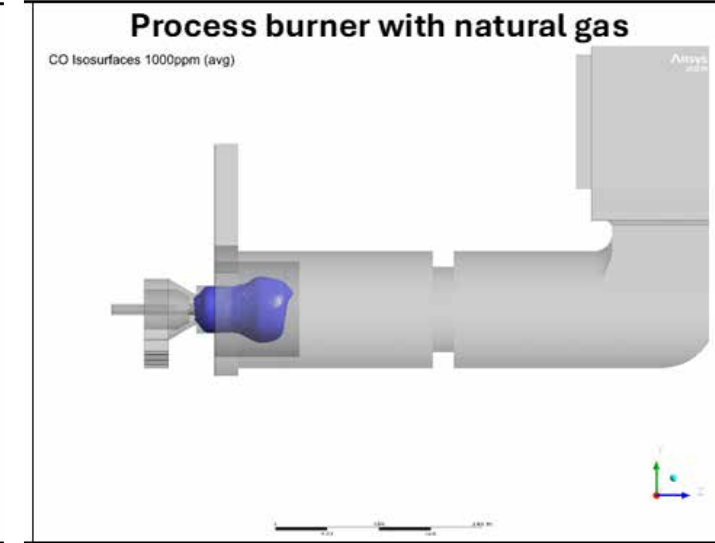
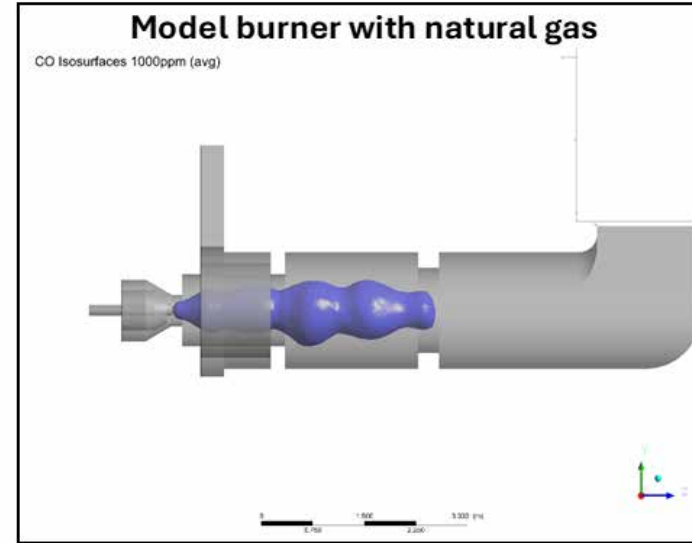


# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## Feasibility Study - UK

### **What does this show us?**

- ⌚ Longer flame in the existing burner
- ⌚ Excellent mixing of air and flue gases with the new burner
- ⌚ Fast and efficient mixing in the combustion chamber with the new burner
- ⌚ Short and compact combustion in the new burner
- ⌚ It is technically possible to burn 100% H<sub>2</sub> with the new burner.
- ⌚ Higher temperatures in H<sub>2</sub> operation
- ⌚ **The process burner together with the chamber is an ideal combination**



*3D flame shapes –  
vertical section*

# Biogas Firing

*Where heat potential has been realised*

- ① Biogas
- ① Coke oven Gas
- ① Converter Gas
- ① Landfill Gas
- ① Waste Water Treatment Gas



