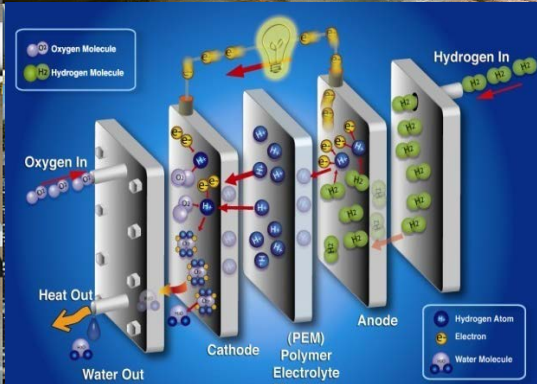


# Fuel Cells at NASCAR



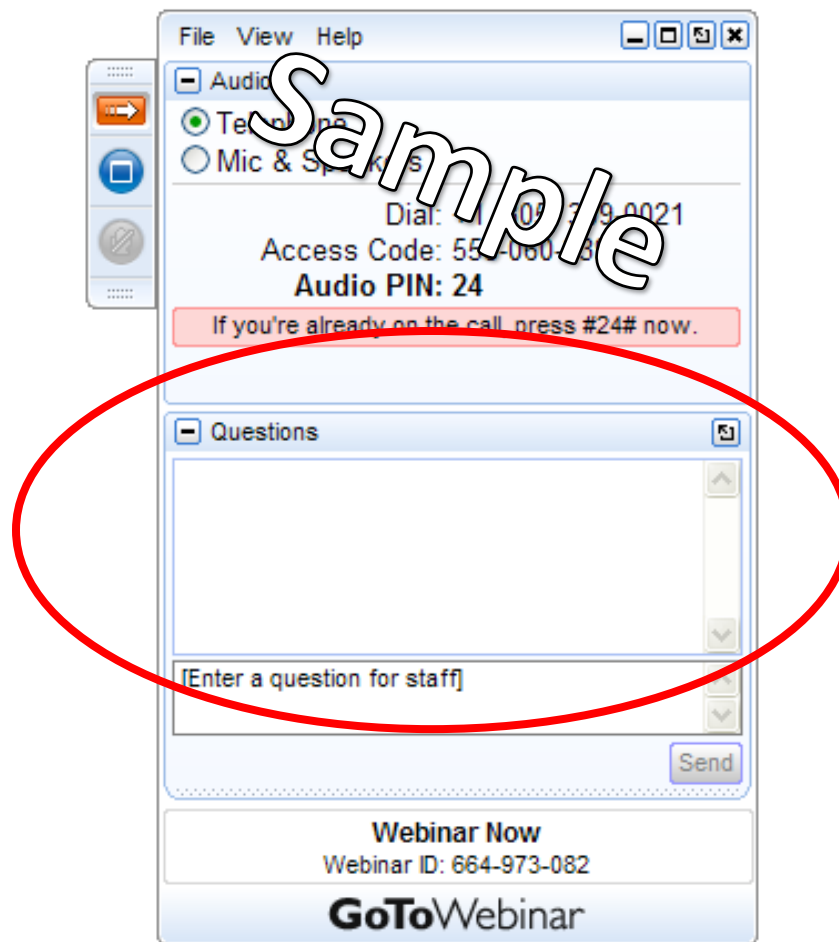
Catherine Kummer – NASCAR Green  
Norm Bessette – Acumentrics

Ned Stetson

U.S. Department of Energy  
Fuel Cell Technologies Office

# Question and Answer

- Please type your question into the question box



[hydrogenandfuelcells.energy.gov](http://hydrogenandfuelcells.energy.gov)

**NASCAR**<sup>®</sup>  
**GREEN**™



# Selected Milestone Accomplishments

- 5 years of NASCAR Green with now most impactful sustainability platform in history of U.S. based on numbers; most impactful in sports
- 75% of avid NASCAR fans are now aware of NASCAR green and believe the sport cares about the environment
- NASCAR fans are now 100% more likely than nonfans to view their household as very green and always looking for ways to positively impact the environment
- Nearly 70% more likely than non-fans to support the use of ethanol blended with gasoline to fuel NASCAR race cars
- More than 50% more likely to support the use of ethanol blended with gasoline to fuel their own car
- Forty percent (40%) more likely to support the use of ethanol blended with gasoline to fuel cars on the road to increase U.S. energy independence
- Grew from zero to 25 NASCAR Green partners across 12 new partners and 13 engaged from the existing base

