

# U.S. DOE Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Program Overview

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2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting - Global Technical Regulation 13 – Phase II

February 2018



# DOE Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program

## Early R&D Focus

Applied research, development and innovation in emerging hydrogen and fuel cell technologies leading to:

- Energy security
- Energy resiliency
- Strong domestic economy

## Early R&D Areas



### Fuel Cells

- PGM- free catalysts
- Durable MEAs
- Electrode performance

PGM = Platinum group metals  
MEA = Membrane Electrode Assembly

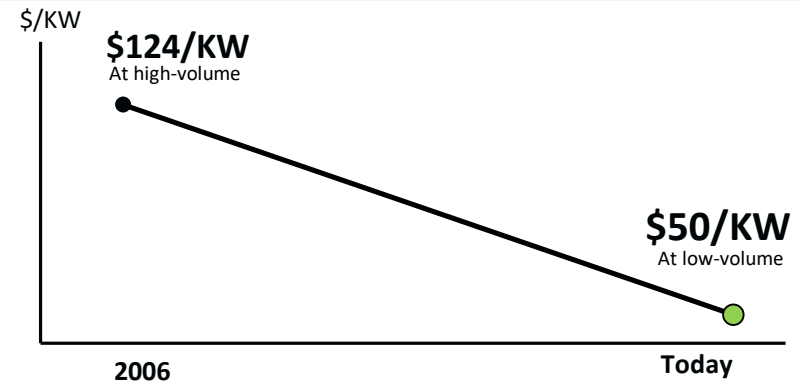


### Hydrogen

- Production pathways
- Delivery components
