

AN INNOVATIVE REVAMP CONCEPT FOR UNLOCKING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND BOOSTING CAPACITY



Ahmed Shams
Robert Rozek

AGENDA

01

INTRODUCTION

02

DRIVERS, CHALLENGES AND GOALS
FOR UREA REVAMP

03

REVAMPING STAMICARBON PLANTS
USING ULE CONCEPT

04

MAIN FEATURES AND ORIENTATION OF
ULE CARBMATE CONDENSER

05

SAFETY EVALUATIONS

06

CONCLUSION AND WRAP-UP

01



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

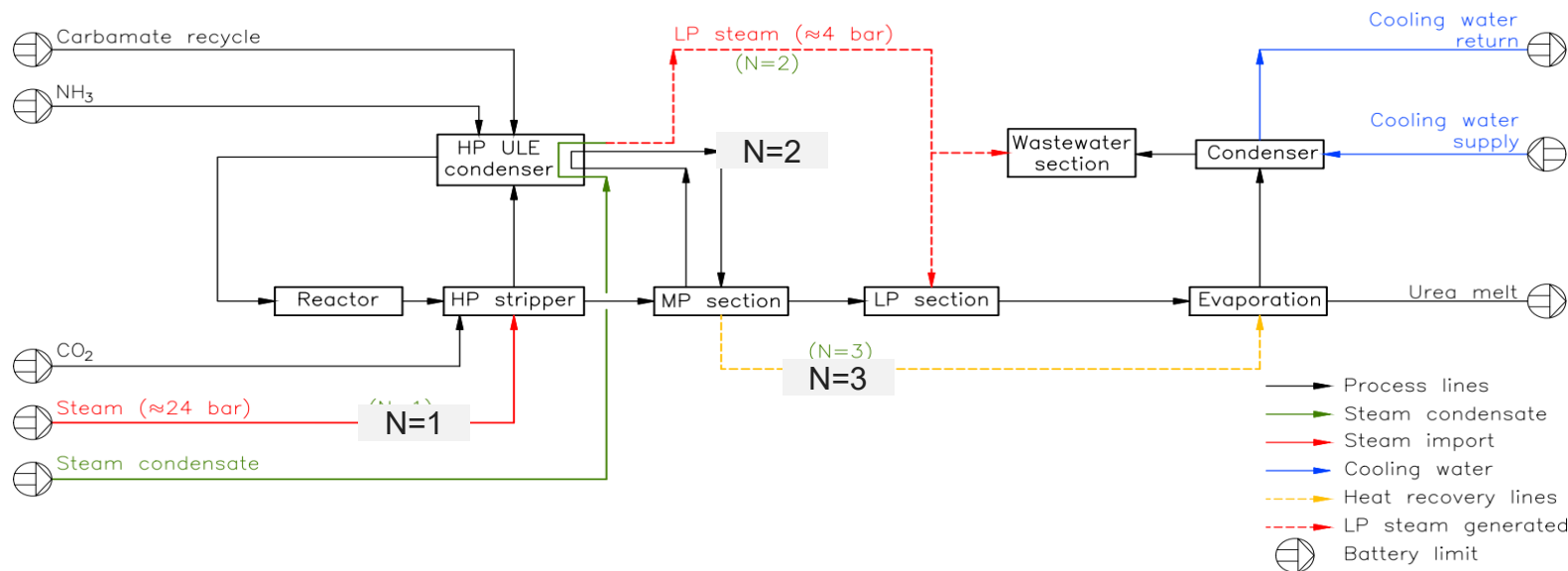
INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

- Global trend to lower carbon footprint within competitive CAPEX and OPEX constraints.
- New innovative energy-saving technologies By Stamicarbon for energy efficient operation, within emission standards.
- Successful implementation of low-energy concepts for grassroots plants such as: MP Adiabatic Flash concept and Ultra-low energy (ULE) concept.
- ULE is based on 3 times usage of heat in the urea plant (N=3)



