

Why CAREM ?

Bias towards smaller sized NPP

Rubén O. Mazzi
INVAP
Argentina
mazzi@invap.com.ar

Nuclear Power Plant Design

+ Large Scale NPP (PWR, BWR, PHWR, CANDU)

- Designed in the 50's
- Optimized for specific environment
- Improvements made from an existing design

+ Changes in environment

- TMI II (1979) & Chernobyl (1986)
- Change in Public Perception of Nuclear Energy
- New Licensing Requirements
- Technological improvements
- Market for units of small power output

⇒ **New technological optimum = Opportunity for New Entrants**



Generation III+ Reactors

✦ Advanced Boiling Water Reactors

- ✦ • ABWR II (Advanced Boiling Water Reactor II)
- ✦ • ESBWR (European Simplified Boiling Water Reactor)
- ✦ • HC-BWR (High Conversion Boiling Water Reactor)
- ✦ • SWR-1000 (Siedewasser Reactor-1000)

✦ Advanced Pressure Tube Reactor

- ✦ • ACR-1000 (Advanced CANDU Reactor 1000)

✦ Advanced Pressurized Water Reactors

- ✦ • AP600 (Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor 600)
- ✦ • AP1000 (Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor 1000)
- ✦ • APR1400 (Advanced Power Reactor 1400)
- ✦ • APWR+ (Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor Plus)
- ✦ • EPR (European Pressurized Water Reactor)

✦ Integral Primary System Reactors

- ✦ • CAREM (Central Argentina de Elementos Modulares)
- ✦ • IMR (International Modular Reactor)
- ✦ • IRIS (International Reactor Innovative and Secure)
- ✦ • SMART (System-Integrated Modular Advanced Reactor)

✦ Modular High Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactors

- ✦ • GT-MHR (Gas Turbine-Modular High Temperature Reactor)
- ✦ • PBMR (Pebble Bed Modular Reactor)

