

Dear reader,

This time, I am starting the HC-H2 newsletter with two important event announcements that are coming up soon: the Day of Curiosity and the Hy.Summit.Rhein.Ruhr. There is no better opportunity to visit Forschungszentrum Jülich and gain insight into all areas of research than on the Day of Curiosity. Take advantage of this opportunity and visit us on 7 September on the campus in Jülich!

The Hy.Summit.Rhein.Ruhr is THE hydrogen congress in the Ruhr region. Once a year, over three days, in three cities and with over 40 speakers, all topics related to the innovative hydrogen molecule are discussed.

At Brainergy Park, we celebrated a milestone birthday and had a visit from politicians. The Institute for Sustainable Hydrogen Economy (INW) reports on new scientific findings, and the Düren district's economic development agency offers various services for entrepreneurs and start-ups. In addition, the Zukunftsagentur Rheinisches Revier (ZRR) aims to promote citizen and public participation. And those are just a few of the topics I'll be covering in today's very diverse newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading!

Yours Vanessa Düster, HC-H2 Network

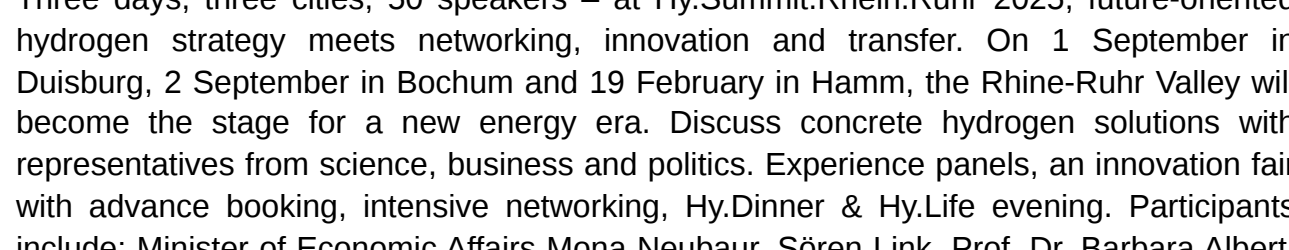
A day of discovery



This opportunity only comes around every three years: Forschungszentrum Jülich is opening its doors. The next date is 7 September. On Curiosity Day, everyone can take a look behind the scenes. All institutes open their doors and present what they are researching on a daily basis. Visitors can look forward to a colourful programme with games, experiments and an interesting children's programme. It starts at 10:00 a.m. and HC-H2 will of course be there with the Lego model and a few surprises.

[Read more](#)

