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Accelerated deployment of integrated CCUS chains based on solvent capture technology

## Qualification of the CESAR1 solvent for commercial deployment within the HEU project AURORA

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# Outline



1. Introduction to AURORA and AURORA technology (video)
2. Project overview
3. CESAR1 solvent
4. AURORA technology for reducing emission in cement plants
5. Technology qualification and knowledge gaps
6. Pilot testing
7. Summary and conclusion

# 1. Introduction



## 2. Project overview (1)

- AURORA project partners
- 12 partners from 6 European countries
  - Greece, Italy, France, Belgium, UK, and Norway
  - Representing a broad range of experts and important CCUS stakeholders



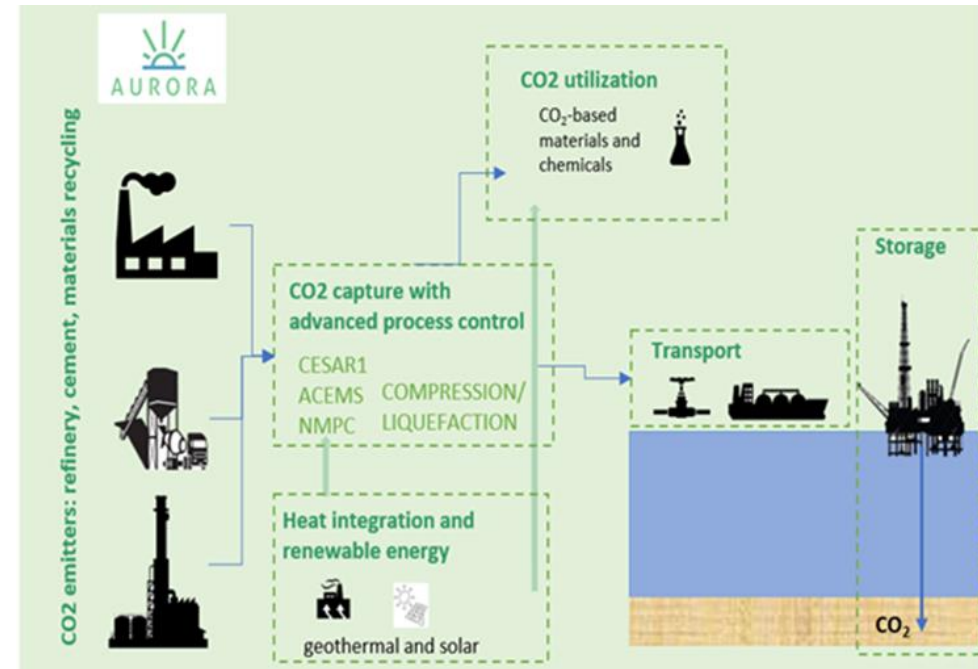
*Figure 3-3: Map of AURORA partners.*

## 2. Project overview (2) AURORA consortium

Research/ Academia	 SINTEF	 NTNU	 TECHNOLOGY CENTRE MONGSTAD - catching our future	 UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE	 SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA
	Norway		United Kingdom		Italy
Industry/ Technology provider	 TotalEnergies	 slb Capturi	 MOTOR OIL	 HERACLES A MEMBER OF HOLCIM GROUP	 umicore
	France	(Former ACC) Norway	Greece		Belgium
SME	 CYBERNETICA	 Euroquality			
	Norway	France			

