Targets, Enabling Ignition & High Yield Research

Presented at 42ND ANNUAL FUSION POWER ASSOCIATES MEETING Virtual/Remote Meeting

Presented by Mario Manuel

December 15, 2021

This material is based upon work supported by General Atomics Marketing funding.



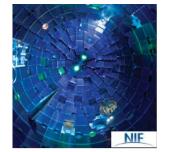
2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021



- Ignition "Focus" remains on target details
- Metrology, Metrology, and more Metrology
- Expanding spherical target design space
- Higher adoption of Additive Manufacturing
- Rep-rated research efforts



Targets for experiments at



National Ignition Facility



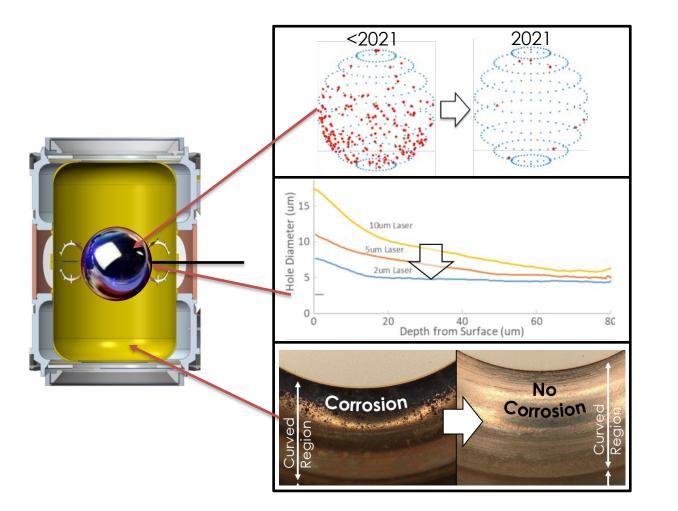


Z pulse power machine

OMEGA Laser Laboratory for Laser Energetics



Improvements in the Target



4pi Characterization! Make & Select the best capsule! Surface, Point nonuniformities, Spherical uniformity

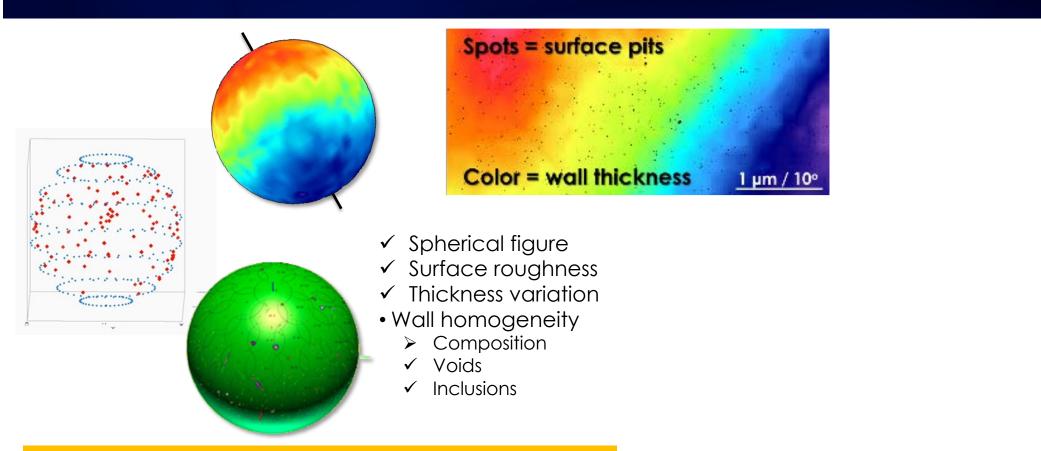
Smaller fill-tubes

Improved hohlraums

Improvements in the target enabled this 1.3MJ result!



