

Manufacturing Competitiveness Analysis for PEM and Alkaline Water Electrolysis Systems



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National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Fuel Cell Seminar and Energy Expo

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Agenda

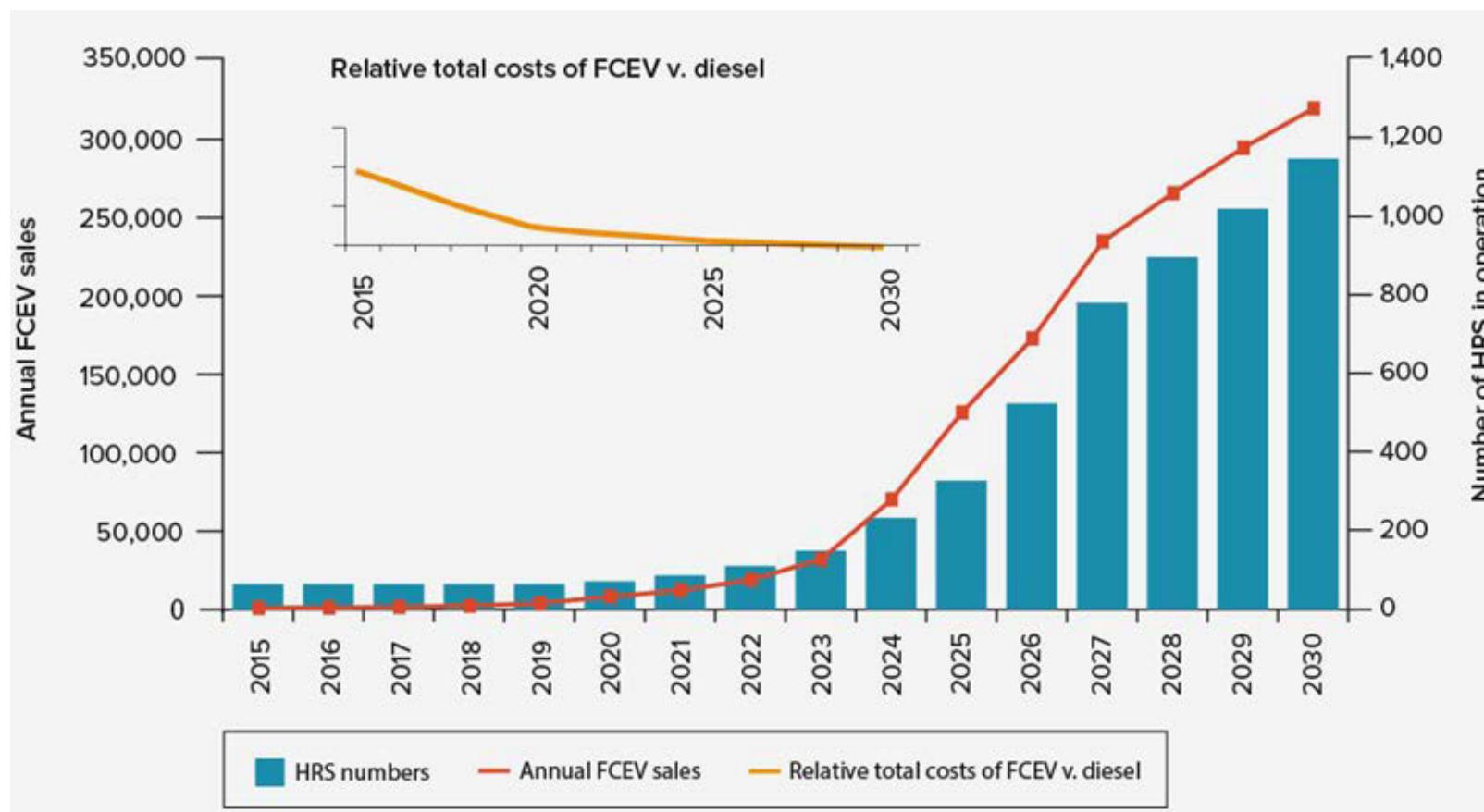
- I. Introduction
- II. PEM Electrolyzer - Functional Specs & System Design
- III. Alkaline - Functional Specs & System Design
- IV. Cost Analysis for PEM and Alkaline Electrolyzer
- V. Concluding Remarks



I

Introduction

Motivation: Infrastructure for Vehicles



- 2020 sales/production estimate >30,000 FCEVs
- 2030 sales/production estimates >250,000 FCEVs ~~on roads~~
- Is hydrogen infrastructure ready to support this number of FCEVs?

Source: UkH2Mobility

Comparison between PEM and Alkaline Electrolyzers



Characteristics	Alkaline	PEM	Unit	Notes
Current Density	0.2 - 0.7	1.0 - 2.2	A/cm ²	
Operating Temperature	60 – 80	50 – 84	°C	
Electricity Consumption (Median)	50 – 73 (53)	47 – 73 (52)	kWh/kg-H ₂	Electrolysis system only. Excluding storage, compression and dispensing
Min. Load	20 - 40%	3 – 10%		
Startup Time from Cold to Min. Load	20 min - 60+	5 – 15	minutes	
System Efficiency (LHV) (Median)	45-67% (63%)	45 – 71% (63%)		
System Lifetime (Median)	20-30 (26)	10-30 (22)	Year	
System Price	\$760 – \$1,100 (\$930)	\$1,200-\$1,940 (\$1,570)		Including power supply, system control and gas drying. Excluding grid connection, external compression, external purification and H ₂ storage

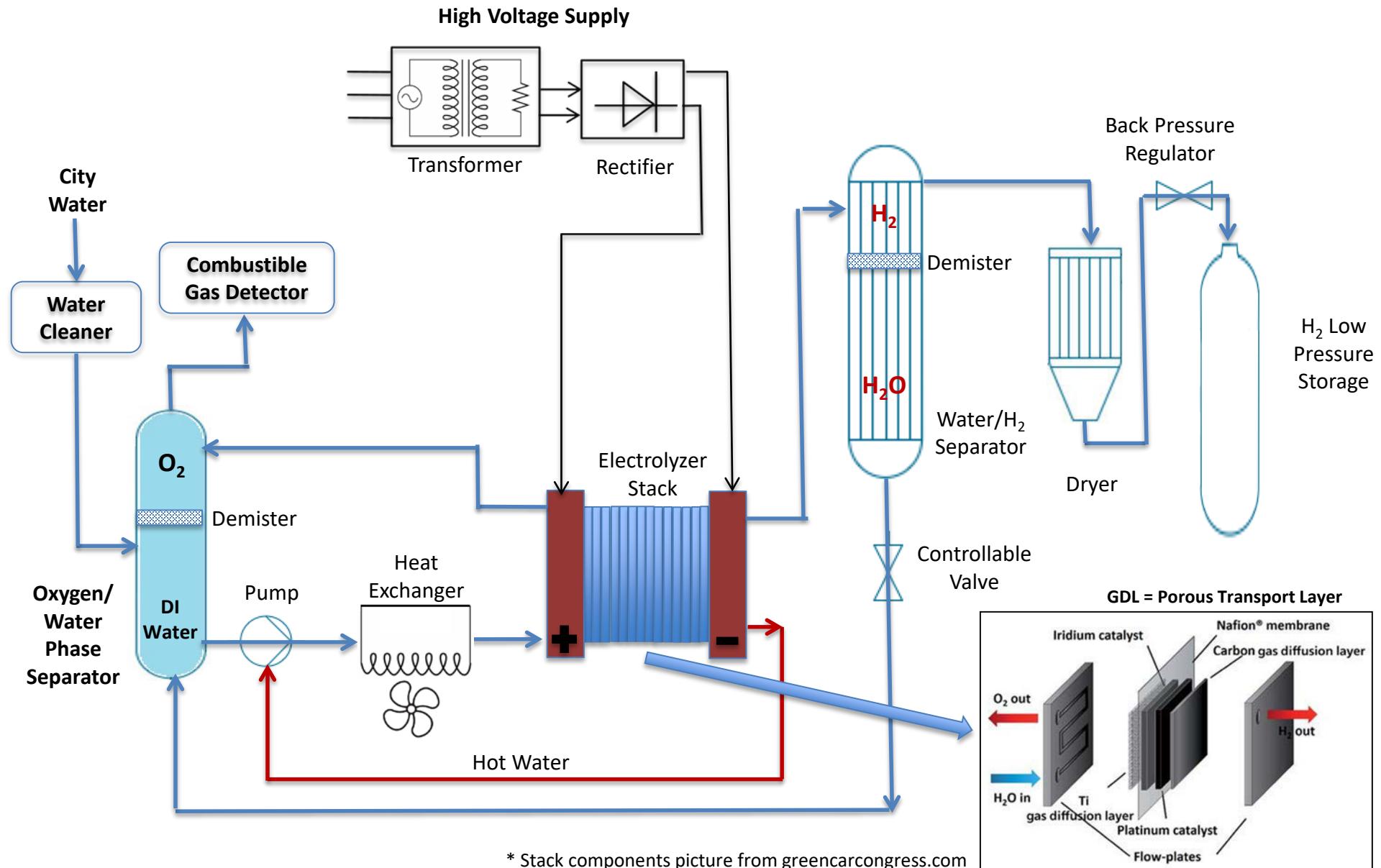
Sources of data: Bertuccioli et al., 2014, NREL 2017



II

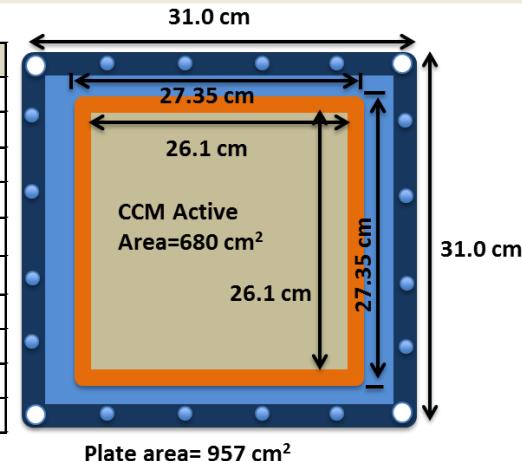
PEM Electrolyzer - Functional Specs & System Design

PEM Electrolyzer System Design



Derived Functional Specifications

Stack Power	10	20	50	100	200	500	1,000	2,000	5,000	10,000	kW
single cell amps					1224						A
current density					1.80						A/cm ²
reference voltage					1.619						V
power density					2.913						W/cm ²
Pt-Ir loading- Anode					7.0						g/m ²
PGM loading Cathode					4.0						g/m ²
single cell power				1981.0							W
Cells per system	5	10	25	50	101	252	505	1010	2524	5048	cells
stacks per system	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	10	20	stacks
cells per stack	5	10	25	50	101	252	252	252	252	252	cells



Part	Assumptions	Notes
Membrane	Nafion 117 (Purchased)	PFSA (PEEK, PBI)
Pt	Pt-price= 1500/tr.oz	DOE Current value
CCM	Spray Coating	Platinum loadings: Anode= 7g/m ² (Pt) Cathode= 4g/m ² (Pt-Ir)
Porous Transport Layer	Sintered porous titanium Ti-price= \$4.5/kg	Porosity=30%
Seal/Frame	Screen printed PPS-40GF or PEEK seal	Seal: 0.635 cm from each side for MEA bonding
Plates	Stainless steel 316L	Coated (plasma Nitriding)

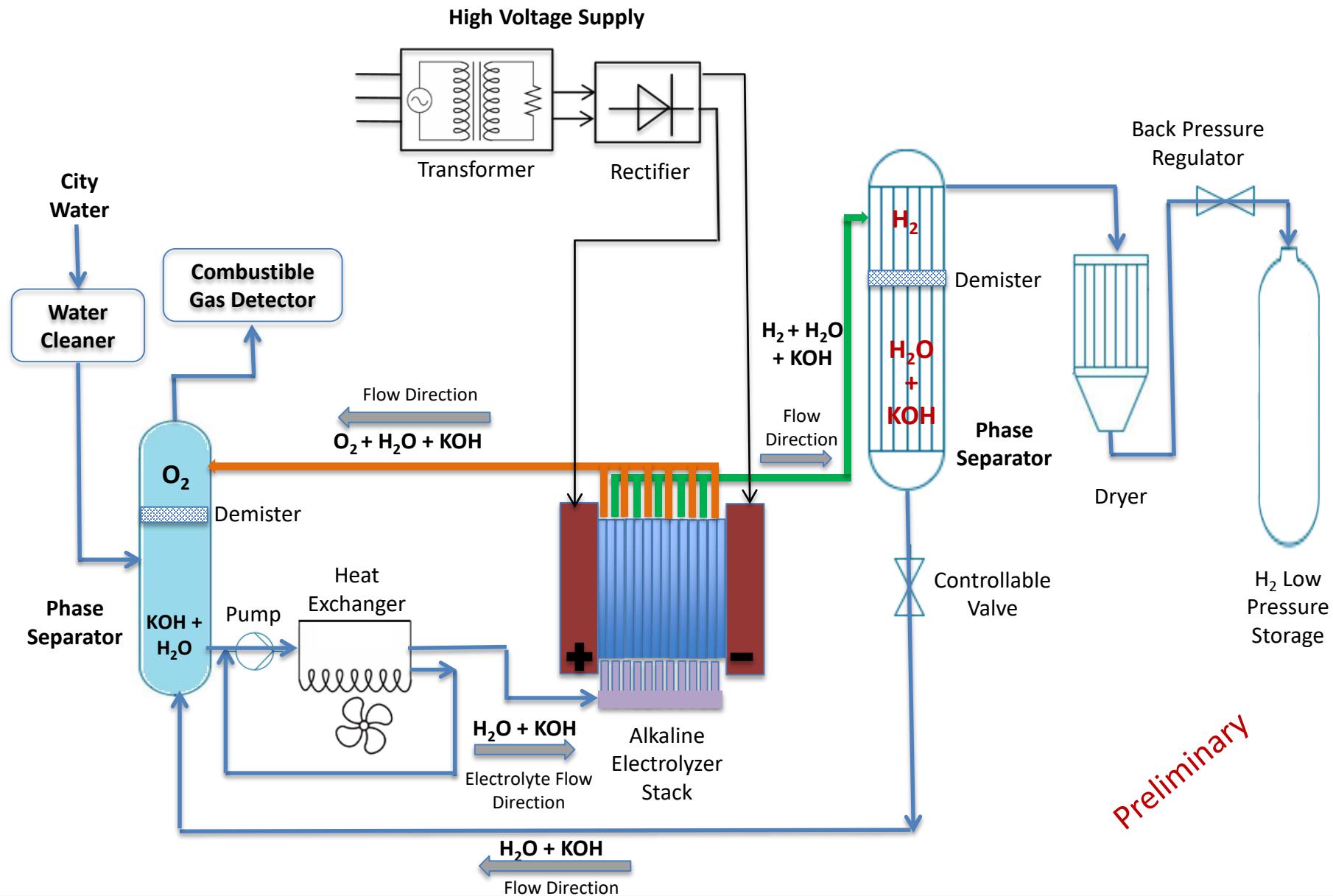


III

Alkaline Electrolyzer - Functional Specs & System Design

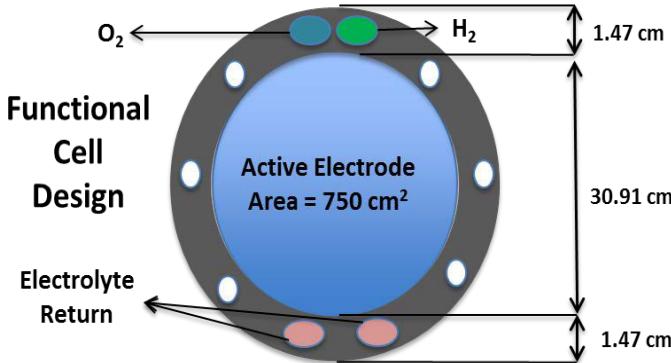


Alkaline Electrolyzer System



Alkaline Electrolyzer - Functional Specs

System rated power	10	20	50	100	200	500	1,000	2,000	5,000	10,000	kW
Electrolyte	$H_2O + 30\% KOH$										
Single cell amps	150	150	150	150	150	150	300	300	300	A	
Current density	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	A/cm ²	
Reference voltage	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.68	Area Doubled	1.68	1.68	1.68	V	
Power density	0.336	0.336	0.336	0.336	0.336		0.336	0.336	0.336	W/cm ²	
Single cell power	252.0	252.0	252.0	252.0	252.0	252.0	504.0	504.0	504.0	504.0	W
Cells per system	40	80	199	397	794	1,985	1,985	3,969	9,921	19,842	cells
Stacks per system	1	1	2	2	4	10	10	20	50	100	stacks
cells per stack	40	80	100	199	199	199	199	199	199	199	cells



Part	Materials	Notes
Membrane	m-PBI	Cast membrane using doctor-blade machine
Electrodes	Raney-nickel	PVD + Leaching to get the required porosity
Porous Transport Layer	Pure Nickel Sheets	Corrosion resistance in alkaline solution
Frame	PPS-40GF or PEEK	Injection molding
Plates	Nickel plates	Surface treatment of high purity sheets

PVD: physical vapor deposition



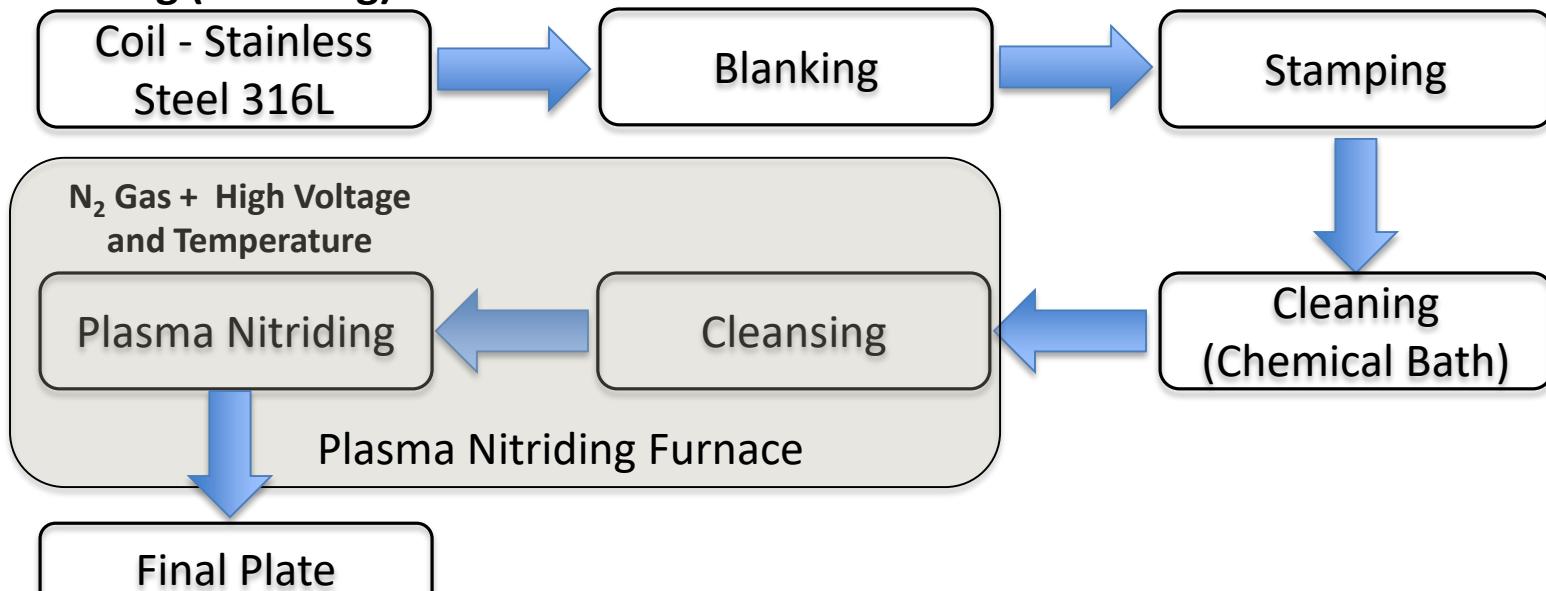
IV

Cost Analysis for PEM and Alkaline Electrolyzer

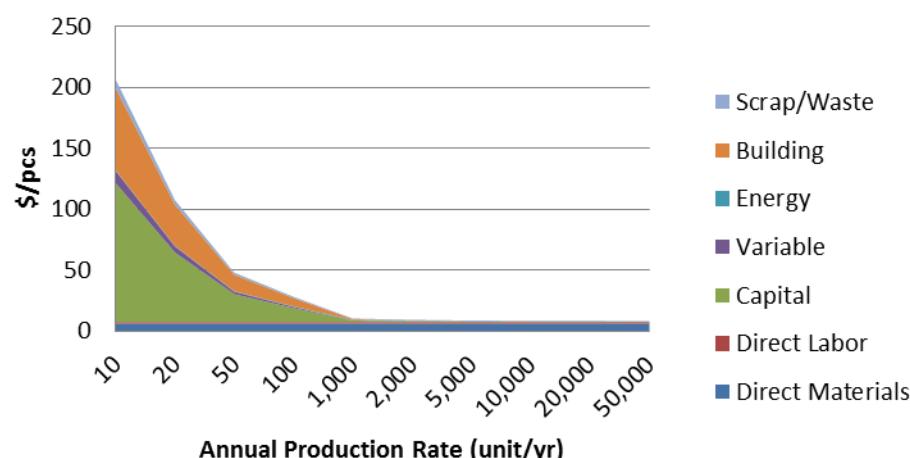


PEM - Bipolar Plate

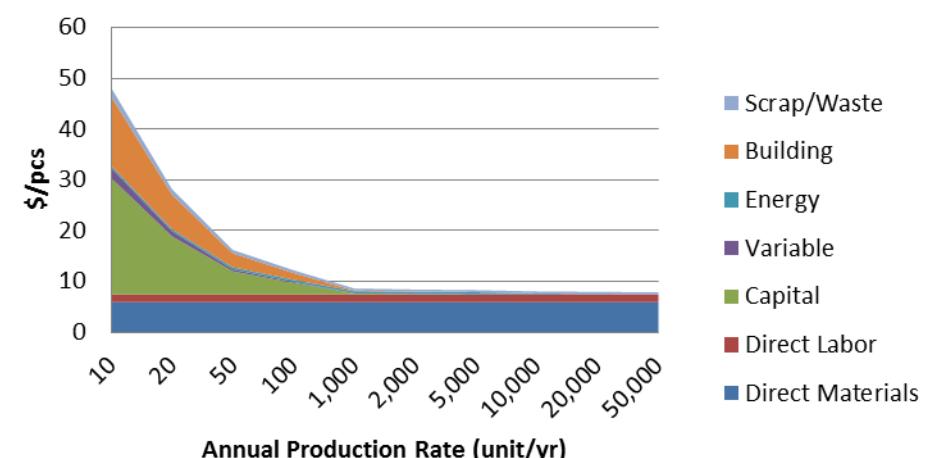
Case Hardening (Nitriding)



Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/pcs) - 200 kW system



Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/pcs) - 1 MW system





PEM Stack Assembly

- Semi-Automatic assembly line
- 3 workers/line
- PPS-40GF Adhesive Materials for MEA
- Compression bands or tie rods
- Stainless steel 316L end plates (thickness 30 mm)

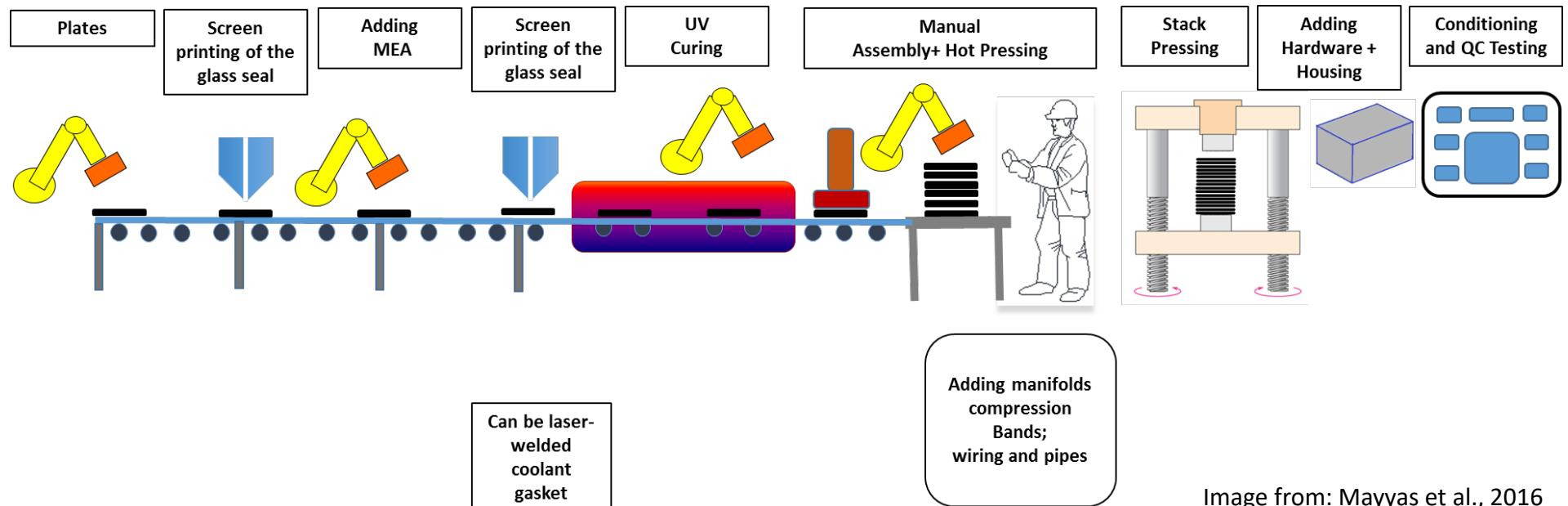
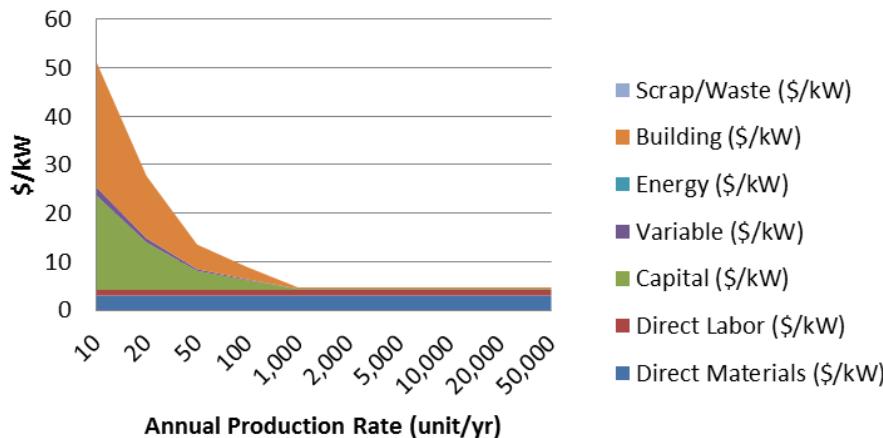


