



ORDEM
DOS
ENGENHEIROS



**WORLD
ENGINEERING
DAY**
FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT



In support of UNESCO
World Engineering Day



Com o Alto Patrocínio
de Sua Excelência
Under the High Patronage of the
President of the Portuguese Republic



O Presidente da República

Lisbon

March 4th 2024



Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World

Ordem dos Engenheiros

ENGINEERING FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMANITY

Sebastião Feyo de Azevedo

President Portuguese Academy of Engineering (2022-)

President Municipal Assembly of Porto (2021-2025)

Rector, University of Porto (2014-2018)

Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Porto (2010-2014)

National Vice-president, Ordem dos Engenheiros (2004-2010)

Correspondence to sfeyo@fe.up.pt

**UNESCO WFEO WORLD
ENGINEERING DAY**

March 4, 2024

**Ordem dos Engenheiros
Lisbon, Portugal**

TO SAY WHAT I AM GOING TO SAY....

□ The core of the message

- 1. Engineering for Development, since always... What evolution? And changes?**
- 2. Thoughts/Ideas I share – Reform, adapt; The evolution of the knowledge spectrum; Values; Work and training models; Innovation and entrepreneurship; Talent retention and attraction**
- 3. Support the dimension and relevance of Engineering with Engineering cases**

□ Epilogue - Say what I said...

THE CORE OF THE MESSAGE

There is Engineering in everything around us... and outside in the World

- ➡ **Affirm the vital role of Engineering in ensuring the future, in promoting the socio-economic development of Countries/Communities, for a sustainable development of Humanity;**
- ➡ **Affirm that the necessary increase in productivity and competitiveness, for any Nation or Community, is only feasible with the **SYSTEMIC VISION** and the **CAPACITY OF DOING** that characterize Engineering and the Engineers;**
- ➡ **Further affirm, on another level, that Engineering is a condition of the future, through its example of **ORGANIZATION, QUALITY, AND RESPONSIBILITY**, which is so badly needed in so many countries.**

It is, therefore, crucial that **institutions responsible for the development of Engineering** commit themselves and impose themselves on the political level so that **engineering is a much more integral part of the design and implementation of public policies**

ENGINEERING, SINCE ALWAYS... WHAT EVOLUTION?

- 👉 We recognize four Industrial Revolutions, the result of the combination of essentially four factors
 - ✓ New energy sources
 - ✓ Disruptive scientific and technological innovations, with an impact on production
 - ✓ Human Resources capable of absorbing change
 - ✓ A free market society, with investment incentives
- 👉 From the steam engine of the 18th century... to the Artificial Intelligence of the 21st century, a sequence of *qualitative leaps*, of *so-called vertiginous changes* in the History of Humanity

With Engineering always at the center of the (R)evolution

ENGINEERING SINCE ALWAYS... WHAT (PERCEPTION OF) CHANGES?

Four Industrial Revolutions - human reaction along the times

- 👉 The steam engine and the age of steel, with locomotives and steamboats, allowed goods to be **“massively exported around the world”**
- 👉 or the inventions of Thomas Edison (1847-1931) that **“changed the world forever”**
- 👉 Or the invention of transistors (1926, 1947) which opened **“times of dramatic change”**
- 👉 In fact, we find in literature many other quotes from the past with the same words we use today to characterize contemporary life.

BUT, speaking of the present, IT IS CLEAR

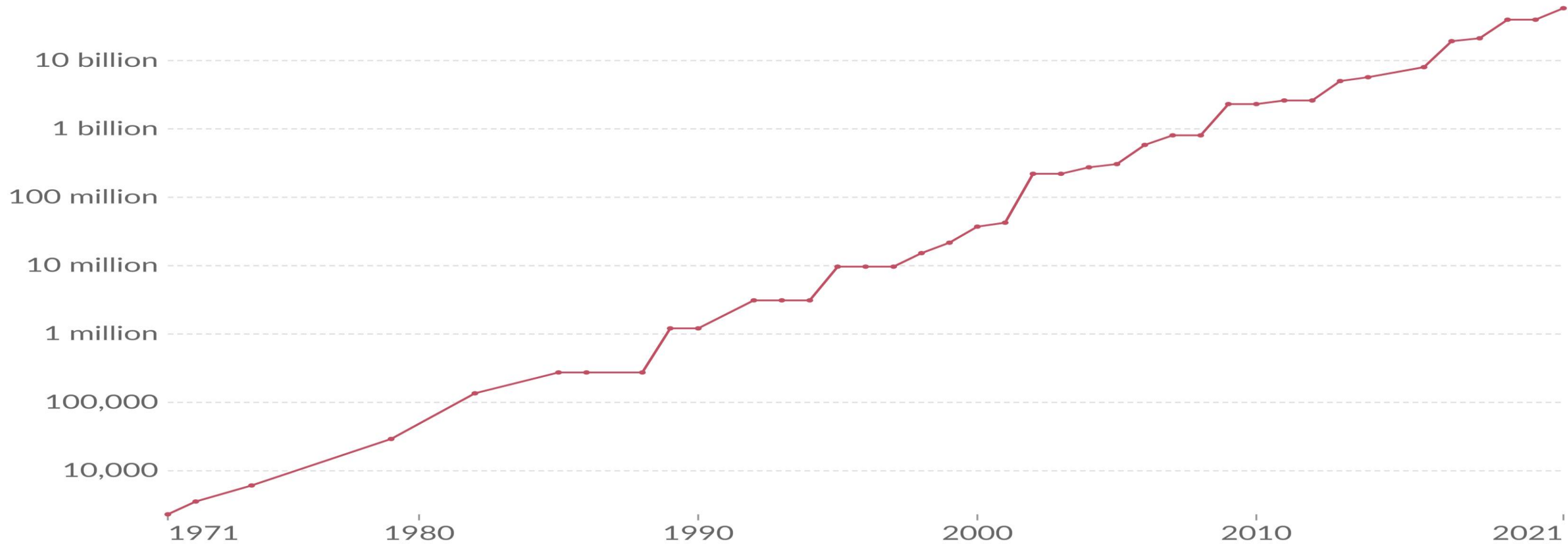
what is the nature, the basis, of the evolution of scientific and technological innovations that brought us the fourth industrial revolution

INDICATORS OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION - I

Moore's law: The number of transistors per microprocessor

Our World
in Data

The number of transistors that fit into a microprocessor. The observation that the number of transistors on an integrated circuit doubles approximately every two years is called Moore's law¹.



Data source: Karl Rupp, Microprocessor Trend Data (2022)

OurWorldInData.org/technological-change | CC BY

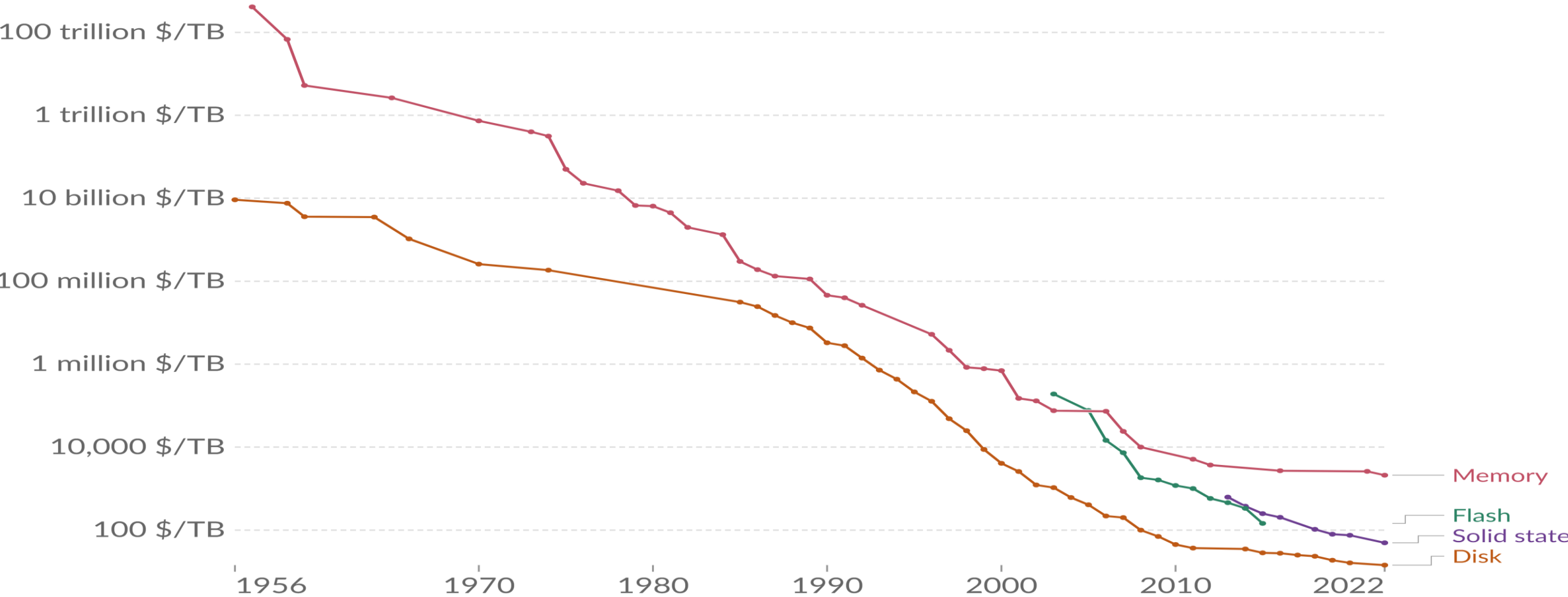
1. Moore's law: Moore's law is the observation that the number of transistors in a dense integrated circuit doubles about every two years, because of improvements in production. Read more: [What is Moore's Law?](#)

INDICATORS OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION - II



Historical cost of computer memory and storage

This data is expressed in US dollars per terabyte (TB). It is not adjusted for inflation.



