

PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 28th of March 2007

Delivery of the Diesel Powered MiniBus to the Greek Research Team which will convert it into Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered



Diesel Powered MiniBus was delivered to the Research Team so as to start the conversion into a Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered MiniBus producing Zero Emissions.



A commemorative photograph from the ceremony concerning the delivery of MiniBus just outside the Ministry of Transportation.



Research Team

From right to left: Mr. K. Spentzas (Professor of NTUA), Mr. S. Simopoulos (General Secretary of Ministry of Transportation), Mr K. Moutzouris (Dean of NTUA), Mr. M. Liapis (Minister of Transportation), Mr K. Rakopoulos (Professor at M.Eng. Department), Mr G. Lagios (CEO & President of Tropical S.A.), Mr C. Arapatsakos (CEO of ETHEL S.A.), Mr D. Liguras (R&D Manager) and Mr G. Bergeles (Professor of NTUA).

The delivery of a conventional diesel powered MiniBus to the Research team so as to convert it into the First Greek Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered MiniBus was taken place today at the Ministry of Transportation. The Minister of Transportation, Mr. M. Liapis, submitted personally to the team the MiniBus and stated the following:

« Ministry of Transportation & Communication, having always as first priority the improvement of citizen's quality of life, stands in front to this attempt for the reduction of emissions at the city of Athens. Enforces initiatives such that of Tropical S.A. and the Research team for the implementation of the First Greek Hydrogen MiniBus. Greece is one of the leading countries in Europe on the field of Research & Development concerning Hydrogen Technologies which is regarded to be the fuel of the future. That is why we would like to give a boost to this innovative technology which is developed to our country, so as to reduce emissions which cause the greenhouse effect and brings worldwide climate changes. With great joyfulness we hand over today this diesel powered MiniBus to Tropical S.A. and the Research team and I am really positive and with great hope that we are not far from the day where all the buses in Athens will emit only water from their exhaust pipes. »

This ceremony, actually initiated the beginning of the conversion of this Diesel Powered MiniBus into a Prototype Hydrogen Fuel Cell MiniBus operating at the Inner Centre of Athens producing zero emissions. Therefore it will help us to move a step forward towards a cleaner planet trying to reach the limits for emissions that the European Union regulated. What is more important is the step towards commercialization of more Hydrogen Fuel Cell Powered MiniBuses to the Greek market and an important issue on energy matters for which the Minister of Transportation, Mr. M. Liapis, showed great willingness to impel at the inner center of Athens step-by-step.

Research Team is composed from Greek Universities, Research Institutes and Greek Research companies which are: NTUA (National Technical University of Athens), Demokritos Institute, CRES (Centre of Renewable Energy Sources), Air Liquide S.A., Helbio S.A., Pros S.A., Diadikasias S.A. and Tropical S.A..

Tropical S.A. will do all the needed modifications concerning the body as well as and the chassis of the MiniBus and will design the "Roof Rack (grid)" that all the Hydrogen related systems will be integrated on it which includes the Fuel Cell system, the power inverters, the electronics & controllers compartment, the inverter tech a/c unit, etc.