- Advanced materials for storage

## Early R&D Impact

### 60% Lower Fuel Cell Cost



### Greater Fuel Cell Durability

**4X more hours** of fuel cell lifetime since 2006

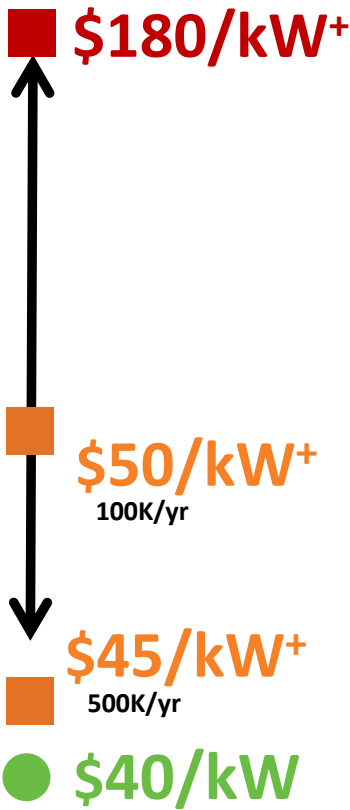
### 80% Lower Electrolyzer Cost

for H<sub>2</sub> production since 2002

# DOE Cost Status and Targets

## Fuel Cell R&D

### System

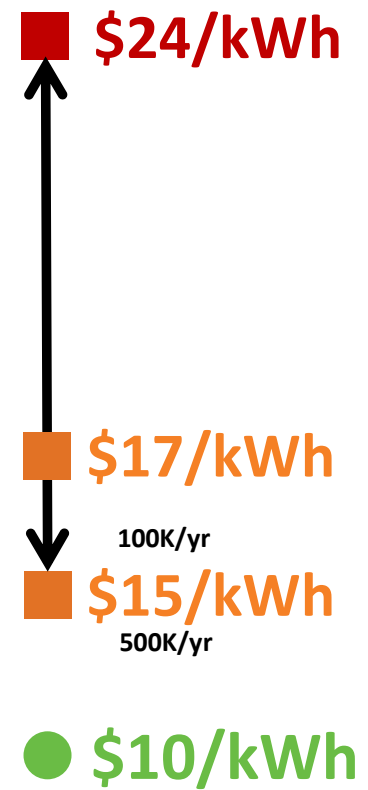


## Hydrogen R&D

### Production, Delivery & Dispensing



### Onboard Storage (700-bar compressed system)



2020 Targets



High-Volume Projection

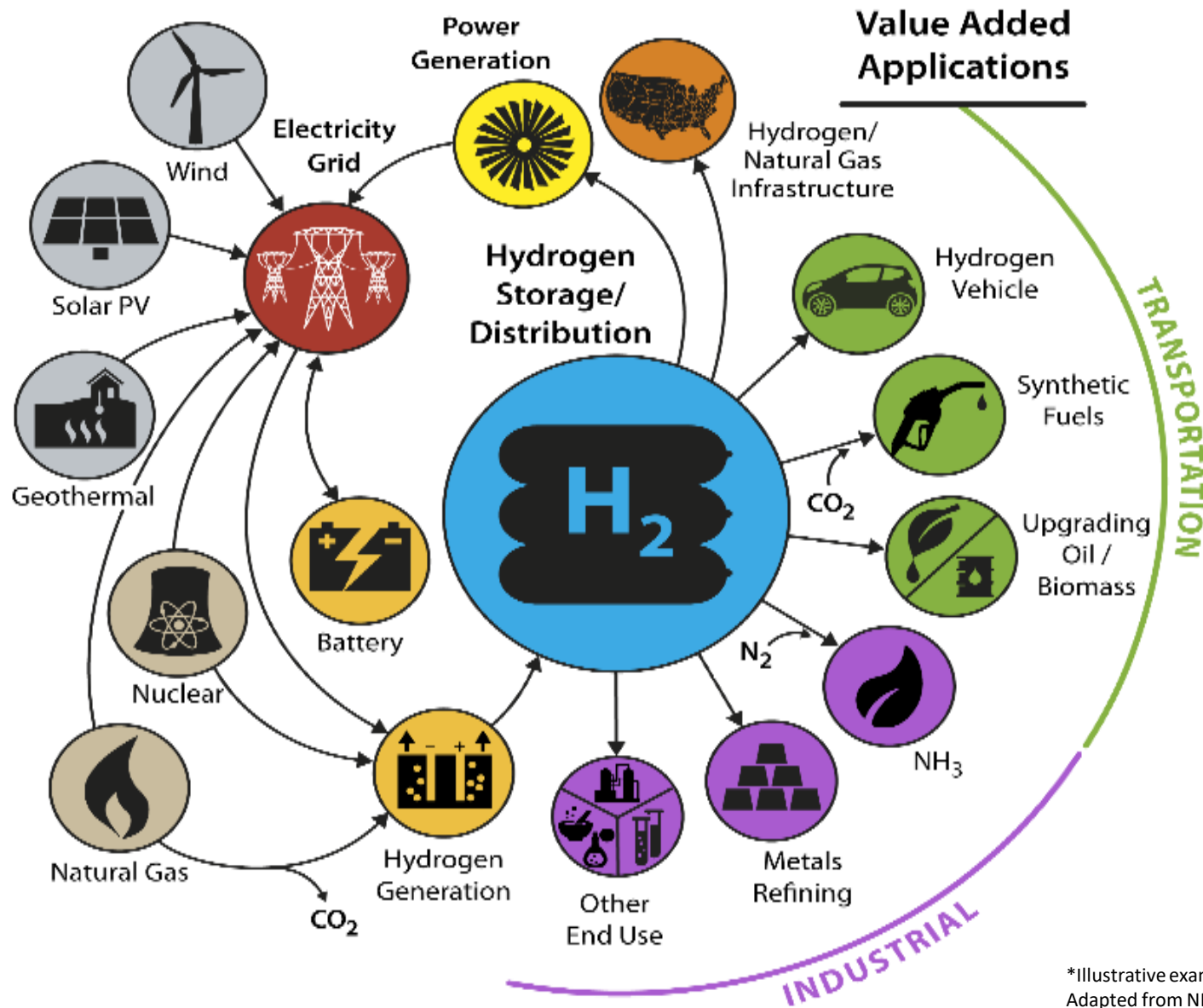


Low-Volume Estimate

\*Based on Electrolysis \*\*Based on NG SMR † Preliminary, updates underway  
Onboard storage cost status from DOE Program Record 15013

Note: Graphs not drawn to scale and are for illustration purposes only.

