



# H2REF

## Development of a cost effective and reliable hydrogen fuel cell vehicle refuelling system

### Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>H2REF</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	671463
<b>Title:</b>	Development of a cost effective and reliable hydrogen fuel cell vehicle refuelling system
<b>Call Topic:</b>	FCH-01.5-2014
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 6,5 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 6,0 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 Sep 2015 - 31 Aug 2018
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Centre Technique des Industries Mecaniques, France
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Hexagon Raufoss, Ludwig-Boelkow-Systemtechnik, Uni. Technol. Compiègne, Haskel Europe Ltd, Haskel France, H2Nova, The CCS Global Group Ltd

#### Project and objectives

H2Ref addresses the compression and buffering for refuelling of 70 MPa vehicles and targets a novel cost effective, performant and reliable hydraulics-based system, from TRL 3 to 6. The new way to compress H<sub>2</sub> in a refuelling station is designed and a prototype compression and buffering module (CBM) is under construction. The new hydraulically-actuated compression will be tested first. Then, the full CBM including the N° of compression devices needed for the full compression and dispensing cycle will be tested in closed circuit. Later, it will be interfaced with a vehicles dispenser for demo.

#### Major project achievements

- ▶ High pressure bladder accumulator design for hydrogen
- ▶ Detail Design of Accumulator Test Bench and CBM prototype (full scale system): construction in progress

#### Future steps

- ▶ Deformation testing of accumulator critical bladder
- ▶ Finalisation of construction of Accumulator Test Bench
- ▶ Delivery of MP and HP accumulators
- ▶ Functional testing in hydrogen of bladder accumulators

#### Non-quantitative objectives and status

- ▶ Techno-economic analysis based on testing results  
Not initiated (testing not begun)
- ▶ Have the technology covered by the RCS (Regulations, Codes and Standards) framework  
Contact established with CEN/TC 54. Positive test results needed to begin work on standards

#### Quantitative targets and status

Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
Project's own	TRL	TRL	3	6	3	6	Due later	Through extensive component & system testing
Project's own	CBM manufacturing cost @ 50 units/year	K€	750	300		300	Due later	Through novel implementation of mature technologies (hydraulics and composite pressure vessels)
Project's own	Throughput from 7 MPa @ pumping power of 75 kW	kg/d	210	720		720	Due later	30 kg/h, 24h/day
Project's own	Energy consumption	kWh/kg	3	1.5		1.5	Due later	Through conservation of source storage pressure





# IMPACT

## Improved lifetime of automotive application fuel cells with ultra low Pt-loading

### Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>IMPACT</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	303452
<b>Title:</b>	Improved lifetime of automotive application fuel cells with ultra low Pt-loading
<b>Call Topic:</b>	SP1-JTI-FCH.2011.1.5 & SP1-JTI-FCH.2011.1.6
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 9,2 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 3,9 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 Nov 2012 - 31 Oct 2016
<b>Coordinator:</b>	DLR, Deutsches Zentrum fuer Luft und Raumfahrt, Germany
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique et aux Énergies Alternatives CEA, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche CNR, Gwangju Inst. Science And Technology, Hochschule Esslingen, Inst. National Polytech. Toulouse, ITM Power (Trading), Solvay Specialty Polymers Italy, Tech. Uni. Berlin, Johnson Matthey Fuel Cells Ltd, JRC -Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Zentrum fuer Sonnenenergie und Wasserstoff-Forschung, Baden-Wuerttemberg
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.eu-project-impact.eu/">http://www.eu-project-impact.eu/</a>

#### Project and objectives

Main project objectives are: to increase the lifetime of ultra-low Pt-loaded (< 0.2 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>) membrane-electrode assemblies (MEAs) for automotive applications to 5,000 h in dynamic operation with degradation rates <10 μVh<sup>-1</sup> and to obtain a power density of 1 A/cm<sup>2</sup> (performance target achieved). To achieve these targets relevant degradation mechanisms are identified and mitigation strategies are implemented through material development, structural design of cells and materials, and integration of improvements into a best MEA. The project ended in October 2016.

