



Hydrogen economy cooperation network for research – public awareness – business opportunities across Greek – Bulgarian borders

Dear Reader,

This section of the special issue collects selected papers, presented during the International Scientific Workshop “HYDROGEN ECONOMY – A ROADMAP TO THE FUTURE”, which held on 30th November 2012 in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria. The workshop was organized by the Bulgarian partners from South-West University “Neofit Rilski” – Blagoevgrad and Eco Energy Foundation within the framework of the project “Hydrogen economy cooperation network for research - public awareness - business opportunities across Greek-Bulgarian borders” (HYDECON), funded by European Territorial Cooperation Programme “Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013” through a Contract B1.33.01/2011.

The scope of the workshop was focused on the state-of-the art of research and development activities in the field of hydrogen technologies in Greece and Bulgaria and the perspectives for their application in the both neighbour countries in the context of Hydrogen Economy concept. Greek and Bulgarian scientists and students from Chemical Process & Energy Resources Institute, Center for Research and Technology - Hellas (CPERI / CERTH), Thessaloniki; Aristotle University, Thessaloniki; Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”; Institute of Electrochemistry and Energy Systems - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia; Institute of Chemical Engineering - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia; University of Chemical Technology and Metallurgy, Sofia; and South-West University “Neofit Rilski”, Blagoevgrad, presented 14 scientific reports and 8 posters, divided into three thematic sessions - Novel Materials for Energy Conversion; Hydrogen Production and Storage; Fuel Cell Technologies. Students from universities as well as high schools participated in a Round table discussion “Possibilities for Hydrogen Applications”. A special demonstration of “Off-grid system for power generation based on hydrogen technologies” was made for all participants in the

Scientific Workshop **Hydrogen Economy – a Roadmap to the Future**

newly developed "INNOVATIVE CENTER FOR ECO ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES".

The organizers of the workshop and all participants in the successfully completed project HYDECON truly believe that the established network between researchers from both countries will assist the further promotion of hydrogen technologies among the society and decision-makers. We gratefully use the chance to disseminate a part of our achievements among the audience of this journal.

*Professor Mario Mitov,
Chairman of the Organizing Committee*

