



Energy Savings in Ceramic Material Processing

1. Westerwälder Industriekolloquium† Ransbach-Baumbach 2024

A HIDDEN CHAMPION IN POWDER SHAPING TECHNOLOGIES & PROCESSES

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- UNI-AXIAL PRESSING
- ISOSTATIC PRESSING
- PRESSURE CASTING
- VACUUM EXTRUSION
- MAGNETIC FIELD PRESSING
- AUTOMATION
- SPRAY DRYING
- TOOLS & MOLDS
- ENGINEERING
- TECHNOLOGY CENTRE



Technical Ceramics
Magnetic Materials

Hardmetals
Special Materials

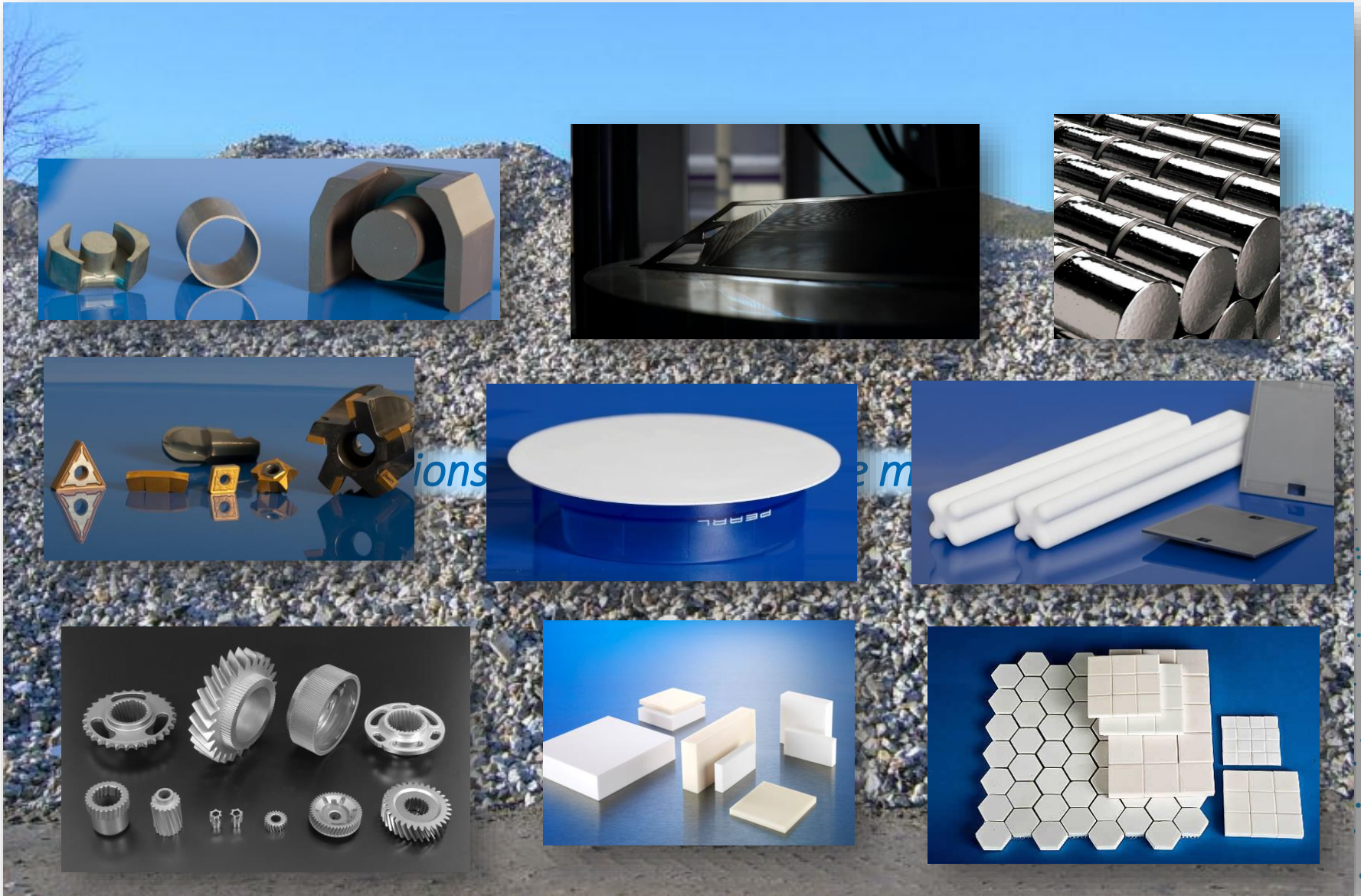
Metal Powders

Ceramics





NETSHAPE PRESSING OF FUNCTIONAL & STRUCTURAL COMPACTS





SPRAY DRYING SOLUTIONS

efficient | reliable | digital

- ✓ Ceramics
- ✓ Technical Ceramics
- ✓ Hardmetals & Cermets
- ✓ Glass & Minerals
- ✓ Polymers
- ✓ Carbons & Graphites
- ✓ Organic Materials

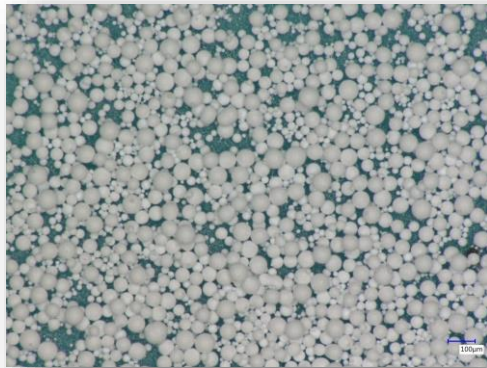
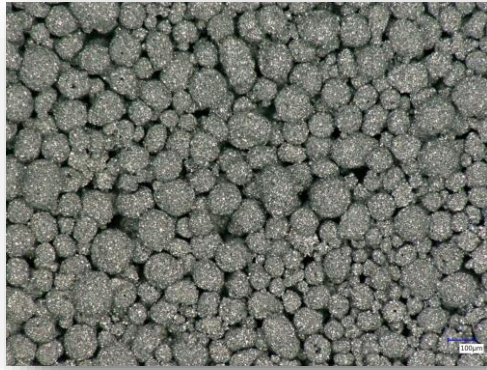
SMART Lab Atomizer Plug & Spray
Compact Dryer Systems
Customized Spray Drying Plants
Gas- or Electric Heating
Energy Saving Upgrades
Kiln Heat Recovery

