

TNO Glass Group 2011

Expertise

- Glass Melting Technology
- Process Simulations (experimental, thermodynamic, CFD) for process design & process operation
- Model Based Process Control of Glass Furnaces
- Sensor Development for High Temperature Processes
- Energy Efficiency & Emissions of Glass Production



Independent Research Organization

- Applied Scientific Research
- ±4500 Professionals
- Based in the Netherlands
- Co-operation with many EU universities

Main fields:

- Health Care & Life Sciences
- Maritime
- Buildings
- Earth Sciences
- Materials Science
- Energy & Environment
- Military R&D
- Industrial Innovation

- **Support glass industries & their suppliers, by**
 - Innovative solutions for energy efficient, environmental sound and high quality glass production
 - Applying fundamental R&D results in practice
 - Developing and teach glass technology training courses
 - Enhancing transfer of know-how
 - Use Multi-disciplinary approaches
 - Develop network to communicate
 - Glass industry – suppliers – academia – R&D institutes - government
 - Develop tools for improving glass productions
 - Simulation models
 - Measuring methods
 - Sensors
 - Process Control

Glass industries have access to economical feasible technologies to produce high quality glasses with

- High energy efficient processes
(15 - 25 % energy reduction from 2005 to 2020-2030)
- Solution of environmental problems
- Closed raw materials chains (recycling)
- Optimum controlled production processes
- Highly educated & trained personnel

Target Groups/Customers

- **Glass Industries**
 - Float glass
 - Container glass
 - Fibre Glass
 - Special Glass
 - Tableware/domestic
- **Raw Material & Equipment Suppliers**
 - Raw materials: sand, soda, borax,
 - Refractory materials
 - Industrial gases
 - Furnaces
 - Air Pollution Control equipment
- **Solar industries**
- **Governmental Institutions**
 - National (USA, Netherlands, Germany, UK,...)
 - EU organizations

Glass melting

Solar

Modeling of processes

Process Control



The glass industry
produces a large
spectrum of products



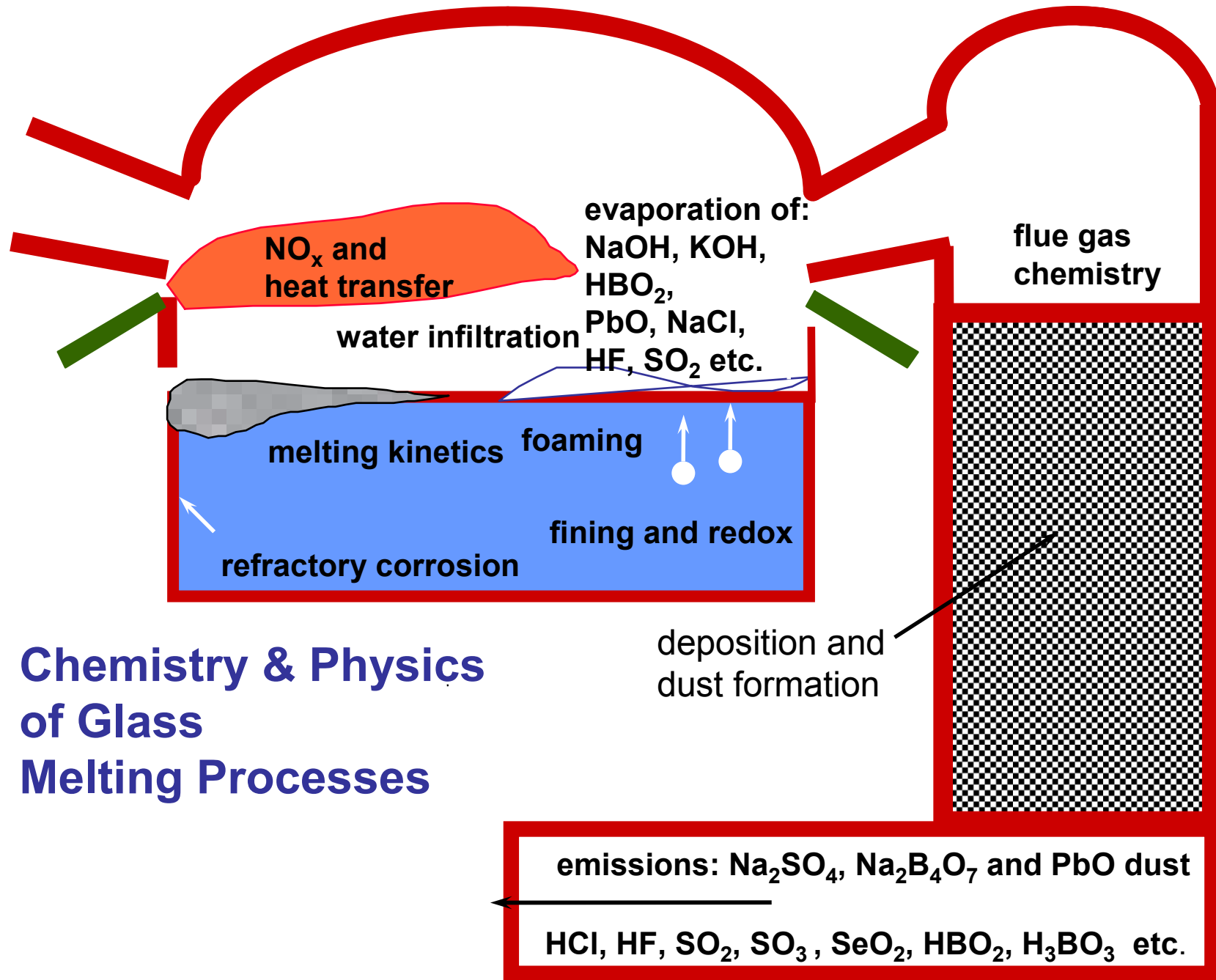
Drivers in process innovation:

- Greenhouse gas reduction / EU-ETS
- Energy efficiency targets
- Emissions (i.e. NOx, SOx, dust, ...)
- Costs and yield optimization
- Toxic components (i.e. lead, ...)
- Competence (i.e. training, ...)
- Recycling
- Quality
- Flexibility of production
- Furnace lifetime

Differentiation on segment (flat, container, ..) & region (Europe, ..)

Basic Approach(es)

1. Understand the basics of glass production processes
 - Chemistry & Thermodynamics
 - Heat & Mass Transfer
 - Interaction between different phases (glass melt – atmosphere – refractory)
2. Simulate process steps by dedicated experiments
(Design experimental set-ups)
 - Laboratory equipment for simulations
 - Measuring glass melt properties
3. Describe process steps or phenomena by simulation models
4. Use simulation models to find optimum process design & process settings
5. Use experiments or industrial measurements to validate predictive process models
6. Use models to investigate process dynamics & develop control strategies



**Chemistry & Physics
of Glass
Melting Processes**

Glass melt technology

Energy reduction:

- energy benchmarking, energy balance models, batch preheating technology, glass tank design, oxy-fuel combustion, combustion technology, melting fluxes

Emission abatement:

- NO_x reduction: burner optimization, LowNO_x furnace designs, NO_x sensor & control
- CO₂ emission reduction: energy efficiency improvement, de-carbonated batch
- SO_x emission reduction: minimization sulfate fining addition, alternative fining

Reduction of other volatiles:

- Reduction Na, F, B, Se via optimized furnace settings and new batch additives
- Emission predictive models
- New environmentally sound glass compositions

Recycling:

- Closing the product lifecycle: high % cullet recycling, control defects,
- Recycling of internal waste streams: recycling of filter dust
- Sorting of cullet and removal of pollutants from cullet

Glass quality (new glass compositions)

- Optimization of fining and homogenization

Main glass technology areas

Raw materials:

- alternative sodium raw materials, pelletizing, batch preheating

Refractory corrosion:

- superstructure model refractory attack
- melt-refractory attack

Process modelling:

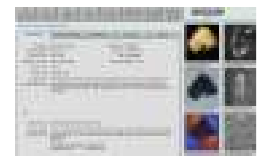
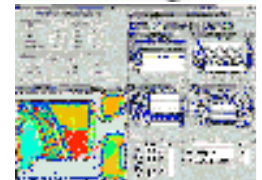
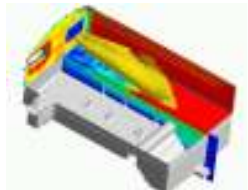
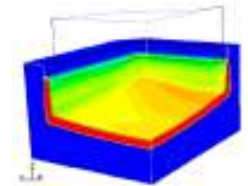
glass tank simulation model: furnace design (integrated models for the melter, batch, combustion space, boosting, feeder models)

Process diagnosis & analysis:

- glass process analyser (GPA)
- soft-sensing via simulation models
- glass defects database
- process sensors: CO-NOx sensor, in-situ redox sensor batch
- energy saving potentials

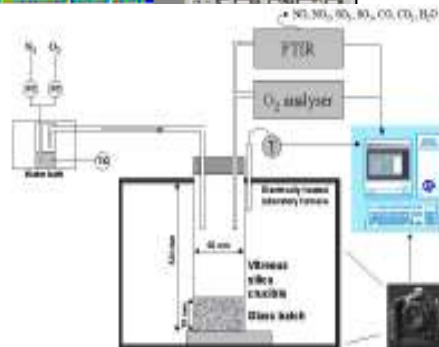
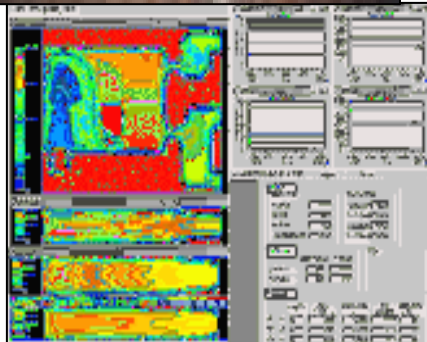
Process control:

- model based predictive control based on GPS and GPA



- **Field support**
 - Energy benchmarking
 - Emission measurements
 - Mass balance measurements
 - Model validation measurements
 - Furnace audits
 - Improvement projects, defect reduction
- **Laboratory measurements**
 - Characterization of foaming behavior and evaporation
 - Estimation of dissolved gases
 - Evolved Gas Analysis during Melting & Fining
 - Fining & Batch melting
 - Redox analysis
 - Evaporation & Carry-over experiments
 - Measurements: surface tension, density and thermal expansion
 - Refractory exposure tests

