

SOFC/Turbine Hybrid Power System

Nexceris (Lewis Center, OH)

Czero (Fort Collins, CO)

Brayton Energy (Hampton, NH)

Project Vision

Nexceris and its team will design, build and demonstrate an ultra-high efficiency hybrid power system based on Nexceris' pressure tolerant and high efficiency solid oxide fuel cell stack and a gas turbine.

Nexceris Team

- Scott Swartz (PI)**
- Gene Arkenberg
- Tom Harvey
- Chad Sellers
- Dave Kopechek

Czero Team

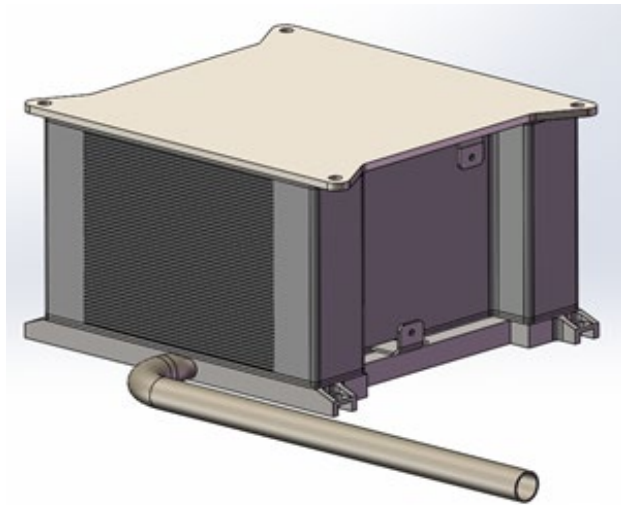
- Guy Babbitt
- Nick Echter
- Michael Sprengel

Brayton Team

- Jim Kesseli
- Tom Wolf

Project Vision

Nexceris' team will design, build and demonstrate an ultra-high efficiency power system by hybridizing Nexceris' pressure tolerant and high efficiency fuel cell stack with a gas turbine.



