

Innovations in Ammonia

Trevor Brown, CFA

AmmoniaIndustry.com & AmmoniaEnergy.org

Fertilizer Outlook & Technology Conference

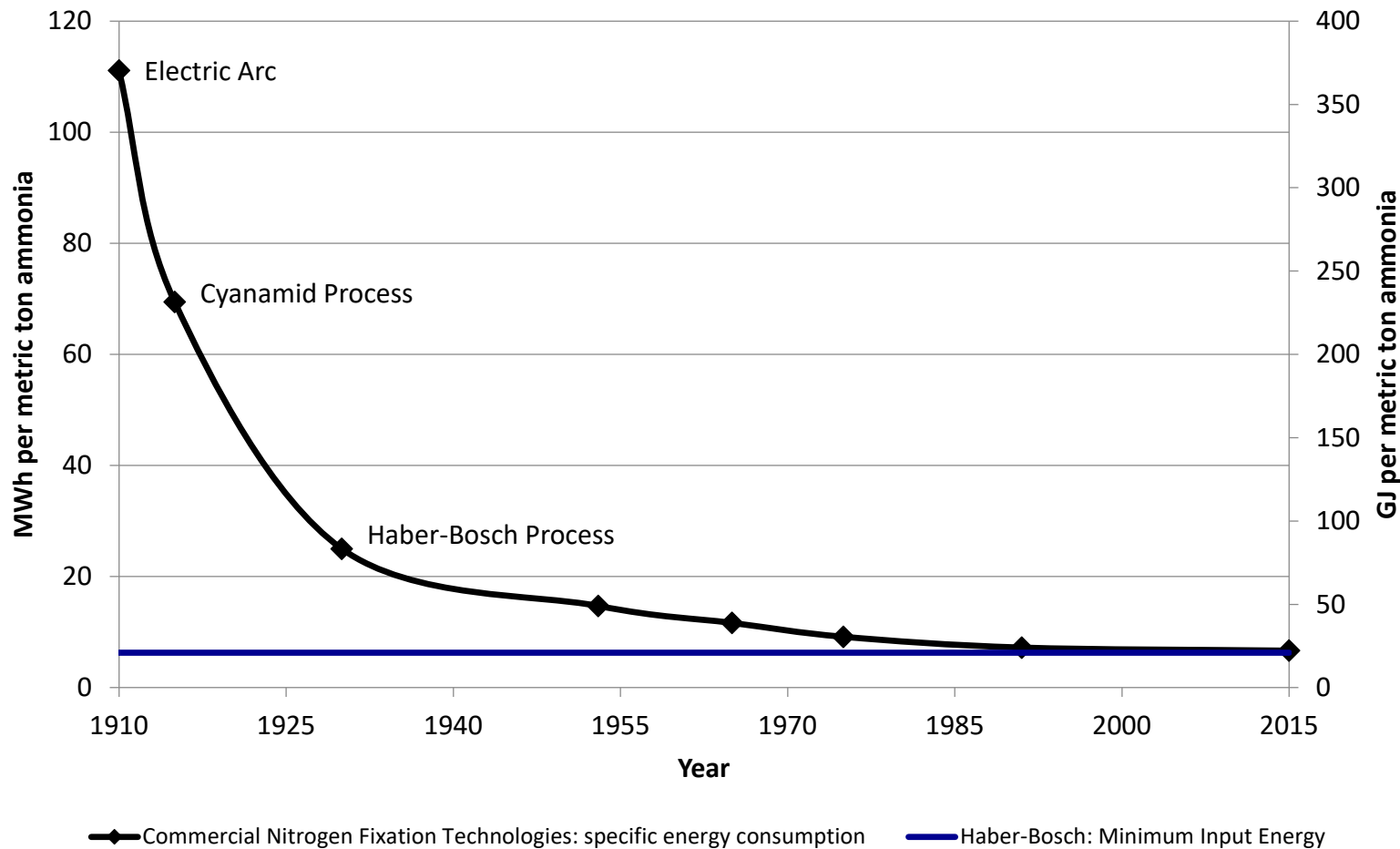
Jacksonville, FL, November 13, 2018

Innovations in Ammonia

- 1) History of Innovation: **Energy Efficiency**
- 2) Future of Innovation: **Carbon Efficiency**
- 3) Low-carbon Ammonia: **Available Today**
- 4) Green Ammonia Pilot Plants: **Electrolysis + Haber-Bosch**
- 5) Green Ammonia Markets: **Scale and Scope**