# NASCAR Green Initiatives and Messaging



**Conservation of the Environment**



**Job Creation**



**Strengthening American Energy Independence**



# Largest and Most Diverse Recycling Program in Sports



## Bottles and Cans

20 million recycled total to date



## Cell Phones



## Tires

605,000 recycled total to date



## Automotive Fluids

1MM gallons recycled total to date



## Car Batteries



## Car Recycling

96% materials recyclable per car

# Most Visible Biofuels Program in the World



6 million miles raced on Sunoco Green E15 in 2014



# Largest Tree Planting Program in Sports

- Over 267,000 trees planted to date
- Offsetting all NASCAR racing already for the next 18 years
- Over 200,000 more trees to be planted in 2015



**Join NASCAR Race to Green™**

2014 NASCAR Race to Green

GET INVOLVED

[Plant Now](#)

SHARE WITH FRIENDS

[#NASCARGREEN](#)

TREES PLANTED AND COUNTING...

2 6 7 3 8 5

A screenshot of a video player showing a presentation slide with a globe and a speaker at a podium. The video player interface includes a play button, a progress bar at 0:00 / 0:29, and a YouTube logo.



# Largest Renewable Energy Projects in Sports



Pocono Raceway



Iowa Speedway



Sonoma Raceway



Watkins Glen International



Michael Waltrip Racing Team Shop



UPS Trackside Services Hauler



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



# U.S. Department of Energy and NASCAR MOU

## Areas of Focus:

- **Clean Energy Deployment and Utilization**
  - Example: NASCAR has joined the Workplace Charging Challenge with the installation of 20 Eaton EV Charging Stations
- **Collaborative Research, Development and Technology Commercialization**
  - Example: Beta-test of solid oxide fuel cell technology at Daytona 500 and Rolex 24 in 2014
- **Community Outreach and Education**
  - Promotion of platforms and programs digitally, e.g. solid oxide fuel cell test supported with NASCAR social media and online channels – **over 4.5 million followers**



