



**Power  
Generation**



*SECA Annual Workshop*

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# *10kWe SOFC Power System Commercialization Program Progress*

*May 11, 2004*

*Boston, MA*

*Dan Norrick*

*Manager Advanced Development*

*Cummins Power Generation*

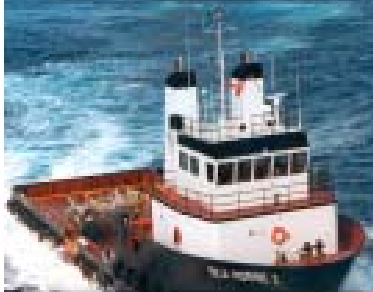
- Cummins Power Generation
- Cummins - SOFCo Team
- SECA Program Progress
  - System Design & Application
  - Cell and Stack
  - Hot Box
  - Balance of Plant
  - Controls & Power Electronics



**Power  
Generation**



## Cummins Inc.





**Power  
Generation**



Cummins Power Generation  
World Headquarters and Manufacturing  
Minneapolis, Minnesota



# Cummins Power Generation

*Developing  
and manufacturing a  
wide range of  
power generation  
equipment ...*



**Diesel and Gas Engine  
Gensets, CHP Systems**



**Micro-Turbine  
Gensets**



**Variable Speed  
Gensets**

**Noise Attenuated  
Gensets**



**Diesel, Lean  
Burn and  
Stoichiometric  
Gas Engines**



**Controls,  
Power  
Electronics,  
Switches,  
Switchgear**



# Energy Solutions

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May 11, 2004

SECA Annual Works

- **Containerised Diesel & Gas GenSets**
  - 1005 to 2000 kW
  - 50 & 60 Hz prime & standby rating
- **Projects mainly 2 to 30 MW**
  - prime mover sales
  - turnkey solutions
  - O&M contracts
  - equity-based full servicing
  - financing
- **Key Drivers**
  - power availability (mainly off-grid)
  - power reliability (high-quality or critical)
  - price insurance/arbitrage
  - energy optimization
- **Customer Types**
  - industrial end-users
  - commercial/public-sector end-users
  - utilities
  - developers
  - energy service companies (ESCOs)
  - regional authorities/government



## Small Scale Fuel Cell Applications and Fuels



Diesel

**Recreational  
Vehicle**



Diesel

**Commercial  
Mobile**

**Marine**



Diesel

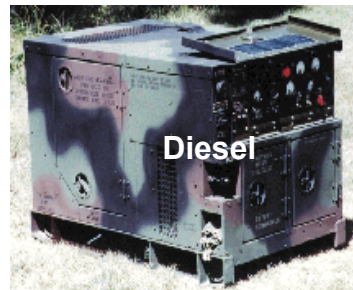
**Truck  
APU**



Diesel



**Residential DG**



Diesel



**Telecommunications**

**Natural Gas  
or Propane**

**Military**



**Power  
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**Power  
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Clean energy for the world

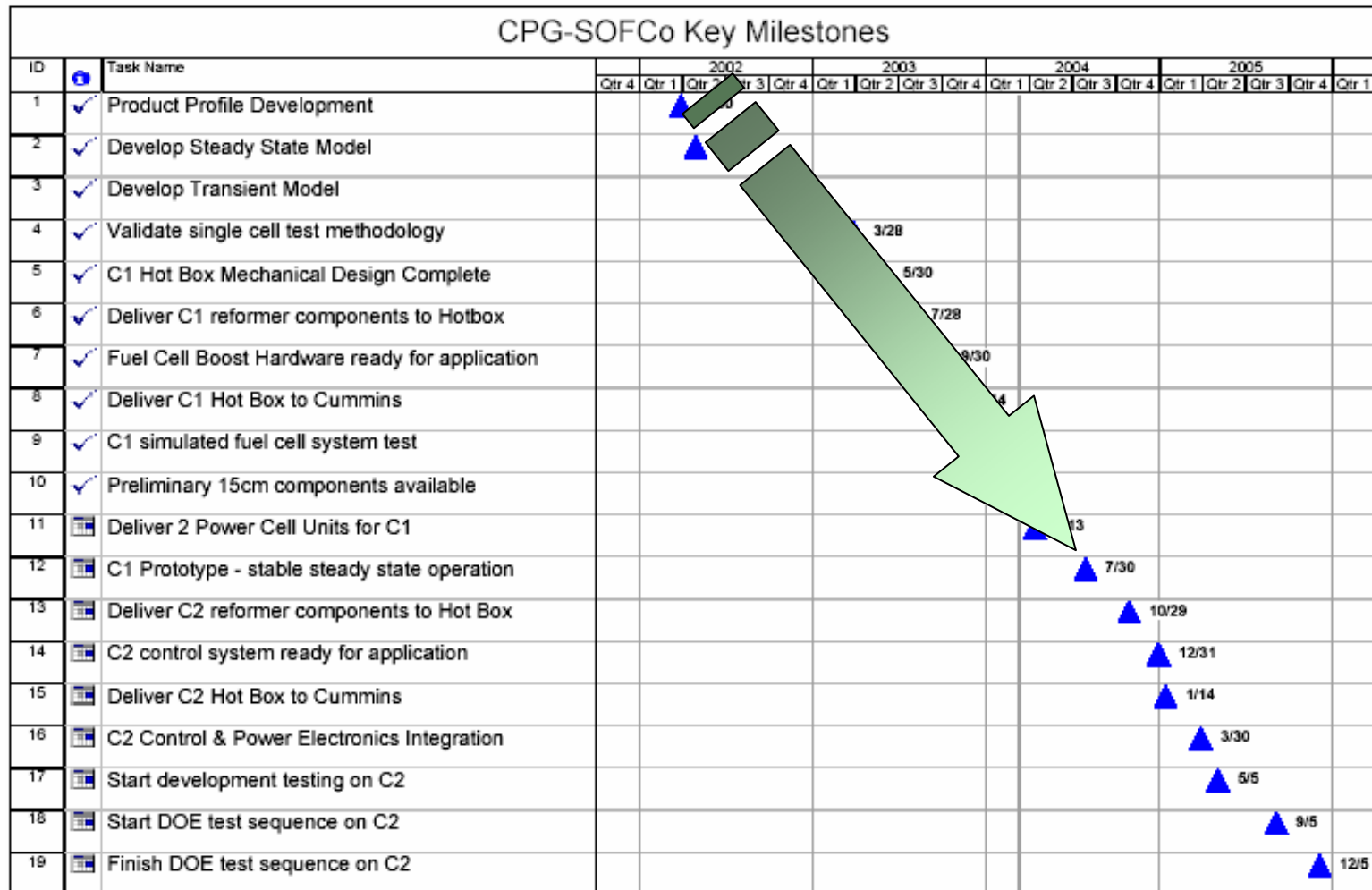


- Electronic controls
- Power electronics
- Fuel systems
- Air handling systems
- Noise and vibration
- System integration
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, sales, distribution

- Planar SOFC technology
- Reformer technology
- Material science
- Heat transfer
- Computational fluid dynamics
- Numerical modeling
- Multilayer ceramic manufacturing



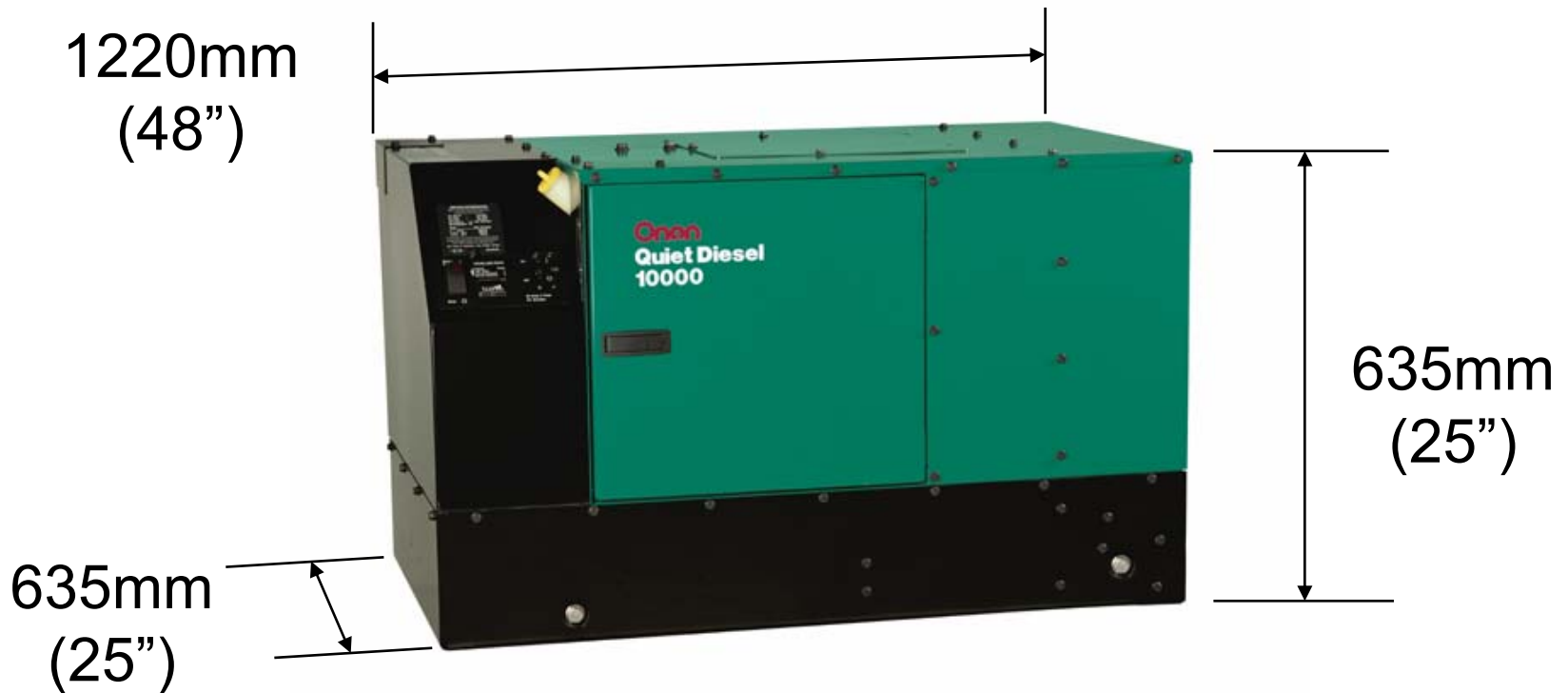
## Progress to Plan





Commercial target:  
same size envelope as Diesel RV Genset

$0.49 \text{ m}^3$  ( $17.4 \text{ ft}^3$ )





