



6th Accelerator Reliability Workshop

Day 2 – Session 05 – Infrastructures

“LHC Cryogenic Infrastructure Reliability, towards High Availability”

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On behalf of CERN Cryogenics Group



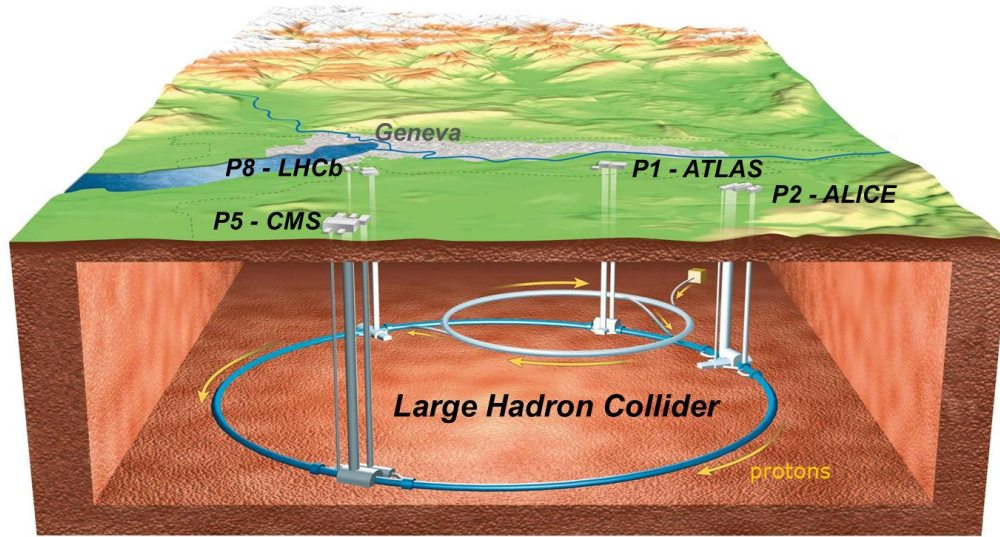
OUTLOOK

Introduction

- ➔ **Operation scenarios**
- ➔ **Basic functional analysis and critical failure modes**
- ➔ **Availability definition and main downtime origins**

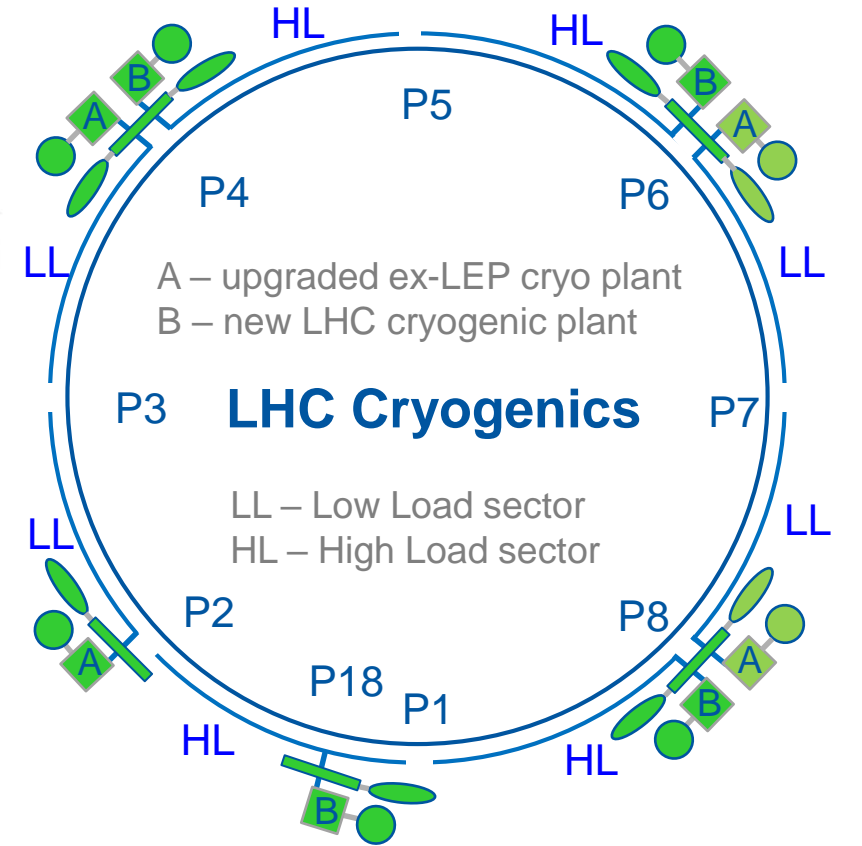
Conclusion – *Perspectives*

LHC Cryogenic System Architecture



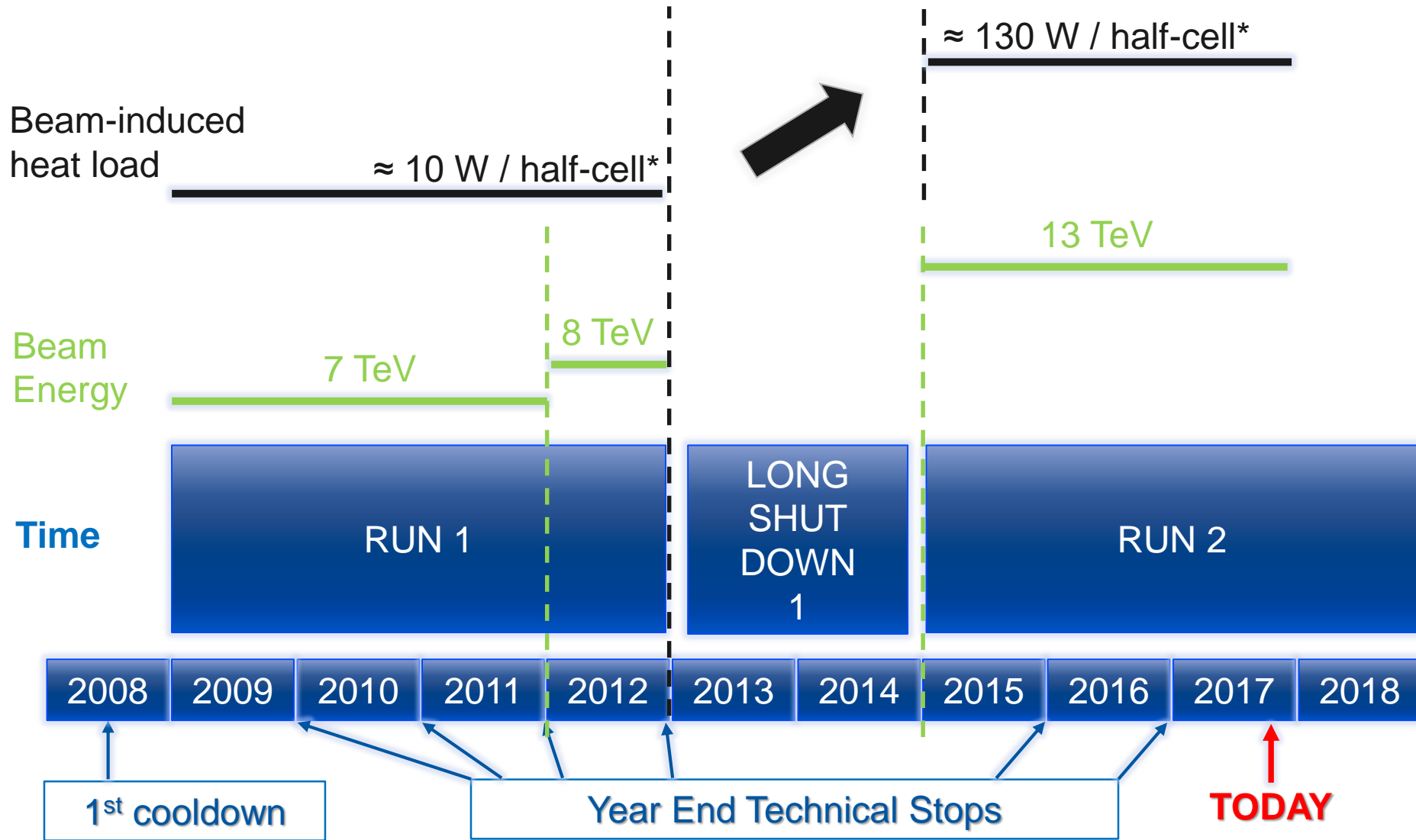
- circumference → ~ 27 km,
- constructed at ~ 100 m underground,
- the accelerator ring inclination is 1.4 %