# H2@Scale Energy System



\*Illustrative example, not comprehensive  
Adapted from NREL, Lab Big Idea Team

# Safety, Codes & Standards Goals & Objectives

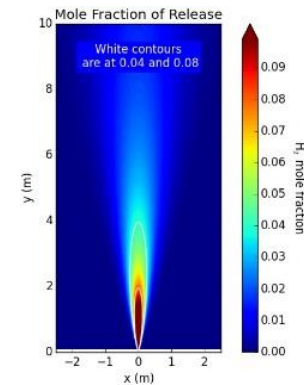
*Funding R&D needed to develop science-based codes and standards, thereby enabling the safe deployment of H<sub>2</sub> and fuel cell technologies*

## Codes & Standards

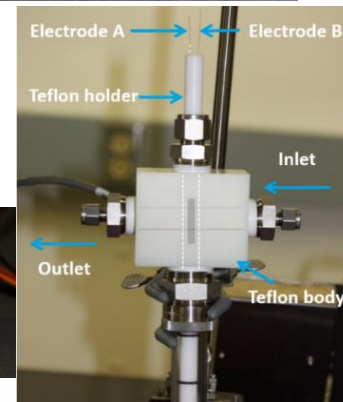
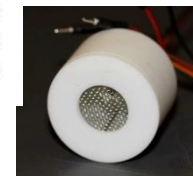
- Conduct **R&D to provide critical data** and information needed to define requirements in developing codes and standards.
- Support and facilitate development of **essential codes and standards to enable widespread deployment** of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and completion of essential regulations, codes and standards (RCS).

