

PNNL-SA-86512

Hydrogen Safety Panel

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An Integrated Approach to Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Safety



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Incident
Reporting/
Lessons
Learned and
Best
Practices

IEA HIA Task 31 Experts Group PNNL SC&S Projects

Hydrogen Safety Panel



Hydrogen
Safety
Training



Overview



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Timeline

- First Panel meeting:
 December 11, 2003
- Continuing

Budget

- Funding received in FY11 = \$350K
- Planned funding for FY12 = \$500K¹



Barriers addressed²

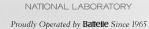
- A. Safety data and information: limited access and availability
- C. Safety is not always treated as a continuous process
- G. Insufficient technical data to revise standards

Partners

Panel member organizations (next slide)

¹Addtional FY09 ARRA funds being utilized for Hydrogen Safety Panel work.

²Technical Plan – Safety, Codes and Standards, Section 3.7.5, Multi-Year Research, Development and Demonstration Plan, 2011.



Pacific Northwest

Hydrogen Safety Panel

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Richard Kallman, Chair	City of Santa Fe Springs, CA	
Addison Bain	NASA (ret)	
Nick Barilo	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	
David Farese	Air Products and Chemicals	
Bill Fort	Shell Global Solutions (ret)	
Don Frikken	Becht Engineering	
Aaron Harris	Sandia National Laboratories	
Miguel Maes	NASA White Sands Test Facility	
Glenn Scheffler	GWS Solutions of Tolland LLC	
Andrew Sherman	Powdermet Inc.	
Ed Skolnik	Energetics Incorporated	
lan Sutherland	General Motors	
Robert Zalosh	Firexplo	

- Provide expertise and recommendations to DOE and assist with identifying safety-related technical data gaps, best practices and lessons learned.
- ► Help DOE integrate safety planning into funded projects to ensure that all projects address and incorporate hydrogen and related safety practices.

A Vision

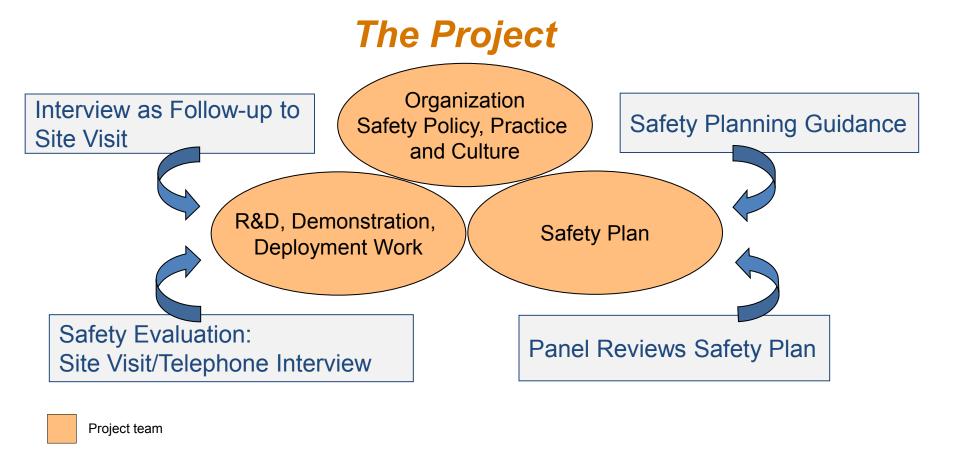


Safety practices, incorporating a wealth of historical experience with new knowledge and insights gained, are in place. Continuous and priority attention is being given to safety to fully support all aspects of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies: research, development and demonstration; design and manufacturing; deployment and operations.

Hydrogen Safety Panel Engaging the Project Team

Hydrogen Safety Panel





Accomplishments and Progress Safety Planning and Site Visit Reviews



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Safety Planning

- Reviewed 17 safety plans in the past year.
- When requested by the DOE project officer, the Panel reviews revised safety plans for responsiveness to comments.
- There continues to be a need to reach closure on more safety plans reviewed in the past two years particularly for fuel cell deployment projects.

