



Enhancing safety of liquid and vaporised hydrogen transfer technologies in public areas for mobile applications (ID179)

ICHS 2023 conference

Federico Ustolin et al.

20.09.2023



Co-funded by
the European Union



ELVHYS project No. 101101381 is supported by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and its members. UK participants in Horizon Europe Project ELVHYS are supported by UKRI grant numbers 10063519 (University of Ulster) and 10070592 (Health and Safety Executive)

Content

1. Introduction
2. State of the art of LH2 technologies
3. Safety issues related to LH2 technologies
4. ELVHYS project
5. Conclusions

Introduction

Focus of the study: pre-normative research on liquid and cryogenic hydrogen transfer technologies in public areas for mobile applications.

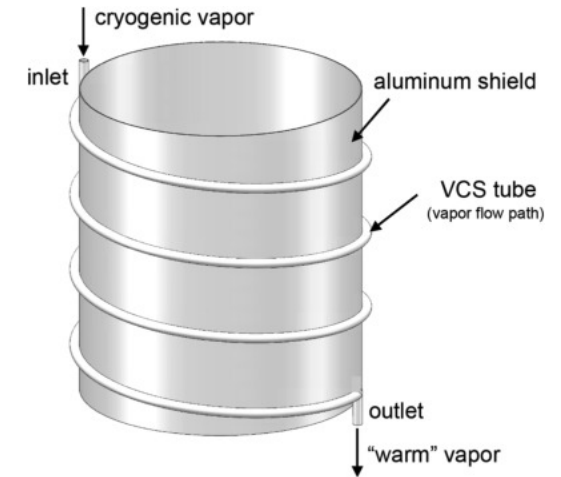
Aim: (i) provide a brief state of the art of cryogenic and liquid hydrogen technologies and (ii) present the new Horizon Europe project ELVHYS.



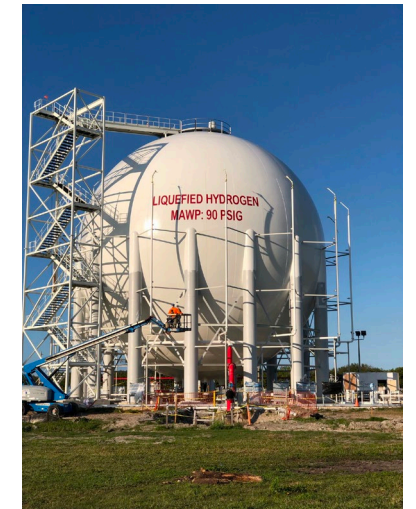
State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 and cryogenic hydrogen storage

- Double walled tanks with vacuum insulation (order of mPa) must be used
- Typical types of insulations:
 - perlite (silica powder)
 - multi-layer insulations (MLI)
 - glass bubbles
- Vapor cooled shields (VCSs) can be used
- Materials must not be susceptible to H₂ & low-temperature embrittlement
- Typical shape is cylindrical or spherical
- Size of largest LH₂ tank: 4,730 m³ (new NASA tank)
- Zero-boil off concept: Integrated Refrigeration and Storage (IRAS)



