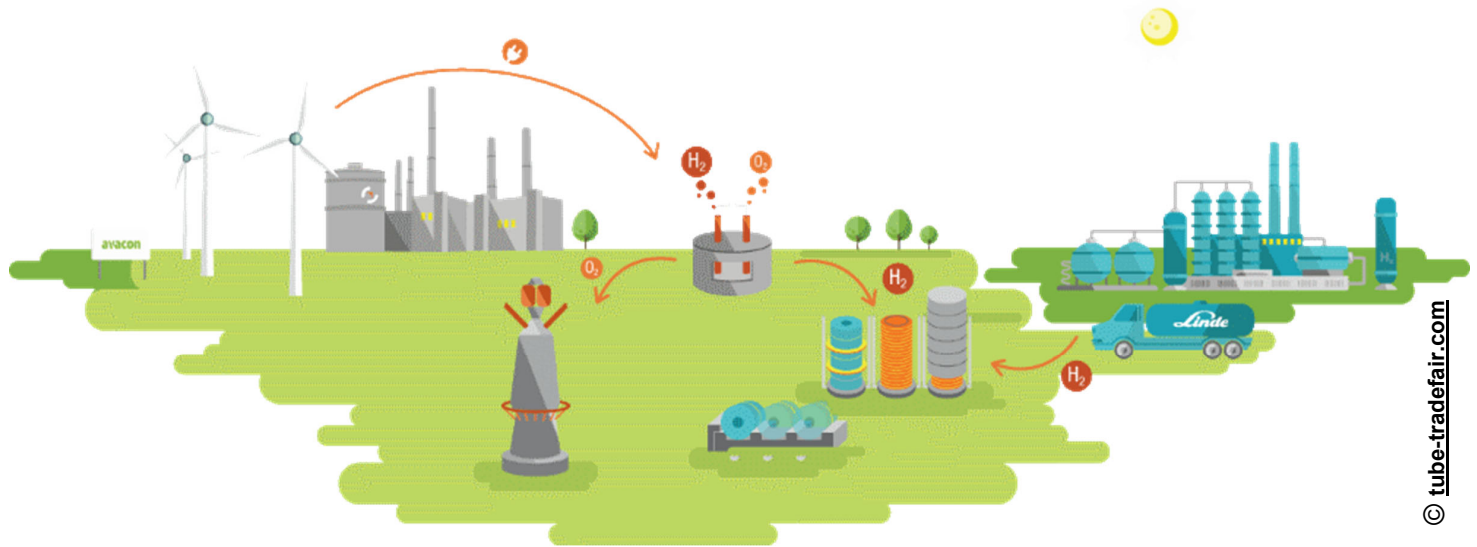


Hydrogen – Markets and Infrastructure



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



Prof Dr Robert Steinberger-Wilckens
Centre for Fuel Cell & Hydrogen Research
University of Birmingham



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Overview

- hydrogen uses
- hydrogen markets and pricing
- hydrogen handling and distribution

Hydrogen Applications in Industry

- Ammonia synthesis
- Crude oil refining
- Methanol production
- Hydrogenation of fats in food processing
- Metallurgy
- Cooling in gas turbines
- Production of artificial diamonds
- Chemical industry
- Energetic use
- Town gas

Global Hydrogen Markets

94 Mt is equivalent to 1,050 billion cbm, i.e. the size of the European natural gas market

40% refineries

40% fertilizers (Urea)