Data source: John C. McCallum (2022)

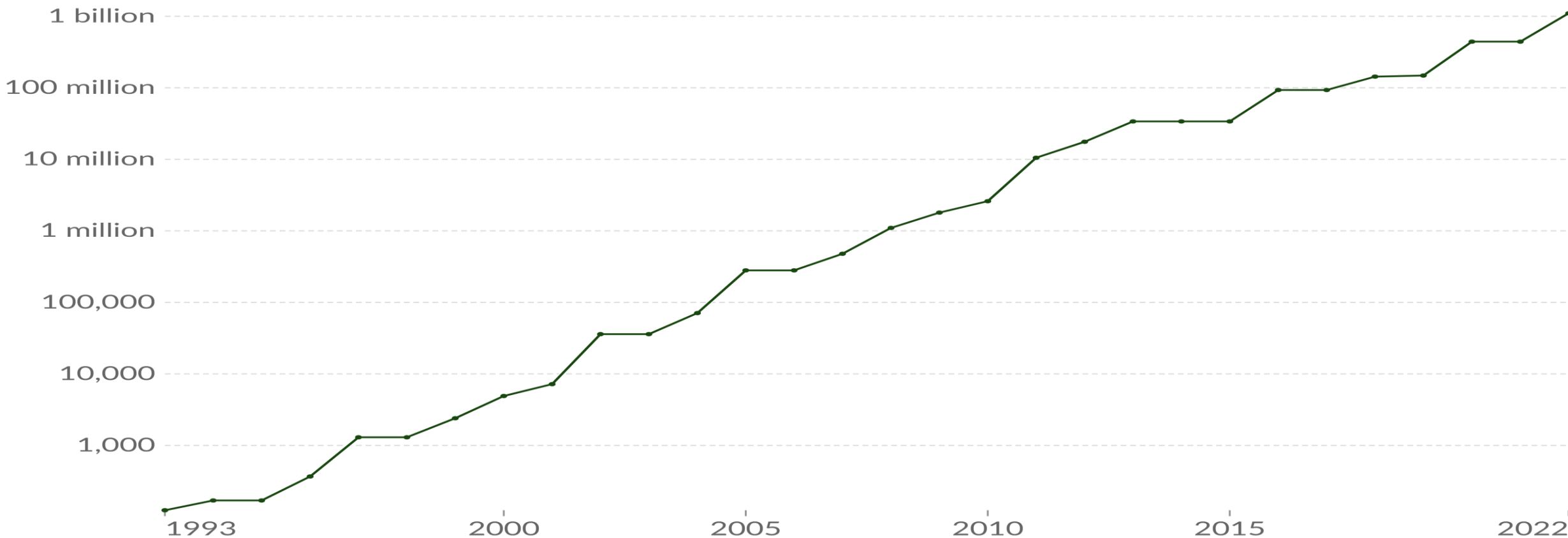
OurWorldInData.org/technological-change | CC BY

Note: For each year, the time series shows the cheapest historical price recorded until that year.

Computational capacity of the fastest supercomputers

Our World
in Data

The number of floating-point operations¹ carried out per second by the fastest supercomputer in any given year. This is expressed in gigaFLOPS, equivalent to 10^9 floating-point operations per second.



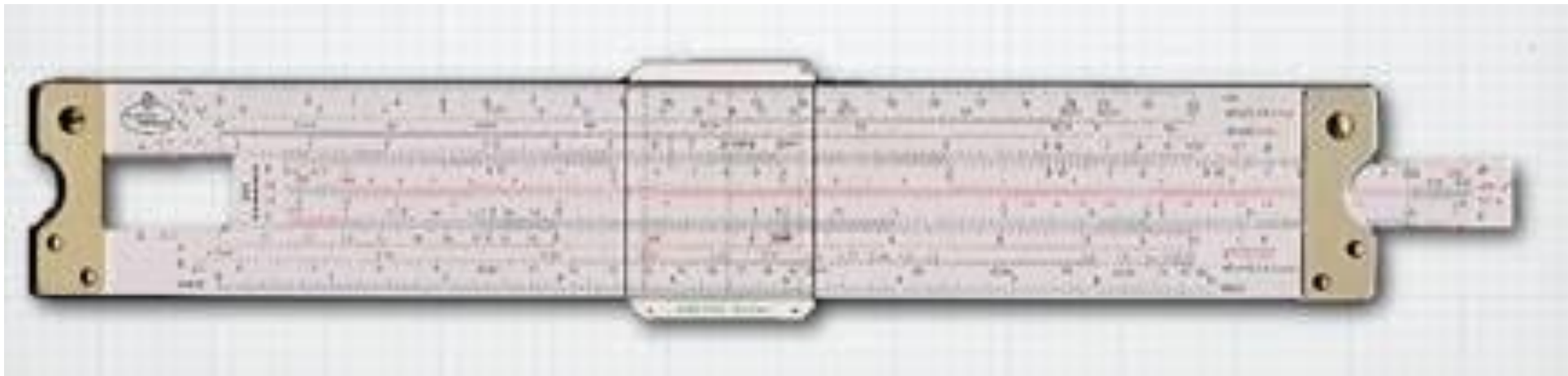
Data source: TOP500 Supercomputer Database (2023)

OurWorldInData.org/technological-change | CC BY

1. Floating-point operation: A floating-point operation (FLOP) is a type of computer operation. One FLOP is equivalent to one addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division of two decimal numbers.

THE EXPLOSION OF SCIENTIFIC CALCULATION CAPACITY FUNDAMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES OF THE 'UPPER PALEOLITHIC...'

- John Napier (1550 – 1617) – formulated the **concept of Logarithm**
- William Oughtred (1574 – 1660) - based on the Theory of Logarithms and the concept of Logarithmic Scales, he developed the Slide Rule (?)



WELL, this Instrument, which really looks like it dates back to the 'Paleolithic', prevailed until 1973

THE EXPLOSION OF SCIENTIFIC CALCULATION CAPACITY THE 'REVOLUTIONARY' FACIT MECHANICAL MACHINES (~1960 -)



👉 What is (was) a FACIT..?
Which I learned to use in
my father's office, in 1959,
and used at College in
1969, 1970...

INDICATORS OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION – IV UNDER THE UMBRELA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (I)

- 👉 **AI is today a designation that covers all the methods and technologies that **HUMAN BEINGS DEVELOP**, with which they design Machines that mimic or independently simulate much of **HUMAN ACTIVITY****
- 👉 **An immense set of applications, emerging every day.....**
 - **Robots... increasingly ‘well trained’**
 - **CHATBOTS – Virtual Assistants with ‘interactive conversations’**
 - **CHATGPT.. and the new BING with associated CHATGPT**

INDICATORS OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION– IV UNDER THE UMBRELA OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (II)



THOUGHTS AND IDEAS I SHARE....

- ❑ **Open mind, Reform, Adapt**
- ❑ **The evolution of the spectrum of knowledge**
- ❑ **Values**
- ❑ **Models of work and of Education**
- ❑ **Innovation and Entrepreneurship**
- ❑ **Retention and attraction of talents**

THE MESSAGE OF TIMES... WHICH IS RELEVANT

OPEN MIND, ADAPT... DEDRAMATIZE

- 👉 We are in the midst of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, in times of social and economic changes that new technologies, particularly those that use Artificial Intelligence, introduce into our lives, into our daily lives.
- 👉 **I completely dedramatize this evolution felt today, which I view, in fact, with great expectations**
 - Today, we live in times of changes ... as others have lived before
 - Simply, we have to be up to date... as others have had to be before
 - He have to adapt... like others have had before
 - We have to maintain a critical spirit... as others have had to maintain before

THE EXTRAORDINARY EVOLUTION OF THE SPECTRUM OF KNOWLEDGE

A THEMATIC LIST – TOPICS IN WHICH ENGINEERING HAS A FUNDAMENTAL SAY

- i. Construction, housing and general infrastructure
- ii. **Agriculture and food**
- iii. Production of new materials
- iv. **Energy and climate**
- v. Environmental, economic and social sustainability
- vi. **Combating climate change and environmental threats**
- vii. Information and Communication Technologies
- viii. **Digital Transition**
- ix. Computing and processing of 'Big Data'
- x. **Artificial Intelligence Methods**
- xi. **Innovation and emerging technologies in areas such as microelectronics, robotics, genetic engineering... and others that still have no face**
- xii. The paths of the energy transition
- xiii. **Electrification in transport, industry... and beyond...**
- xiv. Major problems associated with the scarcity of natural resources – **WATER at the top**
- xv. **Science and Innovation**
- xvi. The Organization and Management of the Territory
- xvii. **Social Integration**
- xviii.....

VALUES, TODAY, AS YESTERDAY... IN THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE TIMES...

- 👉 **Trust** - In free, market Societies, **Trust is the most important value to guarantee Development** - without Trust, Society falls apart
 - associated with the perception of stakeholders, concerning our quality, organization, rigor, stability, and ethics
- 👉 **Ethics** - The most discussed of values... since the Philosophers of Ancient Greece, nowadays involving **respect** and **courage** in assuming professional and moral responsibilities, always **in a transparent way**
- 👉 **Ambition** - of a different nature, a very important state of mind, for a Nation/Community to have a future, obviously thinking of the **global competitive World of Today**

MODELS OF WORK... AND TRAINING

- 👉 **Work and training in hybrid mode**
- 👉 **Work and training increasingly dematerialized**
- 👉 **Requirement to adapt spaces, in companies and training institutions**
- 👉 **Perception of the multidisciplinary nature of practically all processes, leading to the requirement of multidisciplinary Teams**
- 👉 **Perception of the requirement for multiculturalism,**
 - **the 'World has shrunk', World cultures are closer than ever... in real-time**
- 👉 **Perception that we live in a 24/7 World, with the appropriate adaptation of work organization**

Adapt the critical spirit to current communication models and AI instruments –

Critical Spirit that has always been required throughout times

INNOVATION AND INTREPRENEURSHIP

- 👉 **Science for Humanity – the example of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic**
- 👉 **Today, the degree of development of Science in a country says all about the country's state of development, particularly its competitive capacity**
- 👉 **It is important to implement public policies, aiming to incorporate Knowledge, particularly in the form of Innovation, in the Productive Market – Valuing Knowledge**
 - **Increase Projects, involving ‘Research Institutions – Industry’**
 - **Promote PhDs with Industry**
 - **Promote the insertion of doctorates directly into the productive fabric**
 - **Promote entrepreneurship – support Science and Technology Park, Technology Valorization and Transfer Centers, and other institutions aimed at starting companies**

**Globally - bring Scientists to the Market;
Value Knowledge in a tangible way**

TALENT RETENTION AND ATTRACTION

As relevant as tough social and political objectives in all Countries

👉 For Portugal, retaining and attracting Portuguese, EU Nationals, Nationals of Portuguese-speaking Countries and Nationals of Third Countries **is today identified as a major policy for development**

- ✓ Young Portuguese are generally very well trained in Engineering
- ✓ Availability and motivation to go abroad is high, namely for European Countries
- ✓ Currently 30% of young people born in Portugal work somewhere in this World, out of Portugal!

