

CERN: European Organisation for Nuclear Research
LIU: LHC Injector Upgrade
SPS: Super Proton Synchrotron accelerator, 1976, 7 km
SSPA: Solid State Power Amplifiers



CERN LIU-SPS 200 MHz RF SSPA FROM DESIGN TO OPERATION

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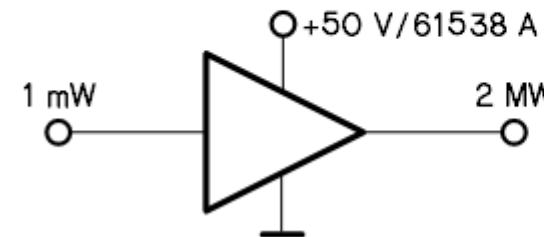
Twelfth Continuous Wave and High Average Power RF Workshop

12.-14.9.2022

CERN

Geneva, Switzerland

<http://cern.ch/CWRF22>



Thanks to all teams members (CERN and Thales), with special thanks to:
Charles Julie, Gino Cipolla (CERN), Patrick Goguillon, Laurent Lachater, Franck Chahbazian, Didier Lebas (Thales)
Top managers (Thales and CERN)



OUTLOOK

1. Brief description of the RF power upgrade project
2. Specificities of the purchasing rules at CERN
3. Technical choices (and difficulties)
4. Operation since beginning 2021



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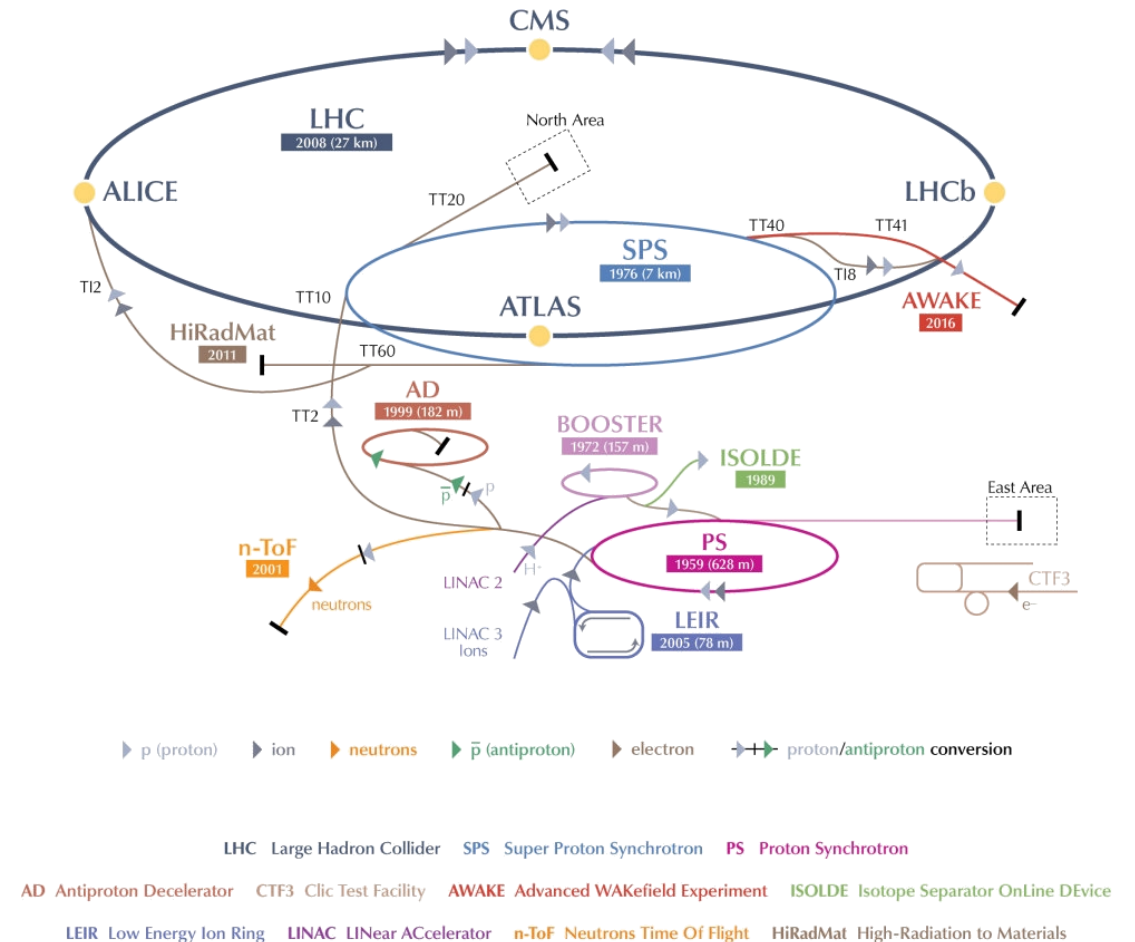
CERN SPS LIU PROJECT

The LHC Injectors Upgrade should plan for delivering reliably to the LHC the beams required for reaching the goals of the HL-LHC

Translated to SPS-RF

re-arrangement of the cavities and construction of new RF power stations

CERN's Accelerator Complex

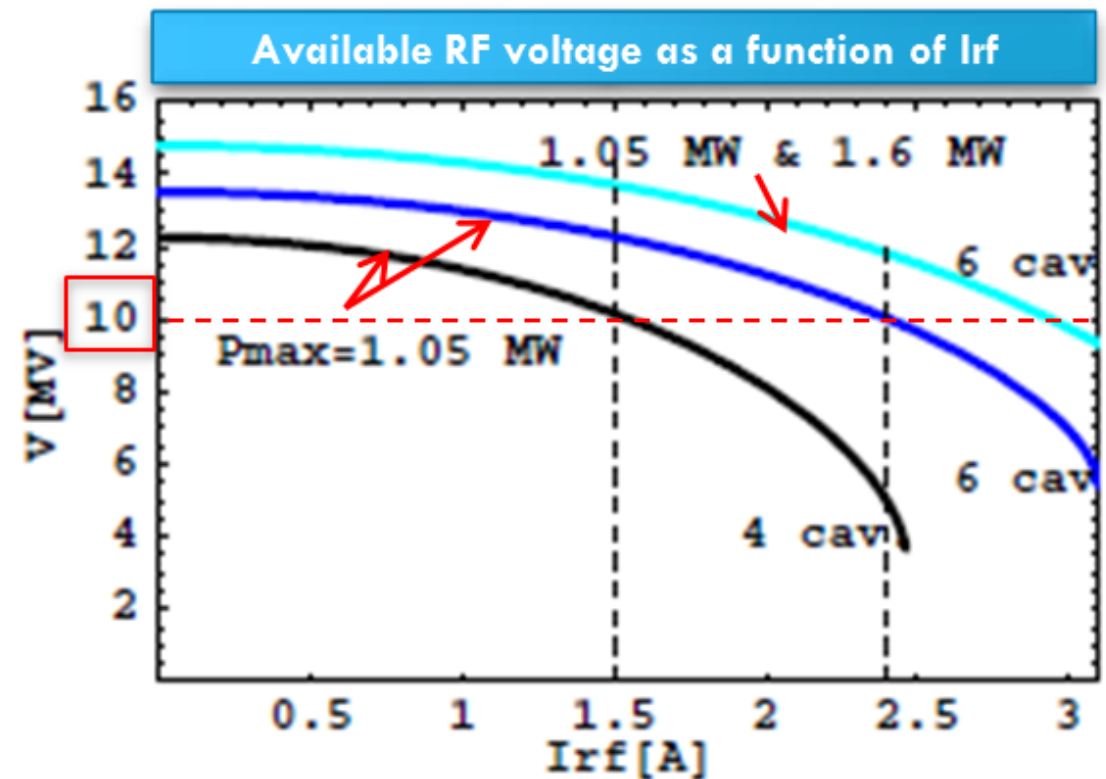


DESCRIPTION OF THE RF POWER UPGRADE PROJECT

Courtesy Elena Chapochnikova

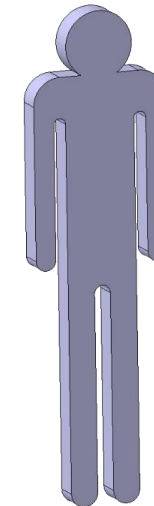
First definition of the project (2011)

- Four existing amplifiers upgraded to 1.05 MW* feeding four cavities
- Two New power amplifiers delivering 1.6 MW* feeding two additional cavities
- A new RF building
- A new LSS3 distribution (Long Straight Section #3)
- *All RF power levels being peak power operating with a 50% duty cycle at 42 kHz or 172 kHz, CW operation at average power (half peak power) is also requested

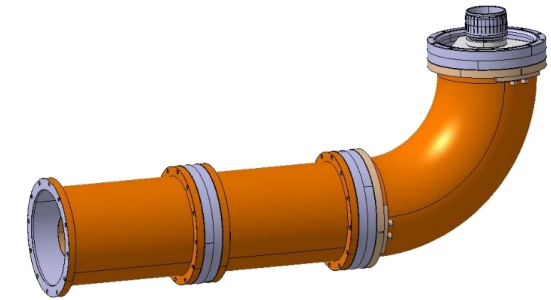




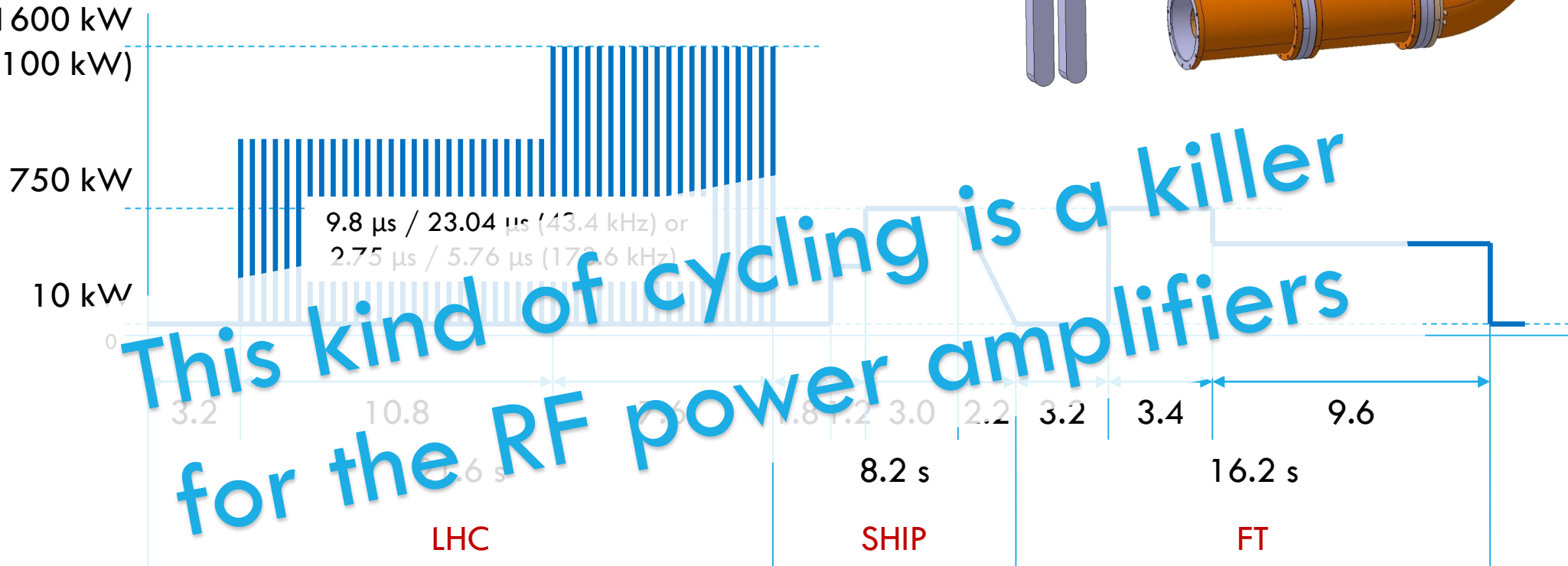
RF CYCLES IN THE SPS



Average power limited to 750 kW due to 350 mm coaxial lines



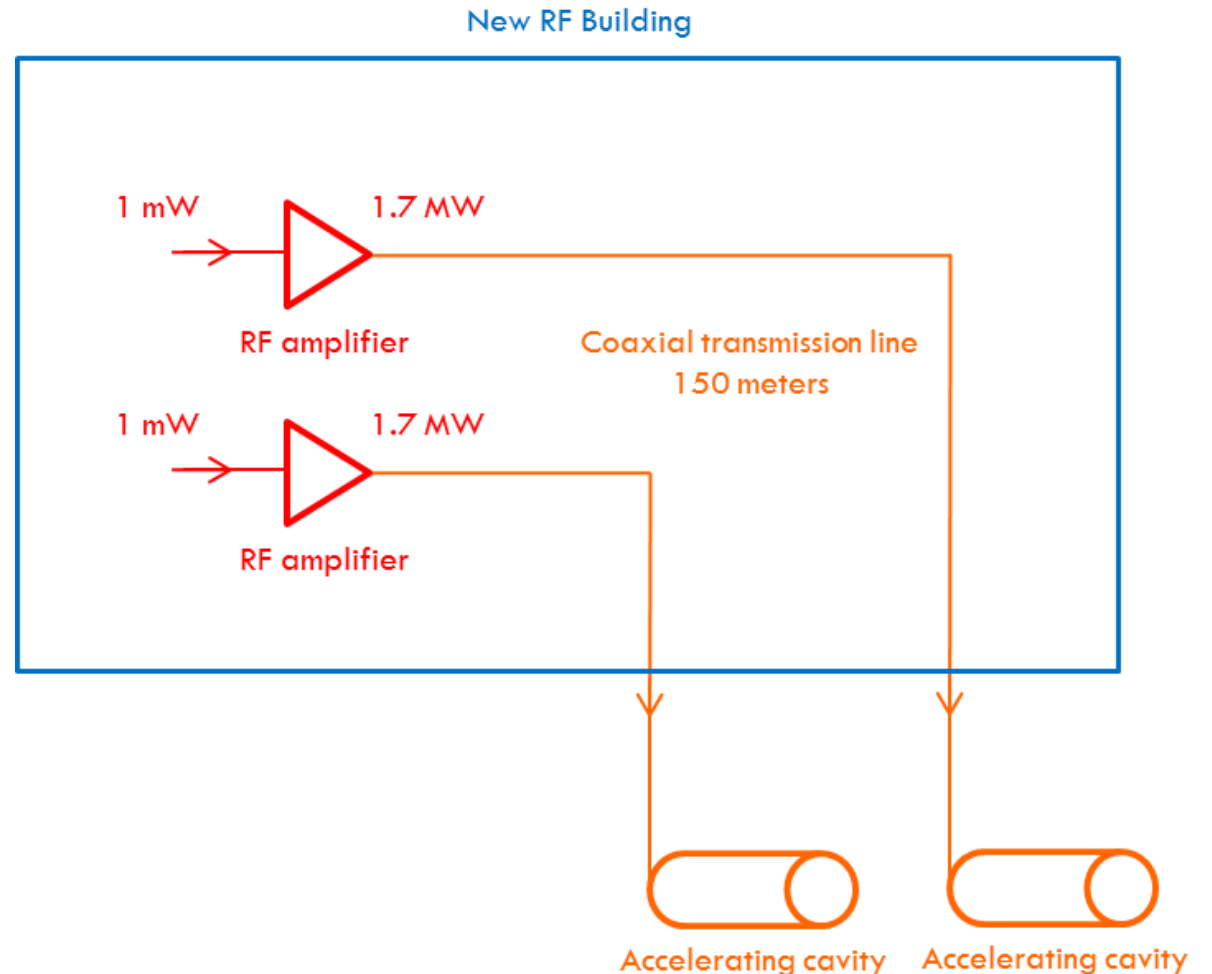
New Amp 1600 kW
(Old Amp 1100 kW)



DESCRIPTION OF THE RF POWER UPGRADE PROJECT

Three main sub-tasks

- 1) New RF Building project
- 2) Cavities re-arrangement project
 - LSS3
 - Coaxial lines
 - Cavities
 - Fundamental Power Couplers
- 3) RF Power Amplifiers project
 - Present amplifiers upgrade
 - **New amplifiers**

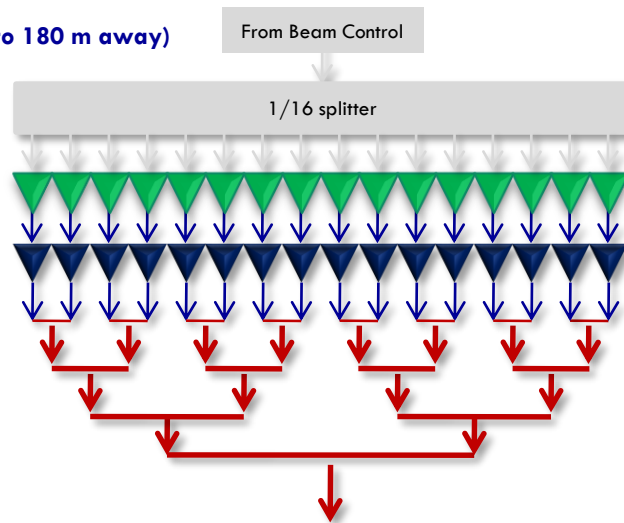




NEW SYSTEMS 2 x 1.7 MW @ 200 MHz

2 x

One line
(input cavity ~120 to 180 m away)



1.4 MW at cavity input

4 stages of 3 dB combiners = - 0.6 dB

120 to 180 m Coaxial lines = - 0.2 dB

Final Amplifier output = 1.6 MW + 0.8 dB = 1.7 MW / 16 = **110 kW**

Three contracts

Drivers :

2 x 16 x SSPA

Finals :

Tetrode : 2 x 16 x 110 kW

IOT : 2 x 16 x 110 kW

SSPA : 2 x 16 x (110 x 1 kW)

Diacrode : 2 x 2 x 850 kW

No klystron at 200 MHz

Combiners + lines :

3 dB hybrids

850 kW power loads



PURCHASING STRATEGY

Two contracts

- IT-3842 Drivers
- IT-3841 Finals

A first contract for the Drivers (IT-3842)

- SSPA only (best technology for a few kW amplifier)
- Will be a first input for a predefined cost for the Finals

Combining systems

- Done in house
- Will be a second input for a predefined cost for the Finals

Once Drivers contract adjudicated, a second contract for the Finals

Thanks to CERN purchasers, with special thanks to Anders Unnervik, Dante Gregorio, Jérôme Pierlot, Lazslo Abel, Boi-Lan Nguyen Lemoine, Bjorn Jensen

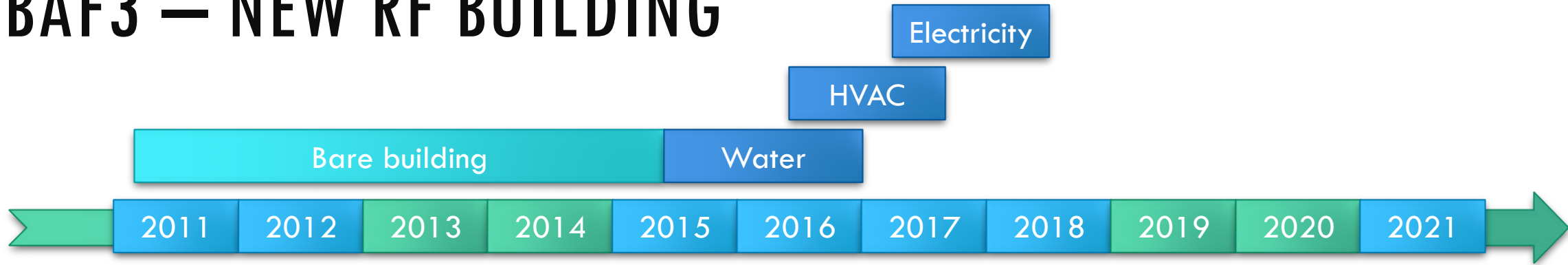
Drivers IT-3842 cost

- + Combiner cost (defined by CERN)
- + Finals IT-3841 offer

IT-3841 adjudication to the lowest compliant



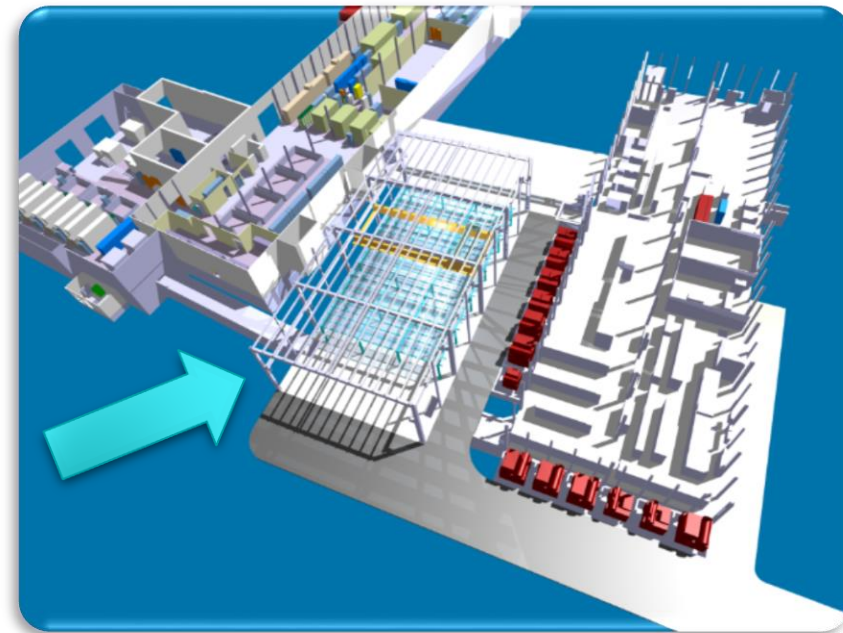
BAF3 – NEW RF BUILDING



Design completed by end of October 2011 to allow Civil engineering studies and authorisation requests to be launched

Goal to have the bare building completed by 2015

Even if we did not know what amplifier technology will be selected!





BAF3 – NEW RF BUILDING

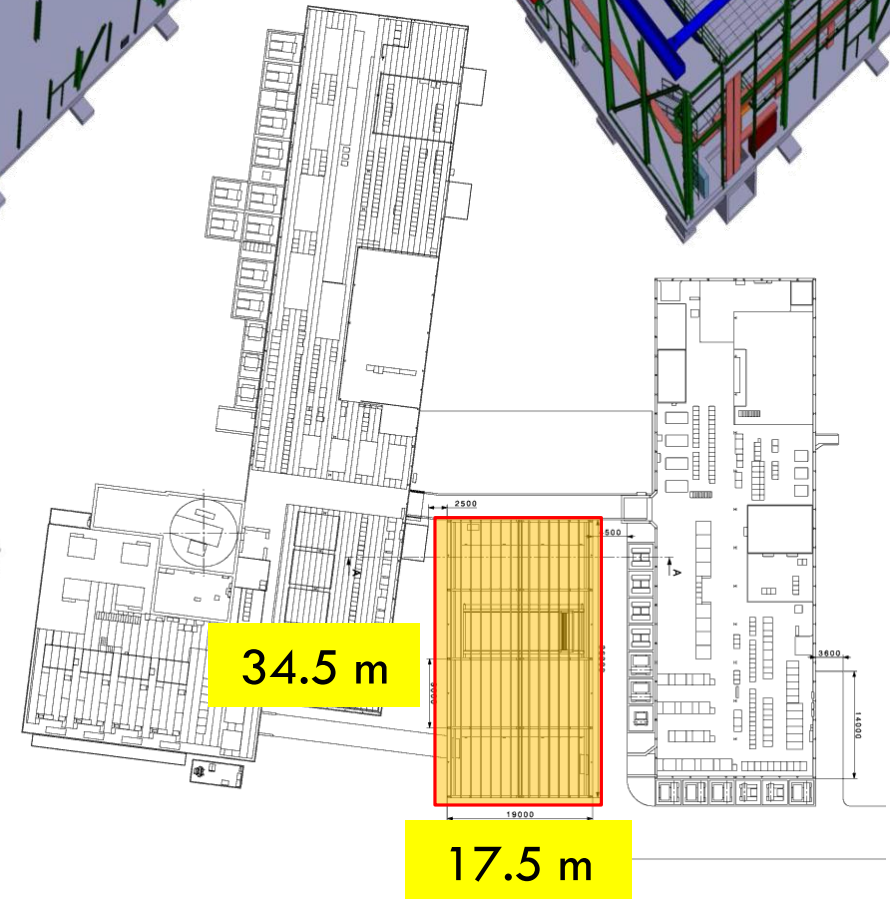
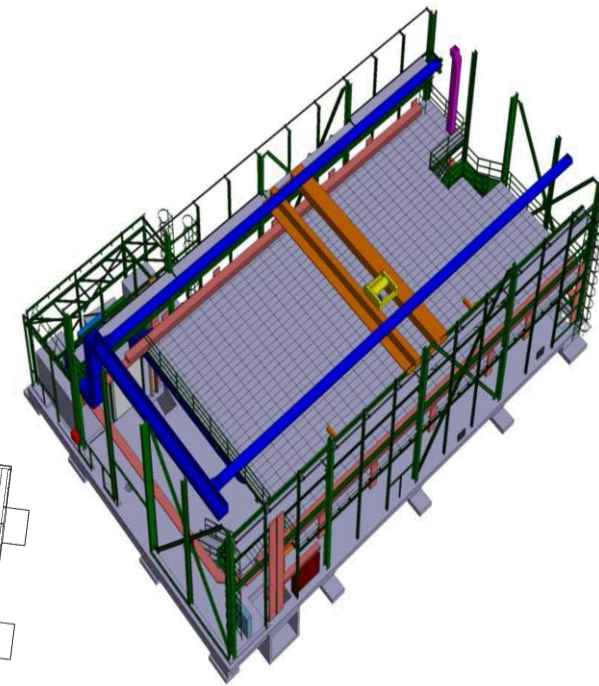
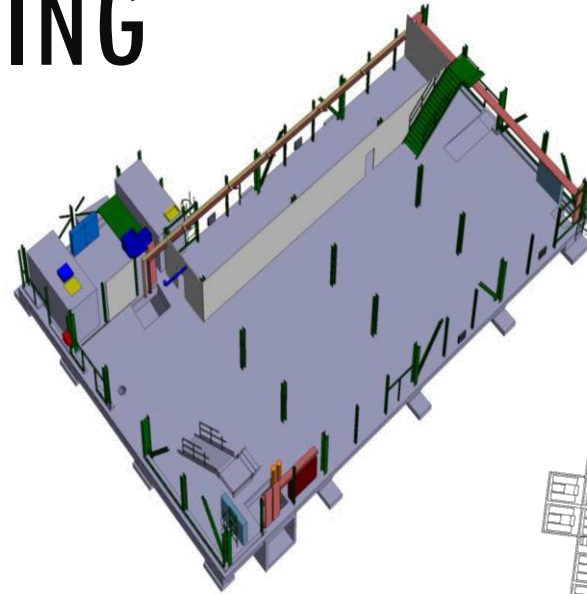
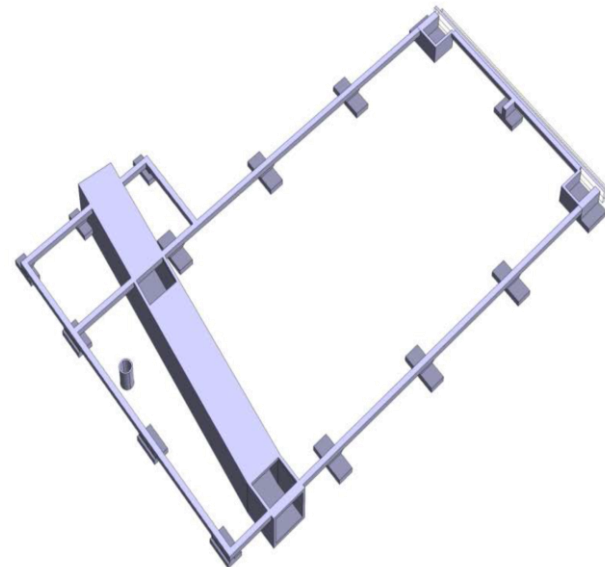
Maximum size is restricted by the available land around CERN premises

Total surfaces

- Basement : 17.5 m x 34.5 m = 600 m²
- Mezzanine : 450 m²
- Total = 1050 m²

Total for RF amplifiers

- Basement = 350 m²
- Mezzanine = 350 m²
- Total = 700 m²





BAF3 – NEW RF BUILDING

Amplifier tendering process opened to several technologies

- 2 x 16 tetrodes (well known)
- 2 x 2048 SSPA (Solid State Power Amplifiers)
- 4 x Diacrodes (new tube)
- 4 x IOT (Inductive Output Tube)

Hybrid combiners and coaxial lines will be similar to the ones in use with present systems



1 tube (160 kW) = 4 m²
HVPS = 192 m²
Total 32 tubes = **320 m²**

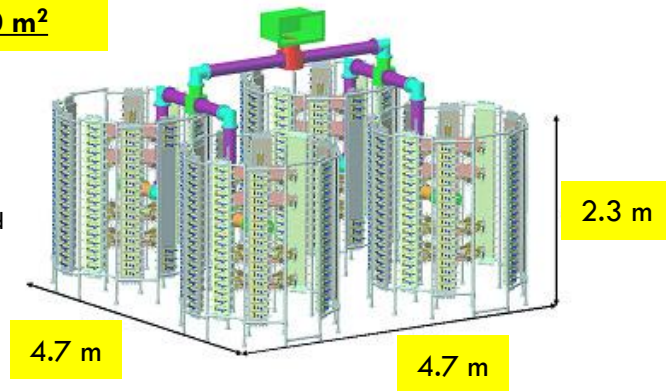
BAF3 for RF = 700 m²



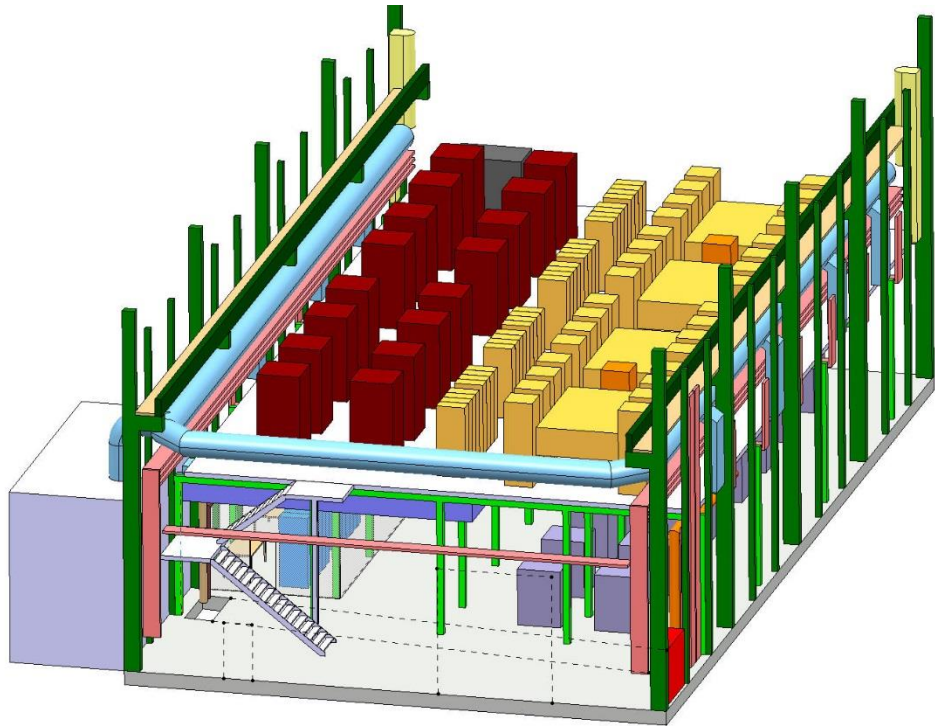
Combiners for 32 = **200 m²**

2 towers (320 kW) = 15 m²
LVPS = 72 m²
total 64 towers = **550 m²**

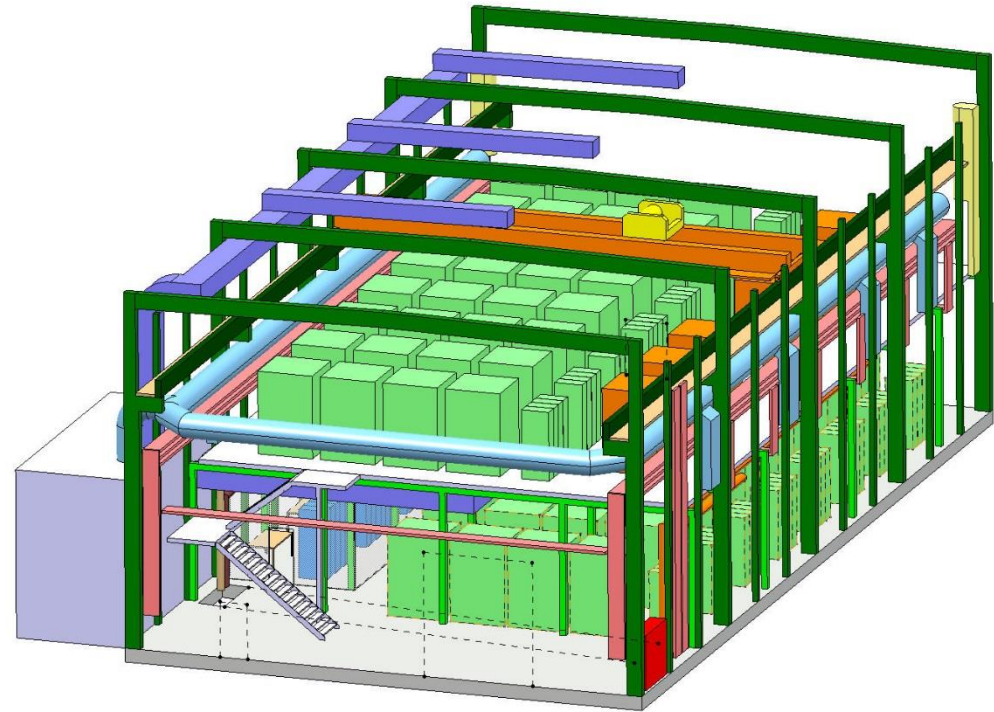
Courtesy
Patrick Marchand
(SOLEIL)



