

Safe-by-Design Approach for High Power / High Energy Battery Systems Using 46xx Cylindrical Lithium-Ion Secondary Battery Cells



Miba Battery Systems

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Abstract

- High Energy / High Power architecture using 4695 cylindrical Lithium-Ion secondary battery cells
- Propagation Stop design via (multifunctional) components
- Proven on large module (7.08kWh) level at SOC 96% and 45°C

Safety Aspects

- Miba FLEXCOOLER®, an efficient lightweight cooler, acts also as thermal barrier when applied as sidewall cooler (Fig. 1a))
- Thermal shielding of venting layer by additional burst layer
- Fusing of paralleled cells minimizes currents upon cell short circuit (Fig. 1b))
- Top-weld bottom vent cells allow for dedicated electrical and venting layer

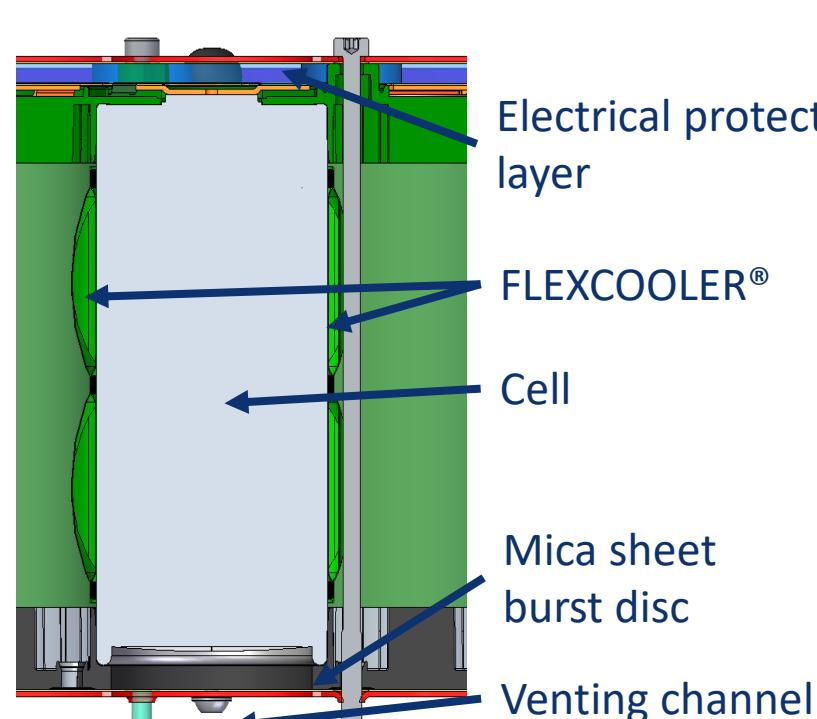


Fig. 1a) FLEXCOOLER® and (thermal) insulation layers.

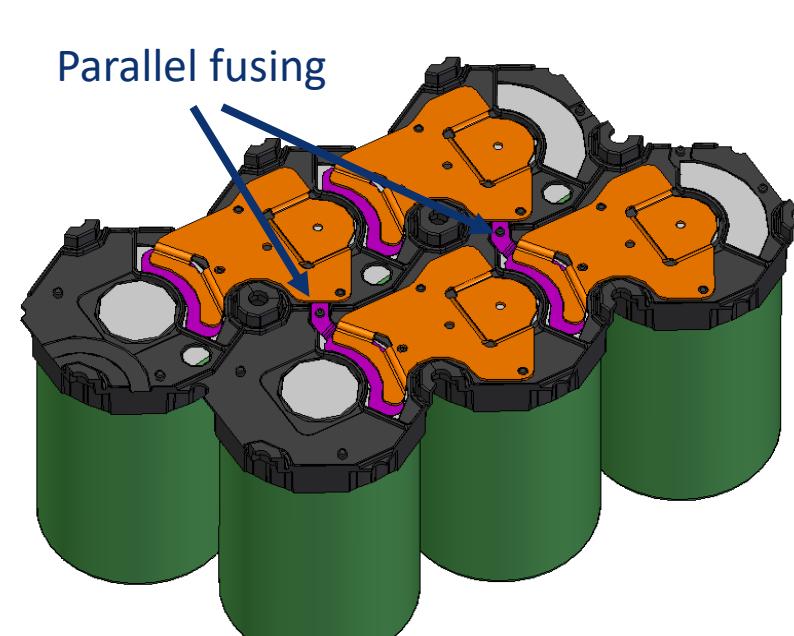


Fig. 1b) 3s2p structure with parallel fusing (purple).