**Power  
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## Fuel Cell System Mock-Up

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**Power  
Generation**



## Fuel Cell System Mock-Up

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## Staged prototyping -- C1 and C2

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### C1 Prototype

- Development tool
- 10cm x 10cm cells
- 2 x 47 cell stacks
- Not packaged
- DC output
- Characterization testing
- Limited operating hours

***Operational June 2004***

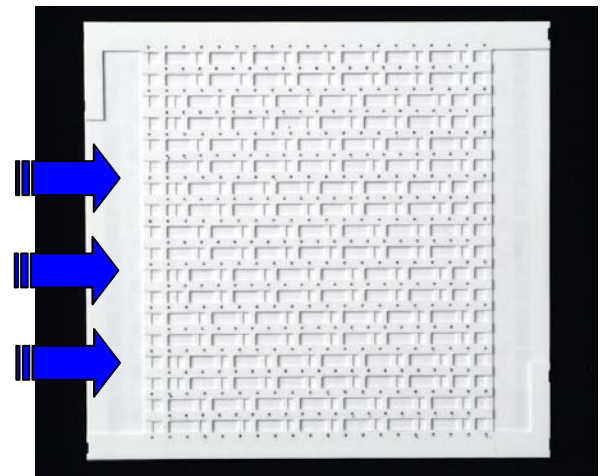
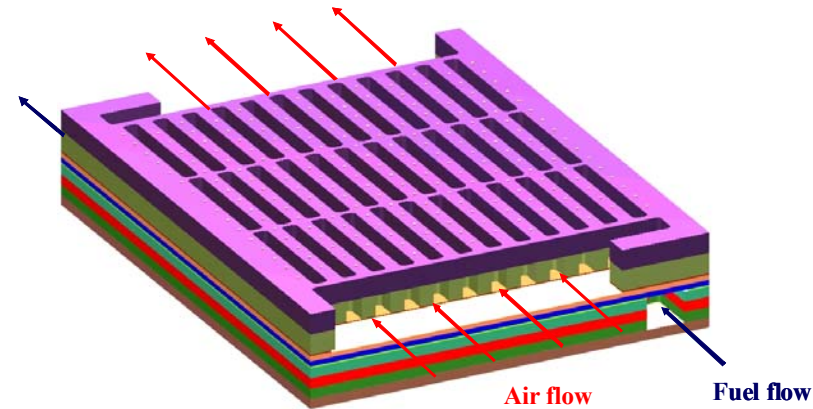
### C2 Prototype

- Program deliverable
- 10cm x 10cm cells
- 4 x 70 cell stacks
- Integrated hot box assembly
- Power conditioning
  - Load sharing
  - 120VAC output
- Complete SECA test plan
- 1500+ operating hours

***Operational June 2005***

## SOFC Stack Technology

- “All-Ceramic” stack design
  - Cells and multi-layer interconnect are CTE matched
  - No ceramic-to-metal seal
  - No metal interconnect corrosion
  - Compatible with MLC manufacturing methods
- Co-flow design advantages
  - Improved temperature distribution
  - Simplified manifold and improved sealing
  - Improved reactant distribution



**Co-Flow Multi-layer Ceramic  
(MLC) Interconnect<sup>4</sup>**

# SOFC Stack Development

## 2002 Short Stacks (2-5 cells)



- ASR ~ 2.5 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
- PD ~ 75 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Power Deg > 20% / 500 hrs
- Fuel Utilization > 70%

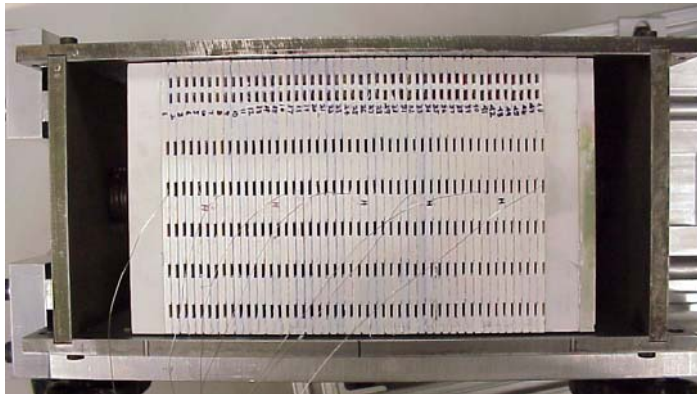
## 2003 Medium Stacks (20 cells)



- ASR ~ 1.5 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
- PD ~ 125 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Power Deg < 4% / 500 hrs
- Fuel Utilization > 75%

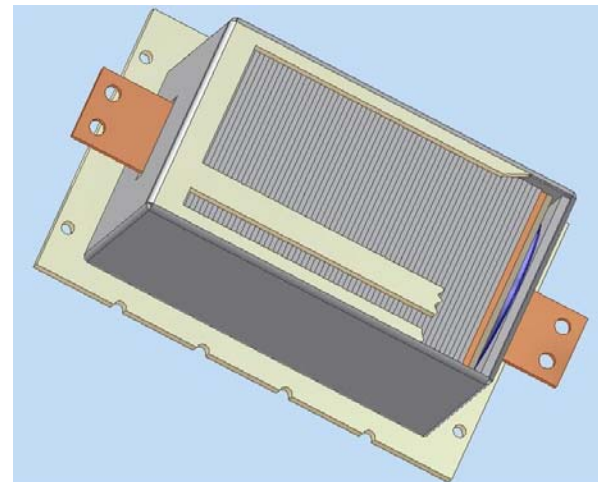
# SOFC Stack Development

## Q1 2004 Tall Stacks ( 45-50 cells)



- ASR ~ 1.5 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
- PD ~ 125 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Power Deg < 4% / 500 hrs
- Fuel Utilization > 75%

## Q4 2004 PCU (50-70 Cells)

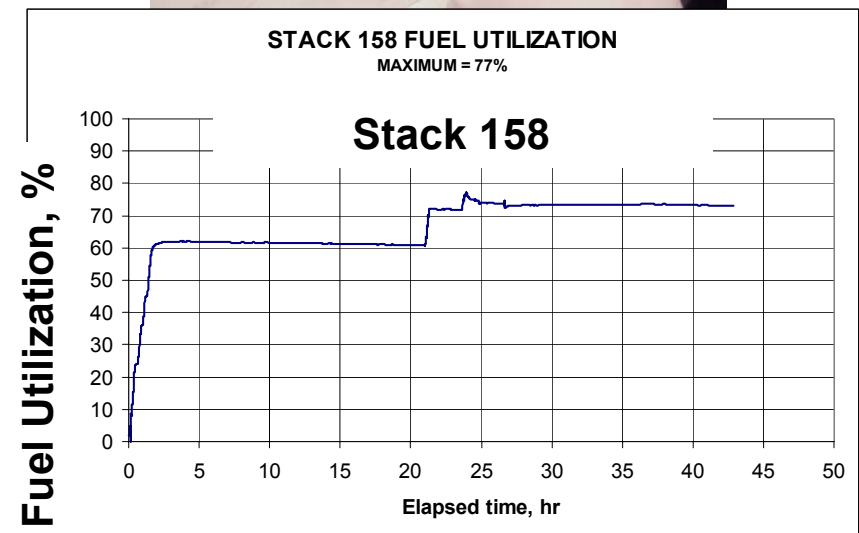
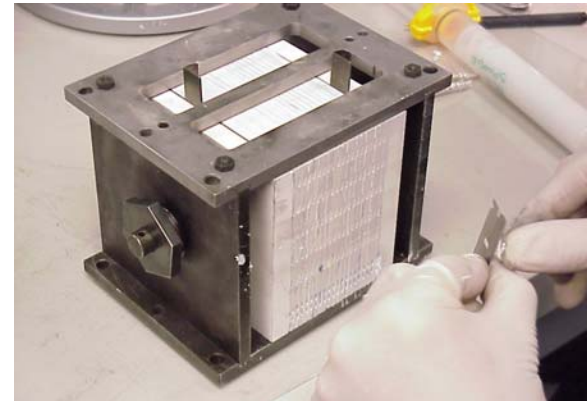


- ASR < 0.75 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
- PD > 250 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>
- Power Deg < 2% / 500 hrs
- Fuel Utilization ~ 80%

## SOFC Stack Scale-up

- Achieved acceptable short stack performance Q3 2003
- Began transition to tall stacks
  - Horizontal orientation for assembly and operation
  - New manifold arrangement
  - No change to sealing materials, current collector, or cell-to-interconnect contact materials

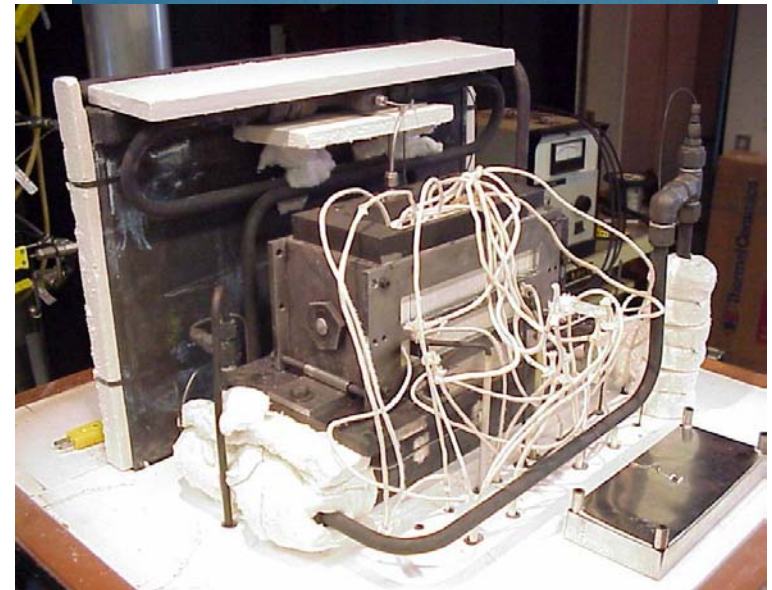
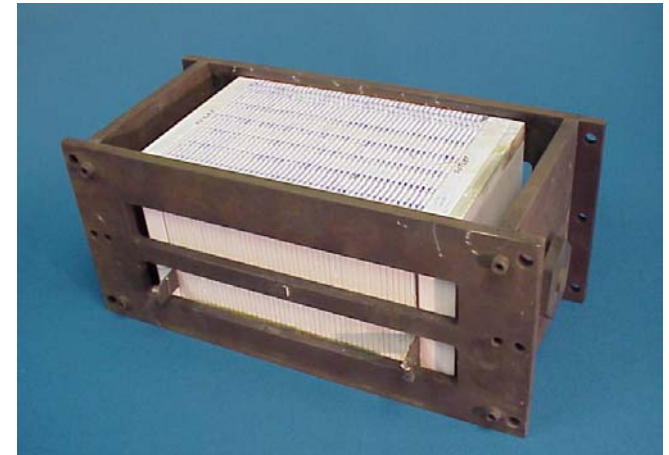
*20-cell stack*



