



# Hydrogen Technology for Integration of Renewables

Dr. Jérôme GOSSET

Executive Vice President Hydrogen & Energy Storage AREVA RENEWABLES



## Outline



The Green Energy Box - The all in a box hydrogen Solution

French Islands – A case study for hydrogen storage

Large scale integration of PV with H<sub>2</sub> storage - A reality in MYRTE Platform





## Introduction to HELION The H<sub>2</sub> subsidiary of AREVA

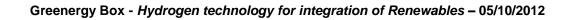


## HELION Hydrogen Power an AREVA subsidiary



- Dedicated to hydrogen and energy storage
  - Design, development and manufacturing of PEM H<sub>2</sub> / O<sub>2</sub> fuel cell and electrolyzer systems, producing hydrogen by water electrolysis and electricity with fuel cells
  - Safe, reliable, clean and economical energy solutions for backup power and energy management applications in a power range from 5 kW to 2 MW

▶ March, 2001
Aix en Provence, France
60 employees (75% as engineers)
100 % AREVA Renewables
<ul> <li>ICPE – ISO 9001 – ISO 14001</li> <li>On the way to OHSAS 18001 certification</li> </ul>



## **The Green Energy Box**

## The all in a box hydrogen Solution



#### gre≡nergy box, the "all-in-a-box" Energy Storage & Management System for decentralized applications

Greenergy Box: a solution for energy management and backup power without gas logistics





- Discharge power range:
- Gas storage:
- Footprint:
- Weight:
- Operating temperature:
- Voltage interface:
- 20 to 100 kW Scalable up 5 systems in parallel Adjustable to customer needs 14,6 m<sup>2</sup> /160sf (excluding gas storage) ~6t/13,227lbs (excluding gas storage)
- -30°C to + 50°C / -22°F to 122°F

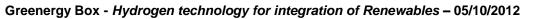
6

ARF

400 V 3-phase + N / 50 Hz Other voltages and DC option also available



- Easy to install and low maintenance (No rotating components)
- Quiet and clean solution, no greenhouse gas emission, no vibration
- Outdoor installation
- Safe and reliable system ( E
- Rapid startup and islanding mode
- Long term storage capacity







Grid stabilization and backup



Solar or wind farm management



Remote sites



Micro-grid management

7

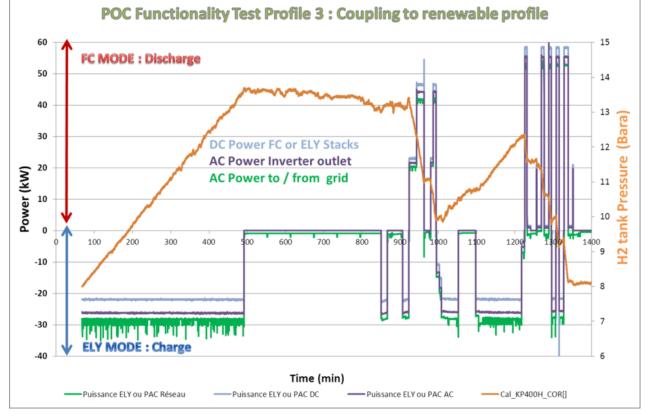




## **Greenergy Box Concept Proven in 2011**

 GEB concept validation through functionality, performance, and reliability tests for different configurations

First tests dedicated to the GEB concept functionality in a grid connected configuration passed on June 22<sup>nd</sup>



