



SUSTAINABILITY - IRIIDIUM AND THE HYDROGEN ECONOMY

IPMI, Dublin, November 28th – 30th, 2021 / Philipp Walter

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Introduction to Heraeus



**The next Innovation Cycle is
„Green“**




**Hydrogen Generation by
Means of PEM Electrolysis**
Next Generation electrocatalysts for the
GW-Scale

A GLOBALLY SUCCESSFUL PORTFOLIO COMPANY

 TOTAL REVENUE
31.5 bn €
in 2020

Market-oriented distribution
in **11** GLOBAL
BUSINESS
UNITS

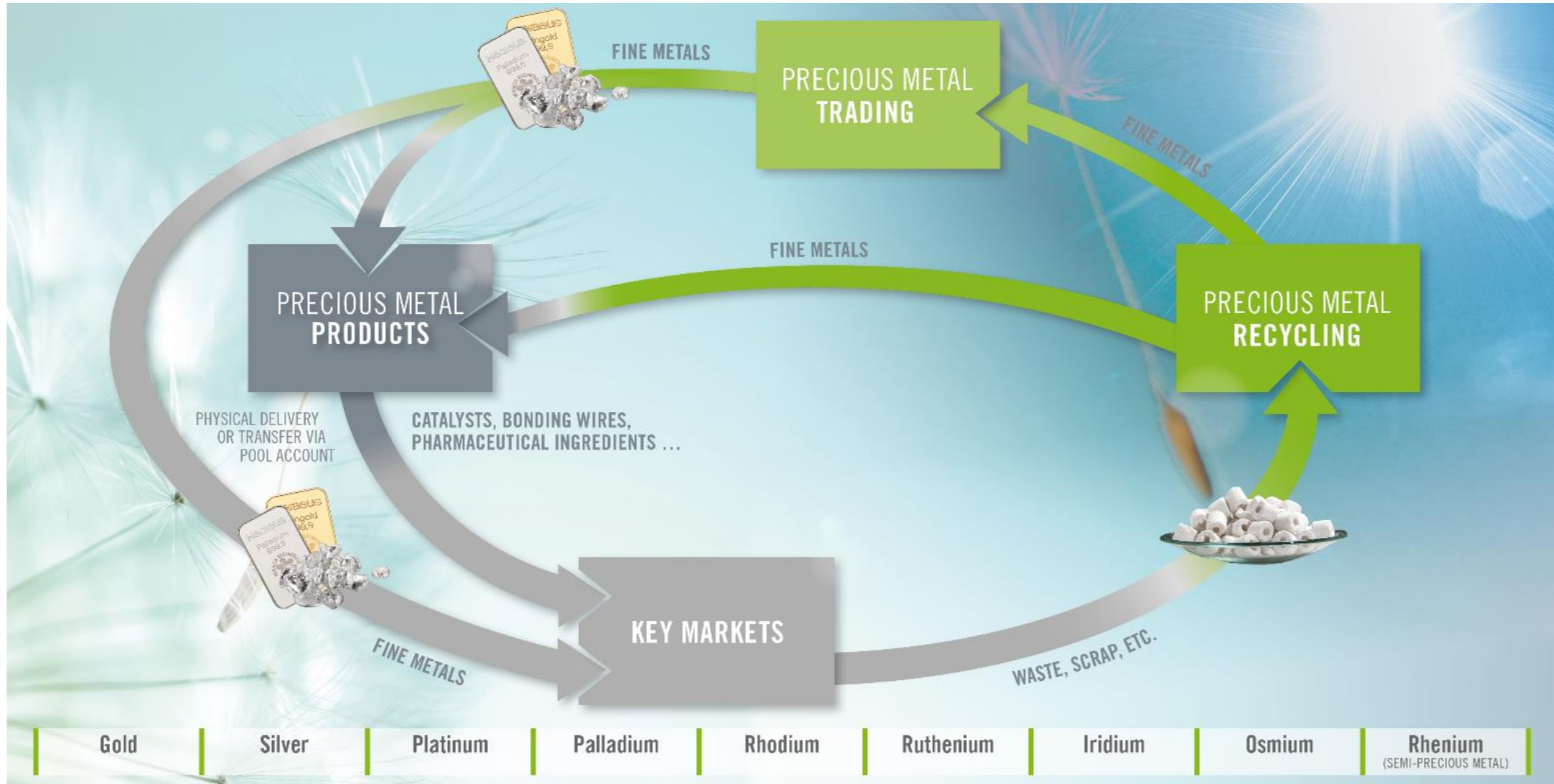
 **7%** R&D
EXPENDITURES
Based on revenues excl. Precious Metals

TOP 10 FAMILY-
OWNED COMPANIES
in Germany

FORTUNE 500
COMPANY



HERAEUS PRECIOUS METALS OFFERS INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS



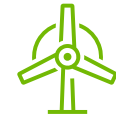
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The next Innovation Cycle is „Green“



Hydrogen Generation by Means of PEM Electrolysis Next Generation electrocatalysts for the GW-Scale

