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## Design development and technological R&D for niobium-cladded beam production targets

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High power particle producing target components in research facilities often consist of refractory metals. They experience challenging thermo-mechanical conditions and therefore require dedicated cooling systems. Employing water-cooling in direct contact with the target materials, especially tungsten (W), induces erosion and corrosion. Cladding the target blocks with erosion/corrosion-compliant materials is also a solution for a reliable heat transfer from the core materials to the coolant. Tantalum (Ta) is used in various facilities as cladding due to its corrosion resistance, outstanding thermo-mechanical properties, and diffusion bonding compatibility.

The Beam Dump Facility (BDF) - a new proposed fixed target experiment at CERN –explored at first Ta<sub>2.5</sub>W cladding for molybdenum-based alloy TZM and pure W blocks. However, Ta presents non-negligible decay heat and high price. In this study, niobium-based materials –pure Nb, Nb<sub>1</sub>Zr, and Nb<sub>10</sub>Hf<sub>1</sub>Ti (C-103 alloy) – are evaluated as an alternative for cladding. The niobium alloys are assessed by their diffusion bonding via Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP) and by thermo-mechanical characterization of the interfaces. Simulations of the impact with a high-power proton beam complement the study.

### Funding Agency

### Footnotes

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Yes

**Primary author:** GRIESEMER, Tina (European Organization for Nuclear Research)

**Co-authors:** GALLIFA TERRICABRAS, Adrià (European Organization for Nuclear Research); PEREZ FONTENLA, Ana Teresa (European Organization for Nuclear Research); MAZZOLA, Giuseppe (European Organization for Nuclear Research); ARNAU-IZQUIERDO, Gonzalo (European Organization for Nuclear Research); AVILES SANTILLANA, Ignacio (European Organization for Nuclear Research); ESPOSITO, Luigi Salvatore (European Organization for Nuclear Research); CALVIANI, Marco (European Organization for Nuclear Research); CUSWORTH, Matthew (Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre); MENA ANDRADE, Ramiro (European Organization for Nuclear Research); FRANQUEIRA XIMENES, Rui (European Organization for Nuclear Research); DUTILLEUL, Thomas (Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre); KYFFIN, William (Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre)

**Presenter:** GRIESEMER, Tina (European Organization for Nuclear Research)

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