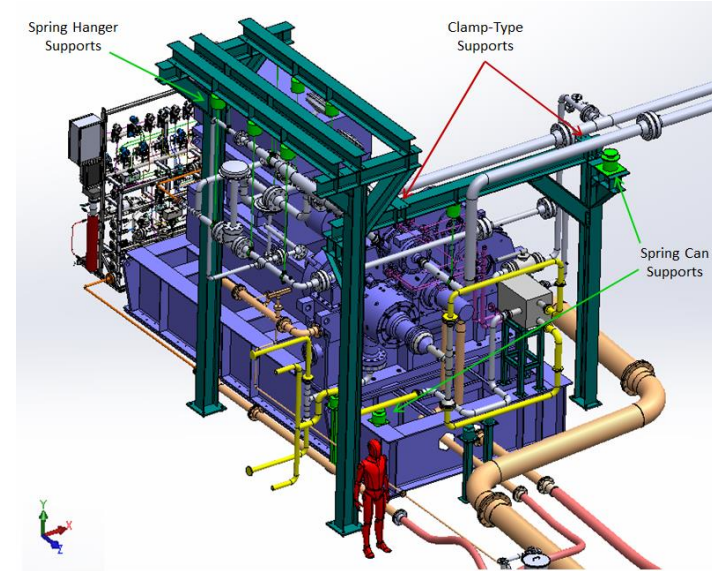


Development of an Ultra-High Efficiency Wide-Range Integrally-Geared Supercritical CO₂ Compressor-Expander



Southwest Research Institute
Award # DE-EE0007114

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| DOE Funding: | \$5,350,000 |
| Cost-Share Funding: | \$3,450,000 |
| Principal Investigator: | Jason Wilkes |
| Other Contributors: | Tim Allison, Karl Wygant, Rob Pelton |



SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE



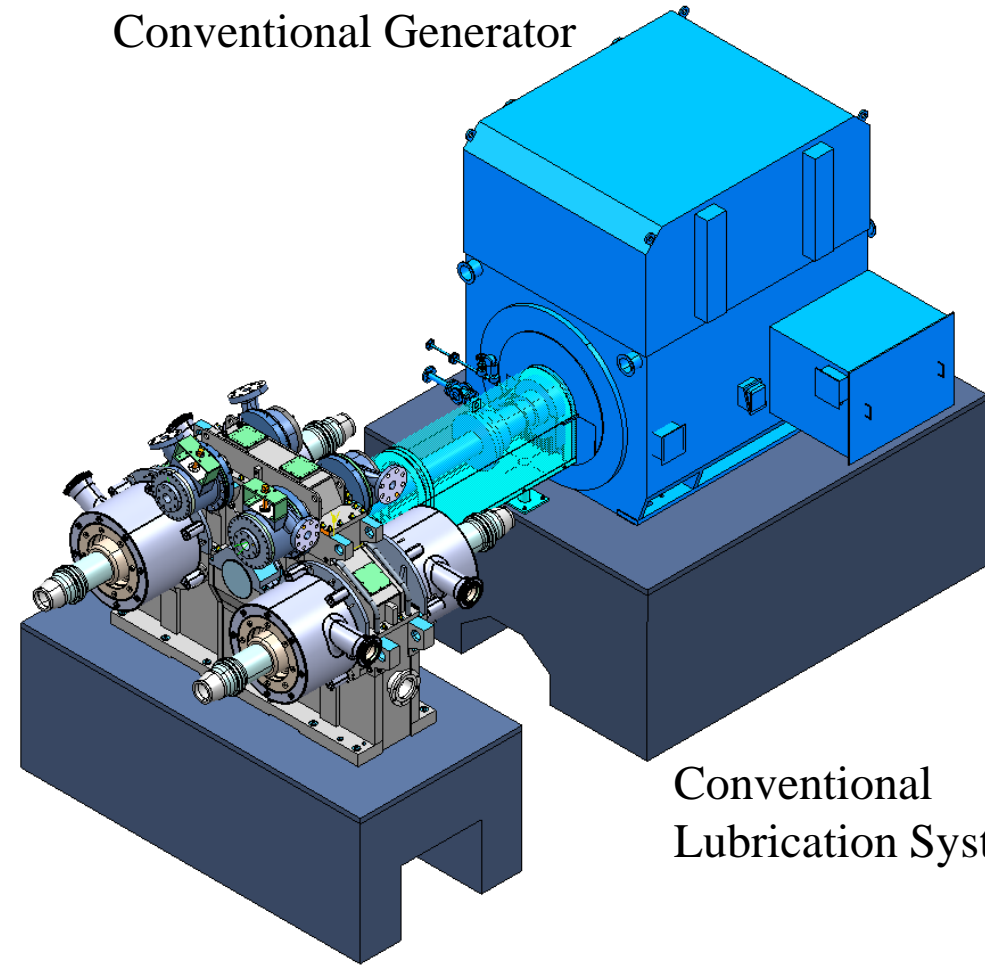
Phases of Development Program

- I – Cycle modeling, turbomachinery and loop design [Completed]
- II – IGC fabrication and loop construction [In Process]
- III – Loop and IGC commissioning and full pressure and temperature testing