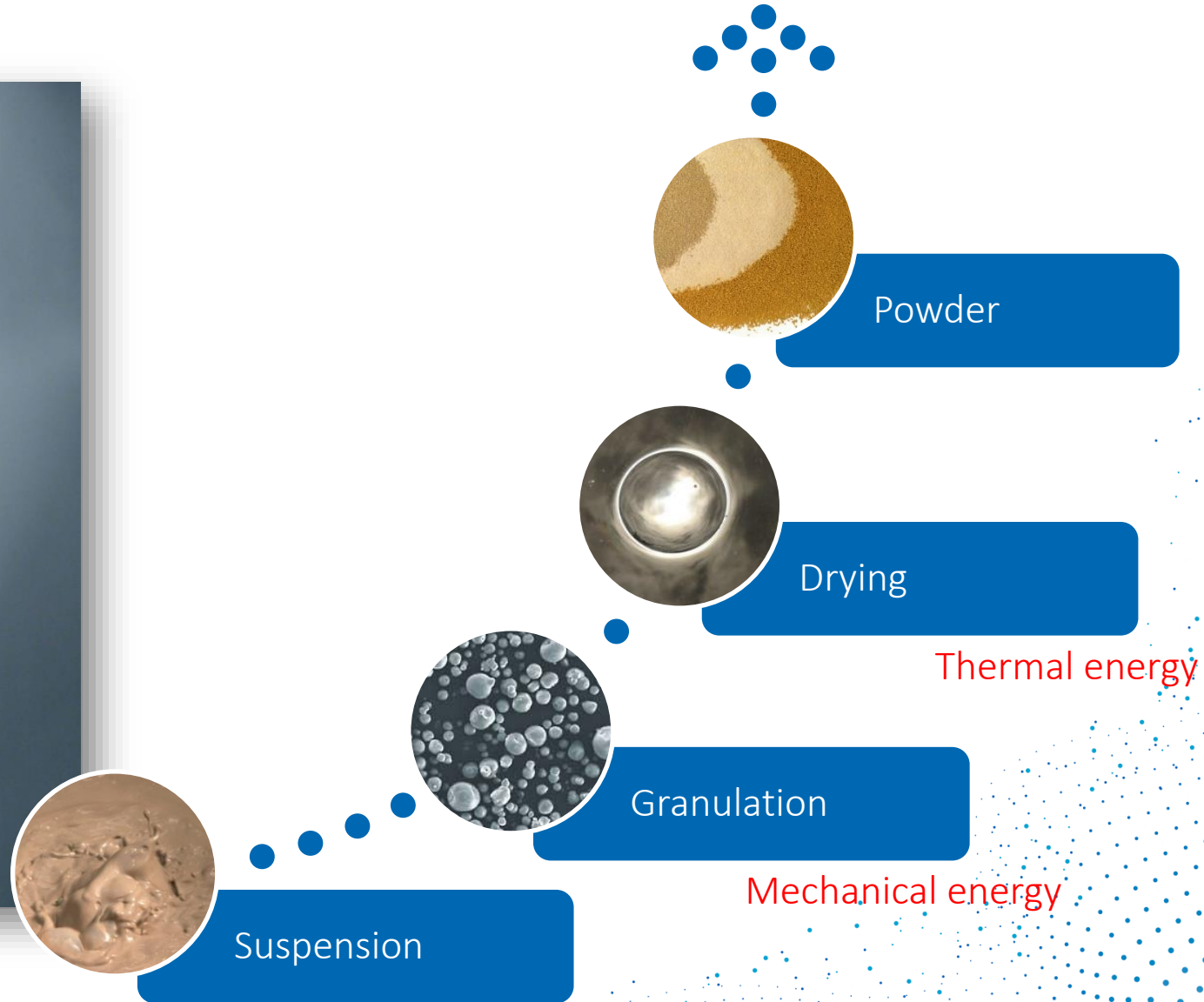
Spray drying plants



Equipment for material development







Grain

Residual moisture

Grain hardness

Morphology

Chemical formula



Bulk

Grain size distribution

Flowability

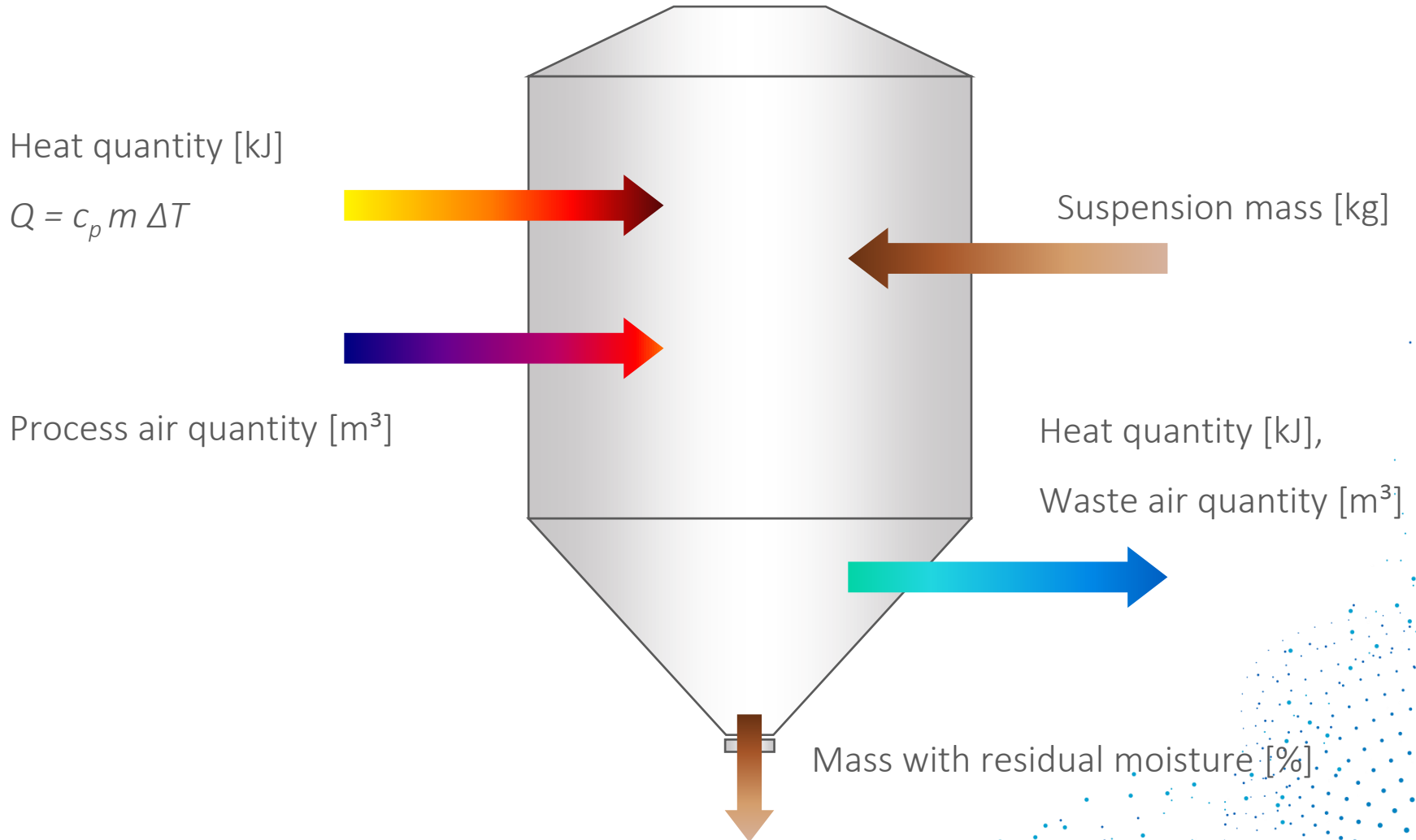
Bulk cone

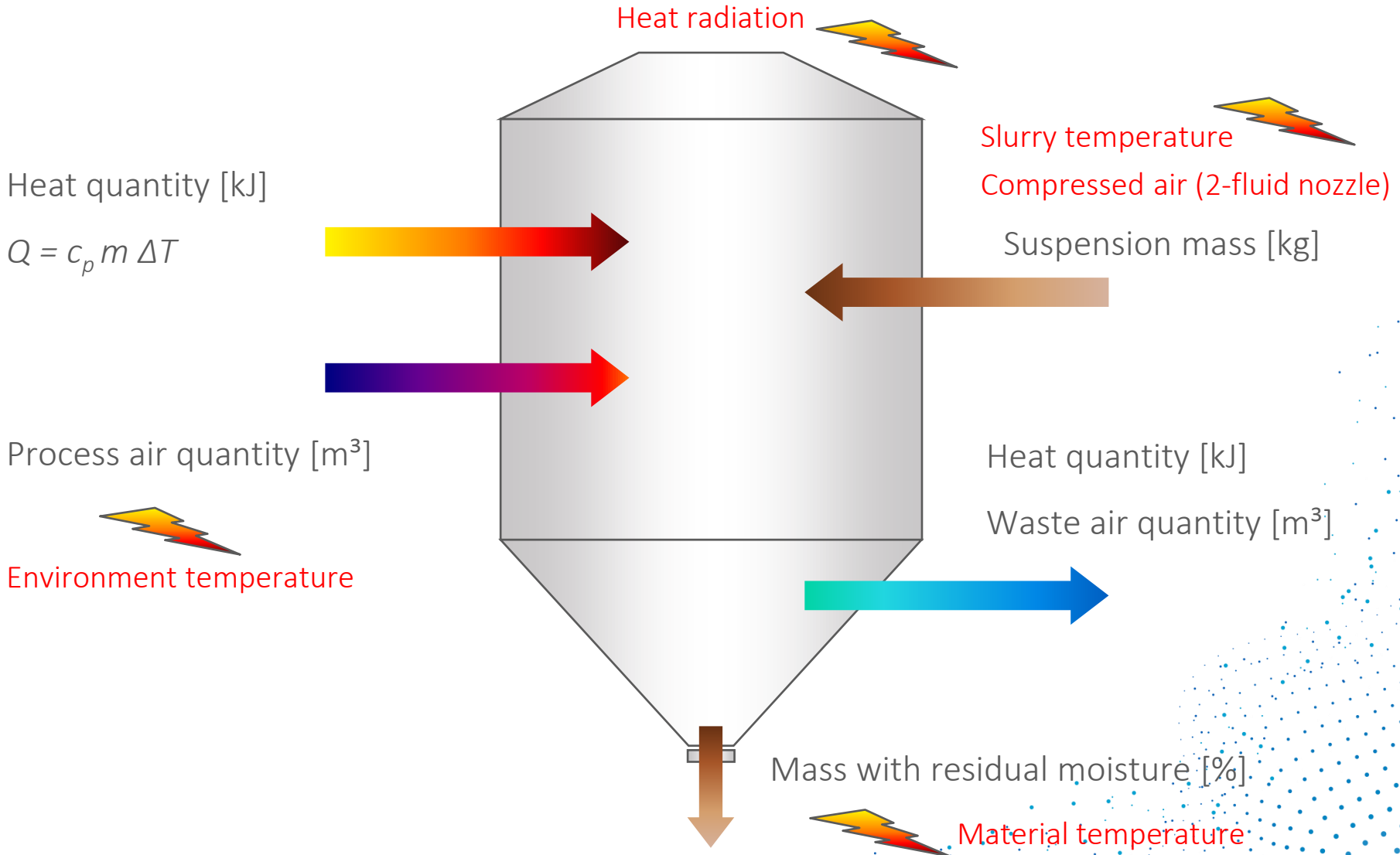
Bulk density

Bulk weight

Filling | Pressing | Sintering

Properties





Plant scheme of water based, open system for spray drying of anorganic materials

1. Slurry pump
2. Slurry filter
3. Combustion chamber / heating cartridge
4. Drying reactor
5. Cyclone
6. Dry baghouse filter
7. Main fan
8. Fines recycling
9. Granulate tower fraction

