



**SOLAR ENERGY  
TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE**  
U.S. Department Of Energy

# CSP Summit Presentation

## Cast Components for High Temperature CSP Thermal Systems

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

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(MetalTek International),

# Gen 3 CSP Systems Demand High Performance Materials

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- Components for Gen 3 systems are targeted for  $>700^{\circ}\text{C}$  operation to achieve improved efficiencies
- Systems have to operate at high temperatures for long periods of time under relatively high stresses
  - Cross-cutting needs for multiple Gen 3 pathways
- Low-cost components are required to achieve the Sunshot goal of 6 ¢/ kWh

# Candidate Ni-Based Alloys Are Expensive

| Alloy                                       | Ni    | Co    | Cr    | Fe         | W     | Mn         | Mo       | Nb         | Al   | Ti         | Si          | C     |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|------------|----------|------------|------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Haynes <sup>®</sup> 230<br>(Heat 830587876) | Bal   | 2.38  | 22.14 | 1.55       | 14.24 | 0.53       | 1.3      | 0.0        | 0.39 | 0          | 0.37        | 0.1   |
| Spec                                        | Bal   | 5 Max | 22    | 3 max      | 14    | 0.5        | 2        | 0.5<br>Max | 0.3  | 0.1<br>Max | 0.4         | 0.1   |
| Haynes <sup>®</sup> 282<br>(Heat 208278368) | Bal   | 10.18 | 19.39 | 0.79       | 0.06  | 0.08       | 8.53     | 0.0        | 1.52 | 2.22       | 0.06        | 0.062 |
| Spec                                        | Bal   | 10    | 20    | 1.5<br>Max | -     | 0.3<br>Max | 8.5      | -          | 1.5  | 2.1        | 0.15<br>Max | 0.06  |
| IN740H<br>(HT3779J)                         | 50.03 | 20.21 | 24.51 | 0.19       | 0     | 0.25       | 0.33     | 1.45       | 1.34 | 1.34       | 0.14        | 0.024 |
| Spec                                        | Bal   | 20    | 24.5  | 3 Max      | -     | 1<br>Max   | 1<br>Max | 1.5        | 1.35 | 1.35       | 0.15        | 0.03  |

- Alloys have high levels of Ni and in some cases Ni + Co

# Casting Components Offers a Route for Cost Reduction

- Certain component geometries can be cast with cost savings
  - Example: Cylindrical objects (pipes) can be centrifugally cast
  - Complex valve bodies can be fabricated using the casting process
- Other benefits can be anticipated with castings
  - Customized material choice and component design, smaller order quantities, potentially lower lead-times
- ORNL has a history of successful development and collaborations on centrifugal cast components