Design Objectives

- Design a reduced flow IGC to be tested in SwRI's 1 MW_e test loop.
 - Full flow wide-range compressor (50-70% range)
 - Reduced flow expander (705°C inlet temperature)
 - Full frame core (900\$/kW_e, 6¢/kW_e LCOE)
- Design a 10 MW_e cycle using a compander as the power block (targeting 50% at design point)
- Investigate off-design cycle operation, wide-range compression capabilities, and control schemes of an IGC based power block
- Test the unit at full temperature and pressure

Conventional Generator



Conventional
Lubrication System

Configuration of Integrally Geared Compressor–Expander Allows Unparalleled Application Flexibility

Integrated Turbomachinery for:

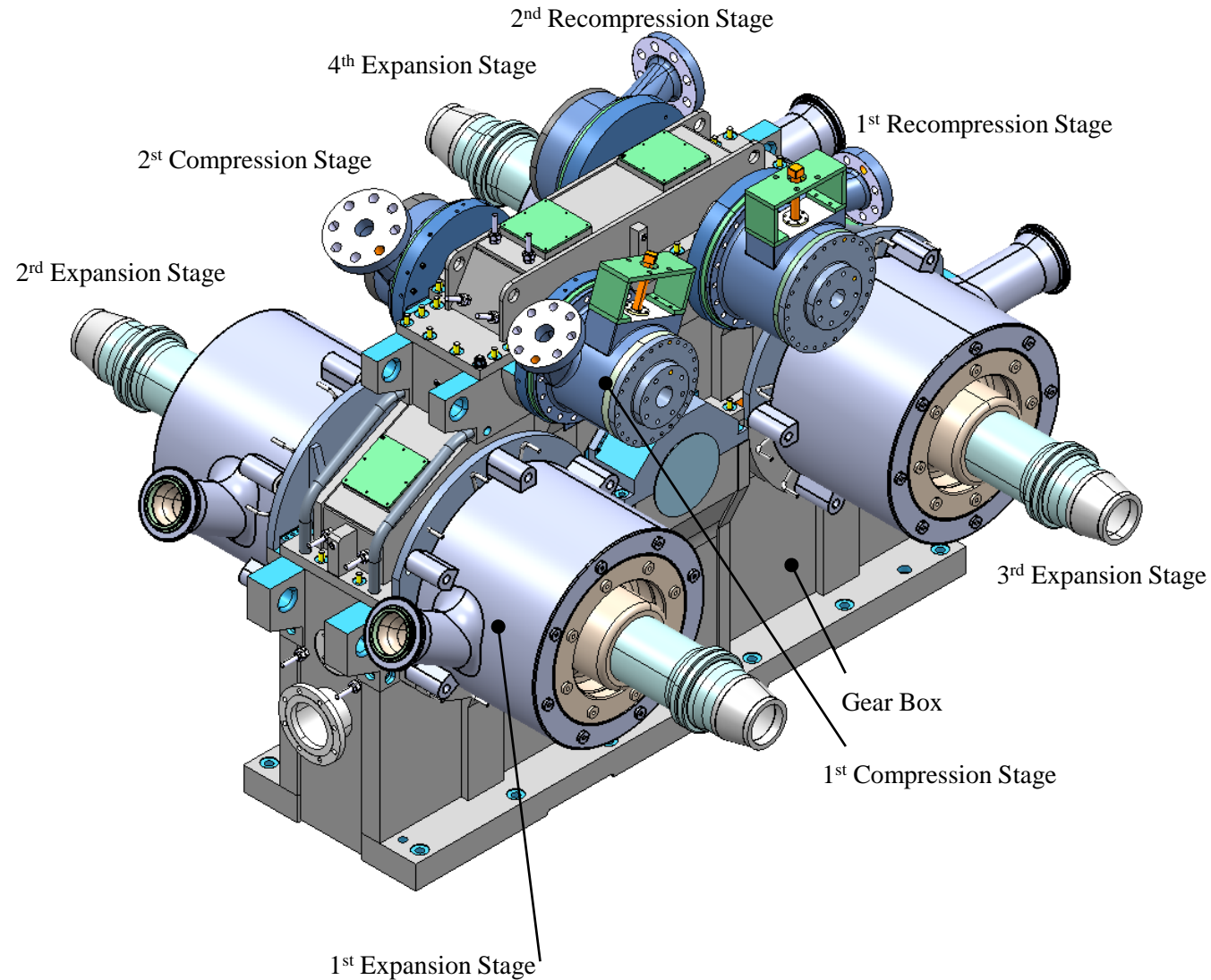
- Recompression Brayton Cycle,
- Recuperated Cycle,
- sCO₂ Expander Only,
- sCO₂ Compressor Only,
- sCO₂ Re-compressor only,

Can Integrate:

- Expander re-heat
- Compressor inter-stage cooling

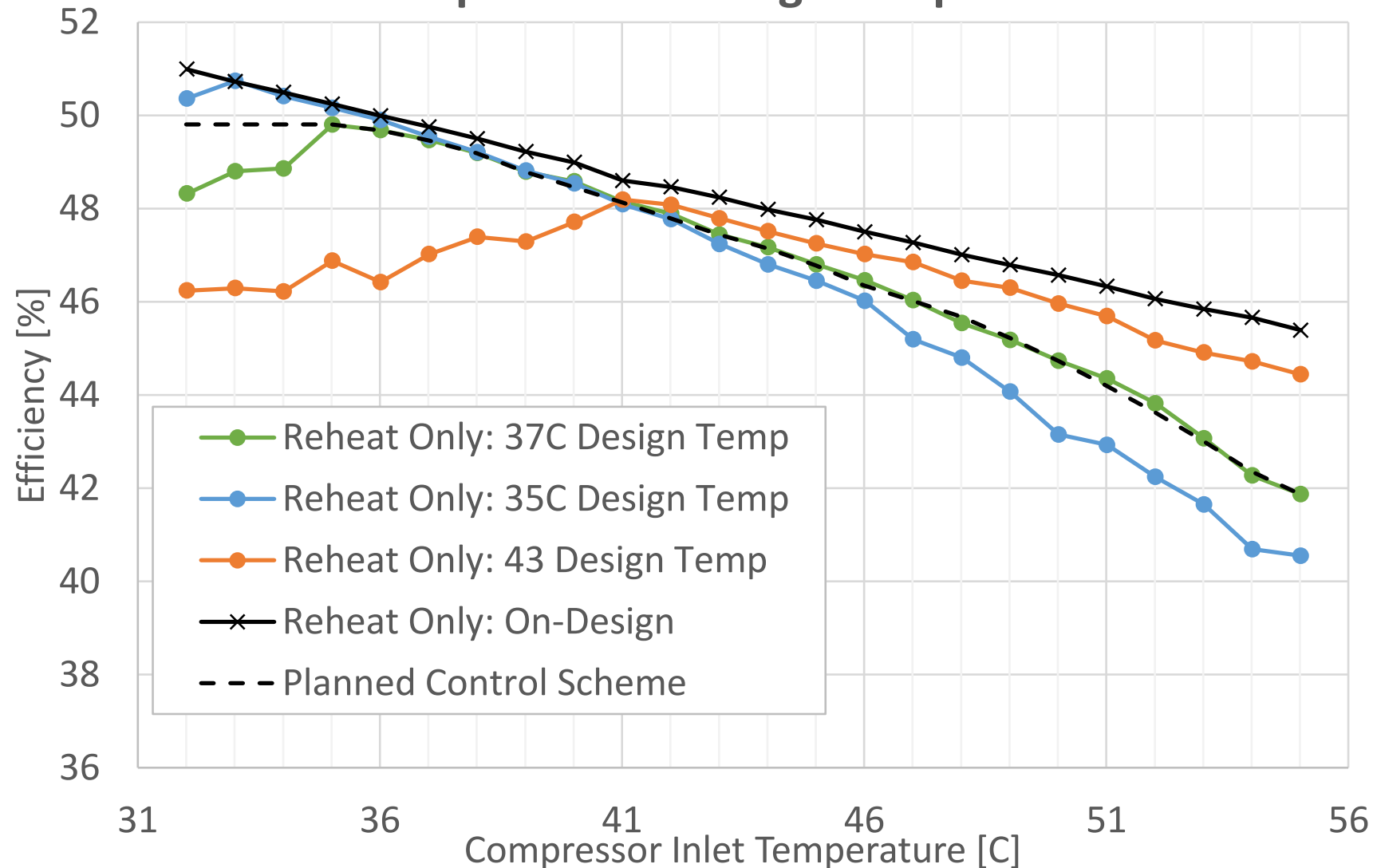
Allows:

- Optimal stage rotational speeds
- Variable flow control

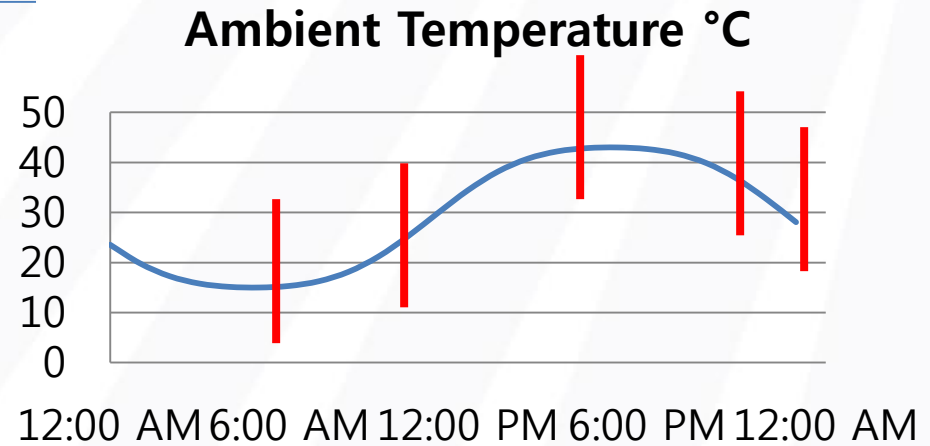


Utilizing the Flexibility of the Compressor, a Power Cycle was Optimized to Achieve Maximum Efficiency Across the Range of Ambient Inlet Temperatures

