



RIA

ΔH Test Lab

EPERC - 1 April, 2019 Roma, Italy



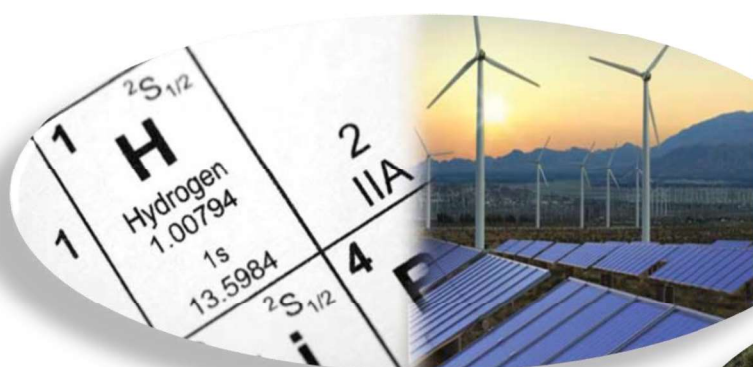
OVERVIEW

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INTRODUCTION



The DeltaH test lab has been built in the frame of EOMAT project with the collaboration between Rina Consulting - Centro Sviluppo Materiali S.p.A. (CSM) and University of Calabria.



EOMAT - PON03PE_00092_1
Materials and innovative
solutions for Wind Energy
production and storage

DeltaH

*a new facility for the validation of
H₂-related materials and components*

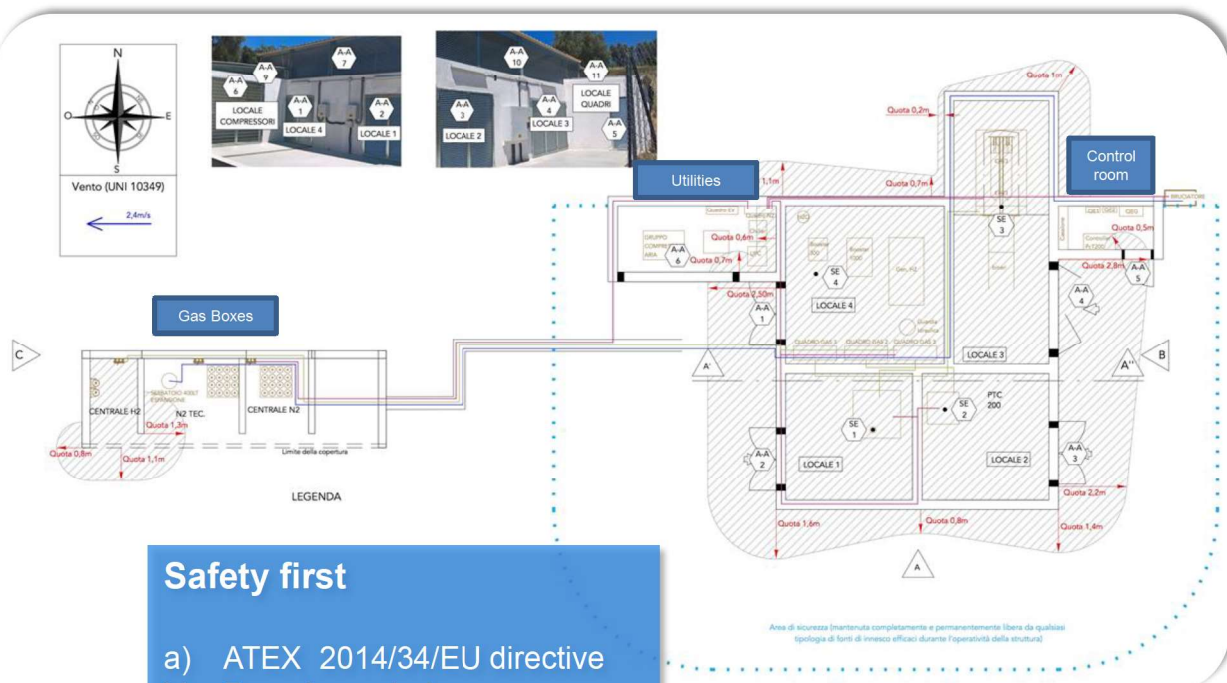


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DeltaH Map

A new building
hosting

1. Solid state H₂ Storage Systems
2. In-situ Mechanical Tests
3. Full-size High Pressure Tanks and Components
4. Hydrogen Production and Compression



Safety first

- a) ATEX 2014/34/EU directive
- b) Remote control
- c) Fully automated procedures
- d) Common P&I
- e) Shared safety infrastructure

LABS

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LABS

The research activities and services of the DeltaH Lab are devoted to the development, testing and validation of materials for the H₂ storage, transportation and distribution.