#### Major project achievements

- ▶ Demonstration of 1 W/cm<sup>2</sup> at 0.2 mg/cm<sup>2</sup> Pt total loading using H<sub>2</sub>/air at 50% RH and 1.5 bar absolute pressure
- ▶ Development of new thin membranes, stable ionomers, and electrodes for low loaded MEAs
- ▶ Detailed ex-situ and in-situ analysis of the developed materials allowing a better understanding of degradation mechanism

#### Future steps

- ▶ Project finished

#### Non-quantitative objectives and status

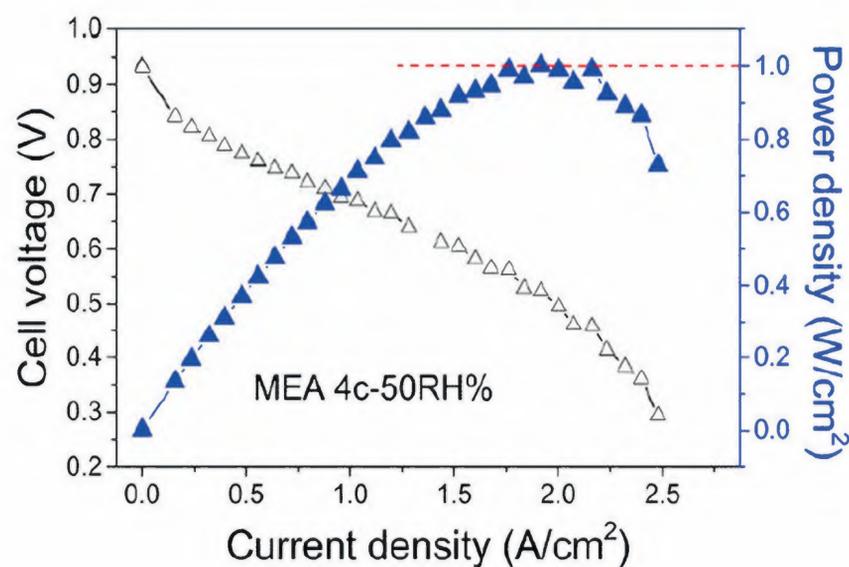
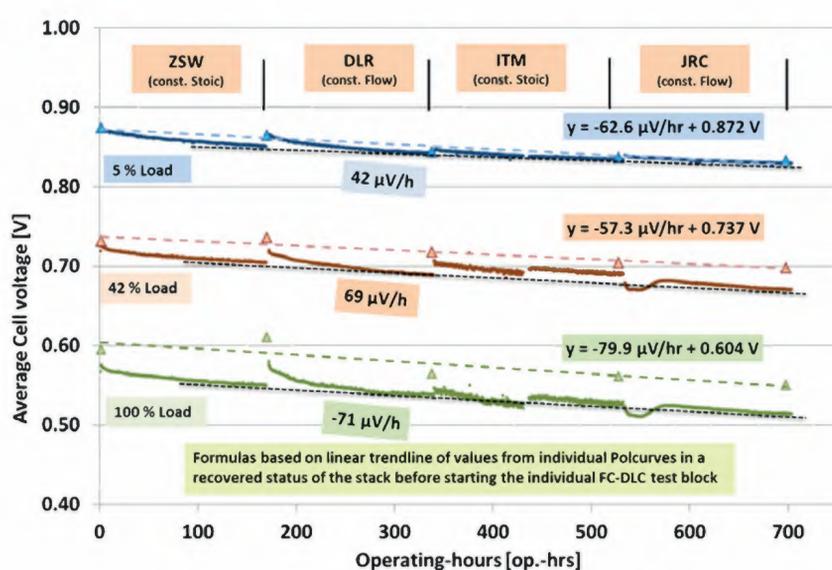
- ▶ Irreversible and reversible degradation mechanism categorisation. Detailed study on reversible and irreversible degradation rates and performance recovery procedures has been performed. The results are published

#### Relevant to FCH JU overarching objectives

- ▶ Reduce the production cost of fuel cell systems to be used in transport applications, while increasing their lifetime to levels which can compete with conventional technologies
- ▶ Increase the electrical efficiency and the durability of the different fuel cells used for power production to levels which can compete with conventional technologies, while reducing costs

#### Quantitative targets and status

Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
MAIP 2008-2013	Stack durability	h	2,500	5,000	1,700	1,700	Not achieved	Test ended due to MEA degradation
AIP 2011	Pt loading	mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	Achieved	Performance target achieved at target loading but not durability
AIP 2011	Power density	W/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	Achieved	In a single cell test at 0.2 mg/cm <sup>2</sup> total Pt loading.





