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Objectives and Mission of Wind Power Research at Cal Poly:

- 1. "Prepare undergraduate and graduate Mechanical Engineering students for careers in the wind power industry, in the best tradition of Learning by Doing."
- 2. "Study and develop novel wind turbine technologies, and collaborate with industry research and development, both for the testing of existing designs and for the development of new ones."
- 3. "Provide a test center for the community, to test machines and participate in the dissemination and evaluation of wind energy engineering conceptual designs."

• Developed a WTG Laboratory Facility



Features:

3kW research wind turbine Designed/built in-house:

Nacelle

Drivetrain & Control

System

Rotor (hub & blades)

Foundation

Designed in house: tilt-up tower

Selected projects: Blade manufacturing

Static blade strength and tip deflection test:

Max operating load: 114 lbs, distributed over blade;

• Test load: was 120 lbs (placed at tip in 20-30 lbs increments)



Selected Projects: Nacelle Design and

Fabrication

Undergraduate, Senior Project

Design included:

nacelle platform, fairing,

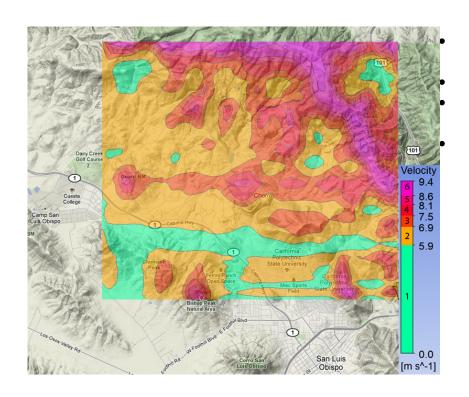
Drivetrain (and brake)

Control housing





Selected Projects: Wind resource assessment



80' meteorological tower with four stations 1 year of data

Input to Computational Fluid
Dynamics simulation
Result shows Wind Power Classes
at 50m

Selected Projects: Static Rotor Balance

