



# INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELLS IN THE ECONOMY

## IPHE Communiqué

### IPHE Joins in Celebrating Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day: October 8

Brussels, October 8, 2018 – Today is “Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day,” a time to highlight the progress in fuel cell and hydrogen (FCH) technologies. Introduced in the United States for the atomic weight of hydrogen – 1.008 – the lightest and most abundant element in the universe, this reflects the date written 10-08 in North America and other countries. The International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy (IPHE), a partnership of eighteen countries and the European Commission, joins in this celebration. There will be hundreds of outreach events, announcements, and press releases expected from around the globe.

Sustained global research, development, and demonstrations by industry and government have led to technology maturity and early market deployment in Asia, North America, and Europe, including:

- Industry shipping over 650 Megawatts of fuel cell units worldwide in 2017;
- Installing 260,000 combined heat and power fuel cells units;
- Deploying at least 8,000 fuel cell electric vehicles are in use around the world;
- Operating nearly 20,000 warehouse materials handling units, back-up power systems, and portable power devices that use FCH technologies;
- Deploying over 200 fuel cell electric buses - and fuel cells are being used to propel trains, trucks, and other forms heavy duty transportation; and,
- Hydrogen being used increasingly to store large quantities of energy.

The signing of the [Hydrogen Initiative](#) by Member States to the European Union at the Informal Meeting of Energy Ministers in Linz, Austria, in September is another indication of the increasing recognition of the role that hydrogen will take in helping economies move to clean, efficient energy and transportation systems, and, industrial processes.

FCH technologies offer a way to enable clean energy systems, to enhance energy security, to address local environmental goals, and to contribute to economic growth. Hydrogen and electricity are two complementary and viable energy carriers available now that can help effectively decarbonize our energy and transportation systems. FCH technologies can use a wide variety of low carbon energy sources, from intermittent renewable electricity generation to biomass to chemical waste streams, store and then provide energy when needed, and in so doing can substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air contaminants. Increasingly, FCH technologies are seen as being able to help integrate clean energy, transportation, industrial processes, and the built environment – often referred to as ‘Hydrogen-at-Scale’, ‘Sector Coupling’ or ‘Hydrogen Society’ – with the goal of sustainable economic growth.

The world has used hydrogen for decades in fertilizer production, petroleum refining, low carbon fuels, food products, chemical processes, semiconductor fabrication, and refined oil products. As hydrogen capacity builds and competitive fuel cell systems continue to develop for portable, stationary power and transportation markets, FCH systems can complement and gradually replace unabated fossil-fuelled systems.

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