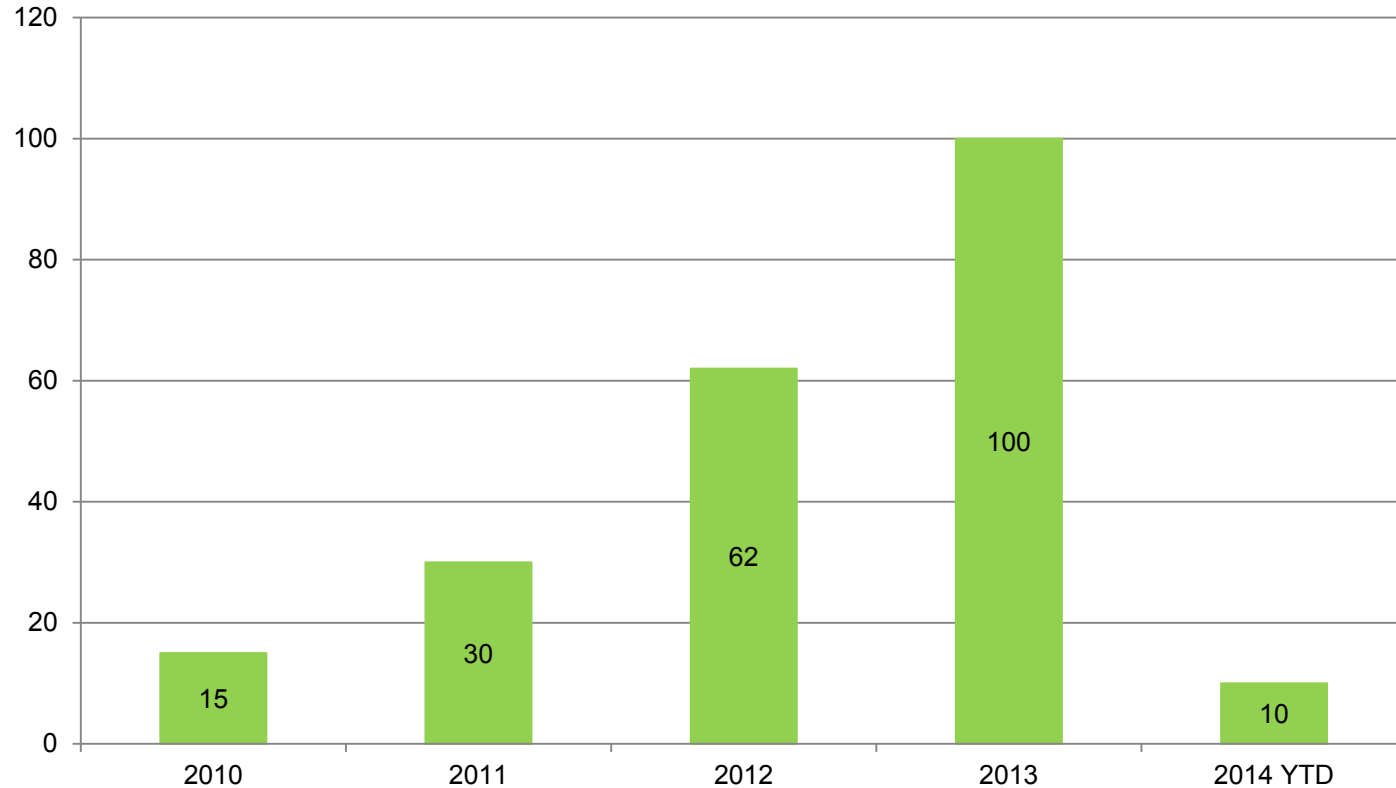
# NASCAR Green Partners



\* Interbrand Top 100

# Continuing 90% CAGR Team Sponsor Growth

## Number of Green Sponsors - National Series



**Includes Liberty Tire Recycling (D. Wallace, Jr.), Eaton (Harvick, NNS), American Ethanol (A. Dillon), Blue Jeans Go Green NNS Race - Phoenix**

# Examples of NASCAR Green Activation



# NASCAR TV Viewership and Fan Demographics

## 2013 NASCAR Series and Ancillary Programming Viewership

- Nearly 100 million unique viewers tuned in to NASCAR in 2013 and nearly 70 million tuned into the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races.
- NASCAR is the dominant regular season sport from February – July.

Source: The Nielsen Company. Results reflect Live + Same Day data stream.

## The NASCAR Fan Base

- Gender: 63% male / 37% female
- Age: 45% of NASCAR fans are 18-44 (96 index vs. U.S. pop)
- Income: 54% of NASCAR fans earn \$50,000+ (104 index vs. U.S. pop)
- Family: 38% of NASCAR fans have children under the age of 18 (97 index vs. U.S. pop)
- Geographic regions: NASCAR fans live in regions that mirror the U.S. population
- Minorities: 1 out of 5 NASCAR fans is multicultural

Source: Scarborough (USA+ Release 1 2012)



# NASCAR Green Communications Strategy

Broadcast

Earned Media

Digital Media

TV and Radio



Dedicated NASCAR  
Green TV Spots

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Bloomberg

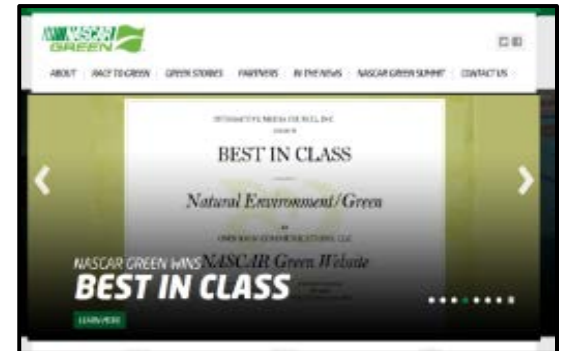


Forbes®

Bloomberg

THE HAYS  
ADVANTAGE

Online/Social



[www.NASCAR.com/Green](http://www.NASCAR.com/Green)

@NASCARGreen





# Selected Future Initiative Areas

Technologies ready for broad adoption/testing in NASCAR:

- Further deployment of fuel cell technologies – power generation
- Smart Grid Technologies/Further Energy Management
- Further growth in solar and renewable energy
- Specialty applications for water purification and other field operations
- LED Lighting – Track and garage lighting, mobile lighting, broadcast compound
- Next Generation Biofuels
- Electric Vehicles – Racing Series
- Natural Gas – Power generation at-track and in NASCAR broadcast compound, pace cars, etc.
- Agricultural Efficiency

