

# Hydrogen Storage on board aeronef and ground infrastructure

Air Liquide Advanced Technologies – Workshop on aeronautical applications of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies

Lampoldshausen 16/09/2015 | Emmanuel Bensadoun



# Content

## 1. Status of hydrogen fuel cell implementation, state of the art

## 2. On-board hydrogen storage systems

- a) H<sub>2</sub> storage system definition
- b) H<sub>2</sub> storage system aeronautical requirements
- c) Storage technologies and state of the art efficiency
- d) High pressure hydrogen storage systems
- e) Liquid hydrogen storage systems

## 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

- a) Airport and aircraft requirements to hydrogen charging systems
- b) Technological solutions for airport infrastructure
- c) LH<sub>2</sub> charging complexity
- d) Conclusions

# 1. Status of hydrogen fuel cell implementation, state of the art H2 Energy. It already exists ...

- 5 000 stationary fuel cell in operation WW



- Over 4000 FC Forklift

- 3000 aux US (Wallmart, Coca-Cola...)
- En France: 10 chariots sur le site de Vatry d'AL



USA – Forklift

- 200 (60 from Air Liquide) refilling stations

- 50 buses et 300 FCEV Demo



London – FC Bus

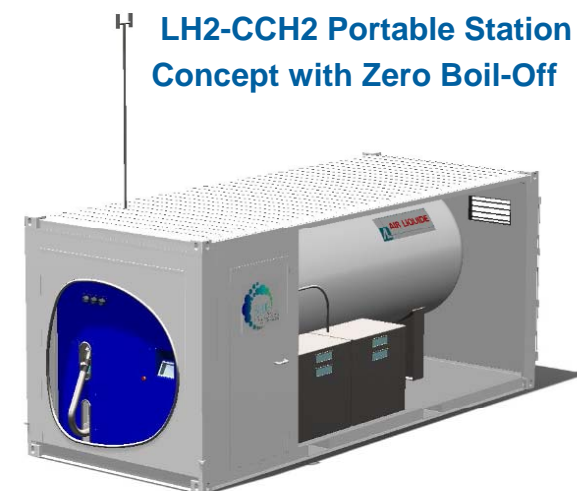


Shanghai – Challenge Bibendum

→ ... *mostly fed with high pressure cylinders because car market is driving storage technology development*

