



MAKAI OCEAN ENGINEERING

***Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion
(OTEC)***

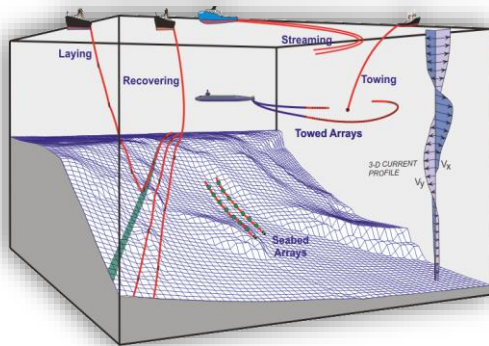
Ingrid Hillhouse
Director, Heat Exchanger Marketing and Strategies

NSRP Joint Panel Meeting
September 14, 2021

Makai is...

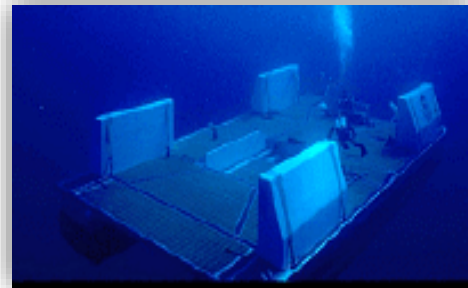


Innovative Ocean Technology Company • Founded 1973 • 36 employees
Turning Concepts into Capability for 45 years



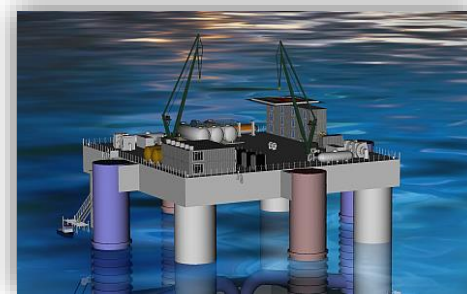
Subsea Cable Software

- World's #1 cable software
- Installed 250k miles



DoD S&T, Ocean Engineering

- Navy underwater vehicles
- Subsea sensor networks



Ocean Energy

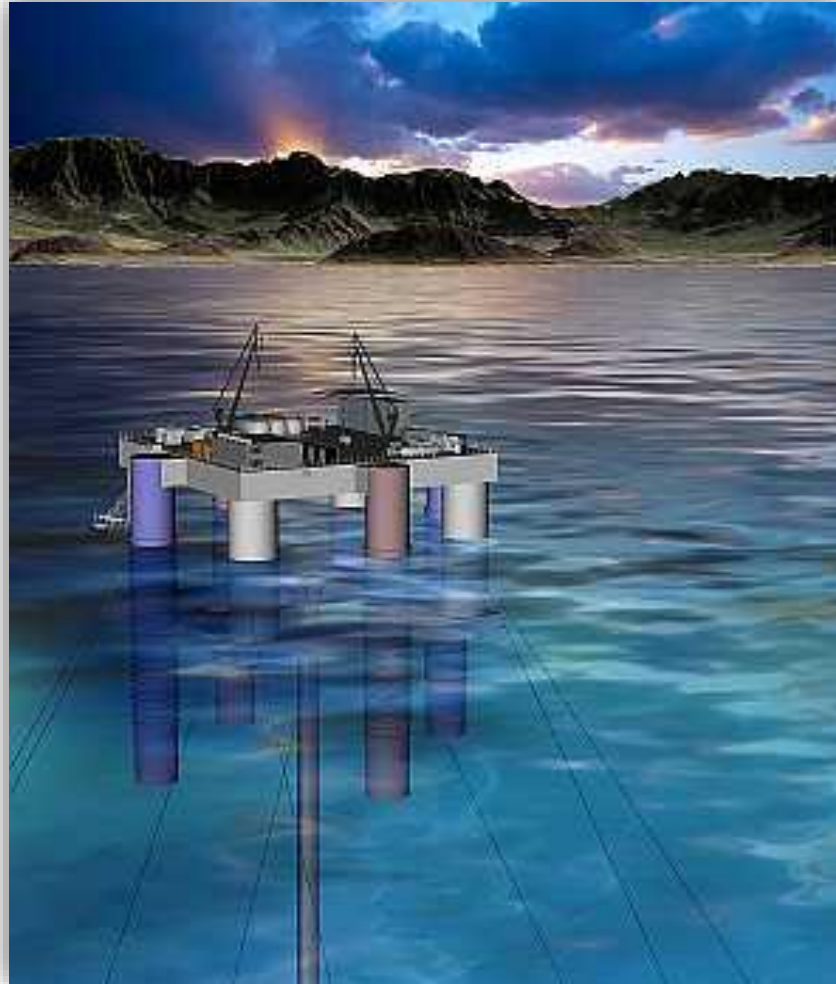
- Pioneers of SWAC/OTEC
- First US Grid Connected OTEC plant



