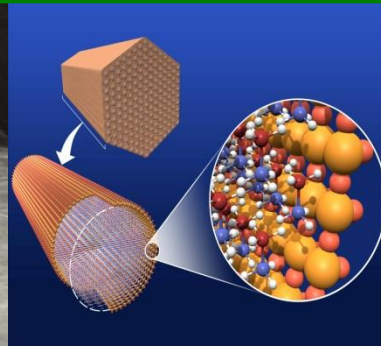




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



# Biological Hydrogen Production Workshop

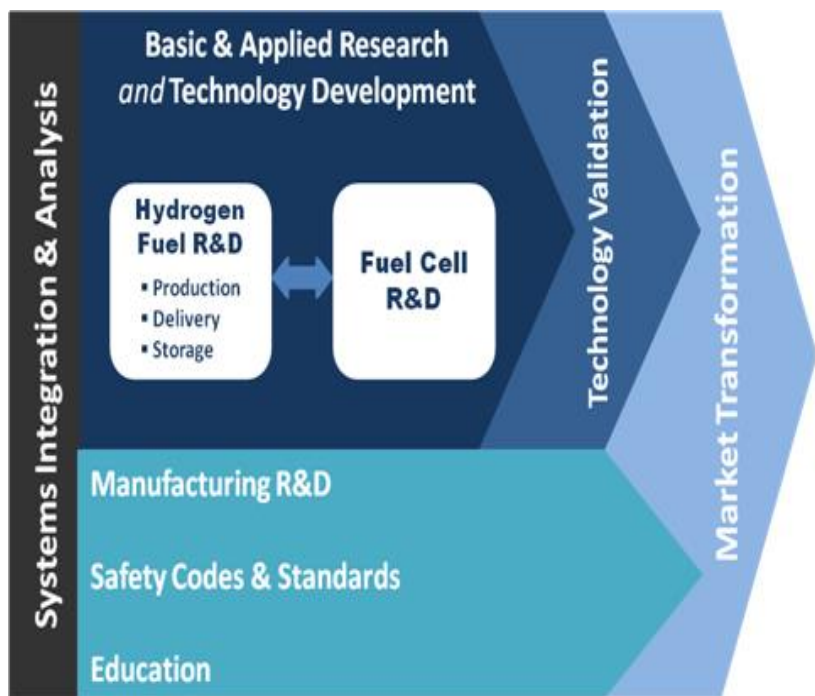
***Sara Dillich***

***U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy  
Fuel Cell Technologies Office***

***National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
Golden, Colorado  
September 24, 2013***

**Mission:** Enable widespread commercialization of a portfolio of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies through applied research, technology development and demonstration, and diverse efforts to overcome institutional and market challenges.

**Key Goals :** Develop hydrogen and fuel cell technologies for early markets (stationary power, lift trucks, portable power), mid-term markets (CHP, APUs, fleets and buses), and long-term markets (light duty vehicles).



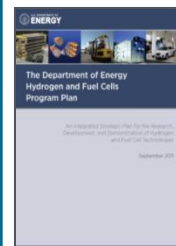
## Examples of Key Targets

- Fuel Cells:
  - Transportation: \$30/kW, 5K hours
  - Stationary: \$1,500/kW, 60-80K hours
  - Hydrogen: \$2 to \$4/gge

WIDESPREAD  
COMMERCIALIZATION  
ACROSS ALL SECTORS

- Transportation
- Stationary Power
- Auxiliary Power
- Backup Power
- Portable Power

DOE H<sub>2</sub> and Fuel Cell Program includes: EERE (Fuel Cell Technologies Office), and DOE Offices of Science, Fossil Energy and Nuclear Energy



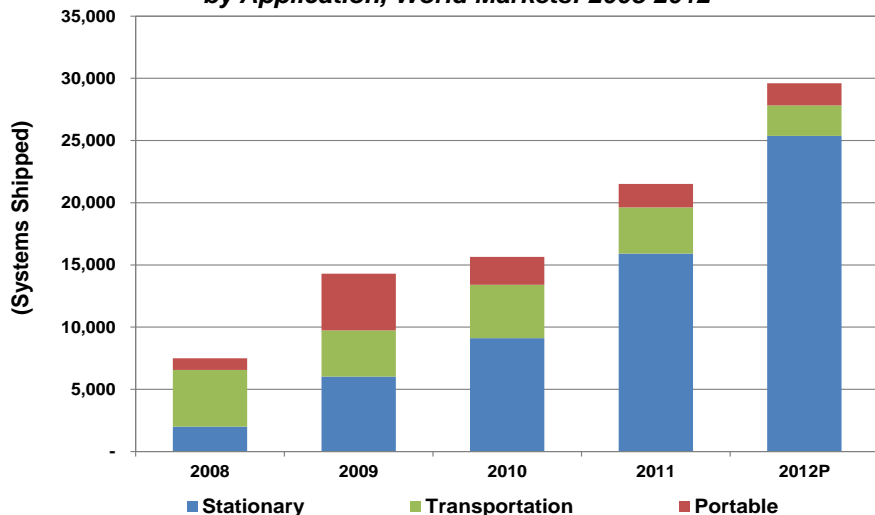
**EERE Multi-year RD&D Plan updated**

*Nearly 300 projects currently funded at companies, national labs, and universities/institutes*

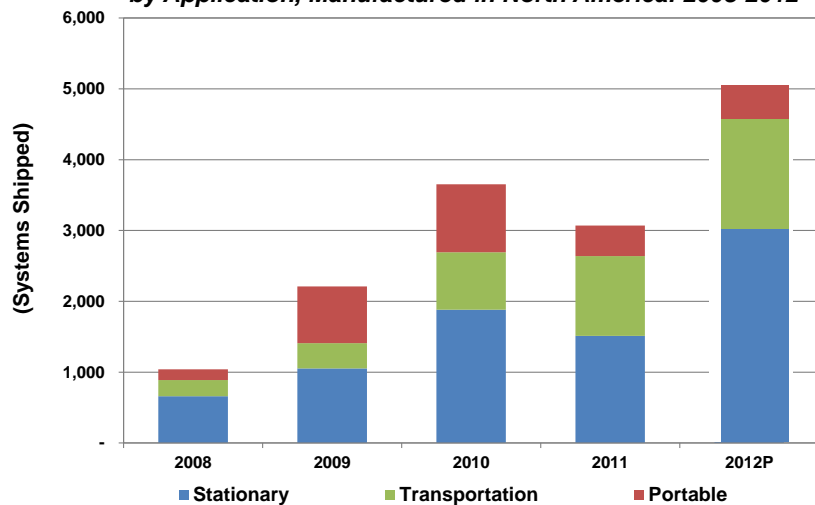
Program Plan at: [http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/program\\_plan2011.pdf](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/program_plan2011.pdf)

Basic research conducted thru Office of Science; Applied RD&D conducted through EERE, FE, NE

**Fuel Cell Systems Shipped**  
*by Application, World Markets: 2008-2012*



**Fuel Cell Systems Shipped**  
*by Application, Manufactured in North America: 2008-2012*



## Market Growth

Fuel cell markets continue to grow  
48% increase in global MWs shipped  
62% increase in North American systems shipped in the last year

## The Market Potential

Independent analyses show global markets could mature over the next 10–20 years, producing revenues of:

- \$14 – \$31 billion/year for stationary power
- \$11 billion/year for portable power
- \$18 – \$97 billion/year for transportation

Several automakers have announced commercial FCEVs in the 2015-2017 timeframe.

