



Sandia
National
Laboratories

SAND2020-10372C

ENERGY STORAGE POWER ELECTRONICS PROGRAM



PRESENTED BY
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SAND2020-XXXX X

ENERGY STORAGE R&D AT SANDIA



BATTERY MATERIALS

Large portfolio of R&D projects related to advanced materials, new battery chemistries, electrolyte materials, and membranes.



CELL & MODULE LEVEL SAFETY

Evaluate safety and performance of electrical energy storage systems down to the module and cell level.



POWER CONVERSION SYSTEMS

Research and development regarding reliability and performance of power electronics and power conversion systems.



SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

Test laboratories evaluate and optimize performance of megawatt-hour class energy storage systems in grid-tied applications.



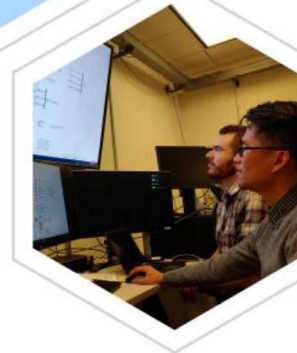
DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

Work with industry to develop, install, commission, and operate electrical energy storage systems.



STRATEGIC OUTREACH

Maintain the ESS website and DOE Global Energy Storage Database, organize the annual Peer Review meeting, and host webinars and conferences.



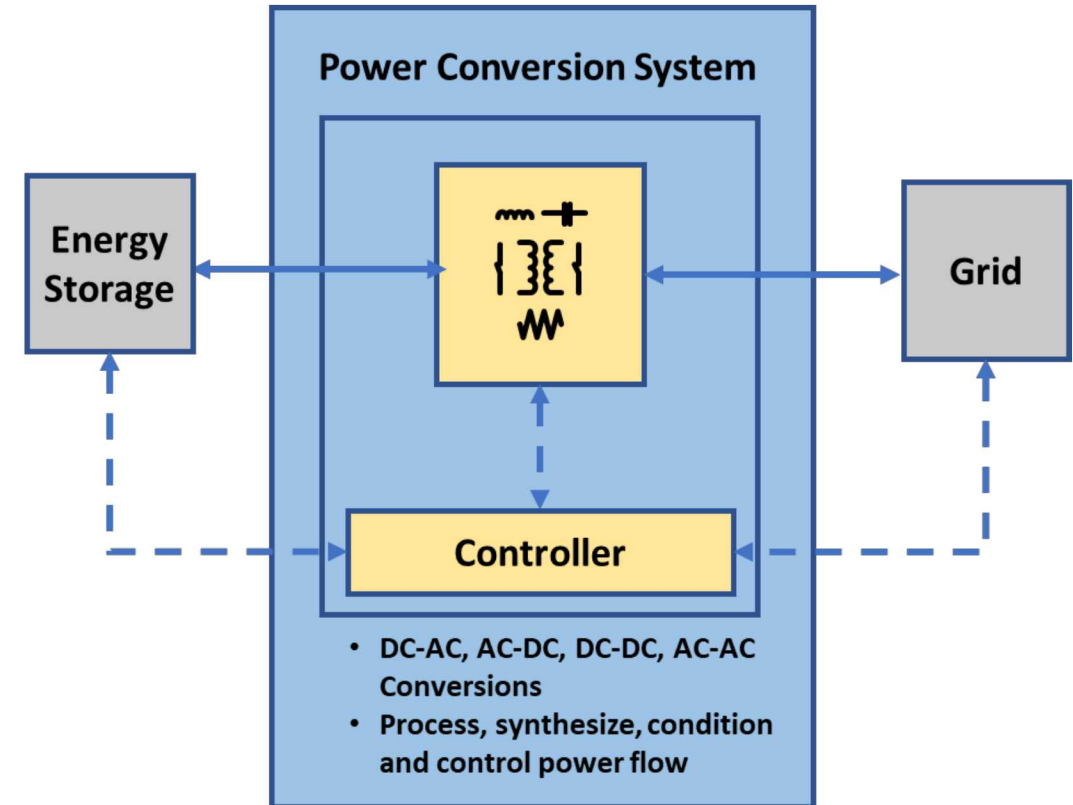
GRID ANALYTICS

Analytical tools model electric grids and microgrids, perform system optimization, plan efficient utilization and optimization of DER on the grid, and understand ROI of energy storage.