N=1 : HP steam from BL

N=2: Double bundle In ULE

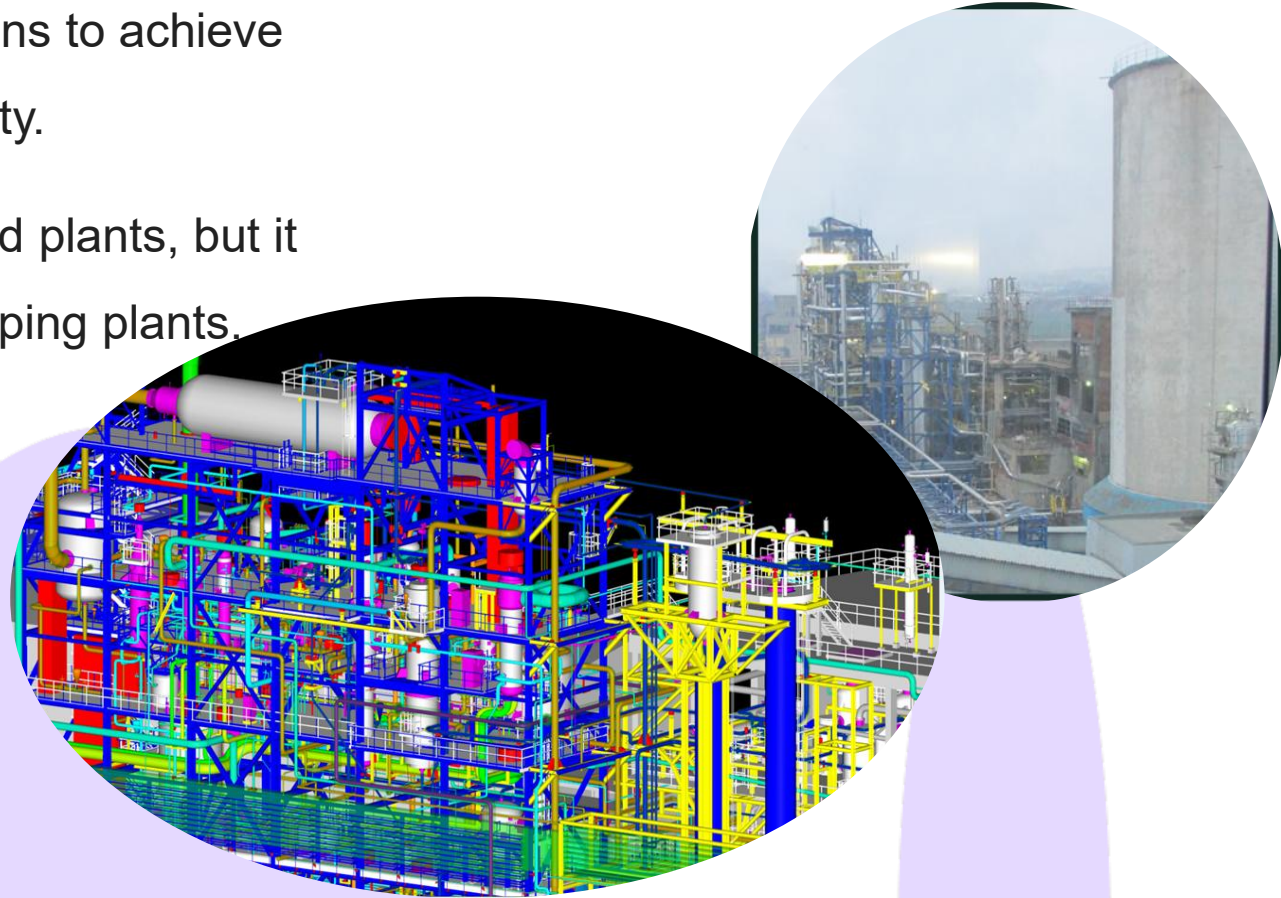
N=3 Use heat from MP section in concentrating solution in evaporation section

INTRODUCTION

- Stamicarbon has successfully completed over 110 revamp projects (different concepts).
- Now ULE concept developed for revamp applications to achieve clients' goals for higher sustainability and profitability.
- ULE concept is not limited to Stamicarbon-designed plants, but it can be effectively applied to non-Stamicarbon stripping plants.



