

ESTEP SPRING DISSEMINATION EVENT

17-18 FEBRUARY 2026 - BRUSSELS (BELGIUM)

Green  Smith

Low-Carbon Steel Production

Luca Di Felice, Matteo Giovannini, Karina
Otarola, Marco Guala
SMS Group



Overview

1. SEWGS technology, history and applications in the Iron and Steel sector
2. The GreenSmith project
3. Takeaways

1. SEWGS technology, history and applications

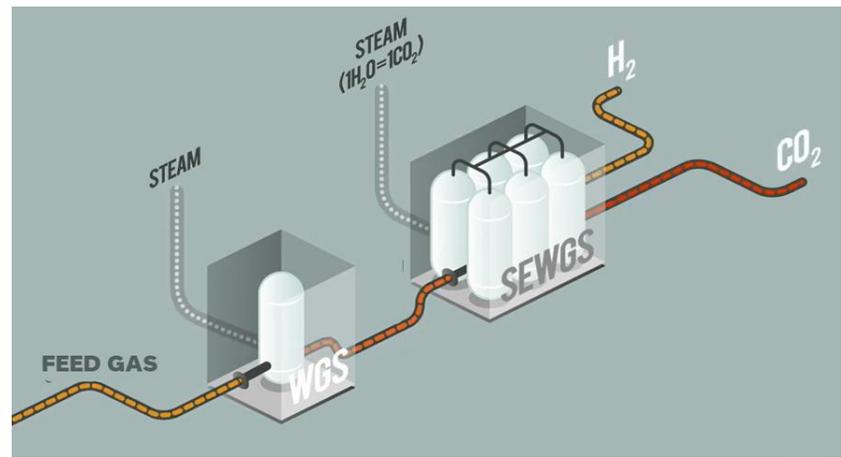
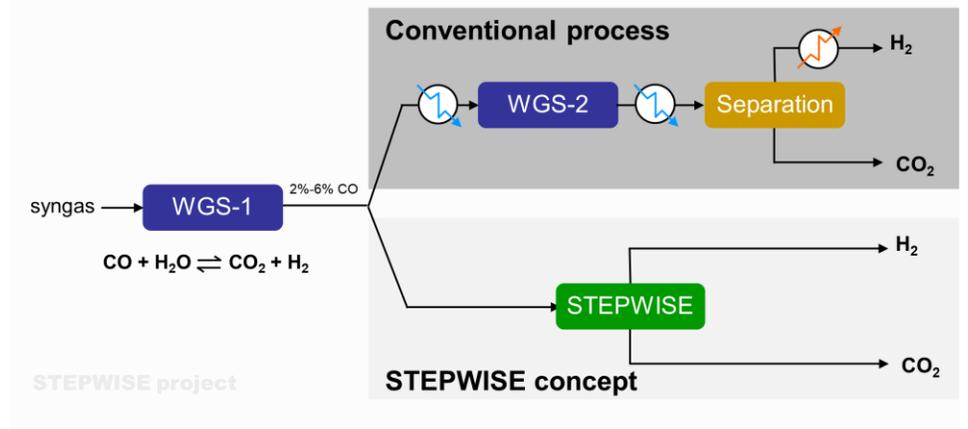
SEWGS technology: simultaneous CO₂ capture and Blue H₂ production

- SEWGS combines **pre-combustion CO₂ capture** and **Water Gas Shift (WGS)** in a single unit
- **WGS reaction:** (catalytic, exothermic, steam injection required)
- **Adsorption step:** CO₂ is captured on hydrotalcite sorbent, driving higher CO conversion and boosting **Blue H₂** production.

