

REBCO WIRE PRODUCTION AT THEVA

STATE OF THE ART AND PROSPECTS

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Superconductivity for Sustainable Energy Systems and Particle Accelerators workshop at GSI
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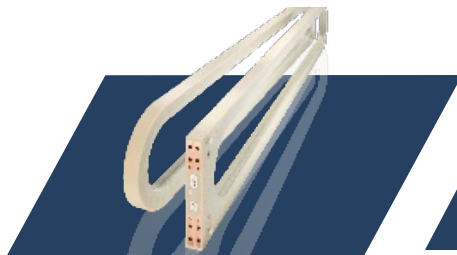
THEVA AT A GLANCE

THEVA is the sole remaining European HTS wire supplier

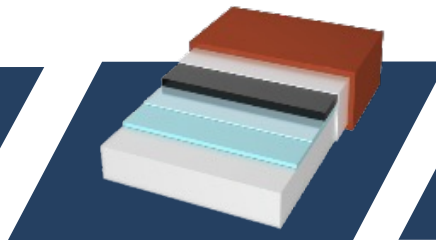
Company: THEVA GmbH, HQ in Ismaning, Germany, established 1996

Team: 47 FTE (mainly engineering & production)

Product portfolio



HTS
Coils



HTS Tape
THEVA Pro-Line



Quality Control -
TAPESTAR™



Value proposition

- Reliable wire supply
- Robust, high performance products
- Expertise and engineering support

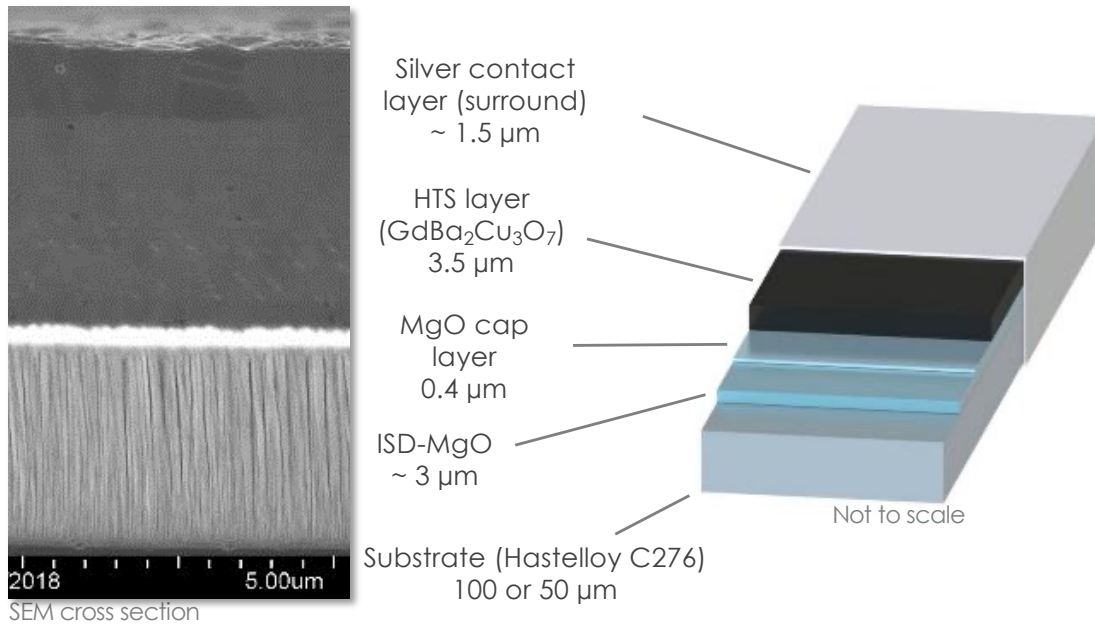
Main applications

- Magnets: high field, fusion, industry
- Current leads (with low heat input)
- HTS cables and bus bars for high current

THEVA PRO-LINE HTS WIRE

Simple HTS tape architecture

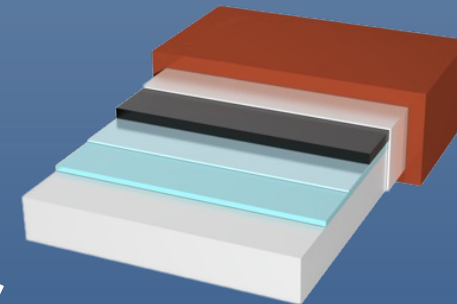
- Few, inexpensive materials
- Thick, high-current HTS layers accessible
- Uniform PVD technology throughout all steps



