

Tungsten balls charge method radiation shield system

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1. Introduction

Tungsten balls charge method radiation shield system has been developed for the purpose of reducing the installation workload, the radiation exposure and the harmful waste materials in the maintenance of systems at nuclear power plants.

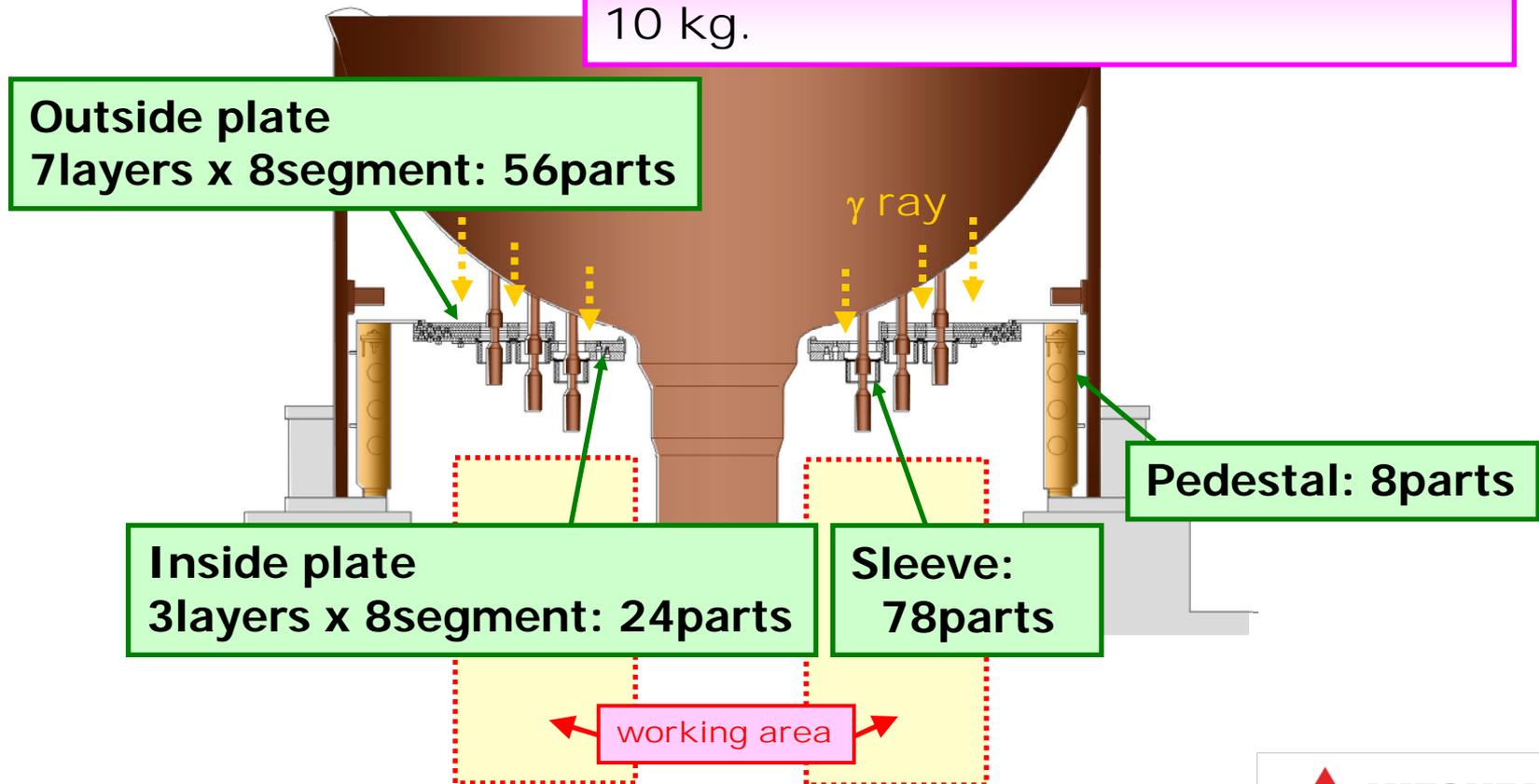
2. Characteristics

- Far reduction of radiation exposure in the installation/removal of shields
(Far reduction of work ... Approx 1/10 by lead plate of 3 cm or equivalent)
- Pb-free ... Using tungsten balls
- Can be applied in wider scope by changing the structure of jacket.

