



Pathway to a Competitive European  
Fuel Cell micro-CHP Market

# The FC mCHP Market in the UK: Regulatory Considerations and Support Schemes

George Carew-Jones – Element Energy



*PACE project has received funding from the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking under grant agreement No 700339.  
This Joint Undertaking receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and Hydrogen Europe and Hydrogen Research.*



Pathway to a Competitive European  
Fuel Cell micro-CHP Market

## Fuel Cell micro-CHPs prevalence globally

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- Circa. **10,000 units** have been installed across **Europe** to date, including:
  - **1168** units installed under **PACE** by end of April 2020;
  - **>1000** units installed under the preceding **ene.field** project;
  - **>4500** units installed under the German **KfW433** Programme.

The logo for ene.field, with "ene" in blue and "field" in a darker blue, followed by a yellow star. Below it, the text "Fuel Cells x Combined Heat and Power" is written in a smaller, lighter blue font.

**ene.field**★  
Fuel Cells x Combined Heat and Power

The logo for KfW, consisting of the letters "KFW" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

**KFW**



- Circa. **400,000 units** have been installed in **Japan** to date as part of the **ene.farm** project.
- Additional markets with units deployed: USA (e.g. New Jersey Clean Energy CHP fund); Canada.



Pathway to a Competitive European  
Fuel Cell micro-CHP Market

## Fuel Cell micro-CHP prevalence in Europe

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

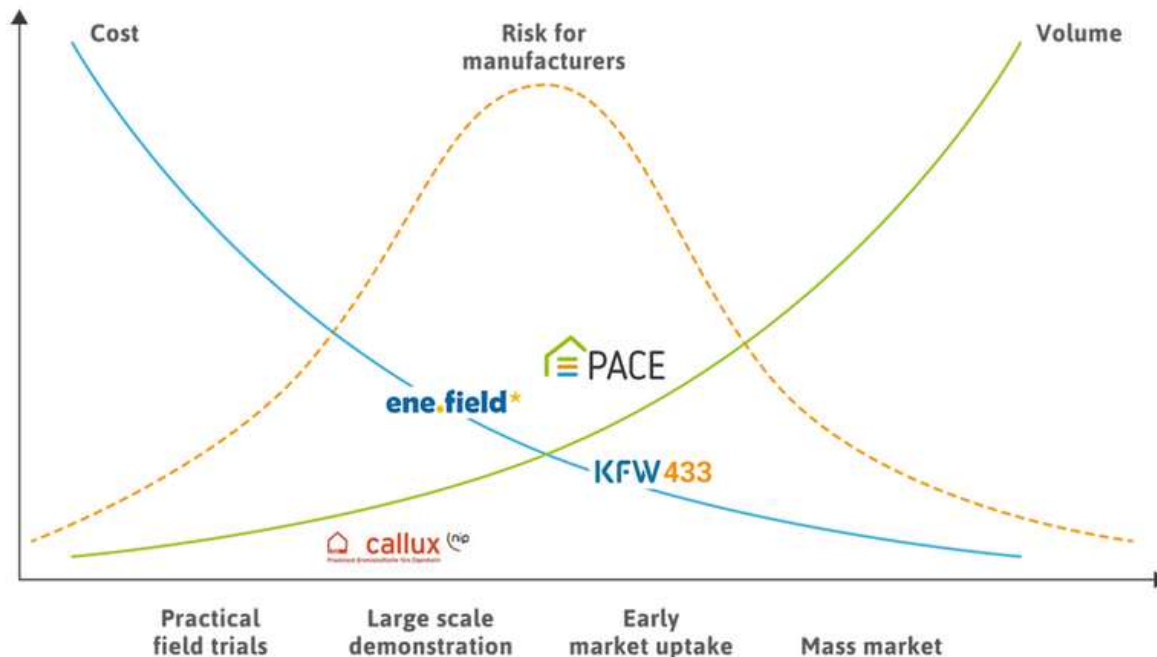
- **More than 10,000 units have been installed across Europe** in households and SMEs.
- This map shows the distribution of the first **857 units** installed as part of the PACE project up to October 2019.
- Units have been installed in **9 different countries**
- As of August 2020, **69 units have been installed in the UK** under PACE.



# Stationary fuel cells are at a critical stage in market adoption

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- The technology has passed the phases of **field trial** and **large-scale demonstration** and is now in a phase of **early-to-mass market uptake**.

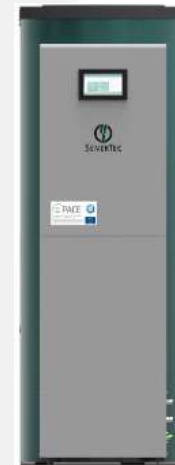


- **European manufacturers are showing their commitment** and industrial leadership by launching new products on the market.
- Between 2016-2020, more than **EUR 350 million** was pledged or already invested in stationary fuel cells.
- Further **policy support and incentives are needed to create a level playing field with incumbent and other low carbon technologies.**

# Stationary fuel cells are a fully mature technology

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- Most PACE **manufacturers** are now offering new ‘**Generation 2**’ or ‘**Generation Y**’ units, which:
  - Have a higher overall **efficiency**;
  - Are cheaper and easier to **mass produce**;
  - Have generally lower **maintenance** requirements and higher **stack lifetimes**.
- Proven **exemplary performance** of stationary fuel cells during previous deployment:
  - > 5.5 million hours of **operation** and 4.5 GWh of **power produced** under **ene.field** <sup>[1]</sup>.
  - >4 million hours of **operation** and 2.5 million kWh of **power produced** under **Callux** project in Germany.