# Demonstration of SOFC Technology Powering Cameras for NASCAR

# Basis of the Program

- NASCAR is an industry lead on advancing sustainable products & technology
- Acumentrics is focused on high efficient power generation for remote & difficult applications.
- Based on discussions and a speedway visit with NASCAR, it was agreed that Acumentrics would:
  - Develop a 1000 Watt Cart Based Portable Generator (fueled by propane) for powering multi-camera sites and in-field auxiliaries
  - Develop a 250 Watt Man-Portable Generator (fueled by propane) for powering single camera sites
  - Deliver two 1000 Watt and two 250 Watt Generators
  - Demonstrate the unit at several NASCAR races

# Program Scope

- Acumentrics to deliver two RP1000 and two RP250 systems for demonstration at three NASCAR races
- These units would be operated and supported by Acumentrics personnel
- NASCAR would be responsible for fuel delivery coordination and providing security access
- First demonstration at Daytona spring 2014

# Program Benefits - NASCAR

- Demonstrate cutting edge green technology for broadcast camera power
- Validate reduced noise and vibration allowing closer integration between generator and camera
- Validate potential fuel savings and emission reductions at race events
- Demonstrate “smart” generator control for potentially improved camera and broadcast uptime
- Demonstrate improved race event safety by removal of fueling needs during events

# Program Benefits - Acumentrics

- Demonstrate our latest generator products in a new potential market
- Gain greater field data to refine all product platforms
- Leverage public events to benefit both NASCAR and Acumentrics name & brand
- Leverage DOE funding to help commercialize all product platforms
- Place both NASCAR and Acumentrics in a favorable light allowing for potential future funding or support

# Advantages of RP250 vs. Honda 3000is

## ■ Fuel Consumption-Honda

- Per NASCAR input, generators consumes ~5gal/10hr race or ~20 gal/race weekend (assumed operate 4 days)
- At \$3.63/gal that's \$73/generator or \$2190/30 deployed generators

## ■ Fuel Consumption-RP250

- Propane consumption of 2lbs/10hr race
- One 20lb bottle would last a race weekend
- Total cost of \$5/generator or \$150/ 30 deployed generators

## ■ Net Savings of over \$2000/race weekend or \$77,000 per season

# Advantages of RP250 vs. Honda 3000is

## ■ Noise:

- Honda 3000: 58dB @ 23ft
- RP250: 58dB @ 2ft

## ■ Vibration:

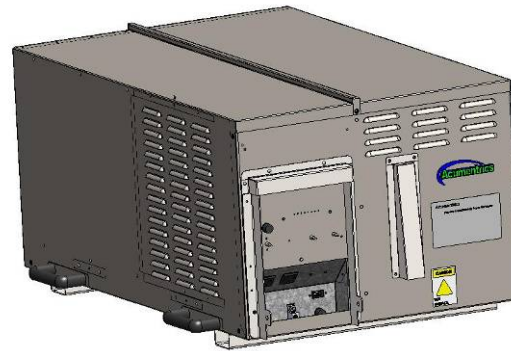
- Honda 3000-need to locate ~10' from camera
- RP250 could be mounted within 1-2 feet

## ■ Remote Start & Control

- Honda 3000: Not Applicable
- RP250: Control from broadcast compound or smart phone across cellular or fiber network



# Dimensional Comparison



	RP250	Honda 3000
Width	20"	17.5"
Height	15.5"	21.9"
Length	32"	25.8"
Weight	125lbs	134lbs

# Physical Size & Weight Reductions

Model	L (in)	W (in)	H (in)	Wgt(lbs)
RP250	32	20	15.5	127
RP500	39	22	22	300
RP1000	39	28	25	350