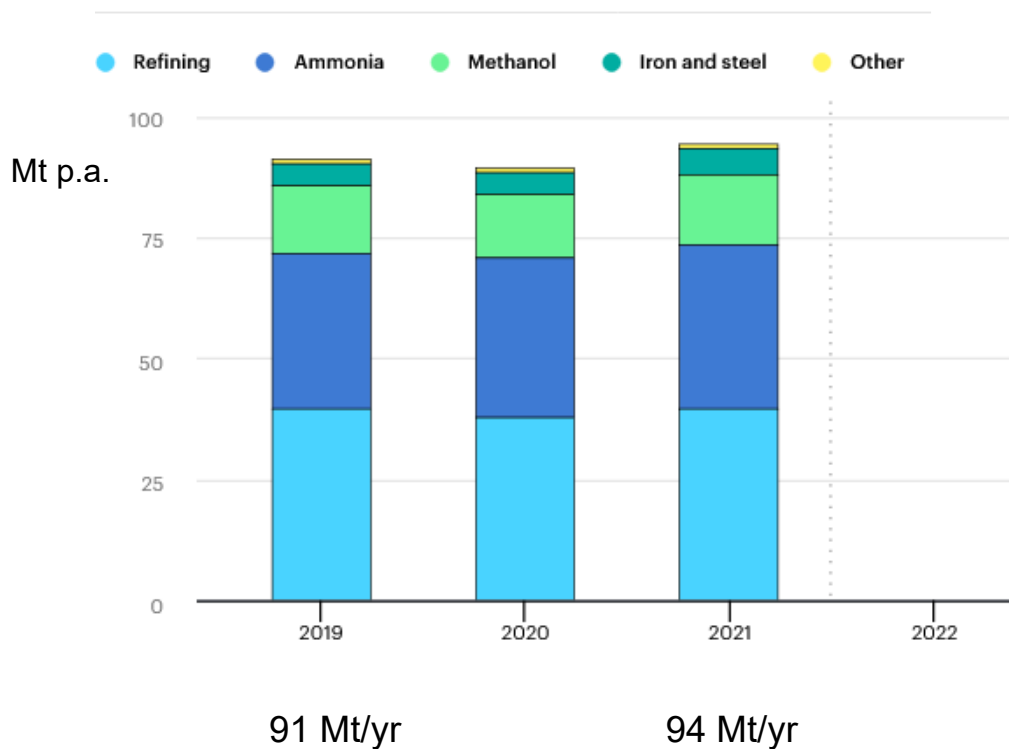
15% methanol

5% iron and steel

0.04 % others = DRI, FCEV, HT heat in industry

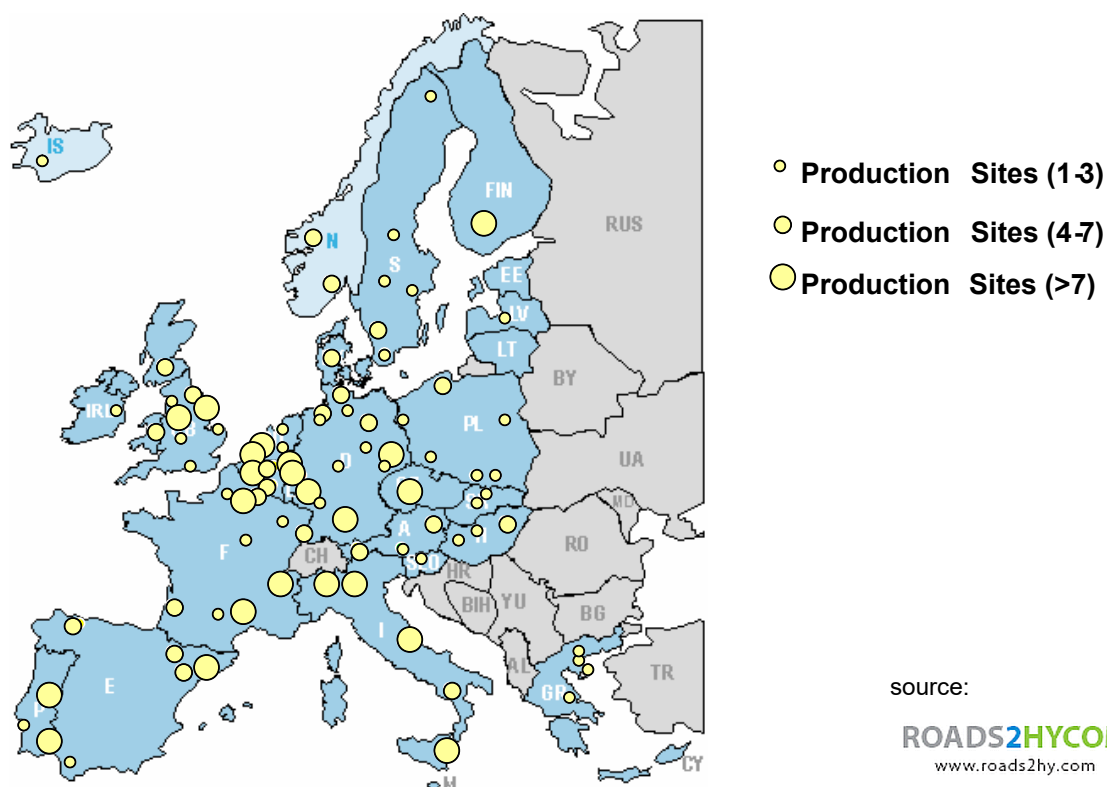
-> 40 kt in 2021

Global Hydrogen Markets

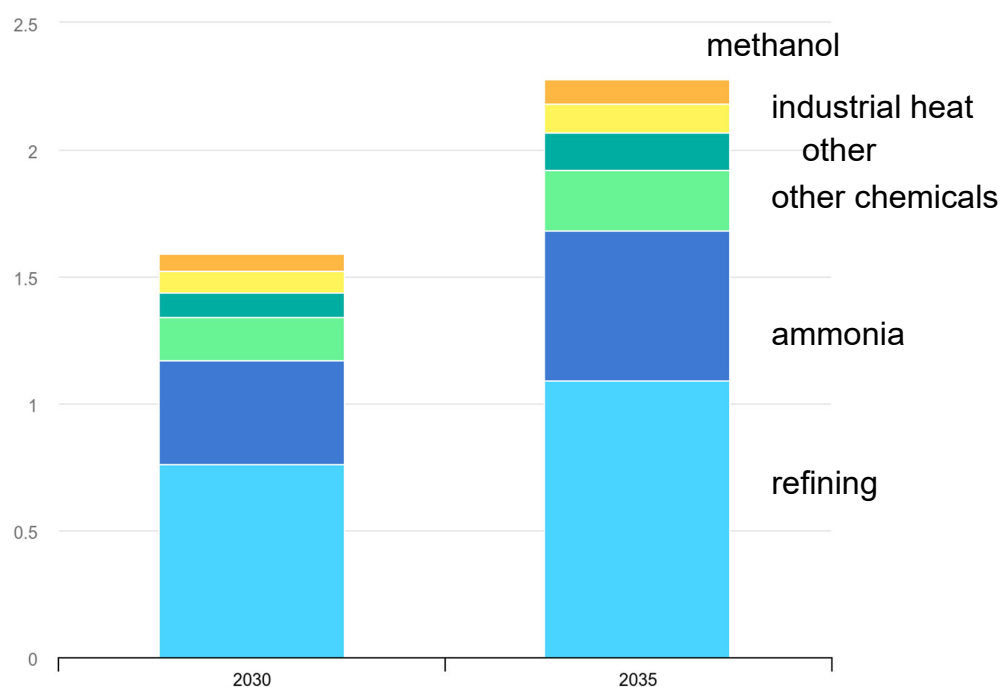


source: IEA

European Hydrogen Production Sites



Global Hydrogen Applications



data source: IEA

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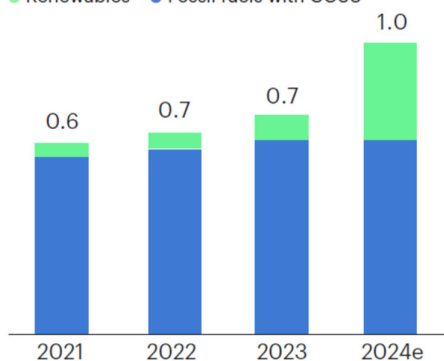
Global Hydrogen Markets