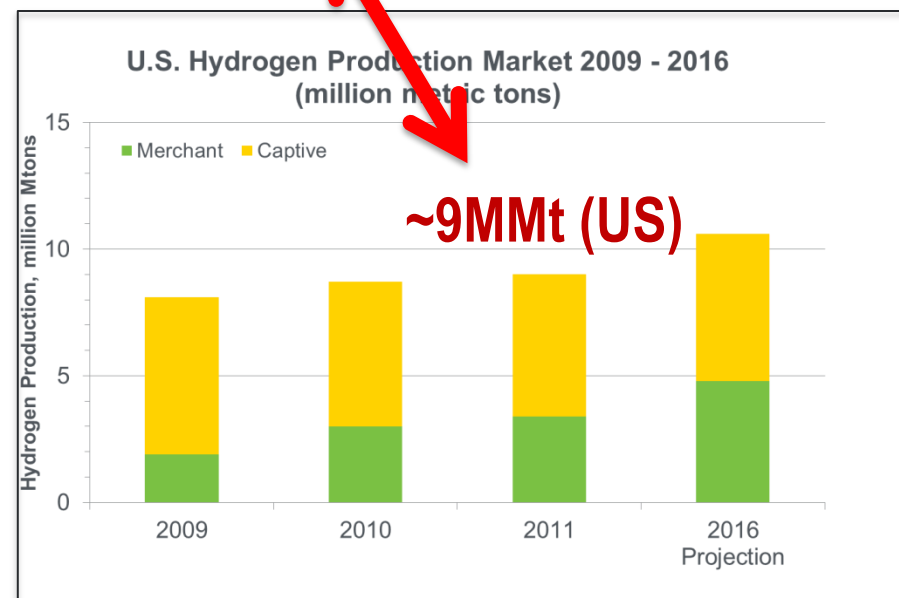
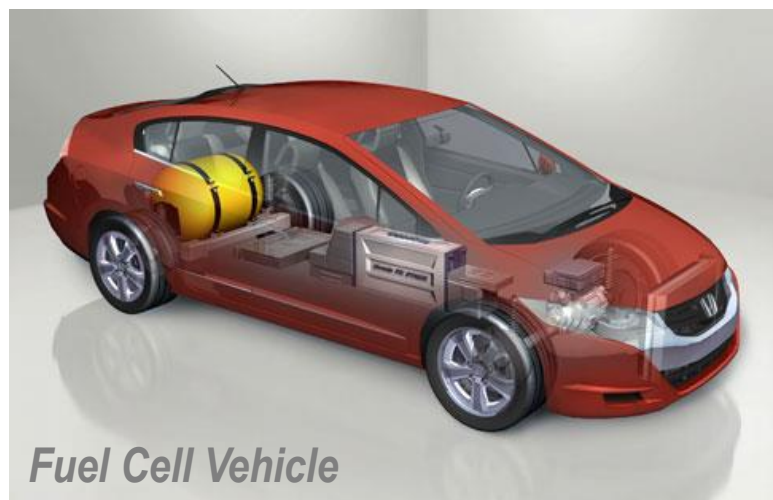
For further details and sources see: *DOE Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program Plan*, [http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/program\\_plan2011.pdf](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/program_plan2011.pdf); *FuelCells 2000, Fuel Cell Today*, Navigant Research

# H<sub>2</sub> Targets Relate to Auto Market Needs

Number of Fuel Cell Cars Served	Hydrogen Demand (metric tons per day) <sup>1</sup>	Hydrogen Demand (million metric tons per year)
1 million	700	<b>0.25 (&lt;&lt;9)</b>
250 million	175,000	<b>~64 (&gt;&gt;9)</b>

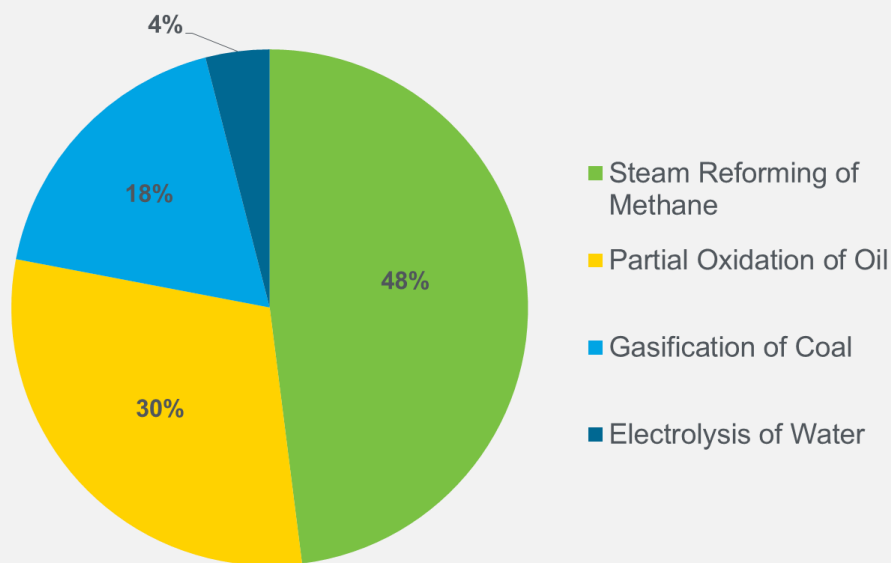
*early deployment*

*~# cars on US roads*



<sup>1</sup>Based on "Transitions to Alternate Transportation Technology- A Focus on Hydrogen. National Research Council of National Academies. 2008"

