



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

# Compatibility of Polymeric Materials Used in the Hydrogen Infrastructure

Kevin Simmons, PNNL (PM, Presenter)

Keshava Bhamidipaty, PNNL

Nalini Menon, SNL

Dr. Barton Smith, ORNL

Dr. Amit Naskar ORNL

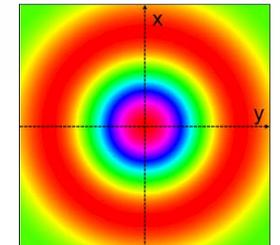
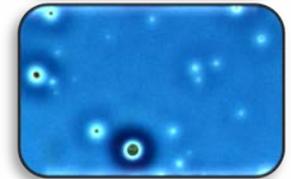
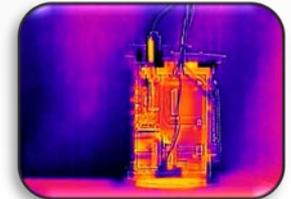
Mike Veenstra, Ford



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



Sandia  
National  
Laboratories



This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential, or otherwise restricted information

## Timeline

- ▶ Project Start Date: October 2015
- ▶ Project End Date: September 2018
- ▶ % Completed: 75%

## Budget

- ▶ Total Project Budget: \$1800K
  - Total Federal Share: 100%
  - Total DOE Funds Spent\*\*:
    - \$196K (PNNL) – includes Ford subcontract
    - \$75K(SNL)
    - \$27.4K (ORNL)

\* \*As of 3/24/17

## Barriers

- A. Safety Data and Information:
  - Limited Access and Availability
- G. Insufficient Technical Data to Revise Standards
- J. Limited Participation of Business in the Code Development Process
- K. No consistent codification plan and process for synchronization of R&D and Code Development

## Partners

- PNNL (Project Lead)
- SNL
- ORNL
- Ford Motor Company

**Objectives: To develop a knowledge base of polymer and elastomer materials hydrogen compatibility through development of test methodologies that will enable a better understanding of material interaction in infrastructure that will guide future research and development activities**

- ▶ Provide scientific and technical basis to enable full deployment of H<sub>2</sub> and fuel cell technologies by filling the critical knowledge gap for polymer performance in H<sub>2</sub> environments
- ▶ Develop standard test protocols for polymeric materials to evaluate their H<sub>2</sub> compatibility for conditions, applications, and polymers of need by the hydrogen community
- ▶ Disseminate test protocols and compatibility information and support the deployment of H<sub>2</sub> infrastructure

Barriers	Project Impact
A. Safety Data and Information: Limited Access and Availability	Develop H <sub>2</sub> Tools webpage for data dissemination and hydrogen compatibility guidance
G. Insufficient Technical Data to Revise Standards	Develop test methodologies for evaluating polymer compatibility with high pressure H <sub>2</sub> : (1) in situ tribology, (2) pressure cycle aging. Understand fundamental aspects of hydrogen damage in polymers through techniques like neutron scattering.
J. Limited Participation of Business in the Code Development Process	Performed FMEA analysis from technical experts and stakeholder input to prioritize required material attributes for test methods to evaluate conditions of interest for H <sub>2</sub> compatibility. Disseminate project findings through conferences, publications, and website
K. No consistent codification plan and process for synchronization of R&D and Code Development	Engaging codes and standards community (CSA and others) early on and having discussions to synchronize our data collection and test method development with new codes and standards development like CHMC 2

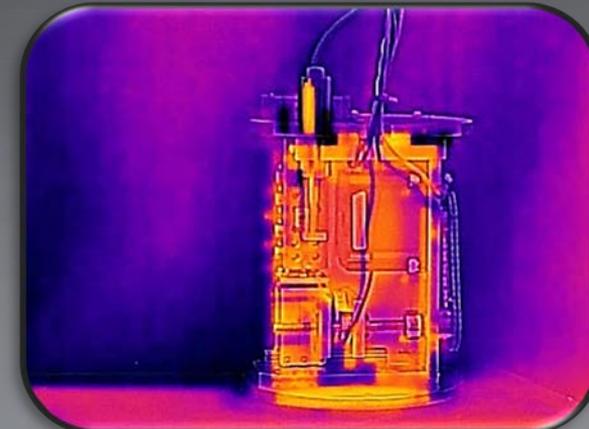
# Approach

Identify the issues:  
Stakeholder  
Engagement  
(1<sup>st</sup> round complete)

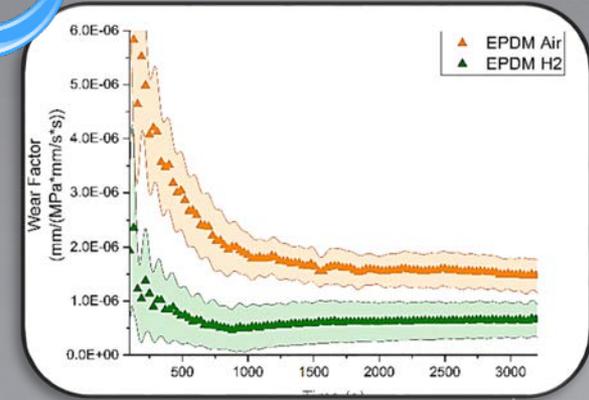
## FMEA Prioritization of Critical Attributes

Item/Function	Potential Failure Mode	Potential Effect(s) of Failure	Severity	Potential Cause/ Mechanism of Failure	Occurrence	Current Controls	Detection	RPN	Recommended Action	Responsibility and Target Completion Date	Action Results		
											Actions Taken	S	O
What are the Functions, Features, or Requirements?  List in Verb-Noun-Metric format	What can go wrong?	STEP 1 What are the Effect(s)?	How bad is it?						What can be done? - Design Changes - Process Changes - Additional Testing - Special Analysis - Revise Standards or Procedures or Test Plans				
	- No Function			STEP 2 What are the Cause(s)?	How often does it happen?								
	- Partial, Over, Under Function				STEP 3 How can this be prevented or detected?	How good is the method at detecting it?							
	- Intermittent Function												
	- Unintended Function												

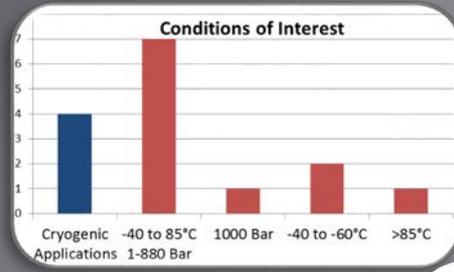
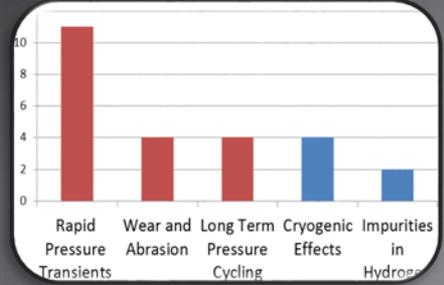
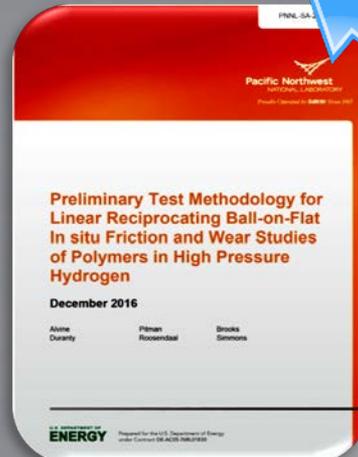
## Test Method Development



## Build the Database: Experimental Testing



## Disseminate: Standards, Test Methods, Publications





# Project Tasks

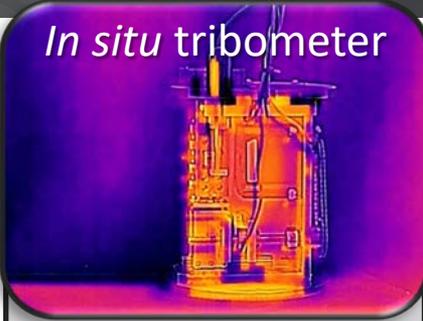
## Task 1:

### Stakeholder Engagement

- Materials of Interest
- Operating Conditions of Interest
- Challenges faced
- Test methods currently employed by them



## *In situ* tribometer



## Task 2:

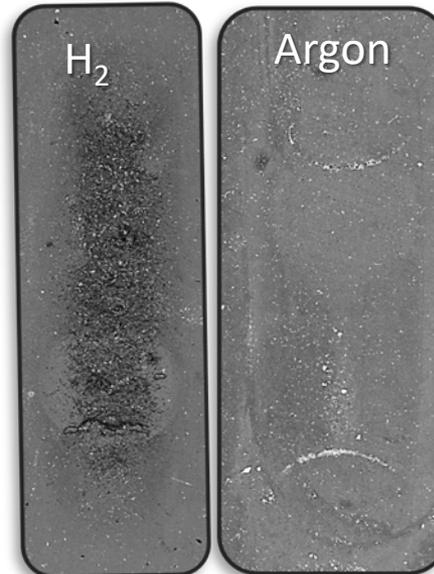
### Test Methodology Development & Data Collection

- Selection of relevant polymers
- Determining preliminary test parameters
- Conducting preliminary tests and establishing optimum conditions of operation

## Task 3:

### Characterization of Polymers

- Baseline properties before and after exposure to H<sub>2</sub>



## Task 4:

### Disseminate Information

- Lay the groundwork and deliver preliminary data for a database
- Share results with stakeholders
- Feedback from them to improve/modify test methodologies
- Identify dissemination approaches: Technical Reference

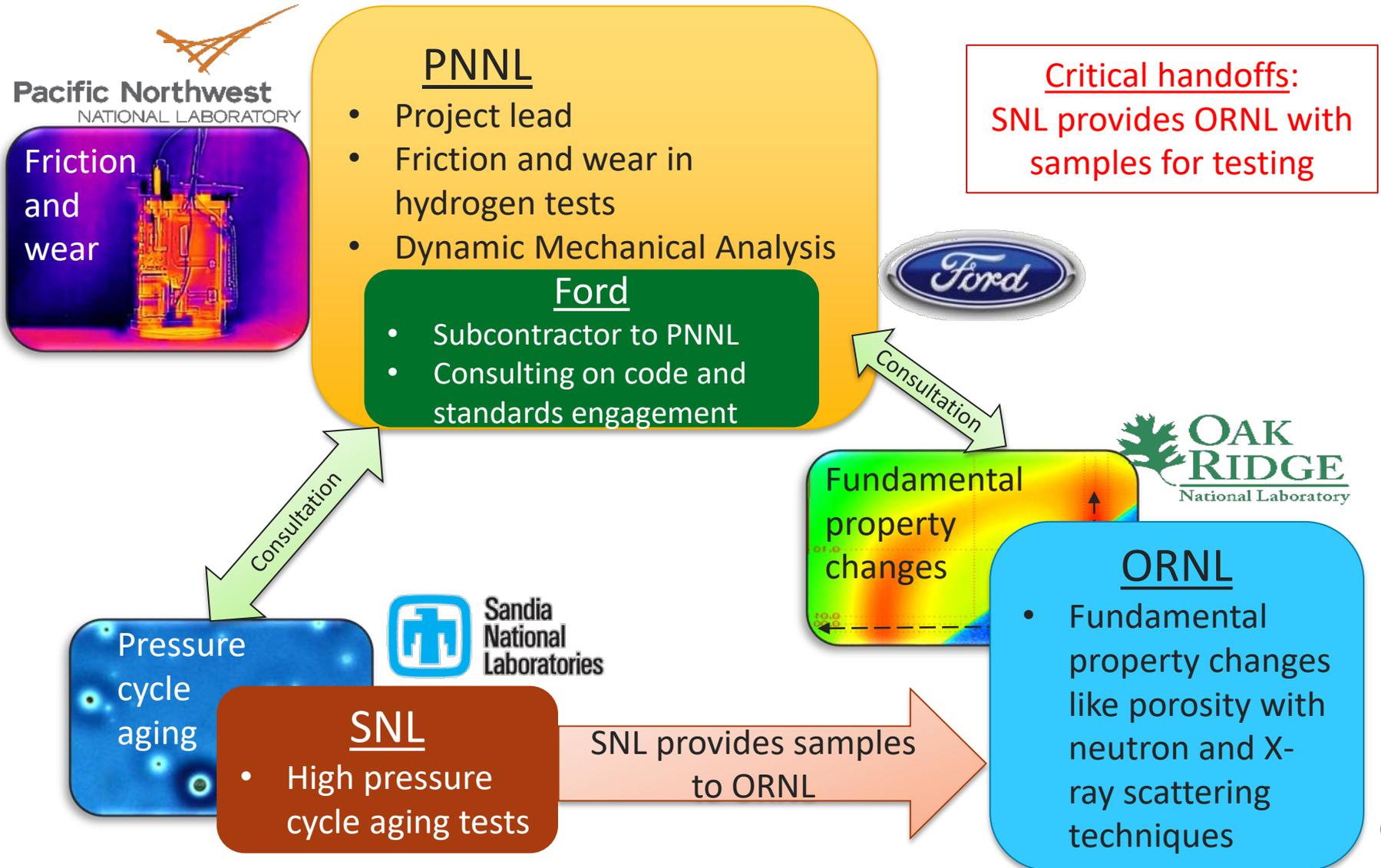


# Approach Work Flow



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

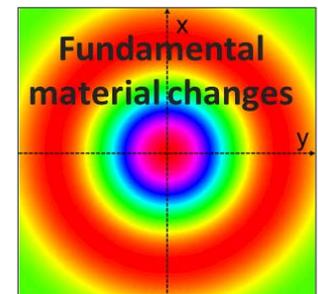


# Industry Stakeholders and FMEA Influenced Test Methodology Development



- ▶ Industry survey confirmed knowledge on hydrogen compatibility of polymers is lacking and provided input regarding pressure and temperature priorities.
- ▶ The team completed a Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) and identified the top failure causes:
  - Polymer seal (dynamic) material experiences a change in properties (strength, modulus, shear, hardness, etc.) due to hydrogen exposure
  - Polymer barrier material degrades from rapid high pressure differentials (explosive decompression) due to hydrogen exposure
  - Polymer seal (static & dynamic) material selected exceeds hydrogen permeation rate
  - Polymer seal (static & dynamic) material geometry changes and volume swells or reduction due to hydrogen exposure

Project task approach:



**Project test methodology development directly aligns with industry stakeholder and FMEA input.**

# Model Elastomer Material Compounds



- ▶ Transitioned from purchased commercial materials to controlled material compounds for research
- ▶ Developed model EPDM and NBR compounds with Kyushu University and Takaishi Industries
- ▶ Controlled compound additives in six different formulations for each material
  - No filler, crosslinked elastomer
  - Crosslinked elastomer with plasticizer only
  - Crosslinked elastomer with carbon black only
  - Crosslinked elastomer with silica filler only
  - Crosslinked elastomer with plasticizer, carbon black, and silica filler
  - Crosslinked elastomer with carbon black and silica filler