Hy.Summit.Rhein.Ruhr 2025 – the industry summit invites you

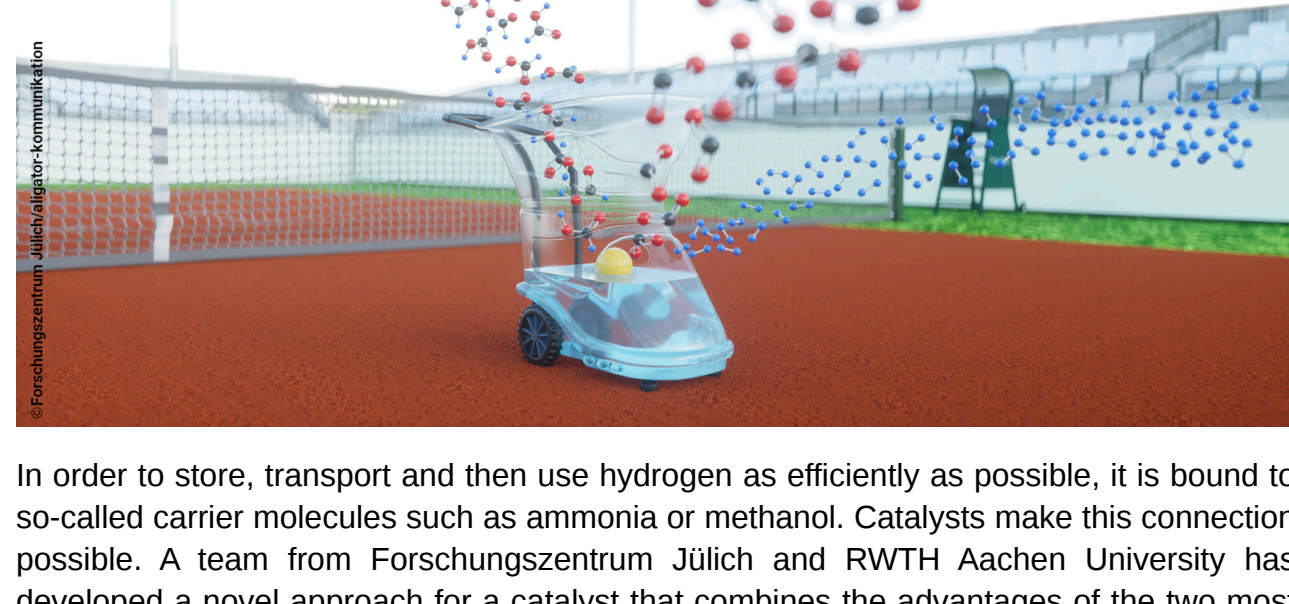


Three days, three cities, 50 speakers – at Hy.Summit.Rhein.Ruhr 2025, future-oriented hydrogen strategy meets networking, innovation and transfer. On 1 September in Duisburg, 2 September in Bochum and 19 February in Hamm, the Rhine-Ruhr Valley will become the stage for a new energy era. Discuss concrete hydrogen solutions with representatives from science, business and politics. Experience panels, an innovation fair with advance booking, intensive networking, Hy.Dinner & HyLife evening. Participants include: Minister of Economic Affairs Mona Neubaur, Sören Link, Prof. Dr. Barbara Albert, Dennis Grimm, Dr. Thomas Gößmann, Knut Giesler, Markus Bangen and many other leading figures in the hydrogen future.

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Good News

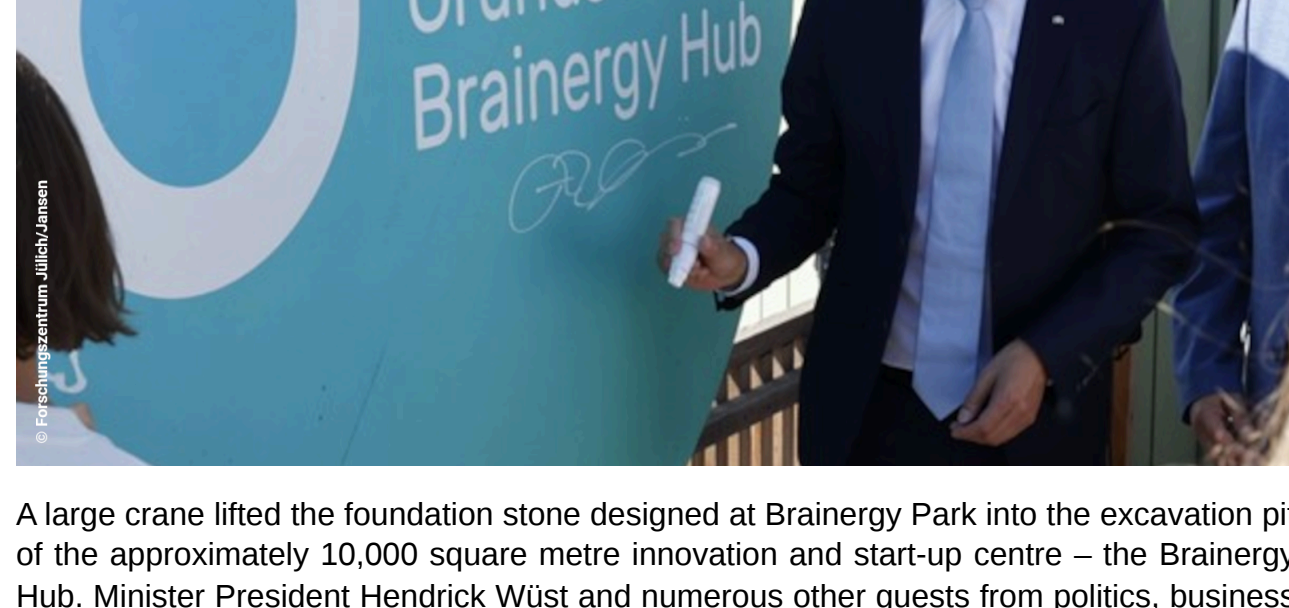
Combining two catalysis methods



In order to store, transport and then use hydrogen as efficiently as possible, it is bound to so-called carrier molecules such as ammonia or methanol. Catalysts make this connection possible. A team from Forschungszentrum Jülich and RWTH Aachen University has developed a novel approach for a catalyst that combines the advantages of the two most commonly used catalysis methods (homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis).

