



# **Technology Base for the ACR: FUEL CHANNELS**

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**Meeting with the USNRC and CNSC**

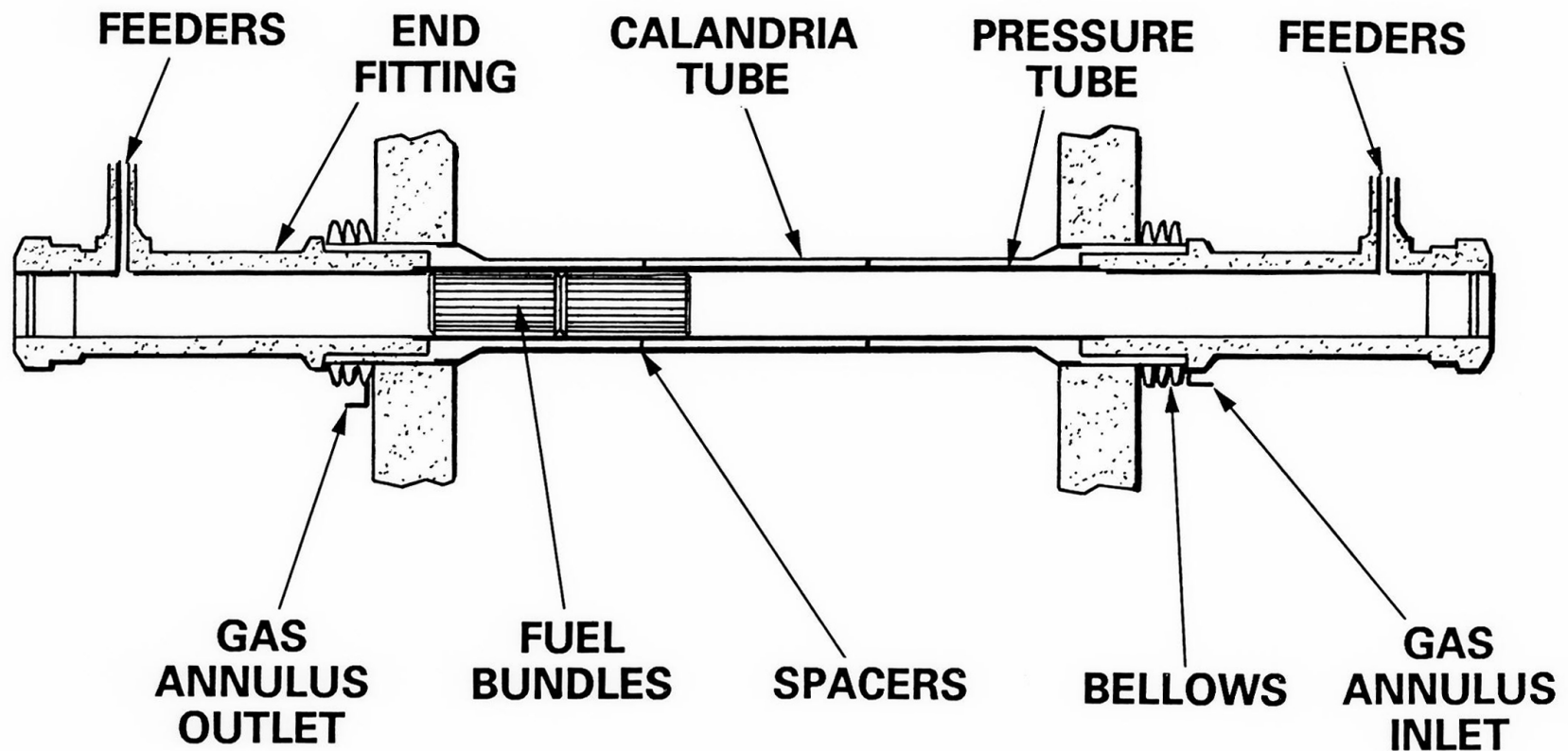
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 **AECL**  
TECHNOLOGIES INC.

