



GAS TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

# Effective Deployment of Biomass Energy Technologies – Process Demonstration and Process Intensification

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In the last decade:

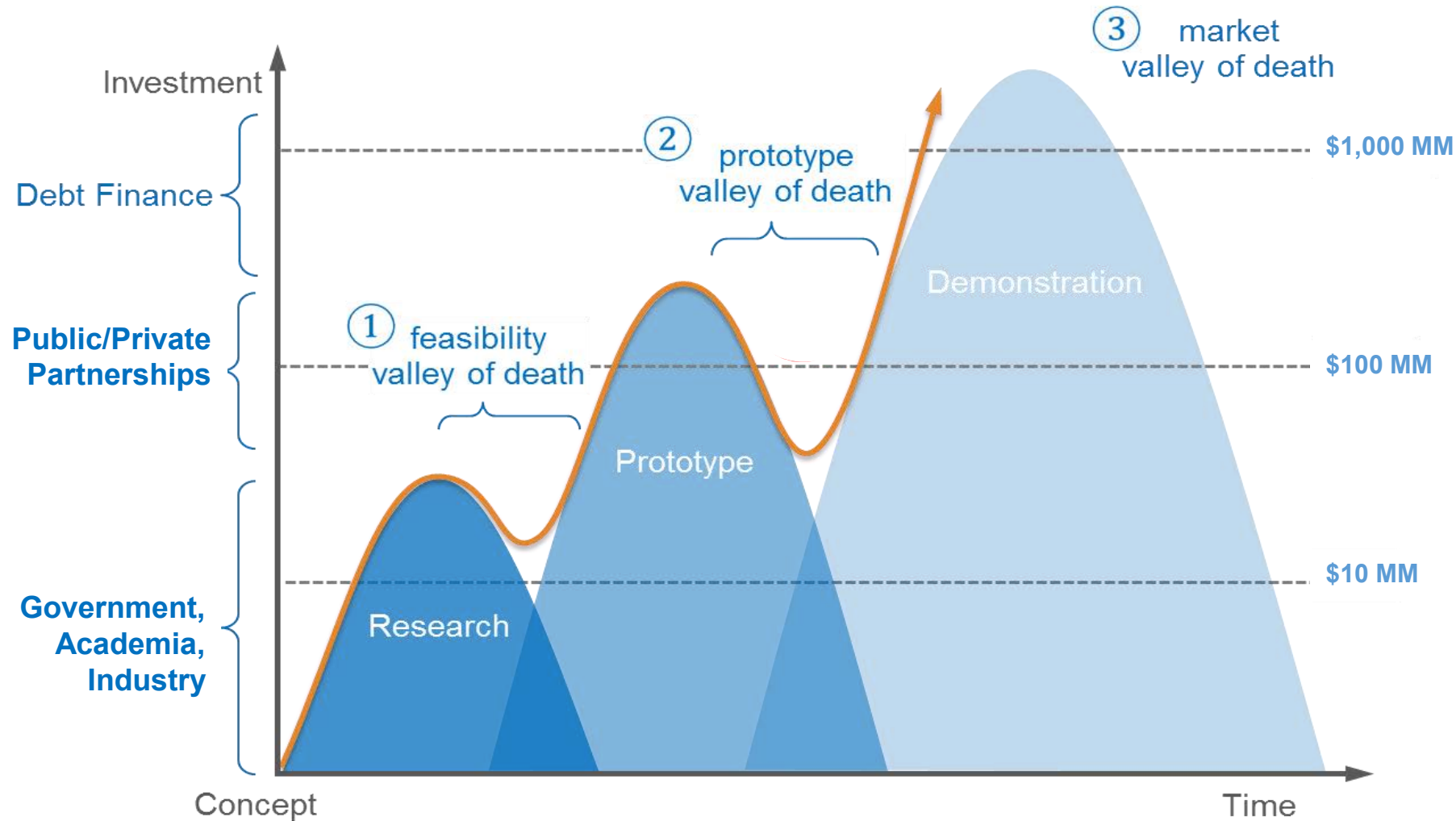
- The energy landscape has dramatically changed.
- The economic landscape has dramatically changed.
- The policy landscape has dramatically changed.

How do we translate research investments into solutions to **today's** energy problems at a pace that keeps them relevant and ultimately profitable?