# INSPIRE

## Integration of Novel Stack Components for Performance, Improved Durability and Lower Cost

### Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>INSPIRE</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	700127
<b>Title:</b>	Integration of Novel Stack Components for Performance, Improved Durability and Lower Cost
<b>Call Topic:</b>	FCH-01.1-2015
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 6,9 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 6,9 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 May 2016 - 30 Apr 2019
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Johnson Matthey, United Kingdom
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	VTT, Uni. Montpellier, Sgl Carbon, Albert-Ludwigs-Uni. Freiburg, Reinz-Dichtungs, Tech. Uni. Muenchen, Tech. Uni. Berlin, Johnson Matthey Fuel Cells Ltd, Preteco, Bayerische Motoren Werke, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.inspire-fuelcell.eu">www.inspire-fuelcell.eu</a>

#### Project and objectives

INSPIRE is an industry-led project bringing together the most advanced critical polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cell (PEMFC) stack components capable of delivering on the most challenging performance, durability and cost targets within the next generation of automotive stacks. New catalyst alloys have now met the mass activity and durability targets and will be integrated in membrane-electrode assemblies (MEAs) going forward while new gas diffusion layer (GDL) and catalyst-coated membrane (CCM) optimisation has enabled the project to achieve the 12-month performance target in screener cells. The first generation stack design has also now been designed and is earmarked to be operational by the project mid-term.

#### Major project achievements

- ▶ Interim target of 1.2W/cm<sup>2</sup> power density @ 0.6V met by new MEA designed optimised for project conditions
- ▶ New alloy catalyst has achieved the stability and power density targets at high current density
- ▶ New BPP design is meeting the project specification and is being scaled up for manufacture

#### Future steps

- ▶ Full stack testing for GEN 1.5
- ▶ Deliver scaled up catalyst for GEN 2.0
- ▶ Delivery of thin low EW membrane for GEN 2.0
- ▶ Delivery of GEN 2.0 GDL



#### Quantitative targets and status

Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
AIP 2015	Power density @ 0.6V	W/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.87	1.5	1.2	1.5	Due later	Demonstrated in screener (new GDL and MEA optimisation); to be confirmed in stack
MAWP 2014-2020	Performance loss over 6,000 hours	%		10		10	Due later	Not yet assessed
Project's own	Mass activity (MA)	A/mg	0.24	0.6	0.42	0.6	Due later	Interim target of 0.44A/mg not yet met but very close
MAWP 2014-2020	Pt loading	mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.45	0.125	0.30	0.12	Due later	Interim target of 0.25mg/cm <sup>2</sup> not chosen to maximise cost/performance benefit
MAWP 2014-2020	Cost @ 50,000 units/year	€/kW		50		50	Due later	Not yet assessed

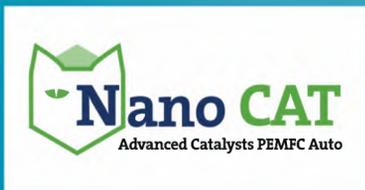
#### Non-quantitative objectives and status

- ▶ Scale-up best performing catalyst for stack MEAs  
One alloy catalyst has passed through the performance and durability stage gate and is being scaled up for MEA optimisation and testing
- ▶ Develop two new generations of bipolar plates (BPP) for automotive stacks  
First generation BPP to be implemented in GEN1.5 and GEN 2.0 stack now designed and undergoing manufacture. Stack testing now due in September 2017
- ▶ Quantify and model the changes in catalyst structure  
Model platform agreed and initial visualisation completed
- ▶ Dissemination of project results  
2 oral presentations and 4 posters already completed, as well as setting up a public website for the project, plus announcements on partner websites