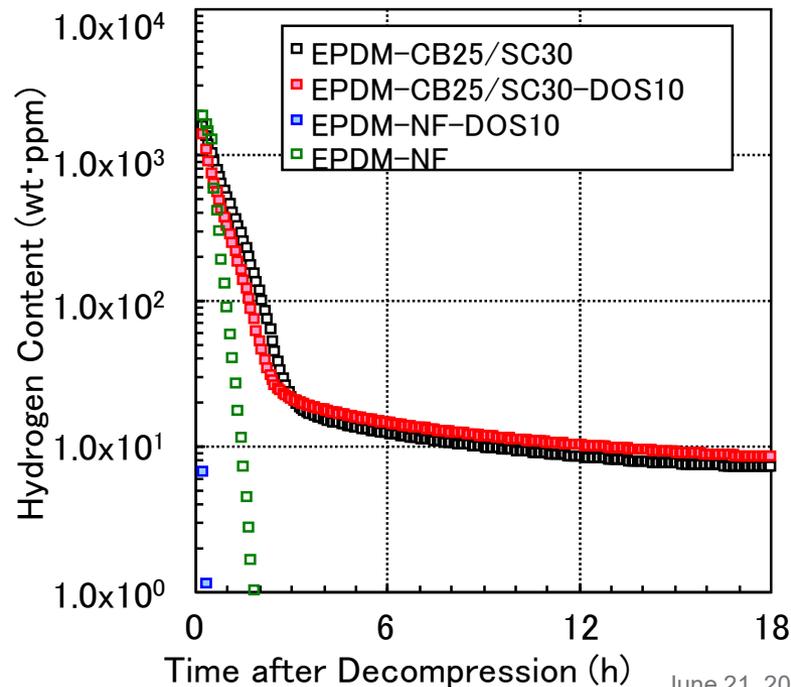
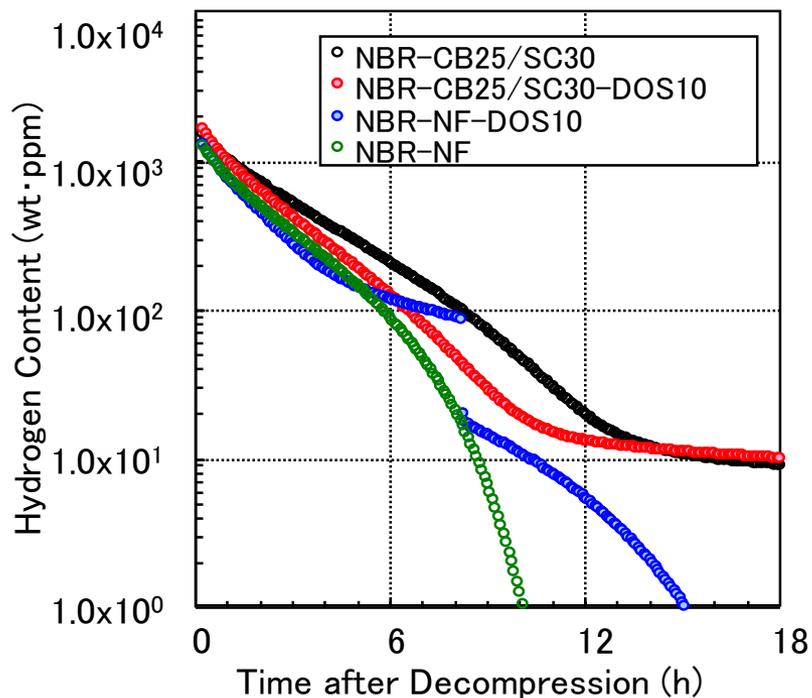
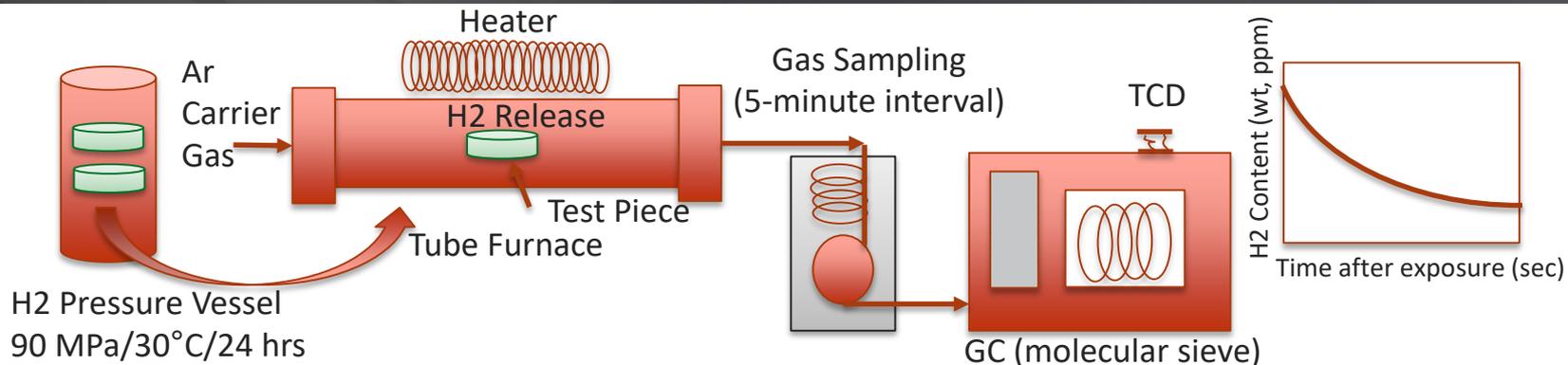
**Used to evaluate the effects of  
hydrogen on polymers and known  
additives**

# Accomplishments and Progress Model Elastomer Compounds Hydrogen Content



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

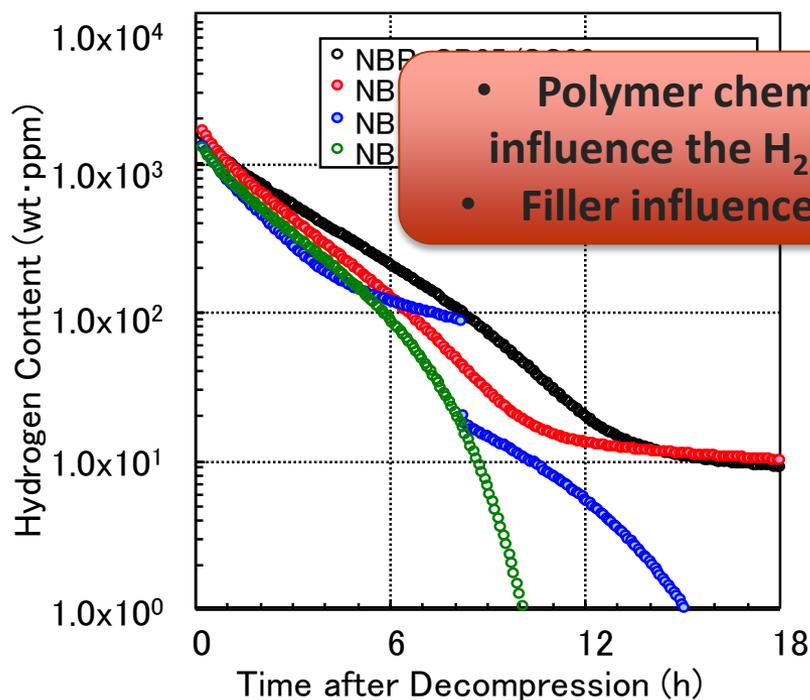
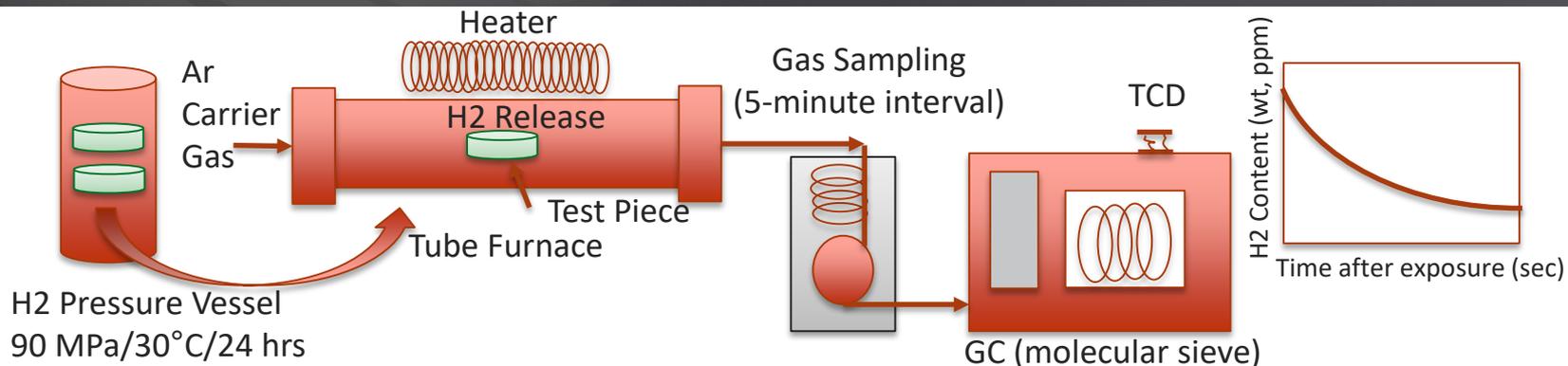


# Accomplishments and Progress Model Elastomer Compounds Hydrogen Content



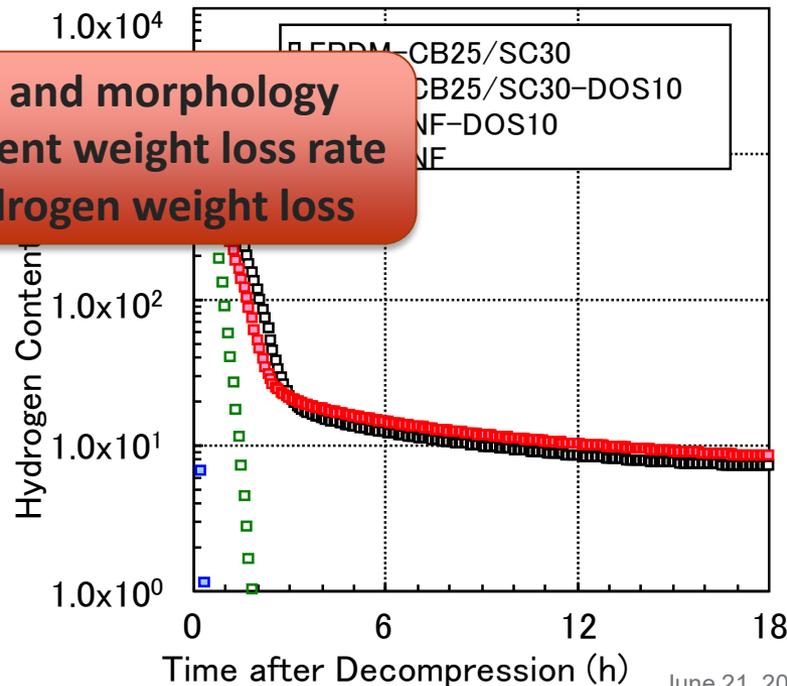
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

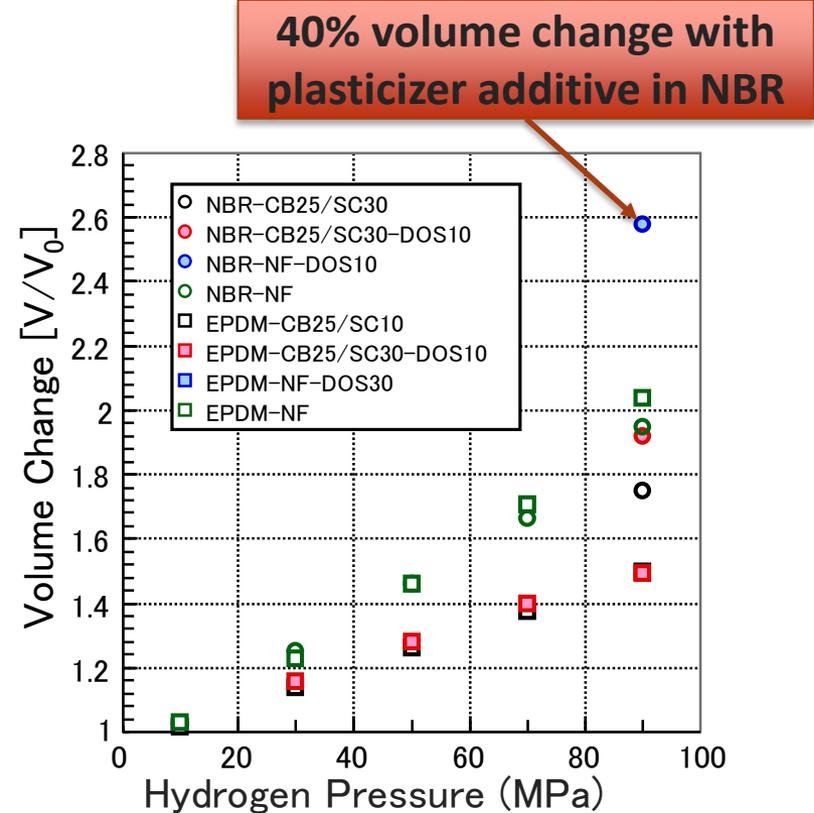
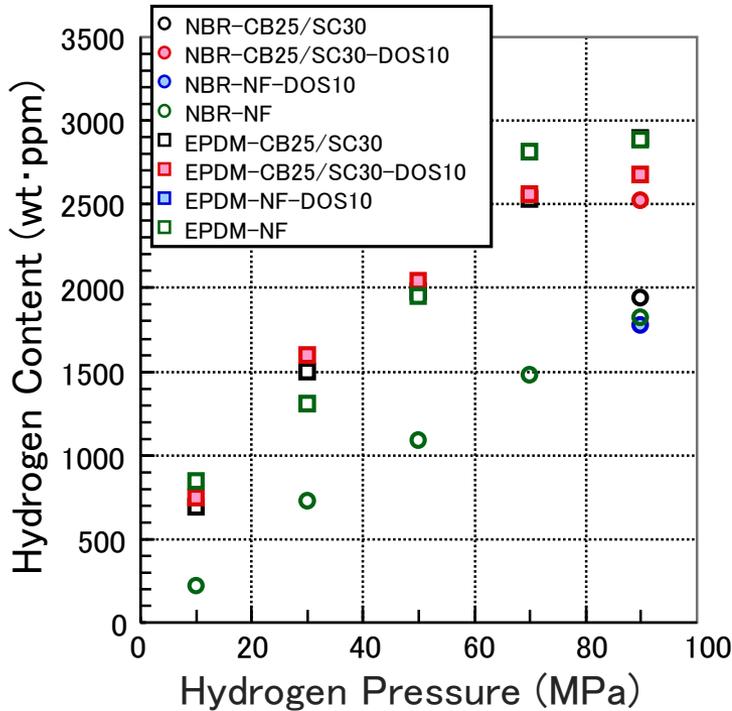