Oceans Multiple Award Contract (OMAC)

- Broad Ocean Engineering
- \$250M IDIQ

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC)



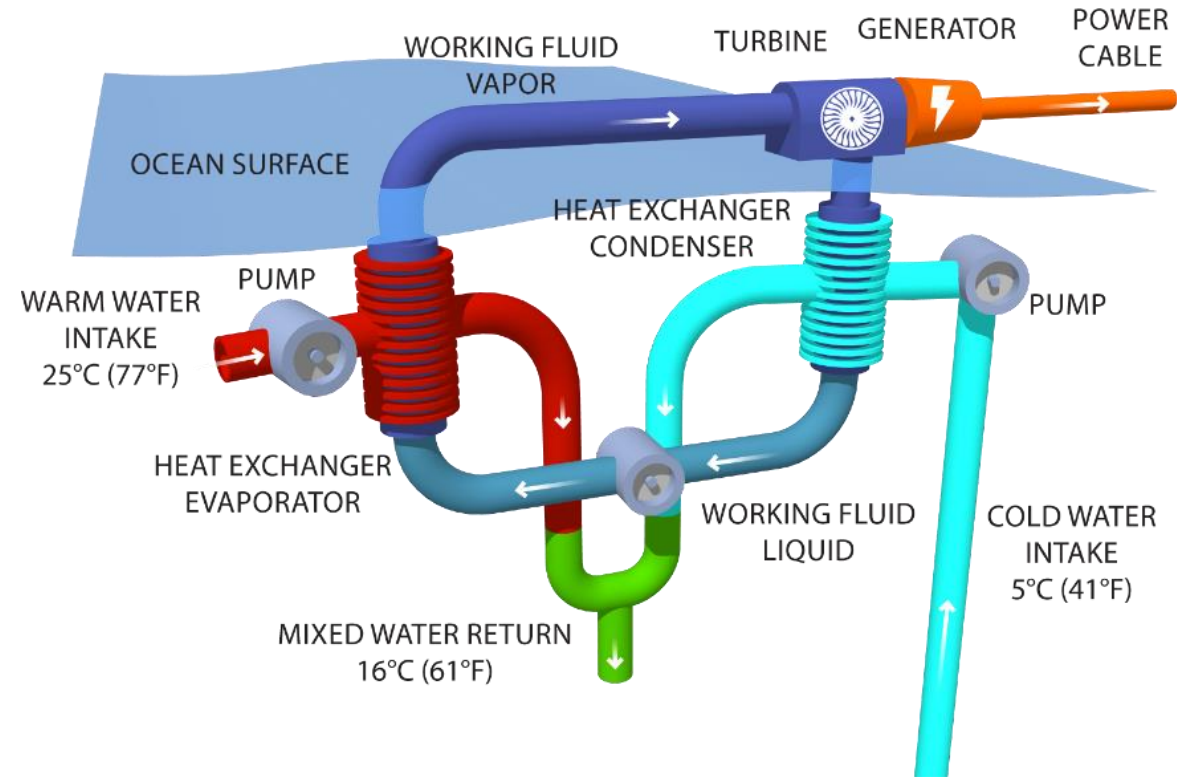
- **What is it?**
- **Makai's role and history**
- **Lessons learned**
- **Breakthrough**
- **Future**

OTEC: What is it?

- Process to produce electricity
- Leverages temperature differential between surface and deep seawater
- Seawater temperatures remain near constant
- Provides stable, baseload power unlike other variable renewable energy systems

