

amber_kinetics

DOE Peer Review

October 20-21, 2011
Ed Chiao, CEO



Amber Kinetics: Our Flywheel History

Stanford University

Start-up launched in 2009, Stanford University Cleantech Entrepreneurship class

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Established a technology licensing & flywheel development partnership with LLNL; Amber Kinetics identified new material & lower-cost rotor designs for commercialization

U.S. Department of Energy

Awarded a Smart Grid Energy Storage Demonstration grant award for flywheels


California Energy Commission

Awarded a matching grant for development & demonstration of flywheel technology



World-class institutions | **innovative, deep** flywheel technology **owned** by Amber

Siemens Partnership




SIEMENS

Siemens USA Contact

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Collaboration with Siemens TT&E Opens Doors for Startup Amber Kinetics

One of the presentations to attendees at Siemens TT&E's 2011 *New Ventures Forum* this past June was by Amber Kinetics, a startup that is developing a kinetic energy storage system that integrates intermittent, renewable wind and photovoltaic solar energy into the electrical grid. Amber Kinetics is also a Siemens TT&E partner, and an excellent example of the benefits that a startup can yield from working with a large corporate partner.



Partnership Goals:

- 2011: Technology Development
- 2012: Scale & Commercialize
- 2013: Utility-Scale Demonstrations in CA

