



## CHEM|ampere Infoday and Kickoff Meeting Stuttgart

12. November 2020

# "Scale-up of electrolyzers"

Andreas Brinner, Dr. Marc-Simon Löffler, Philip Spieth  
Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung  
Baden-Württemberg (ZSW)  
Regenerative Energieträger und Verfahren (REG)  
Meitnerstr. 1, D-70563 Stuttgart

# Contents:

- Short Overview about ZSW
- Manufacturing of Alkaline Electrolysis
- Component & Subsystem Development
- Operation Allowance & Certification
- Dynamic Plant Operation
- Development Needs

# **Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung Baden-Württemberg (ZSW)**

1988: ZSW was established as a non-profit foundation under the civil code.

2019: 275 employees work at 3 locations in the State of Baden-Württemberg (Turnover 2019: 48 m. EUR)



## **Goal of the foundation:**

Industry-oriented research  
and technology transfer  
in the field of renewable  
energies.





**Stuttgart:**  
Photovoltaics (with Solab), Energy Policy & Energy Carriers, Central Division  
Finance, IT, Human Resources and Legal



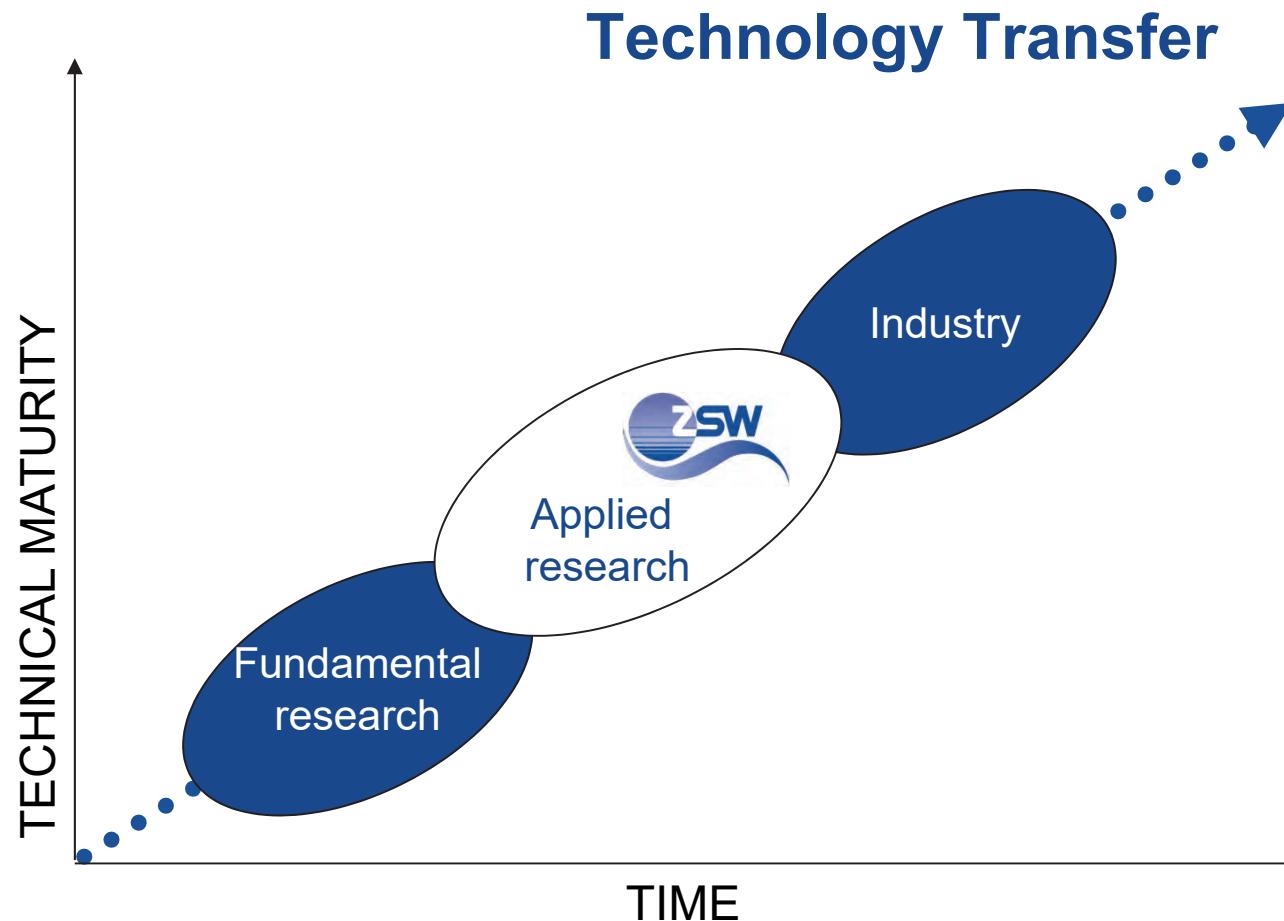
**Widderstall:** Solar Test Facility

## ZSW Locations



**Ulm:**  
Electrochemical Energy Technologies with ZSW Laboratory Battery Technologies (eLaB)





# Research Topics



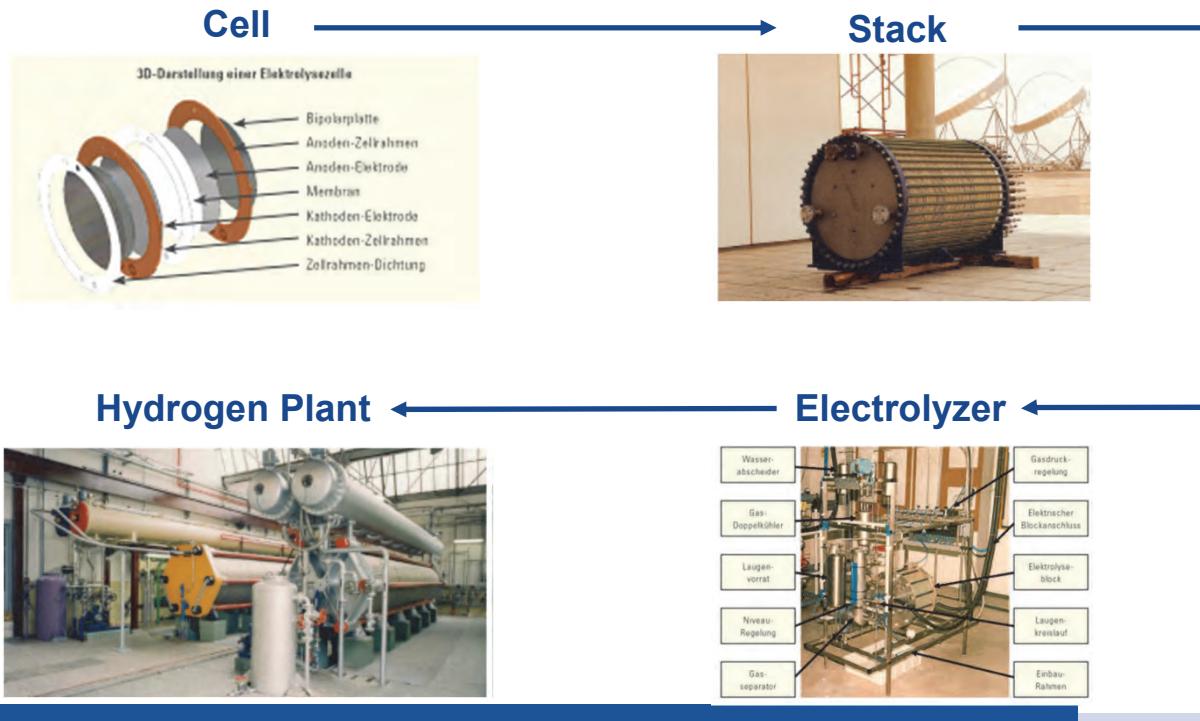
# Renewable Fuels



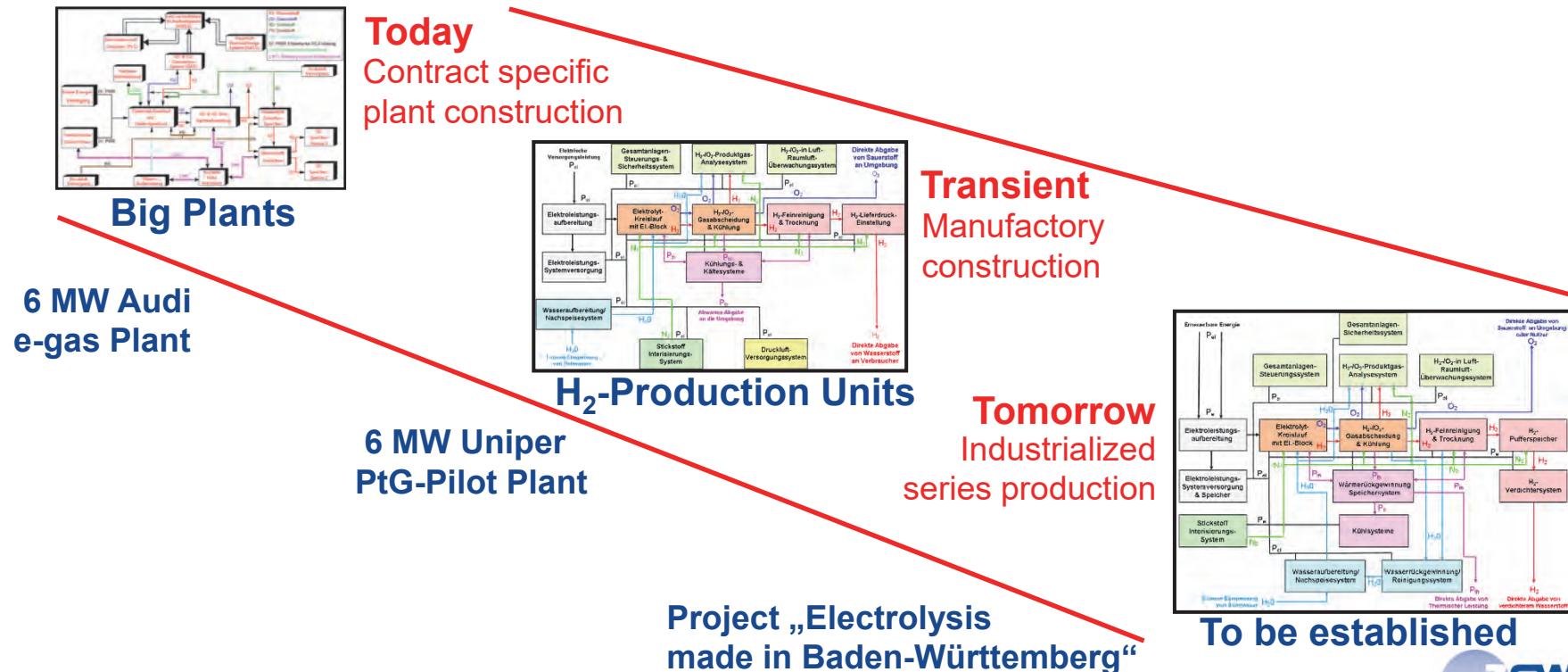
- P<sub>2</sub>X electrolysis
- CO<sub>2</sub> generation from biomass and air
- P2X on-site support
- Carbon from residues
- Raw material recycling in fluidized bed processes