👉 **So, create and /or improve conditions of attractiveness**

- ✓ Of course, promoting salary improvements... for Young People, through various mechanisms ...
- ✓ Including strengthening major motivation and achievement initiatives – entrepreneurship...

Essentially - Young People must feel that their country, or the country where they are, is developing and that it will provide them with opportunities to achieve their goals/dreams

NOW, SPECIFICALLY ABOUT ENGINEERING IN PORTUGAL

(I) PUBLIC PERCEPTION AND ACTION

 I rate that Engineering is publicly recognized as a major asset for our development – Engineering is doing well, within Portugal and all over the World

- ✓ **Companies capable of competing internationally**
- ✓ **Excellent Higher Education in Engineering – young people well prepared**
- ✓ **Competitive high-level research**

 The issue is largely on the real capacity of our institutions/associations to be able to influence the design and implementation of public policies, namely, thinking of quality, education and the economy

- **The Academy of Engineering**
- **Engineers Portugal (Ordem dos Engenheiros)**
- **Universities**
- **Industrial associations**

NOW, SPECIFICALLY ABOUT ENGINEERING IN PORTUGAL (II) THE ROLE OF *ENGINEERS PORTUGAL*

- 👉 ***Engineers Portugal* is doing a fine job in promoting engineering - recognizing new areas of engineering , promoting quality, promoting internationalization, promoting lifelong learning, and fighting for adequate public policies**
- ✓ **Currently, recognizes 17 specialties, 5 of them 'new' - Aeronautical and Space Engineering; Food Engineering; Biomedical Engineering; Engineering and industrial management; Safety and Quality Engineering**
- ✓ **Promotes periodically in its Journal the discussion of major hot topics - Regional Development; Energy and Climate; Construction, Housing, and Infrastructures; Blue Engineering, a Sea of Opportunities; Food and Process Chain Engineering**
- ✓ **Recently published “Engineering XXI” - an important publication that illustrates 144 notable engineering projects and works**
- 👉 ***Engineers Portugal* is undoubtedly a major asset for Portuguese Development**

ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING – CASE STUDY 1

**A classical Engineering Project in its development
From the Lab to the Pilot, to the Plant**

**Today, ACS – Advanced Cyclone Systems,
Founder and Responsible - Prof. Romualdo Salcedo**

- 👉 Cyclone systems for Gas-Solid separation, internationally recognized worldwide as of very high efficiency - solves many critical gas-solid separation problems**
- 👉 History started at FEUP almost 40 years ago**
- 👉 Project with solid scientific bases of separation processes, mathematical modeling and optimization**

STARTED AT LAB LEVEL



WENT THROUGH PILOT SCALE



ENDING UP WITH INDUSTRIAL SCALE (I)



**Installation at
SONAE, a major
Portuguese
industrial company**

ENDED UP WITH INDUSTRIAL SCALE (II)



SSB – Brasil

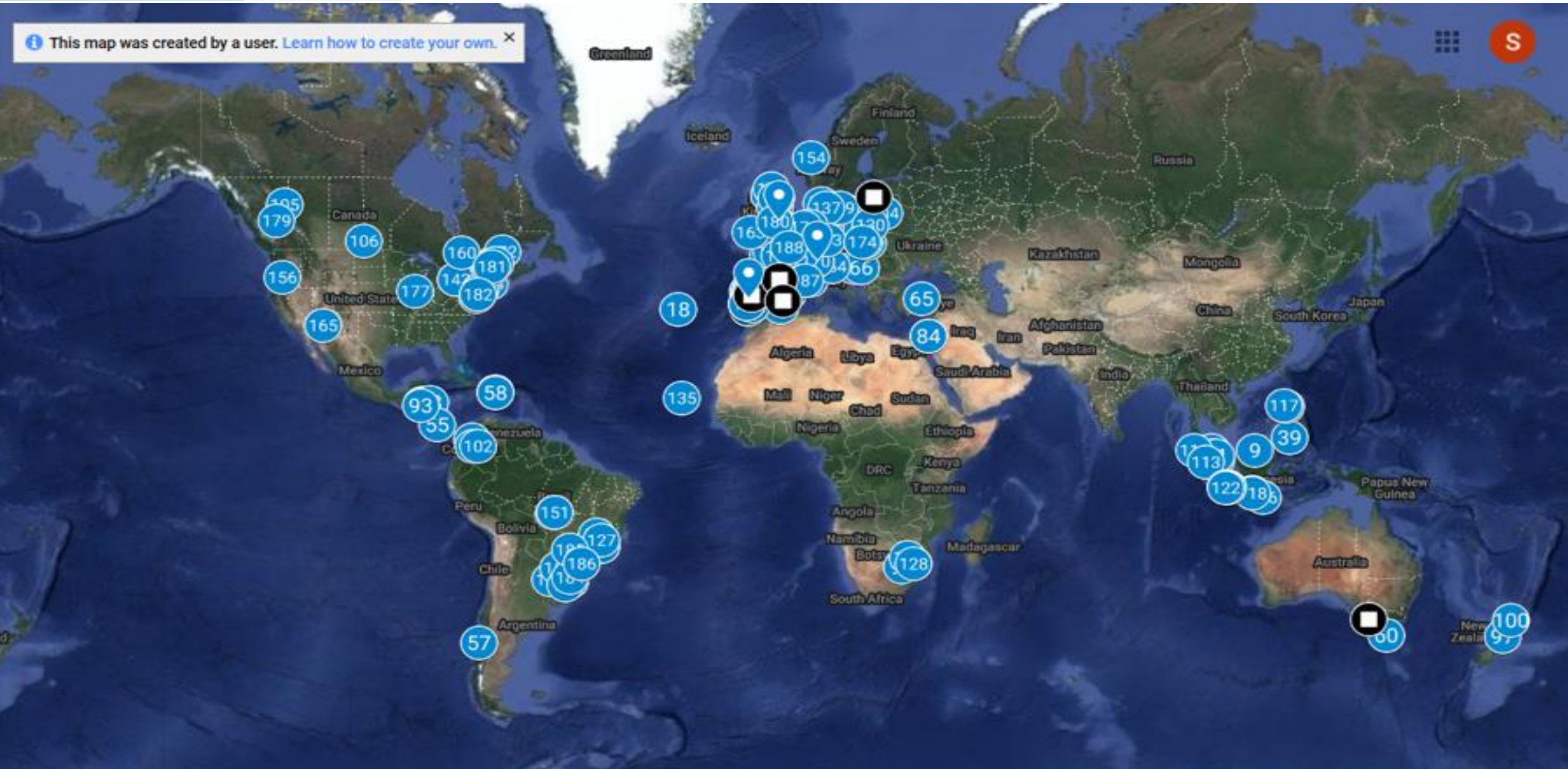
188000 m³/h @150°C;

<100 mg/Nm³

ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING ACS - FACTS & FIGURES, AS OF TODAY...

- 👉 **23 workers – 2 PhDs, 20 with master (second cycle) degrees**
- 👉 **National Prize of Environmental Innovation, 2008; SME Lider em 2015, 2016, 2023**
- 👉 **350 Customers**
- 👉 **38 Countries**
- 👉 **5 Continents**
- 👉 **280 installations for emission control**
- 👉 **120 installations for recovering valuable materials**
- 👉 **95% of revenues, from exports**

ACS – DISSEMINATION WORLDWIDE..



ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 2

Another classical Engineering Project in its development From the Lab to the Pilot, to the Field

**Today, BERD, One Bridge, One Solution -
President and CEO - Prof. Pedro Pacheco**

👉 History started in FEUP, almost 20 years ago

👉 Recognized among World Leaders in the area of Bridge Construction Methods and Solutions – movable scaffolding systems, with organic prestress

👉 Continued scientific investment - New SPIN-OFF “BRIDGE INTELLIGENCE & A.I.”