• Polymer chemistry and morphology influence the H<sub>2</sub> content weight loss rate

• Filler influences hydrogen weight loss



# Hydrogen Content and Volume Change Related to Pressure



The filler material used in these model material compounds show a decrease in volume change for NBR by 10% and 30% in EPDM from unfilled baseline compound

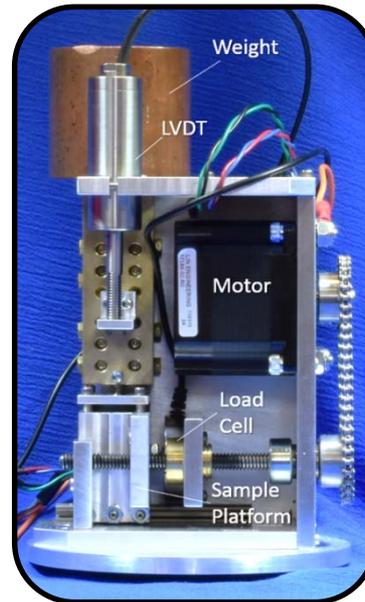
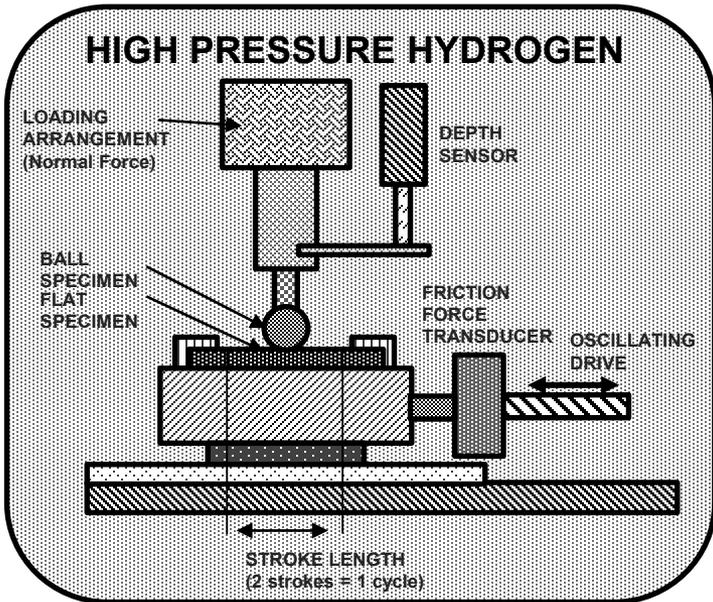
# Approach

## PNNL Unique In situ Tribometer



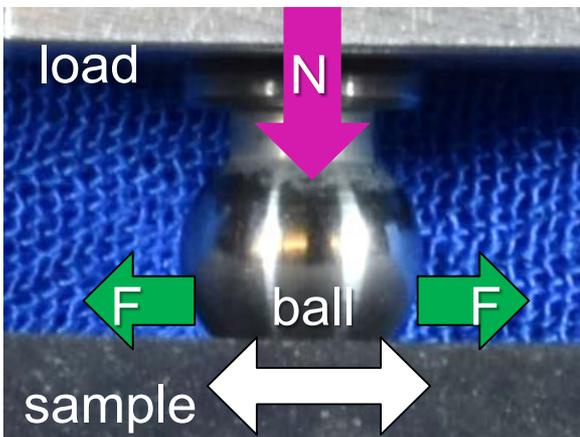
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965



## Overview of Tribometer

- ▶ Linear reciprocating adapted from ASTM G133
- ▶ Normal load (using weights) presses steel ball into moving sample
- ▶ Frictional force and vertical wear depth profiles measured in situ
- ▶ Pressures up to 5,000 psi hydrogen
- ▶ Ambient air and high pressure argon tests run for comparison



# Accomplishments and Progress

## EPDM and NBR Model Compound Series

EPDM	PNNL ref.#											
ITEMS	PNNL#E1		PNNL#E2		PNNL#E3		PNNL#E4		PNNL#E5		PNNL#E6	
Features	No Filler No Plasticizer		No Filler Plasticizer		Carbon black No Plasticizer		Inorganic No Plasticizer		Carbon black Inorganic Plasticizer		Carbon black Inorganic No Plasticizer	
	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL
Density	0.921	0.93	.919	0.886	1.013	1.010	1.039	1.035	1.073	1.065	1.053	1.05
Hardness (Duro)	55.3	A52	48.3	A49	67.2	A65	76.3	A71	72	A69	71.9	A69
CSM Tribo (COF)	1.33		.997		1.29		1.89		1.31		1.6	

NBR	PNNL ref.#											
ITEMS	PNNL#N1		PNNL#N2		PNNL#N3		PNNL#N4		PNNL#N5		PNNL#N6	
Features	No Filler No Plasticizer		No Filler Plasticizer		Carbon black No Plasticizer		Inorganic No Plasticizer		Carbon black Inorganic Plasticizer		Carbon black Inorganic No Plasticizer	
	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL	TI (IRHD)	PNNL
Density	1.032	1.018	1.015	1.013	1.118	1.1	1.152	1.137	1.182	1.180	1.175	1.167
Hardness (Duro)	51	A53	43.4	A47	66	A65	66.1	A65	65.8	A68	68.7	A72
CSM Tribo (COF)	1.95		1.33		1.55		1.76		<b>.60</b>		1.35	

**Plasticizer and Filler has significant influence on hardness and CoF**

# Accomplishments and Progress

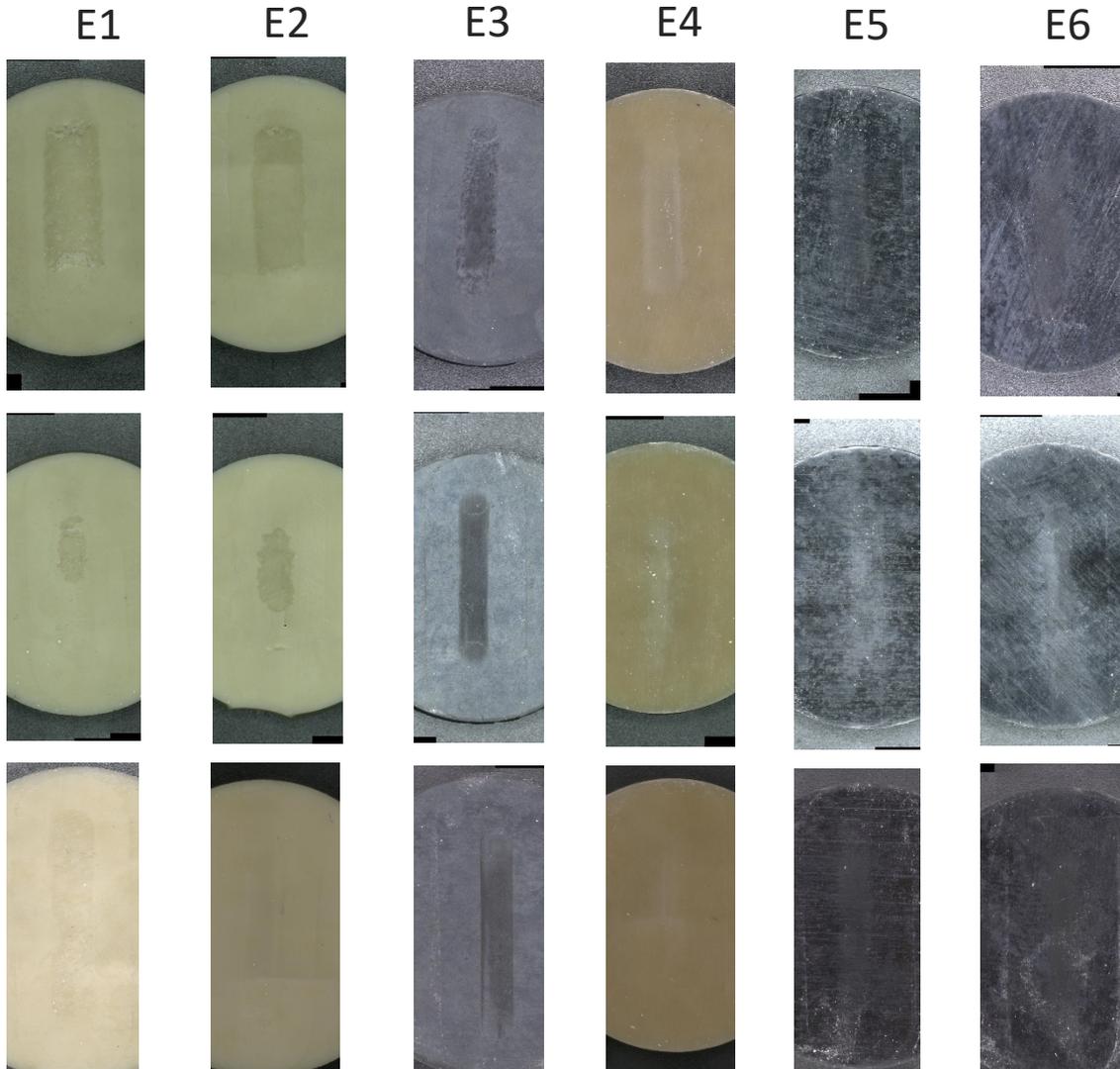
## Optical Evaluations of EPDM Tribology

### Wear



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965



In situ  
7.5N Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

CSM  
7N Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

CSM  
5N Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

**Filler has significant influence on wear and elastomer durability**

# Accomplishments and Progress

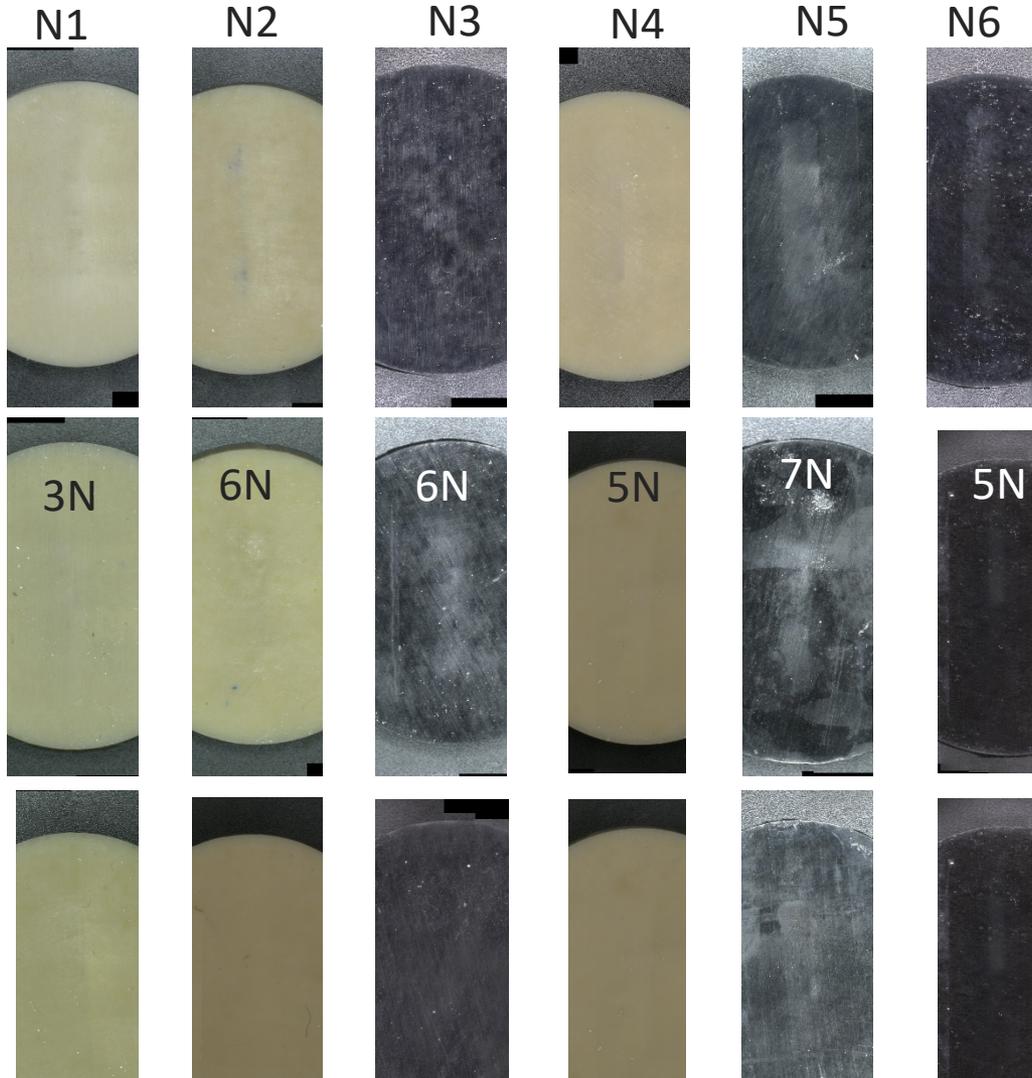
## Optical Evaluations of NBR Tribology

### Wear



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965



In situ  
7.5N Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

CSM  
Varied Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

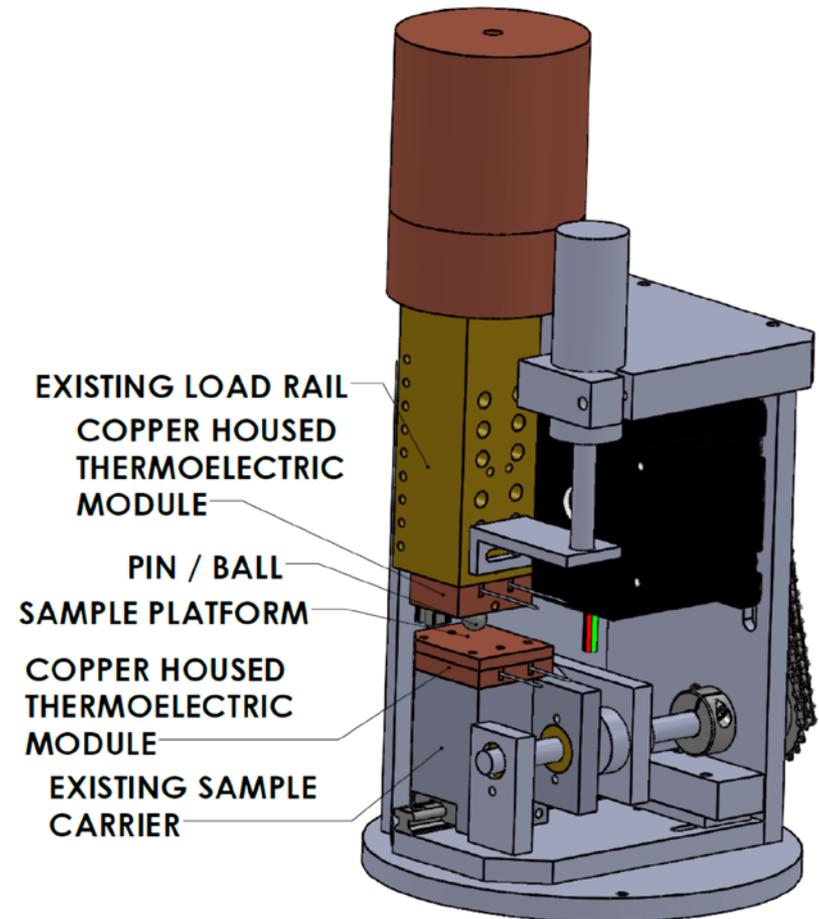
CSM  
5N Load  
60 minutes  
3.36 meters  
Ambient air

