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# Codes, Standards and Regulations - An Update

## 2000 Fuel Cell Seminar

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# Kudos

Jeff Allen - Allen Engineering

Rich Bielen - NFPA

Anne-Marie Borbely - PNNL

Dick DeBlasio - NREL

Bettina Drehman - Ballard

George Earle - Plug Power

Ron Fiskum - US DOE

Harry Jones - UL

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Brenon Knaggs - Ballard

Tony Leo - ERC

Darren Meyers - BOCA

Karen Miller - NHA

Glenn Scheffler - ONSI

Todd Strothers - CSA

Bob Wichert - USFCC

# Goal

A better understanding of codes and standards, their impact on fuel cell technology development and deployment, and a commitment for the industry to work together with those who develop, adopt and implement them

# Objectives

- Introduce the subject of codes and standards
- Cover their impact as an institutional constraint or opportunity
- Review U.S. and international initiatives to develop and implement them
- Look to the future

# Agenda

- **Introduction** to codes and standards
- How **technology is impacted** by codes and standards
- Codes and standards **activities in the United States**
- **International** codes and standards **activities**
- **Experiences** with respect to codes and standards
- The **Future**

# Technology Differences

## Different Codes and Standards

- **Stationary** fuel cell power plants
  - The fuel cell equipment
  - Integration and interaction with the built environment
- **Portable** fuel cells
  - The fuel cell appliance
  - Acceptance for use in the built environment
- **Transportation** applications
  - The fuel cell and on-board fuel source
  - Refueling, parking, servicing, etc. infrastructure

# Why Pay Attention to Codes and Standards?

Codes and Standards can support fuel cells

- reduce expenditure of manpower
- save time and money
- enhance technology marketing and deployment
- facilitate a manufacturing and servicing infrastructure
- realize multi-lateral approvals and international trade
- secure technology benefits
- protect the market from unsafe products
- allow for simpler testing and certification of products

## What are Codes and Standards?

- Documents that establish a basis for “technical communication”
- Provisions for assessing technology safety and performance
- The basis for “Building Construction Regulations” or other rules addressing public health and life-safety



# What are Building Construction Regulations?

- Legally adopted provisions to protect public health, life-safety and welfare
- Criteria that govern the design of buildings and associated technology
- Criteria that must be satisfied to secure approval for installation and use of building technology
- Criteria that form the basis for acceptance of technology

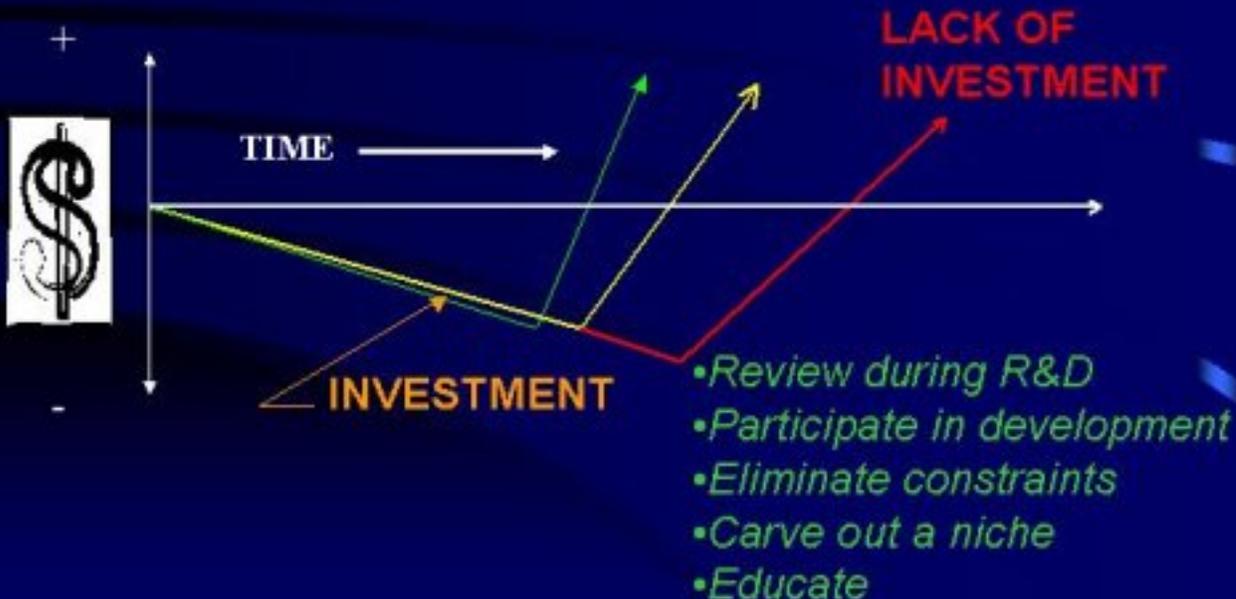
# What do Building Regulations Cover?