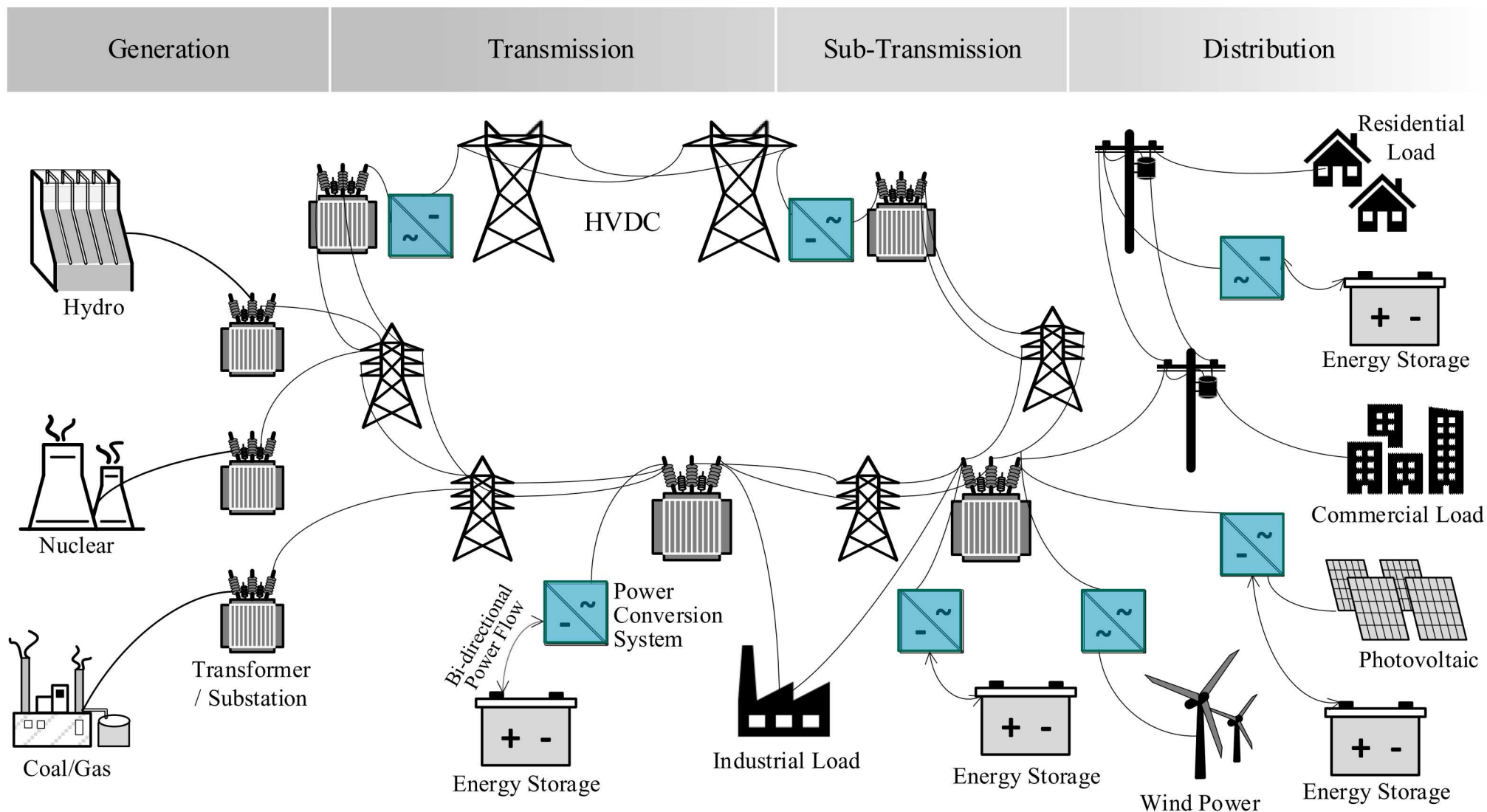
Wide ranging R&D covering energy storage technologies with applications in the grid, transportation, and stationary storage



- Power conversion systems (PCS), sometimes referred to and used interchangeably as power electronics, are a key enabling technology for energy storage.
- In a grid-tied energy storage system, the PCS controls the power supplied to and absorbed from the grid, simultaneously optimizing energy storage device performance and maintaining grid stability.
- There are multiple types of energy storage technologies, and each has their own characteristics and control parameters that must be managed by the PCS.
- An energy storage installation may be tasked with a variety of different grid support services; the PCS is responsible for controlling the flow of energy to meet the requirements of the intended grid support application.
- The major electrical components of a PCS are semiconductor switches, capacitors, magnetic devices such as inductors and transformers, and a controller.



