

# Larry X Schneider

## Senior Manager

Pulsed Power Sciences Center, Science & Technology Division

Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM 87185-1181  
[lxschne@sandia.gov](mailto:lxschne@sandia.gov)

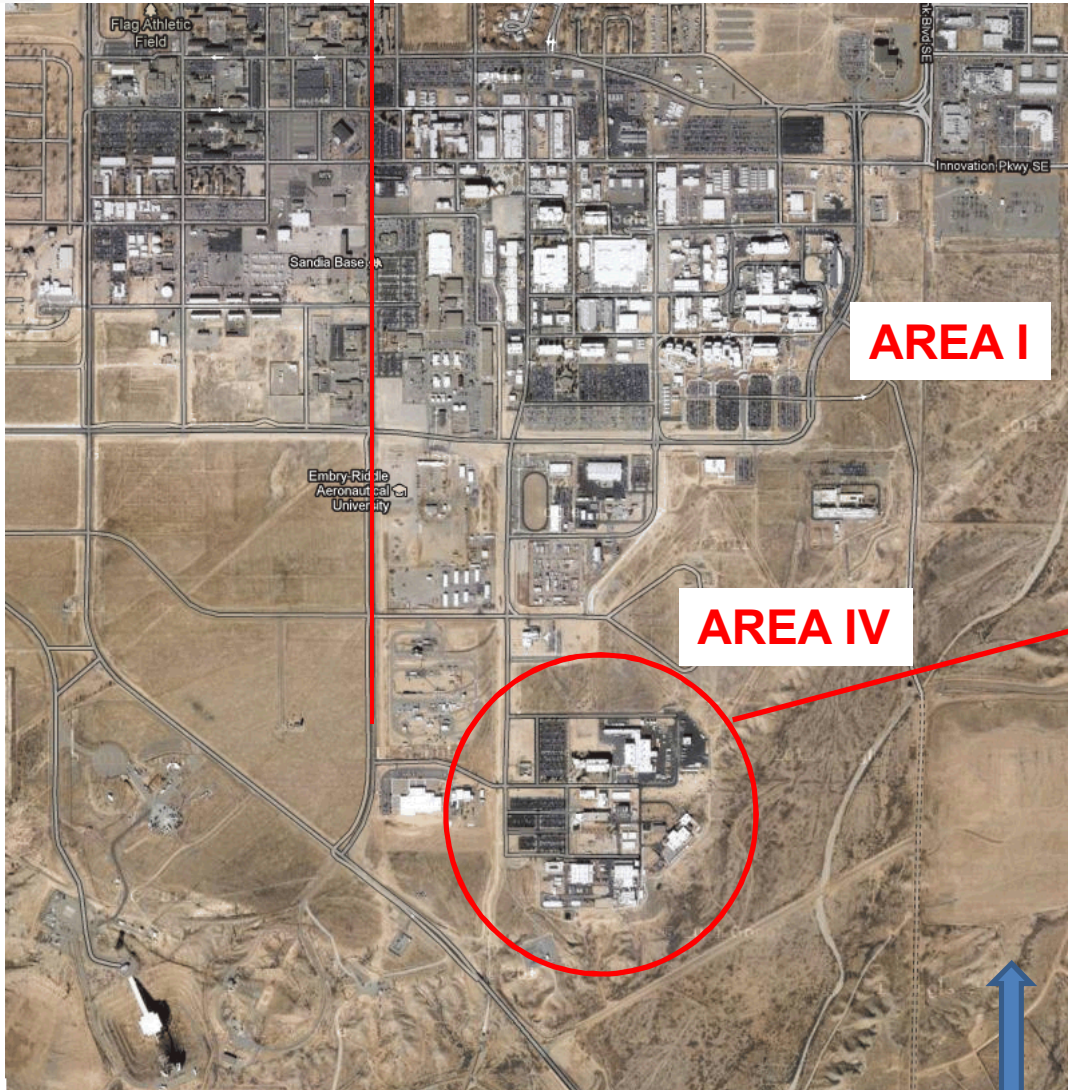




# Pulsed Power and Radiation Sciences

## Sandia Laboratories Area IV

Wyoming



HAWK

World's largest DC-like electron beam accelerator



Z Machine (350 TW, 26 MA)