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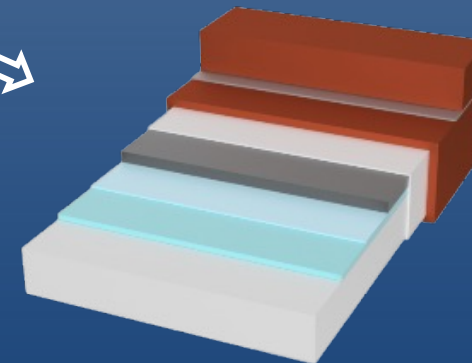
Customized technical wire

Slim, surround stabilized



Magnet coils
Ag, Cu, Sn, PbSn
5 -10 µm
Total: 70 µm

Laminated, robust, strong stabilization



Cable applications
Cu foil laminate
100 -150 µm
Total: 200-250 µm

THEVA PRO-LINE WIRE – THE ENGINEER’S CHOICE

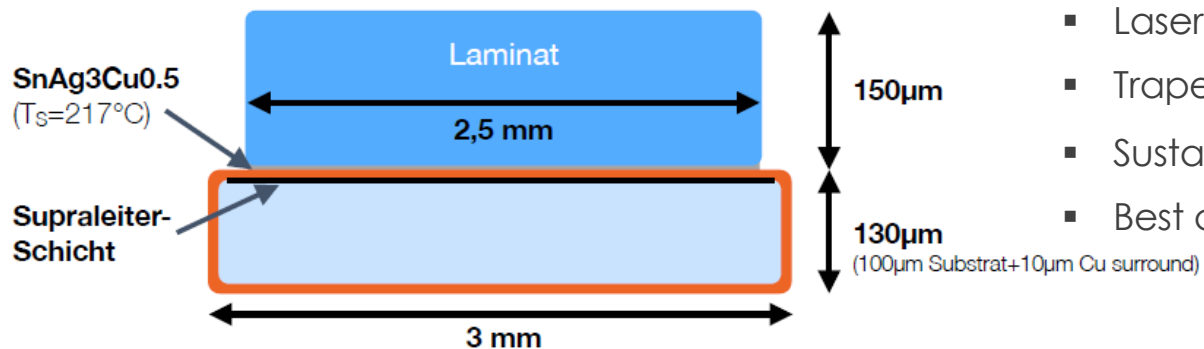
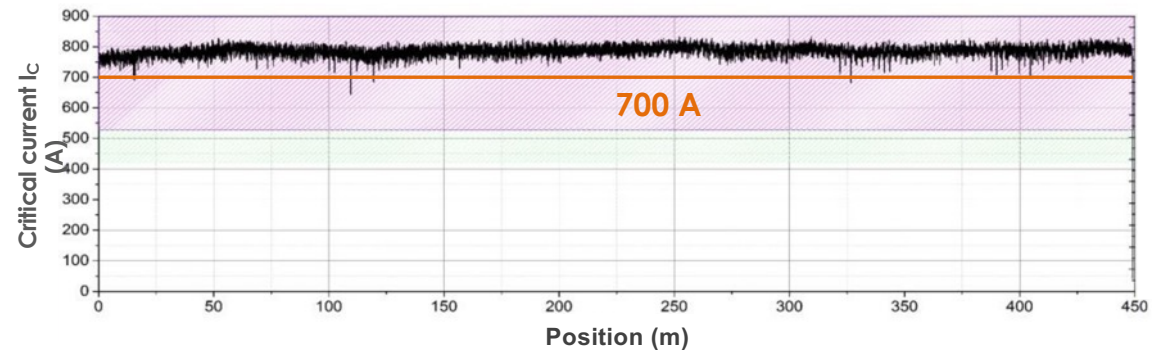
Laminated Tape For Cables