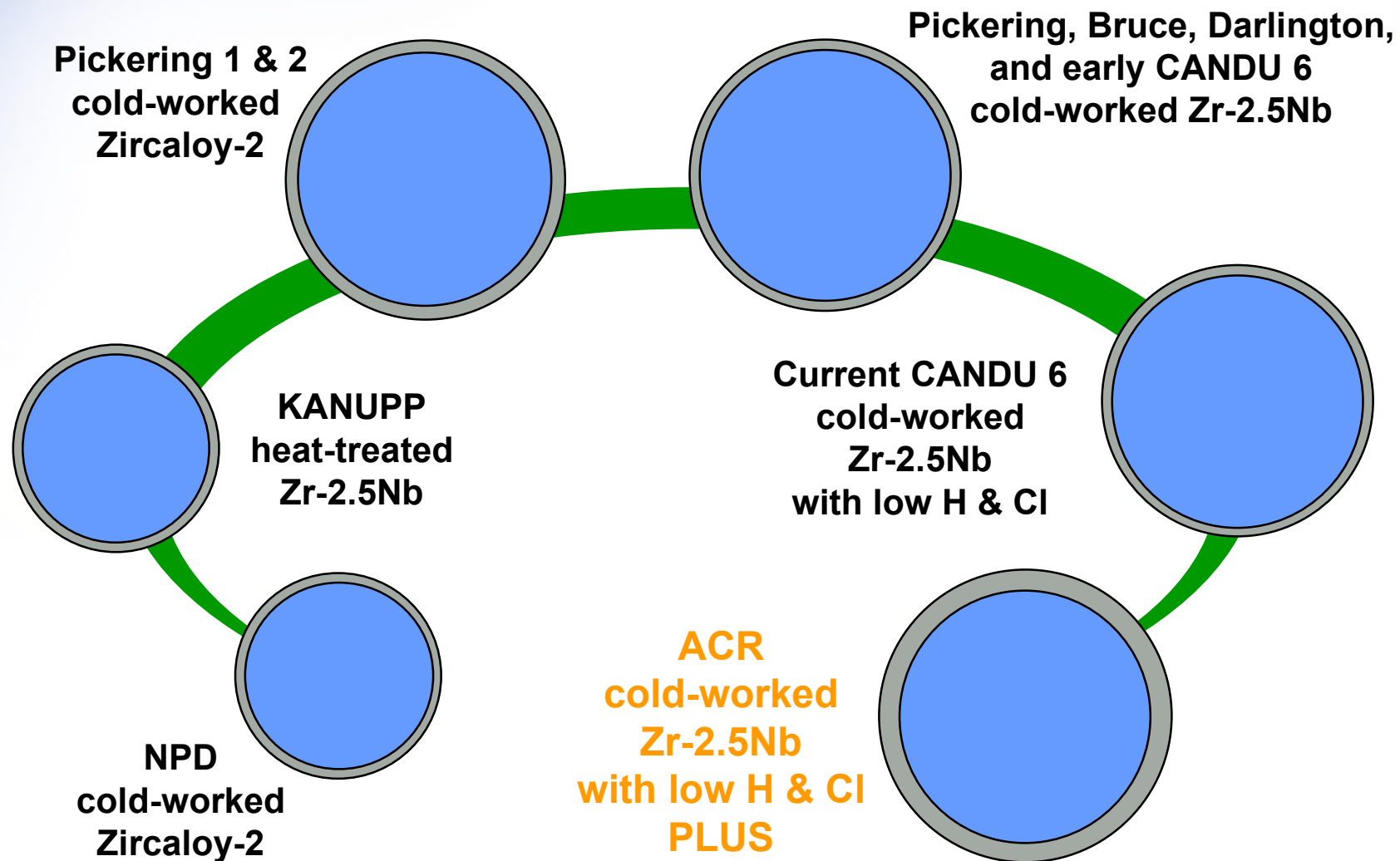


# FUEL CHANNEL COMPONENTS





# PRESSURE TUBE EVOLUTION





# PERSONNEL

- Research and Development
- Project Design
- Station Services
  - Inspection
  - Life Management



# PRESSURE TUBE OPERATING CONDITIONS

Temperature:	~250 to 325°C (482 to 617°F)
Pressure:	~10 to 13 MPa (1450 to 1886 psi)
Neutron Flux:	peak of about $4 \times 10^{17} \text{ n.m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ $E > 1 \text{ MeV}$
Time:	30 years @ 90% capacity



# **FUEL CHANNEL R&D 5 PROGRAMS**

- **Deformation**
- **Corrosion and Hydrogen Ingress**
- **Delayed Hydride Cracking and Fracture**
- Non-Destructive Inspection
- Component Development



