

**FERAN®**

**Aluminum clad steel for Power Plants'  
Direct Air Cooled Condensers (DACC)**

# // Direct Air Cooled Condensers (DACC)

- › DACC are used to regulate the efficiency of thermal energy of power plants
- › DACC-systems are based on single tubes made of aluminum-clad steel



Photo: Power plant



Photo: Roof of the power plant

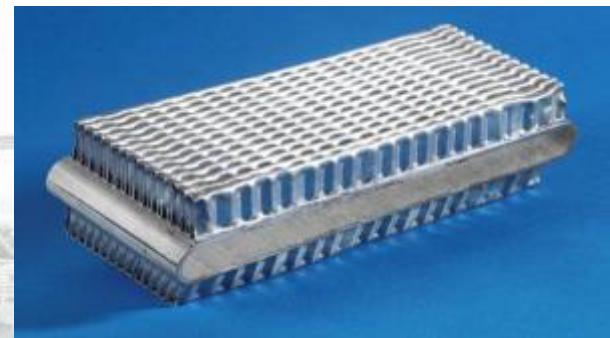
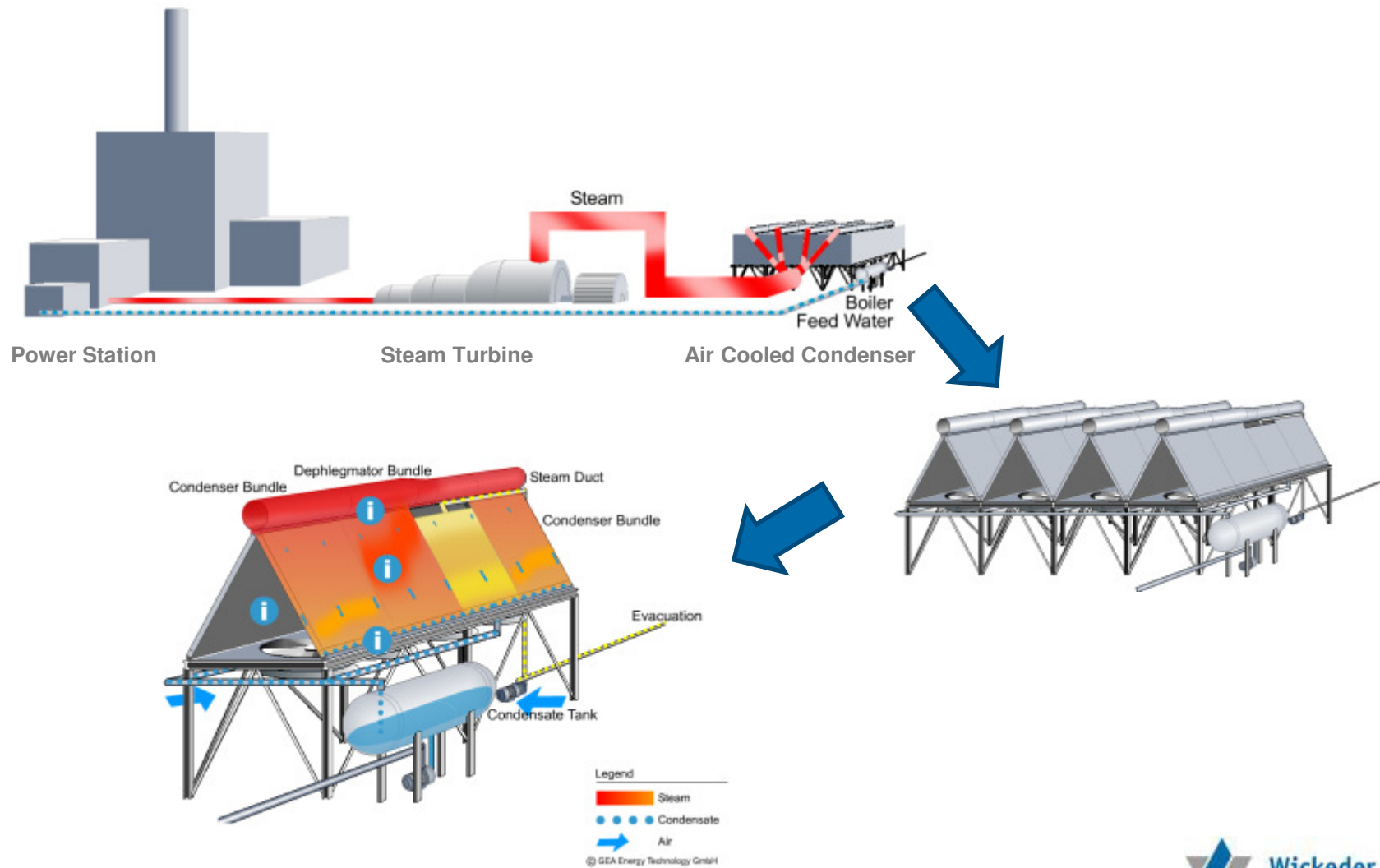