BAF3 – NEW RF BUILDING

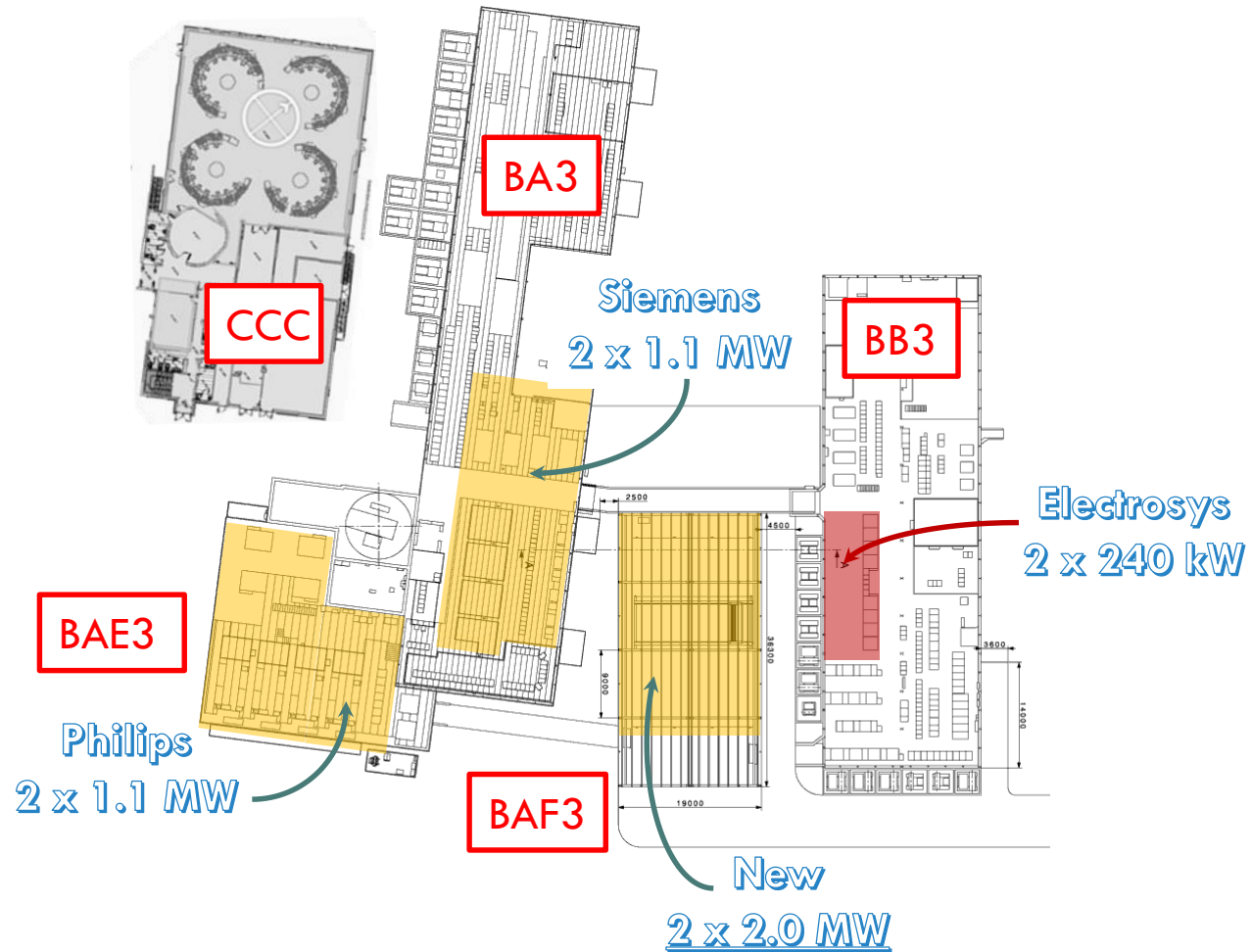


BAF3 with Tetrodes



BAF3 with SSPA

FUTURE POWER SYSTEMS IN THE SPS





CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BUILDING





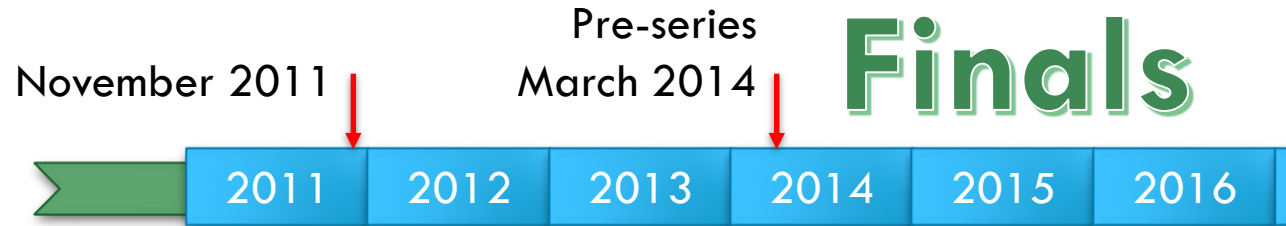
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IT-3842, DRIVERS

OK for Finals



72 companies consulted

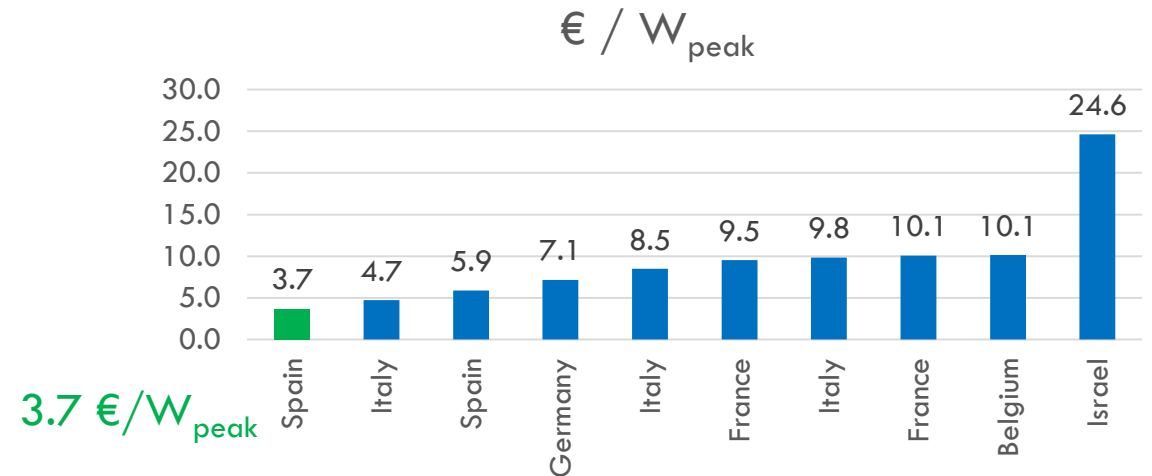
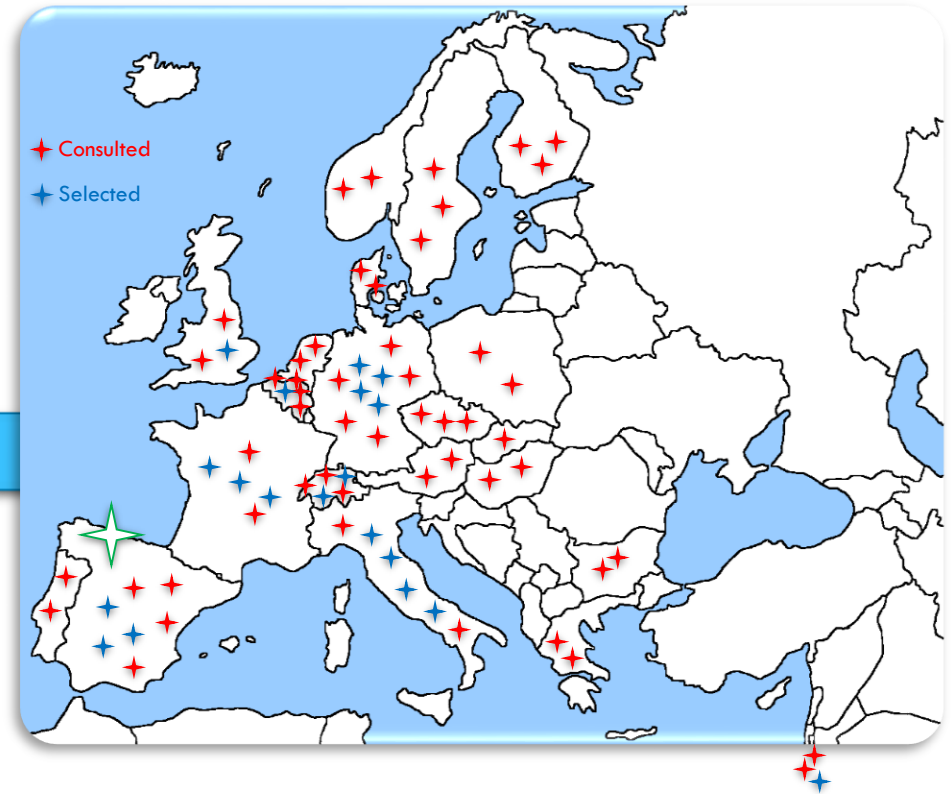
20 selected

10 offers

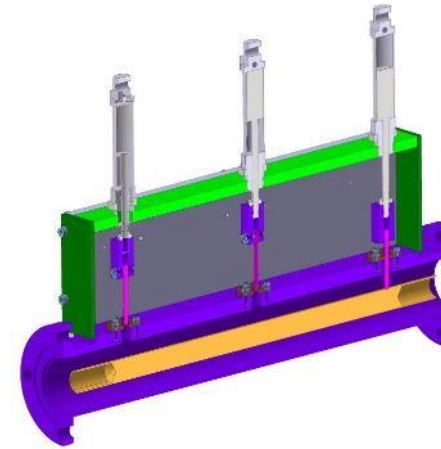
Defined a 1.25 kW unit

- Compatible with all Finals technologies
 - 32 for SSPA & IOTS, 256 for Tetrodes, 192 for Diacodes
- 12 pre-series for qualification (**end of contract clause in case of any failure without any payment**)
- One to six batches of 50 (total 62 to 312) regarding result of future Finals IT-3841

TTI Norte, Spain, awarded the contract (3.7 €/W)



IT-3842, DRIVERS



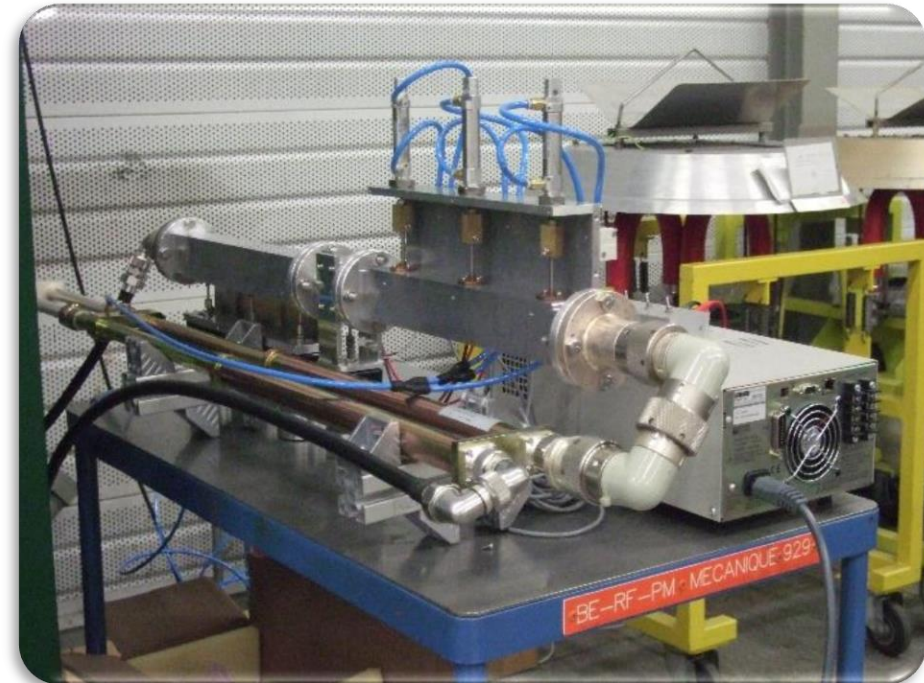
November 2011

Series production ok June 2016

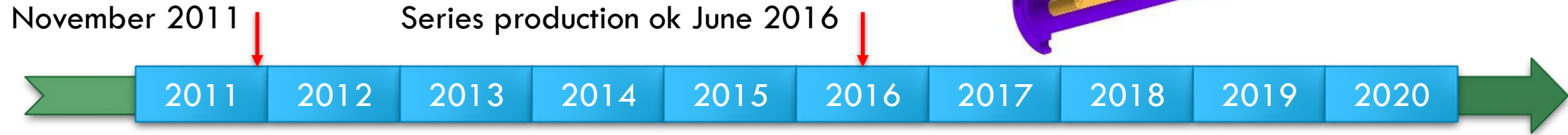
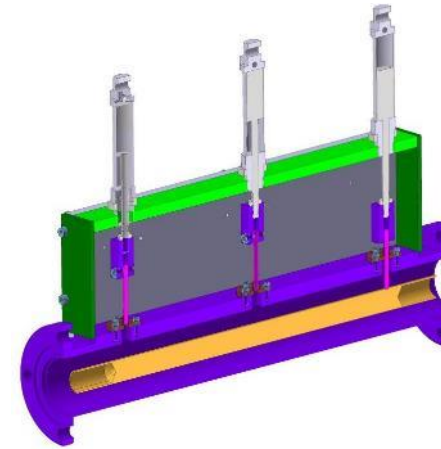


The 12 pre-series have been qualified

- RF design is impressively robust
- Double circulators!
- Sustained the CERN Fast Short-Circuit test!
Tungsten fingers at three phases spaced by $\lambda/6$
- Successfully completed the 1000 hours test with 12 units



IT-3842, DRIVERS



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IT-3841, FINALS

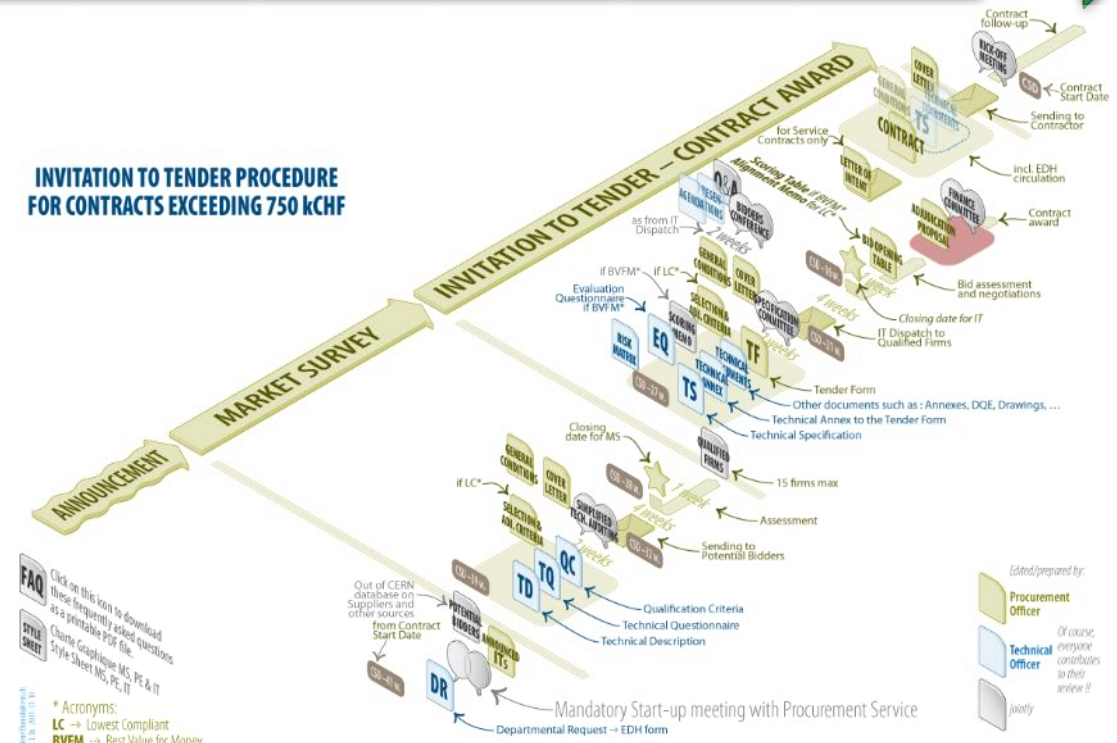


Technical Specification with delay as to be finalized taking into account Drivers outcome

In the mean time power level request increased

- Cavity 1.4 to 1.6 MW
- Amplifier from 1.6 to 2.0 MW!

INVITATION TO TENDER PROCEDURE FOR CONTRACTS EXCEEDING 750 kCHF





IT-3841, FINALS ADDITIONAL COSTS

Drivers IT-3842 cost

- 5500 CHF per 1.25 kW unit
- SSPA & IOT 176 kCHF
- Tetrodes 1'408 kCHF
- Diacrodes 1'056 kCHF

Combiner cost (defined by CERN)

- SSPA & IOT 2'760 kCHF
- Tetrode 3'160 kCHF
- Diacrode 800 kCHF

Total additional cost per technology

- SSPA & IOT 2'936 kCHF
- Tetrode 4'568 kCHF
- Diacrode 1'856 kCHF

Input	Input Power	Output Power	Load	Directional coupler	Cost
6:1	1250 W	7.5 kW	0	14	10 kCHF
8:1	1250 W	10 kW	0	18	12.5 kCHF
2:1	7.5 kW	15 kW	1 x 50 kW	8	15 kCHF
2:1	15 kW	30 kW	1 x 50 kW	8	20 kCHF
2:1	30 kW	60 kW	1 x 50 kW	8	20 kCHF

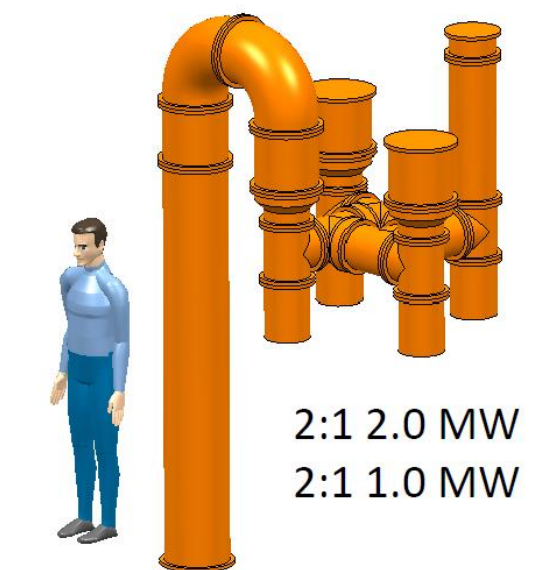
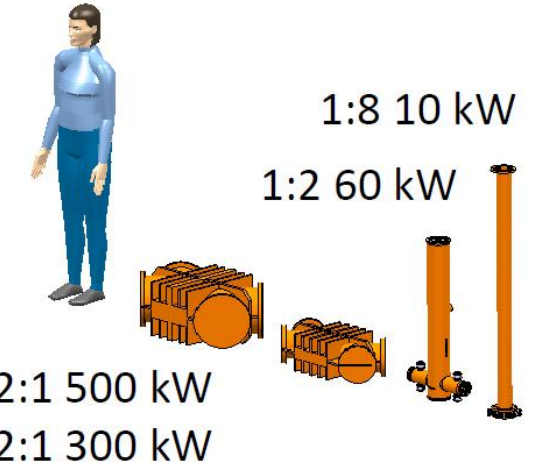
Directional coupler + diode detector : 300 CHF
 50 kW load: 6 kCHF
 500 kW load: 60 kCHF

Important Note: Any price estimates in this document include direct and indirect costs (manpower, facilities, materials, ...)

Output	Input Power	Output Power	Load	Directional coupler	Cost
2:1	150 kW	300 kW	2 x 50 kW	8	60 kCHF
2:1	250 kW	500 kW	3 x 50 kW	8	75 kCHF
2:1	500 kW	1 MW	1 x 500 kW	8	200 kCHF
2:1	1 MW	2 MW	1 x 500 kW	8	200 kCHF

Input	P max	Unit cost	SSA	Tetrodes	IOTs	Diacrodes
6:1	7.5 kW	10 kCHF	-	-	-	8
8:1	10 kW	12.5 kCHF	-	16	-	-
2:1	15 kW	15 kCHF	-	-	-	4
2:1	30 kW	20 kCHF	-	-	-	2
2:1	60 kW	20 kCHF	-	-	-	1
Total per transmitter			0	200	0	200
Total kCHF			0	400	0	400

Output	P max	Unit cost	SSA	Tetrodes	IOTs	Diacrodes
2:1	300 kW	60 kCHF	8	8	8	-
2:1	500 kW	75 kCHF	4	4	4	-
2:1	1 MW	200 kCHF	2	2	2	-
2:1	2 MW	200 kCHF	1	1	1	1
Total per transmitter			1380	1380	1380	200
Total kCHF			2760	2760	2760	400





IT-3841, FINALS BIDDERS CONFERENCE

20 January 2015



Defined the scope of the contract

- being as fair as possible regarding the technology
- Defining a quite costly Demonstrator in order to disqualify 'non serious' companies (we do not want to be R&D at low cost)
- **Not a single CHF paid in case of failure of the demonstrator**
- Taking into account tubes on an as long as possible period (over 5 years, CERN's rules)
- Including spares in order to operate during 20 years

Answered **102 questions** from the suppliers

Technology	Demonstrator	Transmitters	Transmitter Spares	Consumables	Total
SSPA		32 x RF amplifiers (including all PS & controls)	1 RF amplifier 8 sets of main components 1 set of modules	-	33 RF amplifiers 1 demonstrator 8 sets of main components 1 set of modules
Tetrodes		32 x RF amplifiers (including all PS & controls)	4 RF amplifiers 8 sets of main components 8 Trolleys	Tubes to last 30,000 hours Plus 10 tetrodes	36 RF amplifiers 1 demonstrator 8 sets of main components 8 Trolleys 10 Tubes
IOTs		32 x RF amplifiers (including all PS & controls)	4 RF amplifiers 8 sets of main components 8 Trolleys	Tubes to last 30,000 hours Plus 10 IOTs	36 RF amplifiers 1 demonstrator 8 sets of main components 8 Trolleys 10 Tubes
Diacrodes		4 x RF amplifiers (including all PS & controls)	1 RF amplifier 1 set of main components	Tubes to last 30,000 hours 2 diacrodes	5 RF amplifiers 1 demonstrator 1 set of main components 2 diacrodes

IT-3841, REQUIREMENTS

Requirements

- Integration within the given building
- Repetition rate 0.1 Hz to 500 kHz (require a CW and a pulsed amplifier)
- Full reflection all phases 100 ms (equivalent to 4 time the power level along the lines)
- Non conventional way to measure the BW (required by LLRF and TWC)
- Very good linearity

A lot of tests to qualify the Finals

- Supercycle test, short circuit test, BW, linearity, ...
- Short duration tests to qualify an Amplifier within one week
- Long duration tests to check reliability over 1000 hours

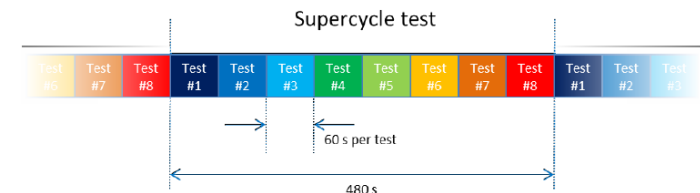
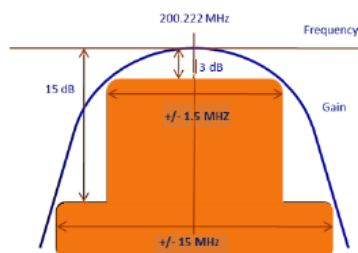
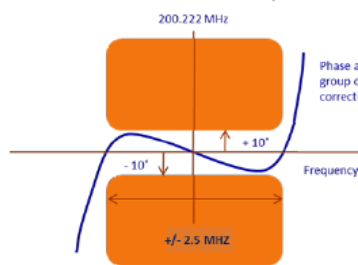
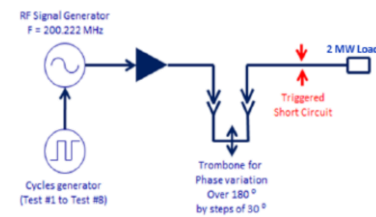
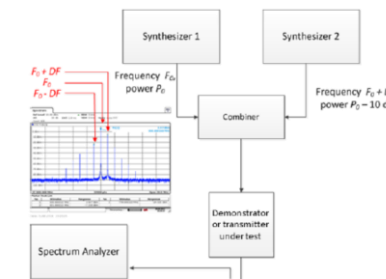
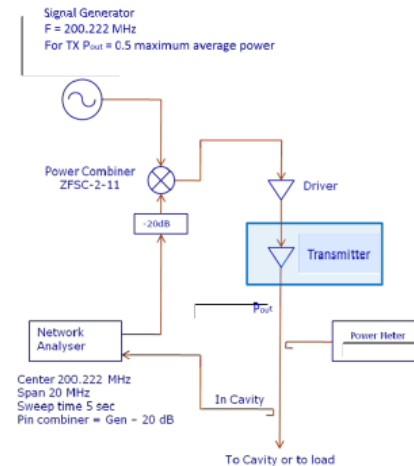
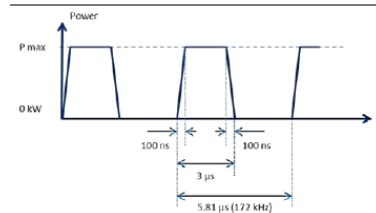
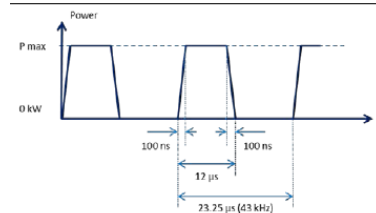
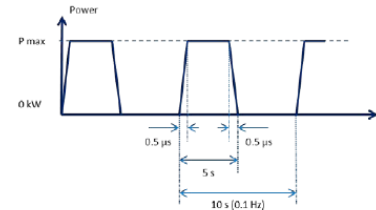
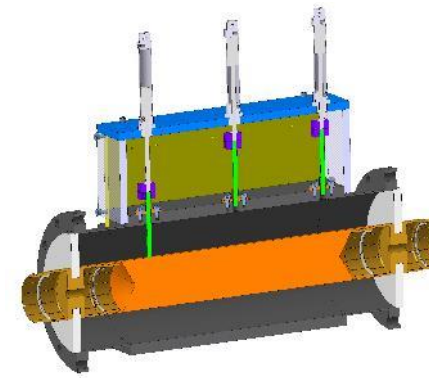


Figure 7: Supercycle test

IT-3841

13 March 2015, bids opening



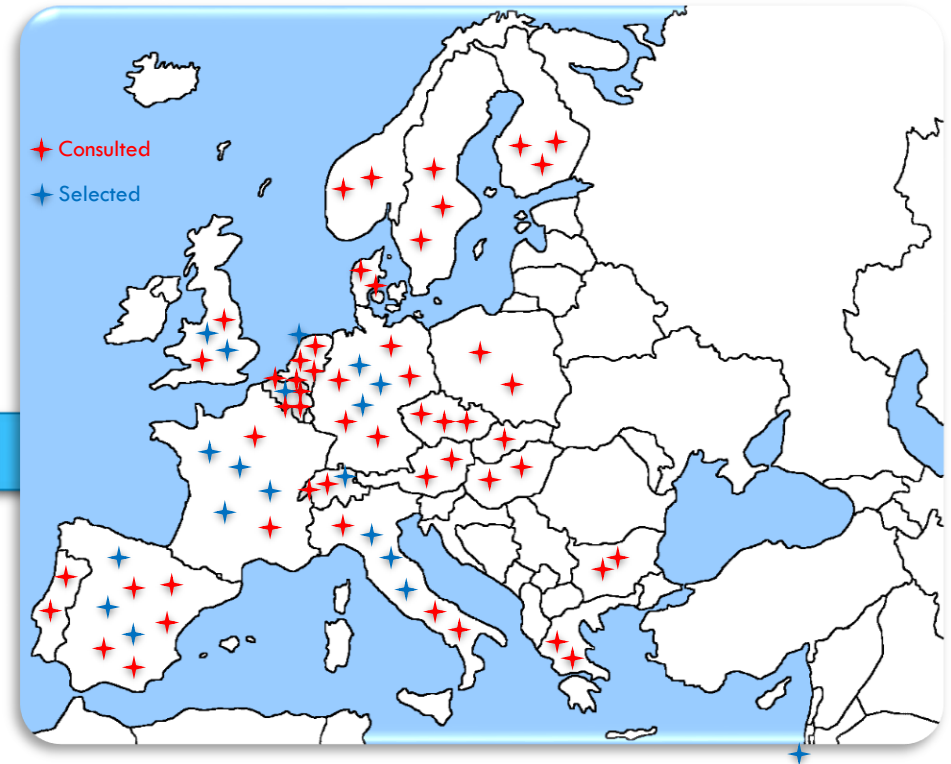
74 companies consulted

19 selected

8 declined

7 offered

No discussion about the Drivers neither the combiners costs



Unable to submit a competitive bid due to quantity being beyond our production capacity and we could not provide installation support

Dear all, We are sorry but we are not able to finish every documents within deadline. So we must decline to participate with our offer. Thank you for your opportunity. Best regards

We are not on time with the documents required

We believe that the chances are too low to get the contract by bidding Solid State Amplifier solutions. Additionally, the known dumping price structure of competitors in the field of Solid State Amplifiers, which get development provided free of costs by public institutes (already known due to the preceding call for tender for preamplifiers of the same frequency) also makes the chance to win the bid too small for the required work load for bid preparation



IT-3841

17 September 2015, FC approval

13 March 2015, bids opening

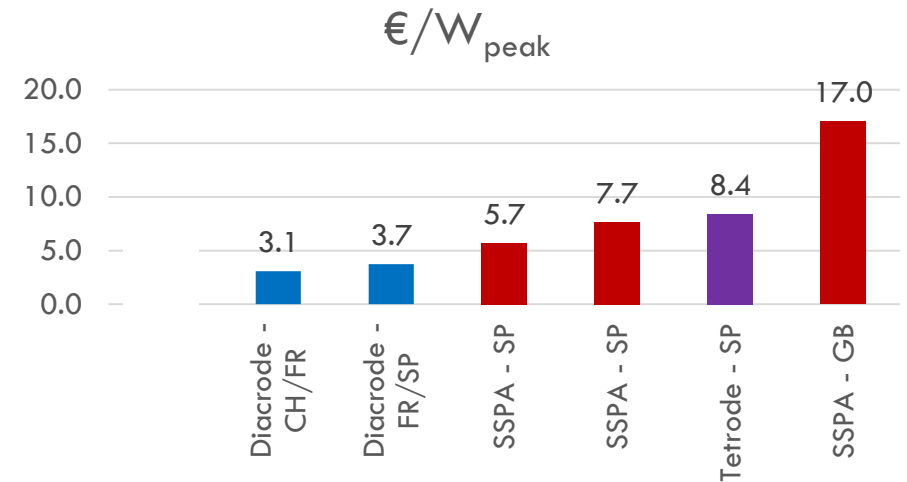
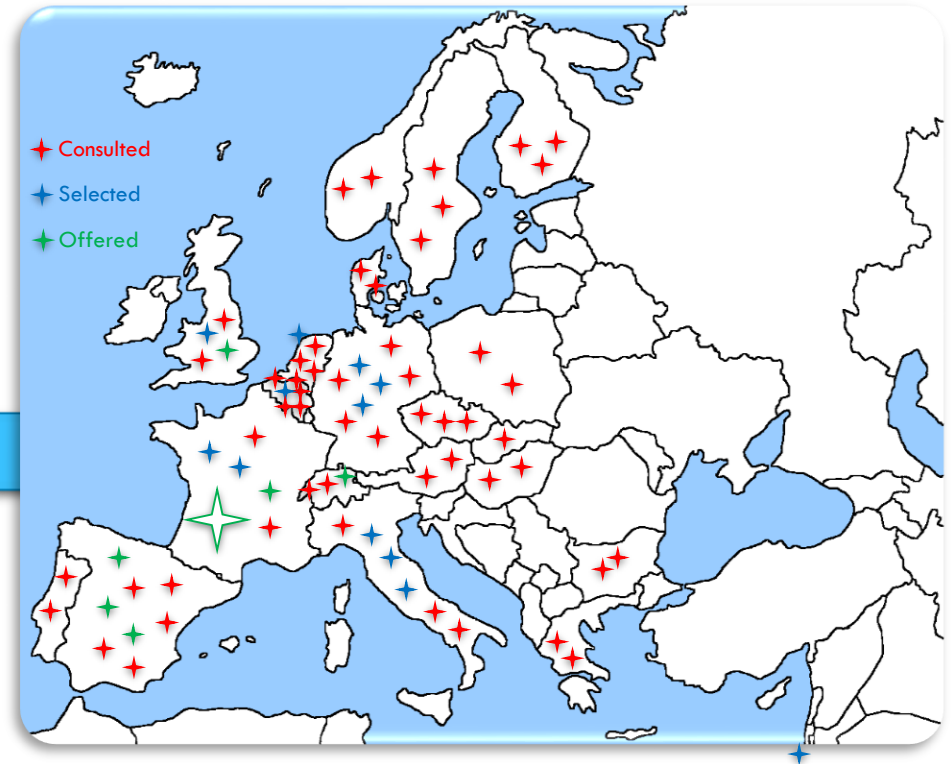


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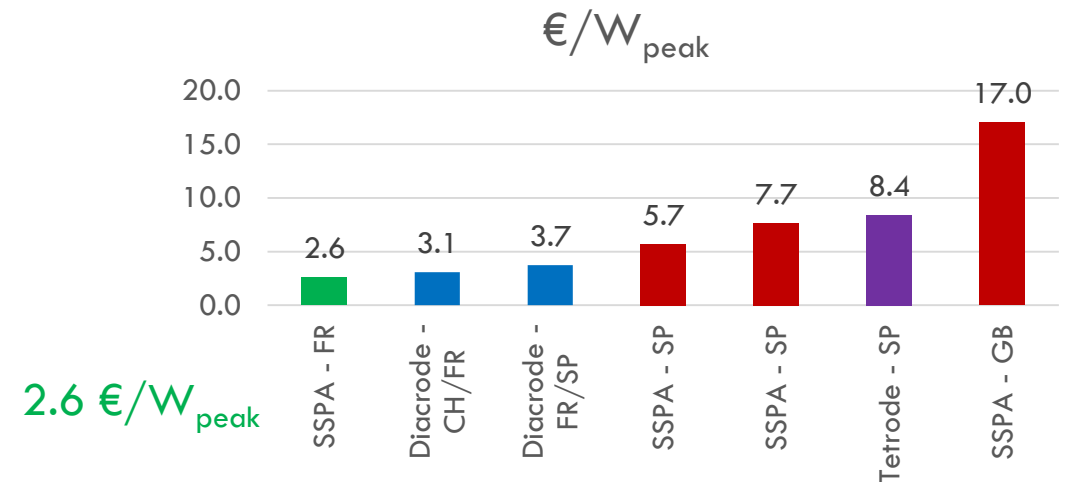
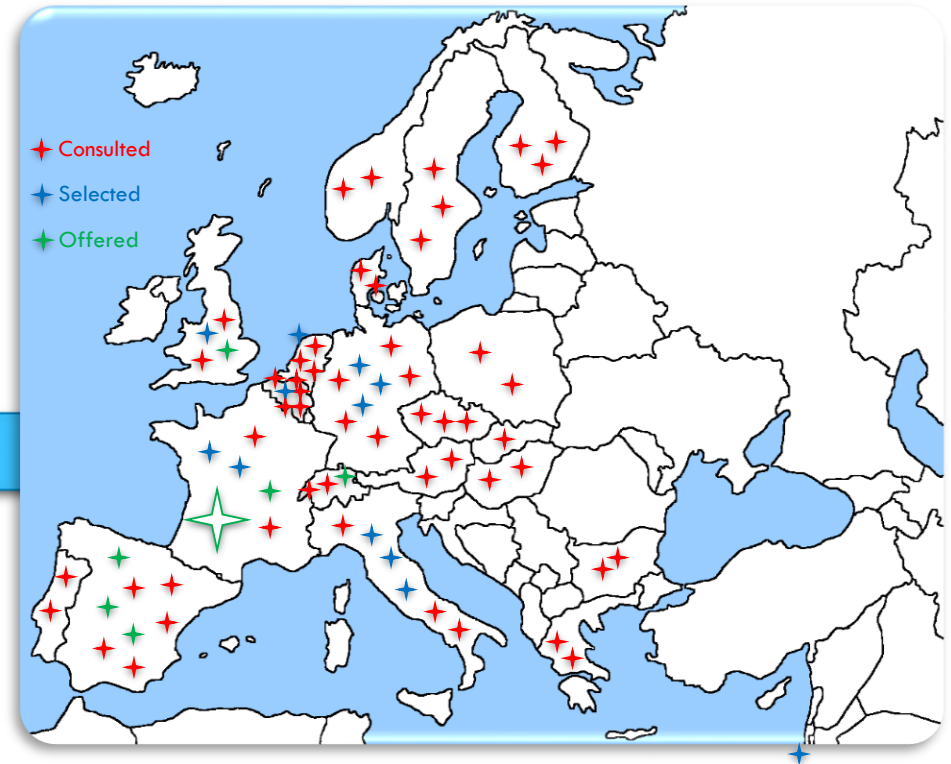
7 offers

March 2015 lowest bid was Thales Communication & Security

Very careful verification of the offer

(I am (was) a tube guy!)

