

ADVANCED REACTOR MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP



This Advanced Reactor Materials Development Roadmap provides for a planned coordination of materials development and validation programs to directly address gaps in order to support the near term deployment and progress advanced non-light water reactor designs.

EPRI RESOURCES

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OVERVIEW

Advanced non-light water reactors (ANLWRs or ARs) operate at much higher temperatures than traditional nuclear power plants. Within this new operating regime, design practices now need to account for “time-dependent” behavior in material and component properties and in various coolants. Materials of construction for ARs need to endure mechanical loads and often extreme environmental conditions for prolonged times while withstanding effects of temperature transients, effects of irradiation damage to material properties, and irradiation-induced swelling. To develop this roadmap, EPRI first conducted a series of four AR Materials Gap Analyses, one for each of the major reactor type based on coolant (report numbers and links to free downloads are included below):

- 3002010726: Materials Properties Assessment and Gap Analysis for Molten Salt Reactors | <https://www.epri.com/research/products/0000000030020107260>
- 3002016949: Materials Properties Assessment and Gap Analysis for Sodium-Cooled Fast Reactors | <https://www.epri.com/research/products/000000003002016949>
- 3002015815: Materials Properties Assessment and Gap Analysis for Very High Temperature Reactors and Gas-Cooled Fast Reactors | <https://www.epri.com/research/products/000000003002015815>
- 3002016950: Materials Properties Assessment and Gap Analysis for Lead-cooled Fast Reactors | <https://www.epri.com/research/products/000000003002016950>

The four reports identify key material property gaps that must be filled to support AR designs through literature reviews and industry survey on material science related knowledge. Providing a summary table of material gaps for each reactor type, these four crucial reports led to the first revision of this roadmap. It should be noted this roadmap is intended to be a living document; updated and prioritized based on the needs of the nuclear industry as advancements in material development, material science knowledge and data compilation are made.

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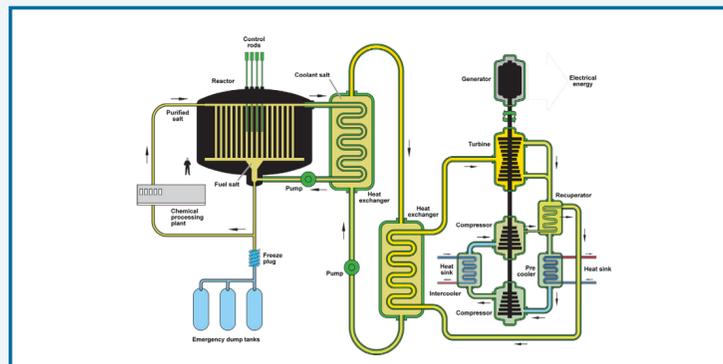
MOLTEN SALT REACTORS