# Hydrogen Production from Renewable Energies

## Water Electrolysis – from Cell to System

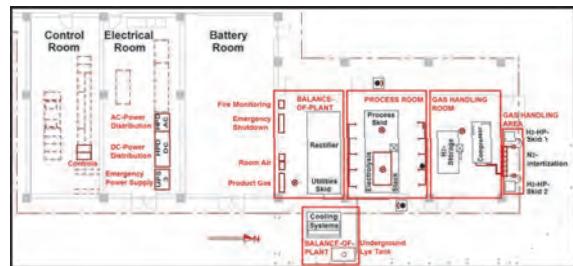


# Further Development of H<sub>2</sub>-Generation with Electrolysis - From Single Plant Construction to Series Production -



# Further Development of H<sub>2</sub>-Generation with Electrolysis - Cost Optimization -

→ Cost optimization with compact plant structure, strict modularization, series production



Today

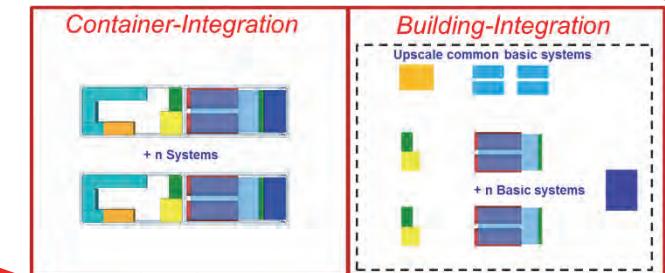


Process plant assembled from pre-fab. main systems in a specially designed plant building



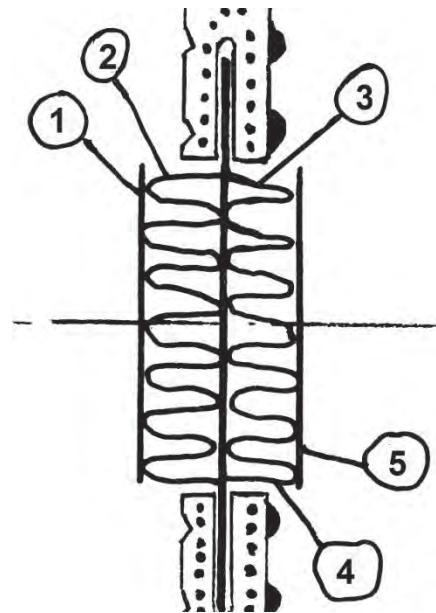
Tomorrow

Series of turnkey systems made from prefabricated subsystem modules and housings



# Electrode coating development using industrial processes

Electrode package typically consisting of:



1. Anodic working-electrode
2. Current collector
3. Bipolar separator
4. Current collector
5. Cathodic working-electrode

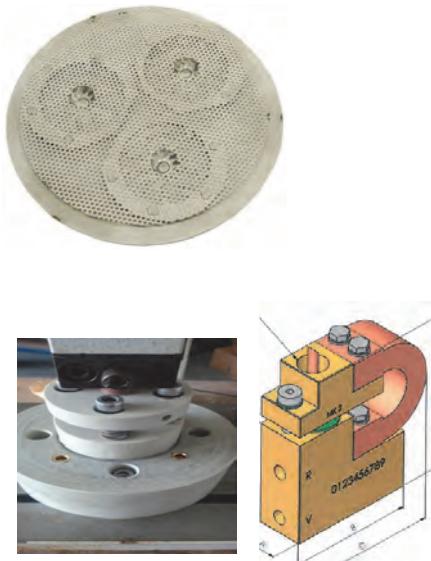
Coating ideal after assembly and separately for both sides  
also possible with different processes

Stable connection between  
the components  
by  
Spot / drawn arc / stud welding or  
similar processes