**Time, hr**

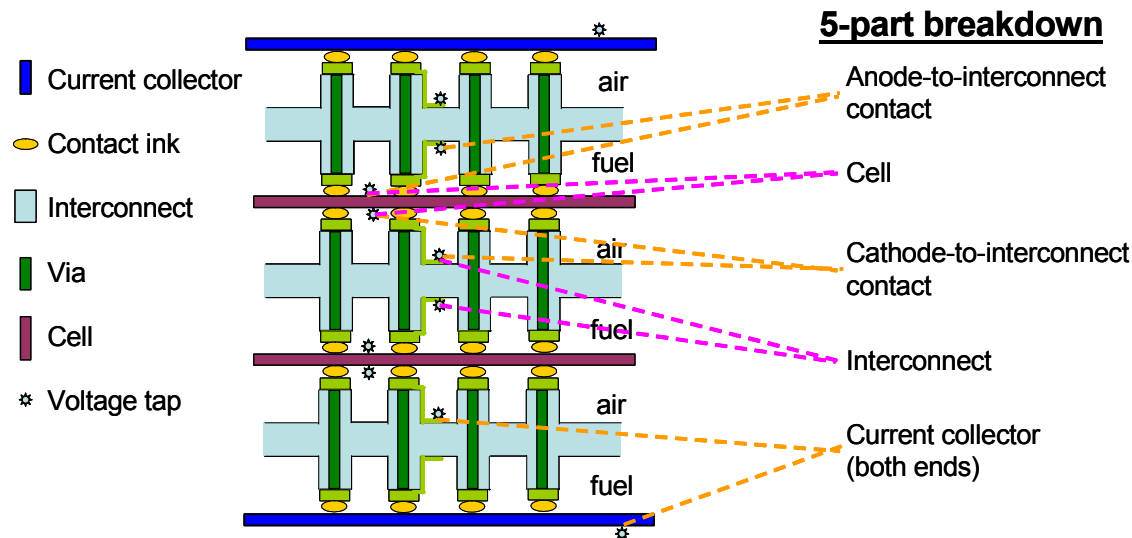
## Tall Stack Development

- First build in early 2004
  - > 200 hrs operation on hydrogen with FU >70%
  - > 200 hrs operation with reformed natural gas with FU >75%
- Second test underway
  - Objective: Demonstrate C1 operating parameters (FU, air flow, etc)
- Two stacks for C1 prototype will be assembled in June



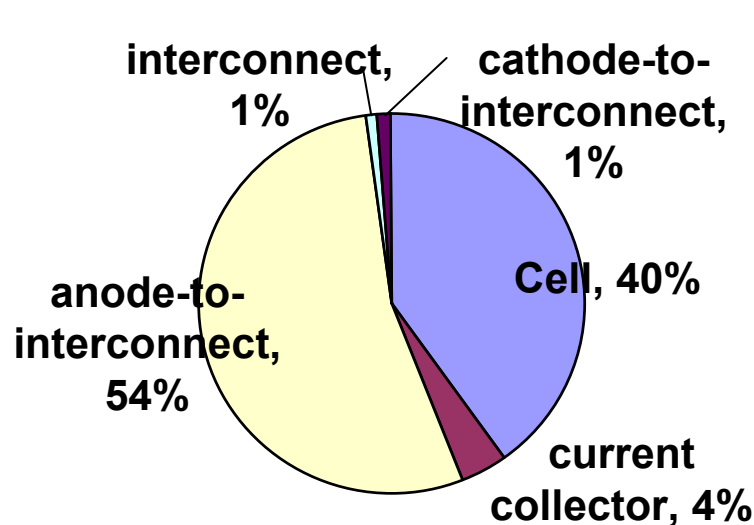
## Performance Improvements

- Instrumented short stack allows isolation of contributions to stack resistance
- Significant non-cell contributions to stack ASR and power degradation eliminated
  - Non-cell ASR contribution reduced to  $< 0.2 \text{ ohm-cm}^2$
  - Short stack power degradation reduced to  $< 3\% / 500 \text{ hrs}$

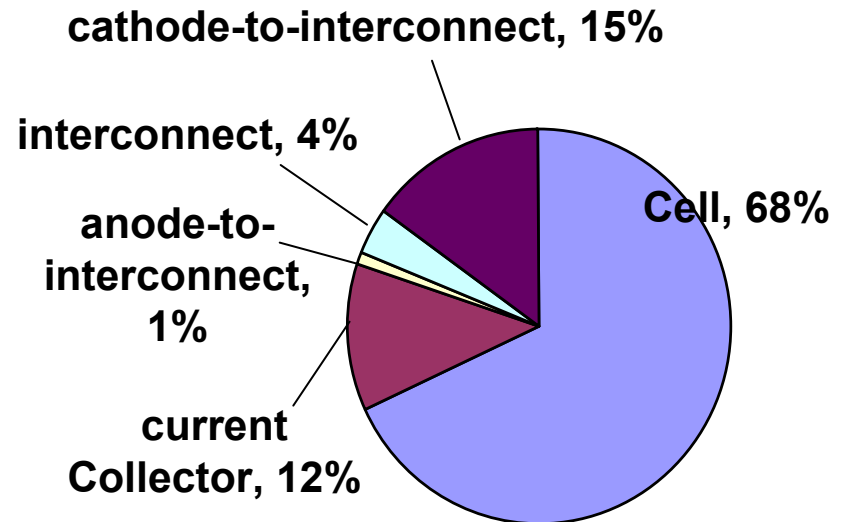


## 2002 Short Stacks –Degradation Reduced

- Anode-to-interconnect contact largest contributor
- Implemented new anode contact ink
- Significant reduction in degradation rate
- Major non-cell contributor to degradation is now the cathode-to-interconnect contact

