# USAP Proof of Concept Projects Dick Armstrong, PE John H. Rand

- LED Greenhouse Lighting
- LED Cold Location Lighting
- Solar Garage
- Capacitor Batteries
- Solar Voltaic
- Solar Thermal
- Plyboo Furniture
- South Pole Solar Camp

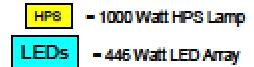
#### South Pole Food Growth Chamber

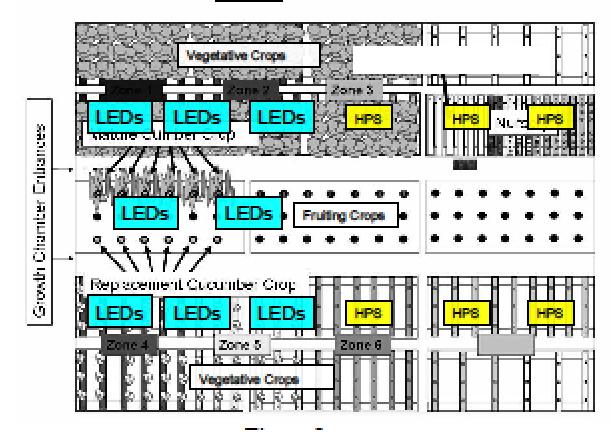
- Parameters controlled:
  - 14 hours high PAR lighting
  - 1,000 PPM **CO2**
  - -60% RH
  - 23-25 Deg C daytime
  - 22-24 Deg C evening
  - **PH** 6.3 water
  - Nutrient levels



## South Pole Test Layout

Topographical Depiction of the South Pole Food Growth Chamber



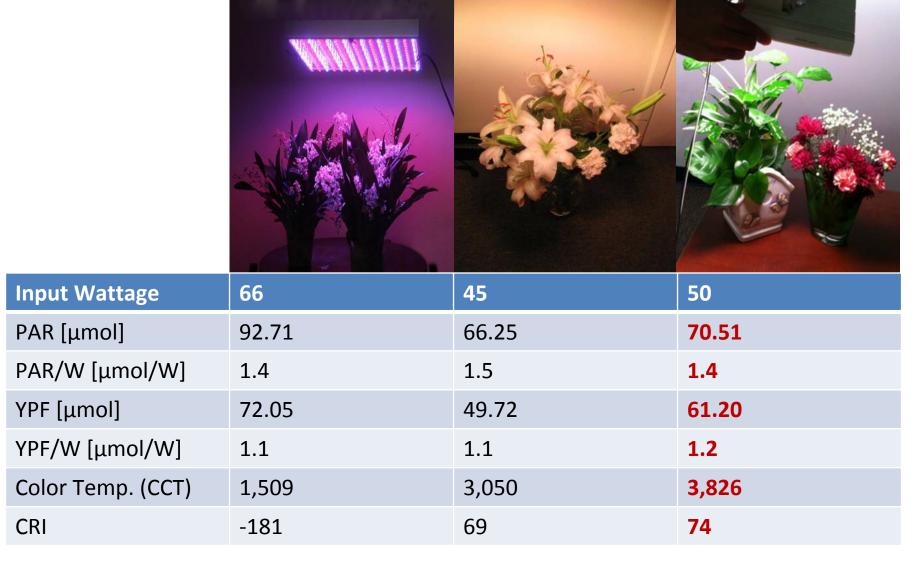


## **Comparing Light Sources**

Light Source	LER	Lm/W	K factor	Delivered μmol/W	Lamp Life (hrs)	Estimated Total Energy used	Estimated Energy Savings	Estimated gallon of fuel saved
HPS (400W)	67%	130	0.012	0.65	16,000	13 kW	NA	NA
LSGC Grow (50W*)	88%	50	0.024	1.25	50,000	6.8 kW	6.2 kW	1,967

<sup>\*</sup>Can be scaled up to any wattage with similar efficiency.

