



Gencoia company and product  
overview presentation for the  
Radical Assisted Sputtering

# Perfect your process with GENCOA Components & Technology





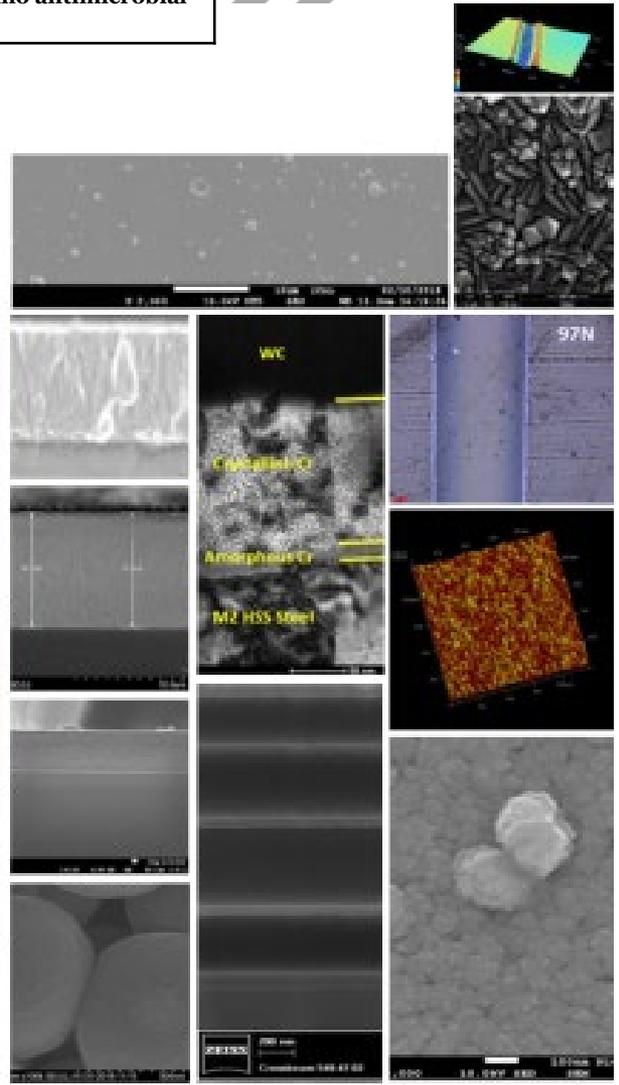
Gencoa Ltd, UK

Linear High Power Gas Source for  
Plasma Processing -  $\text{PgO}_2\text{MF}$   
Pre-treat and Radical Assistance Sputtering



# 25 Years of Products and Technology from Gencoa

Rotatable & Planar Magnetron Sputter Cathodes • Retrofit magnetic packs • Plasma Treaters • Speedflo Reactive Gas Controllers • IM Ion Sources & power supplies • Arc MAX sources & power supplies • Active Anodes and Gas Delivery Bars • OPTIX Gas and Chemical Sensing • S and Se Sensor • PEC Pulsed Effusion Cell • V<sup>+</sup>DLC - Transparent DLC • IC Nano antimicrobial layer technology • Process implementation & tuning •