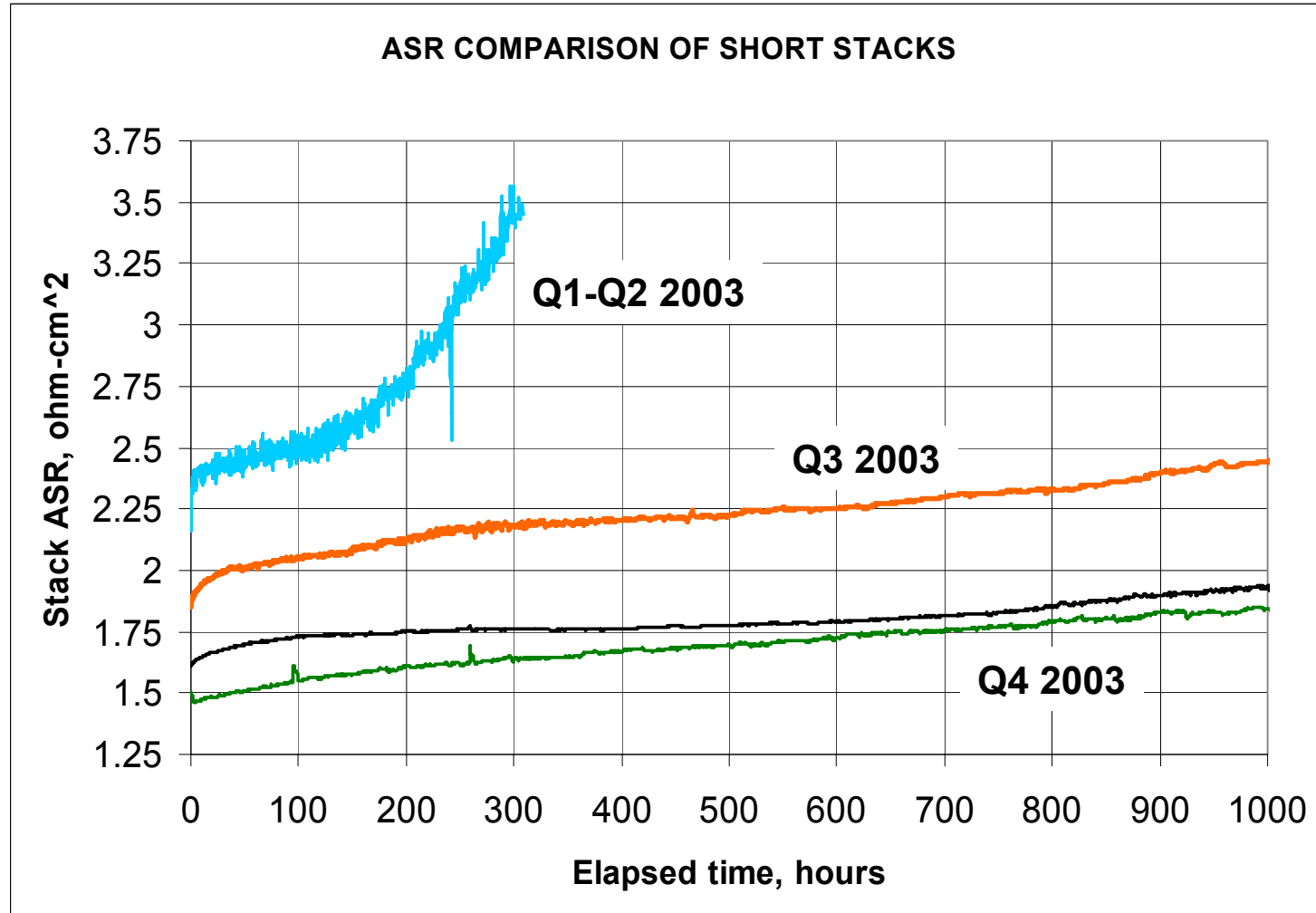


**300 hr Relative  
Resistance**

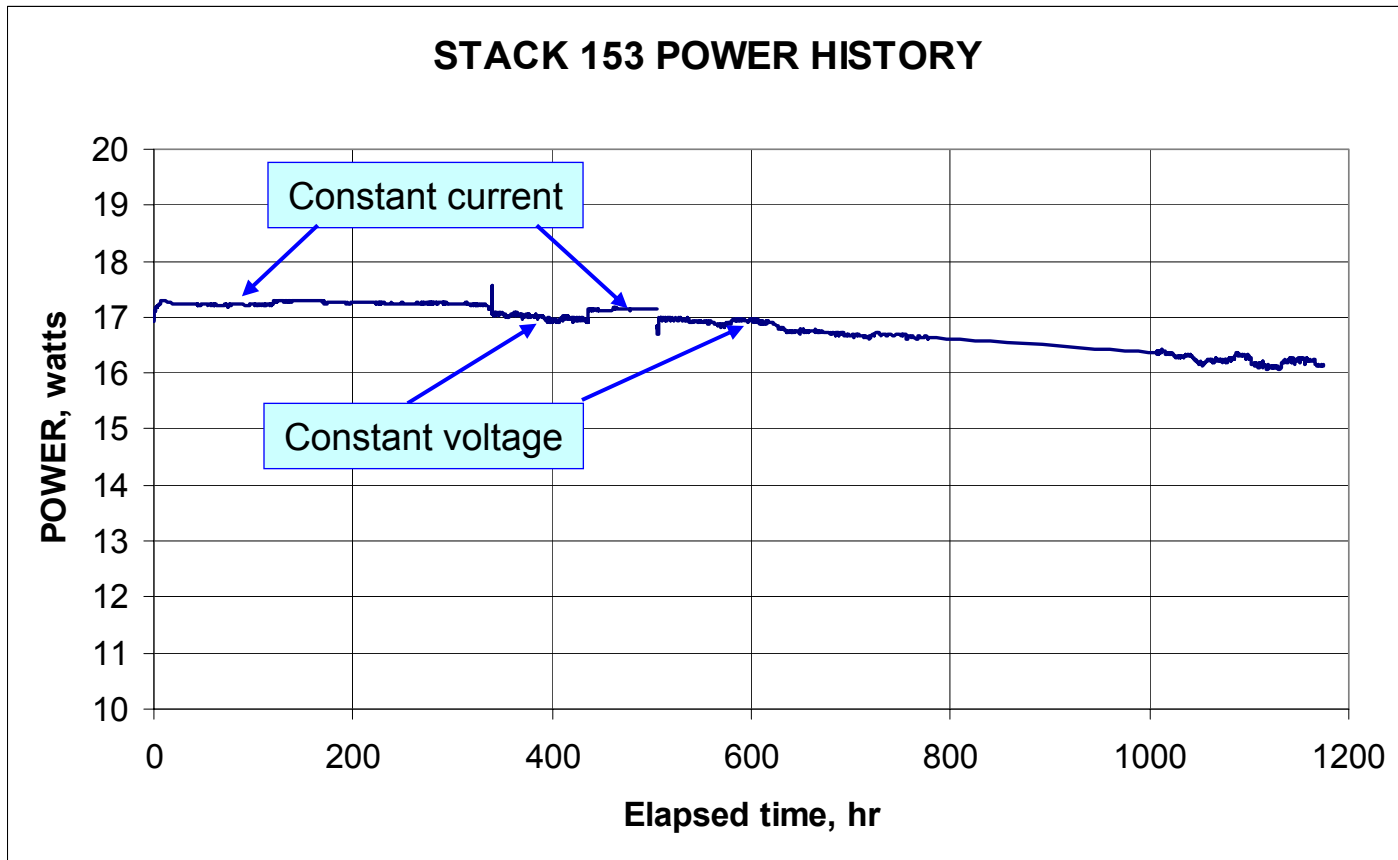


**1000 hr Relative  
Resistance**

# SOFC Stack Technology



## Improved Degradation



Calculated average degradation from 0 to 1175 hours = 2.9% per 500 hours,  
Initial ASR = 1.36 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>



## SOFC Cell Development

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- 2002 cell development outcomes
  - Reached performance plateau with YSZ electrolyte-supported cells
  - Identified significant problem with integrity of co-fired cells
- 2003 cell development shifted to “dual path” approach
  - External sources for cells and cell technology
    - Baseline 3YSZ post-fired cell for stack development
    - Improved electrolyte-supported cell using ScSZ electrolyte
    - Anode-supported cells
  - Internal cell development focused on co-fired interconnect-supported cells



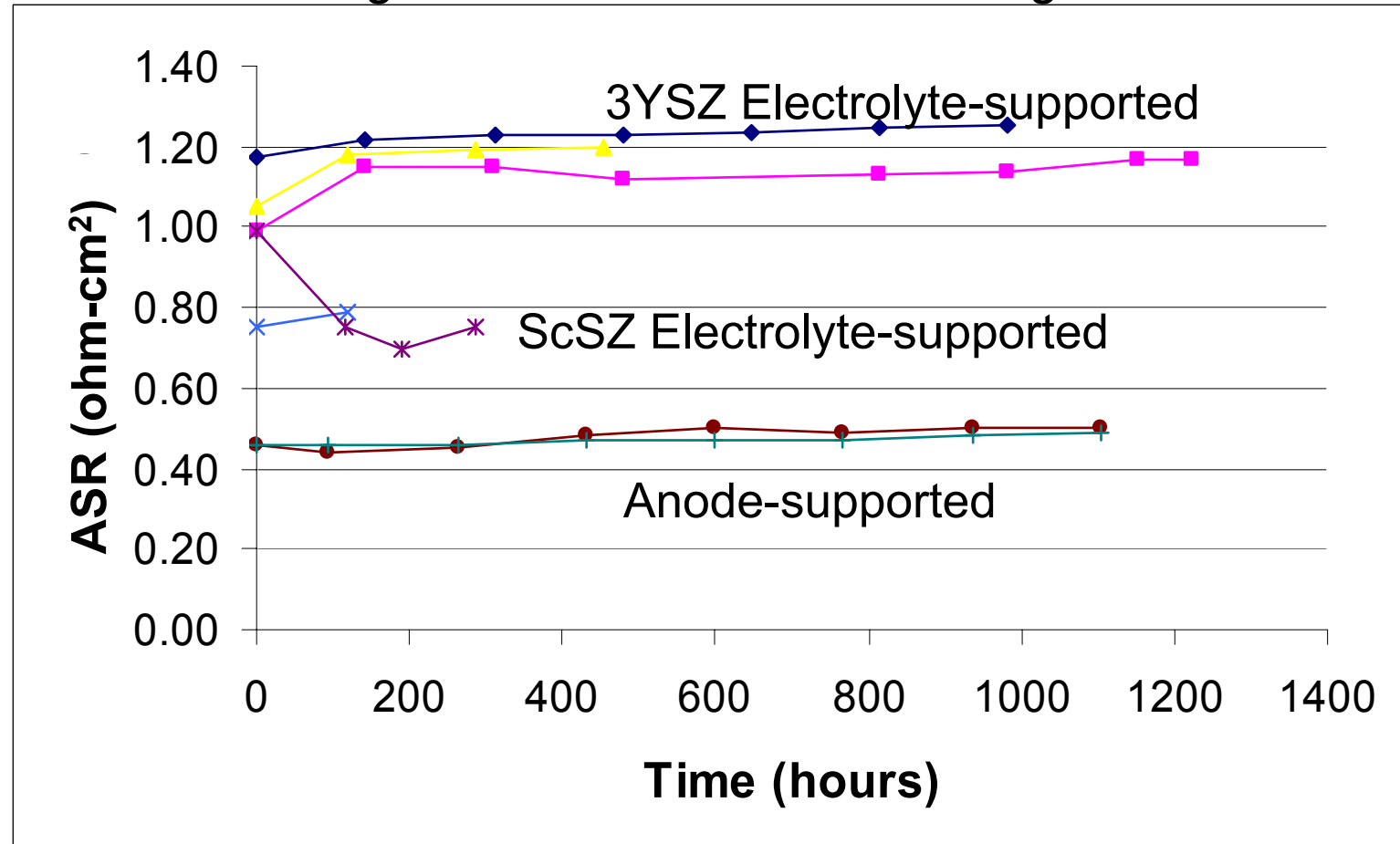
## SOFC 2003 Cell Performance Progress

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- Baseline 3YSZ electrolyte-supported cell for stack development
  - Stable, repeatable performance (ASR  $\sim 1.2$  ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>)
- Evaluated ScSZ electrolyte-supported cells produced by SOFCo and several external sources
  - ASR = 0.7 – 0.8 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Degradation exceeds target
- Evaluated anode-supported cells from external suppliers
  - ASR  $\sim 0.45$  – 0.6 ohm-cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Degradation exceeds target
  - Limited short stack testing
- Work planned for 2004
  - Cooperative development working with suppliers to improve cell performance
  - Aggressive insertion of new cells into stack development

## Driving ASR down

### *Single-Cell Performance Testing*





## Manufacturing Status - Background

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### Interconnects

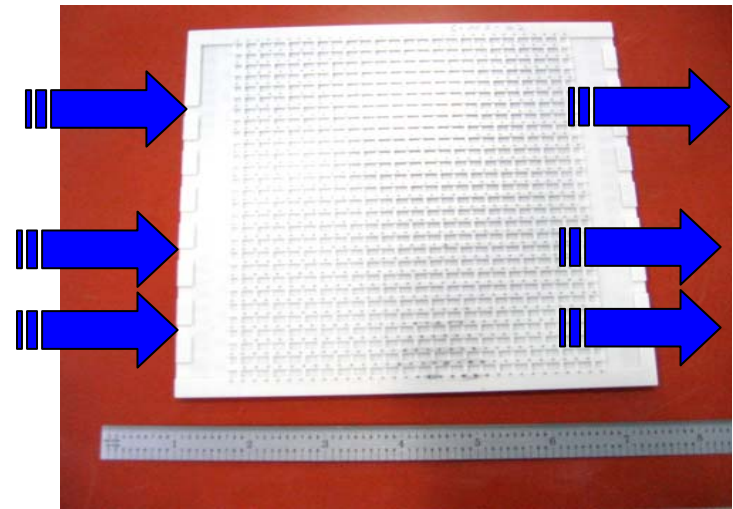
- Manufacturing processes established
  - Production moved to new facility in 2003
  - Over 450 interconnects produced YTD in 2004
- In-house prototyping demonstrated for 10 and 15-cm interconnects

### Cells

- Developing commercial sources
  - 2 established
  - 1 under development
- SOFCo development work for improved performance
  - PNNL
  - NASA Glenn

## Scale-up to 15 cm Interconnects

- Scale-up work began Q1 2003
  - No major problems
  - Current engineering processes applied
- Design engineering
  - Flow / channel common to 10cm
  - Channel depth increased for delta P
  - Via density preserved
  - I/O manifolds scaled for flow
- Modeling
  - Parallel channel pressure modeled with AFT-FATHOM
  - Electro-chemical model being developed from 10 cm baseline (2 dimensional EZ-Thermal)
- Produced preliminary 15 cm prototype parts in December 2003
- Prototype parts available for short stack testing in October 2004



