

High Efficiency Fuel Cell Application for Medium Duty Truck Vocations



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Project ID: TA057
Award: DE-EE0009858

May 2024

Project Goal

- **Develop a ZEV Fuel Cell propulsion system for Ford Super Duty Chassis Cab vocation applications.**
- **Demonstrate ZEV capability without compromised customer attributes including 10k payload, 300-mile range and SAEJ2601 refueling times.**
- **Evaluate the technology in real-world environments with three fleet customers (varied vocations and locations) to provide insight into fuel cell durability, usage, efficiency, refueling, and operating costs.**
- **Evaluate GHG and TCO utilizing H2 infrastructure and economy projections for comparison with today's ICE products.**



Super Duty Chassis Cab FCEV ZEV



Overview

Timeline

Project Start: Mar-2022
Project End: Dec-2026
Complete: ~40%

Budget

Total Project Budget: \$49.9M
Cost Share: 50%
DOE Funds Spent: \$16.7M*
DOE Funds Received: \$4.48M
*through Dec 2023

Barriers and Challenges

- H2 Infrastructure and cost
- Commercial vehicle lifetime durability
- Capability in extreme cold environments

Partners and Fleet Customers



~\$50M / Two Partners / Three Customers



Relevance and Potential Impact

➤ The vocational CV market is a significant portion of the CV CO2/GHG contributions and presents diverse decarbonization challenges.

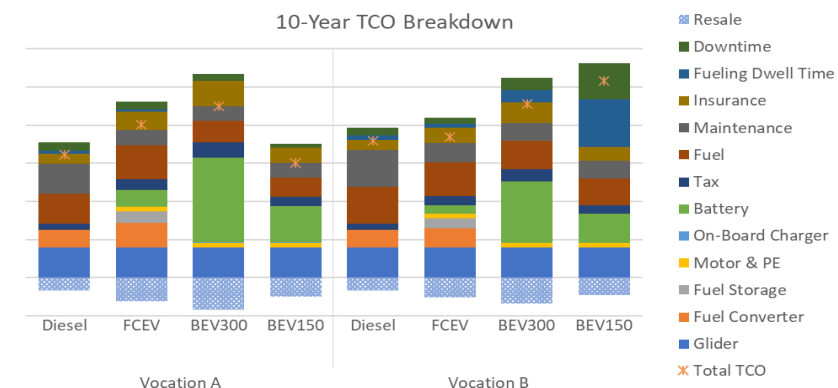
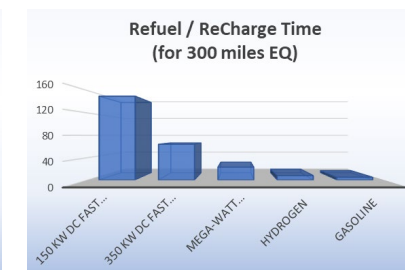
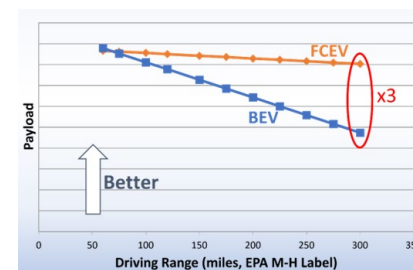
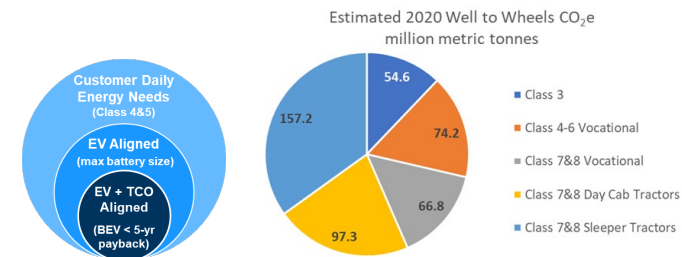
- Work trucks operate in rugged environments, with high payload demands and in some cases 24/7 uptime requirements.
- BEVs are challenged to meet CV energy demands (>300 kWh) and/or uptime requirements.
- The class 3-6 Chassis Cab vocational market is especially important to Ford as a leader in this segment.

➤ Fuel Cell powertrain offers favorable attributes

- Zero emissions
- Minimal payload compromise and re-fill time similar to ICE
- Favorable TCO (accounting for down time) for high energy users