# Biogas Firing

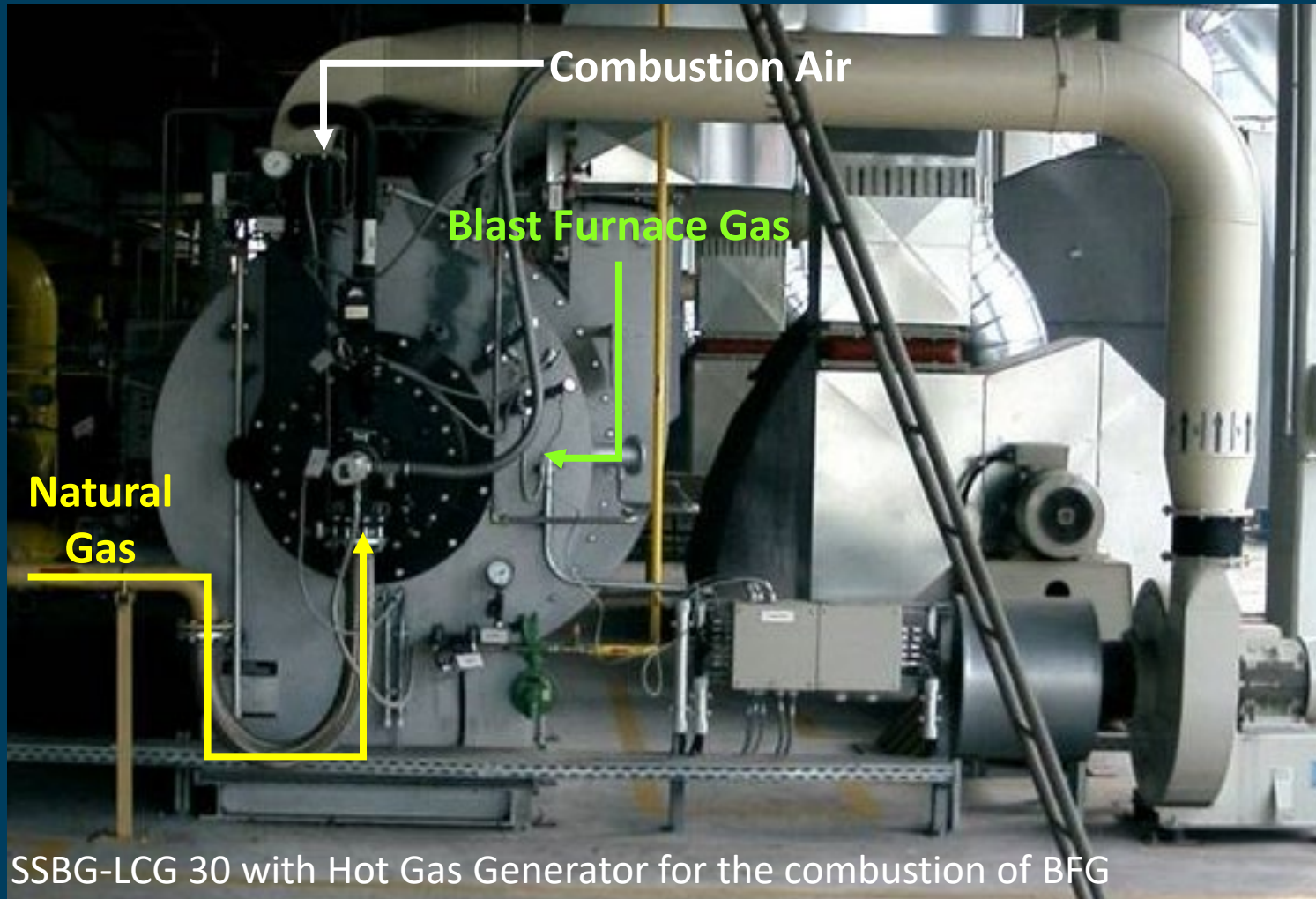
*Where heat potential has been realised*

- ④ Blast furnace gas
- ④ Carbonisation gas
- ④ CO gas
- ④ Corex gas



# Biogas Firing

*Where heat potential has been realised*



Hot Gas Generator (HGG)  
EKO Stahl Eisenhüttenstadt  
(Arcelor Group)

SSBG-LCG 30 with Hot Gas Generator for the combustion of BFG

# Biogas Firing

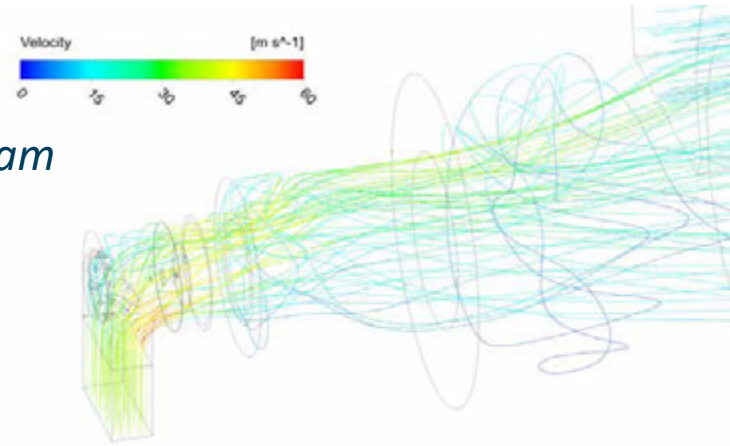
*Where heat potential has been realised*