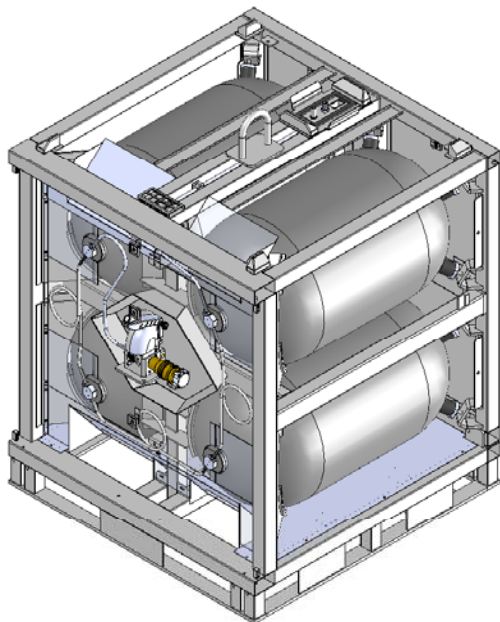


# 1. Status of hydrogen fuel cell implementation, state of the art GH2-CCH2-LH2 charging stations

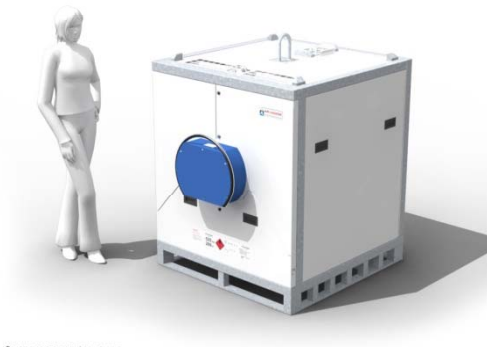


# 1. Status of hydrogen fuel cell implementation, state of the art

## New standardized H2 storages : H4-142 litres at 700 bars



- Type 4 cylinders individual or packaged
- Transportation Cost divided by 3

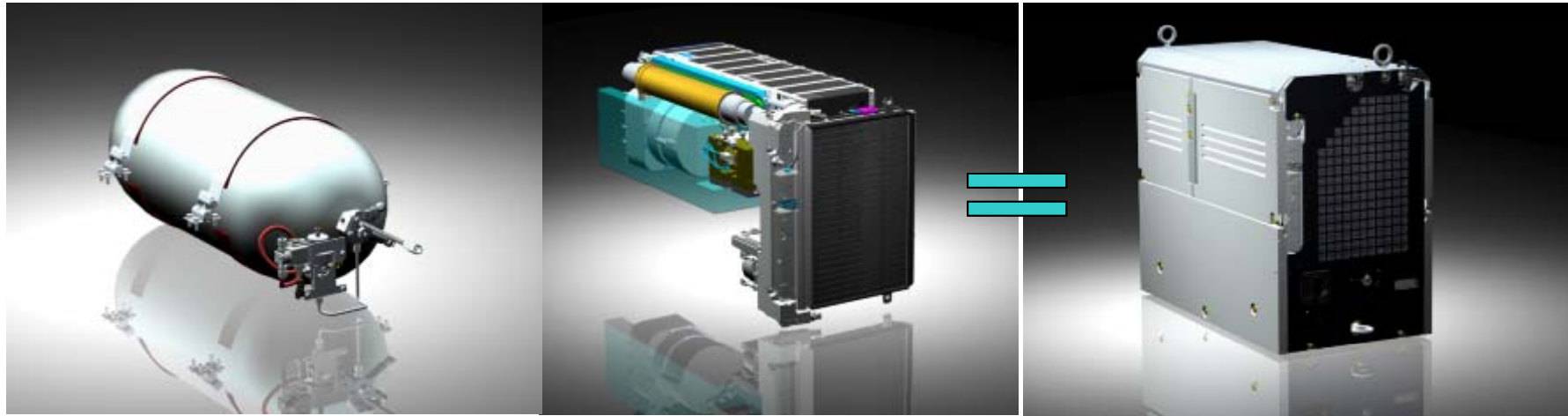


- Integrated HyDeal Pressure Regulator 700/10 bar with Wi-Fi pressure sensor



# 1. Status of hydrogen fuel cell implementation, state of the art

## Plug&Play Integrated Fuel Cell for Fork Lift



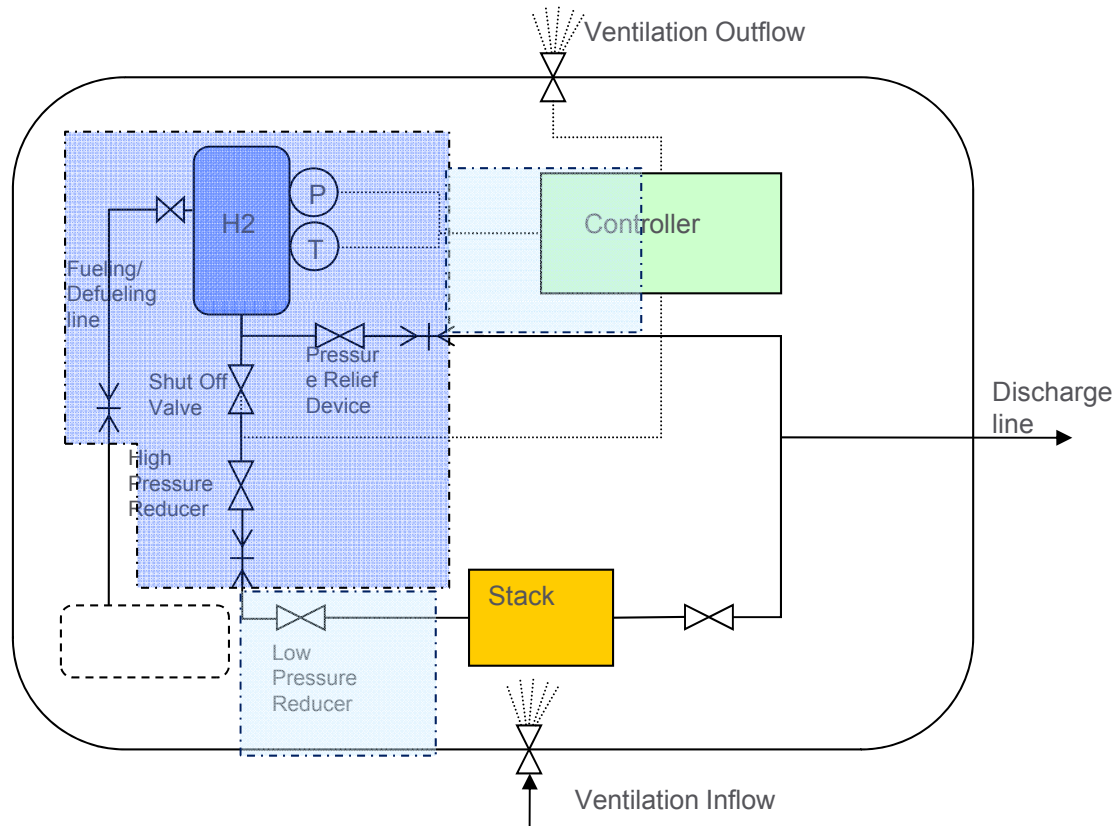
- 5 – 15 kW range; 48 V
- 350 b type III tank; 1 kg H<sub>2</sub>
- MEA LifeTime > 10,000 hrs demonstrated in operation
- Could become airworthy with adaptations
- Suited for galley , R.A.T. for instance
- Aircraft retrofit market reachable



Proprietary FC  
development

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### a) Hydrogen storage definition



- + Safety devices: PRD, TPRD, purge valves
- + Mechanical supporting: brackets, ...

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### b) Aeronautical Technical Requirements

- **Gravimetric performance** to ensure appropriate autonomy and cost efficiency
- **Volumetric performance** to match with the integration constraints
- **Control and Monitoring** to enable the management of the system, the energy level real time monitoring, to know and deal with any potential safety issue occurring, or maintenance required action
- **Safety** and environmental compatibility
  - H2 leakage management to cancel fire and explosion risks
  - Particular risk compatibility
  - Environmental compatibility: compliance with DO160 requirements
- **Hydrogen quality**
- **Maintenance and operability**
  - System availability
  - Acceptable MTBF
  - Cycling
  - Refilling
  - Maintainability: LRU/SRU concept,...



## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### b) Aeronautical Technical Requirements

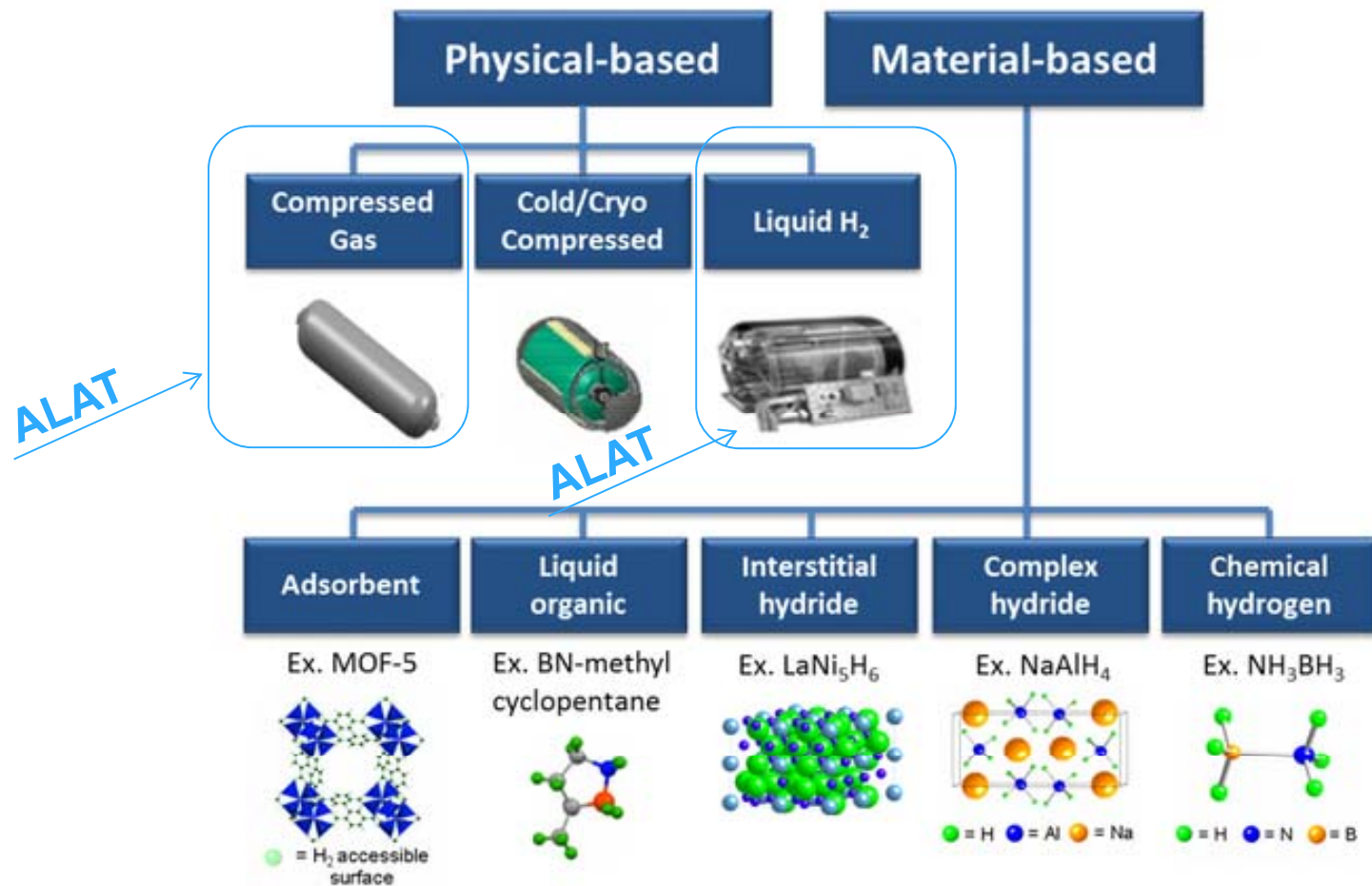
The Aircraft type and the foreseen system integration induce certain constraints:

- A **pressurized** area installation offer less H2 venting options → H2 leakages shall be extremely remote or any abnormal leakage shall be directly vented overboard
  - An **unpressurized** area installation allows easier leakage management but generate more severe environmental conditions
  - Depending on the application the storage device can be **located remotely** from the fuel cell inducing additional hydrogen piping → more leakage risks
  - The **security** toward hydrogen access is affected by cabin integration and passengers possible access to the H2 storage system
  - The **cabin integration** may also induce thermal management issues due to the heat rejection of the fuel cell → indirect impact on the storage system
  - **UAV fuel cell** or propulsion systems allow important integration and safety constraints relaxations regarding the H2 storage system
- → each targeted aircraft and application induce dedicated constraints on the hydrogen storage system.
- → the differences in terms of applicable regulations can impact the hydrogen storage system requirements.