THE ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT AND BIOCAPACITY

The only metric that tracks how much nature we have –
and how much nature we use

Ecological Footprint



MANAGING OUR
BIOCAPACITY
BUDGET

Mathis Wackernagel • Bert Beyers

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT NETWORK

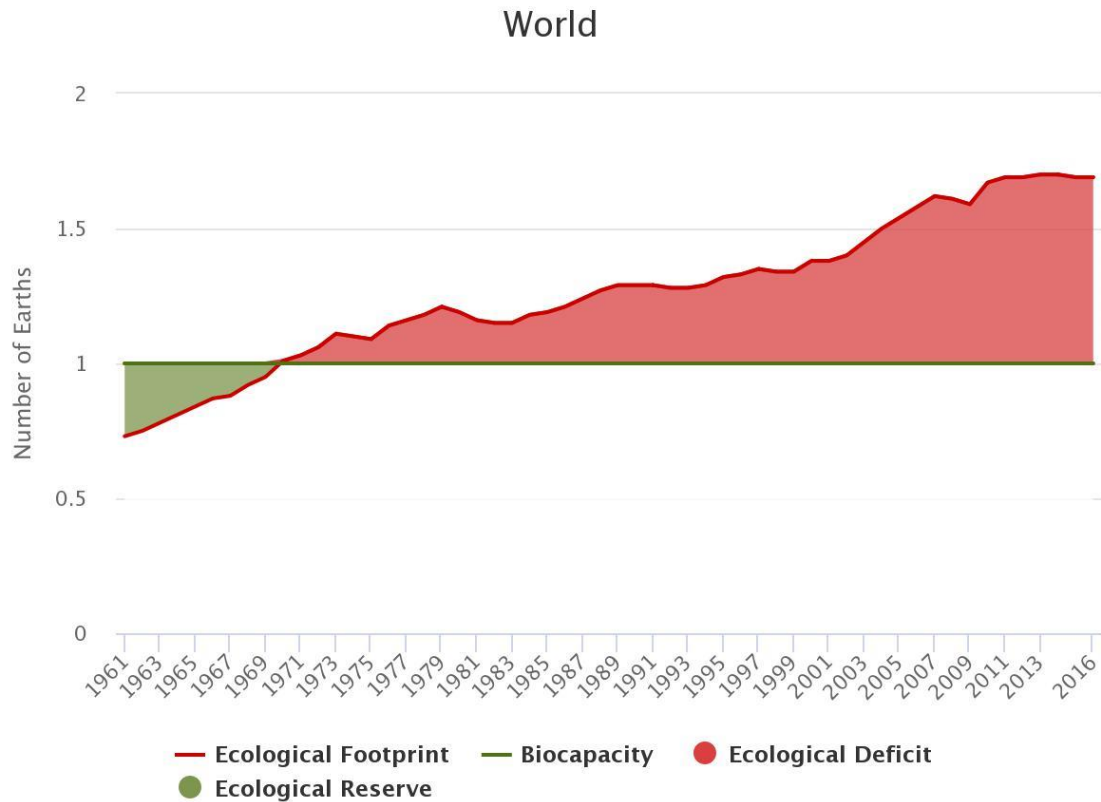
Ecological Footprint

...measures **how fast we consume resources** and **generate waste** compared to **how fast nature can absorb our waste and generate new resources**

