

PRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE HYDROGEN AND SYNGAS VIA HIGH-TEMPERATURE ELECTROLYSIS Oliver Posdziech

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Heat-to-Fuel interfaces to advanced Power-to-Gas and Power-to-Liquids Technologies (e-fuels), 2021-03-08/09



SUNFIRE INTRODUCTION

SOEC ELECTROLYSER TECHNOLOGY



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MARKETS AND APPLICATIONS

TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION



SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

AT A GLANCE Sunfire is a leading electrolysis company.

Sunfire at a glance

- Established in 2010, Sunfire is a **leading** electrolysis company.
- Sunfire offers both pressure alkaline (AEL) and solid oxide (SOEC) electrolyzers, providing a unique product portfolio suitable for every hydrogen application.
- Fewer than ten credible electrolysis companies face a politically set EU green hydrogen market of EUR 18 bn until 2030; Sunfire is one of them.
- Green hydrogen from electrolysis is a **once-in-a-generation opportunity**.





OUR MISSION

We provide superior electrolysis solutions to produce renewable hydrogen and e-Fuel



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TECHNOLOGY COMPARISON

SOEC and Alkaline each have individual strengths that are valued by customers



Core Advantages

- Highest conversion efficiency $(84\%_{LHV to AC})^{2)}$
- · Industrial off-heat integration via steam provision
- · CO₂ reduction capability



Core Advantages

- Proven technology (> 20 years)
- \cdot Competitive price (650 EUR/kW_{AC})
- Pressurized hydrogen production (30 bar)

1) External vaporization lowers energy demand by 16% while better kinetics allows additional efficiency increase. In total, SOEC provides > 20% more hydrogen or syngas output per kWh_{el} 2) Referring to overall system efficiency given steam @ 150°C and atmospheric hydrogen pressure



SOEC | DESIGN

Stacks are integrated into modules which are integrated into electrolyzer systems







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SOEC ELECTROLYSER TECHNOLOGY

SOEC outperforms low-temperature electrolysis technologies



- Due to the dissociation of steam,
 SOECs require less energy
 compared to liquid water
- SOEC has a theoretical minimum stack efficiency advantage of 16 % assuming optimal lowtemperature conversion
- One-third of the total energy comes from heat → SOECs require less renewable electricity
- Compared to state-of-the-art low temperature electrolysis, SOECs achieve a 30 % higher conversion efficiency on a system level

UNIQUE FEATURES OF SOEC ELECTROLYSIS Hydrogen and syngas production



Renewable hydrogen as feedstock for industries



Use of steam where waste heat is available → Ideal for coupling with exothermic synthesis processes

Conversion efficiency¹⁾: > 84 %_{LHV to AC} Hydrogen output: 750 Nm³/h (12 modules)

Power consumption: 3.6 kWh/Nm³ Hydrogen quality: > 99.99 Vol.-%

Applications





Electrolyser Generation 2





SynLink

Clean syngas as feedstock for green hydrocarbon products

Direct conversion of CO₂ and H₂O to syngas in one single process step is unique to SOEC.

Conversion efficiency¹: > 82 %_{LHV to AC} Syngas output: 750 Nm³/h Power consumption: 3.85 kWh/Nm³ Syngas (H₂ / CO) ratio: 1.5 ... 3.5

Applications



1) Referring to overall system efficiency given steam @ 150 $^\circ\mathrm{C}$



SOEC ELECTROLYSER TECHNOLOGY Technology status and targets



Efficiency ¹⁾	2020	2025	2030
HyLink	84 %	86 %	88 %
SynLink	82 %	84 %	86 %
Durability			
Stack lifetime Degradation	40,000 h 20 mΩcm² / kh	60,000 h 8 mΩcm² / kh	75,000 h 7 mΩcm² / kh
Levelized cost of hydrogen ²⁾	EUR 5.00 / kg _{H2}	EUR 2.30 / kg _{H2}	EUR 2.00 / kg _{H2}
 Lower heating value to alternating Assuming electricity costs of EUR 3 	g current 35 / MWh		

HyLink efficiency & power consumption: 88 $\%_{LHV,AC}$ \rightarrow 104 $\%_{HHV,AC}$ \rightarrow 3.4 kWh/Nm³ \rightarrow 38 kWh/kg





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Sunfire target markets



- Renewable Fuel Partnership: Strategic bond with Neste, largest renewable fuel producer
- e-Fuel: Production at spots with low electric costs and high RES share
- Paving the path to renewable aviation and maritime transports

