

Innovation for Our Energy Future

2008 DOE Hydrogen, Fuel Cells & Infrastructure Technologies Program Review

Controlled Hydrogen Fleet and Infrastructure Analysis

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NREL/PR-560-44388

Presented at the 2008 Hydrogen Program Annual Merit Review sponsored by DOE EERE held June 10, 2008 in Arlington, VA

Project ID# TV-5

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Fuel Cell Vehicle Learning Demonstration Project Objectives and Targets

- Objectives
 - Validate H₂ FC Vehicles and Infrastructure in Parallel
 - Identify Current Status and Evolution of the Technology
 - Assess Progress Toward Technology Readiness
 - Provide Feedback to H₂ Research and Development

Key Targets		
Performance Measure	2009	2015
Fuel Cell Stack Durability	2000 hours	5000 hours
Fuel Cell Stack Durability		
Vehicle Range	250+ miles	300+ miles
Hydrogen Cost at Station	\$3/gge	\$2-3/gge



Photo: NREL

Project Overview

Timeline

- Project start: FY03
- Project end: FY10
- ~70% of Task III complete (see timeline slide)

Budget

- Context: Overall DOE project is ~\$170M project over 5 years
 - Equal investment by industry
- NREL funding prior to FY07 : \$2192K
- NREL FY07 funding: \$850K
- NREL FY08 funding: \$850K

Partners

• See partner slide

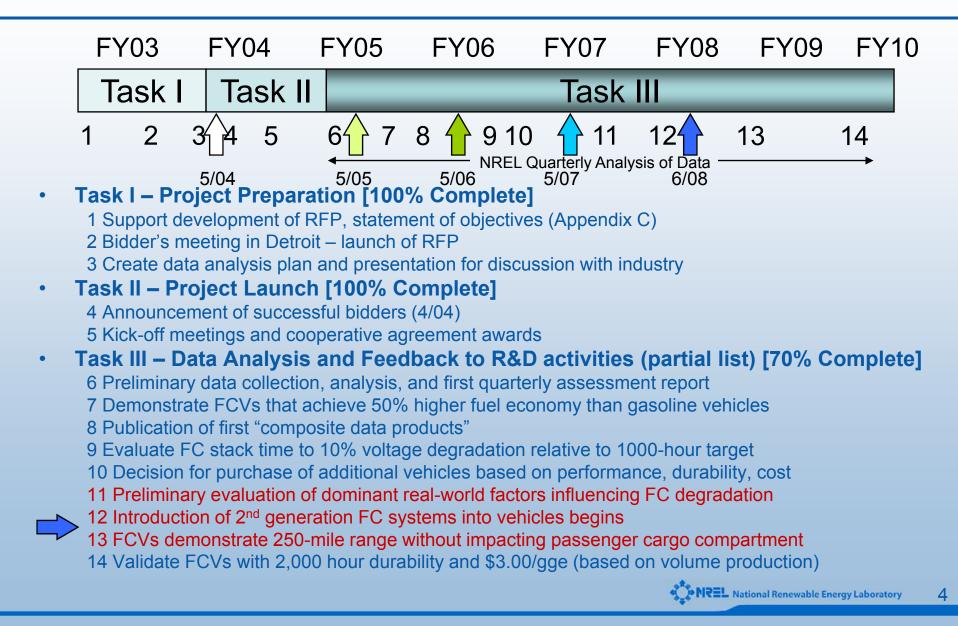
Tech. Val. Barriers

- A. **Vehicles** lack of controlled & onroad H_2 vehicle and FC system data
- B. **Storage** technology does not yet provide necessary 300+ mile range
- C. Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure – cost and availability
- D. Maintenance and Training Facilities

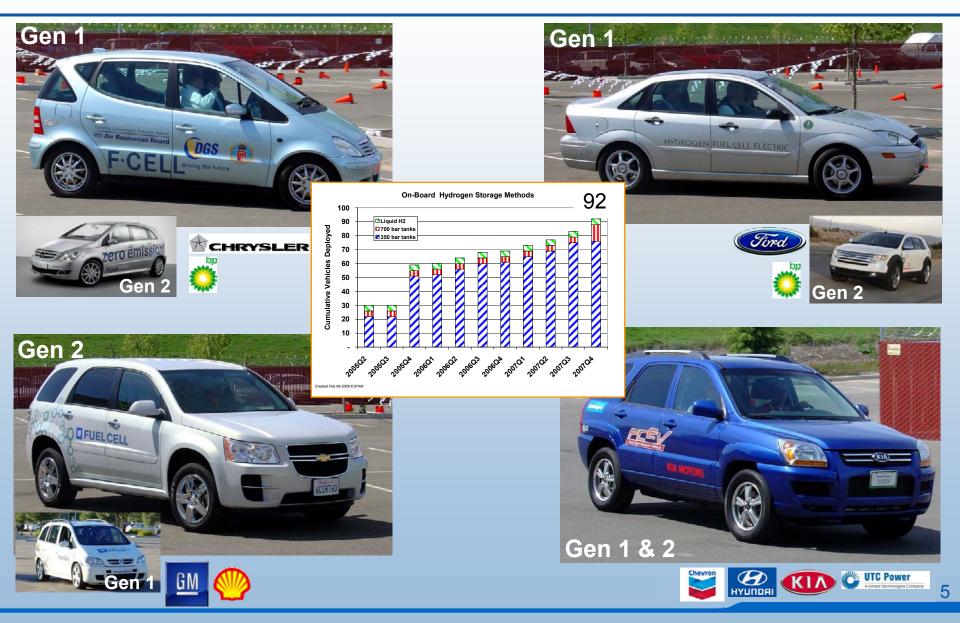
 lack of facilities and trained
 personnel
- E. Codes and Standards lack of adoption/validation
- H. Hydrogen Production from Renewables – need for cost, durability, efficiency data for vehicular application
- I. H₂ and Electricity Co-Production cost and durability



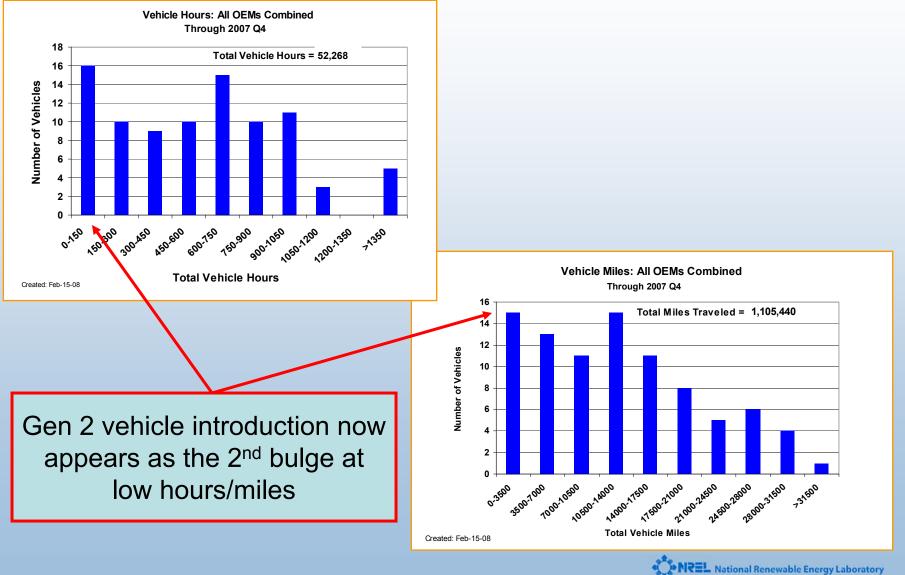
Project Timeline and Major Milestones



Industry Partners: 4 Automaker/Energy-Supplier Teams; Rollout: 2nd Generation FC Introduction in 2008 Has Begun

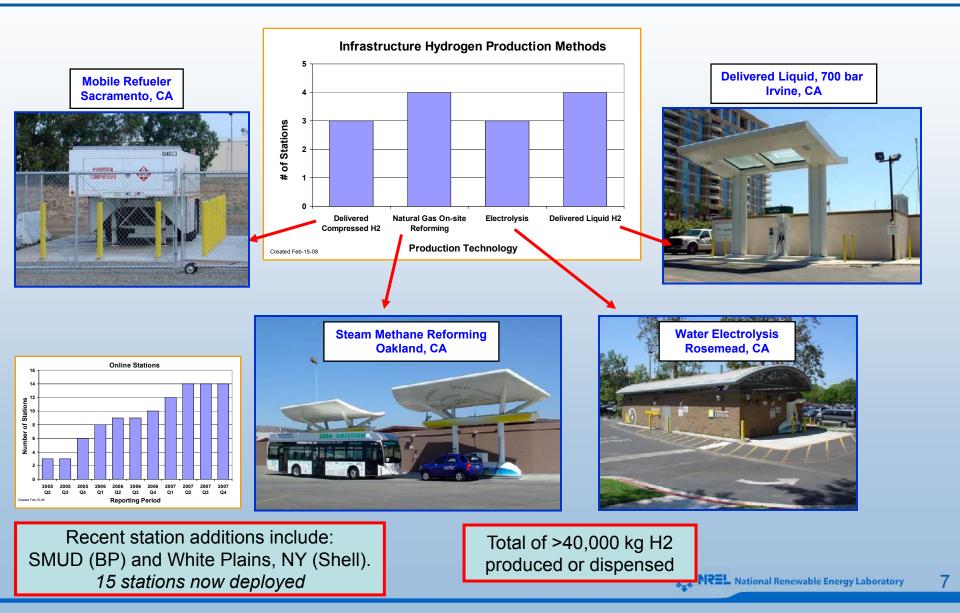


DOE Learning Demo Fleet Has Surpassed 50,000 Vehicle Hours and 1.1 Million Miles

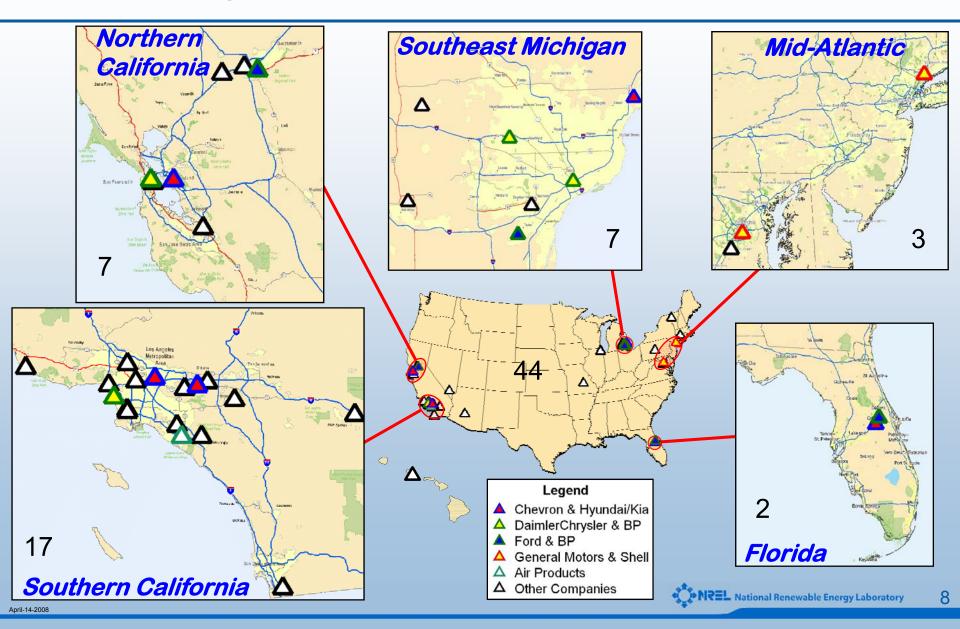


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Majority of Project's Fixed Infrastructure to Refuel Vehicles Has Been Installed – Examples of 4 Types