**Hardness and load have significant effect Cof**

## Tribometer Upgrade for In Situ Heating & Cooling



- ▶ Target temperatures above or below ambient (-40 to +85°C) for infrastructure applications
- ▶ Previous design was to use thermoelectric heater/cooler stage for the system
  - Testing of heaters, Peltier's, thermocouples, etc. complete
  - Peltier were compatible with H2 but were unable to reach target temperatures
  - Redesign underway that integrates new autoclave for lower temperature capability (-50 to +200°C)
  - New design expected to be completed in two months
  - Module will be tested after ambient tests are complete to ensure identical testing conditions



# Accomplishments and Progress

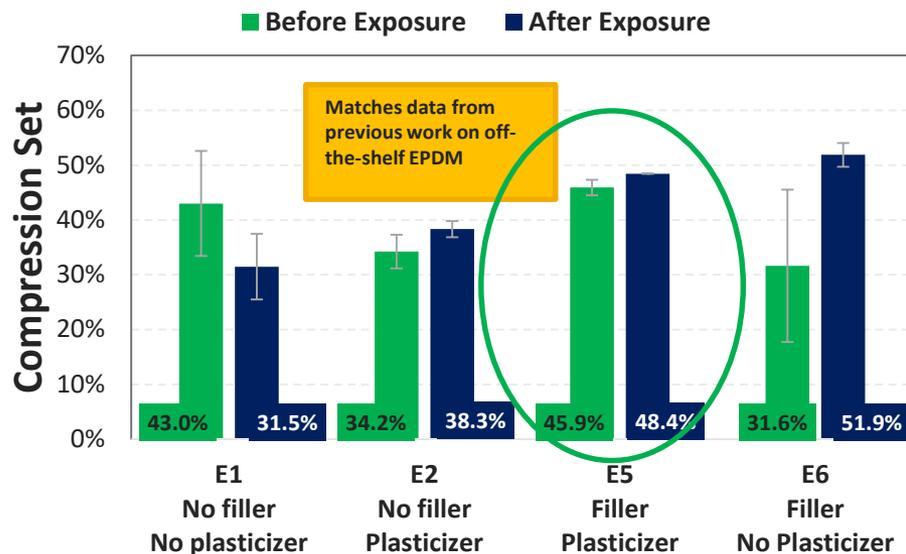
## Compression Set changes for EPDM and NBR with H2 Exposure



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

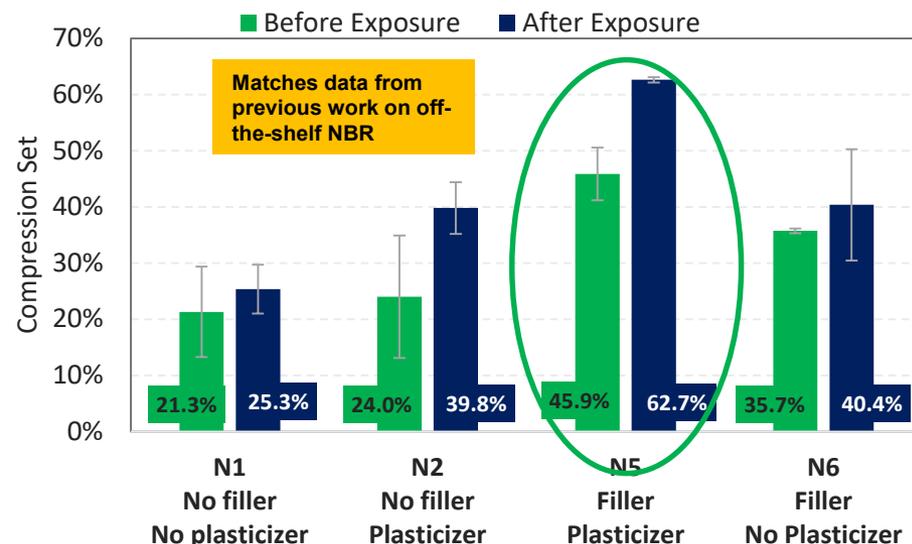
Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

PNNL EPDM formulations, effect of H2 exposure on compression set,  
Compressed to 75% for 22 hours at 110°C, recovered 30 minutes



Compression set change due to H2 exposure for a filled, plasticized EPDM system is insignificant

PNNL NBR formulations, effect of H2 exposure on compression set,  
Compressed to 75% for 22 hours at 110°C, recovered 30 minutes



Compression set increase by ~37% due to H2 exposure for a filled plasticized NBR system

# Accomplishments and Progress

## Storage Modulus changes for EPDM with H2 Exposure



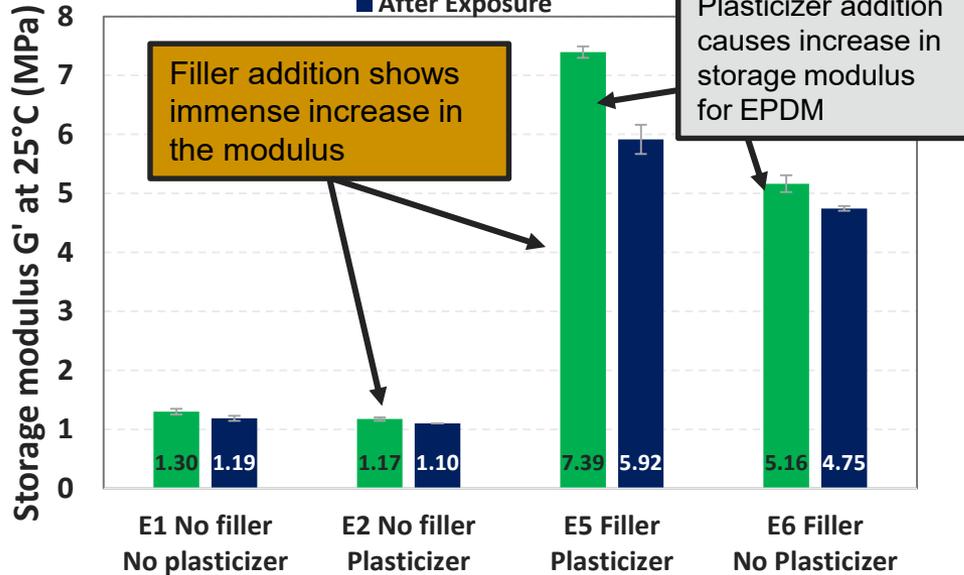
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

PNNL EPDM Formulations, effect of H2 exposure on storage modulus

DMTA, 1 Hz, 5°C/min, average of two specimens

■ Before Exposure  
■ After Exposure

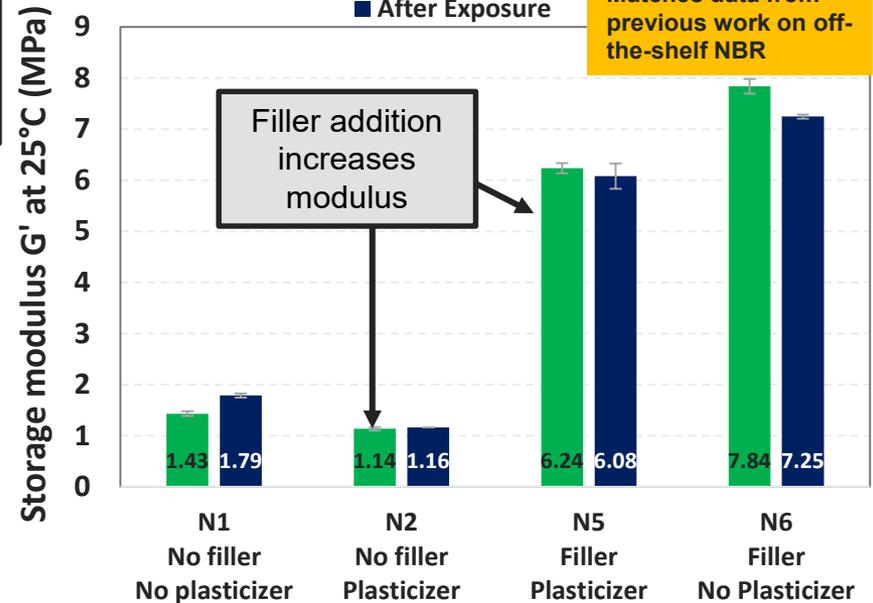


Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

PNNL NBR Formulations, effect of H2 exposure on storage modulus

DMTA, 1 Hz, 5°C/min, average of two specimens

■ Before Exposure  
■ After Exposure



New finding

A 20% decrease in modulus is seen in filled plasticized EPDM after H2 exposure

Modulus decrease due to H2 exposure for filled plasticized NBR is insignificant

# Accomplishments and Progress

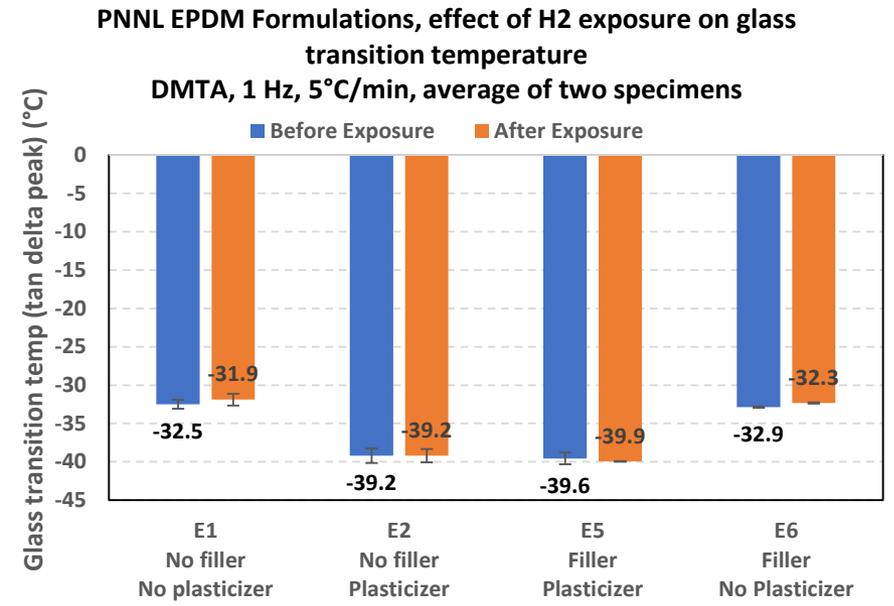
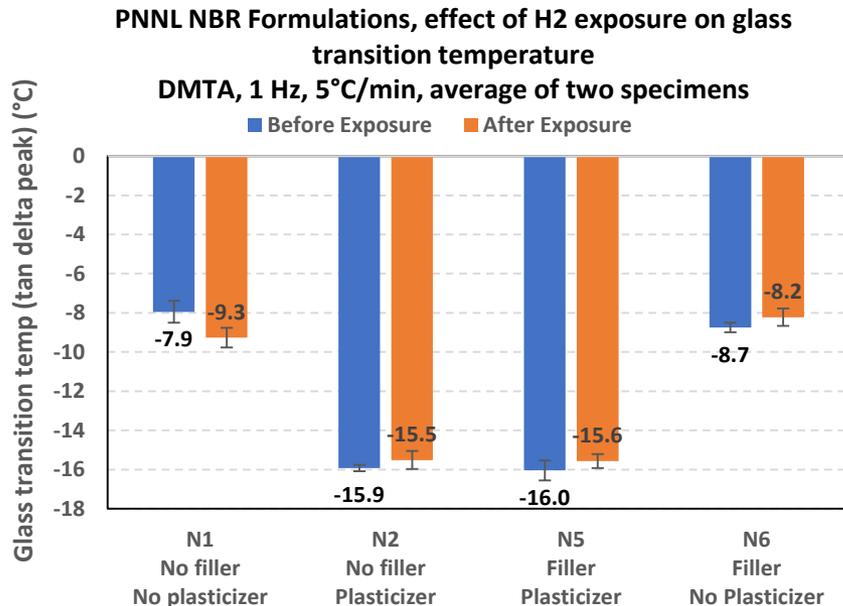
## Glass transition temperature changes after H2 exposure



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

Matches data from previous work



- For filled, plasticized EPDM and NBR systems, there is no significant change in  $T_g$  due to H2 exposure
- The addition of plasticizer decreases the  $T_g$  of EPDM and NBR significantly

# Accomplishments and Progress

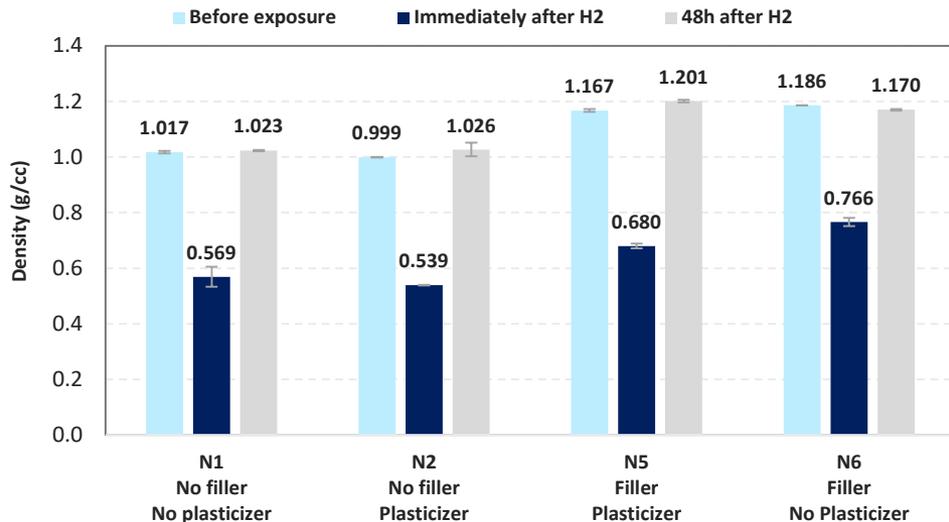
## Density changes for NBR and EPDM with H2 exposure