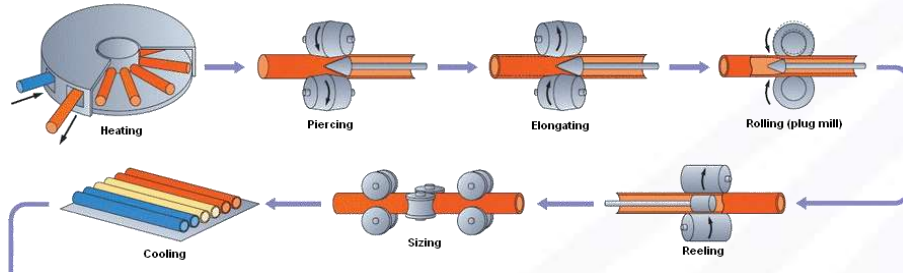


**ORNL Alumina Forming Austenitic tubes fabricated using centrifugal casting in air (ARPA- E OPEN 2015)**



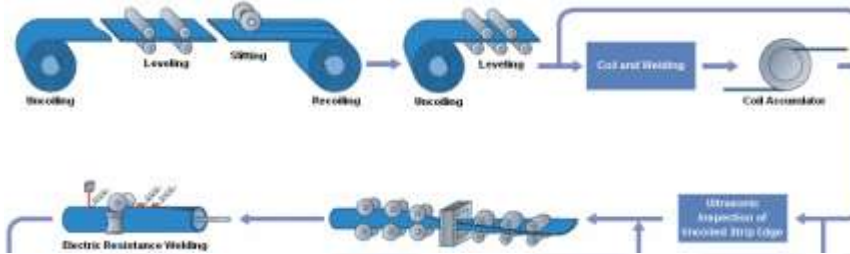
**Furnace roll fabricated using centrifugal casting of ORNL alloy has been successfully operating in heat-treat furnace at 900° C for more than two years (ARPA- E OPEN 2015)**

# Centrifugal Casting of Smaller Vessels, Pipes, and Tubes Saves Manufacturing Cost Due to Reduced Steps



## Plug Mill Process

Courtesy: <http://www.wermac.org/pipes/pipemaking.html>



## Electric Resistance Weld Process

Courtesy: <http://www.wermac.org/pipes/pipemaking.html>



Single step  
Centrifugal Casting to  
Dimension  
(courtesy: MetalTek)

Cost savings and feasibility depends on size of tubing

- Evaluate the feasibility of using a centrifugal casting process to lower manufacturing cost of piping fabricated using Ni-based alloys including Haynes<sup>®</sup>230, Haynes<sup>®</sup> 282, or IN<sup>®</sup> 740H
- Evaluate properties of cast and heat-treated alloys fabricated using this process
  - Investigate properties of alternate alloys with lower raw material costs
- Knowledge would be applicable to the design of piping, valve fittings, valve bodies along with those of turbo-machinery

- Fabricate laboratory scale castings, develop heat-treatment processes and measure high temperature mechanical properties
- Verify high temperature mechanical properties using small industrial scale castings and down-select alloys for centrifugal casting trials
- Fabricate pipes using centrifugal casting and verify that target properties are met

# Summary of Various Castings Completed



Laboratory Scale



Industrial Scale



Centrifugal



# Technical Accomplishments

- Centrifugal cast tube of Haynes<sup>®</sup> 230



# Technical Accomplishments

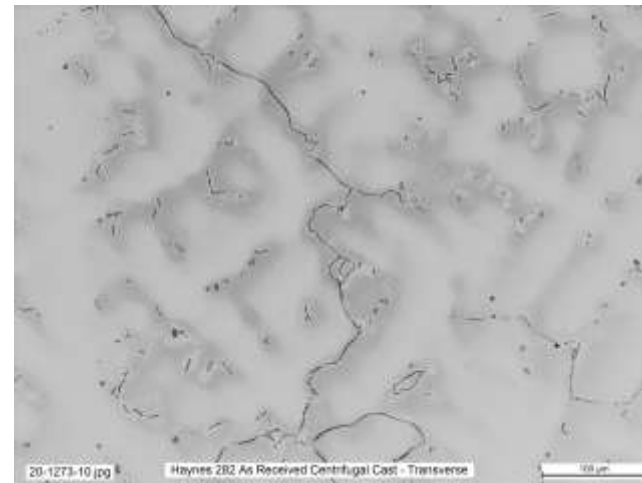
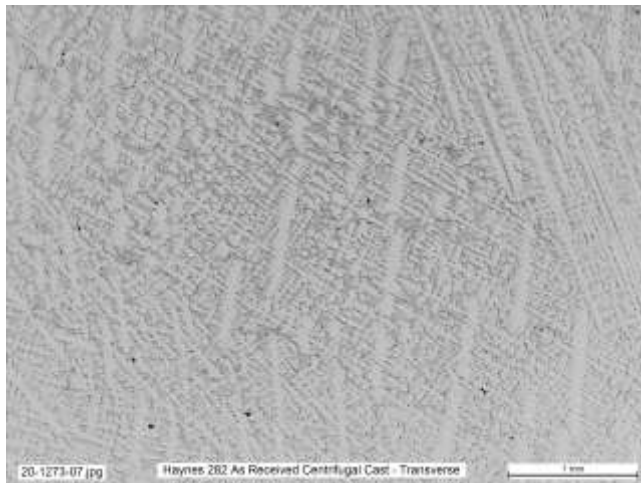
- Centrifugal cast tube of Haynes<sup>®</sup> 282