September 2015 CERN FC approval



2.6 €/W_{peak}



OUTLOOK

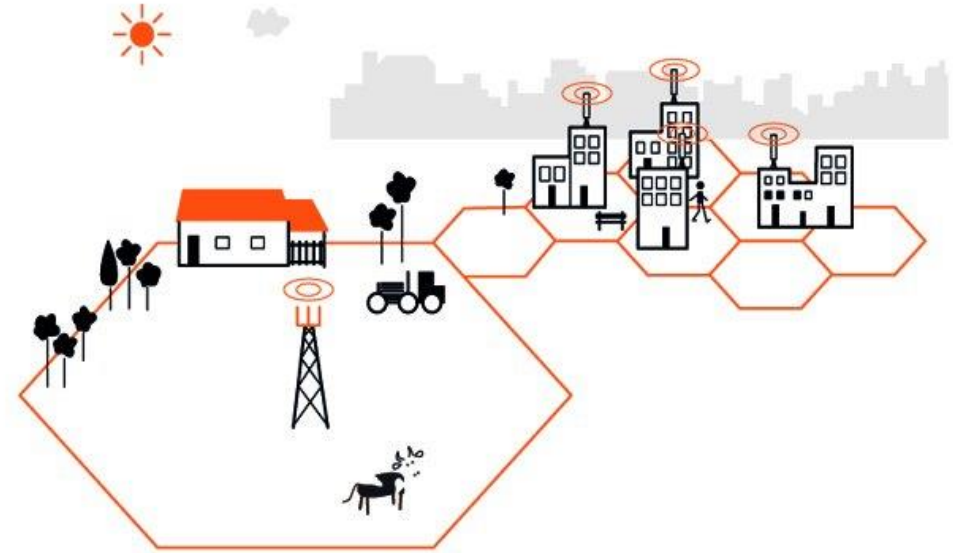
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TRANSISTOR POWER RATINGS – PERSONAL VIEW OF FUTURE PERSPECTIVE (2016)

Voltage limits

	2002	2006
900 MHz	41 V/m	
1800 MHz	58 V/m	3 V/m
2100 MHz	61 V/m	

Device	Distance	Power
Phone	20 km	2 W
Microcell	2 km	10 W
Macrocell	20 km	50W



The tendency is to increase the number of smaller cells in order to keep the phone battery autonomy, increase the data bandwidth, and reduce the exposition of population to too high electromagnetic fields



TRANSISTOR POWER RATINGS – PERSONAL VIEW OF FUTURE PERSPECTIVE (2016)

Transistor supplier main business will not be higher power per transistor

Conclusion : below a GHz, 1 kW per transistor (LDMOS) seems to me a very good goal

1 482 Million Smartphones in 2015

6.1 Millions Microcell stations 2009

5.9 Millions Macrocell stations 2009

Freescale + NXP Semiconductors revenue in 2015: \$10'000 Millions

Assumption (with a lot of simplifications)

Machine	# RF stations	Peak power	# 500W LDMOS
ESS	120	1.2 MW	290'000
FCC	400	125 kW	100'000

- Cost of a LDMOS ~ \$120
- Revenue for transistors manufacturers \$50 Millions
- Over minimum 5 years \$10 Millions per year

RF for accelerators could be 0.1 % of main suppliers revenue

CAVITY COMBINERS

CRISP (Sept 2010)

- Jörn Jacob (ESRF) asked for support to the development of cavity combiners receiving funding from the EU as work package WP7 in the framework of the FP7/ESFRI/CRISP program
- CERN immediately supported it

CRISP, 2nd yearly meeting, PSI 18-19 March 2013

- ESRF cavity combiner
- 144:1 Cavity combiner for CERN-LIU-SPS

In addition, please refer to two excellent papers from ESRF at IPAC

- MOPC005-IPAC11, 352.2 MHz – 150 kW Solid State Amplifiers at the ESRF
- WEPFI004-IPAC13, Commissioning of first 352.2 MHz - 150 kW Solid state amplifiers at the ESRF and status of R&D

HIGH POWER SOLID STATE RF AMPLIFIERS USING CAVITY COMBINERS

Jörn Jacob & Michel Langlois, ESRF

Conventional 75 kW coaxial combiner tree
with 1:4 transformers

CRISP / WP7

75 ... 100 kW cavity combiner
Strongly loaded E₁₁₀ resonance

- Modest field strength
- Clarity at atmospheric pressure
- 1 dB - Bandwidth = 500 kHz

H field
Homogeneous magnetic coupling of all input loops

E field
Strong capacitive coupling to the output waveguide

Wireless is beautiful!

For 352.2 MHz ESRF application:

- 6 rows x 22 Columns x 600 ... 800 W per translator module
- ⇒ 75 ... 100 kW
- More compact than coaxial combiners
- Easy to tune if $f_{resonance}$ is verified
- Substantial reduction of losses ⇒ Higher η

Cavity combiner: the 352.2 MHz - 10 kW prototype

Auxiliary equipment in house

CRISP / WP7

ESRF / WP7

GS1

WP7 meeting held in Grenoble on 20 September 2012

Definition of Partners' candidates for cavity combiners
(belongs to milestones M7.2)

- CERN** (Eric Montesinos)
 - 1st good candidate: LIU-SPS, 300 MHz, pulsed with 50 % power factor, project under way
 - Revisiting process for two (16 x 150 kW) for 2 additional SPN cavities
 - 1/10 contribution to obtain net 1.5 MW with 15 cavities 300 MHz cavity combiner could significantly reduce costs
 - 1/8 x 120 W → 150 kW cavity combiner could help making SPS more competitive with currently still cheaper MDS, ICT or diode solutions
 - Detailed design study for 150 kW cavity combiner for LIU-SPS delivered by ESRF (part of M7.2)
- 2nd good candidate: SPS, 700 MHz, R&D;
 - 240 RF power sources from 140 kW to 1200 kW

GS1 (Wolfgang Wronski)

- Upgrade of UNICAT: 120 MHz options to 2 MW, 1 ms (5 Hz) pulse
- Installed in cavity combiner 4 x 300 kW or 4 x 250 kW for betatrons and not solid state amplifiers
- Installed in 150 MHz - 120 kW SPS, drives for 3 MDTubes
- Wish of a collaboration for the development of cavity combiners

ESF (Pablo Revuelto)

- Prototype application: 30 x 300 kW at 352 MHz for spallation cavities
- SSA still significantly more expensive than ICT solution
- So far no anticipated application for a cavity combiner

Uppsala University - UU (Pietroniro Tug et al.)

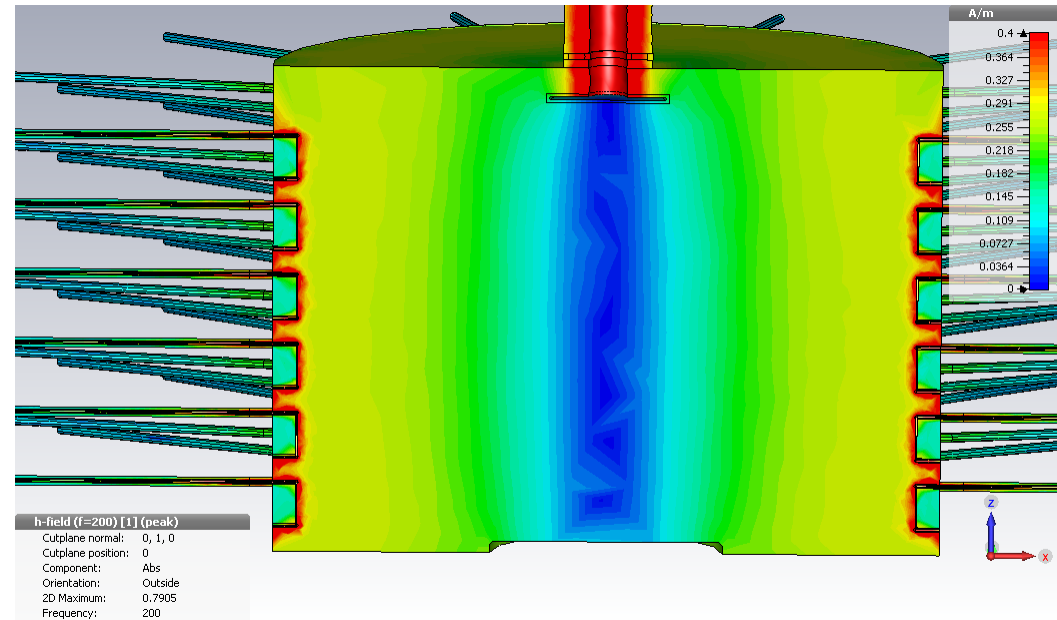
- PRIMA project: Building 2 cavity power test stands for 352 MHz - 300 kW Spoke cavities for ESS (2 cavities in total)
- Interested in SSA development using cavity combiners
- 10 kW SPS drivers for 300 MHz betatron amplifiers
- 100 power installed already with 300 kW SPS
- Collaborative contract with ESRF for further development of innovative RF modules
- UU will benefit from CRISP prototypes developed at ESRF

⇒ 10 kW test, i.e. milestone M7-1 expected within revised schedule, by June 2013



CAVITY COMBINERS

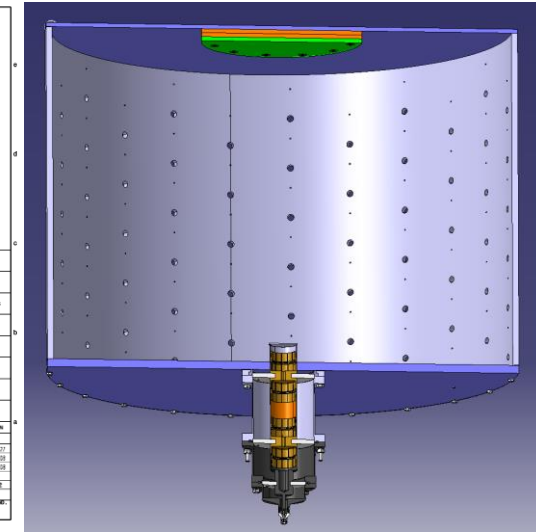
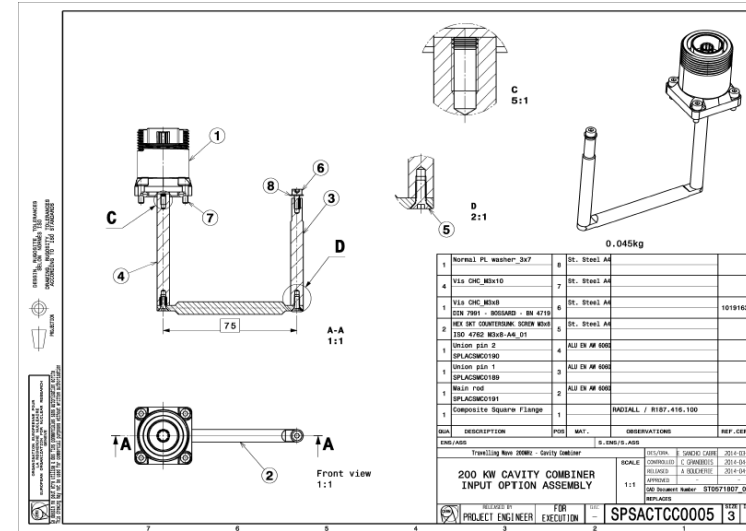
Based on ESRF Technical Note for CERN-LIU-SPS under CRISP in Feb 2013, we built our own 144:1 cavity combiner





CAVITY COMBINERS

Based on ESRF Technical Note for CERN-LIU-SPS under CRISP in Feb 2013, we built our own 144:1 cavity combiner



EUROPEAN SYNCHROTRON RADIATION FACILITY



Accelerator & Source

Technical Note

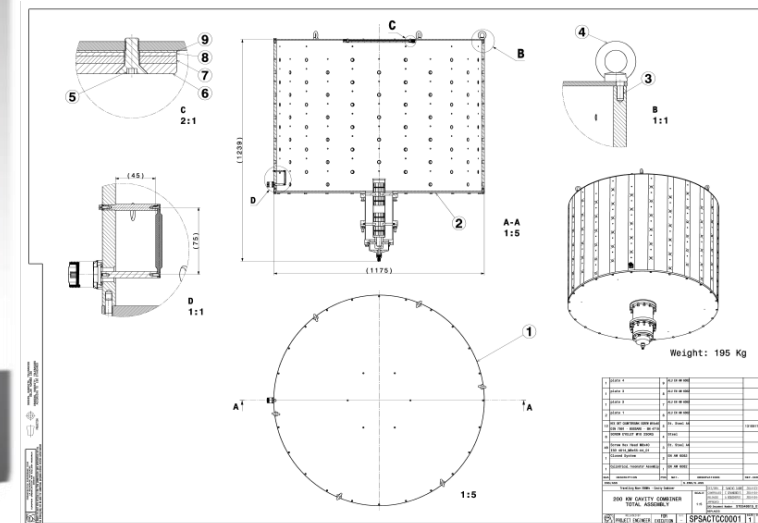
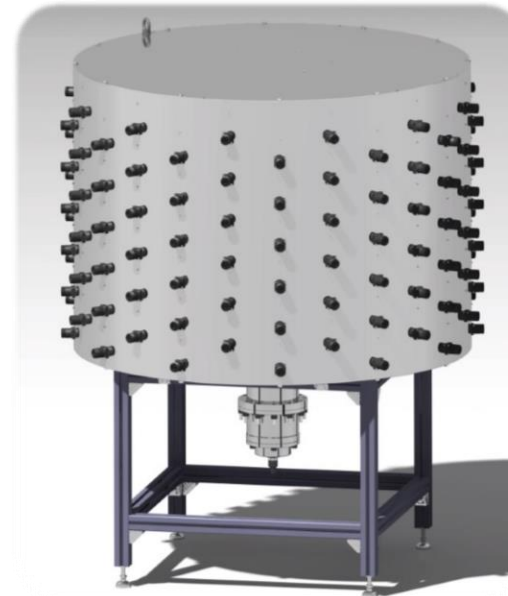
01-13/RF

150 kW Cavity combiner for CERN-LIU-SPS¹

Author(s): Michel LANGLOIS

Date: February 11th, 2013

Distribution: Jörn JACOB, Eric MONTEZINOS





CAVITY COMBINERS

Based on ESRF Technical Note for CERN-LIU-SPS under CRISP in Feb 2013, we built our own 144:1 cavity combiner



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Technical Note

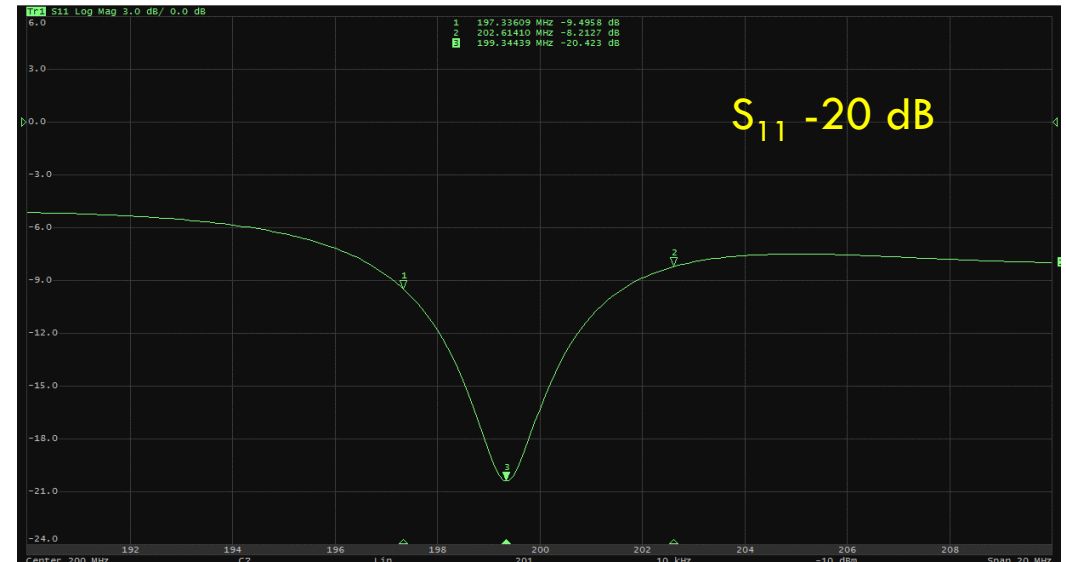
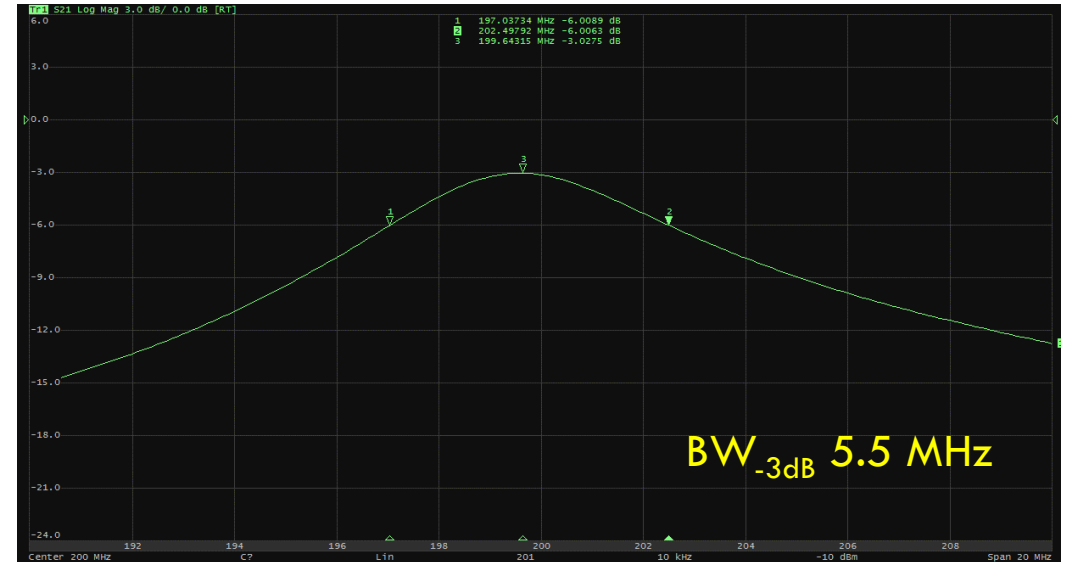
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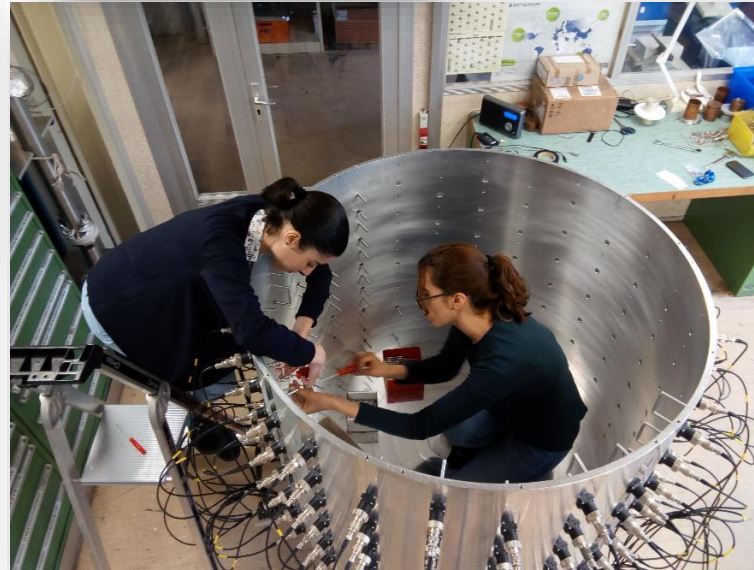




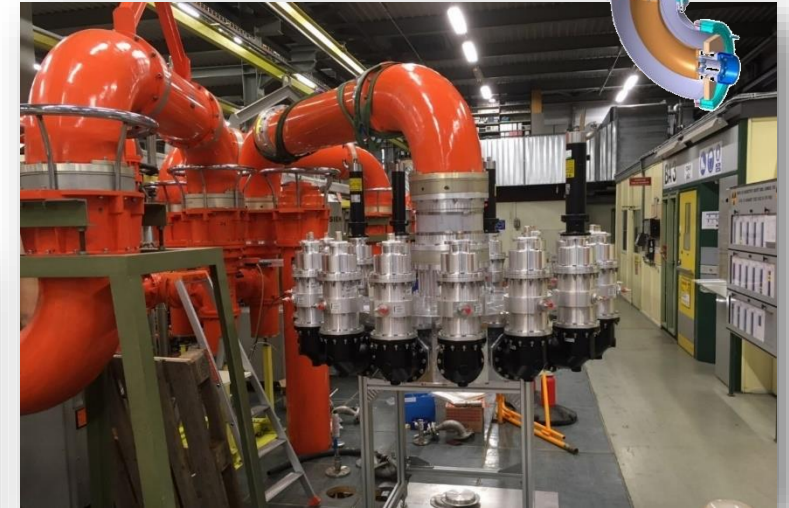
SUPER CAVITY COMBINER



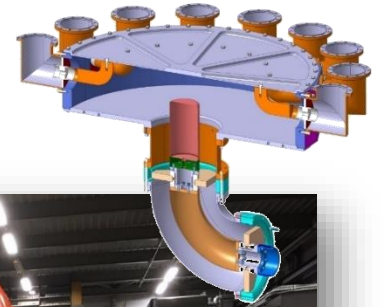
3 dB combiner
32 x 35 kW to 1 x 1 MW
(~ 50 m²)



CC (Cavity Combiner)
144 x 1 kW to 1 x 144 kW



VHPCC (Very High Power Cavity Combiner)
16 x 70 kW to 1 x 1 MW
(~ 3 m²)





IT-3841, FINALS

One Transmitter will be composed of

- 16 x 144 kW RF amplifiers

One RF amplifier will be composed of

- 1:80 cavity splitter
- 80 x 1.8 kW RF blocs (160 transistors)
- 80:1 cavity combiner

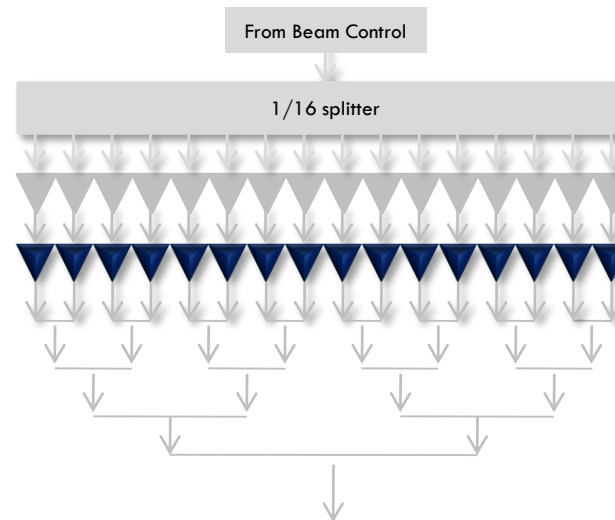
In total

- Two transmitters
- 32 RF amplifiers
- 2560 RF blocs
- **5120 transistors**

TCS proposal fully in line with our own R&D programs

- Small RF units based on 1 kW LDMOS transistors
- Cavity combiners

2 x



1.6 MW at cavity input ~120 to 180 m away

4 stages of 3 dB combiners = - 0.6 dB
120 to 180 m Coaxial lines = - 0.4 dB
Final Amplifier output = 1.6 MW + 1 dB = 2 MW
16 towers of minimum **125 kW**

Three contracts

Drivers :

2 x 16 x SSPA

Finals :

SSPA : 2 x 16 x (80 x 1.8 kW)

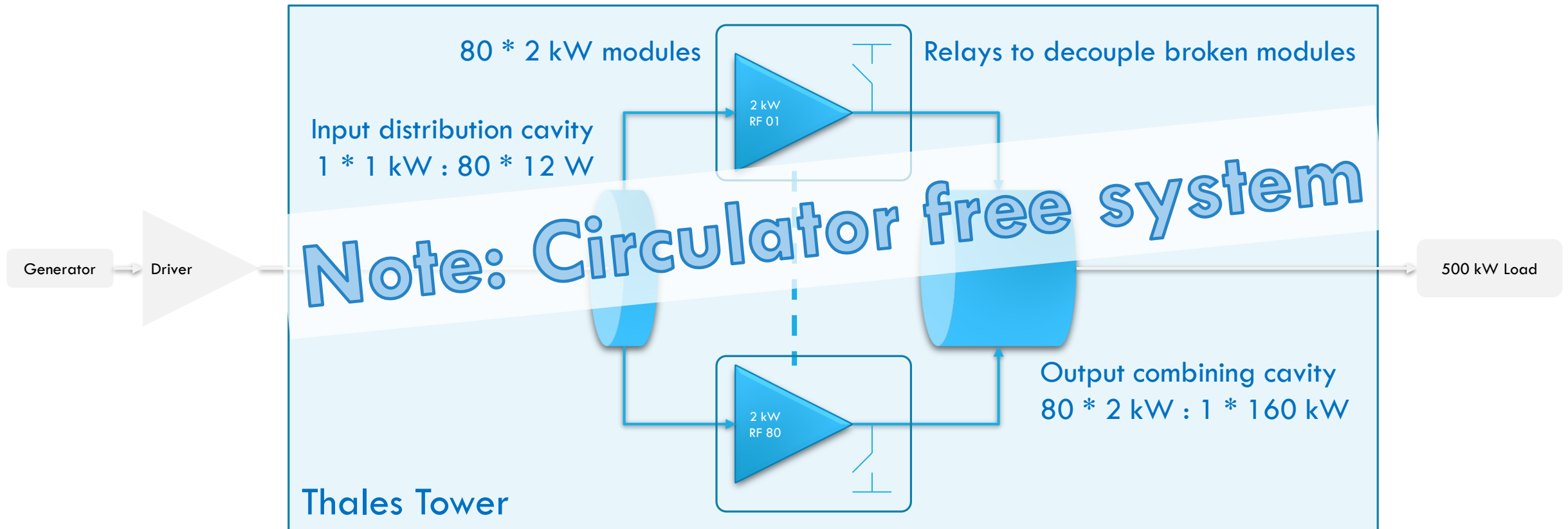
Combiners + lines :