LHC cryogenics:
 8 x 18 kW @ 4.5 K
 1800 sc magnets
 24 km & 20 kW @ 1.8 K
 37 000 tons @ 1.9 K
 130 tons of helium inventory



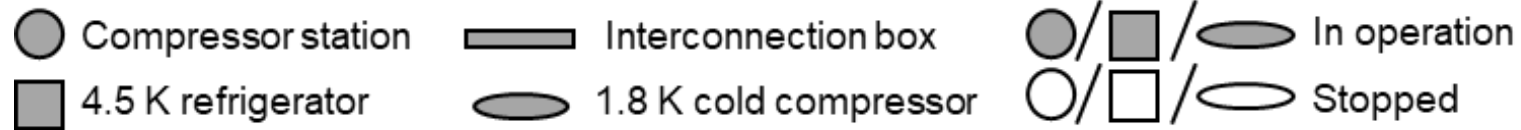
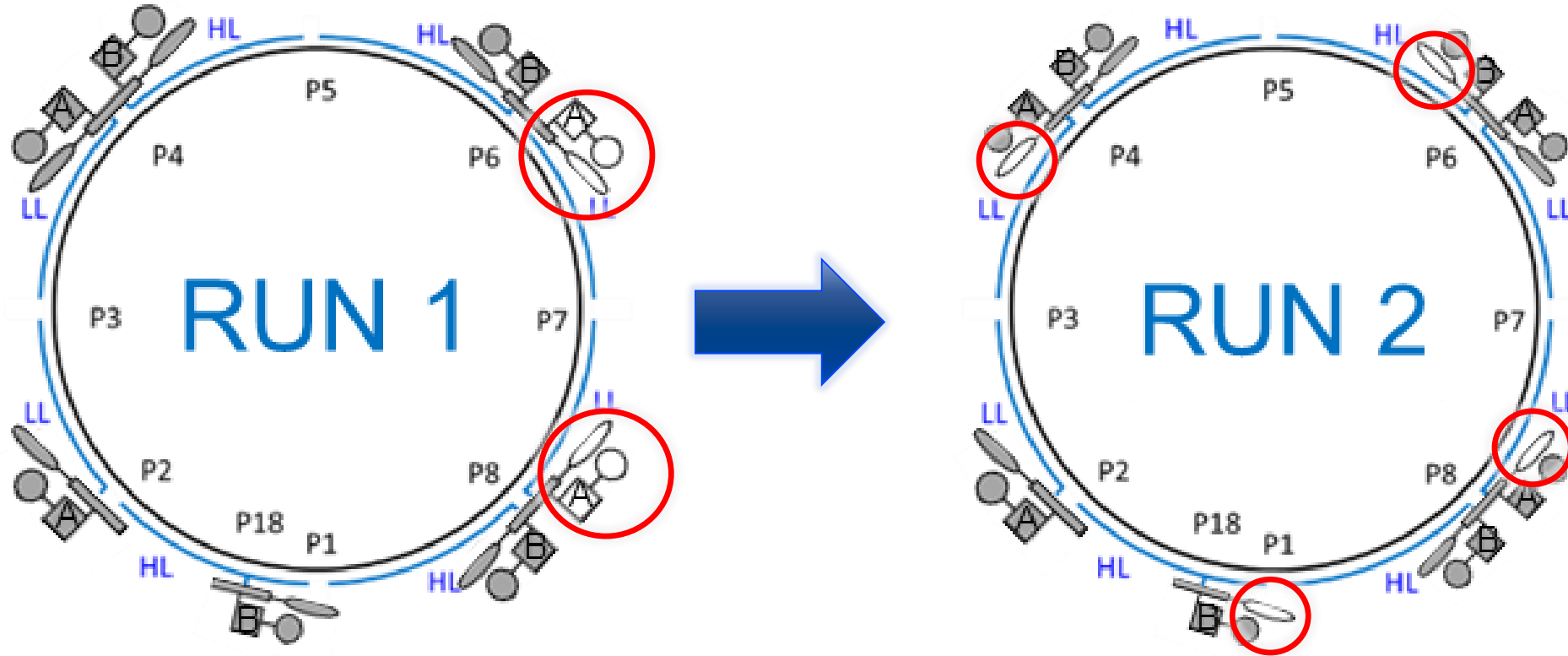
- Compressor station
- 4.5 K refrigerator
- Interconnection box
- ◌ 1.8 K pumping unit (cold compressor)

LHC Cryogenics Operation Timeline



*half-cell: LHC cryogenic half-cell of 53 m housing (among others) one local beam-screen cooling loop

