



# Capturing Carbon Dioxide

**Presentation to the Bioenergy Association of New Zealand  
by Nigel Campbell  
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# Agenda

- **Takeaways**
  - **Introduction to Captivate Technology - a serendipitous discovery**
  - **Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption**
  - **The VPSA advantage**
  - **Biogas upgrading applications; pre-combustion**
  - **Bioenergy in horticulture; post-combustion**
  - **The business case for carbon dioxide capture**
- 

# Takeaways

- **Carbon Capture technology is reducing capture costs, both OPEX and CAPEX**
- **Carbon Capture market for smaller sources (< 100,000 TPA) is expanding at pace**
- **Carbon Capture is becoming economic from lower % sources of CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **Technology solutions will grow the carbon capture market**
- **Carbon capture is attracting major investment from industry, governments and investors.**

**Market for carbon capture is forecast in the hundreds of billions per annum by the 2030s**

**Reducing and removing CO<sub>2</sub> from our biosphere is happening.**

# Introduction Captivate Technology

## Prof Shane Telfer, Founder & CEO

- Deep expertise in the field of Metal-organic framework (MOF) chemistry,
- 130 peer-reviewed publications; generated >NZ\$8M in research funding,
- Fulbright Fellow at UC Berkeley,
- Massey University's Individual Research medallist (the university's highest accolade),
- Principal Investigator for the MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology.



## Dr Subo Lee, R&D Scientist

- PhD in Chemistry at Massey University,
- Ten publications in the peer-reviewed literature,
- Designed and constructed mobile PSA rig and deployed it on industrial sites.



## Nigel Campbell, Business Development Manager

- Energy industry background, (NZ, Europe, N America). Gas development, emissions reduction, RNG project development
- Carbon Capture Engineering
- Carbon Storage and use
- Carbon markets, policy, pricing, offsets and credits, voluntary and compliance, clean fuel regulations



# Game-changing discovery: MUF-16 adsorbent

- Metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are porous, sponge-like crystals. They separate gases by selective adsorption.
- MUF-16 is Captivate's MOF material for capturing CO<sub>2</sub>. Reported by Professor Telfer's team in the high-impact journal Nature Communications (MUF = Massey University Framework).
- MUF-16 has been manufactured at scale by four international partners
- Patented.
  
- MUF-16 combines the following advantages:

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| → highly selective for CO <sub>2</sub> over N <sub>2</sub> and CH <sub>4</sub> | ▶ low CAPEX         |
| → tolerant to steam & contaminants, long-lived                                 | ▶ low CAPEX         |
| → inexpensive to synthesize and scalable                                       | ▶ low CAPEX         |
| → regenerated in a low energy process  | ▶ low OPEX          |
| → easily shaped into beads/pellets   | ▶ easy handling/use |

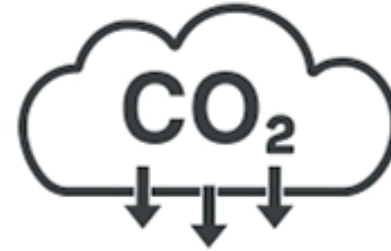


# Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption breakthrough technology

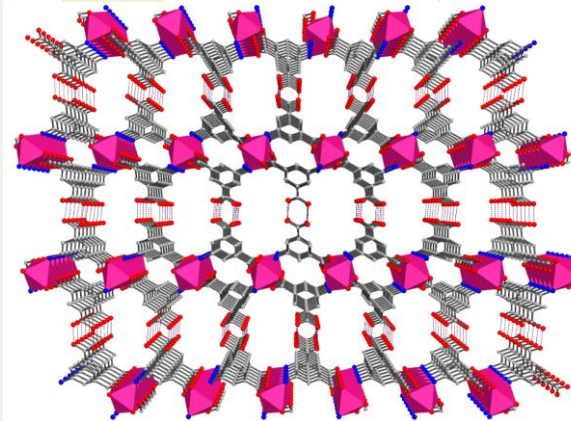
The serendipitous discovery is a recyclable superior sponge-like adsorbent material for the capture of CO<sub>2</sub>. It is easy to manufacture and low cost. It is utilised in a Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption (VPSA) process which is used globally today for gas separation and manufacturing.

**Adsorption can happen at ambient temperature and pressure with** MUF-16 which, lowers energy requirements and costs, and expands the market and applicability of carbon capture, beyond mega-projects to smaller scale carbon capture.

The combination of new adsorbents like MUF-16 and VPSA is a gamechanger for carbon capture.

