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Title: CONFINEMENT DEVELOPMENT AT PRAD

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Intended for: 2011 3RD INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON  
HIGH-ENERGY PROTON MICROSCOPY  
(OCT 27-28 2011)



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## CONFINEMENT DEVELOPMENT AT PRAD

### ABSTRACT:

The WX-3 pRad team manages confined firing activities at the LANSCE proton radiography facility for dynamic experiments. These activities involve design and staging of the confinement strategy and the explosive assembly design and staging is based, in large part, on observation of experimental evidence of explosive damage patterns for a given assembly, and comprise an essential tool for effective damage mitigation.

# Confinement development at pRad

2011 3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on High-Energy Proton Microscopy (Oct 27-28 2011)

W. Vogan McNeil, for the WX Explosives Operations Team at pRad

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# pRad Collaboration

pRad Core Team: C. Espinoza, J. Heidemann, B. Hollander, J. Lopez, R. Lopez, F. Mariam, M. Marr-Lyon, G. McMath, F. Merrill, C. Morris, M. Murray, P. Nedrow, A. Saunders, C. Schwartz, D. Tupa, J. Tybo, W. Vogan McNeil

LANSCE; P-25 (Subatomic Physics); P-23 (Neutron Science & Technology); WX-9 (Shock & Detonation Physics); WX-7 (High Explosives Science & Technology); W-14 (Weapons Test Engineering); W-6 (Detonator Technology); W-5 (Experimental Device Engineering & Assembly); X Theoretical Design



Image courtesy M. Marr-Lyon

The pRad firing point addresses many collaboration needs...

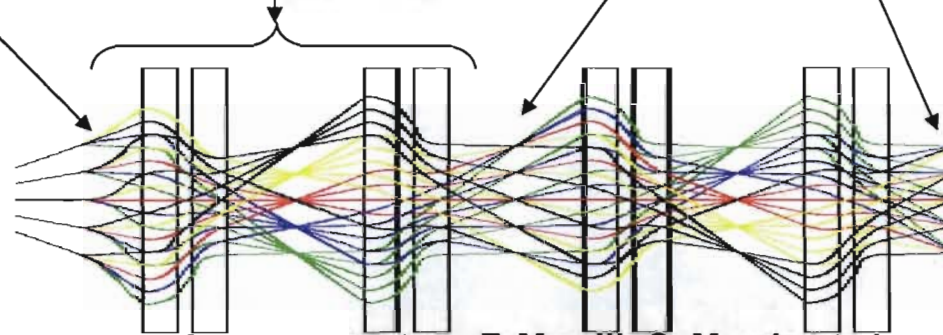
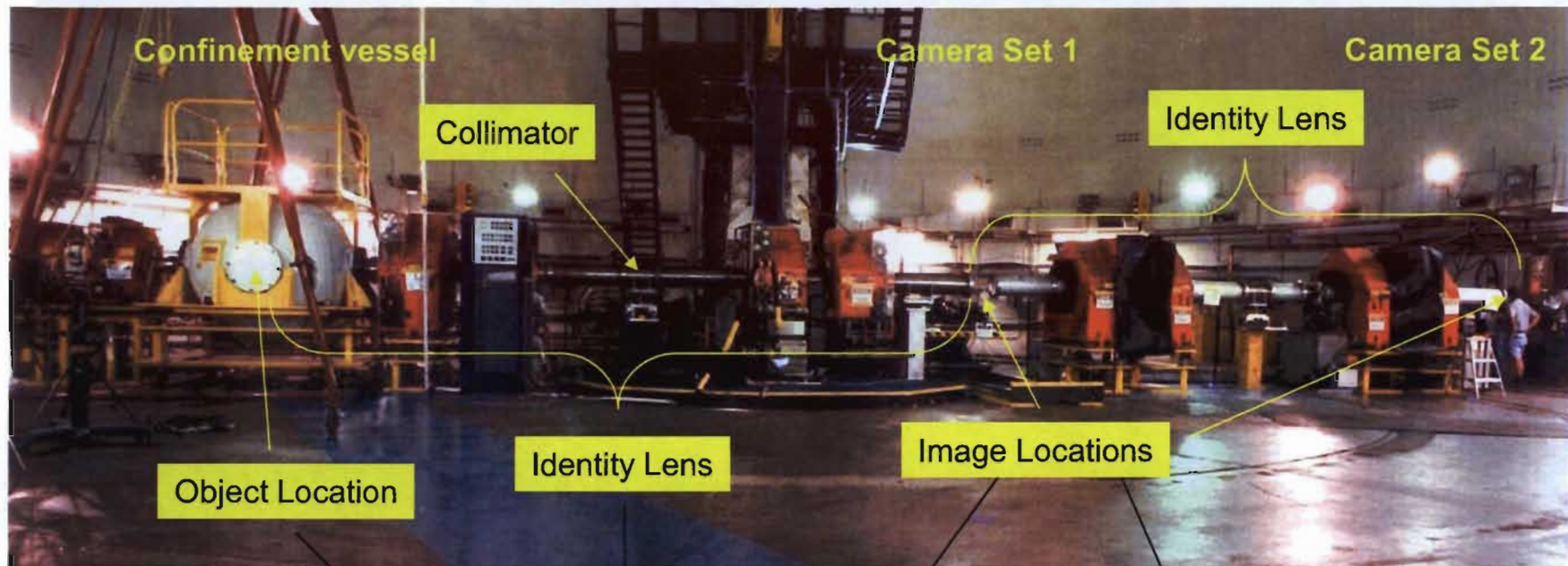
- High-explosive physics
- Material dynamics
- User experiments
- Programmatic experiments



