

CENTER 2500

CSEP



COMPONENT SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, & PRODUCTION



# Battery Safety Research and Development

10 October 2018

PRESENTED BY

June Stanley, Technical Staff for Power Sources R&D

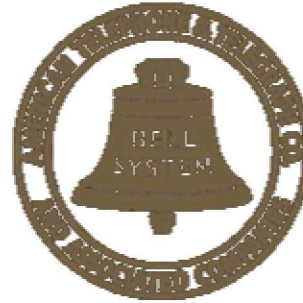


Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

# Sandia's History

*Exceptional service in the national interest*

- July 1945: Los Alamos creates Z Division
  - Non-nuclear component engineer
- November 1, 1946: Sandia Laboratory established



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
May 13, 1949

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am informed that the Atomic Energy Commission intends to ask that the Bell Telephone Laboratories accept under contract the direction of the Sandia Laboratory at Albuquerque, New Mexico. This operation, which is a vital segment of the atomic energy program, is of extreme importance and urgency in the national defense, and should have the best possible technical direction.

I hope that after you have heard more in detail from the Atomic Energy Commission, your organization will find it possible to undertake this task. In my opinion you have here an opportunity to render an exceptional service in the national interest.

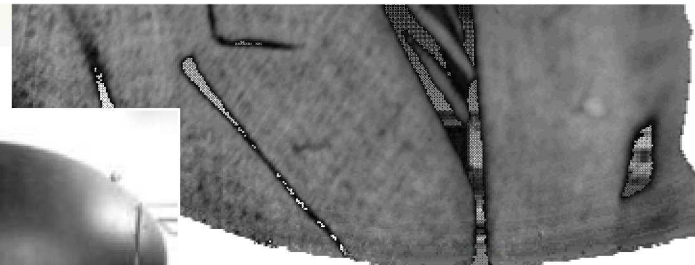
I am writing a similar note direct to Dr. O. E. Buckley.

Very sincerely yours,

*Harry Truman*



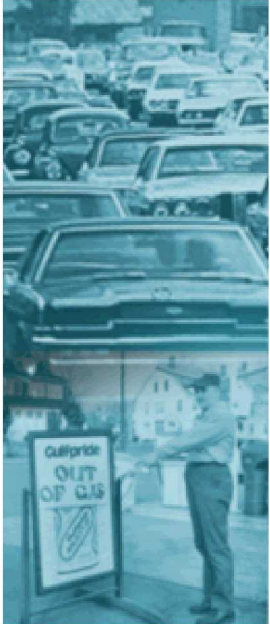

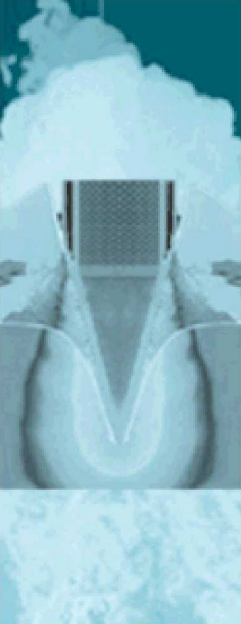

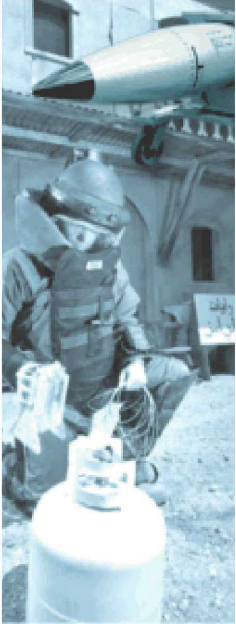
Mr. Leroy A. Wilson,  
President,  
American Telephone and Telegraph Company,  
195 Broadway,  
New York 7, N. Y.

to undertake this task. In my opinion you have here an opportunity to render an exceptional service in the national interest.





# Sandia Addresses National Security Challenges

1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
Nuclear weapons	Development engineering	Multiprogram laboratory	Missile defense work	Post-Cold War transition	START Post 9/11	LEPs Cyber, biosecurity, proliferation
Production and manufacturing engineering	Vietnam conflict	Energy crisis	Cold War	Stockpile stewardship	National security	Evolving national security challenges
						

# Governance of Sandia Laboratories

- AT&T/Bell: 1949–1993
- Martin Marietta: 1993–1995
- Lockheed Martin: 1995–2017
- National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell Interactional Inc. 2017-present