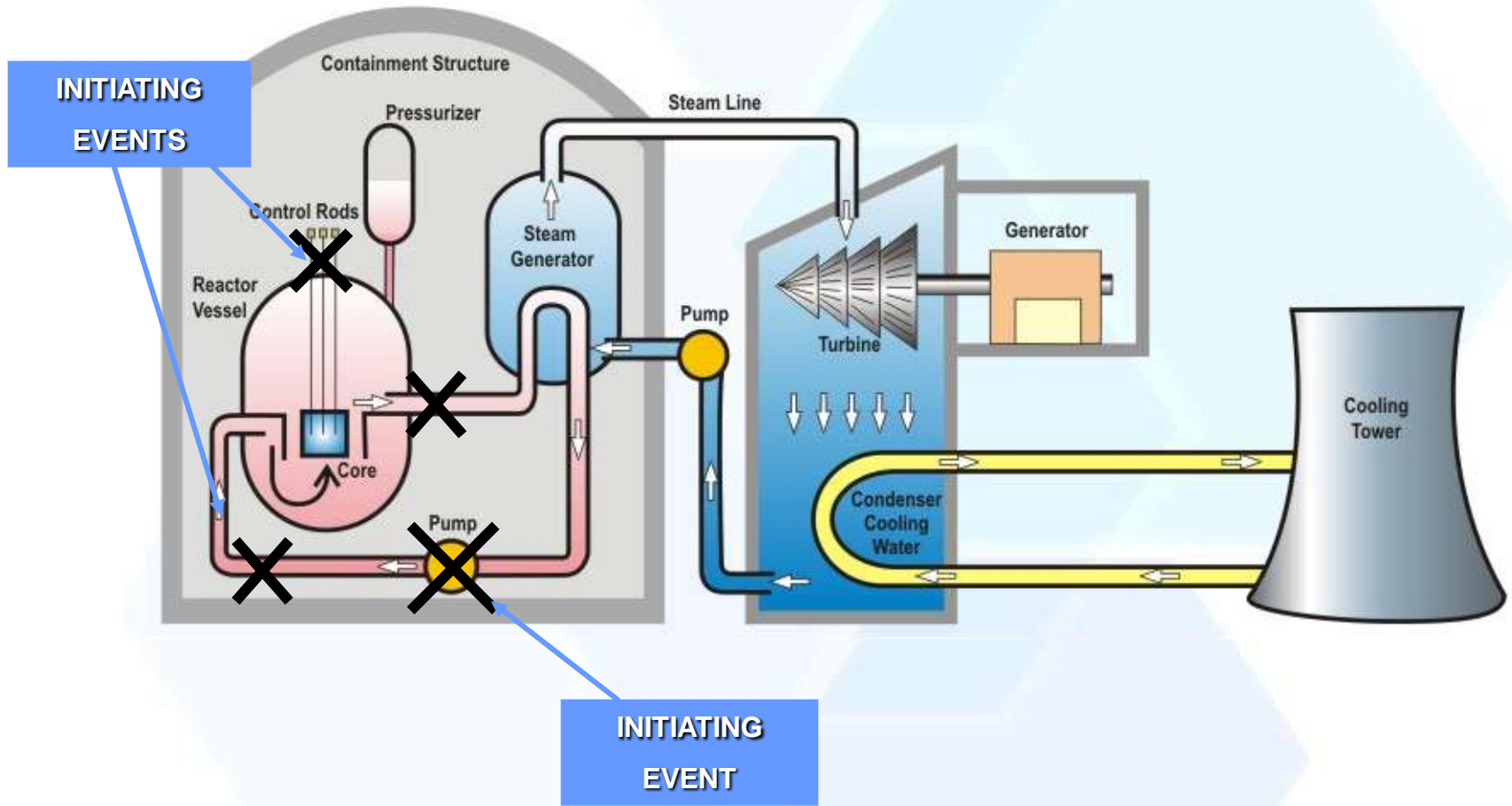


CAREM: Consolidated Trade Mark

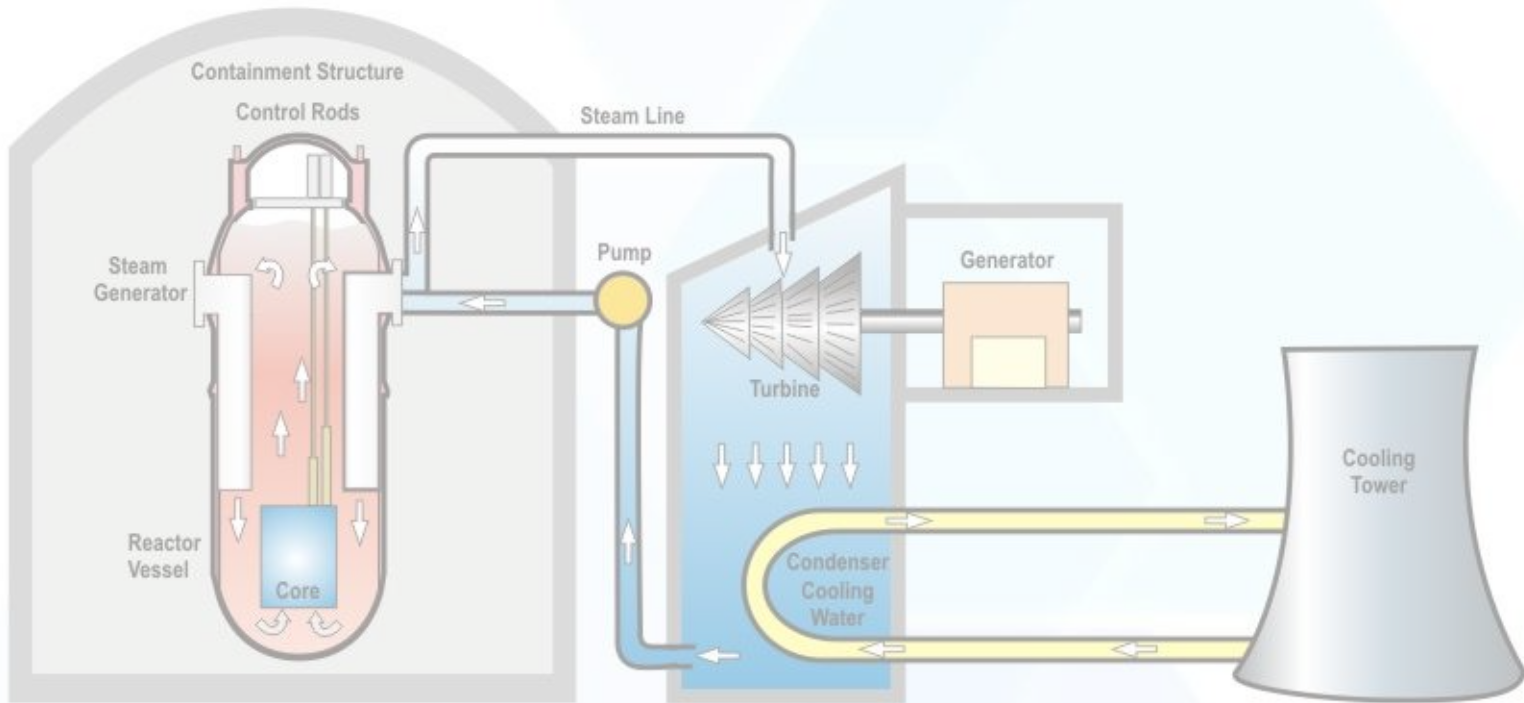
- First World Proposal of a Passive Integrated Reactor
- Second World Proposal of a Passive Reactor
- More than 200 presentations in International Forums
- There have been expressions of interest from four countries
- CAREM reviews: **1995: IAEA Test Case for desalination;**
 - 1999: MOU Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (Japan)
 - 2000: Three Agency Study (NEA/OECD), IAEA, IEA
 - 2001: DOE (EEUU)
 - 2002: Gen IV Forum
- Gen IV Forum 2003:
 - “it presents advantages with respect to the Advanced Light Water Reactors and could be deployed by 2015”
- CAREM created a Integrated Reactor :
 - ✓ CAREM Family: NILUS – IRIS; Russian Family: SMART



