

Intelligent Energy Holdings



Energy Materials: Meeting the Challenge
9th October 2008

PEM Fuel Cells
Paul Adcock



INTELLIGENT ENERGY
Clean Fuel and Power

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Intelligent Energy

Intelligent Energy develop PEM Fuel Cell technology for a range of application including combined heat and power, transport and telecoms.

- 1988
 - Start of fuel cell development R&D at Loughborough University. Departments of Chemistry and Aeronautical and Automotive engineering
- 1995
 - Advanced Power Sources Ltd formed as a University spin-out company by 4 members of staff
- 2001
 - Intelligent Energy acquires Advanced Power Sources
 - 25 employees, Loughborough facility and London office
- 2008
 - 90+ employees, main site in the Innovation Centre on Loughborough University Campus.

Selected applications

Motive



In the air



On four wheels



On two wheels

DG and Portable



UPS systems (telecoms)



Remote power



Domestic and distributed power

PEM Stack Range

Air Cooled



AC32-24
Power: 250W
Size: 66 x 112 x 86
Weight: 0.9kg



AC32-48
Power: 450W
Size: 66 x 112 x 151
Weight: 1.5kg



AC64-48
Power: 900W
Size: 66 x 192 x 151
Weight: 2.5kg

Evaporatively Cooled



EC200-48
Power: 4.5kW
Size: 110 x 154 x 194
Weight: 16kg



EC200-192
Power: 20kW
Size: 290 x 154 x 194
Weight: 32kg



EC600-336
Power: 75kW
Size: 550 x 440 x 194
Weight: 140kg

Air Cooled Stacks and Modules

- 20W – 1kW (2kW+ multiple stacks)
- Application coverage for small vehicles, mini UAVs, portable power:
- Requires minimal balance of plant
- Can be packaged with H2 supply and control system as 'slot-in /slot-out' power module
- Over 8,000 hour durability



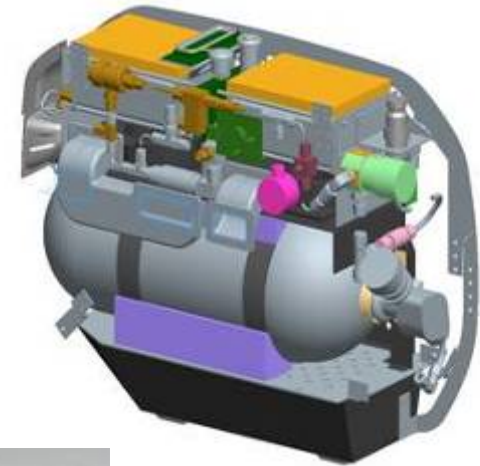
The ENV motorbike



The world's first purpose-built fuel cell powered motorbike



ENV - incorporating Intelligent Energy unique engine technology



- and now powering Suzuki



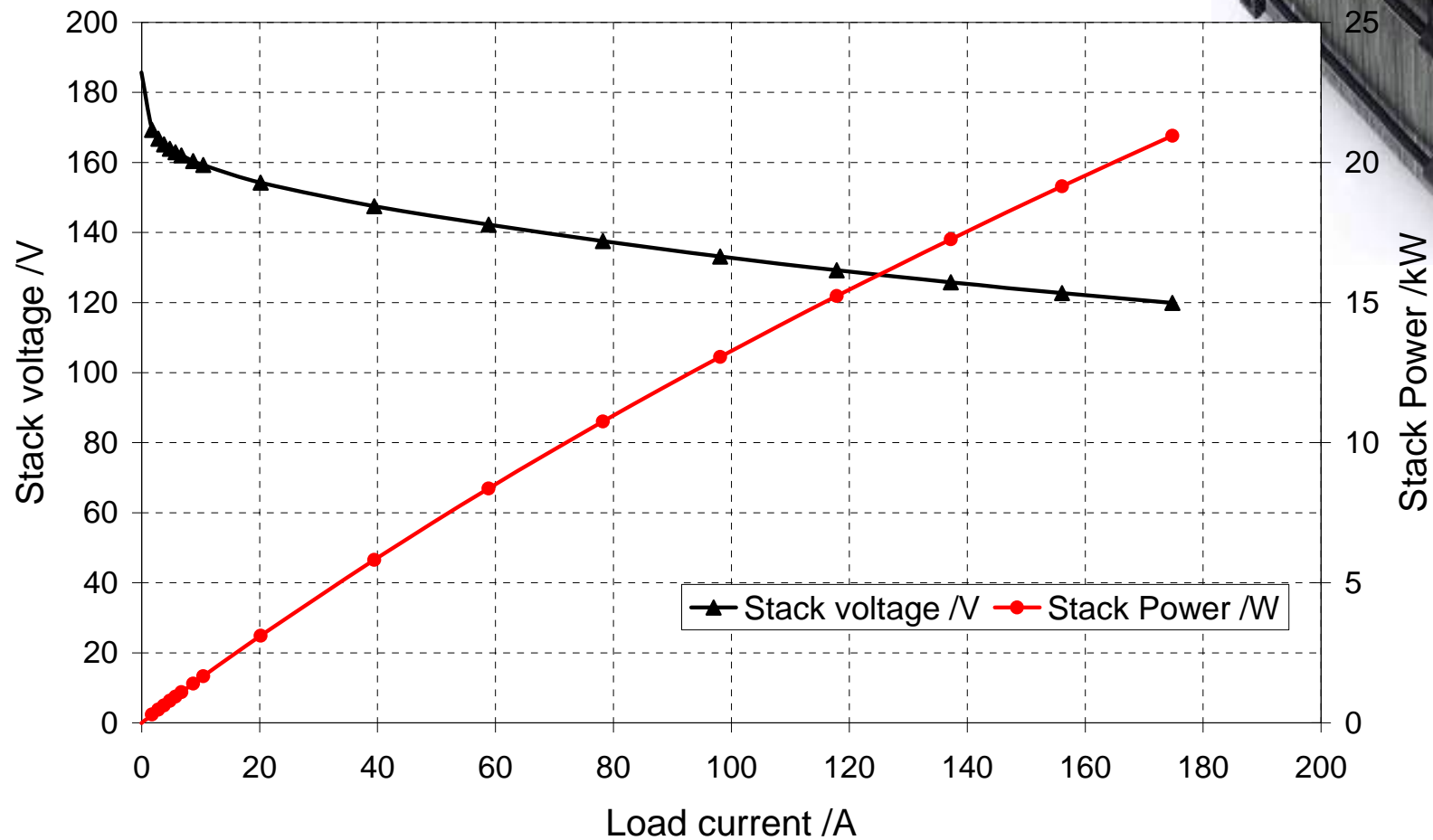
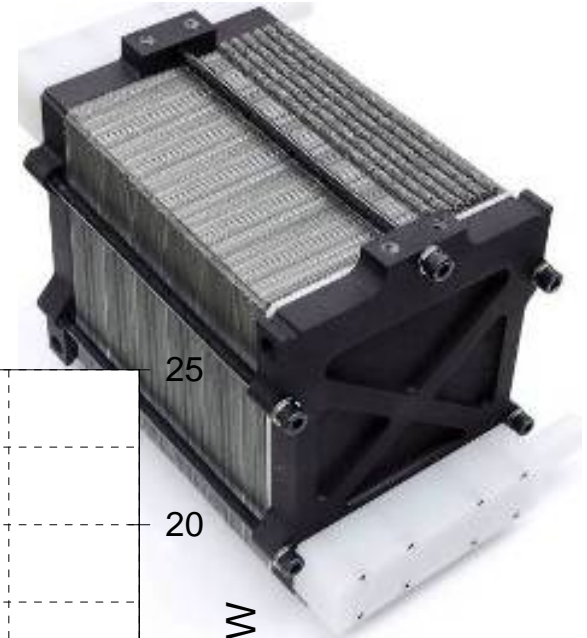
High power stacks and systems