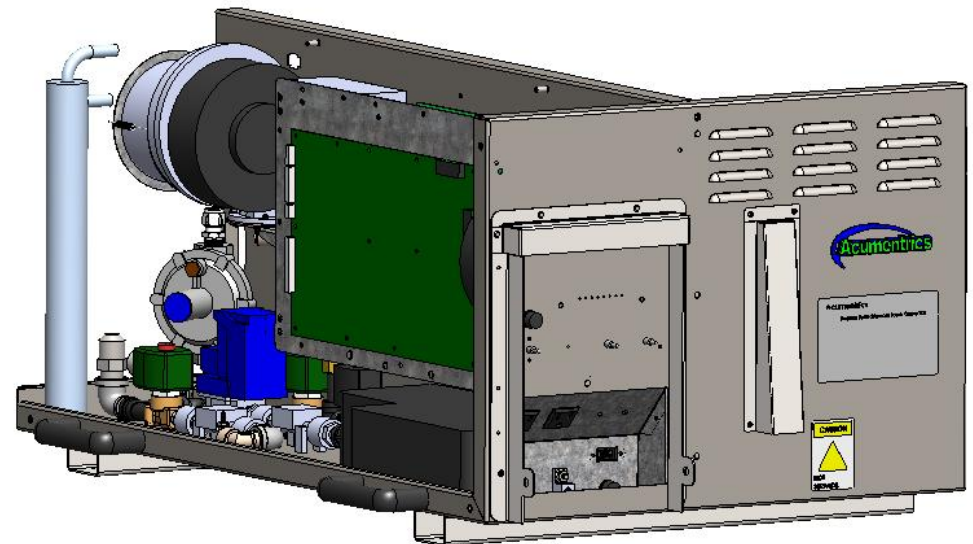
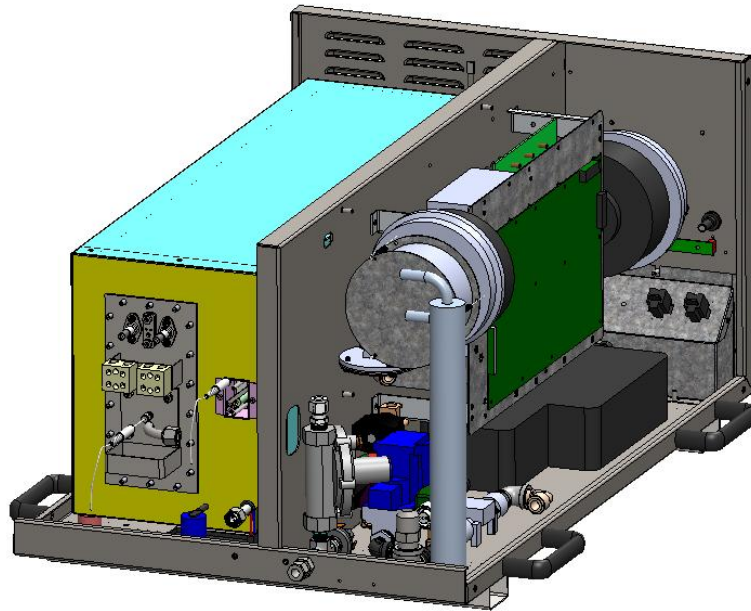


- Latest Generation is 47% smaller in volume over RP250/500 Model
- 58% lighter than previous generation and in-line with 2 man portable.

