

PRESS RELEASE

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Programme of the 18th World Hydrogen Energy Conference (WHEC) 2010 online:

Hydrogen is the basis for a climate-friendly energy economy

The 18th World Hydrogen Energy Conference (WHEC 2010) will be held under the auspices of the International Association for Hydrogen Energy (IAHE) at the MESSE ESSEN trade fair and congress centre from 16 to 21 May 2010. The event will be organized by the EnergieAgentur.NRW with the support of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. The aim of the conference is to establish hydrogen as a key energy source on the road to a sustainable, climate-friendly energy economy. Some 1500 participants from Germany and abroad will be invited to the international conference, which will be accompanied by a trade fair and various auxiliary events as part of the European Culture Capital Ruhr 2010 programme.

Internet: www.whec2010.com and www.ruhr2010.com

A tentative version of the extensive conference programme is now available online: www.whec2010.com/nc/about-the-conference/sessionplan/sessions-overview.html

Interested participants can register at a reduced price (early-bird discount) until 15 January 2010.

Speakers from 40 countries have pledged to take part in the conference. This strong positive response is a clear indication of the status of the World Hydrogen Energy Conference as the most important event devoted to hydrogen technology in 2010 in the eyes of international experts in the field. According to current plans, the WHEC 2010 will comprise ten subject areas and a total of 300 presentations as well as some 400 posters. Discussion will revolve around the key issues of relevance to today's energy economy – from development to market-building to essential rules and regulations. Participants will also have an opportunity to learn about new developments in hydrogen and fuel-cell technology at the WHEC 2010 international trade fair.

Dr. Frank-Michael Baumann, Managing Director of the EnergieAgentur.NRW is convinced that "hydrogen is the basis for a climate-friendly global energy economy. The WHEC 2010 offers

representatives of the international energy industry an opportunity to familiarize themselves with relevant markets, to develop approaches to more effective international cooperation and to join with others to overcome the hurdles ahead.”

A programme of related events, including test drives and other activities designed especially to meet the interests of school pupils, students and private citizens will introduce the theme of hydrogen to the general public. What role can hydrogen play as an energy source in a climate-friendly energy economy of the future? What positive changes can the public expect? Practical and informative answers will be offered for these and other questions.

Interested participants are invited to register for the conference immediately at www.whec2010.com. The early-bird discount will be granted to those who register by 15 January 2010.

For further information please contact:

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