

# Enabling Fuel Cell Technologies with Hydrogen Science and Engineering

**Chris San Marchi**

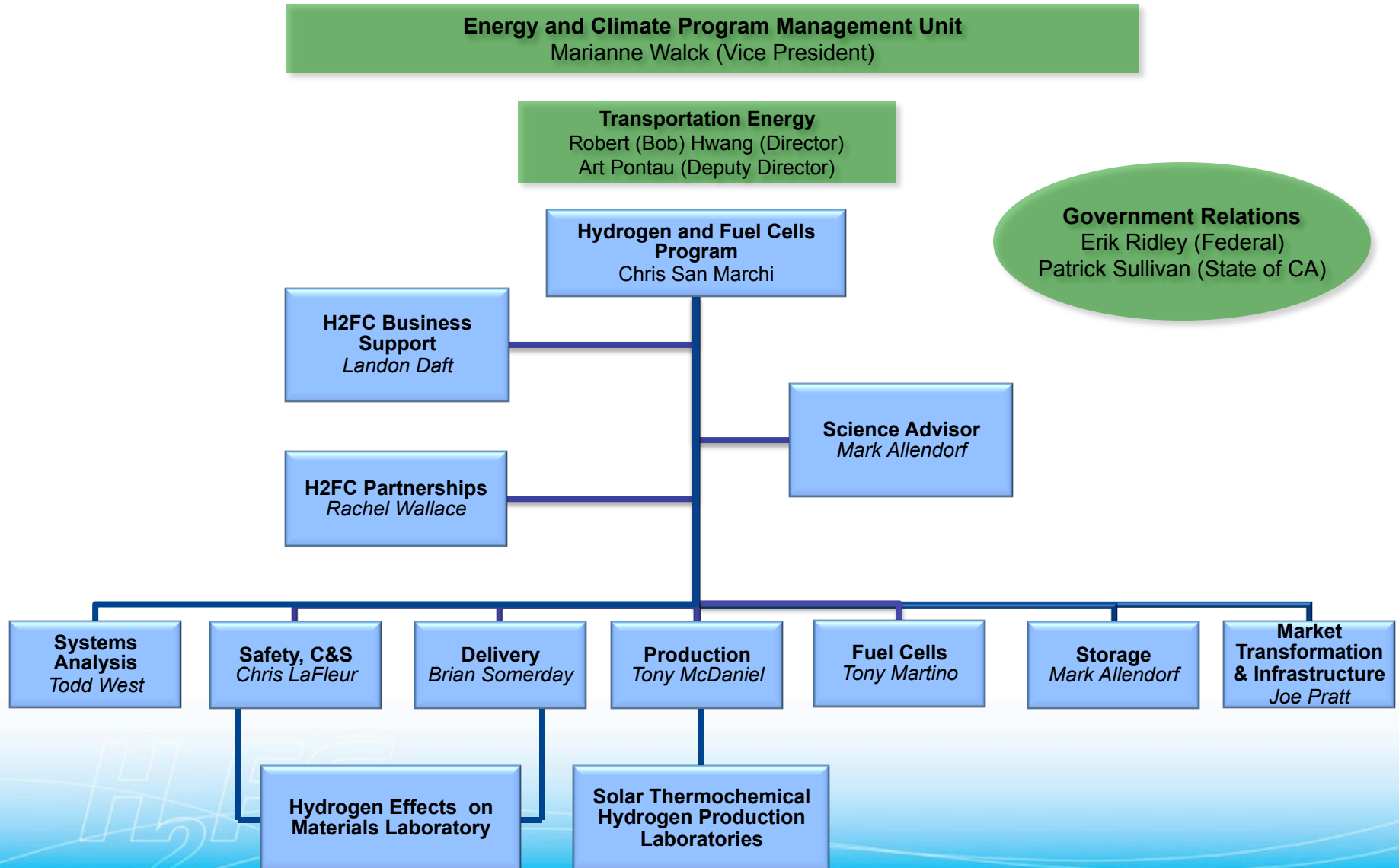
Sandia National Laboratories

# Hydrogen capabilities at Sandia National Laboratories

- Hydrogen behavior studies
- Quantitative risk assessment (QRA)
- Hydrogen compatibility of materials and components
- Solar thermochemical hydrogen production (STCH)
- Solid-state storage materials
- Hydrogen infrastructure and systems engineering
- Membrane synthesis and development
- Scenario and technoeconomic analysis
- Advanced computing for materials and components

