

Audi opens power-to-gas facility

Audi has recently opened an "e-gas" plant in Werlte, Germany, which will see the automobile manufacturer turn surplus green electricity from the power grid into synthetic methane ("Audi e-gas"), using up CO2 generated in an adjacent plant in the process. The gas can be used to provide 15,000 kilometers of CO2-neutral driving for its purpose-made range of vehicles every year.

The innovative system first uses surplus green electricity for electrolysis, breaking down water into oxygen and hydrogen. The second step, methanation, involves reacting the hydrogen with CO2 to produce the synthetic methane fuel (practically identical to fossil natural gas), with water and oxygen as the only by-products.

"Audi is taking a giant step toward the mobility of the future today," said Heinz Hollerweger, Head of Total Vehicle Development, in his speech at the inauguration. "Audi is the only manufacturer worldwide with such innovative technology. Research into synthetic, environment-friendly fuels is the core of our vigorous e-fuels strategy."

For the full press release, please click here

http://www.volkswagenag.com/content/vwcorp/info_center/en/news/2013/06/power_to_gas.html

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