# Plasma Generation and Pre-treatment options available

## *Plasma Treatment Product Categories:*

Glow Discharge

Application / use

Low speed web

DC Linear ion sources

Low speed web & glass

*DC magnetron based plasma treaters*

Low to High speed / power

*AC type plasma cleaning dual tube electrode*

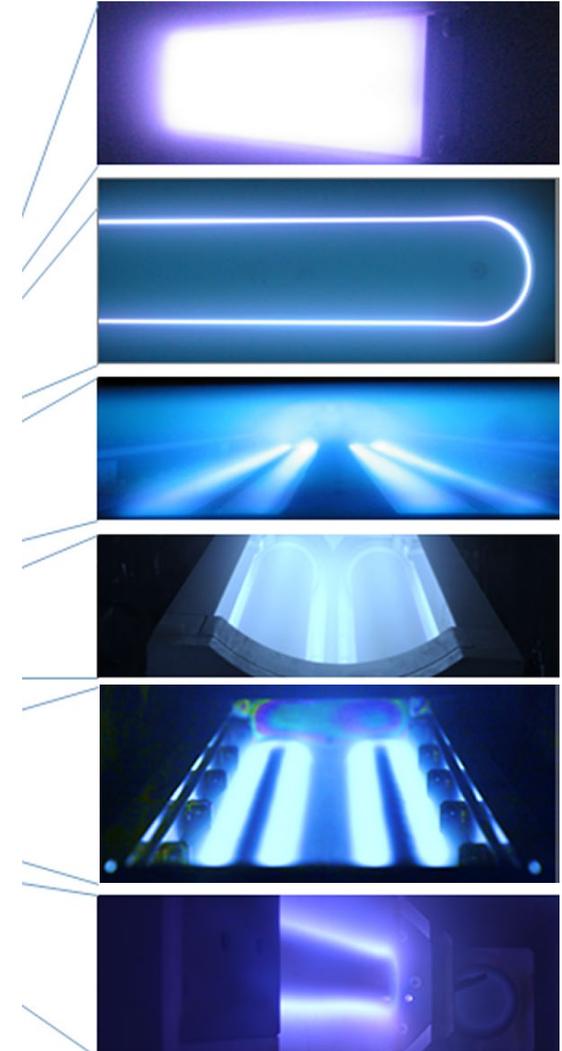
Low to High speed / power

*AC type gas activation sources – plasma generation for reactive gas reactions*

Low to High speed / power

*Positive pulsed power inverted magnetron plasma source*

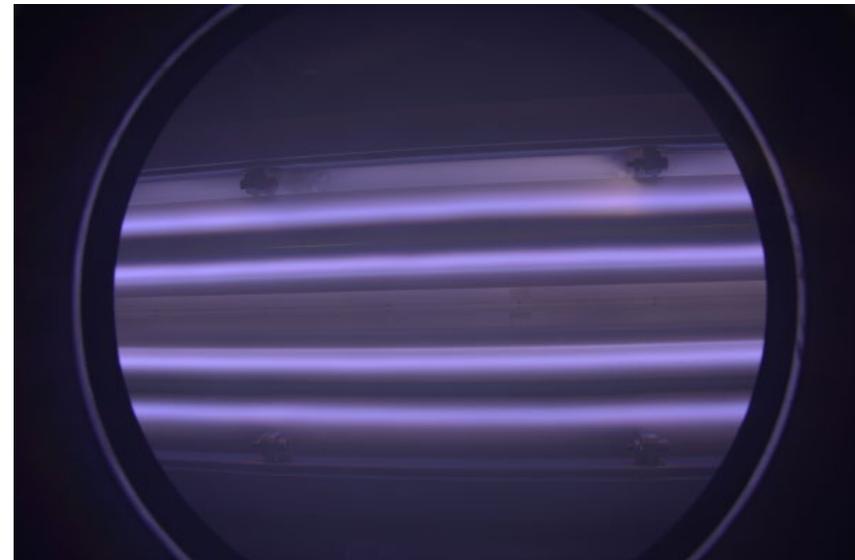
Low to High speed / power





# High power plasma gas source for Pre-treating and Radical Assisted Sputtering

- Modern alternative to RF and Microwave powered active gas sources – no power or scaling issues – 0.2 to 4m lengths
- Up to 40 Amps of plasma electrode current per m length
- Highly activated gas species with 70 eV energy
- Added kinetic energy of gas to aid layer oxidation & pre-cleaning
- Pure gas plasma – no etching of electrodes
- No maintenance
- Uses Gencoa DLIM patent - Active Anode gas excitement



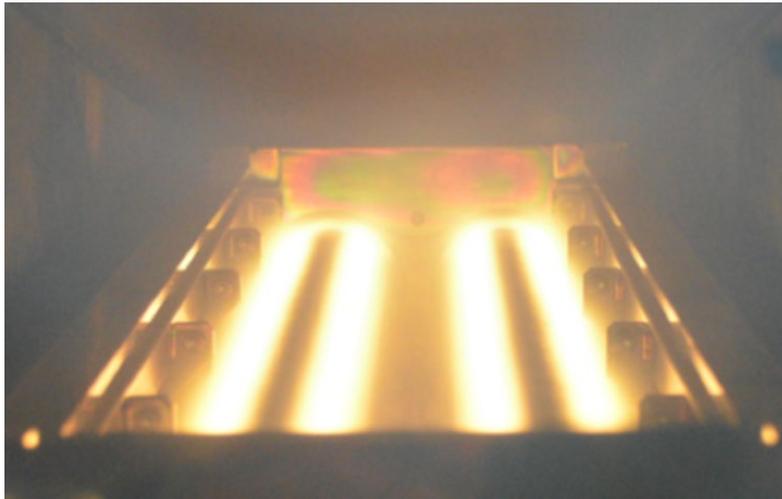
# Easy to operate and low maintenance

- The power is switched between 2 water cooled electrodes in the presence of oxygen gas and a magnetic field. The resulting plasma ionizes the oxygen gas species and also provides an electron shower for neutralisation which avoids charge build-up on the substrates.
  - Shields are water cooled for low temperature processing
    - No coating generated, no debris and hence no cleaning required