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



02



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

DRIVERS & CHALLENGES

DRIVERS OF REVAMPING UREA PLANTS



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

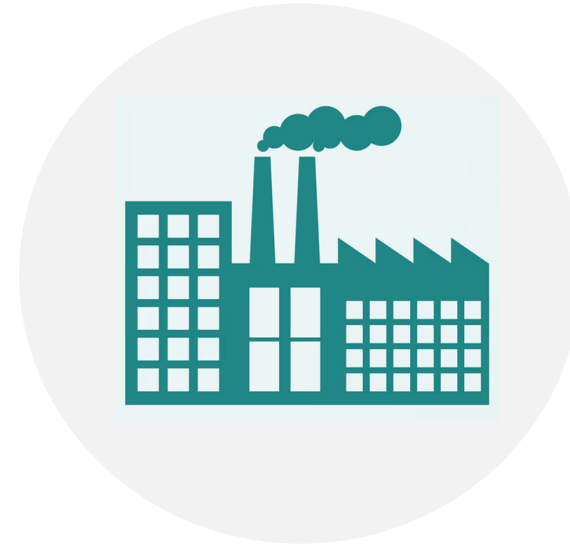
Capacity expansion
(enabled by feedstock and
utility availability)



Product diversification
(e.g. DEF, UAN, TGU,
etc.)



Energy consumption
reduction



Market competition



Compliance with
environmental regulations



Safety enhancement



WORK SAFETY

Replacement of aging or
obsolete equipment



CHALLENGES OF REVAMPING UREA PLANTS



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



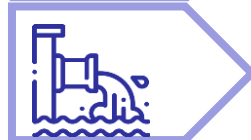
Increased energy consumption in case of capacity increase



Higher synthesis load



Size limitations and lifetime of HP equipment



Higher load on LP recirculation, evaporation and wastewater sections after increasing the plant capacity



Higher cooling water demand after revamp



Layout and footprint constraints



Extended downtime during revamp execution

03



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

GOALS

GOALS OF ULE AS A REVAMPING TOOL

Steam Savings

up to **30% reduction** in consumption

Capacity increase:

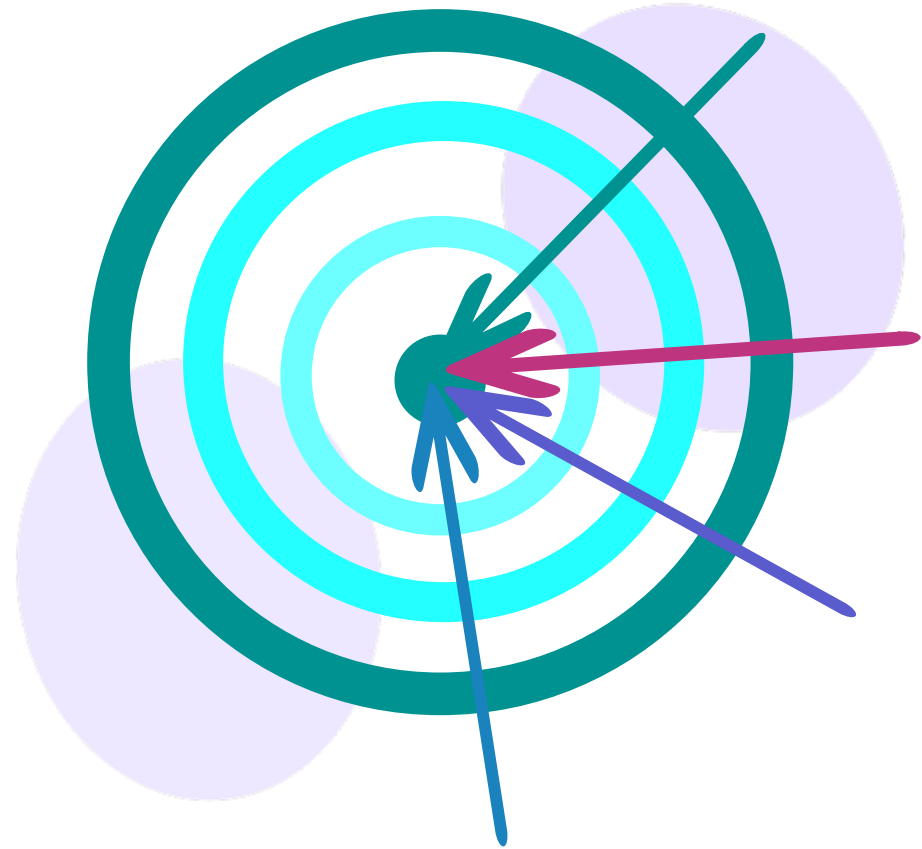
10% - 45% compared to the pre-revamp baseline

