



## ***Research Colloquium 2022***

**Institut Tadbiran Awan Negara (INTAN)  
Kampus Utama Bukit Kiara**

# **Development of Extremely High Deposition Efficiency of Robust and Super-Hydrophobic Fluoropolymer Coating by Cold Spray Technology and Its Bonding Strength Improvement**

LinkedIn



**Presenter**



**WESLEY ANAK LOCK SULEN** (Ph.D, P. Eng, P.  
Tech)

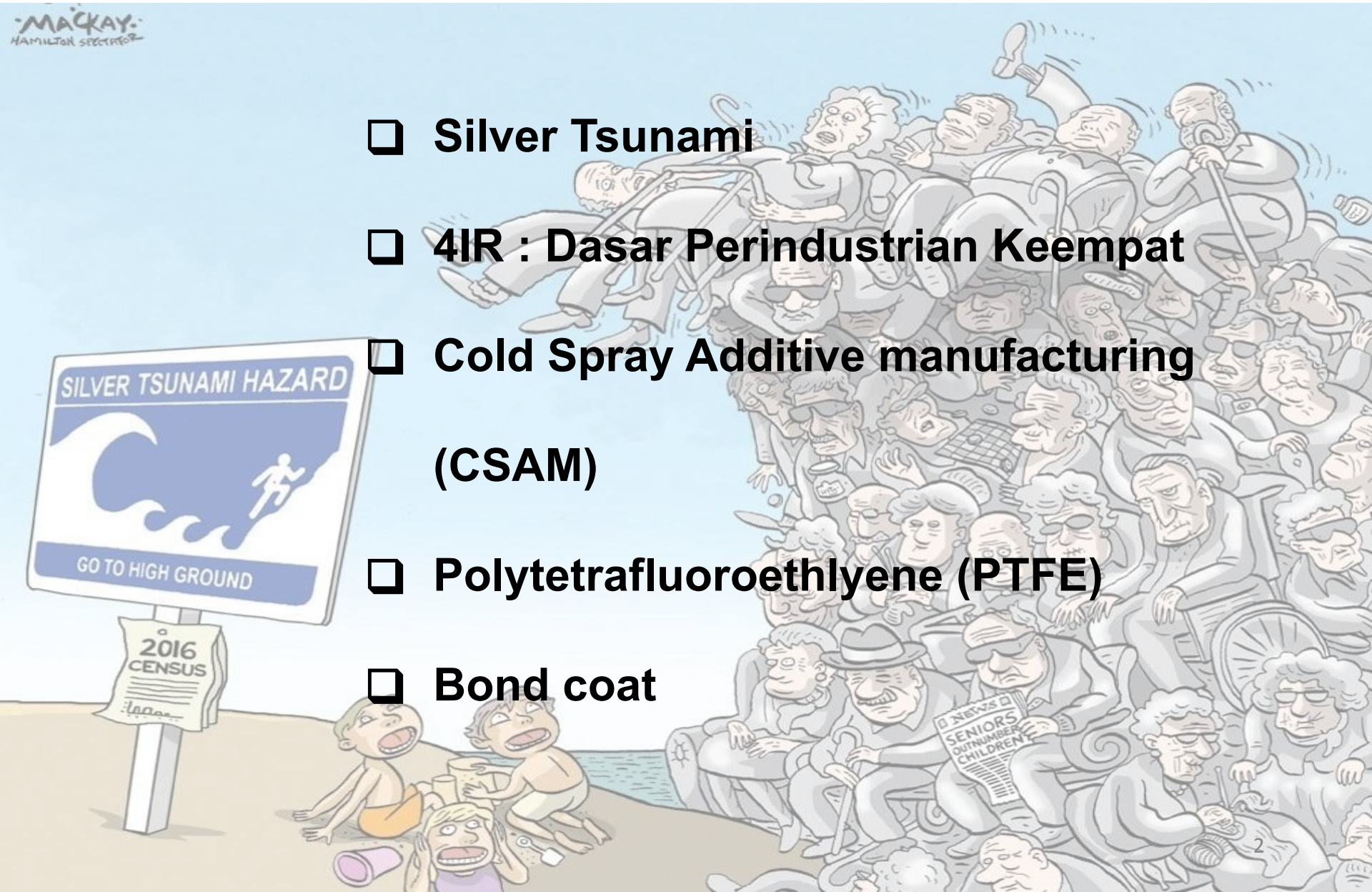
**MEXT SCHOLARSHIP**

**TOHOKU UNIVERSITY, MIYAGI PREFECTURE**

**DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH(DOSH)**

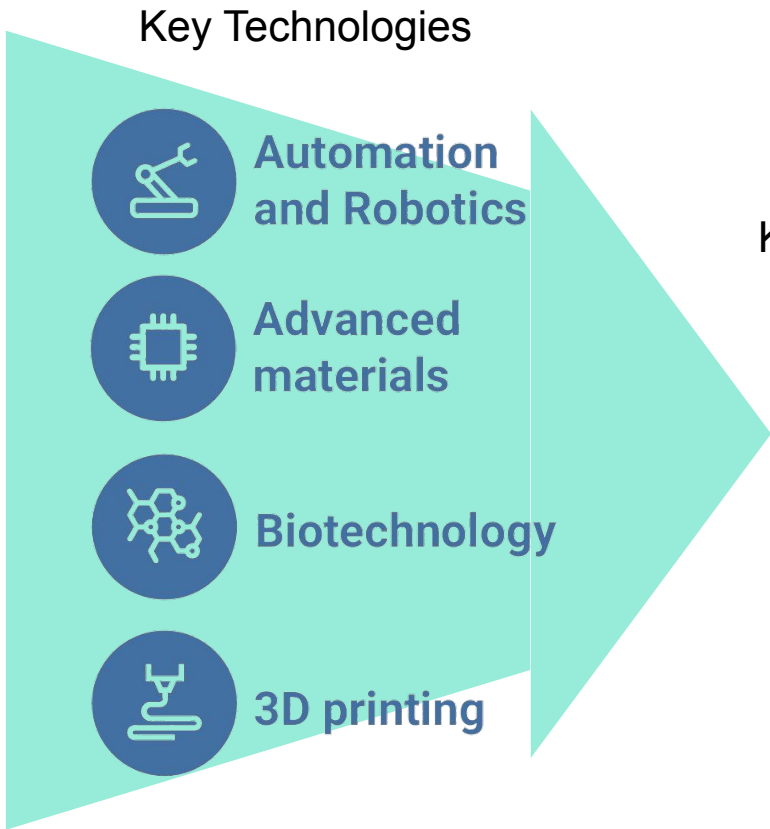
# Keywords

- ❑ Silver Tsunami
- ❑ 4IR : Dasar Perindustrian Keempat
- ❑ Cold Spray Additive manufacturing (CSAM)
- ❑ Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)
- ❑ Bond coat





# Scope : Main Key Technologies & Key Focus Sector





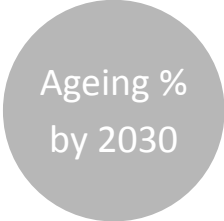
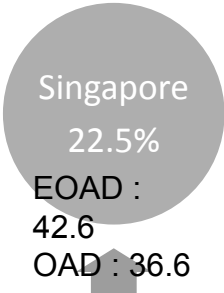


Introduction

# The Silver Tsunami



EOAD : Economic Old-Age Dependency Ratio  
OAD : Old-Age Dependency Ratio (65+ / 20-64)



