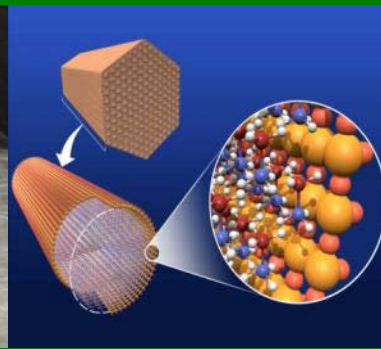




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Fuel Cells

Dimitrios Papageorgopoulos

*2011 Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting
May 9, 2011*

GOAL: Develop and demonstrate fuel cell power system technologies for stationary, portable, and transportation applications

Develop fuel cell systems to meet DOE targets, including:

Transportation:

- Efficiency of 60% at 25% of rated power
- Cost of \$30/kW
- Durability of 5000 hours

Stationary (CHP):

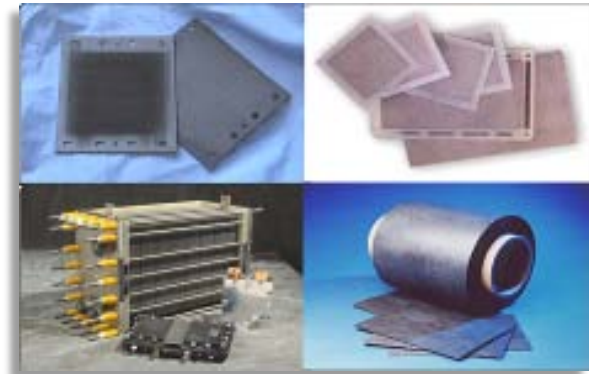
- Efficiency of 45%
- Durability of 60,000

Auxiliary Power Units:

- Efficiency of 40% at rated power
- Cost of \$1000/kW
- Durability of 20,000 hours

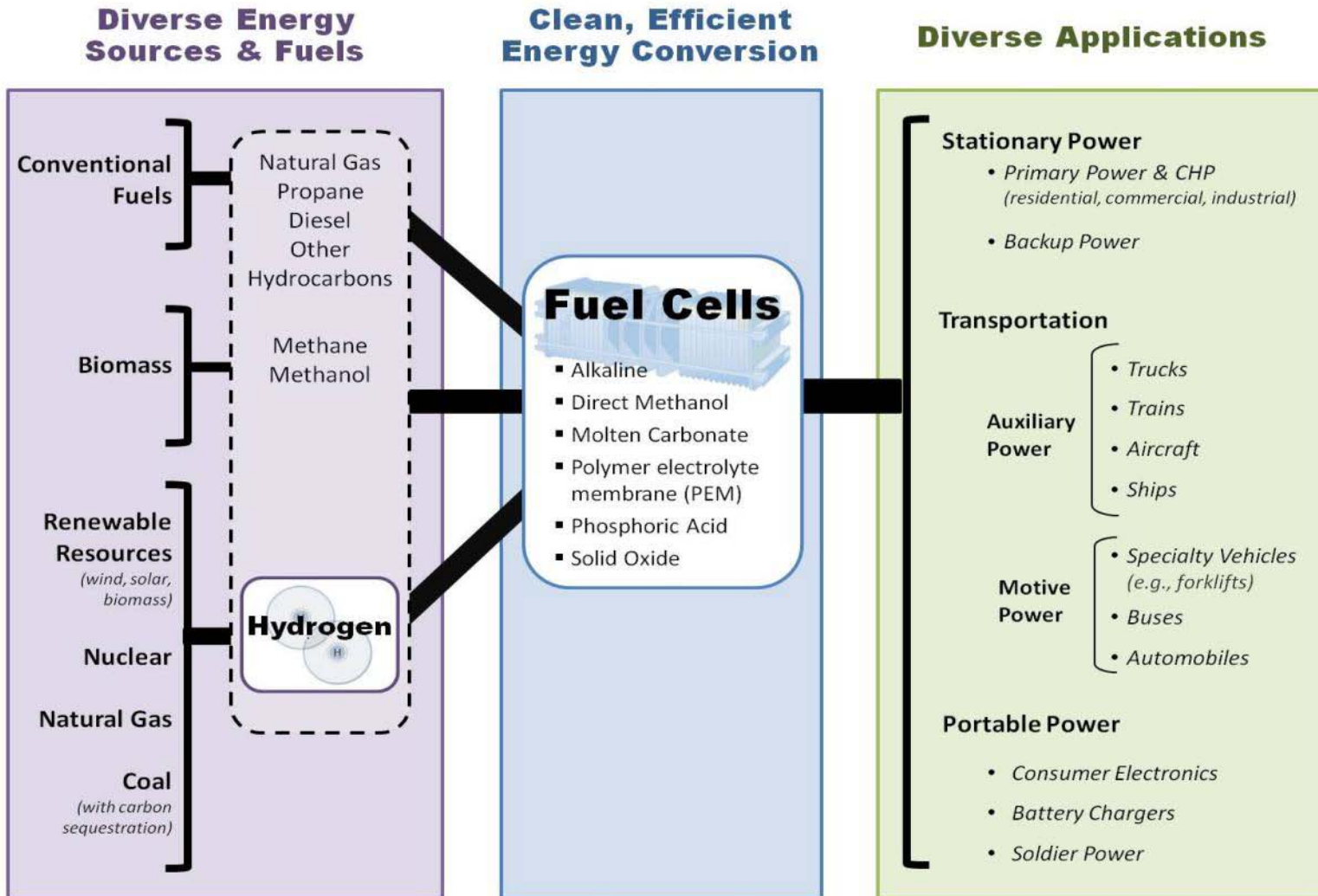
Portable Power:

- Power density of 100 W/L
- Durability of 5000 hours



A Broad Range of Technologies and Applications

The sub-program supports a diverse portfolio of fuel cell technologies, to meet application-driven targets for commercial viability in terms of cost and performance.



The Fuel Cells sub-program supports research and development of fuel cell and fuel cell systems with a primary focus on reducing cost and improving durability. Efforts are balanced to achieve a comprehensive approach to fuel cells for near-, mid-, and longer-term applications.

FOCUS AREAS

Stack Components

- Catalysts
- Membranes
- GDL s and Seals
- Bipolar Plates
- MEAs and Integration
- High-Temperature Fuel Cells

Operation and Performance

- Mass transport
- Durability
- Impurities

Systems and Balance of Plant (BOP)

- BOP components
- Stationary power
- Fuel processor subsystems
- Portable power
- APUs and emerging markets

Barriers

- Cost
- Durability
- Air/thermal/water management
- Application Form Factor
- Fuel flexibility for stationary applications

Strategy

Materials and systems R&D to achieve low-cost, high-performance fuel cell systems

Fuel Cell R&D

Testing and Cost/Technical Assessments

R&D portfolio is technology neutral and includes different types of fuel cells

Challenges and Strategies: Catalysts and Supports

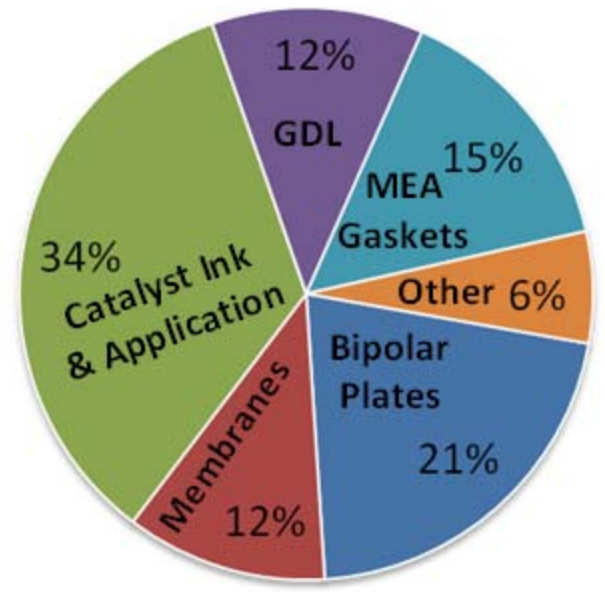
Challenges:

- *Platinum (Pt) cost is ~34% of total stack cost*
- *Catalyst durability needs improvement*

Four Strategies for Catalysts & Supports R&D:

- **Lower PGM Content**
 - Improved Pt catalyst utilization and durability
- **Pt Alloys**
 - Pt-based alloys with comparable performance to Pt and cost less
- **Novel Support Structures**
 - Non-carbon supports and alternative carbon structures
- **Non-PGM catalysts**
 - Non-precious metal catalysts with improved performance and durability

Stack Cost - \$25/kW



DTI, 2010 analysis, scaled to high volume production of 500,000 units/yr
Used \$1100/Troy Ounce for Pt Cost

