



From **MEGA**-ammonia to
mini-AMMONIA

*Presentation at the
7th NH₃ Fuel Conference
Detroit
26-9-2010 till 29-9-2010*

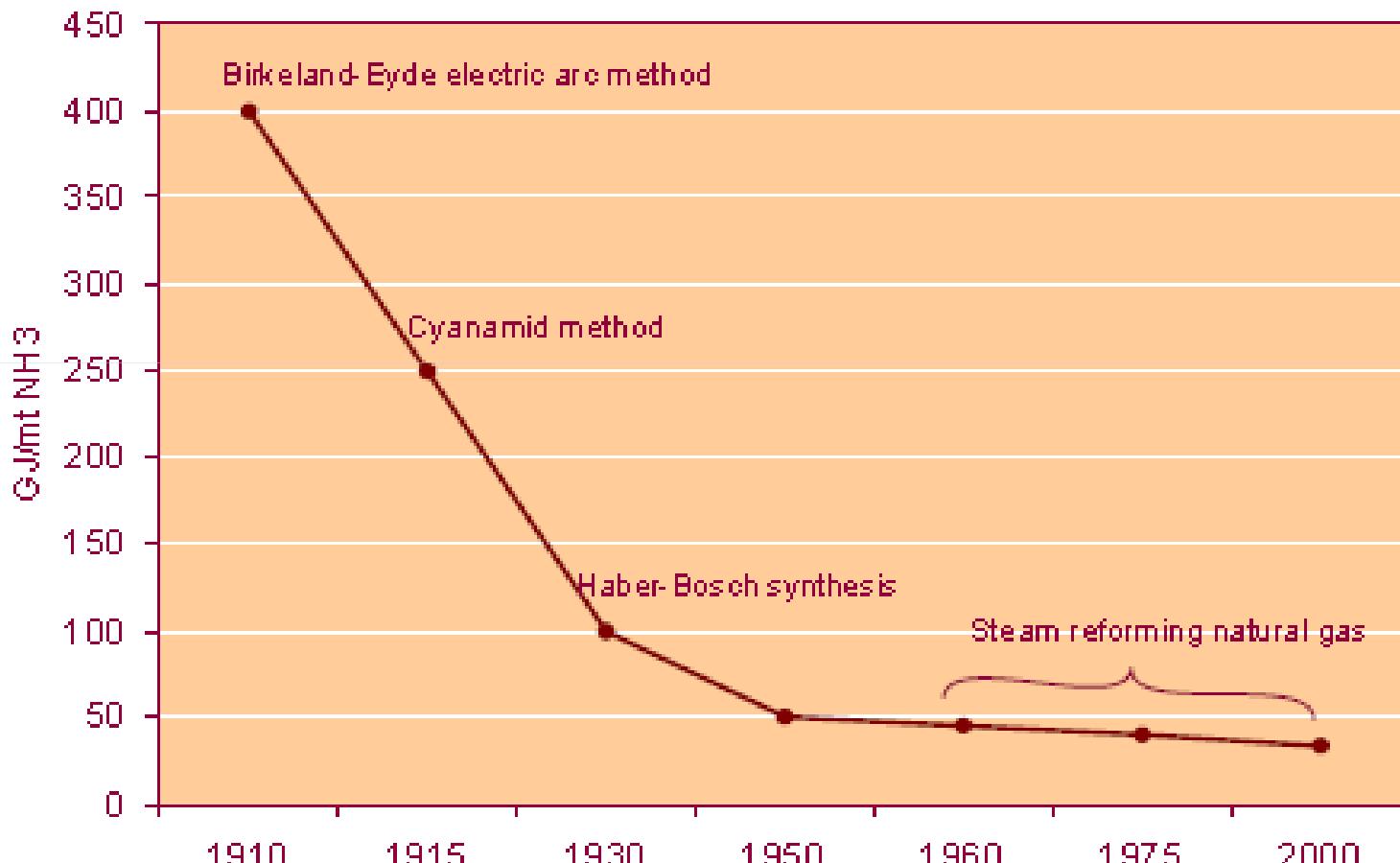
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The Netherlands

Question:

Is it mini-ammonia or MEGA-ammonia in future???



History of ammonia production efficiency



Production of Fertilisers is based on price for ammonia:

Proven methods for N fixation (for fertilisers):

1903 Arc Method (Birkeland and Eyde);



1905 Cyanid Process

1910 Haber Bosch Process

-Steam reforming

-Loop only, based on H₂-waste/electrolysers

Green Ammonia/ without CO₂ emissions

In development

2010 HP mini HB by Proton

20xx SSAP by NHthree

From **MEGA**-ammonia to **mini**-AMMONIA



First Ammonia reactor for 7200 t/a unit

About 7 meter high
Pressure about 300 Barg
Temperature: 450 C
Fe- Catalyst

NH3:

A continuous drive towards cheaper NH3 price/ fertilisers:

Energy price and volume development:

1918:	100 GJ/t	7200	t/a	1 t hr
1950:	50 GJ/t	250000	t/a	30 t/hr
1970:	34 GJ/t	500000	t/a	60 t/hr
1985:	31 GJ/t	650000	t/a	80 t/hr
2004:	27 GJ/t	1000000	t/a	125 t/hr

