

EHA Hydrogen News Flash *autumn 2006, HFP Edition*

The European Hydrogen Association is promoting the use of hydrogen in Europe by informing key stakeholders and the general public about the contribution of hydrogen to a sustainable, secure and innovative energy and transport system. For more information please contact: Tanya Carre at info@h2euro.org, tel. +32 2 775 90 77.

EHA in Action

European Union

This summer the Commission issued a number of consultations on energy and transport topics. The EHA actively lobbied officials in Brussels and submitted its contribution to the following topics:

1. Work programme of Intelligent Energy for Europe (IEE) of the new Competitiveness and Innovation Program (CIP). The EHA requested to “include funding for the dissemination and promotion of hydrogen and fuel cell applications” as in the former IEE program not many hydrogen and fuel cell proposals were rewarded.

2. Green Paper on a European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy. In its contribution the EHA emphasized the need for a visible role of hydrogen and fuel cell applications in a European strategy towards a sustainable energy future. As the EU has confirmed the important role of hydrogen in future energy and transport systems, an immediate start has to be made with concrete infrastructure and regulatory framework development. Only when hydrogen is integrated in the EU’s Energy and Transport policy will Europe retain its position as market leader of many hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and interest foreign investors. In a meeting with Mr. Bonifacio Garcia Porras of the Cabinet of the EU Energy Commissioner, Andris Piebalgs, Mr. Garcia expressed his interest in being kept updated on the commercialisation of hydrogen applications and local infrastructure development.

3. Draft Regulation for the Homologation of Hydrogen Vehicles. The EHA highlighted the need for regulation of hydrogen and natural gas mixture vehicles. The mixture could become an important transition fuel in developing the hydrogen infrastructure using the natural gas grid. In addition the EHA pointed out the need to include references for detachable click-on hydrogen containers for small vehicles. The EHA has met with the draftsman of the regulation, Mr. Pablo Laguna Gomez, to request participation of its members in the Technical Committee reviews the comments of the consultation.

The European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Platform (HFP)

This summer the EHA met with Angel Perez Sainz head of Unit J2 Energy production and distribution of the Directorate General Research Technology and Development of the EU and responsible for the European Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Platform (HFP) and Joint Technology Initiative that is proposed for hydrogen and fuel cell development funded by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The EHA inquired about the role of associations with regards to the cross cutting activities in the JTI. Main conclusions of the meeting:

1. Important role of associations in supporting cross cutting activities as education, training, public awareness and business development in the JTI framework;
2. Associations are instrumental to identify funding for these activities, as not all cross cutting activities can be funded under FP7 for example in other Directorates General.

The president of the EHA, Lars Sjunnesson and other EHA Board members serve as member of the Constitutional Committee of the JTI that is defining the Bylaws and structure of the JTI Program Office. EHA Board members are also active in the different Working Groups of the Implementation Panel of the HFP and have worked through the summer to prepare the final Implementation Plan that will be presented at the HFP's Third General Assembly in Brussels. The Implementation Plan will be a guideline for the JTI to develop projects that will contribute to more rapid commercialisation of hydrogen and fuel cell applications. More info on the progress of the work in the HFP is available on the HFP website, www.hfpeurope.org.

EHA Events

The EHA participates in the HFP event, October 4-6 2006 with a stand that featured the work of the national associations, new products of its industry members, information on university courses, and information on the European Hydrogen Energy Conference in Maastricht, the Netherlands, June 18-22, 2007. Other highlights of the stand:

- The new EHA Taskforce "Hydrogen in the City": the Taskforce will prepare information packages on feasible urban hydrogen projects for local authorities;
- Continuous screening of educational programs on hydrogen;
- Daily schedule of live presentations of hydrogen refueling stations around the world (Google Earth);
- EHA map of hydrogen refueling stations in Europe.

News from EHA National Association Members

France

The French Hydrogen Association, AFH2, can look back to a successful WHEC 2006 with more than 1000 paying visitors and the presence of the French Minister of Industry and the Secretary of Transport. All presentations of the more than 50 sessions are now online. *More info at the site of AeH2* www.aeh2.org

Germany

The Berlin Transport Agency, Berliner Verkehrsvertriebe BVG communicated that it seeks to run one in five buses on alternative fuels including hydrogen. The 250 buses scheduled for 2007 will already fall under the new rule. *For more* www.dwv-info.de.