Micron and Nanometer understanding of the Three Dimensional Shell



The Metrology

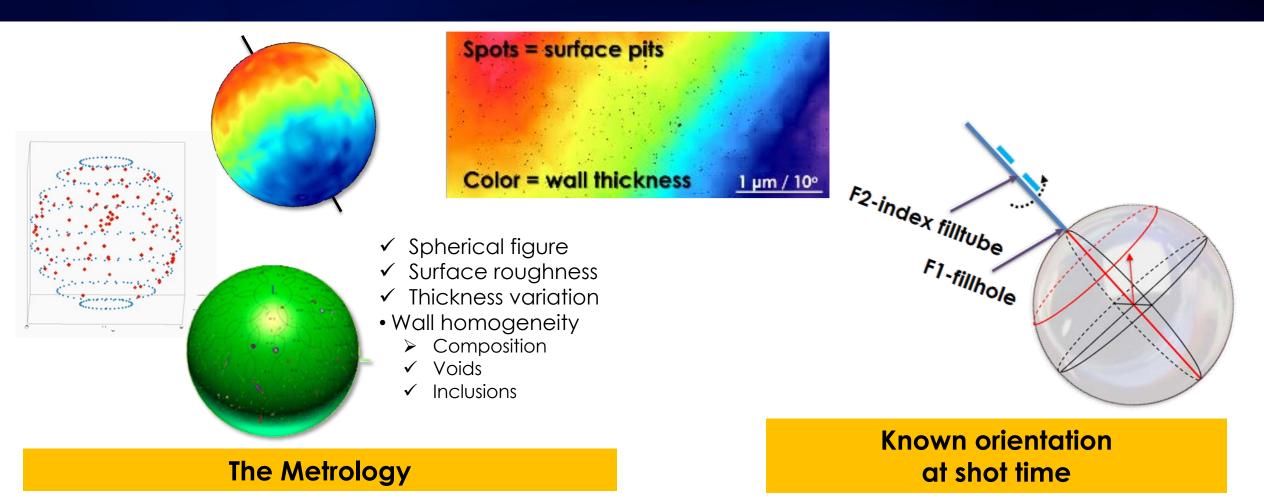
Spherical (3D) <u>TARGET DATA</u> is increasingly important to physics understanding

Correlating data with fiducials enables known positioning of shell imperfections

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Micron and Nanometer understanding of the Three Dimensional Shell



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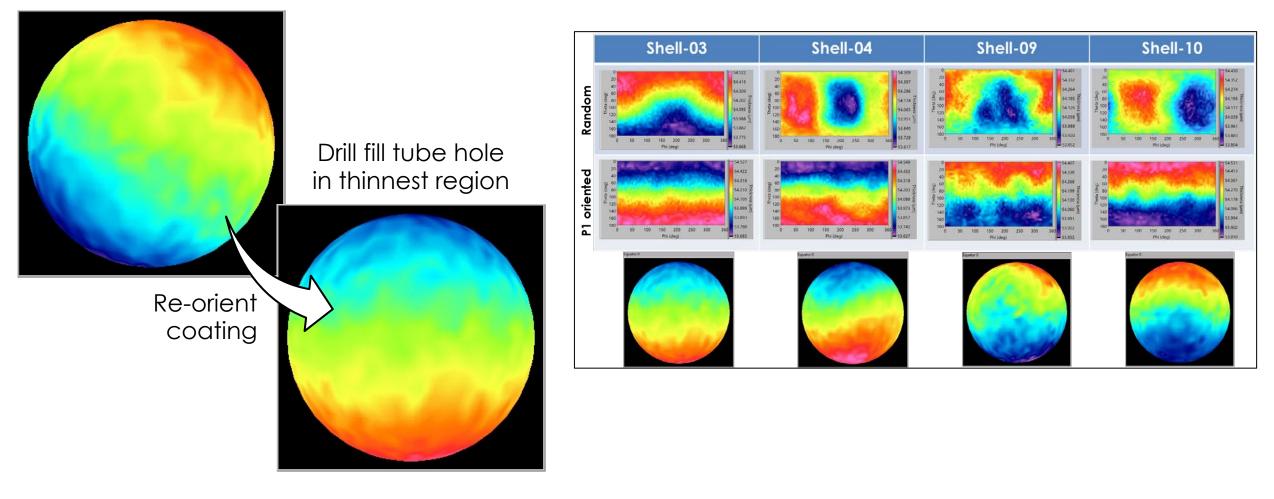
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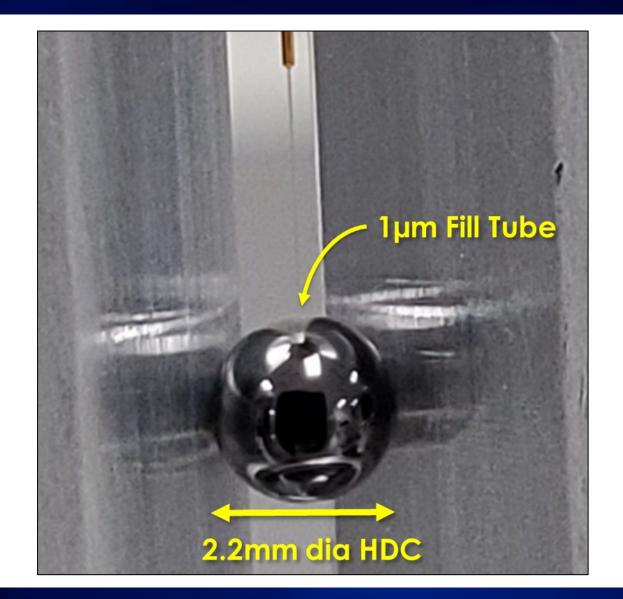
Controlling Capsule P1 spherical nonuniformity location within the target

