

# BNSF's Alternative Fuels H2@Rail Conference

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### Overview



- BNSF Railway Overview
- Hydrogen Switcher
- Liquefied Natural Gas
- Battery Electric Equipment Development
  Battery Electric Locomotive
- Key Hydrogen Challenges for Rail

## **BNSF** Railway Overview



- 32,500 route miles in 28 states and 3 Canadian provinces
- **43,000+** employees
- Operates ~1,500 trains per day
- Serves over 40 ports and **25** intermodal facilities
- Over 10 million carloads shipped annually



### Hydrogen Switcher



1205 BAUSF Vehicla trojecta Fuelcell Power Modules Hydrogen Storage **W** Traction Battery Undercarriage Bay

- Partnership between BNSF, Vehicle Projects, & US Army
- Built at BNSF's Topeka shops
- Tests run 2008 2009

## Liquefied Natural Gas

- BNSF evaluated natural gas as an alternative locomotive fuel in revenue service operations from 2013 to 2017
- Equipment:
  - 2 tank car style tenders
  - 4 total HHP locomotives
    - (2 EMD & 2 GE)
- Partnered with industry to develop AAR M-1004 tender standard





## **Battery Electric Equipment Development**

#### Equipment Types:

- Battery electric locomotives
  - Line haul: hybrid battery electric consist
  - Switcher locomotives (concepts, previous projects & other roads)
- Intermodal equipment
  - Battery electric drayage truck
  - Hybrid rubber-tired gantry (RTG) cranes
  - Battery electric side loader
  - Battery electric hostler trucks

Grant: Zero- and Near Zero-Emission Freight Facilities (ZANZEFF)

• CARB funding in partnership with SJVAPCD





# GE Transportation's Battery-Electric Locomotive

Massive power generation 2400 kWhrs

Huge fuel savings 10-15%

Trip Optimizer™ **Energy Storage:** smart automated replacing engine & cruise control cooling system AC Traction System Inverters **Powered Axels GE Transportation** 

## Hybrid Consist Demonstration





#### **Mainline Operating Mode**

- Revenue service operation between Stockton and Barstow
- Hybrid consist mode
  - Regenerative braking for battery charging
  - Trip optimizer integration
- Targeted fuel and emissions reduction

#### Yard Operating Mode

- Within Stockton yard
- Yard consist and train arrival/departure movement powered by battery-electric locomotive only
- Near-zero emissions operation
- Diesel locomotives in consist will idle or shut down

## Hybrid Consist Development Goals



#### **Develop system architecture and sub-components**

- Hardware Development
  - Electrical system, battery integration, wayside charging, controls system, etc.
- Software Development
  - Intra-consist communication, Trip Optimizer integration, route optimization, etc.
- Operational Integration
  - Consist management, battery state of charge impact, locomotive utilization, train handling impact, maintenance and repair, etc.

#### Validate fuel savings and operational performance

- Pilot efforts allow for testing of differing locomotive services.
  Ideal services have heavy dynamic use
- Modeling and projections suggests performance to grow with technology advancement



#### **Pilot Testing Route**

## Key Hydrogen Fuel Challenges for Rail



### • Safety

- Compressed or cryogenic fuel handling
- Flammability of gaseous fuels
  - LFL 4% to UFL 75% mixture with air

### Energy density

- Long distances require energy dense fuels
  - LA to Chicago Gulf to Pacific Northwest Unit train service
- Mitigation requires additional/larger equipment

### Infrastructure investment

- Large, decentralized physical foot print
  - Refueling facilities across network
- Cryogenic liquid or compressed gas equipment is complex & costly
- Onsite hydrogen generation adds equipment & cost



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