Regular standard production wire

$I_{C,min}$ (77K, s.f.) = 600 A – 700 A

Piece length: 150 m – 400 m

Robust, single-sided Cu lamination

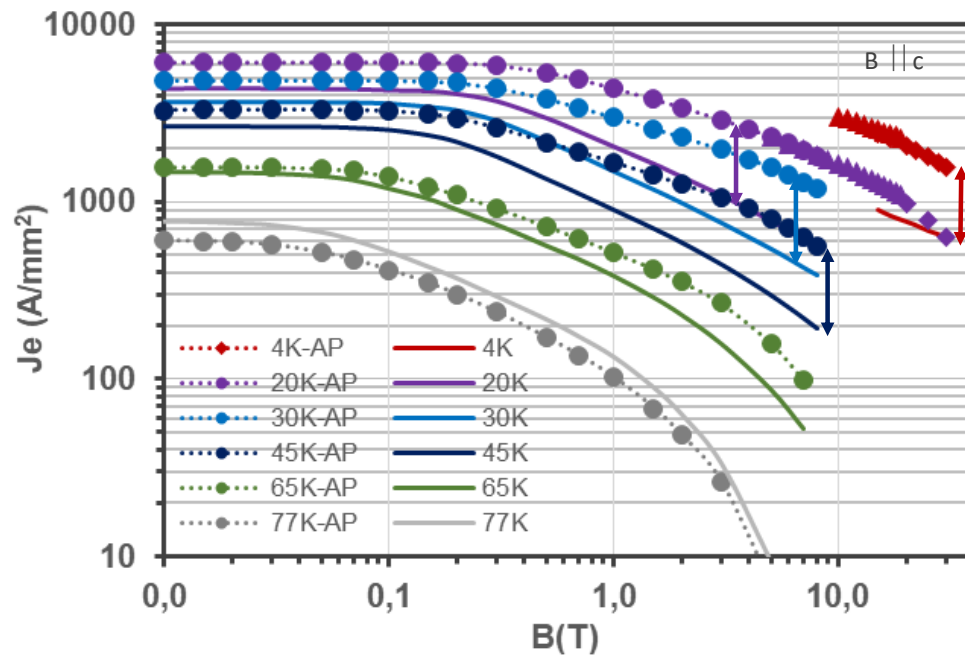


Optimized for cables with low AC-Loss

- Laser-slit: $3 \pm 0,1$ mm width
- Trapezoidal shape to minimize gaps
- Sustain high compressive strain (up to -1,5%)
- Best at lay angles: 30°

AP-ReBCO WIRE FOR ULTR HIGH FIELD MAGNETS

Field dependence of ReBCO-wire (+ BaHfO₃)



Below 50 K: $I_c(B)$ improvement by factor 2.5

THEVA Pro-Line AP wire performance

Current density for $B \parallel c$ of total 70 μm thick tape (50 μm substrate and 10 μm surround Cu coating)

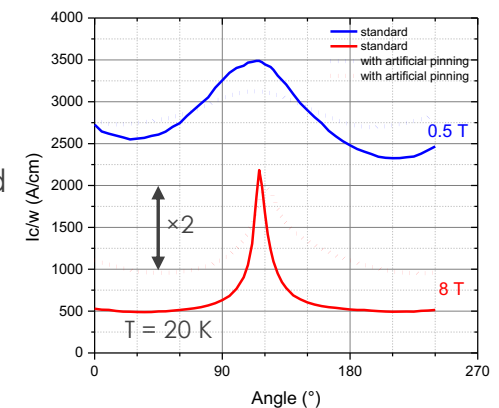
- 10 T: 3000 A/mm²
- 20 T: 2000 A/mm²
- 30 T: 1550 A/mm²