➤ Overall Goals

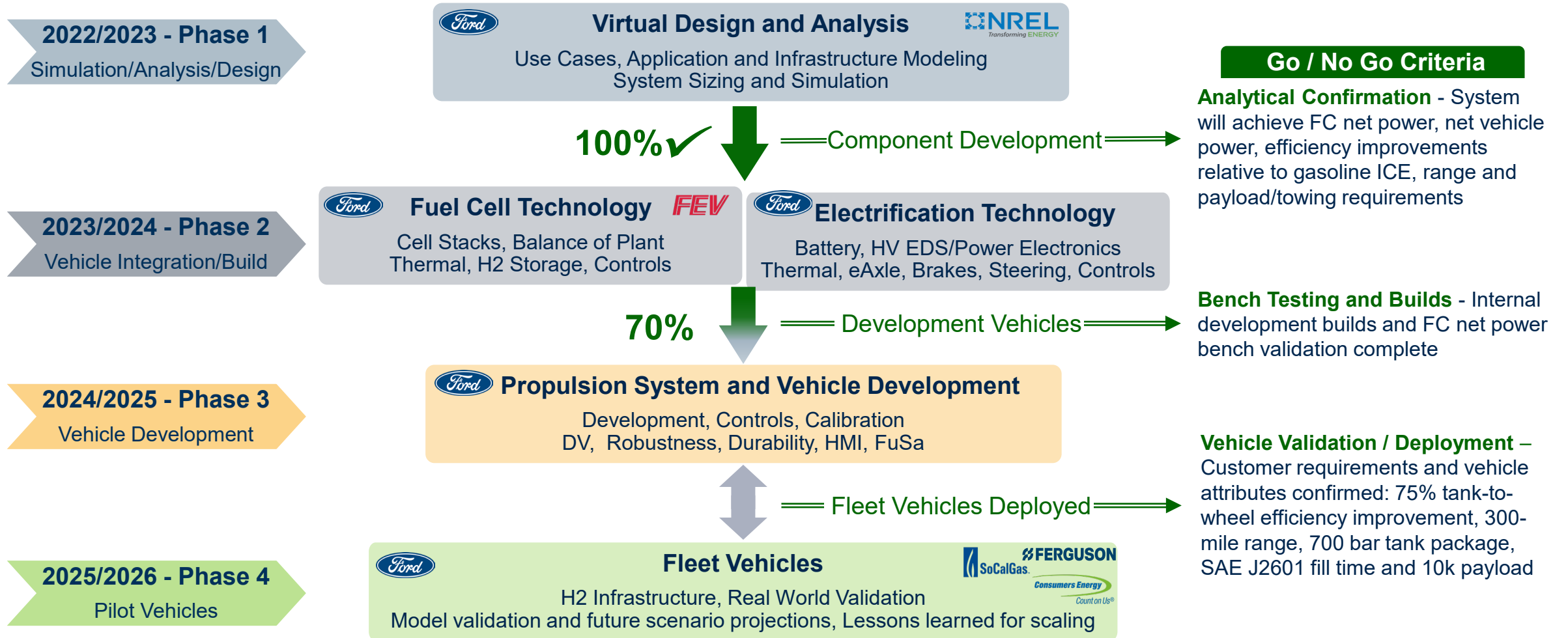
- Achieve 300-mile range and maintain customer payload
- Meet high energy daily usage / full capability in hot and cold ambient
- Capable of going where the work is
- Meet or better gas ICE TCO



Fuel Cell is the better ZEV solution for highest energy users



Approach: Focus Areas per Phase




Four phase, multi-year approach



Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

Safety Planning and Culture

- **Safety Plan for the Ford SuperTruck 3 Project was approved by the DOE Hydrogen Safety Panel**
- **For over 30 years, Ford has been conducting research into hydrogen vehicles and hydrogen storage technologies (incl DOE funded projects) with a culture that emphasizes safety first in design, testing, and vehicle operation.**
 - 1999 – Ford P2000 Fuel Cell Vehicle
 - 2000 – Ford Focus Fuel Cell Vehicle
 - 2005 – 2009: Focus FCEV DOE Technology Validation program – 30 vehicle fleet
 - 2005 – 2009: Hydrogen ICE bus program – 30 vehicle fleet
 - 2007 – HySeries Plug-in Edge Fuel Cell Vehicle
 - 2009 – Ford Explorer Fuel Cell Demonstration Vehicle
 - 2016 – Ford Plug-in Fusion Fuel Cell Vehicle
 - 2019 – Ford F550 Fuel Cell Demonstration Vehicle
- **Internal and external research activities address hazards using risk assessments including completing Failure Mode & Effects Analyses(FMEAs), Standard Operating Procedures, Authorized Trained Operators, Safety Reviews, Incident Reporting, Emergency Response Plans and Industry Codes & Standards.**


Safety Plan for DOE Project:
High Efficiency Fuel Cell Application for Medium Duty Truck Vocations
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- 7.0 Code and Standards
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- 9.0 Equipment and Mechanical Integrity
- 10.0 Management of Change (MOC) Procedures
- 11.0 Safety Reviews
- 12.0 Project Safety Documentation
- 13.0 Personnel Training
- 14.0 Safety Events and Lessons Learned
- 15.0 Emergency Response
- 16.0 Supporting Documentation
- 17.0 Safety Plan Approval

Previous Ford fuel cell fleet accumulated over 1.3 million miles without a hydrogen safety incident.