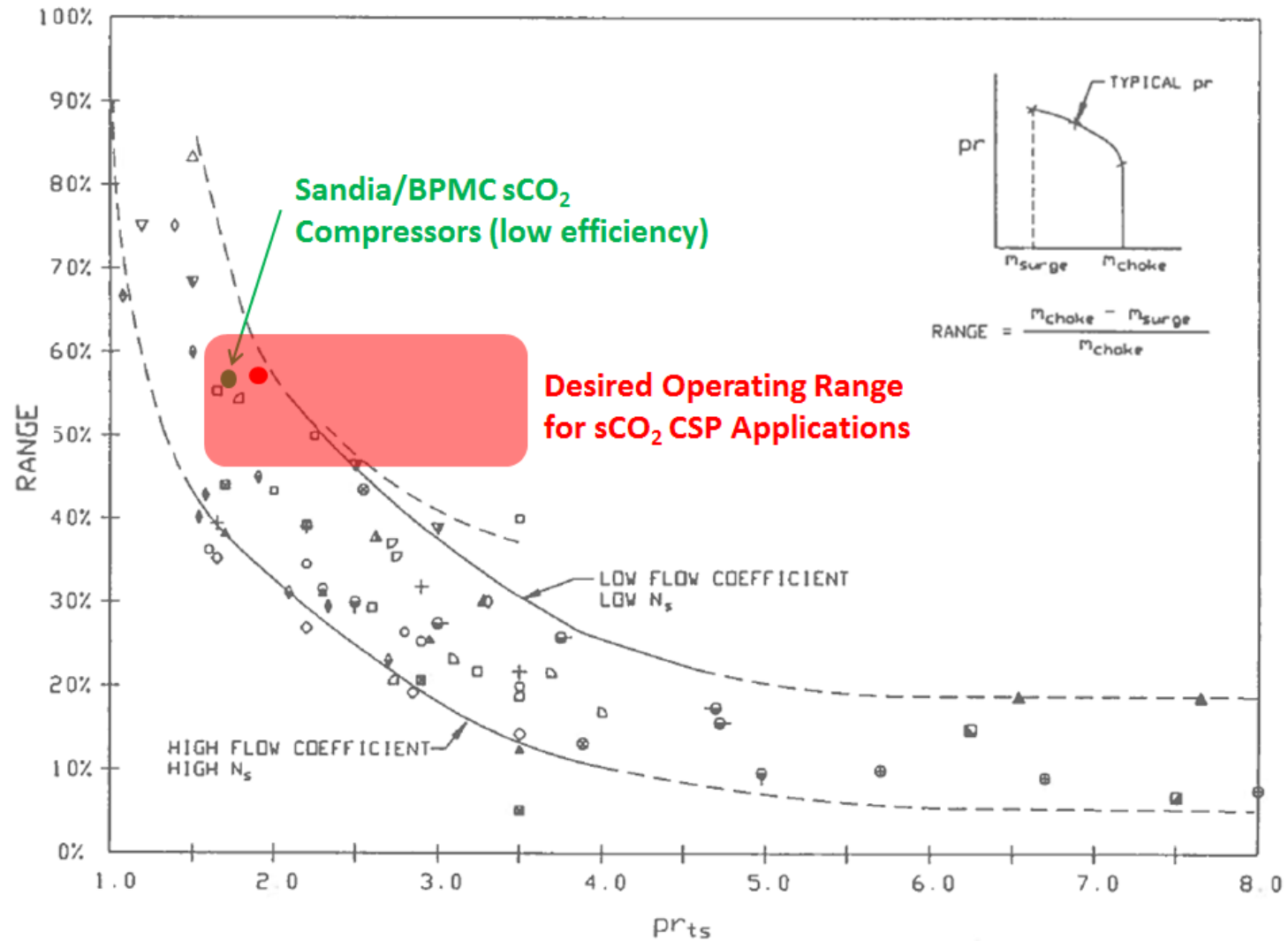
Reheat Only Designs Comparison of Design Temperature



Ambient Cooling Leads to a Variation in Compressor Inlet Temperature

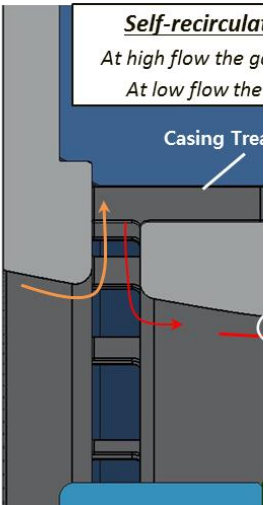


Range Requirements for the Main Compressor First Stage Exceed Current Capabilities