Randomly Oriented





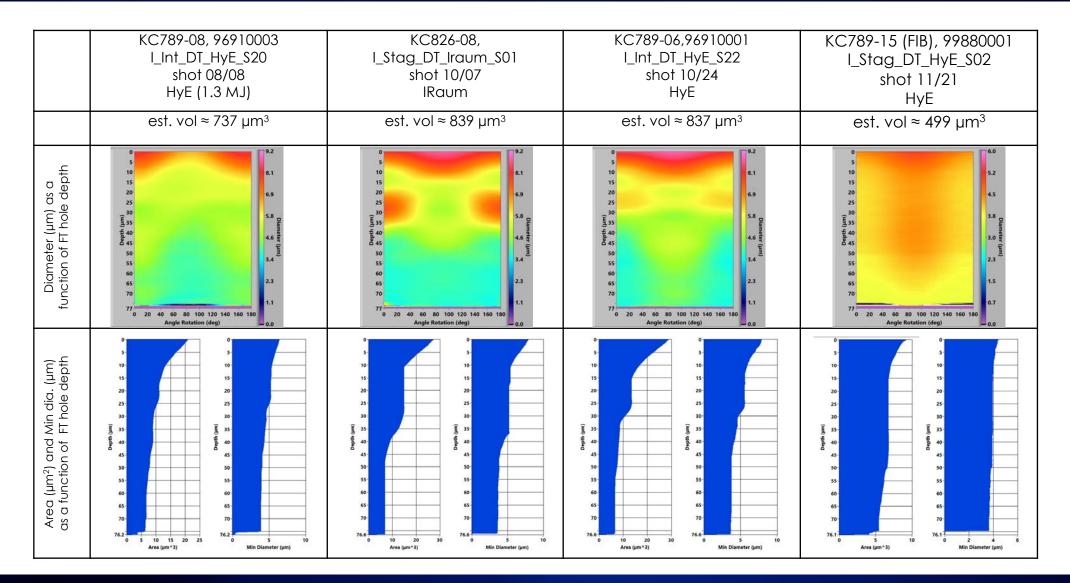
Advancing the state-of-the-art in ICF targets





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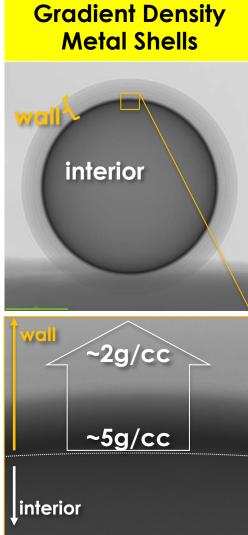
Understanding and controlling the fill tube hole shape





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Other R&D Supporting Laser Indirect Drive



Engineered Alloys

Čr Mo W

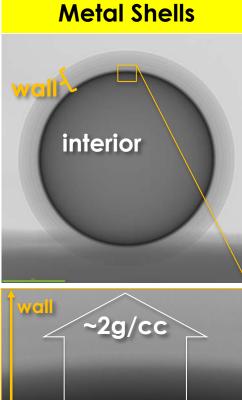
 $24 \rightarrow 42 \rightarrow 72$

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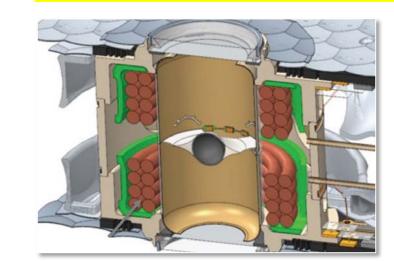