3. Initial plan; Metal plate shielding for pressurizer

The aim of this shielding is to reduce the radiation from pressurizer in working area.

It is estimated to take 16 man·Hr to install 80 parts of plate of weight 10 kg.



4. Issue of metal plate shielding

(1) 80 sheets of plate of weight 10 kg are installed.

- Man-hour : **Large**
- Safety risk : **Large**
- Component damage risk : **Large**

(2) 16 hours to install/remove (by two workers)

(Amount of radiation exposure: **Large**)



It is necessary to make shield container light-weight and reduce man-hours.

5. Concept of new shielding

(1) Jacket type

- Light-weight and can be installed and removed to target easily.
- Reduced number of parts

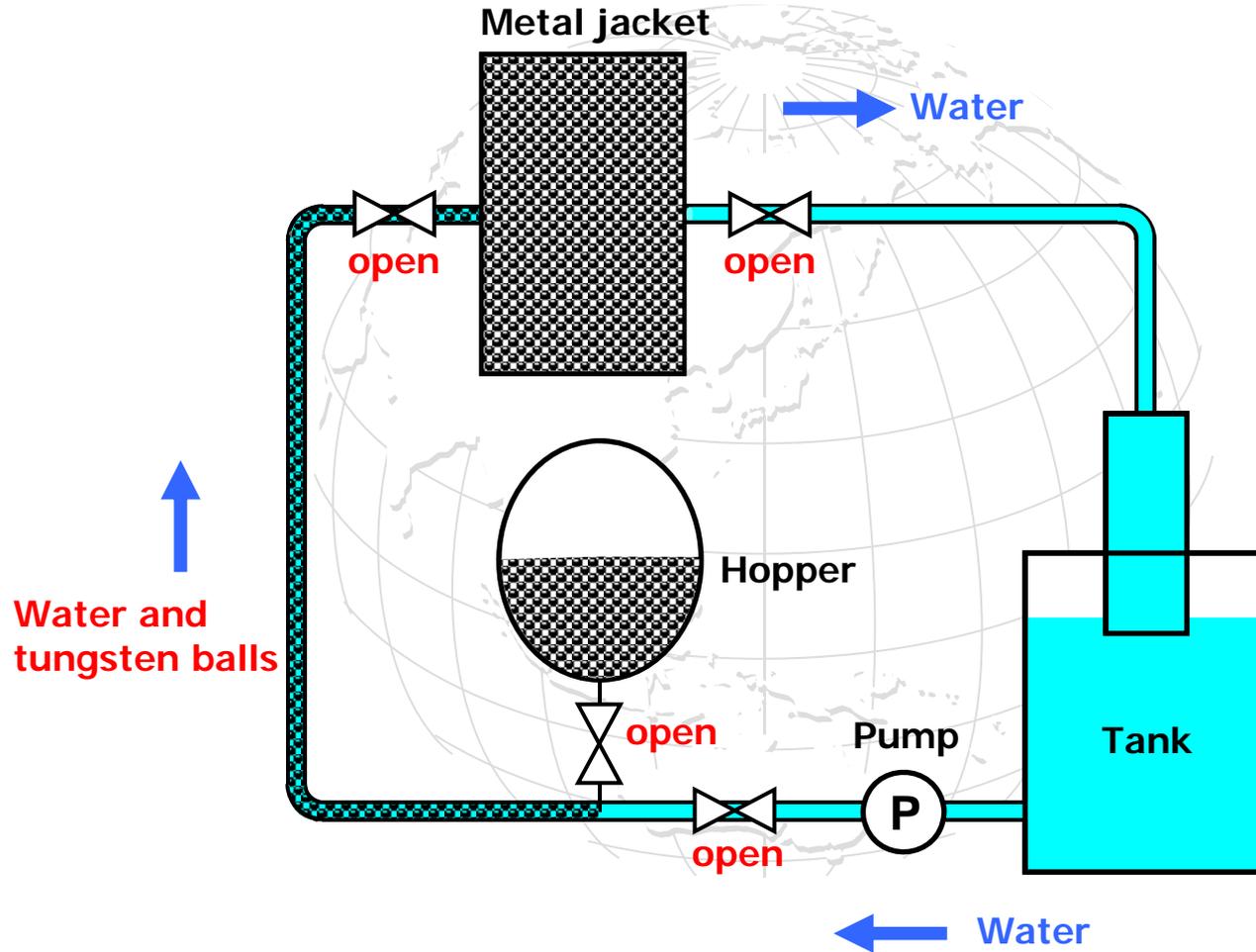
(2) Charging tungsten balls to jacket by pump remotely