Image from: Mayyas et al., 2016

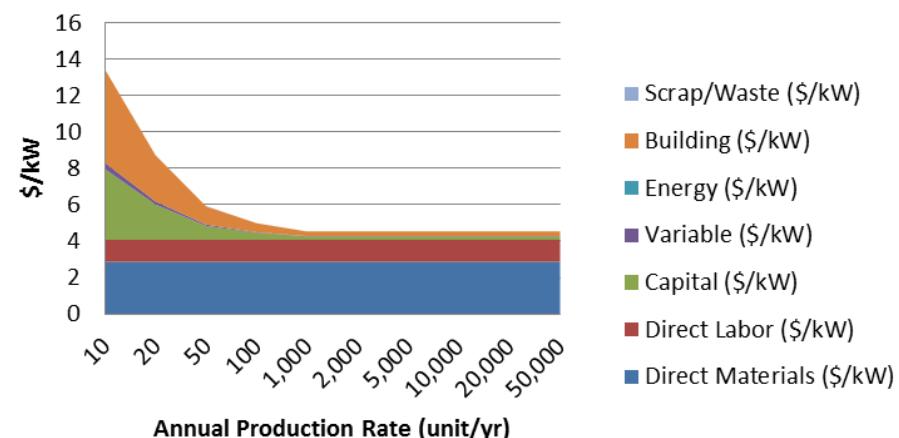
PEM – Stack Assembly



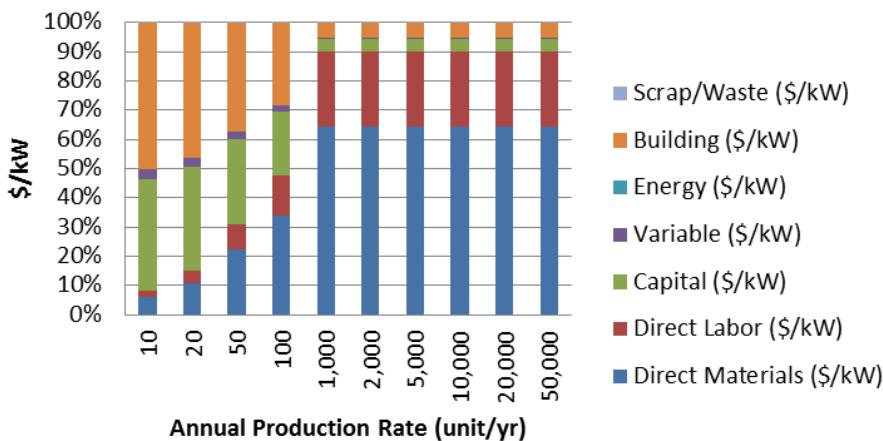
Stack Assembly Cost (\$/kW)- 200 kW



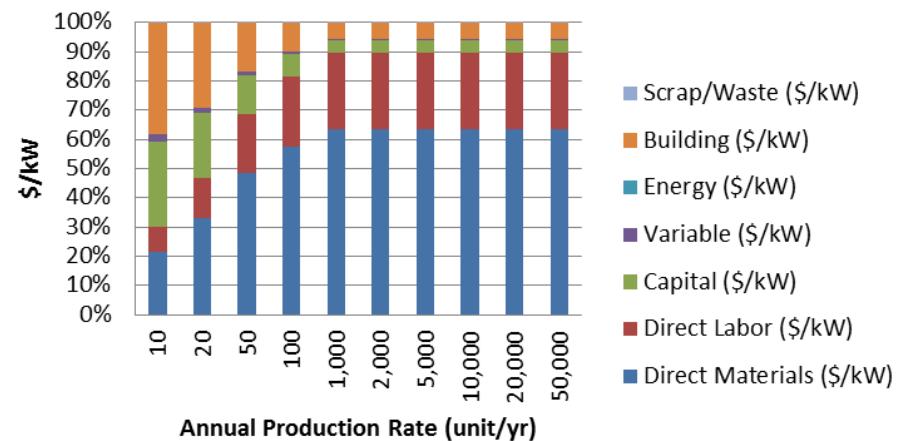
Stack Assembly Cost (\$/kW)- 1 MW



Stack Assembly Cost (\$/kW)- 200 kW



Stack Assembly Cost (\$/kW)- 1 MW

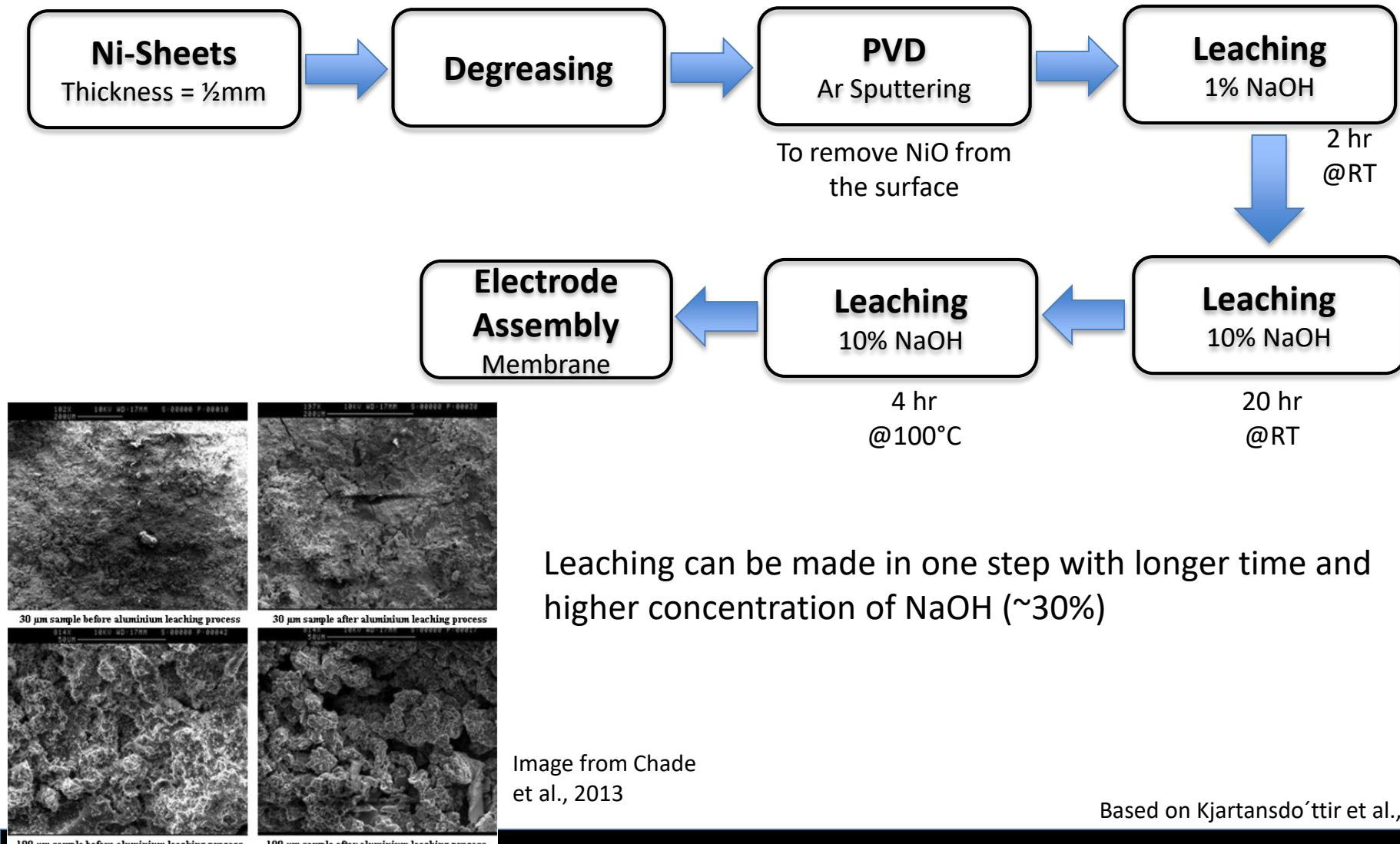


65 kg H₂/day

385 kg H₂/day

Alkaline - Raney Nickel Electrodes

Process Flow Diagram

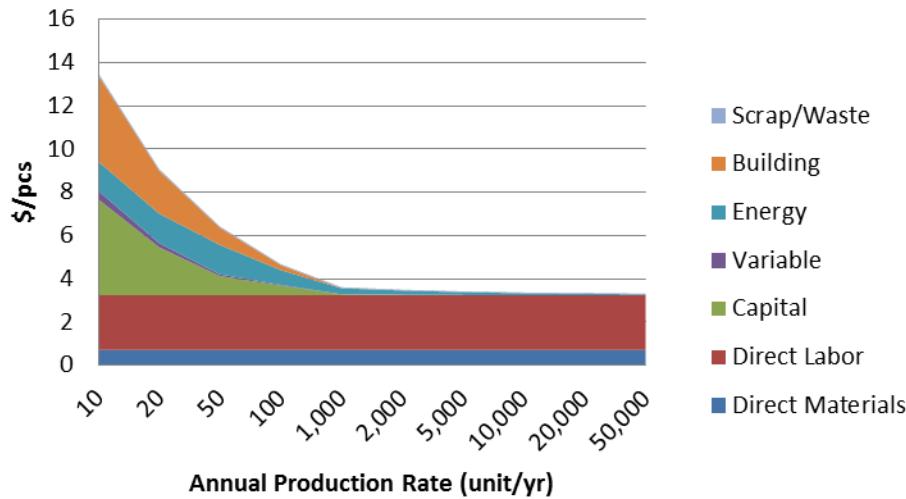


Alkaline - Raney Nickel Electrodes

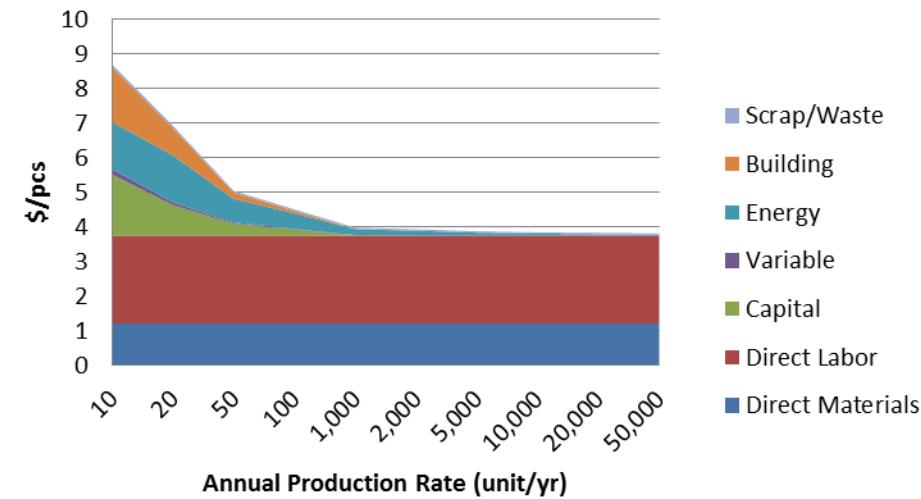


Electrode Cost (\$/pcs) - 200 kW system

Preliminary

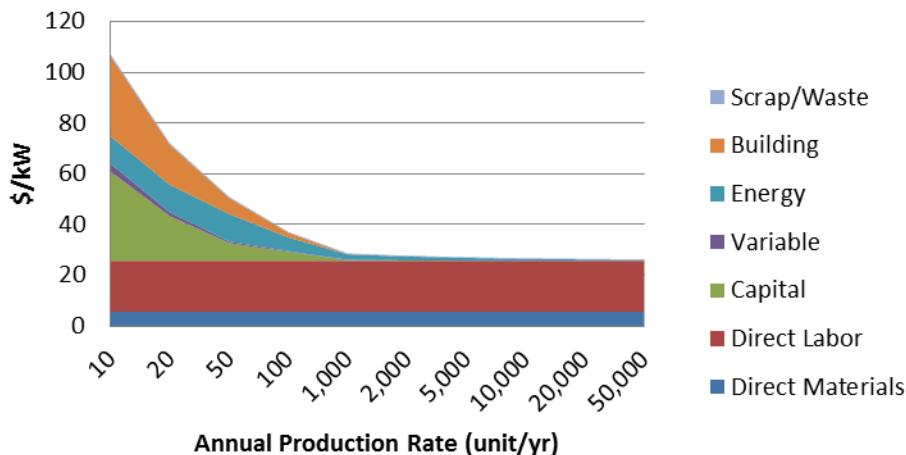


Electrode Cost (\$/pcs) - 1 MW system

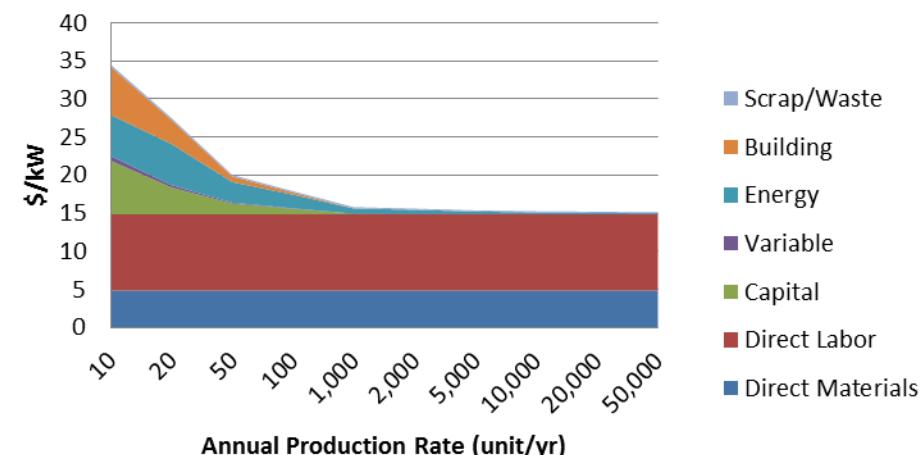


Electrode Cost (\$/kW) - 200 kW system

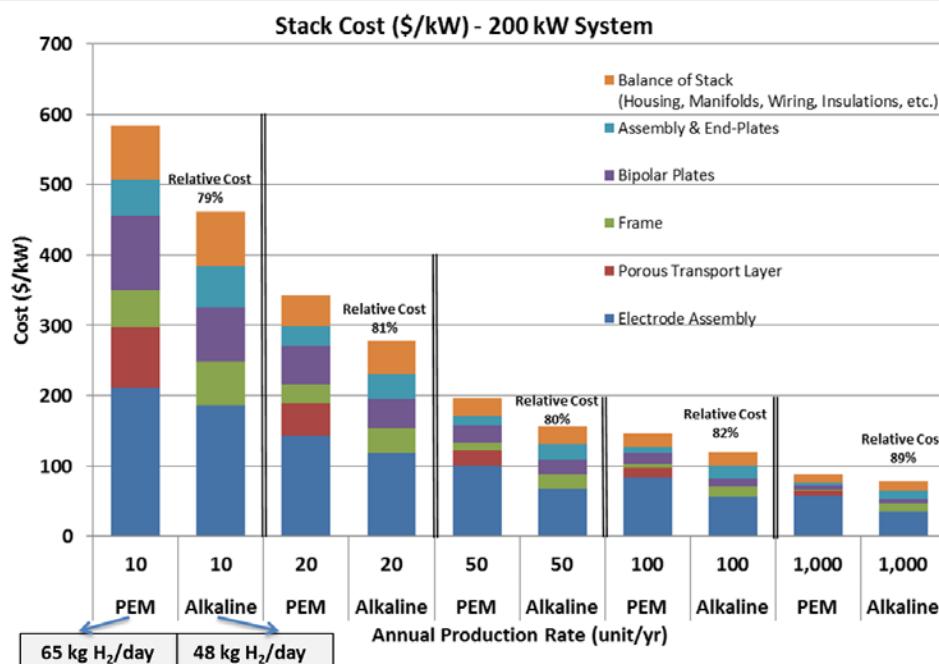
Preliminary



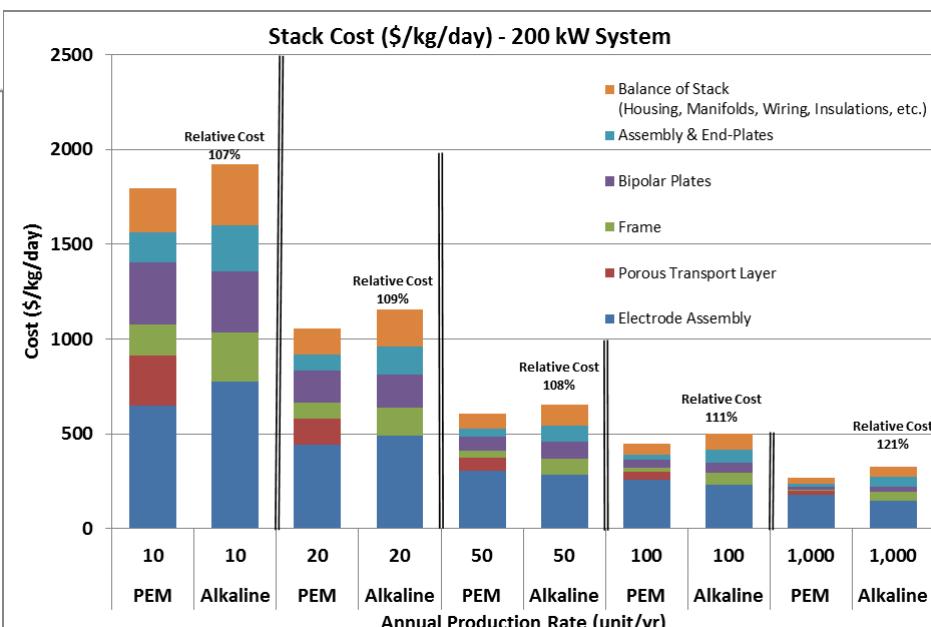
Electrode Cost (\$/kW) - 1 MW system



Manufacturing Cost of Electrolyzer Stacks

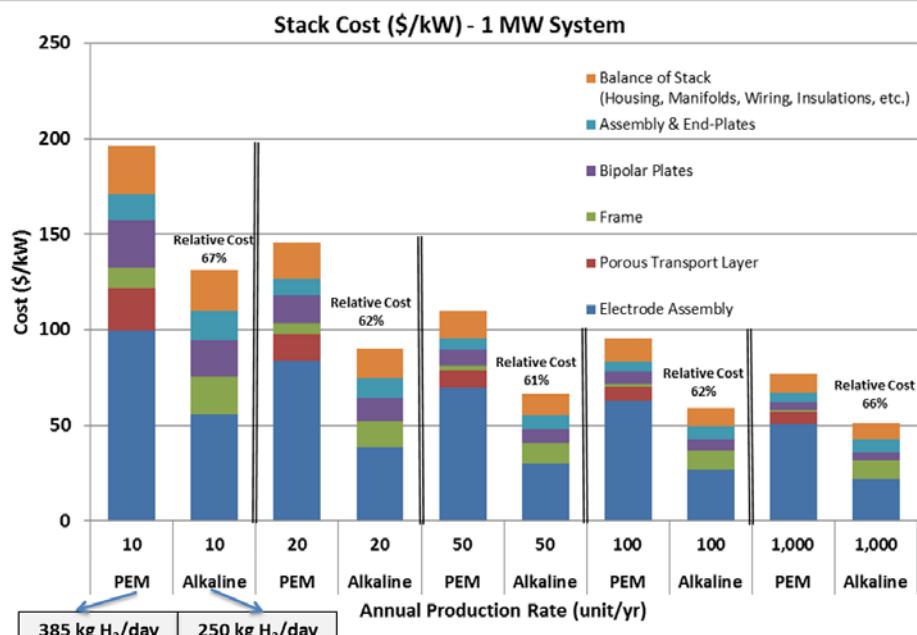


- Alkaline electrolyzer stacks have larger cost in \$/kg-H₂
- *Cost curve for a 200kW system*

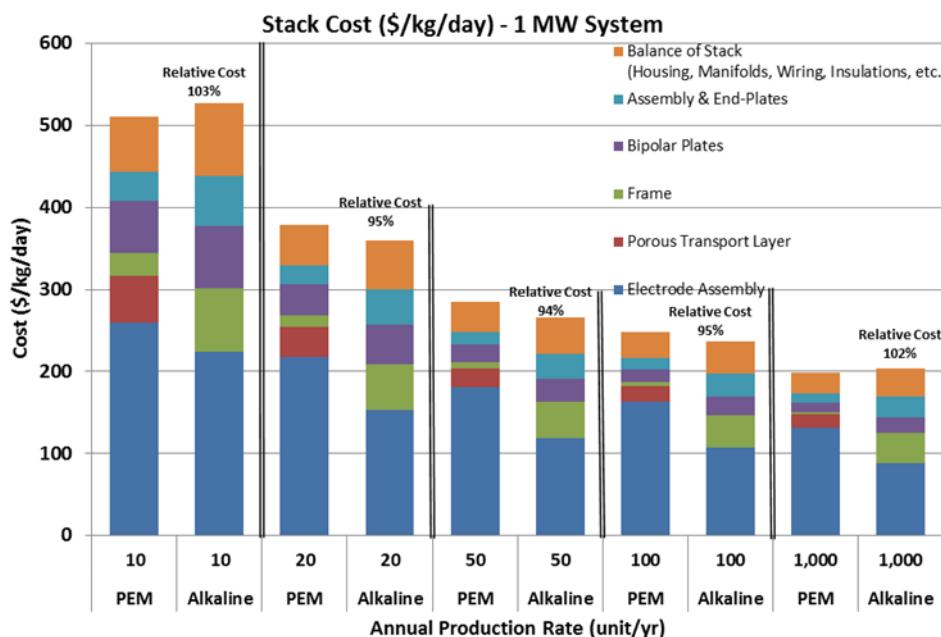


A comparative cost analysis between PEM and alkaline stacks using hydrogen production rates (not the cost of making hydrogen from the electrolyzers)

Manufacturing Cost of Electrolyzer Stacks



- Alkaline electrolyzer stacks have larger cost in \$/kg-H₂ basis
- *Cost curve for a 1MW system*



A comparative cost analysis between PEM and alkaline stacks using hydrogen production rates (not the cost of making hydrogen from the electrolyzers)



V

Concluding Remarks



Conclusions

- Alkaline water electrolyzers have lower current and power densities, but have lower initial cost (per kW basis)
- PEM electrolyzers *may* have lower stack cost in (\$) per Nm³/hr)
- Good similarities in manufacturing processes for PEM and alkaline electrolysis (e.g., membrane casting, plates stamping & coating, end plates, stack assembly, etc.)



Questions?

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THANK YOU!

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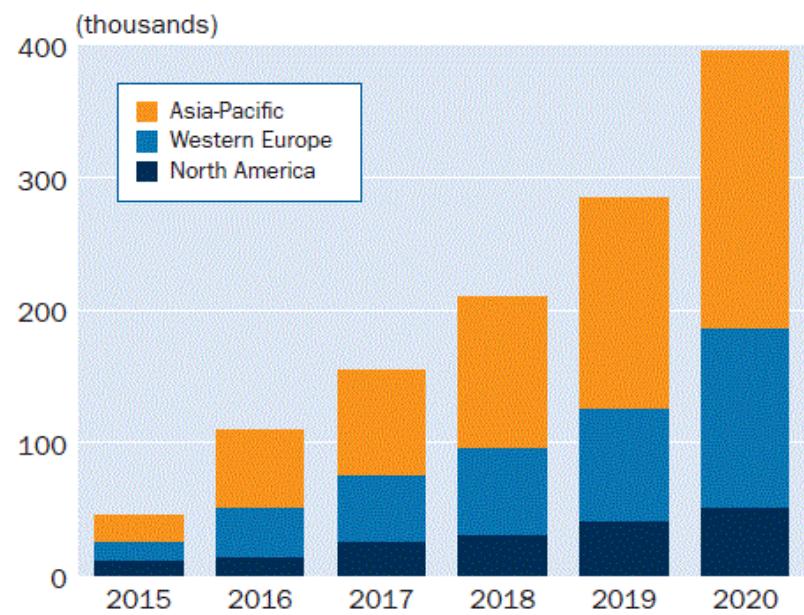
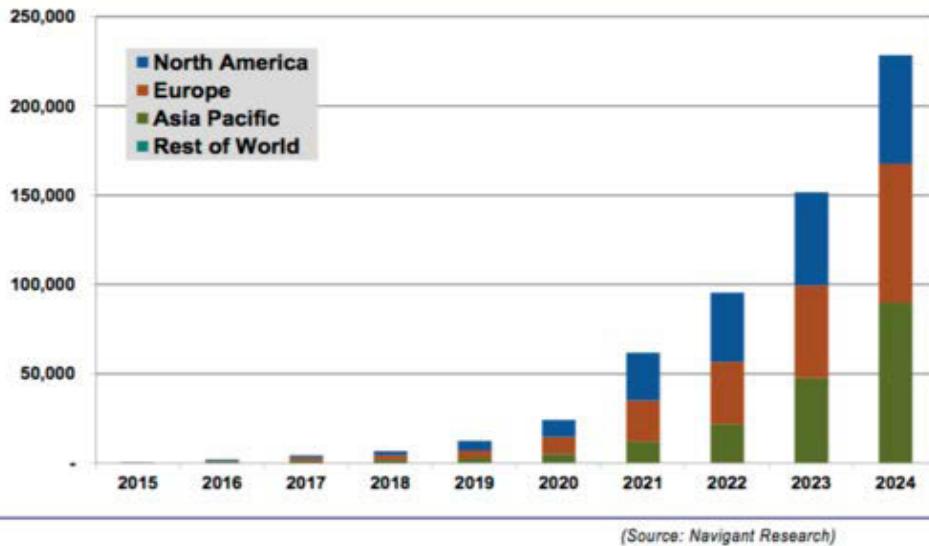


Backup Slides



FCEV 2015-2024

Chart 1 Annual Fuel Cell Car and Bus Sales by Region, World Markets: 2015-2024



International Manufacturer of Onsite Hydrogen Production System



Alkaline Electrolyzer



PEM Electrolyzer



Reformers

This map can be accessed from <https://maphub.net/mayyas111/Onsite-H2-Production-Equipment>



PEM Electrolysis

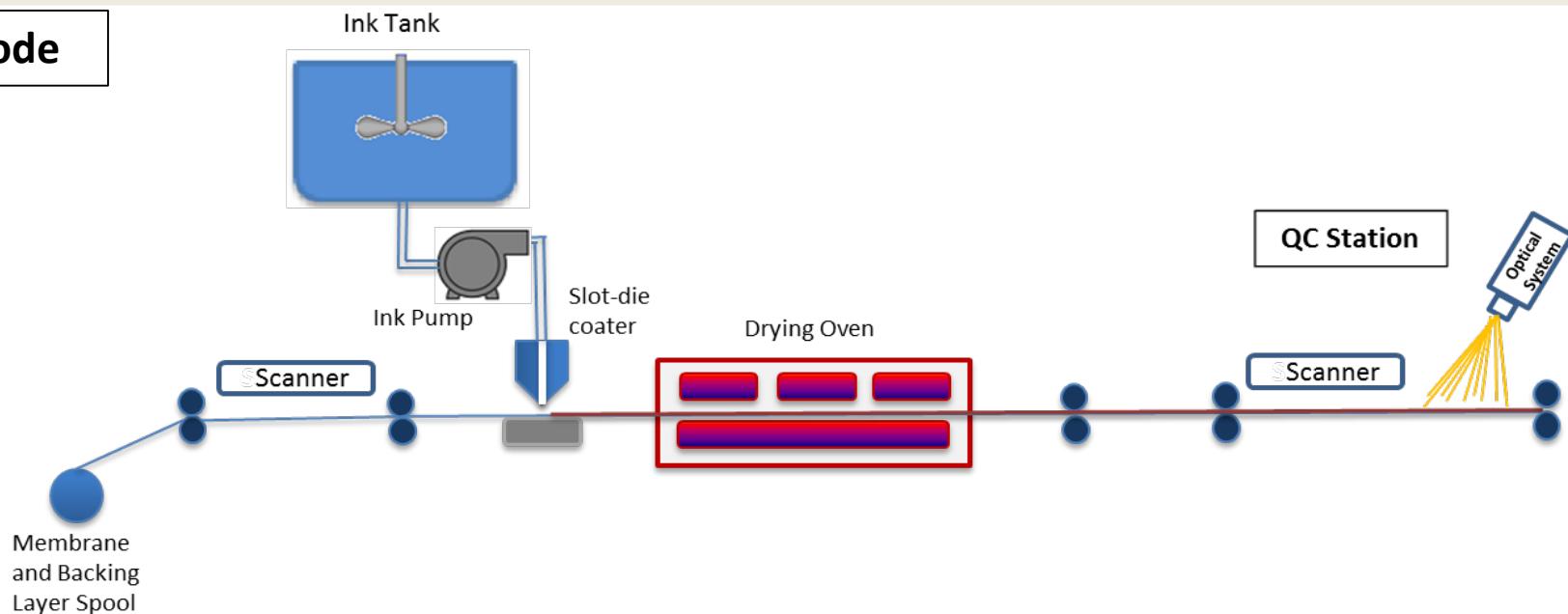
PEM - Functional Specifications

Manufacturer	Hydrogenics	Hydrogenics	Proton OnSite	Proton OnSite	Proton OnSite	Proton OnSite	Giner	Proton OnSite	Siemens	Units	
Model Number	HyLYZER™-1	HyLYZER™-2	H2	H2	H6	FuelGen12, Series	Merrimack		SILYZER 200 basic		
Electrolysis type	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)	PEM (Proton Exchange Membrane)		
Rated stack Consumption	7.20	14.40	14.00	28.00	40.00	45.00	160.00	250.00	1250.00	kW	
Startup time:							millisecond scale		< 10 sec	Sec	
Hydrogen purity (dep. on operating point):			99.9995%	99.9995%	99.9995%	99.9995%		99.3-99.8%	99.5% - 99.9%		
System Efficiency	6.70	6.70	7.30	7.00	6.80	7.50		6.25	5.56	kWh/Nm³	
Net Production Rate	1	2	2	4	6	6	30.59	40	225	Nm³/h	
Net Production Rate (scfh)	38	76	76	152	228	228	1162	152	8,550	scfh	
Net Production Rate (kg/day)	2.16	4.32	4.31	8.63	12.94	12.95	66.00	86.30	485.46	kg/day	
kW per kg/day ratio	3.34	3.34	3.25	3.24	3.09	3.48	2.42	2.90	2.57	kW per kg/day	
System			0 to 100% net product delivery (Automatic)	0 to 100% net product delivery (Automatic)	0 to 100% net product delivery (Automatic)						
	Turndown Ratio	0 to 100%					10:1	10-100%		%	
	Output pressure	Up to 7.9	Up to 7.9				15	0-40 bar	up to 12 bar	Up to 35	bar
	Feed Water					Potable main water supply			Deionized water		
	Fresh water demand:	1	1	1.83	3.66	5.5	54		3.4 ltr/hr	1.5	ltr / Nm³ H2
	Inlet water pressure	0.7-6.9	0.7-6.9	1.5 to 4	1.5 to 4	1.5 to 4	1 to 10				barg
	Relative Humidity	0 to 90%		0 to 90%	0 to 90%	0 to 90%					%
	Power Supply	208/120,3 phase,4 wire+gnd,50/60 Hz 200-260,1 phase,2 wire+gnd, 50/60 Hz Direct connection to DC possible upon request.	380 to 480 VAC, 3 phase, 50 or 60 Hz	380 to 480 VAC, 3 phase, 50 or 60 Hz	380 to 480 VAC, 3 phase, 50 or 60 Hz	420-480 VAC, 3 phase, 60 Hz, 112 FLA			400VAC 50Hz		
	Cooling strategy	Air Cooled	Air Cooled	Liquid cooled 8.1 kW	Liquid cooled 16.1 kW	Liquid cooled 23.7 kW			Air or Liquid	Air Cooled	
	Operating Temperature	5 to 40	5 to 40	5 to 60	5 to 60	5 to 60	-23 to 46		5 to 35		°C
Hydrogen quality 5.0:									Optional DeOxo dryer		
Hydrogen production under nominal load:											
Life cycle design:										> 80,000 h	
CE Approved							CE Mark with PED and ASME	Yes	Yes		
Other Specs	Other Specs						Circular cells with 300 cm²				
Dimensions	0.75 X 0.66 X 1.17	1.30 X 1.00 X 1.25	180 cm x 81 cm x 191 cm	180 cm x 81 cm x 191 cm	180 cm x 81 cm x 191 cm	2.18 X0.84 X1.91		0.85 X 1.05 X 1.65	6.3 X 3.10 X 3.00	mXmXm	
Weight	250	275	682	858	908	900		260	17000	kg	

