



U.S. ARMY TANK AUTOMOTIVE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING CENTER

# **Fuel Cell Vehicle and Hydrogen Storage and Distribution Update**

## Kari Drotleff Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles Lead, TARDEC



#### **TARDEC/GM Fuel Cell Public/Private Partnership**





• >\$4B in Fuel Cell Technology Investment

- Decades of Fuel Cell Technology Advancement
- Economy of Scale with Commercial Applications
- Rapid Development Expertise; nine months from design to build
- Proven and tested technology

#### Army Mobility Tech Authority

- Off-road requirements
- Severe mobility testing

In House Performance Modeling and Analysis



Completed Military Use Assessments:

- Demonstrated utility of fuel cell technology (Eglin AFB; Ft Carson, CO; Ft Bragg, NC; Schofield Barracks, HI)
- Completed Survivability testing of H2 tanks
- Conducted Vehicle Thermal / Acoustic Analysis
- Provided Mobile Export Power

Knowledge Sharing with Industry:

- Detailed military usage profiles (drive cycles, power consumption)
- Experience with commercial vehicle prototyping processes

Mobility Signature Management Exportable Power Water Generation

#### **ZH2 Soldier Evaluation**



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### **Fuel Cells Today**

- The number and type of military applications for fuel cells will grow over time based upon progression in three areas:
  - Fuel Cell technology power density
  - On-board H2 storage technology
  - H2 production, storage, and distribution technology
- While fuel cell technology has shown many operational benefits, the production, storage, and distribution of H2 in the battlefield remains a significant barrier to entry.
- Leveraging commercially developed technologies as stepping stones for hydrogen growth allows TARDEC to focus on H2 logistics and sustainment.



Photo courtesy of google images Toyota Mirai





Nikola One Semi Truck



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#### Energy Consumption vs Convoy System Trips Using the Joint Operational Energy Initiative (JOEI) Toolkit



 AI-H2O Splitting
Solid H2
Bubble size is determined by quantity of additional support equipment

JP8 Reformation

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 Solid H2 requires no additional support equipment

needed.

- For smaller applications, logistics burden is minimal
- Full brigade adoption requires high density hydrogen storage, such as Solid H2

Fuel Cell technology can reduce the energy consumed on the battlefield and logistics analysis indicates high density H2 storage is required.

UNCLASSIFIED

#### Why? Energy of Transported Fuels



"How many trucks to replace one JP8 tanker, all factors considered?"

(Baseline, TRL 9)

JP8



20'x8'x8'6"

Solid or Liquid Hydrogen Options (TRL 4-7)









Aluminum Water Splitting (TRL 4)



20'x8'x8'6"







#### Most H2 Options May Require Additional Logistic Vehicles

#### Hydrogen Support System Development



#### **Near Term Implementation:**

 JP8 Reformation will generate hydrogen as close to the point of use as possible

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Logistics limit applications to smaller, lighter vehicles where fuel cell benefits can be maximized

#### **Future Concept:**

- High density hydrogen storage solutions such as Solid H2 Bricks will be moved forward as dry cargo to point of use
- Logistic efficiencies enable higher consumption vehicles to be converted to Fuel Cell Electric drive train





#### **Thank You**





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