





# High resolution monitoring, real time visualization and reliable modeling of highly controlled, intermediate and up-scalable size pilot injection tests of underground storage of CO<sub>2</sub>

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# **Executive summary**

This deliverable presents the progress in preparing the Heletz site for  $CO_2$  injection, the facilities and materials and addresses health and safety issues. The commissioning of the CO2 injection system is completed, after we have identified a number of issues that needed to be redressed.

The downhole sampling system, the U-tube, protocols are updated. The Utube sample reception panel in the control room was amended in order to improve the quality of the samples and of the sampling procedure.

Substantial effort has been invested in granting safety. A health and safety plan (HSP) has been prepared. A leakage monitoring system was installed. It comprises outdoor gas detectors, personal gas detectors and gas detectors in the control room. Safety distance between the various facilities onsite were set in order to allow smart planning, as a response to the fire department requirements, and a HAZOP document.

Keywords
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Project commissioning, safety, preventing actions, HAZOP, CO<sub>2</sub> injection.







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# **1.Introduction**

This document describes the facilities installed at the Heletz experimental  $CO_2$  injection site and the experimental capabilities that they enable.

The Heletz site is located in the Southern Mediterranean Coastal Plain of Israel, about 8 km to the east of the city of Ashkelon. In the frame of the EU-FP7 MUSTANG project, two deep wells have been drilled and instrumented: H18A is instrumented for  $CO_2$  injection, water injection, and fluid abstraction and monitoring, H18B is instrumented for fluid abstraction and monitoring. Monitoring technologies installed in the well include downhole pressure and temperature transmitters, an optical fiber for continuous temperature sensing and TiT (tube in Tube) downhole fluid sampling device. In the frame of TRUST we have substantially improved the facilities above the ground such as a versatile  $CO_2$  injection system, onsite sampling and chemical analysis, tracer injection.

We also present the progress made in preparations towards the injection of CO<sub>2</sub>. Herein, we depict a broad picture of the site and all its facilities and process lines (P&ID) a better understanding of the project's site capabilities. We focus on the facilities and materials on site and safety issues, especially on hazard prevention and control.

# 2.Objectives

At Heletz site a series of sizeable, pilot scale and highly controlled, CO<sub>2</sub> injection experiments are planned.

Some of the experiment goals are mainly scientific, and are listed below:

- Assess the characteristics in a field scale experiment of  $CO_2$  trapping, e.g. solubility and residual saturation.
- Assess the effect of heterogeneity on these parameters.
- Generate a complete set of data for calibration and verification of computational models to simulate  $CO_2$  storage.
- Estimating CO<sub>2</sub> mixing in the storage by using tracers that will assist in optimizing the ratio of dissolved CO<sub>2</sub> in the reservoir, and determining the storage efficiency of the reservoir.
- Test a number of injection strategies (cold CO<sub>2</sub> versus supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>).

These objectives will be achieved by conducting a single well push-pull injection of pure  $CO_2$ , single well push-pull injection of  $CO_2$  and impurities ( $SO_2$  and  $N_2$ ), a dipole experiment (injection of  $CO_2$  in the injection well and abstraction at the monitoring well, injection of cold  $CO_2$ , injection of  $CO_2$  aimed at testing optimized injection strategies. I each experiment, we plan to inject the amount of  $CO_2$  that would allow obtaining relevant reservoir responses and the ability to extrapolate results and conclusions to larger, industrial-scale injection activities.







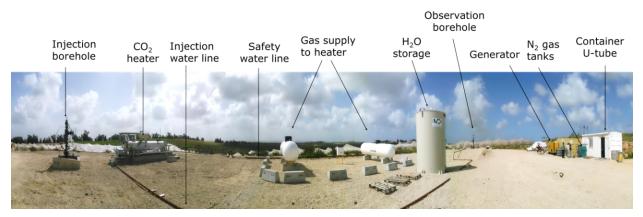


Figure 1: Panoramic photography of the experiment site (February 2015).

# **3.The Heletz site**

The site is located at the edges of an almost depleted oil field, which was discovered in 1955. The site was extensively explored for oil by means of a relatively large number of deep wells over a relatively small geographical area. For this reason, the site geology is well characterized: the reservoir rock, the "Heletz sands" is a sandstone formation composed of three sublayers (K W and A). At the site vicinity, the cumulative thickness of the reservoir is of approximately ten meters, the porosity is of at least 20% and the permeability of ~750 mD. Above the reservoir, there is a sealing cap rock is made of limestone, shale and marl, with a thickness of approximately forty meters.