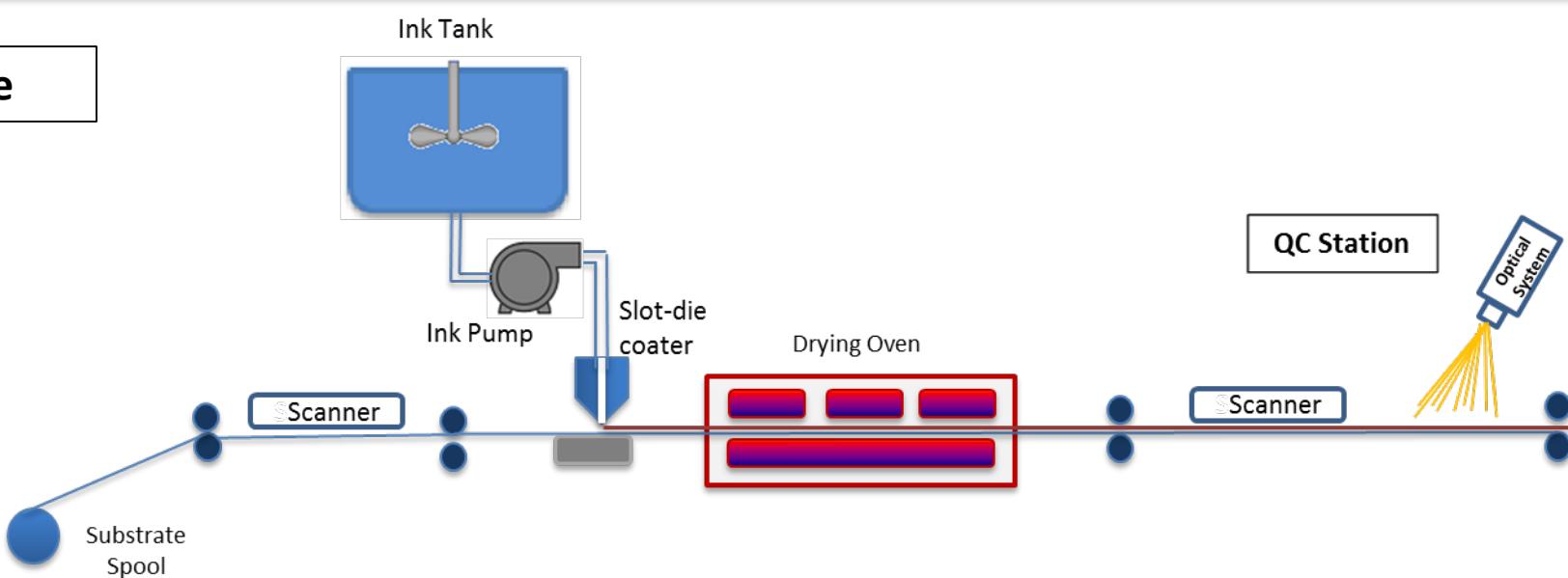
CCM Slot-Die Coating Process



Cathode



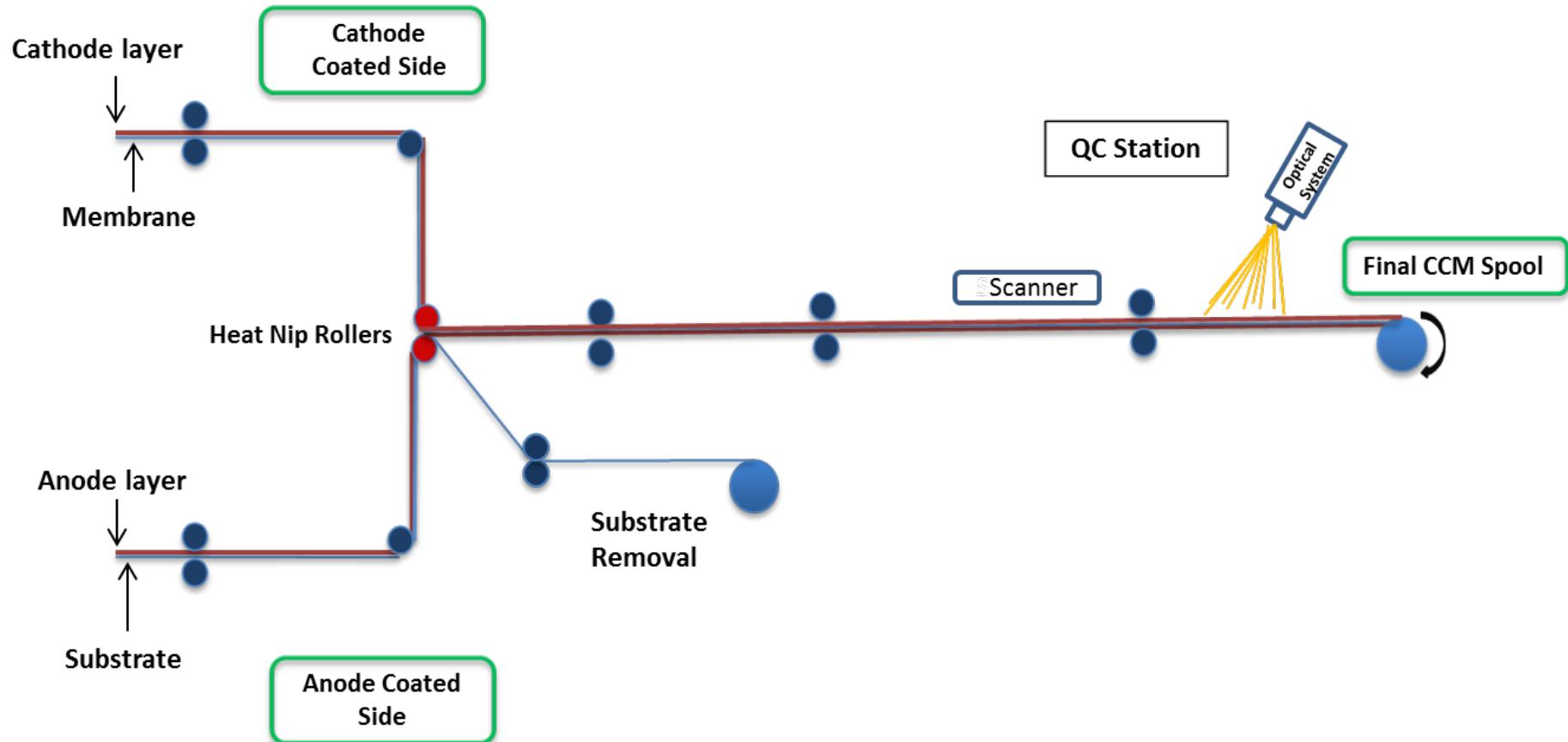
Anode



CCM Slot-Die Coating Process

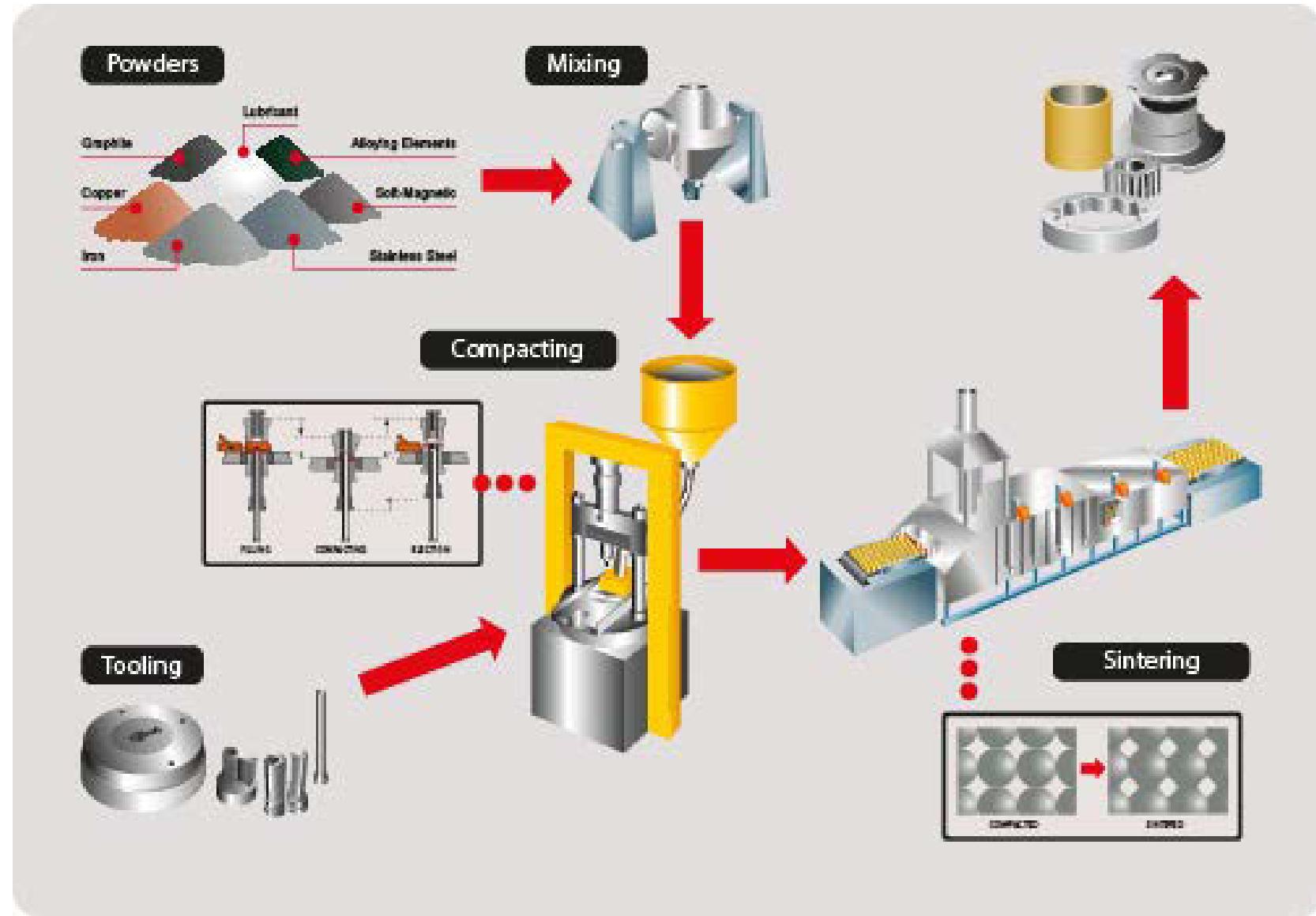


Final CCM





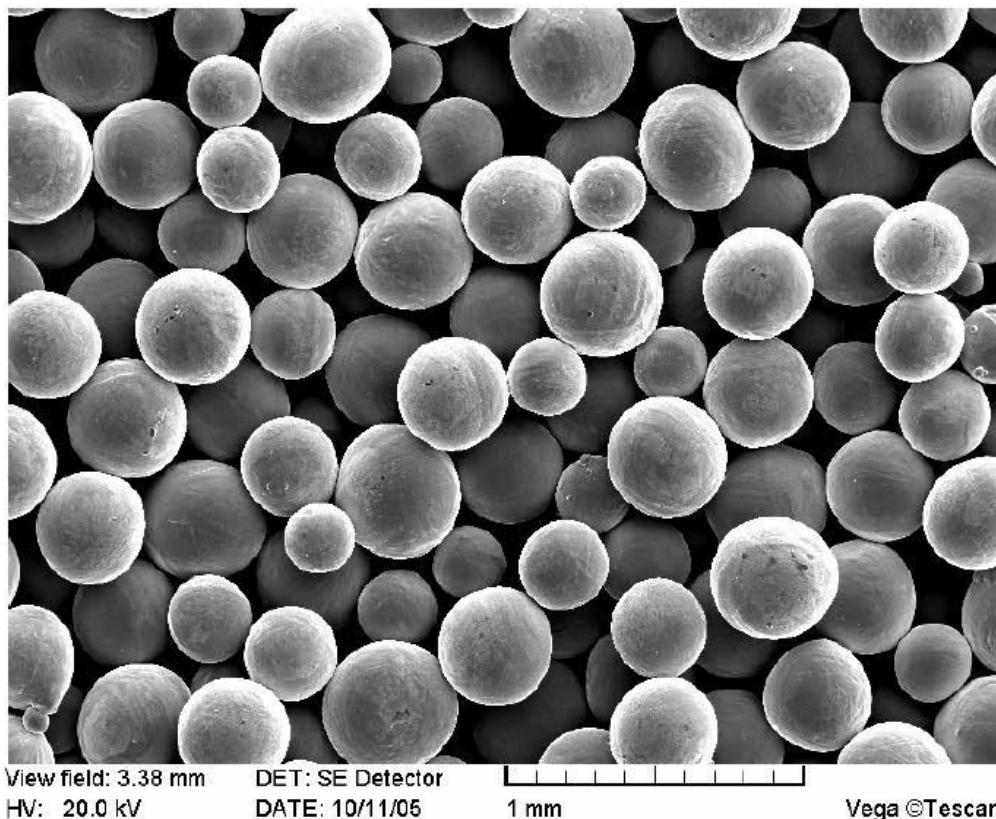
Powder Metallurgy for GDL



GDL or Porous Transport Layer

Image source: <http://erean.eu/wordpress/powder-metallurgy-and-permanent-magnets/>

Porous Transport Layer = GDL



(a)



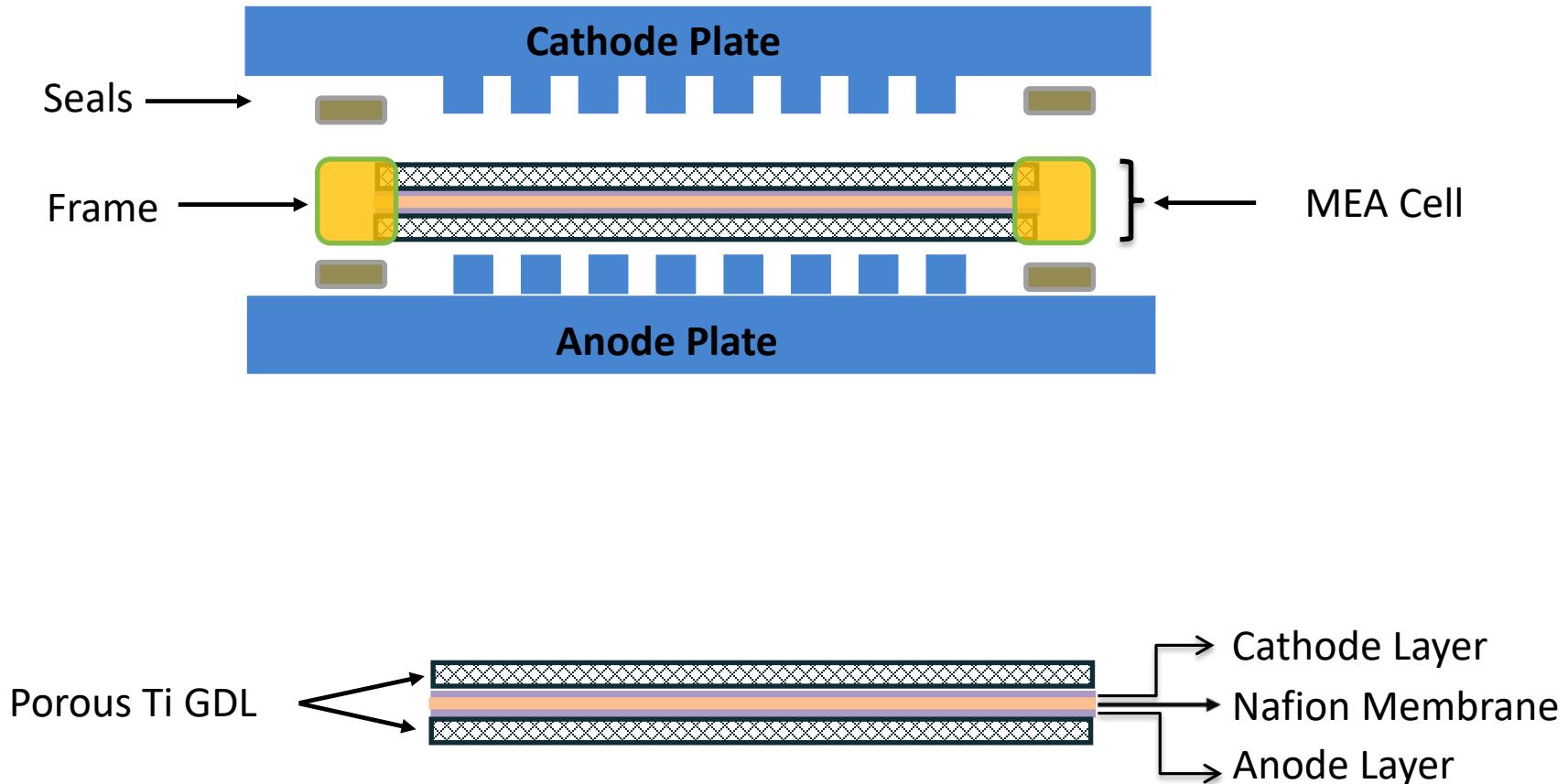
1 cm

(b)

Fig. 2. SEM (a) and optical microscope (b) micrographs of a porous current collectors made of sintered titanium spherical-particles.

Grigoriev et al., 2007

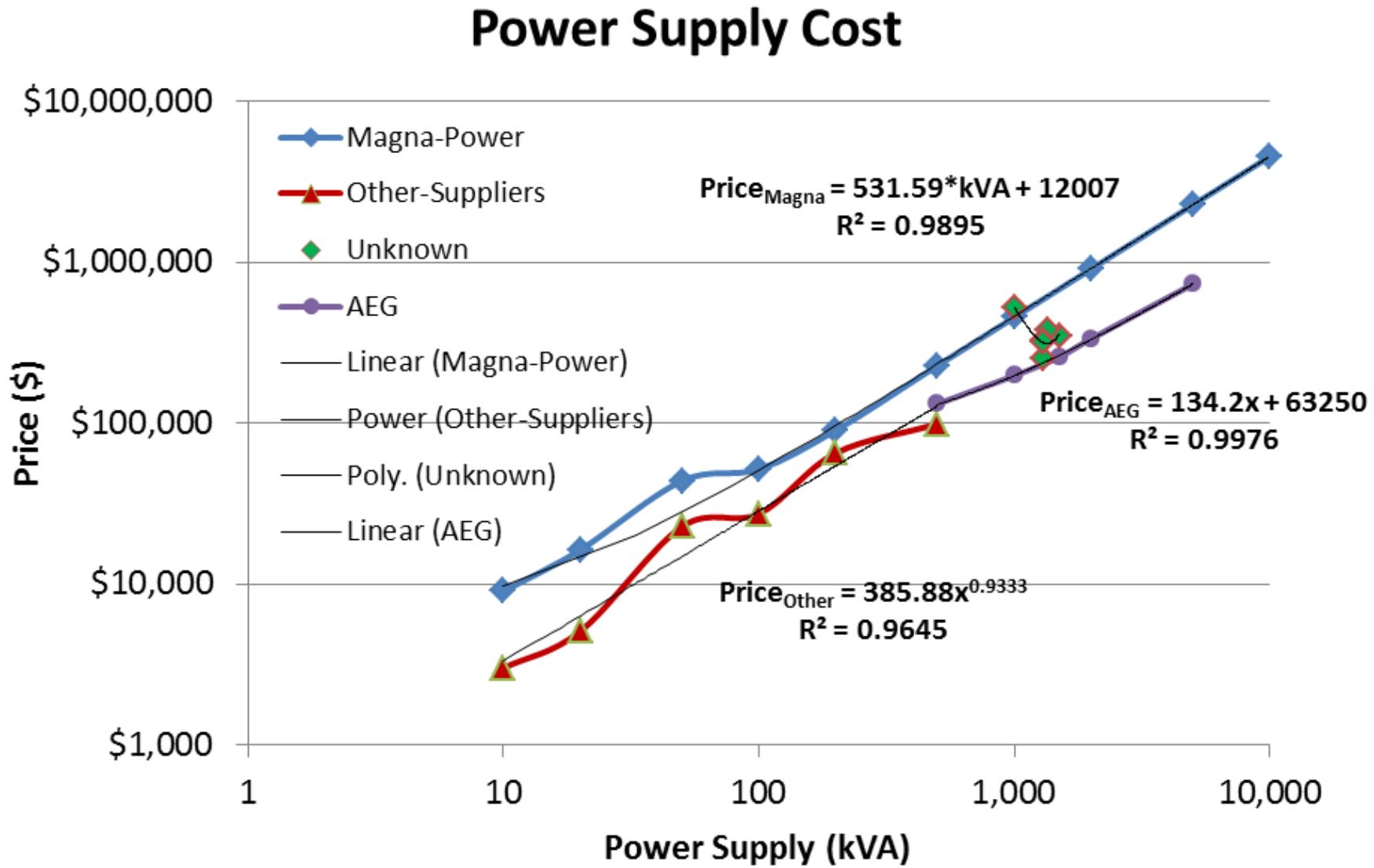
Proposed Cell/Plates/Seal Structure



Balance of Plant Cost (Parts Only)

