

# Cogeneration's Rewards and Challenges:

## The University of Calgary Experience



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**Tom Phelps** Principal

Stantec Consulting, Raleigh, NC

[Tom.phelps@stantec.com](mailto:Tom.phelps@stantec.com)

**Keith Altenhof** Chief Engineer

Central Heating and Cooling Plant,  
University of Calgary, Calgary, AB

[kaltenho@ucalgary.ca](mailto:kaltenho@ucalgary.ca)



IDEA – Campus Energy 2016

Austin, Texas

February 10, 2016





# Agenda

**1** Project “Drivers”

**2** Project Implementation

**3** Results & Performance

**4** Challenges & Solutions

**5** Observations & Advice



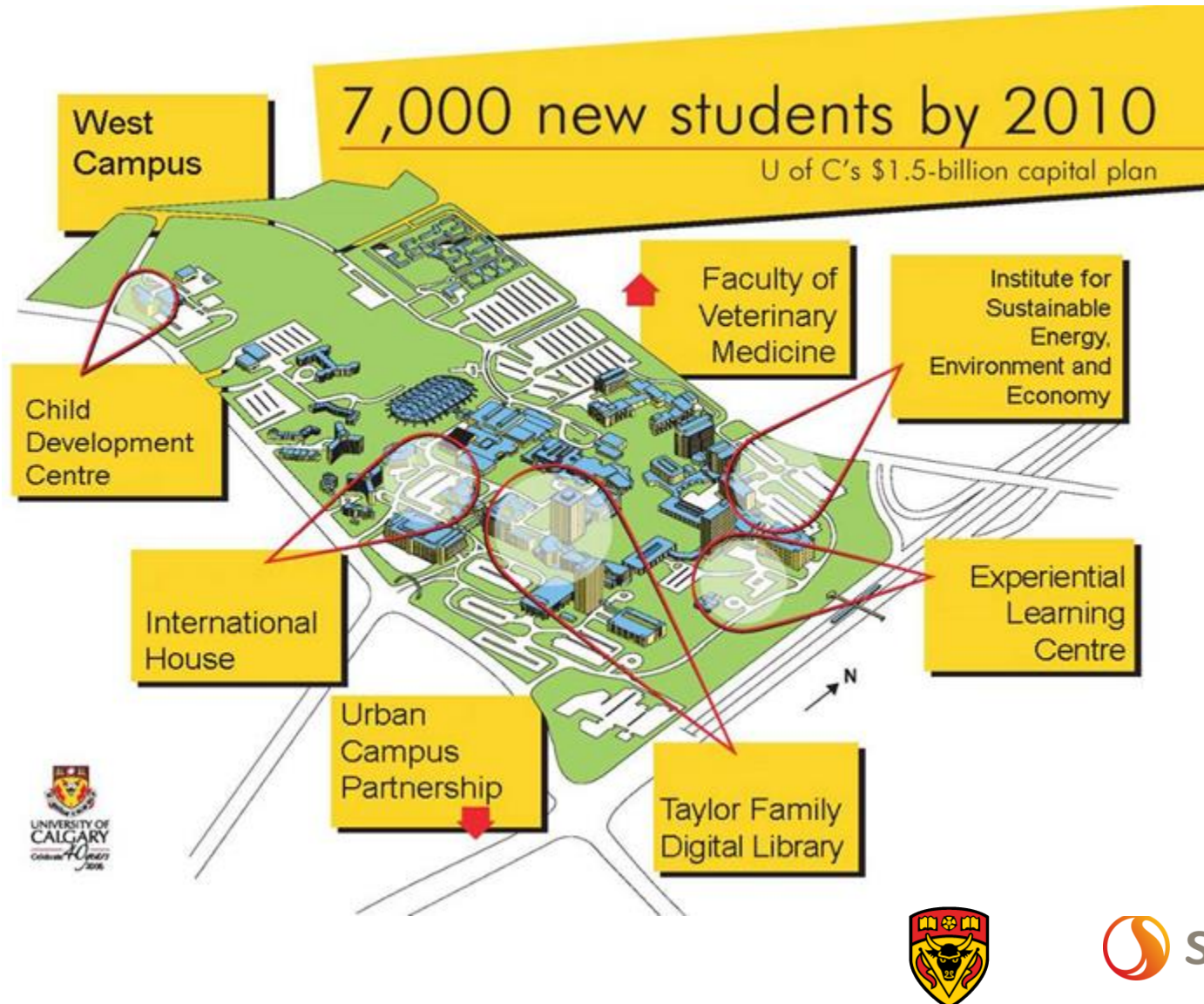
# 1 Project “Drivers”

- ✓ MUST do ‘something’!
- ✓ Alberta Spark Spread



# Project Main Driver:

## 2006 Campus Expansion Plan (\$1.5 billion)





# Campus Today

An aerial photograph of a sprawling university campus. The image shows a dense collection of buildings, including several tall, modern structures and many smaller, older buildings. The campus is interspersed with green spaces, trees with yellow autumn foliage, and large parking lots filled with cars. The overall scene depicts a large, active academic environment.