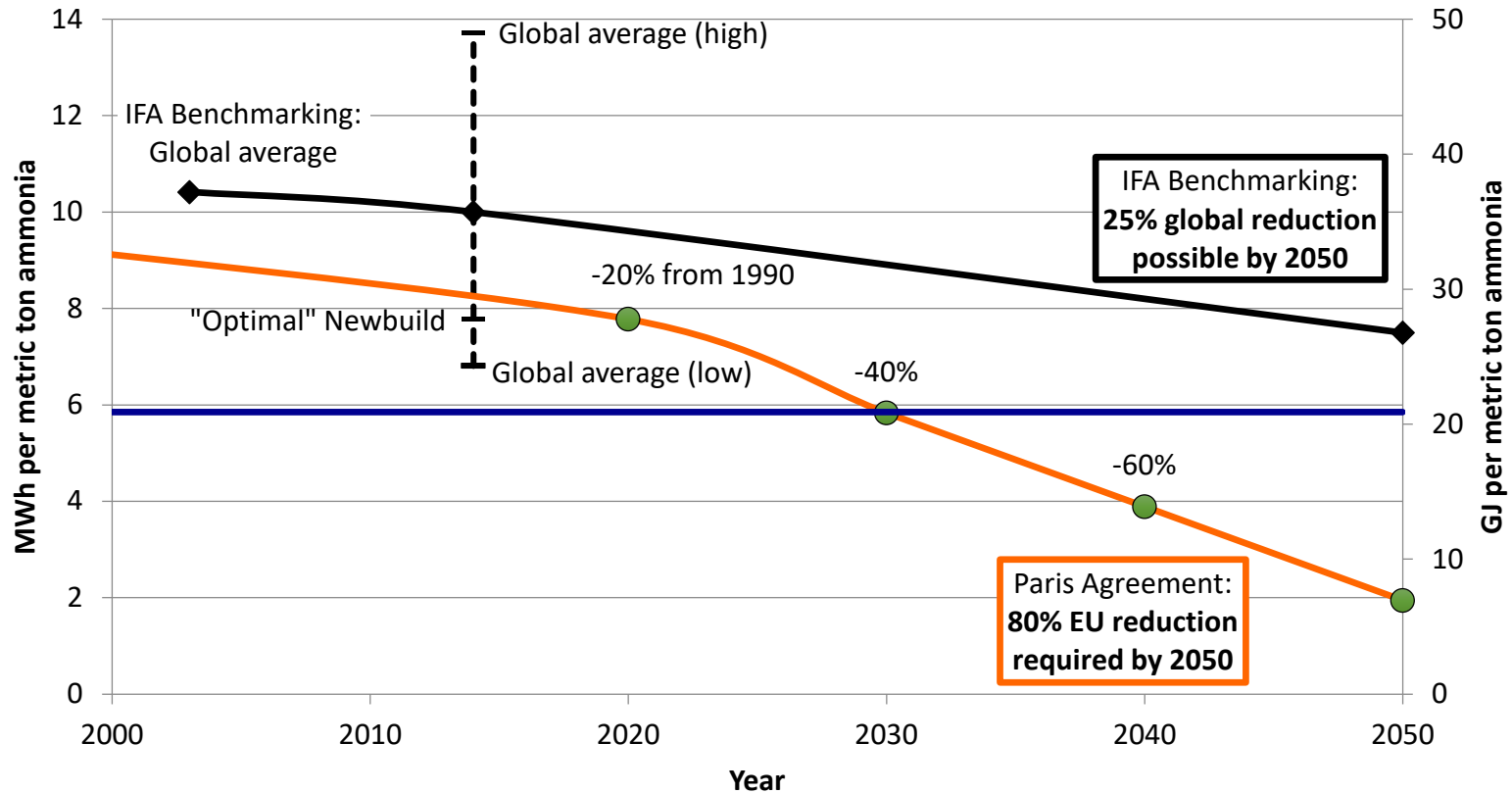
Ammonia Synthesis (Nitrogen Fixation): Energy Efficiency, 1910-2015