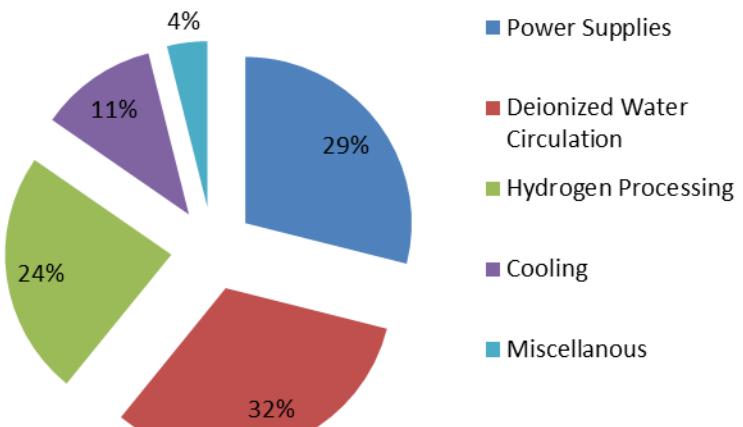
	System Size kW		10	20	50	100	200	500	1,000	2,000	5,000	10,000
System	Subsystem	Sizing Exponent (if)	Baseline Cost (\$)									
			10 kW	20 kW	50 kW	100 kW	200 kW	500 kW	1 MW	2 MW	5 MW	10 MW
Power Supplies	Power Supply	Quote (AEG)	\$3,000	\$5,080	\$22,733	\$27,333	\$44,000	\$132,000	\$198,000	\$335,500	\$734,250	\$1,405,250
	DC Voltage Transducer	Quote	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225	\$225
	DC Current Transducer	Quote	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340	\$340
	Total		\$3,225	\$5,305	\$22,958	\$27,556	\$44,225	\$132,225	\$198,225	\$335,725	\$734,475	\$1,405,475
Deionized Water Circulation	Oxygen Separator Tank	Quote	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$320,000
	Circulation Pump	Quote	\$409	\$647	\$1,538	\$3,349	\$7,053	\$10,000	\$10,962	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$80,000
	Polishing Pump	Quote	\$1,619	\$2,071	\$2,071	\$2,289	\$2,289	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$40,000
	Piping	0.30	\$3,807	\$4,687	\$6,170	\$7,597	\$10,000	\$12,311	\$15,157	\$18,661	\$24,565	\$30,243
	Valves, Instrumentation	0.30	\$2,855	\$3,516	\$4,628	\$5,697	\$7,500	\$9,234	\$11,368	\$13,995	\$18,423	\$22,682
	Pressure, temperature, conductivity, flowmeter											
	Class I, Div 2, Group B rating drives up prices											
	Controls	0.60	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$3,031	\$4,595	\$6,964	\$12,068	\$18,292
	Total		\$20,691	\$22,921	\$26,407	\$30,932	\$48,842	\$57,076	\$87,082	\$149,621	\$275,056	\$511,217
Hydrogen Processing	Dryer Bed		\$6,366	\$6,366	\$13,860	\$13,860	\$13,860	\$25,000	\$36,589	\$73,178	\$146,356	\$292,712
	Hydrogen Separator	0.70	\$1,051	\$1,707	\$3,241	\$5,266	\$10,000	\$16,245	\$26,390	\$42,871	\$81,418	\$132,264
	Tubing	0.30	\$1,904	\$2,344	\$3,085	\$3,799	\$5,000	\$6,156	\$7,579	\$9,330	\$12,282	\$15,121
	Valves, Instrumentation	0.30	\$1,904	\$2,344	\$3,085	\$3,798	\$5,000	\$6,156	\$7,579	\$9,330	\$12,282	\$15,121
	Pressure, temperature, conductivity, flowmeter											
	Class I, Div 2, Group B rating drives up prices											
	Controls	0.60	\$362	\$549	\$952	\$1,443	\$2,500	\$3,789	\$5,743	\$8,706	\$15,085	\$22,865
	Total		\$11,586	\$13,309	\$24,223	\$28,165	\$36,360	\$57,346	\$83,880	\$143,415	\$267,424	\$478,084
Cooling	Plate heat exchanger		\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$10,525	\$11,675	\$14,742	\$14,742
	Cooling pump	Quote (n=0.67)	\$970	\$1,169	\$1,169	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,387	\$3,797	\$6,042	\$11,163	\$17,761
	Valves, instrumentation	0.60	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$3,031	\$4,595	\$6,964	\$12,068	\$18,292
	Piping	0.60	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,516	\$2,297	\$3,482	\$6,034	\$9,146
	Dry cooler	0.45	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$5,464	\$7,464	\$10,196	\$15,400	\$21,037
	Total		\$16,970	\$17,169	\$17,169	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$21,398	\$28,679	\$38,360	\$59,408	\$80,979
Miscellaneous	Valve air supply – nitrogen or compressed air	n/a	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	Ventilation and safety requirements	n/a										
	Combustible gas detectors	n/a	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	Exhaust ventilation	n/a	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
	Total		\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
	Grand Total (\$)		\$58,472	\$64,704	\$96,758	\$110,153	\$152,927	\$274,045	\$403,865	\$673,120	\$1,342,363	\$2,481,754
	Cost (\$/kW)		\$5,847	\$3,235	\$1,935	\$1,102	\$765	\$548	\$404	\$337	\$268	\$248

Power Supply Cost

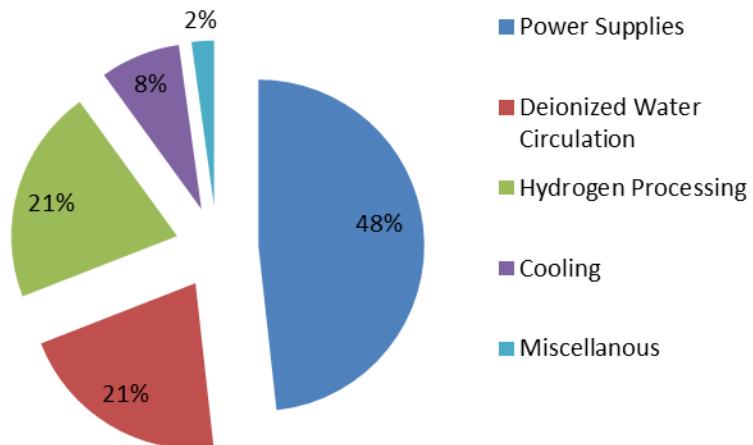


Balance of Plant Cost (Parts Only)

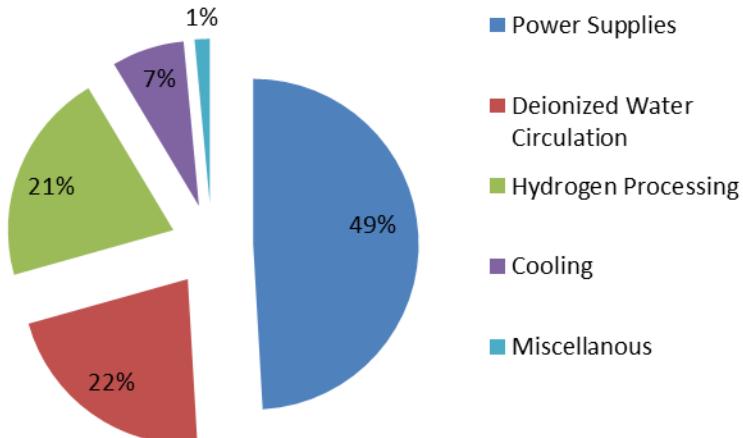
BOP Cost Breakdown- 200kW System



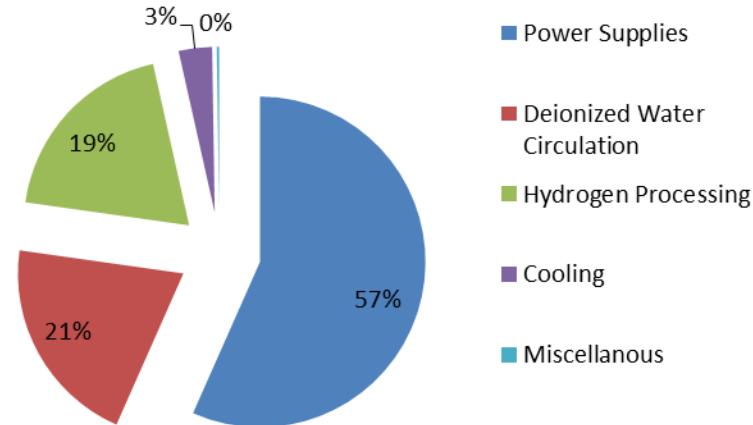
BOP Cost Breakdown- 500kW System



BOP Cost Breakdown- 1MW System



BOP Cost Breakdown- 10MW System





Alkaline Electrolysis

Alkaline Electrolyzer Stack



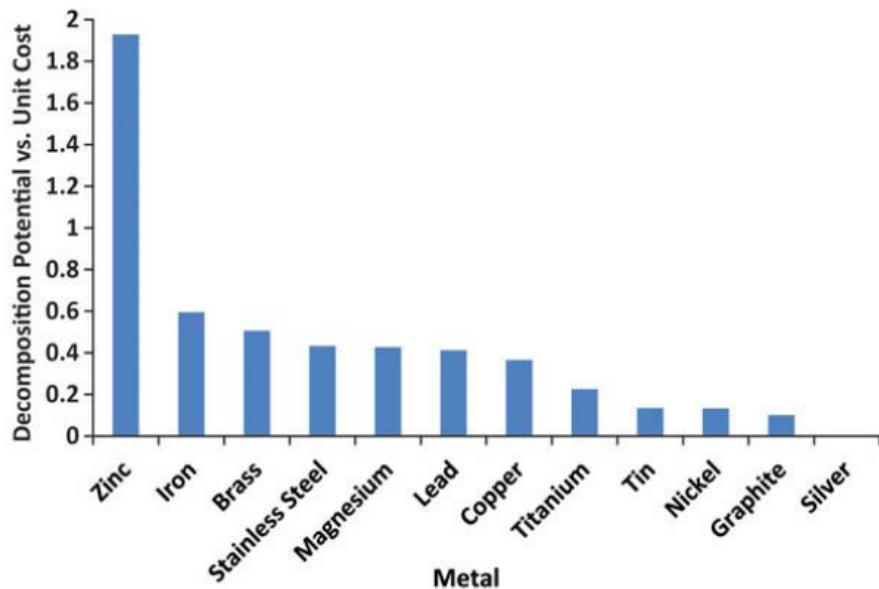
Cells are assembled electrically in series, hydraulically in parallel.

Picture of Hydrogenics Alkaline Electrolyzer

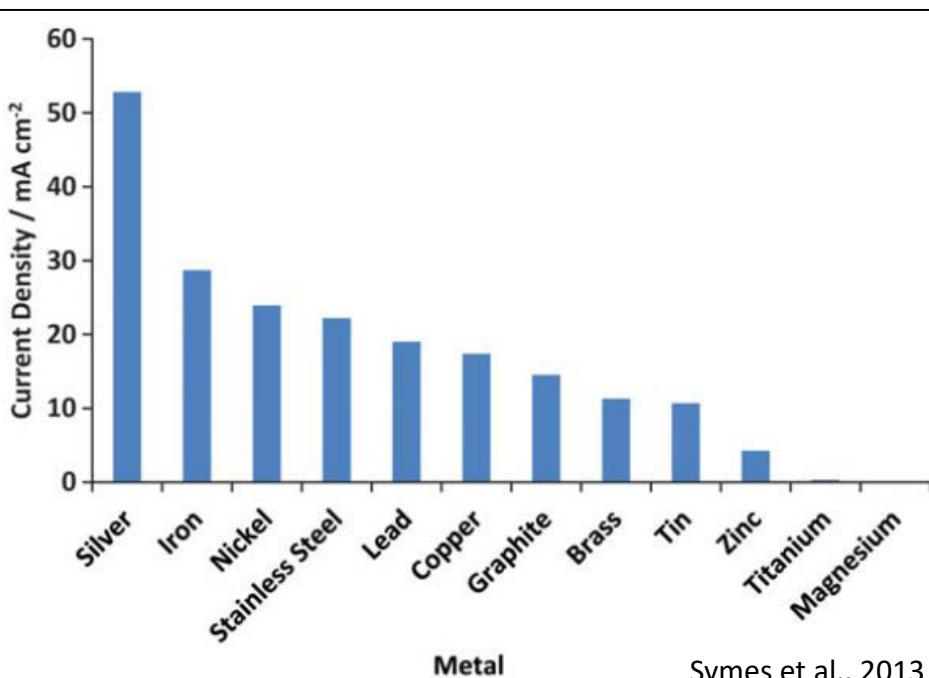
Commercial Alkaline Electrolyzers

	Manufacturer	Pure Energy Center	Hydrogenics	Hydrogenics	Hydrogenics	Units
	Model Number		HySTAT 15	HySTAT 30	HySTAT 60	
System	Electrolysis type	Alkaline	Alkaline	Alkaline	Alkaline	
	Rated stack Consumption	22.30	145.00	270.00	515.00	kW
	Electrolyte		H ₂ O+ 30% KOH	H ₂ O+ 30% KOH	H ₂ O+ 30% KOH	
	Hydrogen purity (dep. on operating point):	99.3-99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9	%
	System Efficiency	5.58	4.90	5.20	4.90	kWh/Nm ³
	Net Production Rate	4	6 to 15	12 to 30	24 to 60	Nm ³ /h
	Net Production Rate (scfh)		227 to 570	456 to 1140	912 to 2280	scfh
	Net Production Rate (kg/day)		13 to 32	26 to 65	52 to 130	kg/day
	kWh per kg ratio	62.08	54.52	57.86	54.52	kWh/kg
	Turndown Ratio	10-100%				%
	Output pressure	up to 12 bar	10	10	10	bar
	Feed Water	Deionized water				
	Fresh water demand:					ltr / Nm ³ H ₂
	Inlet water pressure					barg
	Relative Humidity		<95	<96	<96	%
	Power Supply	400 VAC; 50 Hz			3*400 VAC 50 Hz	
	Cooling strategy	Air or liquid	Water cooled	Water cooled	Water cooled	
	Operating Temperature	5-35				°C
	Certification	CE Approved				
Other Specs	Other Specs					
	Dimensions	1.65	6		3.22X1.81X2.53	mXmXm
	Weight	260	3800			kg

Electrode Materials



- Decomposition (corrosion) to cost ratio
→ Zinc, iron and brass would perform better than other metals



- From the current density perspective
→ Silver, iron and nickel would perform better than other metals

Symes et al., 2013

Alkaline Electrolyzer Power Density

Alkaline Water Electrolysis

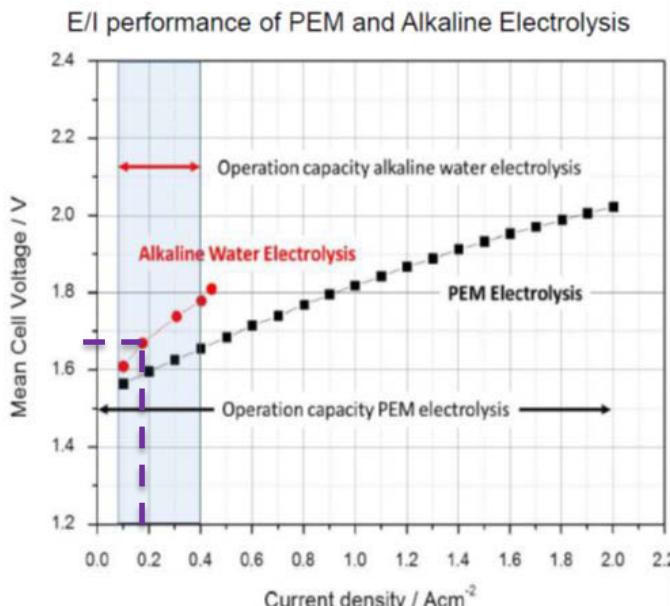


Advantages:

- Well developed technology
- Use of non-noble catalysts
- Long-term stability
- Units up to 750 Nm³/h (3,4 MW)

Challenges:

- Increase the current density
- Extend partial load capability
- Dynamics of the overall system
- Long term stable diaphragm



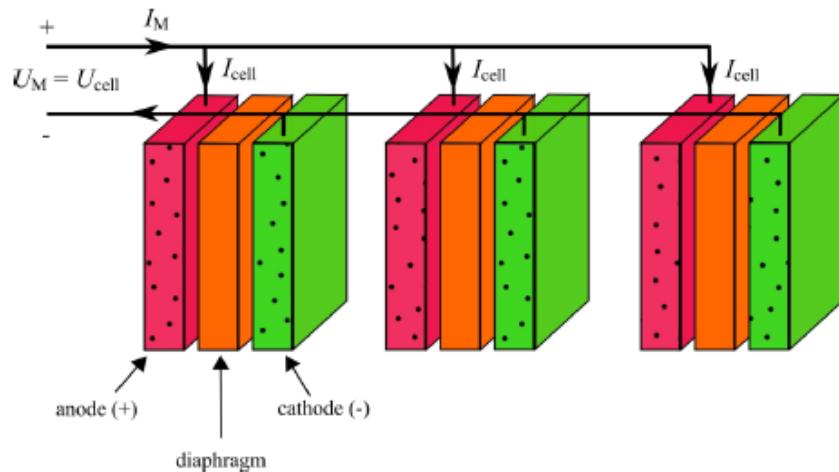
Source: Mergel, J.; Carmo M, Fritz, D (2013). "Status on Technologies for Hydrogen Production by Water Electrolysis". In Stolten, D. Transition to Renewable Energy Systems. Weinheim: Wiley-VCH.

Current density	0.200	A/cm ²
Reference voltage	1.68	V
Power density	0.336	W/cm ²

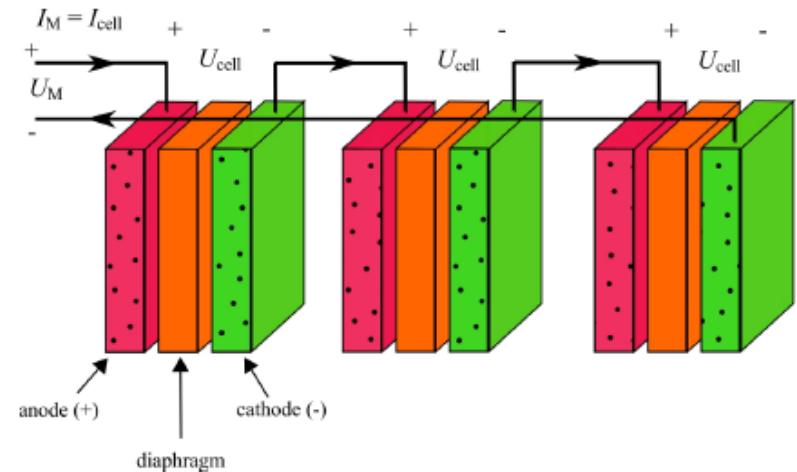
Current density		Today	2015	2020	2025	2030
A/cm ²	Alkaline	Central	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7
		Range	0.2 - 0.4	0.2 - 0.7	0.3 - 1.0	0.5 - 1.0
	PEM	Central	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.4
		Range	1.0 - 2.0	1.2 - 2.2	1.6 - 2.5	1.6 - 3.0

Alkaline Electrolyzer Configuration

Monopolar



Bipolar



Zero Gap Cell Design

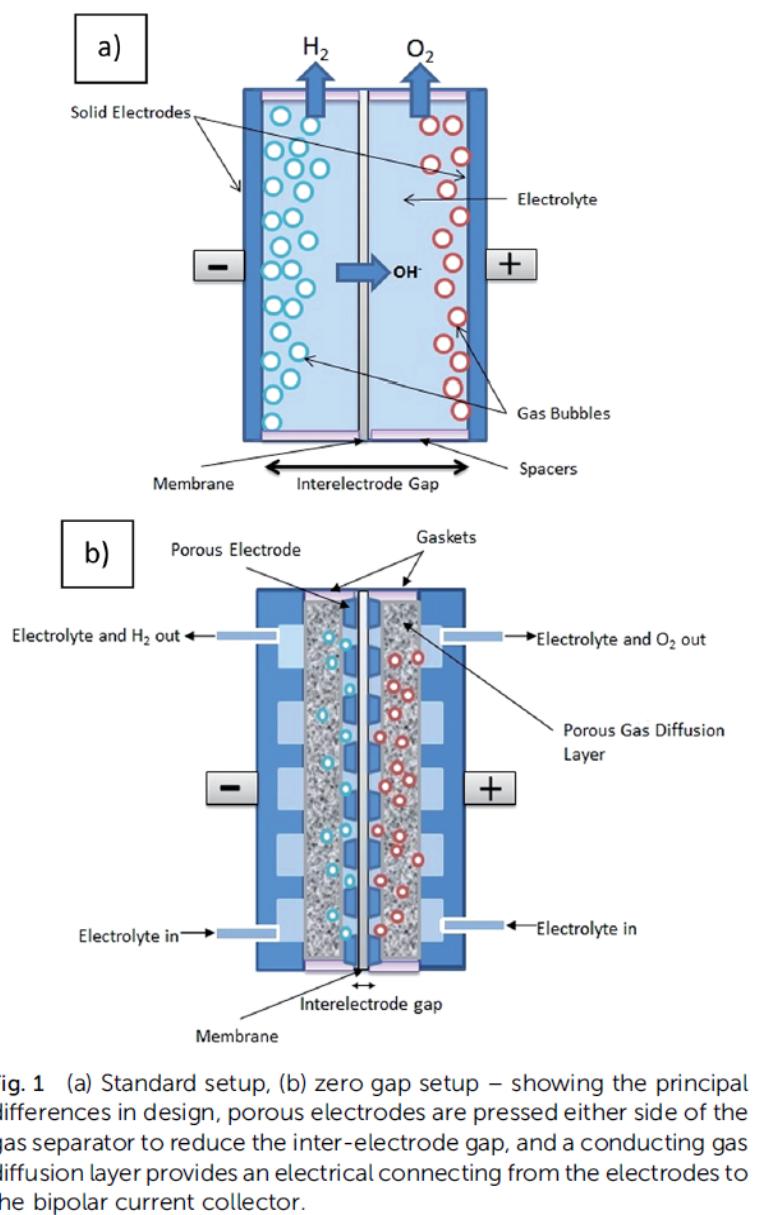


Fig. 1 (a) Standard setup, (b) zero gap setup – showing the principal differences in design, porous electrodes are pressed either side of the gas separator to reduce the inter-electrode gap, and a conducting gas diffusion layer provides an electrical connecting from the electrodes to the bipolar current collector.

