

A roadmap for low-carbon fuel cell cars

Li Huacheng and Qian Tong

A GRAND launch of 100 fuel cell vehicles was held at the Shanghai Automobile Exhibition Center in Jiading District on August 4.

It marks the first commercial use of fuel cell vehicles in Shanghai.

The 100 fuel cell vehicles come from six companies, including Shanghai Hydrogen Propulsion Technology Co, REFIRE Group, Shanghai Shenli Technology Co and Aerospace Hydrogen Energy (Shanghai) Technology Co.

Shanghai leads the development of the country's hydrogen industry with more refueling stations and fuel cell electric vehicles coming in the next three years.

Around 1,500 fuel cell vehicles have been put into operation and 12 hydrogen refueling stations have been set up, and a hydrogen supply network has been established.

In August 2021, the central government announced the first batch of three urban demonstration clusters for



The first batch of fuel cell vehicles are ready to hit the roads in Shanghai. — Li Huacheng

fuel cell vehicle applications around Beijing, Shanghai, and Guangdong Province.

Shanghai, in partnership with Jiangsu's Suzhou, Nantong and Jiading, Shandong's Zibo, Inner Mongolia's Ordos and Ningxia's Ningdong energy and chemical industry base, will put 5,000 fuel cell

vehicles into use and build 73 hydrogen refueling stations during the four-year trial.

The vehicles at the launch included passenger cars, buses, logistics vehicles and heavy trucks.

"It is a good opportunity for us to demonstrate the

uses, features and advantages of the hydrogen powered electric vehicle," said Lu Bingbing, general manager of Shanghai Hydrogen Propulsion Technology Co. "We can find good application scenarios for a repeatable and scalable business model."

Jiading has issued an

implementation plan for the development of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, proposing the total output of the whole industrial chain of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles in the district will exceed 100 billion yuan (US\$15.6 billion) by 2025.

Meanwhile, the number of fuel cell vehicle company headquarters, high-tech enterprises and technology centers shall exceed 100.

At least 3,500 vehicles will be put on the roads, with at least 18 public hydrogen refueling stations. The retail price of hydrogen shall not exceed 35 yuan per kilogram.

"We have been promoting the concept of 'large-scale localization,' that is, to localize parts, charging piles, systems and equipment for research and development, testing and processing," Lu said.

"In this way, we can not only secure the supply chain at a reduced cost, but also lay a good foundation for the overall application of the vehicles in the future."

Work in full swing on Li-Ning Group's new US\$95 million HQ

Li Pin and Qian Tong

CONSTRUCTION of the 640 million yuan (US\$95.5 million) global e-commerce headquarters of the Li-Ning Group is in full swing in Anting Town of Jiading. The foundations have been completed and the steel core structure is being built.

The HQ on Zongbai Road will serve as an e-commerce platform, intelligent logistics platform, and product experience and exhibition center for the sportswear brand.

The main structure should be completed by the end of October, and the project should be finished by February and operational by June 2023.

Construction started on March 1, and it was originally planned to be completed on January 16, 2023, according to project manager Zhang Zhikun.

"We have 160 workers at the site, and we plan to increase the number to 200 to make up for the delay caused by the COVID-19 pandemic," Zhang said. "We will raise efficiency by streamlining the construction process and implementing staggered shifts."

The township government plans to make Anting one of the best sports towns in the country.

MG Mulan to debut in Europe in Q4

Hu Xindong and Qian Tong

MG Mulan, a new model of all-electric crossover manufactured by the Shanghai-based automaker SAIC Motor, will debut in Europe in the fourth quarter.

Mulan, or Hua Mulan, was a legendary figure in Chinese folklore. The car thus captures in spirit the heroine's qualities of strength, courage and being oneself.

The aggression at the front stems from the shark-like nose, the three-eyed headlights and a muscular bumper. The latter is assisted with vertically placed air intakes. Add to this, the fiery overtone offered by the lip spoiler.

"The design of MG Mulan balances the aesthetics of the East and West. The core part was mainly designed by the MG team with SAIC China headquarters in Anting, in collaboration with the British studio in London," said Shao Jingfeng, chief design officer at SAIC Motor R&D Innovation Headquarters.

At its heart, the car runs on an electric motor that delivers up to 150kw. The vehicle's charging port is situated on the rear quarter panel above the left wheel arch.



Domestically produced MG Mulan cars lined up on the dock ready to be shipped overseas. — Hu Xindong

The car can race from 0 to 100km/hr within 3.8 seconds.

In terms of crash safety, MG Mulan meets both Euro NCAP and China's NCAP five-star safety rating standards.

The company says the car carries "LBS recumbent cells" that have energy packed at a higher density, allowing for a slimmer dimension to the battery pack and thus making more room in the cockpit.

One more highlight of the car is that it comes equipped with the

"zero thermal runaway system" that would save it from catching fire or in an incident of thermal runaway.

According to Shao, MG Mulan will debut in Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Spain, Norway, Sweden and other European countries in the fourth quarter of this year, and plans to enter Australia, the Middle East, Mexico, South America and other countries and regions next year, with a goal of global sales of 150,000 vehicles in 2023.