



**FUSION  
FOR  
ENERGY**



**ISFNT15**

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON FUSION NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

# F4E Remote Handling procurement for ITER

**Emilio Ruiz** - Project Manager – Remote  
Handling Project Team  
(on behalf of Carlo Damiani)

**12<sup>th</sup> September 2023**



Bringing  
the power  
of the sun  
to earth

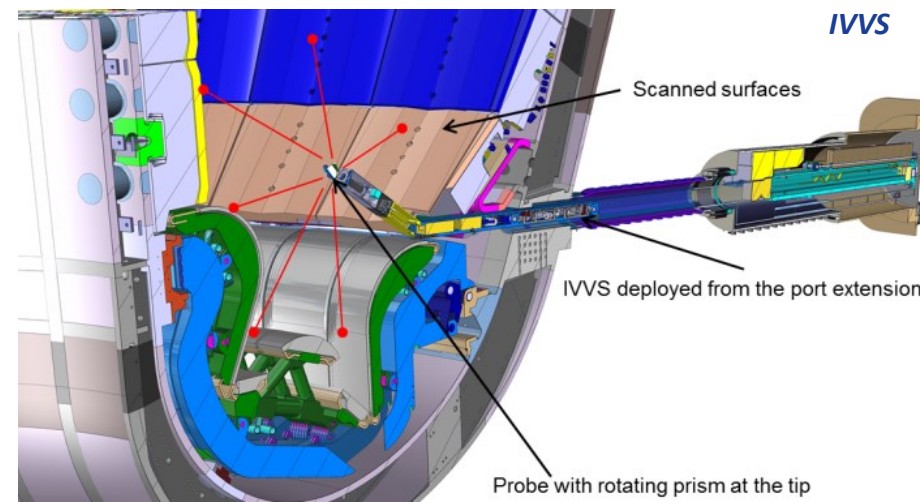
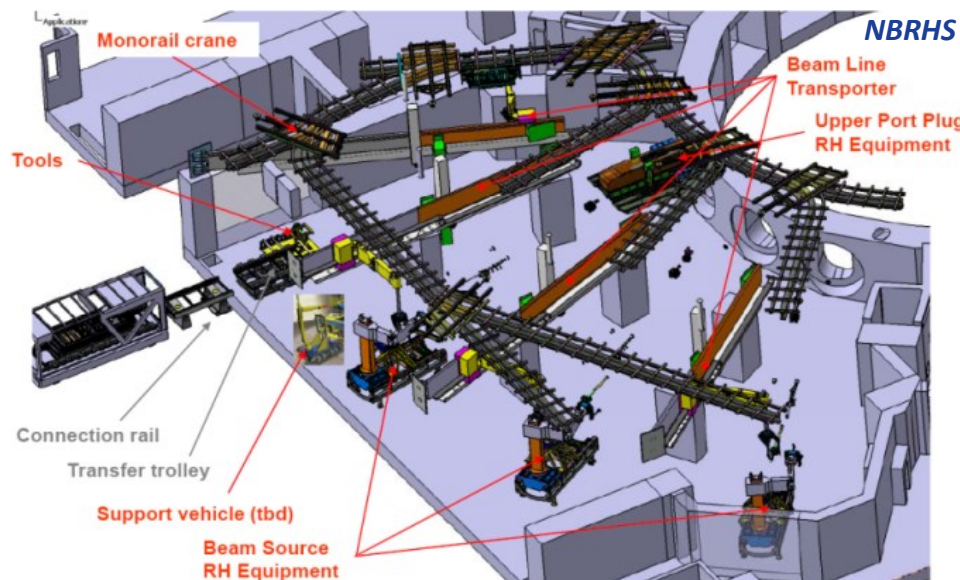
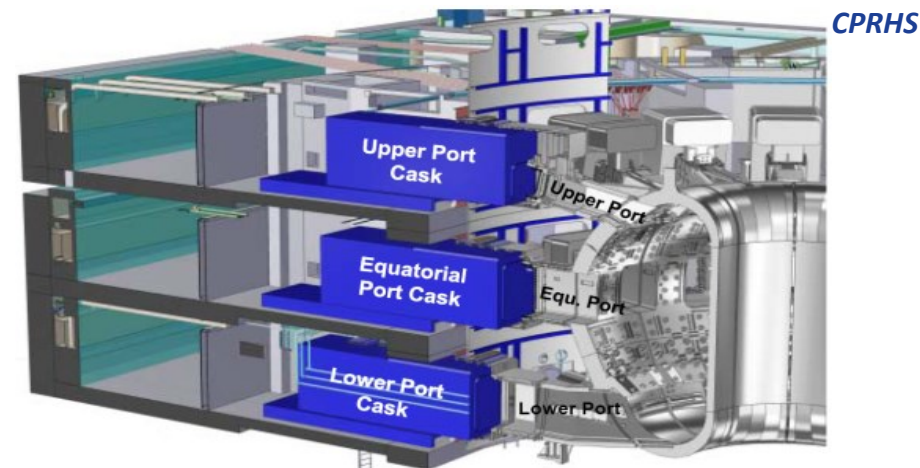
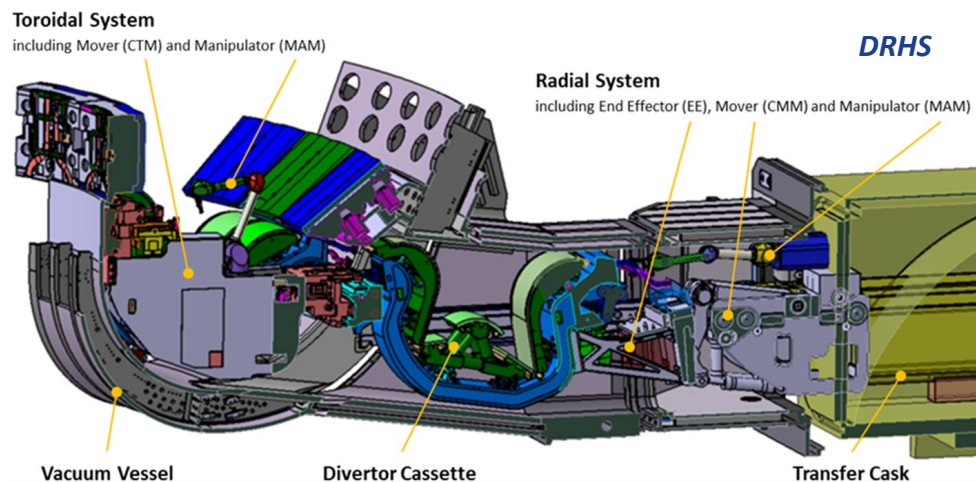


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- **Introduction to the European contribution to ITER RH and quick tour on recent developments and achievements**
- **Current status of our procurements**
- **Outlook to long term**
- **Business Opportunities**
- **Q&A**



# Introduction – F4E Remote Handling (RH) Scope



F4E is in charge of the procurement in kind of 4 packages

# F4E RH Scope - Divertor RH System (DRHS)



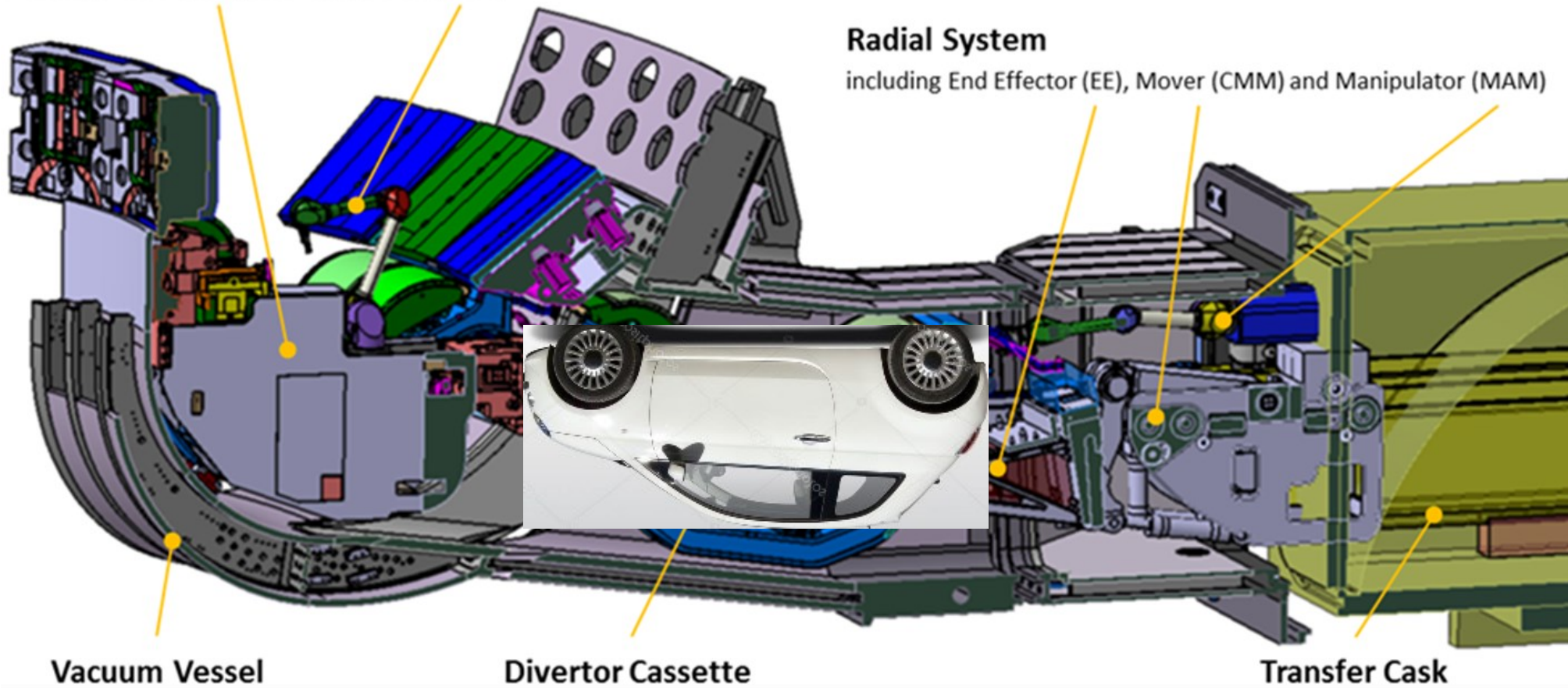
## Toroidal System

including Mover (CTM) and Manipulator (MAM)