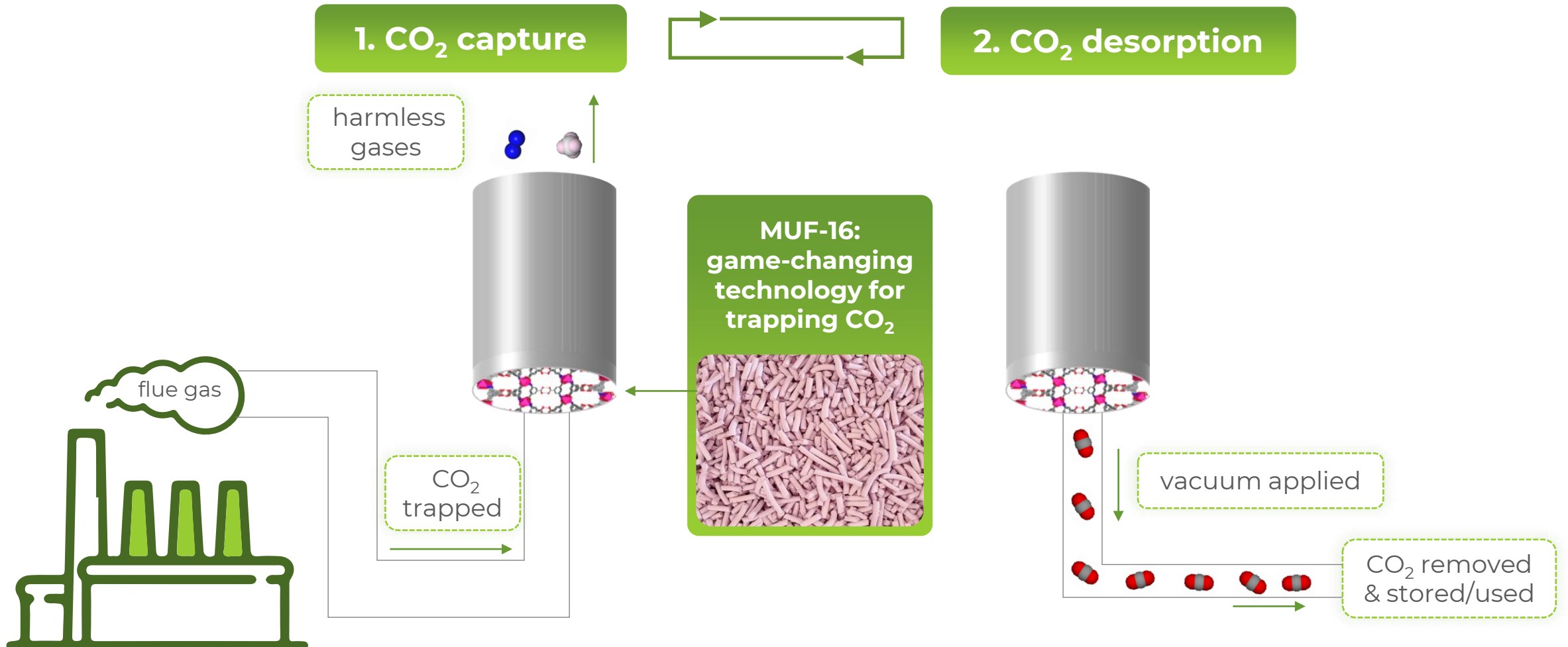


Gigaton  
scale



Superior  
adsorbent

# Capturing CO<sub>2</sub> using MUF-16 in a VPSA process



Technology derisked by using conventional Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption (VPSA)

# Vacuum Pressure Swing Adsorption



## Adsorption-based carbon capture and CO<sub>2</sub> recovery

Complementing Linde's proven pressure swing adsorption (PSA) and membrane technologies, the HISORP<sup>®</sup> CC adsorption-based carbon capture solution is the latest addition to Linde's carbon capture portfolio. It is suitable for a wide range of carbon sources and delivers the CO<sub>2</sub> product in the desired concentration and physical state.

- **PSA is commonly in industry used to separate gases**
- **Used in manufacture of Oxygen and Hydrogen**
- **Operates at ambient temperature**
- **Uses porous adsorbents such as zeolites and activated carbon. Compression required.**
- **VPSA + and adsorbent like MUF-16 = ultra low energy solution for carbon capture**



