



# Hydrogen Quality

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- Tony Estrada, PG&E

And to:

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- Bob Boyd, Linde Group
- Kristin Macey and John Mough, California DMS

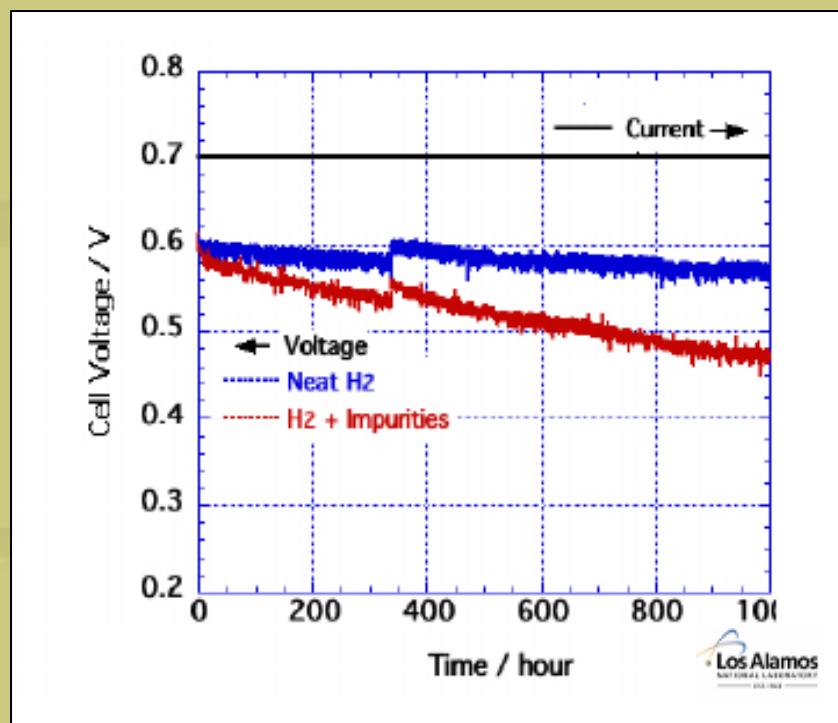
## Defining hydrogen quality

The level of impurities in hydrogen fuel, specifically constituents and particulates.



# Why is hydrogen quality important?

- Impurities negatively affect fuel cell performance
- PM can cause valve and seal malfunction
- Poor quality can cause inadequate vehicle operation



Hydrogen quality standards will protect the consumer!

## The effect of standards

- Lax standards inhibit FCS cost and durability
  - DOE 2015 targets:
    - \$30/kW for 60% peak-efficient, durable, direct hydrogen fuel cell power system for transportation
    - 5,000 hours fuel cell lifetime
- Stringent standards raise the price of fuel
  - DOE 2015 target: \$2-3 gge for hydrogen

## H2 quality standards development

- SAE and ISO set fuel quality standards
  - SAE TIR J2719 Hydrogen Quality Guideline for fuel cell vehicles
- ASTM sets testing standards
  - ASTM International Committee D03.14
- DMS enforces fuel delivery standards in California





## Why is CaFCP involved?

- Real-world data of testing, sampling, and analysis
- Liaison between SDOs and CaFCP members
- Facilitates cooperation among industry segments and among SDOs
  - DMS activities



## California's H2 quality regulation

- SB76 requires CA to adopt a standard by 1/1/08
  - Stakeholders believe its too soon for a standard
- Meetings at CaFCP to explore issue and options
  - Shortened the process
- DMS moved forward with an interim standard
  - Complies with the regulation
  - Avoided setting a permanent standard too soon



# Proposed DMS interim standard

Specification	Value
Hydrogen Fuel Index (minimum, %) (1)	99.97
Total Gases (maximum, ppm v/v) (2)	300
Water (maximum, ppm v/v)	5
Total Hydrocarbons (maximum, ppm v/v) (3)	2
Oxygen (maximum, ppm v/v)	5
Helium (maximum, ppm v/v)	300
Nitrogen and Argon (maximum, ppm v/v)	100
Carbon dioxide (maximum, ppm v/v)	2
Carbon monoxide (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.2
Total Sulfur Compounds (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.004
Formaldehyde (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.01
Formic acid (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.2
Ammonia (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.1
Total Halogenated Compounds (maximum, ppm v/v)	0.05
Particulates Size (maximum, $\mu\text{m}$ )	10
Particulate Concentration (maximum, $\mu\text{g/L @ NTP}$ )	1

1. The hydrogen fuel index is the value obtained with the value of total gases (%) subtracted from 100%
2. Total Gases = Sum of all impurities listed on the table except particulates
3. Total Hydrocarbons may exceed 2 ppm v/v only due to the presence of methane, provided that the total gases do not exceed 300 ppm v/v.