*DRHS*

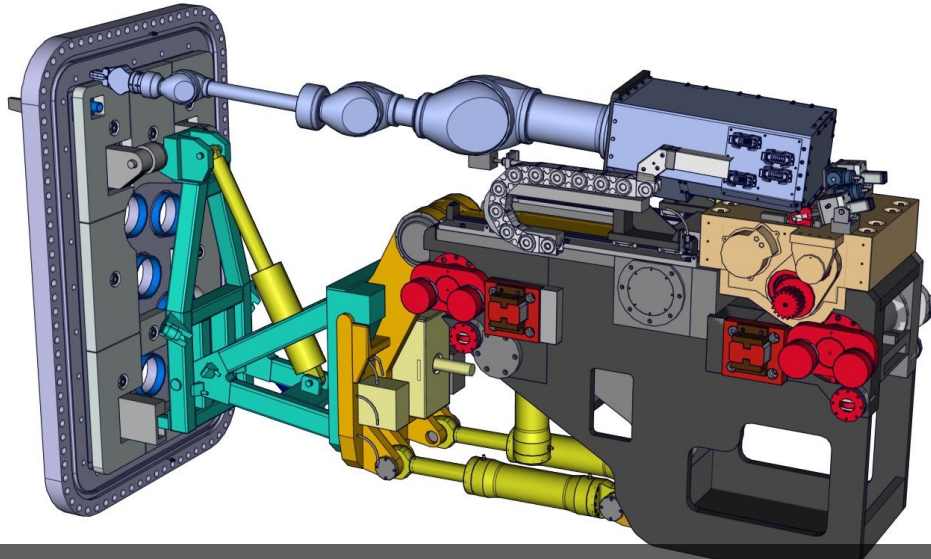
## Radial System

including End Effector (EE), Mover (CMM) and Manipulator (MAM)

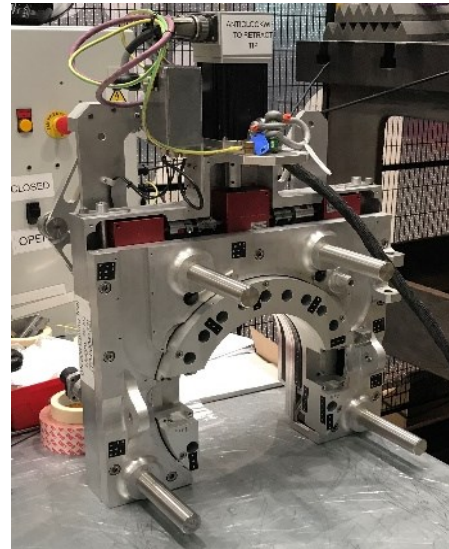




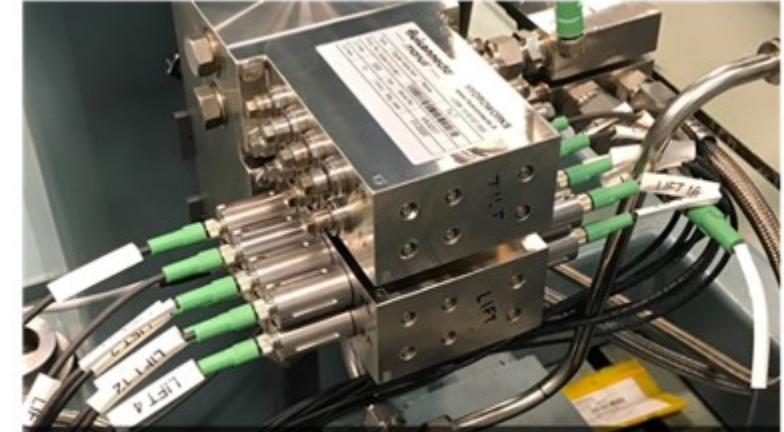
# Status of the DRHS



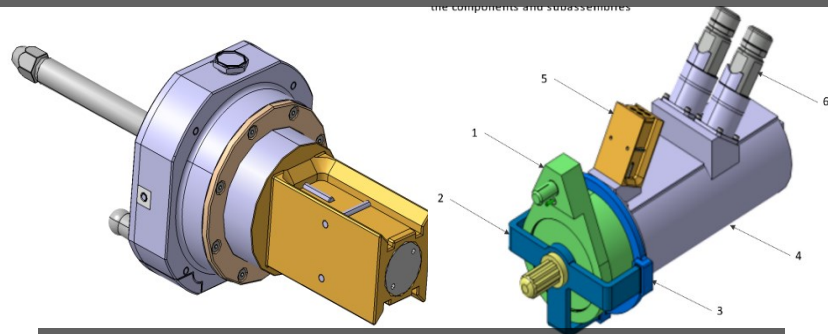
**DRHS – Final Design of the Cassette Multifunctional Movers**  
The manipulator arm and the end effector are handling the Primary Closure Plate (VV lower port closure)



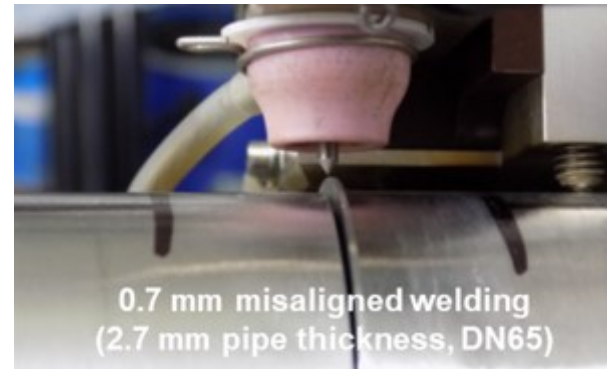
**NBRHS cutting tool for 200 mm pipes**



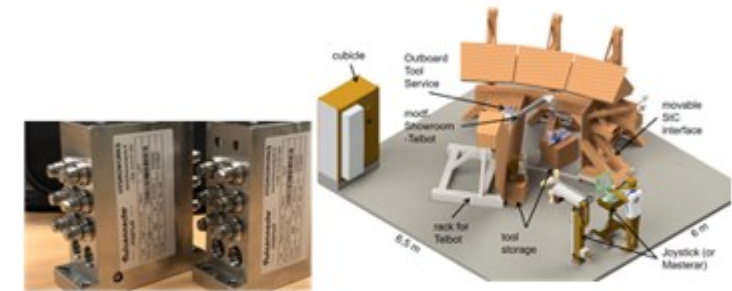
**Tests on new DRHS digital valves**



**DRHS – Final Design of the tools for the divertor cassette locking system**  
These tools are operated by the manipulator arm (grappling the yellow handle)