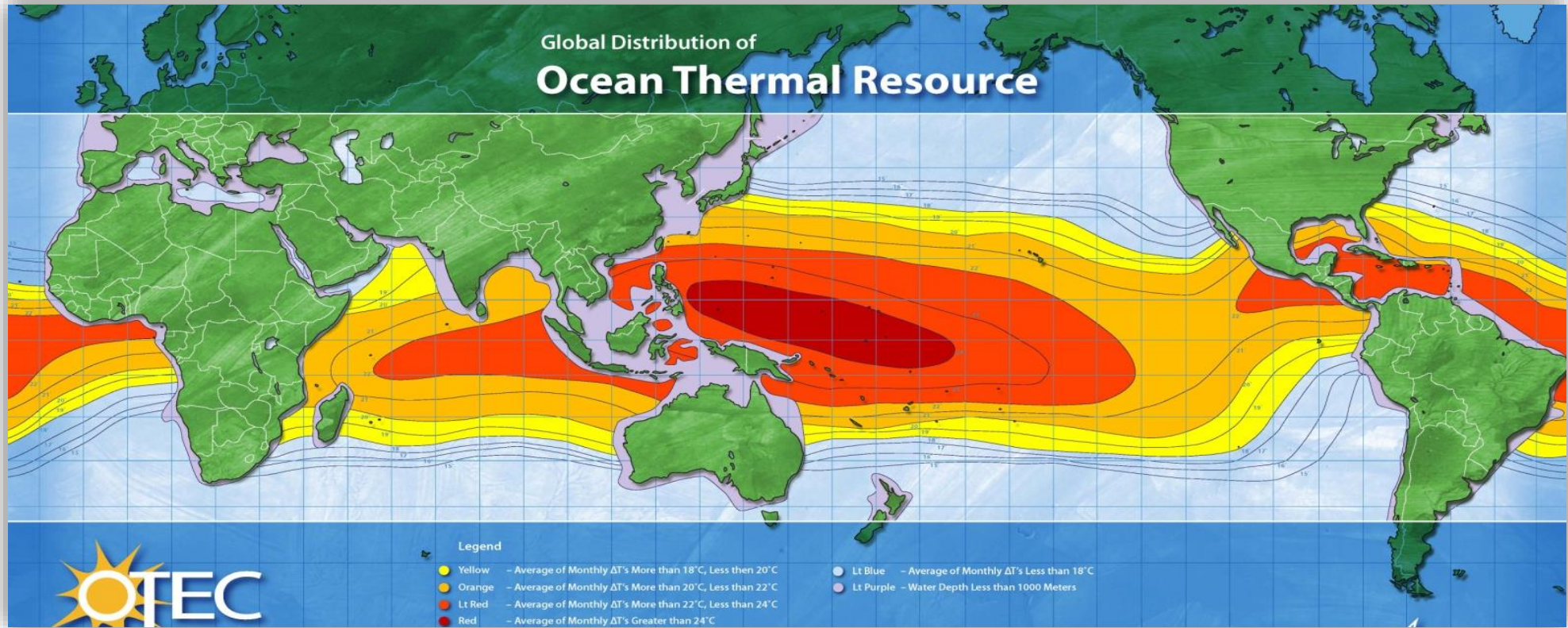
Simple Components

- Heat exchangers
- Turbine generator
- Seawater pumps and pipes
- Working fluid piping and pump



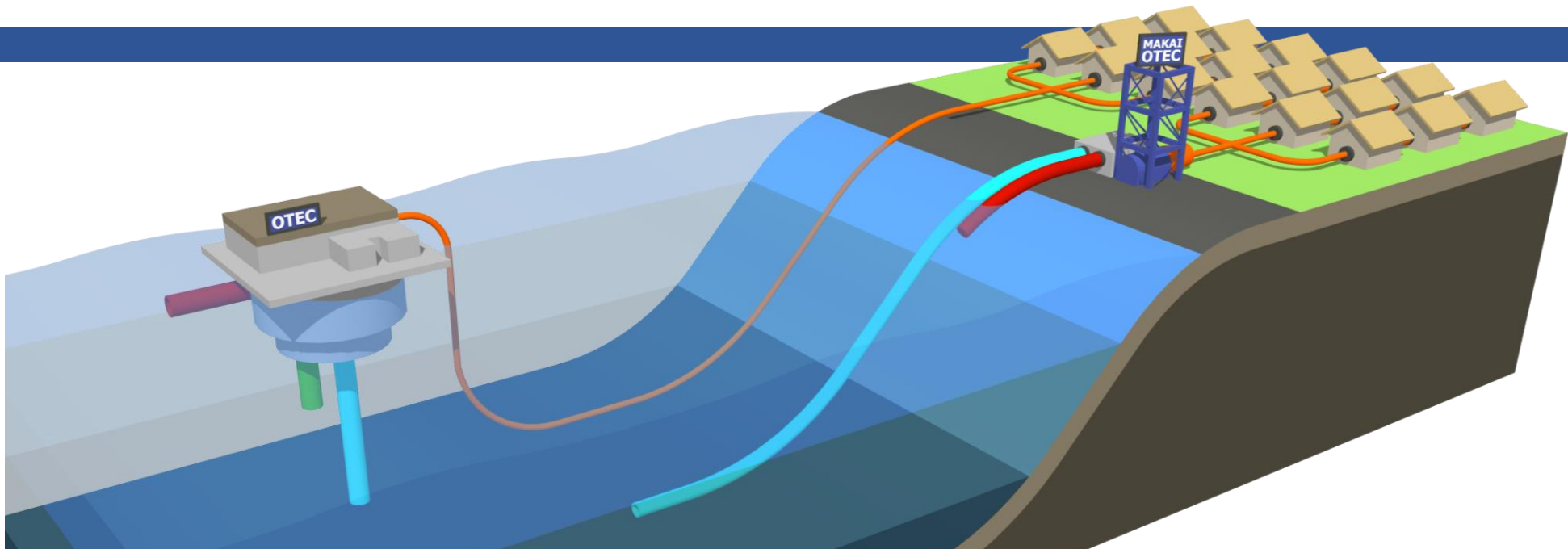
24/7 baseload renewable energy resource

Massive Resource



Surface vs. Deep Water Temperature Difference $>20^{\circ}\text{C}$ (36°F) required