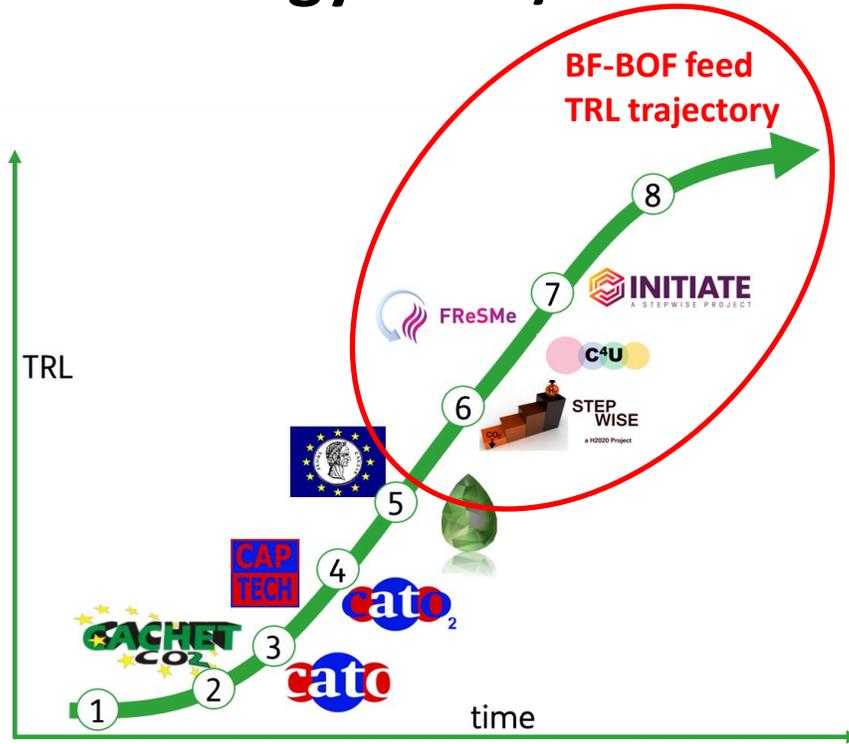


- **Outputs:**
 - High-pressure, **Blue H₂** stream during adsorption phase*
 - **CO₂-rich** stream during sorbent regeneration phase.

* if feed gas contains N₂ (e.g. BFG), it exits with **Blue H₂** stream



SEWGS technology history



STEPWISE (2015-2019)

Decarbonization of Bf gas CO₂ capture from steel gases for power generation

- **Energy efficient:** A SPECCA of less than 2 MJ/kg
- **Cost efficient:** Up to 35% cost advantage compared to state-of-the-art capture solutions
- **Robust demonstration:**
 - 2 campaigns, 5000 cycles over 112 days of operation
 - WGS operation as low as steam/CO=1.5 mol/mol demonstrated
 - >90% sulphur removal, <1ppm slip in H₂-product
 - BFG operation: > 90% CO₂ purity and > 90% CCR at S/Csewgs < 1.0 mol/mol demonstrated
 - 1st time demonstration of industrially produced sorbent material

FReSMe (2016-2021)

- **CCUS:** Demonstration of full production chain from BFG to methanol

INITIATE (2020-ongoing)

- 1st campaign showed improved sorbent formulation performance
- Suitability of WGS and SEWGS materials for BOFG operation
- **3 column SEWGS system** successfully demonstrated to reach high CCR and CP

