

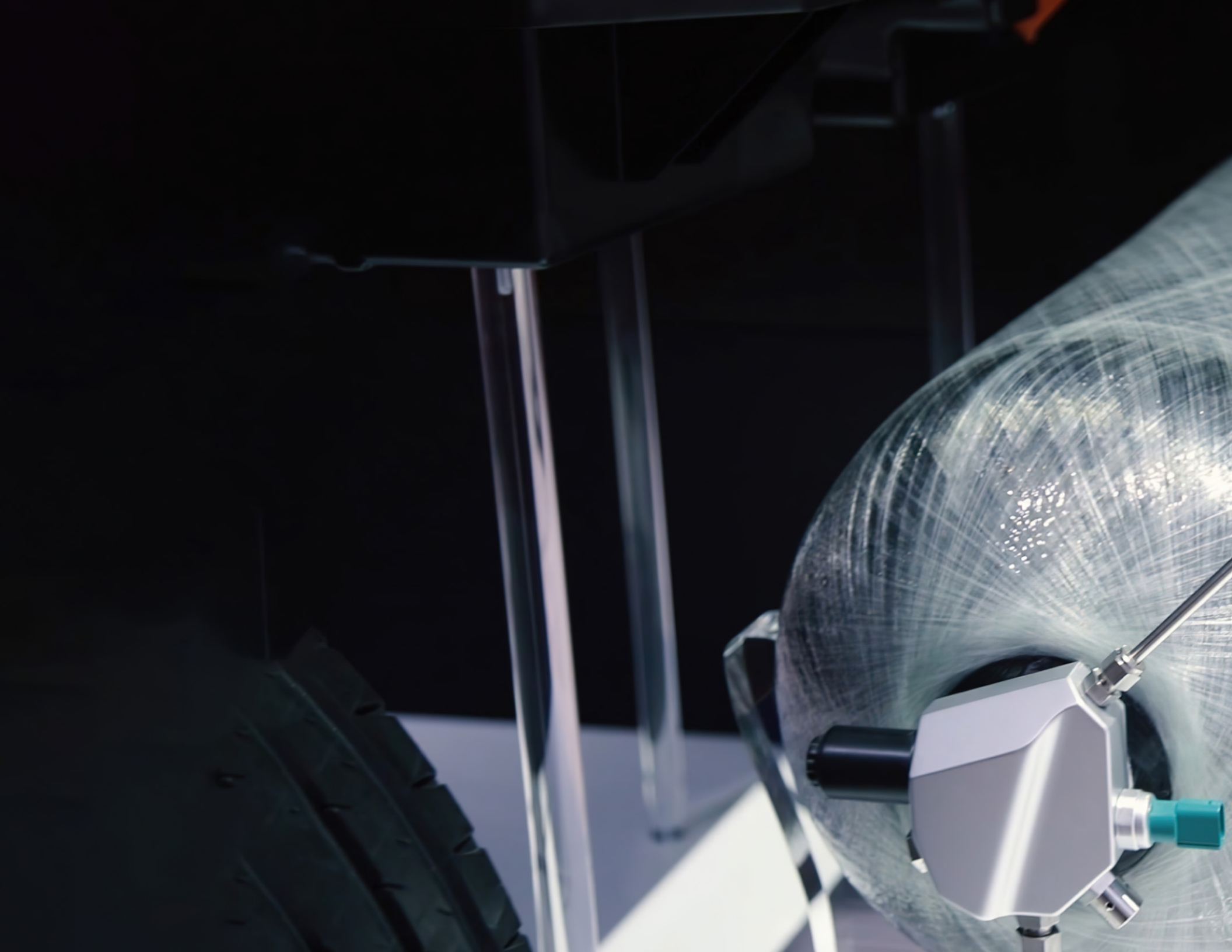
CW COLLECTIONS



CW
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Composites in
Hydrogen Storage



INTRO

As changes in climate have become scientifically linked to fossil fuels, hydrogen has been identified as a sustainable, realistic option for decarbonizing transport by powering cars, heavy-duty trucks, forklifts/logistic equipment, railcars, marine vessels and aircraft, as well as stationary power plants. These systems require storage and transport of the hydrogen fuel in a pressurized gaseous, cryogenic liquid or hybrid cryo-compressed state. Composite pressure vessels are a well-proven and mature solution for high-pressure hydrogen gas storage that could provide a doubling of the industrial market for carbon fiber. However, the low volumetric capacity of hydrogen gas is also pushing higher-density liquid and cryo-compressed solutions that could use more metal than composites. The price of carbon fiber composites is also an issue.

This content collection aggregates two recent reports from CompositesWorld on the demand for hydrogen as an energy source and the role composites might play in the transport and storage of hydrogen. The first part of this collection is a story I wrote for CW's 2020 "Next-Generation Materials and Processes" supplement. Titled, "Carbon fiber in pressure vessels for hydrogen," it explores how the emerging hydrogen economy is driving tank development for aircraft, ships and gas transport.

The second part of this collection is a presentation developed by myself and composites consultant Mike Favaloro. Titled, "Carbon fiber opportunities in the hydrogen economy," it reviews how hydrogen is sourced, where and how it supplies energy, the tank technologies being developed for its storage and transport, and what the opportunities are for hydrogen in certain geographic regions.

The hydrogen economy is just emerging and has obvious potential for growth. The opportunities for composites here are important and substantial and I hope this collection provides a good introduction for continued discussion regarding the role our industry has to play. If you have questions or comments about composites in hydrogen storage, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at ginger@compositesworld.com

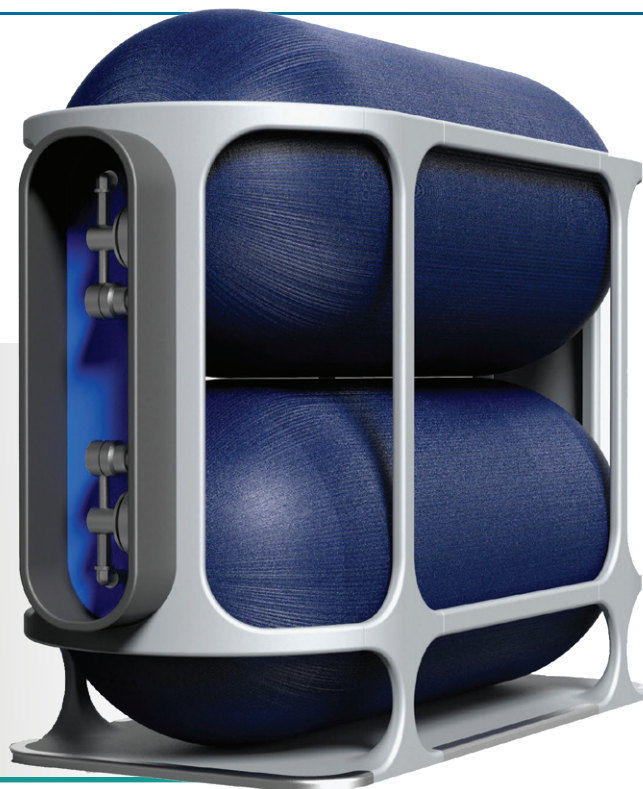
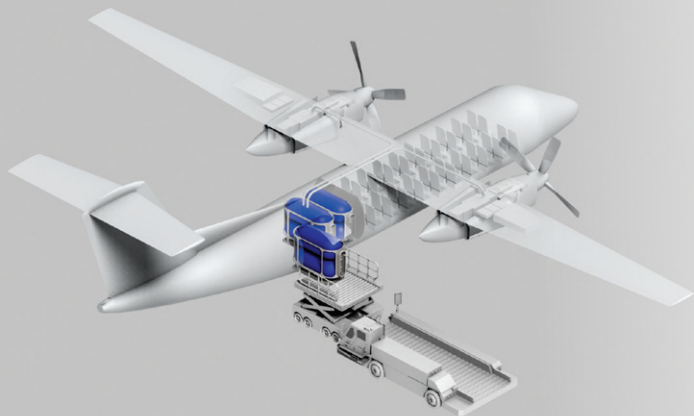


Ginger Gardiner

Senior Editor
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Carbon fiber in pressure vessels for hydrogen storage

The emerging H₂ economy drives tank development for aircraft, ships and gas transport.



Enabling hydrogen-powered aviation

Universal Hydrogen's twin-tank module uses carbon fiber-wrapped pressure vessels to store H₂ gas at 850 bar, enabling a 400-nm range for a *Dash 8* or *ATR* turboprop as well as easy transport and loading using existing infrastructure.

Source | Universal Hydrogen

By Ginger Gardiner / Senior Editor

» Hydrogen as a CO₂-free alternative to fossil fuels has been on the horizon for decades, and growth in carbon fiber-reinforced plastic (CFRP) pressure vessels for hydrogen storage has definitely been on the rise. But in 2020, hydrogen became a mandate, identified by the European Commission (EC) as a key priority to achieve the European Green Deal for a sustainable economy and climate-neutral EU by 2050. Key events for hydrogen in aviation include:

May 2020 — Clean Sky 2 and The Fuel Cells and Hydrogen Joint Undertaking (FCH JU) published “Hydrogen-powered aviation,” detailing how short-range (85-165 passenger) hydrogen-powered aircraft could achieve entry into service (EIS) by 2030-2035.

June 2020 — France's \$17 billion pandemic relief program is tied to goals from the “Hydrogen-powered aviation” report; Air France says it will cut CO₂ emissions in half for domestic flights by 2024.

July 2020 — EC publishes “A hydrogen strategy for a climate-neutral Europe,” calling for a €65 billion investment for hydrogen transport, distribution, storage and refueling stations, listing support policies and funding mechanisms including the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and ETS Innovation Fund (€10 billion during 2020-2030).

July 2020 — Airbus CEO Guillaume Faury, in an interview with *Aviation Week* editor Graham Warwick, commits to the first decarbonized aircraft, with EIS by 2035; he forecasts program launch by 2027-28 and maturation of necessary technologies by 2025.

July 2020 — ZeroAvia (Hollister, Calif., U.S.) completes test flight of single-engine, six-seat *Piper* aircraft modified to use compressed hydrogen (H₂) gas and unveils U.S.-based flight testing for similarly modified twin-turboprop, 19-seat *Dornier Do 228* per its roadmap to certify a 20-seat, H₂-powered aircraft with 500-mile range by 2023.

