#### Geothermal Technologies Office 2013 Peer Review



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy



### Auto Indexer for Percussive Hammers

April 22-25, 2013

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Research & Development Drilling

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- Objective: Improve well construction capabilities to lower the cost of geothermal resources
- Barriers: Geothermal environments challenge existing drilling hardware and techniques
- Solution: Use existing drilling techniques augmented by new technology to enhance drilling capabilities
- Innovation:
  - High-temperature downhole motor for use in geothermal drilling
  - Elastomer-free (high-temperature operation)
  - High peak torque in a small form factor
  - Performance targets: comparable to PDM



- Impact:
  - Enable advanced drilling techniques through downhole rotation
  - Promote the use of hammer drilling in geothermal formations
  - Improve penetration rates in hot, hard rock
  - Expand the driller's toolbox

# Scientific/Technical Approach



- Adapt prior motor concept to work in a geothermal environment (TRL 2)
  - Impulsive torque device
  - Up to 40x torque compared to conventional motors
- Develop prototype from proof-of-concept (TRL 4/5)
  - Engineering design
  - Material selection
  - Fabrication
  - Laboratory testing
  - Modifications and improvements
  - Drill testing

- Pros
  - High-temperature capable
  - Elastomer-free operation
  - Standard joint connections
  - Compact design
  - High peak torque
- Cons
  - Intermittent rotation
  - Additional shock loading in the BHA
  - May have difficulty in compliant mediums
  - Doesn't address other limitations of hammers in geothermal drilling

