



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

Pipeline and  
Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration

**Welcome to the**

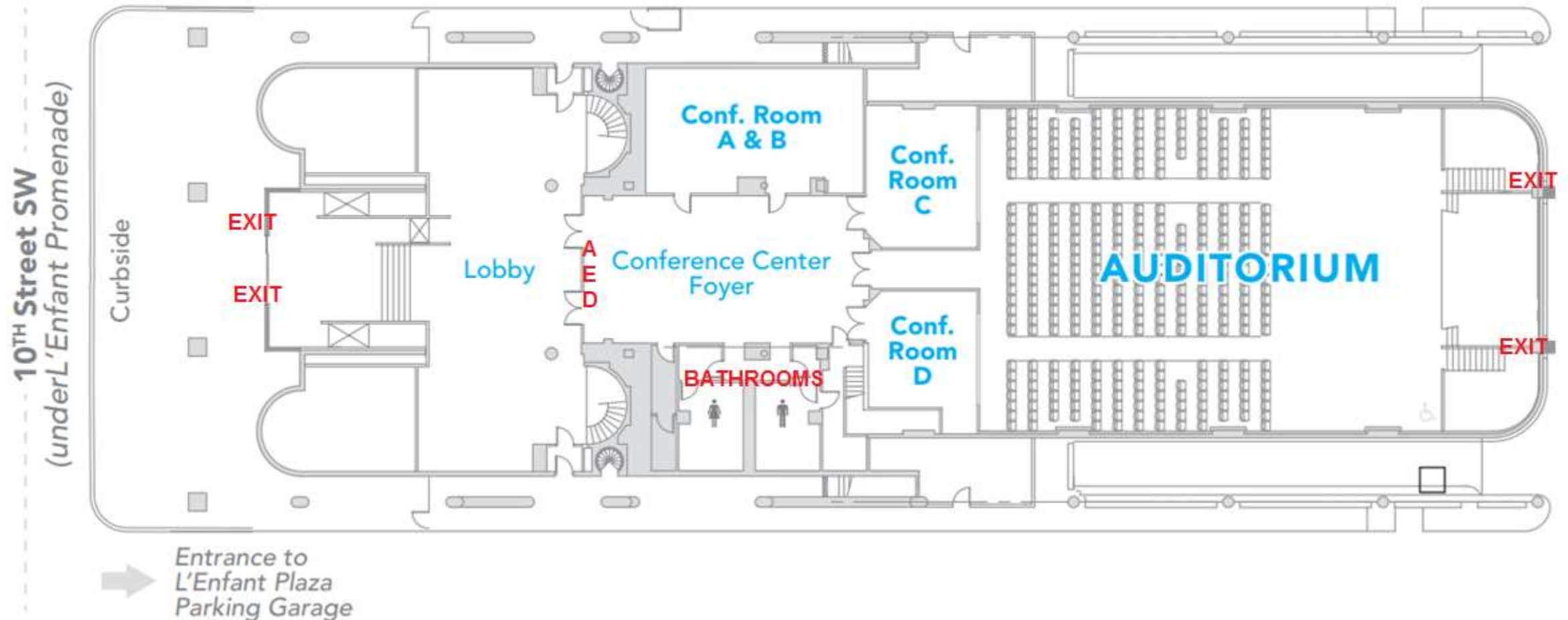
**U.S. Department of Transportation's**

**Office of Hazardous Materials Safety**

**Research & Development Forum**

# National Transportation Safety Board

420 10<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Washington DC 20594





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**Have a Question?**  
**Email: [hazmatresearch@dot](mailto:hazmatresearch@dot)**



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**Office of Hazardous Materials Safety**

**Research & Development Forum**

# Research and Development Office of Hazardous Materials Safety

**Rick Boyle**

**Office of Hazardous Materials Safety  
Research and Development Program**

**May 16, 2018**



# Overview

## Introduction

- Strategic Framework

## Program Assessment

- Strategic Planning
- Maturity Model

## Research Overview

- 2017 BAA and Ongoing Projects
- 2018 Acquisition Planning





# Mission Statement

To provide research, analyses and technical information needed to manage the public risk associated with hazardous material transportation; provide the analytical foundation for regulatory and outreach activities; enhance multi-modal enforcement initiatives; and provide alternative opportunities for training development.



# Strategic Goals

- Promote continuous safety improvement
- Invest in innovation
- Build greater public and stakeholder trust
- Cultivate organizational excellence and safety culture
- Pursue operational excellence in our processes and our data



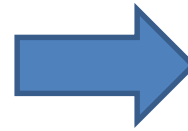
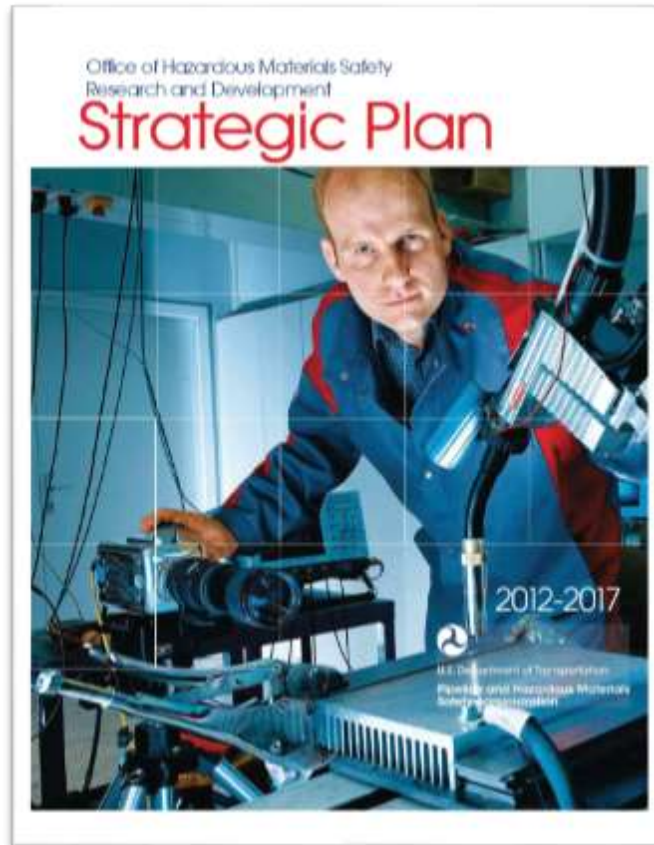


# Strategic Objectives/Actions

| Strategic Goals                                             | Strategic Objectives / Actions                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Promote continuous safety improvement                       | BAA Strategic Areas of Risk Assessment and Management and Technical Analysis                                         |
| Invest in innovation                                        | BAA Strategic Areas of Emerging Technology and Packaging Integrity                                                   |
| Build greater public and stakeholder trust                  | R&D Forum and Public Meetings; Cooperative research; Gap Analyses and Research Needs Statements; Website Development |
| Cultivate organizational excellence and safety culture      | Strategic Plan; Annual Modal Research Plan; SME and Contract Support                                                 |
| Pursue operational excellence in our processes and our data | Management Information System; SOP Development                                                                       |



# Strategic Planning



## **VEDA'S NEW AND IMPROVED STRATEGIC PLAN**

**2018 - 2023**



# Maturity Model

| Maturity Level        | Level 0: Absent                                                              | Level 1: Developing                                                                                                 | Level 2: Functioning                                                                                                                               | Level 3: Integrated                                                                                                                | Level 4: Optimizing                                                                                    |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Organization          | Informal, basic roles, responsibilities decentralized. Conceptual awareness. | Projects are sponsored, informal inventory of skills. Certain business drivers identified; tactical priorities set. | PMO established, roles and training needs are defined. Business-aligned vision defined; strategic priorities set.                                  | PMO active, RACI matrix defined; proactive skill development. Vision and strategy continually reviewed to track business strategy. | Optimal integration with business skills optimized. Periodic optimization of vision and strategy.      |
| Methods and Processes | Processes are unpredictable, poorly controlled, reactive.                    | Processes are planned, documented, performed, monitored, and controlled at the project level. Often reactive.       | Processes are well characterized and understood. Processes, standards, procedures, tools, etc. are defined at the organizational level. Proactive. | Processes are controlled using statistical and other quantitative techniques.                                                      | Process performance continually improved through incremental and innovative technological improvements |
| Program Operations    | Possible use of target-specific productivity tools                           | Disjointed projects; Disparate structure and localized efforts.                                                     | Discrete architecture defined                                                                                                                      | Architecture redefined and aligned with EA                                                                                         | Architecture embedded with EA; optimization                                                            |

# 2017 Broad Agency Announcement

BAA Development

Eva Rodezno

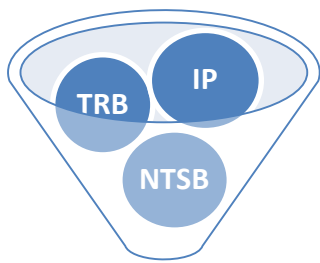
Evaluation of  
white papers

In 30 Minutes !

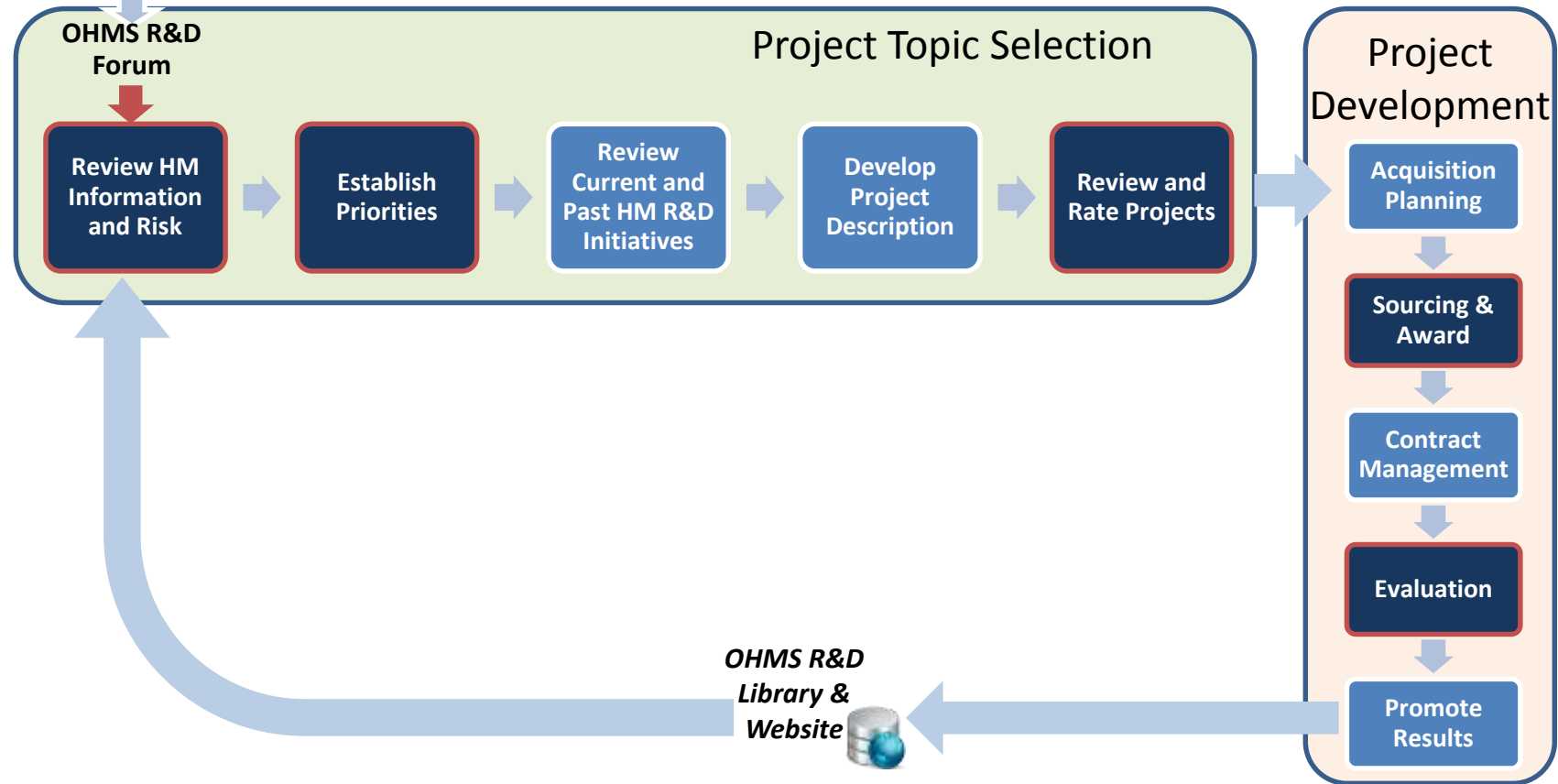
Evaluation of  
proposals

Selection and  
Contract Awards





# Research Planning Process



# 2018 Acquisition Planning

- Improve Scheduling/Incorporate Lessons Learned
- Expand/Refine Strategic Topic Areas
  - 2017 BAA Submissions; Modal Partner Programs
  - New Strategic Plan; New Forum Input
  - New Administration; New Budget
- Revise Submission Requirements
  - Problem identification
  - Outcome/Product Identification
  - Broaden response candidates
- Improve Evaluation/Prioritization
  - Include SME
  - Additional Assessment Criteria





# Questions?

**Rick Boyle**

**Office of Hazardous Materials Safety  
Research and Development Program**

**[RICK.BOYLE@DOT.GOV](mailto:RICK.BOYLE@DOT.GOV) -- 202-366-2993**





# HM-10(1): Current Hazardous Materials Transportation Research and Future Needs, Phase 2

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PHMSA OHMS 2018 R&D Forum

May 16<sup>th</sup> 2018



# Overview

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- **Project Scope**
- **Relevant Research Organizations**
- **Perceived Research Gap Areas**
- **Research Prioritization Framework**
- **Prioritized Projects**
- **Questions**

# Project Scope

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- Identify organizations conducting or sponsoring hazmat transportation-related research
- Identify recent, ongoing, and planned hazmat transportation-related research
- Organize by context and subject areas
- Identify future research needs
- Document gaps and overlaps and suggest research projects to fill the gaps
- Develop prioritization framework
- Prioritize the research projects

# Relevant Research Organizations

(1 of 3)

| <b>FEDERAL - DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY</b>                                                                      |  | <b># Projects</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Department of Energy                                                                                       |  | 2                 |
| Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Center for Transportation Analysis (CTA)                              |  | 2                 |
| Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL)                                                                  |  | 3                 |
| <b>FEDERAL - DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY</b>                                                           |  |                   |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)                                                                 |  | 7                 |
| Transportation Security Administration (TSA)                                                               |  | 2                 |
| <b>FEDERAL - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b>                                                              |  |                   |
| Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)                                                                      |  | 2                 |
| Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Office of Survey Programs                                       |  | 1                 |
| Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)                                                        |  | 13                |
| Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)                                                                      |  | 21                |
| Maritime Administration (MARAD)                                                                            |  | 1                 |
| Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS) |  | 51                |
| Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS)             |  | 139               |
| US Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM)                                                                     |  | 1                 |
| <b>FEDERAL - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY</b>                                                           |  |                   |
| Environmental Protection Agency Office of Emergency Management (EPA OEM)                                   |  | 3                 |

# Relevant Research Organizations

(2 of 3)

| INTERNATIONAL                                     | # Projects |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Transport Dangerous Goods Directorate (TDGD)      | 17         |
| STATES                                            |            |
| California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)  | 2          |
| Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA)         | 1          |
| National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL)     | 1          |
| INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS                             |            |
| Cargo Tank Risk Management Committee (CTRMC)      | 9          |
| SHIPPERS                                          |            |
| American Chemistry Council (ACC)                  | 1          |
| Chlorine Institute (CI)                           | 4          |
| E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company (DuPont)     | 3          |
| Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME)           | 9          |
| CARRIERS                                          |            |
| American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) | 5          |
| Association of American Railroads (AAR)           | 6          |
| RESPONSE                                          |            |
| International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)   | 2          |

# Relevant Research Organizations

(3 of 3)

| ACADEMIC/RESEARCH                                                                            | # Projects |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU APL)                                           | 4          |
| Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (PSC-TAMU) | 5          |
| McGill University                                                                            | 12         |
| McMaster University                                                                          | 10         |
| Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI/TAMU)                                                | 9          |
| Transportation Research Board (TRB)                                                          | 22         |
| University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign, RailTEC                                            | 3          |
| University of Kentucky/Kentucky Transportation Center (KTC)                                  | 1          |
| Vanderbilt University                                                                        | 9          |
| DHS UNIVERSITY CENTERS                                                                       |            |
| Maritime Security Center (MSC)                                                               | 12         |
| National Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE)                  | 4          |
| National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)            | 4          |

# Perceived Research Gap Areas

## ■ Cargo Packaging and Handling

- Safety and Reliability Features
- Data Development and Safety Testing

## ■ Emergency Planning and Response

- Guidance Development
- Education and Training
- Communication, Tracking, and Detection
- Planning and Commodity Flow Data
- Equipment