Photo: DACC with FERAN

# // Direct Air Cooled Condensers (DACC)



# Why FERAN® for DACC?



## // Why FERAN® for DACC?

- › FERAN® is the only **long term proven** material in the world for dry air cooling
- › Maximum power plant efficiency over life time guaranteed through:
  - › Corrosion resistance of integral Aluminum-Layer ( $> 50 \mu\text{m}$ )
  - › Reliable heat transfer by stable bonding and brazing connections
  - › Aluminum-free inner tube surface



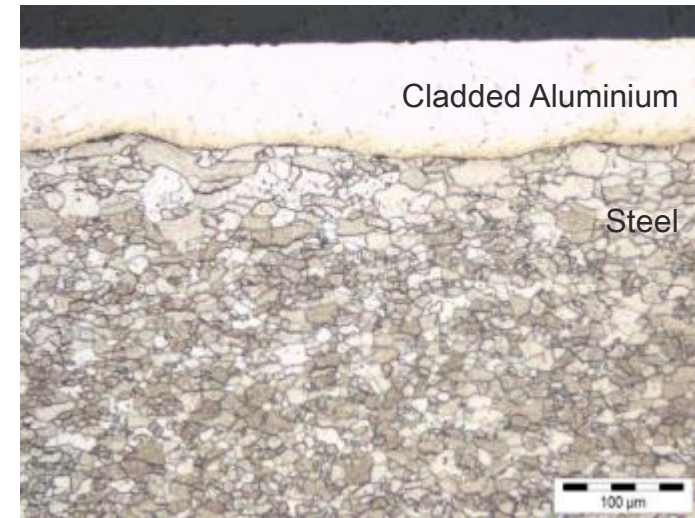
# // Why FERAN® for DACC?

- › FERAN® is a one-side aluminum-clad steel
- › Used to weld the single row tube in DACC-systems
- › Aluminum-free edges guarantee a highly efficient welding process, achieved by edge free cladding
- › The aluminum surface is ready for brazing
- › The tubes are used to form tube bundles



# // Why FERAN<sup>®</sup> for DACC?

- › No delaminating
- › No brittle regions in the diffusion zone
- › Tightest thickness tolerances within each production lot of several hundred of tons



Microsection of FERAN<sup>®</sup>

# // How to achieve the quality of FERAN®

- › Right material selection for the combination of aluminum-steel
- › Optimization of the production parameters for:
  - › Heat treatment
  - › Rolling
  - › Surface preparation
  - › Edge free cladding
- › Consistency of production parameters over several hundred thousands tons of material
- › Close cooperation between supplier and customers for welding and brazing
- › Strong quality control of the **whole process**

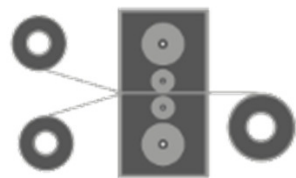


# // Production & quality process of FERAN®

Certified  
supplier of  
hot-rolled  
strip



Certified  
supplier of  
aluminum  
foil



**Cladding  
& Rolling**

- speed of the cladding process
- control of the roll pressure
- control of the tape tension
- etc.



**Heat  
Treatment**

- control of the temperature of the oven
- control of the temperature of the material
- etc.



**Temper  
rolling**

- speed of the temper rolling process
- control of the stock gauge
- control of the temper rolling grade etc.



**Cutting**

- control of the strip width
- etc



**Packaging**

- control of the packaging
- etc.

# // Why FERAN® from Wickeder Westfalenstahl?

- › Wickeder Westfalenstahl has over 90 years production experience of Al-clad steel
- › Wickeder Westfalenstahl has developed FERAN® in the mid-90's  
→ 100% reliability over 20 years of operation - no field failure ever reported
- › Reference list includes more than 4.000 power plants worldwide with an installed capacity of more than 550,000 MW (=550 GW)



# // Why FERAN® from Wickeder Westfalenstahl?

- › Best product
  - › Best process
- ➔ certified (by TÜV)

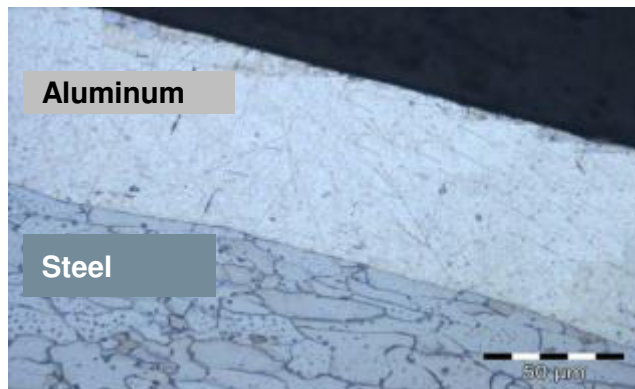


# // Material Selection

- › Tight quality control of steel and aluminum is important
- › Metallurgical specification of certain elements is very critical