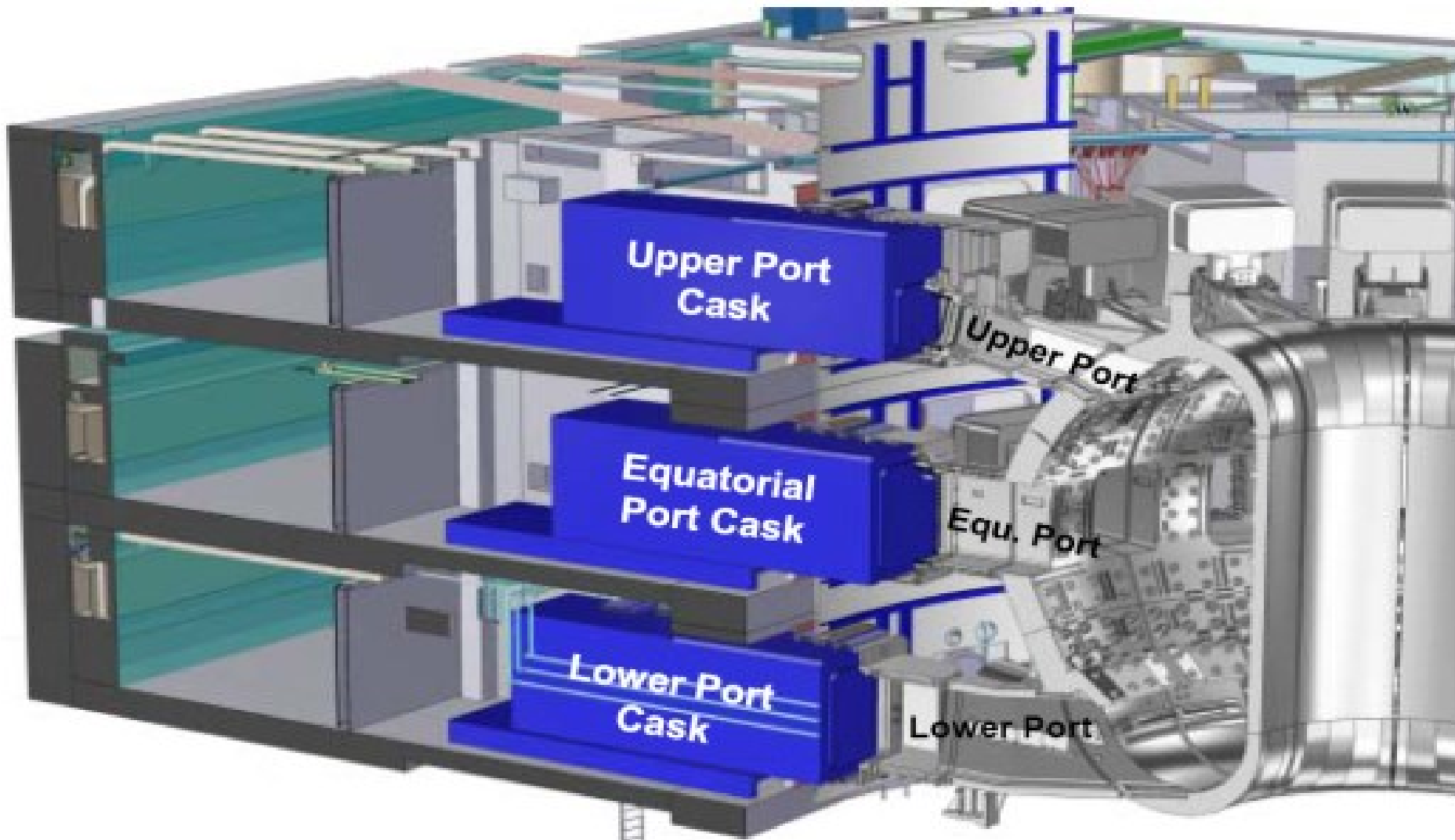


**0.7 mm misaligned welding (2.7 mm pipe thickness, DN65)**



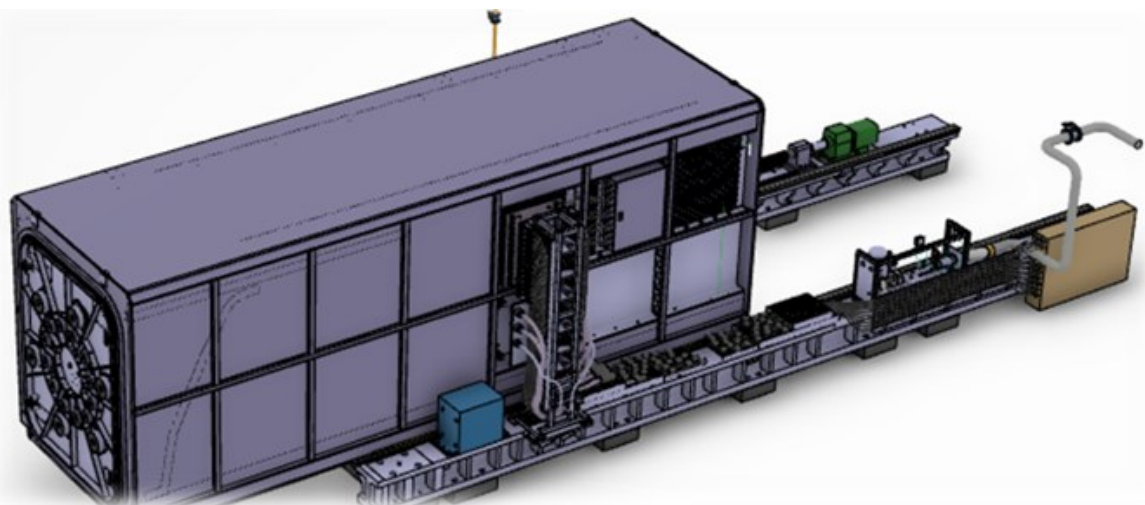
**DRHS new digital valves (left) and manipulator arm test bed**

# F4E RH Scope – Cask & Plug RH System (CPRHS)

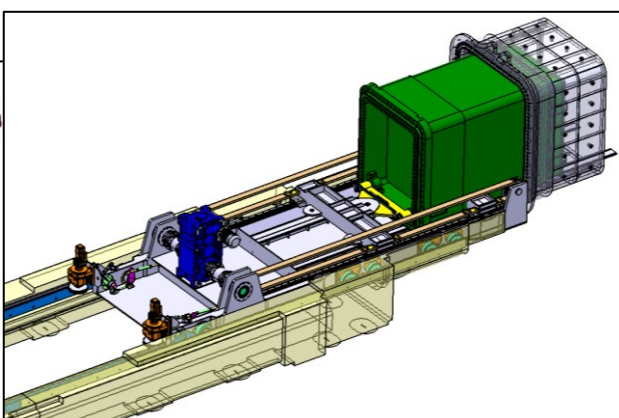
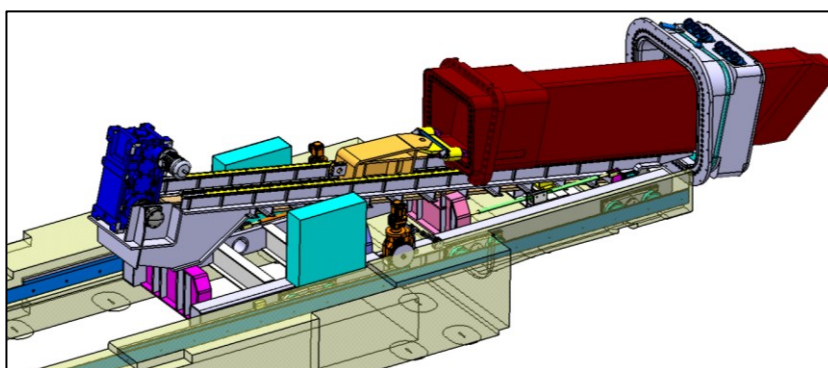




# Status of the CPRHS



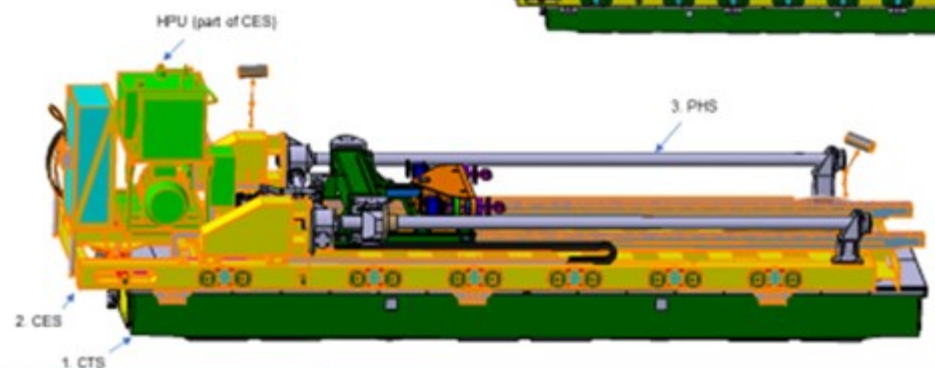
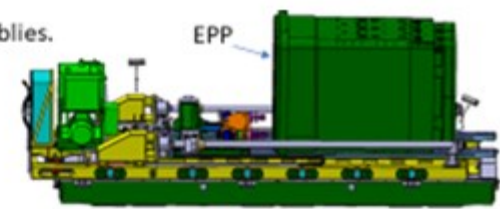
CPRHS: cask docking system prelim design (cask envelope shown)



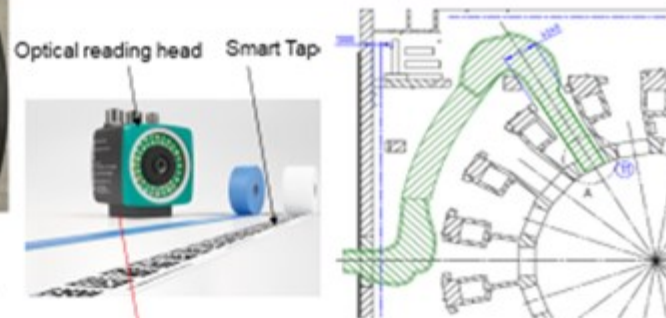
1<sup>st</sup> assembly Upper and Equatorial Port Plug Casks in Final Design Phase (“real” RH equatorial cask on the right)

The CPRHS MA-1 consists of 3 main sub-assemblies.

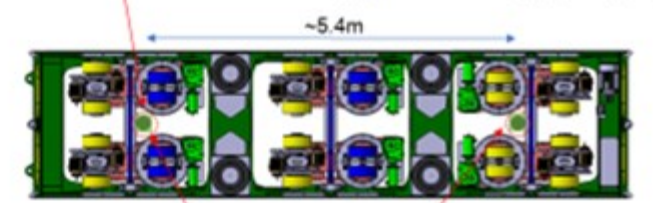
1. Cask Transfer System (CTS)
2. Cask Envelope System (CES)
3. Plug Handling System (PHS)