HIGH TEMP GAS & GAS FAST REACTORS

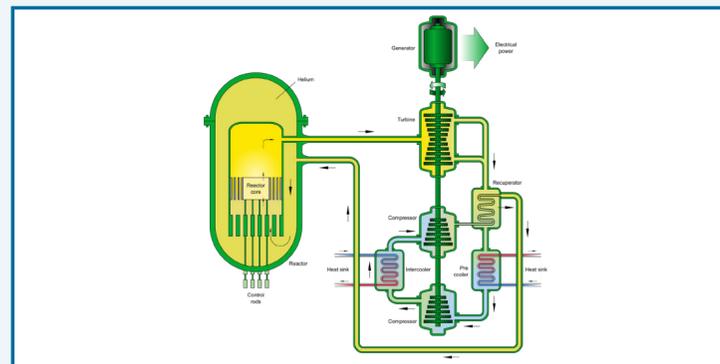
SODIUM FAST REACTORS

LEAD-COOLED REACTORS

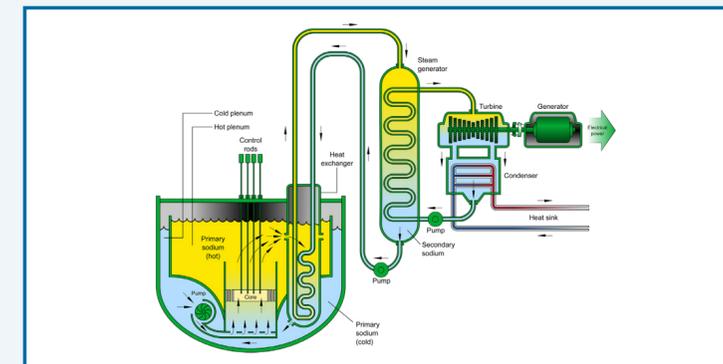
MAJOR REACTOR TYPES



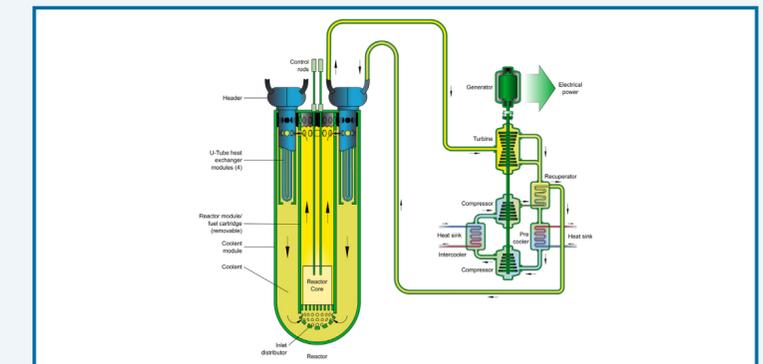
MOLTEN SALT REACTORS



HIGH TEMP GAS REACTORS & GAS-COOLED FAST REACTORS



SODIUM FAST REACTORS



LEAD FAST REACTORS & HIGH TEMPERATURE LEAD REACTORS

Above images courtesy US Department of Energy Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee, Generation IV Roadmap.

IMPLEMENTATION

EPRI's AR Materials Development Initiative is focused on addressing the gaps and closure activities laid out within this roadmap. This roadmap was established to help align efforts to more efficiently address the key obstacles that the nuclear power industry must address to facilitate widespread and timely deployment of ARs. Initial focus is on development of code required material properties to support initial deployment followed closely by capture of longer term response to neutron irradiation and in prototypic environments.

EPRI, AR developers, research organizations and government entities can use this work to help prioritize essential projects and establish new material development and qualification methods. This roadmap is intended to be a living document updated based

on industry feedback as roadmap tasks are completed, material advancements are achieved, and improved designs are developed.

LAYOUT AND INSTRUCTIONS

This Advanced Reactor Materials Development Roadmap is an interactive PDF document with internal links to specific sections and pages of this document. The AR Material data gaps are organized by both reactor type and material type, as some materials and tasks will address needs for multiple reactor types. The gaps are also arranged and sorted in a visual roadmap timeline for addressing each need. To quickly jump to a specific section, material, or gap, use the navigation buttons at the top of each page. Within each page, additional details or granularity can be found by clicking or hovering over specific gaps or materials.

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Material R&D Gaps

| COMPONENT | MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Core Support / Structural Materials | 316 and Austenitic Alloys | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of resistance to long-term corrosion in properly controlled salt environment • Time dependent properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 qualification • Demonstration of performance –resistance to EAC (Environmentally Assisted Cracking) –in salt under loading • Development and demonstration of cladding (Mo rich) for protection |
| | Hastelloy N and variants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of radiation tolerance of Hast N variants (Proper understanding of chemistry -> microstructure -> properties) • Development of properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 qualification |
| Coolant | Salt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of salt chemistry (and impurity) control. Demonstration of Te control |
| Moderator | Graphite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of long-term properties in salt |