- Stationary fuel cell power plant design and installation
- Portable fuel cell use
- Supporting infrastructure for vehicular applications of fuel cells
- Technology performance and safety
- Installation and integration with the built environment
- Operation, maintenance and use of the technology and the buildings served

# Building Construction Regulations can be a Constraint

- They typically lag technology development and deployment
- Those doing R&D are not generally aware of them and their potential impact
- They directly affect technology design, application and acceptance
- Financial resources of technology developers are targeted to other activities

# Codes and Standards Investments Pay Off



# The Ideal Situation

**Uniformity** in the acceptance and application of fuel cell design, installation, operation, use and supporting infrastructure

## U.S. Situation Regarding Codes and Standards

- Numerous voluntary and governmental sector standards developers
- Three developers of model codes merging to develop one model building code
- Recent initiation by NFPA to develop a model building code
- Federal, state, and local government and private sector adoption and implementation of voluntary sector standards and model codes
- Increasing uniformity over time

# U.S. Codes and Standards Overview



## Development of Codes and Standards

- Occurs in public and private sectors
- Opportunity for participation by all interested and affected parties
- Varying processes, time-frames, and scope of subjects covered
- Published and available for adoption and use

## Adoption of Codes and Standards

- Legislative or Regulatory action = A
- Mandatory or through incentives = B
- Varying levels of government = C
- Varying agencies and entities = D

$$\bullet A \times B \times C \times D = [\infty - 1]$$

# Implementation of Codes and Standards

- Vehicle to realize what is adopted
- Tied to adoption mechanism
- Places responsibility on one or more entities
  - Architect/engineer
  - Manufacturer
  - Specifier
  - Utility
  - Builder/contractor
  - Insurance

## Enforcement of Codes and Standards

- Ensuring that what is adopted is satisfied
- Numerous agencies at different levels of government or in the private sector
  - Utility
  - State or local government
  - Insurance
- Mandatory, voluntary or through incentives

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# Model Codes

## Geographic Influence - Before and After a Single Code



International Codes™

Standard (SBCCI) Codes

Two or More Model Codes

Uniform (ICBO) Codes

State-Developed Codes

National (BOCA) Codes



# Development of the ICC Codes

- **ICC code development process**
  - Any interested person, corporation or entity
  - Regulatory-based consensus
  - Predictable agenda, no surprises
  - Two cycles every three years
  - Spring hearings, fall actions
- **Proposed revisions to the ICC process**
  - True consensus-based voting

# U.S. Codes and Standards for Fuel Cells



## *2000 International Mechanical Code*

“924.1 General. Stationary fuel cell power plants having a power output not exceeding 1,000 kW, shall be tested in accordance with ANSI Z21.83 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s installation instructions.”

# U.S. Codes and Standards for Fuel Cells



*ANSI Z 21.83-1998/CSA 12.10 "Fuel Cell  
Power Plants"*

Packaged, self-contained or factory matched packages of integrated systems of fuel cell power plants for use with natural or LP gas and having a maximum output voltage of 600 VAC and power output of 1,000 kW operating at no less than -20F (-29C)

# U.S. Codes and Standards for Fuel Cells



- **ANSI Z 21.83-1998/CSA 12.10 "Fuel Cell Power Plants"**
  - **Construction**
    - Materials
    - General construction and assembly
    - Enclosures and associated construction
    - Air/fluid handling and moving equipment
    - Electrical equipment and wiring
    - Protection of service personnel
    - Safety circuit analysis
    - Instructions and marking Heaters and vessels
    - Piping systems
    - Drain, venting, and ventilation exhaust systems
    - Automatic ignition systems and gas-air control
    - Flame safeguards
    - Fuel gas controls and equipment

# U.S. Codes and Standards for Fuel Cells



- **ANSI Z 21.83-1998/CSA 12.10 "Fuel Cell Power Plants"**
  - *Performance*
    - ultimate strength
    - allowable leakage
    - protection
    - emissions
    - burner operation
    - automatic ignition
    - exhaust gas and surface and component temperatures
    - electrical tests
    - rain and wind tests
    - adhesion/legibility of markings