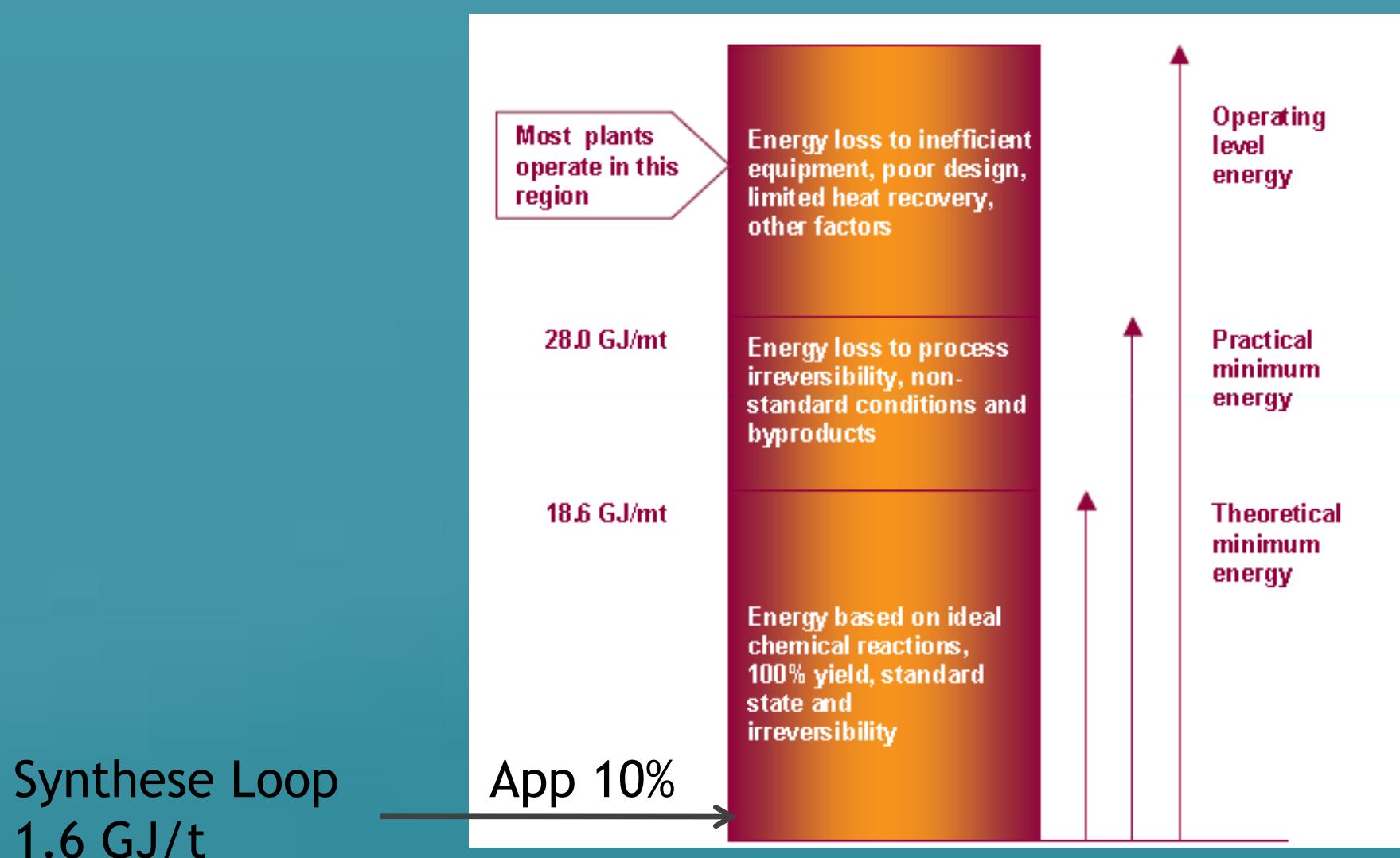
Nowadays: **MEGA-AMMONIA** plants are world scale units with high Energy Efficiency and single train units, but....

From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA

still based on HABER BOSCH TECHNOLOGY



From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA



Costs Breakdown MEGA Ammonia Plant:

Natural Gas costs:

Feed Gas: 850 NM3 Gas

Fuel Gas: 110 NM3 Gas

Operational costs 30 \$/t

Fixed costs 35 \$/t

Depreciation + interest: 30 \$/t

Average cost price: 200-400 USD/t

150-300 Euro/t

0,10-0,20 Euro/ltr

2000 t/d NH₃ unit(s)



Proton's last Ammoani terminal project for MEGA-Units



Why Mini-ammonia/NFUEL?:

Decentralised production

Smaller supply chain/logistical costs/margin loss

Based on sustainable sources (in fact all Solar based)

Solar

Wind

Geothermal

Biomass

Independant towards fossil fuels
supply situation/ costs effects

No additional transports

Potential Markets for NFUEL:

Small scale fertilisers production at remote locations
Aqua Ammonia production at power plants
Aqua Ammonia for waste incinerators
Green chemical (e.g. for HNO₃- for MDI or TDI)

Ammonia for FUEL,
as Fuel station for NH₃-cars
as storage for H₂ cars
as replacer of gasoline/diesel

How to realise an NFUEL UNIT today?:

For investors/decision makers:

- Proven technology
- No/Low environmental risk
- Safe
- Secure
- Reliable
- Simple to operate
 - Fully automated
 - Preferably no manpower
- Maintenance free
- Possibilities for subsidies

Proton's NFUEL unit(s)

Total Package:

- Electrolyser(s)
- Nitrogen membranes
- Haber-Bosch Synthesis loop
- Control system Honeywell
- Storage and loading equipment
- Scrubber and related safety systems
- DM-water unit
- Process Guarantee
- Maintenance agreement(s)
- On-line Operational support

References for mini-ammonia:

1 t/hr unit in Argentina, based on same concept

Rio Tercero at Petroquímica



Proton's Partners:

Casale Group (Switzerland)

Ammonia Casale (Switzerland)

Honeywell

Zeton (Netherlands/Canada)