Refueling Stations Test Performance in Various Climates; Learning Demo Comprises ~1/3 of all US Stations



Project Approach

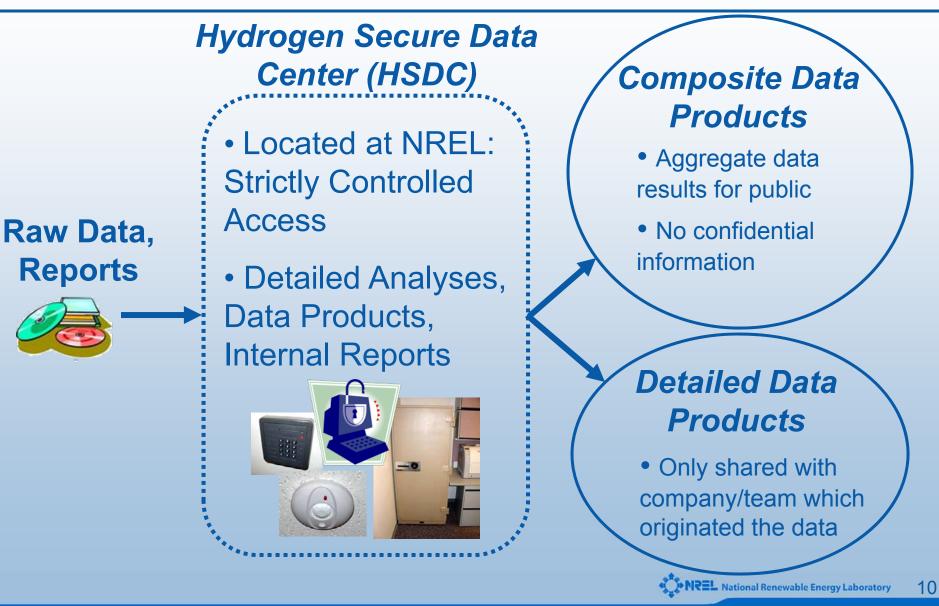
- Provide facility and staff for securing and analyzing industry sensitive data
 - NREL Hydrogen Secure Data Center (HSDC)
- Perform analysis and simulation using detailed data in HSDC to:
 - Evaluate current status and progress toward targets
 - Feedback current technical challenges and opportunities into DOE H₂ R&D program
 - Provide analytical results to originating companies on
 their own data (detailed data products)
 - Collaborate with industry partners on new and more detailed analyses
- Publish/present progress of project to public and stakeholders (composite data products)



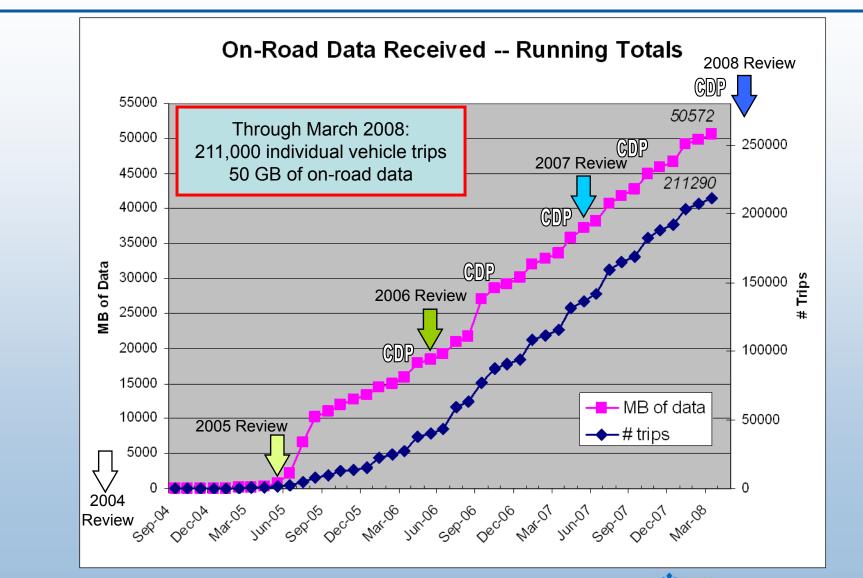




Approach: Providing Data Analysis and Results for Both the Public and the Industry Project Teams

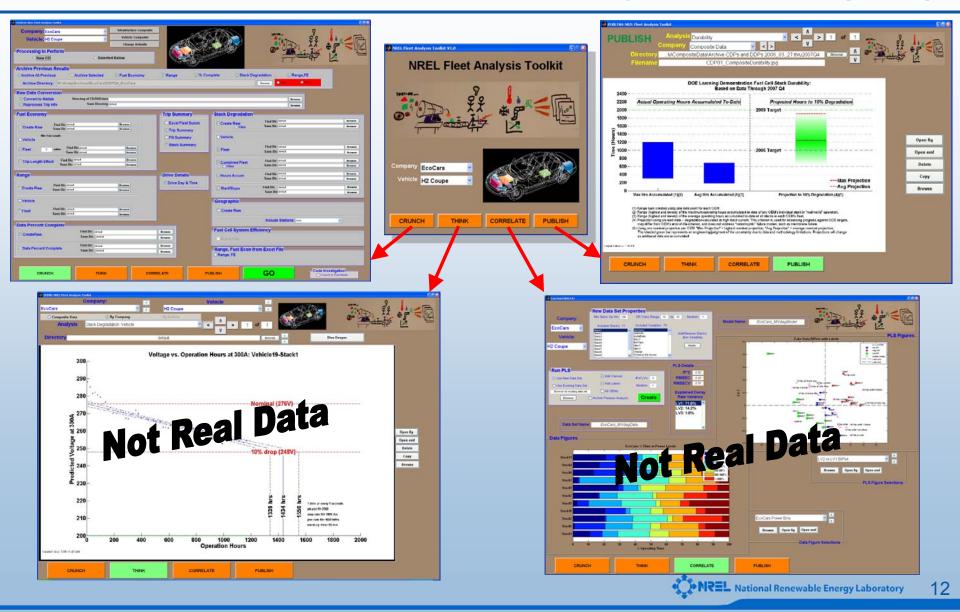


Accomplishment: Eleven Quarters of Data Analyzed to Date Current Status of Data Reporting to the Hydrogen Secure Data Center at NREL



CDP = Composite Data Products Published

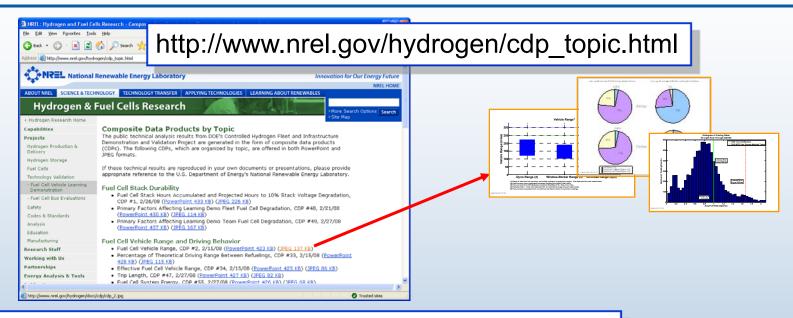
Accomplishment: Generated All Results Using NREL-Developed GUI – Fleet Analysis Toolkit (FAT)



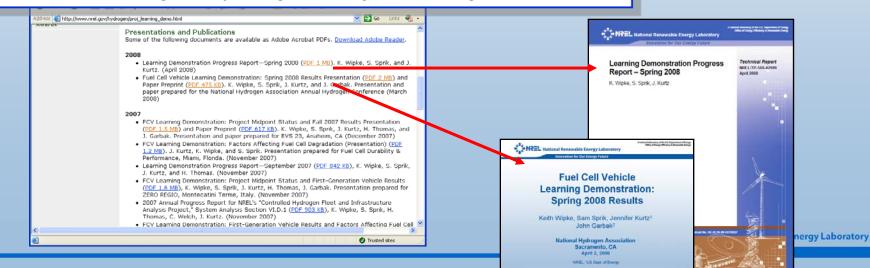
Accomplishment: In the Last Year Published Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 CDP Results through Conferences, Progress Reports, and Journals



Accomplishment: NREL Web Site Provides Direct Access to All Composite Data Products (47), Reports, and Presentations

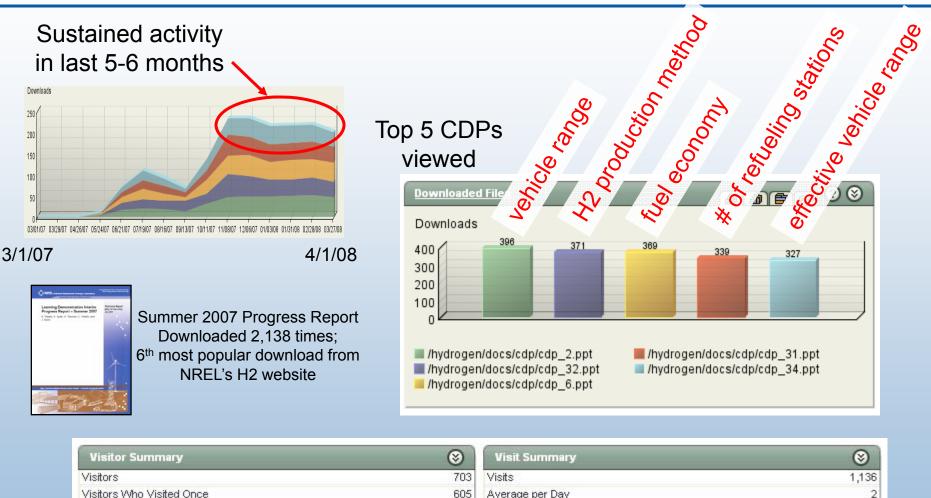


http://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj_learning_demo.html



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Accomplishment: Restructured CDP Web Site Files to Allow Tracking of Most Frequently Accessed Technical Results