@ 4.2 K

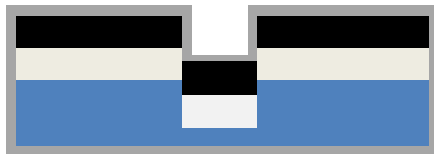
@ 20 K, 20 T: 800 - 900 A/mm²

Reduced anisotropy

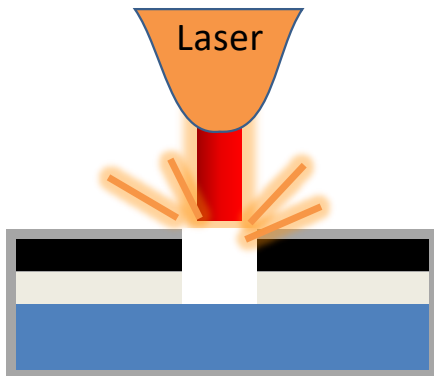
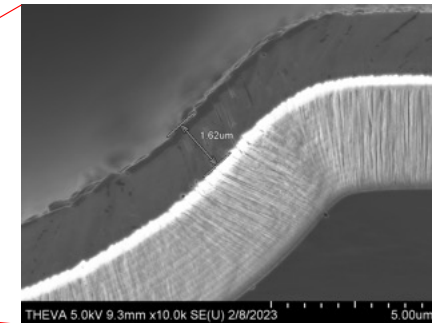
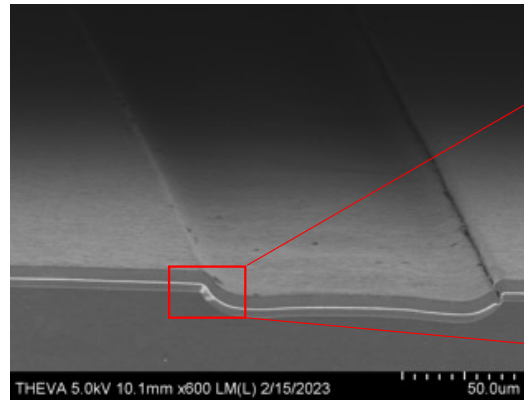
- AP randomly dispersed
- no columnar growth



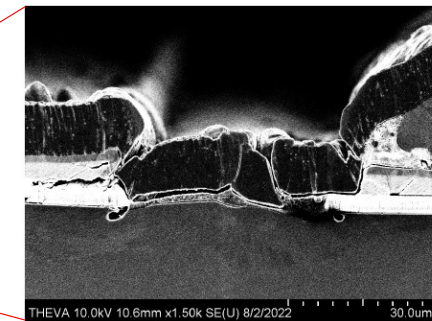
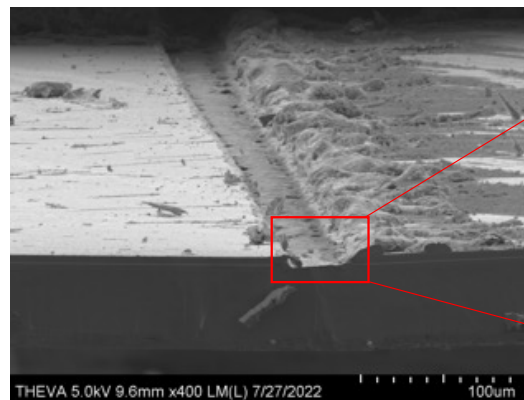
DEVELOPMENT: FILAMENTIZED TAPE



Bottom-up: Deposition on chemically etched substrate



Top-down: Laser-scribing



APPLICATIONS

COST-EFFECTIVE COMMERCIAL COILS (LOW FIELD MAGNET < 3T)

Optimization at multiple fronts

Cryogenics

- Integrated cold bus

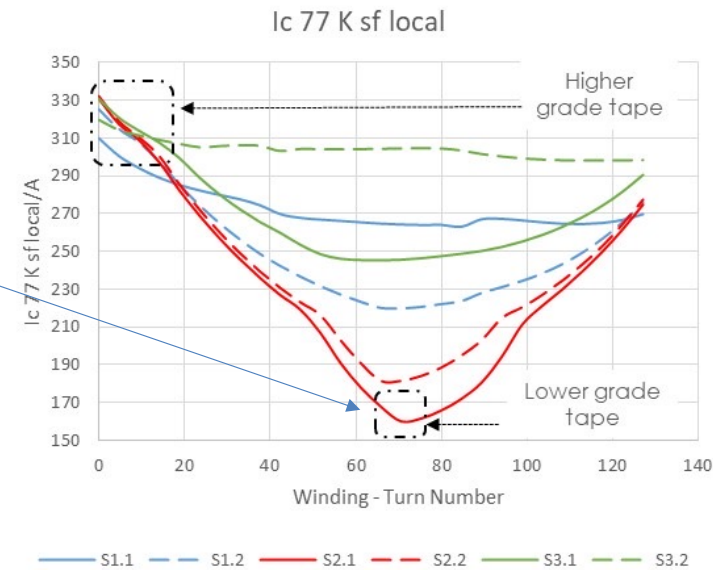
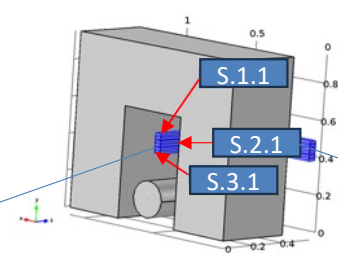
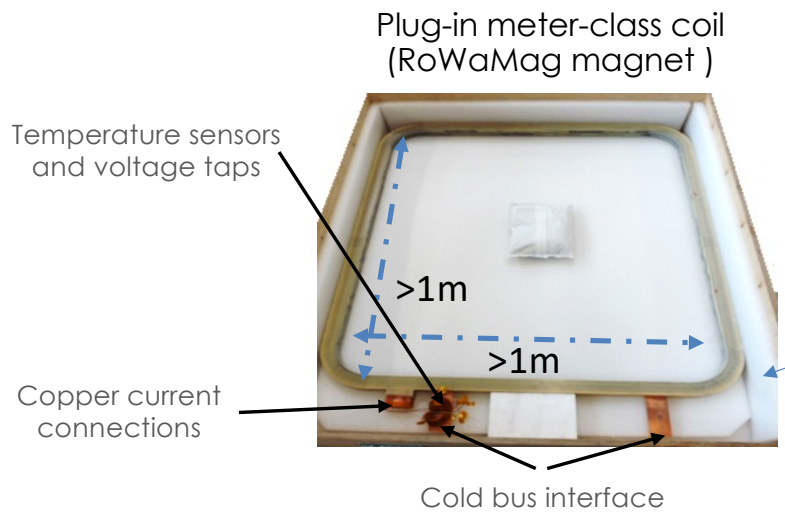
Assembly

