"Scaling Up WATT Fuel Cell's Additive Manufacturing Process (AMP)"



connect with us

wattfuelcell.com info@wattfuelcell.com 516.621.0047



July 14-16 2015 16th Annual Solid Oxide Fuel Cell (SOFC) Workshop

Agenda

- > Overview of WATT Fuel Cell Corp
- Progress on WATT's RIF 2013 Contract AMP Scale Up
- WATT's Commercial Portable Fuel Cell Technology
- Development of portable SOFC liquid-fueled systems for the US military







Who is WATT Fuel Cell?



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Who is WATT Fuel Cell?

- Tubular SOFC Technology Manufacturer
- Manufacturing and Operations Plant in Mount Pleasant, PA (With offices in Port Washington and the Hampton Bays, NY)
- Marketed towards portable, military and small Distributed Grid (DG) power applications
- 13 filed patents and 23 active patent applications
- Business Model based upon Direct Customer or Strategic Partnership
- Multi-Fuel Processing Flexibility





WATT Owned Subsidiary – Pittsburgh Electric Engines, Inc. (PEEI)



WATT

PEEI

Technology

- Large format tubular
- Air electrode supported
- ➢ 37,000h of test time
 - Stable Operation
- Robust current collection
 - Reliability
- Extrusion based manufacturing
 - Can be manufactured utilizing WATT's AMP process
- Interfaces well with WATT's modular approach



WATT in Mount Pleasant, PA



- > 40k sq. ft. of lab and office space between WATT and PEEI
- Full in-house capability
 - Synthesis of materials
 - Cell and stack production
 - Fuel processing
 - Construction of complete fuel cell systems
- State-of-the-art clean room for WATT's AMP (printing multilayered, ceramic and cermet tubular cells)
- Full range of liquid and gaseous fuels testing capabilities



On Site - Analysis and Evaluation Packages



Analytical

- Thermo-gravimetric Analysis
- Laser Diffraction PSD
- Acoustic PSD
- Zeta Potentiometric Analysis
- B.E.T. Surface Area Analysis
- Multiple GC/MS
- Rheometry

Electrochemical Evaluation

- Impedance
 Spectroscopy
- Custom Fuel Cell Test Stands
- Custom Fuel Cell Stack Test Stands
- Custom Fuel Cell
 System Test Stands

Imaging and Detection

- ➢ SEM with EDS
- Video-based microscopes



World Class Manufacturer - WATT Fuel Cell

•Expandable Modular Format

process

assembly (i.e. Plastic Manifold)



•"Seal-less Stack" allows for a range of compliant materials in

outlay typically incurred by an inflexible mass production

Cost Reduction ↔ Weight and Size Optimization ↔ Quality/Integrity
 High Volume Batch Production enables application flexibility
 The benefit of high volume production without the capital











•BoP is the "Foundation of the WATT Stack"

Design for Manufacturing and Assembly (DFM&A)
Enhanced <u>Reliability</u> and <u>Performance Predictability</u>
Modular Design

Stack

BoP and System



WATT's RIF 2013 Contract





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RIF2013 –Limitation in the Conventional **SOFC Manufacturing Process**

Conventional SOFC Tubular Manufacturing



Paste Preparation



Extrusion



Drying and Tube Preparation



Burn-out and Pre-fire

Separate support formation and coating technologies require more than



of processing time!



Coating Sintering



Coating Processes



RIF2013 – 2,000 systems per year

2 Year Contract, \$2.1m supported by DoD

Adapt WATT's AMP commercial printing process to scale production of micro-tubular SOFC suitable for military operations.

Tasks Include:

- Design and fabricate optimized rack-mount cartridge
- Design and fabricate auto-loader equipment
- Design and Optimize software for integrated systems
- Evaluate the efficiency of manufacturing SOFC technology
- Design and Validate Mfg. Process to Support 2000+systems/year
- Build and deliver a TRL-5 SOFC liquid-fueled system





RIF2013 – WATT's Solution for Manufacturing SOFCs



One technology to manufacture multiple layered ceramic tubes with varying densities

- 60% less energy consumption to create SOFC products
- Precise, repeatable, low cost deposition of layers
- Raw material waste is highly controlled (reduced by 42% todate!)
 - ✓ Increased Recycle
- Low Cost vs. High Energy Density

- Modular Scalability
 - ✓ Decreased capital cost in machine set-up and commissioning
- Tailored structures using automated controls
- Intrinsically higher part quality
- Increased production rate by ~400%



DMAIC in Practice – **WATT** Quality Control (QC) Method, success story

Case Study: Improvement (performance and cycle time) of Anode Support Manufacturing Process (Cost and Efficiency Opportunities)



6% increase in overall First Pass Yield (FPY) 7% and 9% increase in performance (Power and OCV, respectively)



Cell Performance using AMP



Increased power density. Less mass, time to manufacture, handling, energy consumed in manufacturing, and reduced Cost of Goods (COGs)



Sample Performance Metrics -WATT SOFC



- 1. Cell Production Rate: 3,128 per Q
- 2. Controllable layer thickness: 0.5 µm
- 3. Average OCV: 1.185 Volts

- 4. Low Standard Deviation, OCV
- 5. Max power per cell ~ 15 Watts



Demonstrated Feasibility of AMP



Results from feasibility study showing comparing OCVs, QC Check



Preliminary Results – 1,000+ Samples, SOFC Performance Data



Preliminary Results – 2015 SOFC Production





Project Status

Summary:

- Project is 39% complete and is progressing on-schedule
- Commercial Printer 1 and 2 Tested and Commissioned
- 24/7 SOFC production commissioning in Q3 2015
- Manufacturing Cycle Time successfully reduced by ~400%
- New printing cartridge, enabling a 2x increase in capacity, is designed.

- On/under budget for each reporting period
- Power and OCV 'pass' metric exceeded (with stability and repeatability) by ~7% and ~9%, respectively
- Environmental controls are being developed to decrease variability
 - Implementation Q3 2015





WATT's Commercial Portable Fuel Cell Technology



Portable Alpha System





Automated Battery Tender System Specs:

- 220W (expandable to 440W)
- ➢ 12 or 24 VDC
- ➤ < 20 lbs</p>
- Propane fueled
- Startup time 25 min to nominal run
- ➢ Fuel Consumption − 6 hrs per lb.
- Over 850 Wh/kg wet based on 20lb fuel tank



Portable Alpha System



Functionality:

- Capable of charging dead battery bank
- Maintains charge level of bank, switching on automatically as State of Charge (SOC) drops to preset threshold
- System warns user and shuts down safely if battery disconnected
- Targeted to serve:
 - Marine
 - ➢ RV

Fresh Water

Pump and Tank

- Emergency Backup
- Remote Power



LED Lighting

Television







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Reforming - LOGISTICS FUELS



Modified NETL catalyst stable on liquid fuels

Tested > 1000 hrs



Reforming - LOGISTICS FUELS



CONCLUSION

- Commissioning of State-of-the-Art Manufacturing Facility is Complete
 - Stable Operations
 - Process Optimization
- Scale-up Stage 1 Successful
 - High Volume Batch Production
 - Advanced Manufacturing Process Tested and Implemented
- Scale-up Stage 2 Begins Q3 2015
 - Increased capacity
 - >2x per production run
 - Continuous (24/7 capability) Operation and Production Pilot

WATT has designed a modular manufacturing process. Stage 3 of scale up is an expansion of the modular system.

Each module is designed to optimize demand capability while reducing inventories.

