



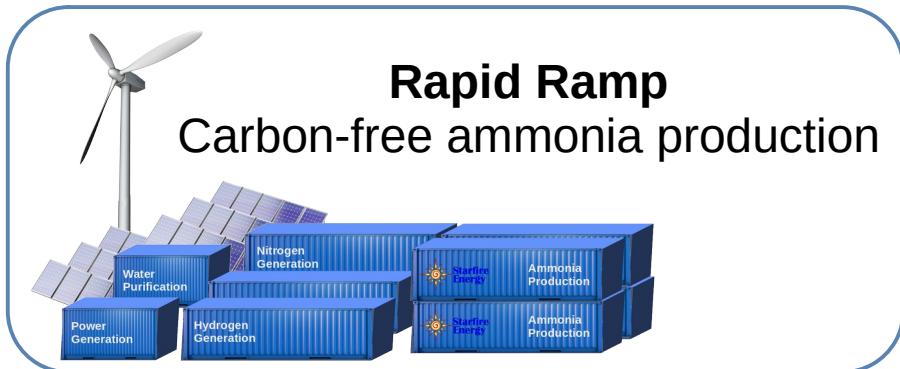
# Starfire Energy

MAKING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY A REALITY

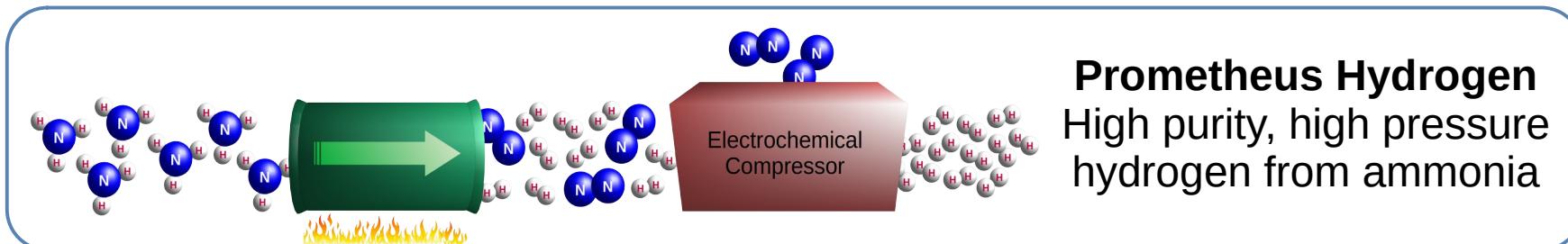
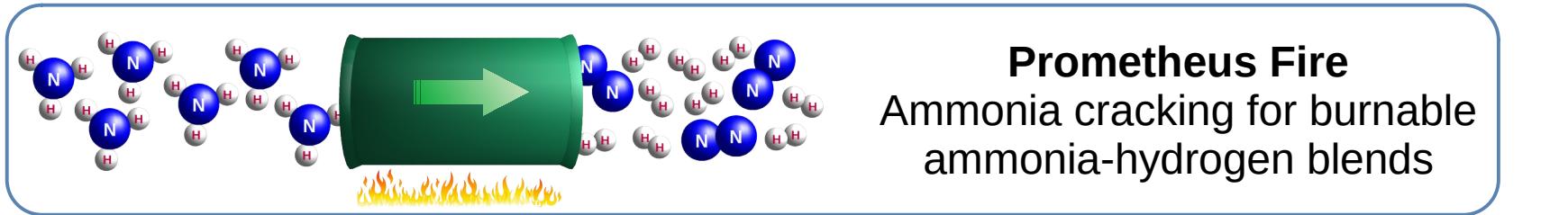
## Prometheus ammonia cracking product development

