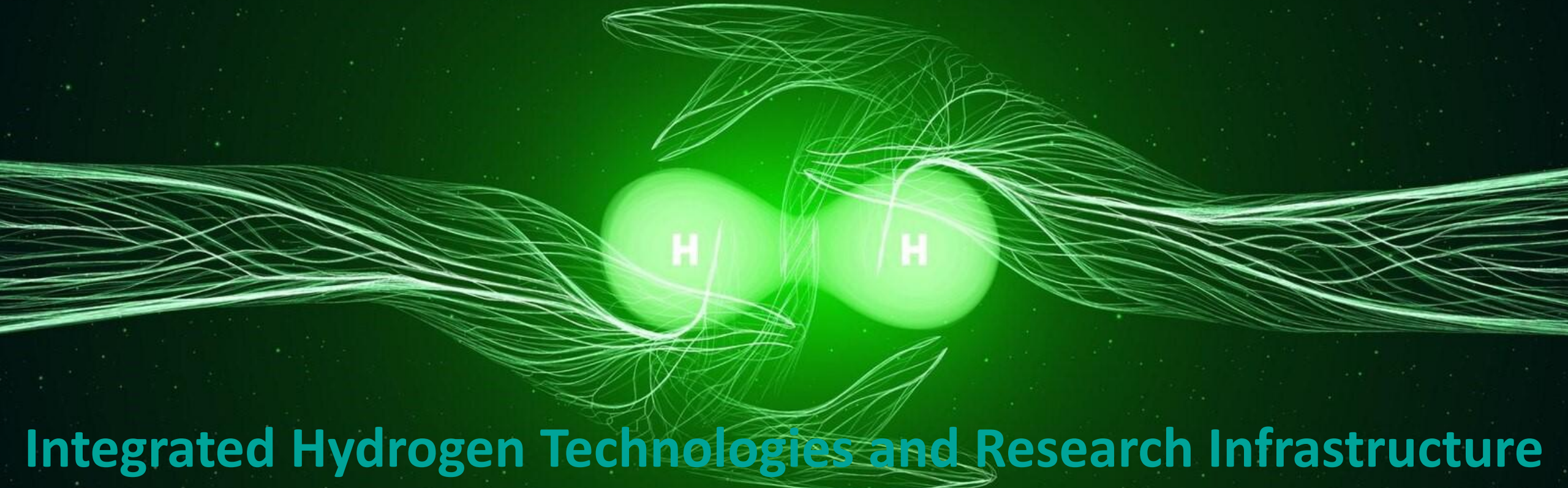




Integrated Hydrogen Technologies and Research Infrastructure for Decarbonisation of Energy Systems

Dr. Jan Veres

Project manager for hydrogen activities

Outline for today's presentation

- Overview of the CEET
- Development of hydrogen technologies and infrastructure: from research to application
- Overview of innovative research projects: safety, separation, storage, production...
- Overview of innovative application projects: filling station, purity determination, hydrogen polygon...



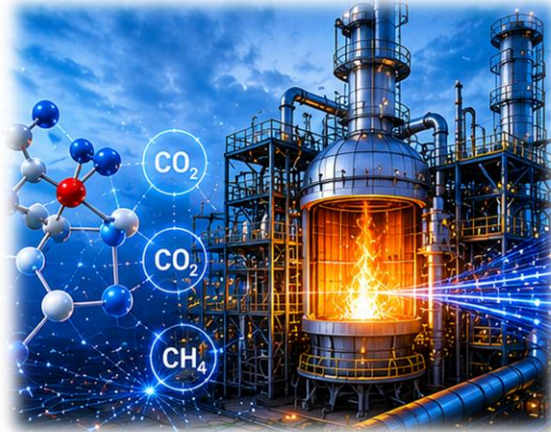
Introduction of the Centre for Energy and Environmental Technologies



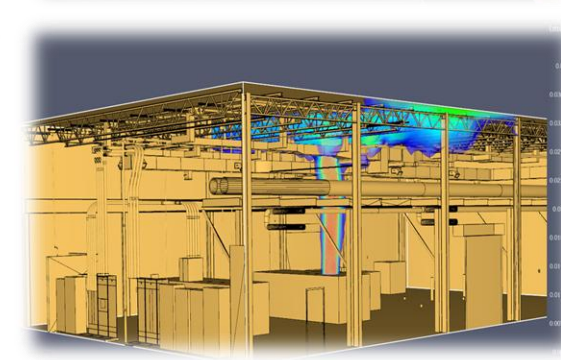
- Established on **1 January 2021** by merging four research units: Nanotechnology Centre, Energy Research Centre, ENET Centre and Institute of Environmental Technology.
- Operates in line with **low-carbon, sustainable energy** and **circular economy** principles to support the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy.
- CEET team consists of more than **300 regular employees**.
- Most important activities are focused on research and development and **cooperation with industrial partners**.
- CEET generates more than a **third of all cooperation with the application sphere** within VSB-TUO.

CEET – Research, development, innovation

- Use of alternative fuels, **renewable** energy sources and **waste** energy
- Advanced processes of thermal and **thermochemical transformation**
- Industrial **safety**, risk analysis and accident prevention
- **Hydrogen technologies** and hydrogen mobility
- **Energy** monitoring, **digitalization** and optimization
- **Smart grids** and intelligent energy management



Centre for Energy and Environmental Technologies



Hydrogen production overview



How do we replace fossil fuels while ensuring **energy security**, **economic stability**, and **environmental responsibility**?



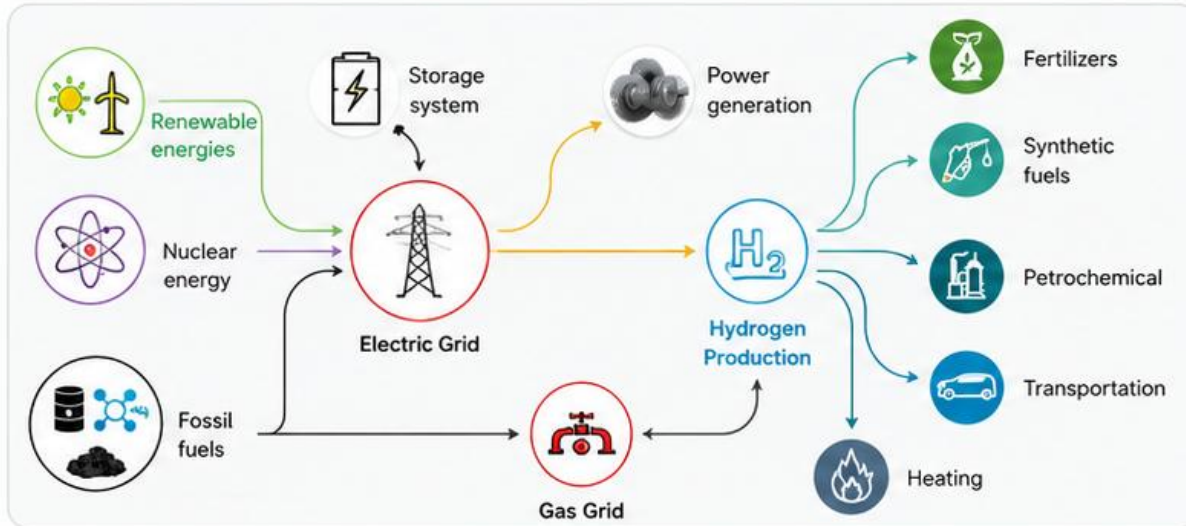
Hydrogen offers a **cleaner substitute** to fossil fuels for power generation and heating



