Press release: New FCEV-taxis launched in Copenhagen

From now on it will be easier for Danish taxi passengers to choose sustainability when hailing a taxi in the Copenhagen area. The taxi company DRIVR has invested in eight new FCEVs and these new taxis were launched today at an event that took place at one of Copenhagen’s newest and most innovative development areas, Refshaleøen. Hydrogen Denmark hosted the event in collaboration with Toyota Denmark and CEO of Toyota Denmark, Frank Okoisor, officially presented CEO of DRIVR, Haydar Shaiwandi, with the keys to the taxis.

Along with Frank Okoisor the Danish Transport minister, Ole Birk Olesen, gave a speech marking the occasion: “Taxis most often drive in dense population areas where they expose a lot of people to a significant amount of air pollution. That is why we are increasing the requirements for taxis so we can reduce the considerable negative climate and environmental impact while preserving a part of our public transportation that is in high demand”, the minister explains before getting in to one of the taxis and driving back to work at Parliament.

These new taxis are of the Toyota model Mirai and Hydrogen Denmark and Toyota are partners in the European H2ME initiative, and it is through this project these taxis are deployed.

“The transitioning of the transport sector is imperative to succeed in combating fossil dependency and air pollution, and the reforming the taxi sector is a great addition to the many green initiatives in Denmark”, says CEO of Hydrogen Denmark, Tejs Laustsen Jensen, and continues: “Taxis are in constant motion and FCEV-technology is the perfect alternative to traditional fossil fuels because it provides the same range and mobility with none of the damaging emissions.” Tejs Laustsen Jensen also emphasizes the importance of the visibility of the new taxis: “During a day many people will ride in these FCEV-taxis and a great many more will see them in the streets. This access will increase the knowledge and recognition of FCEVs which can play a contributing role in the future deployment of FCEVs in Denmark.”

The Executive Director at the FCH JU, Bart Biebuyck, also considers these new FCEV-taxis an important step in the right direction for the transport sector: “Hydrogen taxis are becoming increasingly popular in European capitals thanks to the FCH JU funded projects such as the H2ME-initiatives. Hydrogen is the ideal fuel for taxis due to the long driving range, and a short refill time of about 3 minutes.”
Moreover, Hydrogen-powered vehicles have no emissions except water vapour, which make them an ideal solution for reducing traffic pollution in the cities. I hope that we will soon see many more of them in Denmark and in Europe.”

For comments or further information contact CEO, Tejs Laustsen Jensen, (+45) 26 23 94 43.

For the past two years Brintbranchen / Hydrogen Denmark has been a part of the Hydrogen Mobility Europe 2 (H2ME-2) project deploying a number of FCVs and raising awareness of hydrogen for transport.

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Learn more on the H2ME project here www.h2me.eu