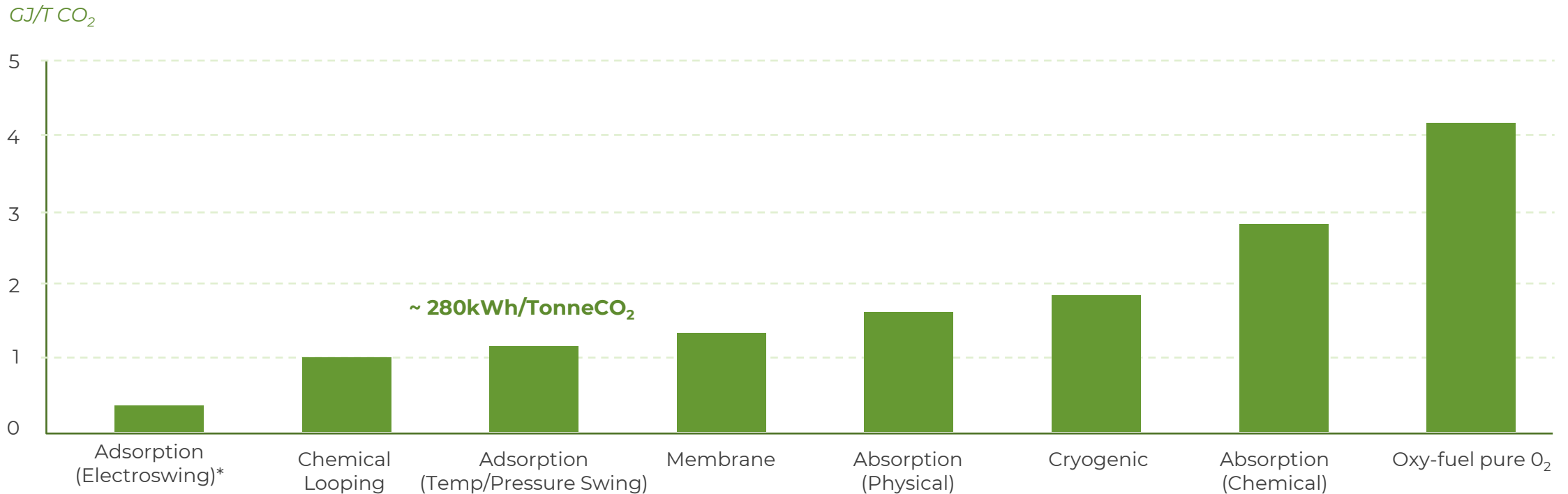
# A detailed comparison with zeolites

- Zeolites come in several different forms: zeolite 13X and zeolite 5A are the most common for CO<sub>2</sub> capture.
- They are porous solid-state materials; have been researched for decades and are manufactured on large scales
- Zeolites are used industrially, and MUF-16 can be a drop-in replacement, for example:
  - The Air Products 'Port Arthur CO<sub>2</sub>' project uses PSA units retrofitted to a steam methane reformer (H<sub>2</sub> generation) captures 56,000 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h CO<sub>2</sub> with >90% purity from the syngas stream,
  - Caterpillar uses zeolite 13X to capture CO<sub>2</sub> from engine emissions
- However, zeolites have many disadvantages compared to MUF-16, including:
  - they are susceptible to water vapour in the flue gas (even trace levels),
  - the incoming flue gas stream must be pressurised to high levels before meeting the adsorbent (expensive),
  - deep vacuum levels are required to remove CO<sub>2</sub> which means that expensive pumps are needed (or else a low working capacity results),
  - their  $Q_{st}$  for CO<sub>2</sub> binding is high so a lot of heat is released/consumed when adsorbing/desorbing.
- Zeolites are cheaper than MUF-16. But this cost is only a fraction of the capex of a carbon-capture unit and performance and longevity factors weigh strongly in MUF-16's favour.

# PSA and especially VPSA will provide ultra low energy capture

Energy requirements can vary significantly between capture technologies

Energy required for CO<sub>2</sub> capture using different technologies



NOTES: Electro Swing Adsorption costs reflect industry estimates and have yet not been achieved at commercial scale.

SOURCE: Hong W.Y., (2022) A techno-economic review on carbon capture, utilisation and storage systems for achieving a net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions future, Carbon Capture Science & Technology

<https://www.energy-transitions.org/publications/carbon-capture-use-storage-vital-but-limited/>



# CO<sub>2</sub> capture in Bioenergy

## Two immediate value add opportunities

### **1. Upgrading Biogas to Biomethane/RNG; pre-combustion capture**

Biogas (upto 40% CO<sub>2</sub>) historically combusted for elec. gen; price linked to power market

Biomethane price is linked to renewable fuels market

As Biomethane values increase, upgrading technology and solutions is retrofitted to sites

Extra value of biomethane must offset levelized cost if upgrading

### **2a. Combustion of Bioenergy (waste) and utilisation of CO<sub>2</sub> for horticulture; post-combustion capture**

2b. Combustion of Bioenergy and utilisation (eFuels) or storage (e.g. concrete)