Global Hydrogen Production, by Technology, 2009



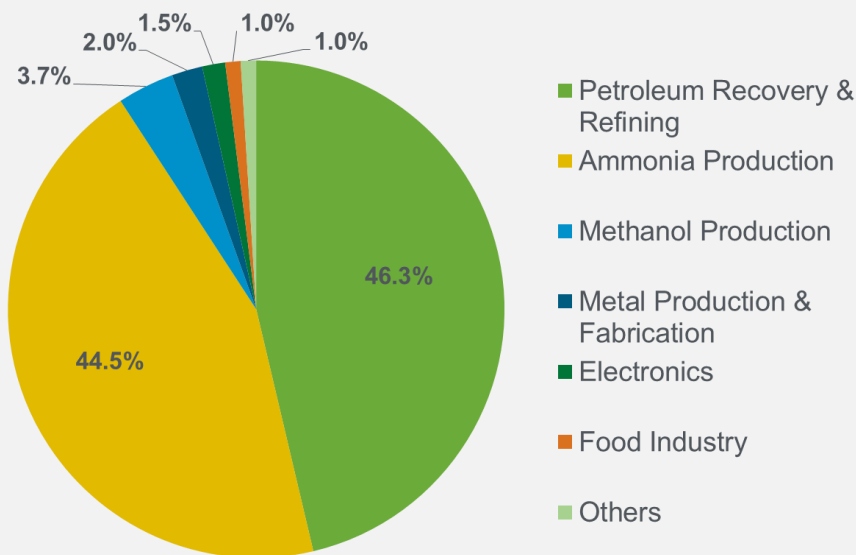
Hydrogen is produced through a variety of technologies, though ~95% of U.S. hydrogen production comes from SMR.

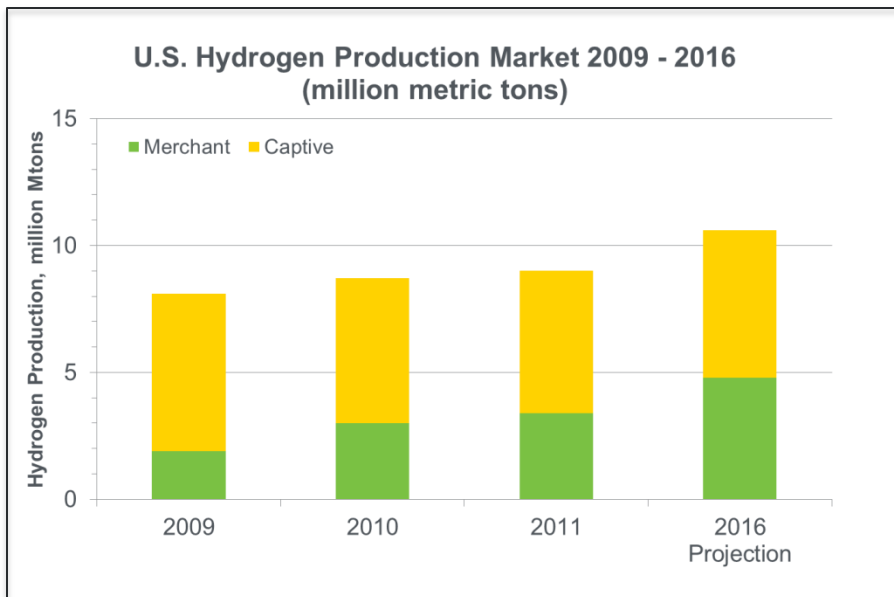
Hydrogen is used in a broad range of applications including electronics and metal production and fabrication in addition to its traditional role in refinery operations and ammonia production.

## Major merchant suppliers

- Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
- Airgas, Inc.
- Air Liquide
- BOC India Limited
- Linde AG
- Praxair Inc.
- Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corp.

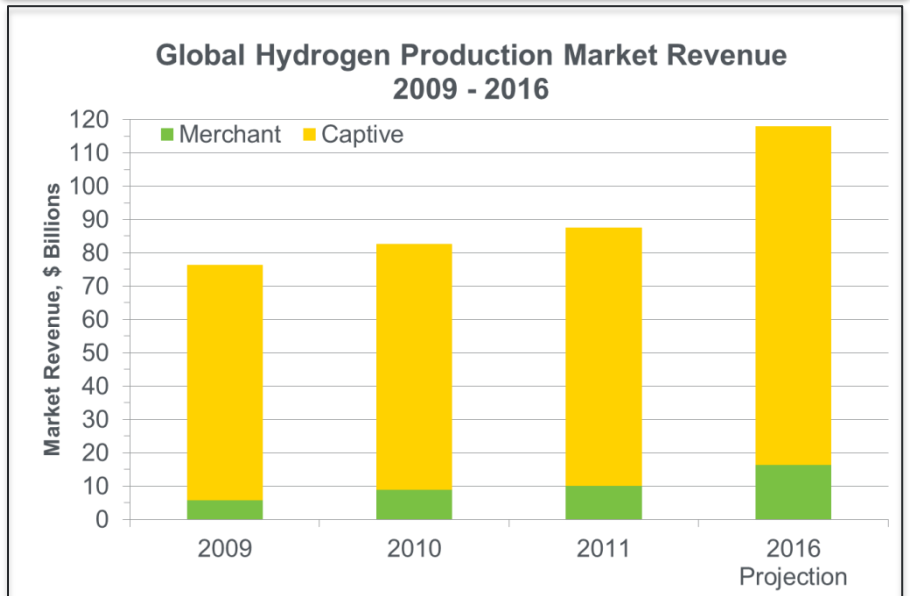
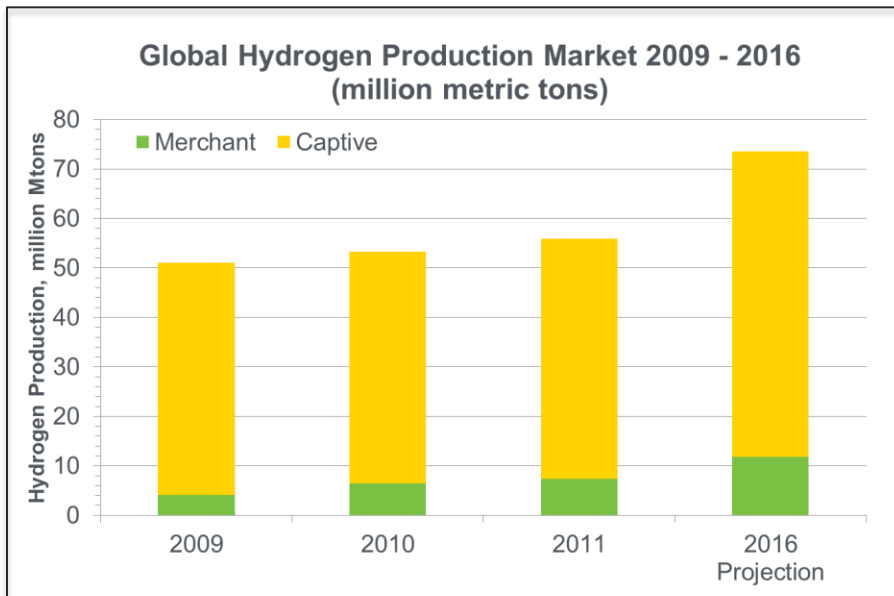
2010 Hydrogen Consumption Market Share by Application





