

# GEMINI+

## International Developments

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# Introduction

Strong interest in SMR worldwide, dynamic  
HTGR has one of the highest TRL of all SMR  
Test reactors – prototypes – new designs  
HTGR are competing in a number of countries

| Main Countries | Intl. Orgs. |
|----------------|-------------|
| China          | IAEA        |
| Japan          | OECD-NEA    |
| US             | GIF         |
| Canada         |             |
| UK             |             |
| EU             |             |

**GEMINI+**

► Test reactors



**DRAGON, U.K.**  
20 MW  
1963-76

**Peach Bottom, US**  
200 MWth  
1967-74

**AVR, Germany**  
15 MWe  
1967-88

**HTR-10, China**  
10 MWth  
since 2000

**HTTR, Japan**  
30 MWth  
since 1998

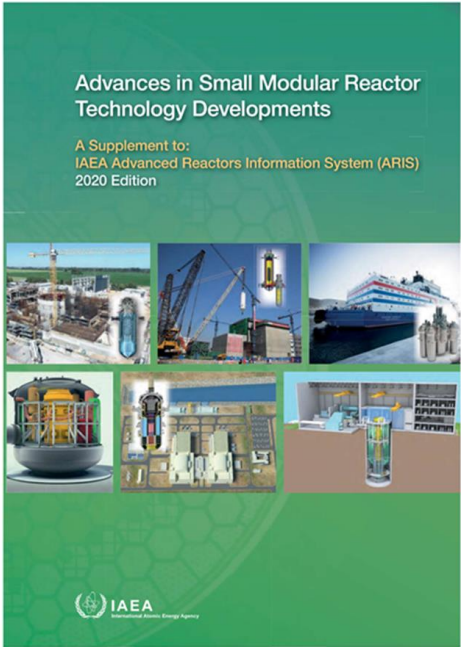
► Industrial prototypes



**Fort Saint-Vrain, US**  
300 MWe, 1976-89

**THTR, Germany**  
300 MWe, 1986-89

**HTR-PM, China**  
2 x 106 MWe  
2019?



# China



## HTR-10:

Running since 2000, used also for district heating  
Based on German pebble bed technology

## HTR-PM:

2 x 250 MWth, start-up in 2021,  
cold commissioning completed,  
initially for electricity, cogeneration later,  
H<sub>2</sub> production processes,  
standards/codes for design and licensing

## HTR-PM600:

6 x 250 MWth design, 3 utilities interested,  
suitable for inland sites (dry cooling)



# Japan

## High Temperature Test Reactor HTTR:

Running since 1998, 30 MWth prismatic block design

Little affected by 2011 earthquake

Restart after post-Fukushima updates in 2021

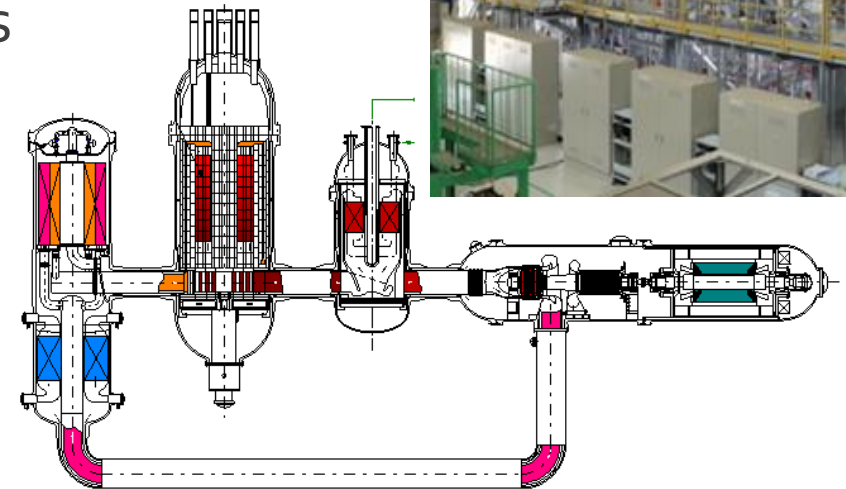
Safety demonstrations envisaged to prove passive heat removal capability