#### Relevant to FCH JU overarching objectives

- ▶ Reduce the production cost of fuel cell systems to be used in transport applications, while increasing their lifetime to levels which can compete with conventional technologies
- ▶ Reduce the use of the EU defined 'Critical raw materials', for instance through low-platinum or platinum-free resources and through recycling or reducing or avoiding the use of rare earth elements





# NANO-CAT

## Development of advanced catalysts for PEMFC automotive applications

### Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>NANO-CAT</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	325239
<b>Title:</b>	Development of advanced catalysts for PEMFC automotive applications
<b>Call Topic:</b>	SP1-JTI-FCH.2012.1.5
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 4,4 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 2,4 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 May 2013 - 31 Jan 2017
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique et aux Énergies Alternatives CEA, France
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Ass. pour la Recherche et le Développement des Méthodes et Processus Industriels - Armines, C-Tech Innovation Ltd, DLR, Deutsches Zentrum fuer Luft und Raumfahrt, Nanocyl, Volvo Technology, Fundacion Tecnalia Research & Innovation, JRC -Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS, Basic Membranes
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://nanocat-project.eu/">http://nanocat-project.eu/</a>

#### Project and objectives

The objectives of Nano-CAT were the synthesis on new catalyst concept to reduce the loading of platinum in polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cells (PEMFC) and increase durability. The consortium synthesised innovative support (high resistance carbon nanotubes and metal oxide aerogel) and did there functionalisation with platinum nanoparticles. Those new catalysts showed good performances and durability against commercial reference (Pt/C). Finally, those materials were integrated in full 25 cm<sup>2</sup> membrane-electrode assembly (MEA) and advantages in some specific accelerated stressed tests.

#### Major project achievements

- ▶ Low-loaded MEA (0.25 mgPt/cm<sup>2</sup> total) have been produced and gave 750 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>.
- ▶ 1 W/cm<sup>2</sup> in single cell has been achieved under 1.5 bara 50%RH and 80 °C.
- ▶ Functionalisation of highly purified carbon nanotubes with homogeneous repartition of Pt nanoparticles (4 nm) and 40 % weight

#### Future steps

- ▶ Project finished, nevertheless, the tests in stack continue in CEA premise

#### Non-quantitative objectives and status

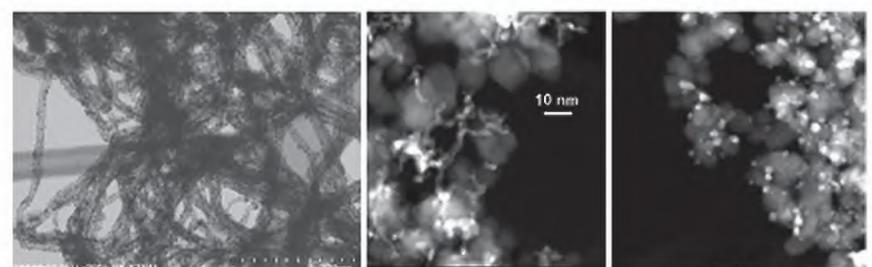
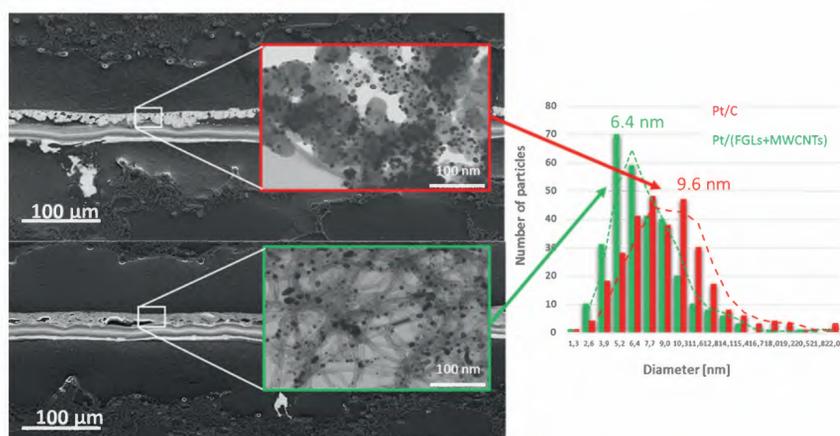
- ▶ Development and validation of testing procedures  
Participation of networking group on the harmonisation of testing procedure in single cell
- ▶ Development of catalyst deposition techniques  
Different techniques have been compared : electrodeposition, PVD, polyol, micelle in different solvents and reactants (green chemistry)

