



Italian National Agency for New Technologies,  
Energy and Sustainable Economic Development

# ENEA Fusion Components Failure Rate Database, status and evolution

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Danilo N. Dongiovanni, N. Terranova, G. Cortese, J.F. Cyparisse, T. Pinna  
ENEA C.R. Frascati – Nuclear Fusion Safety and Reliability Group

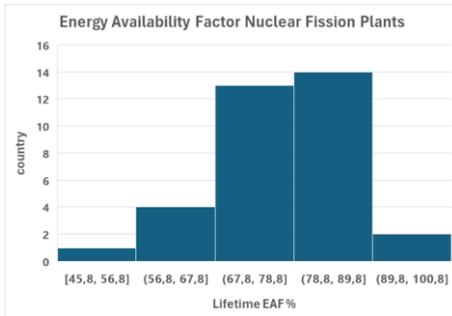


# Context: importance of plant availability for energy production market

Nuclear fusion is expected to be available as energy technology source of energy in the near future.

Besides scientific and technological challenges to obtain burning plasma and tritium self-sufficiency, a key aspect for the success of such technology in the energy market will be plant availability.

## Nuclear Fission Lifetime stats up to 2023 :



- Energy Availability Factor Average: 78.2%
- Average Unplanned Capability Loss Factor: 5.9%

Source: [IAEA PRIS database](#)

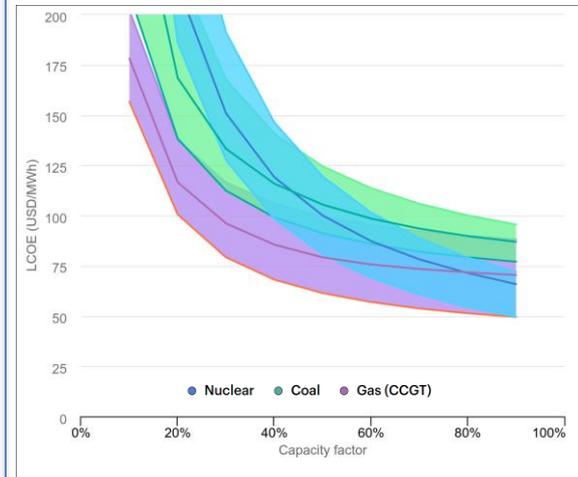
## Nuclear Fusion:

- Characterized by high CaPex costs and planned maintenance time
- Levelized Cost Of Electricity  $\approx (rF/A)^{0.6}$ 
  - with  $r$  discount rate,  $F$  the learning factor,  $A$  plant availability
- DEMO EU Plant:
  - Operational Availability Target **30%**
  - Mean Inherent Availab. Target **48%**
- Fusion Power Plant Availability in market penetration analyses: Assume  $A = 80\%$  rising -> 85% after learning factor.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2005.06.160>  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esr.2016.11.002>  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2020.111937>

## Comparative with energy gen. Tech

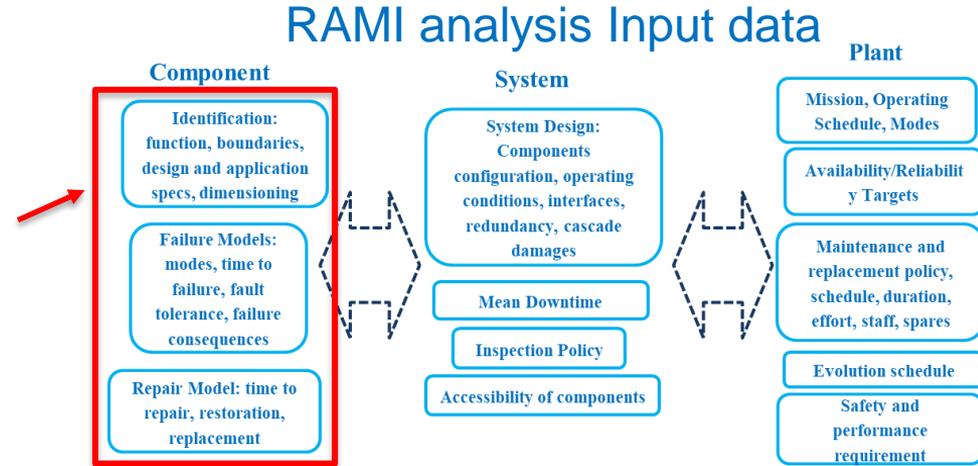
Tech.	Coal NatGas Bio	Nuclear Fission /Fusion (assum.)	Hydro	Wind	Solar
AF %	75-95	80	50	20-40	10-20