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

PNNL NBR formulations, change in density after H2 exposure



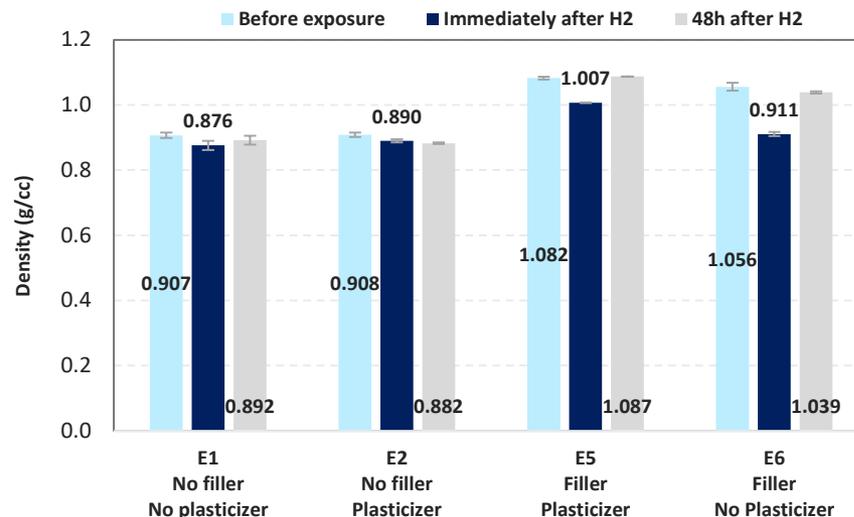
#	Filler	Plasticizer	Percent increase in volume	Recovery in volume
N1	No	No	79%	99%
N2	No	Yes	85%	97%
N5	Yes	Yes	72%	97%
N6	Yes	No	55%	101%



Picture showing the evolution of H2 from NBR N2 over 48 hours

**Significant swelling after H2 exposure**

PNNL EPDM formulations, change in density after H2 exposure, Round 5



#	Filler	Plasticizer	Percent increase in volume	Recovery in volume
E1	No	No	4%	102%
E2	No	Yes	2%	103%
E5	Yes	Yes	8%	100%
E6	Yes	No	16%	102%

**EPDM swells much less upon H2 exposure compared to NBR, which matches previous work on off-the-shelf materials**

# Accomplishments and Progress

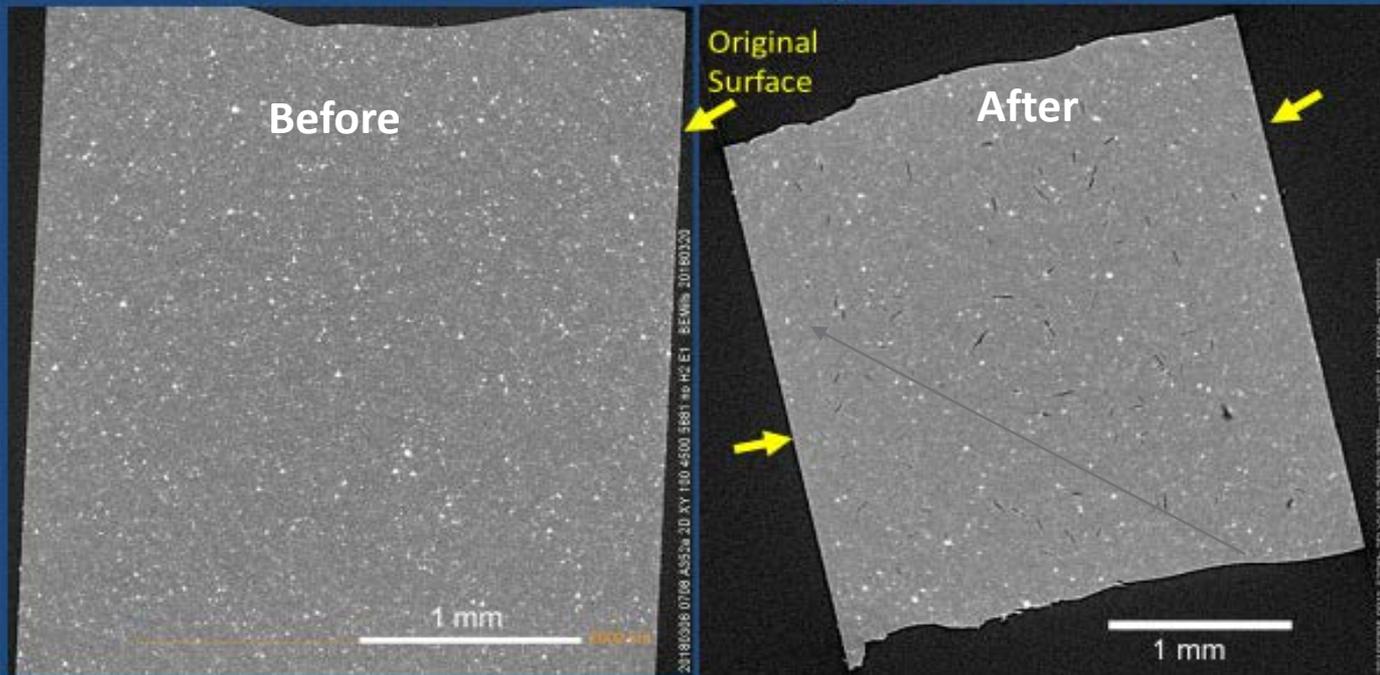
## Micro-CT images for EPDM after H2 exposure



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

### H2 exposure of EPDM E1 shows numerous slit-shaped voids.



There is no preferred orientation.

Comparison of EPDM and NBR before and after hydrogen exposure BEM/ILs 20180320

- Formulation EPDM E1 has no filler or plasticizer
- Both formulations contain high Z particles (5% by wt. ZnO)

Microcracks in picture are not aligned in any particular direction and seem more or less distributed all over



**Unfilled EPDM after H2 exposure has significant microcrack damage**

# Accomplishments and Progress

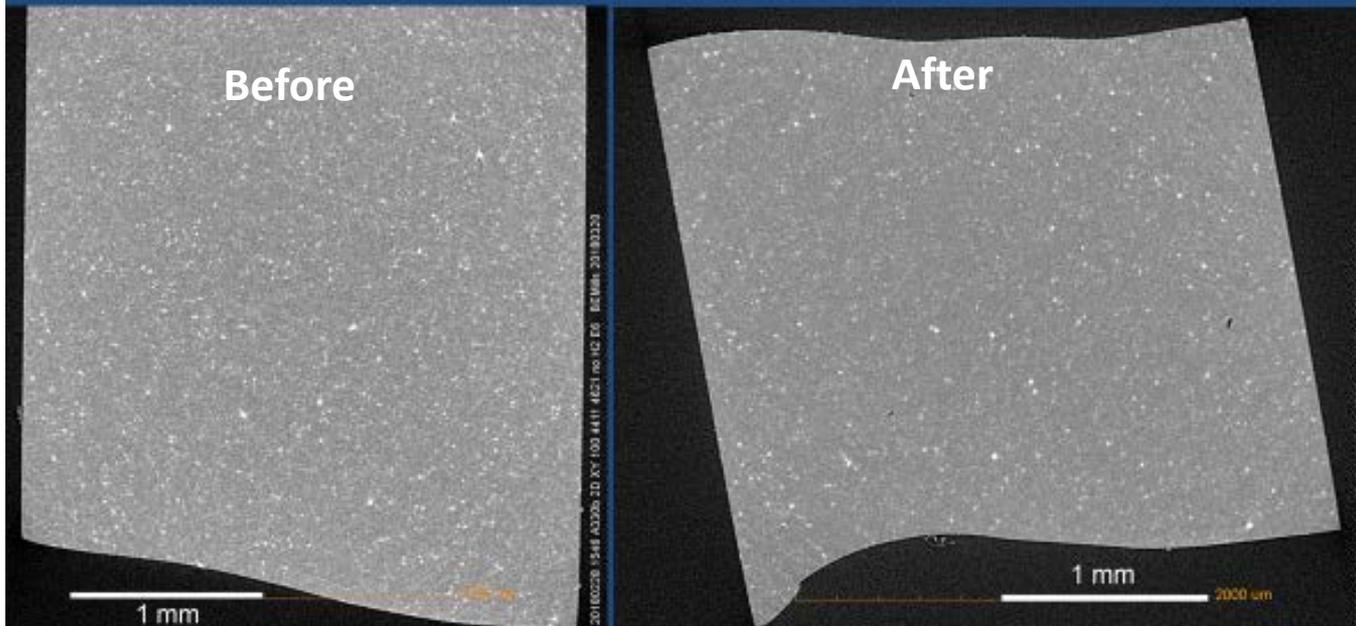
## Micro-CT images for EPDM after H2 exposure



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

H2 exposure of EPDM E6  
generates fewer but larger voids.



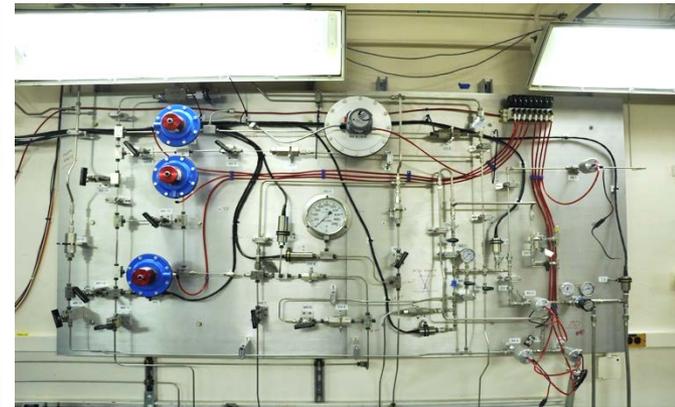
- Formulation EPDM E6 has filler but no plasticizer
- Fillers in EPDM E6 are: carbon black (300 nm) and Silica
- Both formulations contain high Z particles (5% by wt. ZnO)

There is no preferred position within the sample.

**Fillers appear to help with crack mitigation in EPDM after H2 exposure**



# Construction of a one-of-a-kind High Pressure Cycling Manifold at Sandia

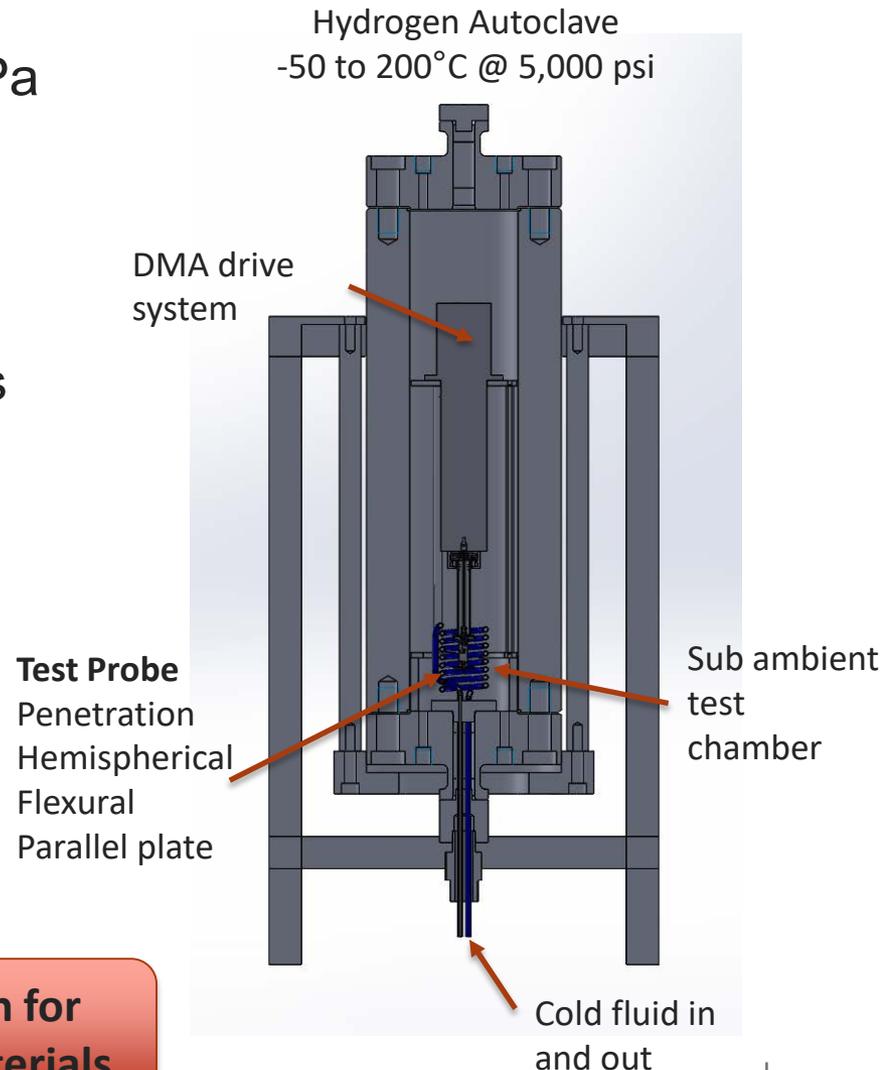
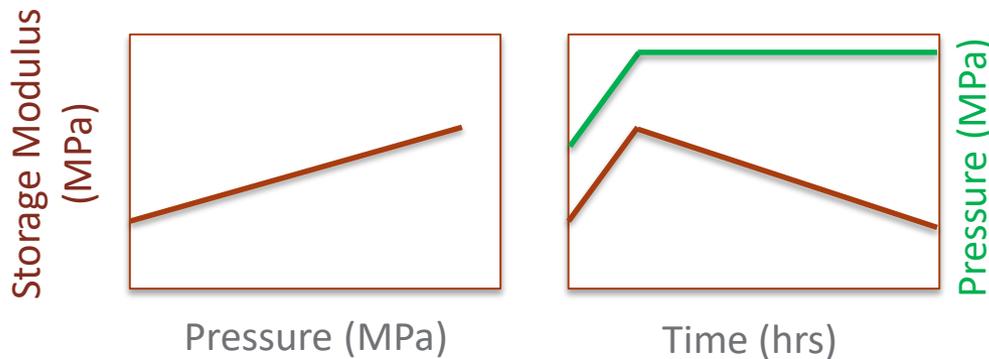