Cooling Water Optimization:

minimize specific cooling water usage through smart heat integration techniques

CAPEX and OPEX Efficiency:

optimized via improved energy integration and system performance



HOW TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



Short downtime

Smart and adaptive design, with simplified implementation via an add-on construction concept (stepwise approach)

Equipment footprint

Compact design ensures smooth integration within existing plant layouts.

Low cooling water

Process-to-process heat integration and steam savings
-> Lower specific cooling water consumption

MP section

New MP section acts as a buffer, stabilizing the LP section.

Heat integration

Efficient process to process heat exchange, for energy saving (steam reduction)

Reaction volume

Additional reaction volume for capacity increase

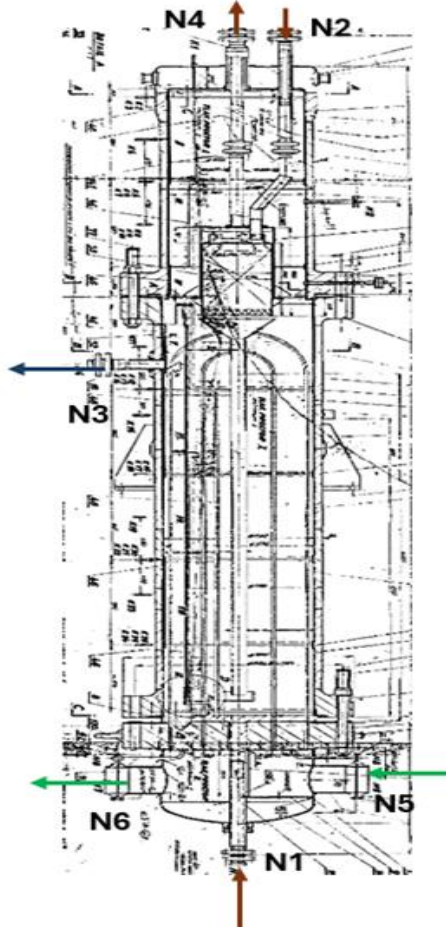


THE FEATURES

FEATURES OF ULE CONDENSER



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



Condenser type

- Special engineered shell-and-tube design featuring U-tubes.
- Submerged type, with incorporated a U-tube bundle an additional volume
- Process to Process (N=3) or process to steam (N=2)
- ULE carbamate condenser is designed for plug flow behavior via special trays in the vertical orientation, or process baffles in horizontal orientation

HP scrubber submerged vertical design applied in the 1970-1980 in Stamicarbon plants

