

# Progress in Acumentrics' Fuel Cell Program

*August 7, 2007*

# Outline

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- Overview
- Cell Technology
- Process Developments
- Generator Developments
- Coal Systems
- SECA Phase I Machine Performance
- Summary

# Acumentrics Corporation

## Strategic Partners



**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
Strength on Your Side™



Connecticut Innovations, Inc



- *~ 80 Employees*
- *Manufacturing since 1994*
- *Based in Westwood, Mass.*
- *~40,000 sq. ft facility*
- *Profitable for the past 24 months*
- *Critical disciplines in-house*

Electrical Engineering  
 Mechanical Engineering  
 Chemical Engineering  
 Thermal Modeling  
 Ceramics Processing  
 Manufacturing  
 Sales & Marketing  
 Automation  
 Finance

# Acumentrics *Battery based UPS*

## Uninterruptible Power Supplies for Harsh Environments



**Industrial-UPS®**  
Commercial

**Rugged-UPS®**  
Military



### Features:

- Sealed electronics
- Able to withstand vibration
- Unity power factor input
- Wide input 80VAC - 265VAC
- Isolated 120 / 240VAC output
- Hot swap battery case
- Parallelable to 20 kWatts

# Field Demonstrations



- Operable on propane and natural gas
- Grid-tie and grid independent operation
- Cogeneration capable, transportable
- Operating for over 4900 hours line NG
- Over 18,000 hrs on latest 5 machines



# Outline

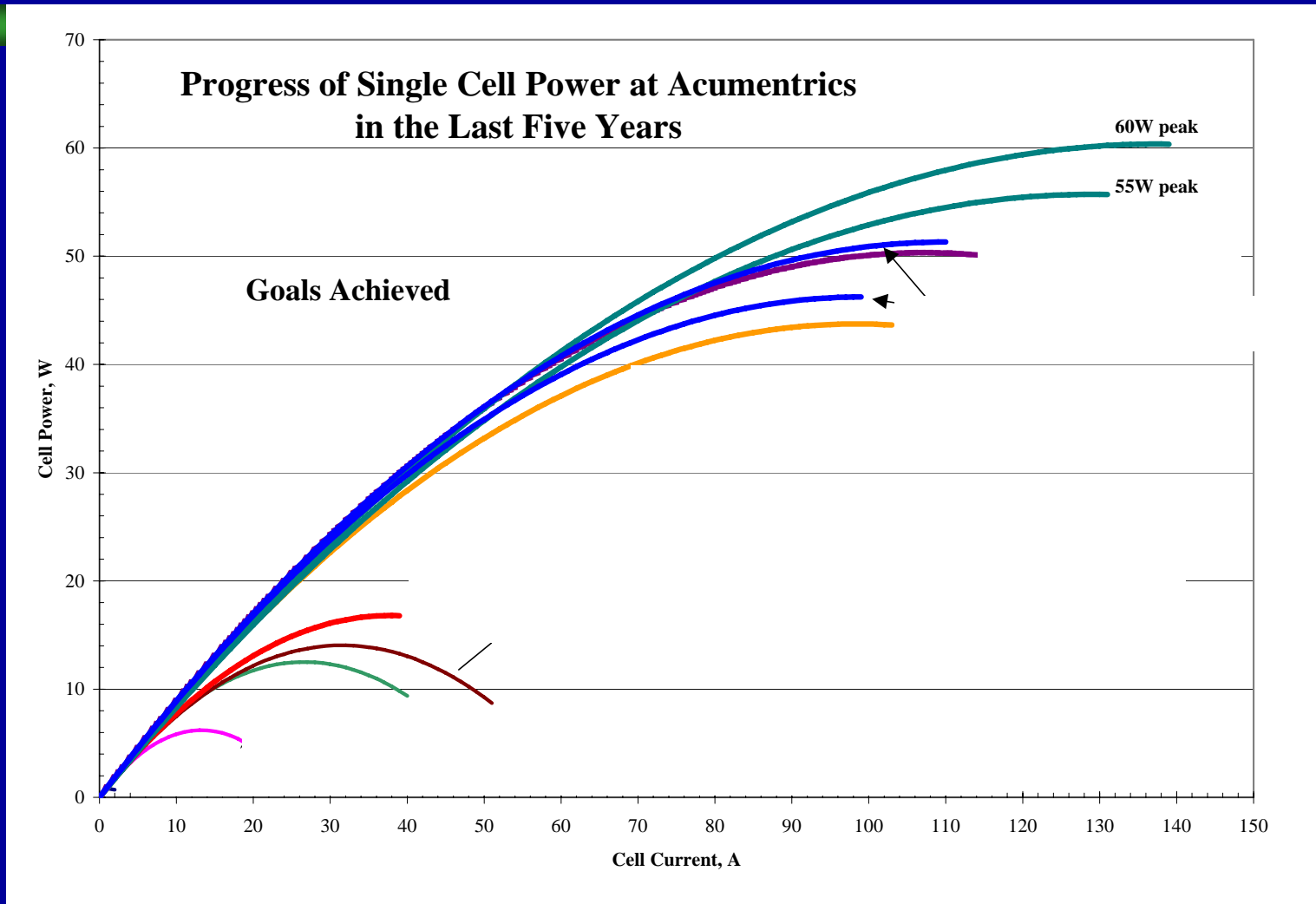
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# SECA Product Objectives