- 30,000 Students
- 5,000 Staff & Faculty
- 10 million SF buildings
- 24 MW electrical peak
- 200 MMBTU/hr. heating peak
- 8,500 tons cooling peak

# Grid Power vs Natural Gas

	2007	2015	2022	
<b>GAS</b>				
Commodity Charges	\$ 8.00	\$ 3.50	\$ 6.00	
Delivery Charges	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	
<b>\$/GJ &gt;</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$ 5.50</b>	<b>\$ 8.00</b>	
<b>POWER</b>				
Commodity Charges	\$ 70.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 80.00	
Delivery Charges	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 45.00	
<b>\$/MWh &gt;</b>	<b>\$ 90</b>	<b>\$ 70</b>	<b>\$ 125</b>	
<b>"Break Even" (\$/MWh)</b>				
<b>Cogeneration</b>	<b>\$ 72</b>	<b>\$ 54</b>	<b>\$ 64</b>	@ 2,500 \$/kW
Simple Cycle	\$ 120	\$ 76	\$ 101	@ 1,500 \$/kW

@ 4% interest, 20 yrs

**\$1,640,000**

**Net Annual Savings 2015 - (13 MW CHP @ 90% capacity factor)**



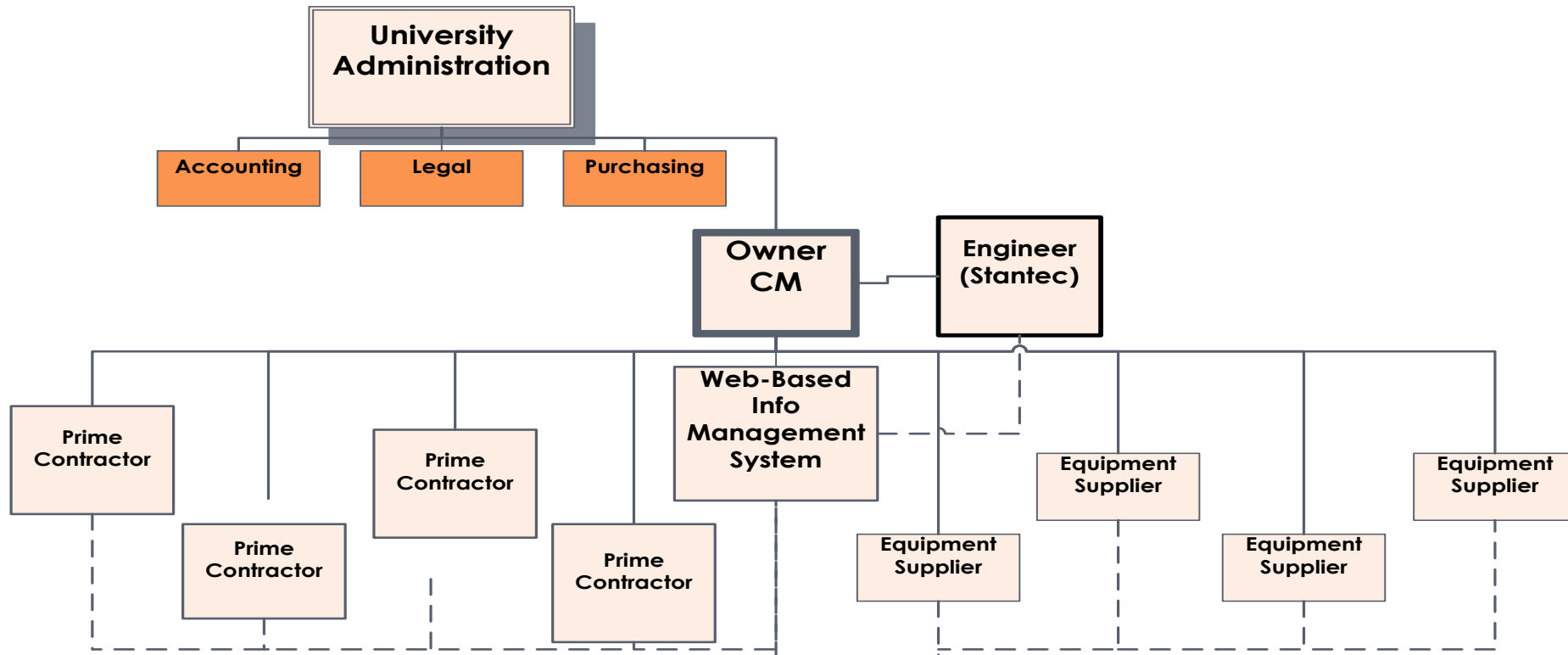
# 2 Project Implementation

Owner as Construction Manager





# Owner as Construction Manager



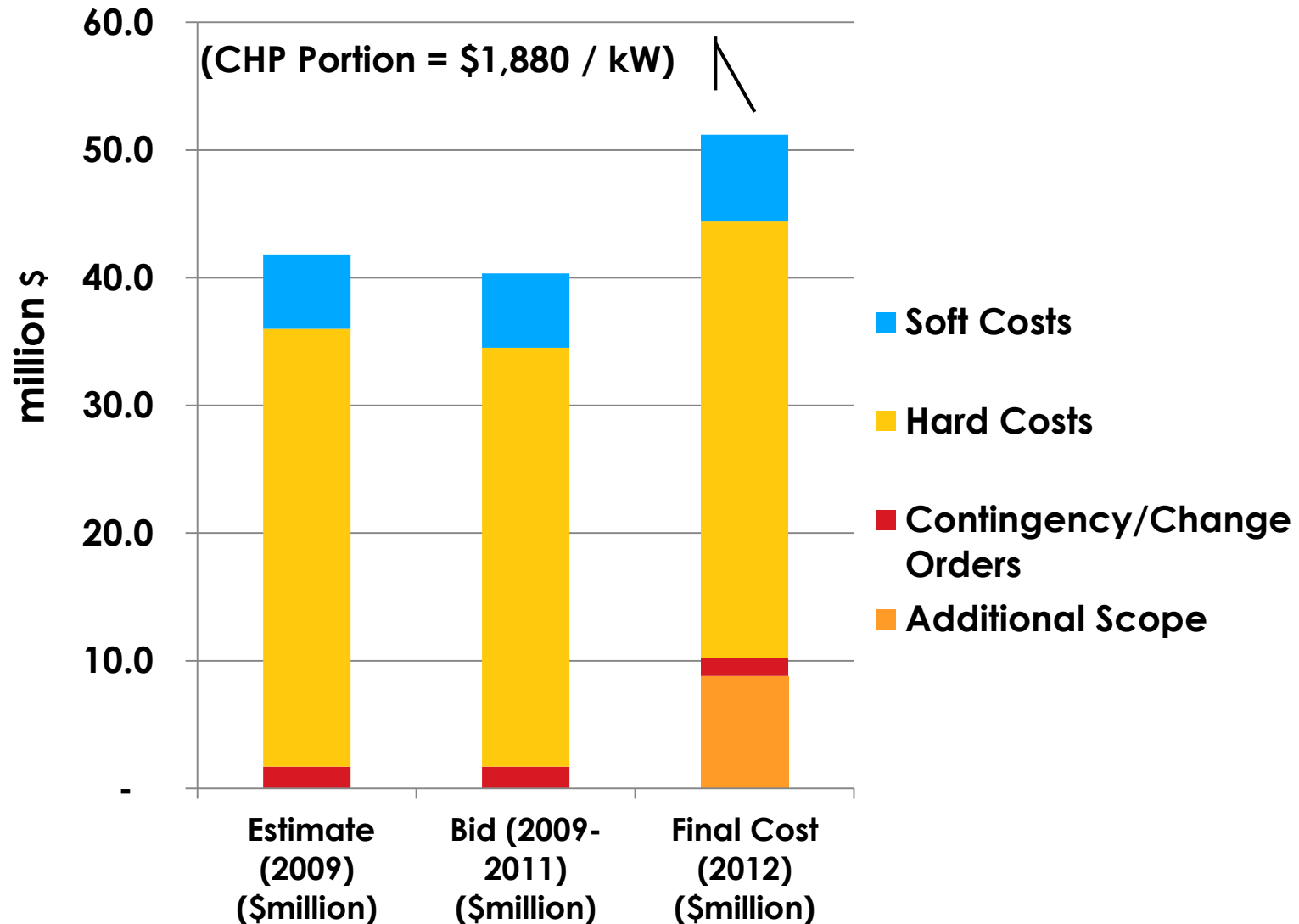
- ✓ Substantial Completion **On Schedule**  
(commercial operation delayed 6 months)
- ✓ Project Cost **Under Budget** (Scope was Expanded to Budget Limit)
- ✓ **No Major Disputes** (all were settled in the course of the work)
- ✓ University **happy with Results**