**Hydrogen production markets both in the U.S. and worldwide are expected to increase in the next 5 years, with a ~30% growth estimated for global production.**

**The expected global hydrogen production market revenue in 2016 is \$118 billion.**

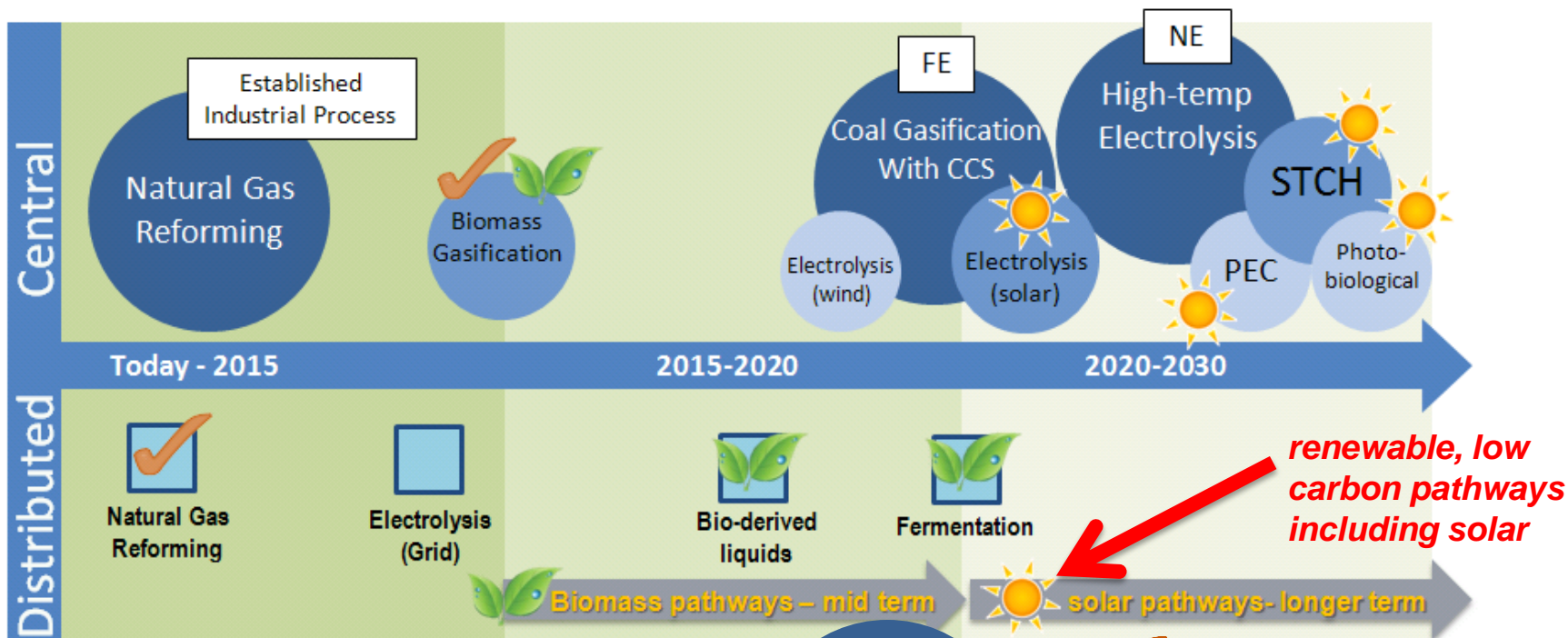


# DOE Hydrogen Production Portfolio

**Objective: Develop technologies to produce hydrogen from clean, domestic resources at a delivered and dispensed cost of \$2-\$4/kg H<sub>2</sub> by 2020**

## Recent Program Accomplishments:

- >550% return on investment (\$48M in direct revenues) from electrolyzer products
- Reduced stack costs by >60% to less than \$400/kW since 2007 (Proton OnSite, Giner)



Estimated Plant Capacity (kg/day)

Up to 1,500

50,000

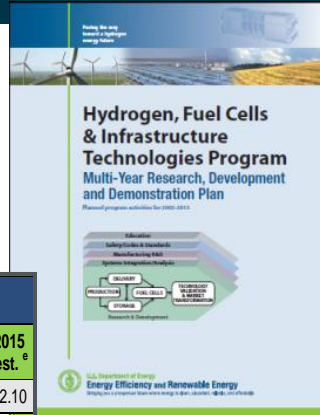
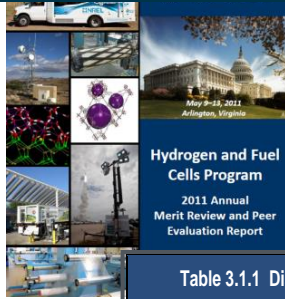
100,000

≥500,000

✓ P&D Subprogram R&D efforts successfully concluded

FE, NE: R&D efforts in DOE Offices of Fossil and Nuclear Energy, respectively

## Technoeconomic analyses inform programmatic decisions

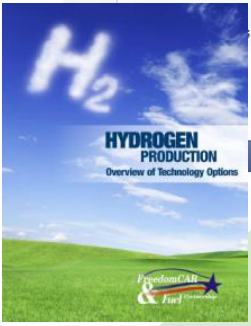


**H2A Analysis Tool Case Studies**  
(including feedstock, capital and O&M)

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a\\_analysis.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a_analysis.html)

Table 3.1.1 Distributed Forecourt Natural Gas Reforming<sup>a, b, c</sup>

Characteristics	Units	2010 Status <sup>d</sup>	2015 est. <sup>e</sup>
Hydrogen Levelized Cost (Production Only) <sup>f</sup>	\$/kg H <sub>2</sub>	\$2.03	\$2.10
Production Equipment Total Capital Investment	\$M	\$1.5	\$1.2
Production Energy Efficiency <sup>g</sup>	%	71.4	74
Production Equipment Availability <sup>c</sup>	%	97	97
Industrial Natural Gas Price <sup>h</sup>	average \$/mmBtu	\$7.78	\$8.81



