

# INNOVATION IS GREAT

BRITAIN

85 NOBEL PRIZES IN SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY ALONE

*Touch Bionics*  
*Livingston, Scotland*



# Founded 1900, 8 Nobel Prize Winners Premiere Centre for Science & Engineering

[www.birmingham.ac.uk](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk)



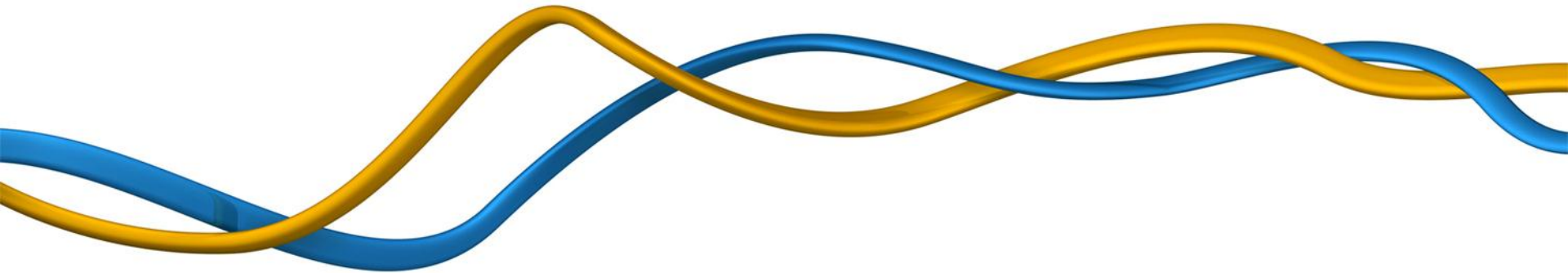
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# ***Liquid Air Energy Storage –***

***a new energy vector and means of  
large-scale energy storage?***



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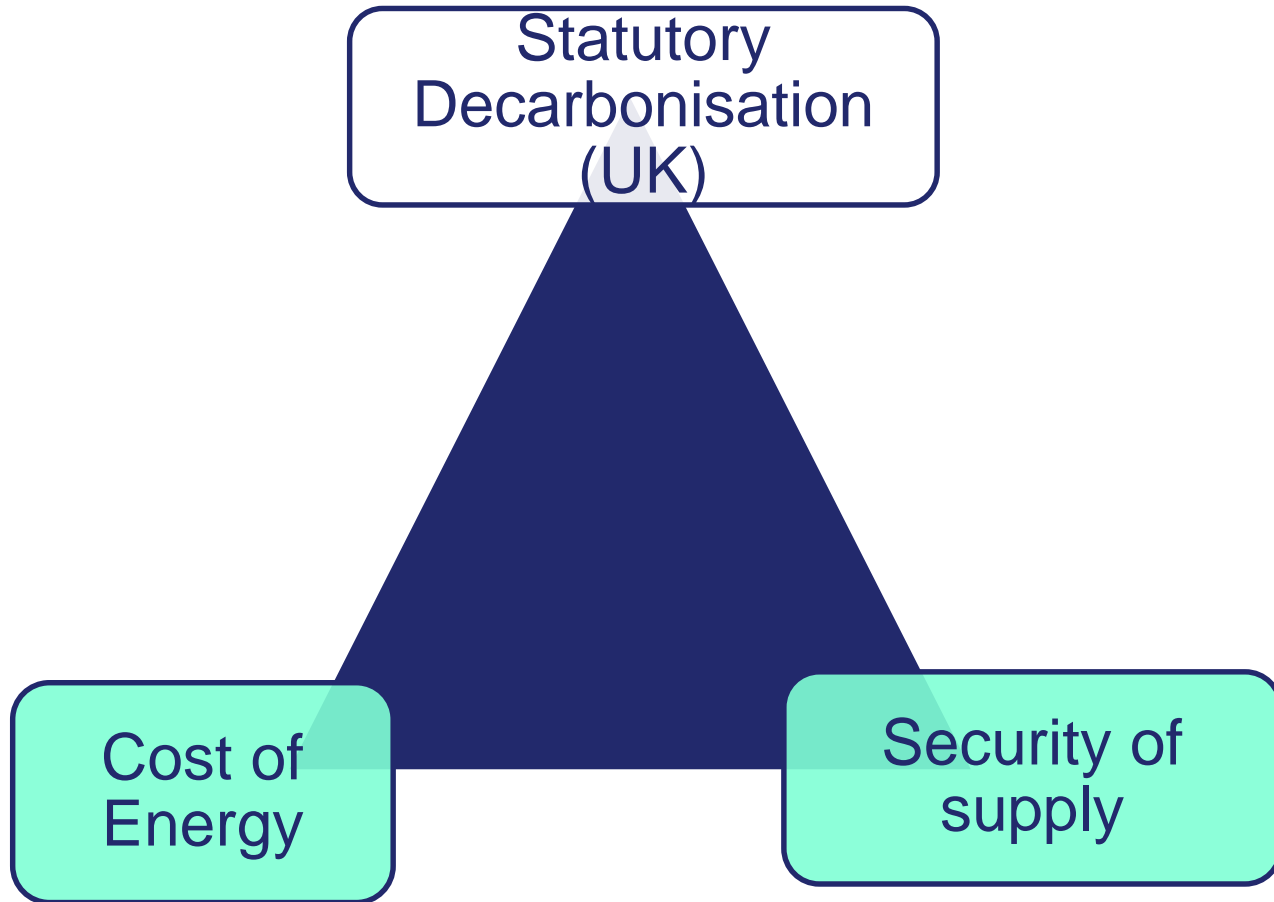


# “Energy storage is a necessity for the future not an option”

- Policy drivers
- Technical drivers
- Storage devices
- Liquid air as a energy vector
- Putting a value on storage
- What next?
- Opportunities for UK-Brazil collaborations



# Common Drivers Brazil/UK



# Policy Drivers/Mechanisms (UK context)

- Climate Change Act 2008 (80% reduction CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050)
- EU Renewable Energy Directive 2009
- Renewables Obligations Banding Review (15% renewables by 2020)
- Electricity Market Reform (EMR) and Energy Bill (2013)
- Regional country governance & the cities agenda
- National security (supply/cyber)