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### a) Storage technologies and state of the art performances

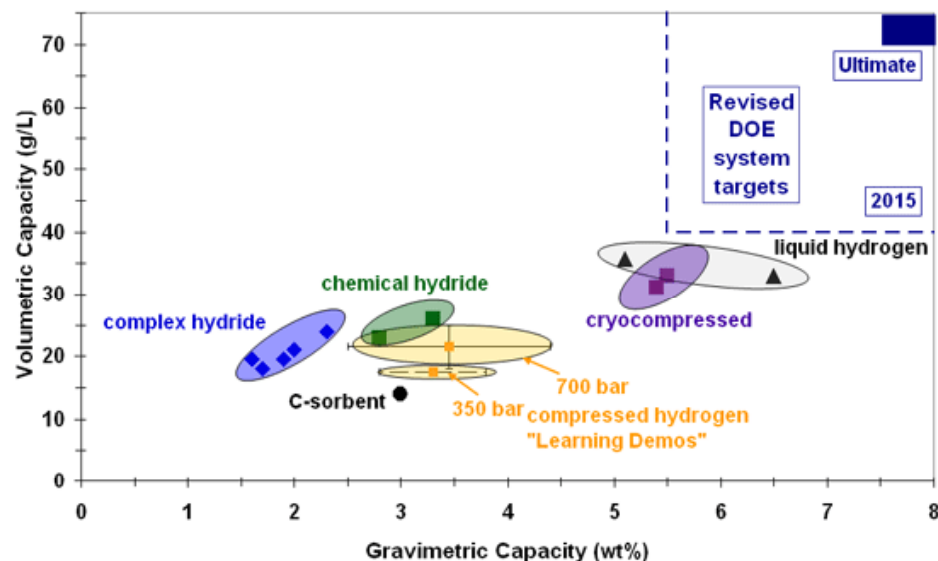
#### - Storage technologies overview (source: US DOT website)



## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### b) Storage technologies and state of the art performances

#### - Status of Hydrogen Storage Technologies DOE 2009



Storage System Targets	Gravimetric Density kWh/kg system (kg H <sub>2</sub> /kg system)	Volumetric Density kWh/L system (kg H <sub>2</sub> /L system)	Cost \$/kWh (\$/kg H <sub>2</sub> )
2020	1.8 (0.055)	1.3 (0.040)	\$10 (\$333)
Ultimate	2.5 (0.075)	2.3 (0.070)	\$8 (\$266)
Current Status (from Argonne National Laboratory)	Gravimetric Density kWh/kg system (kg H <sub>2</sub> /kg system)	Volumetric Density kWh/L system (kg H <sub>2</sub> /L system)	Cost <sup>b</sup> \$/kWh (\$/kg H <sub>2</sub> )
700 bar compressed (Type IV, single tank)	1.5 (0.044)	0.8 (0.024)	\$17 <sup>c</sup> (\$566)
350 bar compressed (Type IV, single tank)	1.8 (0.054)	0.6 (0.017)	\$13 <sup>c</sup> (\$433)

<sup>a</sup> Assumes a storage capacity of 5.6 kg of usable hydrogen.  
<sup>b</sup> Cost projections are estimated at 500,000 units per year and are reported in 2007\$.  
<sup>c</sup> Cost projection from Strategic Analysis (January 2013).

Table 3.3.2 Projected Performance of Hydrogen Storage Systems <sup>a</sup>				
Hydrogen Storage System	Gravimetric (kWh/kg sys)	Volumetric (kWh/L sys)	Cost (\$/kWh; projected to 500,000 units/yr)	Year Published
700-bar compressed (Type IV) <sup>b</sup>	1.7	0.9	19	2010
350-bar compressed (Type IV) <sup>b</sup>	1.8	0.6	16	2010
Cryo-compressed (276 bar) <sup>b</sup>	1.9	1.4	12	2009
Metal hydride (NaAlH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>c</sup>	0.4	0.4	TBD	2012
Sorbent (AX-21 carbon, 200 bar) <sup>c</sup>	1.3	0.8	TBD	2012
Chemical H <sub>2</sub> storage (AB-liquid) <sup>c</sup>	1.3	1.1	TBD	2012

<sup>a</sup> Assumes a storage capacity of 5.6 kg of usable H<sub>2</sub>.

<sup>b</sup> Based on Argonne National Laboratory performance and TIAX cost projections<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>c</sup> Based on Hydrogen Storage Engineering Center of Excellence performance projections<sup>9</sup>.

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### b) Storage technologies and state of the art performances

#### Consideration about the H2 storage technologies

##### •High Pressure storage systems

- + •High maturity (automotive industry, Hycarus project), acceptable cost, similarity to existing gaseous systems (oxygen storage)
- •Low potential improvement with regards to gravimetric and volumetric performances, high pressure on board

##### •Liquid storage systems

- + •Very High gravimetric and volumetric efficiency, low pressure, intrinsic double wall against H2 leakage, high maturity on ground
- •Boil-off, high cost

##### •Cryo-compressed

- + •High gravimetric and volumetric efficiency, trade-off between high pressure and liquid storage performances
- 

##### •Reversible material storage

- + •No gaseous hydrogen
- •Low gravimetric efficiency, reversibility management on board?

##### •Chemical material storage

- + •No gaseous hydrogen
- •Regeneration process, by-products management?



## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### c) High Pressure Hydrogen Storage System

- High Pressure GH<sub>2</sub> Storage : 4 main types of storage technologies

 Type I	Type I	Pressure vessel made of <b>metal</b> (mainly for stationary application(SA))
 Type II	Type II	Thick <b>metallic</b> liner hoop wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> (SA)
 Type III	Type III	<b>Load-sharing</b> liner fully-wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> (portable applications (PA))
 Type IV	Type IV	<b>Non load-sharing</b> liner fully-wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> .