Co-location opportunities are emerging to enhance value proposition

# 1. Biogas Upgrading – options and a gamechanger

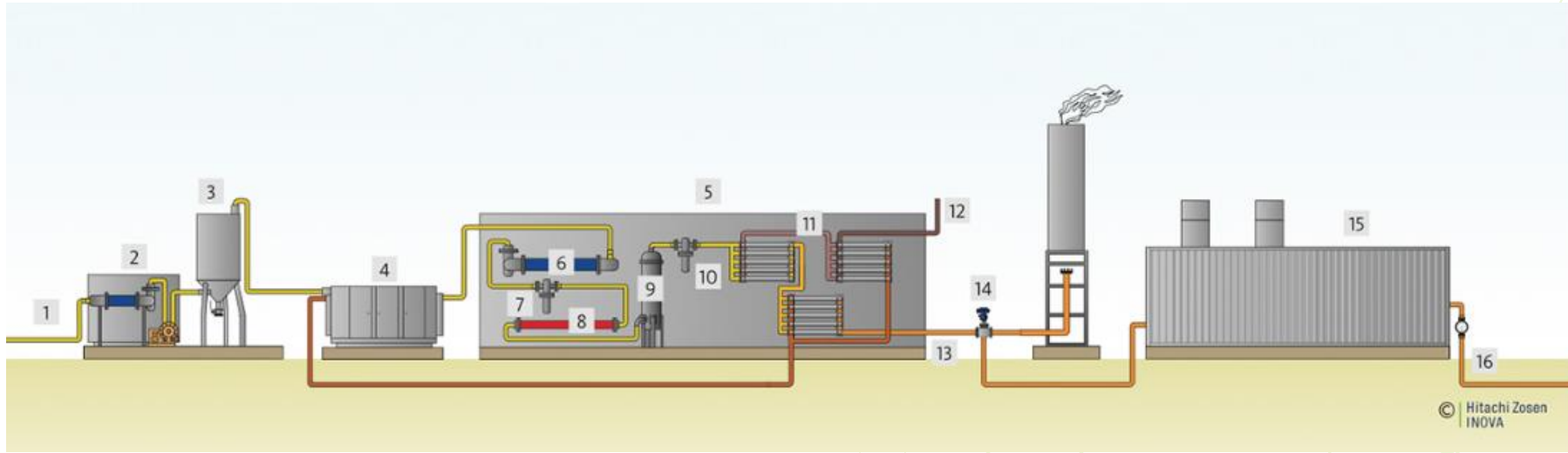
Current market options

1. Water Wash
2. Membrane
3. Amine scrubbing
4. Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) – conventional adsorbents

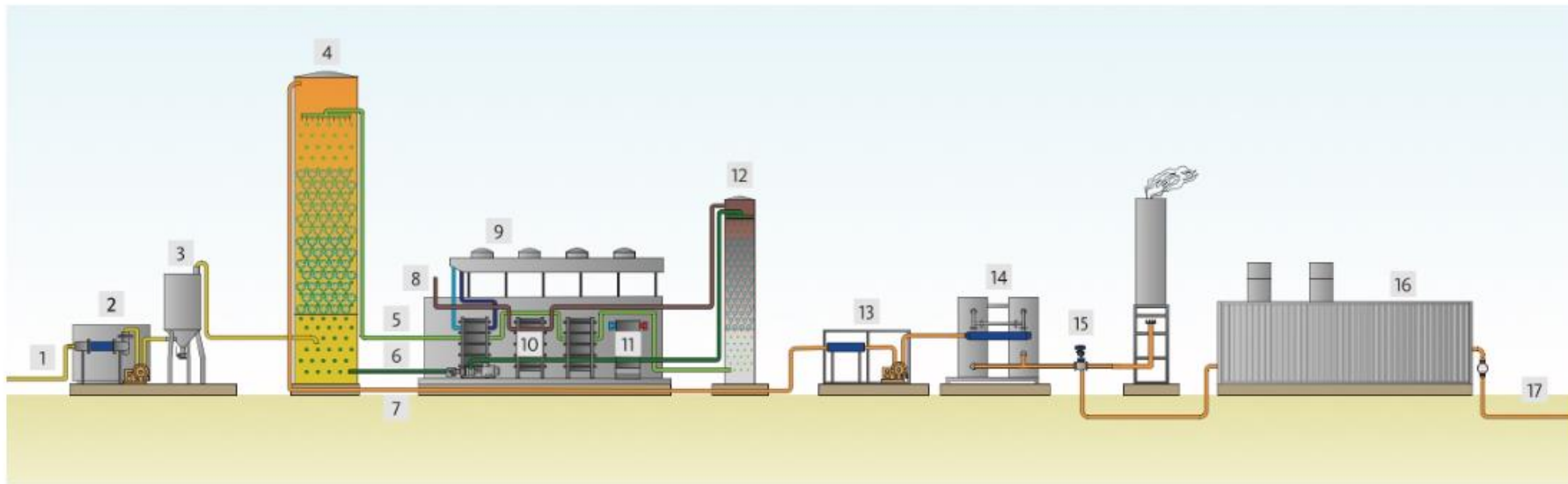
Market share has been shared between all methods – off the shelf solutions can be purchased for retrofit.

New adsorbents such as those discovered by Captivate are now **changing** the game. Their superior adsorption character *reduces energy consumption (ambient pressure and temperature) and reduces OPEX and CAPEX, giving the advantage to VPSA.*