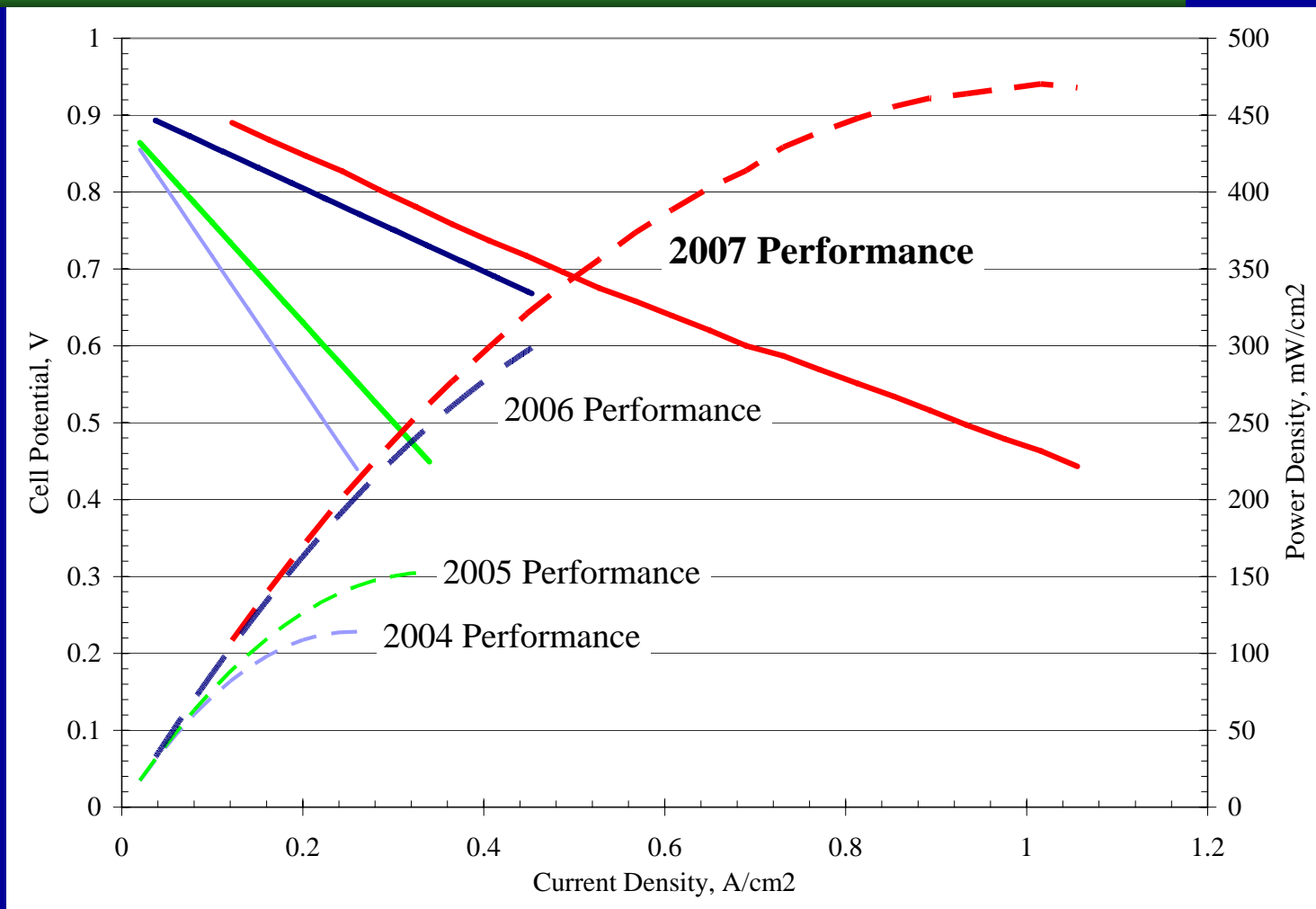
- Culminate in a 5-10kW modular stack capable of meeting a number of market requirements.
- Widen our fuel choices.
- Build upon our knowledge of “ruggedized” products for harsh environments.
- Allow for modular build up to the 100kW class size.
- Allow for integration with military towable power units in the 5-20kW size.

