

Saline Water Conversion Corporation
Saline Water Desalination Research Institute (SWDRI)

Evolution of Thermal Desalination Processes

Dr. OSMAN AHMED HAMED

OUTLINE

- ❑ **Background**

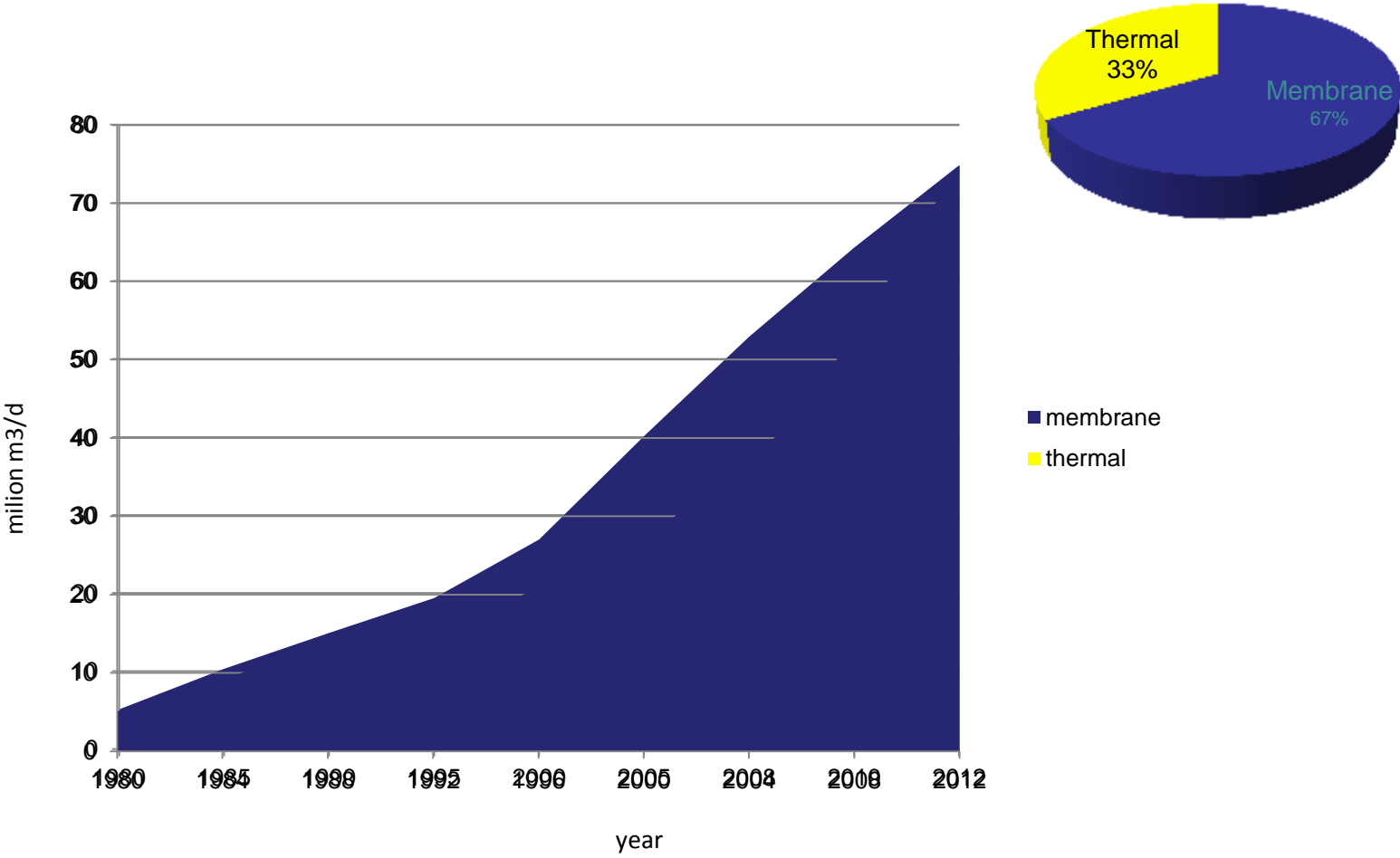
- ❑ **Evolution of MSF desalination plants**

- ❑ **Evolution of MED desalination plants**

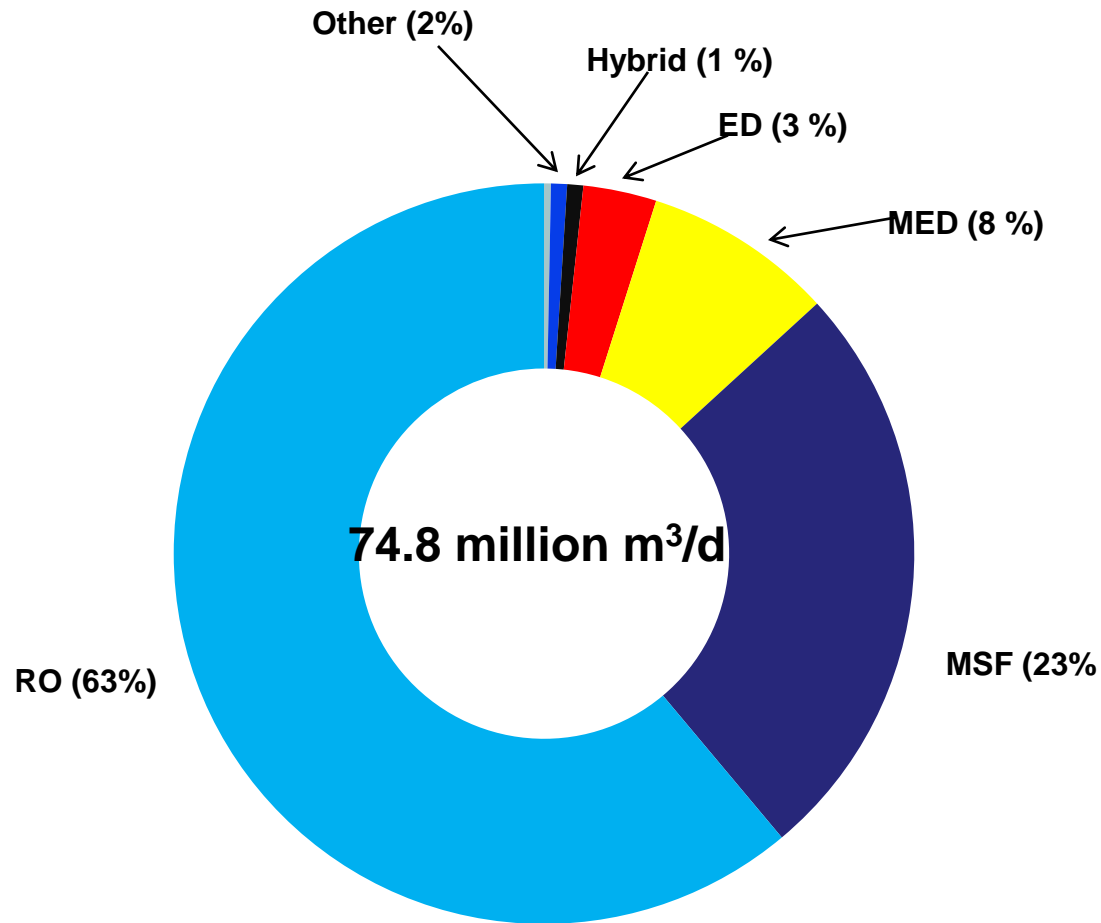
- ❑ **Dual purpose power/water and hybrid desalination plants**

- ❑ **R&D Prospects**

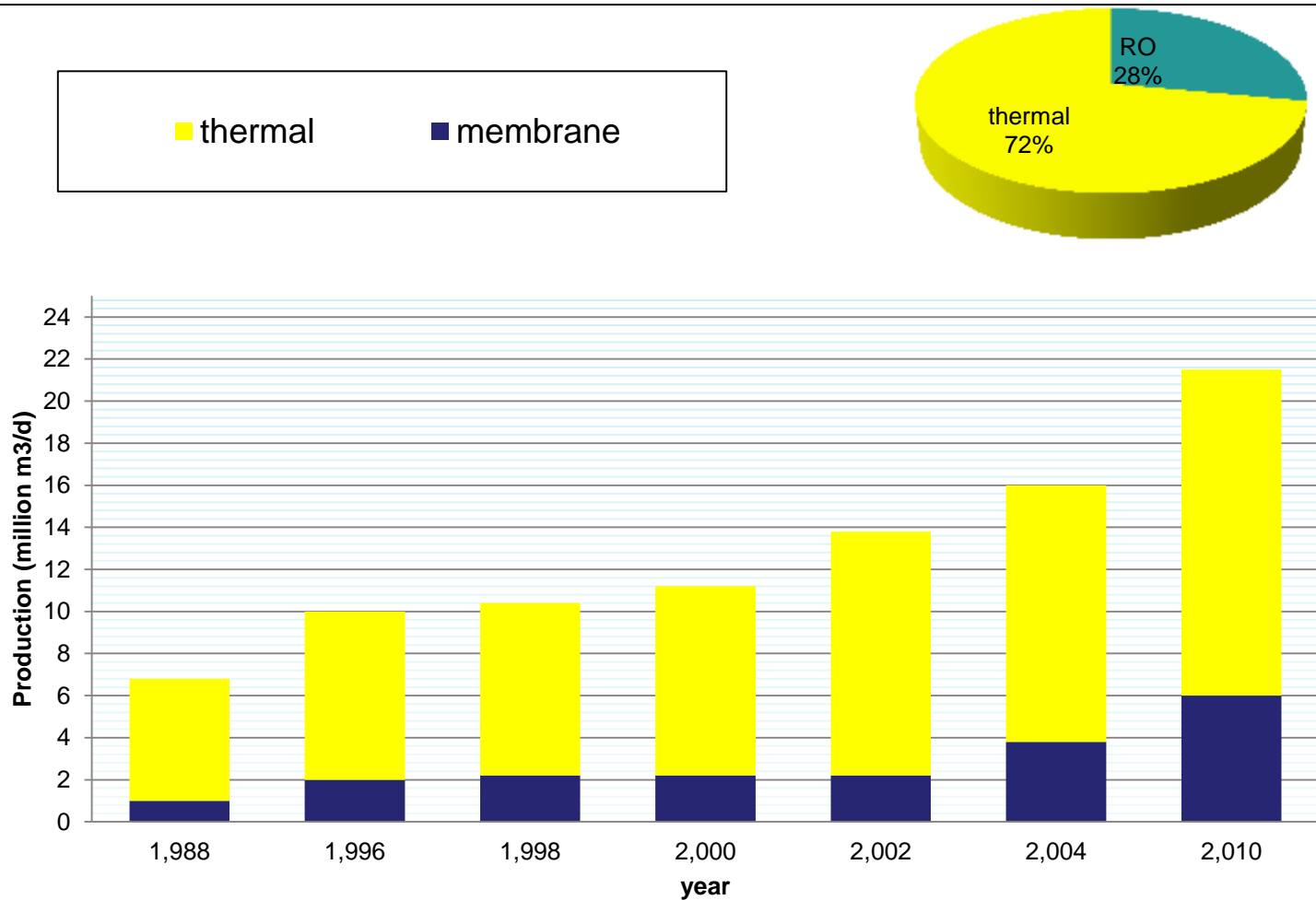
Evolution of Installed membrane and thermal capacity (cumulative) 1980-2012



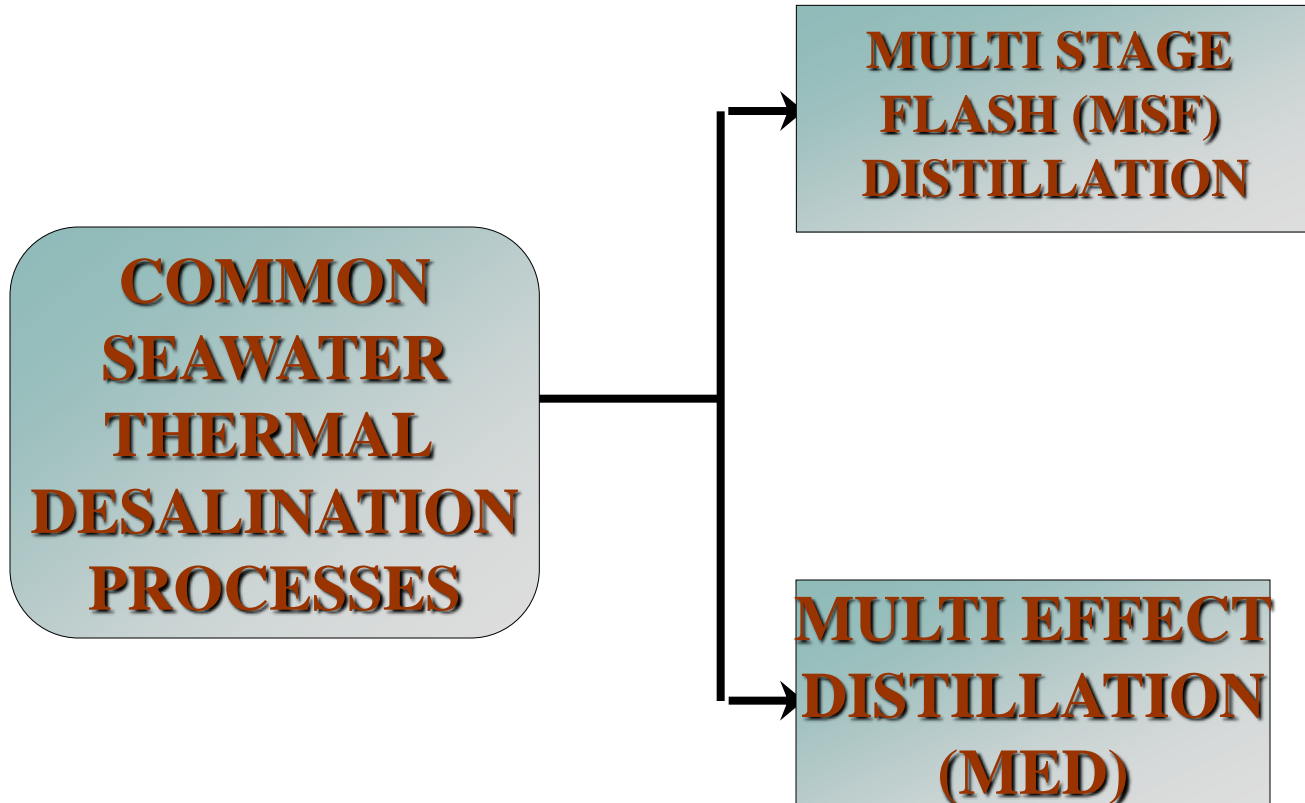
Breakdown of Total Worldwide Installed capacity by technology



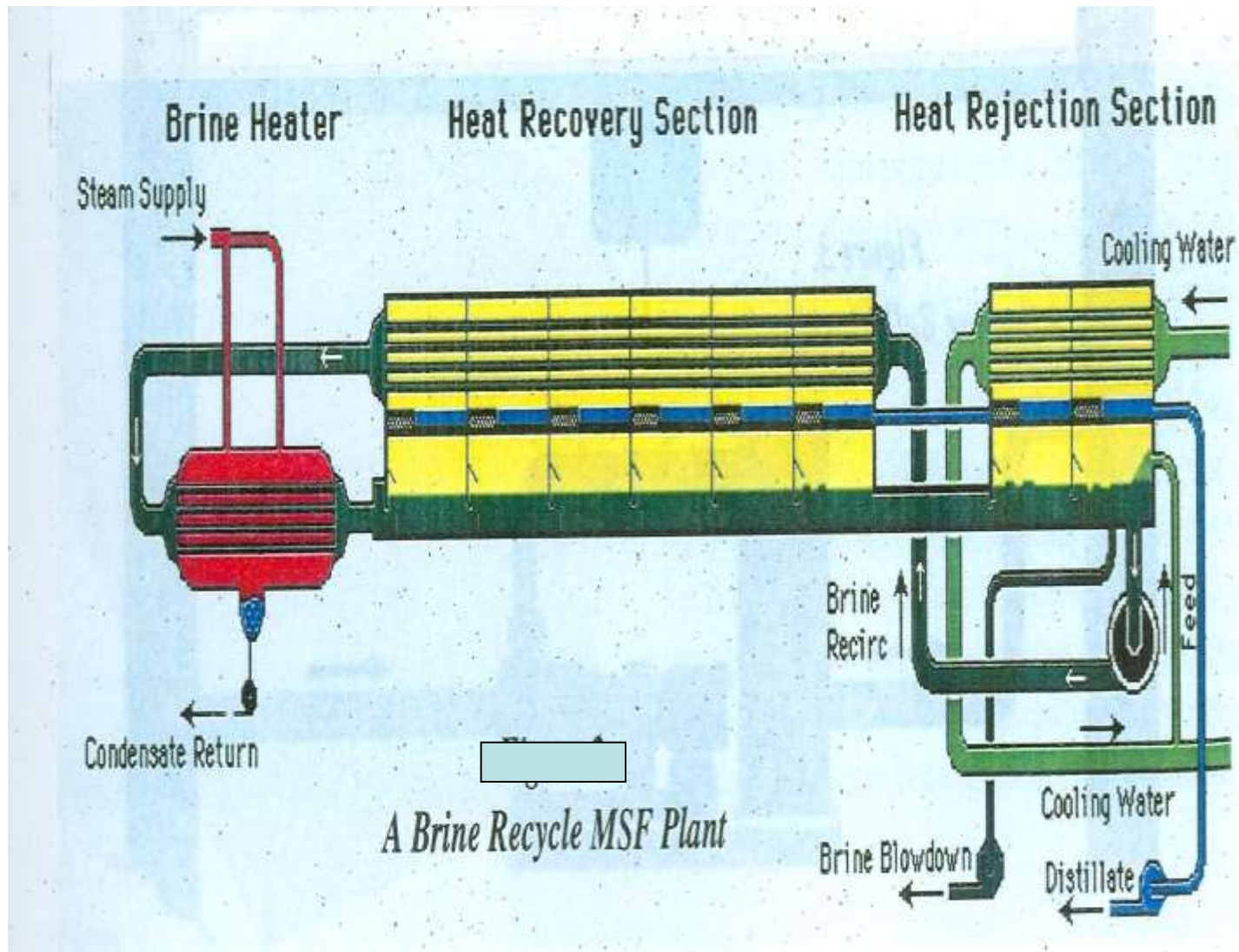
Historical evolution of total installed capacities of desalination plants in the GCC countries



Evolution of Thermal Desalination Processes

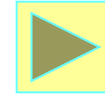


The multi-stage flash (MSF) desalination process

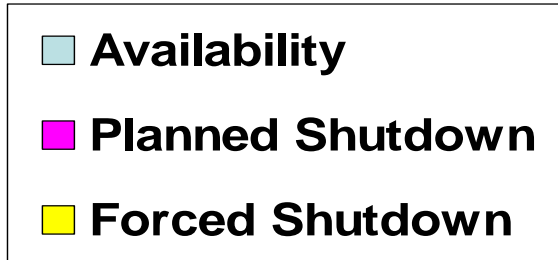
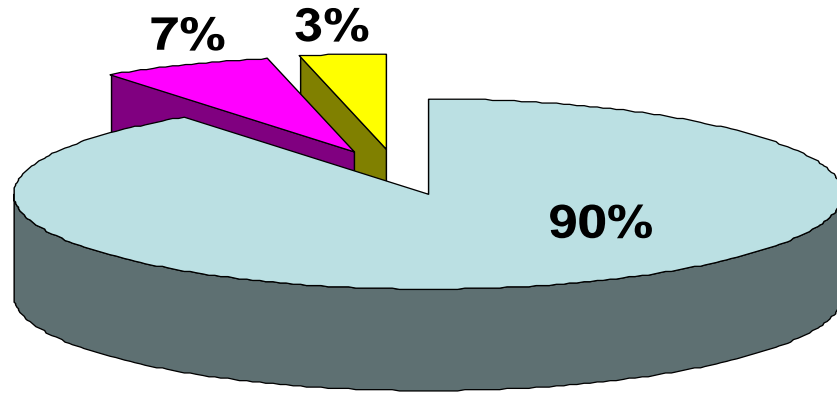


Evolutionary
Developments
of MSF Plants

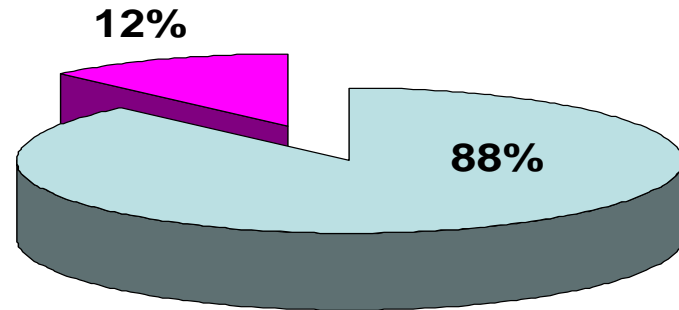
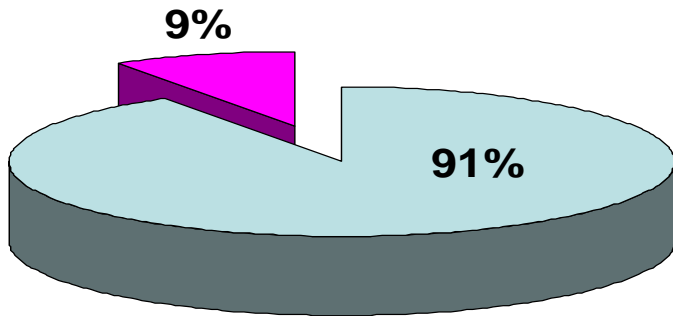
High reliability
& availability.
Life-time over 30
years



S. #	Plants	Year	Capacity (migd)	Life Time
1	Jeddah-III	1979	4x5	34
2	Jeddah-IV	1981	10 x 5	32
3	Al-Jubail-I	1982	6 x 6.2	31
4	Al-Khobar-II	1982	10 x 6	31
5	Al-Jubail-II	1983	40 x 5.38	30
6	Al-Khafji-II	1986	2 x 2.6	27
7	Shoaiba-I	1989	10 x 5.06	24
8	Shuqaiq-I	1989	4 x 6.5	24
9	Yanbu-I	1981	5 x 5	32
10	Yanbu-II	1999	4 x 7.94	14
11	Al-Khobar-III	2001	8 x 7.5	12
12	Shoaiba-II	2002	10 x 10	11

