

Helsinki, 14 October 2015

Embargoed until 1pm on 14 October 2015

Finnish hydrogen filling station technology to be exported to Europe

Oy Woikoski Ab, a pioneer in the chemical industry, today announced that it will supply Gothenburg, Sweden, with a hydrogen filling station based on a new concept. The new hydrogen filling station is part of the TEN T network now under construction in Europe. This network is slated to include, for example, 400 filling stations in Germany, all to be built by 2020.

- “We are proud to be involved in the construction of a European vehicle-fuel network based on clean and renewable energy. The first of our filling stations to be built outside Finland, the station in Gothenburg makes for an excellent start to our technology exports. It is also testimony to the competitiveness of Finnish technological expertise,” explains Woikoski’s Managing Director Kalevi Korjala.

A study published by Finland’s Ministry of Transport and Communications in May found that 2,000,000 kg of hydrogen suitable for use as a traffic fuel is produced in Finland every year. This is enough to provide fuel for 10,000 private cars or 830 public-transport buses. Hydrogen production can be stepped up readily through an increase in the electrolysis capacity. In electrolysis, hydrogen gas is formed from water with the assistance of electricity. This makes a nearly unlimited supply of raw material for energy production readily available. Woikoski has been involved in hydrogen production for more than a century, and its electrolysis plant in Kokkola, which began operation in November 2014, is the largest hydrogen facility in Europe to use this technology.

Pure energy

The Ministry of Transport and Communications report also states that, besides electricity, hydrogen is the only source of energy that enables carbon-dioxide-emission-free transport, as long as no fossil fuels are used in the hydrogen production. Most of the hydrogen produced in Finland is generated as a by-product of industrial processes.

- “Woikoski is the leading clean-tech company in its field. While we acknowledge our strong Finnish roots, we are rapidly growing more international,” says Korjala.

A long-range fuel

A fuel-cell car running on hydrogen can travel 600 kilometres with a three-minute refuelling, in which the car is filled with five kilos of hydrogen. The current price of hydrogen is ten euros per kilo, translating to fuel costs of ten euros per hundred kilometres. Woikoski’s modern filling stations operate at a pressure of both 350 and 700 bar.

- “Our goal is to have 20 filling stations open in Finland by 2030, offering services throughout Finland’s traffic network,” says Korjala.

For further information, contact: Kalevi Korjala, Managing Director of Oy Woikoski Ab, at tel. +358 400 156 848, after 6pm on 14 October 2015.

Established in 1882, Oy Woikoski Ab is a Finnish family-run business and a forerunner in development of the gas and chemical industry. We offer our clients a wide range of comprehensive solutions and services related to gas distribution, from cylinders to large-scale distribution systems. Woikoski also supplies welding machines and equipment. We work with private customers, various branches of industry, and health-care and medical professionals alike. Woikoski employs 200 people, all over Finland. We invest heavily in hydrogen technology and strive to demonstrate concretely that we take our responsibility for the future seriously.