**ASEAN**  
\*1



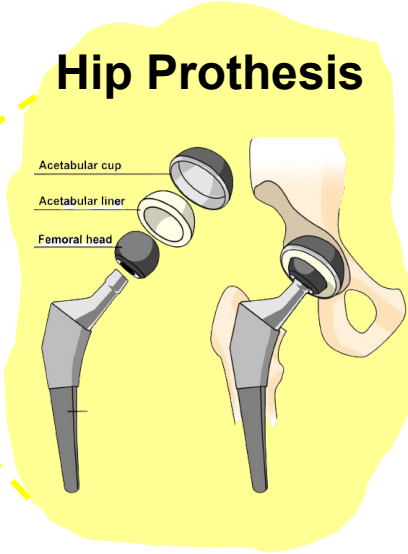
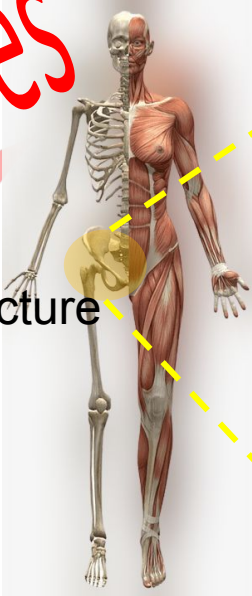
Ministry of Women, Family and  
Community Development

**DASAR WARGA EMAS  
NEGARA**

To provide accessible and  
holistic health care services  
to senior citizen

**DEGENERATIVE DISEASES**

- Hip fracture
- Osteoarthritis
- Rheumatoid arthritis

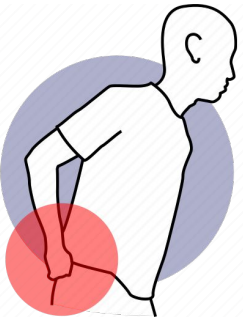


\*1 United Nations World Population Ageing 2019 Highlights (ST/ESA/SER.A/430).

\*2 Md Nor et al., Malaysian Journal of Society and Space volume 17 (3) pages 234-245 (2021)

# Problem Statements

- Polymer acetabular (asɪ'tabjʊlə) liner between femoral cup and acetabular cup on a hip prosthesis is always subject to wear and tear, leading to severe infection that requires an immediate replacement
- The cost of replacing increase gradually, as well as the cost to fabricate the hip prosthesis itself
- The fabrication of liner and femoral head is performed separately, thus increasing the number of parts and eventually the total cost involved



# Research Aim

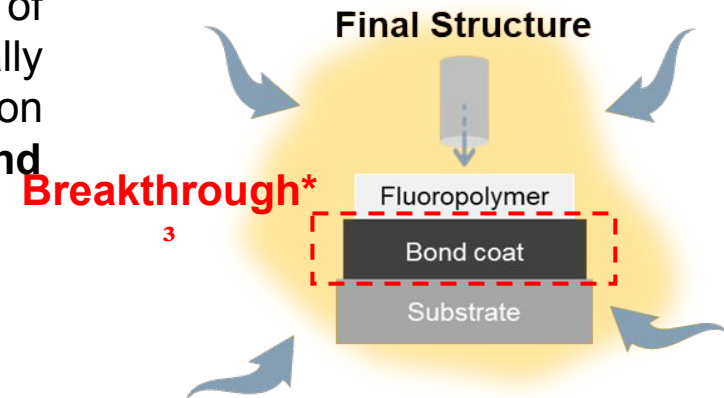
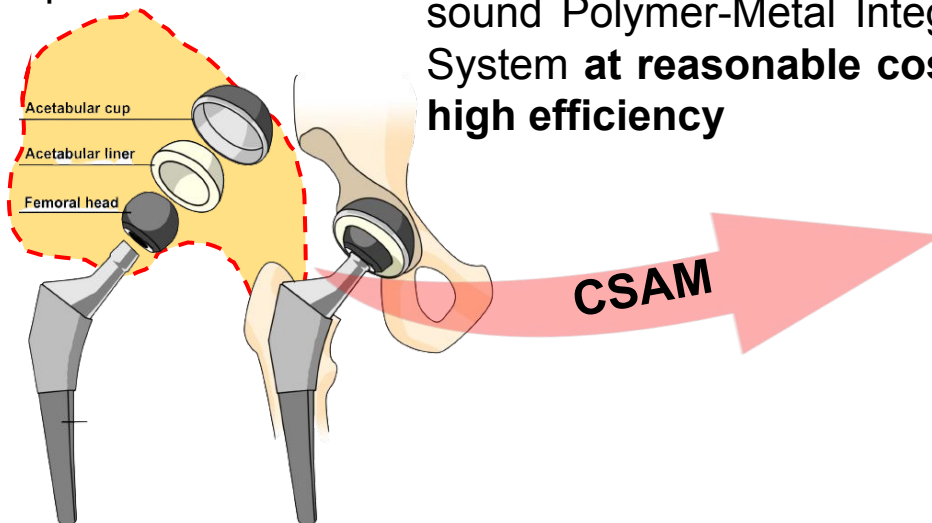
- Focus on the development of a scalable and safe way to additively manufacture polymer on metal, in a single piece