Challenges and Strategies: Membranes

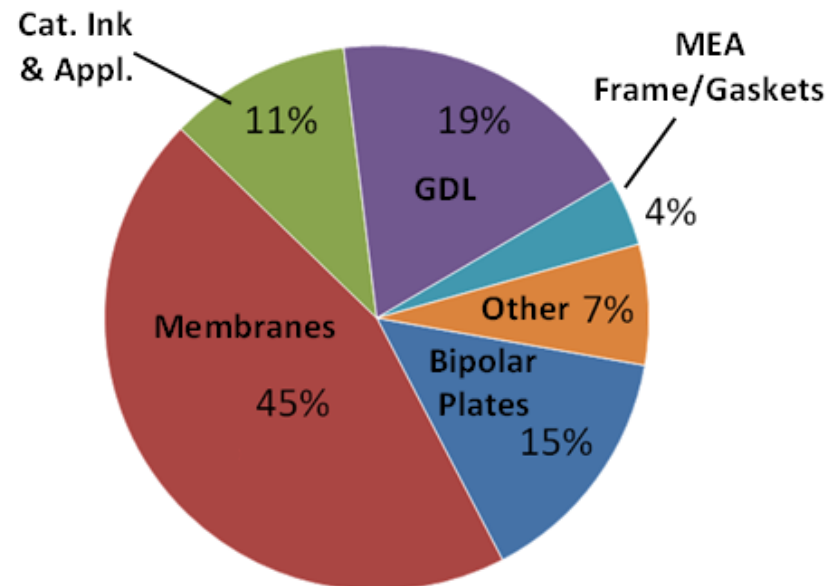
Challenges:

- *Membranes account for 45% of stack cost at low volume*
- *Limits on operating range*
- *Chemical and mechanical durability*

Membrane R&D:

- **High-Temperature, Low Humidity Conductivity**
 - Phase segregation (polymer & membrane)
 - Non-aqueous proton conductors
 - Hydrophilic additives
- **High Conductivity and Durability Across Operating Range with Cycling**
 - Mechanical support or membrane reinforcement
 - Chemical stabilization (additives, end-group capping)
 - Polymer structure (side chain length, grafting, cross-linking, backbone properties, blends, EW)
 - Processing parameters (temperature, solvents)
 - New materials

Stack Cost - \$144/kW

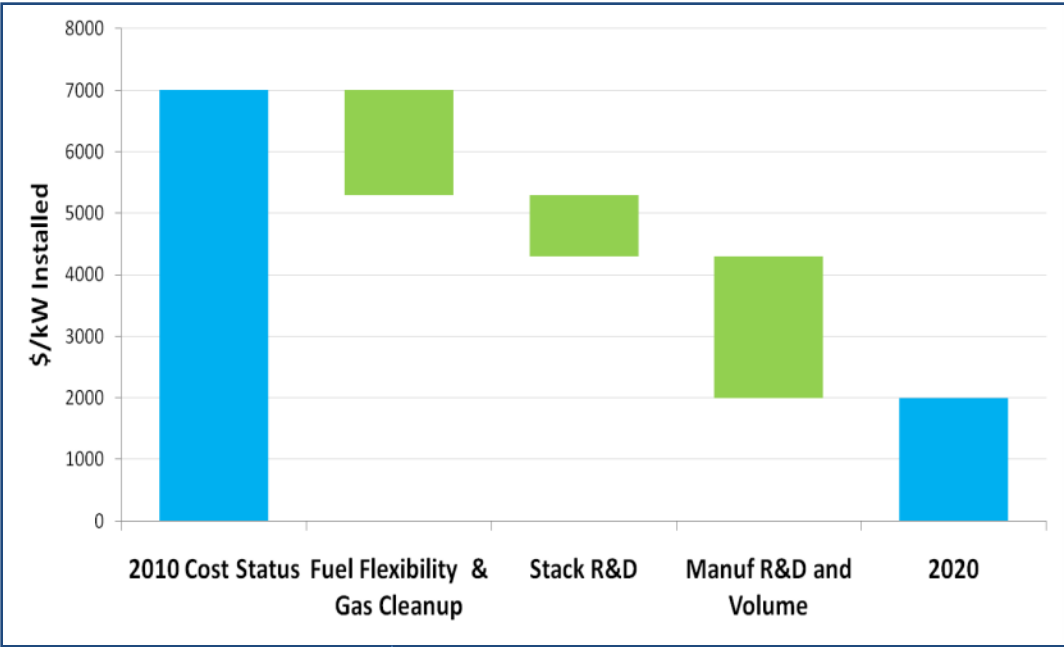


DTI, 2010 analysis, production of 1,000 units/yr

Challenges and Strategies: CHP

Technical and cost gap analyses of molten carbonate fuel cell (MCFC) and phosphoric acid fuel cell (PAFC) stationary fuel cell power plants identify pathways for reducing costs.

Medium-Scale Fuel Cell CHP with Biogas



Development of a cost-effective process for removing fuel contaminants would allow for fuel flexibility.

Key areas identified:

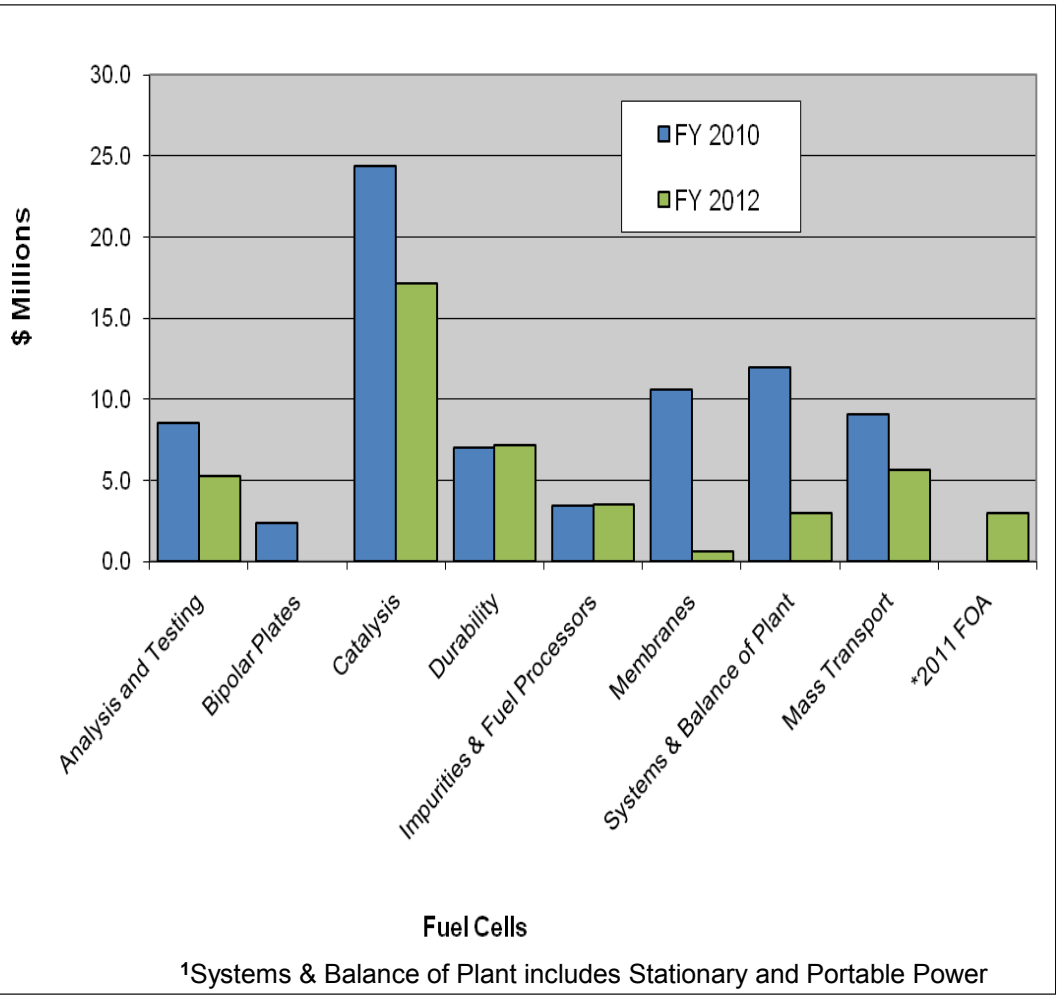
➤ For MCFC, the service life of the fuel cell stack needs to be extended by:

- reducing electrolyte losses
- reducing cathode dissolution
- increasing the stability of the electrolyte support material

➤ For PAFC, cost reductions could be achieved by reducing:

- platinum loading
- the impact of the anion adsorption on the cathode catalyst

FY 2012 REQUEST = \$45.4M
FY 2010 APPROPRIATION = \$77.4M



*subject to appropriations

- EMPHASIS:**
is on science and engineering at the cell level, and from a systems perspective, on integration and component interactions:
- Develop improved fuel cell catalysts and membrane electrolytes
 - Identify degradation mechanisms and approaches for mitigating the effects
 - Characterize and optimize transport phenomena improving MEA and stack performance
 - Investigate and quantify effects of impurities on fuel cell performance
 - Develop low-cost, durable, system balance-of-plant components