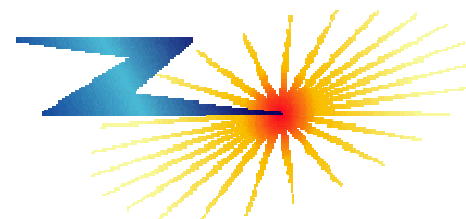
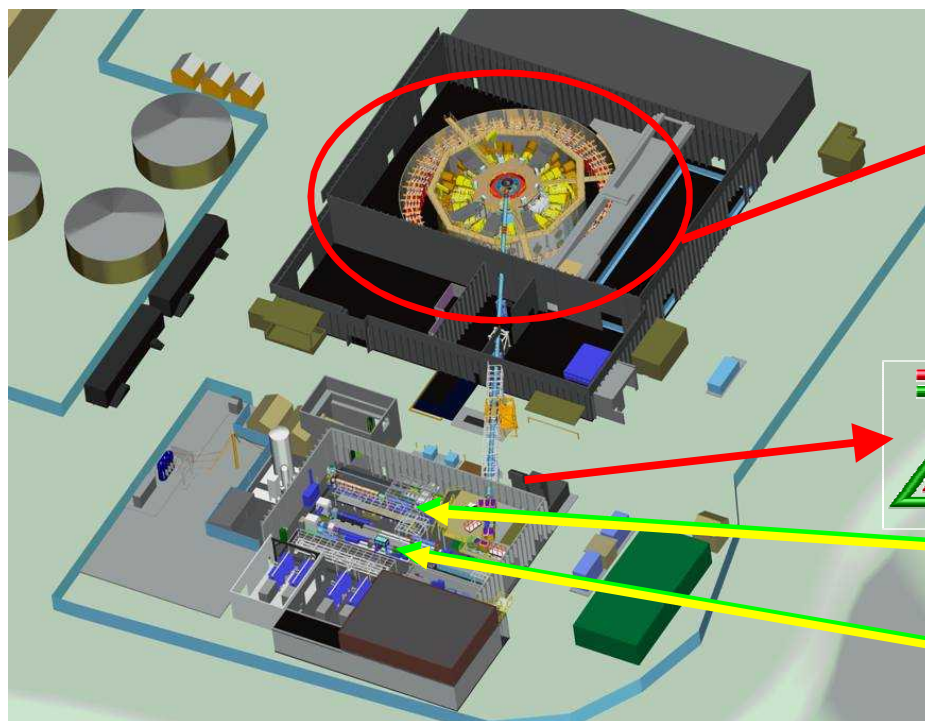
World's most powerful radiation source for fusion, dynamic materials and radiation effects sciences

Hermes III

Flash x-ray source for nuclear weapons effects testing



The Z Facility is a world record holder in high energy density physics and dynamic materials science – and a centerfold

