

# Electrolyzer Codes and Standards

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# Outline

- 1** What are Codes and Standards

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- 2** Examples of Relevant Codes

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- 3** Current Codes and Standards Work

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- 4** Resources

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# What are Codes and Standards

- A code is a set of rules or guidance that experts recommend others follow
  - Can be adopted into law
- Standards are detailed documents outlining how to meet code
- Codes and standards are agreed upon best practices
- Are updated or reviewed on a regularly scheduled basis
- May receive public input to identify issues and areas that need improved for the next cycle
- Intended to assist with the deployment of safe systems



# Flatirons Campus Example



- Research system connected to controllable grid simulator (CGI) renewable energy generation, and battery storage
  - 1.25 MW Electrolyzer
  - 1 MW Fuel Cell
  - 600 kg of  $H_2$  storage at 20 MPa
  - Compressor
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- This presentation does not provide and exhaustive list of codes and standards
  - This presentation does not go into liquid hydrogen codes and standards

# Facility Perspective: Codes and Standards

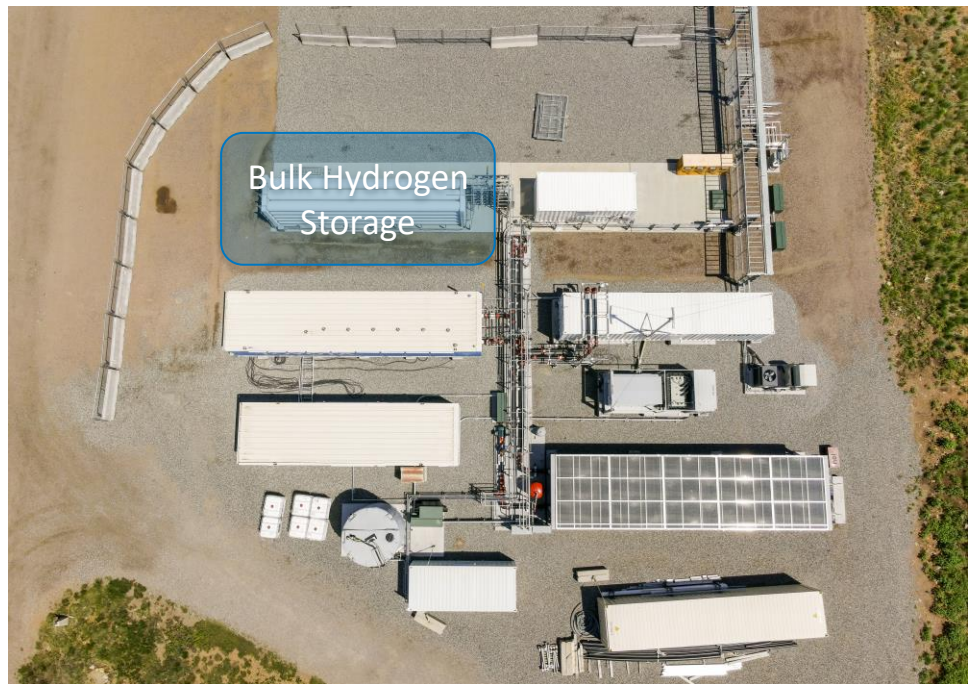
- International/National
  - Fire Code
  - Fuel Gas Code
  - Mechanical Code
  - Building Code
  - Electrical Code (IEC/NFPA 70)
- NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
- NFPA 55 Compressed Gases and Cryogenic Fluids
- CGA G-5 Hydrogen
- ISO TR15916 Basic Consideration for the Safety of Hydrogen Systems
- OSHA Regulations 29 CFR 1910, Subpart H, Hazardous Materials
  - OSHA 1910.103 Hydrogen
  - OSHA 1910.119 Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals, Toxins and Reactives
    - Application defined by quantity threshold
- Factory Mutual Global Property Loss Prevention Data Sheets Hydrogen 7-91





# Facility Perspective: Impact on Layout

- Bulk storage has the largest impact of facility size
  - NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
- Locations of hazardous electrical classification zones guides design
  - NFPA 70
    - Can require significant effort



# Electrolyzer Specific Codes and Standards (System Level)

- NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
  - Chapter 13 Hydrogen Generation systems
    - Scope
      - $36 \text{ g/hr} < \text{Generation capacity} < 100 \text{ kg/hr}$
      - Permanently installed hydrogen generation systems
      - References that water electrolyzers shall be listed to ISO 22734
- CSA/ANSI B22734 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis (adoptions with Canadian and U.S. deviation of ISO 22734)
  - Scope
    - No generation capacity limit
    - Potential gap - high temperature electrolysis not explicitly included in the scope
    - Transport medium of aqueous base, aqueous acids, proton exchange membrane (PEM), and anion exchange membrane (AEM) included