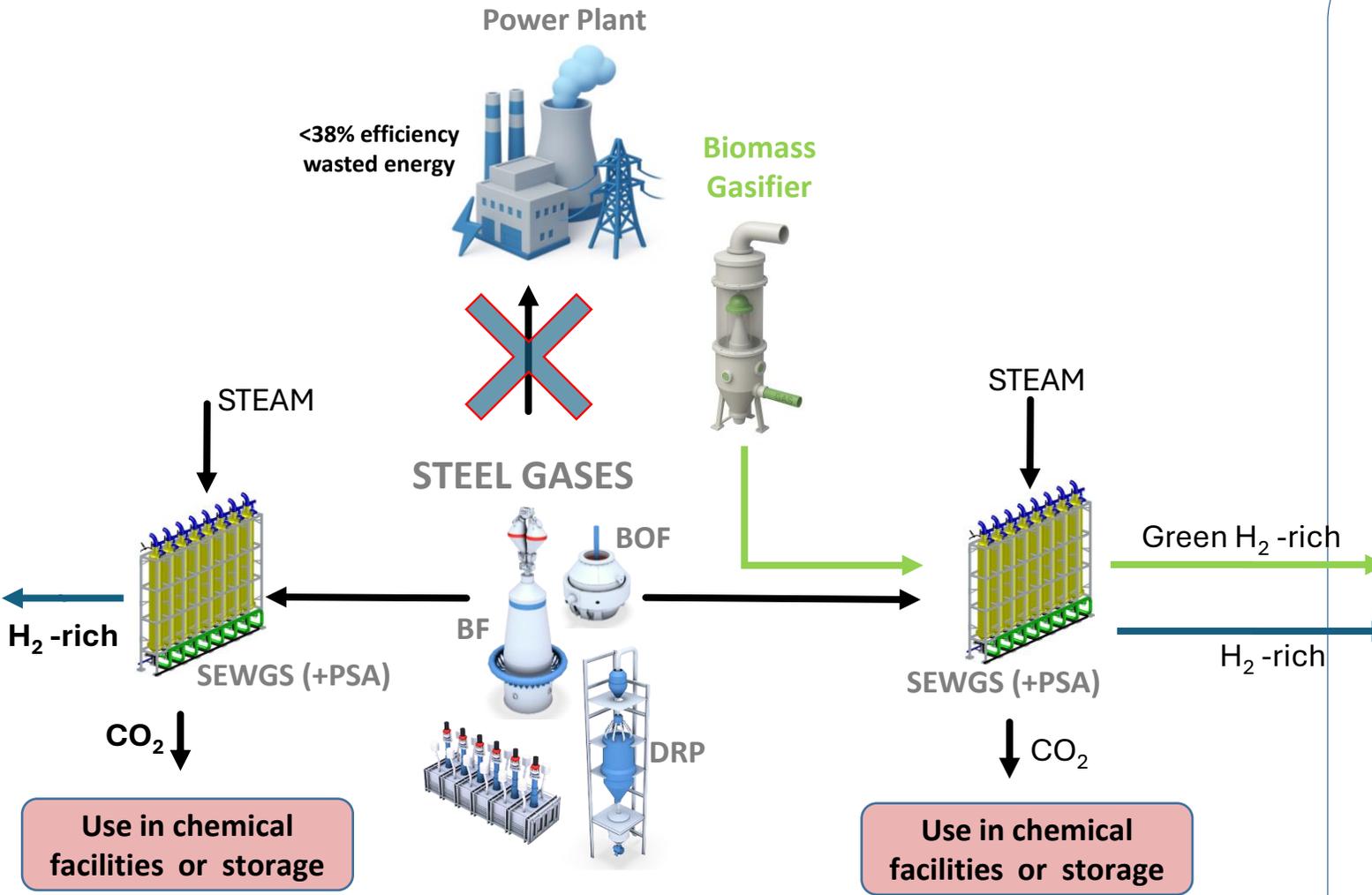


SEWGS applications in the Iron and Steel sector

Heating application



- HOT-BLAST STOVES / COWPER STOVES
- REHEATING FURNACES (ROLLING MILLS)
- SINTER PLANT
- STEAM BOILERS / PROCESS STEAM GENERATION
- LIME KILNS AND CALCINATION KILNS
- LIME KILNS & CALCINATION KILNS
- ANNEALING AND HEAT-TREATMENT
- LADLE, TUNDISH AND CASTING-AREA HEATING
- PLANT/BUILDING HEATING AND SERVICE BOILERS



Process application

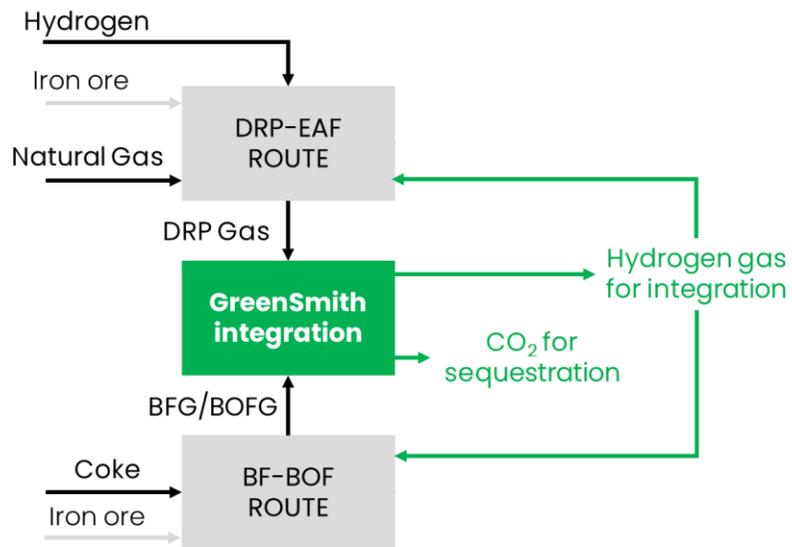
- BF**
- DRP**
- OBF or H₂ Smelting Reactor**
- Fluidized bed**
- H₂ to market / value added chemicals production**

Platform technology → flexible, multipurpose application

2. GreenSmith project

GreenSmith

Demonstration of **multiple integration routes** of BF, CH₄- and H₂- based DRP advancing the decarbonization of Iron and Steel and maintaining a competitive plant configuration via SEWGS technology implementation

