

OTEC System

Path to Commercial OTEC Plants

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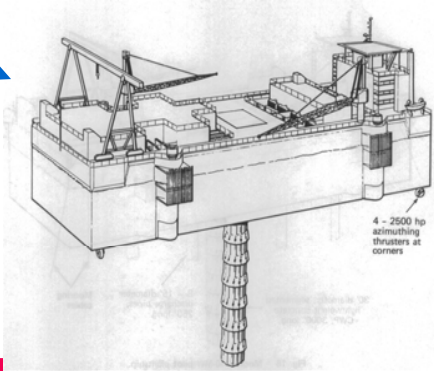
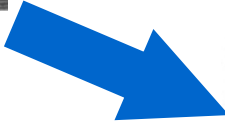
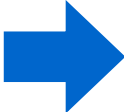
Path to Commercial OTEC Plants

Mini-OTEC

to OTEC-1

to

OTEC Plants/Plantships



OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

Then and Now

Then

- **Power Only**
- **Shell and tube HXs**

Now

- **Power and desalinated water**
- **Plantships**
- **Commodity products**

OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

1. **What are the performance metrics that must be demonstrated prior to commercial development?**
 - **Predicted net power generation - kWh/yr**
 - **Total Installed Costs (TIC)**
 - **Dynamic performance of the OTEC power system to ocean conditions – seawater pumps, heat exchangers, and turbines**
 - **Impact of individual component on the performance of total system**
 - **Dynamic responses of the total platform, cwp and attached structures under different sea conditions**

OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

2. What is the development time frame for a commercial OTEC system?

➤ **Less than five years after pilot plant demonstration.**

Key Factors:

- a. Costs projections for a commercial plant**
- b. Strategic design approach for scale-up to a commercial plant**
- c. Justifiable design approach to reduce the TIC**
- d. Component/subsystem vendors part of the design team**
- e. Demonstrated capability of the system integrator**

OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

3. What are the potential failures that could lead to the shutdown of an OTEC system?
 - Major mechanical failure in deployment or early operational phase (**Do not lose CWP please**)
 - Major leak of the working fluid
 - Uncontrollable dynamic behavior of the power system – seawater pumps, heat exchangers, and turbine
 - Unexpected corrosion of aluminum heat exchangers
 - Unexpected high rates of warm water fouling that cannot be controlled with acceptable level of chlorination

OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

4. What processes/diagnostics are needed to detect, monitor and reduce these risks?
 - Performance monitoring of heat exchangers
 - Corrosion monitoring of aluminum heat exchangers
 - Potential change of fouling characteristics of warm water, so that chlorination schedule can be adjusted as preventive methods rather before significant fouling can occur
 - Dynamic responses of CWP (Good idea to know position of the other end of the CWP with respect to the top end)

OTEC System: Path to Commercialization

5. What are the flexibilities in the OTEC system's components that could minimize environment impacts?
 - Not sure about this question