# MOTIVATIONS



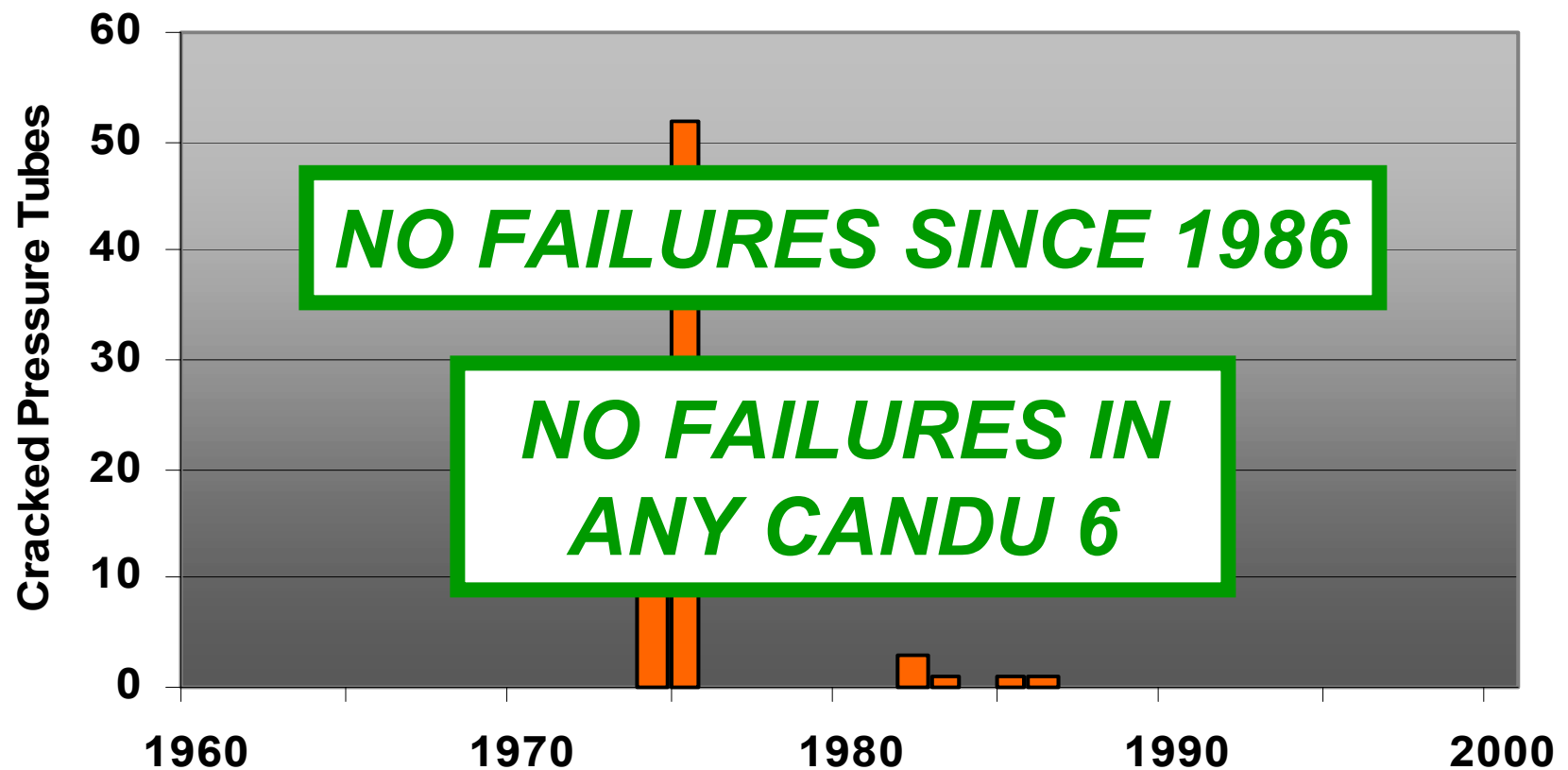
## FOR ALL ASPECTS:

- Understanding
- Predictive Capability
- Confirmation





# PERFORMANCE STATISTICS







# KEYS TO HIGH PERFORMANCE

- High-Quality Manufacturing
- In-Depth Knowledge and Understanding
- Material Surveillance
- In-Reactor Inspections
- Assessment Methodologies



# FUEL CHANNEL PERFORMANCE

- 32 CANDU reactors in 7 countries
- More than 350 reactor years of equivalent full-power operation
- 208 to 480 fuel channels per reactor
- More than 150,000 pressure tube years of equivalent full-power operation
- Thousands of reactor measurements

