

Research

Towards efficient fuel cell systems

Activities in Franche-Comté Region

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Headlines

FC LAB

Regional context
Scientific context
Research & innovation axes
Lighthouse projects







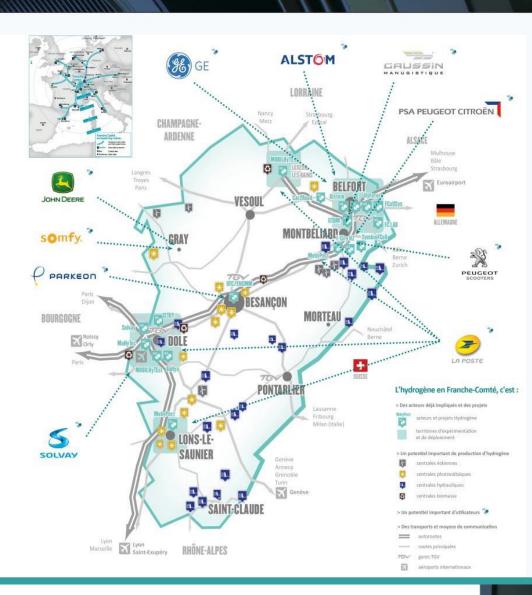




FC LAB

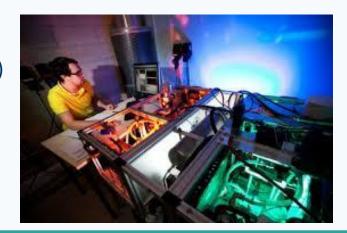
Key features (1)

- Large industries involved in H2-energy (Solvay, GE, Alstom, La Poste, ...)
- SMEs involved in H2 energy (Mahytec, Gaussin, ...)
- State-of-art resident research activity (FR FCLAB, FEMTO-ST, IRTES, IFSTTAR, ...)
- Clusters relating to H2-energy (Vallée de l'énergie, Pôle Véhicule du Futur, INEVA-CNRT, ...)
- Strong involvement & support of local authorities (Région Franche-Comté, Dole/Belfort collectivities, ...)
- Technology demonstration territory (Mobypost EU project, Mobilhytest project, ...)



Key features (2)

- Activities in hydrogen-energy started in 1999 in Belfort
- Nowadays:
 - Respond to remaining technological & societal bolts (e.g. efficiency, durability, hybridization, public acceptance, ...)
 - Maintain our French / European leadership in research around fuel cell "systems"
 - Increase TRL level of available technologies in research labs in line also with FCH JU2
 - Demonstration activities
 - In line with local existing industrial sector (Energy & Transport)
 - Open new common practices & new markets
 - Develop industrial activities on the territory
 - Develop university higher-level education
 (Univ. Franche-Comte Hydrogen-Energy M.Eng. CMI)

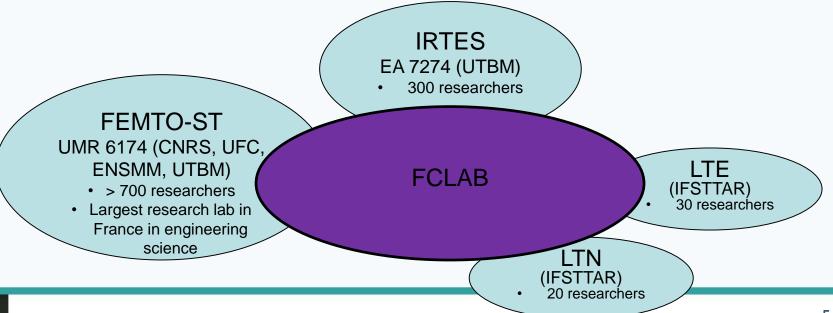


Scientific context



Key features (1)

- FR FCLAB = about 100 researchers, among them about 40 Ph.D. students
- 57 PhD thesis defended since 2004, about 60% of French academic "production" in FC systems
- Over 5M€ annual budget (consolidated)
- 5 public organizations:
 - national-level (CNRS, IFSTTAR)
 - regional-level (ENSMM, University of Franche-Comte, UTBM)
- 4 involved laboratories (FEMTO-ST, IRTES, LTE, LTN)



Technological context

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Key features (2)

- About 1200m² of dedicated testing areas (H2, nanoparticles, electricity, coupling to the grid) + 2000m² of offices (for hosting up to 120 researchers)
- A single & specific unique building at UTBM campus
- >8M€ investments in infrastructure + >5M€ investments in test facilities
- Fuel cell test benches from 100We to 30kWe
- Mobile FC test benches (vehicles) up to 100kWe
- Vibrating table + climate/temperature chambers

Long duration tests (24h/7d) under actual operating conditions (electrical

cycling, thermal cycling, ...)