## High Performance Polymer (HPP) – Metal Integration System

PTFE – Titanium / Aluminium<sup>\*2</sup>

CSAM focuses on fabrication of a structurally and functionally sound Polymer-Metal Integration System **at reasonable cost and high efficiency**

Hip Prosthesis<sup>\*1</sup>



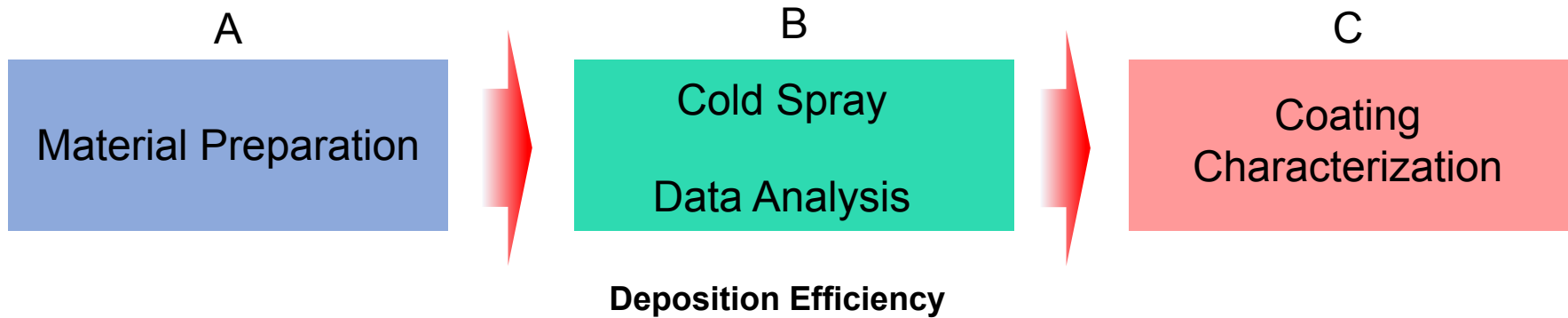
- Low abrasion / wear rate,
- Chemically inert,
- Biocompatible;
- **High mechanical strength**

<sup>\*1</sup> Merola M, Affatato S. *Materials for Hip Prostheses: A Review of Wear and Loading Considerations*. Materials (Basel). volume 2(3), pages 495 (2019).

<sup>\*2</sup> Ravi, K. et al., Fabrication of micro-/nano-structured super-hydrophobic fluorinated polymer coatings by cold-spray. *Surf. Coat. Technol.* 373, pages 17–24 (2019).

<sup>\*3</sup> Lock Sulen W., Development of Cold Sprayed Super-Hydrophobic Fluoropolymer Coatings and Its Bonding Strength Improvement, Tohoku University (2020).

# Research Methodology



$$DE \% = \frac{\text{Coating weight on sample after spray}}{\text{Weight of spray powder used}} \times 100\%$$

Lock Sulen et al., *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology* volume 29, pages 1643–1659 (2020)

Lock Sulen et al., Effects of Nano-Ceramic Particle Addition for Cold Sprayed Fluoropolymer Coatings. *Key Eng. Mater.* 813, pages 141–146 (2019).