The Heletz site is located in south of Israel. The site coordinates are (166870, 612920), in the New Israel coordinate system. The road's distance of the closest populated area belonging to Hof Ashkelon Regional Council are: Heletz 6.6 km, Kochav Michael 4.3 km and Sderot 11.8 km. The close large cities are Ashkelon 15.8 km and Be'er Sheba 53 km. The site location is advantageous for two reasons: (1) far enough (more than 100 m) from a populated area, thus we stand in the separation distance requirements for the materials in use. (2) Close enough to populated area to enable fast rescue or assistance in disastrous event. For example, the closest hospital is only 19 minutes.

Two new wells were drilled: Heletz 18A (H18A, the injection well) and Heletz 18B (H18B, the observation well).  $CO_2$  is pumped through the skid, heated and then flows through the manifold to the injection well. At 1000 m depth the  $CO_2$  is mixed with a tracer (SF<sub>6</sub>). Formation fluids are pumped from the observation well, filtered and stored at the storage unit. When formation fluids are injected, they are mixed with tracers (Xe and Kr), and injected through injection well at 1640 m depth.







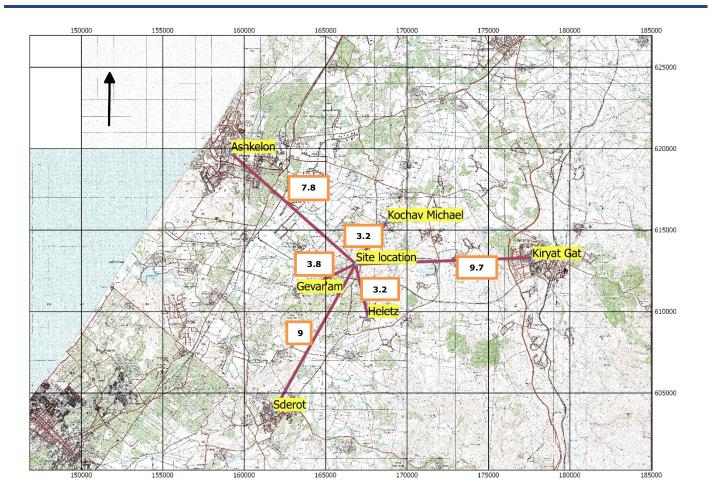


Figure 2. The experimental area map detailing air distances (km) of the nearby towns.









Figure 3. Aerial photograph of the experiment site containing the two wells (H18A and H18B).

# 4. Underground facilities

- Two deep wells were drilled at the Heletz site, known as H18A, the injection well, (Figure 4) and H18B, the observation well, (Figure 5).
- The wells depth is of ~1650 m, perforated at the target layers and laying between 1620 m and 1640 m. The injection occurs in 1630 m depth, while a sealing cap rock layer of 40 m lies above.
- The well has a typical oil well structure, containing 3 sections: 13<sup>3/8</sup>" diameter casing from the surface to 300 m depth, 9<sup>5/8</sup>" diameter pipe from the surface to 1200 m depth and 7" diameter pipe from the surface to the target layer. Cementation with CO<sub>2</sub> resistant mix in the lower part was installed under the supervision of Halliburton. The integrity of the inner and deeper cementation was check via a CBL (Cement Bond Log).
- A packer was installed in 1612 m depth and separated the perforation layer from the rest of the injection well. The packer operation was tested for leaks using HRH type FID gas detector and chromatograph. The pressure in the tube was increased to 100 bars and the upper part of the tube was sealed. The pressure in the upper and lower part of the tube was compared, showing the packer was well operating.
- Systems for measuring and monitoring were installed in the wells.

These include (Table 1):

- Pressure and temperature sensors.
- Optical fiber for continuous monitoring of temperature, possibly acoustic measurement (requiring dedicated hardware and software above the ground) and in-situ brine heating system.







• A formation fluid sampling system (U-tube), which produces samples at reservoir pressure (high). The pressurized samples can then be depressurized once the pressure dependent characteristics of the sample are measured.