## ■ Materials and Equipment Testing

- Hazardous Material Characterization and Testing
- Package Lining and Corrosion Resistance
- Standards
- Monitoring and Inspection

## ■ Risk Analysis and Perception

- Hazards, Risks, and Mitigation
- Data Development
- Modeling Techniques
- Systems Approaches
- Risk Communication and Perception
- Hazmat Release Consequences

## ■ Emerging Materials and Technologies

- Batteries and Emerging Energy Products
- Automated and Connected Vehicles
- Technologies for Safety and Decision Making

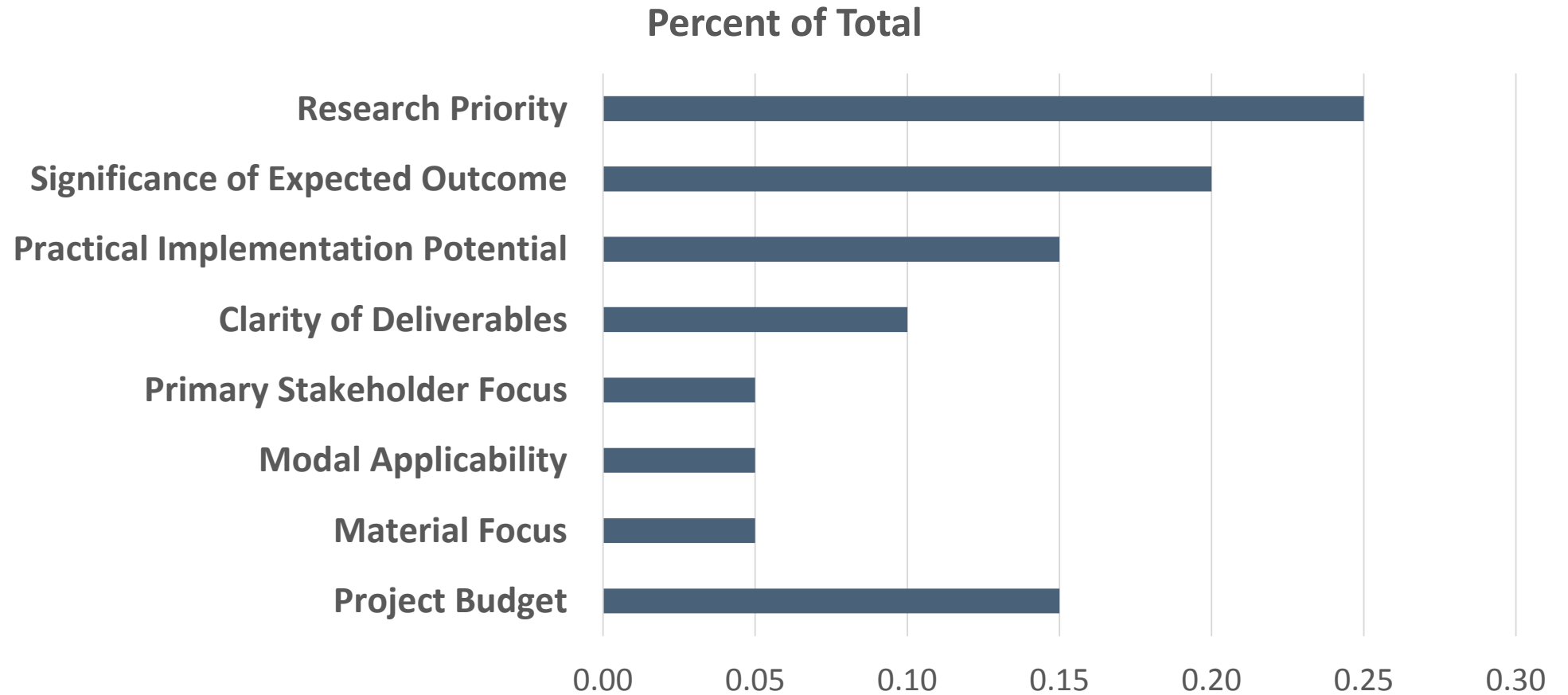
## ■ Operations and Infrastructure

## ■ Regulatory or Economic Considerations

## ■ Training and Education



# Research Prioritization Framework



# Prioritized Projects (1 of 3)

| Proposed Project                                                                                                                                                                            | Rank       |            |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | Excl. Cost | Incl. Cost | Using B/C |
| Use of Technology to Facilitate Multiple Stakeholder Communications and Information Exchange, Emergency Response Deployment, Decision-Making, and Community Emergency Response Preparedness | 1          | 7          | 11        |
| Best Practices for LNG Incident Response                                                                                                                                                    | 2          | 1          | 1         |
| Understanding Failure Rates of New and Reconditioned Hazmat Drums in Transportation                                                                                                         | 3          | 3          | 4         |
| Understanding Impact of Recycled Material Content on Failure Rates of Hazmat Containers                                                                                                     | 3          | 3          | 4         |
| Best Practices for Large Storage Battery Incident Response                                                                                                                                  | 3          | 2          | 3         |
| Advanced Technical Capabilities for Evaluation of Infrastructure Condition                                                                                                                  | 6          | 5          | 6         |
| Reducing Fall and Confined-Space Entry Risks to Workers through Technology Employed at Ground Level                                                                                         | 7          | 9          | 10        |
| Identification of Potential Improvements to the Emergency Response Guidebook's Guidelines for Chlorine Incident Protective Distances                                                        | 8          | 6          | 2         |
| Understanding and Preparing for Changes in Lithium Battery Uses, Characteristics, and Commercial and Non-Commercial Transportation                                                          | 8          | 7          | 7         |
| Methodology and Criteria for Vibration Testing of Hazmat Packages Under Conditions Representative of All Modes of Their Transport                                                           | 10         | 11         | 12        |
| Understanding the Performance of Plastic Composite Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs) Under Conditions Representative of All Modes of Their Transport                                      | 11         | 10         | 8         |

# Prioritized Projects (2 of 3)

| Proposed Project                                                                                                                                           | Rank       |            |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                                            | Excl. Cost | Incl. Cost | Using B/C |
| Methodology and Criteria for Service Life Guidelines for Bulk and Non-Bulk Hazmat Packages                                                                 | 12         | 11         | 9         |
| Identifying Sources and Types of Undeclared Hazmat and Associated Mitigation Strategies                                                                    | 13         | 13         | 13        |
| Improved Methods to Assess Cost-Effectiveness of Various Rail Risk Mitigation Strategies to Realize Maximum Return on Investment                           | 14         | 14         | 15        |
| Identification of New Steels or Steel Properties for Tank Car Construction to Enhance Puncture Resistance                                                  | 15         | 25         | 24        |
| Development of an Overarching Structure for Assessing and Managing Risks through the Hazmat Transportation Supply Chain                                    | 15         | 22         | 21        |
| Guidance on Reporting and Investigation of Road Accident and Hazmat Incidents for States, including Training Recommendations                               | 17         | 15         | 14        |
| Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Current Emergency Response Training Methods and Identification of Improvement Opportunities in Development and Delivery | 18         | 17         | 18        |
| Expansion of the Emergency Response Guidebook to Include Guidelines for Additional Materials                                                               | 19         | 16         | 17        |
| Advances in the Automatic Detection of Leaks in Transport Equipment                                                                                        | 20         | 29         | 29        |

# Prioritized Projects (3 of 3)

| Proposed Project                                                                                                                              | Rank       |            |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
|                                                                                                                                               | Excl. Cost | Incl. Cost | Using B/C |
| Exploration of Advances in Self-Sealing Technology and Materials to Reduce Consequences of Transportation Equipment Breaches                  | 21         | 23         | 25        |
| Testing Methods and Criteria for the Classification of a Material as a Corrosive Solid                                                        | 21         | 20         | 20        |
| New Materials Research on Transportation Equipment Coatings and Linings                                                                       | 23         | 25         | 28        |
| Improvements in Methods to Test and Classify Hazmat                                                                                           | 23         | 30         | 30        |
| Understanding the Potential Uses, Risks, and Risk Mitigation for Hazmat Transportation by Autonomous Vehicle                                  | 23         | 19         | 19        |
| Understanding the Risks Associated with Unit Train Transport of Chlorine, LPG, and Other Materials                                            | 26         | 18         | 16        |
| Methods for Improving Acquisition and Use of Hazmat Commodity Flow Data                                                                       | 27         | 21         | 22        |
| Improved Guidelines for Classifying and Packaging High Net Explosive Weight Commodities (such as Munitions) for Transportation                | 28         | 23         | 23        |
| Improved Understanding of Anhydrous Ammonia Release Behavior through Large-Scale Release Testing                                              | 29         | 31         | 31        |
| Understanding the Risks Associated with Transport of Anhydrous Ammonia and Other Agri-Business Chemicals and Associated Mitigation Strategies | 29         | 27         | 26        |
| Estimating Consequences from Multiple-Material Releases in Transportation Incidents                                                           | 29         | 27         | 26        |



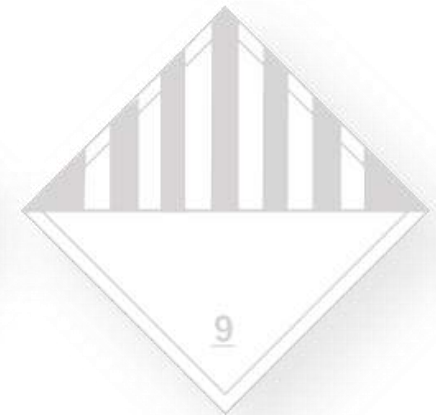
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# BREAK



# Strategic Planning for OHMS Research & Development Program



Veda Bharath, PhD  
Physical Scientist, R&D Branch  
Engineering and Research Division



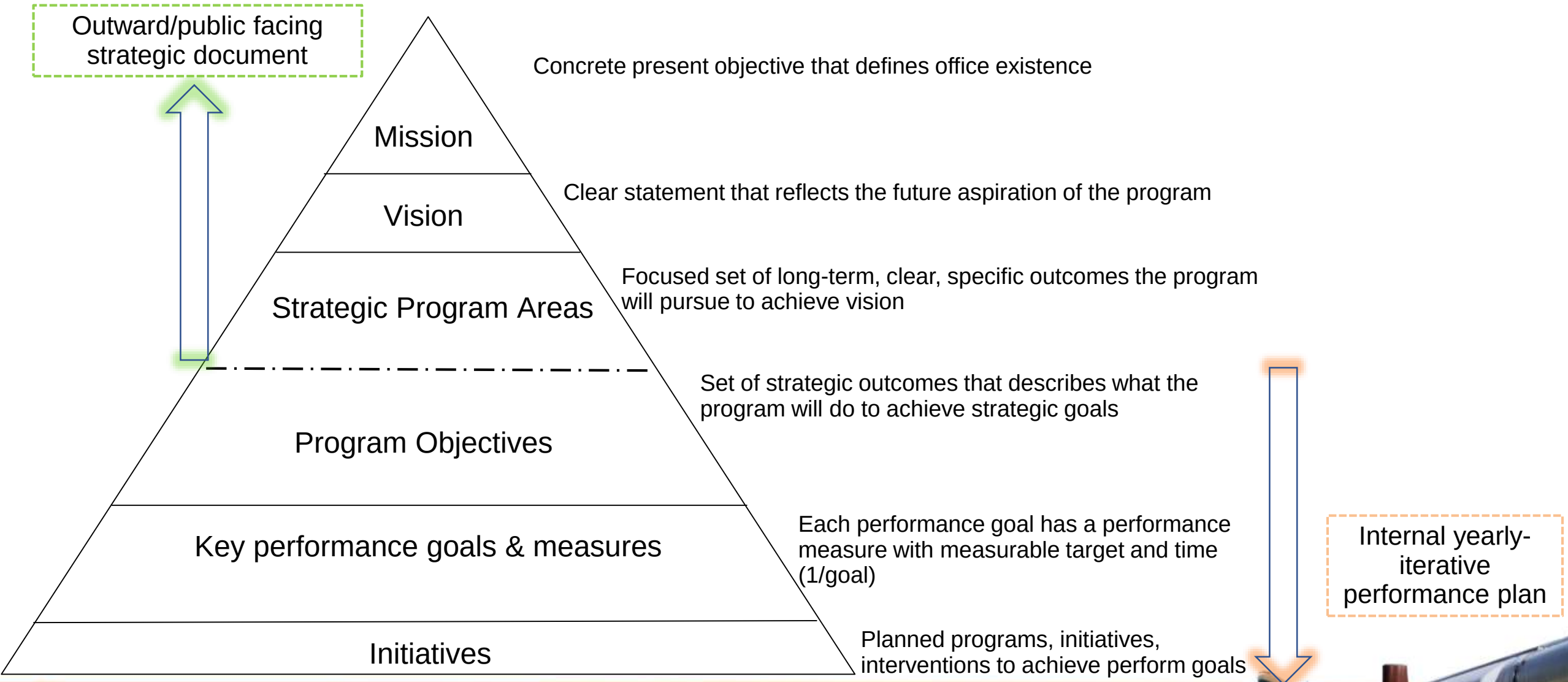
# Outline

- Strategic outline
- Current state of program
- Strength-Weakness-Opportunity-Threats (SWOT) analysis
- Summary and next steps





# Strategic Building Blocks





# R&D Program – Current State

## R&D progress:

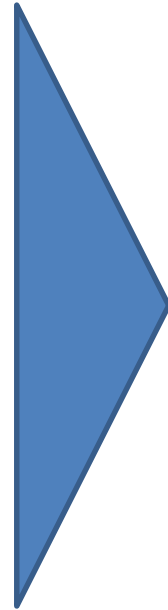
- All R&D project management and research interaction is captured in a single system
  - Share point based MIS
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) established to provide program framework and execution
- Defining program and project evaluation criteria
- Addition of staff (FTEs) for key roles in the program
- Planning documents and program accomplishments
- Obligate funds
  - Larger project base for execution (BAA)
  - Alternative spend mechanisms:
    - Innovation centers/Technology Accelerators
    - Joint R&D multi-year projects
- Gather input and feedback from all sources (process options)



# R&D Program Areas

## Current OHMS Program Areas

- Package Integrity
- Human Factors
- Technical Analysis to Aid Risk Assessments
- Risk Management and Mitigation
- Emerging Technologies



## Proposed OHMS Program Areas

- Package Integrity
- Technical Analysis to Aid Risk Assessments (human factors)
- Risk Management and Mitigation
- Emerging Technologies

BAA

Research  
Project  
Emphasis

Staff  
Development  
Focus

***OHMS R&D Program Areas are based on PHMSA Program Areas***



# S

## Strengths

- Moderate budget
- **Strong technical expertise**
- **Good relationship with stakeholders, intermodal partners, other government agencies**
- Continued international partnerships
- Robust support functions: contracting and finance
- **Good status of current efforts: BAAs, seminar series, R&D forum**

# W

## Weaknesses

- **Low Contract Officer Representative (COR) ratio**
- Slow contracting time for some types of contracts
- **Insufficient resources to promote and expand the R&D program (outreach)**
- **Low institutional understanding of R&D, succession planning**
- **Missing functions, e.g., advisory board**
- Few opportunities for R&D specific training
- Clear bounds for R&D relative to other modes

# O

## Opportunities

- **Expand: R&D forum & other outreach**
- **Leveraging other governmental R&D efforts via collaboration or technical input**
- Interagency group memberships: IAPG, FIMaR, and similar
- **Diversity of research areas**
- Increased organizational involvement
- Updated regulations and guidance
- Increased intermodal involvement, e.g. NHTSA, FAA, FMCSA, FRA
- **Increased Executive engagement**

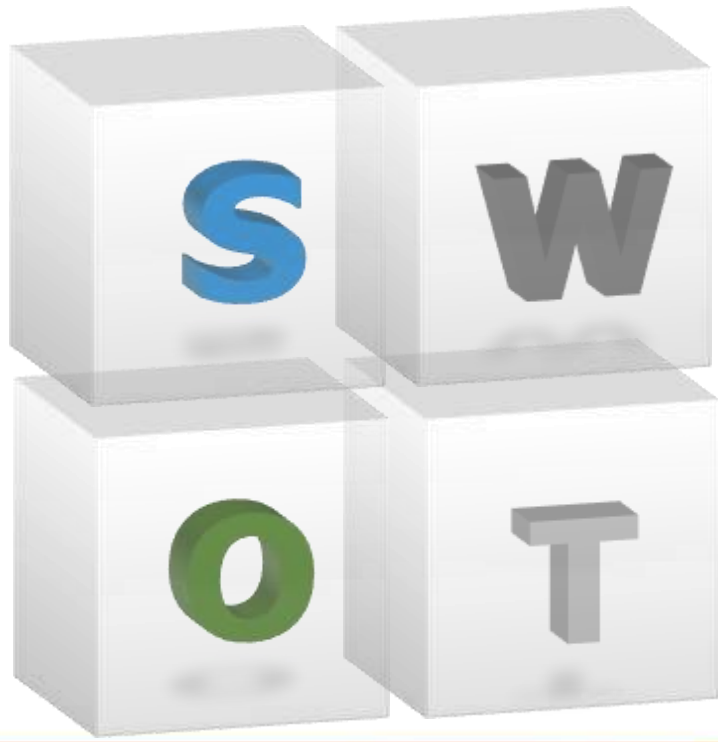
# T

## Threats

- Transitions make certain efforts difficult leading to low program performance
- **Growing list of approving authorities in chain**
- **Speed of awarding contracts can be too slow, putting budgets at risk**
- **Uncertainty with budgets puts some initiatives in jeopardy**
- **Project management falls to the few who are CORs; lack of robust PM resources**
- Travel Burden - travel is integral to R&D projects, in particular start and close-out.