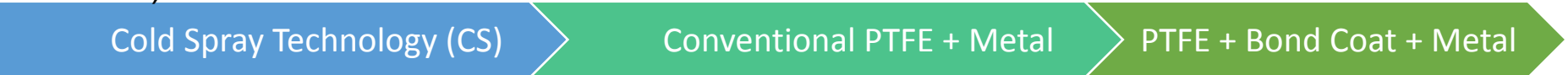
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# Research Findings

Challenges / Obstacles (since 2006\*<sup>1</sup> - 2020\*<sup>2</sup>):  
**Weak Adhesion & Low Deposition Efficiency** (less than 10% max. DE)

**Low-Oxide Metallic Bond Coat**



## Realtime CSAM + Robot arm

**Ambient Environment**

- Vacuum not required

**Nozzle Tip**

**Hi-Speed Cam**

**Normal Speed**

**(Without rebound) BC) Micro-particles**

The image shows a close-up of the cold spray process. A nozzle tip is positioned above a substrate, with a high-speed camera capturing the spray. A ruler is visible for scale. The text indicates that the process occurs in an ambient environment without the need for a vacuum, and that the spray is captured at both normal and high speeds to observe micro-particles without rebound.

Robot arm assisted

\*<sup>1</sup> Xu et al., *Surface and Coatings Technology* volume 201, Issue 6, pages 3044-3050 (2006)

## Results

**Thick PTFE on Al-substrate with patented bond coat**

**Dense PTFE (X-ray tomography)**

**DE of more than 95%**

**Superhydrophobic and strong adhesion\*<sup>3</sup>**

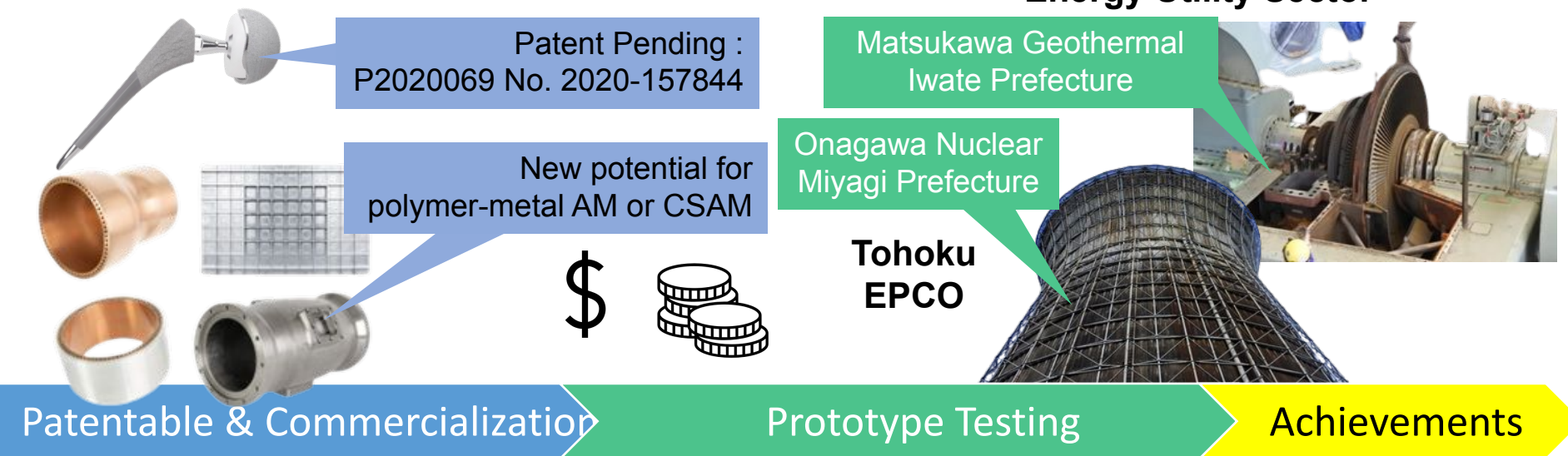
The results section displays three key findings. First, a photograph shows a thick PTFE coating on an Al-substrate with a 5 mm scale bar and a 'surface' label. Second, an X-ray tomography image shows a dense PTFE structure. Third, a contact angle measurement shows a contact angle of 152.5° ± 0.9°, indicating superhydrophobicity. A 3D surface topography map is also shown with a color scale from -0.12 to -0.0514 mm. The text 'Air trapped' and '10 µL droplets' are also visible in the images.

