

**Centre for  
Energy  
Technology**

**Institute for  
Mineral and  
Energy Resources**



# **INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN HEAT, POWER AND FUELS FOR INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION.**

Hydrogen, batteries, networks,  
mineral processing, waste to energy

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# HYDROGEN FOR INDUSTRY

Working with our global partners to produce and use green hydrogen for energy, chemicals and metallurgy

## WHY FAST TRACK HYDROGEN TECHNOLOGIES?



Hydrogen can be made relatively easily with renewable energy



Green hydrogen could be cost-competitive with fossil fuels by 2030



Global hydrogen production is almost entirely fossil fuel based, and stable at ~55 million tonnes (6,600 PJ) pa



Hydrogen for energy is currently only ~1-2 per cent of consumption, with significant scope to grow

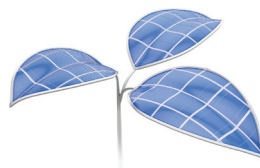
When it comes to energy or metallurgy, hydrogen can do everything that coal or gas can do, sometimes better, but with zero emissions

## WHAT WE'RE DOING



### Integrating hydrogen production into industrial processes together with Concentrated Solar Thermal energy

Innovative technologies spanning lab-scale to pilot-scale demonstration to integrate the production of solar thermal energy with industrial by-products to co-produce hydrogen, oxygen and products such as sulphuric acid.



### Photocatalysis for hydrogen production and CO<sub>2</sub> regeneration

Novel reactors from innovative materials to perform 'artificial photosynthesis'. These convert water to hydrogen and oxygen using just sunlight and a catalyst, at room temperature. No electricity is needed. The technology can also split CO<sub>2</sub>, and convert it, with hydrogen, into hydrocarbon fuels.



### Hydrogen as a met-coal replacement in steel making

Innovative technologies to lower the cost of hydrogen production with a view to replacing met-coke for the blast furnace. This technology will use concentrated solar thermal energy to convert methane (from natural gas or bio-gas) into hydrogen and solid carbon, including pet-coke substitutes.



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# RENEWABLE ENERGY IN ALUMINA PRODUCTION

Integrating Concentrating Solar Thermal  
energy into the Bayer process



\$15.1M project,  
including \$4.5M from  
the Australian Renewable  
Energy Agency (ARENA)



3 research organisations



3 industry partners



Integrating low and  
high temperature  
Concentrating Solar  
Thermal (CST), solar  
reforming and energy  
storage into the energy-  
intensive Bayer process



Developing a pathway to  
reduce natural gas use by  
up to 45%



Developing disruptive  
technologies with the  
potential to enable a 29%  
– 45% solar share with  
minimal disruption to the  
current refinery process

## THREE CONCURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS TO EVALUATE



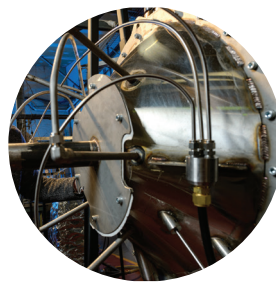
Low temperature CST is  
commercially available but  
not yet for process heat



**Digestion Process**



Solar reforming and syngas  
storage is available at pilot scale  
We are assessing viability for  
commercial application



High temperature CST  
process heat for calcination



**Calcination Process**

## PROGRESS TO DATE

### Low Temperature Process Heat

- Energy flow models for the low temperature stages of the Bayer process
- Models of low temperature CST technologies for the Bayer process
- Techno-economics of low temperature CST technologies into the Bayer process

### Solar Reforming of Natural Gas

- Process models of solar reformed gas for the Bayer process
- Assessment of syngas and thermal storage options
- Techno-economics of a solar reforming of natural gas into the Bayer process

### High Temperature Calcination

- Energy flow models for the alumina calcination stage of the Bayer process
- First stage models of a Bayer process hybrid calciner
- Techno-economics of a hybrid calciner in the Bayer process



HATCH

itp



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# COMBINED HEAT AND POWER FOR MINERALS PROCESSING

Energy for industry from renewable sources, hybridised with fossil fuels to ensure continuous reliable supply.

## HYBRID SOLAR COMBUSTION TECHNOLOGY

Capitalise on the co-location of gas and solar to provide firm energy supply to industry.