Test Setup

- Module 30s2p resulting in 7.08kWh (Fig. 2))
- Cooling circuit filled but not active
- Module preconditioned to $T = 45^\circ\text{C}$ and SOC 96% (=100% net); realistic boundary conditions (venting distance)
- Two trigger cells with heating wire. 1) slow heating 250W 2) rapid heating 350W

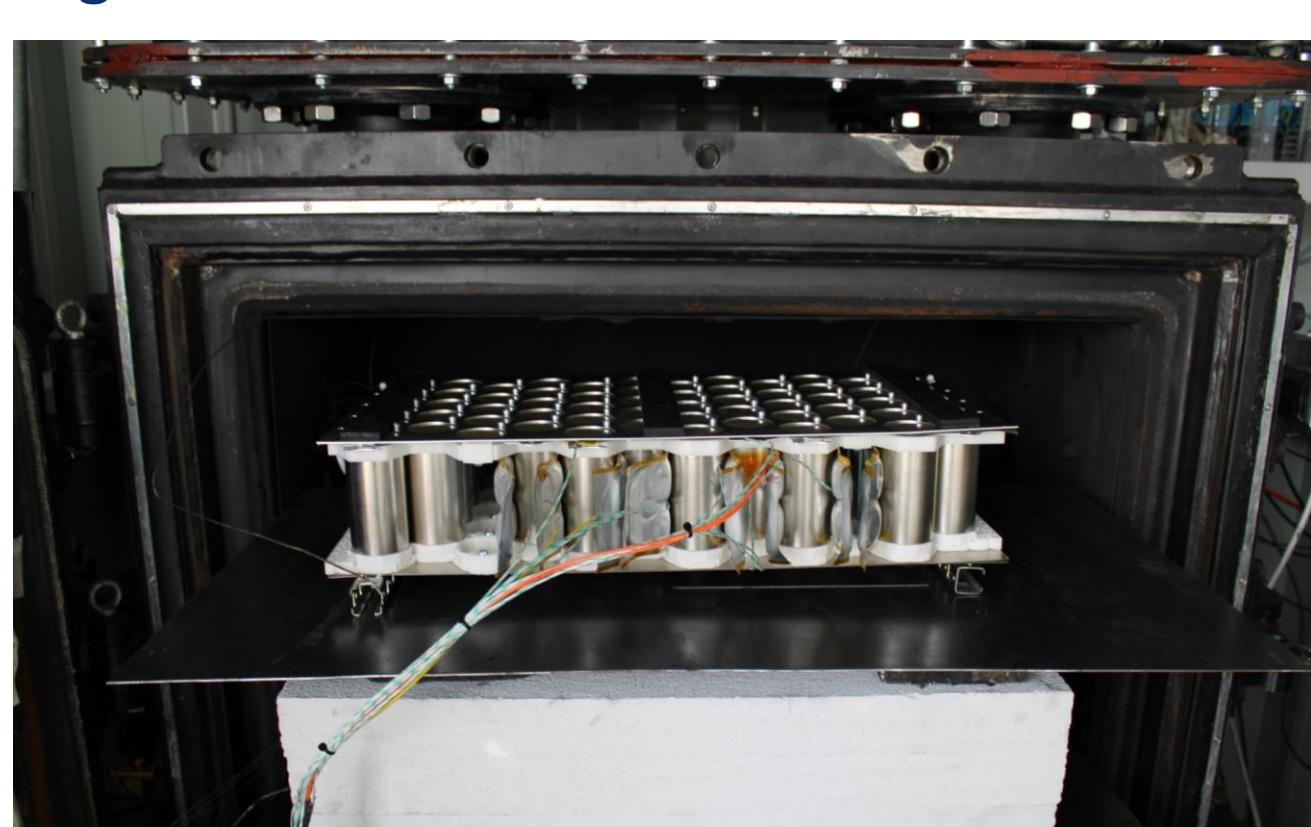


Fig. 2) Module in test chamber.