- Far reduced handling of heavy loads
- From a place approx 20 m away, including the high/low difference

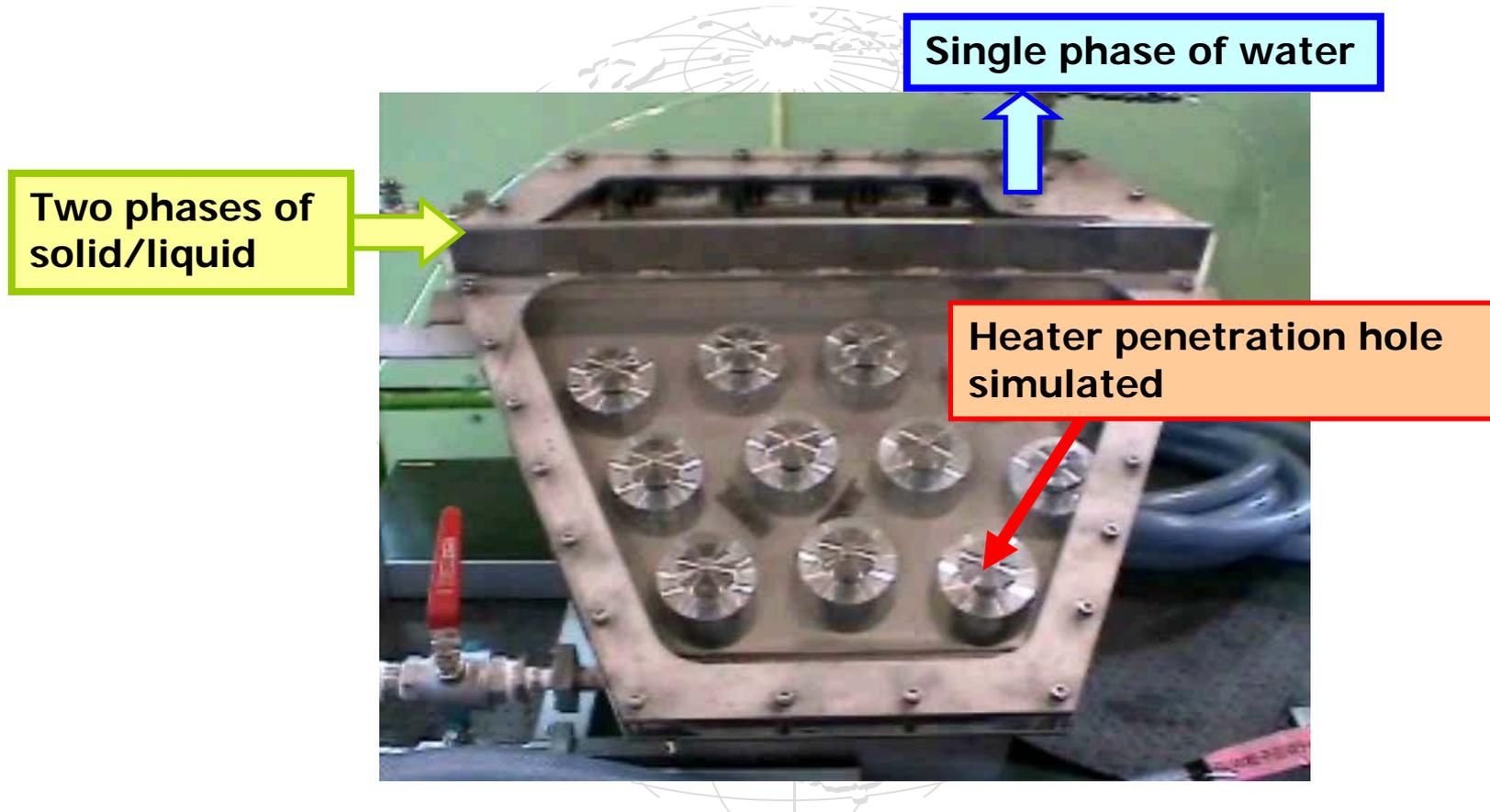
(3) Pb free

- No harmful waste materials are used.