98

1.62

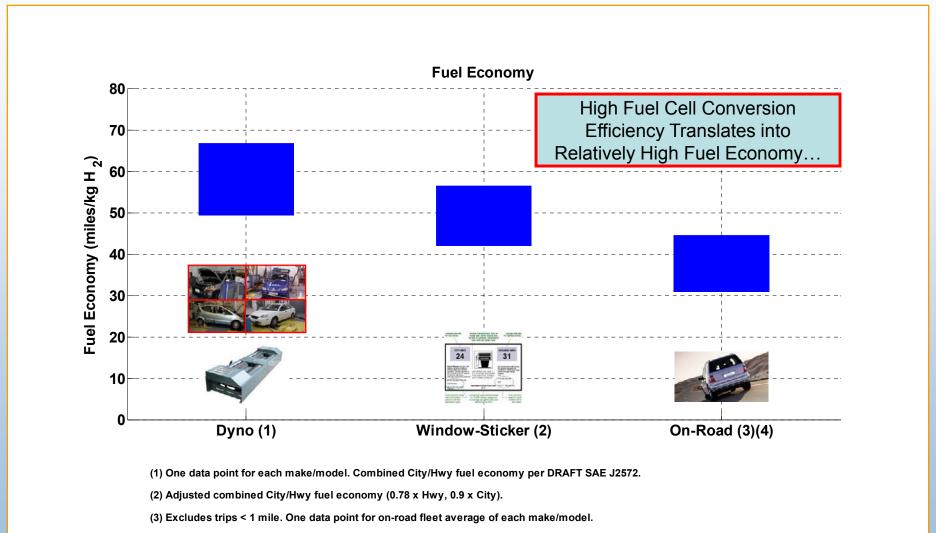
Visitors Who Visited More Than Once

Average Visits per Visitor

http://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/cdp_topic.html

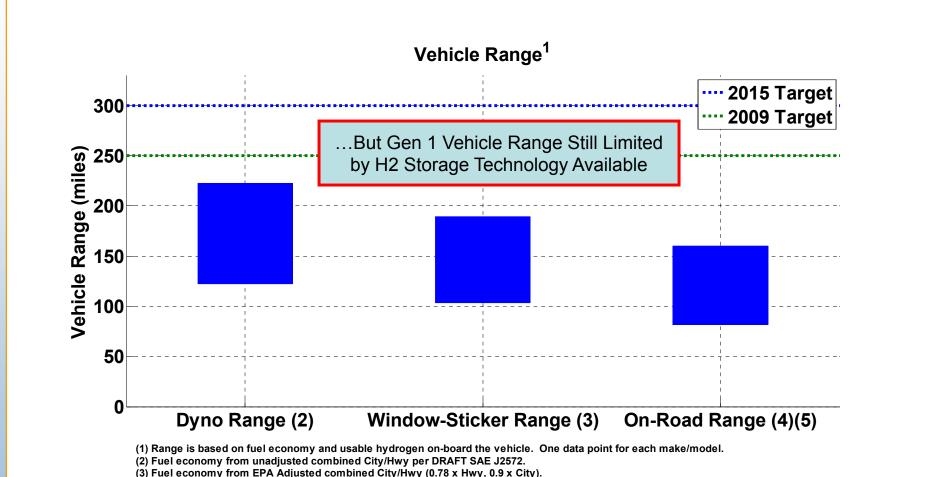
Visit Summary	۲
Visits	1,136
Average per Day	2
Average Visit Duration	-
Median Visit Duration	
International Visits	12.06%
Visits of Unknown Origin	51.94%
Visits from Your Country: United States (US)	36.00%

Dynamometer and On-Road Fuel Economy from Gen 1 Learning Demonstration Vehicles



Created: Feb-15-08 7:17 AM (4) Calculated from on-road fuel cell stack current or mass flow readings.

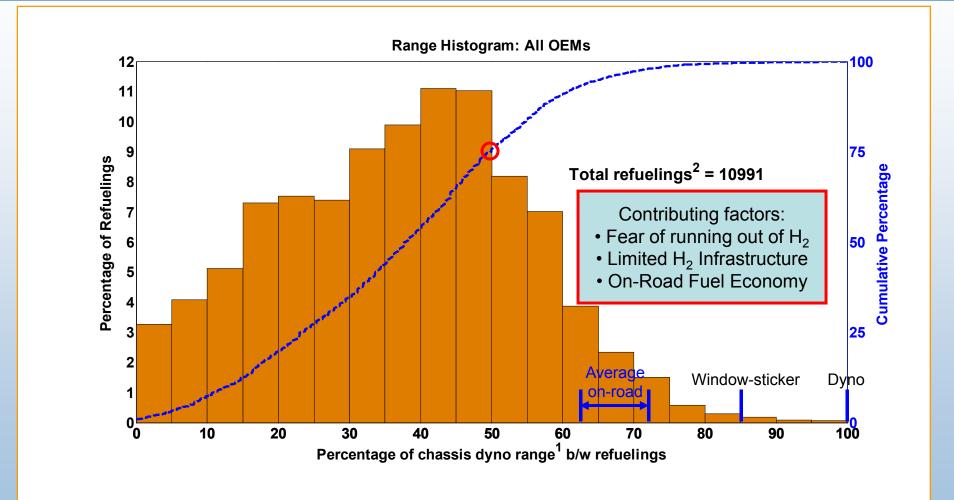
Gen 1 Vehicle Range Based on Dyno Results and Usable H₂ Fuel Stored On-Board



- (4) Excludes trips < 1 mile. One data point for on-road fleet average of each make/model.
- (5) Fuel economy calculated from on-road fuel cell stack current or mass flow readings.

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Majority (75%) of Vehicles Travel <50% of Dyno Range Between Refuelings



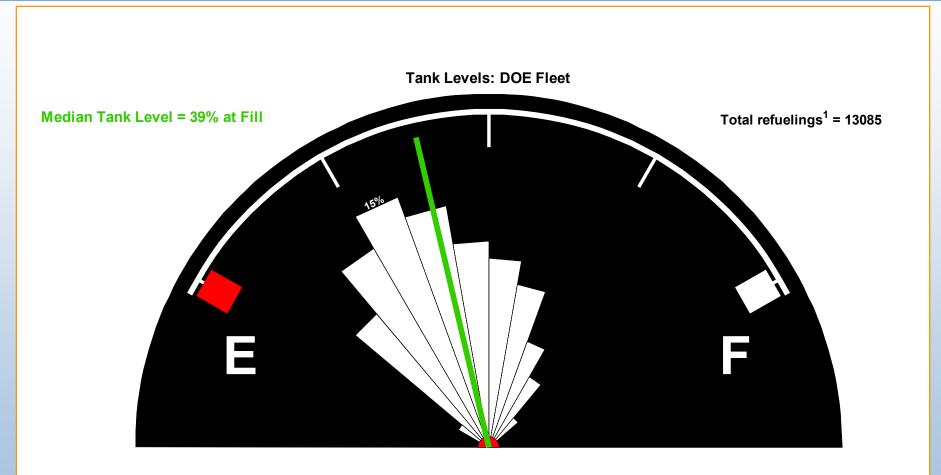
1. Range calculated using the combined City/Hwy fuel economy from dyno testing (not EPA

adjusted) and usable fuel on board.

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2. Some refueling events are not detected/reported due to data noise or incompleteness.

Large Spread in H2 Tank Level at Refueling Peak at ~1/4 Full, Median at ~3/8 Full



1. Some refueling events not recorded/detected due to data noise or incompleteness.

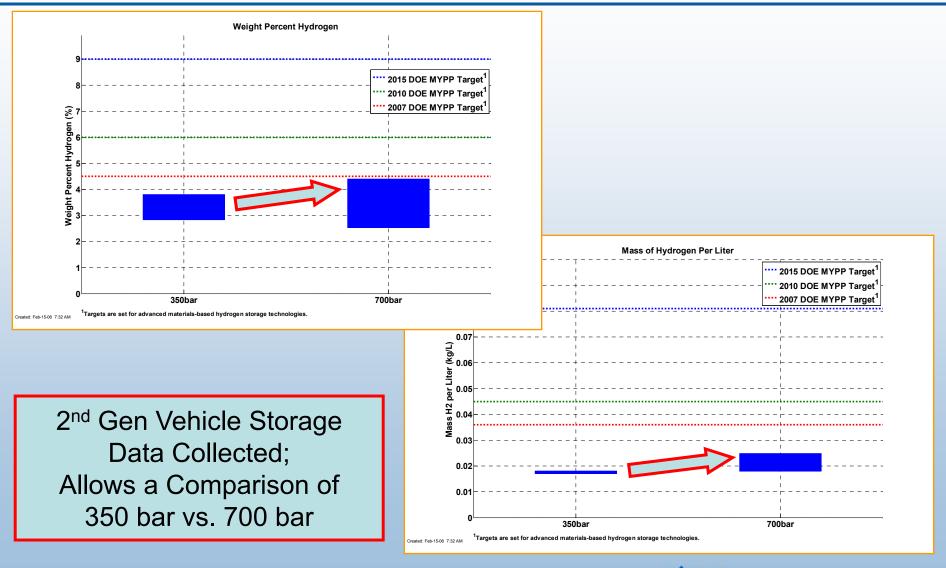
2. The outer arc is set at 20% total refuelings.