# Acumentrics Progress

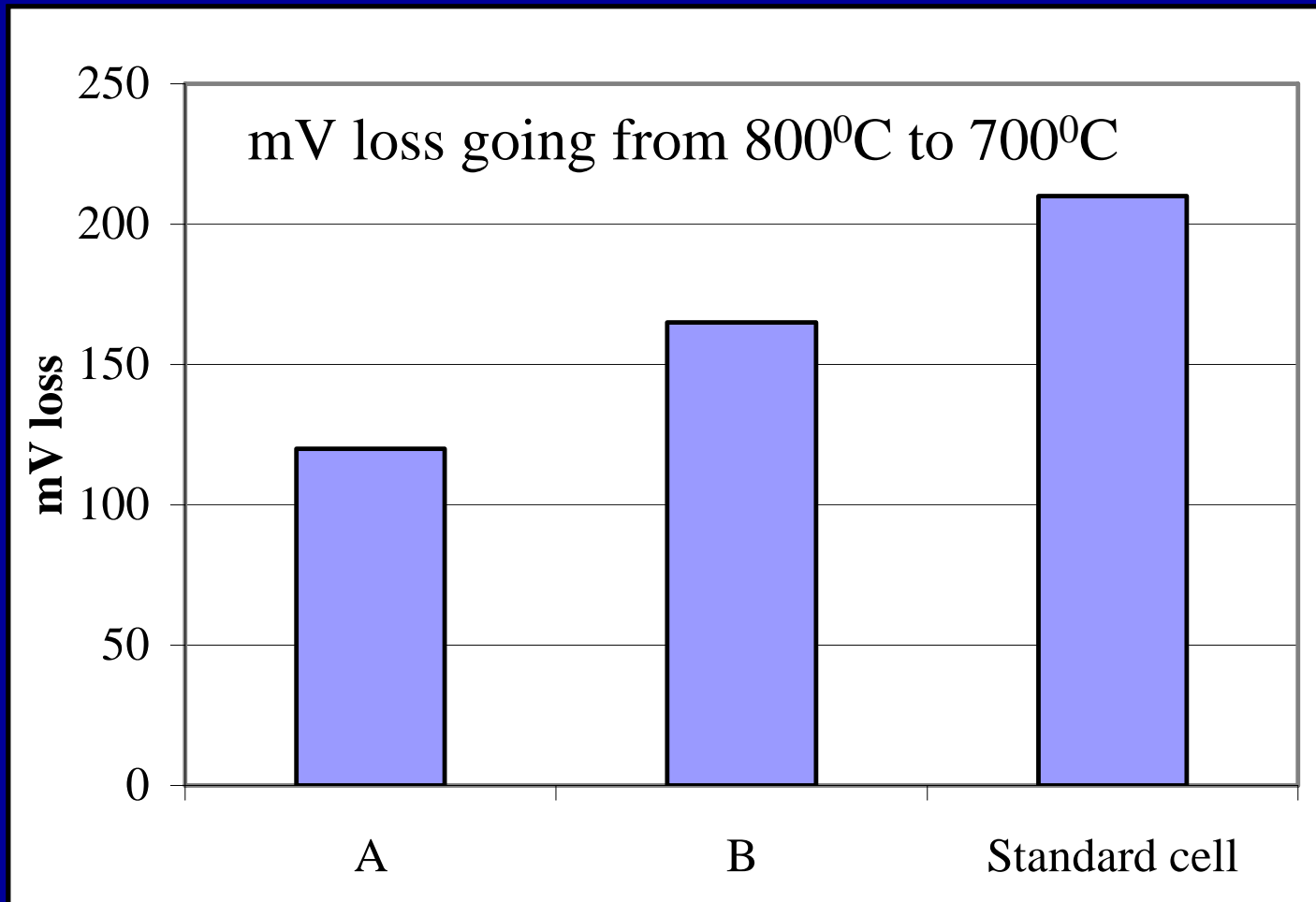




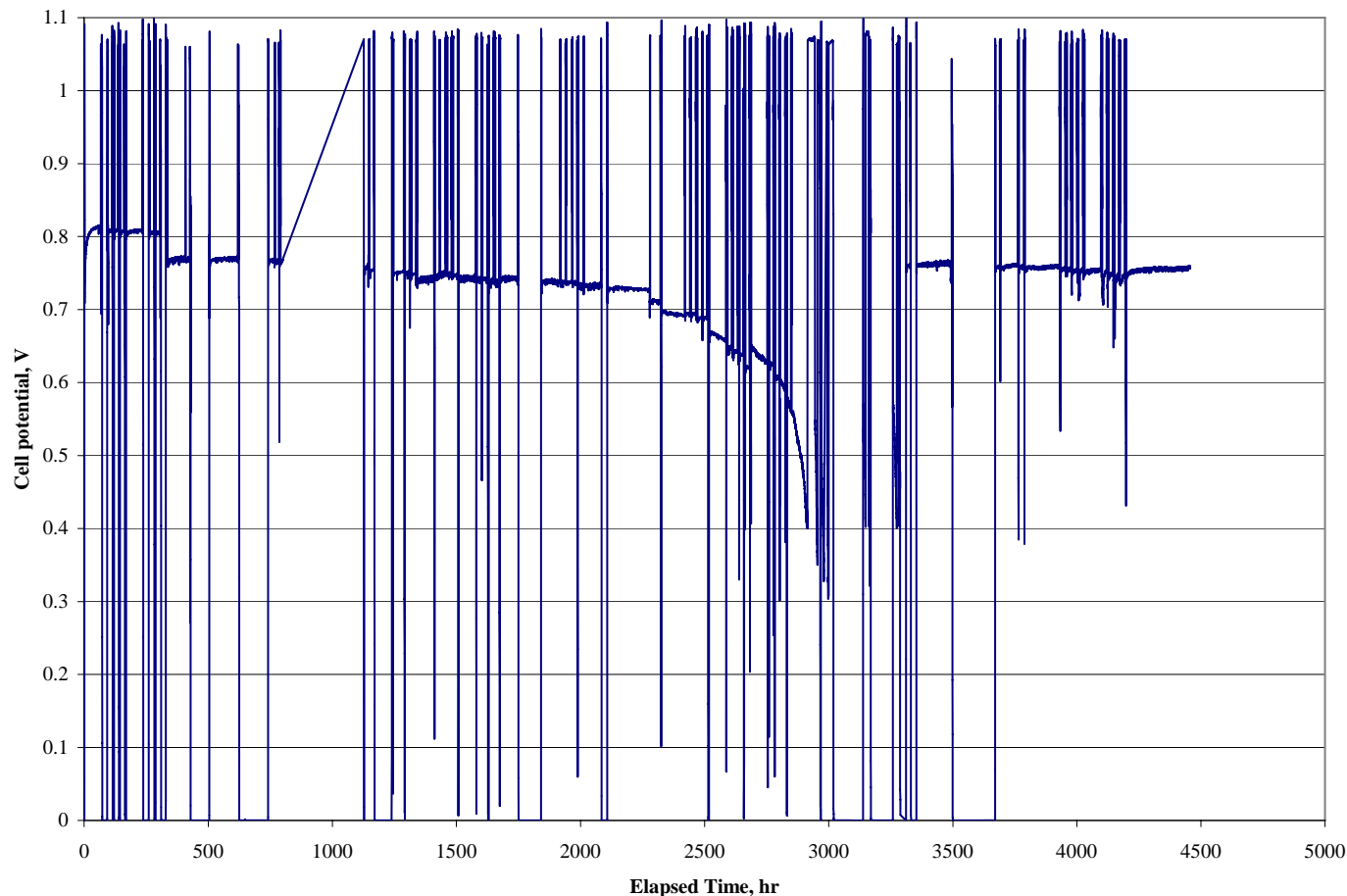
# Performance Comparison



# Cell Performance with Doping



# Thermal cycling of cells



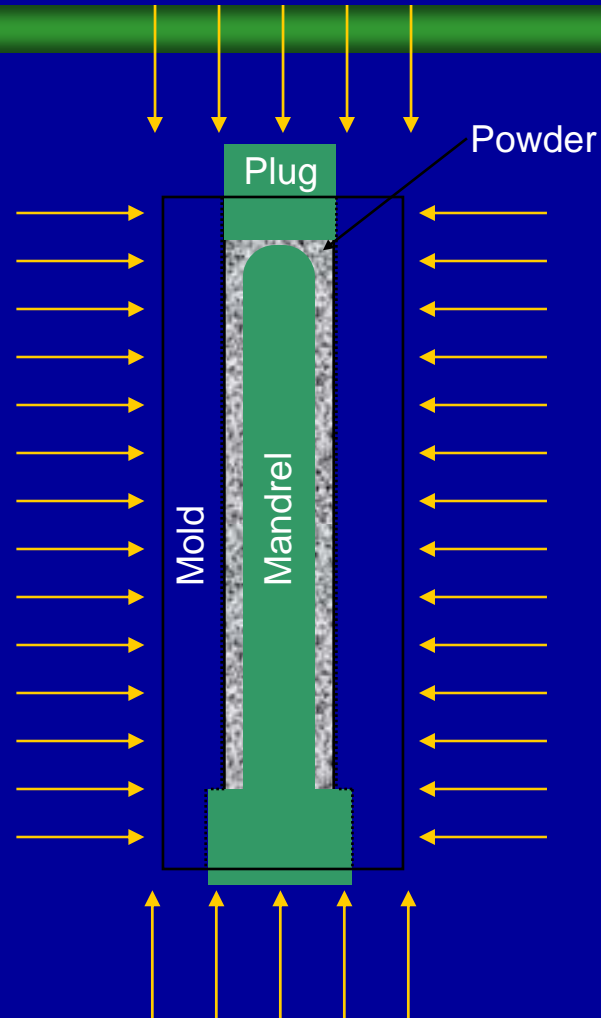
- **101 Thermal Cycles**
- **-0.78%/1000hr overall degradation**