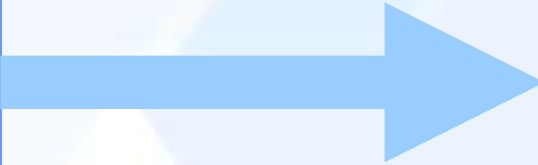
PWR Traditional Design



CAREM Design

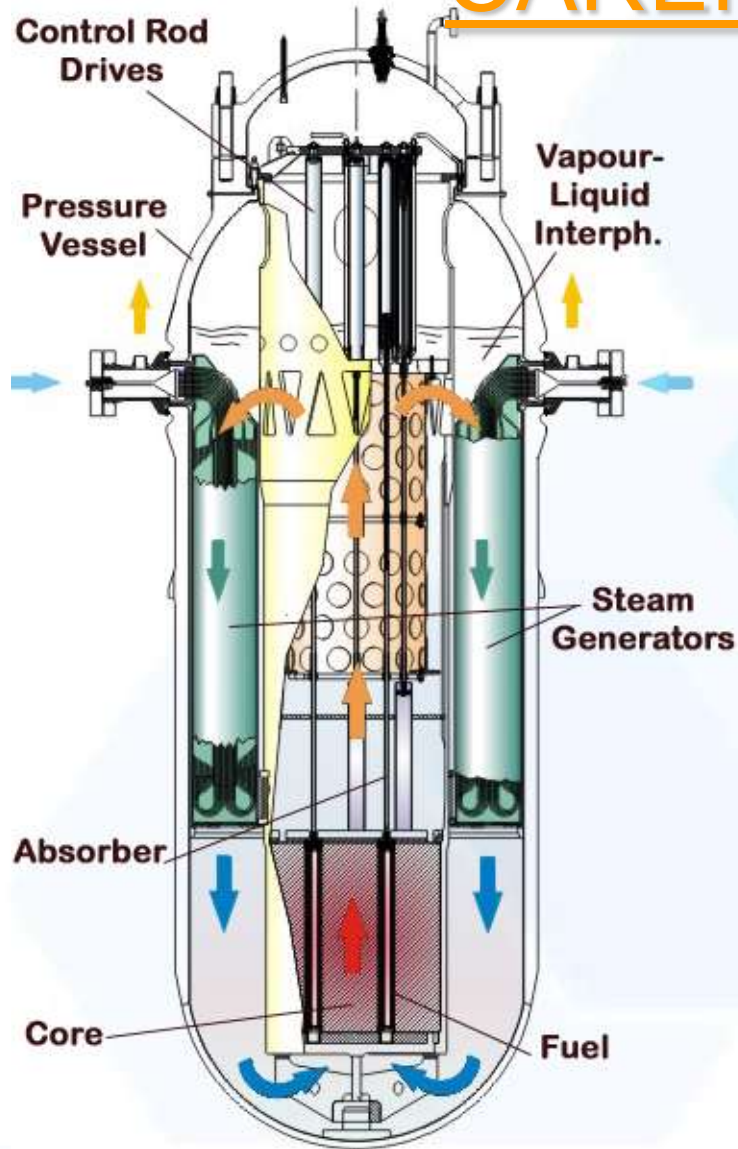


**MORE SIMPLE
MORE RELIABLE**



**SAFE
R**

CAREM Concept