M1-70-S SLOVAKIA – BRIDGE OVER THE DANUBE RIVER

- **Multiple national and international awards**
 - ✓ In Portugal – COTEC Award
 - ✓ In Europe - EUROPEAN STEEL BRIDGES AWARD
- **5 PCT Patents**
- **1 Patent examined and granted in more than 60 countries**
- **Optimization of bridge solutions in several countries**
- **Frequent publication of scientific papers**





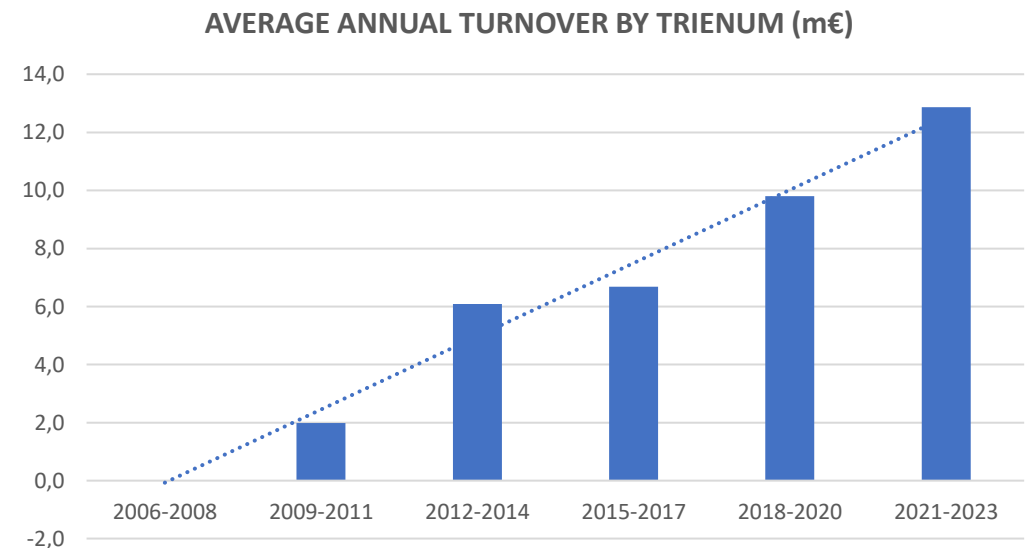
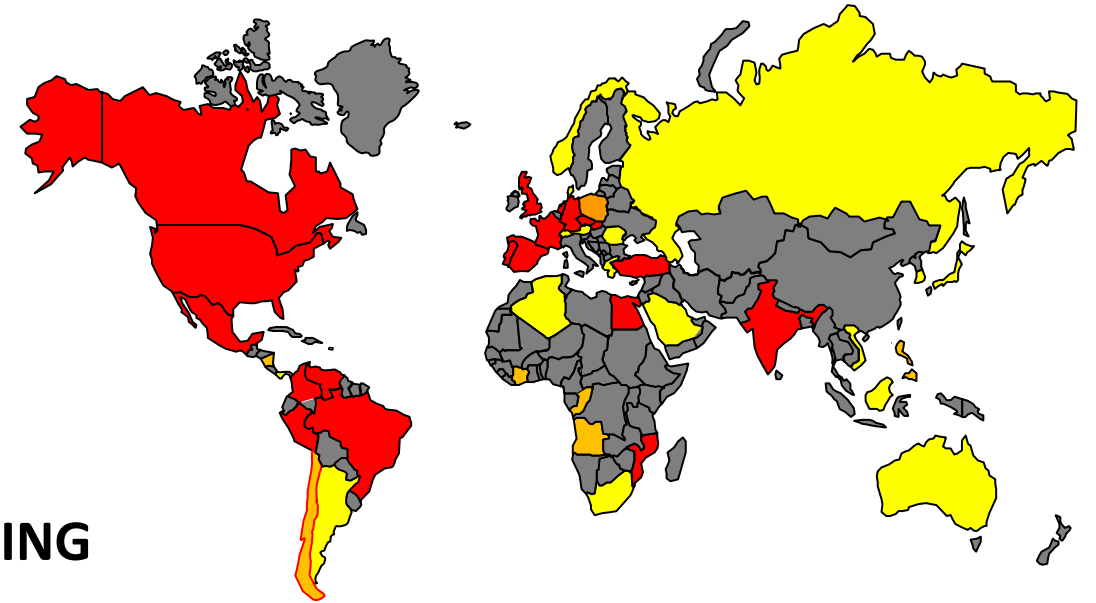
- **PARTICULARLY RELEVANT PROJECT** published in **Structural Engineering International**, with a reduction of more than 400,000 Ton of materials (~30%+) and ~28,000 Ton of CO2 emissions
- The M1-90-S movable scaffolding system operated in Turkey, in the construction of the deck of four viaducts of the Ankara – Sivas High-Speed Railway Line.
- Set a world record by building 90 meter spans in just 12 days, using the in situ concreting method

ELITE TEAM: **APROX. 60 Workers**
(5 PhD, +20 MSc)