Reduced the projected high-volume cost of fuel cells to \$51/kW (2010)*

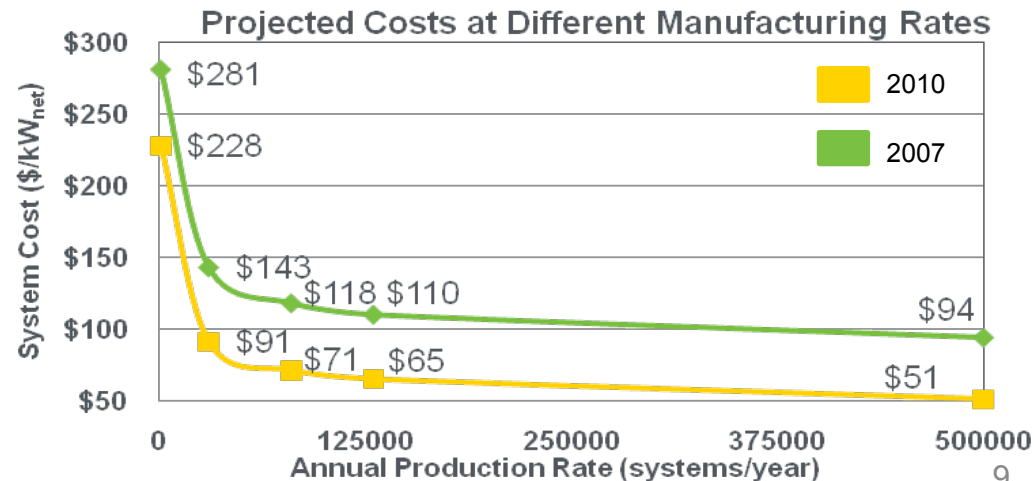
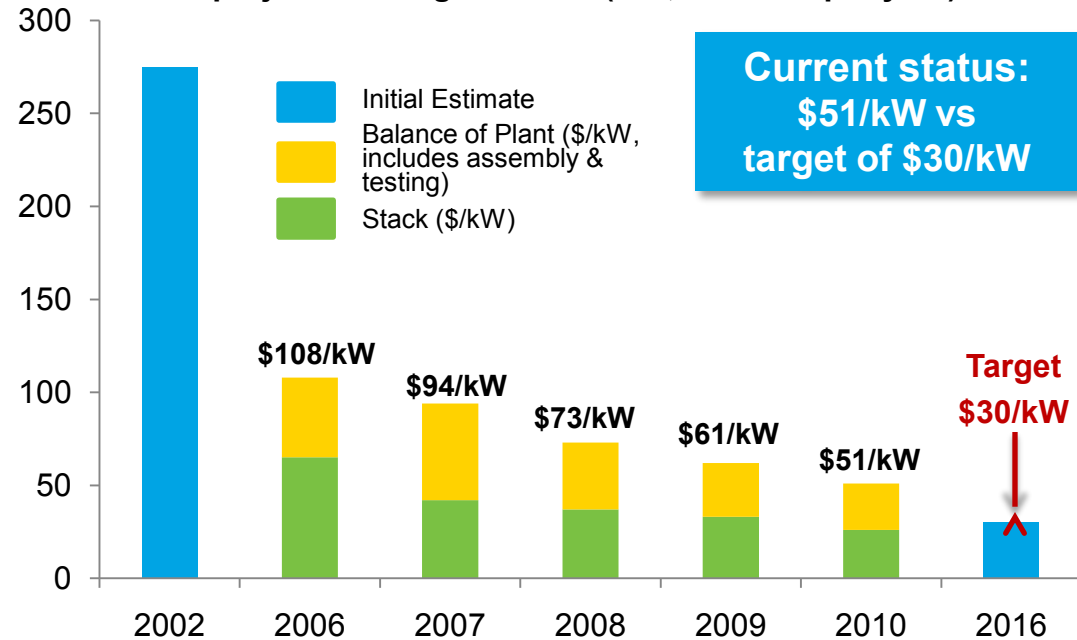
- **More than 30% reduction since 2008**
- **More than 80% reduction since 2002**

*Based on projection to high-volume manufacturing (500,000 units/year).

**Panel found \$60 – \$80/kW to be a “valid estimate”:
http://hydrogenoevdev.nrel.gov/peer_reviews.html

http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/10004_fuel_cell_cost.pdf

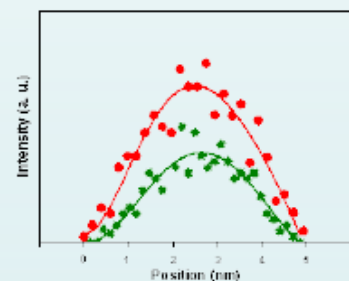
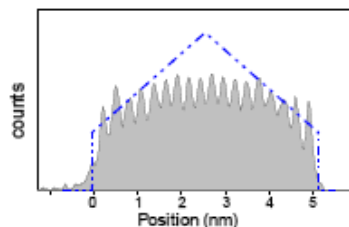
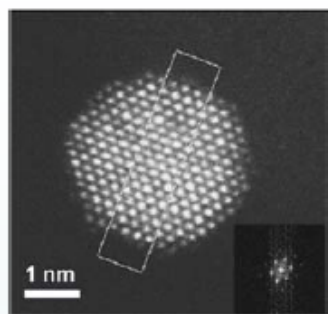
Projected Transportation Fuel Cell System Cost -projected to high-volume (500,000 units per year)-



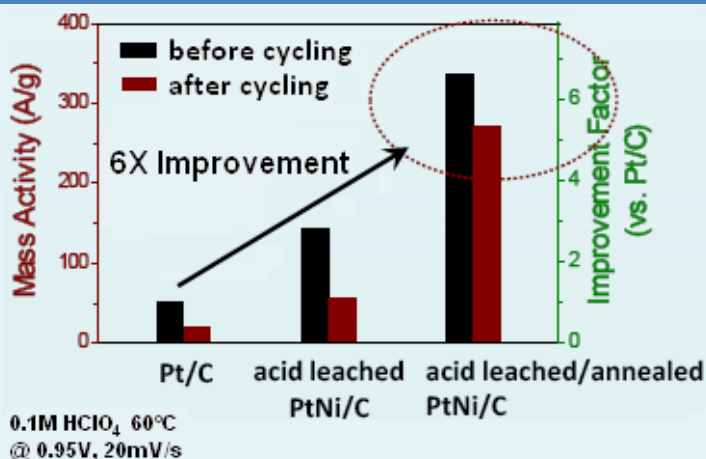
Progress: Catalysts

Nano-segregated binary and ternary catalysts demonstrate performance more than 6X that of platinum.

Nanosegregated Binary (PtNi)



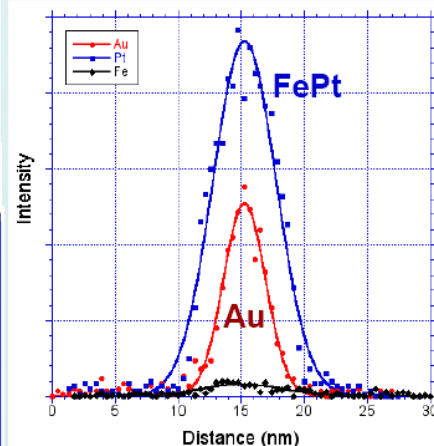
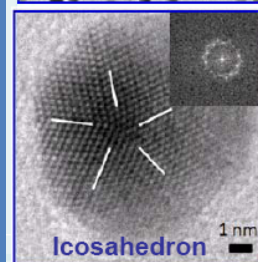
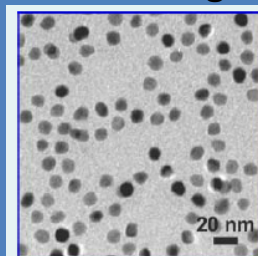
Multilayered Pt-skin surfaces confirmed for PtNi annealed NPs



Performance: Nanosegregated PtNi/C catalysts have ORR mass activity **~0.35 A/mg** in MEA testing – *approaching 0.44 A/mg target*

Durability: 3X improved retention of mass activity after 20,000 potential cycles compared to Pt/C