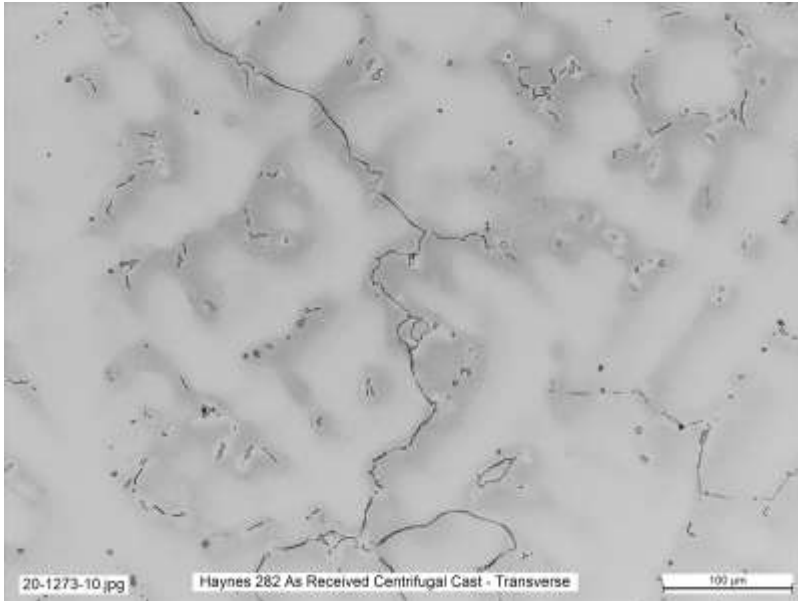
# Centrifugal Haynes® 282 Ingots Were Subject to Two-Step Aging Heat-Treatments

| Alloy           | Heat-treatment                                                                                               | Explanation                                                         |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Haynes® 282-HT3 | Step #1: Homogenization: Ramp to 1093°C, hold for 8 hours, increase temperature to 1204°C, hold for 24 hours | Minimizes elemental segregation that occurred during solidification |
|                 | Step #2: Solution anneal: 1149°C for 1 hours, water quench                                                   | Prepares material for aging treatment                               |
|                 | Step # 3: Aging: 1010°C for 2 hours in inert atmosphere, air cool                                            | Two-step aging treatment for high strength                          |
|                 | Step # 4: Aging: 788°C for 8 hours, air cool                                                                 |                                                                     |

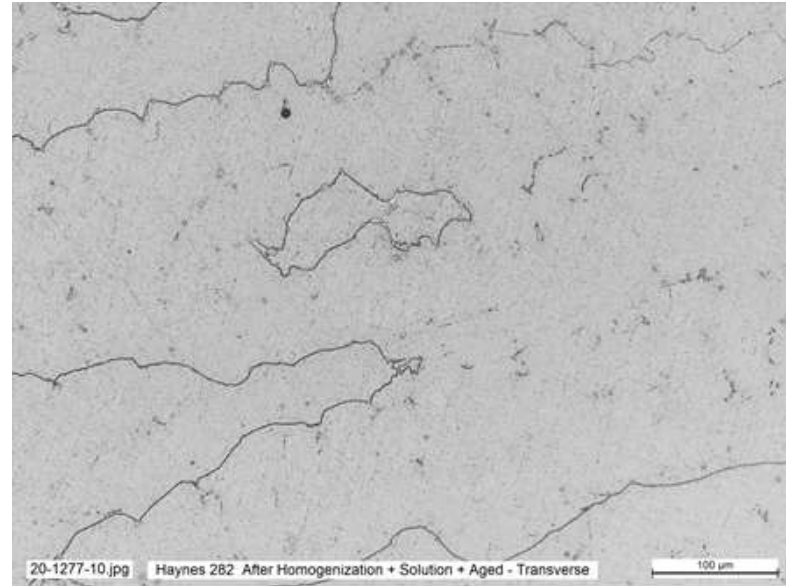
# Microstructure of as- centrifugally cast Haynes<sup>®</sup> 282<sup>®</sup> Shows Dendritic Structure



