

Airbus reveals plans for zero-emission aircraft fuelled by hydrogen

The *Guardian* reports on one of the biggest hydrogen stories in September. Airbus, a European aviation company, revealed plans for the world's first zero-emission commercial aircraft fuelled by hydrogen and taking to the skies by 2035.

Three different concepts, all powered by hydrogen, have been revealed and will be tested to find the most efficient plane. Guillaume Faury, the Airbus Chief Executive said:

"The concepts we unveil today offer the world a glimpse of our ambition to drive a bold vision for the future of zero-emission flight. I strongly believe that the use of hydrogen – both in synthetic fuels and as a primary power source for commercial aircraft – has the potential to significantly reduce aviation's climate impact,"

Airbus have also stressed the need for costs of green hydrogen to come down to help aviation reduce emissions.

More info:

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/sep/21/airbus-reveals-plans-zero-emission-aircraft-fuelled-hydrogen>

Hydrogen-powered train makes UK maiden journey

The *BBC* website cover the maiden journey of a hydrogen powered train in the UK, travelling on Britain's rail network for the first time.

The short video covers the journey of the prototype train, named Hydroflex. The round trip of 25 miles is made through the Warwickshire and Worcestershire regions, with the train reaching 50mph.

The hydrogen tanks, fuel cell and battery currently are found in a carriage but the next phase of the project is to shift them underneath the carriage, making way for passengers by the end of 2021.

More info:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/business-54350046>

The *BBC* also covered hydrogen in July with a piece 'Is the hydrogen tech 'revolution' hope or hype?'

More info:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-53238512>

World's first hydrogen powered commercial plane takes off from Cranfield

Continuing both a transport and UK focussed month, *The Engineer* announces a landmark occasion for hydrogen powered aviation.

Aviation firm ZeroAvia have completed the world's first hydrogen fuel cell powered flight of a commercial grade aircraft.

The flight took place at Cranfield which is home to the companies research and development facility. The modified Piper M-Class six-seat plane undertook a taxi, take off, a full circuit, and then a landing.

ZeroAvia is producing a hydrogen-electric powertrain which is projected to have lower operating costs than any jet fuel competition due to lower fuel and maintenance costs.

The next and final stage takes a Scottish twist with a 250 mile zero emission flight out of an airport in Orkney before the end of the year. This distance is roughly the same as London to Edinburgh.

More info:

<https://www.theengineer.co.uk/worlds-first-hydrogen-powered-commercial-plane/>