# SWOT Summary



- While the OHMS R&D program has grown and improved, there are opportunities to continue improving
- Need to expand supplementary functions, including:
  - project management
  - program robustness (review board and increased outreach)
  - travel burden
  - training/succession planning
- Contracting remains slow due to the increased number of players required for project approval
- Growth of the R&D budget would expand its presence and positively affect the overall organization



## R&D Program – Next Steps

Follow on meeting with R&D leadership to determine course, path adjustments, timelines and approval process. Findings and feedback will determine initial strategic plan and program structure.

- **Phase 1: commencement of more granularity and subsequent planning steps – Strategic outline**
- **Phase 2: inform R&D community of updated processes, findings, and integrate with Forum objectives – get feedback**
- **Phase 3: Review of information, interface with leadership, and update of strategic plan document**





# Thank you

**Please provide feedback to us:**

-  [eva.rodezno@dot.gov](mailto:eva.rodezno@dot.gov) - Eva
-  [rick.boyle@dot.gov](mailto:rick.boyle@dot.gov) - Rick
-  [satyaveda.Bharath@dot.gov](mailto:satyaveda.Bharath@dot.gov) - Veda
-  <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/research-and-development/phmsa-research-and-development>



# Appendix





## Strength Weakness Opportunities Threats (SWOT) Analysis

**Purpose:** This analysis was executed to determine the gaps in the current program. It will also inform the areas for improvement and performance measures to address these deficiencies.

The former strategic plan stopped at performance goals and did not reflect the supporting functions and metrics to realize the goals and contribute to the Vision.



# PHMSA Development of R&D BAA



# **OHMS 2017 Broad Agency Announcement Status**

OHMS R&D Forum  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Eva Rodezno, R&D, OHMS



# BAA Basics

## BAA 4 STAGE PROCESS



# BAA Topic Areas

## Risk Management:

- Natural gas hydrate packaging
- Shock & impact data for lithium ion batteries (LiBs)
- Improve packaging (mechanical, thermal resistance)
- Mitigating HM packaging rupture

## Emerging Technologies:

- Exploring the use of UAVs for HM transport
- Smart cities & HM incidents
- Risk analysis of transporting LiBs
- Risk mitigation of energy products transportation

## Package Integrity:

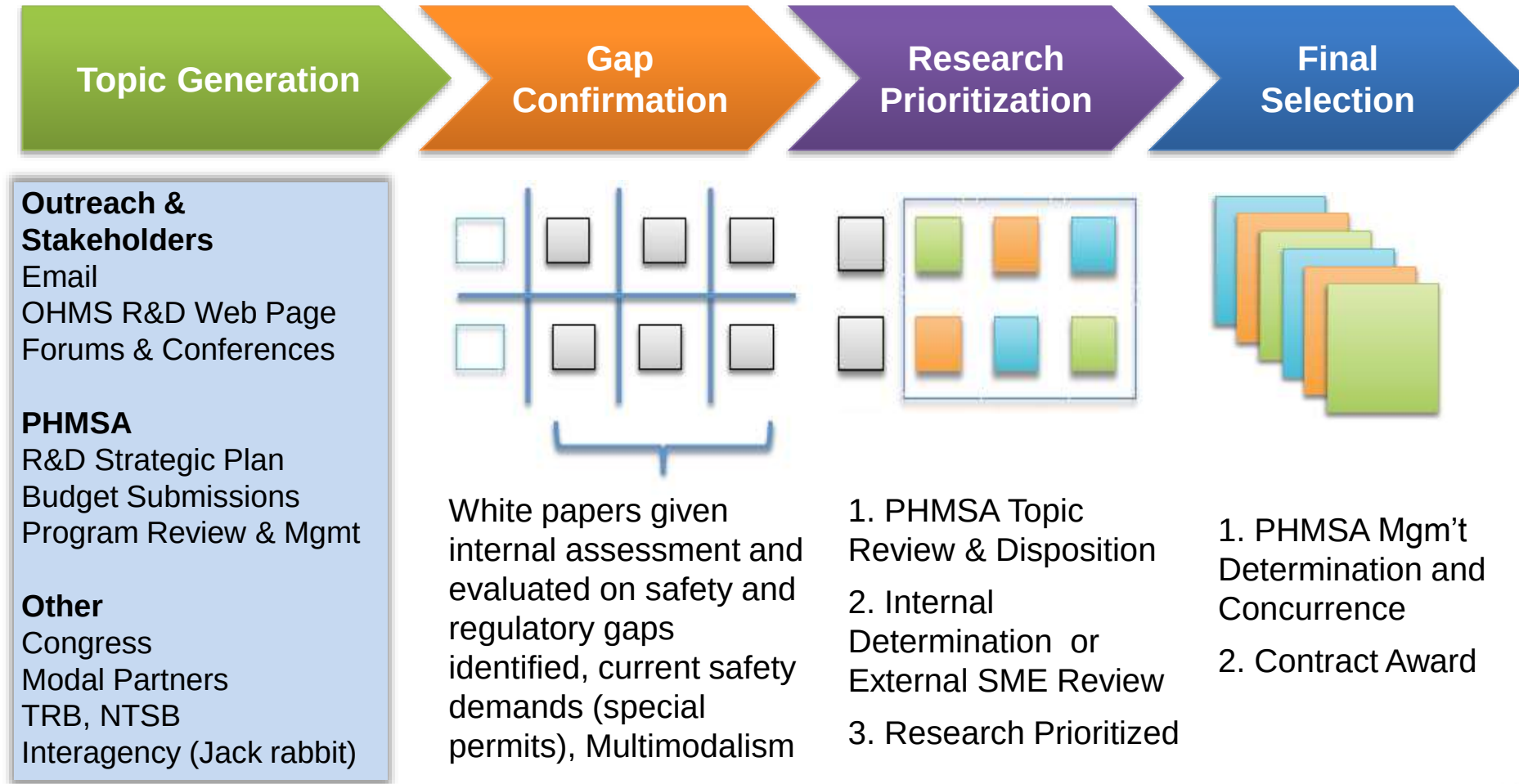
- Infectious waste byproduct packaging standard
- Standards for novel materials in bulk packaging
- Standards for non-bulk packaging
- New materials for packaging

## Technical Analysis for Risk Assessments:

- Spill model for LNG
- Classification of damaged LiBs
- Classification of polymerizing materials
- Classification of biofuels



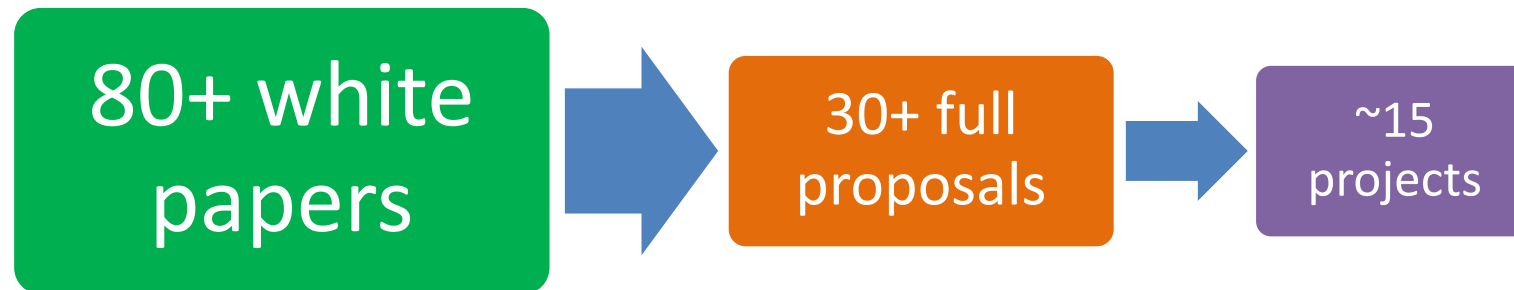
# 2017 Broad Agency Announcement





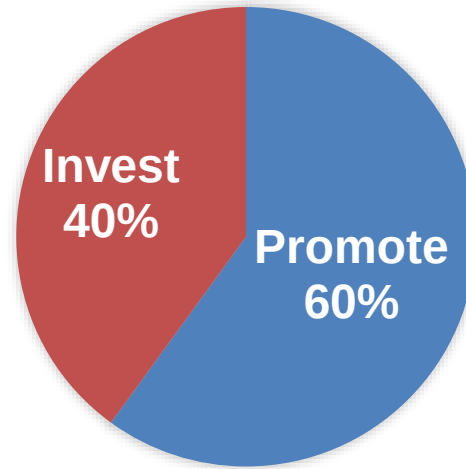
## 2017 BAA Contract Status

- OHMS received 80+ white papers totaling \$39M
- 30+ white papers accepted and full proposals requested Sept 2017
- Approximately 15 full proposals accepted, totaling \$7M
- Final proposals selected March 2018
- 2-year funded projects





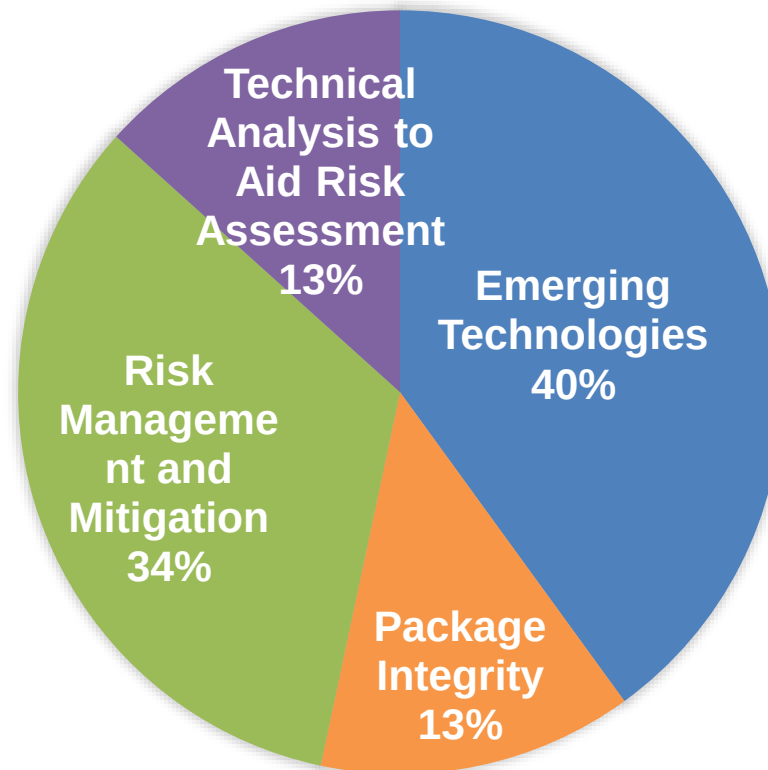
## Selected BAA Proposals & PHMSA Goals



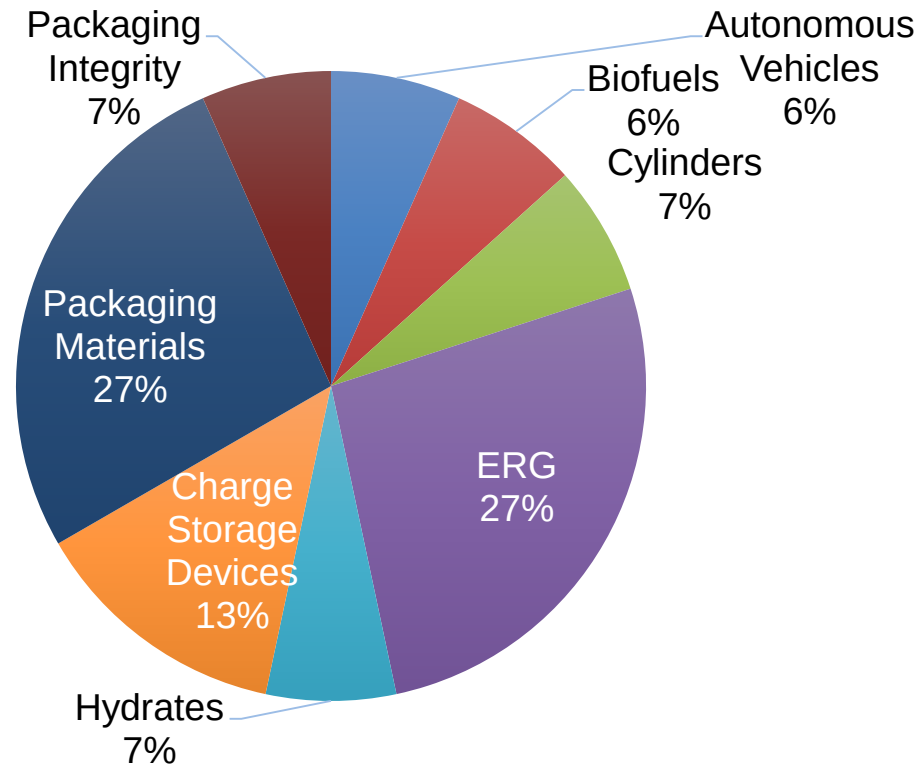
- **Promote continuous improvement in safety performance**
- **Invest in safety innovation to become more proactive and forward-looking**
- Build stakeholder and public trust
- Cultivate organizational excellence and safety culture
- Pursue operational excellence



# Selected BAA Proposals & OHMS Goals



# Selected BAA Proposals & Technology Type



## Lessons Learned from 2017 BAA

- Need to do a better communicate our broad area of need
- Should emphasize the need for experimental work where it is most appropriate
- Assign a general priority with each topic area
- Investigate faster acquisition strategies



## Summary

- ~15 proposals chosen, totaling \$7M
- Heaviest hitters:
  - ERG
  - Packaging Material
  - Charge storage devices
- Too early to predict when next BAA will be announced
- OHMS will likely format and conduct next BAA differently



**Thank you!**

- <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/research-and-development/hazmat/research-and-development-branch>
- [eva.rodezno@dot.gov](mailto:eva.rodezno@dot.gov)
- [rick.boyle@dot.gov](mailto:rick.boyle@dot.gov)



# Lithium Battery Safety: Failure Prevention and Mitigation During Transport

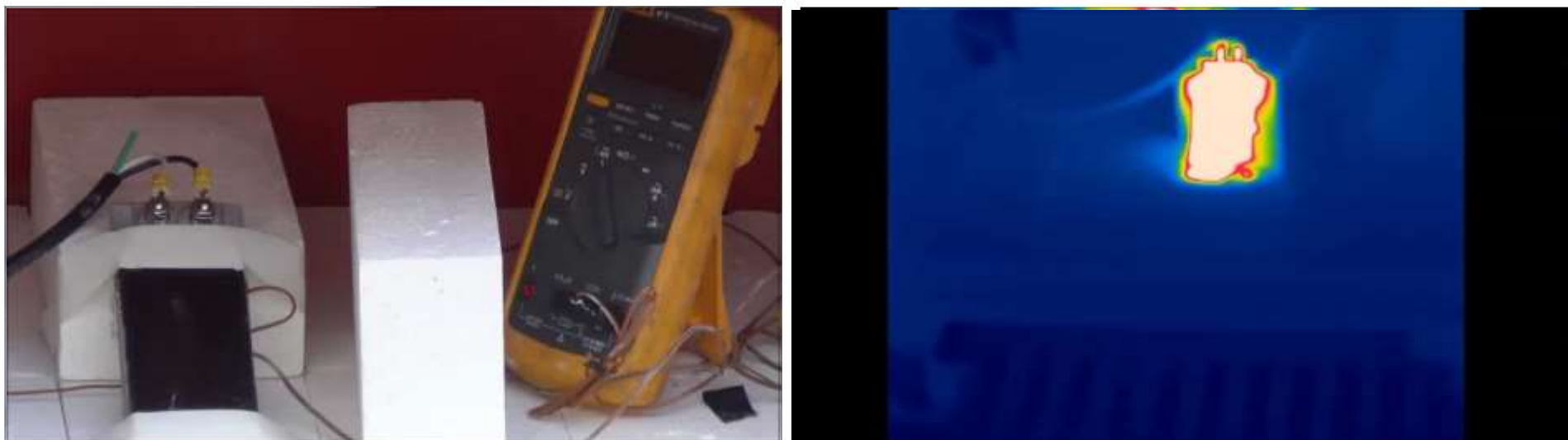


*Presenter:*

*Jonathan Ko, PhD  
Lithium Battery Research Team  
Advanced Power and Energy Branch*



# High Temperature Abuse of Commercial Cell Phone



- Thermal runaway occurred with temperatures exceeding 380°C.
- Battery vented, releasing flammable solvent.