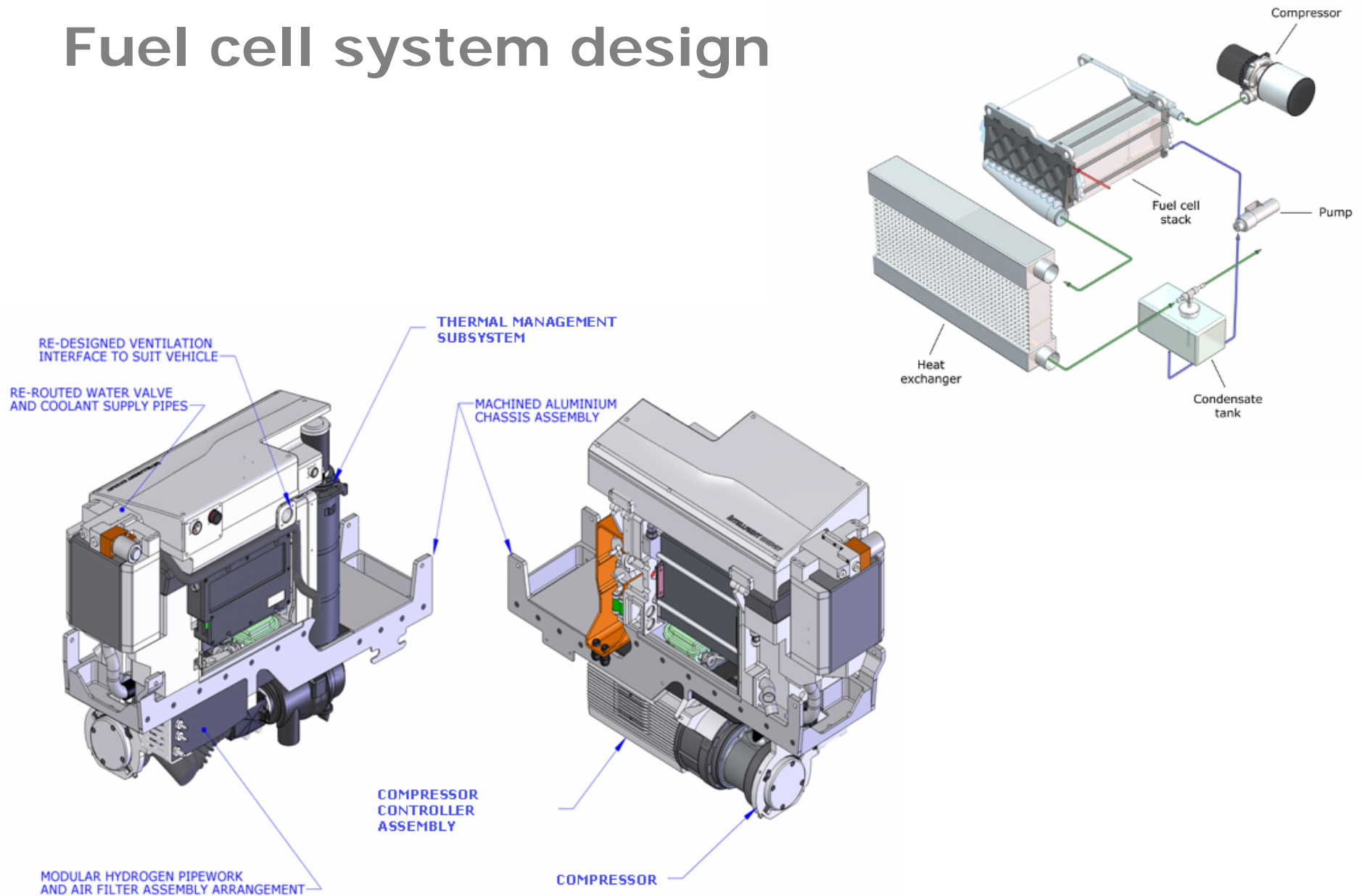
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20kW PEM Fuel Cell Stack