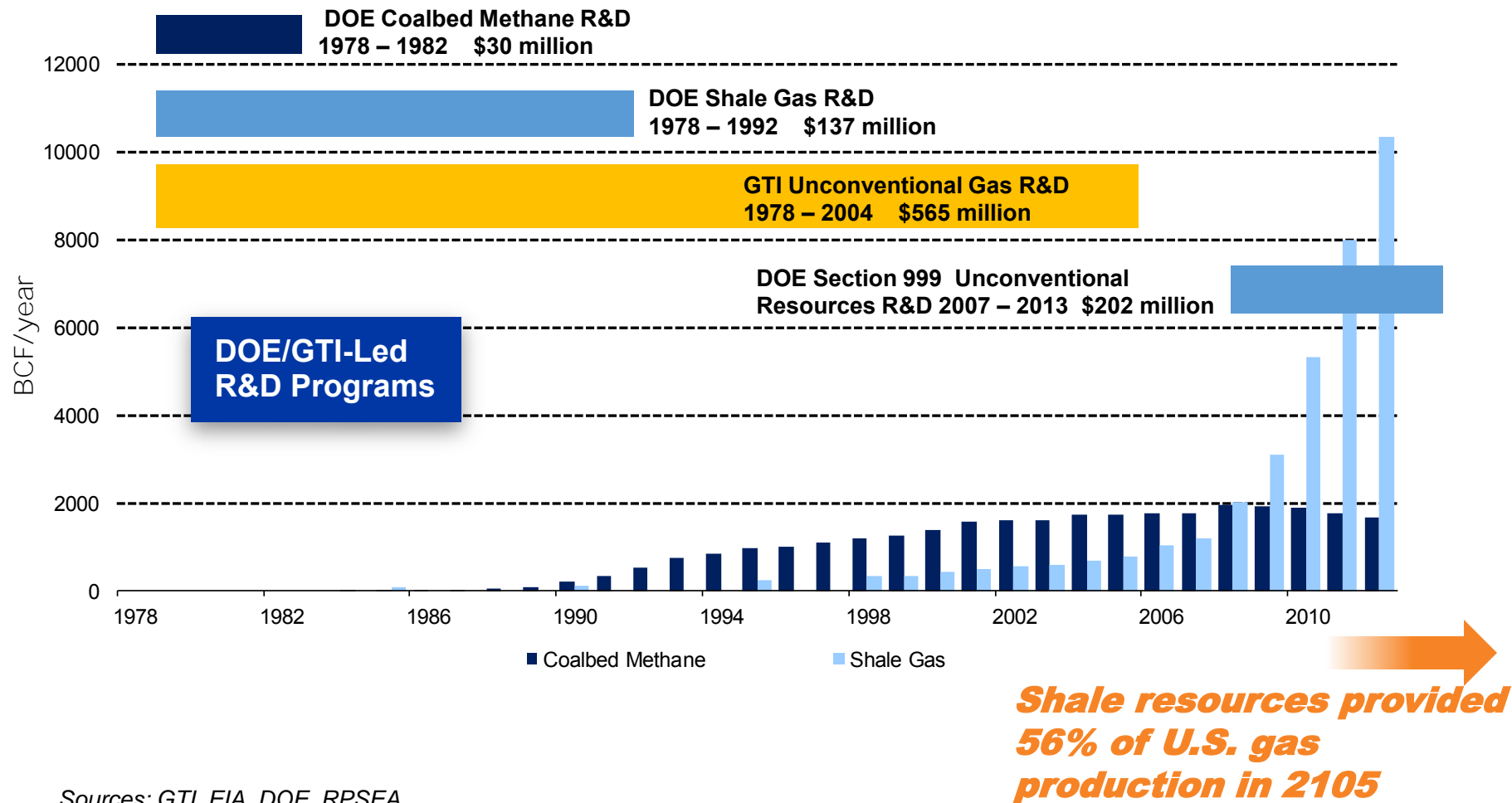
# Technical Innovation Is Not Enough



Some very good technical concepts never get developed.

Some developed technologies never get to market.