Table 1. M	easuring	equipment	in th	e borehole.
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Wellhead	From wellhead to well bottom	Well bottom
Pressure sensors		<u>4 inline electronic pressure</u> sensors in each well
<u>Type:</u> Rosemount 2088 with Selectable HART Pressure Transmitter		<u>Type:</u> Ranger Gauge Systems DASRO
Detection range: 0-276 bar		<u>Detection range:</u> 100.3-0 bar
Accuracy: ±0.065%		Accuracy: ±%0.02
		Resolution: 0.7mbar
Temperature sensors	Optical fiber monitoring	4 inline electronic temperature sensors in each well
<u>Type:</u> Rosemount 644 Temperature Transmitter	temperature along the borehole. In case of CO <sub>2</sub> leakage, a	<u>Type:</u> Ranger Gauge Systems DASRO
Detection range: -40-85 °C	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	Detection range: 200 °C
Accuracy: ±0.15 °C		Accuracy: ± 0.5 °C
		Resolution: 0.005 °C
The robust borehole head can withstand CO <sub>2</sub> burst. <u>Maximal pressure:</u> 345 bar <u>Maximal flow rate: 4 ton/hr</u>		A packer separates between the well and the wellhead. The packer is placed at 1612m, between outer 7" cylinder and inner 2 <sup>7/8</sup> " cylinder. In case of leakage the gas will have to diffuse through a long liquid column above the packer.







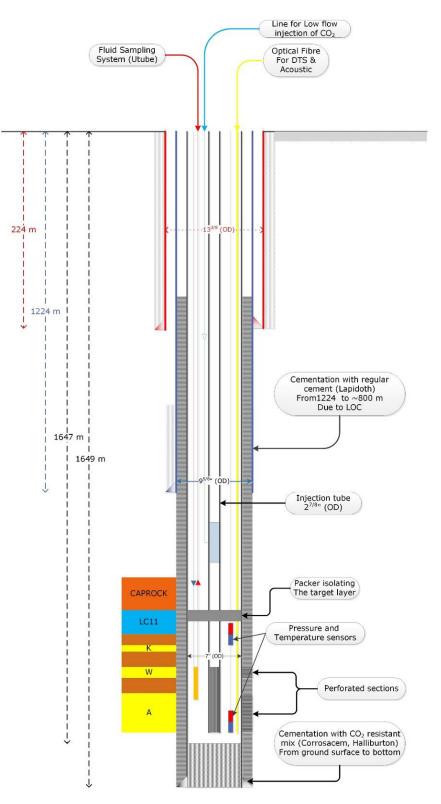


Figure 4. Structure of injection well (H18A).







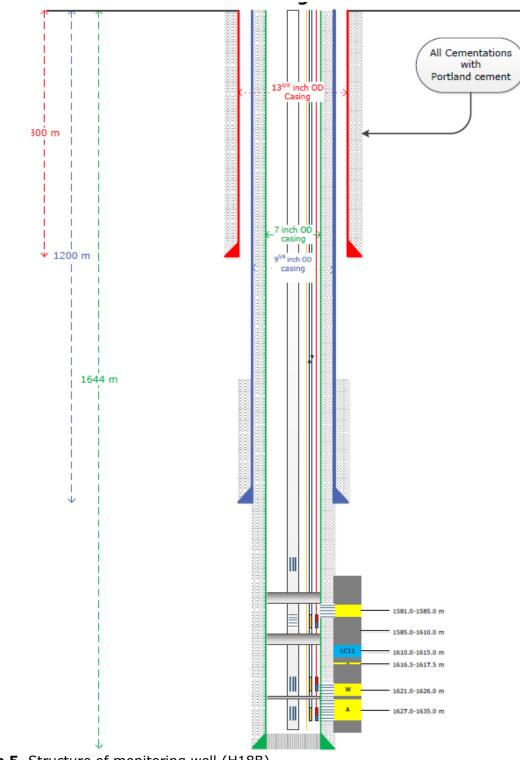


Figure 5. Structure of monitoring well (H18B).







