Press Release

A positive first assessment for hydrogen trials in Occitanie: Hyliko, Qair and the Region commend transport operators' commitment

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Hyliko, Qair, and the Occitanie Region present a positive mid-term assessment of the HyT44 1st Edition hydrogen truck trials, launched on March 17, 2026, at the hydrogen refueling stations in Béziers and Narbonne, located at the intersection of the A9 and A75 highways. To date, this unique experiment in France has allowed three transport operators to test - free of charge and in real-world conditions - a decarbonized mobility solution tailored to the demands of long-haul road transport.

These trials are part of the European Corridor H_2 program, an initiative led by the Occitanie Region to establish a hydrogen mobility network stretching from the Iberian Peninsula to Northern Europe, along major logistics corridors.

Concrete and promising results on the ground

After several weeks of operation, initial feedback confirms the relevance of hydrogen for intensive use:

- Autonomy compatible with daily transport routes
- Fast (max. 20 min) and clean refueling, with no impact on operational cycles
- Seamless integration into existing logistics operations

- Driver comfort praised by operators

Après plusieurs semaines d'exploitation, les premiers retours confirment la pertinence du modèle hydrogène pour les usages intensifs :

- une autonomie compatible avec les trajets quotidiens des transporteurs
- un ravitaillement rapide (max. 20 min) et propre, sans impact sur les cycles d'exploitation
- une intégration fluide dans les opérations logistiques existantes
- un confort de conduite salué par les conducteurs

Conducted on key routes (A9, A20, A61, and A75), these tests demonstrate hydrogen's ability to meet the operational constraints of heavy-duty transport.

Since the launch, the vehicle has already covered nearly 3,000 kilometers, preventing the emission of 2.5 tons of CO_2 and saving nearly 1,000 liters of diesel. These environmental performance metrics align with Occitanie's decarbonization ambitions, as transport is the region's largest greenhouse gas emitter. Hydrogen mobility thus plays a crucial role in achieving the region's climate goals.

Feedback from Jimenez Transport & Location

Among the companies involved, Jimenez Transport & Location, a well-known day-and-night freight transport provider based in Villeneuve-lès-Bouloc (31), had the opportunity to test the Hyliko HyT44 1st Edition - the first 44-ton retrofitted fuel-cell truck on the market, offering around 400 km of autonomy - for a week.

"*These trials confirm hydrogen's potential for our business. We tested the vehicle in real-world conditions, with strong performance in autonomy and fast refueling. The driving comfort, power, and quiet cabin are also major advantages for our teams,*" explains Valérie Jimenez, President of the Jimenez Group.

Operational Hydrogen Stations at the Heart of the Corridor

The success of these tests relies on high-performance infrastructure, operated in part by Qair, a key player in renewable hydrogen deployment.

The Béziers and Narbonne stations, recently commissioned (with official inaugurations upcoming), enable fast and reliable refueling. They supply up to 600 kg of renewable hydrogen per day, serving light vehicles, buses, trucks, coaches, and other intensive

mobility applications. These stations complement the region's existing network, which includes Blagnac, Toulouse-Sud, and Saint-Sulpice-la-Pointe.

This regional network is part of a European dynamic, connected to the Hympulsion network in Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes and the Corredor del Ebro in Spain, contributing to the EU's AFIR regulation, which mandates hydrogen stations every 200 km along major TEN-T corridors by 2030.

A Collective Ambition to Decarbonize Transport

With this initiative, the Occitanie Region, Hyliko, and Qair demonstrate the effectiveness of an integrated approach, combining production, distribution, vehicles, and services. Alongside this ecosystem, the transport operators involved in the trials play a pivotal role: as pioneers, they are paving the way by testing these solutions and gradually engaging their clients, partners, and suppliers in this decarbonization drive.

This first feedback marks a key step in establishing an operational hydrogen sector to support the decarbonization of road transport.

Les essais se poursuivront jusqu'au 19 mai. Pour réserver un essai de camion hydrogène : Test Hyliko Hydrogen Truck.

About Hyliko

Hyliko is the first turnkey solution to accelerate the decarbonization of road transport using hydrogen. Its offering includes hydrogen trucks (new or retrofitted), maintenance, and a network of green and low-carbon hydrogen refueling stations. With a pay-per-use model, tailored support, and carbon footprint tracking, Hyliko enables rapid, concrete, measurable, and sustainable deployment of zero-emission heavy mobility. www.hyliko.com

About Qair

Qair, an independent energy company born from the pioneering legacy of Quadran, embodies a multi-technology expertise in the service of the energy transition. In France, Qair leads projects such as: Hyd'Occ (to become France's largest renewable hydrogen production unit in 2026), Eolmed (a floating wind farm off Gruissan), FloWatt (a tidal turbine pilot project in Raz-Blanchard). france.qair.energy

About AD'OCC

AD'OCC supports Occitanie-based companies in innovation, competitiveness, and international market access. By structuring key sectors (aeronautics, agri-food), it fosters collaboration between businesses, investors, and research centers. A special focus is placed on tourism, the region's second-largest economic driver, to enhance Occitanie's appeal. The agency also drives ambitious climate commitments, with Occitanie aiming to become Europe's first positive-energy region by 2050. Key initiatives include: The RHyO cluster (25 labs working on hydrogen), Deeptech startups and aerospace industry efforts toward decarbonized aviation, The upcoming Technocampus Hydrogen (Toulouse, 2027), bringing together researchers and industrialists to advance green hydrogen for mobility.

Hyliko
Raphaëlle Roudet
Press (Agence FD Communication)
+33 7 81 81 93 26
raphaelle.fdcommunication@gmail.com

Communication
Danna REANO
06 08 34 58 24
danna.reano@hyliko.com

AD'OCC
Jérôme Bouchindhomme
+33(0)6 23 30 23 01
jerome.bouchindhomme@agence-adocc.com

Qair
Qair – Media Relations
+33 (0)4 11 95 11 76
press@qair.energy