Project Activities

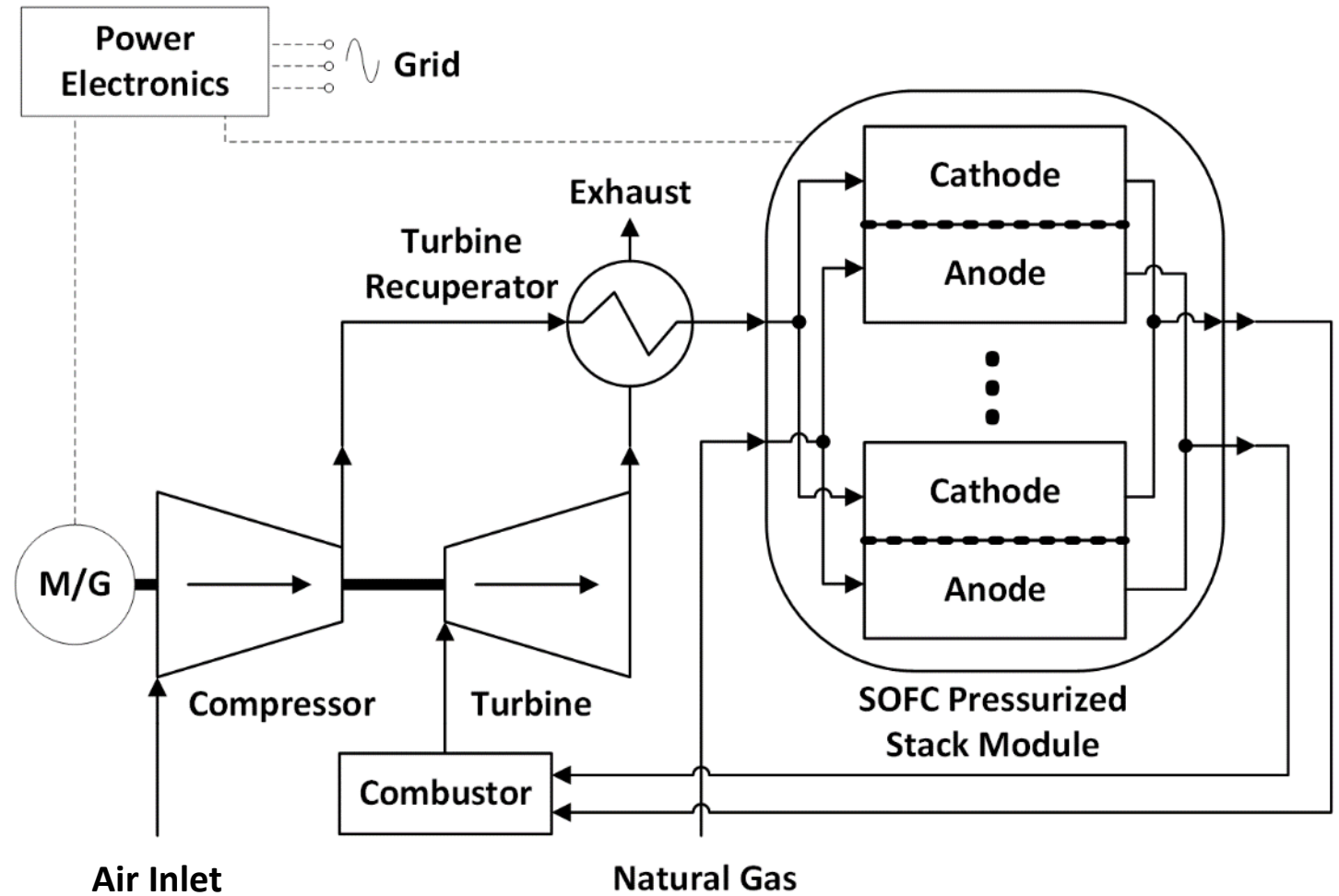
- ❑ **Nexceris:** SOFC stack production scale-up. Stack supply for system builds.
- ❑ **Nexceris:** Pressurized testing of stacks (in collaboration with Washington State University, Czero and NETL).
- ❑ **Czero:** Hybrid system design/modeling and controls development.
- ❑ **Brayton Energy:** Turbine, combustor and heat exchanger technology.
- ❑ **Czero:** BOP procurement and system builds. Hybrid system validation and demonstration testing.

Objective

Achieve ultra high fuel to electrical conversion efficiency by integrating a solid oxide fuel cell with a gas turbine.

