

**New Technologies Workshop  
Cogen Europe  
8 May 2007, Brussels**

**ORC – Different Applications**

**Ing Bruno Vanslambrouck,  
Laboratory of Industrial Fysics and Applied Mechanics  
Hogeschool West-Vlaanderen, dept PIH**



## **Hogeschool West-Vlaanderen:**

Founded in 1995 as a fusion of the 5 «non catholic» higher education schools in the province of West-Flanders, also the earlier «Provinciale Industriële Hogeschool (PIH)».

Member of the Association University of Ghent

**Dept PIH:** about 1700 students in various technological professional and academic bachelor en master programs.

### **Masters (industrial engineer):**

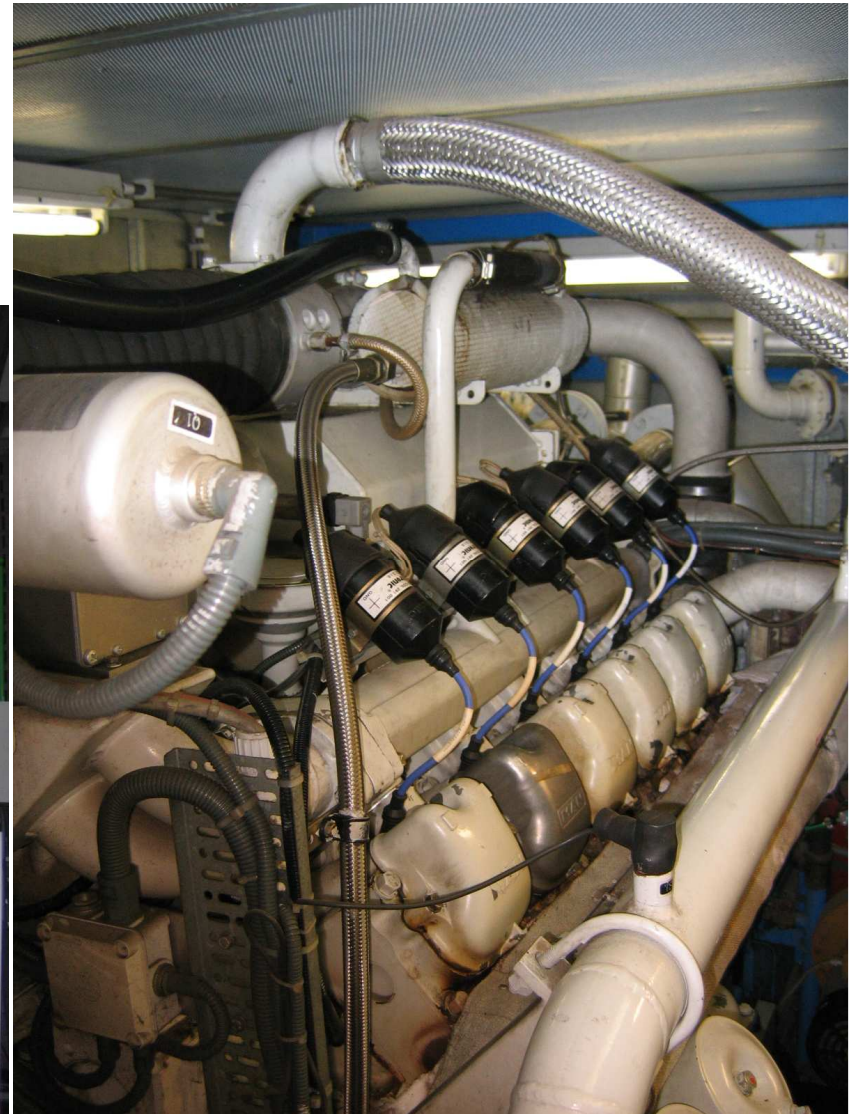
- Electromechanics and electrotechnics
- Electronics
- Industrial Design
- Chemistry en biochemistry
- Environmental sciences

## Main energy domain activities:

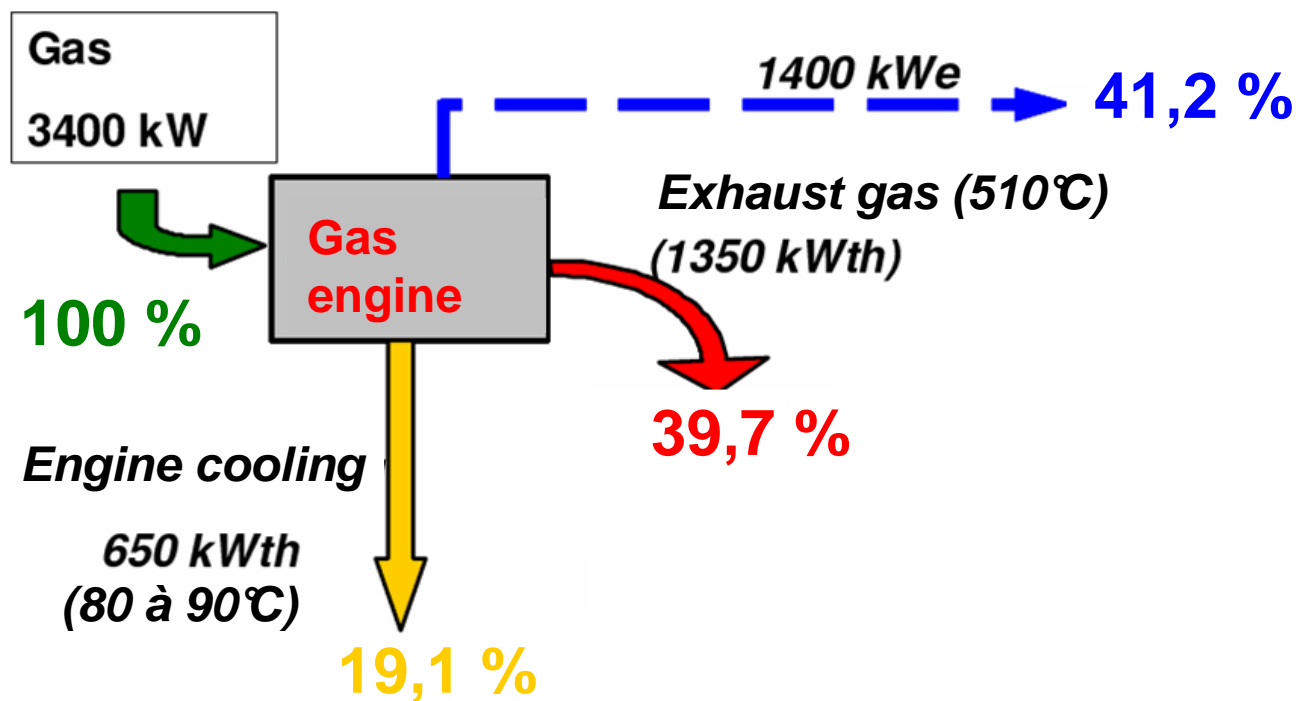
- Research programs, mostly financed by the Flemisch Government, on electrical grid losses, electromechanical drives, power quality, micro CHP, efficient lighting, anaerobic digestion of organic waste streams, biogas, energy crops...
- Founding member of « Cogen Vlaanderen vzw »
- Founder and hosting of « Biogas-E vzw »
- Member of the Dutch « Projectgroep biomassa & wkk »