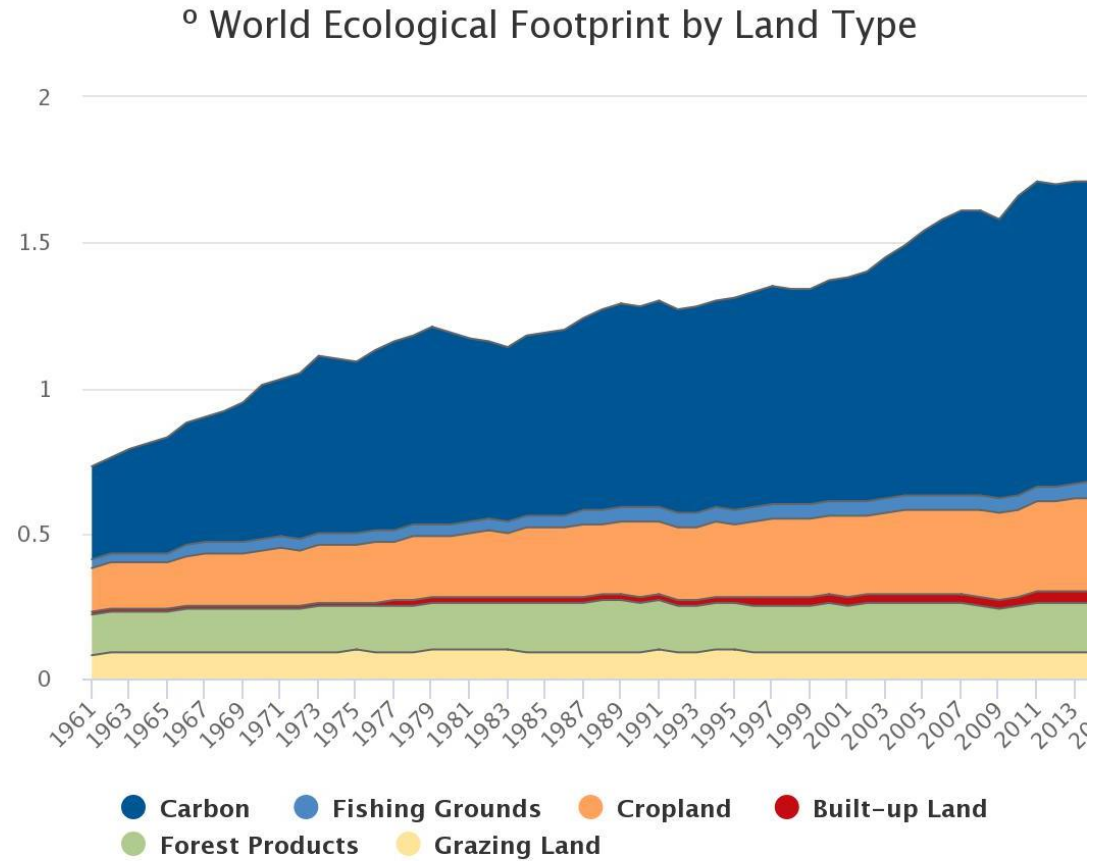
Biocapacity

...is the **capacity of ecosystems to regenerate what people demand** from particular surfaces. Life, including human life, competes for space. The **biocapacity of a particular surface represents its ability to renew what people demand.**

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT EXCEEDS BIOCAPACITY SINCE THE 70TH WITH CARBON FOOTPRINT INCREASING MOST PROMINENTLY



Global Footprint Network, 2019 National Footprint Accounts

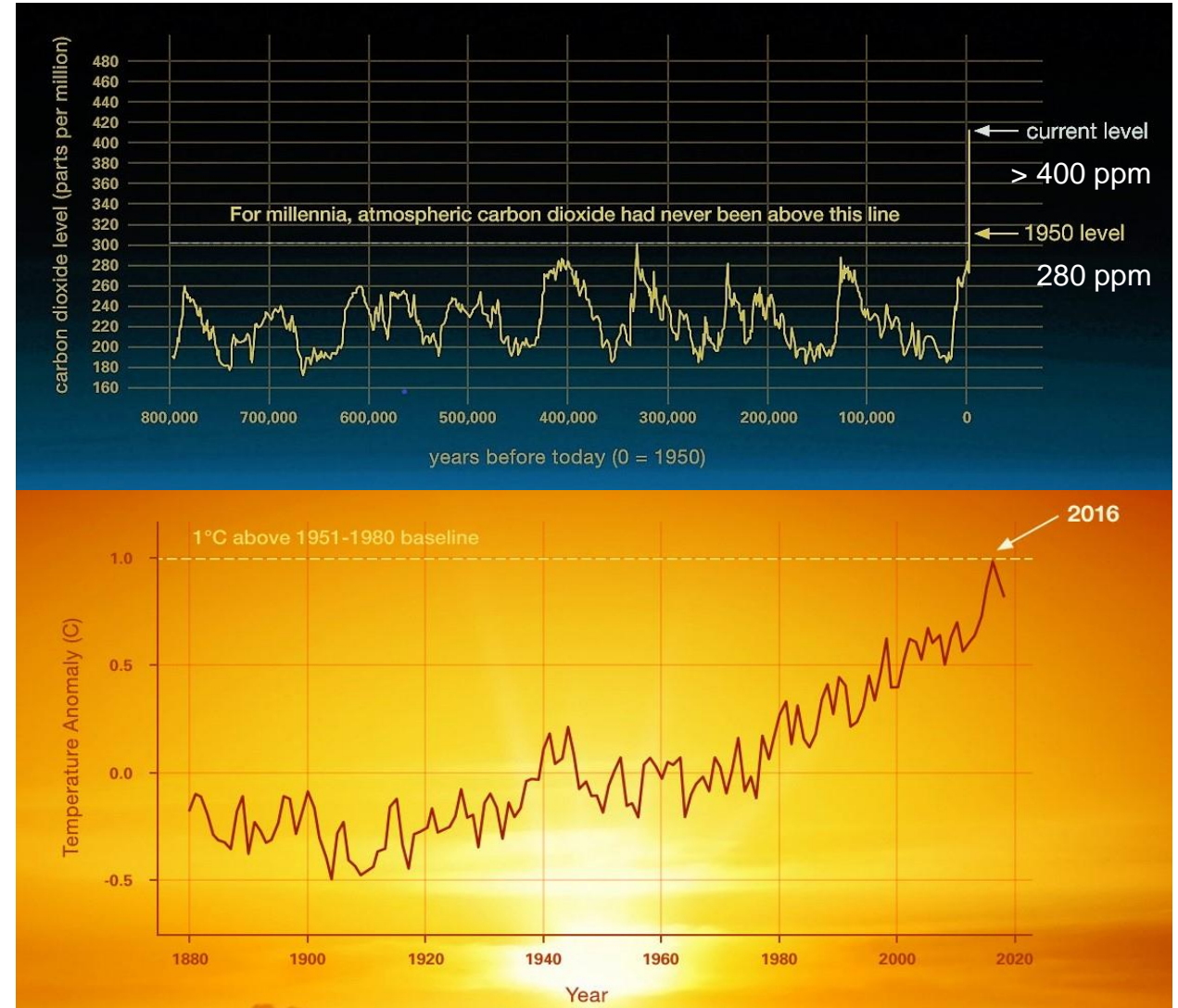


Global Footprint Network, 2019 National Footprint Accounts

ANTHROPOGENIC CO₂ AS ONE MAJOR CAUSE FOR GLOBAL WARMING

- **Combustion of fossil resources** are the primary cause for a **steep increase of atmospheric CO₂** since the 1950th
- **Heat-trapping nature of CO₂** (and other gases) drives global warming
- **Temperature anomaly** of + 1 °C in 2016 and + 6 °C predicted by IPCC until 2100
- The **need for reducing CO₂ emissions** has been globally recognized – by society and industry