Various sources / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



Ammonia Synthesis: Energy Efficiency, 2000-2050

IFA Benchmarks / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



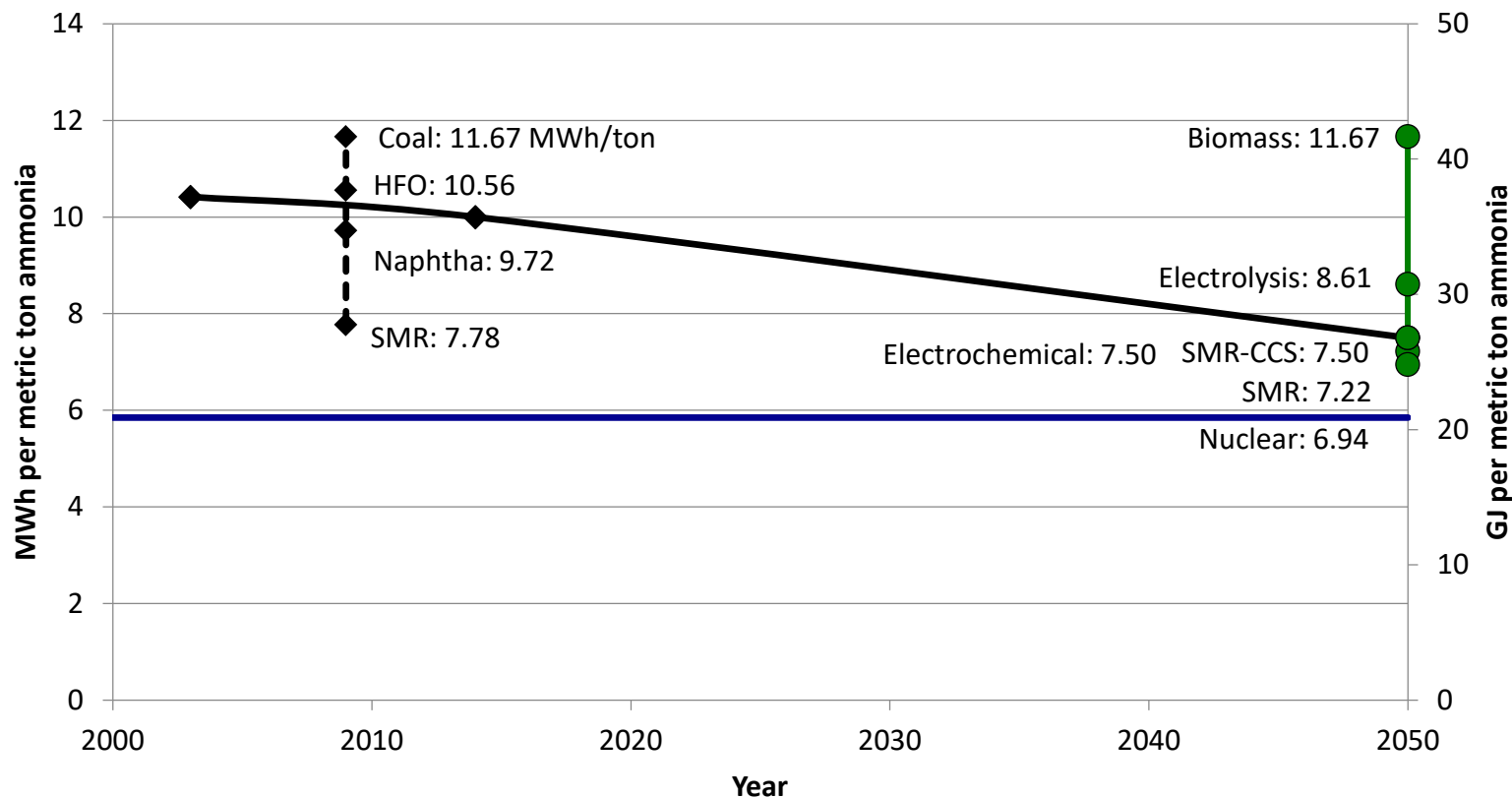
◆ IFA Benchmarking: Global Average

— Haber-Bosch: Minimum Input Energy

● Paris Agreement: EU Emission Reduction Targets

Ammonia Synthesis: Best Available Technologies, 2000-2050

IFA Benchmarks / CEFIC / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



—◆— IFA Benchmarking: Global Average

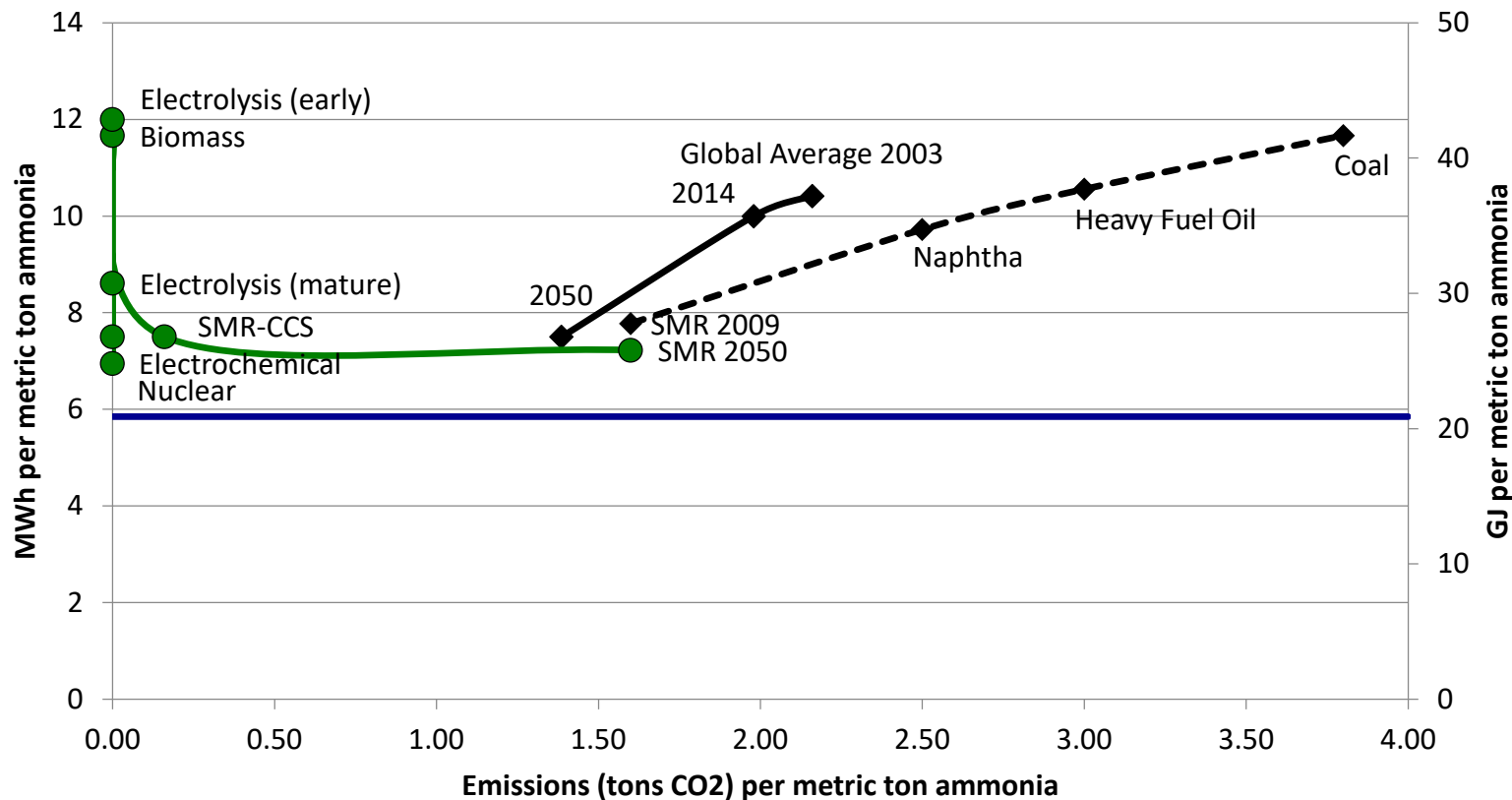
—●— CEFIC: Energy Roadmap 2050

—◆— IFA Benchmarking: 2009 Best Available Technology (BAT)

— Haber-Bosch: Minimum Input Energy

Ammonia Synthesis: Carbon Efficiency, 2000-2050

IFA Benchmarking / CEFIC / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



—◆— IFA Benchmarking: Global Average

—◆— IFA Benchmarking: 2009 Best Available Technology (BAT)

—●— CEFIC: Energy Roadmap 2050

— Haber-Bosch: Minimum Input Energy

Low-carbon Haber-Bosch: Available Today

- Showa Denko, Kawasaki, Japan
- Plastic gasification since 2003
- Ammonia capacity 175 tons per day
- 65% hydrogen feedstock from recycled plastic
- Ecoann™ ammonia sold as premium deNOx product

“Approved and rated high as ‘eco-friendly goods for procurement’ by major electric power companies.”



Low-carbon Haber-Bosch: Available Today

- Nutrien, Joffre, Canada
- Byproduct hydrogen feedstock since 1987
- Ammonia capacity 1,350 tons per day
- 25% reduction in carbon footprint v SMR
- Alberta carbon tax hits both fuel and feedstock

Credits generated by the Joffre plant can offset emission costs of other plants in the Alberta fleet



(on the subject of carbon taxes)

- 10/25/2018: On one hand ...
- CEO of US ammonia producer, during Q3 2018 earnings call, responds to question about perhaps expanding ammonia capacity in Canada:
- *“The Trudeau government and some of their carbon backstop legislation ... they're doing things that are really anti-business and make it very difficult for us to want to spend money in that particular area.”*

(on the subject of carbon taxes)

- 10/25/2018: On the other hand ...
- PM Justin Trudeau of Canada meets a Dutch trade delegation, and receives a knitted ammonia molecule mascot, 'Monia,' from Jacco Mooijer of Proton Ventures, renewable ammonia plant engineers, in the presence of visiting PM Mark Rutte of the Netherlands.
Photo credit: Adam Scotti



Green Ammonia: Back to the future

- Yara (Norsk Hydro), Glomfjord, Norway
- Carbon-free ammonia, 1953 – 1991
- The world's biggest electrolyzers:
two 135 MW units, generating hydrogen
feedstock at 30,000 Nm³ per hour
- No market advantage for “green”-ness,
eventually not competitive v SMR



