

Published: 9 March 2011

## Australia's first fast-charge electric vehicle station

The switch to electric vehicles is gaining momentum in Adelaide with the roll out of several new recharging stations, including Australia's first 'fast' public recharge station.



Credit: Adelaide City Council

The new Level 3 Electric Vehicle DC Fast Charge System will be located at Mitsubishi headquarters in Adelaide and will initially service Mitsubishi i-MiEV cars, although it has the capacity to recharge other manufacturers' electric vehicles (EVs) in the future.

The recharge station uses DC power to charge a depleted battery to 80 per cent capacity in less than 30 minutes. Motoring organisation Club Assist, which commissioned the fast recharge station, says it intends to install additional Level 3 systems around the country this year.

Meanwhile, Adelaide City Council has installed an EV charging station in the city's Central Market carpark, powered by an Australian-developed fuel cell. The new station is free to use and can charge two vehicles at a time.

Although recharging takes longer than at Mitsubishi's charge station, the ChargePoint recharging station's BlueGen ceramic fuel cell uses gas instead of electrical power to generate more than 12 500 kilowatt hours of clean energy a year, and feeds excess power back into the grid. Adelaide City Council claims that ChargePoint is the world's first public recharging station to use fuel cell technology.

From ECOS online <http://www.ecosmagazine.com/?paper=EC10058>