2010  
2011

### Cost Analysis

- Update of H2A v.3 and HDSAM analysis models
- Apportionment of cost threshold

2012

### Performance Target Analysis

- *Fuel Cell Technologies Program Multi-Year Research, Development and Demonstration Plan (MYRD&D)*

**Informed  
Prioritization  
of Funding**

2009

### Identification of R&D pathways.

- Develop near-zero emission H<sub>2</sub> production and delivery technologies
- *Hydrogen Production Roadmap*
- *Hydrogen Delivery Roadmap*





*New project initiated to continue refinement of case studies*

## Team:

*Strategic Analysis, Inc.*

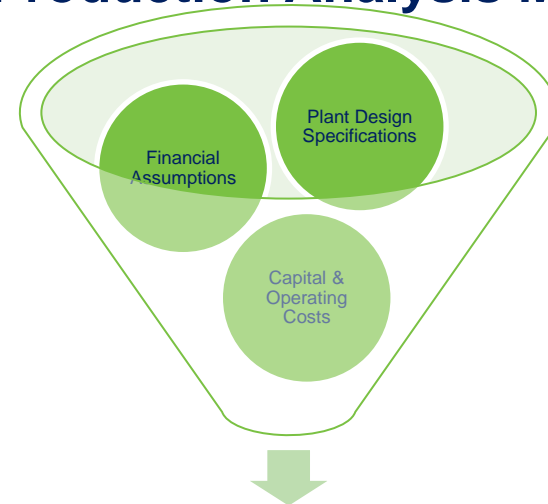
PI: Brian James

Partners: NREL, ANL

## Scope:

- Establish cost and performance baselines and track progress for R&D projects (with R&D project teams)
- Update pathway cases and develop new pathway case studies as needed
- Standardize assumptions & metrics for longer term pathways (with DOE and project teams)

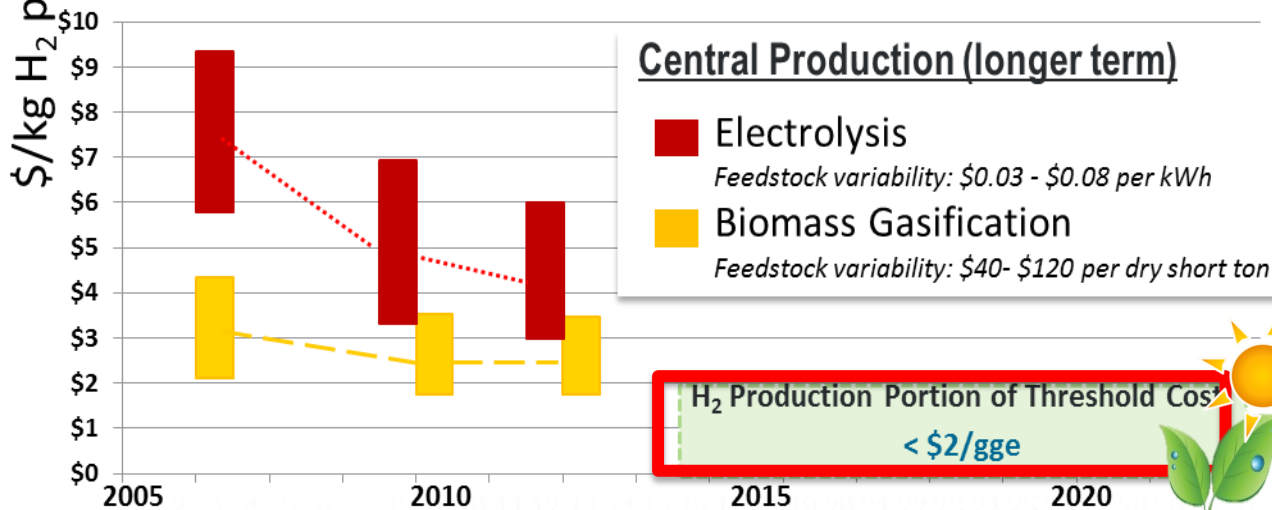
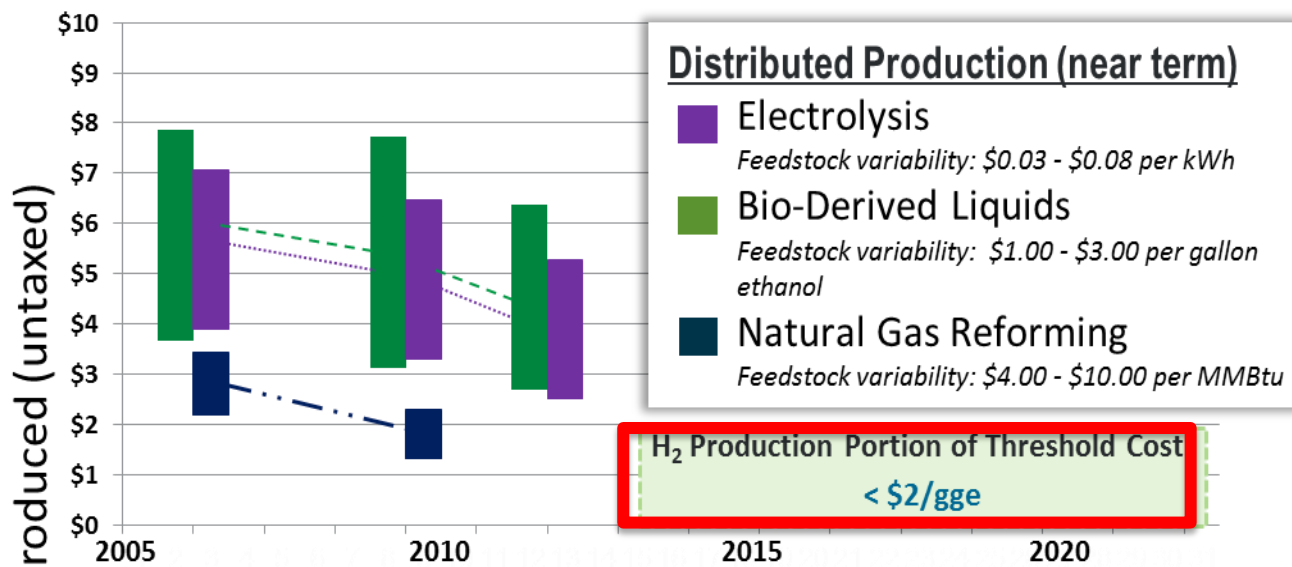
## H2A Production Analysis Model