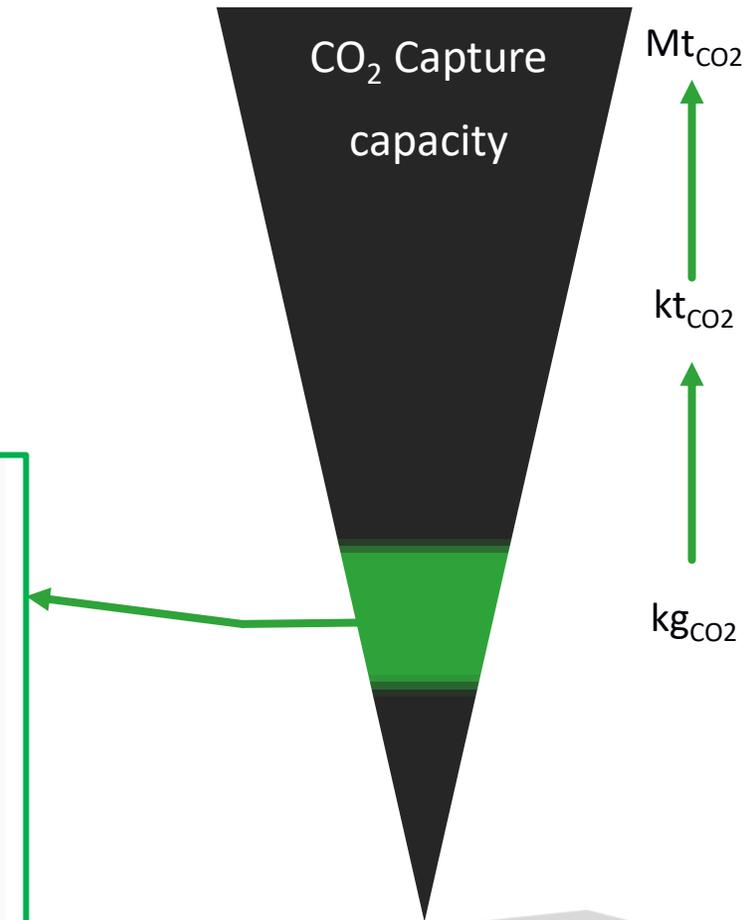
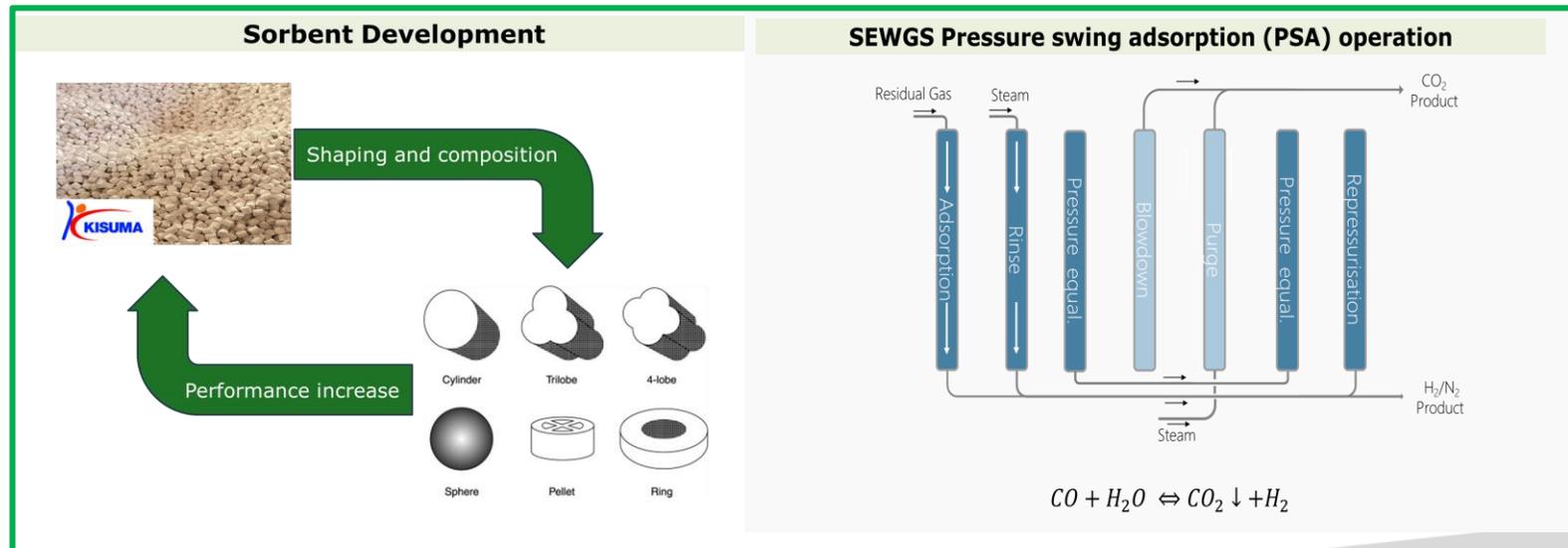


Project Passport

Duration	July 2024- Sept 2026
Budget	2.8 M€
Consortium	Full Value Chain covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End-Users • Technology Suppliers • Research organisations