IEA (2020), Sensitivity of LCOE of baseload plants to capacity factor, IEA, Paris

# Motivation for fusion reliability data collection/selection

- **Reliability/Availability shall be considered since design early phases**
- Fusion is characterized by pulsed operation, high scheduled maintenance time which reduce Op.Av.:
  - **MANDATORY to minimize unscheduled downtime**
- Nuclear fusion plants will exploit many fusion specific components with relatively low technology readiness level, or in some cases exploit components with mature technology from fission plants but within different and poorly explored operating domain window (e.g., in terms of loads, operation regimes, etc.).
- An important source of uncertainty in reliability assessment then resides in the failure and repair model definition for fusion plant components.
- To limit such uncertainty, **Fusion Components Failure Rate Database** was developed to collect failure and repair screening data suitable for fusion systems reliability analyses.



# Overview FCFRDB & IEA context

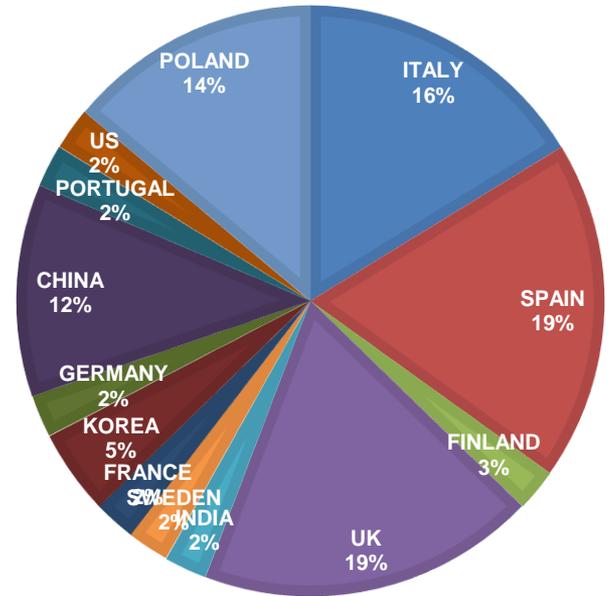
Framework: International Energy Agency Agreement on the Environmental, Safety and Economic Aspects of Fusion Power (IEA ESEFP) – Task 5.

## FCFRDB WEB-ACCESSIBLE DATABASE



<http://fus-se.frascati.enea.it:8080/Enea/login>

- Users: Fusion Community Users willing to work on RAMI analysis or research on failure operational statistics for not commercial purposes.
- Currently about 60 active users from 22 institutes across 13 countries

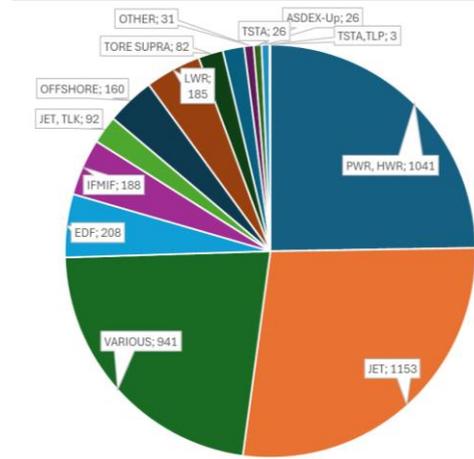
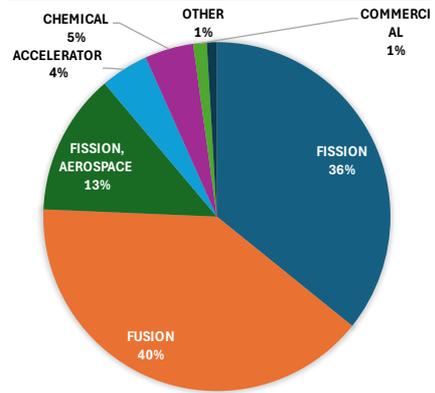
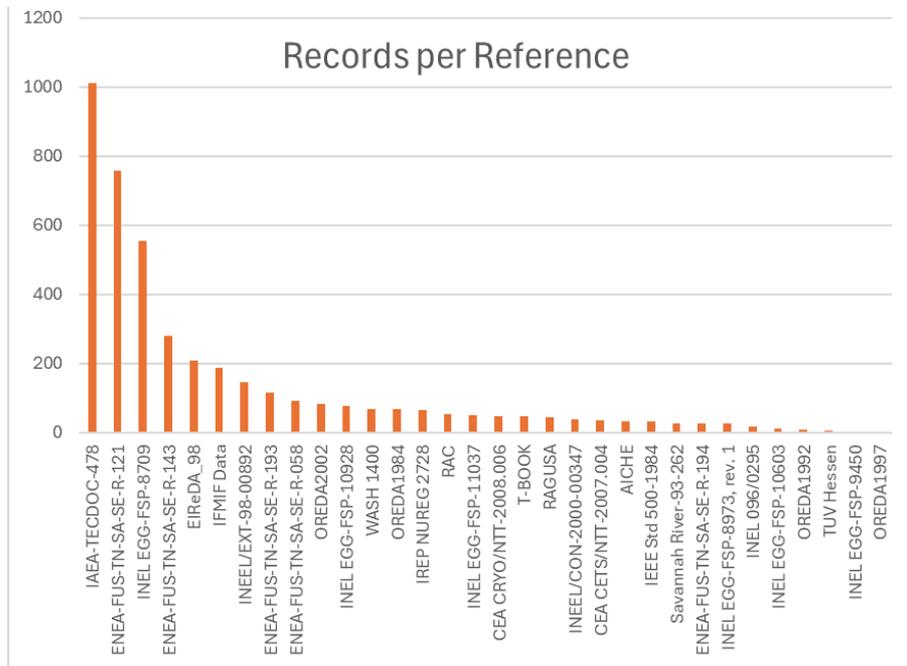