Hatenboer Water

Nitrogen generator

Proton Ventures BV

Electrolysers

Ammonia reactor

Automation & control

Plant construction

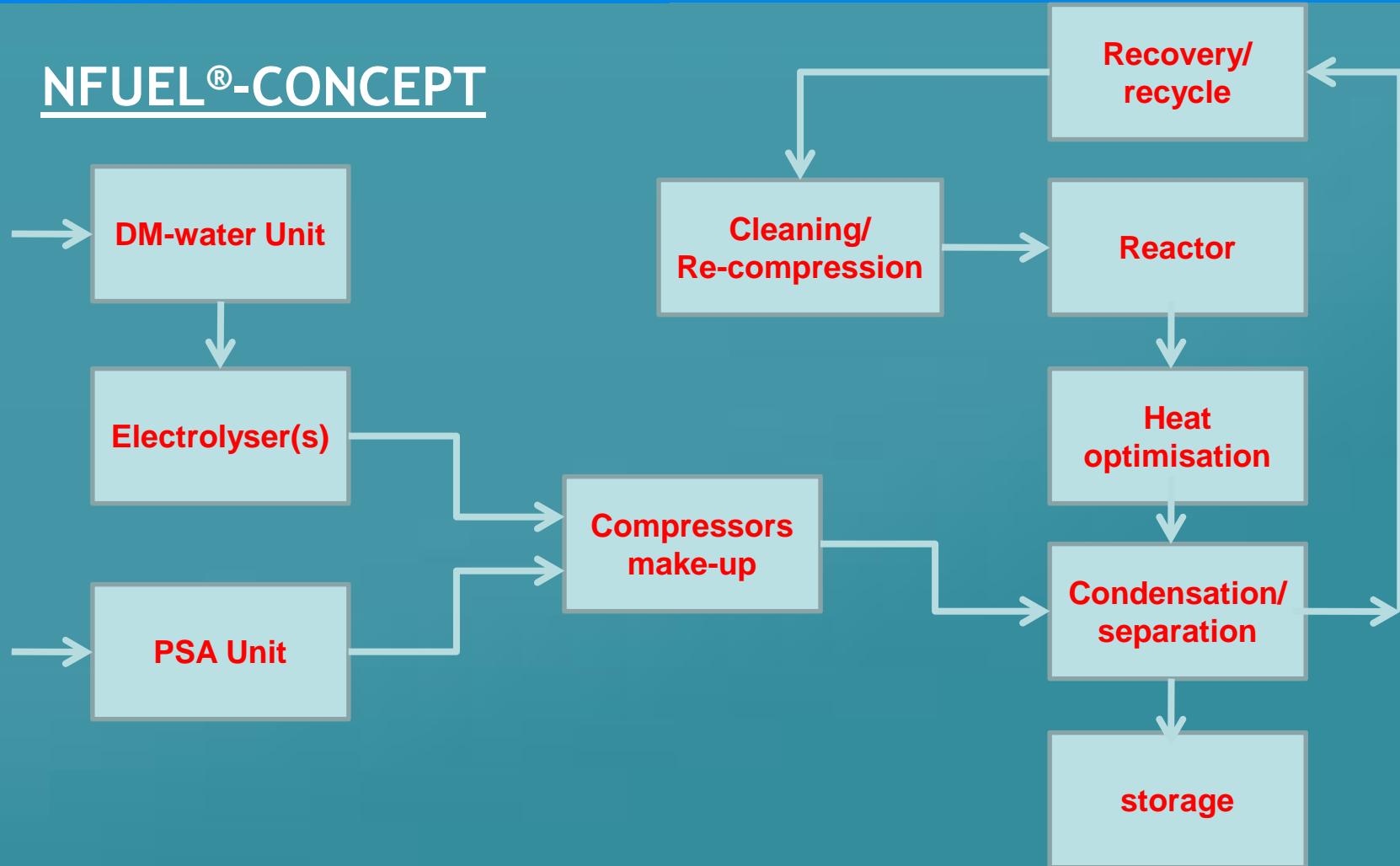
DM-water units

Air Products

Overall Design

From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA

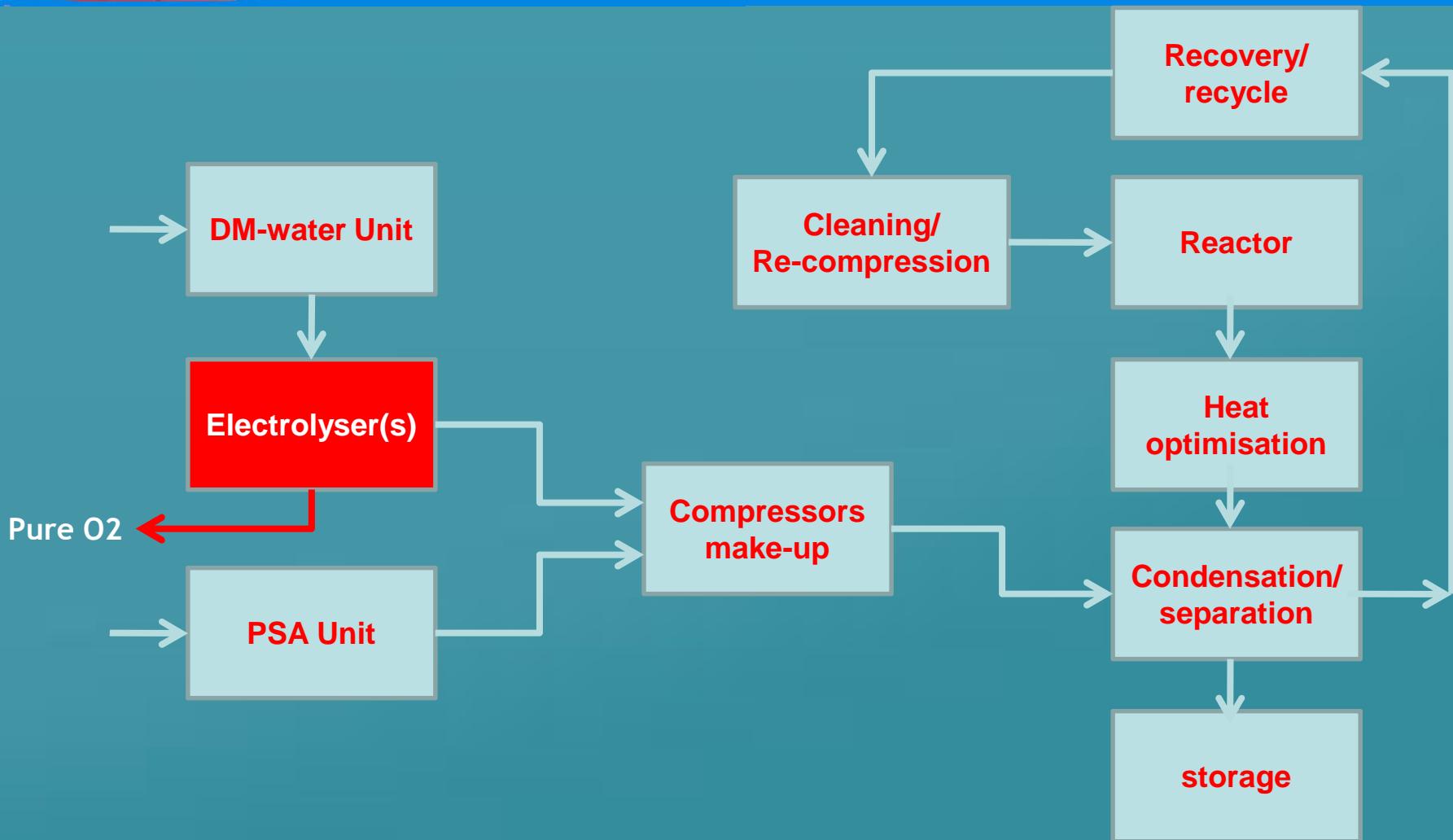
NFUEL®-CONCEPT



Advantages /features:

- Not the standard HB configuration
- Investment more important than energy consumption
- Safety systems in place for non-industrial locations
- No cooling water required , avoiding water issues
- Fully automated
- Recovery of ammonia without refrigeration system
- 20 years catalyst life time guaranty due to set-up
- Easy to operate
- Not many turn-arounds required
- Integrated with different unit operations

From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA



Why Casale Electrolysers:

- Low energy consumption: ca. 4,0 kWh/Nm³
- High pressure H₂ from cells; from 30 up to 100 barg
- Proven production record: 20 years on-stream
- Simple and low maintenance costs: once a year max
- Constructed in Italy
- Technology Patented, Alkaline based technology
- Various sizes possible 10-450 Nm³/hr in one stack
- **NOTE: NO VALUE OR INVESTMENTS TAKEN FOR O₂**

