Fuel Cells Power Hospital, School

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is one of Connecticut's largest health care institutions. Located in Hartford, it now represents the first recorded collaboration between a Catholic and a Jewish hospital in U.S. history. It is also the first hospital in Connecticut to install a United Technologies Corporation (UTC) Pure Cell fuel cell. The project was carried out with the support of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund.

The St. Francis fuel cell operates in a combined heat and power application that produces up to 200 kilowatts of electricity and preheats boiler feed water with the heat recovered from the fuel cell. By preheating the boiler feed water, St. Francis Hospital reduces the amount of fuel consumed by the boiler and reduces operating costs. A 2005 EPA Energy Star CHP Award winner, the system prevents nearly 700 tons of CO_2 emissions a year.

South Windsor High School has a faculty of 170 and teaches more than 1,600 students a year. The high school also serves as a community shelter in the event of a natural disaster. With support from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, the school was the first in Connecticut to install a UTC Pure Cell fuel cell.

South Windsor's fuel cell also operates in a combined heat and power application. It produces up to 200 kilowatts of electricity (50 percent of the school's peak electric load), and the heat recovered from the fuel cell is used to preheat boiler feed water and provide space heating for the high school. The fuel cell also serves as an educational tool for the next generation of clean energy innovators. A 2005 EPA CHP Certificate of Recognition winner, this system prevents nearly 550 tons of CO_2 emissions a year.