# Sustained Research Investments Led to “Shale Gas Revolution”



Sources: GTI, EIA, DOE, RPSEA

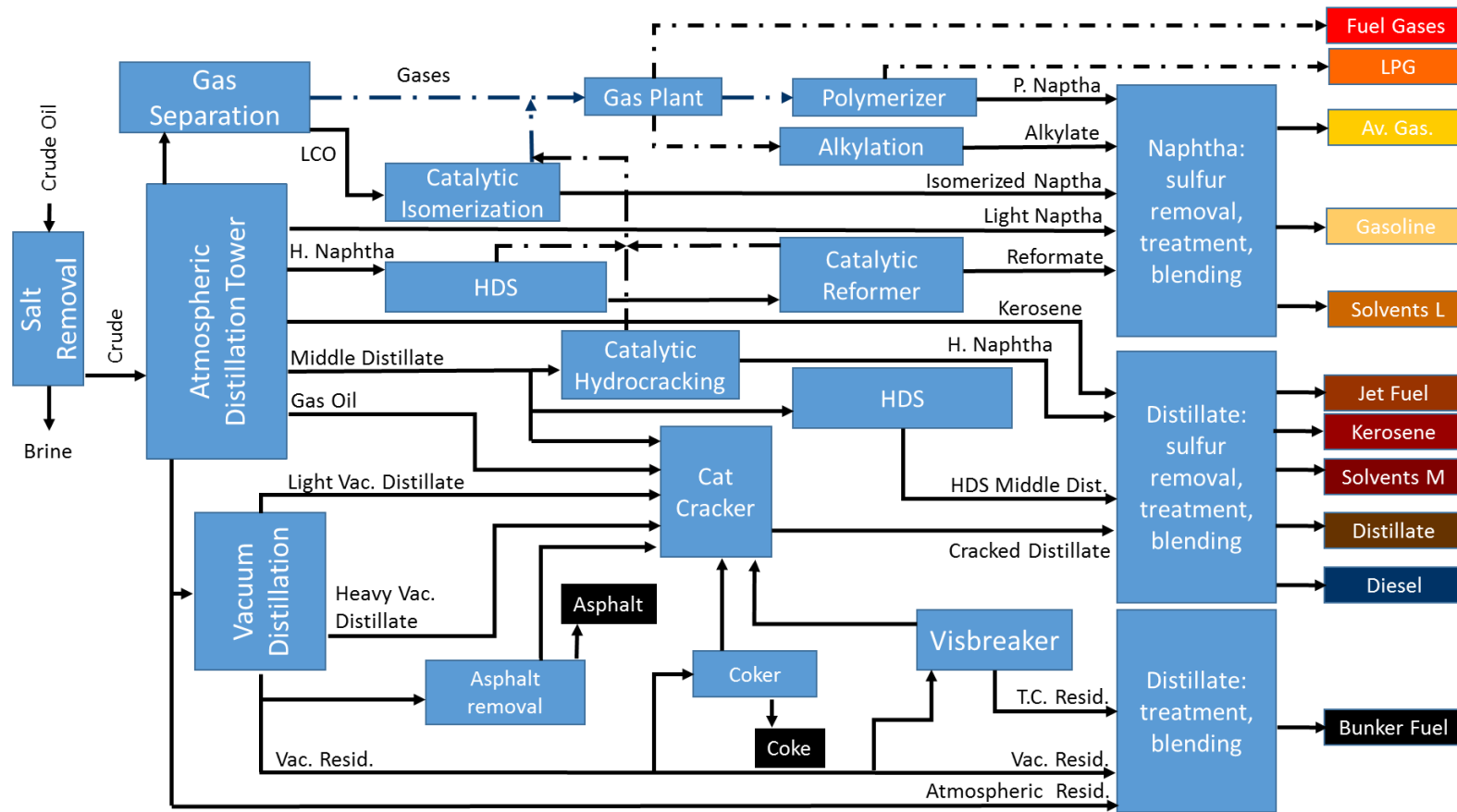
# Advanced Biofuels – A Worthy Challenge



- Produce “drop-in” transportation fuels—gasoline, diesel, and jet-fuel
- Produce for a fuel price under \$3.00 per gasoline gallon equivalent
- Be feedstock flexible, making the process attractive across geographies

Can we produce a solution for this energy challenge at a pace that is relevant and ultimately