Typical Remote Control Console

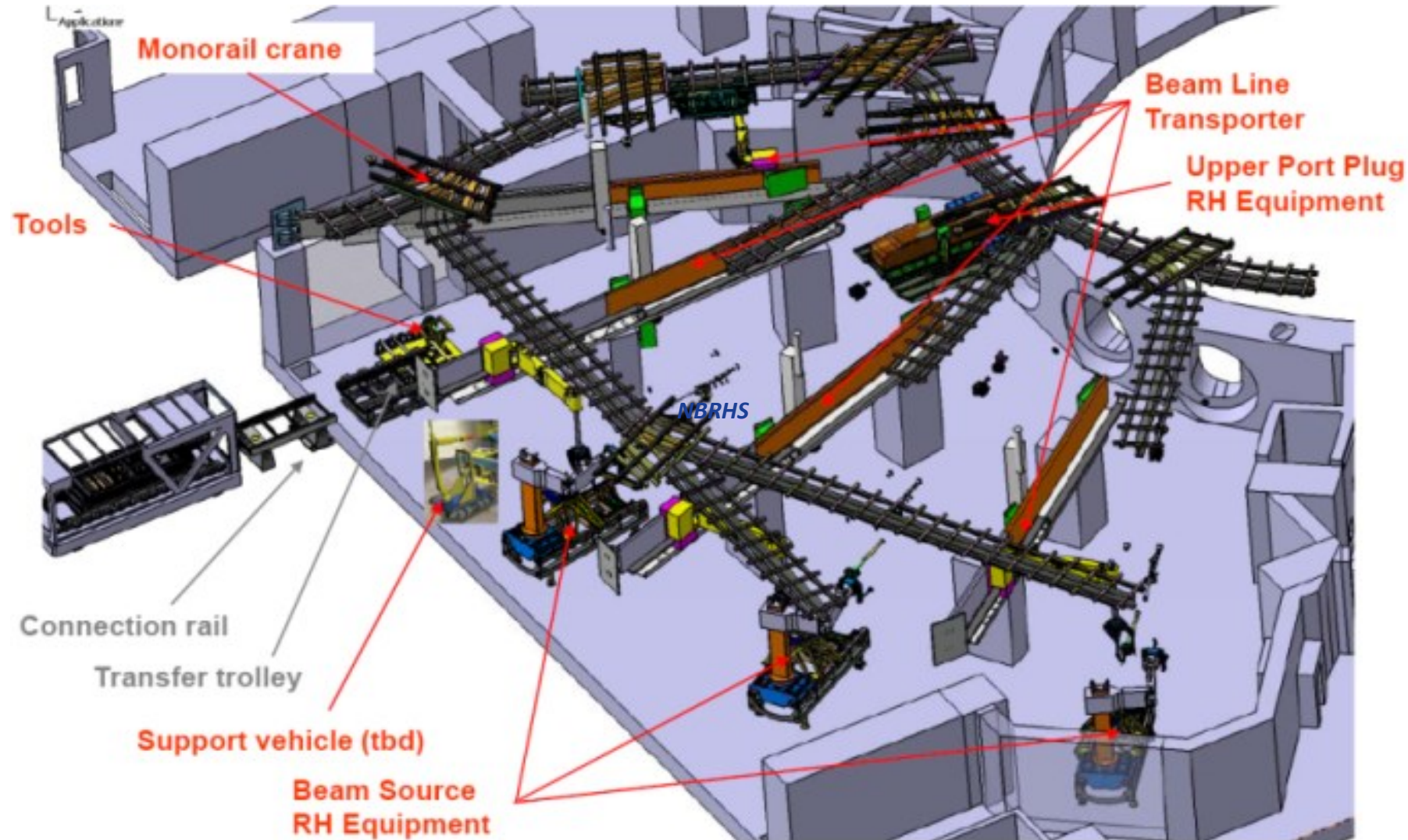


Wired Manual Control Device



Optical Reading Heads CTS Underside view

# F4E RH Scope – Neutral Beam RH System (NBRHS)





# Status of the NBRHS



crane trolley structure before and after painting



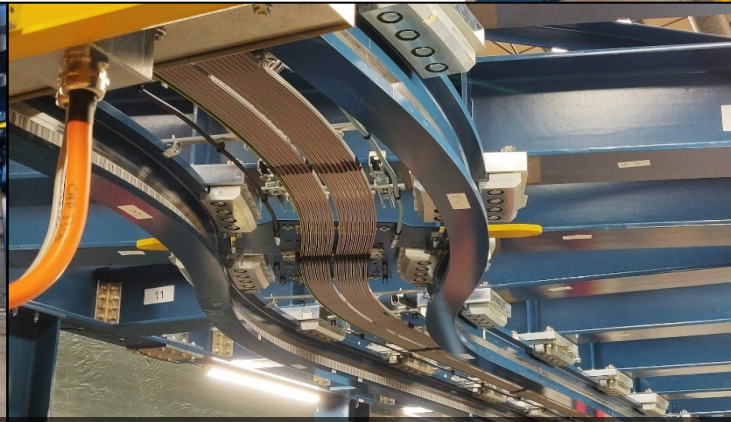
NBRHS monorail crane prototype manufacturing



with counterweight (yellow) near rail bend (blue)



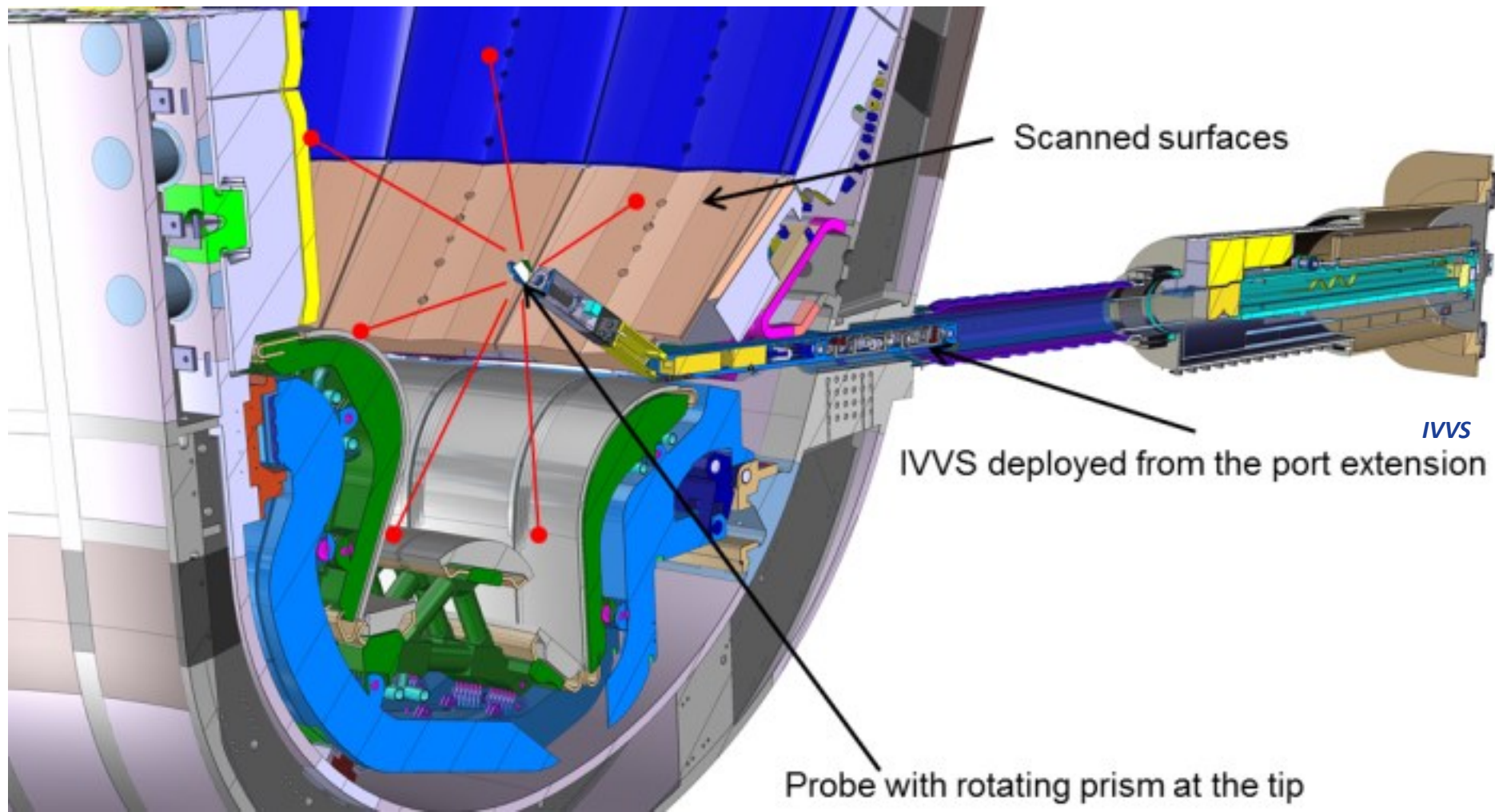
NBRHS - Joint visit from IO and F4E RH in the final day of the successful test campaign of the crane prototype at supplier premises



Completion of test campaign on NBRHS crane prototype at Reel premises (France). Extreme offset loading configurations and induced +4 mm rail misalignments trialled

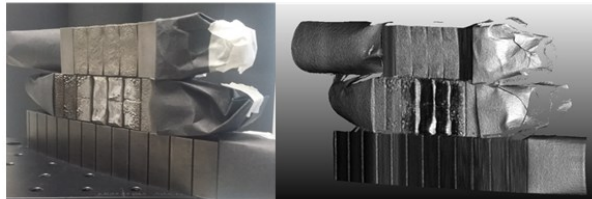


# F4E RH Scope – In-Vessel Viewing System (IVVS)





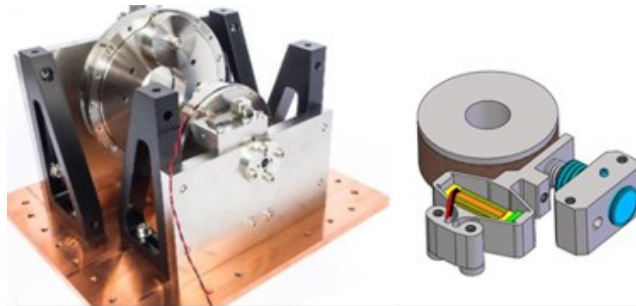
# Status of the IVVS



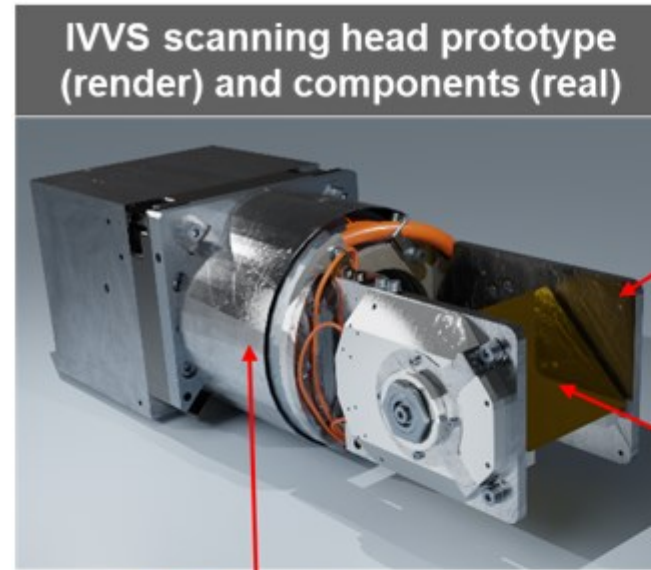
Camera image (left) and IVVS 3D reconstruction (right) during lab test on ITER Divertor PFC



