Alaska TA Power System 2015 Integration of Rechargeable LiFePO4



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Current/past ATA basic power system

 Technologies that will be incorporated during Summer 2015 Field Season



Alaska Power System 2013-2015

- 1. Enclosure: Plaschem hut, Grizzly cooler, or similar
- 2. PV System: typically [3] 80 or 90 Watt panels





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- 2. PV System: typically [3] 80 or 90 Watt panels
- 3. Power storage: typically [10-18] 100Ah 12V Concorde lead acid AGM batteries
- 4. Power control: Standard TA VIE box with Morningstar 15A Solar Controller and other various circuitry and cabling







Focus Here:

- 1. Batteries
 Type, quantity, layout
- 2. Solar Controller Characteristics, control logic



2015 Power Storage

Genasun LiFePO4 Battery

- High Energy Density: 180 Ah @ 58 lbs with Aluminum casing (vs 100 Ah @ 70 lbs AGM)
- Each battery regulated independently with on-board Battery Management System (BMS), also for safety
- Slightly larger package than a 100 Ah AGM
- Tolerant of deep discharge (down to 5-10%)
- CAN bus for MPPT data link with Controller and Q330



BMS exposed with lid off



4 AWG twin tray cable with 175 A Anderson connector



Side view, note CAN bus M12 socket and "grenade pin" Master switch for BMS operation



2015 Alaska Battery System

- ➤ Main (Batt1): 6 Genasun 180 Ah LiFePO4 batteries
- Primary (Batt2): 4 Concorde 100 Ah AGM lead acid batteries

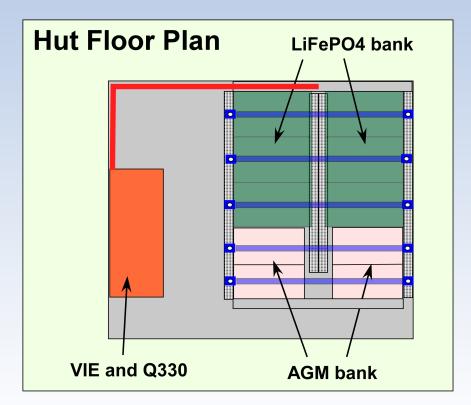
- Nominal total of 1480 Ah in the system with half the weight of an equivalent AGM bank!
- After cold de-rating and allowable cycle depth,
 1 LiFePO4 ~ 3 AGM





Battery System layout

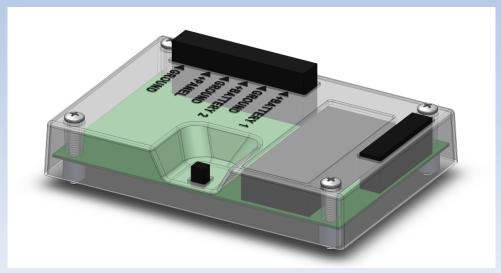
- 2015 system design will include 6 LiFePO4 and 4 AGM batteries.
 Don't mix chemistries!
- Standard configuration will be inside a Plaschem hut
- All LiFePO4 batteries in 2016!
 -6 on Batt1 and 2 on Batt2
- LiFePO4 will soon come in a Fiber-Reinforced case instead of aluminum.







Genasun Solar Controller



Genasun Solar Controller drawing

- LiFePO4 batteries on Batt1 input (Main)
- AGM (backup) batteries on Batt2 input (Primary)
- Provides CAN bus protocol regulation and output to Q330
- LCD displays Voltage, Amperage, Load, etc.
- Priority charge on Batt1



Genasun Solar Controller Logic

- Batt1 (LiFePO4) provides full power on Load 1 (all equipment powered) until state of charge threshold is reached (30% charge), then...
- Batt2 (AGM) bank will discharge to 30% with Load 1 at full power, until LVD (10.8V), then...
- Batt1 down to 10%, with only Load 2 active (seismic and Q330 ONLY), then...
- Batt2 to 0% with only Load 2 active, then...
- Darkness and Cold win the battle!





ATA Power System 2015-2016

- Enclosure: Plaschem fiberglass hut with mounted 270 Watt Photovoltaic array
- Storage: 1480 Ah of battery
 Bank of 6 LiFePO4 batteries and 4 AGM batteries
- Control: Genasun Solar Controller mounted in TA VIE box. Integrates with existing logic board

"We want to limit the number of snowflakes"- Max Enders

That said, there are always individual outliers including Grizzly cooler, AC powered stations, AGM only huts



TA Alaska