LHC Cryogenic System Configurations



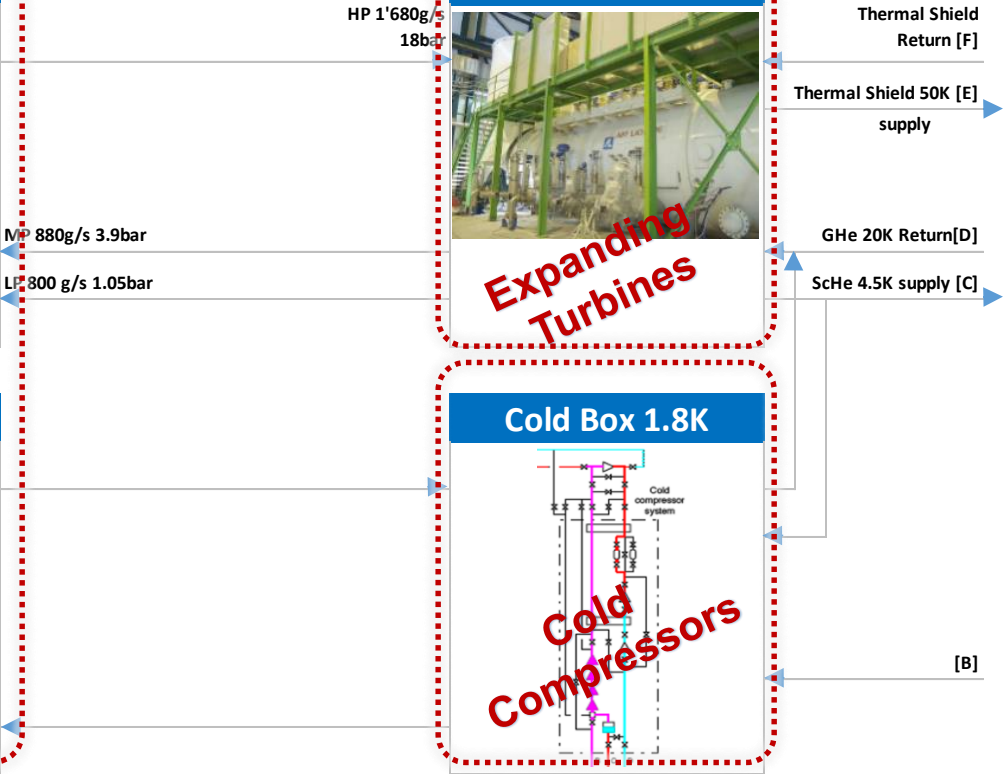
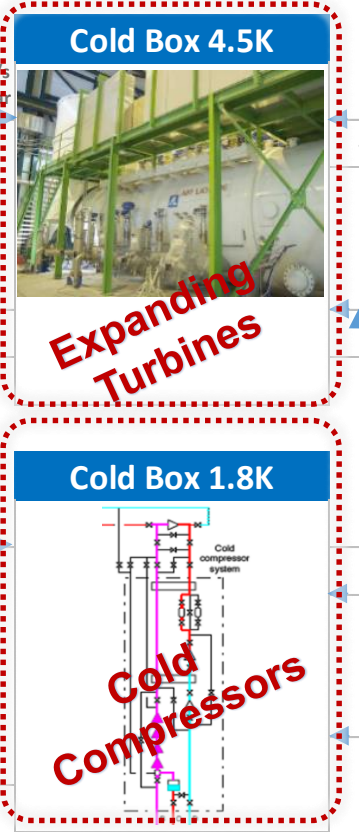
Basic Functional Analysis

Electrical Supply
Water Cooling



LN2 & GN2 supply
Vacuum pumping

CRITICAL EQUIPMENTS



Critical Failure Modes

| | | | | | |
|----------|--------------|-------------|----------|------------|----------|
| | Catastrophic | Critical | Critical | Critical | Critical |
| SEVERITY | Major | Low | Medium | High | High |
| | Moderate | Low | Low | Medium | High |
| | Minor | Low | Low | Low | Low |
| | | Remote | Uncommon | Occasional | Frequent |
| | | PROBABILITY | | | |

CRITICAL means a potential unavailability of cryogenics for LHC for **weeks or months**: breakdown of a critical equipment without alternative scenario.

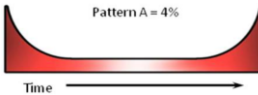
MEDIUM & HIGH means that failure is likely to happen with a potential unavailability of cryogenics for LHC for **hours** or **days**.

LOW means that risk of failure is acceptable and will have **no or very limited impact on LHC**.

All identified failure modes shall raise this level after implementation of a mitigation plan :

- Operation Back-up Plan
- Critical spare parts
- Engineering change
- Maintenance strategy
- Detectability improvement

52 compressors for 4.5 K Refrigerators

| Screw Compressors | |
|--|---|
| Technology | Volumetric compression Industrial standard adapted to helium |
| Dependencies | Electrical supply Water Cooling Pressurized Oil Lubrication |
| Considered Failures Modes & Expected Patterns | 1. Bearings/mechanical breakdown  |
| Failure Rate | Low to medium |
| Detection method | Off line vibration monitoring, Oil analysis |
| Maintenance Strategy | Preventive major overhaul 40'000h Condition Based Monitoring |
| Equipment Lead time | Standard 4 to 8 months |
| MTTR | 1 to 3 months |
| Replacement Time | 2 to 3 days |

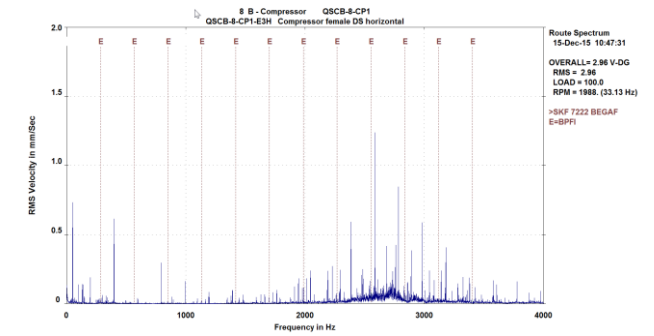
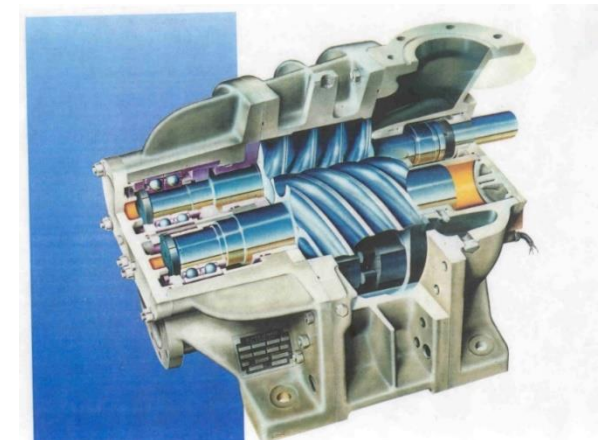


Fig. 2: The inner ring with 2 flaked areas. One flaked area is identified by the arrow.



