

USABC United States Advanced Battery Consortium

In 1991 the three biggest American automakers (Chrysler, Ford, and GM) established the USABC to accelerate the development of battery technology for Electric Vehicles (EVs). We know that electric vehicles with ultra capacitors could help reduce air pollution caused by fossil fuels and allow electric utility companies to use their excess capacity during off-peak hours.

The USABC is one of about a dozen partnerships among Chrysler, Ford, and GM, who have joined forces under the U.S. Council for Automotive Research (USCAR) to research and develop pre competitive automotive technologies. The USABC is one of the largest ventures under the USCAR agreement and is the only USCAR consortium that currently receives significant federal funding. Mission: To develop electrochemical energy storage technologies which support commercialization of fuel cell, hybrid, and electric vehicles.

Strategic Vision: The USABC seeks to promote long-term research and development within the domestic electrochemical energy storage (EES) industry and to maintain a consortium that engages automobile manufacturers, EES manufacturers, the National Laboratories, universities, and other key stakeholders.

Objectives: For high-energy and high power energy storage technologies and models, the USABC shall continue its focus on understanding and addressing the following factors: • Continue development of high-power battery technologies to reduce cost to \$20/kWh and extend life to 15 years. • Develop battery technology to support electric, hybrid and fuel cell vehicles. • Develop ultracapacitor technology for hybrid electric vehicle applications. • Conduct benchmarking activities for both high power and high energy batteries and ultracapacitors to validate technologies. • Publish technical goals and associated test procedures to guide the development of electrochemical energy storage systems.