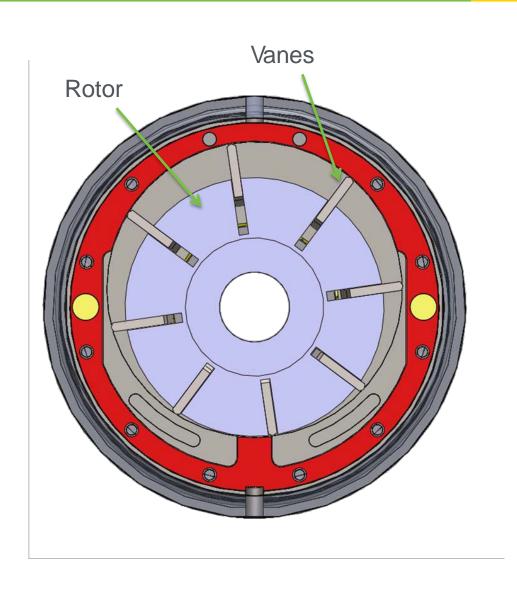
# Auto Indexer Assembly

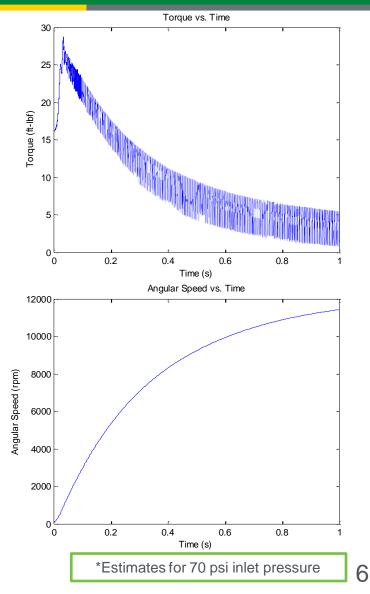




# Design (Analytical Modeling)

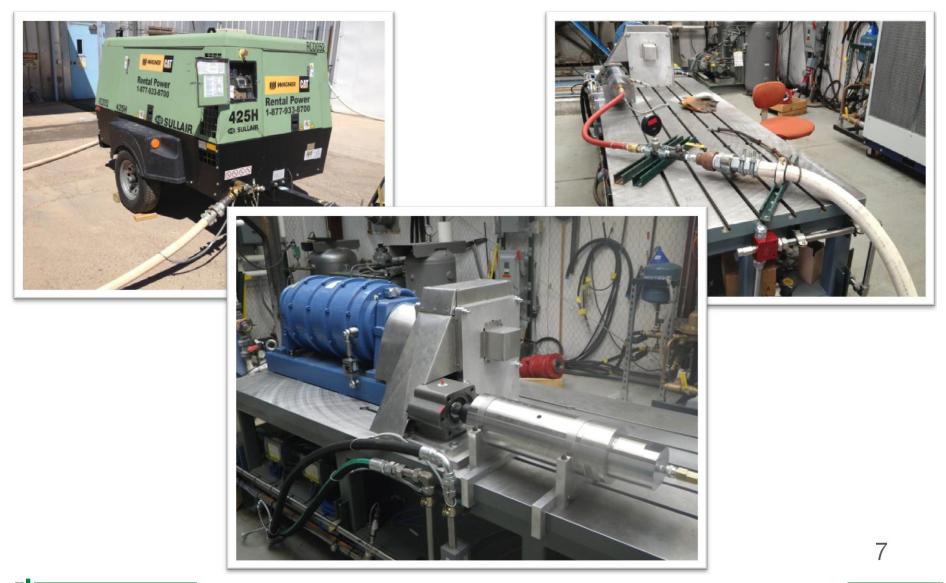
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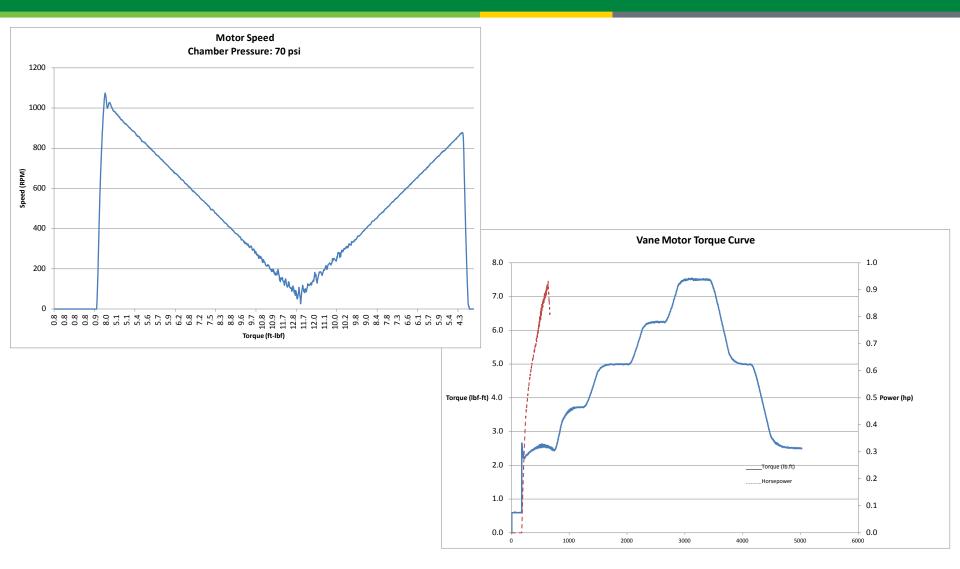
# **Dynamometer Testing**

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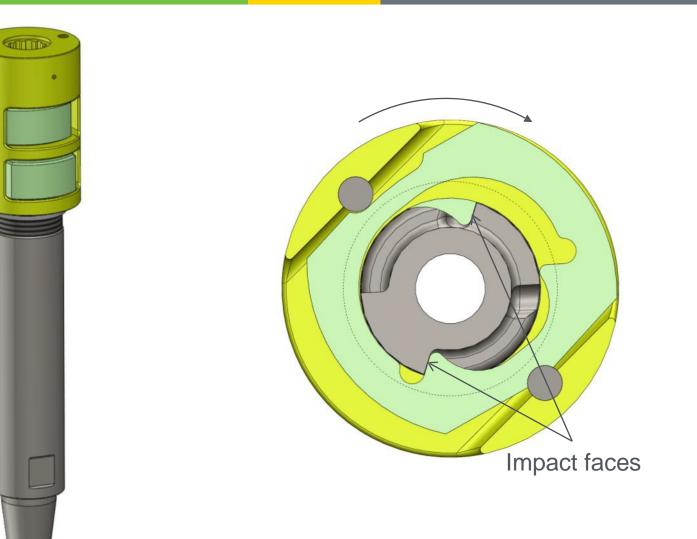
# **Dynamometer Testing**