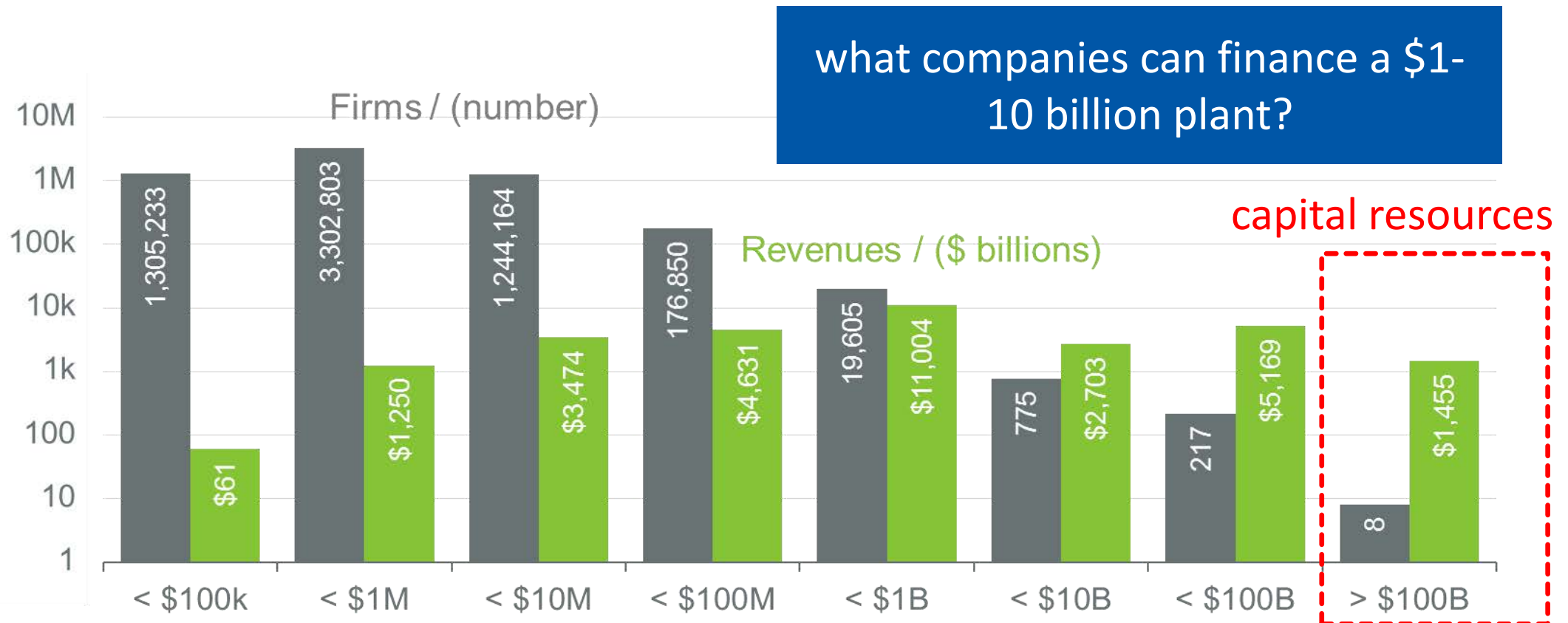
# Traditional Refining – Expensive Paradigm