Program Schedule



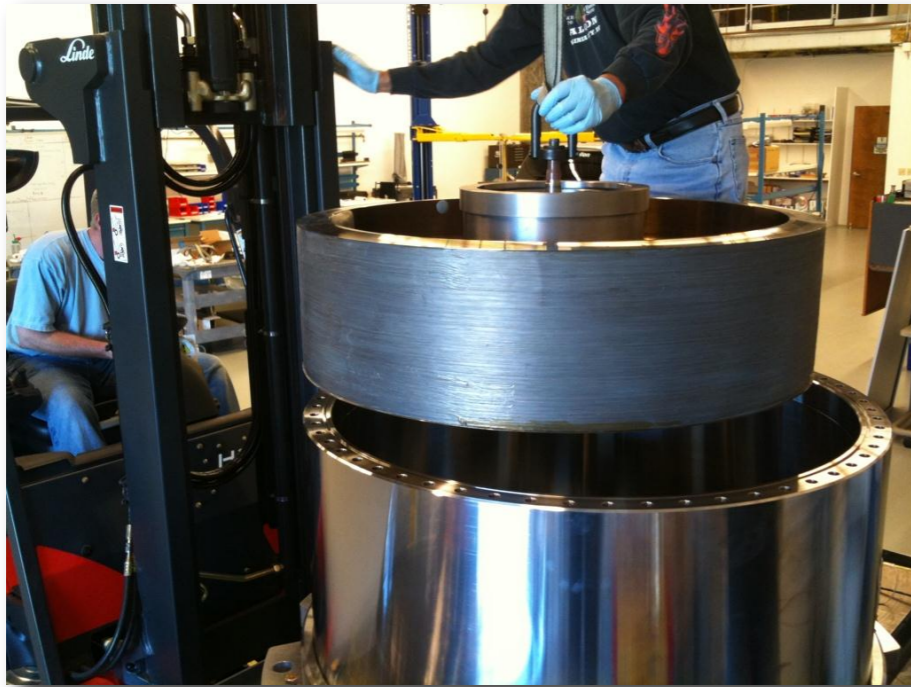
Technology Development



Commercial Product Development



Technology Milestones: Spin Testing



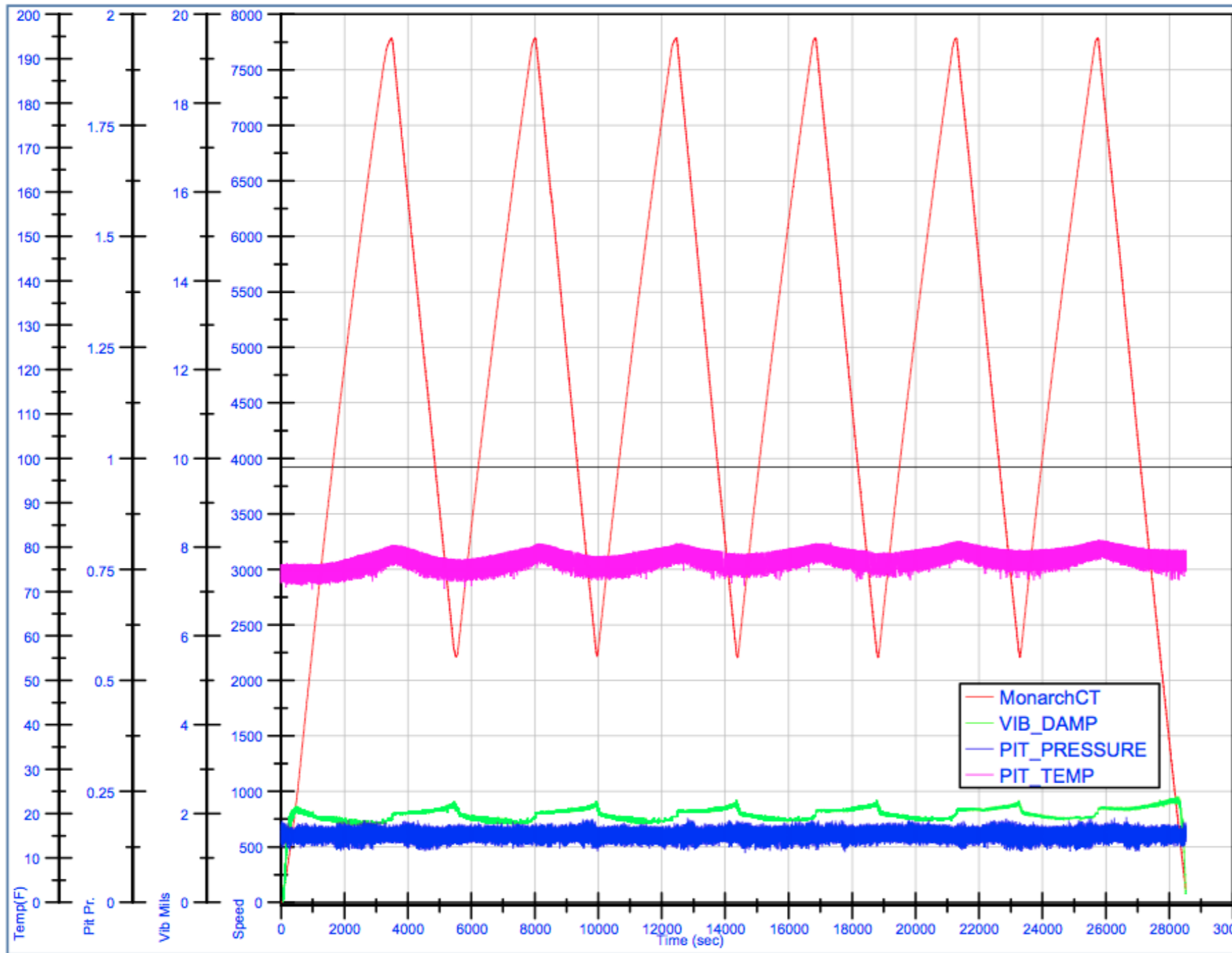
Spin Testing



Reinforced Spin Pit Assembly

Operated to 200% of design speed; no imbalance, run-out growth, or fatigue

Spin Test Cycling Results



- Nearly 400 m/s tip speed
- No run-out growth; excellent balance characteristics
- Low cost material
- Low cost MFG

Technology Milestones: Prototype Flywheel System



Generation One: Prototype 20 kW | 5 kWh Flywheel System



Result: High round-trip efficiency measured, < 1% energy coasting losses

Next Steps: Generation 2 Flywheel System



Amber Kinetics 500kW | 125kWh
Generation 2 Flywheel
(dimensions: 5 ft W x 12 ft L)

Innovation:

Amber Kinetics flywheel rotors employ low cost, **high-strength steel**

Material is twice as strong as traditional steel

1/20th the cost of carbon fiber & simpler to manufacture

Material is mature; rotor design is **scalable**

Lower balance-of-system costs

Carbon fiber rotors cost **20x** more

Amber Kinetics: Focus on Applications



Lower Cost Steel Flywheel Rotor

+

Economies of Scale (Larger Flywheel System)

< **1/2** Capital Cost (\$ / KW)
vs. traditional flywheels

Our Focus: “Seconds to Minutes”

2013: Grid-Scale Demonstration in CA



Amber Kinetics & Siemens Partnering to Co-Develop & Demonstrate Grid-Scale Flywheel Systems

thank_you

edward chiao
ceo
ed@amberkinetics.com