

# HTL technology for Black Liquor

Lessons learned

# Content

- Valmet R&D on the field
- Valmet fast pyrolysis product
- HTL at Valmet
- BL2F – Lessons learned

# Valmet's R&D addresses global megatrends

## R&D focus areas

- Promotion of renewable materials
- Raw material, water and energy efficiency
- Emission reductions
- Circularity
- Productivity and environmental improvements with digitalization

**24**

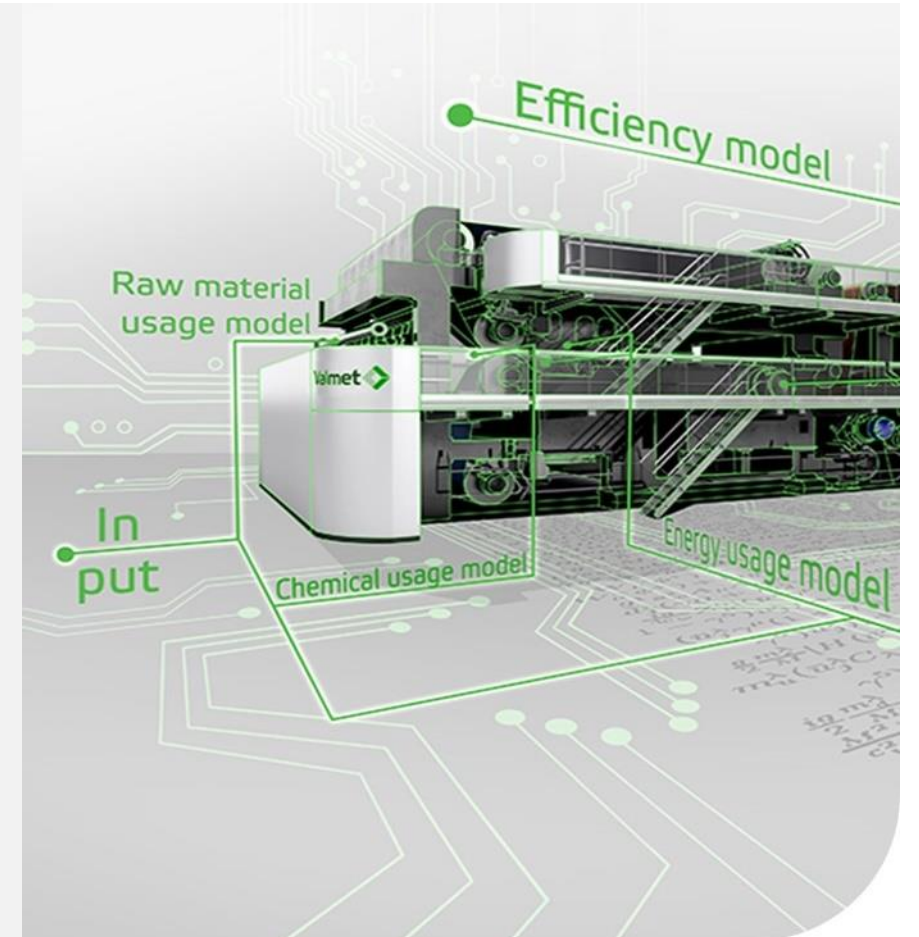
research and  
development centers



EUR **98** million  
R&D spending  
in 2021

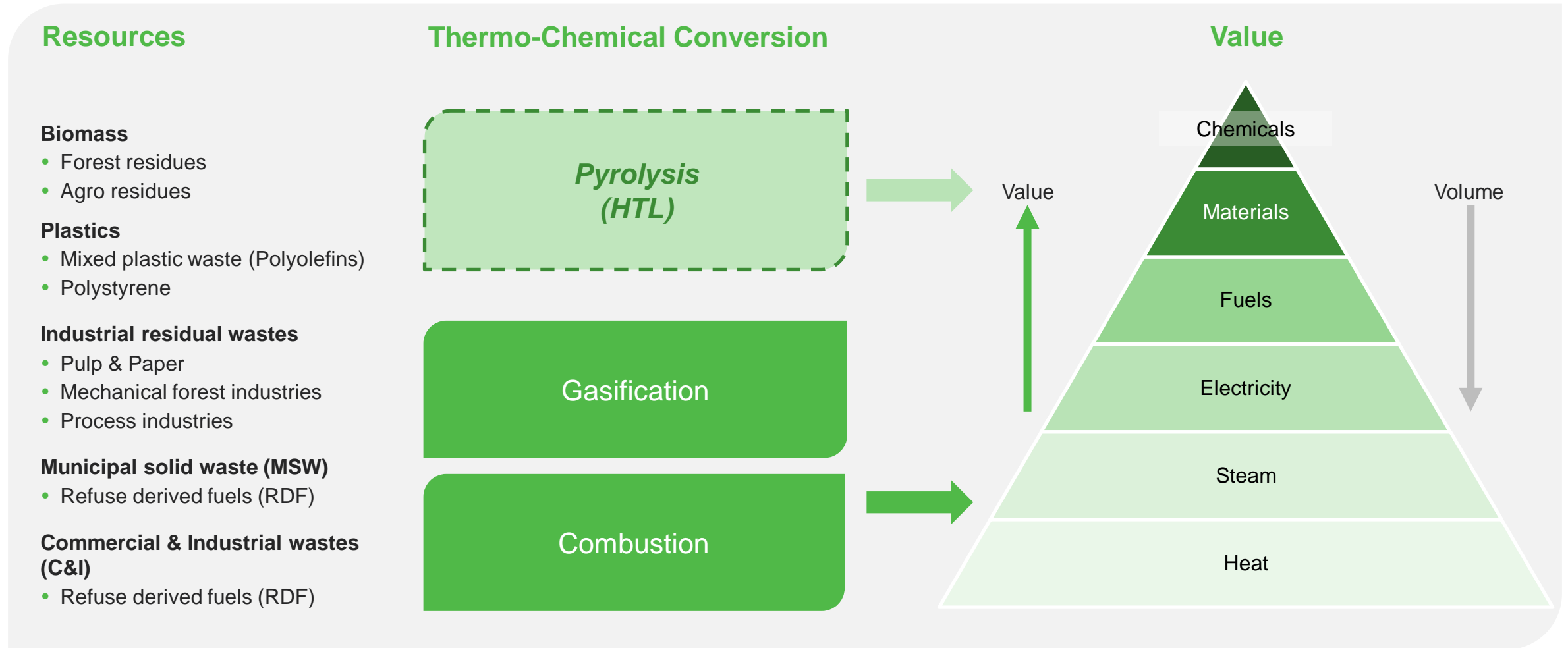


**~1,300**  
protected  
inventions



Illustrative figures of the combined company.

# Strategic direction towards more valuable products



# Catalytic pyrolysis pilot plant commissioned successfully

Valmet Energy R&D Center (Tampere, Finland)