# Hydrogen facilities and projects at Sandia National Laboratories

- Turbulent Combustion Laboratory (TCL)
- **HyRAM** (Hydrogen Risk Assessment Models)
- Hydrogen Effects on Materials Laboratory (HEML)
- Solar Fuel Laboratory (SFL) and National Solar Thermal Test Facility (NSTTF)
- **HyMARC** (Hydrogen Materials – Advanced Materials Consortium) – joint with LLNL and LBNL
- **H2FIRST** (Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure Research and Station Technology) – joint with NREL
- Alkaline exchange membrane synthesis and development
- Macro System Model (MSM) and Parachoice model



# Hydrogen Safety, Codes and Standards program element



*Providing the science and engineering to accelerate the deployment of clean and efficient hydrogen technologies*

**Science-based regulations, codes and standards ensure technology requirements are consistent, logical and defensible**

Hydrogen and fuel cell systems enable dramatic reductions in both GHG emissions and foreign oil dependence



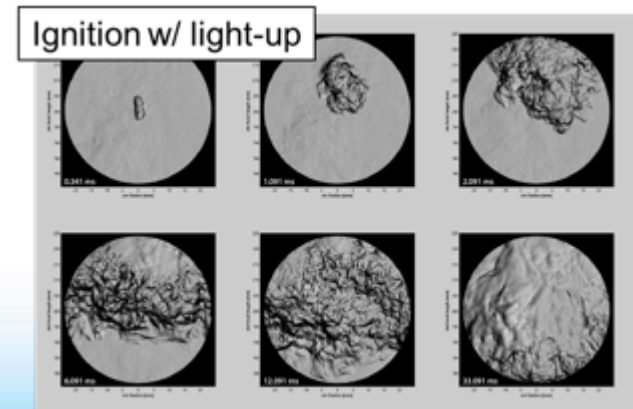
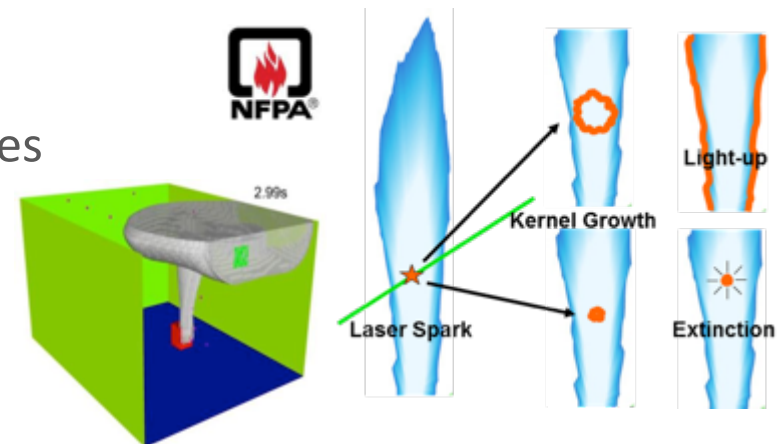
# Accelerating deployments with fundamental understanding of *hydrogen behavior* and *quantitative risk assessment (QRA)*

## Goal

Facilitate the safe use of hydrogen technologies by understanding and mitigating risk

## Demonstrated Impact

- Enabling the deployment of refueling stations by developing science-based, risk-informed decision making processes for specification of safety distances in existing code
- Sandia's analysis has enabled the indoor use of fuel cell powered vehicles





# Behavior and risk models can be integrated to enable consistent (and accepted) risk assessment process

*risk*



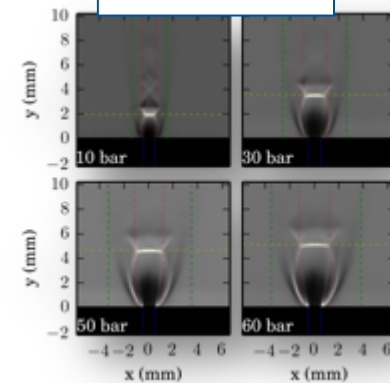
**Develop integrated methods and algorithms**  
for enabling consistent, logical and defensible QRA