3. If tank level at fill was not available, a complete fill up was assumed.

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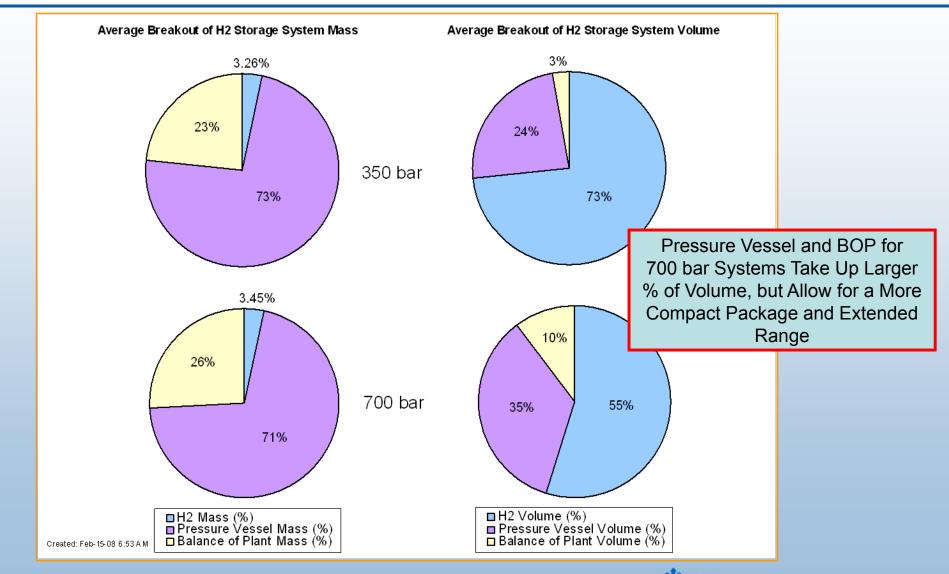


700 bar On-Board H2 Storage Systems Demonstrate Potential for Improved Performance Over 350 bar

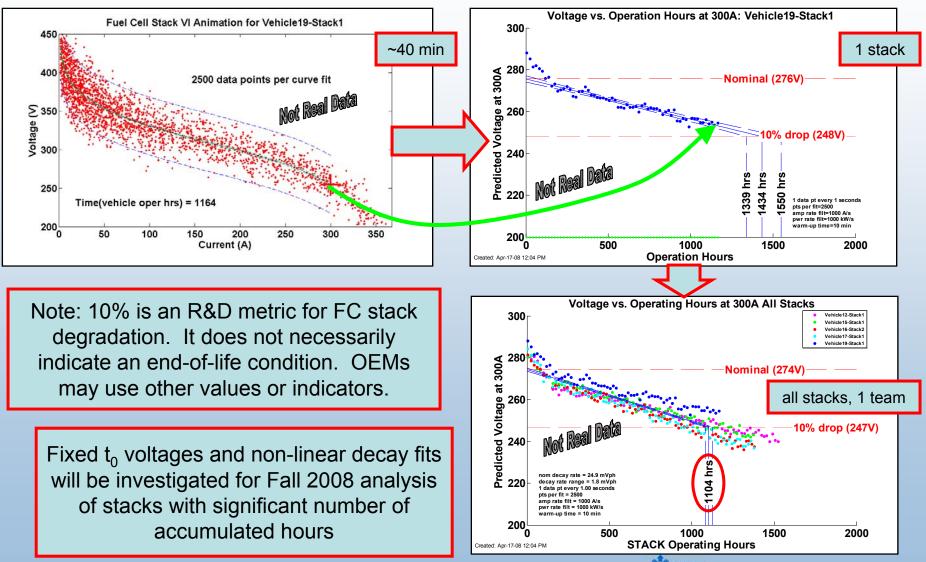




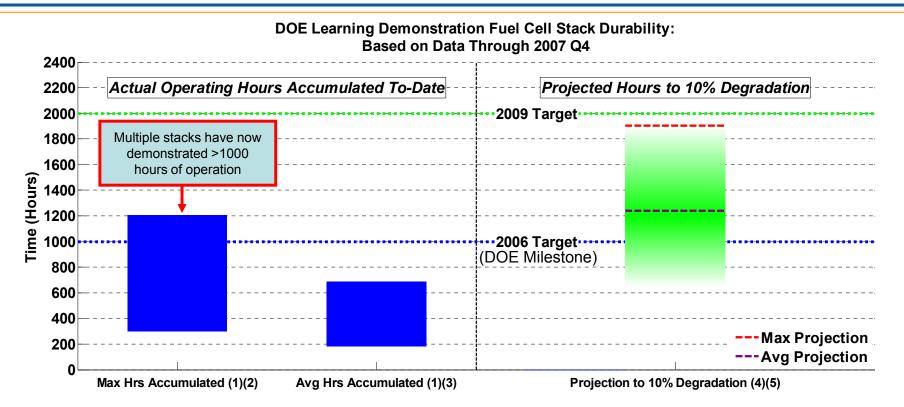
More Detailed Data Reporting Allows a Comparison of Mass and Volume of H2, Pressure Vessel, and BOP



Approach: Method for Projecting Time to 10% Fuel Cell Stack Voltage Degradation (Linear Decay Fit, Calculated Voltage at t₀)



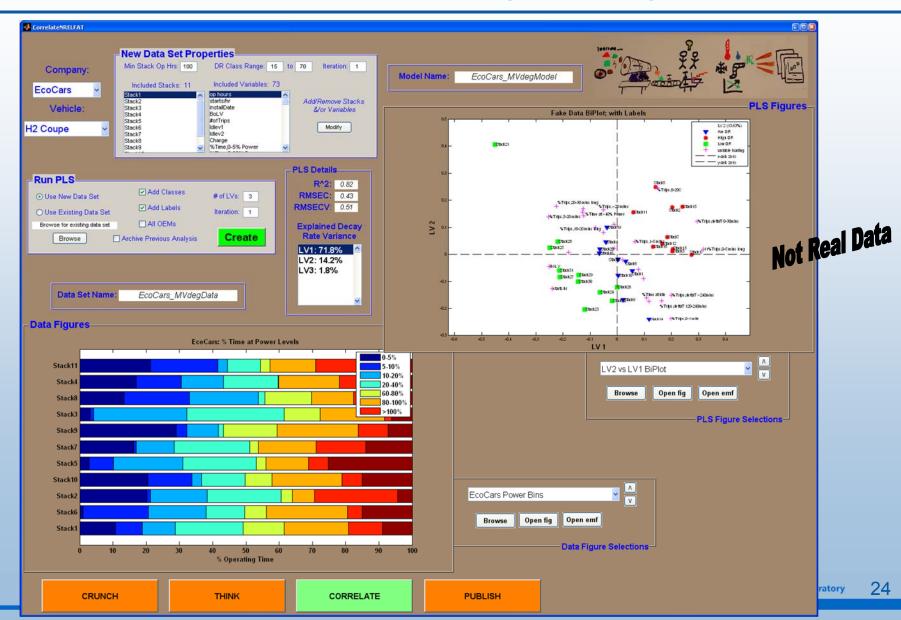
As More Gen 1 Data Is Accumulated, Some Teams Are Demonstrating Long FC Durability



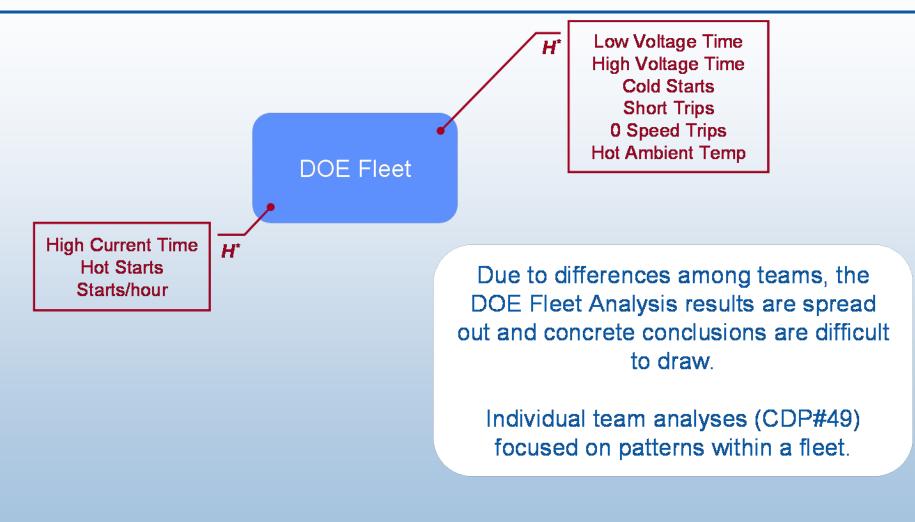
- (1) Range bars created using one data point for each OEM.
- (2) Range (highest and lowest) of the maximum operating hours accumulated to-date of any OEM's individual stack in "real-world" operation.
- (3) Range (highest and lowest) of the average operating hours accumulated to-date of all stacks in each OEM's fleet.
- (4) Projection using on-road data degradation calculated at high stack current. This criterion is used for assessing progress against DOE targets, may differ from OEM's end-of-life criterion, and does not address "catastrophic" failure modes, such as membrane failure.
- (5) Using one nominal projection per OEM: "Max Projection" = highest nominal projection, "Avg Projection" = average nominal projection. The shaded green bar represents an engineering judgment of the uncertainty due to data and methodology limitations. Projections will change as additional data are accumulated.

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Approach: Use Multivariate Analysis to Determine Dominant Factors Affecting FC Degradation



Primary Factors Affecting Learning Demo Fleet Fuel Cell Degradation: FC Diversity (Between Teams) Limits Drawing Strong Conclusions



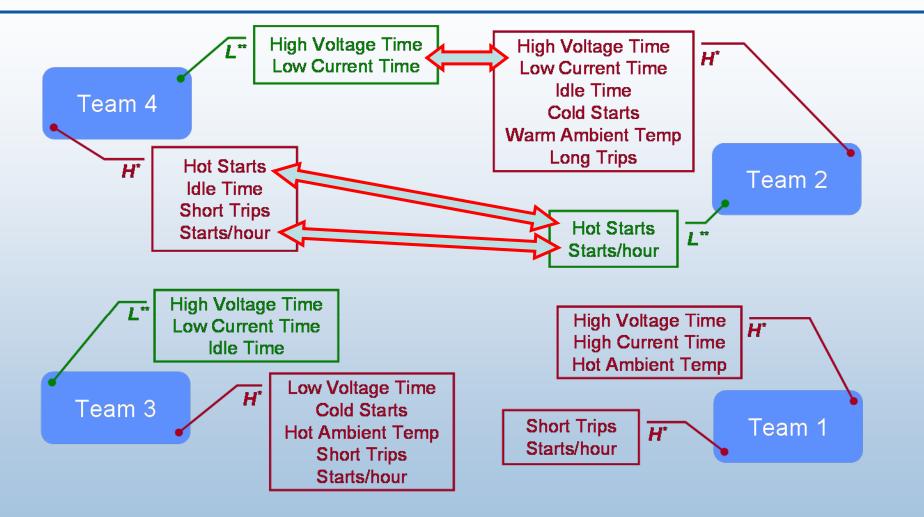
- 1) On-going fuel cell degradation study using Partial Least Squares (PLS) regression model for combined Learning Demonstration Fleet.
- 2) DOE Fleet model has a low percentage of explained decay rate variance.