August 2020 — Universal Hydrogen (Los Angeles, Calif., U.S.) announces twin-tank modules for a 50-seat aircraft (see photo), plus refueling logistics and infrastructure for regional airlines/operators to be commercial by 2024.

Hydrogen's viability as a fuel source — regardless of industry — depends on rapid development of a variety of transport, delivery and storage technologies that are young but fast-evolving. Commercialization will not be simple, but is being addressed. Below is a summary of some work being done.

H₂ gas transport by road, rail or sea

Neptune high-pressure (517 bar) CFRP tanks enable transporting 600 kg of H₂ gas in a standard 20-ft container.

Source | Cimarron Composites



Universal Hydrogen

Co-founded in 2020 by Paul Eremenko, ex-CTO for Airbus SE (Leiden, Netherlands) and United Technologies Corp. (Farmington, Conn., U.S.), Universal Hydrogen's goal is to help transition to hydrogen-powered aviation by providing a hydrogen fueling infrastructure. One key component is its fuel module comprising twin H₂ storage tanks in a carbon fiber-reinforced polymer (CFRP) frame. "We will supply the modules to site as needed, so there's no need for hydrogen storage infrastructure," explains Universal Hydrogen CTO J.P. Clarke. "The modules are simply loaded into the plane like a battery or galley supplies."

Modules have been developed first for the 50-seat *Dash 8* and *ATR* turboprop regional aircraft. These modules will feature 7-foot long by 3-foot-diameter tanks, using either carbon fiber to hold H₂ gas at 850 bar achieving a density of 50 kg/m³, or insulated metal tanks to hold liquid H₂ (LH₂) at standard pressure and temperature achieving a density of 71 kg/m³. Though the LH₂ tanks offer higher volumetric efficiency, the insulated but uncooled tanks must be used within 42 hours because LH₂ vaporizes if not kept at -253°C. "Both type tanks will sit within a lightweight, structurally-optimized composite frame that also lends impact resistance and some load-bearing capabilities," says Clarke.

The H₂ gas tanks will include an impermeable polymer liner wrapped with layers of *dry* carbon fiber braid and a Kevlar aramid fiber protective outer layer. "There is no need for resin," Clarke explains. "The liner addresses permeability, while the carbon handles the hoop and axial loads and the outer layer plus frame prevents damage; thus weight and thickness are reduced. This integrated tank and frame design, when combined with the mapping of functions to each of the tank layers, has allowed us to get some significant improvements in the mass fraction."

Maximizing mass fraction — ratio of stored H₂ mass to whole system mass — is key. "We did a very extensive trade study looking at the mass fraction and volumetric efficiency in the context of the *Dash 8* and *ATR* aircraft," Clarke notes. "So, you're looking at volume and weight of fuel versus what can fit in these aircraft, achievable range and maximum takeoff weight, weight distribution, etc. With H₂ gas at 850 bar, we can fly about 400 nautical miles with a 45-minute reserve and about 550 nautical miles with the LH₂ tanks. However, the average stage length for a turboprop mission is around 300 nautical miles, so the *vast* majority of these flights can be done with a gaseous H₂ system using carbon fiber wound tanks."



Will Universal Hydrogen partner with a composite tank manufacturer? "Our strategy is to partner where it makes sense and stick to our core business," says Clarke. "We want to be the provider of the fuel and the infrastructure. We'll provide the modules, and we'll get them to where they're needed so that our partners can focus on the rest of the aircraft design and operation."

SpaceTech4Sea

Like aviation, shipping is also coming under regulations designed to reduce CO₂ and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. From January 2018, ships of more than 5,000 gross tons loading or unloading cargo or passengers at ports in the European Economic Area (EEA) must monitor and report their CO₂ emissions. Further, as part of its MARPOL convention to reduce pollution from ships, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has mandated from January 2020 that sulfur in fuel oil must be reduced from 3.50% m/m (mass by mass) to 0.50%.

The IMO has also committed to an initial GHG strategy to pursue a 50% reduction by 2050 compared to 2008 levels.

“The best possibility to be in compliance is to initially shift to liquid natural gas (LNG),” says Dr. Panayotis Zacharioudakis, managing director of Ocean Finance (Athens, Greece), an advisory firm advancing maritime sustainability and coordinator of the EC projects SuperGreen and SpaceTech4Sea. SuperGreen will create a sustainable and green transport system in Greece comprising electric commuter vessels and two hybrid LNG/electric catamarans that will connect the port of Piraeus with other ports in the eastern Mediterranean network. “For this project, we are building a high-speed ferry in CFRP,” explains Zacharioudakis. “If we used a state-of-the-art metal LNG tank, it would weigh seven metric tons, which equates to a little more than 70 passengers [100 kilograms per person with baggage]. So, we’d have to decrease the passenger capacity by 70.”

Why the extra weight? “Compared to diesel, LNG must be stored at a cryogenic -163°C and the metal tanks must use materials, construction, insulation and operating systems that meet the IMO’s requirements for gaseous fuels, or IGF code,” says Zacharioudakis. For Ocean Finance, the extra weight was not acceptable, so it began researching possible solutions and found a report about cryotanks Cimarron Composites (Huntsville, Ala., U.S.) developed with NASA.

“This is when we began the EASME (European Agency for SMEs) SpaceTech4Sea project,” says Zacharioudakis. “The idea is to modify aerospace technology for maritime applications.” The third project partner is classification society American Bureau of Shipping (ABS, Houston, Tex., U.S.), which will validate and qualify the technology. In September 2019, ABS granted approval in principle (AIP) for Cimarron’s conceptual design of an ultralight, cryo-capable composite LNG tank. Since then, it has built and tested sub- and full-scale tanks for certification. “They just finished the last testing,” says Zacharioudakis. “In a little more than two months, we will have a full certification for composite LNG tanks for the marine market. This tank will provide weight savings of more than 85% versus a conventional metal tank.”

Though most of the tank’s specifics are proprietary, Cimarron Composites founder and president Tom DeLay says it is made with carbon fiber and an advanced thermoset resin using some resin infusion and wet filament winding. “We have tested 25- and 40-inch-diameter tanks and are talking to the CFRP ferry builder for SuperGreen about tanks with a capacity of five cubic meters [5,000 liters], which could be achieved with a tank 2 meters in diameter and 2.5 meters long.” Ocean Finance sees a market for more than a thousand such tanks and will work with Cimarron to establish automated production, possibly in Greece.

And what about hydrogen? “Even while we finish these LNG projects, we have started to look at hydrogen,” notes Zacharioudakis. “There is so much interest, activity and now funding available in Europe. One issue, however, is that maritime regulations specify tanks must provide a holding time of up to 15 days for LNG. This will be the same for LH₂,” DeLay concedes that developing a cryo-capable tank for LH₂ (-253°C) is much more difficult than developing a tank for LNG (-196°C); among the challenges is to find materials that can resist embrittlement and

cracking. He is working now with Ocean Finance to help complete a trade study, looking at the technical and economic factors of using liquid versus gaseous H₂ for marine vessels.

Neptune tanks for H₂ gas

Notably, Cimarron Composites has already developed a Type IV CFRP tank for high-pressure storage of hydrogen and other gases. “Our Jupiter tank was developed for the transport of most industrial gases, including hydrogen, at a pressure of 4,350 psi [300 bar],” says DeLay. “Hydrogen, however, is transported more effectively at higher pressures, which is why we developed the 7,500-psi [517 bar] Neptune tank.”

Both Jupiter and Neptune tanks have passed the myriad tests per UN ISO 11515 requirements and are available in a range of diameters and lengths up to 26 feet. “These tanks were developed for shipping in standard modules by truck, rail or ship,” notes DeLay. “We have found that a 30-inch diameter has an ideal packing efficiency, allowing us to haul more hydrogen than with larger-diameter cylinders. With a 19-foot length, we can fit nine tanks into a standard 20-foot container. At 67 kilograms of hydrogen gas per tank, we can move 600 kilograms in a 20-foot container and 1,200 kilograms in a standard 40-foot container.”

“We buy carbon fiber from all of the main suppliers, including Toray [Tokyo, Japan], Mitsubishi Rayon [Tokyo], Teijin [Rockwood, Tenn., U.S.] and Hyosung [Seoul, South Korea],” adds DeLay, “but for Neptune we have qualified with three different suppliers simultaneously. We formulate the resin ourselves using commercially available products and very tightly control the fiber and resin content as well as the tension during filament winding and oven cure cycle to prevent thermal stress. All of this adds to the mechanical performance of the tanks.”

DeLay sees H₂ opportunities growing for both cryogenic liquid and high-pressure gas storage. “It has taken us years to develop our expertise,” he says, “starting from fuel tanks for rockets to the large transport and storage tanks we’re producing now. A year ago, I was skeptical about hydrogen, thinking it was just a push by the government. But now we are getting very large orders and all kinds of requests. We can see that, globally, a wide range of industries are investing seriously in hydrogen. It looks like we’re ready with the right products at the right time.” **CW**



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Carbon Fiber Opportunities in the Hydrogen Economy

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Carbon Fiber Opportunities in the Hydrogen Economy

The Hydrogen Economy

- What is the hydrogen economy? Why hydrogen?
- Path to green hydrogen
- Fuel cells and combustion require storage

Hydrogen Storage

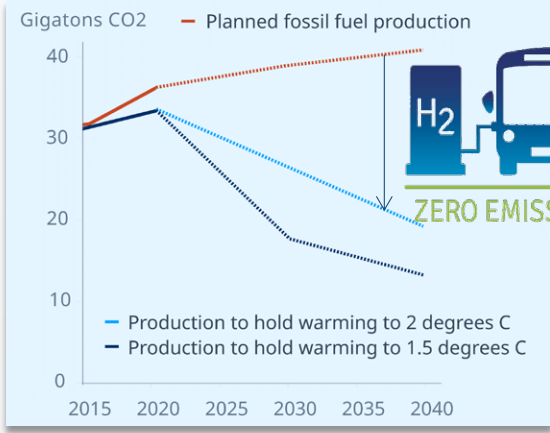
- Tank types and use of carbon fiber (CF) composites
- Issues and development

Opportunity for Carbon Fiber

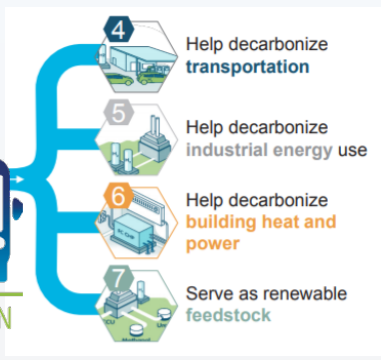
- Assumptions
- Projections
- Conclusion

What is the Hydrogen Economy?