CUSTOMERS / PROJECTS: **5 CONTINENTS**

INCOME GROWTH > **16%/YEAR, FROM THE BEGINNING**

WEIGHT OF EXPORTS > **95% OF BUSINESS VOLUME**



ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 3

(Hidden) Engineering in large rehabilitation/renovation projects

Rehabilitation of Super Bock Arena - Rosa Mota Pavilion

Lúcios – Engenharia e Construção

Coordination Eng. Filipe Azevedo







Engineering in large rehabilitation projects

Super Bock Arena -

Rosa Mota Pavilion

Dome

Reinforcement of the main floor



The work on the roof - 1



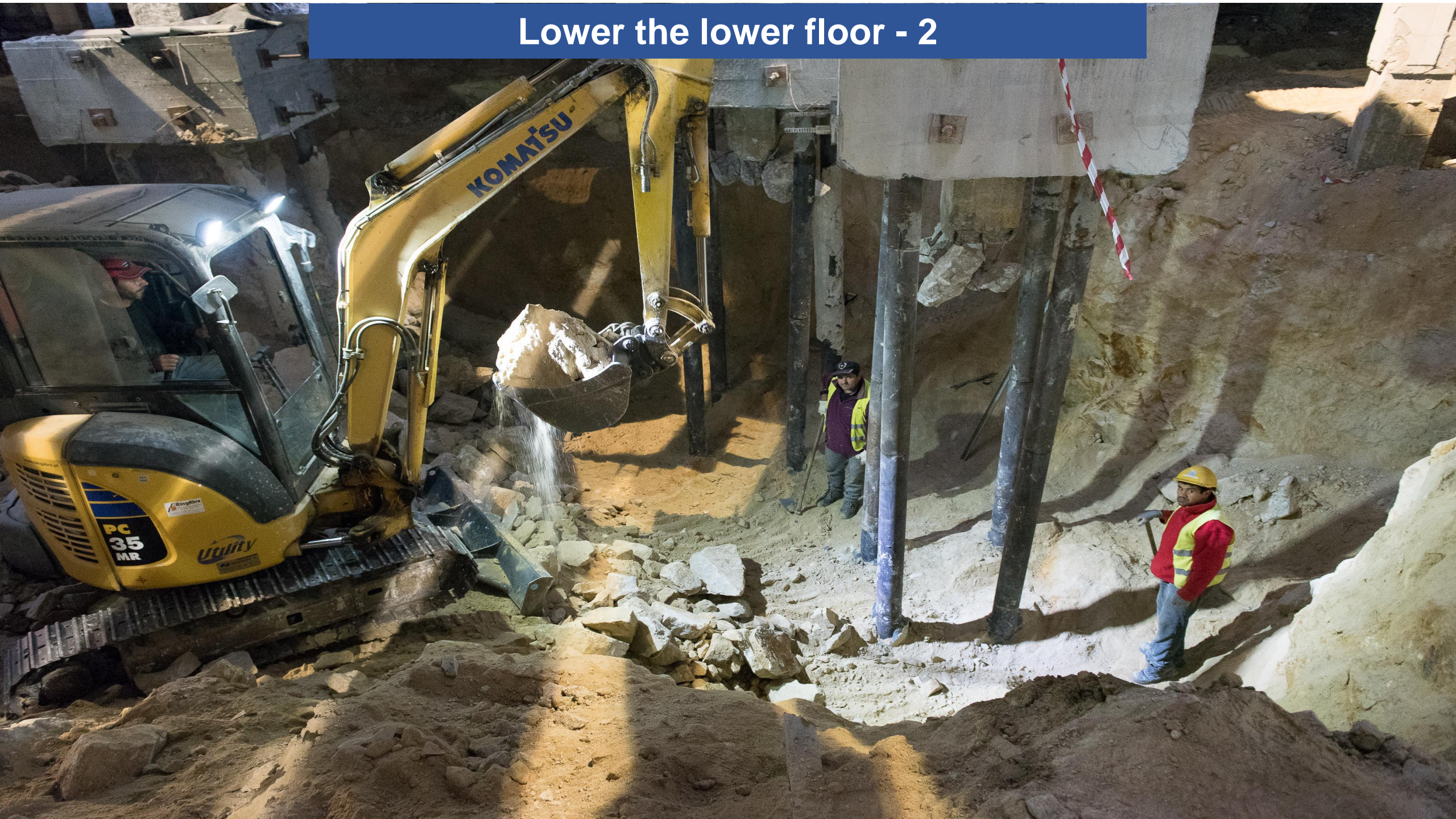
The work on the roof - 2



Lower the lower floor - 1



Lower the lower floor - 2



Lower the lower floor - 3



Lower the lower floor - 4





**Engineering in large
rehabilitation
projects**

**Super Bock Arena -
Rosa Mota Pavilion**

**A new lower floor was
born...**

ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 4

(Hidden) Engineering in large rehabilitation/renovation projects

Arquitecture and Engineering in the Iconic century-old BOLHÃO Market

Coordination Prof. Arq. Nuno Valentim

Lúcios-Engenharia e Construção e ACA Engenharia & Construção

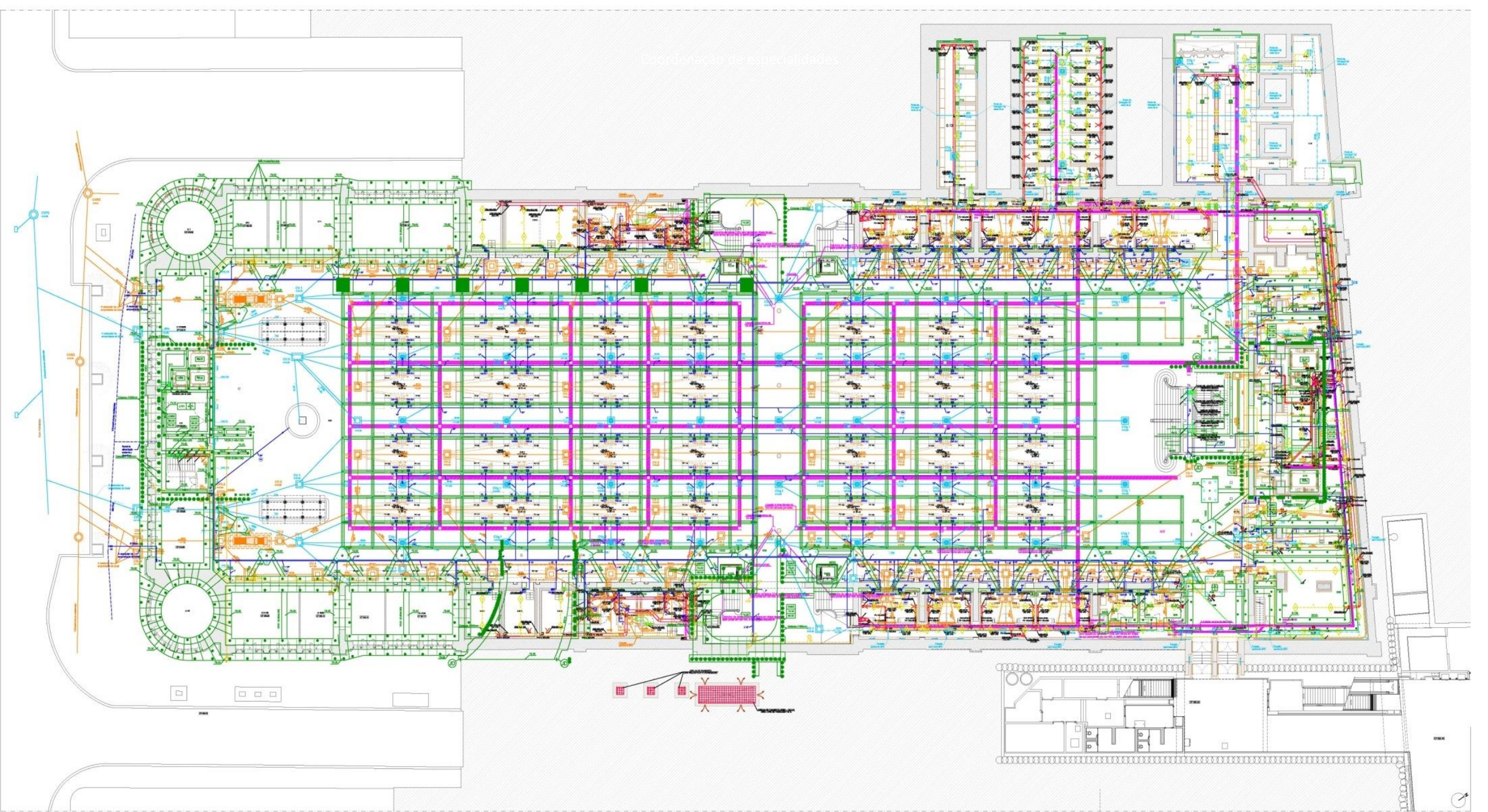
Teixeira Duarte – Engenharia e Construções S.A.







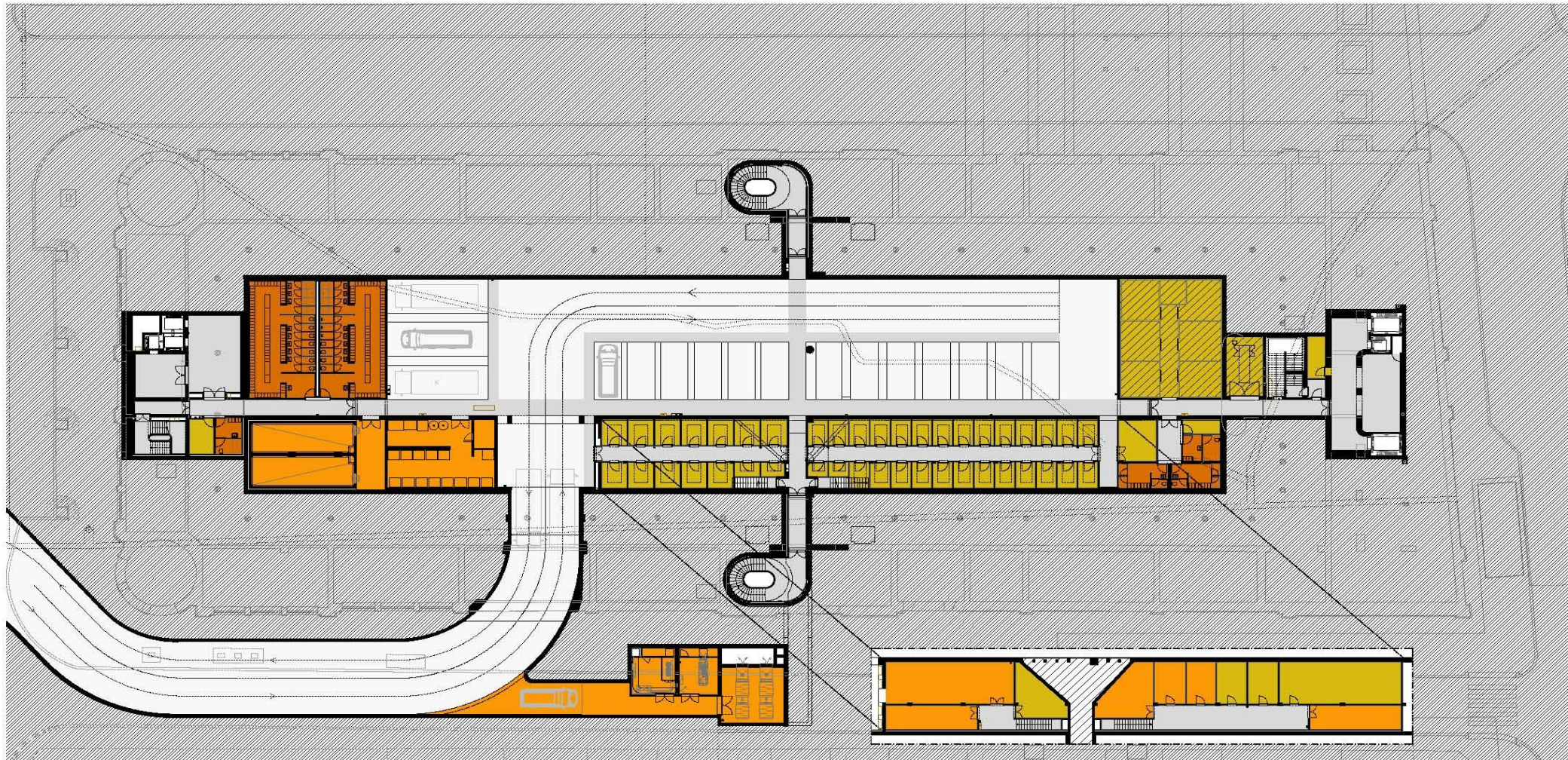
Coordenação de especialidades





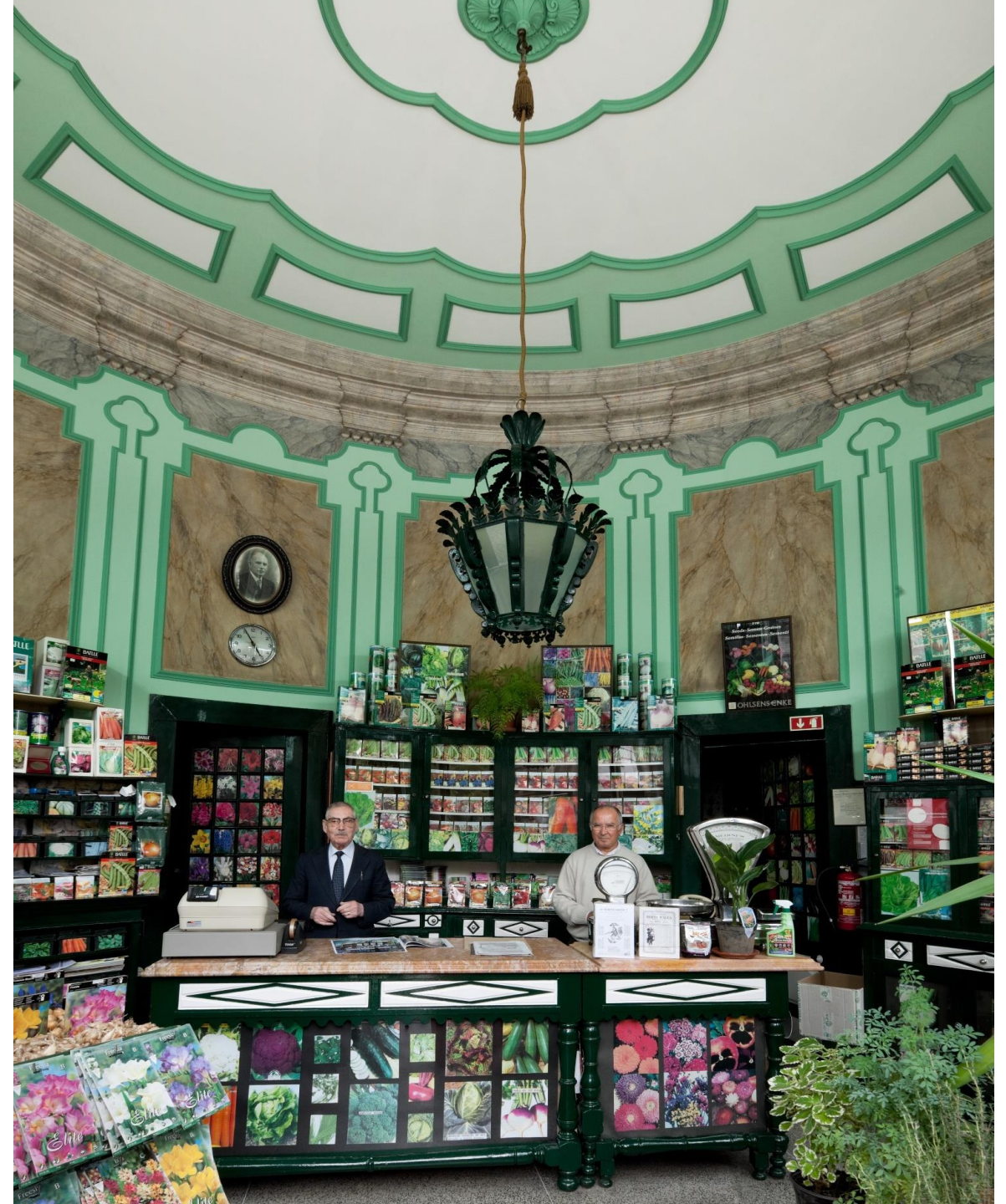
New lower floor for supply, logistics and technical support (cold storage and offices)