# Homogenization was Achieved in Centrifugally Cast Haynes<sup>®</sup>282

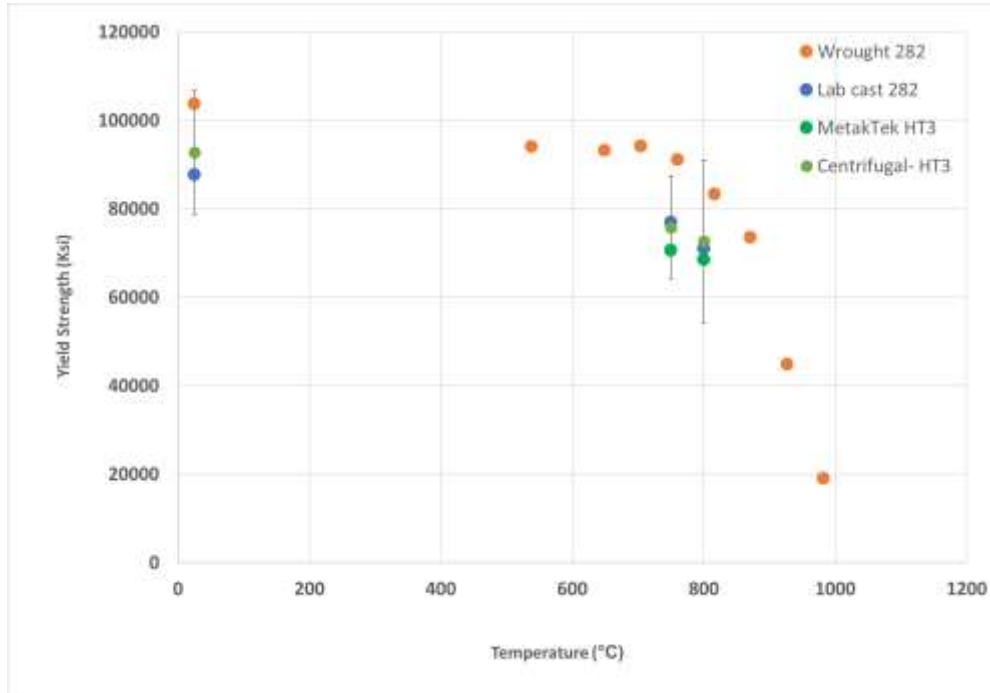


**As-cast**



**As-cast + Homogenized+ Solution annealed  
+ Two-Step aging**

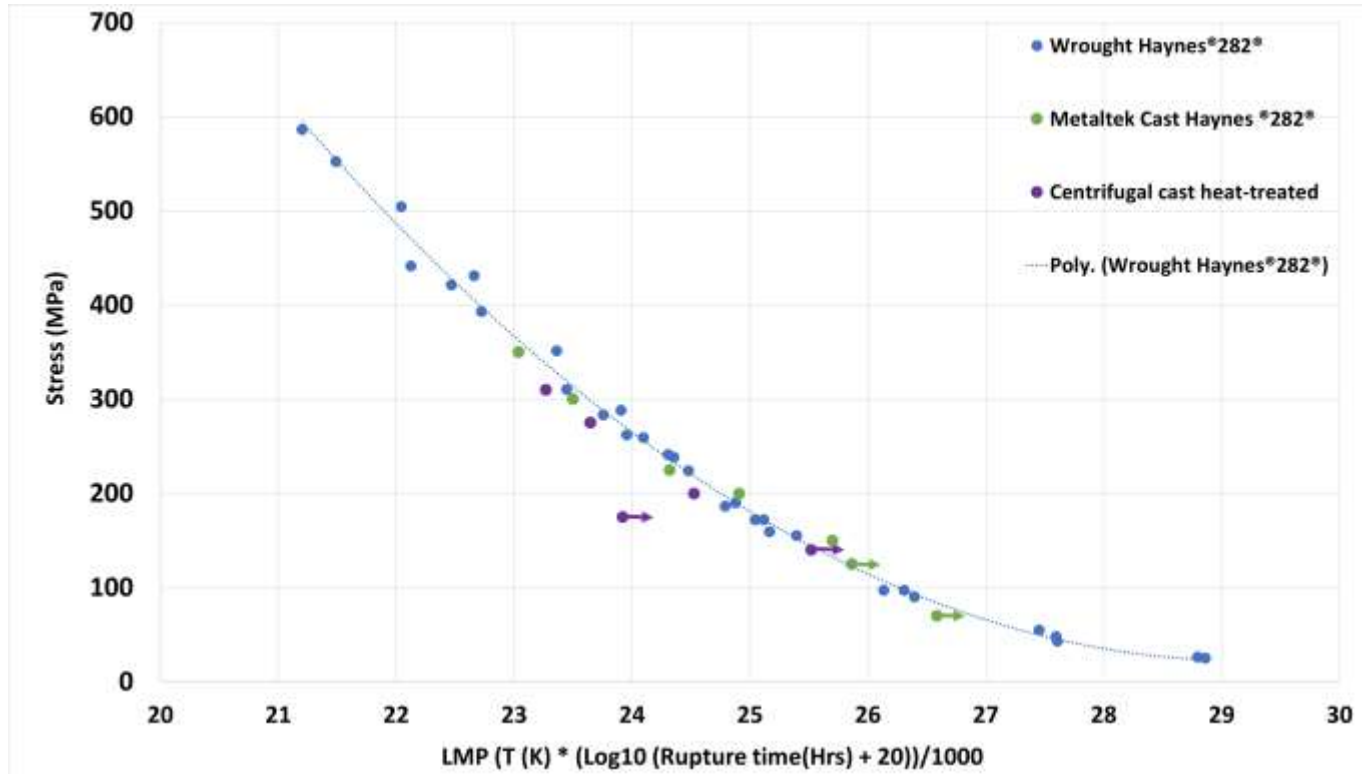
# Milestone Requirements Are Satisfied by Haynes® 282



| Alloy                                       | Y. S. at 750°C (Ksi) | Y. S. at 800°C (Ksi) |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Wrought Haynes®282                          | 91.7                 | 85.6                 |