### Next steps

From late 2011 on to late 2012: long-term testing

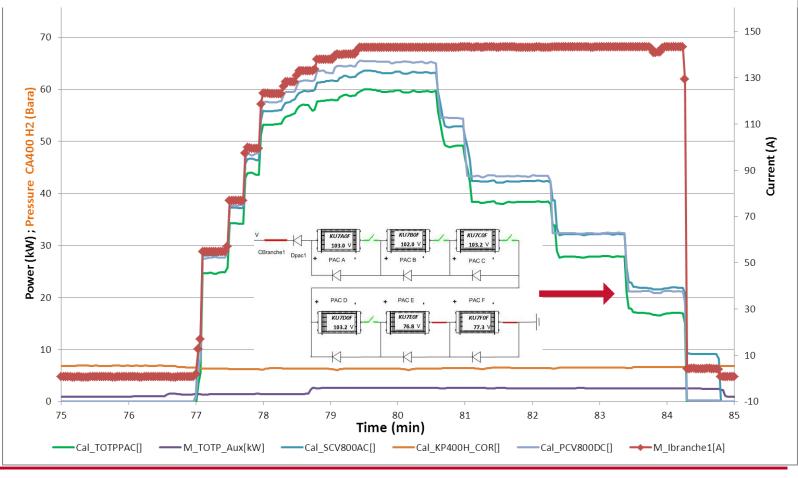
Renewable energies coupling tests

**A** AREVA

### Greenergy Box Concept Proven Partial Load Service demonstrated

In case of module failure, the system continues to operate with the remaining modules: while operating in degraded mode, performance is reduced but power is ensured to the load

