

General Atomics Electromagnetic Systems Group

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The use of GA's Commercial Supercritical Water Oxidation for the Destruction of Organic Waste

Presented at the 14th International HCH and Pesticides Forum

John Follin, GA EMS Director of Strategic Development, Supercritical Water Oxidation

General Atomics

LOCATION: San Diego, California

FOUNDED: 1955

STATUS: Privately held corporation



John Follin

Director

Strategic Development / Business Development

Demilitarization and Chemical Waste Destruction

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GA is a recognized world leader in high-technology research, design, and production for industry and government in the U.S. and overseas

General Atomics Organization

**General Atomics
La Jolla, California**

**Energy
La Jolla, California**

- Nuclear Fission
- Inertial Confinement
- Nuclear Fusion



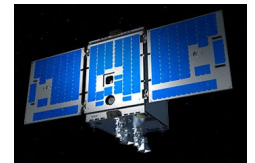
**Aeronautics
Poway, California**

- Predator
- Grey Eagle
- Ground Services
- Mission Related Activities



**Electromagnetics
Rancho Bernardo
California**

- Electromagnetic Launching
- Lasers
- Satellites
- Railgun
- Radiation Monitoring
- Gulftronics
- **Demil / iSCWO / Maglev**



What Differentiates between GA and other suppliers?

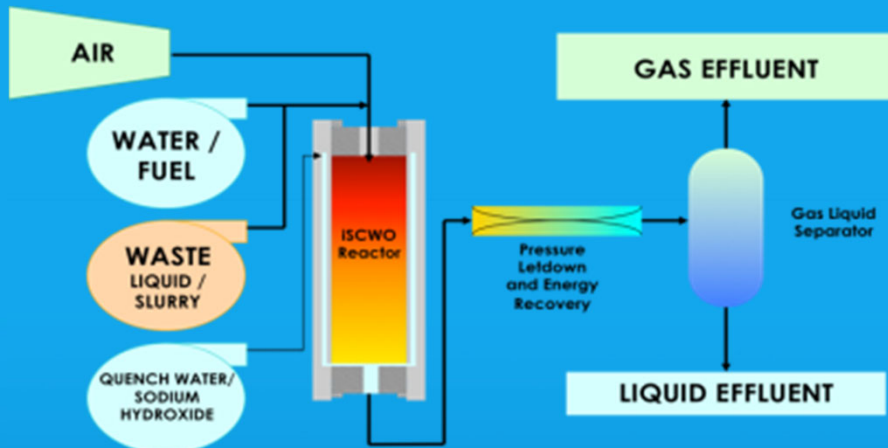
- **Worked with other methods of organic destruction – selected iSCWO**
- **Vast iSCWO experience with various waste feeds and salt/corrosion solutions – 35 years / Military Sales mid 2000's / Commercial Sales 2013**
- **GA is a large company – very healthy with a great future in all areas**
- **GA Worldwide iSCWO Sales Organization Structure (Life Cycle Support)**
 - Waste analysis and waste testing at GA
 - Contract sales / leases – GA's iSCWO system is a TRL 9 – *we sell real systems*
 - Fabrication/assembly at our fabrication facility in Tupelo, Mississippi
 - Factory Testing at GA in San Diego, Ca
 - Shipping, installation, checkout, startup and training support
 - After market support – field service, spare parts, process support
- **GA offers various configurations of iSCWO Systems (3 gpm to up to 10 gpm units) with different types of liners for material compatibility**
- **Experience with interfacing feed support (liquid, powders, solids)**
- **Our iSCWO product line is classified as EAR99 (Export Use)**
- **Full safety documentation (HAZOPS)**

Use of GA's iSCWO in Industrial Environments

iSCWO is excellent for the destruction of:

- **Expired or obsolete pesticides, fertilizers, and fungicides**
- **Contaminated water (waste water cleanup)**
- **Expired or obsolete paints**
- **Petroleum, oils, lubricants and/or petrochemical waste streams**
- **Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)**
- **Organic cleaning solutions and antifreeze**
- **Sewage sludge/animal waste products**
- **Pharmaceutical waste**
- **Fire retardant materials**
- **Plastic waste**
- **Energetic material (explosives or propellant)**
- **PFAS and other fluorinated organic compounds**
- **Materials not suitable for normal transportation or disposal**

iSCWO: Technical and Cost Advantages



- Perfect for onsite waste destruction
- Cost competitive with incineration or any other oxidation process at the site
- No airborne particulates
- No afterburner or complex secondary processing equipment
- Clean water by-product requires little or no post-treatment prior to discharge to POTW
- Air supply for oxidant instead of LOX
- Simple design – easily maintainable
- Waste stream testing in San Diego

Rapid, complete organic destruction with no pollution abatement system

What we offer – Commercial Modular iSCWO Systems



Stationary iSCWO skid



Two transportable iSCWO systems

Systems are sold and delivered as viable commercial systems – ready to run

Modular design allows for rapid setup and start of process operations without the need for complex infrastructure

Multiple Options for iSCWO Waste Feed

- **Liquid feed**
 - Generated by in-line process or liquids stored onsite
 - Pumped directly into the iSCWO system
- **Slurry Feed**
 - Powdered solids (e.g., pesticides or pharmaceuticals) in water
 - Ground-up solids (resins or GAC) in water solution
 - Size-reduced solids pumped directly into the iSCWO system
- **Reverse Osmosis (RO)**
 - Large Amounts of Contaminated Water
 - RO reject stream (stew) is pumped into the iSCWO system
- **Thermal Desorption (TD)**
 - Contaminated Soil Cleanup (e.g., PCB)
 - TD waste stream (scum) is pumped into the iSCWO system
- **Gaseous Diffusion (GD)**
 - Contaminated Hardened Material
 - GD waste stream is condensed and pumped into iSCWO



Micronized Feed for Slurry Feeding into iSCWO



Wood



Carbon



Plastics/Rubber



Slurry

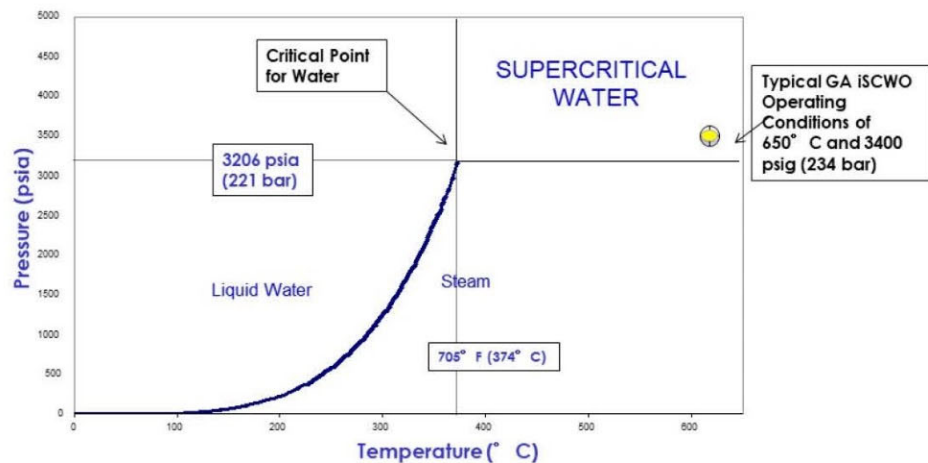
iSCWO Release Streams Meet Environmental Requirements



Waste Feed	Gas Release	Liquid Release
Hydro Carbon	O ₂ CO ₂ Nitrogen Water vapor Organic free	Organic-free water Neutral pH
Halogens		Some salts (depending on chemical feed)
Metals		Metallic oxides particles (depending on chemical feed)
-ites, -ates O ₂ O ₃		Molecular oxygen can reduce the amount of cfm needed by air compressor