Federally funded  
research and development center





# Sandia Sites

*Albuquerque, New Mexico*



*Livermore, California*



*Kauai, Hawaii*



*Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,  
Carlsbad, New Mexico*



*Weapons Evaluation  
Test Lab (at the  
Pantex Plant)  
Amarillo, Texas*



*Tonopah,  
Nevada*



# Power Sources Technology Group



## Power Sources Technology Group (PSTG)



Enterprise  
Integration



SNL External  
Production



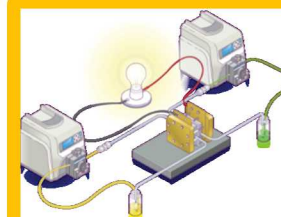
PS  
Production



PS Design &  
Development



PS Component  
Development



PS Research &  
Development

### NW

### Grid Storage

### Transportation

### Fundamental Science

- Thermal batteries
- Reserve batteries
- Lithium primary batteries

- Thermoelectrics
- Radioisotope power sources
- Lithium-ion batteries

- Sodium batteries
- Flow batteries
- Battery safety and reliability

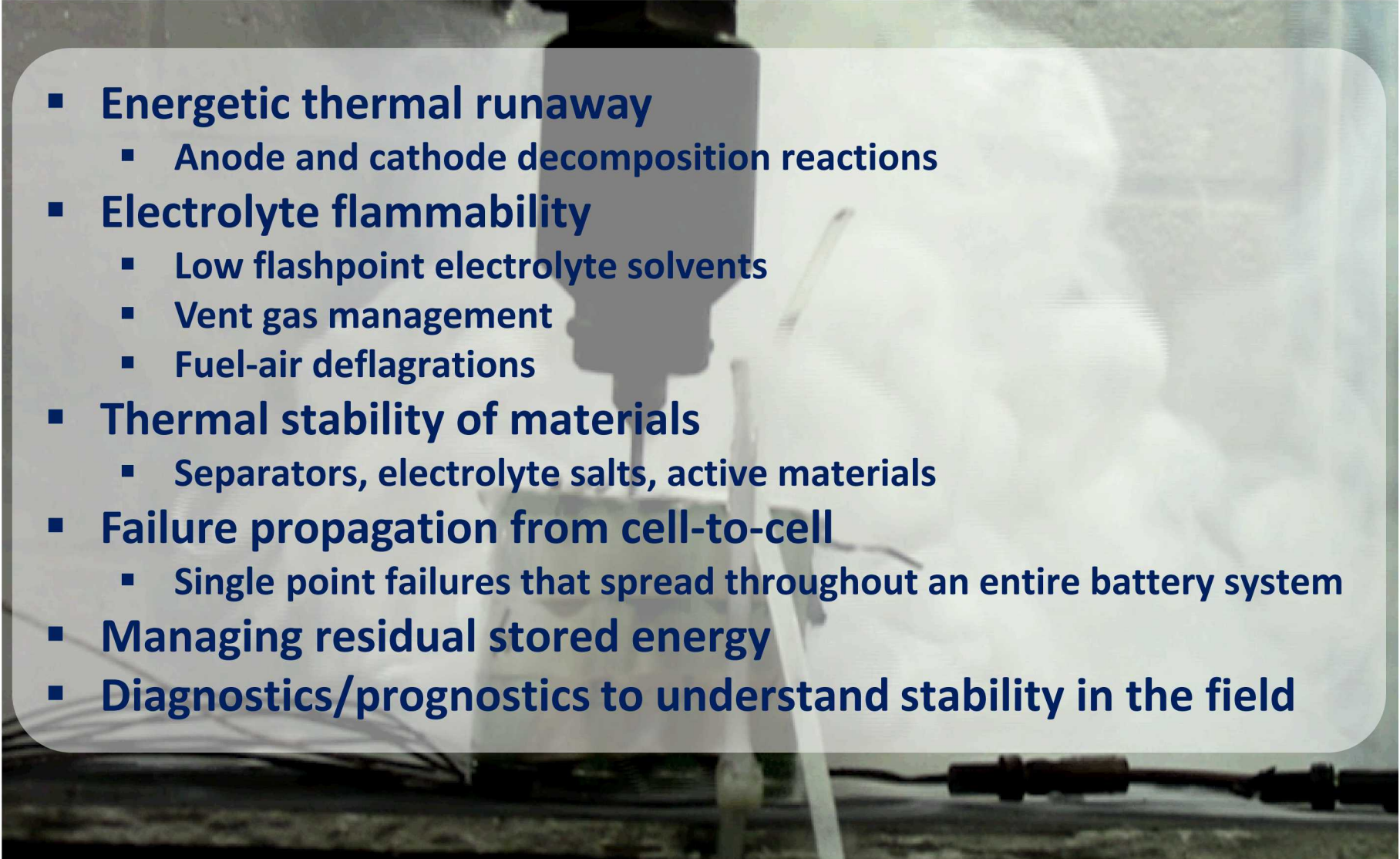
- Electrolyte development
- Solid-state electrolytes
- Beyond lithium chemistries

- DOE National Nuclear Security Administration
- Other Government Agencies
- Department of Defense
- Strategic Partnership Programs

- DOE Office of Electricity
- DOE Vehicle Technologies Office
- DOE Basic Energy Sciences
- Department of Transportation



# Lithium-Ion Battery Challenges

- 
- **Energetic thermal runaway**
    - Anode and cathode decomposition reactions
  - **Electrolyte flammability**
    - Low flashpoint electrolyte solvents
    - Vent gas management
    - Fuel-air deflagrations
  - **Thermal stability of materials**
    - Separators, electrolyte salts, active materials
  - **Failure propagation from cell-to-cell**
    - Single point failures that spread throughout an entire battery system
  - **Managing residual stored energy**
  - **Diagnostics/prognostics to understand stability in the field**

# Increased Use of Lithium-ion Technology

Larger batteries in larger quantities:

- EV and PHEV battery packs are much higher energy (15-50 kWh)
- Increasing consideration for lithium-ion cells for utility storage (MWh systems)



6 cells, 50 Wh battery



7000 cells, 50 kWh battery



??? cells, MWh battery

Increased # of cells and higher energy batteries leads to greater impact during failure

- **Field Failure**

- **Manufacturing defects**

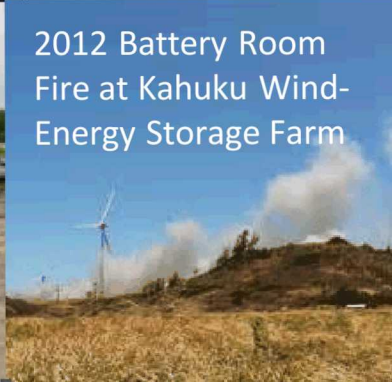
- Separator damage, foreign debris
    - Can develop into an internal short circuit