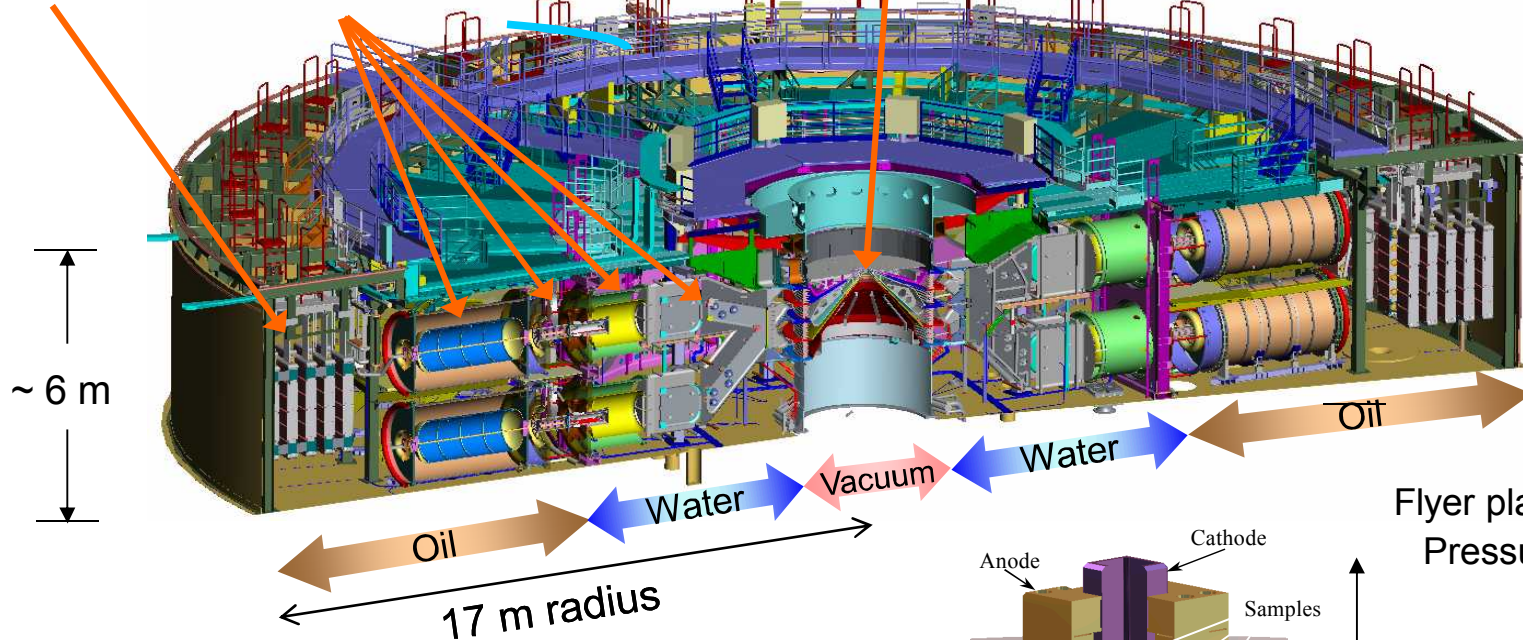




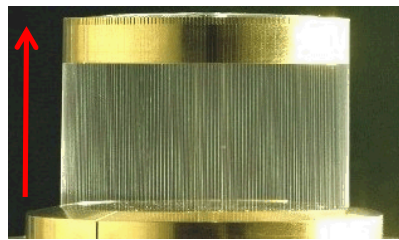
# Z Represents the core of pulsed power sciences

## Pulse Forming Section:

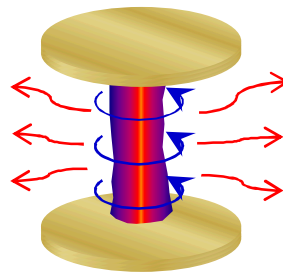
- Intermediate Storage Capacitors
  - Laser triggered gas switches
  - Pulse Forming Lines
  - Transmission Lines
- Experiment Load Region



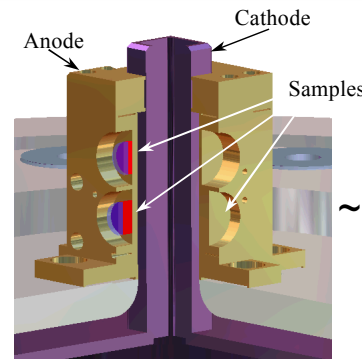
Flyer plate > 40 km/sec  
Pressure > 10 Mbar



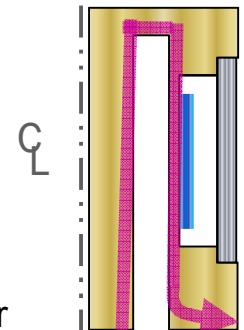
Wire-array z-pinch load  
for radiation effects and inertial  
confinement fusion