## FERAN®

99,5% Al  
< 1,0 % Si



50-80 µm

Layer thickness

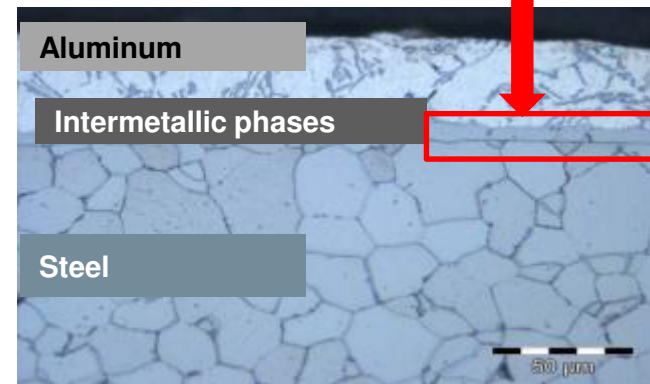
**No** brittle Fe-Al-alloy at contact zone  
  
virtually **no** Si-precipitations

Consistence

## Alternative Material

High % Si  
> 90% Al

**⚠ DANGER**



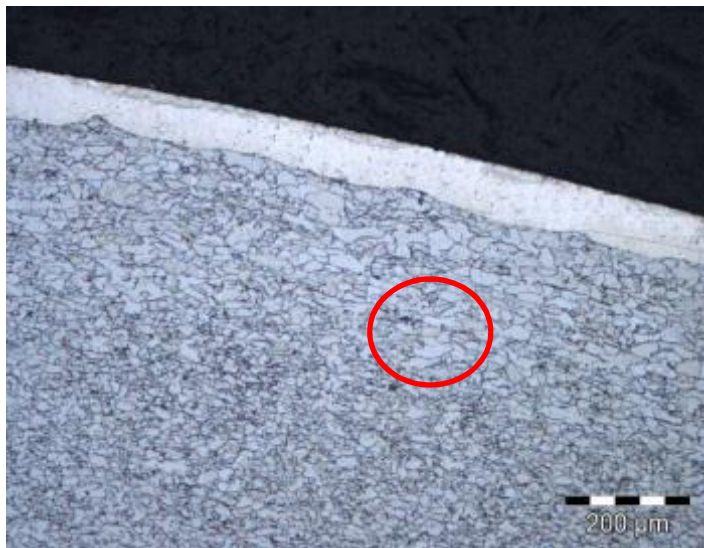
appr. 25 µm-90 µm

Already, after the coil production an  
appr. **5 µm brittle Fe-Al-alloy** shows up at  
the contact zone,  
**heavy Si-precipitations in the Al-layer**

# // Rolling consistency and parameters

- › Rolling parameters have been validated
- › Wickeder Westfalenstahl's material reaches a variation of  $\pm 0,01\text{mm}$
- › FERAN<sup>®</sup> reaches a defined and consisted grain size in the steel

FERAN<sup>®</sup>



Layer is thicker  
better tolerances

Alternative Material



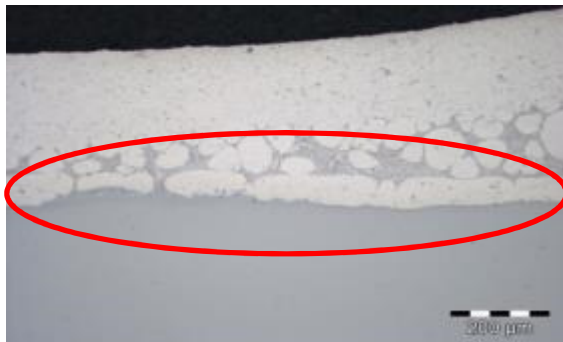
Layer is thinner  
bad tolerances →  
worst protection



## // Behavior of the Al-layer during brazing process

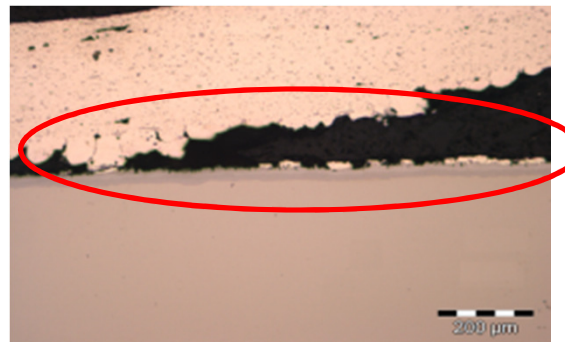
- › FERAN® shows a very good Aluminum fin adhesion
- › Alternative material shows only single spots adhesion