- **Abuse Failure**

- **Mechanical**
  - **Electrical**
  - **Thermal**



# Impact of Battery Safety/Reliability Issues



# Understanding Battery Safety



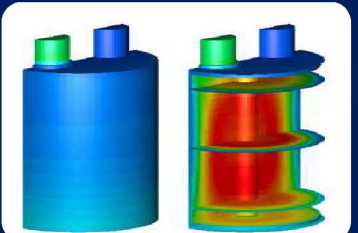
## Materials R&D

- Non-flammable electrolytes
- Electrolyte salts
- Coated active materials
- Thermally stable materials



## Testing

- Electrical, thermal, mechanical abuse testing
- Large scale thermal and fire testing (TTC)
- Failure propagation testing on batteries/systems
- Diagnostic techniques for battery state of stability
- Development for DOE Vehicle Technologies and USABC



## Simulations and Modeling

- Multi-scale models for understanding thermal runaway
- Validating vehicle crash and failure propagation models
- Fire Simulations to predict the size, scope, and consequences of battery fires



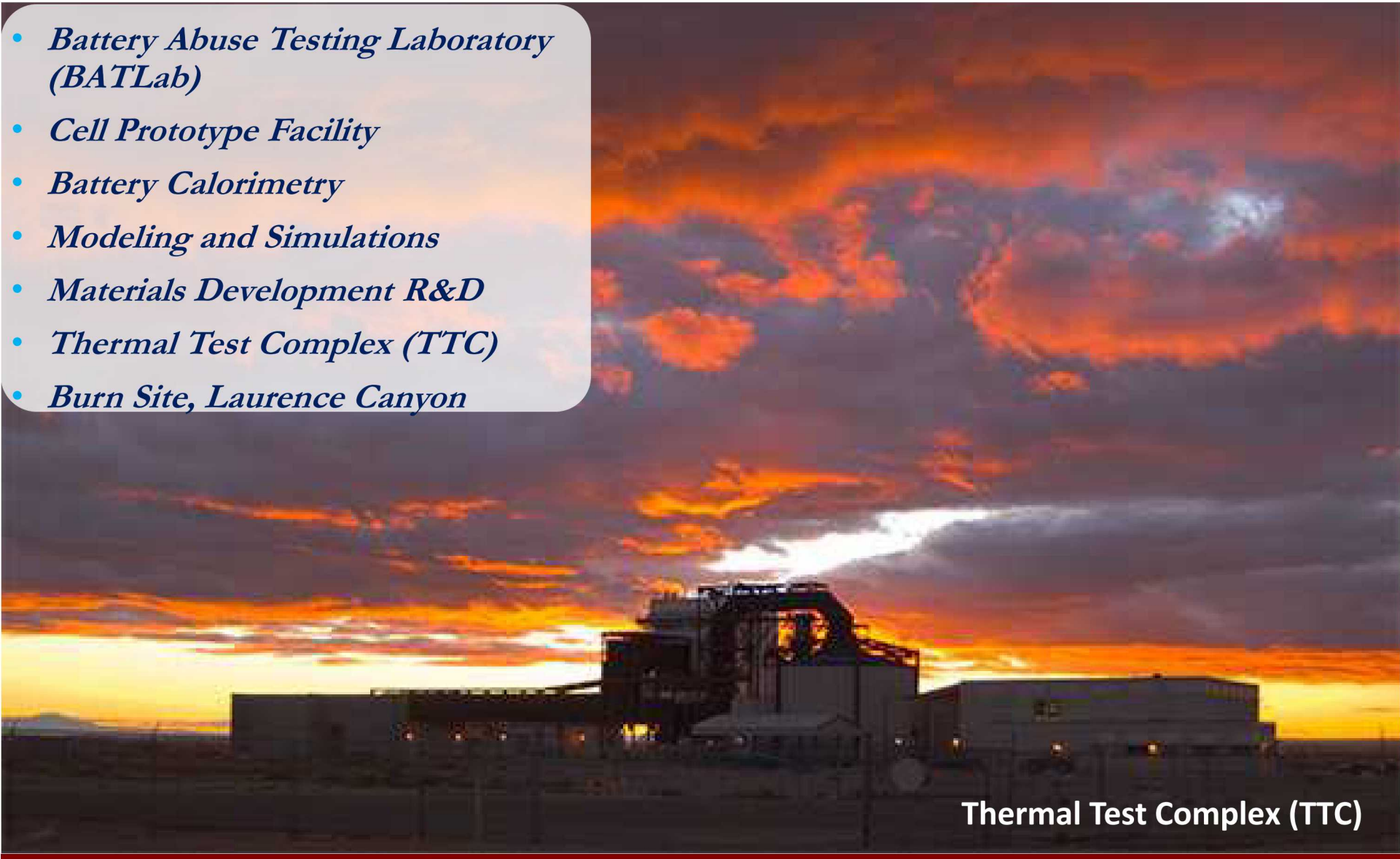
## Procedures, Policy, and Regulation

- SAND2017-6925, Recommended Practices for Abuse Testing Rechargeable Energy Storage Systems (RESSs)
- SAE J2464/UL 1642 procedures and standards
- R&D programs with NHTSA/DOT to inform best practices, policies, and requirements