Image courtesy M. Marr-Lyon, F. Merrill, C. Morris, et al.



# pRad Facility at LANSCE



Images courtesy F. Merrill, C. Morris et al.

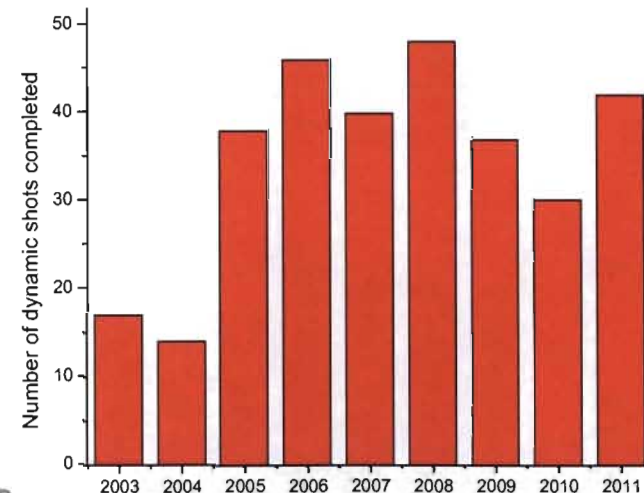
## Capabilities: Shot rate accommodation



Image courtesy F. Merrill, C. Morris et al.

### HIGH EXPLOSIVES (HE) OPERATIONS TEAM ACTIVITIES:

- HE Safety
- Incorporate experiment design into firing point
  - Coordinate preparation
  - Timing and firing
  - Coordinate explosives shipment
- Receive, install, execute shot at pRad
- Maintain vessel health
  - Post-shot surveillance
  - Proofing for fragment production and blast



Slide 4

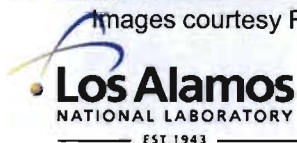


## Capabilities: Staging the firing point

- Administrative load limit at pRad: 10 lb TNT equivalent
- pRad shots are “proofed” to ensure sufficient confinement by vessel / beamline



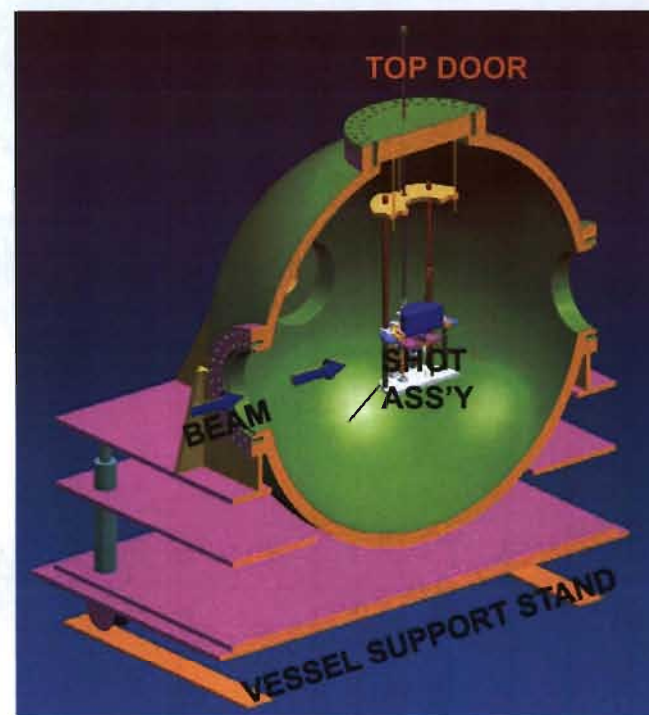
Images courtesy R. Valdiviez, P. Flores, J. Straight et al.