- **Consistent OCP through test**
- **3073 hours operation**
- **Cycling continues**

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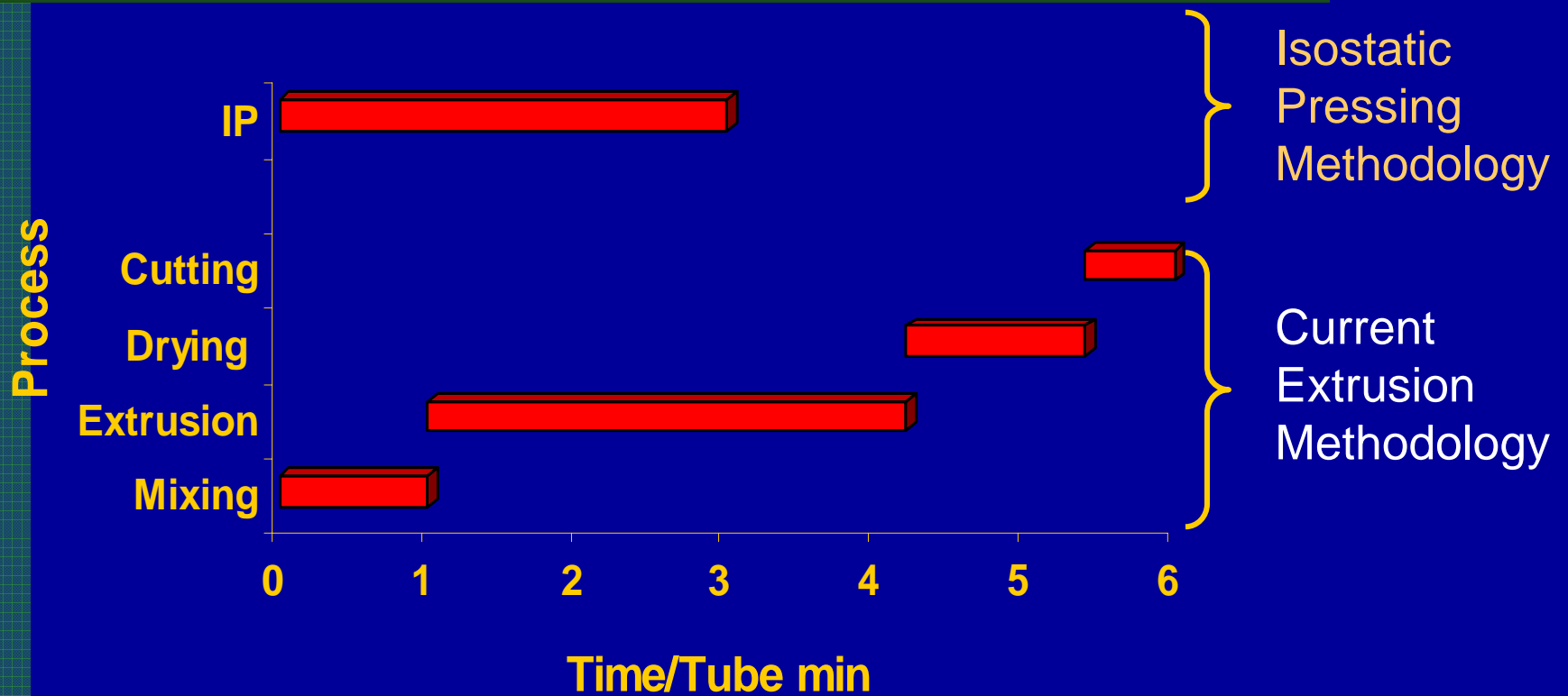
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# Fabrication Process Developments