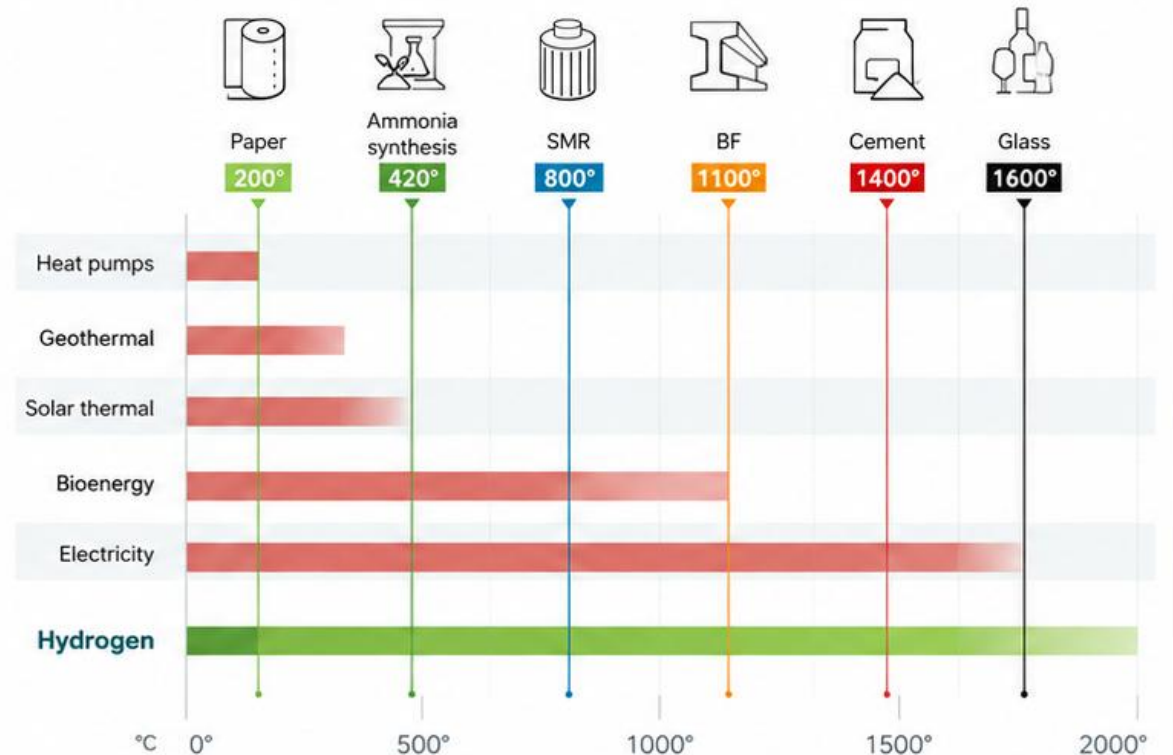
Green hydrogen is a particularly attractive source for hard-to-decarbonize sectors



Hydrogen is already in wide use but scaling up green hydrogen will require **technological advances** and **lower cost**



WORKING TEMPERATURES FOR SELECTED RENEWABLE HEAT TECHNOLOGIES
AND TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENT OF SELECTED INDUSTRIES



Cleaner energy
for a sustainable future



Enabling energy security
and economic stability



Powering hard-to-abate
industries



Driving innovation,
reducing costs



Building a resilient
hydrogen economy

Possible hydrogen transport scenarios for the Czech Republic

1 Czech-German Hydrogen Interconnector – CGHI

Connecting Czech Republic with Germany

Pipeline length:
~550 km

Capacity:
Up to 4 Mt H₂/year

Strengthening energy security and market integration



2 SunHyne Corridor

North-South corridor in Central Europe

Pipeline length:
~3,000 km

Capacity:
Up to 10 Mt H₂/year

Enabling renewable hydrogen flows from North to South



3 Central European Hydrogen corridor – CEHC

East-West corridor across Central Europe

Pipeline length:
~1,150 km

Capacity:
Up to 6 Mt H₂/year

Enhancing regional cooperation and supply diversity



4 Central European Hydrogen corridor – CEHC

Connecting Southern and South-Eastern Europe

Pipeline length:
~2,000 km

Capacity:
Up to 8 Mt H₂/year

Supporting decarbonisation and industrial development



Strengthening energy security



Enabling regional cooperation



Supporting clean hydrogen economy



Driving industrial decarbonisation



Building a resilient hydrogen network

Laboratory of hydrogen technologies

Acta AES 1000 stack AEM electrolyser

Composed of 4 stacks, each containing 19 cells,
with a total production capacity of **250 NI H₂/h per stack**.



4 stacks
19 cells per stack



250 NI H₂/h
per stack



Operating
pressure
Up to 30 bar



Alkaline
Electrolyte
Membrane
(AEM)



Nedstack 8-XXL fuel cell

Composed of 5 stacks with a total power of **5x 8kW**.
Operating temperature: **65°C**, maximum hydrogen pressure: **0.45 bar**.



5 stacks
Fuel cell stacks



5 x 8 kW
Total power



Operating
temperature
65 °C



Maximum H₂
pressure
0.45 bar



Advanced test
infrastructure



Research &
innovation



Flexible &
modular design



Supporting the
hydrogen transition

Hydrogen vehicle filling station



700 bar hydrogen refueling for modern fuel-cell vehicles.



Real-time monitoring of pressure, temperature, and flow.



Integrated safety systems for risk elimination.