# High Temperature Abuse 500Wh Battery Pack



# Hazards of Lithium Batteries

- Batteries are stored chemical energy
- **Controlled** release of this energy provides electrical power in the form of current and voltage
- **Uncontrolled** release of this energy can result in venting, fire, release of toxic materials, shrapnel, high pressure events, deflagration (with or without report) and many combinations thereof

# Navy's Lithium Battery Safety Program

- Lithium batteries provide substantial increases in both gravimetric and volumetric energy density over other commercial battery types
- Seven personal injuries were reported from 1976-1983, including one death
- DoD issued a policy stating that lithium battery hazards would have to be managed if the technology was going to be utilized
- All lithium batteries used by Navy/Marine Corps personnel must be approved for use through Navy's Lithium Battery Safety Program
- NSWC Carderock is a Technical Agent of this Program, providing technical expertise in lithium battery safety to the Navy and Marine Corps

# Lithium Batteries and the DoT PHMSA Mission

## Mission & Goals

Our mission is to protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of energy and other hazardous materials that are essential to our daily lives.



U.S. Department of Transportation

**PHMSA**

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration



# Lithium Battery Priorities for DoD and DoT PHMSA

## Mission & Goals

Our mission is to protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of hazardous materials that are essential to our daily lives.

**Hazard Identification and Prevention**



**Characterizing Battery Failure Mechanisms**

**Internal short mechanisms relevant to transportation**

**Hazard Mitigation**



**Early Failure Detection  
+  
Containment**

**Diagnostic technologies for advanced notice of failures**

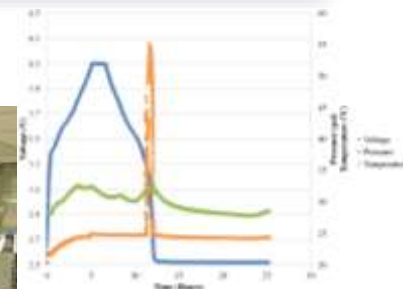
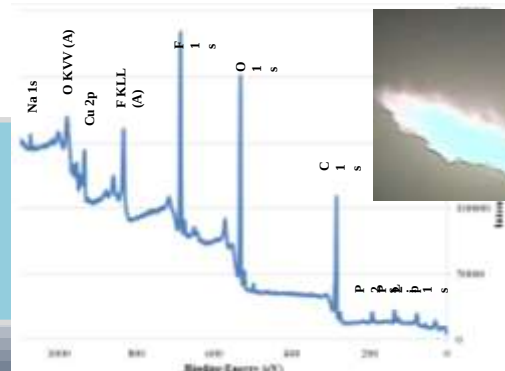
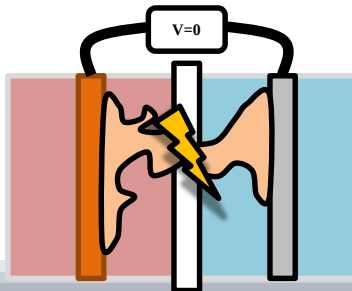
# Hazard Identification and Prevention

## Lithium Battery Failure Mechanisms

The transportation industry remains vulnerable to occurrences of low probability, high impact latent cell defects that can trigger internal short circuits in the absence of an associated hazard event. Understanding delayed cell failure mechanisms will inform future protections against failure.

### Objectives:

- Examine onset of lithium plating, condition of the SEI layer, and copper dissolution thresholds in lithium ion batteries
- Provide mechanism-specific indicators relevant to sequence of events and root cause failure of lithium battery related transportation incidents





# Approach

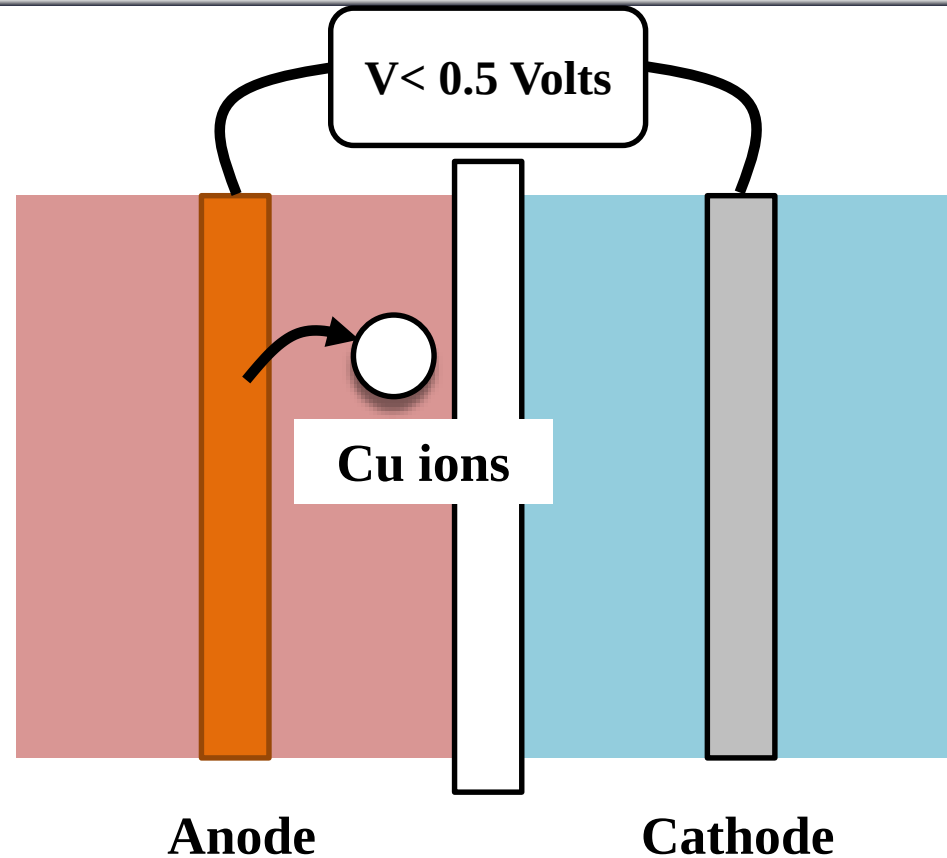
- Lithium-ion batteries are used in a variety of applications.
  - These batteries can sit unused for long periods of time and are expected to perform safely as part of multi-cell packs.
  - As a result, overdischarge is one failure mechanism of interest.
- To address concerns about overdischarge and subsequent charge on lithium-ion battery safety:
  - Large format lithium-ion cells were disassembled in overdischarged and “healthy” states.
  - X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) was used to:
    - Measure copper dissolution, migration, and re-precipitation on electrode surfaces.
    - Investigate the SEI layer on the anode

# Copper Dissolution

- Copper dissolution can occur when the potential of the anode vs.  $\text{Li}^+/\text{Li}$  is approximately 3.4 Volts [1].

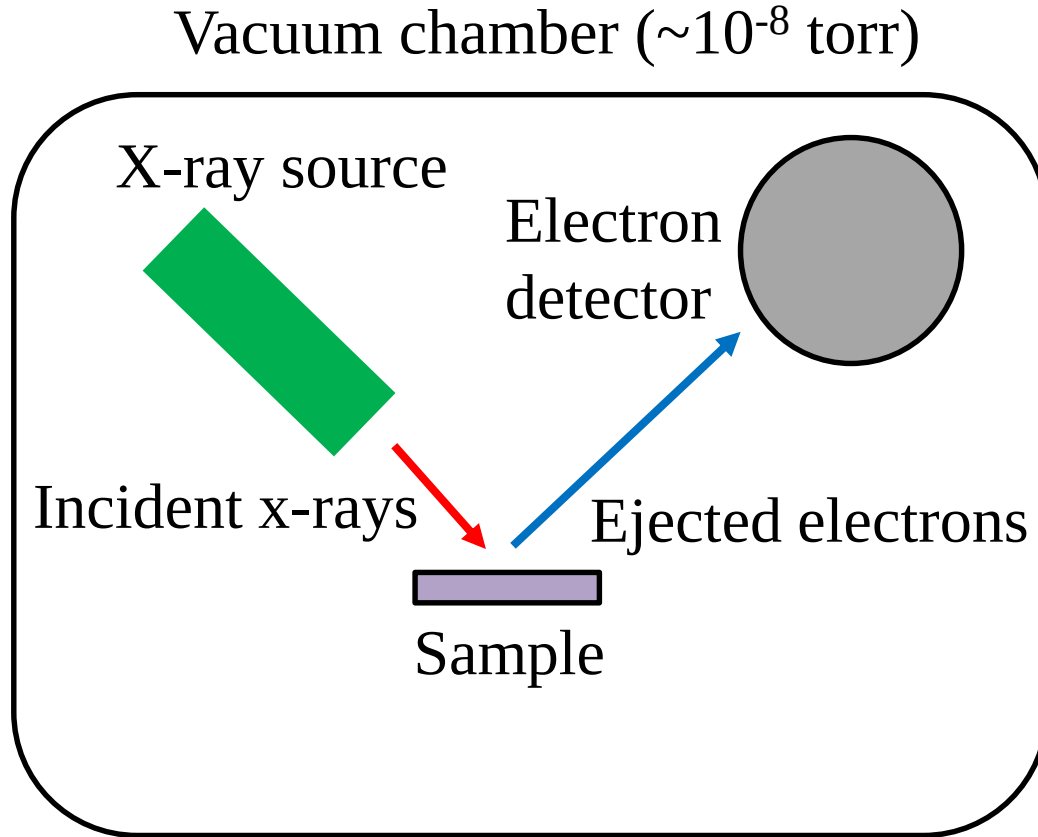
- In a full cell, this corresponds to a cell voltage approximately 0.5 Volts or below, depending on cathode chemistry and anode/cathode active material ratios.

- Copper dissolution and migration has been studied in beaker cells [2-5] and small-format lithium-ion cells [6].



1. S.T. Myung et al. *Journal of Materials Chemistry*, Vol 21 (2011), pp. 9891-9911
2. M. Zhao et al., Vol. 147 (8) (2000) pp. 2874-2879.
3. M. Zhao et al., *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, Vol. 147 (11) (2000) pp. 3983-3988.
4. M. Zhao et al., *Electrochimica Acta*, Vol. 49 (2004) pp. 683-689.
5. M. Zhao et al., *Electrochimica Acta*, Vol. 49 (2004) pp. 677-681.
6. H. Maleki and J. N. Howard, *Journal of Power Sources*, Vol. 160 (2006) pp.1395-1402.

# X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy



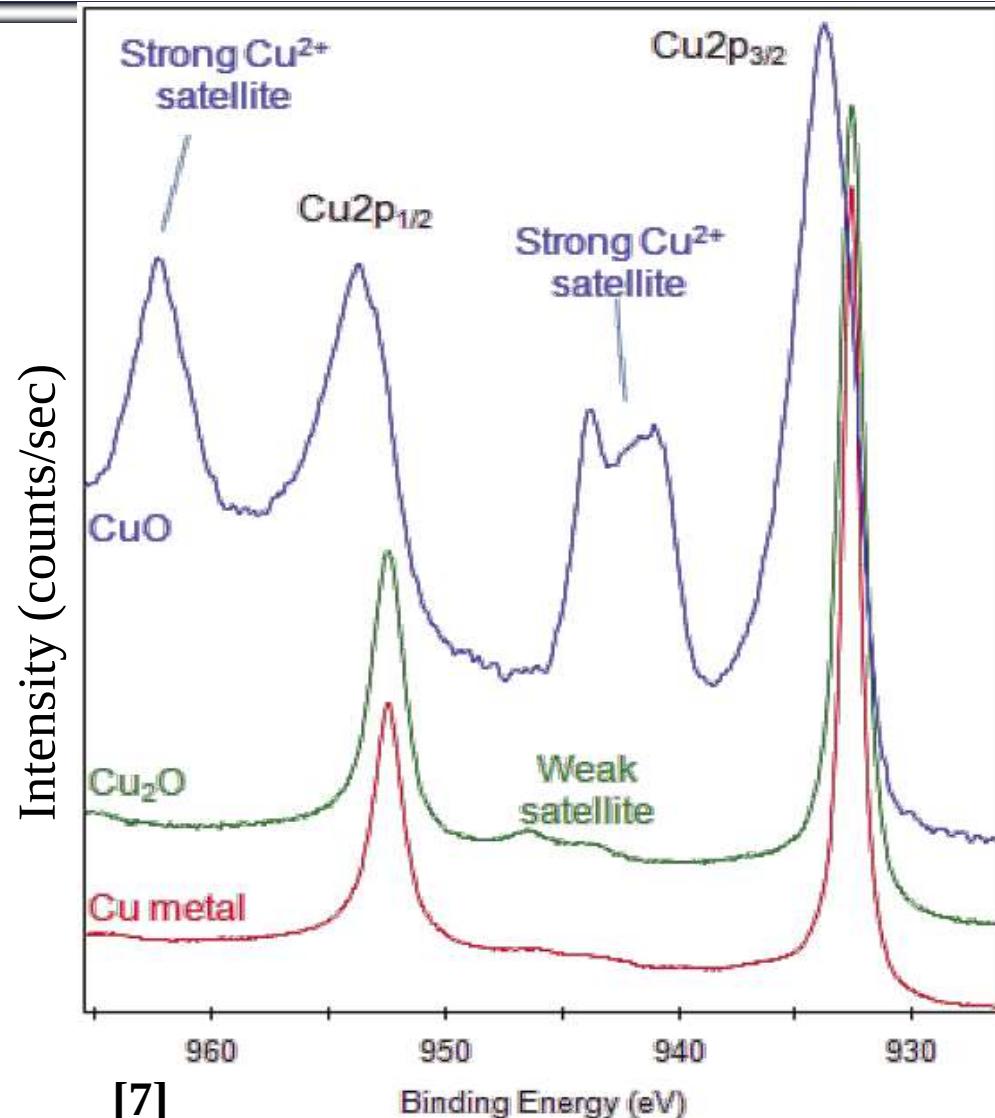
- XPS is a surface analysis technique
  - Provides elemental and chemical state information
  - Combined with depth profiling (Argon/C60 sputtering) gives concentration as a function of depth from the surface

$$BE = h\nu - KE$$

Known x-ray energy

Kinetic energy measured by detector

# Sample XPS Spectra - Copper



- XPS measurements provide a reading of peak intensity vs. binding energy.
  - Differences in the measured spectra allows for the identification of unknown compounds.

| Species           | Binding Energy (eV) | FWHM (eV) |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Cu                | 932.5               | 1.1       |
| Cu <sub>2</sub> O | 932.5               | 1.2       |
| CuO               | 933.8               | 2.9       |

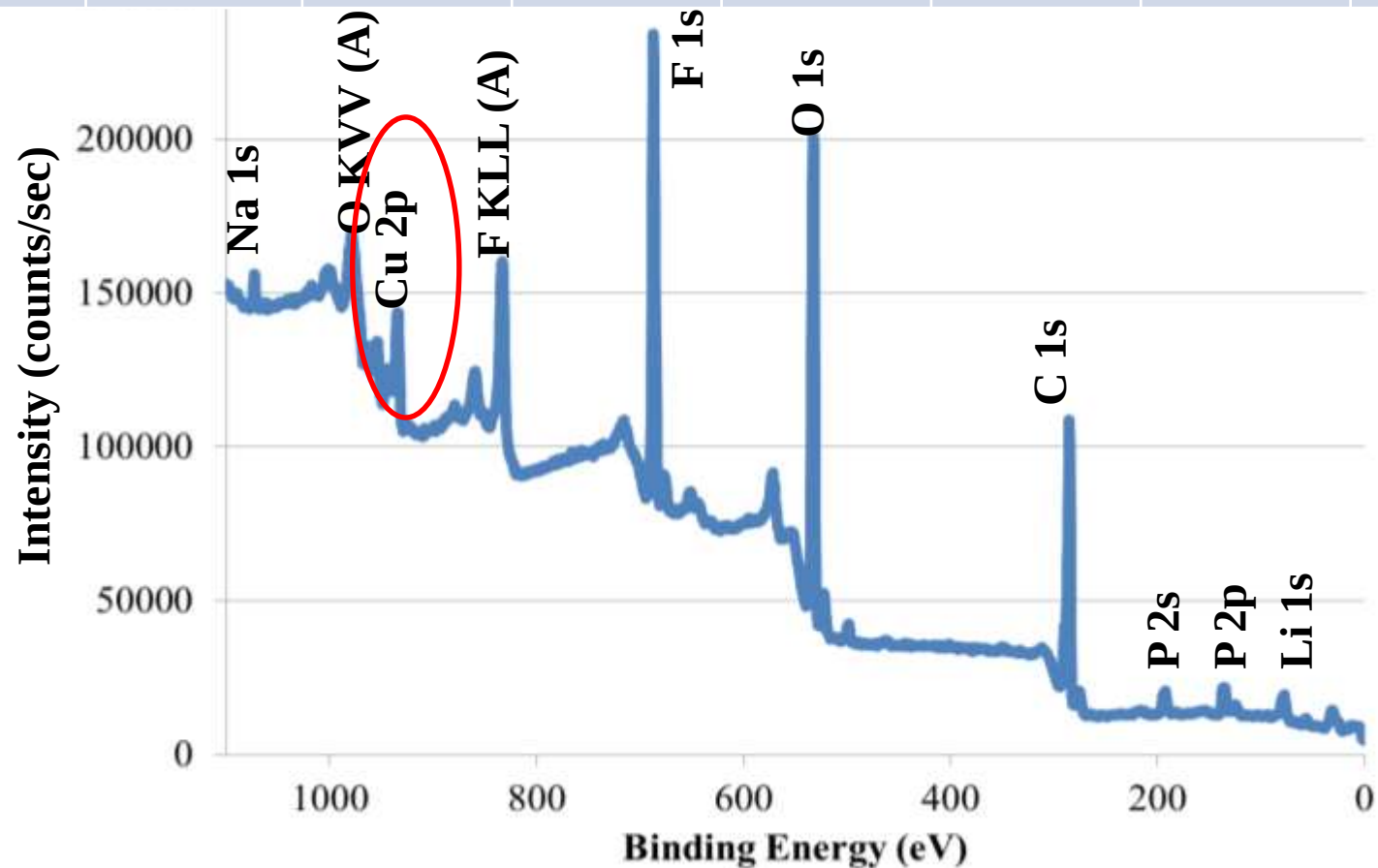
# XPS of 2.5 Volt cell

|                        | Anode (Atm%) |        |          | Cathode (Atm%) |        |          |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|----------|----------------|--------|----------|
| Element                | Exterior     | Middle | Interior | Exterior       | Middle | Interior |
| Li / 1s                | 21.3         | 23.4   | 22.3     | 11.1           | 7.7    | 11.6     |
| C / 1s                 | 33.5         | 26.3   | 27.3     | 40.9           | 42.8   | 38.8     |
| O / 1s                 | 28.5         | 23.5   | 23.4     | 12.9           | 13.2   | 12.8     |
| F / 1s                 | 14.3         | 23.5   | 23.7     | 33.9           | 34.9   | 35.2     |
| Na / 1s                | 0.6          | 1.1    | 0.9      | 0.4            | 0.6    | 0.4      |
| P / 2p                 | 1.8          | 2.3    | 2.4      | 0.8            | 0.9    | 1.2      |
| Cu / 2p <sub>3/2</sub> | 0            | 0      | 0.1*     | 0              | 0      | 0        |

\*Some of the copper current collector may have been exposed, resulting in a very weak signal.

