



Watergen’s portable technology rapidly extracts water from the air, ensuring greater efficiency and thus using less energy | Photo source [Watergen](#)

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PORTABLE DEVICE PULLS WATER FROM THE AIR

SUSTAINABILITY

A portable atmospheric water generator has been designed specifically for use in vehicles, allowing those on the go to access drinking water

Spotted: Those who live off the grid are used to using portable generators for electricity. Now, Israeli company Watergen has developed a portable atmospheric water generator. The ‘Mobile Box’ allows those who travel or live in a vehicle to produce their own fresh water – a prospect appealing to a range of nomads, from RV retirees, to van lifers, to off-grid tiny home dwellers.

Users plug the Mobile Box into a 12-volt or 220-volt outlet, like those found in vehicles. The unit sucks air in through a fan, then runs it through a filter, followed by a heat exchanger that uses condensation to extract water from the air. Finally, the water passes through a filtration system that includes a UV light to kill bacteria, before being stored in a reservoir. According to Watergen, the system can produce around 20 litres of water per day.

For those with a larger vehicle, such as an RV or tiny home, the Mobile Box also has a larger version, the ‘On Board’, where a streamlined heat exchanger—that looks a bit like a roof box—is placed on the vehicle’s roof. The heat exchanger can then pipe the water through the vehicle’s plumbing directly to the faucets. This larger version can produce up to 50 litres of drinking water a day.

In addition to supplying individual users, Watergen is also targeting the commercial sector with the promise of an environmentally-friendly source of drinking water. For users, the main benefits are that it saves costs and reduces plastic waste. This is because the system removes the need for plastic water bottles and containers.

Regional water shortages, and the impact of global warming, have placed a new urgency on the development of systems for water purification and generation. Recent water-focused innovations spotted by Springwise include a [wave-powered](#) desalination system, and an economical portable [solar distiller](#).

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Takeaway:

While Watergen's products are exceptionally portable, they are not the only company working to develop portable, electric atmospheric water generators. Exaersis Water Innovations has also developed a portable AWG, for use by campers and off-grid travellers. Their AquaTap also promises to deliver 20 litres of drinking water a day. However, neither system is available for purchase yet. Both companies plan to bring their systems to market in 2022, and Watergen already has a host of larger systems available, many in countries and regions where potable water is in scarce supply.