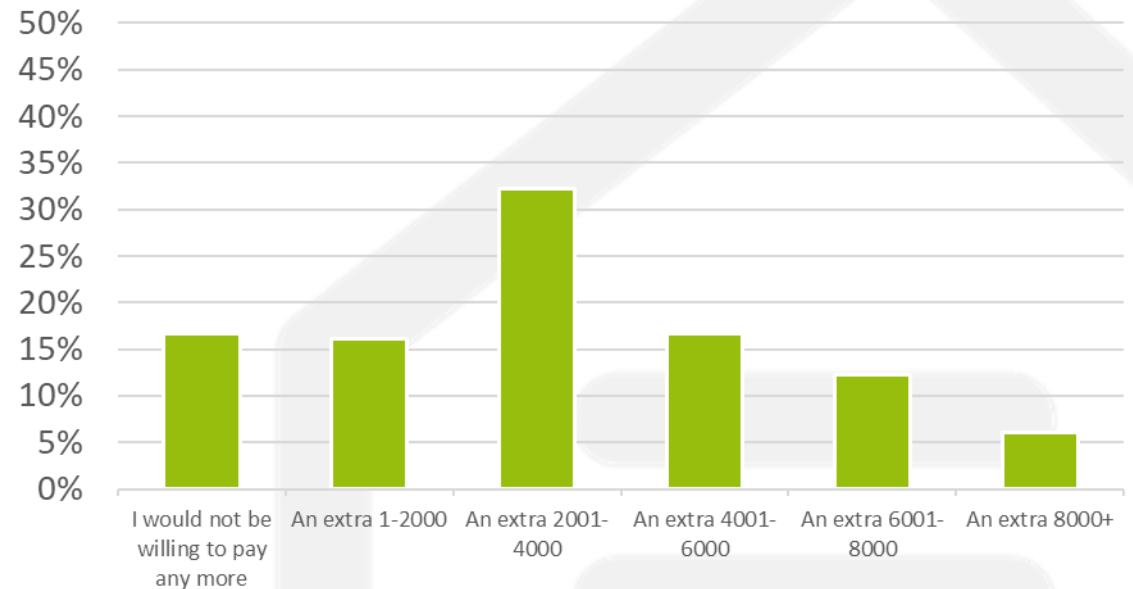


# Customer Perceptions – environmental concerns motivate FC mCHP purchases

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- The three most common primary reasons for buying a Fuel Cell micro-CHP are:
  1. **Overall cost savings** (23%);
  2. **Energy savings** (19%);
  3. **CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction** (18%).
- Customers generally self-identified as **‘green’** and as **‘early adopters of new technology’**.
- 77% were willing to **pay a ‘little more’** for a product that was less harmful to the environment, but few were willing to pay a ‘lot more’
- >50% would be **willing to pay an additional €2,000 or more** assuming operational savings (€ 30/month) and reduced carbon emissions (-20%)

Compared with a conventional boiler, how much more would you be willing to pay for a FC mCHP, assuming you made a total saving of €30/month (€360 a year) and reduced your carbon emissions by 20%.



- So, whilst carbon reduction is important, cost is also still a key factor

# UK policy context for stationary fuel cells

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- The current UK building stock (25 million homes) has **only 2% low-carbon heating** <sup>[1]</sup>:
  - At current it will take **700 years** for UK to transition to low-carbon heating <sup>[2]</sup>;
  - The CBI has called for a **ban on new gas boilers** in the UK from 2025. FC mCHP would be exempt from such a plan;
  - Expect **significant policy** targeting this issue over the coming years.





# FC mCHP funding in the UK

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- Historically there has been support for FC mCHP purchase and operation in the UK:
  - Up until April 2019, a **feed-in-tariff (FiT)**, and the technology was also eligible under the **Green Deal** policy.
- From April 2019, the FiT was closed to new applicants and was replaced by the **Smart Export Guarantee (SEG)** from January 2020. This incentivises electricity export at rates from 3-5.5p/kWh <sup>[1]</sup>, depending on the rate offered by your electricity supplier.
- The '**Green Homes Grant**' (£2bn, Sept 2020-March 2021) announced by the UK government in May 2020 does not cover FC mCHP.





Pathway to a Competitive European  
Fuel Cell micro-CHP Market



The Microgeneration  
Certification Scheme

MCS

## UK regulations on stationary fuel cells

The FC mCHP Market in the UK

- To be eligible for grant funding, FC mCHP products and installer must be certified under the **Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS)**.
- **Contractors** can be searched for on the [mcs-certified.com](http://mcs-certified.com) website.
- In addition, the **standard installation requirements** for FC mCHP apply:
  - A main gas connection;
  - Connection to the electricity grid;
  - An internet connection;
  - (A smart meter – for SEG).



Pathway to a Competitive European  
Fuel Cell micro-CHP Market

**Contact:**

PACE | c/o COGEN Europe

Avenue des Arts 3-4-5

1210 Brussels

Belgium

**Phone:** +32 - 2 772 82 90

**Email:** [info@pace-energy.eu](mailto:info@pace-energy.eu)

**Web:** [www.pace-energy.eu](http://www.pace-energy.eu)

