International Aircraft Materials Fire Test Working Group Meeting

### Task Group Session on Revised Cargo Liner Test

Presented to: International Aircraft Materials Fire Test Working Group, Toulouse, France

By: Tim Marker, FAA Technical Center Date: June 20-21, 2012



Federal Aviation Administration

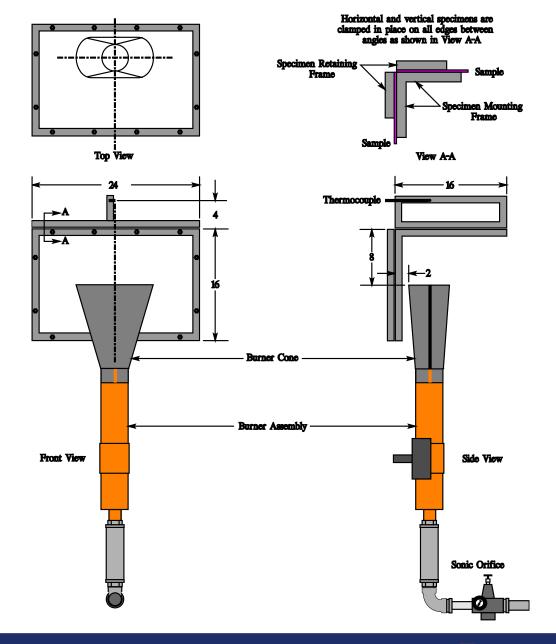
#### Main Objective: Transition from Park Burner to Sonic Burner





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### Initial Step: Baselining of Park Burner

- 1. <u>Generate calibration temperature results</u> with FAATC Park burner apparatus
  - Results will be used to calibrate Sonic burner apparatus

- 2. Generate test results with FAATC Park burner apparatus
  - Results will be used to correlate sonic burner (B/T times and temp vs. time plots)
  - 3 styles of liner and 1 PAN felt have been tested
  - 2 additional materials also tested

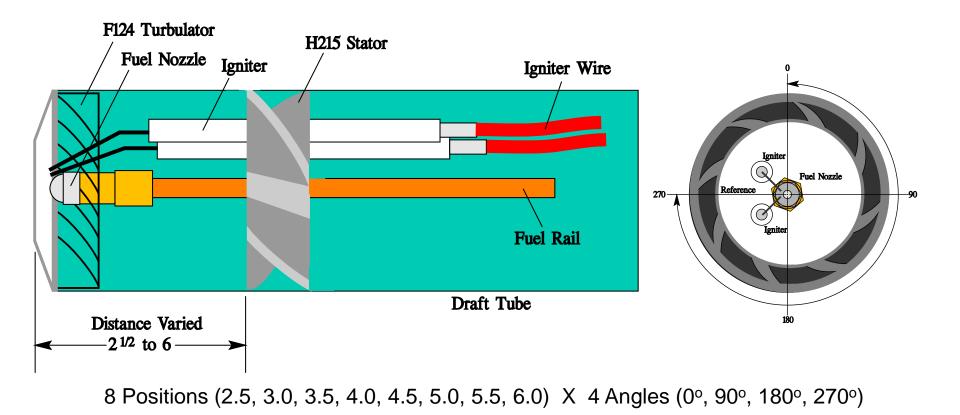


#### Next Step: Setting Up Sonic Burner and Calibration

- Calibration runs were conducted to determine an approximate starting point for the stator position
- Initially, the stator was tested in 8 different axial locations on the fuel rod, over a 3.5 inch range, in increments of 0.5 inches
- The stator was rotated through 4 different rotational orientations at each position
  - = 32 unique stator positions tested
- It is necessary to vary both parameters as they have a combined affect on the flame
- The data was reviewed to determine an approximate "starting point" for stator settings
  - Based on flame temperature profile, or most even flame
- Best performance was shown to be with the stator face located ~3.0 inches from turbulator exit plane