Fig. 3: Detail photo of the flaked area from Fig. 2.



| | | | | | |
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52 compressors for 4.5 K Refrigerators

RISK ANALYSIS

At Point 4, 6 and 8:

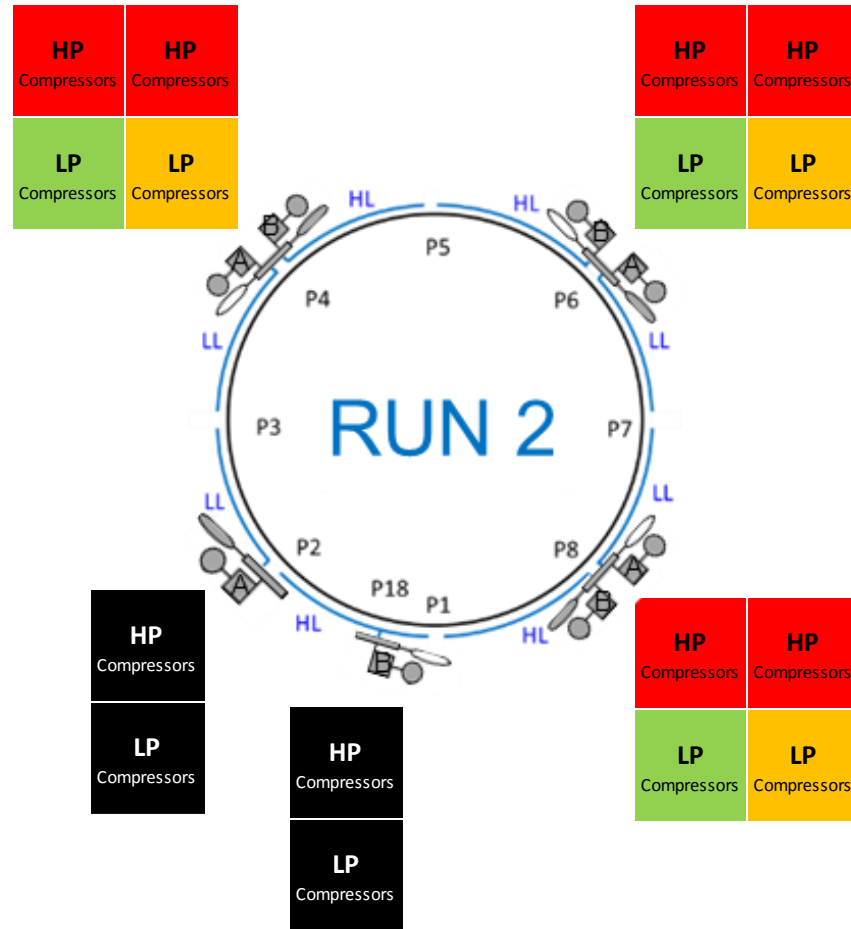
- Low Pressure compressors capacities can be shared between cryoplants within margins of operation
- High Pressure compressors capacities can be shared between cryoplants but requires cryoplants configuration change and use of nitrogen pre-cooling

At Points 18 and 2:

- There is no operational margin for compression capacity
- Compressor stations cannot be interconnected

MITIGATION PLAN

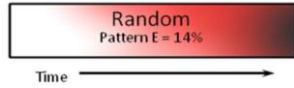
- **Critical spare parts:**
 - 7 different types of compressors
 - 8 spares for 52 compressors in operation for LHC machine
 - 16% of the financial replacement asset value.
- **Maintenance strategy** includes major overhauling and vibration analysis to anticipate complete breakdown for compressors and motors



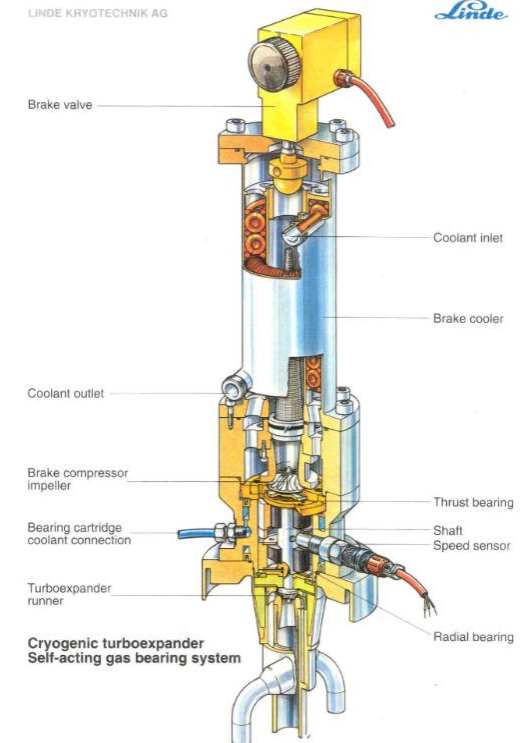
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64 expansion turbines for 4.5 K Refrigerators

Cryogenic Expansion Turbines

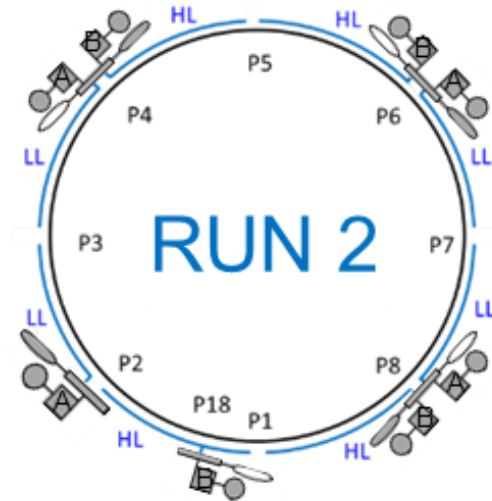
| | |
|--|--|
| Technology | Gas bearing, rotating frequencies from 500Hz to 3kHz Specific but wide spread in the gas industry |
| Dependencies | Water Cooling Vacuum insulation |
| Considered Failures Modes & Expected Patterns | 1. Breakdown caused by gas/charcoal pollution  |
| Failure Rate | Low to medium |
| Detection | None |
| Maintenance Strategy | No Preventive maintenance Run to fail |
| Equipment Lead time | Standard 8 to 12 months |
| MTR | Standard 6 to 8 months |
| Replacement Time | 1 day |

| | | | | | |
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64 expansion turbines for 4.5 K Refrigerators

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Above 80K | |
| Down to 40K | Down to 40K |
| Down to 4.5K | Down to 4.5K |



RISK ANALYSIS

- **Above 80K:** operation without turbines is possible with nearly no loss in refrigeration power as it can be compensated with LN2.
- **Down to 40K:** Turbines produce cooling power for screens and most of them are critical for LHC results in a considerable loss in refrigeration power
- **Down to 4.5K:** Turbines produce cooling power for magnets, leads and cavities. Most of them are critical for LHC results in a considerable loss in refrigeration power

MITIGATION PLAN

- **Turbine automation protection** in the process
- **Service contract** to reduce MTTR below 4 weeks and avoid buying spare for turbines above 80K
- **Critical spare parts:**
 - 27 different types of turbines
 - 21 spares for 64 turbines in operation for LHC machine
 - 32% of the financial replacement asset value.