# 3 Results and Performance



# Results – Project Cost



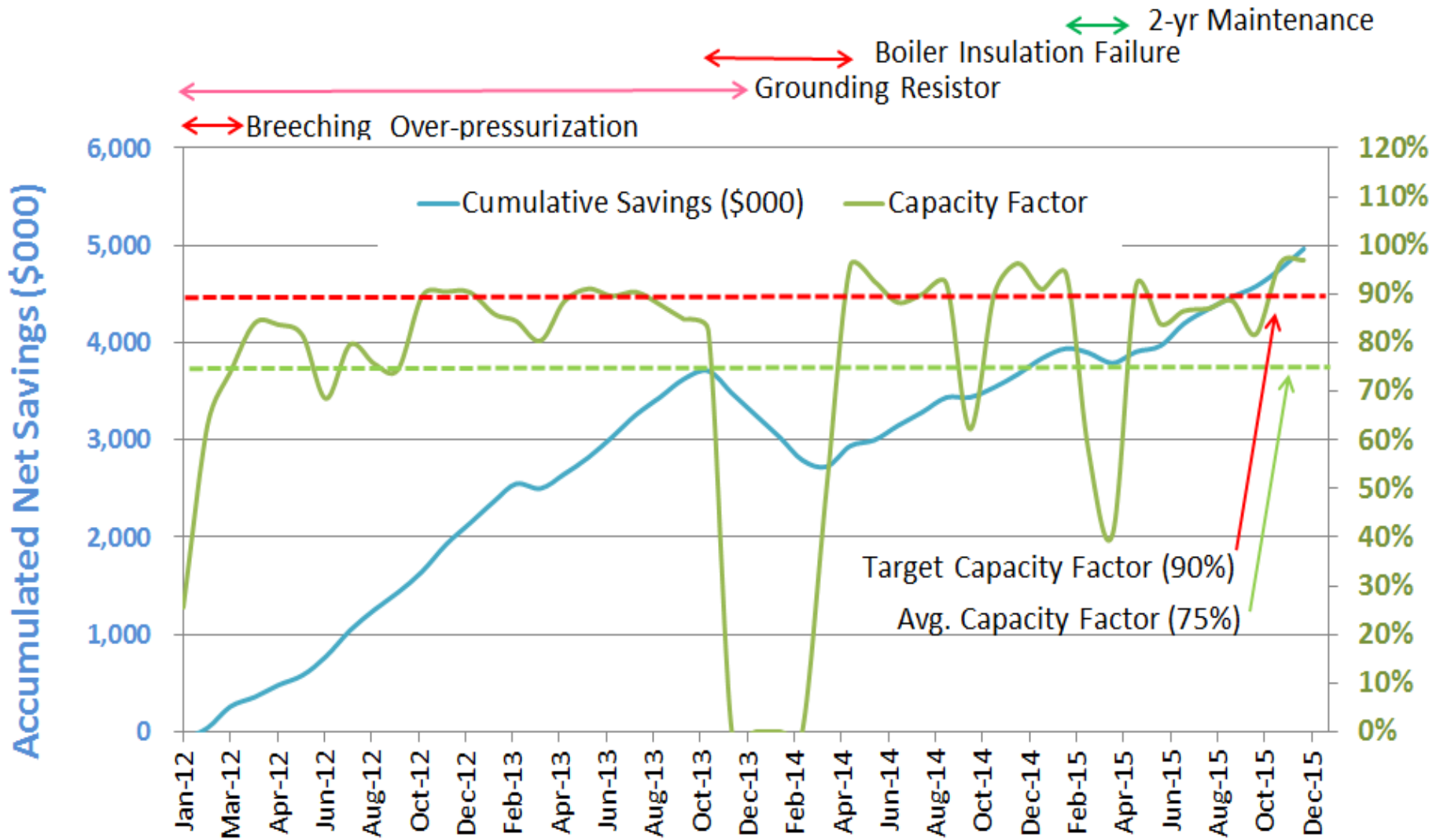


# Results - Financial Performance

- ✓ **3 – year avg. Capacity Factor:** **75%**  
(Target Capacity Factor: 90%)
- ✓ **3 – year Operating Savings:** **\$12.3 million**
- ✓ **3 – year Net Savings (Profit):** **\$5.0 million**
- ✓ **CHP System Cost:** **\$25.0 million**  
(Total Project Cost: \$50.0 million)