# Isopressing Tube for 100kW+ Systems



Total Extrusion Time – 6 min/tube

Total IP Time – 3 min/tube

# Plasma Spray Automation



Decreased cost  
due to automated  
processing

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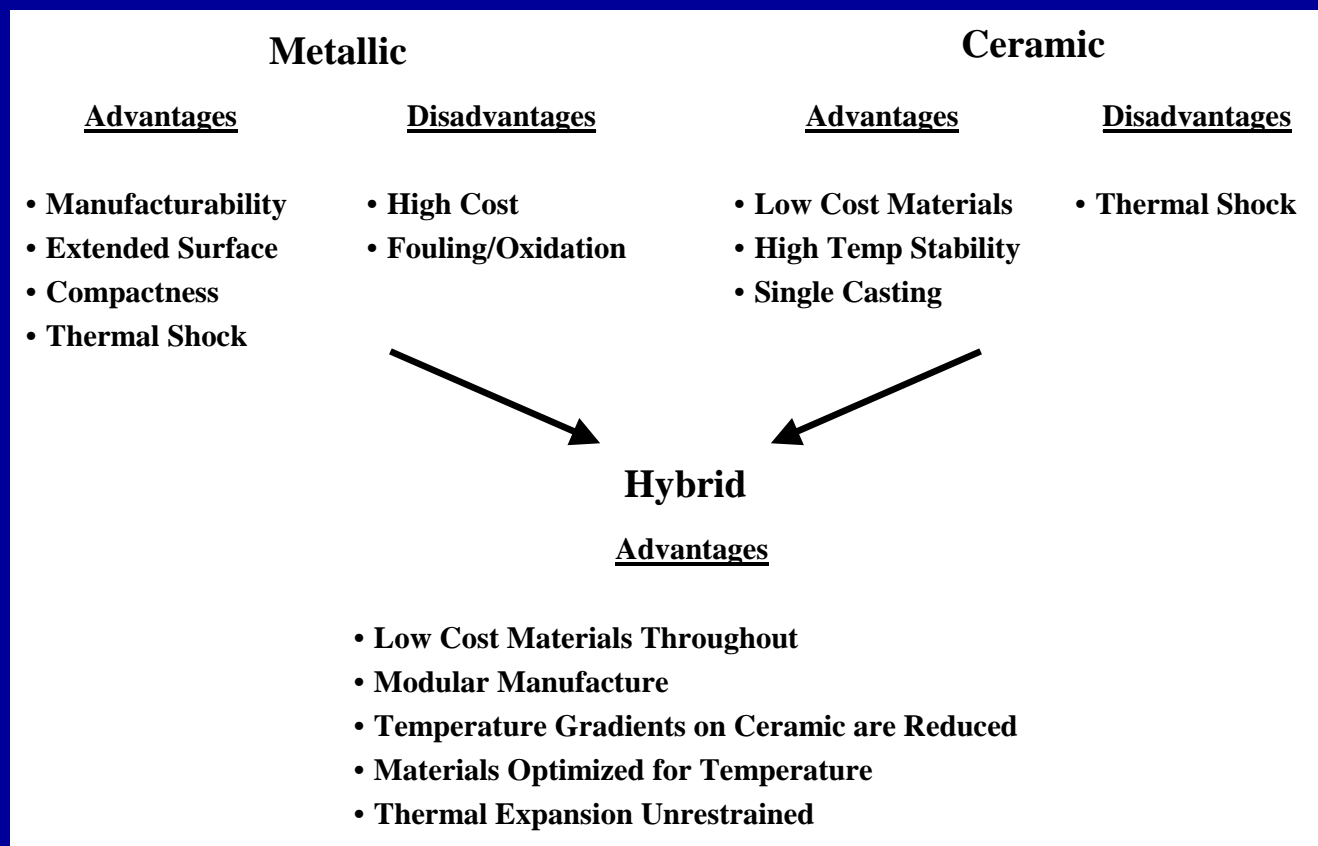
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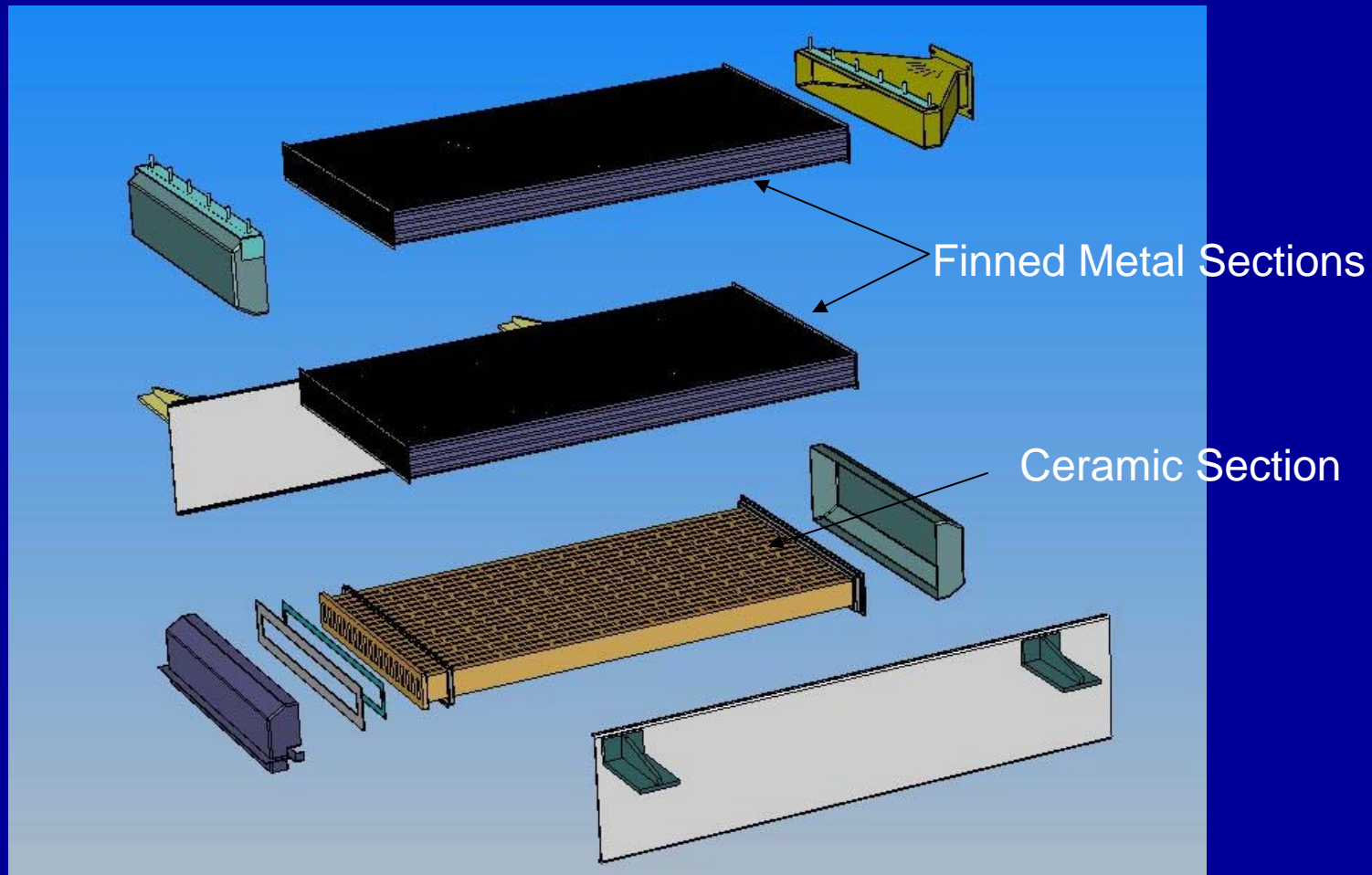
# Recuperator Development