HYDROGEN FLOW: FROM PRODUCTION TO VEHICLE



700 bar
hydrogen
refueling



Real-time
monitoring



Integrated
safety
systems



High-pressure
700 bar refueling



Continuous monitoring
of key parameters



Advanced safety
and leak detection



Robust, reliable
station design



Supporting clean
mobility future

Hydrogen purity analysis and sampling at high pressures



Accredited methodology – determination of H₂ purity with continuous measurement



Development and validation of sampling method



Optimization of analytical techniques for high-pressure hydrogen (GC, MS, FTIR)



Ensure compliance with international standards (ISO 14687)



Enhance safety and risk management

ANALYTICAL EQUIPMENT FOR HIGH-PRESSURE HYDROGEN



GC

Gas chromatography
for permanent gases
and impurities



MS

Mass spectrometry
for trace-level impurity
detection



FTIR

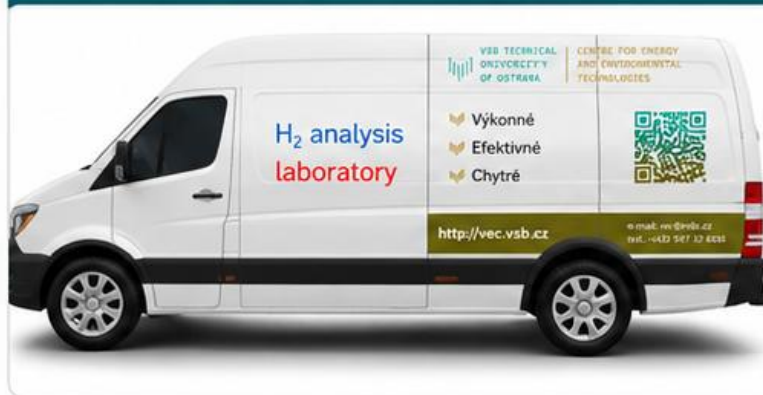
Fourier transform infrared
spectroscopy for molecular
impurity identification



SAMPLING MANIFOLD

High-pressure sampling
system with safe and
repeatable operation

MOBILE H₂ ANALYSIS LABORATORY



HIGH-PRESSURE SAMPLING STATION



ON-SITE SAMPLING



HIGH-PRESSURE CYLINDERS & STORAGE



Accurate purity
determination



Reliable sampling
and validation



Advanced analytical
capabilities



Compliance with
ISO 14687



Enhanced safety
and risk control



Supporting the
hydrogen economy

Hydrogen safety properties



Analysis of **experimental factors** influencing the determination of explosion parameters

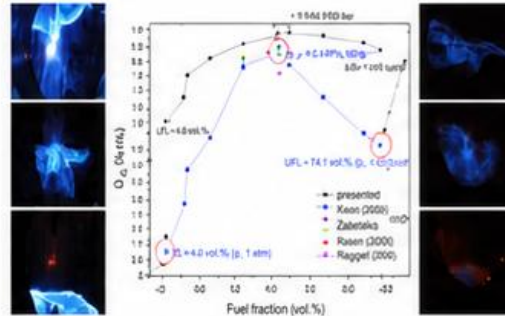


Research **modelling tools** available for hydrogen mixtures (EFFECT, ALOHA)



Experimental verification of the limits of flammability and explosiveness

EXPLOSION PHENOMENA & DATA ANALYSIS



INCIDENT ANALYSIS



High-pressure reactor systems



Explosion vessels



Gas handling and dosing



Pressure & temperature measurement

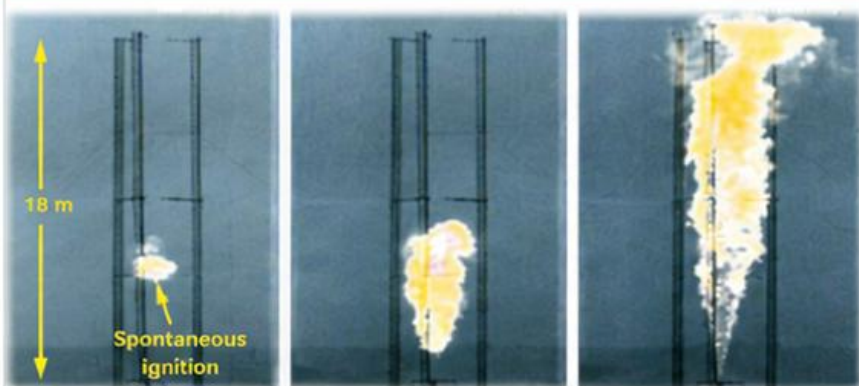


Ignition & data acquisition

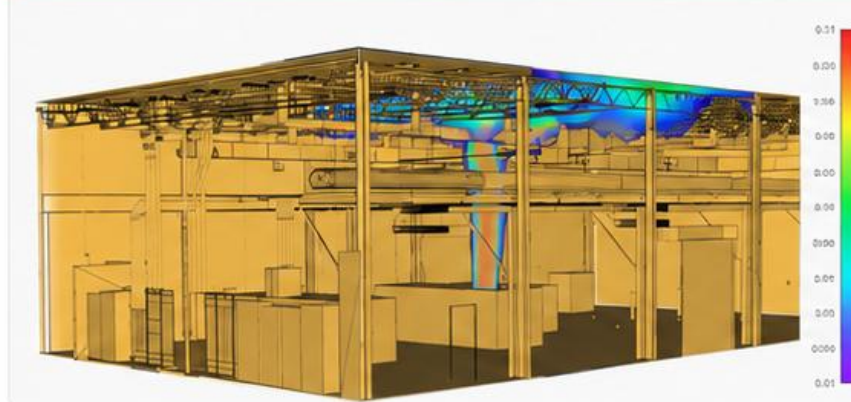


20 L explosion vessel (1 – 100 bar)

FLAME BEHAVIOUR & IGNITION



MODELLING & SIMULATION



Reliable experimental data



Advanced modelling capabilities



Accurate risk assessment and prediction



Safer design and operation



Supporting the hydrogen economy



Process safety and methodology



THE GOALS OF SAFETY PLANNING ARE TO:



Identify hazards



Evaluate risks by considering the likelihood and severity/consequence of an incident associated with the hazards