**15-cm Interconnect**



## SOFC Stack Development - Summary

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- Stack Scale-up
  - Successful scale-up to tall stack for C1
  - On track with 70-cell PCU for C2 (mid 2005)
- Performance and Cost
  - Significant reduction in non-cell contributions to stack ASR and degradation
  - Stack performance largely driven by cells
  - Dual path approach to evaluating anode-supported cells and advanced ScSZ electrolyte-supported cells
  - On track to meet Phase 1 performance targets
  - Achieving cost target = meeting performance targets + implementing low-cost materials

## Fuel Processor Development

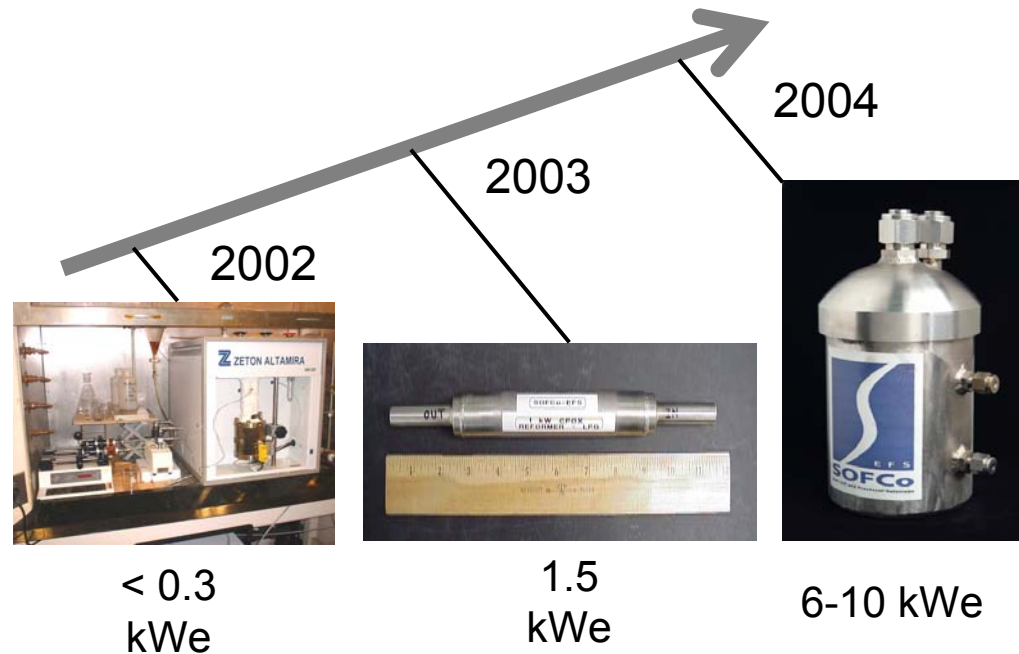
### CPOX Propane/NG Reformer for 10 kWe SOFC System



- High capacity: 40 kW / liter
- Waterless
- Rapid start-up: < 1 minute
- Turndown ratio: > 5:1
- Lightweight, compact design
  - Weight < 2 kg
  - Volume ~ 0.25 liter
- Efficient reformer
  - 70% on LP
  - 80% on NG

## Fuel Processor Success

- Scaled-up waterless CPOX meets performance goals
- Completed transition from LP to Natural Gas for SECA demonstration
- Reformer operated on natural gas for >2500 hrs at 1.5 kWe equiv
- Stack operated on NG reformat for >1800 hrs
  - Carbon free operation verified through post-test exams of stack and manifolding
  - No performance issues





## Natural Gas Reformer Status vs. Targets

	TARGET	CURRENT VALUE	COMMENTS
Scale	1 kWe 5 kWe	1.3 kWe TBD (5-10 kWe)	Complete for C1 On-going for C2
Reformer Efficiency	~88% (at equilibrium)	85 % 67 %	High load Low load
Slips (%) Methane C <sub>2</sub> +	0 0	0.4 – 4.0 0 – 0.04	CH <sub>4</sub> converted in SOFC stack
Turndown	5 : 1	4.3 : 1	Not an issue
Carbon Deposition	No	No issues	No C deposits in stack after >1,800 hrs test
Cost	\$60/kW	On target	Based on C1 experience

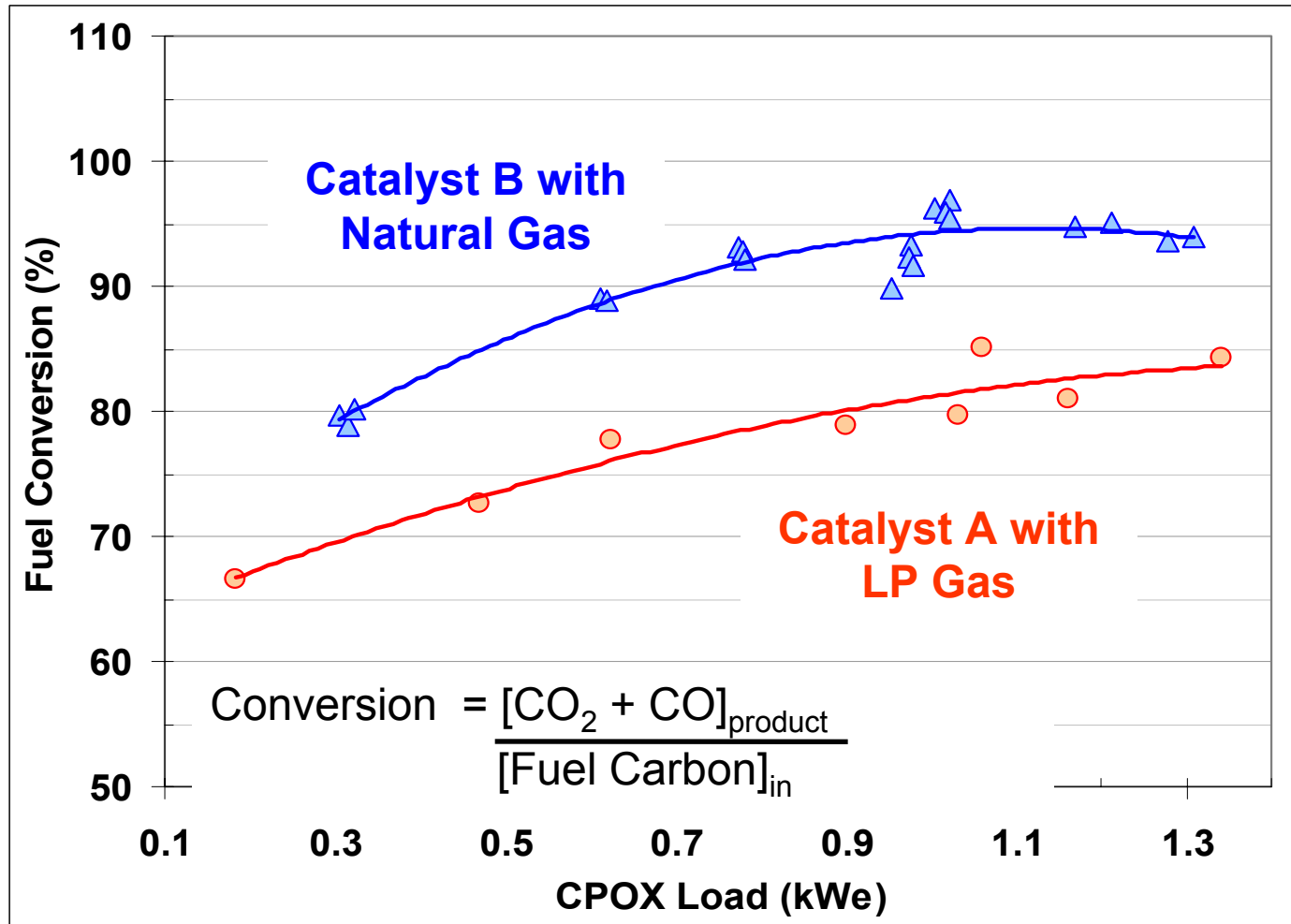


## Fuel Flexible CPOX Design

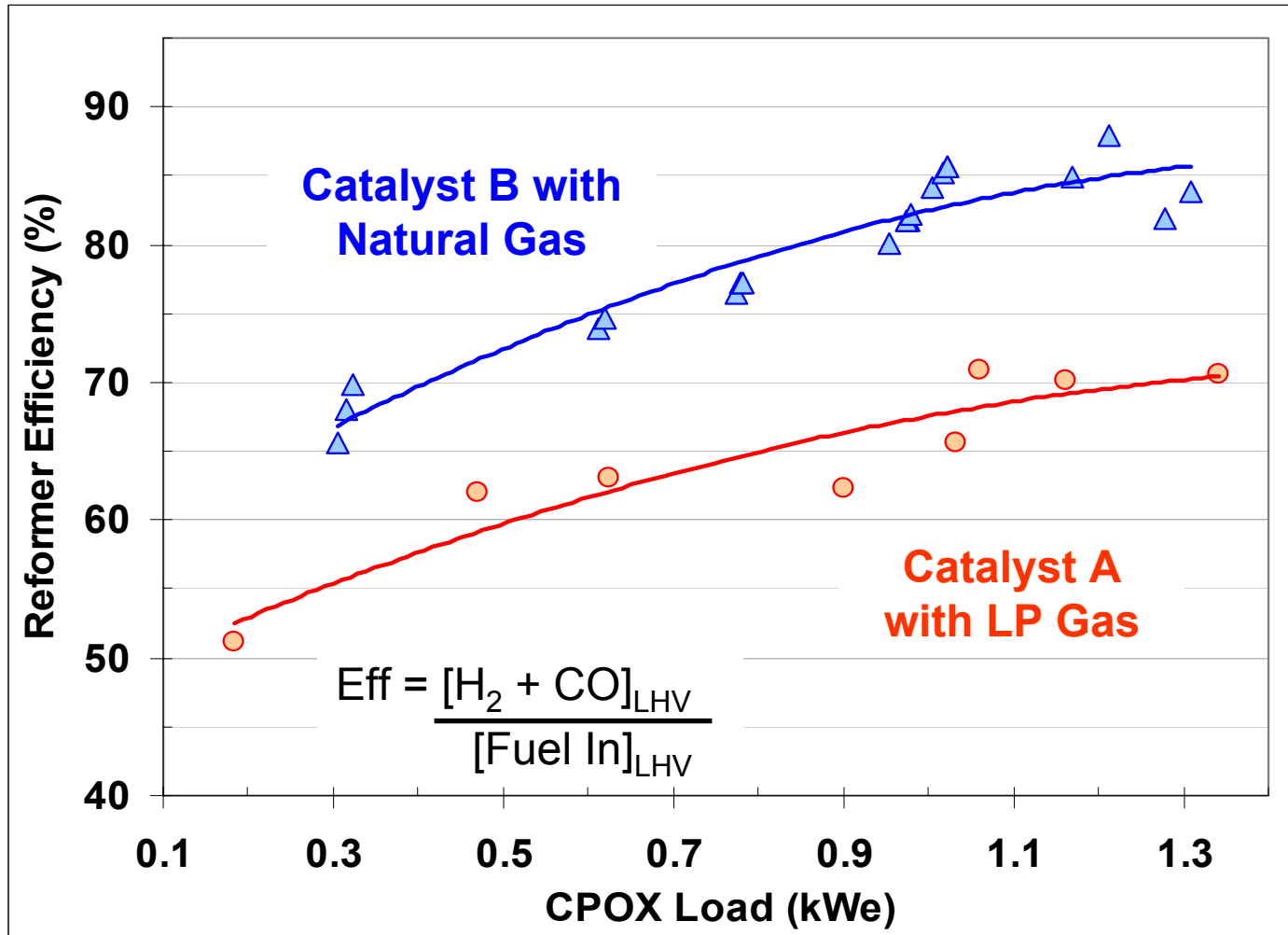
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<u>Fuel</u> Design/Size	<u>LP</u> 25mm D x 150mm L	<u>Natural Gas</u>
<u>Operation</u>		
Feed Preheat	200 C	300 C
Turndown (% load)	100% to 20%	100% to 25%
<u>Performance</u>		
Fuel Conversion (%)	75 - 85	90 - 98
CPOX Efficiency (%)	65 - 72	75 - 85
H <sub>2</sub> + CO (Dry mole %)	40 - 45	47 - 50
H <sub>2</sub> / CO Ratio	1.2	2.0
Methane Slip (dry mole %)	0.5 - 2.0	0.4 - 4.0
C <sub>2</sub> + Slip (Dry mole %)	0 - 2.0	0 - 0.04

