



SPEAR

POWER SYSTEMS

The Electric Tug: Battery Systems for Marine Applications
Prepared for the Membership of the American Waterways Operators

June 7, 2022 Revision B

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**The American
Waterways Operators**

The Tugboat, Towboat & Barge Industry Association

Agenda:

- Applications
- Terminology
- Safety
- Installation and regulation
- Sizing, aging, and end-of-life
- Future of in-vessel batteries
- Alternative strategies for inland waterways

Applications



- **All Electric Propulsion**

- Safe, simple, doable for select applications
- Ferries have provided precedence
- Harbor tugs in operation and construction
- Big battery, big charging infrastructure

- **Diesel Hybrid**

- More efficient and capable than diesel electric tugs
- First US implementation of lithium ion
- Benefits depend on application
- Highly scalable

- **Alternative Fuel Hybrid**

- Combination with LNG, hydrogen fuel cell, etc.
- Battery supplies power ramp for maneuvering, bollard pull
- Essential element of alternative fuel strategies

Terminology



- **Cell**

- Individual units of storage; LI typically 3.2 (LFP) or 3.6 (NMC) volts nominal (50% SOC)
- Formats pouch, cylindrical, prismatic can
- Capacity 5-200Ah (18-720Wh)

- **Module**

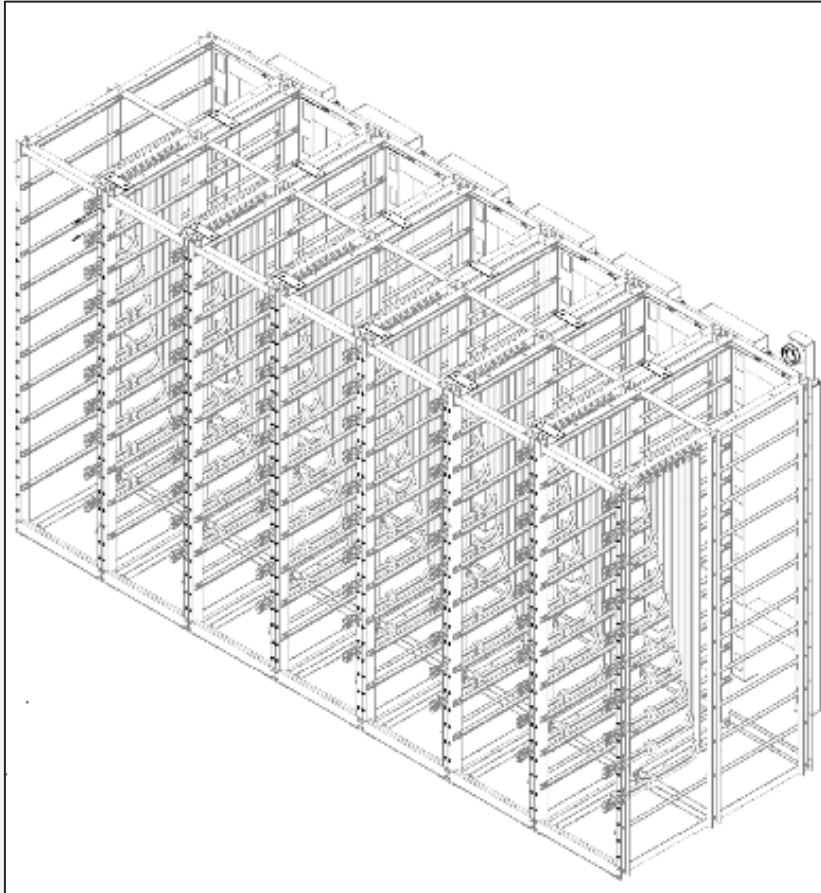
- Base system unit, cells in series (V+V) and parallel (Ah+Ah)
- Thermal management, battery management system (BMS) sensors, emergency control

- **String**

- Modules in series to reach system voltage
- BMS control elements
- Housed in cabinet or rack
- Base reliability unit
- Banked in parallel to reach needed capacity



Safety



- **Battery Management System**

- Monitors inputs and reaction and prevents abusive conditions, isolating string if necessary
- High degree of redundancy required
- Voltage monitoring best method of early detection

- **Thermal Runaway**

- When abused or defect exposed
- Electrolyte rapidly converts to gas, may ignite or explode in certain concentrations
- Suffocation not possible, must lower temperature
- Can cascade from cell to cell (propagation)