Other R&D Supporting Laser Indirect Drive

Enabling B-fields on Indirectly Driven Cryogenic Implosions



Gradient Density









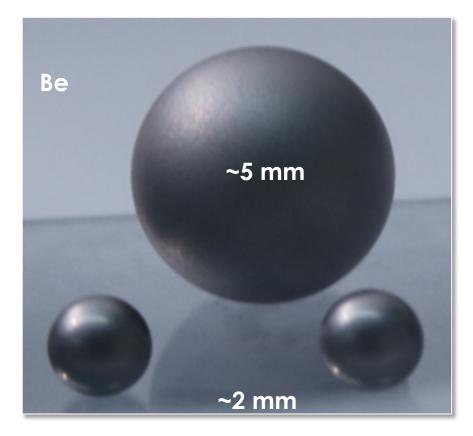
✓Cr Cr 24 -

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \checkmark & \checkmark \\ Cr & Mo & W \\ 24 \rightarrow 42 \rightarrow 72 \end{array}$

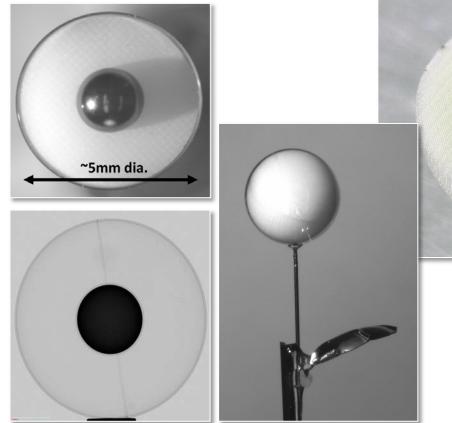
Engineered Alloys

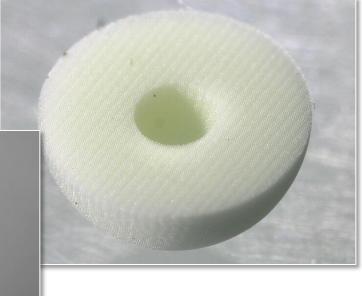
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Expanding Spherical Target Design Space



4.4 mm diameter Be shell holds direct drive neutron record @ 1.6x10¹⁶





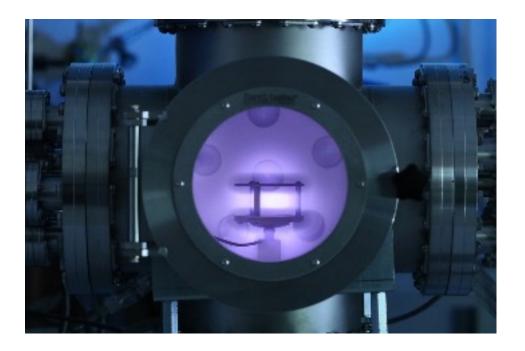
Additively manufactured targets (Double Shell cushion)



Amorphous Ablator Material Research

(Eliminate crystalline microstructure inherent in High Density Carbon & Be shells)