Full didactical CHP unit  
288 kWe/478 kWth  
20,000 h from 1995

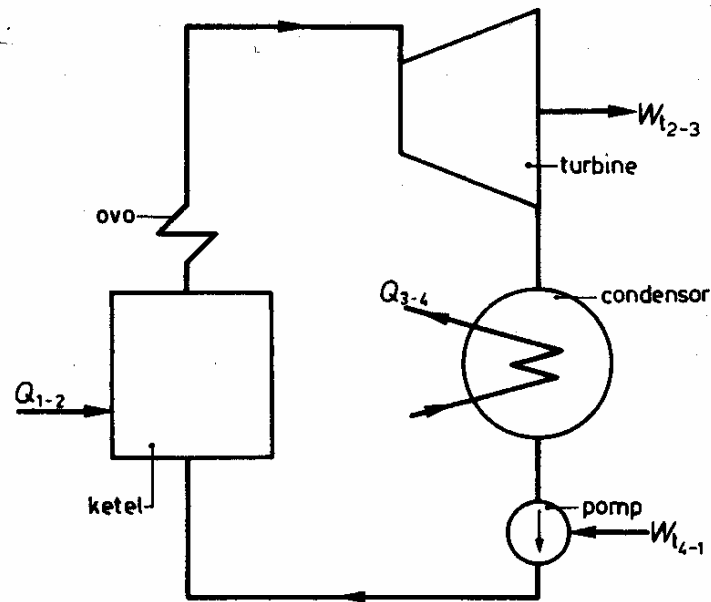


# Problem:

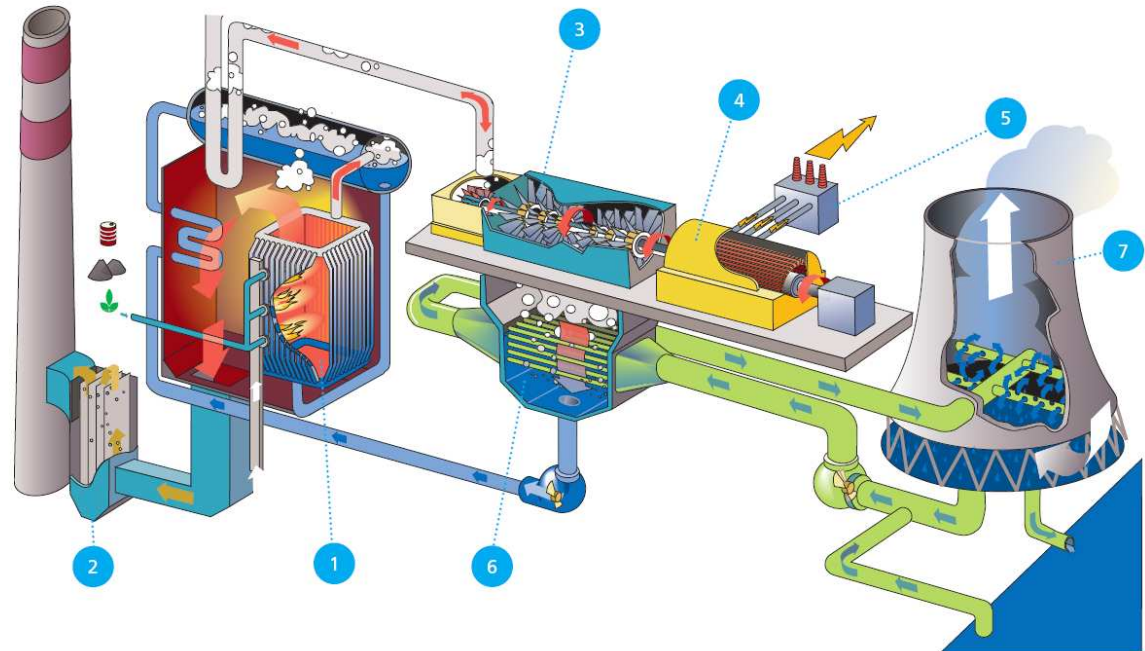




# The Rankine Cycle



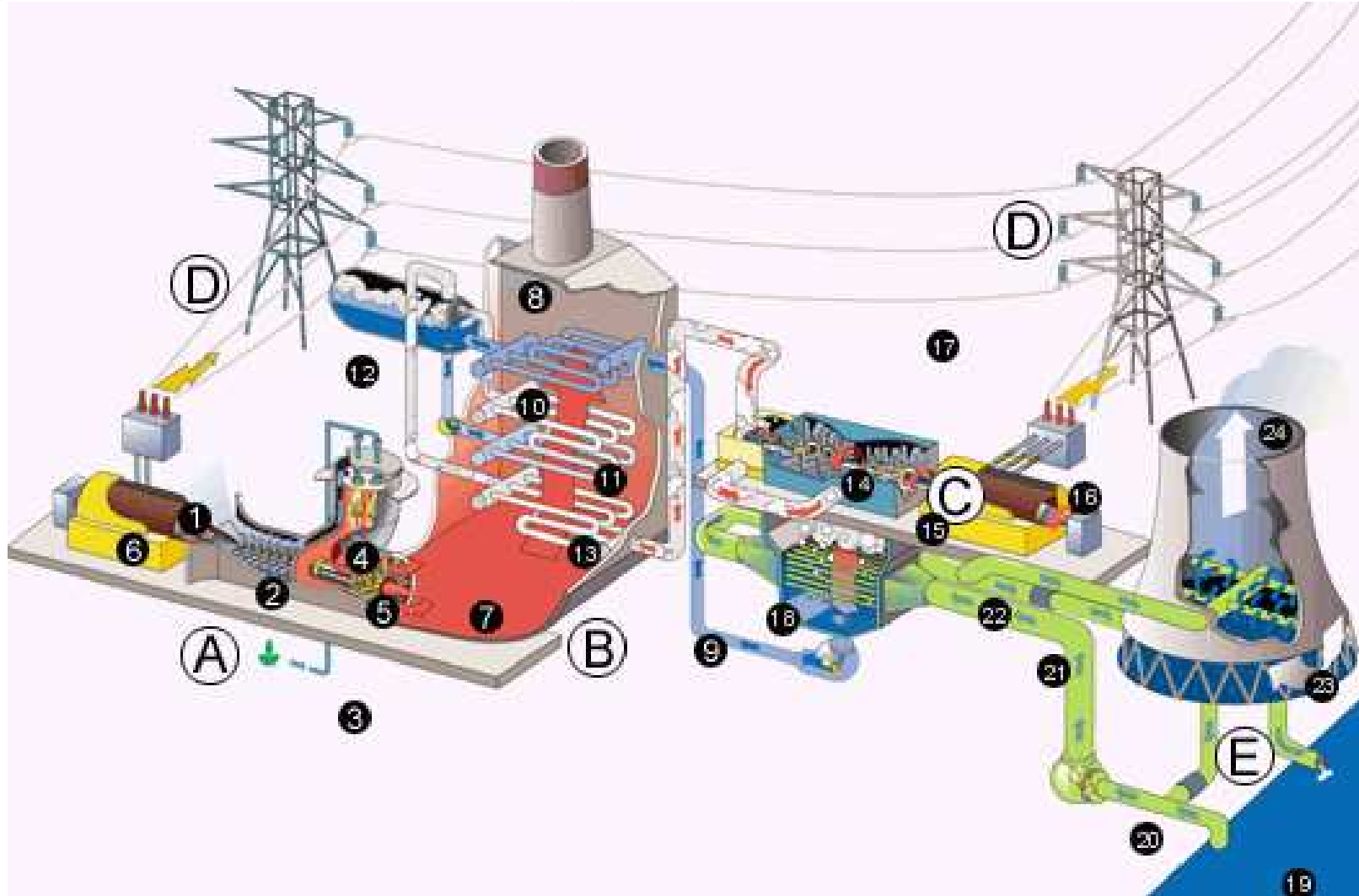
1. Boiler
2. Electrofilter
3. Steam turbine
4. generator
5. Transformer
6. Condenser
7. Cooling tower



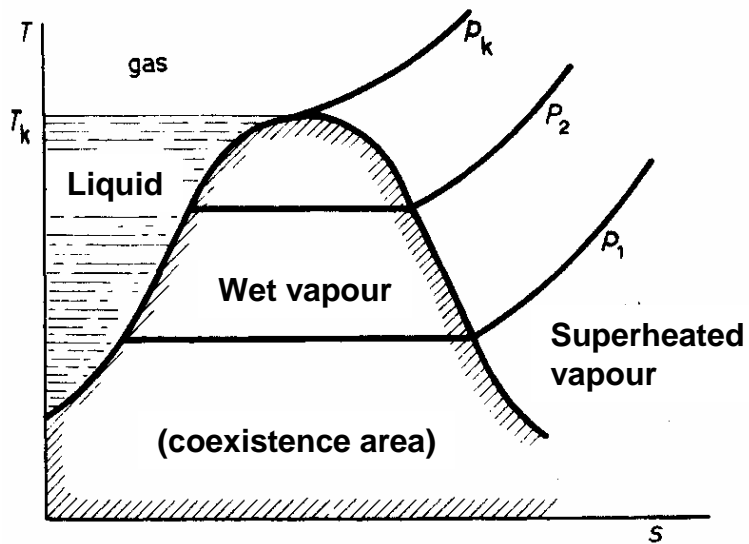
Steam turbine installation in a power station

# Combined Cycle:

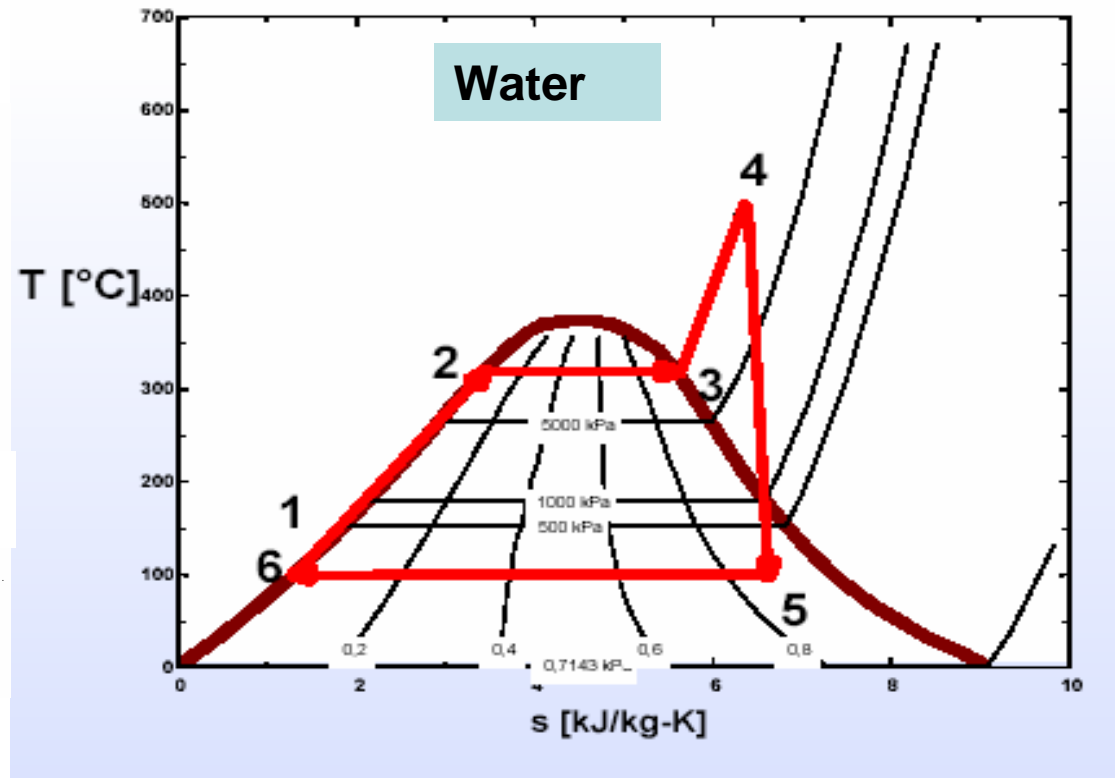
E-production from recovered heat from the gasturbine exhaust using a Rankine Cycle



# Rankine Cycle (cont):



T-s diagram for a working fluid



Rankine cycle with superheated steam



# Rankine Cyclus (cont):

Working fluid: usually water

## Advantages:

- cheap, widely available
- non toxic
- high heat capacity: excellent medium for heat transport
- chemical stable: less material requirements
- low viscosity: low friction losses

## Disadvantages:

- due to low condensation  $t^\circ$ : very low pressure, high specific volume, big installations needed (turbine, condensor...)
- high pressure drop to become a high enthalpy drop: expensive multi stage turbine needed
- expansion has to start in the superheated area to avoid too high moisture content after expansion: need of a high  $t^\circ$  heat source but very partially use.
- because of this: efficiency loss and limited suitability to waste heat recovery

# Why ORC ?

Disadvantages water probably to correct using other working fluids, mostly of organic origin:

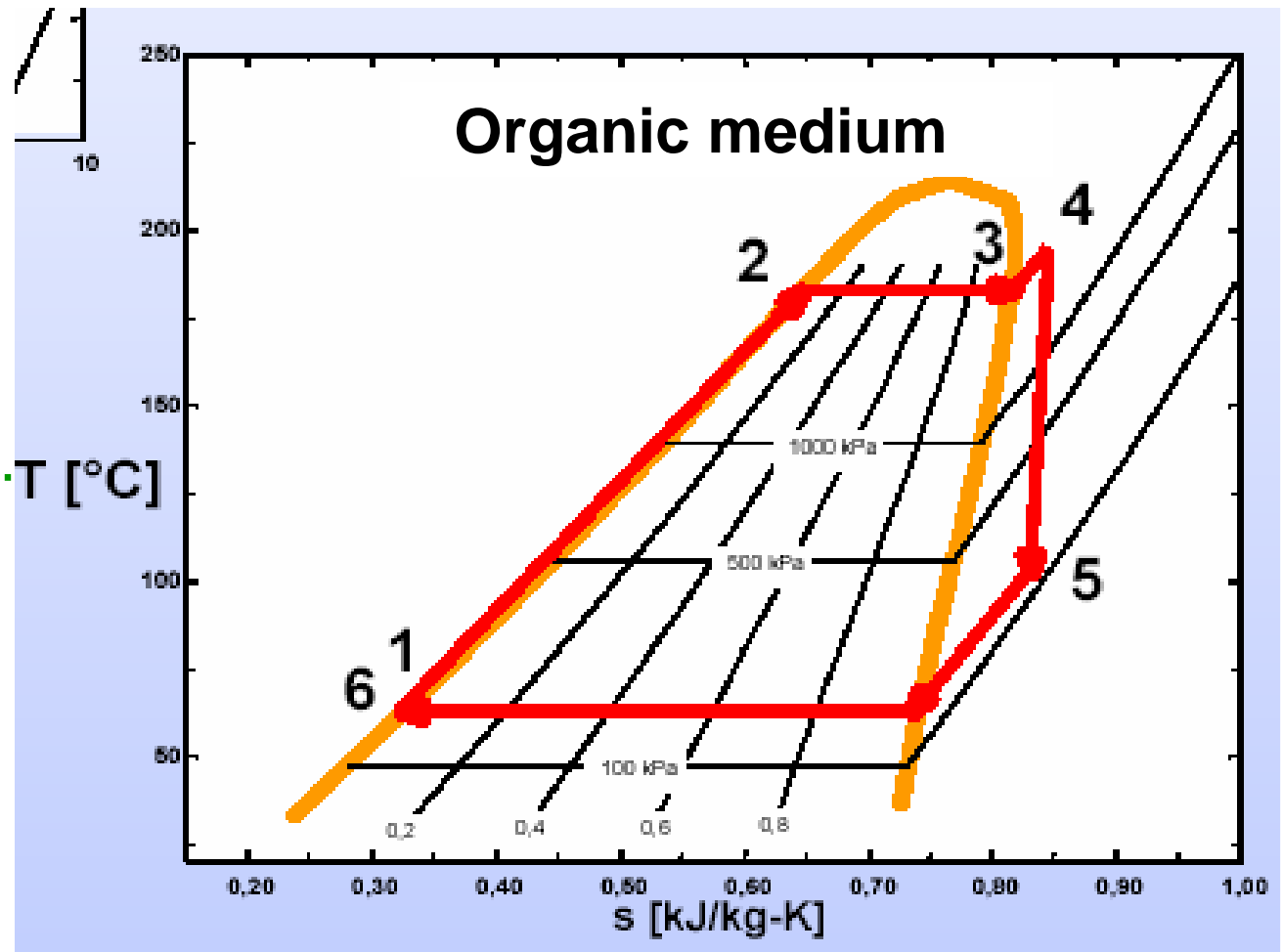
Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC)

Used are:

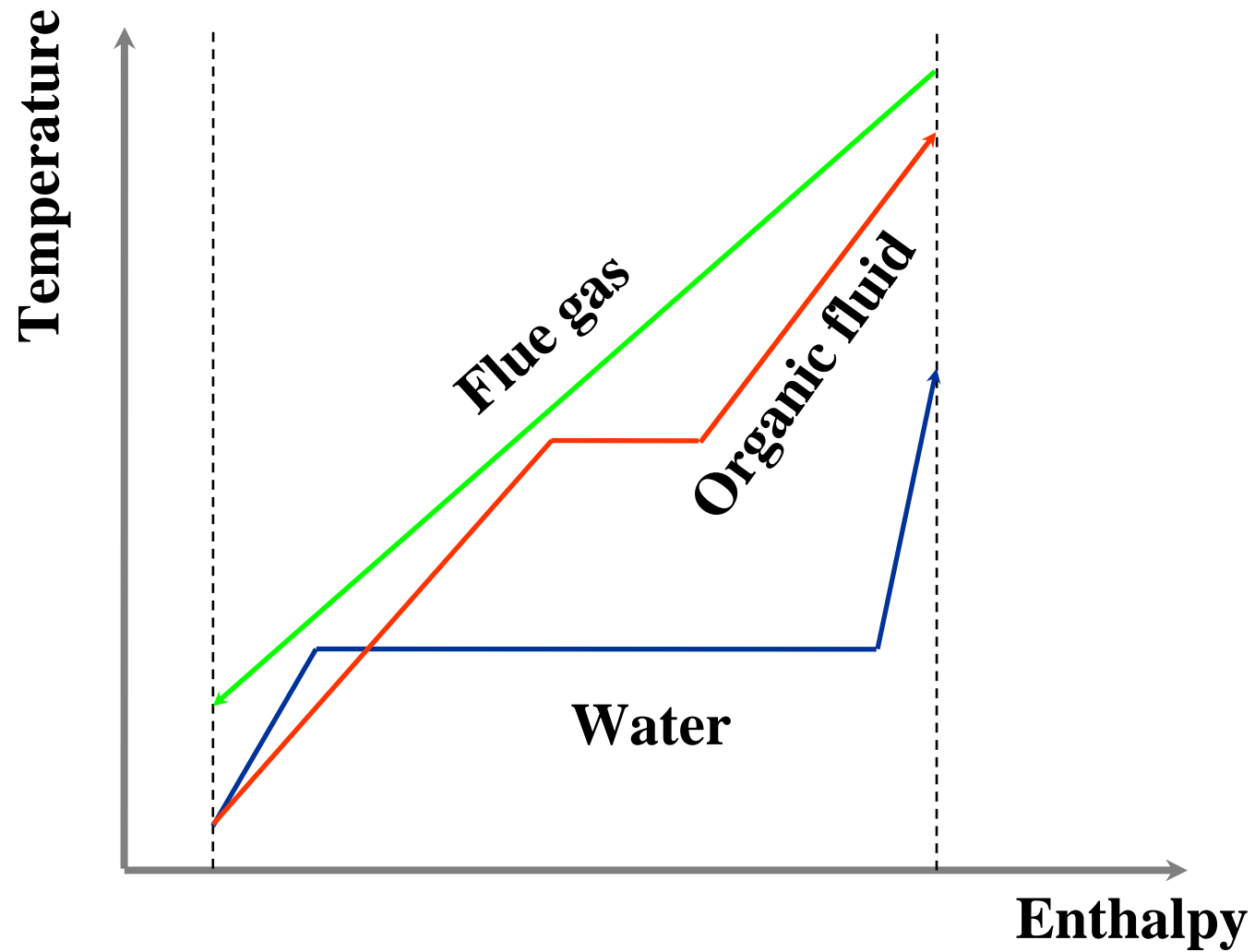
Toluene, butane, pentane, ammonia, refrigeration fluids...



Organic Rankine Cycle in the T-s diagram



# ORC: Organic Fluid vs Water

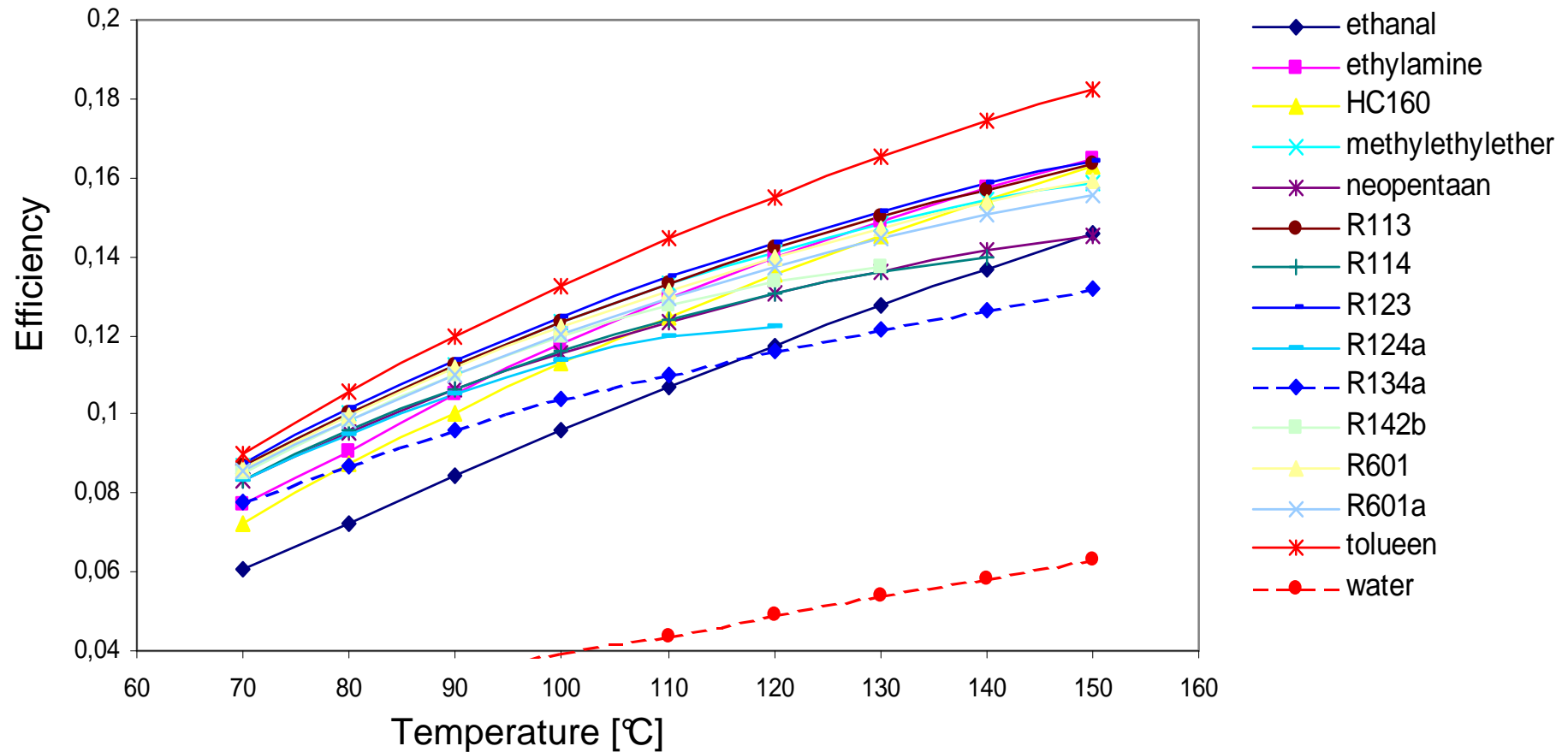


# ORC: Fluid selection

AspenTech simulations (final work PIH 2004)

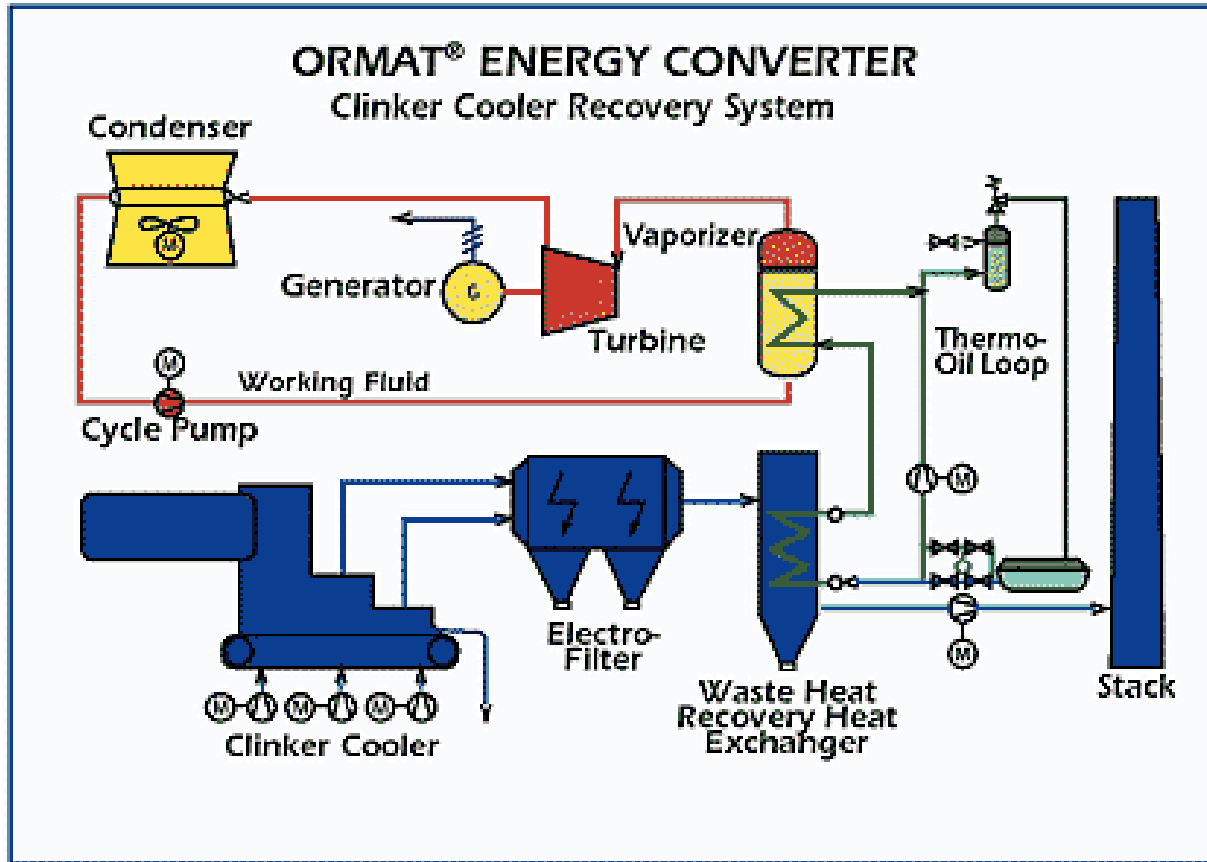


Cycle efficiency versus temperature @ 75% turbine isentropic efficiency



# Applications:

## 1. Industrial waste heat recovery



Status: commercially available

# Applications (cont):



## 2. Exhaust heat recovery on stationary combustion engines:

- Economical attractive on engines using renewable fuels (sewage gas, biogas, vegetable oils...) because of governmental support (Green Certificates). Simple PBT of 3 years calculated (2 independant sources)
- Flexible power to heat ratio feasible on cogeneration units
- Possibility to upgrade older cogeneration units with respect to CHP certificates by adding a ORC (increase of relative primary energy savings with 5 %)

About 12% of exhaust heat convertible to electricity, rest partially suited for heating purposes (ORC thermal efficiency of 21.5%).