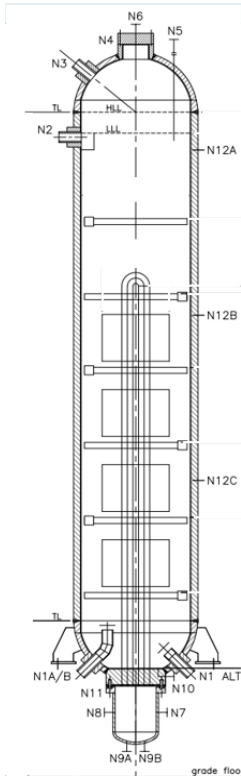
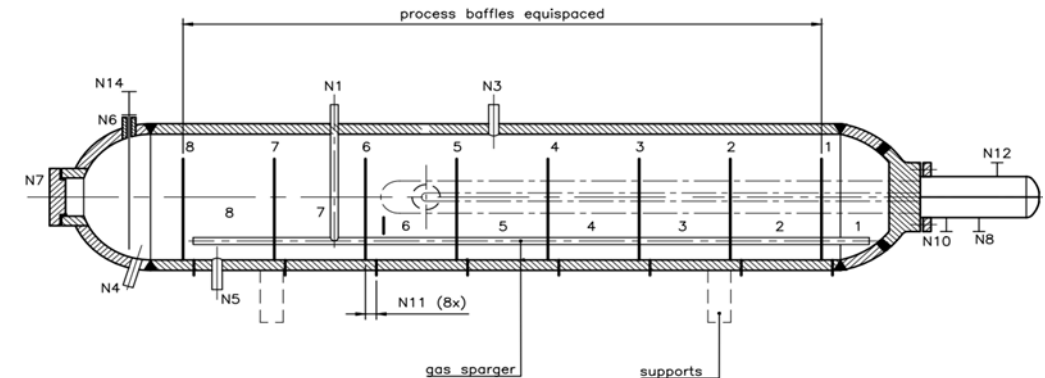
ORIENTATION OF ULE CONDENSER



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

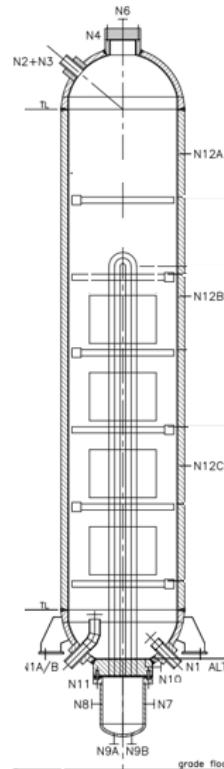
Mechanical considerations:

- Leak Detection System
- Accessibility for maintenance and inspection
- Removability of the trays via manways



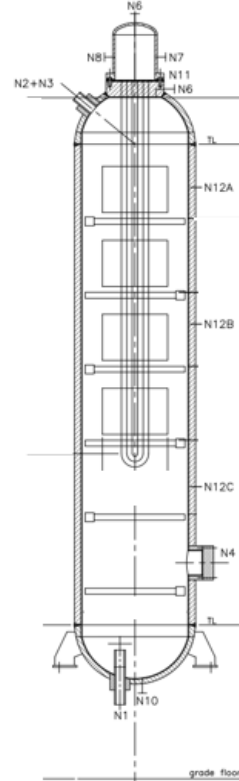
Concept A:

Bottom tube sheet, level measurement at the top.



Concept B:

Bottom tube sheet, fully submerged (no level control)



Concept C:

Top tube sheet at the top, fully submerged (no level control)

Concept D:

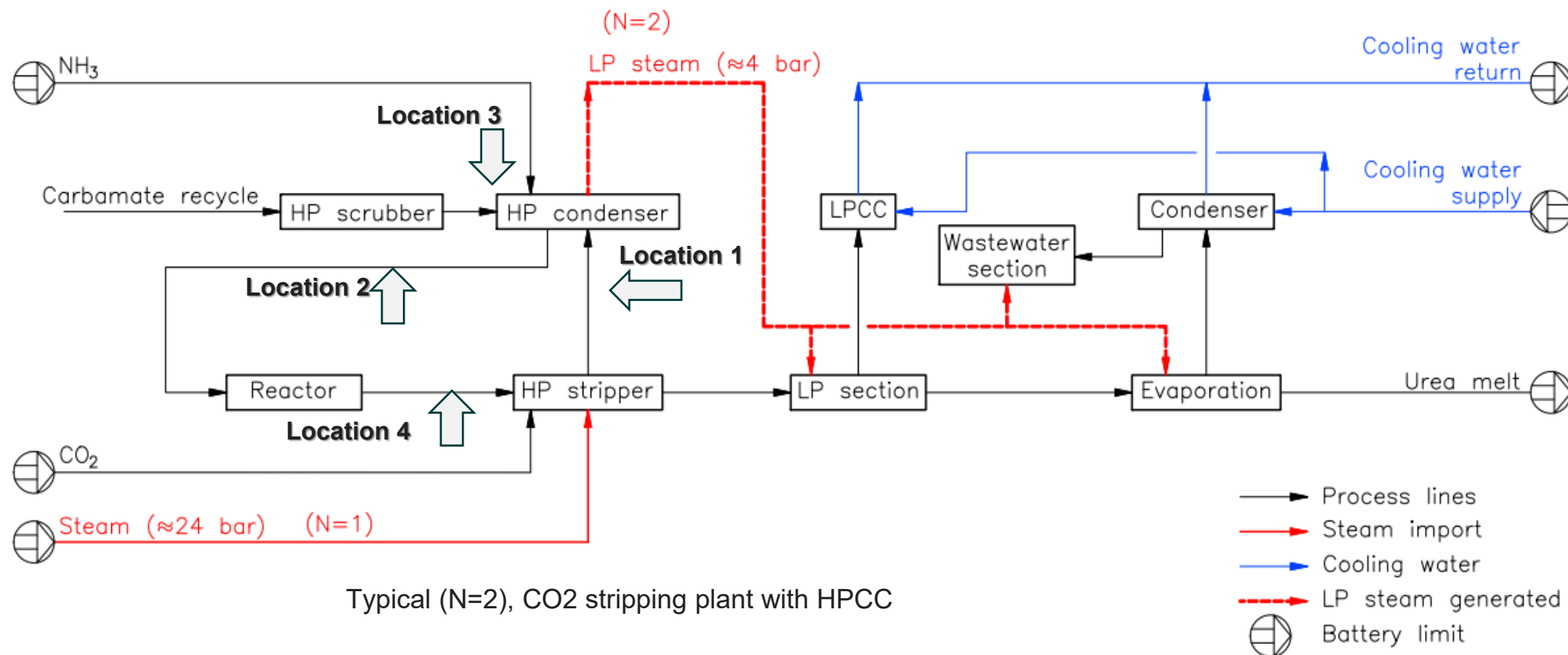
Horizontal layout perfect fit for revamping concepts as applied in the grassroots

BLOCK SCHEME (N=2), BASE CASE



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

Where can the ULE carbamate condenser be located?



Typical (N=2), CO₂ stripping plant with HPCC

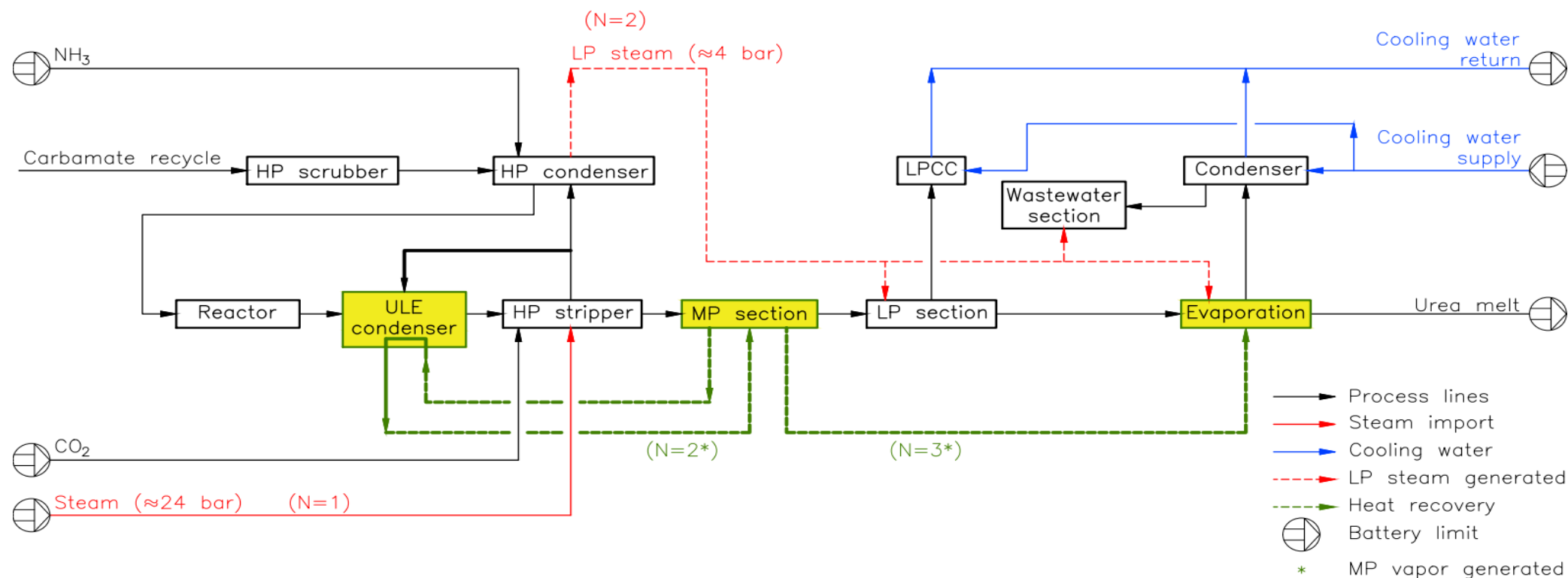
The location is determined by project specifics such as layout and foot-print, licensors, hydraulics, etc.