Production

Low-emissions hydrogen

Mtpa

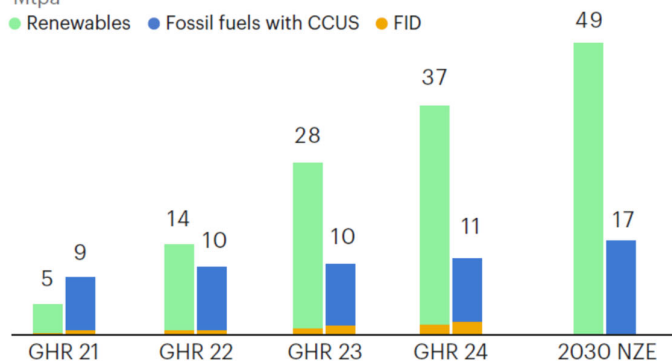
Renewables Fossil fuels with CCUS



Low-emissions hydrogen production from announced projects by 2030

Mtpa

Renewables Fossil fuels with CCUS FID



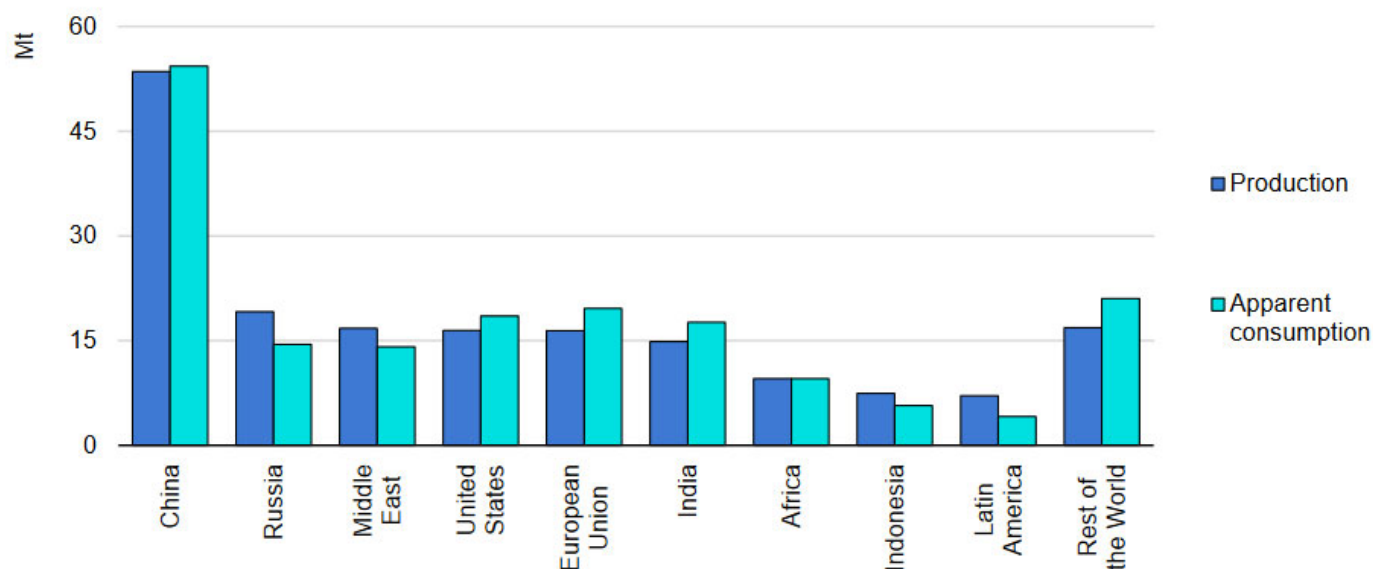
source: IEA

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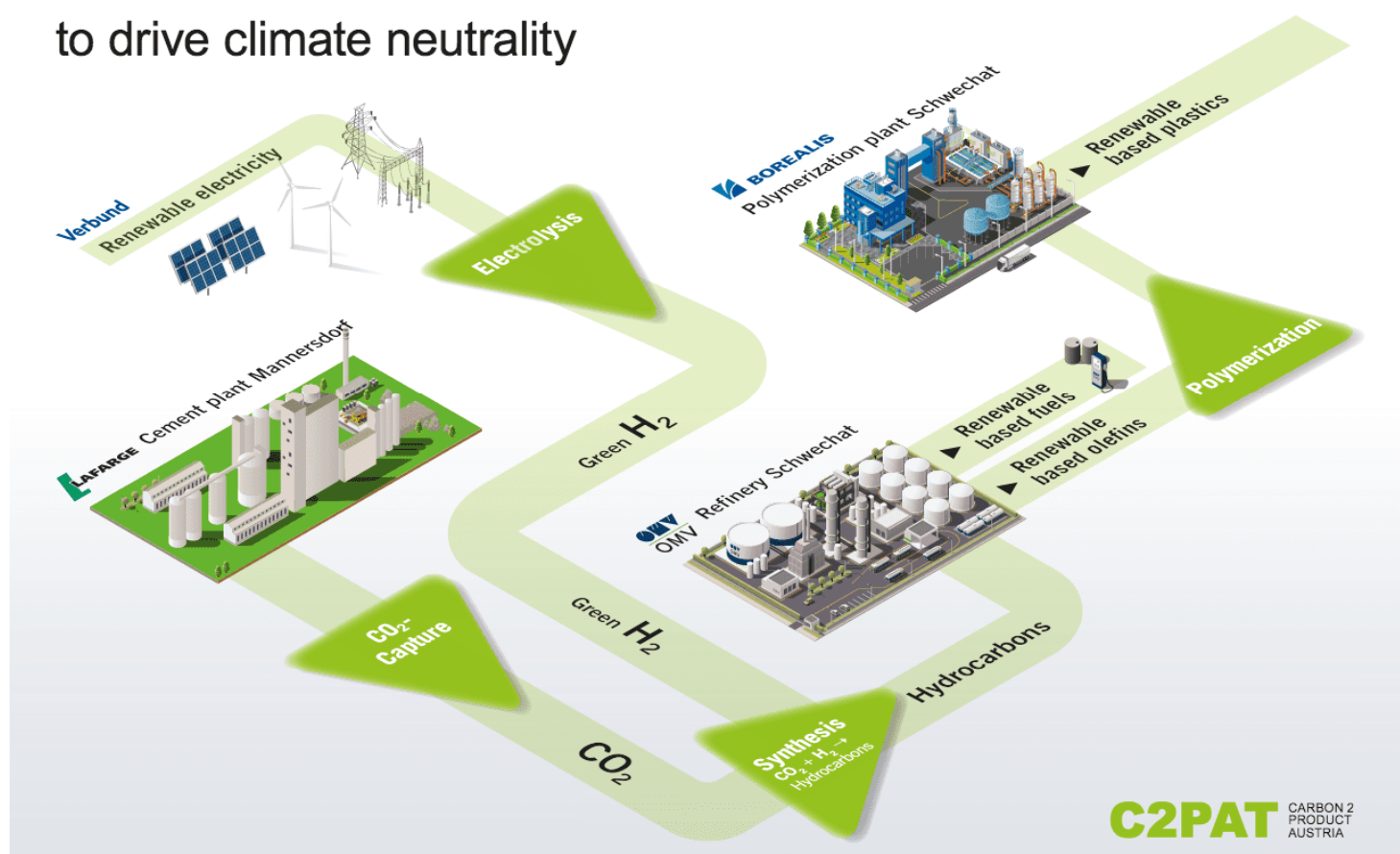
Global Ammonia Markets