FCFRDB USERS

# FCFRDB Records at glance: hystorical record sources

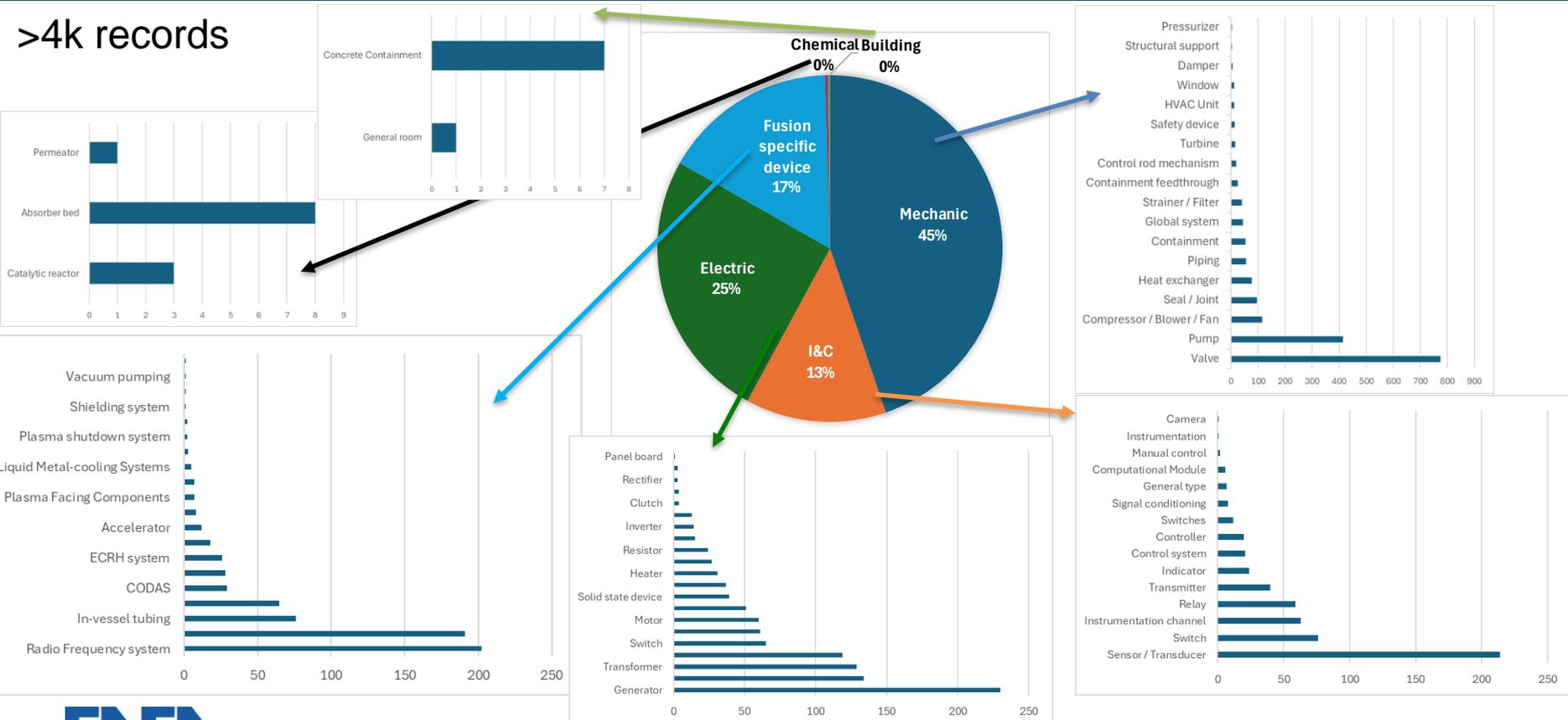
>4k records

62% records selected for fusion from literature screening  
38% records estimated from failure data in facilities