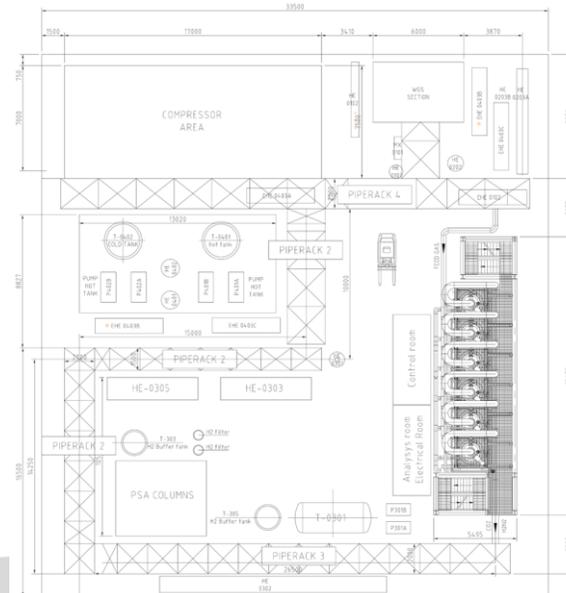
GreenSmith Goals and Outcomes

- Demonstrating a two-fold increase of SEWGS productivity by utilizing **novel adsorbents** crafted with advanced shaping techniques;
- **Achieving TRL5 demonstration** of H₂-rich product streams recovery by **SEWGS** (Sorption Enhanced Water-Gas Shift)
- at different feed **mixtures** of steel gas from and novel CH₄- and H₂-based **Direct Reduction Plant (DRP)** route
- at different configurations **allowing SEWGS to tune the outlet CO/H₂ content**

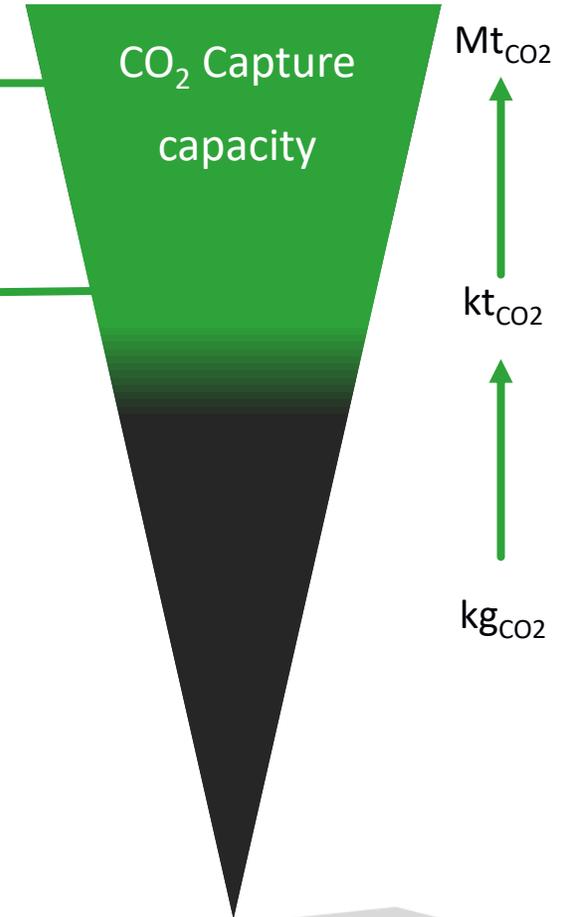


GreenSmith Goals and Outcomes

- Establish a generic **Basic Engineering Design Package for a TRL8 roll-out of the technology** (50 ktonCO₂/y from BFG at ADI's site in Taranto, Italy), enabling the replication potential and market diffusion.
- Showcasing competitive performance in terms of sustainability and economics for two implementation cases through **full scale techno-economics and life-cycle analysis**