POWER CONVERSION SYSTEM – KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGY



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM ELEMENTS

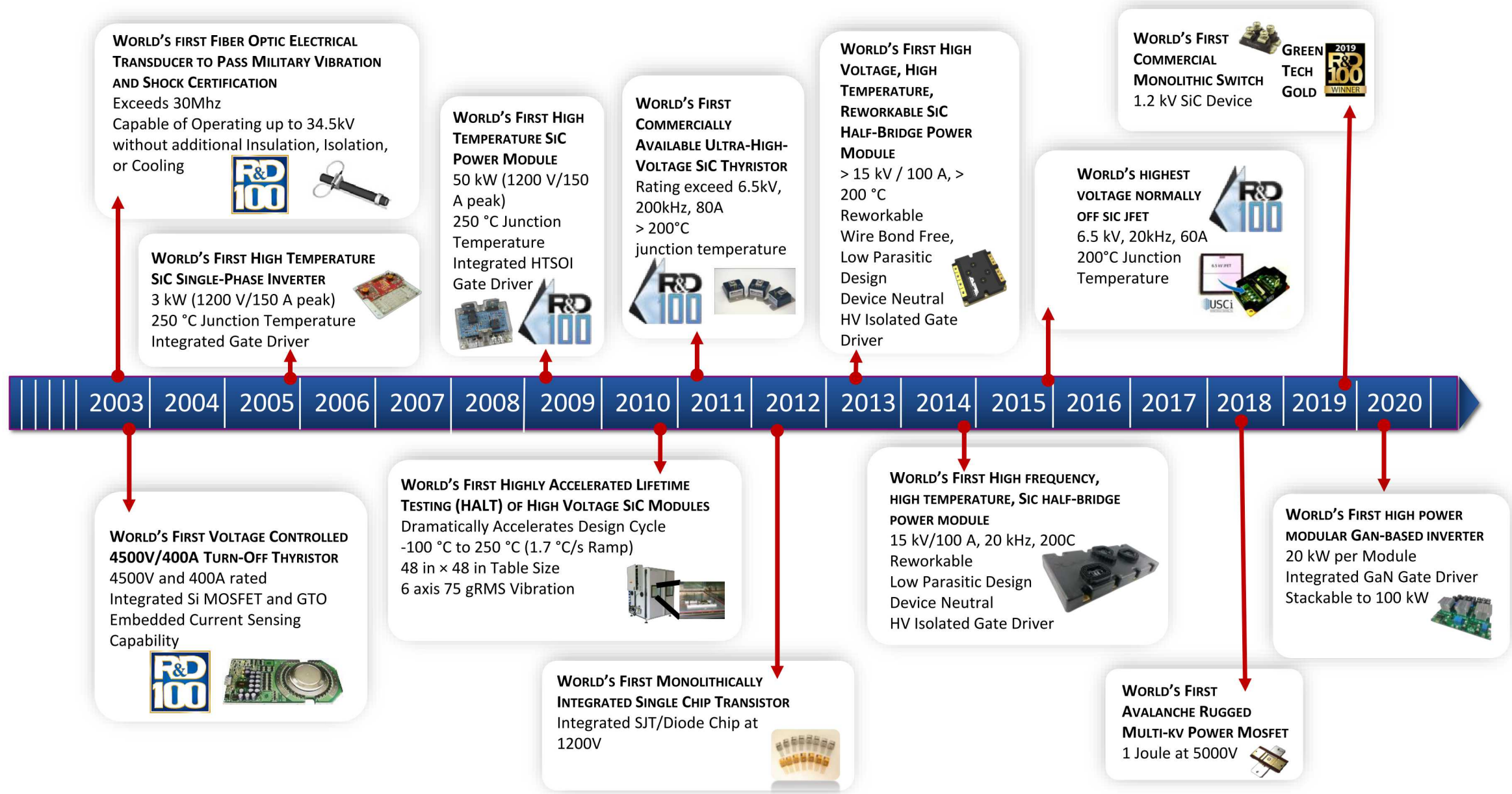


Battery Storage	Battery Management System (BMS)	Power Conversion System (PCS)	Energy Management System (EMS)	Site Management System (SMS)	Balance of Plant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modules • Racks • \$/KWh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battery Management & BESS Protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-directional Inverter • Inverter control • Interconnection / Switchgear • \$/KW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge / Discharge • Load Management • Ramp rate control • Grid Stability • Monitoring • \$ / ESS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributed Energy Resources (DER) control • Synchronization • Islanding and microgrid control • \$ / microgrid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformer/ POC switchgear • BESS container • Climate control • <u>Fire protection</u> • Construction and Permitting • \$ / project



NOTE: Important to have single entity responsible for the ESS integration.