EC200-192, 290x154x194mm, 32kg



Fuel cell system design



Case Study: **H2Origin**

- H2Origin – an electric urban delivery vehicle with a hydrogen fuel cell system
- Programme supported by the Technology Strategy Board



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Project leader
Fuel cell power systems



Volume manufacturer

Experience in electric
and fuel cell vehicles

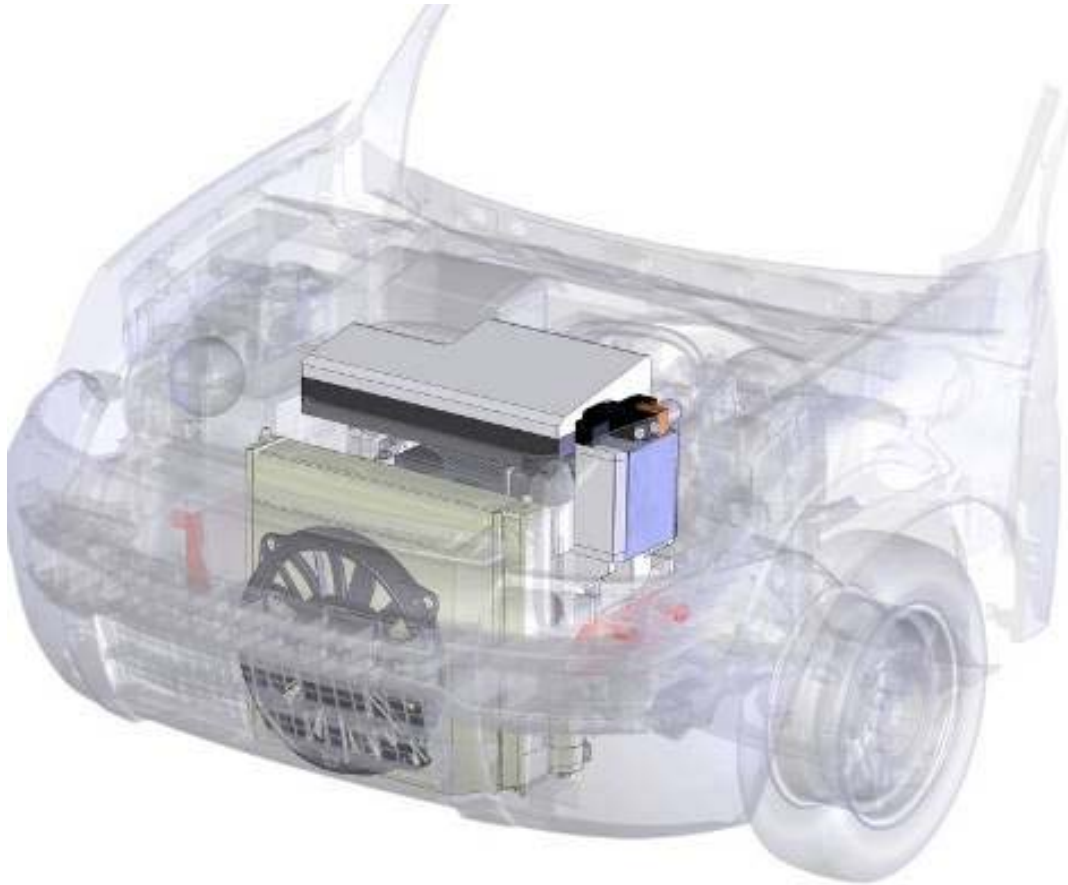


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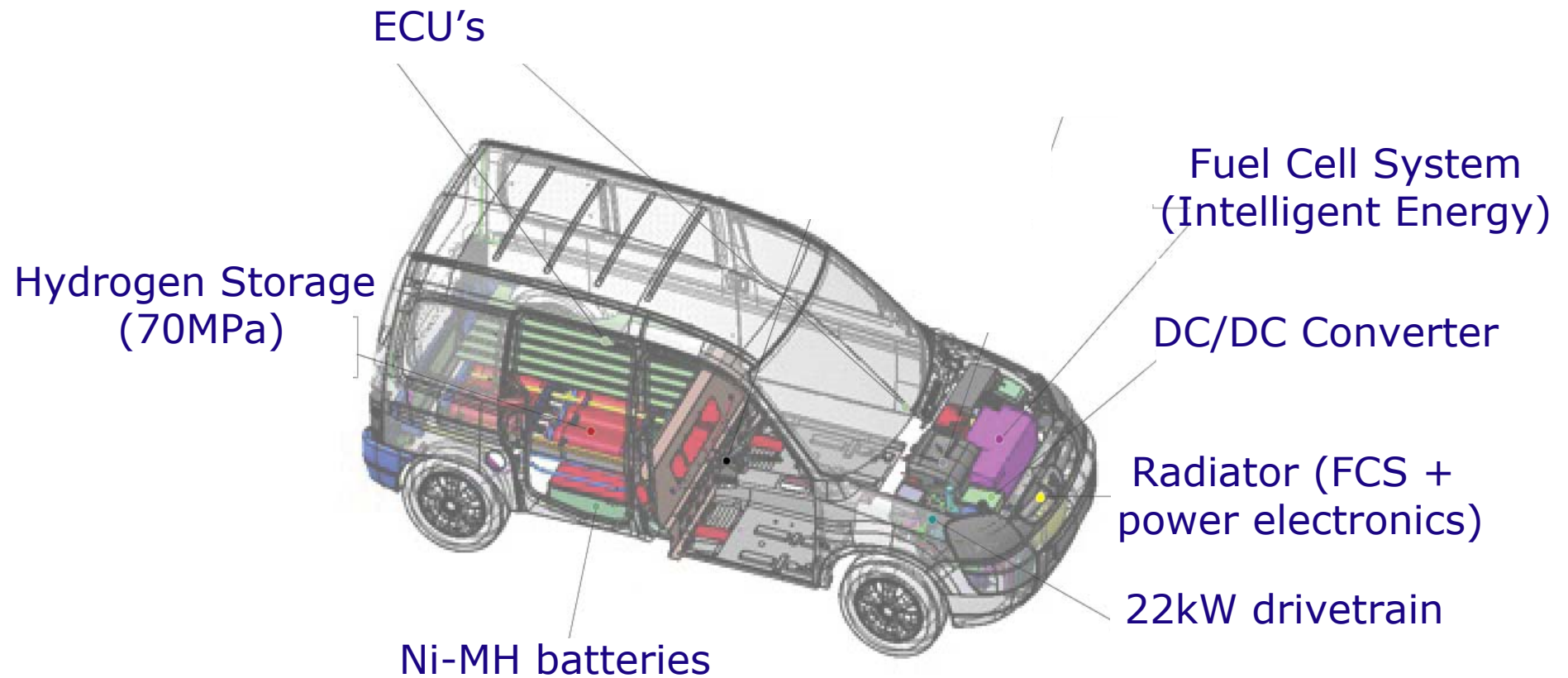
Interface electronics