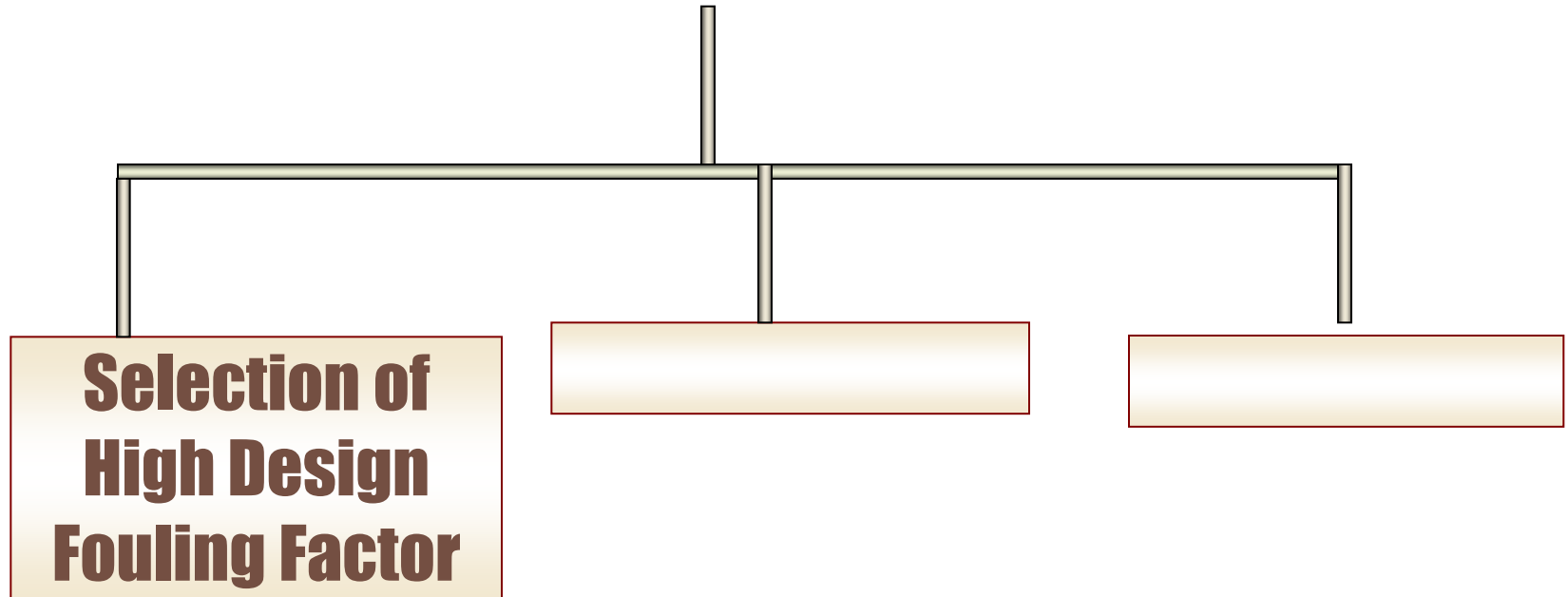


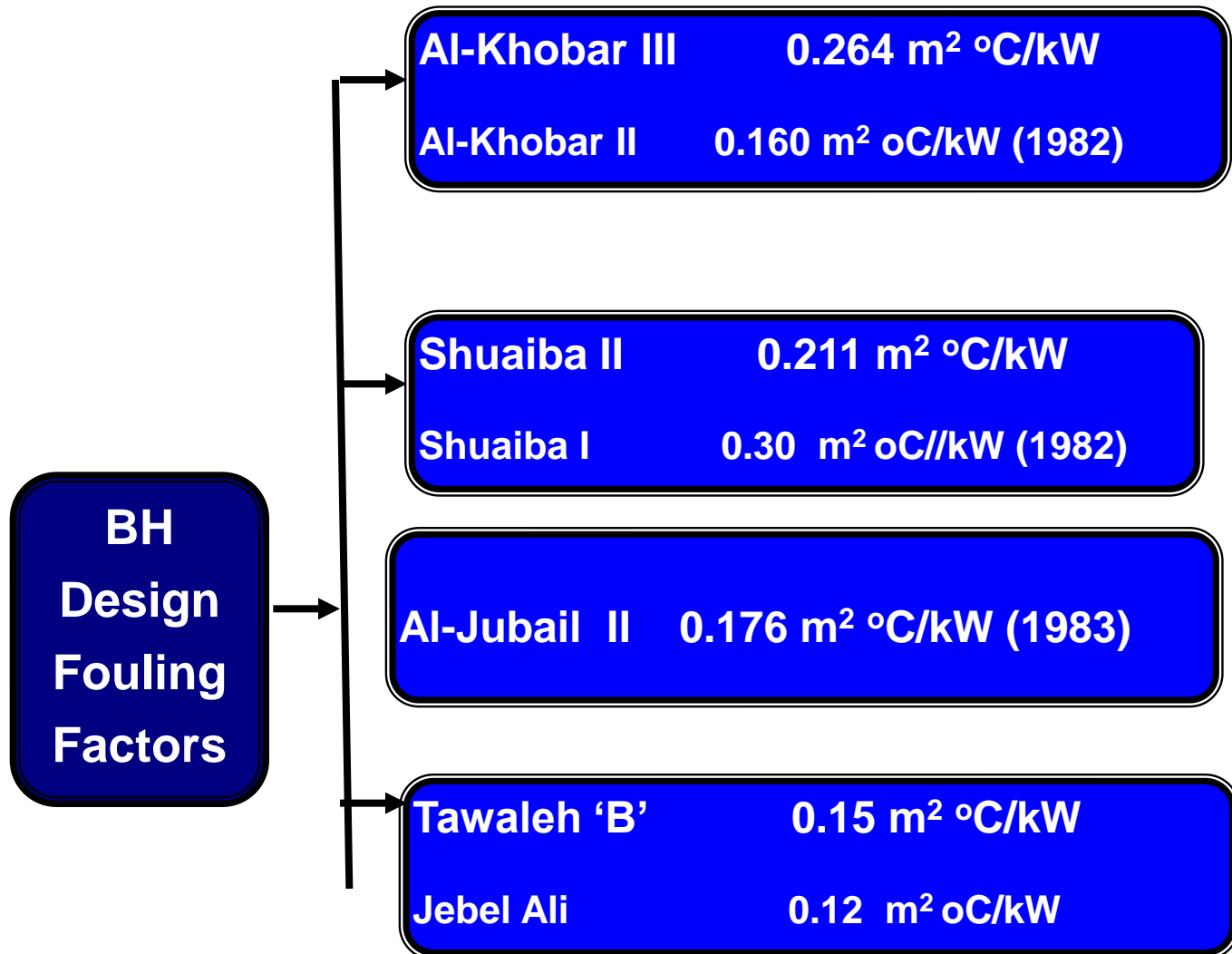
Average Availability for Al-Jubail Plant Phase II (1983-2012)



Average Water and Power Load Factors for Al-Jubail Plant Phase II (1983-2012)

**Reasons For high reliability
and availability**





**Reasons For high reliability
and availability**

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graph TD; A[Reasons For high reliability and availability] --- B[Selection of High Design Fouling Factor]; A --- C[Effective alkaline scale control]; A --- D[ ];
```

**Selection of
High Design
Fouling Factor**

**Effective
alkaline scale
control**

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CONTROL OF ALKALINE SCALE

1950's
Polyphosphate
Based Chemical

To overcome temperature
limitation (88 - 93 oC)

1960's, 1970's
Acid Addition

Hybrid Treatment
(Acid + Additive)

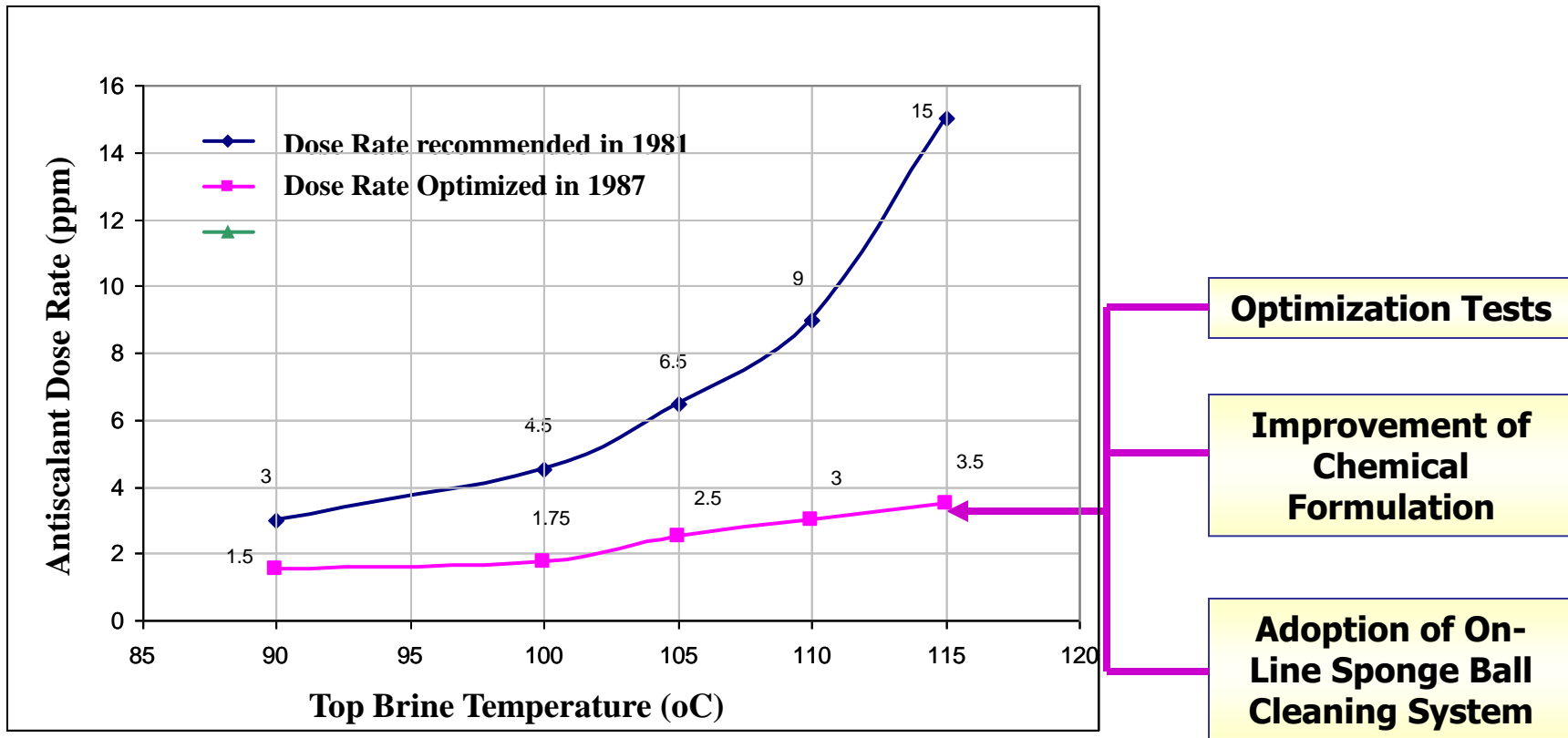
To overcome acid
treatment problems

High Temperature Scale
Control Additive (HTA)
Threshold Agents

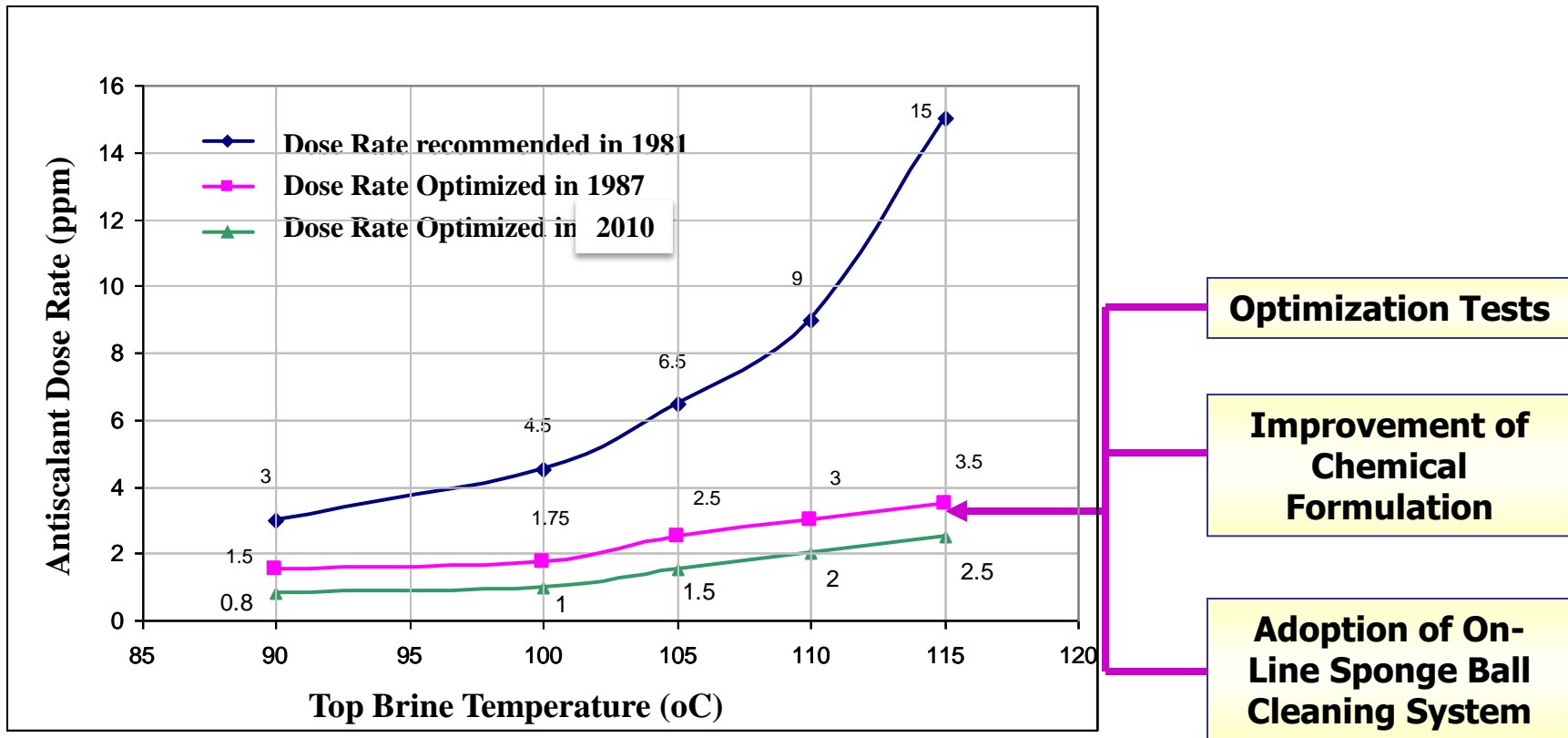
Inhibitors Based
on Phosphonic Acid

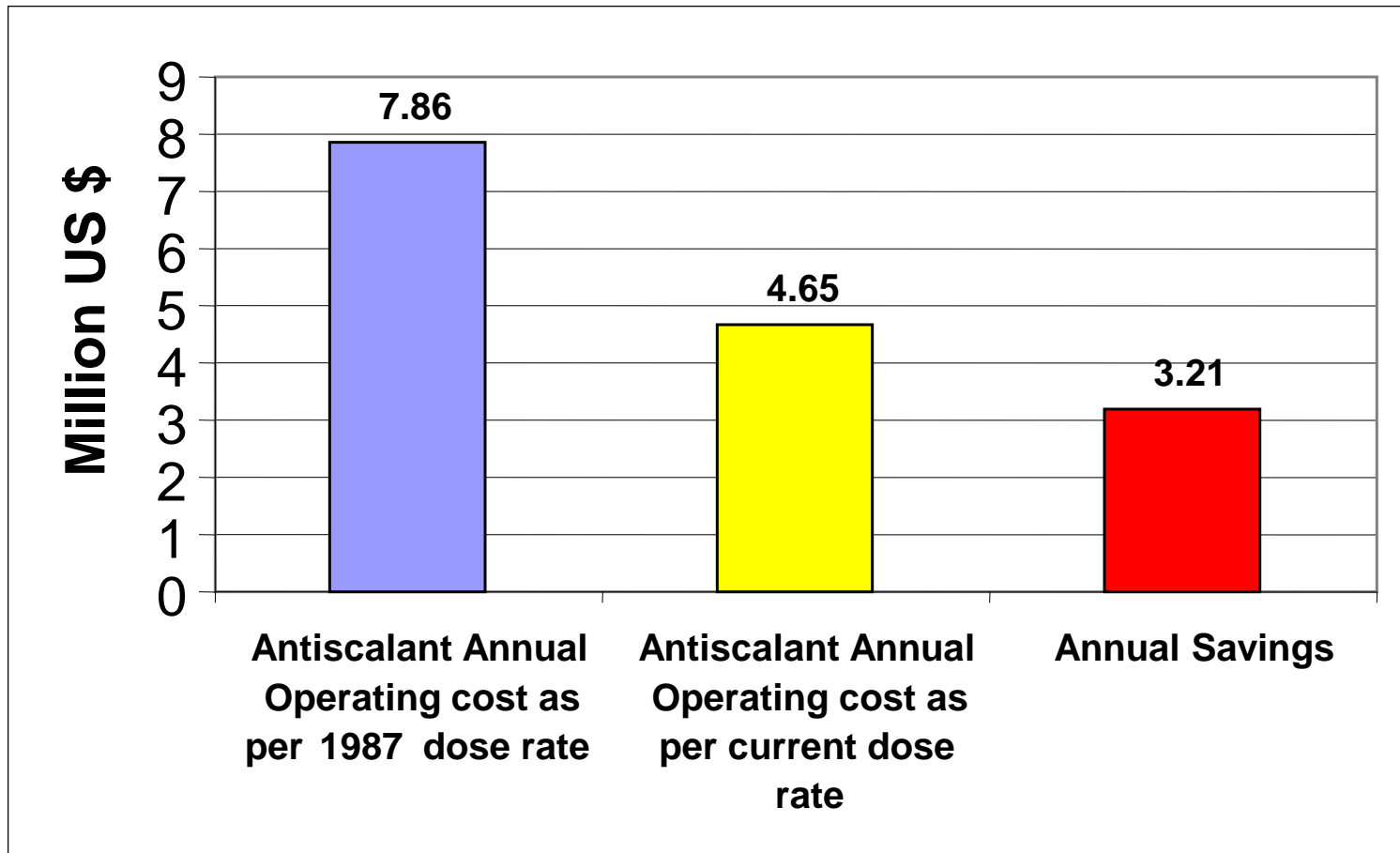
Inhibitors Based on
Polycarboxylic Acid

SWCC's ACHIEVEMENTS IN CONTROLLING ALKALINE SCALE FORMATION



SWCC's ACHIEVEMENTS IN CONTROLLING ALKALINE SCALE FORMATION





**Reasons For high reliability
and availability**

```
graph TD; A[Reasons For high reliability and availability] --- B[Selection of High Design Fouling Factor]; A --- C[Effective alkaline scale control]; A --- D[Good Selection of Material of Construction];
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**Selection of
High Design
Fouling Factor**

**Effective
alkaline scale
control**

**Good
Selection of
Material of
Construction**

Section		Material of Construction
Brine Heater	Shell	Carbon steel (all plants)
	Tubes	Either 70/30 or 90/10 Cu-Ni or modified 66/30/2/2 Cu/Ni/Fe/Mn except Al-Jubail I (Titanium)
Heat Recovery Section	Flash Chamber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First high temperature stages Al-Jubail, Al-Khafji and the first two modules of Jeddah IV clad with stainless steel • Al-Khobar II completely clad with 90/10 Cu/Ni • Al-Shuqaiq 1 completely clad with stainless steel
	Tubes	All plants except Yanbu and Al-Jubail I: 90/10 Cu Ni Jubail I: Titanium Yanbu 70/30 (1 to 10 stages) 90/10 (11 to 21 stages)
Heat Rejection	Tubes	All plants except Jeddah & Shoaiba : Titanium Jeddah II, III, IV 90/10 Cu/Ni Shoaiba 70/30 Cu Ni

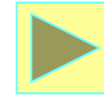
Projects which were recently built use the following materials of construction for the major components

Flash chamber of both recovery and heat rejection sections	Carbon steel lined with stainless steel (floor lined with 317L, walls with 316L and roof with either 316L or 304.
Water boxes	Carbon steel lined with 90/10 Copper-Nickel
Tubes	Brine heater tubes modified 66/30/2/2 Cu/Ni/Fe/Mn ; heat recovery tubes: Copper/Nickel (first four stages 70/30 and remaining stages 90/10)
Heat rejection tubes	Titanium & modified 66/30/2/2 Cu/Ni/Fe/Mn

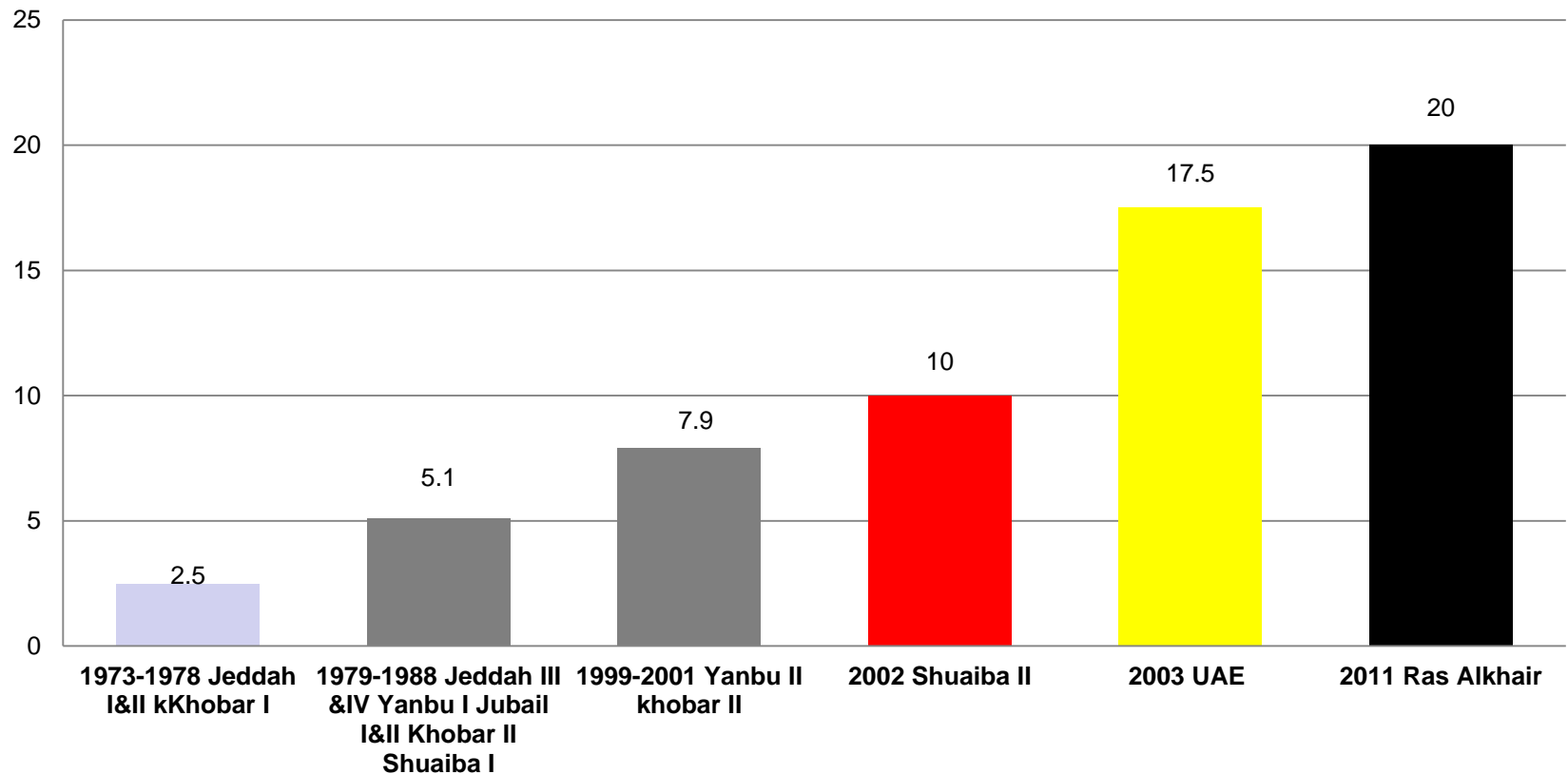
Evolutionary
Developments
of MSF Plants

High reliability
& availability.
Life-time over 30
years

Increase in distiller
size



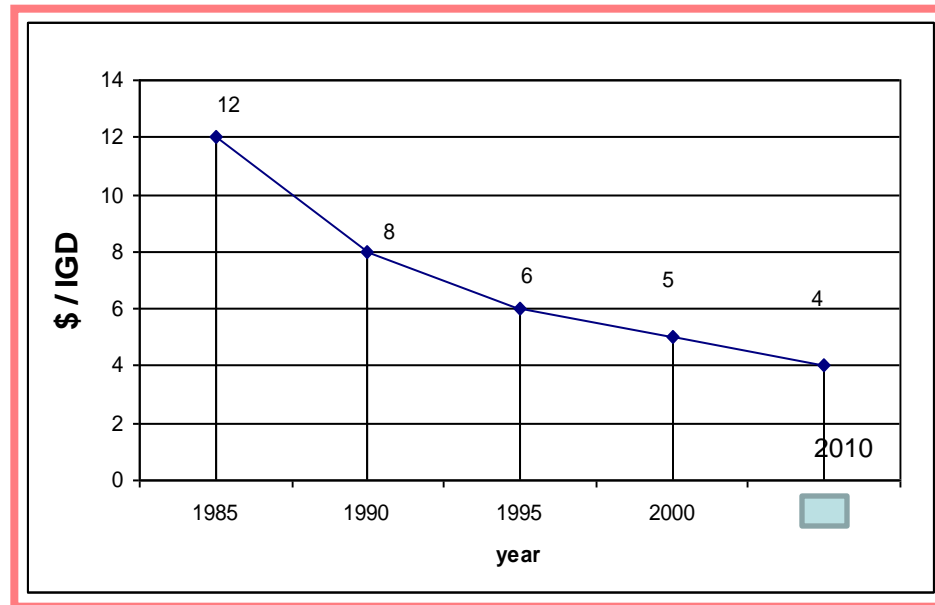
Historical Growth of MSF Distiller Size



Large unit size:

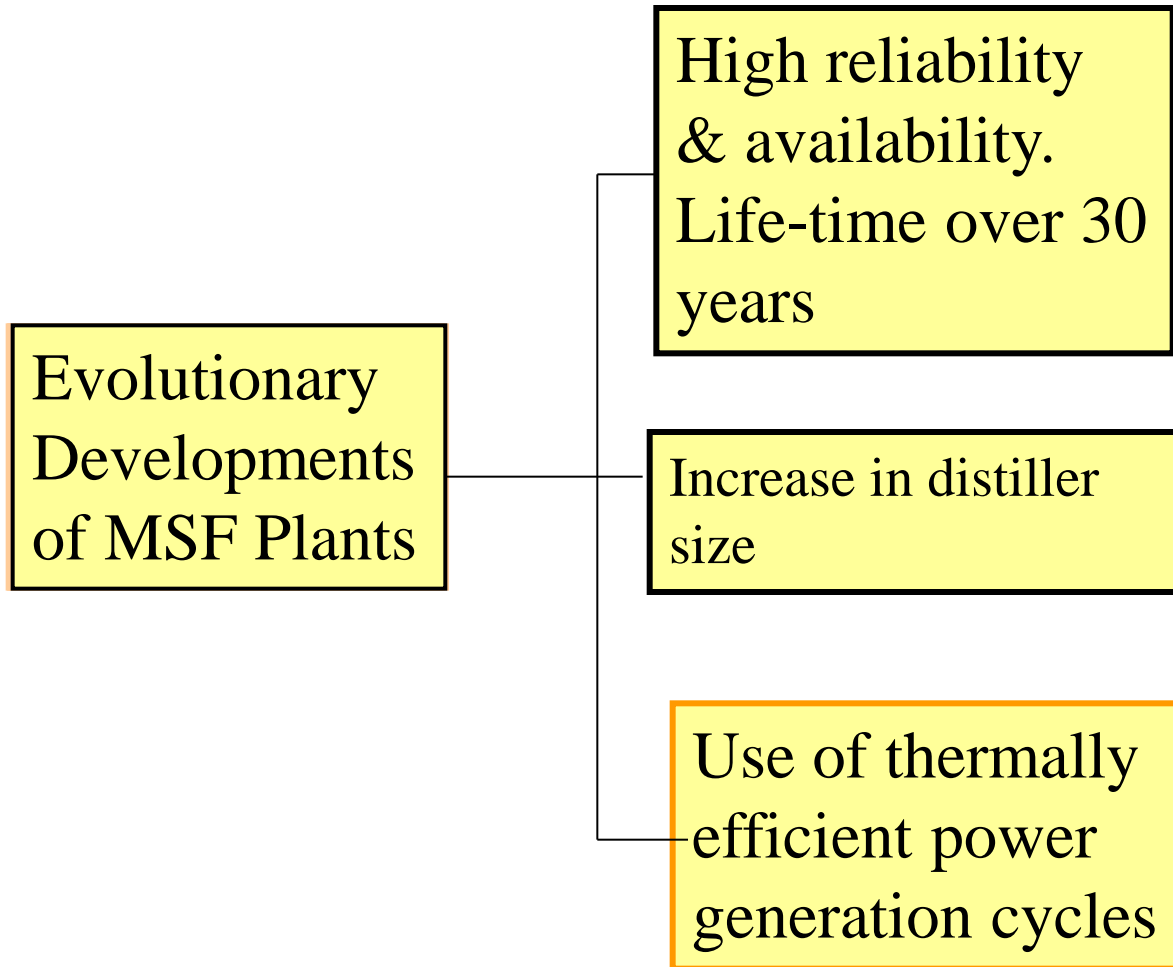
- Low investment cost for auxiliary equipment such as interconnection and control piping .
- Operating and maintenance people depends on the number of unit installed.
- Savings in operational cost.

Price Trend for turn-key complete MSF plants



Reasons Constant Reduction of Investment per MIGD

- optimized use of material of construction.
- Reduction of redundant equipment.
- Optimized mechanical design of evaporator vessel.
- Optimized thermo-dynamic design parameters.



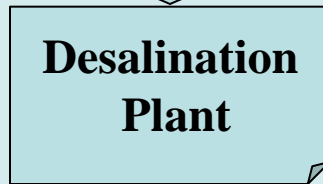
Seawater



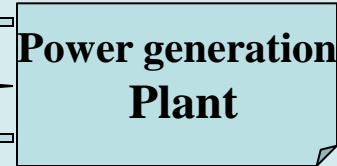
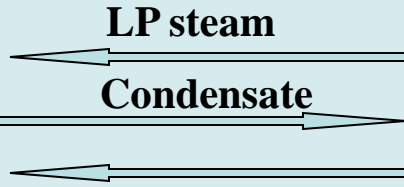
Seawater intake



Pretreatment



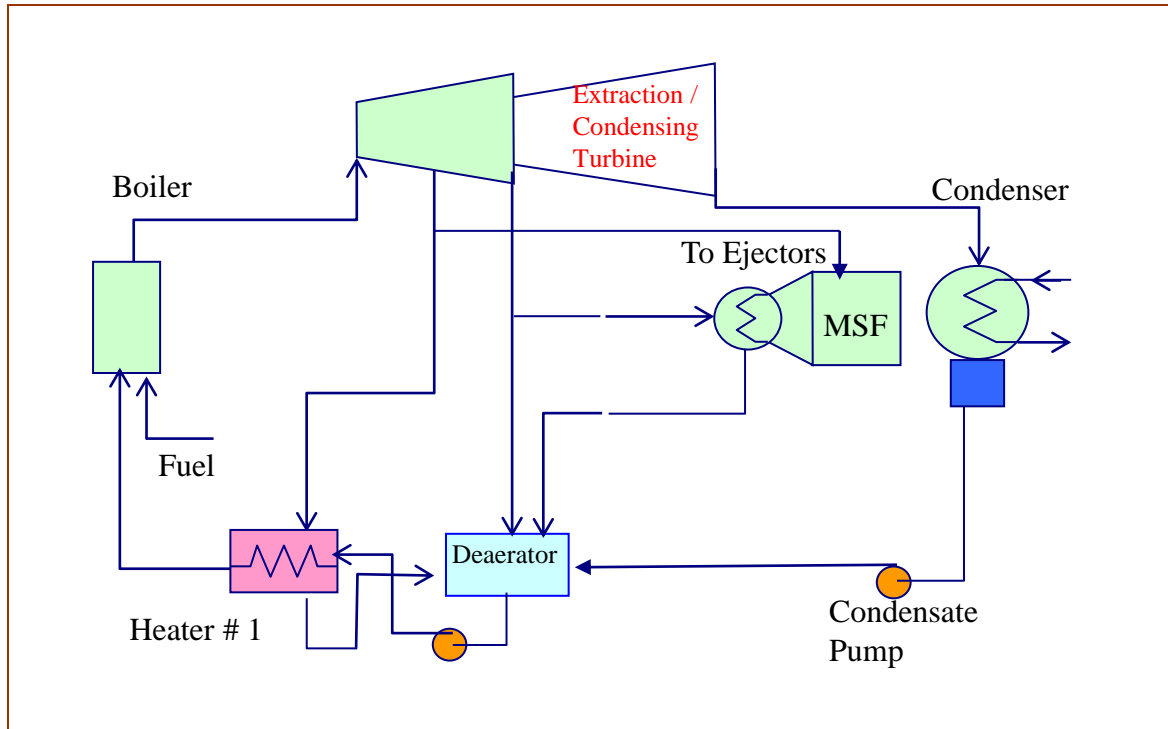
Desalinated
water



Net power
output

Power/Water Flow Chart

Before 1982 SWCC employed Extraction-condensing turbine arrangement



Power to water ratio 12 to 15 MW/MIGD

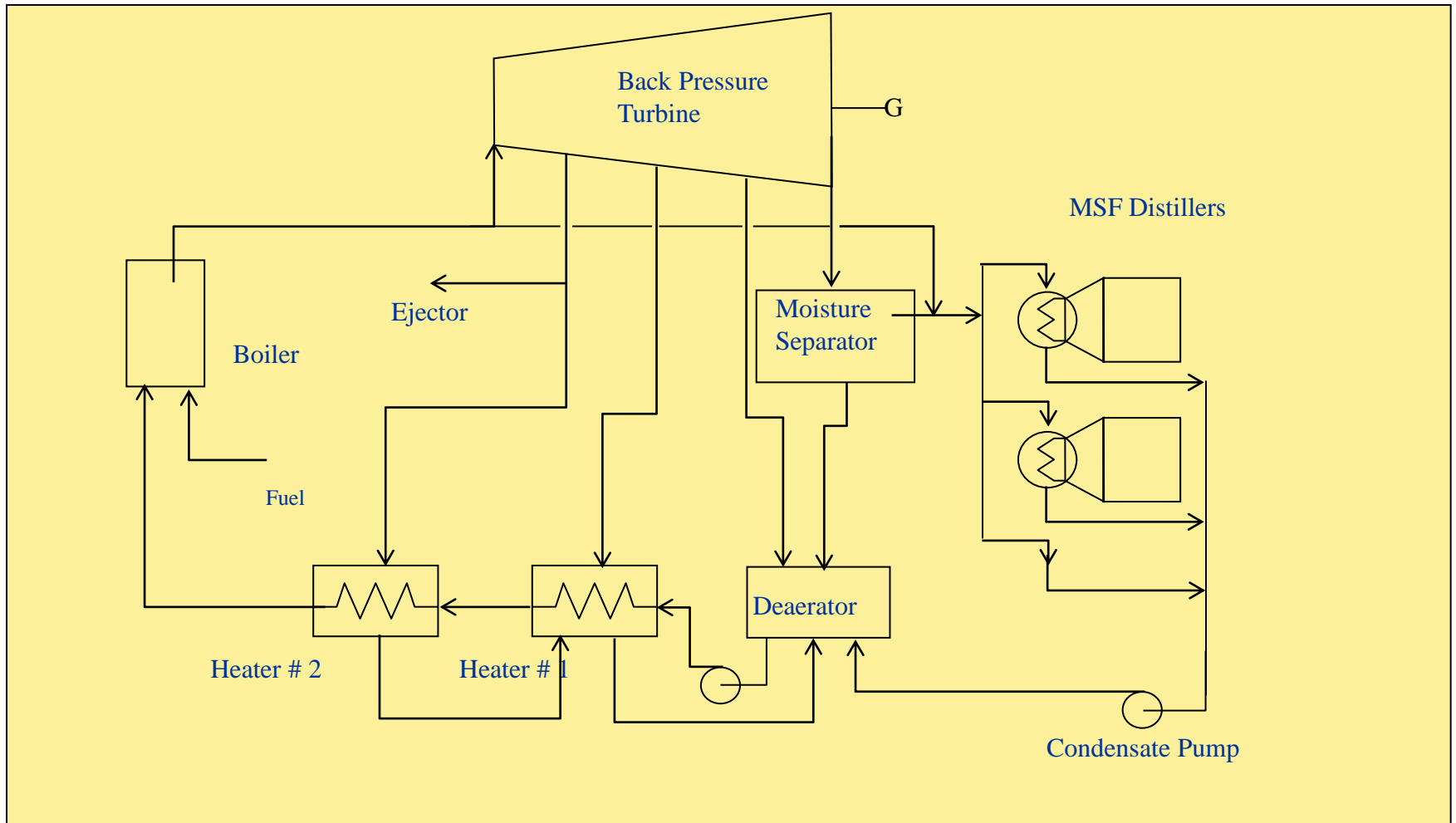
Jeddah II,III,IV

AlJubail I

Yanbu I

Alkhubar II

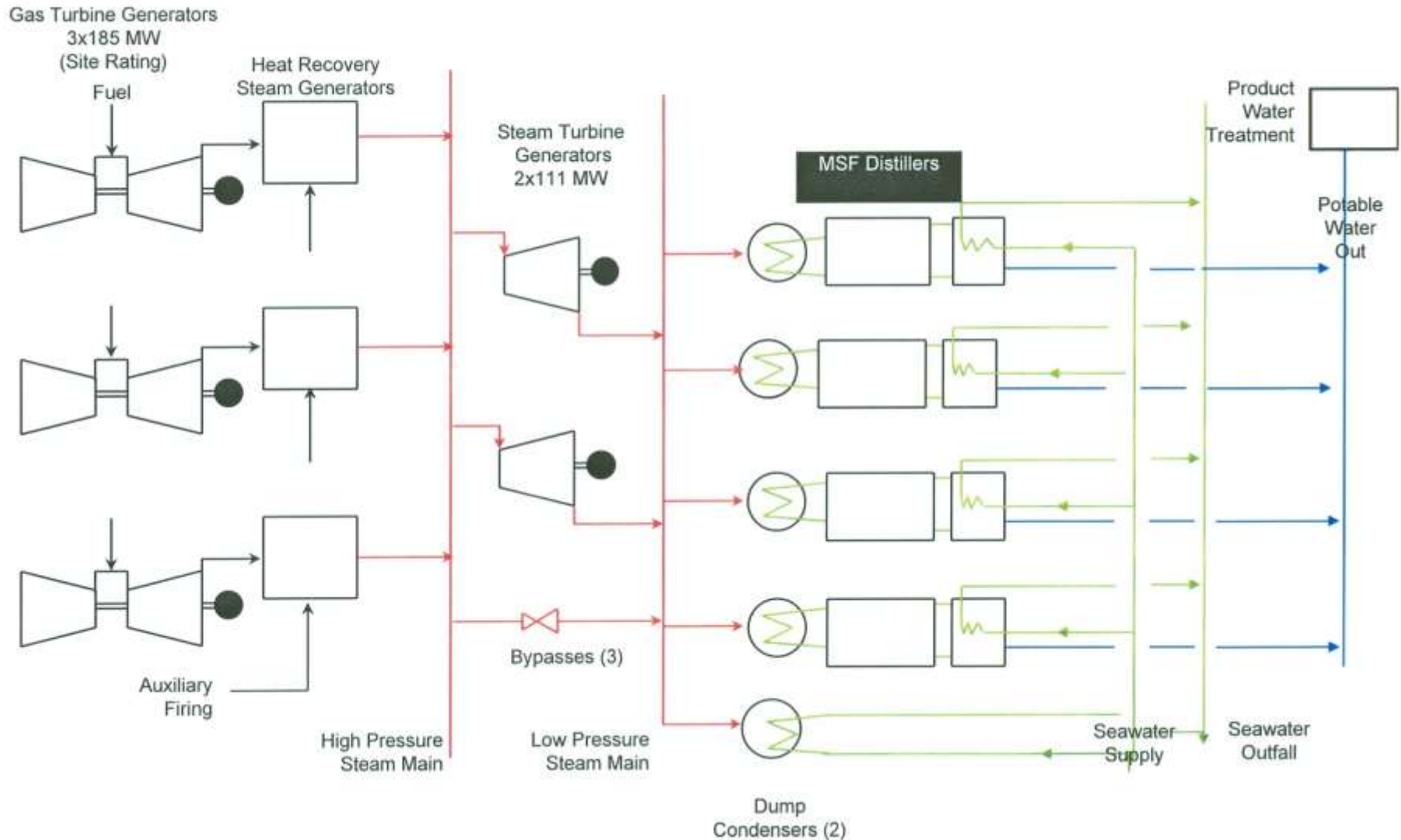
After 1983 SWCC employed back-pressure turbine arrangement



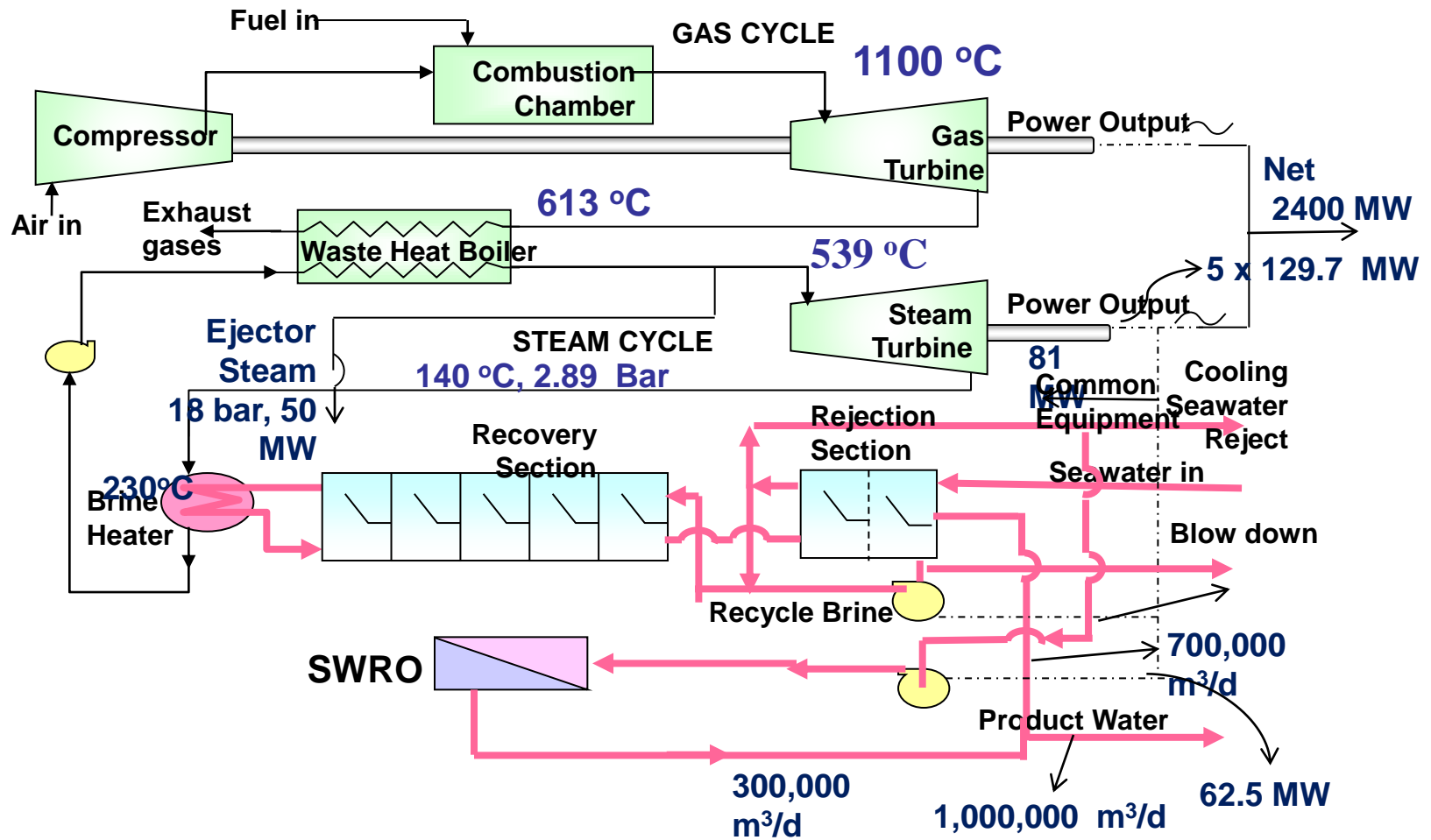
Power to water ratio 5 to 7.9 MW/MIGD

After 1983 SWCC employed back-pressure turbine arrangement

Combined cycle and MSF distillers block flow diagram



2012 Combined Gas-vapor power generation cycles coupled with MSF/RO desalination plants




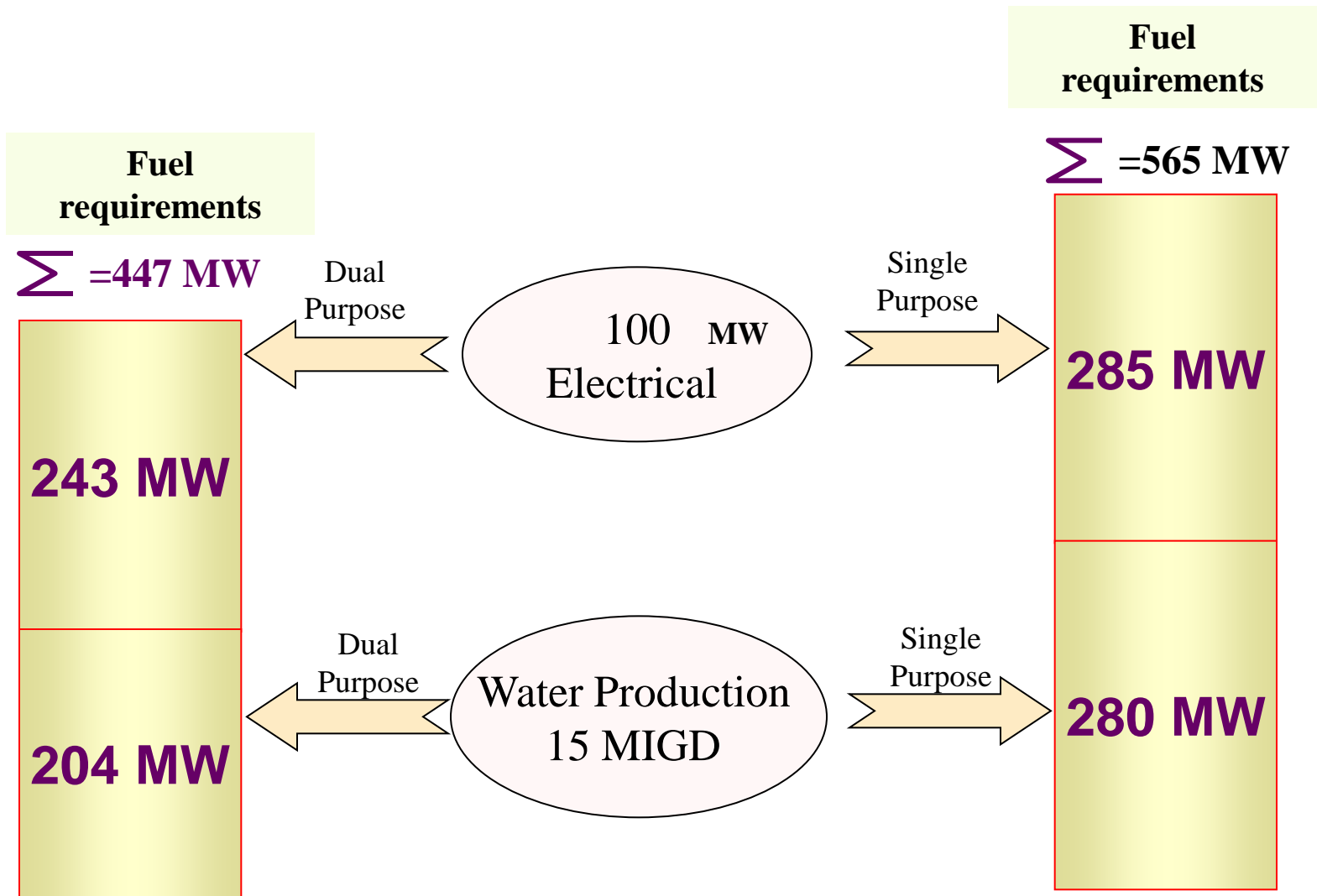
Typical power to water ratios for different technologies