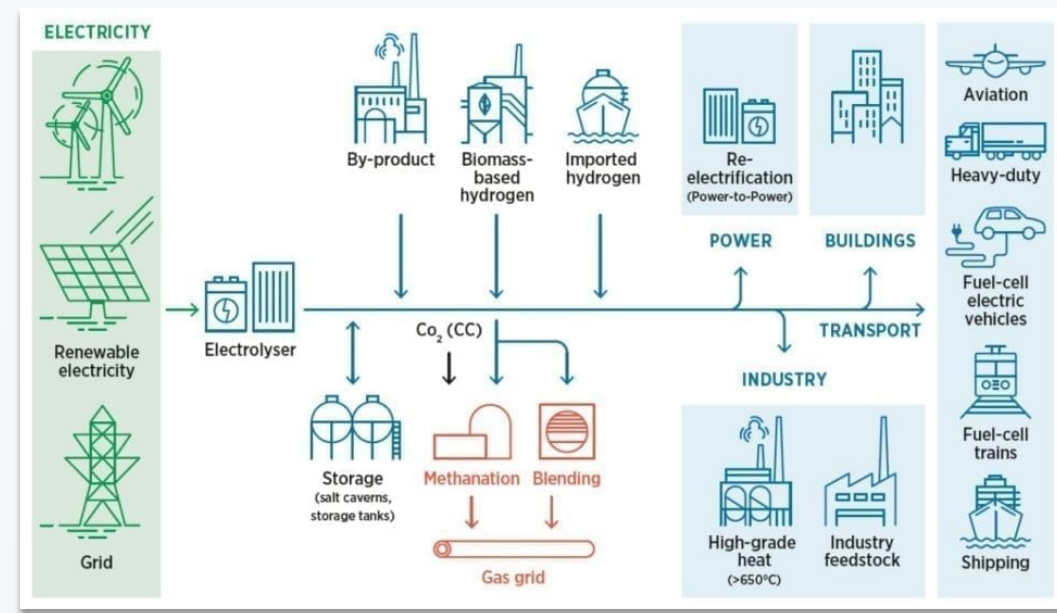
- To limit global warming to 2°C vs. 2010 levels, world CO₂ emissions must drop > 60%/yr until 2050.
- H₂ offers sustainable decarbonization



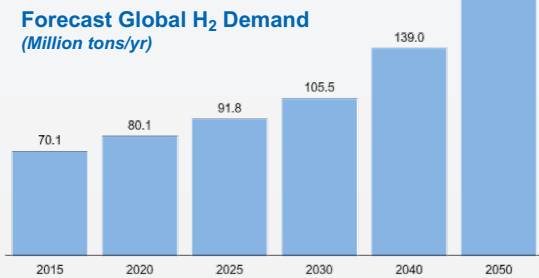
Source | The Production Gap Report 2019



Source | Hydrogen Scaling Up, 2017



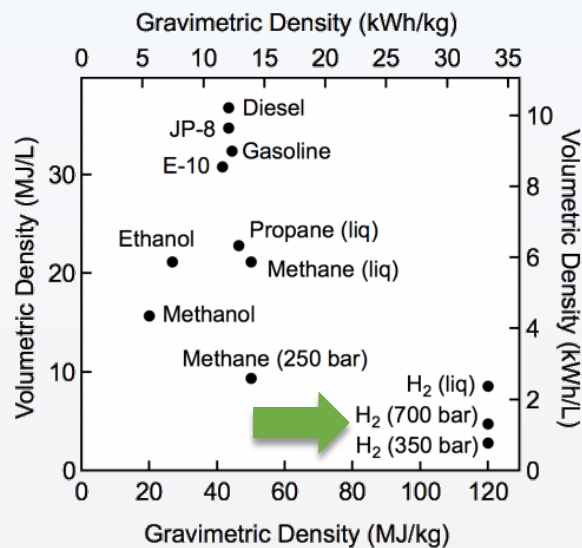
Source | Powermag.com, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)



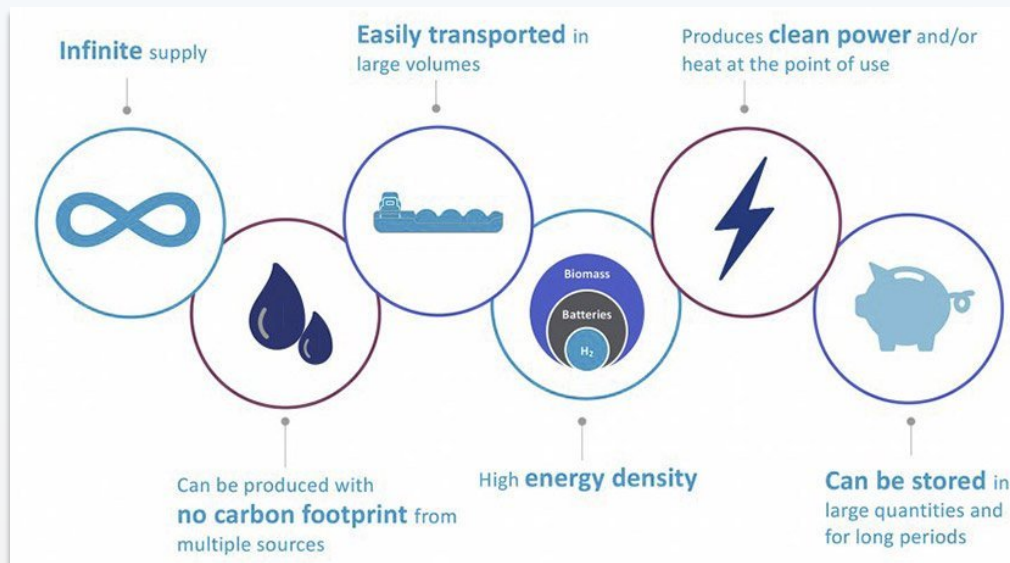
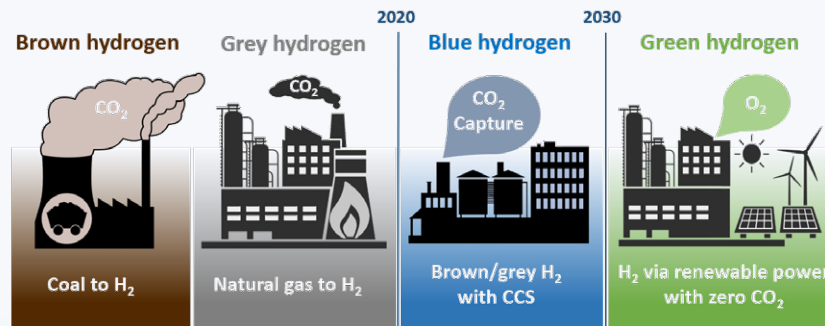
Source | ADI Analytics

Why Hydrogen?

- Highest energy density, zero emissions possible
- Produced from coal, methane, biomass or water
- Readily stored and converted



Source | www.energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/hydrogen-storage



Source | <https://www.egsa.org.za/general-news/green-hydrogen-for-buses/>

Path to Green H₂

- Hydrogen is produced from natural gas now and the industry will help scale blue hydrogen

“We will ultimately move to a green hydrogen economy. But we are convinced that you can only make the step towards green hydrogen via blue hydrogen first.” — Hans Coenen, VP corporate strategy/business development at Dutch gas network company, Gasunie

Oil & gas execs who said their companies will invest in

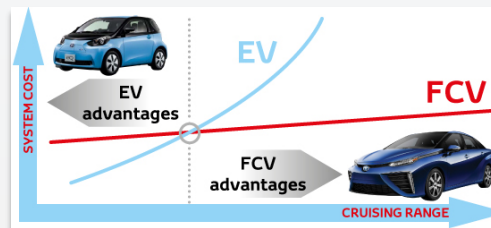
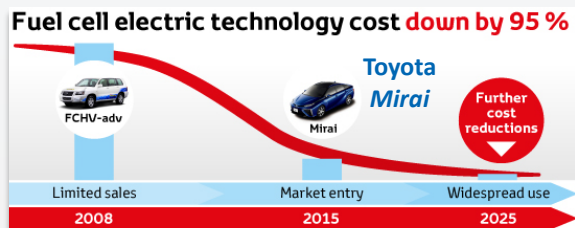
H₂