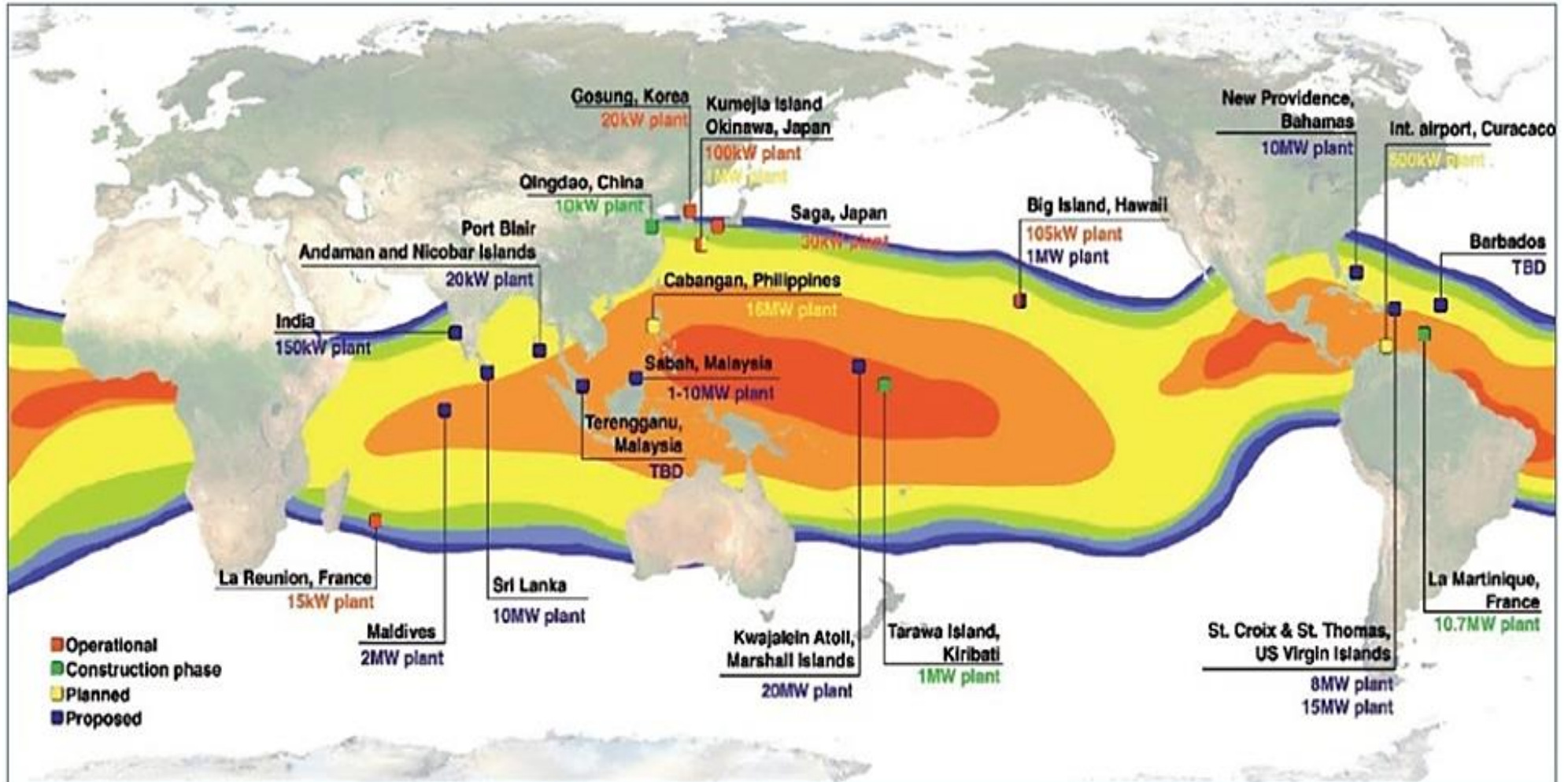
OTEC: Onshore vs. Offshore



| | Offshore | Onshore |
|--|----------------|------------------------------|
| Plant location | Ships at sea | On land near shoreline |
| Proximity to thermal gradient | Directly below | No immediate access |
| Power transmission to power grid | Challenging | Easy to transfer to grid |
| Cost to build/operate plant | | Typically less than offshore |
| Engineering risk of gathering the resource | Low | High |

OTEC is only economically viable offshore.

