

## Press release

First hydrogen filling station for cars, buses and trucks in the state capital Kiel planned in Moorsee

Companies from Schleswig-Holstein found hy.kiel and build regional green hydrogen infrastructure

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**The filling station company Anton Willer from Kiel, the SVG Straßenverkehrsgenossenschaft Schleswig-Holstein from Neumünster (Cooperation of the road transport business), Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH, Professor Hans-Hinrich Sievers and the North Frisian energy turnaround specialist GP JOULE are building a regional green hydrogen ecosystem. The companies have founded the joint company hy.kiel for this purpose. From summer 2023, green hydrogen will be available for buses and trucks as well as for cars at a new public filling station in Kiel-Moorsee.**

Initially, two fuel cell buses operated by Autokraft, which are to go into service in the Rendsburg-Eckernförde district, are planned as the first users. Businesses from Wellsee with truck freight traffic have also declared that they want to use the filling station. In addition, hydrogen vehicles will also be purchased in the vehicle fleet of the shareholders of hy.kiel and the Kieler Nachrichten (Kiel News).

The fuel cell cars, trucks and the hydrogen buses that will be used in regular service in the future will only be fuelled with green hydrogen and will thus be emission-free. Only water vapour comes out of their exhaust pipes. They are also significantly quieter than vehicles with combustion engines, with the same range and a similarly short refuelling time. Using these vehicles not only improves the climate balance of public transport, but also ensures better air quality and more peace and quiet in the city.

The hydrogen filling station will be the first of its kind in the state capital to offer hydrogen generated from renewable energies. It is the fifth filling station in the energy turnaround state of Schleswig-Holstein and the starting signal for entering into emission-free mobility for many users, especially in heavy goods traffic in the Kiel region.

Georg Willer, managing partner of Anton Willer GmbH & Co. KG, is pleased and explains: "As a traditional Kiel company, we have been supplying the people of Kiel and Schleswig-Holstein with fuels and energy for 87 years, so it was clear to us that we had to be a pioneer in this field. His colleague Axel Niesing, also Managing Director of hy.kiel GmbH & Co. KG, adds: "Sustainability is not only close to our hearts in the form of our WillerWald (Willer Forest). We are proud to advance the energy transition with green hydrogen and to add a new technology to our portfolio."

Dr. Thorben Hänel-Muhs, Chairman of the Board of SVG and Co-Managing Director of hy.kiel, sees hydrogen as a fundamental energy carrier of the future: "Only by including hydrogen as a green propulsion technology is it possible to make heavy goods transport and especially local public transport climate-neutral in the long term."

"For Kiel, realising a green hydrogen infrastructure means a clear commitment to climate-friendly technologies and increases the attractiveness for existing and newly established companies," says Christian Heinrich, partner of Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH.

The electrolyser, which produces the green hydrogen from renewable electricity, will also be set up at the filling station in Kiel-Moorsee. This will initially be able to produce up to 260 tonnes of green hydrogen annually. This corresponds to refuelling 15 trucks, 8 buses and 28 cars daily, and thus a total emission-free range of up to 26,500 km per day. Potentially, the waste heat generated at the electrolyser can be fed into a district heating network. This significantly increases the overall efficiency of the system.

"When the connection between renewable energy production and on-site purchase becomes clear, we can convince citizens of the advantages of our sustainable projects. With local hydrogen being produced directly at the filling station, the hydrogen buses, the planned trucks, our company cars and hopefully many more passenger cars and light commercial vehicles, this connection can be experienced directly," explains André Steinau, also managing director of hy.kiel and GP JOULE Hydrogen GmbH.

Kiel's Lord Mayor Dr Ulf Kämpfer is enthusiastic about the project: "I am very pleased for the city to be taking this important step and to start with a hydrogen filling station with associated green hydrogen production in Kiel. We are thus laying a successful foundation stone as a federally funded HyExpert hydrogen region and ensuring that the KielRegion is at the forefront of this important future field."

## Images



In the picture from left to right: Christian Heinrich, partner of Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH, Ina Hoffmann, project manager GP JOULE GmbH, Dr. Ulf Kämpfer, Lord Mayor of the City of Kiel, Georg Willer, managing partner of Anton Willer GmbH & Co. KG, Tanja Schroeder, authorised signatory SVG Schleswig-Holstein eG, Axel Niesing, managing partner of Anton Willer GmbH & Co. KG, Dr. Thorben Hänel-Muhs, Chairman of the Board of SVG Schleswig-Holstein eG, André Steinau, Managing Director GP JOULE Hydrogen GmbH and Prof. Hans-Hinrich Sievers

**Logo****About hy.kiel**

In Kiel, hydrogen is to be produced for local public transport, trucks and cars from 2023. To this end, hy.kiel GmbH & Co. KG is initially building and operating an electrolysis plant with a capacity of 2 megawatts and a hydrogen filling station in Kiel, Moorsee. The founding partners are GP JOULE, Anton Willer, SVG Schleswig-Holstein as well as Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH and Prof. Hans-Hinrich Sievers.

**About GP JOULE**

Founded in 2009 based on the belief that a 100 per cent renewable energy supply is feasible, GP JOULE is now a system provider for integrated energy solutions from solar, wind and biomass power as well as being a partner at the supply level for electricity, heat, hydrogen and electromobility. This makes GP JOULE a pioneering company in the area of cross-sector linkage. Some 400 people work for the medium-sized group of companies in Germany, Europe, and North America. GP JOULE holds the 2019 Schleswig-Holstein Business Environmental Award.

**About Anton Willer**

Anton Willer GmbH & Co. KG is a family business founded in Kiel in 1934 that operates a successful filling station network with over 30 locations in Schleswig-Holstein. With its sustainability initiative WillerWald, in which the company creates one square metre of new forest in Schleswig-Holstein for every cubic metre of fuel sold, the company recently gained nationwide recognition.

**About SVG Schleswig-Holstein eG**

SVG Straßenverkehrsgenossenschaft Schleswig-Holstein eG has been an advisory and service provider for the transport and logistics industry in Schleswig-Holstein for more than 60 years. The product portfolio includes AZAV-certified training and further education for skilled workers in logistics, support in occupational safety issues, Europe-wide toll service, a selection of fuel & service cards and transport insurance in cooperation with KRAVAG as well as personal insurance with R+V Versicherung. SVG Schleswig-Holstein also operates a goods trade, a car depot and three filling stations.

**About Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH**

Dr. Curt Heinrich Nachfolger GmbH is a family-owned company from Kiel. It holds a stake in the Kieler Nachrichten Group.

**About Prof. Hans-Hinrich Sievers**

The renowned heart surgeon (ret.) of the Lübeck UKSH and Kronshagen resident has been the driving force behind a hydrogen filling station location in the state capital Kiel for years.

**Press contact**

Nina Ramberg-Mortensen  
Corporate Communications  
GP JOULE Group  
n.ramberg@gp-joule.de  
Tel. +49 (0) 4671-6074-688  
Mobile +49 171 2083818

**GP JOULE GmbH** Cecilienkoog 16 • 25821 Reußenkoegge • [www.gp-joule.de](http://www.gp-joule.de)