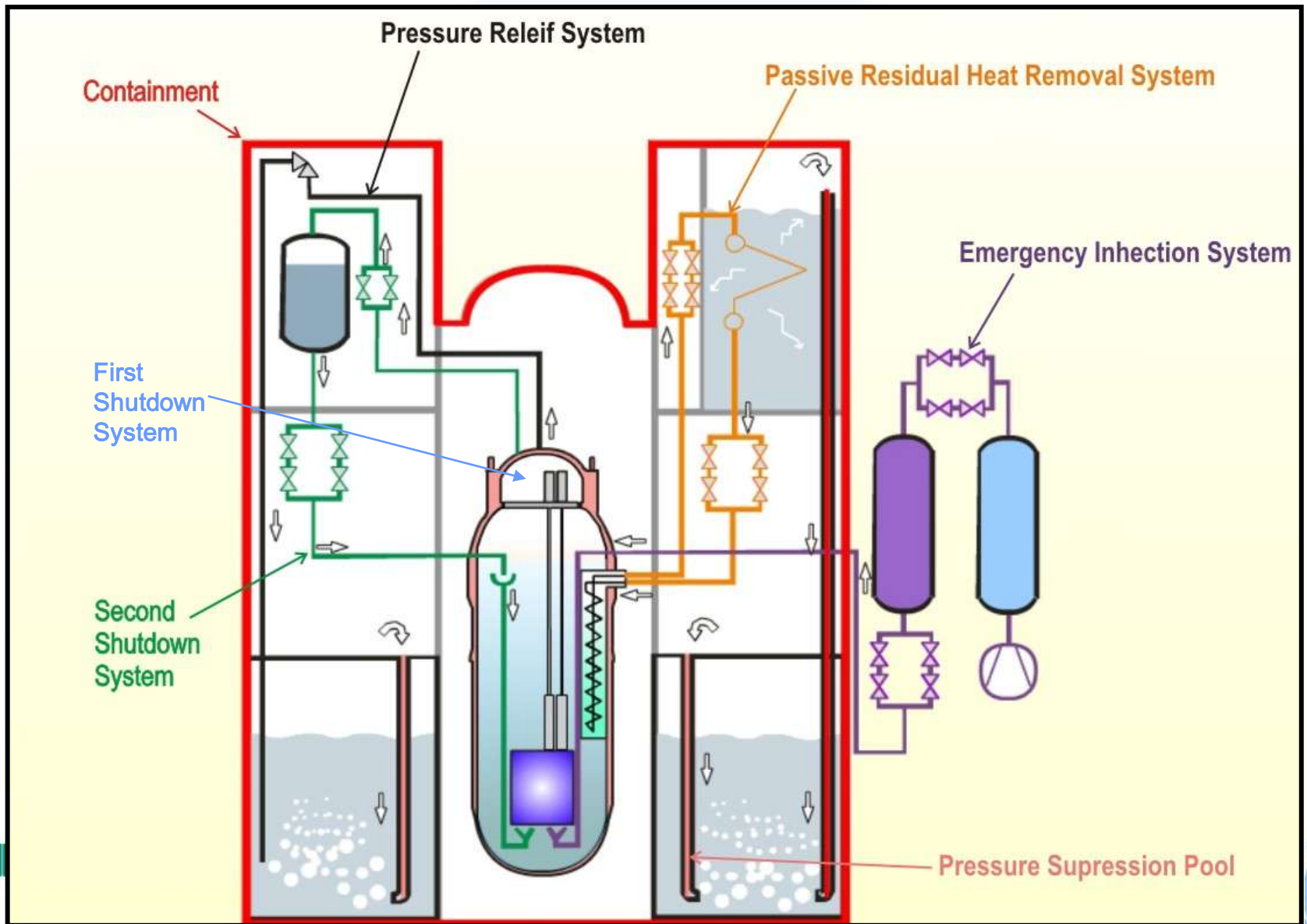


Innovative features

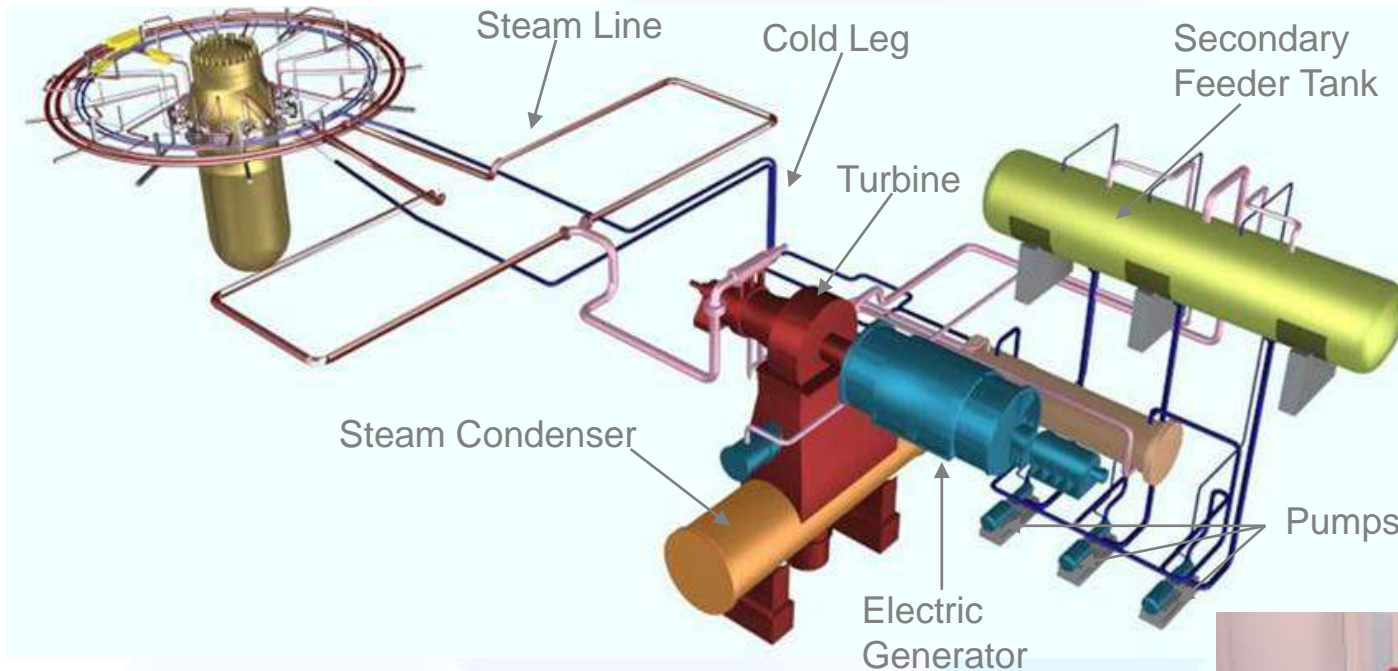
- Integrated Primary System
- Self-pressurised
- In-vessel CRD
- Passive Safety Systems