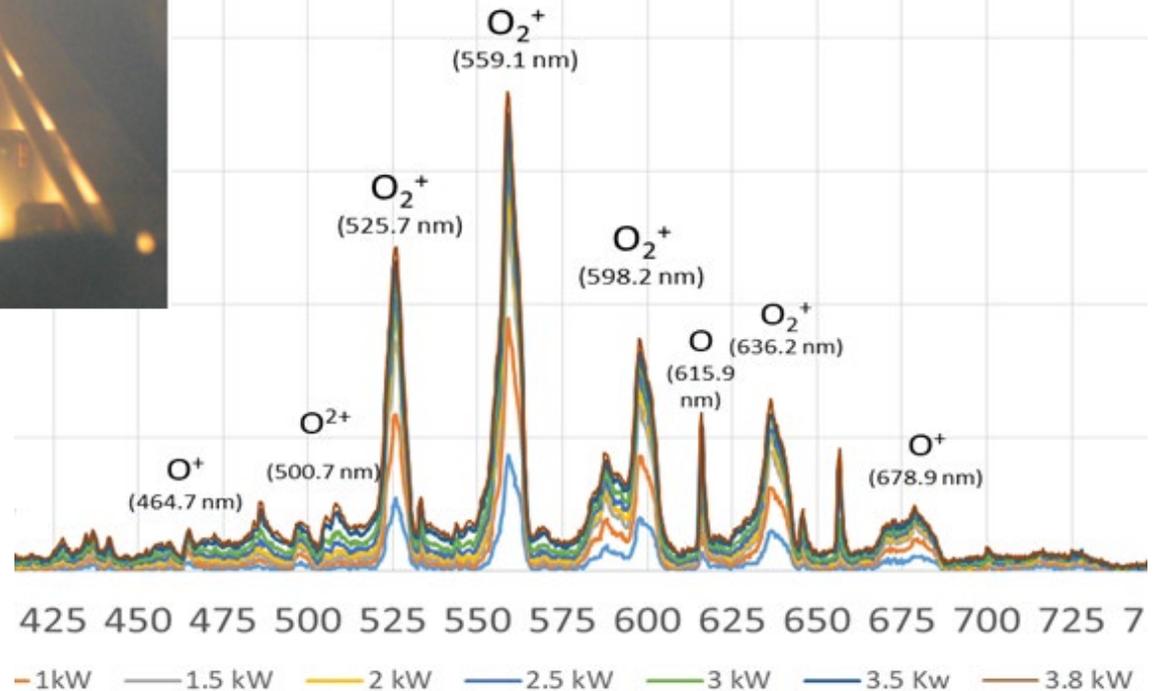


External source mounting with chamber interface flange

# Single and double ionisation of the Oxygen atoms and molecules for extra reactivity of the sputtered metal surface

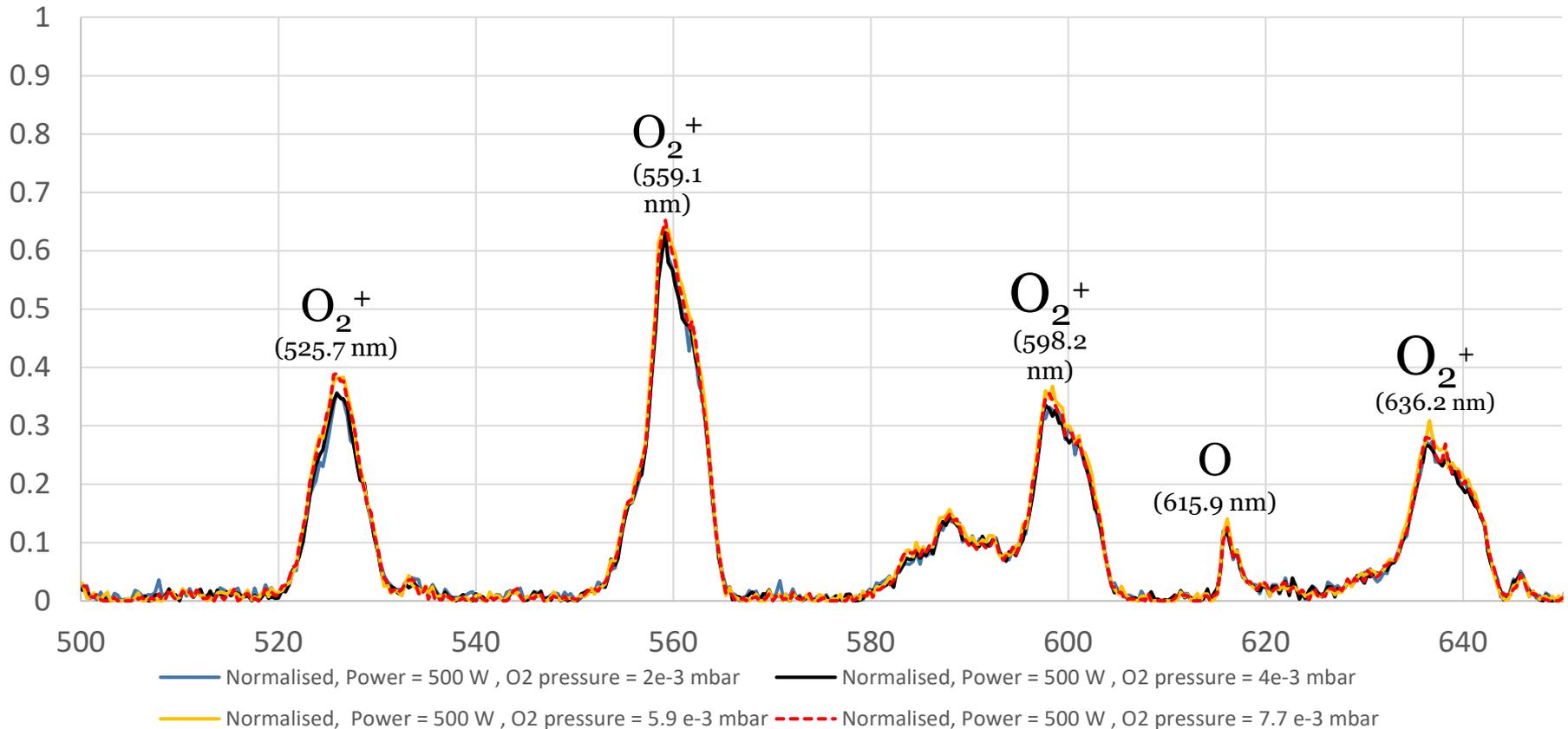


Plasma Emission Spectra at varying powers for 400mm long electrodes at varying powers



# Plasma Spectrometry with changes in O<sub>2</sub> pressure at 500 W

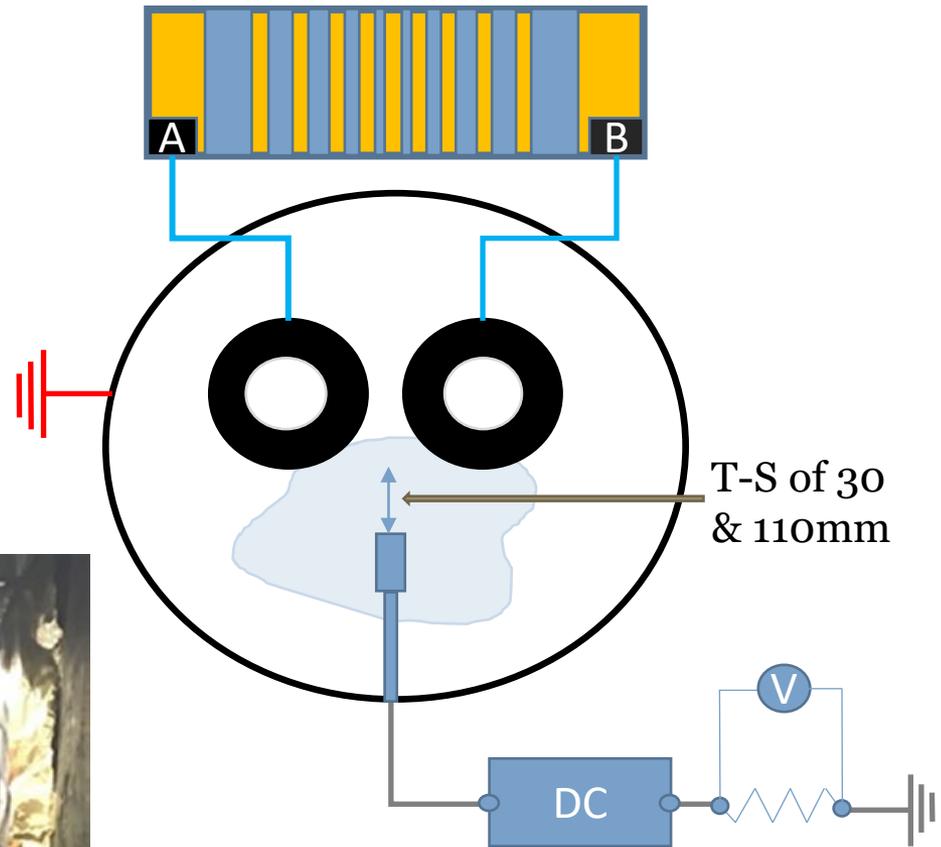
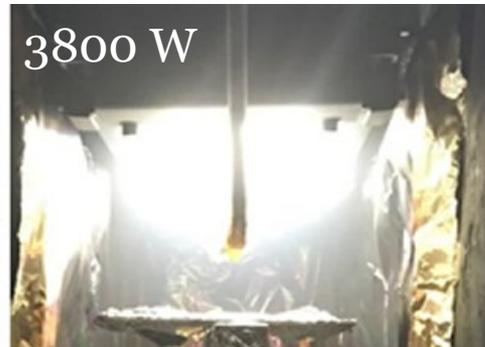
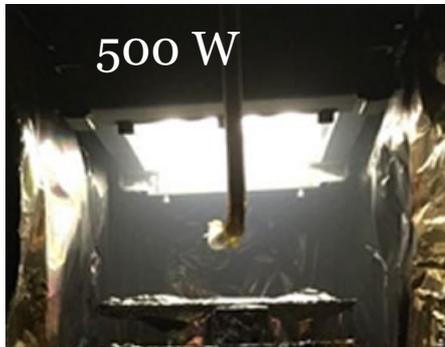
- there is little change in the ion/neutral ratio over the O<sub>2</sub> pressure range