Ford has conducted extensive research on Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Storage Technologies while emphasizing safety culture

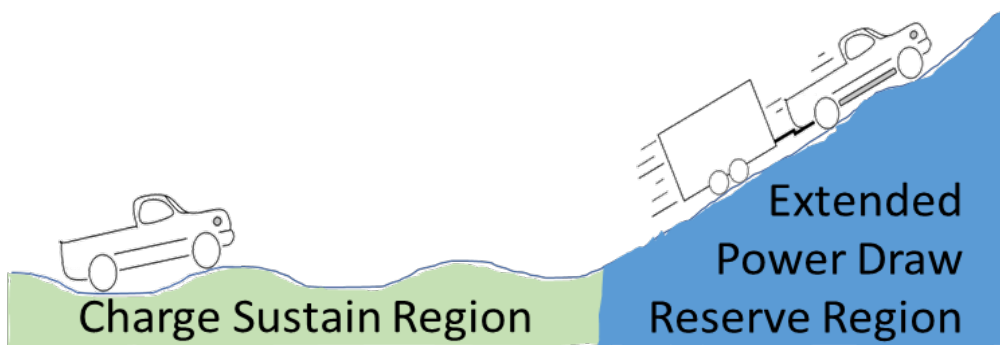


Accomplishments and Progress

Analytical Concept Evaluation – System Sizing

FCEV Super Duty F550 Chassis Cab

- Zero Emissions
- 10,000 lb payload / 20,000 lb towing capacity
- Meet or exceed 7.3L gas performance feel
- 300 mile range in shorter wheelbase variant
- Comparable refueling time to ICE (<10 minutes)



Twin eAxles

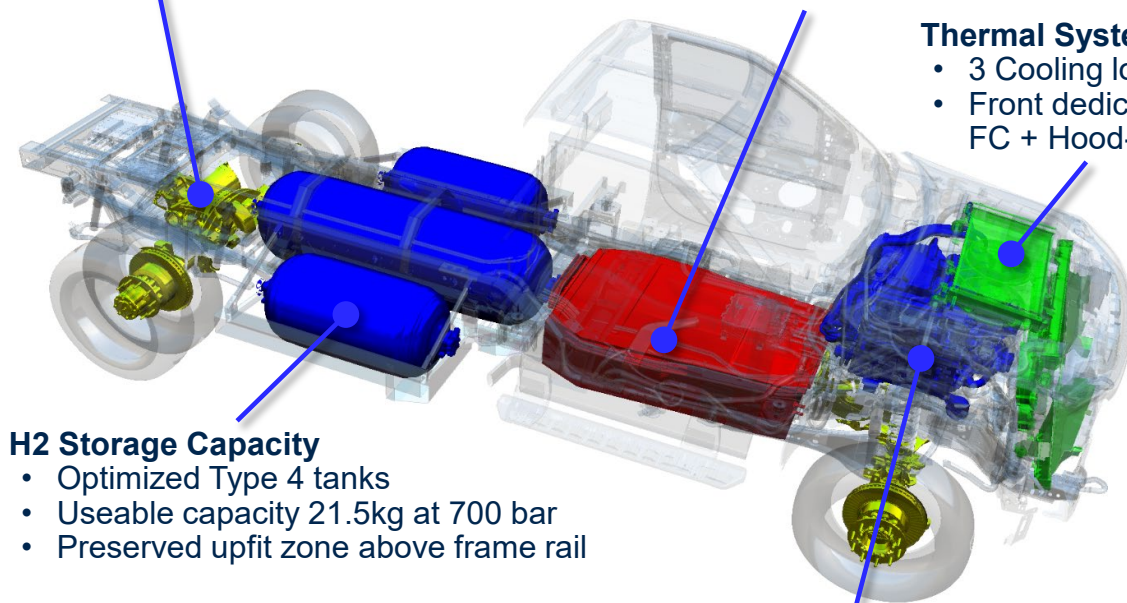
- 200kW continuous power (each)
- 13,000Nm Peak wheel torque (each)

HV Battery

- 350kW peak power
- Transient fill-in
- 40kWhr usable energy

Thermal System

- 3 Cooling loops
- Front dedicated HTR for FC + Hood-mounted LTR



H2 Storage Capacity

- Optimized Type 4 tanks
- Useable capacity 21.5kg at 700 bar
- Preserved upfit zone above frame rail

