



PARTICIPATION OF SWITZERLAND IN THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY IMPL- MENTING AGREEMENT ANNEX XVIII (SOFC)

Rapport annuel 2007

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RÉSUMÉ

The project covers participation and representing of Switzerland in IEA implementation agreement Annex XVIII. It involves participation at workshops and gathering and dissemination to the Swiss SOFC community of the gathered information.

This year's main activity was the participation at the Nara Workshop, focusing on degradation mechanisms related to SOFC, and activity overview of member countries program and future planning.

The Workshop was linked to the Electrochemical Society meeting X held in Nara, Japan. The attendance was good and information exchanged openly between the participants. On the other hand, there was an open debate whether the Annex activity should become more specific, i.e. gathering bench mark data of the relevant actors for international comparison, or internationally coordinate collaboration on long term degradation issues. Those proposal were refused by USA, Can and Australia, where the topics do not seem (yet) of major interest.

Further activity was the participation at the Hydrogen and Fuel cell Platform (HFP) General Assembly in Brussels (10/11th of October). The aim is to place a Swiss candidate at the Joint Technology Initiative on Fuel Cells and Hydrogen in order to stay involved in the long term effort to bring Fuel Cells to the market.

Buts du projet

The main activity is the fair representation of Swiss SOFC related activities to the international platform. This involves gathering of information from the Swiss community, compiling into a presentation for the international audience and presenting to the IEA meeting.

Representation on the EU level also involves participation in EU workshop to bring in the Swiss point of view.

Travaux effectués et résultats acquis

The main activity was the participation and representation of Switzerland in the context of the IEA Advanced Fuel Cells implementation agreement, i.e. the Annex XVIII in Nara, Japan. Switzerland's interests were represented at the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Platform General Assembly in Brussels. This involves participation at workshops and gathering and dissemination to the concerned community of available information.

Deliverables:

- Presentation of SOF-CH in Nara and Workshop report
- Proceedings of the Nara meeting (compiled as CD)
- Report on the IEA ExCo meeting in San Antonio, Octobre 19 2007.

Collaboration nationale

The collected information is made available to all interested CH parties in the form of travel reports. A CD-Rom including the Nara presentations has been distributed to the Swiss SOFC community.

Collaboration internationale

IEA Implementation Agreement Advanced Fuel Cells.

Évaluation de l'année 2007 et perspectives pour 2008

Based on historical experience of former SOFC related annexes, Heinz Nabilek from Forschungszentrum Jülich suggested a more active cooperation between the participants in the frame of this annex activity. Specifically (i) global bench-marking or (ii) summarizing data on degradation mechanisms on a global level were suggested, but the USA, Can and Aus were reluctant and did not see an added value (or are afraid of sharing data, in the US case). Interest for an active contribution was limited to European participants, the Japanese being open for discussion. Therefore, according to coffee-break discussions, those activities might be taken up on EU-Japanese level, possibly outside of the frame of IEA activities. In this case, CH participation should be considered.

However, a data collection on FC material properties (database) was suggested by the USA. A specific proposal might be elaborated for next year by Wayne Surdov. Switzerland will organize the 2008 Workshop, close to Lucerne, in connection with the European Fuel Cell Forum in Lucerne. Switzerland might take influence in order to make the outcome of the Annex activity more relevant for the next 5 year period; else a future participation needs to be well reflected.