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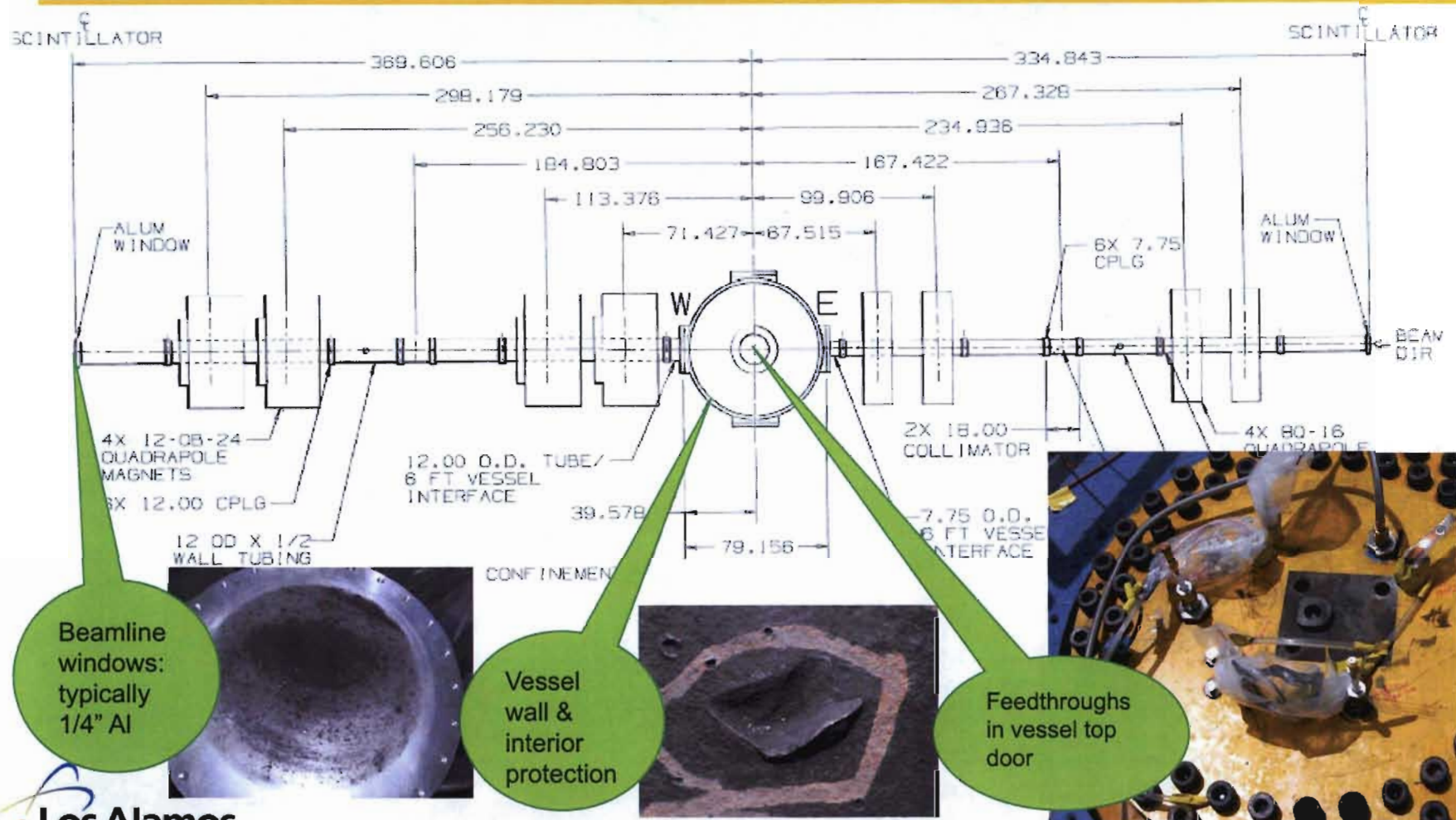