Source: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2021.120859>



Swanger A, World's Largest Liquid Hydrogen Tank Nearing Completion, 2022

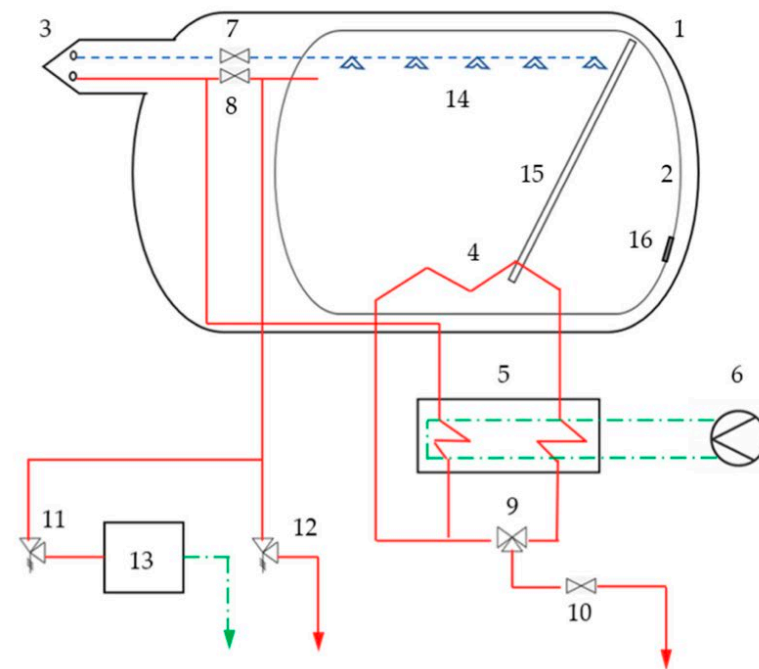
State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 equipment and safety devices

- LH2 storage and transfer system components:

- valves,
- joints, welding, gaskets
- compensators (for thermal contraction)
- insulation
- instrumentation
- support structure (e.g. rods or hooks)
- pressurization systems (including heat exchangers)
- cryogenic pumps
- venting mast

- Safety devices: pressure relief valves (PRVs), sensors, shut-down valves, emergency release system (ERS)



- 1 Outer tank
- 2 Inner tank
- 3 Coupling
- 4 Heater
- 5 Heat exchanger
- 6 Cooling water pump
- 7 Cryogenic filling valve
- 8 Cryogenic return valve
- 9 Pressure regulation valve
- 10 Shut-off valve
- 11 Boil-off valve
- 12 Safety relief valve
- 13 Boil-off system
- 14 Support post
- 15 Liquid level sensor
- 16 Rupture disk

Source: doi.org/10.3390/jmse10091222

State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 delivery

- Continuous methods:
 - Pipelines
- Non-continuous methods:
 - Road transport (trucks)
 - Trains
 - Maritime (ships or barges)

Storage components are used for non-continuous means of transport

LH2 pipeline at NASA. Source:
<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/going-with-the-flow-egs-team-tests-flow-of-cryogenic-fluids>



HySTRA project, Suiso Frontier. Source:
<https://www.hystra.or.jp/en/gallery/article.html>

State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 mobile applications

- Aerospace
- Maritime
- Automotive
- Aviation
- Railway

Many new projects came to light in the last decade. A list can be found in:

[Ustolin, F., Campari, A., Taccani, R., An Extensive Review of Liquid Hydrogen in Transportation with Focus on the Maritime Sector. Journal of Marine Science and Engineering, 10, 2022, 1222.]



Space shuttle. Source:

<https://www.nasa.gov/mission/pages/shuttle/flyout/ssme.html>



MF Hydra LH2 ferry. Source: <https://www.norled.no/en/news/the-mf-hydra-first-in-the-world/>

State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 standards

ISO20421:2019 – Cryogenic vessels – Large transportable vacuum-insulated vessels

- Part 1: Design, fabrication, inspection and tests
- Part 2: Operational requirements

ISO21009:2022 – Cryogenic vessels – Static vacuum insulated vessels

- Part 1: Design, fabrication, inspection and tests
- Part 2: Operational requirements

ISO21029-1:2018 – Cryogenic vessels – Transportable vacuum insulated vessels of not more than 1 000 litres volume

- Part 1: Design, fabrication, inspection and tests
- Part 2: Operational requirements