# U.S. Codes and Standards for Fuel Cells



## NFPA 853 "Standard for the Installation of Stationary Fuel Cell Power Plants"

Design, construction, and installation of stationary (non-portable) fuel cell power plants with a gross electrical generation that exceeds 50 kW; including:

- (1) A singular prepackaged, self-contained power plant unit
- (2) Any combination of prepackaged, self-contained power plant units
- (3) Power plant units comprised of two or more factory matched modular components intended to be assembled in the field and
- (4) Engineered and field-constructed power plants that employ fuel cells

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## NFPA 70 and 110



- NFPA 70 adopted by reference in the US model building codes

NFPA 70, the *National Electrical Code*®, provides "practical safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity."

- NFPA 110 presently only allows rotating equipment to satisfy the emergency power equipment requirement. The equivalency clause may allow fuel cells to be used for emergency and standby power if acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction

# ASME PTC 50

## Performance Test Code for Fuel Cell Power System Performance

- Object, Scope, and Measurement Uncertainty
  - Definitions and Descriptions of Terms
  - Guiding Principles
  - Instruments and Methods of Measurement
  - Calculations and Results
  - Report of Results
  - Uncertainty
- Draft essentially complete
  - Meeting 9/00
  - Next meeting 1/24-25/01
  - Public review mid-2001

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# IEEE Interconnection Standard P1547

- Being developed by IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee (SCC) 21
- SCC 21 responsible for standards development in areas of
  - Fuel Cells
  - Photovoltaics
  - Distributed Generation
  - Energy Storage
- Reports directly to IEEE Standards Board

# IEEE Interconnection Standard P1547

- **Title:** Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems
- **Purpose:** Provide a uniform standard for interconnection of distributed resources with electric power systems, and requirements relevant to the performance, operation, testing, safety considerations, and maintenance of the interconnection
- Development completed in 2001
- Adoption and use to follow

## Underwriters Laboratories

- UL 1741 “Static Inverters and Charge Controllers”
  - Scope being increased from just PV to all inverters, converters, and equipment controllers with or without grid connect
  - Will cover all distributed generation technologies
  - New title and scope take effect 11/7/00 with public comment availability in late 2000
- UL 2200 – Stationary Engine Generator Assemblies
- UL 674 – Electric Motors and Generators for Hazardous (Classified) Locations
- UL 1778 – Uninterruptable Power Supply Equipment

# ICC Hydrogen Task Force

- **Purpose** – The development of reasonable and enforceable model health and safety requirements germane to the International Codes affecting or relating to the use of H<sub>2</sub> in vehicular and portable applications
- **Objectives**
  - Review current codes/standards; H<sub>2</sub> storage, handling and use
  - Determine adequacy of coverage
- **Product**
  - Proposed code changes as necessary to the International Codes
  - Identification of other standards needs and deficiencies

# ICC H2 Task Force

- ***Addressing Code Issues***
  - Present code language could be interpreted to preclude viable indoor application of non-stationary H2 fuel cell units
  - Present codes and standards did not anticipate metal hydride technology
- ***Questions to be Answered***
  - Is the location where a portable fuel cell unit is used considered a hazardous location?
  - Can an equivalent level of safety be provided if considered a hazardous location?

## ICC H2 Task Force

***Recommendation*** - Permit the use and storage of H2 powered portable fuel cell units in non-hazardous locations when H2 detection and control systems are provided by the fuel cell unit (*similar to the concept outlined in IBC 908.3 and IRC 2210.7.2*)

## National Hydrogen Association

- Codes and Standards Workshop 11/00 in DC
- Host ISO 197 Working Groups 3/01 in DC
- Leadership role in ISO TC 197 activities on Hydrogen

## ISO TC 197 on Hydrogen Technologies

- Developing international safety standards required to disseminate H<sub>2</sub> technologies worldwide
- Scope – Standardization in the field of systems and devices for the production, storage, transport, measurement and use of hydrogen

# ISO TC 197 on Hydrogen Technologies

- Plenary meeting September 00 in Munich
  - Working Group meetings
  - Instructed the ISO Central Secretariat to record 197's request to establish formal liaison with the following technical committees:
    - ISO/TC 58/SC 3 Gas cylinder design
    - ISO/TC 220 Cryogenic vessels
    - IEC/TC 105 Fuel cell technologies
    - ISO/TC 22/SC 21 Electric road vehicles
- 2001 Plenary meeting in October in Paris