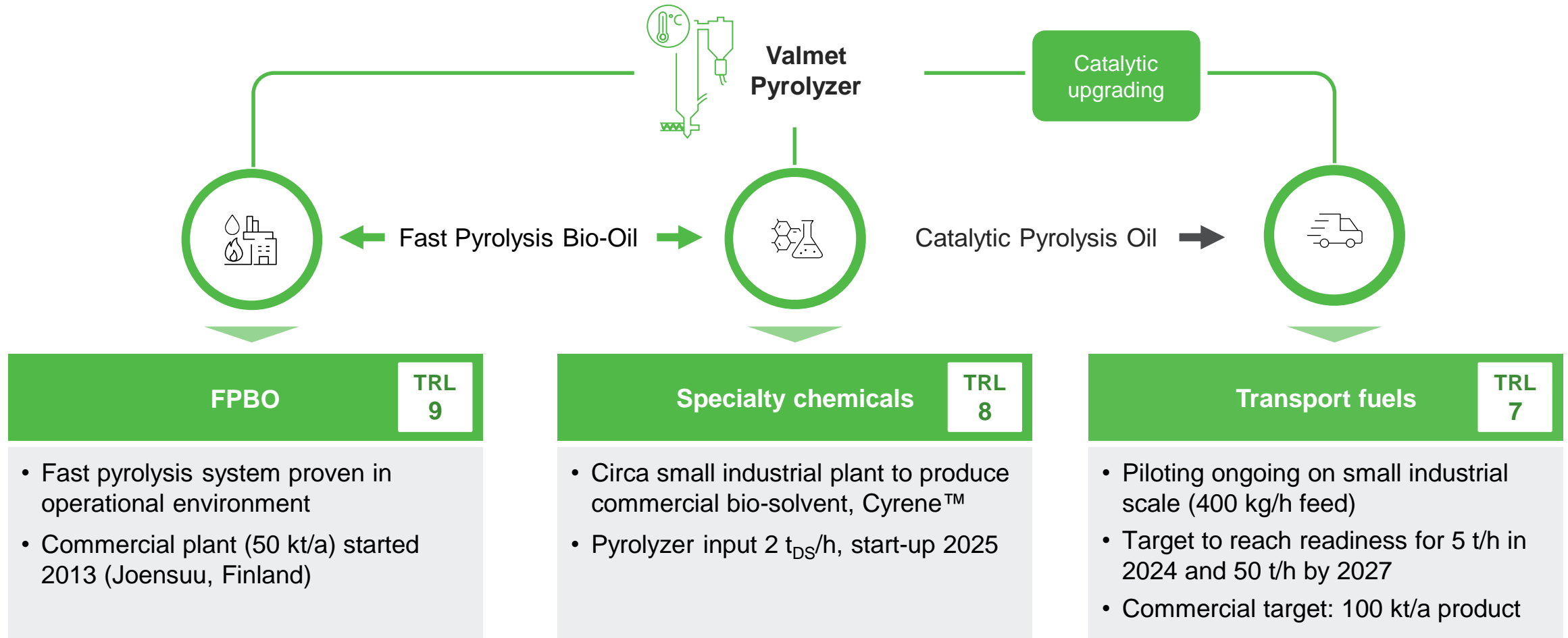
- Pyrolysis pilot with continuous catalytic treatment of pyrolysis vapors
  - Design of demo/commercial unit, Feeds 10 tons/d
  - Utilizes commercially available catalyst
- Separate pyrolysis and catalytic upgrading stages
- Product yield & quality in line with targets<sup>1</sup>
  - Feedstocks: dried & milled biomass
  - Energy yield > 40% to liquid products
- Product liquid properties
  - Low oxygen content: 10-20 %
  - Low acidity: TAN 10-30
  - High heating value: > 35 MJ/kg
  - Distillable<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Based on previous and current pilot scale

<sup>2</sup>According to batch distillation/ Simdist



# Fast pyrolysis at commercial scale, focus now on catalytic pyrolysis



# HTL at Valmet

## Long history

- Already studied at Chalmers University of Technology in early 2010's
  - Valmet build there a bench-scale research system
- Biomass alternatives were explored in 2014 – 2017
- Participation in BL2F and an IIT Madras R&D projects
- Support for the TAU piloting equipment EHTA
- HTL has a monitoring status – participating in selected projects



# HTL of Black Liquor

## Lessons learned from BL2F project

- **Black Liquor is abundant and interesting feedstock**
  - Available in a point source, relatively constant quality
  - Cooking chemicals require salt separation, IHTL concept approach promising
- **The quality of HTL-oil meets requirements**
- **The mechanical development need further studies**
- **Integration to Pulp Mill reduces the production cost of fuel intermediate**
  - Potential to use other streams like bark and sludges
- **Side streams of HTL have potential for further utilization**
- **IHTL on a simplified version remains interesting technology for further development**