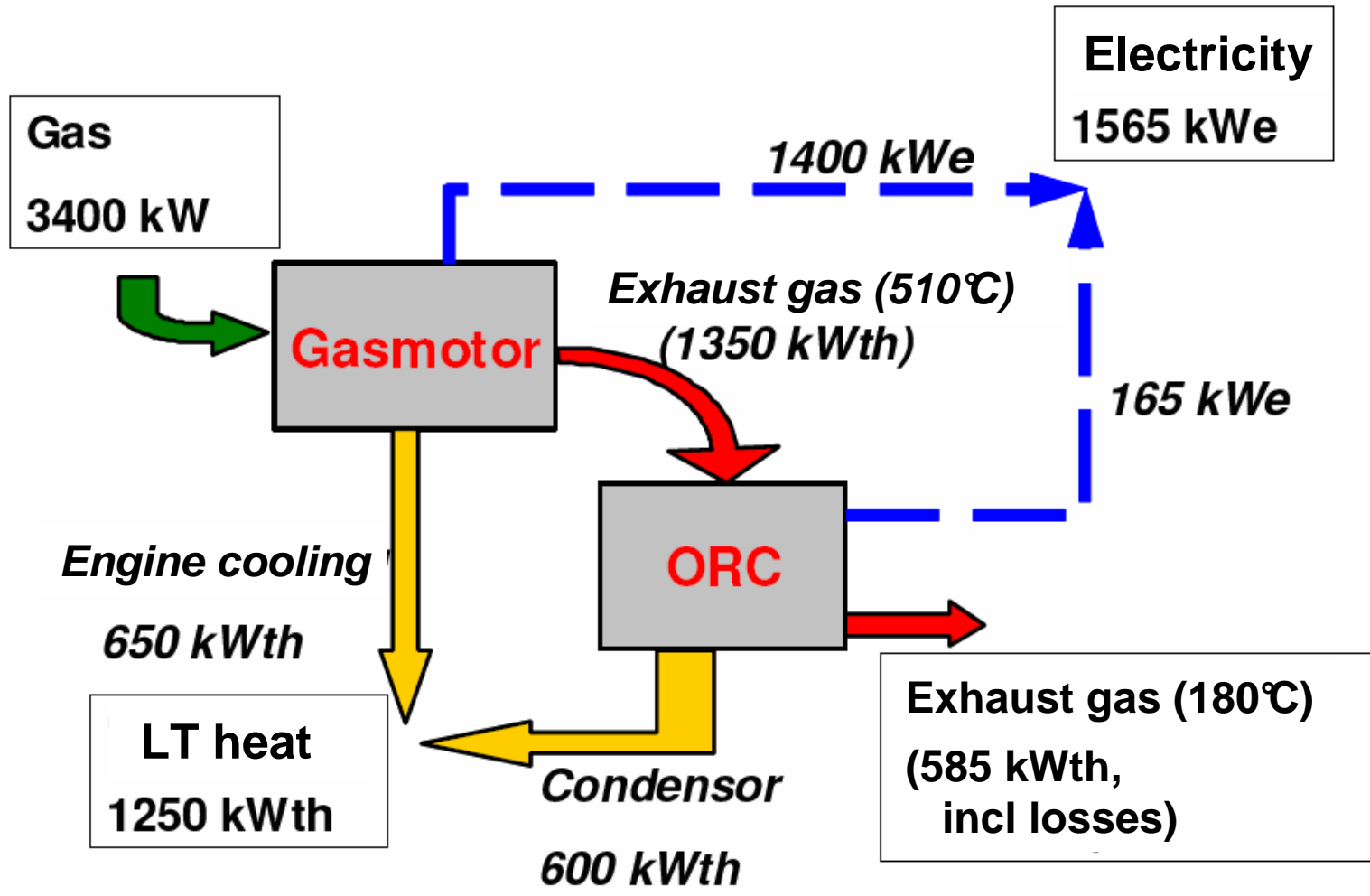
Ex. Gas engine 1,4 MW,  $\eta = 41 \%$

12 % exhaust heat =  $0,12 \times 1350 = 165 \text{ kW}$

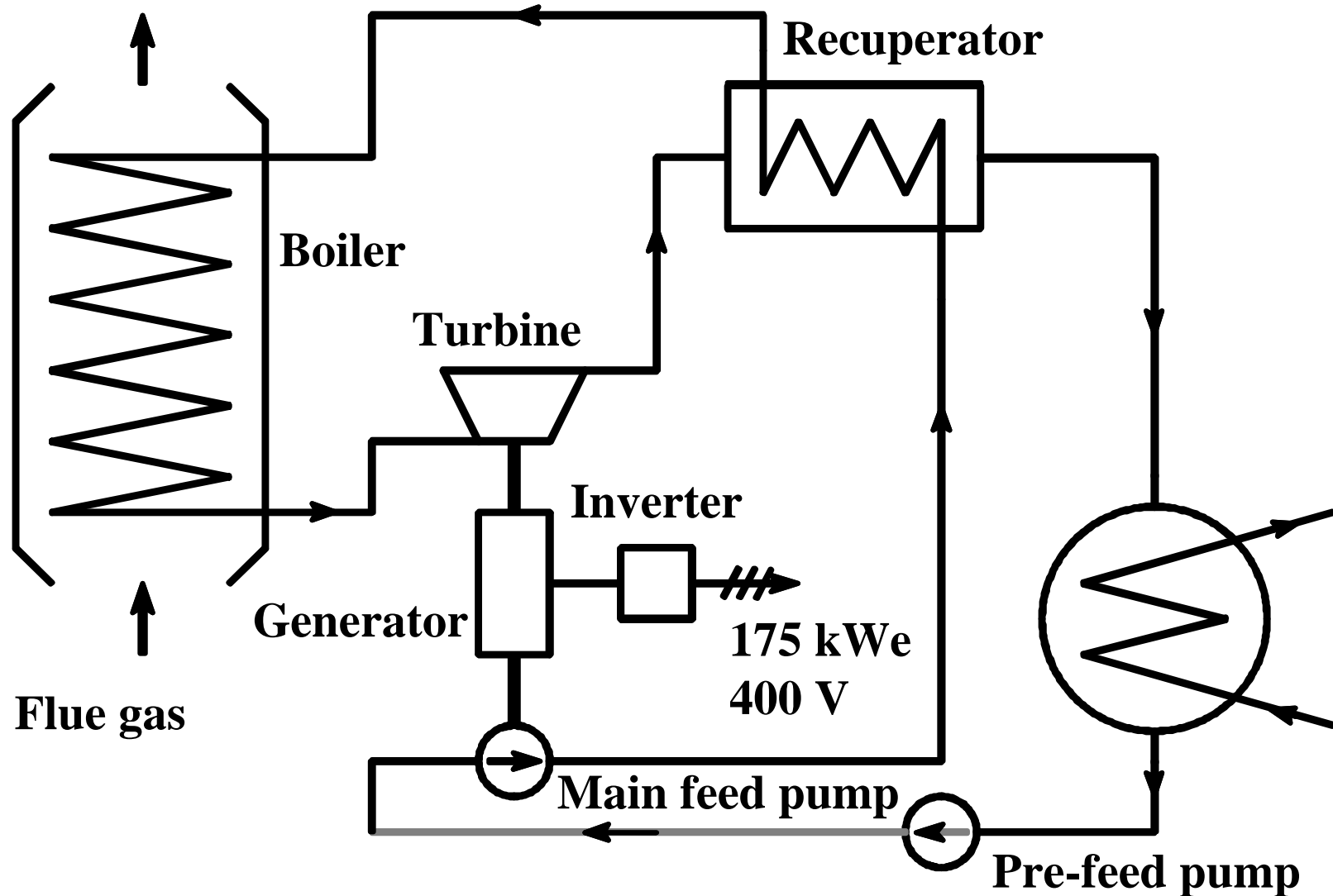
$\eta$  increases to 46 % !