Technology	PWR (MW installed/Million Imperial Gallops per)
Steam turbine BTG-MED	3.5
Steam turbine BTG-MSF	5
Steam turbine EST-MED	7
Steam turbine EST-MSF	10
Gas turbine GT-HRSG-MED	6
Gas turbine GT-HRSF-MSF	8
Combine cycle BTG-MED	10
Combine cycle BTG- MSF	16
Combine cycle EST-MED	12
Combine cycle EST-MSF	19

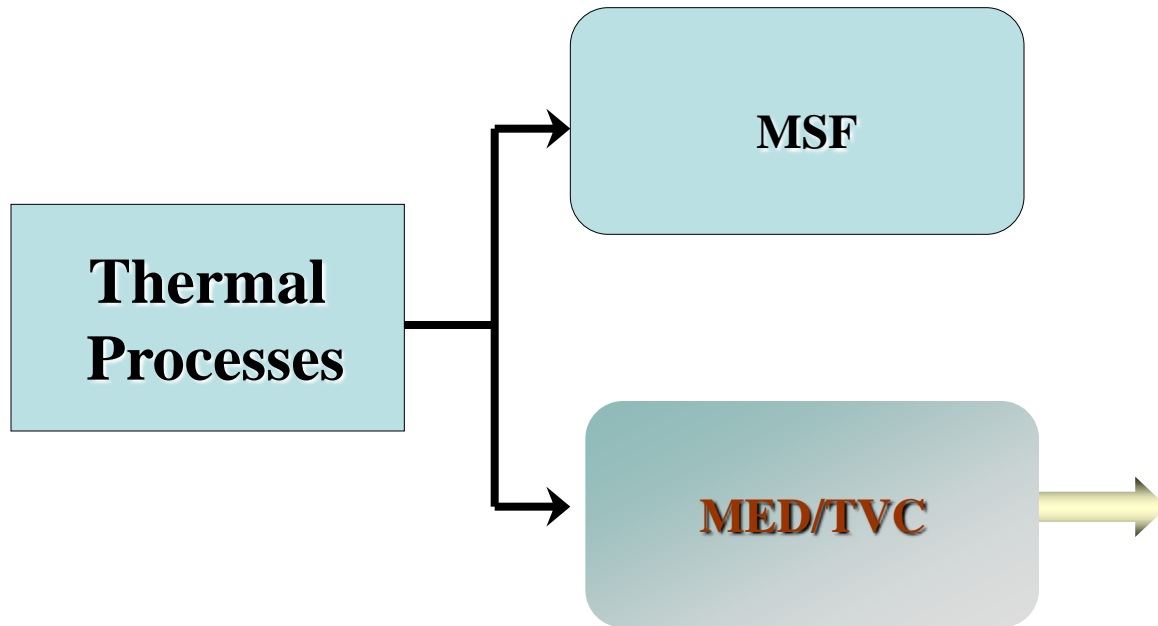
Financial Benefits for Dual Purpose Plants

Dual purpose power/water plants have an overall financial gain against two single purpose plants.

- Sharing of some common equipment (boiler and its associated facilities, intake and outfall facilities).
- Elimination of some equipment (power plant condenser)
- Tremendous saving in fuel consumption related to the desalting process 

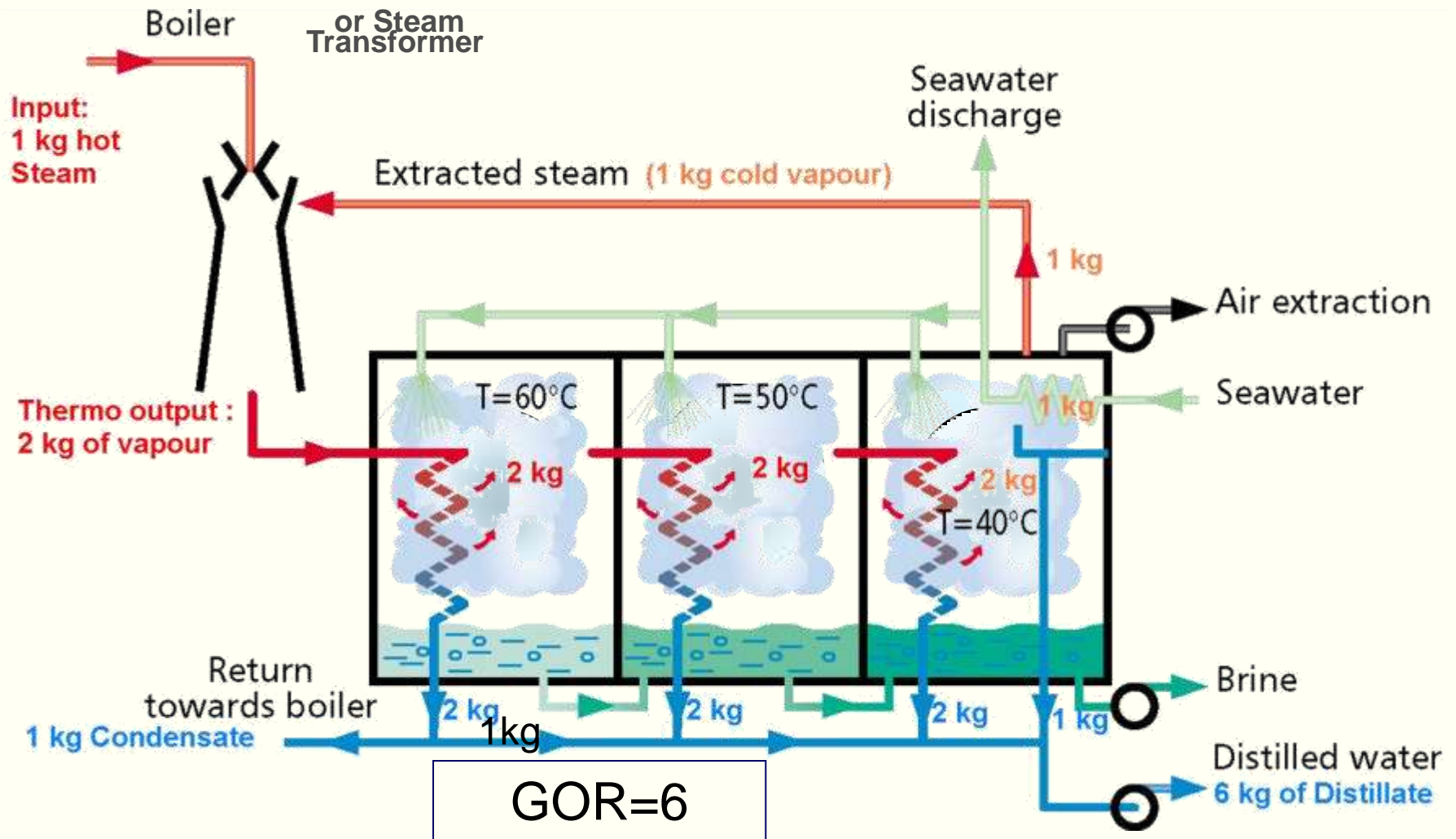


Thermal Benefits of Cogeneration Plants

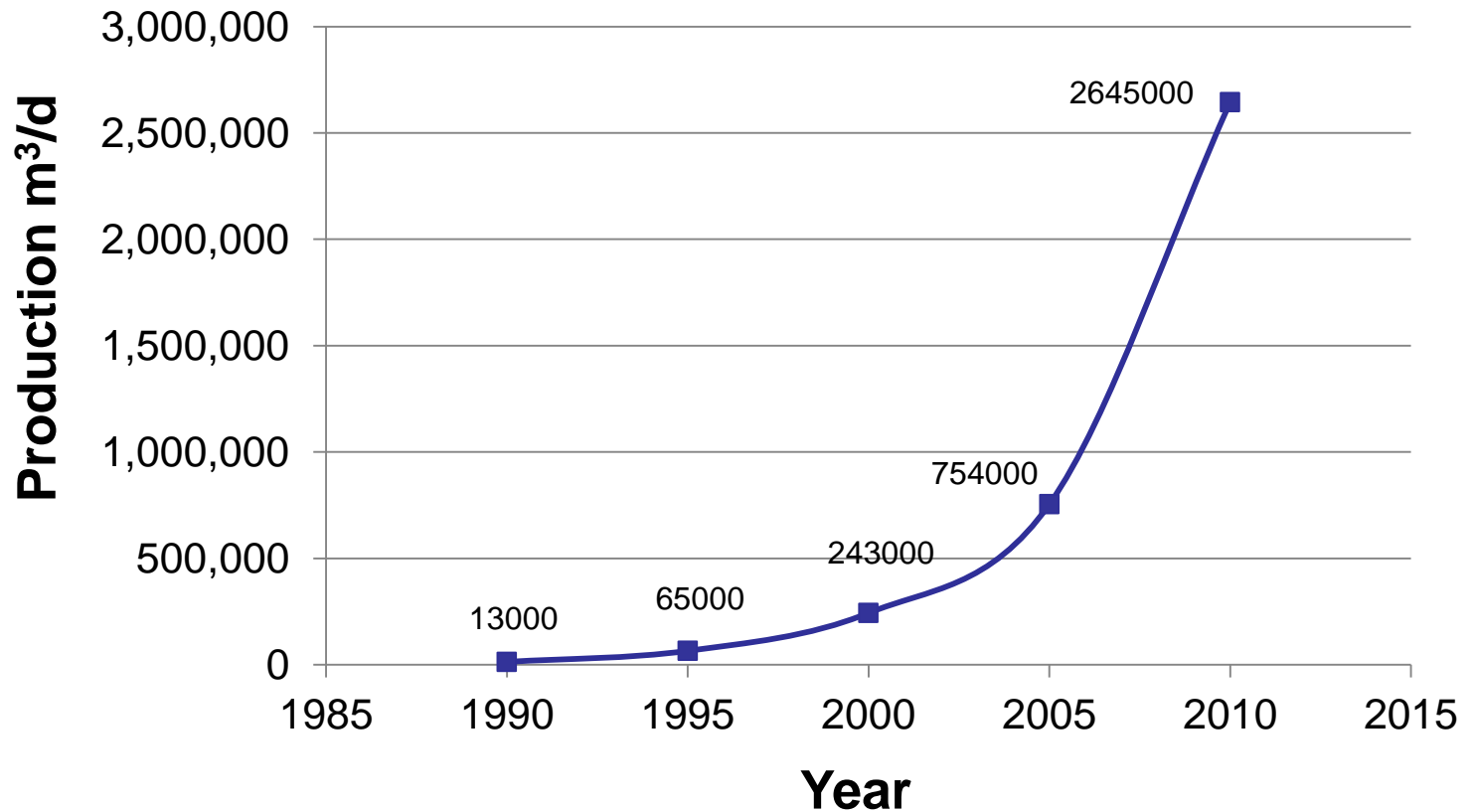


MED_TVC

offers the best potential method of improving the performance of straight MED desalination plants and achieving high performance ratios and hence low water cost.



Historical evolution of the installed capacities of MED desalination plants in the GCC states.



MARAFIQ POWER/WATER COGENERATION PLANT



Four power cycles : each power cycle incorporates 3 GT,3HRSG and one ST
Three of the power cycles are coupled with 27 MED units.

Marafiq Power/Water Cogeneration Plant

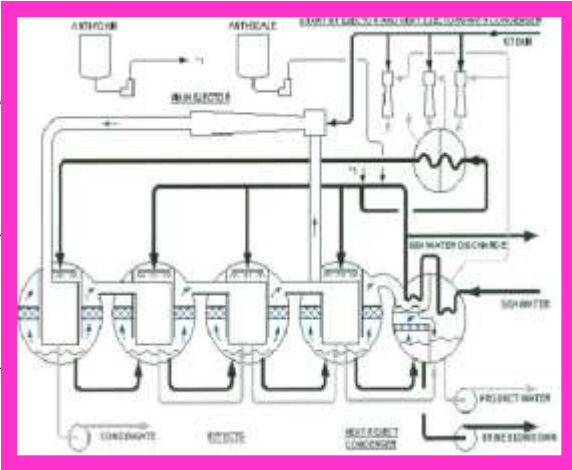
- **27 MED/TVC Desalination units each produces 6.56 MIGD, total 177.2 MIGD**
- **Power generation 2750 MW**
- **Independent water and power production project (IWPP)**
- **Contract of water plant US\$ 945 million**
- **Project completed in 2010.**

Factors responsible for the recent market emergence of MED-TVC desalination plants

- ❑ They provide higher overall heat transfer coefficients when compared to multistage flash (MSF) desalination systems.
- ❑ MED does not employ recycling and are thus based on the once through principle and have low requirements for pumping energy.
- ❑ The power consumption of MED/TVC plants is only around 1.5 kWh/m^3 as there are no requirements to re-circulate large quantities of brine.
- ❖ Increase of MED unit capacity results in the decrease of the investment cost.

EVOLUTION OF MED/TS

TS



unit capacity MIGD

15
12
9
6
3
0

1MIGD

5MIGD

15MIGD

1990

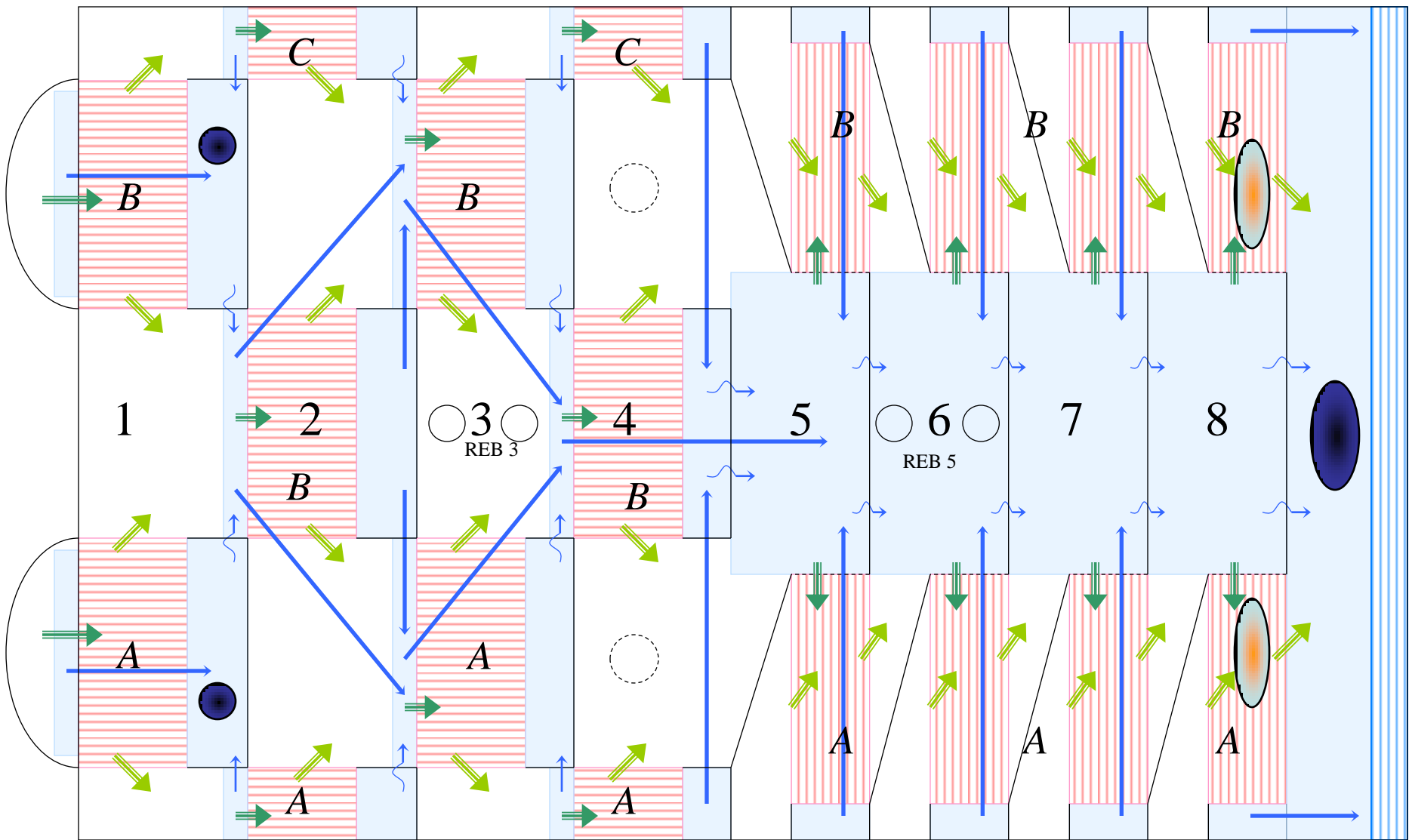
2000

2009

2012

year

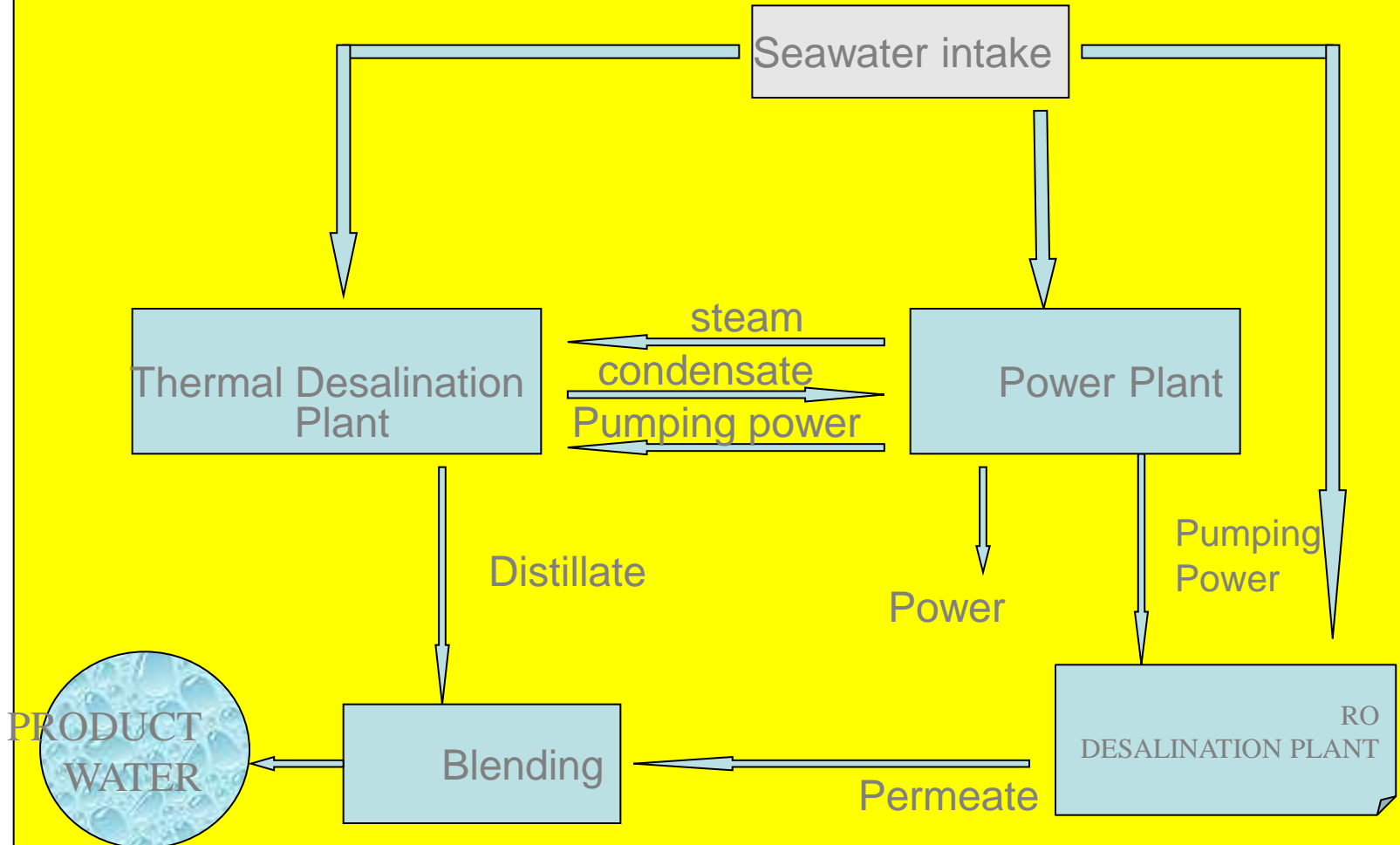
MED UNIT CAPACITY GROWTH



- Steam
- Distillate through guillotine
- Cell 1 / distillate suction
- Produced Steam
- Distillate through U pipe
- Brine suction
- Distillate through Saw line