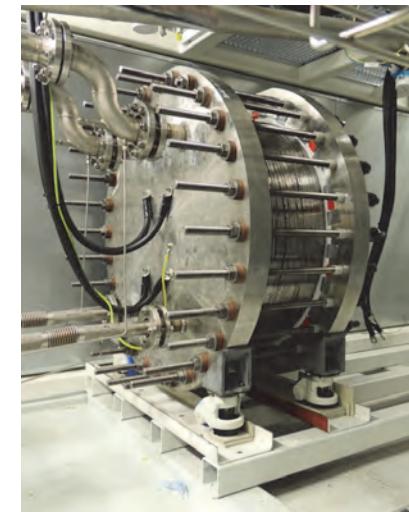
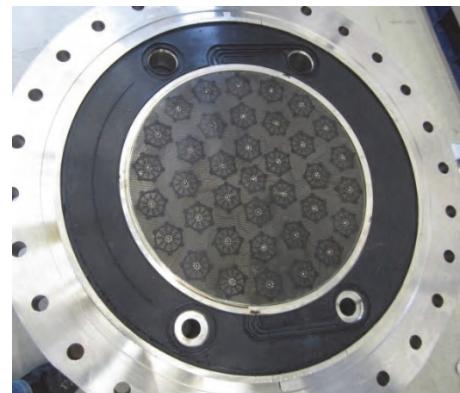
# Electrode Package & Catalytically Active Coating

- A new electrode package concept was developed, implemented in small series on a scale of 2715 cm<sup>2</sup> and with cathodic coating.
- All necessary small series tools for package production were developed in-house.

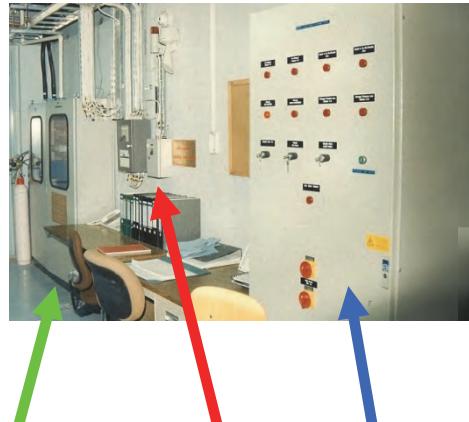


# Electrolysis Stack, Cell Frame

- Within the project a new and innovative AEL cell frame and stack concept was developed and successfully implementing as a 5, 24 and 63 cell stack in several stages of development and approving it for operation.
- All necessary tools for cell frame production were developed in the project frame.



# Development of standards for on-line product gas supervision and analysis and room air monitoring



All safety devices for operation concentrated in one place (from left to right):

- **Gas Analysis**
- **Indoor Air Monitoring**
- **Operational Safety Limitation**

Permanently functional gas analysis device for alkaline media is complex for longevity and trouble-free function



Gas sampling is a complexe and separate topic



# Approved Product Gas & Room Air Monitoring

A simple SIL2-capable room air monitoring system was identified and implemented.

The development of a SIL2-compatible product gas monitoring system was successful, some operation restrictions are still existing.

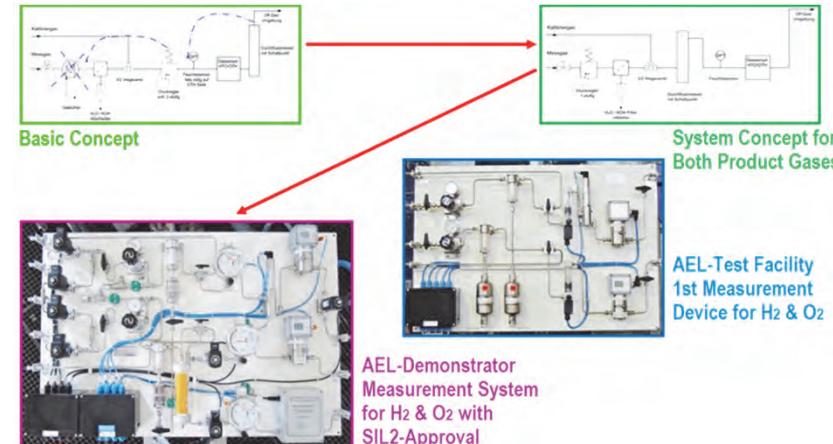


## Room Air Monitoring 1 MW Demonstrator



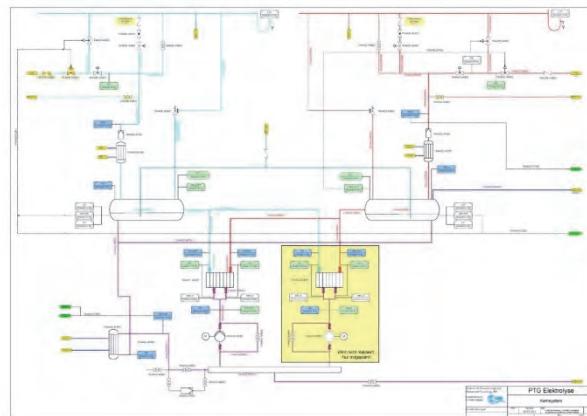
H<sub>2</sub>- & O<sub>2</sub>-transmitter  
integrated and operable in the  
AEL-demonstrator facility

