

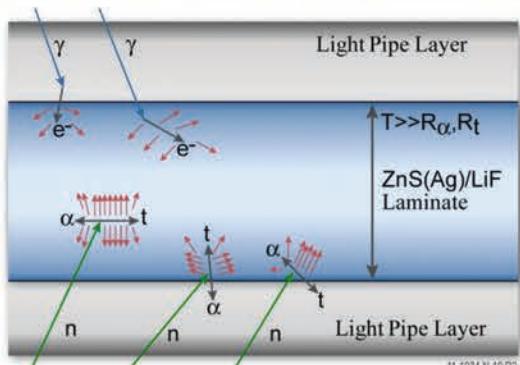
NeuSand®: A Large-Area Neutron Detector Based on a Sandwiched Neutron Scintillator/Moderator-Light Guide Structure - Replacing He-3 in Portal Monitors

J. Valentine, R. Polichar, B. Huntley, J. Baltgalvis, R. Sullivan, L. Chavez, J. Brauchla, L. Hicks, M. Peressini, J. Smith, J. Miller,

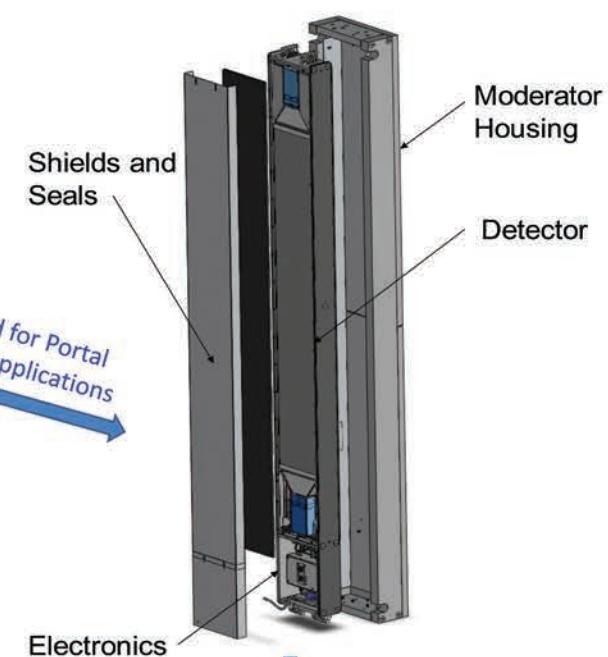
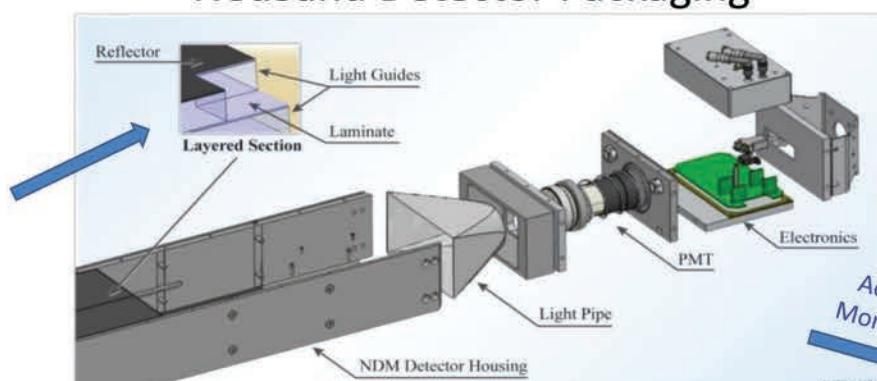
SAIC, San Diego, CA, USA

G. Tyrrell, G. Sapsford, Scintacor, Harlow, UK

NeuSand Neutron Detection



NeuSand Detector Packaging



NeuSand Technology:

- Neutrons moderated by hydrogenous light guides (and moderator housing)
- Thermal neutrons absorbed and converted to scintillation light by ZnS(Ag)/⁶LiF scintillator laminate
- Light guides pipe light to either end of detector through light pipes
- Photomultiplier tubes convert light
- Analog signals from PMTs summed
- Pulse height discrimination eliminates gamma-ray pulses
- Attributes:
 - Low-power, robust, minimal complexity
 - Readily integrated w/ different RPMs (i.e., flexible interface)
 - Scalable
 - Economical solution
 - No gas, no fragile tubes, no toxic materials

NeuSand NDM 2.5 (single ³He tube equivalent):

- Meets or exceeds neutron efficiency and gamma discrimination requirements – see table below
- Nearly identical response to moderated and unmoderated ²⁵²Cf neutrons
- Tested: EMI, ESD, temperature, shock, humidity, blowing/freezing rain per ANSI N42.38-2000
- UL 508, 61010-1, and FCC Part 15 Class B compliant
- Successfully completed Phase I of DNDN Neutron Detector Replacement Program

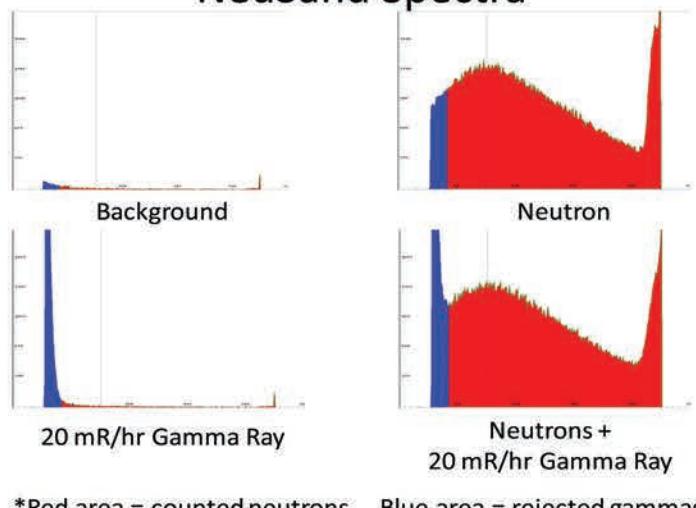
Drop-In ³He Replacement for SAIC RPMs:

- Form factor: 5" x 12" x 84.5"
- High voltage: < 1200 V, < 1 mA
- DC power: < 25 mA @ ±3.7 V
- Pulse processing: preamp output to be sent to external shaper and discriminator

NeuSand NDM 4.0 (two ³He tube equivalent):

- > 4 counts/second per ng of ²⁵²Cf, similar gamma-ray discrimination performance
- Same form factor, power requirements, and pulse output as Model 2.5

NeuSand Spectra



NeuSand NDM 2.5 Performance	DNDN NDRP Requirement
Neutron Efficiency: $\epsilon_{abs,n}$ (cps/ng ²⁵² Cf)	> 2.75
Gamma Discrimination: $\epsilon_{int,yn}$ (20 mR/hr)	3.05×10^{-8}
GARRn	0.9 < GARRn < 1.1