## Fuel Conversion vs. Turndown

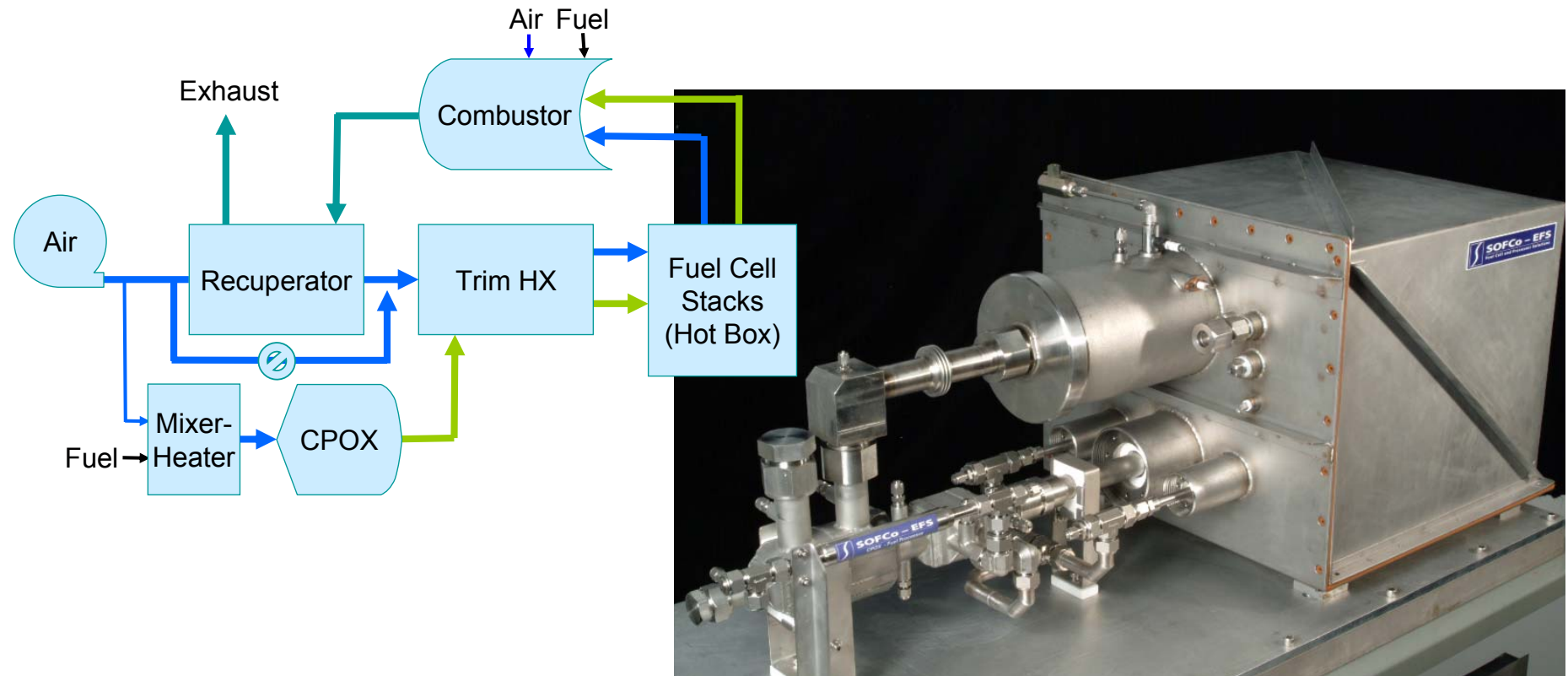


## Reformer Efficiency vs. Turndown



## C1 Development Unit

- Component and sub-system operation/control development
- Stack simulators utilized prior to stack installation