Status: commercially available but very few references





# Ex: 175 kW ORC by Tri-O-Gen (NI)



# ORC in Danville, IL using exhaust heat from 3 Jenbacher engines

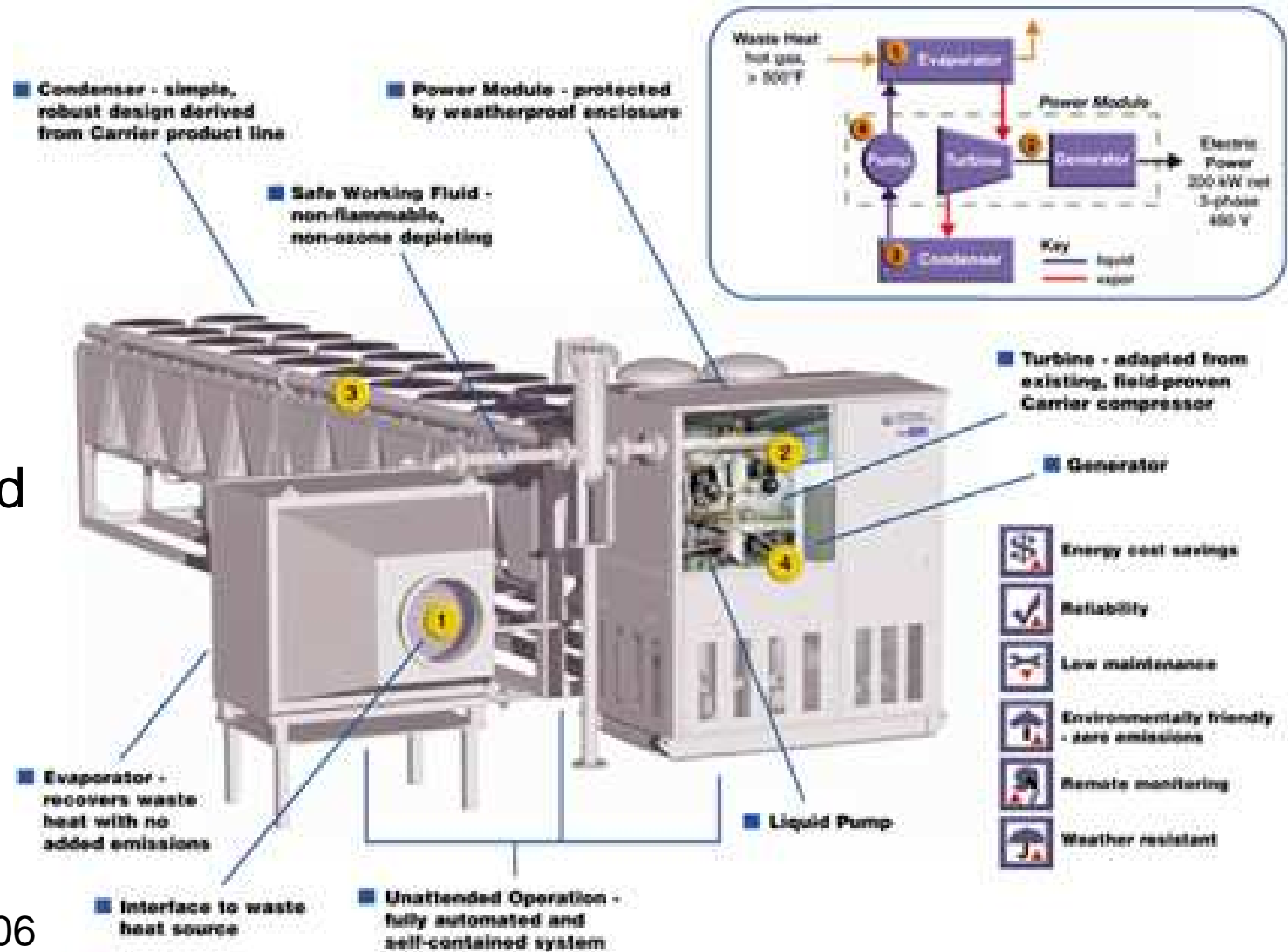


> 900 degree F Exhaust Gas

# UTC Power (USA) (Carrier)

ORC, derived  
from airco  
equipment

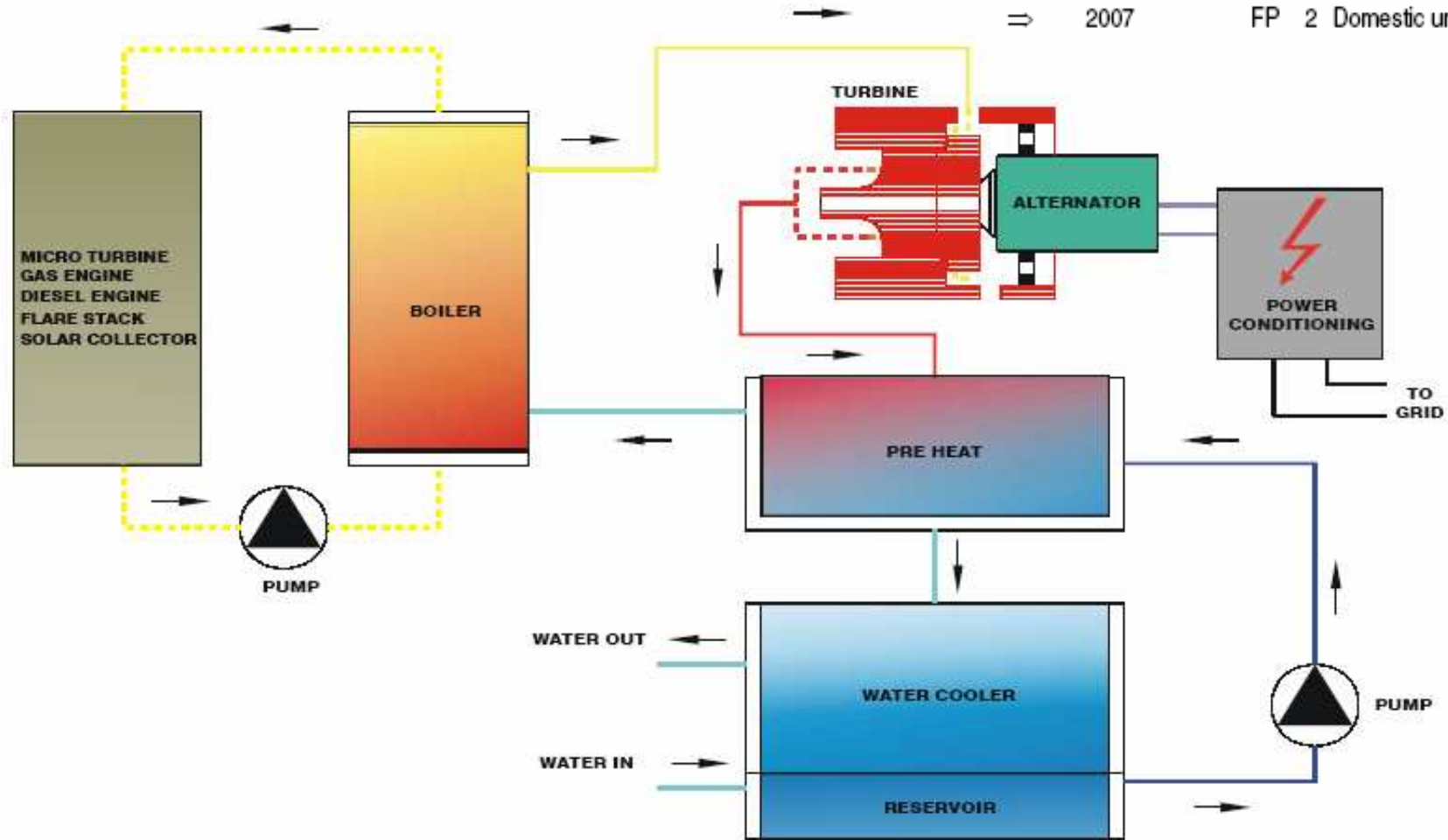
200 kW<sub>e</sub>  
First tests: 2004  
Marked intro: 2006





Freepower Technology : The Practice

- ⇒ 2004 FP 6
- ⇒ 2005 FP120
- ⇒ FP 10
- ⇒ 2006 FP 25
- ⇒ FP 60
- ⇒ FP250
- ⇒ 2007 FP 2 Domestic unit trials



# Applications (cont):

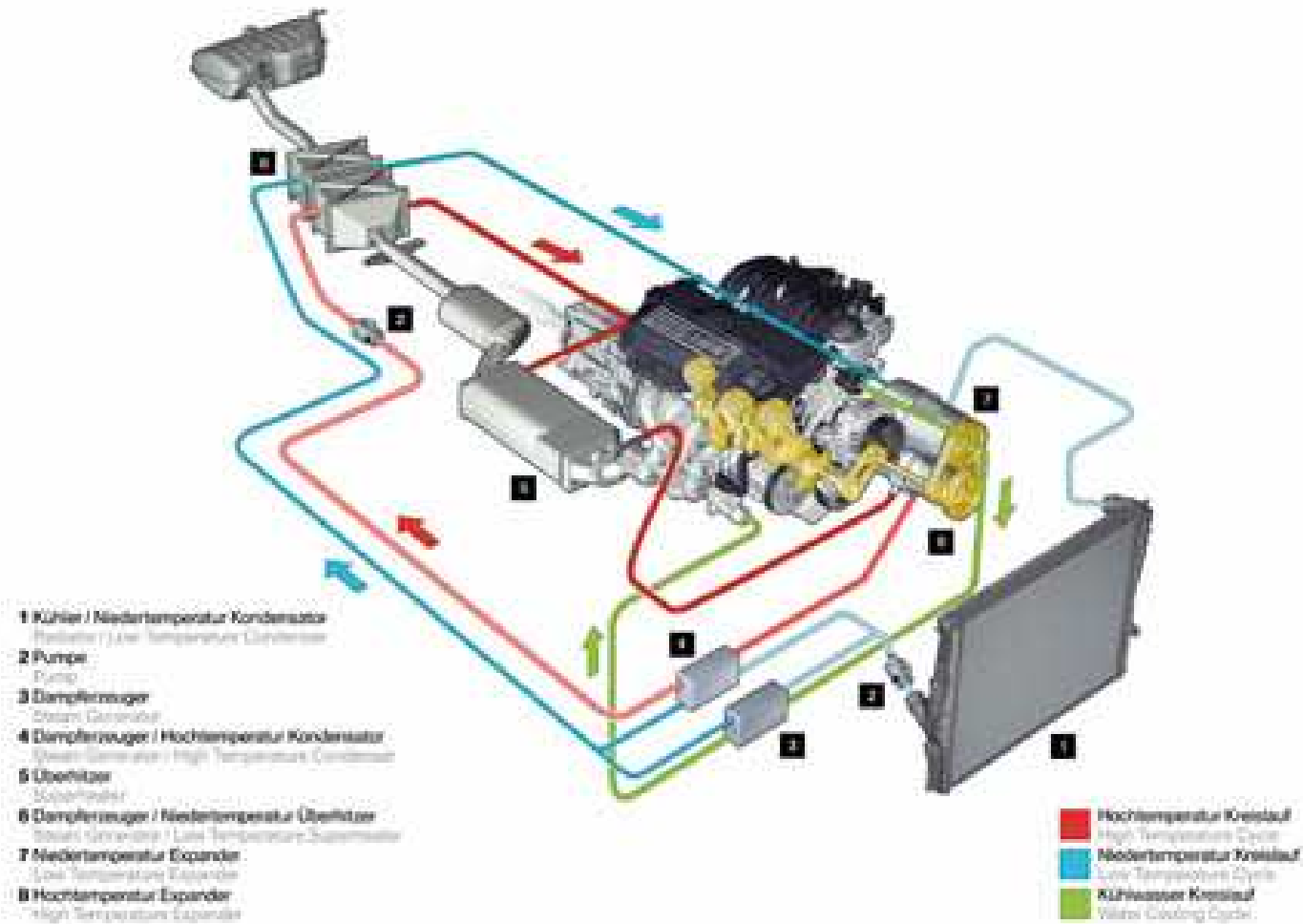


## 3. Exhaust heat recovery on transportation vehicles

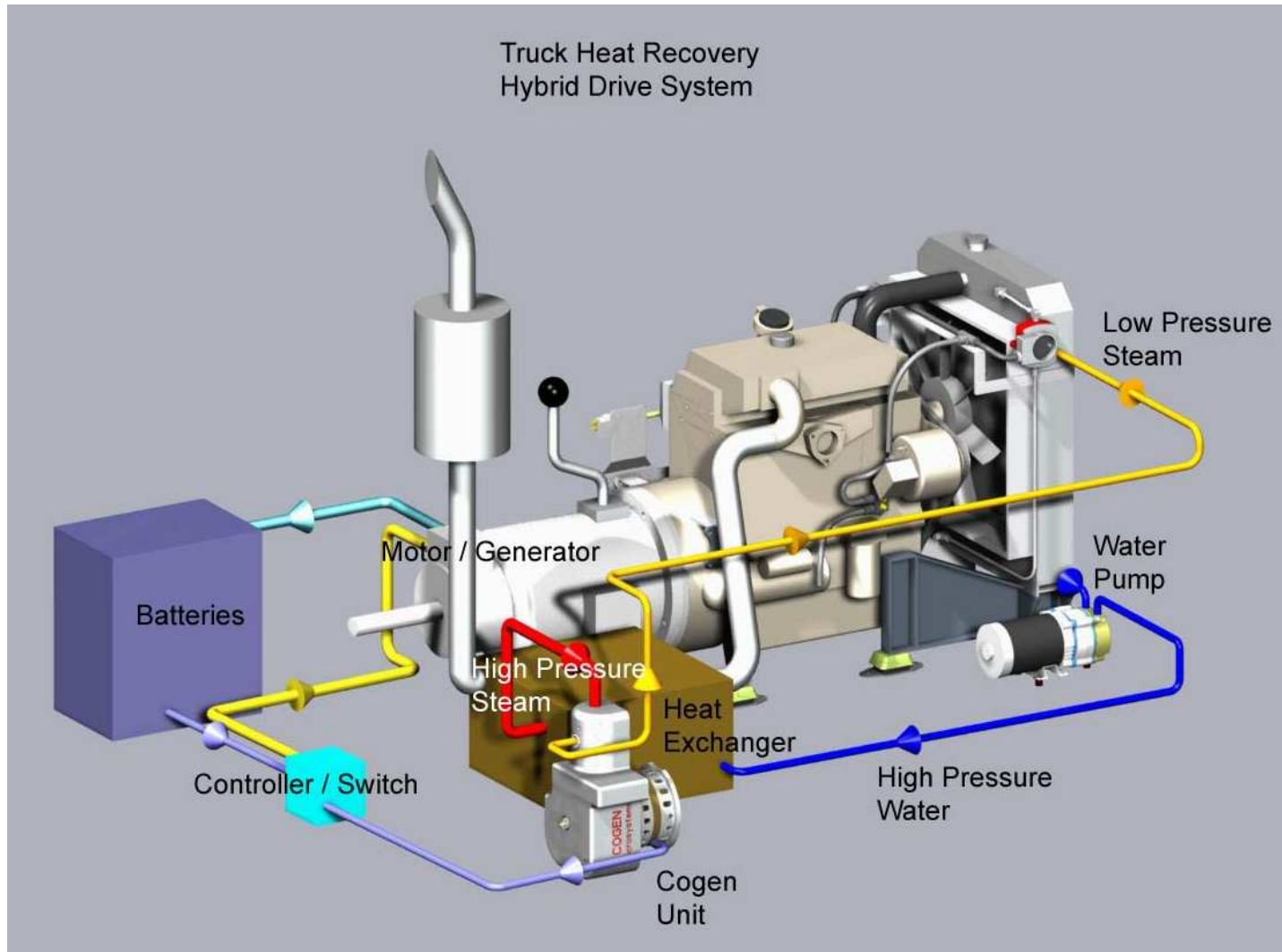
- powering the airco-compressor ?
- powering refrigeration group on cooling transport (hybrid with oil burner on standstill) instead the nowadays small diesel-compressor group ?
- charge current (ideal on hybrid cars)
- mechanical power coupling to the crankshaft
- ...
- status: under development or test by some manufacturers



# Turbosteamer project BMW: extra 10 kW on 1,8l gasoline engine by heat recovery on cooling water and exhaust (steam and ethanolcycle)



Cogen Microsystems, University of Adelaide  
Commerce & Research Precinct  
35-37 Stirling Street  
THEBARTON, SA 5031 AUSTRALIA



# Applications (cont):



## 4. ORC-powered domestic micro CHP units

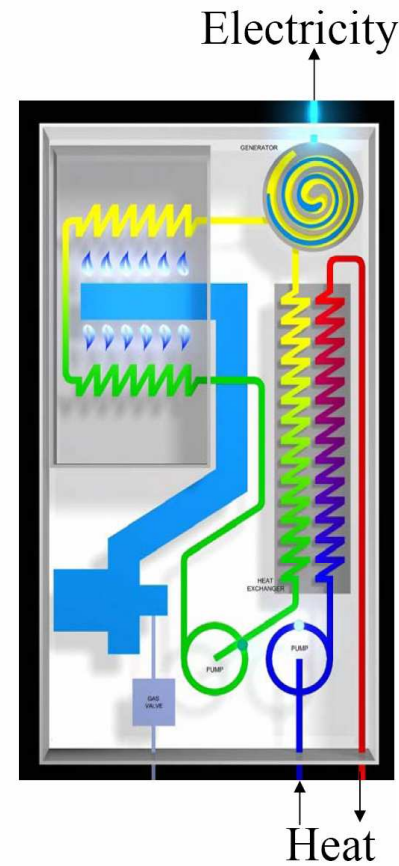
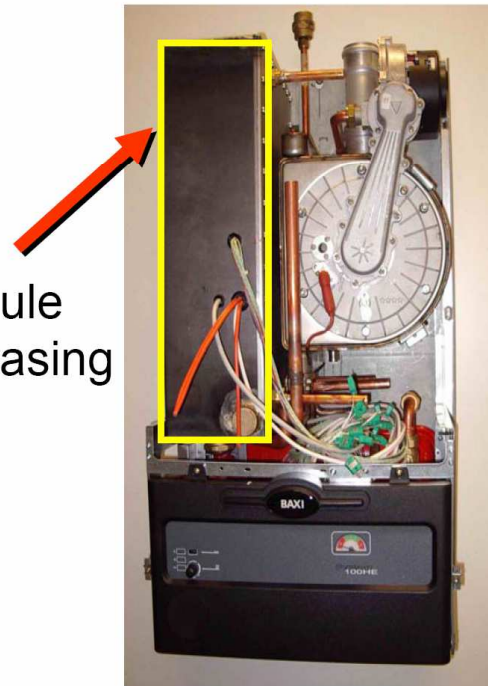
- alternative to gas engines
- in concurrence with other new technologies as stirling engines, fuel cells...
- advantages to other technologies has to be proven
- status: prototyping, maybe available soon