1) Cumulated revenues 2020-2030

- efficiency and lowest H₂ costs in the market
- Steel EPC Partnership: Strategic alliance with SMS group – the world's leading steel EPC
- Steel industry is among the largest contributors of greenhouse gas emissions -7-9% of total emissions
- Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) saves up to 95% of CO₂ emissions

- efficiency and lowest H₂ costs in the market
- Refineries need to fully decarbonize their value chain until 2050.
- As per **RED II**, fuel suppliers need to reach an average share of renewables of 14 % in 2030
- · Substituting fossil-based with renewable hydrogen is a low-cost way to increase the share of renewables in transportation.

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MARKETS AND APPLICATIONS

Co-electrolysis: High-efficient Power-to-Liquid applications



- Legacy Power-to-Liquid (PtL) technologies require 3-step process including a CAPEXintensive and inefficient Reverse-Water-Gas-Shift (RWGS) reactor.
- Sunfire's Co-Electrolysis technology results in a 2-step-process with lower CAPEX investments.
- <u>30 % higher efficiency</u> due to fewer process steps and heat integration from downstream exothermic synthesis process (e.g. Fischer-Tropsch)



1) Reverse-Water-Gas-Shift reaction is required in order to generate carbon monoxide (CO)



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MARKETS AND APPLICATIONS

TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK



#1 GrInHy: Production of renewable hydrogen for green steel-making SALZGITTER FORSCHI ING Supply of 100 tons of renewable hydrogen for green steel making. lember of the Salzgitter Group Objective SALZGITTER FLACHSTAHL A Member of the Salzgitter Group Technology 150 kW Sunfire HyLink (2016) and 720 kW Sunfire HyLink Gen. 1 (2020) PAUL WURTH **CAPEX** Total budget EUR 4.5 million (2016) and EUR 6 million (2020); / sunfire tenova Sunfire budget EUR 2 million (2016) and EUR 3 million (2020) Achievements 15,000 hours operating period, efficiency of up to 82 % proven in GrInHy1 Upscaling Salzgitter Steel works has a strategic commitment to achieve zero-carbon steelmaking by 2050 (project name "SALCOS"). Salzgitter 2016 2017 2018 2020 Timeline 1st FCHJU funding Start of operation 2nd FCHJU funding Start of operation

granted

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granted

150 kW HyLink

Production of Renewable Hydrogen and Syngas

730 kW HyLink



#1 GrInHy: Production of renewable hydrogen for green steel-making

- GrInHy1.0 Reversible SOC system with 3 operation modes
 - electrolysis for hydrogen production and downstream injection in pipeline
 - hydrogen fuel cell for power production
 - natural gas fuel cell for power production
- Technical specification

Operation Mode	SOEC mode	H2-SOFC mode	NG-SOFC mode
rSOC AC Power	143 kW	30 kW	25 kW
HPU AC Power	12 kW	-	-
Hydrogen Production	40 Nm³⁄h	-	-
Dynamic Range	50125 %	30100 %	30100 %
rSOC AC Efficiency	84 % _{LHV}	47 % _{LHV}	50 % _{LHV}







#1 GrInHy: Production of renewable hydrogen for green steel-making



Public

Objectives of GrInHy2.0

- Electrolyser scale-up to 720 kW_{eLAC} ۲
- Hydrogen production 200 Nm³/h (18 ٠ kg/h) \rightarrow up to 37 Nm³/h per module
- Efficiency 84 %_{el,LHV} (< 40 kWh_{el,AC}/kg) ٠
- Operating times (target):
 - > 15 000 h system
 - > 20 000 h stack



#2 MULTIPLHY: Renewable hydrogen for a refinery



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SUMMARY

Summary

- SOEC Electrolysis achieves an up to 20% higher efficiency compared to LTE technologies if steam is available → ideal partner to all integrated synthesis processes
- Technology is ready for deployment in large scale, although there are still challenges due to missing long-term experiences
- Hydrogen for refineries offers an immediate CO₂-reduction potential via blend in existing vehicle fleet
- Capability of Co-Electrolysis paves the path to competitive e-Fuels in the transport sector
- Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) process using green hydrogen allows a nearly complete decarbonization of the iron and steel industry



Acknowledgement

The SOC development activities received funding from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking under grant agreement No 826350 (GrInHy2.0) and No 875123 (MULTIPLHY). The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research.









RENEWABLES EVERYWHERE

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