HYBRID CONCEPTS

Seawater



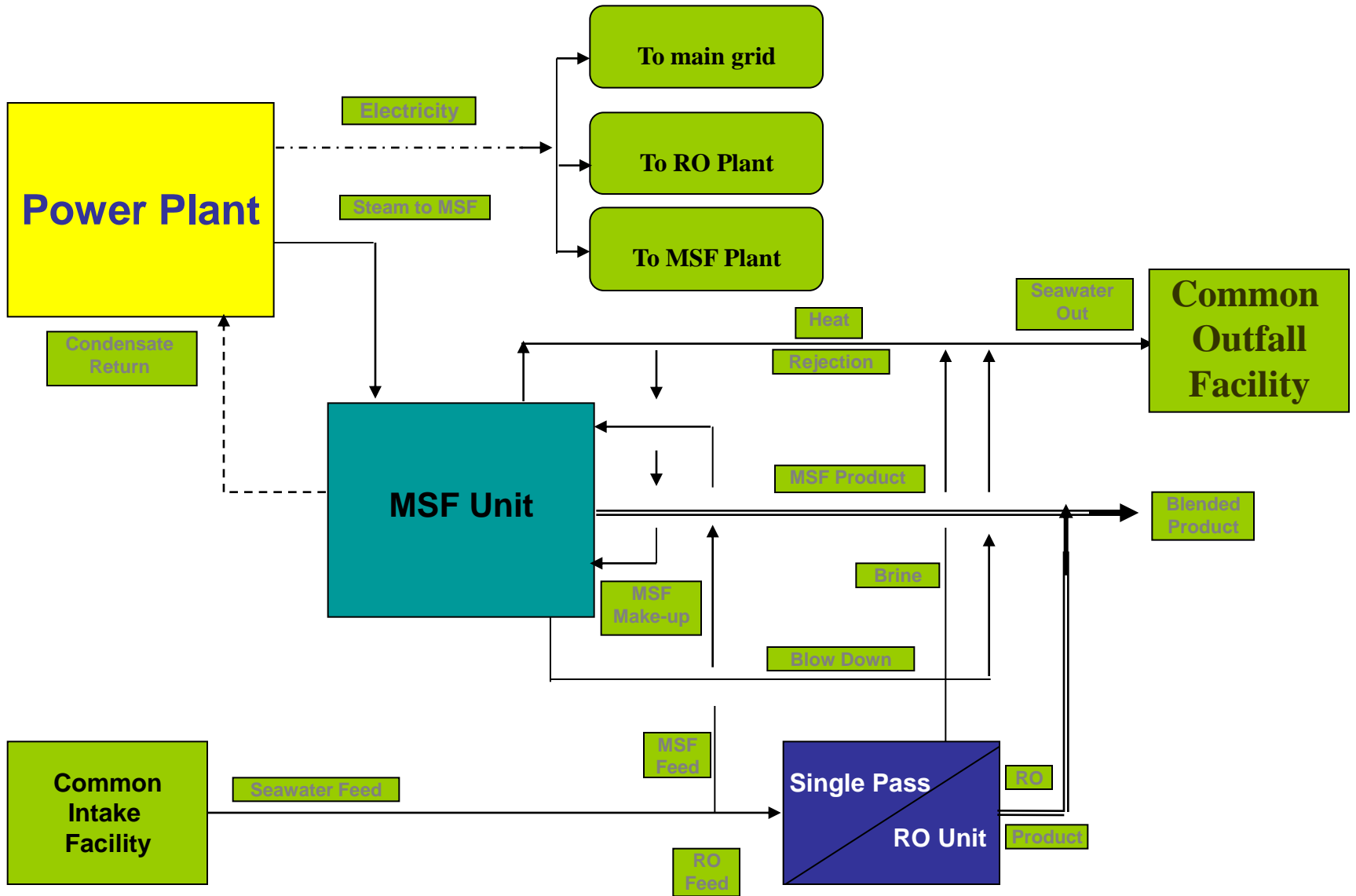
Power/Water Hybrid Flow Chart

HYBRID SYSTEMS

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graph LR; A[HYBRID SYSTEMS] --> B[Simple hybrid Systems  
adding a stand- alone  
RO desalination  
plant to an existing MSF complex]; A --> C[Integrated Hybrid systems  
the plant is designed from  
the beginning  
as a combined plant .];
```

Simple hybrid Systems
adding a stand- alone
RO desalination
plant to an existing MSF complex

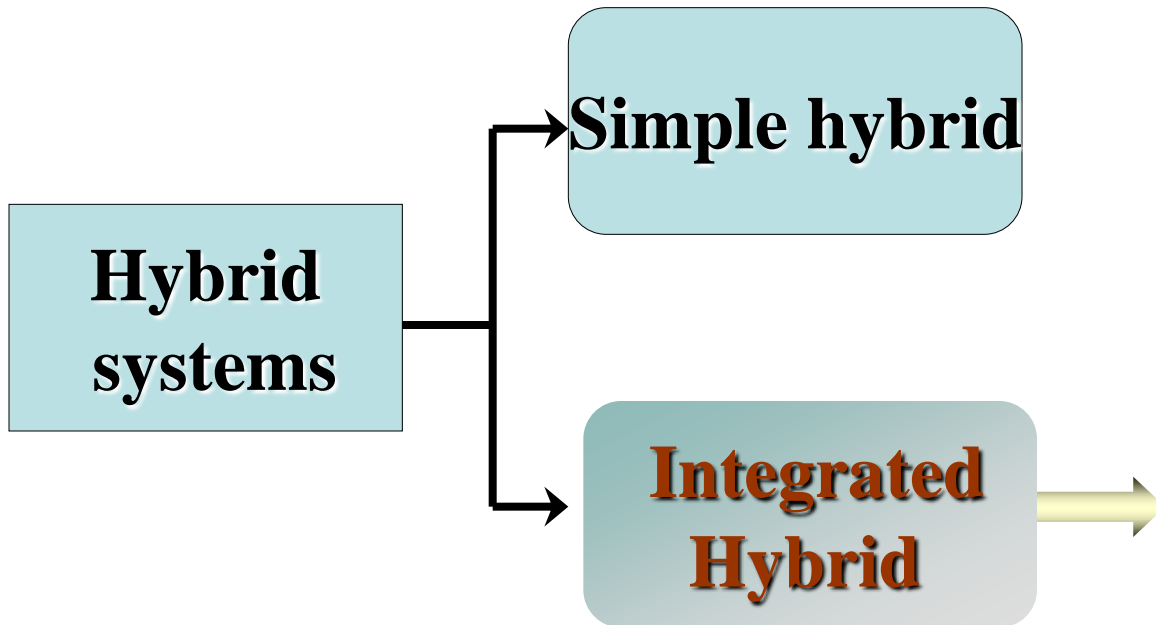
Integrated Hybrid systems
the plant is designed from
the beginning
as a combined plant .

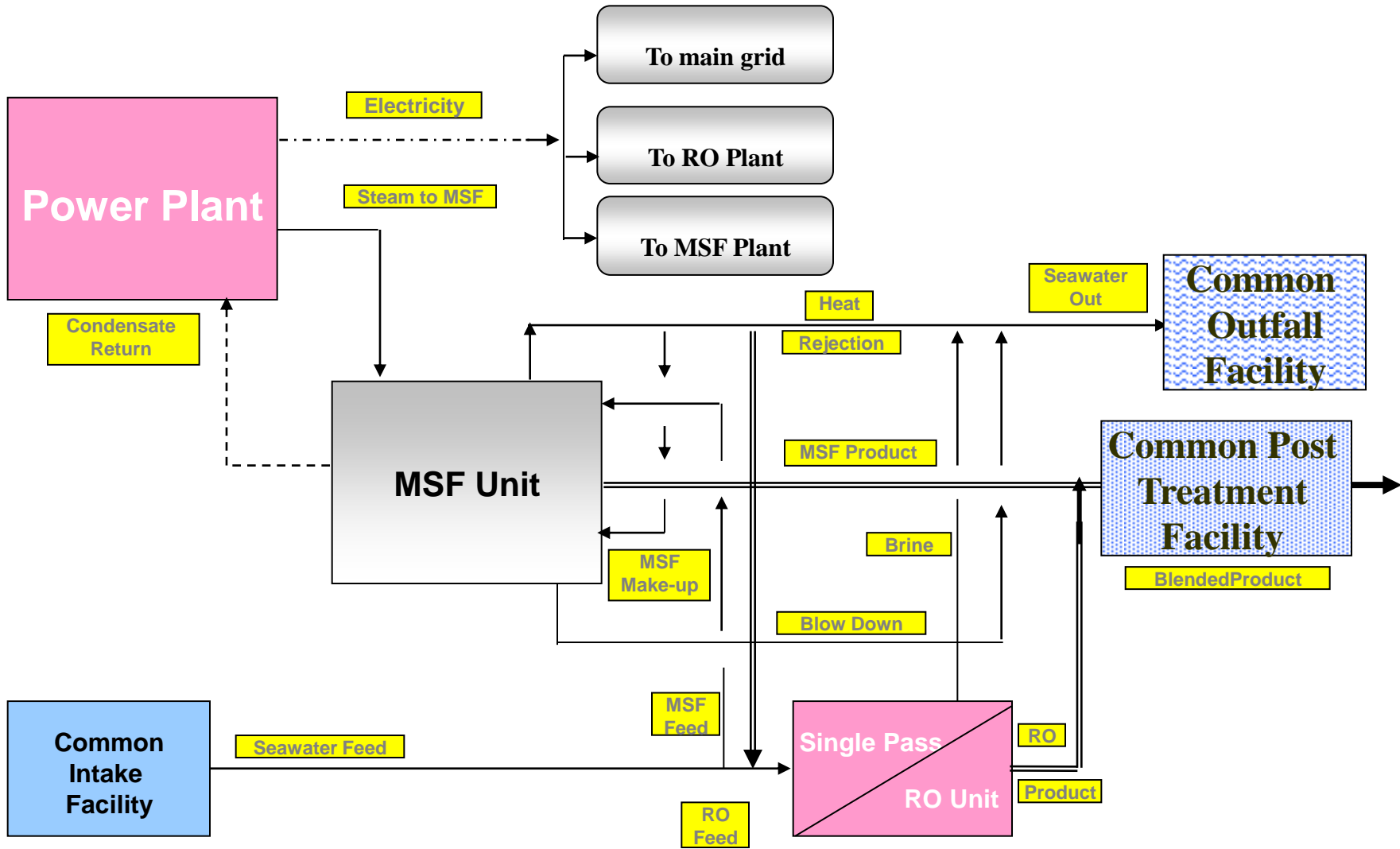


Schematic diagram of simple hybrid configuration

ADVANTAGES

- **Such arrangement allows to operate the RO unit with relatively high TDS and consequently allows to lower the replacement rate of the membranes.**
- **If the useful life of the RO membrane can be extended from 3 to 5 years the annual membrane replacement cost can be reduced by nearly 40 percent . Blending the products of the thermal and SWRO allows for the use of a single stage SWRO instead of the two stage SWRO plant normally employed in standalone SWRO plants.**
