

Diagnostics





U.S. diagnostic systems. Image: US ITER



Prototype antenna showing coolant passages surrounding the microwave transmission channel. Photo: General Atomics

US Contribution

US ITER is responsible for the research and development, design, and fabrication for 14% of ITER's port-based diagnostic systems, including integration of four diagnostic port plugs, plus seven instrumentation systems out of a total of approximately 45 individual diagnostic systems. The European Union, Japan, the Russian Federation, China, Korea, and India are also contributing diagnostics to ITER.

Overview

ITER diagnostic systems provide measurements to aid understanding of plasma behavior and optimize fusion performance. Because of the harsh environment inside the tokamak vacuum vessel, these systems must cope with a range of conditions not previously encountered by diagnostic technology, all while performing with high reliability. Diagnostics provided by US ITER will include microwave, laser, x-ray, and optical systems. US ITER is responsible for the following instrumentation systems: core X-ray crystal spectrometer, electron cyclotron emission radiometer, low field side reflectometer, motional stark effect, diagnostic residual gas analyzer, toroidal interferometer/polarimeter, and upper infrared/visible cameras. US ITER also will design, fabricate, assemble, and test U.S.-provided port plugs, specifically the upper ports (U11, U14), and equatorial ports (E3, E9). In addition, US ITER will support the integration of multiple diagnostics into these plugs, including some from other domestic agencies.

Status

The low field side reflectometer is in manufacturing development. Captive overhead supports for both the low field side reflectometer and toroidal interferometer/ polarimeter were fabricated and shipped to the ITER Organization in August 2022.





Vacuum test chamber for mirror cleaning in support of the visible infra-red wide angle viewing system. Photo: General Atomics



A gaussian telescope maintains alignment during thermal expansion. Photo: General Atomics



Toroidal interferometer/polarimeter prototype optical table. Photo: General Atomics

Technical Description

Core X-ray crystal spectrometer. Measures the temperature of the ions from the hot plasma core to the cooler plasma edge.

Diagnostic residual gas analyzer. Measures the composition of exhaust gases leaving the tokamak in the edge and divertor regions, including hydrogen and helium isotopes and other constituents.

Electron cyclotron emission radiometer. Measures the temperature of the electrons from the core to the edge.

Low field side reflectometer. Measures the electron density in the outer layers of the plasma by probing the plasma with microwave beams and detecting the reflected wave.

Motional stark effect diagnostic. Measure the plasma current density, providing data that are important for understanding conditions for plasma stability.

Port integration. Integrates 17 tenant diagnostics into four U.S.-supplied port plugs (two upper ports and two equatorial ports) including interspace and port cell support structures.

Toroidal interferometer/polarimeter. Measures the electron density profile by probing the plasma with laser beams, providing data that will be used to control the density in real time.

Upper infrared/visible cameras. Image the high heat flux surfaces in the vacuum vessel using sophisticated camera systems to check for hot spots and particle emissions.

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