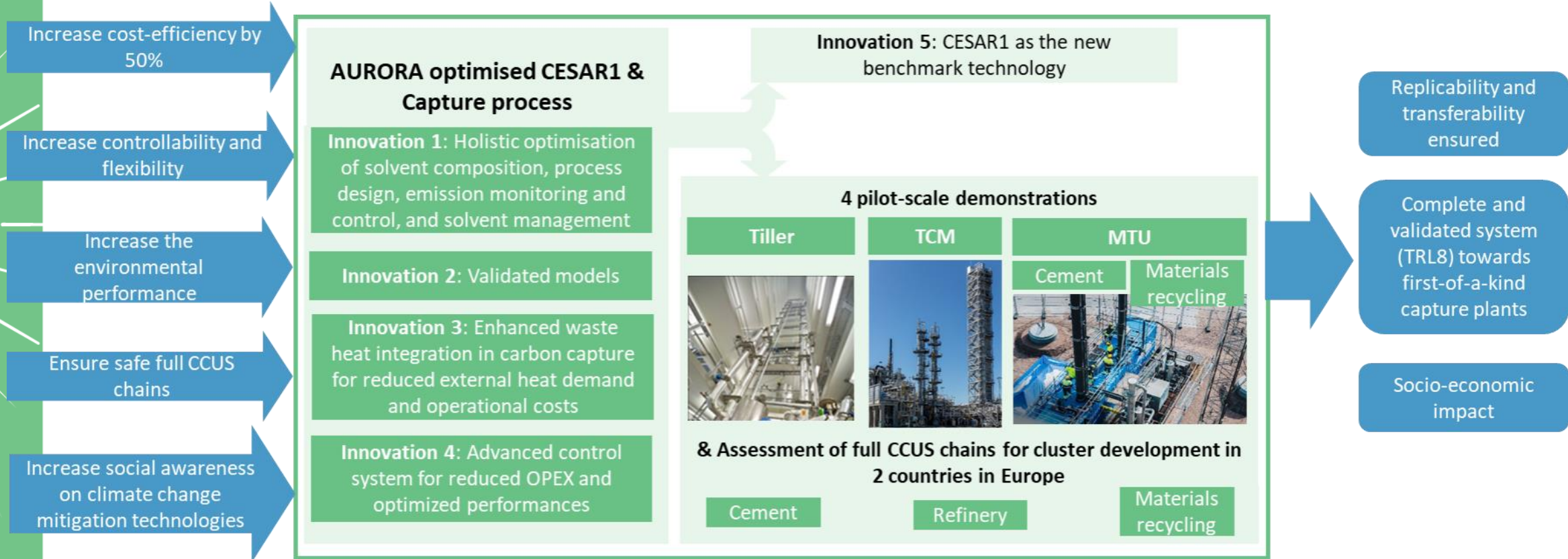
## 2. Project overview (3) Facts

- Horizon Europe Innovation Action project (*HE-CL5-2022-D3-01-15: Decarbonising industry with CCUS*)
- Project period:
  - 01.01.2023-30.06.2026 (31/2 years)
- Project overall budget:
  - 16 258 397 EURO
- Funding from EC:
  - 12 196 763 EURO (Research/Academia 100% covered, the rest 70% covered)