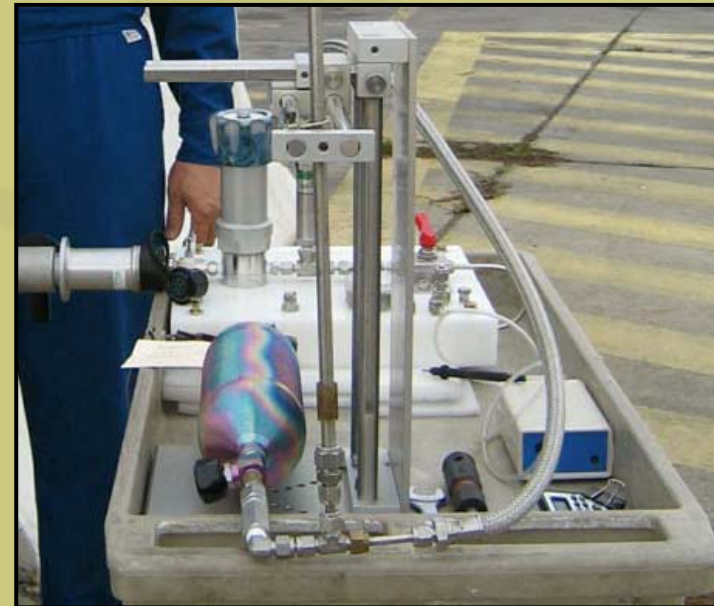
- SAE and DMS coordination
  - SAE TIR J2719
- CaFCP member input on regulatory language

## Testing to the standard

- ASTM - standardize test methods for sampling and analyzing hydrogen fuel quality
- How precise can you measure?
  - Can a standard call for an amount that is below what equipment can test?
- Test methods must be reproducible
- CaFCP provides real world data

# HQSA

Hydrogen quality sampling adapter collects H<sub>2</sub> samples from the station nozzle



# HQSA results

Observations from aggregated results of 5 station tests:

1. Detectable limits change
2. Outliers from majority results
3. Large particulates

Constituent	SAE TIR J2719 Limits	Previous Smart Chemistry Detection Limits	Updated Smart Chemistry Detection Limits	Concentration (Outliers)
Water	5	1	1	< DL (2.2)
Total Hydrocarbons (C <sub>1</sub> Basis)				
Methane				< DL
Ethane, Ethene, Ethyne				< DL
Other Hydrocarbons				< DL (0.14)
Oxygen				< DL
Helium, Nitrogen, Argon	100			
Helium		10	10	< DL (78)
Nitrogen		5	5	< DL (762) <sup>1</sup>
Argon		0.8	0.8	< DL
Carbon Dioxide	1	0.4	0.4	< DL (1.2)
Carbon Monoxide	0.2	0.1	0.1	< DL
Total Sulfur	0.004			
Hydrogen Sulfide		0.001	0.0005	< DL
Carbonyl Sulfide		0.001	0.0005	< DL (0.0018 - 0.0046)
Methyl Mercaptan		0.001	0.0005	< DL
Carbon Disulfide		0.001	0.0005	< DL
Formaldehyde	0.01	0.004	0.002	< DL
Formic Acid	0.2	0.06	0.02	< DL
Ammonia	0.1	0.04	0.04	< DL
Total halogenates	0.05			
Chlorine		0.05	0.05	< DL
Hydrogen Chloride		10	0.05	< DL
Hydrogen Bromide		10	0.05	< DL
Organic Halides			0.02	< DL
Particulate Size	< 10 $\mu\text{m}$		1 $\mu\text{m}$	
Number of Particles			more than 1 cm	
Number of Particles			mm and 1 cm	
Number of Particles			and 1000 $\mu\text{m}$	
Number of Particles			with size within 10 $\mu\text{m}$ and 100 $\mu\text{m}$	
Particulate Concentration	1 $\mu\text{g/L}$	Balance	0.0025	0.0025 - 0.019 $\mu\text{g/L}$

**Nitrogen = 762 vs. 100 (SAE)**

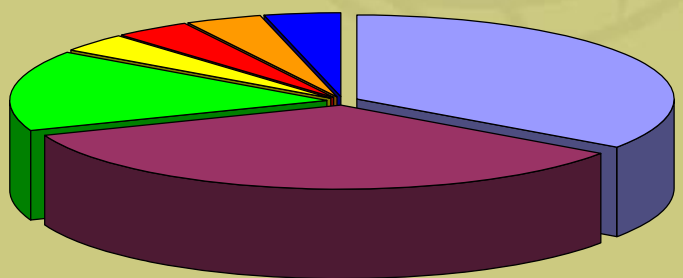
**10 to 0.05**

**Particulates exceed SAE size**

<sup>1</sup> Underlined numbers indicate outliers from recommended limits.  
<sup>2</sup> Underlined numbers in the "Particulate Size" section indicate the SAE recommended sizes.  
<sup>3</sup> The three smallest particulates found during sampling the smaller particulates.