**Joe Beach, CEO & Founder**

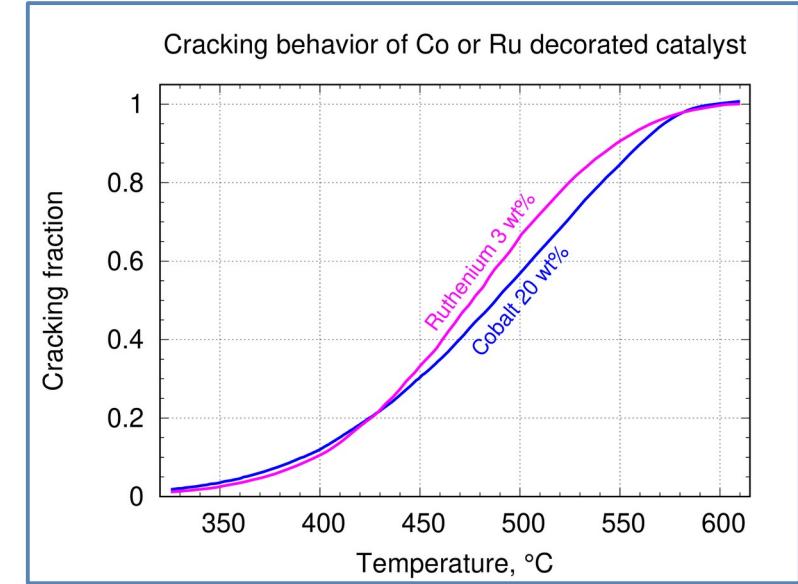
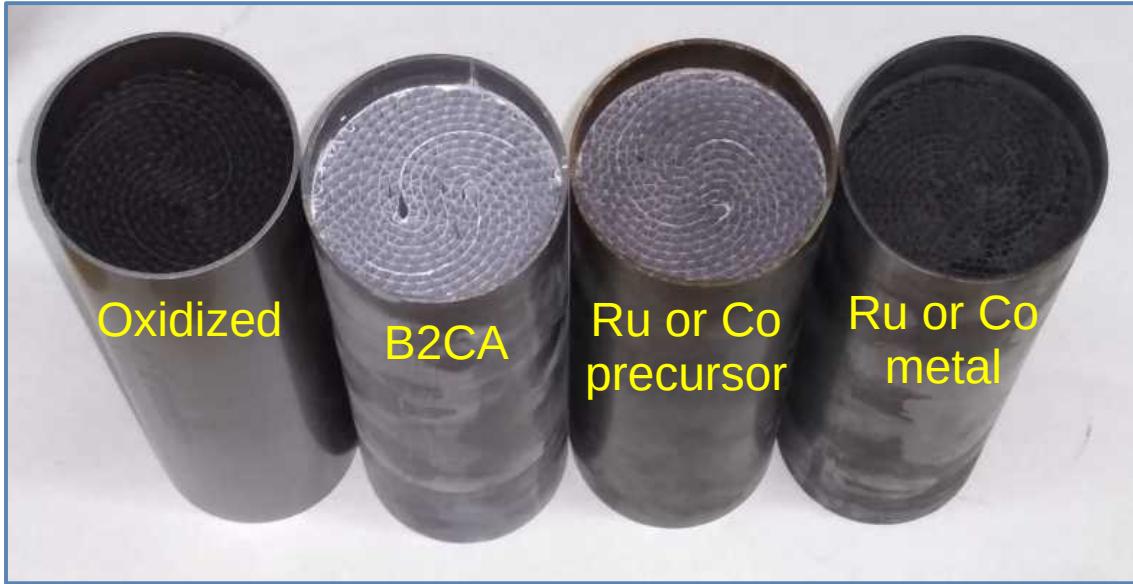
# Starfire Energy: ammonia fuel production & use



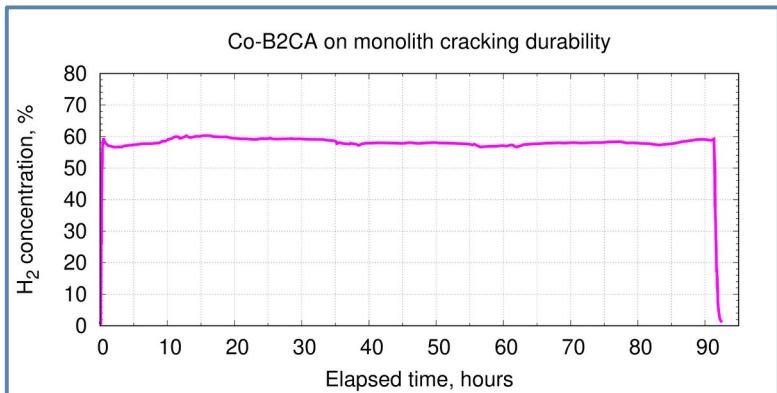
- Three product lines
- Products share underlying technologies
- Goal: 100% CO<sub>2</sub>-free energy system
  - All sectors, not just electricity