- 6-foot vessel: 2"-thick steel-walled (A537)
- post-shot purging protocol
- shot mounted from top door

Slide 5



# Aspects of the pRad confinement system that must be considered when staging for a shot include:





# Proof shots: diagnosing damage ahead of time

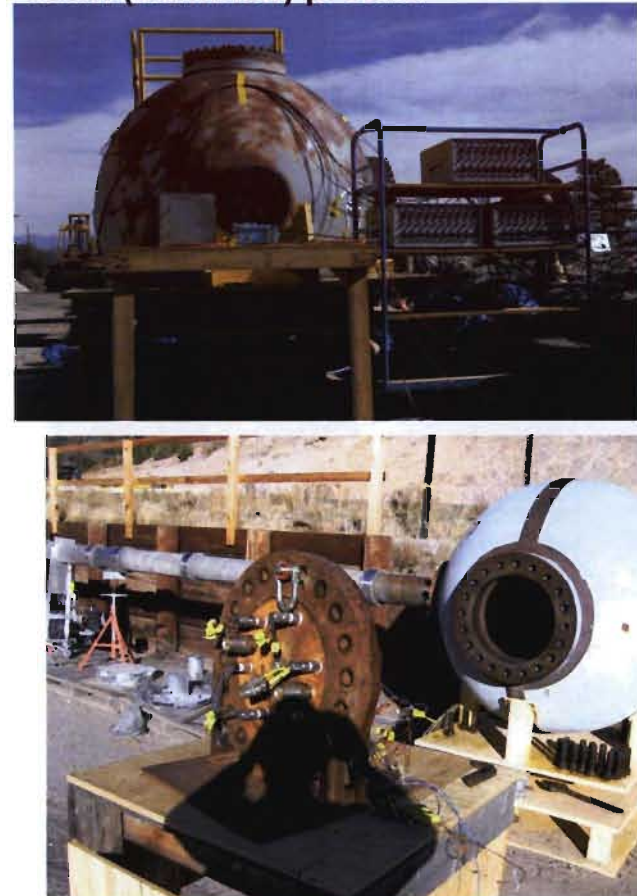
## FRAGMENTS:

Outdoor (non-confined) proofs:



## BLAST:

Vessel (confined) proofs:



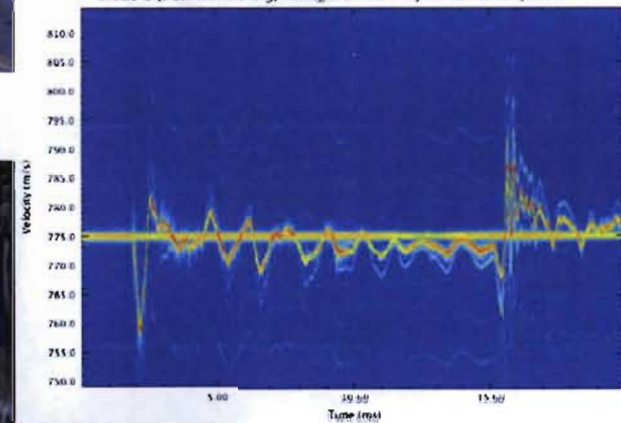
## Blast proof shots in the vessel:



Measuring confinement system response to blast:

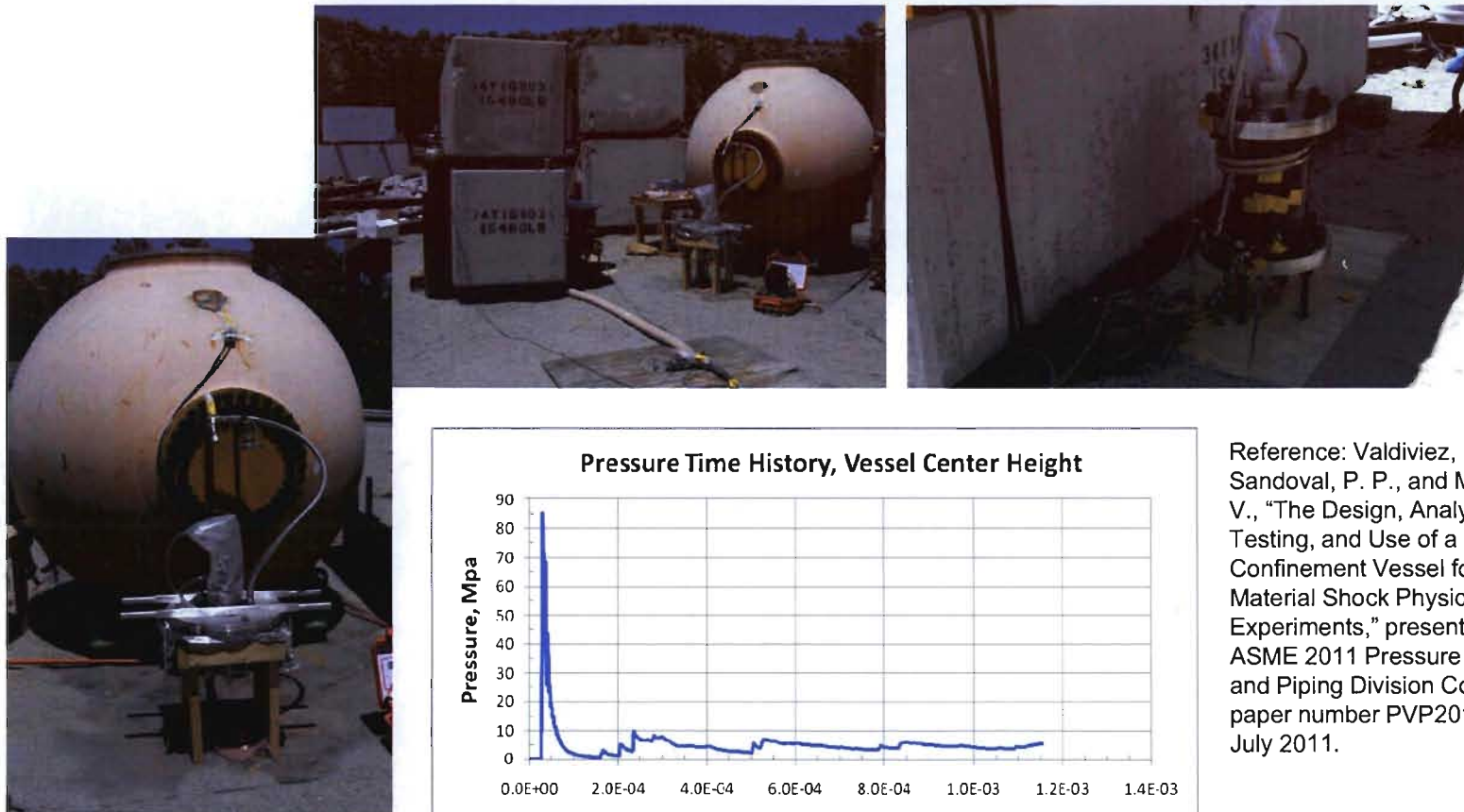


Probe 1 (Downstream big) Run1\_Ch1.wfm > Spectrum: 16384/4096





# Proofing specific parts of a confinement system: Using a small vessel to replicate parts of the loading profile of a larger vessel



Reference: Valdiviez, R., Sandoval, P. P., and McNeil, W. V., "The Design, Analysis, Testing, and Use of a Small Confinement Vessel for Material Shock Physics Experiments," presented at ASME 2011 Pressure Vessels and Piping Division Conference, paper number PVP2011-57129, July 2011.



