

Date: April 11, 2016  
From: Brian Scanlan  
To: CMNS

Everyone:

I am not sure how many of us in this group have met either Rossi, or IH's Tom Darden. I've met both and came away with very distinct impressions.

In June 2011 I met Rossi in Miami along with his partners from Leonardo. Mike Melich and Maryanne Macy were also present. Prior to the meeting I had constructed a consortium committed to funding \$15mil provided we could establish mutually agreed-upon test conditions. We didn't get far. The meeting lasted about two hours but from the beginning was fraught with conflict. I mentioned that Ed Storms would design and run the calorimetry of our proposed test, which in hindsight I realize ended the negotiations. A real scientist and experimentalist such as Ed was too risky for Rossi. Soon after Rossi threw a tantrum, set a series of absurd conditions and left the room, followed by a train of his partners hoping to sooth the genius' hurt feelings. Although I wasn't amused at the time, I should have been. Rossi is a character sprung from Hollywood central casting.

I met with Tom Darden only once, in February 2014 in NYC for several hours. Similar to others on CMNS, over the years I have dealt with a kaleidoscope of personalities in business. After some painful lessons along the way I've gotten to be a decent judge of character. I'd judge Tom Darden a straightshooter. Tom described his motives as "saving the planet". CO2 emissions and related pollution were a deep concern to him. "We have to do something", he said. In that context, he must have approached Rossi with an open mind, although as a businessman he wasn't going to write a check without conditions. Tom Darden seems a "typical" well-meaning wealthy person trying to use his resources to solve one of our planet's biggest problems.

As we watch this circus, we should imagine ourselves in Tom Darden's shoes. Suppose the agreed-upon test required a 6.0 COP, but delivered something less than that. Anything greater than 1.0 would still be exciting from a scientific point of view, *as long as it was real*. A **real** 1.5 COP would allow the launch of a major research effort. A competent businessman such as Darden with strong entrepreneurial bona fides could easily raise of \$100 mil or more with proven excess heat. He and his partners have a personal net worth far in excess of this number, so they needn't go to the outside. Silicon Valley routinely funds speculative ventures with 100's of \$ millions.

It's clear to me the IH tests failed entirely. Rossi had to be present with the device at all times, a very bad sign. When the e-Cat failed he conjured up the Hot-Cat, a Very Very bad sign. If the e-Cat produced even a small excess energy, that was enough to prove LENR to the world and to gain funding. Yet, the e-Cat effort was abandoned in favor of high-temperature work. The calorimetry design at the Hot-Cat's high temperatures was very challenging and certainly caused extensive delays. It's the perfect setting for bad

intentions. Delay and obfuscation rule.

As was noted in this group, Rossi sued **before** the money from IH was due. Why the rush? Rossi wanted to strike first to paint himself as a victim before IH sues him for fraud.

There's a book that's worth reading: [The Sociopath Next Door](#), by Martha Stout. Or take a look at <http://www.wikihow.com/Spot-a-Sociopath>. Most of us in this group have trouble with the basic question, Why would Rossi try to pull such a brazen fraud? How did he expect to get away with it? Answer -- Some people crave control. For some, control is much more important than money. And Rossi has succeeded. He's hijacked the LENR agenda, which has derailed countless sincere and promising research efforts.

Folks, it's time to move on.