Facilities



- Experimental set-up to simulate processes
- Experimental equipment for glass melt properties
- Mobile laboratory for field-measurements
- Computational Fluid Dynamic Models Glass Furnaces
- Process Control Software
- Glass Technology Textbook (800 pages, 2011)



TNO dedicated **Lab-experiments** to investigate process steps for industrial glass melting:

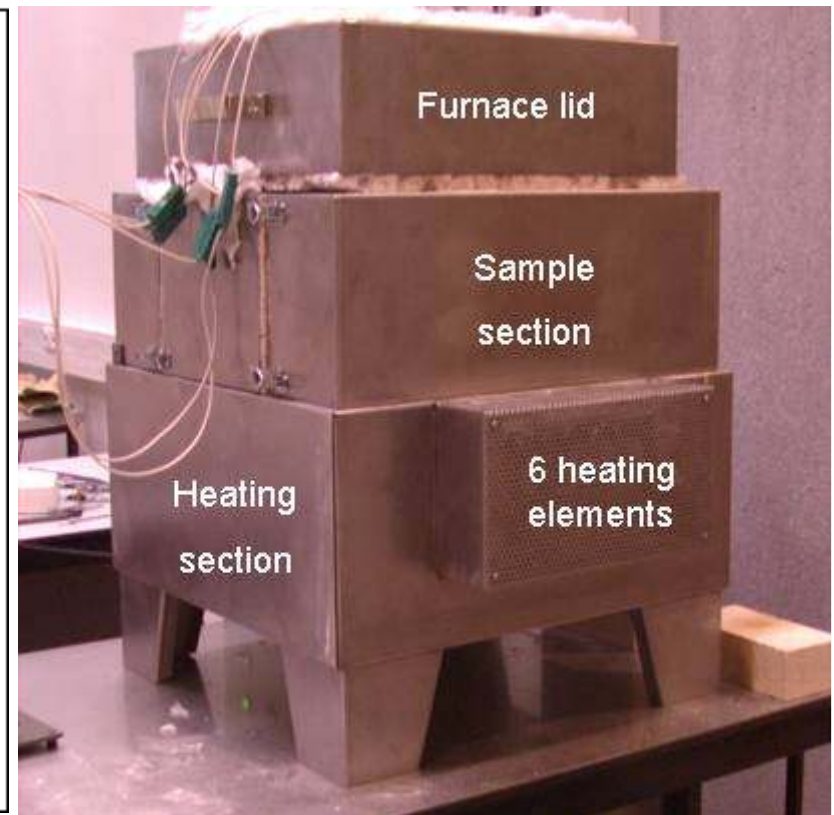
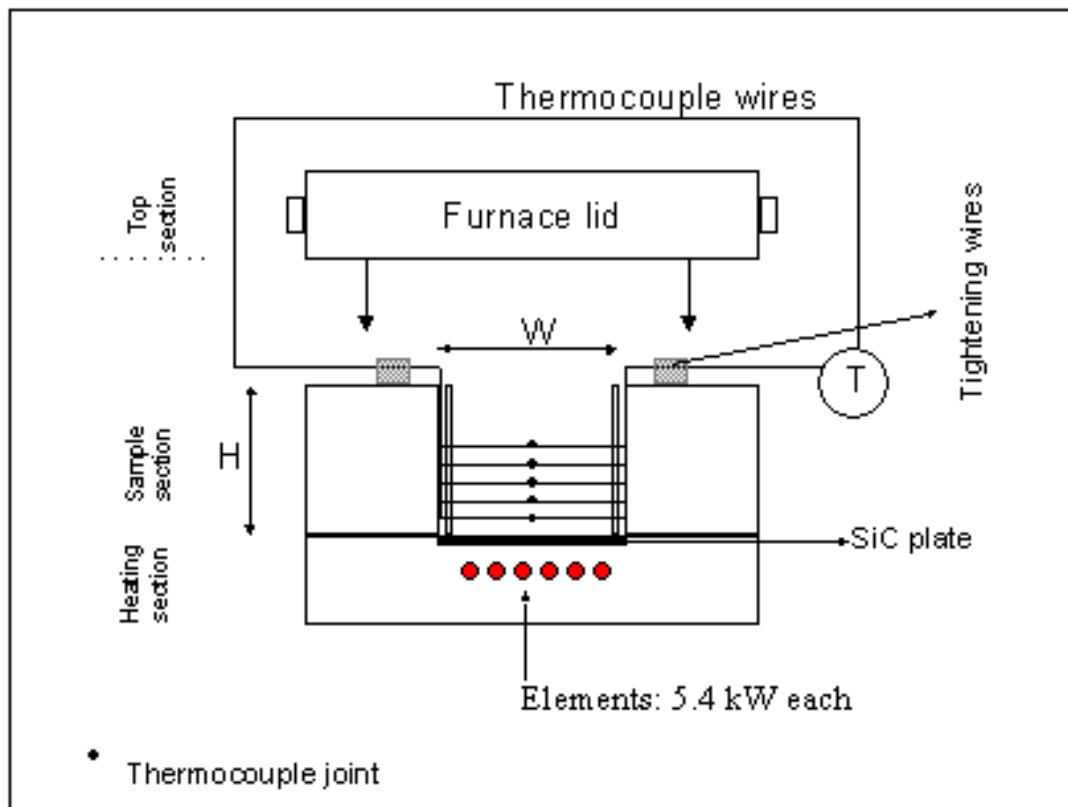
Examples