| | | | | | |
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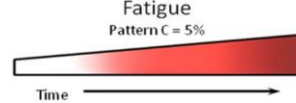
28 cold compressors for 1.8 K Pumping Units

Cryogenic Cold Compressor

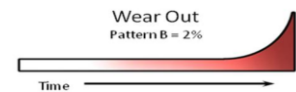
Technology Magnetic bearings, rotating at high frequencies
Confidential technology

Dependencies Electrical Supply
Water Cooling
Vacuum insulation

1. Breakdown caused by rotor/welding fatigue



2. Stop or breakdown cause by electronic



Considered Failures Modes & Expected Patterns

Failure Rate

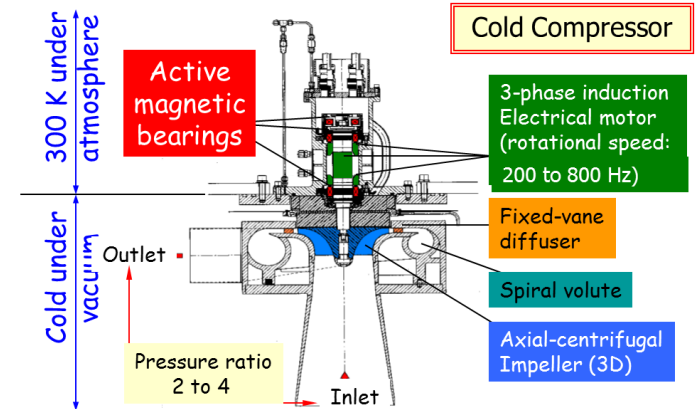
Detectability Clearance and diagnostic of magnetic bearing
Fast landing bearings

Maintenance Strategy Condition Based Monitoring

Equipment Lead time Standard 12 to 18 months

MTTR 6 to 12 months

Replacement Time 1 to 2 days



| | | | | | |
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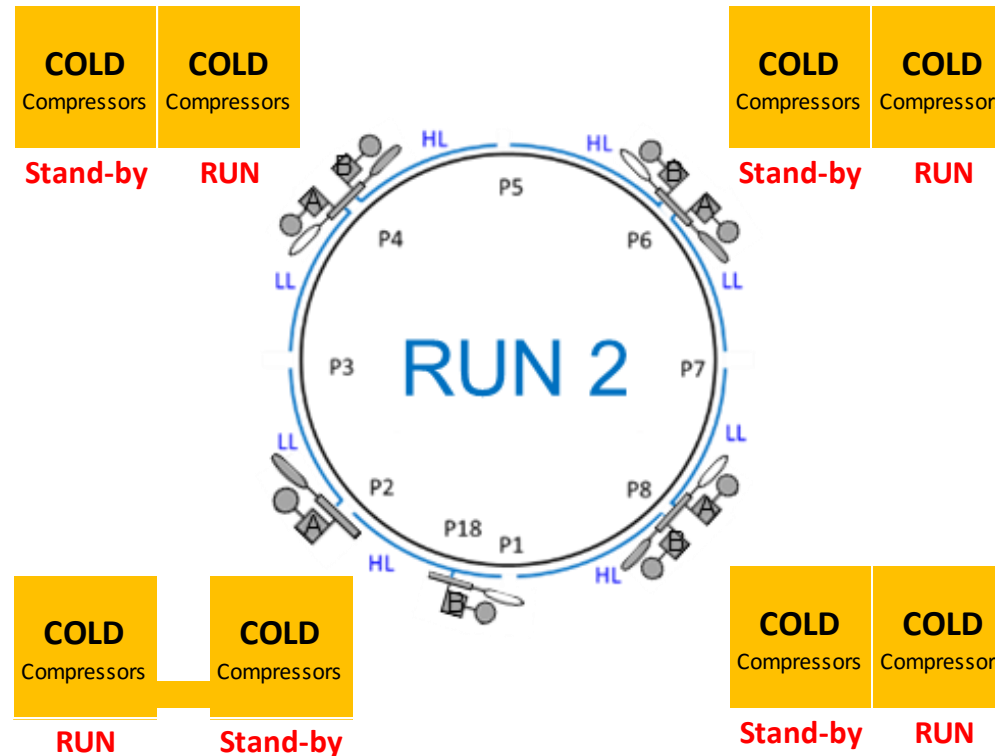
28 cold compressors for 1.8 K Pumping Units

RISK ANALYSIS

- In current configuration 1.8K is redundant on all points with one unit in operation and the second unit in cold stand-by

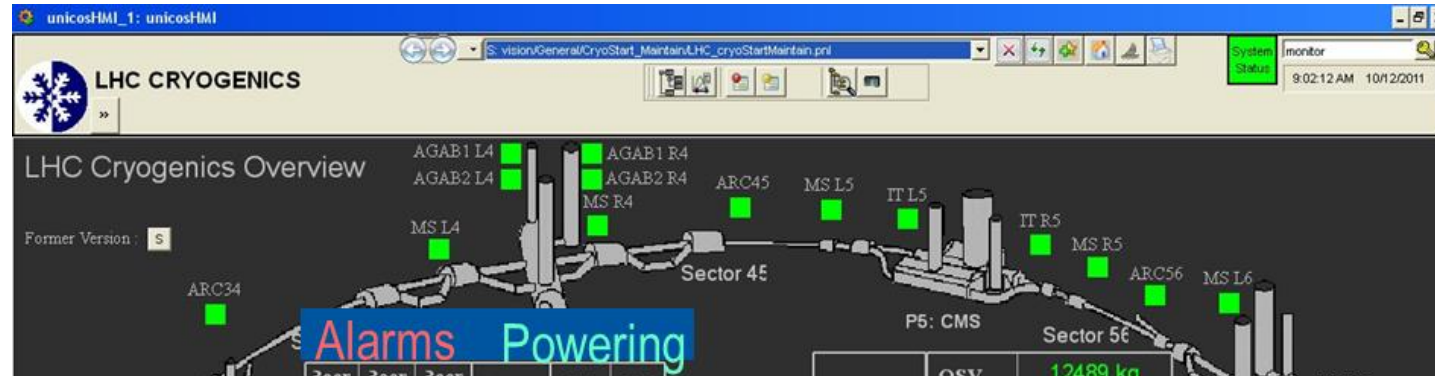
MITIGATION PLAN

- **Power Supply and electronic** design change to improve reliability
- **Predictive maintenance** with mechanical clearance and bearings check to validate service intervention on time
- **Critical spare parts:**
 - 7 different types of Cold Compressors
 - 7 spares for 28 units in operation for LHC
 - 25% of the financial replacement asset value.



| | | | | | |
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Cryogenic Conditions Definition



Set of cryogenic conditions:

- to start powering (**Cryo Start – CS**)
- to keep the magnets powered (**Cryo Maintain – CM**)...

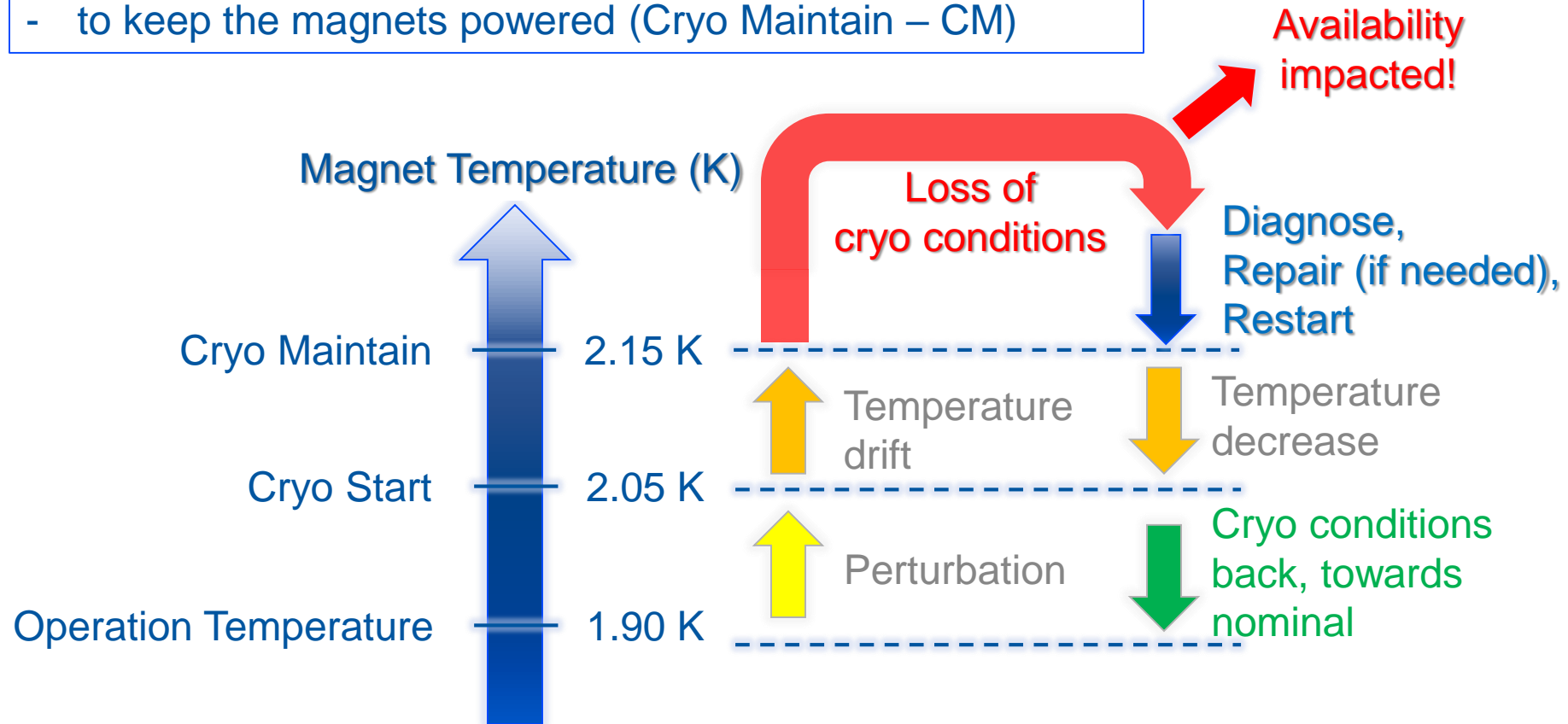
... and in the end **to allow for beams to circulate**, and for physics production !



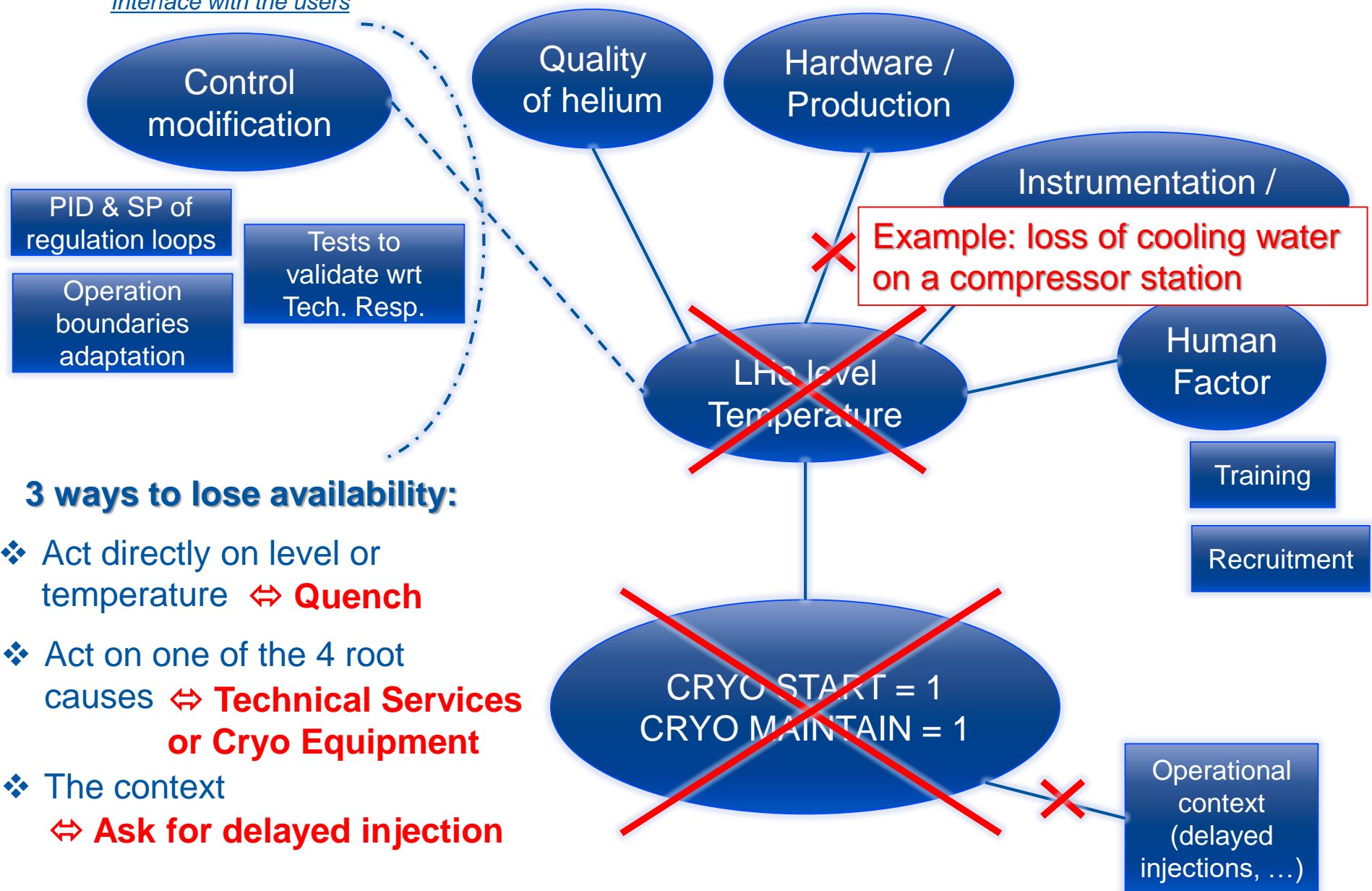
Example for magnet temperature

Set of cryogenic conditions:

- to start powering (Cryo Start – CS)
- to keep the magnets powered (Cryo Maintain – CM)



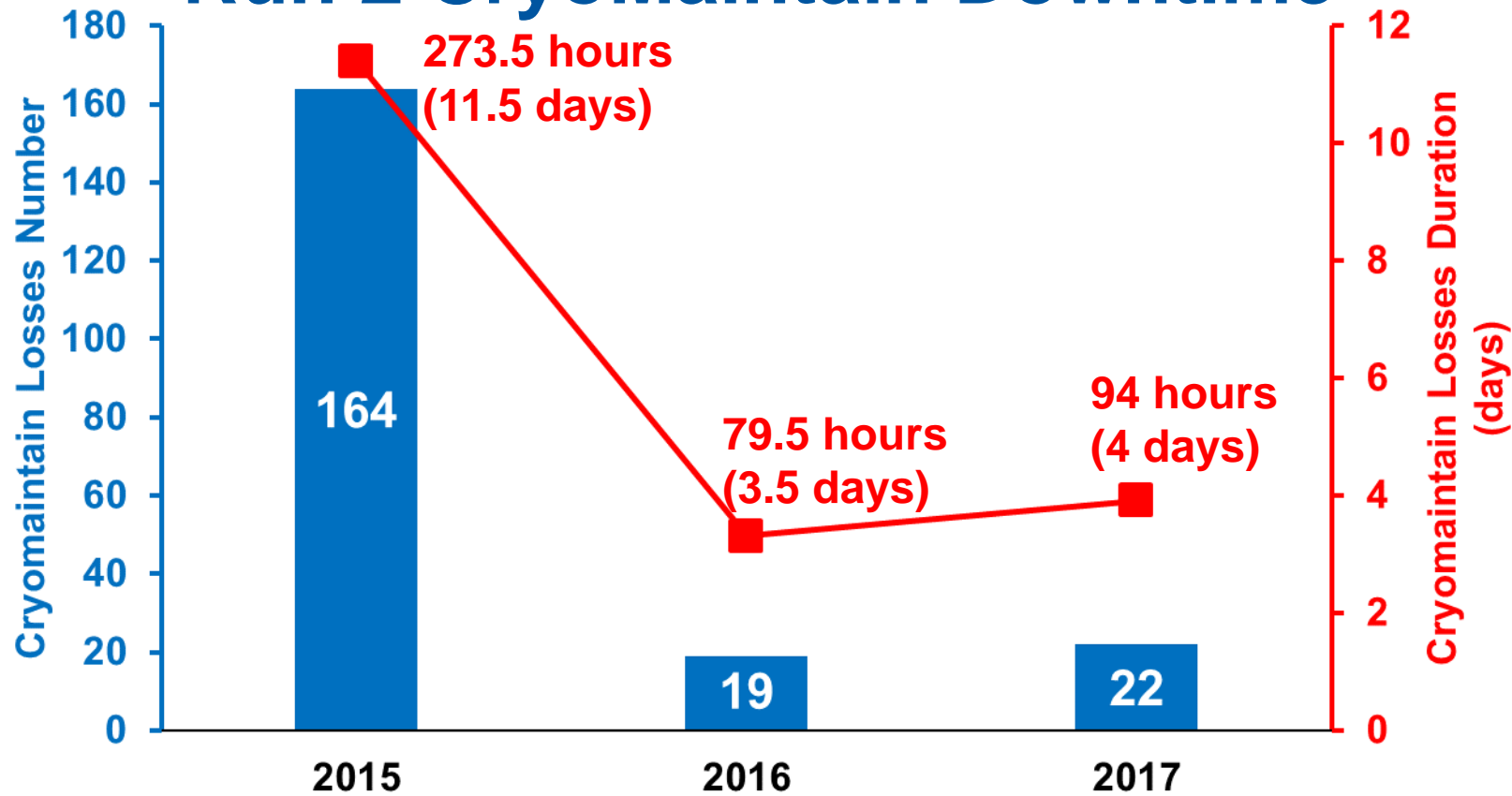
Interface with the users



3 ways to lose availability:

- ❖ Act directly on level or temperature ⇔ **Quench**
- ❖ Act on one of the 4 root causes ⇔ **Technical Services or Cryo Equipment**
- ❖ The context ⇔ **Ask for delayed injection**