OTEC Plants: Operational, Planned, Proposed



Offshore Floating Utility Scale



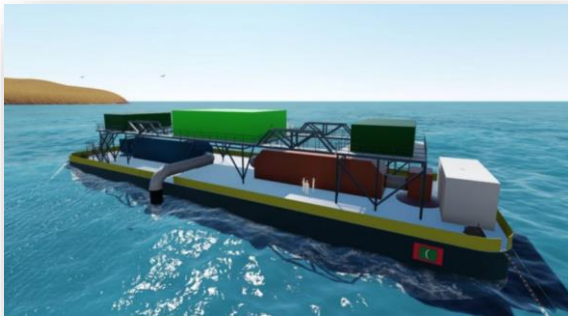
Makai



Lockheed Martin

Various designs proposed:

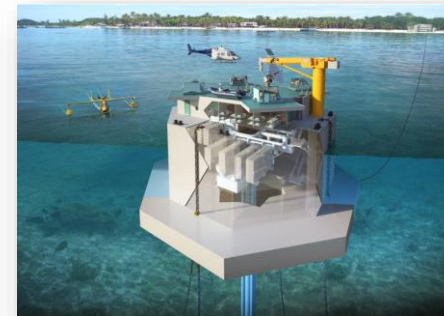
- Barge
- Semi-submersible
- FPSO-style
- Spar



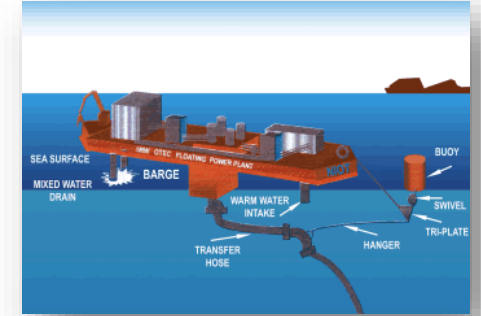
Global OTEC



Naval Energies



KRISO

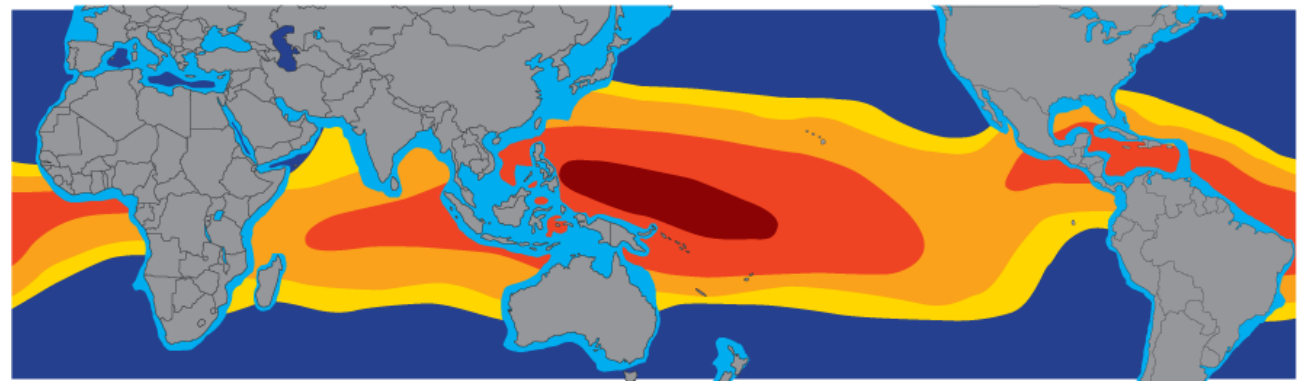


NIOT

OTEC's Challenges

- High CAPEX
- Vigorous economies of scale
- Has not been built at commercial scale
- Limited to locations with warm surface waters and cold deep seawater
- Onshore OTEC limited to small scale
- Offshore floating pilot plant needed