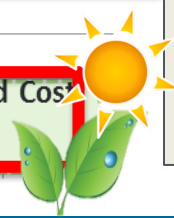
Required Selling Price of  
H2 (\$/kg)

	\$/kg (production costs only)	2011 Status	2015 Target	2020 Target	Ultimate Production Target
Distributed	Electrolysis from grid electricity	\$4.20	\$3.90	\$2.30	\$1-\$2
	Bio-derived Liquids (based on ethanol reforming case)	\$6.60	\$5.90	\$2.30	
Central	Electrolysis From renewable electricity	\$4.10	\$3.00	\$2.00	
	Biomass Gasification	\$2.20	\$2.10	\$2.00	
	Solar Thermochemical	NA	\$14.80	\$3.70	
	Photoelectrochemical	NA	\$17.30	\$5.70	
	Biological	NA	NA	\$9.20	

## Projected High-Volume Cost of H<sub>2</sub> fuel for Near-Term Production Pathways



- Status of hydrogen cost (production only, does not include delivery or dispensing costs) is shown in vertical bars, reflecting values based on a range of assumptions (feedstock/capital costs).
- Cost ranges are shown in 2007 dollars, based on projections from H2A analyses, and reflect variability in major feedstock pricing and a bounded range for capital cost estimates.
- Projections of costs assume Nth-plant construction, distributed station capacities of 1,500 kg/day, and centralized station capacities of ≥50,000 kg/day.



## Innovative reactor configurations and genetic engineering used to improve microbial hydrogen production

### R&D Approach and Focus

- Development of strains with improved hydrogen production capacity
- Technoeconomic analysis to establish efficiency and production duration requirements for meeting DOE cost goal

### Develop O<sub>2</sub>-tolerant Photolytic Organisms

- Engineered cyanobacterial strains with non-native, oxygen-tolerant hydrogenases (NREL, JCVI)
- Algae with modified or replaced hydrogenases to reduce oxygen sensitivity (NREL)

### Improved Photo-biological Activity

- Increase light utilization by reducing collection of excess photons (UC-Berkeley)
- Improved energy flow from photosynthesis to hydrogen production pathways (NREL, JCVI)

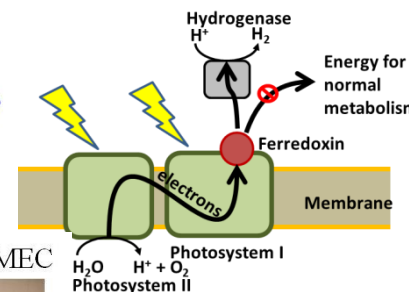
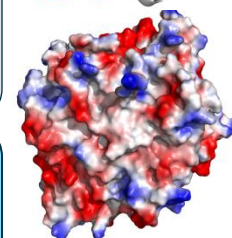
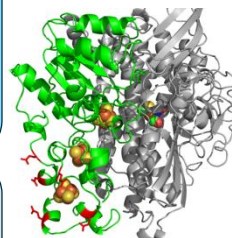
### Feedstocks

- Improved utilization of less refined biomass feedstocks (cellulose, corn stover) through genetic engineering, optimized mixtures of strains (NREL)
- Optimized Microbial Electrolysis Cells (MEC) to produce hydrogen from fermentation wastewater (Penn State)

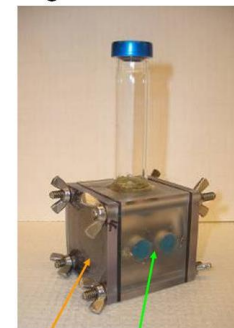
### Reactor Designs

- Improved sequence-batch bioreactor systems (NREL)
- Innovative MEC designs to reduce or eliminate external power requirements (Penn State)

### Genetic engineering to improve strain's hydrogen production capacity



single-chamber MEC



Cathode  
Brush anode



Improved reactor designs for better feedstock utilization, hydrogen production rates

## Technoeconomic analysis leads to aggressive targets

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a\\_prod\\_studies.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/h2a_prod_studies.html)

### Photolytic

Table 3.1.10 Technical Targets: Photolytic Biological Hydrogen Production <sup>a</sup>

Characteristics	Units	2011 Status	2015 Target <sup>c</sup>	2020 Target <sup>d</sup>	Ultimate Target <sup>e</sup>
Hydrogen Cost <sup>b</sup>	\$/kg	NA	NA	9.20	2.00
Reactor Cost <sup>f</sup>	\$/m <sup>2</sup>	NA	NA	14	11
Light utilization efficiency (% incident solar energy that is converted into photochemical energy) <sup>g</sup>	%	25 <sup>h</sup>	28	30	54
Duration of continuous H <sub>2</sub> production at full sunlight intensity <sup>i</sup>	Time Units	2 min <sup>j</sup>	30 min	4 h	8 h
Solar to H <sub>2</sub> (STH) Energy Conversion Ratio <sup>k</sup>	%	<b>NA</b>	2%	5%	<b>17%</b>
1-Sun Hydrogen Production Rate <sup>l</sup>	kg/s per m <sup>2</sup>	NA	1.6E-7	4.1E-7	1.4E-6

### Fermentation and MECs

Table 3.1.12 Technical Targets: Dark Fermentative Hydrogen Production and Microbial Electrolysis Cells (MECs) <sup>a</sup>

Characteristics	Units	2011 Status	2015 Target	2020 Target <sup>b</sup>
Feedstock Cost <sup>c</sup>	cents/lb. sugar	13.5	10	8
Yield of H <sub>2</sub> production from glucose by fermentation <sup>d</sup>	mol H <sub>2</sub> /mol glucose	3.2 <sup>e</sup>	4	6
Yield of H <sub>2</sub> production from glucose by integrated MEC – fermentation <sup>f</sup>	mol H <sub>2</sub> /mol glucose	-	6 <sup>e</sup>	9 <sup>e</sup>
Duration of continuous production (fermentation)	Time	17 days <sup>g</sup>	3 months	6 months
MEC cost of electrodes	\$/m <sup>2</sup>	2,400 <sup>h</sup>	300	50
MEC production rate	L-H <sub>2</sub> / L-reactor-day	<b>NA</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

### Photofermentative

Table 3.1.11 Technical Targets: Photosynthetic Bacterial Hydrogen Production <sup>a</sup>