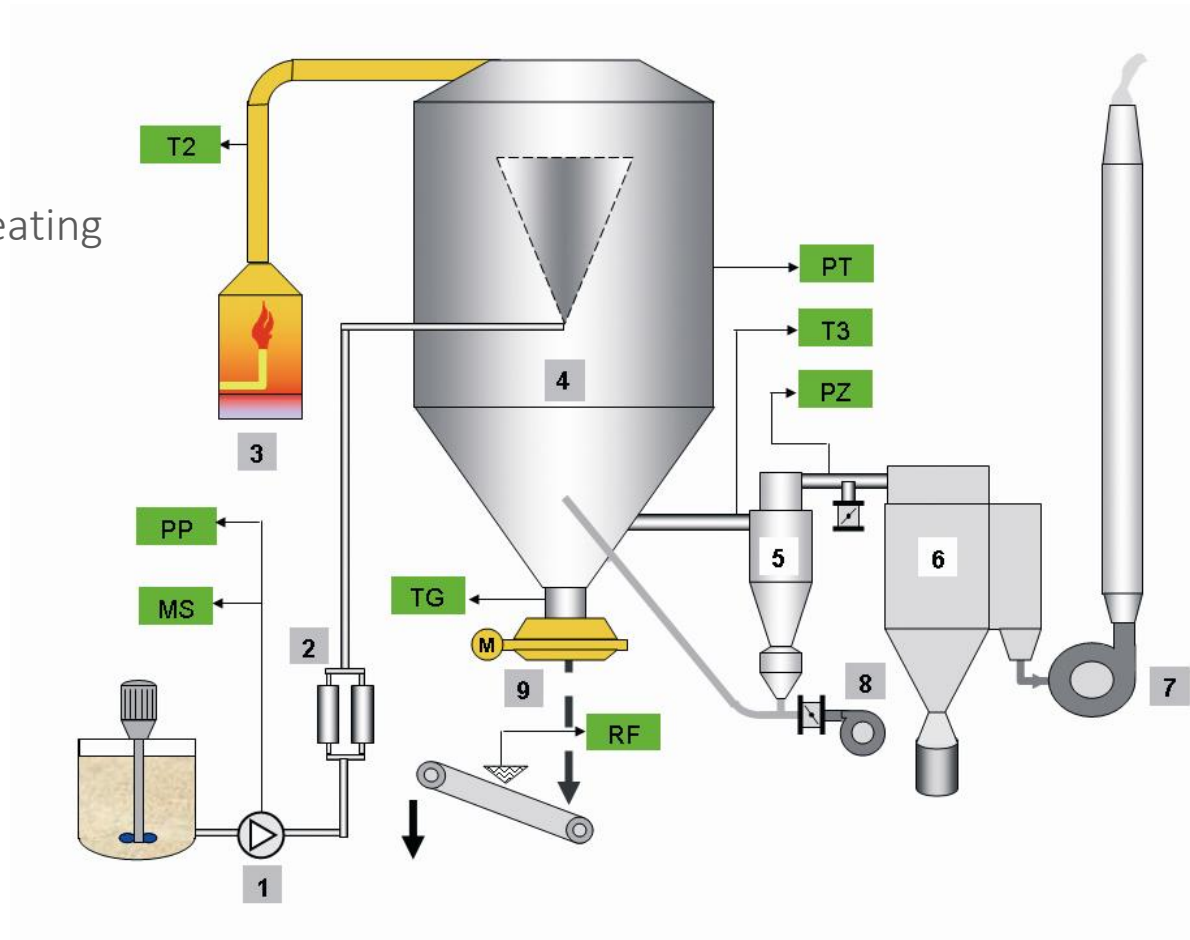




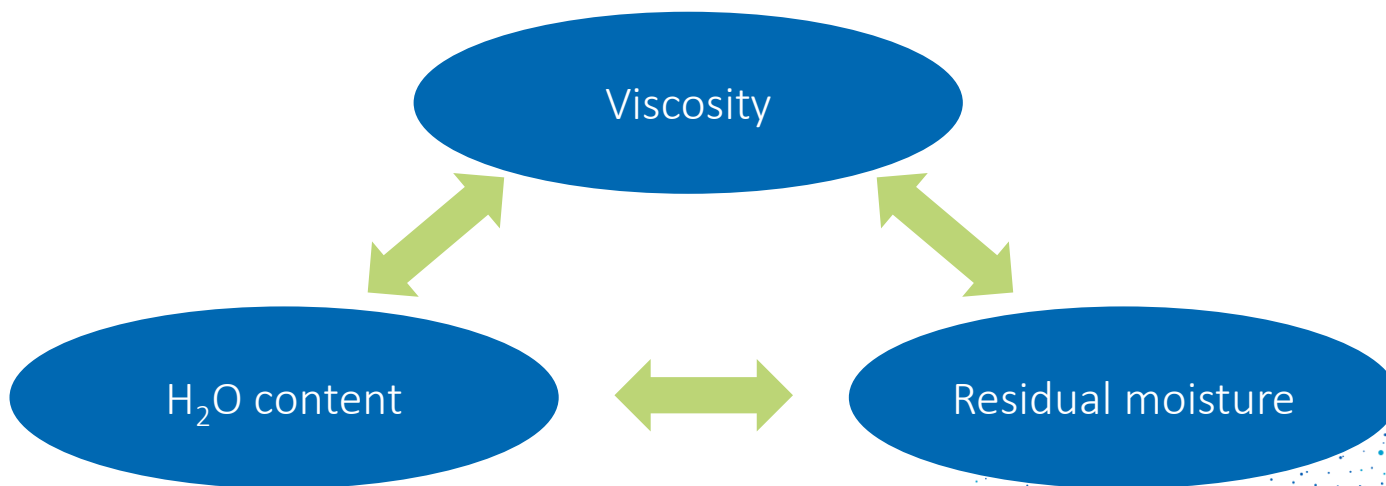
Photo Pixabay



Photo Pixabay

Additives
Liquefiers

Energy requirement for H₂O evaporation = f(H₂O content)