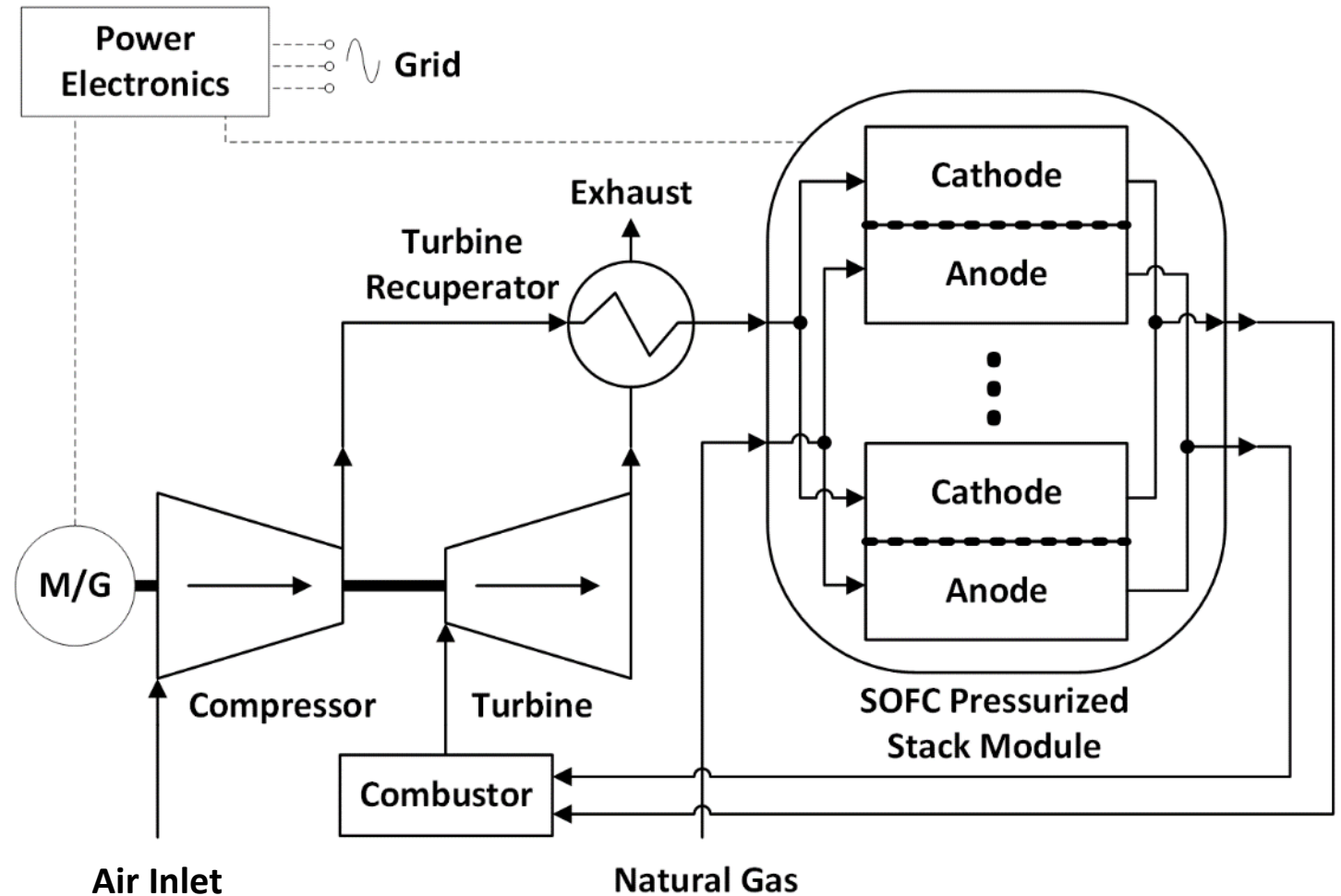
System Design Targets

- ❑ 50 kW (net) power
- ❑ Natural gas fuel
- ❑ 70 percent net LHV efficiency
- ❑ Operation pressure of 2-3 atm
- ❑ Installed cost of \$1,800 per kW