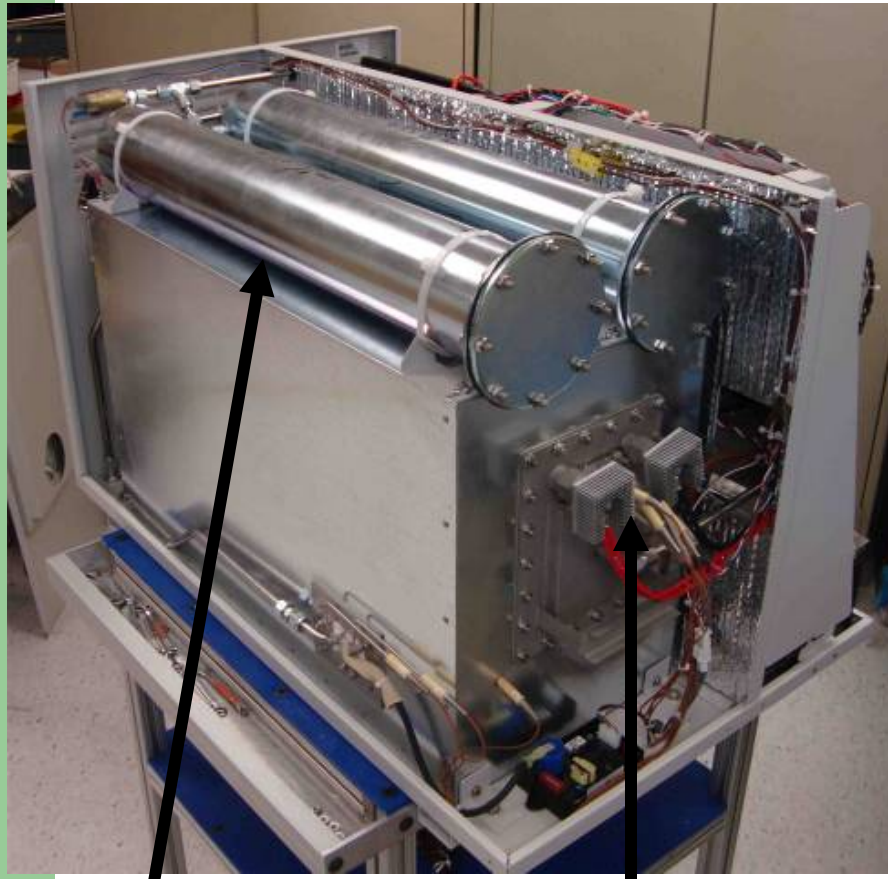
# Design Activities

- Scale existing 20 cell bundle to 10 cells (250 Watt) and 48 cells (1000 Watt)
- Design Fuel Cell Modules to Accommodate 10 and 48 cell bundles
- Design propane delivery system including desulfurizers
- Integrate RP system with AC Inverter
- Tailor firmware for new power levels, AC output, variable loads and automatic operation
- Design 1000 Watt cart and Fuel Cell and Propane Enclosures
- Design 250 Watt Enclosure
- Integrate Li Ion batteries into 250 Watt system