*application*



**Apply quantitative risk assessment techniques**  
in real hydrogen infrastructure and emerging technology

*behavior*



**Develop and validate scientific models**  
to accurately predict hazards and harm from liquid releases, flames, etc.

# R&D for Hydrogen Safety, Codes and Standards

## Hydrogen Behavior

### ***Physics (deterministic)***

#### Dispersion Characteristics

- Laminar Flow
- Turbulent jet
- Volumetric rupture
- Enclosure Accumulation

#### Ignition Probability

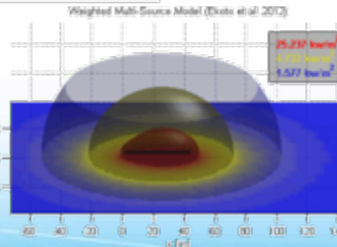
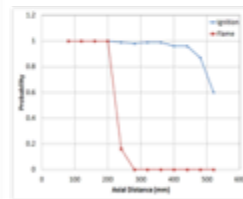
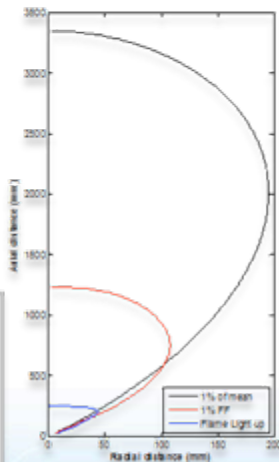
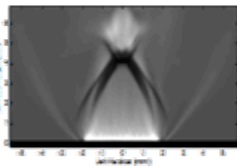
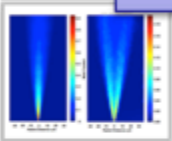
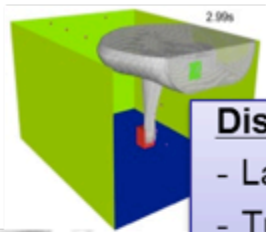
- Ignition mechanism
- Mixture ignitability
- Ignition delay/location
- Sustained light-up

### ***Probability***

### ***Consequence (deterministic)***

#### Hazard Characteristics

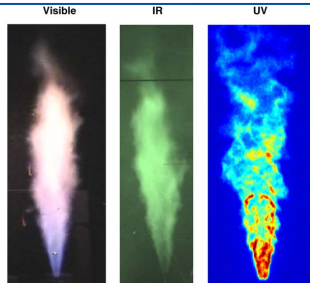
- Flame radiation
- Overpressure (deflagration/detonation)
- O<sub>2</sub> dilution/depletion





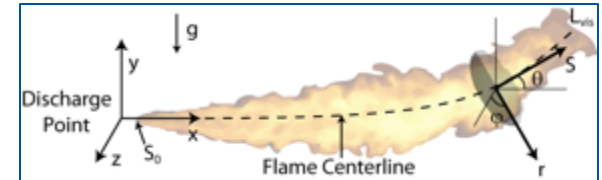
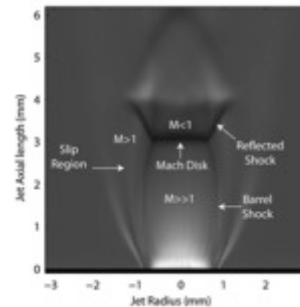
# Hydrogen Behavior studies enable predictive capabilities

**Radiative properties of H<sub>2</sub> flames quantified**



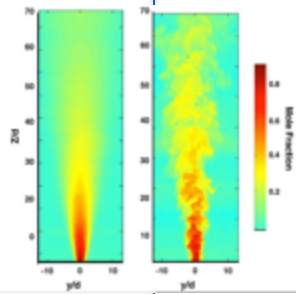
**Barrier walls for risk reduction**

**Ignition of under-expanded H<sub>2</sub> jets**



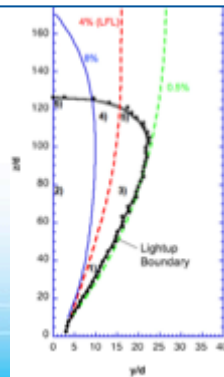
**Buoyant jet flame model with multi-source radiation**

2005 2007 2009 2011 2013 2015 2017

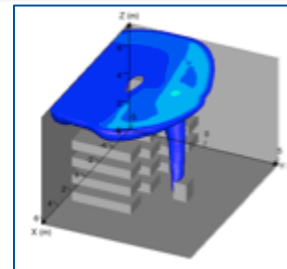


**Advanced laser diagnostics applied to turbulent H<sub>2</sub> combustion**

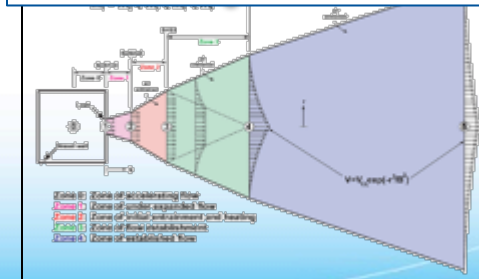
**Ignition limits of turbulent H<sub>2</sub> flows**