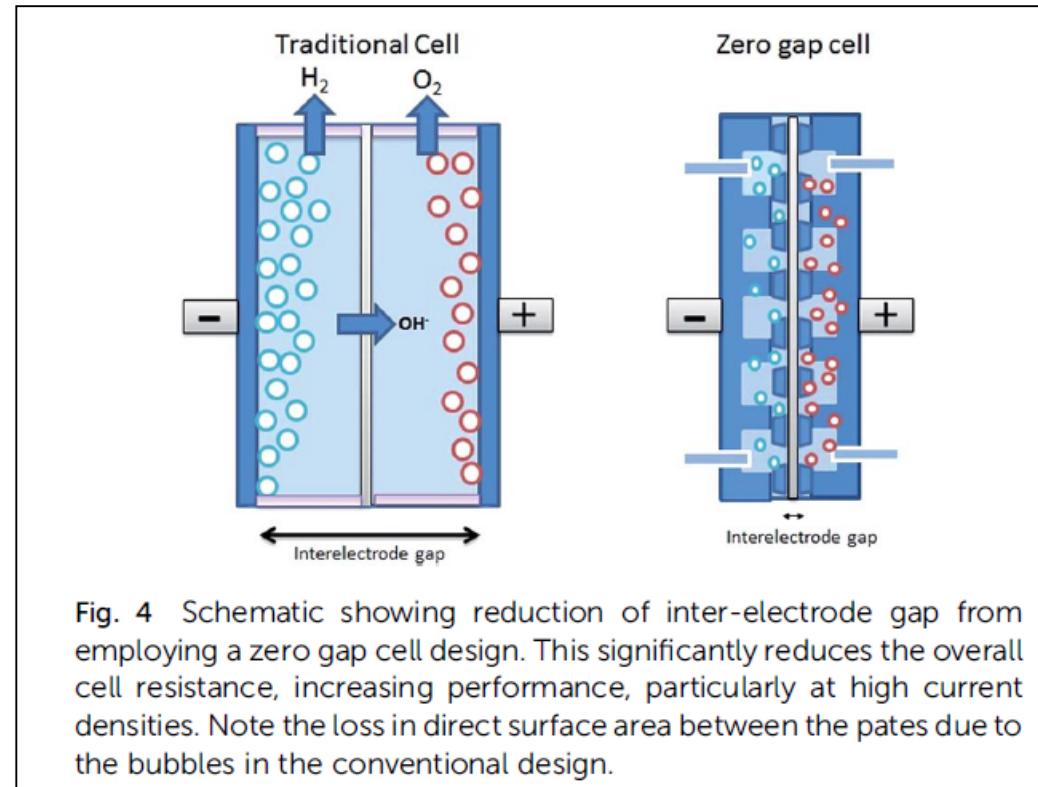


Fig. 4 Schematic showing reduction of inter-electrode gap from employing a zero gap cell design. This significantly reduces the overall cell resistance, increasing performance, particularly at high current densities. Note the loss in direct surface area between the pates due to the bubbles in the conventional design.

Phillips and Dunnill, 2016

Stack Components

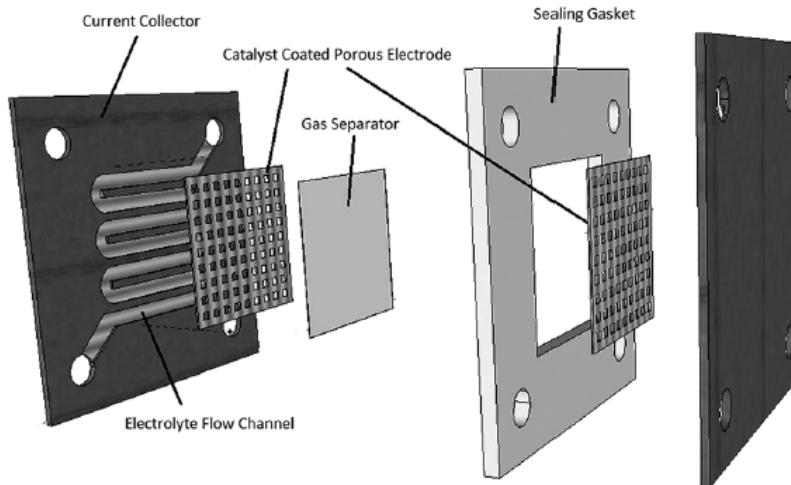


Fig. 7 3D schematic of a catalyst coated substrate zero gap cell, the two porous electrodes are individually coated with catalysts, and are pressed onto either side of the gas separator. The flow channels in the current collectors permit easily supply and removal of reactants/products.

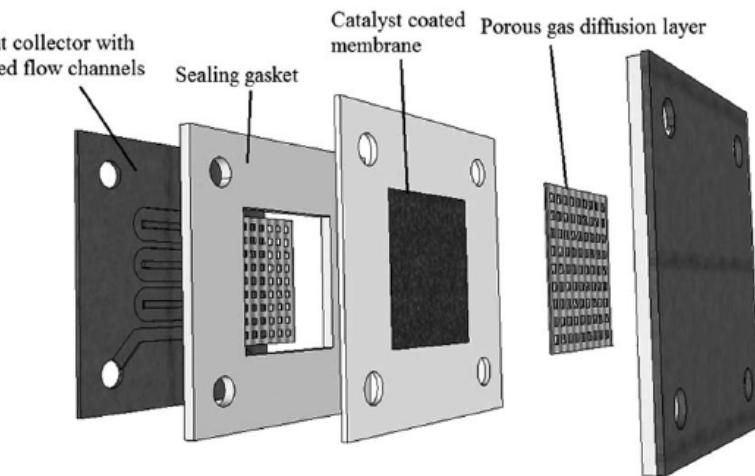


Fig. 9 Cell components for the catalyst coated membrane set-up. The catalyst is deposited directly onto the membrane, and the porous gas diffusion layers provide an electrical connection to the current collecting plate, whilst permitting the removal of produced gases.

- Catalyst coated substrate (CCS) design eliminates the need for gas diffusion layers
- Bipolar plates (current collectors) with integrated flow fields, provide:
 - 1) path for electrolyte (in and out)
 - 2) efficient removal of product gases from the cell
 - 3) heat management

Electrode Materials

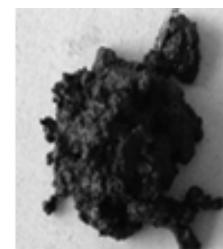
TABLE 1 | Comparison of HER Catalysts

Electrode	Performance	Conditions	References
Pt/C	0.6 mA cm ⁻² exchange current density	0.1 M KOH, thin film	Ref 31
Polished Ni	422 mV overpotential at 75 mA cm ⁻²	0.5 M KOH, SCE, 3.14 mm ² disk electrode	Ref 60
Co/C	1.1×10^{-2} mA cm ⁻² exchange current	0.1 M NaOH w/o ME nanoflakes	Ref 34
Ni ₁ Co ₉ /C	9.1×10^{-3} mA cm ⁻² exchange current	0.1 M NaOH w/o ME nanoflakes	Ref 34
Raney Ni	100 mV overpotential at 500 mA cm ⁻²	28 wt% KOH, 80°C	Ref 47
Ni–Cr Raney	80 mV overpotential at 500 mA cm ⁻²	28 wt% KOH, 80°C	Ref 47
Ni ₆₄ W ₃₆	1.6×10^{-3} mA cm ⁻² exchange current density	0.1 M NaOH	Ref 51
MnNi _{3.3} Co _{0.75} Mn _{0.4} Al _{0.27}	88 mV overpotential at 200 mA cm ⁻²	Ni foam substrate and Ni–Mo coating, 30 wt% KOH	Ref 54
LaNi _{4.9} Si _{0.1}	84 mV overpotential at 200 mA cm ⁻²	Ni foam substrate and Ni–Mo coating, 30 wt% KOH	Ref 54
Ti ₂ Ni	60 mV overpotential at 200 mA cm ⁻²	Ni foam substrate and Ni–Mo coating, 30 wt% KOH	Refs 12 and 54
Ni ₅₀ Mo ₄₀	29 mA cm ⁻² 59 mV overpotential at 250 mA cm ⁻²	30 wt% KOH, 70°C, nanocrystalline fcc, mechanical alloyed	Ref 62
Ni–S	39.2 mA cm ⁻² 90 mV overpotential at 150 mA cm ⁻²	28 wt% NaOH, electrodeposited, thiourea	Ref 40
Fe–Mo	20.4×10^3 mA cm ⁻²	Fe(20%)–Mo(60%), 1 M NaOH, 25°C	Ref 57
Ni–(Ebonex–Ru)	597 mA cm ⁻² 156 mV at 100 mA cm ⁻²	Ni–Ti ₄ O ₇ –Ru, 1 M NaOH at 25°C	Ref 63
Pd/Au	NA	Pd/Au(111)	Ref 56
Ni–Sn	NA	Alloy coating deposited on Ni mesh	Ref 64
Ni–S–Co	70 mV at 150 mA cm ⁻²	80°C, electrodeposition	Ref 41
Ni ₃ Al	1.9 mA cm ⁻²	6 M KOH	Ref 36
Ni ₃ Al–Mo	13 mA cm ⁻²	6 M KOH	Ref 37
Ni–S–Mn	97.5 mA cm ⁻²	30% KOH, amorphous alloy	Ref 43
Ni ₈₁ P ₁₆ C ₃	2.11 mA cm ⁻² 125.4 mV at 250 mA cm ⁻²	1 M NaOH, 25°C	Ref 39
Ni ₆₂ Fe ₃₅ C ₃	24.5 mA cm ⁻² 112.6 mV at 250 mA cm ⁻²	1 M NaOH, 25°C	Ref 65
Ni–Co	29 mA cm ⁻²	0.5 M NaOH, 25°C, electrodeposited	Ref 66
Fe ₉₄ P ₄ Ce ₂	0.075 mA cm ⁻²	1 M NaOH, 25°C	Ref 45

HER: Hydrogen Evolution Reaction

Table from Bodner et al., 2015

Raney nickel is an alloy of aluminum and nickel, which has subsequently had much of the aluminum removed through a leaching process with sodium hydroxide (NaOH). The remaining alloy has a very high surface area and also contains hydrogen gas (H₂) adsorbed on the nickel surface



Raney Nickel (Ra-Ni)

Image from:
<http://www.masterorganicchemistry.com/2011/09/30/reagent-friday-raney-nickel/>



Membranes

Membrane	Ion Exchange Capacity	Conductivity (mS/cm)	Thickness	Cell Current Density† (mA/cm ²)	Manufacturer	Ref.
Tokuyama A201	1.68 ± 0.08	40	28 µm	400 @1.8V	Tokuyama, (Japan)	Bodner et al., (2015) Ren et al., (2014)
Nafion 117	0.91	90.6	178 µm	n/a	DuPont (USA)	Ren et al., (2014)
<i>m</i> -PBI poly(2,2-(<i>m</i> -phenylene)-5,5-bibenzimidazole)	n/a	100	50-60 µm	400 @2V	Danish Power Systems (Denmark), Advent (USA)	Kraglund et al., (2016)
Zirfon™ Perl UTP 500 (polyphenylene sulphide/zirconium oxide)		Ionic resistance≤0.3 Ω.cm ² at 30†	500 ± 50 µm	250 @2V	Agfa-Gevaert (Belgium)	
xxx						

† Assuming 30% KOH



Membrane

TABLE 2 | Comparison of Different AEMs for Alkaline Electrolysis Cells

Membrane	Conductivity	Current density	Cathode	Anode	High frequency resistance	Thickness	References
Zero gap diaphragm with 30 wt% KOH	$54.3 \times 10^{-2} / (\Omega \text{cm})$ at 25°C ^a	470 mA cm ⁻² at 1.8 V, 50°C	Mo/Raney Ni	Co ₃ O ₄ /Raney Ni	NA	NA	Refs 19, ^a 84
Tokuyama A201	0.04 S cm ⁻¹ at 23°C ^b	399 mA cm ⁻² at 1.8 V, 50°C	Pt black	IrO ₂	0.23 Ω cm ² at 2.0 V, 50°C	28 μm	Refs 19, ^b 85
Selemion AMV	2.52×10^{-1} S cm ⁻¹	90 mA/cm ⁻² at 2.0 V, 30°C	Ni/Zn/S coated Ni foam	Graphene oxide-coated NiO	NA	120 μm	Ref 61
QAPS	>10 ⁻² S cm ⁻¹	0.4 A/cm ⁻² at 1.8–1.85 V, 70°C	Ni–Mo	Ni–Fe	NA	70 μm	Ref 48
qPVB/Cl	2.7×10^{-2} S cm at 60°C	250 mA cm ⁻² at 2.24 V, 55°C	Ni nano powder	Cu _{0.7} Co _{2.3} O ₄	0.37 Ω cm ² at 60°C	70 μm	Ref 81
QA-ETFE ^c , QPDTB ionomer	138.7 mS cm ⁻¹ (ionomer: 0.059 S cm ⁻¹ at 50°C)	100 mA cm ⁻² at 1.9 V, 22°C	Ni nanopowder	Cu _{0.7} Co _{2.3} O ₄	0.85 Ω cm ² at 22°C full MEA resistance	88.4 μm ^c	Refs 83, ^c 82
LDPE-g-VBC	17 mS cm ⁻¹ at 60°C	300 mA cm ⁻² at 2.1 V, 45°C ^{**}	NA	NA	0.3–0.43 Ω cm ² at 45°C	NA	Ref 80

^{**}Data was taken from a diagram, since the values were not stated within the text.

* This table is copied from Bodner et al., 2015

PBI-based Membrane - Preliminary



BOM- 1st Generation Monomers

Materials	Suppliers	Price
Pyridine dicarboxylic acids (2,4-, 2,5-, 2,6- and 3,5-PDA)	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co. Matrix Scientific Alpha Aeser Chemical Co.	\$126 for 100mg \$91 for 25 g \$212 for 500 g
3,3',4,4'-Tetraaminobiphenyl (TAB)	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co. TCI America Tetra-Hedron	\$250 for 25 g \$126 for 25 g \$380 for 100 g
Polyphosphoric acid (115%) (PPA)	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co.	\$60 for 1 kg
Ammonia Hydroxide	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co.	\$340 for 6X2.5L
Distilled water	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co.	
Phosphoric Acid (Conc. 85% for doping)	Duda Energy	\$40 per gallon
Dimethylacetamide (DMAc)	Sigma-Aldrich Chemical Co. Alpha Aeser Chemical Co.	\$542 for 6L \$82.5 for 2.5L