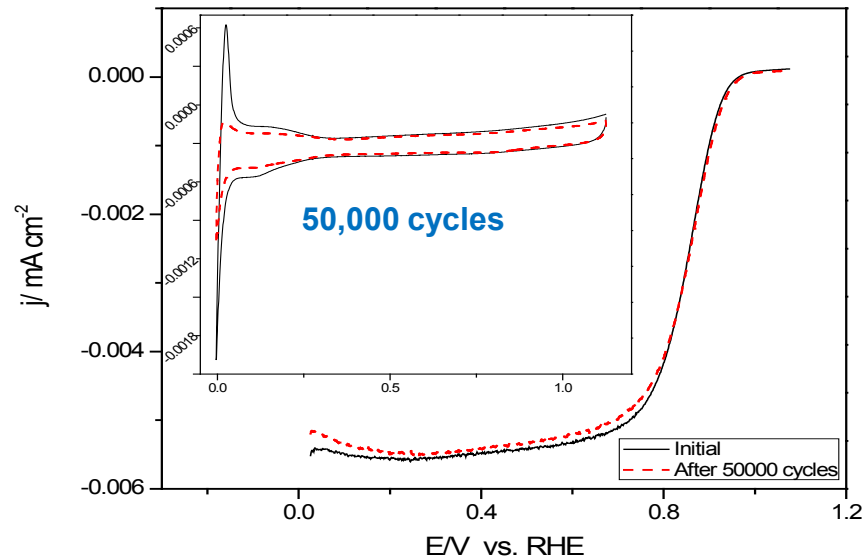
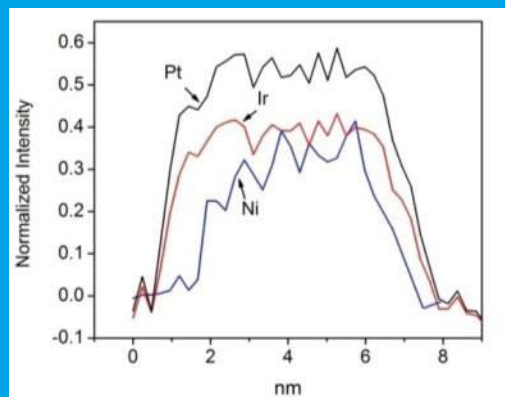
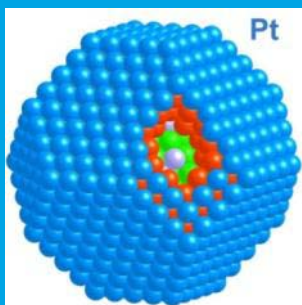
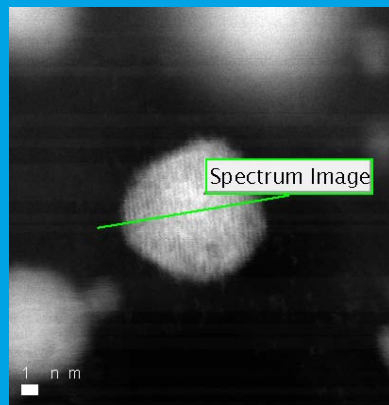
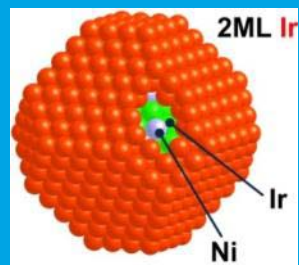
Nanosegregated Ternary (PtFeAu)



Performance: FePt(shell)/Au(core) demonstrates ORR mass activity more than 3X that of Pt/C

Durability: Maintains 80% of initial activity after 80,000 potential cycles (cf. less than 20% for Pt/C)

New core-shell catalysts achieve high performance and high durability.

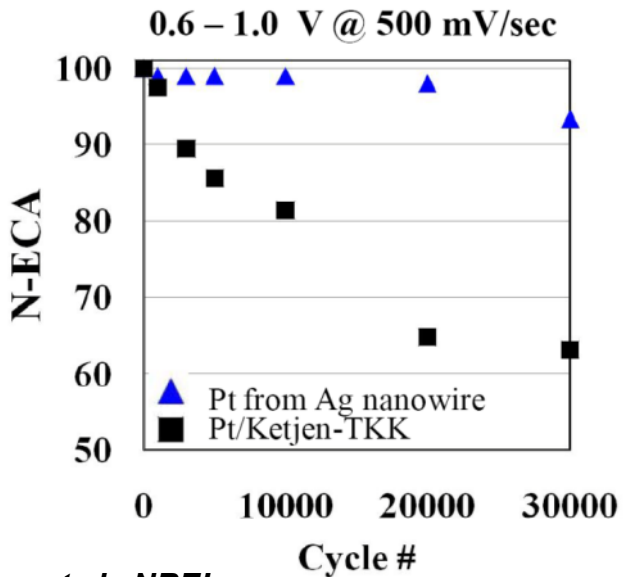
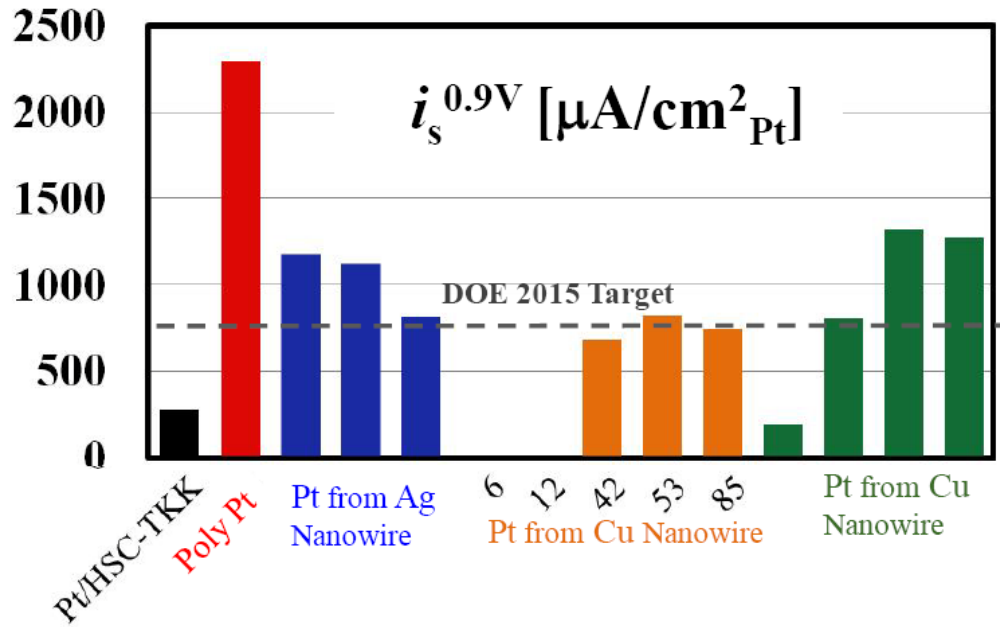
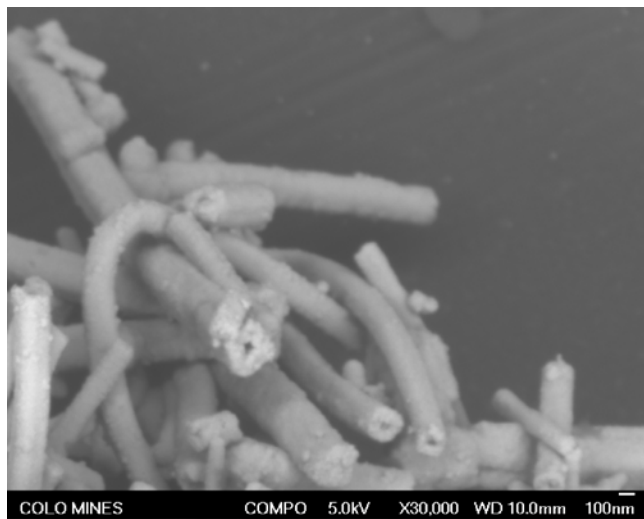


- **Performance:** **0.78 A/mg_{PGM}** for Pt/IrNi/C in RDE testing – high chance of achieving 0.44 A/mg_{PGM} target in MEA
- **Durability:** Demonstrated 50,000 potential cycles with no loss in performance (cf. 39 mV loss for Pt/C after 30,000 cycles)

Radoslav Adzic honored as BNL *Inventor of the Year* for his work on fuel cell catalysis!