### Three modes

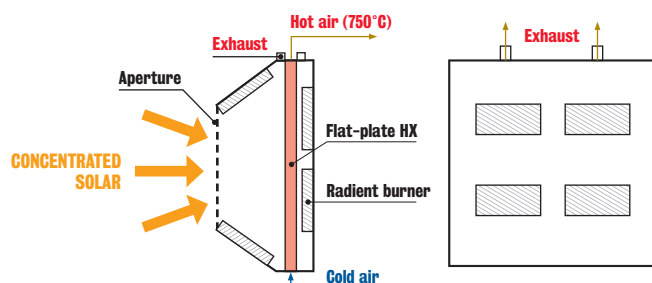
- Solar only
- Combustion only
- Combined Solar and Combustion

### Advantages

- Increase solar share while reducing heat losses and trace heating
- Fast response to solar transients (one second)
- Hybrid design brings reduced thermal stresses
- Thermal energy for mineral processing (hot air or steam)

### Benefits

- Up to 45% reduction in fuel consumption
- 24% reduction in levelised cost of electricity (LCOE)
- 51% reduction in overall energy plant capital cost compared to a system with standalone solar and combustion units



## MAGALDI STEM

- Beam-down solar thermal concentrating system
- Thermal energy storage system with 40 MWh capacity and 700°C steam
- Sand is the storage medium, not salt; steam or hot air the only fluids

### Advantages

- Safe, reliable and robust solar thermal system (ideal for remote sites)
- Capacity to deliver steam or hot air to a process for industrial heat and/or power
- Relatively easy to hybridise in an efficient manner

### Applications

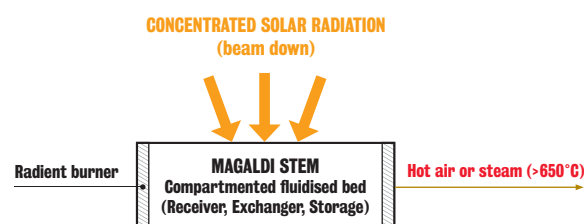
Well suited to a range of Australian industry applications eg:

- Copper concentrate production (steam at ~180°C and a typical power of ~10MWth)
- Combined heat and power
- Possible direct heat for rock crushing

## HYBRID MAGALDI STEM WITH RADIANT BURNER TECHNOLOGY

### Additional benefits

- Potential to provide continuous reliable thermal supply 24/7
- Can operate with many fuels (e.g. natural gas, hydrogen)
- Operation flexibility - temperature control and thermal output



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# LOW CARBON ENERGY FOR MINERAL PROCESSING

Addressing the challenge of integrating  
low carbon energy into minerals processing

## MANUFACTURING AND MINING IN AUSTRALIA

- Accounts for half of Australia's natural gas use
- Requires heat, fuels and power
- Is vulnerable to increases in price for both gas and electricity



### Thermal calcining of limestone, magnesia, alumina

Processes for calcination using concentrated solar thermal energy, with strong potential to compete with natural gas.



### Direct heat for minerals processing

- Stored thermal heat for calcination
- Steam for ore concentration
- Hot air for grinding and drying
- Integration in mining and high temperature processing



### Producing chemicals for industrial processes

- $H_2SO_4$  production for use in concentrate leach and tails leach (copper)
- $O_2$  for smelting and refining
- $H_2$  for metallurgy, heat, power and mobility



### Thermally assisted crushing and grinding (comminution)

- Thermal shock – heating and quenching to promote fracturing to lower comminution energy requirements
- Potential to lower crushing and grinding costs dramatically

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# HiTeMP-2 FORUM

## THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON ZERO CARBON HIGH TEMPERATURE MINERAL PROCESSING

Monday 16 – Wednesday 18 March, 2020

National Wine Centre, Adelaide, South Australia

The HiTeMP-2 Forum will bring together global leaders from industry, research, investors, non-government agencies and policy makers to chart the pathway to transition heavy industry toward net-zero-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, addressing the need for heat, chemicals and electricity.

#### Processes to be reviewed:

- Iron/steel
- Alumina/cement
- Copper
- Other mineral processes

#### Topics to be addressed:

- Drivers and opportunities
- Emerging technologies
- Industry exemplars
- The path forward

The forum will build on the outcomes from HiTeMP-1 to synthesise multi-stakeholder perspectives, identify high value opportunities and guide investors, policy makers and researchers in this sector.

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST  
OR DOWNLOAD THE REPORT  
FROM THE FIRST FORUM:**

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# HyPT

## Innovation in Hydrogen Production Technologies

Monday 23 September 2019

Sanctuary Function Centre, Adelaide Zoo, Australia

The International Forum on Hydrogen Production Technologies (HyPT) 2019 will bring together stakeholders from around the world to compare the relative merits of alternative CO<sub>2</sub>-free hydrogen technologies.