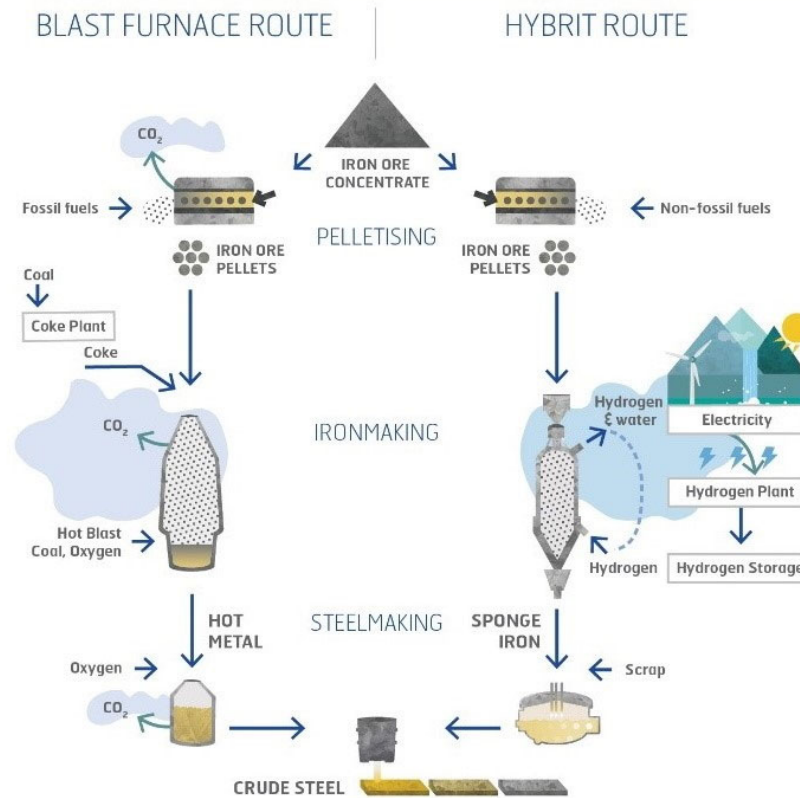
total ~ 200 Mt/yr

IEA, 2021.

Cross sectoral value chain to drive climate neutrality



Green Steel Making



source: fchea.org

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Hydrogen Fuels



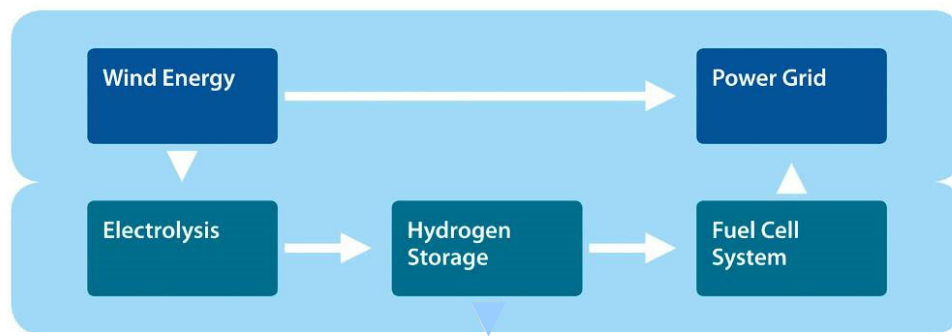
10% of global total hydrogen consumption

sources: autoesporte.globo.com,
zimone.ws, evcentral.com.au,
transportenmilieu.nl/, Alstom

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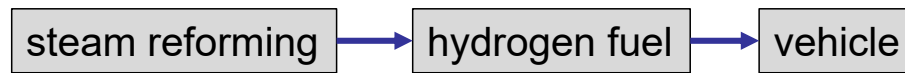
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Renewable Energy – Hydrogen System

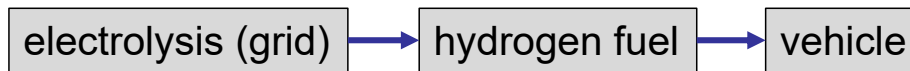


2. Why does the quality of Hydrogen matter?

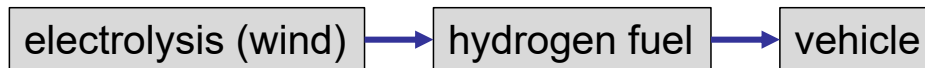
Conversion chains and carbon footprint


85%, 250 g CO₂/kWh

ICE 20%
FCEV 50%

250 g CO₂ / km
100 g CO₂ / km

65%, 150 g CO₂/kWh








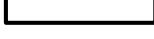
ICE 20%
FCEV 50%

200 g CO₂ / km
80 g CO₂ / km

65%, 10 g CO₂/kWh

ICE 20%
FCEV 50%

12.5 g CO₂ / km
5 g CO₂ / km

Colours of Hydrogen

	MSR of natural gas
	MSR of natural gas with CCS
	electrolysis with renewable electricity
	electrolysis with nuclear electricity
	pyrolysis of hydrocarbons
	from coal gasification
	from PV electricity
	found in nature

Certification of Hydrogen Origin

- guarantee of 'premium quality'
- 'premium' attribute helps to address first markets with high quality standards

,Green' vs. ,Low Carbon' attribute

- pushback on use of 'colours'
- lobbying to bring non-renewable sources into the picture:
 - nuclear
 - CCS

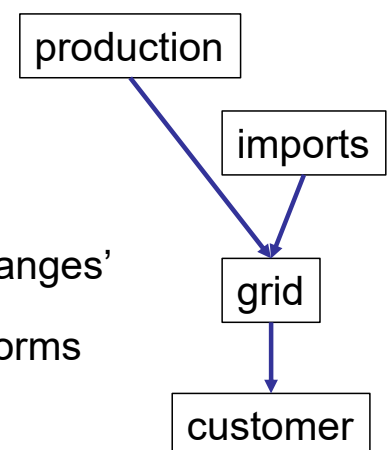
UK Low Carbon Standard

- UK (Sunak) Government:
"New UK certification to boost British hydrogen sector"
- introduces more than renewable energies
(i.e. pink and blue hydrogen)
- constitutes a 'diversion' from the EU standards
- prevents hydrogen exports to EU