OCEAN THERMAL RESOURCES



Temperature Differences Between Surface and 1000m Depth

■ + 24°C

■ 20°C - 22°C

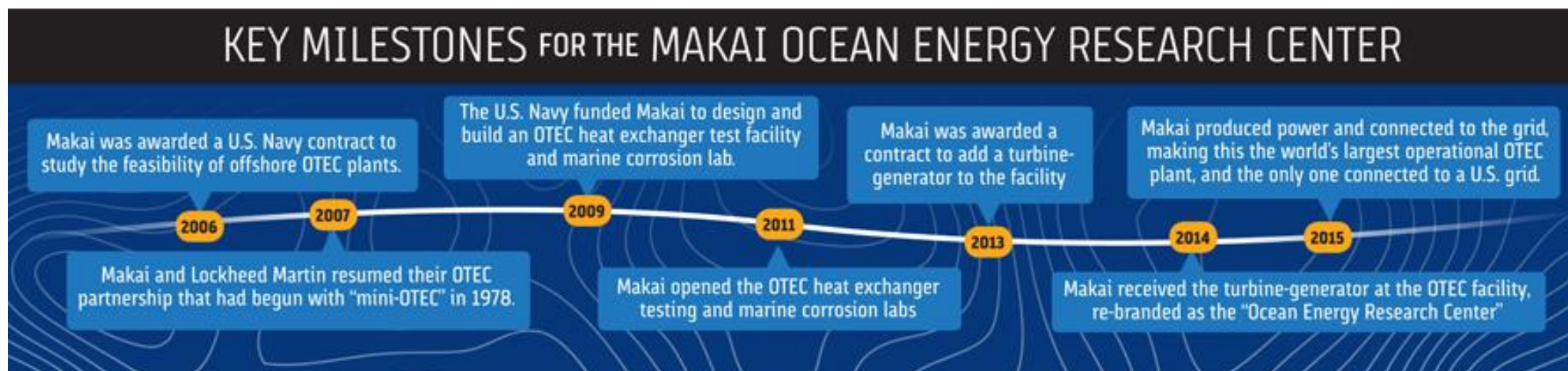
■ - 18°C

■ 22°C - 24°C

■ 18°C - 20°C

■ Less than 1000m deep

Makai's Role and History with OTEC



Ocean Energy Research Center (OERC)

- Funded by Office of Naval Research (ONR) in partnership with HNEI

Capabilities

- Corrosion and biofouling studies
- Heat exchanger testing
- OTEC system design and development
- Large diameter pipe development and testing
- Grid-connected power studies
- OTEC Plume modelling
- Advanced heat exchanger manufacturing facility



Marine Heat Exchanger Development & Testing

Heat Exchanger Testing

- Funded since 2009
- Third-party & Makai's own designs

OERC Facility

- ~12,000 gal/min seawater
- High accuracy instrumentation
- Fully automatic controls



OERC for OTEC R&D



Project Goals:

- Develop autonomous OTEC plant controls
- Produce utility-grade electricity
- Gain operational experience
- Improve commercial designs
- Raise visibility of OTEC

Mission Statement: To reduce the cost of ocean energy

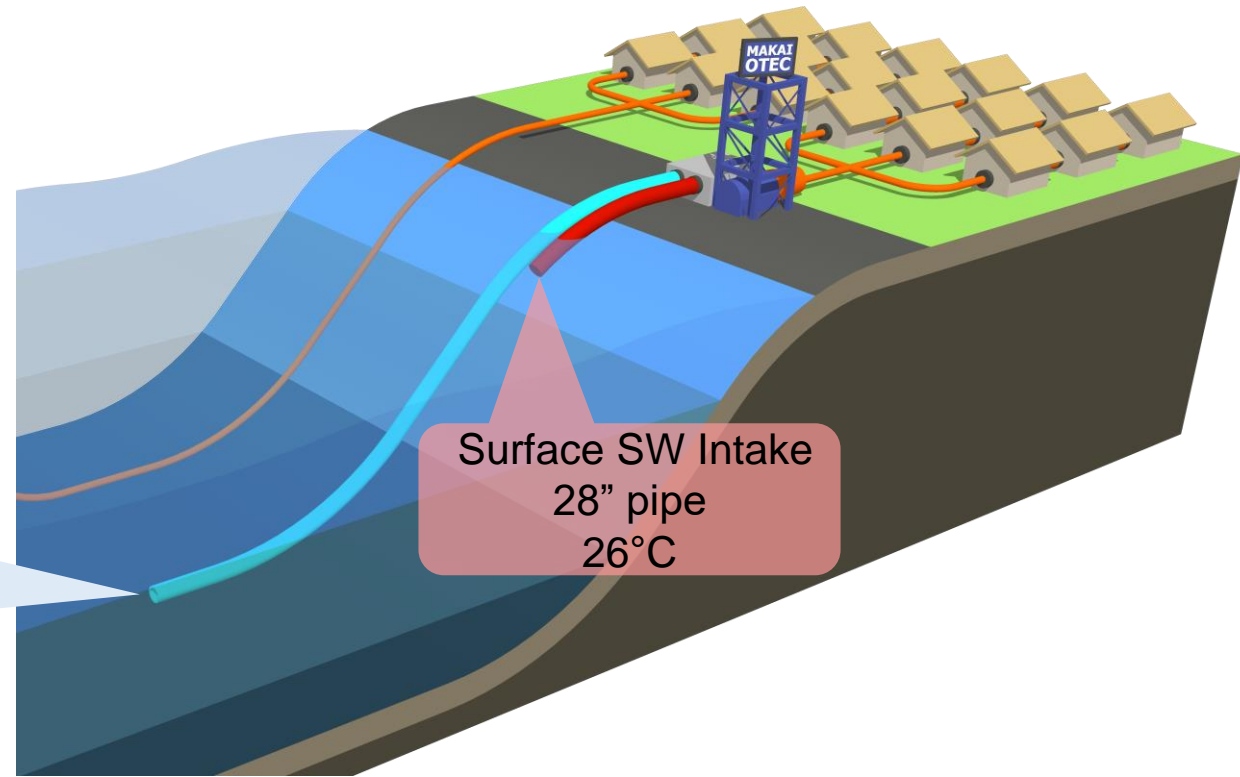
Makai's OTEC Plant

- First U.S. grid connected cc-OTEC plant
- Plant dedicated Aug 21st 2015

Operational Details

- 2 x 2MW thermal duty HXs
- 4,000 gal/min cold and warm seawater
- 105 kW ammonia turbine generator
- Ability to power 120 Hawaiian homes with seawater

Cold SW Intake
40" pipe
6300' long, 2200' deep
6°C



Why don't we have OTEC power?

