

NYIT Solar Decathlon Documentary: Fuel Cell Introduction – David Schieren

So we're very excited - we just unwrapped our beautiful Plug Power GenCore 5 kW fuel cell and we're going step by step in our process to "turn it on" or commission it and it's very exciting.

We've had many visitors come and just see it. We actually have hydrogen that we're storing outside for now - back there.

But the key here is the fuel cell and this device is much more than just a fuel cell. The core unit is the fuel cell stack, which you see here. The plates - graphite plates - that have an anode and a cathode, an electrolyte and a catalyst that allow the hydrogen to be converted into electricity. So that's what we're gonna do. We're gonna hook up the hydrogen to the fuel cell and that's the basic function.

The device is much more capable than just producing electricity. It's intended as a backup generator - something to provide power when the primary supply of power goes down. That's why we have it, because it's gonna supply power when there's no photovoltaic power, there's no solar power.

So...we love it.