

Hydrogen Energy: research and industry alliance in Bourgogne-Franche-Comté

Involved in national and European technology projects, Bourgogne-Franche-Comté is positioned, with FCLab, since 2005, as an expert actor in fuel cell systems for transport and stationary applications. It is also known for its research approach linked to modelling, experimentation and the optimisation of fuel cell systems and produces about 60% of academic research publications in France. Inclusive, energies concentrate today on economic, efficient, sustainable and viable models of complete systems of production, storage, distribution and use of Hydrogen along with renewable energies. The Bourgogne-Franche-Comté regional innovation cluster is mobilised in order to stay at the first rank of Hydrogen territories.

Bourgogne-Franche-Comté is the 1st industrial region in France relative to the share of the manufacturing staff in the total employees. It has the unusual characteristic of being both one of the most industrial and nature preserved French region. **It is in this fertile environment that two industries form the melting pot of current Hydrogen technology developments.**

First, **the automotive and railway industry**, which is underpinned by expertise in metallurgy, has favoured the building of an industrial fabric which is particularly dense in subcontracting companies. The know-how of these companies enables them to respond to the totality of mechanical and micro technical needs, from plastics processing to composite materials... Second, **the energy production equipment industry**. The leaders of the sector are located, attracted by the proximity of combination of these skills, due to R&D and training capabilities.

ENRgHy, the demonstrated Hydrogen economy

ENRgHy is the response of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté to the call for proposals “**Hydrogen Territory**» launched by the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea, the Ministry of Economy, in May 2016. The objective was to label projects of large-scale demonstration, implementing the Hydrogen energy in the territories in form of clusters.

ENRgHy is the first step in the regional roadmap, coordinated by the regional council, of a regional engagement on the rise of the Hydrogen energy domain on the territory of Bourgogne-Franche-Comté, within the context of energy transition. The deployment of this domain figures among the strategic orientation of the Region in addition to the actions concerning the energy efficiency and the development of renewable energies.

ENRgHy relies on a fertile and pioneer university base. A little less than 20 years ago, at Belfort, the first work on fuel cell systems began. Since then, FCLAB, the technology platform unique in France has doubled its experimental capacity and gathered 140 researchers.

ENRgHy is also the dynamic involvement of the regional industrial companies supported by territorial authorities and institutions. They are creating a diverse and robust cluster supported by the cluster Pôle Véhicule du Futur, The Wind For Future cluster, the University of Technology of Belfort-Montbéliard and the Régional Development Agency among others.

ENRgHy has the ambition to be the proof of the creation of knowledge, economic value and employment by contribution for energy transition and development of sustainable energies. **Specifically, the Region supports the deployment of the Hydrogen energy domain with 6M€ funding (in the 2017 budget.)**

ENRgHy will enable financing 7 projects involving 3 regional territories.

Whereas the urban area of Belfort-Montbéliard is consolidating its global place with fuel Cell systems platforms of testing and integration, at **Dole**, industrial and institutional interests aim to demonstrate the efficiency of an industrial domain based on the Hydrogen economy. In the **Yonne** department, there is a double objective.

This means, managed by smart grids, on one hand, to couple the sources of renewable energy - methanisation and wind - and Hydrogen, and on the other hand to supply the urban bus network with the Hydrogen.

hydrogene.ardfc.org

« Our ambition is to pursue structuring, innovation, industrialisation, training and promotion of this domain in order to produce a cutting-edge domain at the national level and beyond »

Marie-Guite Dufay, The President of the Bourgogne-Franche-Comté regional council

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