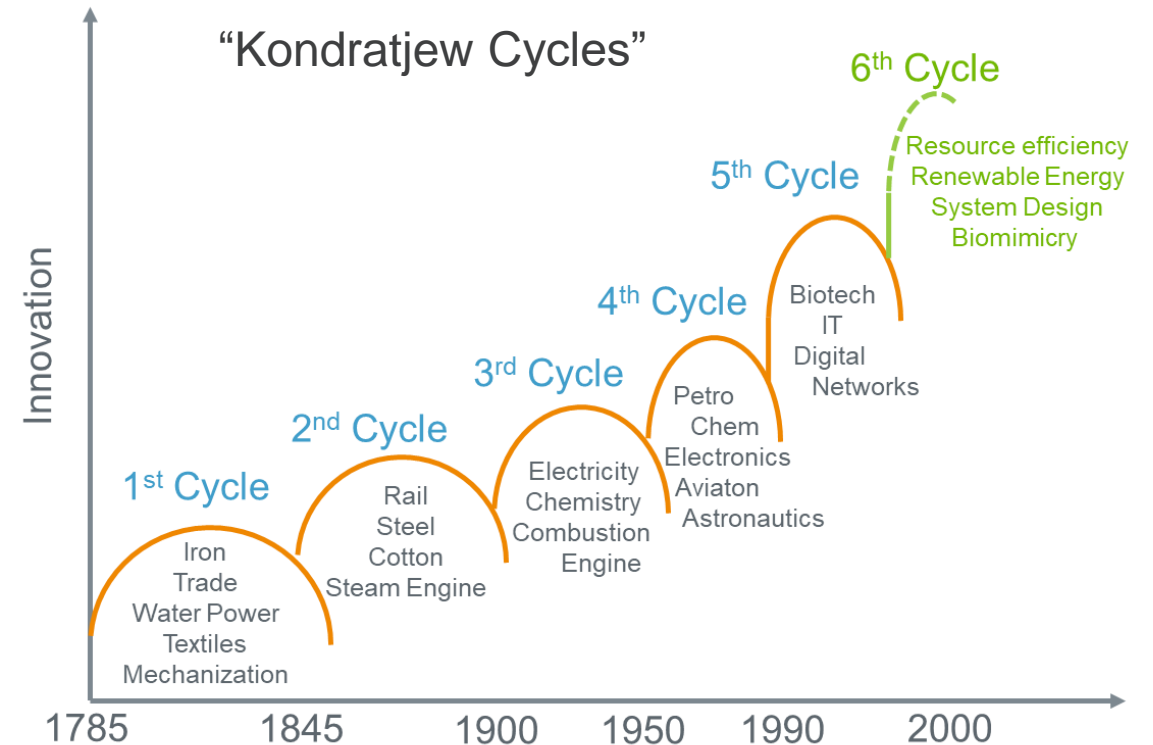
IPCC = Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



5 GROWTH AND INNOVATION CYCLES AND 1 HYPOTHETICAL FUTURE CYCLE

Signs for a wave of “green technology”, marking the next Kondratjew cycle*:

- **Resource productivity**
- **System Design:** Optimization of resource efficiency for entire systems
- **Biomimicry:** Nature’s principles as model, measure and teacher
- **Renewable Energy**



Source: Weizsäcker et al. „Faktor Fünf“

► Prediction and request: The 6th cycle is “green”

HOW PRECIOUS METAL BASED CATALYSTS CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABILITY

Renewable Feedstocks

Products

Applications



Biomass

Conversion of Biomass into Chemicals



Biobased Chemicals



- Organic chemicals
- Fuel and Fuel additives
- ...



Water

Electrolysis using renewable energy



Green Hydrogen



- Replacement of Grey H₂
- Energy Storage
- ...



CO₂

Conversion of CO₂ and H₂



Green Hydrocarbons & functionalized HC



- Fuels and Fuel additives
- Surfactants
- ...



Hydrogen

Energy generation from H₂ and O₂



Energy



- Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles
- Stationary Fuel Cells
- ...