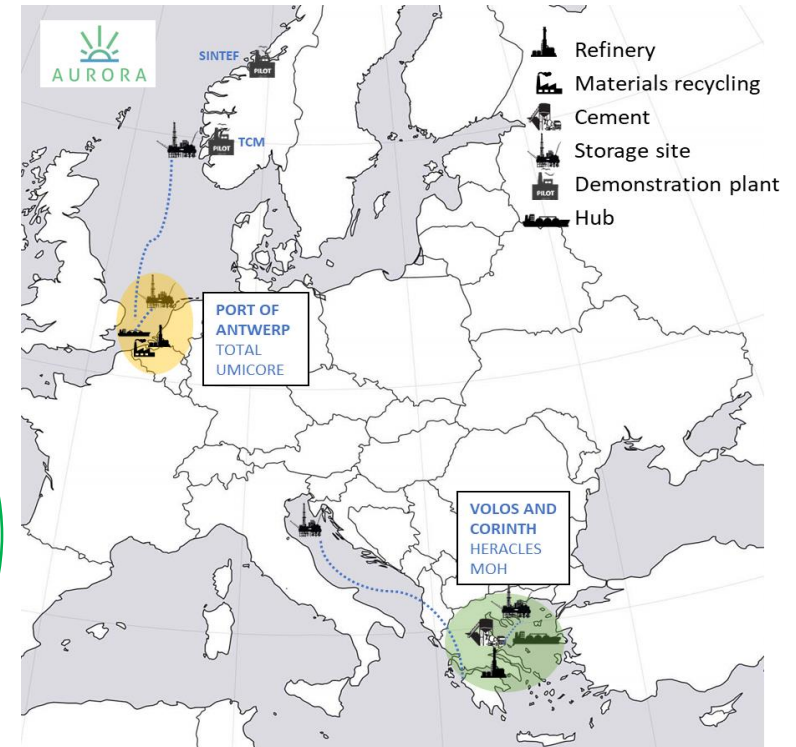
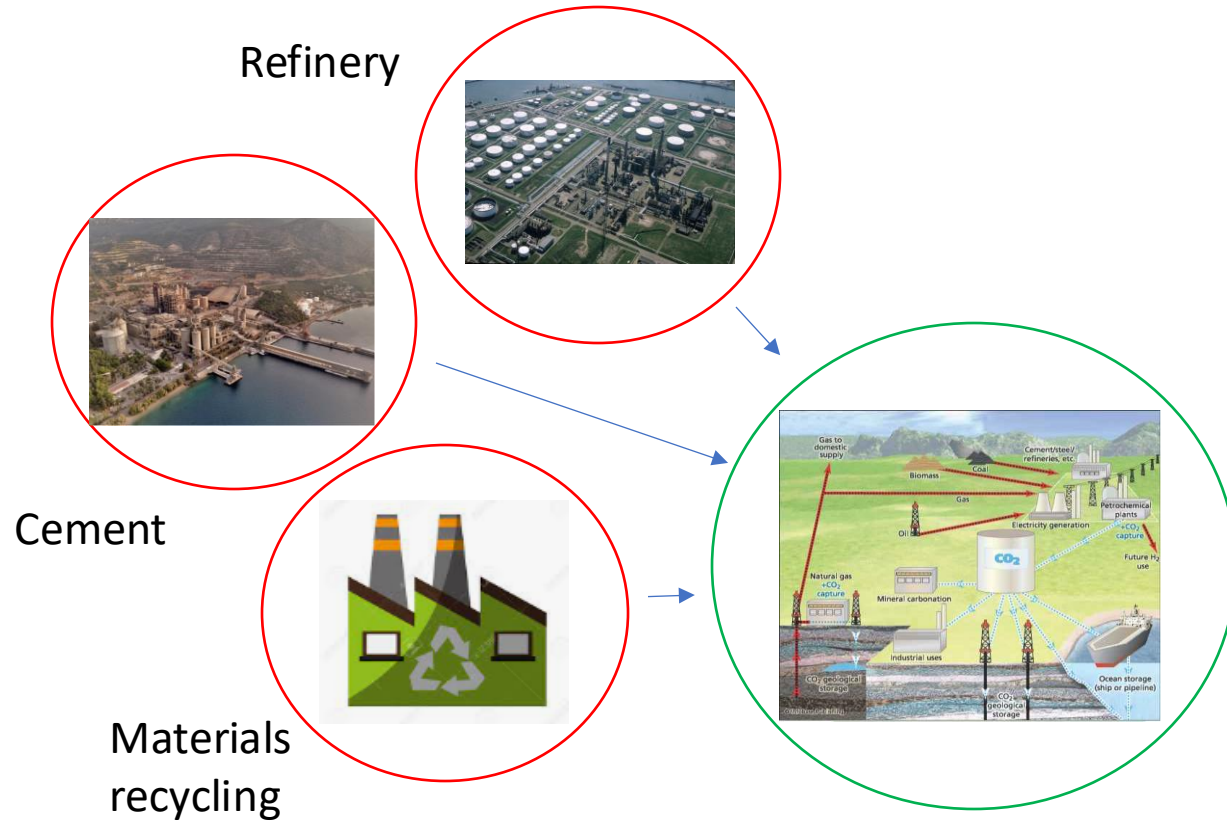