## Comparison



## Cold Space (-60F) LED Lighting

- Changed all incandescent to Lighting Science Group Inc (LSGI) LED in Storage Arch
- Changing snow tunnel lights to LED
  - Some brands pulsed on and off till warm
  - Found one brand that did not pulse
  - Operate and start with -60F ambient
- Reduced energy 130 W to 18 W per lamp
- One year savings at Storage Arch :
  - 4.2 kW demand
  - 2,812 Gallon/year generator fuel
  - \$58,389/year saved

## **Solar Garage**

- Under test at Fairbanks,
   Alaska
- Cost under \$25,000
- Various sizes available
- Modular sizing approach
- Translucent fabric structure
- Investigating new material for low temperature handling, fire resistance, insulation quality (R-8)

- Aluminum tubular frame
- Outer fabric would be clear UV resistant
- Inner heater fabric would be black
- Utilizes convective, conductive, and radiant heat transfer
- Black rubber matting on floor absorbs heat and radiates up
- Twelve inch thick SIP panel insulates floor

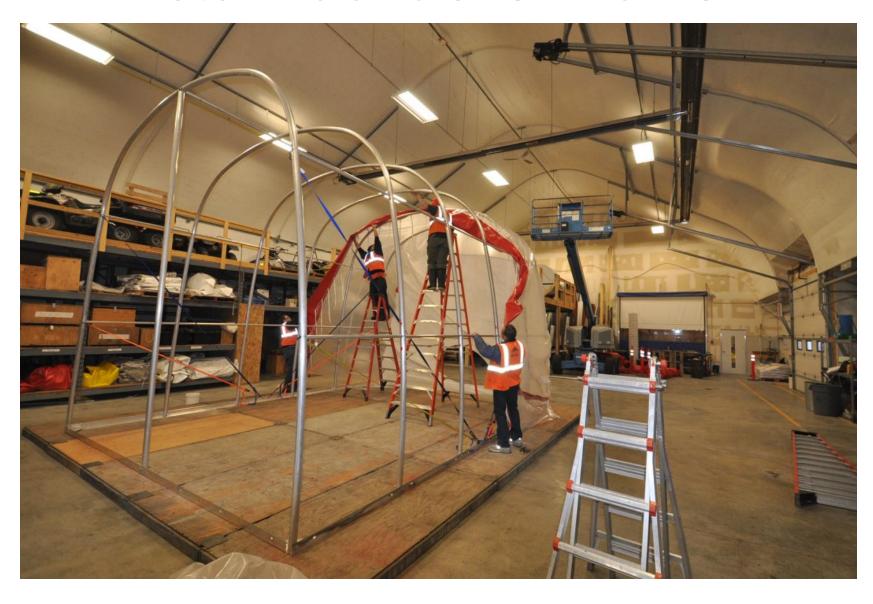
## **Advantages**

- Install in <1 hour with 3-4 people</li>
- Fabric and frame weighs less than 100 lbs ea
- Two packages carry entire structure
- No electricity needed
- No tools needed
- Can accept external heater if needed
- Summer time application with sun only
- Insulated floor

## **Applications**

- Equipment storage garage
- Shelter for equipment inspection/repair
- Temporary storage (C-130 engines)
- Emergency garage for traverse/equipment repairs
- Science staging shelter
  - McMurdo science staging
  - WISSARD equipment staging
- Construction sub assembly and staging
- Temporary office