2019 - 20%
2020 - 42%

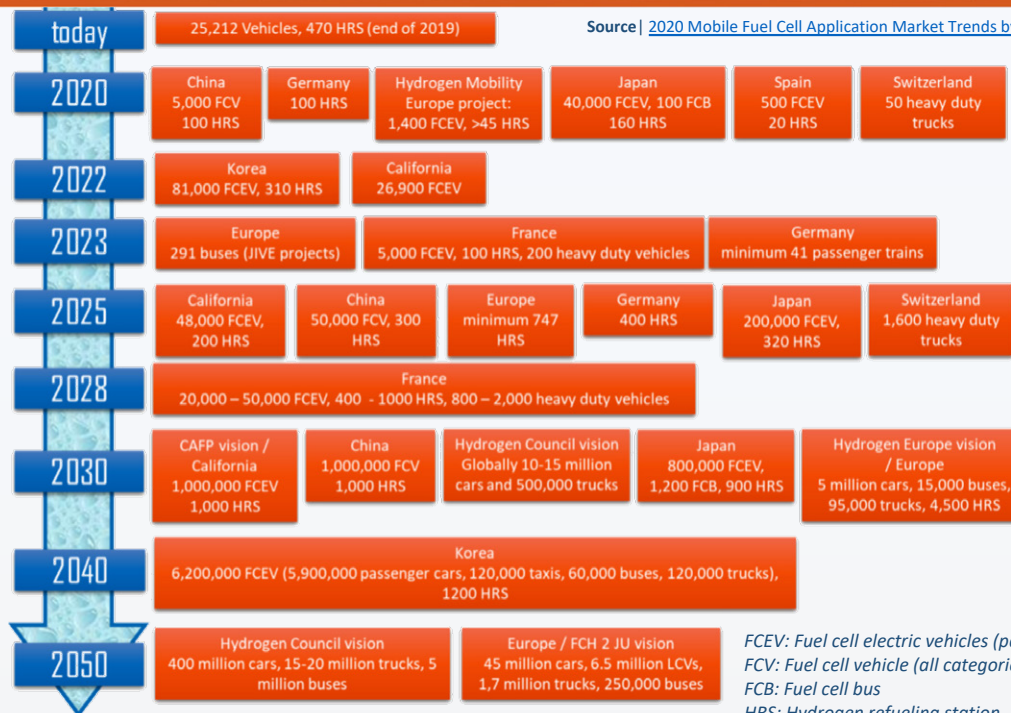
108% increase

Source | 2020 oil and gas industry's outlook for hydrogen by DNV-GL, p. 5

- FCEV technology is ready with vehicles in production



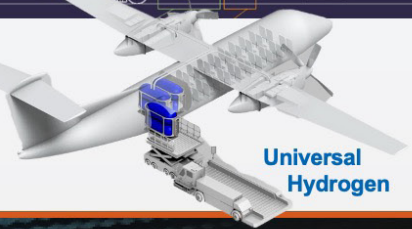
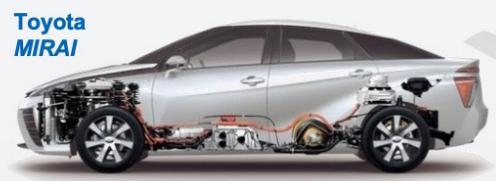
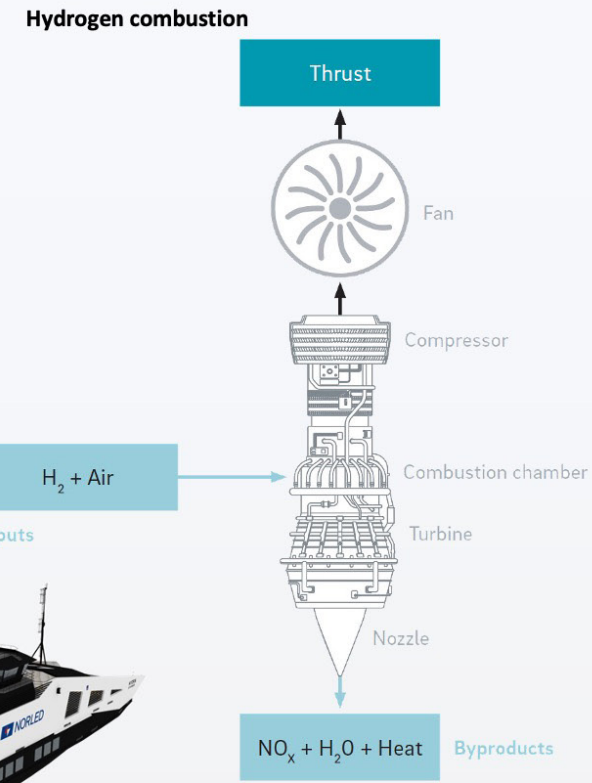
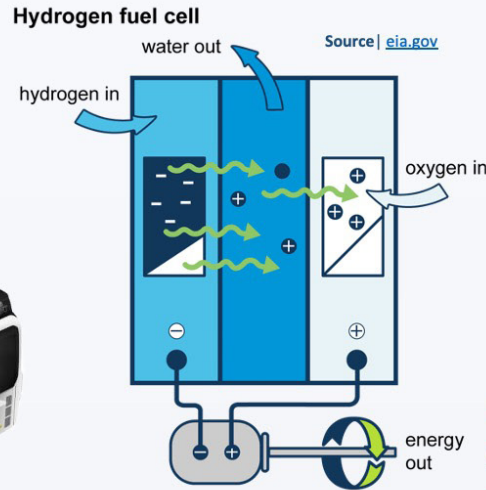
Source | Toyota



FCEV: Fuel cell electric vehicles (passenger cars)
FCV: Fuel cell vehicle (all categories)
FCB: Fuel cell bus
HRS: Hydrogen refueling station
LCV: Light commercial vehicle

How is Hydrogen Used?

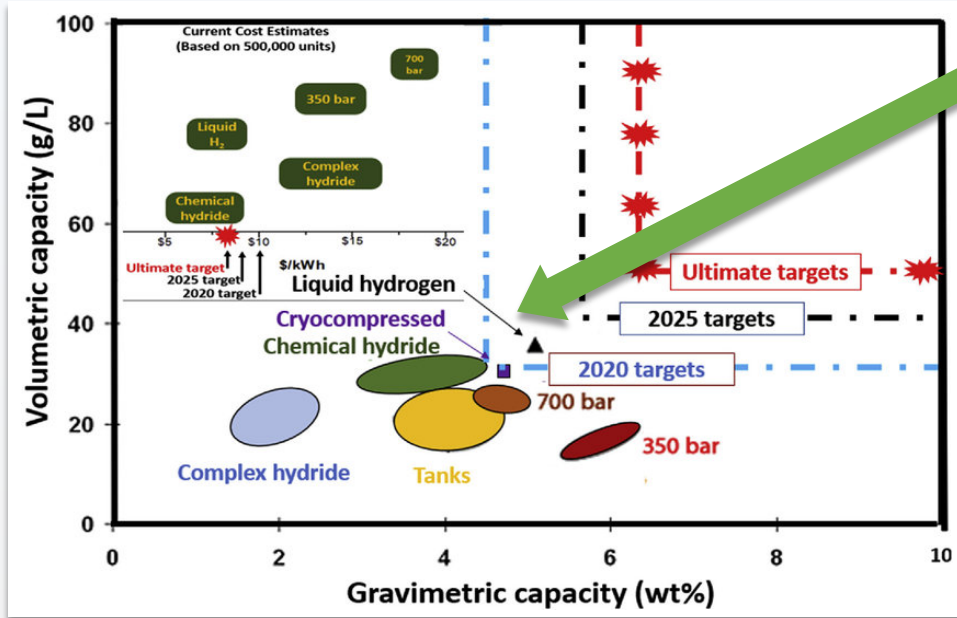
- Fuel cell or direct combustion



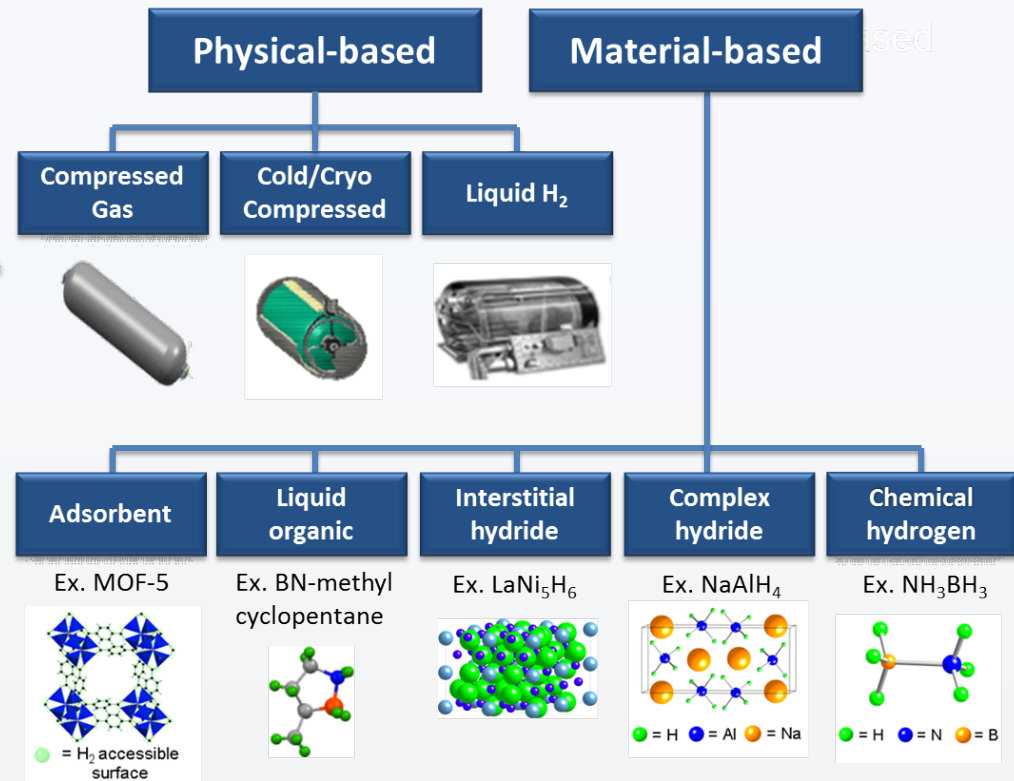
Source | "Hydrogen: A future fuel for Aviation?" Roland Berger (March 2020)

Hydrogen Fuel Storage

- Fuel cell or combustion requires fuel storage
- H₂ has high energy per mass but *low energy per volume*



Source | "Boateng, Chen, "Recent advances in nanomaterial-based solid-state hydrogen storage", June 2020.