| 80% of Yield strength of wrought Haynes®282 | 73.3                 | 68.5                 |

- Yield strength of centrifugal cast + heat-treated Haynes®282 > 80% of wrought

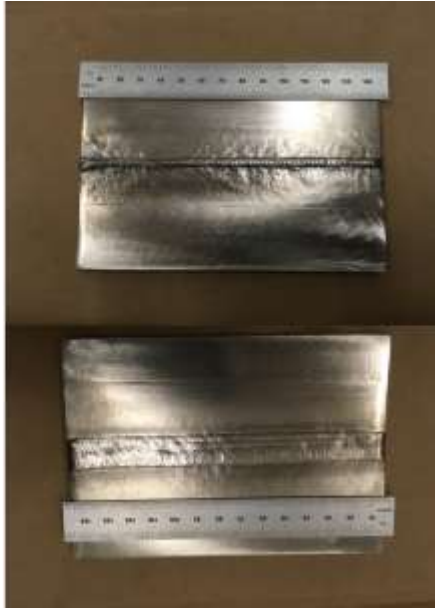
# LMP Plot Shows Creep Properties of Cast Haynes®282® Likely to Match or Exceed Wrought Haynes®282® at Expected Stress and Temperature Levels





# Centrifugally cast material has been successfully welded

Bottom Surface



Top Surface



- Tensile and creep properties are under evaluation