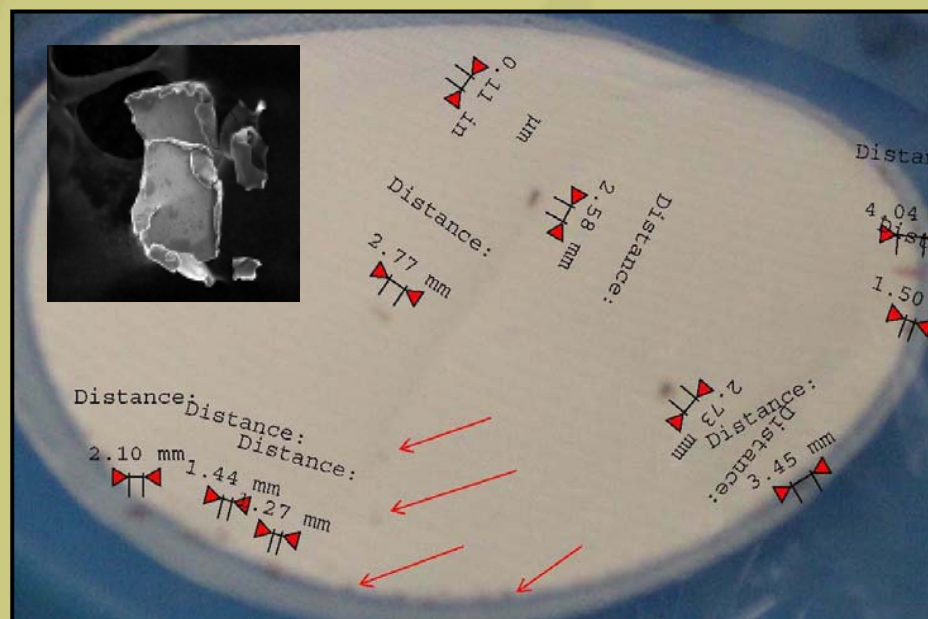
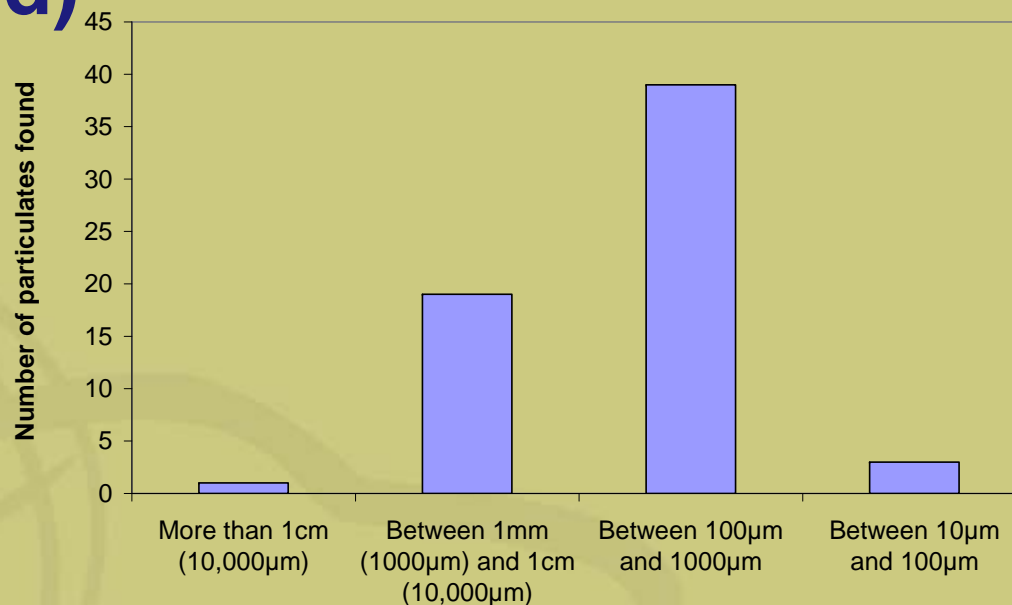
## HQSA results (Cont'd)

- Particulates varied in size and composition
- Particulate sizes exceeded SAE limits



Polymer      Dirt      Stainless Steel  
 Aluminum      Iron      PVC  
 Calcium

Common particulate sizes



## Test conclusions

- Samples came from five stations
  - Mix of liquid delivery, electrolysis and SMR
  - No conclusions related to production/delivery from tests
- Research will continue, especially in particulate sizes
- Real-world field testing will continue
  - More tests planned this year



## Standards development continues

- Developing standards for fuel quality is necessary
- Developing standards isn't fast and easy
- Providing real-world data is vital
- CaFCP will continue to play a role



**Collaboration** is the key