H*: Factor group associated with high decay rate fuel cell stacks L***: Factor group associated with low decay rate fuel cell stacks

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► NREL National Renewable Energy Laboratory 25

Primary Factors Affecting Fuel Cell Degradation are Hard to Extract, and Different (sometimes opposite) for Each Team

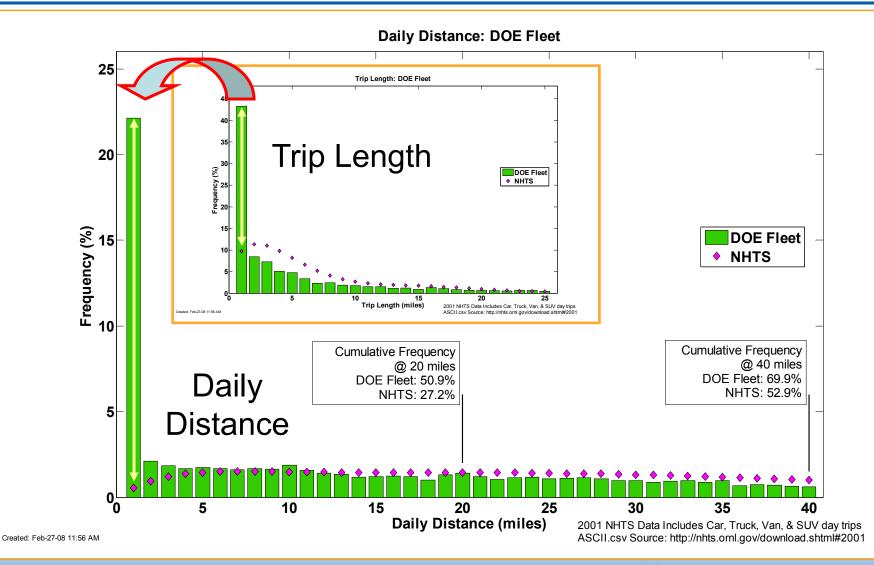


- 1) On-going fuel cell degradation study using Partial Least Squares (PLS) regression model for each team.
- 2) Teams' PLS models have a high percentage of explained decay rate variance, but the models are not robust and results are scattered.

H*: Factor group associated with high decay rate fuel cell stacks L***: Factor group associated with low decay rate fuel cell stacks

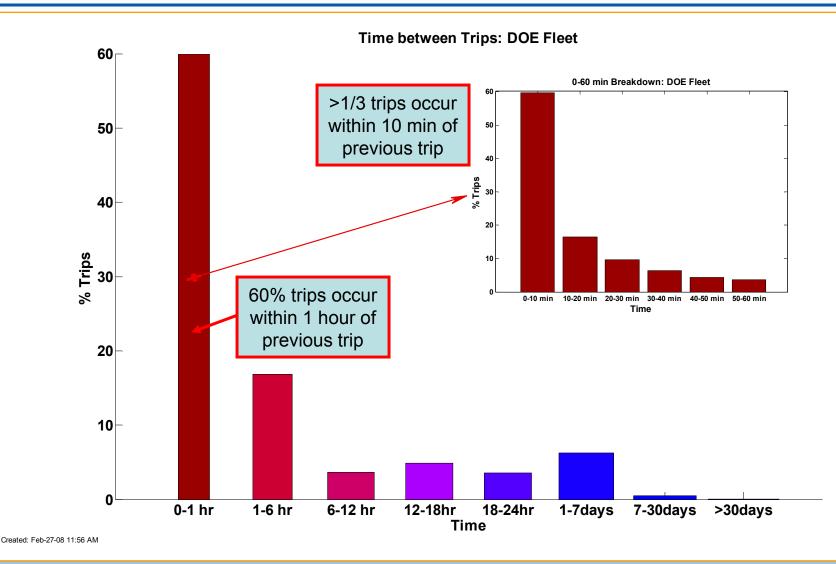
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Large Number of Short Trips Contribute to a Lower Daily Distance than National Average



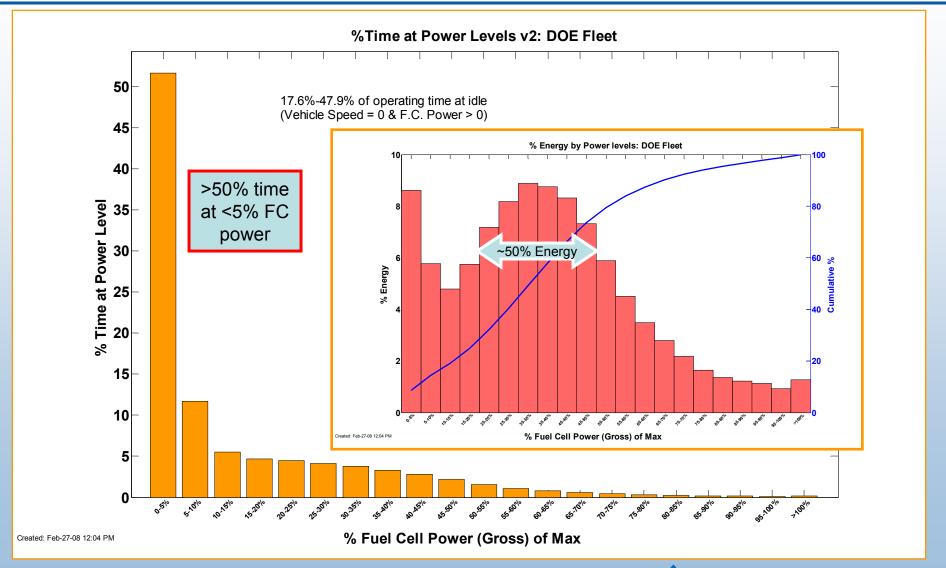


Examining Time Between Trips Shows Fuel Cells Experiencing Large # Hot Starts



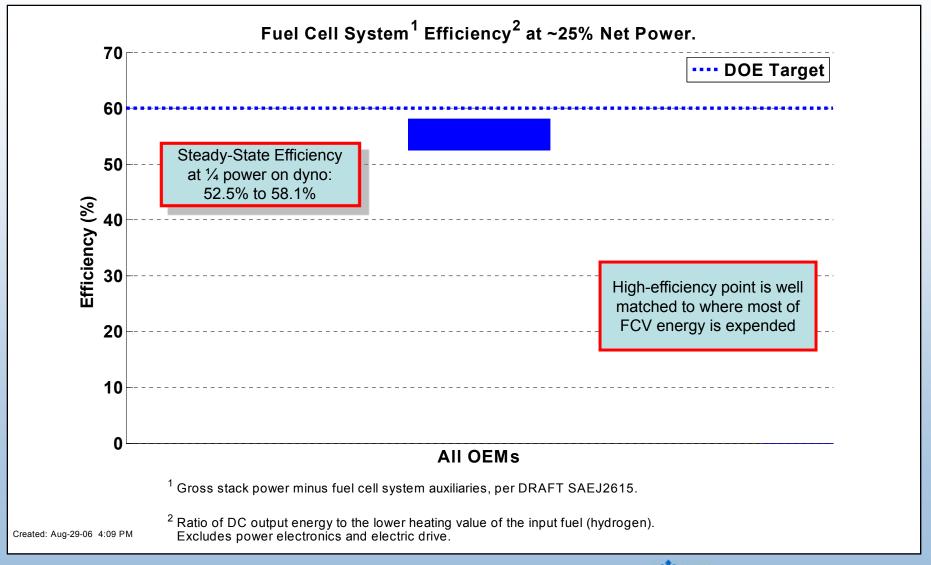


While Most of FC *Time* is Spent at Idle, Bulk of *Energy* is at 20-50% Power

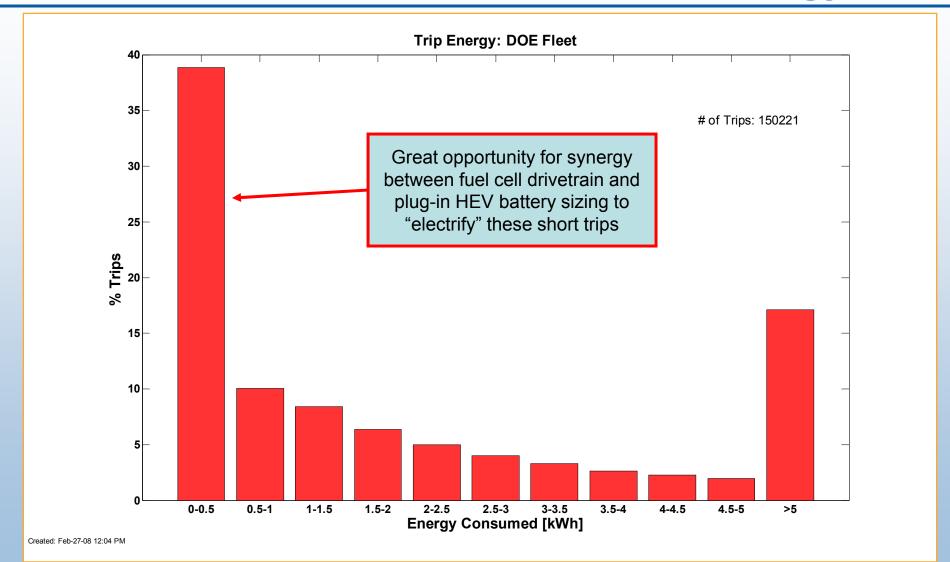


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Gen 1 Baseline Dyno Tests Validated High Efficiency at ¹/₄ Power Point – Gen 2 Tests to Occur in 2008