nergy box

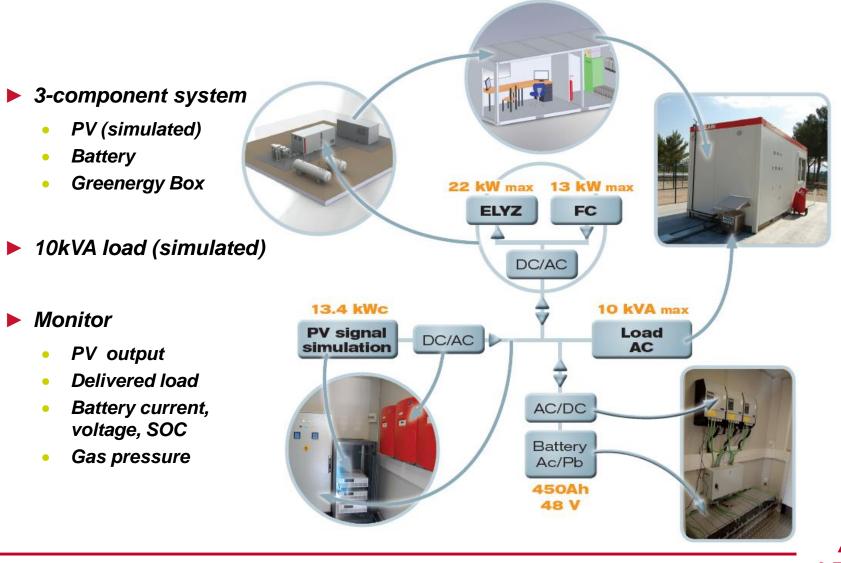


Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables - 05/10/2012

9



### Qualified for MicroGrid Management The Experimental Layout

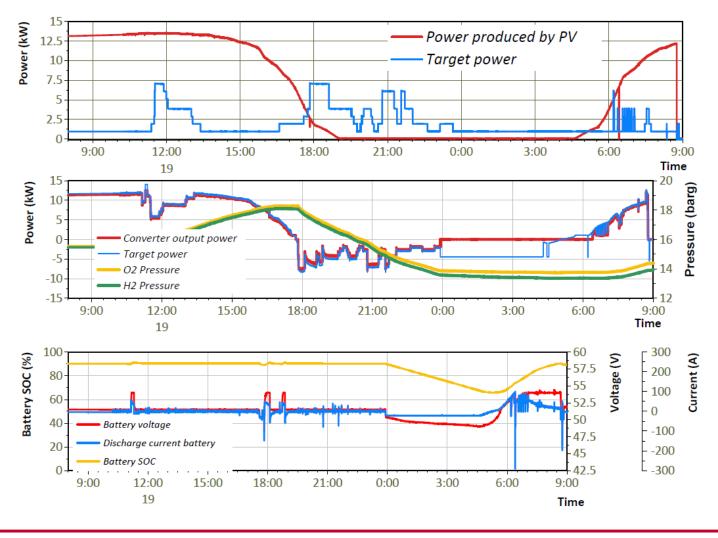


Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables – 05/10/2012

10

### Greenergy Box Concept Proven Microgrid Capability Demonstrated

Tests dated July 19 & 20, 2011

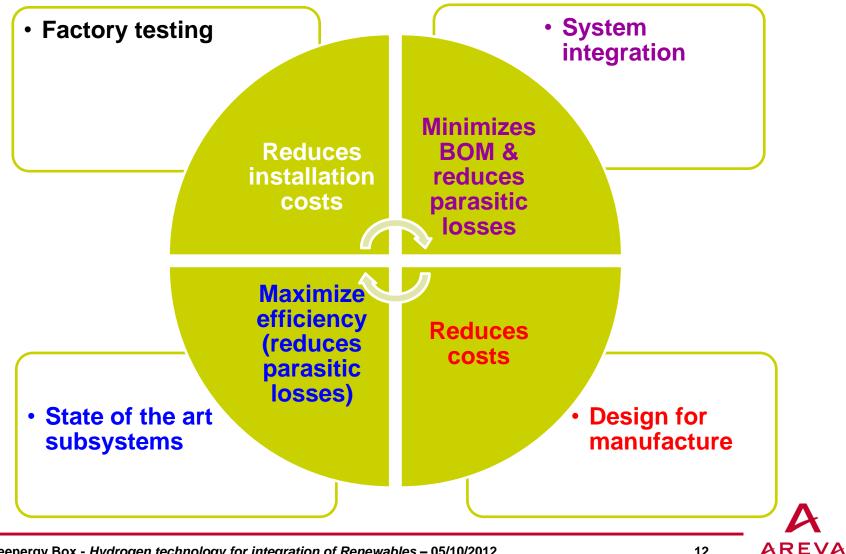


Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables - 05/10/2012

nergy≡ box

11

# gresnergy optimises the economics of H<sub>2</sub> systems for integration of renewables



Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables - 05/10/2012

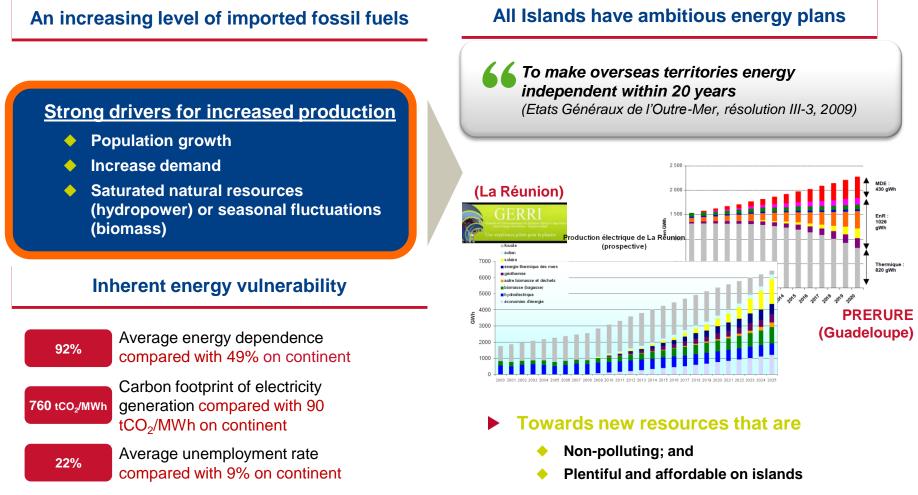


## **French Islands**

# A model for hydrogen storage



### Islands have a unique driver: to meet the demand for electricity while reducing their dependence on fossil fuels





## The challenges for renewables on islands

#### High level of imported fossil fuels Social and economic risks

- Sensitivity to severe weather
- Risk for the development of tourism
- Local economy is sensitive to the volatile costs of imported materials



