

# Hydrogen Council

## The Hydrogen Council announces key membership growth

**Brussels, 07 September 2017 – The Hydrogen Council welcomes 11 new members to its global membership group of 24 companies.**

It is with great pleasure that the Hydrogen Council today welcomes on board four new steering members Audi, Iwatani, Plastic Omnium and Statoil. Now taking the number of steering members to seventeen, this rapid growth clearly demonstrates the recognition of the Council as having a leading role to play in helping shape the energy mix of the future.

As the steering committee of the Council grows so do partnerships at other levels and from various corners of the world, with the addition of new members at a Supporting level, to work alongside the core group, also announced. In this light, the Hydrogen Council also today welcomes Mitsui & Co, Plug Power, Faber Industries, Faurecia, First Element Fuel (True Zero), Gore and Toyota Tsusho to the initiative as our first Supporting Members and applauds their important contribution to the development of the Council vision, recommendations and advocacy.

*“We are delighted to welcome these new companies in the Hydrogen Council. Membership continues to grow. This highlights the relevance of our ambition to position Hydrogen among the key solutions for the energy transition, as an essential vector for energy, industry, transport and residential sectors.”*, said Benoît Potier, Co-Chair of the Hydrogen Council and CEO of Air Liquide.

*“The impressive growth in the Hydrogen Council corporate membership shows that hydrogen technology has the widespread support it needs to scale up and soon, nobody will be able to imagine life without it,”* added Takeshi Uchiyamada, Co-Chair of the Hydrogen Council and Chairman of Toyota Motor Corporation.

Laurent Burelle, Chairman & CEO of Plastic Omnium said: *“As a company historically positioned on the reduction of cars’ emissions, we are convinced that hydrogen and fuel cells electric vehicles must play a key role in sustainable mobility. The Hydrogen Council, which brings together some of the world’s leading industrials involved in this green energy, is a fantastic opportunity to demonstrate our conviction and to engage with global key stakeholders, in order to ensure its promotion and development”*

Launched at the World Economic Forum 2017, in Davos, the coalition of 24 CEOs have the ambition to:

- Accelerate their investment in the development and commercialization of the hydrogen and fuel cell sectors
- Encourage key stakeholders increase their backing of hydrogen as part of the future energy mix with appropriate policies and supporting schemes.

Following the success of the launch event, the Council looks to increase activities over the course of their inaugural year. It will begin with an upcoming **Investor Day**, to be held on the afternoon of **September 18th in New York**, as an official affiliate event of New York Climate Week and in parallel with the Sustainable Investment Forum. This event will engage both investors and key financing players within hydrogen markets and stimulate a conversation around the potential offered by the implementation of hydrogen deployment solutions at scale.

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## About the Hydrogen Council:

In the first global initiative of its kind, the Hydrogen Council is determined to position hydrogen among the key solutions of the energy transition. Hydrogen is a versatile energy carrier with favourable characteristics since it does not release any CO<sub>2</sub> at the point of use as a clean fuel or energy source, and can play an important role in the transition to a clean, low-carbon, energy system. Hydrogen technologies and products have significantly progressed over past years and are now being introduced to the market. The Council will work with, and provide recommendations to, a number of key stakeholders such as policy makers, business and hydrogen players, international agencies and civil society to achieve these goals.

The Hydrogen Council's member companies – **who collectively represent total revenues of over € 1.3 trillion and more than 2.06 million employees around the world<sup>1</sup>** - include: Air Liquide, Alstom, Anglo American, Audi, BMW GROUP, Daimler, ENGIE, Faber Industries, Faurecia, First Element Fuel (True Zero), Gore, Honda, Hyundai Motor, Iwatani, Kawasaki, Mitsui & Co, Plastic Omnium, Plug Power, Royal Dutch Shell, Statoil, The Linde Group, Total, Toyota and Toyota Tsusho.

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## About Plastic Omnium

Plastic Omnium is a world's leading tier-one supplier of the automotive industry, innovating for ever safer, better performing and less polluting cars in in two businesses, exterior parts and fuel systems.

Capitalizing on its expertise in emissions control systems (SCR) as well as its pressurized fuel tank systems for hybrid vehicles, Plastic Omnium is now positioned as an actor in vehicle propulsion systems using hydrogen and fuel cells.

In 2016, the Group presented at the Paris Motor Show (Mondial de l'Automobile) a high-pressure hydrogen storage prototype that can provide considerable autonomy and a recharge time of only 3 minutes, versus several hours for electric vehicles. Its subsidiary POCeITech, a joint venture with the Israeli company ELBIT Systems, is currently working on a new generation of fuel cells with very low precious metal content, as well as a new range of supercapacitors.

