

# Thermally Activated Technologies

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# Thermally Activated Technologies - Uses

*Customer value of heat recovery – Delivering a new function or displacing a higher cost alternative*

Increasing value generally requires increasing heat quality and system complexity/cost

## Low Value

Driveway heating  
Pool heating

## Medium Value

Radiant floor space heating  
Baseboard heating  
Spa heating  
Domestic hot water  
Latent heat removal

## High Value

Space Cooling  
Heat to electricity (ORC,  
Pyroelectrics)

Key to economics is delivering high customer value with very low system complexity!

# Thermally Activated Technologies - Challenges

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## *Lifecycle system complexity*

### Source of complexity

OEM design

### Potential mitigation

Minimize moving parts

Choose simplicity over elegance

Design for XX from day one

Maintenance

Design for low maintenance (oil free, ten year components)

Build in diagnostics and prognostics

Interfaces (grid, other systems)

Hermetically sealed, minimize interfaces, factory integration of components
















Installation: Factory Cost to installed cost ratio can be 3:1 or higher

Must be as close to plug and play as possible  
eliminate application engineering

Matching sources and uses

Add active controls or decouple using storage

# Thermally Activated Technologies – What Makes a Good Joule?

	Current Heat Sources	Current Heat Use	GENSETS (Small Residential/Commercial)
Clean	Depends		
Continuous			
Close	Depends	Depends	
Consistent (Time, Quality, Quantity)			
Compact/Scalable		Heating  Cooling 	Prime mover addressed by Gensets
Customer (Same)	Often	Often	
Cost	Challenging depending on scale and duty cycle	Challenging for cooling	Prime mover addressed by Gensets
COP/Efficiency	Generally Too low for good value w/o heat recovery	Heating  Cooling 	Prime mover addressed by Gensets

# Thermally Activated Technologies – Scalability of ORC Technology

## 50kW to 5MW+...

- Commercial solutions available
- Low to High grade heat sources

- ✓ Solar thermal
- ✓ Biomass
- ✓ Geothermal
- ✓ Engine Waste Heat
- ✓ Industrial Waste Heat
- ✓ CHP



Source: siemens.com



Source: electratherm.com



Source: turboden.com



Source: calnetix.com

## <10kW...

- No commercial solutions
- Design & cost challenges
- Installation and maintenance
- Air versus water cooling drives
- Low cycle thermal efficiency
- Customer acceptance
- Lack of prime movers

# Thermally Activated Technologies – Scalability Cooling Technologies

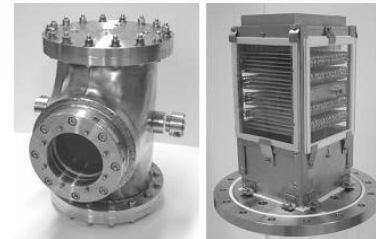
## Current Landscape...

- Commercial solutions available
- Low to High grade heat sources
- Economic challenges

Absorption



Source: energy.gov



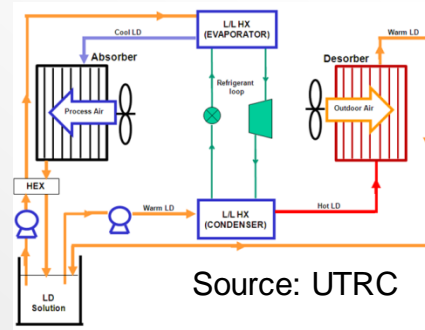
Georgia  
Tech

Source: stsl.gatech.edu

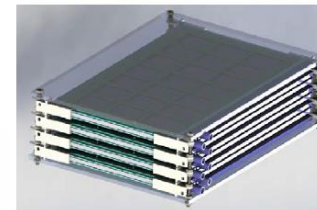
Dehumidification



Source: pall.com



Source: UTRC



Source: energy.gov

UF  
UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA

## <Residential Scale...

- No commercial solutions
- Design & cost challenges
- Installation and maintenance
- Low efficiency (air versus Water Cooling)
- Supply/Demand mismatch
- Low overall energy cost
- Customer Acceptance
- Lack of prime movers