- **Combining thermal and membranes desalination plant in the same site will allow to use common intake and outfall facilities with less capital cost.**
- **An integrated pretreatment and post-treatment operation can reduce cost and chemicals.**





Schematic diagram of fully integrated hybrid configuration

**Commercially Available
Hybrid Desalination
Plants**

**Jeddah
MSF/SWRO**

**1989 , Phase I
Single stage , 12.5 MIGD**

**1994 , Phase II
Single stage , 12-5 MIGD**

Product blended with MSF Product

**Yanbu
MSF / SWRO**

☞ **SWRO 28.16 MIGD**

☞ **Phase II MSF 40 MIGD**

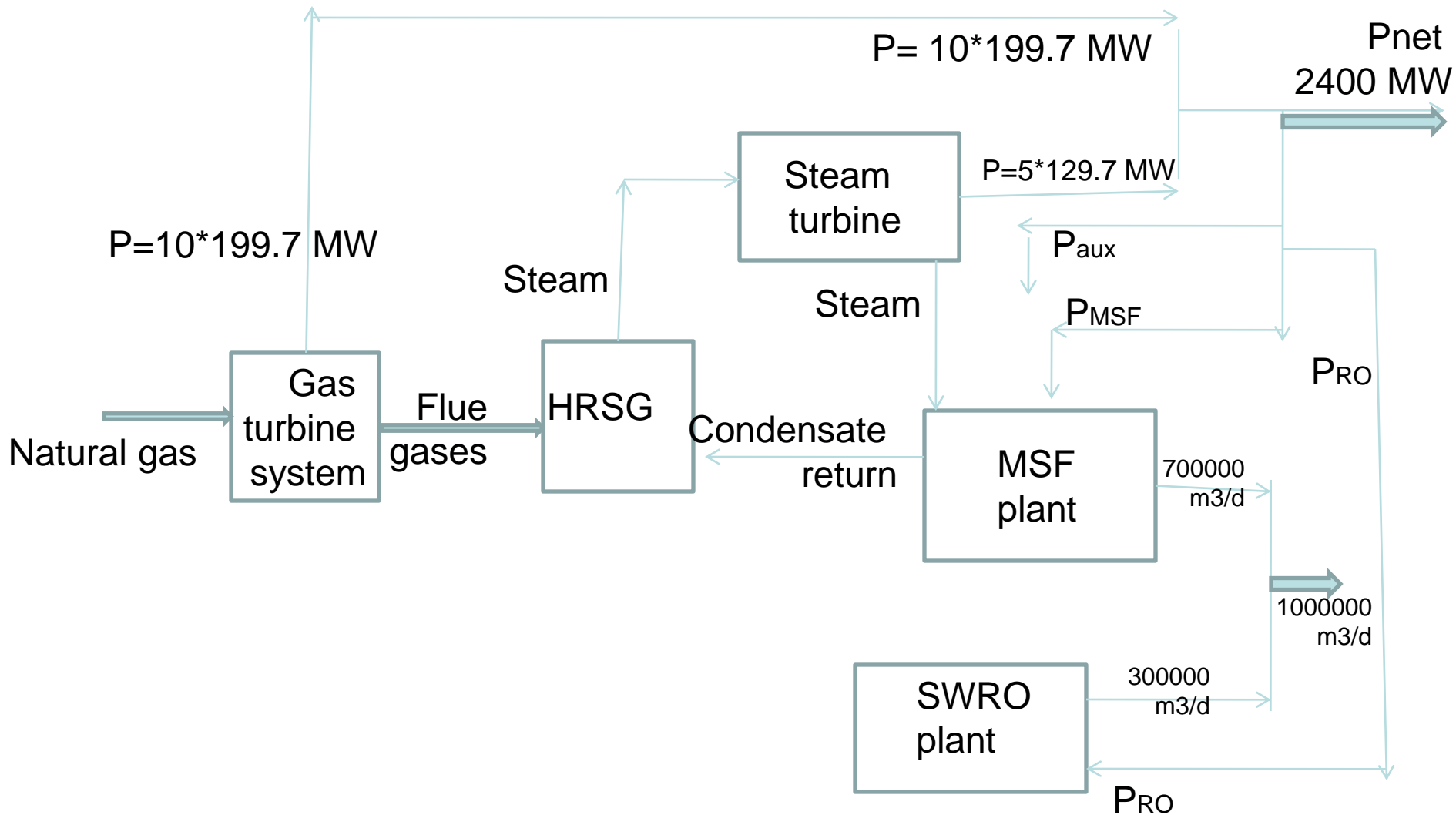
**Al-Jubail
MSF/SWRO**

☞ **20 MIGD**

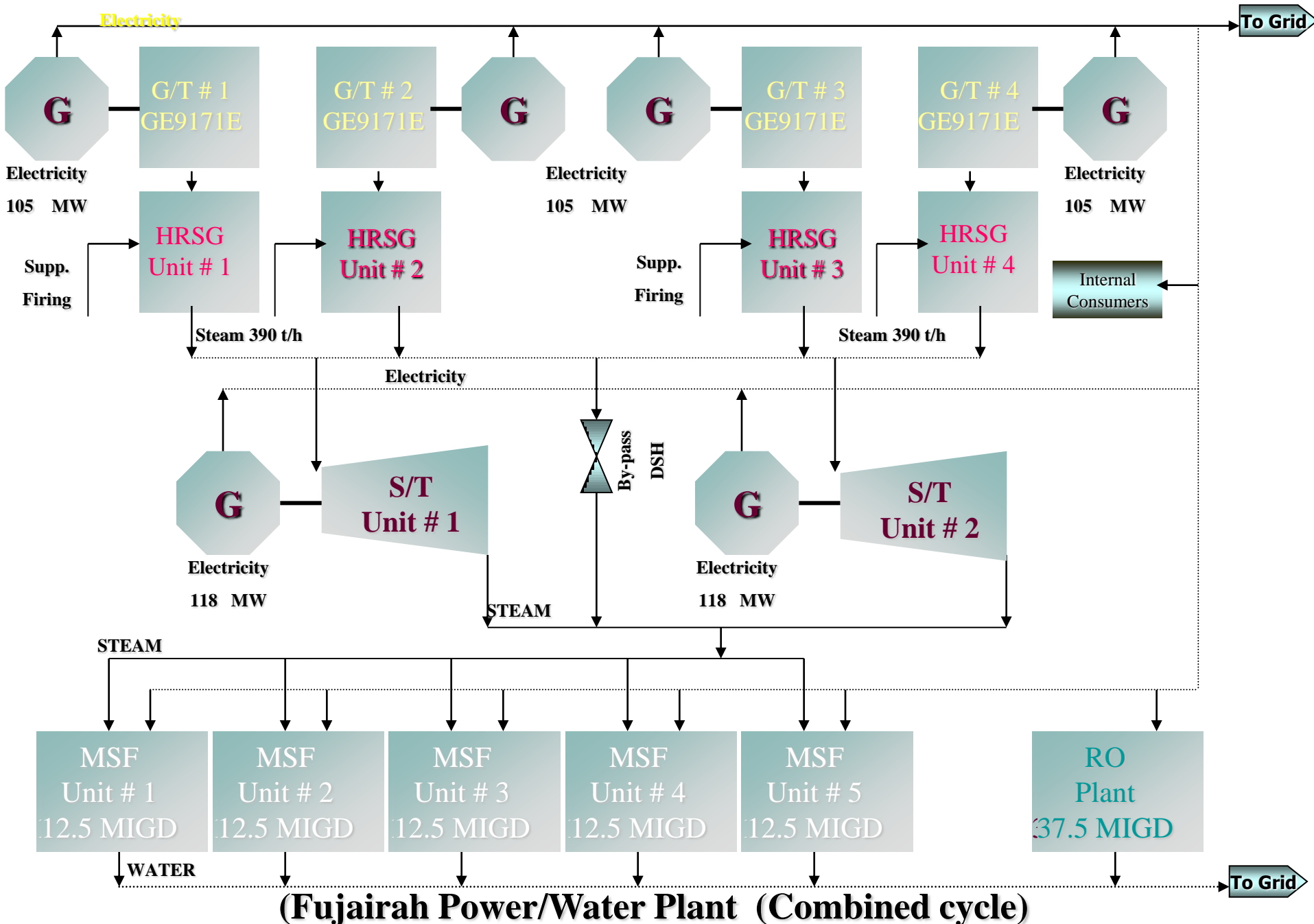
☞ **Comman intake/outful with MSF**

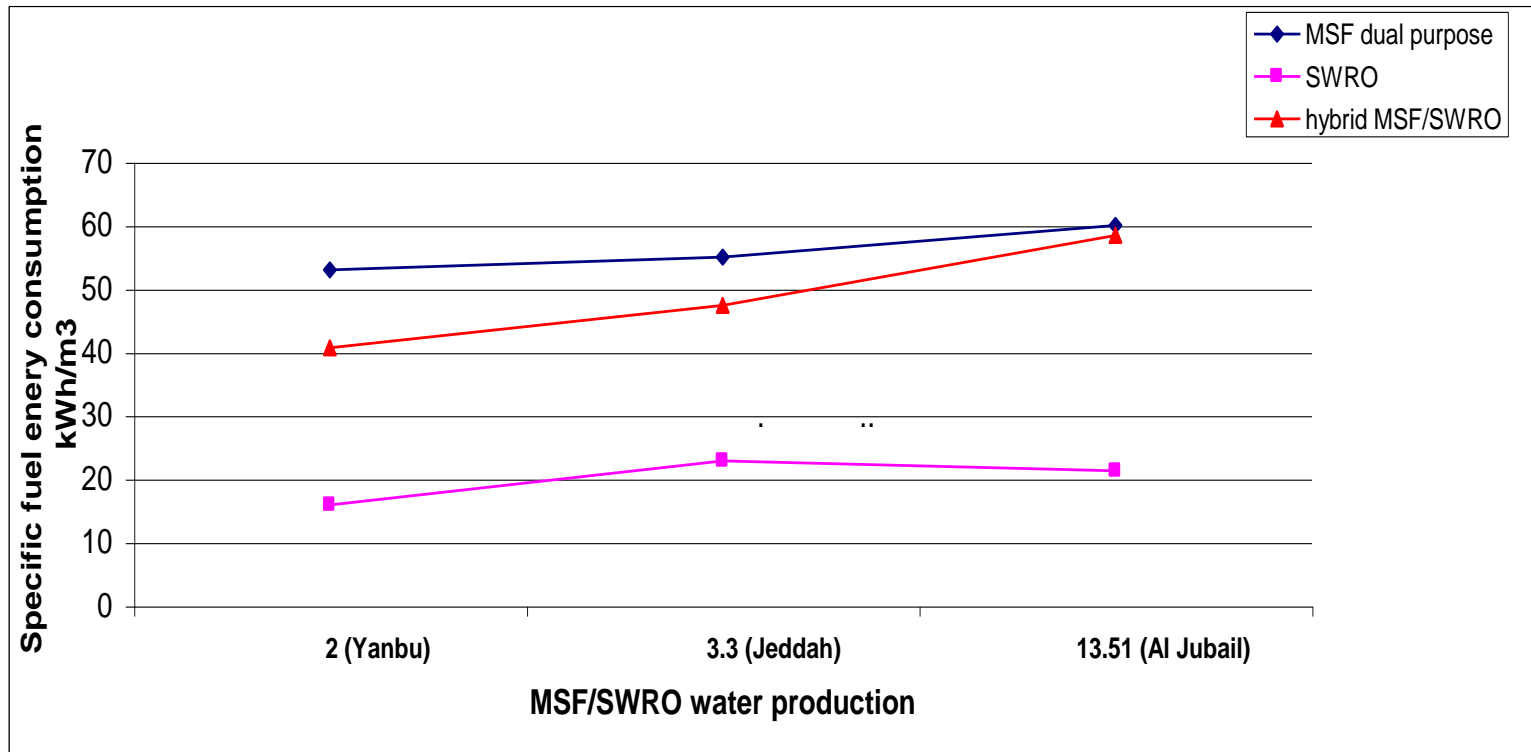
☞ **Product blended with MSF**

**Ras Al Khair
MSF/SWRO**



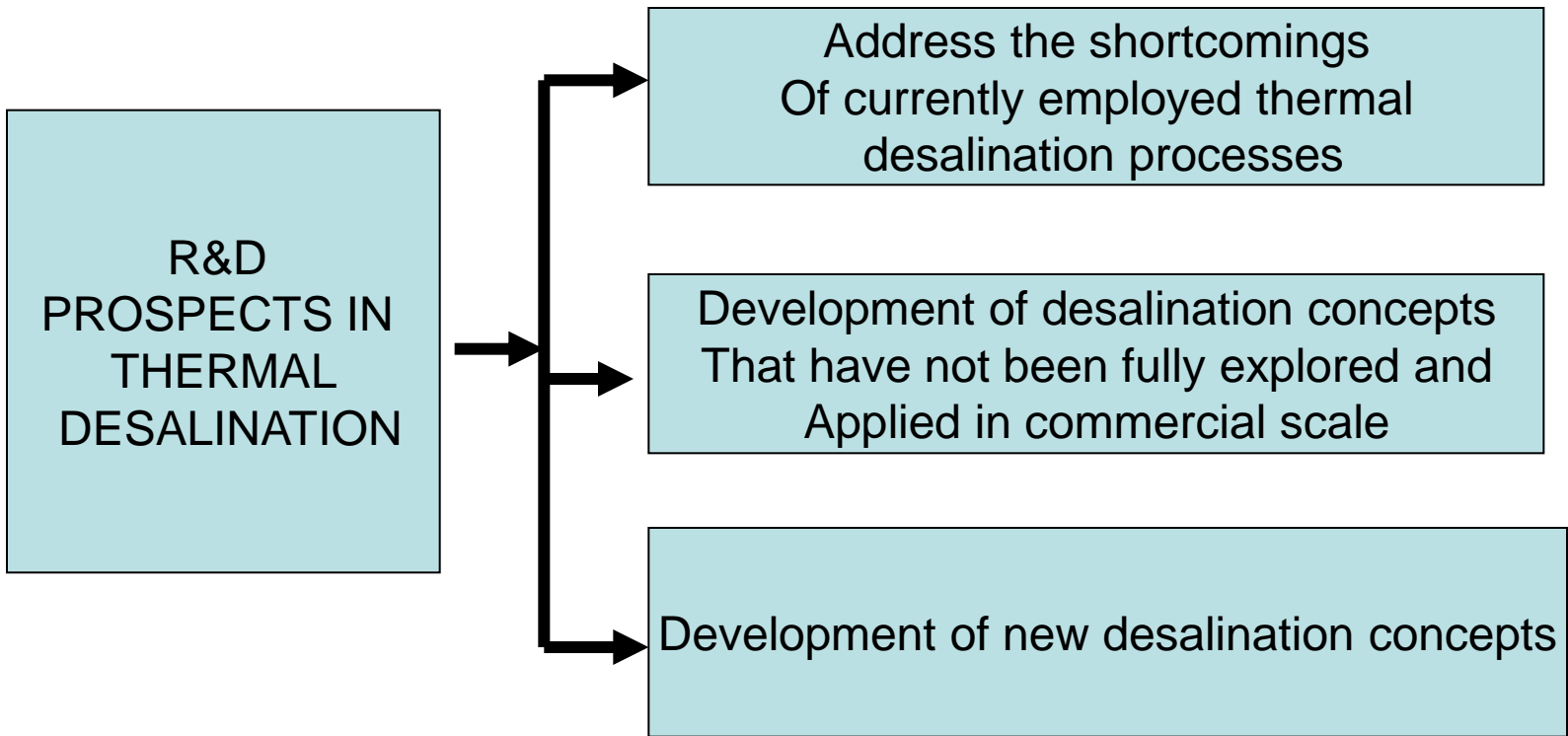
Block diagram of the combined power cycle integrated with the hybrid MSF/SWRO desalination plant



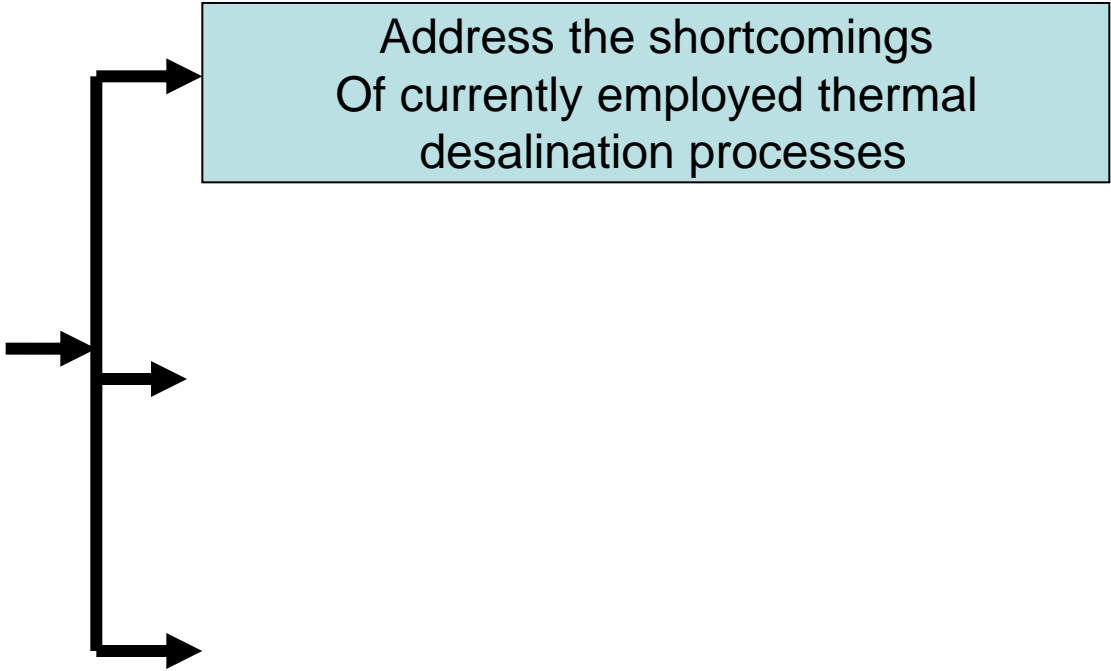


Specific fuel energy consumption of SWCC hybrid MSF/SWRO desalination plants

R&D PROSPECTS

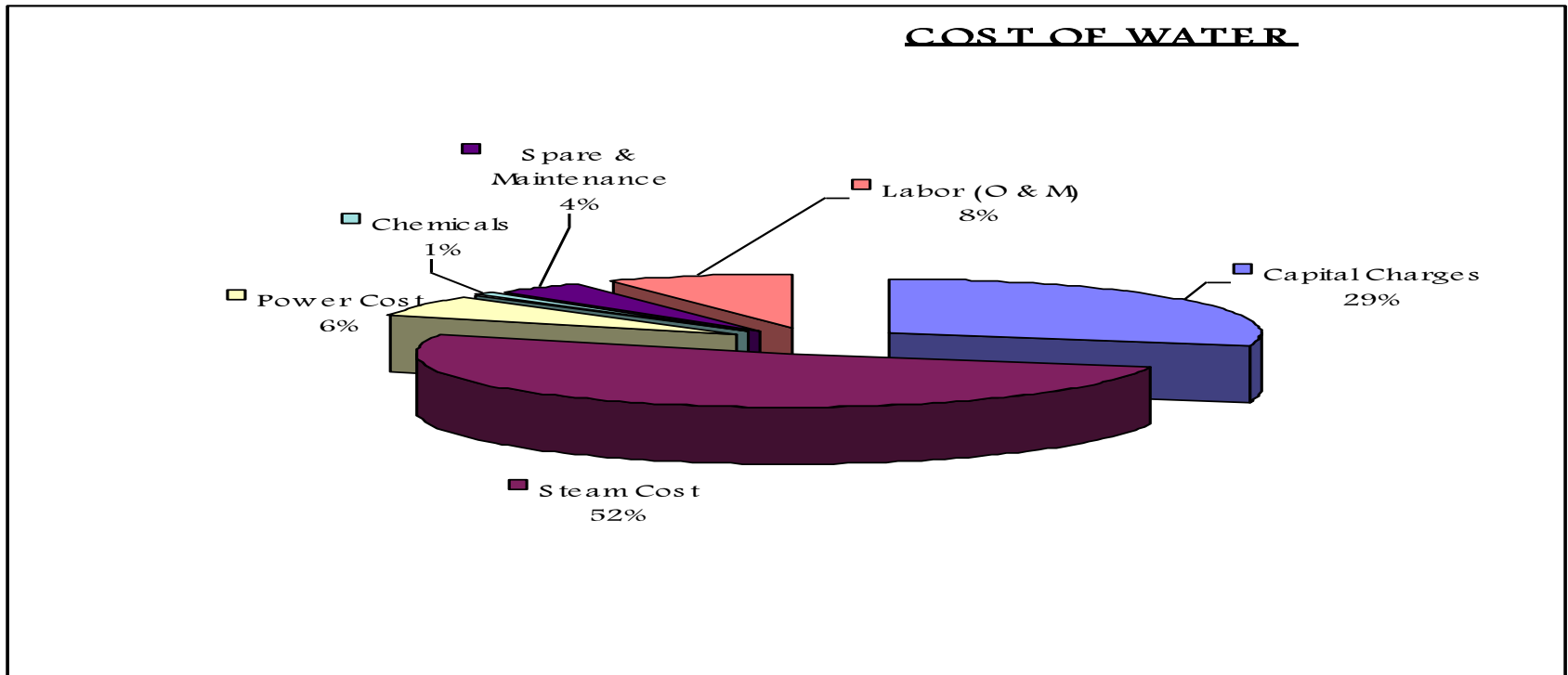


R&D
PROSPECTS IN
THERMAL
DESALINATION



R&D PROSPECTS

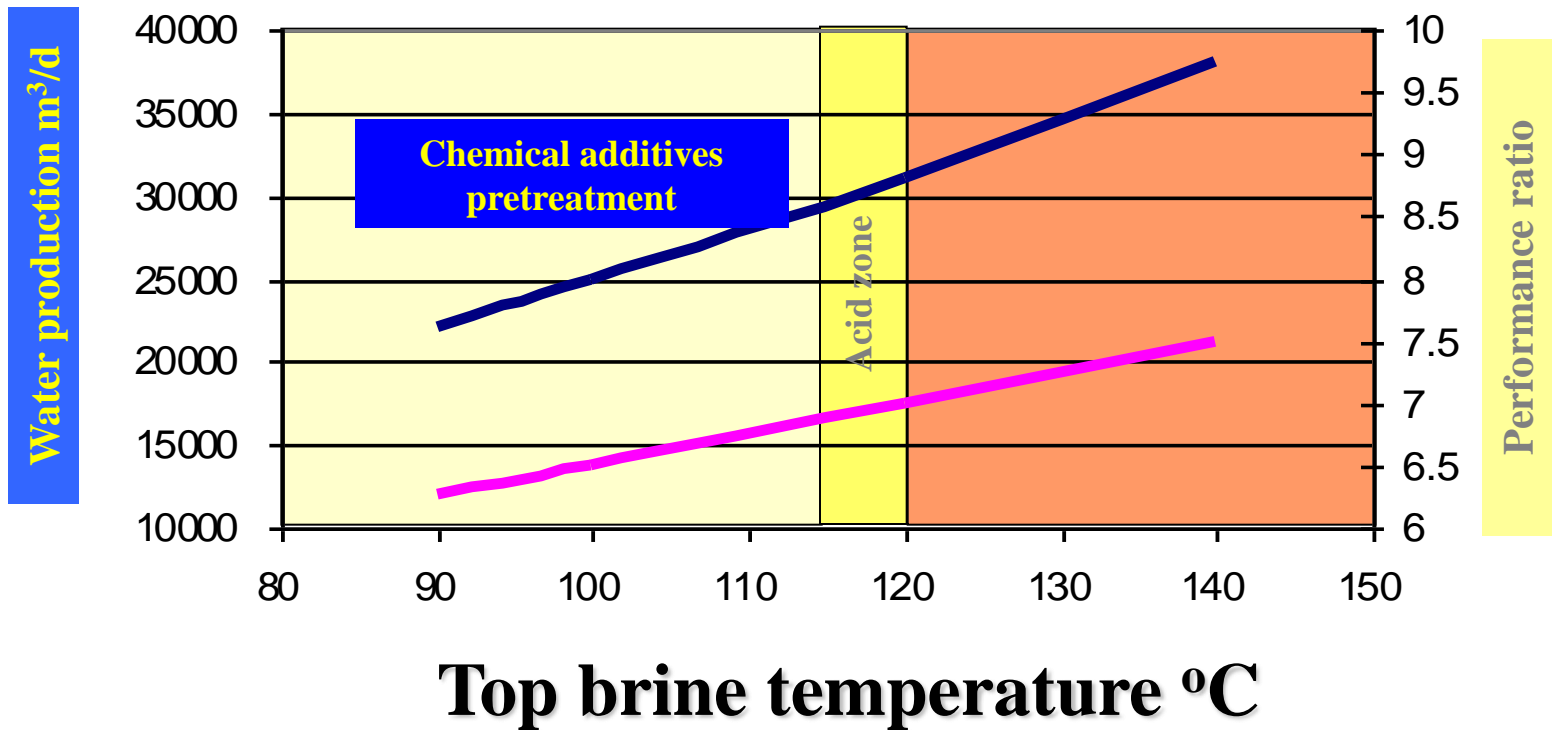
Address the shortcomings of current thermal desalination processes.



Breakdown of water production cost