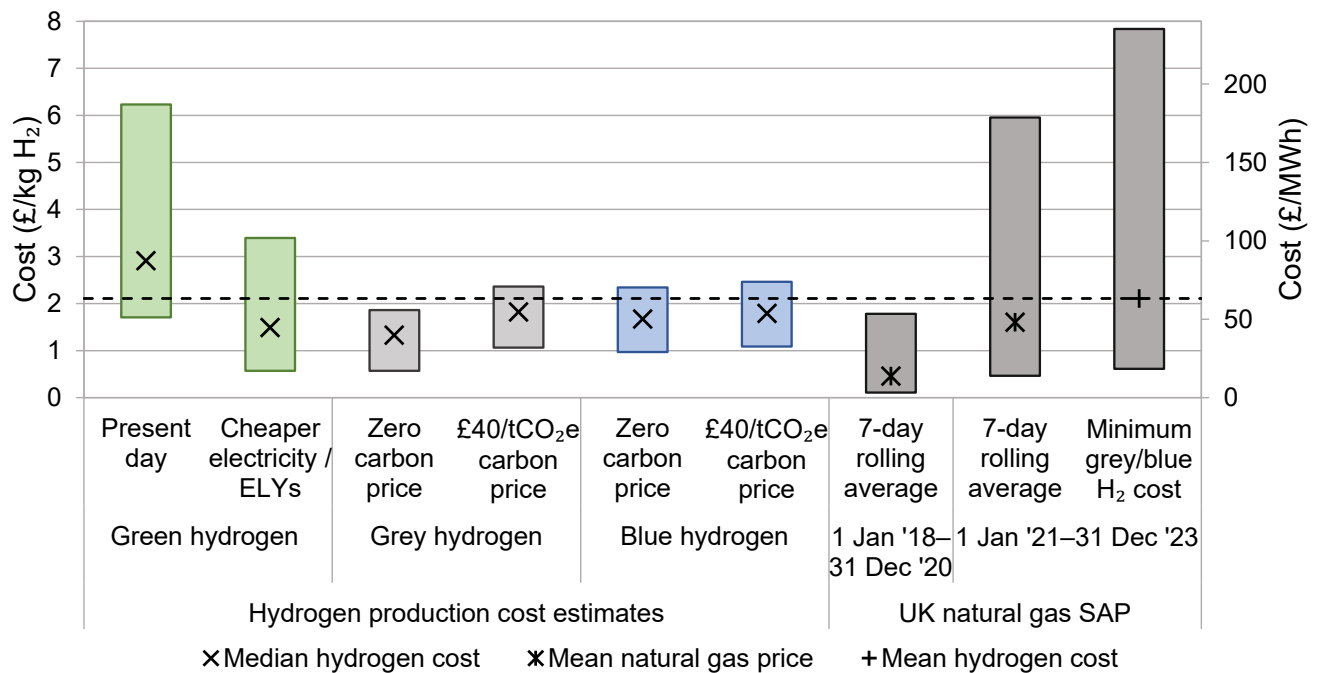
3. Hydrogen Markets and Pricing

Energy Markets and Hydrogen

- energy markets work with an infrastructure
- market participants 'feed in' to the grids
- market prices are determined at 'energy exchanges'
- commodity markets work with wholesale platforms (market places)
- hydrogen is perceived as an energy carrier, but the hydrogen market currently works like those for commodities – transport from source to user is on the supplier
- this will change with the advent of infrastructure



Cost of Hydrogen



source: Walton/Steinberger-Wilckens

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Price of Hydrogen

production	transport	retail	margins	tax/levies
------------	-----------	--------	---------	------------

1£/kg

1 to 4 £/kg

0 to 2 £/kg

%%

VAT, CO₂

typical for HRS across EU: € 10/kg

green hydrogen

2£/kg → price increase ~ 10 to 20%

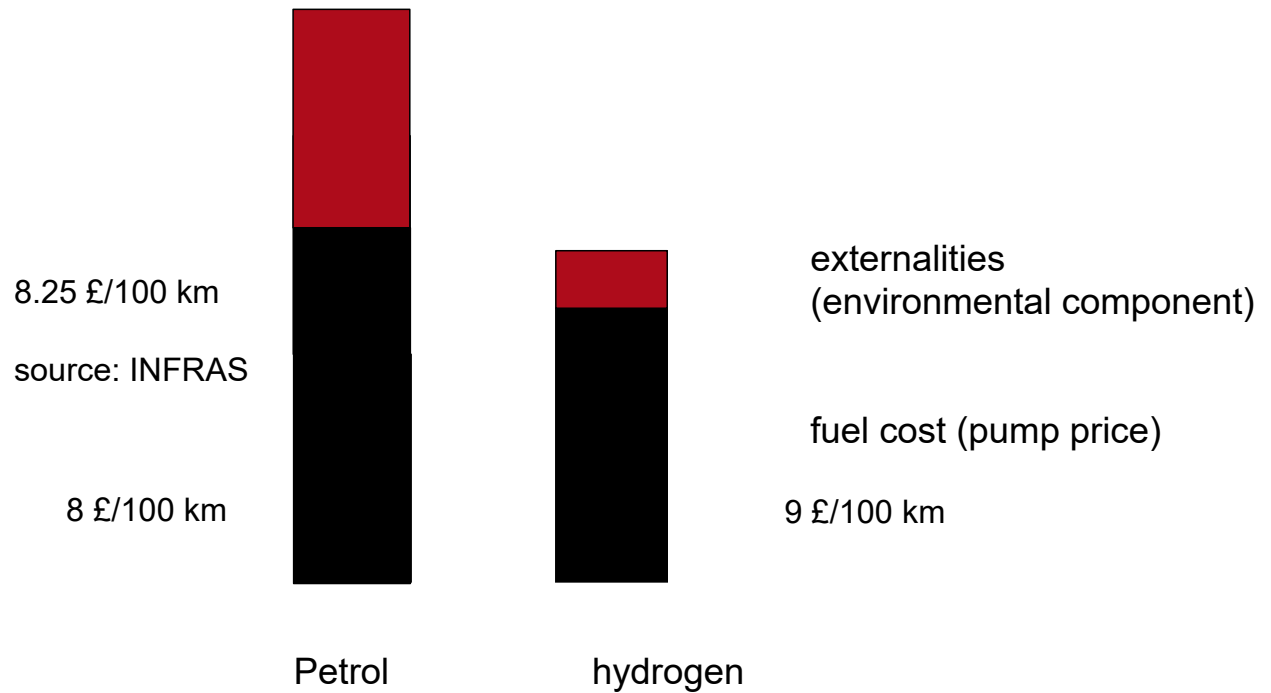
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Externalities of Passenger Vehicle

values for Daimler A-class (2007) / (2022)