- Assembly and maintenance made easier

HTS cost

- HTS tape grade used according to the magnetic field strength

Example: reduction of cost by about 20% for coil S2.1

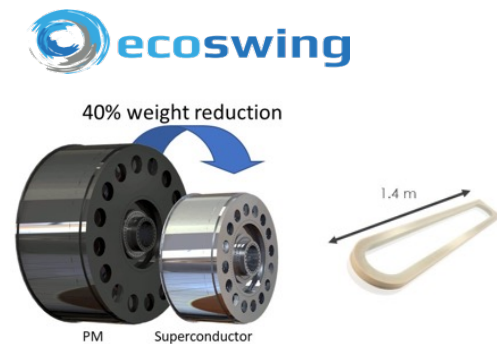


EXAMPLES APPLICATIONS

Industrial and research applications of low field coils <3T

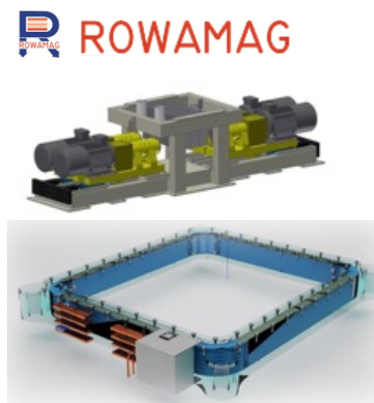
3 MW wind turbine

- 44 coils manufactured
- 650 h of operation at 2-3 MW



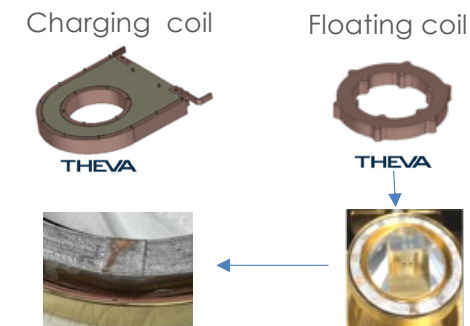
Magnetic heater of 2×300 kW

- Using HTS system can save over 56% of energy use per year
- Pack of 3 meter-sized DP delivered per system



Research & Development

- Single pancake non insulated floating coil with high mechanical robustness and quench resilience
- Inductive charging coil