1. Bubble observation (fining/refining) in glass melts
2. Foaming behavior of batches
3. Evolved gas analysis during melting-in and fining
 - to study reactions during batch melting & batch chemistry
4. Characterization of batch blankets
5. Transpiration glass melt evaporation tests
6. Corrosion tests for refractory materials
7. Batch melting studies

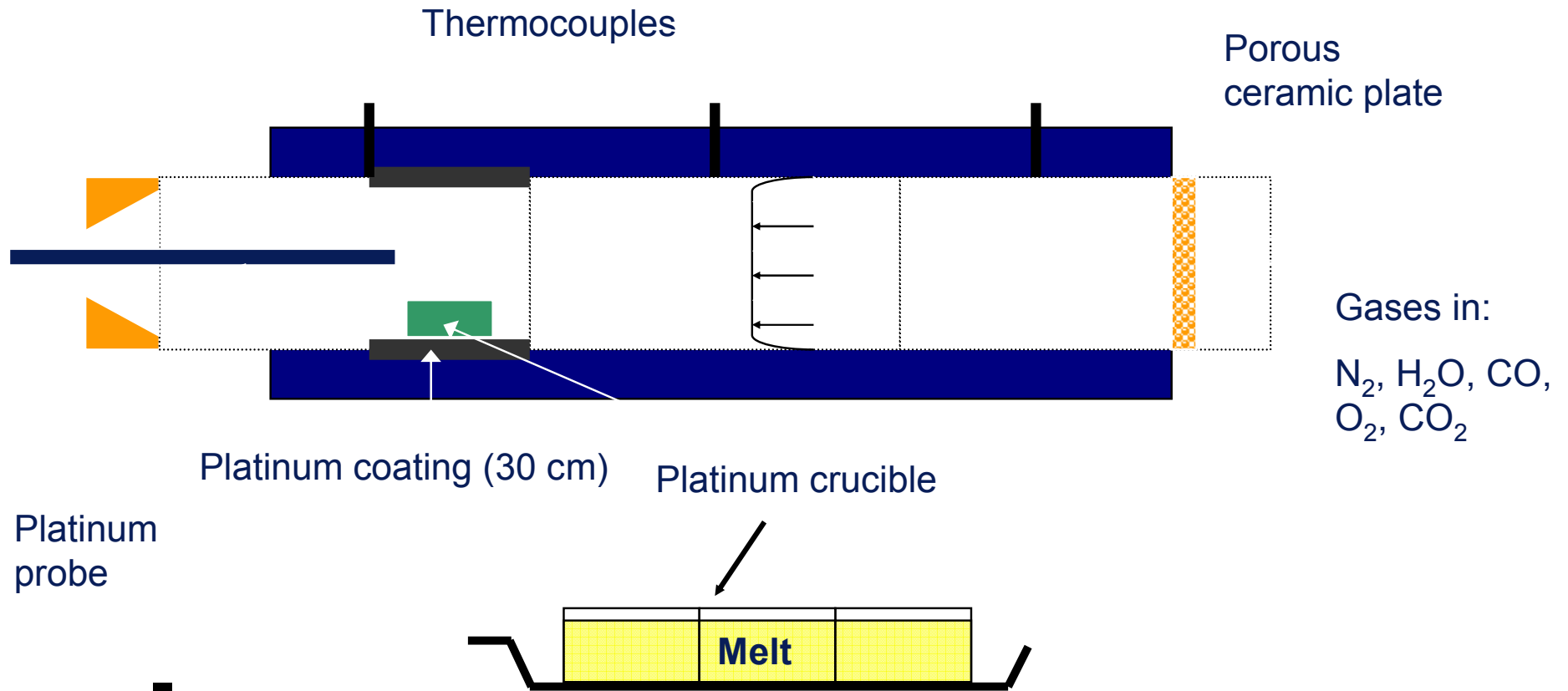


Characterization of batch

Experimental set-up for determination of thermal heat conductivity of batch blanket