# Capabilities and Infrastructure

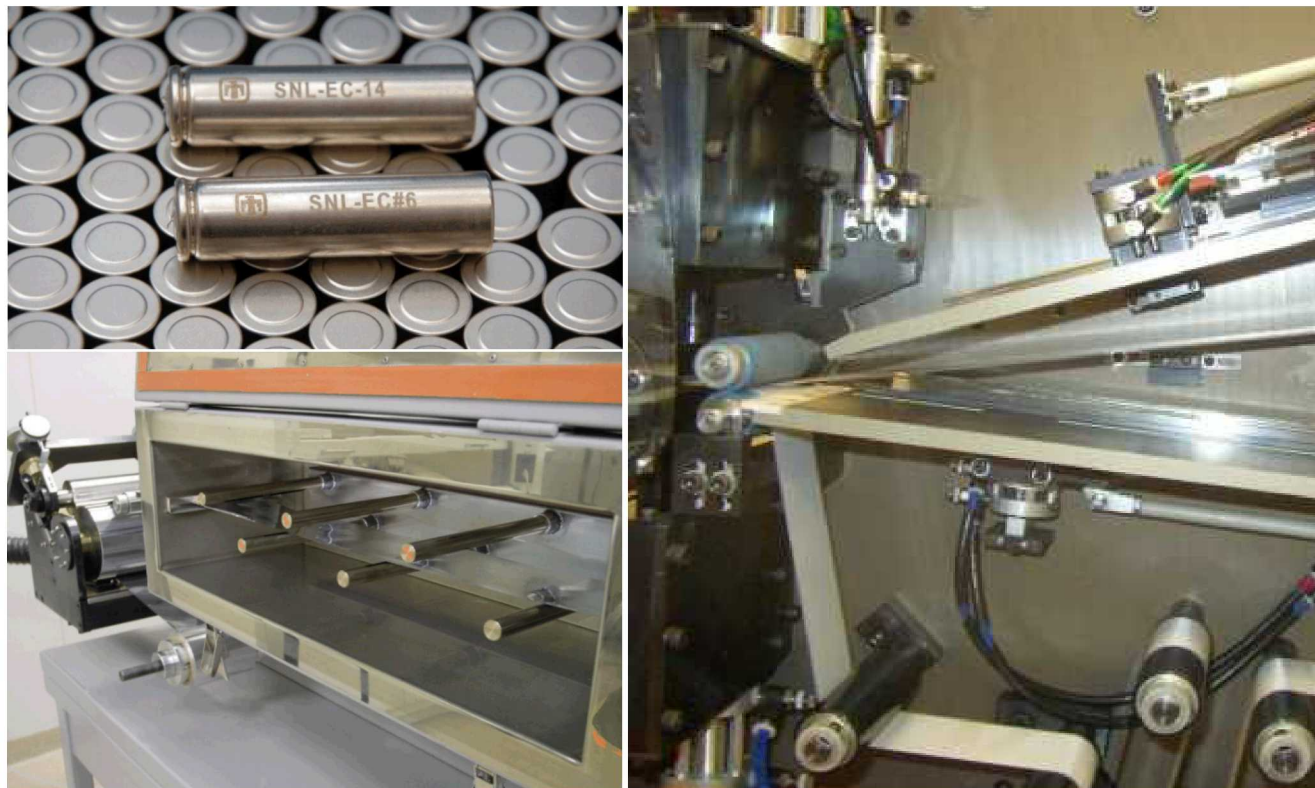
- *Battery Abuse Testing Laboratory (BATLab)*
- *Cell Prototype Facility*
- *Battery Calorimetry*
- *Modeling and Simulations*
- *Materials Development R&D*
- *Thermal Test Complex (TTC)*
- *Burn Site, Laurence Canyon*



Thermal Test Complex (TTC)

# Cell Prototyping Facility

- The SNL cell prototyping facility largest DOE dedicated R&D facility equipped to manufacture small lots of lithium-ion cells of various sizes including 2032 coin cells, 18650s, D-cells, and prismatic cells

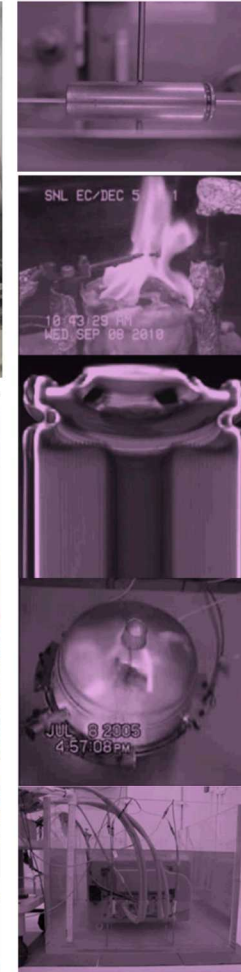
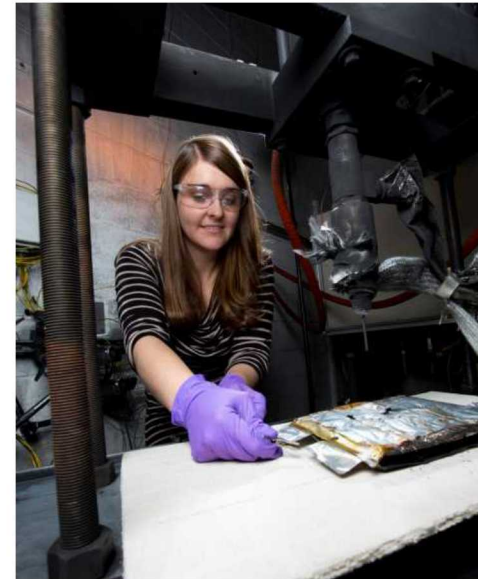