Fuel Cell System

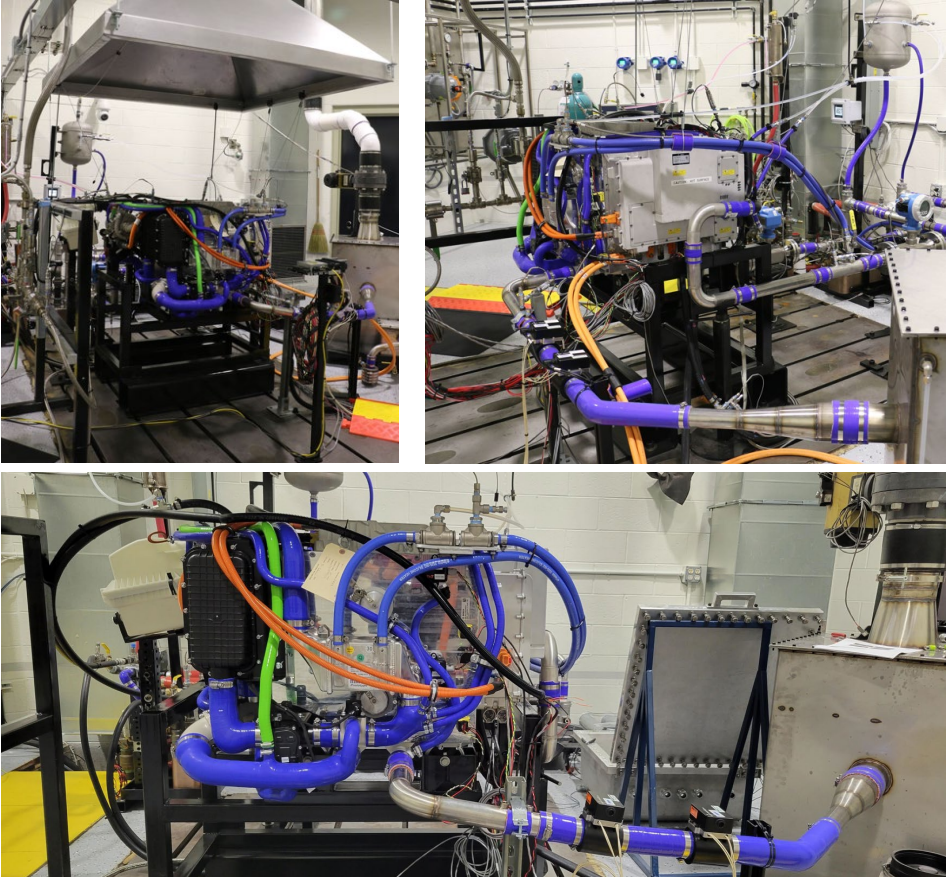
- Optimized 2-row stack & BOP
- 140kW continuous power @38°C

Super Duty FCEV Concept



Accomplishments and Progress

Fuel Cell System Validation



Requirement Description	Project Targets	Pilot System
Continuous net power to vehicle (20°C, BoL)	≥ 140kW	✓
Steady state peak efficiency	≥ 60%	✓
Steady state efficiency at rated continuous net power	≥ 45%	✓
Waste heat to coolant at continuous max power	≤ 150kW	✓
Up-transient dynamic response τ_{90} time	≤ 6sec	✓

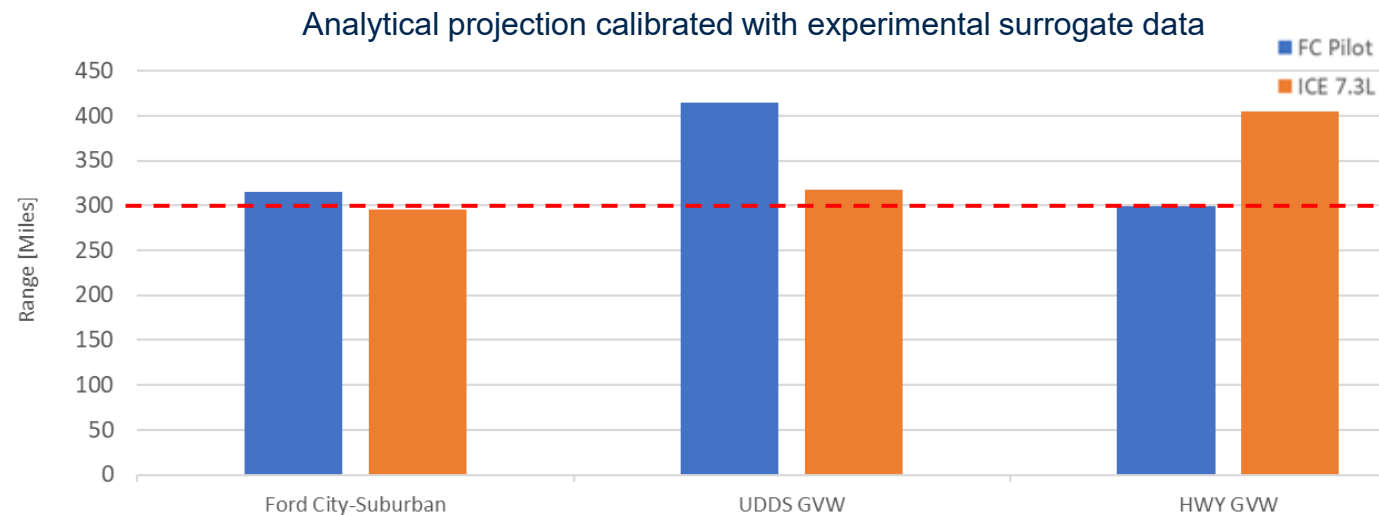
Fuel Cell system exceeds 140kW target



Accomplishments and Progress

Vehicle Range

- 300-mile range target achieved with 21.5kg H₂ (Ford City-Suburban cycle)



Projections support 300-mile range target



Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

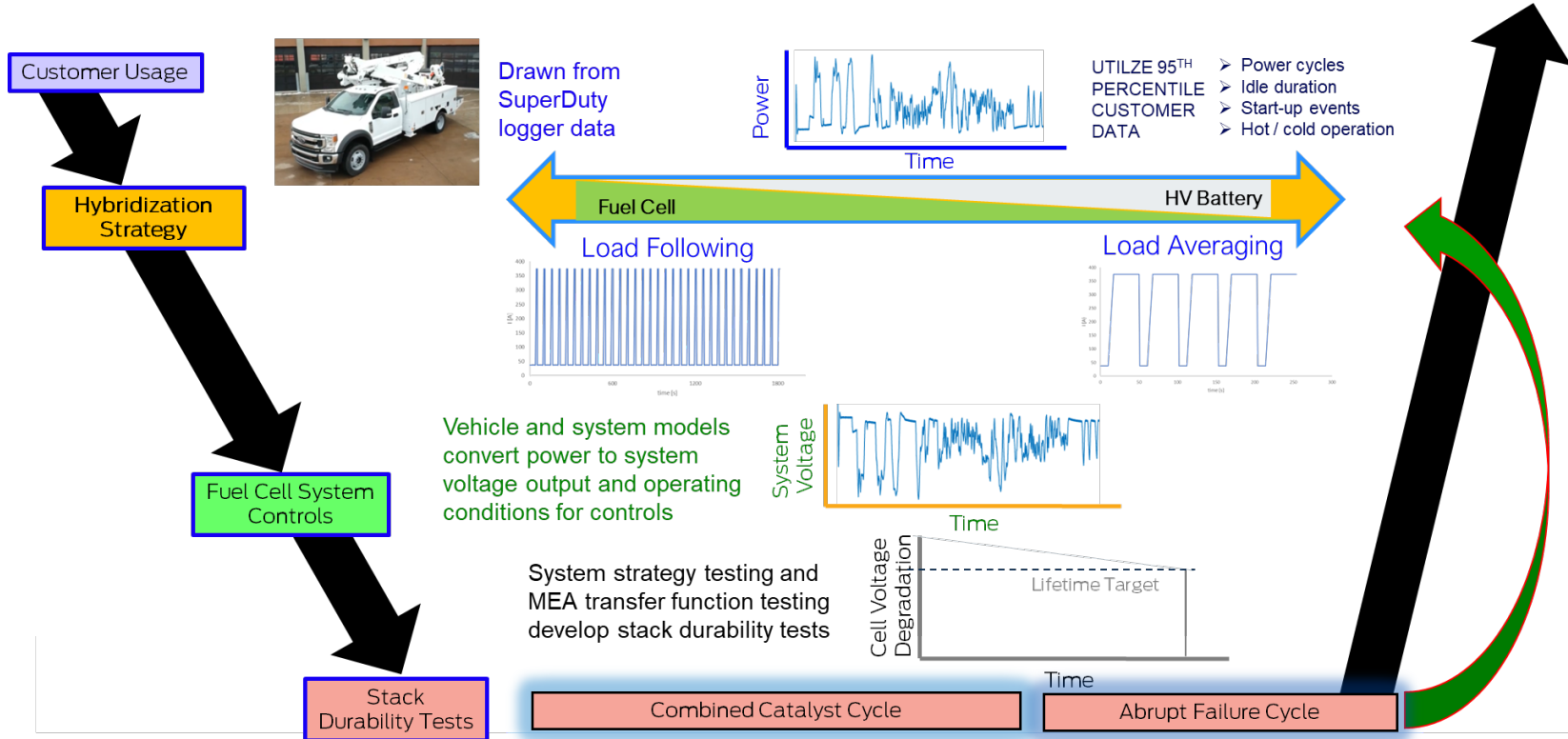
Accomplishments and Progress

Fuel Cell Durability and Strategies

Useful Life Target: 15 Years / 350K miles / 17K hours

Super Duty Lifetime Durability Approach

- Created transfer function for key FC stressors
- Developed operating strategies with degrees of freedom relative to key stressors
- Created a vehicle model to expose system and strategy to over 1M miles of customer detailed logger data
- Developed key life tests based on worst case use cases



Accelerated key life tests derived from real customer use cases



Accomplishments and Progress

Fuel Cell Durability and Strategies

- ✓ **Abrupt Failure Cycle:** test completed 15 years equivalent operation
 - Designed to test membrane stressors.
 - The test represented the 95th percentile for stressors to the membrane including high/low power cycling, low power operation, freeze preparation, and hot operation.
 - ***Lifetime End-of-Test Results:***
 - ✓ **No membrane failures**
 - ✓ **Bleed down times were ~2.5x better than the lifetime target.**

- ✓ **Combined Catalyst Cycle:** test completed 15 years equivalent operation
 - Designed to test catalyst stressors.
 - The test represented the 95th percentile for stressors to the catalyst including high/low power cycling, start-up cycles, and shut-down cycles.
 - ***Lifetime End-of-Test Results:***
 - ✓ **No catalyst failures**
 - ✓ **Voltage degradation was only 57% of the lifetime budget.**



Fuel cell stack testing successfully demonstrated 15-year equivalent durability.

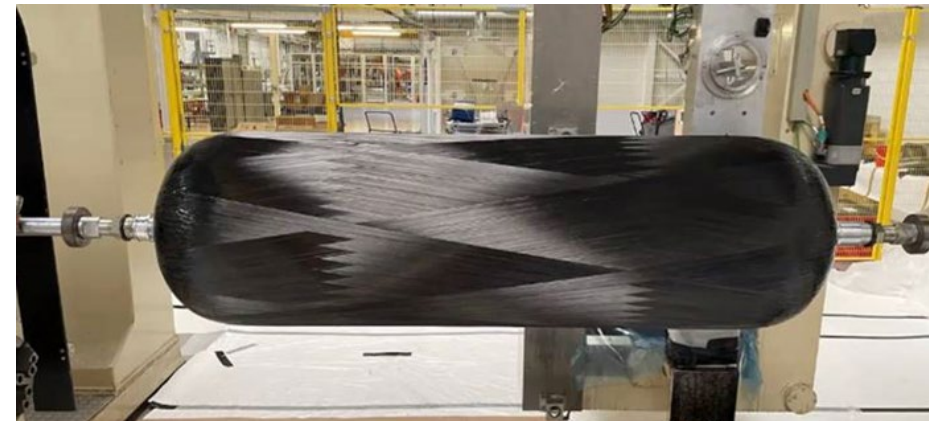


Accomplishments and Progress

Subsystem Development



- **Battery pack builds complete**
- **eAxles builds complete and delivered**
- **H₂ tank manufacturing in process**
- **Vehicle breadboard in operation**



Major Propulsion Subsystems on track and pre-build Breadboard prove-out in progress



Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

Accomplishments and Progress

Vehicle Build Status

Development Vehicle #1

- Chassis modifications complete
- Fuel cell system and supporting components installed
- Underhood build complete
- Electrical harness builds in-process
- eAxles installed
- Build complete target – May 2024



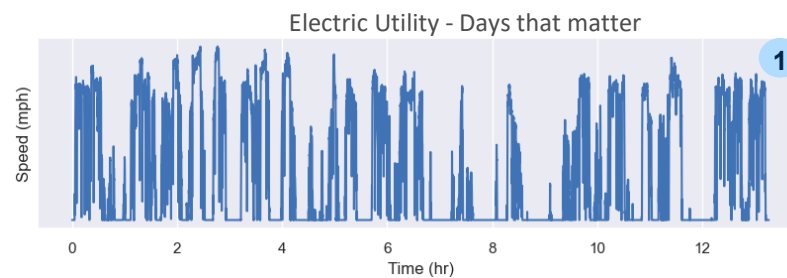
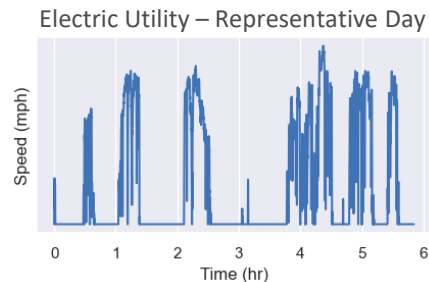
1st Development Build Target Completion – May 2024



Accomplishments and Progress

TCO Analysis

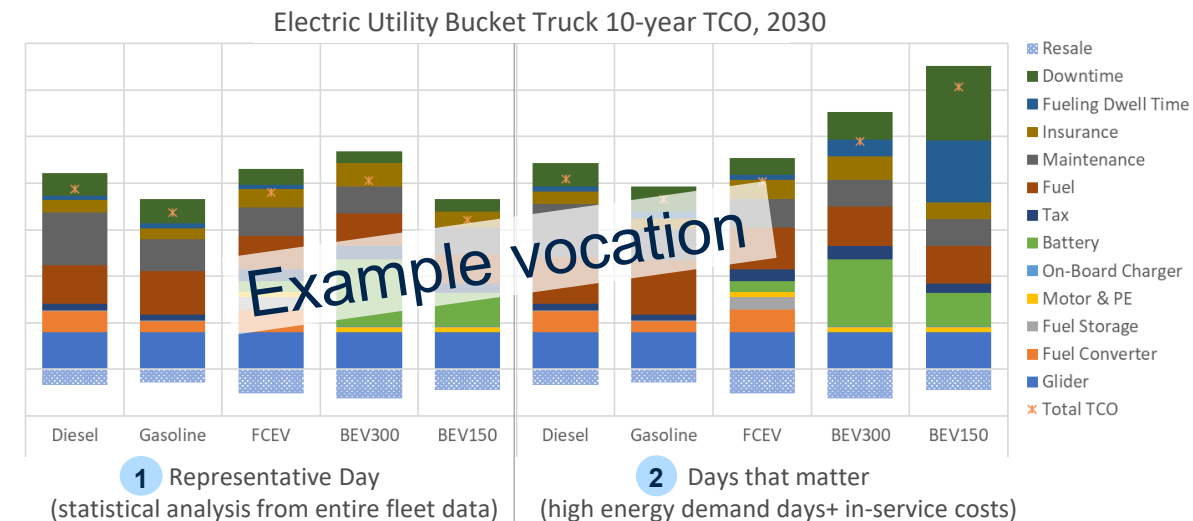
- Initial TCO results were calculated assuming all days in the vehicle's life follow a given "representative day" cycle derived from statistical analysis of the fleet ¹



- "Days that matter" were added to capture the impact of high energy demand days

	Representative	High Demand	Difference
Driving Distance (mi)	84	298	256%
Total Engine-out Energy (kWh)	114	467	312%

- The frequency and duration of charging to meet high demand days drives changes TCO equation ²
- Subsequent TCO will evaluate a full year of driving cycles to get a more realistic "year in the life"



NREL's T3CO model with Ford's fleet partner data is being used to evaluate 10-year TCO
"Days that matter" is an important consideration for real world applicability



Accomplishments and Progress

Responses to Previous Year Reviewers' Comments

- **More details on operating strategies** ✓
- **Range vs gas** ✓
- **Safety plan** ✓
- **Cold weather strategies – successfully demonstrated -30C cold start in test cell. Winter validation upcoming.**
- **Pilot customer data sets being developed. Will have real time telematics for critical parameters and deeper data downloads**
- **Customer roles – adapt upfits to new propulsion system. Help with H2 infrastructure. Do what you normally do with the vehicles when deployed.**
- **Customer applications – Crane truck for SoCal gas, Bucket truck for Consumers Energy (incl ePTO surrogate for Boom operation), Box truck for Ferguson**



Collaboration and Coordination

Subcontractors



- Assess Total Cost of Ownership
- Commercial Vehicle Partner Fleet Systems Analysis
- Freight and Vocational Fleet Systems Analysis
- Battery lifetime modeling
- Hydrogen fueling rate



- Fuel Cell System Development and Testing Services
- Vehicle Testing Facilities
- Netcom and LV architecture services
- Functional Safety engineering services

Customers



- Crane Truck
- High Ambient/Altitude/Grades
- On-Road/Off-Road/High GVW

- California - Gas Utility
- Servicing Southern California



- Boom Truck
- Cold Climate
- On-Road/Off-Road/High GVW

- Michigan - Gas and Electric Utility
- Servicing all lower Michigan counties



- Box Truck
- Various Conditions
- On-Road/Construction Site

- North Carolina - Plumbing, HVAC, Industrial
- Servicing all 50 States

Two Subcontractor Awards / Three Fleet Customers



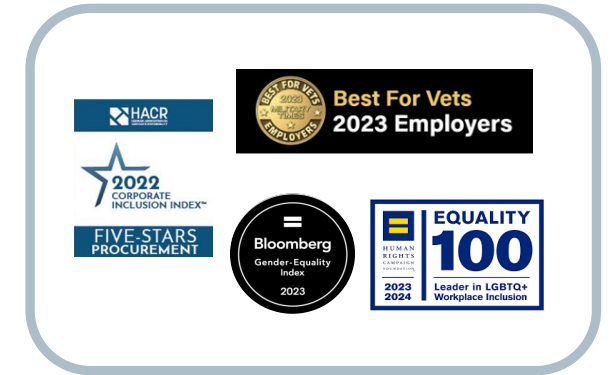
DEIA/Community Benefits Plan

➤ Ford Global DEI

- Ford is committed to nurturing an equitable workplace where each person is valued and empowered to do their best work
- We are focused on the long-term cross-functional work required to equitably support our team members, customers, dealers and the communities where we live and operate
- Since 1978, Ford has spent more than \$180B with diverse suppliers and is proud to be recognized as an industry leader for Supplier Diversity & Inclusion
- We aspire to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, focusing on vehicles, operations and supply chain; Require suppliers to establish science-based GHG reduction targets, action plans and reporting mechanisms

➤ Project Specific Benefits

- Pilot vehicle deployments selected for underserved or disadvantaged communities vulnerable to criteria emissions and GHG effects
- Flint, MI (Consumers Energy) / Bakersfield, CA (SoCal Gas)



76%

REDUCTION IN SCOPE 1
AND 2 GHG EMISSIONS FROM
OUR OPERATIONS BY 2035
FROM A 2017 BASELINE

50%

REDUCTION IN SCOPE 3 GHG
EMISSIONS PER VEHICLE KILOMETER
FROM USE OF SOLD PRODUCTS BY
2035 FROM A 2019 BASELINE



Remaining Challenges and Barriers

Challenges

- Extreme cold weather operation
 - Fuel cell, battery and propulsion system operating strategies are being developed to ensure robust operation in extreme cold climates.
 - Successful -30C freeze start in test cell. Climate chamber and winter '24/'25 confirmation in vehicle
- Ford Super Duty Lifetime Durability
 - Successfully completed key life tests equivalent to 15 years in the field.
 - Internal development fleet and Pilot deployments will validate.
- ICE parity in MD CV applications (including TCO, uptime, payload)

Barriers

- Pilot fleet hydrogen infrastructure
 - Ford has a fully capable hydrogen H70-T40D station for fueling the pilot vehicles on-site for testing.
 - Off-site mobile or semi-permanent solutions are prohibitive due to acquisition cost, electrical utility interfaces, additional hydrogen storage trailers, location permitting and/or site preparation.
 - Mobile refueling solutions are needed to enable:
 1. Development of fuel cell electric vehicles at real-world testing sites throughout the US.
 2. Deployment of fuel cell electric vehicles at customer sites for limited trial fleet evaluation.



Off-site H2 infrastructure is the major barrier to the SuperTruck 3 Project



Proposed Future Work

2024

➤ Phase 2 Go/No Go Milestones

Bench Confirmation of FC
140kW+ net power capability

Complete Development Builds

- **Fuel Cell:** EOL (end of line) testing on all pilot vehicle fuel cell systems
- **Propulsion System:** Commissioning and start of development on first two development vehicles
- **H2 Infrastructure:** Continue search for development and Pilot fleet needs

2025

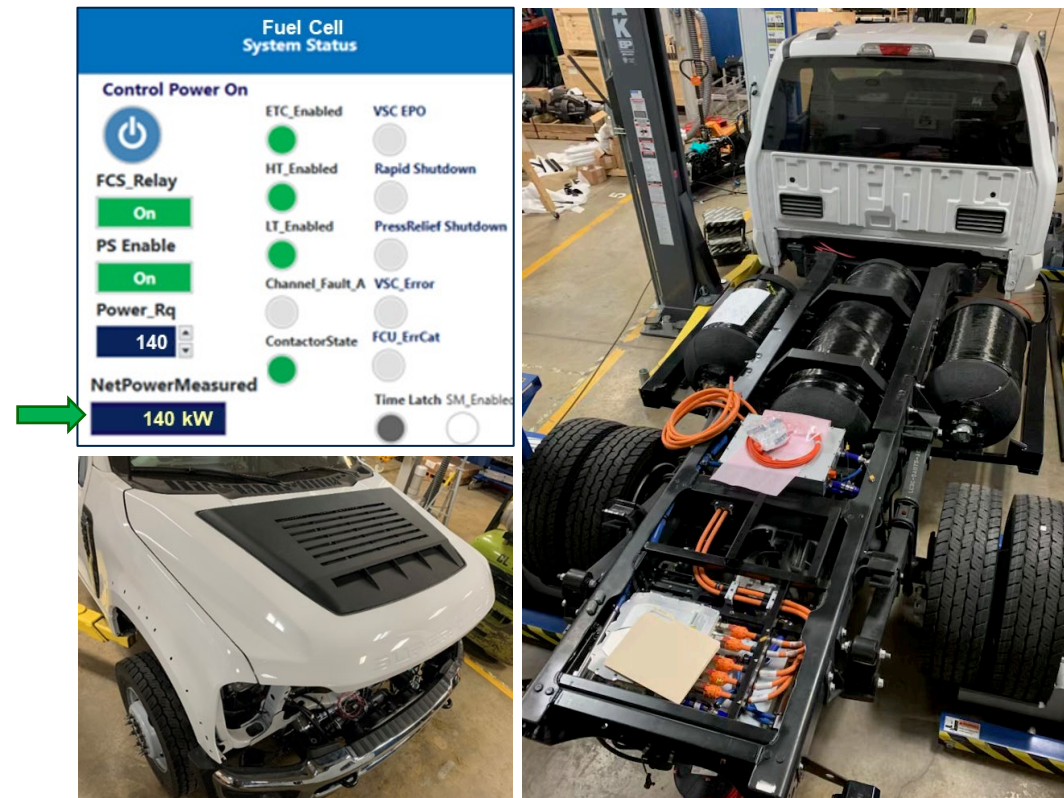
- **Attribute, DV and Durability Testing:** Complete controls and calibration development, robustness and durability testing, and altitude and environmental testing
- **Fleet Vehicles:** Complete upfitter modifications (mid-2025) and deploy to customers by year-end

Phase 2 is on track for 2024



Summary

- Concept selection and analysis of an F550 Chassis Cab Fuel Cell Propulsion system that meets the target attributes is complete
- Go / No Go experimental confirmation of FC net power complete
- 1st complete vehicle build expected in May
- TCO, GHG and environmental impact studies are providing useful insight for future planning.



THANK YOU