## C1 Prototype in Cell 21 at CPG

Ignition Control

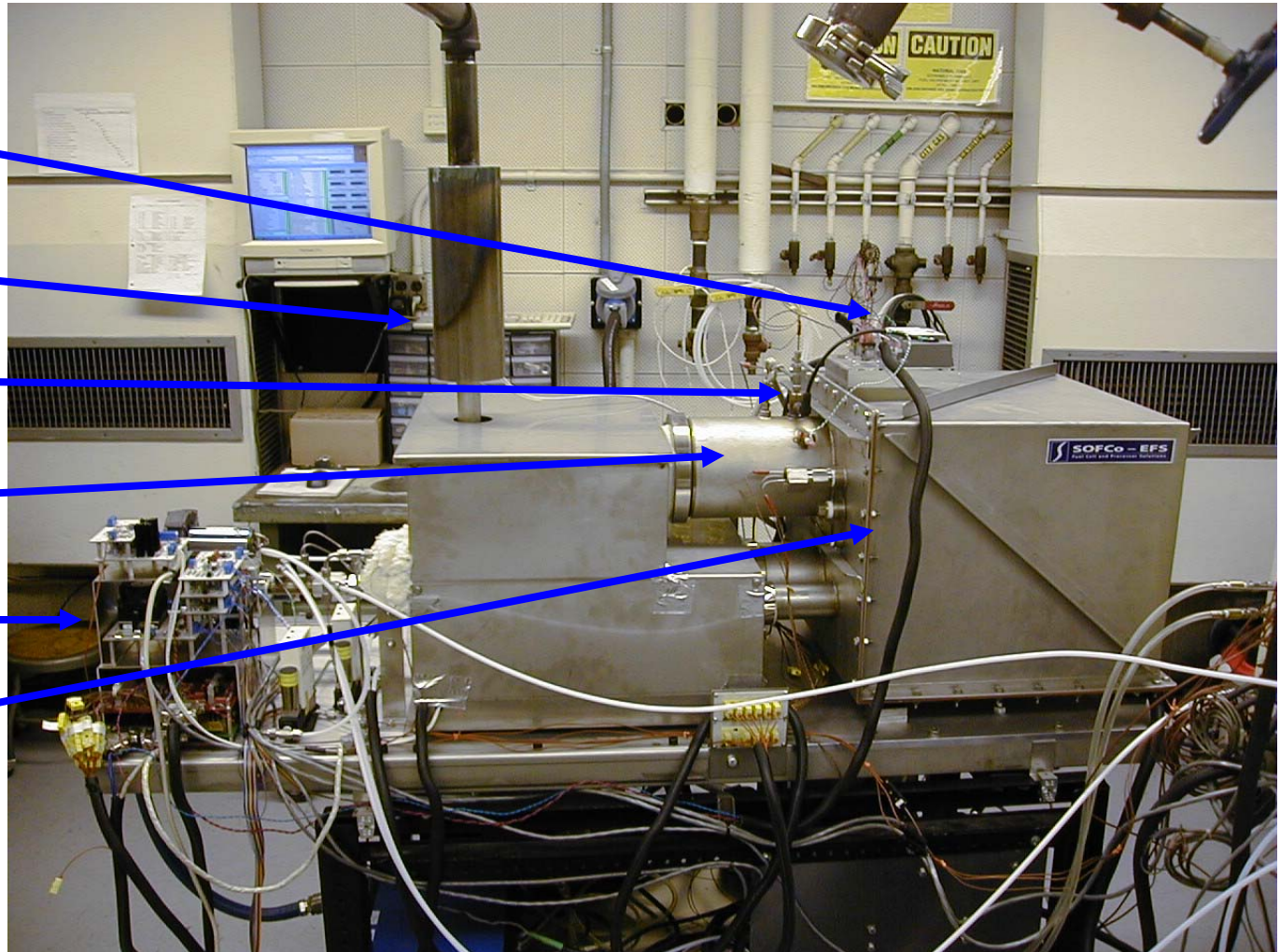
Exhaust

Startup Burner

Combustor

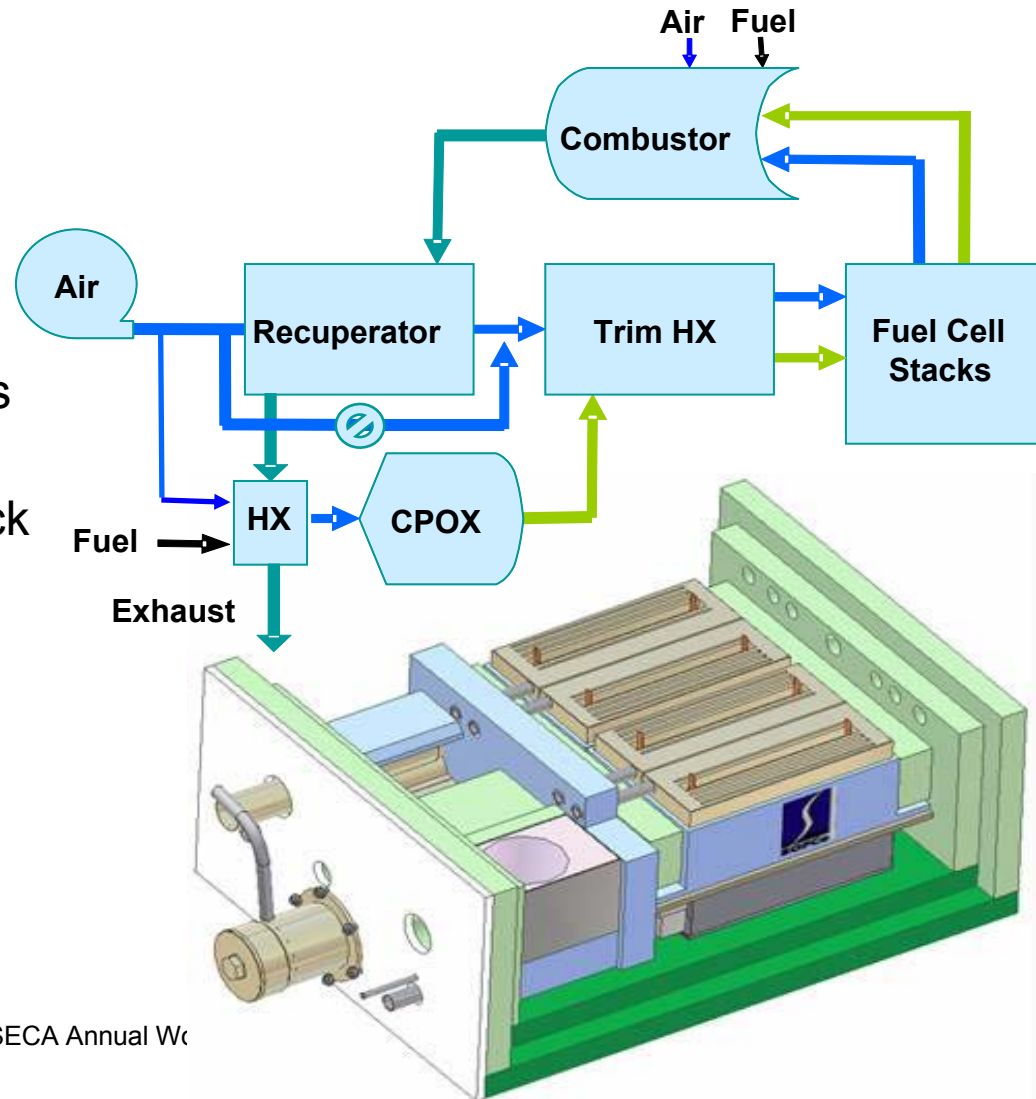
Controls

Hot Box



## C2 Phase I Demonstration Unit

- Full thermal integration
- Prototype level packaging
- 4 x 70-cell (10 cm) stacks
- Hardware design nearing completion
- Long-lead hardware orders placed
- Overall size targets on track for APU product goal
  - 4-stacks
  - 85cm L x 64cm W x 41 cm H





## Balance of Plant

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- Balance of Plant concept translated into functional C1 systems
  - Components selected to meet the functional requirements
  - Functional checks completed on
    - Anode air and fuel supply systems
    - Cathode air supply and bypass subsystems
  - First operational testing of the C1 system with simulated stacks conducted 12/17/03
  - Test cell up-fit for fuel cell specific instrumentation, safety, and controls completed
- C1 analysis and experience will be factored into C2



## SOFC Controls and Power Electronics

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### *Purpose of controls and power electronics*

- Thermal and fluid management
  - Control stack average temperature.
  - Control temperature gradient across the stack.
  - Control flows to match current demand and fuel utilization
- Load management
  - Buffer required load power and fuel cell dynamics.
  - Ramped stack loading
  - Managed energy storage

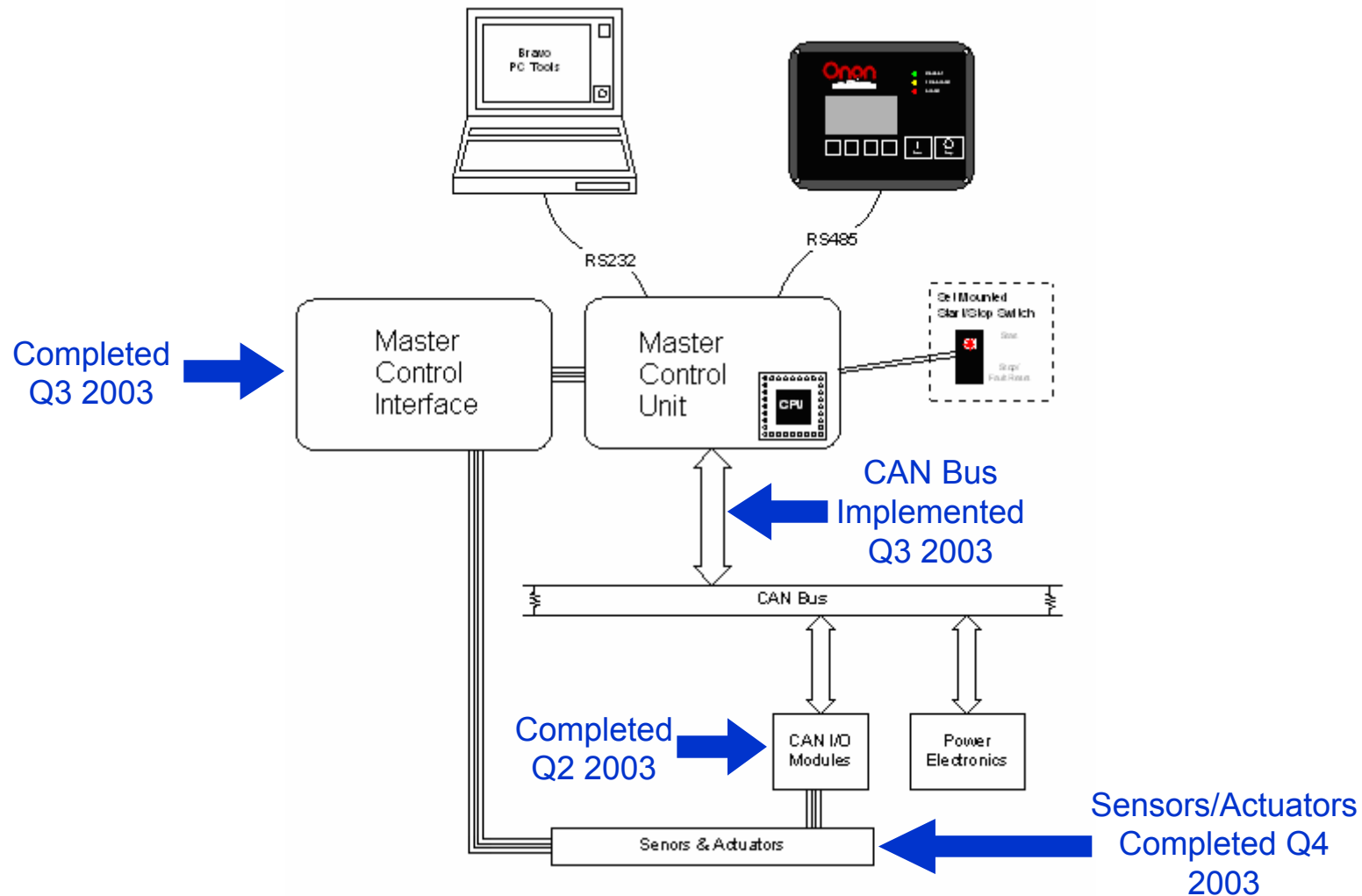


## BOP controls hardware architecture

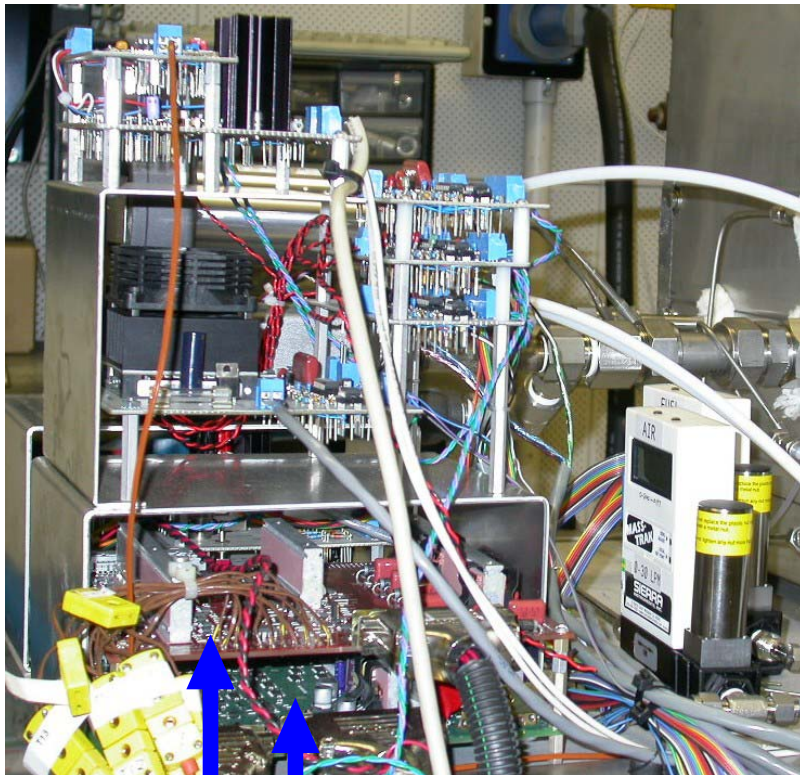
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- Controls hardware
  - Designed Q1-Q2 2003
  - Implemented Q3-Q4 2003
- Controls sited on CPG production master control unit (MCU) for development purposes
  - Adapts existing software platform and tools.
- Distributed architecture based on a CAN serial bus.
  - Provides flexibility in choice of actuators.
  - Simplified interface to power electronic controls.