FERAN®



Good aluminum fin adhesion

Alternative Material



Only single spot adhesion

# // Corrosion test performed on tube samples

- › Samples of tubes brazed with fins were tested by an salt spray test
- › Operated through an independent institute (IGOS)

FERAN®



Appearance of  
FERAN® after 840 h  
salt spray test

Alternative material

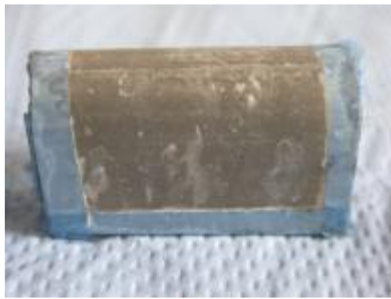


Appearance of  
alternative material  
after 840 h salt  
spray test

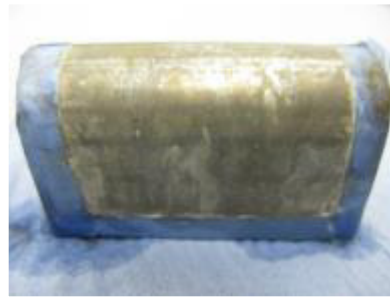
# // Anti-Corrosion performance

Samples are tested by salt water spraying of strip with covered edges in a welded and bend condition. FERAN<sup>®</sup> shows no corrosion after 1.650 h, whereas the alternative material already shows heavy corrosion after 850 h

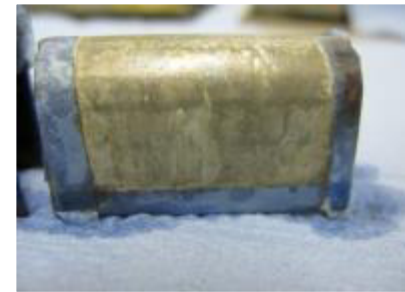
**FERAN<sup>®</sup>**



360h



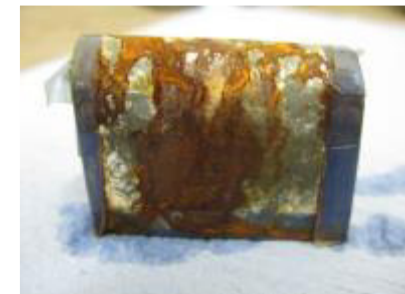
850 h



1650 h



**Alternative Material**



# // Why FERAN® for DACC producers?

## Immediate access to the raw materials / FERAN®-coils

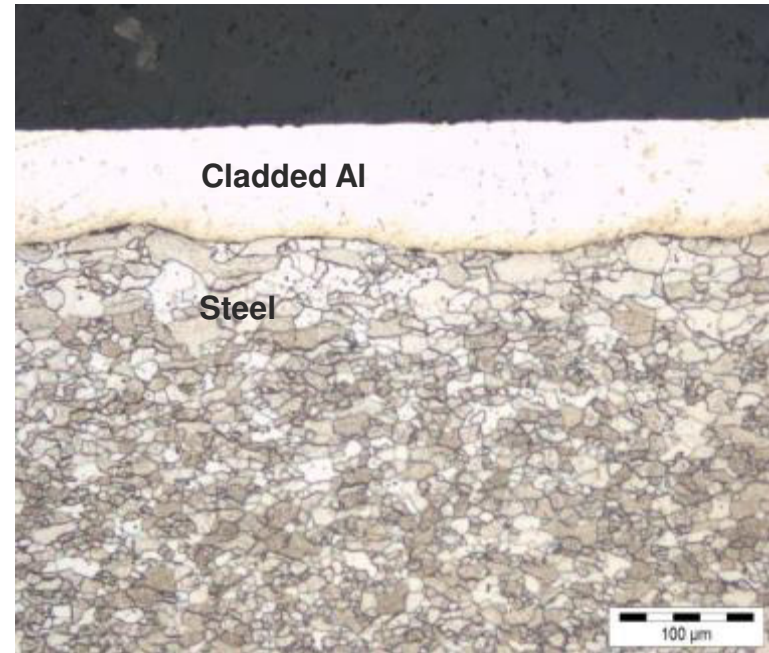
- › Wickeder Westfalenstahl has established a FERAN® stock in several warehouses to guarantee an immediate supply for the DACC-companies → 500 t per week
- › The stock volume enables to cover a continuous production of 8 weeks for the customers
- › A continuous delivery system minimizes the needed stock at any time
- › Disaster recovery program covers continuous supply

