



A lighthouse project within the National Hydrogen
and Fuel Cell Technology Innovation Program 

The future begins in the north: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon of Norway will be on the starting line at the world's biggest zero-emissions rally.

On 11 May 09 in Oslo, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haakon of Norway joins the world-famous race car driver Henning Solberg in the Viking Rally 2009 with a hydrogen-powered Ford Focus Fuel Cell. The renowned Indy Car racer Leilani Münter will also participate in the rally, in a Ford Focus Fuel Cell supplied by the CleanEnergy Partnership (CEP). The event marks an important step towards a zero-emissions future: The rally opens the 580 km HyNor Hydrogen Highway from Oslo to Stavanger, and will demonstrate that propulsion technologies of the future can withstand long distances and rough conditions.

Oslo, 11 May 2009. 'Zero Emissions' is the motto under which 29 international teams in hydrogen and electric vehicles gather for the Viking Rally in Norway from 11-13 May 2009. At the world's largest event of its kind, professionals and amateurs will race hydrogen and electric vehicles in a test of skill and manoeuvrability.

The rally starts in Oslo and ends in Stavanger - in time for the opening of EVS24 Towards Zero Emission, an international symposium on alternative drives with participants from 40 countries.

StatoilHydro, a partner of the Viking Rally, presents another premiere on the occasion. By opening two new hydrogen filling stations, the Norwegian company will make it possible for the ***HyNor Hydrogen Highway*** - the 580 km long route from Oslo to Stavanger - to be driven in one go for the first time.

In addition to companies such as Mazda, Mitsubishi, Think and Quantum, Ford, Linde and StatoilHydro - three partners of Germany's Clean

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------------|---------------|----------|-------|
| BMW Group | BVG | DAIMLER | Ford | GM/OPEL | HOCHBAHN | Linde |
| Shell Hydrogen | StatoilHydro | TOTAL | Vattenfall Europe | VOLKSWAGEN AG | | |



A lighthouse project within the National Hydrogen
and Fuel Cell Technology Innovation Program 

Energy Partnership –will also participate in the rally. As well as the vehicles, they are providing the infrastructure necessary for the rally to go smoothly. The **CEP**, a syndicate of 12 international leading companies, has set the goal of making Germany the "number one hydrogen location." The participation of the **Clean Energy Partnership** also marks a milestone in Northern Europe's development as a hydrogen region.

The aim of the **Clean Energy Partnership** - an alliance of 12 leading companies - is to establish hydrogen as the "fuel of the future". The organisations involved in this trailblazing project include major technology, oil and energy players, as well as the majority of German car manufacturers and two leading public-transport companies. Members include Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe (BVG), BMW, Daimler, Ford, GM/Opel, Hamburger Hochbahn, Linde, Shell, StatoilHydro, TOTAL, Vattenfall Europe and Volkswagen. Since 2008, the CEP has also received funding from Germany's National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology Innovation Programme (NIP).

www.cleanenergypartnership.de

www.vikingrally.no

Contact:

be: public relations - Oberhafenstraße 1 - 20097 Hamburg
Phone: +49 (0) 40 – 23 805 87 90

Katrin Born, mobile: +49 (0) 171-83 22 896, e-mail: kb@bepr.de
(on site 11 May 09)

Kristin Bube, mobile: +49 (0) 163-34 22 299, e-mail: [kreb@bepr.de](mailto:krb@bepr.de)
(on site 11 – 13 May)

We will be happy to provide royalty-free images upon request!

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|--|---------|--|-------------------|--|---------------|--|----------|--|-------|
| BMW Group | | BVG | | DAIMLER | | Ford | | GM/OPEL | | HOCHBAHN | | Linde |
| Shell Hydrogen | | StatoilHydro | | TOTAL | | Vattenfall Europe | | VOLKSWAGEN AG | | | | |