Influence H₂O content rate

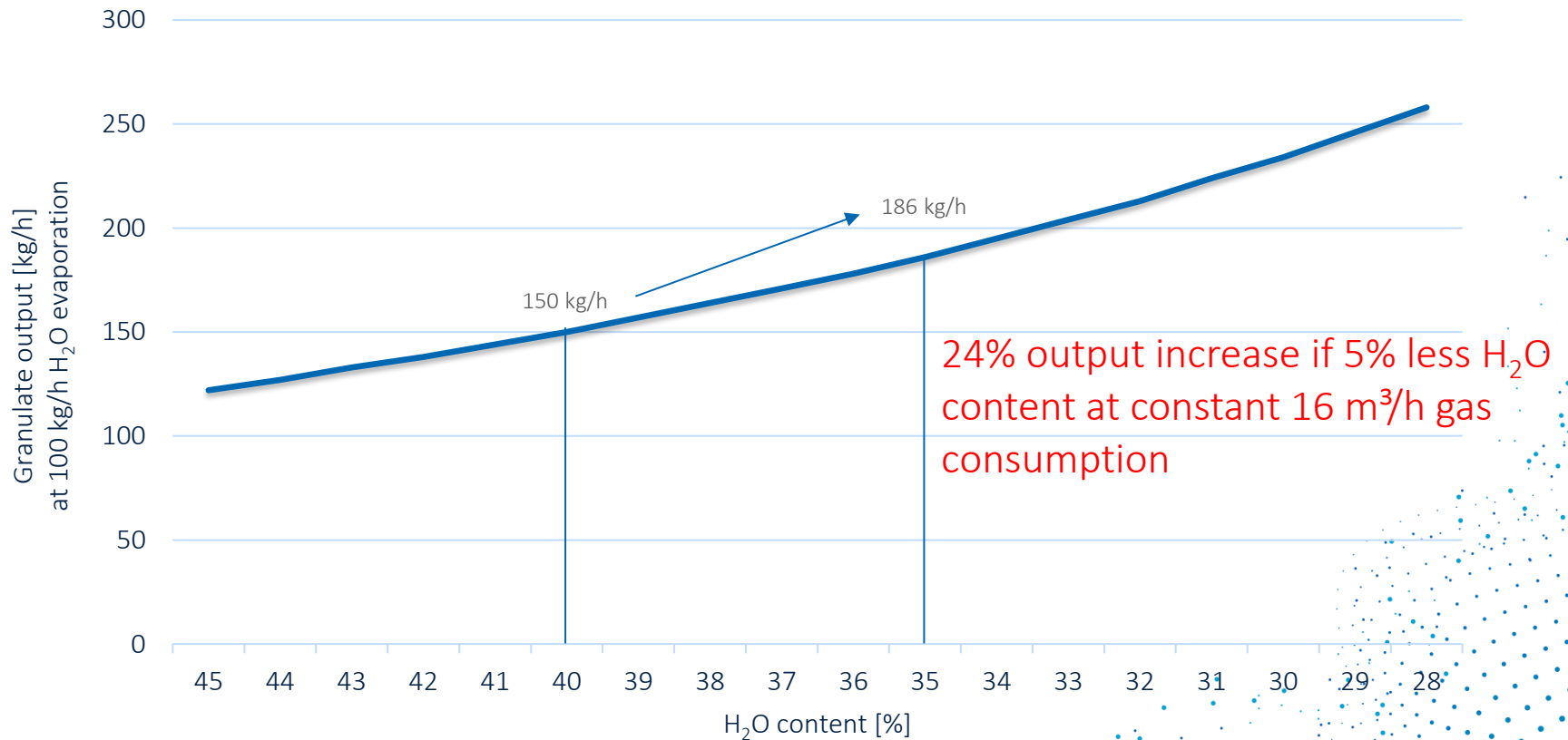
D100 | 40% H₂O | Al₂O₃

Spray dryer gas consumption:

16 m³/h

Residual moisture:

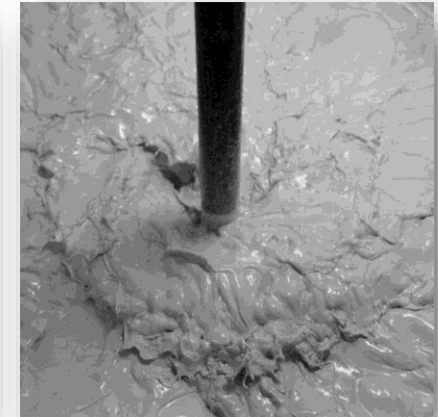
0,5 %



DISPERSING, MIXING, STIRRING, STORAGE

Dispersing, mixing & stirring designed for purpose and efficiency

- Reduction of process times by high-efficiency devices
- Quantity and process optimized operation – split of dispersing & mixing



Suspension storage container with insulation | pre-tempered with recover heat



HEAT ENERGY SOURCES

Selection of sustainable and cost-efficient energy sources & system combinations



Natural Gas



H₂ Hydrogen



Biogas



Electrical Heating



Cogeneration Heating



Recovery Heat

Design of spray drying plant and place of installation aspects

Selection of appropriate plant size | purpose- oriented plant size | definition of optimal point of operation