# FCFRDB Records at glance: components record types

>4k records



# Overview FCFRDB: Record Composition

## Show Component

<b>Family Name:</b> Chemical	<b>Type:</b> Absorber bed	<b>Sub-class1:</b> Molecular sieve bed
<b>Sub-class2:</b>	<b>Sub-class3:</b>	<b>Sub-class4:</b>
<b>Function:</b>	<b>Short Description:</b> Molecular Sieve Beds	<b>Failure Mode:</b> All failure modes
<b>Cause:</b>	<b>Operation Mode:</b>	<b>Comp. Bounderies:</b> Two beds of 36.4 kg per bed of Linde type 13X molecular sieve, and two beds of 54.4 kg per bed of Linde type 4A molecular sieve
<b>Design Characteristics:</b>	<b>Appl. Characteristics:</b> Tritium Waste Treatment system components at TSTA	<b>Note:</b> Table A-2 - The Reference gives only upper bound, then mean failure rate have been estimated with the formula $\text{LambdaUB} * \text{LN}(0.4) / \text{LN}(0.1)$ because, with no faults observed, the following approximation can be done: $\text{Mean} = -\text{LN}(0.4) / D$ and $\text{UB} = -\text{LN}(0.1) / D$ , where D is the number of operations
<b>Failure Rate/Prob. -</b> Mean: 5.05E-02 Error Factor: N/A Upper Bound 95%: 1.27E-01 Lower Bound 5%: 0.00E+00	<b>FR/P Unit:</b> /D	<b>Probability Distribution :</b> Exponential (EF)
<b>MTTF:</b>	<b>MTTF Unit:</b>	
<b>MDTF :</b>	<b>MDTF Unit :</b>	
<b>Mean Time To Repair :</b>	<b>MTTR Unit :</b>	<b>MTTR Probability distribution :</b>
<b>Mean Repair Rate :</b>	<b>MRR Unit :</b>	
<b>Preventive Maintenance Policy:</b>	<b>Test/Inspection interval:</b>	<b>No of Failures:</b> 0
<b>No of Components:</b> 4	<b>Cumulative Working Time:</b>	<b>Cumulative Working Demands:</b> 22
<b>Validation:</b> APPROVED	<b>IEA Consensus:</b> Y	
<b>Reference:</b> INEL EGG-FSP-8973, rev. 1	 Attach New Reference  Attach Reference	
<b>Created By:</b> dataEntry	<b>Data entry:</b> 03/12/2011	<b>Last modification date:</b> 20/05/2012

Note- about 25 % of records include Mean Time To Repair (MTTR) data stats

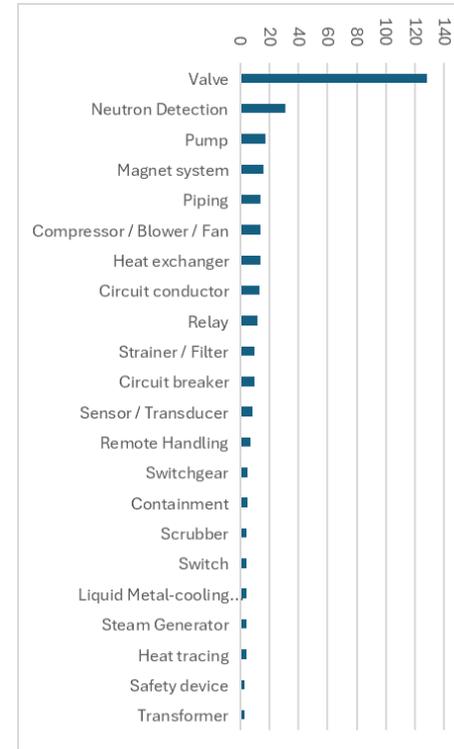


# FCFRDB development: data from literature selection, suppliers

Expert RAMI analyst can propose/select literature data from other facilities / domain of applications to estimate system performance.