# Subsystem: Enclosures Design

- NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
- ISO 22734 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis
- NFPA 69 Standard on Explosion Prevention Systems
- NFPA 70 National Electric Code (NEC)
- NFPA 496 Standard for Purged and Pressurized Enclosures
- NFPA 497 Recommended Practice of the Classification of Flammable Liquids, Gases, or Vapors
- IEC 60079-10-1 Explosive Atmospheres – Part 10-1: Classification of Areas- Explosive Gas Atmospheres
- Considerations
  - Air intake locations
  - Ventilation
  - Detection ( $\text{GH}_2$  and fire)
  - Emergency isolation





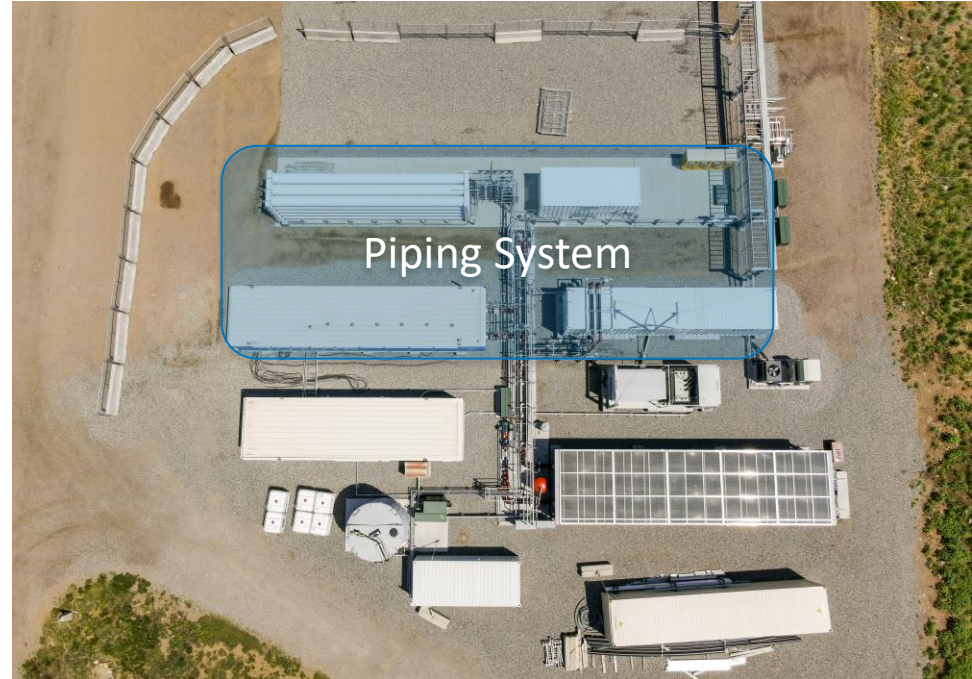
# Subsystem: Hydrogen Vent System

- NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
- CSA/ANSI 22734 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis
- CGA G-5.5 Hydrogen Vent Systems
- CGA S.1 Pressure Relief Device Standards
  - S 1.1 Part 1 - Cylinders for Compressed Gases
  - S 1.2 Part 2 - Portable Containers for Compressed Gases
  - S 1.3 Part 3 – Stationary Storage Containers for Compressed Gases
- Considerations
  - Potential for wet (saturated) gas venting
    - Freeze protection
    - Water removal



# Subsystem: Piping System

- NFPA 2 Hydrogen Technologies Code
- CSA/ANSI 22734 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis
- ASME B31.3 Process Piping
- ASME B31.12 Hydrogen Piping and Pipelines
- ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code
  - Separators, heat exchanges, etc.
- HGV 4.10-2012 Standard for Fittings for Compressed Hydrogen Gas and Hydrogen Rich Gas Mixtures
- CGA G-5.4-2012 Standard for Hydrogen Piping Systems at User Locations
- Considerations
  - Proper material selection for the gases and conditions
  - Equipment mechanical integrity
    - Proper installation and maintenance



# Subsystem: Oxygen

- CGA G-4 Oxygen
- CGA G-4.1 Clean Equipment for Oxygen Service
- CGA P-8.7 Safe Location of Oxygen and Inert Gas Vents
- NFPA 53 Systems in Oxygen-Enriched Atmospheres
- ASTM A967 Passivation of Stainless Steels
- ASTM G65 Standards Guide for Evaluating Nonmetallic Materials for Oxygen Service
- ASTM G93 Standard Guide for Cleanliness Levels and Cleaning Methods for Materials and Equipment Used in Oxygen-Enriched Environments
- ASTM G94 Standard Guide for Evaluating Metals in Oxygen Service
- ASTM G88 Designing Systems for Oxygen Service
- ASTM G127 Guide for the Selection of Cleaning Agents for Oxygen Service
- ASTM G131 Standard Practice for Cleaning of Materials and Components by Ultrasonic Techniques
- OSHA 1910.104 Oxygen
- CSA/ANSI 22734 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis
- Considerations
  - Storage and compression of oxygen adds additional hazards
  - Material compatibility
  - Cleanliness