[Read more](#)

An important cornerstone for Brainergy Park

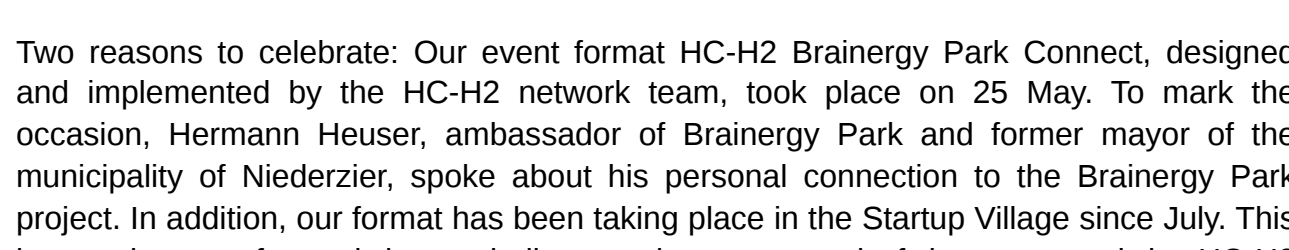


A large crane lifted the foundation stone designed at Brainergy Park into the excavation pit of the approximately 10,000 square metre innovation and startup centre – the Brainergy Hub. Minister President Hendrick Wüst and numerous other guests from politics, business and science celebrated this symbolic act together. Companies and research institutions are to use the sustainable building and create around 300 jobs. The state of North Rhine-Westphalia is funding the new building with 67.5 million euros.

[Read more](#)

HC-H2 Close Up

Anniversary for networking in the park



Two reasons to celebrate: Our event format HC-H2 Brainergy Park Connect, designed and implemented by the HC-H2 network team, took place on 25 May. To mark the occasion, Hermann Heuser, ambassador of Brainergy Park and former mayor of the municipality of Niederrhein, spoke about his personal connection to the Brainergy Park project. In addition, our format has been taking place in the Startup Village since July. This is a major step forward that underlines an important goal of the event and the HC-H2 network – namely, the cooperation and networking of two important players at the Brainergy Park location. Many thanks to everyone involved for their solidarity and great support, and to all participants who helped shape our event with their active contributions and lively participation!

Taking action for structural change

The Helmholtz Cluster Hydrogen (HC-H2) is the largest structural change project in North Rhine-Westphalia and aims to create new jobs and thus support the phase-out of coal. At the Institute for Sustainable Hydrogen Economy (INW), we are developing innovative hydrogen technologies for the chemical storage of this promising molecule. As we are a rapidly growing institute, we are always looking for new colleagues to join our teams. Please contact us directly or browse our current vacancies.

[Read more](#)

A tour through the Rhenish mining area



Ministers Mona Neubaur (Minister for Economic Affairs, Industry, Climate Protection and Energy of North Rhine-Westphalia) and Ina Brandes (Minister for Culture and Science) were on a summer tour of the Rhenish mining region in July, visiting various locations undergoing structural change. They stopped off at HC-H2 and the Startup Village at Brainergy Park. We provided an insight into our current infrastructure projects at the park and presented the various activities of the INW-1 to INW-4 institute divisions, as well as the future start-up Clean H2est and the associated DeVer plant.

[Read more](#)

Focus on the Rhenish Mining Area

Participation in the Rhenish mining area

Shaping the future together – an important motto that demonstrates what we want to achieve together in the structural change in the Rhenish mining area. The participation of the people who live here is essential. After all, who could know better what the region needs than the people of the area themselves? The Zukunftsagentur Rheinisches Revier (ZRR) has now launched a platform that rethinks citizen participation: open, accessible and effective. Find out more, join the discussion and help shape the future!

[Read more](#)

Recognised hydrogen certifiers

TÜV Rheinland and TÜV Nord, as testing service providers, have been recognised as certification bodies for renewable hydrogen. They have been provisionally recognised for the CertifHy-EU-RFNBO programme and TÜV Nord for RFNBO (Renewable Fuels of Non-Biologic Origin) certification in accordance with the ISCC EU standard. The aim is to ensure complete traceability throughout the entire supply chain and transparent rules for mass balancing.

[Read more](#)

Laboratory for the future



The IN4climate.RR 'Industrial Hydrogen Economy' future lab is entering its next phase. Exciting practical ideas for transforming existing gas networks for the ramp-up of hydrogen and for innovative storage options were the focus of the in-person meeting shortly before the summer holidays. Experts from E-Bridge Consulting, the Helmholtz Cluster for Sustainable and Infrastructure-Compatible Hydrogen Economy (HC-H2) and VolH2 gave keynote speeches. Our colleague Francesco Rullo presented the HECTOR project, which is developing a commercial plant for hydrogen storage using LOHC (liquid organic hydrogen carrier).