## Safety

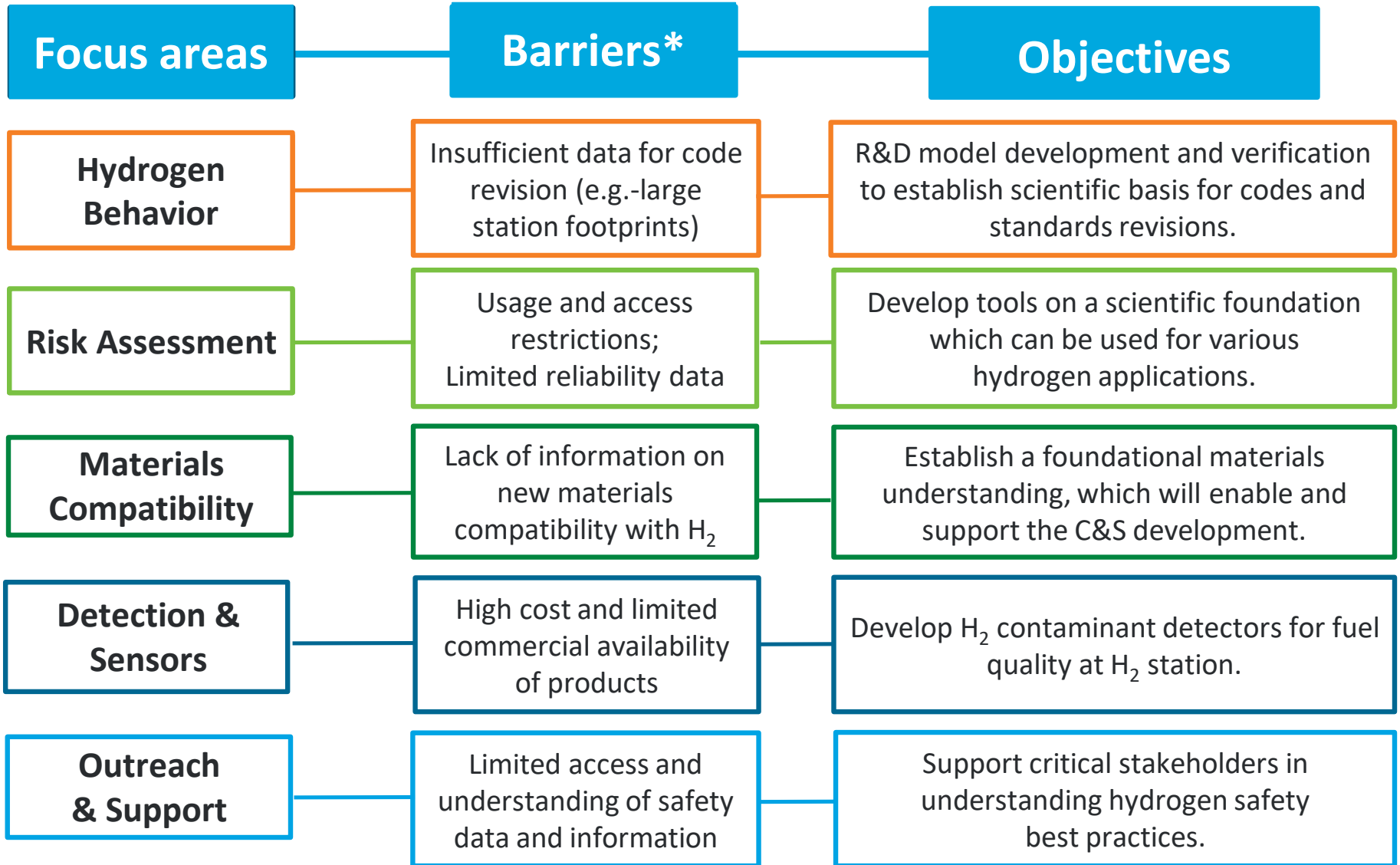
- Ensure that **best safety practices** underlie activities supported through DOE-funded projects.
- Enable **widespread sharing of safety-related information resources** and lessons learned with key stakeholders.



614g 100 cycles



# Current Strategy and Barriers



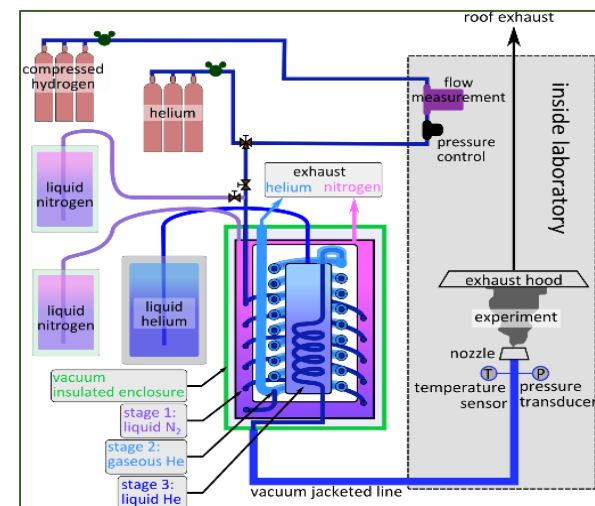
\* From Safety, Codes and Standards MYRD&D (June 2015)

# Hydrogen Behavior & Modeling

*Leveraging science to enable infrastructure through understanding hydrogen behavior, analyzing risk, and implementing inherently safe design options*

*R&D to inform codes & standards development for both gaseous and liquid hydrogen.*