CONTENT



Introduction to Heraeus

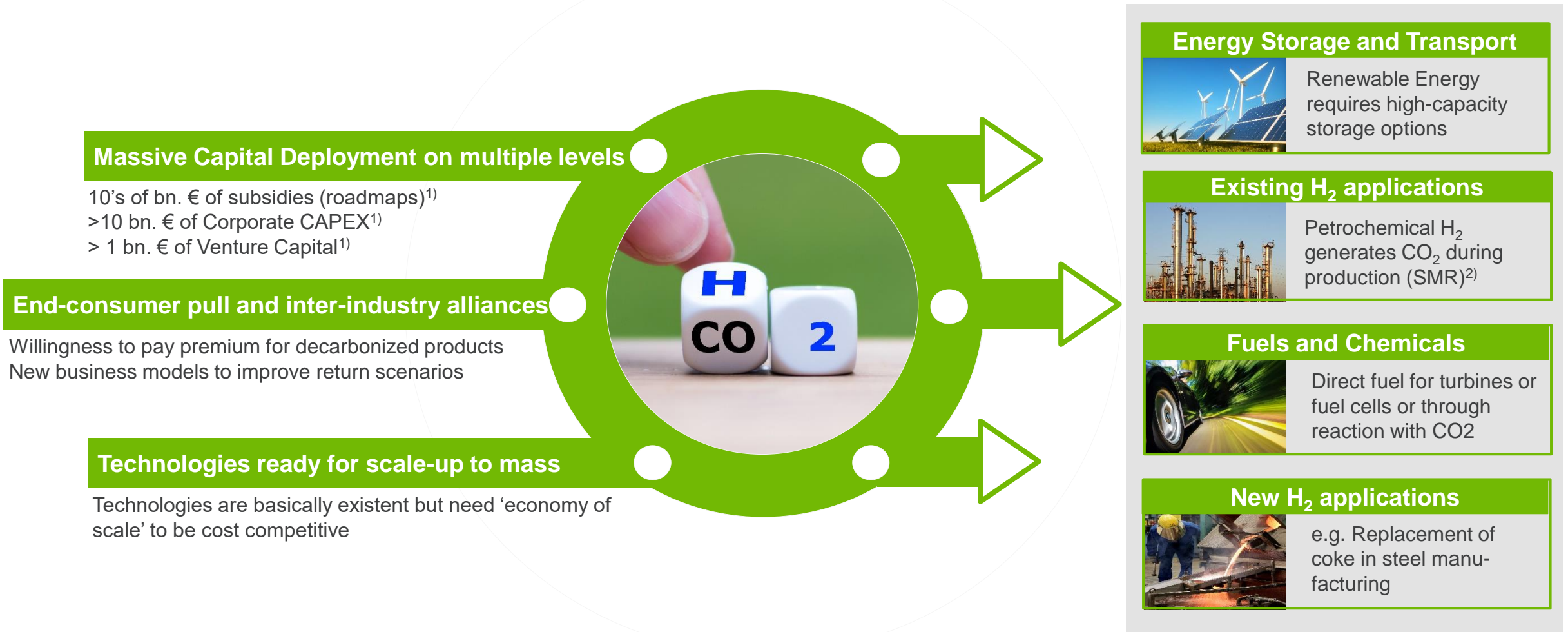


**The next Innovation Cycle is
„Green“**



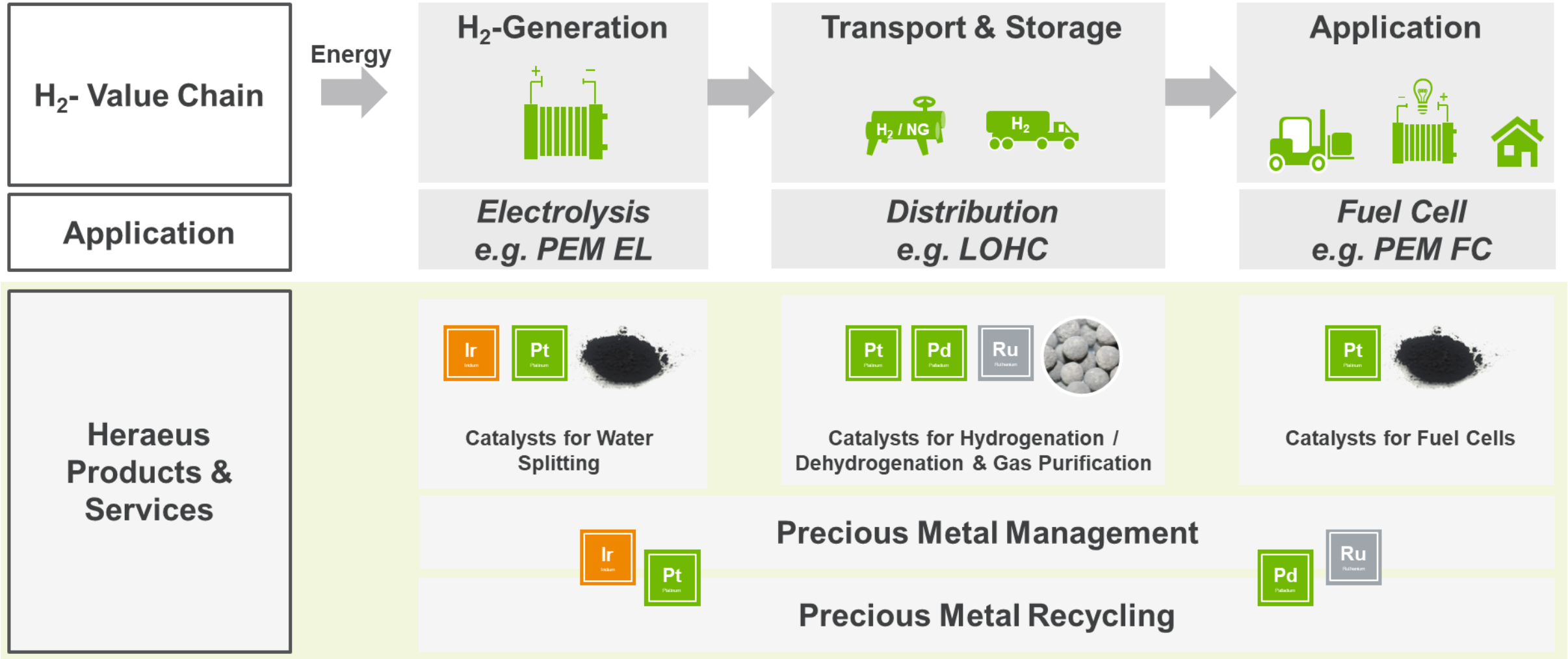
**Hydrogen Generation by
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Hydrogen Economy is on the rise due to need for decarbonization