**Pressure cycling manifold installed and undergoing safety tests for controlled decompression rates at controlled temperatures**

# Approach and Progress

## In situ Dynamic Mechanical Analysis

- ▶ Pressure range atmospheric to 30 MPa
- ▶ Frequency sweeps
- ▶ Creep and recovery
- ▶ Temperature range  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $125^{\circ}\text{C}$
- ▶ Isothermal runs with pressure sweeps to investigate pressure effects on material with gas variable

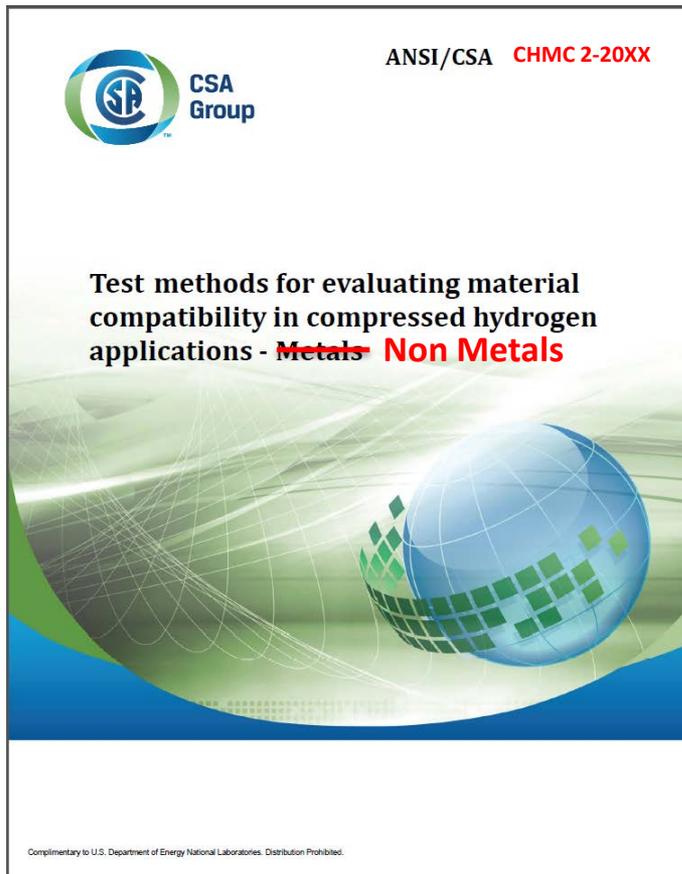


**New novel in situ DMA under construction for evaluating hydrogen pressure effects in materials**

# Accomplishments and Progress

## CHMC 2 – High Priority Tests

**Scope:** This standard provides uniform test methods for evaluating material compatibility with compressed hydrogen applications. The results of these tests are intended to provide a basic comparison of materials performance in applications utilizing compressed hydrogen.



## Contents

0. Introduction

1. Scope

2. Reference Publications

3. Definitions

4. General Requirements

5. **Test Methods**

6. Material Qualifications

Annex

### Potential Test Methods

1. Polymer Permeation

2. Physical Stability and Property Changes

3. Rapid Cycling Effects

4. Dynamic Frictional Wear

5. Material Contamination





ANSI/CSA **CHMC 2-20XX**

## Test methods for evaluating material compatibility in compressed hydrogen applications - ~~Metals~~ Non Metals



Complimentary to U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories. Distribution Prohibited.

### CHMC 2 Test Method

→ Describe test pur

#### 1.1 Apparatus

→ Describe test equ

#### 1.2 Test environm

→ Describe pressur

#### 1.3 Specimen Prep

→ Describe test sam

#### 1.4 Test Procedure

→ Describe test step

#### 1.5 Reporting

→ Describe test rest

### CHMC 2 Test Method: Physical Stability of Polymers in Hydrogen Environments Density or Specific Gravity Measurements of Polymers

#### Test Purpose

This test method gives the details of the procedure to evaluate the density changes of specimens of elastomeric or solid polymeric materials due to swelling or shrinking upon exposure to hydrogen environments. Dimensional and density measurements will be made prior to and after conditioning in the designated test gas (in this case hydrogen).

#### 1.1 Apparatus

Test equipment will

- 1.1.1. A devic  
be used
- 1.1.2. A densi
- 1.1.2.1. Inmm
- 1.1.2.2. comp
- 1.1.2.3. Sinki  
shall
- 1.1.2.4. them
- 1.1.2.5. Samq
- 1.1.2.6. An a  
the sj
- 1.1.3. Sample  
1 cm<sup>3</sup> in
- 1.1.4. A stain  
for the

### CHMC 2 Test Method: Physical Stability of Polymers in Hydrogen Environments

#### Test Purpose

This test method gives the details of the procedure to evaluate the change in dimensions and mass of specimens of elastomeric or rubbery materials due to swelling or shrinking upon exposure to hydrogen environments. Dimensional and mass measurements will be made prior to and after conditioning in the designated test gas

#### 1.1 Apparatus

Test equipment wi

- 1.1.1. A dev  
be us  
const
- 1.1.2. An a  
the sj  
milli
- 1.1.3. A cut  
mm (
- 1.1.4. A sta  
for th

### CHMC 2 Test Method: Dynamic Wear of Polymers in Hydrogen Environments

#### 1.1 Test Method

This test method covers laboratory procedures for determining the coefficient of friction, wear volumes, and wear rates for polymers and elastomers that have been subjected hydrogen environments. The method covers two conditions of testing: a) in-situ testing in a high-pressure hydrogen environment and b) ex-situ testing of post-exposure specimens of polymeric and elastomeric materials using a ball-on-flat linear reciprocating geometry similar to ASTM G133-95 (reapproved 2002).

#### 1.2 Apparatus

→ Describe test equipment: in-situ vs. ex-situ

1.1.1 General description of linear reciprocating tribometer for wear and friction property testing

Figure 1A shows the general schematic of a linear reciprocating tribometer. The tribometer shown in Figure 1B is the final design of one-such device that can be used in-situ in a high-pressure hydrogen autoclave. **Error! Reference source not found.** shows the pin and sample geometry in greater detail. The system works by pressing a steel ball (See **Error! Reference source not found.**A, B) normally into an elastomeric sample that is horizontally-mounted on a linear reciprocating stage. w. The loading on the ball is applied through a series of dead weights set on top of the ball carriage system which is free to move in the vertical direction while a computer controlled stepper motor drive provides the horizontal linear motion of the sample stage up to 14 mm. Wear depth of the ball into the sample is measured in the vertical direction by means of a linear position sensor mounted on the ball carriage. The motor drive is coupled to the sample stage by means of a capacitive load cell which measures the horizontal force on the stage induced by the friction of the ball on the sample. The linear reciprocating motion of the sample stage achieves nearly constant velocity over 95% of the travel in both directions.

Component
Hydrogen
CO + CO <sub>2</sub>
Nitrogen
Oxygen
THC
Water

Table 1. Comp

Component
Hydrogen
CO + CO <sub>2</sub>
Nitrogen
Oxygen
THC
Water

Table 1. Com

- 1.2.2 Pressure o  
psi) durin
- 1.2.3 Temperat  
the end of

#### 1.3 Specimen Pr

The followi

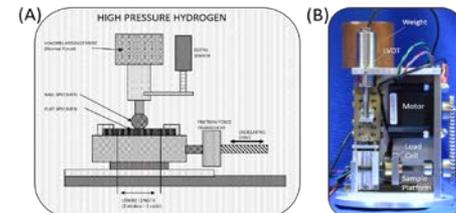


Figure 1. (A) Schematic of the in situ tribometer to measure friction and wear in a high-pressure hydrogen environment.

# Accomplishment and Progress Dissemination of Information H2Tools.org Website and Database



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

https://aws-beta.h2tools.org/resources/h2cop

LOG IN

Editor Resources Hyarc Forums Partners About

HOME / HYDROGEN COMPATIBILITY OF POLYMERS

## Hydrogen Compatibility of Polymers

### Sub Pages

- [Tribology](#)
- [Pressure Cycle Aging](#)
- [Scattering](#)

While much is known about damaging embrittlement effects of hydrogen on the effects of high pressure hydrogen on polymers. The hydrogen infrastructure (1) distribution and delivery, (2) fueling stations, and (3) fuel cell systems of which materials to meet the rigorous demands of the environment that they are subject materials in the most effective combinations allow for safe and cost-effective design. Using non-metallic materials are an essential element in this mix of material. The high pressure hydrogen environment is important to the myriad of applications of infrastructure, including applications of compressors, seals, valves, and actuators: conditions range from cryogenic storage 77K (-196°C) and 70 MPa to as high as 4 typical application temperature range for gaseous hydrogen systems is 233K (-4 interests of hydrogen effects are:

- Permeation
- Physical Stability (property changes)
- Dynamic Frictional Wear
- Rapid Cycling Effects
- Material Contamination

To support the needs of the hydrogen community, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, have been developing test methods for hydrogen compatibility. The team has been collaborating with international methods and collecting data for development of a non-metallic database reference

h2tools.org/resources/h2cop/tribology

LOG IN

Editor Resources Hyarc Forums Partners About

HOME / H2COP / TRIBOLOGY

## Tribology

### In Situ High Pressure Hydrogen Testing Capabilities

PNNL has high pressure hydrogen autoclaves capable of soaking materials up to 5000 psi, and at elevated temperatures. These are large 1 gallon capacity systems capable of accommodating different in situ test systems. Electrical feed-throughs provide power and sensing for the instruments. Short descriptions of available equipment are listed here.



Tribology: A custom built linear reciprocating (ASTM G133) pin on flat system that is capable of testing samples up to approximately 1" wide at XN, and 5Hz with a stroke length of 1/8". The system was designed primarily for polymeric materials, but could potentially accommodate metals testing.

### Autoclave Test Methodology

[PNNL Preliminary Test Methodology Report 12-22-16](#)

This test methodology describes in situ testing of friction and wear (tribology) of polymers under high pressure hydrogen. This methodology is based in part on the existing tribological standard ASTM G133 "standard test method for linearly reciprocating ball-on-flat sliding wear". Friction and wear testing under a high-pressure hydrogen environment is critical for hydrogen fueling infrastructure components such as compressors, valves and other actuated devices. Here we present test a methodology for in situ friction and wear studies of polymers under 28 MPa (4,000 psi) hydrogen in a linear reciprocating custom built apparatus. Supporting data from in situ acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (NBR, commercially Buna-N) tests in 28 MPa (4,000 psi) hydrogen are presented.

### Relevant Standards

STANDARD ID (PREFIX "ASTM")	TITLE	STATUS	DEVELOPED BY SUBCOMMITTEE	BOOK OF STANDARDS VOLUME	DOI	ACTIVE STANDARD LINK
G105 - 16	Standard Test Method for Conducting Wet Sand/Rubber Wheel	Active	G02.30	03.02		



H2 Tools is intended for public use. It was built, and is maintained, by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory with funding from the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Fuel Cell Technologies Office.

# Accomplishments and Progress Database Structure/Query Breakdown



Pacific Northwest NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965

### Logical Filters

Logical filters can be used to reduce the Data Set prior to analysis

**H2 Permeability (Barrer) is Less than 3**

**Filters**

**Criteria Weighting**

Drag and drop criteria to rank them from best to worst. Criteria can also be excluded from the analysis.

**Ranking Order Criterion**

- H2 Permeability (Barrer)
- Failure Elongation (%)
- 100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)
- Hardness (Shore)
- Tg (°C)

**H2 Permeability (Barrer)**

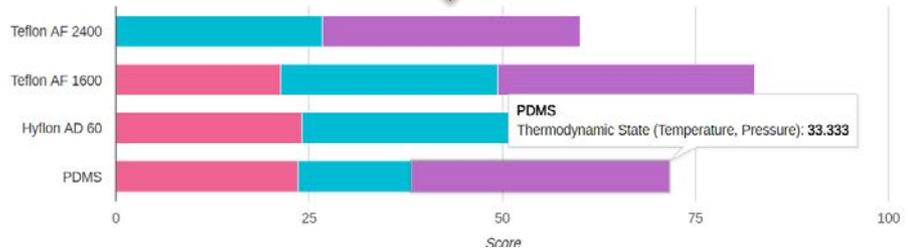
Material	100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)	Failure Elongation (%)	Hardness (Shore)	Tg (°C)	Temperature (°C)	Pressure (kPa)	H2 Permeability (Barrer)
Teflon AF 2400	1500	7.9	75	240	77	1013	28
Teflon AF 1600	5.9	239	23	-15	77	1013	0.39
Teflon PTFE 85SA	498	300	50	117	-18	1724	22.5
Nexlon DF-0050C1	74000	279	85	100	25	8955	0.74
Elastollon CSA	42.4	3000	85	-40	20	100	6
NBR (27% CN)	2.6	250	60	-2	25	100	35
Polybutadiene	1.5	500	15	-100	25	100	41.9

### Material Database

Ref	Material	Class	Description	Density [Unit]	Density [g/cm³]	Hardness [Unit]	Hardness [Shore]	Temperature [Unit]	Temperature [K]	Pressure [Unit]	Pressure [kPa]	Diffusing Species	Permeability	
0	[1]	Teflon AF 2400	C4	N/A	1.744	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	24172384.4	
1	[1]	Teflon AF 1600	C4	N/A	1.836	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	134248464.6	
2	[1]	Hylton AD 50	C4	N/A	1.93	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	6950511.46	
3	[1]	Nafion N117	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	5658114.818	
4	[1]	Teflonion PL 455	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	5369938.583	
5	[1]	Teflonion PL 457	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	4759718.29	
6	[1]	Teflonion P 459	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	8176951.933	
7	[5]	Viton A-100-1	C4	Original, no post-cure	1.9	g/cm³	-	79 Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
8	[5]	Viton A-100-2	C4	Original, no post-cure	1.9	g/cm³	-	79 Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
9	[5]	Viton A-200-1	C4	Original, no post-cure	1.9	g/cm³	-	79 Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
10	[5]	Viton A-200-2	C4	Original, no post-cure	1.9	g/cm³	-	79 Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
11	[2]	Nexlon PTFE	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
12	[6]	PCTFE-1	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	288K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	29254.02879	
13	[6]	PCTFE-2	C4	N/A	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	288K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	114731.4152	
14	[3]	PP	C15	N/A	0.946	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	2.5 E-15
15	[2]	PP	C15	N/A	0.946	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	-
16	[4]	HDPE	C15	644 Pipe Grade	2.55	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Nitrogen/Hydrogen	95/05
17	[4]	HDPE	C15	644 Pipe Grade, 2.38-in. od carbon black filler	2.55	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Nitrogen/Hydrogen	95/05
18	[4]	HDPE	C15	644 Pipe Grade	2.55	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Nitrogen/Hydrogen	95/05
19	[6]	HDPE	C15	N/A	2.55	g/cm³	-	Shore A	288K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	980029.9732	
20	[6]	LDPE	C15	N/A	0.917	g/cm³	-	Shore A	288K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	1220440.587	
21	[1]	Matrimid	N/A	0	g/cm³	-	-	Shore A	350K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	3295185.585	
22	[2]	BASF Elastollon-1	C11	C.80A	1.12	g/cm³	-	Shore A	293K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	215747202	
23	[2]	BASF Elastollon-2	C11	C.85A	1.12	g/cm³	-	Shore A	294K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	280485375	
24	[2]	BASF Elastollon-3	C11	C.90A	1.12	g/cm³	-	Shore A	294K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	2107655982	
25	[2]	BASF Elastollon-4	C11	C.95A	1.12	g/cm³	-	Shore A	296K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	1402432887	
26	[2]	Lubrizol Estane TPU	C11	1.14mm thick film 27% acrylonitrile	-	g/cm³	-	Shore A	-	K	-	MPa	Helium	2.32025E+11
27	[6]	Nitrile Rubber	-	-	g/cm³	-	-	Shore A	298K	-	MPa	Hydrogen	1952704.939	

