

Flywheel A new way to store energy





Overview

Can a flywheel store energy?

A project team from Graz University of Technology (TU Graz) recently developed a prototype flywheel storage system that can store electrical energy and provide fast charging capabilities. Flywheels are considered one of the world's oldest forms of energy storage, yet they are still relevant today.

How does a flywheel energy storage device work?

When this energy needs to be retrieved, the rotor transfers its rotational energy back to a generator, effectively converting it into usable electrical energy. The anatomy of a flywheel energy storage device.

How can flywheels be more competitive to batteries?

The use of new materials and compact designs will increase the specific energy and energy density to make flywheels more competitive to batteries. Other opportunities are new applications in energy harvest, hybrid energy systems, and flywheel's secondary functionality apart from energy storage.

Can flywheel technology be used for wind and energy storage?

The application of flywheel technology to wind and energy storage began to surface on the CleanTechnica radar back in 2010. The pickings have been pretty slim (here's another example), but the US Department of Energy is still holding a torch for the technology.



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