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

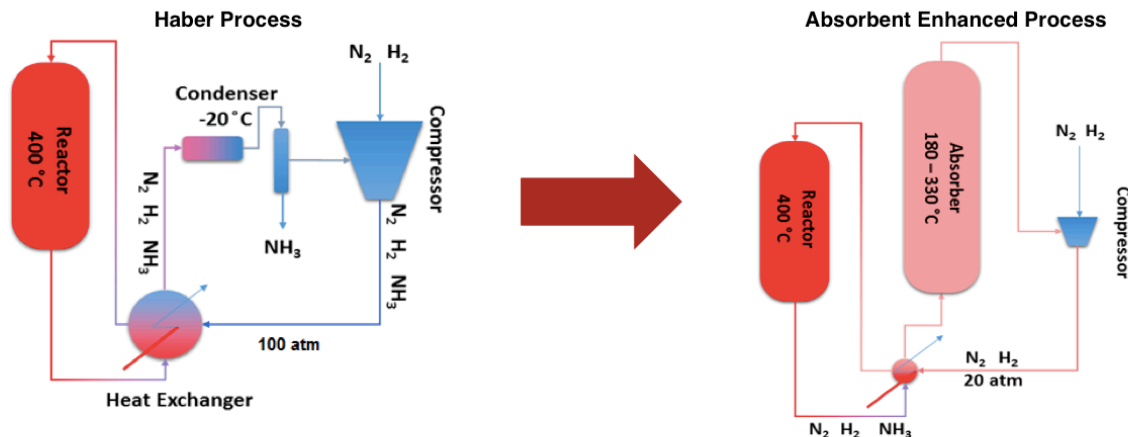
- **University of Minnesota:** Morris, MN, US
- Operational since 2013
- R&D innovation:
Scaling down Haber-Bosch to match wind



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

Lowering Capital Cost: Absorbent Enhanced Synthesis

- Absorption instead of condensation¹
- Lower pressure and less heat exchange (temperature difference)
- Lower capital cost than conventional process, especially at small scale²



[1] Malmali et al, *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 2016, 55, 33, 8922-8932.

[2] Palys et al, *Processes*, 2018, 6, 7, 91.

Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

- **FREA:** Fukushima, Japan
- Operational since April 2018
- R&D innovation:
Catalyst development optimized for low-pressure electrolytic hydrogen



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

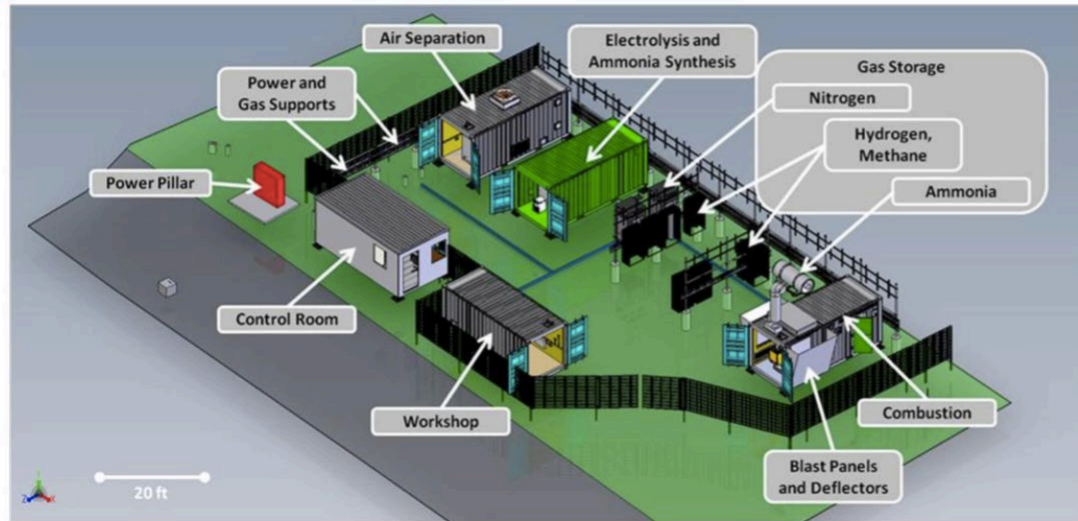
- **Siemens:** Oxford, UK
- Operational since June 2018
- R&D innovation:
Business Models: ancillary grid services (DSM), energy storage, electrofuel production



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

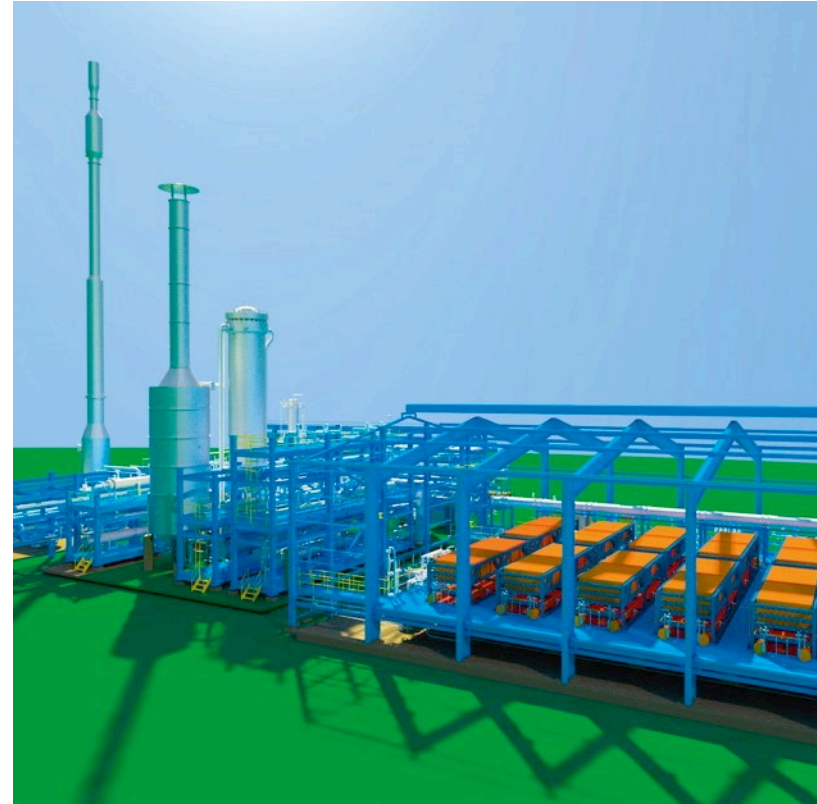
The Green Ammonia Demonstrator will show the complete cycle of renewable power, storage as ammonia, and conversion back to electricity