2008 Guyana 2009 Guadeloupe 2012 La Réunion



#### The challenge of integrating renewables on islands

#### Imbalance between generation and demand

- Intermittency (wind)
- Difficulty in regulating or controlling their production (geothermal)
- Lack of coincidence between peak production and peak load (solar)
- Still not economically viable I (marine energy)

#### Integration of renewables has an upper limit

Above a certain threshold, the network manager is unable to manage the instability generated by intermittent renewables

#### Island grids cannot benefit from regional balancing between neighboring grids or networks

- Thermal power plants are used to balance production and stabilize the grid
- Certain customers have emergency diesel generators to mitigate possible grid failure



## Storage has a pivotal role

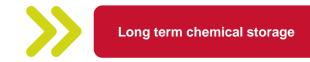
#### Provide power reserves

- Realistically, this must be approx. 10 to 15% of nameplate capacity
- Sited (located) near renewable generation assets (to minimise losses)



#### Provide energy reserves

- On the order of 1% of annual production (e.g., . La Réunion : 35 to 40 GWh)
- Stable storage for long periods (hurricanes, seasonal)
- Transportable fuel for clean vehicles



#### Low environmental impact

Energy storage is both a solution to real problems and an opportunity for the sustainable development of islands

But not all technologies meet the particular needs of islands

16

ARE

## **Hydrogen** A unique storage technology for islands

- Consider the evolution of the grid and transportation networks simultaneously
  - An energy storage system would have greater value if it can contribute to both

#### Produce and store hydrogen locally

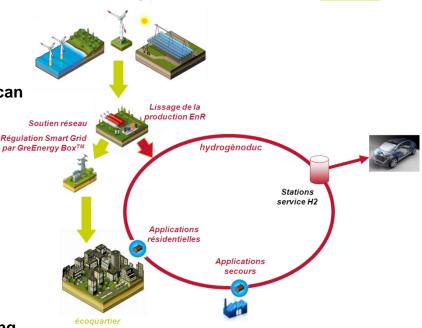
- Easily transportable to the center of an island
- For use in vehicles
- Spread investments over both vehicle and grid infrastructures

#### Allow ports to focus on commerce and development of tourism

- Reduce the amount of port resources needed for importing hydrocarbons
- Reduce the inherent risks of transporting hydrocarbons
- Reduce the risk of spills from tankers

#### Energy storage systems that preserve the fragile environment of islands

Neither hydrogen nor oxygen harm the environment





Large scale integration of PV with H<sub>2</sub> storage A reality

## Island of Corsica - MYRTE Platform



## MYRTE General view



en Corse













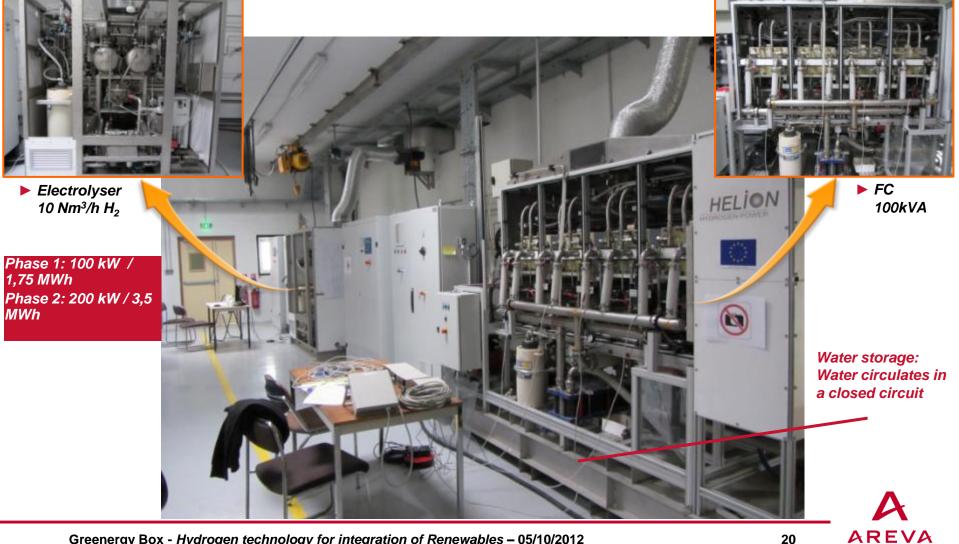
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE Préfecture de Corse

