

# Hydrogen Station Data Collection and Analysis



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# **Overview**

#### **Timeline and Budget**

- Project start date: 10/2011\*
- Total DOE funds received to date: \$985k
- FY15 DOE funding: \$300k
- FY16 planned DOE funding: \$200k

#### **Barriers**

• Lack of current hydrogen refueling infrastructure performance and availability data

#### **Partners**

 Industry and agencies listed on collaboration slides

\*project continuation and direction determined annually by DOE

# **Project Objectives: Hydrogen Infrastructure Evaluation**

#### **FY16 Objectives**

Analysis and reporting on infrastructure performance, cost, utilization, maintenance, and safety.



CSULA station, Los Angeles, CA. Photo: NREL



Linde Station, West Sacramento, CA. Photo: NREL

#### **Overall Objectives**

- Validate hydrogen infrastructure
- Identify status and technological improvements
- Provide feedback to hydrogen research
- Publish results for stakeholder use

# **Relevance: Metrics to Evaluate Infrastructure**

#### Use metrics to clearly evaluate progress toward challenges

- Location/Capacity/Utilization
  - *Challenge:* Station coverage, hydrogen availability, minimal wait time.
  - *Metrics:* Station usage patterns and geographic locations
- Fueling
  - *Challenge:* Vehicles fueled in an acceptable amount of time
  - *Metrics:* Fueling rates, times, amounts, back-to-back fills
- Maintenance/Availability
  - Challenge: Maintenance and downtime increase cost and impact customers
  - *Metrics:* Maintenance patterns, reliability and availability of stations
- Cost
  - Challenge: Hydrogen cost is dependent on several factors including where produced, how delivered, efficiencies, and maintenance requirements
  - *Metrics:* Energy cost, maintenance cost, station cost
- Station Timing
  - *Challenge:* Lead time to build out infrastructure to meet vehicle demand
  - *Metrics:* Permitting time, building time, commissioning time

# **Approach: Hydrogen Station Locations**



- AFDC integrating station availability using CaFCP-SOSS
- Mobile phone availability for both

- Locations transitioned to Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC).
- Working on common fields and using "Retail" definition.
- Automating updates to AFDC from CaFCP and California GoBiz

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Driving for the future	H
Station Status	
Public Retail Stations	H70 H35
Costa Mesa (Soft Opening)	• •
Diamond Bar	••
Harris Ranch	• •
Hayward (Soft Opening)	• •
La Canada Flintridge (Soft Opening)	• •
Lake Forest (Soft Opening)	• •

# Approach: National Fuel Cell Technology Evaluation Center (NFCTEC)



#### **Detailed Data Products (DDPs)**

- Individual data analyses
- Identify individual contribution to CDPs
- Only shared with partner who supplied data every 6 months<sup>1</sup>

#### **Composite Data Products (CDPs)**

- Aggregated data across multiple systems, sites, and teams
- Publish analysis results without revealing proprietary data every 6 months<sup>2</sup>

1) Data exchange may happen more frequently based on data, analysis, and collaboration 2) Results published via NREL Tech Val website, conferences, and reports



ABOUT NREL ENERGY ANALYSIS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Technology validation is defined as confirmation that component and

system technical targets have been

validation team works on validating

hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles;

hydrogen fueling infrastructure: and

handling, backup nower, and prime-

analyzes the current status of state

power applications. The team also

met under realistic operating

fuel cell use in early market

applications such as material

of-the-art laboratory fuel cell

technologies, with a focus on

performance and durability. This

work supports the Department of

Energy's hydrogen and fuel cell technology validation activity.

conditions. The NREL technology

Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Projects

Fuel Cells Hydrogen Production & Delivery Hydrogen Storage Manufacturing Market Transformation Safety, Codes, & Standards Systems Analysis Technology Validation Fuel Cell Vehicle Learning Fuel Cell Bus Evaluations Early Fuel Cell Market Fuel Cell Technology Status Hydrogen Fueling

Infrastructure Analysis Stationary Fuel Cell Systems

Analysis uccess Stories Research Staff Facilities Working with Us Energy Analysis & Tools Publications

News

Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Technology Validation Animated Map Correlates Fuel Cell Usage for Backup **Power with Grid Outages** earn how NREL developed the time-lapse geographical visualization map A or view the animation, which covers January 2010 to December 2013.

NREL HOMI

Printable Version

1 2 3 4

Technology validation projects involve gathering extensive data from the systems and components under realworld conditions, analyzing this detailed data, and then comparing results to technical targets. While the raw data is protected by NREL, analysis results are aggregated into public results called composite data products. These public results show the status and progress of the technology, but don't identify individual companies.