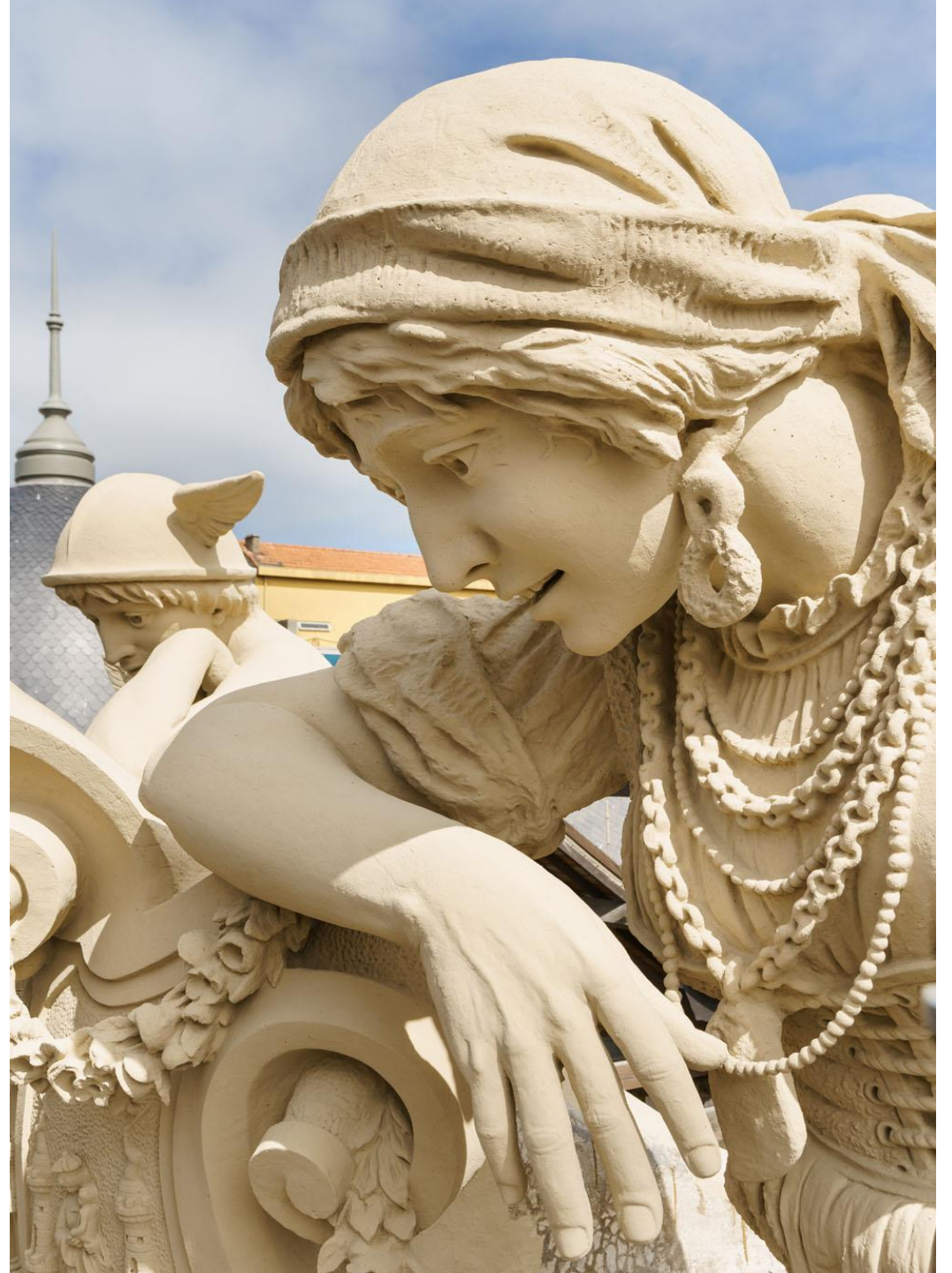




- | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| ACESSOS E CIRCULAÇÃO | LOJAS DE RUA | BANCAS DE VARIADOS | ÁREAS DE APOIO
CARROS E DESCARROS
CÂMARAS FRIGORÍFICAS
CÂMARAS CONGELADORAS
COZINHA DE TRIPAS
ARRUMOS | ÁREAS TÉCNICAS
ÁREAS DE INSTAÇÕES
RECOLHA DE RESÍDUOS SÓLIDOS
DEPÓSITOS
ARRUMOS | ADMINISTRAÇÃO
SALA POLIVALENTE
GABINETES
SALA DE FORMAÇÃO
SALA DE REUNIÕES
ARRUMOS | BALNEÁRIO COMERCIANTE E FUNCIONÁRIOS |
| RESTAURAÇÃO | SOBRELHOJAS | TALHOS | | | | INSTALAÇÕES SANITÁRIAS |
| ÁREA DE APOIO À RESTAURAÇÃO | BANCAS DE FRESCOS | PEIXARIAS | | | | A DEFINIR |







ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 5

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering

The Supercapacitors of C2C-NewCap

Founders – Eng. Rui Pedro Silva, Eng. André Mão de Ferro, Eng. Sónia Eugénio (IST)

- ❑ **Supercapacitors for mobility**
- ❑ **Significant reduction in truck operating costs and environmental costs**
 - ✓ **Savings on diesel consumption**
 - ✓ **Decrease in CO2 emissions**



C2C NEW
CAP

Charge to Change

GO-START

Energy Storage Solutions for Trucks



Spin-off from Universidade de Lisboa



Portugal

Head Office



2014

Founded by:

- Rui Pedro Silva
- André Mão de Ferro and
- Sónia Eugénio



Team

- 12 workers
- 3 PhDs
- 7 Engineers
- 2 Production Technicians



500 m²

- Pilot Plant
- Capacity nto produce 1000 cells / year



Battery type connectors
Easy Installation

Nickel & Carbon
Perfect combination

Aqueous electrolyte
Safe and non toxic

No need for a cell balancing system
Simple, reliable and robust



Go-Start



- ➡ **An SME focused on research, development and production of Supercapacitors.**
- ➡ **Develops fundamental research in the area of materials for Supercapacitors**
- ➡ **Develops business in the area of Supercapacitors**
- ➡ **At European level – an immense business opportunity ~ 6.2 M trucks in circulation**
- ➡ **In 2023 – 50 Units installed**
- ➡ **For 2024 - 100 new Units are planned**

ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 6

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering

Omniflow – Solutions for Smart Cities

Founded by Eng. Pedro Ruão

- **Founded in 2012**
- **Head Office in Porto, PORTUGAL**
- **Patented technology, designed and built in the EU**
- **Active in 35 markets worldwide**

Omniflow Solutions for Smart Cities

- 👉 IoT smart light, powered by solar and wind energy
- 👉 Solution allows savings of over 90% in lighting
- 👉 ... and also integrates other features such as security cameras, air quality sensors, 5G/wifi and electric vehicle chargers





OMNIFLOW SMART POLE

Vertical wind turbine
Solar photovoltaic
Battery storage



AIR QUALITY SENSORS

CO, NO2, O3, PM, SO2, Noise level



CALL BUTTON

High quality video and audio
Facial recognition and other
analytics possible



EV CHARGER

Most integrated EV Charger



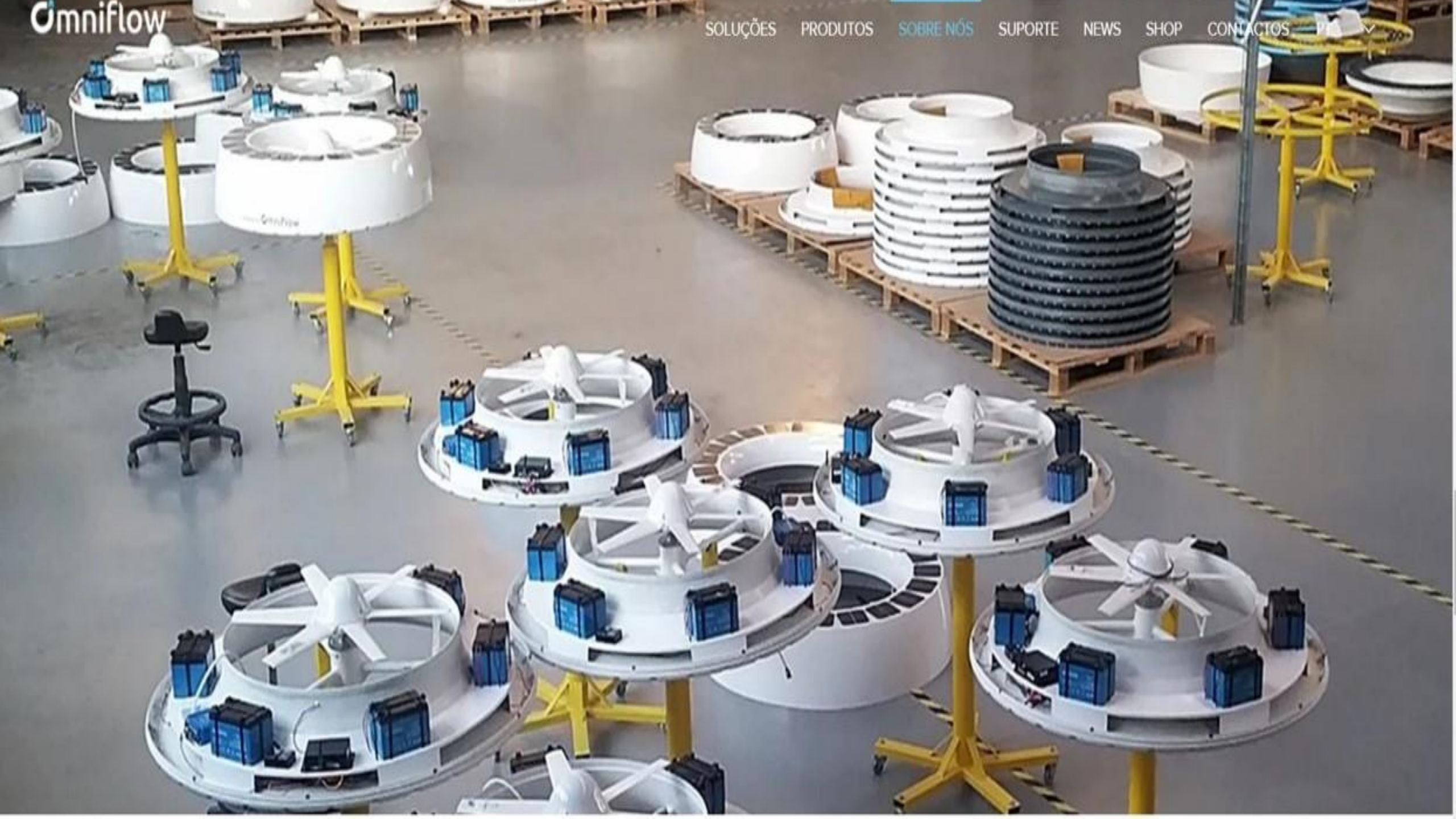
INTEGRATED SERVICES

Ultra efficient LED system
4 x IP cameras, full field of view
Wi-Fi | 5G | LTE Small Cell
Audio for PA
Edge computing
IoT cloud based control system
Landing & charging pad for autonomous drone