From **MEGA**-ammonia to **mini**-AMMONIA

Small electrolyzers



15 Nm/hr



10 Nm³/hr



20 Nm/hr



From **MEGA**-ammonia to **mini**-AMMONIA

Medium sized electrolyzers



From **MEGA**-ammonia to **mini**-AMMONIA

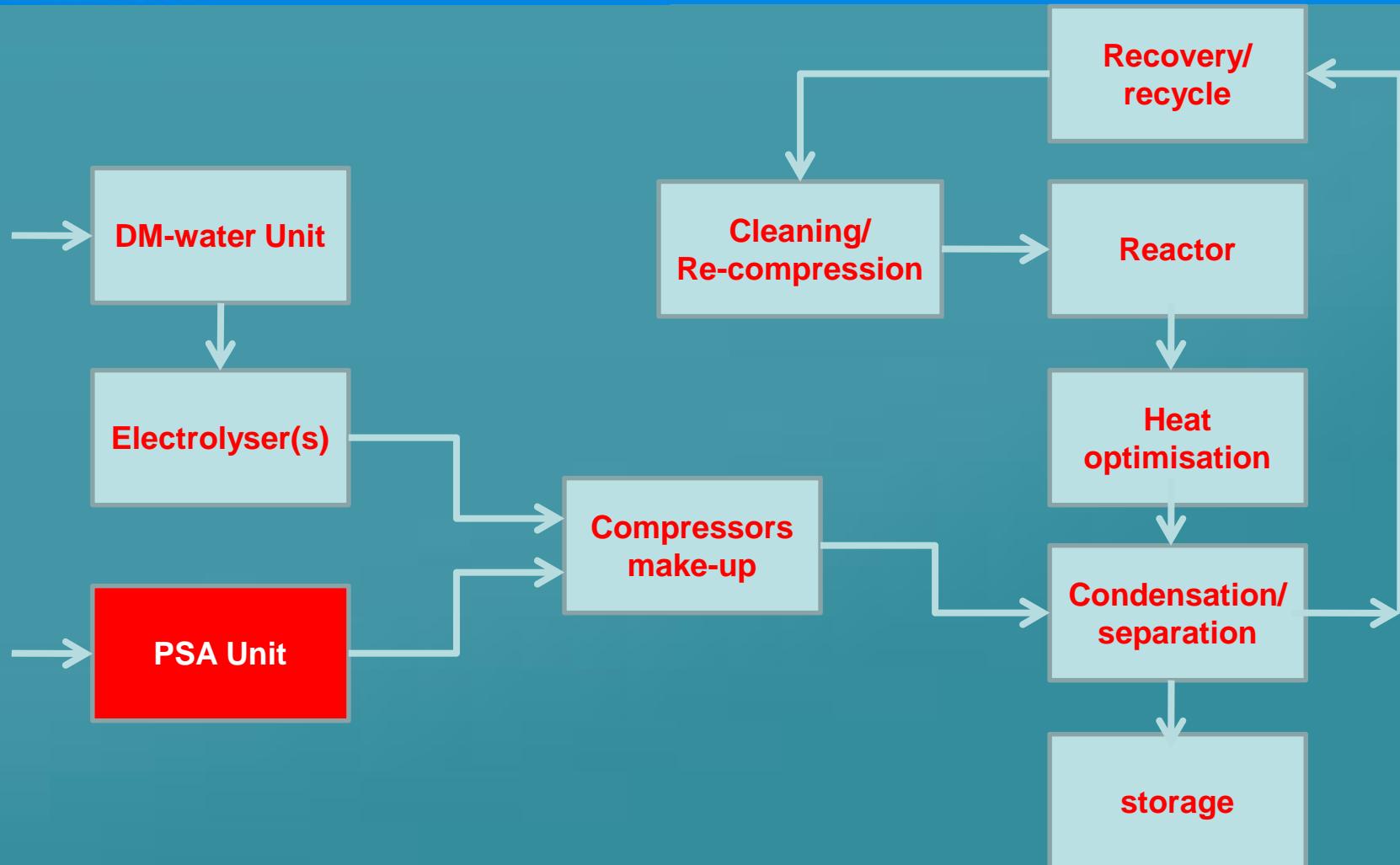
Larger electrolyzers: 100-500 Nm³

Operational in Italy



100 Nm/hr

From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA

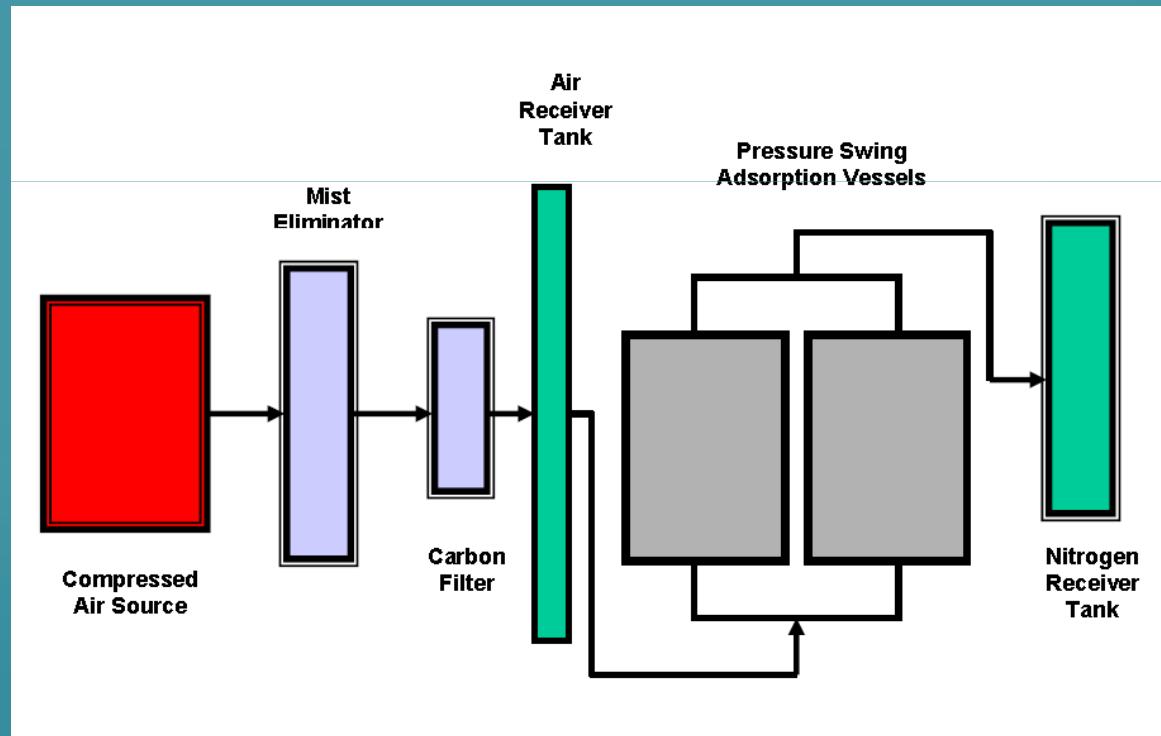


N2-supply

PSA is required over Cryogenic or Membrane technology:
purity
costs
operability at “mini-scale levels”

Small units usually are PSA,
N2: 95-99,99%
Lowest costs per Nm³ N2 over 10 years time

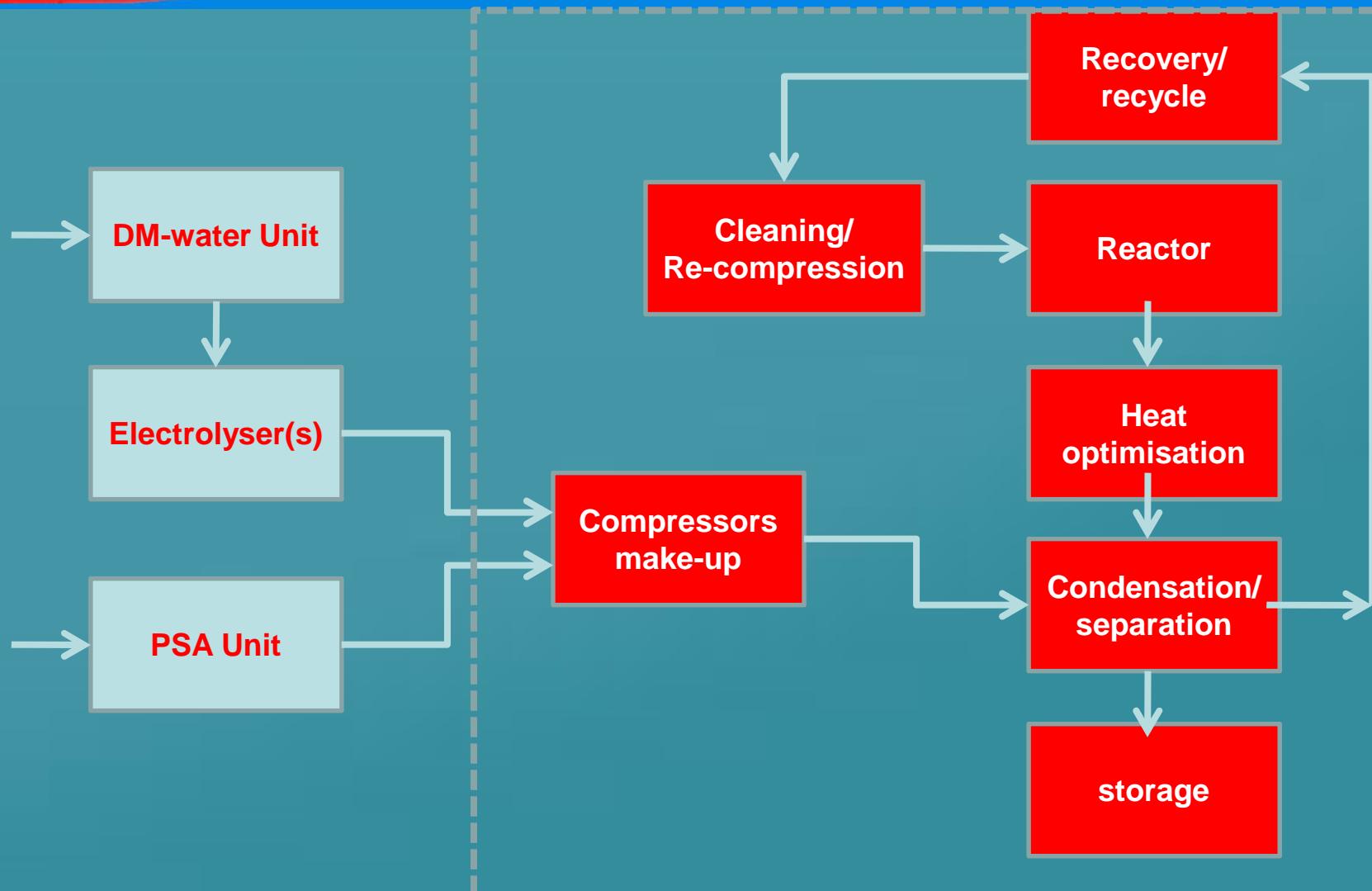
Example for N2 generator/purifier
>99,9% pure
120-650 Nm³/hr N2 equals



Medium sized PSA unit for N2-production (picture UOP)



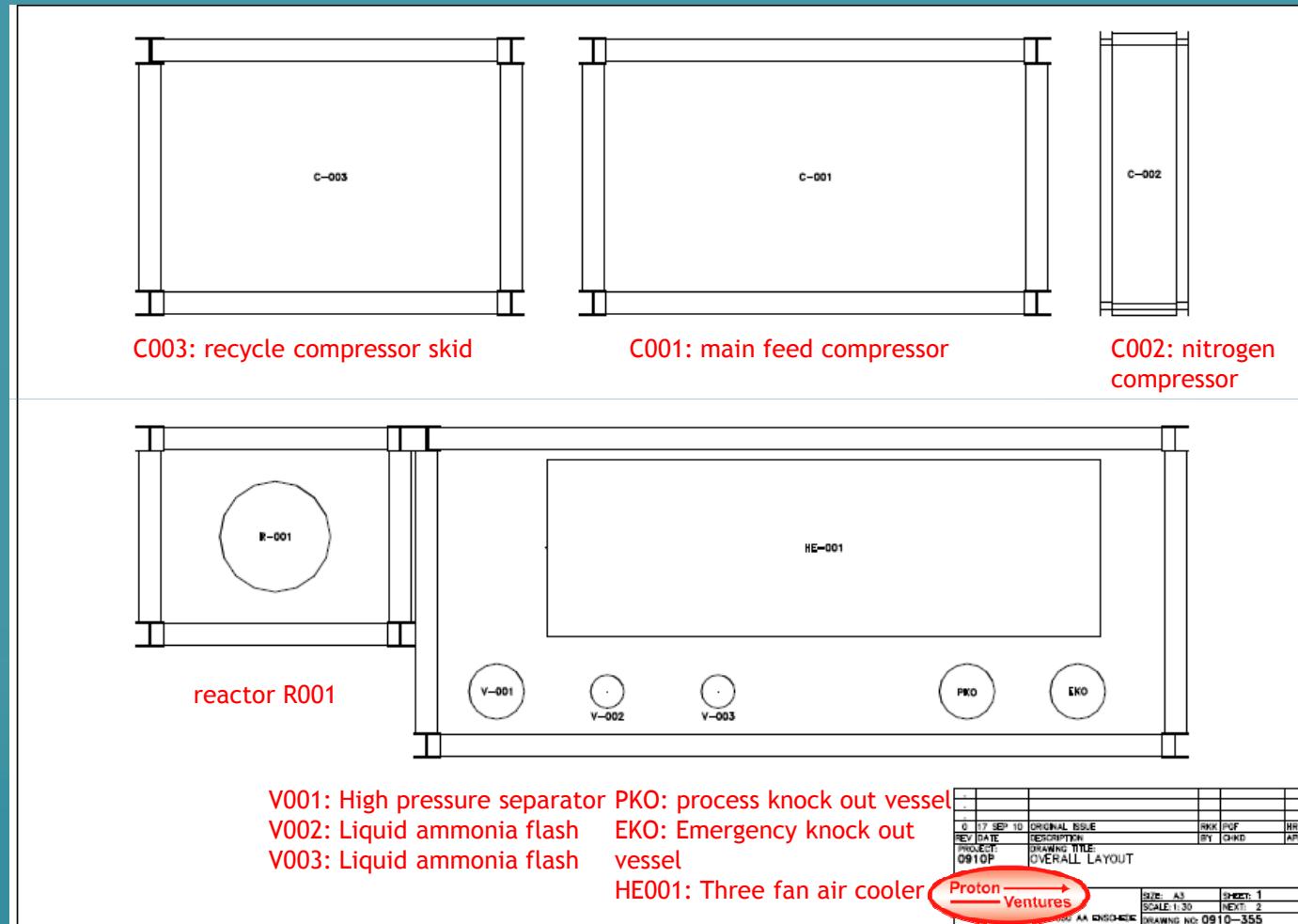
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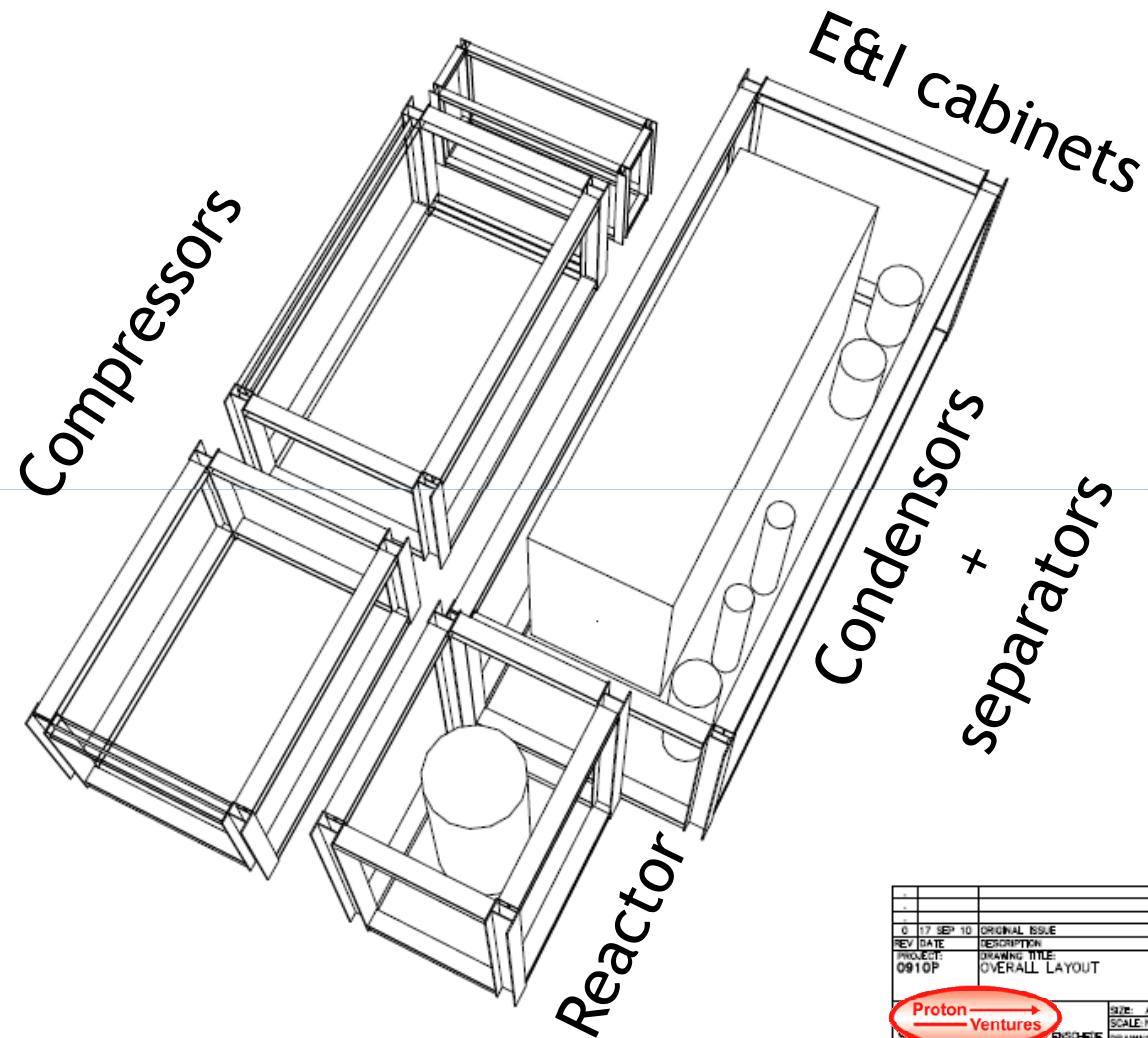


The NFUEL -unit:

- According Dutch Standards for Pressure Vessel Directive
- According PGS 13
- Sil 2 classification
- Scrubber versus stack for <100 kg/hr units
- Highest HP tubing spec for piping, commercially available
- No water for cooling, but optional (= cheaper, if available)
- Skid based:
 - 1 skid for 25 ton/annum
 - 4 skids for 1000-2000 ton/annum
 - 4 skids plus separate compressors for larger units

Top view 120 kg/hr installation





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		REV. DATE	BY	CHKD	APPR
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0910P		OVERALL LAYOUT			

Proton
Ventures

Costs comparison NFUEL versus MEGA:

50 kg/hr unit
120 kg/hr unit
1000 kg/hr unit

Total costs for : wind2ammonia® !!!!!

