## **MAKAI OCEAN ENGINEERING**

**Ocean Energy Expertise** 

Hermann Kugeler

Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network Webinar June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

# Makai is...



Innovative Ocean Technology Company • Founded 1973 • 37 employees



Installed +250k miles

 First US grid connected cc-OTEC plant Sensor & comms networks



# Seawater Air Conditioning (SWAC)



# SWAC: Seawater Air Conditioning

#### **Main Components**

- Offshore pipes
- Chilled water loops
- Pumps
- Heat exchangers

#### **Benefits**

- Economic payback can be <5 years</li>
- Cooling energy reduced up to 90%
- Potable water use eliminated
- Long lasting, simple components
- Multiple commercial installations



#### **Economically viable technology today!**



# Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC)



# **OTEC: Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion**

- Leverages temperature differential between surface and deep seawater to power ORC
- Seawater temperatures remain near constant
- Provides baseload power unlike other VREs

### **Simple Components**

- Heat exchangers
- Turbine generator
- Seawater pumps and pipes
- Working fluid piping and pump

#### 24/7 baseload renewable energy resource





# **OERC: Ocean Energy Research Center**



- First U.S. grid connected cc-OTEC plant
- Plant dedicated Aug 21st 2015

#### **Project Goals:**

- Develop autonomous OTEC plant controls
- Produce utility-grade electricity
- Gain operational experience
- Improve commercial designs
- Raise visibility of OTEC

Mission Statement: To reduce the cost of ocean energy



# **OTEC's Challenges**

- High CAPEX
- Vigorous economies of scale
- Has not been built at commercial scale
- Limited to locations with warm surface waters and cold deep seawater
- Onshore OTEC limited to small scale
- Offshore floating pilot plant needed

### OCEAN THERMAL RESOURCES



Temperature Differences Between Surface and 1000m Depth







# Marine Heat Exchanger Development & Testing

#### **Heat Exchanger Testing**

- Funded since 2009
- Third-party & Makai's own designs

# **OERC Facility**

- ~45,000 liters/min seawater
- High accuracy instrumentation
- Fully automatic controls

**Takeaway:** No heat exchanger on the market meets OTEC's high demands.





# Makai's Thin Foil Heat Exchanger (TFHX<sup>™</sup>)

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TFHX

#### **Features**

- Ultra-Compact
- Lightweight
- Corrosion Resistant
- Form Fitting

### **Advantages**

- Up to 5 8x more compact
- Reduced material costs
- Utilizes unused spaces

True step-change improvement in heat exchanger technology!







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