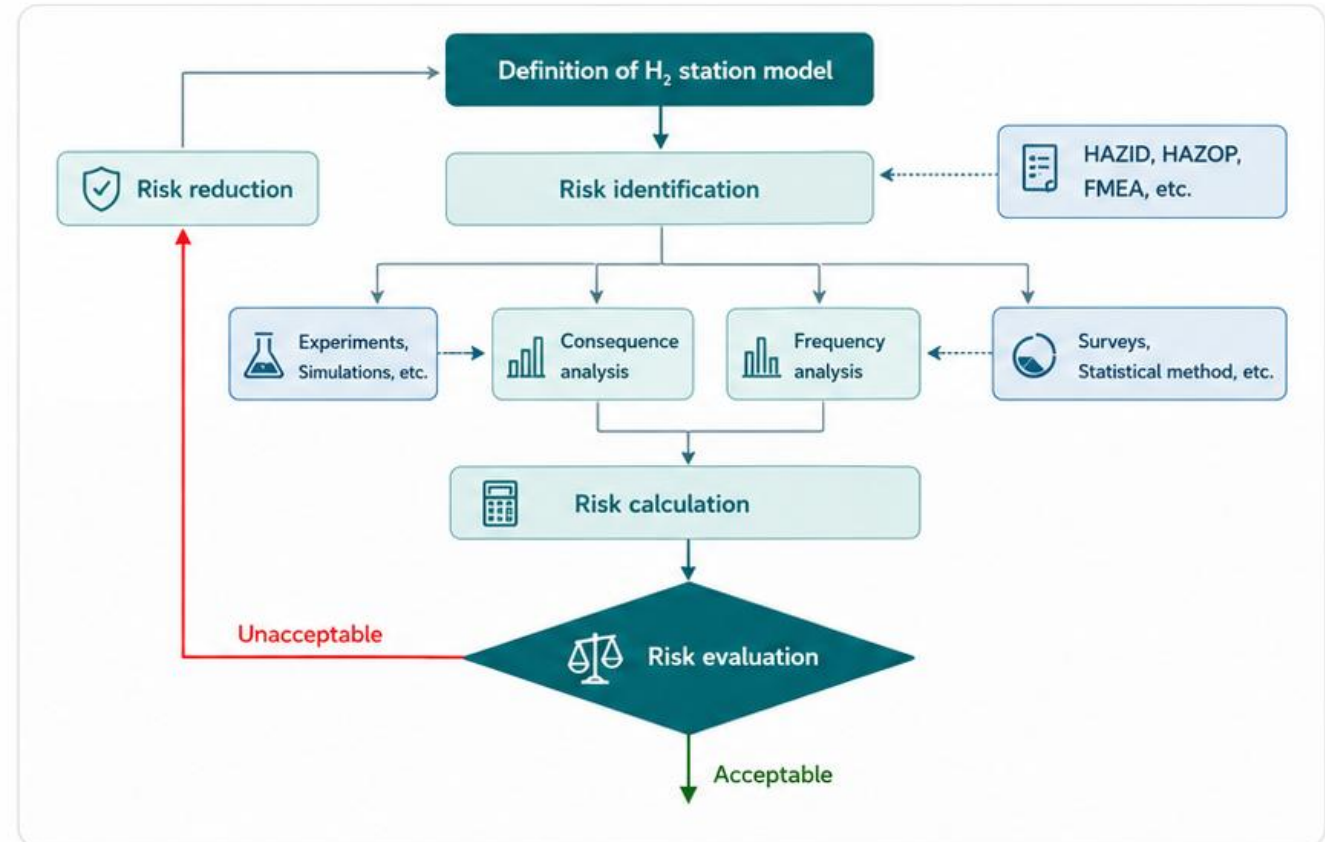
Minimize the risks associated with a project/facility

To achieve these goals, various **hazard analysis and risk assessment** techniques are used, in conjunction with **safety reviews**.



COMMON METHODS EMPLOYED IN SYSTEMS SAFETY TODAY INCLUDE:

- ✓ Hazard and operability studies (HAZOPs)
- ✓ Failure modes effects and criticality analysis (FMECA)
- ✓ Preliminary hazards analysis (PHA)
- ✓ Fault tree analysis (FTA)
- ✓ Event tree analysis (ETA)



Schematic of risk assessment of hydrogen fueling station



Identify hazards early



Assess risks systematically



Apply proven methodologies



Implement effective risk controls



Protect people, assets and environment

Fundamental safety considerations

A hazard and operability study (HAZOP) was carried out to identify all possible hazards and possible ways of handling them.



FAILURE MODE	SOURCE OF FAILURE	EFFECT	SEVERITY (1-10)	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE (1-10)
 Fire and explosion	Ignition in the vicinity of H ₂ and O ₂ release	Equipment damage and possible injuries	10	2
 Hydrogen leak in piping	Mechanical failure, improper joints and fittings	Potential fire and explosion	7	3
 Hydrogen leak in electrolyzer	Overpressure, improper gaskets or connections	Potential fire and explosion	8	3
 Hydrogen storage tank	Mechanical failure, improper joints and fittings	Potential fire and explosion	8	3
 Compressor failure	Equipment failure, worn out seals	Potential H ₂ leak	5	6
 Fans power rating ventilation error	Human error	Overpressure in vessels with potential H ₂ leaks	6	3
 Leak in low-voltage cabling	Equipment failure or damages	Potential fire	7	2
 Inappropriate operator and response	Failure to follow emergency operating procedures, deficiency in procedures, and/or training	Overpressure on receiving fuel tanks	5	4
 Incorrect check valve installation	Human error, inadequate inspection	Property damage	3	2
 Weak or corroding nuts retaining system	External factor	Property damage and injuries	3	2
List of possible hazards of the H ₂ station				



Safety by design
in every stage



Identify hazards.
Assess risks.



Implement controls.
Prevent incidents.



Protect people, assets
and the environment.

Hydrogen production via biomass gasification



Factors that influence hydrogen production



Temperature (700 – 1000 °C – optimal for maximizing hydrogen in the syngas)



Type of reactor (Fixed bed → Fluidized bed → Entrained flow → Dual fluidized bed)

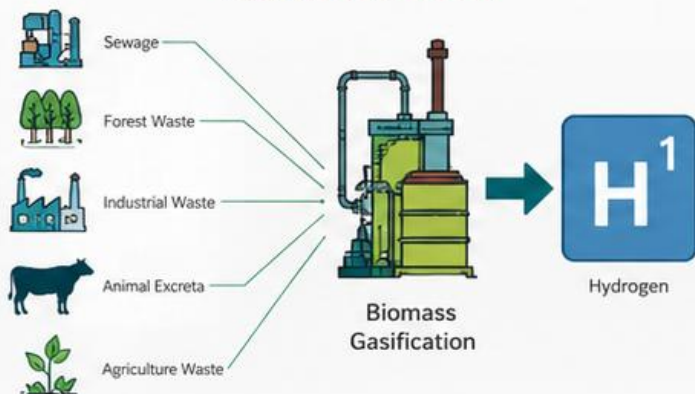


Feeding materials (moisture content, volatile matter, C/O ratio, ash content)



Catalysts (nickel based, dolomite, noble metals)

BIOMASS TO HYDROGEN



WASTE COMPOSITION (VOL. %)

COMPONENT	MUNICIPAL WASTE	REFUSE DERIVED FUELS
H ₂ [%]	48–50	38–40
CO [%]	36–39	37–39
CO ₂ [%]	1–2	2–4
CH ₄ [%]	4–6	0–1
N ₂ [%]	5–7	16–19

BIOMASS GASIFICATION – CALORIFIC VALUE (MJ/Nm³)

COMPONENT	AUTOTHERMAL GASIFICATION	ALLOTHERMAL GASIFICATION	AUTOTHERMAL GASIFICATION USING H ₂ O + O ₂
Calorific value [MJ/Nm ³]	4–6	12–14	12–15
H ₂ [%]	11–16	35–40	25–30
CO [%]	13–18	25–30	30–35
CO ₂ [%]	12–16	20–25	23–28
CH ₄ [%]	3–6	9–11	8–10
N ₂ [%]	45–60	< 1	< 1