# Started at benchtop to prove catalyst



- Patent-pending B2CA catalyst support
- Ru or Co active metal decoration
- Robust bonding to metal substrate
- Lower temperature cracking
- Stable in 90 h test

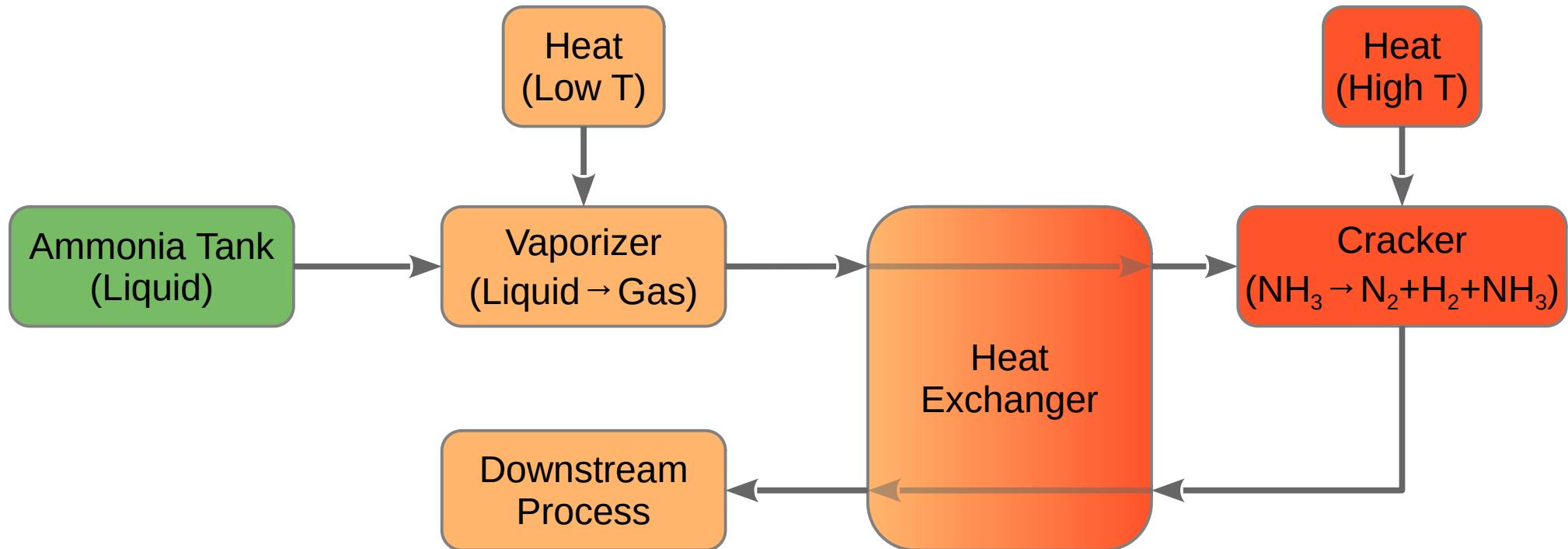


# Modified commercial natural gas burner to use NH<sub>3</sub>



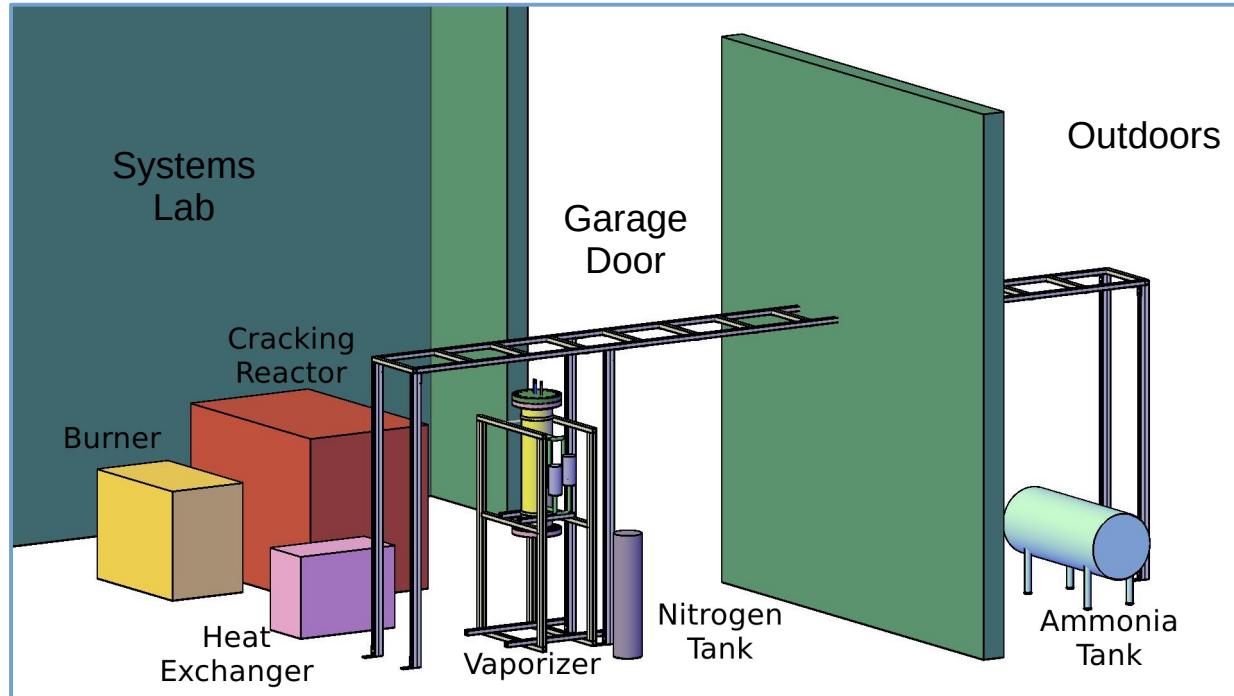
- Self-balancing array of 15 lab monoliths
- Heated by burner exhaust
- Lightly modified natural gas burner
- Self-sustaining CO<sub>2</sub>-free operation
- Lesson: good heat transfer is **critical**

# Bigger crackers need vaporizer & heat exchanger



- Cracker requires ammonia gas
- Vaporizer is essential for large ammonia gas flows
- Heat exchanger retains heat in cracker

# Building a 20 kg/h NH<sub>3</sub> cracker at our facility



- 20 kg NH<sub>3</sub>/h vaporizer & cracker
- Electrically heated vaporizer
- Combustion heated cracker
- Two end-use options
  - 70/30 blend for 1.5M BTU/h burner
  - Cracked gas stream for 84 kg/day fuel cell grade H<sub>2</sub>

# Vaporizer successfully designed & built



Ammonia Supply



Flange heater



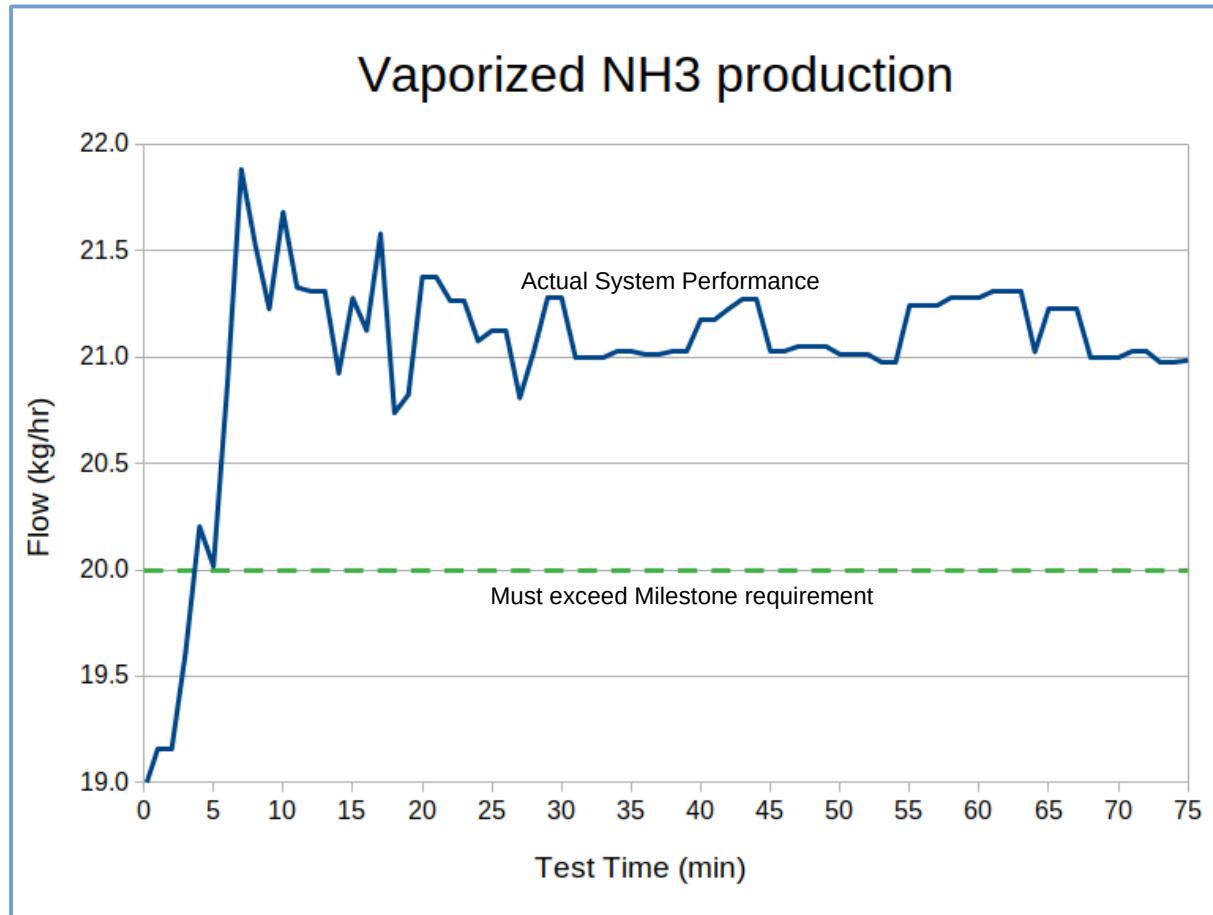
Vaporizer Body



Transformer

N2

# 20 kg/h NH<sub>3</sub> vaporizer designed & built



- 112-120 psig vapor to MFC
- 26-30 °C outlet vapor
- Heat trace on vapor tubing and MFC to prevent NH<sub>3</sub> condensation
- 37 °C vapor at MFC