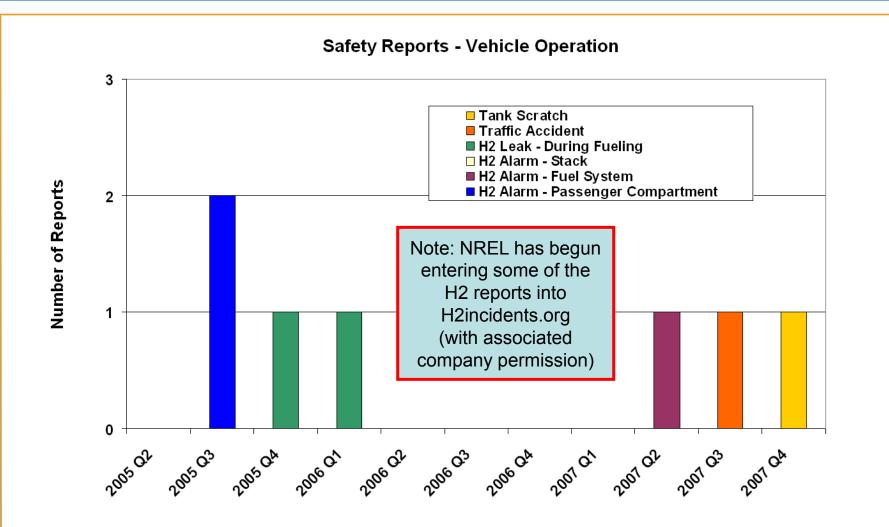


~40% of Learning Demo Trips Require <0.5 kWh of Fuel Cell Output Energy



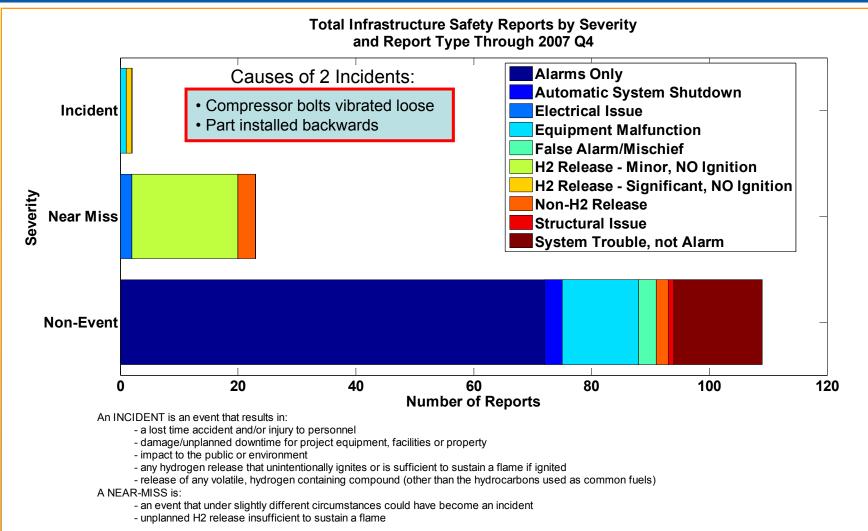


Minimal Vehicle Safety Reports Continue to Demonstrate a Strong Safety Record





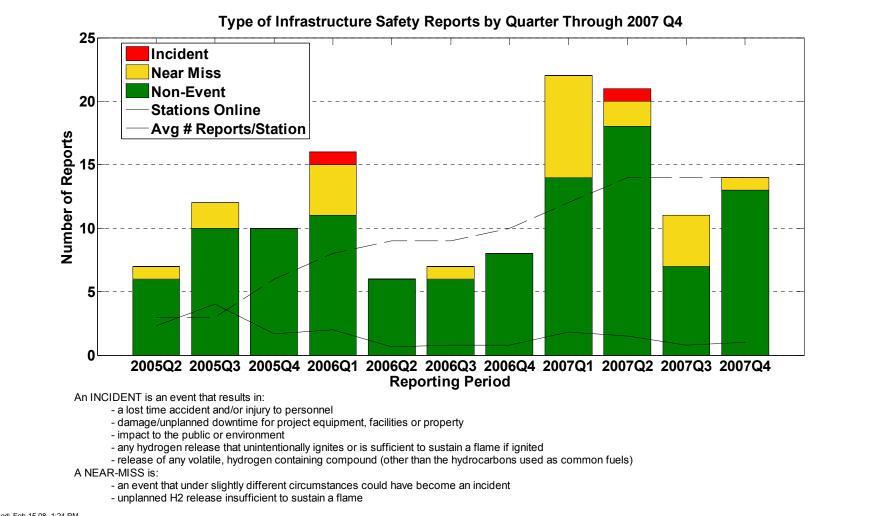
Most of Infrastructure Safety Reports Continue to Be Non-Events (and Most of Those, Alarms Only)



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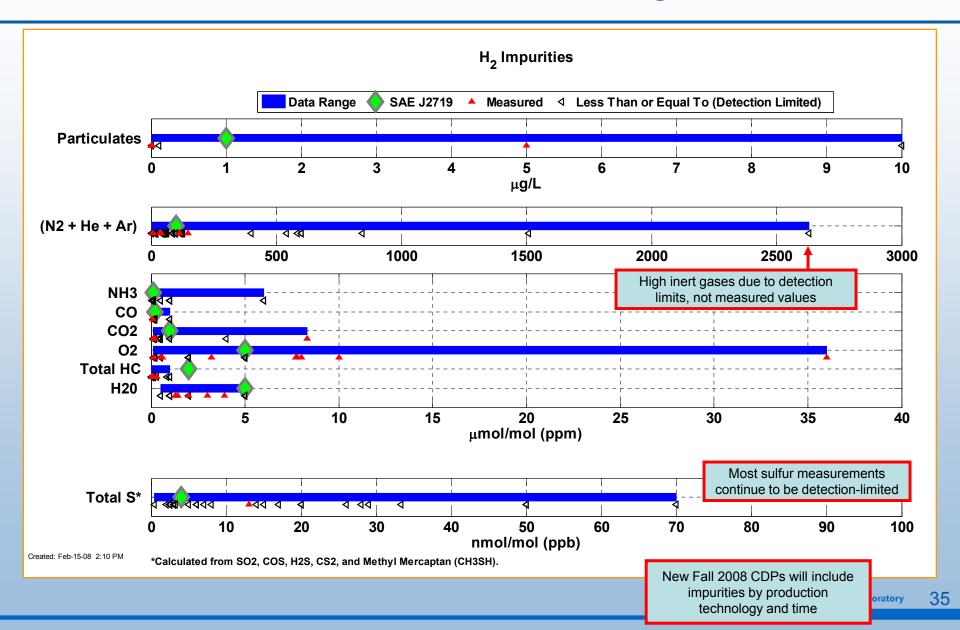
Overall Infrastructure Safety Reports Correlated with Increase in New Stations Coming Online



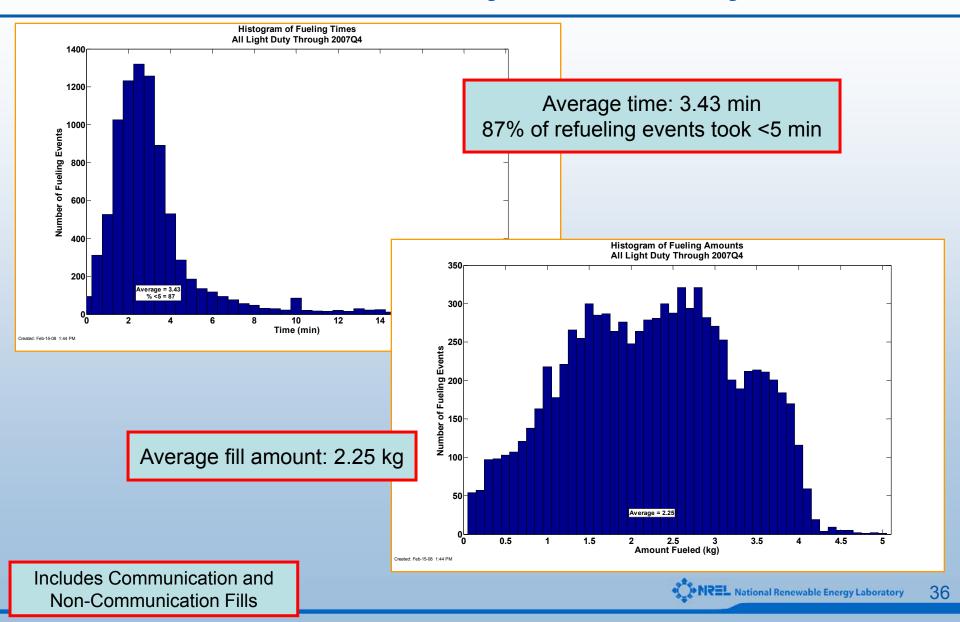
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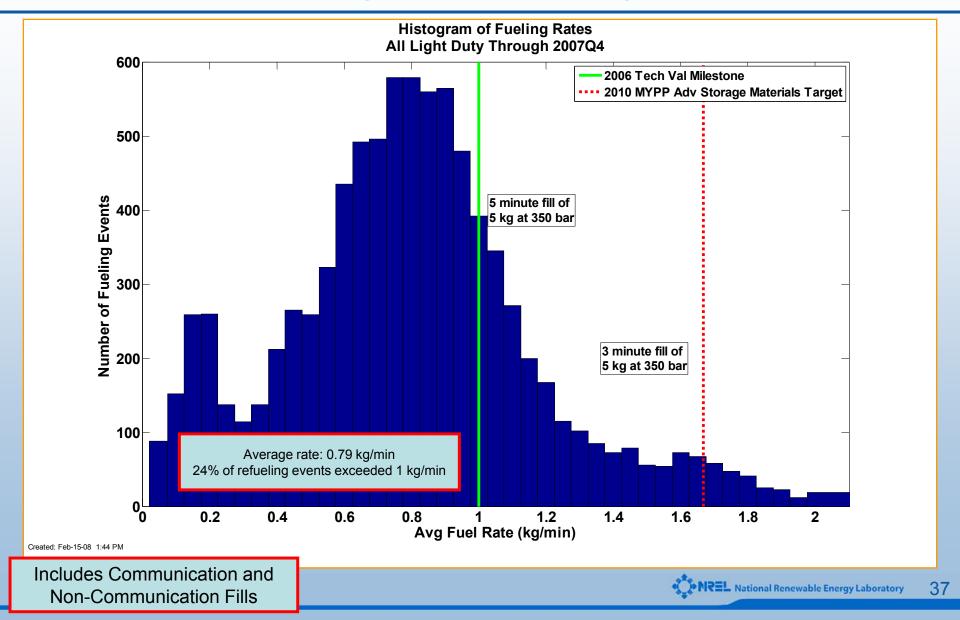
Hydrogen Impurities Sampled from All Stations to Date In General, Inert Gases and Sulfur Have Had High Detection Limits



