



# CERAMIC FUEL CELLS LIMITED

*Creating the energy to succeed™*

**Announcement**

**29 September 2005**

## **Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited to launch NetGen™**

*Ceramic Fuel Cells Limited (CFCL) to launch next generation prototype domestic fuel cell system.*

CFCL announces that on October 4 it will launch NetGen™, a micro fuel cell system for domestic applications, at the Ninth Grove Fuel Cell Symposium in London, UK.

CFCL CEO Brendan Dow said: "The launch of NetGen™ is of great importance to us as we strive to develop the most energy efficient domestic fuel cell systems for combined heat and power applications. The environmental benefits of fuel cells are gaining greater attention, and consumers are becoming more interested in preserving energy and safeguarding the environment. We therefore believe CFCL is ideally positioned to tap that demand as the market develops."

In addition: "We are particularly targeting the European market and the launch of NetGen™ is an important step to help us form partnerships with appliance manufacturers."

The NetGen™ represents a major breakthrough in the development of fuel cell power generation systems for the household. It is about the size of a standard domestic washing machine, thus significantly smaller than previous demonstration models, yet the unit is designed to produce 1 kWe of electricity, which is sufficient for most domestic requirements. The unit also recovers sufficient waste heat to supplement existing domestic hot water and central heating systems.

As well as being highly efficient, NetGen™ emissions are low, the unit makes little noise and is vibration-free. NetGen™ produces grid parallel power, which can be distributed to other users via the low voltage network. The unit can also be monitored and controlled remotely over the internet – providing networked distributed generation.

With 100 skilled staff and extensive patented technology, CFCL is pursuing partnerships to integrate its fuel cell products into domestic appliances.

ENDS

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*Ceramic Fuel Cells Ltd (CFCL) is a publicly listed company (ASX code CFU) and world leader in developing solid oxide fuel cells. CFCL's fuel cells have potential to meet significant market demand in Europe, UK and Asia for clean, efficient and reliable electricity for use on site and sale back into the power grid.*

## Notes to Editors

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### What is a Fuel Cell?

Fuel cells are an efficient and clean way of generating electricity.

Fuel cells are not combustion engines – they do not burn fuel to generate power. They produce electricity through a silent electrochemical reaction.

They are not turbines – they have no noisy, high pressure rotors, indeed there are no moving parts.

They are not batteries although they are similar in structure. They do not run down or require recharging. They operate when gas is supplied to them.

Fuel cells convert the chemical energy in the fuel directly into electricity; and for this reason they are cleaner and more efficient than any carbon-fuelled engine. Fuel cells are lower on greenhouse emissions than coal, gas and oil, and much safer than nuclear. Those fuel cells using hydrogen are emission free, and some use renewable fuels such as ethanol and biogases.

There are six (6) different types of fuel cells and generally each one is suited to a different application. CFCL's solid oxide fuel cells run continuously and are suited to use in the home, farm or office. Other types of fuel cells power up quickly once supplied with fuel and so suit cars and other vehicles, and others are tiny and suited to mobile phones and laptop computers.

### Special Features of CFCL's Fuel Cell

CFCL has designed its fuel cell to fit into domestic electricity generators such as micro-CHP units. With a small 'combined heat and power' unit in the home, a family can generate their own electricity, and by remaining connected to the grid they can sell surplus and buy extra as required. Overall efficiency is further boosted by capturing 'waste' heat for the home's hot water and heating.

Micro-CHP units are gaining popularity in Europe, UK, Japan and Canada. Most micro-CHP units generate 0.5 – 5kW of electricity.

CFCL's fuel cell generator is designed to provide 1kW constant base load electricity, ideal to supplement centralised power stations. CFCL's fuel cell design can be adapted to different fuels. It converts natural gas to hydrogen, can use LPG, and has capacity to use renewable fuels like ethanol and biogases.

Since it was formed in 1992 CFCL has spent about A\$150 million (~GBP 63 m) in researching, developing and commercialising its technology.

More information, including images for download, is available at [www.cfcl.com.au](http://www.cfcl.com.au)