## Proofing shots: The Vessel Shredder. Setup:



HE in mounting  
assembly

Aluminum can housing  
placed around HE

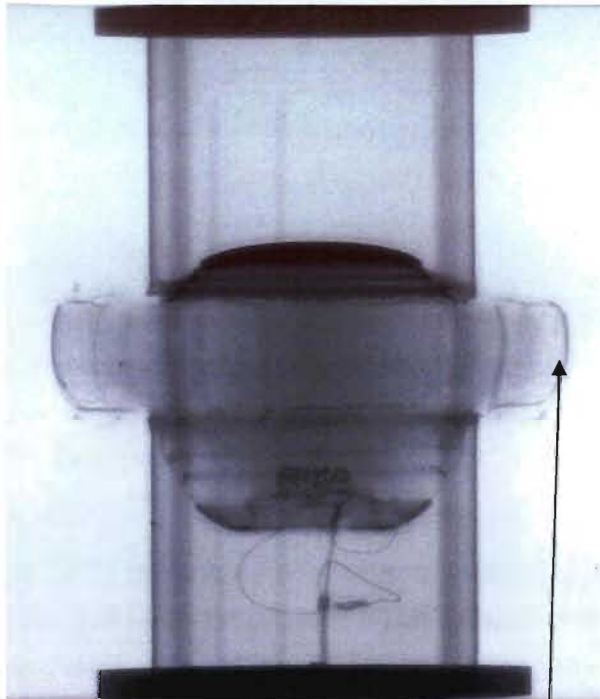


1/2" Al witness plates

Images courtesy M. Marr-Lyon

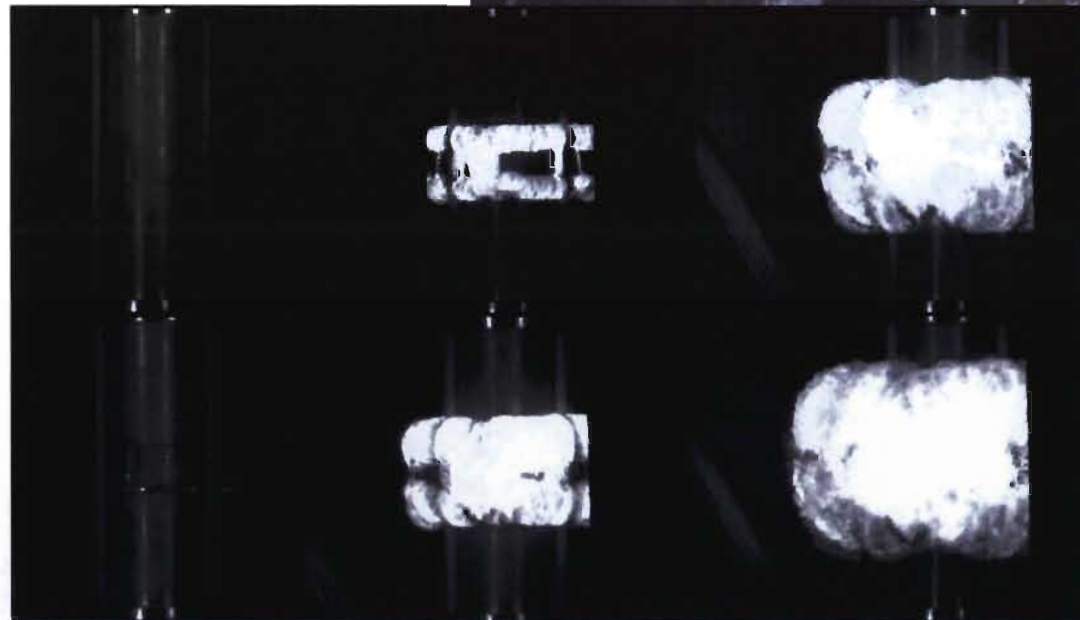
# Proofing shots: The Vessel Shredder. The diagnostics:

Images courtesy M. Marr-Lyon



aluminum fragment

$\frac{1}{2}$ " Al  
Witness  
Plate:

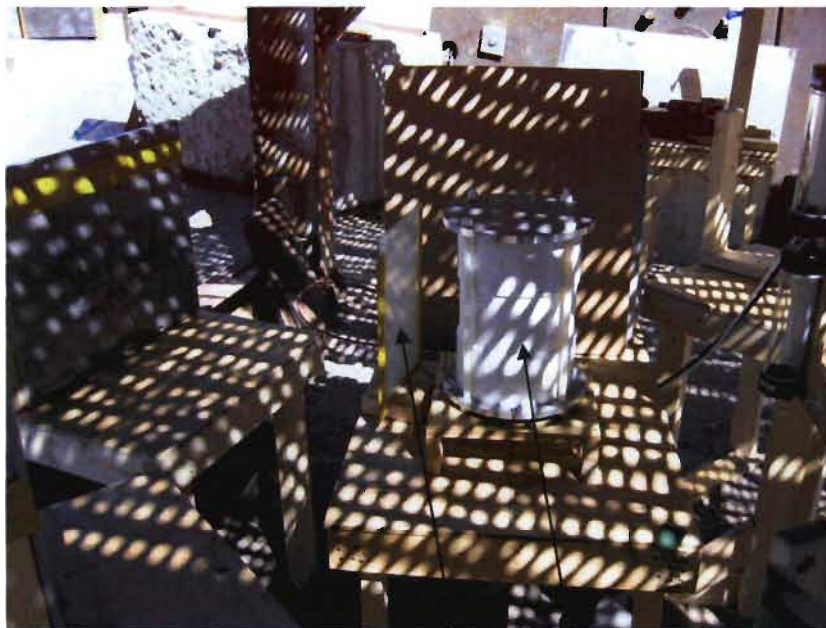


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Slide 11

# Proofing shots: The Vessel Shredder.

## Using proof data to design mitigation strategy:



Glass  
mitigation  
layer

PVC  
housing  
layer



Glass



No  
glass

Post-shot  
witness plate



## Glass is not the universal mitigation strategy, however...

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Images courtesy M. Marr-Lyon

# Common mitigation strategies

Images courtesy J. Garcia, P. Flores,  
M. Marr-Lyon, W. Tuzel et al.



Glass and/or  
Al plates to  
protect  
beamline

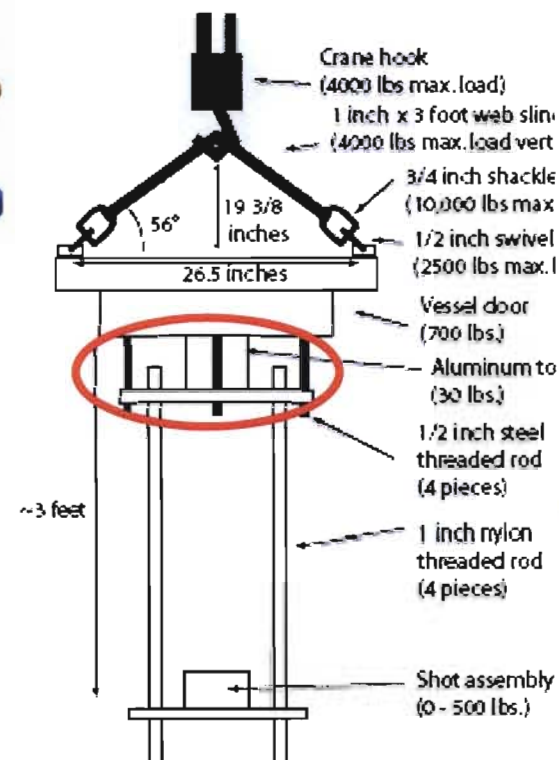


Baffle  
plates

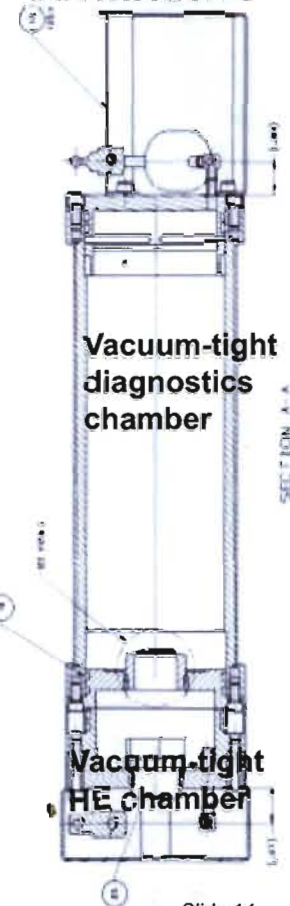


Plates of  
RHA steel,  
Al line bottom  
of vessel

•pRad "top-hat"



Confined  
confinement



## Post-shot: Damage observations



**Sandwich  
assembly**



**Post-shot:  
Baffle plate  
above shot**



**Post-shot:  
Damage to area  
around top port  
of vessel**

Images courtesy M. Marr-Lyon



## Post-shot: Identifying vessel damage

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Depth:  $\sim 0.2$ "