### Initial Sonic Burner Settings and Calibration



= 32 Combinations

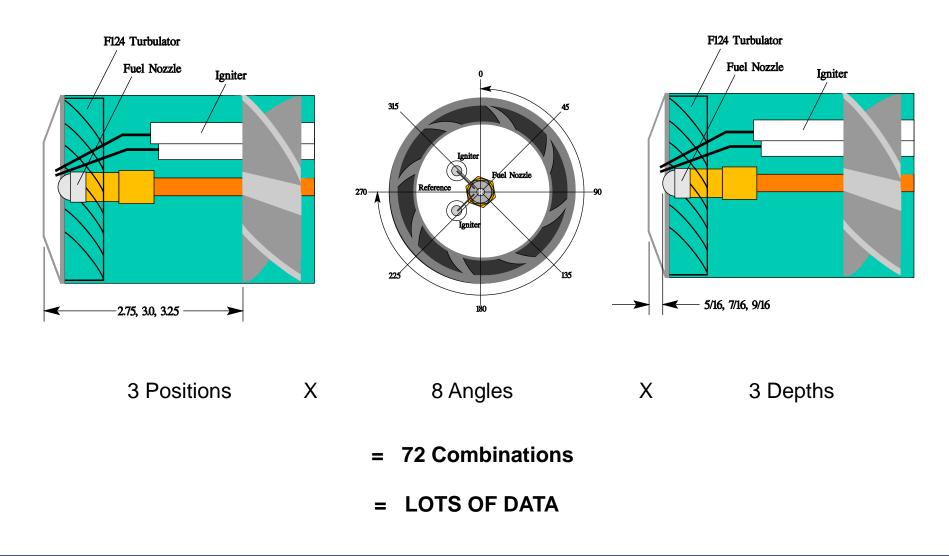


### **Refining Sonic Burner Settings**

- Burner then tested using a number of smaller adjustments
- Stator face to turbulator exit plane varied:
  - 2.75, 3.0, and 3.25 inches (3 positions)
- Stator rotational position on fuel rod
  - 0-360° in increments of 45° (8 positions)
- Nozzle depth from turbulator exit plane
  - 5/16, 7/16, and 9/16 inches (3 positions)
- Total of 72 unique combinations tested



### **Refining Sonic Burner Settings**





### **Continue Refining Sonic Burner Settings**

- Stator/nozzle position combinations were selected which showed adequate flame properties
  - Temperature distribution
  - Repeatability
  - Full, even flame coming from cone (visual)
- Of the 72 positions tested, <u>only 10</u> seemed adequate for further testing
- The burner was then returned to these 10 settings and tested multiple times to prove repeatability
- The 10 positions were then reduced to 2 or 3 possible selections



# **Ignition Wires**

- Ignition wires previously wrapped around fuel rod
- No standardized length or position for wires
- Position of wires can impede or redirect airflow within the draft tube and can affect the flame characteristics







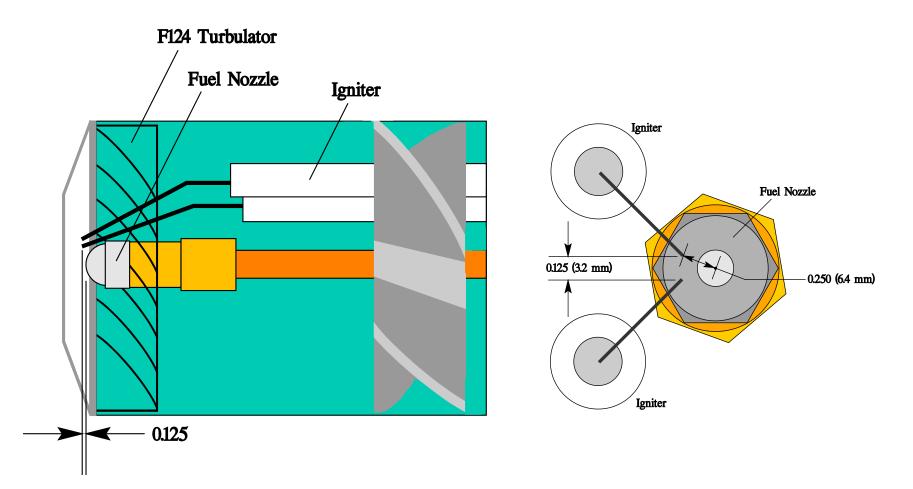
# **Ignition Wires**

- New wire length and positions minimize the airflow disturbance
- Standardized wire position minimizes variability in burner performance and data results
- Improved repeatability