- **Mitigation**

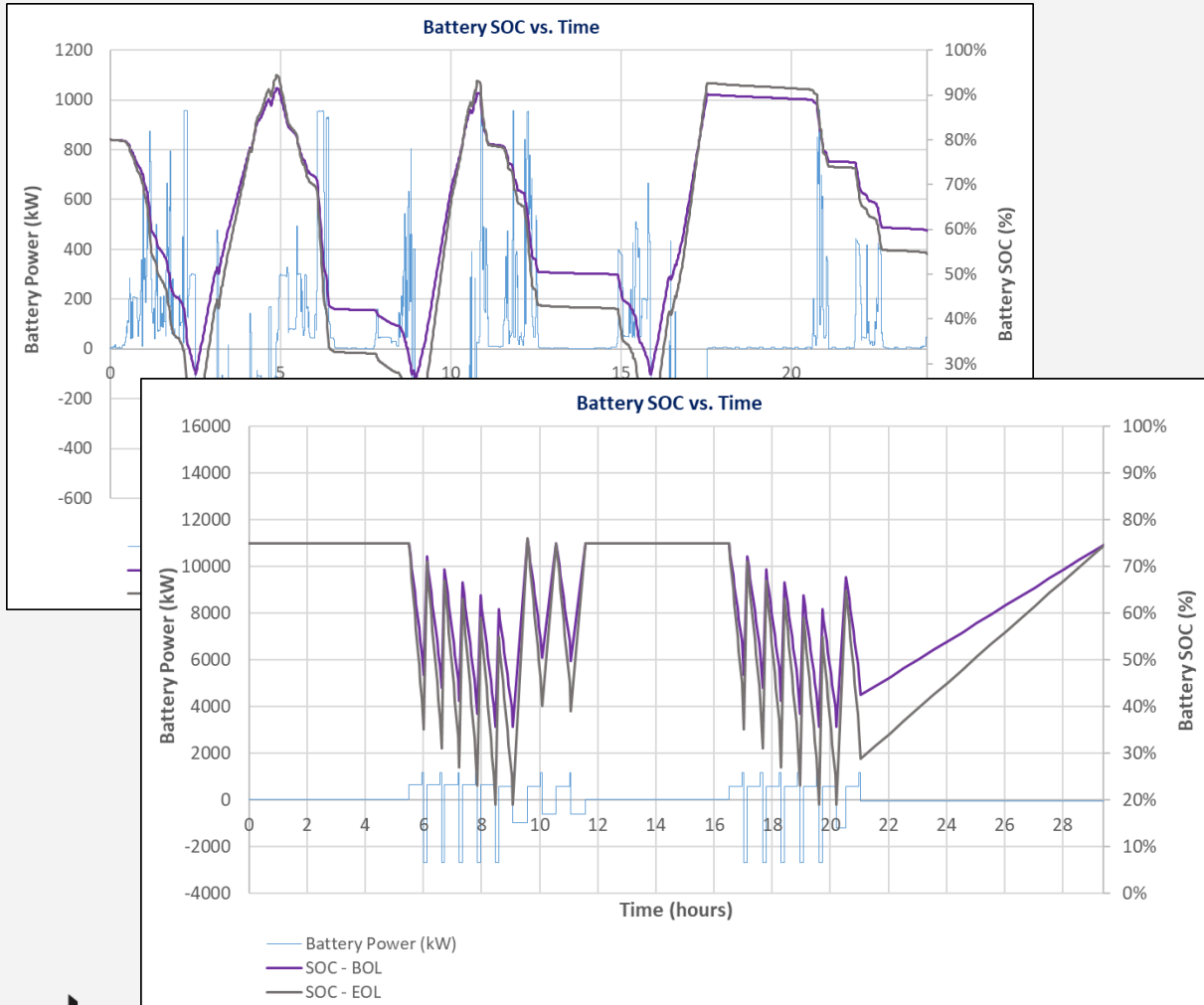
- Single cell propagation
- Module venting
- Fire suppression

Installation and Regulation

- **Environment and space**
 - Typically dedicated battery room
 - Boundary requirements and fire suppression
 - Height, footprint, and service space limitations
- **Weight and balance**
 - 111 Wh/kg leads industry
 - 200 Wh/kg by end 2023
 - System can be distributed for balance
- **Regulation**
 - USCG CG-ENG Policy Letter No. 02-19 invoking ASTM F3353-19
 - DNV, then ABS, LR, BV, etc. have developed rules leading to type approval
 - Shore batteries unclear, regional, often local



Sizing, Aging, End-of-Life



• Aging concepts

- Batteries decrease in capacity over cycles (dynamic), modified by depth of discharge and rate
- Calendar aging factors are static effects from temperature, average voltage,
- Cells also increase in resistance over cycles, increasing voltage drop