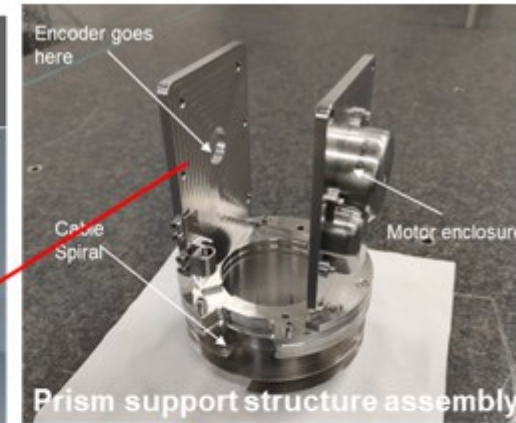
Special encoder for IVVS scanning head developed



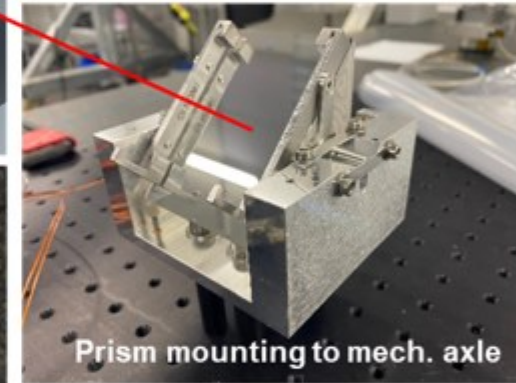
Test on IVVS piezo actuator for laser scanning prism rotation



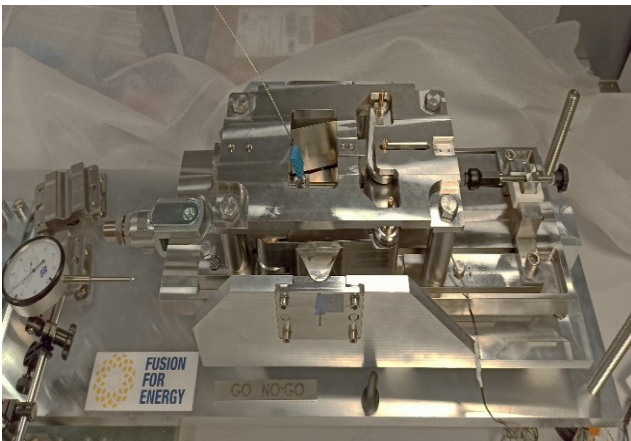
IVVS scanning head prototype (render) and components (real)



Prism support structure assembly



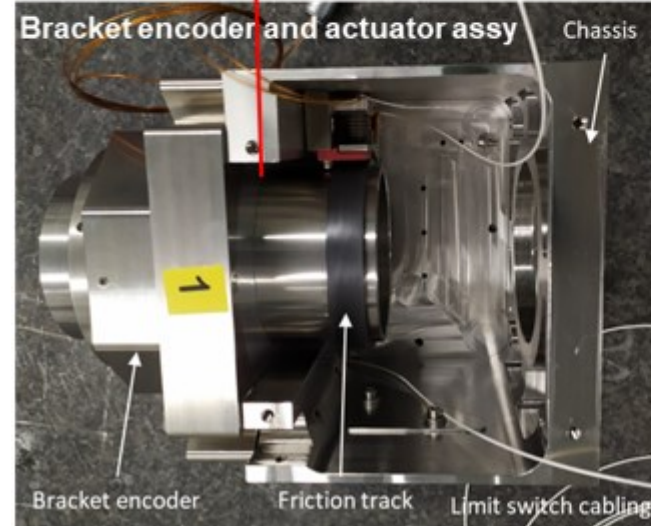
Prism mounting to mech. axle



IVVS – Full-scale prototype of the Traverse Latch – it is the seismic-resistant, magnetic field compatible and radiation tolerant device that locks the IVVS in position during a scan



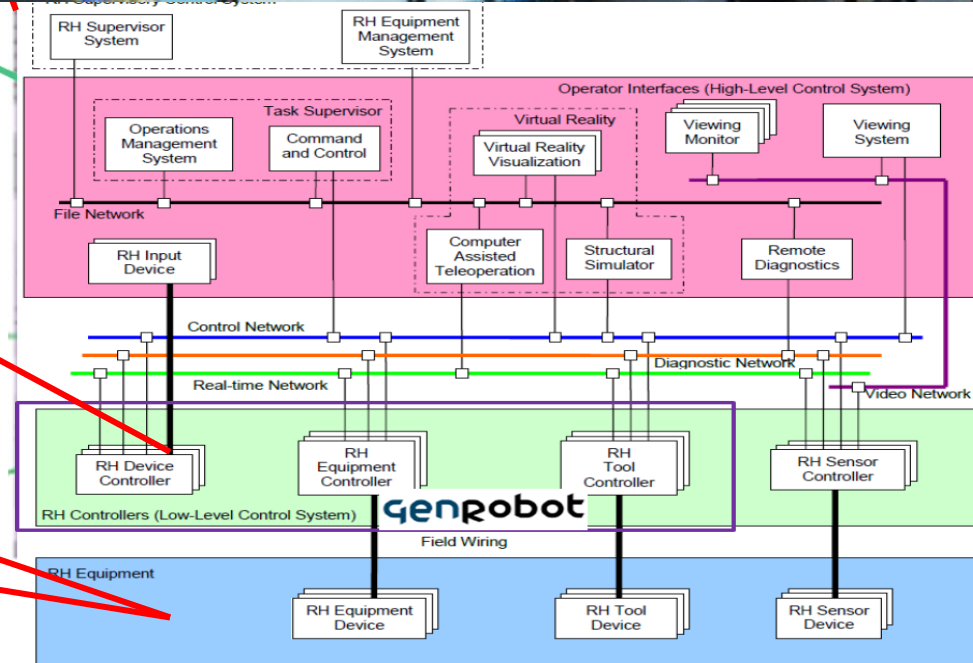
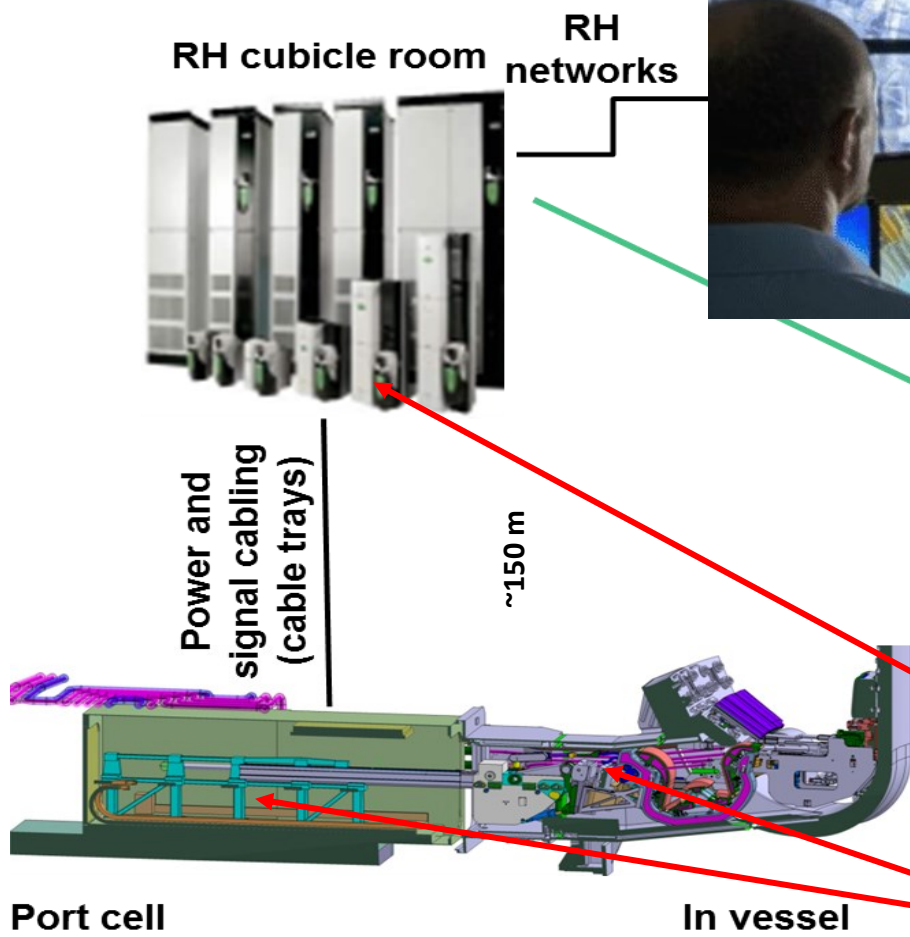
IVVS – Full-scale prototype of the Remote-handing Compatible Connector – it is the high-density electrical/optical connector assembly that services the IVVS Cartridge when installed; it must be connected/disconnected via remote tooling located in the CPRHS