Click on the application type to see project highlights, analysis results, and detailed reports and presentations from the hydrogen and fuel cell technology validation efforts underway at NREL.



**Hydrogen Infrastructure Composite Data Products Total of 61 CDPs** 43 Updated, 18 New **In 9 Categories** 

# A subset of the infrastructure CDPs presented here. All CDPs, including other projects, available at www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj tech validation

### Hydrogen Stations by Type



# Accomplishments and Progress: Hydrogen Dispensed by Quarter



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# Accomplishments and Progress: Fueling Rates, Times, Amounts (All Fills)

**Histogram of Fueling Rates** 



#### Accomplishments and Progress: Monthly Averages for 700bar Fills >1kg with Pre-Cool of 20C



### Accomplishments and Progress: Monthly Averages for 700bar Fills >1kg with Pre-Cool of 40C



#### **Station Usage**

Summary of Station Usage Statistics<sup>4</sup>



NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

### **Station Usage also Plotted by Quarter**



# Accomplishments and Progress: Failure Rates by Fills (bathtub curve)



# Accomplishments and Progress: Failure Rates (bathtub curve) by Amount and by Time



# Accomplishments and Progress: Maintenance by Equipment Type

Most maintenance related to compressors and dispensers. Entire category encompasses multiple systems and is generally preventative maintenance.



#### Maintenance by Equipment Type

#### **Maintenance: Mean Fills Between Failures**



#### **Also: Mean Amount and Time Between Failures**



#### **Compressor Monthly Maintenance**

For compressors, the average per station is 4 maintenance events and 16 labor hours per month with 138 kg dispensed per maintenance event. For all maintenance items, the station average is 41 labor hours per month. Individual stations represented by different colored lines.



#### **Maintenance Costs Over Time**



# Accomplishments and Progress: H2 Quality



59 of 74 samples (80%) met the SAE J2719 guidelines. Consecutive samples may be for a single issue. Boxes show when item in box is out of spec

#### **Sampling Frequency**

- Interest in seeing a statistical distribution of each constituent at the stations
- Useful even if stations are meeting the standard
- Helps auto/fuel cell manufacturers to understand what their stacks will encounter in the real world
- Working on providing statistical distribution of constituents coming from the stations to SAE J2719 and other stakeholders for review
- Future awards expected every 3 months (Quarterly)
- Current awards expected every 6 months (Bi-Annually)

#### **Safety Reports by Quarter**



- an event that under slightly different circumstances could have become an incident

- any hydrogen release sufficient to sustain a flame if ignited

A Minor H2 Leak is:

NREL cdp infr 33

Created: May-01-16 11:41 AM | Data Range: 2008Q3-2015Q4

## **Safety Reports by Equipment Involved**



#### **Electrolyzer Energy Use per kg of Hydrogen**



#### **Compressor Energy and Cost per kg of Hydrogen**



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#### **Station Costs**

Based on award data, the stations are expected to cost \$2.2M on average (including cost share). This is an average over a variety of station types

5% 4% 7% 6 General & Administration 2 Station\*\* 2 Commissioning 2 Data Reporting\*\*\*

Budget Amounts\* (Avg Total = \$2.2M), 46 Stations

NREL cdp\_infr\_41 Created: Apr-07-16 1:14 PM | Data Range: 2009Q1-2015Q4 \*Based on budgeted data from station awards (includes cost share)

\*\*Station includes: Hydrogen Equipment and Station Engineering, Design, Fabrication, Procurement, Site Preparation, Installation, and Construction

\*\*\*Data Reporting includes quarterly reporting on performance, operation and maintenance

### Accomplishments and Progress: Responses to Previous Year Reviewers' Comments

- Comment: Despite the fact that templates were produced, the level of details and harmony of data between stations is having an impact on the conclusions that follow from the NREL analysis. One can sometimes regret that the analysis is given with no indication of the data set's representatively.
  - <u>Response</u>: Not all data providers are bound by the templates. There is an effort to include the templates in any government funded award as a requirement. Even when templates are required, data is reported with different levels of detail. Future publications will provide more information on and separate out different types of stations. Data from many recently opened stations is expected in 2016. Care will still be taken to not attribute data to an individual partner
- Comment: Ideally, data are collected automatically and not entered manually by station operators into the forms described. The project should (1) start identifying next-generation "open" retail stations in data reporting separately from previousgeneration non-retail stations (e.g., behind fence, non-retail, and non–SAE International J2601 compliant) and (2) consider using the "open" definition as developed by the California Fuel Cell Partnership and California infrastructure stakeholders (e.g., vehicle original equipment manufacturers, station providers, and state government).
  - **Response**: Most data providers work on automating the data collection. Most of the stations coming online will be of the "open" "retail" type. Once there are enough of the new type of stations in the data set there will be a separation of that data. Started already with the fueling rates, times, and amounts.

