

Fuel cell buses reach milestone - 14th July 2005

More than 30 fuel cell buses operating as part of a global trial have now traveled further than the milestone of 760,000 kilometres – the distance from the earth to the moon and back.

The hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles are seen by many as the future for environmentally-friendly transport.

Not only is hydrogen, being the most abundant element in the universe, in no danger of running out but the technology is also emissions-free - with only water and heat produced as by-products.

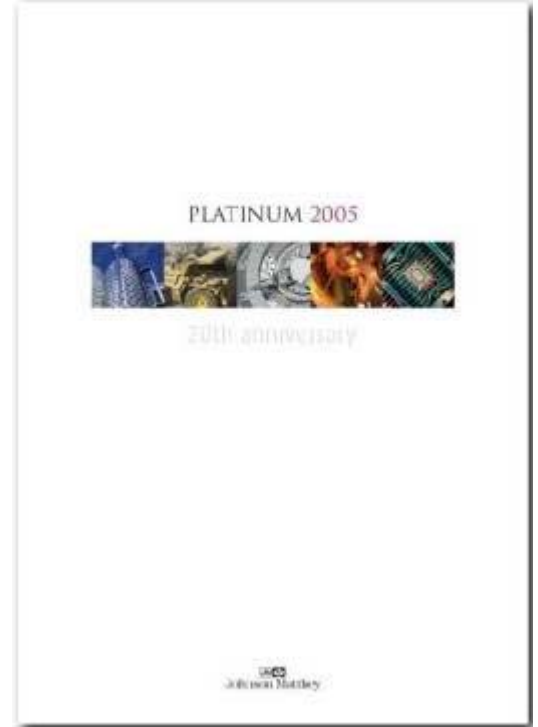
Ten cities in Europe (including London), and one in Australia, have been using these new buses, which were supplied by DaimlerChrysler, since May 2003.

This is the largest and most comprehensive trial of fuel cell technology so far and it will be expanded to Asia when Beijing gets its own emissions-free buses in September.

Other energy and automotive companies are keen to get in on the act and many are conducting their own research into the new technology.

Several types of fuel cell produce electricity by combining hydrogen and oxygen over a platinum catalyst.

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