



Press release

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HyMove B.V. signs agreement with Chinese company HPI for the production of fuel cell systems

Huai'an Powerful Industry (HPI) Co. Ltd is going to build hydrogen vehicles containing fuel cell systems from HyMove

HyMove B.V., the Arnhem manufacturer of hydrogen fuel cell systems, has signed an agreement with the Chinese company Huai'an Powerful Industry (HPI) Co. Ltd for the development and production of fuel cell systems. These systems will be used in hydrogen vehicles that the Chinese company will build in a new factory near the town of Xuyi. Building the new factory, which will manufacture mainly delivery vans and small trucks, involves an investment of almost 400 million euros. HyMove B.V. will look after the design and engineering of the fuel cell systems for the vehicles and will set up the production facility for those systems in the factory in China.

The new factory for hydrogen vehicles is an initiative by Huai'an Powerful Industry (HPI) Co. Ltd., the Xuyi Economic Development Council and the Shanshan Group, an investment company. The region wishes to focus on developing new energy technology and considers the application of hydrogen to be one of the key points. The construction of the factory for manufacturing small delivery vans, trucks and specially-developed taxis and garbage trucks will begin next year on a site of some 25 hectares near the town of Xuyi. The vehicles will be equipped with fuel cell systems, which convert hydrogen into electricity. The factory is intended to deliver some 20,000 hydrogen vehicles a year in due course.

HyMove B.V. was approached by HPI in 2016 because of its knowledge of hydrogen fuel cell systems. Following various conversations and a meeting at the latest Hanover Fair, where a hydrogen bus from the Polish bus manufacturer Ursus with the HyMove fuel cell system was exhibited, the collaboration gradually took shape. HyMove B.V.'s contribution to the collaboration will be its technical expertise in the field of fuel cell systems and its knowledge of manufacturing them. The company will not just design and develop the energy systems for the various types of vehicles, it will also set up the fuel cell system production as part of the new factory.

"HyMove B.V.'s ambition is to accelerate the worldwide introduction of a technology as important as hydrogen vehicles", said Theo Hendriks, CEO of HyMove B.V., on the occasion of signing the agreement. "Thanks to signing the agreement with Huai'an Powerful Industry, we are taking a major step in that direction today. The collaboration is important not only for the Xuyi region, HPI and HyMove, but also for the hydrogen industry all over the world. The introduction of hydrogen vehicles is an essential element in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, which aims at limiting climate change."

"I would like to compliment the Chinese government on its explicit choice of including hydrogen technology in the new five-year plan as one of the instruments for achieving the environmental goals", continued Hendriks. "We therefore expect that China will play a leading role in the transition to hydrogen. We are proud to be part of that development, thanks to our collaboration with HPI."

Liang Sanyuan, who as regional party secretary is the driving force behind the construction of the factory, pointed out the importance of the economic development of the Xuyi region. The region will be investing a total of some 6.5 billion euros in developing new energy technology, one fifth of that amount being intended for hydrogen technology. Liang promised that the Xuyi Economic Development Council would give all its support in making the factory a great success.

Tong Yanping, CEO of Huai'an Powerful Industry, said that with an expected turnover of more than a billion euros in the next few years, the factory would become one of the world's largest production facilities for hydrogen vehicles. He expects that the project – partly thanks to the use of HyMove technology – would lead to an acceleration in the commercial development of new applications such as pilotless aircraft and on-site stationary power generation.

The collaboration with Huai'an Powerful Industry could mean a major breakthrough for HyMove B.V., which has devoted itself to developing hydrogen fuel cell systems for large and medium-capacity vehicles such as buses and trucks. These systems are already being used by Polish bus manufacturers Solbus and Ursus.

HyMove was founded in 2012 as a continuation of the HyMove project, which operated a fuel cell bus in the Arnhem region in the period 2009 - 2013. The technology has been developed further in recent years. A new hydrogen bus, built by Solbus in Poland and equipped with a hydrogen fuel cell system from HyMove B.V., was handed over to public transport company Syntus on 17 June 2016. Experience with the bus and the fuel system has been so positive that there is a great deal of interest, especially in Germany, in using such buses with HyMove technology for public transport.

"If everything goes according to plan, the collaboration with HPI will yield substantial revenues for HyMove in the coming years", explains CEO Theo Hendriks. "That will have a positive effect on employment in the Netherlands. First of all, we are going to strengthen our team in Arnhem with an engineering and assembly department, which will look after integrating our systems with the vehicles that HPI will be producing in Xuyi. We will also be collaborating closely in designing and setting up the production lines for the fuel cell systems."

Note for the press: a photo of the signing of the agreement in China is available. This can be requested from Wisse Kommunikatie, telephone number +31 (0)26-4431523.

You can find more information about HyMove B.V. at www.hymove.nl. You can also contact Jochem Huygen, director and joint owner of HyMove B.V., on telephone number: +31 (0)6-41126693 or by e-mail at: jochem.huygen@hymove.nl.