

BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE PARTICIPANTS

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Shabbir Ahmed	Argonne National Laboratory
Chris Ainscough	NUVERA
Rod Borup	Los Alamos National Laboratory
Vince Contini	Battelle
Rick Cutright	PlugPower LLC
David Frank	Hydrogenics
Jamie Holladay	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Terry Johnson	Sandia National Laboratory
Sridhas Kanuri	UTC Power
Ted Krause	Argonne National Laboratory
Michael McCarthy	Protonex Technology Corporation
Pinakin Patel	FuelCell Energy Inc.
Dennis Rapodios	Argonne National Laboratory
Eric Simpkins	IdaTech LLC
Anna Stefanopoulou	University of Michigan
Ken Stroh	Los Alamos National Laboratory
Olivier Verdu	HELION
Doug Wheeler	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Kristian Whitehouse	Navarro
Kathi Epping Martin (Facilitator)	U.S. Department of Energy
Tom Benjamin (Scribe)	Argonne National Laboratory

BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE BARRIERS

PURIFICATION AND SEPARATION FUEL PROCESSING	FUEL PROCESSING CATALYSTS	FUEL FLEXIBILITY	BOP/FC ENGAGEMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combine hydrogen purification and compression • Cost effective H₂ separation membranes – palladium PEM fuel reformers are too costly, driven by (relatively) high-temperature designs • CO₂ membrane separation • Fuel conditioning/impurity removal and clean-up • Fuel impurities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel processing catalyst cost and durability • PEM fuel reformers have too many components, driving complexity and cost – need multi-function components • H₂S stable – High-Temperature Water Gas Shift catalyst, Steam Methane Reformer catalyst • Catalyst regeneration/recovery • Durable catalyst for reforming, i.e., AutoThermal Reforming • De-sulfurization catalysts • Non NH₃ producing Fuel Processor System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very limited fuel flexibility (Natural Gas and Anaerobic Digester Gas - in one) • Variability in fuel processor feedstocks makes standardization difficult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement of BOP suppliers on behalf of the fuel cell industry • Lack of design for manufacturing • Narrow stack operating window results in higher cost, less efficient BOP components

BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE BARRIERS (CONT'D)

BOP	HUMIDIFIER	STACK MATERIAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermal cycle stability of low cost BOP components (ex: HEX) for CHP applications medium temperature fuel cells • Combined Cooling Heat and Power (CCHP), Combined Hydrogen Heat and Power (CHHP), Combined Heat and Power (CHP). • Operating and Maintenance costs are high and not predictable • There needs to be major BOP cost targets (e.g., blowers, DC-DC, etc.) • BOP components are not CE/Underwriters Laboratory/Canadian Standards Association certified. This increases cost and adds delays • BOP is too complex • Air filters - ΔP, size, cost, broad spectrum, regenerate or easy replace • Blowers are not efficient, compact, durable, or reliable enough to meet stationary power needs • The need for a low cost and quiet blower • BOP for PEM systems are too costly, driven by low volume sales • Efficiency of BOP components needs improvement • Need for more reliable, accurate flow measurement of H₂O at high press and low flow (this need is in reformate systems) • Need low cost structural material that are H₂ compatible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost humidifier/water management system required • Need for lower cost pumps that can operate at high pressure - low flow (Reformate system) • Address a simple system (pure H₂/O₂) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stack/MEA development and optimization rarely based on realistic operating conditions • Conventional PEM MEAs require humidification, which adds to system complexity • Required system complexity with present materials/components is too high

BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE BARRIERS (CONT'D)

POWER CONVERSION	SENSORS	MODELS/ALGORITHMS, DIAGNOSTICS	OVER ARCHING (LOAD PROFILES, STANDARDS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power conversion devices are not scalable, flexible, or cost effective for all applications • Power electronics too costly • Power electronics need modular, comp design to enable cost effective solution • Power conversion devices are expensive and not flexible • Standardization for power conversion devices and targets • BOP supply voltages are not standardized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfur detection: low cost, highly sensitive ppb levels • H₂ sensor reliability • H₂ sensors are too costly, cross-sensitive and single use • Need reliable, low cost, compact sensors - H₂, CO, S • Sensor/actuator installation costs • Cost and availability of sensors for process feedback control and for safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need smart diagnostic tools • Too many sensors; need for adequate predictive models to use to replace sensors • Stack diagnostics are costly • Real-time, real-cycles, data analysis of demos • Start-stop operations, turn-down ratio, diagnostics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline load profiles and operating conditions, market segments, life cycle efficiency • Standards for air path, electric path and fuel path • Corporate goals and technical targets should be aligned with each market segment (not only cost (\$/kW))

**BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE
CRITICAL R&D NEEDS**

POWER CONVERSION	DEVELOP ADVANCED, BUT CHEAP SENSORS	ELIMINATE SENSORS THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF MODELS AND PREDICTIVE CONTROLS/ DIAGNOSTICS	BLOWERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modular, scalable and cheap DC/DC to DC/AC converters > 95% • Power conditioners for flexible - DC to AC + DC output, higher efficiency and low cost • Modular, low cost, reliable, DC-DC and DC-AC converters (linked to solar standards) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost, durable H₂ safety sensors • Develop low cost, compact, robust, reliable H₂ sensors that are UL/CSA/CE certified • Sensors - sulfur, O₂, pressure, CO • Robust inexpensive sensors • Low-cost, durable system feedback sensors • Inexpensive devices for detecting S, NH₃, CO • Reliable sensors for steam to carbon ratio. Control for multiple fuels: e.g., natural gas, propane, ADG, Landfill Gas • Analytical methods and tools for field use - 10-100 ppb total S, siloxane - 50-500 ppb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart/comprehensive diagnostics • Predictive modeling that can help eliminate sensors • Modeling to assist controlling steam to carbon ratio via temperature sensor or other (simplify) • Model-based predictive automation using minimum strategic sensors/monitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliable Cheap Efficient blowers > 35% • Develop new blower technologies that are more efficient, reliable and durable and UL/CSA/CE certified

**BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE
CRITICAL R&D NEEDS (CONT'D)**

AIR CLEAN-UP	H ₂ O	REFORMER CATALYST (INCLUDE WATER GAS SHIFT)	PURIFICATION AND SEPARATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low ΔP air filter • Air clean-up/purification/impurity removal materials • Broad spectrum air filters • Air and fuel blower development • Regenerable air clean-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hi-Temperature moisture transport membrane benefit - small/no boiler • Cost effective hot vapor transfer from exhaust to reformer (fundamental development) • Zero-net water CHPs. Water-independent systems under CHP conditions • R&D on H₂O recovery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO reduction catalyst/material development • Longer life catalyst for reforming and WGS - Goal 5 year life • More durable SMR catalyst • Robust, selective reformer catalysts • Sulfur tolerant catalysts - ATR, HTS • H₂S tolerance catalyst - minimize NH₃ formation • Non-ammonia forming reformer catalyst • Catalyst development - durability (temperature), performance (H₂S, NH) • Low temperature - alternative fuel processing catalyst development • Non-PGM FP catalysts that are temperature, S tolerant for SR & ATR • Effect of acid gases on FP catalyst • Fundamental understanding of effect of sulfur on catalyst - and approaches for addressing it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H₂ purification materials - membranes, sorbents, etc. • Hi-temperature CO₂ membranes for use in reformer. Benefits - smaller, lower temperature Fuel Processor, reduced coking • Materials development for CO₂ separation • Lower pressure, stable H₂ separation membranes • CO-tolerant, higher efficiency H₂ separation membranes

**BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE
CRITICAL R&D NEEDS (CONT'D)**

SULFUR REMOVAL	SIMPLIFIED FUEL PROCESSOR DESIGN	FUEL FLEXIBILITY AND CLEAN-UP	BOP COMPONENT - COST, DURABILITY, EFFICIENCY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High capacity sulfur sorbents - >20 wt% for all types - H₂S, CS₂, COS, more organic sulfur compounds. Tolerant to H₂O and higher hydrocarbon • Low cost sulfur removal system • Desulfurization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Regenerable, robust with many S species – Compact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop thermally and physically integrated reactors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reformer, WGS, etc., catalyst coated • Simplified/combined WGS reactors • Reactors for integrated heat exchanger/reactor (reformer, WGS) • Rapid start catalysts (reformer), heated monoliths, catalyst coated • Develop single block PEM fuel reformer based on “tight” thermal and physical integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel flexibility - better understanding of long-term effect of feedstock impurities on fuel processor performance • Development of a variable-fuel resistant processor • Robust/Flexible operation for fuel variability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat exchanger - cycle temperature • Development of low cost, H₂ compatible structural materials • Humidifiers may have limited long term market. Consider this when determining funding priorities • Flow meters: high pressure - low flow (liquid) - low pressure drop (air) • High pressure, low flow pump with manufacturers engagement

**BREAKOUT GROUP 4: LOW-TEMPERATURE FUEL CELL SYSTEM BOP & FUEL PROCESSORS FOR STATIONARY AND AUTOMOTIVE
SESSION SUMMARY**

POWER CONVERSION	FUEL PROCESSING	BALANCE OF PLANT	SYSTEM SIMPLIFICATION	OVERARCHING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commonality across sections (supplier to provide common part) • DC-DC, AC-DC (modular, low cost, reliable, efficient, and scalable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfur removal/fuel clean-up • Reformer catalyst • Purification separation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop advanced, inexpensive sensors • Standardize load profiles and targets • Air clean-up/blowers • BOP components (cost, durability, efficiency) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplified fuel processor design (thermo integration, single block plug & play multi-functionality component) • Eliminate sensors through predictive models, controls, diagnostics • Fuel Flexibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Robust flexible operation for fuel variability – Better understanding of long-term impact of feedstock impurities – Fundamental understanding of fuel chemistry for reforming – Durability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System simplification • Standard load profiles • Standard air path, fuel path, electric path • Wider operating window • BOP/FC teaming for compatibility in system • Stack/cell materials