Implosion/stagnation  
300 TW, 2 MJ x-ray



Magnetic compression load for  
dynamic materials experiments



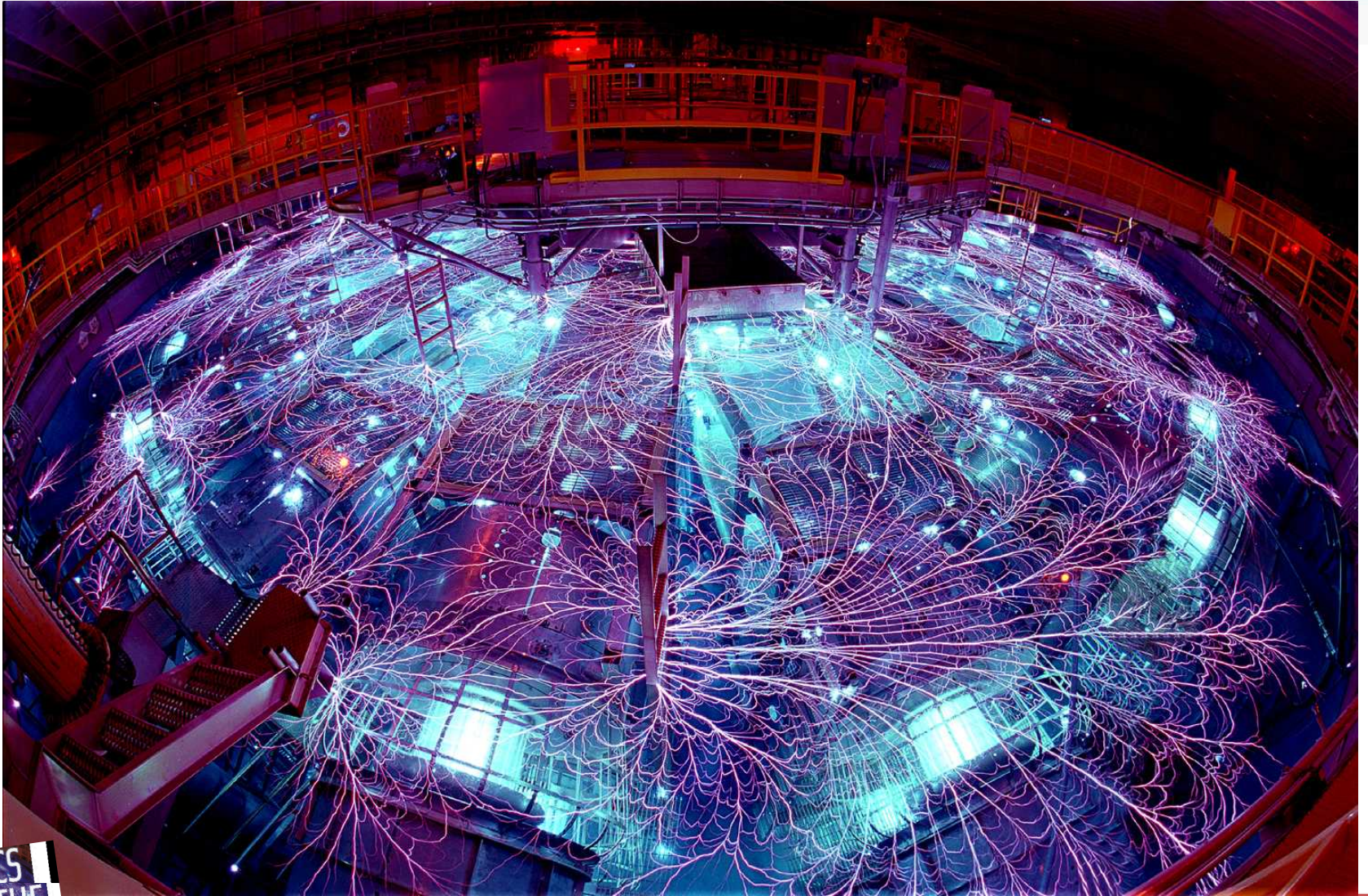
Current

22 MJ stored energy, 26 MA peak current, 100-600ns rise times





Arcing on the surface of the water and gas switch closure can be seen during operation of an older version of Z. These features disappear within a microsecond.





# Nuclear weapons require EM qualification to demanding Stockpile-to-target-sequence (STS) requirements

## Lifecycle Engineering



- Weapon Storage
- Transportation
- Maintenance/Surveillance
- Storage on delivery platform
- Launch and in-flight path
- **Normal** Environments
  - EMR, ESD, Nearby lightning, degaussing
- **Abnormal** Environments
  - Lightning
  - Power lines
- **Hostile** Environments
  - Nuclear effects (DEMP, SREMP, SGEMP)
  - EM weapons, HPM



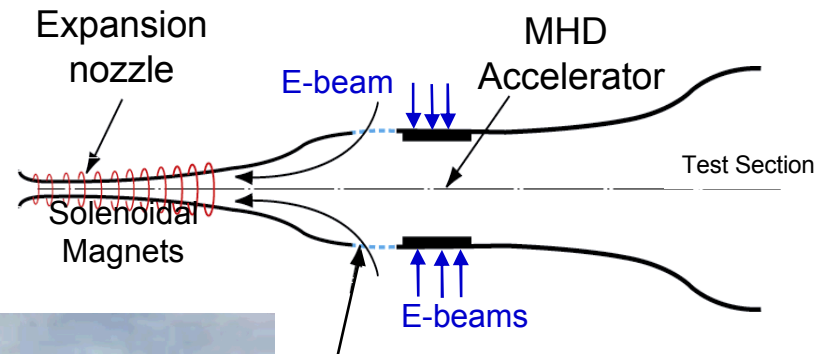


# Long runtime hypersonic ground test capabilities for Scramjet engine development

*Electron beam technology enables radiative energy addition & MHD acceleration*

> Mach 8  
1 second operation  
Pure air

High pressure  
air supply



Electron Beam "Heater"  
- Enthalpy addition

**Radiative Energy Addition:**  
Uses electron beam source to add energy to the flow which reduces the requirements on the high pressure air source.