INTERACTIVE DISPLAY

Capacitive Touch Screen
Audio system



Omniflow Solutions for Smart Cities

IMPLEMENTATION

+3000 Units
in 35 Countries

Team

21px

FINANCING

€4M

PATENTS

32 Granted
1 Pending



WEIGHT OF EXPORTS - ~70% OF BUSINESS VOLUME



ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 7

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering

I-Charging mobilidade elétrica s.a.

CEO Eng. Alberto Milheiro Barbosa

- They create technological products, reinforcing innovation, differentiation, design and quality, **within the most sophisticated segments of infrastructure for electric mobility**

i-charging



A PIONEER EM DC FAST CHARGING

i-charging offers a comprehensive, leading product portfolio
with output powers of up to 1,600 kW
with relevant, internationally recognized, certifications



**blueberry
50kW**



**blueberry
FUSION
150kW**



**blueberry
PLUS
50-600kW**



**blueberry
CLUSTER
50-600kW**



**blueberry
MAX
50-1,600kW**

5 years

A successful journey

2019

- Join the Team
- Launching the blueberry project

2020

- Test Center
- Launching the blueberry family

2021

- CE blueberry certifications
- Starting production
- First deliveries
- Opening of USA offices
- First commissioning
- E-mobility Awards & German Design Award

2022

- New power unit 200 kW
- Eichrecht module B
- German Innovation Award
- New power unit 300 kW

2023

- Intertek ETL for EUA & Canada
- Launching blueberry FUSION
- Eichrecht module D
- Certification Plug & Charge

A GLOBAL SOLUTION

A global company with a blue-chip customer base and strong presence in key electric vehicle countries

30+
Countries

6
continents

3,150+
blueberries sold

500+
Total MW sold

50+
Customers &
Partners

100+
FTE's

50+
FTE's in R&D
and
Engineering

Argentina

Australia

Brazil

Belgium

Dominican Republic

Egypt

France

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Koweit

India

Macau

Mexico

Morocco

Panama

Paraguay

Poland

Porto Rico

Portugal

Serbia

Slovenia

Spain

Thailand

Turkey

United Arab

Emirates

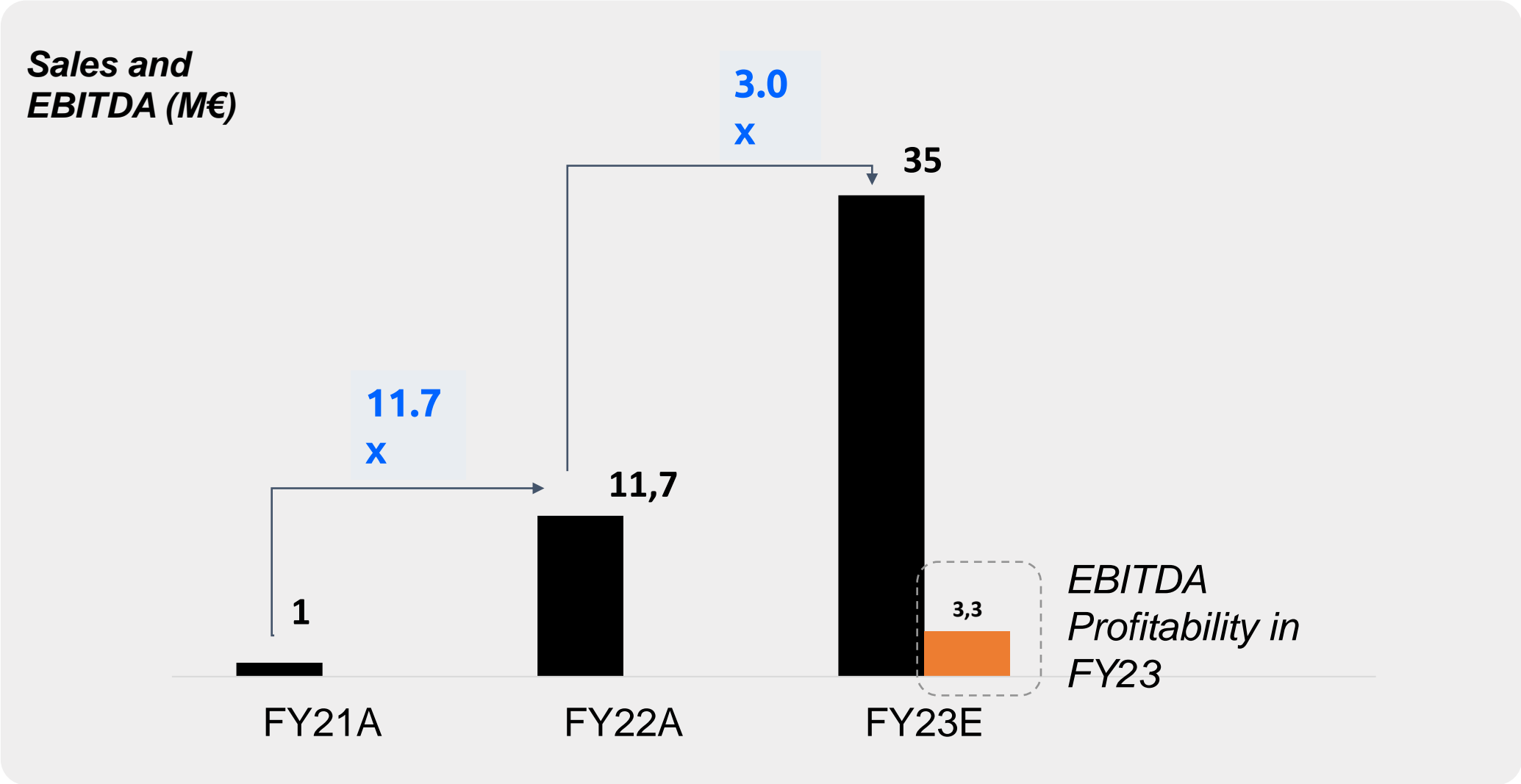
United kingdom

Uruguay

USA

i-charging é a líder tecnológica, lucrativa e de crescimento mais rápido em carregamento rápido DC

i-charging has been on an impressive growth trajectory since the launch of the first Blueberry fast charger in 2021



more at www.i-charging.pt

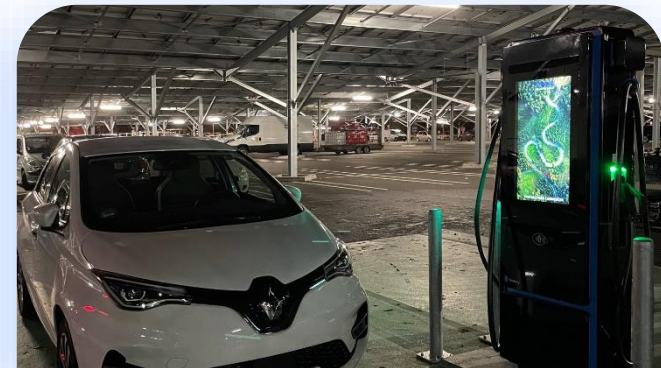
Some examples



Antuã, Portugal



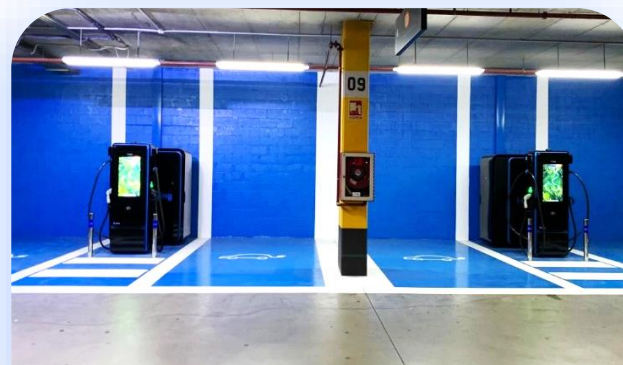
Punta Cana, Dominican Republic



Wittenheim, France



Montelimar, France



Albacete, Spain



Szeged, Hungary

more at www.i-charging.pt

Some examples



AUDI, UAE



Bangkok, Thailand



Atlanta, GA, USA



Montabaur, Germany



S. Paulo, Brazil



Mont-de-Marsan, France

more at www.i-charging.pt

Some examples



Ostrzeszów, Poland



Panama City, Panama



Athens, Greece



Bourgoin Jallieu, France



UK



Mealhada, Portugal

ILLUSTRATING THE POTENTIAL OF OUR ENGINEERING CASE STUDY 8

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering

SEAMORTECH

Founders Eng. Eva Sousa, Eng. Sofia Delgado (Spin Off - DEQ, FEUP)