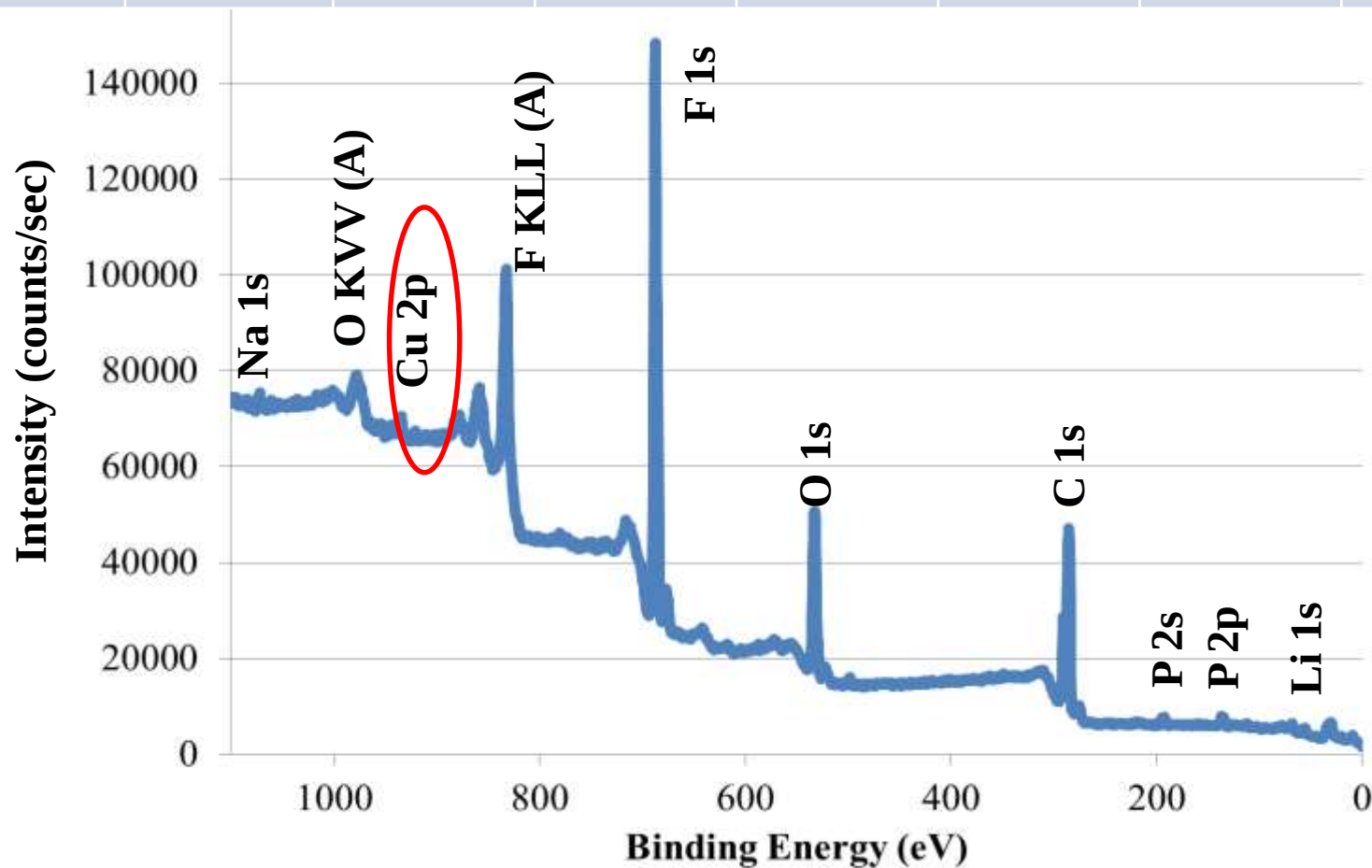
# XPS Anode Exterior (0 Volt cell)

| Element  | Li / 1s | C / 1s | O / 1s | F / 1s | Na / 1s | P / 2p | Cu / 2p <sub>3/2</sub> |
|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|------------------------|
| Atomic % | 9.9     | 38.2   | 25.2   | 19.6   | 1.1     | 2.7    | 3.3                    |



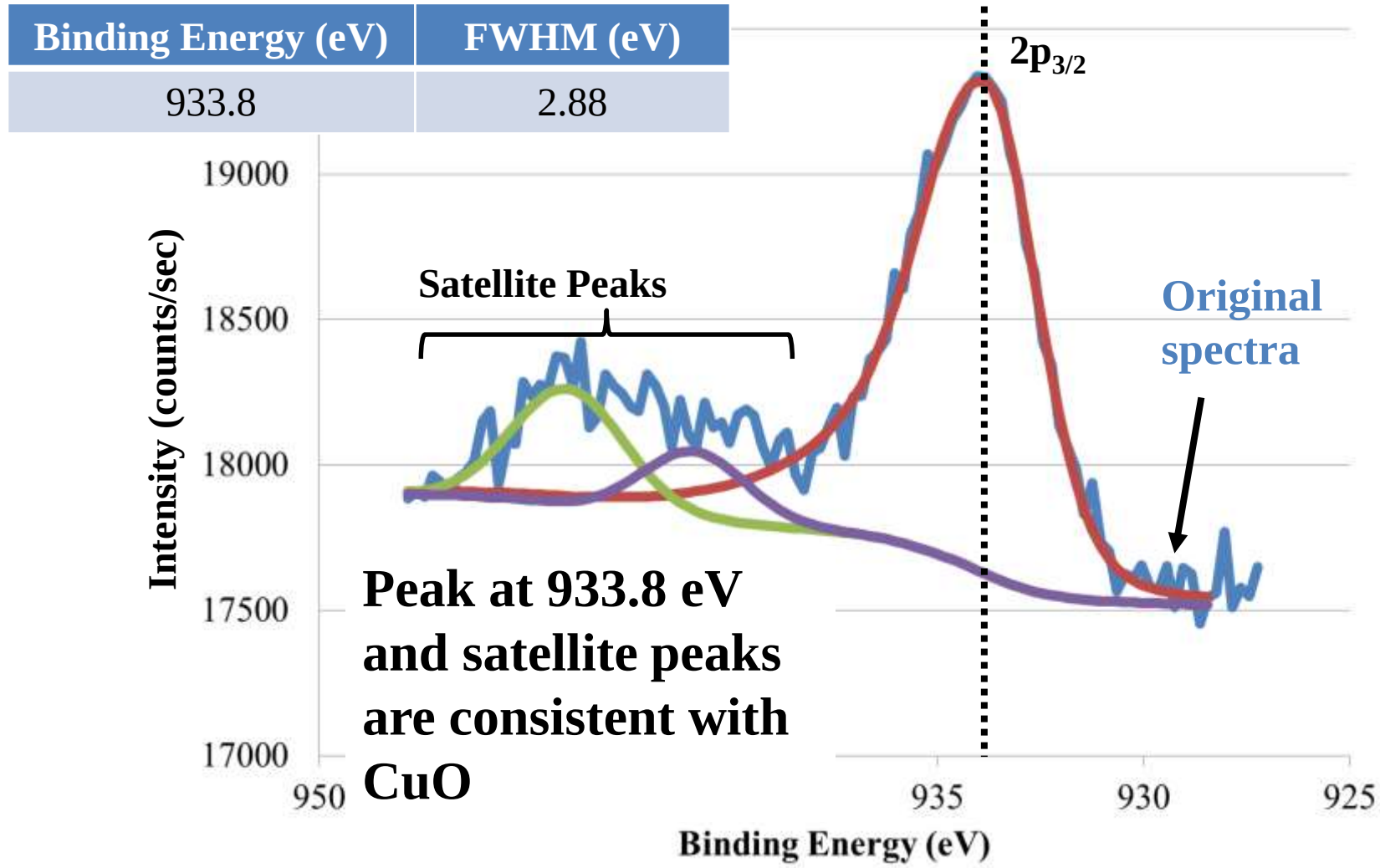
# XPS Cathode Exterior (0 Volt Cell)

| Element  | Li / 1s | C / 1s | O / 1s | F / 1s | Na / 1s | P / 2p | Cu / 2p <sub>3/2</sub> |
|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|------------------------|
| Atomic % | 10.9    | 41.5   | 13.2   | 32.1   | 0.4     | 1.0    | 0.9                    |





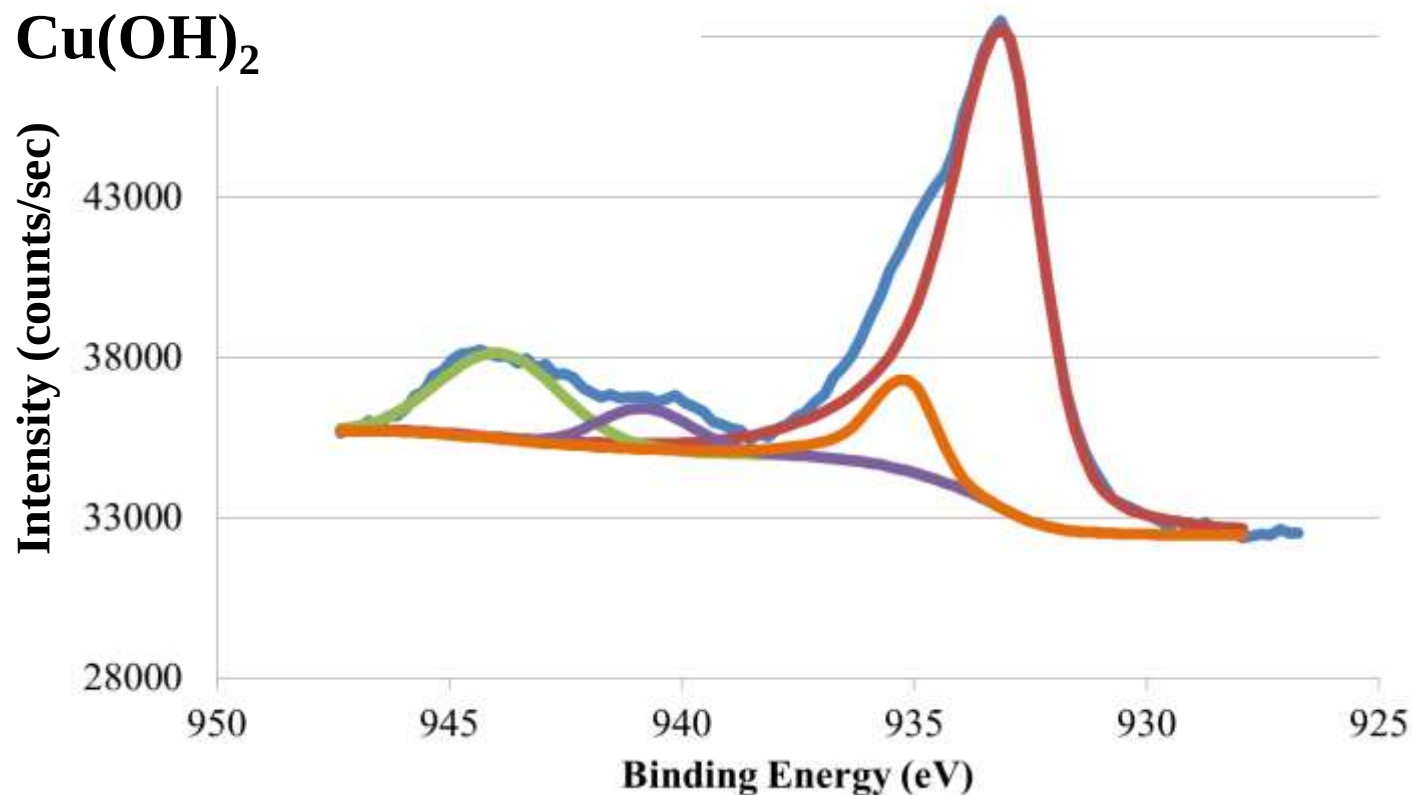
# XPS of Cu 2p<sub>3/2</sub> (0 Volt Cathode)



# XPS of Cu 2p<sub>3/2</sub> (0 Volt Anode)

**Peaks for anode are a little less clear for the chemical state. Species could include CuO, CuF<sub>2</sub>, Cu(OH)<sub>2</sub>**

| Binding Energy (eV) | F WHM (eV) |
|---------------------|------------|
| 933.1               | 1.9        |
| 935.2               | 1.5        |



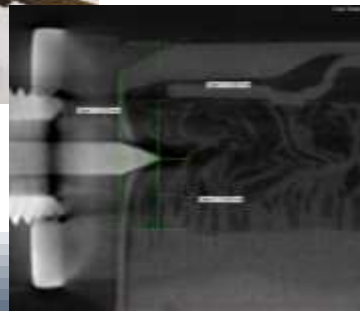
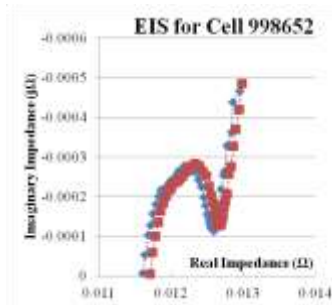
# Hazard Mitigation/Containment

## Diagnostic Technologies for Battery Failures

The energy density of bulk packages of lithium batteries presents challenges for containment of failure events. Detection technologies that detect failure events earlier can inform choice of mitigation technologies and activate mitigation earlier to improve effectiveness.