# Langmuir Probe Measurements

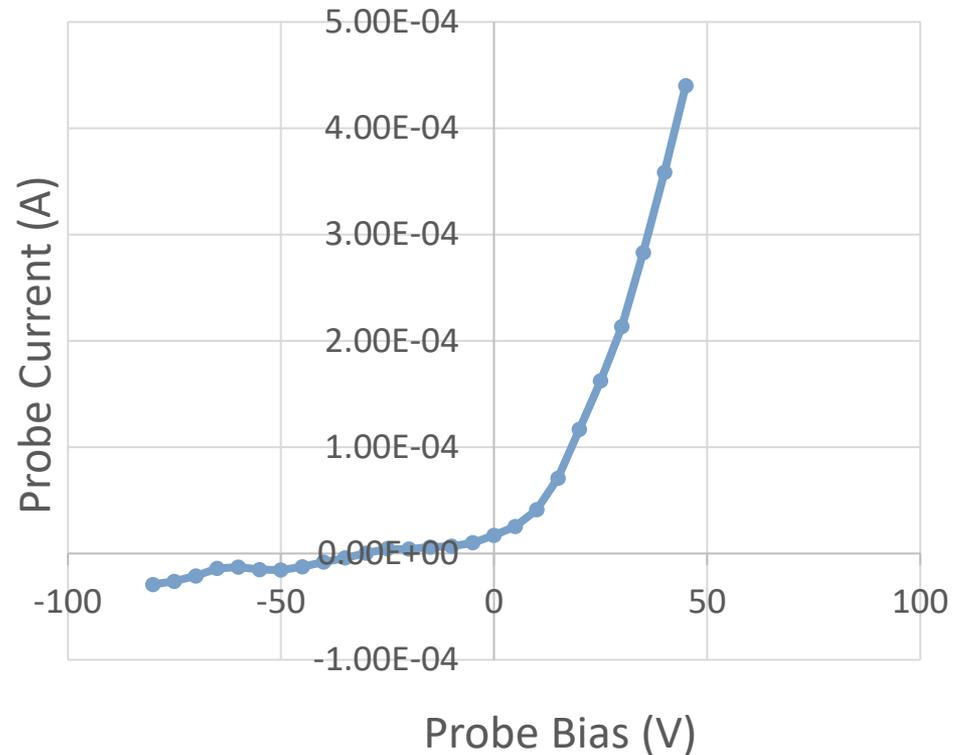
A circuit containing a DC power supply and resistor (75 k $\Omega$ ) was attached to an electrostatic probe

The probe was triggered with the pulsed target voltage to obtain a synchronization of time-resolved measurements with the pulsed power supply of the discharge



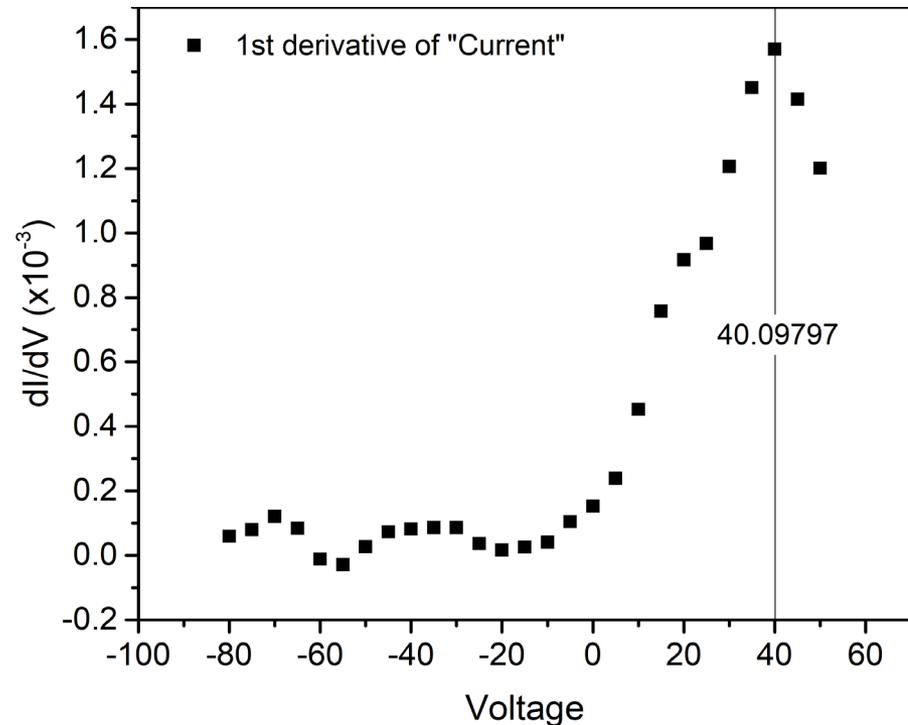
# Langmuir Probe at 110mm from source electrodes & 1 kW

- Measurements at a pressure of  $5e-3$  mbar (in O<sub>2</sub>) and 1kW of plasma
- The ion saturation current ( $I_{sat}$ ) is found to be around  $0.00002$  A and the floating potential ( $V_f$ ) is around  $-33$  V
- The flux of +ve O<sub>2</sub> ions to the probe surface ( $\Gamma$ ) is estimated to be  $\sim 10^{16} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- To find the plasma density, we use  $\Gamma = nv$  where  $n$  is the plasma density and  $v$  is the ion sound speed.
- Assuming an electron temperature of  $10$  eV, the plasma density at  $1$  kW of power is estimated to be on the order of  $10^{14} \text{ m}^{-3}$
- The current density was estimated to be  $\sim 0.5 \text{ cm}^{-2}$