*In UK 25GW by 2020 from wind*

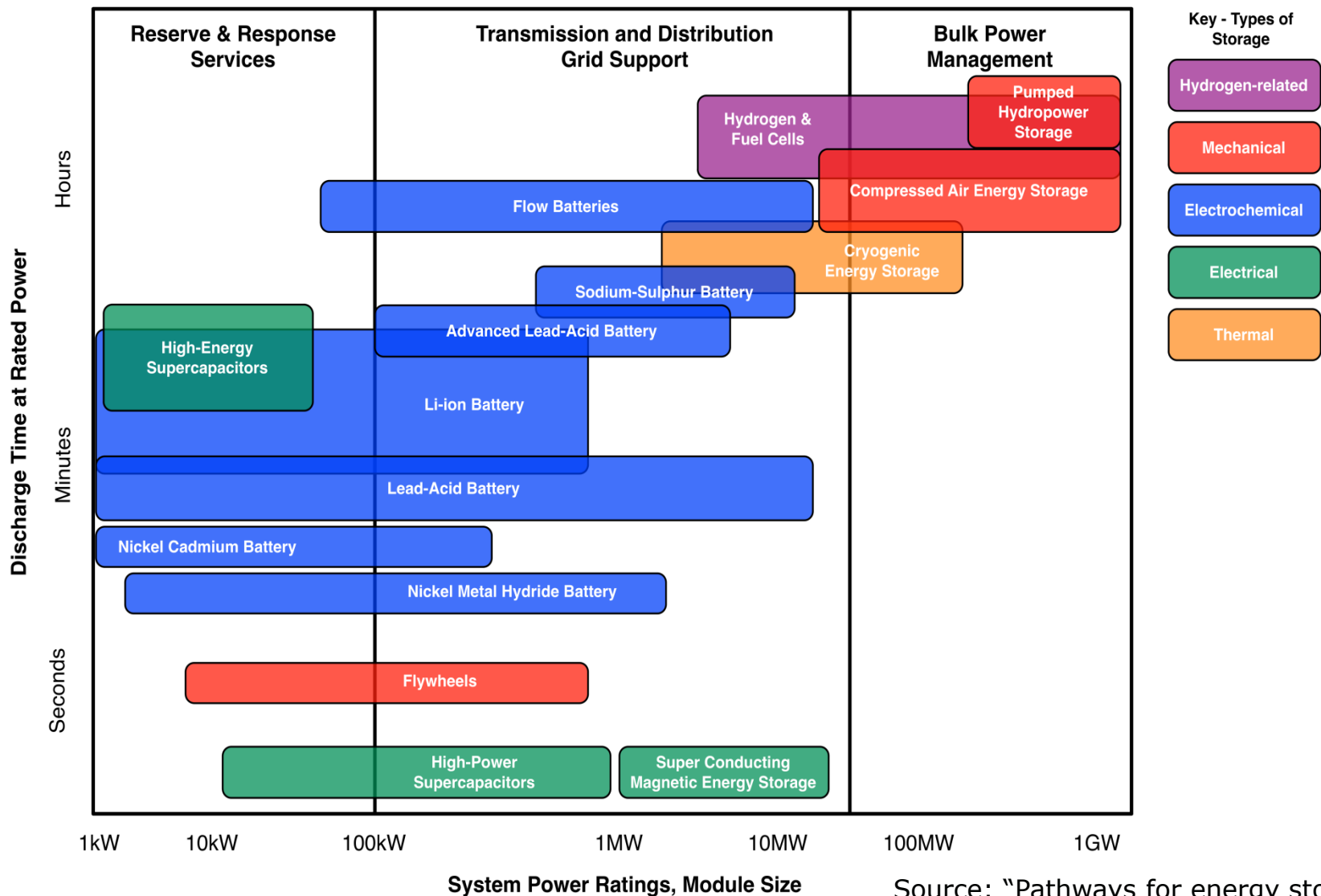
# Technical Drivers & Issues

- Shift of energy mix in UK and Europe (coal, nuclear, gas (LNG, fracking), biomass, renewables)
- Uncertainty of pathways ahead
- Large base-load electricity generation (need to sweat assets)
- Wrong **time** energy (intermittency) and wrong **place** energy (e.g. offshore)
- Storage needed at range of locations associated with generation, interconnection, transmission & distribution.



*Storage gives flexibility of scale and location, defers investment and lowers systems costs, reduce SMART grid and interconnect risks*

