



Virginia Hydrogen Economy Roundtable

www.hrccc.org/hydrogen.html

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Are You Smarter than a 6th Grader?

Here's a quick test about an important frontier in clean energy to see if you are at least as smart as 6th and 8th graders in Virginia:

- What substance can carry or store unlimited amounts of clean energy?
- What fuel produces only clean water as a byproduct?
- What is the lightest and most abundant element in the universe?
- What powers the model car that will win a race at the Science Museum of Virginia?
- What powers General Motors' HydroGen3 car?

Hydrogen is the answer to all of the questions, but don't feel too smart if you answered correctly. This is a much easier test than anything 6th or 8th graders in Virginia will see.

April 20th is your chance to learn what Virginia's future workforce will be learning and why.

Teachers Gather at the Science Museum of Virginia to Learn About Hydrogen, How it May Shape Our Future, and How to Educate Our Future Workforce

RICHMOND – Teachers and Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling will get the chance to race a hydrogen model racecar and test drive GM's HydroGen3 fuel cell vehicle between 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on April 20, 2007 at the Science Museum of Virginia. The hydrogen model car kits are educational tools that demonstrate how solar energy can extract hydrogen from water. Since no combustion occurs inside a fuel cell, the only exhaust resulting from hydrogen fuel cell cars is pure water. Today, many of the world's automotive companies including GM, Toyota, Ford, Honda and Daimler-Chrysler are developing hydrogen fuel cell vehicles with the hope of introducing this technology to the public in the near future.

GM, the first manufacturer to have a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle certified by the Japanese government for operation on regular roads, will provide one of its HydroGen3 fuel cell vehicles for teachers and local officials to drive. Liquid hydrogen powers the HydroGen3's fuel cell stack, which supplies electricity to a battery, powering the vehicle and emitting only clean water. All of the HydroGen3's steering, acceleration, braking and transmission controls have been modified to work in a vehicle that uses an electric propulsion system. The conventional internal combustion engine has been replaced with fuel cell stacks and other electrical components such as a cooling system. The end product is a traditional driving experience in a vehicle that emits only pure water.

Teachers gathering for the hydrogen education teacher training workshop at the Science Museum of Virginia will learn the basics of hydrogen, sources and uses of hydrogen, and hydrogen storage and stations.

The teacher training workshop is the first in a series of one-day workshops designed to support Virginia Science Standards of Learning and provide educators with tools to return to their classrooms to integrate energy into their classroom plans and integrate hydrogen into their curriculum. Participating schools receive the H2 Educate curriculum and hands-on kits created by the NEED Project.

Project Partners:

The Virginia Hydrogen Economy Roundtable <http://www.hrccc.org/hydrogen.html>

Virginia Clean Cities <http://www.hrccc.org>

The Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy <http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/De/default.htm>

The National Energy Education Development Project <http://www.need.org/>

The Science Museum of Virginia <http://www.smv.org/>.

GM HydroGen3 http://www.gm.com/company/gmability/adv_tech/400_fcv/hydrogen3.html

Virginia Association of Science Teachers <http://www.vast.org/>

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