About 500 new records added to FCFRDB:

Reference	# records	Category	Type	PLANT	System
INEEL_EXT-99-11044	194	Nuclear Facilities	Liquid	Metal	Cooling - Liquid Metal
INEL-95/0422	129	Chemical Process	Failure Stats	INL Chemical Process Plant	Chemical
INEEL_EXT-01	48	Nuclear Facilities	Screening	Vaiours	Plant Electrical Distribution Systems
ITER Radial Neutron Camera	38	Fusion	Vendor Data / Models	ITER Design	Neutron Diagnostics
INEEL/EXT-99-001318	26	Nuclear Facilities	Screening	Vaiours	Ventilation Systems
DRAGON- EAST data	15	Fusion	Failure Stats	Dragon-East	Cryosystem, Lithium loop
Fast Discharge Unit - Model	13	Fusion	Reliability Model	ITER Design	Magnets & PS
Accelerator Application -	8	Fusion	Screening	Vaiours	Magnets
ITER Blanket Remote Handling System	7	Fusion	Vendor data	ITER DESIGN	Remote Handling
INEL_0299	5	Fusion	Screening	Vaiours	Liquid Metal
DIII-D	5	Fusion	Failure Stats	D-IIID	Magnet



# FCFRDB development: data for fusion specific component qualification tests

## Fusion specific component, load dependent

Qualification dataset: 26 Divertor Inner Vertical Target mock-ups.  
 HighHeatFlux tests: 10 MW/m<sup>2</sup> for 5000 cycles (10 sec flux on, 10 sec off) and at 20 MW/m<sup>2</sup> for additional 300 cycles.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2014.12.006>

Number of mock-up	Number of cycles	Heat Flux (MW/m <sup>2</sup> )	Survived
26	5000	10	26
20	1000	20	17
6	300	20	6

A Bayesian framework + Step-Stress Accelerated Life Testing (SSALT) framework exploited for failure model inference:

Posterior distribution  $f(\theta|X) \sim f(\theta) L(X|\theta) = f(\theta) \prod_i l_i$

likelihood function  $L(X|\theta)$  depending on surviving time and stress levels  $V$

Exponential  $T_i \sim \exp(\lambda)$  :

$$\lambda = C^{-1} e^{-B/V}$$

Weibull  $T_i \sim \text{Weibull}(\beta, \eta)$ :

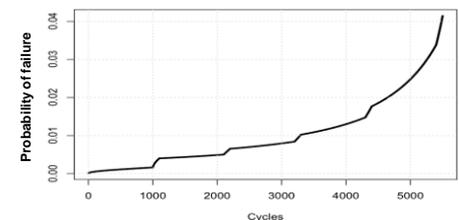
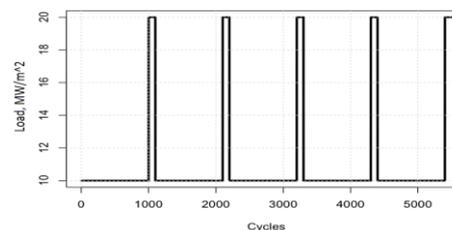
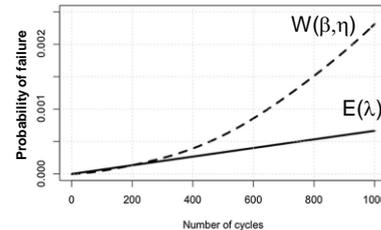
$$\lambda(t) = \beta C^{-\beta} e^{-\beta B/V} t^{\beta-1}$$

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2018.05.077>

Estimated Mean Time To Failure (MTTF)

Weibull takes into account degradation in time and enables building more realistic/operational sequences

Method	MTTF (cycles)
Exponential (just 10 MW/m <sup>2</sup> data)	187550
Exponential ( $\lambda$ )	150000
Weibull ( $\beta, \eta$ )	8700



# FCFRDB development: data for fusion specific component qualification tests

## Fusion specific component, load dependent

- single crystal Chemical Vapour Deposited fast D-T neutron diamond detectors to be exploited in ITER
- an expected life of expressed as max cumulated fluence of uncollided neutrons  $1.E15$  neutrons / $cm^2$  before degradation was derived from radiation hardness tests

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nima.2021.165574>

- A mapping between cumulated neutron fluence ( $n/cm^2$ ) and Mean Time To Failure (MTTF) (h) was obtained exploiting a reference irradiation scenario at different Lines Of Sight (LOS)
- A MTTF averaged over LOS of 23.76 ITER operational year was found, by assuming 4608h per ITER operational year (excluding the calibration by alpha sources hours).
- A fit to lognormal distribution over different LOS resulted in  $(m,s)=(11.60, 0.56)$  parameters