# Storage Technologies

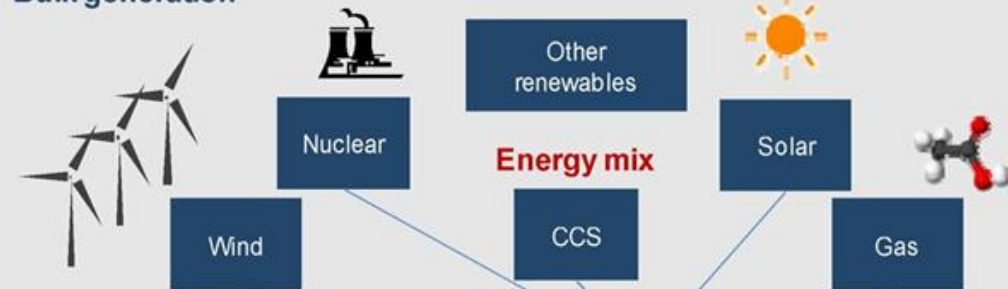


Source: "Pathways for energy storage",  
Centre for Low Carbon Futures, 2012

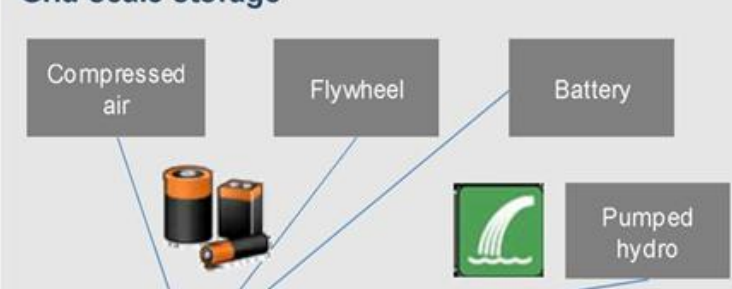


# Storage Needed Across the Entire Grid System

## Bulk generation



## Grid-scale storage



## Interconnection to European super-grid



Smart transmission substations

## Transmission grid

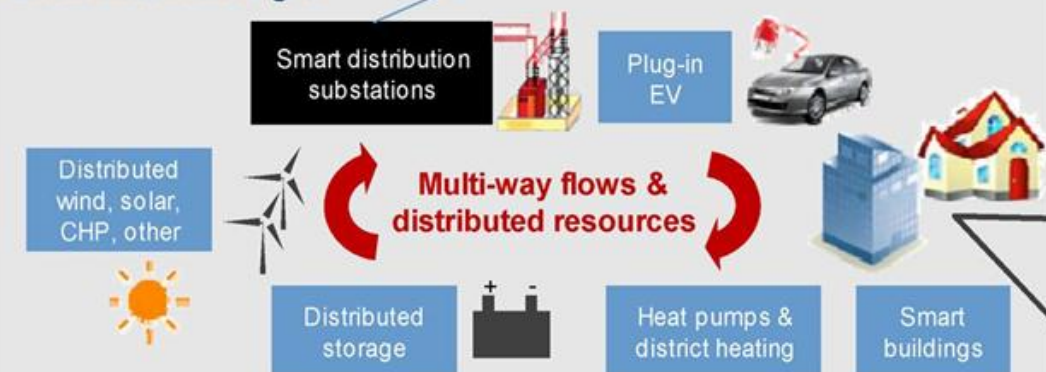
Wide area situational awareness

Smart transmission substations



## To remote micro-grid

## Local distribution grid



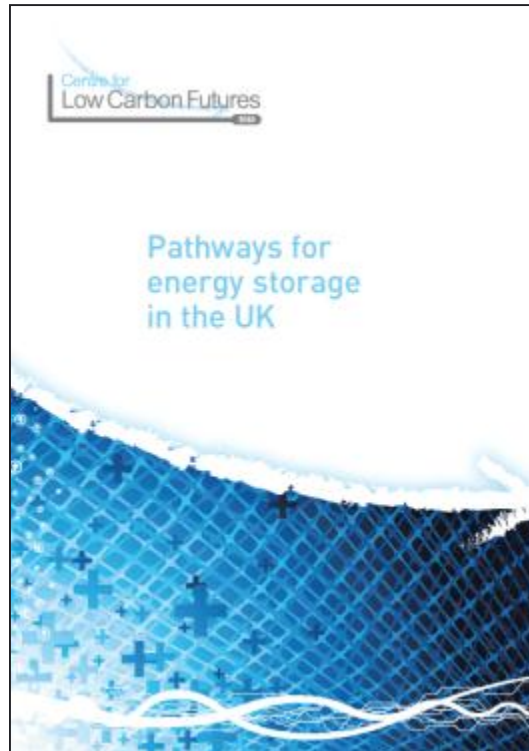
## Smart building and home



# Recent reports



Energy Research Partnership, June 2011  
<http://www.energyresearchpartnership.org.uk/energystorage>



Centre for Low Carbon Futures, March 2012  
<http://www.lowcarbonfutures.org/energy-storage>



Royal Academy of Engineering/Chinese Academy of Sciences, August 2012

# Liquid Air as an Energy Vector?



*Cryogenics are already safely transported on our roads*

	Energy density, KJ/litre
Liquid Nitrogen at ambient pressure	620
Compressed hydrogen gas at 200 bar	1918
Compressed air at 200 bar (CAES)	143
Water with 100m head (pumped hydro)	1

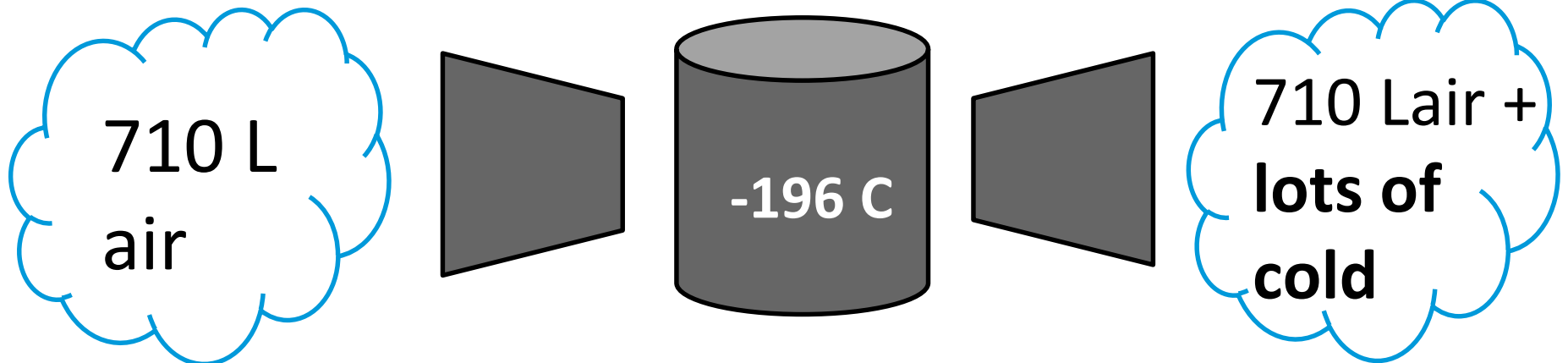
*"The birth of the nitrogen economy", Gas World, 89, October 2012. "Future of Energy Storage: technologies and policy," RAEng/CAS, London, Aug. 2012, ISBN 1-903496-91-8.*