# **5.Above the ground facilities**

## 5.1 The CO<sub>2</sub> injection system

The CO<sub>2</sub> injection system is composed of a pump skid (Figure 6), a heater (Figure 7) and a manifold. The skid contains a booster, which increases the CO<sub>2</sub> fluid pressure to the working pressure of the pumps, in order prevent the formation of CO<sub>2</sub> as gas. Two main triplex pumps (one smaller – low-flow and one larger – hi flow) are required to cover the full range of CO<sub>2</sub> flow rates (0.25 – 3.96 ton/hr)) for the planned experiments. Each triplex pump can raise the CO<sub>2</sub> discharge pressure to as much as 1,200 psig (83 bar). Afterwards, the CO<sub>2</sub> fluid will flow through a Coriolis meter, which measures the mass flow rate of the CO<sub>2</sub> to be injected. Each pump is connected to a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), which allows determining the actual flowrate. The liquid CO<sub>2</sub> used as feed is -18 °C, this temperature will not significantly increase by the booster and main triplex pump, so the heater will be used to heat the CO<sub>2</sub> to temperatures up to 35 °C, in order to bring the CO<sub>2</sub> to supercritical conditions. The heater burns a mixture of propane and butane inside a fire tube that is immersed in a bath designed to be a 50 / 50 weight percent mixture of water and Propylene glycol. The CO<sub>2</sub> system is designed for unattended operation (A1).



Figure 6. Pump skid.









**Figure 7.** The  $CO_2$  heater and manifold sections. The manifold is a junction for batch tracers and water tube with  $CO_2$  fluid (black frame). The manifold is connected to the wellhead (black arrow). Tracer injection



**Figure 8.** The CO<sub>2</sub> system and 22 ton tank (September, 2015).

There are two tracer systems:

• **Tracers to be mixed with injected water:** In the push-pull experiment we shall use Xenon and Krypton (Xe/Kr) (Figure 8, Figure 9). Xe/Kr are noble gases, non-toxic and stable in the environment. These tracers monitor leaks and subsurface migration from the reservoir. At the pressure and conditions the supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> becomes gas, Xe/Kr will be released as gas as well (1). A mass flow controller (Sierra) measures the mass flow rate of the injected tracers. This measurement will allow mixing the tracer with the formation fluid at the desired ratio.







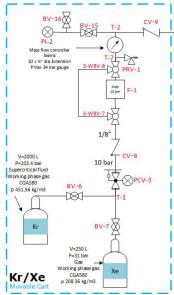


Figure 9. P&ID of Kr/Xe injection system

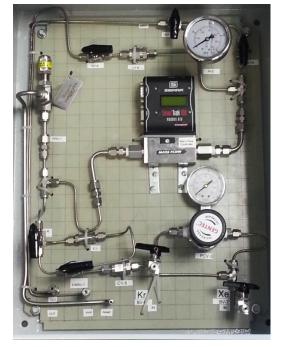


Figure 10. Kr/Xe tracers' system, which is build inside a portable box.

**Tracers to be mixed with the injected CO<sub>2</sub>:** we shall use SF<sub>6</sub>. SF<sub>6</sub> is will be pumped using a high pressure metering pump (Eldex), then mixed with CO<sub>2</sub> and injected to 1000 m depth (Figure 10). Sulfur Hexafluoride is a colorless, odorless, non-toxic, nonflammable, liquefied gas. The main health hazard associated with releases of this gas is asphyxiation, by displacement of oxygen, but working in an open field significantly reduces the danger.







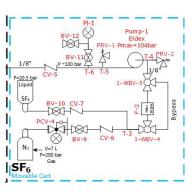


Figure 11. P&ID of SF<sub>6</sub>



Figure 12. Tracer's system while it was under construction.

## 5.2 Water Abstraction

It is possible to perform fluid abstraction from the reservoir formation via air-lift. Abstraction can be done from both the injection and monitoring wells. To this end, we have an air compressor (Bauer Model I230 delivering a pressure of up to 345 bar and an air flowrate of 1.36 m<sup>3</sup>/min). In both wells, there is a gas-lift valve at a depth of 1,000 m. Compressed air is flowed in the well annulus until it fills the space to the depth of the gas lift valve. Once the air penetrates the tubing, the abstraction starts. The flowrate of the water will depend on the flowrate of the penetrating air. The produced fluid will comprise in addition to the formation water, CO<sub>2</sub>, residual oil and solid particles (as the reservoir is poorly consolidated). First, this mixture will be flowed through a series of decantation tanks, in order to separate the large particles and the oil residues from the water. Then, if the produced water is needed for the purpose of injection, it will be flowed through a sand filer for the removal of fine solid particle and after that to a 15 m<sup>3</sup> storage tank. The water to be injected from this tank will then be passed through a UV filter (for the removal of bacteria) and to though a







chlorinator. The later perform a hydrolysis, using the rich chloride content of the water to from chlorine, which is a biocide. This would prevent the bacterial formation at the well bottom, in case the injected water is rich in oxygen or any other component susceptible of inducing this development.

