

Reverse fuel cell

Greenvolt Power Corp., Canada, has developed a new reverse fuel cell that can be energized by wind or PV power sources. Refcell™ is capable of splitting water into its component gases for multiple, cross-industry needs. While fuel cells catalytically combine hydrogen and oxygen into water to generate electricity, the Refcell separates the two gases, releasing them for other purposes.

Typically, hydrogen and oxygen are electrically separated from water with water-alkali electrolyser devices. The Refcell requires 20 per cent less electrical energy and features a system weight and bulk that is 6-9 times smaller than other equivalent devices. Besides substantial energy savings, the explosion-proof cell is durable, reduces generating costs and needs less capital. Hydrogen and oxygen can be delivered to storage pressure vessels at 80-3,000 psi, without the need for compressors. No alkali or asbestos is used. Refcell is available in three different sizes:

- ▷ Ref-25 which can deliver up to 100 l/h of hydrogen and up to 50 l/h of oxygen;
- ▷ Ref-500 can supply up to 2,500 l/h of hydrogen and up to 1,250 l/h of oxygen; and
- ▷ Ref-1700 has delivery capabilities of up to 50,000 l/h of oxygen and 1000,000 l/h of hydrogen.

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