# RP250 Design

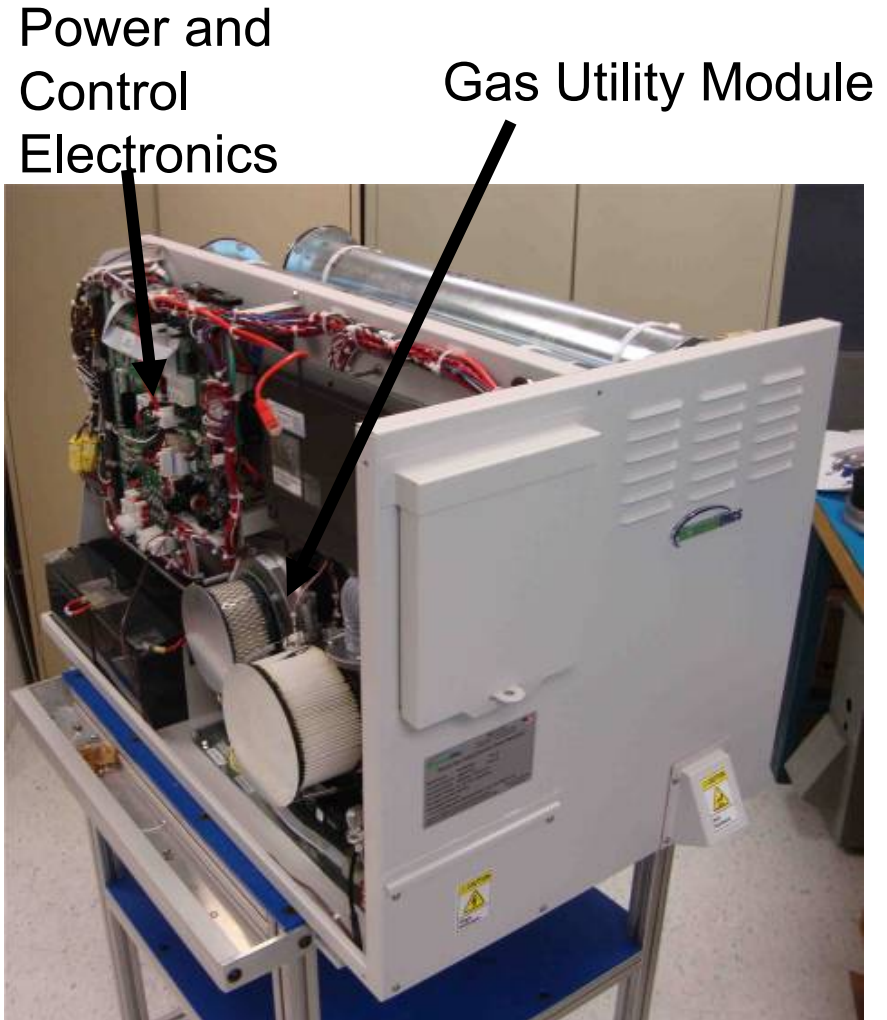


# Basic RP1500 Unit



Desulfurizer  
Filters

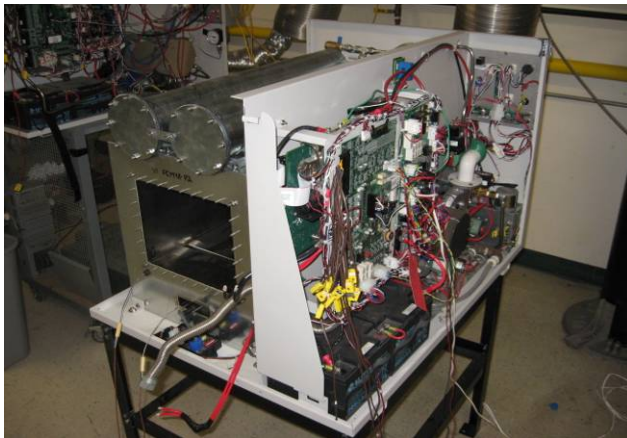
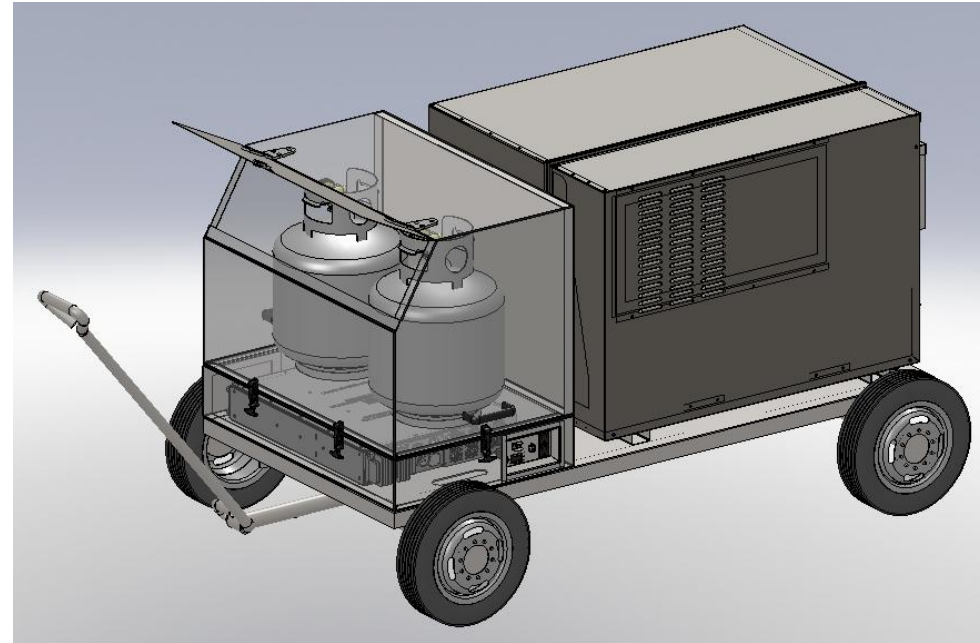
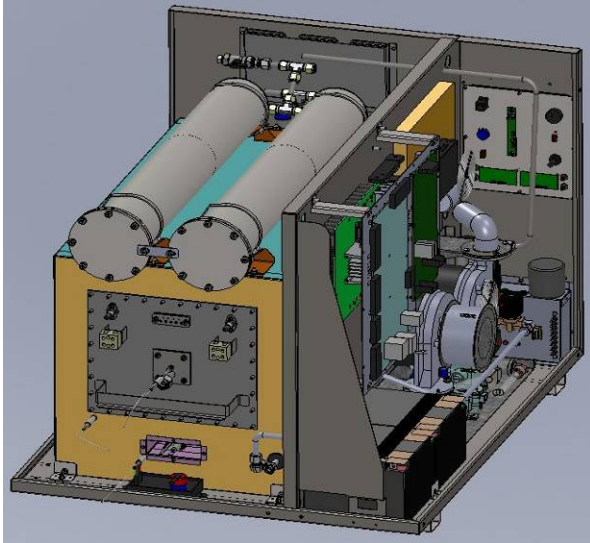
Fuel Cell  
Bundle



Power and  
Control  
Electronics

Gas Utility Module

# RP1500 Integrated Design



# Rolex24-Trophy Stand Power

- The RP1000 was demonstrated near the trophy stage.
- Unit was trailer towable and contained ~1 week of fuel supply
- Trailer Updates made before 500.



# Field Trials



# Powering Boom Camera-Turn 2



- The RP250 powered the camera, articulating arm, and LCD display.
- Load ranged from 15-20W to ~200W.
- No issues load following over the course of ~8hrs of filming during Rolex24.