# Multiple Biogas upgrading options commercially available



membrane



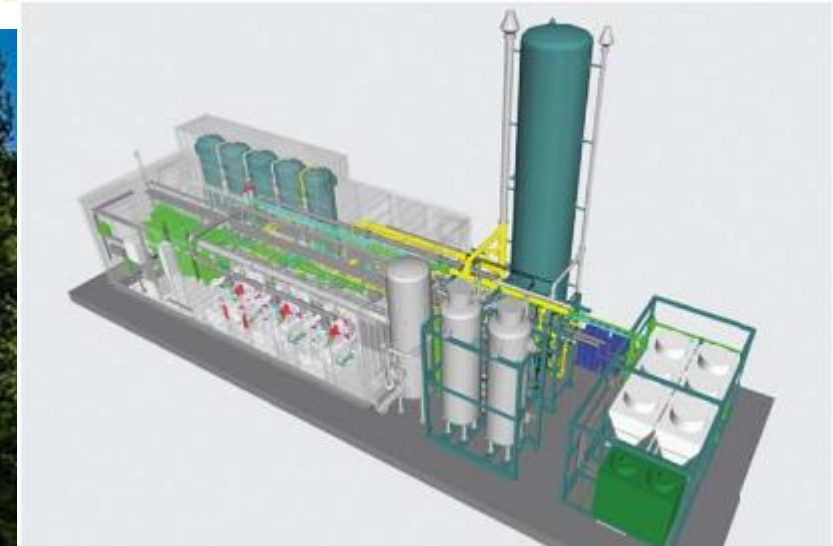
Amine  
scrubbing

# Amine scrubbing biogas upgrading units are commercially available



# Biogas upgrading – Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA)

An upgrading PSA skid



# Biogas upgrading – Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA)

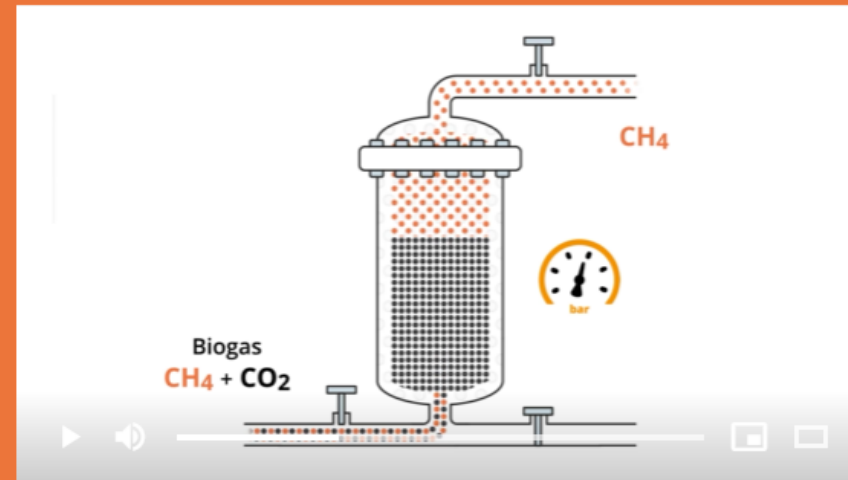


## HOW ETW SMARTCYCLE TECHNOLOGY WORKS

ETW uses the pressure swing adsorption process to separate gas mixtures. As such, CO<sub>2</sub> or other disruptive elements are separated out in the treatment system.

The system has several columns that are filled with adsorbents. Each column goes through a cyclical sequence of pressure levels and generates highly pure and dry biomethane. The column cycles are timed in such a way that a continuous flow of gas is guaranteed.

After each adsorption phase, the adsorbent is regenerated and the CO<sub>2</sub>-rich off-gas is separated. Based on this principle, product gas purities of up to 99% methane content can be achieved.





## 2. Bioenergy carbon capture for horticulture

Bioenergy and fossil fuels have long been combusted to provide heat for greenhouses.

Provide CO<sub>2</sub> to supplement growth during the day and heat and supplemental heat.

CO<sub>2</sub> dosing from purchased liquid CO<sub>2</sub> is also common. CO<sub>2</sub> and fossil gas prices have increased in recent years - new opportunities for CO<sub>2</sub>.

Several examples have emerged in recent years where captured post-combustion CO<sub>2</sub> has been used to supplement greenhouse growth.

New adsorbents such as those discovered by Captivate are now changing the game. Their superior adsorption character *reduces energy consumption and cost in the capture process. Captivate's capture process is suitable for all fuels and can store and supply CO<sub>2</sub> when needed.*

# Biogas carbon capture for horticulture





# Capturing Carbon: From what?

There are 3 categories of carbon source

Purity of CO<sub>2</sub> in source determines technology requirements and capture chemistry

● Maturity ● Immature

	Source of emissions	Chemistry needed	Mechanism	Description	Maturity	Example technology providers <sup>1</sup>
High ↑ CO <sub>2</sub> concentration ↓ Low	<b>01 High purity point sources (50-90% flue gas)</b> Emissions from ethanol, ammonia, natural gas processing	✗	<b>Dehydration equipment</b>	Need dehydration & compression equipment which is low cost	●	No specialized equipment or chemistry required
	<b>02 Low purity point sources (5-15% flue gas)</b> CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from large point sources such as power stations and cement factories - required for Hard to Abate Industries	✓	<b>Solvent</b>	High performance chemical that selectively dissolves CO <sub>2</sub> effluent stream	●	
			<b>Sorbents</b>	Typically solid materials that "adsorb CO <sub>2</sub> from effluent stream"	●	
<b>Membranes</b>			"Filter-like" technology that separates gasses from industrial streams	●		
<b>Novel concepts</b>			Broad range of approaches targeting a step-change process enhancement	●		
<b>03 Direct air capture</b> CO <sub>2</sub> captured from ambient air at low concentrations - required for 'Negative Emissions'	✓	<b>HT aqueous solution</b> <b>LT solid sorbent (TSA)</b> <b>LT liquid solvent (MSA)</b>	Basic aqueous solution, absorbs CO <sub>2</sub> and is then regenerated Solid chemical that adsorbs CO <sub>2</sub> and is regenerated by heating Liquid absorption of CO <sub>2</sub> with regeneration by microwaves	● ● ●		