Hydrogen is more than fuel cells and offers significant CO₂ reduction potential → 5 Gt/a until 2050³⁾

PRECIOUS METALS AND THE HYDROGEN ECONOMY





The “Colors” of Hydrogen

Petrochemical processes with methane as feedstock

| | | |
|---|------------------|---|
|  | GREY | Steam Methane Reforming → CO ₂ |
|  | BLUE | Steam Methane Reforming → CO ₂ captured |
|  | TURQUOISE | Methane Pyrolysis → Carbon by product |

- **Carbon or carbon dioxide** as byproduct
- **Capturing and storage or valorization** of products is targeted
- **Blue and Turquoise as transition** towards a hydrogen economy

Electrolysis with water as feedstock

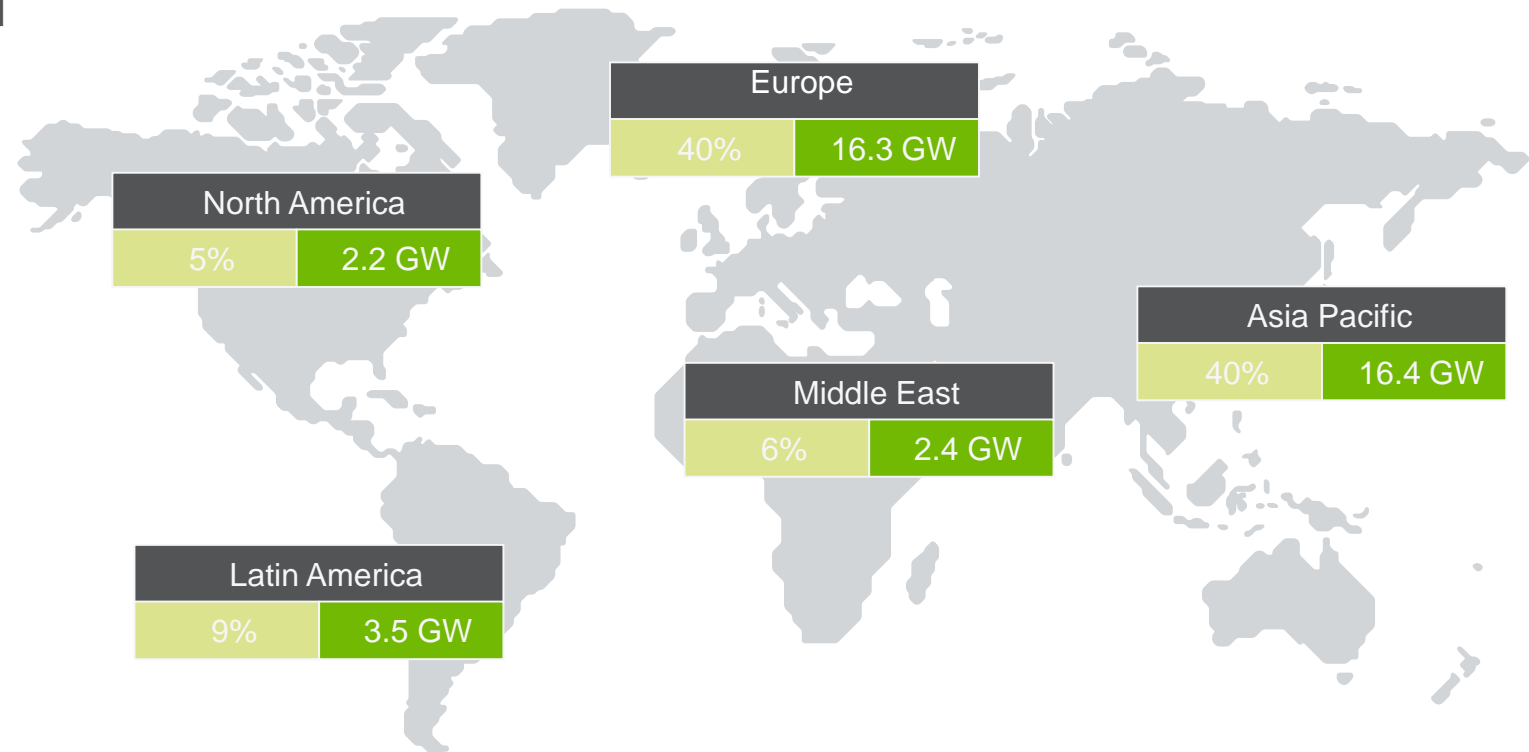
| | | |
|---|---------------|--|
|  | GREEN | Water Electrolysis using renewable energy |
|  | YELLOW | Water Electrolysis using nuclear energy |