## **5.3 Mixing of impurities**

#### 5.3.1 The SO<sub>2</sub> injection system

This system allows injecting liquid SO<sub>2</sub> to the well through the chemical injection line (CIL), which is connected to the tubing at a depth of 1000 m. This system is developed in the frame of the EU funded CO2QUEST project and is integrated into the site facilities. It contains a recovery vessel and automatic valve for safety reasons, and a Coriolis flow meter to measure the mass flow rate to allow maintaining the desired SO<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> ratio.

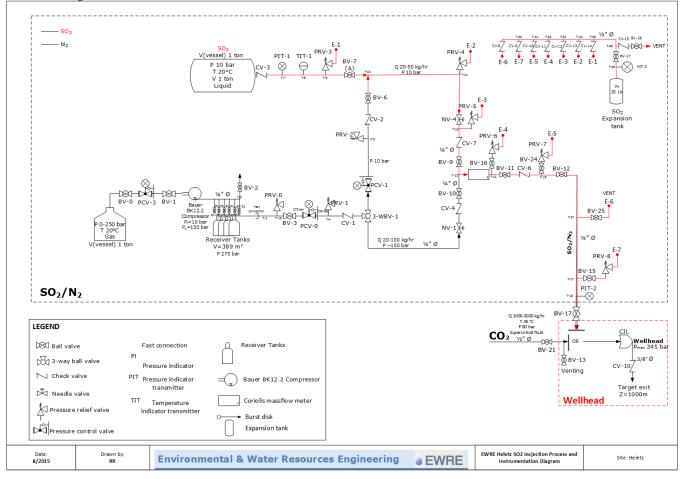


Figure 13. P&ID of  $SO_2$  and  $N_2$  process lines.







#### 5.3.2 The N<sub>2</sub> injection system

The system has three purposes:

- (1) Push the remains of the tracer gas into the well (Figure 10). After operation of the tracer's injection system of  $SF_6$  is over, some gas remains in the tubes. For cost effective operation,  $N_2$  is used to purge the  $SF_6$  injection system.
- (2) Purging the SO<sub>2</sub> process lines to remove water residues, prior to SO<sub>2</sub> injection. Water molecules and SO<sub>2</sub> interact and cause corrosion. When the process of SO<sub>2</sub> injection is over, N<sub>2</sub> is used to push the remains to the wells, thus reduces the chance of unnecessary exposure (Figure 11).
- (3)  $N_2$  gas is used as an impurity of  $CO_2$ . It is compressed to 150 bar and injected to 1000 m, where it mixes with  $CO_2$ .

#### 5.4 The Control room

The control room serves as a chemical laboratory, containing a U-tube control panel (Figure 12), a mass-spectrometer, pH meter, conductivity meter,  $CO_2$  partial pressure measurement and temperature analyzer. The U-tube system can sample inline both in high and low pressure conditions. Low pressure samples can be sent to be measured in external laboratories. The control room contains computers to which the measurement devices in the well are connected (Table 1).



Figure 14. The U-tube control system that enables sampling the formation fluid.







## 5.5 Materials on site

The state of Israel grants toxic substances permits for material handling. Each material is regarded as toxic, and its storage requires prior authorization. The toxic permit request contains MSDS of the materials, statement on the materials' handling equipment, stating the site location, details on the responsible of hazardous material, business license, statement of truth of the supplied information, list of the materials on site and maximal amount usage, Home Front Command approval, Fire department approval and Ministry of the Environment approval. Both the Ministry of the Environment and the Fire department personnel have had a tour on site to get acquainted with the experiment.

In Heletz we plan to make use of chemicals as presented in Table 2.

 $CO_2$  is used for injection,  $N_2$  is used for purging and as impurities of  $CO_2$  stream, SF<sub>6</sub> is used as a tracer of water (injected with  $CO_2$ ), Kr and Xe are used as tracers of water, LPG used for the  $CO_2$  heater, and SO<sub>2</sub> used as impurities of  $CO_2$  steam.