DOE OF POWER ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT





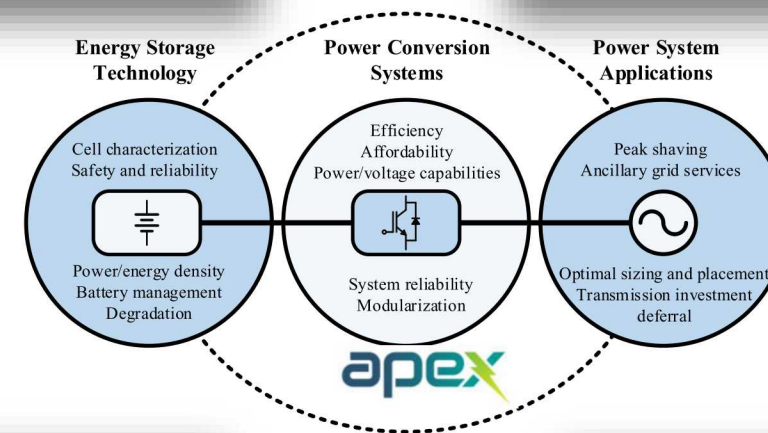
TRS Technologies

Airak Corp.





- Contact:** Jake Mueller (jmuelle@sandia.gov), Stan Atcitty (satcitt@sandia.gov)
- Problem:** New power conversion solutions are needed to support the expanding role of energy storage in the grid
- SNL Approach:** Develop new power conversion topologies and intelligent control strategies; leverage the capabilities of advanced components and materials; verify performance through hardware experimentation
- Key Outcomes:** Modular and fault-tolerant hardware architectures improve the reliability, scalability, efficiency, and flexibility of utility-scale storage
- Key Capabilities:** Real-time simulation; rapid prototyping and electrical fabrication; energy storage emulation at cell, module, and system level; converter analysis in 30 kW bidirectional hardware-in-the-loop testbed, fault insertion and destructive testing





Contact: Bob Kaplar, rjkapla@sandia.gov

Problem:

- Reliability remains one of the major factors impeding the widespread adoption of wide bandgap (WBG) power devices
- In particular, power circuit designers need to be confident in the devices' reliability
- Need to design, fabricate, and characterize WBG switching devices as a neutral third party

Approach:

- Utilize a range of techniques from atomic-scale characterization to reliability testing in switching circuits
- Stressing WBG power devices, measuring their change in performance, modeling the results, and ascertaining the impact on the system
- Examining new devices as they have been introduced such as SiC MOSFETs, GaN HEMTs, vertical GaN

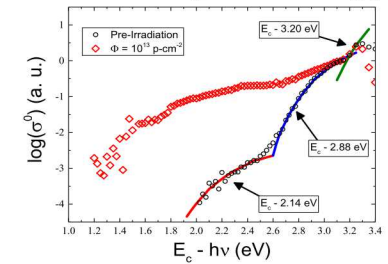
Key Outcomes:

- The ability to correlate materials physics to the impact of device degradation on the power conversion system

WBG Material and Device Fabrication and Characterization



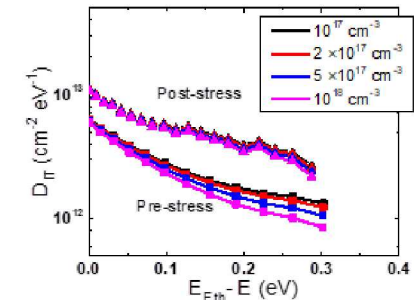
Defect Spectroscopy



Reliability Physics



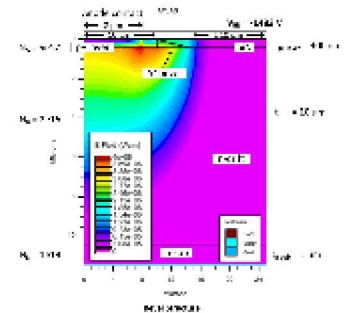
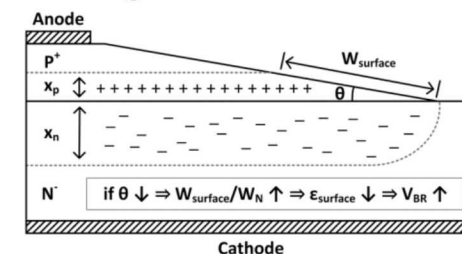
Switching Reliability Testing