FLUIDIZED BED REACTOR



DUAL FLUIDIZED BED REACTOR



PILOT GASIFICATION UNIT



Sustainable feedstock utilization



Optimized process conditions



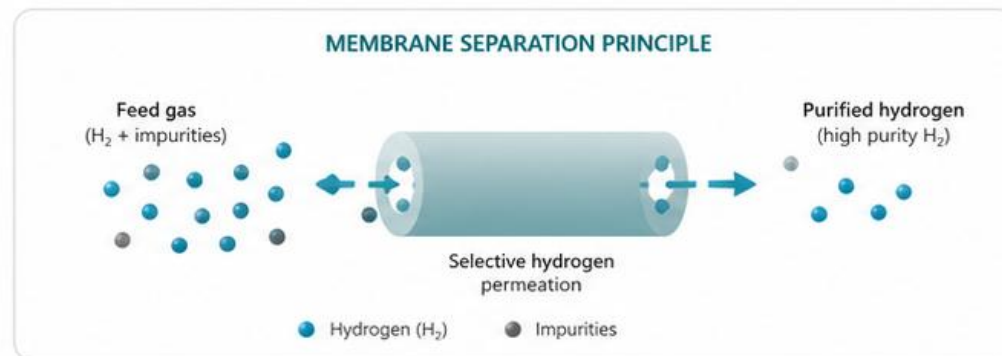
High hydrogen yield and efficiency



Supporting the hydrogen transition

Membrane technology for hydrogen separation

- Development of **membrane-based hydrogen purification** technology
- Experimental **verification** of membrane separation performance
- Testing **hydrogen admixtures** for gas applications
- Separation of hydrogen** from low-concentration gas streams



EXPERIMENTAL TEST BENCH

Flexible setup for membrane testing under controlled conditions



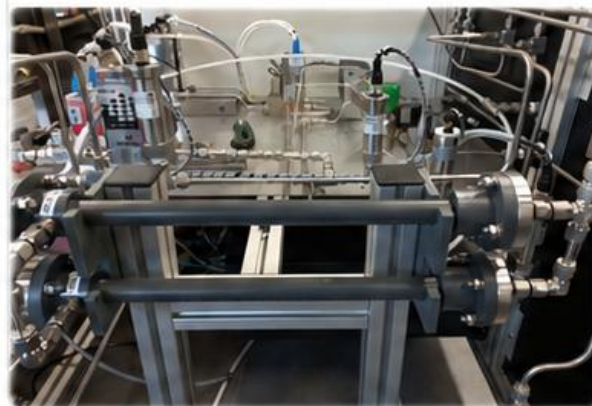
MEMBRANE MODULES

Advanced membrane materials and module development



SEPARATION SYSTEM

High-pressure testing and performance evaluation of membrane modules



High separation performance



Reliable and robust operation



Scalable and modular design



Enabling clean hydrogen applications



Advanced membrane materials



Proven performance through testing



Efficient separation of low-concentration streams



Supporting the hydrogen economy

Hydrogen storage in metal hydrides



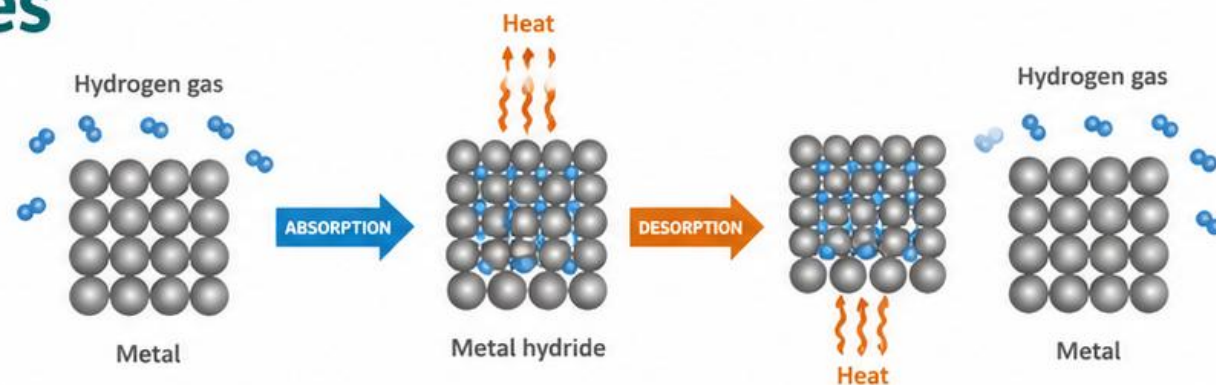
Thermodynamics of metal hydrides



Improve hydrogen **storage capacity** and kinetics



Enhance **lifecycle** and **economic feasibility**



High hydrogen
storage capacity



Fast kinetics
and response



Long cycle life
and durability

MyH₂ 2000

abs. capacity 2000 NI, max. p. 30 bar, op. temp. 10 – 65 °C.

PEM/AEM membranes preparation and testing for H₂ production



Experimental evaluation of **electrolyser performance**



Testing under varying **operational conditions** (temperature, pressure, load)



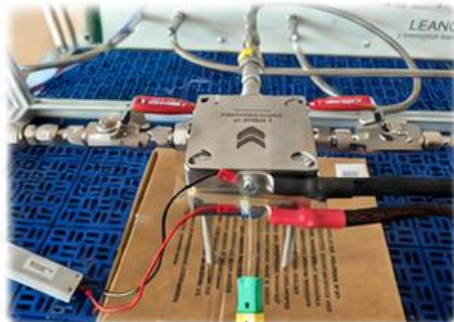
TEST BENCH & CONTROL SYSTEM

Advanced test bench with real-time monitoring and data acquisition.



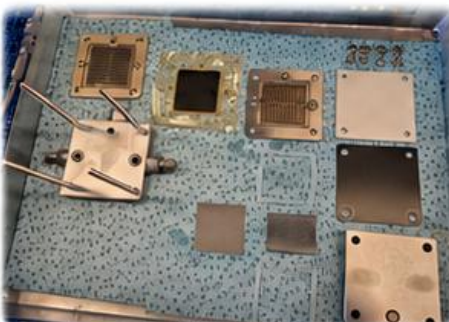
SINGLE CELL TESTING SETUP

Flexible single cell holder for accurate and reproducible measurements.



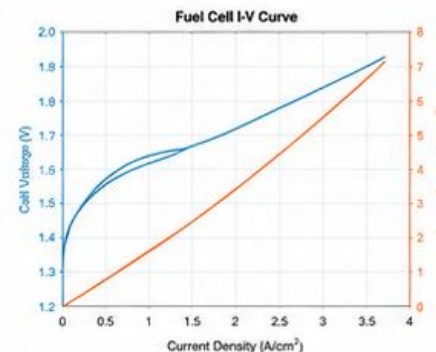
MEMBRANE & COMPONENT PREPARATION

Preparation and characterization of PEM/AEM membranes and components.



PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Analysis of IV curves and performance metrics under various conditions.



Precise evaluation of electrolyser performance



Wide range of operational conditions



Reliable data for R&D and scale-up



Quality, safety and repeatability



Advanced research infrastructure



Expertise in membrane technologies



Data-driven optimization



Supporting the hydrogen transition

Unique package of hydrogen energy services



- Processing of **technical** and **economic studies** focusing on **hydrogen** technologies



- Energy **monitoring** and **optimization**, energy **management**



- Monitoring of **renewable** resources



- Complex **design** and **construction** activities in **hydrogen** sector



TECHNICAL & ECONOMIC STUDIES

Feasibility studies, techno-economic analyses and system assessments for hydrogen technologies.