[Read more](#)

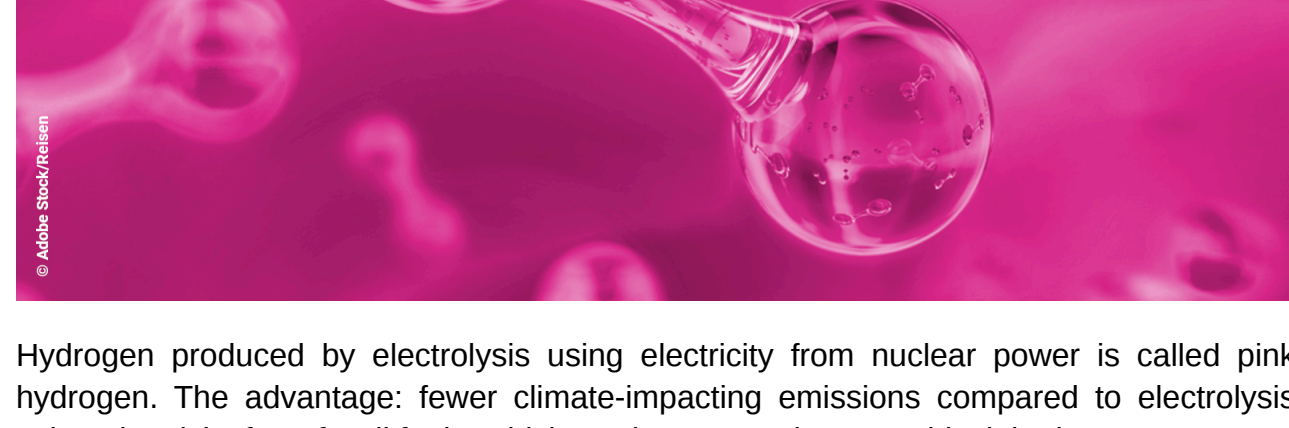
Brainergy Park celebrates its birthday

There was something to celebrate in July: Brainergy Park Jülich turned 10! During a chat in the park, there was a varied programme with great insights into the history of the intermunicipal business park. Colleagues also talked about the varied experiences of their everyday working lives, including a few funny stories.

[Read more](#)

HC-H2 Documentary Series

The colours of hydrogen: pink



Hydrogen produced by electrolysis using electricity from nuclear power is called pink hydrogen. The advantage: fewer climate-impacting emissions compared to electrolysis using electricity from fossil fuels, which produces grey, brown or black hydrogen. However, just like the advantages, the disadvantages are also obvious, namely in the electricity source itself. The last power plants in Germany were shut down years ago, and bringing them back online is technically almost impossible.

[Read more](#)

Events

An interactive convention



This year's Hydroverse Convention took place in Essen on 26 June. The event showcases innovative start-ups, the implementation of innovative hydrogen technologies, funding opportunities and much more. This year, Dr. Stefan Hering (NRW.EnergyClimate) led a session in the Knowledge Lab. Together with Severin Foit (HC-H2, Forschungszentrum Jülich) and Dr. Laila Christian Kröger (thyssenkrupp nucera), he discussed the topic of the H2 ecosystem and the opportunities for start-ups.

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Time Travel Festival in Jülich

The Pasqualini Zeitprung Festival builds bridges between history and the future. Forschungszentrum Jülich was right at the forefront. At the large open-air festival spread across Jülich city centre, Forschungszentrum was responsible for the overall organisation of the science section – and it was a great success! Even though the weather was not always ideal, there was plenty to discover under our tent roof: a model of a quantum computer, the HC-H2 Lego model, and exciting experiments and presentations on stage.

[Read more](#)

Investment boost in companies

The Düren District Economic Development Agency invites start-ups and entrepreneurs to attend a range of events. In addition to EXISTENZIA and a start-up consultation day, the next UnternehmerTREFF (entrepreneurs' meeting) will take place at INDEMANN on 30 October. The full programme can be found on the Düren District website.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

EUROPACAT

31. August – 5. September 2025, Trondheim

12. Branchentag Wasserstoff

3. September 2025, Rostock

Strukturwandelsafari: Bürgewald ReVisited

25. September 2025, Merzenich

Bioökonomie hebt ab

25. September 2025, Würselen

HC-H2 Science Spotlight

2. October 2025, hybrid

FVEE-Annual Conference

7. – 8. October 2025, Berlin

DGMK

28. – 29. October 2025, Essen

PEMT

10. – 11. November 2025, Frankfurt

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