Bracket encoder and actuator assy



# F4E RH Scope – RH Control System integration



- 6 main layers:
- Field equipment
- Cabling, connectors, junction boxes
- LLCS cubicles
- RH Networks
- HLCS - operators interfaces
- Supervisor

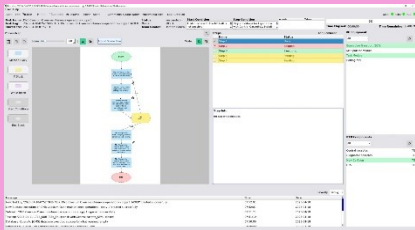
ITER remote maintenance is a complex, integrated and diffused system embedded in the nuclear plant (it includes many subsystems) and spread across various buildings



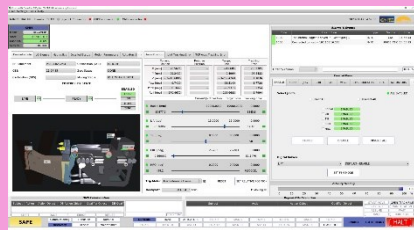
# Status of Control System Technologies - Operators Interfaces (High Level Control System)

## HIGH LEVEL CONTROL SYSTEM

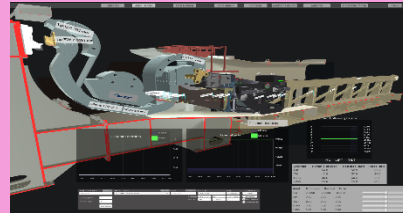
**Operation Management System (OMS)** to manage step by step operations sequences of RH tasks. GUIs for building, executing and analyzing RH tasks.



**Command and Control (C&C):** the primary operator GUI to remotely control and monitor RH devices through RH networks; interfaced to a Joystick for manually driven motion.

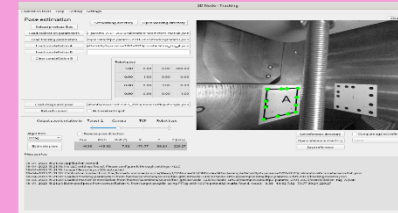


**Virtual Reality (VR):** to complement the Viewing System, to simulate **structural deformations**, to enable the anticipated detection of collision, to assist **Teleoperation**



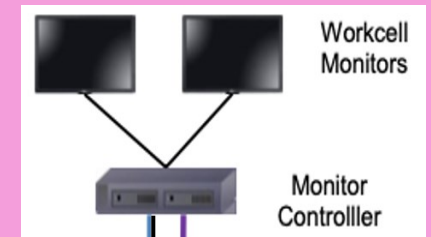
VIRTUAL REALITY SYSTEM

**3DNode Machine Vision:** to assist RH operations and Tele-operation.



RH OPERATIONS ASSISTANCE TOOLS

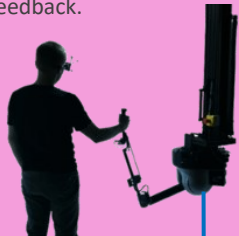
**Viewing System (VS)** for displaying camera views on the monitor displays of the RH workcell.



VIEWING SYSTEM

File Network

**Master Haptic Arm** to tele-operate the MAM slave arm with force feedback.



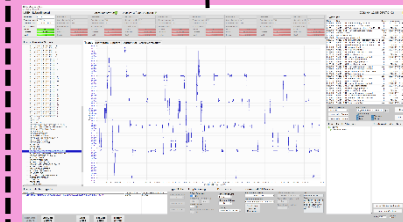
**Emergency Stop button**



**Joystick**

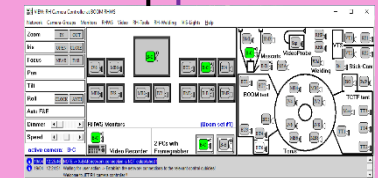


TASK SUPERVISOR



REMOTE DIAGNOSTICS

**Remote Diagnostic System (RDS)** enabling the monitoring of the equipment health status to detect and diagnose equipment degradation, before failure occur.



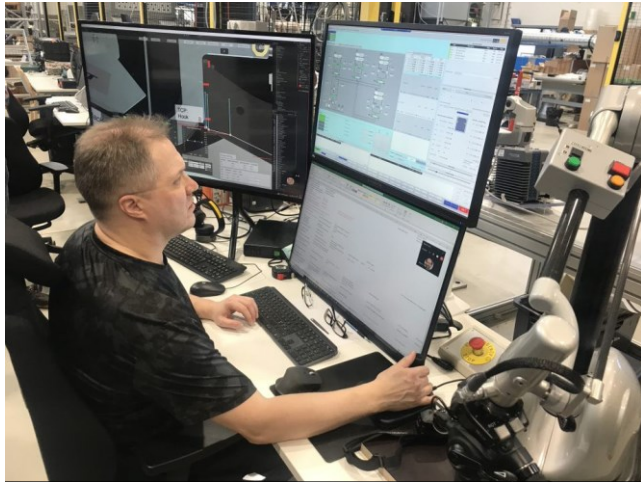
RH Control and Diagnostic Network

RH Real-Time Network

RH Audio-Video Network

RH Estop Network

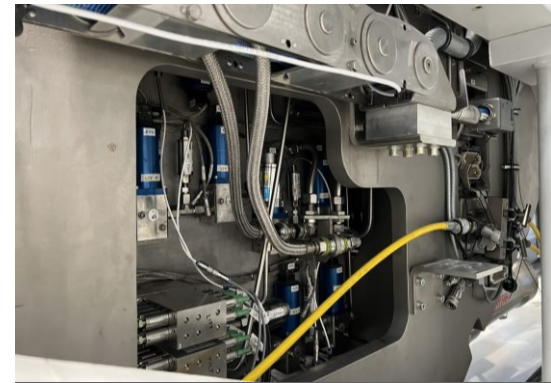
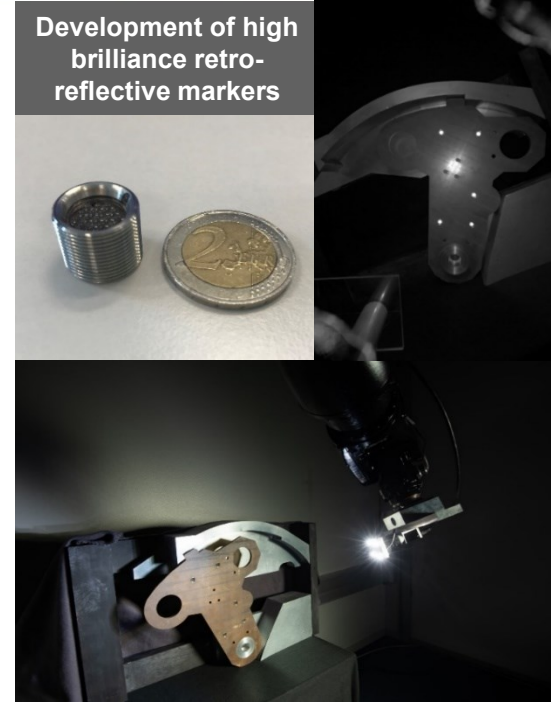
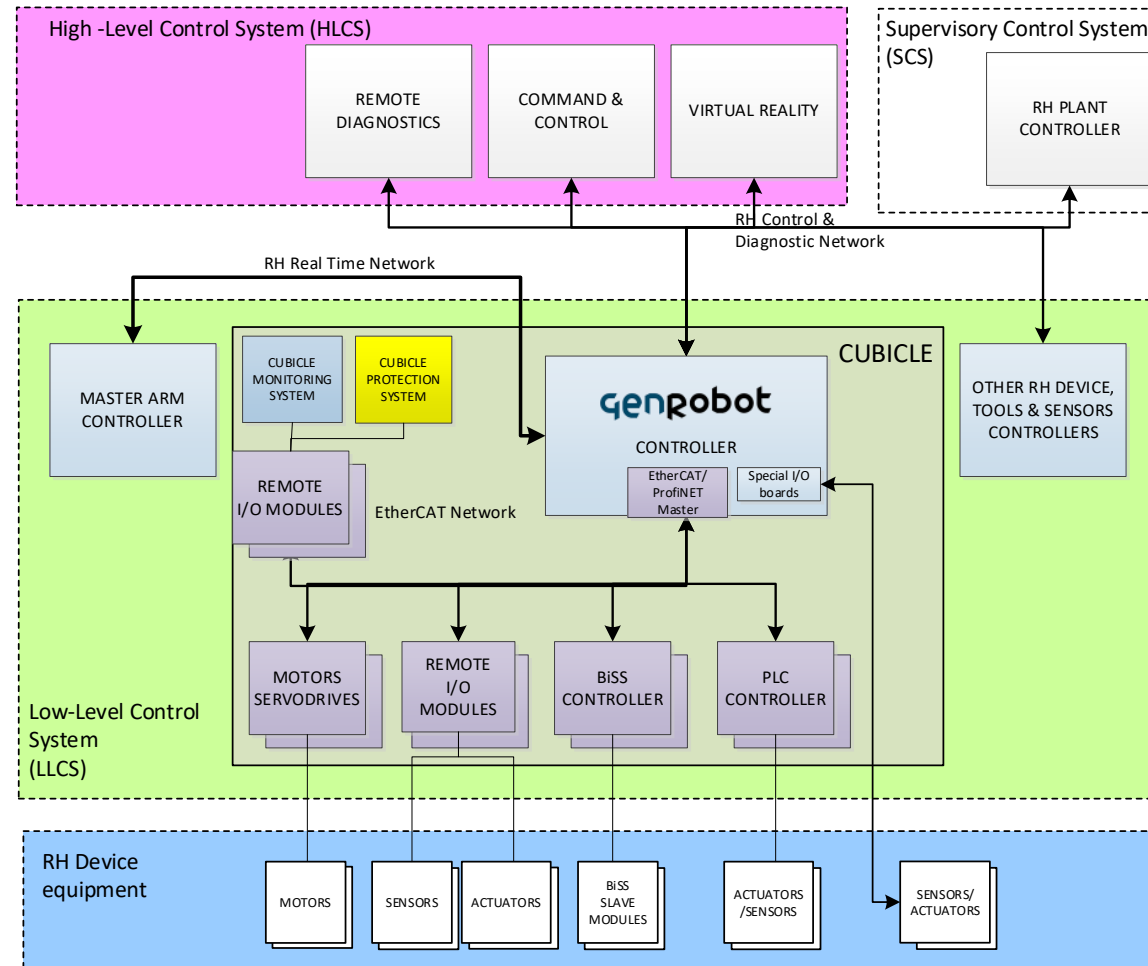
# Status of Control System Technologies – GENROBOT, 3DMarkers and Integration @ DTP2