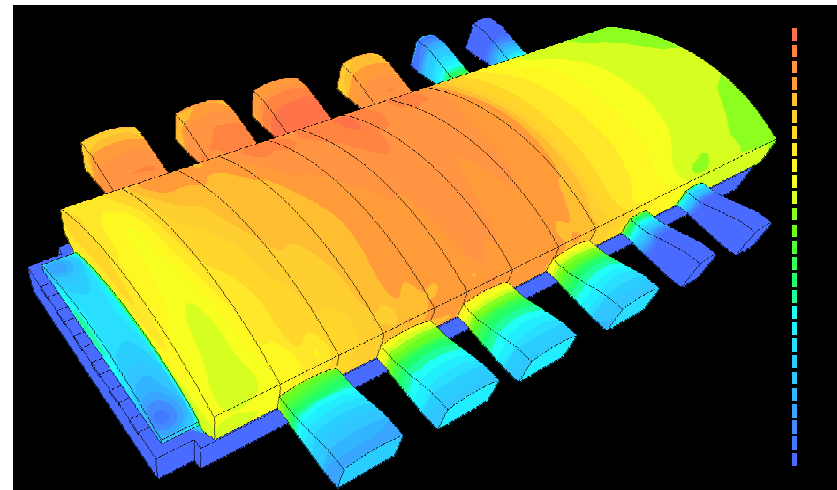
Transpiration evaporation test methods



- Computational Fluid Dynamics
 - Glass melting
 - Glass furnaces
 - Combustion
- Thermodynamic Models
 - Sulfate fining
 - Refractory corrosion
 - Evaporation studies

Important data:

- Glass melt properties
- **Properties of Gases in Melts**
- Radiation in melt
- Redox reactions
- Sulfate chemistry
- **Batch blanket properties**



Glass

- Batch models
 - 2.5D, 3D, 2-phase
- Radiation models:
 - Rosseland
 - (spectral) DOM
- Electrical boosting
- Bubbling
- Foam model
- Crown model
- Stirring
- Energy sources
- Particle trace
- Redox
- Glass colour change
- Non-linear mixing
- Volatilization
- 3D & 1D walls
- Glass surface height
- Thermal homogeneity
- Refractory wear
- Glass quality indices

Main Model

- Navier-Stokes
 - Finite Volume
 - Energy (buoyancy)
- Steady-state & transient
- State-of-the-art solvers
- Multiple Domains
- Grid:
 - body-fitted
 - multi-block
 - multi-level grids
 - structured
 - collocated
 - p-modifiers
- Parallel
- Materials Database