- Experience with numerous lithium-ion chemistries including natural and synthetic graphite anodes,  $\text{Li}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{12}$ , Li-S,  $\text{LiCoO}_2$ , NMC, LFP, and spinel cathodes ( $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$ )



# Battery Abuse Testing Laboratory (BATLab)

- Comprehensive abuse testing platforms for safety and reliability of cells, batteries and systems from mWh to kWh
- Cell, module, and battery system hardware deliverables for testing
- Mechanical abuse
  - Penetration
  - Crush
  - Impact
  - Immersion
- Thermal abuse
  - Over temperature
  - Flammability measurements
  - Thermal propagation
  - Calorimetry
- Electrical abuse
  - Overvoltage/overcharge
  - Short circuit
  - Overdischarge/voltage reversal



# Burn Site: Remote/Large Scale Test Facility

*Full Scale Battery Testing Facilities*



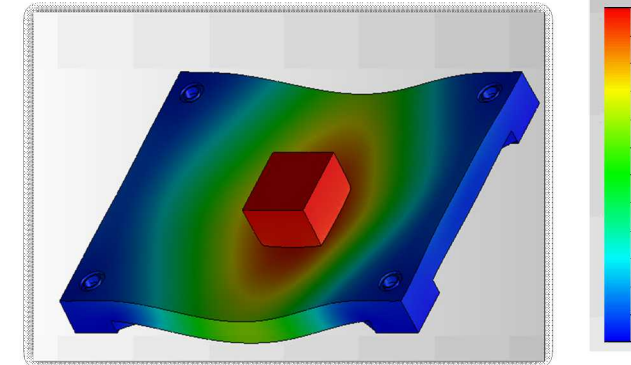
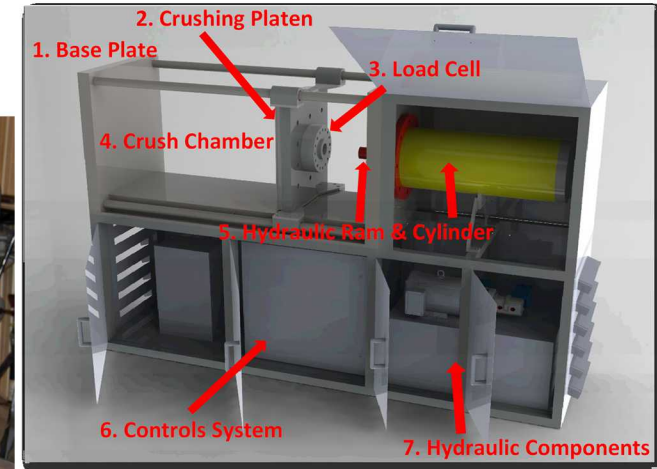


# Large Scale Test Capabilities

*Drop Tower*



*Large battery crusher*



*From Idea, to CAD Model, to Hardware!*

# Information Gained by Abuse Testing

Using a well developed scientific foundation to understand:

- Battery failure mechanisms
- Fundamentals causes of failure
- Impact of failure:
  - Heat release
  - Gas emission
  - Pressure generation
  - Burn time
  - Waste generation
- Direct comparisons with like battery chemistries/sizes
- EUCAR rating for severity of outcome
- Provide information to manufactures to help aid in safer batteries:
  - Materials choice
  - Design
  - Engineering controls

EUCAR Hazard Severity Level Ratings		
Hazard Severity Level	Description	Classification Criteria for Severity Classification
0	No effect	No effect. No loss of functionality.
1	Reversible Loss of Function	No defect; no leakage; no venting, fire, or flame; no rupture; no explosion; no exothermic reaction or thermal runaway. Temporary loss of battery functionality. Resetting of protective device needed.
2	Irreversible Defect/Damage	No leakage; no venting, fire, or flame; no rupture; no explosion; no exothermic reaction or thermal runaway. RESS irreversibly damaged. Repair needed.
3	Leakage $\Delta$ mass < 50%	No venting, fire, or flame; no rupture; no explosion. Weight loss <50% of electrolyte weight. Light smoke (electrolyte = solvent + salt).
4	Venting $\Delta$ mass $\geq$ 50%	No fire or flame; no rupture; no explosion. Weight loss $\geq$ 50% of electrolyte weight. Heavy smoke (electrolyte = solvent + salt)
5	Fire or Flame	No rupture; no explosion ( <i>i.e.</i> , no flying parts).
6	Rupture	No explosion. RESS could disintegrate but slowly without flying parts of high thermal or kinetic energy
7	Explosion	Explosion ( <i>i.e.</i> , disintegration of the RESS with externally damaging thermal & kinetic forces).  Exposure to toxic substances in excess of OSHA limits



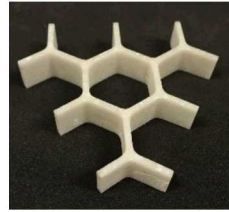
# Transportation/Battery Safety



*Fisker incident in the wake of Super Storm Sandy , New Jersey (2012)*

# Failure Propagation Research Scale

*Develop an understanding of how single point failures propagate cell-to-cell through battery systems. Variables include chemistry, **spacing**, configuration, format, passive and active controls.*



2 mm spacing; Full propagation through all 10 cells. Peak temperatures reach  $>800^{\circ}\text{C}$