# VP SA technology is applicable across sectors

## Key sectors

Captivate has demonstrated its technology on site in NZ on:

geothermal emissions  
Power station Natural gas boiler emissions

Next tests in NZ are:

Gas turbine emissions  
Bioenergy post-combustion emissions  
Cement plant emissions

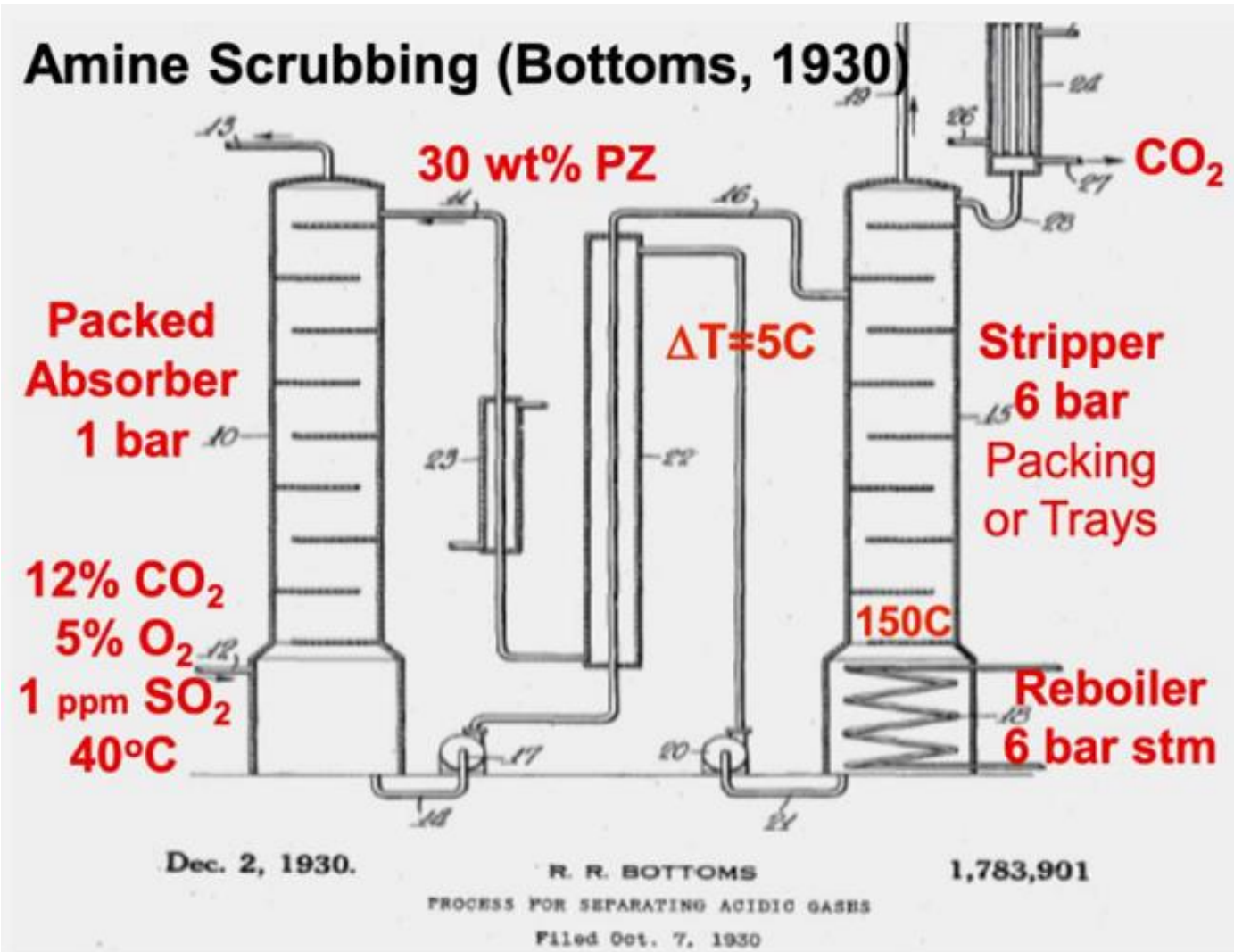


- . Biogas
- . Bioenergy
- . Power
- . Steelmaking
- . Cement
- . Geothermal
- . H<sub>2</sub> production
- . Fuel cells
- . Pulp & paper
- . Built environment
- . Transportation