Austenitic Stainless Steels

Ferritic-Martensitic & LAS

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HIGH TEMP GAS & GAS FAST REACTORS | Material R&D Gaps

| COMPONENT | MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| HIGH TEMP GAS REACTOR Core Support/ Structural Materials | 316 and Austenitic Alloys | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code approval of time dependent properties – creep, creep-fatigue |
| | 316FR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for 316FR including time dependent properties |
| | 800H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary Document of Properties • Support ASME code extension of properties • Develop and qualify improved weld filler metal(s) |
| HIGH TEMP GAS REACTOR Vessel | Low Alloy Steels (LAS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time dependent and fatigue properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 |
| HIGH TEMP GAS REACTOR Moderator | Graphite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of long-term properties in reactor environment for the specific type of graphite to be employed |
| GAS FAST REACTOR Core support | Ferritic-Martensitics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of adequate resistance to swelling at high dpa. • Time dependent properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5. (including development of fabrication technologies – and demonstrate properties of joints) |
| GAS FAST REACTOR Cladding and reflector | Ceramics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For advanced GFR – SiC-SiC, Zr₃Si need materials endurance data for these materials |

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| COMPONENT | MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Vessel and Core Support Structure | 316 Stainless Steel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend code properties to include time dependent behavior (Creep and Creep-Fatigue) |
| | Alloy 709 SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary Document of Properties • Demonstration of radiation tolerance (Proper understanding of chemistry -> microstructure -> properties) • Development of properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 qualification |
| | D9 Stainless Steel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of for ASME code Sec III Div 5 properties (including time dependent properties) for D9 • Development of swelling behavior at long times under realistic conditions – demonstrate adequacy |
| Core Support Structure and Cladding | Ferritic-Martensitics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prove adequacy of swelling resistance at high fluence • Development of fabrication technology and proof of performance of welds |

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| COMPONENT | MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|---|---|---|
| LEAD FAST REACTOR Structural Materials/ Vessel | 316 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (code qualified already) but need creep and creep-fatigue data to be added into code. • Need corrosion data/demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion |
| | Type 15-15Ti stainless | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification of swelling resistance • Development of code properties for 15-15Ti material design |
| LEAD FAST REACTOR Near core structures and cladding | Ferritic-Martensitics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of adequate resistance to swelling at high dpa. • Time dependent properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5. (including demonstrating properties of joints) • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion/development of corrosion data • Development of fabrication and effective joining methods |
| HIGH TEMP LEAD REACTOR Structural Materials/ Vessel | Alumina Forming Austenitic Stainless Steels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion • Demonstration of adequate resistance to irradiation/swelling at expected high dpa • Development of processing and joining of alumina forming austenitic stainless steels |
| HIGH TEMP LEAD REACTOR Cladding | SiC-SiC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of SiC-SiC structures • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion • Development of properties and support to code qualification |

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AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEELS | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|--------------------|--|
| 316H SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend BPV-III Div 5 Code properties to include time dependent behavior (Creep and Creep-fatigue) • Development and demonstration of cladding (Mo rich) for protection |
| 316FR SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for 316FR including time dependent properties • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion |
| Type 15-15Ti SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verification of swelling resistance • Development of code properties for 15-15Ti material design |
| Alloy 709 SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of radiation tolerance (Proper understanding of chemistry -> microstructure -> properties) • Development of properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 qualification |
| Alumina Forming SS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of adequate resistance to irradiation/swelling at expected high dpa • Development of processing and joining of alumina forming austenitic stainless steels |
| D9 Stainless Steel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 properties (including time dependent properties) for D9 • Development of swelling behavior at long times under realistic conditions – demonstrate adequacy |
| CF8C-Plus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 qualification • Demonstration of radiation tolerance (Proper understanding of chemistry -> microstructure -> properties) |

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FERRITIC-MARTENSITIC & LOW ALLOYS STEELS | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|----------------------------|---|
| Ferritic-Martensitic--9Cr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of adequate resistance to swelling at high fluence range • Time dependent properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 • Development of fabrication and effective joining methods |
| Ferritic-Martensitic--12Cr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of adequate resistance to swelling at high fluence range • Time dependent properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 • Development of fabrication and effective joining methods |
| Ferritic-Martensitic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation of commercial reliability – properties sensitivity to heat treatment / local microstructures • Responds to fabrication processes – welding practices |
| Low Alloys Steels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time dependent and fatigue properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 |

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NICKEL-BASED ALLOYS | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|-------------|---|
| Hastelloy N | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of radiation tolerance of Hastelloy N variants (Proper understanding of chemistry -> microstructure -> properties) • Development of properties for ASME Code Sec III Div 5 qualification |
| 617 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary Document of Properties |
| 800H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support ASME code extension of properties • Development & qualification of improved weld filler metal(s) |