Source | www.energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/hydrogen-storage

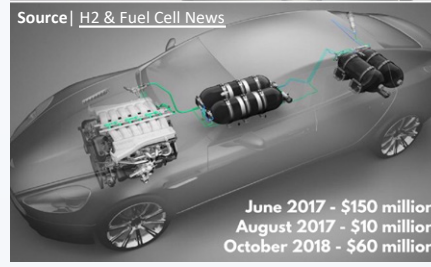
Hydrogen Storage Tanks

- Primary market for carbon fiber
- Applications
 - Transportation (car, rail, aero, etc.)
 - Distribution (mobile pipeline)
 - Hydrogen Refueling Stations (HRS)



LANDS 3RD AUTOMAKER IN 16 MONTHS

Source | H2 & Fuel Cell News

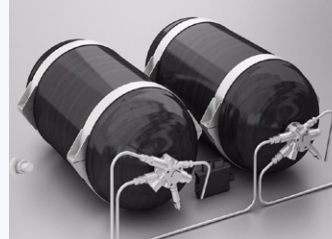


June 2017 - \$150 million
 August 2017 - \$10 million
 October 2018 - \$60 million



UAV tank
 Source | DoosanMobility.com

Bus tanks
 Source | Plastic Omnium



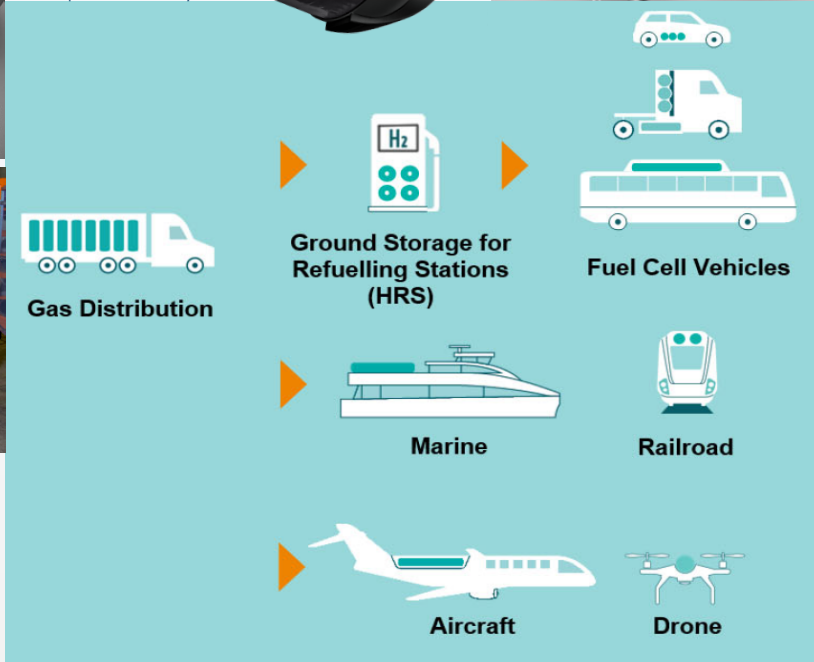
Hexagon Composites supplies tanks for first full-size Dutch refueling station
 Source | fuelcellworks.com



Faurecia to supply tanks for 1,600 Hyundai trucks

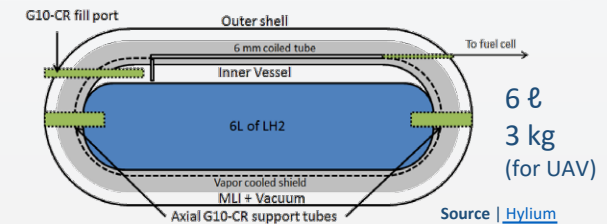
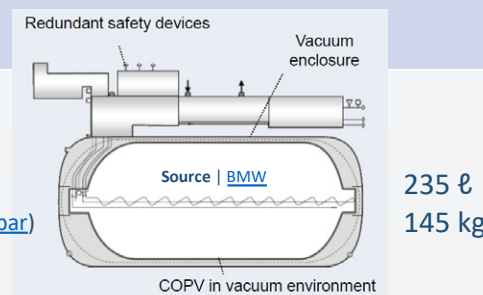
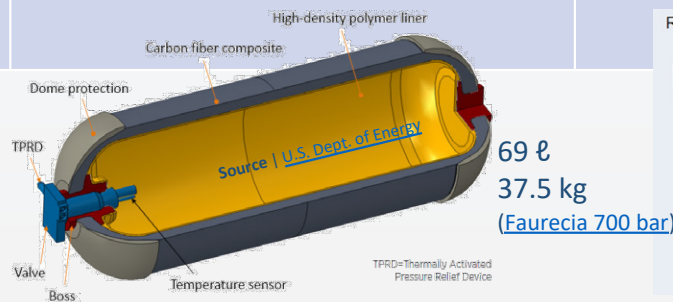


Source | Cimarron Composites



Hydrogen Storage Tank Types

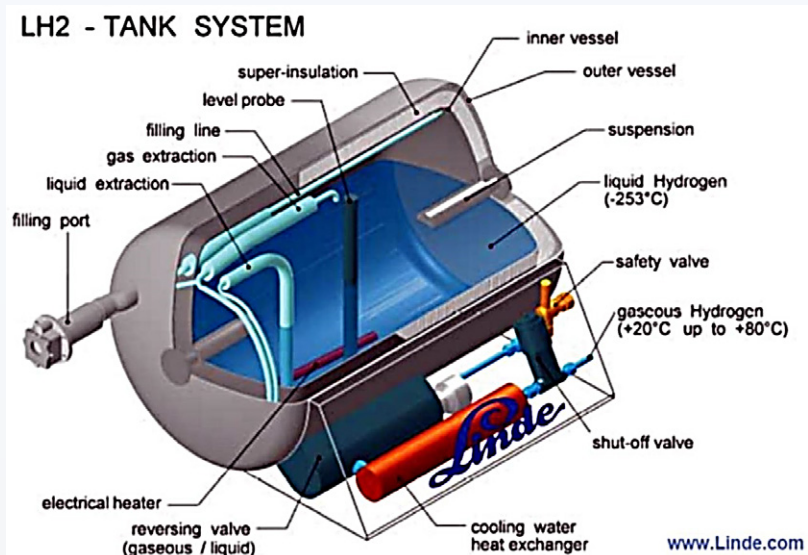
	Compressed Gas H2	Cryo-compressed H2	Liquid H2
Pressure	350 - 1,000 bar	up to 350 bar	Atmospheric pressure
Temperature	Room temp	64 K/-203°C	20.4 K/-253°C
Common tank	Type IV plastic/CF overwrap composite pressure vessel	Type III metal/CF overwrap super-insulated cryogenic pressure vessel	Metal tank w/ perlite insulation super-insulated, low-pressure cryotank
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most mature • Proven safety record 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher density/less space required • No boil off vs. LH2 • More safety/redundancy vs. LH2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher density/less space required
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More space required due to low density • Most carbon fiber required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not mature • More complex, heavy and expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% loss to compress H2 liquid • High insulation + cryo temp issues • Hard to scale down for small vehicles • Liquid boil off + safety issues



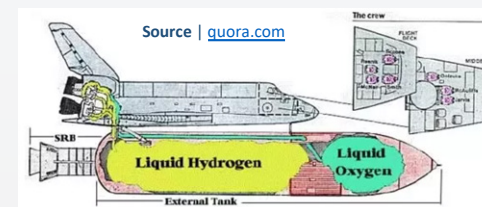
Liquid Hydrogen Tanks

- Tankers, ground tanks, spacecraft
- Ground-based LH2 tanks
 - Insulation = perlite + vacuum layer
 - Boil-off rates = 1-5% per day
- Magna Steyr tank for FCEV auto (2004):
 - Stainless steel inner, outer tanks
 - Multilayer insulation (MLI) (40 layers aluminum + glass fiber spacers)
 - CFRP support structure withstands crash load: 20G fwd, 8G side
 - Boil-off 4%/day (leaves as water)¹
- Boil-off <.05%/day w/ MLI and cooling.²

Source | 1 "Safety demands for automotive hydrogen storage system" by Magna Steyr, 2004?
 2 "Liquid Hydrogen Storage: Status and Future Perspectives" by Hendrie Derking, Cryoworld BV for Cryogenic Heat and Mass Transfer, Nov 2019

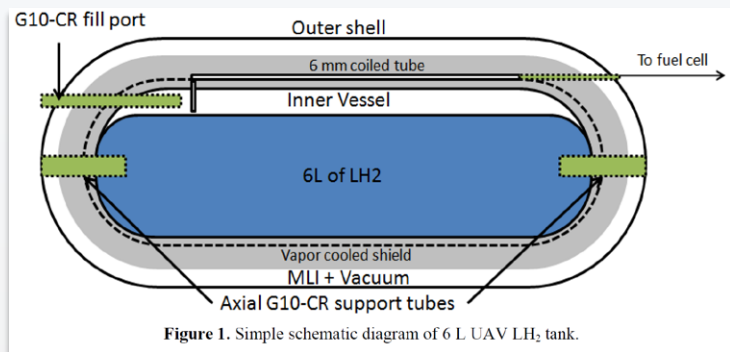


JAXA (Kawasaki), 540 m³, 38 t



Liquid Hydrogen Tanks

- Possible higher density, lower cost vs. compressed gas (GH₂) at 350 or 700 bar
- Does not have to be active cryo
- Tanks primarily metal



Source | "Performance test of a 6 L liquid hydrogen fuel tank for unmanned aerial vehicles" by Hylium Industries 2015

Cryoshelter

cryogenic vehicle tank technology



for heavy duty trucks powered by

- LNG – Liquefied Natural Gas
- LH₂ – Liquid Hydrogen

2015-2017 Horizon 2020 project for innovative LNG (-162°C) tank now adapted for LH₂ (-253°C)
 Source | [European Commission](#)

4,300 kg H₂ capacity
 \$167/kg
 LH₂

3500 kg LH₂ / trailer: 3 times a week

Refueling Station

1500 kg H₂ / day

500 kg GH₂ / trailer: 3 times a day

800 kg H₂ capacity
 \$783/kg
 350 bar, composite

Source | "LH₂ Installation Description", by PRESLEY, Nov 2018 and Krishna Reddi, et. al., 2015.

Source | [Kircher, BMW 2012](#)

Liquid H₂ for Aviation?