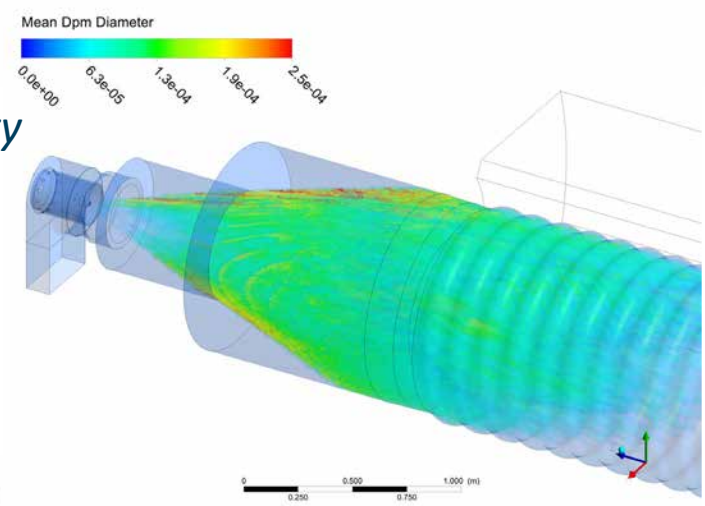
# Alternative Fuels Firing

## Other CFD Models – Oil Firing

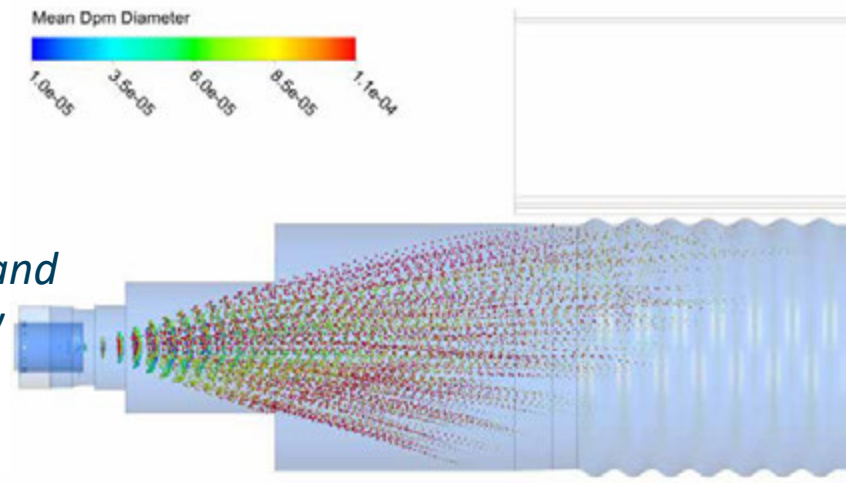
Velocity Diagram



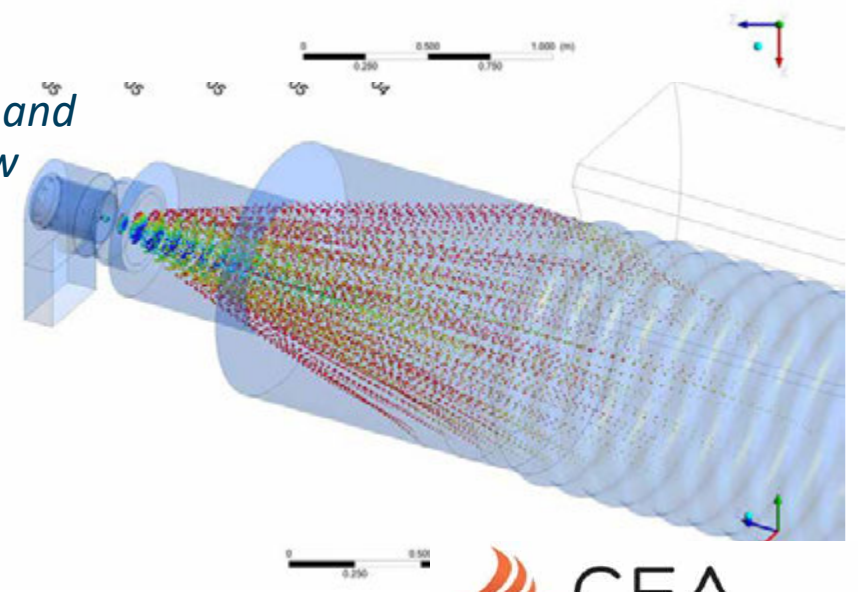
Particle Velocity Diagram



Particle Diameter and flow – plan view



Particle Diameter and flow – side view



# Alternative Fuels Firing

## With a Different Approach

- ③ *Alternative Fuels must be part of the Net Zero make-up*
- ③ *Analysis and research are essential*
- ③ *Industry wide trial and error should be a thing of the past*
- ③ *Modelling and simulation have their place*
- ③ *Confidence in ensuring safe, complete and efficient combustion*
- ③ *Technology and experience combined are invaluable*
- ③ ***This room and the CEA are full of experts, talk to us!***

# OMBUSTION

## BY SAACKE

We are taking the  out|



# Alternative Fuels

*100% Natural Gas to 100% Hydrogen*

SAACKE



**SAACKE SSB Burner**  
**Fuel Switch from Natural Gas to 100 % Hydrogen**

**SAACKE**

# Thank you for your attention.

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