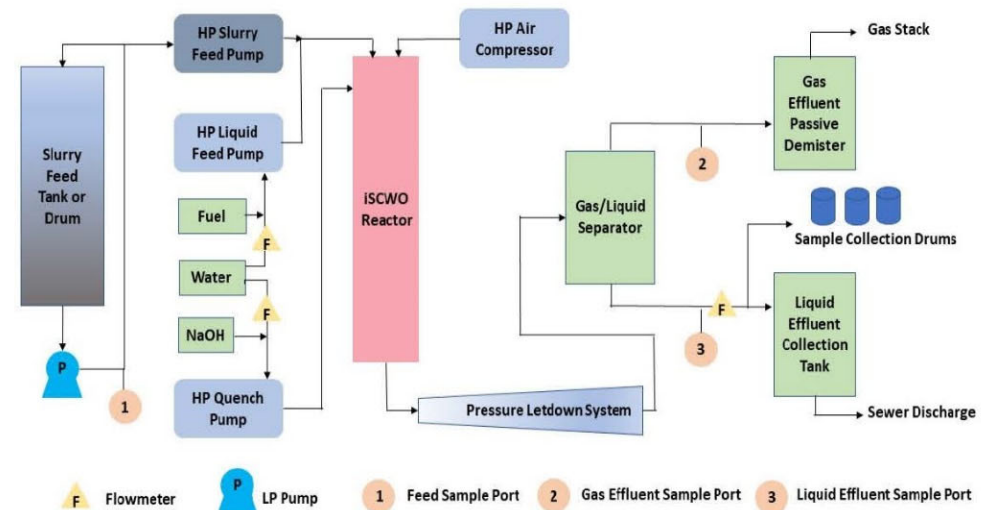
All Liquid Releases Designed for Discharge Directly to a Public Owned Treatment Works (POTW)

GA iSCWO Typical Process Flow Setup



Supercritical water is water that is heated and pressurized above its thermodynamic critical point of 374°C and 221 bar

We operate at 650°C and 234 Bar to ensure complete oxidation of wastes



- A wide variety of wastes can be fed into the iSCWO system
- GA's iSCWO system nominally operates at 3400 psi and 650C for the complete destruction of organic waste
- Stack gases released are excess O₂, CO₂, N₂ (from the air), and H₂O (steam)
- Liquid releases are H₂O plus any salts created by the neutralization of halogens
- System operates in a continuous feed mode 24 hours / 7 days a week

GA sells Commercial iSCWO Systems for Onsite Waste Destruction

GA iSCWO Demonstration System – No R&D – TRL 9



iSCWO System used for different chemical waste treatment tests



Dedicated iSCWO Test Facility that customers can observe tests



No R&D – Just confirmatory tests for both process and environmental regulatory permits

System arrangement allows for easy tests with data analysis

GA iSCWO Test Setup – Waste Material Input



All types of shipments accepted – Tanker Truck, 55 Gallon Barrels, Chemical Storage Totes and/or Specialized Tanks

GA iSCWO Demonstration Test Results



INTEGRATED. REPUTABLE. RESULTS.



Air Quality Testing

ALS is the nation's leading independent laboratory for monitoring and testing air quality. We provide a full range of services, including ambient air monitoring, indoor air quality, and occupational health and safety. Our services are designed to help you understand and manage your air quality risks.

The laboratory is fully accredited by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and the National Environmental Health Effects Research (NEHER) for air quality testing. We provide a full range of services, including ambient air monitoring, indoor air quality, and occupational health and safety. Our services are designed to help you understand and manage your air quality risks.