Developed custom coater



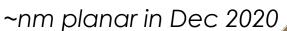


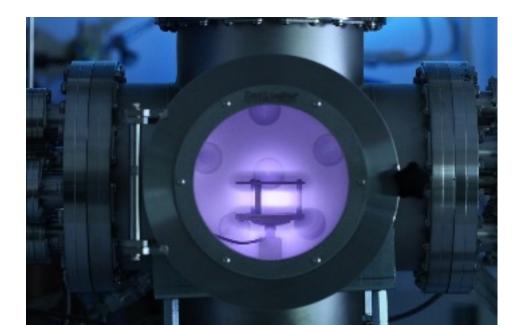
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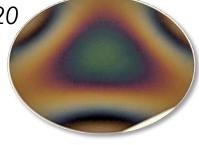
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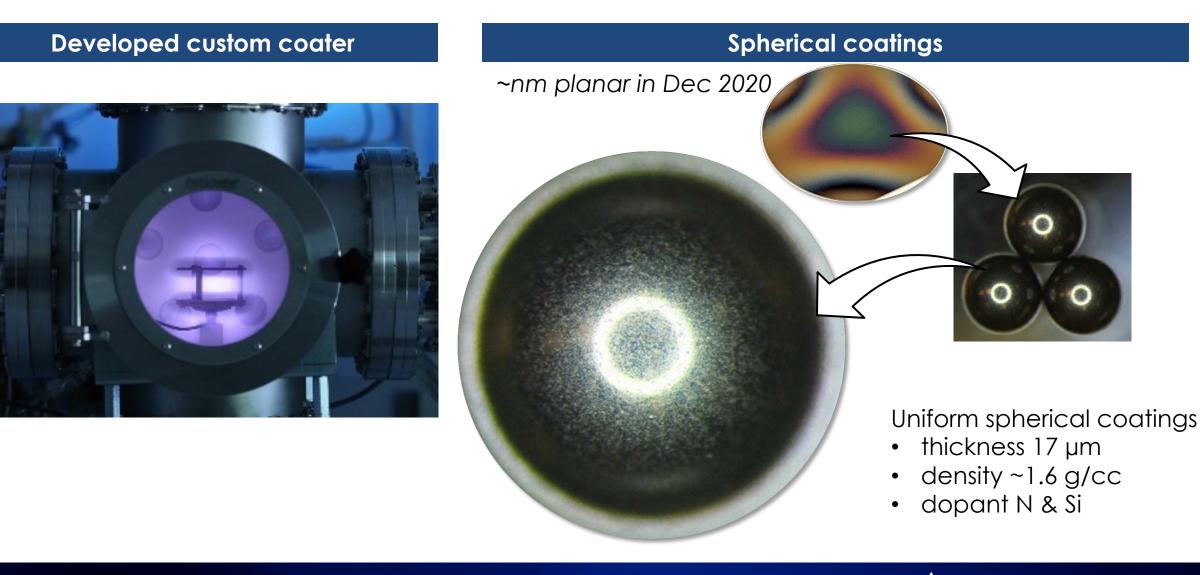


Spherical coatings



Amorphous Ablator Material Research

(Eliminate crystalline microstructure inherent in High Density Carbon & Be shells)

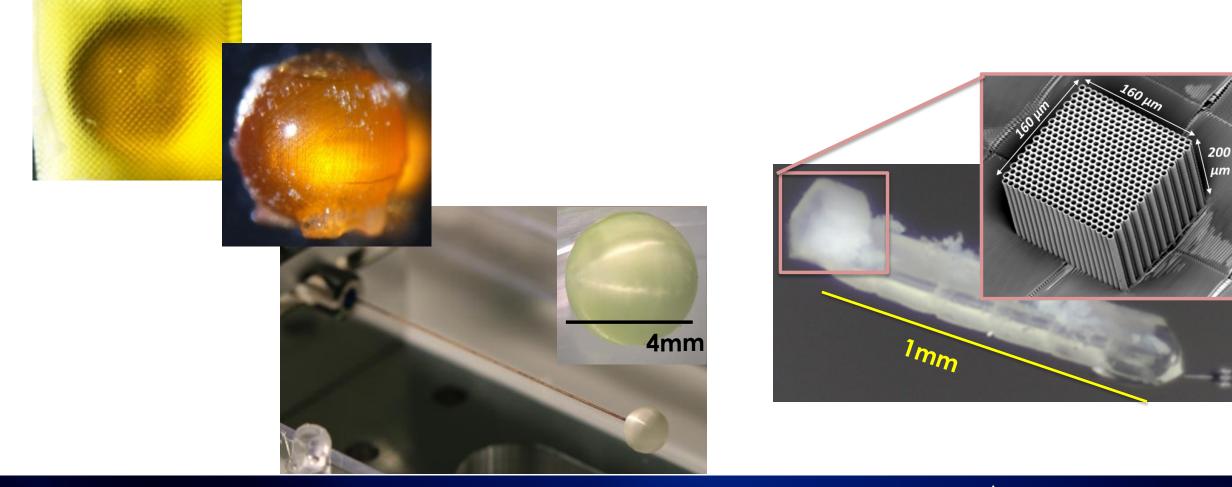


GENERAL ATOMICS

Increasing the use of Additively Manufactured Targets (Enabling efficient design variation studies)