Passive Safety Systems

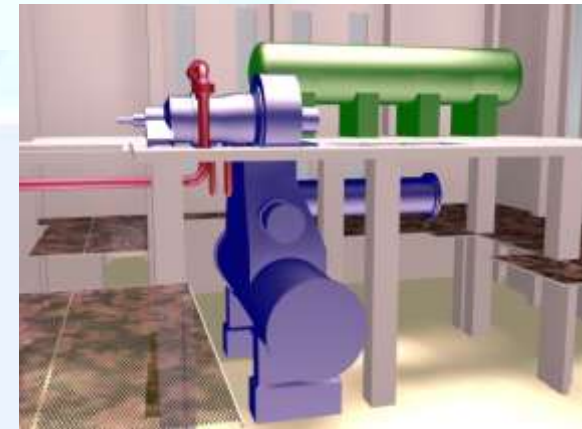


Balance Of Plant

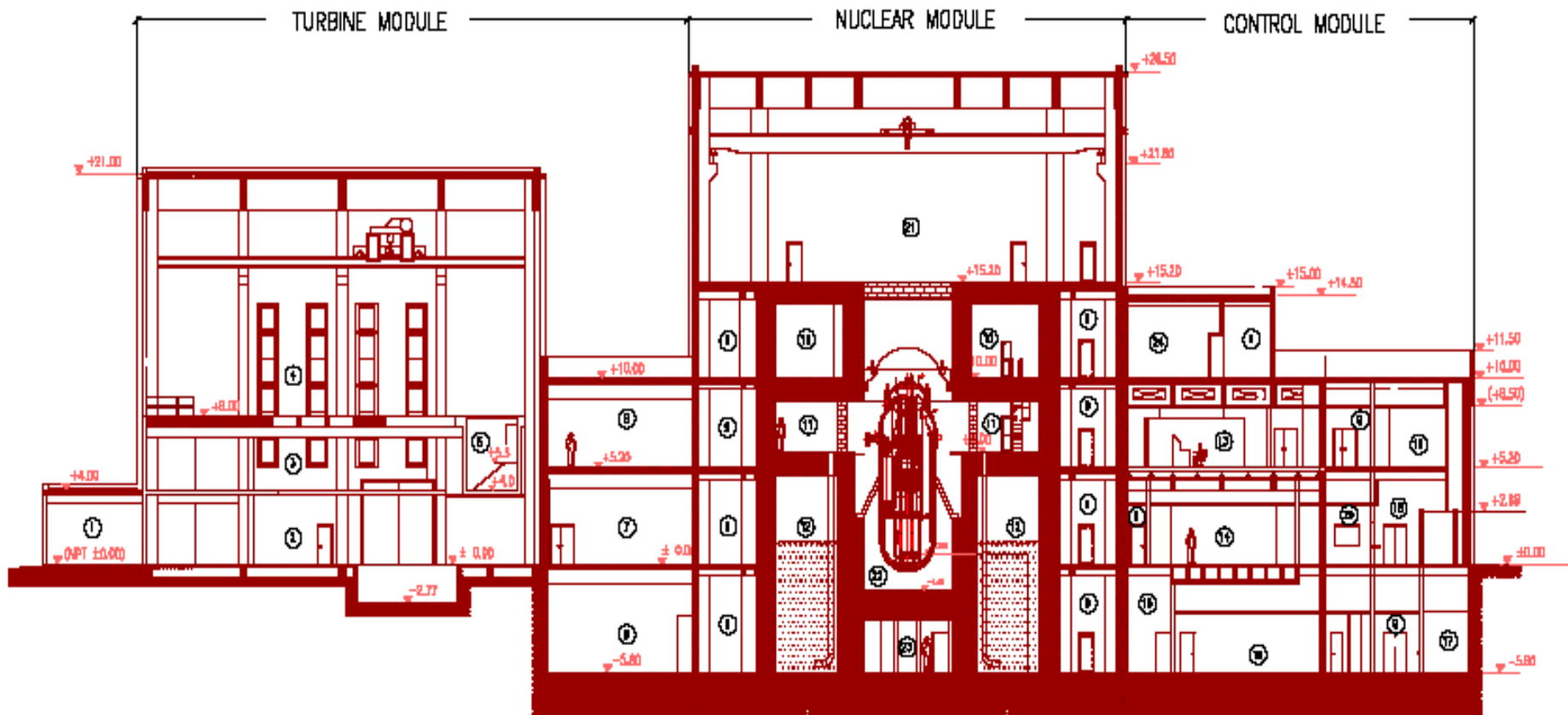


Operating Conditions

- Pressure 4,7 MPa
- Temperature 200/290 °C



Plant Design



- ① MEDIUM VOLTAGE SWITCHBOARD ROOM
- ② TURBOGENERATOR
- ③ TURBINE HALL
- ④ TURBINE HALL
- ⑤ PUMPS ROOM
- ⑥ STEAM PIPING VALVES ROOM

- ⑦ CLASS II - SWITCH BOARD ROOM
- ⑧ WORKSHOP
- ⑨ CORRIDOR
- ⑩ UPPER DRYWELL
- ⑪ PERIPHERIC DRYWELL
- ⑫ SUPPRESSION POOL

- ⑬ MAIN CONTROL ROOM
- ⑭ RACKS ROOM
- ⑮ CHEMISTS ROOM
- ⑯ LOCKERS
- ⑰ STORE ROOM
- ⑱ RECEPTION

- ⑲ OFFICE
- ⑳ GUARD
- ㉑ REACTOR HALL
- ㉒ CENTRAL DRYWELL
- ㉓ LOWER DRYWELL
- ㉔ MAIN CONTROL ROOM HVAC SYSTEM

Market target

- ✚ Electricity for isolated regions / towns / restricted grid capacity
- ✚ Industrial Steam (mining, Oil Sands)
- ✚ District Heating
- ✚ Desalination
- ✚ Shortening the Gap to introduce NE in non Nuclear Countries



Data Sheet

Thermal Power (MW)	100
Electrical Power (MW)	27
Primary Conditions (MPa, max/min °C)	12.25, 284/326
Secondary Conditions (MPa, °C)	4.7, 200/290
RPV (130 Tons) Dimensions (m)	Height 11, Diameter 3.2
Core / Fuel	UO ₂ enrich < 3.4%, Zy-4
Reactivity Control	Ag-In-Cd
Burnable Absorber	GdO ₂
Moderator/Coolant	Light Water
Refuelling Cycle at each batch (FPD)	330 (minimum)
Steam Generators type (12 units)	One Through, RPV-integrated
Turbine System	Condensing type, 175.32Ton/h
Passive Safety Systems	
First Shutdown (control rod)	9 FSS + 19 RCS
Second Shutdown (Boron Injection)	2x100%
RHRS-EC (Steam Condensing)	2x100% (+48hs each one)
Relief Valves	3x100%
Emergency Injection (1.5MPa)	2x100%