- ❑ **Make the desalination of seawater through reverse osmosis more environmentally friendly and profitable**
 - **Harness valuable minerals**
 - **Increase freshwater recovery efficiency**
 - **Minimize the impact of toxic brine discharge**

THE ISSUE OF WATER – ONE OF THE MAJOR STRATEGIC THEMES OF THE PRESENT



Water shortage

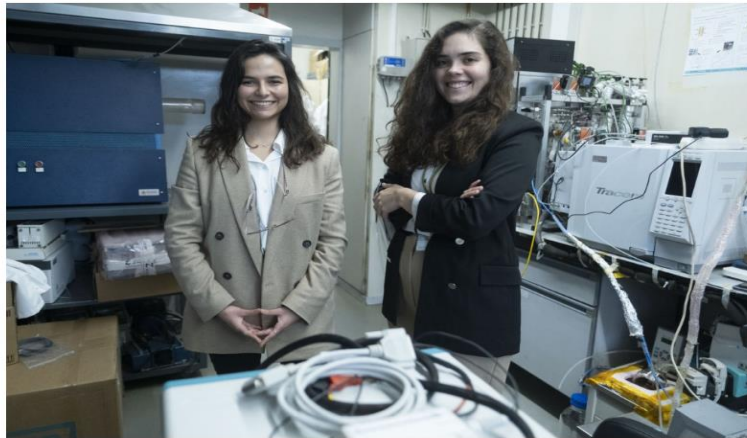
Cover page in major newspapers

12 January 2024

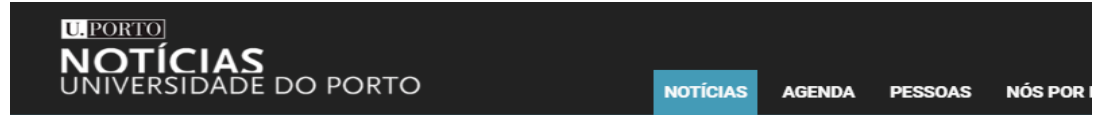
A TEAM OF SIX, WITH TWO FOUNDERS VALUING RESOURCES FOR A SUSTAINABLE MARITIME ECONOMY



O projecto das cientistas nasceu nos laboratórios da Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto (FEUP) e, há dois anos, deu origem a uma *spin-off* chamada [SeaMoreTech](#). “Foi um desafio que nos foi lançado pelo professor Adélio Mendes”, explica ao PÚBLICO Eva Sousa, referindo-se ao investigador da FEUP muito conhecido por [apojar](#) a transição de novas tecnologias para o tecido industrial.



Eva Sousa e Sofia Delgado criaram a *spin off* SeaMoreTech PAULO PIMENTA



PÁGINA INICIAL / NOTÍCIAS / CIÊNCIA E INOVAÇÃO

12.09.23 Por Raquel Pires / FEUP



Solução criada por investigadoras do LEPABE permite obter minerais imprescindíveis na indústria farmacêutica, automóvel e eletrónica.



Eva Sousa e Sofia Delgado conheceram-se quando desenvolviam trabalho no âmbito das respetivas teses de doutoramento no LEPABE / FOTO: DR

Address the environmental problem

Reverse osmosis is currently the most promising desalination technology to address water scarcity. But...

Unconscious discharge of brine into the oceans



Ecological disruption of the seawater food chain

142 million m³ of toxic brine daily

Opportunity

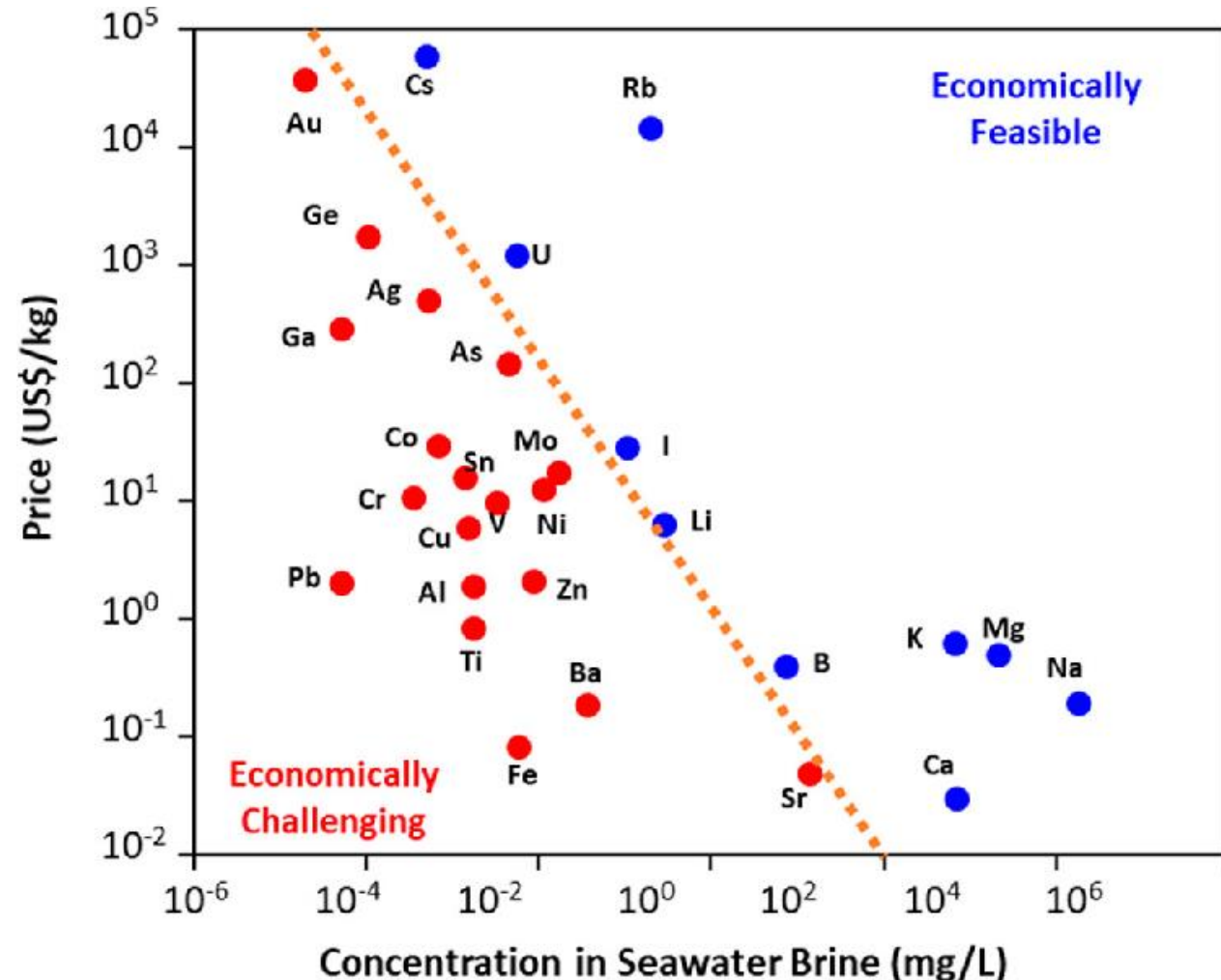
Valorization of brine minerals – why?

Concentration of minerals duplicates in brines resulting from inverse osmosis

Minerals that serve various industries
(Pharmaceutical, Automotive, Electronics...)

Market currently very dependent on non-European industries

Critical raw materials in the EU

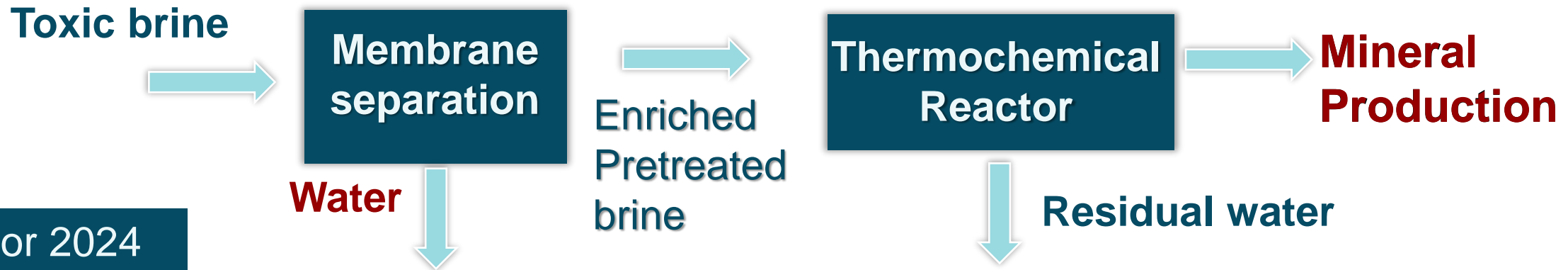


The Solution

Valuing resources for a sustainable maritime economy

A 2-Step Production Process

Project's final goal
Treat up to 600 m³ of toxic brine per hour



Pilot scale experiment

Semi-industrial application contracted in an Industrial Desalination Plant (private) in the Algarve, with the expected treatment of 30 m³/day of brine

EPÍLOGUE

IS WORLD DEVELOPMENT IN THE HANDS OF ENGINEERING?

- 👉 Naturally, it is also in the hands of other areas, **but it is VERY MUCH in the hands of Engineering, of Engineers...**
- 👉 Portugal has a large, high quality installed Engineering capacity, in Engineers and in Companies, **with AMBITION... looking to the outside World...**
- 👉 It is fundamental for our collective future that our Governments **ENHANCE, BOOST, SUPPORT**, the intervention of Engineering, recognizing and using its ability **to DO –**

Bring Engineering to cooperate more in the design of policies

**Give Engineering the responsibility to
make and implement these policies on the field**



ORDEM
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ENGENHEIROS



In support of UNESCO
World Engineering Day



Com o Alto Patrocínio
de Sua Excelência
Under the High Patronage of the
President of the Portuguese Republic



O Presidente da República

Many thanks for your attention

Said



Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World

Lisbon, March 4th 2024