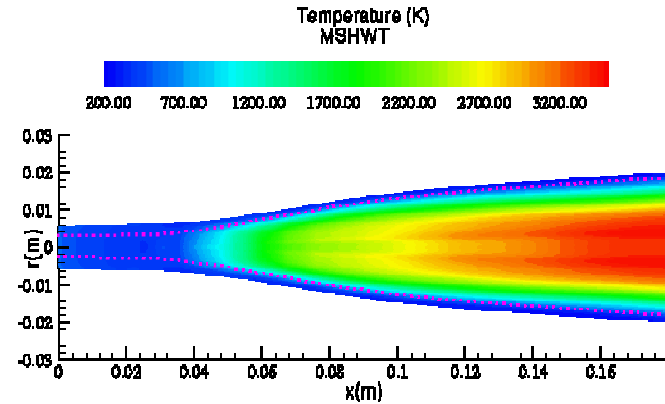
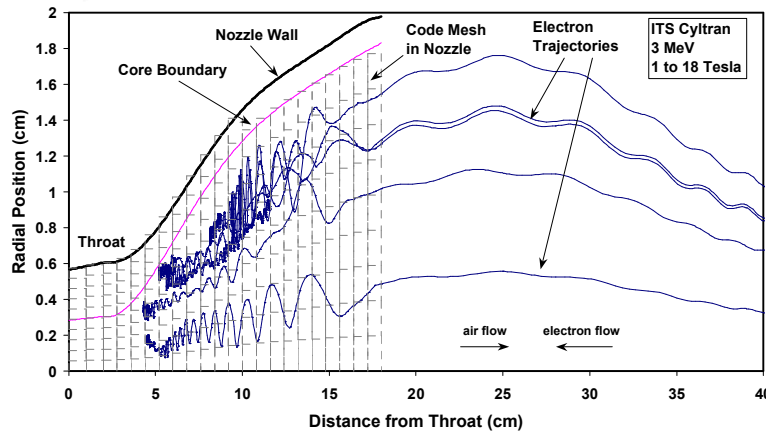
**MHD Accelerator:**  
Uses electron beams for electrical conductivity. No alkali seeding is used resulting in relatively clean air compared to previous MHD approaches.



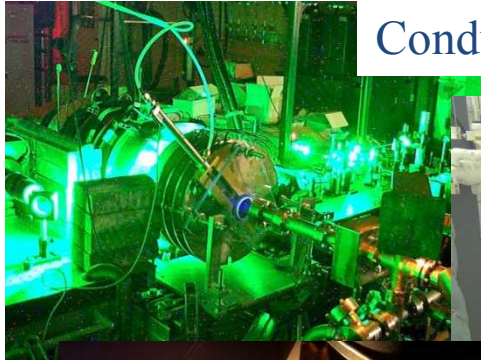


# Modeling, analysis, validation experiments, Complex system design & integration

Coupled electron/photon Monte Carlo transport codes for energy addition and CFD



Conduct of complex experiments



World's first large  
aperture vacuum window

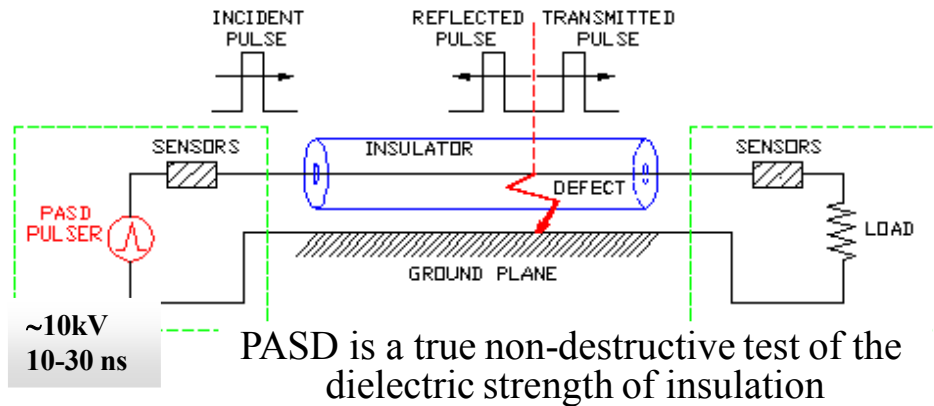
World class accelerator  
technology development