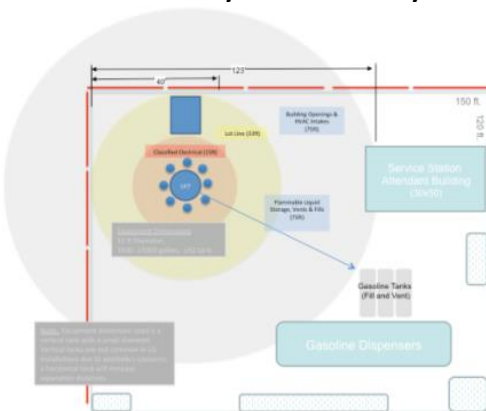
- **NFPA-2:** Draft revised setback distances for **bulk gaseous hydrogen storage** systems with reductions that would have a significant impact on the number of potential sites for hydrogen fueling, focusing on three parameters:
  1. **Maximum release area:** currently, this value is 3%
  2. **Heat flux harm criteria**
  3. **Lower flammability percentage for hydrogen in air:** currently 4%
- **Science-based approach for liquid hydrogen:**  
Developed cryo-temperature laboratory to validate liquid hydrogen models to enable risk assessment tools.



# Risk Assessment for performance-based design

*Leveraging science to enable infrastructure through understanding hydrogen behavior, analyzing risk, and implementing inherently safe design options*

- **Quantitative risk assessment (QRA)** utilizes engineering models to produce risk metrics which enable performance-based design.
  - The HyRAM (Hydrogen Risk Assessment Models) tool integrates models and data to quantify risk. This QRA tool is a critical enabler for code committees to pursue data-driven decisions to provide an objective basis for code requirements.
- **Performance-based design** is a risk-enabled (via QRA), NFPA 2 - compliant option for station design.
  - Developed a template, which guides the user through the PBD process
  - Connecting materials compatibility to risk assessment to enable alternative materials not currently used in hydrogen service



The screenshot displays the HyRAM software interface. The 'Risk Metrics' section shows calculated values for FAR, PLL, and AIR. A table below the metrics provides detailed data:

Risk Metric	Value	Unit
Fatal Accident Rate (FAR) (10 <sup>8</sup> h) <sup>-1</sup>	0.54 (x10 <sup>-5</sup> )	Fatalities/worker/year
Fatal Accident Rate (FAR) (10 <sup>6</sup> h) <sup>-1</sup>	0.1055	Fatalities in 10 <sup>6</sup> h per worker/year
Average individual risk (AIR)		

The HyRAM logo is prominently displayed at the bottom right. Below the logo, a note explains the risk metrics: 'The risk metrics integrate both probability and consequences of hydrogen risk scenarios. FAR (Fatal Accident Rate) is the expected number of fatalities in 100 million exposed hours (approximately 1000 worker careers). AIR (Average Individual Risk) is the expected number of fatalities per exposed individual. PLL (Potential Loss of Life) is the expected number of fatalities per system year.'

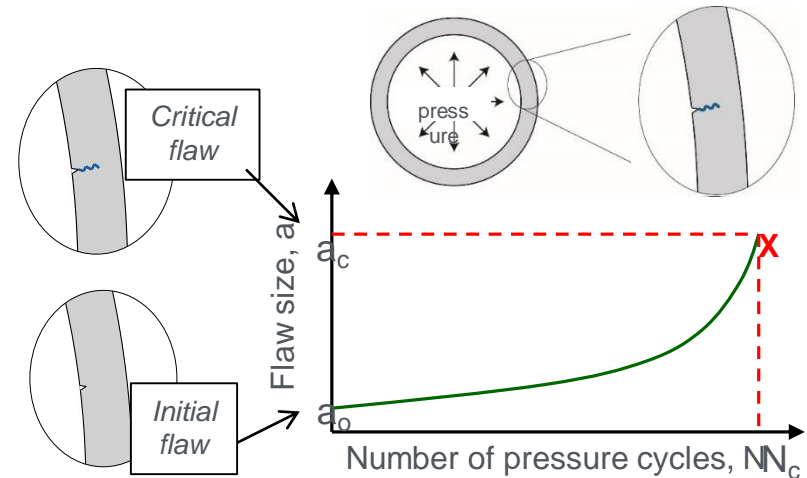


# Hydrogen Compatibility of Materials

**Performing critical materials R&D to understand material behavior in high pressure hydrogen to enable RCS in support of infrastructure deployment**