SIEMENS



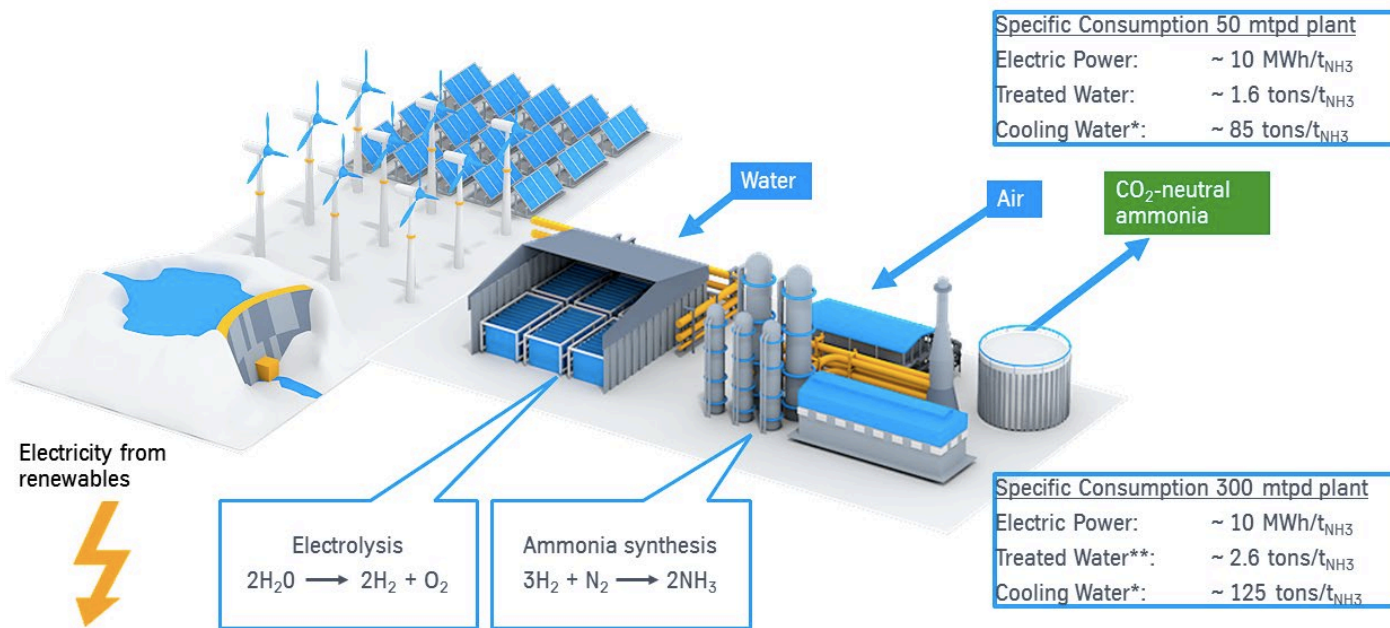
Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

- **ThyssenKrupp:** Port Lincoln, Australia
- Announced 2018 for 2020 start
- R&D innovation:
Market development for ammonia exports as renewable energy commodity



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

Introducing renewable ammonia by thyssenkrupp



*CW loop flowrate
** incl. steam generation



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

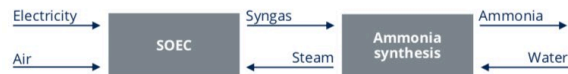


Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

- **Haldor Topsoe:** Denmark
- Announced 2018 for 2025 start
- R&D innovation:
**Staged electrification of industry,
SMR-ammonia plant revamp**

Green Ammonia by SOEC

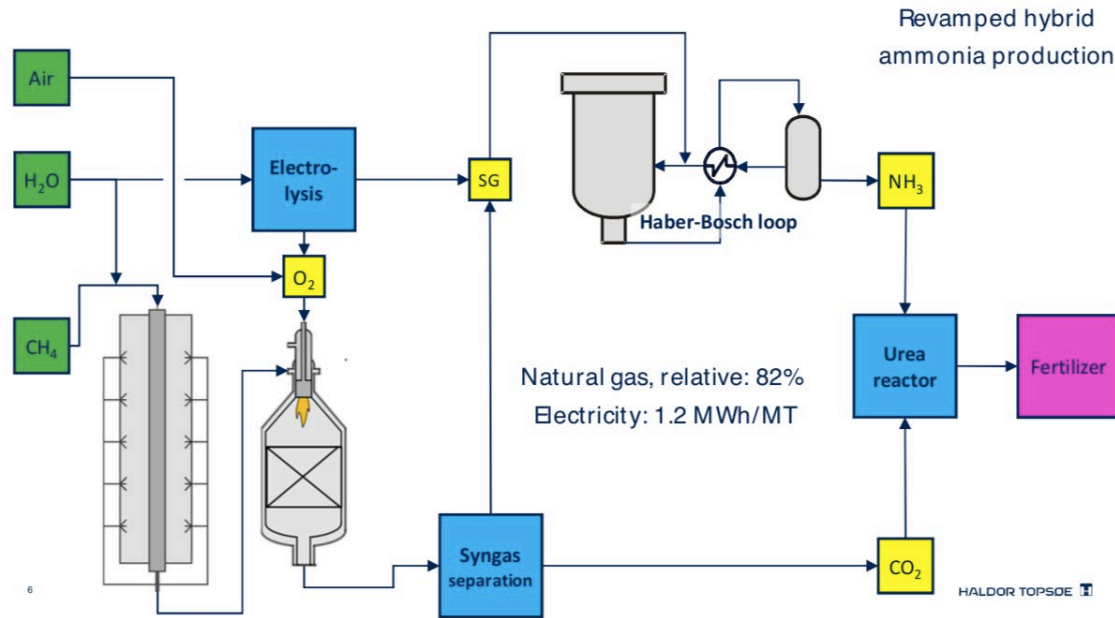
Synergy between SOEC and Synthesis



- Ammonia synthesis waste heat for steam production.
- SOEC more efficient than present electrolysis. Internal waste heat used to split water.
- SOEC is steam electrolysis. **This is new and more efficient!**