Manufacturing of PBI-based Membrane

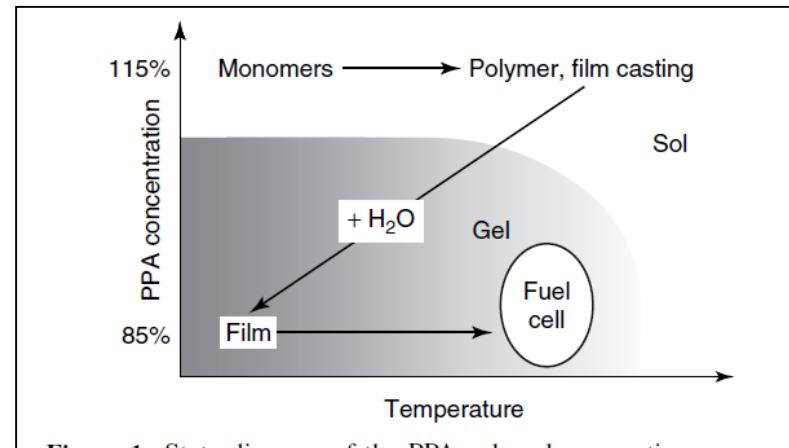
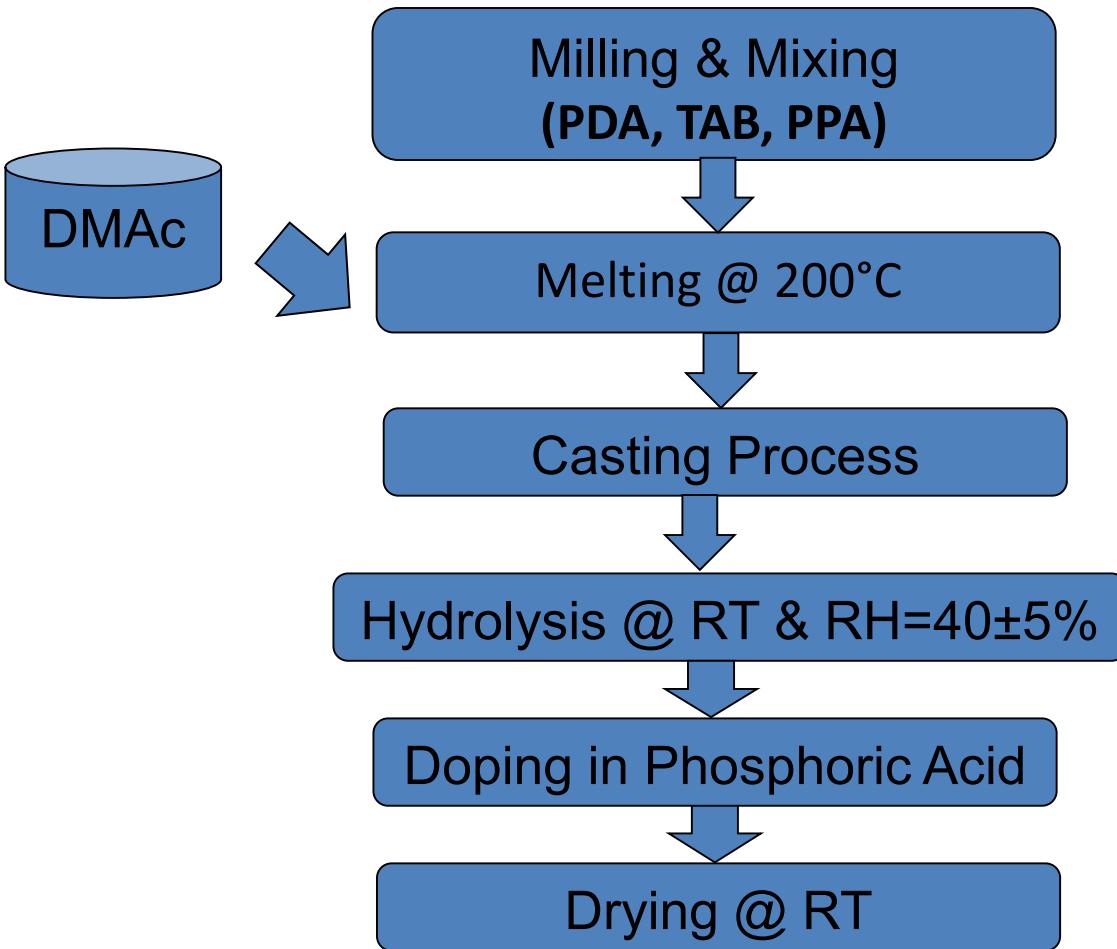
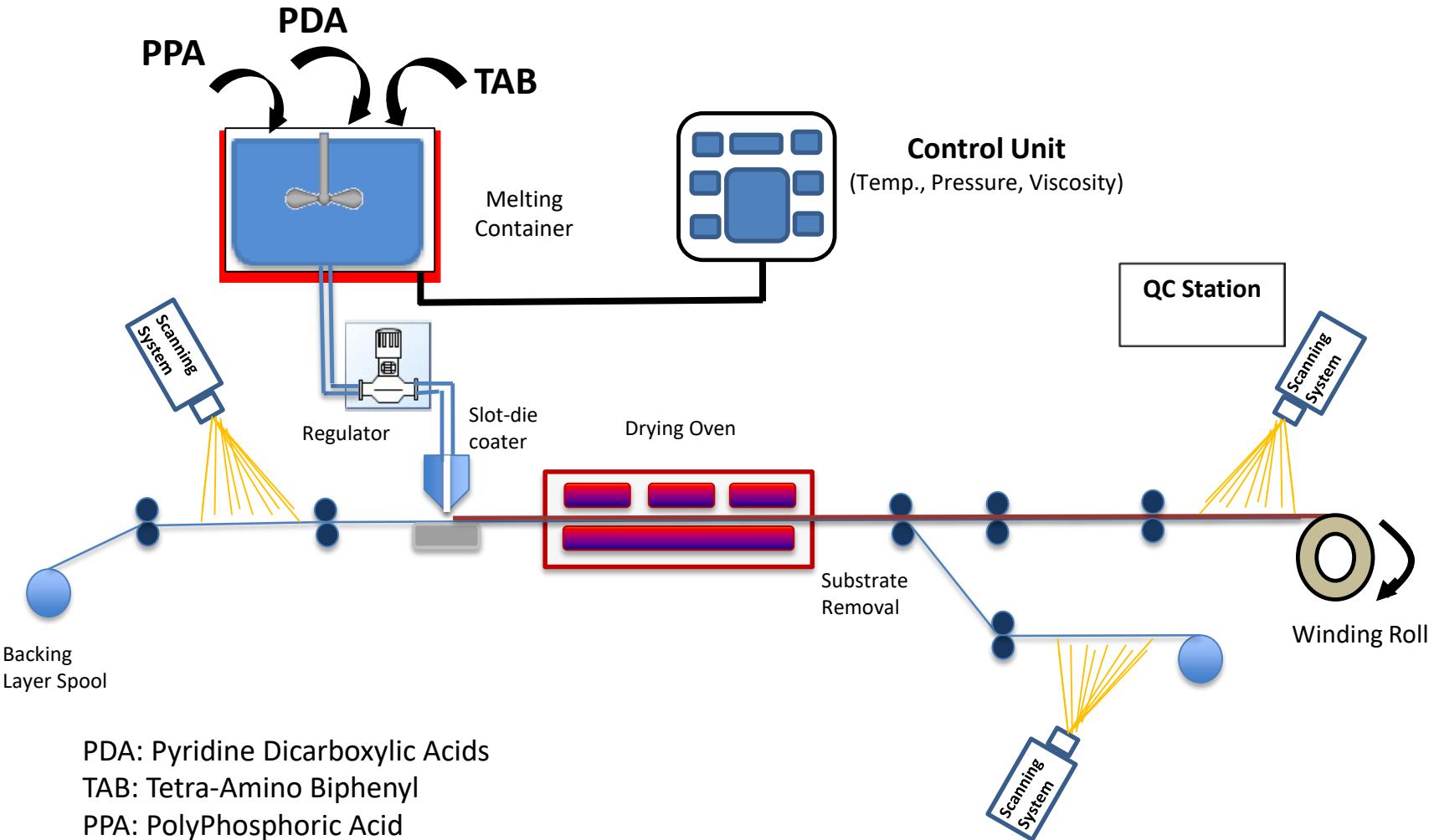


Figure 1. State diagram of the PPA sol–gel preparation process.

Image from Xiao et al., 2005

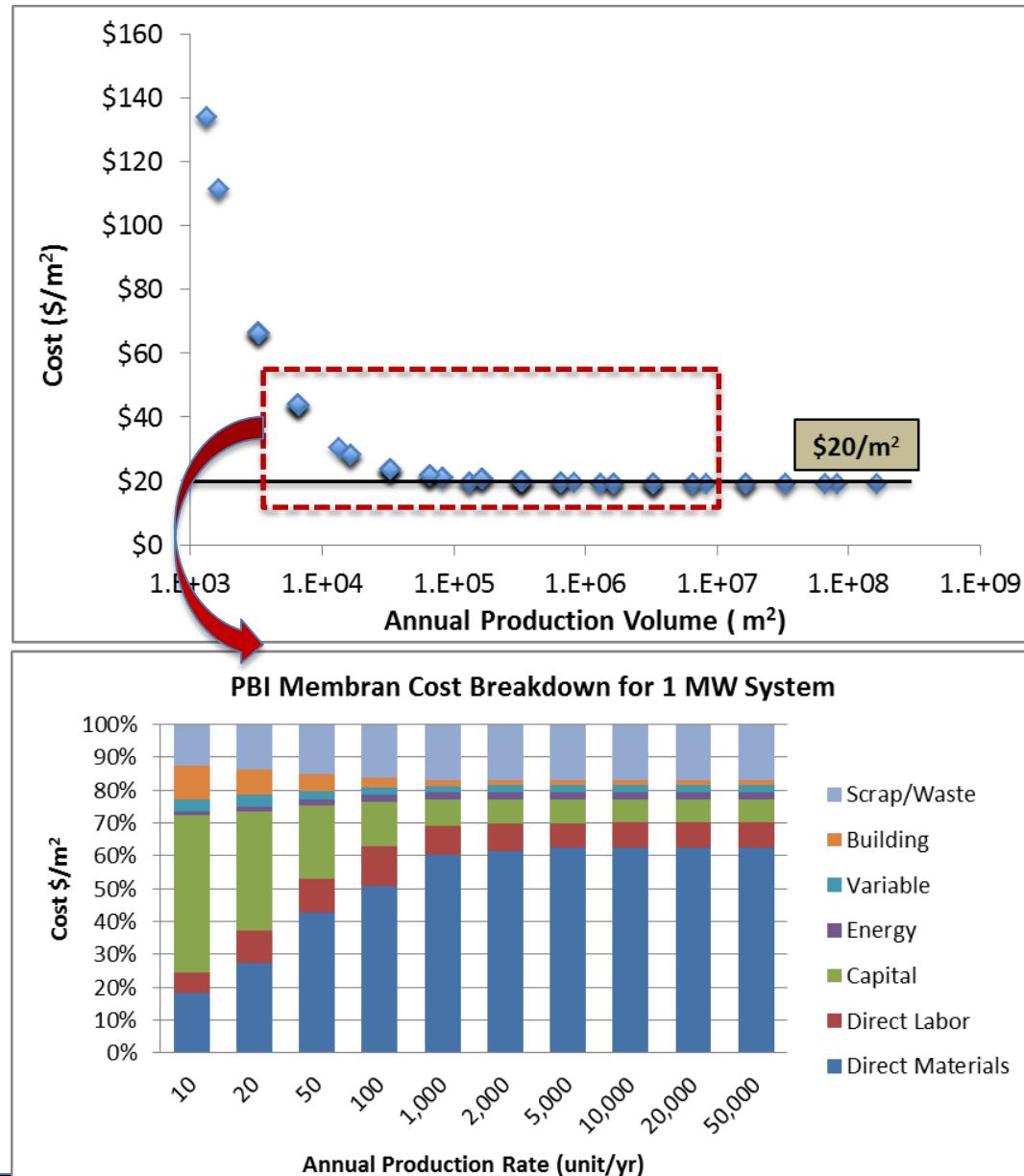


Casting Process



BPI Membrane Cost Analysis- Preliminary

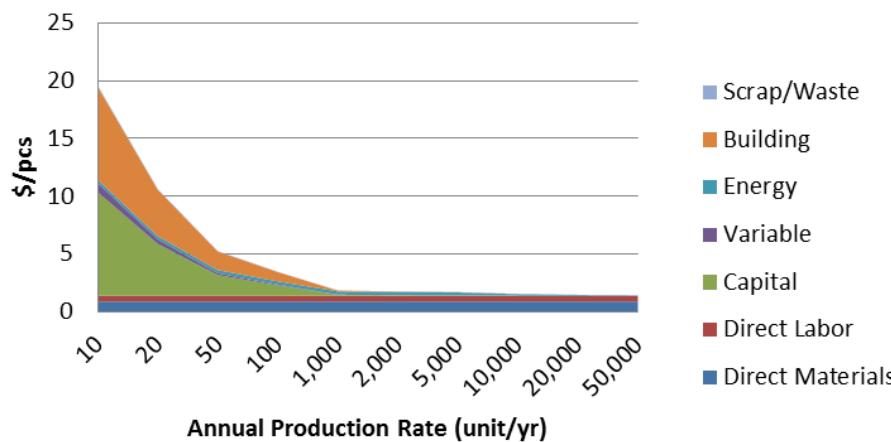
- Bill-of materials based on 1st generation materials (Xiao et al., 2003).
- Cost includes capital, building, operational, labor, material and scrap cost components.



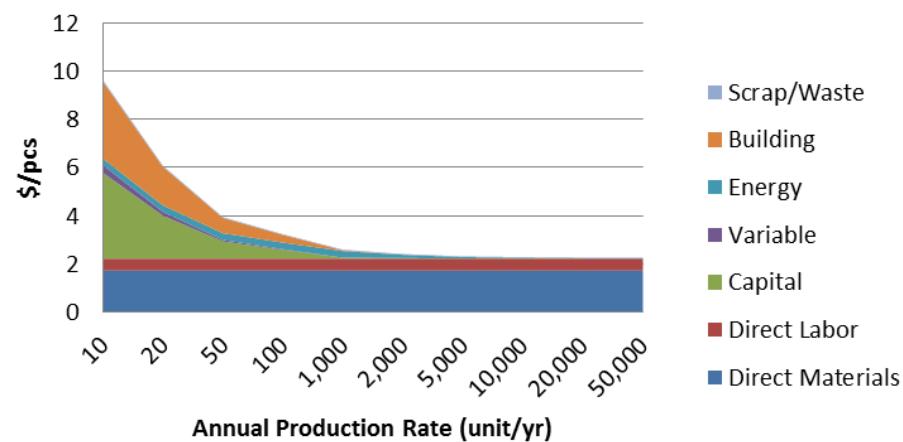
Nickel Bipolar Plates



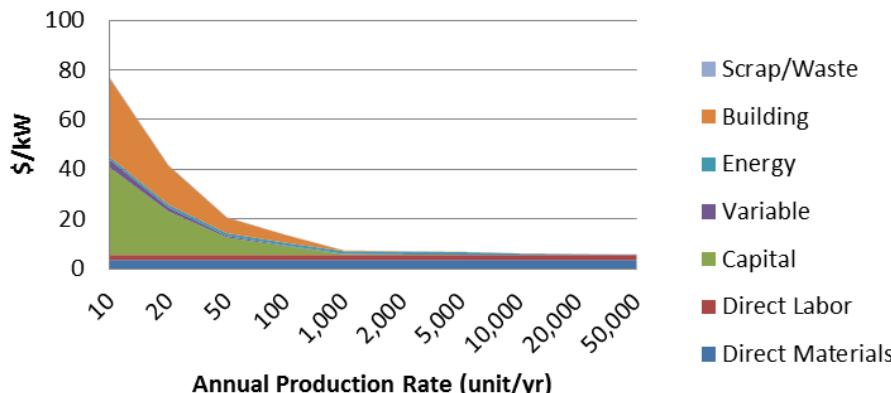
Nickel Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/pcs)
200 kW system



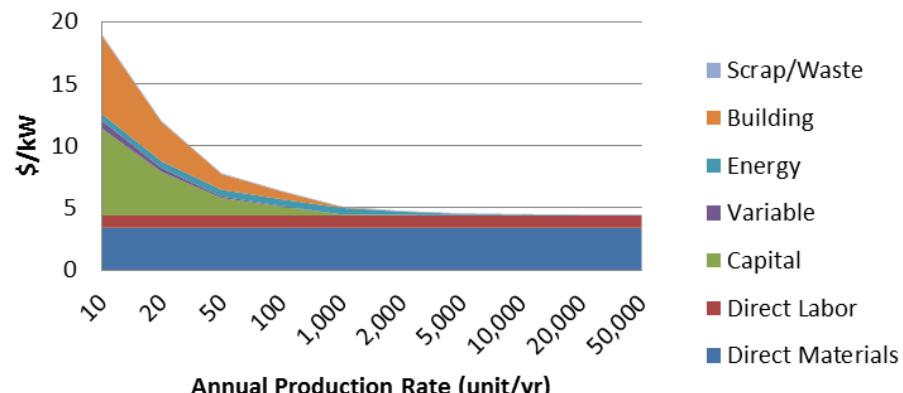
Nickel Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/pcs)
1 MW system



Nickel Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/kW)
200 kW system



Nickel Bipolar Plate Cost (\$/kW)
1 MW system

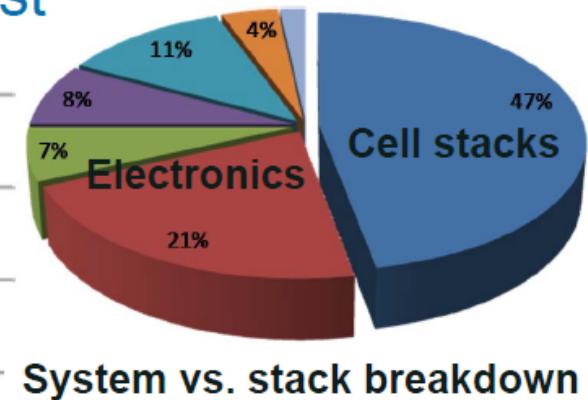
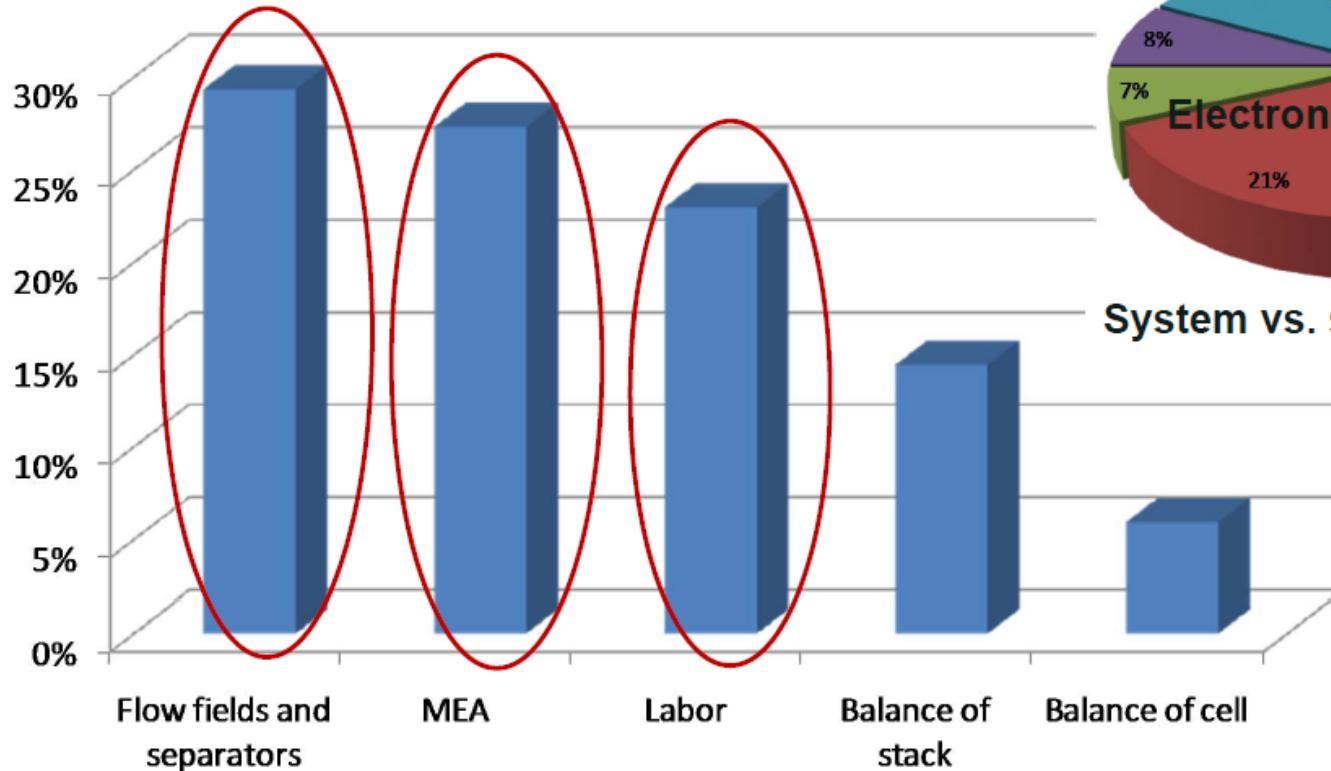


48 kg/day

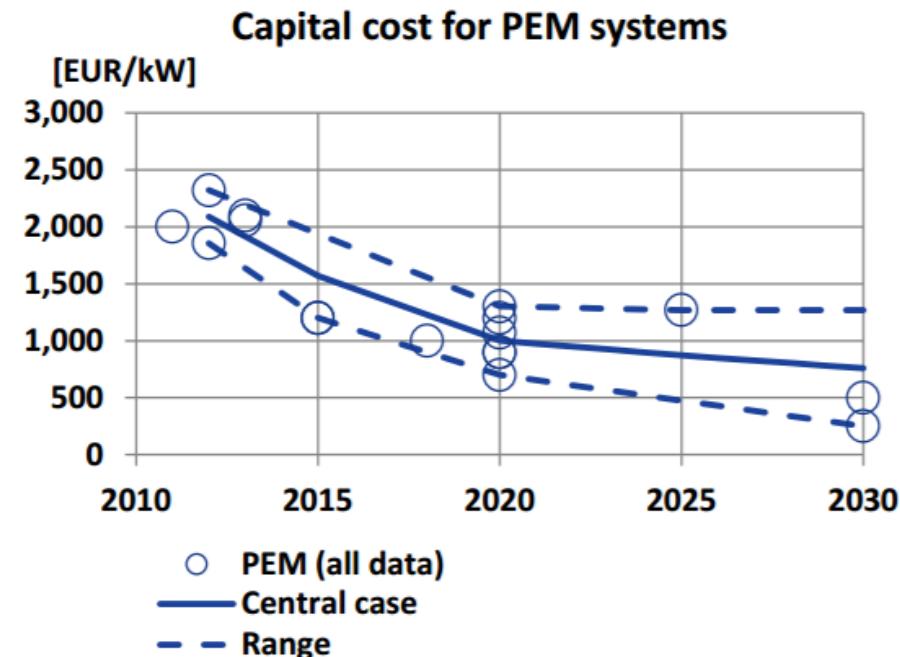
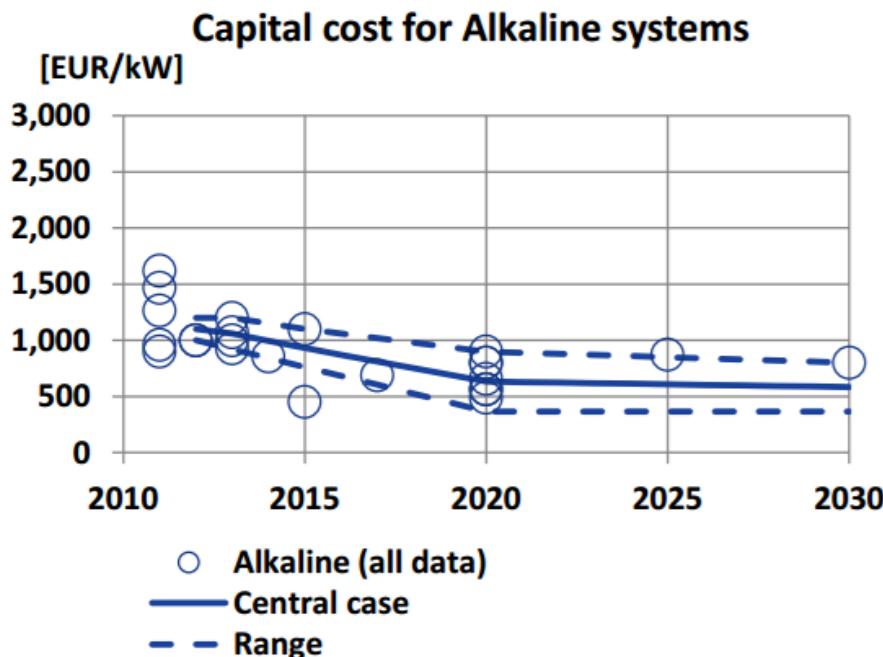
240 kg/day