- **Type I and II** have too limited volumetric and gravimetric capacities
- **Type III** exhibits:
  - Good gravimetric capacity (350bar) or lower gravimetric capacity (700bar)
  - Low volumetric capacity (350bar) or high volumetric capacity (700bar)
  - No permeation
  - Limited pressure cycling
  - Possible liner corrosion
- **Type IV** exhibits:
  - Good gravimetric and volumetric capacities
  - High pressure cycling
  - Permeation
  - Possible liner clogging
  - Limited operating temperature range

→ Different kind of advantages which makes type III and type IV potentially suited for different aeronautical applications

## c) On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

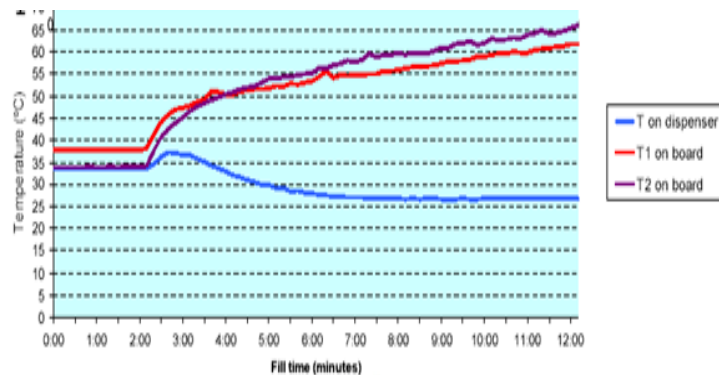
### c) High Pressure Hydrogen Storage System

- High Pressure GH<sub>2</sub> Storage : 2 relevant storage technologies

	Type I	Pressure vessel made of <b>metal</b> (mainly for stationary application(SA))
	Type II	Thick <b>metallic</b> liner hoop wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> (SA)
	Type III	Load-sharing liner fully-wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> (portable applications (PA))
	Type IV	Non load-sharing liner fully-wrapped with a <b>fiber-resin composite</b> .

- Diffent refilling pressures from 350 bar to 700 bar
- Different life cycle management

- Filling patterns depend on cylinder technology



- For faster flow, GH<sub>2</sub> needs to be cooled down before refilling the storage device

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### d) High Pressure Hydrogen Storage System

- Conclusion

- **TRL6** to be demonstrated through Hycarus Project in 2016 → TRL6 will be valid for one vessel technology in cabin integration
- **Regulation** to be defined (cf SAE WG80 and FAA ARC) → impact on gravimetric performances
- Components to be developed to comply with qualification and certification requirements
- **Limited gravimetric and volumetric** performances potential of improvement; unsuited to large hydrogen consuming targeted applications
- **High pressure** on board aircraft remains an issue towards safety considerations (cf oxygen bottles)
- **Hydrogen charging is mature** and depends on the storage pressure and the charging duration

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

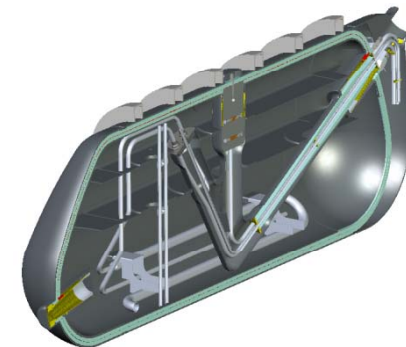
### e) Liquid Hydrogen Storage System

- A lot of developments done for the automotive industry in the 2000s
- Hundreds of kilograms storable in an aircraft



12 kg Air Liquide tank

Any shape



Air Liquide tank

Gravimetric index  
15% demonstrated

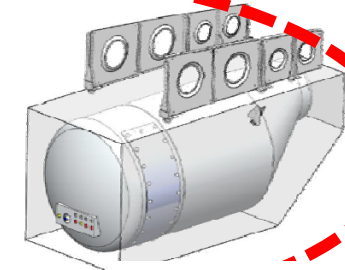


Cryogenic valve

Liquid H<sub>2</sub> coupling for charging



A liquid H<sub>2</sub> tank  
fitting in an aircraft  
tail cone may look  
like this



50 kg Air Liquide  
tank



## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### e) Liquid Hydrogen Storage System

#### Stringent safety tests performed for the automotive industry on LH<sub>2</sub> tanks

##### Safety of Cryogenic Fuel Tanks

Liquid tanks are low pressure systems (below 10 bar)

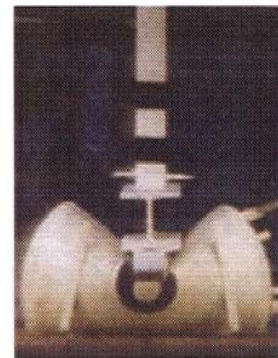
They have a vacuum insulation which can be considered as a double containment

##### Simulation of Road Accident:

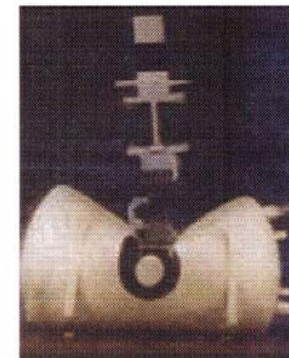
Crash of a HD-vehicle into a passenger car at 60 km/h