Answer: Economics

- Current designs are too expensive
 - Current designs only cost-effective on the >100 MW scale, estimated at \$0.10 - \$0.20/kW-hr.
- Large systems still need to be proven viable through demonstration and operation.
 - Offshore pilot plant will not pay investors back.

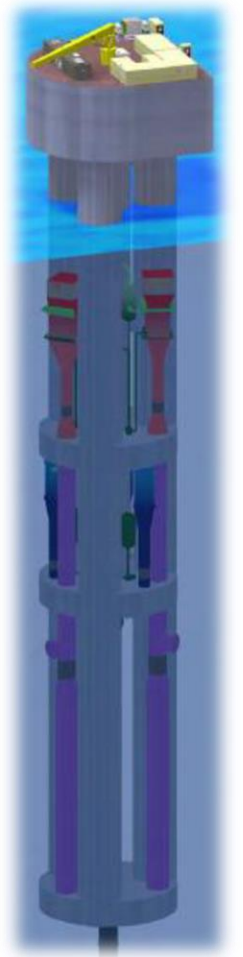


How do we accomplish economical OTEC?

Answer: Need a step-change in cost of the system and radically different design

What needs to change:

- Heat exchangers are largest top-side component – reduce their size and cost
- Need an affordable design at a smaller scale (miniature 5 MW system)
- Massive offshore structures are too expensive – minimize their size



Lessons Learned

Heat Exchangers have largest impact on OTEC system economics

- Should only use corrosion resistant titanium for condenser
- Compactness directly impacts system size and therefore cost
- Size (volume) is function of waterside-channel geometry, ducting, ammonia manifolds and piping
- Lowest approach temperatures are critical
- Heat exchangers impact the system cost more than any other OTEC component

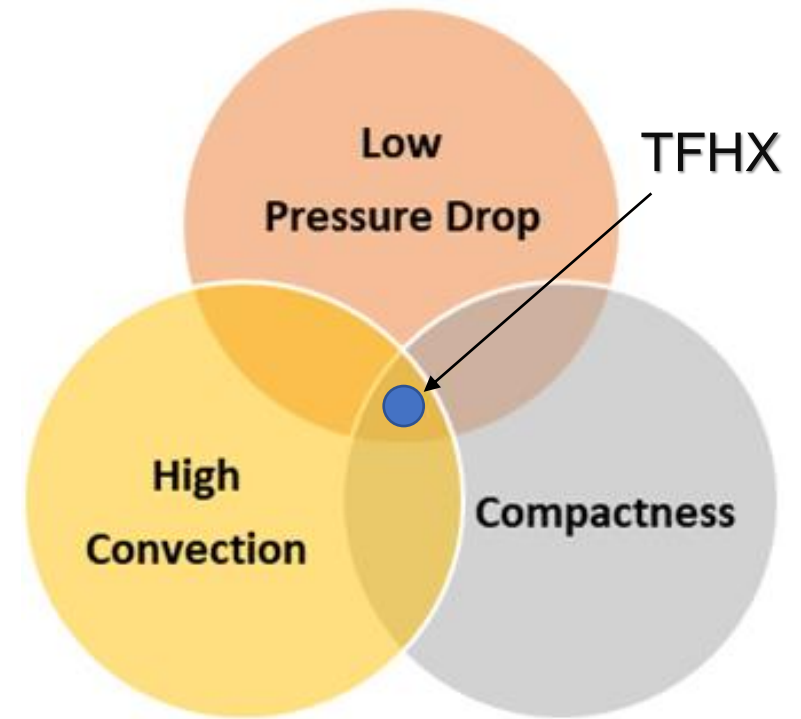
Takeaway: No heat exchanger on the market meets OTEC's high demands.



Makai's Solution: Thin Foil Heat Exchanger (TFHX™)

- All foil construction, thickness < 0.1 mm
- High efficiency (U values > 11 kW/m²-K)
- High pressure rating (1000 psi tested)
- Self-supporting (no heavy external header plates)
- Low pressure drop < 10 kPa for optimized OTEC
- Custom geometries enable efficient integration into larger systems

The TFHX™ will enable OTEC to reach commercial implementation!