* Received funding from Technology Strategy Board

System in **H₂O**origin



H₂Origin architecture



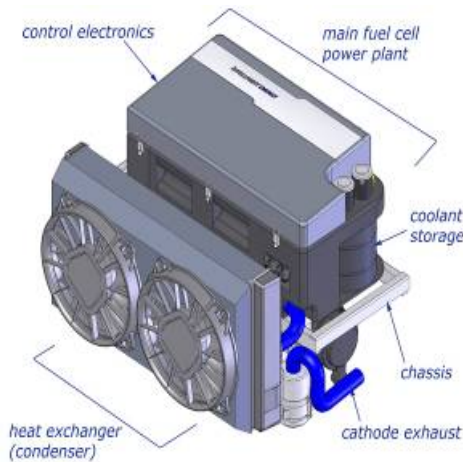
System in Vehicle



Fuel cell London taxi

Integrate 30kW PEM fuel cell
90kW hybrid powertrains into
LTI TX4 taxis.

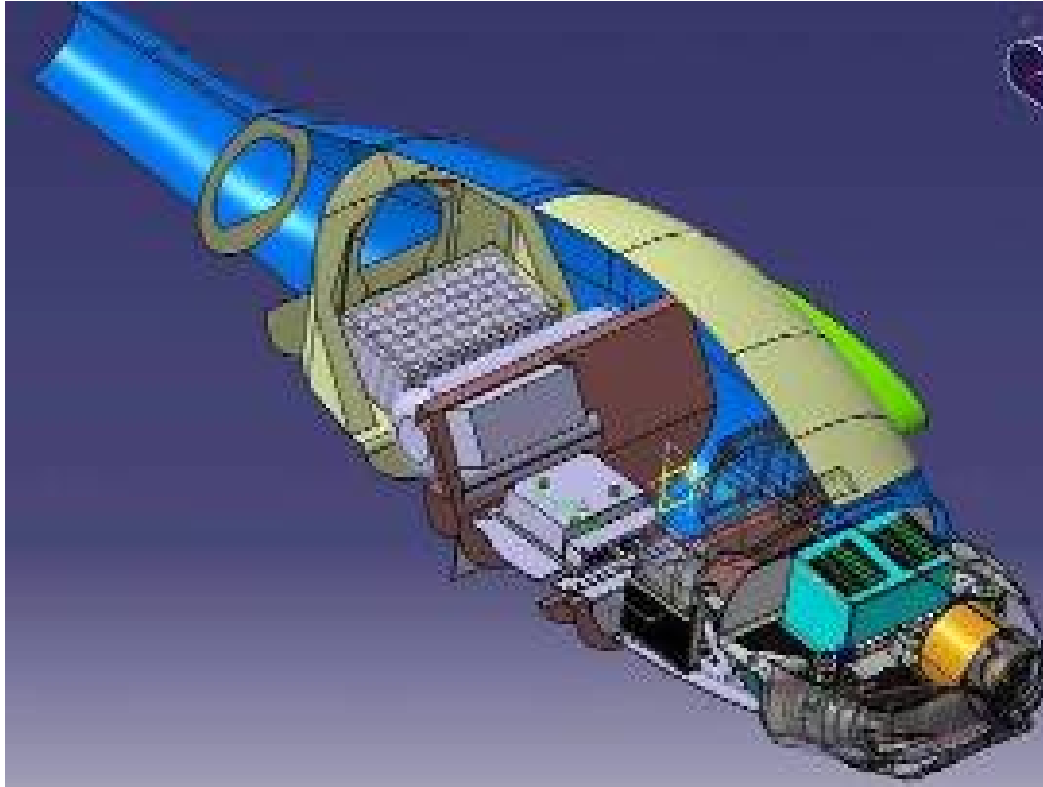
Programme supported by the
Technology Strategy Board