Depreciation 10 years

Interest: 4%

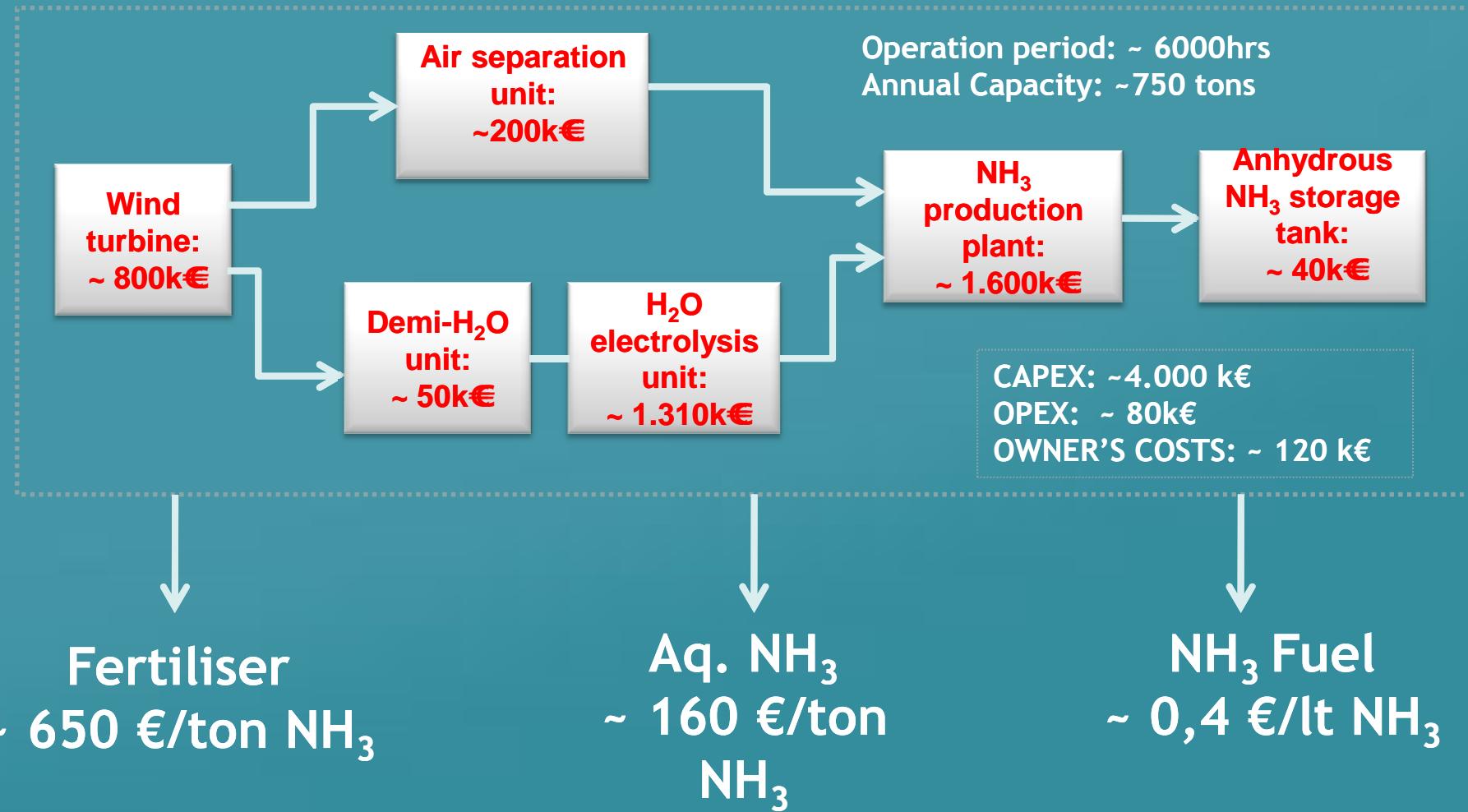
Service factor total unit: 0,5 / 0,75/ 0,98

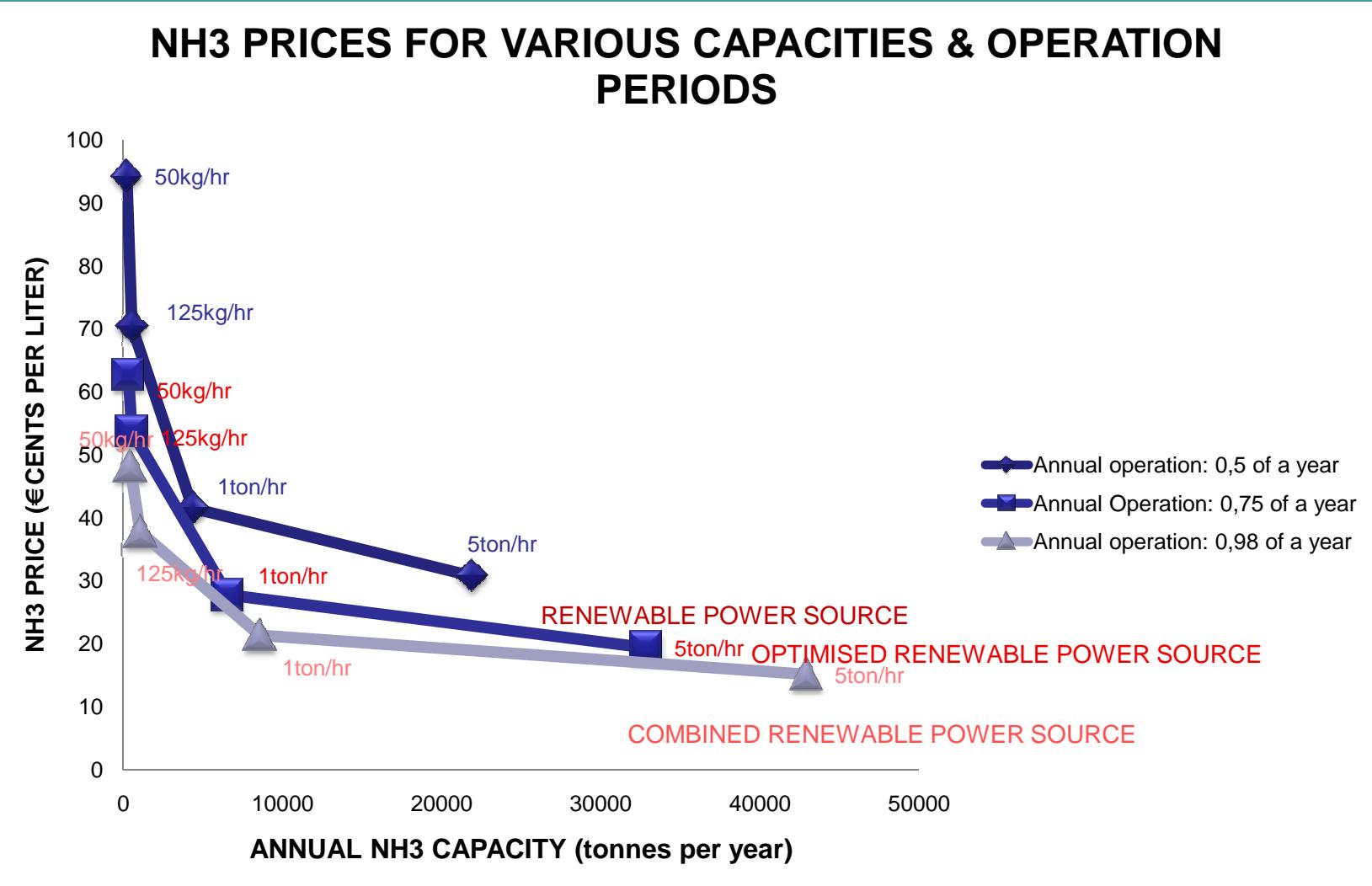
Operational costs limited due to automation