- Airbus ZEROe aircraft will use LH₂
- Universal Hydrogen developing LH₂ (metal) and GH₂ (carbon fiber)



H: Current hydrogen aircraft developments
 Details and status of hydrogen aircraft projects

	YEAR ANNOUNCED	POWER	DESCRIPTION	STORAGE SYSTEM	RANGE [KM]	STATUS
HY4	2015	Hydrogen fuel cells and electric batteries	Four seat fixed wing aircraft, single propeller, twin fuselage	Gas	1,000	Flown
HES Element One	2018	Hydrogen fuel cells	Four seat, fixed wing aircraft, 14 propellers	Gas/liquid	500-5,000	Under development
Ataka'i Skai	2019	Hydrogen fuel cells	Five seat futuristic "air-taxi" rotorcraft, six rotors	Liquid	640	
Apus i-2	2019	Hydrogen fuel cells	Four seat fixed wing aircraft, two propellers	Gas	1,000	
NASA CHEETA	2019	Hydrogen fuel cells	Blended wing-body large commercial aircraft	Liquid	n/a	
Pipistrel E-STOL	2019	Hydrogen fuel cells	19 seat, fixed wing aircraft	n/a	n/a	
ZeroAvia¹	2019	Hydrogen fuel cells	10-20 seat fixed wing aircraft, two propellers	Gas	800	Feasibility study
Airbus Cryoplane	2003	Hydrogen combustion	Large commercial aircraft	Liquid	n/a	
NASA Concept B	2004	Hydrogen fuel cells	Blended wing-body large commercial aircraft	Liquid	6,500	

Introducing Airbus ZEROe

Turboprop



<100 Passengers
 Hydrogen Hybrid Turboprop Engines (x 2)

1,000+nm Range
 Liquid Hydrogen Storage & Distribution System

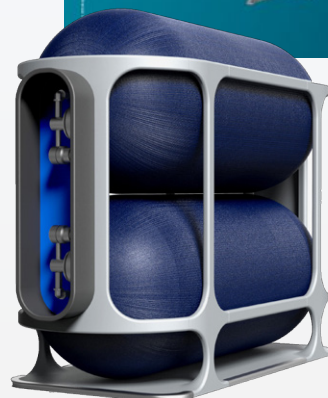
Blended-Wing Body



<200 Passengers
 Hydrogen Hybrid Turboprop Engines (x 2)

2,000+nm Range
 Liquid Hydrogen Storage & Distribution System

Turbofan



Universal Hydrogen 850-bar GH₂ tanks

- 3-ft diameter, 7-ft length for 20-pax commuter AC
- Plastic liner with dry carbon fiber braid, no resin
- Protective outer coating
- CFRP load-bearing frame for twin tanks

Source | "Carbon fiber in pressure vessels for hydrogen", CW 2020

Cryo-Compressed Tanks

- BMW development 2007-2015

BMW TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR VEHICLES 2015 WITH COMPRESSED AND CRYO-COMPRESSED HYDROGEN STORAGE.

700 bar CGH ₂ (Compressed Gas)		350 bar CcH ₂ (Cryo-compressed Gas)
> 350 (500*) km Range		> 500 (700*) km Range
Refueling time < 5 min for 350 km		Refueling time < 5 min for 500 km
-		Boost cooling mode for additional performance
High bonfire and crash safety		Highest bonfire and crash safety
Non-compromised compartment space	Non-compromised compartment space	

Central Tunnel Storage
CcH₂ 350 bar: 7.1 kg
CGH₂ 700 bar: 4.6 kg

Source | "Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology", Tobias Brunner, BMW Group, 2013

Modular Super-insulated Pressure Vessel (Type III)

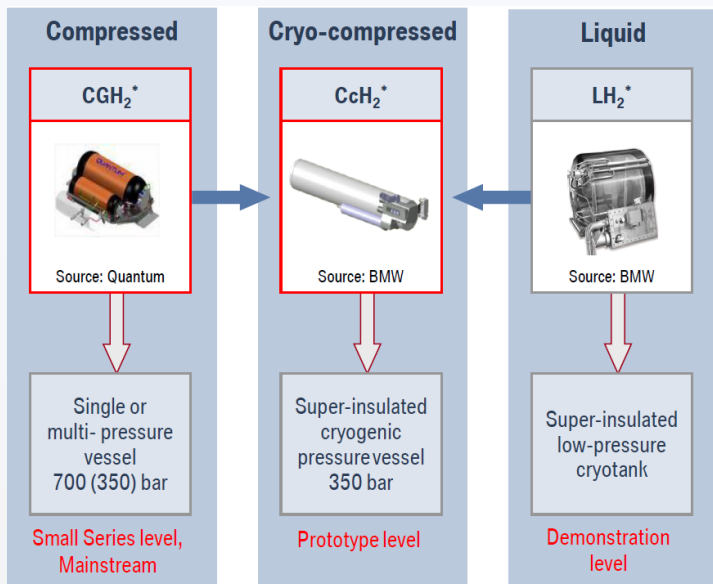
Max. usable capacity	CcH ₂ : 7.8 kg (260 kWh) CGH ₂ : 2.5 kg (83 kWh)	+ Active tank pressure control + Load carrying vehicle body integration + Engine/fuel cell waste heat recovery
Operating pressure	≤ 350 bar	
Vent pressure	≥ 350 bar	
Refueling pressure	CcH ₂ : 300 bar CGH ₂ : 320 bar	
Refueling time	< 5 min	
System volume	~ 235 L	
System weight (incl. H ₂)	~ 145 kg	
H ₂ -Loss (Leakage! max. loss rate infr. driver)	<< 3 g/day 3 – 7 g/h (CcH ₂) < 1% / year	

Source | "Cryo-compressed hydrogen storage", BMW Group, 2012



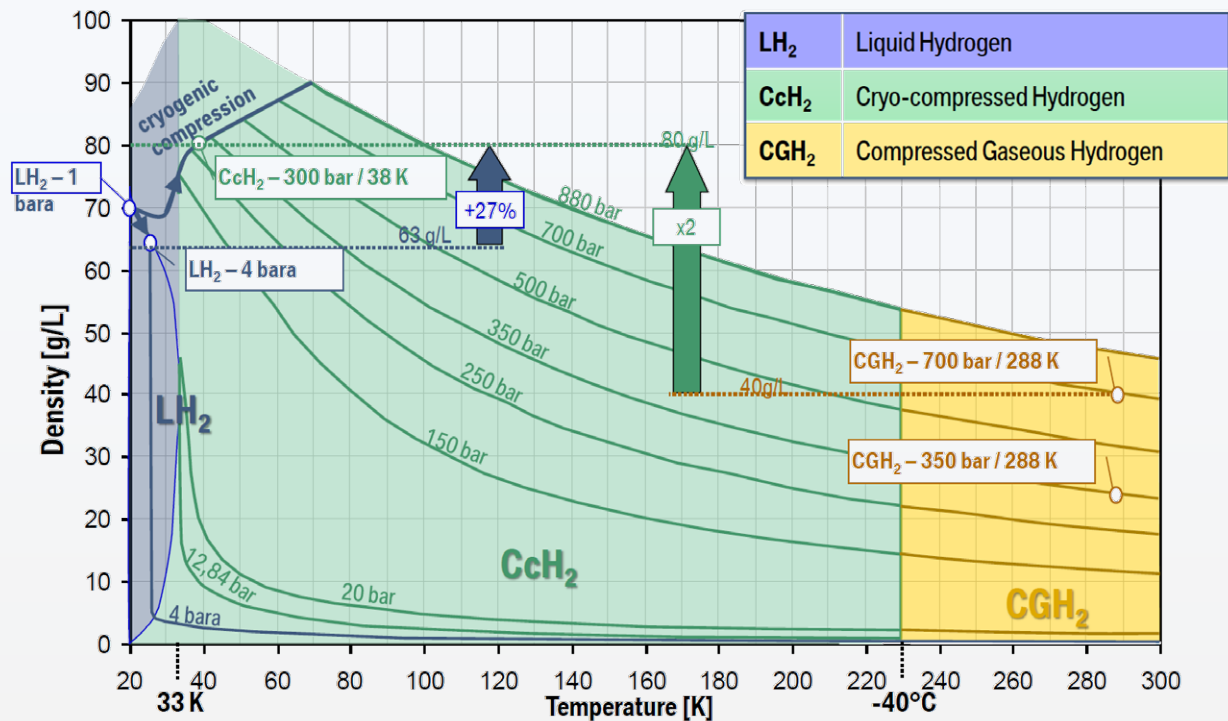
Cryo-Compressed Tanks

- BMW strategy: pursue CGH₂ and CcH₂



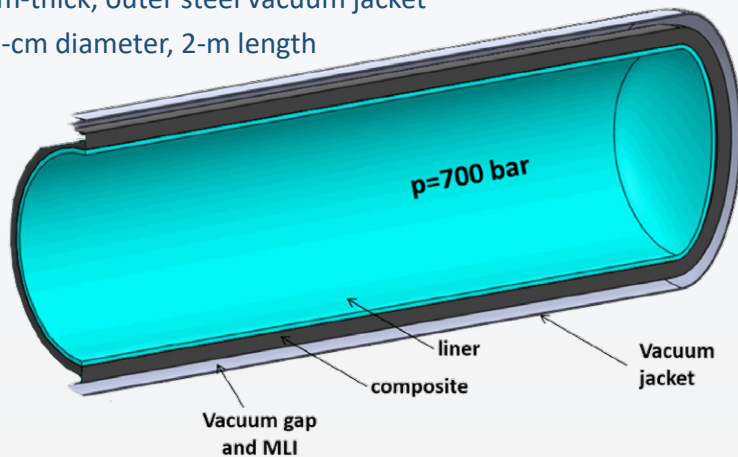
Source | "Cryo-compressed hydrogen storage", BMW Group, 2012

BMW HYDROGEN STORAGE . CCH₂ – CRYOGENIC GAS DENSER THAN LH₂.



Cryo-Compressed Tanks

- Potential to use significantly less carbon fiber
 - **Table 1** – 8 compressed gas tanks vs. 4 cryo-compressed tanks
- Lawrence Livermore National Lab CcH₂ tank for buses
 - CF-wrapped alum. liner = inner vessel
 - 1.5-cm-thick vacuum gap + plastic MLI
 - 2-mm-thick, outer steel vacuum jacket
 - 31.5-cm diameter, 2-m length



Source | "The Storage Performance of Cryo-Compressed Hydrogen Vessels", Lawrence Livermore National Lab, June 2018

Table 1. Supercritical CcH₂ Storage for Fuel Cell Buses

Storage Method	CcH ₂	CcH ₂	cH ₂
Storage Pressure	350 bar	500 bar	350 bar
Usable H ₂	4 x 10 kg	4 x 10 kg	8 x 5 kg
Liner	2-mm SS	2-mm SS	7.1 mm Al
Storage Temperature	64 K	70 K	288 K
Storage Density	70.3 g/L	75.5 g/L	24 g/L
Gravimetric Capacity	9.6%	8.4%	4.4%
Volumetric Capacity	46.1 g/L	50.1 g/L	18.5 g/L
CF Composite	4 x 36 kg	4 x 53.1 kg	8 x 50 kg
Insulation Thickness	18.2 mm	10.3 mm	NA
Heat Gain	3.8 W	5.7 W	NA
Dormancy: 95% Full	7.0 d	7.0 d	NA
Cost	\$10/kWh	\$11/kWh	\$15/kWh

Source | "2018 Annual Progress Report, DOE Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program," pp. 200-203, Rajesh K. Ahluwalia, Argonne National Lab