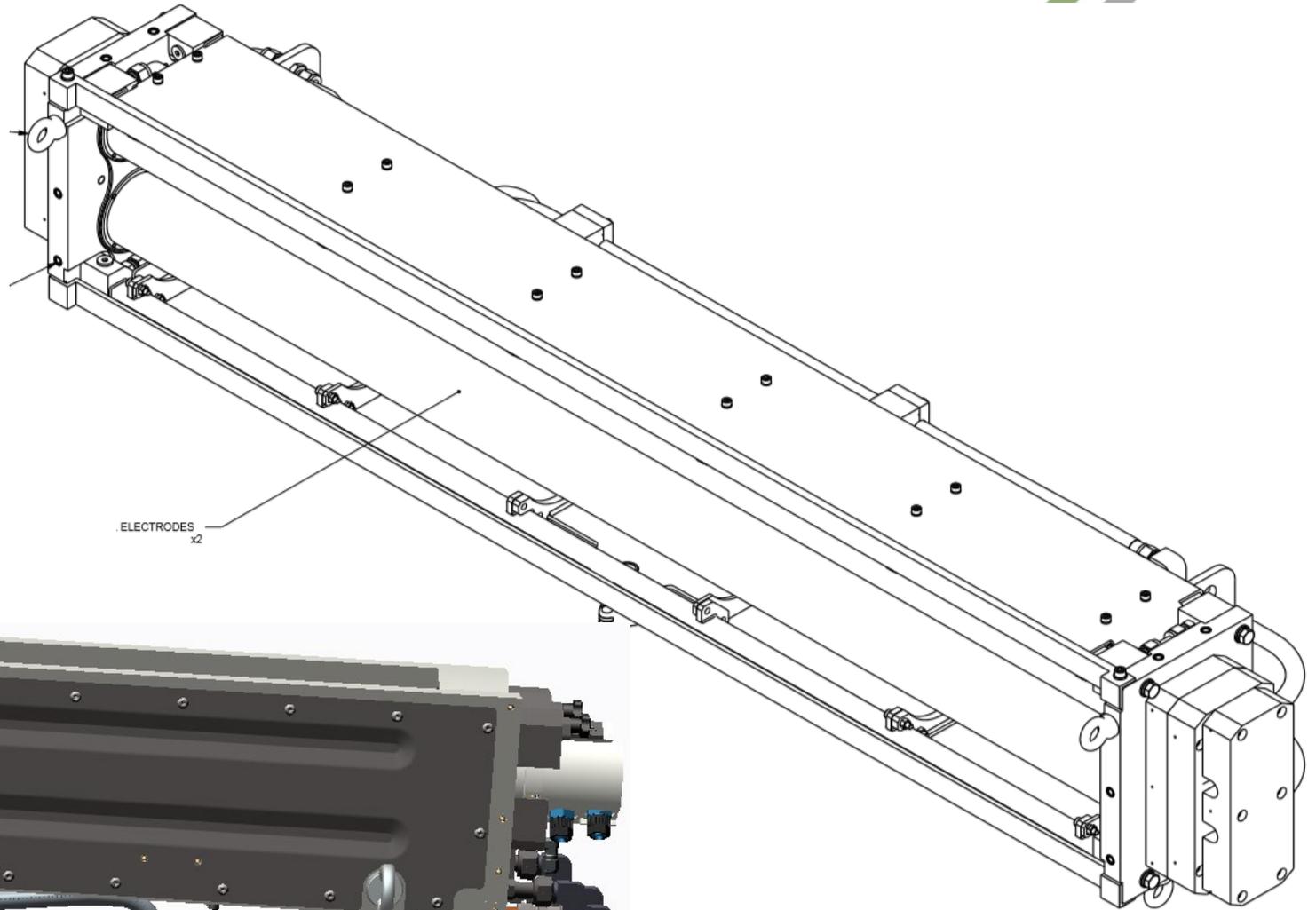


# Langmuir Probe at 110 mm

- To find the plasma potential ( $V_p$ ) we calculate  $dI/dV$ , and find the peak in the distribution
- This measurement indicates a  $V_p$  of  $\sim 40$  eV
- Assuming a floating potential of  $-33$  V, this would imply ions bombard surfaces with energies of  $> 70$  eV



# High power plasma gas generation different lengths based upon space and capacity, internal or external mounting

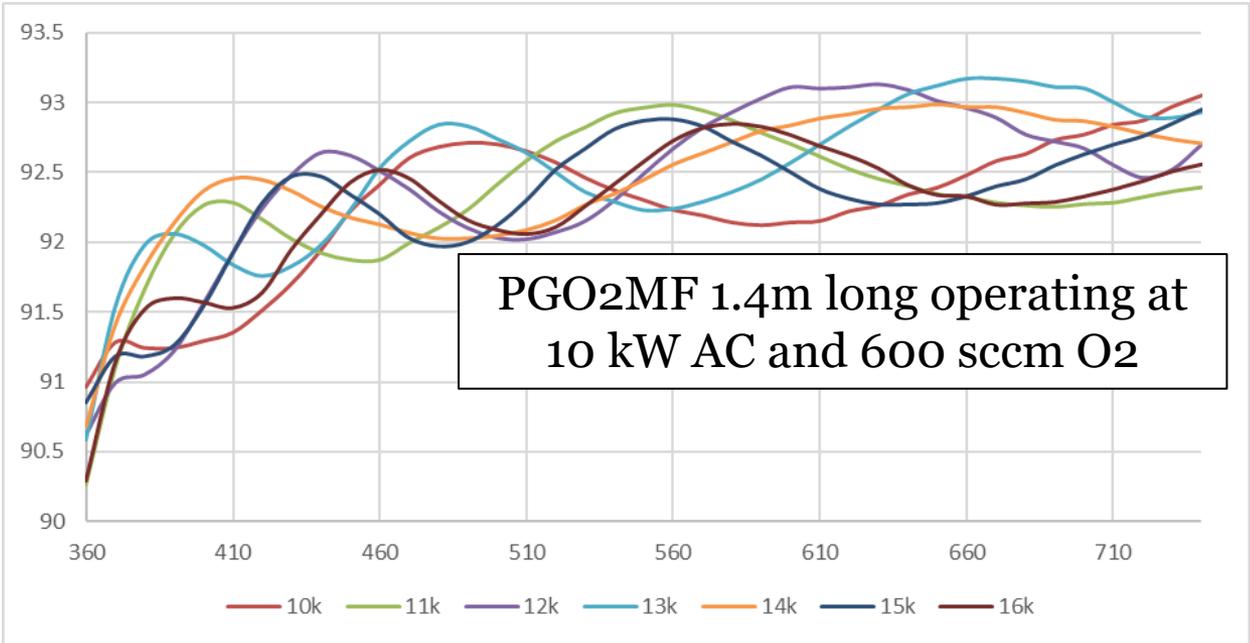
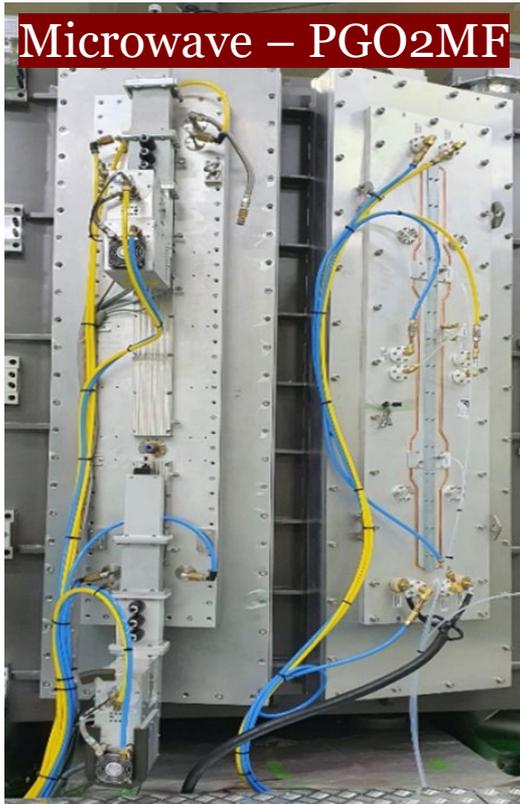