Safety Evaluation Site Visits

- Five safety evaluation site visit reports issued; four follow-up interviews conducted and reported.
- Successfully implemented content, format and cost/time savings measures for reports
- The Panel addressed: "What have we learned so far from fuel cell deployment projects?"

Accomplishments and Progress What have we learned so far from fuel cell deployment projects?



- ► There is a need for a more thorough and integrated approach to project safety planning that involves all parties: hydrogen/fuel cell/equipment suppliers, facility operators, maintenance/repair providers.
- ➤ Safety vulnerability analysis needs to consider potential incident scenarios introduced as a result of the fuel cell deployment and equipment operations and exposures, e.g., those involving industrial trucks in warehouse storage, materials handling and truck maintenance/repair areas.
- ► Third-party certification for equipment such as hydrogen dispensers and fuel cell forklifts is an important consideration for these developing technologies.

Measuring Outcomes from Safety Reviews Categorizing Recommendations and Actions



...covering 14 project safety review site visits

Category	Recommedations Implemented	Partial or In Progress	No Action	Total Recommendations
Safety Vulnerability/ Mitigation Analysis	23	4	6	33
System/Facility Design Modifications	8	5	1	14
Equipment/Hardware Installation and O&M	15	6	1	22
Safety Documentation	14	7	0	21
Training	3	3	0	6
Housekeeping	14	6	1	21
Emergency Response	8	3	2	13
Total	85	34	11	130

>90% of recommendations voluntarily completed or in progress

Learning from Safety Events A Statement from the Hydrogen Safety Panel



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Premise

Hydrogen and fuel cell safety event and equipment failure information and data can serve as a rich and valuable resource if it is systematically collected, analyzed and used to enhance our knowledge.

Issue

Sharing information and data that respects the confidentialities and contractual obligations in DOE-funded projects while allowing for the Hydrogen Safety Panel's review and analysis of such information and data.

Recommendation

Identify mechanism(s) for such information sharing and analysis, and facilitate the interaction of the Hydrogen Safety Panel, DOE project management staff and a selected set of contractor project managers for the purpose of establishing the most appropriate mechanism for such work.

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Accomplishments and Progress Strategically Examining the Panel's Work

- As a first step, conducted brainstorming at 16th Panel meeting, San Francisco, CA, September 11, 2011 to support SC&S vision and goals
- Hydrogen Safety Panel joined by participating staff from DOE, DOT, Nuvera Fuel Cells, NASA White Sands Test Facility and other DOE national laboratories (LLNL, SNL, SRNL)
- "No idea goes unrecorded!" 75 ideas ranked and collated to include current Panel initiatives worthy of additional emphasis as well as new initiative ideas to consider

Accomplishments and Progress Strategically Examining the Panel's Work



Current Initiatives	New Initiative Ideas		
Safety Planning and Evaluation			
Continue safety planning work, safety plan reviews, site visits	Evaluate long-term implementation of site visit recommendations		
	Conduct non-DOE project site visits upon request including DOD, NASA facilities		
Safety Events, Best Practices and New Tools			
Publish safety event learnings and best practices in technical journals	Establish a mechanism for the Panel to access all reported incidents and near-misses		
Panel as technical contributors for international workshops and initiatives	Expand role of investigating H ₂ incidents beyond DOE		
	New web-based tools: leak/detection sensors, QRA, maintenance practices, hydrogen properties		
<u>Other</u>			
	Tie to C&S work; evaluate and propose code changes		
	Support AHJs with reviewing hydrogen applications and additional training		

Hydrogen Safety Panel Scorecard...



- 312 safety plans reviewed
 - Revised safety plans responsive to review comments
- 47 safety reviews conducted
- 17 Panel meetings held
 - 17th Meeting, Washington, DC, March 28-29, 2012
- 14 follow-up interviews conducted
 - 90% of safety review recommendations voluntarily completed or in progress
- 6 "good example" safety plans provided
- 6 "white paper" recommendations submitted
- 3 issues of H2 Safety Snapshot published
- 2 incident investigations completed

Collaborations



"to work jointly with others or together especially in an intellectual endeavor"