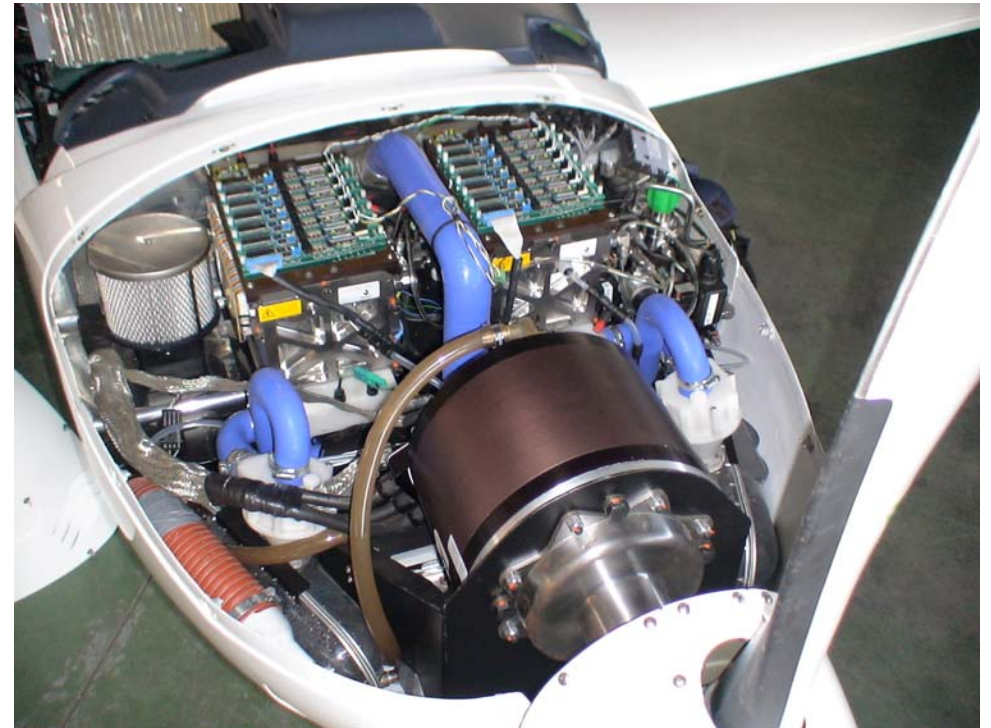
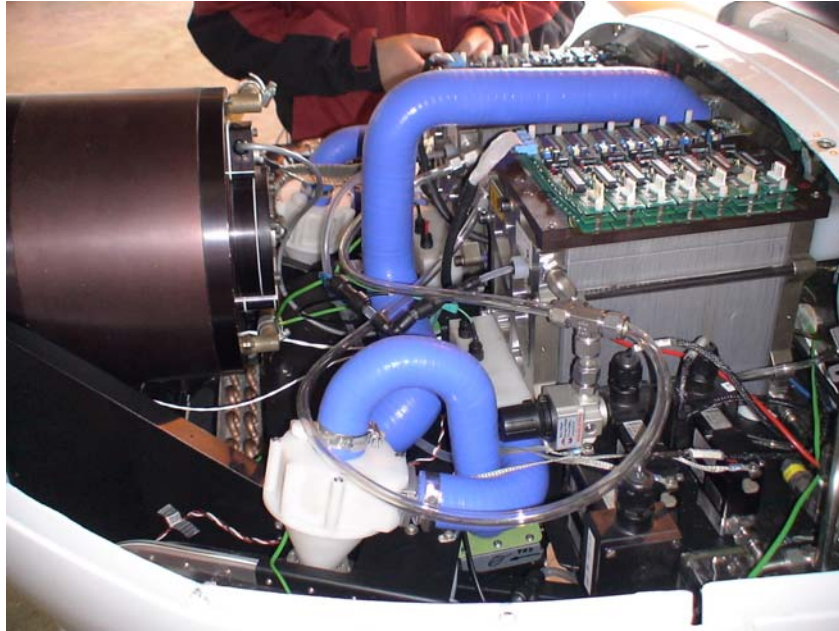


30kW fuel cell system (preliminary)

Performance	Net power	30.0kW
	Efficiency	50% lhv
	Output	240 to 400V DC
	Noise	TBC
Fuel	Hydrogen	99.99% pure
	Pressure	3.0 barg
	Consumption	<360 SLPM
	Length x width x height	TBC
Physical	Ambient temperature range	-20°C to 40°C
	Mass	TBC