**modular  
&  
scalable**

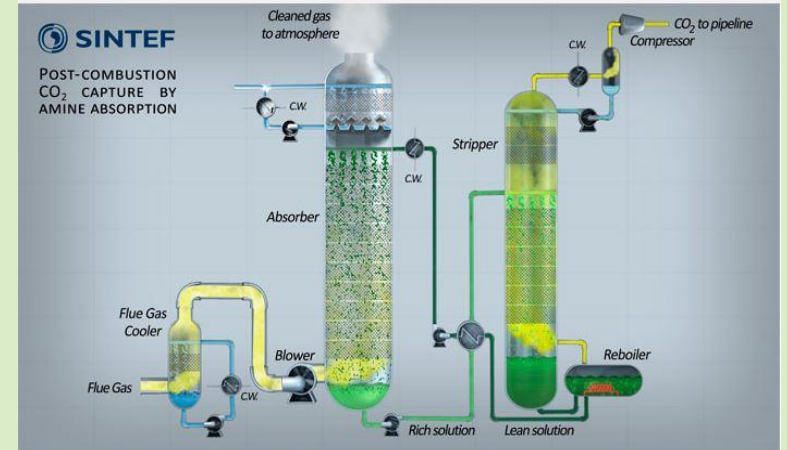
**Global cross sector experience is relevant for NZ bioenergy sites**

# Amine scrubbing has been around for 100 years - it is ripe for disruption



# Limitations of amines for CO<sub>2</sub> capture

- CO<sub>2</sub> capture is needed for fossil fuel combustion, cement manufacturing, steelmaking, geothermal, biogas and other industries.
- Conventional technology for trapping CO<sub>2</sub> involves chemical reactions with amine solutions.
- The major players are Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Shell, Fluor and Aker Carbon Capture.
- However, there are significant problems with amine-based carbon capture units, including:



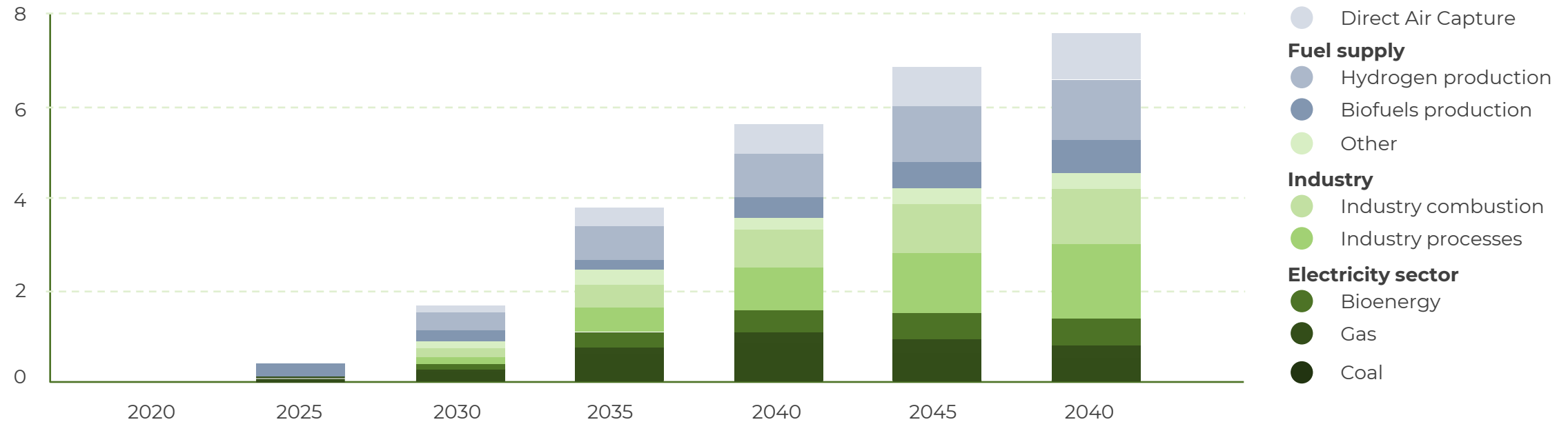
- **Energy penalty** High energy penalty for regeneration/recycling due to their high heat capacity.
- **Toxicity** Amine degradation products are potentially toxic and carcinogenic.
- **Volatility** Amines evaporate into the gas flow and then the atmosphere (~1.5kg of amine lost per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>).
- **Degradability** Amines form side-products by reacting with contaminants such as SO<sub>2</sub> in the flue gas.
- **Bulkiness** Amine systems are only applicable to large-scale, fixed installations.
- **Handling issues** Amines are liquid chemicals that required specialized handling and storage.

**The downsides of amines mean that new technologies are in demand for point source carbon capture.**

# Capturing Carbon: Bioenergy is a growing wedge

Global CO<sub>2</sub> capture by source in IEA's Net Zero scenario

(GtCO<sub>2</sub>/year)