\*<sup>2</sup> Lock Sulen et al., *Journal of Thermal Spray Technology* volume 29, pages1643–1659 (2020)

\*<sup>3</sup> Lock Sulen et al. Effects of Nano-Ceramic Particle Addition for Cold Sprayed Fluoropolymer Coatings. *Key Eng. Mater.* 813, pages 141–146 (2019)



# Research Impacts



**Award Intelligent Nano-Material Advanced Biomaterial, Waseda University, Tokyo**

**Grand Prize China's OBOR Challenge Cup, Shanghai**

**Dean School of Engineering Award Tohoku University (2020), Miyagi**



# Research Impacts

## Energy Utility Sector

Patent Pending :  
P2020069 No. 2020-157844

- Patent co-inventor 30% rights
- Patent submission assigned to Tohoku Techno Arch Co. Ltd. (an official Technology Licensing Organization (TLO) by both Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) refer: <https://www.t-technoarch.co.jp/en/>
- Application submitted at early stage of research (complete set of data no required)
- Fees varies for domestic and international patents (more than ¥200,000 or approx. RM6500)

Matsukawa Geothermal  
Iwate Prefecture

Onagawa Nuclear  
Miyagi Prefecture

Patentable & Copyrightable

Achievements

3 Journal Papers + 2 Papers (TBP) + 7 Symposiums / Conferences  
Volunteering Programs  
1 Int'l Exchange Program  
Workshops  
6 Academic

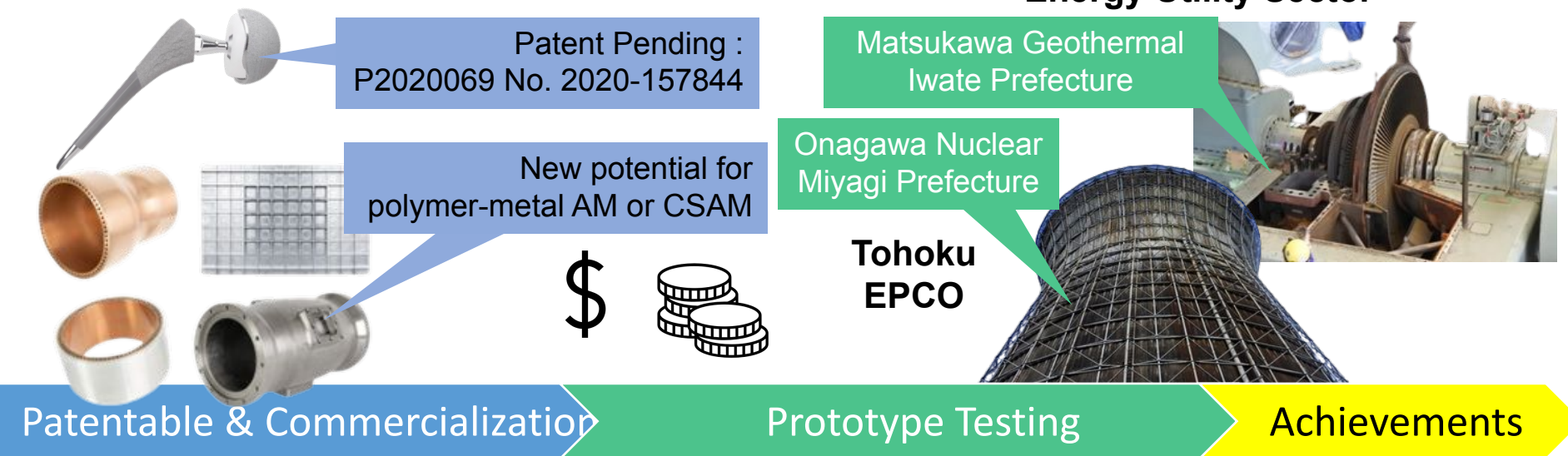
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# Research Impacts