## Produkt Gas Monitoring 100 kW Test Facility & 1 MW Demonstrator



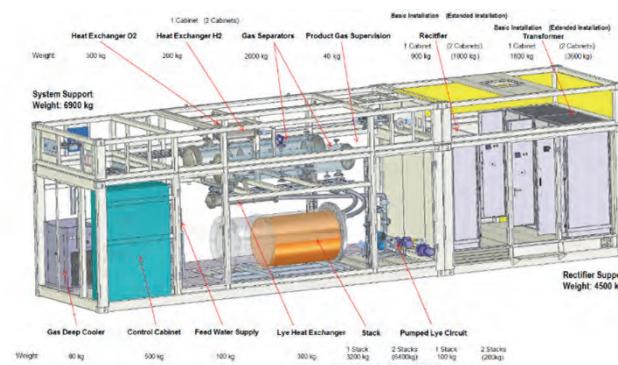
# 1MW AEL-Electrolysis Core System System Concept

P&I-Concept



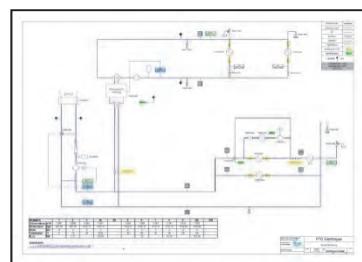
Gas & Liquid Circuits

Container-Integration

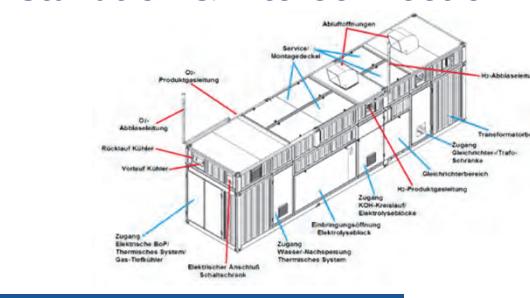


Projekt P2G-Elektrolyse  
Gefördert durch:  
 Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft  
und Energie  
aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

Cooling Circuits



Installation & Interconnection Concept



# 1MW AEL-Electrolysis Core System

## System installation completed in July 2016



- Controls
- Pow-Distrib:



- Gas-Cooler
- Cooling Circuit



- Separator,
- Cooler,
- KOH-Circuit,
- Water-Feed



Rectifier Cabinet

Transformer



Elektrolysis  
Stack



Rectifier



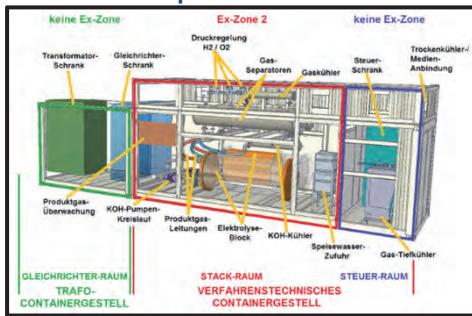
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# 1MW AEL-Electrolysis Core System

## System Realization completed within 31 months

From basic idea to system concept in 9 months



From system concept to installation start in 6 months



From installation start to system startup in 16 months



### Summary:

Reduce realization time from design to startup at operation location

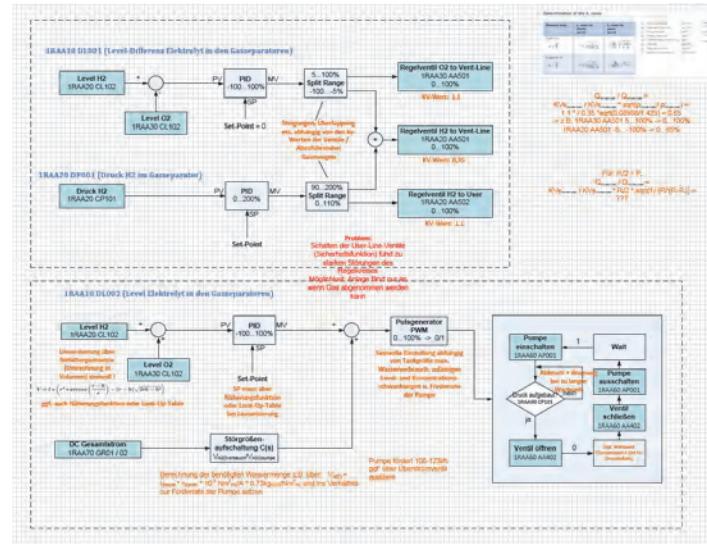
Projekt P2G-Elektrolyse  
Gefördert durch:  
 Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie  
aufgrund eines Beschlusses des Deutschen Bundestages

# Safe Plant Operation

An independent safety concept for the 1 MW demonstration system was developed, tested as part of a multi-stage, moderated HAZOP process and implemented with a safety-related PCS7 control.