Tests at DTP2 on central cassette removal with new technologies on board of CMM: Genrobot control software and digital valves for hydraulic actuators



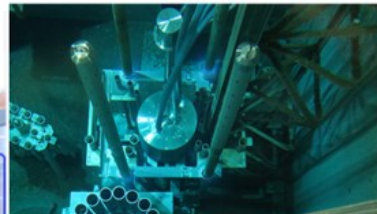
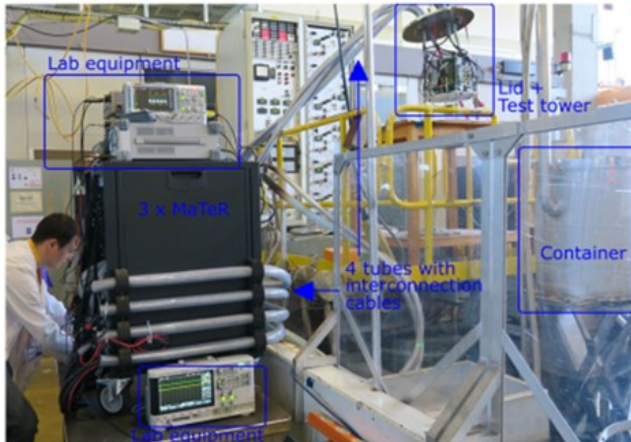
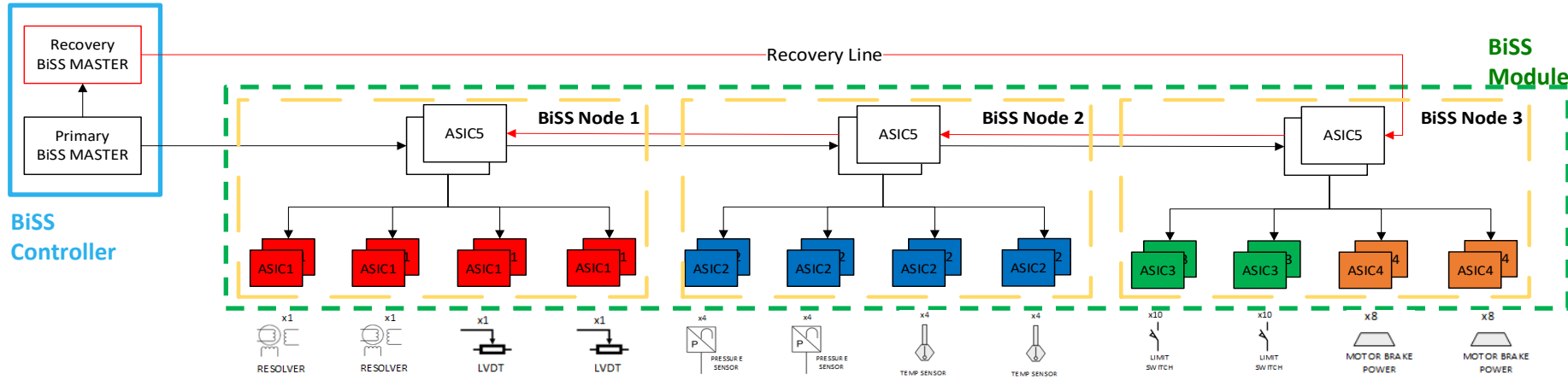
DTP2 lab during central cassette handling tests



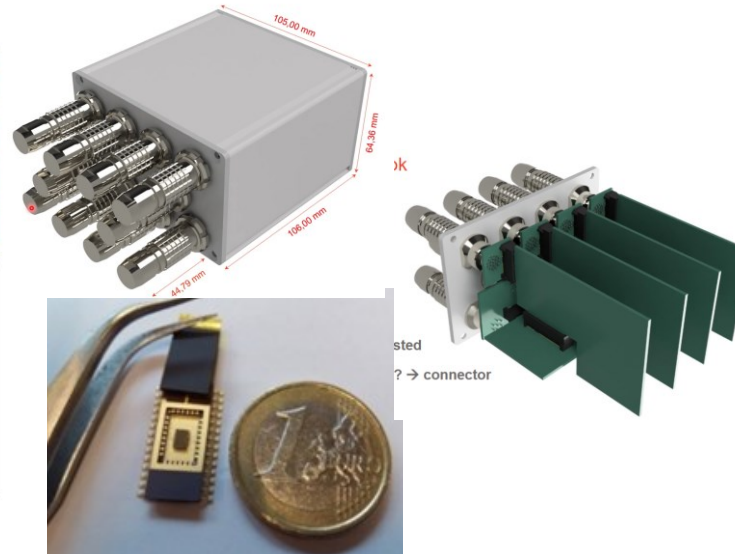
DTP2 – upgraded CMM hydraulics with digital valves on board



# Status Control System Technologies – 1MGy Radhard BiSS Multiplexers



Set up (left) and execution (above) of gamma ray tests at 1 MGy on electronics for multiplexers for RH application



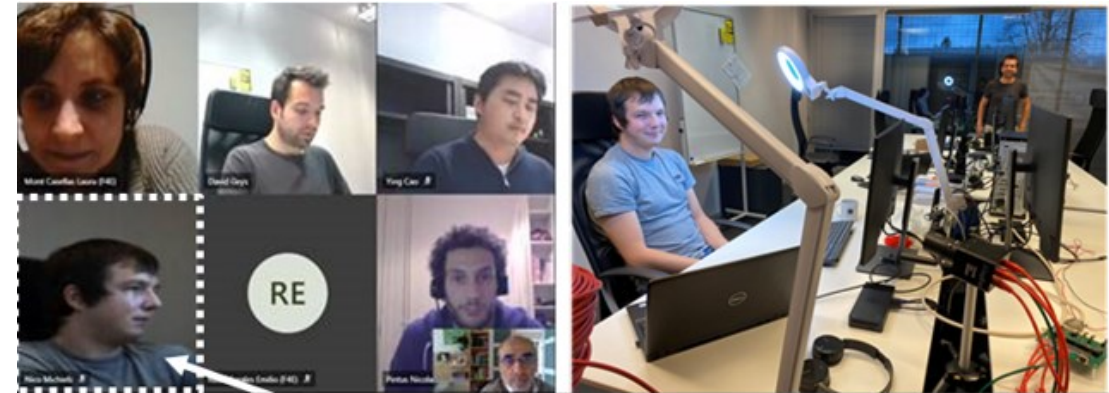
150-m cable communication tests for BiSS module and irradiated ASICs (5 typologies)



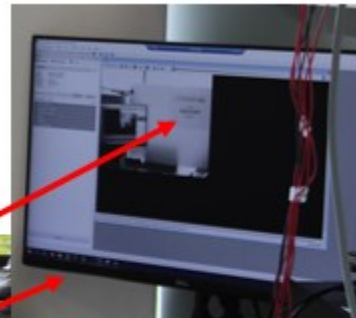
# Status of Control System Technologies – 1MGy Radhard Cameras



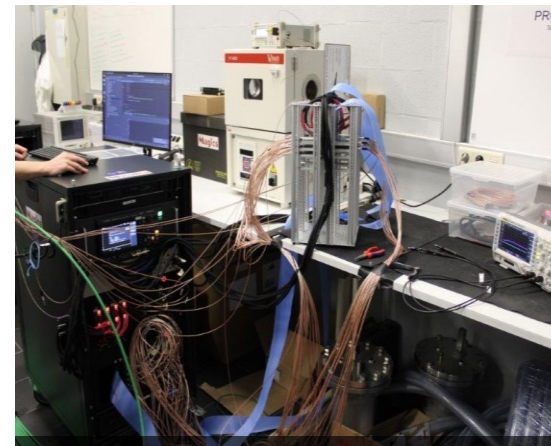
Lab tests on 1-MGy-rated camera sensor (left) and sample image taken after 1MGy  $\gamma$ -irradiation (right)



Camera demo with novel rad-hard chips in use for videoconf.



Rad-Tol – Test on camera serializer  
Image sent via the 1MGy-rated serializer and displayed on the PC



Test tower containing the samples of the Proxima chip (i.e. camera serializer) being characterized at different T and V levels before irradiation experiment.



Team from MAGICS supervising the test tower being lifted down to gamma irradiation facility RITA at SCK-CEN.





We have held DRHS Preliminary Design Review (January 2019), NBRHS crane and IVVS PDR (January 2020), CPRHS 1<sup>st</sup> assembly units FDR (April 2023). We have entered the final design phase, too.