**Experiment and simulation of indoor H<sub>2</sub> releases**

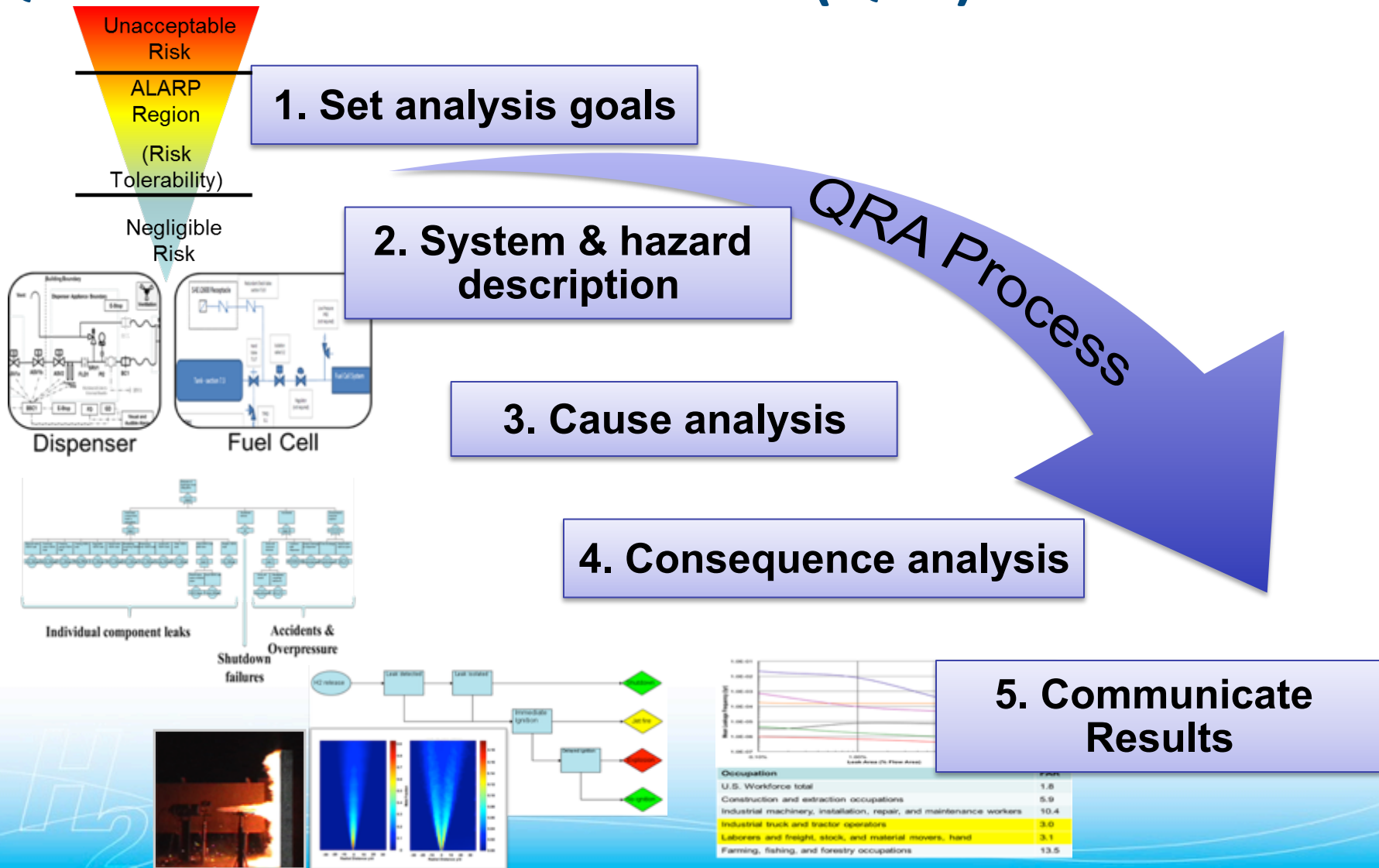


**Laboratory-scale characterization of LH<sub>2</sub> plumes and jets**

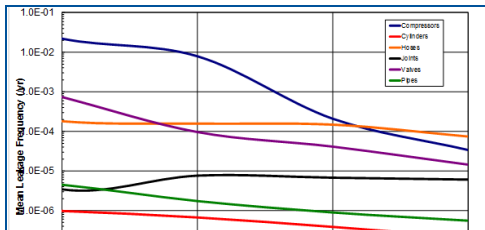


# R&D for Hydrogen Safety, Codes and Standards

## Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA)