SMART Lab Atomizer

SMART Compact Series

Customized D Series

Design of spray drying plant and place of installation aspects

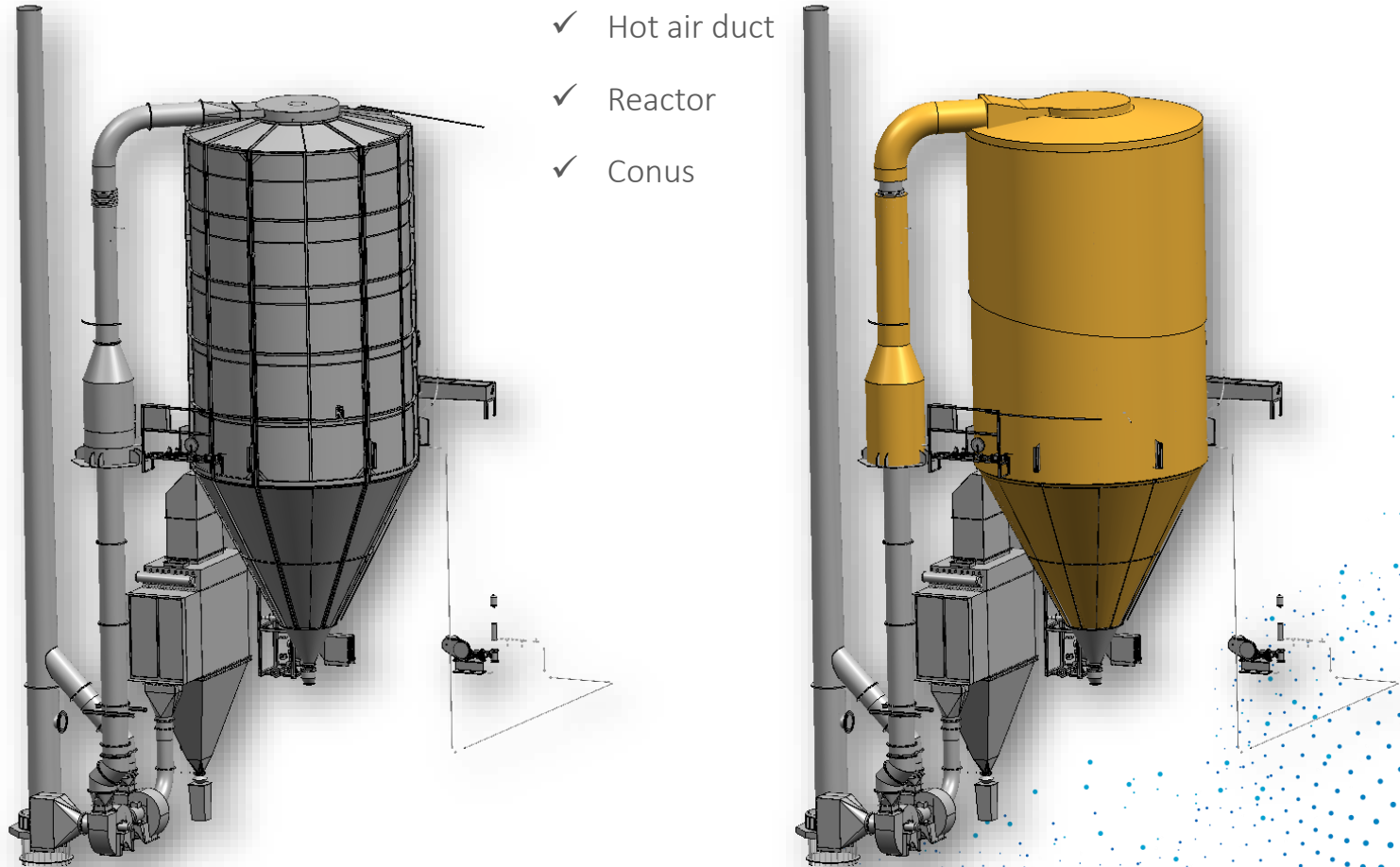


Installation inside building vs. above roof

Building architecture | environment conditions

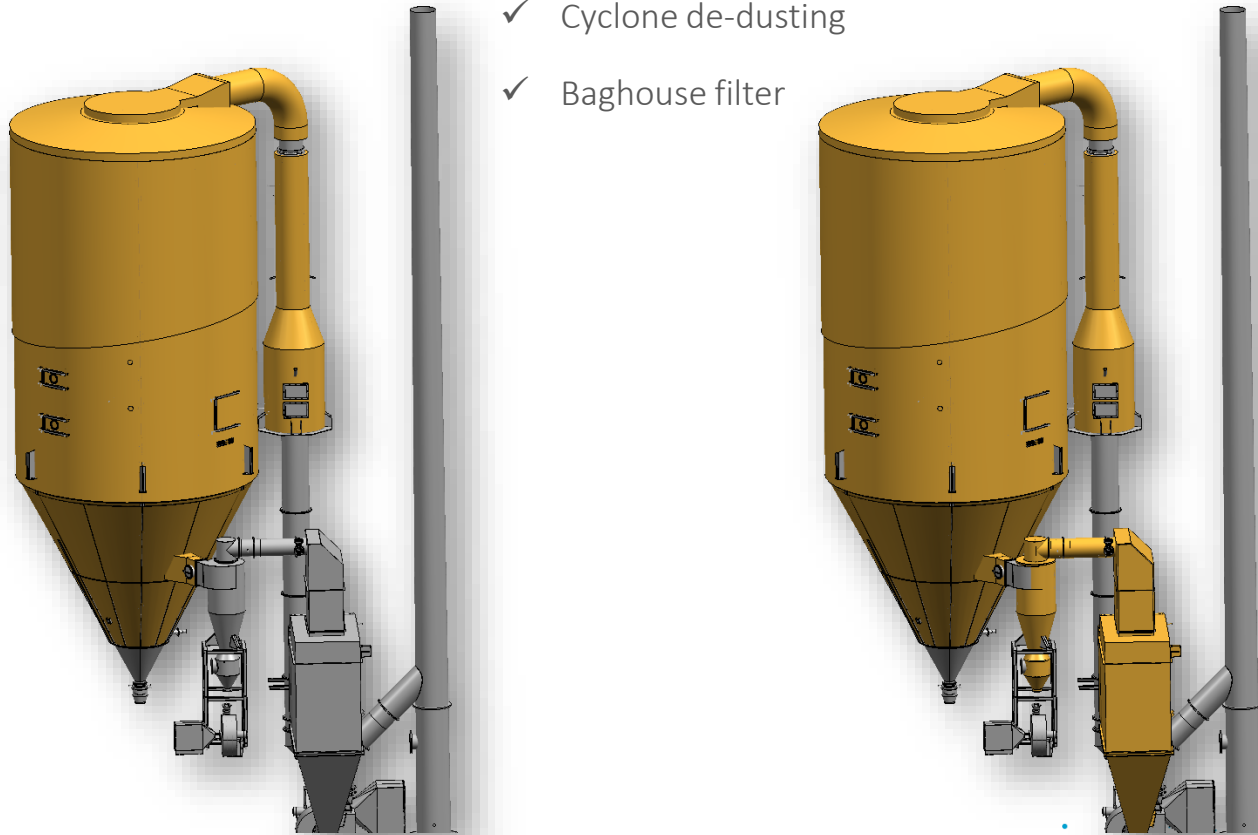
System insulation – dry | robust | effective insulation material | full plant