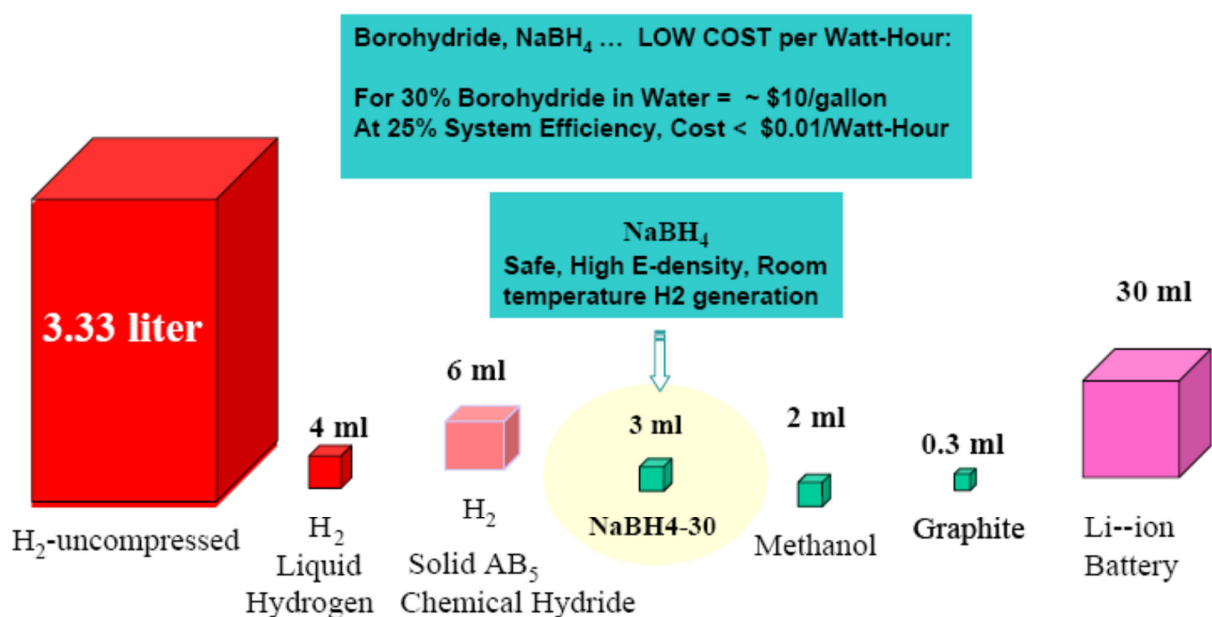


3. Hydrogen Handling

Hydrogen Storage

- compressed gas (CGH₂)
200 bar, 250 bar, 350 bar, 500 bar, 700 bar (10,000 psi)
- liquified (cryogenic) (LH₂)
- ab- or adsorption on solid (MeH)
- chemical compound

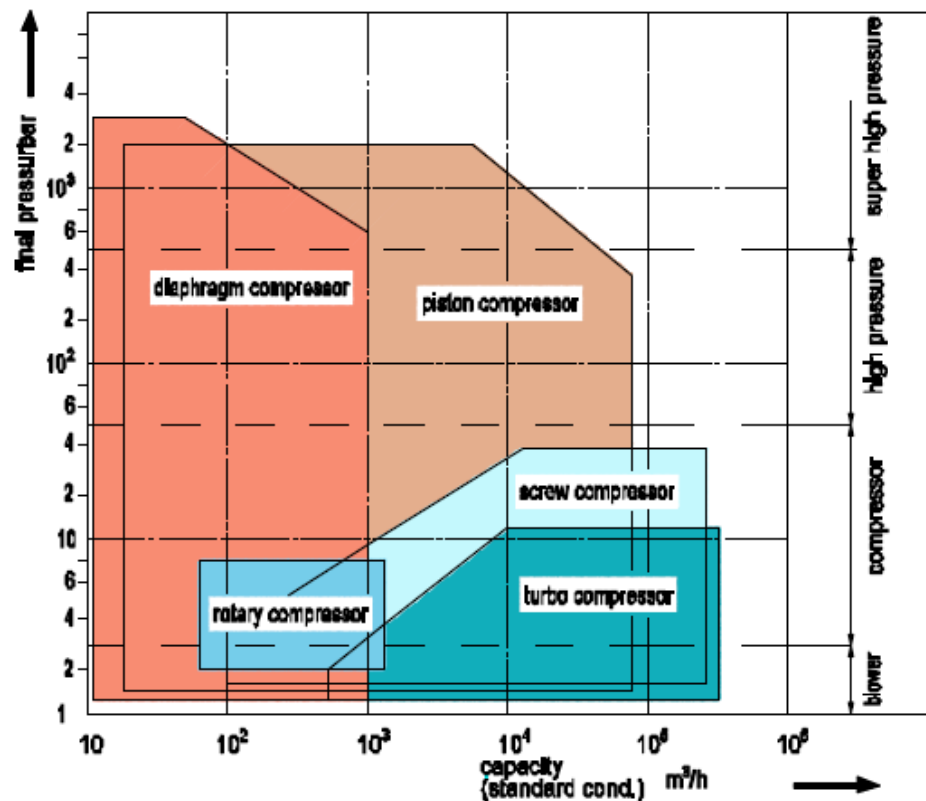
Hydrogen Storage: Energy Density



Volumes of different Fuels equivalent to ~10 Watt-hours of Electrical Energy
at 100% Chemical to Electrical Conversion Efficiency.

Source: AZ State Univ

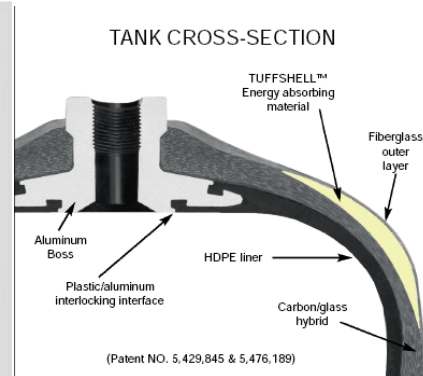
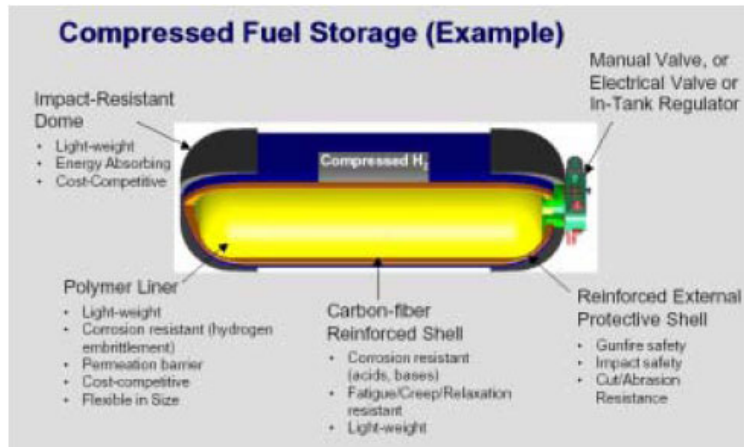
Hydrogen Compression: Choice of technologies