CAREM 300 MWe

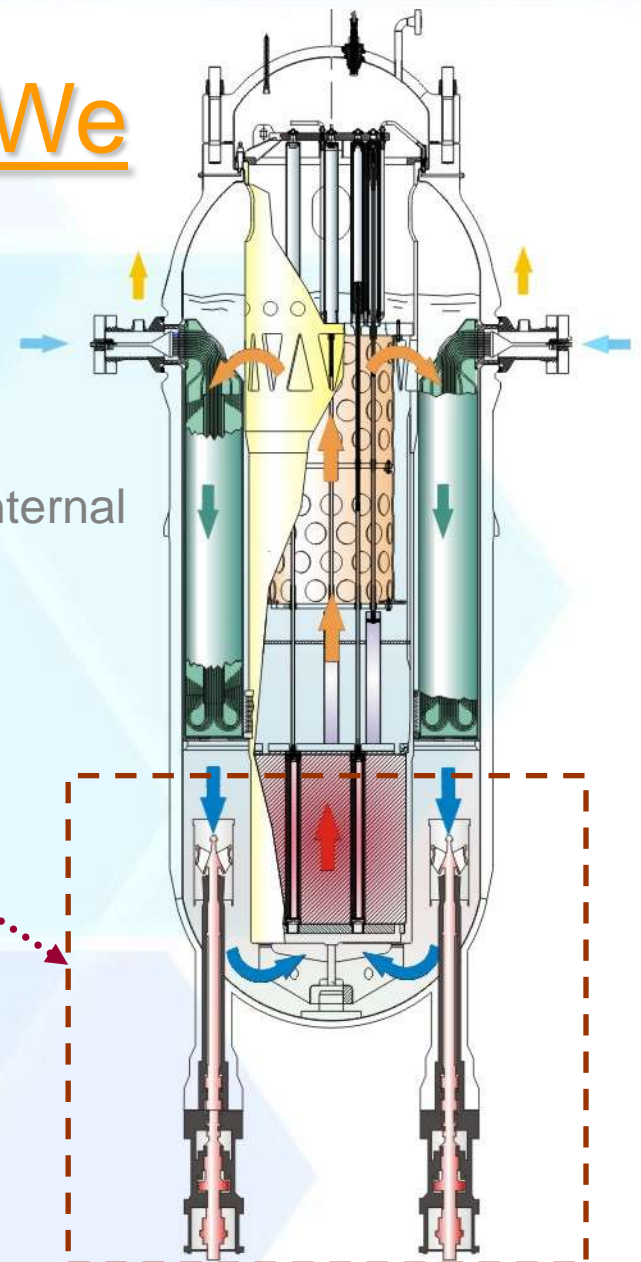
Goal

- Competitive Innovative Nuclear Power Plant

Design Concept: CAREM

- Integrated Primary Circuit, Self-Pressurized, Internal Control Rod Drives, Passive Safety

Includes in-Vessel Integrated Pumps



CAREM FAMILY



CAREM 25

- Concept feasibility demonstration
- Budget of the Prototype: 180 Mu\$
- Estimated Operation by 2014



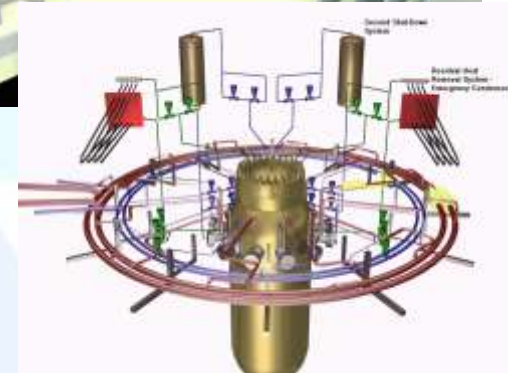
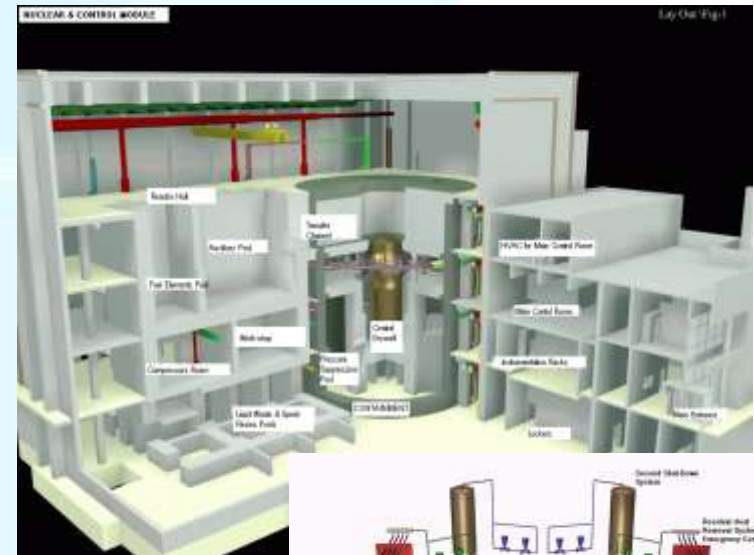
CAREM 100

- Extension of the Basic Concept
- Improve economy



CAREM 300

- FOAK by 2020
- Preliminary Budget (FOAK) ~900 Mu\$
- Modular design
- 20% savings for Follow-up Plants
- Levelised Generating Cost ~50u\$/MWh