3 dB hybrids

850 kW power loads

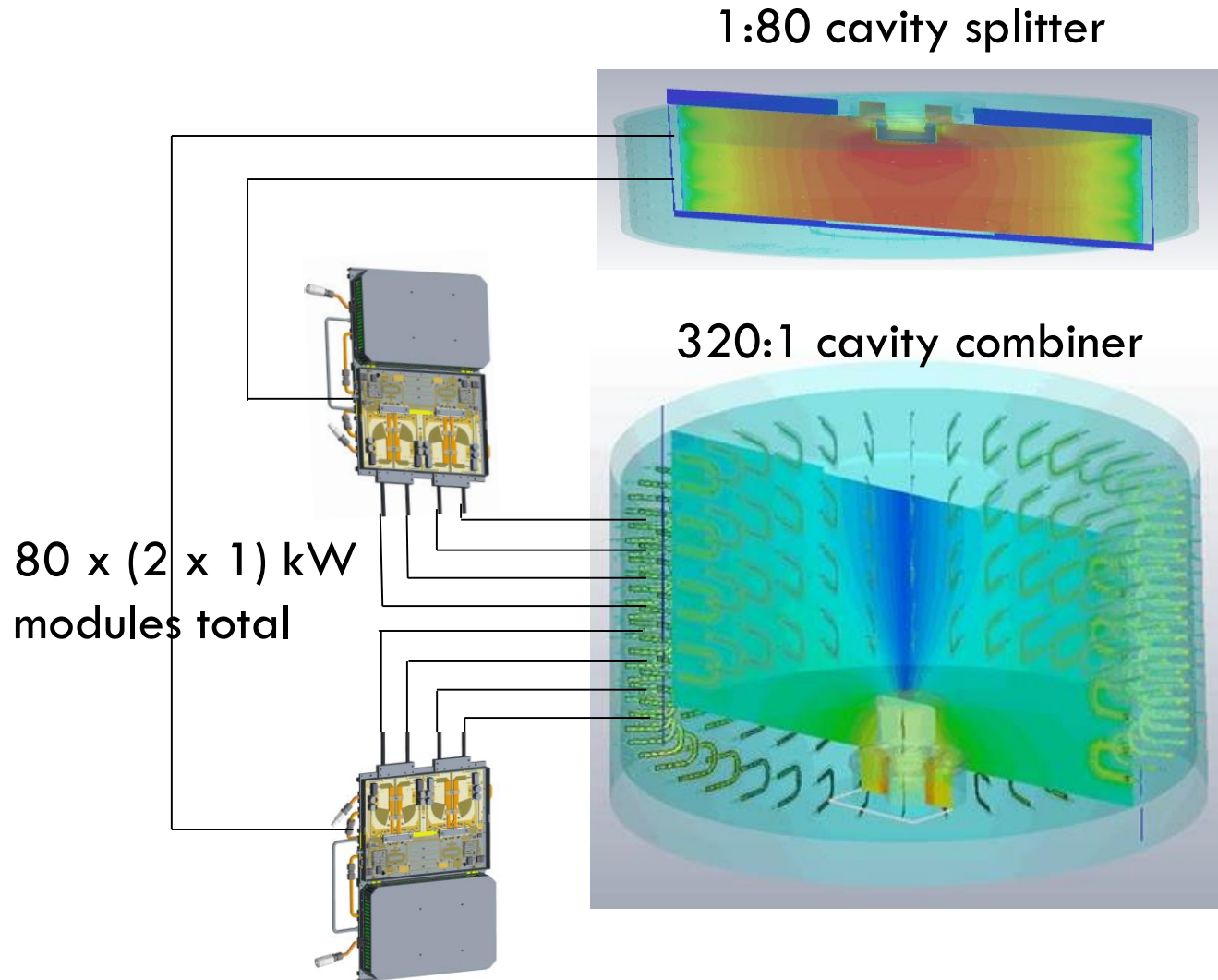


THALES SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE





THALES SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE



THALES V1



50 VDC power supply

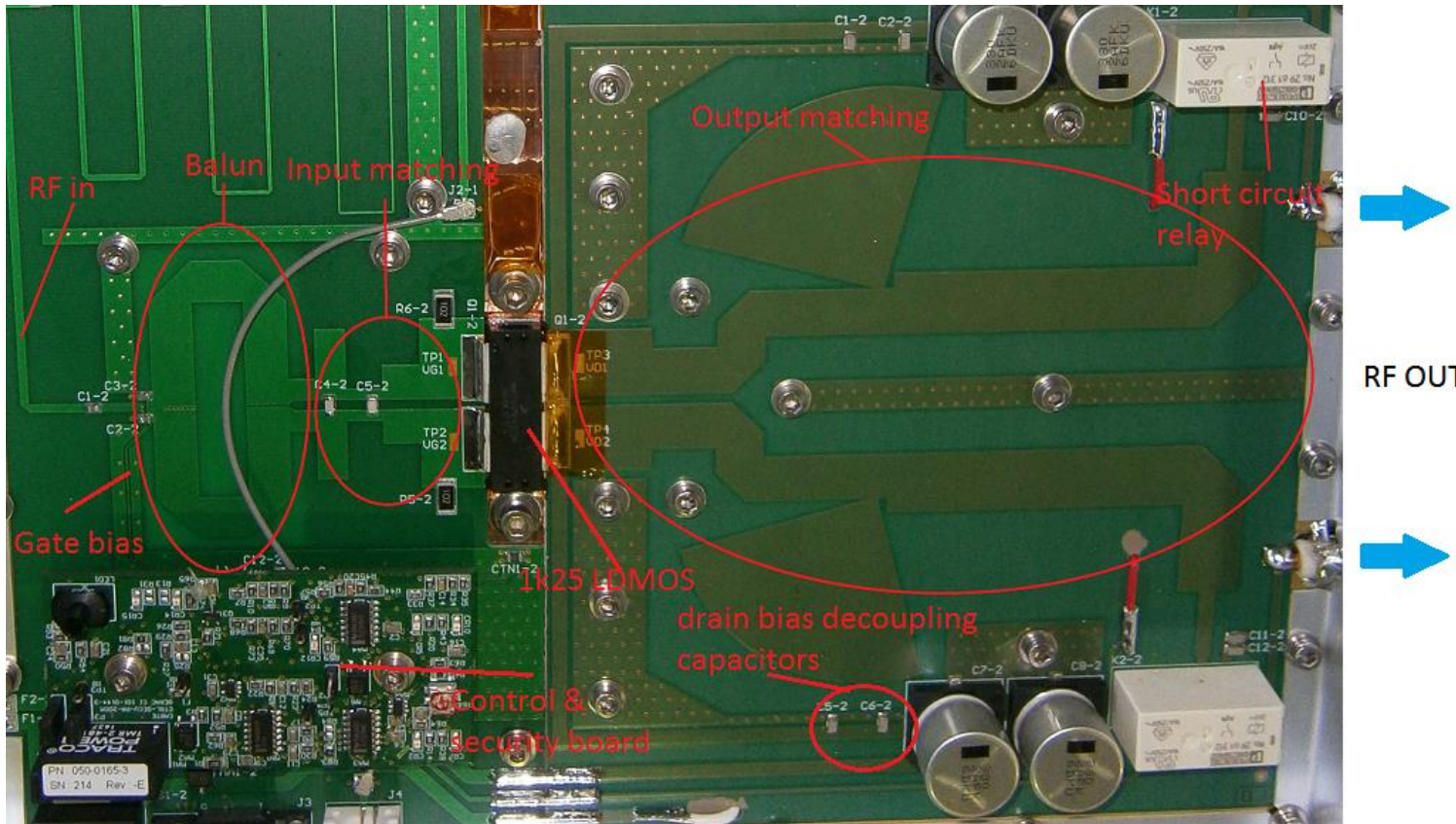
Central frame of the tower
On top the cavity splitter
In the middle cavity combiner



2 kW RF module composed of
50 VDC power supply
Cold plate
RF board with 2 transistors
Output relays



THALES V1



Class AB

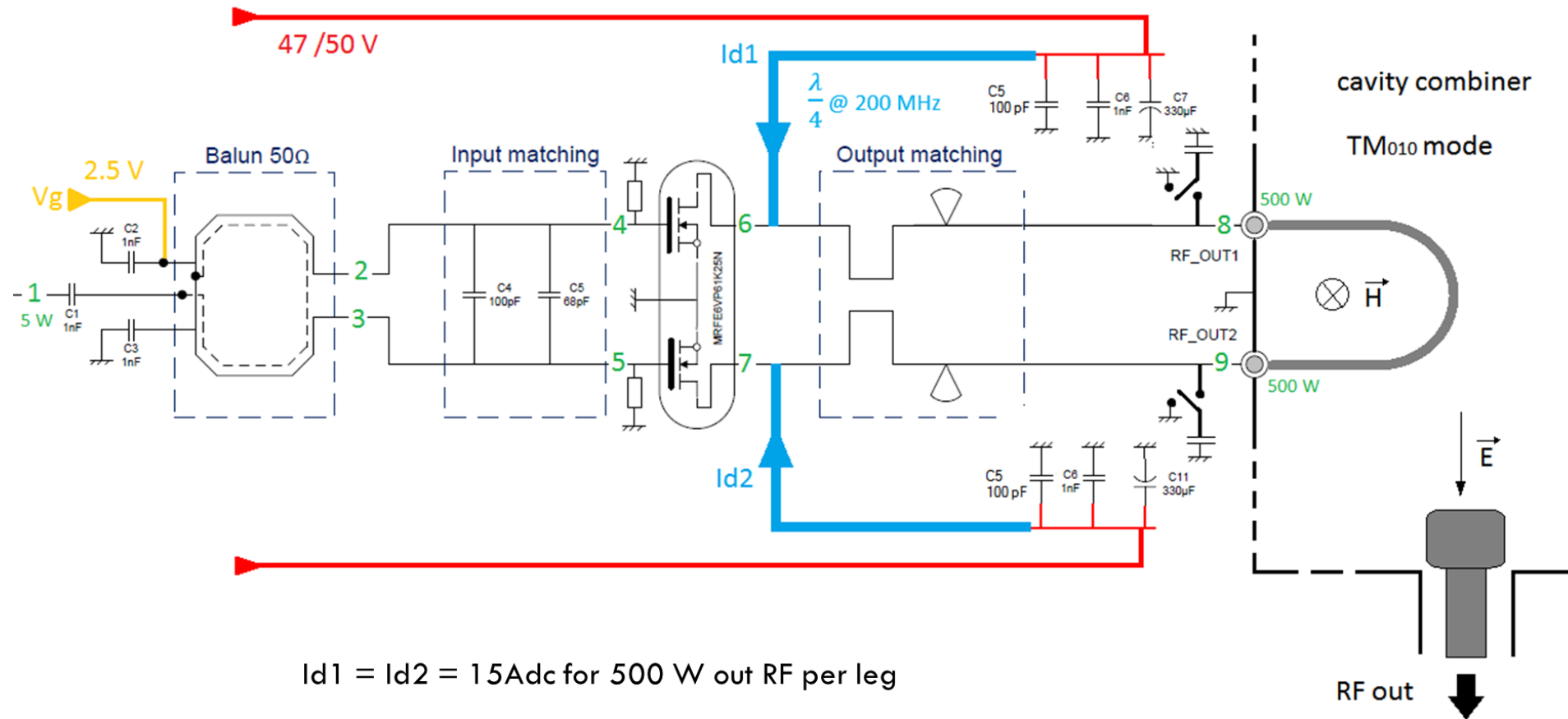
23 dB gain

Push pull configuration

180° out of phase output with the very clever proposal of having the output Balun closed inside the cavity combiner

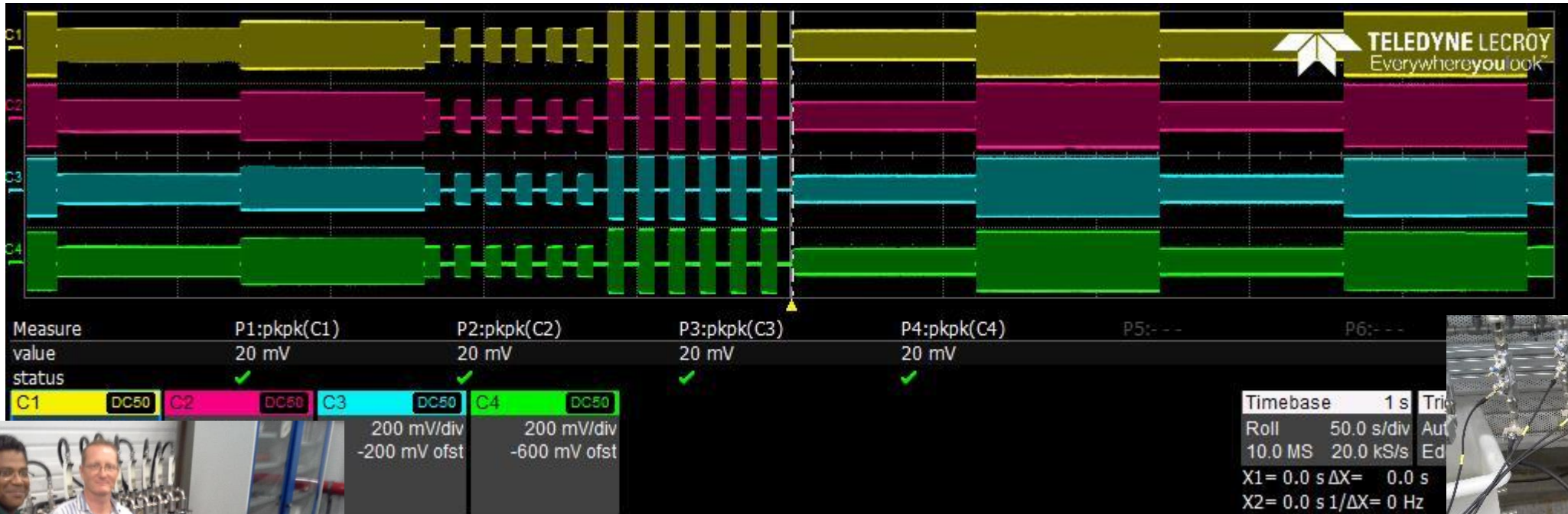
- Less power along the cables
- smaller cables
- Smaller connectors
- Loop inside the cavity made with a Printed Circuit Board

THALES V1





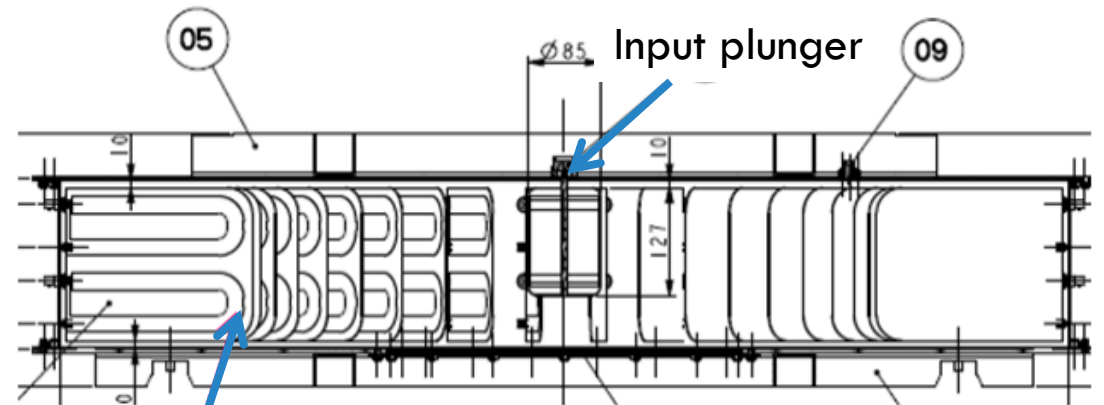
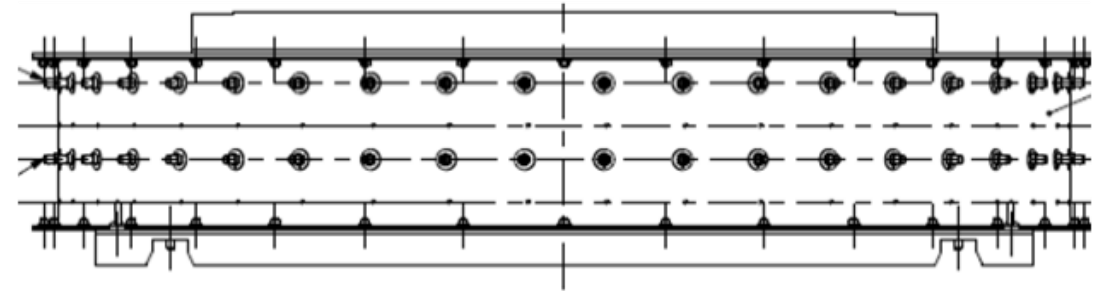
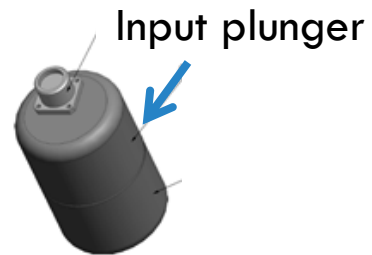
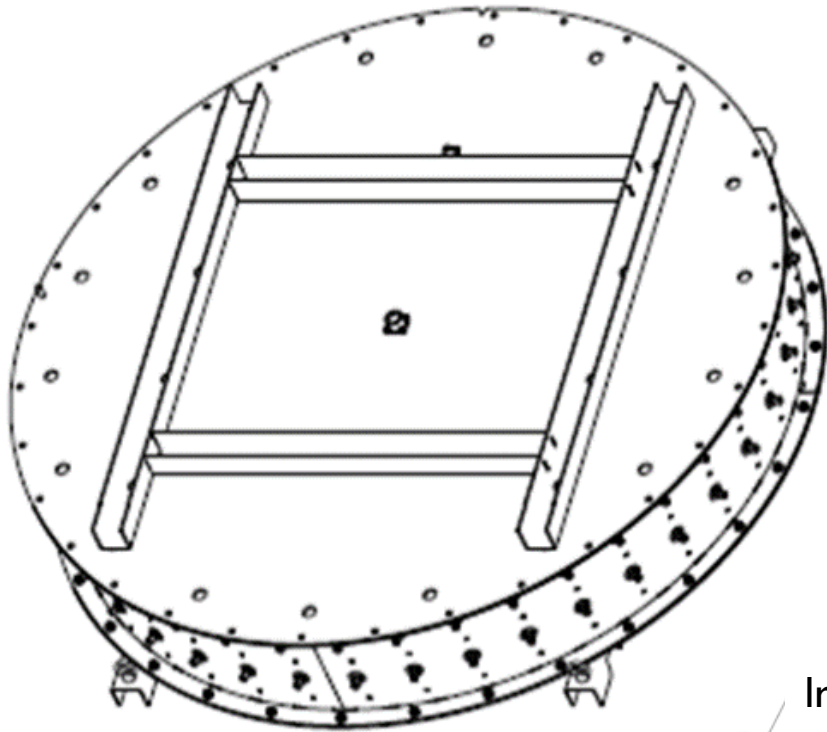
THALES V1 PROTOTYPES SUCCESSFULLY TESTED



19/10/2016, SPS Cycle test Thales, on loads,
10 hours duration with no trip
Successfully repeated with 8 units



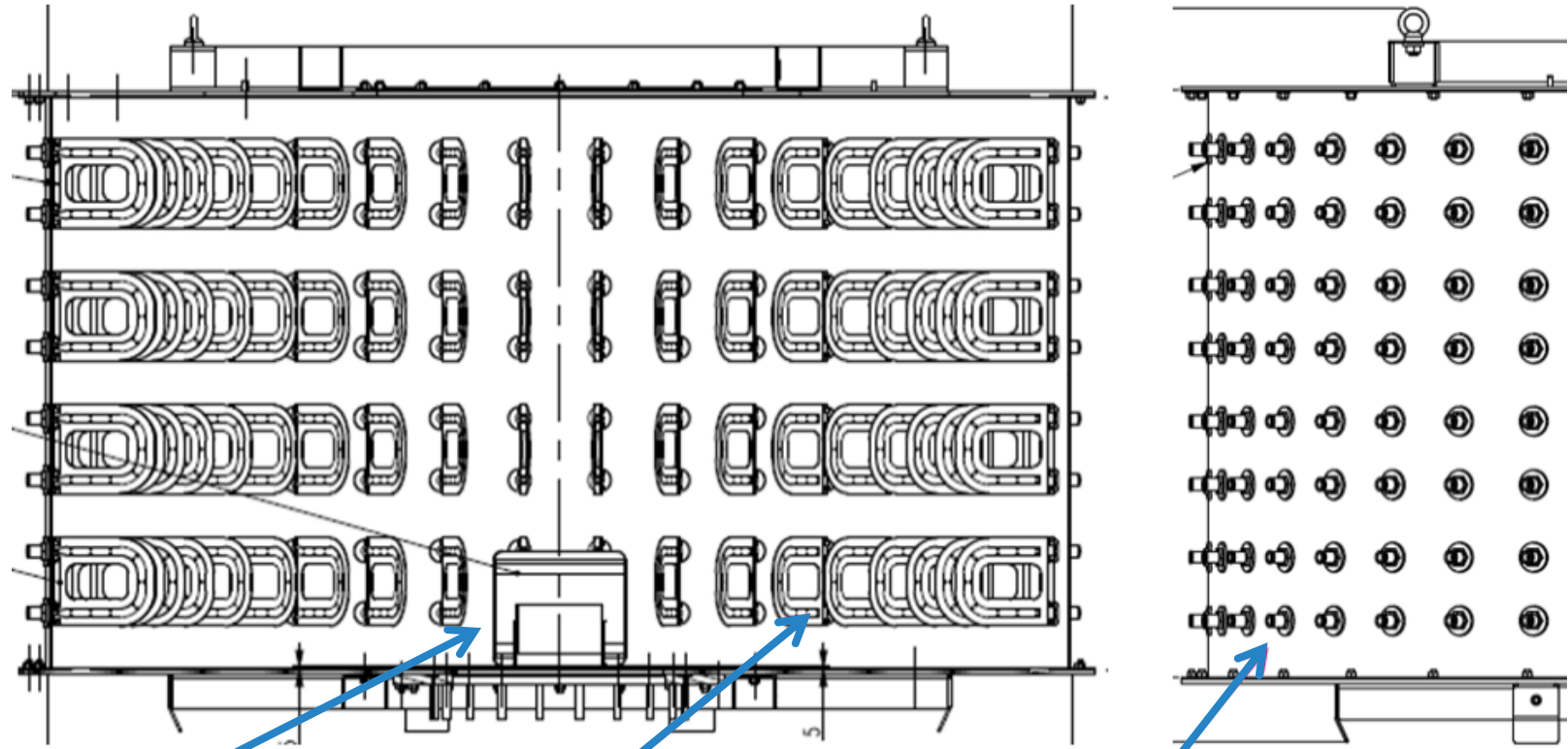
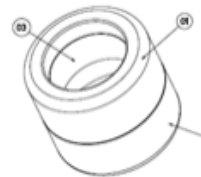
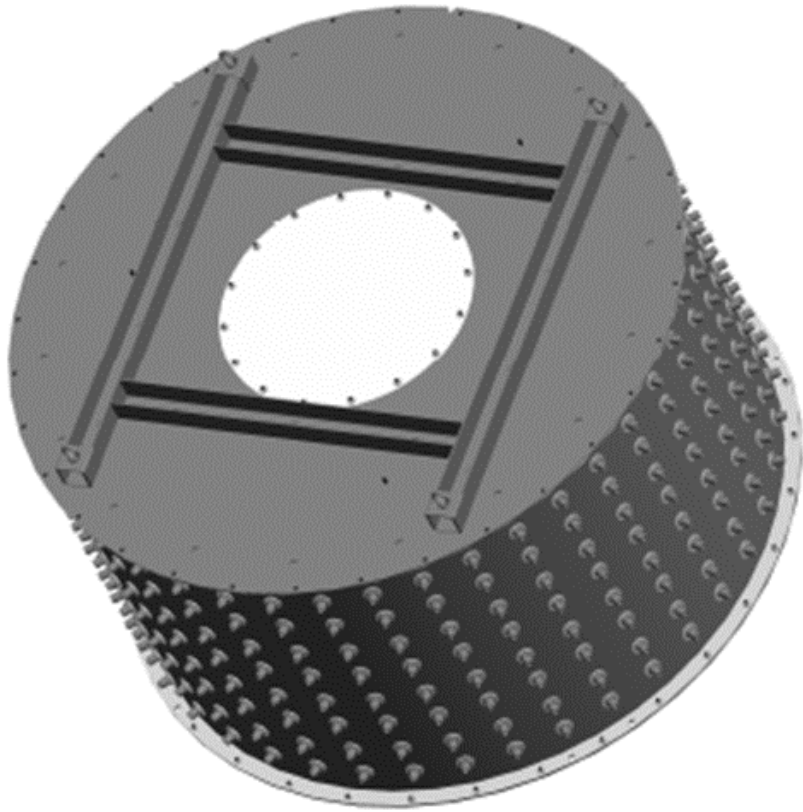
CAVITY SPLITTER 80:1



PCB with two coupling loops



CAVITY COMBINER 320:1



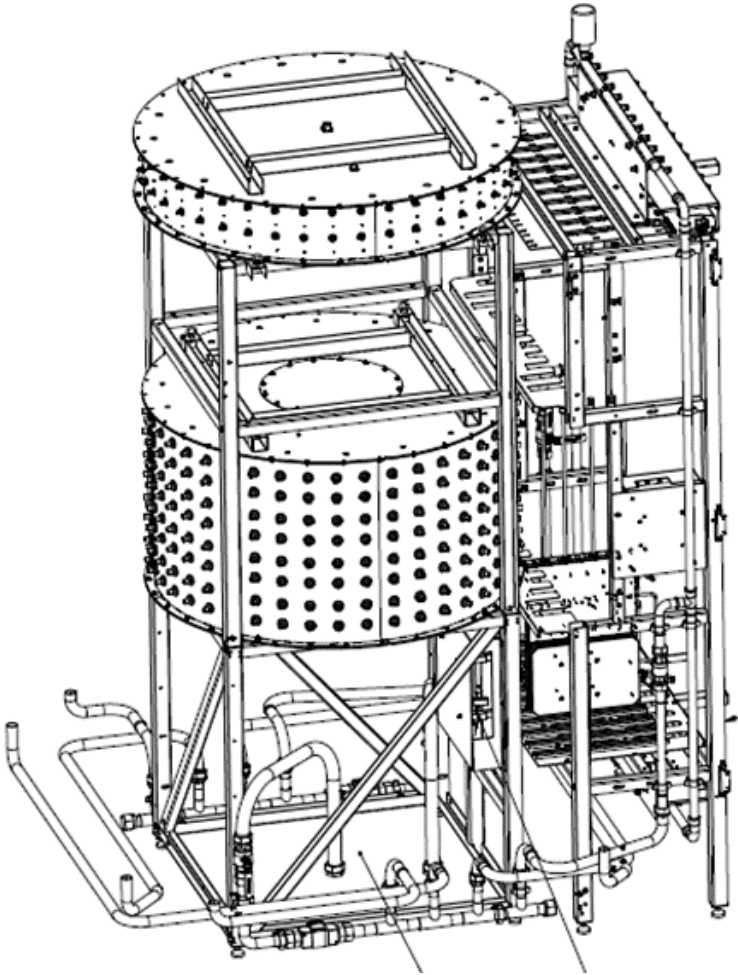
Output plunger

Coupling with PCB

C connector

(like N, but $\frac{1}{4}$ turn connection)
(really useful with 10240 in the system)

TOWER



A tower is composed of

- One frame
- Four bays
- One cavity splitter
- One cavity combiner
- Electrical distribution
- Water distribution



A color code has been defined not to mix the RF connections

Indeed, modules are all the same, but mounted top and bottom affect the RF connections

In addition, the frame has been made such that all cable lengths are identical, needed for the cavity combiner



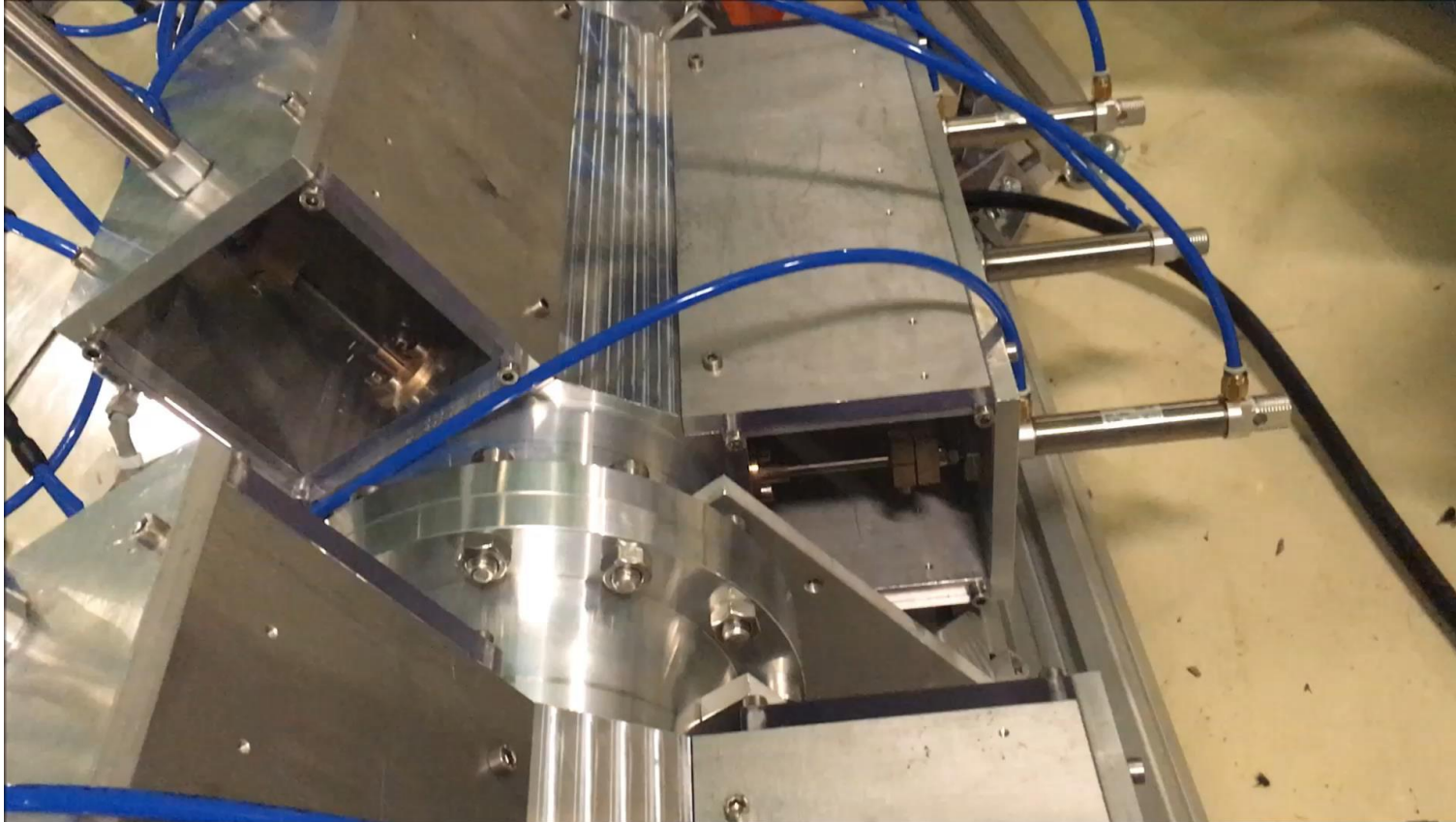
FIRST DEMONSTRATOR PROTOTYPE



A first demonstrator prototype tower was delivered
As we already had the drivers (Tti Norte)
We were ready for tests



SHORT CIRCUIT TEST



We started with the short circuit test

We constructed a $6-1/8$ line with 6 planes having each 3 fingers

We repeated the short circuits during one hour every 5 seconds under various phase and various power conditions

RF switch was off 100 ms after reverse was detected, in operation, it will be 1 ms maximum

Not having a circulator was THE challenge (I thought...)

It was fully successful, not a single module failed, the test was **ok**

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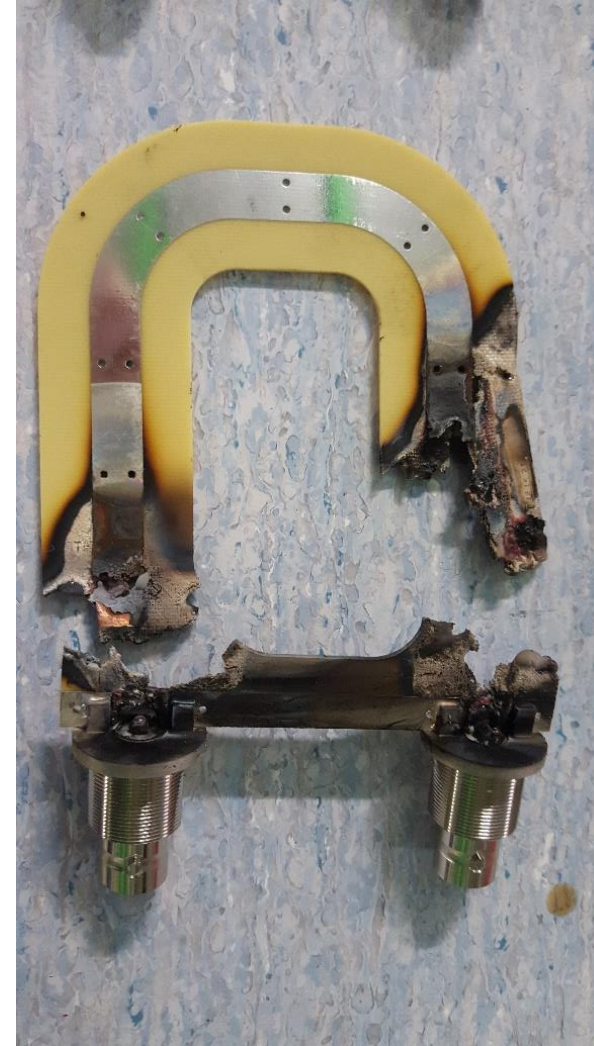
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FIRST DIFFICULTIES

Despite a lot of simulations have been carefully made, transients induced during the short circuit cycles were much more demanding than expected

A redesign of the PCB coupling loop was needed

First alarm that Devil is in details...