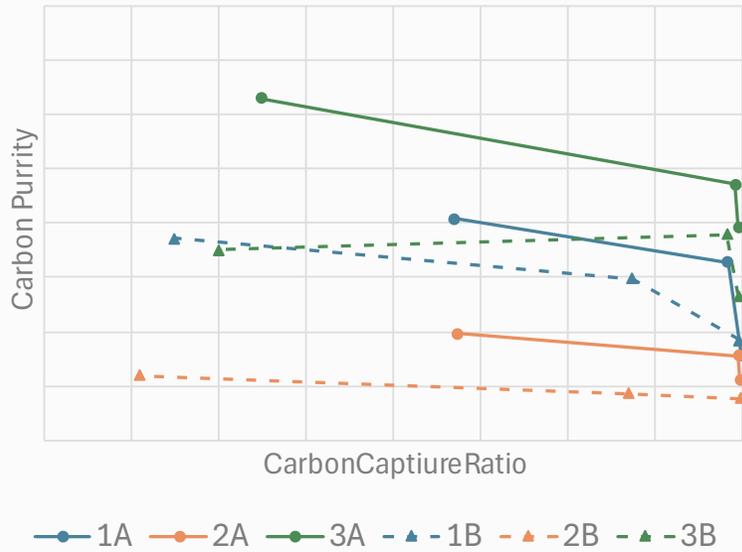
Basic Engineering TRL8 plant



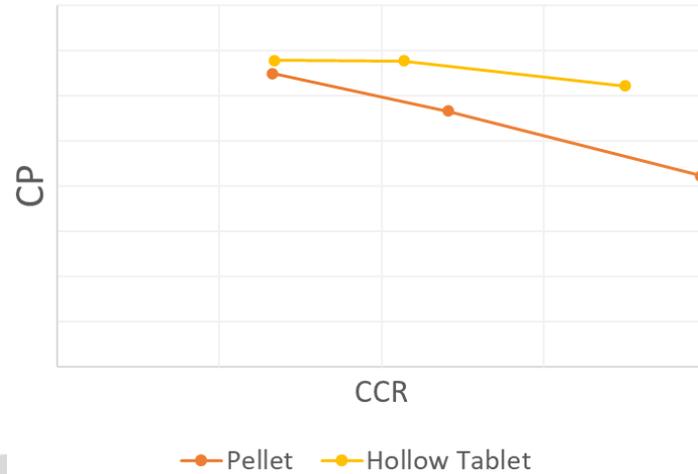
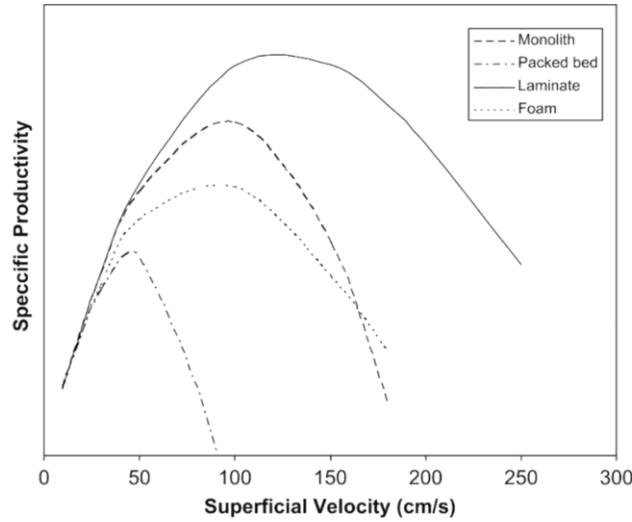
Sorbent development

Novel composition

Composition A vs B for Settings 1-3



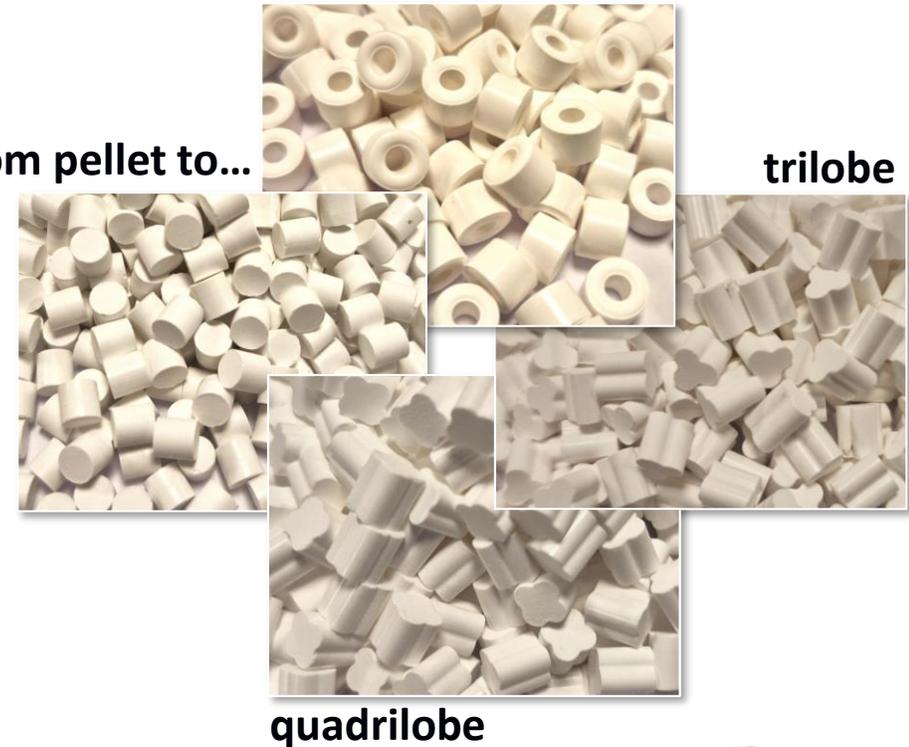
Why shaping matters



From pellet to...