- Phase II SBIR awarded July 2007 to further investigate Hybrid Solutions
- Full scale metallic and ceramic recuperators tested
- Metallic units are quite effective (82-90%) but oxidation resistance and life are a concern
- Ceramic units have been proven to survive but the effectiveness has been lower (65-75%) than metallic units
- 80+ Effectiveness required

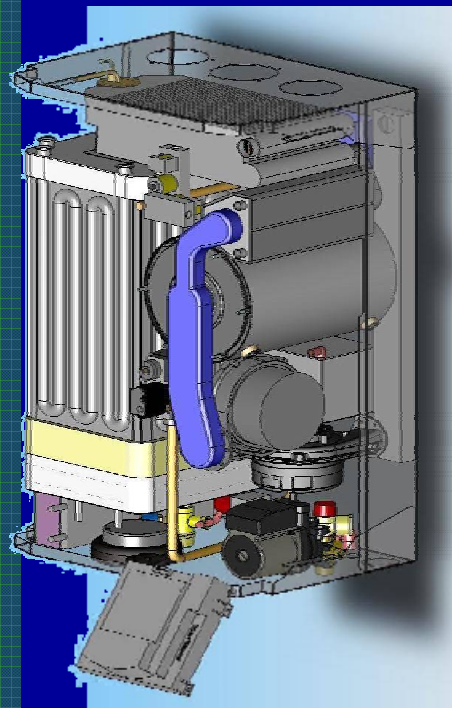
# Hybrid Recuperator Advantages



# Hybrid Recuperator



# 1kW Home CHP Appliance



- First Prototype
- Fully operational:
  - 1kW electric
  - 25kW (85k BTU/hr) Thermal
  - 75-90% total Eff.
  - 33"x22"x18"
  - ~180 lbs total
  - ~100lbs thermal system