Component design and manufacturing

World leader in H<sub>2</sub> production with Sulfur-Iodine process

Ultra-safe concept with minimized waste

Commercial plant design GTHTR300



# United States of America

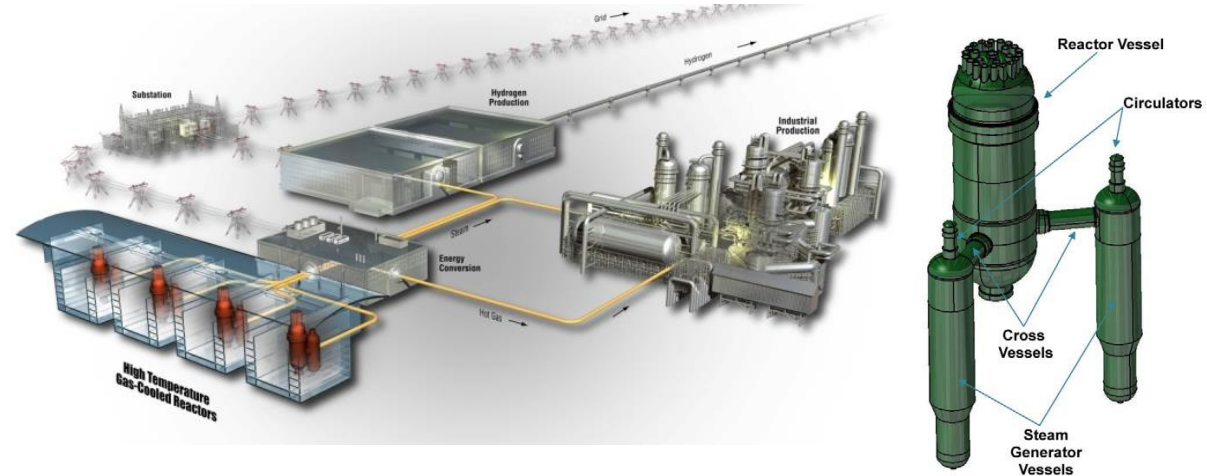


Peach Bottom and Fort St. Vrain reactors

NGNP Industry Alliance

R&D for licensing, studies on economics, |  
deployment and siting, benefits

Framatome Inc. (SC-HTGR, ANTARES)



DoD and DoE efforts towards development/demonstration/deployment

Cost-shared partnerships with industry

For military or remote sites + mobile reactors

Process heat, cogeneration, Hybrid Energy Systems

Licensing incl. of TRISO fuel, Design Code adaptation (include Alloy 617)

- USNC, MMR-5 construction project at Chalk River, Canada
- X-energy (Xe-100, Xe Mobile, TRISOx) demo project at Idaho National Laboratory
- HolosGen (13 MWe "quad core" in shipping container)



# Canada



Interest in SMR, Ontario, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan

[www.smrroadmap.ca](http://www.smrroadmap.ca)

Mining, tar sands, remote locations, emission reduction

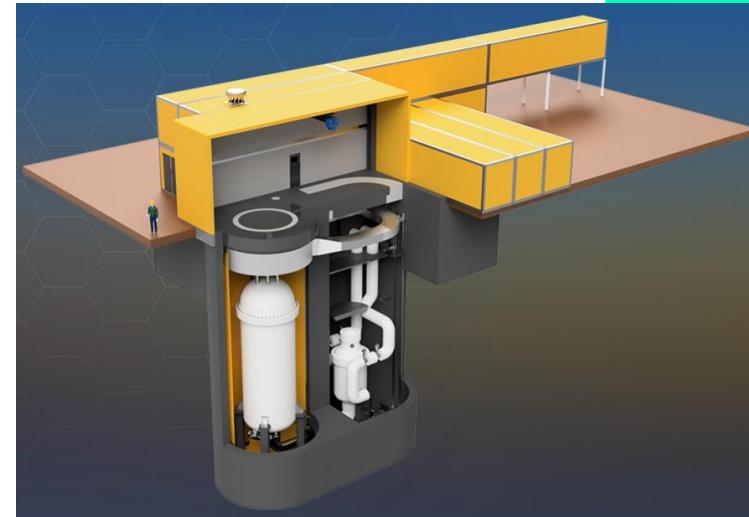
Regulator engaged with 11 vendors in  
“pre-licensing vendor design review”