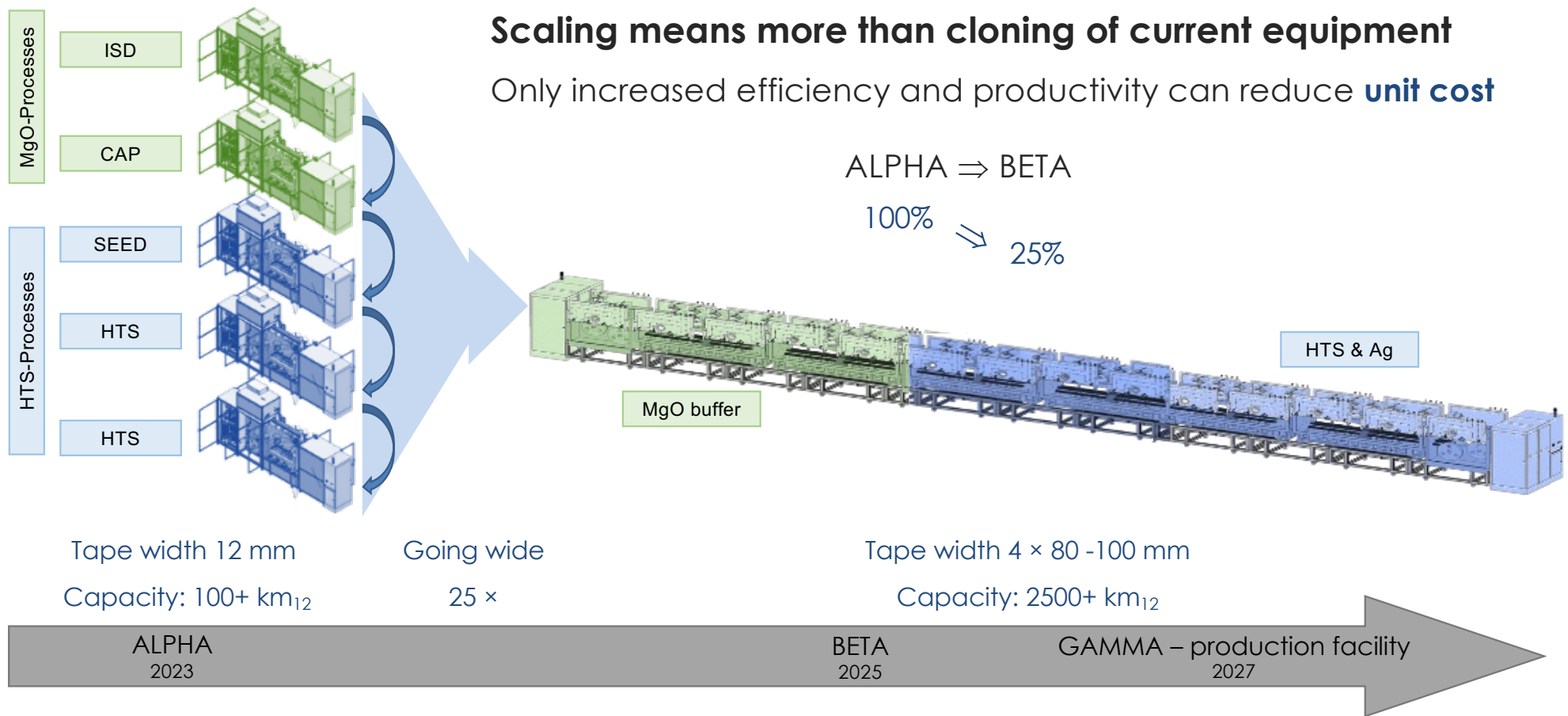
Repeatable low resistance cross joint for a short-circuited single pancake