Material + CAS NO.	UN Numbe r	Emergency Action Code (EAC)	Tank volume	Status
CO <sub>2</sub> (124-38-9)	1013	2RE	30 ton (1,000 ton per year)	Under renewal
N <sub>2</sub> (7727-37-9)	1066	2Т	192 m <sup>3</sup> (28 cylinders, 200 bar)	present
SF <sub>6</sub> (4-62-2551)	1080	2TE	5.9 kg (5.9L, 20.3 bar)	present
LPG	1075	2WE	2 ton (2 tanks, each 1 ton)	present
Xe (7440-63-3)	2036	2TE	1.72 kg (250L, 32.65 bar)	present
Kr (7439-90-9)	1056	2TE	5.4 kg (15.7L, 102 bar)	present
SO <sub>2</sub> (7446-09-5)	1079	2RE	1 ton (liquefied, 5 bar)	To be delivered as close as possible to target date.

 Table 2. Materials used on site.





# 6.Safety

The site's safety was inspected by the Israeli Ministry of the Environment and the armies' Home Front Command. The site's fire safety was approved by Israeli Fire department. These regulatory requirements for safe operation of the site were fulfilled. Furthermore, the site's health and safety plan is being written, and will be read by the site operators beforehand.

The equipment on the site includes hamlets, safety glasses, ear plugs, first aid kit and gloves.

### 6.1 Leakage check

The process lines are checked for leaks prior to the experiments, as elaborated below.

- **CO<sub>2</sub> process line:** following the protocols of Trimeric Company, the system is checked for high and low pressures with N<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>. Leaks were observed by sound test, using a soap solution distributed on all elements and connections, and by pressure indicators indicating a pressure drop on a close section of the pipe.
- **CO**<sub>2</sub> **process line:** It is usually recommended to use ammonium hydroxide (NH<sub>4</sub>OH) fumes, due to the material toxicity we shall use soap solution to detect leaks.
- **Tracers' process line:** nitrogen  $(N_2)$  or water, depending on the tracer's phase, would be used to test the process line for leaks.

### 6.2 Fire safety

The following equipment was installed on site, according to a fire survey and the Israeli Fire department demands.

- Smoke detection system connected to a caller in the control room.
- Automatic smoke detection and fire distinguisher system in the electricity container room connected to a caller.
- Fire detection and alarm system containing siren and lights outside the control room.
- Powder fire extinguisher 50 kg in control room.
- Halon fire extinguisher 3 kg in control room.
- 2 hydrant 2" on 4" line around the site.
- 2 fire cabinet near the hydrants containing: 2 nozzles 2" and 1 Powder fire extinguisher 6 kg.
- The fire cabinet closer to injection well contains: 1 reel 3/4" with length of 25 m.

The water for the fire distinguishers is supplied from the water pipe surrounding the site's ground ( Figure 13).









**Figure 15.** For fire safety reasons, a water pipe line surrounds the site. Two hydrants are installed on the pipe and near them a fire cabinet (cannot be seen in the image).

# 6.3 System failures inside the well

In case of system malfunction inside the well, i.e. high pressures, safety valves allow disconnection of the wellhead from the entire well (Figure 14). The wellhead stands a maximal pressure of 5000 psi and contains both operational and safety valves.



Figure 16. Wellhead of the injection well H18A.







# 6.4 A map of facilities on site

A map of distances between facilities was generated to assist in planning the site, mapping the underground electric and pipe lines and setting the safety margins (Figure 15). The wellhead stands a maximal pressure of 5000 psi and contains both operational and safety valves.

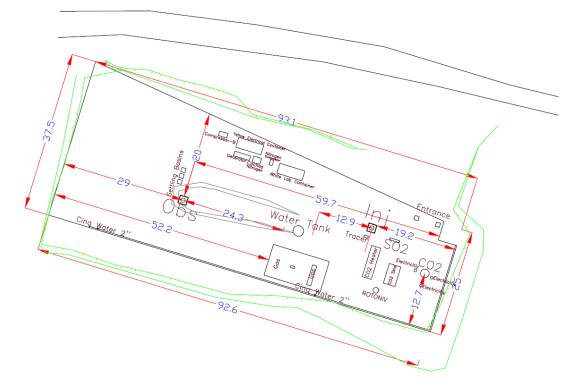


Figure 17. Facilities on site map.

#### **Distance from LPG tanks**

The LPG tanks are regarded as an explosive hazard. In case a fire, the other facilities on sites, especially the pressurized tanks, are at risk of eruption as well. Therefore, the distance of other facilities from the LPG tanks is interesting for safety reasons.