# Why FERAN® for power plants?



# // FERAN®: Overview of the advantages

- › FERAN® has a consistent and high quality
- › Long life time of their products of more than 25 years in respect to corrosion resistance
- › DACC-systems with FERAN® guarantee and have demonstrated an excellent yield of the power plant
- › Optimized behavior during hot/cold periods
- › The material is installed in DACC-systems in deserts, tropic and cold regions → Resistance against sun, wind and storm



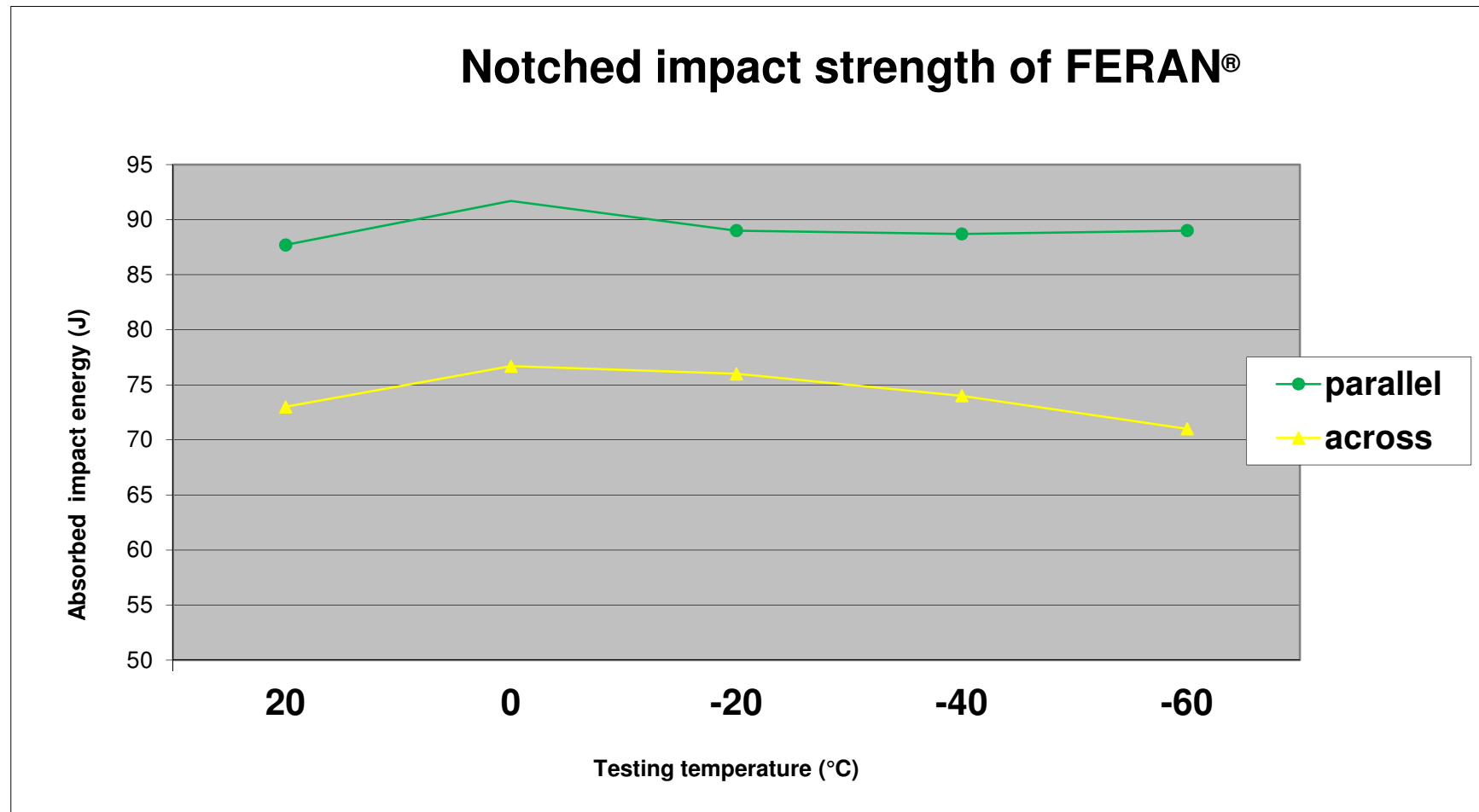
Structure of FERAN®

# **FERAN® for Power Plant Applications**

- › FERAN® of Wickeder Westfalenstahl is especially developed and designed for Power Plant Applications in very hot and very cold regions in the world
- › For evidence of the material toughness the Charpy impact test was selected
- › The test was done close to DIN EN 10045
- › The graph shows that even at extreme temperatures up to -60°C or above 40°C there is no significant decrease of absorbed impact energy in comparison to other Al-cladded materials available.