- ✓ Combustion chamber
- ✓ Hot air duct
- ✓ Reactor
- ✓ Conus



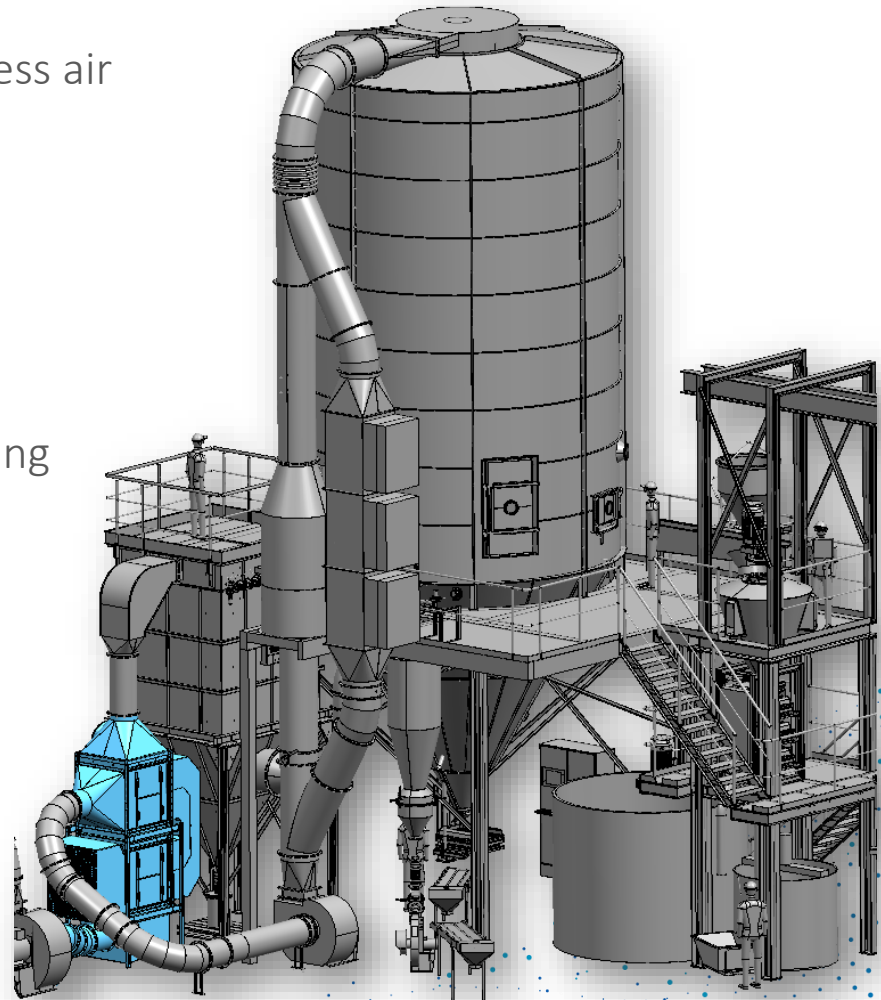
System insulation – dry | robust | effective insulation material | full plant

- ✓ Waste air duct
- ✓ Cyclone de-dusting
- ✓ Baghouse filter

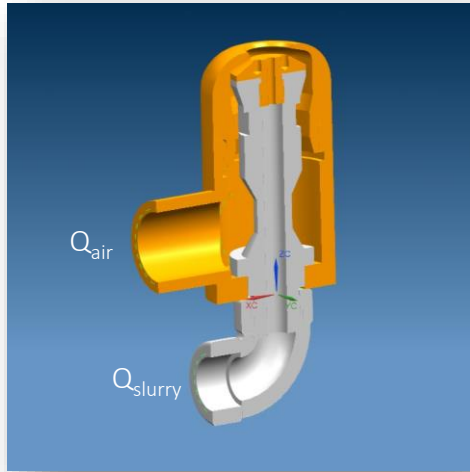


Heat exchanging systems

- ✓ Heat exchanger for pre-heating process air
- ✓ Recovery heat usage for pre-heating material suspension
- ✓ Recovery heat for slurry container warming
- ✓ 2-staged drying process by spray drying and post drying with recovery heat

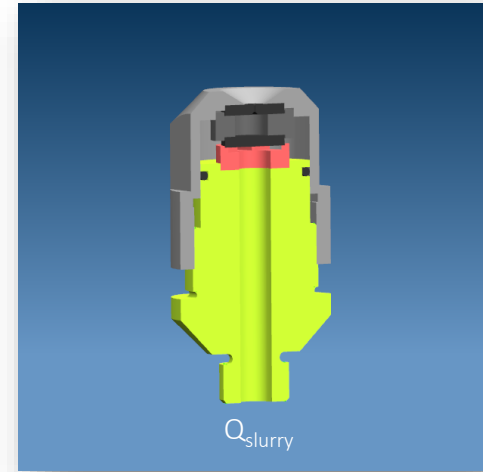


Comparison of nozzle spraying systems



Feed pump [kW]
Compressed air [m³]

Scenario:
D100



Pressure pump [kW]

2-Fluid nozzle: 150 m³/h compressed air
3,90 € /h electrical energy costs for compressed air generation

Pressure nozzle: 1,5 kWh pump power
0,31 € /h electrical energy costs for pressure pump