Maturity of the design

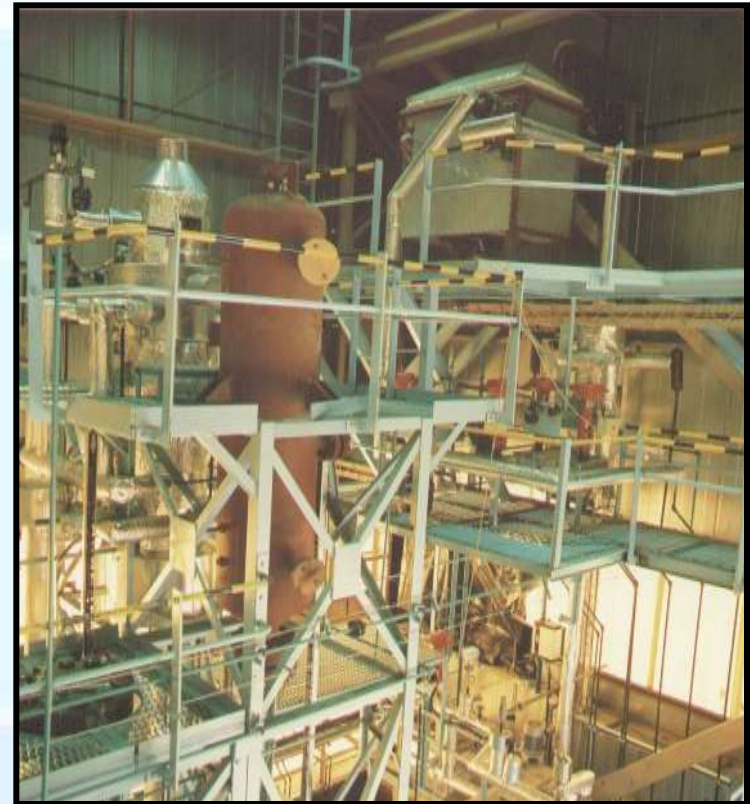
- ✚ HP test
- ✚ In Loop Fuel Test for critical parameters
- ✚ Innovative Safety Systems mock-up testing
- ✚ Experimental data for validating n- codes
- ✚ Endurance and hydraulic test (Fuel)
- ✚ Manufacturing Process Challenges



Natural Circulation HP Test LOOP

- ✚ Main Features
 - One Dimension - Closed loop (1:1 height scale - 3" Pipe diameter)
 - CAREM Operating Conditions (P, T)
 - Control feedback loop

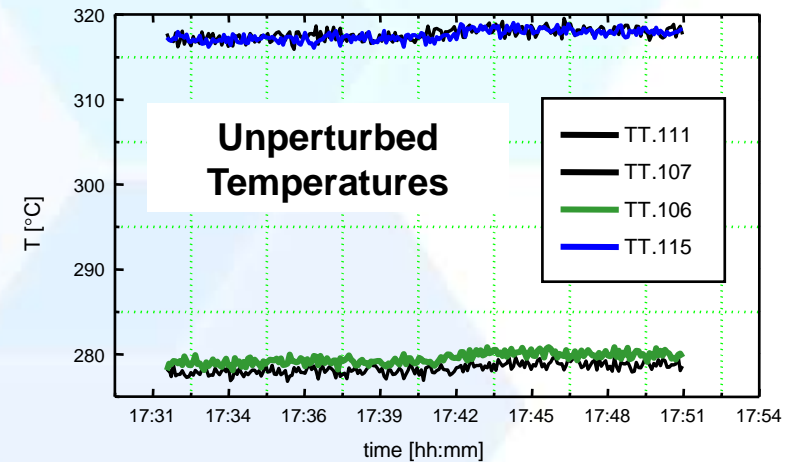
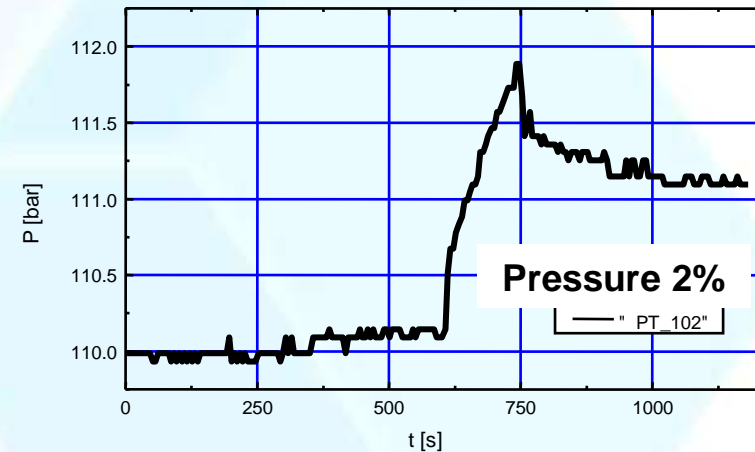
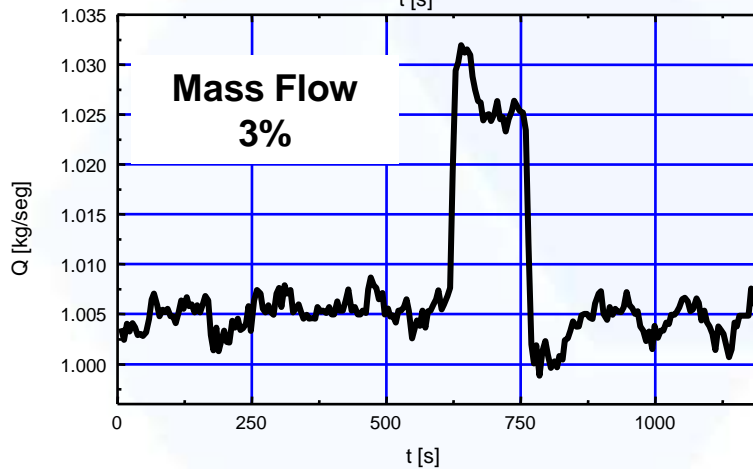
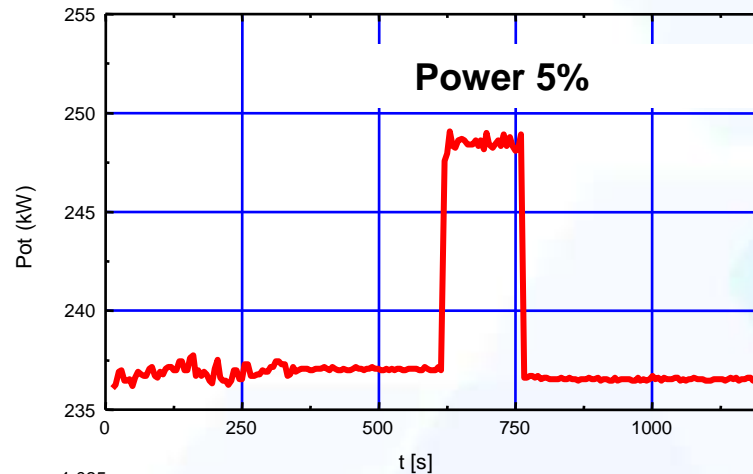
- ✚ Typical Tests
 - Response under perturbations in:
 - ✓ Power
 - ✓ Hydraulic Resistance
 - ✓ Pressure
 - ✓ Heat Sink