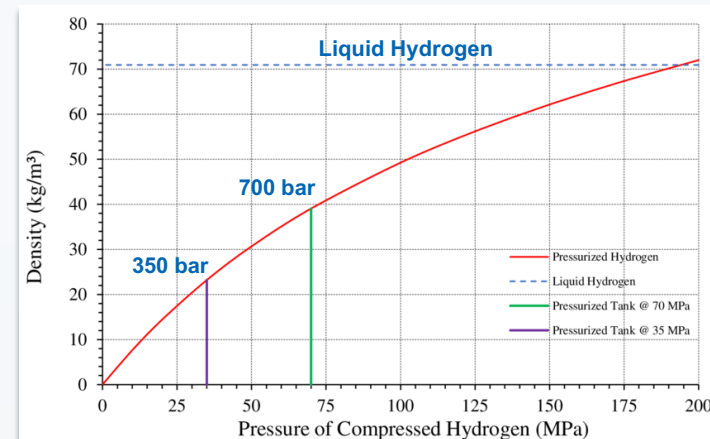
Compressed Gas Tanks

- 350 and 700 bar are standard, but there are others:
 - Universal Hydrogen 850 bar
 - NPROXX 300, 500 (TPED), 900 bar (PED)
 - MAHYTEC 60 bar (PED)
- Trade-off between H₂ mass/system mass, tank size, cost

HYDROGEN CYLINDER OVERVIEW

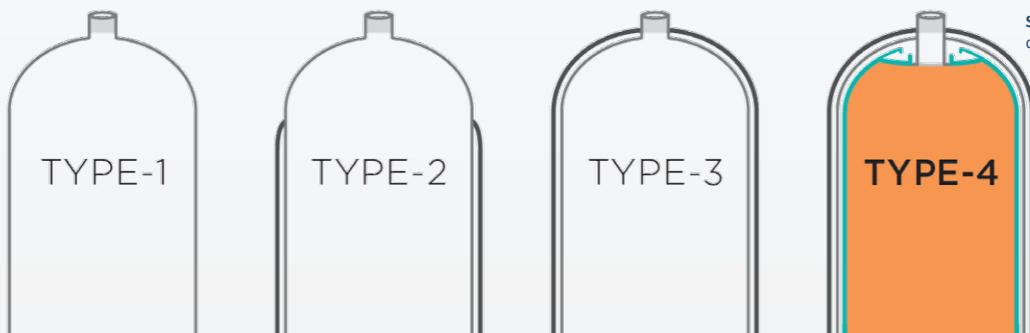


	Application	REF	Pressure [MPa]	Diameter [mm]	Length [mm]	Weight [kg]	Volume [l]
Hexagon Composites	TPED	A	25	541	2783	164	450
	Heavy Duty	A	35	416	3600	109	357
	Heavy Duty	A	35	416	3128	95	306
	Stationary	C	50	580	3277	342	530
	Stationary	J	105	515	2783	365	254
	Light Duty	D	70	325	930	34	36
	Light Duty	H	70	230	1600	27	37
	Light Duty	I	70	430	1000	53	70



Source | Hexagon Composites company presentation, Feb 2019

Source | [researchgate.net](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/312111111), Marshall Lee Crenshaw



TYPE-1
All steel
(1.2-1.5kg/liter)

TYPE-2
Fiberglass hoop wrap steel liner
(0.7-1.4kg/liter)

TYPE-3
All carbon full wrap metallic liner
(0.3-0.4kg/liter)

TYPE-4
Fiberglass/carbon full wrap, plastic liner
(0.25-0.35kg/liter)

“Hydrogen, however, is transported more effectively at higher pressures, which is why we developed the 7,500 psi (517 bar) Neptune tank.” —[Cimarron Composites](#)

“500-bar pressure vessels deliver a good combination of volume-to-cost for the market.” —[NPROXX](#)

NOTES: Transportable Pressure Equipment Directive (TPED) and PED (used for stationary tanks) are EU standards for tank requirements. For Hexagon table, 35 Mpa = 350 bar and 70 Mpa = 700 bar

Compressed H2 Gas Tanks

- Issues: low volume, high cost
- 2017 DOE targets: -50% cost, 2X energy density

2017 Targets – U.S. Dept. of Energy, Fuel Cell Technologies Office (FCTO)

Storage Targets	Gravimetric kWh/kg (kg H ₂ /kg system)	Volumetric kWh/L (kg H ₂ /L system)	Costs ¹ \$/kWh (\$/kg H ₂)
2020	1.5 (0.045)	1.0 (0.030)	\$10 (\$333)
2025	1.8 (0.055)	1.3 (0.040)	\$9 (300)
Ultimate	2.2 (0.065)	1.7 (0.050)	\$8 (\$266)
Current Status ²			
700 bar compressed (5.6 kg H ₂ , Type IV, Single Tank)	1.4 (0.042)	0.8 (0.024)	\$15 (\$500)

¹ Projected at 500,000 units/year
² FCTO Data Record #15013, 11/25/2015: https://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/15013_onboard_storage_performance_cost.pdf

The full set of H2 storage targets can be found on FCTO's websites: <https://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/downloads/doi-targets-onboard-hydrogen-storage-systems-light-duty-vehicles> <https://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/doi-technical-targets-onboard-hydrogen-storage-light-duty-vehicles>

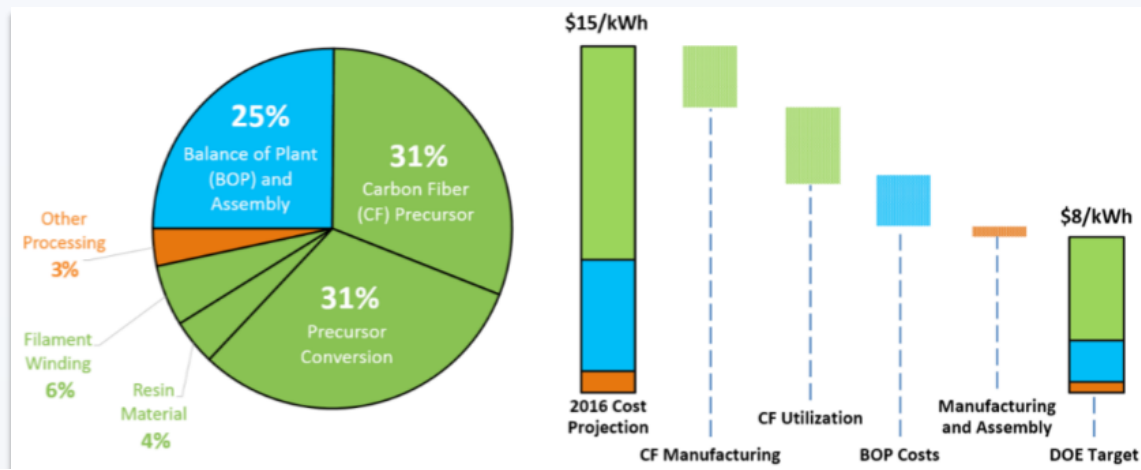


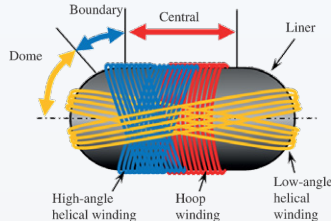
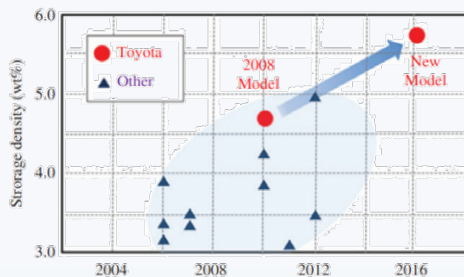
Figure 3: Potential strategy to meet cost target (700 bar ch2). To meet the ultimate cost target for 700 bar systems, the bulk of cost reductions must come from reducing the amount and costs of carbon fiber composite materials and Balance-of-Plant (BOP)

Source | [DOE hydrogen storage fact sheet, 2017](#)

Source | [Carbon Fiber Composite Material Cost Challenges, U.S. DOE, 2017](#)

Reducing the cost of CGH₂ Tanks

- DOE/ORNL programs to reduce cost of PAN precursor and CF oxidation/carbonization
- Replace CF with glass or aramid fibers
- Toyota reduced CFRP by 20% for 5.7 wt% storage
 - ✓ Replaced aero-grade to new industrial grade fiber
 - ✓ Eliminated high-angle helical winding (≈25% of laminate)
 - ✓ Concentrated hoop winding at inner layers = highest stress
- Structural optimization
 - CIKONI claims 8.0 wt% storage possible
 - Cevotec cuts CFRP, time and cost 20% via FPP on domes
 - Universal Hydrogen cut resin via dry CF braid, aramid overwrap
- Alternative tank designs, processes
 - Conformable, chained tanks (e.g., BRYSON project)
 - HP-RTM of overbraided metal liner (BBG GmbH)
 - Faurecia aims to cut cost, weight and develop recyclable tank



Source | [Development of the Fuel Cell Vehicle Mirai, 2016](#)



Source | [TU Dresden, BRYSON project](#)

Conformable 700 bar H₂ Storage Systems [CTE/HECR/UT/Stan Sanders]

- Developing conformable 700 bar pressure vessels without use of carbon fiber composites
- Demonstrated vessel with a 34,000 psi burst (2345 bar), exceeding the 2.25 safety margin for 700 bar systems



Kevlar Over-Braided Coiled Vessels

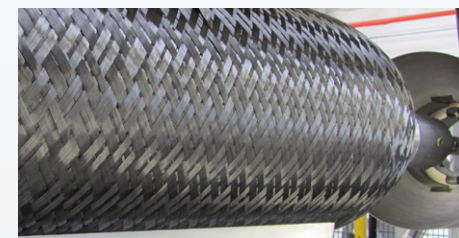
Source | [Carbon Fiber Composite Material Cost Challenges, U.S. DOE, 2017](#)



Source | [Cevotec](#)



Source | [CIKONI](#)



Up to 15 tanks with 50-mm-diameter can be molded simultaneously. Source | [BBG GmbH & Co. KG](#)

Opportunity for Carbon Fiber in Hydrogen Tanks

Assumptions and basis for calculations

- Carbon fiber in metric tonnes (MT) = (vehicle production) x (Gas H₂ tanks per vehicle) x (fiber weight)
 - No sales from liquid H₂ tanks assumed and projected vehicles assumed to use gas H₂ tanks
- T700 fiber or equivalent with epoxy resin
- Vehicle production data based on published government and industry figures
 - Smaller land vehicles will mostly use metallic tanks except in special cases
 - No aerospace activity in this timeframe is projected
- These projections are conservatively low
 - 2030 total H₂ vehicle projections are 1-7% of all current vehicle production
 - Excludes tanks for mobile pipeline/gas distribution, refueling stations and stationary power