Each option, regardless its location receives gas either from HP stripper or HP reactor

ULE BLOCK SCHEME (N=3)



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



ULE configuration as a revamping tool, based on location 4 in Stac. plants

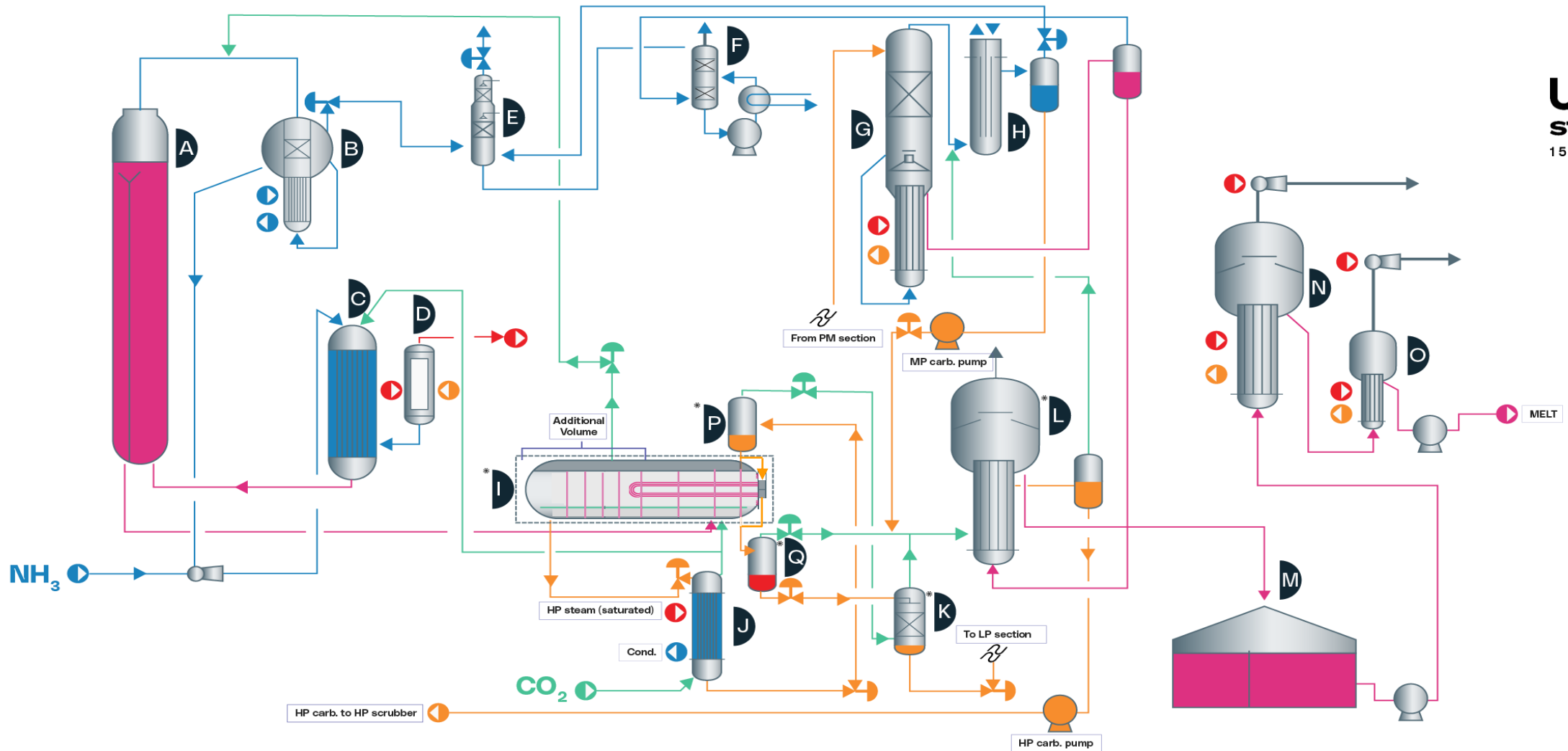
All options meet the revamp objectives, location 4 is prefer from hydraulics point of view in Stamicarbon plants