# Avoidance of quality problems and costs

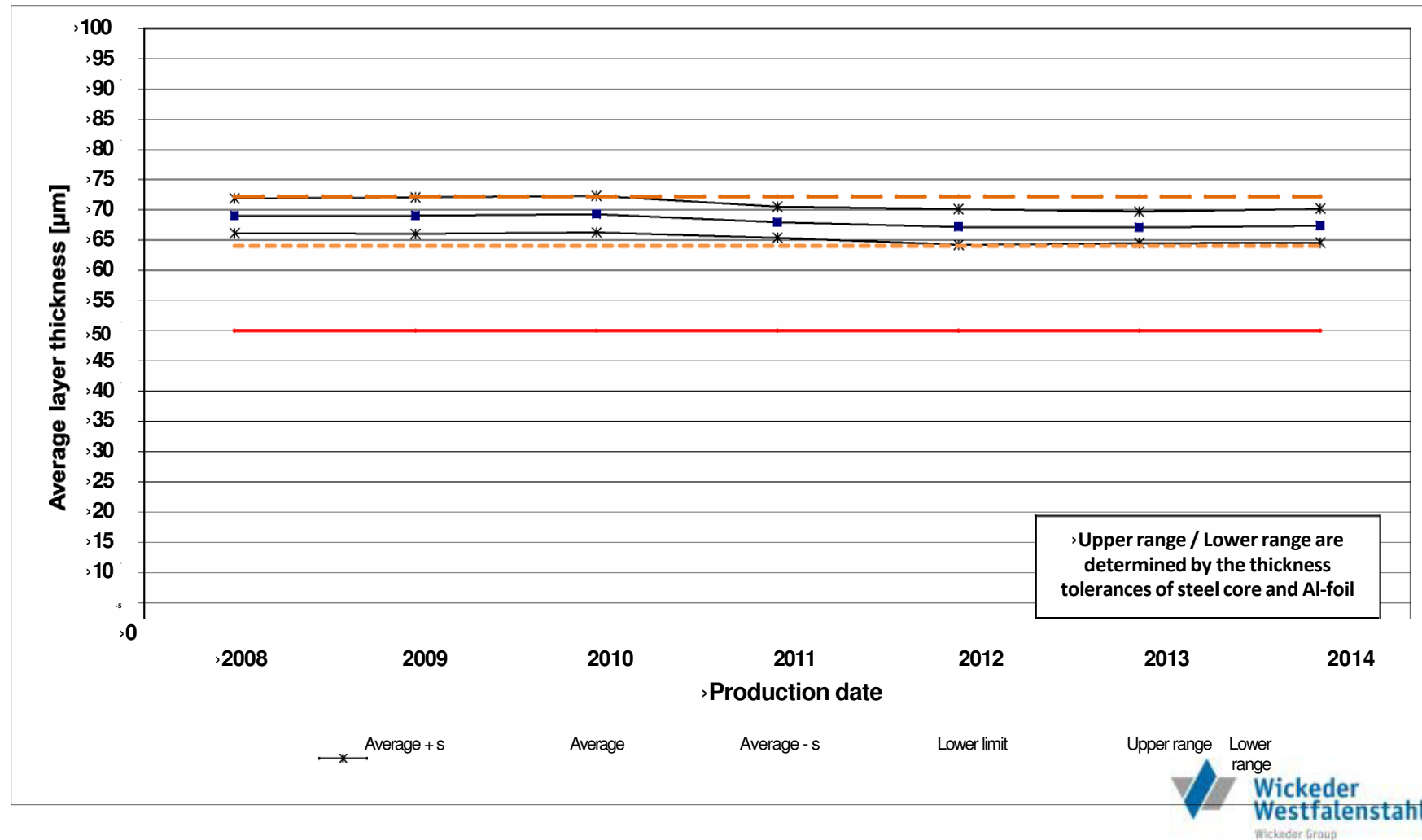
# **FERAN<sup>®</sup> for Power Plant Applications**





## Statistical Data (Al-Layer thickness)

Customer	Material	Dimension	Tolerance of layer thickness
All	Feran for ACC	1,52 x 460 mm	min. 50 $\mu\text{m}$

