



Enrico Fermi (1901-1954)



Robert R. Wilson, Director Emeritus



On July 3, 1983, at 3:37 p.m., the Fermilab Energy Saver first accelerated protons to an energy of 512 billion electron volts (GeV). On February 16, 1984, an energy of 800 GeV was achieved and extracted to the experimental areas. The world's first superconducting accelerator went into operation after six years of R&D and four years of combined R&D and construction.

Two objectives were served by the construction of the Energy Saver. As the name suggests, the power consumed by a superconducting accelerator with its associated refrigeration is far less than that which a conventional accelerator uses. Moreover, the superconducting magnets can reach much stronger magnetic fields, permitting acceleration to 1000 GeV in the same tunnel as the original 400-GeV facility.

The scientific issues, foreseen dimly in the mid-70s, have now developed in such a manner as to justify the effort, far beyond original expectations; there is now promise of incisive data over a large and important domain of parameters.

The technological success of assembling and operating a four-mile-long ring of superconducting magnets together with a complex cryogenic system of unprecedented scale provides world-wide encouragement for the future of particle physics.

^{*}A "Primer on Superconductivity" appears later in this program.

EXHIBITION OF ENERGY SAVER TECHNOLOGY

(This exhibit will be on display in Wilson Hall, 15th floor, until May 27, 1984)

Exhibitors

Hewlett Packard
IBM
Ideal Tool
Intermagnetic General Corporation
Kinetic Systems
Magnetic Corporation of America
Meyer Tool
New England Electric Wire
Omnibyte Corporation
Tektronix
Tool & Die Institute
Union Carbide Corporation

ART EXHIBIT IN HONOR OF THE ENERGY SAVER DEDICATION

(This exhibit will be on display in Wilson Hall, 2nd floor gallery, until May 27, 1984)

Exhibitors

Clayton Bailey
Charles Derer
Ed Dietrich
John Hubbard
John David Mooney
Lawrence Price
Tom Scarff

DEDICATION PROGRAM RAMSEY AUDITORIUM

Prelude: "Abstract" and Music synthesis by Walter
"Proposal" Kissel

Chair: H. Guyford Stever President, Universities

H. Guyford Stever President, Universities
Research Association, Inc.

Speakers: Leon M. Lederman Director, Fermilab

Charles H. Percy Senior Senator, Illinois

James R. Thompson Governor, State of Illinois

John T. Meyers Congressman, Indiana, Ranking Minority Member Subcommittee on Energy and Water

Development

George A. Keyworth Science Advisor to the

President and Director, Office of Science & Tech-

nology Policy

Address: Danny J. Boggs Deputy Secretary of Energy

Videotape: "Construction of the Energy Saver"

Background Music: "Continuity!" music synthesis

Background Music: "Continuity," music synthesis

Platform J. Ritchie Orr Head, Energy Saver
Group: Helen Edwards Deputy Head, Energy Saver
Richard Lundy Head, Superconducting Mag-

net Facility
Robert R. Wilson Director Emeritus, Fermilab

David Saxon Chairman of Corp., MIT

Edward Knapp Director, NSF

Alvin Trivelpiece Director, Energy Research

Department of Energy

Hilary Rauch Manager, DOE Chicago Opera-

tions Office

Postlude: "Celebration" Music synthesis by Walter
Kissel

ENERGY SAVER CHRONOLOGY

March	1971	Robert R. Wilson announces intention to request authorization to build Energy Saver
Sept.	1972	Working group established
Jan.	1973	R&D started
April		First short magnet tested
May	1973	First preliminary design report
	1974	Energy Doubler Design Study Progress Report
	1975	
May	1973	Beam transported through one 3-ft magnet at B12. Magnet hung on tunnel ceiling
July	1975	Central Helium Liquefier Satellite concept developed
Aug.	1975	Beam quench studies on early supercon-
		ducting magnet in AO extraction line
Dec.	1975	External collar concept developed
Feb.	1976	B12 above-ground test area started
	1976	About ten 22-ft magnets made
Dec.	1978	Beam transported A0 to A17, 22-ft magnets
		(20 dipoles, 3 quads)
May	1979	Final design report-change magnet design
T	1979	length to 21 ft
		B12 test area16 22-ft magnets, 4 quads installed
July	1979	Start of construction
Dec.	1980	Start installation of A-sector
Jan.	1981	B12 test area16 21-ft magnets, 4 quads,
		installation starts
March		B12 test areastart tests on final magnets
-	1981	Installation of 3/4 A-sector
	1982	3/4 A-sector test to 4200 A
March		Last magnet installed in ring
May	1983	Entire accelerator cooled to liquid helium
		temperature
June 2	2, 1983	First full turn of beam around machine
July 3	3, 1983	Acceleration to 512 GeV
Aug.	2, 1983	Extraction to Experimental Areas
Aug.	15, 1983	Acceleration to 700 GeV
Oct.		Begin Physics Program
	16, 1983	Beam storage for over 30 hours
	14, 1984	First running period terminated
Feb.	16, 1984	Acceleration and extraction at 800 GeV
	17, 1984	Begin 800-GeV experimental program
April	4, 1984	800-GeV protons delivered to seven target
		stations

Superconductivity is a physical phenomenon exhibited by certain metals and alloys at very low temperature. In 1911, the Dutch physicist Kammerlingh Onnes found experimentally that the electrical resistance of certain elements becomes too small to measure when they are cooled to very low temperature. "Superconductivity" exists only within certain limits of temperature, magnetic field, and current density; as soon as any one of these exceeds a critical level, superconductivity vanishes and normal resistance resumes.

If a wire of niobium-titanium alloy, today's most common superconductor and the one used in the Fermilab Energy Saver magnets, is cooled, the wire's electrical resistance declines steadily, just as it would with a conventional conductor like copper. Then, at about 10 degrees above absolute zero (10 Kelvin or 263°C below zero), the resistance abruptly vanishes, and the wire has entered the superconducting state. At this critical temperature even a tiny current or magnetic field applied to the superconductor will return it to the resistive state, an event called "going normal." Cooled further, the NbTi tolerates increasingly large currents and fields without going normal. In a magnet, this process is called "quenching." At 4.2K, the Energy Saver conductor has a field and current limit of 5T and 2×10⁵ amperes per square centimeter.

The value of superconductors lies in their ability to transmit huge currents without electrical resistance, and thus sustain intense and extremely steady magnetic fields. These characteristics have prompted many application ideas with possible long-range commercial significance. Some possible uses of superconductivity are in fusion devices, in medical imaging via NMR devices, in experimental levitated trains, in electrical transmission lines and in energy-storage devices. In the course of the R&D program to develop the superconducting magnets for the Energy Saver, Fermilab played a very prominent role in stimulating industry to develop its superconductivity skills. Approximately 150,000 pounds of a once-exotic niobium-titanium superconducting alloy was used in creating the Saver.

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