Progress: Catalysts

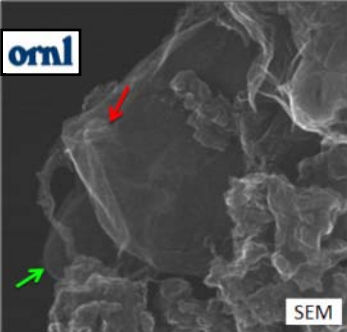
Demonstrated Pt nanotube catalysts with high activity and durability



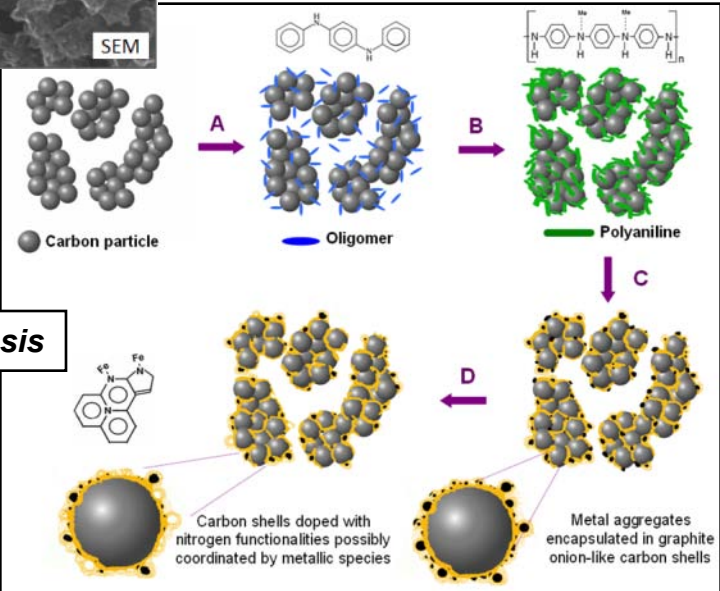
- Pt nanotube catalysts achieve specific activity higher than $1200 \mu A/cm^2$, exceeding $720 \mu A/cm^2$ target
- Loss in catalyst surface area during 30,000 potential cycles is more than 75% lower for Pt nanotubes than for conventional Pt/C

Progress: Catalysts

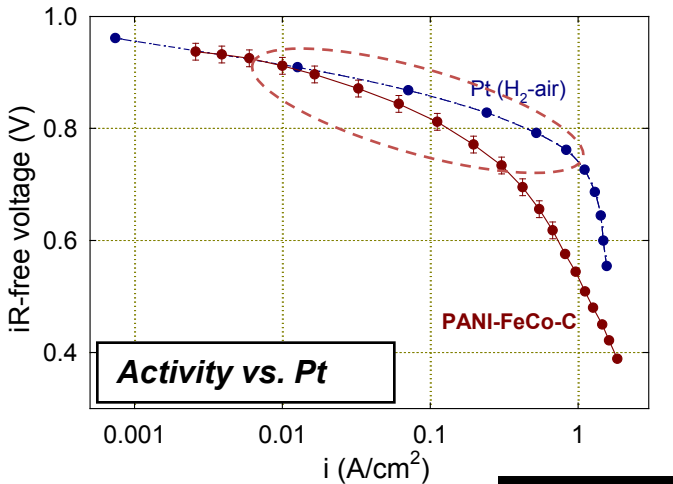
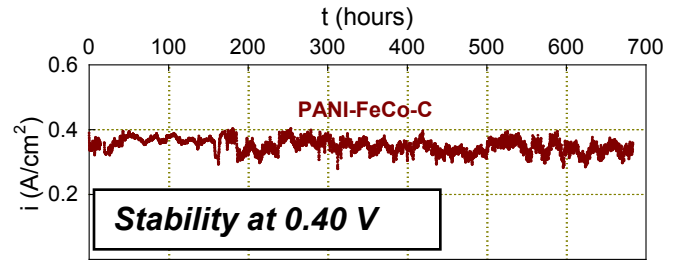
Non-PGM catalysts demonstrate activity approaching that of platinum.



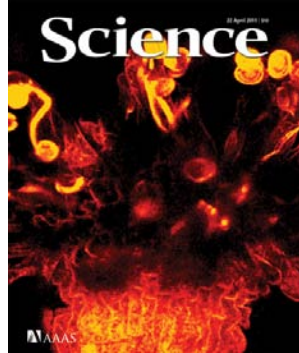
Catalyst SEM: Layered-graphene sheet marked with green arrow; FeCo-containing nanoparticle shown with red arrow.



The Synthesis



G. Wu, K. L. More, C. M. Johnston, P. Zelenay, *Science*, **332**, 443-7 (2011)



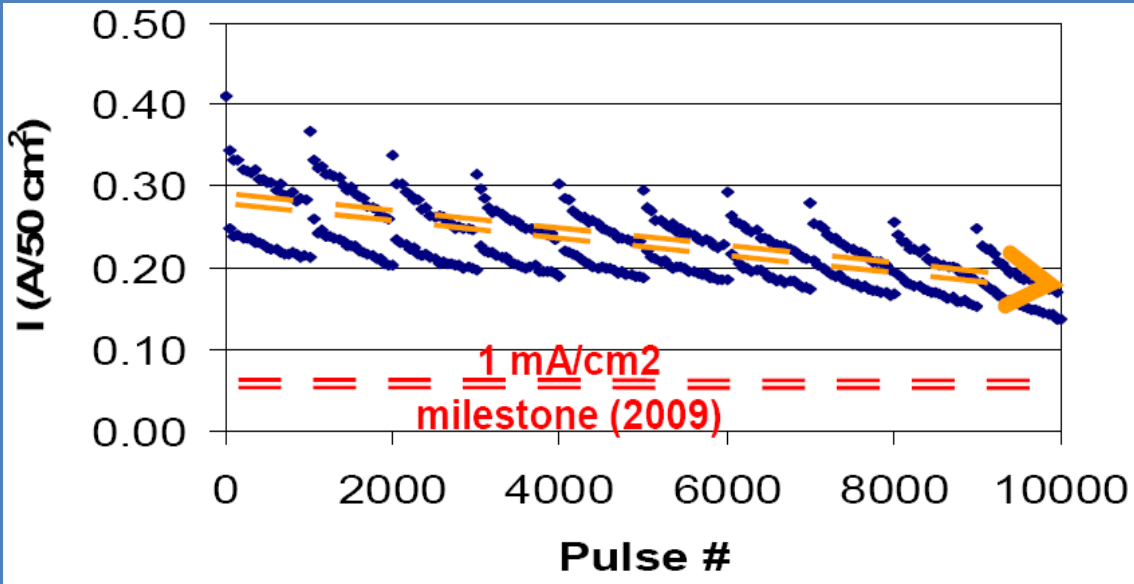
P. Zelenay et al., LANL

- High ORR activity reached with polyaniline-based and cyanamide-based catalysts
- Intrinsic catalyst activity is projected to exceed target of 130 A/cm³ at 0.80 V

Progress: Catalysts

New cathode and anode catalysts demonstrate durability under startup/shutdown.

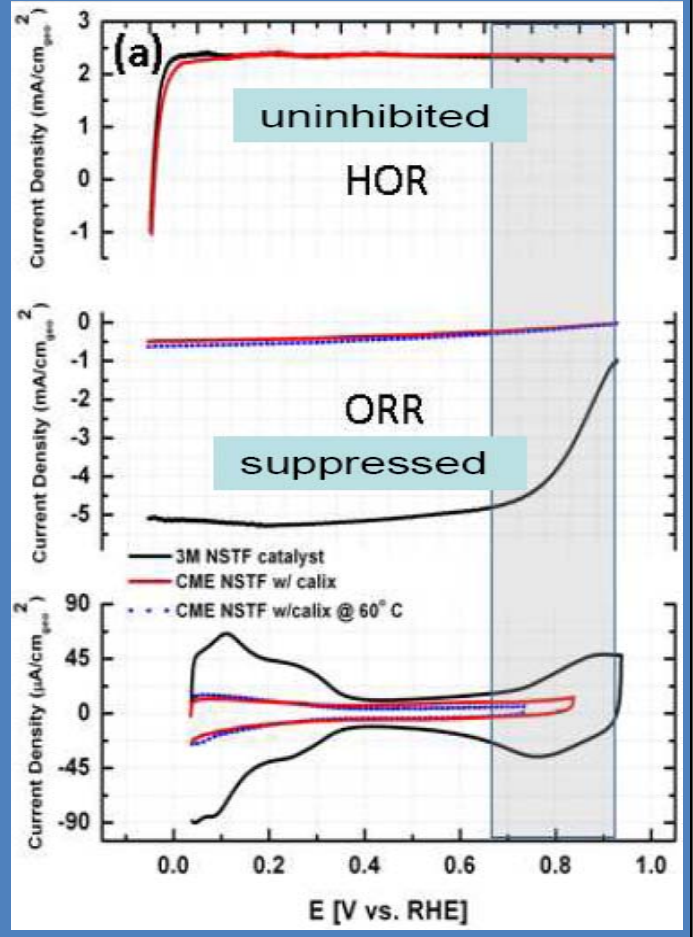
Cathode side: enhance OER to prevent catalyst/support oxidation, while maintaining ORR performance



OER performance greatly exceeds milestone, and is durable for more than 10,000 cycles

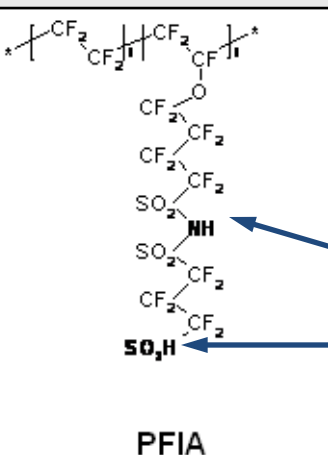
New catalyst modifiers allow achievement of 10,000 simulated startup/shutdown cycles with only 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ additional PGM

Anode side: suppress ORR to prevent cell reversal, while maintaining HOR performance



Innovative membranes demonstrate high conductivity at low RH.