# Security matrix for the independent shutdown of system operation

## Coordinated control loops for the automated system operation



**Projekt P2G-Elektrolyse**  
Gefördert durch:  
 Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft  
und Energie  
aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages

# CE-Certification

## Examples of the CE-Conformity Procedure of ZSW's 300 kW R&D-Facility

### Preliminary calc. check of an AEL-pressure electrolysis stack



### Static load calculation 300 kW AEL demonstrator

Projekt : CARU Containers B.V.	Datum : 05/2016
Beschreibung: ZSW 4000x2640x3400	
Autor : Gma	
Projekt : CARU Containers B.V.	Datum : 06/2016
Beschreibung: ZSW 7625x2640x3400	
Autor : Gma	
<b>Hinweis</b>	
Beim Containerheben mittels des Krans müssen die Längen von 4 Anhängeselen so eingestellt werden, dass die beide Teile von Container in der Waagerechte gehoben wird. Die Höhe der Aufhängung auf dem Kranhaken beträgt 3300mm vom Dach.	
<b>Schlussbemerkung</b>	
Die Statik der vorgeschlagenen Stäbe der Tragkonstruktion und der dünnwandige Bleche entspricht den angegebenen Normen. Die Berechnung wurde nach Kombination der Belastungs Gewicht (Stahlelemente, Trapezbleche, Isolation) +Technologische Einrichtungen +Flaschenlast +Schnee + Wind vorgenommen.	
1. Transportzustand Keine Flächenlast auf dem Boden und keiner Schnee auf dem Dach.	
2. Gebrauchszustand Der Container entwurfen für diese Belastungen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Technologische Einrichtungen</li><li>- Flaschenlast <math>q = 2,5 \text{ kN/m}^2</math> Boden</li><li>- Schnee <math>s_k = 0,873 \text{ kN/m}^2</math></li><li>- Wind <math>v_b = 22,5 \text{ m/s}</math>, Geländeckategorie II</li></ul>	

# Application for Installation and Operation Permission within the Regulations of the German Federal Emission Control Act

## Operating license for the 100 kW AEL test bench

Operating license  
since 09/23/2014,  
processing time: 6 months

**BERICHT**  
über die Prüfung eines Arbeitsmittel  
nach § 10 BetSchV in der aktuellen Fassung

**Betreiber:** Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung Baden-Württemberg  
Industriestraße 5  
70565 Stuttgart

**Betriebsstätte:** Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung Baden-Württemberg  
Industriestraße 5  
70565 Stuttgart

**Bezeichnung Arbeitsmittel:** AEL-System-Profilstand

**Hersteller:** ID Motor s.r.l.  
Via Molino 13  
26845 Codogno (CO)

**Herstelljahr:** 2010

**Komponenten:** Ganzrechte Anlage AEL-System  
Hydrogen H2 0400/2500/0000;  
Container mit Elektrolyse- und  
Verdichteranlage; Anlage besteht aus  
verschiedenen, Wasserstoff-Verarbeitungs-, H<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub>-  
Trockner sowie Membranen- und  
Filter, Trockner sowie MSR-Technik

**Durchgeführte Prüfungen:**  
Sicherheitsmatrix  
Ordnungsprüfung  
Prüfung Herstellunterlagen

**Prüfbefund:**  
1 Die Sicherheitsmatrix ist nicht unter industriellen Bedingungen geprägt worden.  
2

**Erlichtungsmaßnahmen:**  
zB Nr. Mängelbehebung  
1  
2

**Prüfergebnis:**  
Mit Prüfung vom 23.09.2014 konnten keine Mängel festgestellt werden. Angehafte Unterlagen sind Be-  
standteil der Prüfbescheinigung.

**Datum der Sicherheitstechnischen Überprüfung:** Nächste Sicherheitstechnische Überprüfung:  
23. September 2014 (nächste Festlegung in der Gefährdungsbeurteilung)

**Dipl.-Ing. Michael Körz | VDI**  
Dipl.-Ing. Michael Körz | VDI  
Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung Baden-Württemberg  
Industriestraße 5, D-70565 Stuttgart

**GCE**

Operating license for the  
**1 MW AEL demo plant**  
Construction permit &  
operating license  
since 08/20/2014,  
processing time: 1 year

**STUTTGART**

**Gesetzgebende A:** 70162 Stuttgart  
**Ansprachpartnerin:** Frau Klemm  
Gesetzgebende A, Abteilung 23  
0711 216-88724  
Durchwahl  
Telefon  
EDV  
E-mail  
gebaeude.ankuerzung.anderung@zsw.de  
20. August 2014

**ENTSCHEIDUNG**

**I. Rechtsgrundlagen**  
Nachfolgende Entscheidung ergibt aufgrund der immissionschutzrechtlichen Genehmigung vom 05.04.2012 sowie der Entscheidung vom 28.01.2014 i. V. m. §§ 4, 10 Abs. 1 und 12 Abs. 1 Nr. 1 Bauaufsichtsgesetz und dem Baugenehmigungsbeschluss (siehe Anhang), i. V. m. §§ 1, 2 und Anhang Ziffer 4.1.12 der 4. BlmSchV.

**II. Immissionschutzrechtliche Genehmigung**  
1. Das Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung (ZSW) erhält auf seinen Antrag vom 03.03.2014, zuletzt ergänzt mit Unterlagen vom 22.04.2014, die

**immissionschutzrechtliche Genehmigung  
(Änderungsanwendung)**

für die Errichtung der Versuchsanlage zur Herstellung von Methan aus Wasserstoff und Kohlenstoff sowie den unbefristeten Betrieb der Anlage auf dem Grundstück Industriestraße 42, 70565 Stuttgart.