Furthermore, Plastic Omnium launched the construction of an advanced research center focused on new energies. Based in Brussels and scheduled to open in 2019, it will employ 200 engineers. Together with POCeITech, this represents a €100 million investment over the next 3 years in tomorrow's sustainable mobility.

Plastic Omnium operates globally, with 124 plants in 31 countries (July 2017)

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<sup>1</sup> Company figures from financial years 2015 and 2016

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## About the other new members:

### Steering members

**Audi:** Dramatic, highly efficient and clean: Audi is taking a unique approach typical of the brand when it comes to fuel cell technology. Here again the energy chain is based on sustainably generated electricity.

**Iwatani:** Iwatani Corporation is a global company with offices in 16 countries across the world. Having energy business and industrial gases and machinery business as core businesses, we hold a share of 100% of the Japanese liquid hydrogen market. In preparation for the dissemination of fuel cell vehicles that do not emit CO<sub>2</sub> when running, we constructed hydrogen stations at 22 locations by fiscal 2016.

**Statoil:** Building on more than 35 years of experience from oil and gas production on the Norwegian continental shelf, we are committed to accommodating the world's energy needs in a responsible manner, applying technology and creating innovative business solutions. We believe hydrogen should be seriously considered in large markets currently consuming natural gas, where a switch to hydrogen as fuel is feasible.

**Toyota Tsusho:** As the Toyota Group's sole general trading company, we gather information and promote the development of new business from a global perspective.

### Supporting members

**Faber Industries:** Established in 1972, Faber Industries has grown rapidly to become the leader in the production of seamless steel and composite cylinders (Types 2, 3 & 4) for the storage of high-pressure gases. The world over, Faber has earned the best reputation for its high standards of quality and for its capability to comply with the most stringent specifications set down by International Bodies, Local Authorities and its customers. A complete suite of cylinders, with water capacity ranging from 1 to 700 litres, five modern factories, a competent fully trained workforce with a devotion to quality and flexibility, has made Faber a truly global supplier of high-pressure cylinders throughout the five continents.

**Faurecia:** Founded in 1997, Faurecia has grown to become a major player in the global automotive industry. With 330 sites including 30 R&D centers, 100 000 employees in 34 countries, Faurecia is now a global leader in its three areas of business: automotive seating, interior systems and clean mobility. Faurecia has focused its technology strategy on providing solutions for smart life on board and sustainable mobility. In 2016, the Group posted total sales of €18.7 billion. Faurecia is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris stock exchange and trades in the U.S. over-the-counter (OTC) market. For more information, visit [www.faurecia.com](http://www.faurecia.com)

**Gore:** Gore supplies the most technologically advanced portfolio of MEAs (membrane electrode assemblies) and membranes for the proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cell industry.

**Mitsui & Co:** Mitsui & Co., Ltd. is one of the largest trading and investment companies in Japan. We are currently working on various hydrogen-related business opportunities, for instance, creating a hydrogen supply chain and investing a manufacturer of compressed hydrogen gas cylinders for fuel cell vehicles and other uses. Mitsui has been engaged in natural gas-related business for a significant period of time. Said business covers various stages from exploration and production to liquefaction, shipping and transportation, receiving terminals, distribution and consumption (power generation and gas chemicals).

**Plug Power:** The architect of modern hydrogen and fuel cell technology, Plug Power is the innovator that has taken hydrogen and fuel cell technology from concept to commercialization. Plug Power has revolutionized the material handling industry with its full-service GenKey solution, which is designed to increase productivity, lower operating costs and reduce carbon footprints in a reliable, cost-effective way. With proven hydrogen and fuel cell products, Plug Power replaces lead acid batteries to power electric industrial vehicles, such as the lift trucks customers use in their distribution centers. [www.plugpower.com](http://www.plugpower.com).

**First Element Fuel (True Zero):** True Zero is making retail hydrogen conveniently and safely available to customer of fuel cell electric vehicles by developing, owning and operating a growing network of retail hydrogen stations in California. Our goal is to create a customer experience with hydrogen refueling that allows fuel cell vehicle owners to truly replace their gasoline-powered cars seamlessly. True Zero currently

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operates 18 retail hydrogen stations throughout the State of California spanning from San Diego, through Los Angeles and San Francisco, and out to Lake Tahoe, and we are developing 9 more stations.



Supported by Hydrogen Europe & FCHEA.