ENERGY MONITORING & OPTIMIZATION

Real-time monitoring, data analytics and optimization to improve efficiency and reduce operating costs.



RENEWABLE RESOURCE MONITORING

Assessment and monitoring of renewable energy resources to support sustainable hydrogen production.



DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION IN HYDROGEN SECTOR

Engineering, detailed design and turn-key construction for hydrogen technologies and infrastructures.



Expertise & experience



Tailored solutions



Efficiency & performance

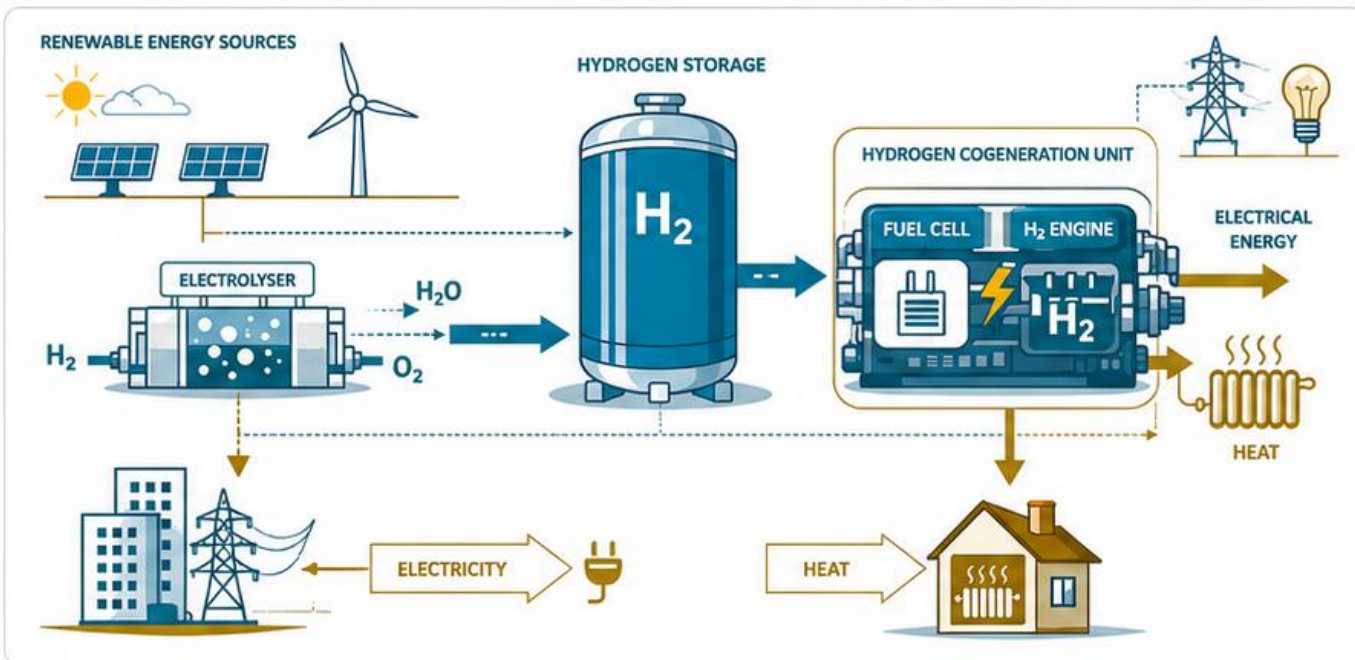


Sustainable future

Hydrogen battery system for households

Autonomous system for green home

- Electrolysis system
- Hydrogen storage
- Fuel cell power system



CLEAN & RENEWABLE
Uses renewable energy to produce and store clean hydrogen.



ENERGY INDEPENDENCE
Provides reliable power and heat for homes and remote areas.



COST EFFECTIVE
Reduces energy costs by using stored hydrogen when needed.



SUSTAINABLE LIVING
Zero-emission solution supporting a greener future.



Smart hydrogen energy for a clean, independent and sustainable home.



Development of a techno-economic concept for the hydrogen storage and refuelling station



General description of the installation



Overview of available technologies



Conducting in-depth technical analysis



Determining the best technical configuration



Determining the energy and material consumption of the process



Enabling zero-emission mobility
for a sustainable energy future

H₂ PRODUCTION & REFUELLING SYSTEM



CLEAN
ENERGY



HIGH
EFFICIENCY



SAFE &
RELIABLE



COST
OPTIMIZED



KEY OUTCOMES OF THE CONCEPT



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION
Utilizes renewable energy and green hydrogen for decarbonization.



ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY
Optimized CAPEX and OPEX leading to lower total cost of ownership.



SCALABLE & FLEXIBLE
Modular design allows easy scaling and future technology integration.



KNOWLEDGE & IMPACT
Supports R&D, education and collaboration with industry and SMEs.



A comprehensive techno-economic concept driving innovation, sustainability and the transition to clean hydrogen mobility.



DEVELOPMENT OF A TECHNO-ECONOMIC CONCEPT FOR THE HYDROGEN STORAGE AND REFUELLING STATION

Towards a sustainable and efficient hydrogen ecosystem



PROJECT OVERVIEW

- General description of the installation
- Overview of available technologies
- Conducting in-depth technical analysis
- Determining the best technical configuration
- Determining the energy and material consumption
- Techno-economic evaluation
- Environmental and sustainability assessment

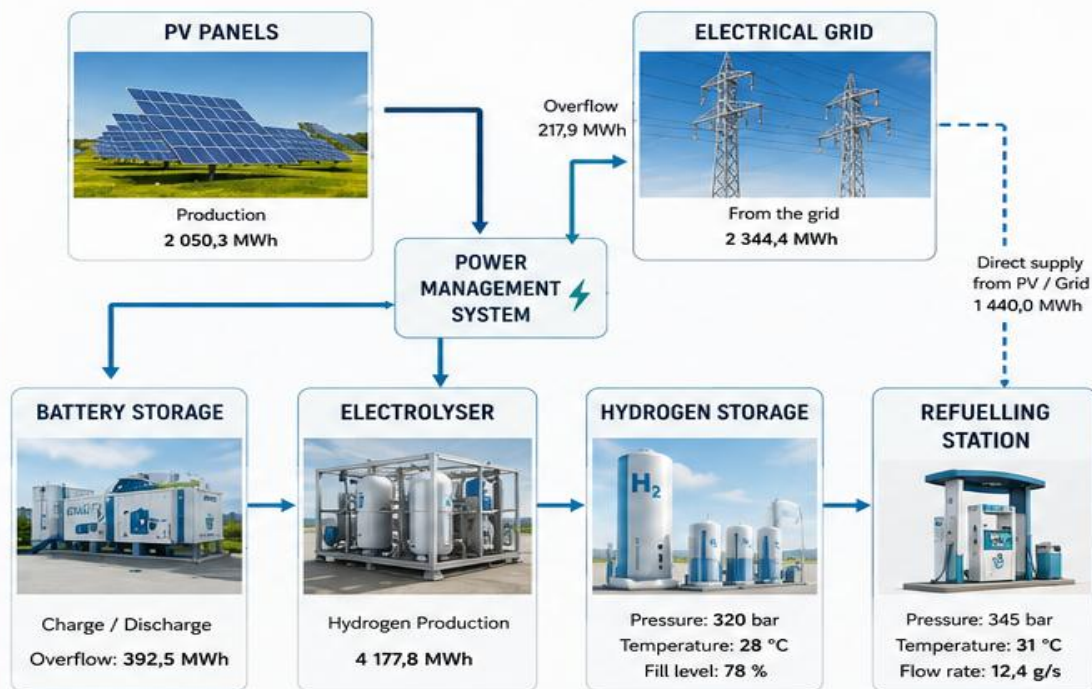


SITE LAYOUT - CONCEPTUAL DESIGN



- 1 PV panels
- 2 Power & control building
- 3 Hydrogen storage
- 4 Refuelling dispensers
- 5 Compression & pre-cooling system