6. System for element test

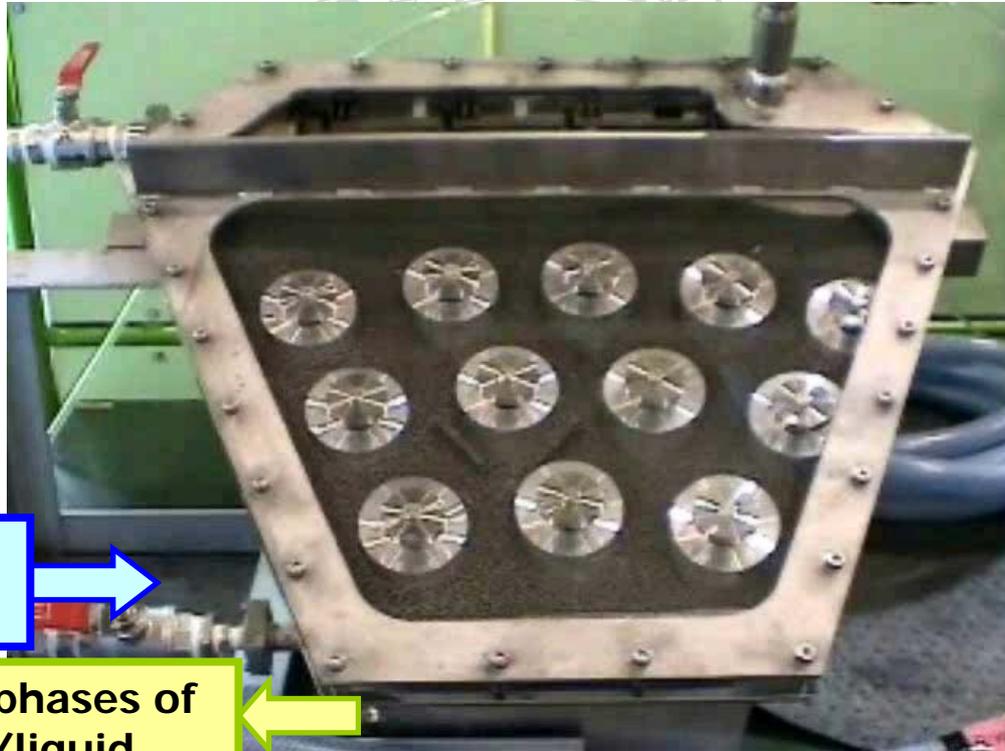


7. Visualization test (tungsten balls charged)



Charging test

7. Visualization test (tungsten balls recovered)

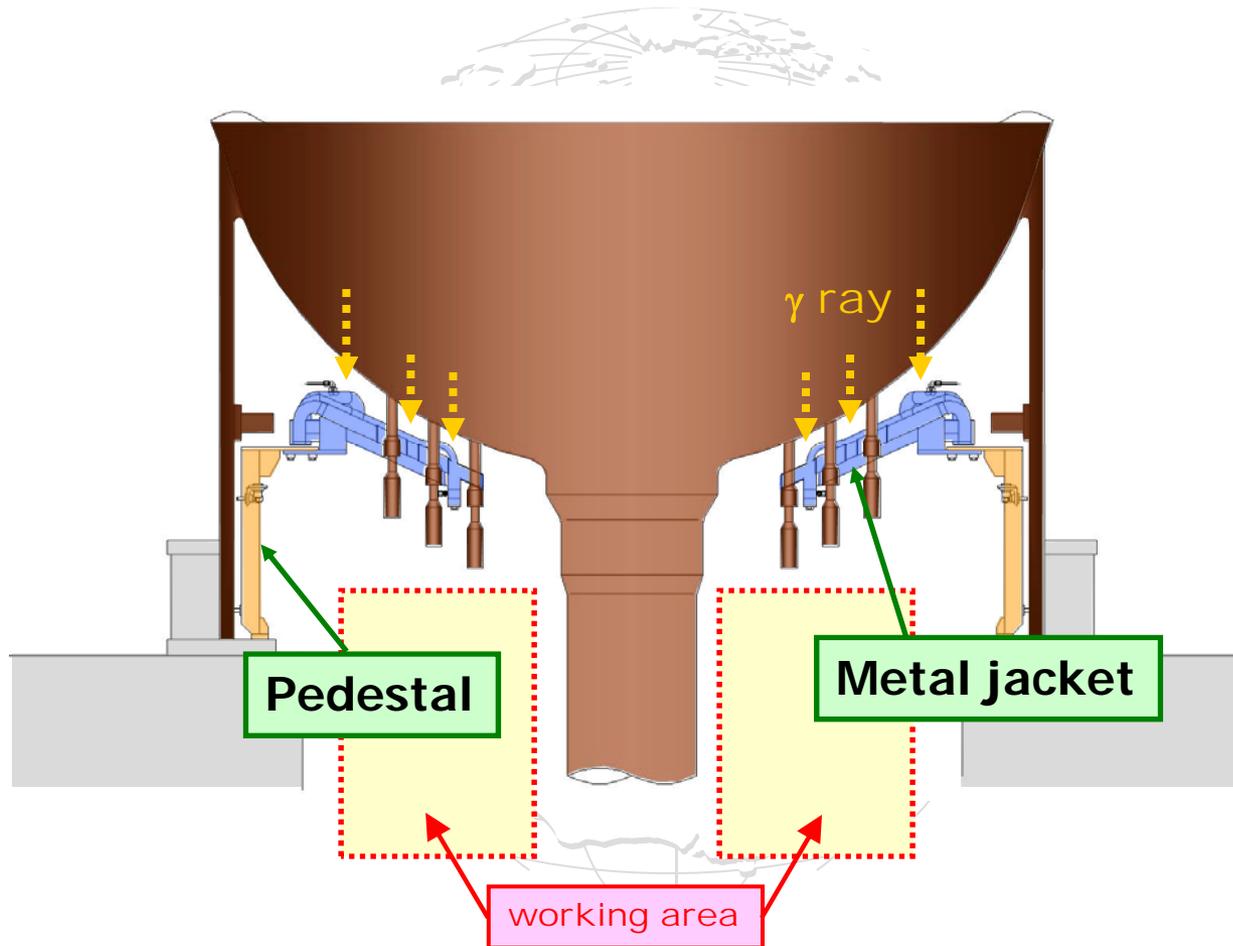


