

Press release

Antwerp, 12 June 2026

FLHyPorts positions Flanders as a pioneer in renewable hydrogen, with Belgium's first Hydrogen Valley.

Flanders is taking a major step towards a sustainable future with the launch of the FLHyPorts project— short for “Flanders Hydrogen Ports” –, a small-scale yet groundbreaking Hydrogen Valley initiative. The project connects hydrogen production, distribution, and end-use across the Flemish port ecosystems, creating an integrated and scalable hydrogen value chain, that brings renewable hydrogen to the port and industry.

Coordinated by WaterstofNet, FLHyPorts is anchored by the Hyoffwind facility, a 25 MW renewable hydrogen electrolysis plant, developed by Virya Energy, Messer and HyoffGreen, which is currently under construction, designed to produce RFNBO-compliant renewable hydrogen with fuel-cell grade quality for demanding mobility and industrial applications. The project will demonstrate how hydrogen can de-carbonize logistics, port operations, inland shipping, industrial processes, and mobility, while also providing flexibility services to both the electricity and natural gas grids.

The three major Flemish ports — Port of Antwerp-Bruges, Port of Ostend, and North Sea Port — play a central role in the production, distribution, and application of hydrogen. Industrial partners Virya Energy and Messer, shareholders of Hyoffwind, bringing extensive experience in renewable energy and industrial hydrogen production, will support hydrogen offtake across five key applications: mobility (Dhyve), shipping- and port equipment (PSA Antwerp, Boluda, Kalmar and Hyster-Yale), industry, energy integration, and inland waterway transport (MTS).

FLHyPorts is supported by a broad consortium of knowledge partners, including the University of Antwerp and Cenex, infrastructure operators such as Fluxys, as well as public authorities and international partners. This strong collaboration ensures wide dissemination and replication of the project's approach both within and beyond Europe.

The project contributes to the objectives of the Clean Hydrogen Joint Undertaking Work Programme and the REPowerEU Plan. It aims to establish Belgium's first Hydrogen Valley and supports the EU ambition to double the number of Hydrogen Valleys by 2025.

By 2030, FLHyPorts targets an annual hydrogen consumption of more than 1,800 tonnes. It will also advance key technologies—primarily developed in Europe—to Technology Readiness Level 8 (TRL 8) and support the training of 500 hydrogen professionals.

Through real-life port testbeds, FLHyPorts will deliver a certified RFNBO tracing system and a practical replication toolkit, accelerating the deployment of (further) hydrogen valleys across Europe.

Valérie Bouillon-Delporte, Executive Director of the Clean Hydrogen Partnership: *“FLHyPorts shows that the hydrogen transition is no longer an abstract ambition, but a practical reality taking shape in Europe today. As Belgium's first Hydrogen Valley, it demonstrates how hydrogen can connect production, distribution and end-use across a real industrial and port environment. For the Clean Hydrogen Partnership, it is especially encouraging to see such a flagship project*

emerging so close to Brussels, offering a concrete example of innovation in action and valuable demonstration opportunities for colleagues and stakeholders alike. FLHyPorts is a strong illustration of how European support can help turn integrated hydrogen ecosystems into scalable models for wider replication across Europe.”

Bert De Colvenaer, CEO of WaterstofNet emphasises “*FLHyPorts marks an important milestone for Flanders and for Europe ’ s hydrogen transition. With this project, we are moving from ambition to implementation by demonstrating how renewable hydrogen can be produced, distributed and used across real port and industrial ecosystems. By connecting infrastructure, industry, logistics and innovation, FLHyPorts lays the foundation for Belgium ’ s first Hydrogen Valley and shows how hydrogen can deliver practical impact in transport, port operations and industry. This is exactly the type of integrated, scalable approach Europe needs to accelerate decarbonisation and strengthen its industrial leadership. ”*



Photo: Sealing of the contract of the FLHyPorts Hydrogen Valley at the Clean Hydrogen Partnership Hydrogen Valley Days in Antwerp



Photo: Consortium of the FLHyPorts - Hydrogen Valley at the kick-off meeting in Antwerp, June 11th 2026

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