### Objectives:

- Assess effectiveness of emerging technologies for detecting internal short conditions in cells prior to a thermal runaway event
- Evaluate practicality of technologies for transportation industry



# A Priori Detection Options

**Voltage,  
temperature,  
current**

**Particulate emission**

**Gas emissions  
(VOCs, electrolyte  
vapor)**

**Electrical,  
magnetic fields**

**Resistance and  
Impedance**



**Strain-  
Pressure**

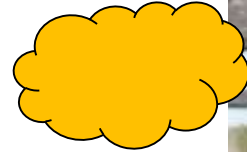
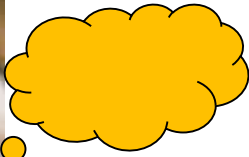
**Thermal,  
acoustic,  
optical  
properties**

**Moisture**

**Other?**

# Remote Detection Technologies

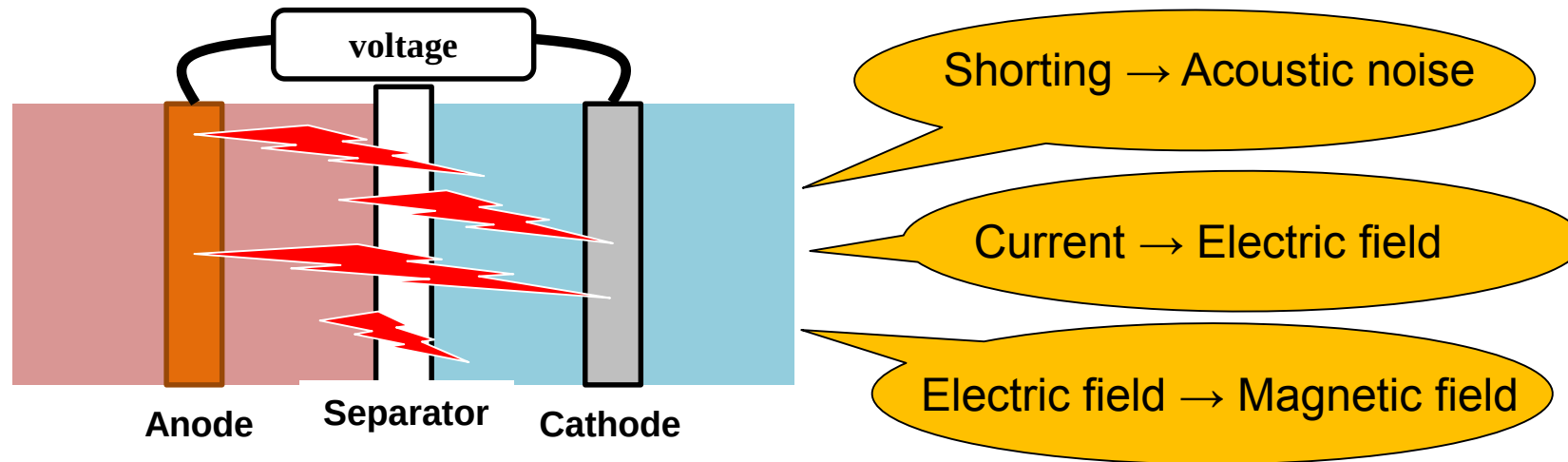
- **Chemical Sniffing**



- Miniaturized VOC, electrolyte detection; spectroscopy
- Prototypes currently under development by industry
- Limited Navy testing to-date
  - chemical/environment compatibility under evaluation
- May operate remotely, sans interface with battery
- May be integrated to supplement traditional battery BMS
- Location exterior to battery pack correlates to detection after cell failure, electrolyte leakage

# Physics Based Remote Detection Technologies

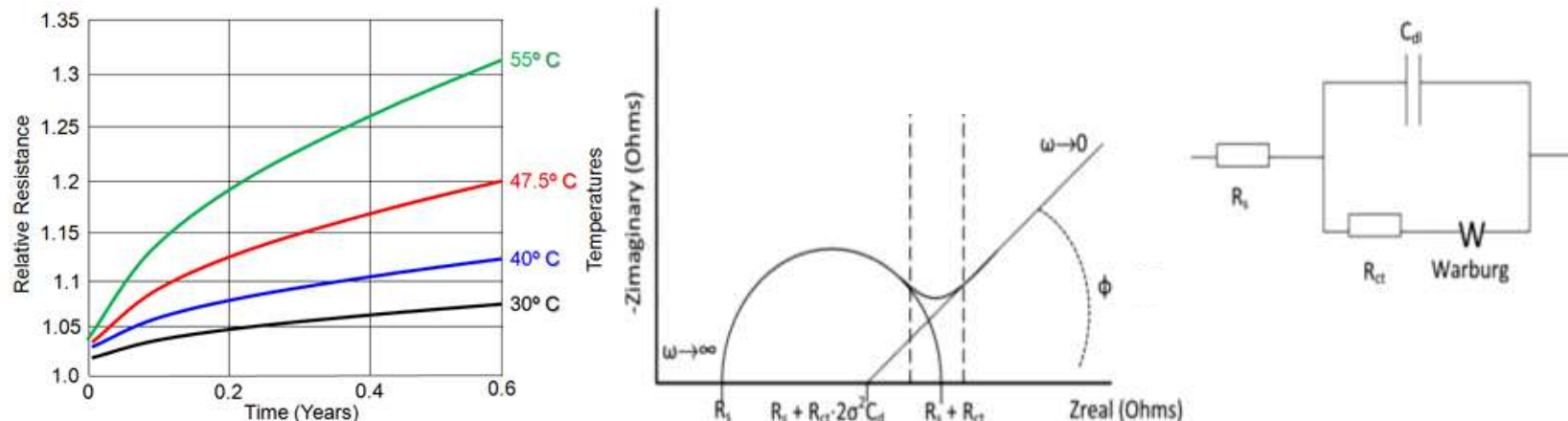
- Remote sensing of internal shorts



- Electrical, magnetic, acoustic changes
- Prototypes currently under development by industry
- May operate remotely, sans interface with battery
- May be integrated to supplement traditional battery BMS
- Detection dependent on location, proximity to system

# Battery Integrated Detection Technologies

- Resistance and Impedance Monitoring**



- DC and AC response, battery and cell**
  - In-situ Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS) – internal resistance
- Prototypes under development by government and industry**
- Demonstrated early detection of overcharge and short**
- Requires electrical interface with battery/cells, initial characterization of cell/battery to establish acceptable ranges, some prototypes require steady-state (sec to hrs) to take measurement**



# Battery Integrated Detection Technologies

- **Strain – Pressure – Gas generation, volume change or voltage signature internal/external**



- Recent proposed separator sensor to detect Anode2Sep or Cathode2Sep dendrite formation and current flow
- Strain gauge or fiber-optic sensor to sense gas generated or temperature
- Government and industry prototype development
- Demonstrated in-situ correlation between strain gauge, gas generation, and health;
- Requires integration interior to cell; exterior to cell or battery

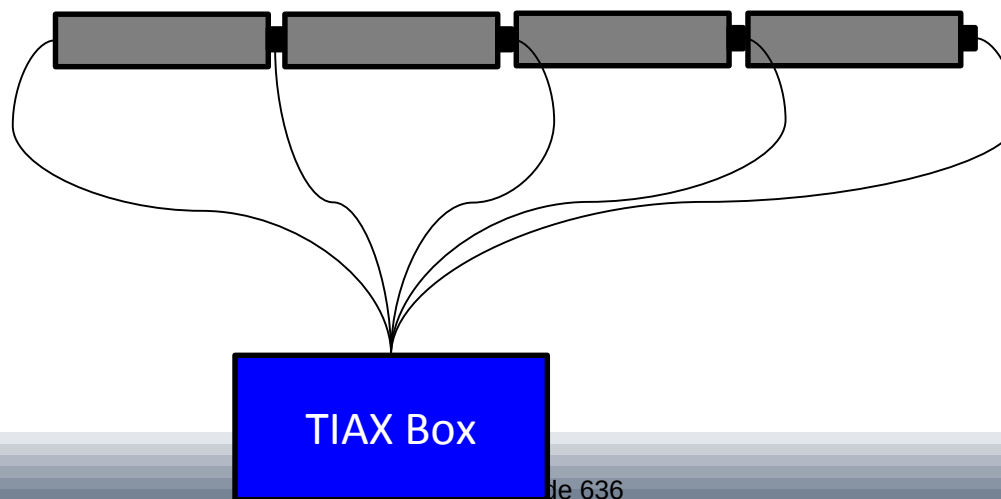
# Technologies Planned For Evaluation by NSWC Carderock

- INL/Sandia – agreement to test
- NRL prototype – agreement to test
- JHU APL prototype – under test
- TIAX – under test
- Luna/Nexceris – testing for Navy program under separate effort (transition agreement)
- Carderock modeling – ongoing
- Parthian – agreement to test
- Redondo Optics, PARC, Feasible, others of interest

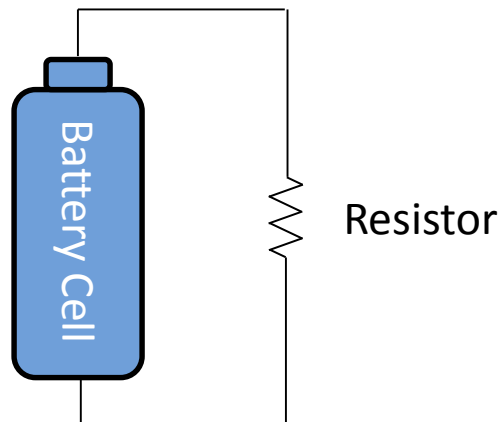
# TIAX “Blue Demo Box” (1<sup>st</sup> Gen, Universal Detection Technology)



- Has 13 test leads that can test up to 12 cells sequentially.



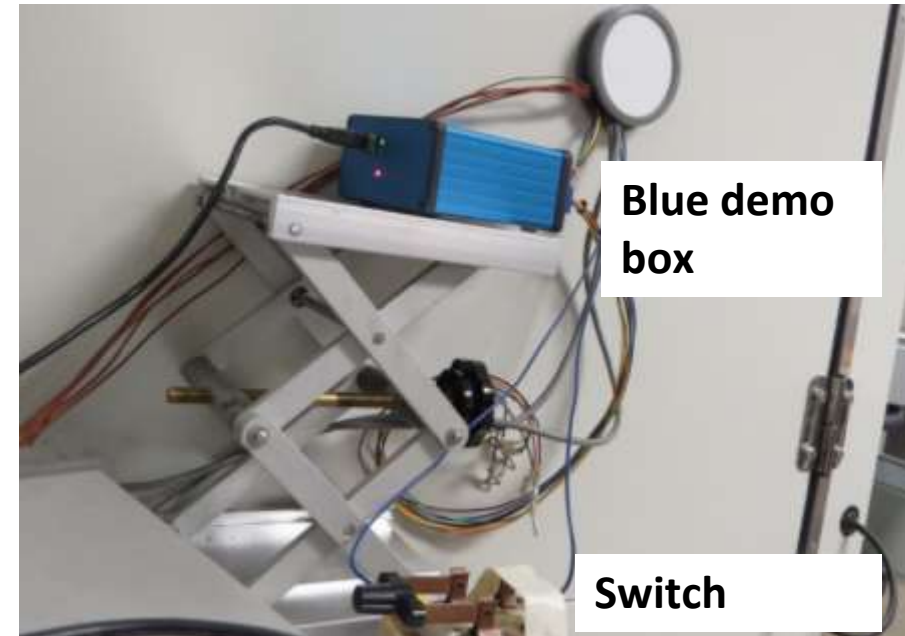
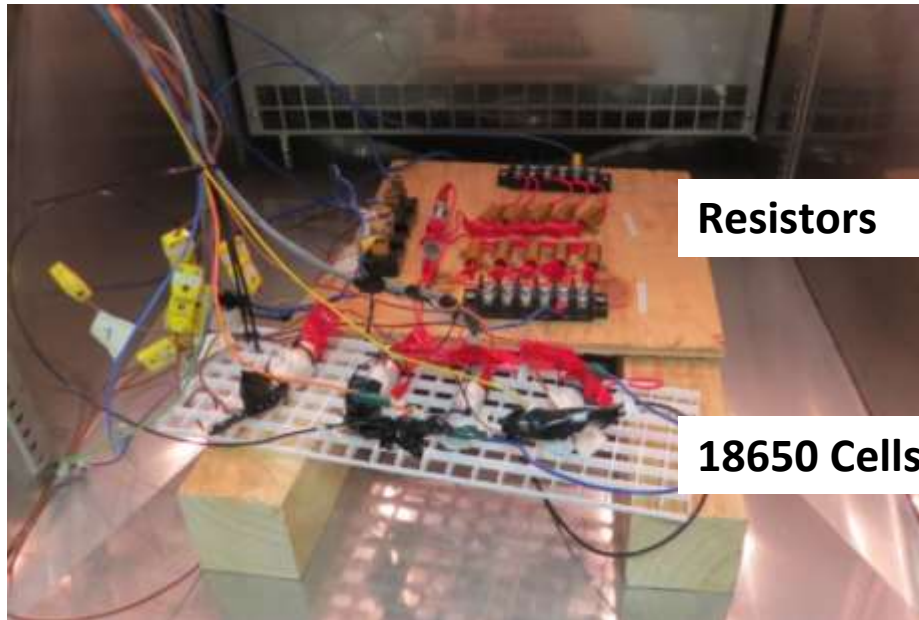
# TIAX “Blue Demo Box” (1<sup>st</sup> Gen, Universal Detection Technology)



| Resistance of Short  | Score  |
|----------------------|--------|
| No short             | -5.361 |
| 500 Ohms (6-8mA)     | 12.535 |
| 400 Ohms             | 16.481 |
| 300 Ohms             | 22.153 |
| 200 Ohms             | 36.319 |
| 100 Ohms (30-40mA)   | 83.319 |
| No Short, After Test | -5.147 |

- Resistors are used to simulate different level shorts
- Different score numbers are generated by applying different resistance

# Test Setup TIAx Blue Demo Box



- Cells are placed in a temperature controlled oven
- Shorts are applied to the cell and measurement was taken immediately when the short is applied and after 15 mins

# 18650 Cell Simulated Short @ 25°C

- Blue demo box was able to detect the different level of short.
- Multiple scan of the same short level will yield slightly different score numbers
  - Each short level will have a different score range
  - Score numbers can overlap different short levels
- TIAX has done some modeling to determine the short level that could cause a battery failure
- The demo box can distinguish 500Ω and below simulated shorts

| Short    | Score  |
|----------|--------|
| No Short | -4.726 |
| 500      | 20.885 |
| 400      | 26.654 |
| 300      | 38.287 |
| 200      | 58.375 |
| 100      | 120.50 |
| No Short | -5.198 |

Scan immediately applying short

| Short    | Score  |
|----------|--------|
| No Short | -4.726 |
| 500      | -1.053 |
| 400      | -1.141 |
| 300      | -0.371 |
| 200      | 1.486  |
| 100      | 5.071  |
| No Short | -5.198 |

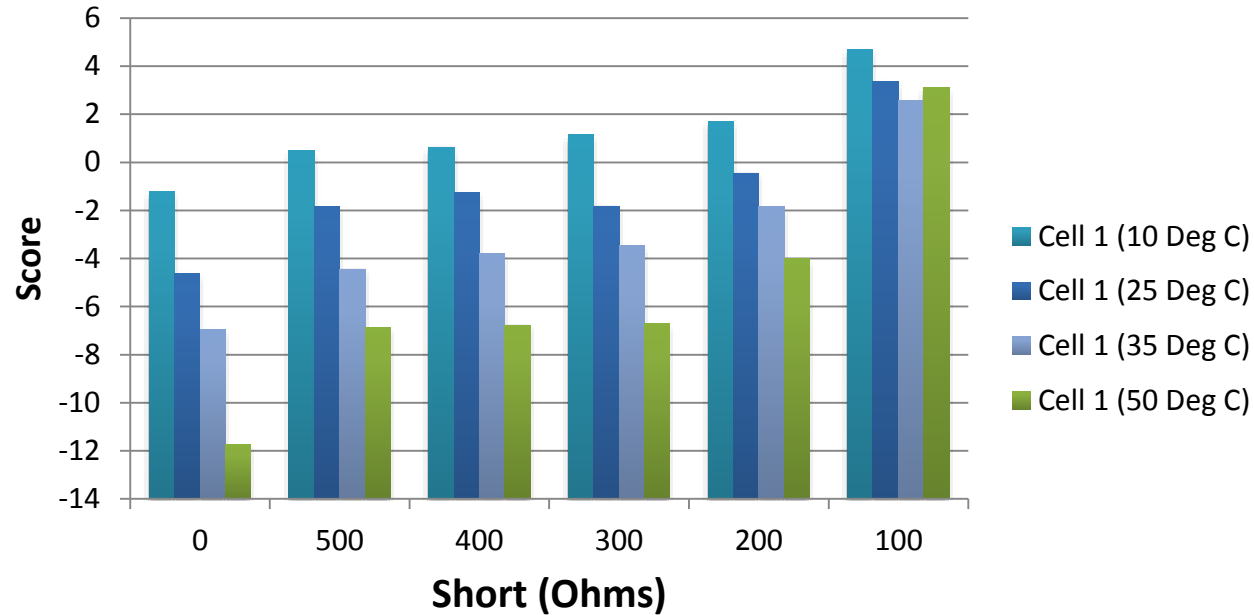
Scan 15 mins after applying short

# Effects of Different Internal Temperature

- In order to determine how the temperature of cells affect the early prevention device, 18650 cells were soaked at different temperature (10, 25, 35, 50° C) for 1-2 hours.
- Simulated shorts were applied to the cells and measured with the blue box.