*Storage of cryogenics is in low pressure containers*

# Liquid Air: the basic principle

1 L air stored at  
atmospheric pressure



Waste / off-  
peak  
electricity

Power  
on-demand  
and **harness**  
**low grade**  
**waste heat**





# The basic principle



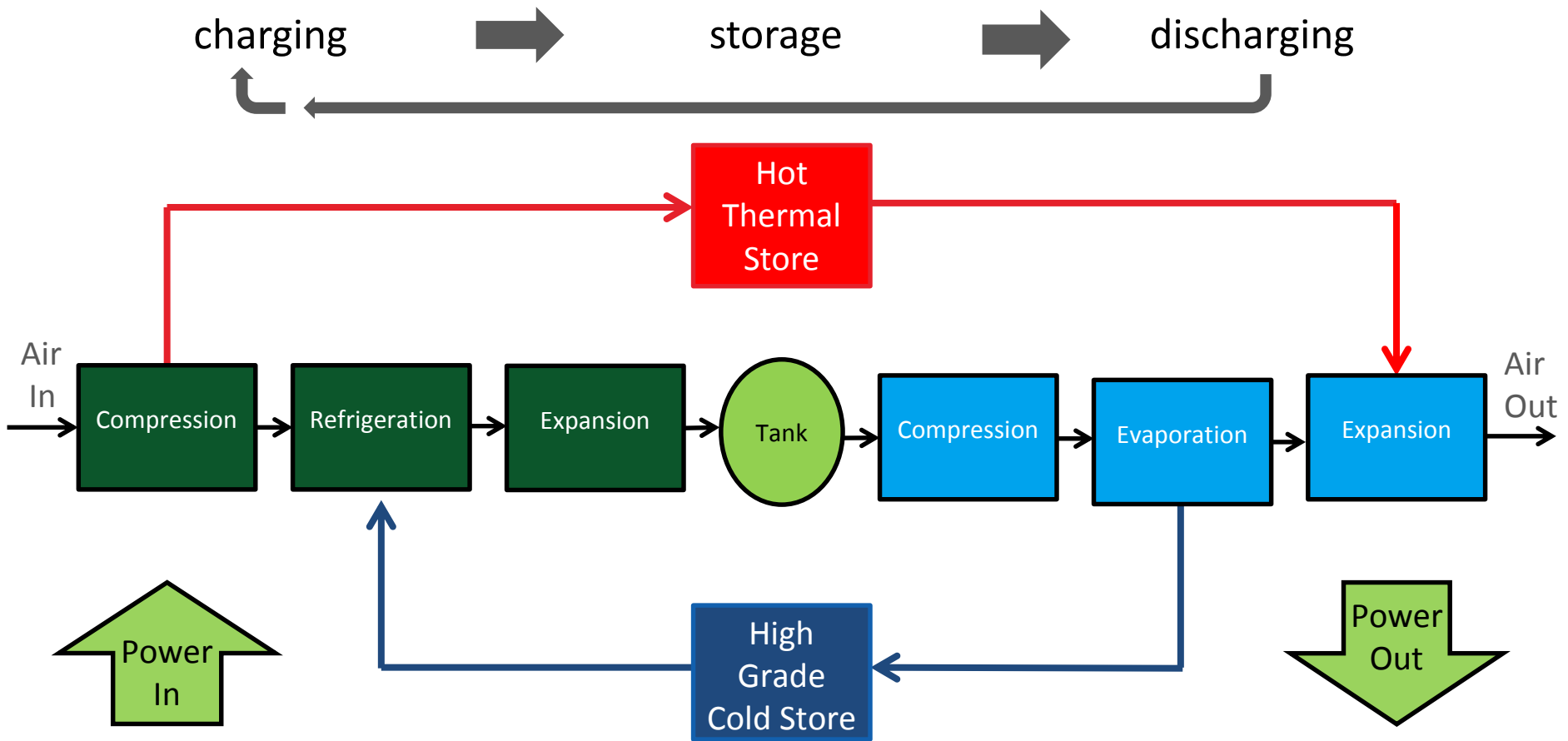


# Handling Liquid Cryogenes

- Cryogenes are widely and safely transported on roads
- Driver operated LN2 systems are in routine use for refrigeration
- LN2/LA can be filled at 100 L/min



# A cryogenic energy storage system



Research begins with the University of Leeds



Power recovery cycle demonstrated in lab-scale tests



Installation of complete pilot CryoEnergy Storage plant



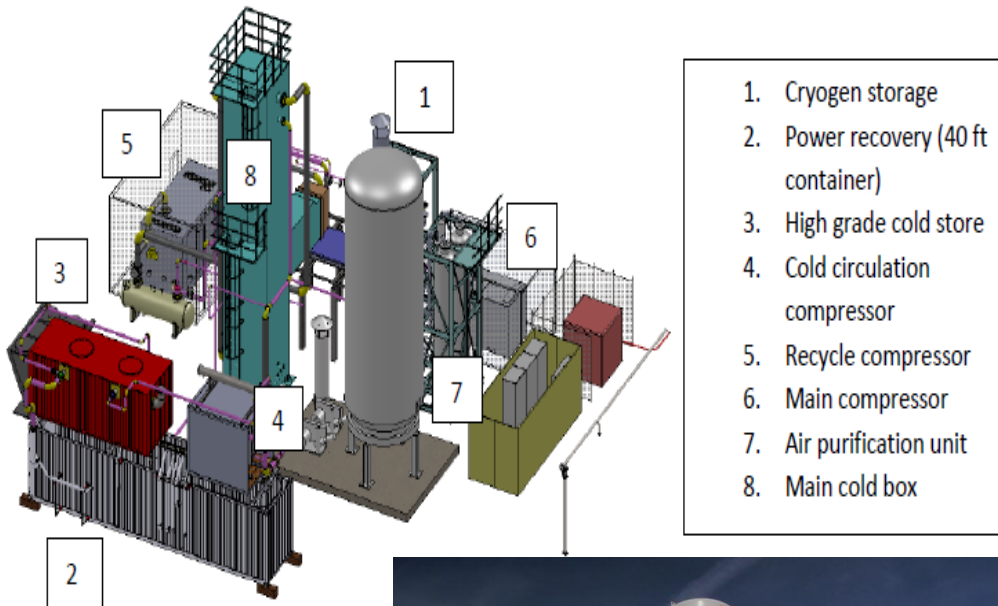
Cold recovery cycle proved viable in lab experiments

Installation of power recovery cycle in pilot plant



Commercial design and build

# Liquid Air Energy Storage



1. Cryogen storage
2. Power recovery (40 ft container)
3. High grade cold store
4. Cold circulation compressor
5. Recycle compressor
6. Main compressor
7. Air purification unit
8. Main cold box



- University of Leeds patent 2005, lab demo 2008, licensed to Highview Power Systems.