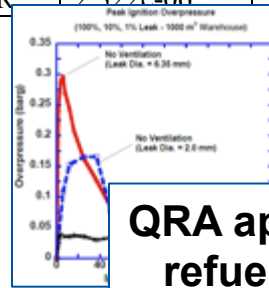


# Quantitative Risk Assessment is enabling infrastructure deployment



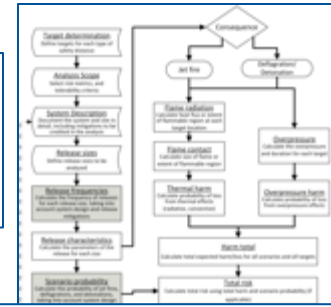
**Established risk-informed processes for separation distances**

PLL	5.084e-04
FAR	0.1161
AIR	2.322e-06



**QRA applied to indoor refueling to inform code revision**

**Performance-based system layout demonstrated**



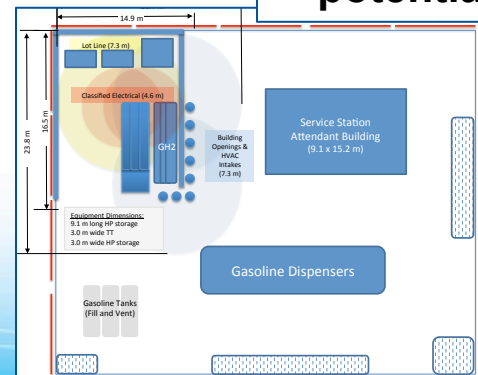
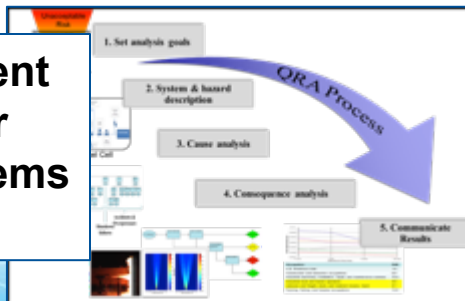
**ISO TC197 WG24 incorporating QRA and behavior modeling**

2005      2007      2009      2011      2013      2015      2017

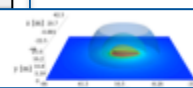
**QRA-informed separation distances in NFPA 2**