**Energetix Group European Headquarters**  
Capenhurst Technology Park  
Capenhurst  
Chester  
CH1 6EH  
UK



## ORC/Scroll Expander

ORC prototype module  
Fitted inside boiler casing

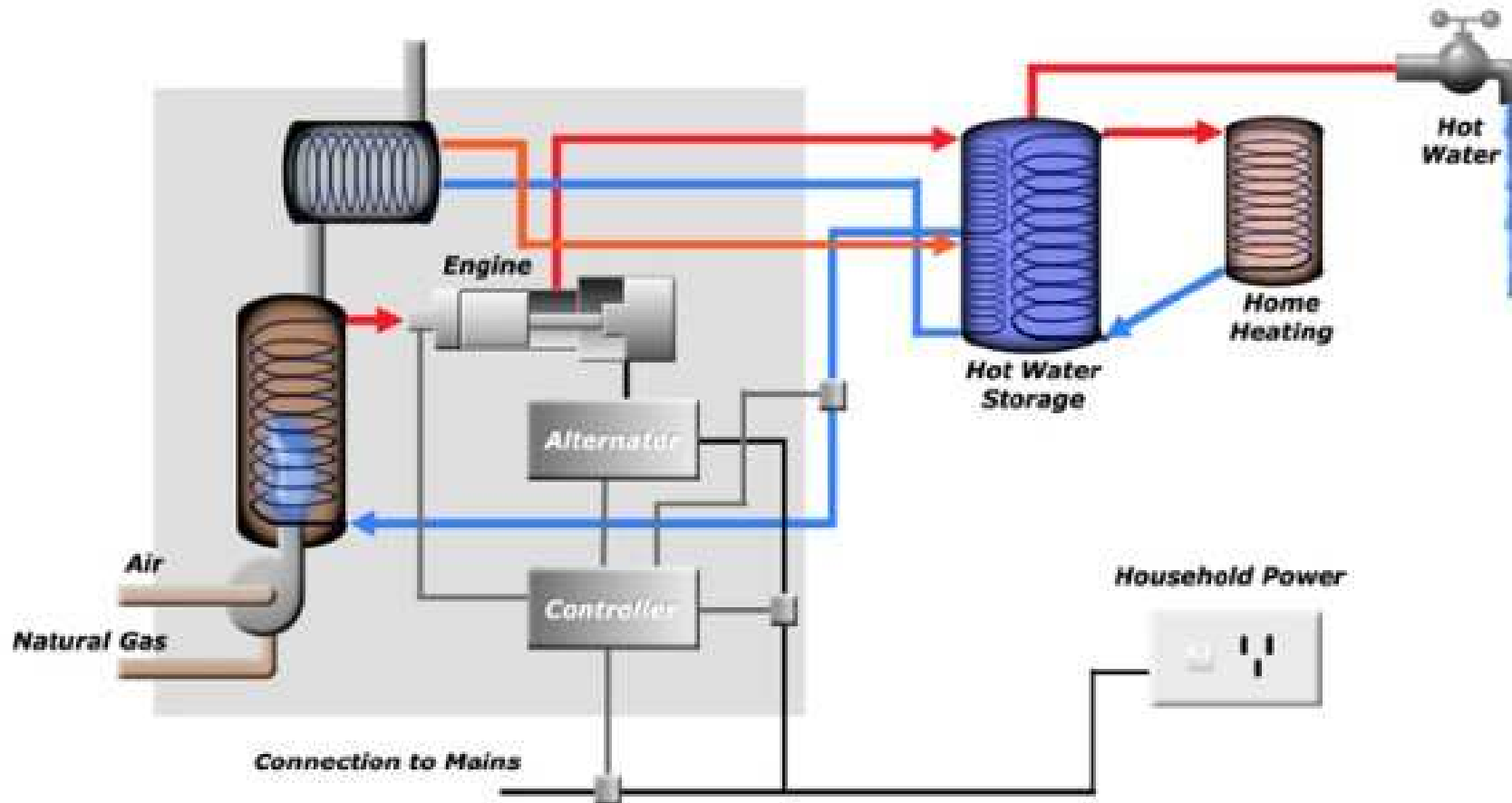




Climate Energy  
3kWe; 30kWt  
Rankine Cycle

Cogen Microsystems  
2.5kWe; 11kWt – 22kWt  
Rankine Cycle

# Cogen Microsystems (water – steam !)





Cogen Microsystems  
University of Adelaide  
Commerce & Research  
Precinct  
35-37 Stirling Street  
THEBARTON, SA 5031  
AUSTRALIA



## OUR PROTOTYPE:

- **2.5kW electrical**
- **11kW heating**
- **90% overall efficiency\***
- **17% electrical efficiency\***
- **Modulates down to 3kW heat**
- **Integrated boost heating to 22kW possible**
- **Good electrical efficiency at part load**

\* based on gross calorific value

## THE BENEFITS OF OUR TECHNOLOGY

- **Quiet, low emissions, long life - unlike IC engines**
- **Low manufacturing costs - unlike Stirling cycle engines**
- **Readily scaleable (1 to many kWe) unlike free piston Stirling Engines**
- **No new manufacturing technologies required - unlike fuel cells**
- **Potentially short time to market - unlike fuel cells**

## Cogen Microsystems

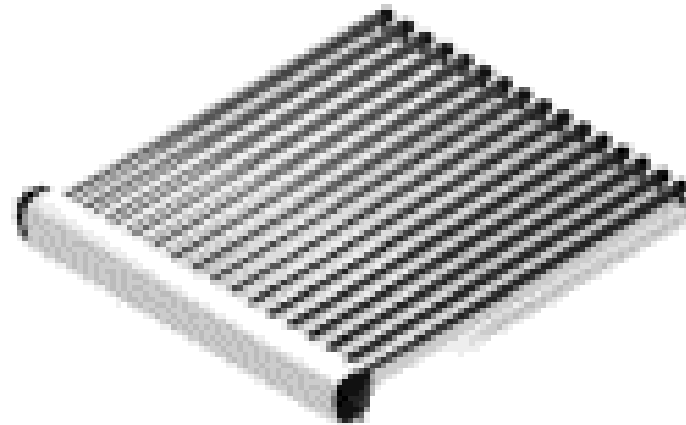
	DOMESTIC (market intro 2007)	SMALL COMMERCIAL
Electrical Output	240V 50Hz, 110V 60Hz	240V 50Hz, 110V 60Hz
Electrical Power, kWe	2.5	10
Heating Power, kW	11 (22 boost mode)	44
Overall Efficiency	90%	90%
Weight, kg	60	175
Dimensions, mm	870h x 600w x 400d	960h x 800w x 600d

# Applications (cont):

## 5. Power generation from thermal solar energy

- probably cheaper than photovoltaic systems
- possible to use condensor heat for sanitary heat water...
- status: technically feasible, no recent commercial references known