Characteristics	Units	2011 Status	2015 Target	2020 Target <sup>b</sup>
Efficiency of Incident Solar Light Energy to H <sub>2</sub> (E0*E1*E2) <sup>c</sup> from organic acids	%	NA	3	4.5
Molar Yield of Carbon Conversion to H <sub>2</sub> (depends on nature of organic substrate) E3 <sup>d</sup>	% of maximum	NA	50	65
Duration of continuous photoproduction <sup>e</sup>	Time	<b>NA</b>	30 days	<b>3 mos</b>



FCT Multi-Year Research, Development and Demonstration Plan: using H2A v3 analysis

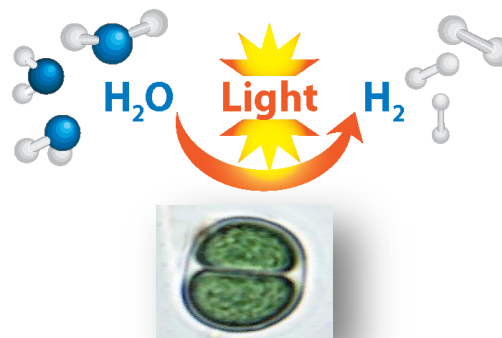
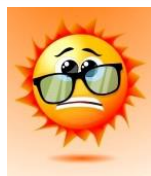
<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/mypp/pdfs/production.pdf>

## How do we get from “NA” to ultimate goals?

Advances continue in all the biological hydrogen pathways, but to achieve aggressive targets the R&D communities must keep considering:

- What are the **THEORETICAL** limits?
- What are the **PRACTICAL** barriers?
- What **FUNDAMENTAL R&D** is needed?
- What **ENGINEERING R&D** is needed?
- What other barriers must be addressed?
- What R&D trajectories are possible in the near- and long-term?

**Cost, Production,  
Conversion Efficiency**  
**Current Status: ???**



**Production at \$2/gge  $H_2$   
> 50,000 kg/day**

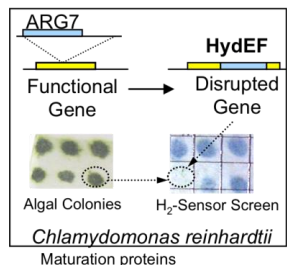
- Unit sub-processes must be clearly defined with quantitative metrics and limits.
- Relationships of unit processes to system performance must be clearly mapped.
- **SYSTEM METRICS\*** are critical.
- **SYNERGIES** across pathways should be exploited.

\* kinetics, efficiency, durability, etc.

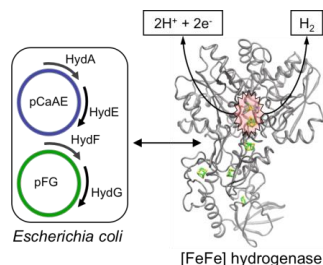
## Biological: Tools developed to manipulate bacterial genome for O<sub>2</sub> tolerant hydrogen production

### Office of Science-funded research (Basic)

**Goal:** understand the growth factors and signal transduction pathways that regulate transcription of the H<sub>2</sub>ase genes in green algae

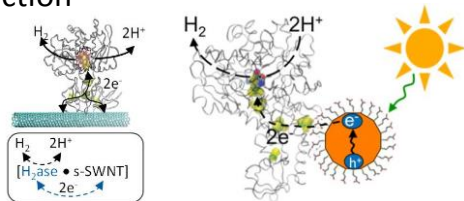
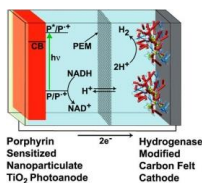


HYDEF mutant in *C. reinhardtii* cannot assemble [FeFe]-H<sub>2</sub>ase catalytic site



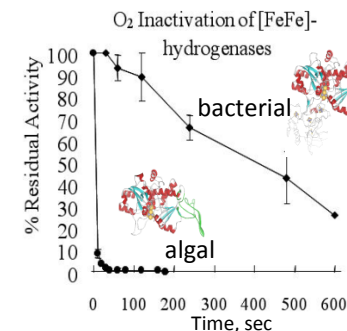
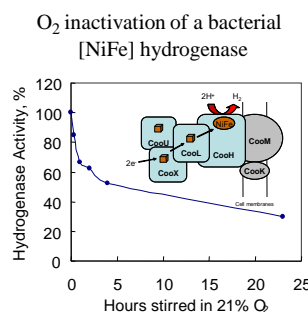
Over-expression of maturases HydE, F and G and structural protein HydA to produce active [FeFe]-H<sub>2</sub>ases in the bacterium, *E. coli*

**Goal:** understand molecular assembly and function of H<sub>2</sub>ases in artificial photosynthetic systems for light-driven H<sub>2</sub> production

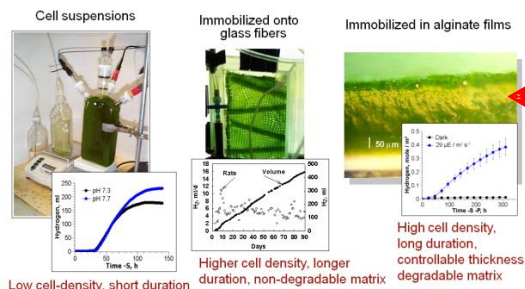


### EERE-funded research (Applied R&D)

**Goal:** express a more O<sub>2</sub>-tolerant bacterial H<sub>2</sub>ase in oxygenic photosynthetic organisms (algae or cyanobacteria) to function under *aerobic* conditions



**Goal:** optimize sustained *anaerobic* H<sub>2</sub> production and use it to examine other limiting factors to guide development aerobic H<sub>2</sub> Production to meet targets



Yields H<sub>2</sub> with a conversion efficiency of ~1% under aerobic conditions and low fluorescent light intensity

Low cell-density, short duration Higher cell density, longer duration, non-degradable matrix

High cell density, long duration, controllable thickness, degradable matrix

## New in 2013: H<sub>2</sub>USA- Public-private partnership to enable the widespread commercialization of FCEVs and address the challenge of hydrogen infrastructure

### Federal Agencies

- DOC
  - DOD
  - DOE
  - DOT
  - EPA
  - GSA
  - DOI
  - DHS
  - NASA
  - NSF
  - USDA
  - USPS
- Interagency coordination through staff-level Interagency Working Group (meets monthly)
- Assistant Secretary-level Interagency Task Force mandated by EPACT 2005.

### External Input

- Annual Merit Review & Peer Evaluation
- H<sub>2</sub> & Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee
- National Academies, GAO, etc.

