

Researchers discover how to transform CO₂ into a source of energy

LOCATION: Sevilla

DURATION: 1'29"

SUMMARY: CO₂ is a toxic gas responsible, among other, for climate change. Researchers of the University of Seville have found the way to avoid its emissions transforming it into another substance that can be used as an energy source: methanol. What these researchers have developed is a catalyst, a compound able to produce this transformation by contact in a fast and efficient way.

VTR

We are at the Faculty of Chemistry at the University of Seville. These researchers have discovered something revolutionary: how turning CO₂, a toxic gas responsible for global warming, into a source of reusable energy.

JESÚS GRACIANI
Researcher at the University of Seville

"We connect a device at the end of that chimney that transfers that CO₂ to this catalyst. This way that CO₂, instead of ending up in the atmosphere, will transform into methanol."

A source of energy that could be used as fuel by industry, by cars... What these researchers have found is the substance able to quickly turn CO₂ in methanol by contact and that would be contained in the device this scientist is talking about.

JESÚS GRACIANI
Researcher at the University of Seville

"This is a catalyst, what we see here is much enlarged, it could be perfectly contained here."

Dust containing copper and cerium oxide. This work is the result of the collaboration between the University of Seville, a lab in New York and the Central University of Venezuela; and has been published by Science Magazine, the world bible of Science.

JAVIER FERNÁNDEZ SANZ
Director of the research

"We recycle the CO₂ that may come out from any source, I am thinking about factories, thermal power stations... We are recycling something that annoys us a lot and that is taking a lot of effort to be erased, to make it useful."

This technology just need time and financing to get to industry; innovation that also means a big step for Science.

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