ISO13985:2006 – Liquid hydrogen – Land vehicle fuel tanks

State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 standards

- Other ISO standards on Cryogenic vessels:
 - ISO21013:2016 – Pressure-relief accessories for cryogenic service
 - ISO21011:2008 – Valves for cryogenic service
 - ISO21012:2018 – Hoses
 - ISO24490:2016 – Pumps for cryogenic service
 - ISO21010:2017 – Gas/material compatibility
 - ISO21028:2016 – Toughness requirements for materials at cryogenic temperature
 - ISO21014:2019 – Cryogenic insulation performance
 - ISO23208:2005 – Cleanliness for cryogenic service
- ISO20088-1:2016 – Determination of the resistance to cryogenic spillage of insulation material — Part 1: Liquid phases

State of the art of LH2 technologies

LH2 standards

- AIGA, 087/14 - Standard for Hydrogen Piping Systems at User Locations
- EIGA 06/19, 2019 - Safety in Storage, Handling and Distribution of Liquid Hydrogen

Observations:

1. Many standards are not focused on hydrogen
2. Lack in detailed standards on LH2 transfer technologies and procedures

Safety issues related to LH2 technologies

Consequences of failure

Consequences of loss of containment of loss of containment of LH2 components:

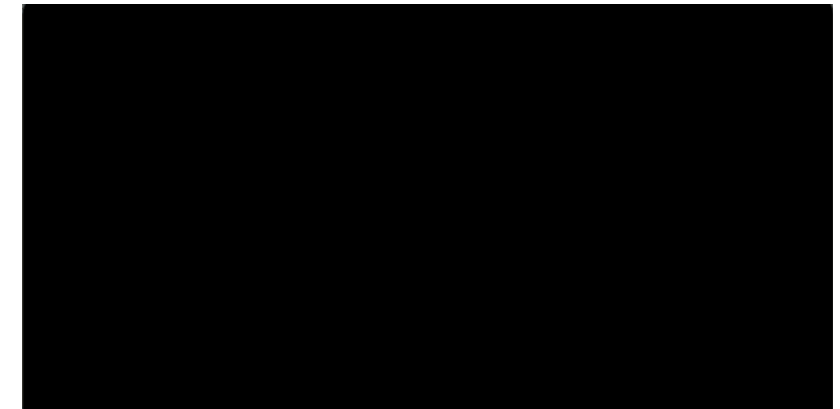
- LH2 or two-phase hydrogen jet
- Material embrittlement impacted by LH2 jet
- Pool formation
- Air component condensation or solidification
- Dispersion and flammable cloud formation
- Pressure peaking phenomenon (**PPP**)

In case of ignition:

- fires: jet fire, pool fire, flash fire
- explosions: vapor cloud explosion (**VCE**), deflagration to detonation transition (**DDT**), **condensed phase explosion** (detonation), boiling liquid expanding vapour explosion (**BLEVE**)



LH2 large-scale release and delayed ignition PRESLHY project - HSE



LH2 BLEVE test, SH2IFT project - BAM

Safety issues related to LH2 technologies

Experiments and modelling on LH2 consequences

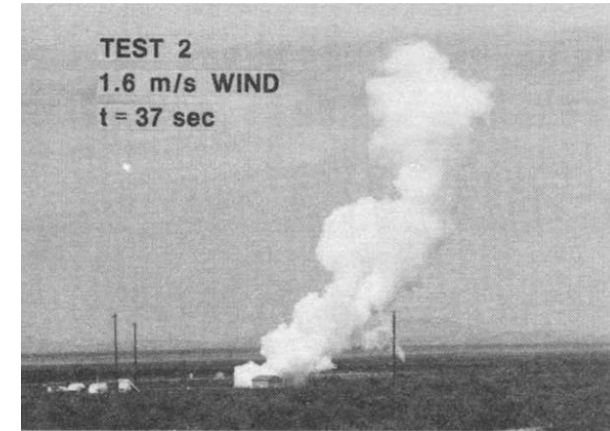
Experiments on LH2 releases on ground or water:

- Zabetakis and Burgess, ground, USA (1950s)
- NASA, sand, New Mexico (1984)
- BAM & Jülich, water & aluminium, Germany (1994)
- HSL, concrete, UK (2012)
- DNV, concrete, UK (2020)
- BAM, water, Germany (2021)

Models:

- Mostly CFD models were used to simulate LH2 consequences
- A list of investigation can be found in:

[Ustolin, F., Asholt, H.Ø., Zdravistch, F., Niemi, R., Paltrinieri, N., Computational fluid dynamics modelling of liquid hydrogen release and dispersion in gas refuelling stations, Chemical Engineering Transactions, 86, 2021, 223–228.]