# Results - Operating Performance



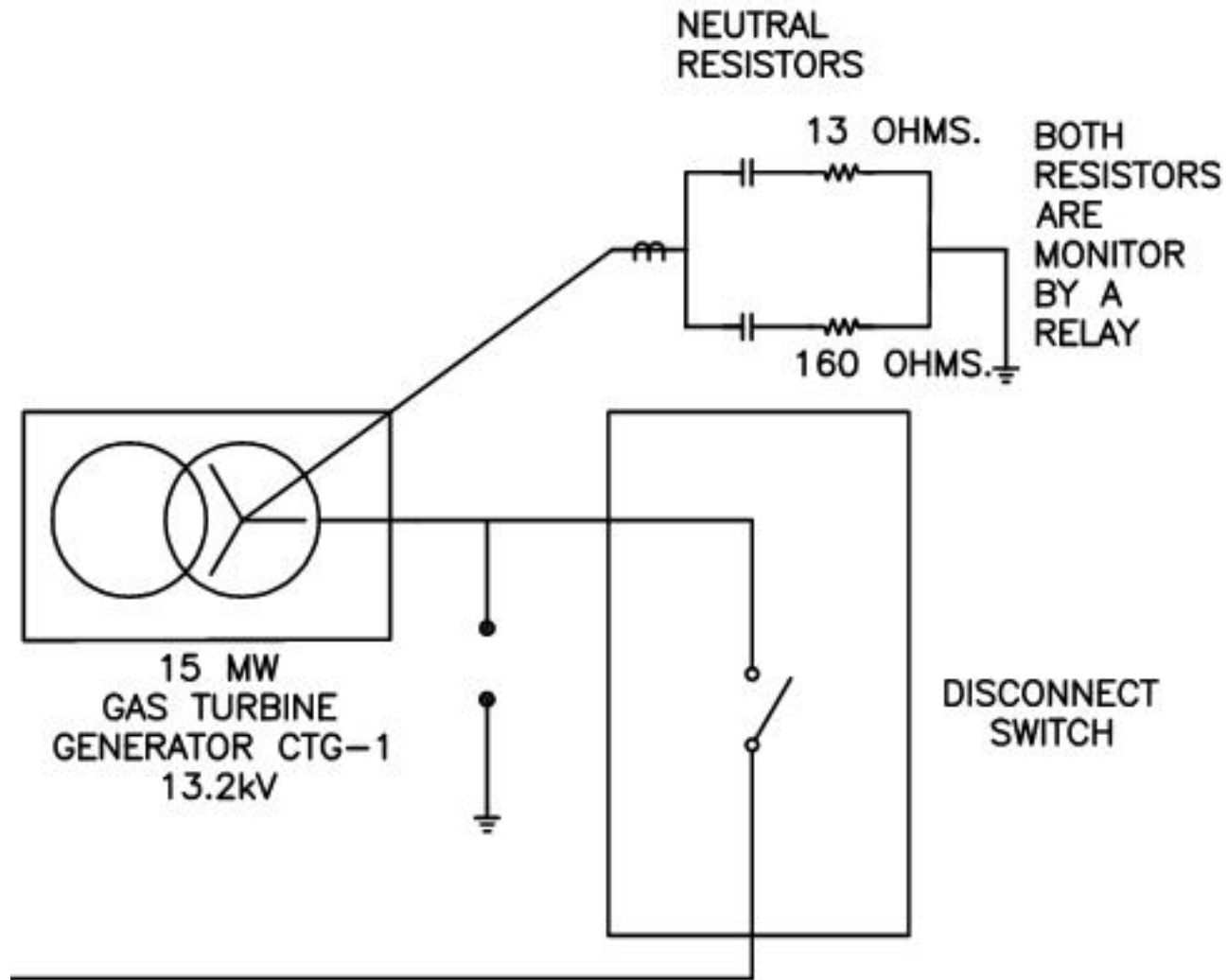
# 4 Challenges and Solutions

- ❖ High Neutral Currents (Harmonics)
- ❖ Breeching Bypass Failure
- ❖ Boiler Tube Failure
- ❖ Boiler Insulation Failures
- ❖ Control issues, doing it right the first time





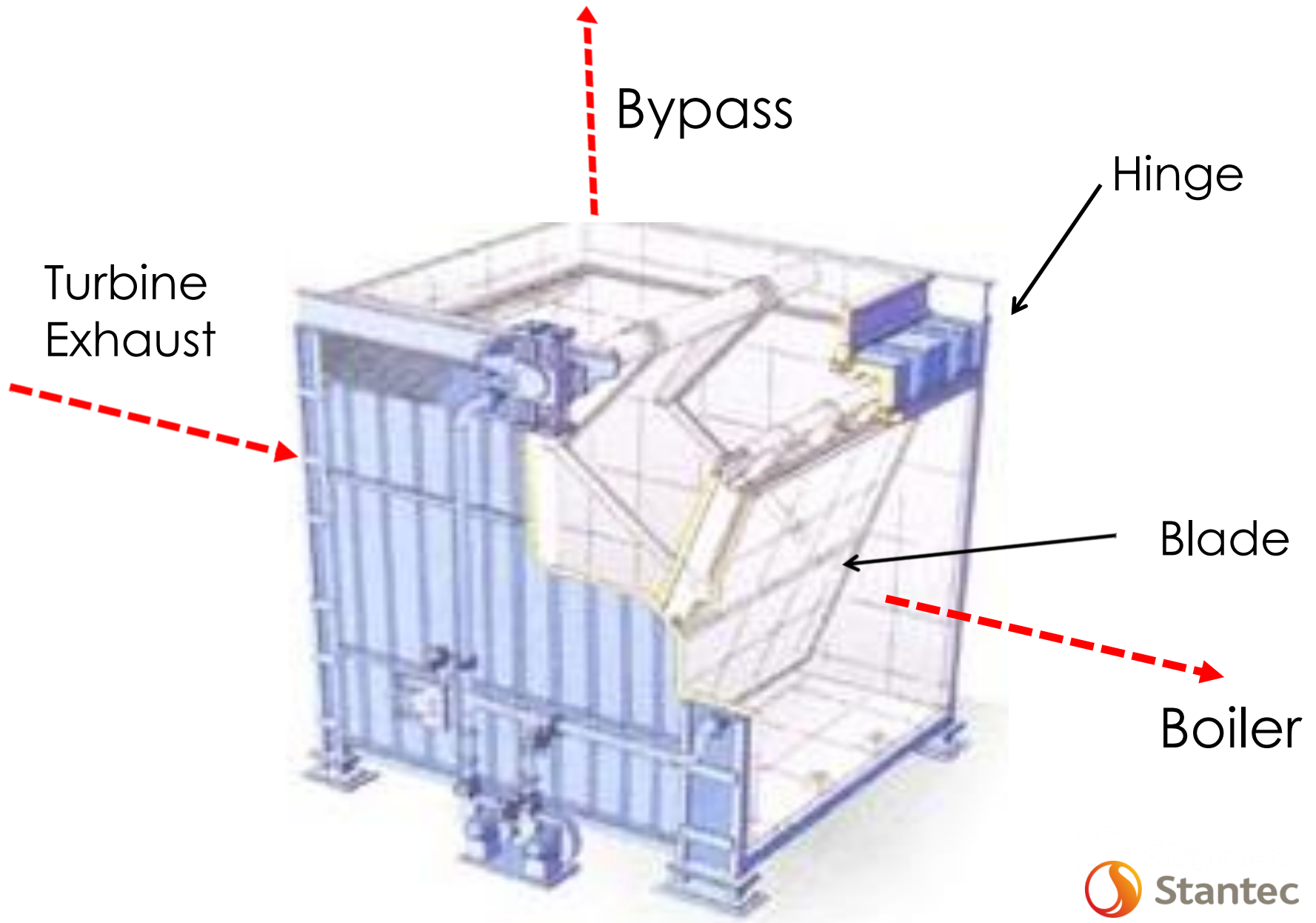
# High Neutral Current – (Harmonics)