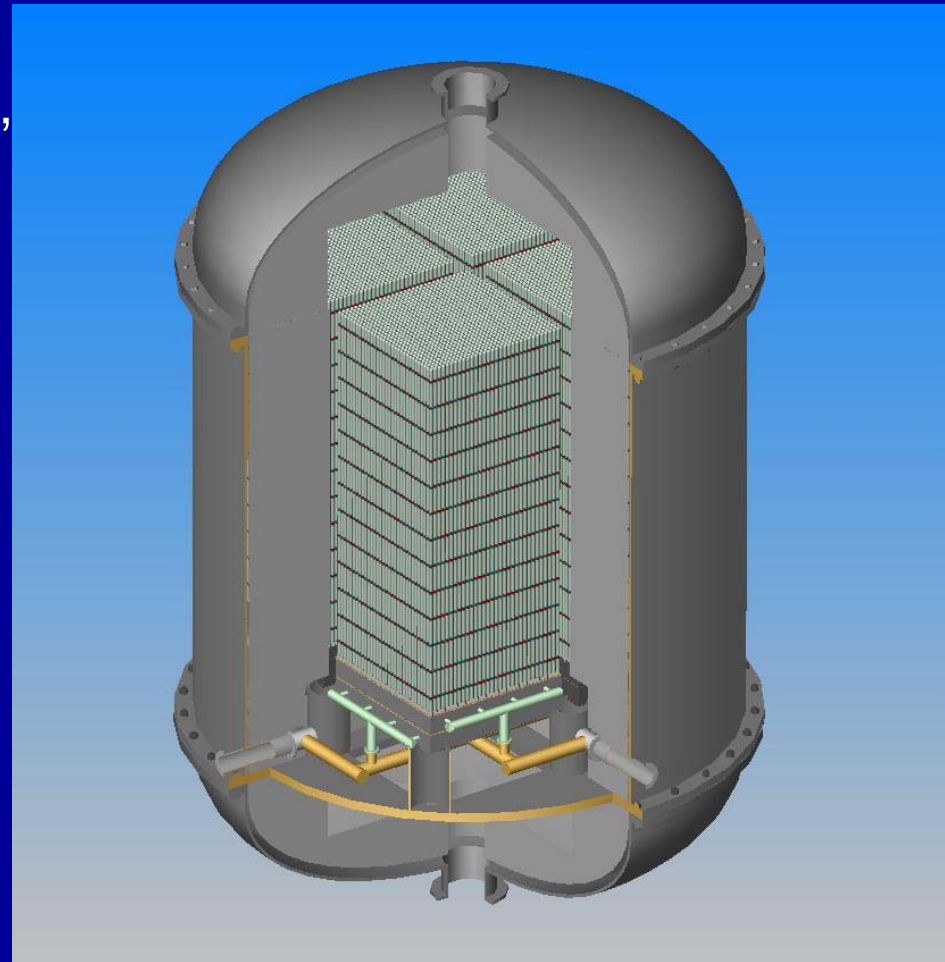
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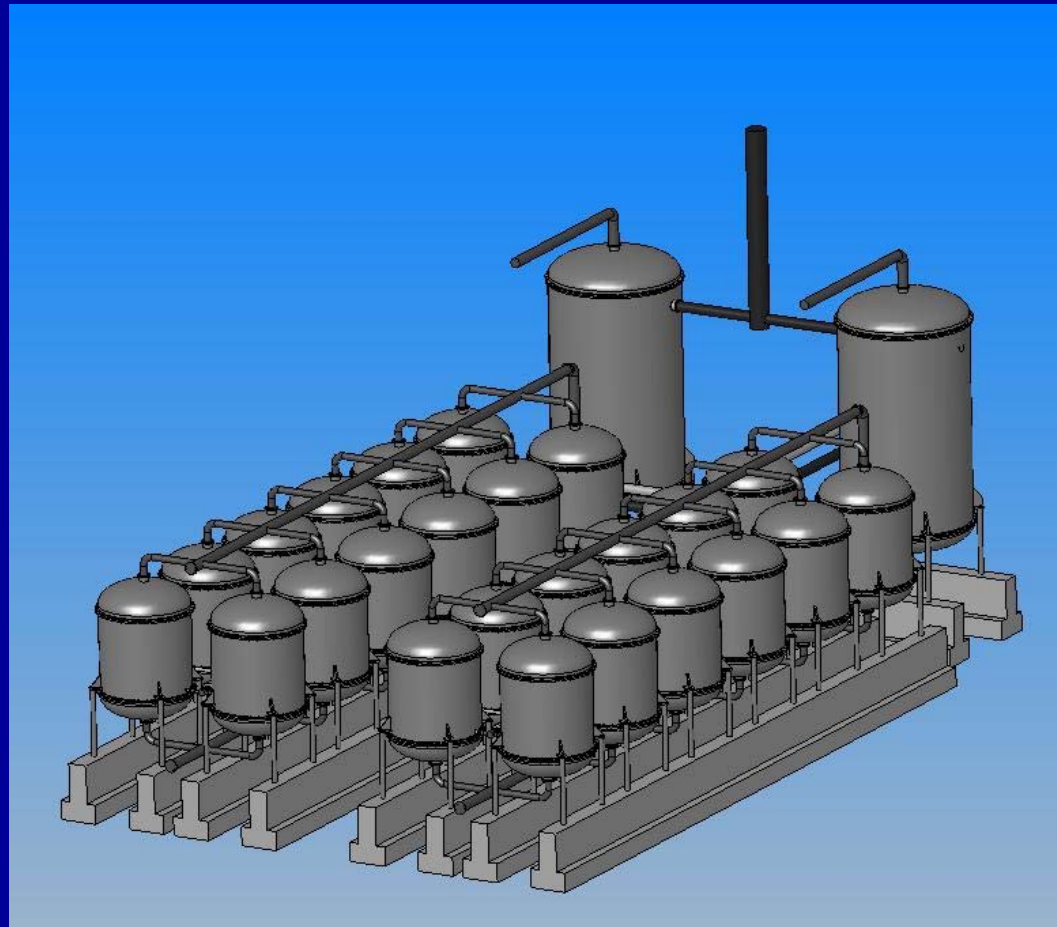
# 1 MW SOFC Module

- Four bundles per vessel,  
1 MW each
- Pressurized
- 2 meter long tubes
- 13 Interconnects

