

Flywheel energy storage can store electricity





Overview

How does a flywheel energy storage system work?

Flywheel Energy Storage Systems (FESS) rely on a mechanical working principle: An electric motor is used to spin a rotor of high inertia up to 20,000-50,000 rpm. Electrical energy is thus converted to kinetic energy for storage. For discharging, the motor acts as a generator, braking the rotor to produce electricity.

What is a flywheel energy storage system (fess)?

Flywheel energy storage systems (FESS) use electric energy input which is stored in the form of kinetic energy. Kinetic energy can be described as “energy of motion,” in this case the motion of a spinning mass, called a rotor. The rotor spins in a nearly frictionless enclosure.

Do power utilities need a flywheel storage system?

Power utilities need innovative ways to store renewable wind and solar energy, during low demand periods, so they can release it after sunset when demand is high. Several innovative power utilities already use flywheel storage systems to maintain power grid frequency. Renewable energy is knocking on flywheel energy’s door.

Can a flywheel energy storage system maintain power grid frequency?

Several innovative power utilities already use flywheel storage systems to maintain power grid frequency. Renewable energy is knocking on flywheel energy’s door. The system can respond instantly, unlike battery storage. However on the downside, flywheel energy storage systems have low energy storage density per unit of weight and volume.



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