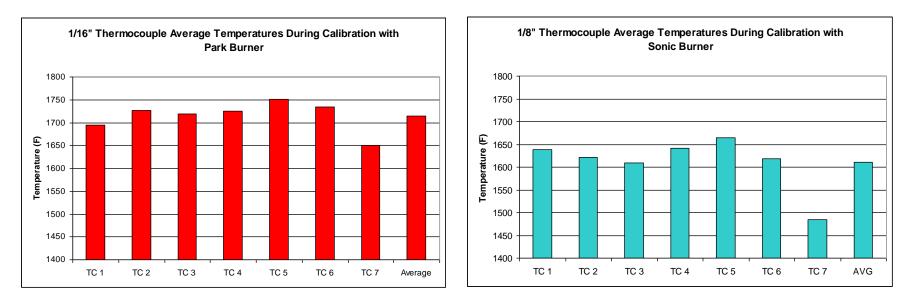


### **Igniter Positions**





## **Final Sonic Settings: Calibration**



- All thermocouples must read at or above 1600°F
- It is likely that the sonic burner shows lower temperatures due to using 1/8" thermocouples
- Sonic test results still show higher temperatures



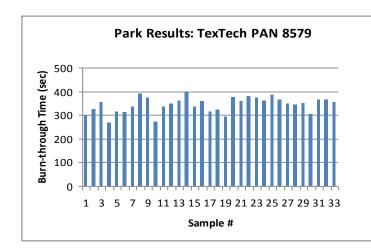
# **Final Sonic Settings: Testing**

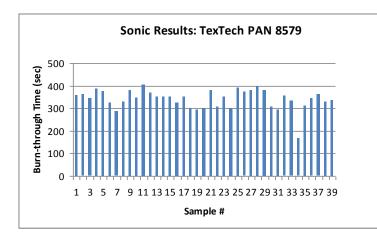
### TexTech PAN 8579

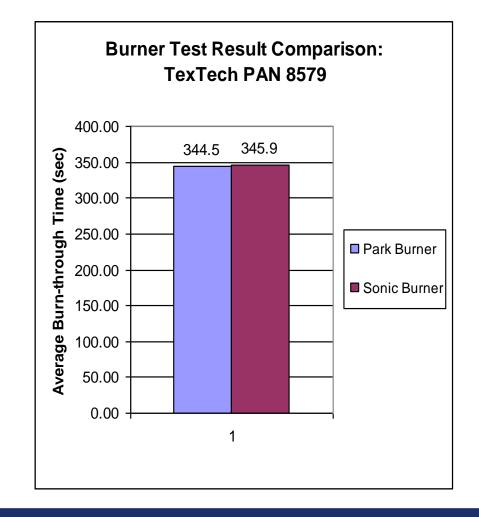
- Park Burner: 33 samples tested
- Sonic Burner: 39 samples tested
- Thick Cargo Liner
  - Park Burner: 10 samples tested
  - Sonic Burner: 12 samples tested