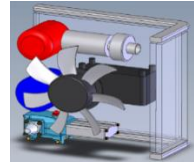


# Combined Heat and Power - Concepts

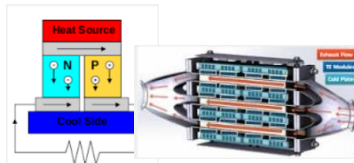
*Can achieve remarkable results by treating the home as an integrated system*

# Waste Heat to Power

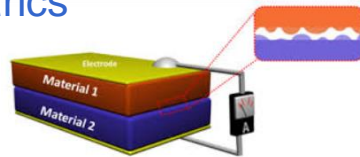
- Organic Rankine Cycle
- Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>



# Scavenging Thermo-electrics



## Pyroelectrics



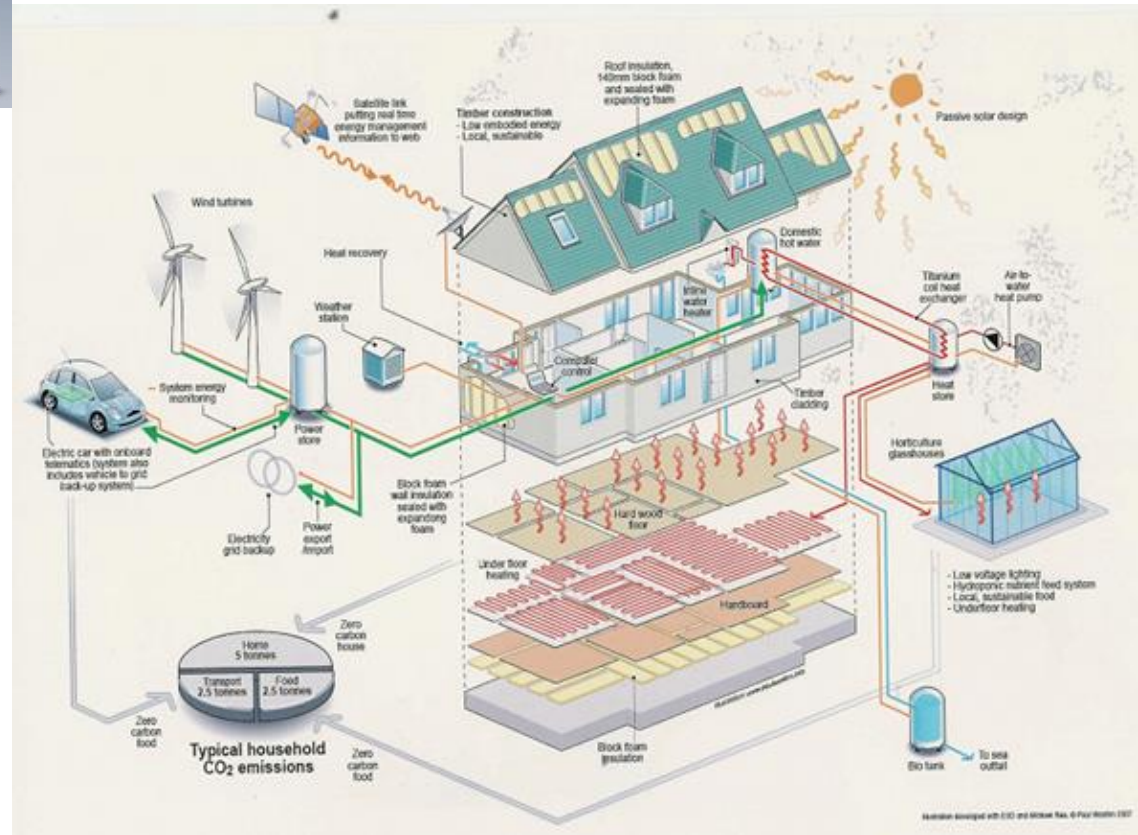
## Storage: Passive or active thermal or electrical

## Waste Heat to Process Heat

- Space heating
- Water heating (driveways, Pools, DHW etc.)
- Cooking
- Drying

# Waste Heat to Cooling

- Absorption
- Adsorption
- Desiccant Dehumidification
- others



## Efficiency of Base-load Power



2.5kW Natural Gas Generator



**arpa.e**  
**GENSETS**

**arpa.e**  
**REBELS**



arpa.e  
BEETIT