# Effects of Different Internal Temperature

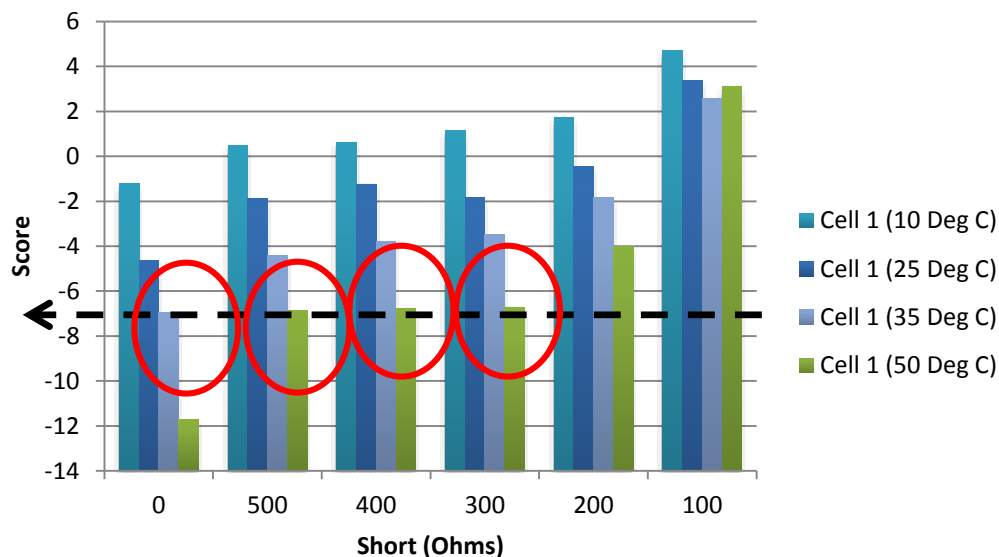


Scan 15 mins after applying short

| Temperature | No Short | 500    | 400    | 300    | 200    | 100   |
|-------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10          | -1.207   | 0.493  | 0.637  | 1.153  | 1.717  | 4.711 |
| 25          | -4.630   | -1.857 | -1.242 | -1.821 | -0.44  | 3.362 |
| 35          | -6.965   | -4.433 | -3.790 | -3.470 | -1.845 | 2.545 |
| 50          | -11.739  | -6.885 | -6.767 | -6.708 | -4.000 | 3.113 |

# Effects of Different Internal Temperature

An unhealthy cell at 50° C may be considered healthy at 35° C

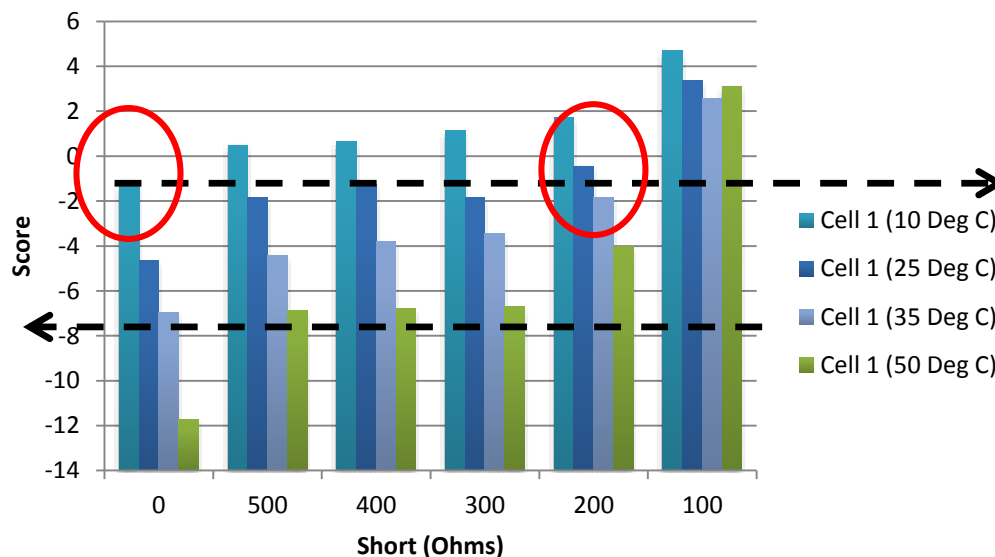


Scan 15 mins after applying short

| Temperature | No Short | 500    | 400    | 300    | 200    | 100   |
|-------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10          | -1.207   | 0.493  | 0.637  | 1.153  | 1.717  | 4.711 |
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# Effects of Different Internal Temperature

An unhealthy cell at 50° C may be considered healthy at 35° C

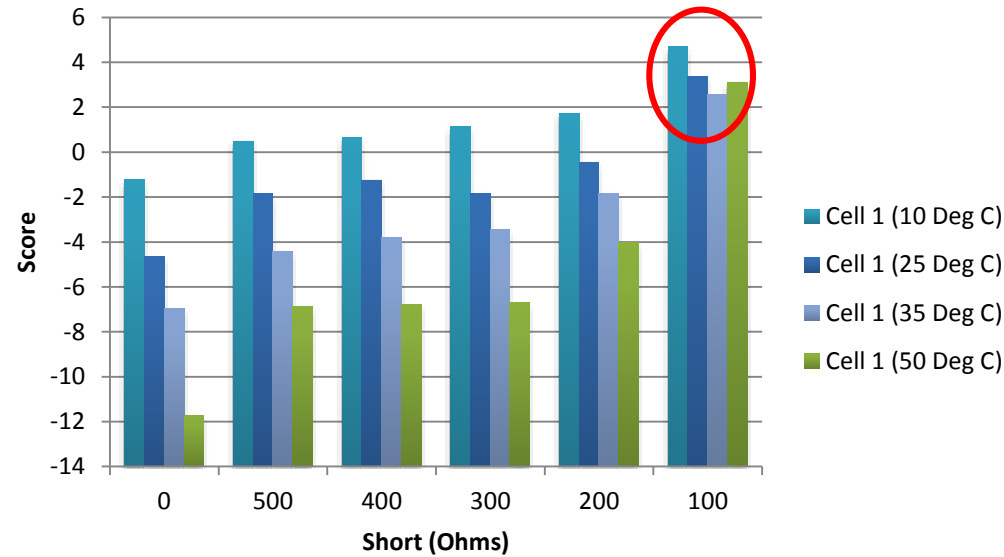


A healthy cell at 10° C may be considered unhealthy at 25° C

Scan 15 mins after applying short

| Temperature | No Short | 500    | 400    | 300    | 200    | 100   |
|-------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10          | -1.207   | 0.493  | 0.637  | 1.153  | 1.717  | 4.711 |
| 25          | -4.630   | -1.857 | -1.242 | -1.821 | -0.44  | 3.362 |
| 35          | -6.965   | -4.433 | -3.790 | -3.470 | -1.845 | 2.545 |
| 50          | -11.739  | -6.885 | -6.767 | -6.708 | -4.000 | 3.113 |

# Effects of Different Internal Temperature



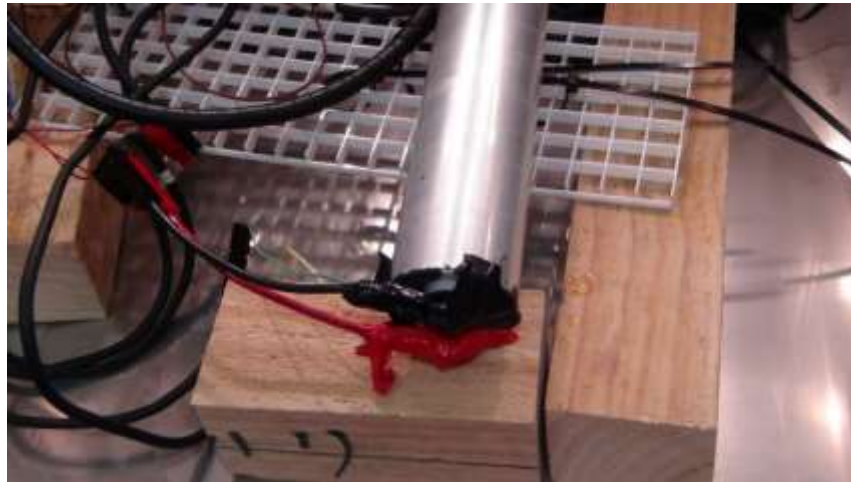
100Ω short is distinguishable compared to the lesser shorts

Scan 15 mins after applying short

| Temperature | No Short | 500    | 400    | 300    | 200    | 100   |
|-------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 10          | -1.207   | 0.493  | 0.637  | 1.153  | 1.717  | 4.711 |
| 25          | -4.630   | -1.857 | -1.242 | -1.821 | -0.44  | 3.362 |
| 35          | -6.965   | -4.433 | -3.790 | -3.470 | -1.845 | 2.545 |
| 50          | -11.739  | -6.885 | -6.767 | -6.708 | -4.000 | 3.113 |

# Large-format Cell Simulated Short @Ambient Temp

- With this setup it is difficult to determine shorts that are greater than 100  $\Omega$
- Need to explore cell design between 18650 and these large format cells
  - Plan on expanding testing to other cell designs



| Short    | Score   |
|----------|---------|
| No Short | -30.813 |
| 500      | -31.792 |
| 400      | -33.785 |
| 300      | -31.693 |
| 200      | -30.661 |
| 100      | -19.585 |

Scan 15 mins after applying short

# Large-format Cell – Testing abused cells



- Collection of healthy cell were left in storage in an overdischarged state (0V, 0.25V, 0.5V)
- After 6-8 months, cells were removed charged to 3.6V (50%SOC).
- Blue demo box was used to determine the state of health

| Voltage storage | Storage Length | Score at 3.6V | Equivalent short |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| 3.6V            | -              | -30.813       | -                |
| 0.5V            | 6 Months       | -31.311       | >100             |
| 0V              | 8 Months       | -10.161       | <100             |

# POCs and Collaborators

- NSWC Carderock Research Team
  - POC: Dr. Jonathan Ko, [Jonathan.Ko@navy.mil](mailto:Jonathan.Ko@navy.mil), 301-227-2955
  - Mr. Tom Jiang, research chemist
  - Dr. Azzam Mansour, electrochemical research SME
  - Dr. Daphne Fuentevilla, research chemist
  - Mr. Christopher Hendricks, UMD doctoral candidate
- Collaborators
  - Naval Research Laboratory (Dr. Corey Love)
  - Expeditionary Energy Office, USMC
  - NSWC Indian Head
  - Industry collaborators



# POCs and Collaborators



Dr. Veda Bharath and Ms. Eva Rodezno for their support in the project





# “Trigger Mechanisms Leading to Internal Short Circuit and Thermal Runaway”

DTPH5616X000007

**Corey T. Love, PhD**

Chemistry Division, US Naval Research Laboratory

**HAZMAT R&D Forum**  
***Washington, DC***  
**16 MAY 2018**

# Safe Transportation of Hazardous Materials

## OHMS, Research and Development Strategic Plan for 2012-2017



*“SIGNIFICANT R&D Initiative: greatest impact on safety mission to address immediate hazard within transportation systems.”*



***Lithium Battery Safety Research Programs Must Encompass:***  
***PREVENTION → MITIGATION → CONTAINMENT***

- Internal short circuit triggering mechanism.
- Battery monitoring device (**Bat<sub>MD</sub><sup>TM</sup>**) monitoring device.
- Battery fire containment assessment.

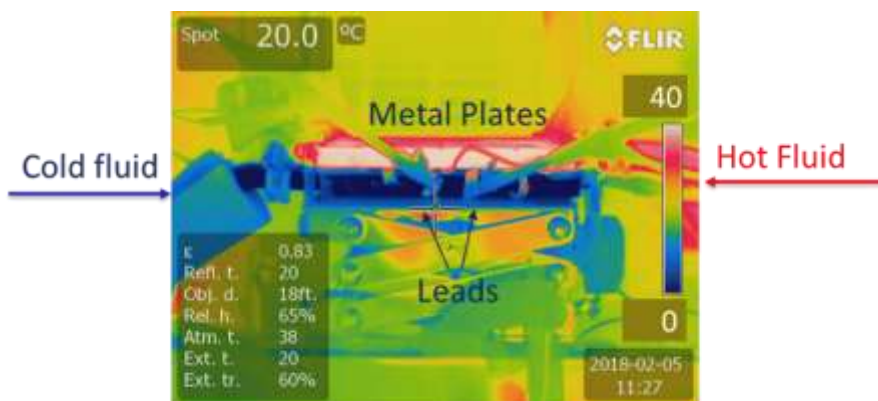
# PREVENT: Develop Internal Short Circuit Triggers

Technology Gap identified in UN Manual of Testing and Criteria (UN 38.3) currently employed by DOT for technical risk analysis.

Recommendations on the  
**TRANSPORT  
OF  
DANGEROUS GOODS**

Manual of  
Tests and Criteria

Fifth revised edition  
Amendment 1



## RESEARCH NEED

Prevent future incidents through improved testing & validation methods which closely mirror failures in the field.

## TECHNOLOGY GAP

Discover “trigger mechanisms” with the capability to form internal short circuits on demand.

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Develop advanced materials or methods to remediate lithium dendrite formation & growth leading to runaway.



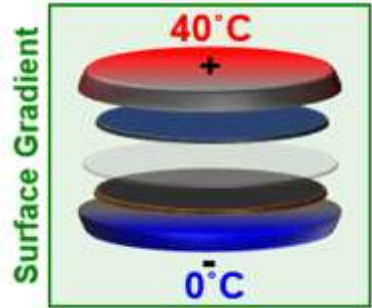
### Factors Affecting Reproducibility

- nail speed
- nail material
- nail diameter
- penetration depth
- tip shape
- tip taper
- cell orientation
- rotating vs. stationary
- lodged vs. retracted

<http://www.espec.co.jp/english/products/trustee/test/nail.html>



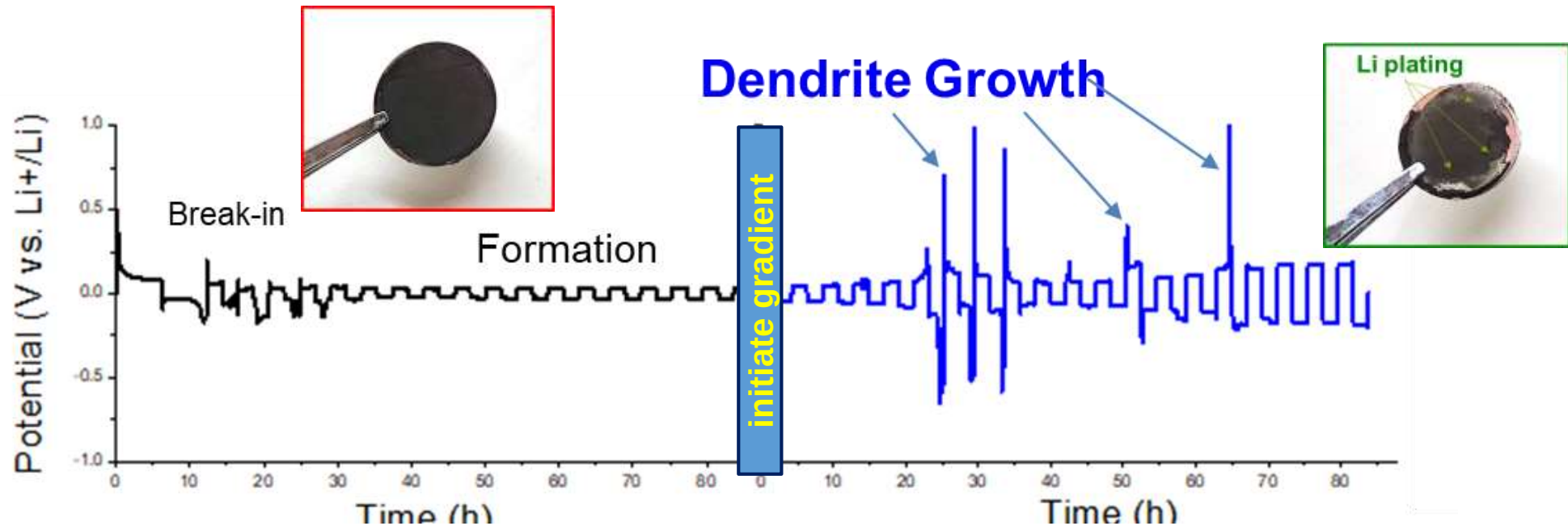
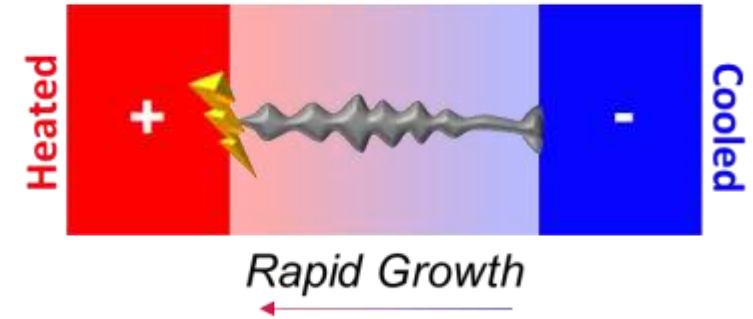
# PREVENT: Develop Internal Short Circuit Triggers