THEVA HTS TAPE PRODUCTION

FUTURE: PRODUCTION SCALING

Scaling means more than cloning of current equipment

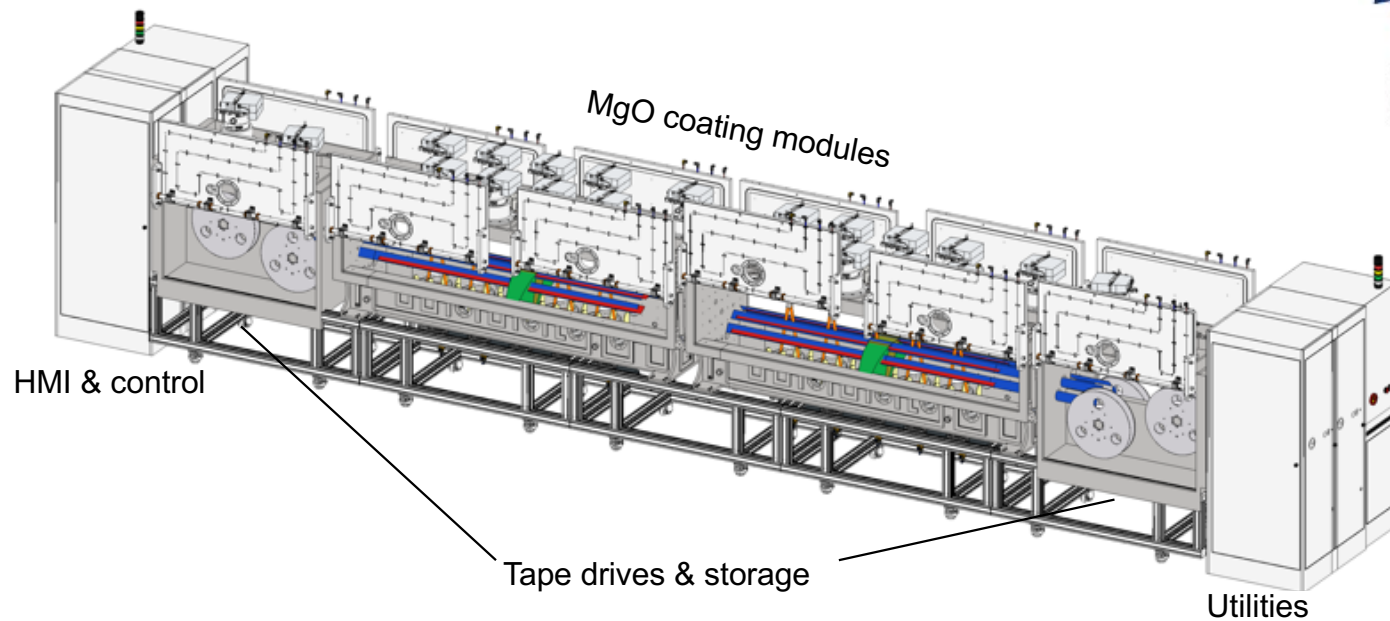
Only increased efficiency and productivity can reduce **unit cost**



PREREQUISITES FOR TRUE SCALING

Scalability requires low complexity and modularity

- Inline arrangement of a large number of inexpensive sources (e-guns)
- High deposition rate, continuous operation, long service life
- Wide tapes covering large angle, straight transport – simple mechanics



NOT TRIVIAL: SMART CUSTOMIZATION & AUXILIARY PROCESSES

Scaling and automatization of PVD processes straightforward, but ...

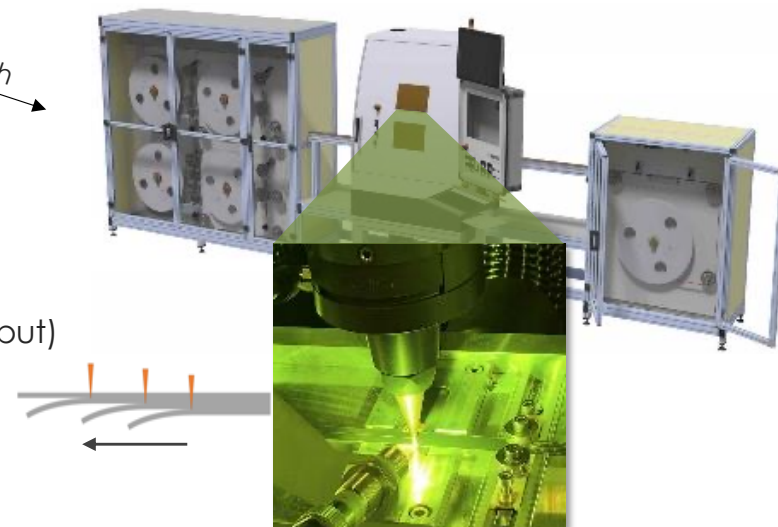
... **customization & logistics are labor-intensive and substantial cost factors**

400 coils (PVD) \Rightarrow 10,000+ coils (customized wire & documentation)

Processes adding cost, but not a single kAm, and require high-yield handling

- Laser slitting (crucial technology)
- Metal surround coating (high speed PVD)
- Corrosion protection
- Lamination
- Insulation
- Quality inspection & marking (high throughput)
- Documentation (RFID, digitalization)
- Storage (warehouse robots)
- Packaging

up to 1200 m/h



OUTLOOK

➤ **Market assessment**

- The market is turning: demand exceeding supply
- Currently: 90% magnet applications (USP “performance”, lowest entry threshold)
- But mid-term: volume markets in electrical power engineering will take over

➤ **Positioning**

- THEVA ProLine wires are qualified for all applications (HFM, cables, drives)
- THEVA is well positioned for the future using truly scalable processes

➤ **Outlook**

- Scalability & cost leadership will make a difference
- Demand & customer commitment will set the pace

Thank you!

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