Supporting R&D (e.g. H<sub>2</sub> production, materials, safety, economics)

Strong response to siting invitation for SMR demonstration  
at Chalk River

2 HTGR designs involved:

- StarCore: 36 MWth (Stage 2 “Due Diligence”)
- Global First Power (Ontario Power Generation + USNC):  
15 MWth MMR-5 (Stage 3 “Negotiations of Land Arrangements and Other Contracts”)  
signed host agreement 20 Nov 2020



# United Kingdom



Advanced Modular Reactor (AMR) Feasibility and Development (F&D) project

Technology development towards commercial deployment.

HTGR competitor in Phase 1: U-Battery ~£10m

+ projects on materials and manufacturing, supply chain, fuel and fuel recycling, safety and efficiency, codes and data

U-Battery (10 MWth prismatic block design by Manchester University and TU Delft)

Urenco, supported by Jacobs, Kinectrics, Cavendish Nuclear, Rolls Royce, National Nuclear Laboratory, Nuclear AMRC, BWXT and Mammoet

Targets UK and Canadian market

Engaged with Canadian regulator



# European Union



Legacy in Germany: AVR, THTR pebble bed HTR

1980-1990: former industrial programs on reactor and nuclear process applications

Since 2000: several Euratom technology projects, engagement with stakeholders

Several national projects

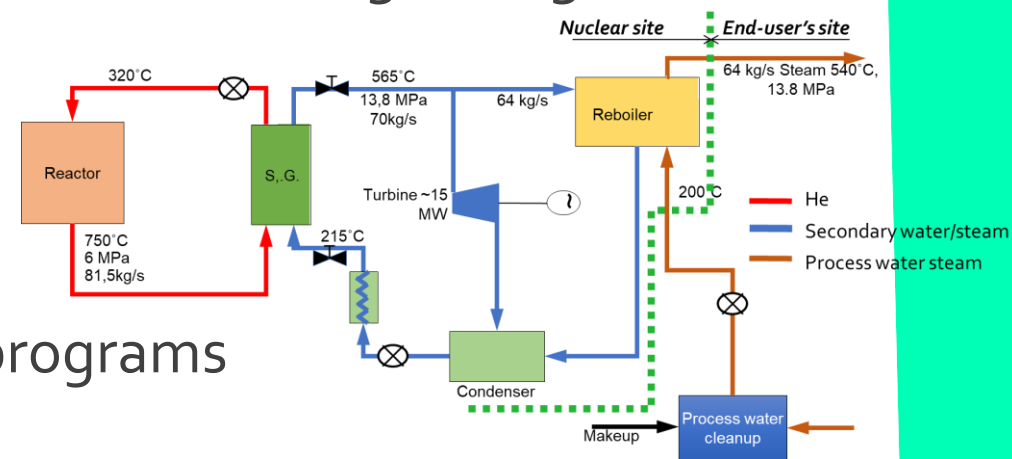
Member of GIF, contributions to Materials, Graphite, Fuel, Codes, H<sub>2</sub> production, safety and licensing, process heat applications...

