

HelioCon Workshop Detailed Agenda

Thursday, August 27, 2026

TIME	TITLE	Presenter Title	Presenter
Session Title: HelioCon Advancements			
8:20 – 8:30	HelioCon Workshop Welcome and Goals	Session Chair	Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.
8:30 - 8:45	HelioCon Mission and Direction – SHIP	Session Chair	Guangdong Zhu, National Lab. of the Rockies
8:45 - 9:05	HelioCon Accomplishments since 2022 in Technoeconomic Analysis and Field Deployment	Panel Members	Alex Zolan, National Lab. of the Rockies Aaron Spieles, Sandia National Labs. Jeremy Sment, Sandia National Labs.
9:05 - 9:35	HelioCon Accomplishments since 2022 in Metrology and Standards	Panel Members	Randy Brost, Sandia National Labs. Matt Neber for Stephanie Meyen, National Lab. of the Rockies
9:35 – 9:50	HelioCon Accomplishments since 2022 in Resources, Training and Education	Panel Members	Paul Ndione, National Lab. of the Rockies Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs.
9:50 - 10:10	HelioCon Accomplishments since 2022 in Components and Controls	Panel Members	Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Matt Muller, National Lab. of the Rockies
Session Title: HelioCon Poster session			
10:10 – 11:40	Morning Break for posters		
11:40 – 1:00	Lunch and Industry Panel	Moderator or session chair	Andru Prescod, U.S. Dept. of Energy
Session Title: HelioCon for 2027 part 1			
1:00 - 1:20	DOE – IESO Priorities and HelioCon	Session Chair	Matt Bauer, U.S. Dept. of Energy
1:20 – 1:30	Introduction to 2027 HelioCon Goals + Thrust Structure	Session Chair	Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.
1:30 – 2:15	Details of 2027 HelioCon Thrust Structure 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1	HelioCon Team	2.1 Data repository: Paul Ndione, National Lab. of the Rockies Jeff Sharpe, Sandia National Labs. Randy Brost, Sandia National Labs.

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			2.2 Open sharing: Alex Zolan, National Lab. of the Rockies Devon Kesseli, National Lab. of the Rockies Jeff Sharpe, Sandia National Labs. Randy Brost, Sandia National Labs. Alan Hsieh, Sandia National Labs. Aaron Spieles, Sandia National Labs. 3.1 Standards Development: Stephanie Meyen, National Lab. of the Rockies Matthew Emes, National Lab. of the Rockies Shashank Yellapantula, National Lab. of the Rockies Paul Ndione, National Lab. of the Rockies 3.2 Engagement with industry stakeholders: Alex Zolan, National Lab. of the Rockies Alon Lidor, National Lab. of the Rockies Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Jeremy Sment, Sandia National Labs. 5.1 Support of industry and commercial adoption: Alex Zolan, National Lab. of the Rockies Stephanie Meyen, National Lab. of the Rockies Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Randy Brost, Sandia National Labs. Aaron Spieles, Sandia National Labs. Phat Doan, Sandia National Labs.
2:15 – 2:45	Feedback 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1	Session Chair	Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.
2:45 – 3:05	Coffee Break, (remove posters by 3:00)		
Session Title: HelioCon for 2027 part 2			
3:05-3:50	Details of 2027 HelioCon Thrust Structure	HelioCon Team	4.1 New Research Initiatives:

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	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4		Calibration techniques. Metrology for Dishes. Randy Brost, Sandia National Labs. Calibration techniques. Metrology for Dishes. Alan Hsieh, Sandia National Labs. LookFast Thermal Protection System and Software Development Aaron Spieles, Sandia National Labs. Advanced Dish controls – closed loop, validation and testing Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Cybersecurity – wireless AI closed loop controls for Heliostats Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Industrial soiling derisking (clinker or very alkaline dust degrades heliostats), measuring, monitoring, mitigation. Jeremy Sment, Sandia National Labs. 4.2 Advanced digital engineering and AI in Solar Collector topics: Bill Hamilton, National Lab. of the Rockies Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs. Jeremy Sment, Sandia National Labs. 4.3 HelioCon capstone project - reference heliostat design: Matt Muller, National Lab. of the Rockies Jeremy Sment, Sandia National Labs. 4.4 HelioCon ecosystem development: Jibo Sanyal, National Lab. of the Rockies Paul Ndione, National Lab. of the Rockies Brooke Stanislawski, National Lab. of the Rockies Ken Armijo, Sandia National Labs.
3:50 – 4:20	Audience feedback on 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4	Session Chair	Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.
4:30-4:45	Feedback Reflection and Discussion	Session Chair	Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.

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4:45 - 5:00	Wrap up HelioCon Workshop 2026	Session Chair	Guangdong Zhu, National Lab. of the Rockies Margaret Gordon, Sandia National Labs.
6:00	HelioCon Social – Mike Hess Brewing		