# Breeching Bypass Failure – Post View

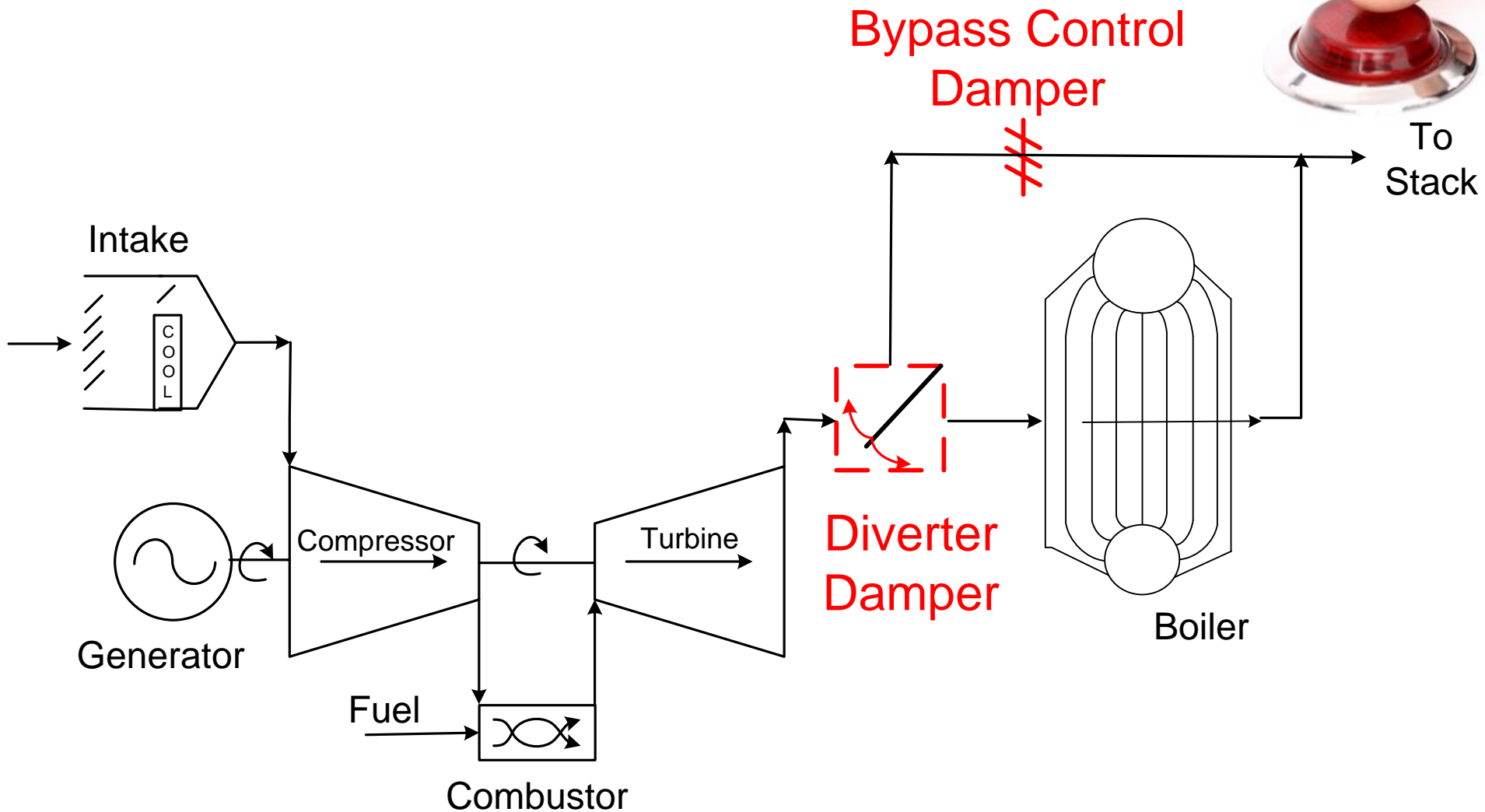


# Bypass Failure – What Caused it?





# Bypass Failure – What Caused it?



# Boiler Tube Failure

1 year after start-up – warped baffle hitting tube



# Boiler Tube Failure

Repair appeared straightforward (at first)

