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Electric Mobility Canada Newsletter

July 2011

July Issue

EV 2011 VÉ

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EMC Invites You...

EV 2011 VÉ
Electric Vehicles Conference and Trade Show

September 26 to 29, 2011
Allstream Centre
Toronto, ON Canada

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Directory of EV Resources

View the 2011 Directory of EV Resources here.

President's Corner

Electric buses are coming. The electrification of transportation is touching most modes and classes of vehicles and electric buses, particularly city transport buses. They are now appearing in municipal transportation plans and in actual operations in several countries.

We acknowledge that electric buses have existed for decades in the form of trolleys with overhead power feeds. They continue to operate today in many cities and their technologies continue to evolve, including their ability to operate offline on batteries for occasions such as short detours.

Flowing from the Electric Vehicle Technology Roadmap (evTRM) process, EMC, with the support of the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA), has set up a national Electric Bus Committee consisting of industry, government and academic representatives. The mandate of the Committee is to unite all key stakeholders and to develop strategies and actions aimed at avoiding duplication of activities, while maximizing Canadian investments in this area. The Committee prioritized and developed an action plan which includes items such as, defining typical duty cycles found in various bus applications in Canada, developing uniform standards for the interface between the bus and the grid and developing common performance specifications for use in procuring electric buses.

Currently, the strongest activity in electric buses is found in Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia. These three provinces generate their electricity mostly from renewable sources such as hydro. Other provinces like Ontario are keen participants on the Committee. It is important to note that Canada's transit bus manufacturers have traditionally supplied most of Canada's and US urban bus markets and the development of electric urban buses in Canada will hopefully maintain this important share of the market.

EMC is pleased to be leading this initiative and is currently seeking resources to implement the Committee's action plan. Please do not hesitate to contact me, I welcome your inquiries and other information.

Click to connect with Al Cormier.

EV 2011 VÉ Conference and Trade Show: September 26-29, 2011 in Toronto, Ontario

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EV 2011 VÉ is Canada's **only** national electric vehicle conference and trade show that is a must-attend event for all EV enthusiasts and stakeholders.

The Technical Program includes 15 technical sessions with over 50 speakers. Three plenary sessions are also planned - one session with political and other VIPs welcoming delegates and delivering key messages on electric mobility; the 2nd session dealing with the rationale for EVs and their wide applications globally; and the 3rd session is organized by university students who are passionate about EVs.

We also have the following special events:

- A meeting of academics and vehicle manufacturers R&D leaders to discuss Canadian university capabilities and availabilities for electric vehicle R&D
- A session on emerging energy storage technologies
- The second annual Government-Industry Summit
- A media Ride N' Drive of new electric vehicles

Our Trade Show is filling up quite nicely and will include a wide selection of vehicles, EV components, charging stations, as well as booths from Government Agencies explaining their programs and activities on electric vehicles.

News from EMC *(as of July 22, 2011)*

Working Group on Plug-In Vehicle (PEV) Readiness
This group of utilities and municipalities is off to a great start in dealing with the issues relating to PEV Readiness in their jurisdiction. Under the Co-Chairmanship of Dan Guatto of Burlington Hydro and Gerry Pietschmann of the City of Toronto, the group has identified 18 initial issues of concern. With the assistance of Matt Stevens at CrossChasm, each issue is defined, researched, lessons identified and hints for local decision making are included. Working Group members comment on the results and the final text is posted on the EMC website for secure access by the organizations paying for this additional EMC service. EMC continues to promote this service to other utilities and municipalities. The ideal situation would be a source of public funding to allow EMC to make the program available to all interested organizations.

Federal Government reviews EMC's recommendations
As mentioned in our June newsletter, the EMC recommendations flowing from the Electric Vehicle Technology Roadmap (evTRM) were presented to the June 24th meeting of the HUB Committee - a Committee of Senior Government officials and EMC representatives set up to receive and deal with the recommendations. We are pleased to report that none of the recommended actions were rejected and all are being reviewed for possible implementation. In addition to the evTRM recommendations, the government representatives on the HUB Committee are reviewing EMC's proposals to allocate some of the June 6th budget allocations for clean transportation technologies to electric vehicles. Stay tuned as EMC expects to hear back from the Government in the next few weeks.

Jake Bracken's term as an intern at EMC came to an end in late July. A student in energy management from the University of Limerick in Ireland, Jake contributed to several EMC projects and activities including research and administrative work aimed at reducing the backlog of work at EMC. We wish him well in his on-going studies.

For further information on news from EMC, please contact Al Cormier.