Group	Group Weight	Criterion	Rank	Criterion Weight	Overall Weight
Transport Properties (Permeability)	0.333	Permeability (mol H2/m.s.MPa)	N/A	0.7	0.233
		Diffusivity (cm2/s)	N/A	0.300	0.100
Physical Properties (Density, 100 % Tensile Modulus)	0.333	100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)	N/A	0.500	0.167
		Density (g/cc)	N/A	0.500	0.167
Thermodynamic State (Temperature, Pressure)	0.333	Temperature (K)	N/A	1.000	0.333

## Results

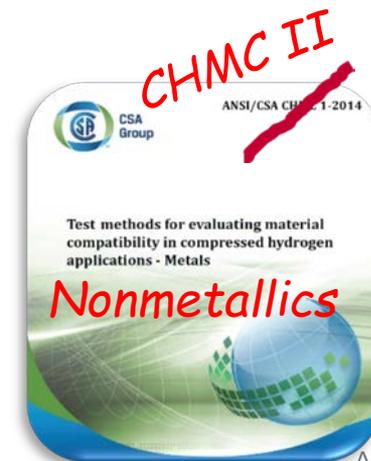
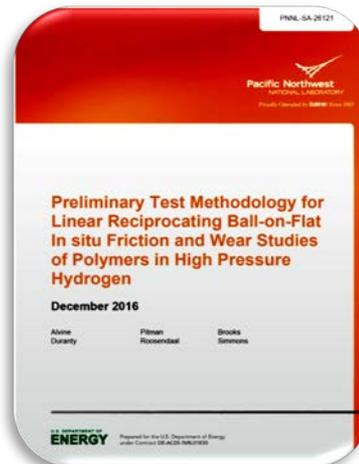


- Database is populated from agreed upon test methods using ASTM, ISO, CSA and others for consistency in comparing material properties
- Analysis tool to query specific information from database for compatibility comparisons

# Accomplishments and Progress Dissemination of Information

- ▶ The team continues to work on disseminating the information gathered on this project through presentations, publications, and involvement in code committee work
  - Team member Mike Veenstra is now chair of the CHMC II nonmetallic hydrogen compatibility code committee
  - CHMC-2 working group has 25 active participants involved in developing standards in 5 different test topic areas
  - The continues to engage with international researchers and companies, including a keynote address to the International Hydrogen Energy Development Forum, and an invited talk at the Hydrogenus Research Symposium, both in Fukuoka, Japan
  - The new publication in Review of Scientific Instruments on the Tribology work
  - The H2tools.org webpage is functioning to showcase this work and provide a database/guide on h2tools.org.

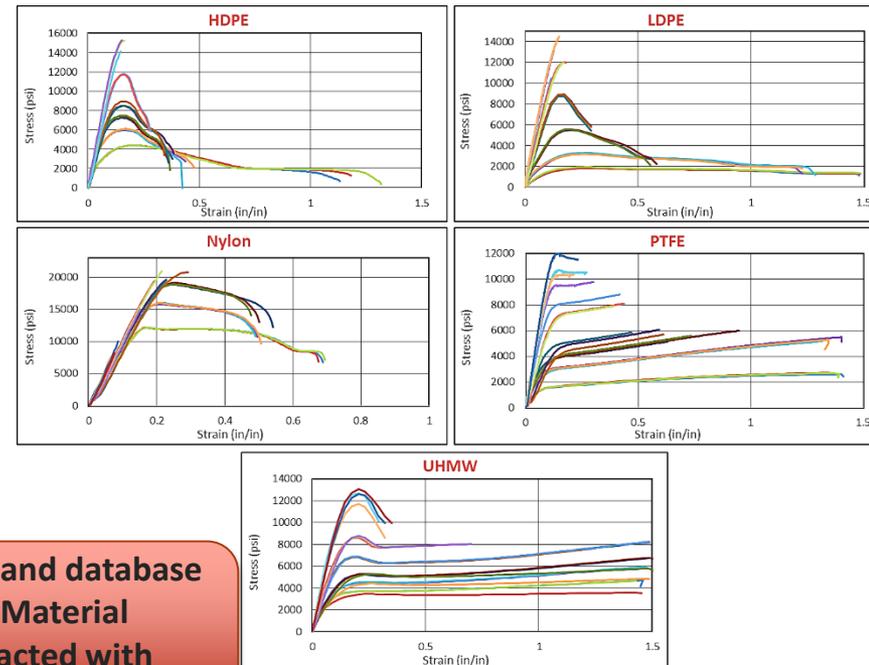
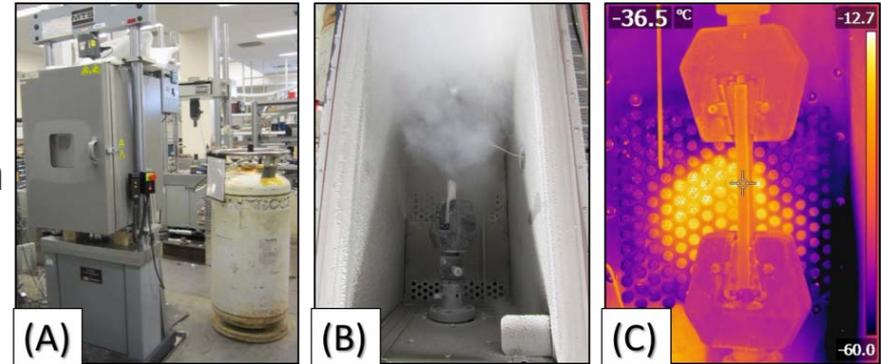
*h2tools.org*



- ▶ Develop methods and technologies to test, evaluate, and rapidly screen materials for use in pressurized hydrogen cryogenic storage applications and accelerate the pathway to tank qualification
- ▶ Tested cryogenic material properties to provide input to predictive burst test models for high pressure hydrogen cryogenic pressure vessel



Developing material testing protocols and database of cryogenic material properties. Material properties can be significantly impacted with temperature.





# Proposed Future Work

## ▶ FY18

- ▶ Continue involvement and leadership in CHMC II
- ▶ Complete heating/cooling tribology testing for NBR, EPDM, and PTFE
- ▶ Update website database/guide and continue publications and presentations
- ▶ Complete pressure cycle aging studies on NBR, EPDM, PTFE, Viton, and POM
- ▶ Complete development of in situ DMA
- ▶ Identify other critical areas of need for polymer/hydrogen testing

## ▶ FY19-22

- ▶ Build up material properties in database
- ▶ Long term aging effects of hydrogen
- ▶ Material contamination of hydrogen
- ▶ Complete neutron scattering experiments on pressure cycle aged polymers
- ▶ Material damage effects from hydrogen and pressure
- ▶ Polymeric material damage model
- ▶ New material development approaches for improved durability of elastomers

Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels



# Accomplishment Summary

- ▶ Stakeholder Engagement & Dissemination
  - CHMC 2 committee functioning with over 20 active member participants
  - Industry engagement gives insight of challenges with testing and materials they are being faced with
  - H2tools.org website for Hydrogen Compatibility of Polymers is being published
- ▶ Technical Accomplishments
  - PNNL **completed design of a novel in situ dynamic mechanical analyzer** for high pressure hydrogen
  - Collaboratively **developed new model compounds** with Kyushu University that are designed to understand the effects of hydrogen on material and additives in EPDM and NBR
  - **Hydrogen permeability is influenced material morphology and additives**
  - Completed tribology baseline testing of model NBR and EPDM
    - **Unfilled materials of EPDM are weak and require reduced normal force loads**
    - **Filled materials show a small amount of wear compared to previously purchased commercial materials**
- ▶ Static high pressure hydrogen gas material effects on EPDM and NBR additives
  - Both **EPDM and NBR show an increase in compression** set after H2 exposure; NBR shows a higher increase
  - Both **EPDM and NBR show a decrease in storage modulus** upon H2 exposure
  - **Swelling upon H2 exposure is less with filler than without**
  - **Addition of fillers changes damage seen in NBR due to H2 exposure from linear microcracks to pinpoint voids**
  - **Addition of fillers helps EPDM with respect to H2 resistance – fewer cracks**
- ▶ Sandia and ORNL have developed rapid cycling test plan for thermoplastic polymers for neutron scattering studies
- ▶ Database setup but hydrogen data in polymers is scarce and test methods are inconsistent
- ▶ Analysis tool developed to assist in screening materials based on hydrogen material property criteria

# Response to previous year's reviewers' comments



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

- ▶ The project has made significant progress to date: it has developed new test procedures and equipment capabilities and produced new information critical to hydrogen fuel applications
  - *The project is now focusing on material property changes in situ and post exposure to hydrogen to better provide lacking information for stakeholders and to determine the material gaps that need to be addressed for hydrogen infrastructure*
- ▶ It is not clear how PNNL and SNL are collaborating on the project. It does not seem that the two laboratories are working on overlapping themes. Collaborative work between ORNL and SNL or PNNL and SNL was not explained during the presentation.
  - *Our collaboration may not have been clearly explained in slide 7. We are highly collaborative in discussion of results and ideas.*
- ▶ The collaborations to date are appropriate. The project should consider how to supply this information to the stakeholders. Dr. Shin Nishimura of Kyushu University is doing similar research. Collaboration with Kyushu might be appropriate
  - *We have increased our collaboration with Kyushu University and we are sharing research results and test methodologies*
- ▶ The project should focus on characterization of polymers, not screening of polymers as acceptable or unacceptable for use. The key point is understanding hydrogen impact.
  - *We have put more focus into understanding the hydrogen and pressure impacts with the development of EPDM and NBR model compounds with various additives for hydrogen effects*

# Collaborative Activities

Partner	Project Roles
	DOE Sponsorship, Steering
 <p><b>Pacific Northwest</b> NATIONAL LABORATORY</p>	PNNL Project Lead, Polymer Characterization, Wear and Tribological Studies, Mechanical Properties and Moderate Pressure
 <p><b>Sandia</b> National Laboratories</p>	SNL Exposure Pressure Cycling Studies, Mechanical Properties and High Pressure, Develop Technical Reference Documentation and Database
 <p><b>OAK</b> <b>RIDGE</b> National Laboratory</p>	ORNL Neutron and X-ray Scattering Studies
	Ford Subcontracted Participant and Consultant, Represent OEM Perspective

Additionally, the team has reached out to over 40 industrial stakeholders for information and had discussions with over 25, including Linde and Parker, and Swagelok Application space includes compressors, valves, refueling stations, seals, liners, and academia.



# Remaining Challenges and Barriers

Challenges and Barriers	Mitigation
Large amount of polymers and elastomers to test	Test methodology developments are material focused from stakeholders
In situ temperature testing (-40 to 85°C)	Redesign of sample cooling to better control and evaluate temperature effect
Testing time is long	When appropriate double up on sample soaking
Dissemination of data is a broad audience	Engagement with stakeholders in working group with CSA, presentation, implementation of h2tools.org with database and guide
Cannot see impact of hydrogen during long term cycling or frictional wear in a short test (Impact may not exist)	Target and test materials that are believed most likely to be impacted prior to evaluating other candidates
Working with high pressure H2	National lab experience working with high pressure hydrogen



# Technology Transfer and Outreach

## ▶ Stakeholder Engagement

- Continued outreach internationally with trip to Japan Hydrogenius conference added Japanese stakeholders
- Continue to present and publish results
- Webpage on h2tools.org

## ▶ Code and Standards Committees

- Leadership on CSA's new committee on CHMC II Non-Metallics
- CSA Committee and collaborative interactions with working groups of industry stakeholders

## ▶ Industrial Collaborators

- Maintain dialog with Collaborators to discuss pathways for qualification and technology transfer
- Automotive and refueling station stakeholders

# Contacts

Kevin Simmons (PM)    : 509-372-4343    : [kl.simmons@pnnl.gov](mailto:kl.simmons@pnnl.gov)

Nalini Menon    : 925-294-4872    : [ncmenon@sandia.gov](mailto:ncmenon@sandia.gov)

Barton Smith    : 865-574-2196    : [smithdb@ornl.gov](mailto:smithdb@ornl.gov)

Mike Veenstra    : 313-322-3148    : [mveenstr@ford.com](mailto:mveenstr@ford.com)



**Pacific Northwest**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

*Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965*

# *Technical Backup Slides*

# Approach Strategy for Polymer Compatibility with Hydrogen



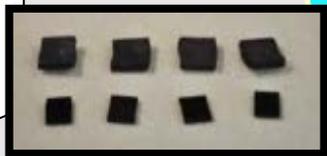
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

- Polymer microstructure
- Hydrostatic pressure effects
- Plasticization of polymers
- Permeation, diffusion and solubility effects
- Explosive decompression

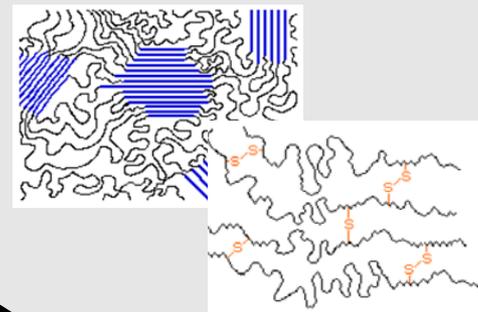
**Elucidation of hydrogen effects**  
Establish material limits enabling new materials development  
Database development  
Test methods development