Evacuated tube collector  
fitted to temperatures  
until 180-200°C

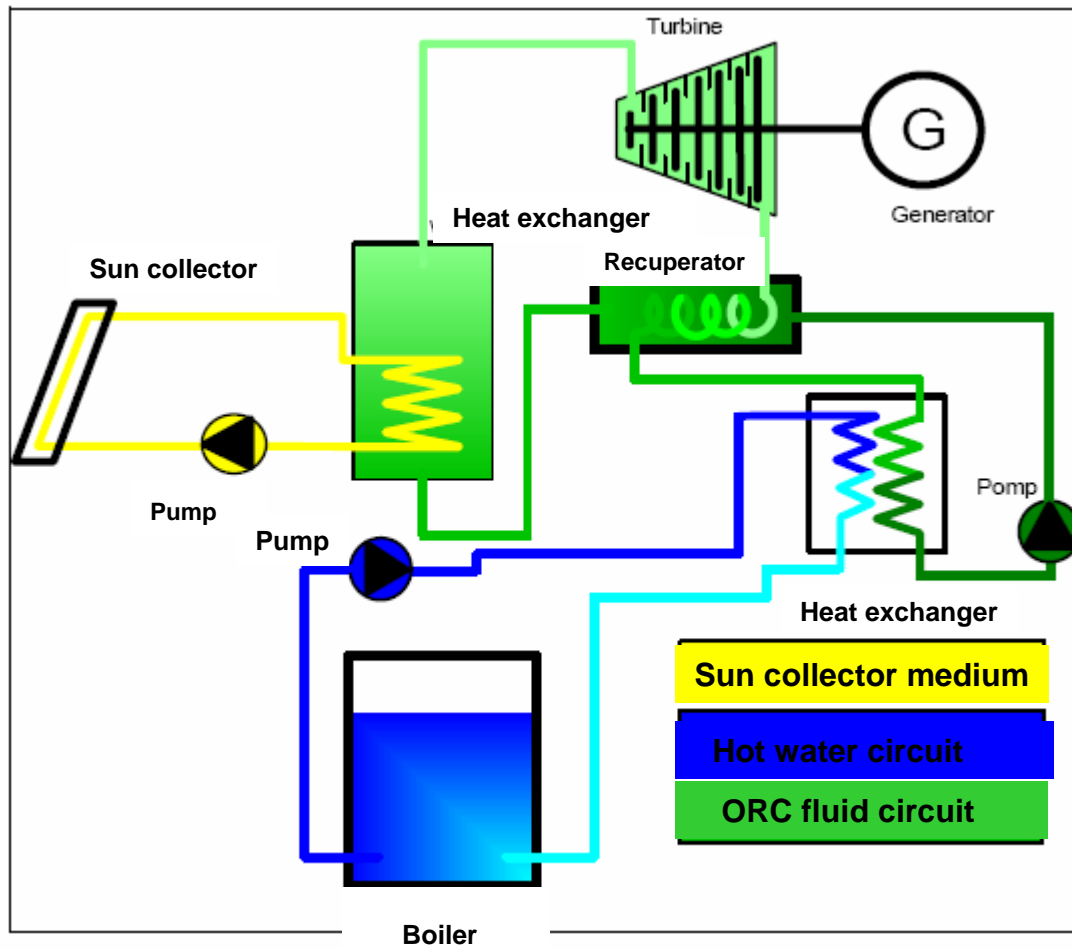


# 40 kW solar heat ORC (Turboden, 1984)



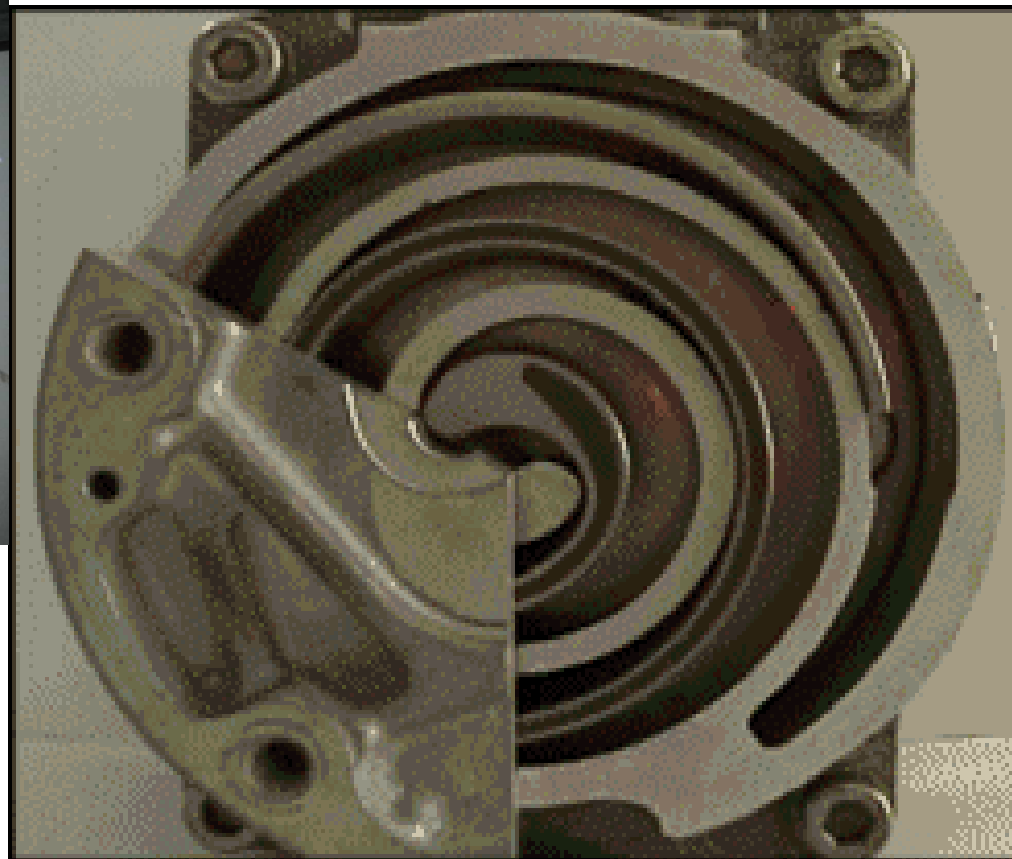
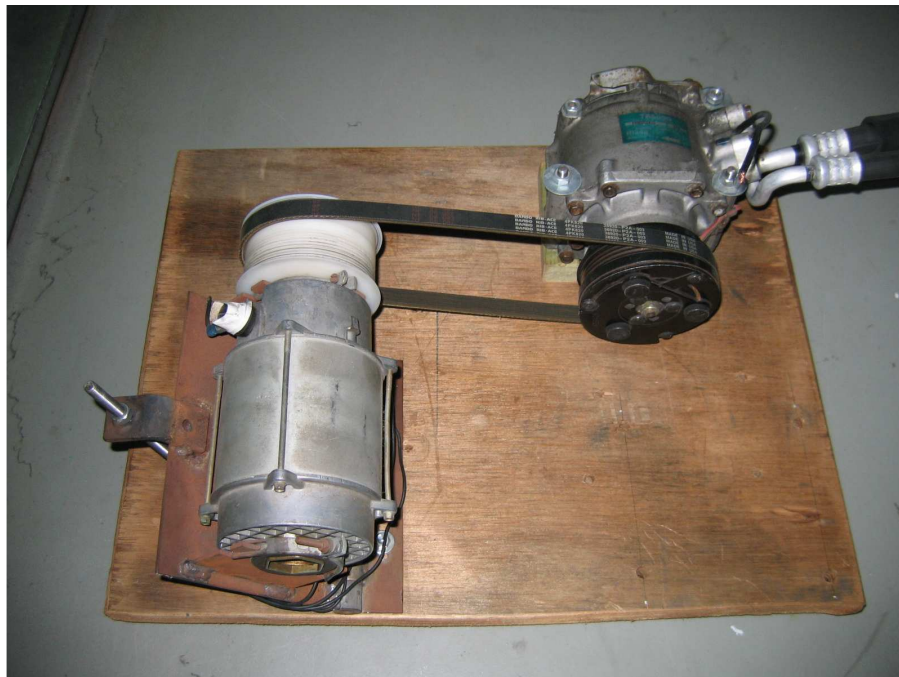
# Principle design

(final work dept PIH 2004-2005)





# Turbine: tests with scroll expander (Sanden scroll car airco compressor TRS-090)



Isentropic efficiency of the scroll expander seemed to be low !

# Applications (cont):



## 6. ORC powered airco on solar heat

Equal to previous, but ORC turbine is direct coupled to the airco compressor (no generator and motor losses)

Status: ???

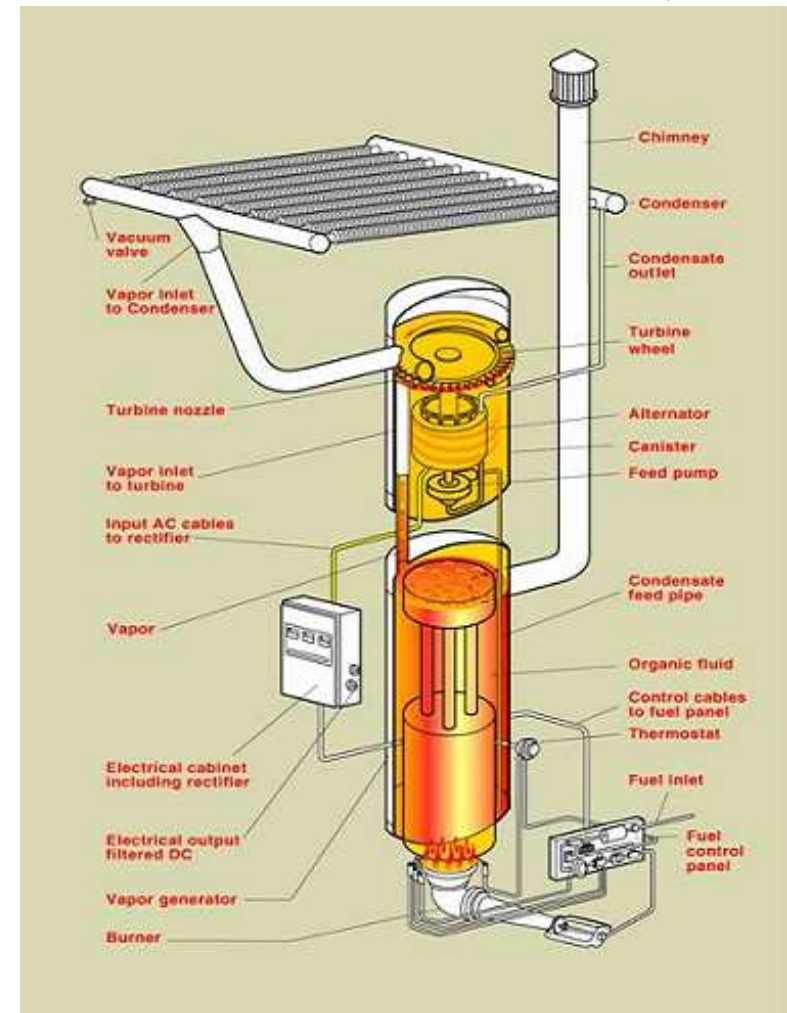


# Applications (cont):

## 7. ORC powered airco (or refrigeration chiller), fed from fuel combustion

Alternative when electrical grid connection big chiller impossible or not allowed.

Been proven having better efficiency (COP) compare to absorption chillers.  
(Hybrid with solar heat feasible)  
Status: ???



## Applications (cont):

### 8. ORC, fed by biomass combustion

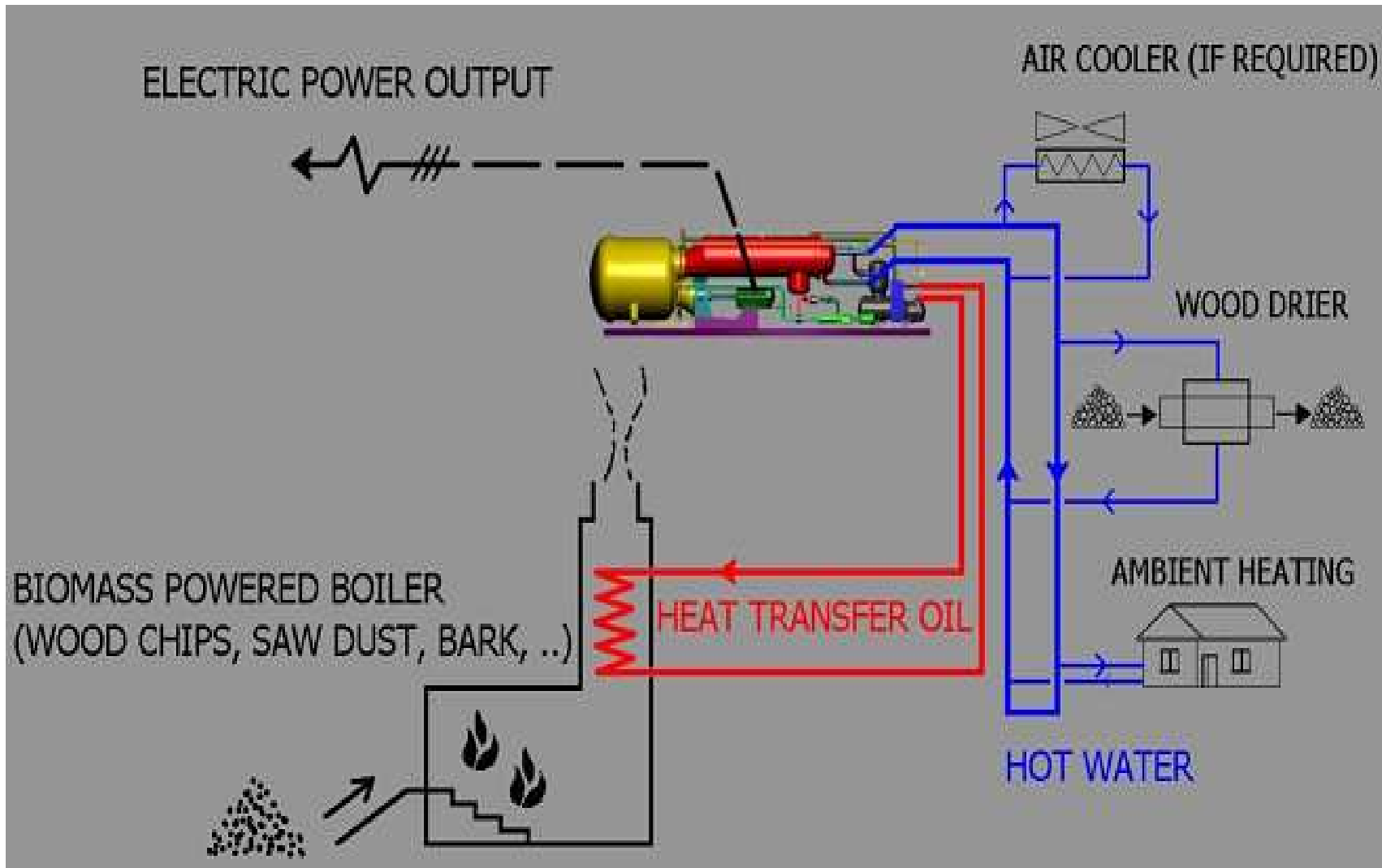
Many references in CH, A, D, I... (also 1 in NL).

Because of the possibility to reach high temperatures, not convinced of the advantage of ORC compared with a steam cycle.

Can be designed as CHP.

ORC can also use low methane biogas, unadapted to gas engines.