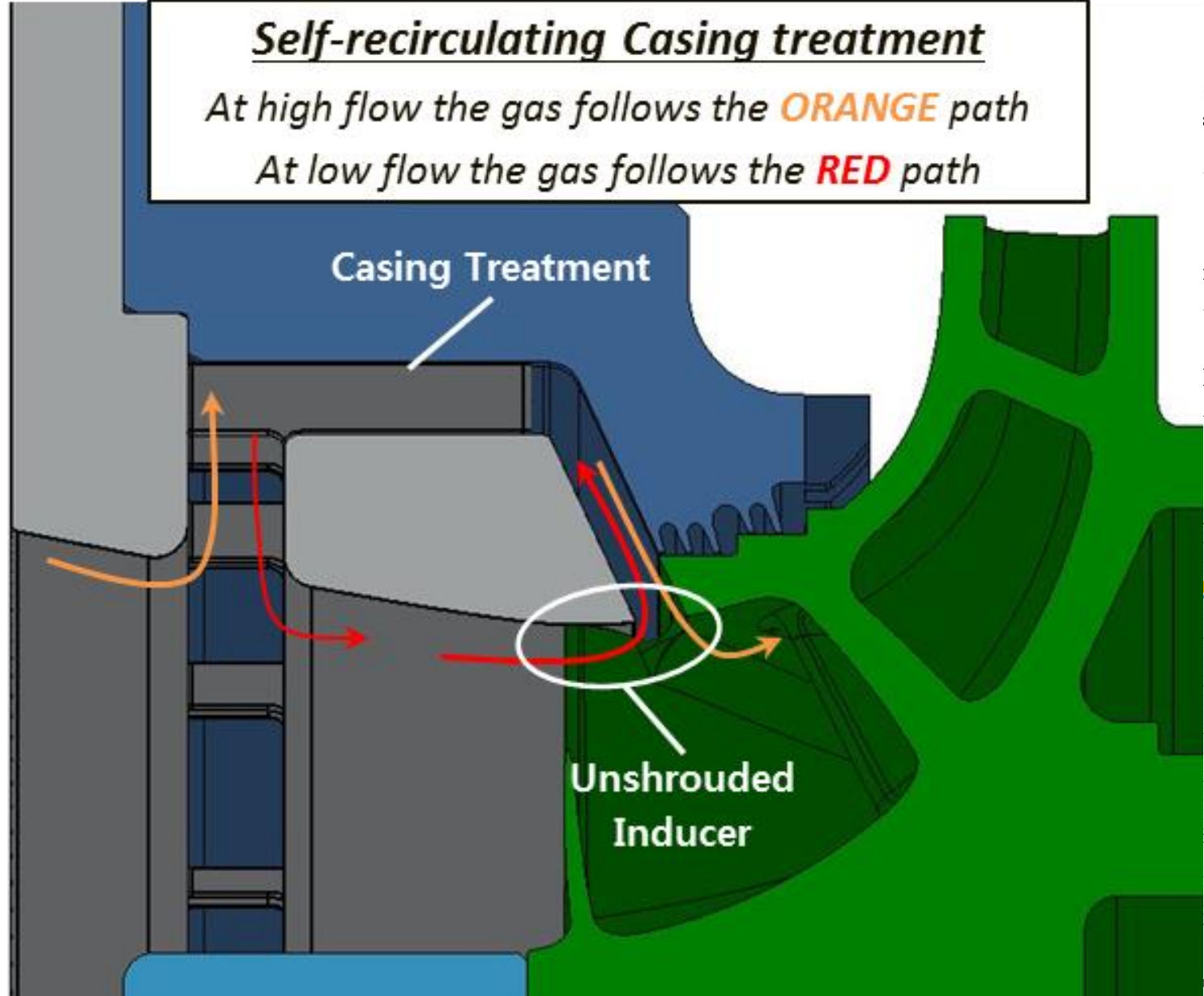


A Partially Shrouded Impeller was Incorporated to Increase Range

Range Extens



Self-recirculating Casing treatment
At high flow the gas follows the **ORANGE** path
At low flow the gas follows the **RED** path



a casing treatment can rating range significantly 4%)

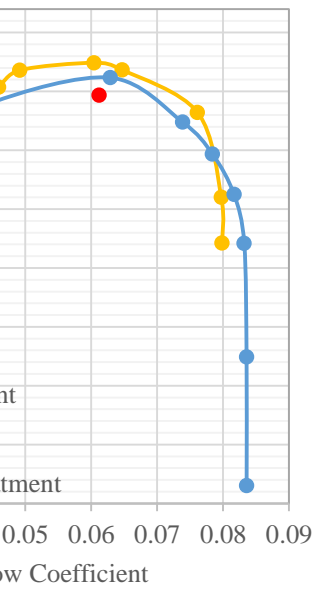
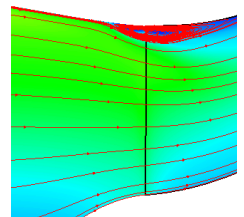
correlation(8% higher CFD test) applied for the head