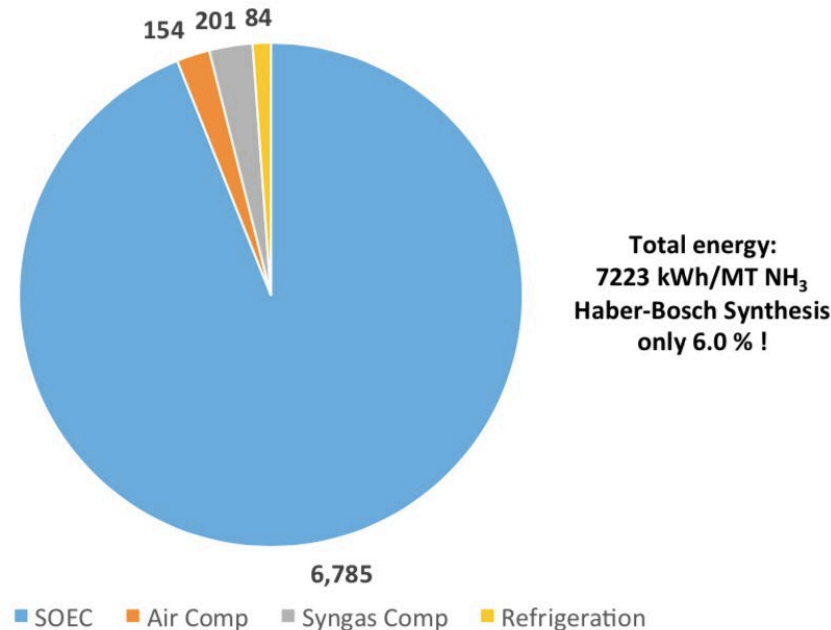
(presented by John B. Hansen in AIChE 2017)

Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants



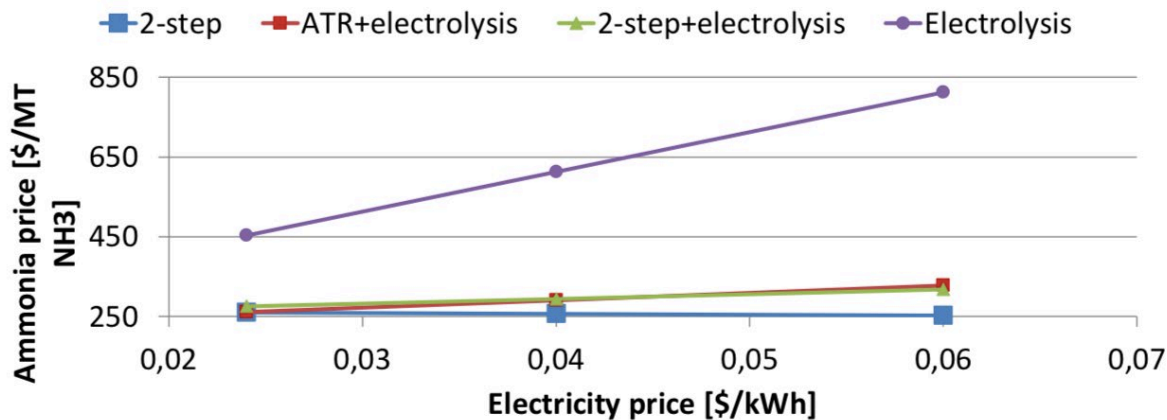
Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

Breakdown of power consumption in kWh per MT ammonia



Green Ammonia: Electrolyzer Pilot Plants

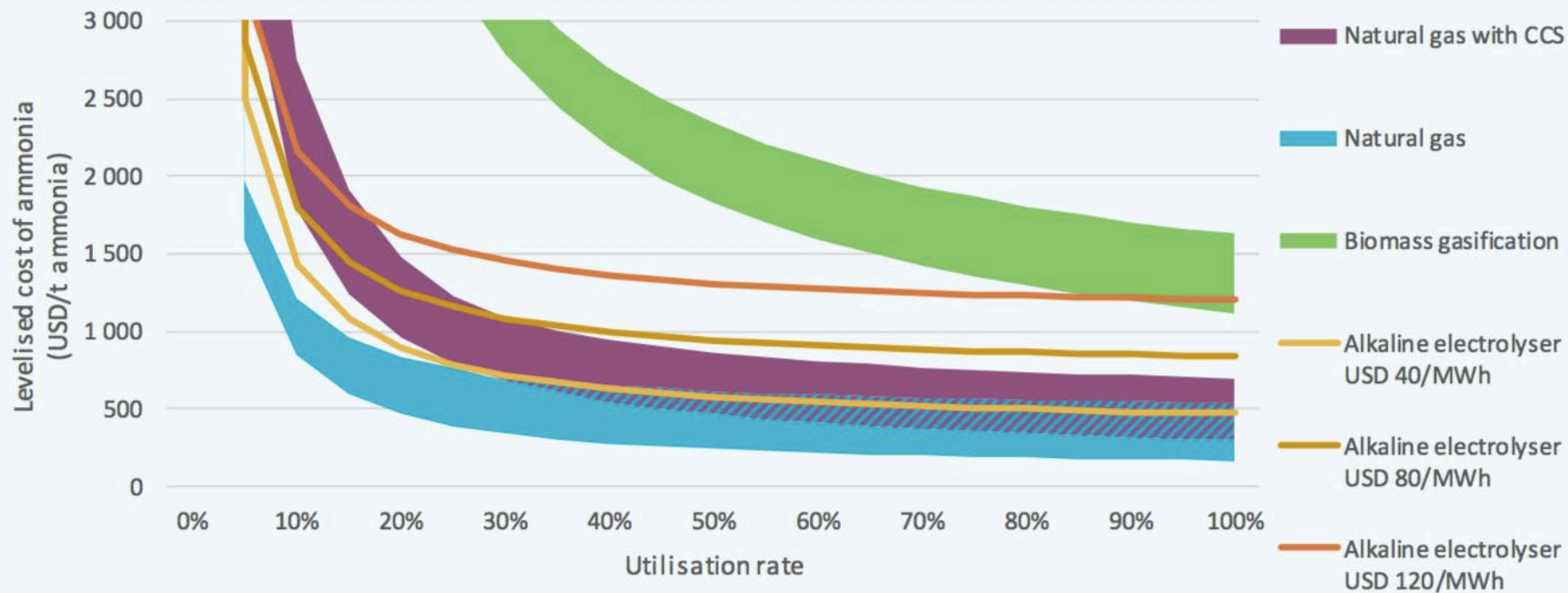
Ammonia production price – all inclusive



