

Mercedes F-Cell Hydrogen Car ready for Launch

Earlier this year, Mercedes-Benz announced its plans to begin low-level production of a new hydrogen fuel cell-powered automobile called the F-Cell. Now, according to Mercedes, the car is nearly ready to launch, with 200 vehicles ready to be leased in the United States and Europe early next year.

The front-wheel drive F-Cell is based on Mercedes-Benz' B-Class platform and uses a 100 kW electric motor putting out 214 lb-ft of torque. Apparently this power train will have the equivalent performance of a 2.0-litre petrol-powered automobile (0-100kph will take under 11 seconds) while returning 2.72 l/100km economy on the combined cycle.



Under the car's floor sits a 1.4 kWh lithium ion battery that recaptures energy usually lost to braking. Range is quoted at around 400 kilometers and Mercedes claims a hydrogen recharge time of just three minutes. More details on the car should emerge at the upcoming Frankfurt Motor Show.