Italy

The first Multifuel station in Livorno. The hydrogen is produced by an electrolyzer that is powered by photovoltaic panels mounted on the station's roof with a capacity of 20 kW. Three wind generators of 20 kW each and a cogeneration plant of 30kW cover the complete energy needs of the station. Three hydrogen combustion vehicles (two FIAT Multipla's and one FIAT Doblo) will use the station for regular hydrogen fill-ups. The station is operated by AGIP. *For more information please visit: www.h2it.org.*

Netherlands

In Leeuwarden the fuel cell boat "Xperiance" was inaugurated. The Xperiance is a prototype that is ready for mass production. The fuel cell boat was developed as a joint collaboration of Ecofys and Knowledge Center Yachtbuilding. The boat will be one of the Dutch features at the European Hydrogen Energy Conference in Maastricht, June 18-22, 2007, organized as a joint collaboration between the Dutch Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association and the EHA. *More info at www.waterstofvereniging.nl*

Norway/Sweden

The Norwegian HyNor plan saw the opening of the first hydrogen filling station for motor vehicles in Stavanger as part of the "Hydrogen Highway" between the capital, Oslo, and western Norway's port of Stavanger. The plan calls for five refuelling stations along the main highway from Oslo to Stavanger. The aim is to extend the network through much of Scandinavia under the Scandinavian Hydrogen Highway Partnership, a joint organization formed by HyNor, Sweden's HyFuture and Denmark's Hydrogen Link in June. By 2009, the project, plans to have enough fuelling stations along the 580 km (360 mile) route to allow hydrogen cell powered vehicles to routinely make the trip. *For more info please visit: <http://radix.ife.no/nhf>*

Spain

The Region of Aragon presented the Region's view on the participation of regions in the JTI at the JTI Preparatory meeting on June 29, 2006 in Brussels. Reference was made to the dual role of regions; hosts of JTI demonstration activities and financing party while they do not take part in the Governing board of the JTI. The Region of Aragon therefore asked for more clarification on the role and position of Regions in a possible. A second meeting of the Regions on the JTI. *For more info: www.aeh2.org*

News from EHA Industry Members

Air Liquide



Once again this year, Air Liquide took part in the Bibendum Challenge, organized by Michelin. Dedicated to clean transportation, this year the Challenge welcomed more than 70 vehicles including 10 ecological vehicles that run on hydrogen. Air Liquide set up two service stations, designed and developed by the Group, that supplied hydrogen to the vehicles at a test center north of Paris and on the Champ de Mars, near the Eiffel Tower. *More info at www.airliquide.com*

Air Products

Air Products is supplying hydrogen fuelling equipment to the Greek and Republic of Korea navies. Through an agreement with submarine manufacturers Howaldswerke Deutsche Werft GmbH (HDW), the equipment will be used to power both navies' fuel cell submarines. HDW has developed a fuel cell-powered submarine system, which allows the vessel to generate energy without leaving a heat or noise signature along its route, whilst also remaining submerged for longer periods. The Republic of Korea navy will receive three submarines built in Korea under a HDW licence and the Greek navy is to receive their submarines from ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems Hellenic Shipyards S.A. More info at www.airproducts.com

BOC



BOC, that recently became part of the Linde Group, is developing the world's first environmentally clean sports car, powered by a fuel cell. The new vehicle, known as LIFECar is part-funded by the UK Department of Trade and Industry. LIFECar is a two and half-year long £1.9 million project built in partnership with Morgan Motor, QinetiQ, OSCar, Cranfield and Oxford universities. More info at www.bocworld.com

Linde Group

Linde and BOC created a new company, "The Linde Group". The new company will trade under the name A new brand has been designed based on the long tradition and corporate heritage of both companies, but which also represents the newly international character of the company. The name change applies to the group only. On the operating level, the Linde and BOC brands will remain unchanged. More info at: <http://www.linde.com>

Norsk Hydro ASA



Image of Hydro's first hydrogen station in Norway, that is nearing completion at the company's Research Centre at Herøya Industrial Park in Porsgrunn. More info at www.hydro.com/electrolysers

Shell Hydrogen

Shell Hydrogen B.V in collaboration with Connexion holding N.V. and MAN Truck and Bus company N.V announced the creation of the largest regional hydrogen bus fleet in the world before the end of this decade. Under the proposed scheme 20 hydrogen internal combustion engine buses manufactured by Man Nutzfahrzeuge and its subsidiary NEOMAN bus will be operated by Connexion. Shell will build a combined gasoline and hydrogen refueling station. The first in the Netherlands. For more info www.shell.com.