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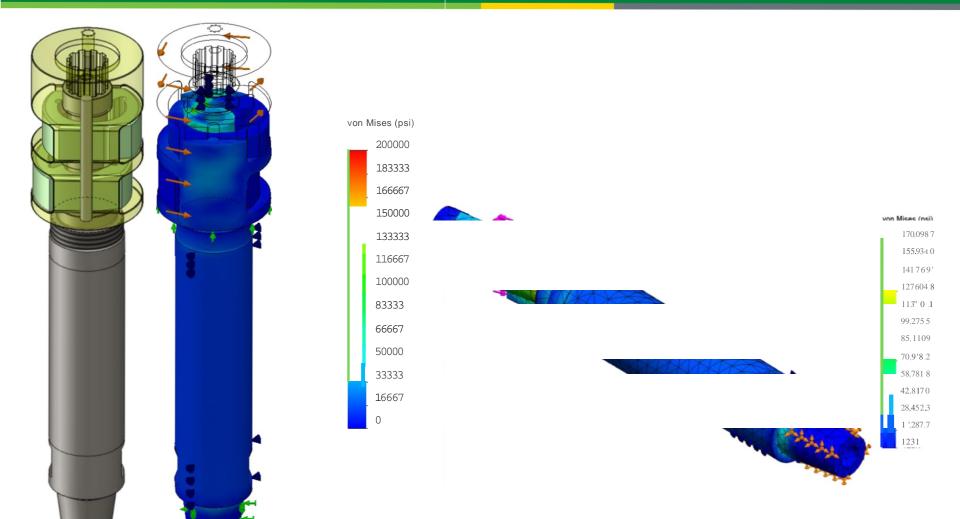
### **Drive Section Testing**

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# Design (Stress Analysis)

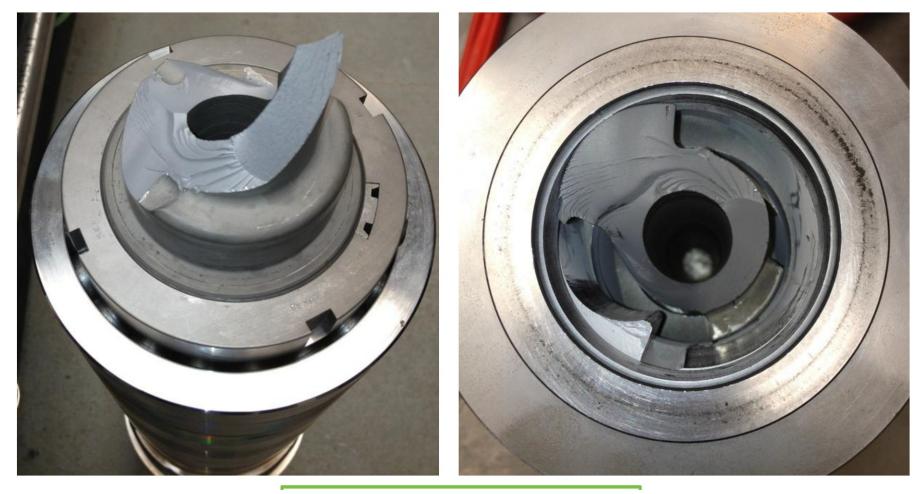
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# **Drive Component Testing**



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Brittle failure of A2 drive shaft

# **Drive Component Testing**

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Alternate material selection: S7 shock steel