Witcofski & Chirivella (1984),
[https://doi.org/10.1016/0360-3199\(84\)90064-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/0360-3199(84)90064-8)



LH2 RPT test, SH2IFT project - BAM

ELVHYS project



Enhancing safety of liquid and vaporised hydrogen transfer technologies in public areas for mobile applications

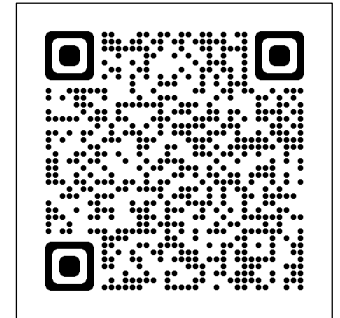
Funding: 2.0 M€

Duration: 2023-2026

Coordinator: NTNU



Partners:



Website

Objective: provide indications on inherently safer and efficient cryogenic hydrogen technologies and protocols in mobile applications by proposing innovative safety strategies including selection of effective safety barriers and hazard zoning strategies, which are the results of a detailed risk analysis.

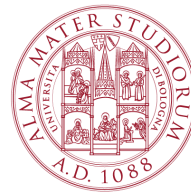
NTNU role: coordinator, consequence analysis, risk analysis

ELVHYS project

Expected outcomes

1. Detailed **risk analysis** for LH2 transferring operations for mobile applications (ships, trucks, stationary tanks) fillings
2. **Generic hazard distances** for LH2 transferring operations in the different applications, also addressing **SimOps**
3. **Guidelines for design** of LH2 transferring facilities
4. **Consensual loading procedures** for LH2 transferring operations
5. Provide inputs for developing **Standards, Technical Specifications, or Technical Reports** at the international level