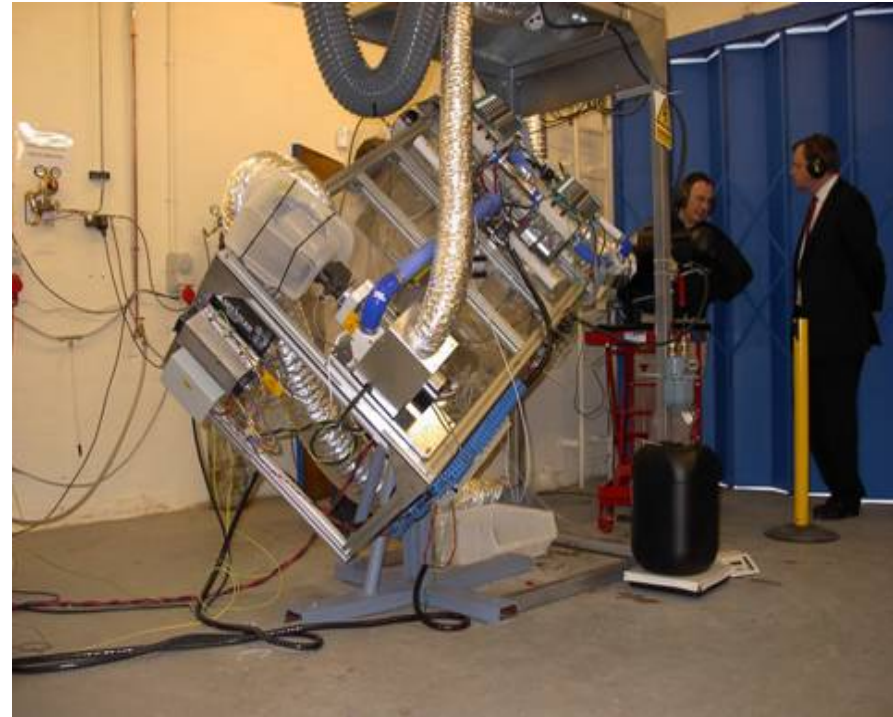
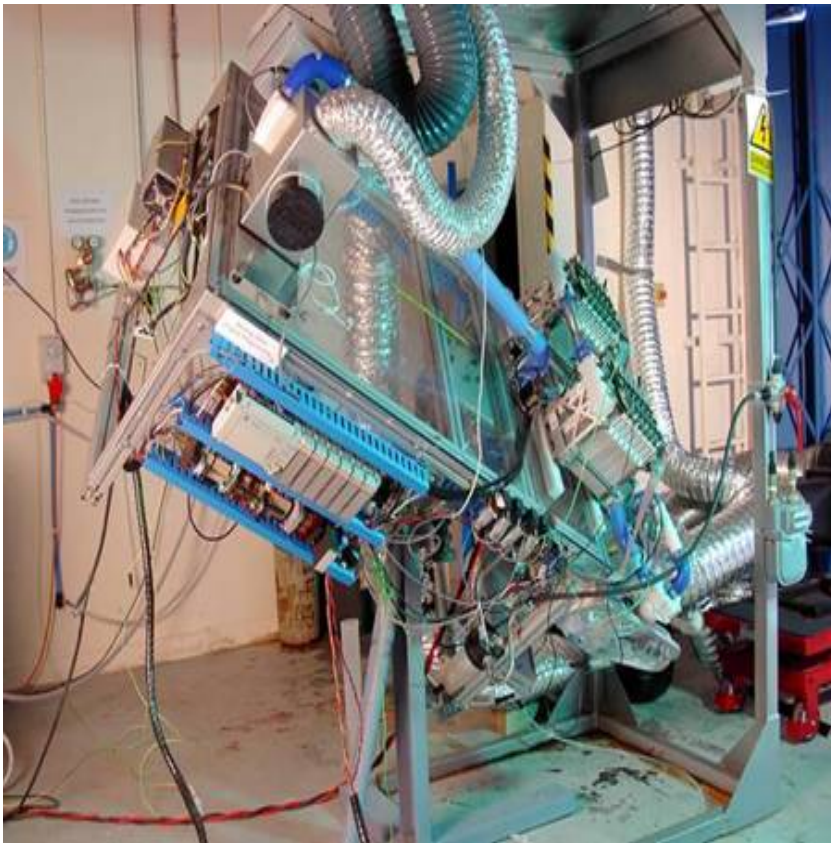
Ultra low emission electric aircraft





Fuel cell system operation

Maximum pitch & lateral inclination

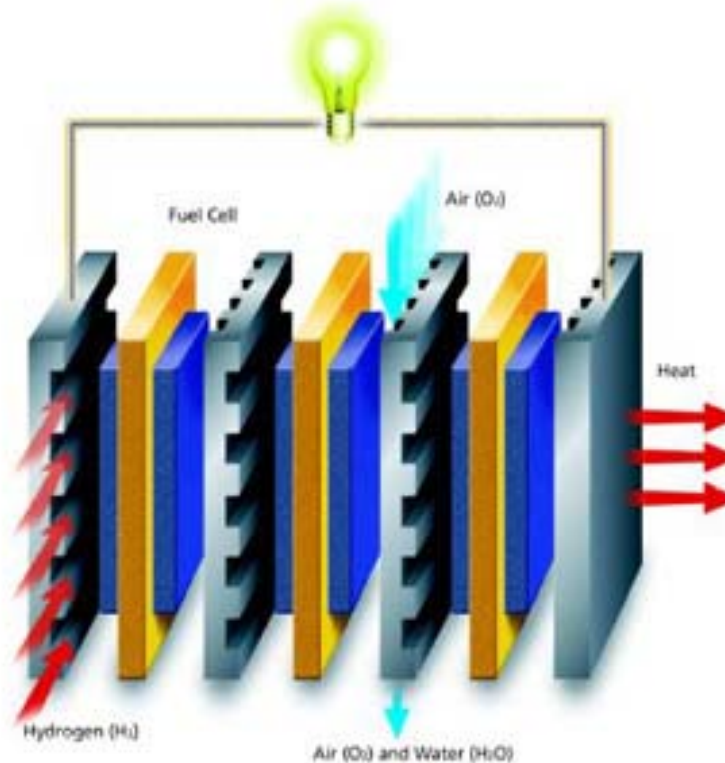




Materials selection

Key component of a stack

- Membranes - Typically Perfluorinated sulfonic acid (PFSA)
- Catalyst - Primarily Pt alloy based
- Gas diffusion layer – Carbon paper or cloth
- Bipolar plates – Graphite or metallic