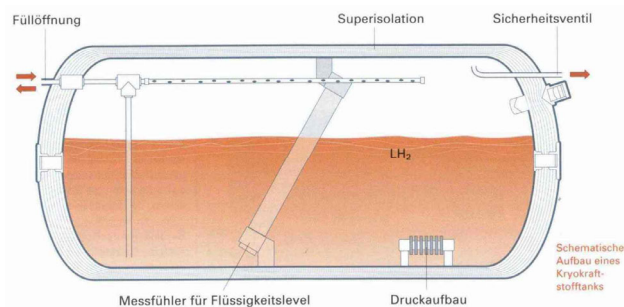
Pressurised Electrolysis

- High pressure, high temperature
- High efficiency due to high partial pressure at electrodes
- Low compression energy due to fluid compression
- Production of pressurised hydrogen at 30 to 100 bar

Hydrogen Pressure and Cryogenic Storage



Type IV CHG tanks



(Photo)graphs courtesy of Quantum, Tuffshell, DoE, and hydrogeit

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LH₂, LNG and Ammonia Transport

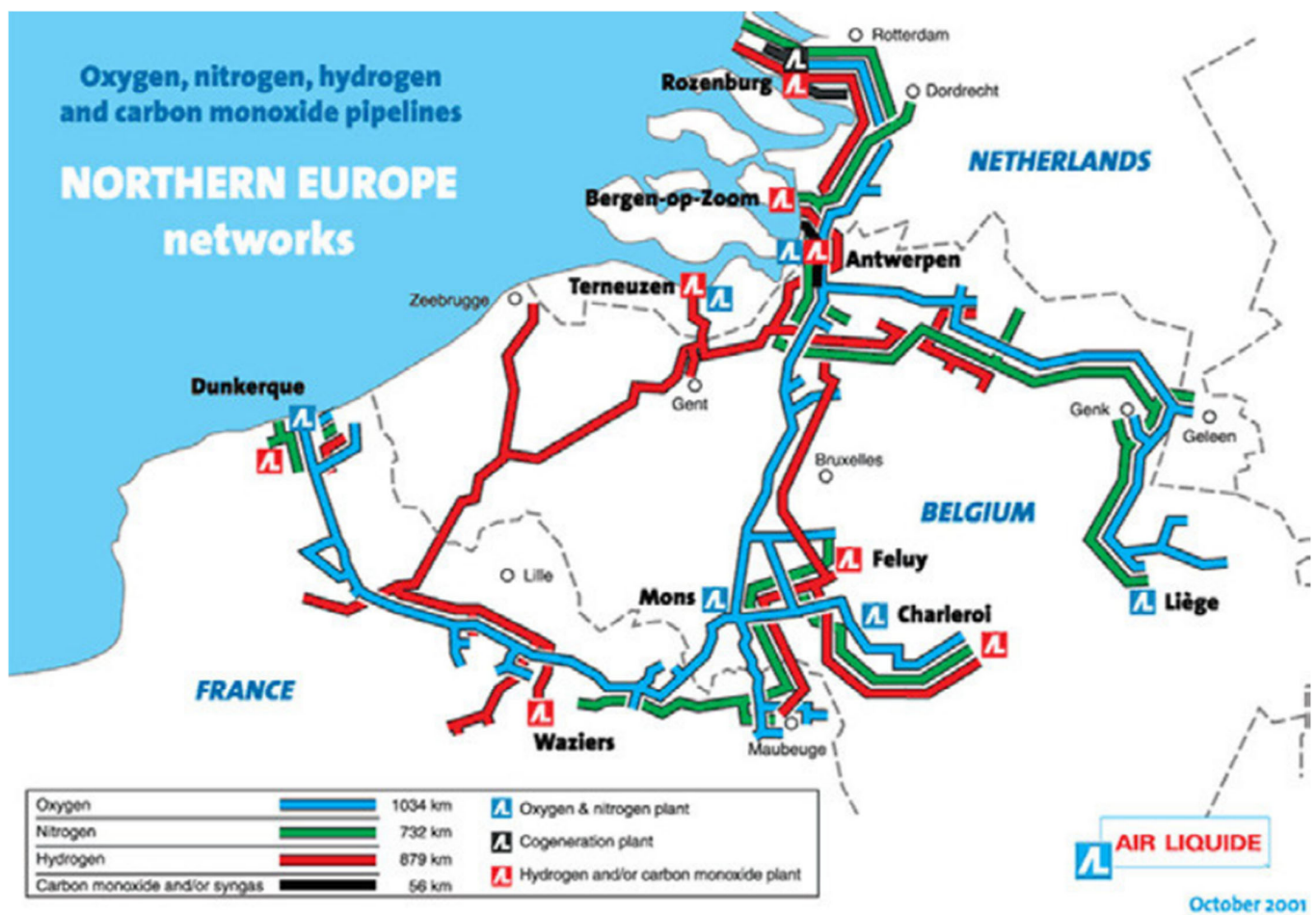


sources: fuelcellworks.com, various

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Map courtesy of Air Liquide

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Netherlands ,H2 Backbone' Plans 2030