LH<sub>2</sub> tank and drop weight  
5 ms pre-impact



Maximum deformation of the  
LH<sub>2</sub> tank 30 ms post-impact



Lasting deformation of the  
LH<sub>2</sub> tank



##### Spill-over tests

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### e) Liquid Hydrogen Storage System

#### Boil-Off considerations

- Example: a tank containing 50 kg of liquid connected to a 100 kW fuel cell
  - Temperature =  $-253^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; 4 hours of autonomy at full power (400 kWh stored)
  - Worst case boil-off rate: 2% = 1kg per day = 0,5 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h
  
- 3 possible solutions to get rid of this BOG:
  - To vent it: small line; 11mg/s or 0,15 Nl/s of gas; but not really suitable
  - Catalytic combustion: rejects H<sub>2</sub>O vapor and 1,5 kW heat
  - Feed the FC at low idle (BOG=700W) to operate the utilities (air compressor, intercooler, sensors etc.) in steady state or reload the battery: best solution
  
- Nota: hybrid systems combining a battery and a FC are preferable
  - Taxi A320 ~60 / 100 kW@20knts (FC) +runway crossing (600kW few sec., battery)
  
- Over a year a car runs 300 h whilst an aircraft flies >3000 h+ ground ops
  - Boil-off is therefore predominant for cars which will not be the case for aircraft

The BOG is therefore permanently re-used

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### e) Liquid Hydrogen Storage System

#### Conclusion

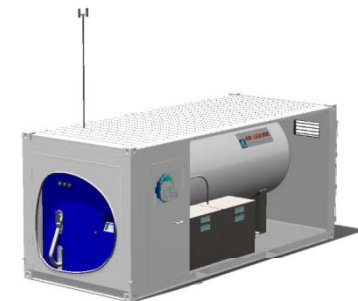
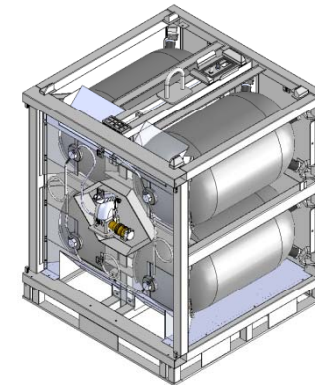
- **Very high gravimetric efficiency**
- **Safe**
- **Ground maturity**
- **Cost efficiency** to be improved → manufacturability to be improved
- Maturity in aeronautical use to be increased
- Not suitable for long term storage on board due to **boil off**
- Potentially very suitable to **UAV** use for propulsion: even higher gravimetric efficiency foreseen and relaxation of technical constraints → lower cost
  
- Technical barriers to be investigated:
  - Cryogenic components to be developed to comply with **aeronautical requirements**: PRDs, pressure reducers, SOVs, sensors, filling level sensors,...
  - New **filling levels** concepts to be investigated
  - Management of **attitude** impact on the boil-off and the withdrawing of liquid hydrogen
  - **Maintainability** requirements could lead to innovative concepts (LRU/SRU architecture,...)
  - Improved operation thanks to a fast **removable** liquid hydrogen storage system
  - **How can we develop an easy and fast way to refill the LH2 tank to be operated as easily as it is done today with a car?**

### 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

#### a) Airport and aircraft requirements to hydrogen refilling systems

The refilling station shall comply with the following requirements (the scope is limited to physical storage solutions):