- International Energy Agency Hydrogen Implementing Agreement Task 31 (Hydrogen Safety)
- International Association for Hydrogen Safety (IA HySafe)
- International Conference on Hydrogen Safety (ICHS)
- Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association/National Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Codes and Standards Coordinating Committee
- Hydrogen Power Theoretical and Engineering Solutions International Symposium (HYPOTHESIS IX)
 - Expanding and enhancing hydrogen safety knowledge
 - Sharing and discussing learnings from safety events

¹Merriam Webster Online Dictionary, http://www.merriam-webster.com/

Collaborations (continued)

- DOE/NREL Hydrogen Sensor Workshop (June 2011)
 - Barilo presented "Wide-Area Sensor Needs" building on earlier Panel member work (see Publications and Presentations) and endorsement of the Fire Protection Research Foundation Hydrogen Research Advisory Council report: Research Needs in Support of Hydrogen Safety Standards (2009).
- University of California Center for Laboratory Safety Workshop (March 2012)
 - Workshop looked at new, more effective ways to make certain that research is performed safely.
 - Barilo participated in breakout sessions and discussion on hazard assessment and laboratory design.
 - Panel work on incidents, lessons learned and best practices was shared with attendees and potential future collaborations were discussed.

Future Work



Remainder of FY2012

- Complete in-progress work
 - Safety checklist for an outdoor supply system providing hydrogen for an indoor application
 - Water fuel technologies review paper
- Continue to conduct safety evaluation site visits in consultation with DOE
- Complete final report for Panel work on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) fuel cell deployments summarizing findings and conclusions

► FY2013

- Continue efforts to promote and ensure safety throughout the FCT project portfolio
- Assist in transitioning safety information and knowledge into safety codes and standards with emphasis on near-term applications

Thank you



- U.S. Department of Energy
 - Fuel Cell Technologies Program (Sunita Satyapal, Program Manager; Antonio Ruiz, Safety Codes and Standards Team Leader)
- All of my colleagues at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the Hydrogen Safety Panel and other collaborators
- You, the audience



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Technical Back-up Slides for FY2012 Merit Review and Peer Evaluation

Learning from Safety Events A Statement from the Hydrogen Safety Panel



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LEARNING FROM SAFETY EVENTS

A Statement from the Hydrogen Safety Panel

Hydrogen and fuel cell safety event information can serve as a rich and valuable resource if it is systematically collected, analyzed and used to enhance hydrogen safety knowledge. The sharing of lessons learned from safety events can serve to help prevent similar events from happening in the future. Informed analysis of leaks, fires and explosions, and equipment failure and ignition data derived from these safety events can facilitate the development of risk assessment models and help technical experts identify gaps in applicable codes and standards that can be addressed by a variety of means.

The Hydrogen Safety Panel can be a significant asset in realizing the benefits identified above through its role to provide expertise to DOE in identifying safety-related technical data gaps and lessons learned. Knowledgeable analysis through presentations and discussion at Panel meetings continues to be an important means of enhancing the understanding of safety issues for incidents both inside and outside the DOE Fuel Cell Technologies Program. While the confidentialities and contractual obligations inherent in DOE-funded projects are to be fully respected, mechanisms can be established to maintain those confidentialities while also establishing a means for the Hydrogen Safety Panel to examine, review and analyze project safety information. Such means should also allow for the Hydrogen Safety Panel's interaction with project teams to discuss the information being shared.

While the breadth of the entire program portfolio – research, development, demonstration and deployment projects – could be examined for these purposes, the current DOE-funded data collection and analysis work suggests that demonstration and deployment projects may present the most fruitful near-term opportunity for engaging the Hydrogen Safety Panel. Non-DOE industrial and transportation incidents also provide valuable data on equipment and personnel initiated releases and the effectiveness of leak detection and fire/explosion protection measures following the release.

The Hydrogen Safety Panel recommends that the DOE Fuel Cell Technologies Program identify mechanism(s) for such information sharing and analysis, and facilitate the interaction of the Hydrogen Safety Panel, DOE project management staff and a selected set of contractor project managers for the purpose of establishing the most appropriate mechanism for such work.

Respectfully submitted,

The Hydrogen Safety Panel

PNNL-SA-85153 January 17, 2012

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