The test capabilities of the laboratory are currently three:

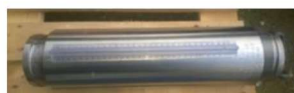
- mechanical tests on materials for tanks and piping (Small Scale);
- tests on components for the compressed hydrogen storage (up to 1000 bar) for stationary and mobile applications (Full Scale);
- tests on H₂ sorption in solid nanomaterials (HPcT).

Test on materials
(**Small Scale**)



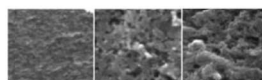
200+1000 bar

Test on components
(**Full scale**)



100+1000 bar

Test on **nano-materials**
(**Hpct**)



0-300 bar

LABS: Small Scale

Small scale – Characterizations of materials for cylinders, vessel and tubes

Main Features of the vessel

- Volume: 1 l;
- Temperature: $-10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \div 150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$;
- Pressure: $0 \div 1000\text{ bar}$;

Main Features of the traction machine:

- Gas composition: ultrapure H₂ and mixtures;
- Temperature: $-10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \div 150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$;
- Pressure: $0 \div 1000\text{ bar}$;
- Types of materials tested: metallic and composite materials;
- Load Cell: 100kN;
- **Velocity: $10^{-6}[\text{s}^{-1}]$;**
- Frequency: $<5\text{ Hz}$.

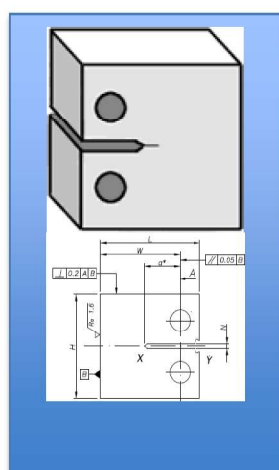


Small Scale: Tests and specimens



Different tests can be performed on different specimens to evaluate some mechanical features:

- Slow Strain Rate Tests;
- Notched tensile specimen tests (σ_s , k_t);
- Evaluation of threshold stress-intensity factor (K_{TH});
- Evaluation of the effect of H₂ for crack propagation by fatigue approach (da/dn versus ΔK).
- Evaluation of cracks progress by the technique of potential drop (ACPD)



Types of sample	Geometry (mm)
a) cylindrical	L= 70
b) C.T.	L=31,25±0,25 - H=30±0,25
others	

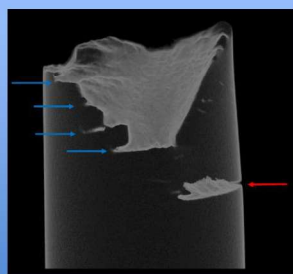
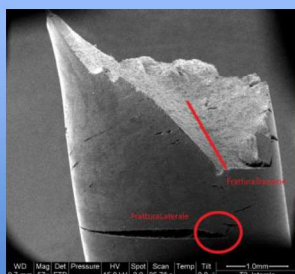
FIRST TESTS to verify the H₂ effect on AISI 4145 steel



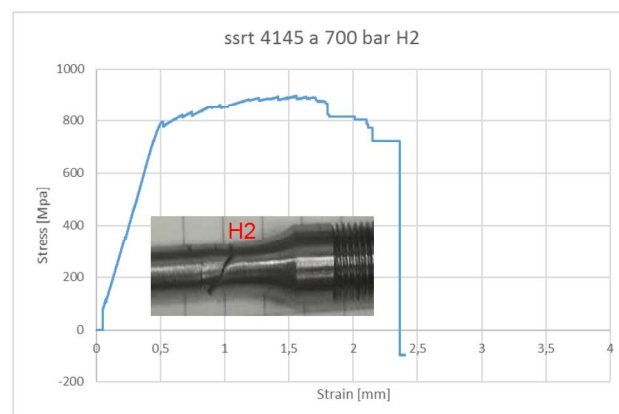
Small Scale: SSR Tests

Material	Low alloy steel
Testing Rate	$10^{-6} [s^{-1}]$
Gas used	100% N2 (Test 1) 100% H2 (Test 2)
Testing Pressure	700 bar

SAMPLE CHACTERIZATION



Left) SEM image and Right) μ -Ct image of fracture area of SSRT sample with evidenced secondary crack due to hydrogen embrittlement



LABS: Full scale

Full scale testing is based on compression and decompression cycles of component (e.g. tubes, cylinders) dedicated to the storage and distribution of H₂.