Die immissionschutzrechtliche Genehmigung schließt nach § 13 BlmSchG die Baugenehmigung des Bauvorhabens gemäß § 4(1) LBO mit ein. Von folgenden Voraussetzungen des Bauvorhabens werden Befreiungen (B) erteilt:  
- der neue Zaun verläuft teilweise auf rot-100-Fläche  
- Fassaden Gestaltung (FG)

**2. Antragsgegenstand**  
Im Rahmen eines Forschungsprojektes beschäftigt das ZSW einen weissen (zusätzlichen) Versuchstand für einen Elektrolyse-Stack mit max. 370 kW<sub>e</sub> Anschlussleistung und max. 60 m<sup>3</sup>/h Wasserstoff in der Süd-West-Ecke des Gebäudes. Der Versuchstand wird über eine Feuerungsanlage mit einem Gasfeuerungsanlagen zu betreiben. Geplant ist ein dynamischer Versuchsbetrieb mit unterschiedlichen Last-, Ein-/Aus-Zeiten. Der erzeugte Wasserstoff wird über die bestehende Feuerungsanlage verbrannt.

# The Electrolysis Development continues with the Follow-Up Project „BW-Electrolysis“ since April 2020

- Further Development of Critical Electrolysis Components

Bipolar Plate  
Micro Sensors



Membrane  
Re-inforced PBI



APS/ VPS -  
Electrode Coating



Electrode Package  
Cell Frame Design



- Industrialization of Components, Subsystem, Plant Assembly

AEG POWER SOLUTIONS

CARU TECH containers

DGS Dienstleistungen GmbH

Endress + Hauser E+I

GEMÜ

GREEN HYDROGEN  
ESSENDE

GVA Power Electronics

HAASE ENGINEERING

HOLZAPFEL  
green roofing

FREUDENBERG  
INNOVATING TOGETHER

K.U.K.T.  
Kautschuk & Kunststoff-Technologie GmbH

Platypus PES

PRO-CHEM ANALYTIC SIEMENS

KMP  
KRICK MEDTECHNIK & PARTNER

MANN +  
HUMMEL

MUNK  
50 years

aerlikon  
metco

STAHL  
THE STRONGEST LINK.

SÜLZLE

centrotherm  
clean solutions

e-mobil  
bw

aichelin group  
testo Be sure.

Stahlbau-Innovationszentrum  
Baustoffe, Systeme und  
Anwendungen (SIS)