hollow tablet

trilobe

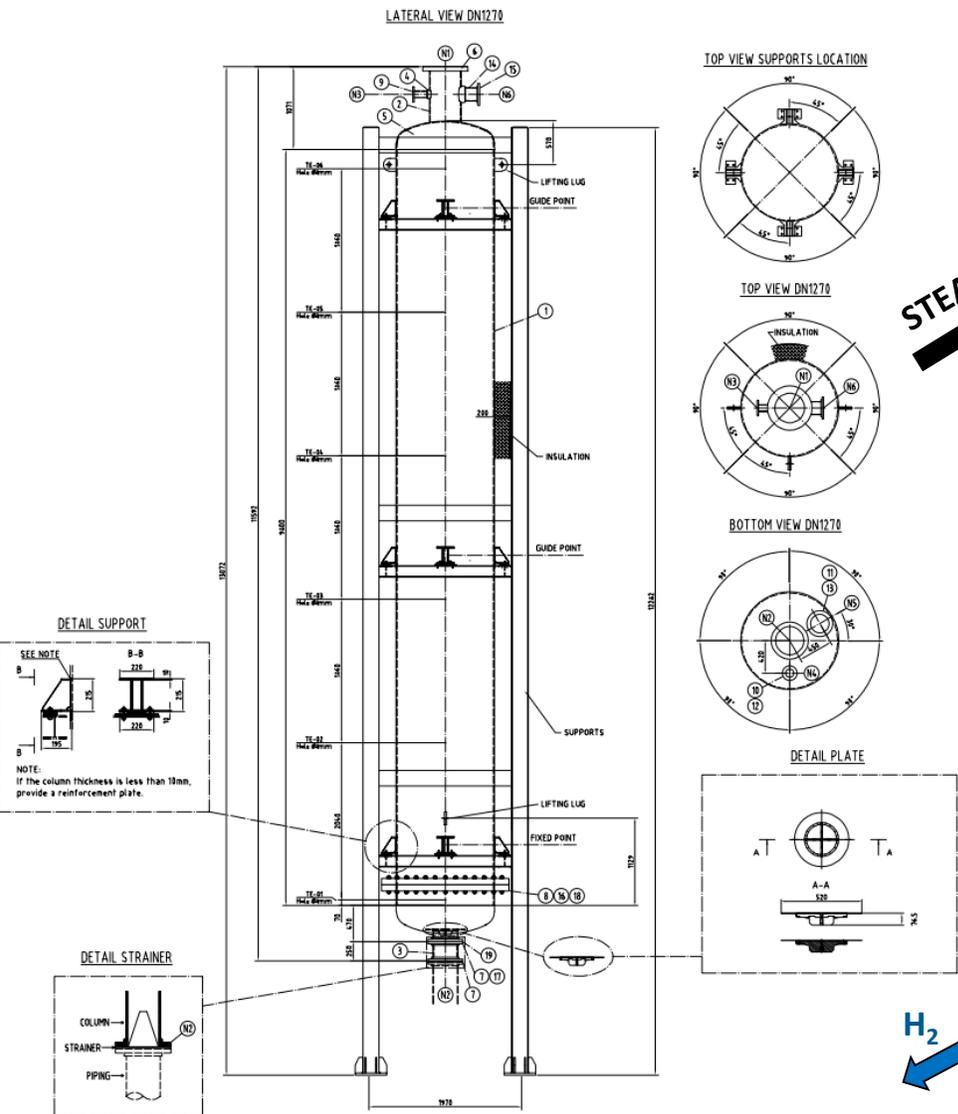


quadrilobe

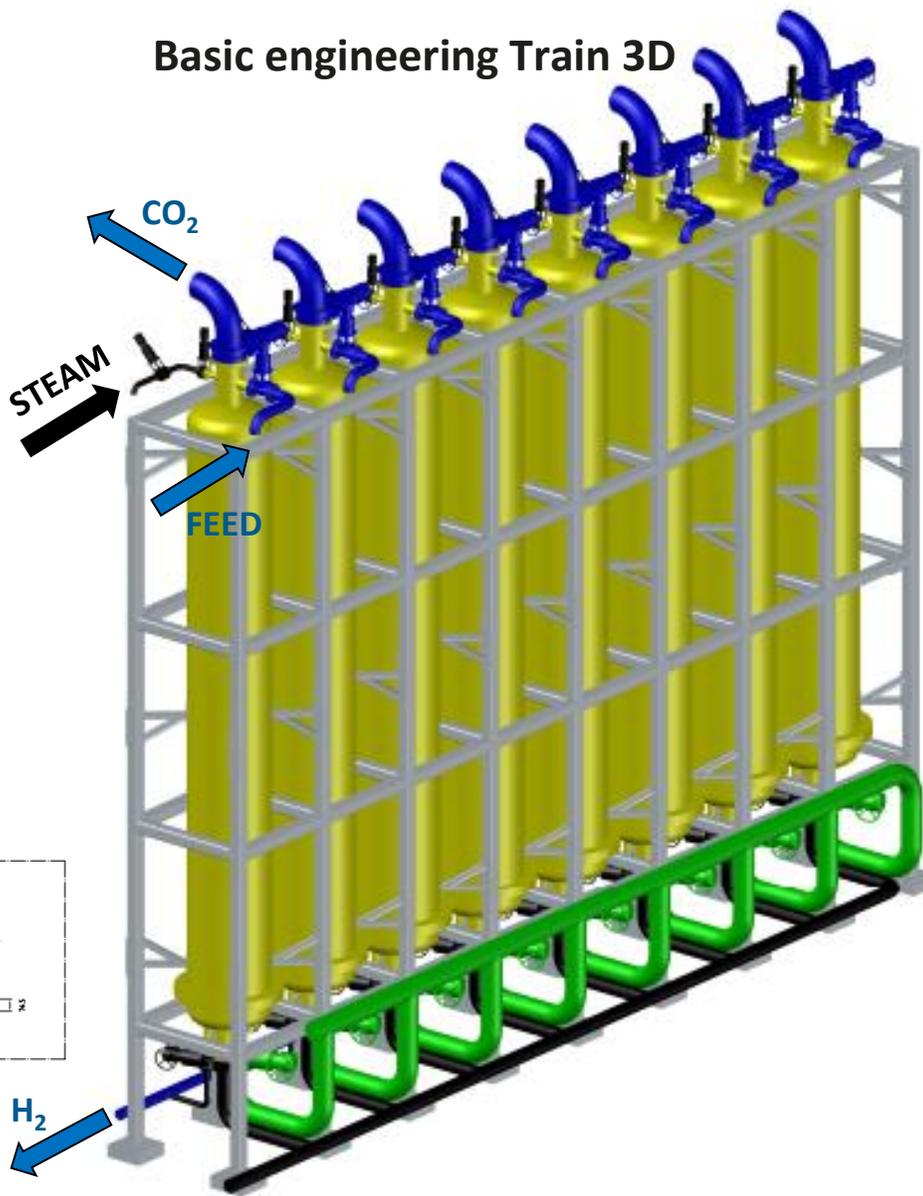
MECHANICAL DESIGN: modular approach for fast commercialization

Ongoing

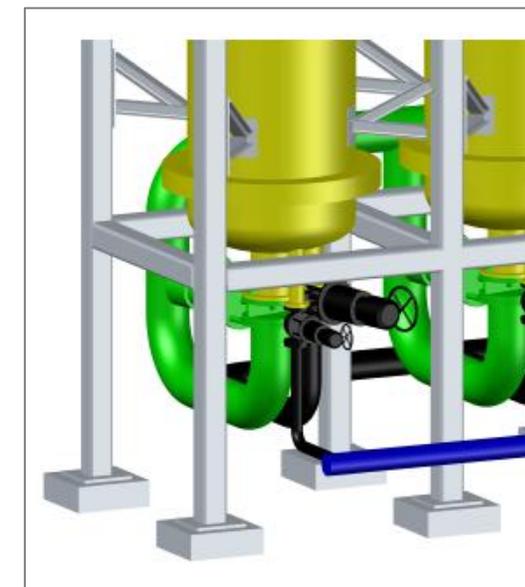
Basic Column drawing



Basic engineering Train 3D

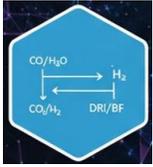


Upper & Lower detail



3. Takeaways

SEWGS takeaways



Process Integration: SEWGS is not just a CC technology, it produces high-pressure Blue H₂ maximizing thermal efficiency



Feedstock variability: Full flexibility on BFG, BOFG, H₂- and NG-DRP, Fluidized Bed etc: transforming off-gases into energy resources (H₂) and purified chemical assets (CO₂). SEWGS is a “*connecting point for technologies*”



Industrialization: SEWGS evolves from proven technology (TRL 7) into a modular, scalable, and bankable solution.



Sorbent scalability: Hydrotalcite is a well-known commercial material which can be shaped and scaled-up for SEWGS industrial deployment



Incremental Deployment: A true "add-on" modular solution: ensuring site operational continuity minimizing shutdown of primary production.

Green Smith



More info at: greensmith-cetp.eu



This research was funded by CETP, the Clean Energy Transition Partnership under the 2022 CETP joint call for research proposals, co-funded by the European Commission (GA N°101069750) and with the funding organisations RVO (Netherlands), SWEA (Sweden) and MIMIT (Italy).



QUESTIONS?

luca.difelice@sms-group.com

matteo.giovannini@sms-group.com

marco.guala@sms-group.com