Results

- Slow and rapid heating did not lead to full propagation
- Slow and rapid heating took 243s and 151s respectively till thermal runaway with nearly equal onset temperature of 129°C and 131°C

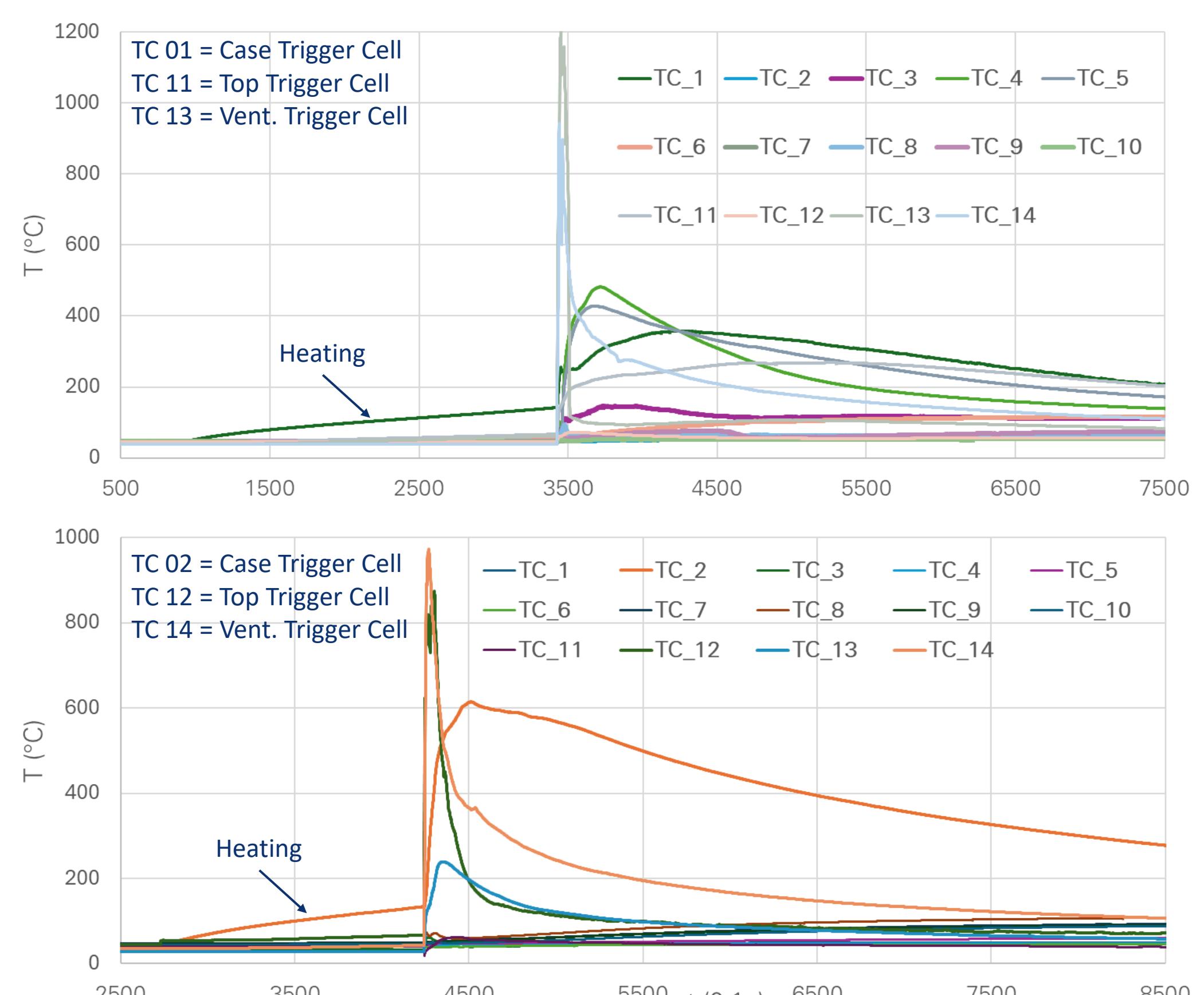


Fig. 3) Temperature progress during runaway of slow (top) and rapid (bottom) heating.