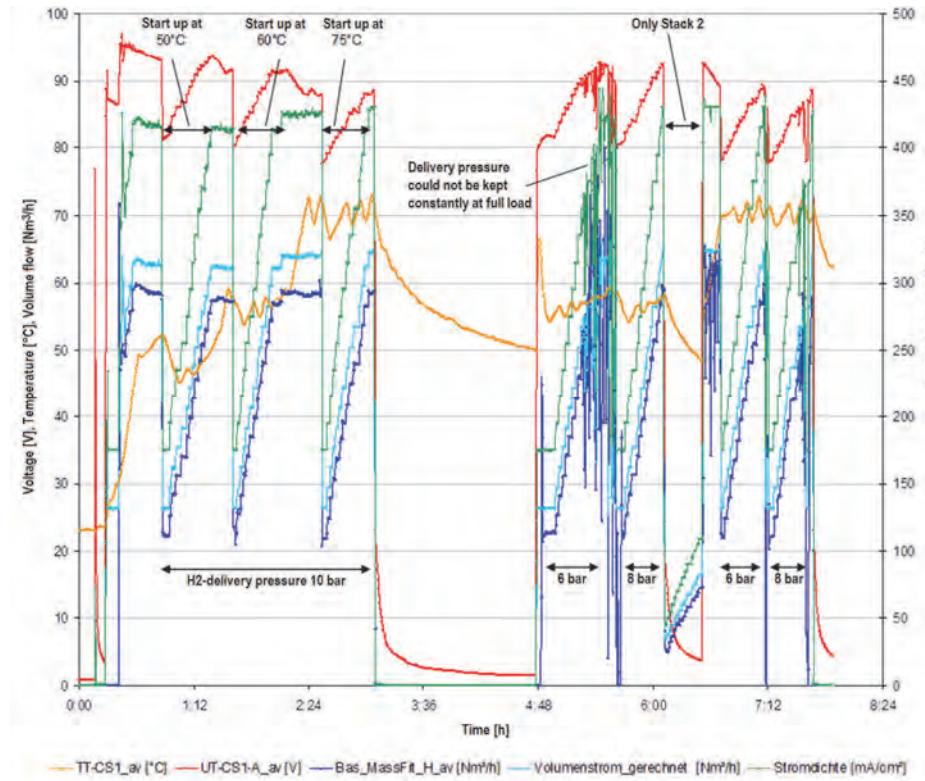
SYBABO  
Sondermaschinenbau

VOSS FRIGOR TEC  
Climate for Industry

fumatech  
Membranes for Hydrogen Production and Fuel Cells  
BWT GROUP

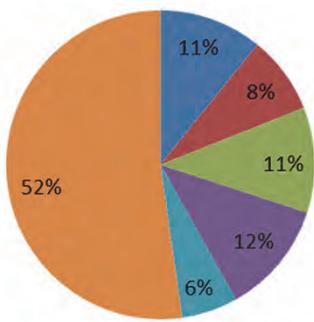
Development Needs

# Dynamic Electrolysis Operation with Different Starting Temperatures and Delivery Pressure Levels

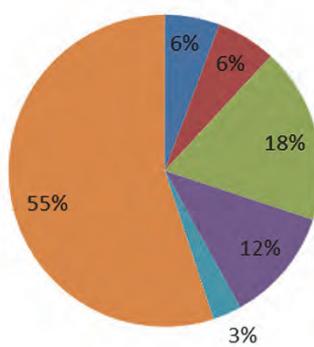


# Results of operating tests

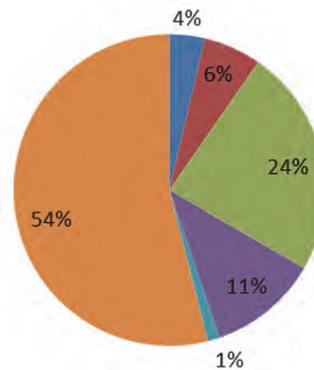
## Energy consumption at 10 bar<sub>g</sub>



$i = 200 \text{ mA/cm}^2$



$i = 400 \text{ mA/cm}^2$



$i = 600 \text{ mA/cm}^2$

■ ET-Switch Cabinet

■ Evaporation Enthalpy

■ Rectifier Energy Losses

■ Faraday Losses

■ Stack Losses

■ Hydrogen Energy

# Industrially Available Electrolysis Plant

- Container/ building integration concept of all subsystems,
- Plant installation and interconnection concept,
- Approved safety concept,
- Operating license easily accessible,
- Operating, maintenance, degradation experience,
- User insight into process control,
- User parameterization of process control.

# Advanced Electrolysis Plant

## Catalog of measures:

Electrochemistry, energy recovery, subsystem / component development, operational management

- Activated electrodes,
- Subsystem modularization,
- Minimization of external subsystems,
- Energy saving through efficient components, subsystems, subsystem shutdown in standby,
- Integration of electrical & thermal storage,
- Provision of thermal power to external users
- Modularization of operation control program parts under common approved common user interface.

# Intermittently Operable Electrolysis System

## Catalog of measures:

Mechanics, use of residual energy, operational management

- Material pairing in the block & circuits,
- Minimization of cell block components,
- Performance pressure adjustment,
- Minimization of flushing processes,
- Maintenance of operating temperature,
- Operation transition scenarios with dynamic operation, automatic standby transition/ restart, long-term standby, standby mode, etc.

# Efficient Electrolysis System

## Catalog of measures:

electrochemistry, connection technology, process engineering,  
efficient components / subsystems

- Shut-off-proof, activated electrodes, advanced membrane with optimized ion resistance, high mechanical and high differential pressure resistance,
- Optimization of the electrical contact resistance by optimization of the electrode package incl., working electrodes, bipolar plate, current transformer,
- Maintaining of the alkali concentration, water / alkali recovery,
- Internally regenerable water treatment and gas cleaning systems.

# Specifically Usable Electrolysis Plant Concepts

## Catalog of measures:

System modularization, operating results largely autonomous operation (energetic, automatic manufacturing, automatic regeneration cycles)

- Maintenance minimization (long-lasting subsystem development, automatic regeneration)
- Subsystem modularization (standardization of interfaces, serial producibility of performance / quantity-independent subsystems, scalability of subsystems)
- Plant concept for cost-optimized hydrogen production (minimal concept)
- Plant concept for largely autonomous operation (energetic, automatic manufacturing operation, automatic regeneration cycles)
- Minimization of maintenance work (long-life development, automatic regeneration), quantity-independent subsystems, subsystem scalability)
- Modularization of the plant subsystems (interface standardization, series producibility, subsystem scalability)

# Areas of R&D

## EFFICIENCY

*Improved materials in the area: frame, membrane, electrodes*

- Operating temperature increase up to 150 °C
- Pressure increase up to over 30 bar
- Minimization of ionic resistance and electrochemical energy consumption
- Increasing the differential pressure resistance

## CAPEX

*Simplification of the process engineering system periphery*

- Use of plastics
- Simplification, summary, minimization of subsystems
- Reduction of the number of components and functional integration

## APPLICATION

*Operating areas, product gas quality, operating fluid tolerance*

- intermittent operation (start / stop operation from cold and standby mode)
- dynamic operation (optimal use of a fluctuating range of services)
- Increase in product gas quality in dynamic operation
- Increase tolerance towards raw water quality (use of salt water, brackish water, polluted water)

## AUTONOMY

*Optimization of plant operation*

- Plant operation completely from the primary energy supply (grid independence)
- Minimization of the overall system energy consumption

## OPEX

*Operational automation & maintenance cost optimization*

## AVAILABILITY

*Industrialization of results*

# // THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

## ANY QUESTIONS LEFT ?



Stuttgart



Widderstall



Ulm



Ulm eLaB

Dipl.-Ing. Andreas Brinner

Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung Baden-Württemberg

Regenerative Energieträger und Verfahren

Meitnerstr. 1, D-70563 Stuttgart

Tel: ++49 (0)711 7870-338, Email: [andreas.brinner@zsw-bw.de](mailto:andreas.brinner@zsw-bw.de)