it designed following the oped from experience with

lty is predicted to be less ue to CT

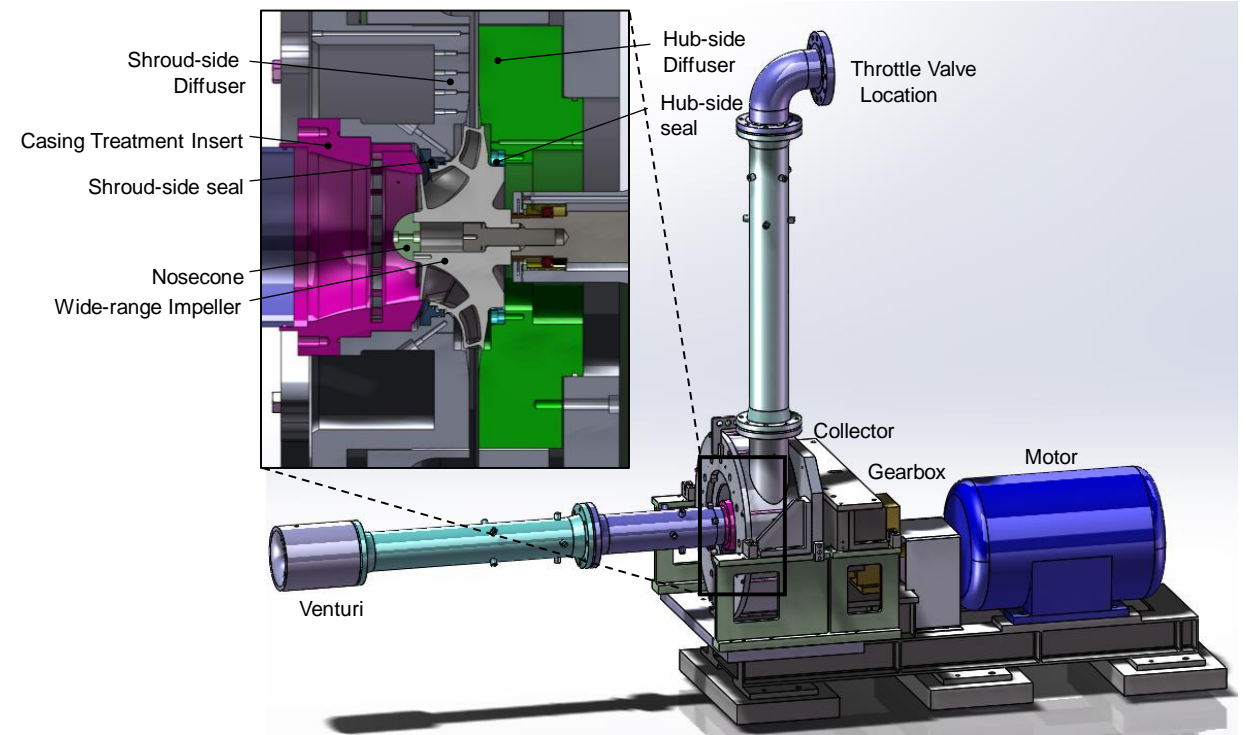
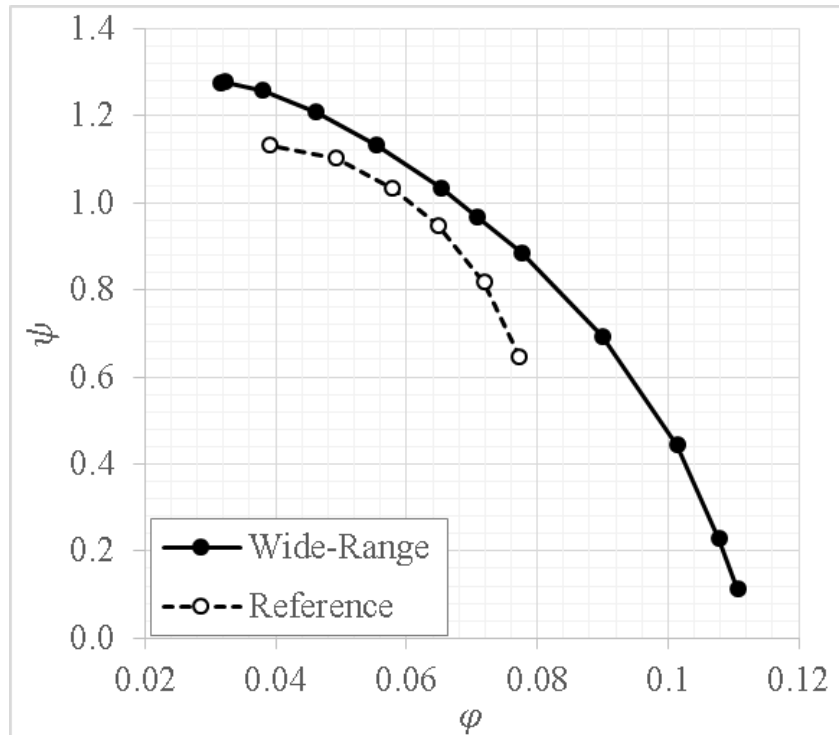
Conventio