- Slow and fast heating lead to a propagation of 4 and 1 cell respectively (Fig. 4)
- FLEXCOOLER® still intact; Surrounding cells protected

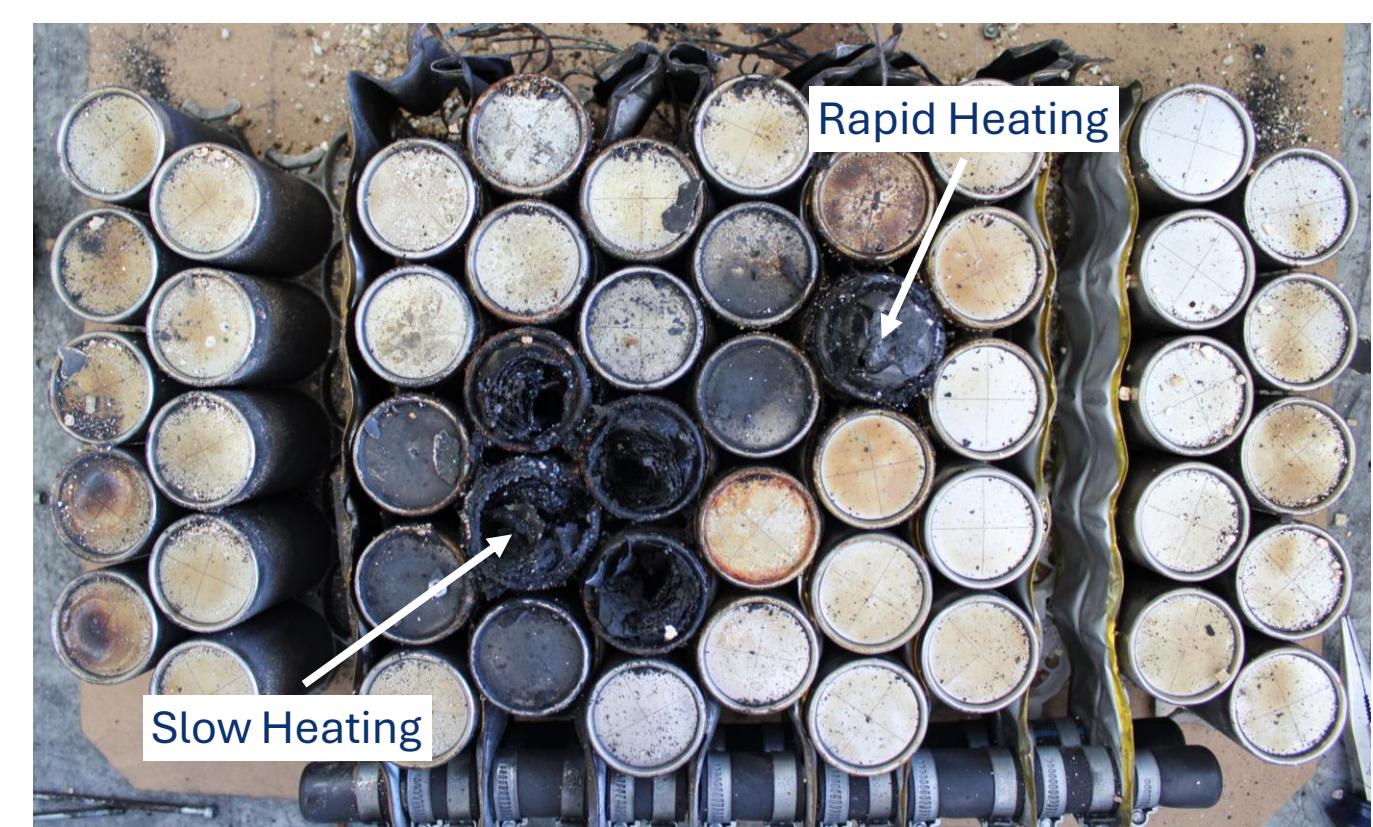


Fig. 4) Post-mortem analysis of module.

Conclusion

- Propagation stop concept successfully validated on large scale module with realistic scenario
- Combination of high SOC with high temperature indicates wide range of safe operation area
- Lower heating more critical as more energy input and surrounding cell temperature increase

Outlook and Next Steps

- Transfer of results to pack level including housing with degassing
- Increase safety by introducing fire retardant and heat absorbent material
- Validation of CFD simulated thermal runaway and propagation events with acquired data from tests