# Comparison of Microwave plasma source and Gencoa PgO<sub>2</sub>MF

- PgO<sub>2</sub>MF produces same uniformity & optical layer quality as MW
- Rate is 10% higher for the PgO<sub>2</sub>MF at the same sputter target power
- MW cannot operate above 14kW sputter power, PgO<sub>2</sub>MF has no sputter target limit (increase the AC power and O<sub>2</sub> gas flow), at 16kW, rate is 20% higher than MW max rate

Microwave – PGO<sub>2</sub>MF

PGO<sub>2</sub>MF can also pre-clean the substrates in 5-10 minutes

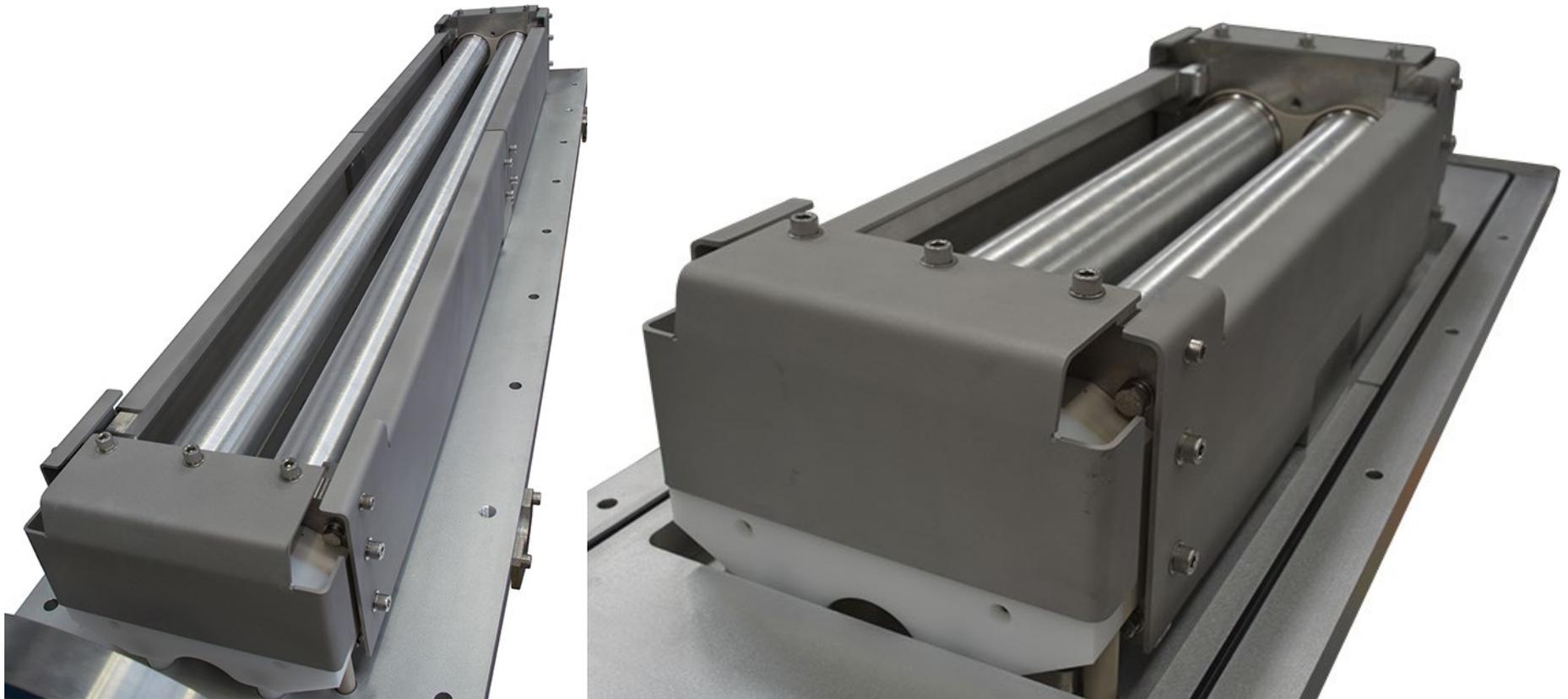


SiO<sub>2</sub> transparency at different Si target sputter powers



# COMPACT – small space

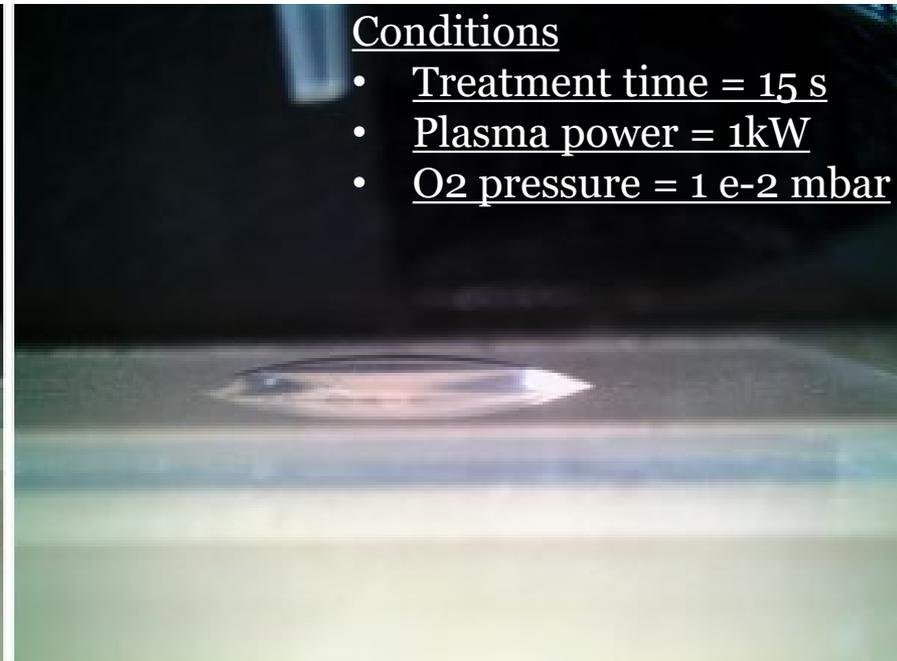
Easy to scale in length, Internal or external designs  
Lower cost power mode compared to RF and MW



# Contact angle measurements

Untreated Surface

Treated Surface



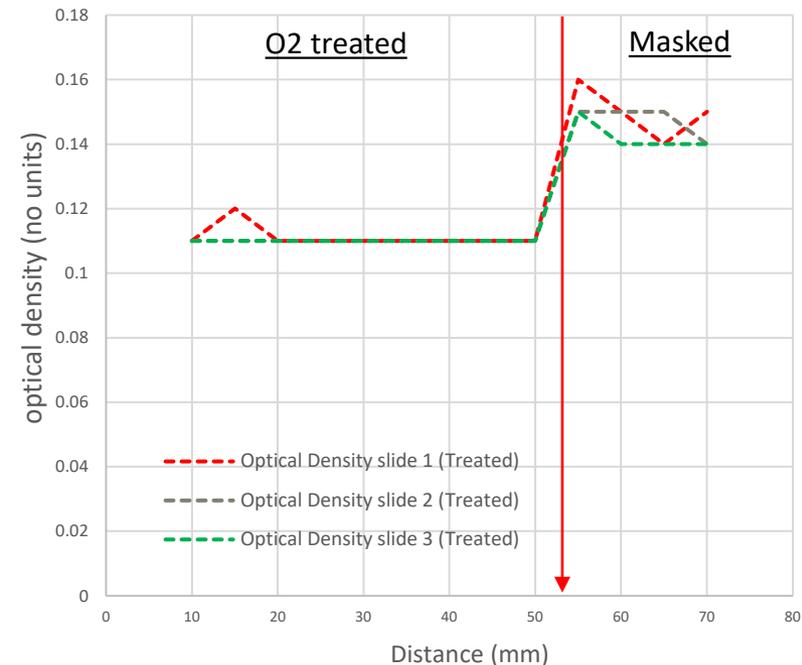
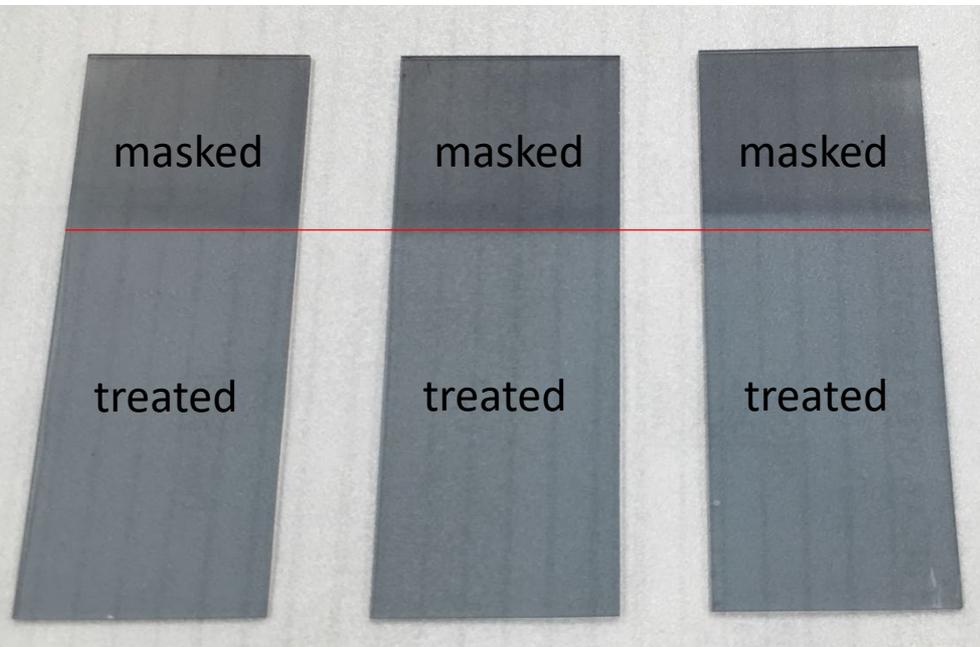
Conditions

- Treatment time = 15 s
- Plasma power = 1kW
- O<sub>2</sub> pressure = 1 e-2 mbar

- The oxygen plasma provides 70eV bombardment of the surface plus kinetic energy as ions repelled from electrodes as power switches to +ve potential.
- Hence can be used to pre-clean the substrates prior to coating

# O<sub>2</sub> activation of Al coatings

- 15nm of Aluminium was pre-coated onto glass slides which were then exposed to O<sub>2</sub> plasma at 2kW for 30 minutes



- The results show a decrease of ~30% in the optical density between the masked and treated regions of the Al pre-coated slides
- A surface depth of pre-coated Al has been oxidised – source can be used for pre-cleaning of substrates as well as radical assisted sputtering



# Gencoa **GPgO<sub>2</sub>** Plasma gas excitation sources



## *Perfect your process*

*Switching of high intensity plasma – high power capacity – no limits on source lengths*

*Self-neutralized switching plasma potential – no charge build-up on substrate or target – substrates receives both negative and positive bombardment*