- Collaboration with SDOs (CSA, ASTM, ASME etc.)
- Existing test methods adapted for hydrogen
- Dissemination of test methods



## Polymers

Material selection  
(Elastomers, epoxies and thermoplastics)  
New materials for hydrogen service



## Compatibility of Polymers in Hydrogen Environments

### Characterization

Density, Weight and Specific volume changes (swelling)  
Wear property changes  
Hardness (elastomers)  
Microscopy (optical & CT)  
Compression set (elastomers only)  
Mechanical property changes  
Thermal desorption spectroscopy

### Test Environments

Low/high temperatures  
Low/high pressures  
De-pressurization rates  
Rapid cycling (P, T, time)  
Long-term aging in H<sub>2</sub>  
Tribology  
Outgassing from polymers  
Gas mixtures





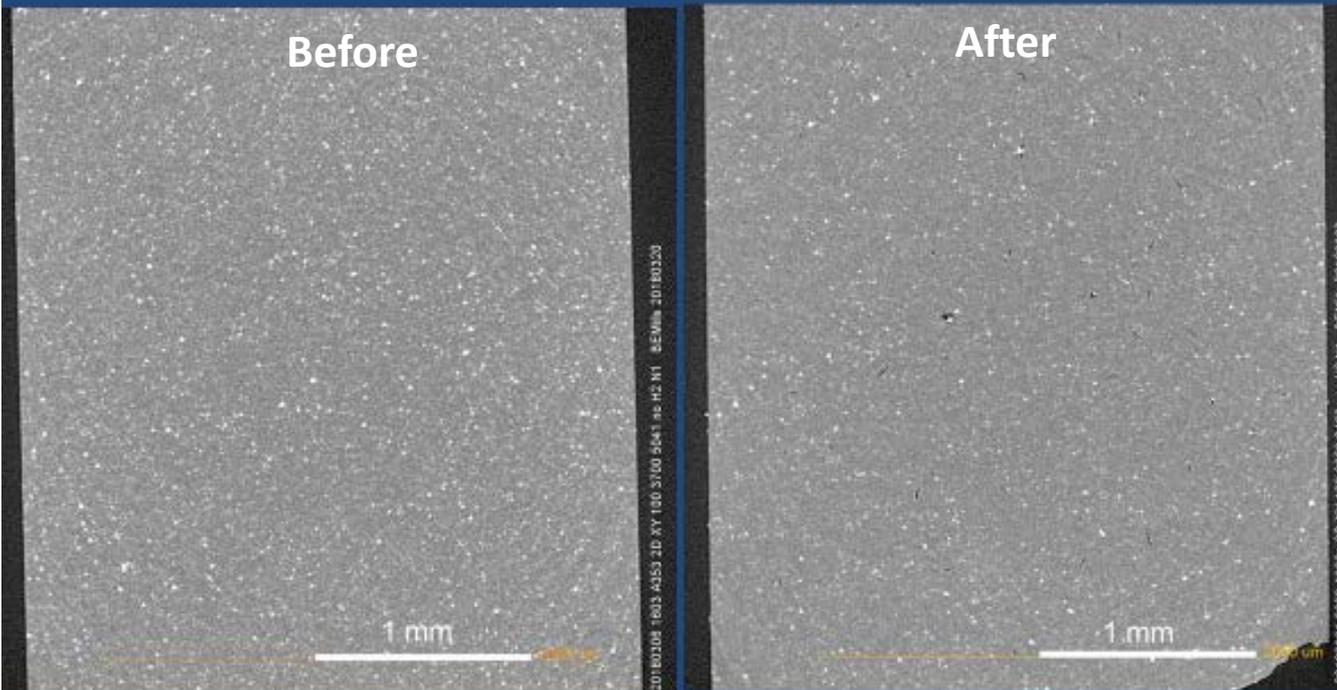
# Test Methodology Development

- ▶ PNNL has developed a new test methodology for *in situ* hydrogen measurement of friction and wear of polymers (tribology)
  - Infrastructure applications include:
    - Dynamic seals for compressors, valves (O-rings and seats), regulators
    - Delivery hose liners where frictional contact can occur
  - Failure mechanisms are:
    - Increased leak rates
    - Reduced mechanical efficiency
    - Reduced part lifetime due to part degradation
- ▶ Instrument Specifications\*
  - Linear reciprocating instrument capable of up to 5,000 psi in situ hydrogen
  - Measures in situ frictional load and wear depth profile
- ▶ Tests to date:
  - Model Materials that have been tested or are in process include:
    - NBR (nitrile butadiene rubber or Buna-N) – completed 4,000 psi hydrogen, 4,000 psi argon, ambient air.
    - EPDM (ethylene propylene diene monomer) – In progress 4,000 psi hydrogen, ambient air, 4,000 psi argon completed
  - NBR, EPDM materials are undergoing NMR studies and are expected to be complete by end of summer 2018
- ▶ Upgrade planned late 2018 to include in situ heating and cooling
  - Targeted range -40 to +85 C
  - New low temperature autoclave
  - Design complete and fabrication is in progress

## Micro-CT images for NBR after H2 exposure



H2 exposure of NBR N1 shows fewer and smaller slit-shaped voids.



There is no preferred orientation. There are perhaps a few more voids in the interior—need to confirm.

Comparison of EPDM and NBR before and after hydrogen exposure BEM111; 20180320

- Formulation NBR N1 has no filler or plasticizer
- Both formulations contain high Z particles (5% by wt. ZnO)

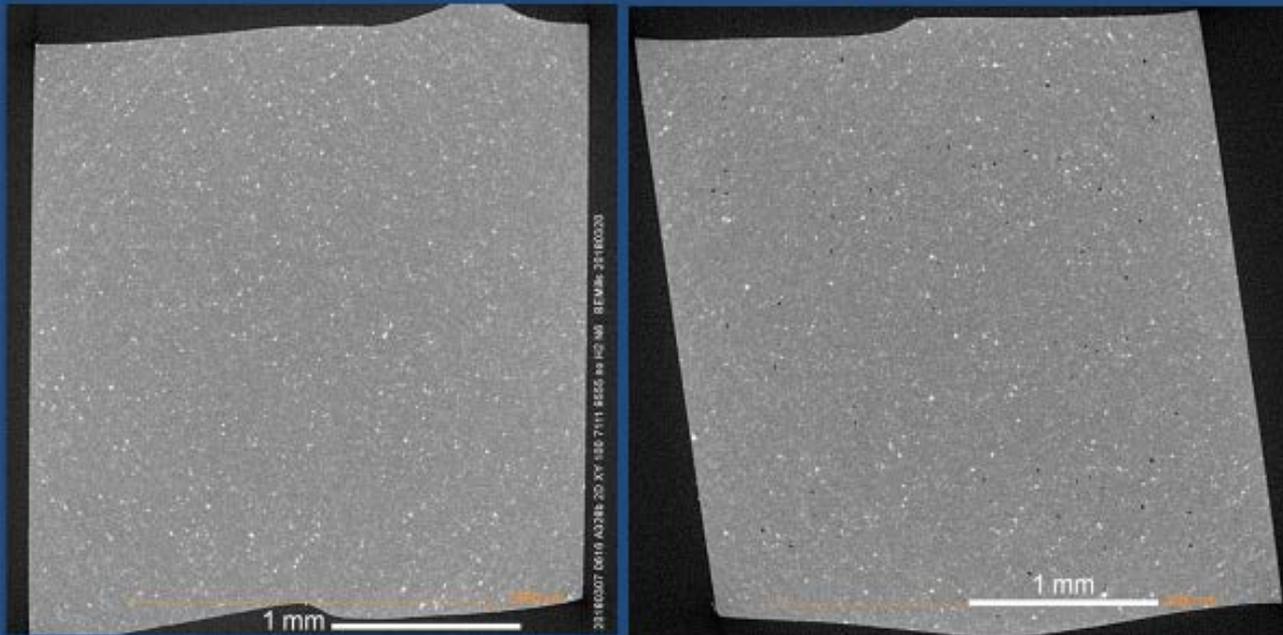
Microcracks in left picture changed to more pin-point voids in right picture which are not aligned in any particular direction and seem more or less distributed all over

**Microcrack damage is less significant and more pin-point in shape**

## Micro-CT images for NBR after H2 exposure



H2 exposure of NBR N6 shows large numbers of small isotropic voids.



- Fillers in EPDM E6 are: carbon black (300 nm) and Silica
- Both formulations contain high Z particles (5% by wt. ZnO)

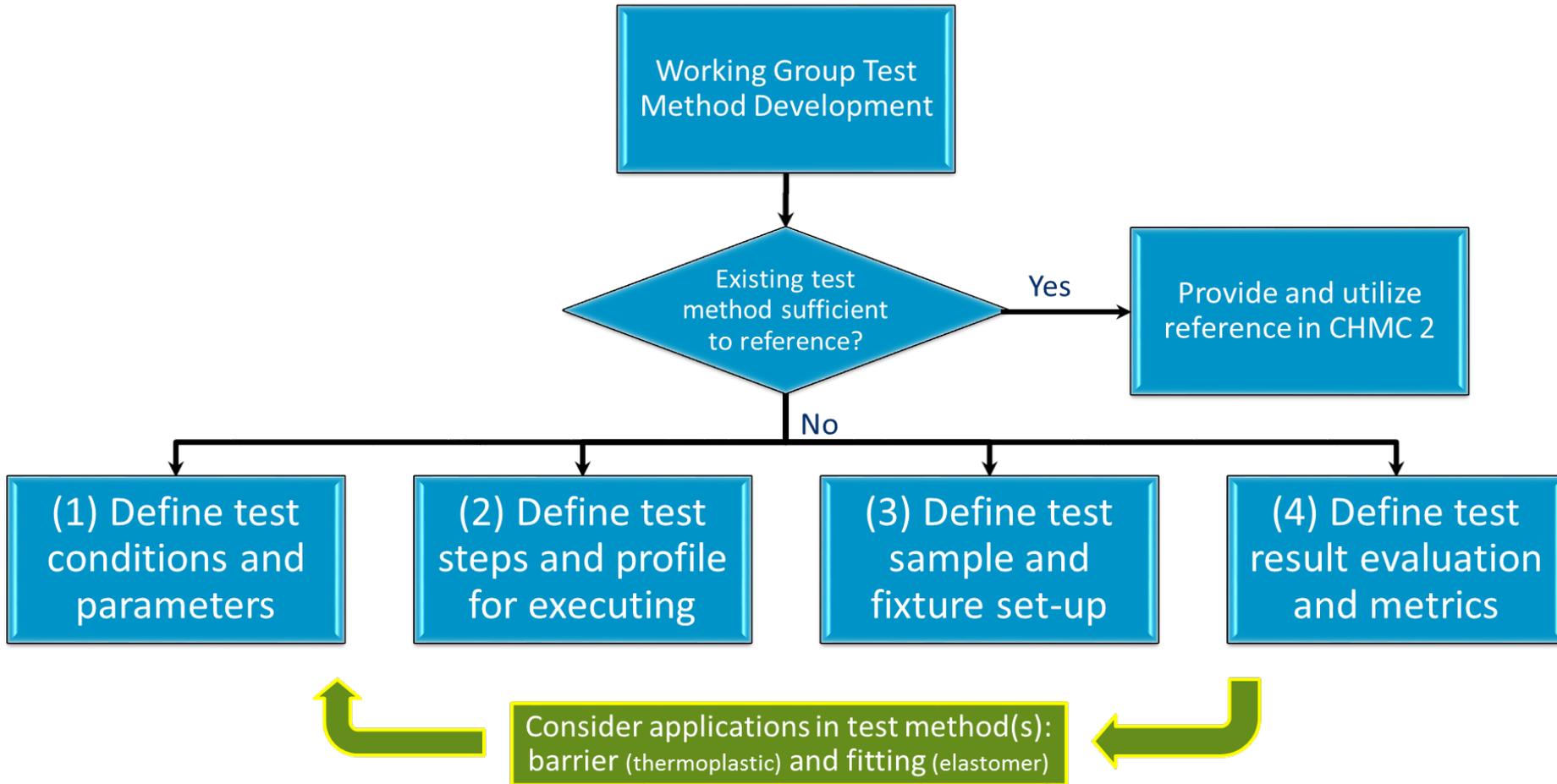
There is no preferred position within the sample.

Comparison of EPDM and NBR before and after hydrogen exposure BEM11s 20180320

**Fillers appear to change the nature of cracks/voids in NBR after H2 exposure**

# Accomplishments and Progress

## CHMC 2 – High Priority Tests



# Demonstration of Filtering Data and Criteria Weighting

**Logical Filters**

Logical filters can be used to reduce the Data Set prior to analysis

H2 Permeability (Barrer) is Less than 3

Add Filter Clear Filters

Red areas are excluded from the analysis

**Data Set for Analysis**

The following Data Set will be used for the analysis with the parameters defined above. Click the checkboxes to further downselect alternatives before executing the analysis.

Show Excluded Criteria

	100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)	Failure Elogation (%)	Hardness (Shore)	Tg (°C)	Temperature (°C)	Pressure (kPa)	H2 Permeability (Barrer)
Teflon AF 2400	1500	7.9	75	240	77	1013	28
Technoflon P 457	5.9	239	23	-15	77	1013	0.39
Teflon PTFE 850A	496	300	50	117	-16	1724	22.6
Neoflon DF-0050C1	74000	279	85	100	25	6895	0.74
Elastollan C80A	41.4	3000	85	-40	20	100	6
NBR (27% CN)	2.6	250	60	-2	25	100	16
Polybutadiene	1.5	500	15	-100	25	100	41.9

**Criteria Weighting**

Drag and drop criteria to rank them from best to worst. Criteria can also be excluded from the analysis.

All Items

Ranking Order Centroid

- H2 Permeability (Barrer)
- Failure Elogation (%)
- 100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)
- Hardness (Shore)
- Tg (°C)

H2 Permeability (Barrer)	0.46
Failure Elogation (%)	0.26
100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)	0.15
Hardness (Shore)	0.09
Tg (°C)	0.04

Filters used to define areas of interests and specific weighting of importance



# Analysis Outcome

	Group Weight	Criterion	Rank	Criterion Weight	Overall Weight
Transport Properties (Permeability)	0.333	Permeability (mol H2/m.s.MPa)	N/A	0.7	0.233
		Diffusivity (cm2/s)	N/A	0.300	0.100
Physical Properties (Density, 100 % Tensile Modulus)	0.333	100% Tensile Modulus (MPa)	N/A	0.500	0.167
		Density (g/cc)	N/A	0.500	0.167
Thermodynamic State (Temperature, Pressure)	0.333	Temperature (K)	N/A	1.000	0.333