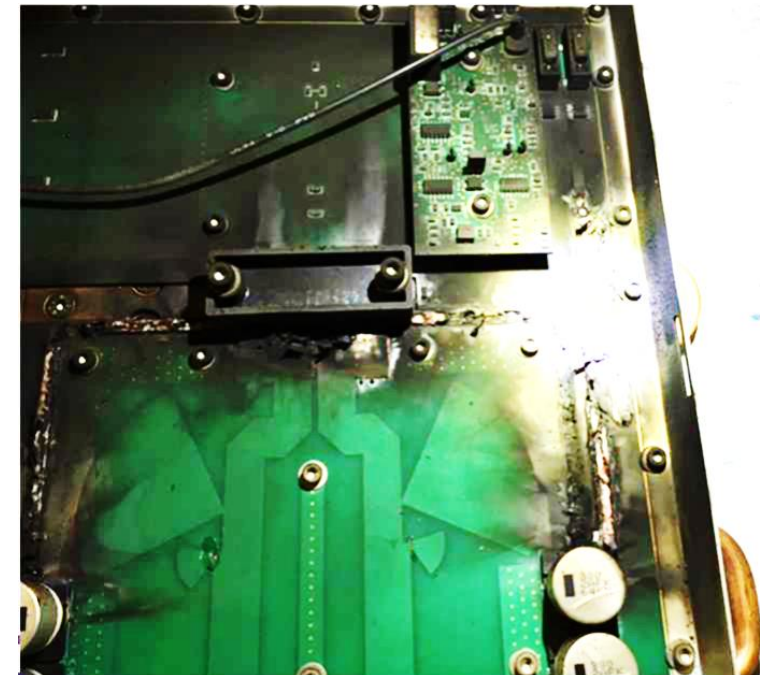


TROUBLES WITH TRANSISTORS

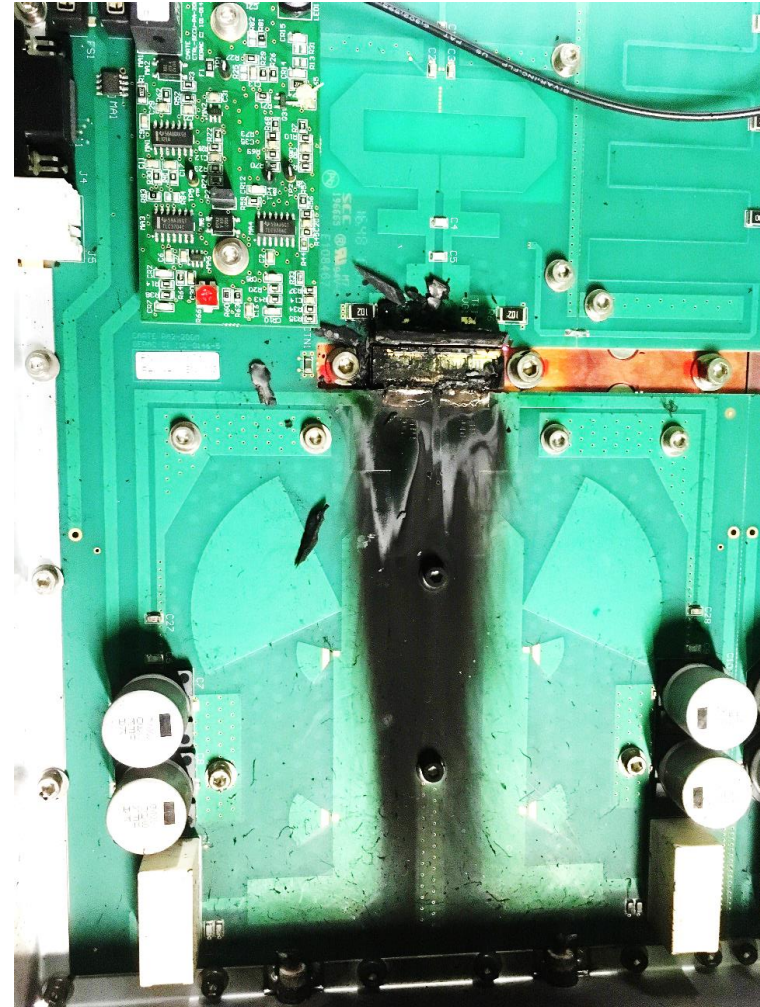
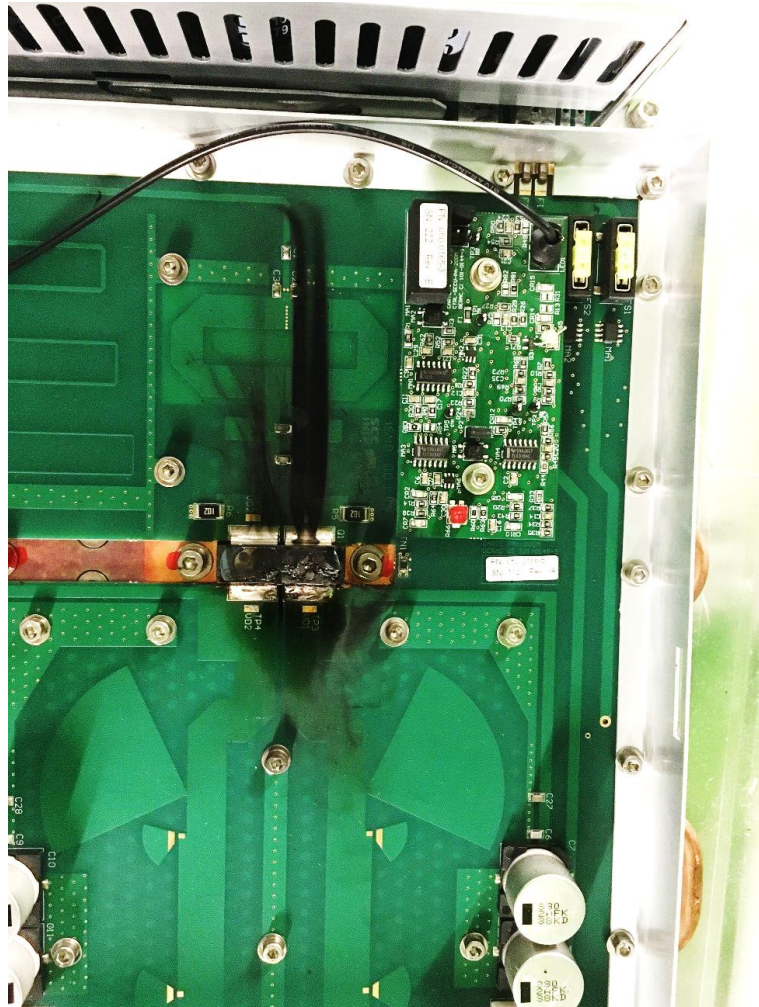
We then launched the long duration test

1000 hours was requested in the Technical Specifications (you will understand why I am always recommending to do so...)

During the first 700 hours, not a single trouble, then transistors started to brake one by one every 24 hours



TROUBLES WITH TRANSISTORS





CLAMPED VERSUS BRAZED TRANSISTORS

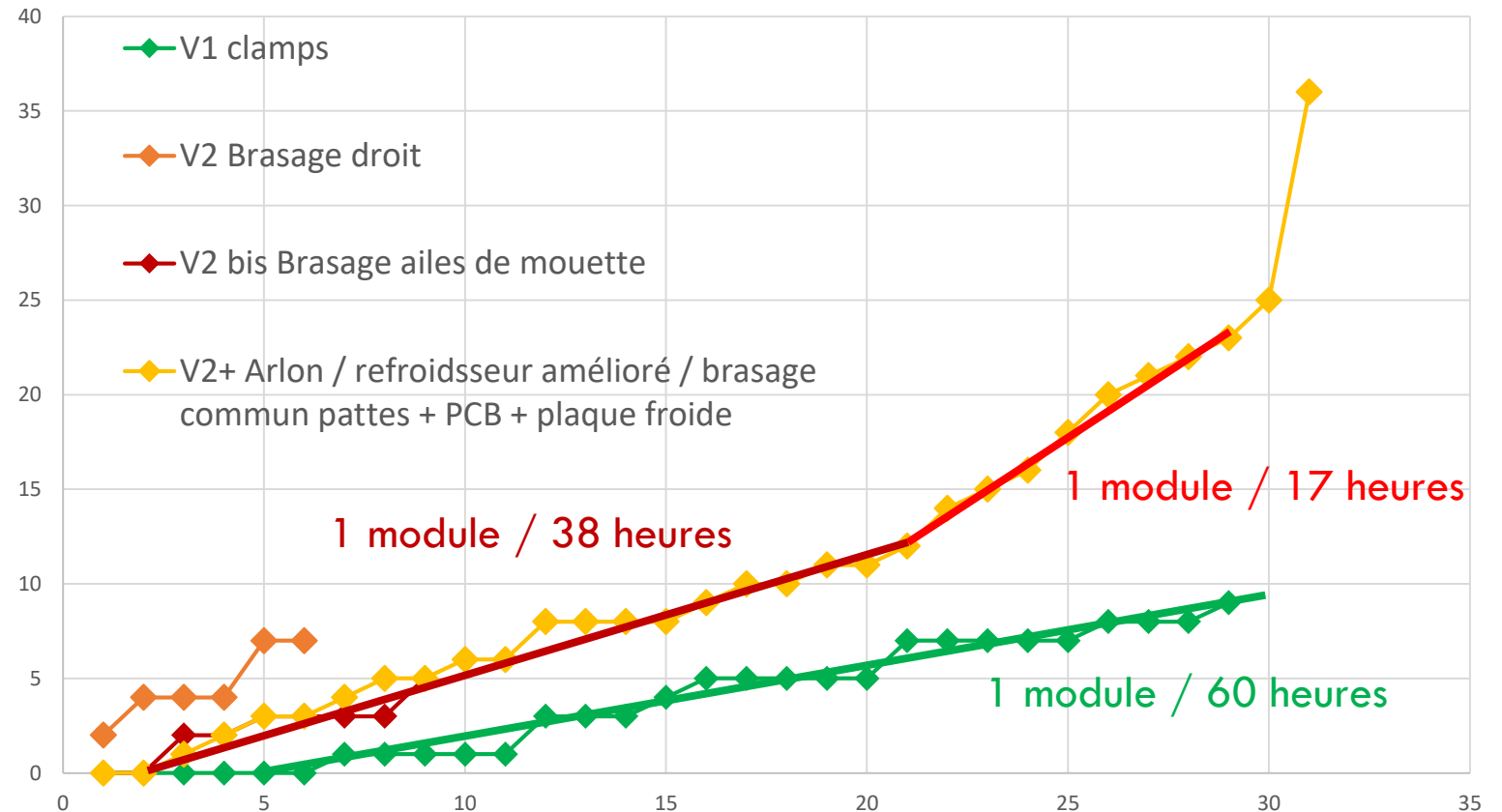
Initially, we agreed for a clamped transistor version

The advantage would have been the exchanged of broken transistors

We suspected that decision to be the root cause of our troubles, so Thales launched several brazed new versions

None were significantly better

Courbes de casses durant les supercycles



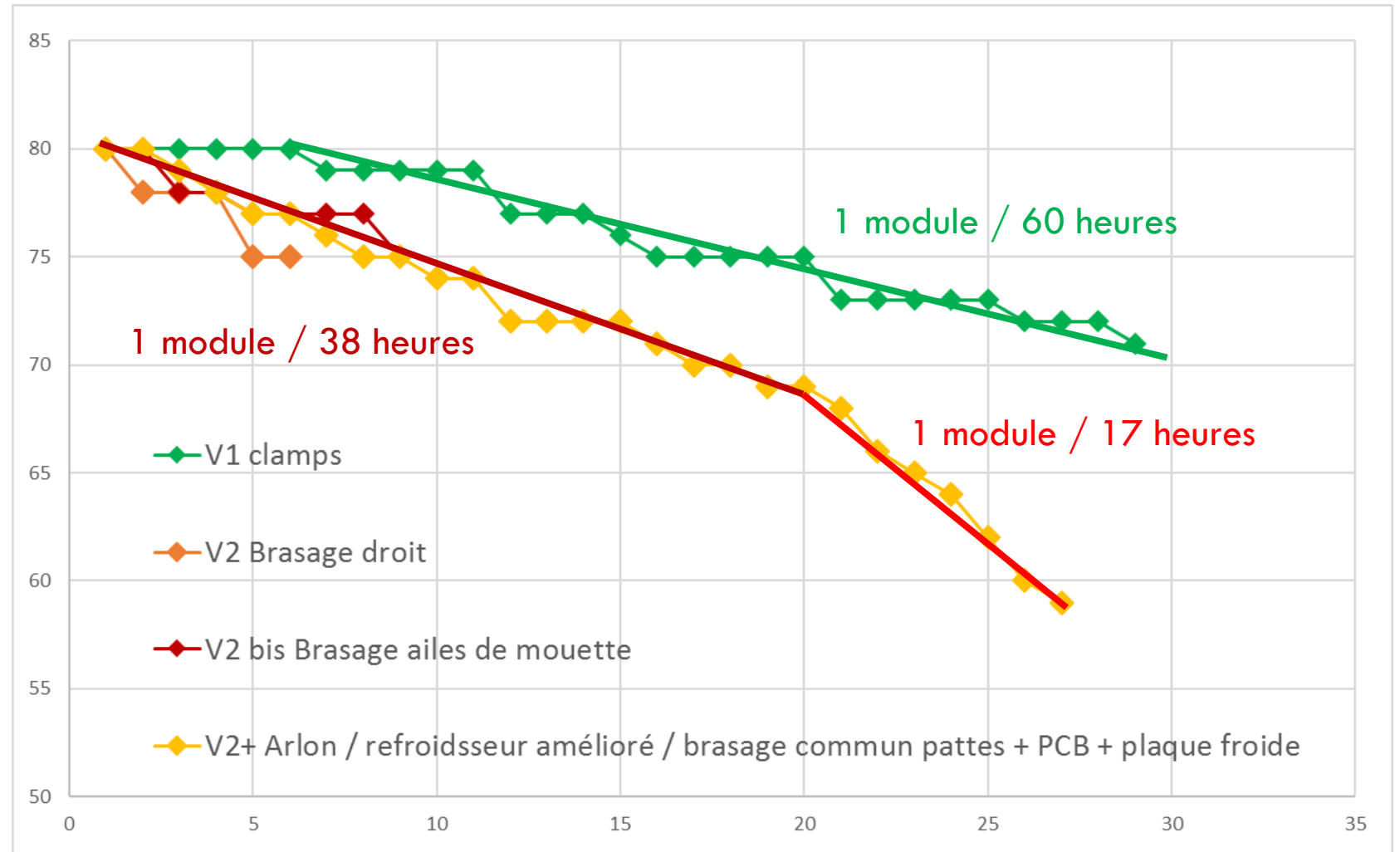


CLAMPED VERSUS BRAZED TRANSISTORS

We also modified the angle of brazing, not a success

We added Arlon instead of FR4, better on some aspects, but globally not a success

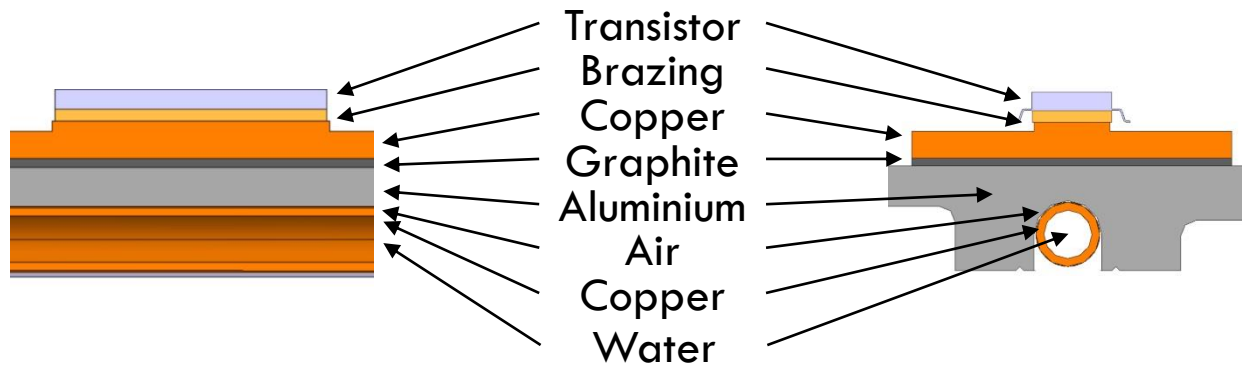
We improved the water cooling, helped but not a success



INITIAL VS NEW WATER COOLING DESIGN

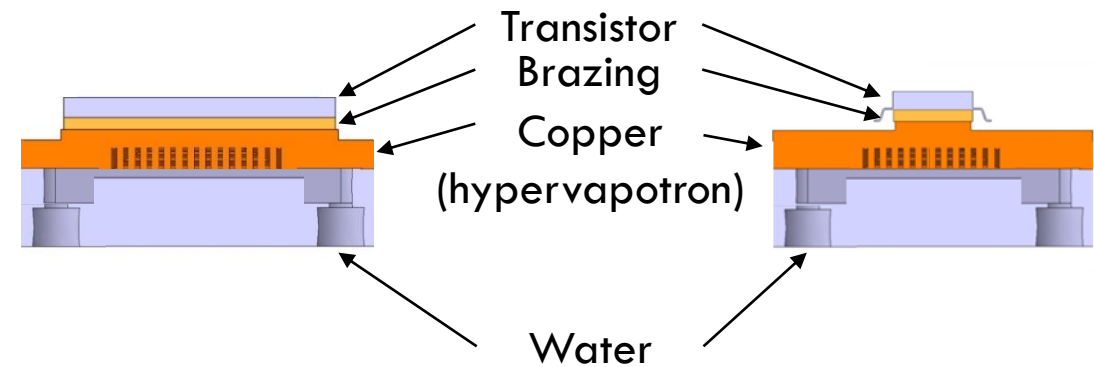
Initial design V1/V2

6 layers between water and die



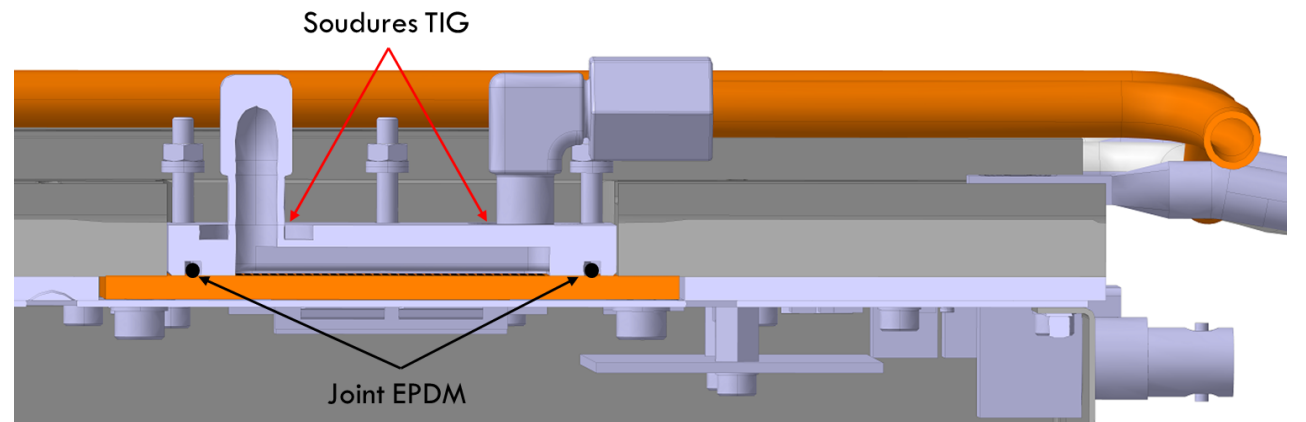
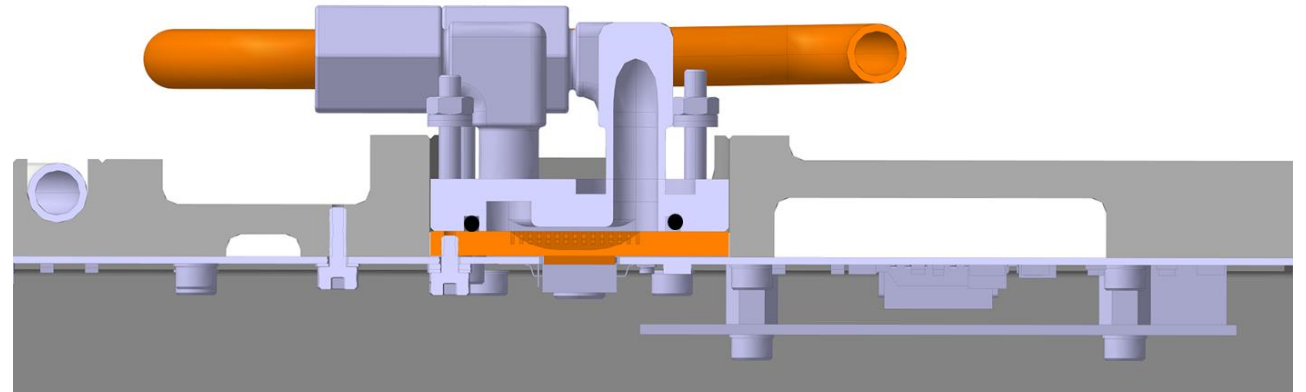
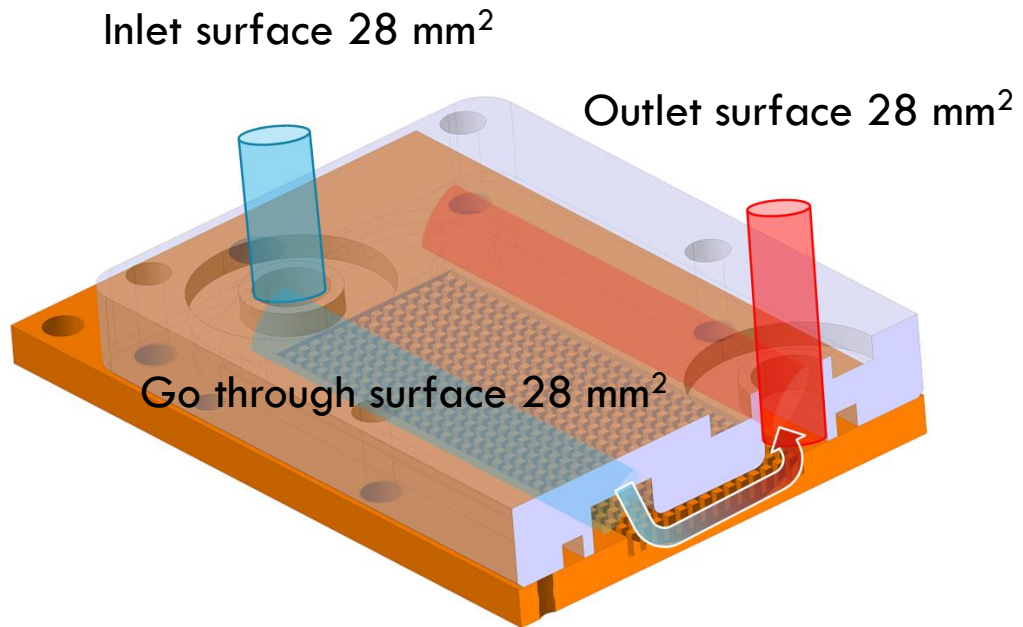
New design V3/V4

2 layers between water and die





HEAT TRANSFER



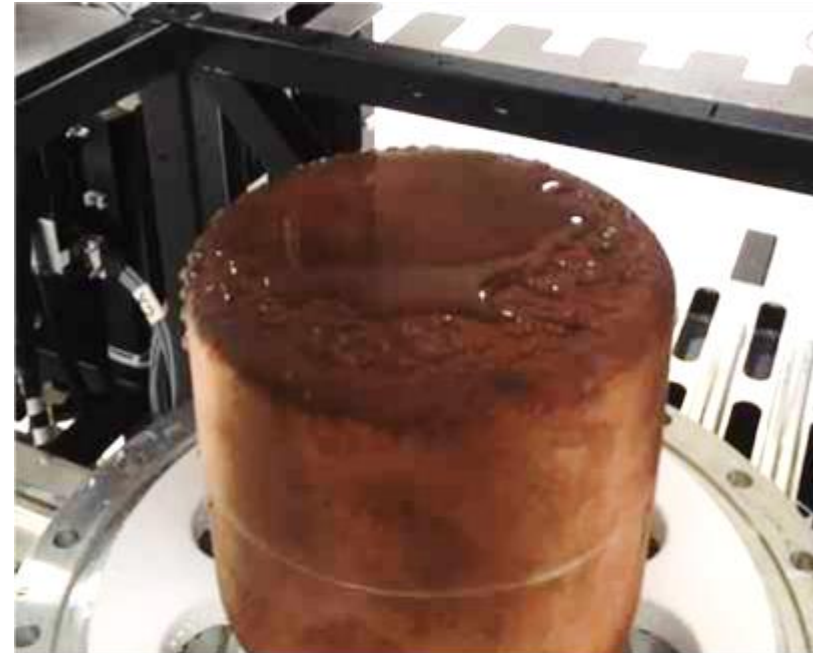
WATER COOLING

One piping failed and we had water flowing inside the combining cavity

It took us days to get rid of it

The good in it was that Thales immediately agreed to move from 'plastic' piping to stainless steel piping

It seems to be a detail, but a detail that cost them almost 1 MCHF

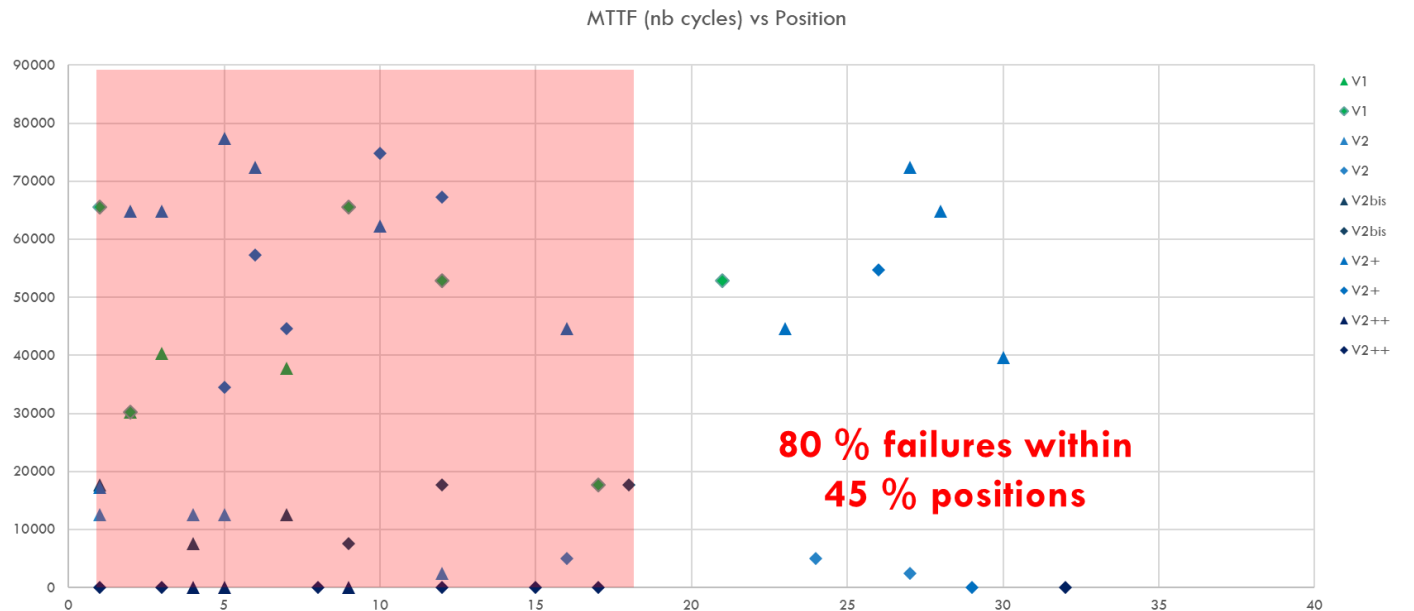
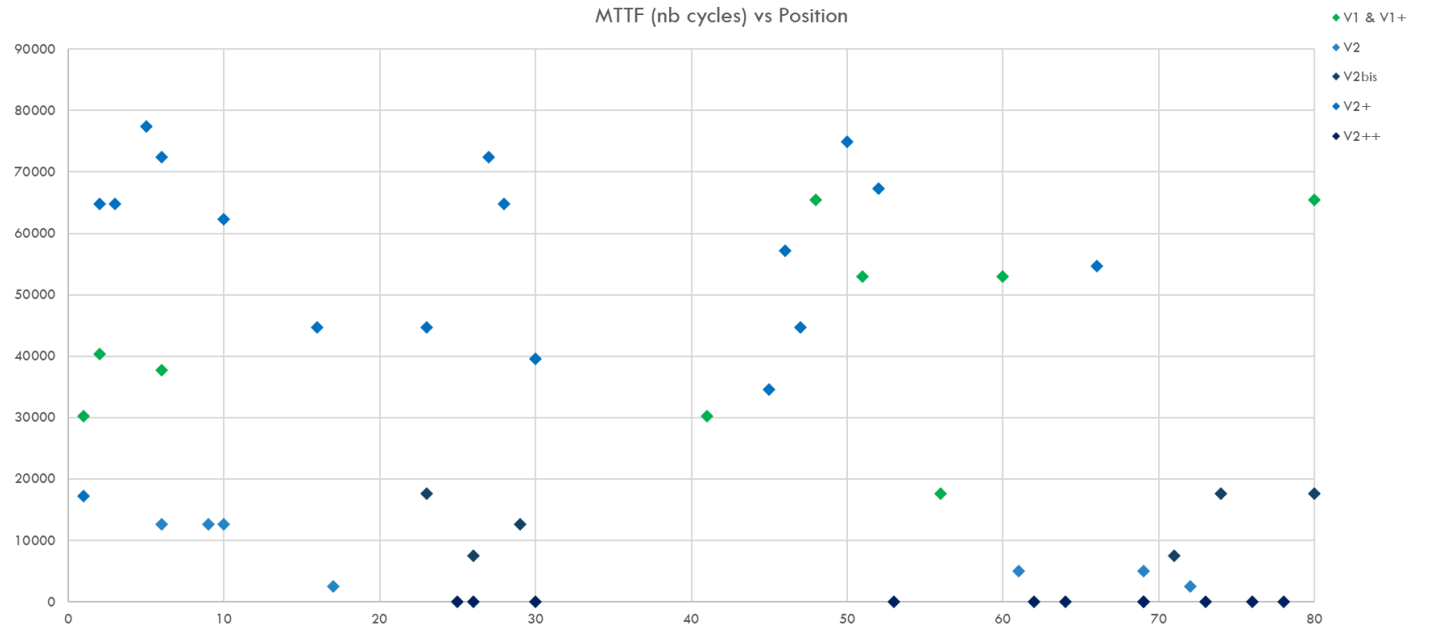




MTTF DATA

Failure seemed to be randomly distributed

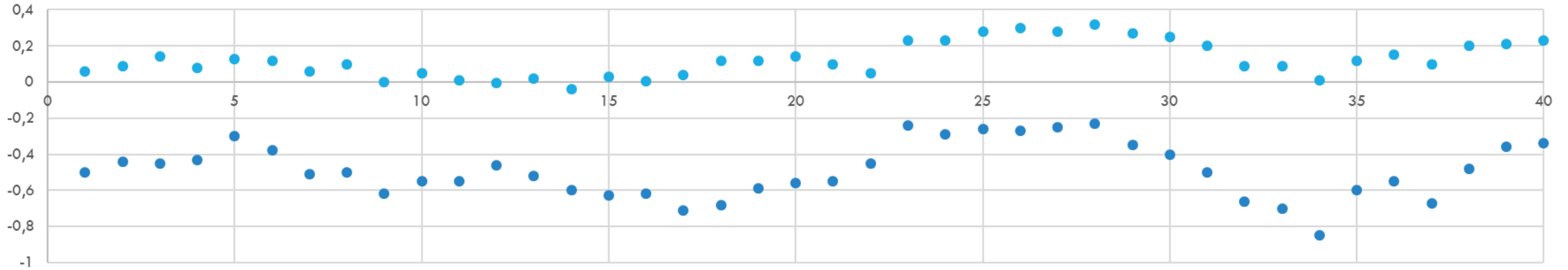
However, playing with the data of the combining cavity, rotating it helped to show a dispersion effect



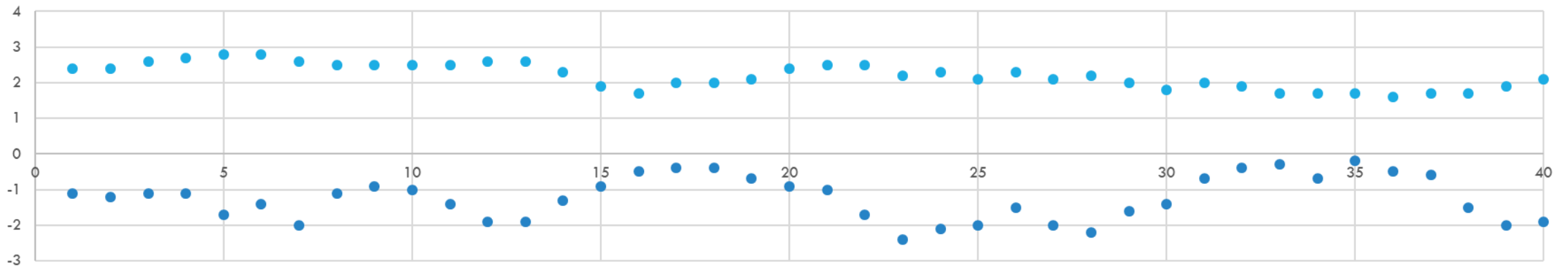


DISTRIBUTION CAVITY

Distribution cavity, gain per module



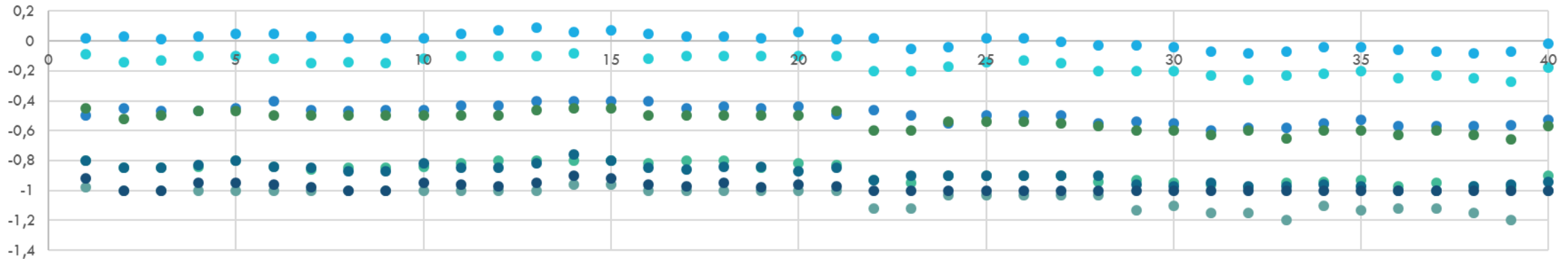
Distribution cavity, phase per module



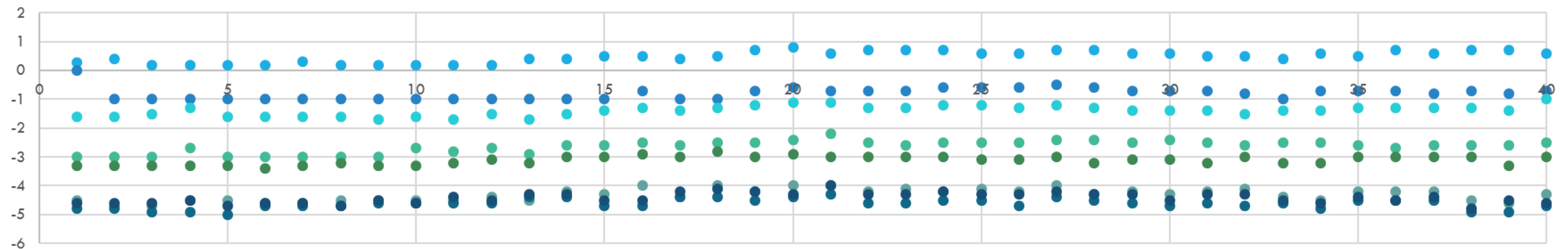


COMBINING CAVITY

S21 per transistor side (gain)