**20% station penetration potential due to QRA**

**Risk assessment proposed for hydrogen systems at ICHS**

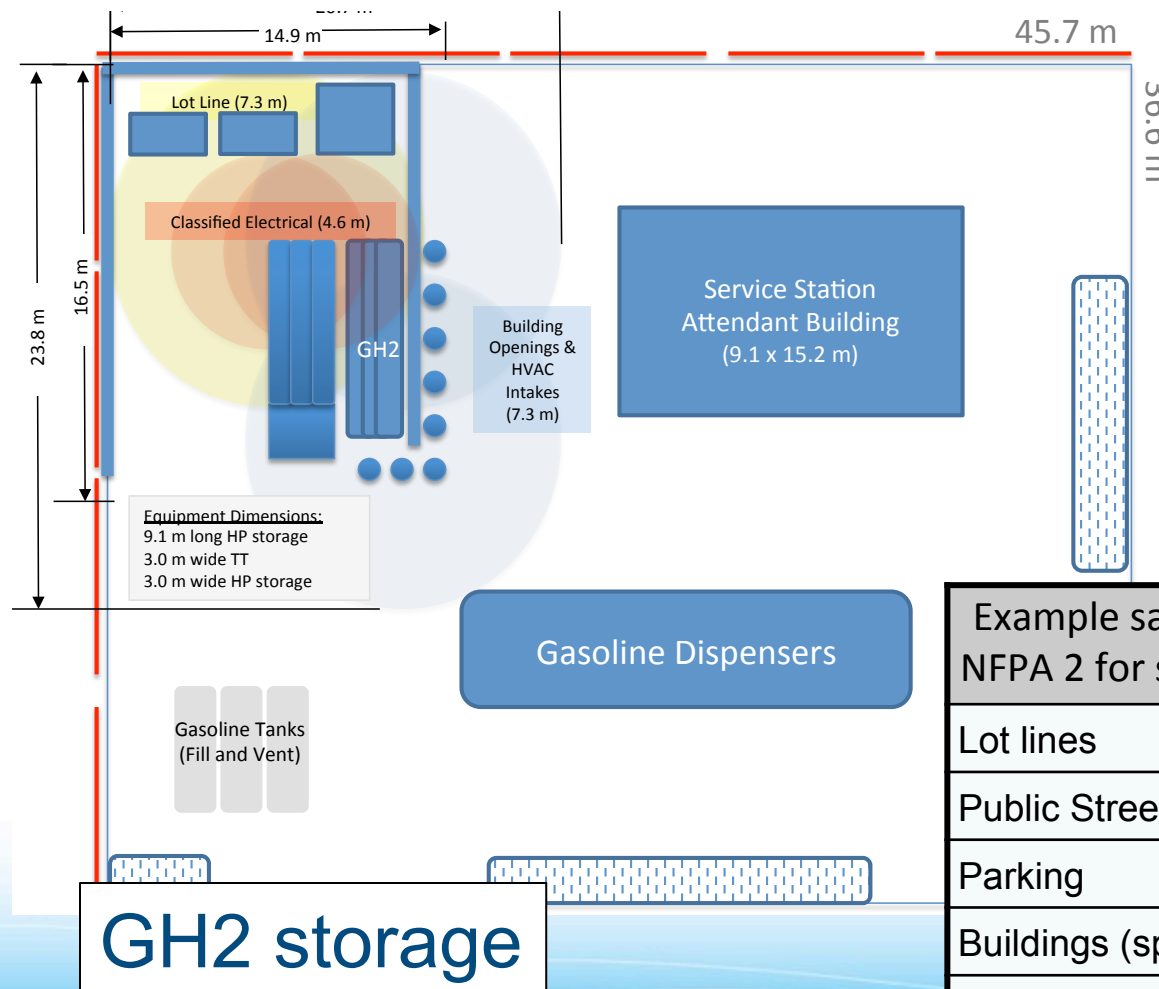


Scenario Ranking	Cut Sets	Importance Measure
Scenario	End State Type	Avg. Events/Year PLL Corbett
1000000 Release	Explosion	0.0000 0
1000000 Release	Explosion	0.0000 0
1000000 Release	Explosion	0.0000 0
1000000 Release	Explosion	0.0000 0



**Public release of HyRAM R&D tool**

# Fire protection code reduced safety distances based on risk-informed, science-based methodology



**Outcome: initial safety distances precluded GH2 at existing fueling stations, science-based distances enable the acceptance of GHS at up to 20% of sites**

Harris et al. SAND2014-3416

Example safety distances (m) NFPA 2 for specific boundaries	GH2	LH2
Lot lines	7.3	10.1
Public Streets, Alleys	7.3	10.1
Parking	4.0	22.9
Buildings (sprinkled, fire rated)	3.0	1.5
Building Openings or air intakes	7.3	22.9

# Future challenge: Safety distances for liquid H<sub>2</sub> storage are too large for commercial fueling stations in the US

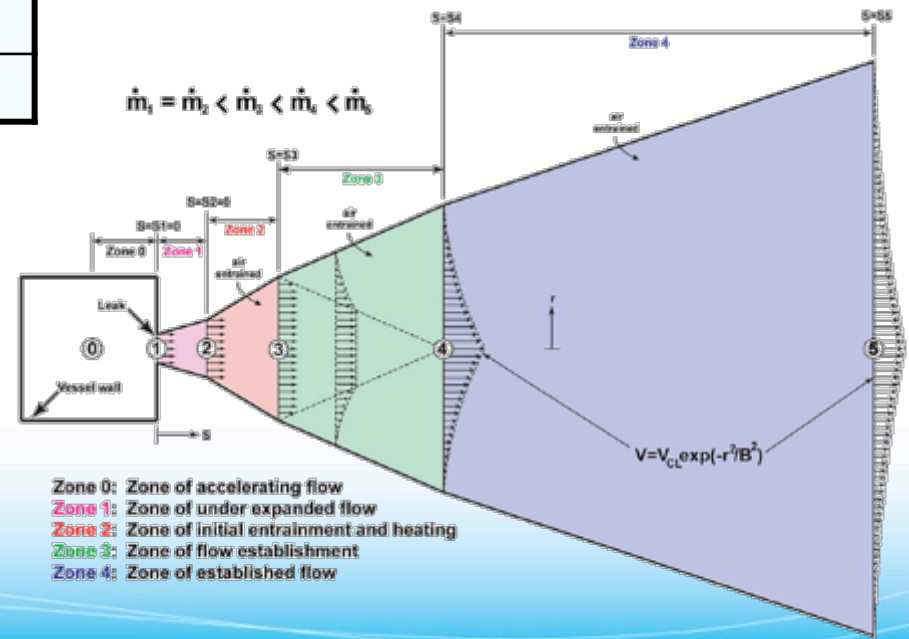
Example safety distances (m) NFPA 2 for specific boundaries	GH <sub>2</sub>	LH <sub>2</sub>
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Harris et al. SAND2014-3416

**Validated models of LH<sub>2</sub> releases integrated into the QRA framework will inform quantification of risk and aid the definition of safety distances**