#### Relevant to FCH JU overarching objectives

- ▶ Reduce the use of the EU defined 'Critical raw materials', for instance through low-platinum or platinum-free resources and through recycling or reducing or avoiding the use of rare earth elements

#### Quantitative targets and status

Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
AIP 2012	MEA power density	mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	750	1000	1000	1000	Achieved	@ 2 A/cm <sup>2</sup> , achieved with 0.5 mg Pt/cm <sup>2</sup> total
Project's own	Degradation, loss of performance	%	11	10	10	10	Achieved	For operation @ I <sub>max</sub> (1.4 A/cm <sup>2</sup> ) in ageing test
Project's own	Catalyst stability-residual electrochemical surface area (ECSA)	%	70	70	100	100	Achieved	Better degradation performance vs commercial Pt/C in RDE measurement (nanoparticles diameter 4 nm)
Project's own	Conductivity of metal oxide aerogel	S/cm	0	0.40	0.98	0.95	Achieved	SnO <sub>2</sub> :Sb 5% aerogel (90 m <sup>2</sup> /g) has a conductivity of 0.95 S/cm
Project's own	Power density	mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	/	100	10	10	Delayed	Bioinspired catalyst for ORR performance in half cell
Project's own	Current density	mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	/	100	35	35	Delayed	Bioinspired catalyst for HOR performance in half cell
Project's own	Pt loading	g/kW	/	0.1	0.3	0.3	Delayed	MEA with 0.25 mg Pt/cm <sup>2</sup> total give 0.3 g/kW @ P <sub>max</sub>





# SMARTCAT

Systematic, material-oriented approach using rational design to develop break-through catalysts for commercial automotive PEMFC stacks

## Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>SMARTCAT</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	325327
<b>Title:</b>	Systematic, material-oriented approach using rational design to develop break-through catalysts for commercial automotive PEMFC stacks
<b>Call Topic:</b>	SP1-JTI-FCH.2012.1.5
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 4,8 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 2,4 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 Jun 2013 - 31 May 2017
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS, France
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Basic Membranes, Danmarks Tek. Uni., Mxpolymers, Commissariat à l'Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives CEA, Stiftelsen Sintef
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://smartcat.cnrs.fr/">http://smartcat.cnrs.fr/</a>

### Project and objectives

The consortium aimed to build a new concept of electrodes based on new catalyst design (ternary alloys/core shell clusters) deposited on a new high temperature operation efficient support. In order to enhance the fundamental understanding and determine the optimal composition and geometry of the clusters, advanced computational techniques were used in direct combination with electrochemical analysis of the prepared catalysts. SMARTCat will thus enable to automate the MEA production and build efficient short-stack required for competitive automotive fuel cell operation.

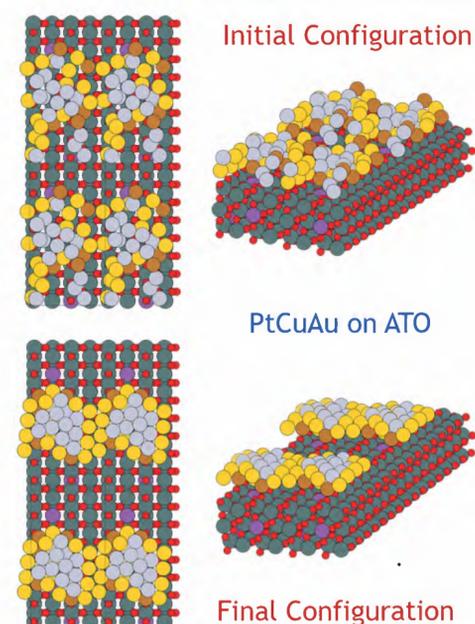
### Major project achievements

- ▶ Development of ternary catalysts and supports with either higher activity or higher stability than Pt/C catalyst
- ▶ Stack 10 cells 220cm<sup>2</sup> active area loaded with 0.18 mg.cm<sup>-2</sup> Pt<sub>3</sub>NiAu 5Wcm<sup>-2</sup> / 1.1 kW = performance of same stack loaded with 0.42 mg.cm<sup>-2</sup> pure Pt
- ▶ Achievement of automated 70 MEA/day with membrane size = electrode size + 5%