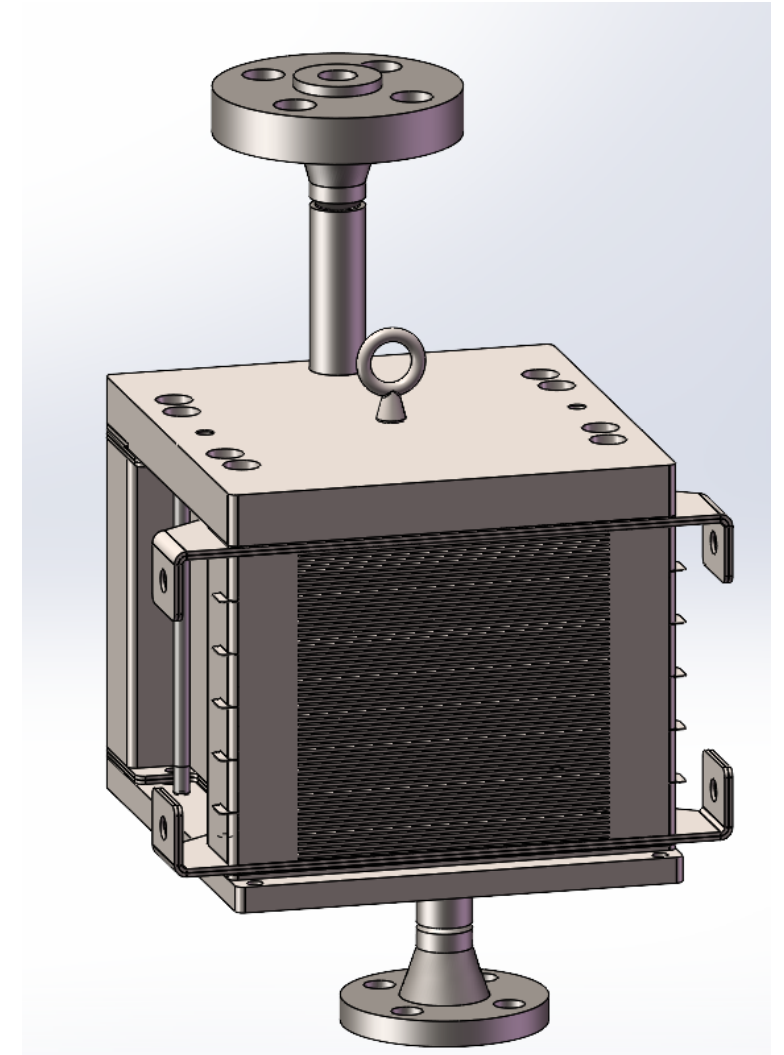
Design Considerations

- ❑ Power split between SOFC and Gas Turbine.
- ❑ Stack thermal management.
- ❑ Internal versus external reforming.
- ❑ Recycling strategies (anode exhaust back to stack or to reformer).
- ❑ Integration of multiple stacks into system – one large pressure vessel or multiple smaller ones?
- ❑ Start-up requirements.
- ❑ Control strategy.