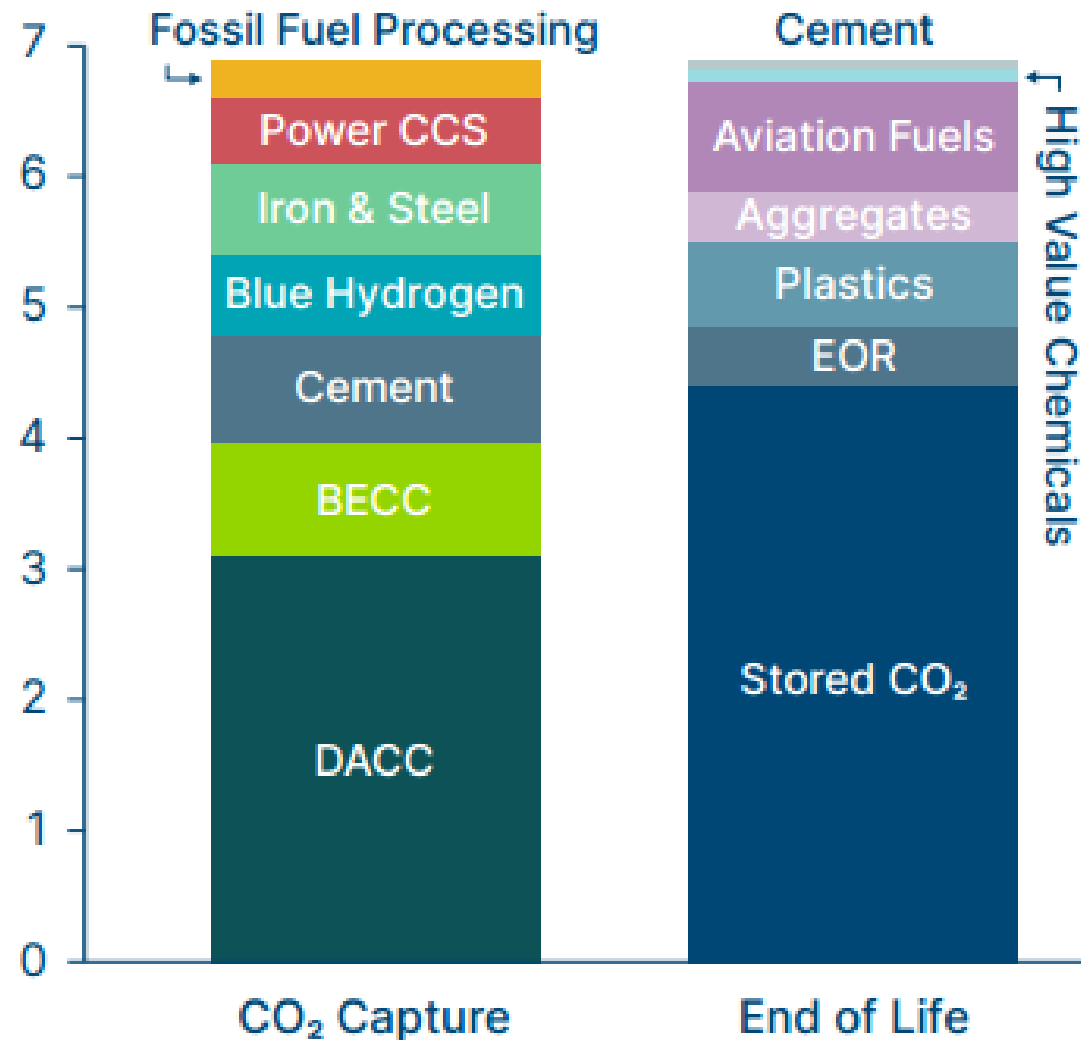


SOURCE: IEA (2021) Net Zero by 2050, A Roadmap for the global energy sector



# CCUS volumes in 2050

GtCO<sub>2</sub>/year







# Commentary and market analysis

- Most industries just emit CO<sub>2</sub> at present. Only a few % is actually captured – typically by using amines in a large-scale operation.
- The world needs 20x more capture by 2030 and 100x by 2050 (IEA & McKinsey).
- “25,000 global industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emitters across 11 industrial sectors could be decarbonized through CCUS” – McKinsey.
- Amines are ripe for displacement given all of their drawbacks.
- Most emitters fall in the ‘small’ scale with less than 1 Mtpa of emissions and 25,000 emitters (Rystad Energy estimate).
- Smaller, distributed units allow early revenue and to benefit from the ‘experience curve’ where we expect to have a 10% drop in capex costs every time capacity doubles. The deployment of solid-sorbent technologies is accelerating rapidly

**Captivate offers an energy-efficient low cost capture process, which can be deployed at any scale.**

# The Opportunity For Low Cost Carbon Capture Is Upon Us



Electrification using renewables continues to grow rapidly



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions decline but continue to be emitted from hard to abate sources such as pre-combustion biogas upgrading



CO<sub>2</sub> is being captured at scale now



CO<sub>2</sub> captured volumes will rapidly rise globally



CO<sub>2</sub> capture costs will decrease significantly



CO<sub>2</sub> capture scope can be expanded to harder (more expensive) to capture opportunities



New technology such as that offered by Captivate Technology will transform the CO<sub>2</sub> market and rapidly reduce emissions



CO<sub>2</sub> as a commodity moves locally and globally as a gas or liquid from sources to sinks



The growth of CO<sub>2</sub> as a commodity expedites a reduction in fossil fuel production



The bioenergy market is set for rapid growth

# Takeaways

- **Carbon Capture technology is reducing capture costs, both OPEX and CAPEX**
- **Carbon Capture market for smaller sources (< 100,000 TPA) is expanding at pace**
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- **Technology solutions will grow the carbon capture market**
- **Carbon capture is attracting major investment from industry, governments and investors.**

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