# International Efforts

## IEC TC 105

- **Scope** - To prepare international standards regarding fuel cell technologies for all fuel cell applications such as stationary, transportation, and portable power generation systems
- **Membership** - CA, CN, FR, DE, IT, JP, NL, CH, GB, and US

# IEC TC 105 Structure

## IEC TC 105

Chair: John Bossert, CA

Secretary: Werner Tillmetz, DE

Ass. Secr.: Bettina Drehmann, DE

**Definitions (US)**  
ad hoc WG #1

**FC Module (DE)**  
ad hoc WG #2

**Stationary  
FC System**

**FC System  
in Transprt.**

**Portable  
FC System**

**Safety (US)**  
WG #3

**FC System  
for  
Propulsion**

**Performance (JP)**  
WG #4

**Auxiliary  
Power Unit**

**Installation (US)**  
WG #5

**FC Syst.  
Integration  
into Road  
Vehicles**

*Together with  
ISO TC 22*

**Markings**

**Interfaces**

# IEC TC 105

## First Meeting February 23 and 24, 2000

- Overview of IEC processes
- Activities in other countries
- Strategic Policy Statement
- Program of work
- Cooperation with other ISO and IEC activities
  - ISO/TC 22 SC 21 (Electric Road Vehicles) - formal liaison
  - The Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) - co-operation
  - IEC/TC 31 (Electric Apparatus in Explosive Atmospheres) - co-operation
  - ISO/TC 197 (Hydrogen Technologies) - discussions underway

# Codes and Standards in Other Countries

- **Canada**
  - Joint standard with United States (ANSI Z21.82/CSA 12.10)
- **Japan**
  - Japan Standards Association - Technical Reports
    - Glossary of terms for fuel cell power systems
    - Test methods for PAFC performance
    - Test methods for environment and maintenance of PAFC
    - Marking of fuel cell power
- **United Kingdom**
  - "CE" marking will be needed to facilitate to acceptance

# Codes and Standards Experiences - Plug Power

- 7.0 kW continuous (10.0kW peak) PEM
- Residential and small commercial
- 30 currently in field testing (125 built by end of 2000)
- Listing of product to be completed for commercially released product
- Installations done as "temporary field test" with support and sign off by local and state building and fire officials
- NY utilities requiring additional transformer to ensure non-islanding prior to listing of inverters
- Later installations included listed inverters

## Codes and Standards Experiences - IFC (ONSI)

- 200 kW Phosphoric Acid
- Commercial (hospital, airport, bank computers, etc.)
- Tested and listed to ANSI Z21.83 by CSA
- Enhancing indoor installation guidance
- Biggest C&S deficiency at this time is the lack of an interconnect standard
  - IEEE 1547 is needed to facilitate "type testing" and eliminate custom, non-standard in-field tests and addition of redundant external protections and breakers to satisfy the local utility

# Codes and Standards Experiences Allen Engineering Company

- Developing a fuel cell power plant design since 1997 and recognized the importance of codes and standards compliance and potential for design impact
- Consideration of codes and standards early in the design development phase has contributed to an improved product design
- Codes and standards have impacted virtually every aspect of their designs to various degrees
  - Pressurization
  - Ventilation
  - Enclosure layout
  - System sizing

## Codes and Standards Experiences - CSA

- Assisting manufactures who are attempting to obtain the CE mark in Europe for their products
- European certification agencies were not able to concisely state to CSA what testing needed to be conducted
- Fuel cells, apparently, did not fit well into existing European directives; making it difficult to move forward to secure approval
- Delay added 3 months to the approval time and approximately \$10K to the cost of the effort

# Summary

- Building construction regulations will affect fuel cell development and deployment
- Investments to develop and implement codes and standards are being made in individual countries and at the international level
- One globally acceptable product design, application and installation should be the goal
- There are likely to be continued inter- and intra-country variations in both technical requirements and administrative approval processes

# Future Actions

- Technology acceptance planning
- Testing and documentation of safety and performance
- Technology evaluation and assessment
- Standards and model codes to guide uniform acceptance
- Adoption and implementation of codes and standards
- Education and training
- Teamwork and coordination
- Communication
- Feedback and change

# The Result

One universal set of criteria that everyone involved can agree on and uniformly design to, adopt, implement and enforce

- Minimal constraints on RD&D
- Less costly technology deployment
- Uniformity
- Free trade
- Public health, life safety and welfare protection
- Timely realization of technology benefits

# Contacts

National Evaluation Service

[www.nateval.org](http://www.nateval.org)

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

[www.pnl.gov/fuelcells](http://www.pnl.gov/fuelcells)