Confirmation of High Stability of the Primary System (Self Pressurized-Natural Circulation)

Dynamic Response

PERTURBATION on POWER, Time = 150 sec



Core Design - CHF Tests

✚ Facility - Thermohydraulic Lab IPPE (Obninsk-Russia)

- LP Freon Loop Test
- HP Water Loop Test

✚ Screening Points

	Test range	CAREM	units
Pressure	10 - 13	12.2	MPa
Mass Flux	200-700	410	kg/m ² /s
Quality	-0.15 to 0.15	< 0.10	-



More than 250 experimental points under different conditions were obtained in the Freon loop and more than 25 point in the water loop

First Shutdown System

Hydraulic CRDM Test Rig

✚ Rig Features

- 1 mechanism Full-scale
- Test conditions: atm P, $T < 90^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Feeding Pipe resembles layout
- Flow regime allows scalability of the Results at HP conditions

✚ Output

- Feasibility of the design
- Design & Operating Data for HP Test



Core Design - Neutron Physics



✚ Modelling

- Nuclear Data:
 - ✓ HELIOS library
- Cell Code CONDOR:
 - ✓ CP in 2-D cylindrical geometry
 - ✓ VAL: PWR critical pin cell & VVER-cells Test
- Core Code CITVAP
 - ✓ 3D geometry
 - ✓ Follow up capability
 - ✓ VAL: MTR and VVER Tests

✚ Critical Facility (RA-8)

- Experiments for each configuration of the CAREM core

Fuel Assembly Mechanical Design

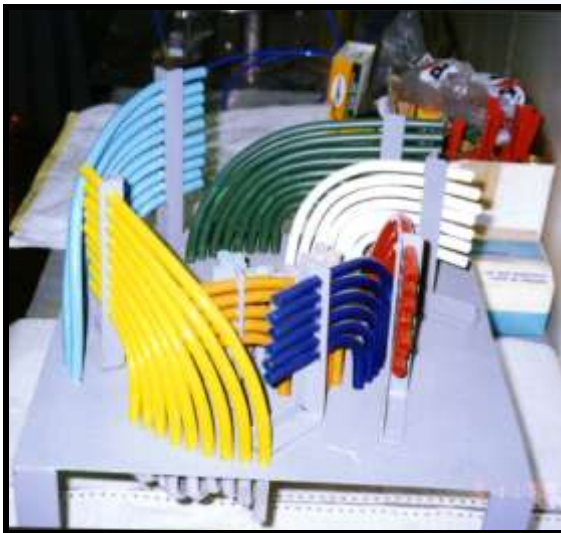


- ✚ Fuel Assembly Prototype: allowances and manufacturing techniques
- ✚ Low Pressure Loop: Hydraulic Resistance & Flow induced vibration
- ✚ High Pressure Loop: Endurance test, wear-out and fretting



Reactor Pressure Vessel Internals

- Mock ups for evaluation of mechanical design parameters and manufacturing process
 - Steam Generator Lay Out
 - Fuel Maneuvering Device (Refueling)
 - Pass Through for Instrumentation



Why CAREM ?

- ✦ Innovative Small Nuclear Power Plant with Passive Safety Systems.
- ✦ Simple and Reliable Design.
- ✦ High positive impact on Licensing, Operation and Maintainability
- ✦ Maturity: Mockup and loop Tested, Code Validated and Internationally reviewed
- ✦ Market opportunity for special applications
- ✦ Green Light to Prototype (Atucha Site) op. by 2014
- ✦ Concept able to be extended to 300 MWe: competitive for electricity generation markets



THANK YOU

Market Opportunity

+ Very Small Nuclear Power Plant (27 MWe)

- Bridge Nuclear Power Plant
- Isolated Places
- Nuclear Desalination and Cogeneration
- Industrial Steam, i.e. Mining and Oil Sand

+ Small Nuclear Power Plant (300 MWe)

- Competitive Electricity Generation
- More Economical & Larger Power in Multi-units