Governments, the transport and energy industries, and researchers have recognised the potential that hydrogen offers. To accelerate the transition to a hydrogen economy, cost effective hydrogen production is needed so it can compete with current energy sources and fuels.

### Forum Themes

- **State of Affairs.** What is the current state of hydrogen production technologies globally? And what is their future potential?
- **Green Hydrogen Technologies.** What is the current state of technologies that use renewable energy? How widely are they being researched, and where? We'll discuss their readiness levels (TRLs), scalability, costs and future potential.
- **Blue Hydrogen Technologies.** What is the current state of technologies that use natural and other gases? Are they being used by industry? What are their TRLs, scalability, costs and carbon footprints?



## About HyPT

The forum will explore, through expert opinion and discussion, the future of hydrogen technologies, including:

- drivers, barriers and opportunities for a thriving hydrogen production industry in Australia
- envisioning what success would look like in progressively expanding, cost-competitive Hydrogen markets
- ways in which emerging technologies could drive costs down in CO<sub>2</sub>-free Hydrogen production
- key barriers to further cost reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>-free hydrogen
- roles that government, researchers and industry could play in enabling the pathway to cost-competitive hydrogen.

The forum is organised by the University of Adelaide's Centre for Energy Technology and is supported by the South Australian Government.

### Speakers include:

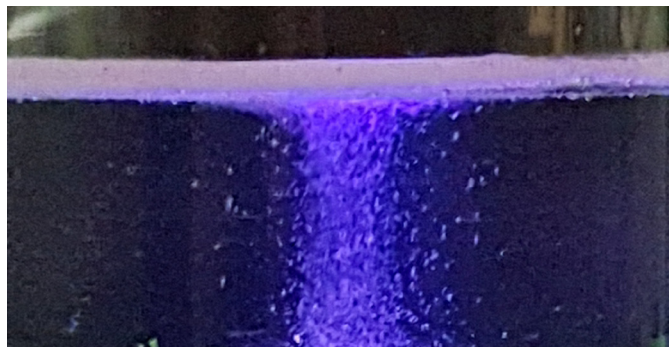
- Mr Richard Day, South Australian Government Hydrogen Plan, Department for Energy and Mining (Theme: State of Affairs)
- Prof Piero Salatino, University of Naples (Blue Technologies)
- Prof Christian Sattler, German Aerospace, DLR (Green Technologies)
- Prof Kazunari Domen, Tokyo University (Green Technologies)

### Who should attend:

- Hydrogen production industry
- Clean technology providers
- Researchers in hydrogen production
- Clean energy investors
- Policy and decision makers.

## University of Adelaide

The University of Adelaide is one of Australia's leading research-intensive universities and is consistently ranked among the top 1% of universities in the world. Established in 1874, it is Australia's third oldest university with a strong reputation for research and teaching excellence, and producing graduates that make an impact on the world.



*In action: production of solar hydrogen (and oxygen) from water using a photocatalyst sheet.*

## Centre for Energy Technology

Hydrogen technology research is led by the Centre for Energy Technology (CET), the University of Adelaide's research and technology development hub for clean, reliable, affordable energy.

Our aim is to reduce energy costs and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and accelerate society's transition to carbon neutrality. We work with industry to reduce emissions now, by retro-fitting innovative technologies to existing systems, and by developing new carbon neutral and carbon negative technologies to replace existing heat, power and fuel production systems.

## About Adelaide

Adelaide is South Australia's capital city. It combines exceptional food and wine, art, shopping, a bustling bar scene, beaches and world-class events. No matter what season you visit, Adelaide and its regions allow you to sample the best of Australia.



### Why fast track hydrogen technologies?

- Hydrogen can be made relatively easily with renewable energy sources.
- Hydrogen could be cost-competitive with fossil fuels between 2025 and 2050 (University of Amsterdam 2018).
- Global hydrogen production is currently almost entirely fossil fuel based, and stable at ~55 million tonnes (6,600 PJ) pa.
- Hydrogen for energy is currently only ~1-2 per cent of consumption (ACIL Allen Consulting for ARENA 2018), so there is significant scope to increase this.

### Registration

**Register now**

[adelaide.edu.au/cet/seminars-events/hypt](http://adelaide.edu.au/cet/seminars-events/hypt)

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