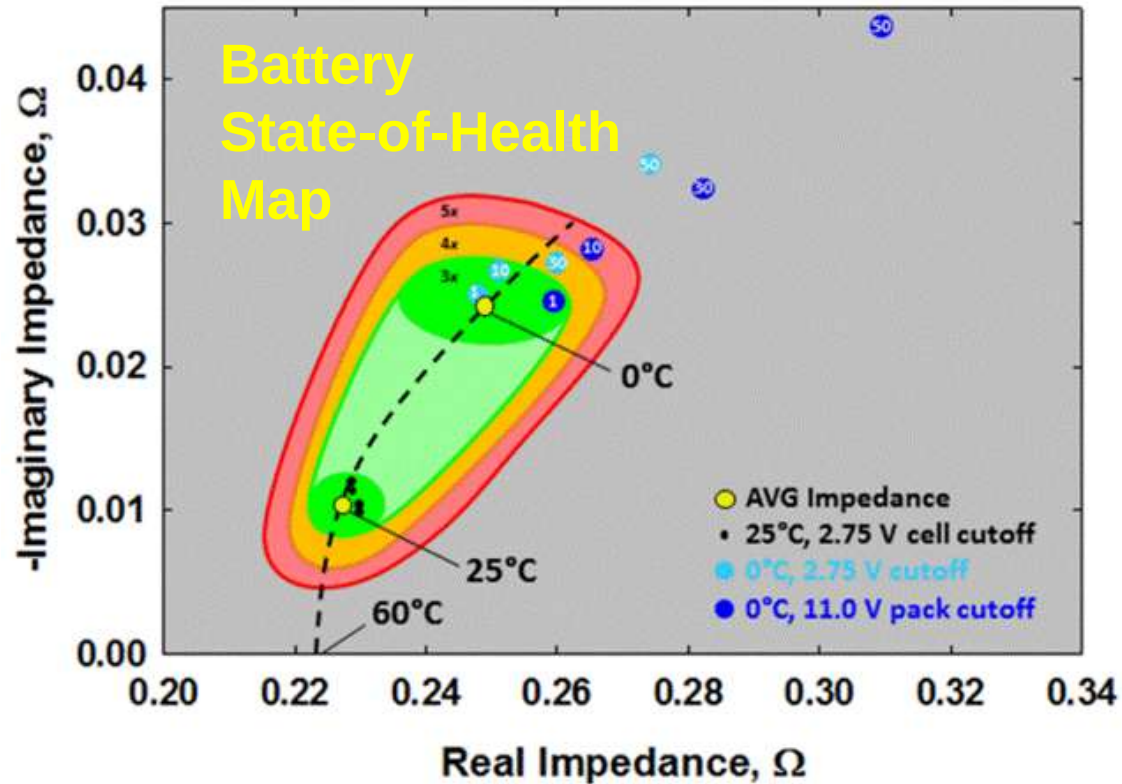
As received Li-ion Battery



Failure *Initiated* with Thermal Gradient



# MITIGATE: Early Detection of Battery Instability



C.T. Love, M. Dubarry, T. Reshetyenko, A. Devie, N. Spinner, K.E. Swider-Lyons and R. Rocheleau, "Lithium-Ion Cell Fault Detection by Single-Point Impedance Diagnostic and Degradation Mechanism Validation for Series-Wired Batteries Cycled at 0 °C," *Energies* **2018**, *11*, 834 INVITED PAPER.



## RESEARCH NEED

Prevent future incidents through early warning, screening and fault detection methods.

## TECHNOLOGY GAP

Identify unique indicators or "signatures" of inferior or comprised cells BEFORE failure.

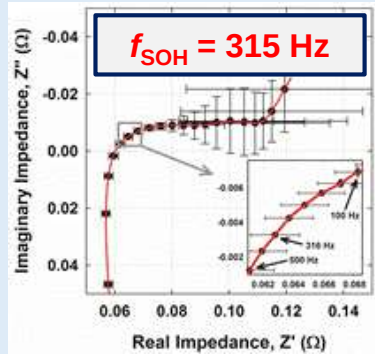
## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Develop diagnostic devices to generate hazard maps with primary scores for safety, stability and survivability.



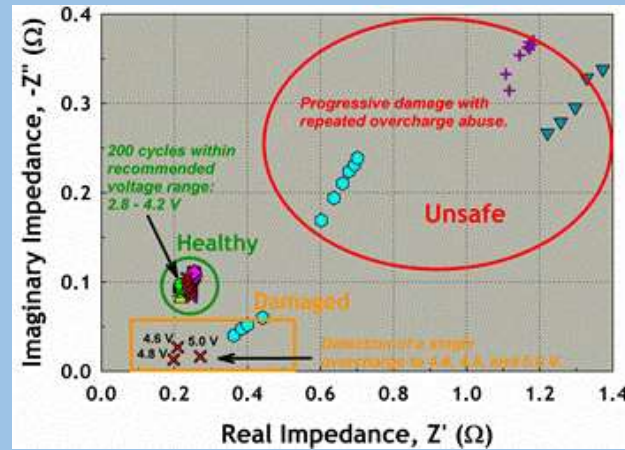
# MITIGATE: Early Detection of Battery Instability

## Observed Phenomena:

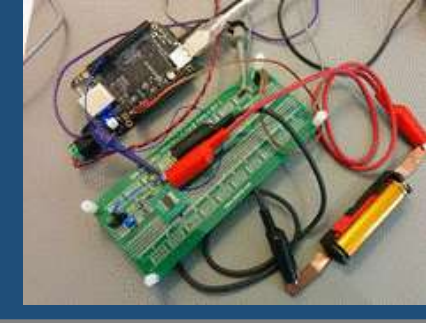


"Battery Health Monitoring System & Method"  
US Patent No. 9,465,077

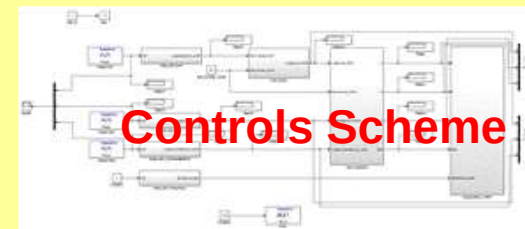
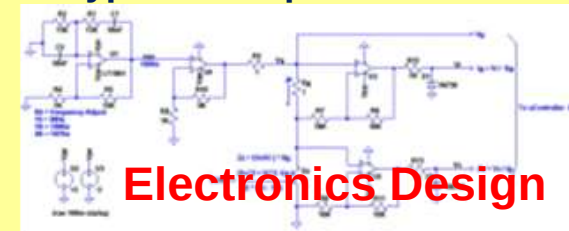
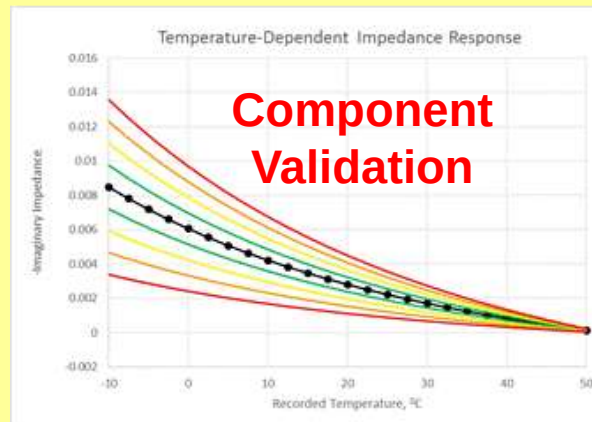
## Demonstrated Use in Practice:



## Breadboard Mock Up:



## Hardware Design, Build and Prototype Development:



## CONTAINMENT: Battery Failure and Fire Testing



### RESEARCH NEED

Contain single failure events to eliminate cascading failures through entire battery packs or shipments.

### TECHNOLOGY GAP

Non-propagating packaging schemes to contain single-cell failure and withstand impact.

### RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Multi-layer laminates consisting of: thermal heat sink interior layer, high temperature, fireproof insulation core and impact resistant outer layer.



# CONTAINMENT: Battery Failure via Accelerated Rate Calorimetry

*thermal hazard technology*

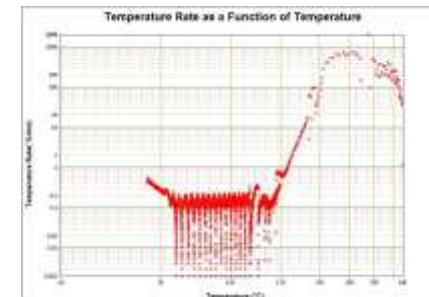
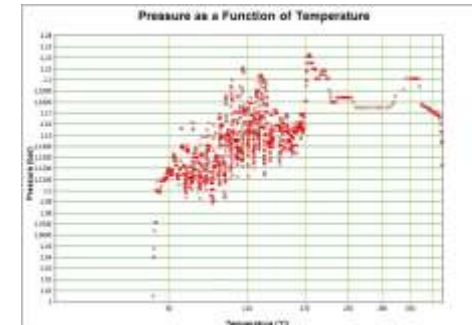
Successful installation and calibration of ARC instrument, ready to serve DOT researchers.

## Capabilities:

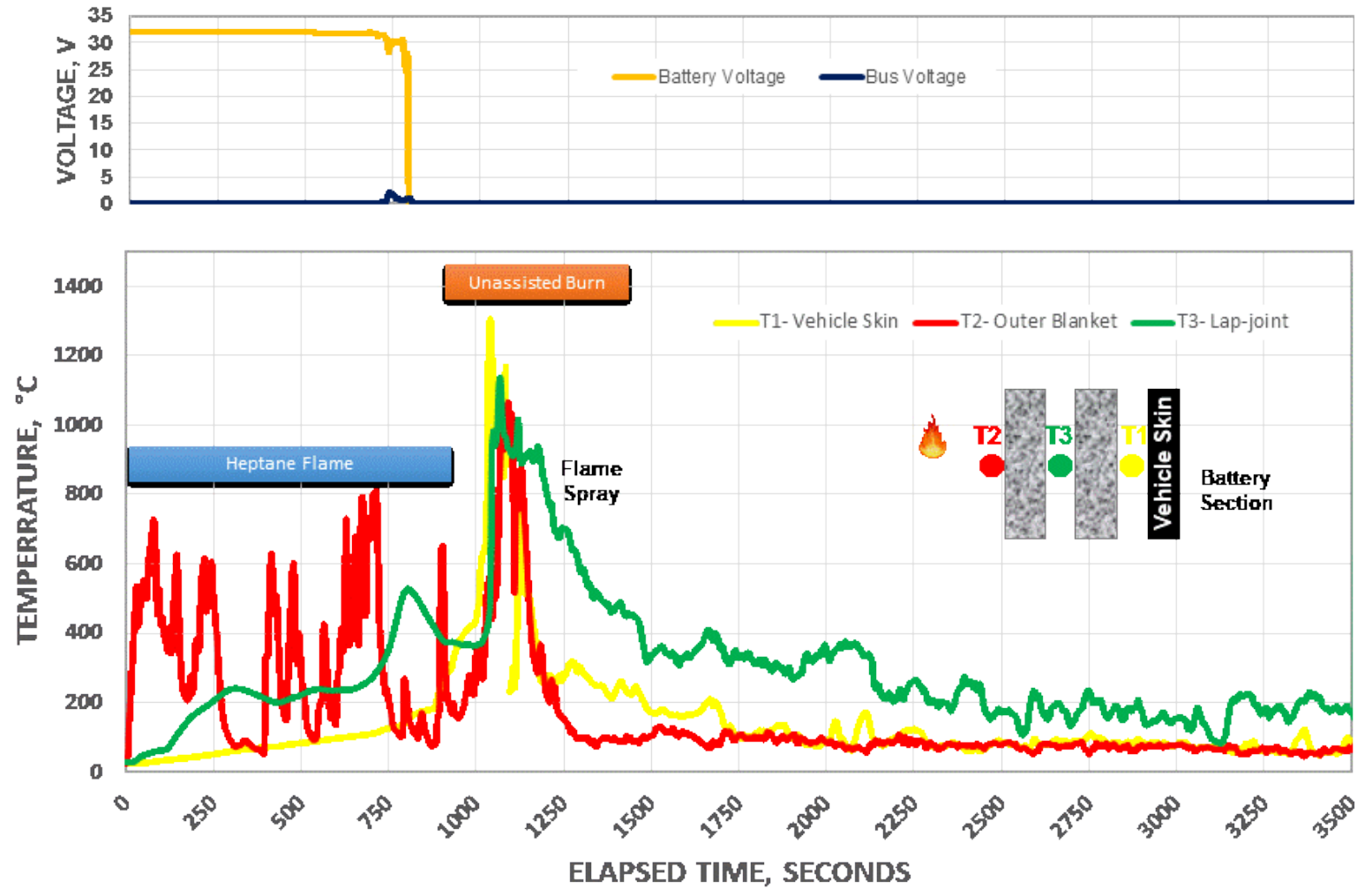
EV calorimeter assembly:  
25 cm dia. x 50 cm depth  
temperature sensitivity:  
0.02°/min  
temperature range:  
ambient to 400°C  
8 thermocouples for multipoint analysis  
heat capacity measurement unit  
automated gas sampling at defined temperature  
battery pressure kit" 4-liter capacity, 4 bar pressure



Ability to monitor temperature and pressure before and during thermal runaway events

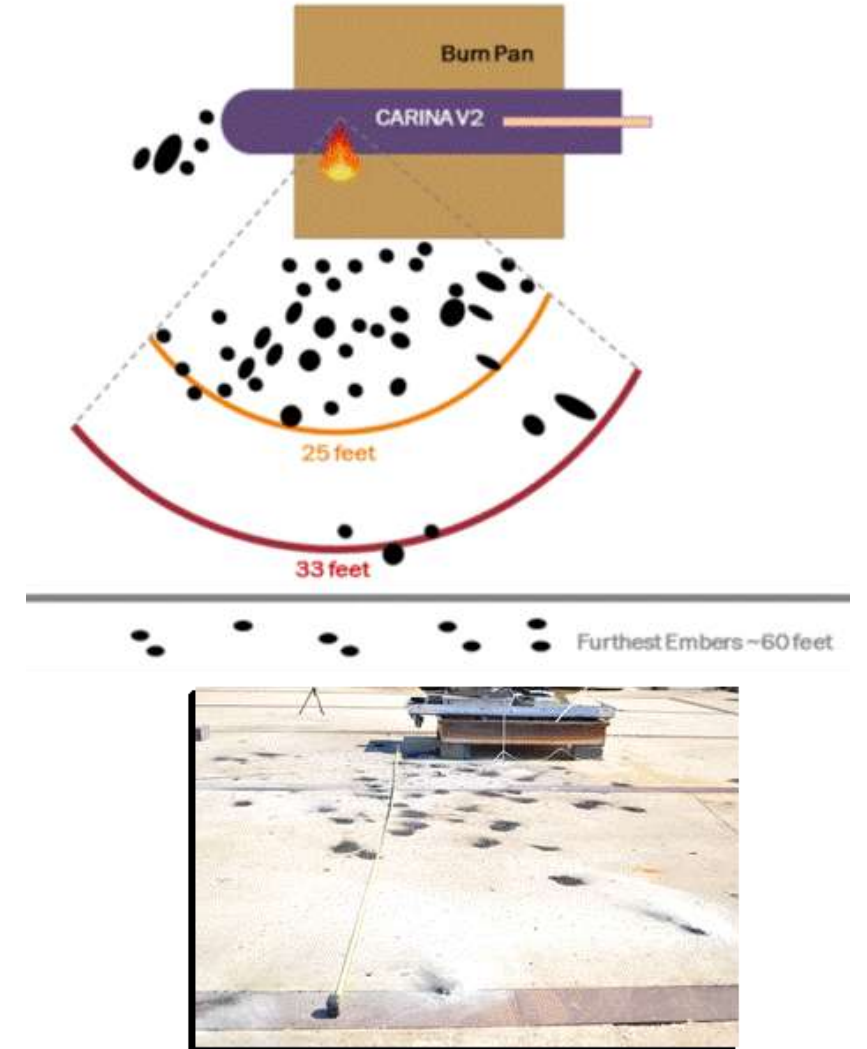


# CONTAINMENT: Defective Battery Fire Testing





# CONTAINMENT: Defective Battery Fire Testing



## CONTAINMENT: Defective Battery Fire Testing



- Aerogel blanket performed well to maintain thermal and fire barrier
- Cell ejecta created small pinholes and tears in blanket
- Mechanical stiffening is required in future applications
- Chemical vapor detector could have prevented original failure due to electrolyte leakage
- Storage of combustible materials near large format batteries
- Use of fire extinguisher likely slows the propagation of fire but does not stop it
- Best fire fighting practices
- Refrigerated transportation is an effective means to reduce risk for transporting damaged batteries

## Summary of Research Efforts, Fy16-18

- Internal short circuit triggering mechanism has been identified and is being refined. Temperature boundaries will be narrowed this FY and optimal  $\Delta T$  recommended.
- Battery monitoring device (**Bat<sub>MD</sub><sup>TM</sup>**) monitoring device. Development is ongoing and will be available to NSWC-Carderock for testing later this year.
- Fire containment material was assessed in simulated defective battery fire. More studies will be conducted this FY with improvements in mechanical properties to resist tearing and rupture.



**Thank you!**

***Thank you to Dr. Veda Bharath, Ms. Eva Rodezno and PHMSA for the opportunity to present at this forum and for your continued support.***

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# BREAK