Opportunity for Carbon Fiber in Hydrogen Tanks

- By 2023, carbon fiber in H₂ tanks **exceeds current 14,950 MT¹** of carbon fiber into non-H₂ pressure vessels
- By 2028, carbon fiber in H₂ tanks **exceeds current 85,000 MT¹** industrial carbon fiber market
- By 2030, carbon fiber in H₂ tanks **exceeds projected 142,350 MT¹** industrial carbon fiber market for 2025

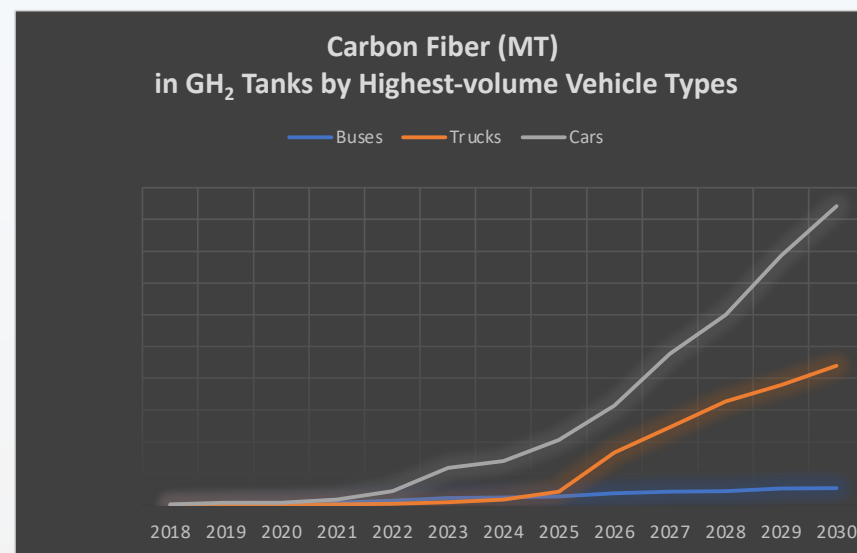
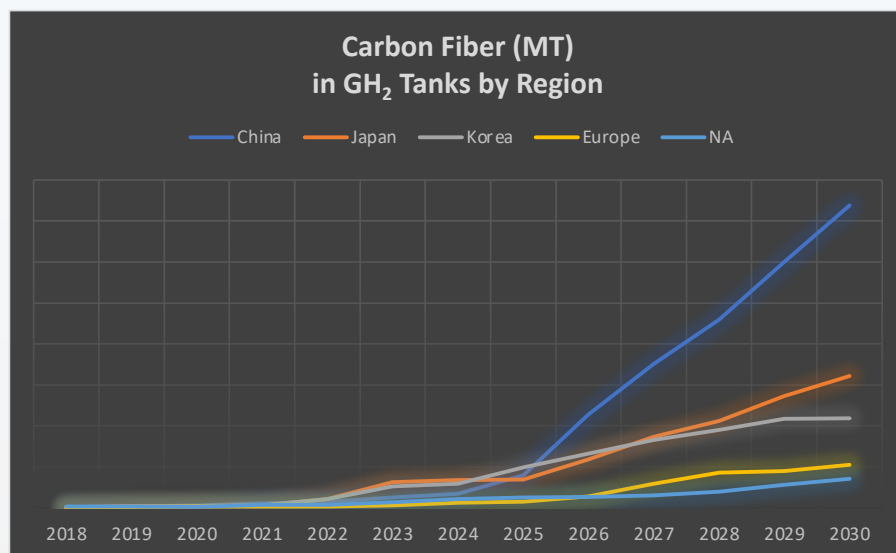
¹(AJR Consultancy forecast, CW 2019 Carbon Fiber conference)

Global Hydrogen Vehicles

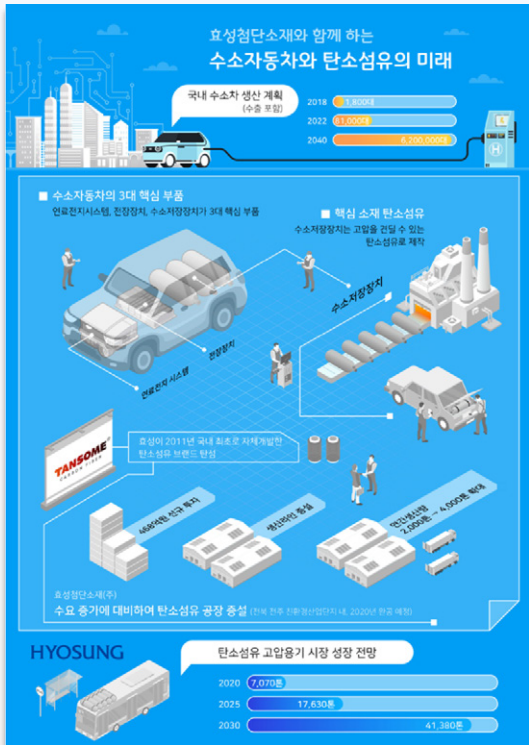
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Heavy Duty Land Transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	100	1,200	1,100	1,800	4,700	1,000	8,700	8,900	11,800	14,700	14,100	17,800	17,000
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Light and Medium Duty Land Transport	1,700	4,700	4,800	11,000	14,950	14,950	111,700	144,817	214,000	284,117	284,117	417,000	441,100
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CF Tonnes	1,700	4,700	4,800	11,000	14,950	14,950	111,700	144,817	214,000	284,117	284,117	417,000	441,100

Carbon Fiber in GH₂ Tanks by Region and Vehicle

- Largest FCV production markets are in Asia and for cars
- U.S. is lagging due to lack of government strategy/investment with only market from California regulations



Carbon Fiber Manufacturers



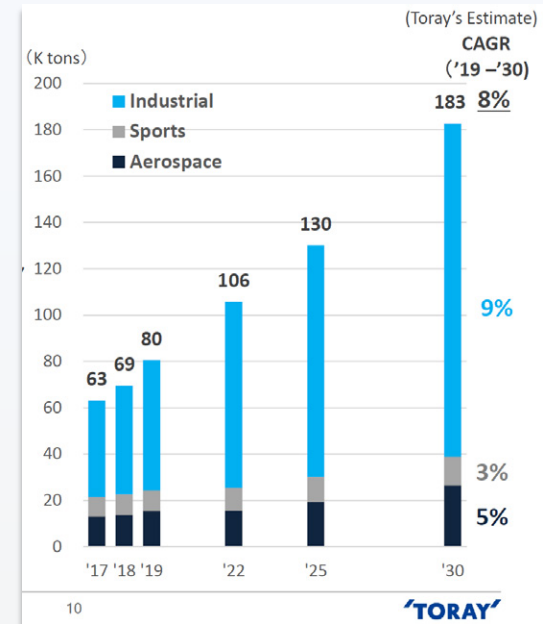
Source | Hyosung news Feb. 11, 2019

Toray

- “In addition to increased adoption of carbon fibers for wind turbine blade applications due to its size increase, hydrogen tanks and FC substrates have grown into major applications with the spread of FCVs.”
- “Set CHG tanks as the highest priority strategic application and preferentially allocate resources for development. Add high-performance and reduce costs of carbon fibers, and add high-function to matrix resins”

Hyosung

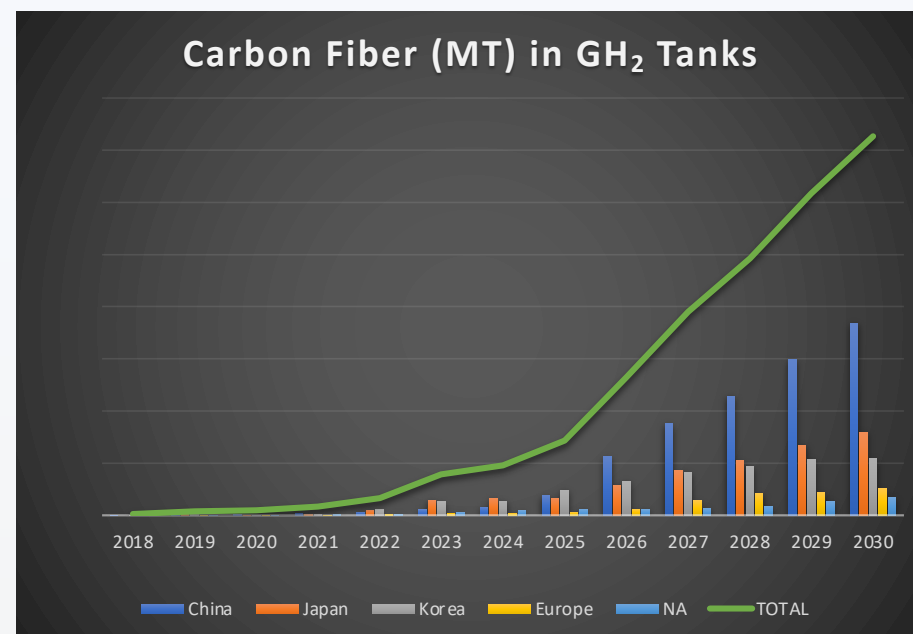
- Increase capacity from 1 line (2,000 tons) to 10 lines (24,000 tons) by 2028.
- “This expansion is part of efforts to prepare for increasing demand for carbon fiber, ... a core material for hydrogen and CNG vehicles, ... By 2030, hydrogen fuel tanks and CNG high-pressure vessels are expected to grow 120 times and more than four times, respectively.”



Source | Medium-term Management Program by Deputy General Manager, Torayca & Advanced Composites Division, June 2020

Conclusion

- The hydrogen tank market is promising but not assured
 - High cost of CFRP GH₂ tanks
 - Drive for increased H₂ mass and storage efficiency
 - Need for recyclability
 - R&D for metal LH₂ and cryo-compressed tanks as well as chemical/solid storage will continue and advance
 - TARGETS: cut tank cost by 75%, achieve storage system target cost of \$8 kWh
 - Further markets could be opened, including refueling stations, marine vessels and aviation





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