Distance from LPG tanks<sup>1</sup> to

 $CO_2 \ tank - 20 \ m$   $SO_2 \ tank - 18 \ m$ Injection well - 15 m Observation well - 34 m Control room (white container) - 21 m Electricity container (yellow) - 30 m Generator - 31 m N<sub>2</sub> cylinders - 27 m

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The distance from the flammable LPG tanks is measured from the tank closer to the measured object.







# 6.5 Gas detectors

There is a gas detection system inside the control room, located near the U-tube system (*Table 3*, Figure **18**). The sensors are connected to a panel presenting the gases concentration and an alarm system (Figure **18**). When the alert siren is heard, a light (red/orange) can be seen from outside of the container.

Gas	Range	Alarm 1	Exposure time	Alarm 2	Exposure time
O <sub>2</sub>	0-25%	19%	Full work-shift (19.5%). exposure	18%	
CH4	-	20% (V/V, LEL)	No limitation (Flammable)	40% (V/V, LEL)	No limitation (Flammable)
CO <sub>2</sub>	0-5000ppm (5000 ppm – 8 hrs OSHA)	1500ppm	No limitation	3000ppm	No limitation
SO <sub>2</sub> (+H <sub>2</sub> S)	0-5 ppm	2ppm	8 hour TWAª	5ppm	15 minª/ 8 hour TWA <sup>b</sup>

**Table 3.** The alarm concentration setup.

a. HSE, 2002. Occupational Exposure Limits 2002. HSE Books, Sudbury.

b. OSHA Guidelines Website

#### 6.5.1 CO<sub>2</sub> gas detectors

Personal  $CO_2$  detectors (Dräger PAC 7000) were recommended by Trimeric, which designed the  $CO_2$  process. Two outdoor stationary gas sensors were installed near the  $CO_2$  skid and heater. Both are connected to a sound alarm on the  $CO_2$  skid control board.

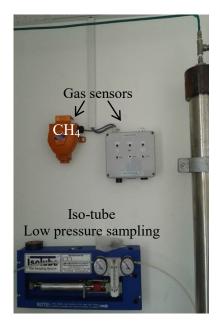
#### 6.5.2 SO<sub>2</sub> gas detectors

We consider the possibility of purchasing a stationary outdoor gas sensor to detect leaks and install near the  $SO_2$  system. The alert will be set to 2 ppm and 5 ppm (Table 3).









**Figure 18.** Gas sensors in the control room (white container) and the Iso-tube system designed for taking low pressure brine samples.



Figure 19. Entrance to the control room (white container).









Figure 20. Control room (white container) contents.

# 7. Current state of progress

### 7.1 Current stage: preparation of the site for the experiment

- The current stage involves getting the CO<sub>2</sub> injection system running smoothly without any leakages. The system was recently tested for leaks using CO<sub>2</sub> (Figure 19), and the required components to be replaced.
- Configuring the sensors and devices in the chemical laboratory (white container) for the different experiment steps.
- Getting the online visualization website ready for the presentation of real-time and historic plots of the different parameters examined in Heletz experiment.
- Completing the Health and Safety plan.









Figure 21. System check of CO2 system.

## 7.2 Next stage

By completing the prior step, where  $CO_2$  and water are injected, then a more realistic situation would be simulated. In a controlled manner,  $SO_2$  impurities will contaminate the  $CO_2$  stream and both will be injected into the target layer. Currently, we develop the process lines, safety equipment and protocols for dealing with  $SO_2$ . These do not prevent the  $CO_2$  injection to take place.

# 8.Conclusions

The preparations for the experiment at Heletz site are in their final stages. All the facilities for injecting  $CO_2$  are installed. Most of the materials are already waiting on site, except for  $CO_2$  and  $SO_2$  that will arrive as close as possible to the experiment date to avoid unnecessary risk. The  $SO_2$  process planning and hazard and operability study (HAZOP) are underway. In the planning and construction of the site, the protocols and safety issues were carefully considered. Risk preventing actions were taken, which include leakage tests prior to system operation, constructing the site's health and safety plan, updating the facilities distance map for smart planning, following the fire department requirements, planning and purchasing personal and stationary gas detectors. After the completion of the final preparation the site would be ready for the  $CO_2$  injection.

# 9.Reference

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# **10. Annex**

A1: P&ID of CO2 process lines