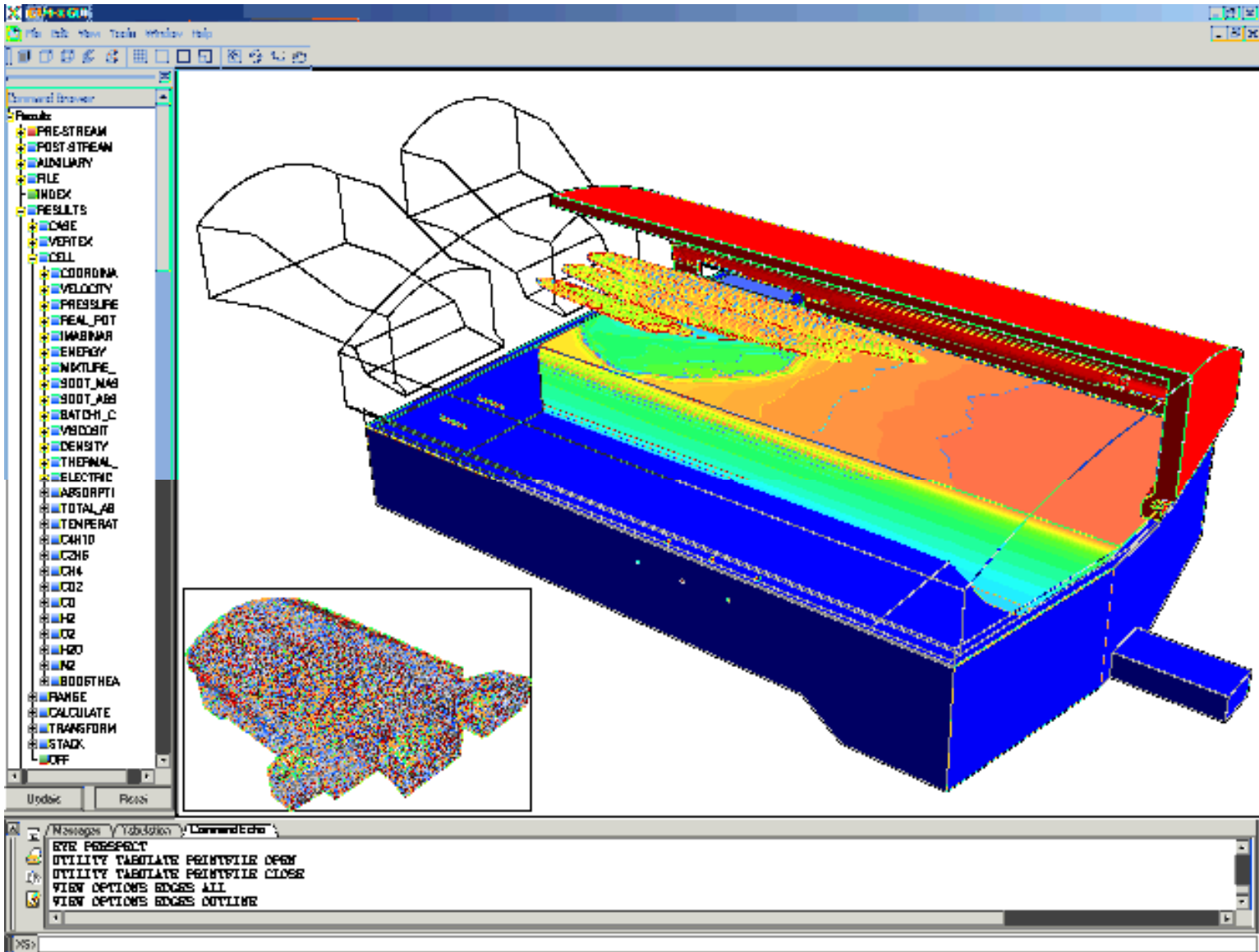
Combustion

- Radiation models:
 - (spectral) DOM
- Combustion models:
 - Flamesheet model
 - f-g PDF model
 - Dissociation correction
 - FLAME
 - Soot formation/oxidation
 - NOx formation
 - CO
 - Oil
 - Oxy-fuel & oxy-boosting
- Turbulence models:
 - k-e
 - RSM
 - Durbin
 - Elliptical Blending
- Volatilization
- Refractory corrosion
- 3D & 1D walls

GUI

- Pre-processor (Pre-Stream)
- Post-processor (Post-Stream)

Design, Optimization, Trouble-shooting

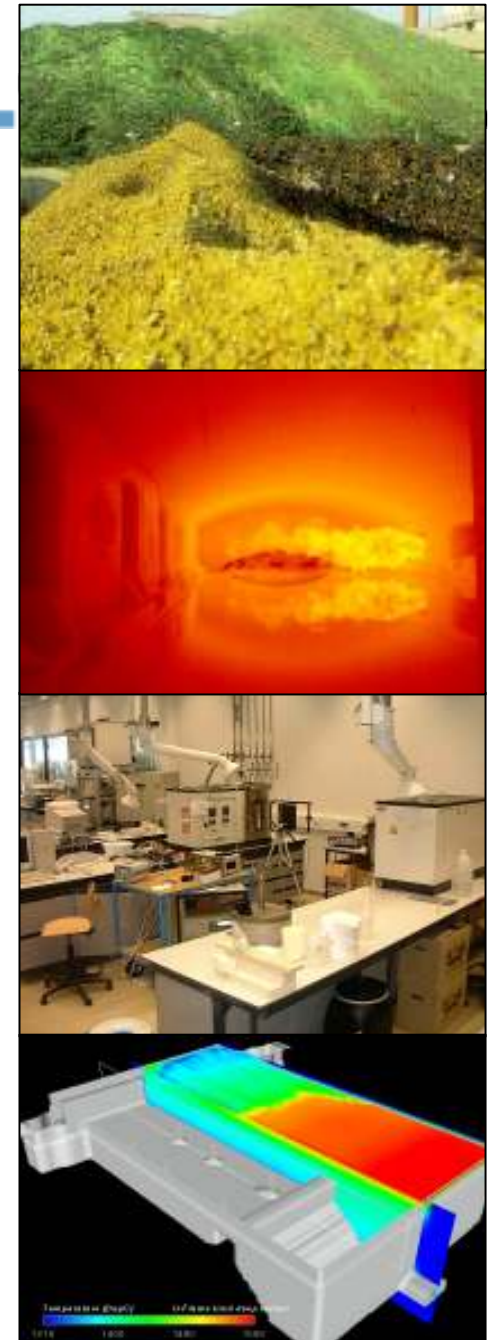


Application of CFD models

- For furnace design (lowest energy, highest glass quality)
 - Optimum depth of tank
 - Position bubblers or dam or burners
 - Size and design of throat
 - Design combustion chamber (LOWNOx, less evaporation)
- For optimum process settings
 - Optimum fuel-boosting ratio
 - Temperature profile (energy distribution)
 - Bubbling rate
 - Creation of distinct spring zone to avoid short cut
- Time-transient (time dependent) for colour or pull change
 - Optimize colour change process: reduce transition time
- Time-transient for process control (rMPC)
 - Sensors give model continuous new information: model tracking
 - Model → continuously recommendation for input parameter changes to follow optimum process path (low energy, glass quality, constant T)

Industrial projects, products & services

- **Software tools (process simulation) for:**
 - Combustion, melting (glass, silicon), coating
 - Equipment (furnaces, processes, CVD) design
 - Process control
- **Training courses Glass Technology**
- **Energy / Emission reduction programs in industry**
- **R&D for developing new technologies**
 - Energy savings: flue gas heat recovery
 - Low emissions glass production
 - Recycling technologies
 - Glass composition developments
 - New furnace designs
- **Process measurements**
 - Industrial measurements at production plants
 - Laboratory research on melting & fining
 - Optical characterization & Measurement techniques (sensors)