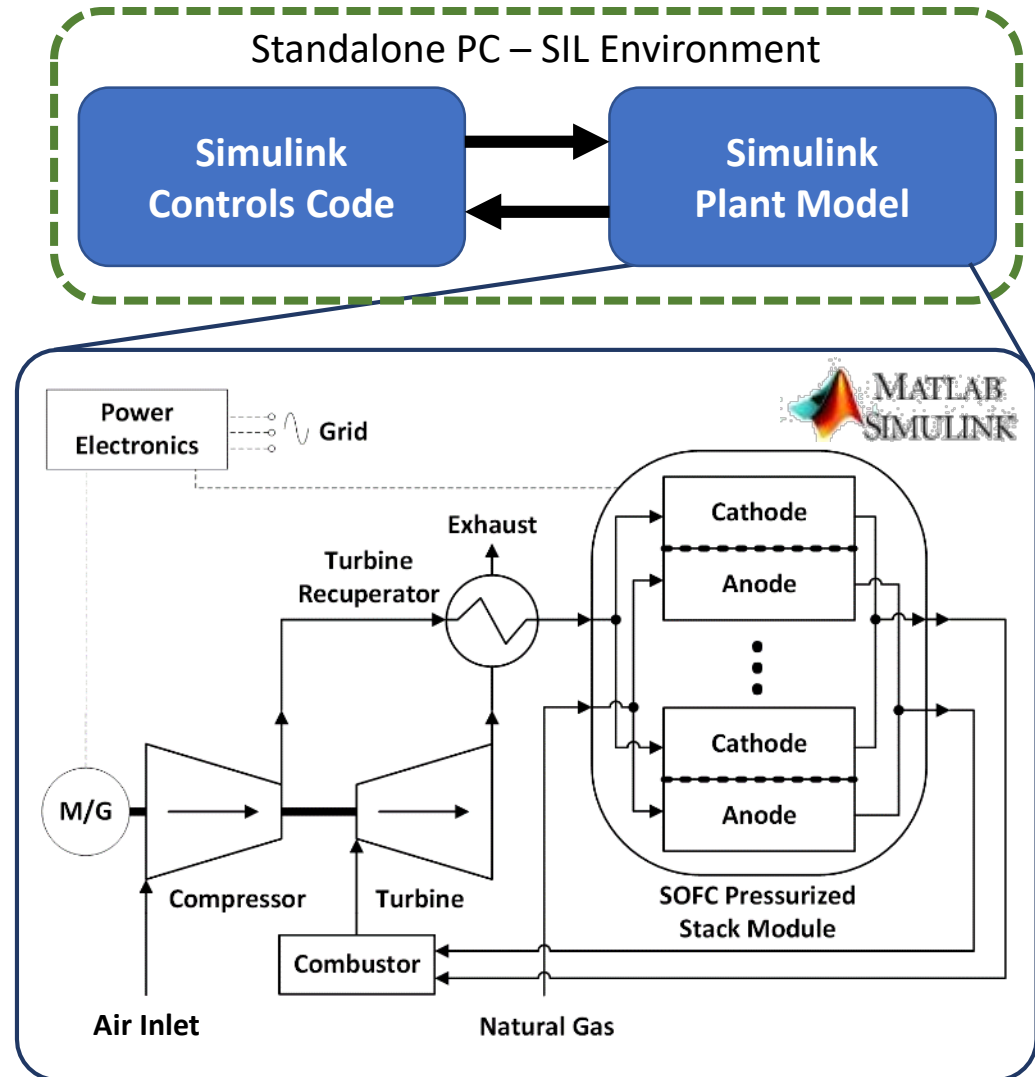
SOFC Stack Development Work at Nexceris

- ❑ Developed and validated model for reducing thermal gradients by spatially controlling the internal reforming reaction.
- ❑ Developed and implemented improved sealing materials and approaches to enable pressurized stack operation.
- ❑ Established large-area stack design for integration into prototype system.
- ❑ Validated stack designs by achieving targeted performance in sub-scale stacks.
- ❑ Pressurized testing of SOFC stacks is ongoing.
- ❑ Currently, manufacturing cells and preparing for stack production for system demonstrations planned for Q1 of 2023.



Overview

- ❑ Dynamic system (plant) model of complete SOFC/GT system has been developed and subsystems validated.
- ❑ Plant model is supporting system architectural design and component sizing enabling an optimization of system performance/efficiency while accelerating development timeline and reducing technical risk.
- ❑ Plant model being used to develop/validate control strategies and code via MIL/SIL techniques as part of a model-based control strategy.



Transportation

- Maritime - Ships and Port Installations
- Freight and Passenger Rail
- Trucking

Stationary Microgrids and Distributed Generation

- Critical Power for Healthcare Facilities
- Remote EV Charging Stations
- Data Center Power



Market	Size (2020)	CAGR
Maritime - Vessels	\$206B (Global)	1.10%
Freight and Passenger Rail	\$1.8B (US)	10.3%
Heavy Trucks (Class 7 & 8)	\$37.8B (US)	4.5%
Microgrids	\$2.1B (US)	4.3%