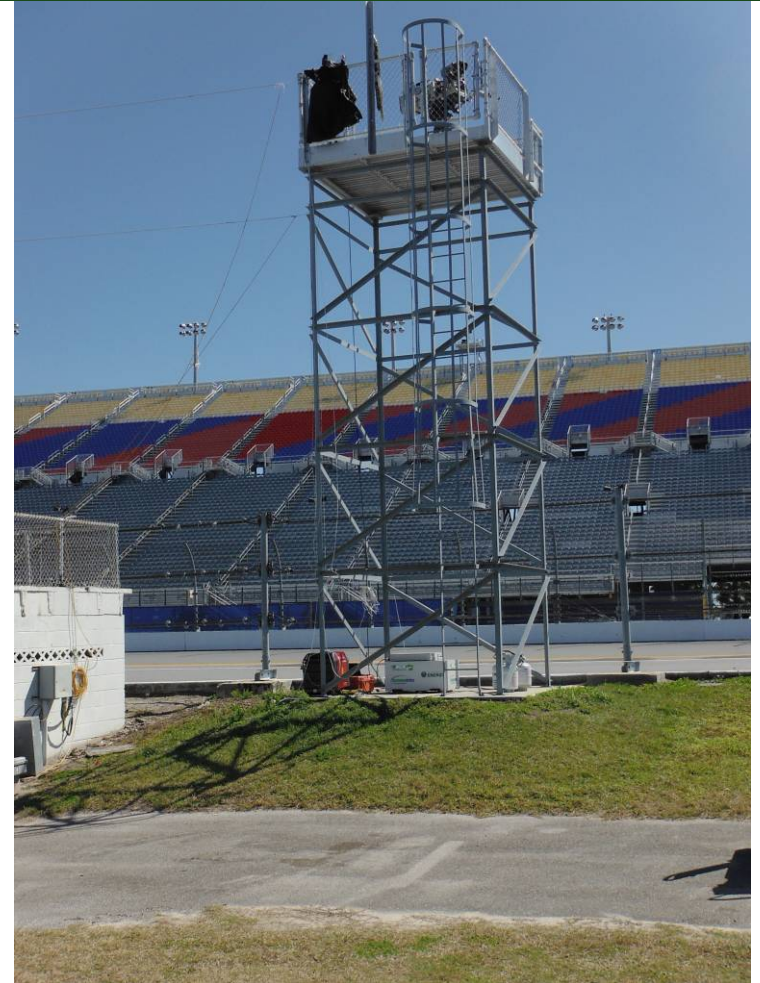
# Powering Manual Camera-Turn 3



- The RP250 powered the manual camera and LCD display.
- Load around 150-180W.
- Operated over a 2 week period culminating with the Daytona 500.

## 2 Week Extended Run During Speed Weeks

- The RP250 powered the manual camera and LCD display.
- Load around 150-180W.
- Utilized 4lbs/day propane.



# 1000W Operating Near Pit Row



- Two 1000W AC units were located on the track-one exiting pit row & one at the flag stand
- These units were primarily utilized for stationary point of use cameras
- Limited data was obtained to compare fuel use savings and performance gains.

# Conclusions

- The RP250 units were proven to successfully power both manual and articulating cameras around the track.
- Quoted fuel reductions to less than 5lb propane/day were validated.
- Dispatching and monitoring of the units from the TV compound through cellular communication was demonstrated.
- Ruggedness of transport by truck/golf cart/towed cart was proven with no detectable damage to fuel cell stack or units.
- Noise levels at or below background were demonstrated and proven to be an asset during non-race times.

# Required Effort for Greater Deployment

- Unit Cost Reduction – present price would require a 5-7yr ROI based on fuel savings-need to improve this metric.
- Fuel monitoring – assuring what amount of propane is in the bottle and rate of consumption is still very manual. Greater automation is needed for full dispatch capability.
- Extended Trials – Units were tested over a 1 and 2 week period but logistical issues of packaging, transport, and fuel delivery need better data.

# Acknowledgements



Acumentrics would like to thank the DOE for their financial support and NASCAR for access, insight, support and forward look into green initiatives.

# Thank You

[Ned.Stetson@go.doe.gov](mailto:Ned.Stetson@go.doe.gov)

[hydrogenandfuelcells.energy.gov](http://hydrogenandfuelcells.energy.gov)