## 2. Project overview (4) Project concept

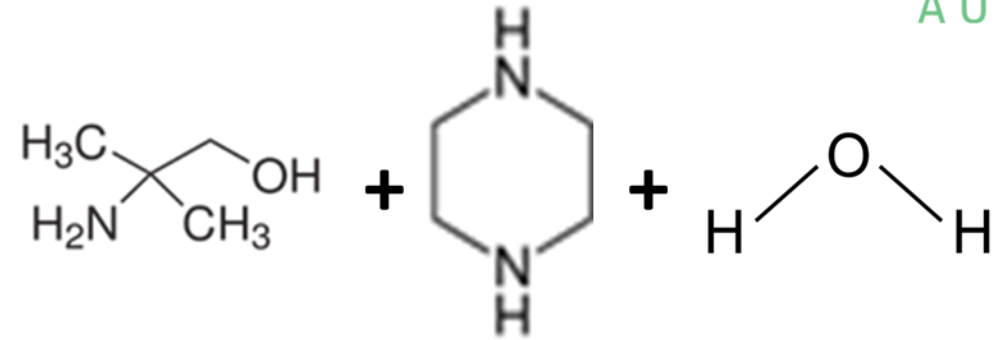


# Project overview (5) Clusters and CCUS chain assessment





### 3. CESAR1 solvent (1)



- What is the CESAR1 solvent?
  - 2 amines in a water solution:
    - 27wt % 2-amino-2-methylpropanol (AMP), 13wt% Piperazine (PZ), and 60% water
- The CESAR1 solvent was first developed in the CESAR project 15 years ago
- Has been studied in many projects since then
- AURORA will close important knowledge gaps to
  - Extensive deployment in various type of industries
  - Establish as the new benchmark for capture technologies

### 3. CESAR1 solvent (2)

- CESAR1 pros:
  - Decent energy performance
  - Very stable
    - not easily degradable
  - Very flexible
    - can be used for a range of flue-gas conditions
    - capture rate of CO<sub>2</sub> up to 98-99% without any significant increase in specific reboiler duty (SRD)
  - Non-proprietary solvent
- CESAR1 cons:
  - Two amines in water, a bit more complex to model
  - Strict control of emission to minimize solvent losses and environmental impact