Cumulated neutron fluence in operation time

scCVD detector location

		Cumulated Uncollided Fluence															
Years		LOS4	LOSS	LOS6	LOSS8	LOS9	LOS10	LOS12	LOS14	LOS16	LOS18	LOS19	LOS20	LOS21	LOS22	LOS23	
DD and DT Trace Tritium Campaign	0	7.01E+11	6.20E+11	7.13E+11	7.98E+11	8.90E+11	9.88E+11	9.71E+11	1.16E+12	1.00E+12	9.34E+11	8.10E+11	7.36E+11	6.18E+11	9.07E+11	9.01E+11	8.94E+11
	1	6.08E+12	1.24E+12	2.88E+12	1.68E+12	3.96E+12	1.98E+12	1.94E+12	2.31E+12	2.01E+12	1.97E+12	1.62E+12	1.47E+12	1.24E+12	1.81E+12	1.81E+12	1.79E+12
	2	1.10E+12	1.86E+12	2.34E+12	2.69E+12	3.79E+12	2.81E+12	3.91E+12	3.47E+12	3.01E+12	2.88E+12	2.43E+12	2.32E+12	1.80E+12	2.73E+12	2.71E+12	2.68E+12
	3	2.80E+12	2.48E+12	2.85E+12	3.19E+12	3.72E+12	3.75E+12	3.88E+12	4.62E+12	4.01E+12	3.73E+12	3.24E+12	2.94E+12	2.47E+12	3.69E+12	3.61E+12	3.58E+12
	4	3.50E+12	3.10E+12	3.56E+12	3.99E+12	4.65E+12	4.69E+12	4.85E+12	5.78E+12	5.02E+12	4.67E+12	4.05E+12	3.68E+12	3.09E+12	4.58E+12	4.51E+12	4.47E+12
	5	4.20E+12	3.72E+12	4.28E+12	4.79E+12	5.58E+12	5.63E+12	5.83E+12	6.94E+12	6.02E+12	5.60E+12	4.86E+12	4.42E+12	3.71E+12	5.44E+12	5.42E+12	5.36E+12
No operations	6	4.90E+12	4.34E+12	4.99E+12	5.59E+12	6.51E+12	6.57E+12	6.80E+12	8.09E+12	7.03E+12	6.54E+12	5.67E+12	5.15E+12	4.33E+12	6.35E+12	6.31E+12	6.26E+12
	7	5.61E+12	4.99E+12	5.79E+12	6.39E+12	7.44E+12	7.51E+12	7.77E+12	9.29E+12	8.03E+12	7.47E+12	6.48E+12	5.89E+12	4.94E+12	7.25E+12	7.21E+12	7.15E+12
DT1 Campaign	8	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00	0.02E+00
	9	7.15E+12	6.43E+12	7.27E+12	8.14E+12	9.48E+12	9.57E+12	9.90E+12	1.18E+13	1.02E+13	9.52E+12	8.26E+12	7.51E+12	6.20E+12	9.25E+12	9.20E+12	9.12E+12
	10	8.69E+12	7.68E+12	8.84E+12	9.90E+12	1.15E+13	1.16E+13	1.20E+13	1.43E+13	1.24E+13	1.16E+13	1.00E+13	9.13E+12	7.66E+12	1.12E+13	1.12E+13	1.11E+13
DT1 Campaign	11	1.02E+13	9.04E+12	1.04E+13	1.17E+13	1.36E+13	1.37E+13	1.42E+13	1.69E+13	1.47E+13	1.36E+13	1.18E+13	1.07E+13	9.02E+12	1.32E+13	1.32E+13	1.30E+13
	12	6.38E+13	5.64E+13	6.49E+13	7.27E+13	8.44E+13	8.54E+13	8.83E+13	1.05E+14	9.11E+13	8.50E+13	7.37E+13	6.70E+13	5.62E+13	8.25E+13	8.21E+13	8.13E+13
	13	1.17E+14	1.04E+14	1.18E+14	1.34E+14	1.59E+14	1.57E+14	1.63E+14	1.94E+14	1.68E+14	1.56E+14	1.36E+14	1.21E+14	1.01E+14	1.51E+14	1.50E+14	1.48E+14
DT1 Campaign	14	1.71E+14	1.51E+14	1.74E+14	1.95E+14	2.27E+14	2.28E+14	2.37E+14	2.82E+14	2.45E+14	2.28E+14	1.97E+14	1.79E+14	1.51E+14	2.21E+14	2.20E+14	2.18E+14
	15	2.24E+14	1.98E+14	2.28E+14	2.56E+14	2.97E+14	3.00E+14	3.10E+14	3.69E+14	3.21E+14	2.98E+14	2.59E+14	2.35E+14	1.97E+14	2.90E+14	2.88E+14	2.86E+14
DT2 2/3 Campaign	16	2.77E+14	2.45E+14	2.82E+14	3.16E+14	3.67E+14	3.71E+14	3.84E+14	4.57E+14	3.97E+14	3.69E+14	3.20E+14	2.91E+14	2.44E+14	3.51E+14	3.51E+14	3.53E+14