NG = 6 \$/MMBTU

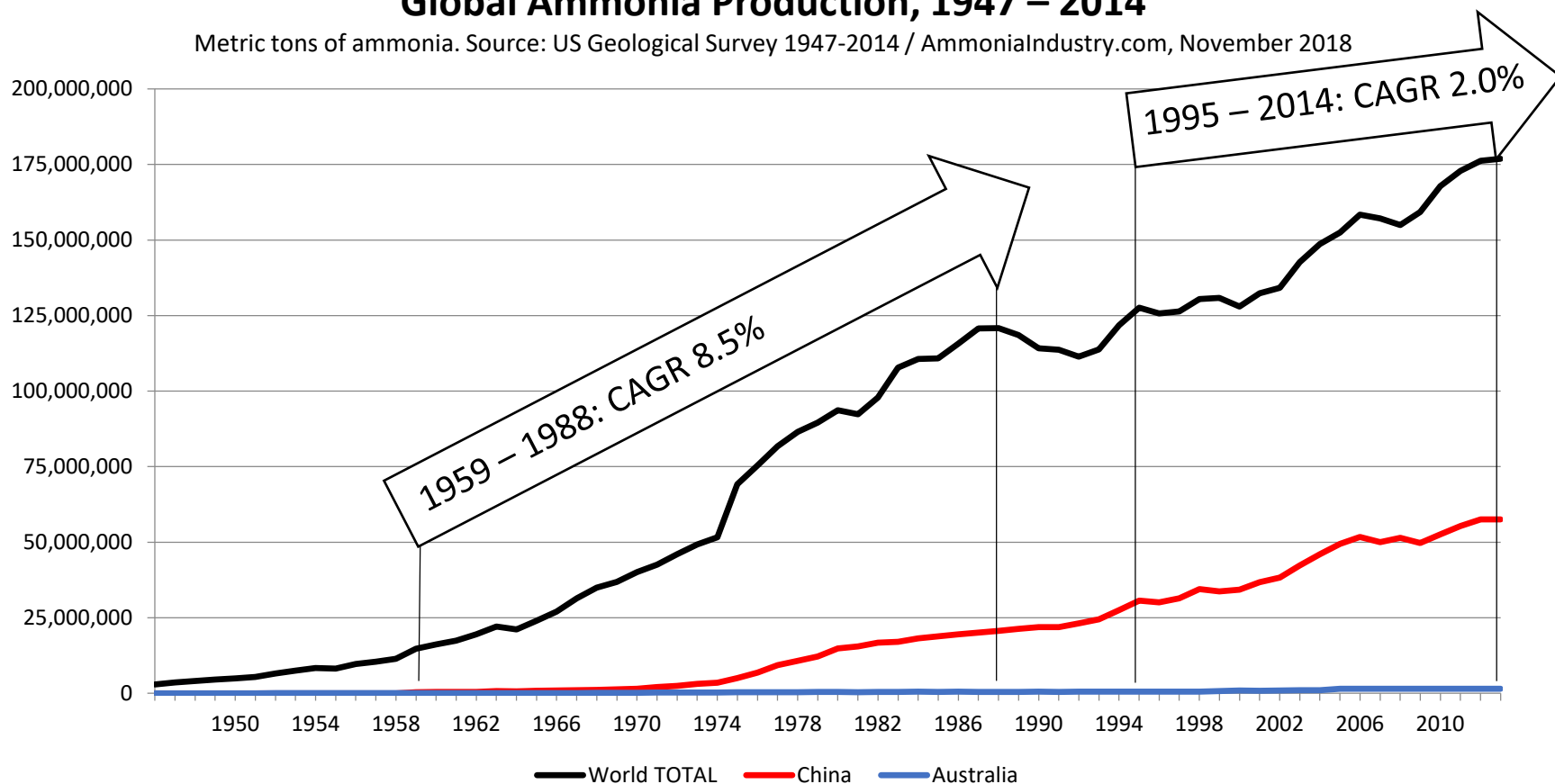
International Energy Agency: Economics

4.14. Figure : Levelised cost of ammonia by process route



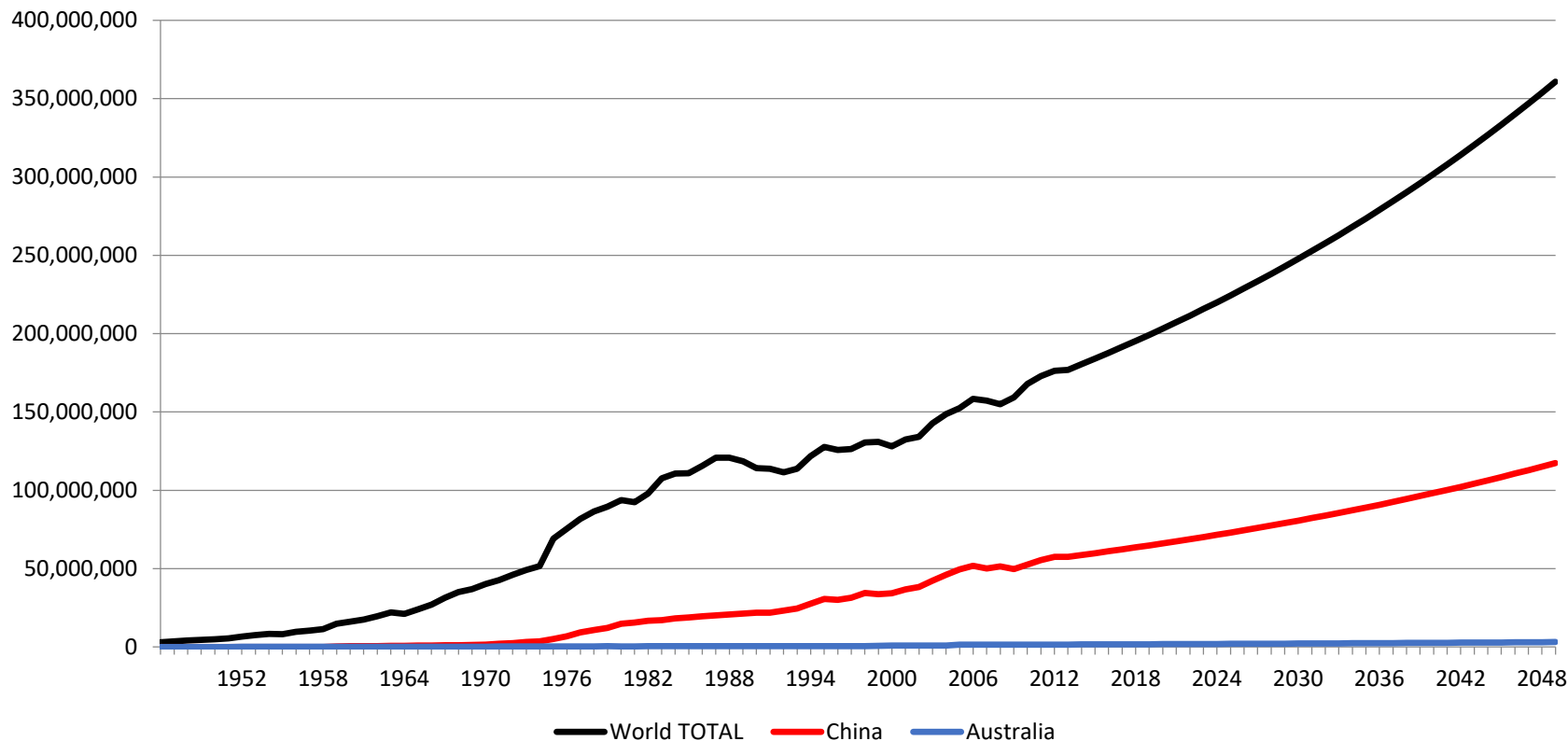
Global Ammonia Production, 1947 – 2014

Metric tons of ammonia. Source: US Geological Survey 1947-2014 / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



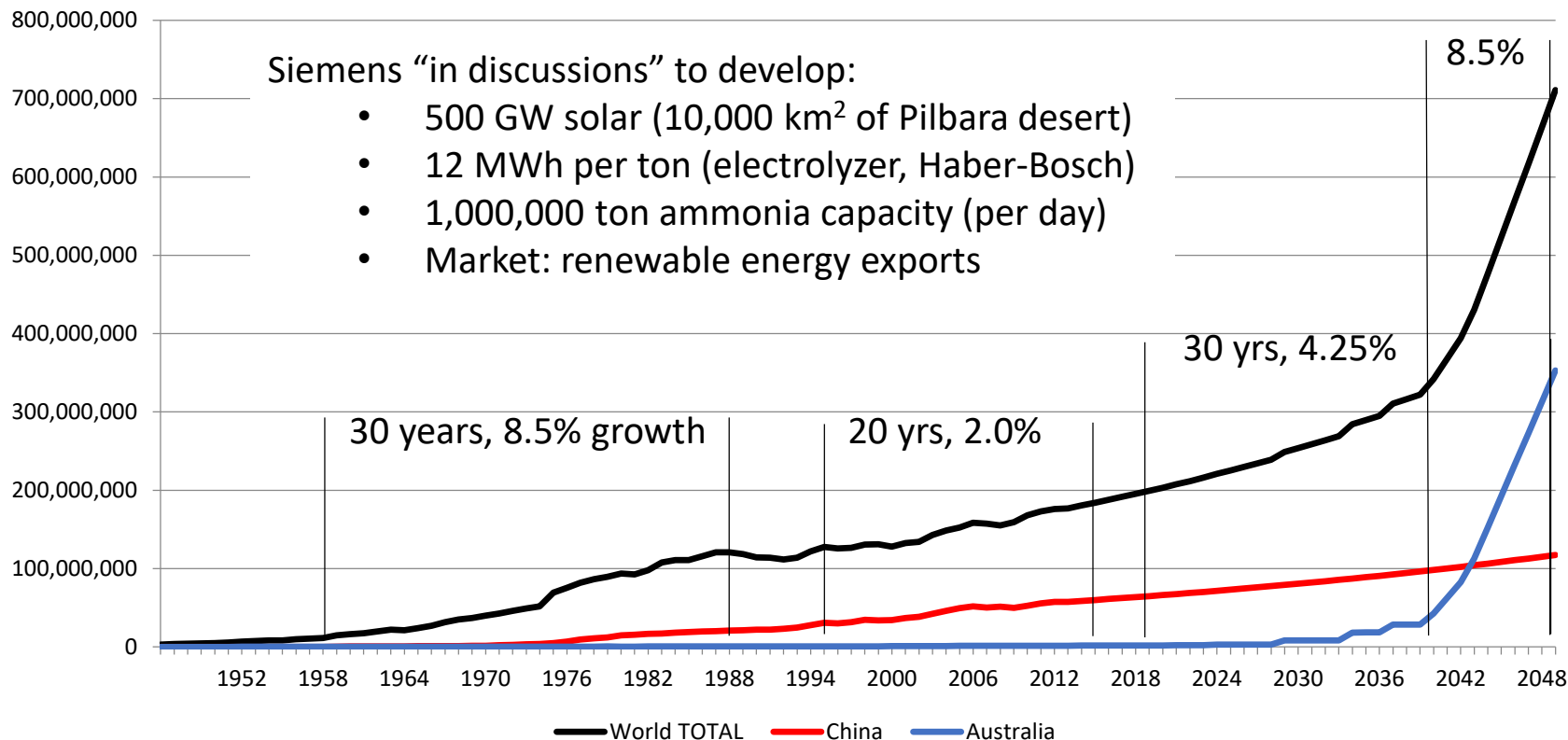
Global Ammonia Production, Scenario to 2050 @ 2% growth

Metric tons of ammonia. Source: US Geological Survey, 1947-2014 / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



Global Ammonia Production, Scenario to 2050 @ export strength

Metric tons of ammonia. Source: US Geological Survey, 1947-2014 / AmmoniaIndustry.com, November 2018



The Green Ammonia Market

- Nitrogen Commodity → Hydrogen Commodity
- Homogenous Commodity → Heterogeneous Commodity
\$ Price Premium = \$ Local Function[Carbon Footprint]
- Green Ammonia (Energy Markets) → Green Ammonia (Ag Markets)
Low-Carbon Leakage: supply creates demand

- Thank you

tb@ammoniaindustry.com

<https://ammoniaindustry.com>