UNFOLD

STAMICARBON

15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026



- ▶ A | HP reactor
- ▶ B | HP scrubber
- ▶ C | HPCC

- ▶ D | LP steam to consumers
- ▶ E | LP absorber
- ▶ F | Atm. absorber

- ▶ G | LP rectifying column
- ▶ H | LPCC
- ▶ *I | ULE Pool reactor

- ▶ J | Stripper
- ▶ *K | MP Rectify column
- ▶ *L | Pre-evap / MPCC

- ▶ M | Urea solution tank
- ▶ N | 1st stage evap
- ▶ O | 2nd stage evap

- ▶ *P | 1st MP Separator
- ▶ *Q | 2nd MP Separator
- * New equipment after the revamp

05



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

SAFETY

SAFETY EVALUATION



UNFOLD
STAMICARBON
15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

Considerations:

- High level safety evaluation for new safety scenarios leading to CAPEX or safety impact
- Only major scenarios (**risk level* (RL) ≥ 1**) resulting from ULE revamp are considered

HP section:

NO new HP scenario due to ULE

RL 2 scenario for LP section:

High pressure scenario due to connection with new MP section. E.g. tube rupture pre-evaporator
Mitigation actions e.g.: PSV, HP interlocking and manhole with water seals on storage tanks.



MP section:

RL 2 scenario

tube rupture of ULE condenser.

Mitigation actions:

e.g.: PSV, material selection, leak detection of tube sheet

RL 3 scenario

Re-routing outlet valve of HP stripper to MP section (failure open of Level valve of HP stripper).

Mitigation actions e.g.: PSV, HP interlocking and dedicated XPV

*Risk level: a methodology of categorizing the risk based on a risk graph according to their severity and probability for scenarios that lead to LOC (loss of containment). Only major scenarios ($>RL=1$ needs corrective measures)



CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION AND WRAP UP

- Exceptional performance gains by ULE revamp concept as successfully achieved in grassroots: up to 30% steam savings, 45% additional capacity, and reduced OPEX, without compromising safety, quality, or reliability.
- The MP section of the ULE revamp concept acts as a buffer between HP and LP sections, helping stabilize plant performance and enhance controllability.
- Versatile and compatible with Stamicarbon and non-Stamicarbon plants.
- ULE carbamate condenser, an advanced shell-and-tube U-tube heat exchanger, combines highly efficient heat recovery with additional reaction volume.
- ULE design allows vertical or horizontal installation at several potential locations within the synthesis loop, with the optimal configuration tailored to each specific project.
- No adverse safety impact on the existing plant or significant CAPEX requirements are anticipated due to the ULE concept.

THANK YOU



QUESTIONS?



NEXTCHEM

MAIRE Sustainable Technology Solutions

UNFOLD

STAMICARBON

15TH SYMPOSIUM 2026

AND THAT'S A WRAP FOR TODAY!

SEE YOU AT THE NETWORKING DRINKS
IN THE EXHIBITION AREA