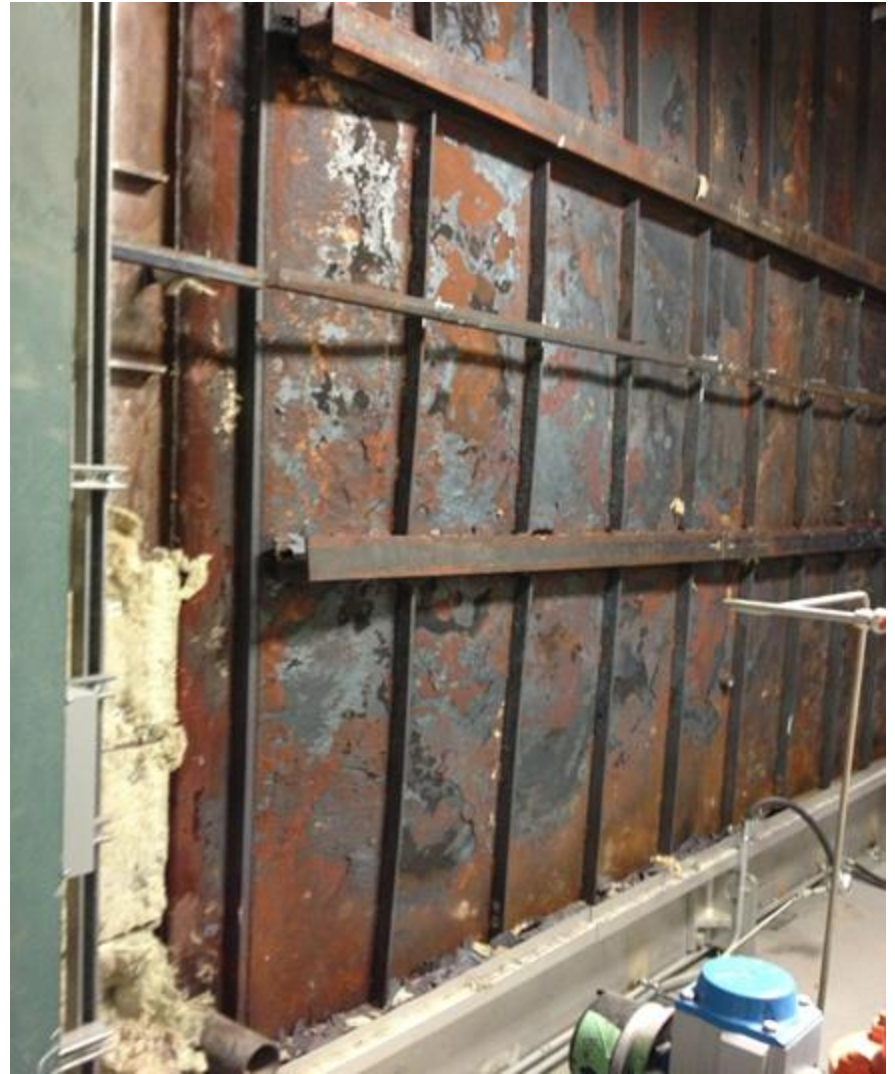


- Grooves were cut in tube by U-bolts holding the acoustic baffle.
- The entire bottom tube of the header was removed and re-installed.
- Baffle supported by new angle, but U-Bolts hold the baffle further up the tube bank.





# Boiler Insulation Failure - (2 years in)

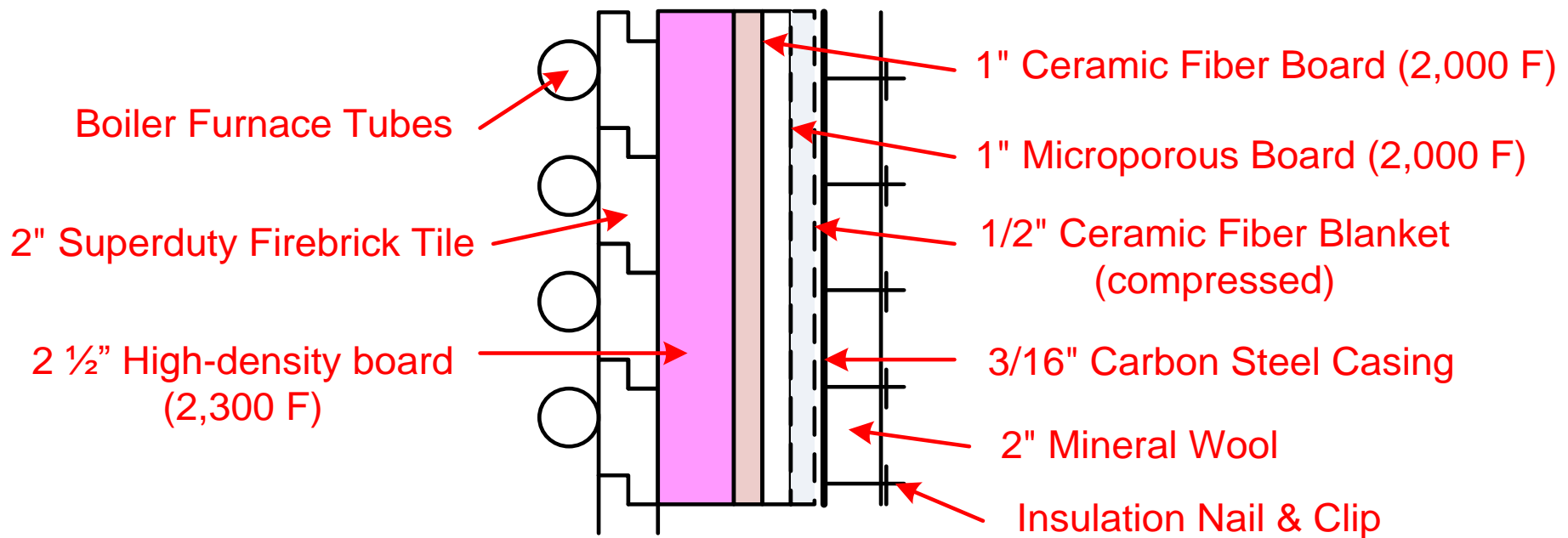




# Boiler Insulation Failure

Insulation board exposed to turbine exhaust could not withstand the hot gas erosion.