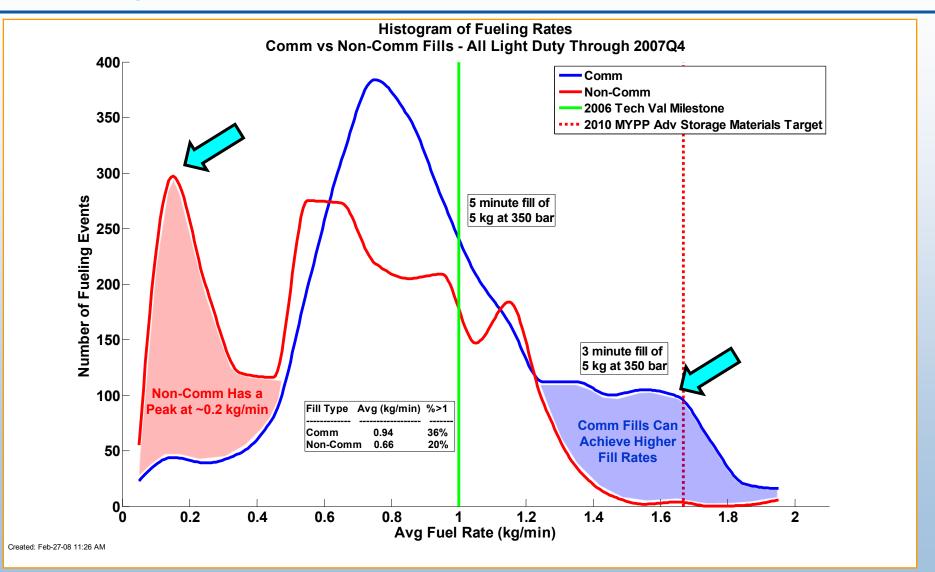
Actual Vehicle Refueling <u>Times</u> and <u>Amounts</u> from 8,700 Events: Measured by Stations or by Vehicles



Actual Vehicle Refueling <u>Rates</u> from >8,700 Events: Measured by Stations or by Vehicles

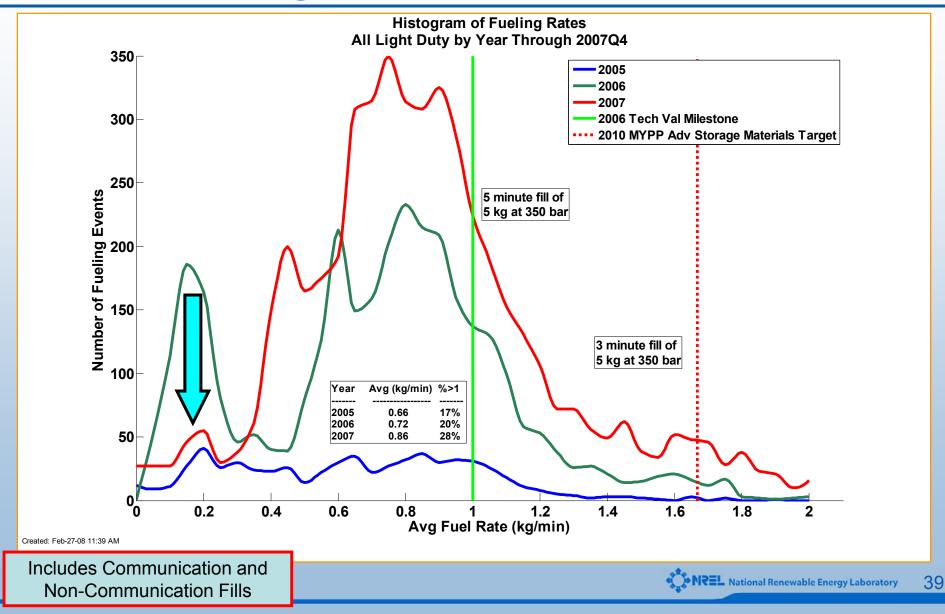


Communication H2 Fills Achieving Higher Fill Rate than Non-Communication

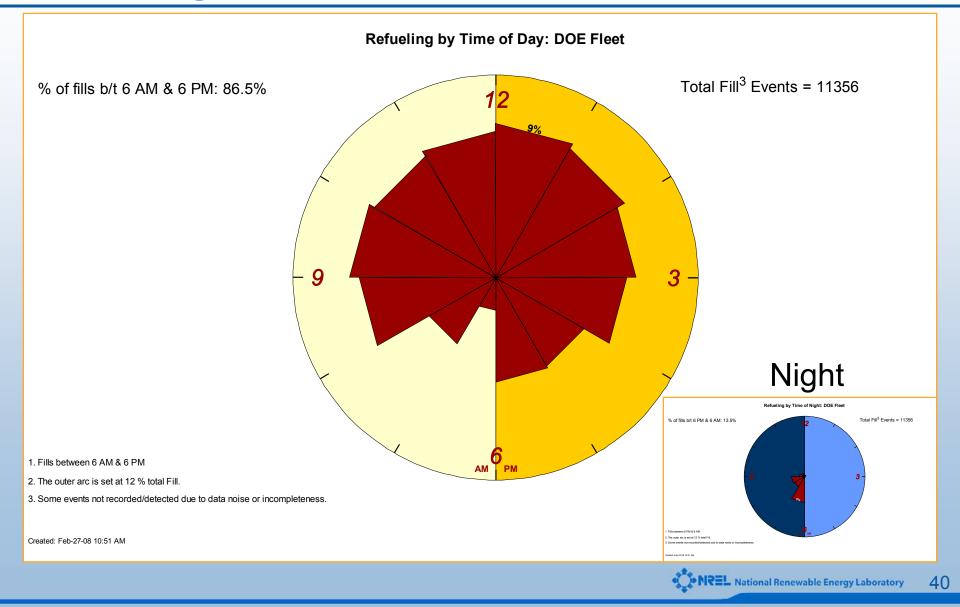




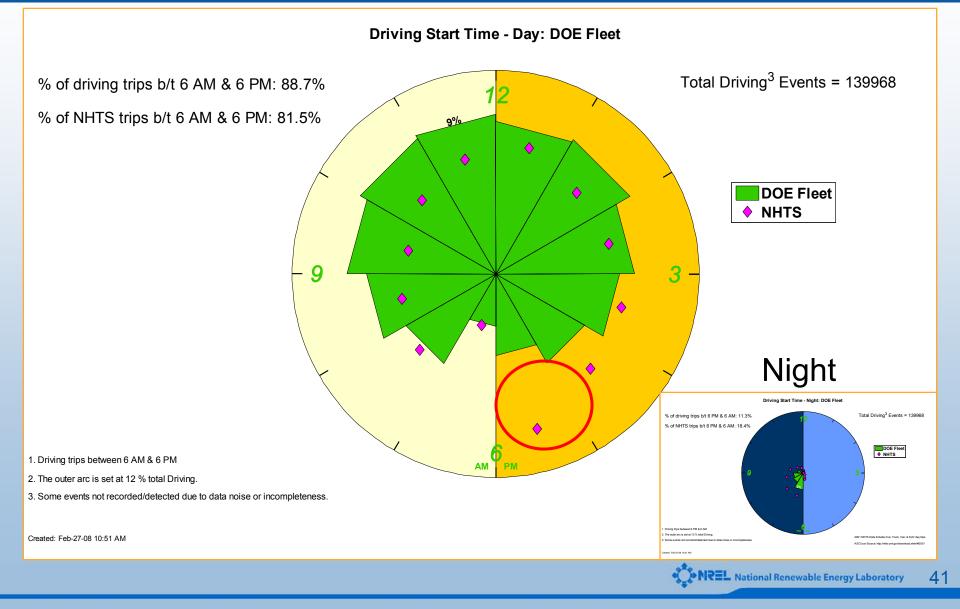
Examining Refueling Data by Year Shows 0.2 kg/min Rate Phased Out



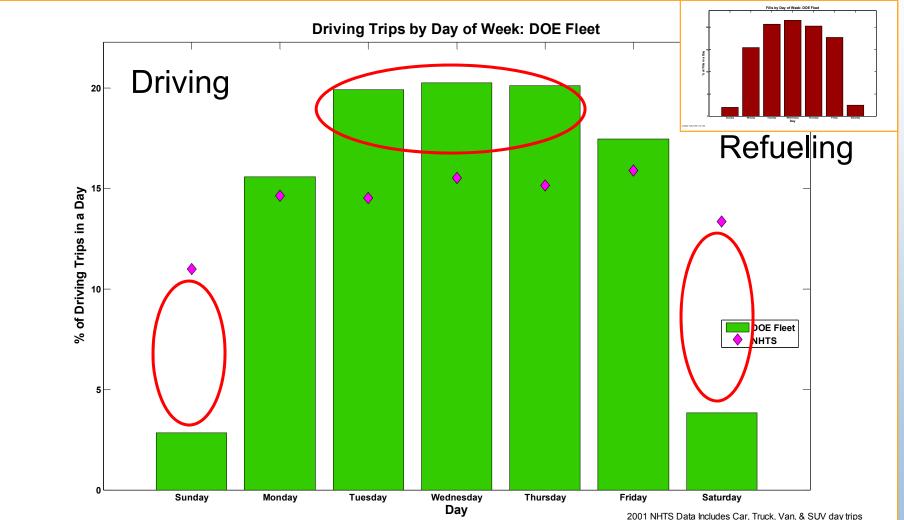
Refueling by Time of Day; Relatively Uniform Refueling Infrastructure Demand Between 8-4



Driving Trip Start Time – Day; Roughly Matches National Statistics Except for 5-6 PM



Gen 1 Learning Demo FCV Travel Has Been Primarily Weekday Driving; Differs from NHTS

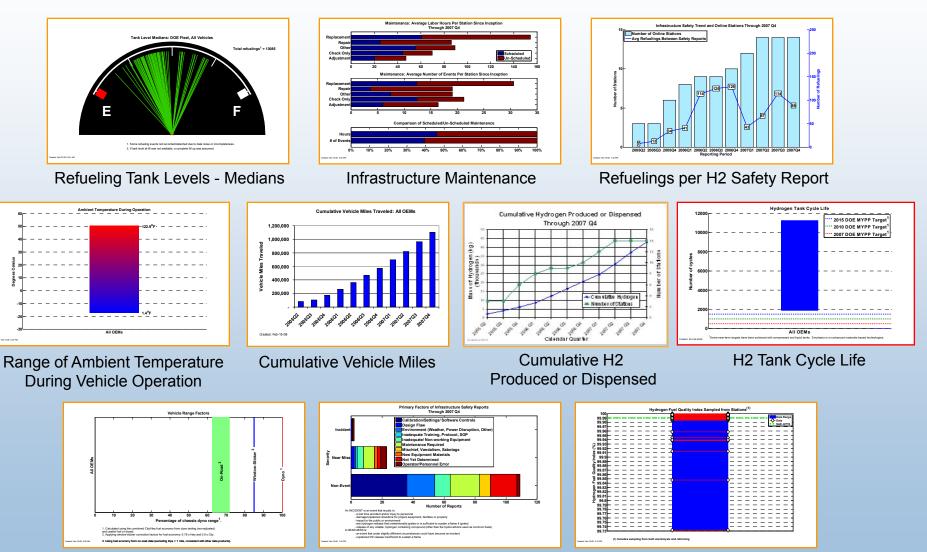


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ASCILcsv Source: http://nhts.ornl.gov/download.shtml#2001