## **Final Sonic Settings: Test Results**

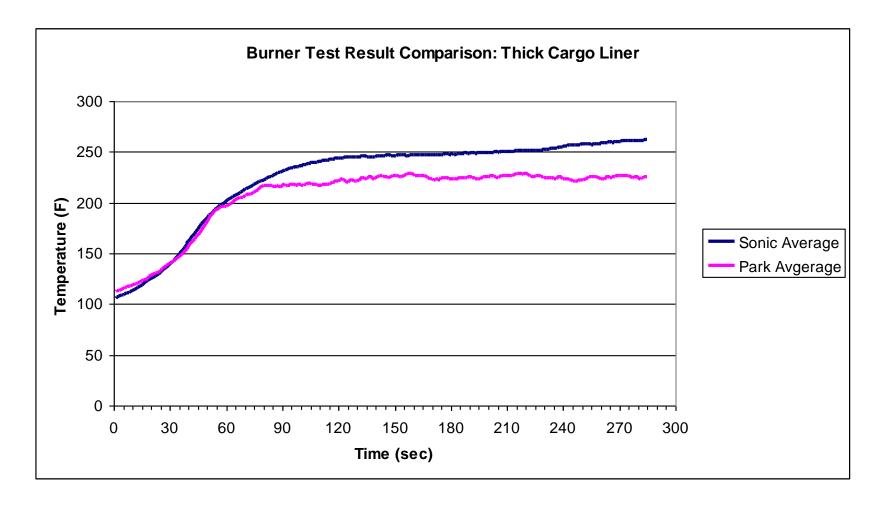








## **Final Sonic Settings: Test Results**





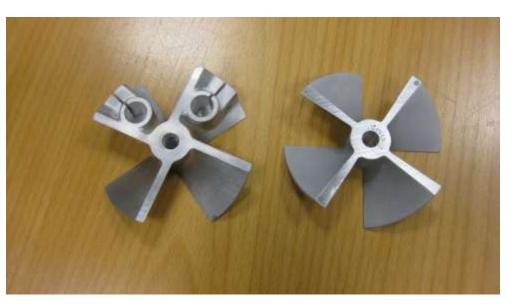
## **Final Sonic Settings: Conclusion**

- Calibration temperatures are lower than Park calibration temperatures
- Temperature readings during cargo liner testing show higher back-face temperatures using sonic burner versus Park burner
- Test results show that these settings will allow the sonic burner to perform well as a suitable replacement for the Park burner



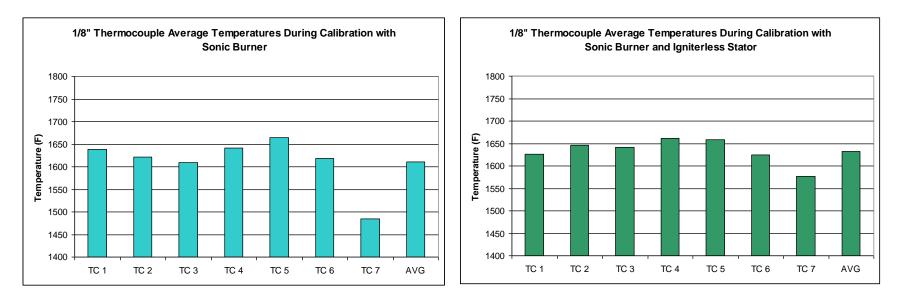
## **Revised Stator: Description**

- New stator eliminates igniters and ignition wires in draft tube
- Intended to simplify burner settings and setup
- Should reduce abnormal airflow deflection and therefore increase test result consistency





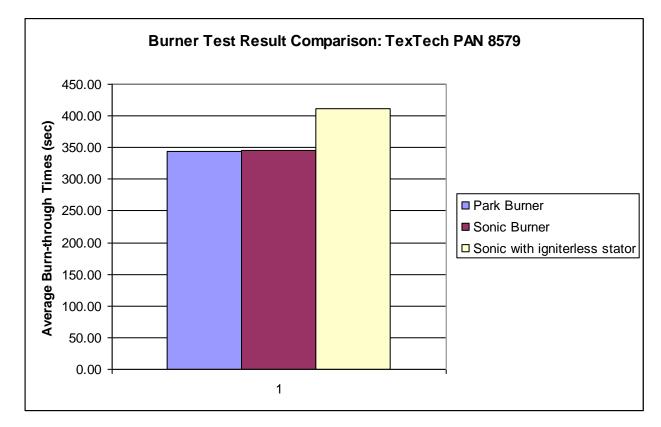
## **Revised Stator: Calibration**



- Igniterless stator shows little improvement with regard to calibration temperatures
- Did not demonstrate increased repeatability from one calibration to another



## **Revised Stator: Test Results**



 Igniterless stator produces test results much different than Park burner or standard sonic stator



## **Revised Stator: Conclusion**

- No noticeable improvement using igniterless stator compared to standard stator
- Requires external igniting system
- 15 TexTech materials tested show longer burnthrough times compared to Park burner or standard stator sonic burner test results
- Unlikely revised stator design will be used for testing in the future



## **Flame Retention Head: Description**

- Eliminates the need for a stator or turbulater
- Fits on end of burner draft tube
- Intial testing shows good potential





# **Thermocouple Calibration**

- Looking further into TC degradation and changing temperature readings
- Currently have TC calibration unit on order
- Possibly be able to predict level of temperature changes





### **Planned Activities**

Finalize burner settings by conducting temperature calibrations

Complete testing of samples to ensure sonic equivalency to Park

Continue development/testing of flame retention head

Continue investigation of thermocouple degradation using calibration device

Conduct testing of various cargo design features to support development of advisory material

Conduct Round Robin?



### Questions?