Pretest



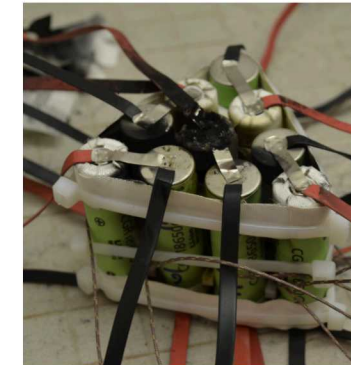
Posttest



4 mm spacing; no propagation. Only center cell went into runaway



Pretest



Posttest

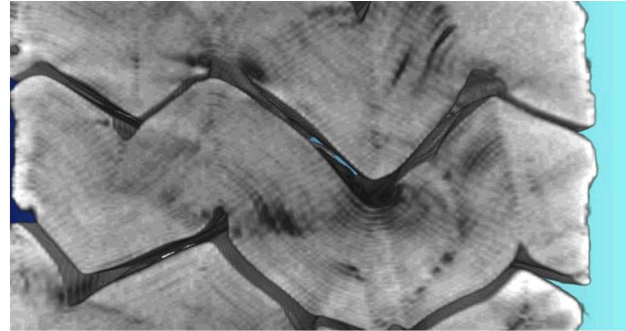
*Complete propagation through pack with 2 mm spacing and no propagation when gap is increased to 4 mm (although skin temp. of cells increase, no cell besides failure point exhibit thermal runaway)*



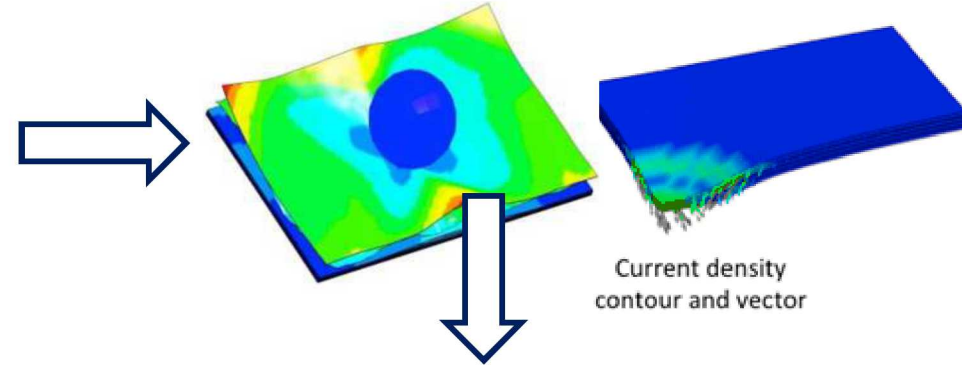
# Crash Safety Modeling

*Computer Aided Engineering for Batteries (CAEBAT) DOE VTO and NREL*

*Battery Crush Experiment (SNL, USCAR)*



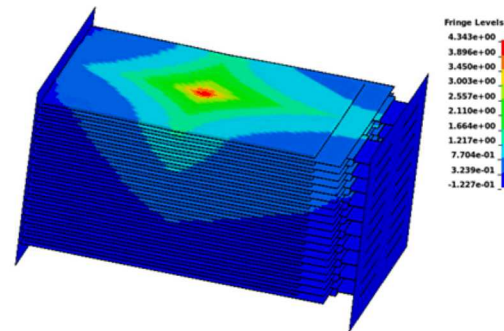
*Cell-level Mechanical Model (MIT)*



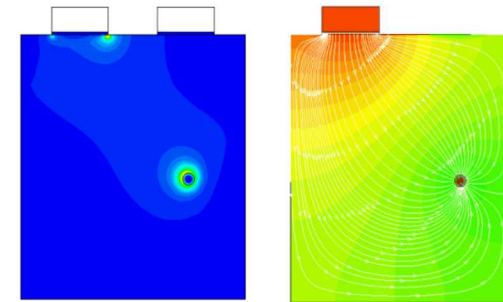
Current density  
contour and vector

*Integrated Thermochemical & Mechanical Model (NREL)*

*Thermal Cell-to-Cell Propagation Model*



*Thermochemical Model*

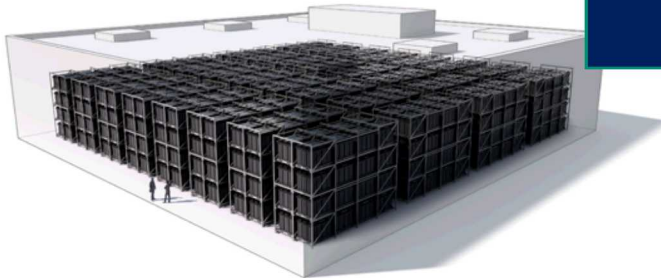


*Use battery crush data to validate the integrated model*  
*Develop a predictive capability for battery thermal runaway response to mechanical insult*