ENERGY & HYDROGEN FLOW DIAGRAM



Total annual energy balance
≈ 4 570 MWh



Hydrogen production capacity
≈ 1 050 kg H₂/day



Refuelling capacity
≈ 200–250 kg H₂/day



CO₂ avoided
≈ 1 500 t CO₂/year



KEY BENEFITS



Utilization of renewable energy from PV and grid



High-efficiency hydrogen production and storage



Modular and scalable solution



Zero-emission refuelling for heavy-duty and light vehicles



Contribution to energy independence and decarbonization



KEY TECHNOLOGIES

- PEM Electrolyser
- High-pressure hydrogen storage (350 bar)
- Cascade compression system
- Advanced cooling and drying
- Smart energy management system
- Automated refuelling dispensers



TECHNO-ECONOMIC OUTCOMES



CAPEX (est.)
≈ 3.2 – 3.8 M€



OPEX (est.)
≈ 110 – 150 k€/year



LCOH (est.)
≈ 4.5 – 6.5 €/kg



PAYBACK TIME (est.)
≈ 7 – 10 years



A FUTURE-PROOF SOLUTION FOR CLEAN MOBILITY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA) OF HYDROGEN

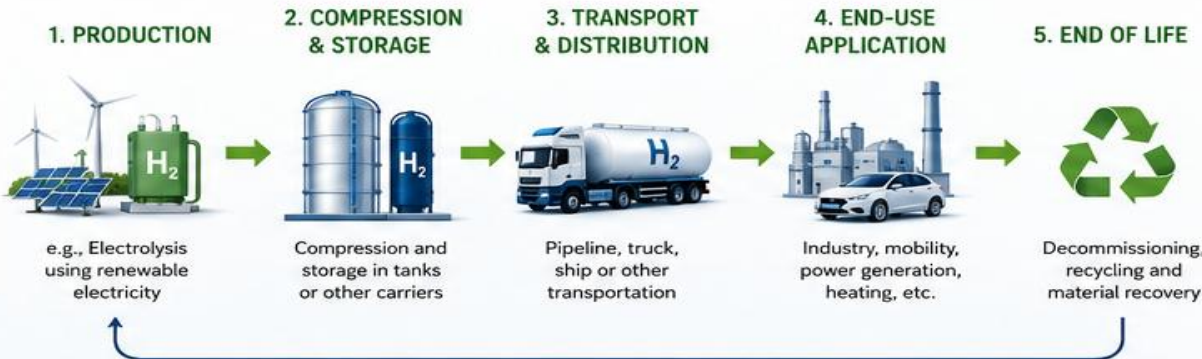
Evaluating environmental impacts across the entire hydrogen value chain



WHAT IS LCA?

- Methodology for evaluating environmental impacts during the entire hydrogen life cycle
- Assessment includes:
 - Hydrogen production
 - Compression and storage
 - Transport and distribution
 - End-use application
 - Decommissioning and recycling

THE HYDROGEN LIFE CYCLE



MAIN ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS

- Greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂ eq.)
- Energy consumption
- Water footprint
- Resource depletion
- Air pollution impacts (NO_x, SO_x, PM, etc.)

COMPARISON OF HYDROGEN PRODUCTION PATHWAYS

HYDROGEN TYPE	MAIN SOURCE / TECHNOLOGY	TYPICAL CO ₂ EMISSIONS (kg CO ₂ eq./kg H ₂)	RELATIVE IMPACT
GREY H ₂	Natural gas (Steam Methane Reforming – SMR)	9 – 12	HIGH
BLUE H ₂	Natural gas (SMR) + Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)	2 – 4	MEDIUM
GREEN H ₂	Water electrolysis using renewable electricity	0.5 – 1.5	VERY LOW
TURQUOISE H ₂	Methane pyrolysis (solid carbon by-product)	1 – 3	LOW

Values are indicative and depend on technology, energy mix, efficiency and system boundaries.

KEY FACTORS INFLUENCING LCA RESULTS

- Electricity mix used for electrolysis
- Efficiency of hydrogen production technology
- Compression and storage method
- Transport distance and infrastructure
- Material selection and equipment lifetime



BENEFITS OF GREEN HYDROGEN

-
- Decarbonization of industry and transport
 - Integration of renewable energy sources
 - Reduction of fossil fuel dependency
 - Support for sustainable energy systems

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

-
- Optimization of hydrogen supply chains
 - Integration with digital twins and smart monitoring
 - Circular economy approach for hydrogen technologies
 - Standardization of LCA methodologies for H₂ systems



LCA provides a comprehensive understanding of environmental impacts and supports informed decisions towards a sustainable and low-carbon hydrogen economy.



Project CEETe H₂

Creating a smart, integrated hydrogen ecosystem for sustainable mobility and energy



The H₂ polygon will be integrated with the university **rooftop solar power plant** (~800 kWp).



On-site **hydrogen production** for cars and buses.



Fast combined **EV charging stations** supported by **battery storage**.



Connection to the **university energy management system** for optimized operation.