**Goal: use science-based approach to inform safety distances for LH<sub>2</sub>**

- NFPA activity





# Leadership in materials and components for hydrogen service

## Goal

Develop and characterize high-performance, hydrogen containment materials to lower capital cost of hydrogen infrastructure, systems and components



## Demonstrated Impact

- Enabled worldwide deployment of hydrogen and fuel cell systems by developing science-based standards



**SANDIA'S HYDROGEN PROGRAM**

Technical Reference for Hydrogen Compatibility of Materials

A materials guide is a necessary resource to develop codes and standards for hydrogen service. This guide provides information on hydrogen compatibility, including material selection, design, and testing. The guide also provides information on the latest research and development in the field of hydrogen compatibility.

The following table provides a summary of the key findings of the guide. It is intended to provide a quick overview of the key findings of the guide. It is not intended to provide a detailed summary of the guide. For more information, please refer to the full guide.

Designation	Material composition	Code	Maximum use pressure
High-Purity Hydrogen	99.999%	ASME B31.3	1000
Low-Purity Hydrogen	99.9%	ASME B31.3	1000
High-Purity Hydrogen	99.999%	ASME B31.3	1000
Low-Purity Hydrogen	99.9%	ASME B31.3	1000
High-Purity Hydrogen	99.999%	ASME B31.3	1000
Low-Purity Hydrogen	99.9%	ASME B31.3	1000

- Technology roadmaps
- Databases
- Leveraged research

# R&D for Hydrogen Safety, Codes and Standards

## Materials Compatibility and Suitability

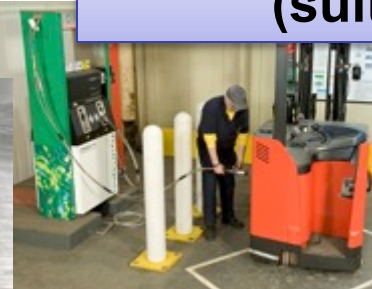
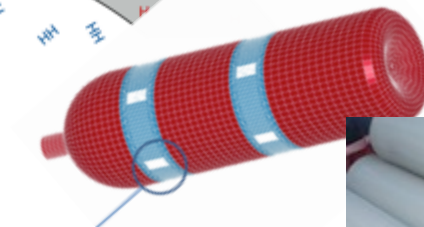
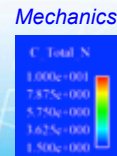
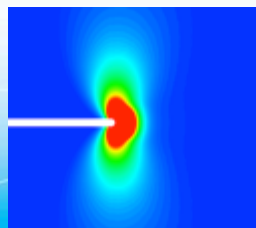
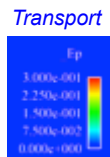
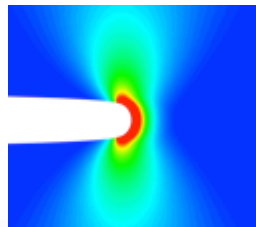
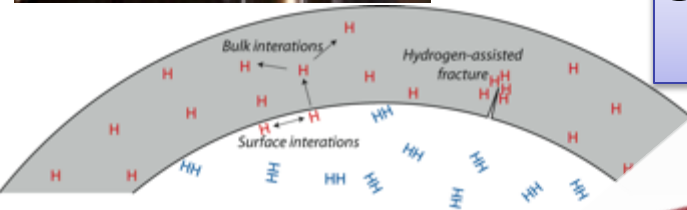
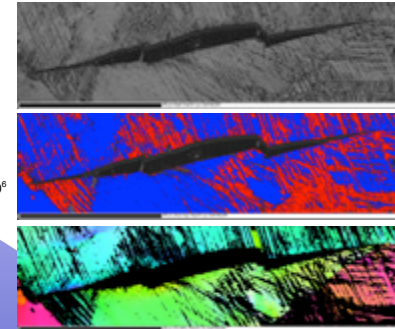
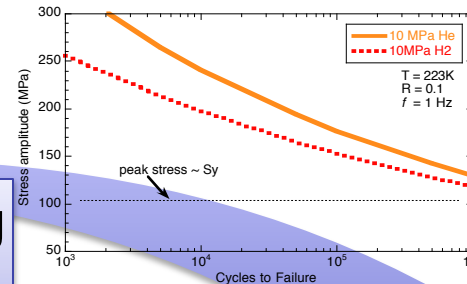
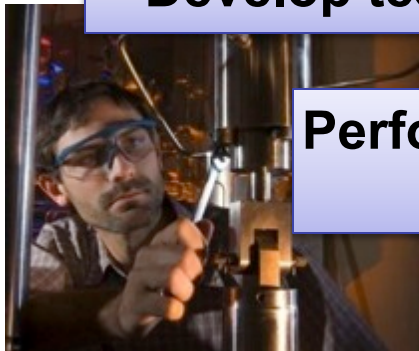
**Develop test methods**