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GRAPHITE & CERAMICS | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|----------|--|
| Graphite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of long-term properties in salt, etc. <i>for the specific type of graphite to be employed</i> • Qualification process – standard graphite doesn't exist; vendor/manufacturer specific qualification |
| Ceramics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For advanced GFR – SiC-SiC, Zr₃Si need materials endurance data |

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CORROSION | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|---|--|
| 316FR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion |
| 316H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof of resistance to long time corrosion in properly controlled salt environment • Demonstration of performance (resistance to EAC) in salt under loading |
| Alumina Forming Austenitic Stainless Steels | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to Lead corrosion |
| Ferritic-Martensitics --9Cr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to Lead corrosion/development of corrosion data |
| Ferritic-Martensitics --12Cr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to Lead corrosion/development of corrosion data |
| Salt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of salt chemistry (and impurity) control. Demonstration of Te control |
| Graphite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of long-time properties in salt, etc. |
| SiC-SiC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion |

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CLADDING | Material R&D Gaps

| MATERIAL | NEEDED R&D |
|-----------------|---|
| SiC-SiC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of SiC-SiC structures• Demonstration of resistance to lead corrosion• Development of properties and support to code qualification |
| Low Alloy Steel | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Molybdenum Application methods |

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| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|---|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Austenitic Stainless Steels | | | | | | | | | | |
| 316H | Extend Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | | | | |
| 316FR | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | | |
| Alloy 709 | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | |
| D9 Stainless Steel | | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | |
| CF8C-Plus | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | |
| Ferritic-Martensitic and Low Alloy Steels | | | | | | | | | | |
| Low Alloy Steel | | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | | | | | | | |
| Ferritic-Martensitic--9Cr | | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | |
| Ferritic-Martensitic--12Cr | | | | | | Mechanical / Code Properties |
| Nickel-Based Alloys | | | | | | | | | | |
| 800H, 617, Hastelloy N | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | | | | | | |
| Hastelloy N | | Mechanical / Code Properties | |
| Graphite | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Other | Other | Other | Other |
| Corrosion Properties | | | | | | | | | | |
| Austenitic Stainless Steels | | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | Mechanical / Code Properties |
| Development of Testing Approaches for Advanced Reactor Environments | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | |
| Dissimilar Metal Weld Joints | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gr 91 to SS (316H, 709) | | Mechanical / Code Properties | |
| 800H to Gr 22 | | | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | |
| 709 to Ferritic Steels | | | Mechanical / Code Properties |
| Cladding | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moly / Tungsten Cladding | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | Extend Code Properties | | | | | | | |
| Hastelloy Cladding on 316H SS | | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | Mechanical / Code Properties | | | | | | |
| Exploratory Alloys | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Mechanical / Code Properties | |

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ROADMAP | Austenitic Stainless Steels

| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|---|---|------|------|------|------|
| 316H SS | Extend BPV-III Div 5. Code properties to include time dependent behavior | | | | | | | | | |
| | | Corrosion behavior in salts | | | | | | | | |
| 316FR | | | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for 316FR including time dependent properties | | | | | | | |
| Alloy 709 | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for 709 including time dependent properties  | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa for 709 | | | | | | | |
| D9 Stainless Steel | | | | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for D9 including time dependent properties | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa for D9 SS | | | | |
| CF8C-Plus | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for CF8C-Plus cast & wrought forms including time dependent properties | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Corrosion behavior of CF8C-Plus | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa for CF8C-Plus | | | | | |

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ROADMAP | Ferritic-Martensitic and Low Alloy Steels

| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|----------------------------|------|---|------|---|------|--|------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| Low Alloy Steel | | Extend BPV-III Div 5. Code properties to include time dependent behavior (creep and creep-fatigue)--Grade 22 & 508 Properties | | | | | | | | |
| Ferritic-Martensitic--9Cr | | | | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for F/M-9Cr including time dependent properties | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa (9Cr and 12Cr) | | | | |
| Ferritic-Martensitic--12Cr | | | | | | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for F/M-12Cr including time dependent properties | | | Proof-of-Performance of Welds | |
| | | | | | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa (9Cr and 12Cr) | | | | |