Single phase
of water

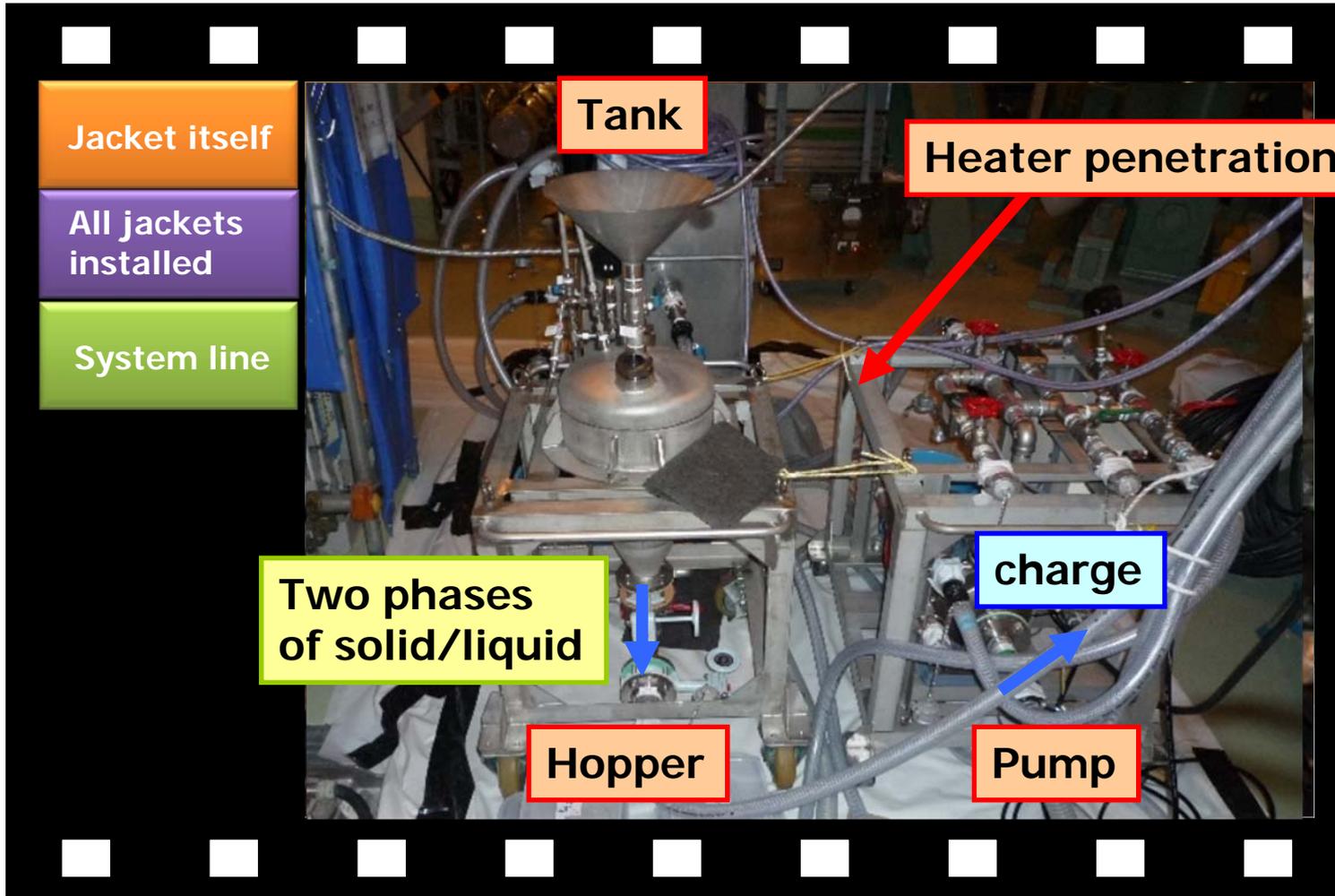
Two phases of
solid/liquid

Recovering test

8. Application to pressurizer



8. Application to pressurizer

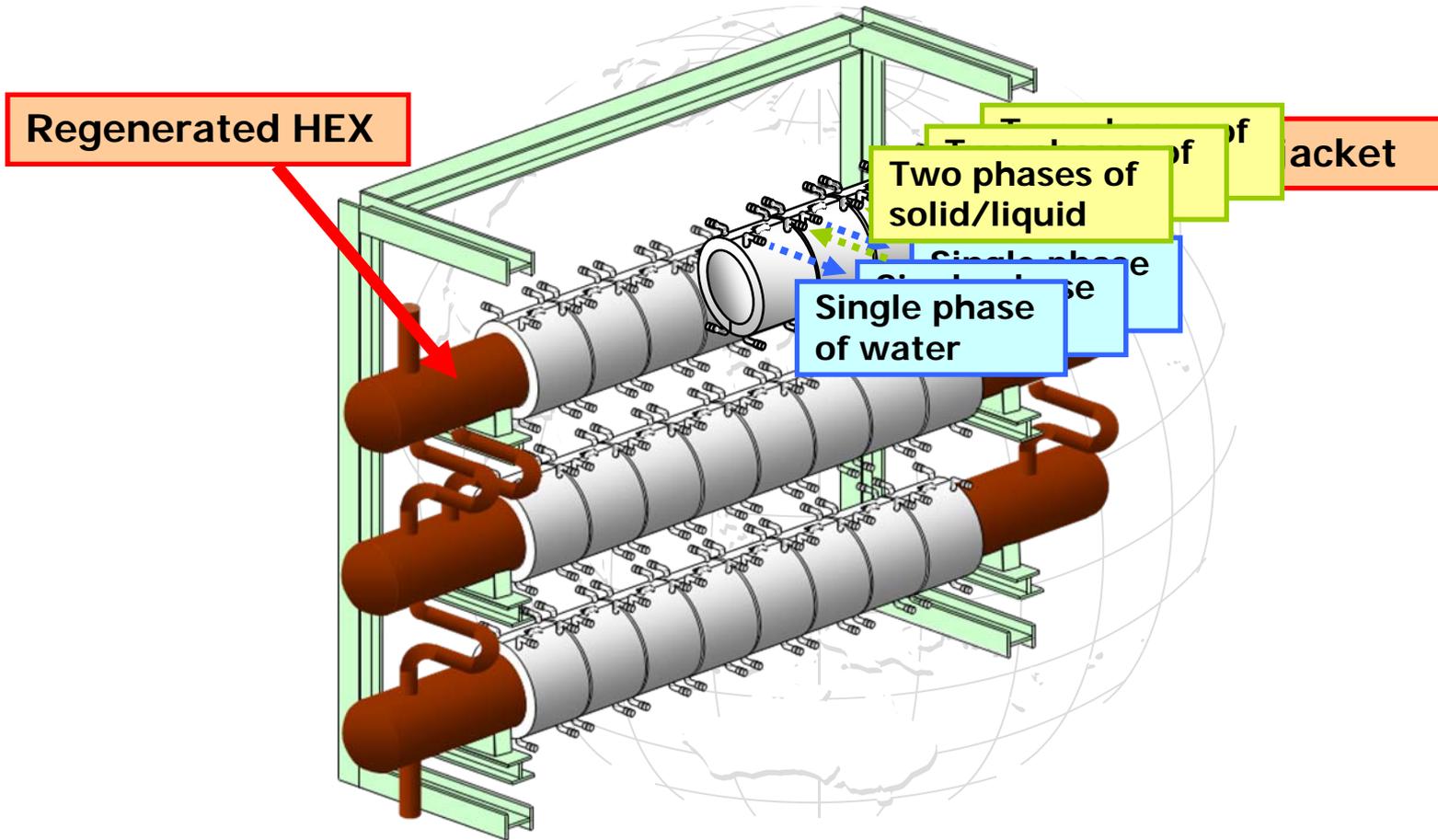


9. Comparison of shielding type

		Installation	Charge	Recover	Removal	Total	Reduction effect
Time	Plate	8 hours x 2 workers	-	-	8 hours x 2 workers	16 hours x 2 workers	Approx 1/2
	New	1 hour x 2 workers	2 hours x 3 workers	2 hours x 3 workers	1 hour x 2 workers	8 hours x 2 workers	
Exposure	Plate	28 man · mSv	-	-	28 man · mSv	56 man · mSv	Approx 1/7
	New	3 man · mSv	1 man · mSv	1 man · mSv	3 man · mSv	8 man · mSv	

