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## **Columbia, SC – USC-Columbia Fuel Cell Collaborative Celebrates Milestones**

**Palm Springs, CA, November 17, 2009** – For five years, the USC- City of Columbia Fuel Cell Collaborative has been laying the framework for building a world class environment for hydrogen and fuel cell technology. Today, find out why Columbia and South Carolina are world class destinations for hydrogen and fuel cell technology and commercialization:

- 15 new start ups in hydrogen, fuel cells, and alternative energy technology applications in five years
- \$50,000,000+ in public, private and federal investments in hydrogen and fuel cell technology since 2005
- 50 + public/private/federal partnerships in research, development, and commercialization with partners from around the world
- 20 + fuel cell and alternative energy development projects in the Midlands of South Carolina
- One of the largest Solid Oxide Fuel Cell research teams in the U.S.
- The nation's first NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (I/U CRC) for Fuel Cells at the University of South Carolina
- A \$12.5M Energy Frontier Research Center award from U.S. Department of Energy
- The nationally recognized Fuel Cell Collaborative, winner of the 2009 Southern Innovator Award from the Southern Growth Policies Board

In today's economy, collaboration is key. The Fuel Cell Collaborative offers a conduit to industry, university, and international collaboration found in no other region of the world. The Greater Columbia region is a hotbed for innovation and entrepreneurship. Locally grown companies and world renowned research teams work alongside nationally recognized companies to create an environment second to none for the discovery, development, and deployment of fuel cells and other clean energy technologies. Take advantage of world class R&D, world class commercialization, and world class collaboration.

The Fuel Cell Collaborative has built a new web portal for innovators, entrepreneurs, and companies to connect to our region for business opportunities, capital, research, and commercialization support. The interactive network available on the new Fuel Cell Collaborative website will help companies, both large and small, accelerate down the path to commercialization by providing a direct connection to the collaboration and business services available in Columbia and South Carolina.

Join the network at [www.fuelcellcollaborative.com](http://www.fuelcellcollaborative.com) and find out how Columbia can help you create and grow your clean energy business with access to capital, infrastructure, and research and development opportunities. And, come find us at the Fuel Cell Seminar 2009 (B309) to explore how Columbia and South Carolina can provide the most competitive environment in the world for your fuel cell business.

### About the USC Columbia Fuel Cell Collaborative

The University of South Carolina – City of Columbia Fuel Cell Collaborative was formed by the University of South Carolina, the City of Columbia, EngenuitySC and the South Carolina Research Authority to position Columbia, SC as a leader in hydrogen fuel cell innovation and technology. Its mission is to attract private sector partners, top fuel cell scientists, entrepreneurs and innovators to the Columbia region. For more information, visit: [www.fuelcellcollaborative.com](http://www.fuelcellcollaborative.com)