The 'fix'



# Controls Issues

- ✓ **Control programming and making everything TALK to each other:** can become a daunting task, especially in the late stages.
- ✓ **The Right Steps Early in the design phase** can have profound cost savings later on in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of project completion.

## You dictate the Control Providers' options:



1. **I have all the logic diagrams** I just need you to program it and make it work.



2. **I have some logic diagrams**, details about the operations and know how everything is supposed to work.



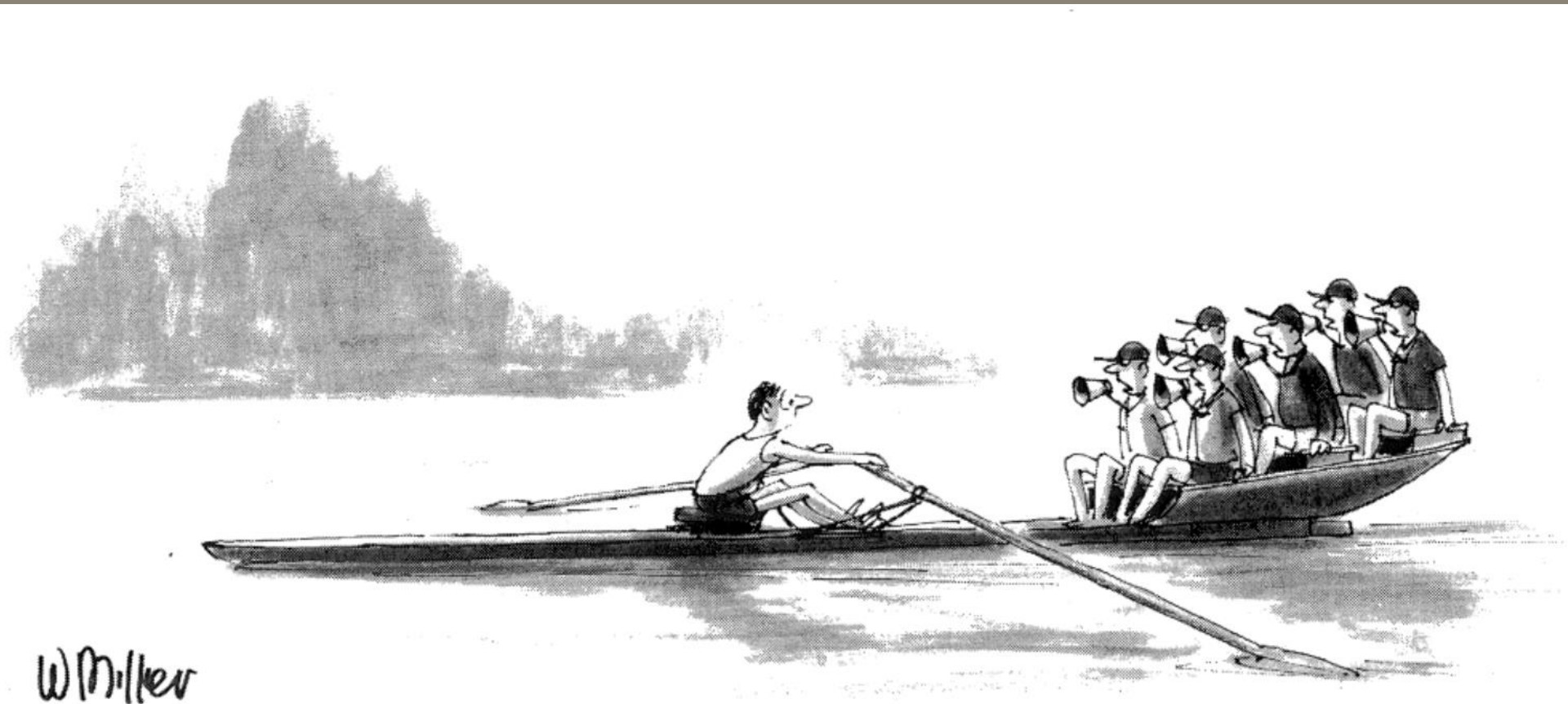
3. **I got some narratives on how it should work, but we need help.**



4. **I don't have a clue** how this is going to work.... **HELP.**



# 5 Observations and Advice



# Observations & Advice

## 1) “Owner as Construction Manager” has advantages and drawbacks:

- + Cost & Schedule Control
- + Cost savings
- + Shorter Operator Learning Curve
- +/- More Risk (and Reward)
- Full-Time, Skilled Owner PM Essential
- Good Information Flow & Management Essential



BOTTOM LINE: **Recommend it!**

## 2) Electrical “Harmonics”

BOTTOM LINE: **Higher Cost of Isolation Transformer (probably) Worth It**





# Observations & Advice

## 3) Control System Design

BOTTOM LINE:

**Spend Time/Money in Design to  
“Work Out the Details”**



## 4) Start-up and Commissioning

BOTTOM LINE:

**Provide Enough Time**

## 5) “Bugs”

BOTTOM LINE:

**Deal with it CONSTRUCTIVELY**





# Questions?