AREVA



Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables – 05/10/2012

## **MYRTE** Hydrogen center



Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables - 05/10/2012

## MYRTE Hydrogen storage



<u>H<sub>2</sub> & O<sub>2</sub> tanks @ 35barg</u> 1400 Nm<sup>3</sup> H<sub>2</sub> 700 Nm<sup>3</sup> O<sub>2</sub>

Taking into account constraints imposed by the local terrain

21

## MYRTE Very limited impact



On the verge of extinction in France, a population of **Hermann's Tortoise** was found on the project site and had to be accommodated



The MYRTE project was developed with awareness of both: social acceptance protection of the environment (landscape and wildlife)



#### Renewable energies: AREVA inaugurates innovative energy storage platform in Corsica

January 16, 2012

Source: Areva

In partnership with the University of Corsica and the French Nuclear and Alternative Energies Commission, the Hydrogen & Energy Storage unit of AREVA inaugurated the MYRTE platform at the University of Corsica site in Vignola, close to Ajaccio,

MYRTE platform aims to demonstrate the feasibility of a solar energy storage solution using hydrogen technologies to mitigate the fluctuations of solar power generation, and contribute to securing Corsica's power grid.

After more than two and a half years of work, the 560 kWc photovoltaic power plant was connected to an innovative energy storage system developed by AREVA, made of an electrolyzer, hydrogen and oxygen reserves, and a fuel cell.

la Corse innove

L'électricité est conservée sous forme d'hydrogène afin de resservir à la demande quand le soleil ne brille plus.

CYRILLE VANLERBERGHE

ÉNERGIE À quelques kilomètres d'Ajac-

cio, dans le maquis, au pied de collines

sauvages et face à la Méditerranée, se

cache une installation de stockage de

D

l'énergie solaire unique en Europe. Après un peu plus de deux

années et demie de travail.

un large champ de panneaux

photovoltaïques a été couplé

à un système innovant de

production et de stockage

d'hydrogène qui permet de compenser l'intermittence inévitable liée à la production

d'électricité à partir du soleil

à une échelle préindustrielle.

Intermittence de la production

inaugurée hier par l'Université de Corse

liale d'Areva spécialisée dans les techno-

logies de l'hydrogène, et le Commissa-

MYRTE has been running connected to the Corsican electrical grid since December 16, 2011; a first in Europe and worldwide in this power range

"The MYRTE platform allows us to get out of the laboratory and test our technology in a real environment. It is our first installation at this maturity level, connected to the electricity network. This day is the beginning of a new chapter for the BU: we will now on be in operational exploitation of such systems." says Jérôme Gosset, Vice President of the H&ES BU,

The H&ES BU objective is now to work out progressively the most successful operation modes to integrate decentralized renewable electricity into insular grids, while contributing to secure them.

AREVA will continue investing in MYRTE: The Hydrogen & Energy Storage activity will install by 2013, within the framework of MYRTE phase 2, the next generation of hydrogen systems to increase the current platform hydrogen system power. the Greenergy Box a containerized integrated hydrogen system, based on hydrogen technologies currently implemented in MYRTE

The MYRTE platform based on hydrogen technologies fits perfectly with the group strategy which is to provide electrical production technologies, nuclear and renewables, with extremely low CO2 emissions

Stockage de l'énergie solaire :

## In the press AREVA launches energy storage platform in France

#### CTBR Staff Writer

Published 18 January 2012

The Hydrogen & Energy Storage of AREVA (H&ES BU), in collaboration with the University of Corsica and the French Nuclear and Alternative Energies Commission, launched the MYRTE platform at the University of Corsica site in Vignola, close to Ajaccio.