## Proof shot in a vessel: damage observation

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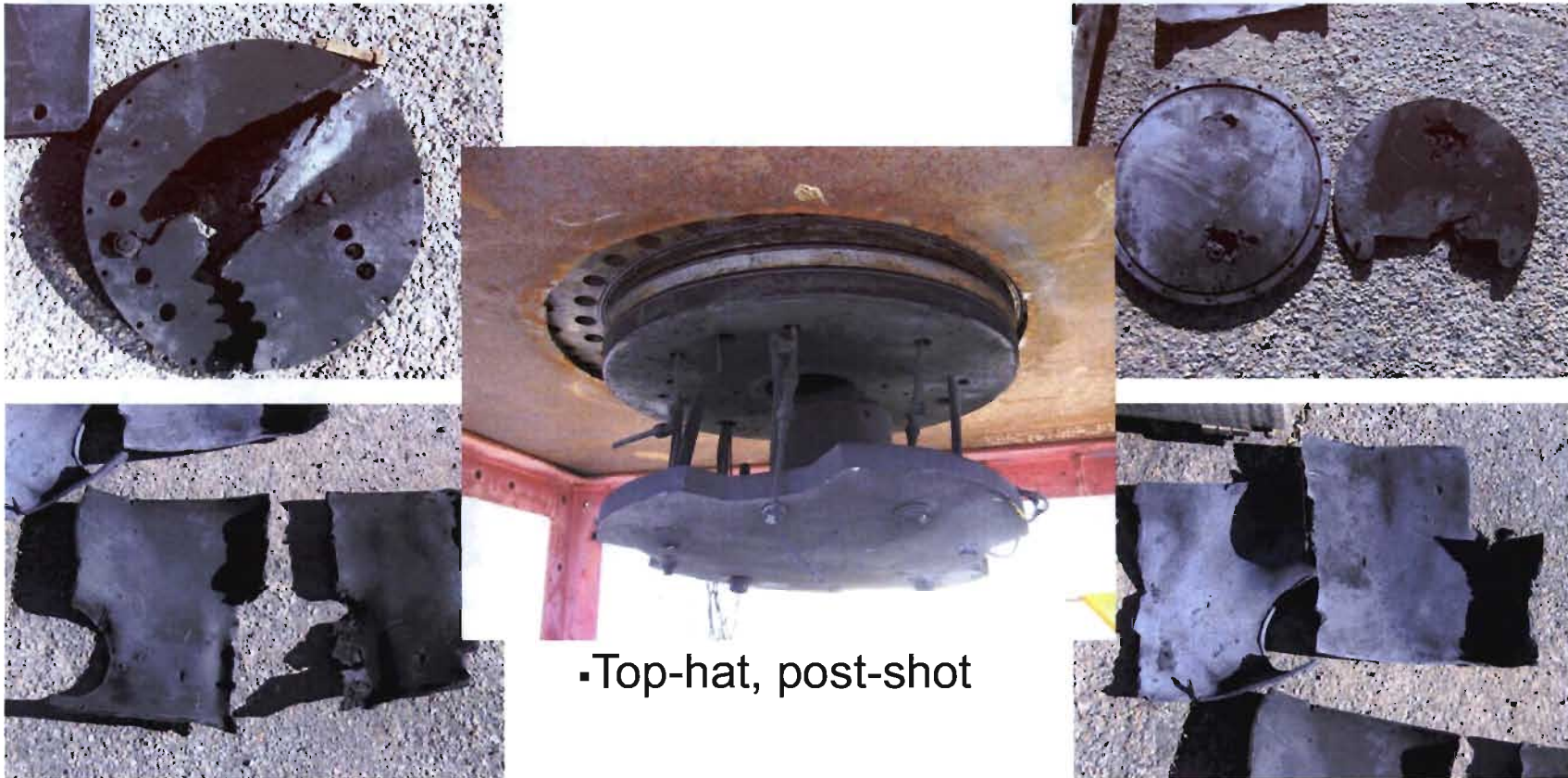
Al can configuration



Armor plates staged around can on shot stand mounted from top door



## Proof shot in a vessel: damage observation



▪Top-hat, post-shot



## Ongoing capabilities development

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- The pRad firing site is a premier location to perform experiments relevant to HE and shock physics, modeling, dynamic material properties, hydrodynamic phenomena, diagnostic development, programmatic goals



•Image courtesy M. Marr-Lyon

## Videos: Proof shots in vessels