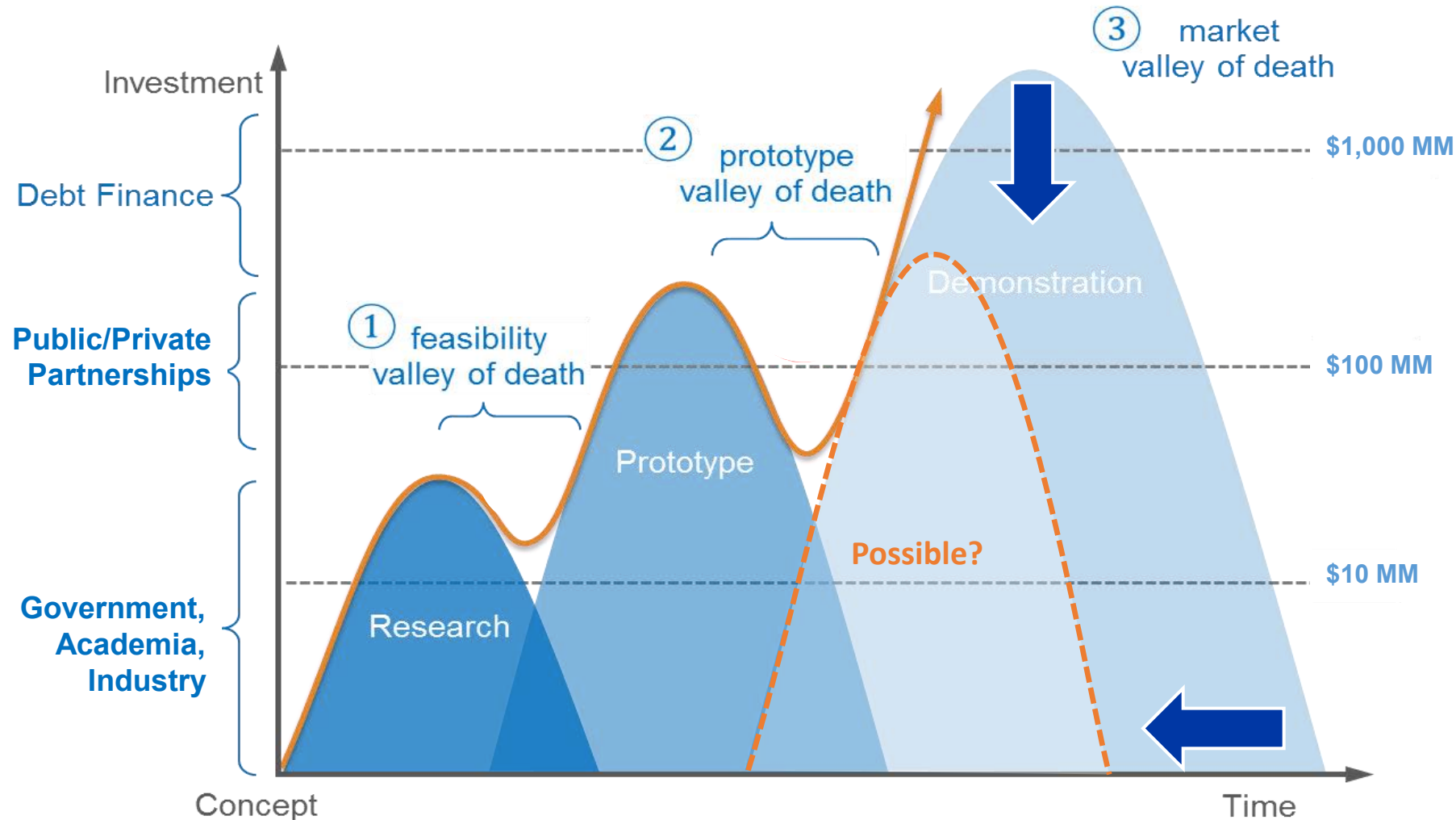
- An oil refinery is actually extremely complex – fuel is affordable only if the refineries are gigantic
- Biomass is a distributed resource: < 2000 dry tons/day scale – this would be about 1% of a 350K BPD refinery
- Biomass conversion must be simple: fewer pots and pans – more processing steps in each piece of hardware

# Capital Resources

## U.S. COMPANIES BY REVENUE, 2007



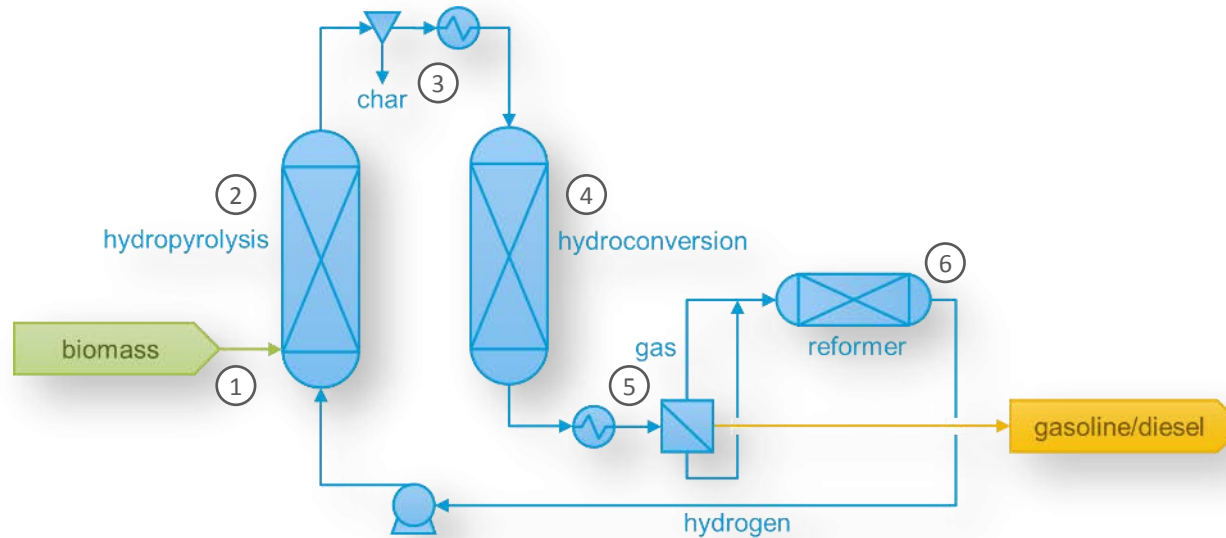
# Incorporate Process Intensification Goals