ACTIVE MEASURES FOR ENERGY SAVINGS

Comparison of operation

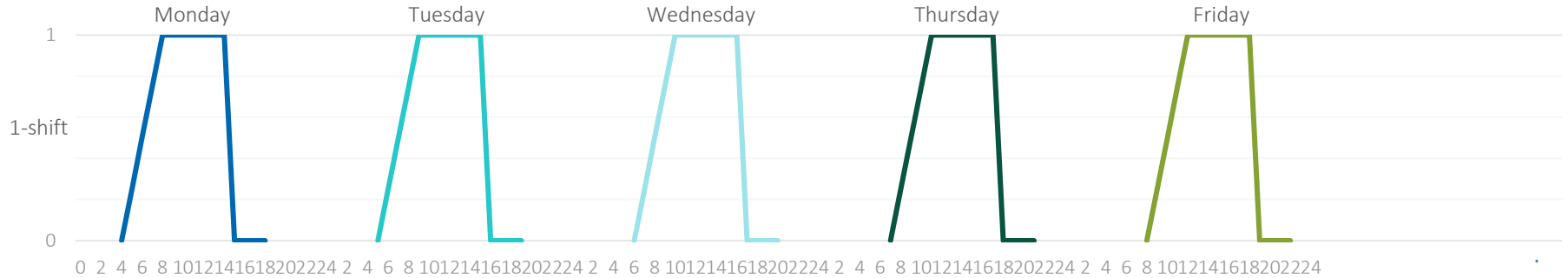
D400 | 40% H₂O | Al₂O₃

Spray dryer gas consumption:

67 m³/h

Total net production hours:

35 h



Gross operation hours 42,5
 Total gas consumption 2'847 m³



Gross operation hours 36,5 h
 Total gas consumption 2'445 m³

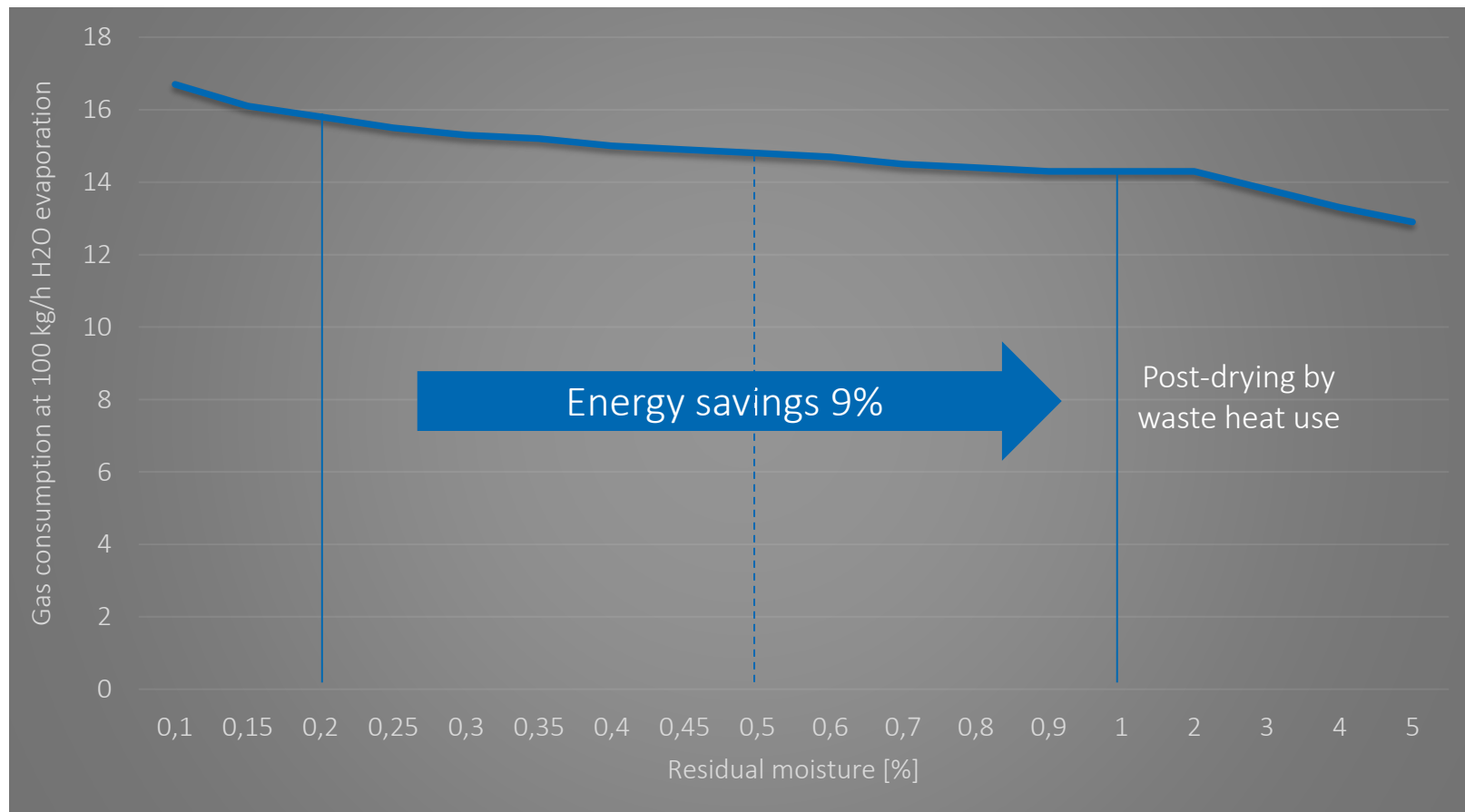
Net energy savings ≈ 14%

Net energy cost savings 402 m³ = **311,6 €** (7,75 ct/m³)

Influence residual moisture rate

D100 | 40% H₂O | Al₂O₃
 Spray dryer gas consumption:
 Residual moisture:

ca. 16 m³/h
 0,5 %



Plant refurbishment

- ✓ Retrofitting of insulation
- ✓ Repair of leaking and cracks of reactor vessel, combustion chamber, air ducts
- ✓ Replacement of burner systems with energy efficient heating systems
- ✓ Decommissioning of air flap for air balance control
- ✓ Upgrade of motors with frequency converted drives
- ✓ Modern PLC and HMI with process control features
- ✓ Adjustment of bag house cleaning interval
- ✓ Retrofitting with baghouse filter systems
- ✓ Consequent maintenance and cleaning



Energy Saving Strategies for Powder Preparation by Spray Drying



Active measures

Passive measures

Selection of energy source

Storage | dispersing | mixing | stirring

Slurry composition



Reduction of operational costs and improvement of carbon footprint



... an inspiring place

Thank you for your kind attention

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