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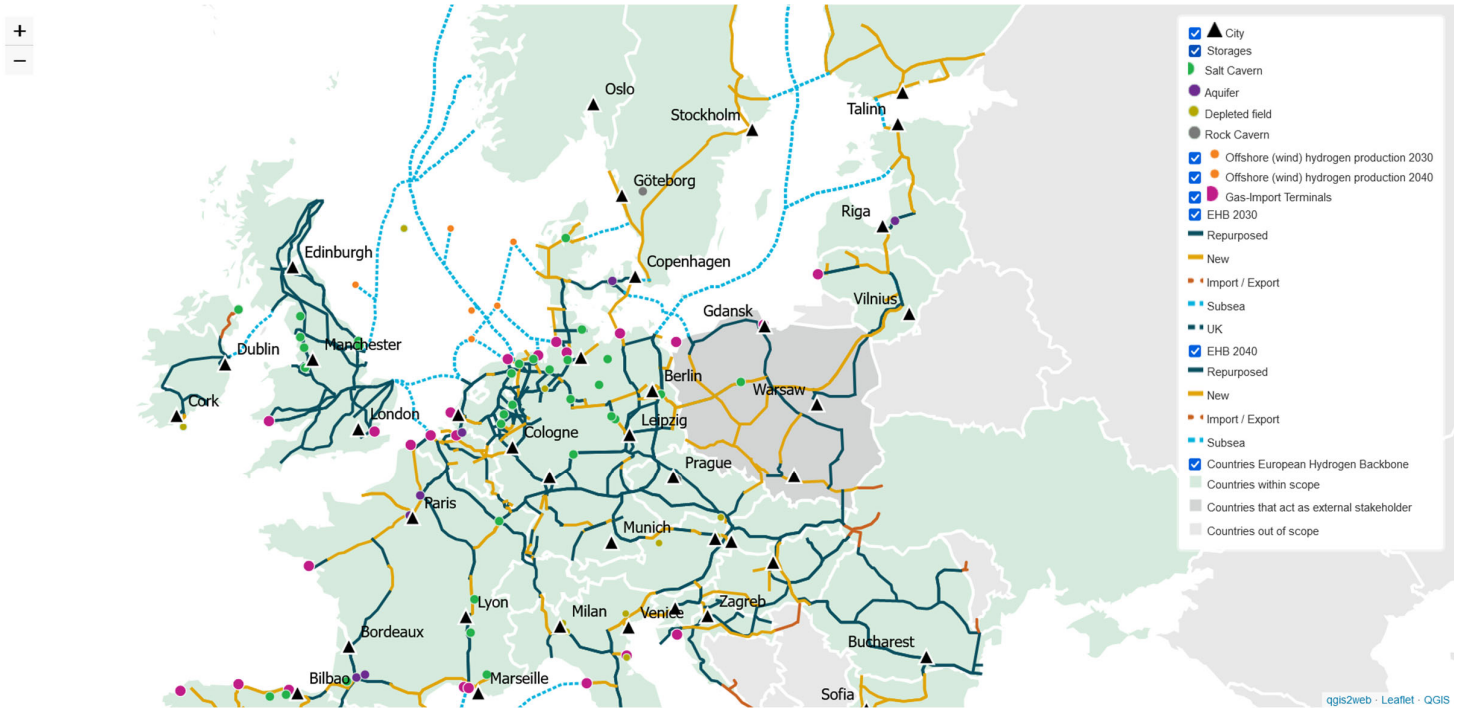


source: GasUnie

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European 'H2 Network' (backbone) Plans



source: EHB.eu

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source: NDR, Jutta Przygoda

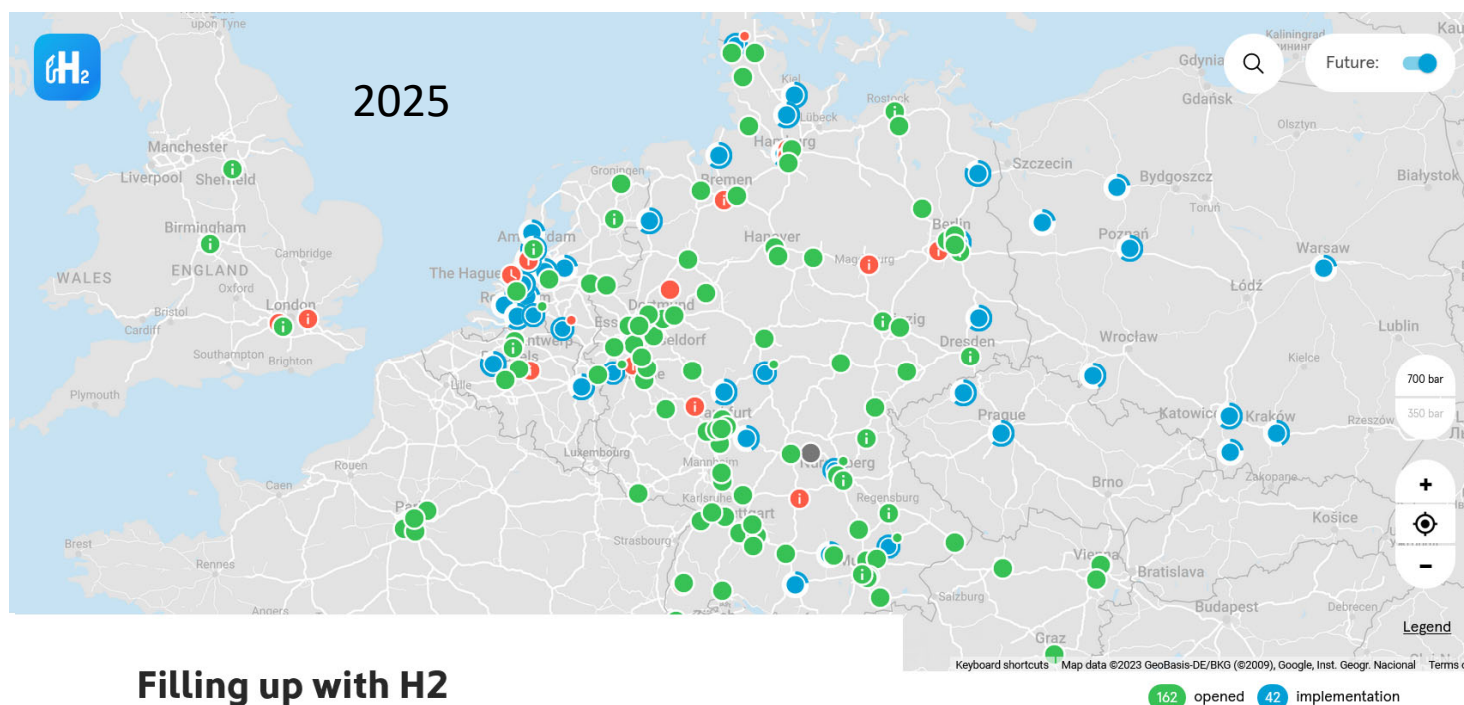
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European Hydrogen Refuelling Stations



Filling up with H₂

Source: h2.live

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upcoming:

JESS Summer School
14/19 Sept 2025
www.jess-summer-school.eu

series of CPD courses:
to kick off in May/June 2025

Thanks for listening!

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