  - May precipitate at certain process conditions

## 4. Why AURORA technology for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emission in cement plants

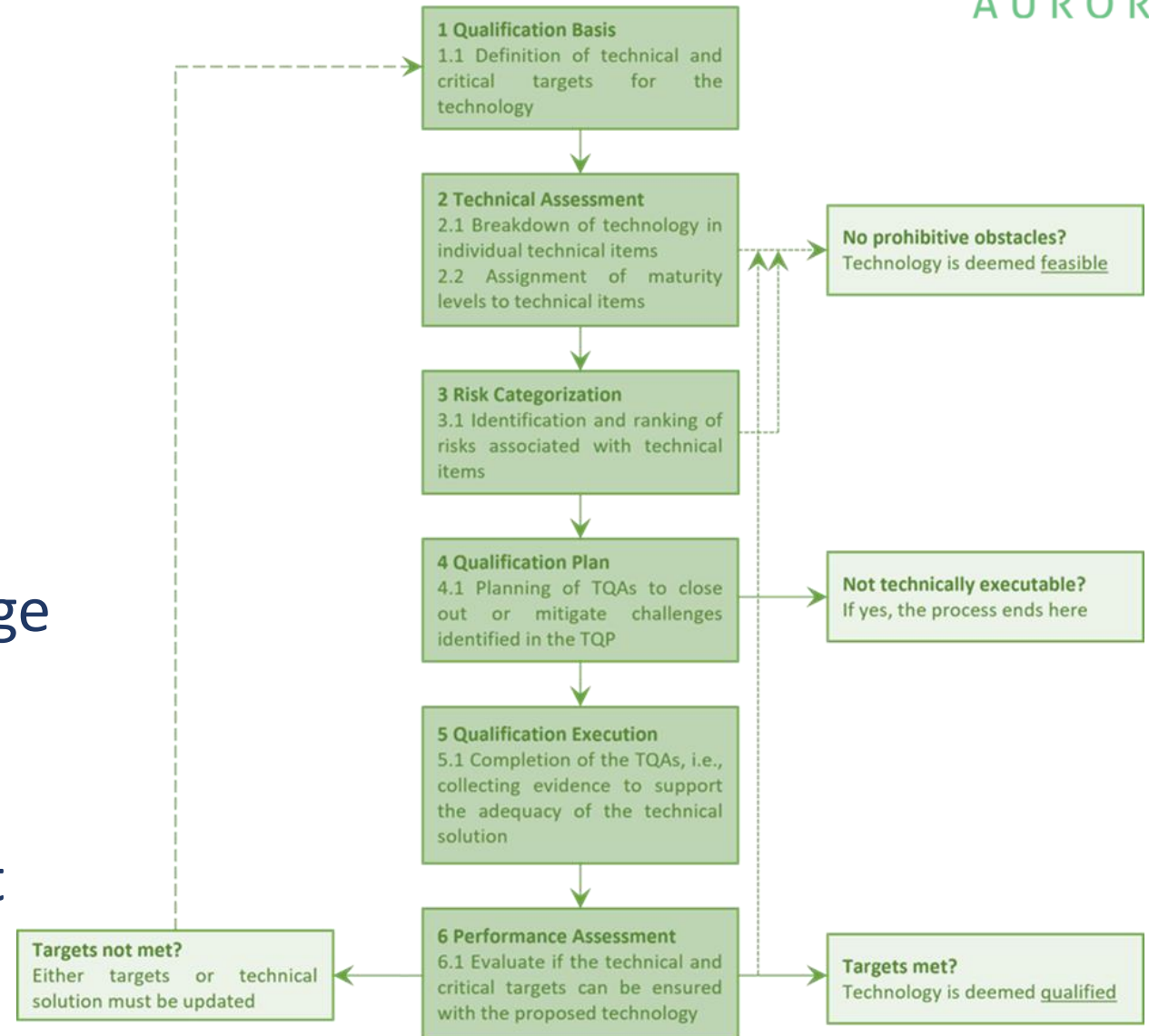
- Capture plant can be easily integrated as an end-of pipe solution
  - Requires no large modifications of existing cement plant
- Well suited for the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the flue gas
- Solvent based capture technologies the most mature and proven technology
- The energy requirement is mostly low-temperature heat
  - If steam not available:
    - excess low-temperature heat can be exploited both in cement and capture process
    - possibly also in combination with heat pumps (still a bit immature for industrial applications)
- SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and particulates in the flue-gas will partly be removed in the pre-scrubber (DCC)
  - Probably site specific, but will be checked out in the AURORA project through the pilot testing
  - Maybe some additional pre-treatment of the flue-gas will be necessary