Transportation – Key Benefits

- Emissions Reduction
- Energy Efficiency

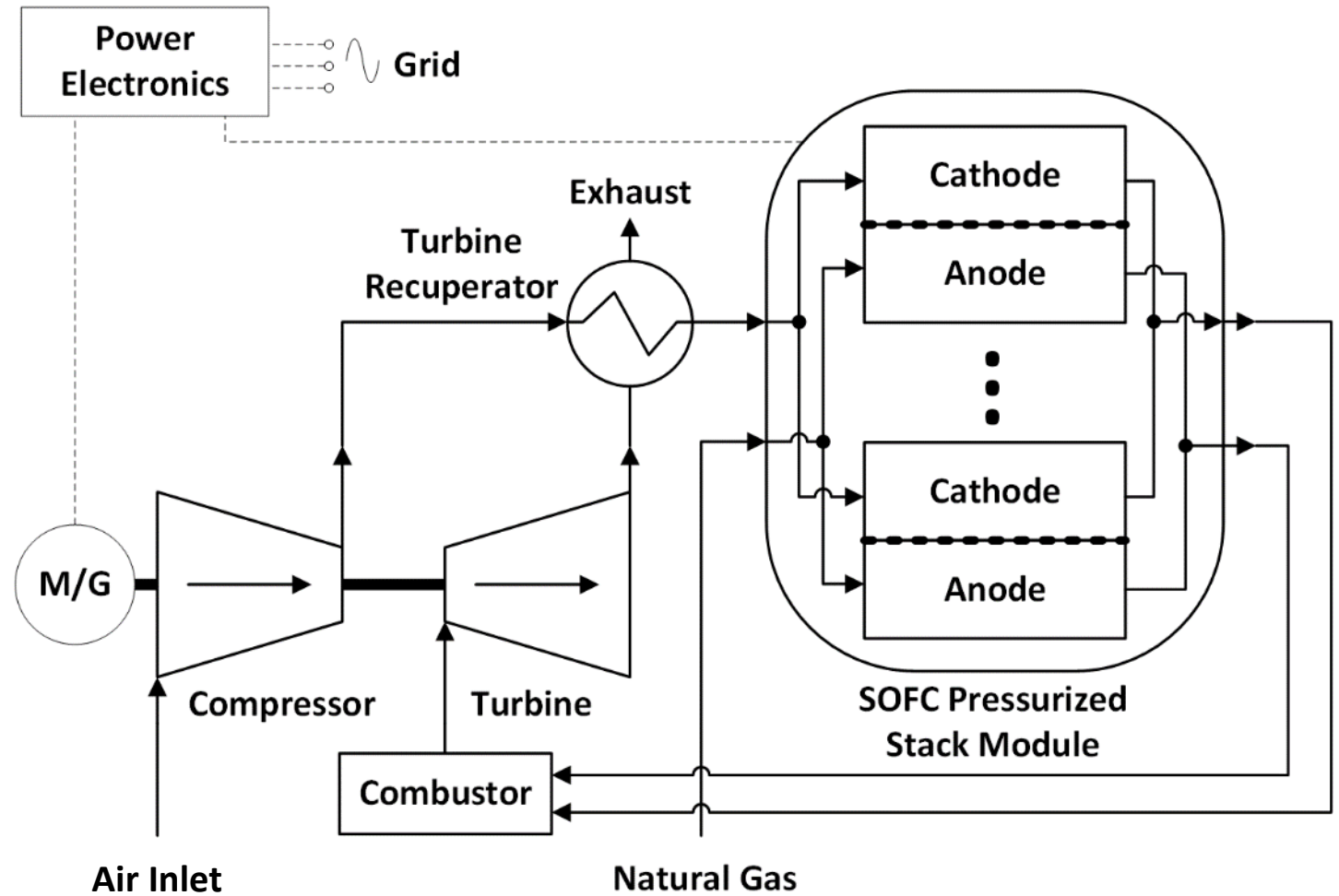
Stationary Microgrids – Key Benefits

- Resilience
- Sustainability
- Energy Independence



Status and Future Work

- ❑ System design has been completed.
- ❑ Pressure vessel and major system components have been ordered.
- ❑ Reformer has been designed and currently is being built.
- ❑ Turbo-machinery components being designed and built.
- ❑ Stack production and system build is planned for Q4-2022.
- ❑ Initial system testing planned for Q1-2023.



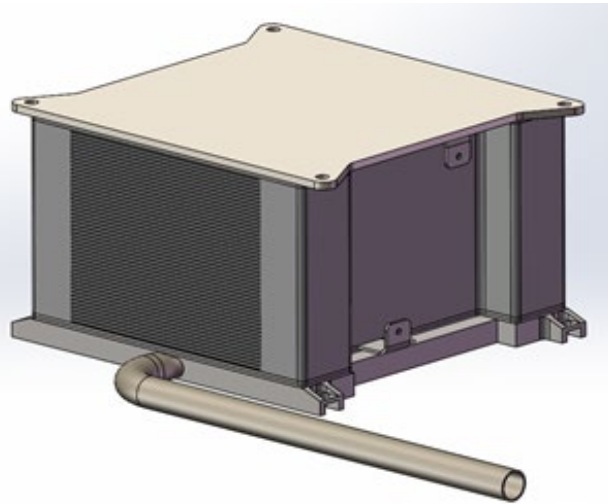
Contact Information

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*Special thanks to Czero
and Brayton, and to my
team at Nexceris!*

About Nexceris

- Founded in 1994, privately held
- Based in Lewis Center, Ohio
- People-first culture
- Products:** Sensors, next generation batteries, and solid oxide fuel cells