Historical Cost Breakdown

- Flow field, membrane electrode assembly, and labor are high impact cost areas
- Catalyst represents ~6% of total cost



PEM and Alkaline Electrolyzer Capital Cost



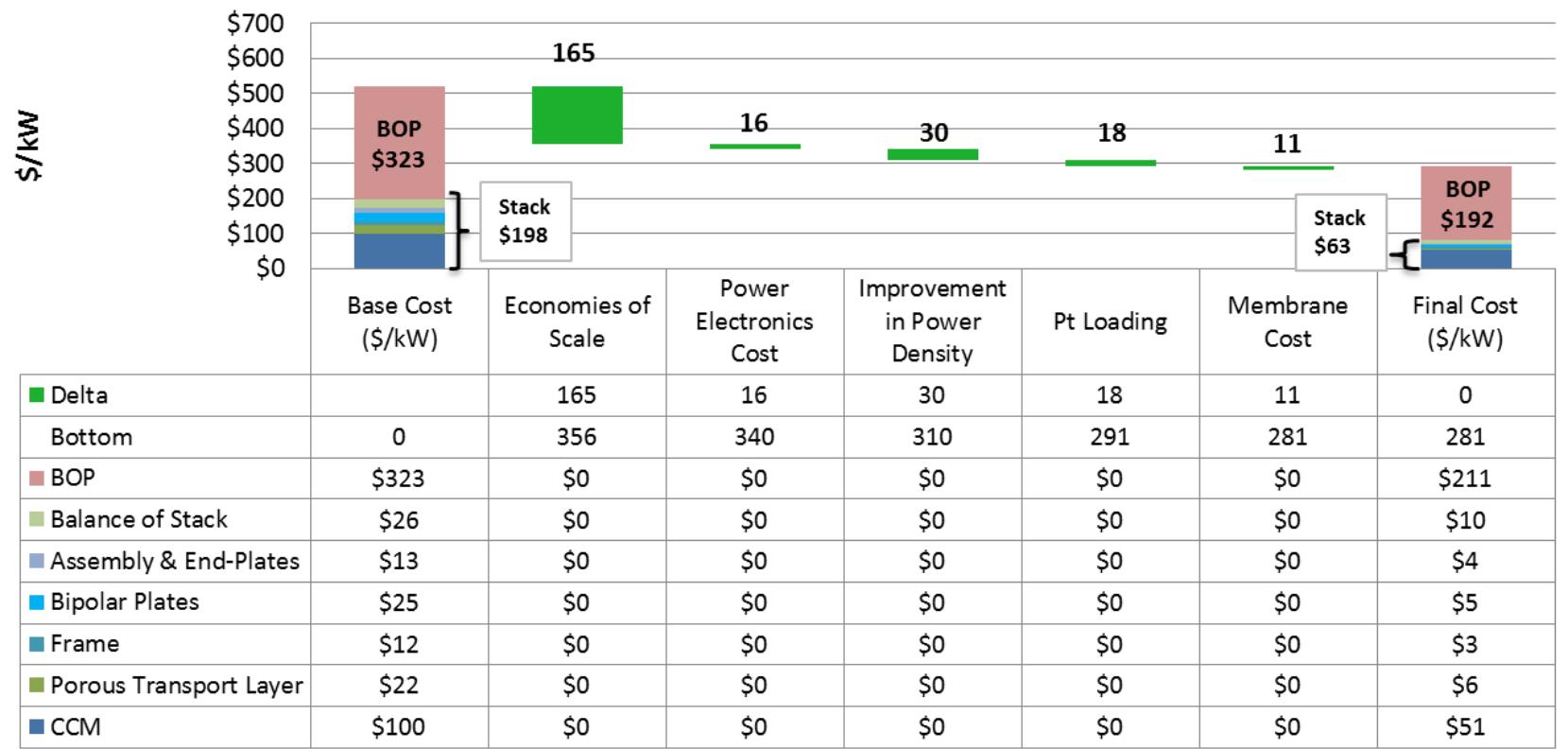
System cost ⁽¹⁾			Today	2015	2020	2025	2030
EUR/kW	Alkaline	Central	1,100	930	630	610	580
		Range	1,000 - 1,200	760 - 1,100	370 - 900	370 - 850	370 - 800
	PEM	Central	2,090	1,570	1,000	870	760
		Range	1,860 - 2,320	1,200 - 1,940	700 - 1,300	480 - 1,270	250 - 1,270

⁽¹⁾ incl. power supply, system control, gas drying (purity above 99.4%). Excl. grid connection, external compression, external purification and hydrogen storage

Waterfall Chart – Capital Cost

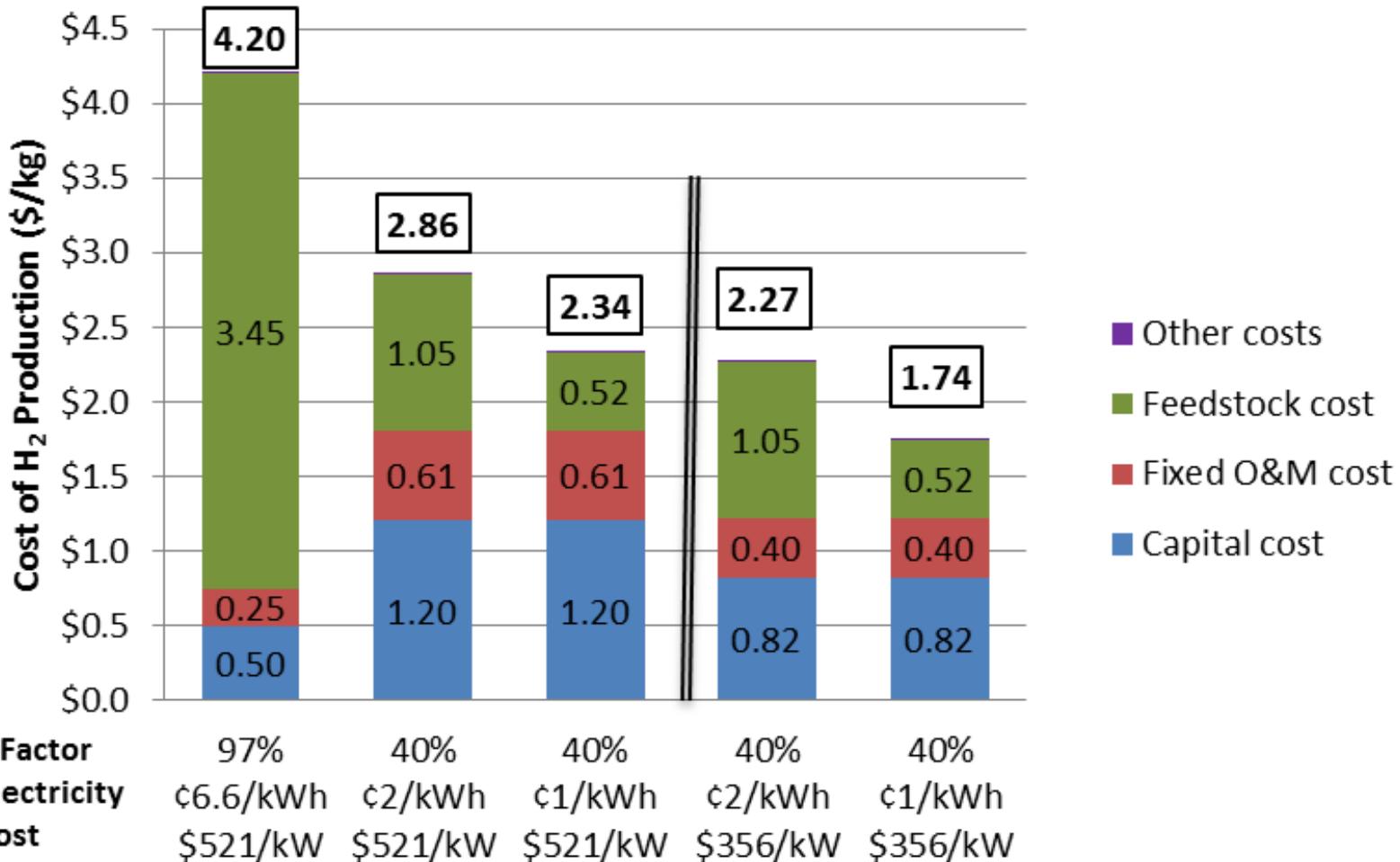


Potential Cost Reductions in PEM Electrolyzer Cost



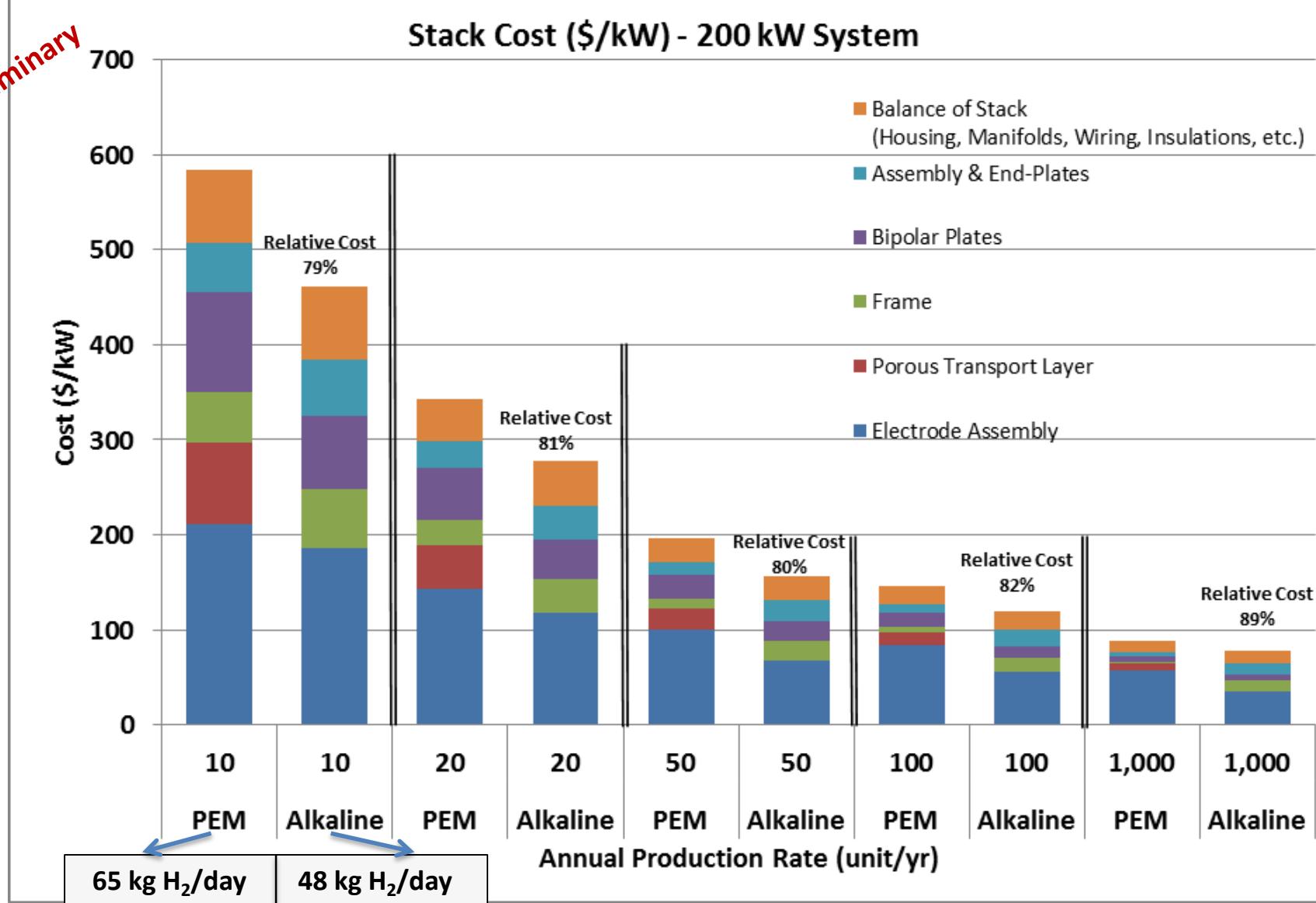
- Assumptions:
 - Economies of scale: cost of producing 100 unit/yr vs. 10 units/yr
 - Power electronics : 10% cost reduction
 - Improvement in power density: +20% (from 2.91 W/cm^2 to 3.50 W/cm^2)
 - Pt loading: reducing PGM loading from 11 g/m^2 to 5 g/m^2
 - Membrane cost: 20% cost reduction

Effect of Electrolyzer Capital Cost on H₂ Cost



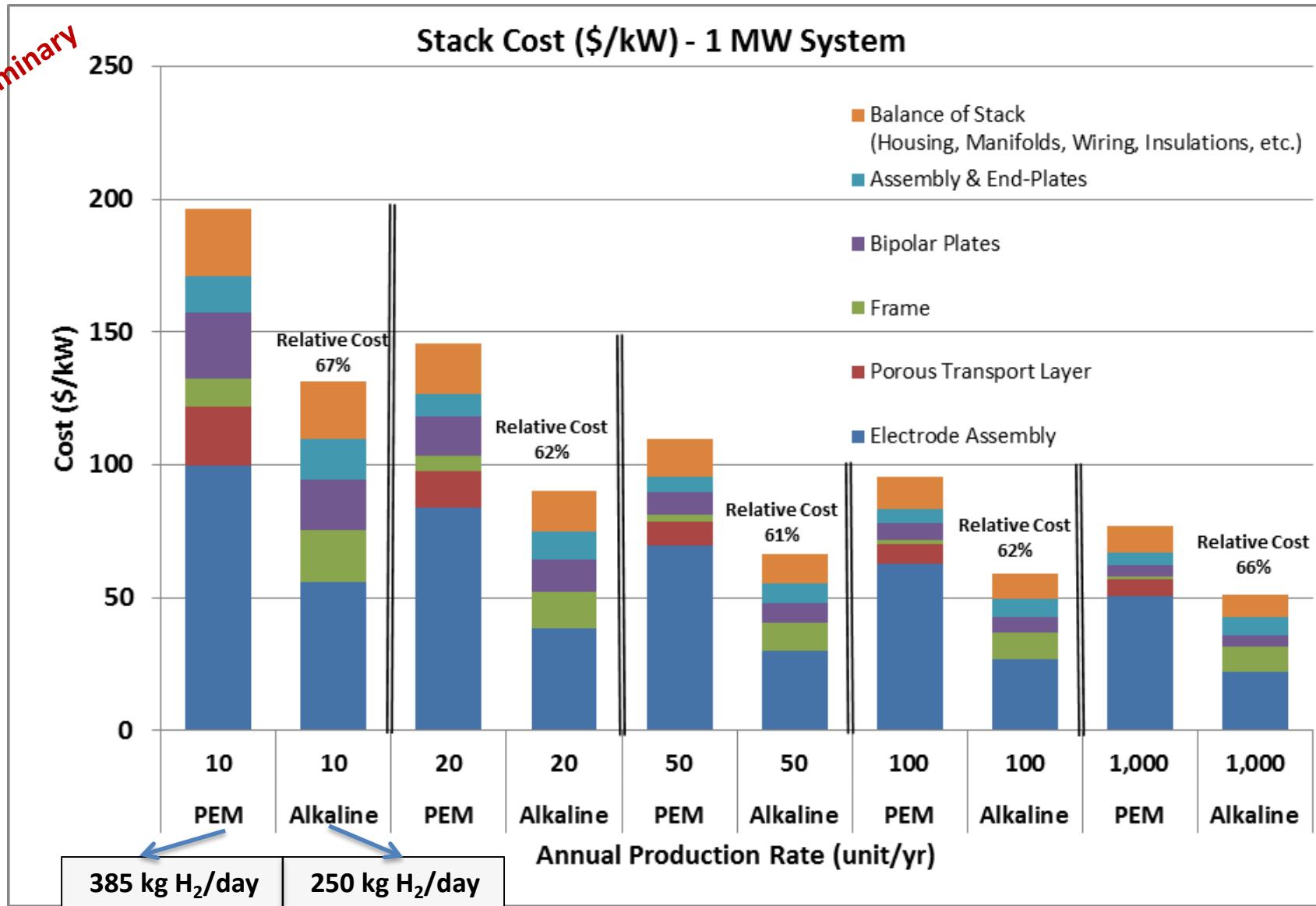
Comparative Cost Analysis (Stack Only)

Preliminary

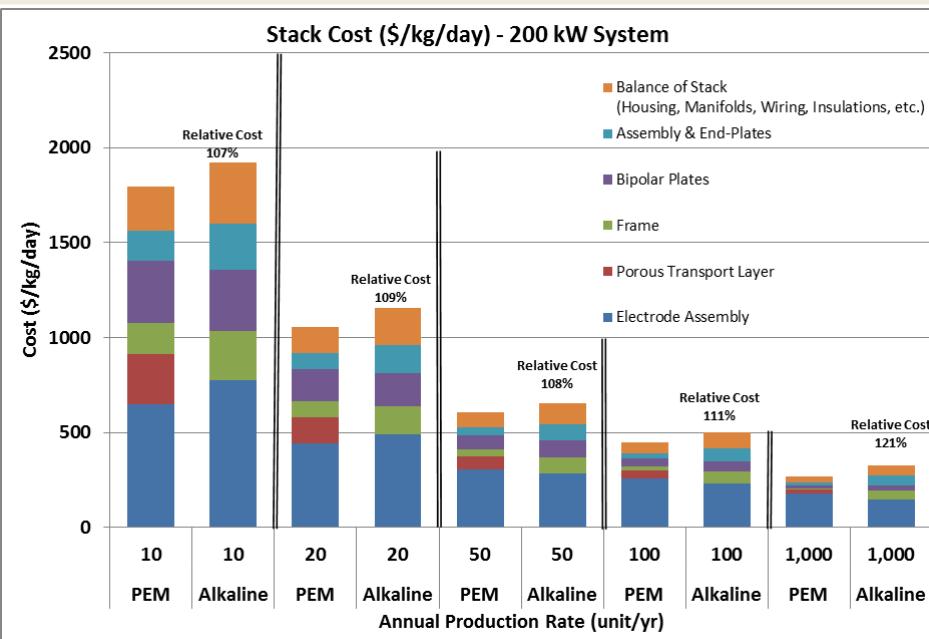


Comparative Cost Analysis (Stack Only)

Preliminary



Alkaline vs. PEM Electrolyzer



- Alkaline electrolyzer stacks have larger cost in \$/kg-H₂ basis and in \$/kW basis