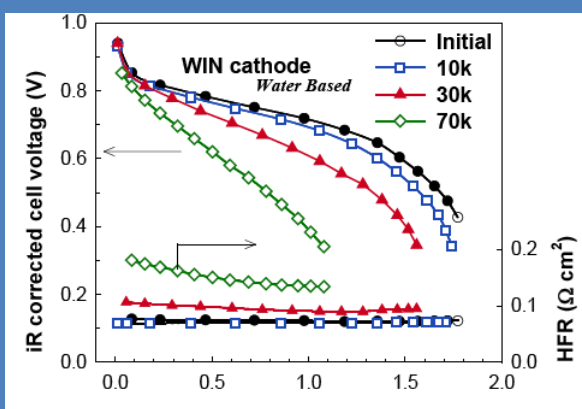
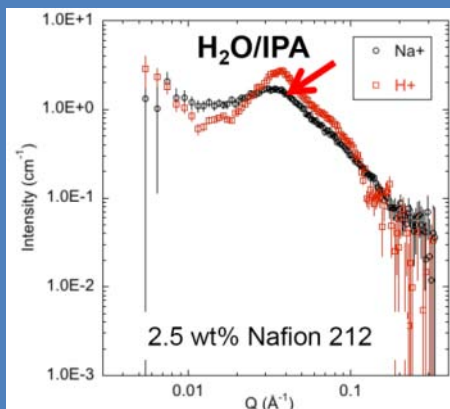
- PFIA membranes **meet most DOE targets** for performance and durability
- PFIA maintains high crystallinity at lower equivalent weight than PFSA's → **better mechanical properties**
- High conductivity with PFIA under dry conditions: **0.087 S/cm @ 120 C, 25% RH**



Two superacid sites per side chain

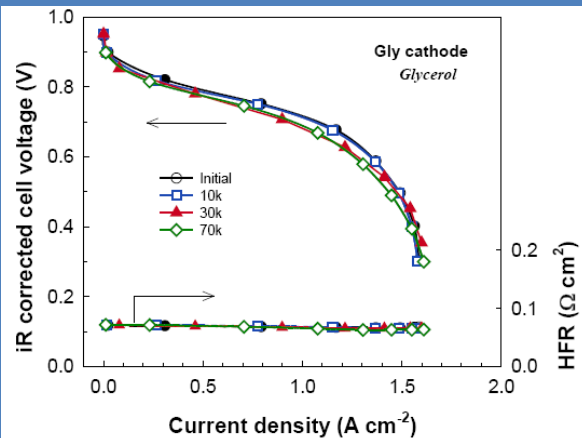
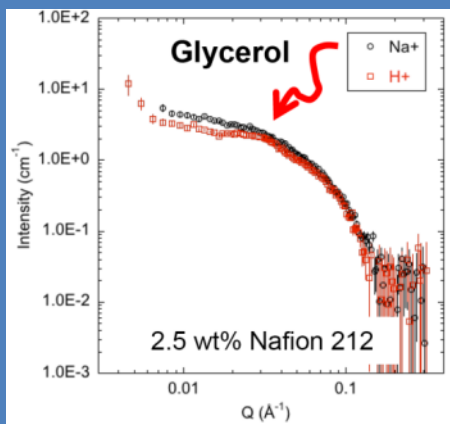
Remaining gap		3M 2011 Status	2015 target
ASR at 120° C (H ₂ O pp 40-80 kPa)	Ohm cm ²	.023 (40 kPa) 0.012 (80kPa)	<0.02
ASR at 80° C (H ₂ O pp 25-45 kPa)	Ohm cm ²	0.013 (25 kPa) 0.006 (44 kPa)	<0.02
ASR at 30° C (H ₂ O pp 4 kPa)	Ohm cm ²	0.02 (3.8 kPa)	<0.03
ASR at -20° C	Ohm cm ²	0.10	<0.2
O ₂ cross-over	mA/cm ²	≤1.0	<2
H ₂ cross-over	mA/cm ²	≤1.8	<2
Durability			
Mechanical (%RH Cycle)	Cycles	>20,000	>20,000
Chemical (OCV)	Hours	>1100+	>500

Degradation studies enable design of more durable electrodes.



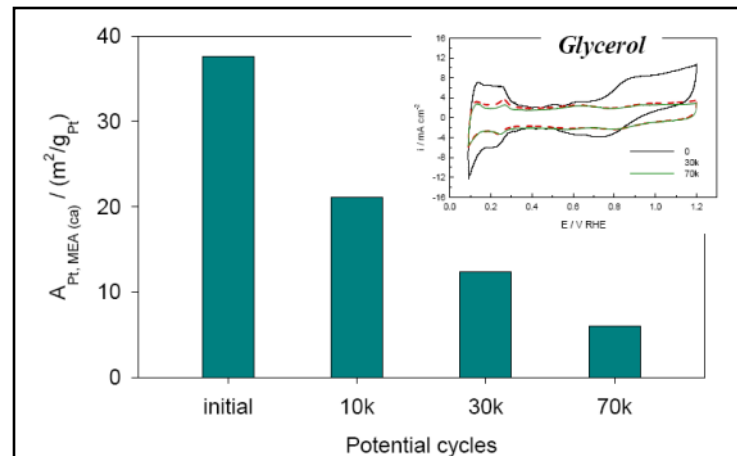
Ionomer ordering in water/alcohol

Poor durability

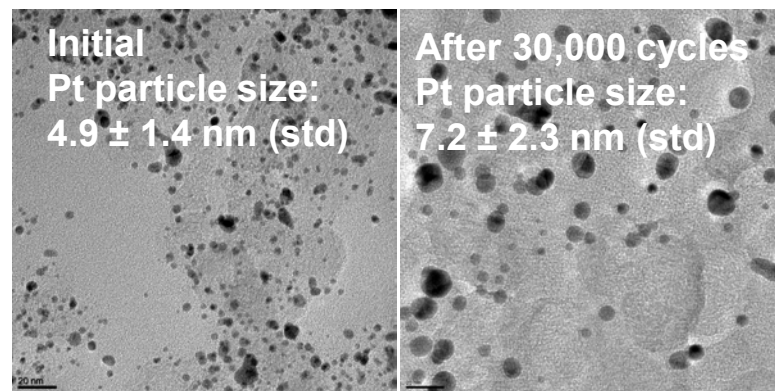


Lack of ordering in glycerol

High durability – exceeds 30,000 cycle target



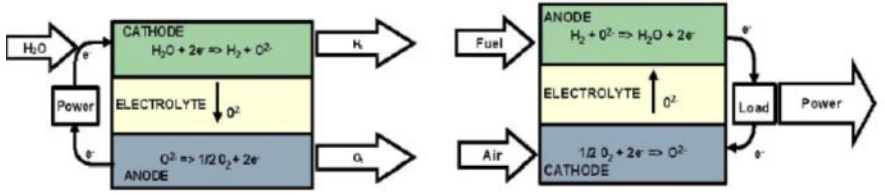
Catalyst degradation is complex – major loss in ECSA with negligible loss in performance



Progress: Stationary SOFCs

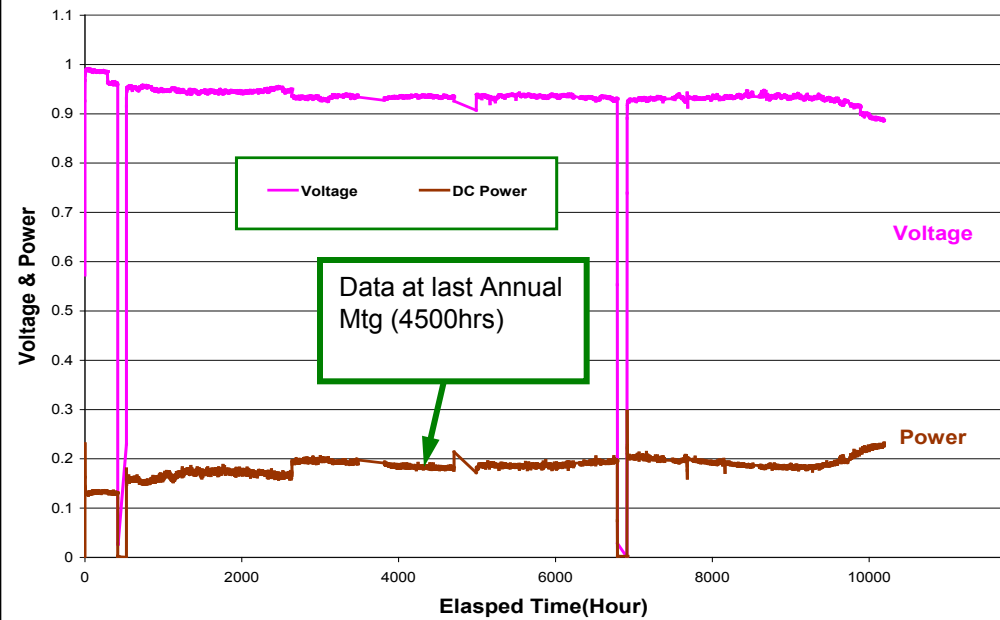
Improved performance and durability of SOFC systems