- **Cost competitive “CO₂-free” energy** required (wind, solar, water)
- **Nuclear Energy less preferred** due to safety concerns and nuclear waste

Green Hydrogen from water electrolysis as technology for the hydrogen future depends on renewable energy

GLOBAL ELECTROLYSIS PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS UNTIL 2030¹⁾

- **Approx. 40 GW electrolyzer capacity announced until 2030** (Jan 2021) and increasing
- **National and regional roadmaps** pave the way
- **Massive capital deployment** from corporate world and governments
- **Several different use cases for hydrogen**
 - Enable the **renewable energy system**
 - Decarbonize end uses (**hard-to-abate sectors**)



¹⁾ McKinsey & Company Analysis, May 2021, incl. early stage capacity deployment with full commission after 2030

Announcements of > 40 GW are made globally, with highest momentum in APAC and EMEA

Electrolyzer technologies differ in maturity and strengths

| | Alkaline | Proton exchange | Solid Oxide |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| Cost (USD/kW) | <p>2020: 750 - 770 2030: 440 - 555</p> | <p>2020: 800 - 1,400 2030: 345 - 460</p> | <p>2020: 2,500 - 3,500 2030: 300 - 500</p> |
| + | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Established technology › Easy scalability › No PGM catalysts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Simple cell design › High current density › Small footprint | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Low Power demand → “waste” steam › Potential for co-electrolysis › No PGM catalysts |
| - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Larger footprint › Low output pressure › Highly flexible loads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Scalability tbc › Lifetimes still below alkaline › Catalysts w/ still high PGM loads | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Still immature › Heat/steam source required to be competitive › Low output pressure |

- **Cost of electrolyzer technologies to decrease to < 550 USD/kW until 2030** (scale-up and industrialization of production)
- **Alkaline Electrolysis (AEL) most mature technology**
- With performance converging, **AEL and Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) Electrolysis to be relevant across application segments**
- **Solid Oxide Electrolysis (SOE) for applications with process heat access** (e.g. synfuels, steel plants)
- **PEM Electrolysis requires platinum and iridium as electrode catalysts**

PEM and AEL to share market equally long-term - SOE limited to special applications

OVERVIEW OF ELECTROCATALYSTS FOR PEM ELECTROLYSIS

| Anode | | | |
|----------|--|-------------|---------------|
| | Compound | g Ir per kW | Mass Activity |
| Standard | Ir Black | 0.8 – 1.2 | |
| Advanced | IrO ₂ | 0.35 – 0.6 | |
| Next Gen | IrO(OH) _x /TiO ₂ | 0.08 – 0.2 | |
| Future | Mixed Oxides | < 0.08 | |

- **Combination of IrO_x film on a low-corrosive support material** allowed for up to factor 15 lower Ir use (loading and activity)
- **Future approaches target mixed oxides**
- **Ir-free technology leads** are explored by the industry as long-term perspective

| Cathode | | | |
|------------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| | Compound | g Pt per kW | Mass Activity |
| Standard | Pt Black | 0.3 – 0.5 | |
| State-of-the-Art | Pt /Carbon | 0.05 – 0.25 | |

- **Anode is seen as bigger cost and performance lever**
- Pt loadings can be reduced by **moving from standard Pt black to Pt on carbon catalysts**

Development focus in on anode side with significant progress in reducing Ir loading and improving performance

Standard electrolyzer catalysts for PEM Electrolysis

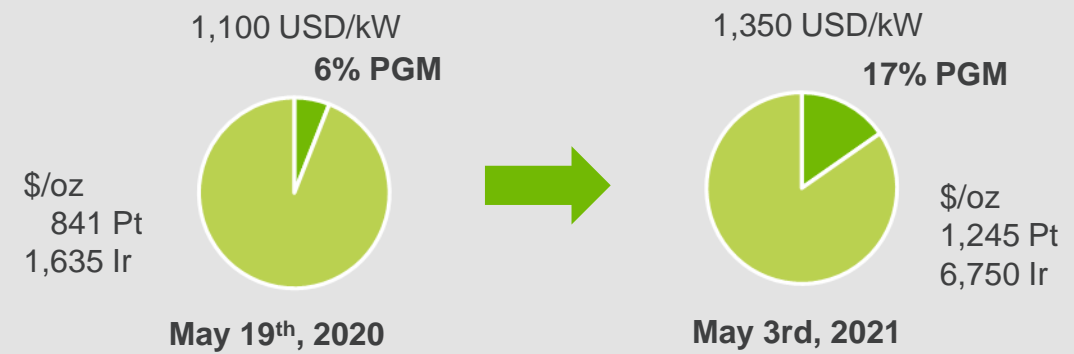
Standard catalysts are based on 100% PGM still

| | Loading | Cumulative Demand till 2030 ¹⁾ | Supply |
|-----------------------|-----------|---|------------------------|
| Pt Platinum | 0.4 mt/GW | 40 x 50% x 0.4 → 8 mt <i>800 kg of Pt for 10 y</i> | 190 mt/a ²⁾ |
| Ir Iridium | 1.0 mt/GW | 40 x 50% x 1.0 → 20 mt <i>2 mt of Ir for 10 y</i> | 8 mt/a ³⁾ |