## **Install Fabric over Frame**



## **Connect two halves of fabric**



# Stitch two halves together



## Two halves assembled



## **Fairbanks Test Build Unit**



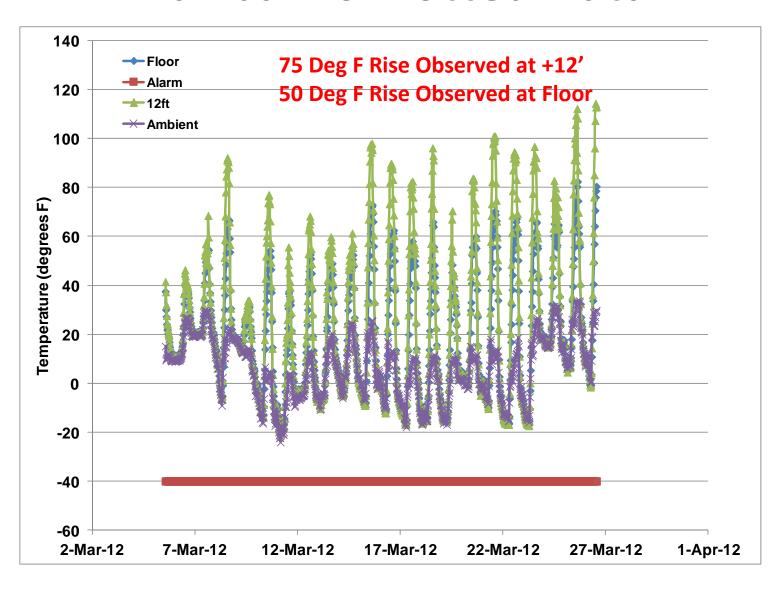
# **Garage with Radiant Heaters**



# Garage with radiant panels



#### **Fairbanks Plotted Data**



## **Capacitor Batteries**

- Cycle life >.5 million vs <1,000 for lead acid</li>
- No problems with cold temperatures (-40F)
- Much lighter (1/5 as heavy as lead acid)
- Recharge time 0.5 minutes vs. 8 hours
- Shelf life unlimited
- Very low self discharge rate
- High Power / short term
- Excellent potential hybrid system with battery

## **Capacitor Battery**



## **Hybrid Installation**

- Capacitor with lead acid battery hybrid
- Produce 1200 Amp at very low temperatures

**Capacitor Battery** 



## **Potential Applications**

- Grid stabilization
- Start up assist with electric vehicles
- Start up booster for large engines
- Lightweight, portable booster battery
- Aviation starter battery
- Emergency battery/power source

#### Solar Voltaic

175 Watt Sharp Panels at South Pole 2-year daylight stats:

North: 9.68 kWh/week

South: 10.38 kWh/week

• East: 10.45 kWh/week

• West: 8.69 kWh/week

Horizontal: 9.28 kWh/wk



### Solar Thermal at Pole Summer Camp

- Installed 4 panels
- Application will work
- POC had not been commissioned:
  - Control problems
  - Dumping heat down water well
  - Plumbing issues



## **Plyboo Furniture**

- Sustainable Bamboo materials
- Steam pressed to form plyboo plywood
- No or very low VOCs

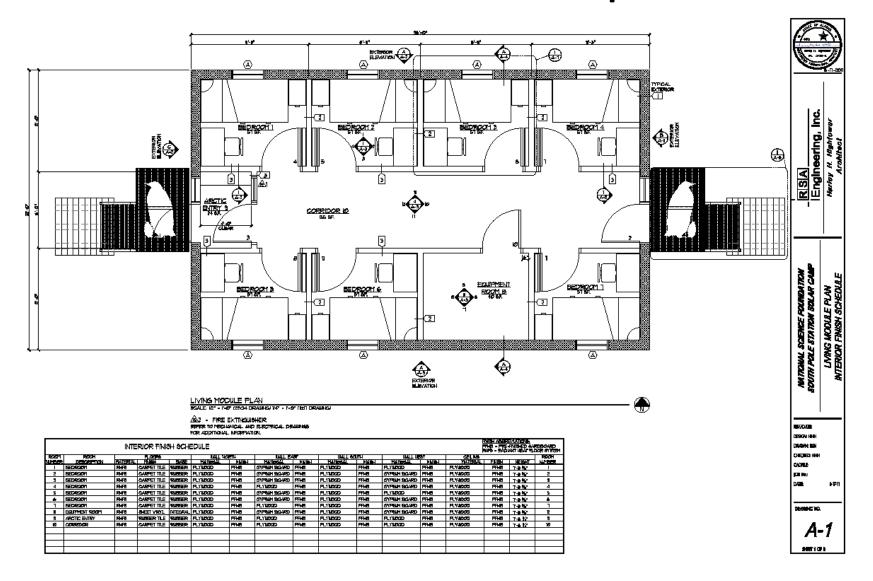




## South Pole Solar Camp POC

- Seven single status bedrooms
- Connected to grid
- Generates more power than used
- Slab heat system
- Solar thermal heating
- Solar voltaic power generation
- Passive solar lighting
- On skids, towable

## South Pole Solar Camp Plan



## South Pole Solar Camp Elevation