S21 per transistor side (phase)

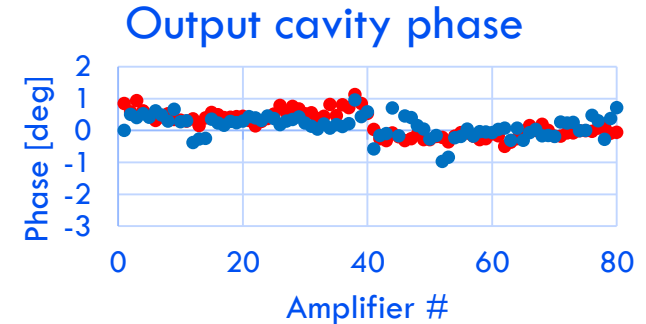
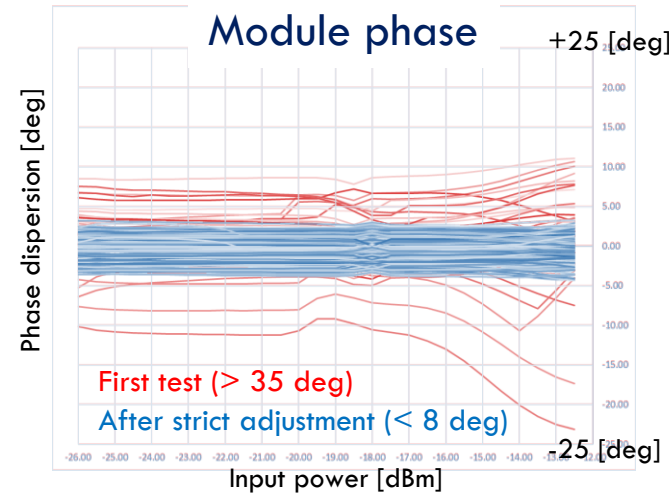
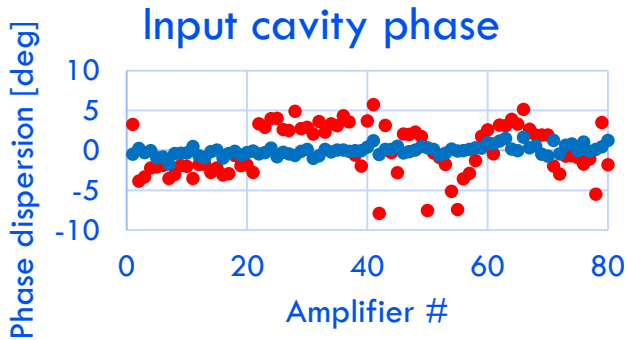
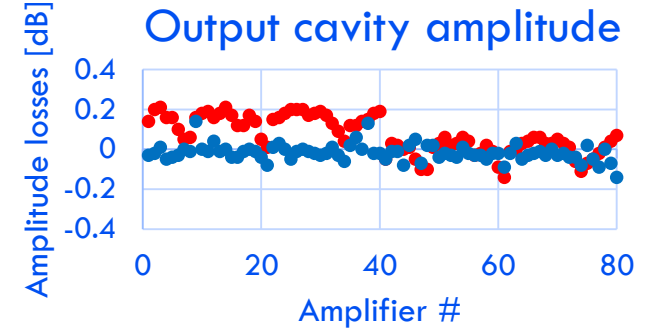
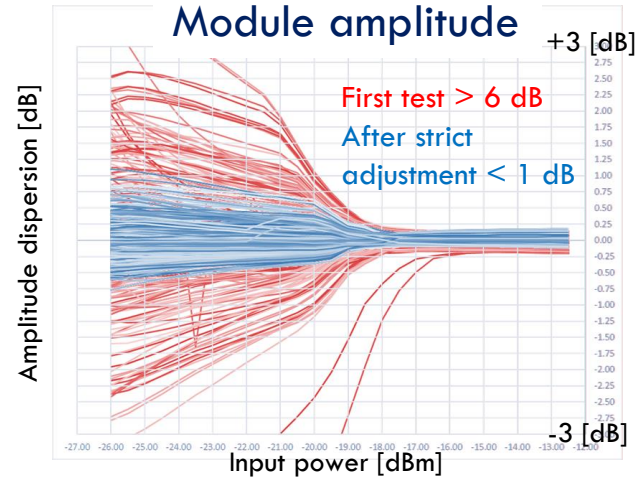
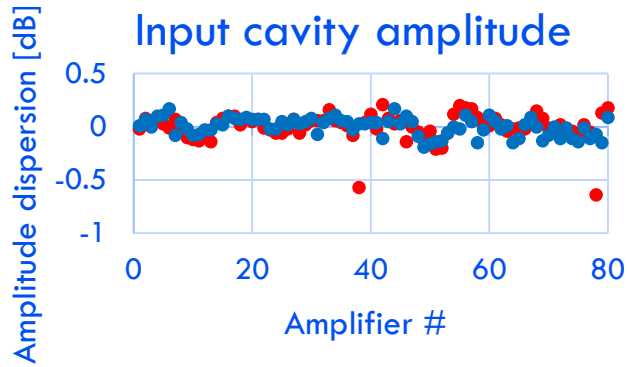




RF DISPERSION

First test
After strict adjustment

total amplitude 7.2 [dB] total phase 51 [deg]
total amplitude 1.7 [dB] total phase 15 [deg]





CERN & THALES NOT READY TO GIVE UP

Still the results were not correct

Despite all these difficulties,
Thales top management agreed
to continue to invest in the project
(up to maximum twice the
amount of the possible penalties)

To demonstrate it, they delivered
all other items than the modules

This was impressive, even for us

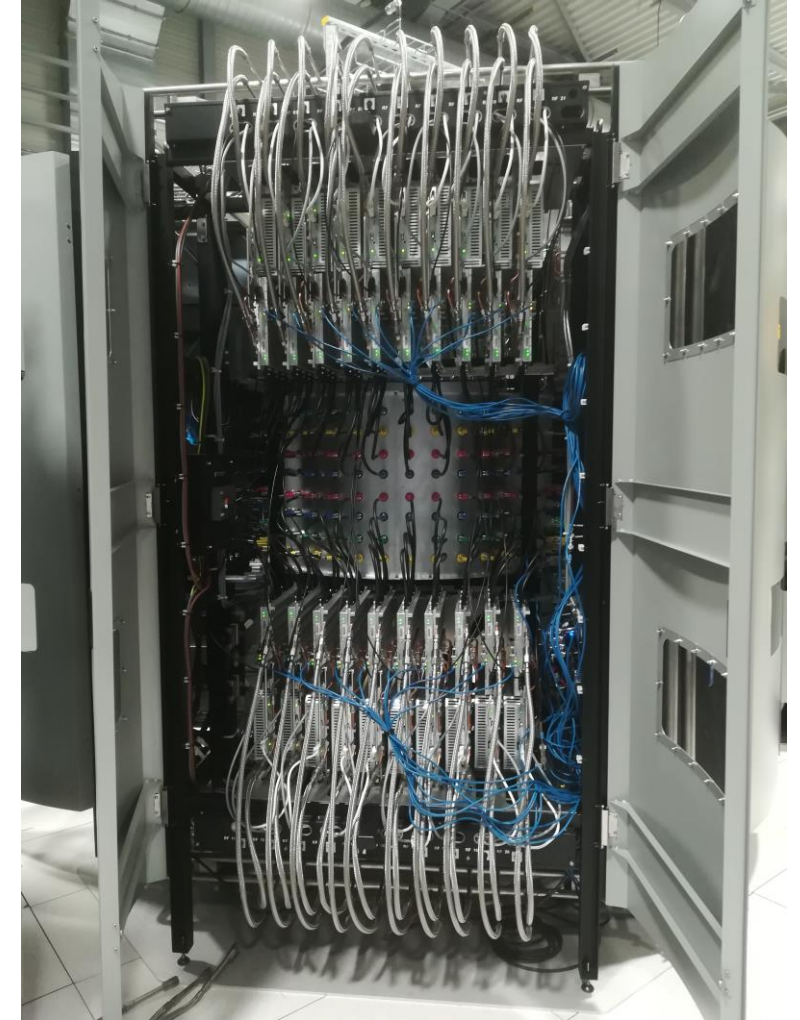
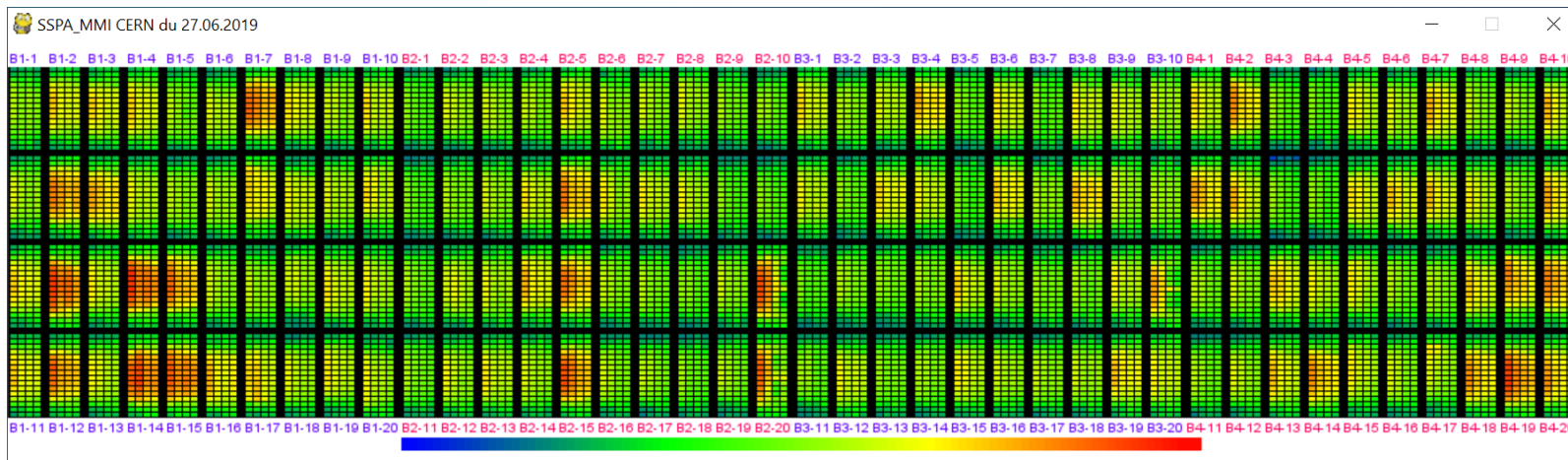




THERMAL CAMERAS ON TRANSISTORS

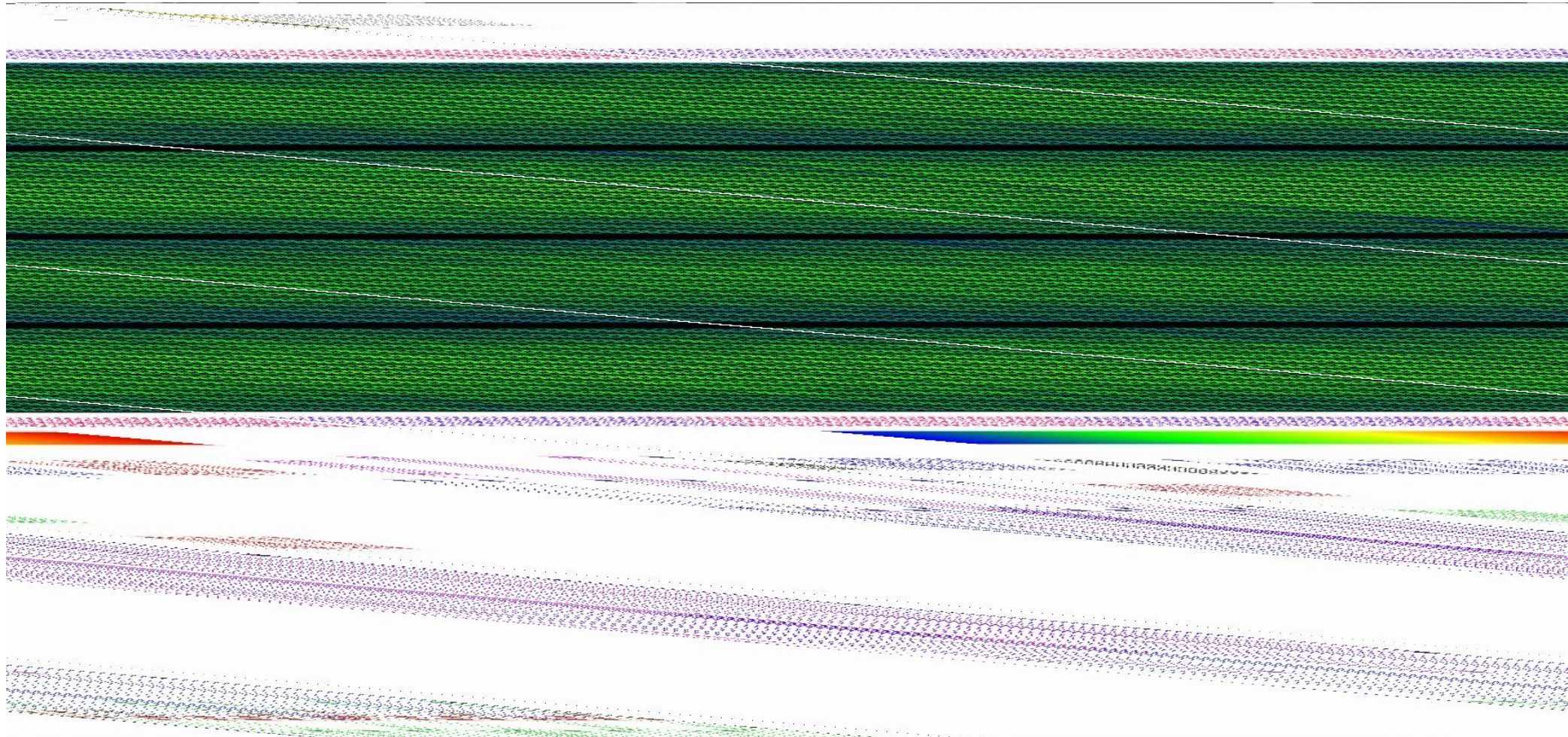
Patrick Goguillon from Thales had the brilliant idea to equip all covers with two thermal cameras each in order to observe the behavior of all the transistors

We were very surprised to discover a huge discrepancy in the way transistors were heating





THERMAL CAMERAS ON TRANSISTORS

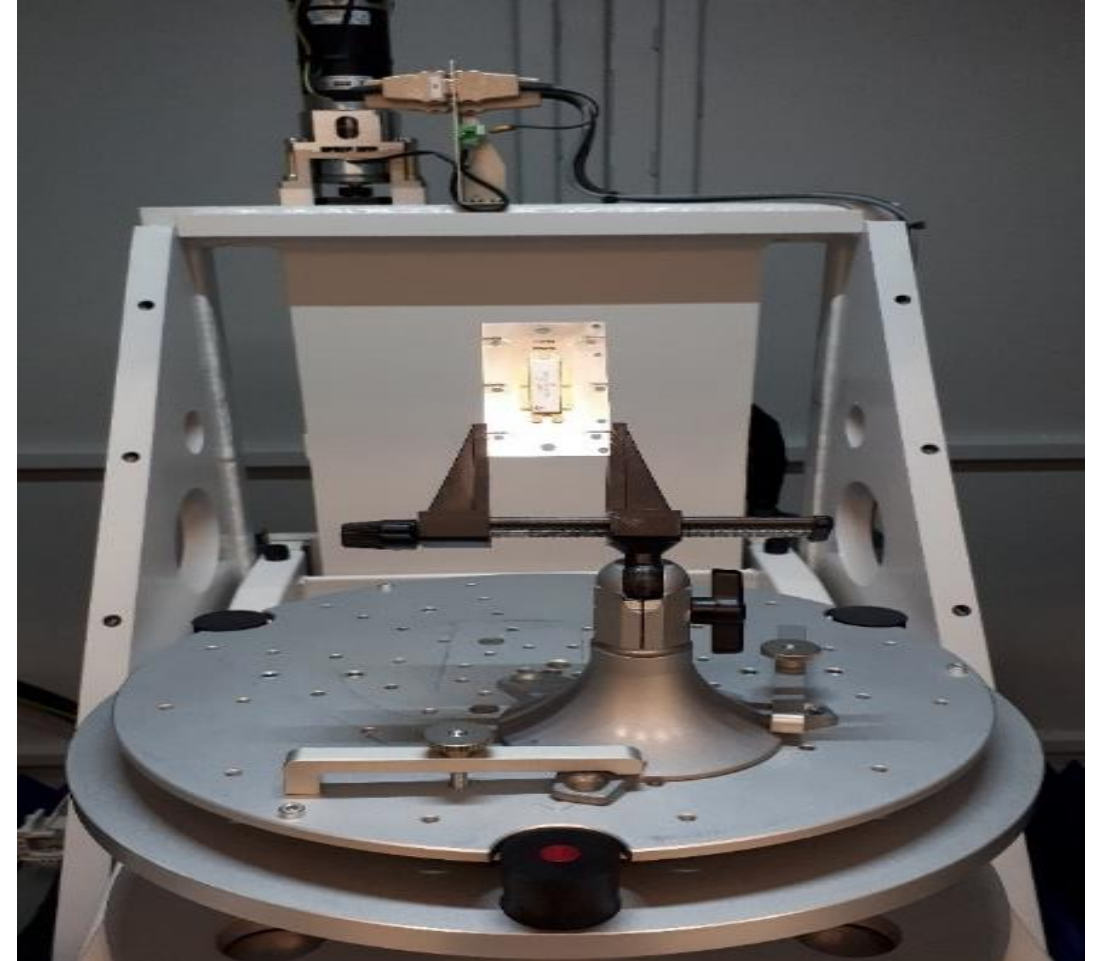




TOMOGRAPHY AT CERN

In order to understand the various default we had, we used micro tomography that metrology service at CERN uses for other purposes

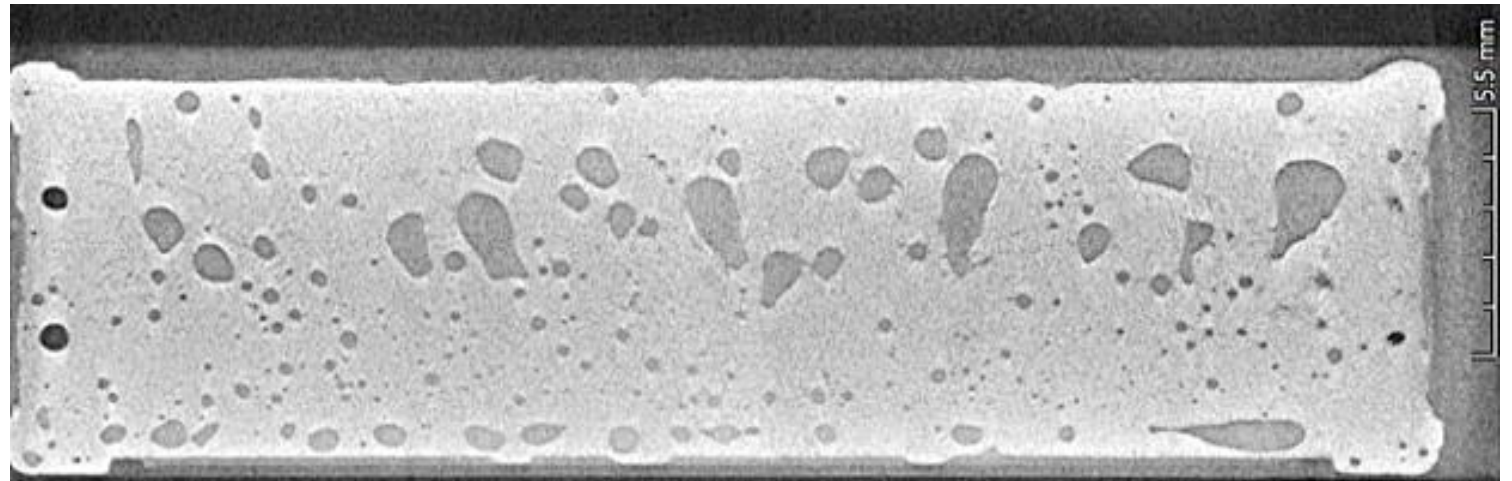
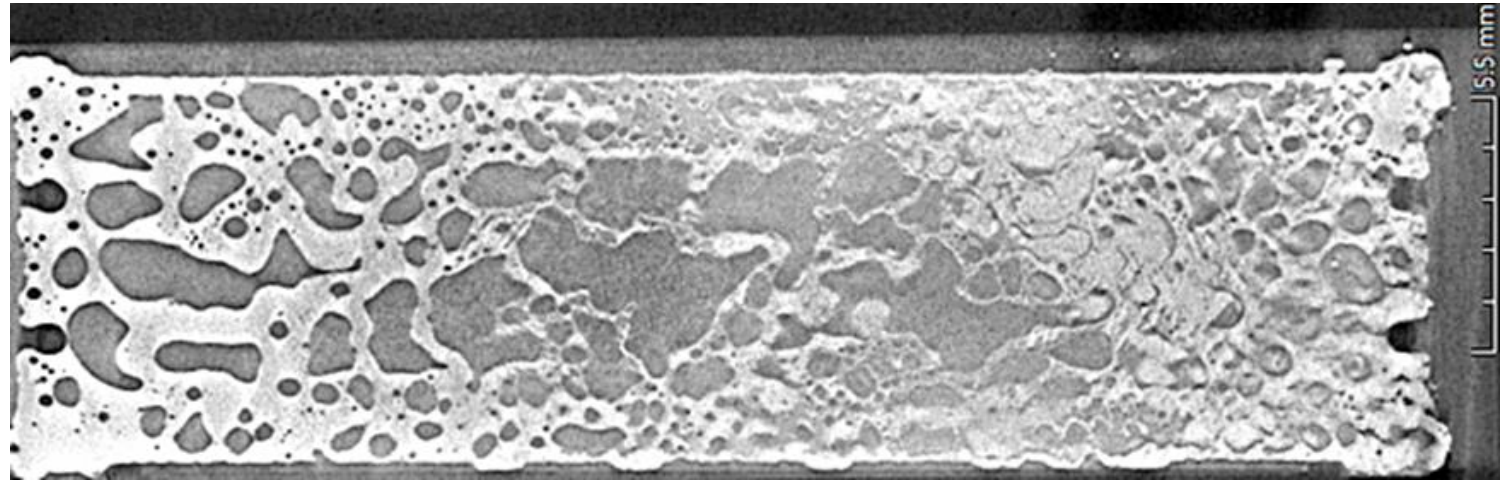
This was very useful in order to verify the way the transistors were brazed, and more over to define the best way to braze





VOIDS

After quite some analysis, we were finally able to link that thermal effect to the way the transistors were brazed to their cold plate



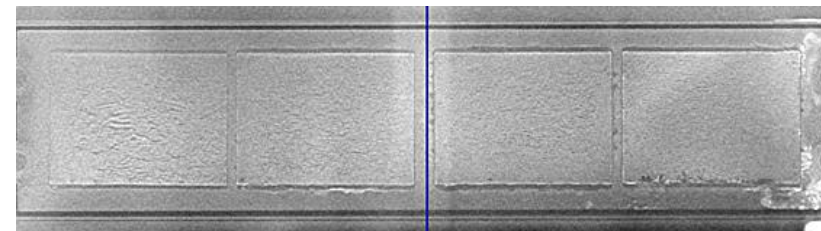
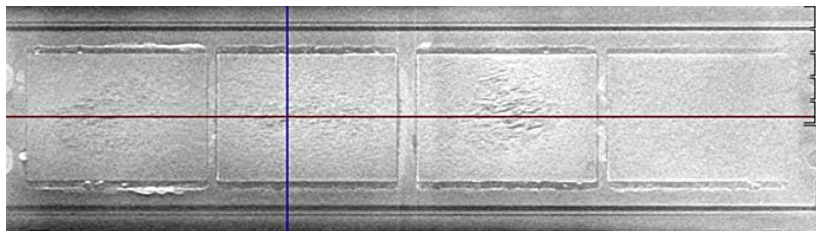
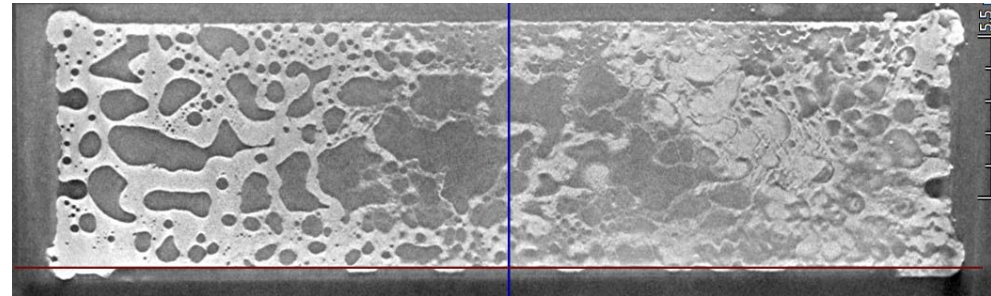
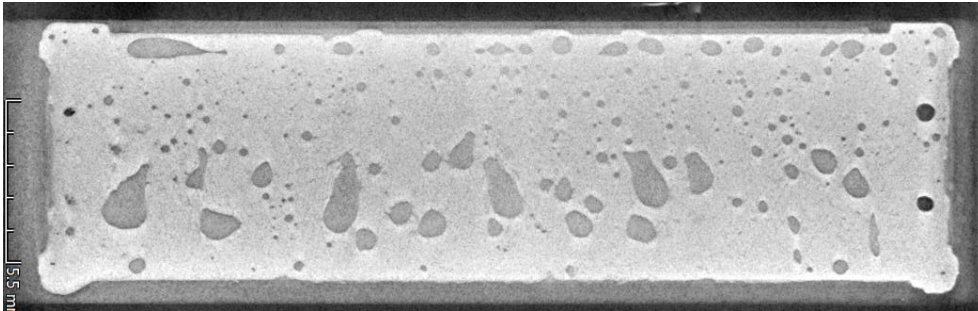
V2+ MODULE 268



Bleu – Rouge



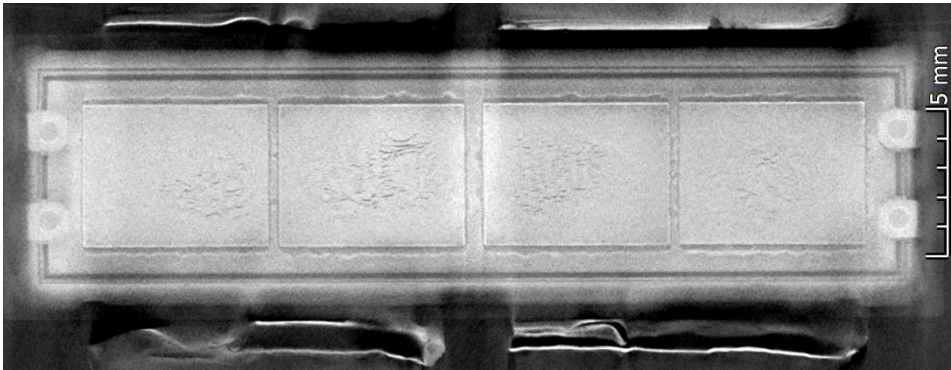
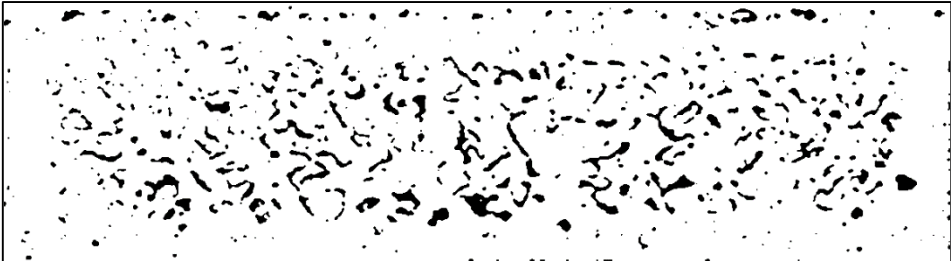
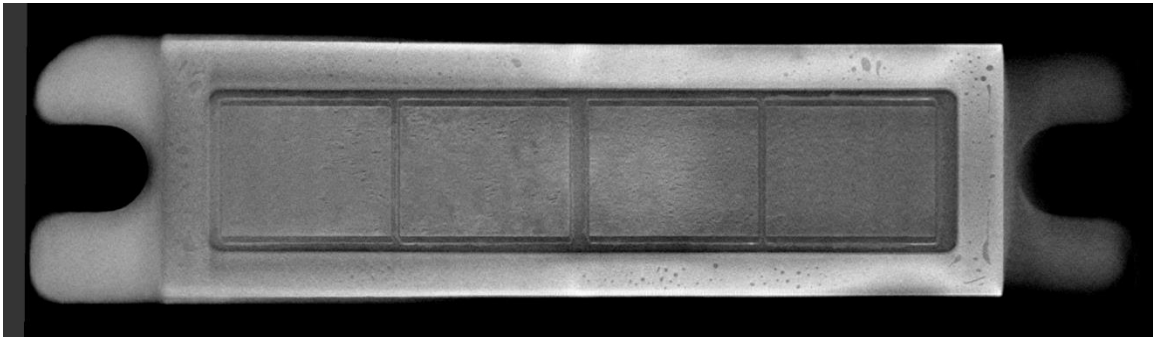
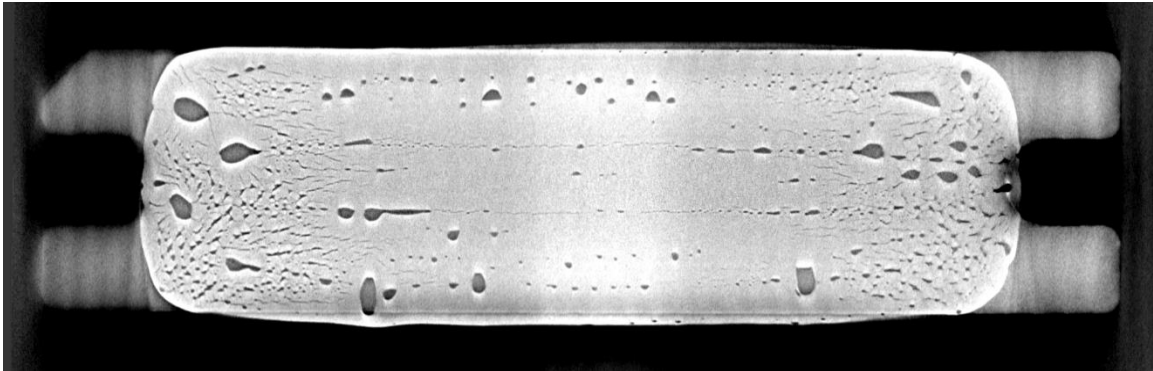
Vert – Jaune