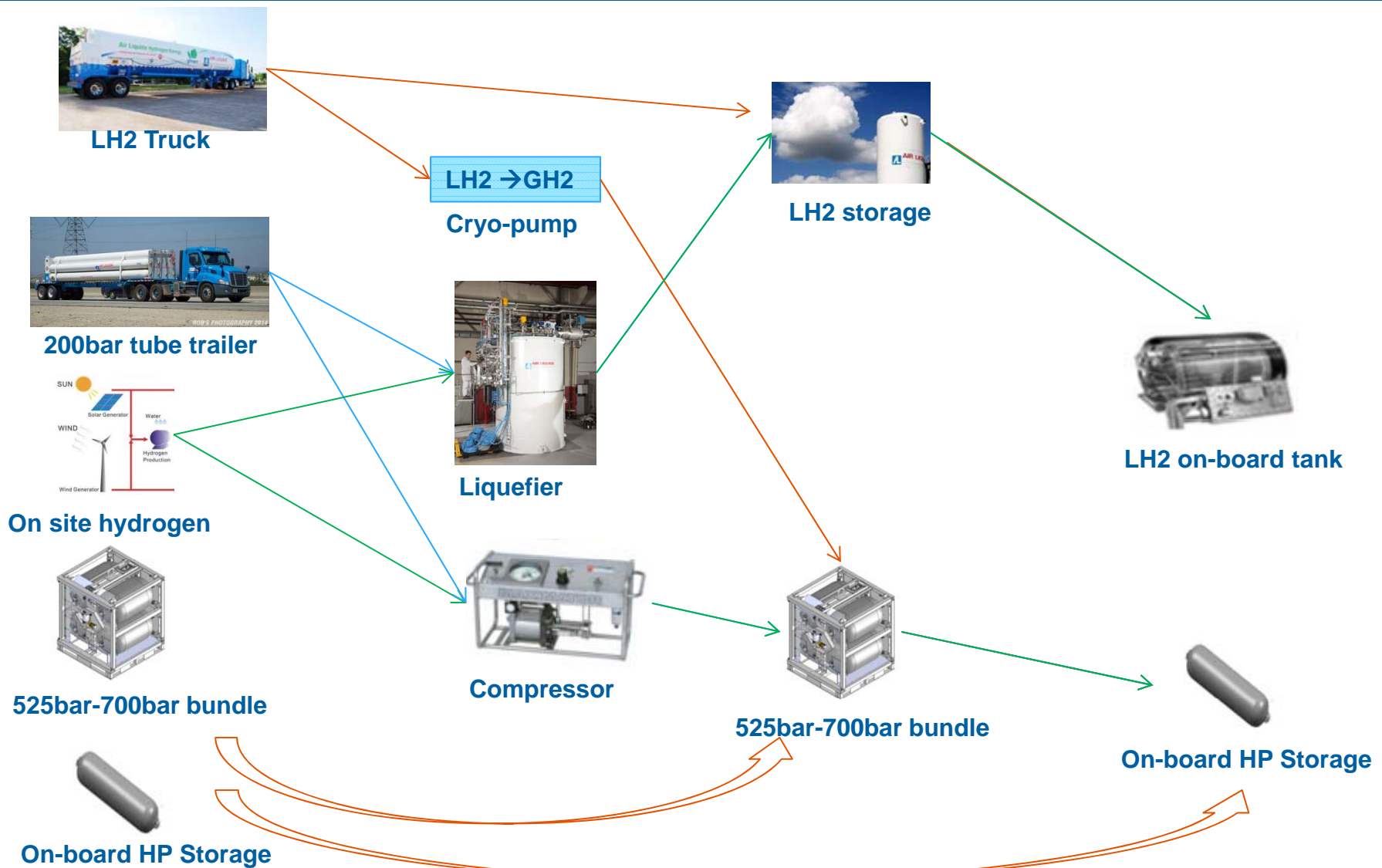
- To be able to refill the on-board storage system with:
  - 350bar or 700bar vessels
  - And/or
  - Liquid hydrogen
- To ensure safe refilling next to the aircraft or
- To allow safe transport of the hydrogen vessel from the aircraft to the refilling station in compliance with ground /airport regulation
- To ensure the refilling within the acceptable allocated duration
- To allow the appropriate communication (control and monitoring) between the station and the on-board storage device
- To allow the appropriate hydrogen connection between the station and the on-board storage device





### 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

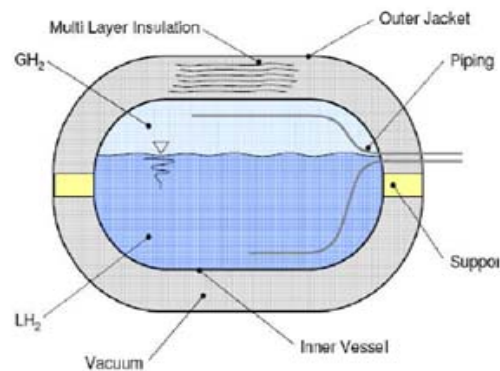
#### b) Technological solutions for airport infrastructure



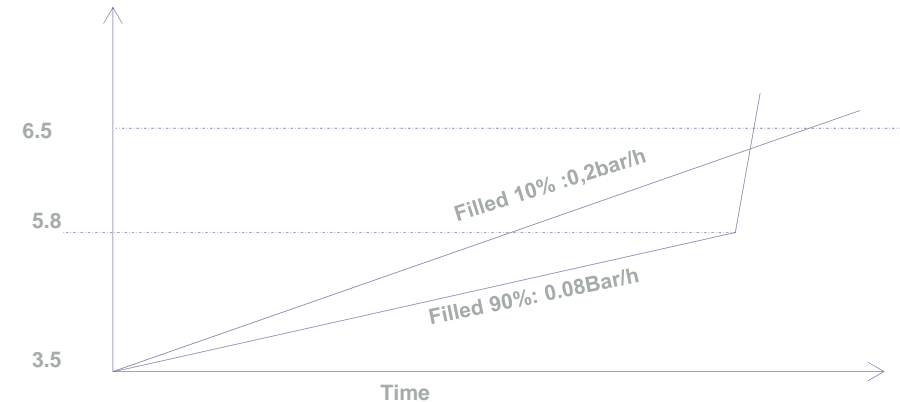
### 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

#### c) LH2 refilling complexity

- LH2 tank are double-wall evacuated tank with Multi Layer Insulation
- Depending of heat leaks through MLI, pressure in the tank is rising when left unattended.



Tank pressure (Bar)

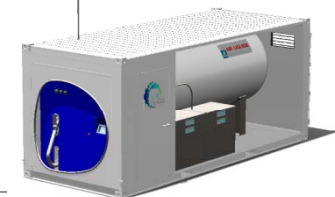


- During Operations, tank is pressurized at a pressure which depends on the Fuel cell operating pressure. Automatic Pressurization device is installed onboard the tank
- Upon refilling, Station must be capable to push liquid H2 inside the tank whatever its pressure at the time of refueling
- Station must be mobile to park as close as possible to the plane for refilling

→ The refilling station needs to be a dedicated cryogenic system ensuring LH2 conditioning in compliance with the on-board tank physical state. An advanced communication device shall allow the monitoring of the refilling. The station needs to be mobile and next to the aircraft.