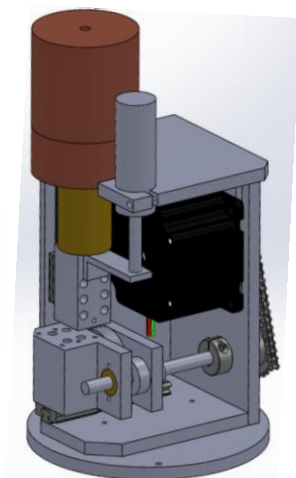
## Metallic Materials Compatibility

- Establish coordinated fatigue life testing and data sharing with international stakeholders
- High-hardenability steels (Ni-Cr-Mo) show similar fatigue crack growth rates as common PV steels (Cr-Mo) in gaseous hydrogen



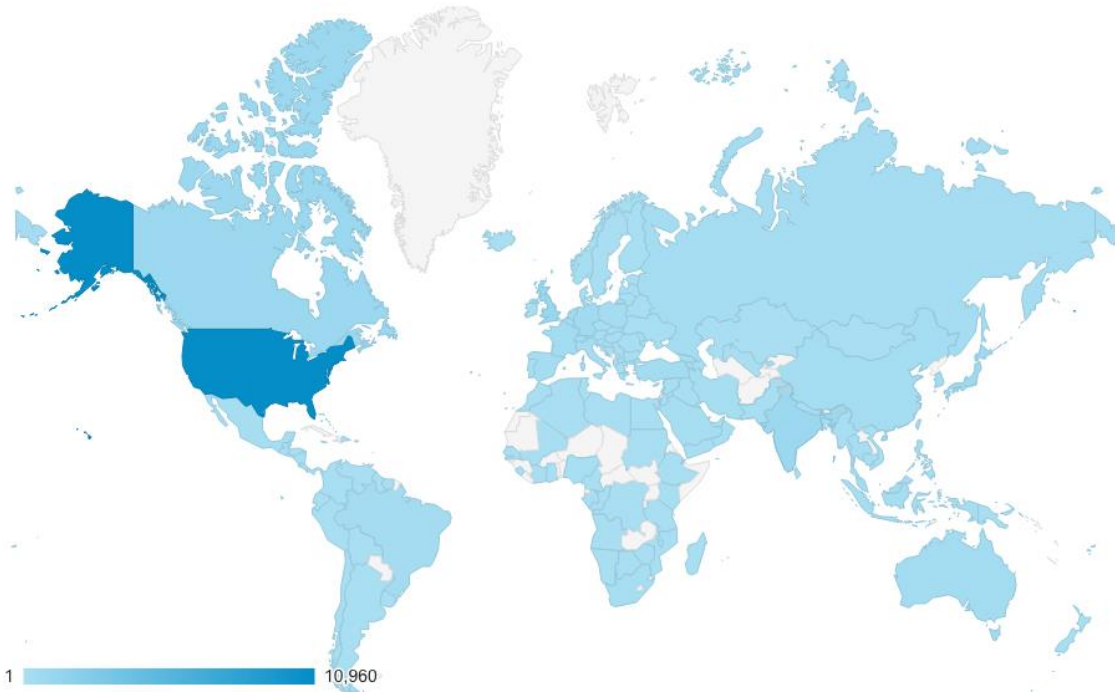
## Polymer Compatibility

- Filling the critical knowledge gap for polymer performance in H<sub>2</sub> environments
- Initiated testing program of critical materials to understand behavior (e.g.- Tribology in 500 bar H<sub>2</sub>)



*Planned upgrade with vertical LVDT for in-situ wear track measurement*

# H2Tools: One-stop for H2 safety knowledge



h2tools.org

- Includes resources on **safety** best practices, **first responder training**, and **H<sub>2</sub> codes & standards**

- Site visit tracking shows a **global reach: 50% of visits are international!**
- Over **300,000 site visits**
- Training resource **translated into Japanese**

# Thank You

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