Run 2 CryoMaintain Downtime



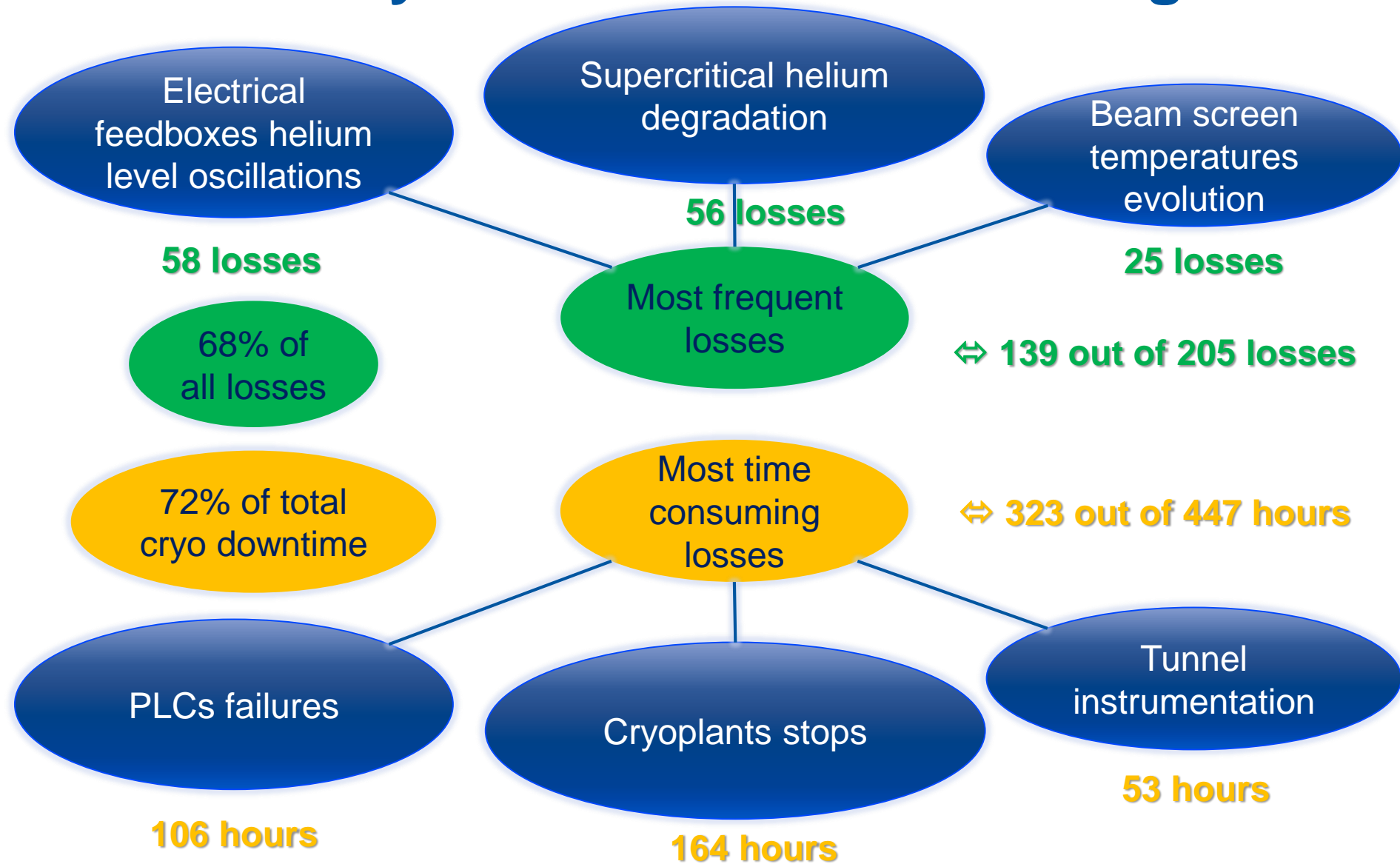
Average **due operation time** for Run 2:

5600 hours per year (\Leftrightarrow 233 days)

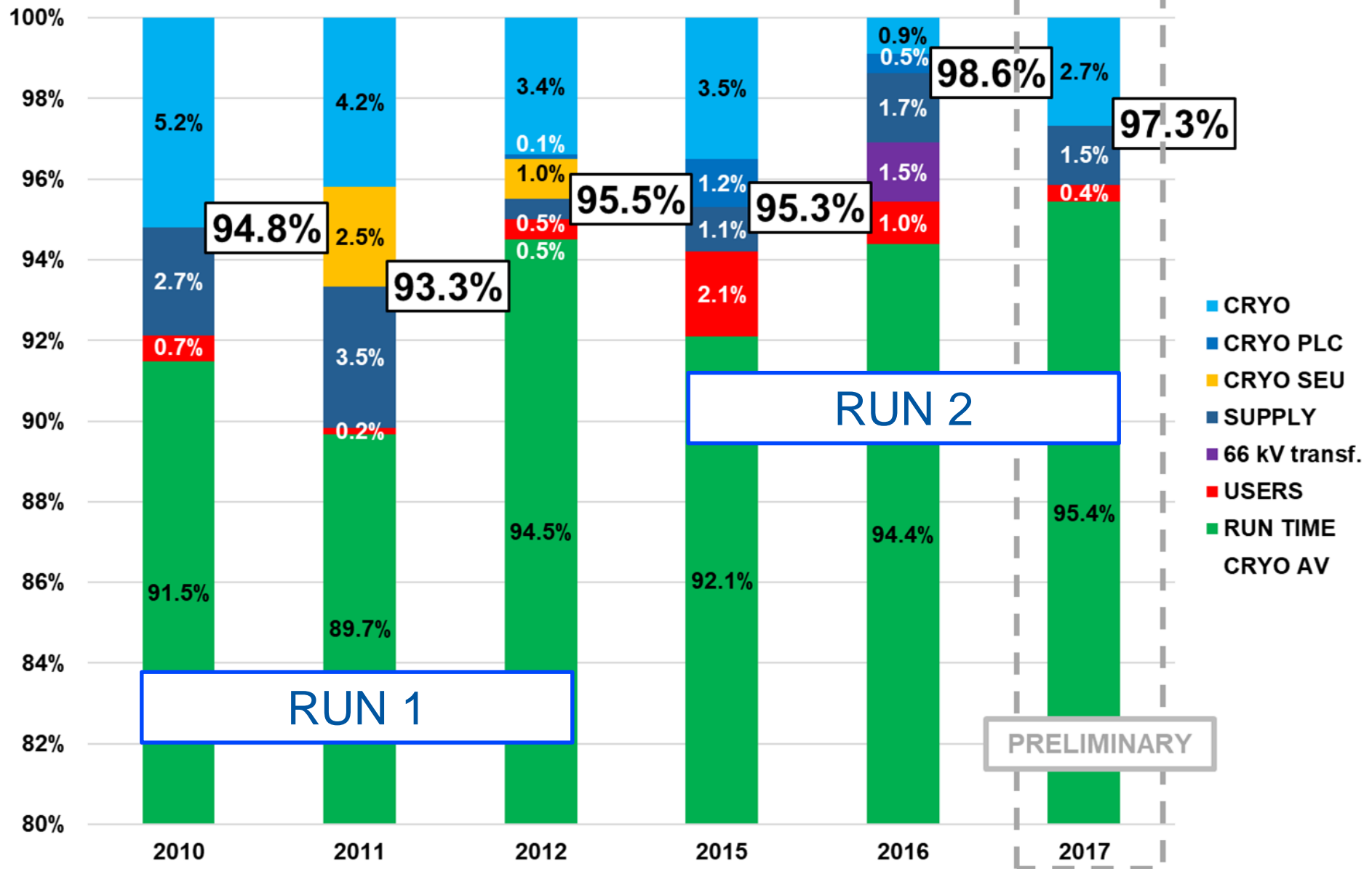
One should act both on:

- Most frequent losses
- Most time consuming losses

Run 2 CryoMaintain Downtime Origins



LHC CRYO AVAILABILITY SUMMARY FROM RUN 1 TO RUN 2



Conclusion – Perspectives

- ❖ Run 1 operation at lower than designed beam intensity gave cryogenic teams extensive experience with the complex LHC cryogenics system
- ❖ Run 2 operation with increased beam-induced heat loads allowed for maintaining high level of availability while for the first time taking into account the beam feedback
- ❖ Adapted maintenance and spare parts strategy based on equipment criticality is a key factor to maintain high availability
- ❖ Extensive follow-up of the downtime origins together with close discussions with technical services allow for proposing adequate mitigation solutions to encountered problems, thus improving hardware reliability and finally availability
- ❖ Optimization of the cryogenic performance is still ongoing, with work to collect more detailed failure data and use data-mining analysis to use early-warning signals

Thank you for your attention!

Questions ?