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| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|------------------------|--|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 800H, 617, Hastelloy N | Summary Document for 800H, 617, 709SS, and Hastalloy N  | Support ASME Code Data for 617 and 800H | | | | | | | | |
| 800H | Develop and qualify improved weld filler metal(s)  | | | | | | | | | |
| Hastelloy N | | Code qualification properties for ASME code Sec III Div 5 for Hastelloy N (or derivants) including time dependent properties | | | | | | | | |
| | | Corrosion Behavior of Hast N in Molten salt | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa for Hastalloy N | | | | | | | |

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|---------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|------|------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|
| Graphite & Ceramics | Evaluate UK Graphite Experience | | Evaluate new Graphite alloys & move into ASME Code | | | | Evaluate SiC-SiC structures | | | |
| | | Technical Basis and Approach for Qualification of Graphite | | Topical Report on Graphite | | | | | | |

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| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|---|---|---|--|------|------|--|------|------|------|------|
| Austenitic Stainless Steels | | Corrosion Behavior of Austenitic Stainless and in Molten salt | | | | Prioritize resistance of Austenitic SS in Lead Environment | | | | |
| Development of Testing Approaches for Advanced Reactor Environments | Participation in DOE VTR Test Vehicle  | | Follow on Materials Selection and (Corrosion + Mechanical effects) | | | | | | | |

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NICKEL-BASED ALLOYS

GRAPHITE & CERAMICS

CORROSION

CLADDING

DISSIMILAR METAL WELD

EXPLORATORY ALLOYS

ROADMAP | Cladding

| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|-------------------------------|--|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Moly Cladding | Development and demonstration of cladding (Mo rich on LAS and 316H SS)  | | | | | | | | | |
| Hastelloy Cladding on 316H SS | | Development and demonstration of Hastelloy Cladding on 316H SS | | | | | | | | |

 In Progress

Extend Code Properties

Mechanical / Code Properties

Corrosion Properties

Irradiation Properties

Near-Term Data Capture

Other

ADVANCED REACTOR MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP

OVERVIEW

REACTOR TYPES

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ROADMAP OVERVIEW

AUSTENITIC STAINLESS STEELS

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EXPLORATORY ALLOYS

ROADMAP | Dissimilar Metal Weld Joints

| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|-------------------------|------|--|--|------|---|---|---|---|------|------|
| Gr 91 to SS (316H, 709) | | Mechanical properties, including time dependent behavior (creep and creep-fatigue) | | | Corrosion Resistance in AR Environments | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa | | | |
| 800H to Gr 22 | | Mechanical properties, including time dependent behavior (creep and creep-fatigue) | | | Corrosion Resistance in AR Environments | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa | | | |
| 709 to Ferritic Steels | | | Mechanical properties, including time dependent behavior (creep and creep-fatigue) | | | Corrosion Resistance in AR Environments | | Evaluate resistance to irradiation/swelling at high dpa | | |

Extend Code Properties

Mechanical / Code Properties

Corrosion Properties

Irradiation Properties

Near-Term Data Capture

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ADVANCED REACTOR MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP

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EXPLORATORY ALLOYS

ROADMAP | Exploratory Alloys

| TECHNICAL TOPIC | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---|------|------|------|------|
| Exploratory Alloys | | | | | | Prioritize resistance of Exploratory Alloys in various environments | | | | |

Extend Code Properties

Mechanical / Code Properties

Corrosion Properties

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GLOSSARY**BPV-III Div. 5**

ASME Boiler & Pressure Vessel Code Section III - Division 5, which provides design, construction, certification, and quality assurance rules for the construction of vessels, piping, pumps, valves, supports, core support structures and nonmetallic components for use in high temperature reactor systems and their supporting systems.

dpa

Displacements per atom - a damage-based exposure unit

EAC

Environmentally assisted cracking

F/M

Ferritic-martensitic steels

Mo or Moly

Molybdenum

VTR

Versatile Test Reactor

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