# Subsystem: Water and Cooling

- Water quality standards determined by the manufacturer
- Cooling requirement defined by the manufacturer
- Critical components of the overall system design
- Can have a significant impact on the system size, layout, auxiliary power requirements, and operation
  - Water usage and waste requirements may be challenging for some locations



# Hydrogen Quality Standards

- Hydrogen quality standard to be met depends on the end use application
  - SAE J2719 Hydrogen Fuel Quality for Fuel Cell Vehicles
  - ISO 14687 Hydrogen Fuel Quality – Product Specification
  - CGA 5.3 Commodity Specification for Hydrogen

# Looking Forward

- IEEE 1547: IEEE Standard for Interconnection and Interoperability of Distributed Energy Resources with Associated Electric Power Systems Interfaces
  - Currently undergoing revision process with multiple active working groups
  - Provides guidance on the integration of large systems with grid connections
    - Informs electrical utilities and regulators
- ISO TC197 Hydrogen Technologies
  - WG 32 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis
  - WG 34 Hydrogen Generators using Water Electrolysis Test Protocols and Safety Requirements
  - SC 1 Hydrogen at Scale and Horizontal Energy Systems
    - Subcommittee focusing on grid interconnects
- ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel code has electrolyzer stack code case in development
  - Concerns about the need for this code case, impact of time and cost, and ability for stacks to meet the test requirements
  - Materials on ASME list
  - Hydrostatic or pneumatic pressure test
  - ASME approver for each stack
  - Task group on this topic starting soon



# Working with AHJs

- Local AHJ's are charged with enforcing building and fire codes per their interpretation
  - Early engagement is key
  - AHJ experience and understanding of codes and the technology effects the approval process
    - Outreach and education of AHJs may help
- Selecting listed equipment (e.g. per ISO 22734 or ANSI/CSA B22734) may help with system approvals
  - NFPA 2, chapter 13 points to these standards but currently has an applicability limit of  $< 100 \text{ kg H}_2/\text{hr}$

# Other Considerations

- If the system is being designed doing something new or an application being used in a new way that is potentially not captured by current codes and standards
  - For example - unique materials, abnormal pressures, high temperatures, scale, combination
  - Assess how moving into this new space could create other hazards and challenges associated with your system
  - Engineering analysis may be needed
  - Learning from other industries who may have similar experience
    - The chloralkali industry has a long track record of co-generation of H<sub>2</sub>, NaOH, Cl<sub>2</sub>
  - Coordination, outreach, education with AHJs
  - Performance-based vs prescriptive-based code compliance
- Technology space and codes are being developed together

# Resources



- Resource: <https://h2tools.org/>
  - Includes a variety of tools, lessons learned, and best practice information
    - Fuels Cells Codes and Standards Resource
      - Over 400 codes and standards related to hydrogen referenced
      - [https://h2tools.org/fuel-cell-codes-and-standards?search\\_api\\_fulltext=&f%5B0%5D=application\\_type%3A1349](https://h2tools.org/fuel-cell-codes-and-standards?search_api_fulltext=&f%5B0%5D=application_type%3A1349)
    - Safety Planning
      - <https://h2tools.org/bestpractices/safety-planning>
    - Lessons Learned
      - [https://h2tools.org/lessons?search\\_api\\_fulltext=](https://h2tools.org/lessons?search_api_fulltext=)



# The Hydrogen Safety Codes and Standards Applicability Navigator (HySCAN) Online Tool

- **Vision:** Enable hydrogen stakeholders to identify what codes and standards currently exist and may apply to their system
- **Process:**
  - Identify components in potential system of interest
  - Answer questions about those components
  - Get an informational list of potentially relevant codes and standards

[HySCAN will be available soon at H2Tools.org](https://H2Tools.org)

The screenshot displays the HySCAN online tool interface. The top section, titled 'Hydrogen Codes and Standards Database', includes a search bar, a 'My List (0 Items)' button, and a 'How it works' section with three steps: 1. Find Relevant Content (represented by a magnifying glass icon), 2. Add items of interest to your collection (represented by a document icon with a plus sign), and 3. Export your collection once you're done (represented by a download icon). Below this is a section 'Find codes and standards for my system' with a 'START HYSCAN' button. The bottom section, titled 'Enter Component Details', shows a list of components on the left: 'Electrolyzer' (checked), 'Compressor' (checked), 'Piping' (checked), and 'Valves' (checked). The right side of this section shows the details for the 'Electrolyzer' component, including questions like 'Is the hydrogen generation system permanently installed?' (Yes) and 'What is the hydrogen generation rated capacity?' (36 g/hr - 100 kg/hr). The 'Compressor' component is also shown with details. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'BACK TO HOME', 'RESET', 'SELECT COMPONENTS', and 'REVIEW SUGGESTED CODES AND STANDARDS'. A large red diagonal watermark reading 'Preliminary Pre-Release Images' is overlaid on the screenshot.

# Thank You

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**[www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)**

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