	17	3.30E+14	2.92E+14	3.36E+14	3.76E+14	4.38E+14	4.42E+14	4.57E+14	5.45E+14	4.73E+14	4.46E+14	3.81E+14	3.47E+14	2.91E+14	4.27E+14	4.25E+14	4.21E+14
DT2 4/5 Campaign	18	3.83E+14	3.39E+14	3.90E+14	4.37E+14	5.08E+14	5.13E+14	5.31E+14	6.32E+14	5.49E+14	5.10E+14	4.43E+14	4.03E+14	3.38E+14	4.96E+14	4.93E+14	4.89E+14
	19	4.33E+14	3.86E+14	4.44E+14	4.91E+14	5.79E+14	5.84E+14	6.04E+14	7.29E+14	6.25E+14	5.81E+14	5.04E+14	4.59E+14	3.85E+14	5.64E+14	5.61E+14	5.56E+14
	20	4.89E+14	4.32E+14	4.98E+14	5.57E+14	6.49E+14	6.55E+14	6.78E+14	8.07E+14	7.01E+14	6.52E+14	5.65E+14	5.14E+14	4.31E+14	6.31E+14	6.30E+14	6.24E+14
	21	5.42E+14	4.79E+14	5.52E+14	6.18E+14	7.19E+14	7.26E+14	7.51E+14	8.94E+14	7.77E+14	7.22E+14	6.26E+14	5.70E+14	4.78E+14	6.78E+14	6.76E+14	6.72E+14
	22	5.95E+14	5.26E+14	6.05E+14	6.78E+14	7.90E+14	7.97E+14	8.25E+14	9.71E+14	8.53E+14	7.93E+14	6.88E+14	6.35E+14	5.25E+14	7.06E+14	7.07E+14	7.05E+14
	23	6.48E+14	5.73E+14	6.59E+14	7.38E+14	8.60E+14	8.68E+14	8.98E+14	1.07E+15	9.21E+14	8.64E+14	7.49E+14	6.91E+14	5.72E+14	7.89E+14	7.87E+14	7.82E+14
	24	7.01E+14	6.20E+14	7.13E+14	7.99E+14	9.39E+14	9.47E+14	9.77E+14	1.16E+15	1.00E+15	9.39E+14	8.10E+14	7.37E+14	6.18E+14	9.07E+14	9.01E+14	8.94E+14
	25	7.54E+14	6.71E+14	7.64E+14	8.50E+14	9.91E+14	9.99E+14	1.029E+15	1.24E+15	1.07E+15	1.01E+15	8.71E+14	7.92E+14	6.56E+14	9.69E+14	9.61E+14	9.52E+14
	26	8.07E+14	7.14E+14	8.21E+14	9.20E+14	1.07E+15	1.08E+15	1.12E+15	1.35E+15	1.16E+15	1.08E+15	9.33E+14	8.48E+14	7.12E+14	1.04E+15	1.04E+15	1.03E+15
	27	8.60E+14	7.61E+14	8.75E+14	9.74E+14	1.14E+15	1.15E+15	1.19E+15	1.42E+15	1.23E+15	1.15E+15	9.74E+14	9.00E+14	7.59E+14	1.11E+15	1.11E+15	1.10E+15
DT2 4/5 Campaign	28	9.13E+14	8.08E+14	9.29E+14	1.04E+15	1.21E+15	1.22E+15	1.47E+15	1.51E+15	1.31E+15	1.22E+15	1.06E+15	9.04E+14	8.00E+14	1.18E+15	1.18E+15	1.16E+15
	29	9.67E+14	8.54E+14	9.79E+14	1.10E+15	1.28E+15	1.29E+15	1.54E+15	1.68E+15	1.47E+15	1.39E+15	1.22E+15	1.02E+15	8.92E+14	1.25E+15	1.25E+15	1.23E+15
	30	1.02E+15	9.01E+14	1.04E+15	1.16E+15	1.35E+15	1.36E+15	1.61E+15	1.68E+15	1.46E+15	1.36E+15	1.18E+15	9.89E+14	8.99E+14	1.32E+15	1.31E+15	1.30E+15
	31	1.07E+15	9.48E+14	1.09E+15	1.21E+15	1.40E+15	1.41E+15	1.66E+15	1.77E+15	1.55E+15	1.45E+15	1.24E+15	1.13E+15	9.06E+14	1.39E+15	1.39E+15	1.37E+15
	32	1.13E+15	9.93E+14	1.14E+15	1.28E+15	1.49E+15	1.51E+15	1.76E+15	1.86E+15	1.61E+15	1.50E+15	1.30E+15	1.18E+15	9.01E+14	1.46E+15	1.45E+15	1.44E+15
	33	1.18E+15	1.04E+15	1.20E+15	1.34E+15	1.56E+15	1.58E+15	1.83E+15	1.94E+15	1.69E+15	1.57E+15	1.35E+15	1.24E+15	1.04E+15	1.52E+15	1.52E+15	1.50E+15
	34	1.23E+15	1.09E+15	1.25E+15	1.40E+15	1.63E+15	1.65E+15	1.91E+15	2.03E+15	1.76E+15	1.64E+15	1.42E+15	1.29E+15	1.09E+15	1.59E+15	1.59E+15	1.57E+15
	35	1.28E+15	1.14E+15	1.31E+15	1.46E+15	1.70E+15	1.72E+15	2.02E+15	2.12E+15	1.84E+15	1.71E+15	1.48E+15	1.35E+15	1.13E+15	1.66E+15	1.65E+15	1.64E+15