Attack CAPEX and OPEX through compact, smaller-scale, process-intensified solutions.



# IH<sup>2</sup>® Process for Drop-in Advanced Biofuels



Process intensification: Multiple process steps occur simultaneously in the hydropyrolysis reactor – endothermic devolatilization/exothermic deoxygenation

Process is relatively simple: small number of steps – building off competencies in key technical areas.

Easily deployed at 500-2000 dry tons/day scales; feedstock flexibility demonstrated with wood, agricultural residues, algae, and sorted waste.

Result: Produces “drop-in” fuels from biomass at \$1.50 to \$3.50 per gallon depending on feedstock and scale.

# IH<sup>2</sup>® Process Steps to Market

## RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

## PROTOTYPE

## COMMERCIAL

0.02 L/day



1 L/week



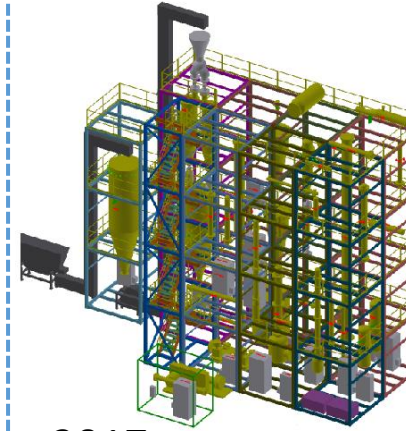
2009

22 L/day



2011

2000 L/day



2017

220,000 L/day



TBD

Component Testing

Process Design

Performance Mapping

Systems Engineering

First Facility  
at Industrial  
Scale



# GTI Energy Development Center

(1951-1996)



Large pilot systems up to 18 MW<sub>th</sub> scale and 70 bar pressure for conversion of coal and biomass to chemicals, syngas, methane, and hydrogen.

IH<sup>2</sup>® process development benefits from established GTI

- Fluidized Bed Reactor Systems
- Pressurized Solids Feeding
- Hydropyrolysis
- Biomass Gasification
- Char Separation and Recovery
- Project Management and

# Importance of Long-Term Support for Shared Test Facilities

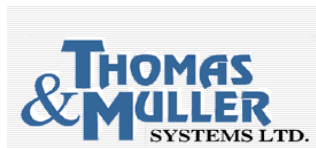


5 MW<sub>th</sub> fully integrated and instrumented test bed for gasification, gas processing, and syngas synthesis technologies.

- Accelerates and economizes development programs.
- Gives component providers a place to prove their equipment.
- Enables technology developers to focus on their part of an integrated process.
- Allows standardized performance validation in an industrial setting.
- Integrates scientists, engineers, operators, and technicians.



# A Team Effort



Many relationships, agreements, contracts, and resources must be put in place and coordinated to meet technical and pre-commercial objectives

Extensive demonstration-scale activity is essential in order for commercial-scale facilities to

# Summary

All process development involves significant technical and financial risks – the energy sector is particularly challenging.

Long-term support for pilot and demonstration-scale facilities helps accelerate technology development and reduces technical risk.

Biomass is a geographically distributed resource, so biomass conversion must be profitable at small scale and on a distributed basis.

Process intensification lowers the economic risk and accelerates deployment.