Main Features :

- Max operating pressure: 200÷1000 bar;
- N° of cycles: 0÷∞;
- Volume of component under test: 1÷ 15 L;
- Internal volume of the components under testing can be reduced by filler bar to reduce as much as possible the overall volume of H₂ and so enhance the testing frequency;
- Ratio P_{max}/P_{min}: 5÷10;
- Gas composition: ultrapure H₂ and gas mixture;
- Testing of cylinders with selected defects;
- Possibility to control compression rate and time of permanence at high/low pressure;
- Control of Temperature;
- The time of cycle for cylinder with a volume 1L, P_{max}=500 bar is 3 minute.
- Type of materials testing: metallic and composite

LABS: Full scale testing- safety

For safety reasons the testing component is confined in an autoclave inertized in nitrogen at $P = 0,5$ bar. It performs two main functions:

- The protection from possible splinters that can originate from the breaking of the components
- The realization of an inert nitrogen atmosphere around the components in order to prevent the formation of explosive Air/H₂ mixture in case of rupture of the component under testing.

Main feature :

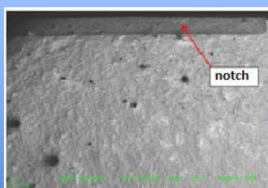
- Length: 3 m;
- Volume: 2500l;
- Max working pressure: 10 bar;
- Volume: 2500 litres;
- Automated control system



Fatigue test was performed on AISI 4145 steel tank subjected to 3500 pressure cycles between a minimum P_{min} and a maximum P_{max} .

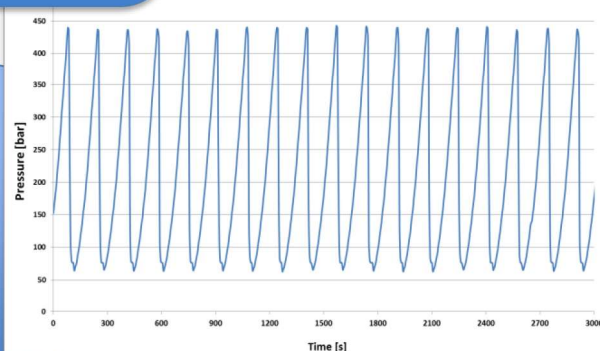
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Material	Low alloy steel
Vessel nominal pressure	450 bar
Gas used	100% H2
P_{max} in full scale cycle	440 bar
P_{min} in full scale cycle	65 bar
N° of cycles performed	3500
Defects	1,0 mm and 1,5 mm notches obtained by electro erosion
cycle duration	3 minutes



Left) image of the fracture surface and Right) SEM image of fracture zone of the fatigue test in H₂

Pressure Trend during Full Scale Testing



LABS: Solid state H₂ Storage Systems **RI A**

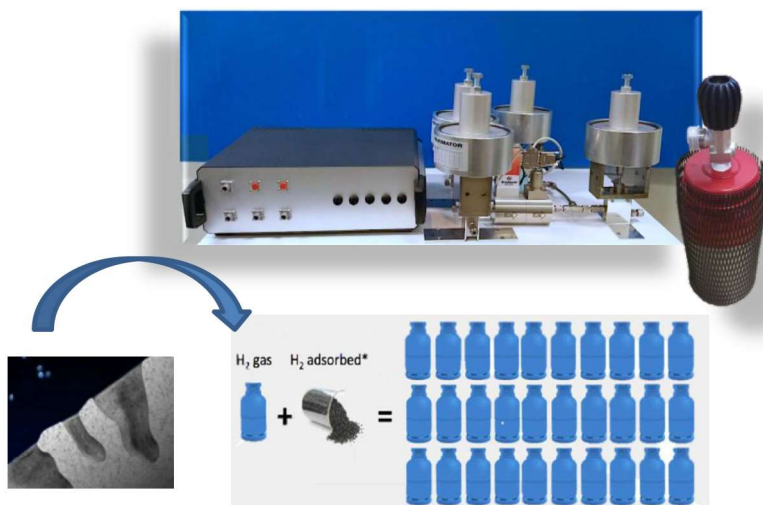
HPcT: High Pressure Sievert-type apparatus

The apparatus allowing the adsorption/desorption tests on kg-scale amounts of sorbent materials at pressures up to 250 bar and controlled temperatures ranging in a wide range ($RT \pm 40$ K).

Main Features:

- 1-10 litres tank;
- 10^{-2} bar up to 300 bar;
- 2-100 Nlitre/min flux;
- -20-100 °C temperature range;
- Gas composition: H₂ and mixture
- Type of materials testing:

Activated carbon, zeolites, polymer, mof, metal hydrides





DeltaH Local Network

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DeltaH Position

The laboratory is located in the Technological Pole of the University of Calabria :

- Physics Department *Surface Science lab*
 - **Microscopic techniques:**
 - Atomic force microscopy AFM/STM
 - SEM microscopy
 - **Spectroscopic techniques:**
 - XPS
 - AES
 - **Gas/surface**
 - Porosimetry
 - Gas Adsorption
- Mechanical Engineering Department
- STAR_Lab- μ Tomo beamline: Hard X-ray Microtomography



Conclusions



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**THANKS
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

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