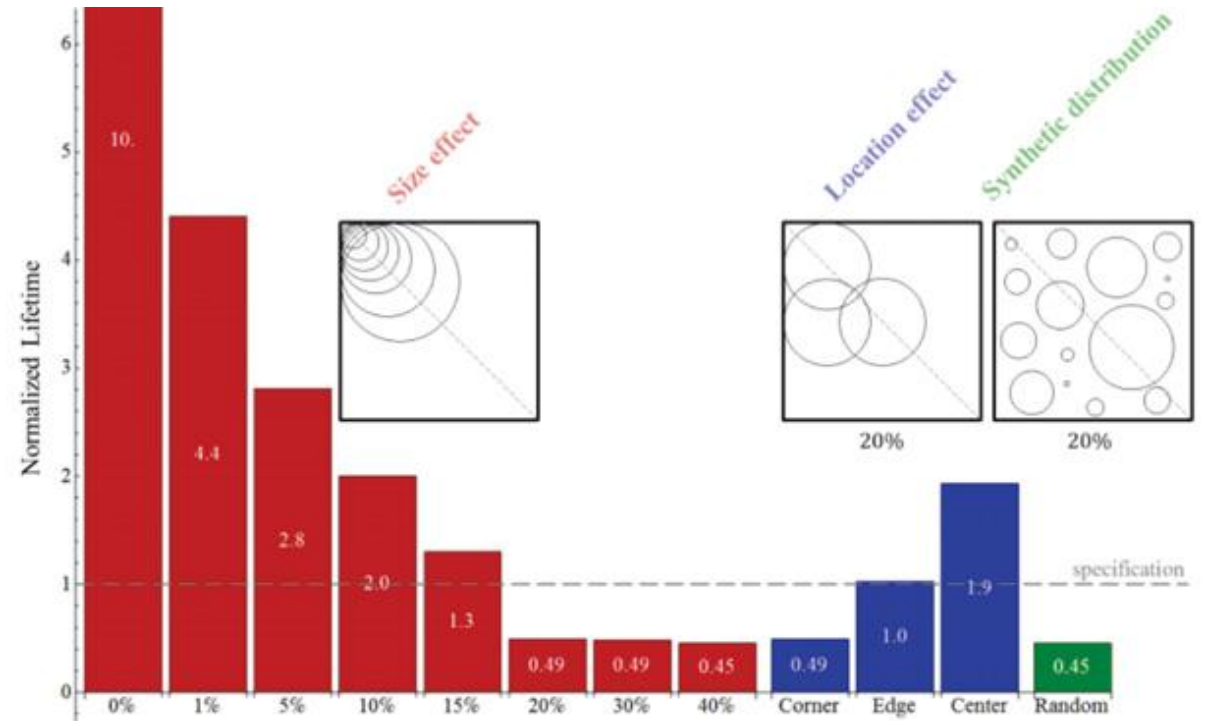
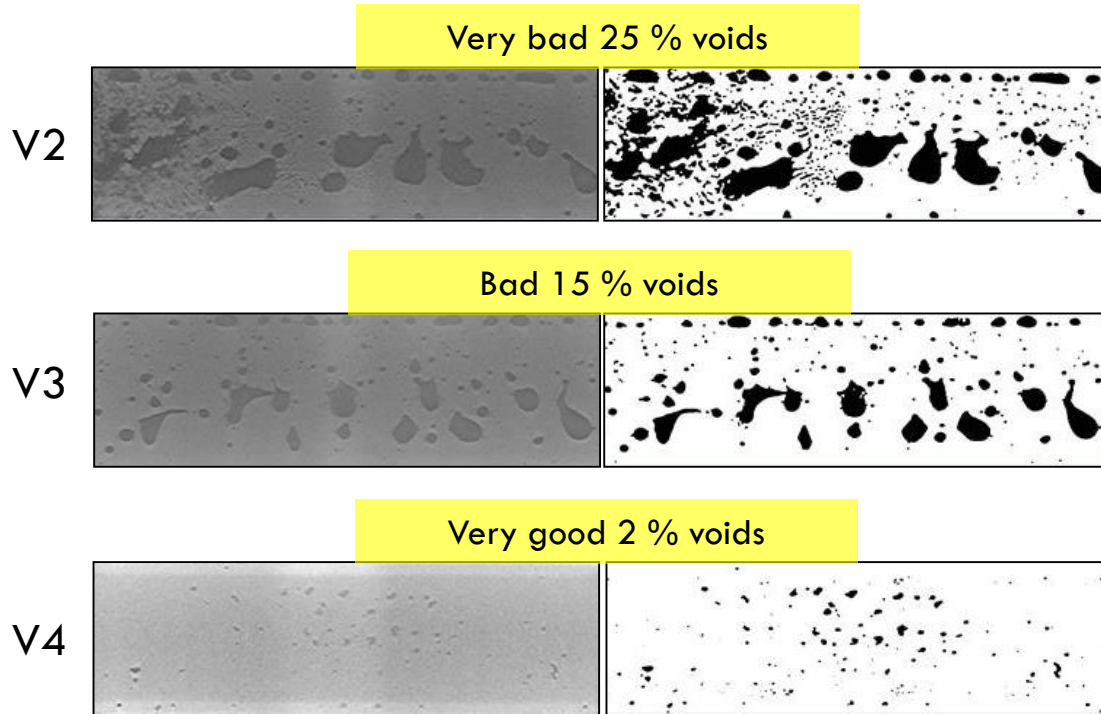


AG OR SAC 305

Porosity 8.3%



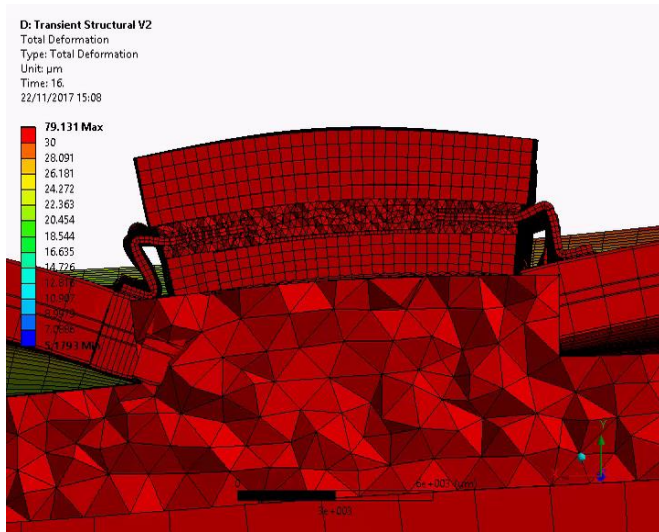
VERSION #4



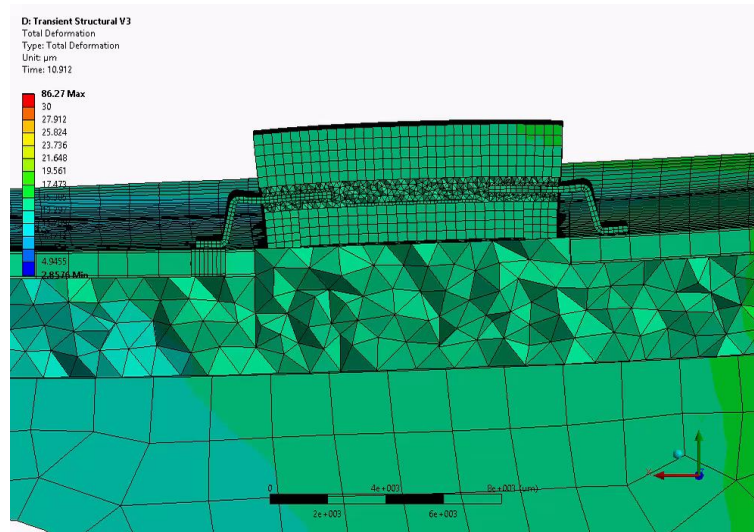
Thales developed a very specific way to proceed with the brazing, under vacuum, with a special deposition of the brazing pate, and a specific thermal ramp up and ramp down



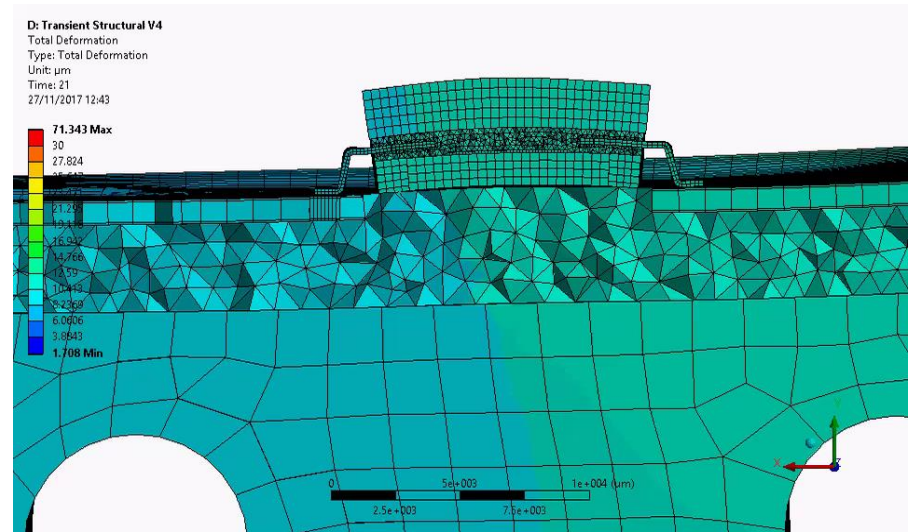
STRESS OF SPS CYCLE ON PCB & TRANSISTORS



V2



V3



V4



RECAP OF SOME VARIOUS VERSIONS

ORIGINE DES MODULES / DATE DE FABRICATION	V3	Proto V4 run1	Proto V4 run2	Proto V4 run3	Début juillet	Prod 30/06	Prod 30/06	Prod fin 20/07
Quantité à réaliser ou existante		1	1	6 -1 = 5	1	85	10	10
Affectation, Quantité	Banc sur table : 1		TOUR_V2 : 1	TOUR_V2 : 1 Spare : 4	TOUR_V2 : 1	TOUR_V4 : 80 Spare_V4 : 4 TOUR_V2 : 1	TOUR_V4 : - Spare_V4 : 9 TOUR_V2 : 1	TOUR_V4 : - Spare_V4 : 9 TOUR_V2 : 1
Désignation de la configuration	V3		A1	A2	A3	T1	T2	T3
Configuration PCB Entrée/PA1/PA2	V2+/V3	V4 run1	V4 run2	V4 run3	V4A	V4A	V4A	V4C
Brasure source Transistor	SAC305 AIR	SnPbAg AIR	Indium push	SnPbAg Vide	Ag Frittage	SAC305 Vide	SnAg Vide	SnAg Vide
Brasure pattes transistors	SAC305 AIR	Indium push	Indium push	Indium push	Indium push	Indium push	Indium push	SnAg Vide
Finition diffuseur	Cuivre	Cuivre	Or 0,08µm	Cuivre	Ag (6-10µm)	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm
Finition PCB	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm	Or 0,08µm
Brasure composants CMS	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SAC305 AIR	SnAg Vide
Date-Code Transistor	2017	2015	2015	2015	2018	2018	2018	2018
Boitier transistor	Plastique	Plastique	Plastique	Plastique	Céramique	Plastique	Plastique	Plastique

AGEING ACCELERATING TEST BENCH

In order to verify our theories, we constructed a test bench with which we overstressed half of the modules, up to destruction and deduced lifetime of the transistors

It fitted perfectly with all our previous end of life of version V1/V2/V3

We then deduced the lifetime of V4





LIFETIME THERMAL IMPROVEMENT

5 seconds ON / 5 seconds OFF cycle

V2+ (with 83 modules)

Nb cycles = $4E14 * 36^{(-5)} = 6.6E6$

Tcase = 66

Delta T = 36

V4 (with 67 modules)

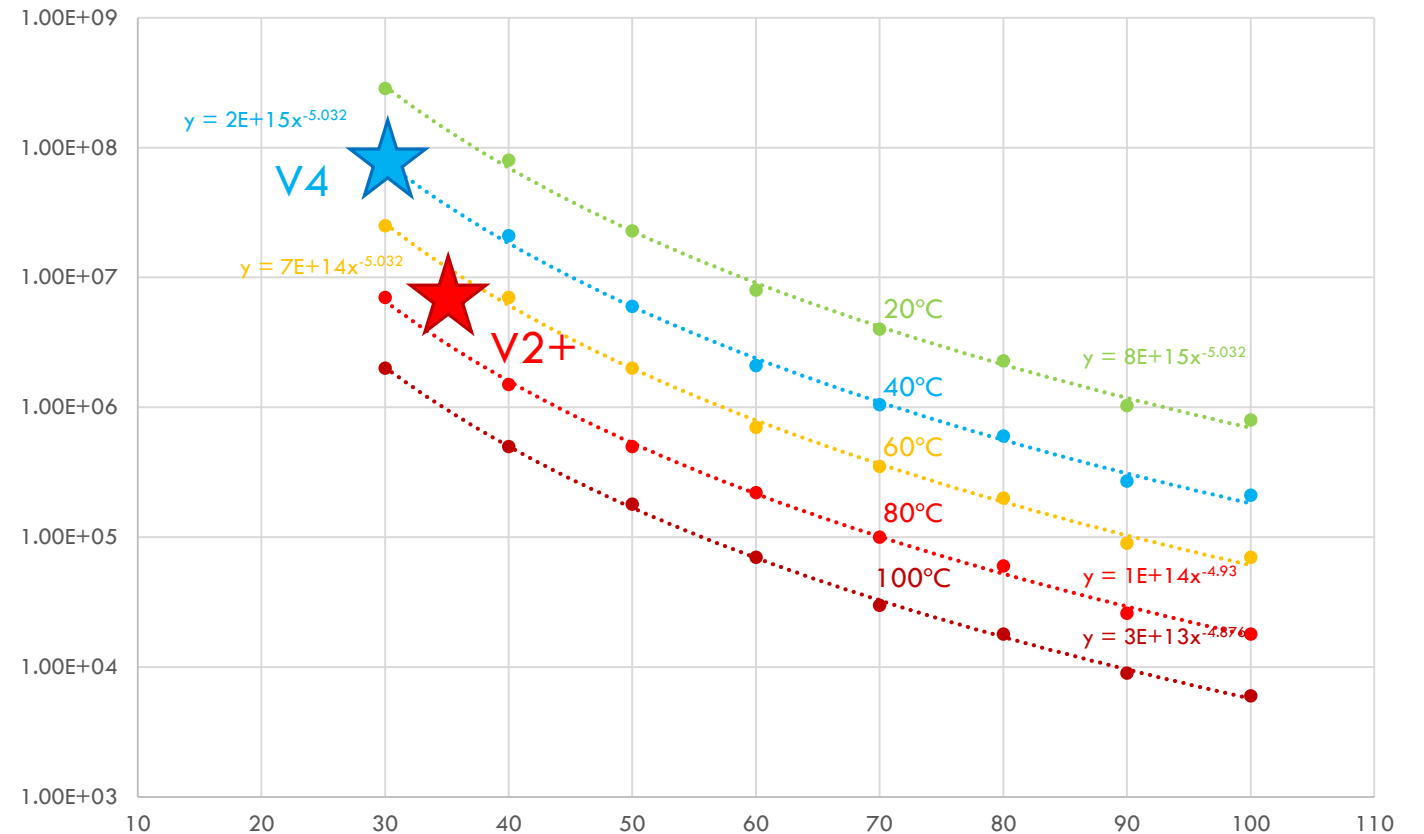
Nb cycles = $2E15 * 29^{(-5)} = 9.8E7$

Tcase = 40

Delta T = 29

Improvement factor = $8.2E7 / 7.5E6 = 15$

LESIT



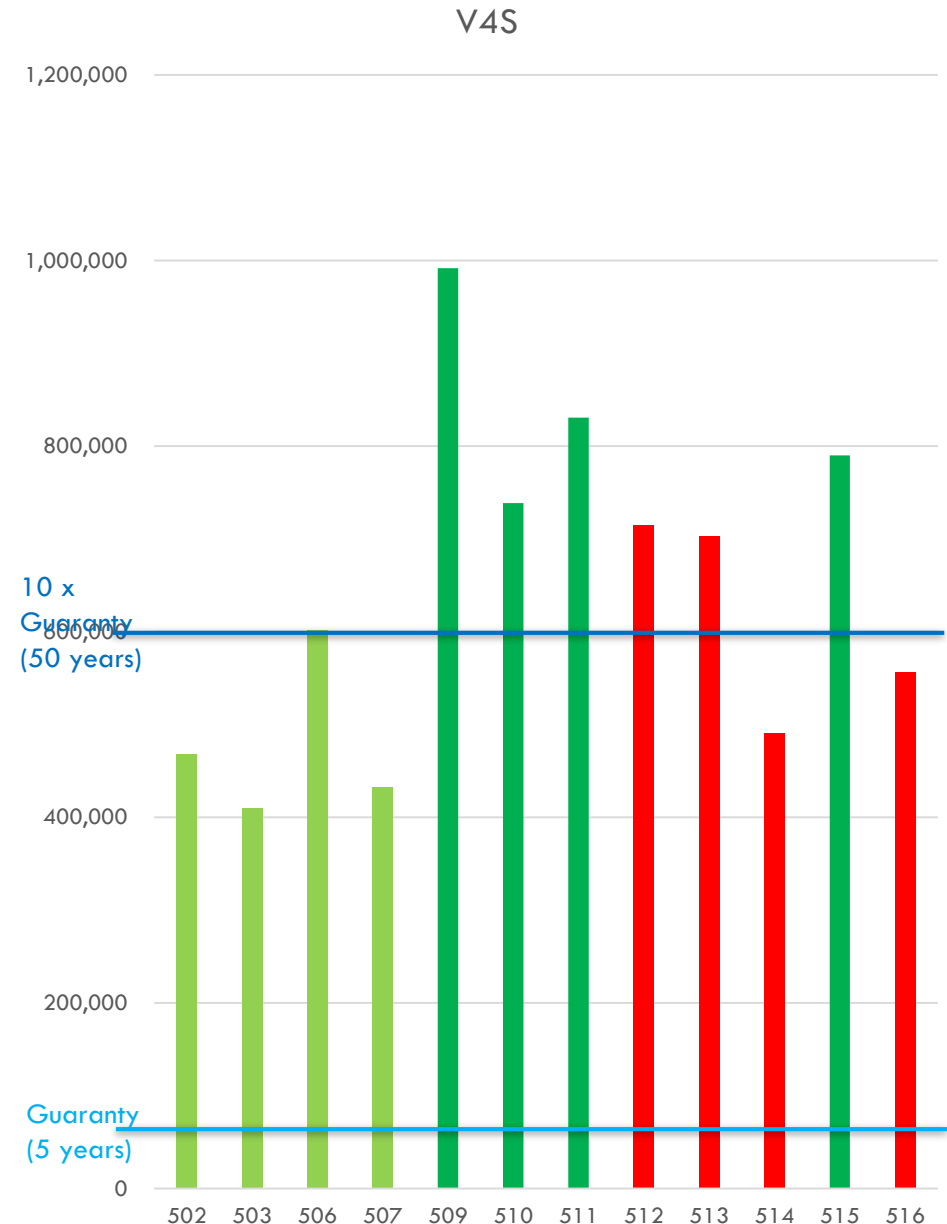


V4 LIFETIME

We then tested several V4 modules in order to verify that the solution was robust

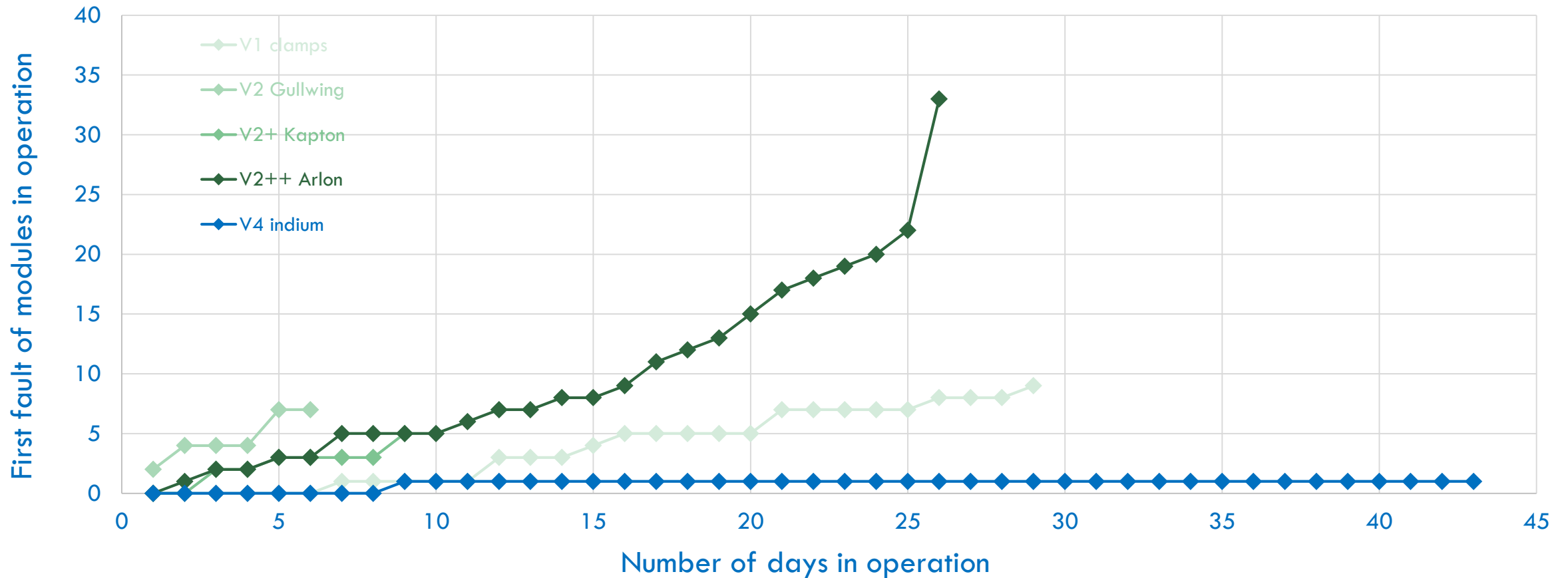
Some transistors have failed with an extrapolated lifetime of more than 40 years of operation (in red), several were still alive but we had to stop the tests (in green)

We then built a new demonstrator (one tower fully equipped), and repeated all the tests, including short circuit tests



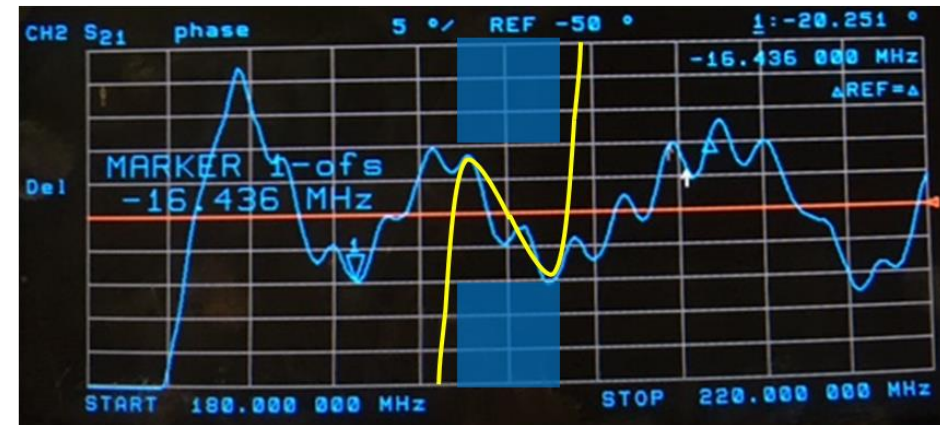
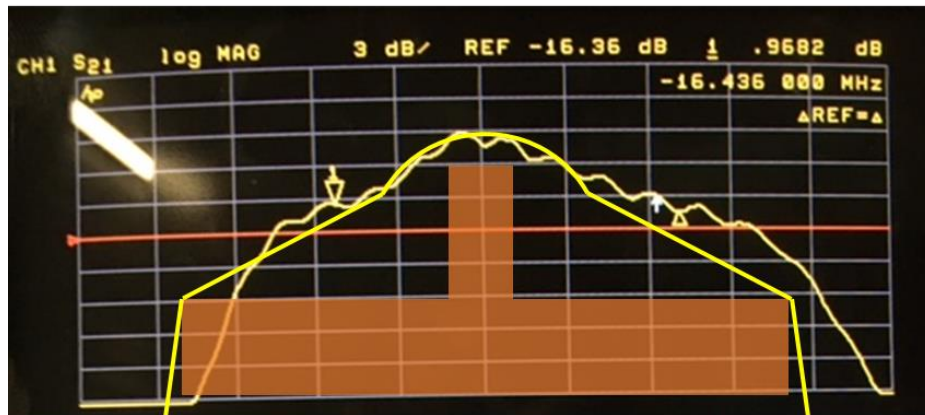
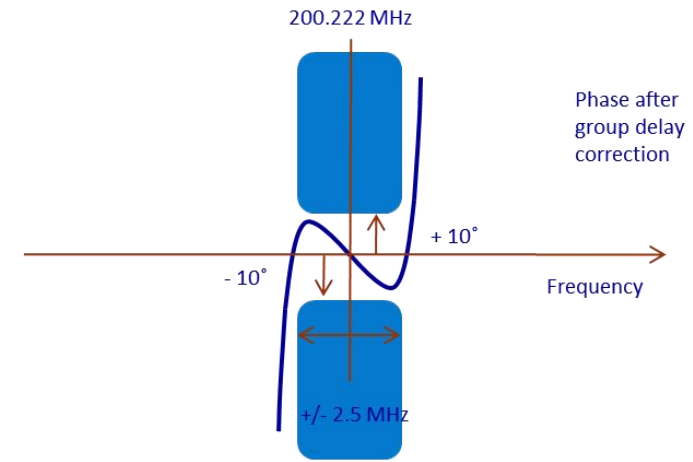
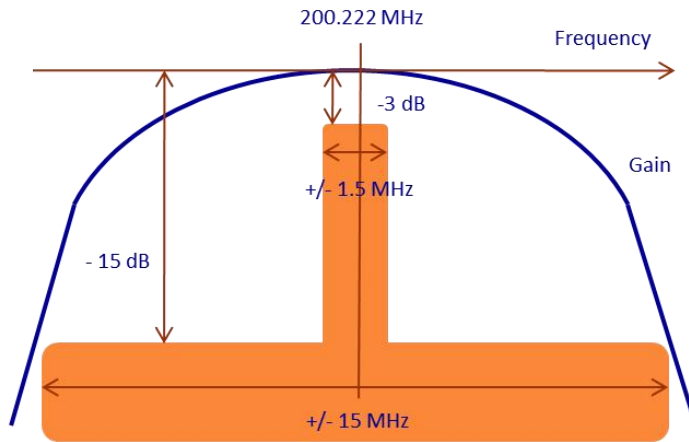


BROKEN MODULES DURING SUPERCYCLES ON DEMONSTRATOR

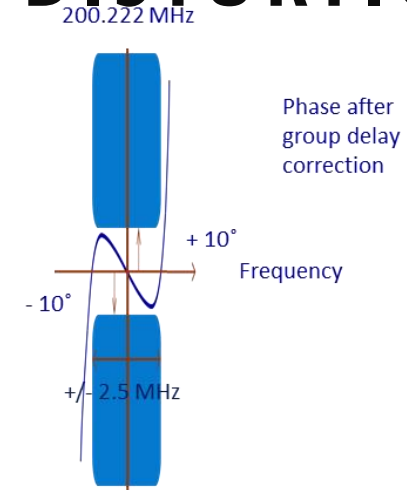
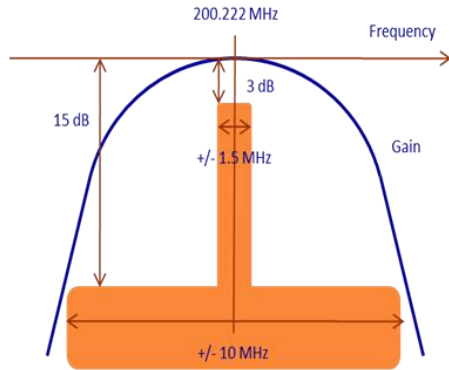




THALES BANDWIDTH & PHASE DISTORTION



TTI + THALES BANDWIDTH & PHASE DISTORTION



4 MHz/div
3 dB/div

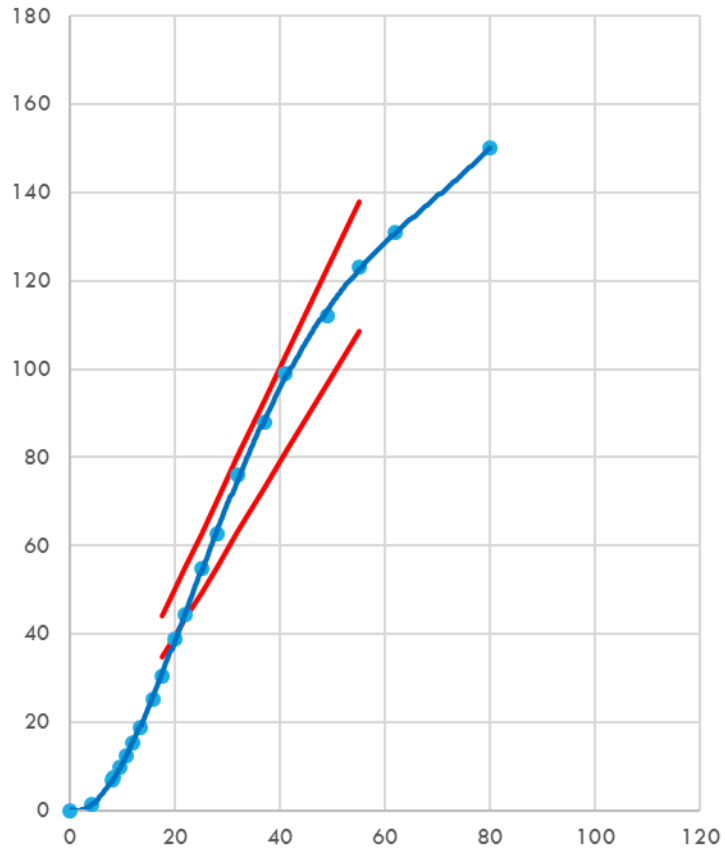


4 MHz/div
10 deg/div
Electrical delay 361 ns

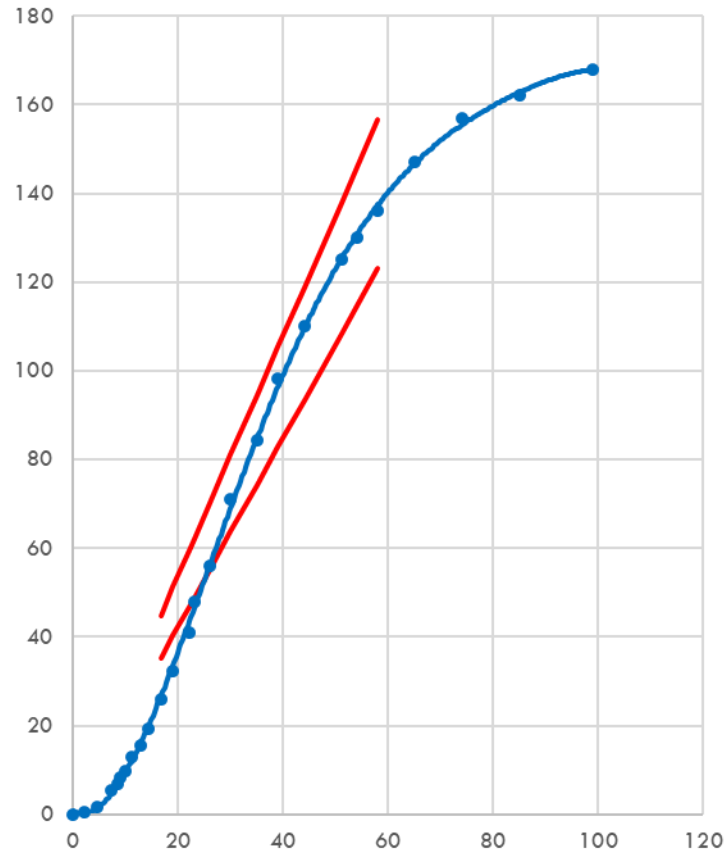


TTI + THALES LINEARITY

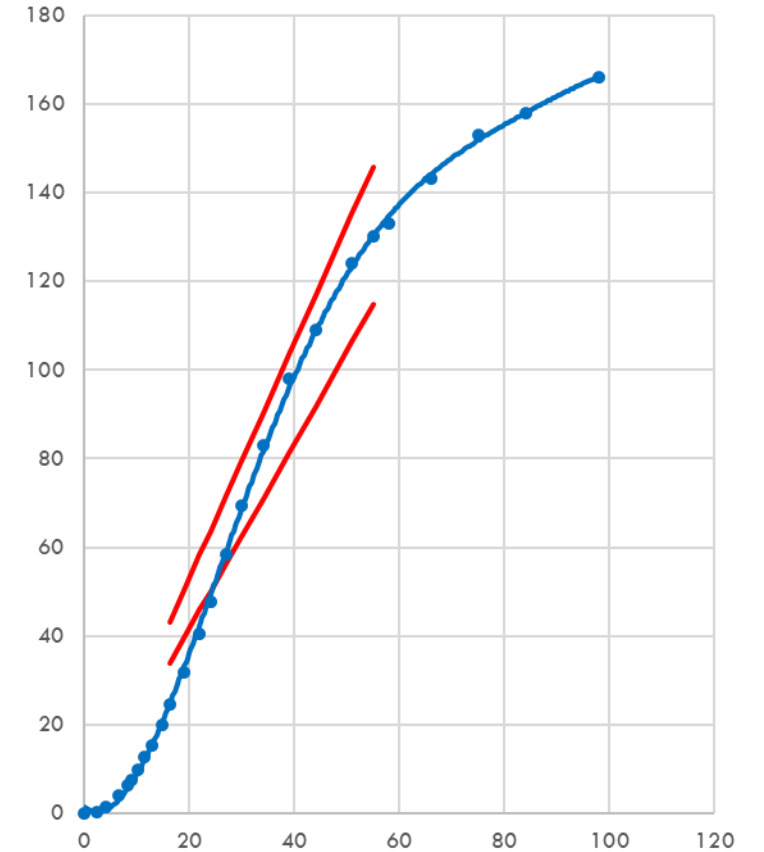
Tti + Thales CW



Tti + Thales 43 kHz



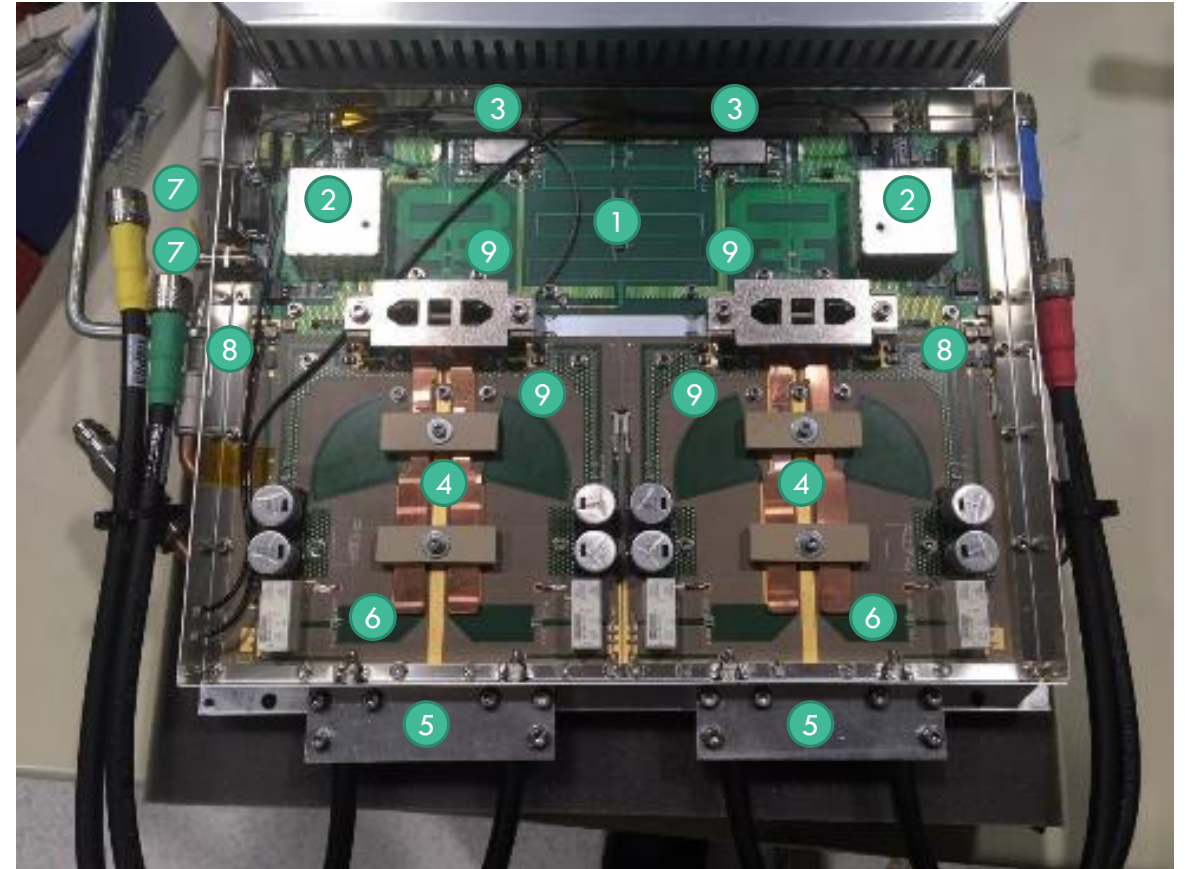
Tti + Thales 172 kHz



V4 MODULE IMPROVEMENTS

List of main improvements added to previous versions

1. New input divider with better balance
2. Control electronic in shielded box
3. Adjustment of gain and phase dispersion
4. Output tracks with thermal regulator
5. Mechanical support for output cables
6. Output DC blockers to allow circulators
7. Controls and RF connectors shielded
8. Drain voltage switched off in case of failure
9. Gate and Drain oscillation filtering with serial and parallel filters, and damping material
10. New water cooling system under the transistors
11. Brazing of transistors to their cold boxes