LH2



LH2-CCH2

### 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

#### d) conclusions

In order to provide a compliant hydrogen supply chain to the aeronautical fuel cell applications, the following challenges need to be addressed:

- To provide the appropriate refilling technical solution in airport for each storage device
- To provide adequate amount of hydrogen to the airport with a viable logistical plan, considering the number of equipped aircraft, other vehicles, their ramp-up
- To deliver hydrogen to the target airport network in any required location, in compliance with any local regulation
- To minimize the energy consumption on / next to the airport
- To minimize the environmental footprint on the airport, and on the global supply chain thanks to optimized logistics and technical innovation
- To offer a price per Nm3 which allow the hydrogen applications total cost to be competitive; synergies need to exist with the ground application on or out of the airport.

### 3. Hydrogen Charging Systems

#### d) conclusions

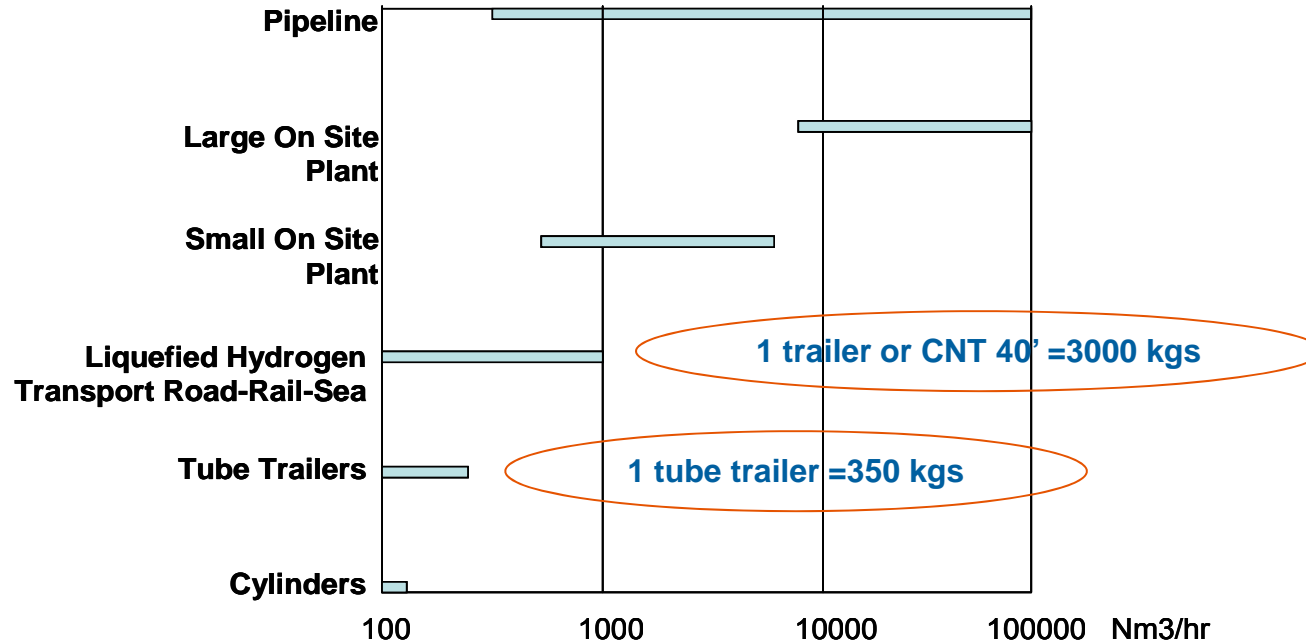
#### Technological topics to be investigated

- To make it possible to refill the on-board storage while installed in the aircraft
- To develop mobile refilling stations to come to the aircraft
- To develop a cryo-pump to be able to design a dual station
- To develop a liquid refilling protocol to comply with the aircraft requirements



# Backup slide






## •State of the art of hydrogen logistics for industrial customers



## •For aeronautical applications, logistics may also depend on:

- Size and ramp-up of the application
- Infrastructure required (number of aircraft and other vehicles to be serviced per airport)
- required airports network
- Type of storages to be refilled (LH2, GH2, ...)
- Refilling Specs & procédures
- Availability of H2 to supply the airports network
- Regulations

# Back-up Slide

Vehicle	Usage	Some Specs	H2 Storage & generation Candidates					
			Compressed Gas			Cryo-Compressed		
			Liquid			Metal Hydride		
			Chemical Hydrogen			Reforming		
	-Propulsion	-Storage efficiency -Simple operation -fast filling	★	★	★			★
	-Propulsion	-Storage efficiency -Simple operation -Costs -Zero emissions - B to C → « idiot proof »	★					
	-APU	-Storage efficiency -Simple operation	★	★	★			
	-RAT	-Fast filling -Lifetime	★				★	★
	-Galley	-Zero emissions -B to B -WW H2 Logistics	★					
	-APU	-Storage efficiency -Simple operation		★	★			
	-RAT	-Fast filling -Lifetime	★					★
	-Galley	-Intensive Logistics -Zero emissions -WW H2 Logistics	★					
	Propulsion, lifting	-Simple operation -Lifetime -FC off during handling? Zero emissions	★					★

## 2. On-board Hydrogen Storage Systems

### b) Storage technologies and state of the art performances