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fusengdes.2024.114209>

# FCFRDB development: new data from fusion facilities

**Availability/Reliability global performance statistics on specific plant needs to be disaggregated to become informative for new systems reliability-driven design**

- Sensitize facility operators to raw failure events/ maintenance **data collection at component level**,
- Machine operation data perspective not always superposable to RAMI data perspective
- Collaborations with facilities being established - Definition of raw data collection forms

	Date and Place of Form Compilation	Family Name	Given Name	Institution / Affiliation	Qualification	Role	Contact (email)				Notes
User/Form Identification											
GENERAL INFO SECTION	Laboratory / Facility	Acquisition Date	Acquisition Context	Acquisition Process	Data Processing						Notes
Data Acquisition Information											
COMPONENT FAILURE INFO SECTION RECORD 1	Component ID	Function	Operation Mode	Component Boundary	Design Characteristics	Application Characteristics	Preventive Maintenance Policy	Test / Inspection interval	Component definition		
	Start date	Stop date	Operation parameters (System)	Operation parameters	Operation definition						
	Failure Mode	Cause	Time/ Demand # of Failure	Time/Demand # To Failure	Failure Detection / Action on detection	Time to repair (Prepare)	Time to repair (Perform)	Time to repair (Commissioning)	Time to repair (Total)	N° of Workers	Notes
	Failure/Corrective Maintenance Identification										Failure/Repair definition
	Preventive maintenance identification	Activity	Cause	Date	Time to Maintenance	N° of Demands to maintenance	Time to Perform Preventive Maintenance (Prepare)	Time to Perform Preventive Maintenance (Perform)	Time to Perform Preventive Maintenance (Commissioning)	Time to Perform Preventive Maintenance (Total)	N° of Workers
											Maintenance policy definition

# FCFRDB development: new user interface website

Under development a new user website enabling:

- Search on records by keyword
- complex queries editing, saving
- data export to excel

Query Tool

Query editor

Query | Join conditions | Query Extra

design\_characteristics Contains helium

AND type Contains compressor

AND no\_of\_failures Greater than 10

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id	idrecord	family_name	type	sub_class1	sub_class2	sub_class3	sub_class4	function	short_description
37E3764		Mechanic	Compressor / Blower / Fan	Compressor	Positive displacement	Rotary	Screw	Helium compression	Screw Compress
37E3765		Mechanic	Compressor / Blower / Fan	Compressor	Positive displacement	Rotary	Screw	Helium compression	Screw Compress

# Summary and Conclusion

- A high plant availability (~80%) is the target for nuclear fusion to compete in the energy market.
- Reliability-driven design is mandatory and shall be supported by collection of fusion facilities failure and maintenance data at component level
- Collaborative effort IEA – ESEFP Task 5 is aimed at such purpose with the Fusion Component Failure Rate Data Base, made available for fusion community
- Data collection is ongoing, ~4700 records now available:
  - Data from expert selection among literature data
  - Data from fusion specific qualification and testing of components
  - Data from suppliers system analyses
  - **Invest time/resources in collecting/sharing data from your FACILITY**
- Development of a new user web interface enabling advanced data search is ongoing

Thanks for your attention

[danilo.dongiovanni@enea.it](mailto:danilo.dongiovanni@enea.it)