**Performance-based testing  
(compatibility)**

**Understanding physics of  
hydrogen embrittlement**

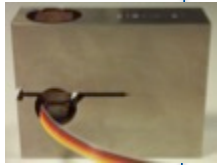
**Predictive models**

**System validation  
(suitability)**

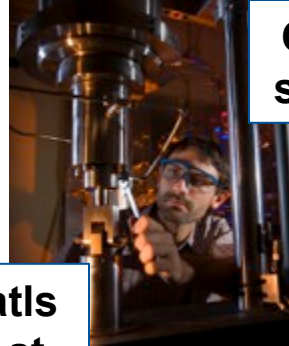


# Evaluation of *Materials Compatibility* enables innovative technologies

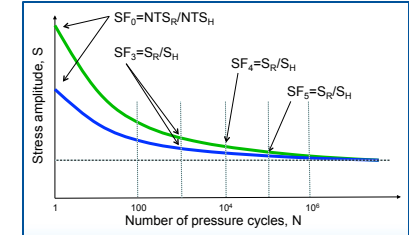
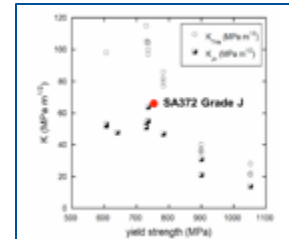
**ASME article KD-10  
input on test  
methodology**



**Platform for matls  
testing in GH2 at  
high pressure**



**Critical assessment of  
statically loaded cracks**



**CSA CHMC1  
test methods and  
matls qualification**

**2005      2007      2009      2011      2013      2015      2017**

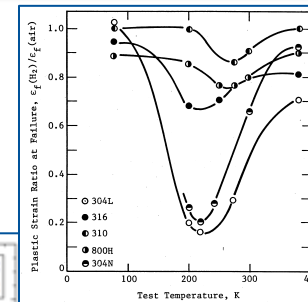
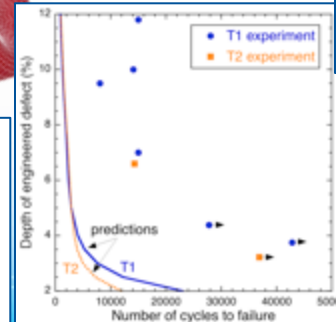
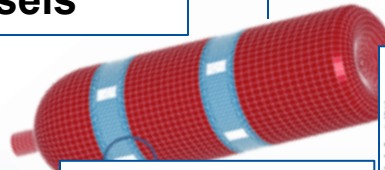
**First qualification data  
for high-pressure  
ASME vessels**

**SANDIA REPORT**  
SAND2008-1163  
Unlimited Release  
Printed March 2008  
  
**Technical Reference on Hydrogen  
Compatibility of Materials**  
  
C. San Marchi  
B.P. Somerday

**Technical Reference  
established**

Sandia National Laboratories

**Full-scale  
tank testing  
CSA HPIT1  
SAE J2579**



**Platform for high-  
pressure GH2 over  
temperature range  
(-40°C to +85°C)**



# Full-scale testing of pressure vessels enabled deployment of safe, low-cost fuel cell forklift fuel systems



plug power

NUVERA  
FUEL CELLS

NORRIS  
CYLINDER

We quantified uncertainties in the cycle life of hydrogen storage tanks for the lift-truck application.

- Enhanced safety and market growth enabled through standards development

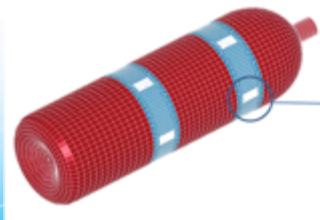


SAE

ASME  
SETTING THE STANDARD



example of embrittlement failure from the 1970's



- Today, there are >15,000 clean and efficient fuel cell forklifts in service (and growing!)

## Summary

Diverse portfolio of hydrogen activities at Sandia, including R&D for Safety, Codes and Standards:

- Hydrogen behavior models enable safety analysis
  - Validated, defensible, referenceable models
- QRA framework enables scientific basis for revision of code requirements
  - Consistent, logical framework for quantifying risk and applying to decision making processes
- Understanding of materials performance enables deployment of innovative technologies
  - Accommodate hydrogen effects by quantification of materials behavior in relevant hydrogen environments