

Cold fusion may provide one megawatt in Athens

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“We will open up a heating plant of one megawatt in Athens, Greece this Fall,” Andrea Rossi told Ny Teknik.

Rossi is the inventor of the ‘energy catalyzer’ demonstrated recently in Italy, that is based possibly on cold fusion.

“Here in the factory in Miami, we have one hundred reactors like the one we showed in Bologna, almost ready. The problems now have to do with authorization, but I expect that the heating plant in Athens will be inaugurated in September or October 2011,” Rossi told Ny Teknik, calling from Miami, FL.

(Update: Read our interview with the Greek company Defkalion Green Technologies [here](#)).

The demonstration of the ‘energy catalyzer,’ as Rossi prefers to call it, was made in Bologna on the 14th of January, 2011, under the supervision of independent scientific representatives of Bologna University.

For about an hour it produced approximately 10 kilowatts of net power, loaded with one gram of nickel powder pressurized with hydrogen. The inventors calculate an available energy equivalent to 517 ~~tons~~ *(we have noted that the result should be 517 kg. Rossi has now confirmed that this is an error in the application.)* of oil per gram of nickel.

Physicist researcher Giuseppe Levi, one of the observers, drew these conclusions in his report on the experiment:

“The amount of power and energy produced during both tests is indeed impressive and, together with the self-sustaining state reached during [Test 1] could be an indication that the system is working as a new type of energy source.”

(Read our interview with Levi [here](#)).

The problem was that the observers were not allowed to examine the reactor. Yet Giuseppe Levi considers combustion as a hidden energy source to be unlikely. One possible explanation is a kind of cold fusion between nickel and hydrogen, though the inventor Rossi and his advisor Professor Sergio Focardi until now have said that they lack a clear theory, at least officially.

"The truth is a little different. I have very specific ideas about the theoretical aspects. But they are so closely related to an industrial secret that I prefer to keep them secret," Rossi explained.

Ny Teknik: We talked with the Swedish physicist Hanno Essén who has the hypothesis that it may involve runaway electrons at relativistic speeds (near speed of light) that form a kind of plasma (his paper here). Would that be possible?

"It is certainly a very intelligent theory. The person who says this surely has a very high level of preparation. It demonstrates that we must be very careful not to expose anything before the patent is granted," Rossi answered.

Rossi made a patent application in his and his wife's name in August 2008. He expects some form of approval in a few months.

"We need to see which claims in the patent application will be approved, because if fundamental key claims are approved then we can quietly drop our silence on what we believe may be valuable industrial secrets. If, on the other hand, crucial claims are not approved, we will necessarily have to maintain our silence on the industrial secrets."

"It is clear, you'll surely point out, that once we start selling the product the secrets will be revealed. I know that, too, but of course we will try to exploit it commercially as far as possible. And then it is impossible to avoid the reality that sooner or later it will be copied."

Rossi admits that the demonstration with a 'secret bottle' created much uncertainty.
"Therefore, I would have preferred to wait."

It seems instead to have been Rossi's scientific adviser over the past four years, Professor Sergio Focardi, who wanted to show off the results.

"I would have done it earlier. You know, when you achieve results it is gratifying to spread the word on them. Moreover, I am 78 years old and cannot wait that long," Focardi told Ny Teknik.

He mentions the famous experiments by researchers Martin Fleischmann and Stanley Pons on cold fusion between deuterium and palladium in 1989 as a start of the story. Focardi himself collaborated with the Italian professor Piantelli at the University Of Siena, Italy, using nickel and hydrogen.

"We got modest results – not as big as now – that we published, while those who continued with palladium and deuterium never saw anything at all."

Though not even Focardi knows exactly how Rossi's apparatus is constructed, he is convinced of its importance.

"I believe, forgive me if I say it, that this is the greatest discovery in human history. For the results will be immense: clean energy at (almost) zero cost."

Ny Teknik: Do you think it will be rewarded the Nobel Prize?

"If they award us the Nobel Prize, I think it would be well deserved. But that's not what interests me. You know, rewards are something I usually give myself."

Rossi is the sole constructor of the unit. Only he and those working on building the reactors at the company Leonardo Corporation's facilities in Miami, FL (Leonardo Corporation was founded by Rossi in 1997) know exactly how it is designed.

The secret lies primarily in materials acting as some kind of catalysts.

"That's the crucial point that makes it work – not in a laboratory for a few seconds producing a few watts, but as a device producing continuously. Just to have nickel react with hydrogen is no news. That has been done for years," Rossi said.

Ny Teknik: What response do you expect from the oil industry?

"Oil companies are controlled by highly intelligent people and I expect an intelligent response, a response aimed at integrating this new energy source with others. We should not think that this is a miracle solution that sweeps away all others—you know, 'here comes Superman!' This is surely a very important energy source whose destiny is to be integrated with others. Therefore I wouldn't be surprised if deals will be made," Rossi said.