ELVHYS project

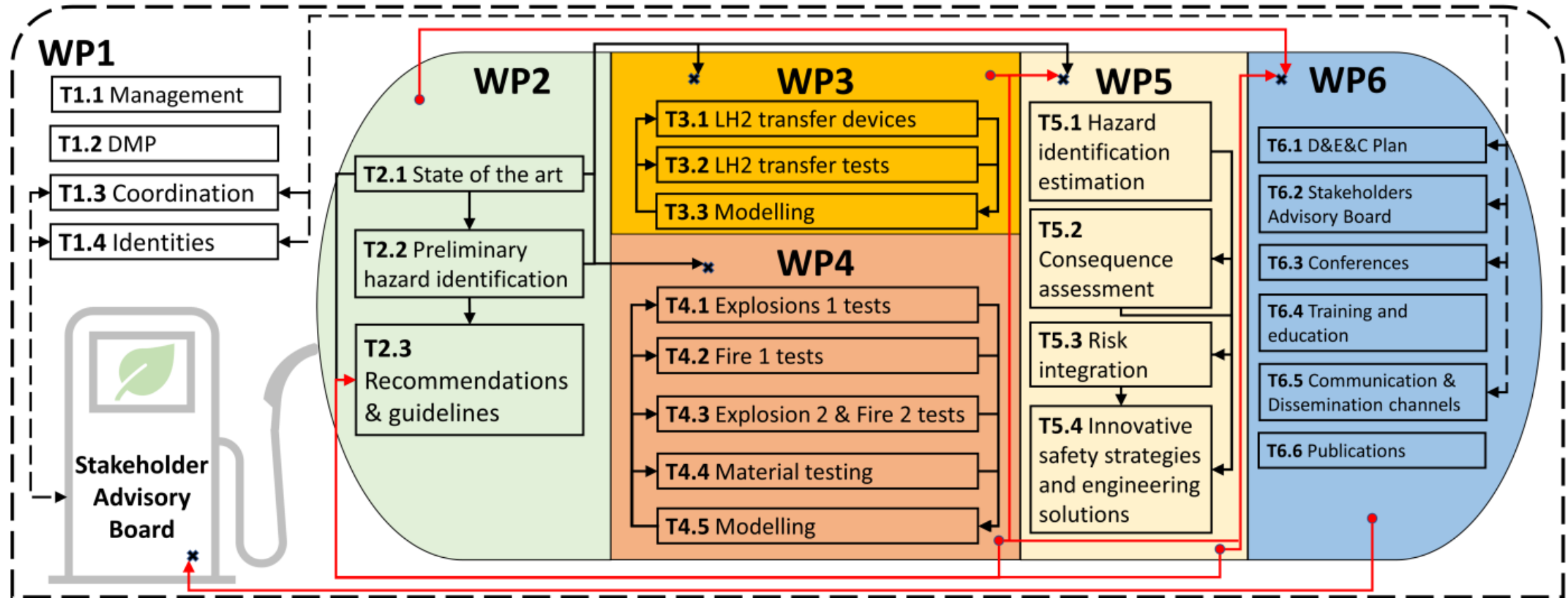


Co-funded by
the European Union



UK Research
and Innovation

ELVHYS project



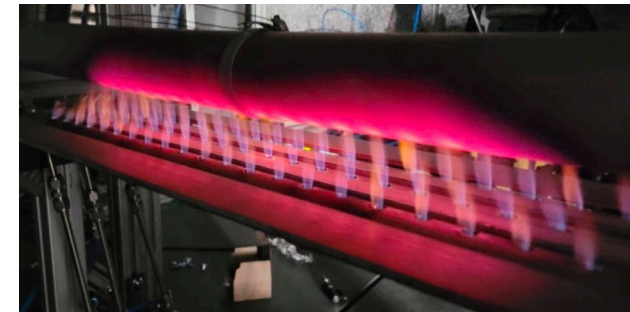
ELVHYS project

Experiments and modelling (WP3 & 4)

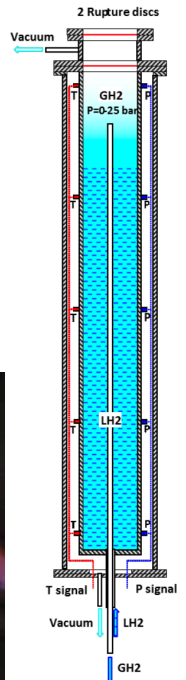
- **T3.2: LH2 transfer tests:** bunkering, fuelling, refuelling, defueling
- **T4.1: Oxygen enrichment** and condensed phase explosions
- **T4.2: Leakage** into cold room/tank connection space considering barriers and obstacles
- **T4.3:** Performance of LH2 components and explosion consequences:
 - **T4.3.1: BLEVE tests** with a shock tube filled with LH2
 - **T4.3.2: Fire tests** of short transfer line elements
- **T4.4: Material testing** against unignited and ignited jets (MLI, glass spheres, perlite layers and fire protecting wall)



Source: HSE



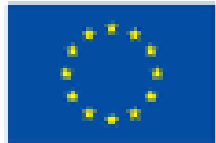
Source: KIT





Thank you for your attention

federico.ustolin@ntnu.no



Co-funded by
the European Union



UK Research
and Innovation

ELVHYS project No. 101101381 is supported by the Clean Hydrogen Partnership and its members. UK participants in Horizon Europe Project ELVHYS are supported by UKRI grant numbers 10063519 (University of Ulster) and 10070592 (Health and Safety Executive).

Disclaimer: Despite the care that was taken while preparing this document the following disclaimer applies: Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or Clean Hydrogen JU. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.