SERVICE

- Certified to follow EPA and OSHA methods of analysis
- Accredited for ambient air quality

VALUE

- Fast turnaround times (24-48 hours)
- Comprehensive testing capabilities
- Experienced and trained staff

RELIABILITY

- Detailed reports and data analysis
- High accuracy and precision
- Comprehensive quality control program

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SERVICE

- Certified to follow EPA and OSHA methods of analysis
- Accredited for drinking water quality

VALUE

- Fast turnaround times (24-48 hours)
- Comprehensive testing capabilities
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RELIABILITY

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Liquid and Gas Analytics are Performed by Independent Laboratories and Results sent to Customer and Government Permitting Officials

Recent Halogenated Organic Destruction Tests*

Material	Matrix	Feed Concentration	Throughput (gallon/min)	Quantity processed (gallons)	Destruction Efficiency	Comments
CCl ₄ / CS ₂	Liquid	100%	0.052	107	99.999%	Non-detect
Tear Gas	Slurry	10% solids	1.6	425	99.99%	Non-detect
1,4-Dioxane	Liquid	0.4%	1.6	107	99.9%	Non-detect
Bromine-Polymer Wash	Liquid	1%	1.1	14	99.99%	Non-detect

*Note – the feed concentration, rates, and quantities were defined by the customer

Recent Slurry Organic Destruction Tests*

Material	Matrix	Feed Concentration	Throughput (gallon/min)	Quantity processed (gallons)	Destruction Efficiency	Comments
Mining ore with gold	Slurry	10% solids	1.1	420	99%	Improved gold extraction
Plastics	Slurry	10% solids	1.1	95	99%	Non-detect
Food waste	Slurry	10% solids	1.1	55	99%	Non-detect
Ground resin beads	Liquid	15% solids	2.2	1060	99.9%	Solids reduction

*Note – the feed concentration, rates, and quantities were defined by the customer

Other Recent Organic Destruction Tests*

Material	Matrix	Feed Concentration	Throughput (gallon/min)	Quantity processed (gallons)	Destruction Efficiency	Comments
Energetics Waste (NH ₄ NO ₃)	Liquid	25%	2.5	1,060	99.99%	Non-detect Air bypass to reduce NOx
Organics containing NaI and CsCl	Slurry	10%	1.2	95	99%	Non-detect
EDTA with hydrazine	Liquid	15%	3.9	1,075	99.99%	Non-detect
Corrosive Solvent Waste	Liquid	15%	2.2	400	99.9%	Non-detect
Cresylate	Thick Liquid	20%	1 – ntrlzd 0.5 – nt ntrlzd	215	99.99%	Non-detect

*Note – the feed concentration, rates, and quantities were defined by the customer

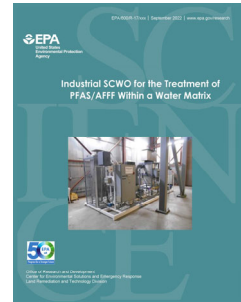
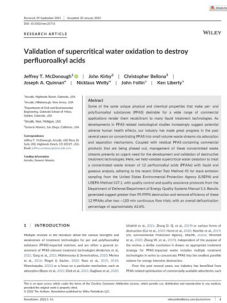
PFAS Destruction Efficiency via iSCWO

Destruction of PFAS efficiency: >99.99% for multiple tests

Materials Tested for DRE Calculations Include:

- Aqueous Fire Fighting Foam (AFFF)
- 6:2 fluorotelomer sulfonic acid (6:2 FTS)
- Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)
- Integrated Derived Waste (IDW)

Published Reports



Arcadis

EPA

Test	Total Processed	Dilution of Waste	PFAS Feed	Source of Material	Destruction Efficiency
Test 1 AFFF	253 gal	1000x	~30 ppm	Lightwater	99.9996%
Test 2 AFFF	252 gal	1000x	~30 ppm	Lightwater	99.9996%
6:2 FTS	350 gal	0x	210 ppb	Fire pit wash	99.9929%
PFOS	350 gal	0x	1700 ppt	IDW	Non-detect
Test 1 AFFF	310 gal	159x	~194 ppm	Aer-O-Water	~99.999%
Test 2 AFFF	302 gal	152x	~199 ppm	Aer-O-Water	~99.999%
Test 3 AFFF	310 gal	34x	~974 ppm	Aer-O-Water	~99.999%