### Industry Partnerships & Stakeholder Assn's.

- Tech Teams (U.S. DRIVE)
- Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association (FCHEA)
- Hydrogen Utility Group
- ~ 65 projects with 50 companies

### Universities

~ 50 projects with 40 universities

### International

- IEA Implementing agreements – 25 countries
- International Partnership for Hydrogen & Fuel Cells in the Economy – 17 countries & EC

## DOE Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Program

### State & Regional Partnerships

- California Fuel Cell Partnership
- California Stationary Fuel Cell Collaborative
- SC H<sub>2</sub> & Fuel Cell Alliance
- Upper Midwest Hydrogen Initiative
- Ohio Fuel Coalition
- Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology

### National Laboratories

National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
P&D, S, FC, A, SC&S, TV, MN  
Argonne A, FC, P&D, SC&S  
Los Alamos S, FC, SC&S

Sandia P&D, S, SC&S  
Pacific Northwest P&D, S, FC, SC&S, A  
Oak Ridge P&D, S, FC, A, SC&S  
Lawrence Berkeley FC, A

Lawrence Livermore P&D, S, SC&S  
Savannah River S, P&D  
Brookhaven S, FC  
Idaho National Lab P&D

**Other Federal Labs:** Jet Propulsion Lab, National Institute of Standards & Technology, National Energy Technology Lab (NETL)

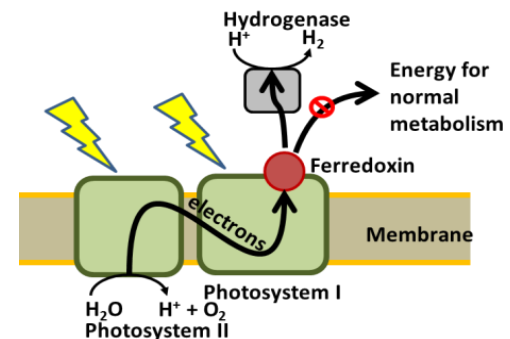
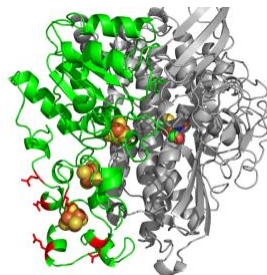
P&D = Production & Delivery; S = Storage; FC = Fuel Cells; A = Analysis; SC&S = Safety, Codes & Standards; TV = Technology Validation, MN = Manufacturing

## Objective:

To identify research and development (R&D) needs in the areas of photobiological and non-light driven bio-hydrogen production.

## Outcome:

- Summary of key biological hydrogen production issues, barriers and opportunities
- Summary of key R&D areas with potential to meet DOE cost and performance goals
- Provide the resulting workshop report for public dissemination

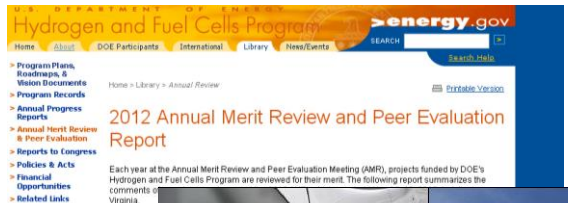




## Two Sessions: photobiological and non-light driven biological hydrogen production

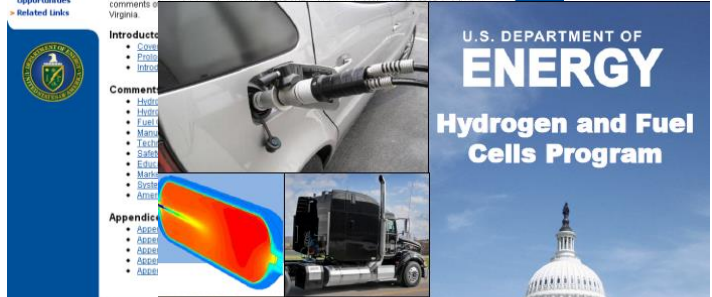
- Expert panel discussions
- Breakout Sessions to Identify:
  - Issues involved in developing low-cost biological hydrogen production methods
  - Major barriers to developing low-cost biological hydrogen production
  - R&D needed to achieve efficient, low-cost biological hydrogen production
  - Key near-term activities for impact on production issues and barriers

# Annual Merit Review



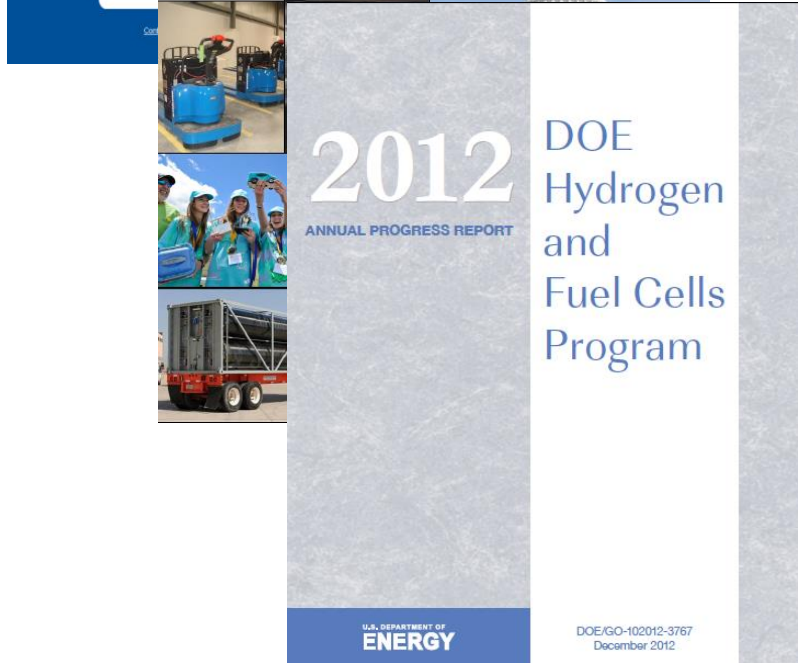
**Annual Merit Review & Peer Evaluation Proceedings**  
*Includes downloadable versions of all presentations at the Annual Merit Review*

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual\\_review13\\_proceedings.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual_review13_proceedings.html)



**Annual Merit Review & Peer Evaluation Report**  
*Summarizes the comments of the Peer Review Panel at the Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting*

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual\\_review12\\_report.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual_review12_report.html)



**Annual Progress Report**  
*Summarizes activities and accomplishments within the Program over the preceding year, with reports on individual projects*

[http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual\\_progress12.html](http://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/annual_progress12.html)

**Save the Date**  
Next Annual Review: June 13– 17, 2014 Arlington, VA  
<http://annualmeritreview.energy.gov/>

# Thank You

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