## **Responses to Previous Year Reviewers' Comments**

- Comment: There is no indication as to whether NREL can manage, or needs to prepare for, data processing and analysis for reporting from 40+ additional California hydrogen stations and 10+ Northeast stations.
  - **Response:** The NFCTEC is equipped to handle multiple data sets with the tools developed and has the expertise to process many projects and datasets. The templates are continually updated to be able to collect the latest information that is pertinent to the infrastructure. What really helps us out here is data submissions that are consistent, of good quality and inclusive of all the details requested.
- Comment: Collect more detailed information about reported downtime/failures/issues with compressors.
  - **Response:** Compressor operation and maintenance will continue to be analyzed and will be separated out for new generation once there are enough of them in the dataset. Bus data is generally analyzed in a separate tech val project but will look for opportunities to display side-by-side or include in data sets. Will continue to request more detailed data in the templates and from partners on compressor failures. We will be working on more frequent maintenance updates in coming year.

# **Collaborations**

# Data, feedback, and interactions with infrastructure partners make this project work

#### Partners involved with through DOE awards and voluntarily

 California Air Resources Board, California State University Los Angeles, Gas Technologies Institute, Hydrogen Frontier, Linde, Shell, Proton OnSite

#### California Energy Commission/NREL MOU

- Worked with CEC to include NREL templates as data reporting requirement in latest Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO) (proposals due in July)
  - Station awards required to report data for 1 year
  - Station O&M awards required to report data for 3 years
- New stations (from past awards) beginning to report data through O&M grant funding

#### • Other organizations enhancing this activity

- California Air Resources Board
- California Fuel Cell Partnership
- California GoBiz
- IPHE for international data sharing –sharing data for CDPs

- H2USA
- H2FIRST
- Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC)

# **Collaborations: Station Project Partners**



# Partners providing data:

- California Air Resources Board
- California Energy Commission
- California State University LA
- Gas Technologies Institute
- Linde
- H2 Frontier
- Proton OnSite
- Shell
- IPHE and HySUT









# **Proposed Future Work**

#### Analysis and CDP publication

- Complete quarterly analysis of CY16 Q1 and Q2 data and publish results (10/2016)
- Complete quarterly analysis of CY16 Q3 and Q4 data and publish results (4/2017)

#### • Update data collection and analysis to address:

- Availability of stations
- In depth review of any new safety items
- Increased frequency of maintenance data reporting
- Separate newer "Retail" stations from demonstration stations
- Work with others involved in Safety and Risk Assessment activities where this data may be useful

# **Summary**

#### Relevance

Independent validation of hydrogen infrastructure

#### Approach

- Collaborate with industry partners and agencies involved in hydrogen infrastructure
- Continue to develop core NFCTEC and analysis capability and tools
- Leverage years of analysis and experience from hydrogen demonstrations

#### Technical Accomplishments and Progress

- Analyzed performance data from 11 stations and cost data from planned stations
- Performed detailed reviews of individual data results
- Published results via CDPs that cover topics of station daily utilization compared to maximum demonstrated capacity, maintenance, fueling performance, operation costs, and efficiencies

#### Collaborations

 Working closely with industry and government partners to validate methodology and with key stakeholders to ensure relevance and accuracy of results

#### • Future Work

- Complete analysis of hydrogen infrastructure data and publish every 6 months, with more frequent maintenance updates
- Identify new opportunities to document hydrogen infrastructure progress and share data with safety and risk assessment activities



ABOUT NREL ENERGY ANALYSIS SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT ENERGY SYSTEMS INTEGRATION

Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Research

#### • Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Research Home Projects

Fuel Cells Hydrogen Production & Delivery Hydrogen Storage Market Transformation Safety, Codes, & Standards Systems Analysis Systems Analysis Systems Analysis Systems Analysis Cell Cell Vehicle Learning Demonstrations Fuel Cell Bus Evaluations Fuel Cell Bus Evaluations Paulo Cell Fueloniogy Status Analysis Pudrosen Uselina

Infrastructure Analysis

Analysis

Facilities Working with Us Energy Analysis & Tools

Publications News

Success Stories Research Staff

Stationary Fuel Cell Systems

Technology validation is defined as confirmation that component and system technical targets have been met under realistic operating conditions. The NREL technology validation team works on validating hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles; hydrogen fueling infrastructure: and fuel cell use in early market applications such as material handling, backup power, and primepower applications. The team also analyzes the current status of state of-the-art laboratory fuel cell technologies, with a focus on performance and durability. This work supports the Department of Energy's hydrogen and fuel cell

technology validation activity.

#### Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Technology Validation

Animated Map Correlates Fuel Cell Usage for Backup Power with Crid Outages
Power with Crid Outages
Learn how NREL
developed the
learn how NREL
infrastructure; and
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NREL HOME

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# Thank you

# All CDPs, including other projects, available at www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj\_tech\_validation



# **Technical Back-Up Slides**

# **Approach: Data and Templates**

Data templates developed to collect similar data from multiple projects

- Continual updating as new topics develop
  - Future updates needed for items such as fueling profiles and availability.
- Shared with others
  - o California Air Resources Board Stations
  - California Energy Commission for inclusion in Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO) and awards
  - Safety and Maintenance templates/data used with International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy (IPHE) to coordinate international data sharing

Safety
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emplate	last updated	on April 5,	, 2012 (NREL)	

Data should be from reporting quarter

Inclu	de all HZ	leaks, incluents, and near miss ev	ents		INSTRUCTIONS:					
			1) Scroll over headings for definitions of each category		Pick List for Each Safety Categor					
	Calendar Quarter (ex. 2011Q2)		insert calendar quarter		]			but other categories may be adde		
	Site Name		insert site name		SAFETY CATEGORIES: (Choose from dropdown 'pick lists')					
#	Date of Event	DETAILED EVENT DESCRIPTION	LESSONS LEARNED	SEVERITY	EVENT DESCRIPTION	EQUIPMENT/ SUBSYSTEM INVOLVED	PRIMARY FACTOR	DAMAGES AND INJURIES	SEVERITY	EVENT [
1	8/4/2001	EXAMPLE DESCRIPTION: Leak in desulfurizer resulted in the release of high H2 concentrations. Reformer shutdown resulted. Repairs required replacement of xxx. No injucies. No property damage.	EXAMPLE DESCRIPTION: The fittings on the desulferizer require more frequent inspection. This inspection will be added to routine maintenance and will be performed weekly rather than bi-weekly. We feel more frequent inspection of this device is important and should be shared with other teams.	Near Miss	H₂ Release - No accumulation	Reformer	Inadequate/ Non- working Equipment	No injury or property damage	Incident	H <sub>2</sub> Release - Ignition
2									Near Miss	H <sub>2</sub> Release - Accumulation
3			First row is for example only and should be over- written with real data.						Minor H₂ Leak	H₂ Release - No accumulat
4		l							Non-Event	Non-H2 Release
5										Non-H2 Fire
	Instructions	Site Summary Site Log Storage & Delivery	Compression Dispensing Fuelling Ma	intenance / HS	Cost Safety H2 Quality	Reformer Fler	trolyzer Co-Produ	rtion *1		

# Accomplishments and Progress: Fueling Final Pressures



the allowable 125% of nominal pressure (437.5 bar) from SAE J2601.

#### **Dispensed Hydrogen per Day of Week**



# **Station Capacity Utilization**



# Safety (& Maintenance) Learnings

#### From Safety Reports Template

#### **Categories and simple descriptions**

- Alarms not communicated
- Breakaway leak
- Check compressor oil filter
- Check integrity of delivered equipment
- Compressor leaking at startup normal?
- Does isolated leak need to shut down station?
- Electrical glitch
- Estop activated after hearing escaping gas-nitrogen
- Estop activated when nozzle stuck on car
- Estop activated without cause
- Estop flooded prevented restart
- False Alarm No Fire
- Fill and leak check together caused shutdown false leak alarm
- Filter to catch scrap from material processing
- Forgot to turn back on after maintenance
- Freezing and thawing caused moisture in communication connector
- Frozen cooling block defrost
- HTO sensor fault

- Heat trace short caused false fire alarm
- Heavy rain triggered fire alarm
- Hose vent failure nozzle stuck on car
- Loose wire intermittent problems
- Loud popping could be relief valve
- Mass balance alarm bug
- Mass balance alarm caused by high ambient temperature
- Power Issue 3 Phase
- Predict service life better
- Proper installation prevents leaks
- Rain on sensor causing alarm
- Regular inspection of compressor valves
- Regular leak checks
- Regular station inspection
- Reset
- Spider web obscuring sensor
- Thermocouple failure shutdown station
- Vibration from normal activity shutdown dispenser
- Vibration isolation

#### **Maintenance Labor Hours by Month**



maintenance hours in a given month.

# **Compressor Operation Cost**



#### **Station Cost by Type**