Political division about nuclear and nuclear innovation for climate change mitigation

Brain drain is a risk

## Nevertheless:

- Several new (nuclear and non-nuclear) H<sub>2</sub> production programs
- Several SMR start-ups (not only on HTGR)
- GEMINI+ project in cooperation with US, JA, KR, in support to new developments in PL



# Others



## **South Korea:**

active in GIF, anti-nuclear government has cut budget, H<sub>2</sub> production for steel industry

## **Australia:**

active in GIF, positive developments for nuclear in Australia

## **South Africa:**

active in GIF, PBMR (terminated in 2010), STL, some equipment (fuel, component qualification) at NECSA, electricity, heat, H<sub>2</sub>, and economics at universities

## **Indonesia:**

BATAN: Small 10 MWth test reactor, phase 2 depending on financing (Russia), host of HTR 2021 conference

## **Saudi Arabia:**

Cogeneration, desalination, district A/C, agreement with China

Vast documentation on technologies, fuel, codes etc.

Recovery of German legacy

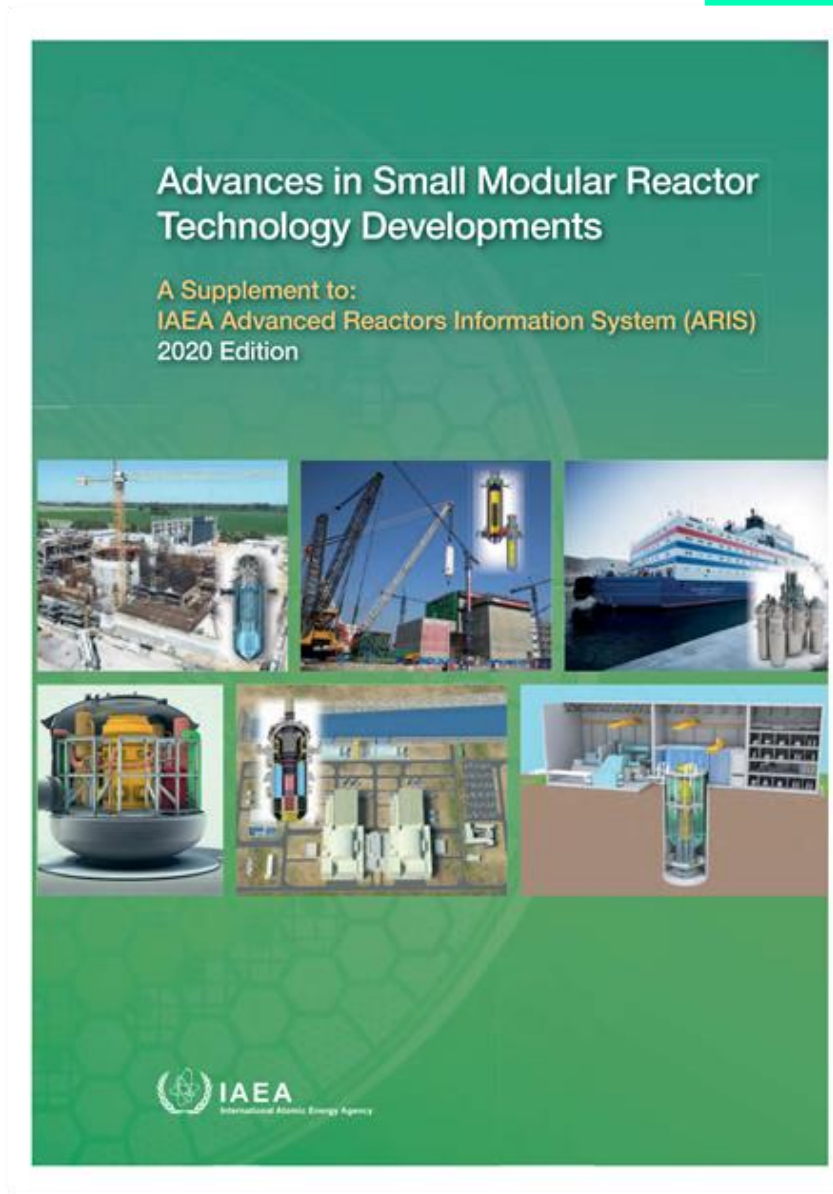
Technical meetings, CRPs and TECDOCs on

- Non-electric applications in industry
- Hydrogen production

Techno-economic assessment

Safety and Licensing

Updated SMR booklet



- Techno-economic and market analyses
- Safety and licensing (WGSAR)
- Nuclear Innovation 2050
- IFNEC International Framework for Nuclear Energy Cooperation (Infrastructure Development Working Group), Workshop held  
14 Sept. 2019 in Warsaw on “Nuclear Energy Beyond Electricity”
- Technical Secretariat to Generation IV International Forum
- Round Table event on SMR 2019



