

United Technologies Corporation fuel cell history collection

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Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum

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Summary Information

Repository:	Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum
Creator:	United Technologies Corporation. Power Systems Division. Fuel Cell Operations
Title:	United Technologies Corporation fuel cell history collection
ID:	2024.01
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/21/resources/1210
Date [inclusive]:	1962-2023
Physical Description:	1.5 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The United Technologies Corporation fuel cell history collection documents the creation and production of fuel cells by the United Technologies Corporation (UTC) Fuel Cell division, as well as the uses of UTC fuel cells, including for NASA's Apollo program. Contents include internal reports from the Fuel Cell division, three large fuel cell engineering notebooks, product documentation, fuel cell and space program ephemera, correspondence, and photographs.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], United Technologies Corporation fuel cell history collection (2024.01), Wood Memorial Library and Museum, South Windsor, CT.

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Biographical / Historical

Pratt & Whitney Aircraft first became interested in fuel cell technology in 1958. The company developed its first experimental fuel cell in about 1960 and secured a contract from NASA in 1961. In 1964, Pratt undertook development work in a facility in South Windsor, CT. Becoming a unit under corporate parent United Technologies Corp. (UTC), the fuel cell division (known by many names including Power Systems Division, International Fuel Cells

(ITC), UTC Fuel Cells, and UTC Power) pioneered the development and production of a range of fuel cells. They were used on NASA's Gemini, Apollo, and Space Shuttle programs, and in a variety of non-space applications. UTC sold its fuel cell operation to ClearEdge in 2013. Doosan Corp., a South Korean firm, acquired it in 2014.

Several UTC fuel cell engineers donated these materials, which were used for an exhibition about fuel cell history at Wood Memorial in 2023.

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Scope and Contents

The United Technologies Corporation fuel cell history collection documents the creation and production of fuel cells by the United Technologies Corporation (UTC) Fuel Cell division, as well as the uses of UTC fuel cells, including for NASA's Apollo program. Contents include internal reports from the Fuel Cell division, three engineering notebooks, product documentation, fuel cell and space program ephemera, correspondence, and photographs. The materials were created and collected by several UTC engineers.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions on access to the collection for research use. Particularly fragile items may be restricted for preservation purposes.

Conditions Governing Use

Requests for permission to publish should be directed to the Wood Memorial Library archives staff. It is the responsibility of the researcher to identify and satisfy the holders of all copyrights.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

The Wood Memorial Library & Museum holds several additional collections about the history of fuel cell technologies. These include the Joseph A. Bost Collection of UTC Fuel Cell Papers (2017.06), the Henry Cote Fuel Cell History Collection (2022.18), the Paul Margiott Fuel Cell History Collection (2022.17), and the Fuel Cell Photograph Collection (2019.26.1). These collections document the fuel cell program at Pratt & Whitney and the UTC, the uses of fuel cells including for the Apollo missions, and the fuel cell industry more broadly.

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Controlled Access Headings

- South Windsor (Conn.)
- United Technologies Corporation. Fuel Cell Operations
- United Technologies Corporation--History
- United Technologies Corporation. Power Systems Division. Fuel Cell Operations
- United Aircraft Corporation. Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Division
- Fuel cell industry
- Fuel cell industry--Connecticut
- Reports.
- Photographs

Collection Inventory

Series 1. Papers and ephemera, 1962-2023

Title/Description	Instances
Internal reports on fuel cells, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, 1962-1968	
"Fuel Cell Module Build Memo," A. Florentino, 1962	Fuel Cell History 1
"Definition of Reformer Parameters" report, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Engines, 1963 October 9	Fuel Cell History 1
"PC9A-2 Final Report," Pratt & Whitney Aircraft inter-office correspondence, 1968 Mar 4	Fuel Cell History 1
"PC9A-3 Powerplant Tests" report, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Experimental Test Department, 1968 Sep 27	Fuel Cell History 1
"The Oxidation of Nickel in the Bacon Cell," by RGH Watson, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1
Pratt & Whitney Advanced Power Systems organizational chart, 1962 April 24	Fuel Cell History 1
"Fuel Cells for Apollo" booklet, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, Circa 1965	Fuel Cell History 1
"500 Watt Hydrocarbon-Air Fuel Cell System," by R. F. Buswell, Pratt & Whitney, presented at 19th Power Sources Conference in New Jersey, 1965 May	Fuel Cell History 1
Fact sheet, Powercel 3A, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, 1965 October 18	Fuel Cell History 1
Assorted fuel cell history materials, 1966-2023	Fuel Cell History 1
Powercel News, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, IEEE Special, 1967 Mar 20-23	Fuel Cell History 1
UTC fuel cell and space program ephemera (one box), 1968-2001	Fuel Cell History 2
"One Giant Leap" (article on Apollo 11), Newsweek, 1969 Jul 28	Fuel Cell History 1
Fuel Cell Module patent filing, 1969 Nov 4	Fuel Cell History 1
Design calculation books, T. Corrigan, Pratt & Whitney, two large volumes, 1973-1980	Fuel Cell History 1
Fuel Cell Power Generation, United Technologies Power Systems, 1980 December	Fuel Cell History 1

Two video tapes concerning fuel cells, United Technologies Pratt & Whitney, 1991	Fuel Cell History Shelf
Fuel cells work binder from IFC, including notes and internal reports, 1998-2001	Fuel Cell History 1
Dependable Engines: The Story of Pratt & Whitney, by Mark Sullivan, 2008	Fuel Cell History 1
"South Windsor Engineers Take NASA to the Moon," Connecticut Explored 22, no. 1, 2023	Fuel Cell History 1
Fuel cell exhibition materials, Ria Saxena, 2023	Fuel Cell History 1
NASA commendation letter to T. A. Koch, Pratt & Whitney, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1
"When We Came To Serve': A Reflection on 30 Years in Fuel Cells," IFC, with photograph, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1
PC25 Process Flow Schematic, IFC, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1
PC23 Power Plant brochure, IFC, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1
ONSI PC25 Fuel Cell Power Plant rating, Undated	Fuel Cell History 1

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Series 2. Photographs, Circa 1970-2023

Title/Description	Instances
Fuel cell photographs (five folders), Circa 1970-2023	Fuel Cell History 1
Fuel cell slide photographs (two boxes), Undated	Fuel Cell History 1

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