Lab test and prototyping are running in parallel with main design activities, complemented by thematic workshops

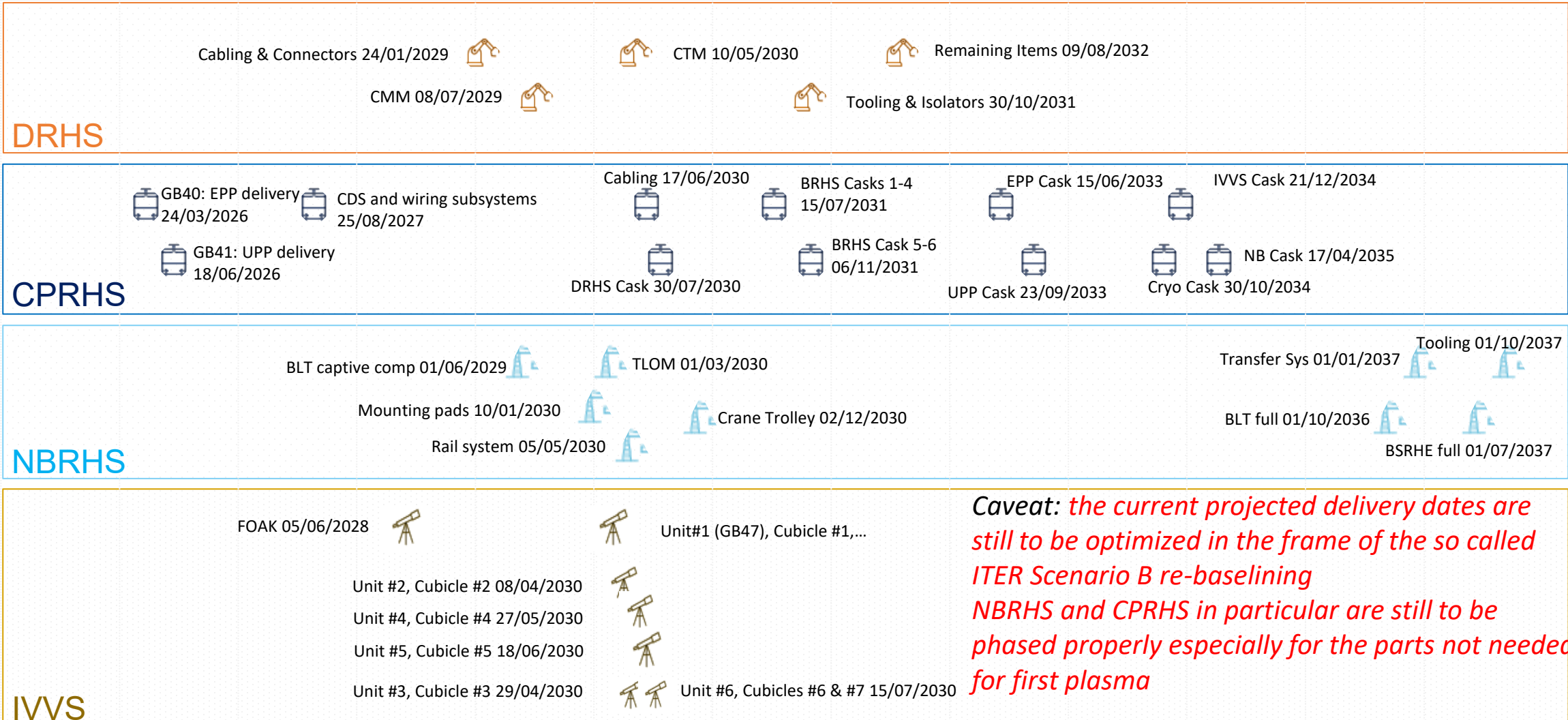
## Involved industries and laboratories :

- DRHS (OMF 340 lot 1): **AEIL (started 04/2014)**, Ariane-Framatome, Wood - expired
- CPRHS (OMF 577): **CNIM-Bertin (09/16)** – contract with 1<sup>st</sup> in cascade terminated
- NBRHS (OMF 340 lot 3): **Jacobs (03/2015)**, AEIL, Nuvia-Cegelec - expired
- IVVS (OMF 383): **Bertin-CNIM (11/2015)**, Tecnatom
- Engineering support contract (OMF 1034): **ANN (10/2020)**, Assystem France, Onet
  
- Active grant beneficiaries: VTT, TAU, Tamlink, Fluiconnecto
- Other contractors and sub-contractors: RACE, REEL, Walischmiller, Ab Solving Oy, ASE Optics Europe, ISAE-SUPAERO, Magics Instruments, TreeC and GTD – besides, there is a significant number of external service providers across the various suppliers
- For technical staff insourcing: Leonardo, ATG, and Latesys

# Projected delivery dates as they stand today

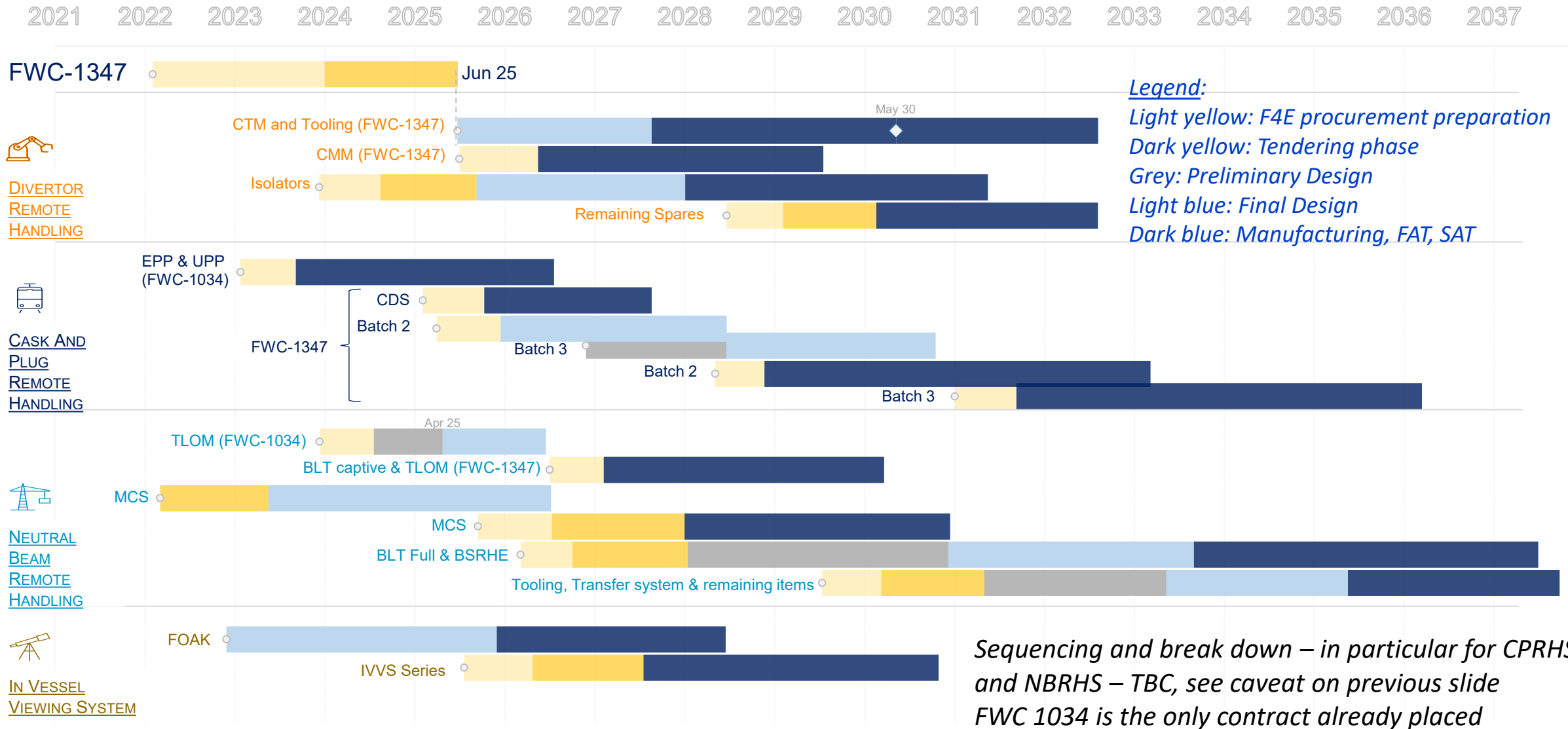


2025      2026      2027      2028      2029      2030      2031      2032      2033      2034      2035      2036      2037





# Procurement overview (aligned with delivery dates)

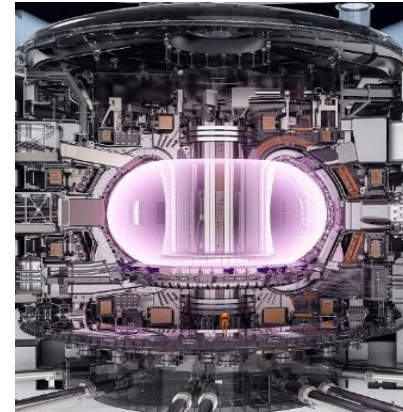




- The previous slide shows a significant number of tenders to be launched (>18), typically medium-large, for final design and/or manufacturing. We have a long term program extending beyond 2035 still to be implemented, much larger than the one that has been done so far.
- The range of pre-developed and novel radhard and control system technologies to be integrated in each RH system is large, there is a need for a collaborative approach between integrators and specialized companies.
- Opportunities for SMEs too, can materialize in different areas typically as subcontractors to main suppliers.
- Tenders opened to non-nuclear industries for RH equipment without nuclear safety functionalities.
- We definitively need, and privilege, industries with open and dynamic collaborative approach.
- Stay tuned on our call for tenders from early 2024 onwards!









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**Thank you for your attention**

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