# Drive Components (Hammers)

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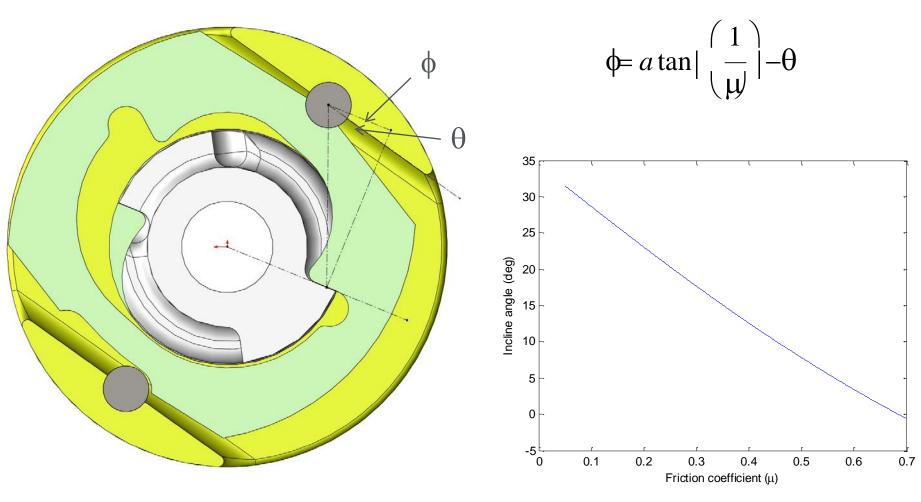


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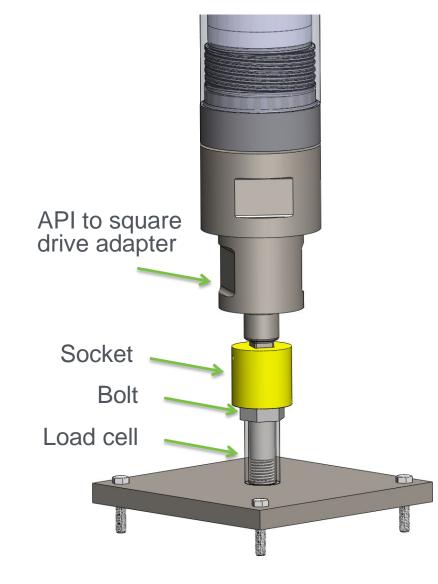
## **Drive Section Geometry**

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# **Torque Measurement**





- Challenges:
  - Dynamometer not designed for impulse loading
  - Expensive/long lead for potential measurement tools
- Solution:
  - Drive bolt, measure axial load with load cell
  - Convert bolt load to torque through known relationships

$$T = F \cdot K \cdot d$$

# Torque Results







P <sub>set</sub> (psi)	P <sub>measured</sub> (psi)	Force (lbf)	Torque (lbf-ft)
200	90	64,600	1000
250	175	91,000	1420
300	250	117,000	1830
350	300	131,000	2040

# Accomplishments, Results and Progress

- Technical Accomplishments/Progress to Date
  - Completed engineering design and analysis
  - Prototype fabricated
  - Power section tested on dynamometer
  - Completed drive section testing
  - Torque output of tool quantified
  - Functional testing of tool is continuing

- Challenges to Date
  - Material selection
  - Drive section geometry
  - Quantifying performance

	Key Activities	FY 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012
FY 11	Percussive hammer white paper	Paper delivered 04/05/2011				
	Engineering design and drawings	Completed by 07/20/11				
	Prototype fabrication	Completed by 11/21/11				
	Component level bench top testing			Completed		
	Prototype functional test				Completed	
FY 12	Component revisions				Ongoing	
	Test design revisions				Ongoing	
	Drilling tests					Pending
	Project reporting					Pending

# **Future Directions**



- Additional testing
  - Continue prototype lab testing
  - Drilling tests with prototype
- Identify commercial partners
- Progress towards FY2013 milestones
  - Field testing activities (pending)
  - Communicating results (in progress)



- Prototype indexing tool designed, built and tested
- Performance in line with expectations
- Revisions being made to improve performance and durability



Timeline	Planned	Planned	Actual	Actual /Est.	
	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	
	2/1/2011	9/30/2013	4/1/2011	9/30/2013	

Budget	Federal Share	Cost Share	Planned Expenses to Date		Value of Work Completed to Date	
	\$900,000	\$0	\$707,000	\$740,000	\$625,750	\$0