# Advanced Battery Diagnostics



*Transportation*



*Grid Storage*

Advanced Battery  
Diagnostics



*Development of advanced diagnostics for **battery health and stability***

***Predict** life, performance, and safety issues*

***Inform** vehicle occupants, workers, and responders*

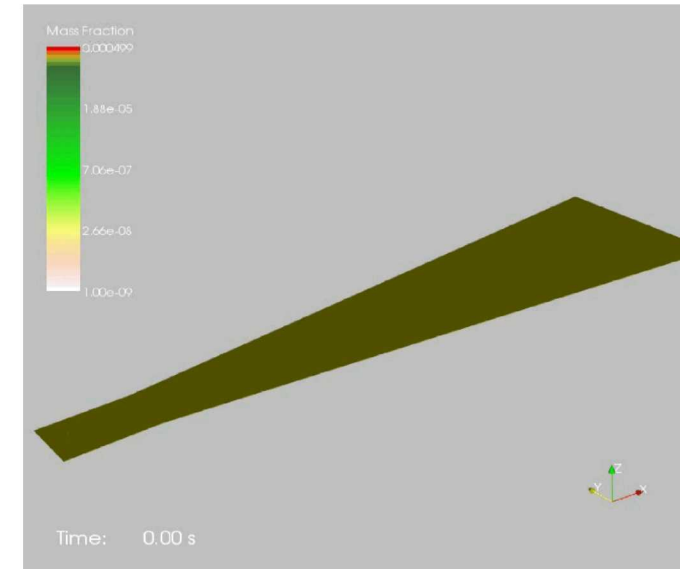


# Predictive Modeling of Energy Storage Systems

- Materials chemistry for engineered safety of batteries – New electrolyte materials
- Modeling & simulation tools that predict thermal environments and the response of an object to that environment. (Advanced Scientific Computing (ASC) Program)
  - We can predict: Turbulent fluid mechanics (buoyant plumes); Participating Media Radiation (PMR); Reacting flow (hydrocarbon, particles, solids); Conjugate Heat Transfer (CHT)
- Adaption of ASC modeling framework to battery system to establish its' safety basis
  - We have demonstrated proof of concept



Image Source: WindPower Monthly  
<http://www.windpowermonthly.com/article/1284038/analysis-first-wind-project-avoids-storage-30m-fire>



Predictive Simulation of Smoke Plume from Abnormal Event. The colors correspond to concentration of chemical species

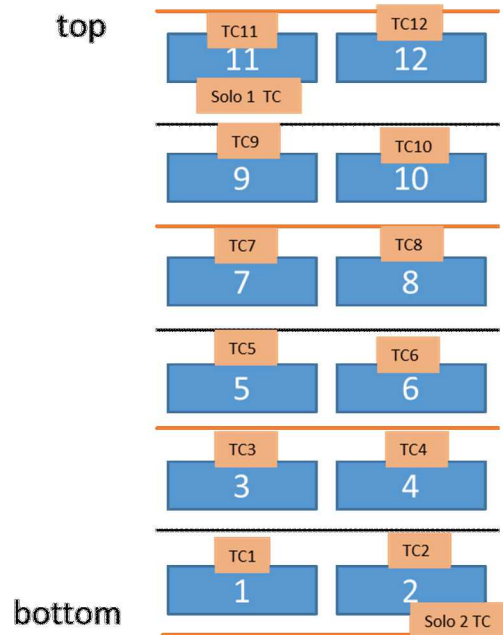
# Large Scale Propagation Through Heating

1kWh battery pack: heaters between cells ramped a 5°C/min until failure

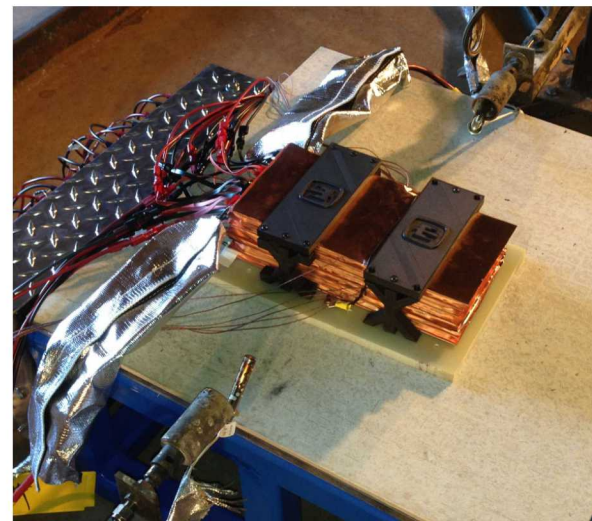
Li-ion pouch cell



Battery Schematic



Assembled battery



1 kWh battery thermal ramp video

- Propagation through the pack achieved starting with failure of cell 11 and 12 cascading down to 1 and 2.
- The total burn time was ~ 4 min + 6 min smoldering of battery materials
- Peak temperatures were ~800°C on the battery during failure
- Large amounts of gas generation observed