# Expertise in short-pulse breakdown led to Pulse Arrested Spark Discharge (PASD)

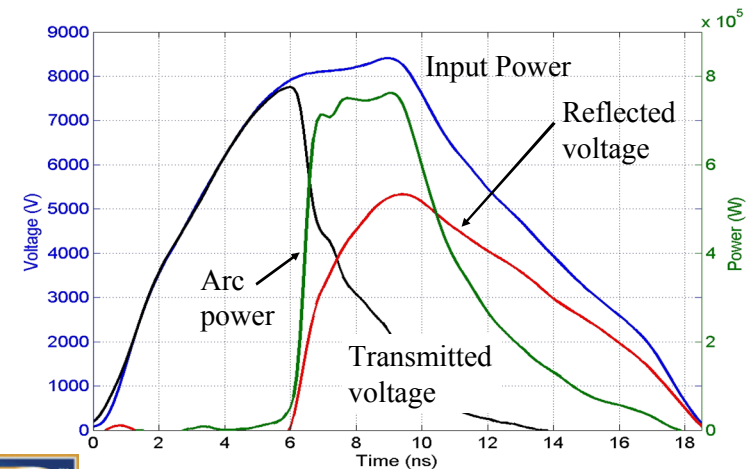
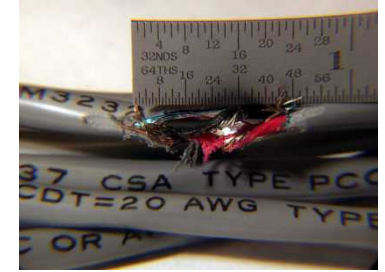
PASD can find and locate what no others can see – from pin-holes in the dielectric to crushed, but fully functional cables, waiting for a disaster



**ASTRONICS**  
CORPORATION



## Work for Others Programs

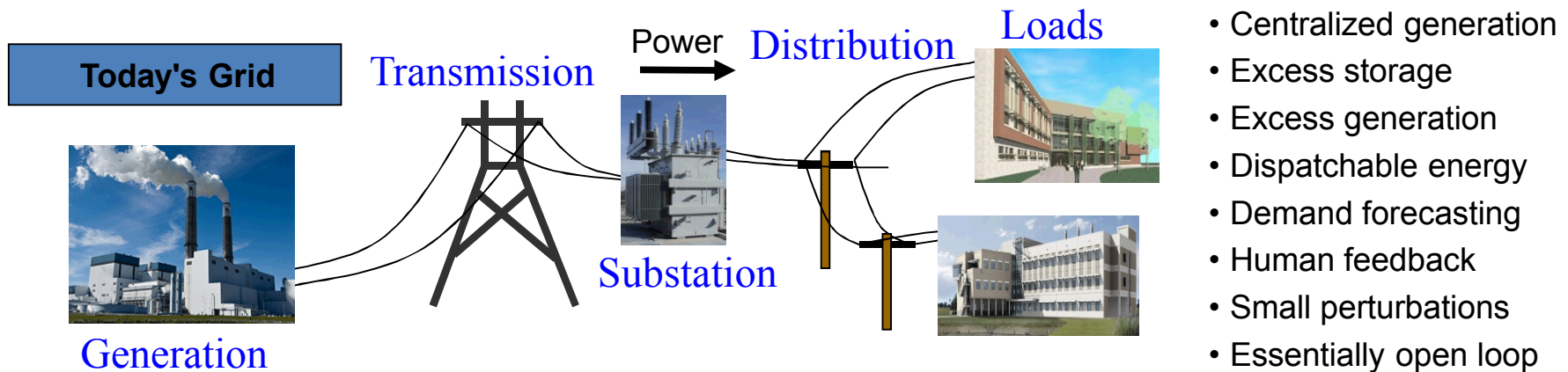


**-Winner R&D 100 Award from R&D magazine**

**-Winner Federal Laboratories Consortium Award for Interagency Partnering**



# The Electrical Power Grid is based on a foundation created over 100 years ago



*This topology limits the use of renewable energy sources and is vulnerable to terrorist attacks, natural disasters, infrastructure failures*



# Self-Adapting, Self-Healing Electrical Microgrids are being developed based on advanced control and agent theory

**Secure Scalable Microgrid** will enable:

- Unlimited use of renewable energy sources
- Reduced fossil fuel power generation
- Reduced energy storage requirements
- Adaptive behavior