# CHP Biomass-ORC (Turboden):





Doc.: 05A00143

Subject: Turboden turbogenerators for cogeneration preliminary technical data sheet Page: 1 / 1

	<b>T500-CHP</b>	<b>T600-CHP</b>	<b>T800-CHP</b>	<b>T1100-CHP</b>	<b>T1500-CHP</b>	<b>T2000-CHP</b>
Heat source	thermal oil in a closed loop	thermal oil in a closed loop	thermal oil in a closed loop	thermal oil in a closed loop	thermal oil in a closed loop	thermal oil in a closed loop
Thermal oil nominal temperature (In/Out)	300 / 250 °C	300 / 250 °C	300 / 250 °C	300 / 250 °C	300 / 250 °C	300 / 250 °C
Thermal oil flow (about)	23.6 kg/s	28.3 kg/s	36.3 kg/s	51 kg/s	74 kg/s	98,4 kg/s
Thermal power input from thermal oil	2900 kW	3500 kW	4500 kW	6200 kW	9000 kW	12000 kW
Hot water flow	28.1 kg/s	33.9 kg/s	43.3 kg/s	59.6 kg/s	58,4 kg/s	77,8 kg/s
Hot water temperature (In/Out)	60 / 80 °C	60 / 80 °C	60 / 80 °C	60 / 80 °C	60 / 90 °C	65 / 95 °C
Thermal power to the coling water circuit (about)	2320 kW	2800 kW	3580kW	4930 kW	7350 kW	9800 kW
Net active electric power output	500 kW	600 kW	800 kW	1100 kW	1500 kW	2000 kW
Module dimensions	15 X 3 X 3,1 m Single skid unit	15 X 3 X 3,1 m Single skid unit	15 X 3 X 3,3 m Single skid unit	13 X 6 X 6,2 m Multiple skid unit	15 X 7 X 5 m Multiple skid unit	17 X 7 X 5 m Multiple skid unit
Electric generator	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 650 kW	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 750 kW	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 930 kW	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 1250 kW	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 1650 kW	asynch., 3 phase, L.V., 2100 kW

# Doubles crew expanders: alternative to turbines



# Applications (cont):



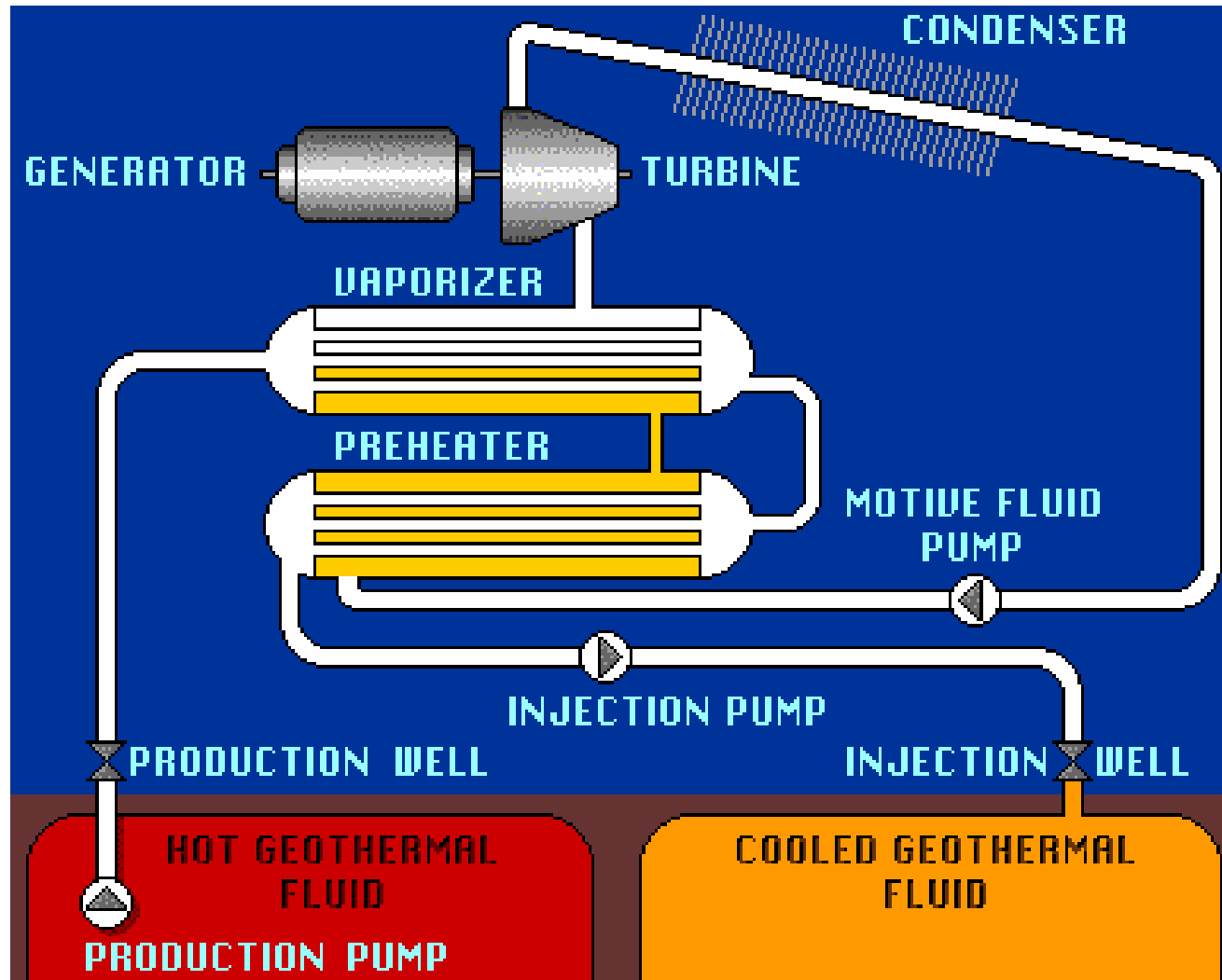
## 9. ORC, fed by geothermal heat sources

Many known references, all  $> 1$  MW (D, USA...)

Source temperature around  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Good examples to recover waste heat on the same temperature level.

# Geothermal ORC (Ormat, Israel)





# Heber Geothermal Power Station (Californië) 52 MWe



## Applications (cont):

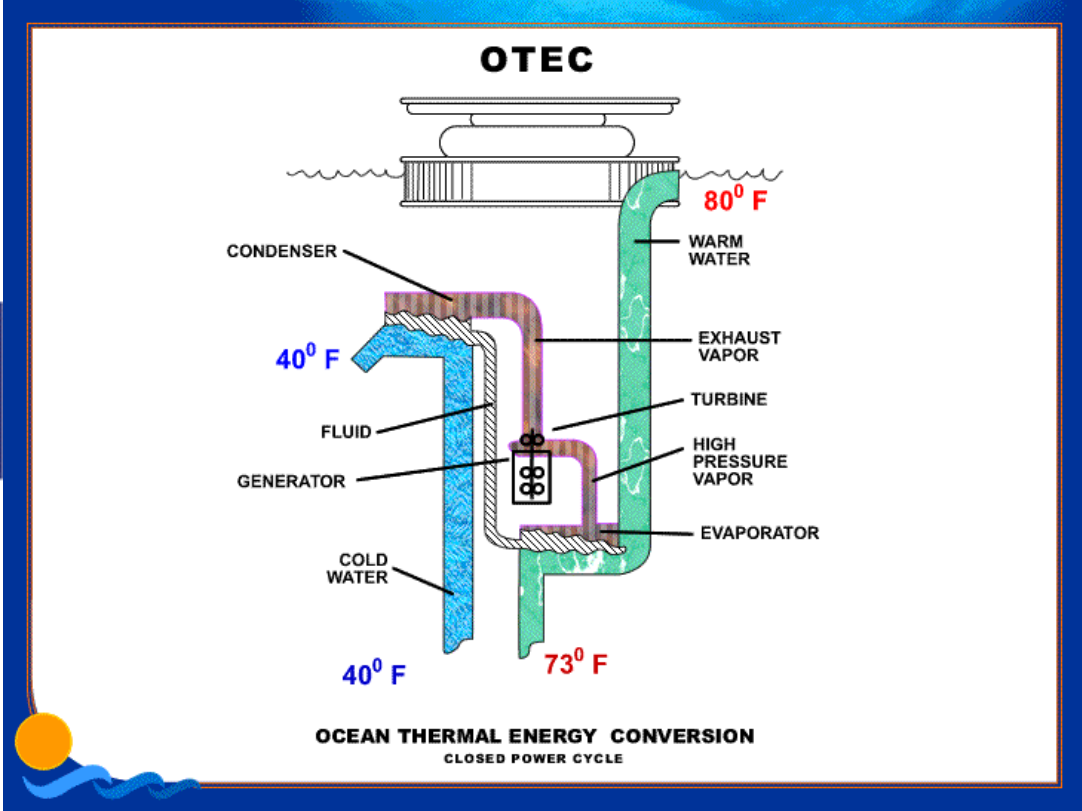
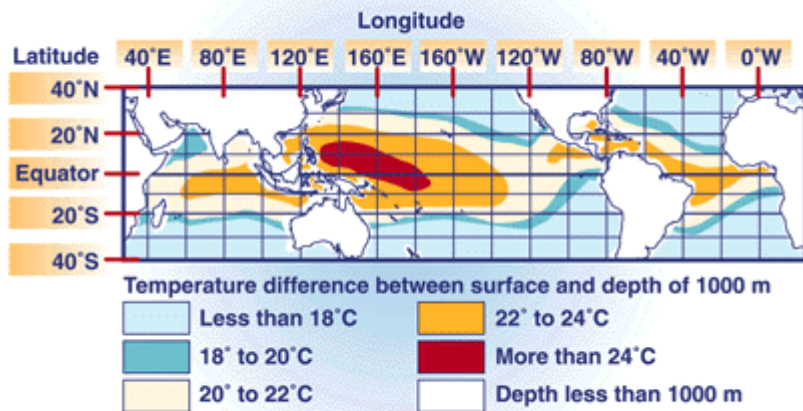
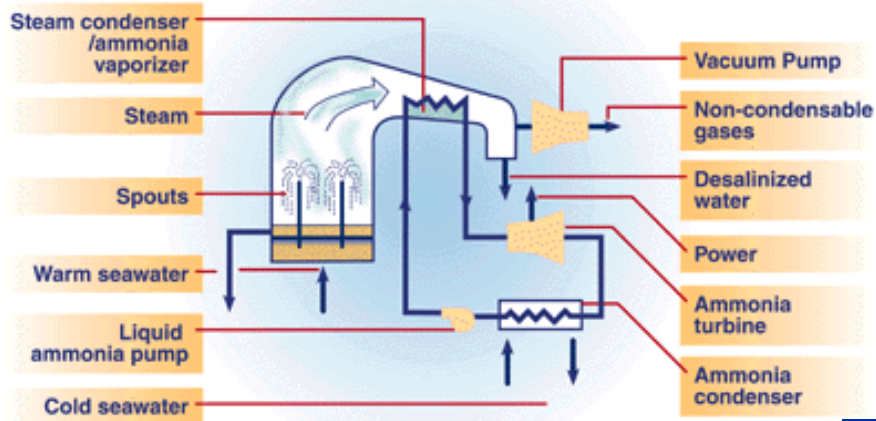
### 10. ORC, fed by temperature differences in ocean water

Known as “Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion or OTEC”.

Uses temperature difference between surface water (about 28°C) and water on great depth (about 6°C) on tropical seas or oceans.

Low thermal efficiency due to the small temperature difference but enormous heat quantities available.

Status: only some demonstration projects known, economical feasibility problematical



## Conclusions:

- ORC is a proven and commercially available technology for applications such as industrial waste heat recovery, biomass burning, use of geothermal heat sources...
- main advantage compared with a steam cycle is the higher thermal efficiency, in particular when the heat source temperature lowers
- the classical steam cycle should be considered when sufficient temperature levels are reachable (fuel burning) combined with turbine scale sizes from around 500 kWe
- due to the Flemisch Green Certificates System, a 3 year PBT is calculated since ORC investment costs are found from 1,700 to 3,250 €/kWe (all in) corresponding with units sizes from 120 to 1,500 kWe
- small scale ORC applications (transportation, solar heat power, micro CHP) are under investigation, development or prototyping level
- excellent CHP capability since the condensor heat can be used

## Our actions on ORC:

- 2 master thesis 2003-2005
- TETRA project proposal on ORC in 2005. Applications 2, 3, 5 and 6 considered. Technically and scientifically approved but not financed, had to be cancelled.
- New proposal in 2007, focused on renewable energy sources (mainly application 2). Expecting result on end of June 2007 (under review by external experts).

A TETRA project is 92,5 % financed by the Flemish Government and 7,5% by industrial partners (already found in our case but extra partners are still welcome).

2 scientific researchers can work during 2 years on it (Oct 2007- 2009). Results exclusive reserved to the partners during project time, at the end publically available (by publications, seminars, website...)



## Goals of the project:

Introduce ORC in Flanders by:

- state of the art research on both technical and economical feasibility and possibilities
- building a small laboratory test rig, offering the possibility to test different working fluids using different heat sources (simulation of exhaust gases of a gas engine, diesel engine or other heat sources by a air heater and to experiment with the condensation temperature to investigate CHP capabilities.
- case studies on existing installations (sewage gas, vegetable oil and biogas engines, burner grill cooling fluid of biomass furnaces)
- demonstrating and dissipating theoretical and practical knowledge

Thanks for your attention.

Questions ???



Hogeschool West-Vlaanderen, dept PIH  
Graaf Karel de Goedelaan 5, B-8500 Kortrijk

Bruno Vanslambrouck

Mail: [bruno.vanslambrouck@howest.be](mailto:bruno.vanslambrouck@howest.be)

Tel: +32 56 241211 or +32 56 241227 (dir)