After more than two and a half years of work, the 560kWc photovoltaic power plant was connected to an innovative energy storage system developed by AREVA, made of an electrolyzer, hydrogen and oxygen reserves, and a fuel cell.

MYRTE energy storage platform aims to demonstrate the feasibility of a solar energy storage solution using hydrogen technologies to mitigate the fluctuations of solar power generation, and contribute to securing Corsica's power grid.

H&ES BU vice president Jerome Gosset said the MYRTE platform allows us to get out of the laboratory and test our technology in a real environment.



MYRTE

#### AREVA OPENS HYDROGEN-BASED SOLAR POWER STORAGE SYSTEM IN CORSICA

17 Jan 2012 / Solar / PRODUCTS & TECHNOLOGY / France / Alert: organisation - Areva SA

Areva SA, the world's largest producer of nuclear equipment, commissioned an energy storage system bas photovoltaic plant on the French Mediterranean island of Corsica.

The company, in partnership with the University of Corsica and France's Nuclear and Alternative Energies Commission kilowatt solar plant to the regional electricity grid in December, it said in a statement.

The project will be one of the world's first to hold electricity in reserve from a utility-scale solar plant, according to Blo reduces the peak load that must go onto the transmission grid and eases the management of intermittent output from

The MYRTE project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of storing solar energy using hydrogen and its integration to an The connection to the grid of a project of this size was a world first, it said.

The system, which took more than 2 1/2 years to develop, consists of an electrolyser that splits hydrogen from water to install a second generation of hydrogen systems there by 2013, it said yesterday.

Desidence and



dotée d'un budget de 21 millions d'euros.

avec des financements régionaux, natio-

Pour des régions insulaires non rac-

cordées aux grands réseaux électriques

comme la Corse, l'intermittence de la

production d'électricité fournie par les

énergies renouvelables, que ce soit le solaire ou l'éolien, est l'un des principaux

naux et européens.

électriques sont trop petits pour supporter les à-coups brutaux d'une production irrégulière, explique Philippe Poggi, cher-Cette plate-forme appelée Myrte a été cheur de l'Université de Corse, qui est à l'origine du programme. Notre plateet ses partenaires, l'industriel Helion, fiforme est concue pour limiter les variations du courant que nous renvoyons vers le réseau FDE » riat à l'énergie atomique (CEA). Elle est

Les 3 700 m<sup>2</sup> de panneaux solaires im-



## Summary/Recommendations

- In the United States there are many locations that share common features with islands
  - National parks where environment is sensitive, of high value and to be actively protected
  - Small cities or remote areas where grid may be weak
  - Large cities and non-attainment zones
  - Military installations & Critical infrastructure like FAA, emergency response centers,
     ...

### Policy suggestions

- Maintaining hydrogen technologies' eligibility for ITC
- A national "SGIP" program that includes hydrogen as an eligible storage medium
  - An investment/reward policy/fund for early stage deployment
    - A useful model could be France's "Horizon Hydrogene Energie" (H2E)
- What would help focus to facilitate technology acceleration and acceptance?
  - Help offer meet demand or vice versa: help the industry promote the existence of such solution
  - Help us dig into business cases in specific locations or projects



24

## MYRTE Today and tomorrow

Our accomplishments

- Deployment of innovative, clean technologies for energy storage on islands is possible today.
- Demonstration that safety and regulatory issues can be managed

### **Our perspectives**

- Accumulate lessons learned on deployed systems
  - Life expectancy
  - Level and costs of long-term maintenance
  - Optimization and long-term evolution of the performance
- Deploy the first integrated demonstrator: "MYRTE in a box "



Greenergy Box - Hydrogen technology for integration of Renewables – 05/10/2012

25

ARE