- £10M on grid demo 2010/1 with SSE, Slough

- 330kW turbine output

- 30 t/day liquifier, having 2.5MWhrs storage

- UK's only on grid storage demonstration project



# Cryogenic Energy Plant, grid connected, Slough UK

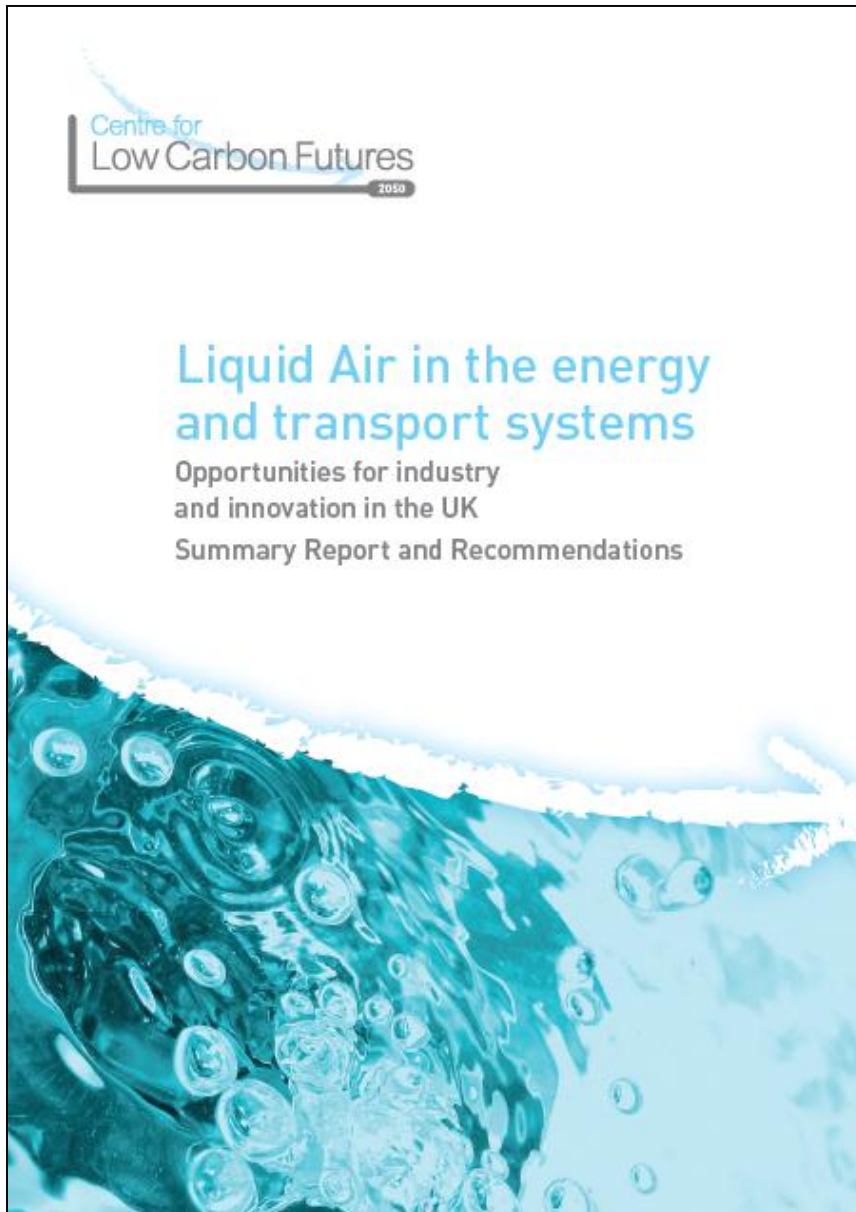




# Liquid Air Energy Storage

some emerging comparative data

Technology	Size Range (MW)	Capital Cost (\$/kW)	Capital Cost (\$/kWh)	Efficiency (% round trip)	Geographical requirements	Use of advanced chemicals
Pumped Hydro	280-530	2,500-4,300	420-430	76-85	Requires mountains	No
CAES (with gas firing)	180	960-1,150	60-120	46-48	Requires caverns	No
NaS Battery	<50	3,100 - 3,300	520-550	68	None	Yes
Flow batteries	<50	1,450 - 1,750	290 - 350	60	None	Yes
Highview Cryo Energy System	10-200	900 -1900 (depending on cycling)	260-530 (depending on cycling)	50-80+	None	No



## Cryogenic energy storage

Report launched 9 May 2013 at  
Conference at Royal Academy of  
Engineering

Looking at the potential of 'liquid air' as a  
storage medium and novel energy  
vector.

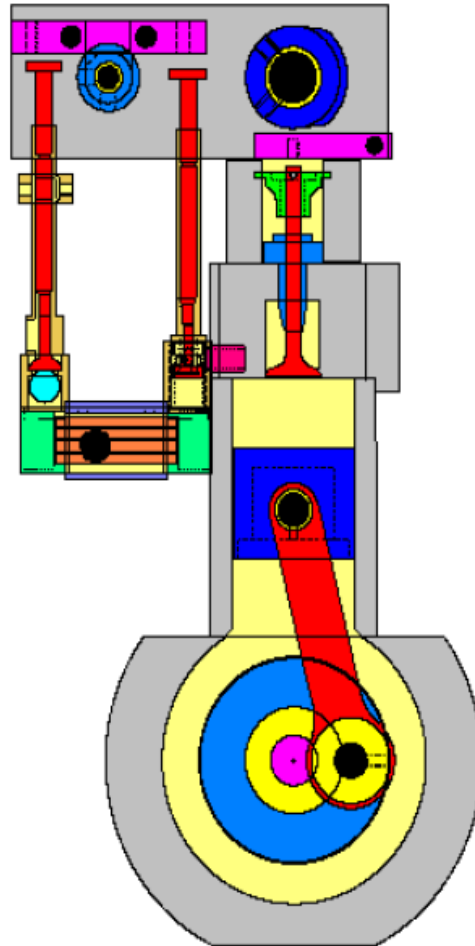
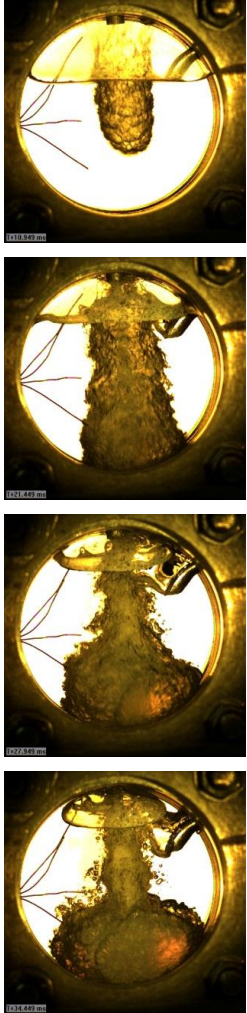
[www.liquidair.org.uk](http://www.liquidair.org.uk)

A national cryogenic R&D facility will be  
developed at University of Birmingham  
as part of the Centre for Low Carbon  
Futures (CLCF) programme funded as  
Great British Technology