### Future steps

- ▶ Project finished

### WP2 & WP3 SMARTCat DFT simulation



### Quantitative targets and status

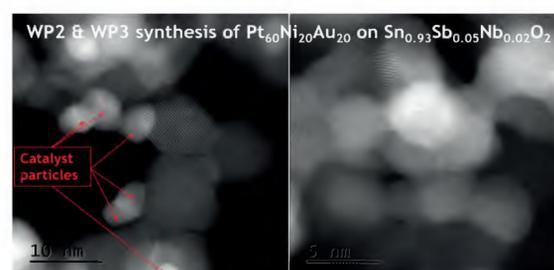
Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
AIP 2012	Catalyst loading	mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	1.4	0.01	0.05	0.05	Achieved	Low loading with significant mass activity.
Project's own	Exchange current density for 0.1mg/cm <sup>2</sup> catalyst loading	mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.00025	0.001	0.001	0.001	Achieved	Best value for ternary catalyst Pt <sub>3</sub> NiAu
Project's own	Kinetic current density @0.9V for 0.1 mg/cm <sup>2</sup> catalyst loading	mA/cm <sup>2</sup>	5.3	12.3	12.3	12.3	Achieved	Best value for ternary catalyst Pt <sub>3</sub> NiAu
Project's own	Mass activity @ 0.9 V for 0.1 mg/cm <sup>2</sup> catalyst loading	A/g	54	176	176	176	Achieved	Best value for ternary catalyst Pt <sub>3</sub> NiAu
Project's own	Catalyst support conductivity	S/cm	0.01	0.1	1.45	1.45	Achieved	Through cation doping strategy + modelling the conductivity and stability of the SnO <sub>2</sub> support is tailored by addition of Sb and Nb.
Project's own	Catalyst support surface area	m <sup>2</sup> /g	38	50	100	100	Achieved	High surface area supports (>100 m <sup>2</sup> /g) are obtained by flame spray pyrolysis. Some reduction in surface area by heat treatment
Project's own	Catalyst support pore size distribution	nm	N/A	50	50	50	Achieved	Pore size distribution in the range of 20 - 150 nm targeted. Bimodal distribution achieved by flame spray pyrolysis.
Project's own	MEA production rate	MEA/day	0	60	60	70	Achieved	Using SoA supports and membranes.
AIP 2012	Short stack power density	g kW <sup>-1</sup>	0.1	0.1	0.15	0.15	Select	For Pt <sub>3</sub> NiAu 0.18 mg/cm <sup>2</sup> catalyst loaded 220 cm <sup>2</sup> electrodes

### Non-quantitative objectives and status

- ▶ Stability of ternary PtMeAu/C catalysts upon potential cycling Pt<sub>3</sub>NiAu/C displays higher initial activity, whereas Pt<sub>3</sub>CuAu/C displays higher final activity
- ▶ Atomic arrangement of ternary catalysts using Molecular Dynamics MD simulations are carried out and provide atomic arrangement in line with DFT simulations and electrochemical analysis for PtMeAu (Me = Ni, Cu, Pd)
- ▶ PhD candidate training  
S. Lankiang graduated (PhD) in September 2016

### Relevant to FCH JU overarching objectives

- ▶ Reduce the use of the EU defined 'Critical raw materials', for instance through low-platinum or platinum-free resources and through recycling or reducing or avoiding the use of rare earth elements