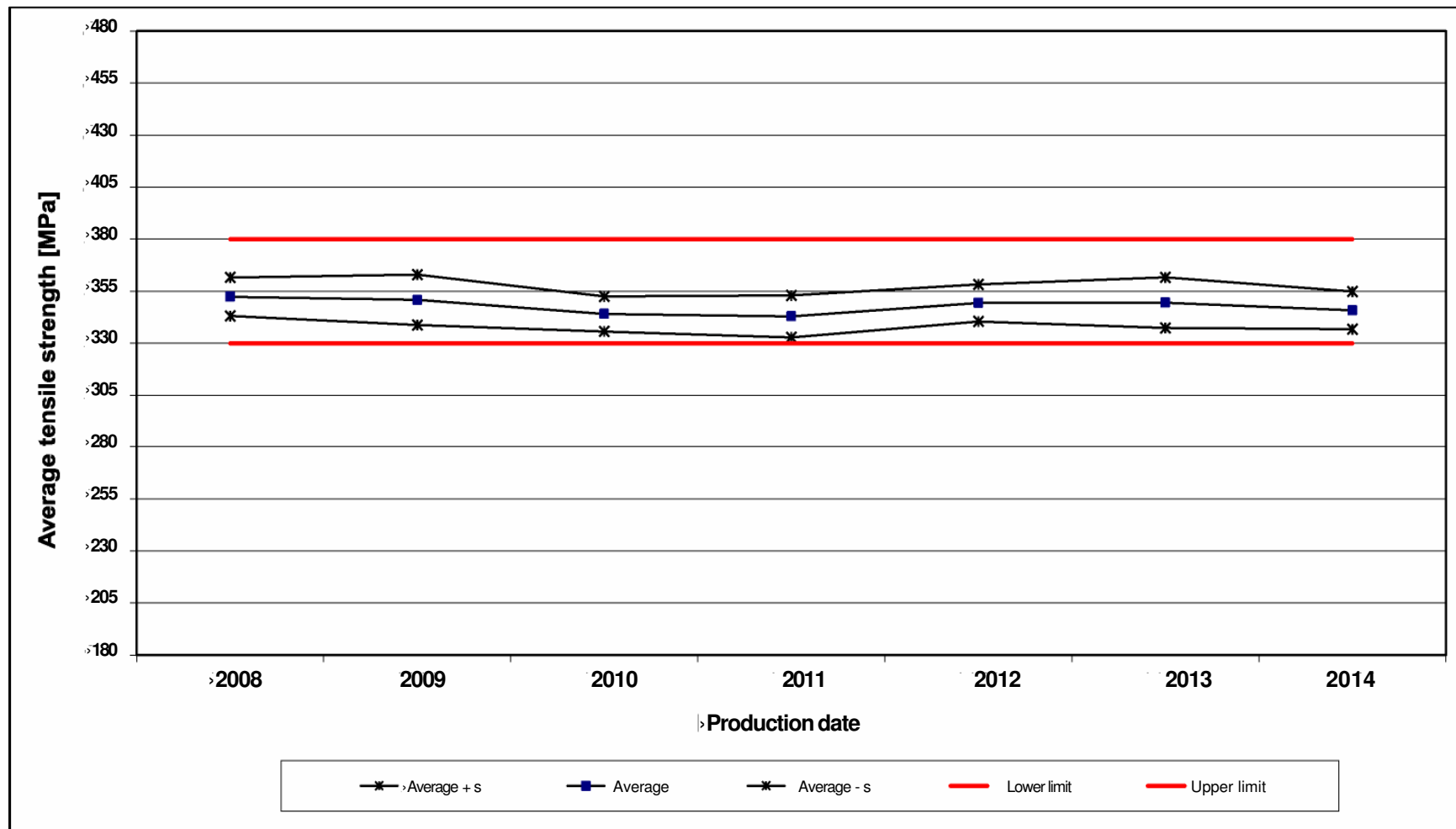






## Statistical data (tensile strength)

Customer	Material	Dimension	Tolerance of tensile strength
All	Feran for ACC	1,52 x 460 mm	330 - 380 Mpa



# // Typical failures with not qualified materials

- › Bundles after <1 year in the field
- › Not qualified material + wrong engineering



Alternative material – big gap



Alternative material – beginning of the gap

## // Typical failures with not qualified materials



Delamination caused by brittle interlayer phases at the interface between aluminum and steel

## // Typical failures with not qualified materials



Delamination caused by brittle interlayer phases at the interface between aluminum and steel

# // Efficiency of cooling systems

What can be the consequences of the usage of not qualified material?