**Workshops**

Award Intelligent Nano-Material Advanced Biomaterial, Waseda University, Tokyo

Grand Prize China's OBOR Challenge Cup, Shanghai

Dean School of Engineering Award Tohoku University (2020), Miyagi

# Research Impacts

## Energy Utility Sector

### Prototype Testing

- Functional coating (High Performance Polymer)
- High temp. resistance 350°C
- Superhydrophobic
- Anti-scaling, anti-corrosion
- Testing Sites:
  - Water treatment pipeline coating at Onagawa Nuclear Power Plant
  - Geothermal turbine blade coating

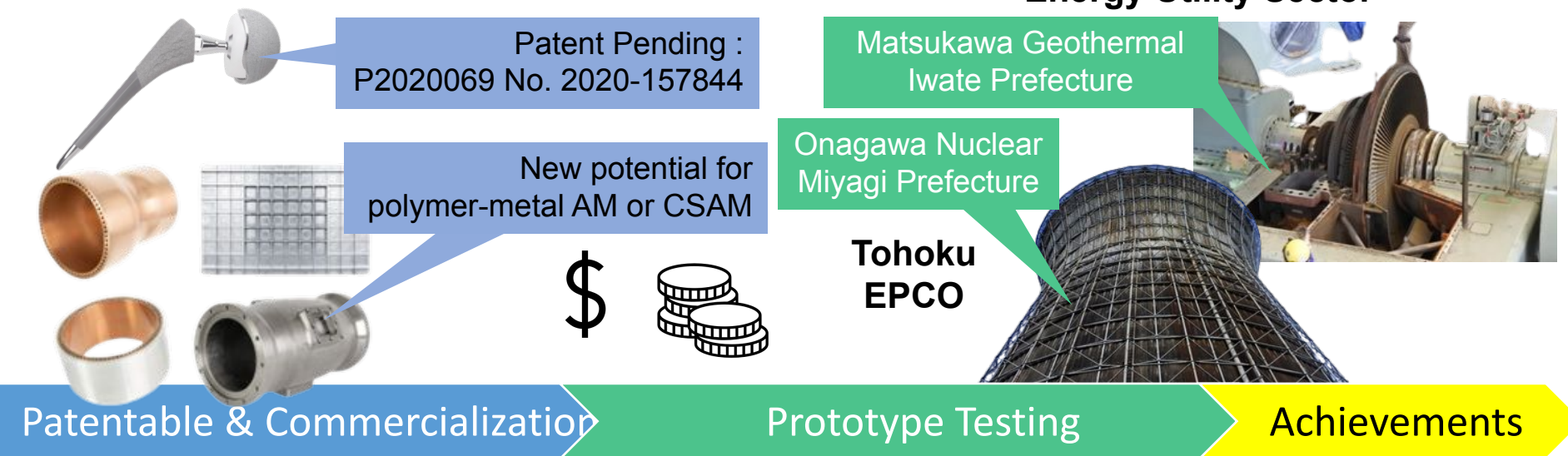
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# Implications on Society, Businesses and Government

- Improved quality of life by providing quality product (hip prosthesis) at reasonable price
- Sustainable environment by reducing carbon footprints through the fast, scalable and safe fabrication method using CSAM
- Offers competitive and innovative business opportunities at a global scale as AM is becoming inevitably important across the globe
- Reduce medically related expenditure borne by the government and help to focus on prudent spending



## My hope to policymakers

- The government through MITI to give tax incentive to bring in this technology and its application in niche sectors such as Health Ministry and Defence Ministry
- The government through the Ministry of Higher Education to provide conducive R&D environment especially research funding to boost the level of innovation and competitiveness amongst research institutions including patent registration



# Acknowledgements

## Organizations

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**FRI** Fracture and Reliability Research  
Institute



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Chrystelle  
BERNARD



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**MatéIS** MATERIAUX  
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Prof.  
Nicolas  
MARY



Post. Doc. Researcher  
Kesavan RAVI

# Thank you for your time and participation