# Vehicles that runs on air

## Example: Cryogenic engine

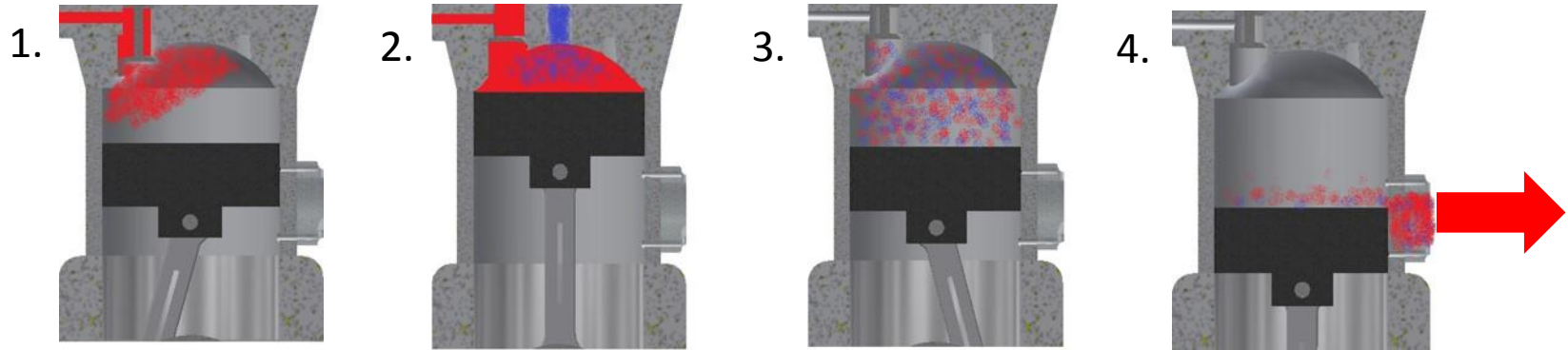


- Boiling takes place *inside* cylinder through direct contact heat exchange with a heat exchange fluid
- Target for power output: 30kW/litre
- Clean and cool!

[www.dearmanengine.com](http://www.dearmanengine.com)



# Dearman Engine - technology



**Return Stroke**  
Warm heat exchange fluid (HEF) enters the cylinder.

**Top Dead Centre**  
Cryogenic liquid is injected directly into the cylinder. **Heat transfer with the HEF causes rapid vaporisation and pressure rise.**

**Power Stroke**  
The vaporised cryogenic liquid expands pushing the piston down. Direct contact heat transfer continues allowing near isothermal expansion.

**Bottom Dead Centre**  
Exhaust mixture leaves the cylinder; gas is returned to the atmosphere; HEF is re-heated and re-used.

The Dearman Engine  
COMPANY

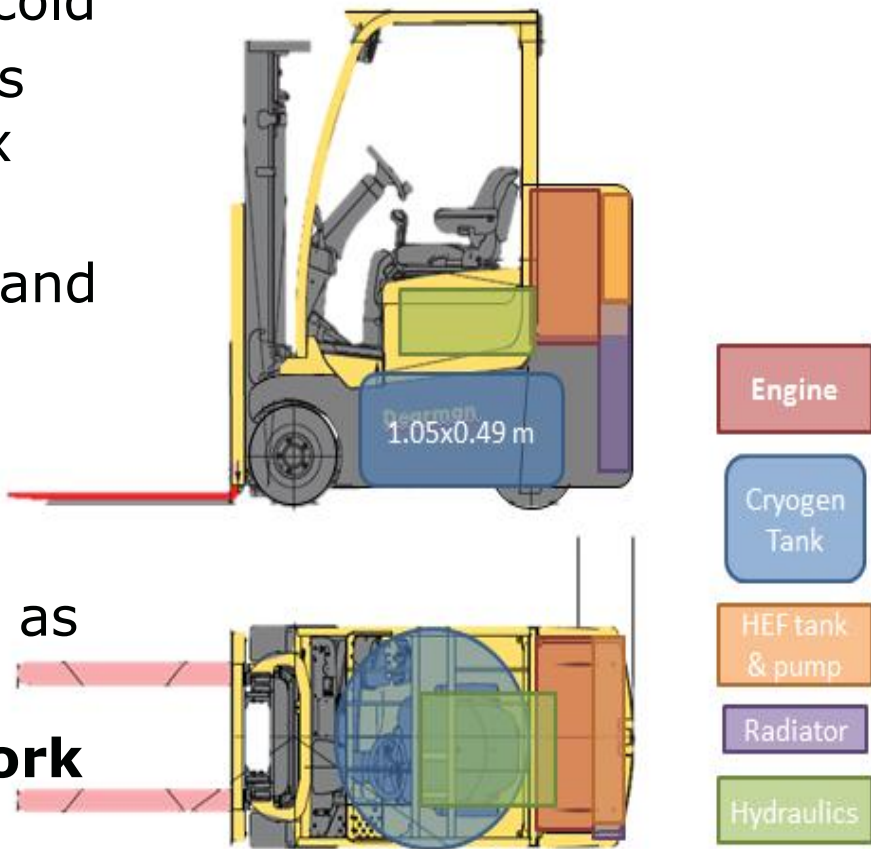
[www.dearmanengine.com](http://www.dearmanengine.com)



# Vehicles that runs on air!

## Application: Consequences

- New class of renewable system
- Utilise low grade heat and cold
- Displacement for fossil fuels (political, economic and tax issues)
- Displacement for batteries and fuel cells (based on cost, resource)
- Will drive renewable routes (solar/wind) for gas compression and liquid gas as an energy storage medium
- Early ZEV applications **in fork lift truck, tuk-tuks and mining operations** likely.