# 5. Technology qualification and knowledge gaps (1)

## Strategy for technology qualification program (TQP)

1. Define basis
2. Technology assessment
3. Risk Categorization
4. Plan for closing knowledge gaps
5. Qualification execution
6. Performance assessment

### Technology Qualification Program



## 5. Technology qualification and knowledge gaps (2)

- The specific TQP for AURORA listed in a report
  - Soon to be published at our web-site: [www.aurora-heu.eu](http://www.aurora-heu.eu)
- Important knowledge gaps are identified especially related to
  - Technical elements in the capture process
  - Aspects associated with the CESAR1 solvent
    - Data for modelling of the performance
    - Modelling of the performance
    - Degradation of the solvent
    - Pilot testing
    - A review journal publication has been issued: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccst.2024.100290>

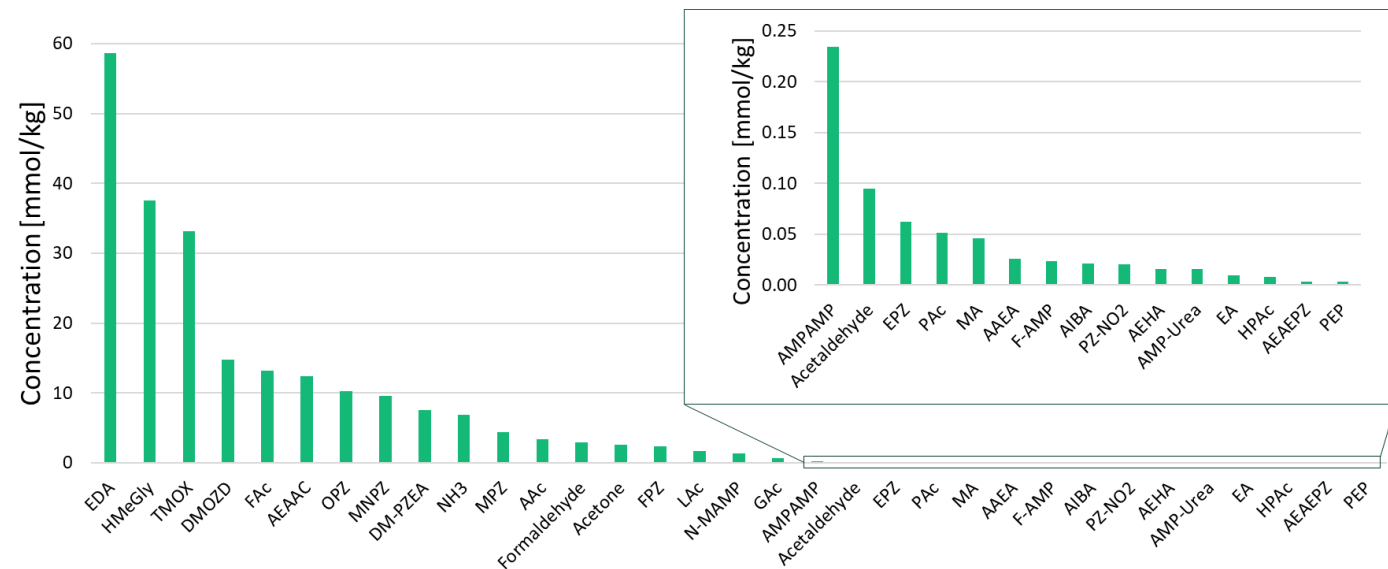




## 5. Technology qualification and knowledge gaps (3)

- Closing knowledge gaps:
  - Experiments in the lab to cover broader ranges for the solvent (e.g., concentrations, loading of CO<sub>2</sub>, and temperature)
  - Extensive degradation tests to identify mechanisms and the specific degradation compounds to close the nitrogen balance (35 identified)

From presentation at  
GHGT-17 by Vanja  
Buvik (SINTEF)



## 6. Pilot testing at Tiller CO<sub>2</sub>Lab (owned by SINTEF)

- Biomass or propane incineration: 30-40 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/h
- Full industrial column height (20 cm diameter)
- Very flexible as designed for various solvents
- Flue gas: CO<sub>2</sub> 11 vol.-%, O<sub>2</sub> 4 vol.-%, but can vary by recirculation of captured CO<sub>2</sub>
- Focus in AURORA:
  - CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in flue gas not covered in pilot earlier
  - Mimic AURORA end user's flue gas
  - Amine emission monitoring and control including special analyses in the lab
  - Dynamics and advanced process control
  - CO<sub>2</sub> compression and liquefaction



## 6. Pilot testing with the MTU at site (owned by slb Capturi)

- Capacity: 100–200 kg/h of CO<sub>2</sub> product
- Testing at two industrial sites, HERACLES's cement plant in Volos, Greece and UMICORE's materials recycling plant in Antwerp, Belgium
- Focus in AURORA
  - Performance testing for upscaling effects from Tiller pilot
  - DCC temperature variation and check of SO<sub>x</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> and particulates
  - Desorber pressure variation
  - Dynamic operation
  - Acid wash
  - Solvent reclamation including special analyses in the lab





## 6. Pilot testing with at TCM (Technology Centre Mongstad)

- Flue gas from CHP and cracker: 10 t CO<sub>2</sub>/h
- World largest test facility
- Focus in AURORA
  - Performance testing for upscaling effects from Tiller pilot and MTU
  - Emissions and degradation rate monitoring including special analyses in the lab
  - Dynamic operation
  - Foaming and precipitation



## 7. Summary and conclusion

- The work in AURORA will qualify the CESAR1 solvent and the associated process for commercialisation and deployment in CO<sub>2</sub> capture plants
- AURORA covers many aspects important for full-scale design and operation to close knowledge gaps and reduce risks in future absorption-based CO<sub>2</sub> capture plants
- Absorption based technology has already been implemented at the Brevik plant
- Will test the technology with CESAR1 solvent at a cement plant in Greece
- The absorption-based technology with CESAR1 solvent is indeed something the cement industry should consider for reduced emission of CO<sub>2</sub>





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# QUESTIONS? Thank you!

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