## DEEPC Building performance assessment towards Next generation EPCs



High capacity thermal storage solution to increase energy efficiency in residential settings

Carlos Ochoa International Energy Research Centre (IERC), Ireland

Session 1: Smart buildings and energy efficiency





## **Brief Introduction**

- System developed in the context of a Horizon 2020 call for residential thermal storage.
- Project is named "MiniStor", led by IERC with participation of partners from the EU and Switzerland.





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## Main objective of the system



#### Other aims:

 Develop a compact residential thermal storage system based on thermochemical materials **10.6x storage capacity of water** Using PVT to power the process



**0.72m3 storage material** Flexibility with parallel use of TCM and PCM

Payback period 6.7 years

Estimated net energy reduction of 44%

Combine thermal & electric storage Using a Home Energy Management System

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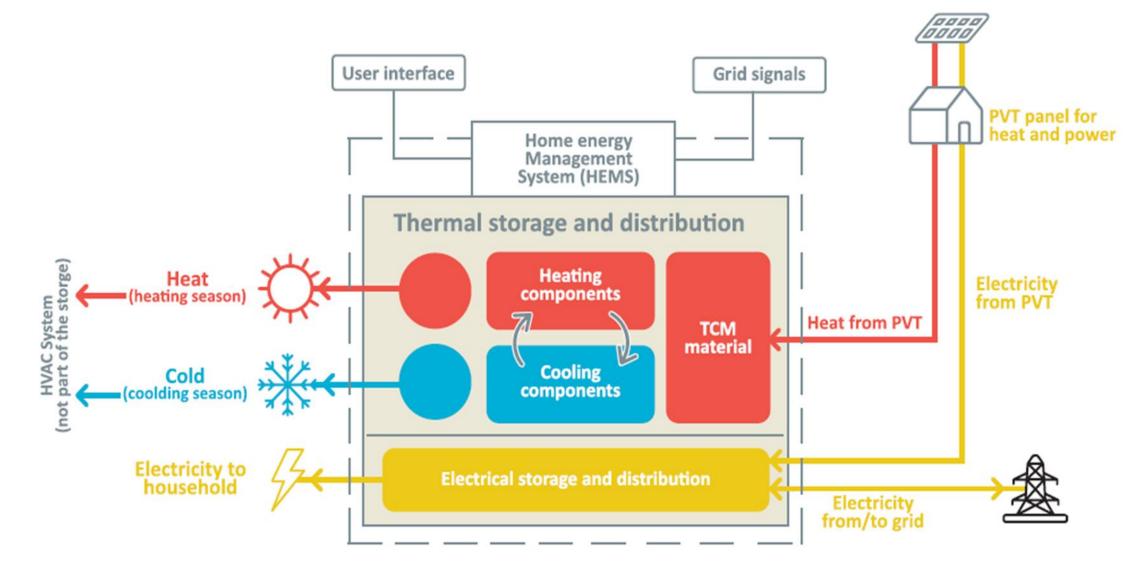


### System Overview

- MiniStor is a compact, integrated system capable of providing sustainable heating, cooling and electricity storage, while utilizing solar-based renewable energy sources.
- ✓ It combines two different storage technologies:
- **Thermochemical materials (TCM),** storing heat in the form of chemical energy. They are contained in a sealed vessel (TCM reactor) and used for daily and multi-day energy storage.
- **Phase Change Materials (PCM),** storing energy in the form of latent heat. They are used for supplementary heating and cooling storage.
- ✓ This configuration results in an overall system energy storage density of over 180 kWh/m³, i.e. more than 10 times the energy storage density of water.
- ✓ The necessary heat input to the system is provided by a combination of innovative PVTs and solar thermal collectors.
- ✓ The PVTs produce also **electricity** that is stored in an electrical battery system (**BESS**)



## The original concept



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## Main components

#### $\checkmark$

#### **TCM reactor** (typical capacity 30kWh)

• Ammoniated CaCl<sub>2</sub> salts are selected as the reactor sorbents. A two-step reversible reaction is utilized for thermochemical storage.