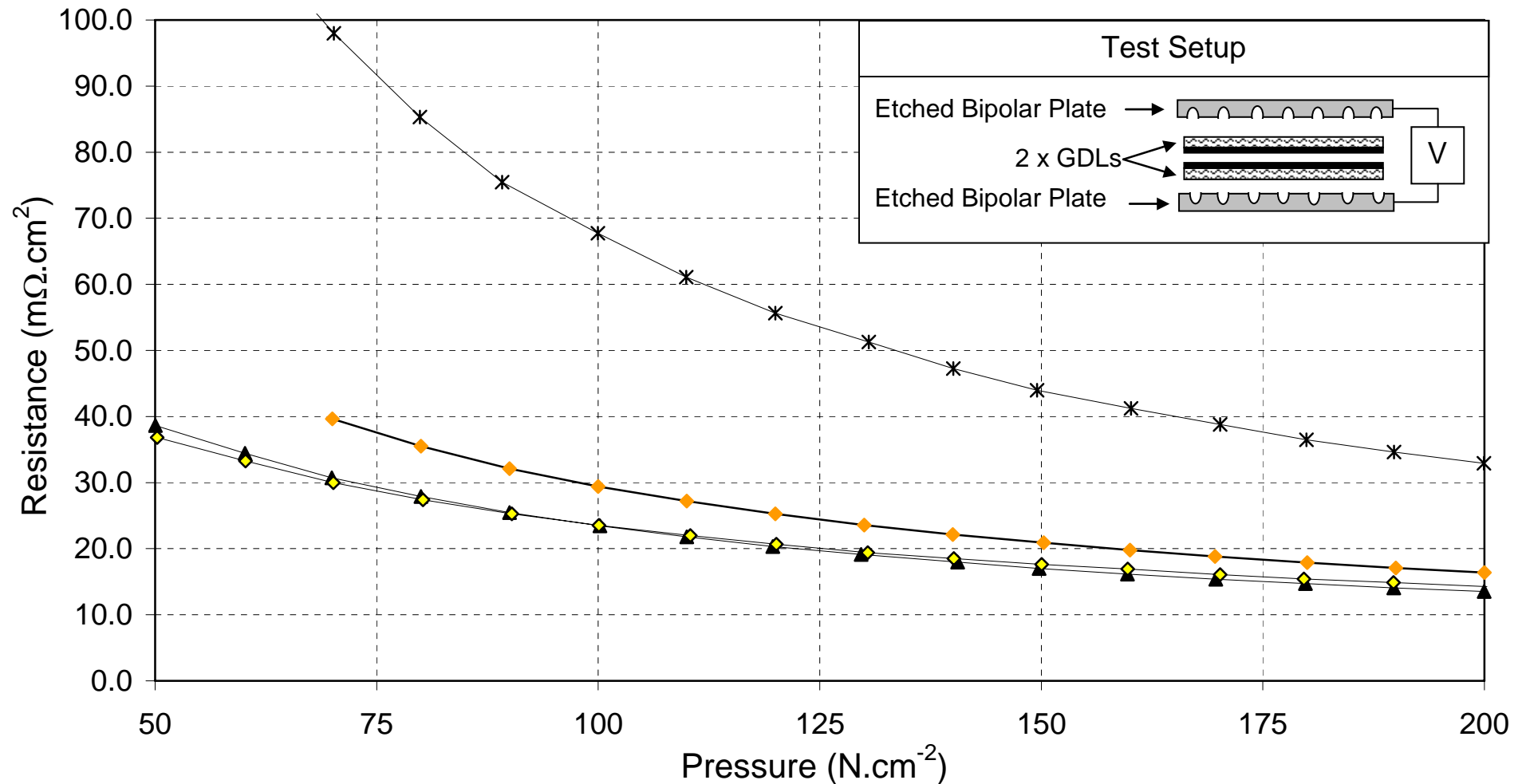
Bipolar Plate

- Present EC stack uses 0.6mm Stainless Steel Bipolar Plates
- Plate mass is approximately 110g,
 - typical stack 192 cell - 21kg for BP Plates
- Next generation pressed Stainless Steel plates 0.1mm thick
 - Plate mass 27g, 192 stack 5.2kg for BP Plates
 - Pressed SS plates amenable to mass production



