

Westfalen opens "unique" German fuel station with drive-in store; its first hydrogen pump

The Westfalen Gruppe is inaugurating on December 11 a "unique" fuel station in Germany as it will offer a drive-in convenience store and restaurant. The station will also be home to the first hydrogen pump to be installed by Westfalen. The hydrogen pump will also be the first to be seen in the Muenster area.

"The market 'to go' is getting more and more important therefore we decided to offer a drive-in counter for the shop and bistro. This makes us unique in the German market," the company said in a press release dated December 5 to announce the opening.

"The hydrogen service station will be available in the second half of 2015," the statement added. With the help of a fuel cell the hydrogen will be converted into electricity and thereby will nearly have no emissions, the company said.

The facility took four months to build and had a total cost of 1.9 billion Euros, the company said.

Westfalen AG operates 260 fuel stations under its own brand mainly in the German regions of North Rhine-Westphalia as well as Lower Saxony. It was founded in 1923. It has some 1,400 workers and an annual sales revenue of about 1.9 billion Euros.