

Innovative back-up System for a 50 kW off-grid electrolyser directly linked to PV

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WHO ARE WE?



Fundación Hidrógeno Aragón

It is a **private**, **non-profit** organization, created to promote the use of hydrogen as an energy vector.

Promoted by the Government of Aragon it was **founded in 2003** with the support of the administration, industry and the main society actors from different sectors of activity.

70 members of key importance for the Aragonese economy





Installations

Main building: 1200 m², with offices, labs and warehouse.

Integrated in the ITHER project, which is a demonstration project with a renewable energy infrastructure based on a wind farm 635 kW and a 100 kW photovoltaic system with different technologies linked to a hydrogen production facility compression (up to 350 bar) and dispensing hydrogen.







Human team

multidisciplinary research team



Areas of work



Development

Innovation

Consultancy and training Business development



On-going projects on Fuel Cells & H₂



Purpose: the **development** and **demonstration** of an autonomous **off-grid** electrolysis system linked to **renewable energy sources**.

The *PEMWE* (Polymer Electrolyte Membrane Water Electrolyser) **industrial prototype** (50 kW) will be **directly linked** to track the solar **photovoltaic** power source producing over 1.5 tonnes of hydrogen per year and ensuring cold start and rapid response to changes

The *demonstration* **period** in a relevant environment (TRL 6) will last **8 months** and will take place in Huesca, Spain.

Supported by:





The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's H2020 Program for the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Technology Initiative (FCH2JU) under grant agreement nº 700359

Grand total: 2.315.217,50 €



WEATHER ROCK ROCK WET... RAIN ROCK WET... RAIN RACK DRY... CLOUDY MAKES SHADOW...SUNNY WHITESNOW TUMPING ...EARTHOUAK GONE....TORNADO

13

Huesca

martes Tormentas dispersas

21^{°CI°F}

Precipitaciones: 90% Humedad: 79% Viento: 16 km/h

Precipitaciones

Temperatura

70% 40% 38% 38% 6% 3% 4:00 7:00 10:00 13:00 16:00 19:00 22:00 1:00 mié. mar. jue. vie. dom. mar. 1.1 21° 13° 20° 12° 23° 14° 24° 14° 26° 15° 26° 16° 24° 14° 24° 14°



Viento

Efficient and reliable production of hydrogen in off-grid installations. ELY4OFF Project











- An in-depth assessment of the best options available for the DC/DC conversion linking the PV plant with the stack has been conducted. 13 prototype modules has been built.
- ✓ A large-scale reduction of kWh required for frost protection has been achieved in the BoP
- ✓ Several energy storage architects have been assessed → finally the backup several will allow 5 days without solar source.
- ✓ One specific business case related to "electrification of isolated areas" has been evaluated through time-step simulations.
- Exploitation strategy has been defined
- Assembly started, soon commissioning

62.5 kWp in 13 strings 450 - 800 V 4.8 kWp per string Eurener Modules 320 W

Challenge 1. Direct DC/DC conversion









Challenge 2. Electrolyzer





Parameter	HGas
Number of Stacks	1
Min H2 Prod (kg/24hrs)	3
Max H2 Prod (kg/24hrs)	28
Water Consump. (I/kg H ₂)	15
Operating Pressure (bar)	20
System Efficiency at Maximum Load	62
(kWh/kg)	
Cold Start (sec)	300
Warm Start (sec)	30
Modulation (sec)	2
Hydrogen Purity	99.999% -
	ISO 14687-2:2012
Electrolyser Packaging	13' ISO Container
Temperature Range (ºC) ²	-15 to + 40
Water Quality	Drinking Water
Certification	CE



Challenge 3. Innovative back-up system



- Essential consumers are: PCS (main and ITM's) & safety devices (< 1 kW), and frost protection (< 1 kW). 24/7
 Batteries storage (Pb-A) and Fuel Cell (4.5 kW) backs-up the system.
- **Priority** is batteries (intra-day) and then Fuel Cell
- Simulations done using ODYSSEY (CEA)





Challenge 4. Overarching control system



 The PEMWE's BOP <u>essential consumptions</u> are covered (PLC, anti-freezing system) as well as the PLCs in the microgrid. 24/7

Idle

Standby

Generation

- The PEMWE's BOP <u>non essential consumptions</u> are covered, as well as those covered in the Idle status
- The PEMWE's stack is **generating hydrogen**, being the BOP consumptions also covered.



Main messages

High System Efficiency

through <u>improved PEMWE</u> and <u>direct</u> <u>DC/DC</u>



Reliable

<u>Hybrid Storage System</u> with enhanced autonomy





Many tanks for your attention,

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