Other CDP Results Not Discussed Here Today



Effective Driving Range

H2 Safety Primary Factors

H2 Quality Index

Highlights of Interactions and Collaborations in Last Year

Auto/Energy Industry Partners

- Site visits with industry (at OEM site or NREL) to discuss detailed results and NREL methodology
- Focused on 2-way sharing of stack degradation multivariate work
- Validated NREL's on-road stack degradation analysis technique and results with two OEMs
- Improved methodology for producing detailed data results and CDPs at same time for easier industry review

• FreedomCAR and Fuel Technical Teams

- H2 Storage (10/07) and Delivery (11/07) Tech Teams
- DOE's Vehicle Technologies Program and HFCIT Program (10/07)

• US Fuel Cell Council Technical Working Groups

- Transportation Working Group Focus on CA series
- Joint H2 Quality Task Force
- California Organizations
 - CaFCP: NREL will include H2 impurity test results in future CDPs
 - CARB: Discussing data from new stations being sent to NREL for inclusion in analysis results











Future Work

• Remainder of FY08:

- Continue to investigate correlations of real-world factors influencing fuel cell degradation
- Create new and updated composite data products (CDPs) based on data through June 2008
 - Prepare results for publication at 2008 Fuel Cell Seminar
- For 2nd generation vehicles, begin to evaluate improvements in FC durability, range, fuel economy, and safety
- Key upcoming September 2008 DOE MYPP and Joule milestone to validate 250-mile range from 2nd generation vehicles
- Support OEMs, energy companies, and state organizations in California in coordinating early infrastructure plans

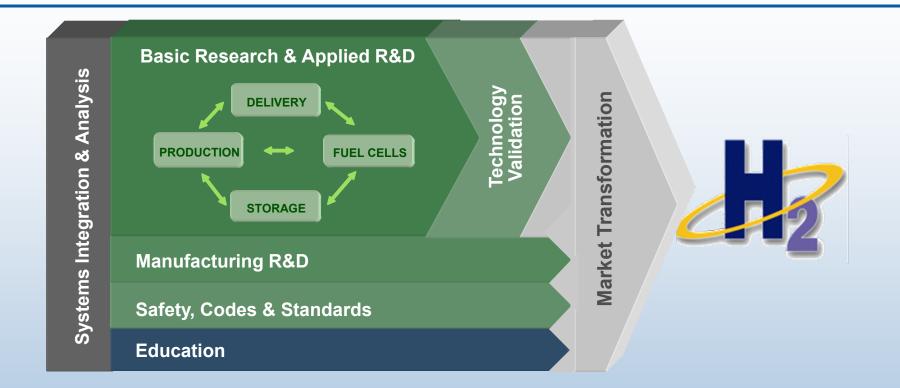
• FY09:

- Semi-annually (spring/fall) compare technical progress to program objectives and targets and publish results
 - Production cost, production efficiency, FC freeze startup and freeze tolerance, 2nd gen stack durability
- Identify opportunities to feed findings from project back into HFCIT program and industry R&D activities to maintain project as a "learning demonstration"
- Help DOE prepare plans for Phase II of project

Summary

- More than half of project completed
 - 92 vehicles and 15 stations deployed
 - 1.1 million miles traveled, 40,000 kg H₂ produced or dispensed
 - 211,000 individual vehicle trips analyzed
 - Project to continue through 2010
- Examination of Factors Affecting FC Degradation Continues
 - NREL collaborating with each team to understand results and refine inputs and analysis
 - Triggered more thorough analysis of vehicle/stack duty cycles, such as time between trips, trip length, FC power levels
- Total of 47 composite data products published to date
 - This presentation only covered some of the new/updated results
 - Web site allows direct web access to all CDPs
- Roll-out of 2nd generation vehicles has begun
 - Most of remaining vehicles to be deployed this year
 - Additional 700 bar stations coming online soon

Questions and Discussion



Project Contact: Keith Wipke, National Renewable Energy Lab 303.275.4451 keith_wipke@nrel.gov

All public Learning Demo papers and presentations are available online at http://www.nrel.gov/hydrogen/proj_tech_validation.html



Responses to Previous Year (FY07) Reviewers' Comments

- Q: "Refueling time, amount, capacity factors, and availability factor should be analyzed for greater value of the data"
 - Extensive analysis has been performed on refueling time, amount, and rates: comm. vs. non-comm., changes in distribution with time
 - Station capacity and availability factor data is not provided to NREL; may also be of limited extended value with such a sparse network of stations and limited vehicles at this stage.
- Q: "Try to include more projects, even those not in the DOE program"
 - Vehicles: Difficult to obtain detailed data from non-DOE projects due to IP
 - Infrastructure: Data from CHIP project (Air Products) now included; potential for obtaining data from new/upgraded California Stations from CARB and CaFCP
- Q: "Benchmark against European and Japanese initiatives" and "Build a global record of FCV demonstration results"
 - Little public technical data (outside of number of vehicles and locations) exists publicly from these foreign demonstration projects
 - An IPHE Demonstration Working Group (DWG) has been formed to facilitate this type of data sharing and has met 3 times; we've published US results, and DOE is working through the DWG to assemble data from other countries.

Publications and Presentations (Since FY07 Review, Key Text in Bold)

- 1. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., "Learning Demonstration **Progress Report—Spring 2008**," National Renewable Energy Laboratory Technical Report NREL/TP-560-42986, April 2008.
- 2. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Garbak, J., "Fuel Cell Vehicle Learning Demonstration: Spring 2008 Results Presentation," **National Hydrogen Association** Annual Hydrogen Conference, March 2008. (paper and presentation)
- 3. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., "**Composite Data Products** for the Controlled Hydrogen Fleet and Infrastructure Demonstration and Validation Project," Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, updated March 2008. (presentation)
- 4. Wipke, K., "**Hydrogen Secure Data Center: Procedures** to Protect Technical Data Submitted under the Controlled Hydrogen Fleet and Infrastructure Demonstration and Validation Project," Golden, CO: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, updated December 2007. (HSDC document)
- 5. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Thomas, H., "FCV Learning Demonstration: Project Midpoint Status and Fall 2007 Results," **EVS-23 Conference**, Anaheim, CA, December 2007. (paper and presentation)
- 6. Kurtz, J., Wipke, K., Sprik, S., "FCV Learning Demonstration: Factors Affecting Fuel Cell Degradation," **Fuel Cell Durability & Performance Conference**, Miami, Florida, November 2007. (presentation).
- 7. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Thomas, H., Garbak, J., "FCV Learning Demonstration: Project Midpoint Status and First-Generation Vehicle Results," **ZERO REGIO Conference**, Montecatini Terme, Italy, November 2007. (presentation)
- 8. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Thomas, H., Welch, C., Kurtz, J., "Controlled Hydrogen Fleet and Infrastructure Analysis Project," 2007 DOE HFCIT Program **Annual Progress Report**, System Analysis Section VI.D.1, November 2007. (paper)
- 9. Wipke, K., presentation of Learning Demonstration results to **FreedomCAR and Fuels Delivery Tech Team**, November, 2007. (presentation)
- 10. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Thomas, H., Garbak, J., "FCV Learning Demonstration: First-Generation Vehicle Results and Factors Affecting Fuel Cell Degradation," **Fuel Cell Seminar**, San Antonio, TX, October 2007. (presentation and extended abstract).
- 11. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Thomas, H., Garbak, J., "Fuel Cell Vehicle and Infrastructure Learning Demonstration: Activities in California," H2 Infrastructure Forum Between National & Local Governments and Industry, hosted by USFCC, Washington, DC, October 2007. (presentation)
- 12. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Kurtz, J., Thomas, H., "Learning Demonstration **Progress Report September 2007**," National Renewable Energy Laboratory Technical Report NREL/TP-560-42264, October 2007. (paper)
- 13. Wipke, K., presentation of Learning Demonstration results to **Vehicle Technologies Program at DOE**, October 2007. (presentation)
- 14. Wipke, K., presentation of Learning Demonstration results to **FreedomCAR and Fuels Hydrogen Storage Tech Team**, October, 2007. (presentation)
- 15. Wipke, K., presentation of Learning Demonstration results to **HFCIT Program at DOE**, October 2007. (presentation)
- 16. Wipke, K., Sprik, S., Thomas, H., Welch, C., Kurtz, J., "Learning Demonstration Interim **Progress Report Summer 2007**," National Renewable Energy Laboratory Technical Report NREL/TP-560-41848, July 2007. (paper)
- 17. Wipke, K., Welch, C., Thomas, H., Sprik, S., Kurtz., J., "DOE's Controlled Hydrogen Fleet and Infrastructure Demonstration and Validation Project: **Quarterly Validation Assessment Reports**," (HSDC papers only)
 - 1Q 2007, June 2007.
 - 2Q 2007, September 2007.



Critical Assumptions and Issues

- Assumption: Linear fit for stack degradation slope and calculated beginning of life voltage (under load) used for projecting time to 10% voltage drop
 - When just a few hundred hours of data existed, no shape other than linear was justifiable
 - As more data was received, some stacks showed an initial drop in the first few hundred hours with a more gradual slope after that
 - With more data, a linear fit with a calculated initial voltage will tend to overestimate the projected time to a 10% voltage drop.
 - Proposed solution:
 - NREL is investigating using a fixed initial voltage under load for each stack, as well as potentially a nonlinear or two-slope fit to the degradation curve
 - NOTE: Several Gen 1 stacks have already achieved over 1,000 hours of demonstrated durability, and as more stacks achieve their full life, the emphasis on projecting time to 10% voltage drop (durability metric) will shift to Gen 2 stacks to enable a comparison to 2,000 hour target. Gen 1 data can be used to test improved methodology.
- Issue: Influences from fuel quality and climate on stack degradation may not be strong enough to draw conclusions for 1st gen vehicles
 - Fuel quality good at all sites...have not had a site with bad fuel quality to track stack degradation of vehicles refueling there
 - First gen stacks not freeze-tolerant, so vehicles are not left to soak in cold. Therefore data not likely to show strong impact of different climates yet
 - Proposed solution:
 - 2nd gen vehicles will be operated and soaked in cold environments to not only verify freeze tolerance but also look at impact on stack durability.
 - Separate activities (codes and standards) are looking at impact of fuel impurities on durability, which is probably most direct/controlled way to examine impurity impacts.