Makai's Thin Foil Heat Exchanger (TFHX™)

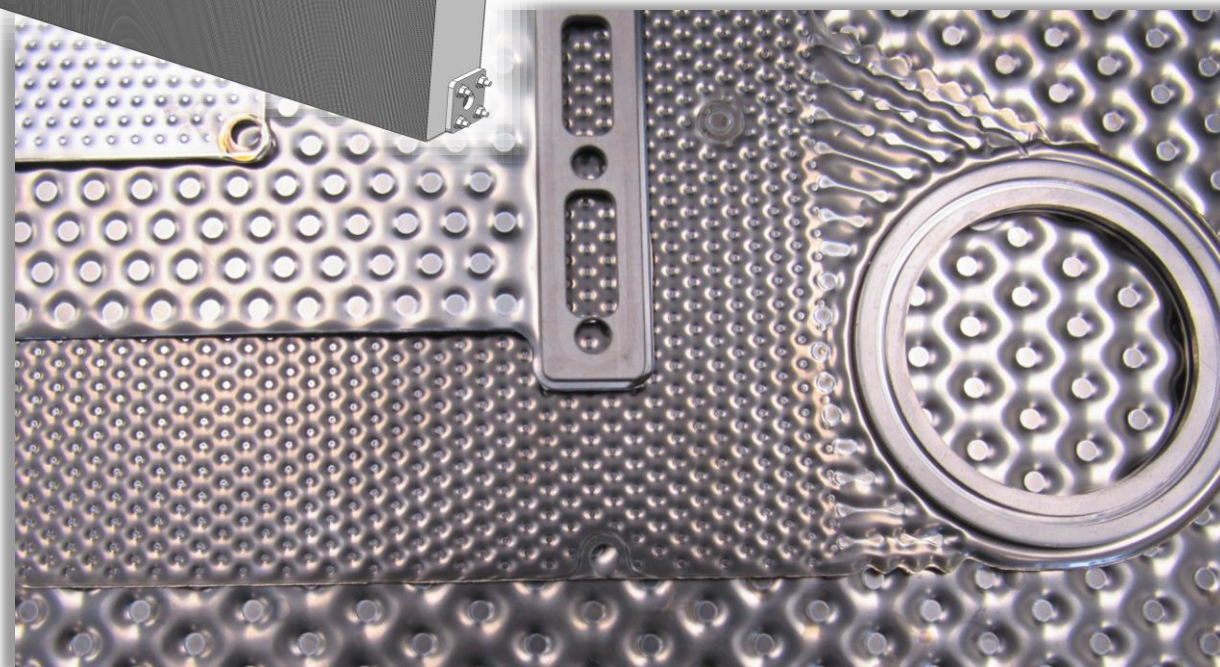
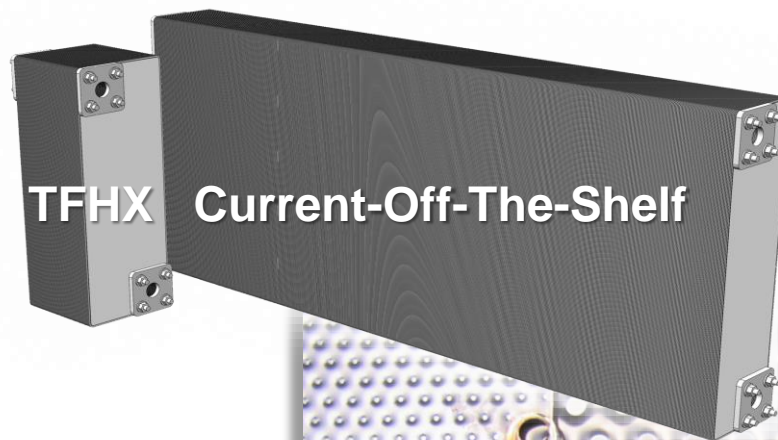
Features

- Ultra-Compact
- Lightweight
- Corrosion Resistant
- Form Fitting

Advantages

- Up to 5 - 8x more compact
- Reduced material costs
- Utilizes unused spaces

**True step-change improvement
in heat exchanger technology!**



Accelerating Commercialization

Performance Testing

- Optimizing for OTEC, aircraft cooling systems, and industrial seawater cooling applications

Reliability Testing

- Burst pressures >500-800 psi
- Fatigue life > 1,000,000 cycles
- High pressure water spray nozzle testing
- Sand blasting, shock and vibration

Fabrication Development

- Automated, high speed fabrication system
- Prototype-scale production



TFHX™ Applications

- OTEC and Seawater Air Conditioning (SWAC)
- Seawater cooling
- Shipboard/keel cooling
- Vehicle cooling
- Vapor cycle systems
- Thermal storage
- Power plants

**The TFHX™ is ideally suited for applications
requiring optimized SWAP-C**



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OCEAN ENGINEERING



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