Relat

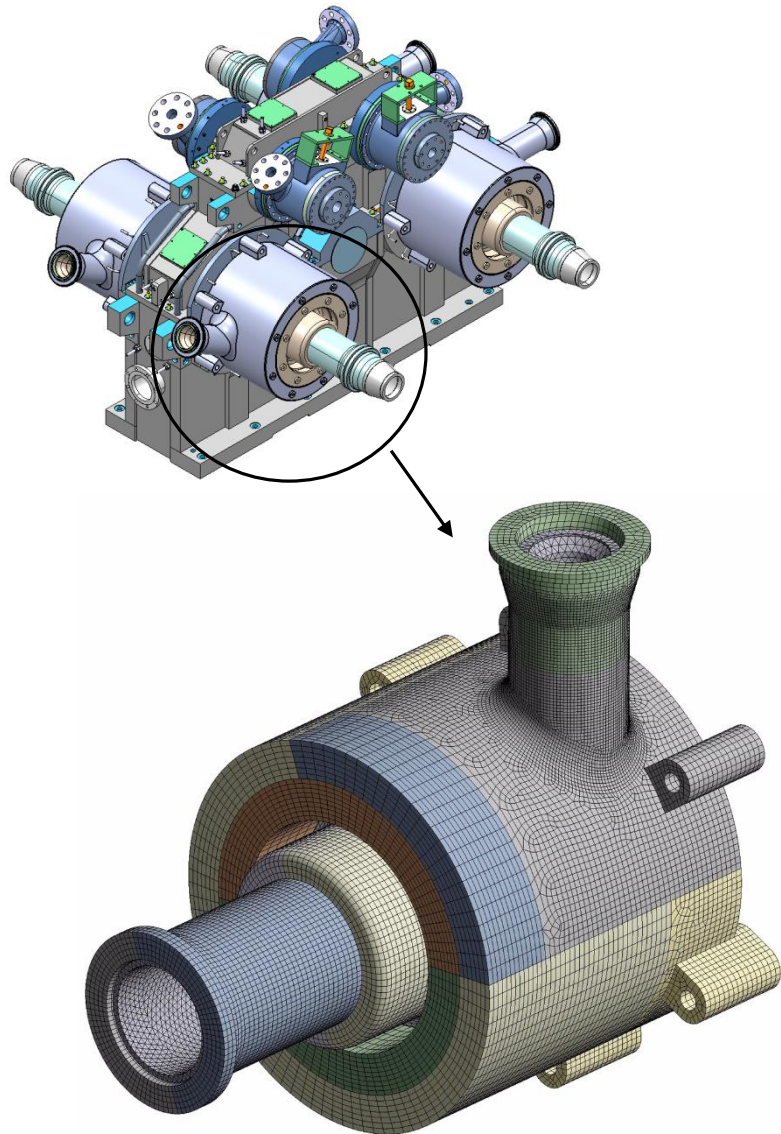


Open Air Back-to-back Tests Showed a Substantial Increase in Range Compared with a Conventional Stage

- Compare results to a fully shrouded reference case designed with the same flow coefficient and slightly lower head coefficient
- Test in SSTR at same scale and Mach number as the wide-range stage
- Wide-range stage shows a 42% improvement in range compared to the reference model, no efficiency loss

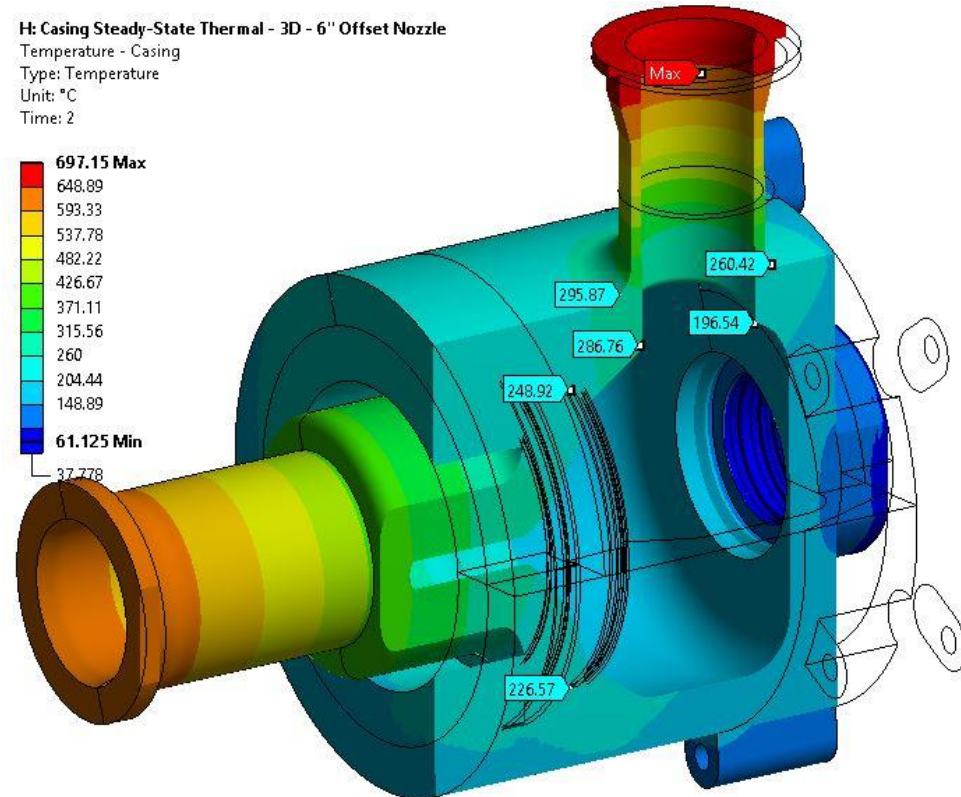


A Patent Pending Internally Shielded Expander Housing Provides a Low-Cost / High-Performance Solution