# SOFC Controls and Power Electronics

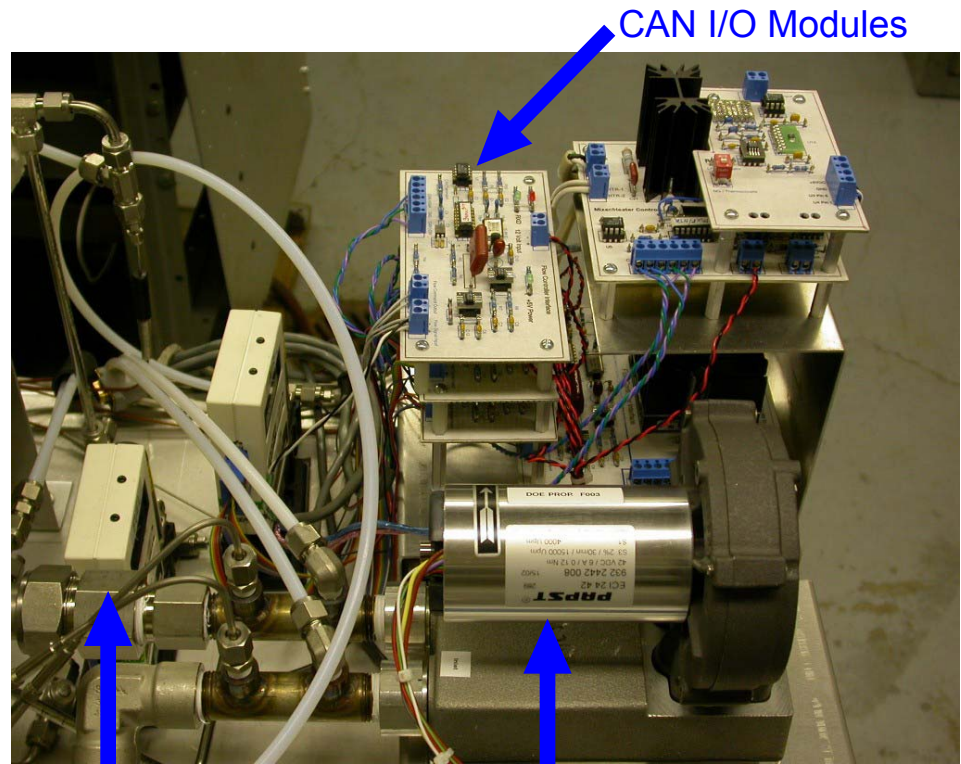


## Balance of Plant Controls Hardware



MCI

MCU

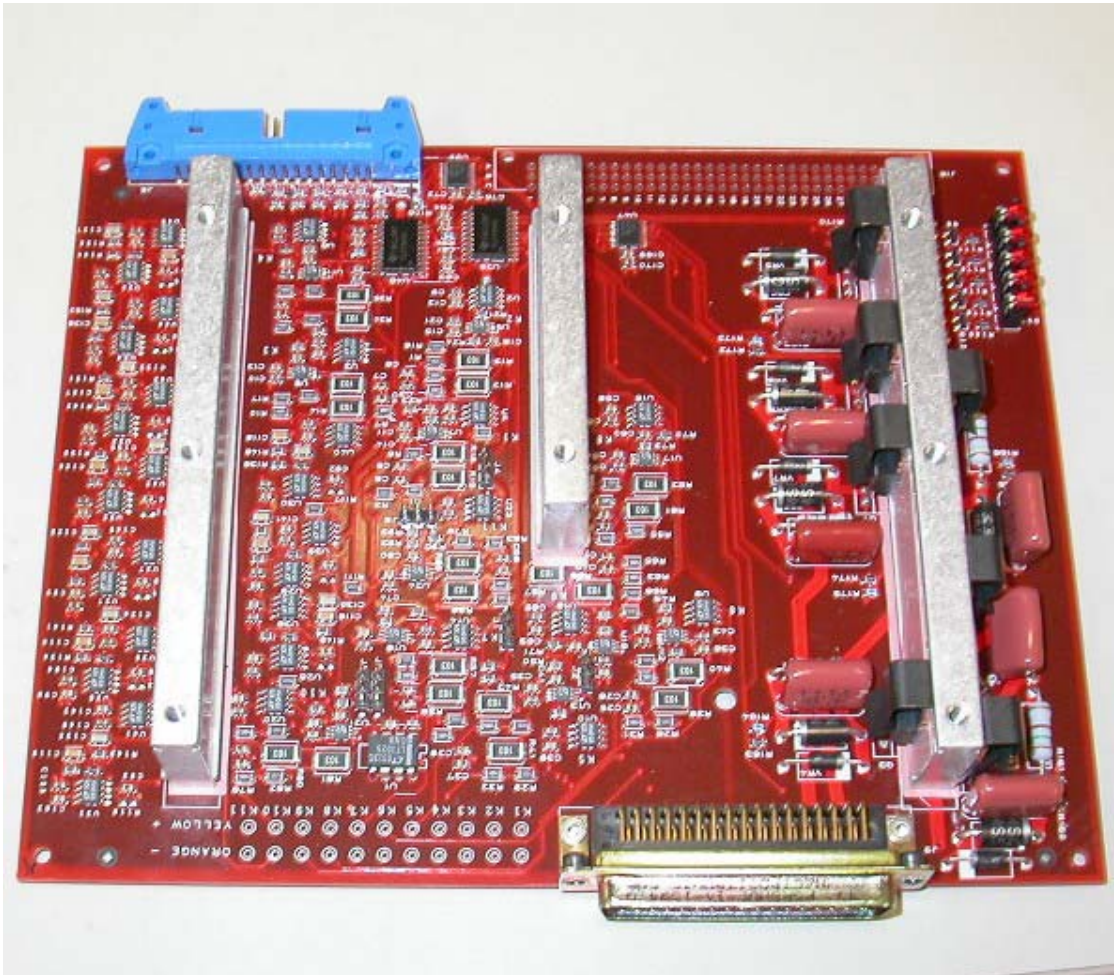


CAN I/O Modules

Mass Flow Controls

Cathode Blower

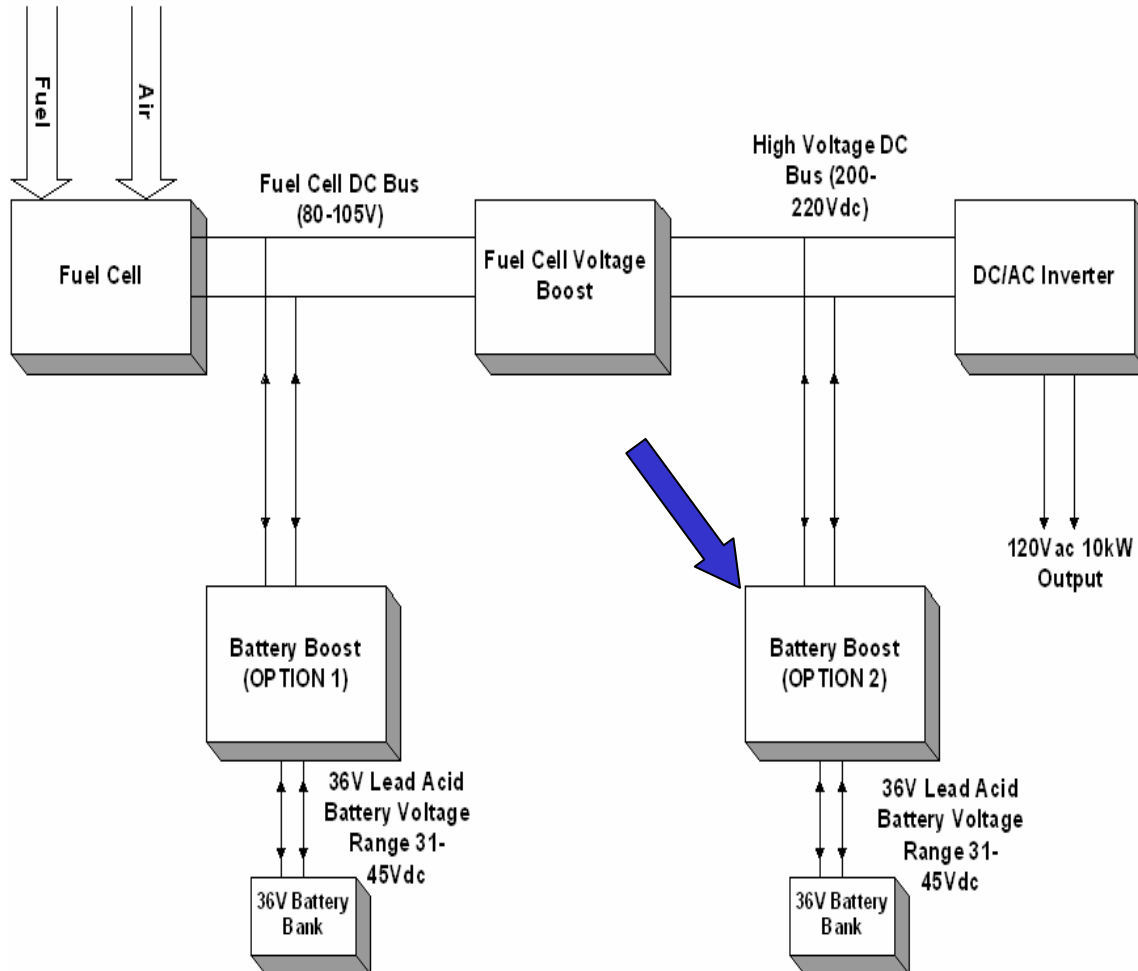
## SOFC Controls and Power Electronics



### Master Control Interface Board

- 11 Type K thermocouple channels.
- 11 filtered analog input channels.
- 7 discrete digital outputs, each rated to 7.5A.

# Power Electronics Architecture



- Two options for Power Electronics architecture.
- **Option 1** initially selected based on lowest cost
- **Option 2** selection driven by control dynamics – cost impact reduced in parallel commercial project



## SECA Program Progress -- Summary

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- *Matrixed development of all-ceramic cells and interconnects demonstrating progress consistent with Phase 1 targets*
- *First generation prototype on schedule consistent with product goals*
- *Parallel paths in place to evolve systems and components*
- *Demonstrated performance of CPOX reformer*
- *BOP, controls, and power electronics available to support system development*

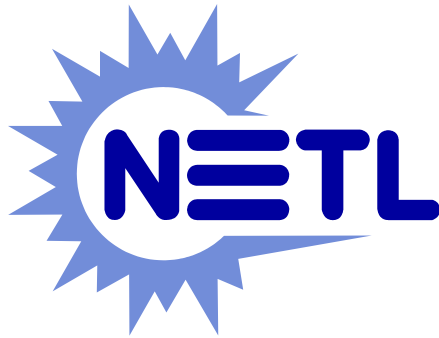


**Power  
Generation**



## *Acknowledgements*

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**Glenn Research Center**



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### **SECA Program**

**Cummins Power Generation**

**10kWe SOFC Power System Commercialization Program**

**Boston, MA**

**May 11, 2004**

*This presentation was prepared with the support of the U.S.  
Department of Energy, under Award no. DE-FC26-01NT41244.  
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