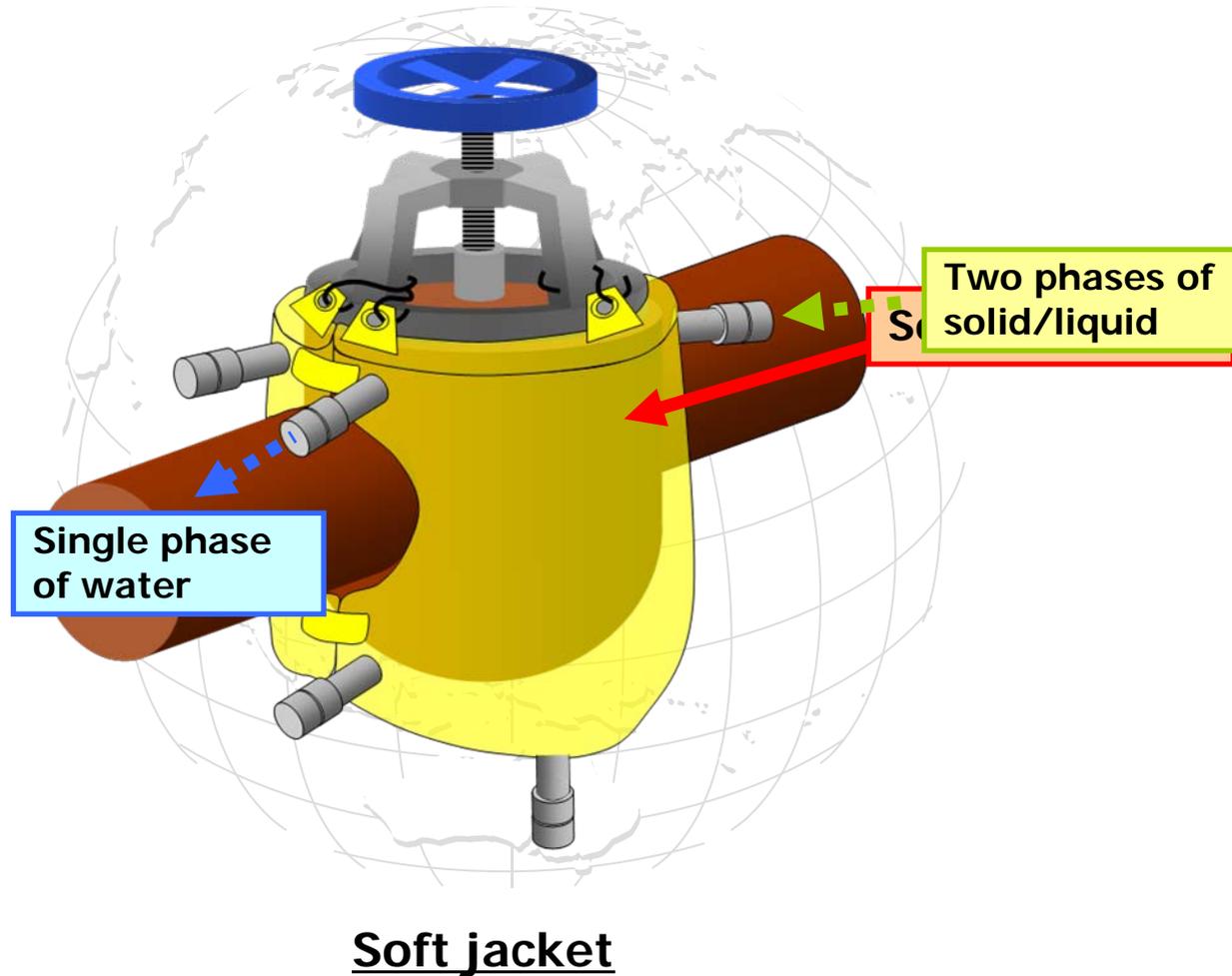
Succeeds in making light-weight shield container, and reducing man-hours, amount of radiation exposure!

10. Other application image



Hard jacket (regenerative heat exchanger)

10. Other application image



11. Conclusions

- Tungsten balls charge method radiation shield system can reduce the exposure and workload of its installation/removal.
- We MHI will further promote various advanced techniques including Tungsten balls shielding technique to flexibly meet needs of operating plants based on the principle of ALARA.