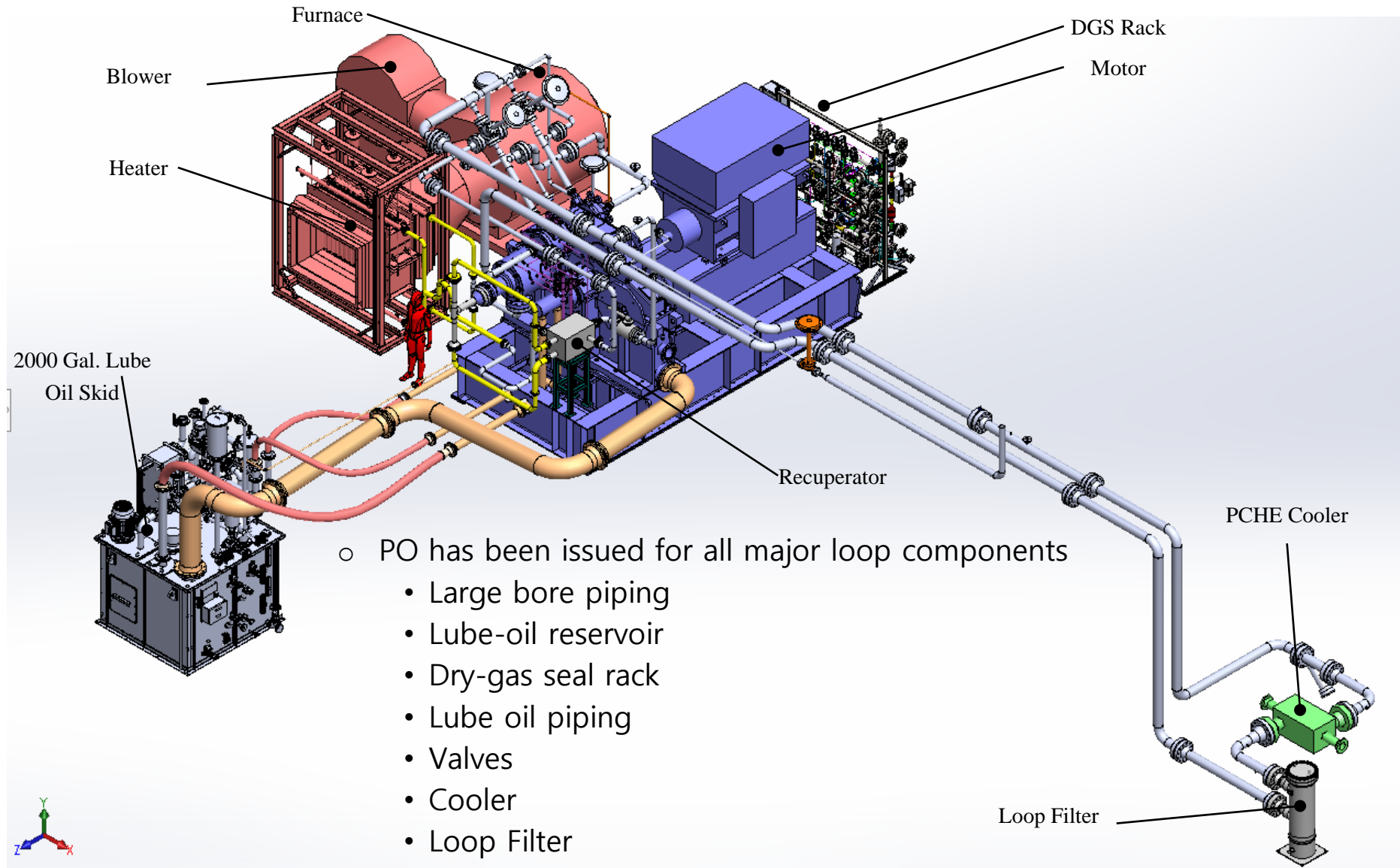


Thermal-Mechanical Stress Levels are Well Managed

- Unique thermal management approach is applied,
- Allows thermal boundary between expander casing,
- Allows thermal boundary between gearbox,
- Meets ASME BPVC for long service life.

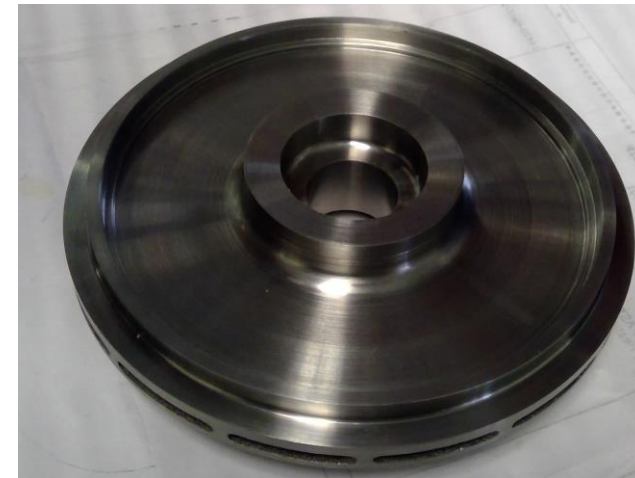


Reduced Flow Loop is Finalized and all Purchase Orders have been placed for all loop components



Stage 2 Compressor Impeller

- Completed Processes
 - ✓ Printing
 - ✓ Support material removal
 - ✓ Heat Treat/HIP
 - ✓ Machining
 - ✓ Inspection
- Processes Remaining
 - Cut Hirth coupling
 - CT Scan
 - Extrude Hone
 - Balance/Spin



Procurement Photos

Gearbox Fabrication



Gearbox Machining



Gearbox End Product