# 20 kg/h cracker ready to test in 2022-Q1

November

Design  
Parts  
CFD

December

Catalyst  
Burner build  
Sensor build

January

DAQ & Control  
Cracker build

February

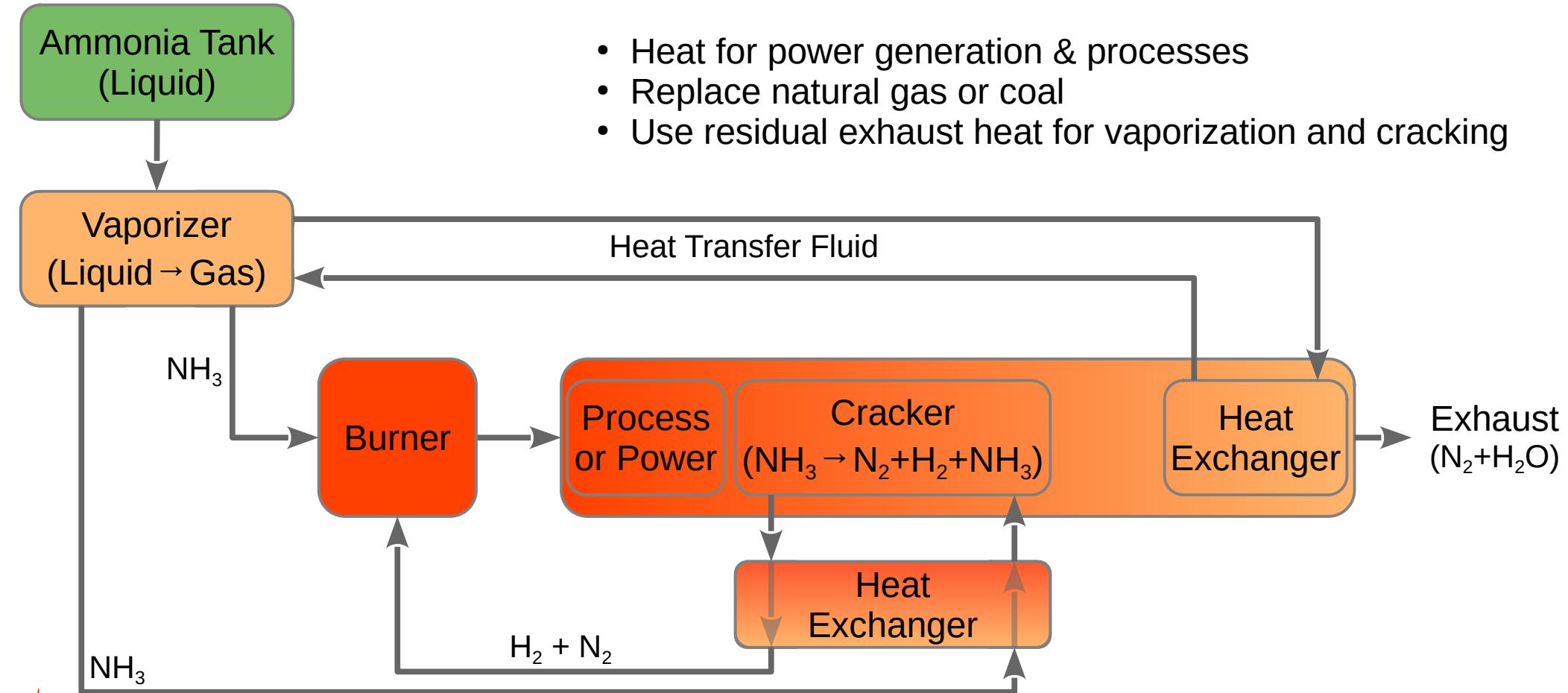
Flare build  
Commissioning

March

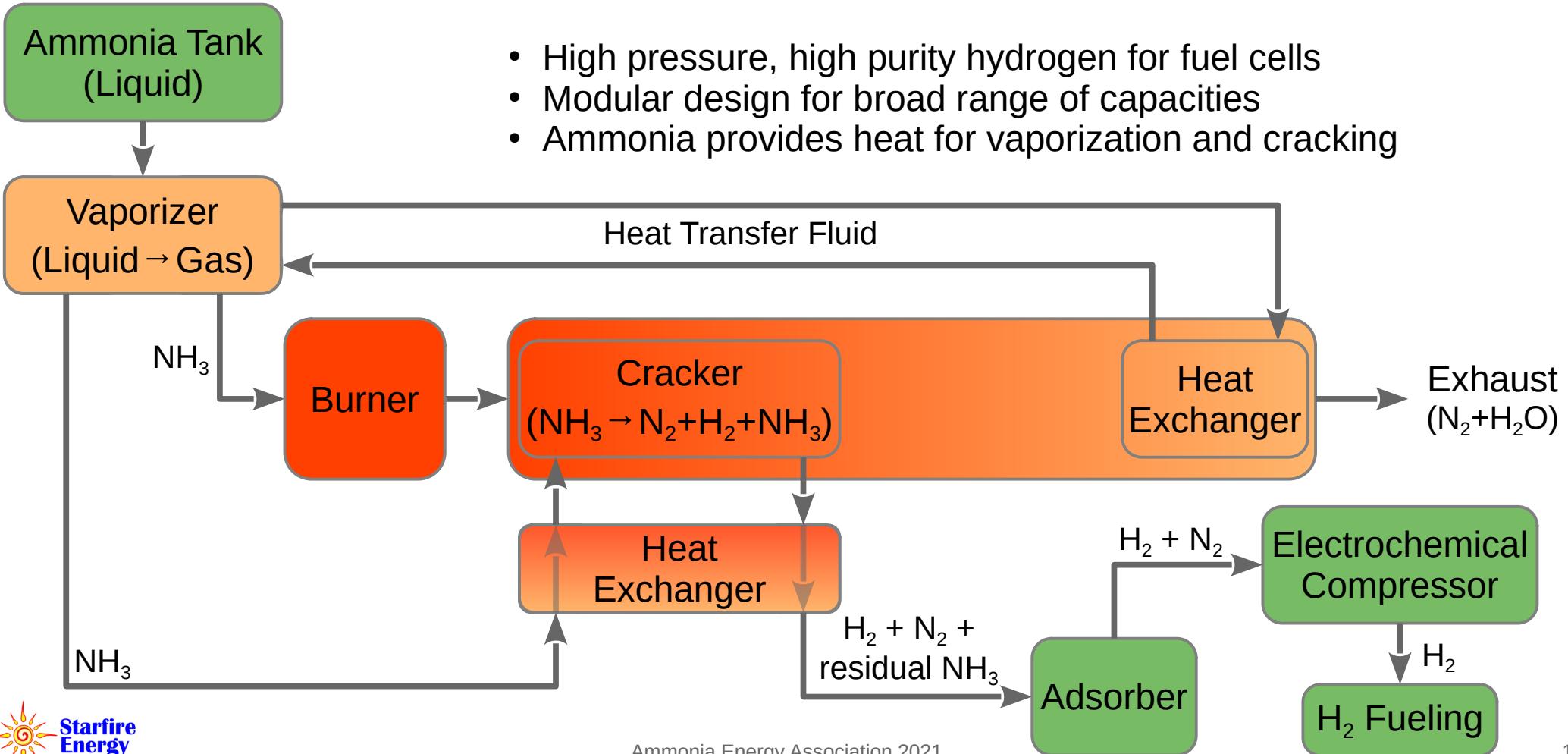
Testing

- Design nearly complete
- Ru/B2CA catalyst
- Novel heat exchanger design
- 1-10 barg, 400-600 °C, 1-20 kg/h
- Output composition characterization
- Foundation for Prometheus products

# Prometheus Fire: Carbon-free combustion



# Prometheus Hydrogen: Modular hydrogen delivery



# Prometheus Hydrogen mitigates a strategic mistake



- Hydrogen's logistics problems are obvious
  - 700 bar (10,000 psi) is not okay
  - -253 °C is not okay
- Heavy focus on H<sub>2</sub> fuel has been a strategic mistake
  - We can make H<sub>2</sub> from NH<sub>3</sub>, but direct NH<sub>3</sub> fuel is cheaper

# Ammonia is strongest as a direct fuel



- Direct NH<sub>3</sub> fuel gives lowest cost
- Cracking aids NH<sub>3</sub> combustion
  - Crack just enough for needed properties
- We need to promote direct NH<sub>3</sub> fuel
  - Burners: turbines, process heat, space heat
  - Internal combustion engines
  - Fuel cells: high and low temperature



**Starfire Energy**

MAKING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY A REALITY

Please ask questions  
during panel discussion

Prometheus ammonia cracking development

Joe Beach, CEO & Founder  
Ammonia Energy Association 2021