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**FUEL CELL CONNECTION – February 2011 Issue**  
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CONTENTS

Federal Program News

1. ORNL Develops Biohybrid Sunlight-to-Hydrogen System
2. PNNL Details New Fuel Cell Catalyst Material
3. NREL Teams with Oorja Protonics on Methanol Fuel Cell Demonstration
4. University of Waterloo Wins DOE Hydrogen Student Design Contest
5. DOE Hydrogen Program Releases 2010 Annual Progress Report
6. DOE Fuel Cell Technologies Program Launches H2 Safety Snapshot Newsletter
7. Energy Innovation Portal Lists Technologies Available for Licensing, Patents

RFP / Solicitation News

8. NREL Seeks Partners for Deployment of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Systems
9. AFRL BAA Seeks Proposals for SURGE-V Project
10. DOD Issues BAA for Installation Energy Technology Demonstrations
11. DOD Begins Accepting Proposals for 2011.A STTR Solicitation
12. NETL Issues GATE Vehicle Technology FOA

Administration

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**Federal Program News**  
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1. ORNL Develops Biohybrid Sunlight-to-Hydrogen System

Scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) have developed a biohybrid photoconversion system that converts visible light to hydrogen. Using a “small-angle neutron scattering analysis” the researchers confirmed that “light harvesting complex II (LHC-II) proteins can self-assemble with polymers into a synthetic membrane structure and produce hydrogen.”

http://www.ornl.gov/info/press_releases/get_press_release.cfm?ReleaseNumber=mr20110203-00

2. PNNL Details New Fuel Cell Catalyst Material

Researchers at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) have developed a new combination of nanoparticles and graphene that has resulted in a fuel cell catalyst with greater durability and higher electrical conductivity. The researchers crystallized nanoparticles of indium tin oxide (ITO) directly onto specially treated graphene. Then, they added platinum nanoparticles to the graphene-ITO.

<http://www.pnl.gov/news/release.aspx?id=844>

3. NREL Teams with Oorja Protonics on Methanol Fuel Cell Demonstration

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has teamed with Oorja Protonics on a two-year, \$2 million project to deploy and demonstrate methanol fuel cells in 75 pallet jacks at commercial wholesale distribution centers.

<http://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2011/938.html>

4. University of Waterloo Wins DOE Hydrogen Student Design Contest

The 2011 Hydrogen Student Design Contest winner is the team from the University of Waterloo, for its design concept for a residential hydrogen fueling system. The theme of the contest, supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), was “Residential Fueling with Hydrogen.” The team presented its winning design at the Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy 2011 conference in Washington, D.C., in February 2011.

<http://www.hydrogencontest.org/>

5. DOE Hydrogen Program Releases 2010 Annual Progress Report

The Hydrogen Program of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has released its 2010 Annual Progress Report, detailing the status of project efforts toward hydrogen and fuel cell research and development goals. The Hydrogen Program activities of the DOE Offices of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Fossil Energy, Nuclear Energy, and Science, are included.

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news_detail.html?news_id=16721

6. DOE Fuel Cell Technologies Program Launches H2 Safety Snapshot Newsletter

The Fuel Cell Technologies Program of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has launched the *H2 Safety Snapshot*, a free quarterly newsletter that can be found on the program’s web site.

http://www1.eere.energy.gov/hydrogenandfuelcells/news_detail.html?news_id=16647

7. Energy Innovation Portal Lists Technologies Available for Licensing, Patents

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has developed the Energy Innovation Portal, an online and searchable database of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and intellectual property available for licensing, patents, and patent applications. The portal includes a significant number of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies from DOE laboratories and other participating research institutions. <http://techportal.eere.energy.gov/>

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**RFP / Solicitation News**  
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8. NREL Seeks Partners for Deployment of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Systems

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) issued a Sources Sought Notice, "Deployment of Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Systems into Green Communities," which seeks to "identify communities and industrial partners within community project teams that already have energy efficiency and conservation plans, and that are capable of leveraging their previous work for deployment of hydrogen and fuel cell systems." Based on responses to the notice, NREL anticipates issuing a formal Request for Proposals on the topic. The deadline for responses is March 2, 2011.

https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=0c7bb1174dd4b00e8febcae8f30a2fd3&tab=core&_cvview=0

9. AFRL BAA Seeks Proposals for SURGE-V Project

The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Energy Thermal and Power Division, Thermal & Electrochemical Branch, AFRL/RZPS, Propulsion Directorate, Wright Research Site issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) titled "Small Unmanned Renewable energy long Endurance Vehicle (SURGE-V). The purpose of the BAA is to support development of a vehicle capable of missions of greater than four hours, with increased system capabilities and advanced payloads. Anticipated funding for FY2011 is \$400,000, with estimated follow-on funding of \$1.1 million in FY2012 and \$700,000 in FY2013. Proposals are due March 11, 2011.

https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=273e15e684c79f8a40764ad0009346d8&tab=core&_cvview=0

10. DOD Issues BAA for Installation Energy Technology Demonstrations

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) is requesting proposals for its Environmental Security Technology Certification Program via a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) titled "Installation Energy Technology Demonstrations," which seeks proposals for innovative energy technology demonstrations that address DOD requirements. Topic areas include "Smart Micro-grids and Energy Storage to Increase Energy Security on DOD Installations" and "Renewable Energy Generation on DOD Installations." A total of \$20 million in awards is anticipated, depending on availability of funds. Pre-proposals are required and due on March 24, 2011.

https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=9659d43b9b4dc0fe0444ec4742ad99f1&tab=core&_cvview=1

11. DOD Begins Accepting Proposals for 2011.A STTR Solicitation

The U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) begins accepting proposals on February 28, 2011, for its 2011.A Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) solicitation, which includes several fuel cell and hydrogen related topics. Specific topics include "Generation of Hydrogen from Methanol" and "Biomimetic Membranes for Direct Methanol Fuel Cells." The solicitation is for Phase I awards of up to \$100,000 over a period of up to one year. The deadline for proposals is March 30, 2011.

<http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/sbir/solicitations/sttr11A/index.htm>

12. NETL Issues GATE Vehicle Technology FOA

The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) has issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled "Graduate Automotive Technology Education (GATE) Centers of Excellence," on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Vehicle Technologies Program. Proposals will be accepted from U.S. Colleges and Universities and University-Affiliated Research Institutions with accredited graduate engineering programs. Funding from the solicitation will aid establishment and/or upgrading and expansion of "course study work and laboratory work to support a graduate engineering degree with a focus or certificate" in one of several automotive technology areas, including "Fuel Cells (hydrogen energy conversion)." Approximately \$5 million is expected to be available for 5-8 awards under this announcement. The deadline for applications is April 18, 2011.

<https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000442&agency=DOE>

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Press releases and story ideas may be forwarded to Bernadette Geyer, editor, for consideration at fuelcellconnection@yahoo.com.

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About Fuel Cell Connection

The Sponsors

Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association -- The Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Energy Association (FCHEA) is the world's premier advocacy organization dedicated to the commercialization of fuel cells and hydrogen energy technologies. Its membership represents the full spectrum of the supply chain from universities, government laboratories and agencies, fuel cell materials, component and system manufacturers, hydrogen producers and fuel distributors, utilities and other end users. (<http://www.fchea.org/>)

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