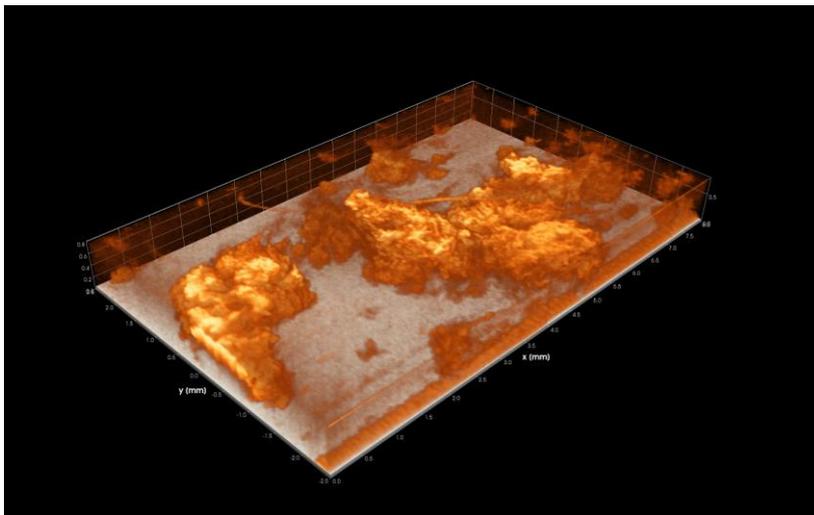


## German Sustainability Award for Bio-electrochemical Fuel Cell

Collaboration of Partners from Research and Industry Results in the Development of a Component for an Energy-generating Sewage Treatment Plant



*Biofilm on the anode (bottom) of the fuel cell: KIT researchers use optical coherence tomography to visualize the microbial biofilms that generate electric energy. (Graphics: Michael Wagner, KIT)*

**Sewage treatment plants have been among the biggest municipal energy consumers so far. With a new technology that turns the sewage treatment plant from an electricity consumer into a small power plant, a German team of researchers now wants to reverse the trend. The key component of the plant is a bio-electrochemical fuel cell that can directly produce electric power and hydrogen – without the digestion process used so far. For the innovative concept, in the development of which researchers of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) are involved, and that is coordinated by TU Clausthal, the group has now received the German Sustainability Award in the category of research.**

[...]

More information about the bio-electrochemical fuel cell BioBZ:  
<http://www.bio-bz.de/> (in German only)

[...]

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More information on the German Sustainability Award:  
<https://www.nachhaltigkeitspreis.de/en/>

**Being “The Research University in the Helmholtz Association,” KIT creates and imparts knowledge for the society and the environment. It is the objective to make significant contributions to the global challenges in the fields of energy, mobility and information. For this, about 9,300 employees cooperate in a broad range of disciplines in natural sciences, engineering sciences, economics, and the humanities and social sciences. KIT prepares its 26,000 students for responsible tasks in society, industry, and science by offering research-based study programs. Innovation efforts at KIT build a bridge between important scientific findings and their application for the benefit of society, economic prosperity, and the preservation of our natural basis of life.**

*Since 2010, the KIT has been certified as a family-friendly university.*

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*German Sustainability Award in the category of research: The winners at the awards ceremony in Düsseldorf. (Photo: Ernst)*