

Plastic Omnium supplies EFA-S with fuel cell systems to equip hydrogen-powered truck

Elektro-Fahrzeuge Stuttgart GmbH (EFA-S) selected Plastic Omnium for the delivery of fuel cell systems to equip the GAZelle with an e-powertrain. This emission-free truck will first be used by the city of Esslingen (Germany) for road maintenance. The ambition of EFA-S is to set up a fleet of more than 100 hydrogen-powered vehicles by 2023.

EFA-S is a German company equipping new and used cars and trucks with electric drives into environmentally friendly vehicles. EFA-S works independently from manufacturers and converts vehicles of various ranges, including the GAZelle light commercial vehicle made by leading Russian manufacturer GAZ.

“We are pleased to work with EFA-S on this innovative commercial vehicle concept with fuel cell electric drive”, explains Ewald WAHLMUELLER, Managing Director, Plastic Omnium Wels (Austria). “Our fuel cell technology will enable the truck to benefit from a driving range of 500 kilometers with only 3-minute refill time, while contributing to EFA-S’ ambitions in terms of clean and sustainable mobility.”

Bastian BEUTEL, Managing Director of EFA-S, adds: *“Commercial vehicles with electric drive are key if we really want to make supply chains eco-friendly. And if it comes to larger vehicles or if a reach of at least 500 kilometers per day is necessary electric drive is not possible without fuel cell technology. Therefore, at EFA-S we are offering electric powertrains using hydrogen and fuel cell as well as pure battery powered vehicles.”*

Plastic Omnium fuel cell system is a fully self-controlled and safe electric power source for heavy-duty applications. The system integrates hydrogen and air supply, cooling, power electronics and a control unit into a protected and qualified package with standardized interface for seamless integration into the e-powertrain of a zero-emission vehicle.

The stack, the core component of a fuel cell system, will be supplied by EKPO Fuel Cell Technologies (EKPO), the newly established joint venture of ElringKlinger and Plastic Omnium.

Julien ETIENNE, General Manager of EKPO, states: *“The system that EFA-S has chosen includes a cutting-edge technology as EKPO stacks have the highest power density currently available in the market. EKPO builds on expertise in industrial-scale production to supply stacks in large-scale volumes by highly efficient, automated manufacturing processes – fully audited and in proven automotive quality.”*



PO FCM-NM5 fuel cell module 50kW