

July 2014

The Hydrogen Transport Economy (HyTrEc) project aims to improve access to and advance the adoption of hydrogen as an alternative energy vector across the North Sea Region. The project will identify and address structural impediments constraining development of, access to and adoption of this alternative fuel in urban and rural settings.

The aims of the HyTrEc project are to support

- regional accessibility strategies
- environmentally responsible energy production practices
- developing different modes of transport
- transnational transport corridors
- efficient and effective logistics solutions
- sustainable growth solutions.



Carsten Westerholt and Rachel Sharp outside Marischal College, Aberdeen on 26 June 2014

### HyTrEc vans launched at the North Sea Conference 2014

Two custom-built hydrogen-hybrid Euro5 Ford Transit vans have been incorporated into Aberdeen City Council's fleet, as part of the demonstration element of the HyTrEc project.

90 delegates came to visit the vans as part of two study tours as part of the North Sea Conference 2014. The conference saw the launch of the North Sea Region Programme 2014 – 2020 and included thematic workshops, project exhibitions and discussion of new project ideas. Carsten Westerholt, Unit Manager, North Sea Programme joined project partners to welcome the vans to the city.

Petter Ellefsen, from Norway who was on the transport study tour said the event presented new ideas which could be adopted by others to further develop the transport infrastructure.

A video with [highlights from the North Sea Conference 2014 is available to view.](#)



## New centre positions North East England at the forefront of low carbon vehicle technology expertise

New Future Technology Centre already at 80% capacity as five innovative companies sign up to move in before the Centre officially opens for business.

A new centre in Sunderland that aims to position the UK as a focus for the development and integration of low carbon vehicle technologies is set to open its doors on June 9th. Gateshead College announces that early uptake from prospective tenants in the Future Technology Centre has led to 80 per cent occupancy and driven the need to officially open for business ahead of schedule. The centre provides a unique combination of offices, research and development space, manufacturing facilities, training and classroom space as well as proximity to a dedicated LCV performance test track supported by a complete range of charging infrastructure.

The region's first purpose built centre for automotive development is located in the heart of the automotive industry in Washington, Sunderland and is part of the A19 Ultra Low Carbon Vehicle Corridor Enterprise Zone. Owned and managed by Gateshead College, the £4.48m Future Technology Centre is the first of its kind in Europe and provides companies working in the automotive and low carbon vehicle sector with the opportunity to develop and commercialise innovative technologies. The facility has received £2.36m from the Government's Regional Growth Fund, with £2.12m investment from the College.

HyTrEc partner, Gateshead College's Colin Herron and Kevin White's team are based here at the new centre; further information [is available on the zero carbon futures website.](#)

## EU schools focus on hydrogen

HyTrEc supported the [Comenius Re-Thinking Energy Conference](#), which was organised by pupils from Bucksburn Academy in Aberdeen in June 2014.

The conference was the culmination of a two-year sustainability project which has seen young people (aged 15 – 22 years of age) from schools and colleges in Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Scotland investigate renewable energy in their countries. During the course of the project each school and college prepared a study visit programme which enabled the group to visit and investigate renewable energy in the North Sea Region.

Aberdeen's Bucksburn Academy pupils organised a comprehensive programme on renewable energy in Aberdeen and Scotland, focusing on hydrogen technology along with other sustainability work including the lowering of carbon and local and national policies and strategies. The programme included a presentation by Rachel Sharp on HyTrEc. Part of the programme included workshops where students were able to talk with Rachel, Ella and Amy about HyTrEc, have a tour of one of Aberdeen's new hydrogen fuel cell buses and make and race model hydrogen cars.



## HyTrEc in the spotlight at the Hydrogen Exhibition in Hannover

In April 2014, HyTrEc exhibited at Europe's largest hydrogen, fuel cells and battery exhibition taking place at Hannover Messe, Germany.

HyTrEc was there throughout the week at our exhibition stand where attendees found information on regional activities in the project. The HyTrEc posters from the [event are available to download](#).

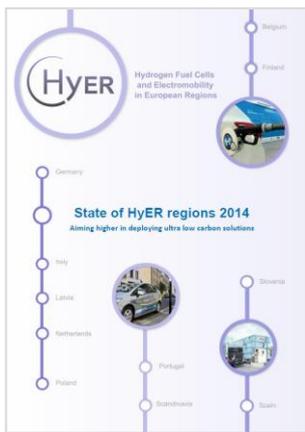
The first HyTrEc stakeholder group meeting was held, with a panel of experts in the field to discuss project developments.

Over the 5 days we met with individuals from various sectors including suppliers, service providers and research projects. Three project partners shared their experiences at the public and technical forums at the event.

The videos from the conference are available to view:

- Dr Colin Herron, [Hydrogen Transport Economy: Skills Development in the North Sea Region](#)
- Rachel Sharp, [Hydrogen Transport Economy in the North Sea Region](#)
- Adwin Martens, [Hydrogen Transport Economy: Strategy for the North Sea Region](#)





The HyER member booklet, featuring the most advanced and ambitious European regions in the field of hydrogen fuel cell and electromobility, is [now available](#).

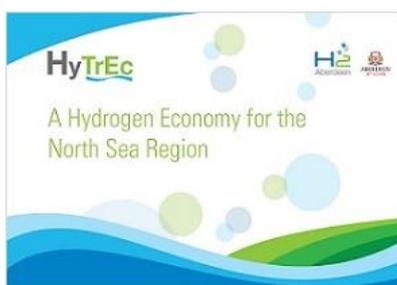
Find out who's who and what's what with the HyER member booklet!

Included are a number of HyTrEc partner regions; Noord Brabant (Netherlands), Aberdeen (UK), North East England (UK) and Lower Saxony (Germany)

Arcola Energy, First Aberdeen and Aberdeen City Council are working together to deliver the Aberdeen Schools Hydrogen Challenge which puts the technology of the future into the hands of young people. Students aged 11 to 16 years will be challenged to design, build and race the fuel efficient hydrogen powered vehicles. The winning team from each participating school will then be invited to an exciting final event, competing for the chance to win prizes for their school. Arcola Energy are working with partners in the North East England to deliver a similar programme.



[The website](#) has been launched for the Aberdeen Schools Challenge, inviting schools to get involved.



For more information - The HyTrEc brochure is available to [download](#).

To order a printed copy of the HyTrEc brochure contact [hytrec@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:hytrec@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

## The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

*Investing in the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive region*



**ABERDEEN**  
CITY COUNCIL

European Union



The European Regional Development Fund



### HyTrEc partners include:

- Aberdeen City Council
- European Institute for Innovation
- Narvik University College
- WaterstofNet
- Gateshead College
- Green Network
- Hydrogen Sweden
- SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden.

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