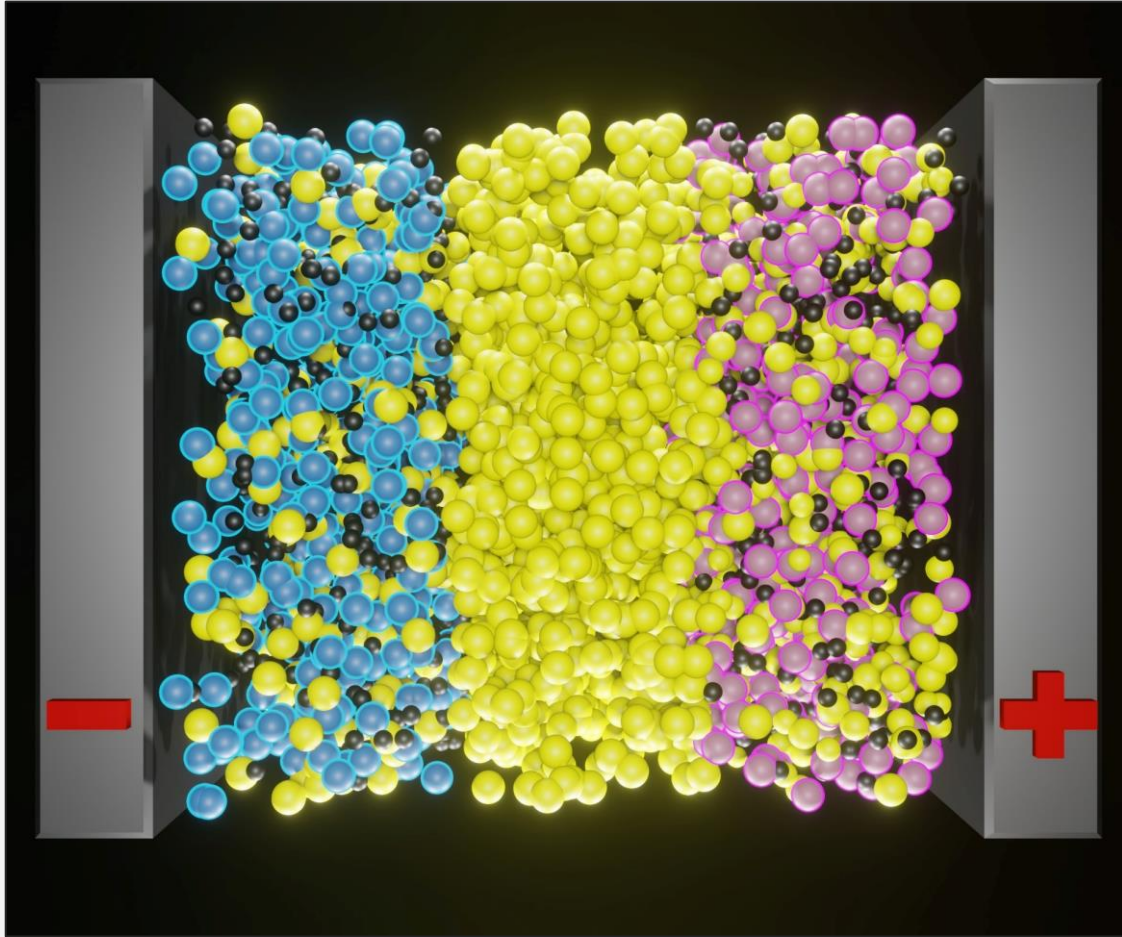
• End of Life (EOL)

- Capacity is too little to complete task (energy)
- Voltage drop is too steep to complete task (power)
- Capacity degradation no longer linear (reliability)

• Sizing

- Battery vendor determines energy at BOL to produce desired service life
- Competitive constraints

Future In-Vessel Batteries



- **Improved Energy Density**

- Solid state, silicon anode next steps
- Power and life limitations
- 6-10 years from commercialization

- **Cost**

- Marine ~\$600/kWh historically, recent inflection
- Automotive and stationary at 15%-30% \$ marine
- Significant safety, performance compromises
- TWh automotive, GWh stationary
- Marine currently 100 MWh, 1 GWh by 2026-7

- **Recycling and Second Life**

- Scarcity of materials in NMC should yield cash positive recycling by EOL
- LFP less certain
- Strong second life potential, helped by provenance

Alternatives for Inland Waterways

- **Containerization**

- Can be swapped at beginning/end of route
- Eases charging and peak costs
- Current state of art ~ 1.5-2 MWh/20'
- DC vs AC container, potential standardization of interface
- Must maintain safety at all costs!

- **Storage as a Service (SaaS)**

- Owner contract with storage provider for extended-life installation
- Eases capital burden, lowers risk
- Can be supported with service contracts to make truly turnkey

- **Energy as a Service (EaaS)**

- Eases capital burden, accelerates second life
- Adds stakeholders



Current Direct



- **Collaborative**

- EU Horizons 2020 funded 3-year project
- 13 partners including Foreship, Lloyd's Register, Wartsila, Kotug, EDP, Port of Rotterdam


- **Radical**

- EaaS model recruits most capable stakeholders, rewards all parties
 - Ports, utilities, investors
- Advanced battery intelligence feeds asset and fleet management
- >3MWh per 20' container (2x SoA)

- **Model for an American approach**

- Benefits to port of high interest to ports, MARAD, DOE
- Regional exploration faster than federal



The Current Direct project is funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 program. Grant number 963603 

currentdirect.eu



JON DILLER

Commercial Director - Grandview

+1 (913) 636 9574

jdiller@sensata.com

EILEEN TAUSCH

Applications Engineering Manager - Seattle

+1 (248) 807 6081

etausch@sensata.com

INGI HUSWICK

Business Development Manager - Phoenix

+1 (602) 738 0125

ihuswick@sensata.com