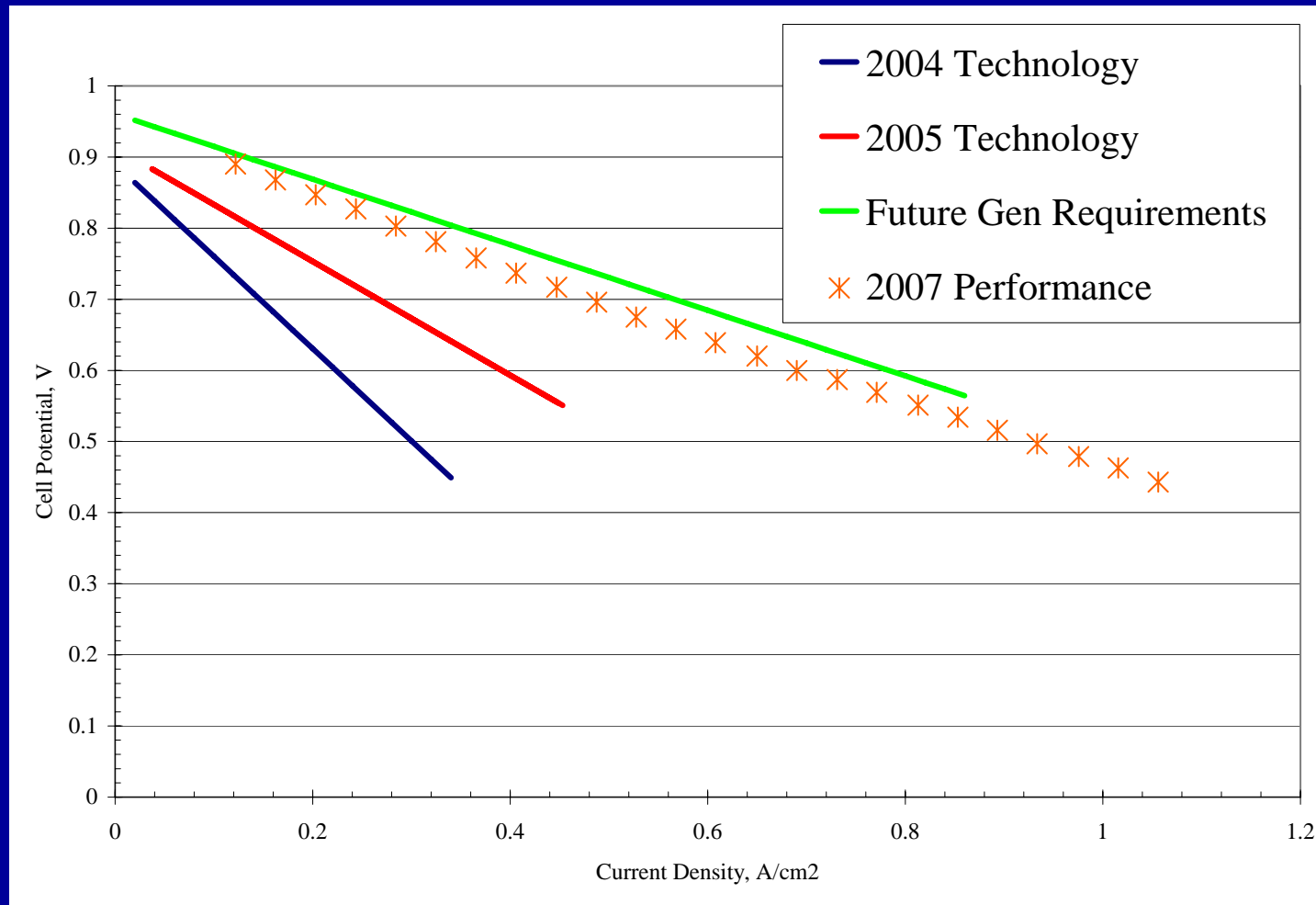


# 100MW Coal Fueled SOFC Plant

- Multiple vessels
- Two heat exchangers



# Future Gen Fuel Cell

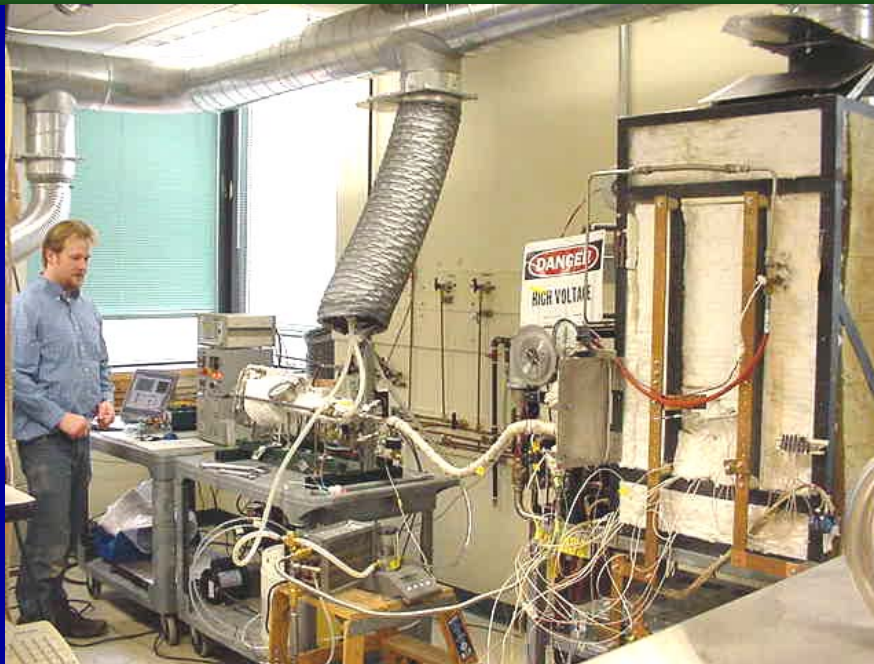




# Stack Testing: Recirculated Steam

- Operation condition on July 30
- SECA stack technology utilizing 800C recirculation blower
- Operation time: total about 890 hrs
- Electric power:
  - DC 8.8kW
  - AC 7.1kW
- Electric Efficiency
  - 52% DC LHV
  - 43% AC LHV
- Overall efficiency: 84% LHV (70deg-C hot water)

# Testing on JP-8



- Load following within 30 seconds (manual)
- Should be faster when integrated
- $S/C \leq 1$ ; low water requirements

- 5.5hr total testing
- Reformer startup (cold to operating) <10min
- Fully stable reformer operation in 20min

- One day test
- Achieved 27% efficiency
- At higher FU, expect to hit ~31%

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# SECA Performance Results

	Goal set by SECA	Acumentrics Phase I Generator	NETL Testing
Peak Power DC	3-10kW	6.1kW	6.2kWDC (NETL)
Degradation Rate %/500hr	≤2%/500hr	-0.00035% /500hr	-1.5%/500hr
Peak Efficiency %	35%-55%	36.9%	>35%
Availability %	>80%	97.5%	96% (including startup, testing, thermal cycles, and grid failures)
Transient Power Degradation %	<1%	0.75%	Not measurable
Cost \$/kW	<\$800/kW	\$729/kW	

# NETL Testing Summary

- 890hrs total testing
- 2172 kW-hr produced, 6.2kWDC(net) peak power, ten power cycles, four efficiency points
- 856 hr >1500W net DC
- 3 thermal cycles (one deep)
- 96% availability (including all testing, startup, and grid failures)

# SECA generator operation

- 4694 hrs operation (as of July 30, 2007)
- 11,402kW-hr produced
- 10 Thermal cycles
- 20 power cycles
- Degradation not measurable
- 6.2kWnetDC peak

# Summary

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- Moved into Phase II based on successful completion of Phase I goals
- Tripled Power Density over Program Start
- Minimized Degradation (including thermal cycles)
- Significantly Advanced and Simplified Design
- Reduced Cost & Weight and Improved System Density
- Significant progress toward coal-based gas compositions and larger cells and systems

# Acknowledgement



Strategic Alliance Partners

National Park Service

UAF CERL EPRI

Propane Energy Research  
Council

Department of Energy-National Energy  
Technology Laboratory

Heather Quedenfeld, Project Manager