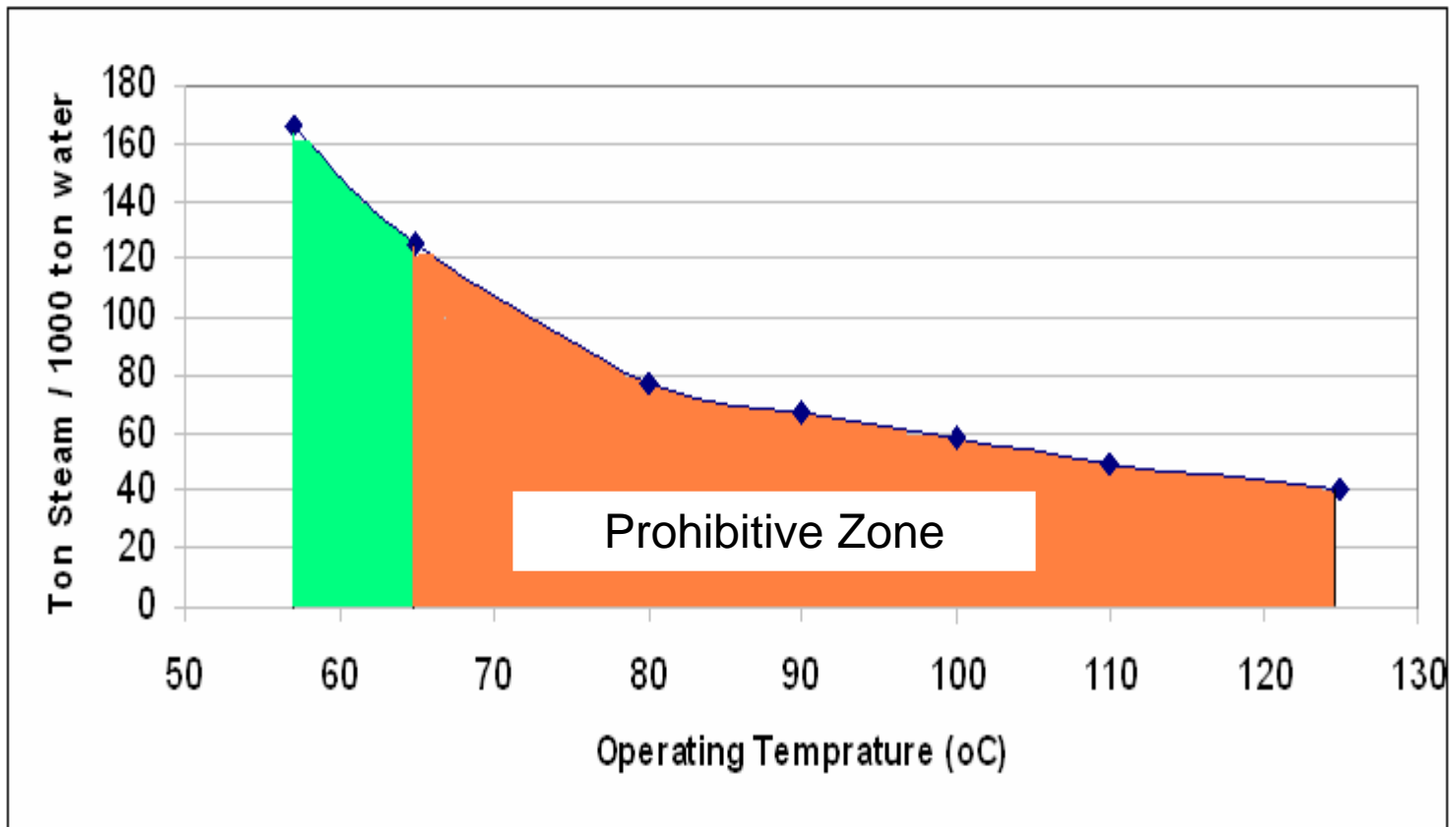
Address the shortcomings
Of currently employed thermal
desalination processes

Prohibitive zone
.Principal deterrent is the
formation of hard
(sulfate) scale



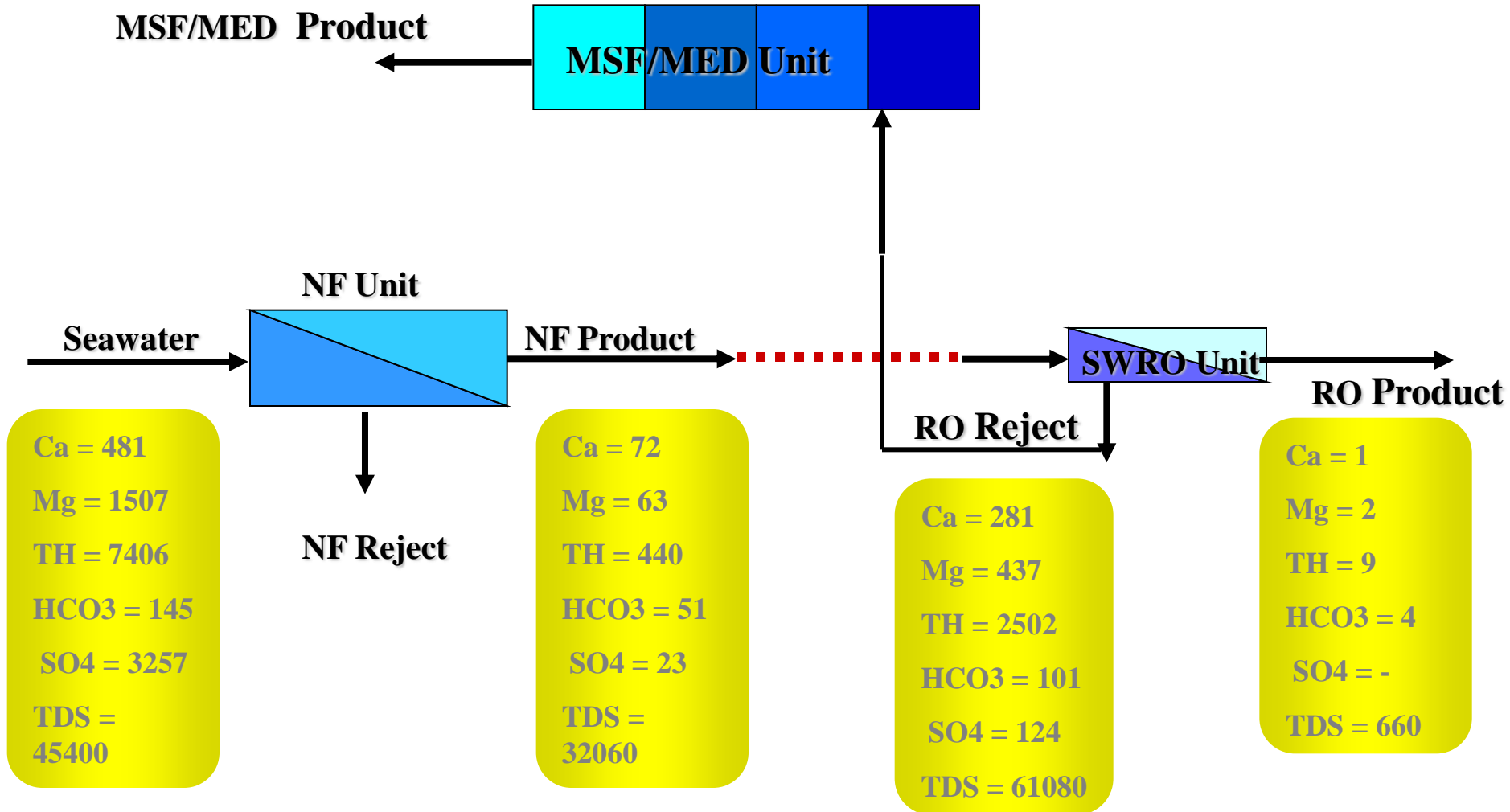
Impact of variation of TBT on MSF water production and performance ratio

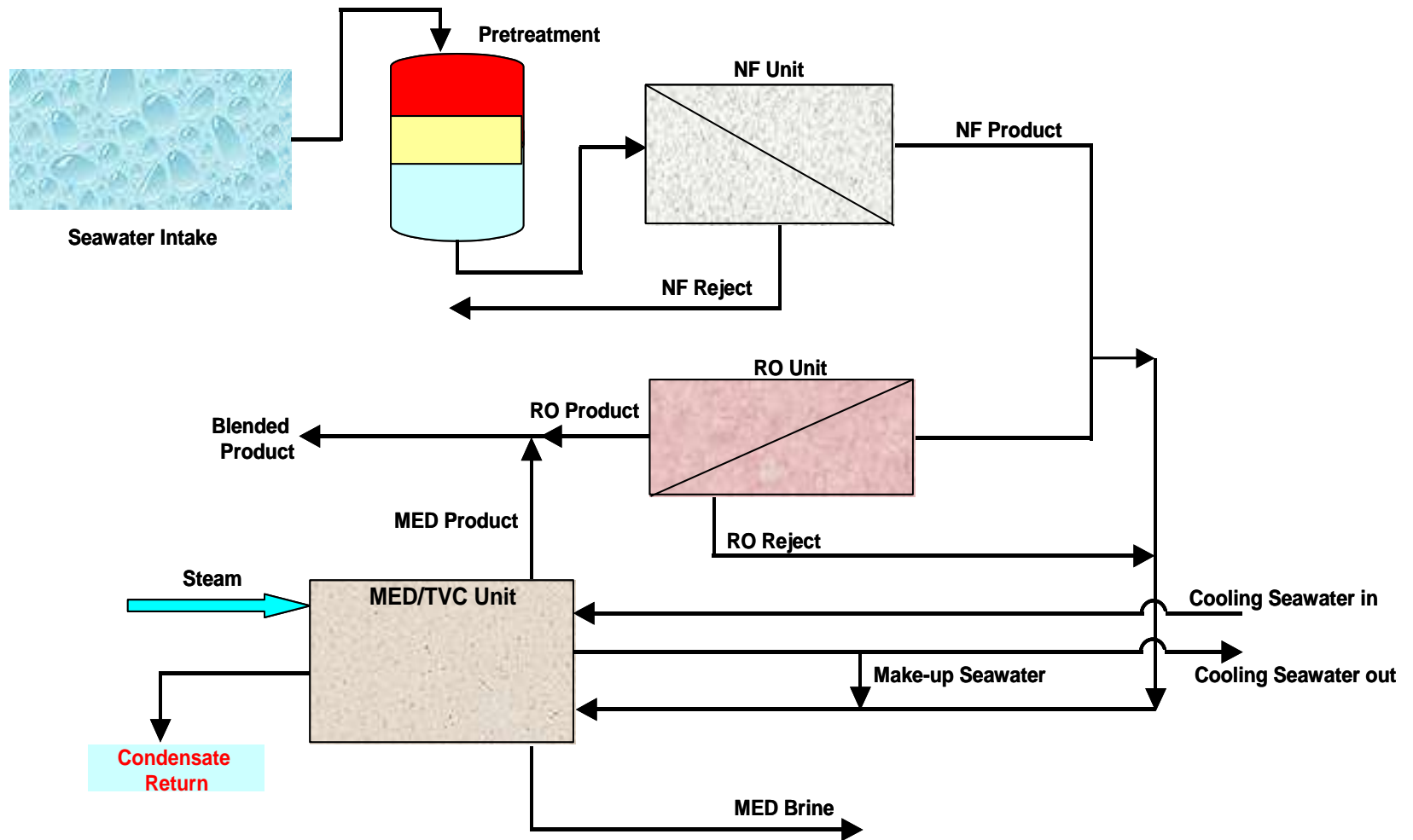
To eliminate the possibility of scale formation, commercial MED desalination plants are currently operating with TBT up to 65 °C .



Impact of the variation of operating temperature on the energy consumption of the MED Process

NF/RO/MSF or NF/RO/MED Tri-hybrid System

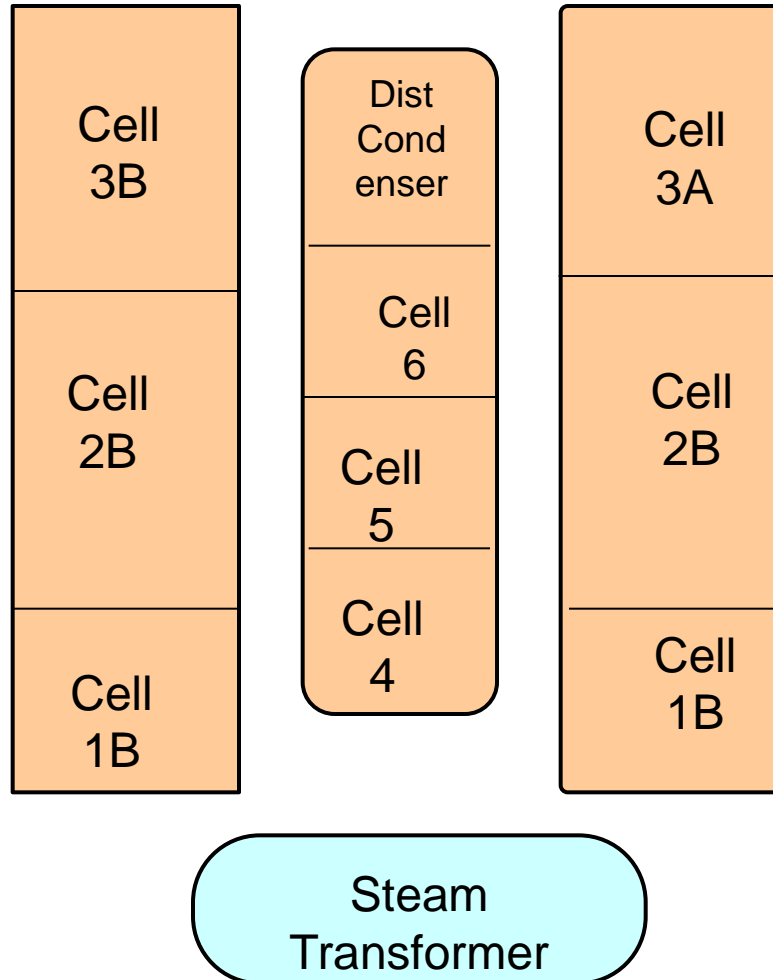




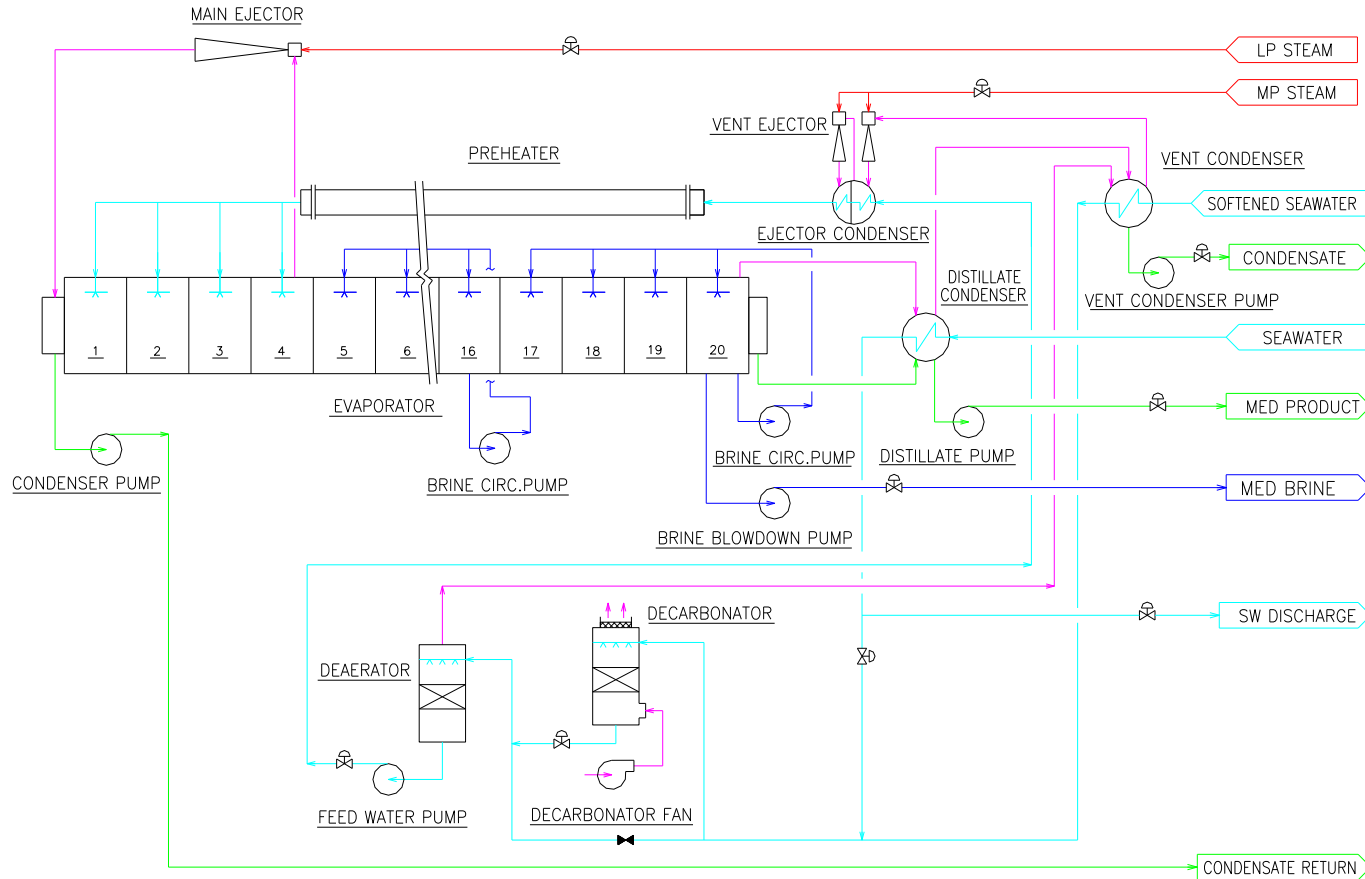
Schematic flow diagram of trihybrid NF/RO/MED desalination system

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF THE HIGH TEMPERATURE AND UNIT CAPACITY MED-TVC DESALINATION PLANT

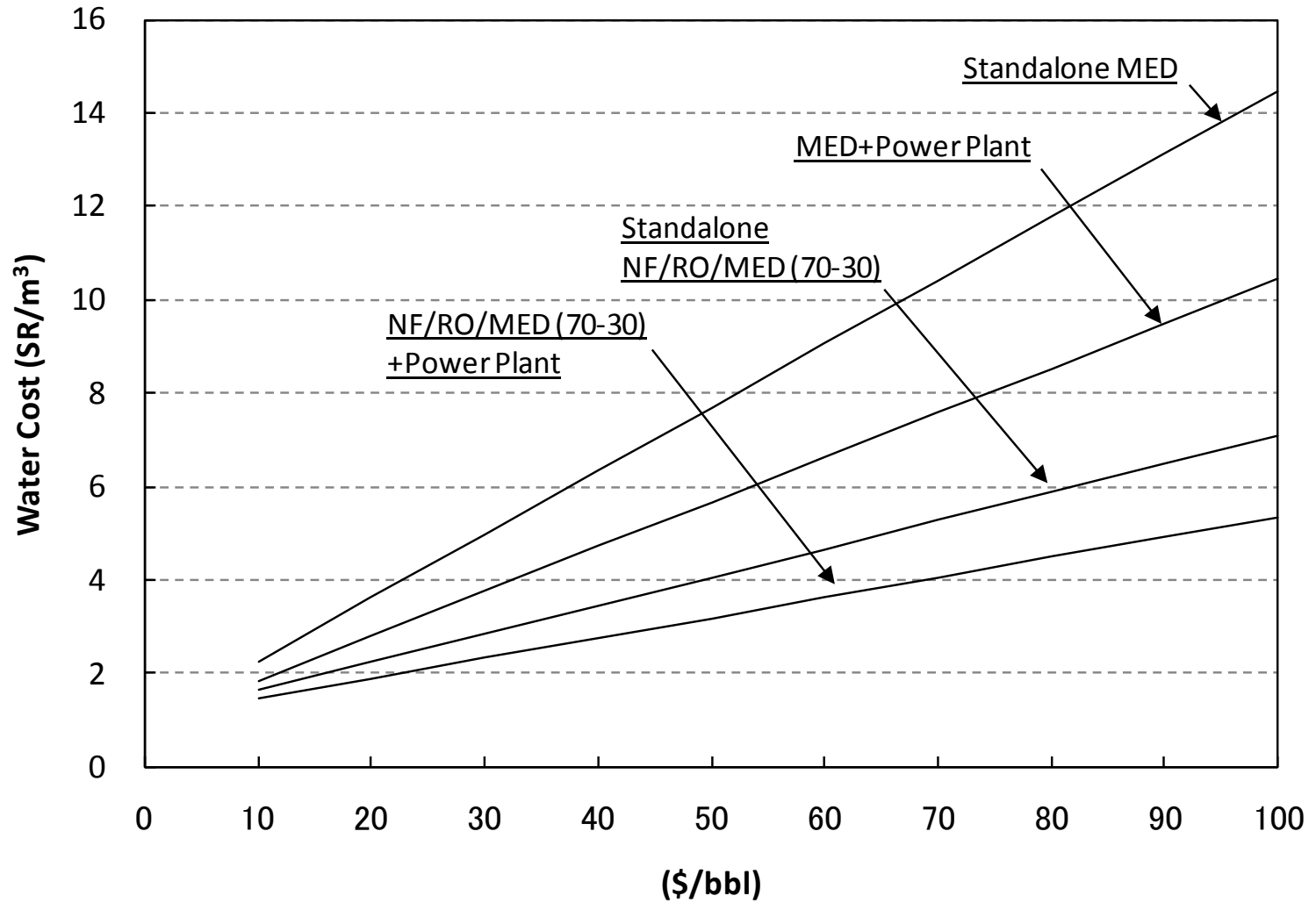
Configuration of new MED/TVC desalination plants

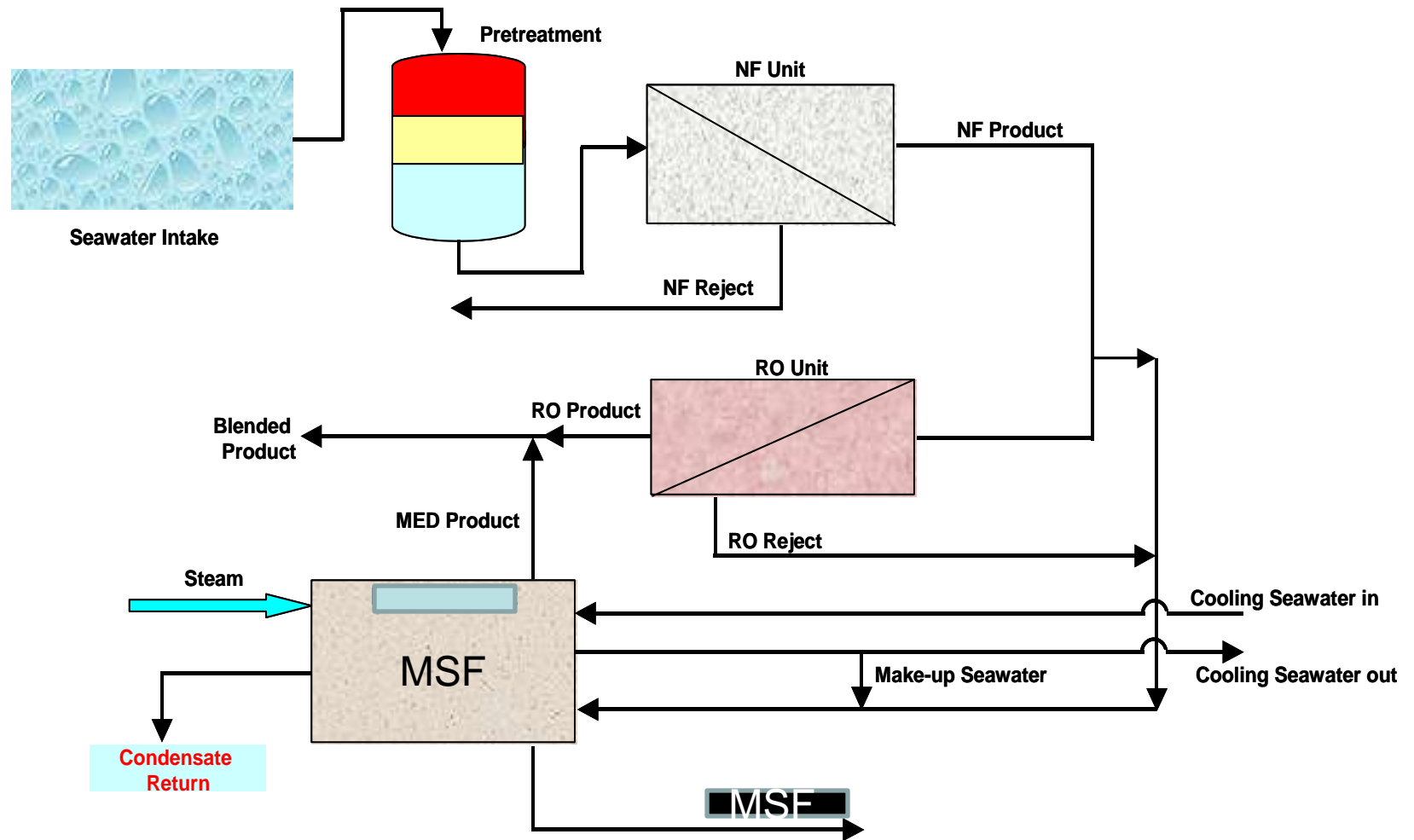


Schematic flow diagram of MED unit of Tri-Hybrid Desalination Plant



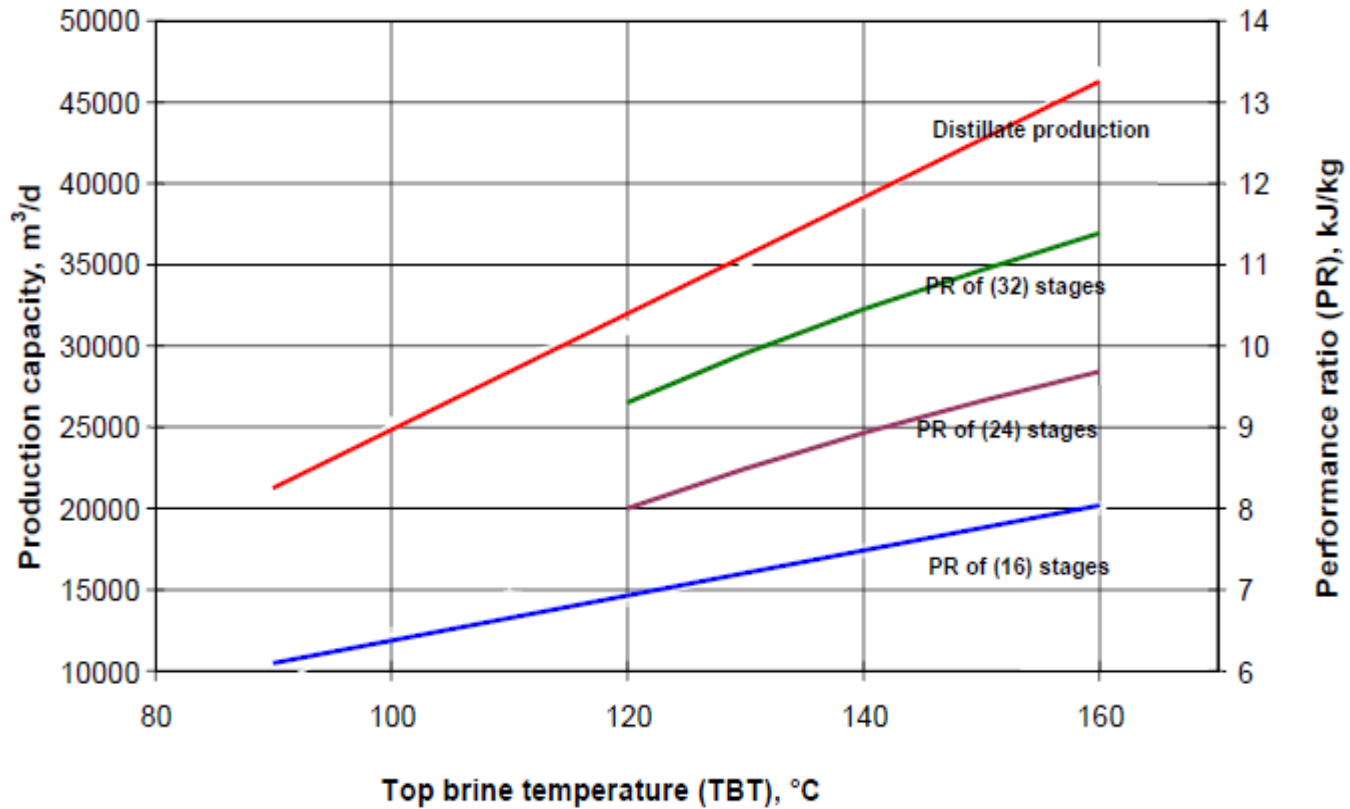
The impact of energy cost in \$/bbl oil equivalent on the water production cost



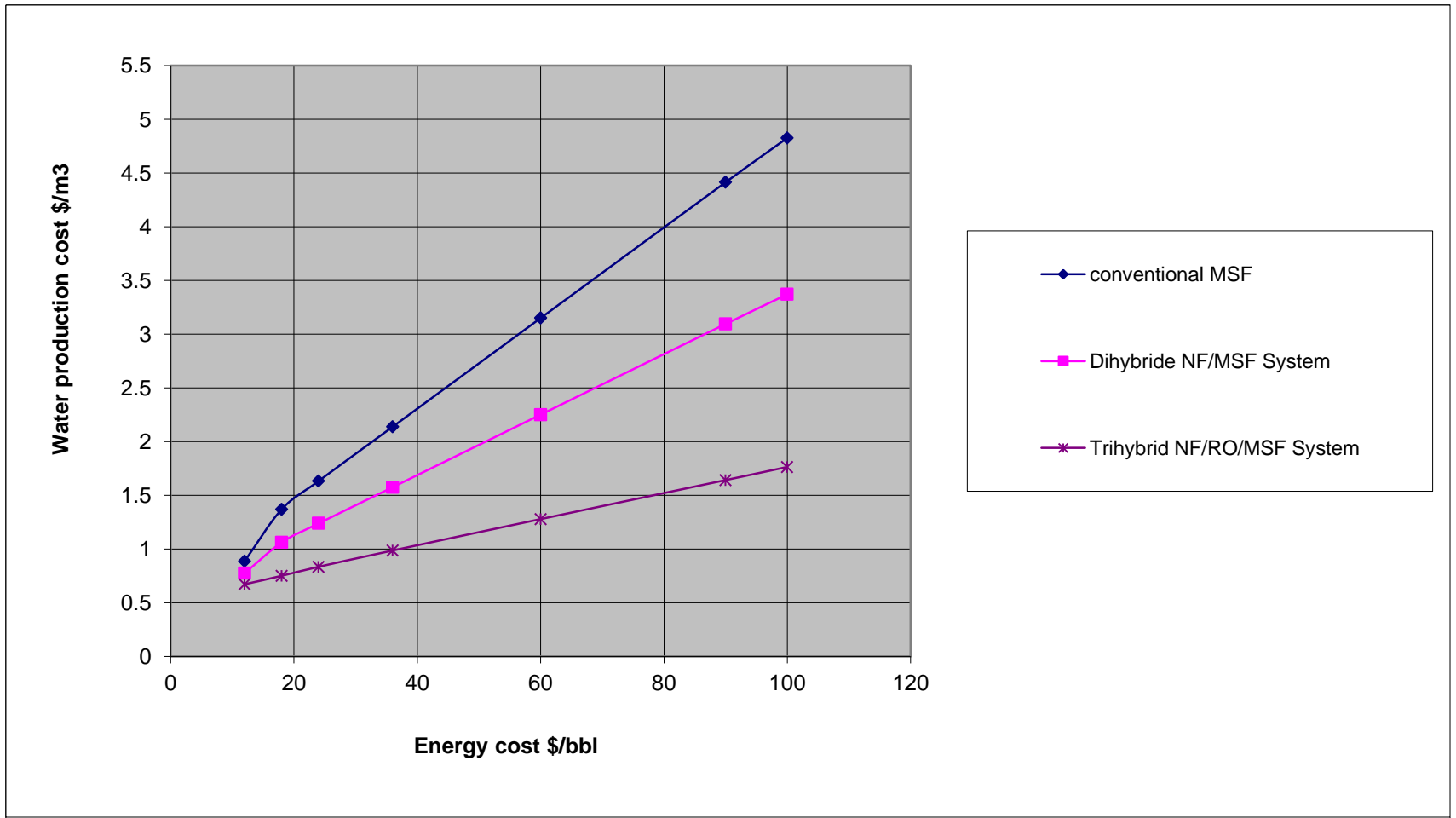