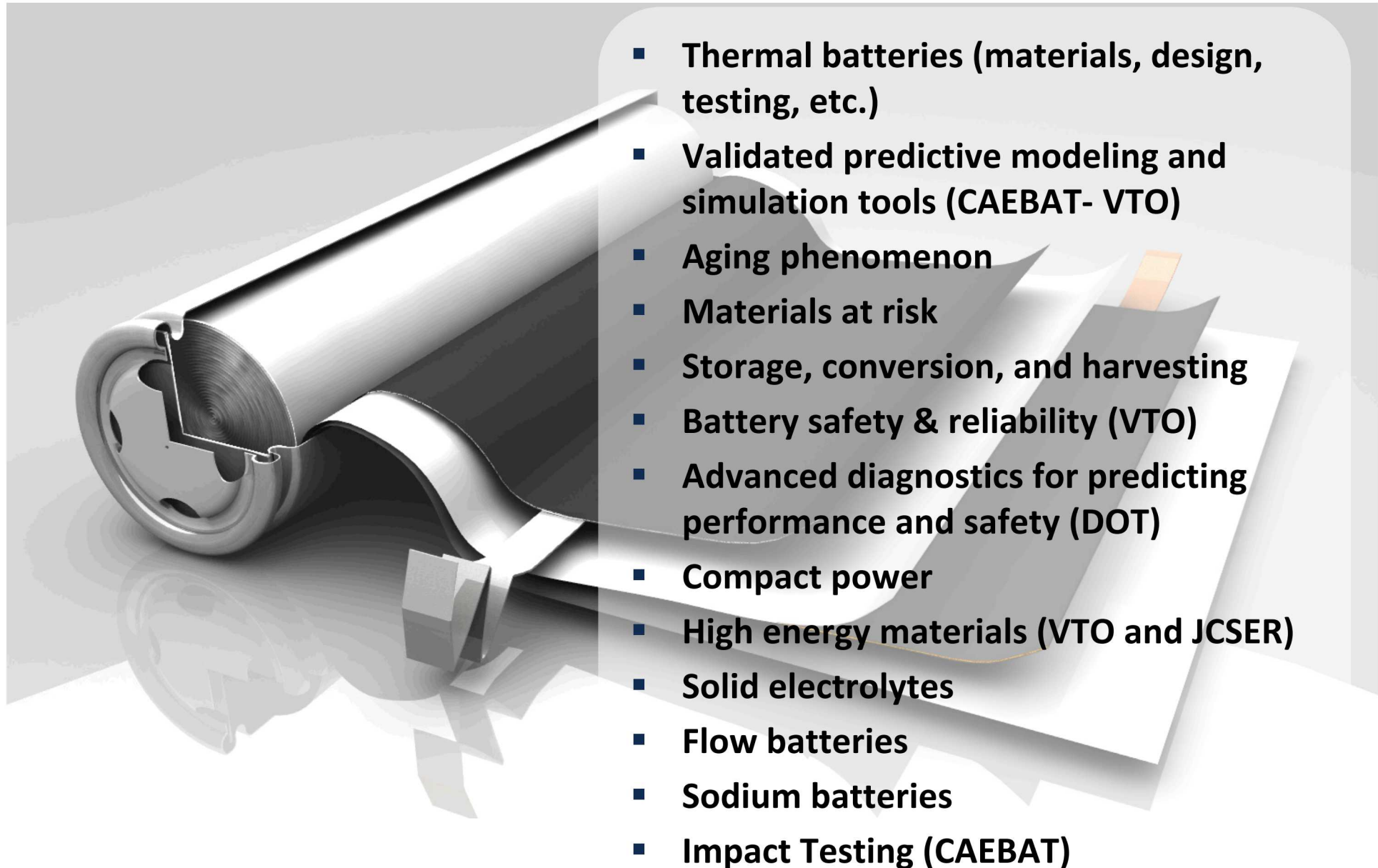
# Acknowledgement

- David Howell (DOE)
- Brian Cunningham (DOE)
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- Peter Faguy (DOE)
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- Brian Perdue
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- Chris Grosso
- Lucas Gray
- Loraine Torres-Castro
- Leigh Anna Steele
- John Hewson
- Anay Luketa

*Battery Safety R&D Program at Sandia:* [http://energy.sandia.gov/?page\\_id=634](http://energy.sandia.gov/?page_id=634)

*ECS Interface Issue on Battery Safety:* [http://www.electrochem.org/dl/interface/sum/sum12/if\\_sum12.htm](http://www.electrochem.org/dl/interface/sum/sum12/if_sum12.htm)

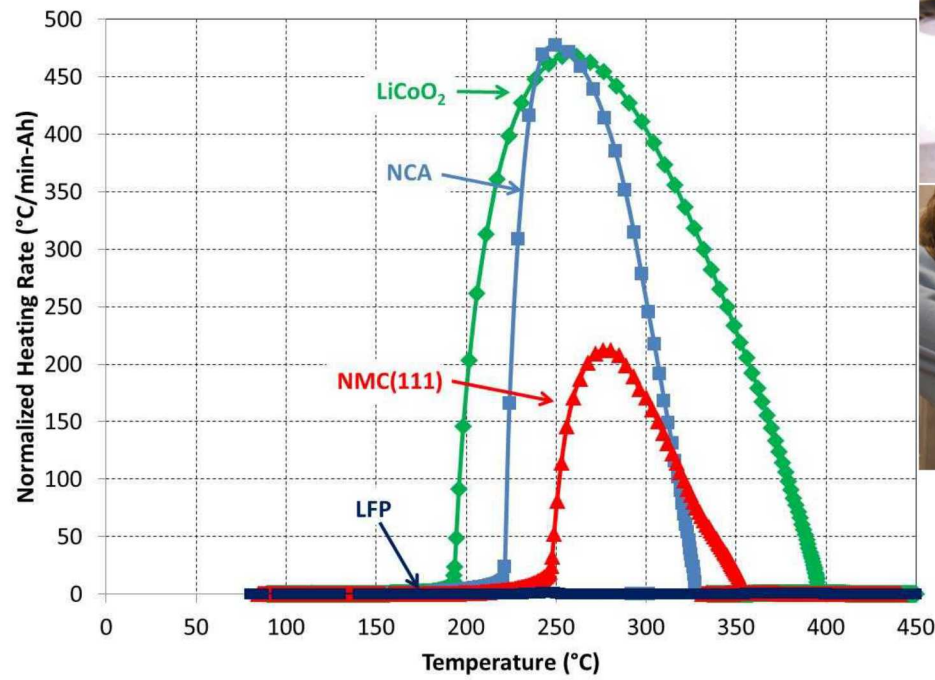
# Research and Technology Interests





# Impact of Cell Chemistry on Runaway

- *One of the world's largest dedicated battery calorimetry facilities*
  - *Six accelerating rate calorimeters (ARCs)*
  - *Materials and cell-level measurements*
- *Gas volume measurements for decomposition gas products*
- *Quantitative gas analysis capabilities from ARC samples*  
*Measurements on 1 to 150 Ah cells*



*Accelerating rate calorimetry (ARC) of lithium-ion 18650 cells with different cathode materials*