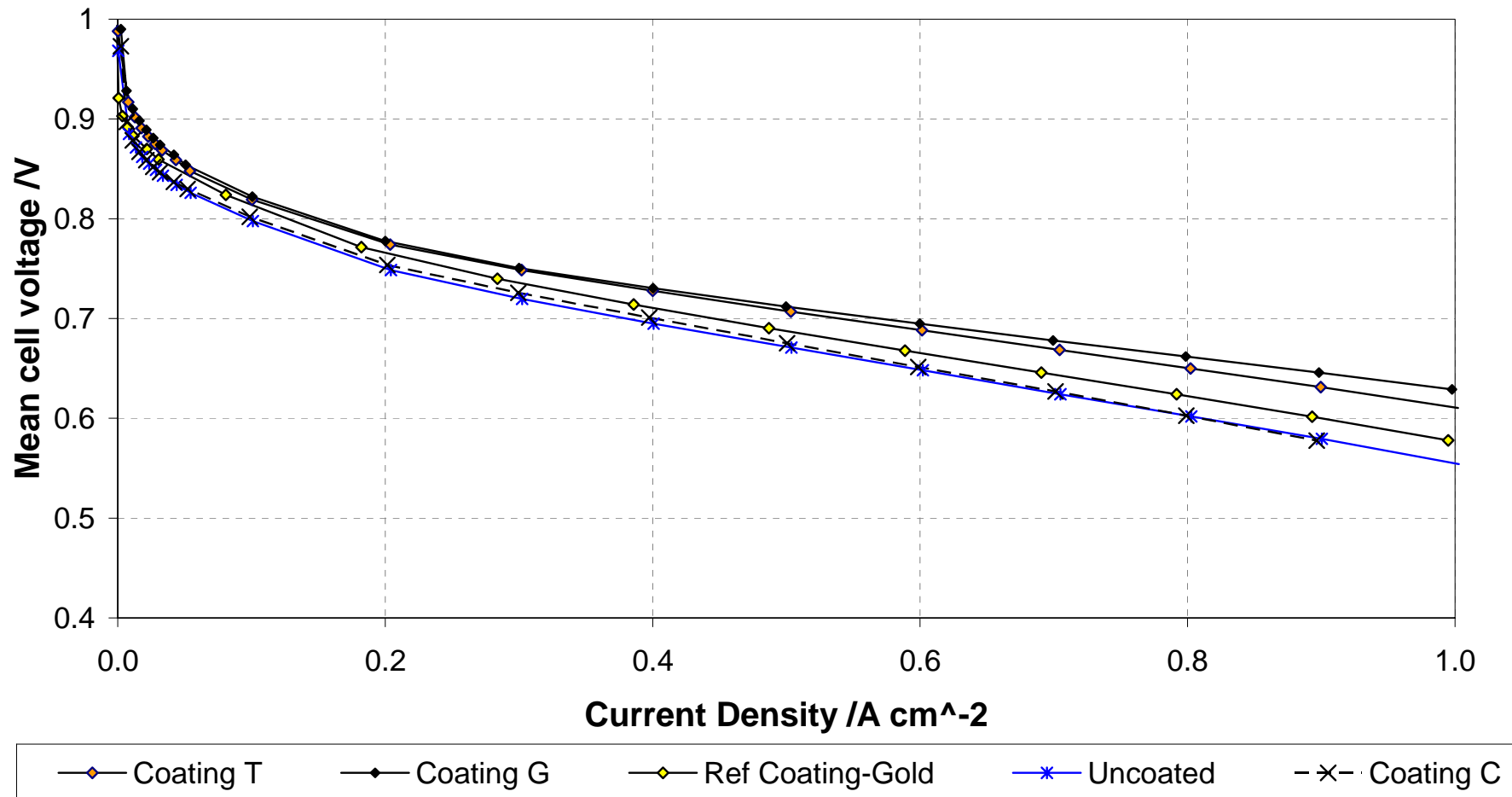
Bipolar Plate

Coated 0.6mm etched bipolar plates

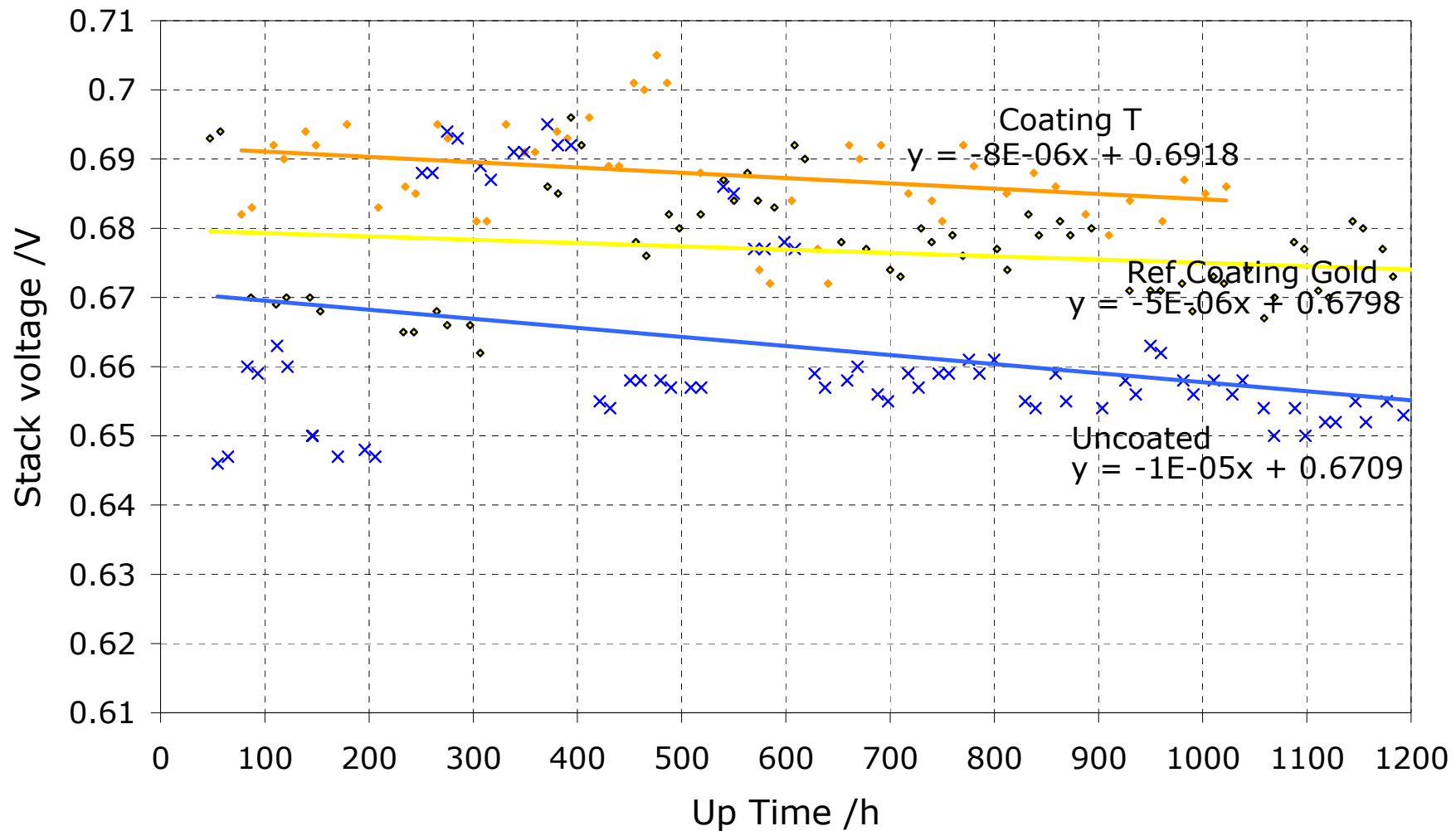


Bipolar Plate

20 cell stack - Coatings BasicPolar Comparison (after 1000hrs)



Influence of coating on durability in 20 Cell Stack



Summary

Bipolar plate need to have:

- High electrical conductivity
 - Low gas permeability
 - High corrosion resistance
 - Sufficiently strong
 - Have low thermal conductivity
 - Low cost
-
- MEA can be contaminated with Fe, Cr and Ni from metallic plates
-
- Coating such as noble metals, nitride- or carbide-based alloys can improve corrosion resistance and improve electrical conductivity
 - Methods such as CVD and PVD are commonly used to apply coatings
 - Selection of plate material will depend on target application