Targeted PFAS Summary with Fluoride Concentration Analysis

**PFAS average
DRE > 99.99%
Test C (highest
influent conc.)
DRE > 99.999%**

- Targeted 21 PFAS in AFFF waste feed
- DRE does not fully reflect iSCWO's capabilities
 - Non-detect PFAS amounts default to method limits
 - PFAS present in San Diego tap water used to quench liquid effluent

Test	Influent Sum of Targeted PFAS (ppt)	Effluent Sum of Targeted PFAS (ppt)	%DRE Targeted PFAS	Influent Fluoride* (ppm)	Effluent Fluoride* (ppm)	Theoretical fluoride from targeted PFAS* (ppm)	Theoretical PFAS from Fluoride* (ppm)
A	3,128,300	51.56	99.9984	0.81	173.61	1.86	289.35
B	3,294,600	82.03	99.9975	0.78	235.29	1.96	392.16
C	13,640,000	30.32	99.9998	1.5	482.21	8.07	803.68
Average DRE:			99.9985				
PFAS remaining - PFBA, 6:2 FTS, and sulfonates (C4-8) - undetermined whether from water or system							
Effluent values include dilution factor of about 1.5 due to higher liquid flow from separator (~12 Lpm out vs ~8 Lpm in)							
Effluent values from 120 minutes sampled							

* Assumes 60% Fluorine content in associated targeted PFAS
* ~0.8 ppm fluoride typical in SD tap water

Non-detect of corrosion products

**Air emissions from the iSCWO system
would be considered clean**

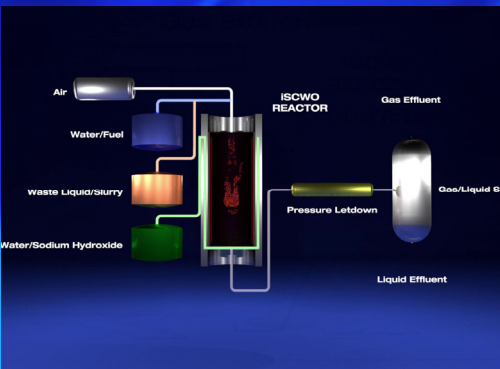
**VOCs detected are
not fluorinated**

Most SCWO system and incinerator gas emissions have not been tested for PFAS release – GA's iSCWO has

Upcoming iSCWO Tests planned for CY 2023

- Explosive waste
- Whole resin beads
- Agent Orange
- Pesticide and Herbicide waste (Chloral, Chlorobenzene and DDT)
- Organic mixed waste containing nuclear isotopes (simulants such as cerium, cesium and iodine)
- Biosolids wastes
- Pharmaceutical waste (Isomers)
- Landfill Leachates
- Ground up baghouse filters containing organics and PFAS material
- Large PFAS projects planned for CY 2023 including GAC destruction

Conclusions



- Simple to operate, automated and easy maintenance
- iSCWO is an excellent waste destruction process suitable for onsite treatment of organic wastes at affordable cost
- iSCWO is fully capable of destroying a wide range of pumpable hazardous waste including AFFF / PFAS to strict environmental standards
- Mobility for multi-site waste destruction
- iSCWO systems use air rather than liquid oxygen which makes the processing site easier to permit and eliminates a number of safety issues related to LOX systems
- No pollution abatement system necessary to meet environmental regulations
- GA has 35 years experience with SCWO systems – no R&D
- GA provides testing capability and effluent analysis for customers – know before you buy

Contact Information

Thank you very much for your attention!

Any questions – please reach out!

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Demilitarization and Chemical Waste Destruction

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