### Panel 2 - Research activities for transport applications

<b>Acronym:</b>	<b>VOLUMETRIQ</b>
<b>Project ID:</b>	671465
<b>Title:</b>	Volume Manufacturing of PEM FC Stacks for Transportation and In-line Quality Assurance
<b>Call Topic:</b>	FCH-01.2-2014
<b>Project total costs (€):</b>	€ 5,0 million
<b>FCH JU maximum contribution (€):</b>	€ 4,9 million
<b>Project start/end:</b>	01 Sep 2015 - 28 Feb 2019
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique CNRS, France
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	Uni. Montpellier, Solvay Specialty Polymers Italy, Johnson Matthey, Intelligent Energy Ltd, Elringklinger, Johnson Matthey Fuel Cells Ltd, Pretexo, Bayerische Motoren Werke
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.volumetriq.eu/">http://www.volumetriq.eu/</a>

#### Project and objectives

VOLUMETRIQ is developing a EU-centric supply base for PEM fuel cell stacks and their key components with volume manufacturing capability and embedded quality control. Project electrospun membrane reinforcements have been scaled up and have passed the first level of validation for their integration into the membrane casting line. Catalyst-coated membranes (CCMs) using project ionomers deliver the 24 month target current density in project hardware under target test conditions. CCM cutting and handling processes for high volume production have been identified and are compatible with the automatic stack assembly line.

#### Major project achievements

- ▶ Interim power density target of 1.2 W/cm<sup>2</sup> at 0.6 V is met using project CCMs and membranes optimised for project conditions and project cell hardware
- ▶ Electrospun reinforcement scaled-up to 20 linear m rolls. Proven possible to handle the reinforcement on high volume membrane manufacturing line.
- ▶ Successful feasibility testing of feeding JMFC-produced fully converted CCM rolls into EK automatic stack assembly line

#### Future steps

- ▶ Integrate scaled-up electrospun reinforcement in membrane casting line and qualify the membranes produced
- ▶ Down-select final membrane construction and catalyst layer ionomer for final CCMs
- ▶ Produce CCMs for short stack using optimised ionomers in membranes and catalyst layers
- ▶ Finalise definition of production process, quality methodology, bipolar plate production and stack assembling processes
- ▶ Manufacture and validate optimised bipolar plate



#### Quantitative targets and status

Target Source	Parameter	Unit	Starting point	Target for project	Achieved to date in project	Best est. of final project result	Target: status on May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	Description
MAWP 2014-2020	Power density @ 0.6 V in single cell	W/cm <sup>2</sup>		1.50	1.23	1.50	Due later	Interim target of 1.2 W/cm <sup>2</sup> at 0.6 V met through ionomer, CCM and GDL optimisation
Project's own	Power density @ 0.6 V in short stack	W/cm <sup>2</sup>		1.50		1.50	Due later	Not yet assessed
AIP 2014	Cost @ 50,000 units/year	€/kW		100		100	Due later	Not yet assessed Expected through increased power density, reduced reject rates, supply chain manufacturing process development to TRL7
AIP 2014	Durability	h		5,000		5,000	Due later	Not yet assessed
AIP 2014	Stack TRL	None	5.00	7		7	Due later	Not yet assessed
AIP 2014	Scrap rate	%		5		5	Due later	Not yet assessed

#### Non-quantitative objectives and status

- ▶ Scale-up electrospun PBI reinforcements  
20 linear metres produced, roll-good, with successful manufacturing assessment for feed of the reinforcement into the coating line
- ▶ Develop ionomers with tuned properties for membrane and catalyst layer  
Optimisation and testing led to down-selection of Aquivion EW 750 g/mol for membranes. High oxygen permeability (CL) ionomers under development
- ▶ Selection of GDL  
The GDL type turned out to be a critical factor in successfully achieving the 24M power density target with project CCMs and project hardware
- ▶ Dissemination of project results  
The project has disseminated results through its website, brochure, newsletter, at 6 conferences and at 3 trade fairs

#### Relevant to FCH JU overarching objectives

- ▶ Reduce the production cost of fuel cell systems to be used in transport applications, while increasing their lifetime to levels which can compete with conventional technologies
- ▶ Reduce the use of the EU defined 'Critical raw materials', for instance through low-platinum or platinum-free resources and through recycling or reducing or avoiding the use of rare earth elements