Reversible SOFCs under development at Versa Power Systems provide hydrogen generation and energy storage capability



Project Targets Met in 2011:

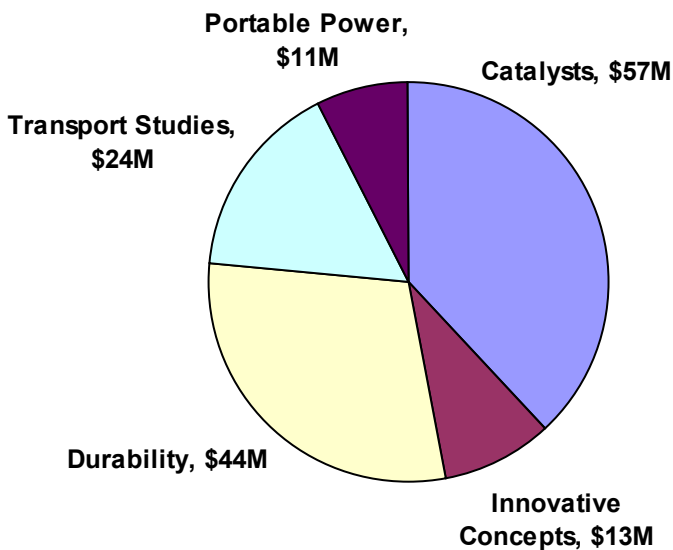
Metric	Target	Status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performance (Area specific resistance in both SOFC and SOEC operating modes)	< 0.3 Ω-cm ²	0.223 Ω-cm ² in SOEC 0.224 Ω-cm ² in SOFC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Degradation (Overall decay rate)	< 4% per 1000 hours	~1.5% per 1000 hours
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating Duration	> 1000 hours	1005 hours (as of Go/No-Go Decision)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating Current Density	> 300 mA/cm ²	500 mA/cm ²



Acumentrics has achieved more than 10,000 hours operation of an SOFC in 2011 – more than double the 2010 durability



9 new R&D projects kicked off in 2010, in addition to 28 from 2009 —total award of \$150M



New projects will:

- **Develop improved fuel cell catalysts**
- **Enhance fuel cell durability**
- **Characterize transport phenomena**
- **Optimize fuel cells for early market applications**
- **Develop innovative concepts leading to a new generation of fuel cell technology**

Projects led by stakeholders in industry, universities, and national labs

Industry

3M
Arkema
Ballard Power Systems
DuPont
Giner Electrochemical Systems
General Motors
Ion Power
Nuvera Fuel Cells
Plug Power
TreadStone
UTC Power
Versa Power Systems
W.L. Gore & Associates

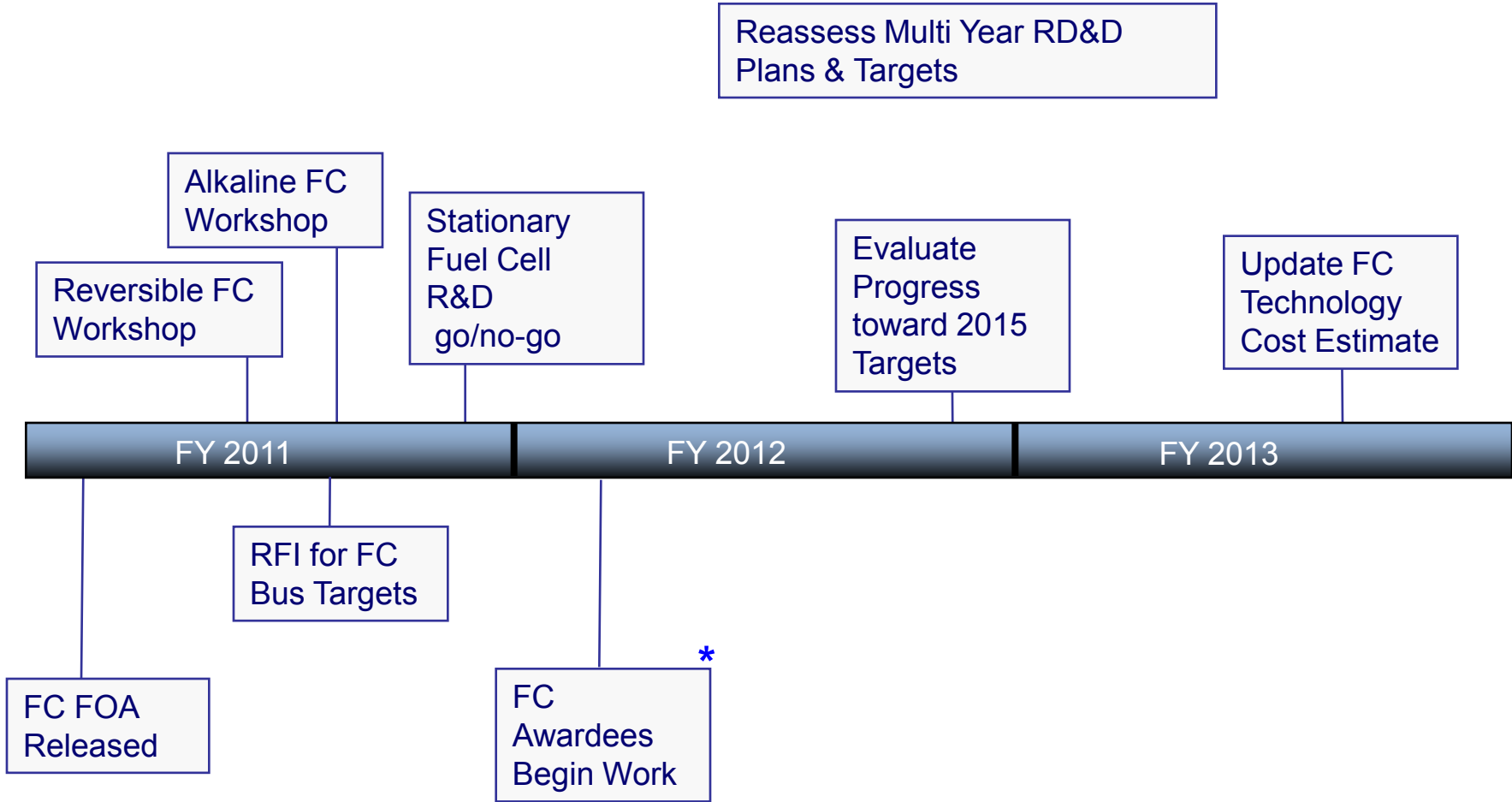
Universities

Illinois Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Univ. of North Florida
Univ. of Hawaii
Univ. of South Carolina

National Labs

Argonne
Brookhaven
Los Alamos
Lawrence Berkeley
National Renewable Energy Lab
Sandia

Key Milestones and Future Plans



** Subject to appropriations*

2011 RFI for Buses- Released

Solicit feedback from stakeholders and the research community on proposed performance, durability, and cost targets for fuel cell transit bus applications

RFI is Sponsored by:



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

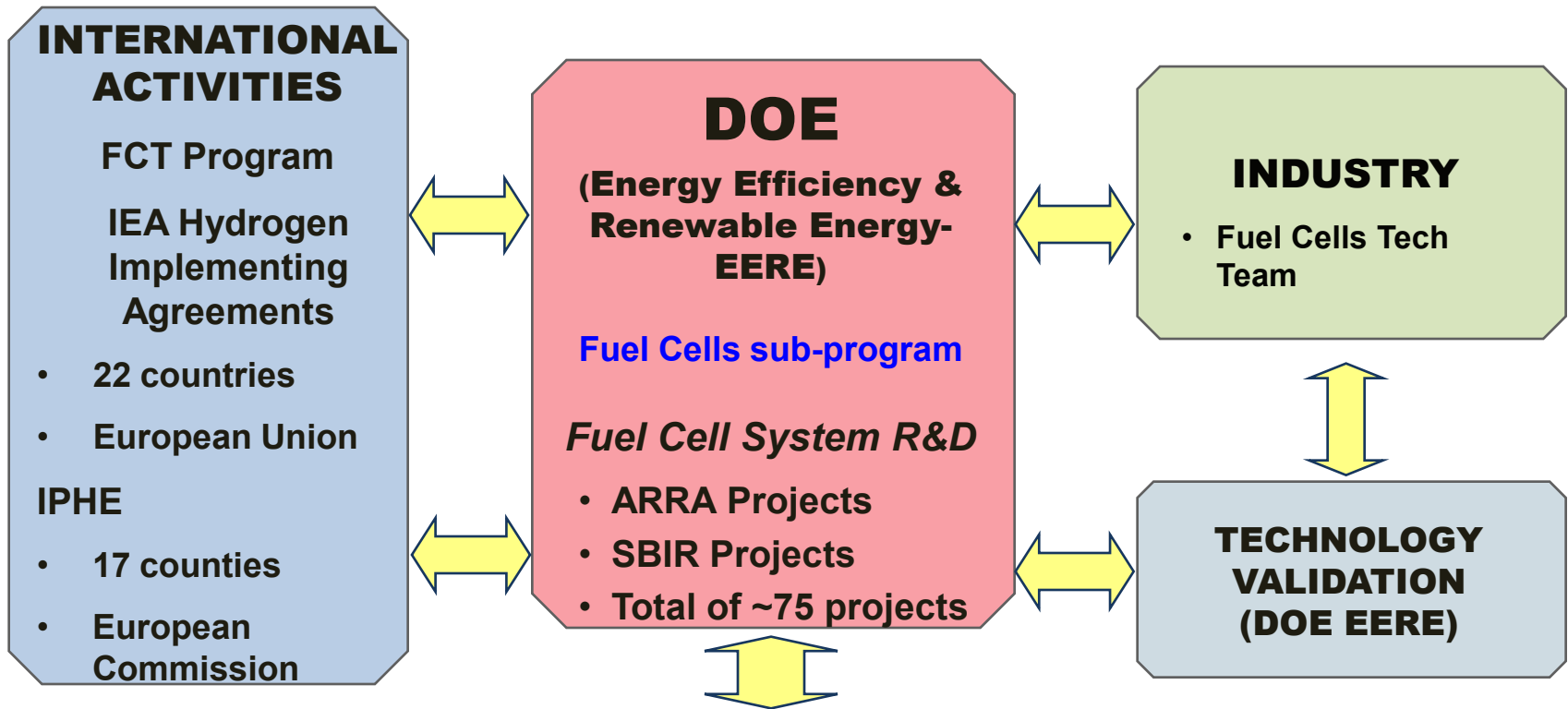


Questions may be addressed to:
DOEFCBUSRFI@go.doe.gov

- ¹ According to an appropriate duty cycle
- ² Time to fill is important (should be less than 10 min.)
- ³ Includes cost of fuel cell system and battery system. Excludes power electronics.

Proposed performance, durability, and cost targets for fuel cell transit buses

	Units	Current Status (Estimated)	Commercialization Target
Bus Lifetime	years/hours	TBD	12/36,000
Power Plant Lifetime ¹	years/hours	NA/8,000	6/18,000
Bus Availability	%	66	85
Fuel Fills ²	per day	1	1(<10 min)
Bus Cost	\$	2,300,000	1,000,000
Power Plant Cost ³	\$	TBD	TBD
Road Call Frequency (All/Powerplant)	miles between road calls	1,900/2,400	4,000/10,000
Operation Time	hours per day/ days per week	19/7	20/7
Operating Cost	\$/mile (includes fuel)	TBD	1.16
Range	Miles	>300	300
Efficiency	%	TBD	TBD



National Collaboration (*inter- and intra-agency efforts*)

DOE – Basic Energy Sciences
~30 Projects

NSF
New projects in basic science

NIST
• Neutron imaging facility

DOT
Bus Applications

Fossil Energy
• Solid Oxide Fuel Cells

Fuel Cells Team

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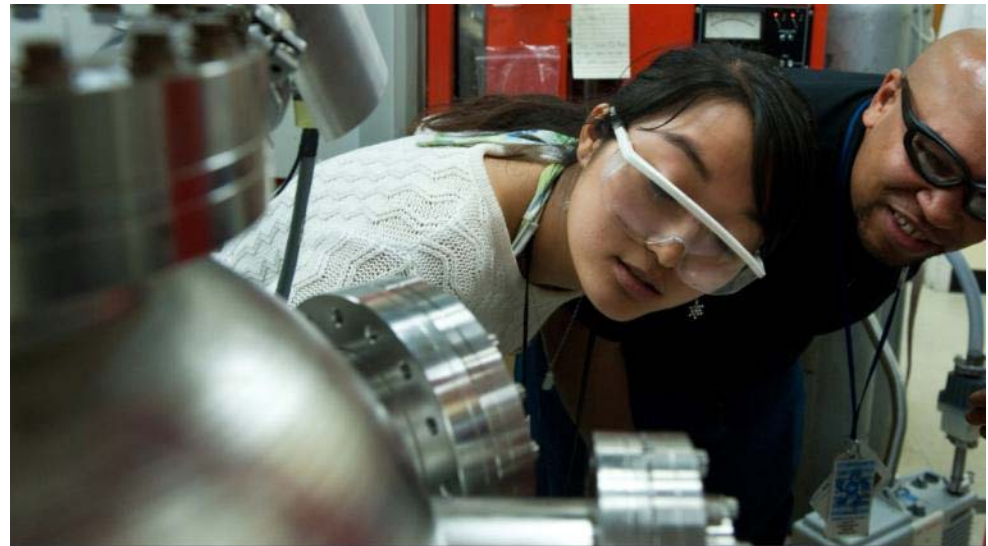
Jesse Adams, Greg Kleen, Dave Peterson, Katie Randolph, Reginald Tyler
Golden Field Office

Acknowledgements:

Tom Benjamin, John Kopasz, Walt Podolski (ANL)

Stephanie Byham (Sentech, Inc), Larry Blair (Consultant)

- Fuel Cell Technologies Program Opportunities Available
 - Conduct applied research at universities, national laboratories, and other research facilities
 - Up to five positions are available in the areas of hydrogen production, hydrogen delivery, hydrogen storage, and fuel cells
 - ❑ Applications are due June 30, 2011
 - ❑ Winners will be announced mid-August
 - ❑ Fellowships will begin in mid-November 2011



www.eere.energy.gov/education/postdoctoral_fellowships/

Postdoctoral fellowships in
hydrogen and fuel cell research ▶

Principal Participating Organizations

• Testing and Technical Assessments

- LANL
- Directed Technologies
- TIAX
- NREL
- ANL
- ORNL
- NIST

• Balance of Plant

- W. L. Gore & Associates
- Stark State College
- Dynalene

• Bipolar Plates

- TreadStone Technologies
- ORNL
- ANL

• Catalysts & Supports

- BNL
- PNNL
- 3M
- UTC
- LBNL
- ANL
- LANL
- General Motors
- Northeastern University
- University of South Carolina
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- NREL

• Durability

- Ballard
- LANL
- Plug Power
- UTC
- ANL
- Nuvera Fuel Cells
- University of Connecticut

• Impurities and Fuel Processors

- NREL
- University of Connecticut
- Clemson University
- University of Hawaii
- DuPont
- Rolls Royce

• Membranes

- Giner Electrochemical Systems
- Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- FuelCell Energy
- University of Central Florida
- 3M
- Vanderbilt University
- Colorado School of Mines
- Case Western Reserve University
- LANL
- Sandia National Laboratory
- Ion Power
- University of Southern Mississippi
- Kettering University

• Portable Power

- Arkema Inc.
- University of North Florida
- LANL
- NREL

• Stationary Power

- Intelligent Energy
- Acumentrics
- Versa Power Systems
- UTC
- University of Akron
- Colorado School of Mines
- Stark State College

• Transport

- SNL
- LBNL
- Nuvera Fuel Cells
- Giner Electrochemical Systems
- General Motors
- Rochester IT
- LANL
- CFD Research Corporation

Back up Slides

REVERSIBLE FUEL CELLS

Crystal City, Virginia, April 19, 2011

This workshop addressed reversible SOFC and reversible PEMFC in renewable electricity storage applications.

Workshop participants generally agreed that reversible technology is feasible for cost effective storage of renewable electricity, with further development required.

Issues requiring further study:

- New catalysis materials for air/oxygen electrode are needed to improve durability for both PEMFC and SOFC based systems.
- New stack designs and new approaches to heat management need to be investigated.
- Speed with which the systems can reverse directions and respond to variable inputs and loads is important for grid support.

Organized by:



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

NREL
NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY



2011 Alkaline Membrane Fuel Cell Workshop

on

May 8 - 9, 2011

Crystal Gateway Marriott,
Crystal City, VA

Objectives:

- Assess the state of alkaline membrane fuel cell technology, including quantifying status in various areas of performance for materials, and systems
- Identify limitations
- Performance potential
- Key R&D needs
- R&D timeframe/ level of effort

Specific areas addressed:

- Anion Exchange Membranes – Stability
- Anion Exchange Membranes – Transport/Conductivity
- Electrocatalysis in High pH (non-precious, complex fuels)
- MEA Issues (ionomer solutions, electrode performance/durability)
- System Issues (carbonate, specific materials, water management)

Organized by:

