

Chapter 1 : Emerging electrochemical energy conversion and storage technologies

Introduction. In view of the projected global energy demand and increasing levels of greenhouse gases and pollutants (NO_x, SO_x, fine particulates), there is a well-established need for new energy technologies which provide clean and environmentally friendly solutions to meet end user requirements.

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Abstract Electrochemical cells and systems play a key role in a wide range of industry sectors. A large number of electrochemical energy technologies have been developed in the past. These systems continue to be optimized in terms of cost, life time, and performance, leading to their continued expansion into existing and emerging market sectors. The more established technologies such as deep-cycle batteries and sensors are being joined by emerging technologies such as fuel cells, large format lithium-ion batteries, electrochemical reactors; ion transport membranes and supercapacitors. This growing demand multi billion dollars for electrochemical energy systems along with the increasing maturity of a number of technologies is having a significant effect on the global research and development effort which is increasing in both in size and depth. A number of new technologies, which will have substantial impact on the environment and the way we produce and utilize energy, are under development. This paper presents an overview of several emerging electrochemical energy technologies along with a discussion some of the key technical challenges. It has been clear for decades that renewable energy sources such as wind and solar would play some role in the modern grid with predictions varying on the levels of penetration and the effect that these renewable power sources would have on the stability of national grids. The role that renewable energy will play in the future energy mix is now becoming more obvious as this sector matures. As higher levels of renewable energy are integrated into national grids a greater understanding of the effect of their intermittent nature is becoming wide spread. This can result in significant mismatch between supply and demand. In addition to the changes to the power generation infrastructure, the integration of smart meters is leading to a market where energy use can be easily measured in real time. In order to maximize profit, privatized power generators and grid suppliers are increasingly promoting the use of strong financial incentives to be levied on power users to change their electrical energy usage habits. This has led to a defined cost being associated with the previously largely invisible tasks associated with managing power generation and large distribution grids. This clear cost signal has led to increased demand for energy storage for load-leveling, peak load shaving, and providing power when the renewable energy is not available at almost every level of the power generation market from small scale domestic devices to large scale grid connected systems. In general such systems offer high efficiencies, are modular in construction, and produce low chemical and noise pollution. In real-life applications, the limitations of single power generation or storage technology based energy solutions are now being recognized. In many instances the requirements e. Thus, there is a substantial current and future new applications global demand for hybrid energy solutions or power sources to optimize cost, efficiency, reliability, and lifetime whilst meeting the performance requirements of the applications. In this regard many electrochemical energy technologies are expected to play a key role. In most electrochemical energy technologies, the electrode and electrolyte materials must possess the required ionic and electronic transport properties and a great deal of research is still to be performed at a fundamental level to study and optimize the electrochemistry of candidate materials, composites, and assemblies such as catalyst and interface designs. Practical materials must operate in a multidimensional space where optimum electrochemical properties must co-exist with secondary properties such as chemical stability, compatibility with other components thermal expansion co-efficient, strength, toughness, etc. Materials and properties need to be carefully tailored and matched to suit a technological application and the environments in which they are to be used. At these temperatures, other issues, such as gas sealing, interface compatibility and stability, and the design of support structures and

containment materials are as challenging to solve as the technical issue directly associated with the electrochemical cells. Many materials and system integration complexities exist and these are being resolved through investments in experimental developments and through theoretical modeling. Once these challenges are solved, the practical applications of electrochemical energy technologies are numerous. In this paper an overview of some more recent and emerging electrochemical technologies is given and some of the fundamental challenges facing technology development are discussed. Hydrogen production technologies Hydrogen is considered to be an important energy carrier and storage media for a future hydrogen economy. Hydrogen offers a sustainable energy future for both transport and stationary applications with near zero greenhouse gas emissions especially when generated by splitting water and combining with renewable energy sources solar, wind, ocean. Since most renewable energy sources are intermittent in nature, hydrogen can act as a storage media for load leveling and peak load shaving. It can be generated when abundant renewable energy is available and stored and converted to power and heat in a fuel cell or combustion engine as per load demand based on end-use applications. A number of different electrochemical technologies are under development and these will be briefly reviewed in the following sections. The hydrogen generation by utilizing a LT electrolyzer compared to that produced by natural gas NG reforming or coal gasification, offers a number of advantages such as on-site, on-demand distributed generation, high purity hydrogen, and unit modularity. Furthermore, such systems offer fast start-up and shutdown, and good load following capability that makes them suitable for integrating with intermittent renewable energy sources such as solar PV and wind generators. In LT systems, polymer electrolyte membrane PEM -based systems offer additional advantages over alkaline systems such as higher current densities small foot print in terms of kgs per hour hydrogen generation capacity per unit stack volume , all solid state system requiring no alkaline solutions or electrolyte top-up, and higher purity hydrogen and hydrogen generation at significantly higher pressures Badwal et al.

Chapter 2 : Journal of Electrochemical Energy Conversion and Storage | ASME DC

The Interface and Catalysts Program at SIMES. Nearly all chemical transformations related to energy conversion and storage take place at the surfaces and interfaces between solids and gases or liquids.

Chapter 3 : Ceramics for energy conversion and storage | XVI ECerS CONFERENCE Turin, June

Energy-environmental cycles in aqueous environments enabled at electrochemical interfaces for a sustainable society. We use two interlinked strategies for the design of new interfaces: (i) materials-by-design, which involves transferring the knowledge gained from single-crystalline materials and thin metal films to nanoscale materials; and (ii) double-layer-by-design, which exploits the.

Chapter 4 : Laboratory for Energy Storage and Conversion

Energy Conversion and Storage We are pleased to welcome Professor Martin Winter as an e are pleased to welcome Professor Martin Winter as an Associate Editor for the.

Chapter 5 : Design approach developed for new catalysts for energy conversion and storage

The journal Energy Conversion and Management provides a forum for publishing original contributions and comprehensive technical review articles of interdisciplinary and original research on all important energy topics.

Chapter 6 : SIMES Â» Energy Conversion and Storage

The use of nanomaterials in energy conversion and storage represents an opportunity to improve the performance, density and ease of transportation in renewable resources. This book looks at the most recent research on the topic,

with particular focus on artificial photosynthesis and lithium-ion.

Chapter 7 : Energy Conversion and Management - Journal - Elsevier

Energy Conversion and Storage Research and development in energy conversion and storage are becoming increasingly important due to the increasing energy demand for economic and social development and it is fast becoming one of the principal challenges facing the energy sector Energy storage can be defined as simply storing energy generated.

Chapter 8 : Energy Conversion and Storage

constructs for energy storage and conversion applications. Industrial applications of thin films and coatings in the broad area of energy will arise from the knowledge gathered in this project.