Gaps in knowledge glass melting technology

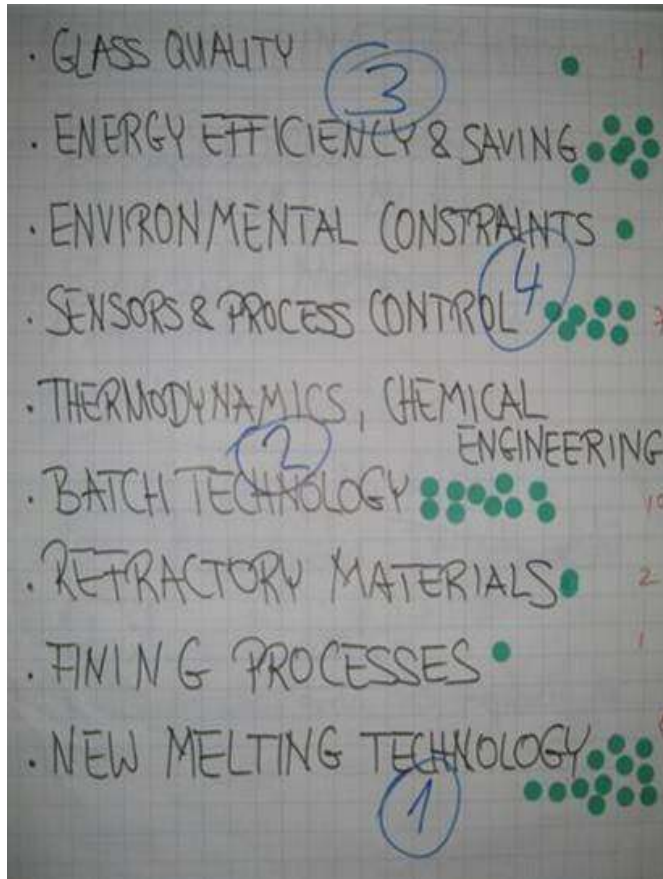
- Quantitative information on glass melt / refractory interaction
 - effect of non-uniform refractory materials (e.g. AZS) on lifetime, corrosion
- Mechanism and model of foam formation & foam decay
- Control of glass melt flow patterns in tank
- Total heat transfer to batch blanket
- Physical fining for large scale glass melting
- Characterisation of glass (melt) homogeneity
- Information/properties
 - Gases in glass (solubility, reaction equilibria, diffusion)
 - Redox reaction phenomena
 - Relations glass defects versus causes, for bubbles and some cords
- Melting and forming SLS glasses $< 12\% \text{ Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O} + \text{Li}_2\text{O}$
- Selenium retention, ways to increase retention
- Limits of LowNOx combustion (CO, NOx, oxygen excess, flame size)
- Sulphate chemistry in batch & melt
 - Role of sulphites?
 - Fining of amber glass?
 - Effect of cokes / sulphate on efficiency of fining & colour of glass

- 3-4 Years:
 - Advanced process control in glass furnaces
 - Availability validated thermodynamic models for glass
 - Full training course on technology of glass production

- 8 Years:
 - New methods for waste heat (flue gas heat) recovery
 - New chemical sensors for glass melts
 - Next generation glass melter (faster, energy efficient)
 - Improved data on solubility and diffusivity of gases in glass (melts)
 - Pre-treatment of batch (raw materials) using flue gas heat contents: increased melting rates and lower energy demand for melting of these batches
 - Full model based control systems for furnaces

- 10-15 Years:
 - Sustainable energy / biomass fuelled glass furnaces
 - Further improvement next gen glass melter (RAPID Melter)
 - New fining methods, industrially applicable
 - Replacement of energy-intensive raw materials

ICG-Brig 2008: Prioritizing of thematic clusters



1. **New Melting Technologies (12)**
2. **Tailored Batch Technology (10)**
3. **Energy Efficiency and Waste Heat Recovery (8)**
4. **Advanced Sensors and Process Control (7)**
5. Higher Temperature Refractory Materials
6. Advanced Fining Processes
7. Primary measures for emission reduction
8. Glass Quality

Course on Thermodynamics & Chemical Engineering for Glass Technologists

Past TNO Glass Group PhD studies

- Deposits & Condensation of Flue Gases in Glass Furnaces
- Crystallization behavior of a fluorozirconate glass
- Glass Defects originating from Glass Melt/Fused Cast AZS Refractory Interaction
- Redox behavior and fining of molten glass
- Foaming of Glass Melts
- Optical waveguide amplifiers based on Er-doped phosphate glasses
- Towards more efficient Praseodymium Doped Fibre Amplifiers for the O-band
- Germanium Gallium Sulfide Glasses for Pr-doped Fiber Amplifiers at 1.3 μm
- Radiative Heat Transfer in Glass: The Algebraic Raw Trace Method
- Thermal & chemical behavior of glass forming batches
- Diffusion in Multi-component Silicate Glass Melts
- Reduction of process simulation models (a proper orthogonal decomposition approach)
- Control of Glass Melting Processes based on Reduced CFD Models
- Foam glass production from vitrified municipal waste fly ashes
- Optical method for temperature profile measurements in glass melts
- Modeling of evaporation processes in glass melting furnaces

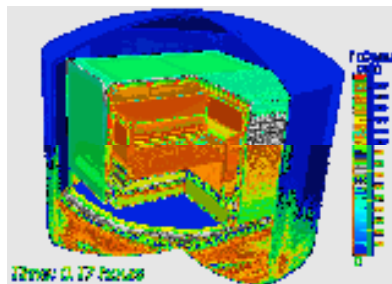
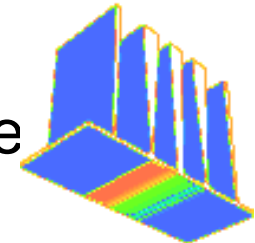
(co-operation with universities)