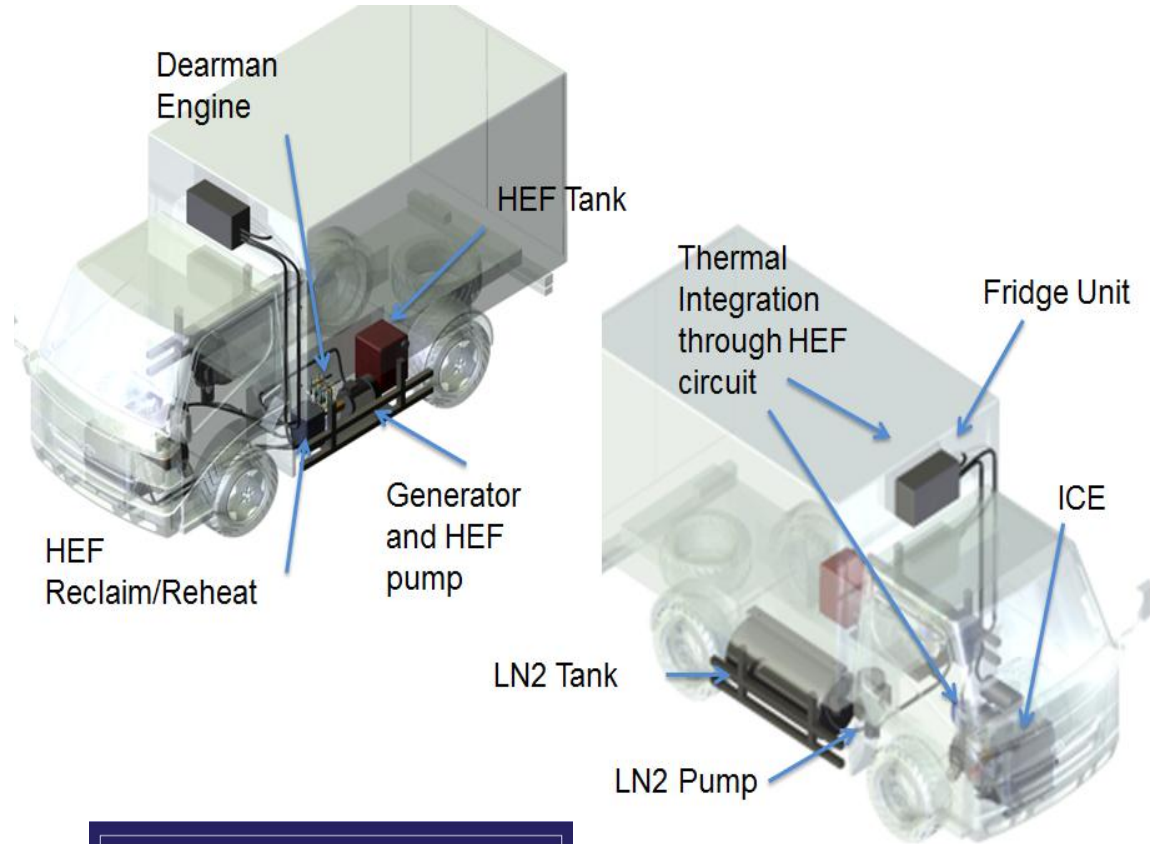
# Vehicles that runs on air!

Application: Hybrids will be first applications

- **A cost-effective and zero-emission combined power and cooling solution**

applicable to **mobile refrigeration and buses** – a **multi-billion \$** global market

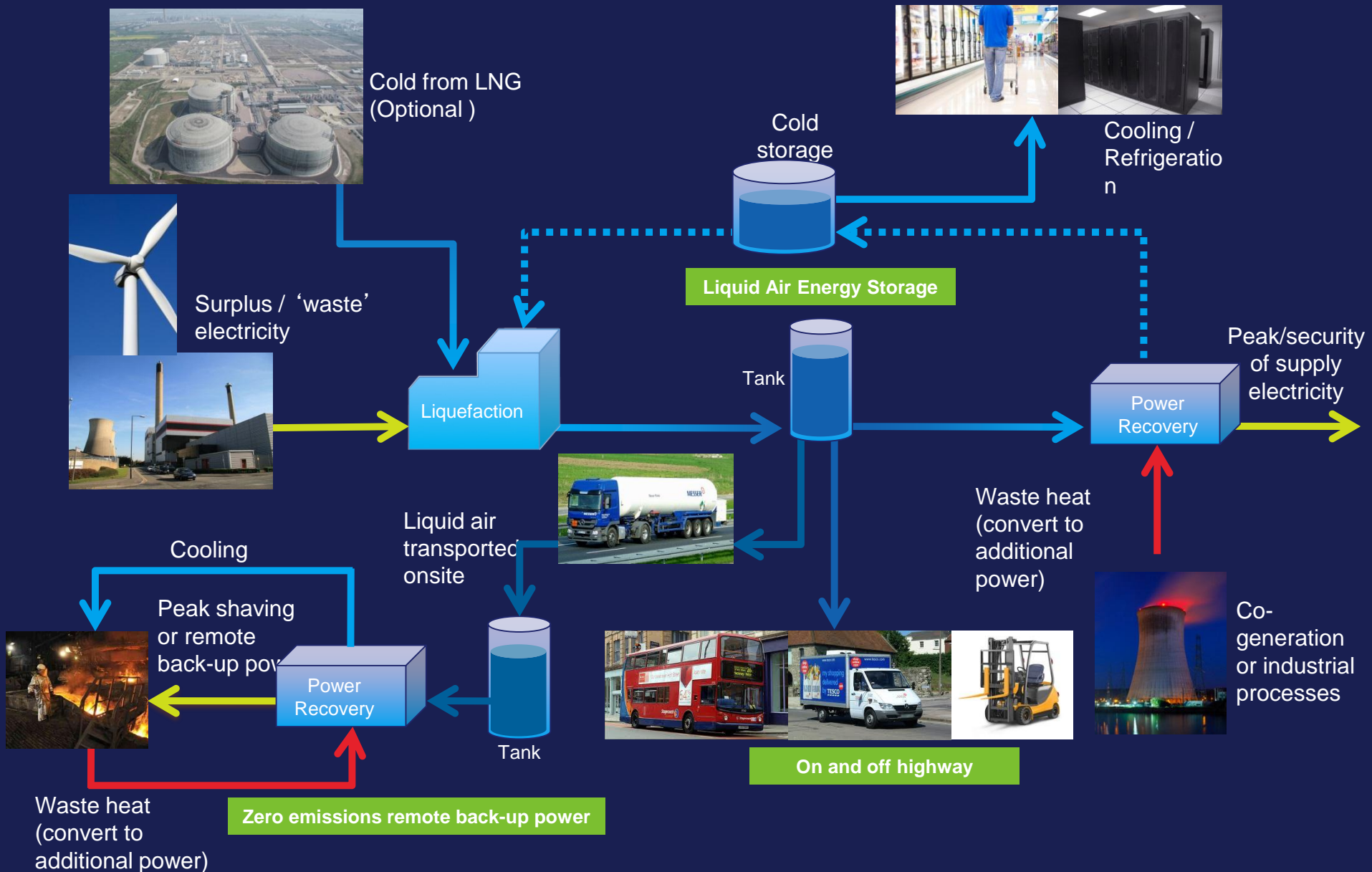
- **A very high yield low- grade heat energy recovery system;** to be integrated with an internal combustion engine (or fuel cell) or as an APU with air conditioning/cooling



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[www.dearmanengine.com](http://www.dearmanengine.com)

# Power and transport integrated



# Putting a Value on Storage

## Value is complex to calculate due to:

- Generation, transmission, interconnection, distribution responsibilities
- Scales of modelling (micro/macro) and into the future
- Distribution mixes for each city/nation dissimilar
- Need to consider holistic system (water, waste, vehicle electrification, thermal management(district heating/cooling)).