# Gen IV International Forum

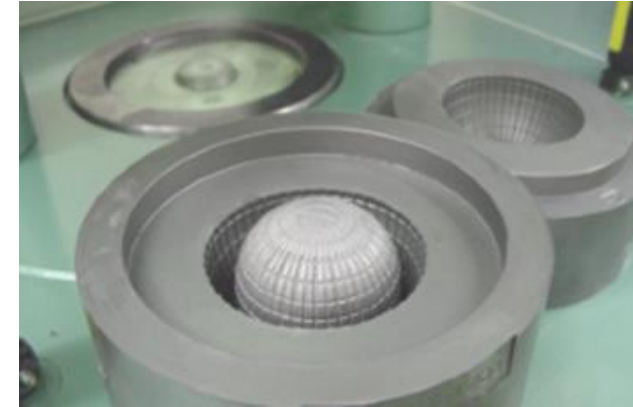


[https://www.gen-4.org/gif/jcms/c\\_84279/webinars](https://www.gen-4.org/gif/jcms/c_84279/webinars)

## 4 Active VHTR Projects: “pre-competitive”

### 1. Materials:

Graphite, Metals, Ceramics:  
corrosion, joining, irradiations;



### 2. Fuel:

Fabrication, characterization, qualification  
(irradiation, PIE, safety tests), waste management;

### 3. Hydrogen Production:

1. Iodine-Sulfur ( $850^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
2. Copper-Chlorine ( $530^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
3. High T electrolysis ( $650^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



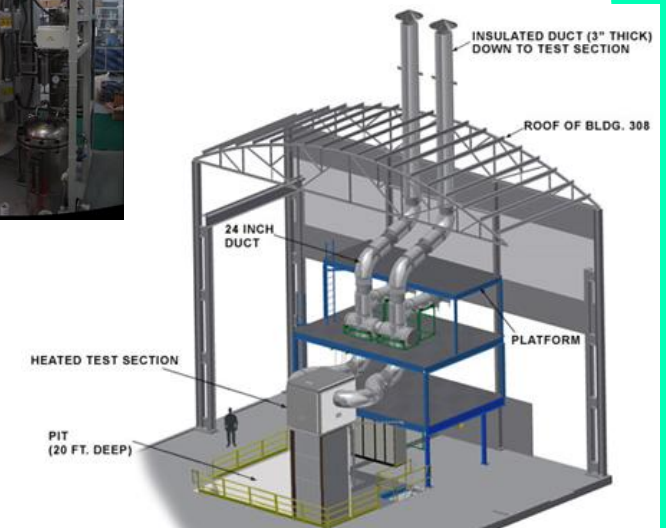
### 4. Computer Tools for Design and Licensing:

Thermal-hydraulic analysis (CFD)

Neutronics and nuclear cross-section data

Radioisotope chemistry and transport

Reactor and plant dynamics



# Ten Take-away messages

- Several industrialized countries are investing in SMR
- Existing pre-competitive R&D cooperation is highly productive, but not enough
- China has taken the lead for HTGR, several Western countries intend to catch up
- European countries have collaborated on HTGR technology for 20 years
- HTGR vendors are no longer nationally, but mostly internationally operating companies
- HTGR Technology has reached a degree of maturity that allows taking the next step towards demonstration and deployment
- The near-term market for process steam is very big
- Industry also needs CO<sub>2</sub>-free H<sub>2</sub> production technology
- Renewables and nuclear electricity alone are insufficient to meet emission targets in highly industrialized countries with limited potential for renewables
- What are the lessons from similar projects (OECD: DRAGON/HALDEN, JHR, ITER)?  
Can they serve to develop national or multi-national demonstration projects?