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CaCl_2 \cdot 8NH_3 + Heat \leftrightarrow CaCl_2 \cdot 4NH_3 + 4NH_3
```

 $CaCl_2 \cdot 4NH_3 + Heat \leftrightarrow CaCl_2 \cdot 2NH_3 + 2NH_3$ 

#### Ammonia cycle

• Includes all mechanical devices of a typical refrigeration cycle, i.e. compressor, condenser etc.

#### **Heat Pump**

• To upgrade heat released by the ammonia condensation

#### **PCM vessels**

• Vessels for heating and cooling storage are considered

Prepared by: Athanasios Nesiadis, Nikolaos Nikolopoulos



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**Solar field & BESS** 

input and electricity

Provides the necessary heat

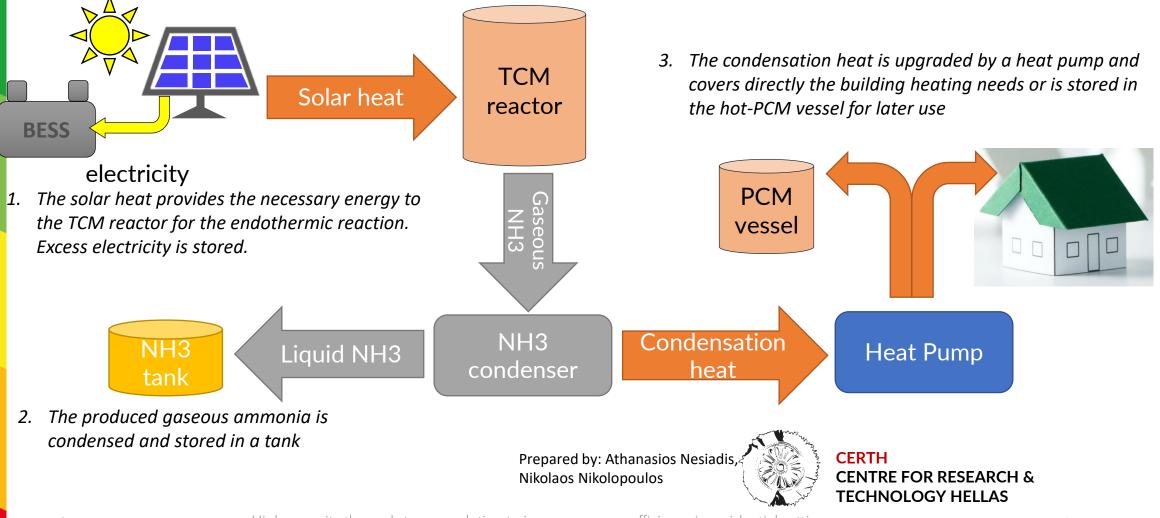
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## Basic operating principle

#### **Charging Phase (winter & shoulder season days)**



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## Basic operating principle

#### **Discharging Phase (winter nights)**

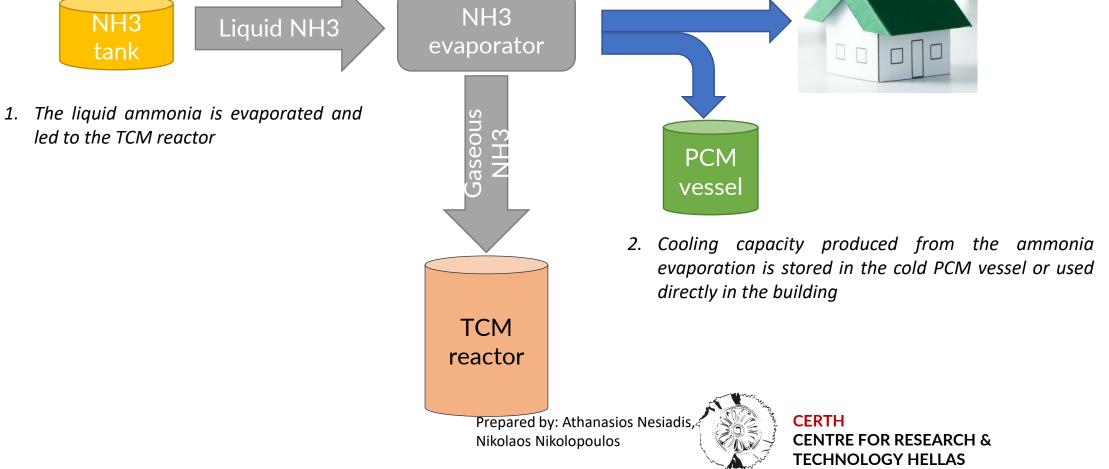
overall system COP for heating equal to 1.8 can be achieved. NH3 tank -iquid NH3 PCM vessel The liquid ammonia 1. is evaporated and led to the TCM reactor 2. In the TCM reactor the exothermic reaction takes place. The released heat NH3 covers directly the building heating TCM Gaseous NH3 needs or is stored in the hot-PCM evaporator reactor vessel for later use Prepared by: Athanasios Nesiadis, CERTH Nikolaos Nikolopoulos **CENTRE FOR RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY HELLAS** 

Considering the energy released during both the charging and discharging phases, an





## Basic operating principle Discharging Phase (warm summer nights)







## MiniStor demonstration sites

MiniStor will be demonstrated in a variety of demonstration sites located in:

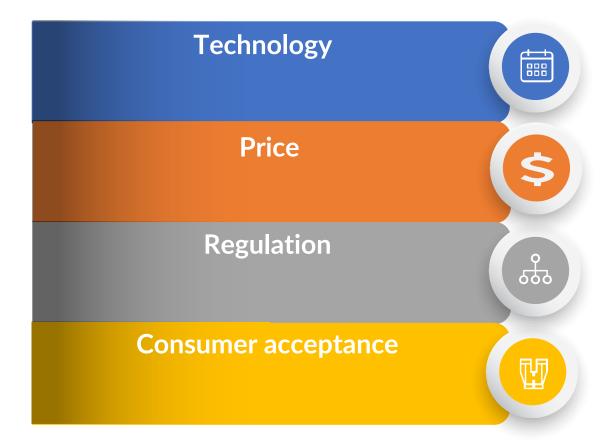
- Greece (2 sites)
- Hungary (1 site)
- Ireland (1 site)
- Spain (1 site)





# Implementing thermal storage in residential settings in Europe

Why we don't have high energy thermal storage in our houses?



8th June 2022





# Implementing thermal storage in residential settings in Europe

Why we don't have high energy thermal storage in our houses?



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## Thank you! Any questions?



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