News from Members

Mitsubishi Motors Unveils Cheaper i-MiEV Electric Car
Mitsubishi Motors Corp. launched two new versions of the i-MiEV electric car, slashing the price on one and extending the range on the other to appeal to more consumers in the nascent zero-emission field. Mitsubishi Motors became the first major automaker to mass-produce pure electric cars with the egg-shaped i-MiEV. The company leads the segment so far with 10,000 vehicles sold globally since mid-2009.

Tomoki Yanagawa Leaves Mitsubishi Motor Sales Canada
Mr. Tomoki Yanagawa of Mitsubishi Motor Sales Canada will be leaving Canada and returning to his native Japan. During his six years working here, Mr. Yanagawa has been involved in the successful launch of the new Lancer, Outlander and RVR and saw sales figures double. The next step towards the pure electric i-MiEV is expected to hit the roads before the end of this year and the brand new sub compact will be following a year later. His expertise will now move to a new assignment in Tokyo, where we wish him great success.

Ten Transit Connect Electric Vans Join New York City Fleet - *July 14, 2011*
Azure Dynamics Corporation sold 10 Ford Transit Connect Electric van to New York City as part of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's PlaNYC agenda to create a greener New York City. New York City boasts the largest municipal electric vehicle fleet in the country, now totaling 430 units. Azure's Transit Connect Electric will be deployed in multiple city departments including the New York Fire Department, the Departments of Transportation, Central Administration and Sanitation. In addition to acquiring EV units, the City hopes to accelerate EV adoption among its residents.

Nissan Partners with the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro
Nissan Canada signed a memorandum of understanding with the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Hydro to help promote and expand an existing battery charging network in the province and consider incentives for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure providers and users. Governments and utilities play an important role in helping build the infrastructure support for electric vehicles.

BC Unveil Charging Stations for Electric Cars - *June 24, 2011, Vancouver Courier*
Mayor Gregor Robertson and B.C. Hydro announced plans to set up 15 public charging stations in Vancouver to encourage the use of plug-in electric vehicles, with the first station already launched. The charging stations at the EasyPark lots can be found on the city's website and there are also smart phone apps available. The cost to charge an electric vehicle is $1 an hour. The stations are 240 volts versus the 110-volt household system, making it a faster charge. It typically takes four hours to fully charge an electric vehicle. Electric scooters and bikes can also be charged at the stations.

(*Members are reminded to send us their media releases and other company announcements for use in this newsletter)*

Other EV Accelerators

Vancouver Gets the First CAR2GO Mobility Service in Canada
CAR2GO Canada, a subsidiary of Daimler North America chose the City of Vancouver to launch its vehicle mobility program in Canada. It will consist of 225 smart 'CAR2GO edition' vehicles, the program started in June, 2011. Vancouver is aiming to become the greenest city in the world by 2020, by providing a full range of sustainable transportation options for their citizens. For more information, click here.

Manitoba Considers Electric Car Incentives - *July 15, 2011, CBC*
The Manitoba government is looking for incentives to entice new car buyers to make the move to electric cars with their next purchase. The province believes most city and suburban commuters will find electric cars, which can travel 120 kilometres on a single charge, even in winter, capable of meeting their needs. The province is considering cash rebates, a move already underway in Ontario where buyers can get up to $8,500 back. While the move to electric cars will cost the province money in lost fuel taxes, the province isn't worried.

GE's 2011 Ride N' Drive Passport for Electric Vehicles
Held on July 6 in Mississauga, 'Charging Ahead', showcased GE's new plans to include EVs in the fleets of Canada's leading companies. The event included many of the new vehicles available for lease, but the main focus surrounded around EV. The conference floor displayed many of the up-and-coming EVs varying from the Chevrolet Volt to the Ford Focus BEV combined with GE's new charging stations. The conference was followed by a Ride N' Drive session where many vehicles were made available to test drive.

AAA Plans Electric Vehicle Charger Trucks - *June 21, 2011*, *Bloomberg*
American Automobile Association (AAA), the largest U.S. motorist group, plans to deploy fast-charging trucks to aid drivers of electric vehicles when their batteries run down. The organization will test the trucks starting in August. Initially, the group will have at least six "mobile charging units" in states such as California, Oregon, Washington, Florida, Tennessee and Georgia. Click here for more information.

New CAFE Standards could Lead to New Hybrids and Electric Vehicles - *Hybridcars.com*
Citing desire to reduce fuel consumption and emissions, the Obama administration is continuing to push hard to increase the United States fleet-wide miles-per-gallon standards required in just a few years from now. Ongoing negotiations between the White House and auto industry are now centered on a proposed 56.2 mpg Corporate Average Fuel Economy standard for 2017-2025.

Something to Add? Send Us Your Ideas Today!