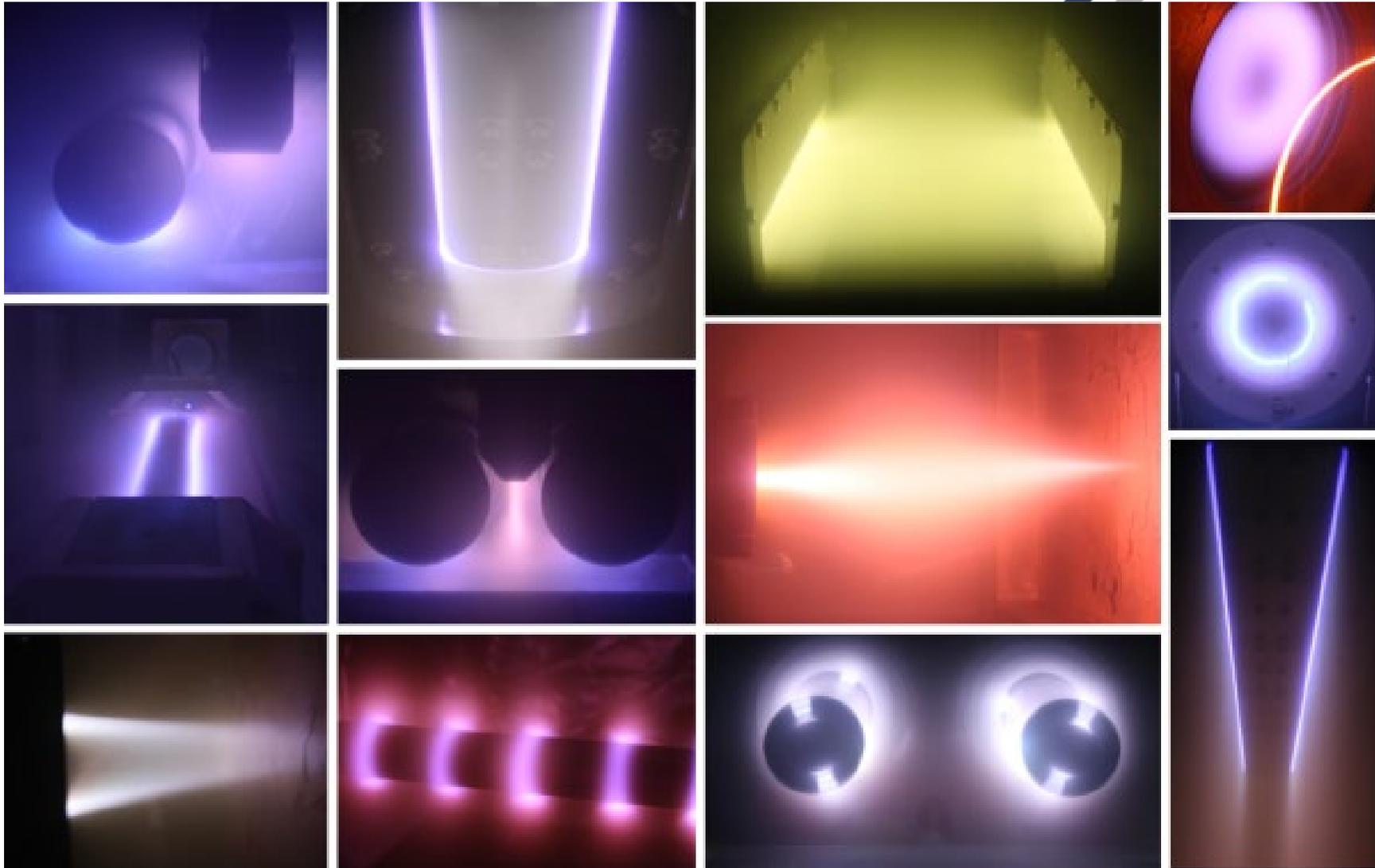
*Double electrode – switching from positive to negative so stable and without drifting of plasma properties and high plasma uniformity*

*Highly scalable and controllable, plasma runs in pure oxygen (or N<sub>2</sub>) without argon*

*No cleaning of electrodes or changing as no sputtering occurs – no maintenance*

*Lower cost and more scalable than RF and microwave plasma generation devices*

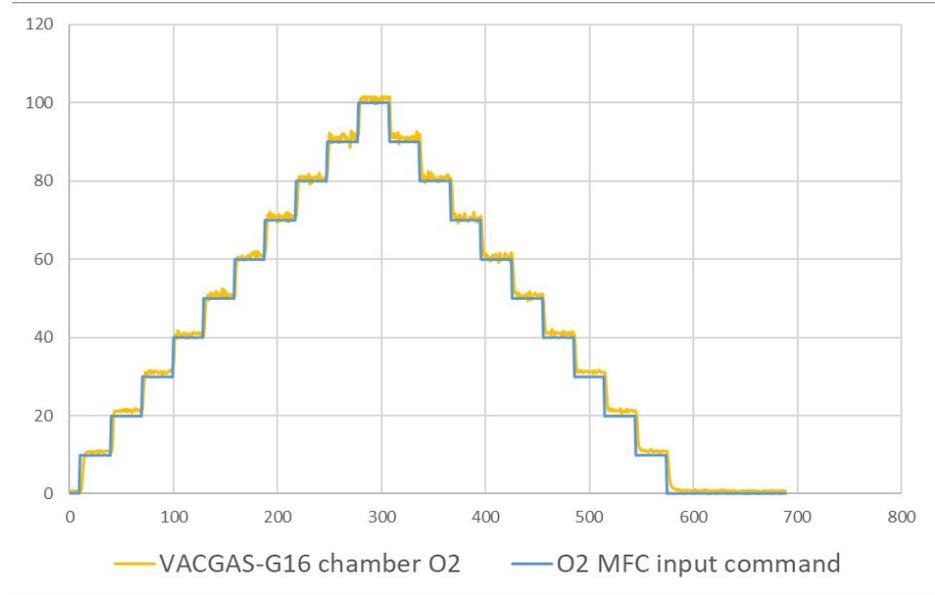
# GENCOA has many ways to create a plasma



# GencoA VACGAS-G16 - vacuum gas sensing for Chalcogen species

## VACGAS-G16 Sensor

- High Accuracy and low cost O<sub>2</sub>, S & Se sensing in vacuum
- The GENCOA VACGAS-G16 sensing unit provides an industrially robust means to sense elements of group 16 - The Chalcogens. The most important species in group 16 from a vacuum processing point of view are oxygen, sulphur and selenium.
- The VACGAS-G16 combines fast feedback control of the sensor temperature with gas correction to provide the O<sub>2</sub> level as a precise partial pressure.





**Thank you for your  
attention!**



**Please visit [gencoa.com](http://gencoa.com) for more  
information**