2% maintenance

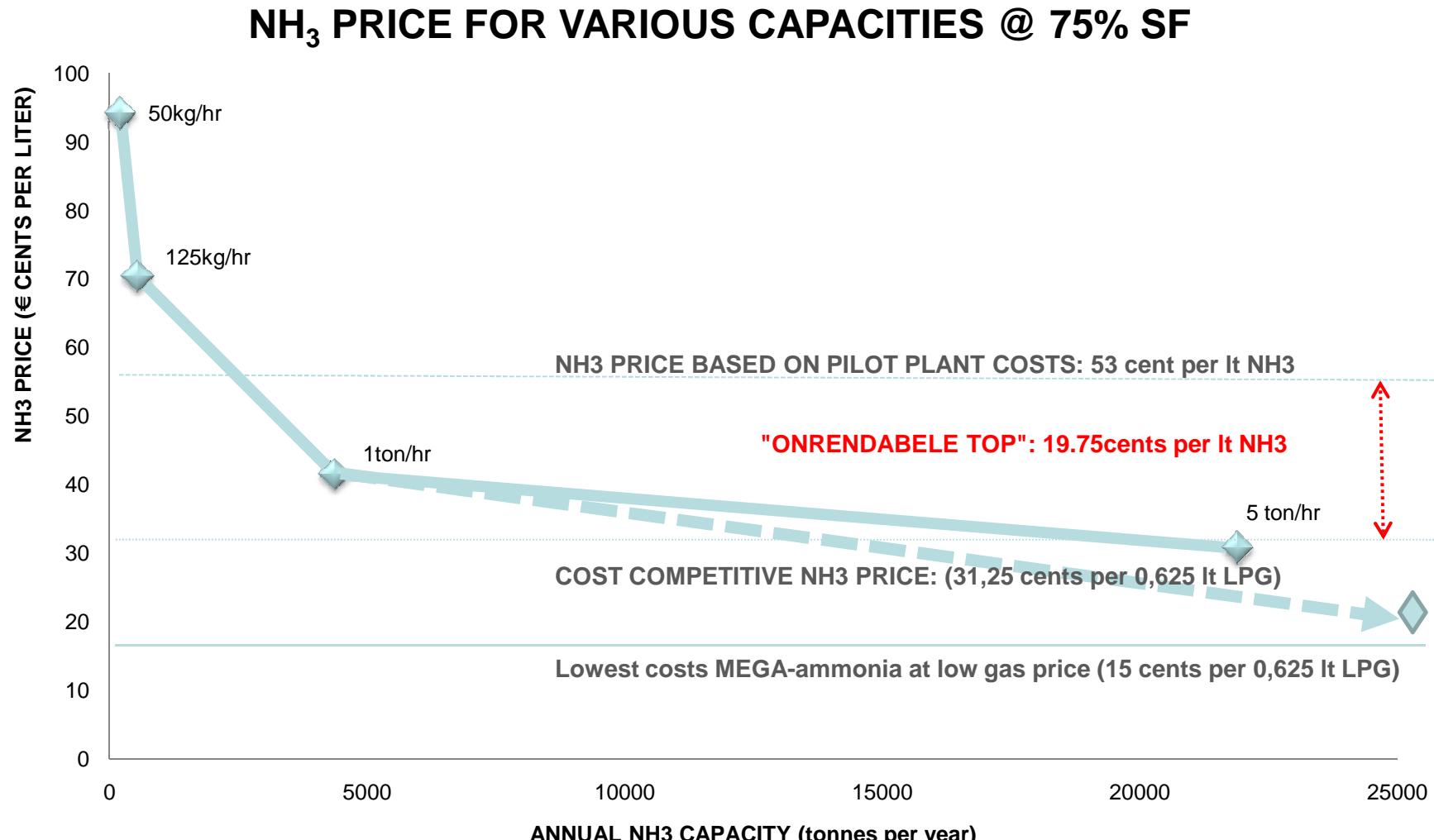
From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA

125 kg/hr at 75% service factor





From MEGA-ammonia to mini-AMMONIA



Ammonia production Costs Comparison MEGA-NFUEL

Comparison		4 euro/MMBTU	
		MEGA	NFUEL
CO2 emissions	kg CO2/kg NH3	1,25	0
Investment	euro/ton	31,00775	559,3496
Energy costs	euro/ton	120	0
Fix/var cap costs	euro/ton	70	220
Total costs	euro/ton	190	220

Comparison		8 euro/MMBTU	
		MEGA	NFUEL
CO2 emissions	kg CO2/kg NH3	1,25	0
Investment	euro/ton	31,00775	559,3496
Energy costs	euro/ton	240	0
Fix/var cap costs	euro/ton	70	220
Total costs	euro/ton	310	220

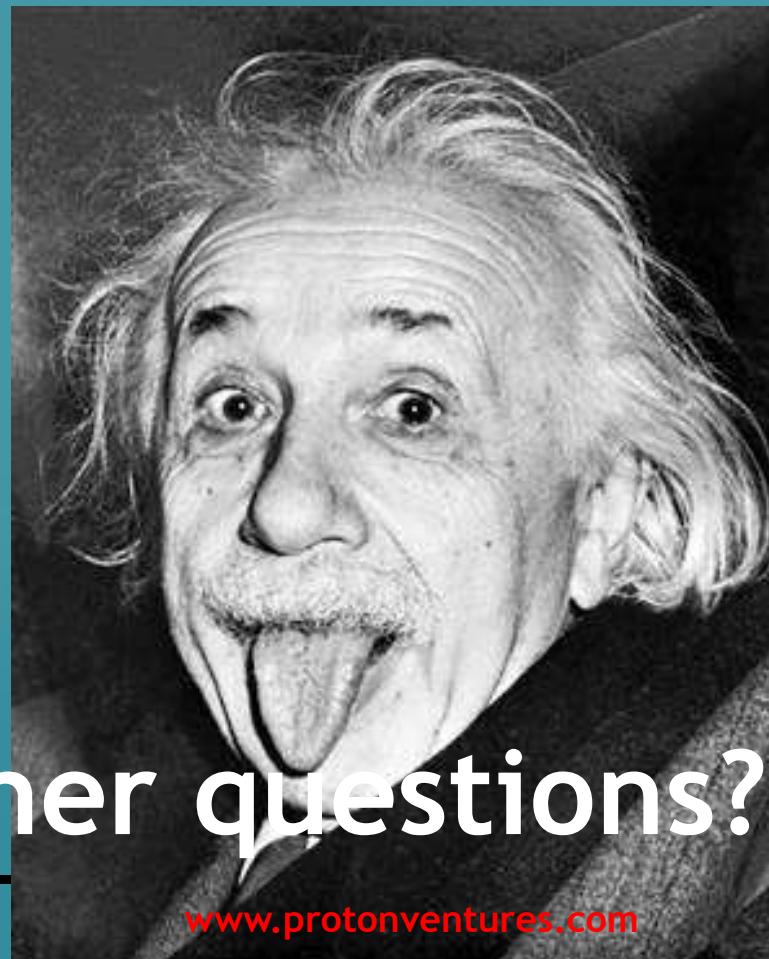
Conclusions:

- Proton offers possibility to produce ammonia at mini-scale
- Price level is higher than commercially produced ammonia
- Real comparisons to **MEGA**-Ammonia are not honest due to:
 - CO2 tax/costs for avoiding/SCC
 - Logistics/land locked
 - Price of power/gas
- Future optimisations/standardisation shall reduce price with learning curve

However,

Already today, NFUEL ammonia (1-5 ton/hr) seems to reach Market Price for Ammonia end-users at specific locations

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Further questions???

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