## Value clearly lies in:

Delay/optimisation of planned investment in transmission

Security of capacity of renewables at point of generation

Partitioning the risk profile to suit city/region characteristics

Provides basis for off-grid generation

New business and economic benefits e.g. provision of **cold**

# What Next?

## UK Collaboration for Research and Commercialisation

- University of Birmingham is a National Centre for Hydrogen Research and runs many EV and H<sub>2</sub> cars from our own filling station. In future we look forward to development of **liquid air energy storage** and associated hybrid transport applications for **cars, trains** and **boats**.

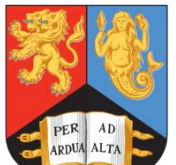
- An **industry facing network** has also been formed: ***liquidair.org.uk***



Liquid Air  
Energy  
Network



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# What Next?

## UK Collaboration for Research and Commercialisation

*To recognise: collaboration likely to be valuable due to different energy mix and pathways against a governmental drive of radical decarbonisation.*

- Research into energy storage technologies
- Modelling of energy storage options and technical utilisation applications
- Simulating grid response
- Business evaluation of storage scenarios and value created for a 'cold' economy
- Demonstration of technologies and integrated (industrial) applications in Brazil?



# Delivering a regional green economy in Brazil?

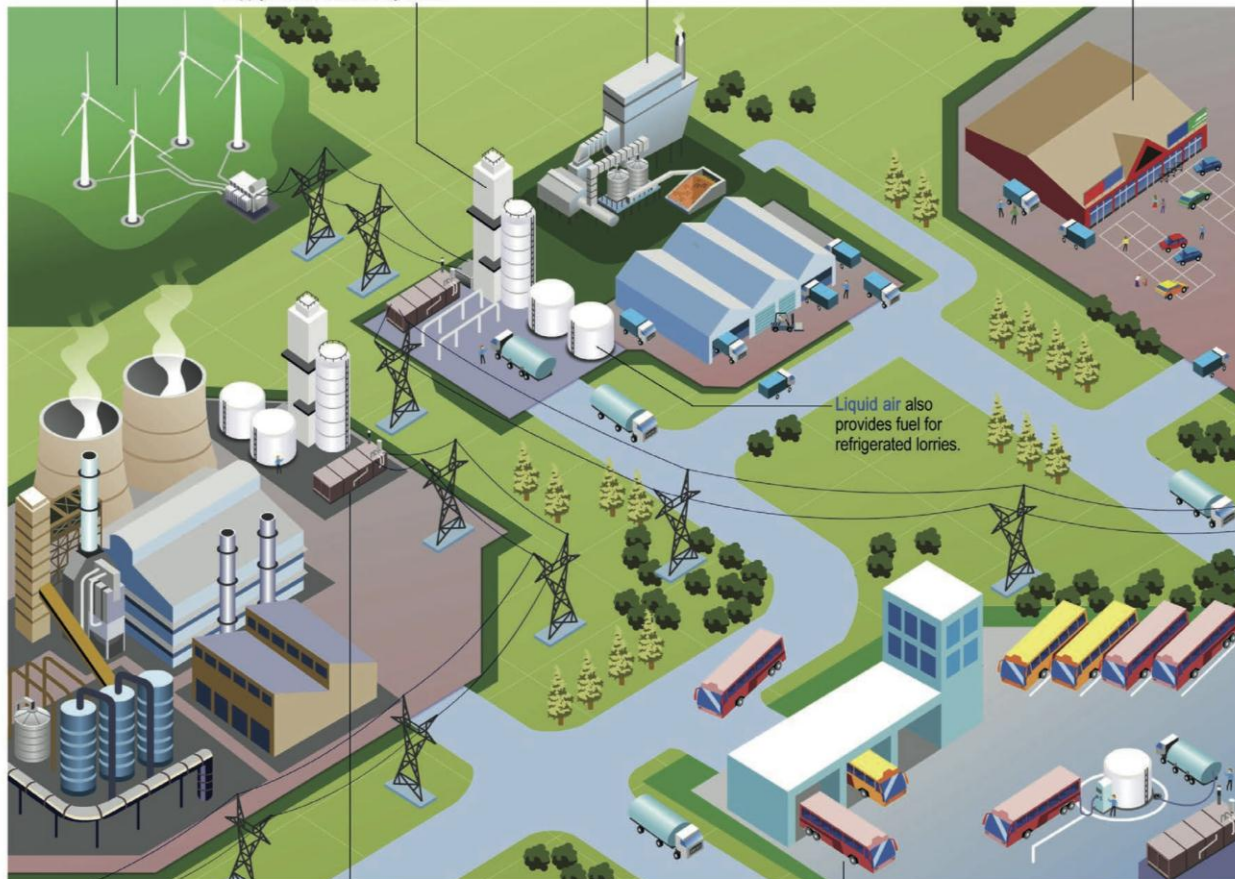
## The Liquid Air Economy

Renewable energy used to power air liquefaction to capture 'wrong-time' energy.

Liquid Air Energy Storage plant produces liquid air at off-peak times, which is used to generate electricity during peak hours and supply remote locations by tanker.

Waste heat from a nearby biomass power station raises the LAES plant's efficiency.

Supermarket receives and makes deliveries by liquid air refrigerated lorries and vans.



LAES plant fully integrated into industry, where it makes use of waste heat while helping to balance the electricity grid.

Bus depot receives liquid air by tanker to use in 'heat hybrid' buses with 'free' air conditioning. The depot also has a liquid air generator to help balance the grid.

In a liquid air economy, many different energy services could be provided from a single 'tank of cold'.

The environmental and economic benefits could be great.