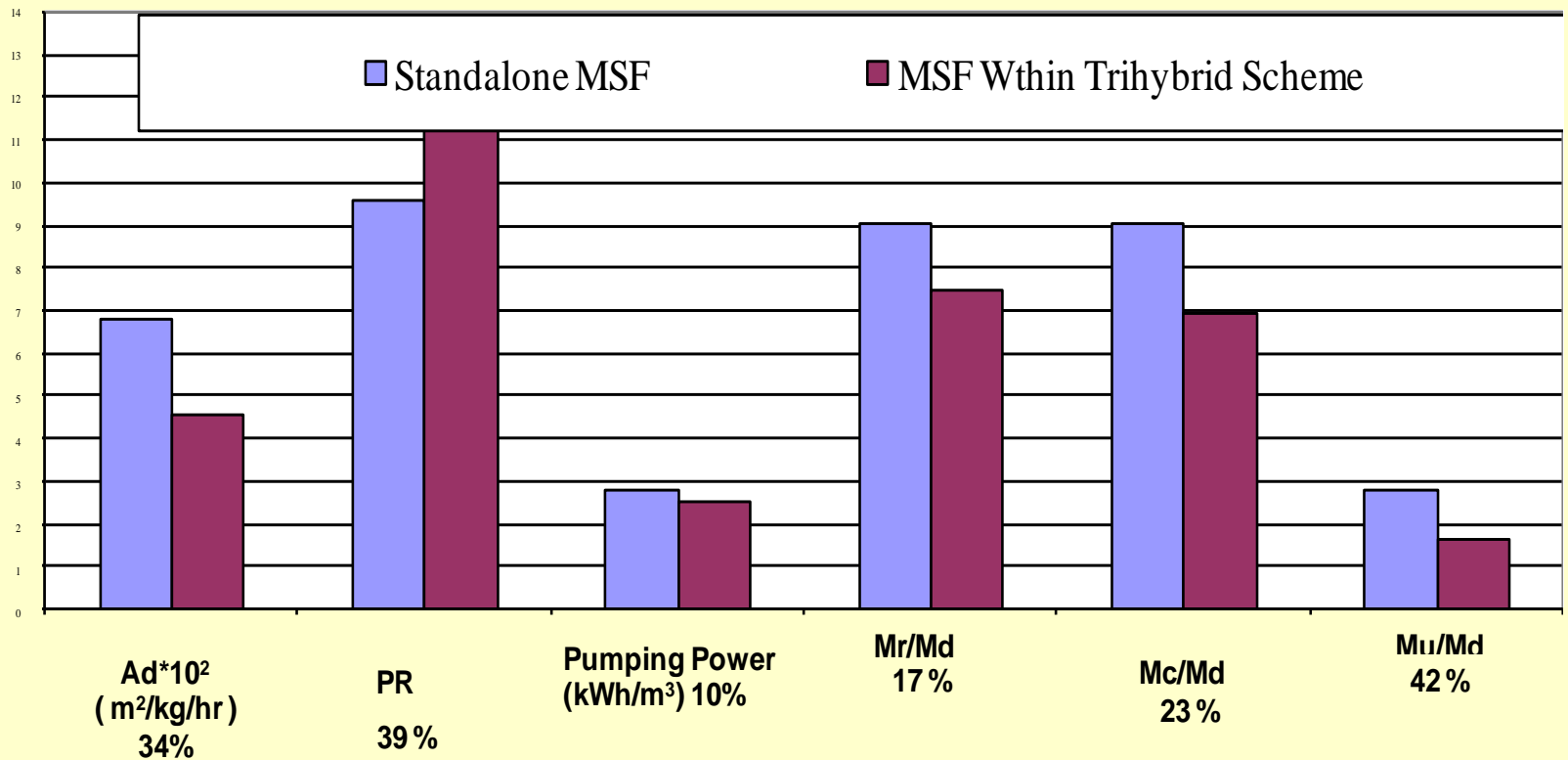
Schematic flow diagram of trihybrid NF/RO/MSF desalination system

The impact of TBT on water production and energy consumption



The impact of energy cost in \$/bbl oil equivalent on the water production cost





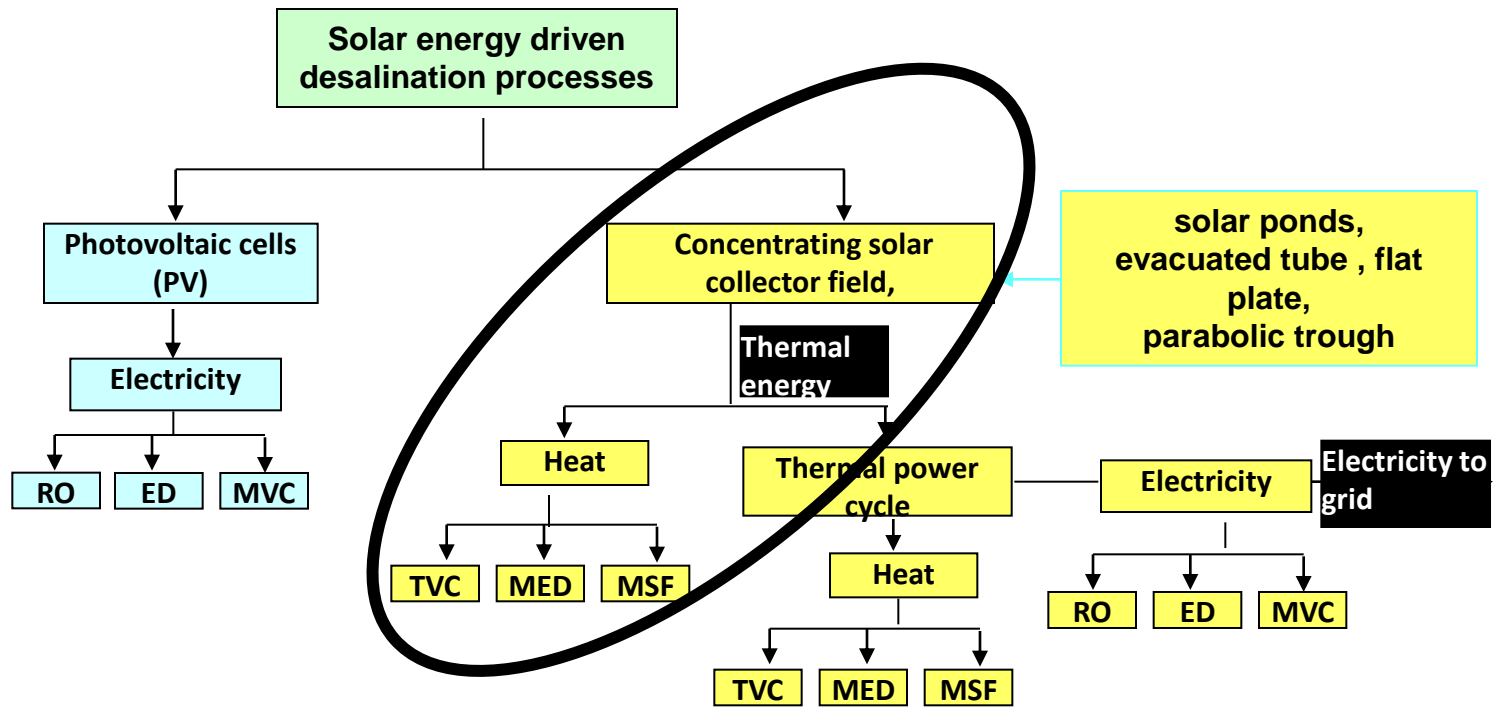
Comparison between the standalone MSF and MSF combined with NF/RO configuration

Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC)

**Prospects of reduction of operational cost
of SWCC small scale thermal desalination
plants using solar energy**

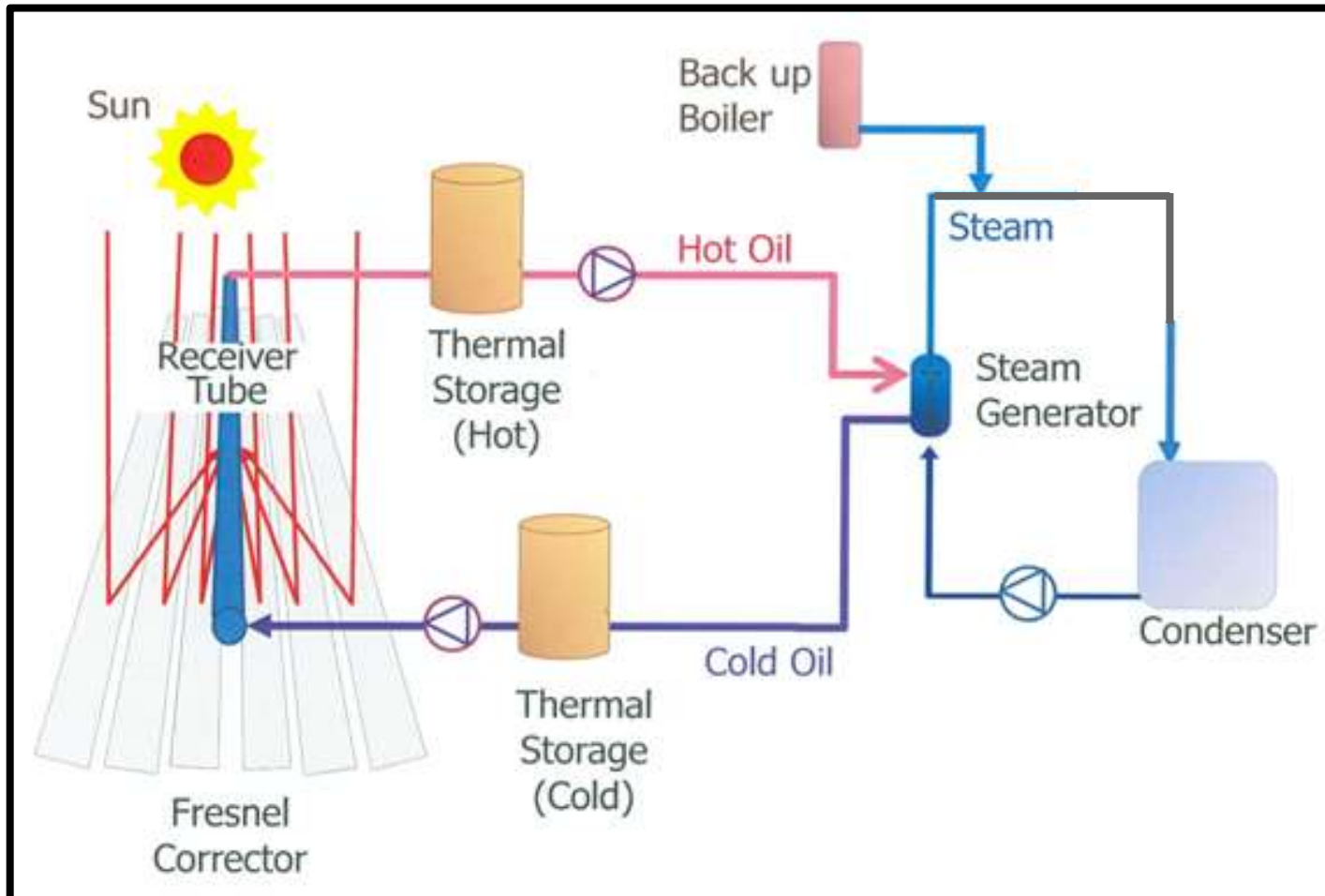
Synergy between desalination and solar energy

Solar desalination combinations



RO = Reverse Osmosis
 ED = Electrodialysis (ED)
 MVC = Mechanical vapor compression
 TVC = Thermal Vapor compression
 MED = Multieffect distillation
 MSF = Multistage flash distillation

Schematic diagram of the solar assisted thermal desalination experimental set-up





SWCC



SWDRI

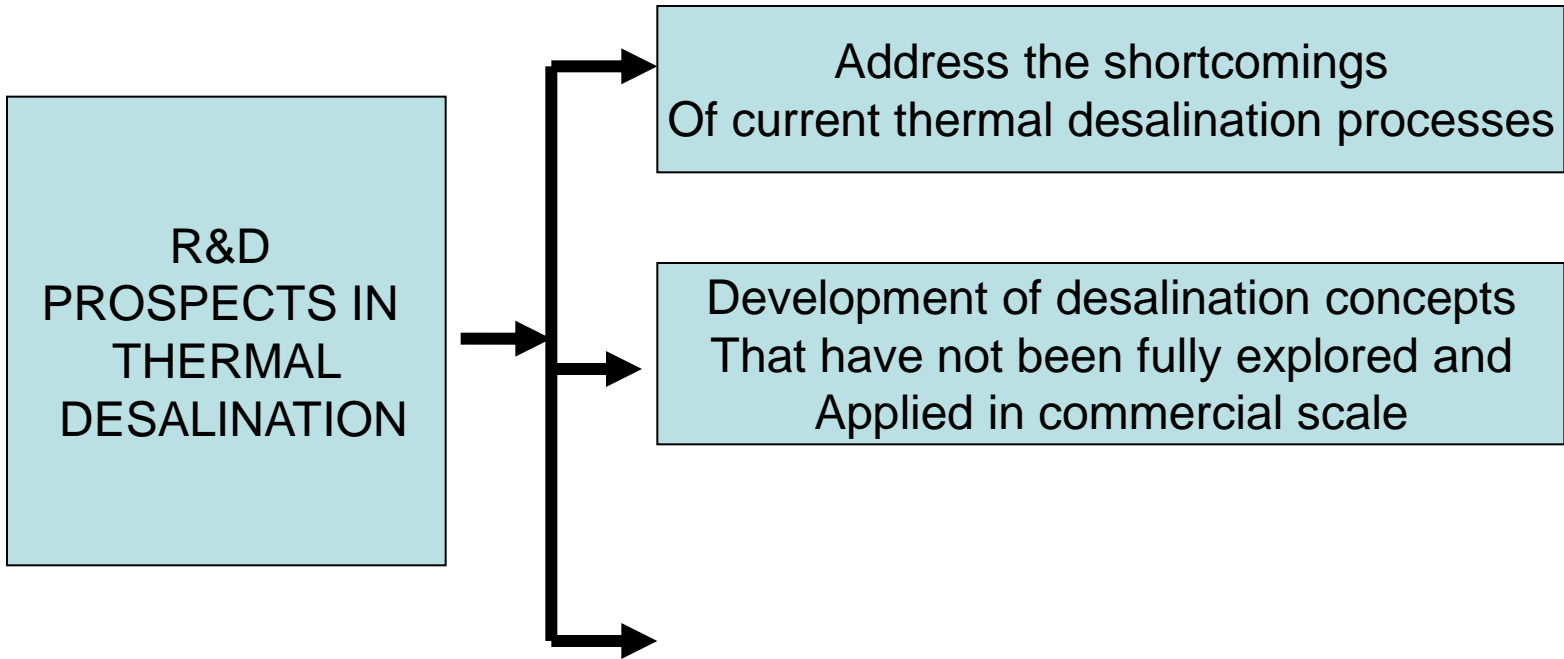
Solar Energy

for

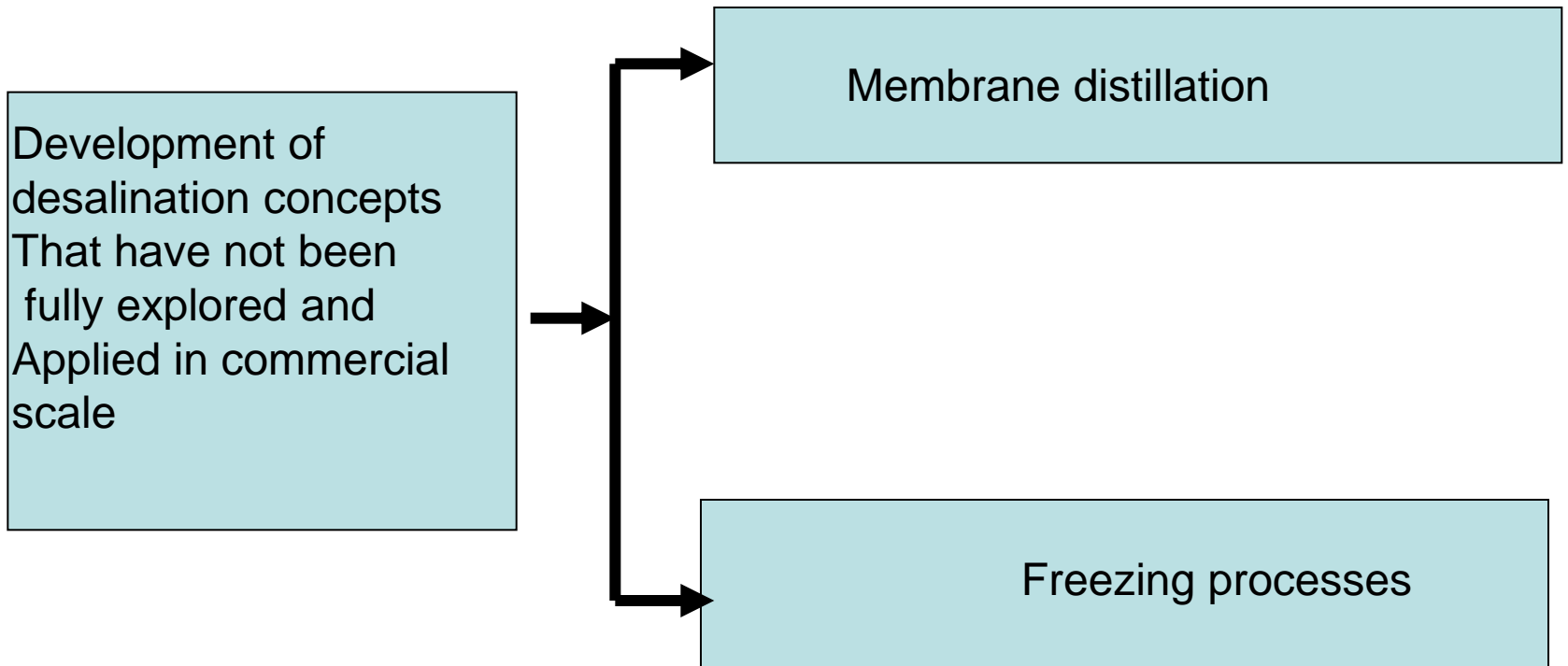
Desalination Plants

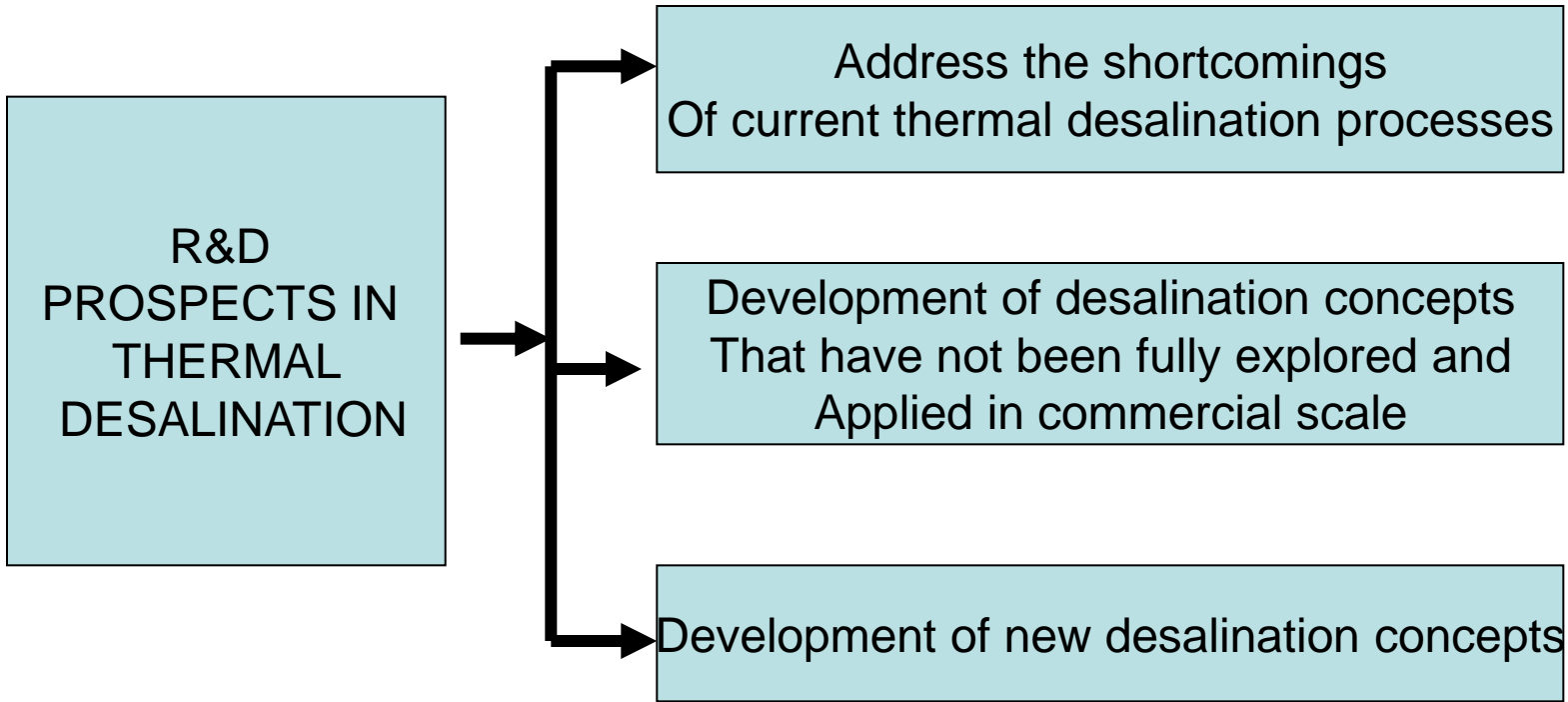
Hitz
Hitachi Zosen



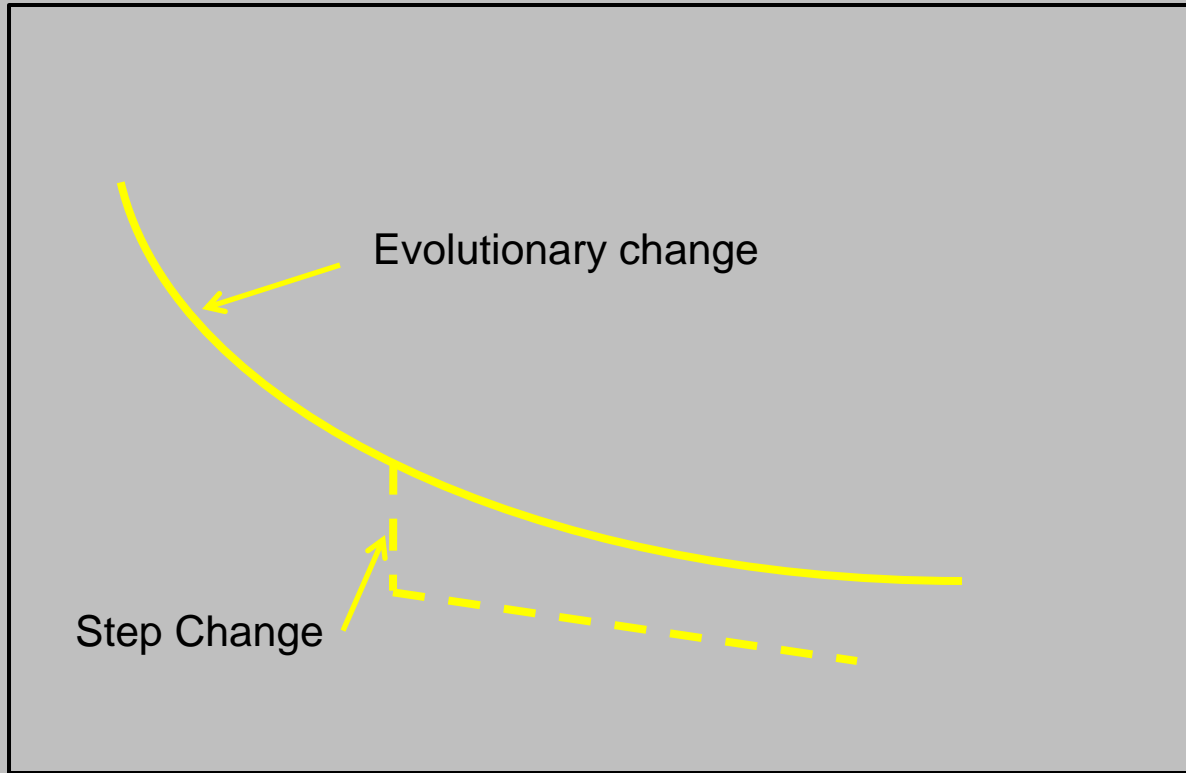


R&D PROSPECTS





Water Production Cost



Evolutionary change

Step Change

Year

Thank You