V4 MODULE





12TH SEPTEMBER 2019, RECOMMENDATION TO THE CERN MANAGEMENT

Demonstrator V4

- 1'000 hours test with 80 V4 modules ok
- 110 hours test with 72/80 modules at nominal values for operation ok
- Short circuit test at all phases ok

I propose that we validate the qualification of the Thales SSPA amplifier, and that we launch the Series definition and production phases



SERIES PRODUCTION

Before Series production, we defined strict Acceptance Test Plans (ATP) and Acceptance Test Reports (ATR)

Tower (x35)

- Input cavity
- Output cavity
- Bays (x4)
- Hydraulic
- Electrical distribution
- VBF (Vérification de bon fonctionnement)
- Temperature
- Bandwidth
- Linearity
- Harmonics
- Supercycle test 100 hours

Module (3'000)

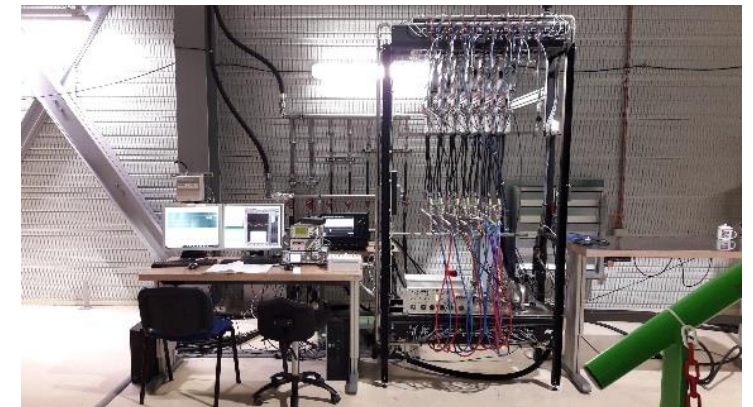
- Input Card
- Output Card
- Transistor on its heat sink (Ultra Sonic tomography sampling 100 % first batches than 2 %)
- Power supply
- Module
- Phase/Gain repeated at CERN (all checked by us, no sampling)

In total this will be more than 15'000 test reports that will be produced



All tower devices have already been tested (3000 RF cables + 12'800 RF connectors + 190'000 contacts in controls connectors)
All input and output cavities are ok

All modules will be tested one by one (by us) once delivered at CERN before being assembled in towers





QUALITY CONTROL

DEFINITION – Description des circuits de contrôle et sécurité

DEFINITION – Description du circuit RF d'entrée

DEFINITION – Plan de qualification des modules V4

Objectif	Mesure / Test	Observations	Matériel utilisé
Performances RF	S11, S21 de 1 MHz à 1 GHz	Adaptations dans la bande, Résonances, potentiels d'instabilité	VNA, coupleurs Bidirectionnels
	VBF - gain en pulsé	Linéarité de Pmax/20 à max, réjection d'harmonique (H2, H3), Pmax	Oscilloscope 1 GHz piloté avec post traitement numérique, coupleurs bidirectionnels
	S11 fort signal	Adaptation d'entré en fort signal (Pmax/10, Pmax/2, Pmax)	Coupleur bidirectionnel, Analyseur de spectre
	Bande passante	de 150 à 250 MHz à Pmax/10	VNA, coupleurs Bidirectionnels
	Mesure phase	de Pmax/20 à Pmax	VNA, coupleurs Bidirectionnels
Capacité de réglage amplitude/phase	Modifications R et C	VNA, coupleurs Bidirectionnels	
Performances thermiques et durée de vie	Rendement	Courant DC consommé à Pmax/3 et Pmax	Pince à effet hall, Analyseur de spectre, coupleurs bidirectionnels
	Thermographie des composants	T° max sur pattes et composants à Pmax/2 CW	Caméra Infrarouge
	Tests court-circuits 6 phases, 100 ms	à Pmax/3 et Pmax, mesure courant consommé et observation températures	Pince à effet hall, Analyseur de spectre, coupleurs bidirectionnels Caméra infrarouge
	Delta T	T°min et max des pattes, du boîtier du transistor et autres composants pour un supercycle CERN sur charge 50 Ohm	Caméra Infrarouge
Stabilité sur cavités de division et combinaison	Test stabilité entre deux cavités entré/sorties	Observation à l'analyseur de spectre de raies parasites éventuelles, Observation début de pulses de Pmax/10 à Pmax	Oscilloscope 1 GHz piloté , coupleurs bidirectionnels, analyseur de spectre
	Test stabilité entre deux cavités entré/sorties	Balayage lent de 1 MHz à 1 GHz 1601 points, observation de raies parasites éventuelles à Pmax/20, Pmax/10 et Pmax/2	VNA, coupleurs Bidirectionnels, analyseur de spectre
	Test stabilité sur court-circuit 6 phases	De Pmax/20 à Pmax/10, observation de raies parasites éventuelles	coupleurs Bidirectionnels, analyseur de spectre
Performances générales	Tests fonctionnels, sécurités	Déclenchement de défaut tension drain et température: observation du comportement des sécurités et des temps de réaction	Oscilloscope
	Test hydraulique	Test sous pression 10 bars, eau à 50°C pendant 24 h: contrôle de chute de pression Module sous tension avec consommation courant	Pompe manuelle Caméra thermique





SERIES PRODUCTION

Gérac premises have been upgraded for industrialisation phase

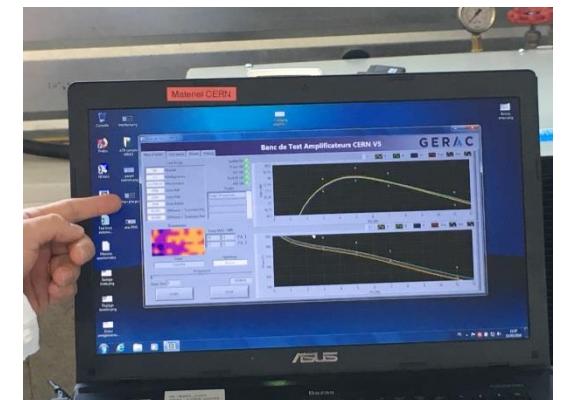
- Two production lines
- Two test benches
- One test place for 'non conformities'
- Area within highest standards
- One storage area

Production capability was 120+ modules per week

First batch to be delivered starting end of 2019



Thales 'military' standards (Cholet-France) have been applied to Gérac (Bordeaux-France) in order to satisfy the quality plan needed for our project





READY TO RECEIVE THE MODULES





DELIVERY OF MODULES





FIRST SERIES OF 16 TOWERS

At a glance, for each tower

Verification of all the 80 modules received by Thales on our CERN's modules test bench, power sweep to verify amplitude and phase of all modules

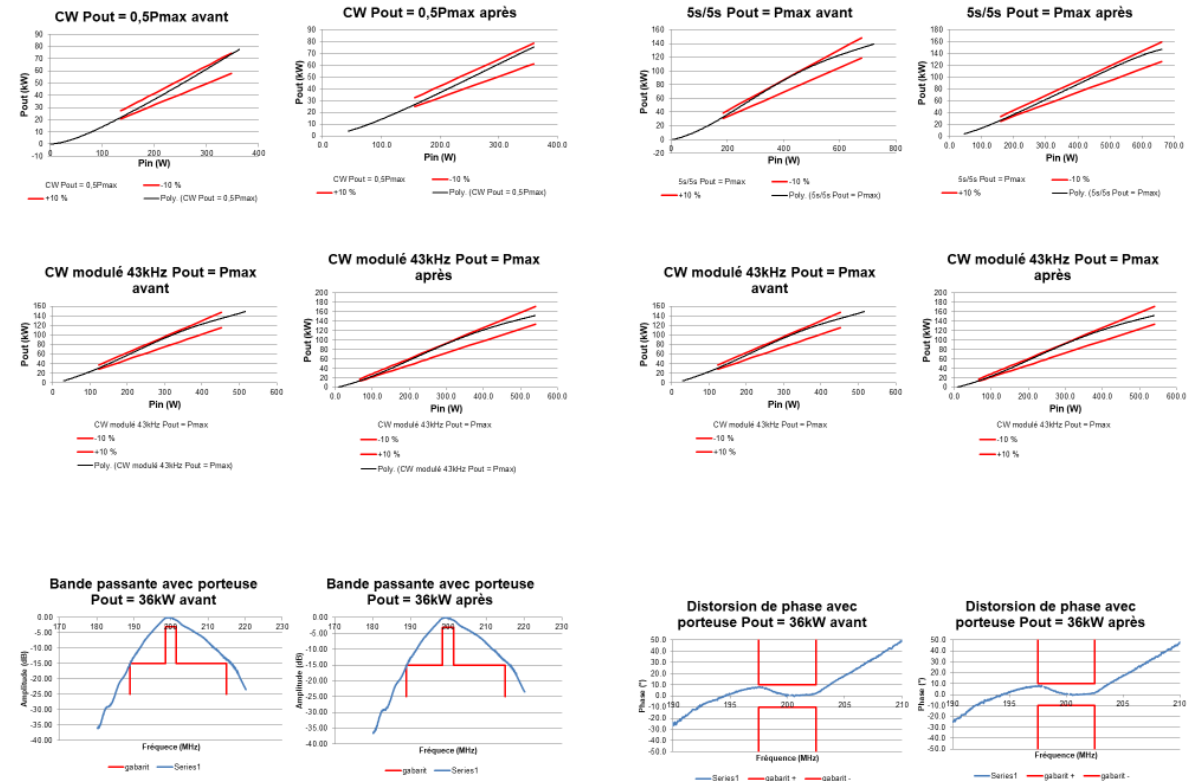
Integration of the 80 modules in the tower with individual thermal camera per transistor

Parameters checks; interlocks, bandwidth, linearity, harmonics, thermal behaviour with a SPS RF supercycle

8 x 1 hour test at various predefined RF power levels and duty cycle

100 hours long duration test with SPS RF supercycle, monitoring RF power and thermal behaviour

control that the parameters have not changed, repetition of bandwidth, linearity, harmonics and thermal behaviour





SECOND SERIES TOWERS QUALIFIED 14TH MARCH 2020





THANKS TO ALL COLLEAGUES INVOLVED

Dep-Group	Persons
BE-RF	Eric Montesinos, Charles Julie, Sebastien Calvo, Gino Cipolla, Antoine Boucherie, Simon Rains, Ellen Milne, Christophe Renaud, James Bibby, Flory Ten Broeke, Frederic Killing, Cedrick Grandbois, Serge Massot, James Mitchell, Nicolas Villanti, Lars Haarsma, Sonia Garcia Scheifler, Abigail Lee, Frida Eriksson, Morgan Wigham, Aashlesha Sharma, Maria Sanchez Barraeta, Julia Mirowska, Ester Sancho Cabrera, Débora Aguilera, Philip Hofer, Francisco Sauba Esteban, Paola Mazzotta, Pilar Parrado Caballero, Irene Alonso Romero, Miren Kevin Marques, Remi Socquet-Clerc, Julien Novello, Sebastien Mutuel, Michel Ferrone, David Bastard, Lancelot Brechignac-Denis, El Houssine El Gahrbi, Jesus Manuel Lopez Loureiro, Cedric Mendez Lopez, Stéphane Lavorel, Emerick Falenta, Patrice Girod, Jean-Marie Angonin, Romuald Terry, Sidi Chikhi, Thomas Henry, Emile Gropelie, Machdi Jendoubi, Elena Chapochnikova, Rama Calaga, Heiko Dammerau, Christine Vollinger, Nasrin Nasresfahani, Patrick Kramer, Wolfgang Höfle, Philippe Baudrenghien, Gregoire Hagmann, Daniel Valuch, Andy Butterworth, Luca Arnaudon, Carlos Oliveira, Diego Barrientos Turrion, Pierre Maesen, Florence Crochon, Kevin Marecaux, Alejandro Diaz Fontalva, Thomas Kaltenbacher, Jose Enrique Varela Campelo, Toon Roggen, Urs Wehrle, Frédéric Boulenger, Thomas Bohl, Aurelien Lahu
BE-ABP	Benoît Salvan, Hannes Bartosik, Ghislain Roy, Yannis Papaphilipou
BE-ASR	Marc Tavlet, Christelle Gaignant, Anne Funken, Lisa Kobzeva, Axelle Deleu, Paola Carvalho Correia
BE-BI	Christian Boccard, Patrick Ogier
BE-ICS	Denis Raffourt, Nino Rama, Pablo Gaviglio, Grégory Smith
BE-OP	James Ridewood
DG	Florence Jacobs, Claudia Passeri
HSE-SEE	Olivier Tison, Cécile Pinto, Jonathan Gulley, Laurent Colly, Guillaume F...
IPT-PI	Thierry Lagrange, Anders Unnervik, ...
IT-CS	Stephane Casenove, Nils Barring
EN-ACE	Katy Foraz, David McFarlane, Emma ...
EN-CV	Mauro Nonis, Serge Deleval, Michel ... Abdessamad El Fathi, Glen Mason, A...
EN-EL	Nicolas Bellegarde, Guillaume Gros, ... Thierry Charvet, James Devine, Frans ... François Duval, Jean-Pierre Sferruzza
EN-HE	Caterina Bertone, Jean-Baptiste Bonnamy, Pascal Brunero, Serge Pelletier, Yann Seraphin, Patrick Vallet, Gilles Roche, Helder Lorenco, Roberto Rinaldesi, Jean-Pierre Grandchelli, Jean-Louis Grenard, Dominik Schaerer
EN-MEF	Yvon Muttoni, Frédéric Galleazzi, Scharif Mehanneche, Antoine Kosmicki
EN-MME	Gilles Favre, Stefano Sgoba, Alessandro Dallochio, Jean-Marc Malzacker, Laurent Deparis, Alession D'Andrea, Fritz Motschmann, René Claret, Thierry Tardy, Pierre Moyret, Marius Jedrychowski, Laurent Prever-Loiri, Jean-Marie Geisser, Yann Farys, Piguier Aline-Marie, Damien Foresy, Philippe Frichot, Alexandre Gerardin, Alain Stalder
EP-DT	Rui de Oliveira
SMB	Luz-Anastasia Lopez-Hernandez, Christophe Biot, Laurent Faisandel, Eliseo Perez-Duenas, Patrice Sajous, Paula Barriere, Mathieu Fontaine, Martine Auerbach, Boris Cabaud, Remi Noel, Alessandro Domenino, Morgan Farre, Roland Arnoul, Adrien Billat, Damien Le Van, Damien Liegeart, Alejandro Martinez Selles, Daniel Parchet, Manuel Lopes Giesta
TE-EPC	Jean-Paul Burnet, Gilles LeGodec, Yves Thurel, Davide Aguglia, Karsten Kahle, Christophe Coupat, Clément Bovet
TE-MPE	Raphael Berberat
TE-MSC	Jérémie Bauche, Sébastien Clément, Daniele Gouyette
TE-VSC	Paolo Chiggiato, Antonio Mongelluzzo, Sergio Calatroni, Wilhelmus Vollenberg, Ciara Pasquino, Jose Ferreira Somoza, Wim Willemjan, Marc Thiebert, Alexandre Sinturel, Jan Helge Hansen, Benoit Teissandier, Frédéric Duprat, Franck Monnet, Grégory Pigny

**Great thanks to all 250+ colleagues
Special mention to RF team
Special mention to the various Thales teams**

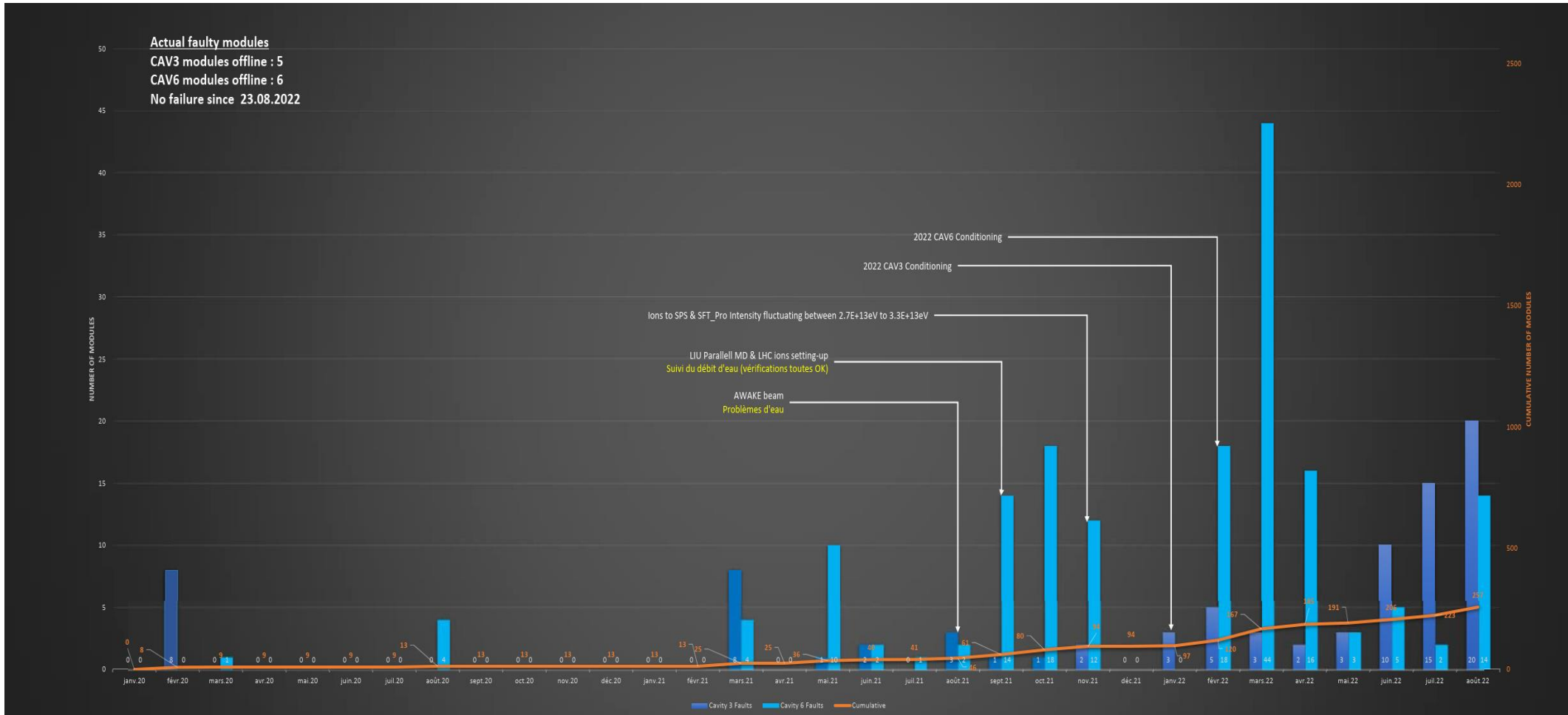


OUTLOOK

1. Brief description of the RF power upgrade project
2. Specificities of the purchasing rules at CERN
3. Technical choices (and difficulties)
4. Operation since beginning 2021

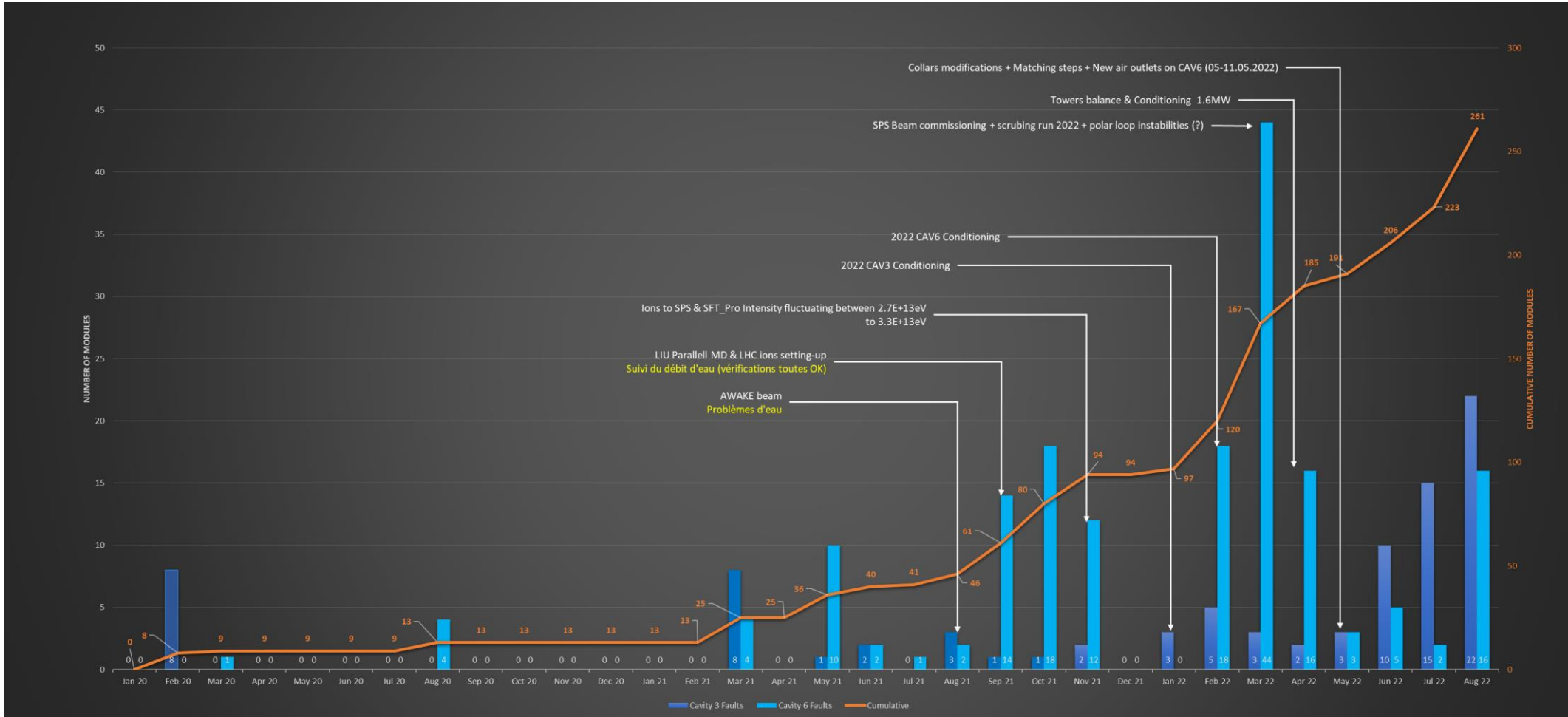


FAILURE RATE TOO HIGH





FAILURE RATE TOO HIGH (ZOOM)



10 % of Total number of modules



MISTAKE IN THE WATER COOLING SYSTEM

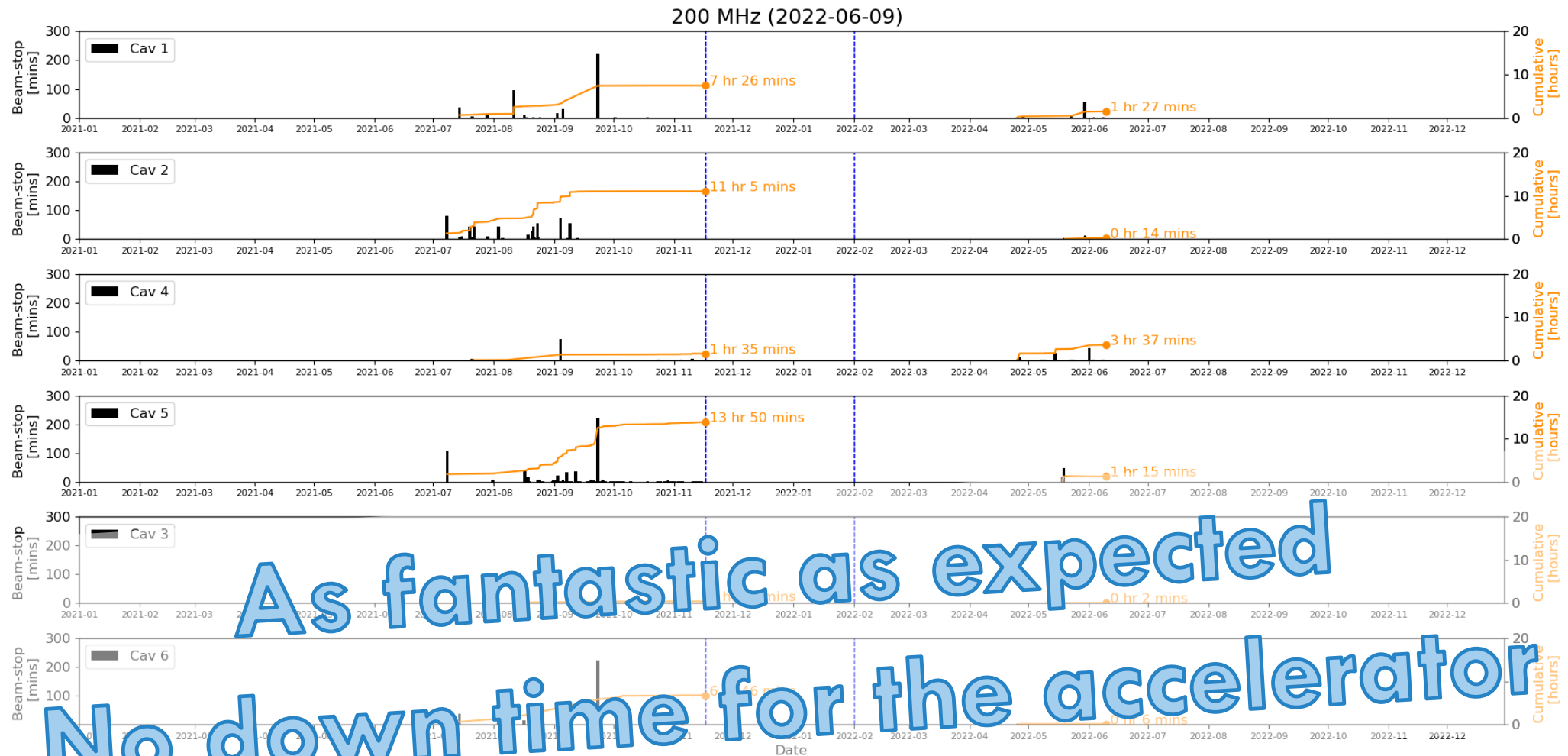
Despite we agreed with Thales that no pate neither filament should be used, their plumber did use it

We had to setup a crash program and cleaned the 3000 modules with a special process, 30 minutes rinsing the modules with changing the water flow sense every 5 minutes under a flow of 2,4 l/min, twice the nominal





AVAILABILITY SINCE BEGINNING 2021





OBSOLESCENCE

When we started the project in 2015, Thales selected the transistor based on recommendation from NXP

It was said that this transistor has no end of production expected

In January 2022, we received the information from NXP that we had 5 months to place a Last Buy Order

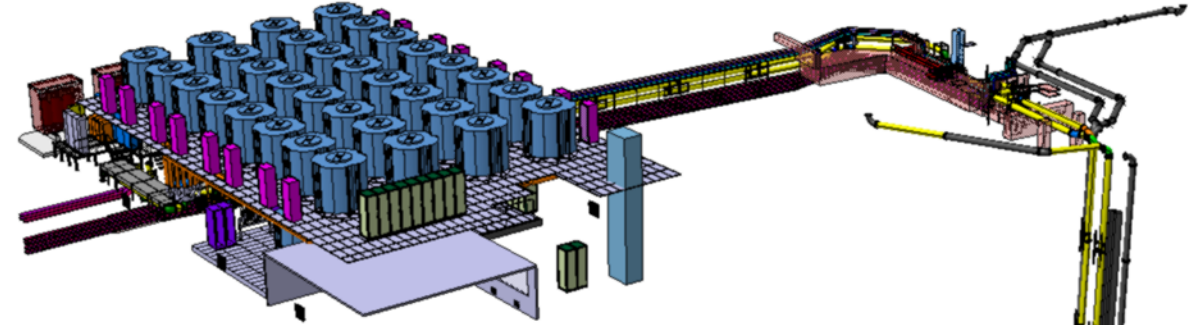
This is not possible within our internal CERN rules to take such a decision so quickly (given the quantity needed, the amount is around $\frac{1}{2}$ MCHF)

We agreed with Thales that they will buy a large stock (in thousands)

I am participating in several reviews on SSPA, every time the same scenario occur, from time of design to end of production, transistors become obsolete

Even more difficult, the voltage has changed, so be careful, always consider your project including transistors quantity calculated by the MTBF over the entire lifetime of the SSPA

CONCLUSION



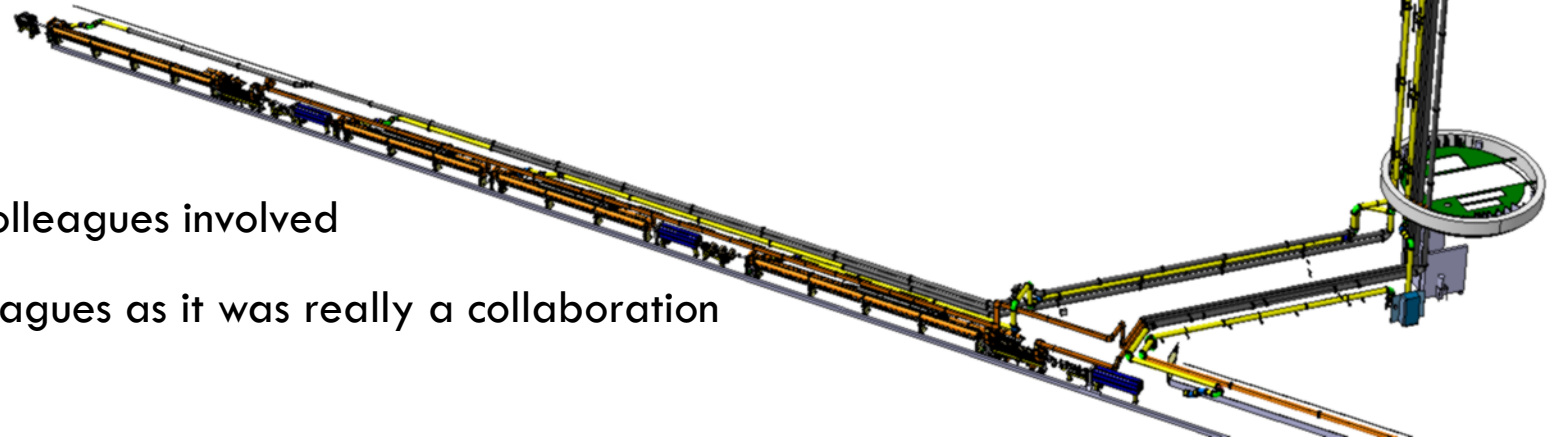
With this project CERN strongly moved into the SSPA world

Thanks to SOLEIL, with special thanks to Patrick Marchand and Ti Ruan

Thanks to ESRF, with special thanks to Jörn Jacob and Michel Langlois

Again, special thanks to all CERN colleagues involved

and a special thanks to Thales colleagues as it was really a collaboration





Thank you very much for your attention

Visit of the equipment tomorrow, much more impressive in true life than a picture!