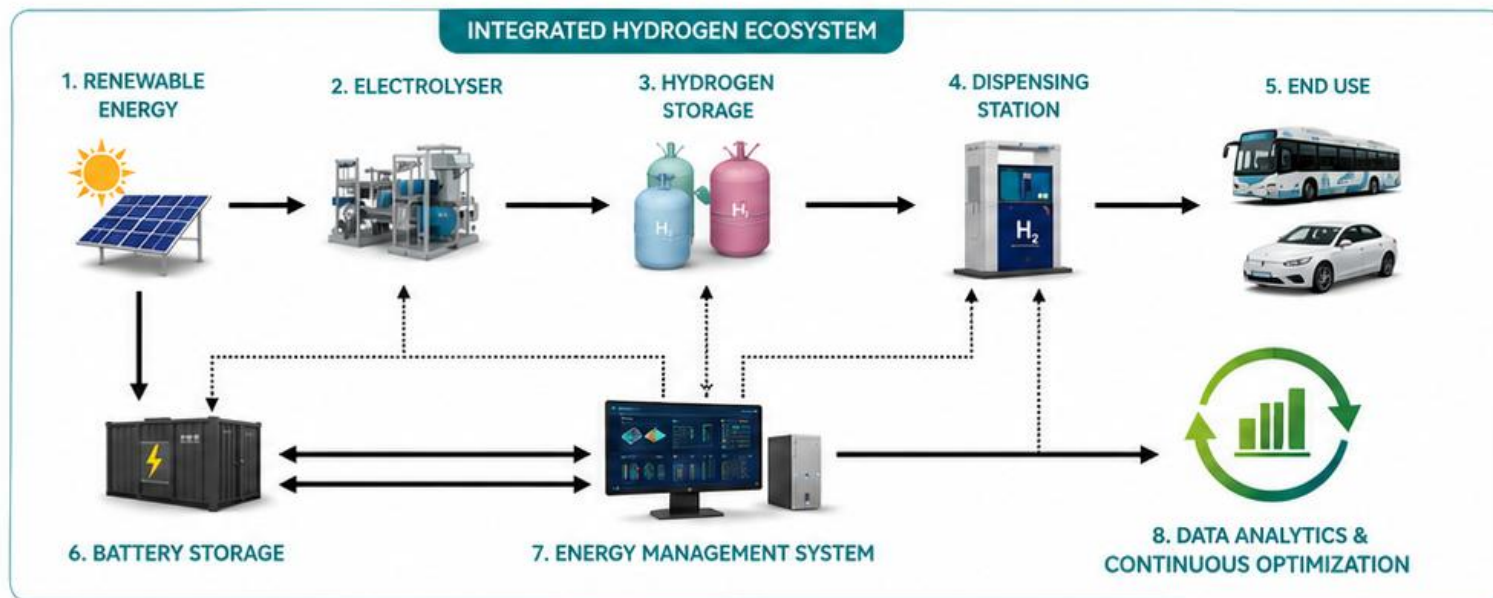
Real-world operation and **R&D use cases**.



Knowledge transfer to SMEs and industry partners.



Continuous analysis and optimization of operational data.



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION

Utilizes renewable energy and hydrogen for zero-emission mobility.



ECONOMIC IMPACT

Supports innovation, creates value and new business opportunities.



EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Platform for students, researchers and industry collaboration.



SCALABLE MODEL

Replicable concept for other universities, cities and industrial sites.



A LIVING LAB FOR THE FUTURE OF CLEAN MOBILITY AND ENERGY SYSTEMS







CAMERA SYSTEM
(AI detection, surveillance)



AIR QUALITY
(H₂, CH₄, VOC, O₂)



WEATHER STATION
(temperature, wind,
humidity, pressure)



H₂ PRODUCTION MONITORING
(flow rate, pressure,
temperature, purity)



INFRASTRUCTURE MONITORING
(equipment status, vibration,
temperature)



H₂ STORAGE MONITORING
(pressure, temperature,
fill level)



REFUELING STATION MONITORING
(pressure, temperature, flow rate)



FIRE DETECTION
(smoke, temperature)



ACCESS CONTROL
(card access, logs)



H₂ LEAK DETECTION
(acoustic / optical sensors)

DIGITAL TWIN

Virtual model of the facility in real time



3D model & visualization



Process simulation



Predictive analytics



Optimization & control

DASHBOARD – REAL-TIME

H₂ Production

(kg/h)

35.2



System Pressure

(bar)

32.5



Energy Consumption

(kW)

120



System Status

OK All systems normal

SAFETY PARAMETERS MONITORING

H₂ Leak Detection

OK

Fire Protection

OK

Pressure Limits

OK

Temperature Limits

OK

Air Quality

OK

Emergency Stop

OK



DATA COLLECTION
FROM FIELD



DATA TRANSFER
(EDGE / CLOUD)



ANALYTICS & EVALUATION
(AI / ML)



VISUALIZATION & DECISION MAKING
(DIGITAL TWIN)



ALERTS & NOTIFICATIONS
(SMS / E-MAIL / APP)

INCIDENT SIMULATION

Hydrogen leak and fire at refueling station

SCENARIO OVERVIEW

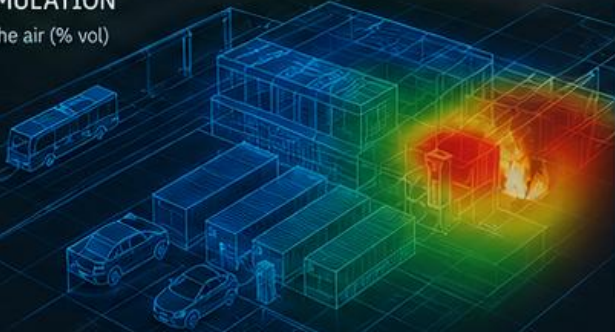
- Incident Type:
Hydrogen leak with ignition
- Location:
Refueling station
- Start Time:
14:32:15
- Weather Conditions:
25 °C, 2 m/s, NE
- Simulation Status:
IN PROGRESS

EVENT TIMELINE

- 14:32:15** Pressure drop detected at the dispenser
- 14:32:18** Hydrogen leak detected (acoustic sensor)
- 14:32:21** Automatic alarm triggered
- 14:32:24** Dispensing stopped, isolation valves closed
- 14:32:28** Leak persists – ventilation activated
- 14:32:35** Ignition detected – fire confirmed
- 14:32:40** Emergency shutdown initiated
- 14:33:05** Fire under control
- 14:35:20** System stabilized – monitoring continues

GAS DISPERSION SIMULATION

Hydrogen concentration in the air (% vol)



IMPACT ASSESSMENT

People at Risk (estimated)	2
Potential Impact Radius (4 % LEL)	18 m
Fire Radiation (at 10 m)	12.5 kW/m ²
Environmental Impact	LOW
Asset Damage	MEDIUM

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

☒ Alarm System	ACTIVATED
☒ Ventilation System	ACTIVATED
☒ Isolation Valves	CLOSED
☒ Emergency Shutdown	ACTIVATED
☒ Fire Suppression	ACTIVATED
☒ Evacuation	IN PROGRESS
☒ Emergency Services	NOTIFIED

WEATHER STATION

25 °C | 2 m/s NE

Humidity: 45 %

Pressure: 1015 hPa

H₂ PRODUCTION

Flow Rate: 32.5 Nm³/h

Purity: 99.97 %

Pressure: 30 bar

INFRASTRUCTURE MONITORING

Equipment Status: OK

Vibration: 2.1 mm/s

Temperature: 32 °C

H₂ STORAGE

Pressure: 320 bar

Temperature: 28 °C

Fill Level: 78 %

REFUELING STATION

Pressure: 345 bar

Temperature: 31 °C

Flow Rate: 12.4 g/s

FIRE DETECTION

Smoke: **DETECTED**

Temperature: 182 °C

Status: **ALARM**

ACCESS CONTROL

Area Status: LOCKDOWN

Authorized Access Only

LEAK DETECTED

Flow: 12.4 g/s

Pressure: 345 bar

Thank you for your attention



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