Advancing Two Photon Polymerization Adoption

Foam filled Microtubes

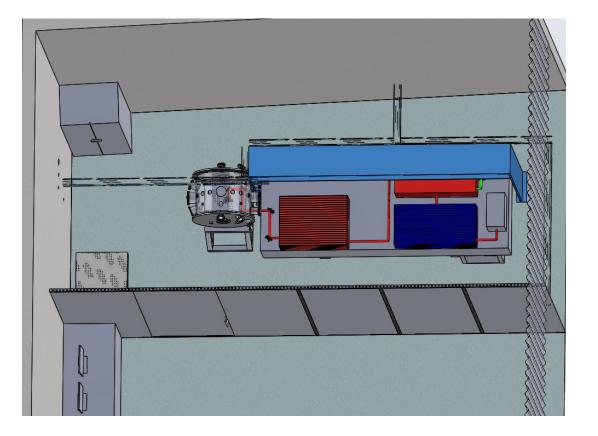




Developing a Facility to Support Rep-rated HEDP and IFE Research: Target fielding, Diagnostics, and Control-feedback Systems



<u>GA</u> <u>LA</u>boratory for <u>D</u>eveloping <u>R</u>ep-rated <u>Instrumentation</u> and <u>Experiments</u> with <u>L</u>asers



- Target Fielding
 - mass production
 - delivery systems
 - robotics and metrology
- <u>Diagnostics</u>
 - Optical, x-ray, particle
- <u>Controls</u>
 - mass data analysis
 - machine learning
 - feedback systems

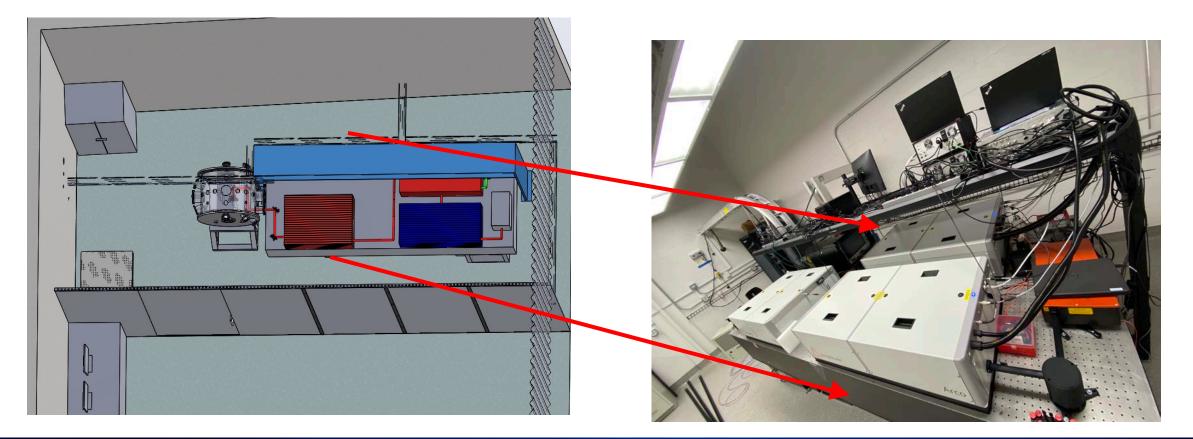


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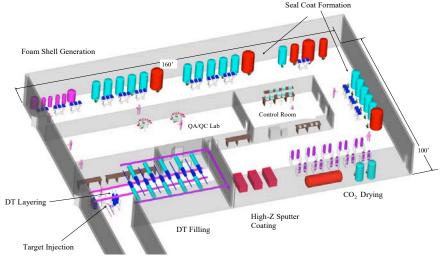
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Highlights of prior R&D projects relevant to IFE

Capsule Production



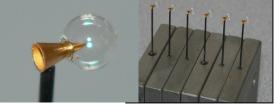
Mass production: example Direct drive target factory study;



Goodin, D.T., et al, "A cost-effective target supply for inertial fusion energy", <u>Nuclear Fusion 44</u> (2004).

Automated Assembly





Cone-in-shell targets assembled with $\pm 10\,\mu\text{m}$

accuracy



Electroformed gold cones

Target Injectors and Tracking



Gas gun with sabot: 400 m/s with 0.59 mrad accuracy, 50 m/s with mrad accuracy 0.24



Linear Induction Accelerator with post launch trajectory correction; 57 m/s, 0.14 mrad accuracy

Ronald Petzolt, et al (2015) Linear Induction Accelerator with Magnetic Steering for Inertial Fusion Target Injection, Fusion Science and Technology, 68:2, 308-313, DOI: 10.13182/FST14-915



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- Metrology, metrology, & more metrology!
- Expanding spherical target design space
- Higher adoption of Additive Manufacturing
- Rep-rated research efforts
- Partnering in Science-Based Stockpile
 Stewardship and ICF & HED Research

