



Press Release

Brussels, 4 October 2011

The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking will be driving a hydrogen-powered fuel cells car

The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) received today a hydrogen- powered fuel cell car on lease, which will serve to demonstrate the readiness of this technology to EU policy makers and citizens. The car will be available for testing by Members of the European Parliament, Commissioners, EU Officials and other policy makers.

Fuel cells and hydrogen technologies are bringing a step change towards green mobility, notably in urban environments: these vehicles do not produce any emissions, in addition to being a quasi- silent drive.



Hydrogen-powered fuel cells car leased to FCH JU© Hyundai

This electric car offers driving patterns, comfort, size, and refuelling time similar to those of traditional cars.

The tank is filled with gaseous hydrogen, 5.6 kg for a full tank which could offer a range of more than 500 km.

The car has zero emissions and is silent.

Bert De Colvenaer, Executive Director of the FCH Joint Undertaking, underlines: *"It is very important for us to show the technology we are supporting since years is becoming reality today. It is equally important to offer to people the opportunity to experience for themselves such an innovative car as "seeing is believing".*

The main constraint we are facing here in Brussels is to refuel the car with hydrogen. In that respect, we are working in close cooperation with WaterstofNet to ensure access to hydrogen on a permanent basis. WaterstofNet works together with industrial partners to provide sustainable hydrogen production and applications in Flanders and South-Netherlands,"

Chang Kyun Han, President of Hyundai Motor Europe, said: *"We are delighted that the Hyundai ix35 FCEV has been chosen by the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking as its European demonstration vehicle. Hyundai has become a world-leader in the development of hydrogen powered technology since the introduction our first FCEV in 2000, and we operate a dedicated fuel cell research centre in Korea. We fully support the FCH JU's efforts to promote the benefits of hydrogen and fuel cell technology to leading policymakers and opinion formers".*

Background

The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking was established on 14 October 2008 as the first illustrative example of a public-private partnership instrument under the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan), technology pillar of the EU's energy and climate policy. The FCH JU aims to speed up the development of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies in Europe to enable their commercialisation as of 2015. Current membership includes the European Commission and 56 companies, from multinationals to SMEs represented by the Industry Grouping (NEW-IG), as well as 66 universities and research institutes, represented by the Research Grouping (N.ERGHY) engaging more than 2000 researchers in the field of fuel cells and hydrogen.

For more information

The FCH JU will be present during the Innovation in Action event organised in the European Parliament from 4 to 6 October 2011. During these days, the Fuel cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking together with the 4 other Joint Technology Initiatives will host a conference in the Parliament on 5 October and will take part in an exhibition. The exhibition aims to showcase the technologies and explain how the public private partnership is operating to accelerate their deployment. The hydrogen-powered fuel cells car will be displayed in front of the Parliament, Place du Luxembourg and drives offered to interested officials and participants.

For more information, please visit www.fch-ju.eu.

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