SiC MOSFET Reliability

Device Simulation

Novel Edge Terminations



ADVANCED COMPONENTS: MAGNETICS



Contact: Todd Monson (tmonson@sandia.gov)

Problem:

- Current soft magnetic materials do not meet all the requirements of emerging power electronics topologies
- Significant volume reduction and increased reliability in power conversion systems will be enabled by advanced magnetics.

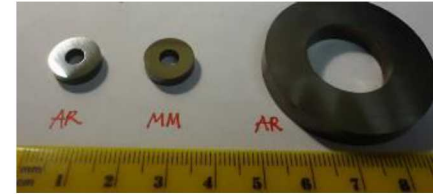
SNL Approach:

- Develop new high magnetization, low loss magnetic cores for high frequency transformers
- Going beyond state of the art through the implementation of iron nitride (Fe_4N)

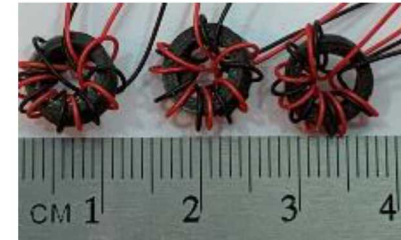
Key Outcomes:

- New high magnetization, low loss soft magnetic core materials capable of operating in conjunction with wide bandgap semiconductor based power electronics

γ' - Fe_4N toroidal inductive cores



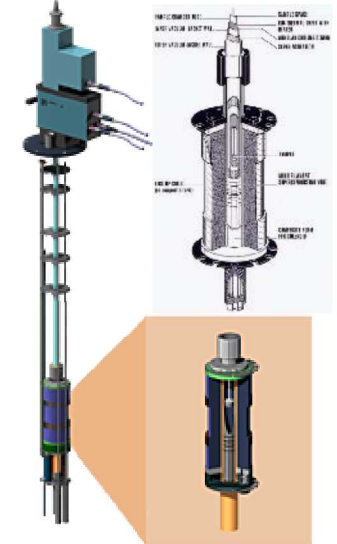
Composite magnetic cores wound for B-H analysis



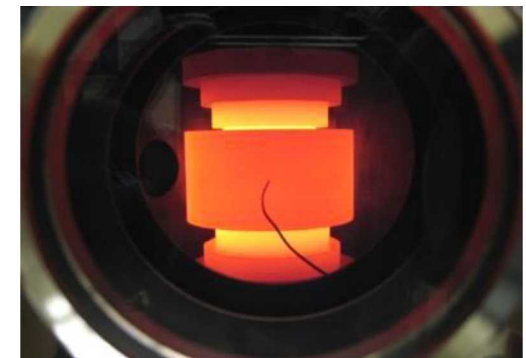
Iwatsu B-H analyzer



Quantum Design
Magnetic Property
Measurement System
(MPMS)



Spark Plasma Sintering
(in collaboration with UC Irvine)





Contact: Jon Bock, jabock@sandia.gov

Problem:

- DC-link capacitors are prone to failure and can negatively impact the adoption of power conversion systems used in distributed energy and renewable systems
- Dielectric breakdown and temperature limitations caused by excessive heating from electrical losses and degradation are of key concern for high-reliability systems from Space, MIL, and Grid

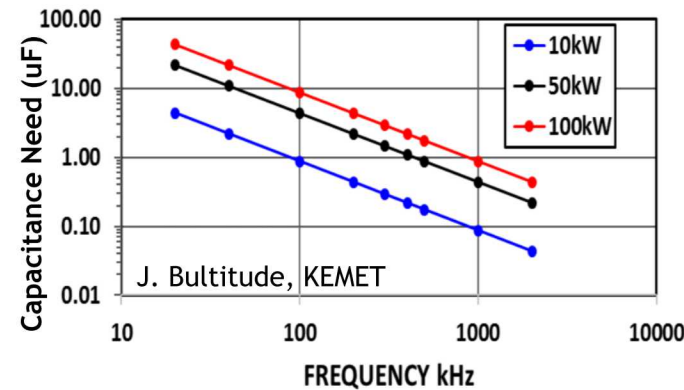
SNL Approach:

- Perform reliability assessment on commercial capacitors, understand failure physics for better reliability models, and develop next-gen capacitor materials
- Evaluating reliability of current gen ceramic capacitors for DC-link applications (KC-Link, Ceralink, X7R)
- Evaluate next-gen high temperature capacitors under realistic ripple waveform seen in power electronics

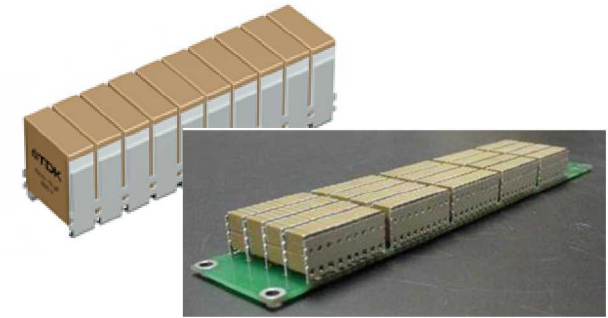
Key Outcomes:

- Understanding of reliability and root cause of failures leads to capacitor design changes, circuit-level reliability estimates, expanded capacitor capabilities leading to increase performance of power conversion systems

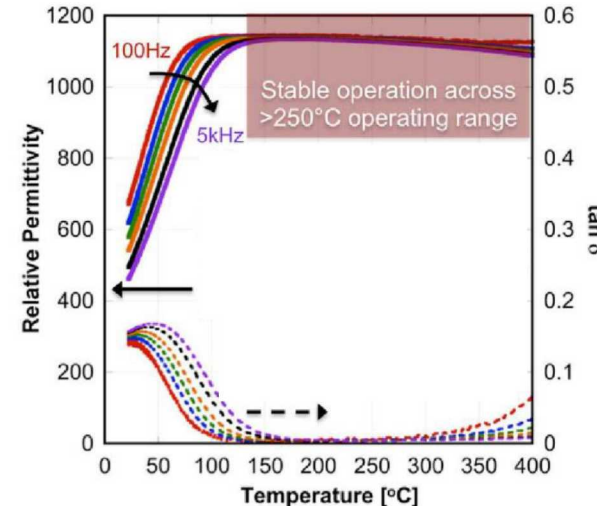
Increased Frequency and Voltage Lowers Capacitance Needs



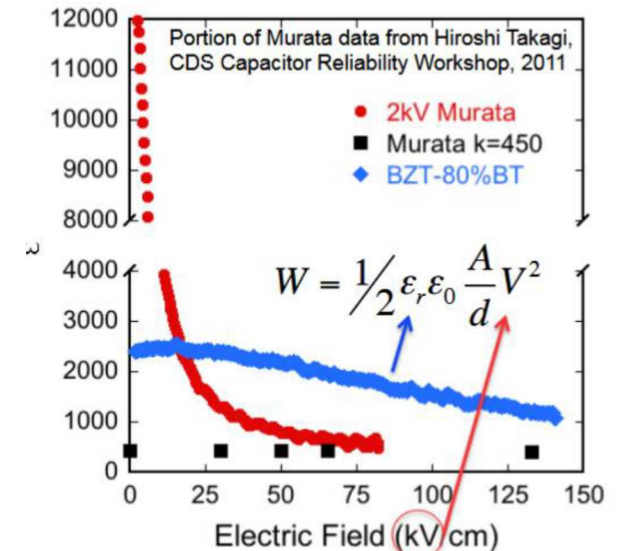
In-Depth Lifetime Evaluation of Current-Gen Technologies KC-Link and Ceralink



High Permittivity Dielectrics >150°C



High Permittivity *at high field*



New components are important,
but not the whole story

Advanced Topologies:

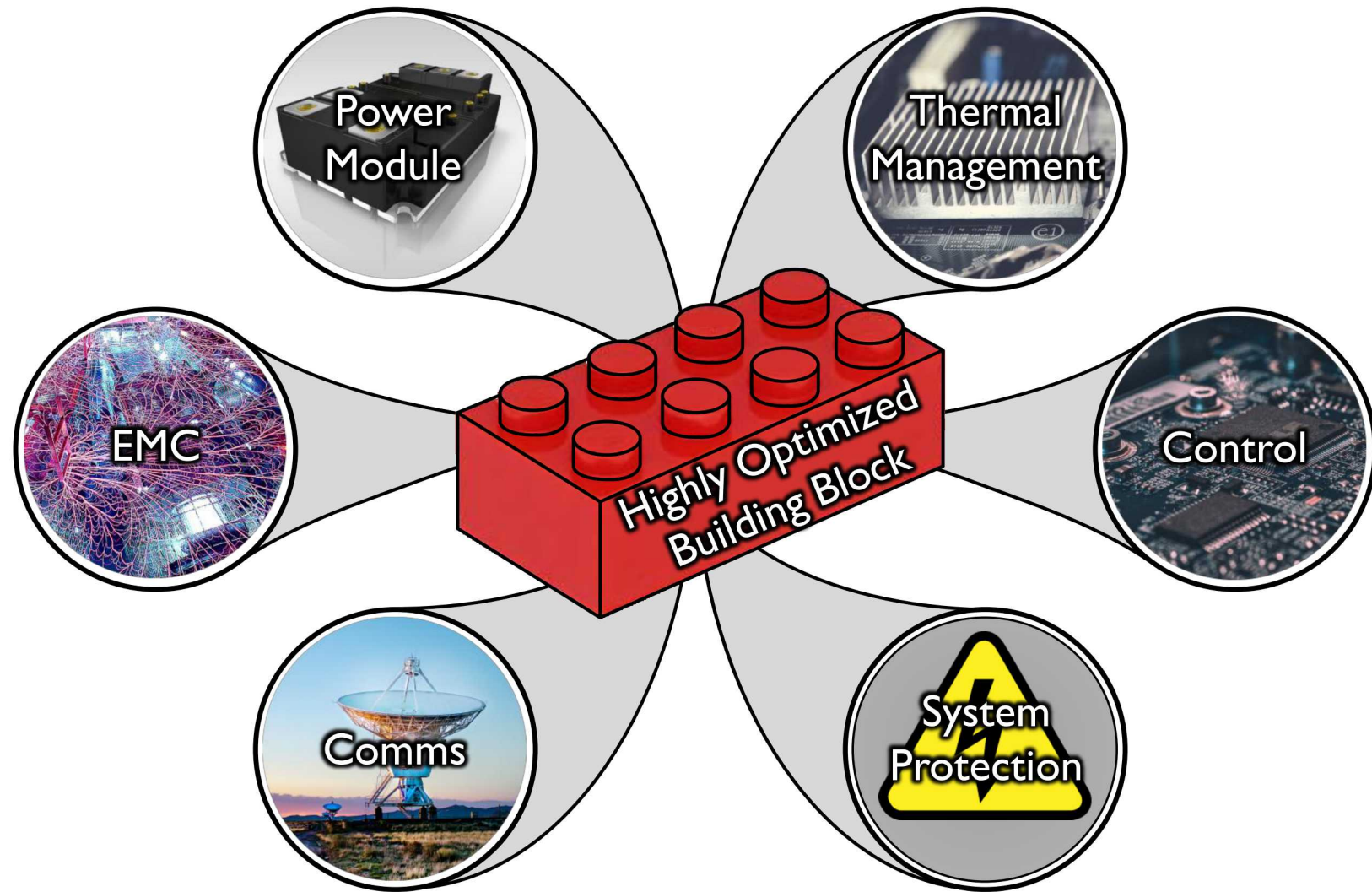
Modular, fault-tolerant hardware
architectures

Advanced Control Systems:

Methods for detecting and
reacting to internal failures in real
time

Design-For-Reliability:

Computational tools for
assessing reliability and remaining
time-to-failure based on
application-specific operating
conditions



Target Research Areas

- Power conversion system for scalable energy storage deployments
 - Modular topologies for direct MV grid connection
 - Integration of storage in existing and emerging power electronic energy infrastructure
- Uninterruptible converter topologies for critical storage assets
 - Fault-tolerant and reconfigurable hardware architectures
 - Hot-swap capable converters and storage systems
- Applications of power electronics in storage system safety
 - Stranded energy extraction
 - Active response to thermal runaway
- Integration of advanced components
 - Wide bandgap devices
 - Advanced magnetics
 - Advanced capacitors



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Questions?

Thank You!