- Detailed models for evaporation from glass melts
- Glass homogeneity and effect of stirring on it
- Behavior of bubbles and dissolved gases in a glass melt
- Interaction between refractory and glass melt
- New fining methods (He, vacuum, ultrasonic)
- Chemistry & thermodynamics of sulphur species in glass melt & batch
- Gas Solubility and Diffusion in Glass Melts
- Combustion and NOx modeling
- Advanced process control
- High temperature sensors
- New methods for batch melting
- Modified glass compositions and tailored batch

New activities for Solar

- **Objectives**

- Efficiency improvement PV-cell / modules
- Cost reduction: Development of profitable and scalable processes, including silicon & glass production
- Increased device lifetime: Reliability & Performance stability



- **Expertise:**

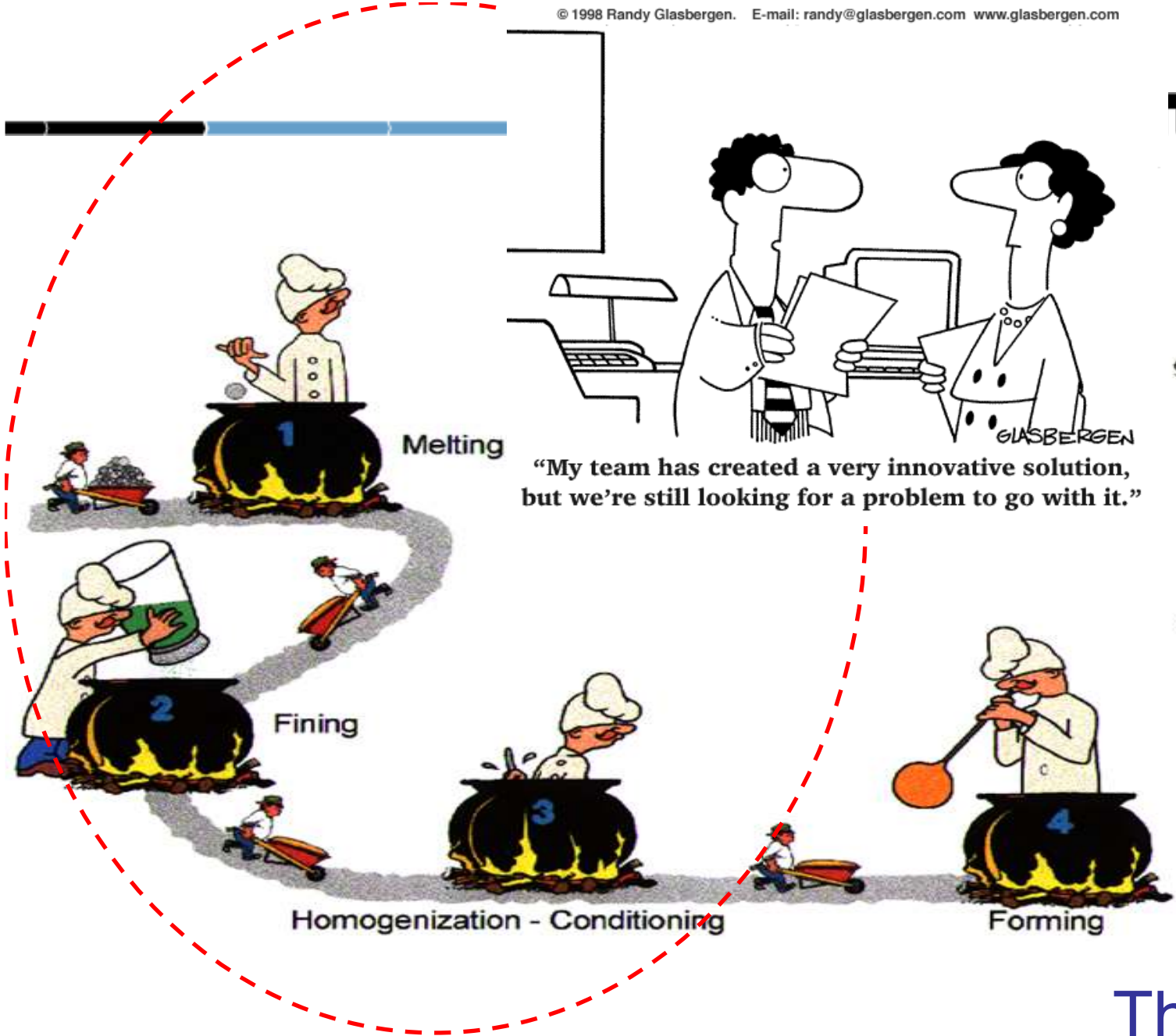
- GTM-X Modelling of silicon melting & purification
- GTM-X modelling of coating processes for PV modules
- Glass production technology for glass substrates
- Thermodynamics of silicon purification & melting

NO innovation
for life



“My team has created a very innovative solution, but we’re still looking for a problem to go with it.”

Step melting
giving excellent glass



Thank you!