Development of Capacitors for Power Electronics in Hybrid Vehicles

Energy Systems Division

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prepared by
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**Non Proprietary
Final CRADA Report**

Date: 02/10/2016

CRADA Number: 1300201

CRADA Title: Development of Capacitors for Power Electronics in Hybrid Vehicles

CRADA Start/End Date: 03/18/2013 to 03/18/2014

Argonne Dollars: \$350,000

Participant Dollars: \$612,500

Argonne PI: U. (Balu) Balachandran

Participant(s):

<u>Delphi Automotive Systems, LLC</u>	<u>\$612,500</u>
Name	Participant Dollars

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Complete Address

DOE Program Steven Boyd

Manager:

Summary of Major Accomplishments:

The purpose of this CRADA is to develop a fabrication process to reduce the manufacturing cost for a very compact, high temperature, film-on-foil high energy-density PLZT (Pb-La-Zr-Ti-O) capacitor. Motivation for this CRADA is derived from the DOE's Office of Vehicle Technologies (OVT) program, which seeks to advance technologies to improve vehicle fuel efficiency in the mid-term and facilitate the transition to electric drive vehicles over the long-term. The objective of Argonne's work is to develop and characterize high-performance capacitors on base-metal foils. The PLZT film-on-foil prepared using a spin-coating technique

exhibited benign failure, a very high dielectric constant, >64 (~30X greater than today's baseline polypropylene, PP, based capacitor), and relatively high breakdown voltage, >140 V/micron. The spin-coating process requires over 30 depositions and over 30 annealing steps and many hours of time to produce a single 5 μm coating suitable for a capacitor. Processes such as aerosol deposition, colloidal spray deposition, and screen printing are known to produce thick ceramic and metal films on various substrates at rates much faster than obtained with the spin-coating process (e.g. ceramic films of thicknesses over 5 μm are produced in a single coating step). However, sub-micron sized particles are essential for the success of these very fast deposition processes. To provide these sub-micron particles, the effort was focused first on the preparation of sub-micron-sized PLZT powders, followed by developing one of the above mentioned processes to fabricate thicker PLZT films in one single deposition step. The team developed a combustion synthesis route to produce sub-micron-sized PLZT powders and identified potentially low cost solutions for producing a high-temperature capable PLZT capacitor that is 90% smaller than today's baseline PP capacitor.

Summary of Technology Transfer Benefits to Industry:

Helps the industry to develop an economically attractive process to fabricate high-temperature, high-dielectric constant capacitors with high volumetric efficiency for use in advanced power inverters in electric drive vehicles. One of the technological challenges in the development of marketable advanced vehicles has been the size and weight of conventional batteries and the associated electrical components, including capacitor dependent inverters. The currently available PP capacitors have unfavorable sizes/volumes, weights, and dielectric constants. This CRADA work has developed high-performance capacitors with reduced size and weight for advanced vehicle electrification systems.

Other Information/Results: (Papers, Inventions, Software, etc.)

1) PLZT Capacitor on Glass Substrate, M. R. Fairchild (Delphi), R.S. Taylor (Delphi), C. W. Berlin (Delphi), C. W. K. Wong (Delphi), U. Balachandran (ANL), and B. Ma (ANL), US Patent 9,230,739, 9,230,739 B2, issued on Jan. 5, 2016.

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