

## VAUXHALL OPENS THROTTLE ON ROAD-GOING HYDROGEN CAR

◆ INFORM!

### In summary

- For the attention of everyone
- HydroGen1- hydrogen and fuel cell technology concept car - reviewed

### PRODUCT & PRICING - OTHER

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A road-going concept car with a top speed of 87.5mph, named HydroGen1, has been demonstrating to senior journalists, government officials and MPs the enormous progress made by Vauxhall and General Motors in harnessing a combination of hydrogen and fuel cell technology as the key to tomorrow's mobility.

The concept car is based on Zafira and is a full five-seater, powered by a 55kW/75PS three-phase electric motor. Electricity is generated by a fuel cell stack consuming pure hydrogen and producing no pollutant emissions.

British journalists who spent a day at an intensive workshop in Brussels a couple of weeks ago were full of praise for the fact that Vauxhall had shown sufficient confidence to allow them to drive the car - **the only one in existence in the world** - on a one-mile circuit on an airfield near Brussels. Other manufacturers, they said, had allowed them to drive for only very short distances. Furthermore, the Zafira fuel cell model, was the nearest to today's car they had ever handled.




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This exercise will result in further good PR for Vauxhall. With HydroGen1, the world's largest car maker is underlining its goal of launching fuel cell vehicles at reasonable prices within the next few years and so contributing towards environmental protection and the economical use of natural resources.

Watch out for HydroGen1 during the marathon at this year's Sydney Olympics, when this world winner is the pace car.

There is no firm timescale for the first volume fuel cell production cars to reach the market. This is more to do with the setting up of a comprehensive hydrogen refuelling network, the storage of hydrogen and the acceptance by customers, than with technical questions surrounding the car. But GM and Vauxhall are concentrating all their efforts on getting the new technology ready for the production line as quickly as possible.