¹⁾ Based on announced global capacity in 2030 of 40 GW, 50% share for PEM

- **Primary supply of iridium is not sufficient to accompany the growth scenario for PEM Electrolysis** (2 mt/a additional demand vs. 8 mt/a supply)
- **Additional demand might evolve** due to additional electrolyzer projects
- **Platinum demand from electrolyzers can be digested**

PGMs contribute significantly to electrolyzer cost





- **Price changes of PGMs have a significant impact**
- Since competing with AEL, **securing a cost advantage and stability** is important

Low PGM (in particular iridium) catalysts are needed to ensure the success of PEM Electrolysis long-term

Next Generation electrolyzer Catalysts for PEM Electrolysis from Heraeus

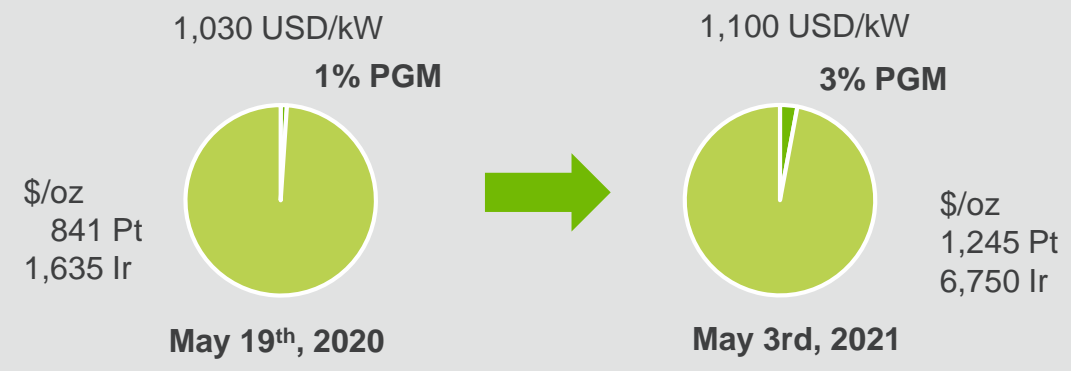
Next generation catalysts with lower PGM loading

| | Loading | Cumulative Demand till 2030 ¹⁾ | Supply |
|--|------------|---|------------------------|
|  Pt Platinum | 0.1 mt/GW | 40 x 50% x 0.1 → 2 mt <i>200 kg of Pt in 10 y</i> | 190 mt/a ²⁾ |
|  Ir Iridium | 0.15 mt/GW | 40 x 50% x 0.15 → 3 mt <i>300 kg of Ir in 10 y</i> | 8 mt/a ³⁾ |

¹⁾ Based on announced global capacity in 2030 of 40 GW, 50% share for PEM

- **Platinum and iridium loading reduced** by factor 4 and 5, respectively, at same or better performance.
- **Iridium market less impacted in the near term** and further reduction of iridium loadings necessary

Significantly lower impact of PGMs on electrolyzer cost



- **Price hikes impact** the competitiveness of PEM Electrolysis **to a lesser extent**
- **Improved cost competitiveness** with AEL

Next generation catalysts for PEM Electrolysis to make PEM Electrolysis successful exist and are at qualification stage

A HYDROGEN STRATEGY REQUIRES A RAW MATERIAL STRATEGY

European and National Hydrogen Strategies do not consider requirements for critical raw materials for the generation and use of hydrogen sufficiently! We plead for...

- Increase R&D for further **reduction of Iridium loadings**
- Increase R&D for **Recycling of Iridium**
 - Open up new recycling streams
 - Higher recycling rates
 - Subsidies for investments in recycling operations for precious metals from hydrogen applications
- Introduction of **“Top-Runner” Programs**
 - Link subsidies for PEM Electrolyzers to an efficient use of Iridium
- **Stronger involvement of producers of critical components** for electrolyzers in the political discussion concerning the ramp-up of an hydrogen economy



SUMMARY

- **The current Innovation Cycle is “green”** (Alternative feedstocks and circularity)
- **A Hydrogen economy is on the rise** and PEM Electrolysis will play a significant role
- **Platinum and Iridium are pivotal** elements of the PEM technology
- PEM Electrolysis in **GW scale requires low PGM catalysts**
- Heraeus has developed **next generation platinum and iridium catalysts**
- To explore the **full potential of PEM Electrolysis, further PGM reduction (especially iridium) and a raw material strategy (sourcing and recycling)** are needed long-term
- **Heraeus is committed to leverage its capabilities and** know-how around precious metals to accompany the growth of PEM Electrolysis



**COMMITTED TO YOUR
PRECIOUS NEEDS!**

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