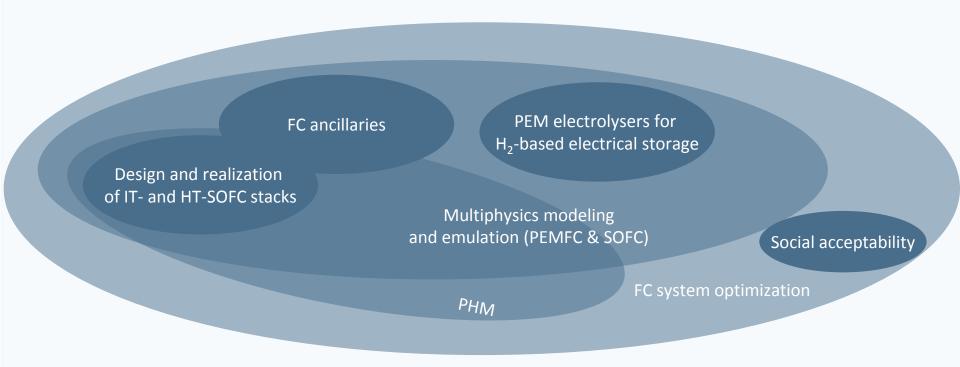




Research & innovation axes



- Complementary research issues, from FC stacks to FC systems (including environment)
- Application fields: transport & energy
- Scientific and technological themes in line with industrial requirements



Headlines

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Lighthouse projects in Franche-Comte Region in last years

•••

A flavor...











Lighthouse projects (1)



H2 energy storage

- High pressure storage and metal hydride systems
- Spin-off from FEMTO-ST/UFC (2008)
- 2014 : 18 peoples
- Turnover = +45% between 2012 & 2013
- Winner, World Innovation Competition 2014



Metal Hydride Tank



Bahya H2 lawnmower(city of Dole - 2010)



H2/FC mini-bar (coffee maker) (SBB - 2014)

Lighthouse projects (2)

AUTOMOBILES (SAM)



- Urban electrical vehicle
- Presented 2011
- Replacement of batteries by a FC system
- Autonomy x2 , ratio autonomy/weight x3,6
- First FC vehicle registered in France











November 2014

Lighthouse projects (3)

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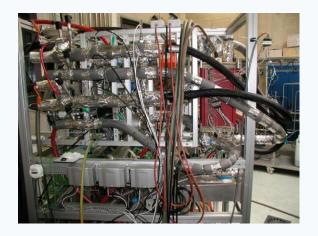
FC on aircraft – CELINA EU Project

- Identification of FC needs for aircraft design
- Investigation of the technical capabilities of an existing fuel cell system under aircraft operating conditions
- Generation of aircraft integration strategies and simulation within the aircraft environment
- Project 2005-2008









Lighthouse projects (4)

Heavy-Duty (military) FC vehicle – FR ECCE project



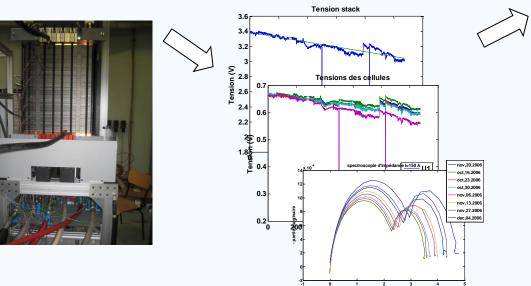


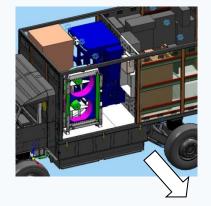
EPANHARD



- Program completed 2012
- Objectives:
 - Durability issues of PEM fuel cell systems in transportation environment
 - Multiphysical modeling (EMR formalism approach)
 - Integration of a high-power PEM fuel cell system on a (military) heavy-duty vehicle (15 tons)
 - Optimization of energy flows (type-2 fuzzy logic control)









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Mobypost project – EU project

- Years 2011→2015
- Objectives:
 - Design an optimized hybrid FC powertrain
 - Energy flow supervision
 - Coupling with renewables (PV panels)
 - Hydrogen production & storage on-site
 - 1st French FCV fleet testing in constrained environment (temperature, power demand)





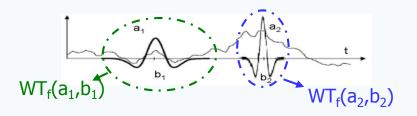




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FC Power Units Diagnostic – EU FCH projects / FR ANR projects

- Years 2007 \rightarrow 2014
- Objectives:
 - Increase durability of fuel cell systems
 - o On-line diagnosis of FC stacks and systems using a minimum number of actual sensors



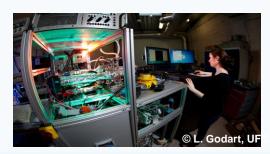
World patents issued!



FC Power Units Prognostic

EU FCH projects / FR ANR projects / ADEME project / FC Regional Council projects

- Years 2012 → 20..
- Objectives:
 - Develop approaches for reliable prognostics of PEMFC systems
 - Strong link with warranty / maintenance proposed on FCS
 - Total funding (ongoing) > 3.0M€





Research

www.fclab.org