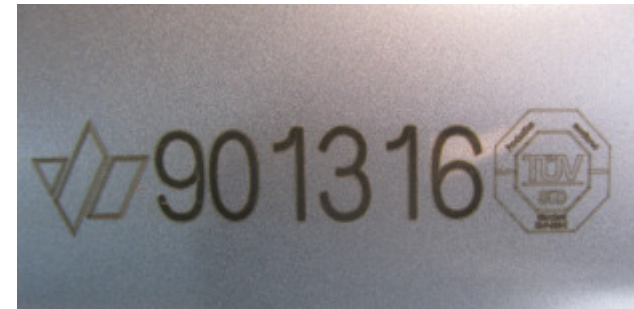




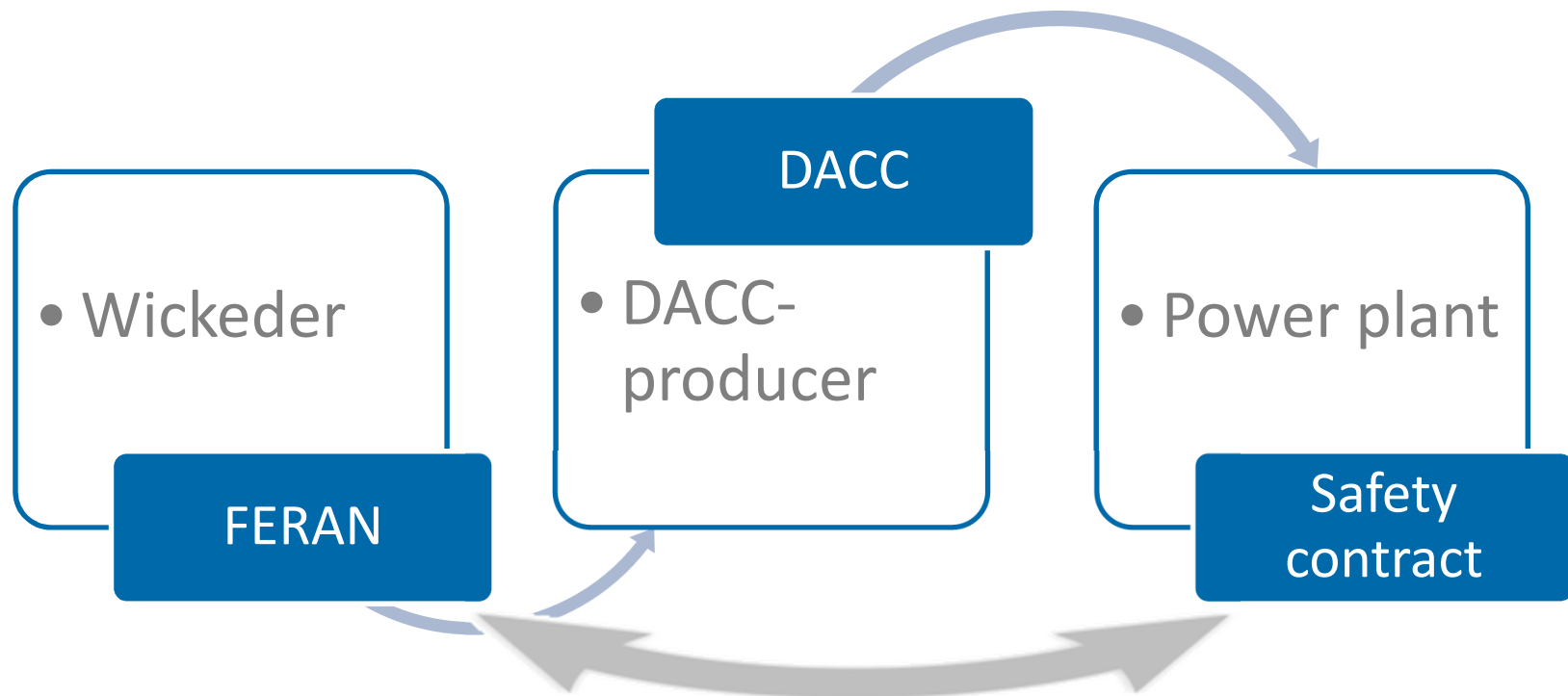
# // Why FERAN® for power plant?

## ➔ Safety through traceability

- › „European Aluminum-clad material“ or „Wickeder FERAN®“ is listed in your contract to ensure you receive the proven Wickeder material
- › Wickeder Westfalenstahl has established a tracing system based on:
  - › Internal documentation & shipping and inspection documents since **more than 20 years**
  - › Special marking of every single production lot with individual and not copyable parameters **since two years**
  - › All delivered FERAN® coils are marked with individual numeric marking **since May 2014**
  - › In 2014: first projects were realized with a numeric marking predetermined by the end-users



## // Safety through traceability



# **Power Plant Application**

**Wickeder Westfalenstahl has delivered a high amount of FERAN® tons for DACC systems during the last 20 years:**

- › With this it is possible to build:
- › 460 power plants @ 2 x 600 MW

# Responsibility for human & environmental safety

- › Become a responsible power plant!
- › It's the issue of your future!
- › Maximum power for power stations!

# Keep on cooling!

Wickeder Westfalenstahl GmbH  
Hauptstraße 6  
58739 Wickede an der Ruhr  
Deutschland

Phone +49 2377 917-764  
[Hans-juergen.gauger@wickeder.de](mailto:Hans-juergen.gauger@wickeder.de)