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OCTOBER 2024



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- BATTERY ELECTRICAL TESTING

THE **BATTERY SHOW** **2nd edition**

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ZEISS eMobility Solutions Your One-Stop NEV Partner



Quality Assurance for Battery Production

Batteries play an important role in the performance, range, and longevity of an electric car. Safety, service life, performance, and cost are essential to ensuring the success of battery technologies. These factors need to be addressed every step of the way, from R&D, quality control, and production to the processing of raw materials and the assembly of battery modules. See below for a brief overview of the six quality gates that must be navigated during the development and production process. Further details can be found in the comprehensive focus brochure entitled [Battery Production Deep Dive](#).

Quality gates and solutions:
Battery Development

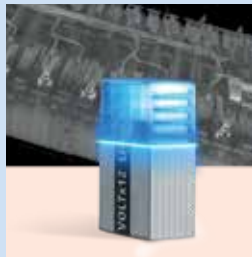
Quality gates and solutions:
Battery Production



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ZEISS eMobility Solutions
High-resolution industrial CT for NEV battery cell performance & safety

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Shaping the Future of the Automotive Sector & Battery Solutions

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Revolutionizing Basis Weight Measurement in EV Battery Production with Marposs



Marposs is set to exhibit at Battery Show India 2024, presenting cutting-edge solutions for EV-battery manufacturers. With a focus on ensuring quality, safety, and efficiency, Marposs offers advanced technologies for various battery types.

Batteries are the heartbeat of every electric vehicle, influencing not only its range but also its overall performance and safety. The coating of electrode components, involving a roll-to-roll application of active material (slurry) onto a thin metal substrate, must ensure homogeneity and uniformity to prevent potential hazards.

Thanks to the acquisition of MeSys, Marposs, can provide precise measurements of coating basis weight, ensuring consistent battery production quality, using Ultrasonic basis weight sensors with patented technology.

Marposs technologies extend beyond basis weight measurement. Post-drying, electrodes undergo calendaring

to increase energy density by compressing the active material. Controlling deviations in thickness is critical, and Marposs utilizes chromatic confocal technology and camera inspections during this vital step.

From coating and drying to calendaring, slitting, separation, and assembly, safety is top priority in the EV-battery industry. Marposs technologies

and products are designed not only to meet but to redefine safety standards, creating a secure, advanced, and reliable process.

At Marposs booth, visitors can also learn about Mesys Unisense: a single horizontal traversing scanning sensor available in C or O shapes. The first configuration is perfect for narrower applications. This Ultrasonic sensor scanner offers a simple yet

accurate way to measure the basis weight of both wet and dry films in battery production. The second one, instead, is versatile and ideal for all web measurement applications.

Marposs presents Mesys Unisense GO, a portable version featuring a single sensor suitable for any environment. UNISENSE GO is a versatile solution designed for integration into battery electrode production lines or laboratory settings. With its lightweight body, it provides immediate usability and can be easily detached and taken wherever needed, offering a convenient and versatile measurement experience without compromising performance.

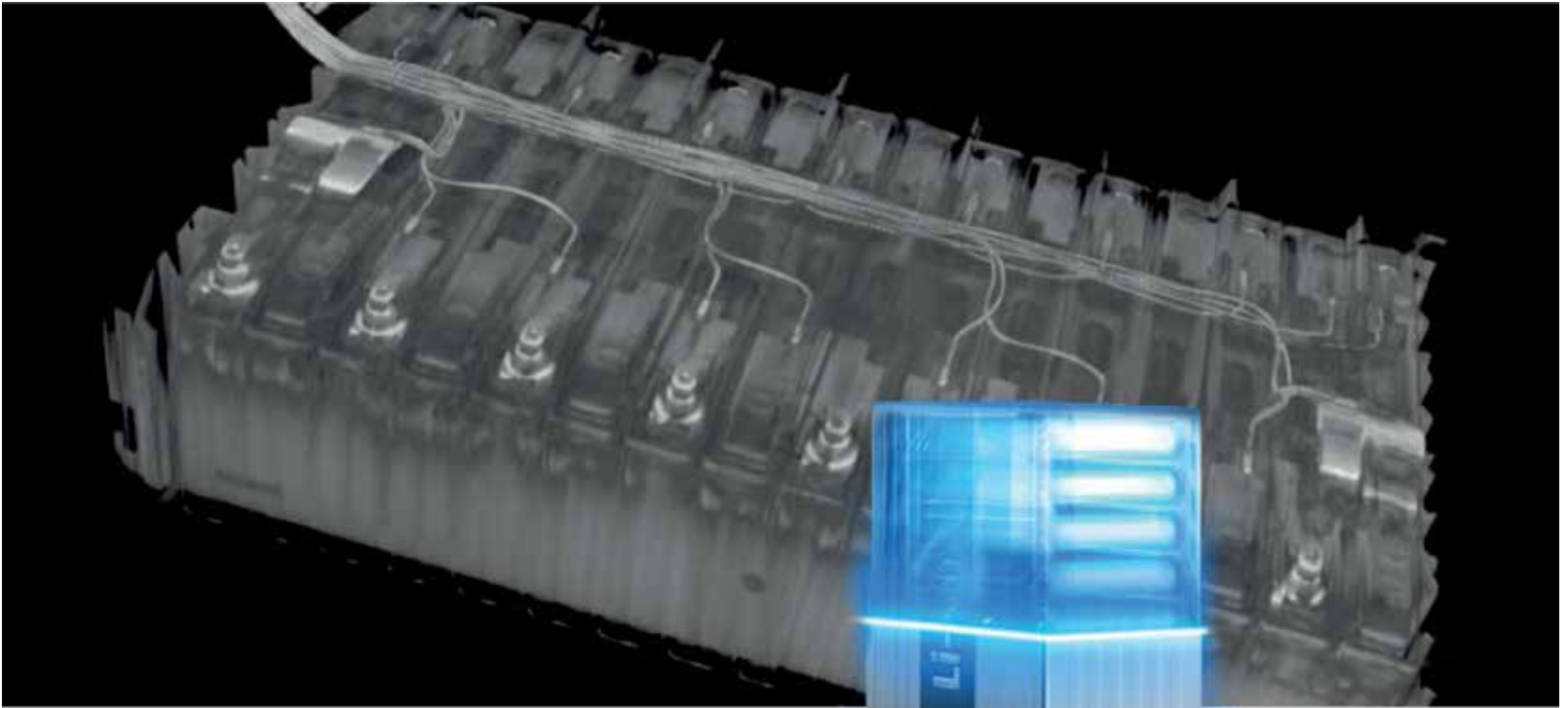


Lets' know more about Basis Weight Measurement and Leak testing for Electrolyte Tracing and For more information about EV.

Visit us at our stand at "The Battery Show India" (Hall 3, Stand B164)

Website: www.marposs.com.

High-resolution industrial CT for NEV battery cell performance & safety



ZEISS eMobility Solutions

Quality Assurance for Battery Cells



Industrial computed tomography (CT) is defined by its ability to swiftly perform very detailed non-destructive component scans. This makes it essential for new energy vehicle (NEV) applications, where optimum vehicle performance is powered by large and dense battery cells. Quality assurance must be performed on these cells in atline production settings and quality labs alike to detect faults, tackle issues such as aging, and optimize designs.

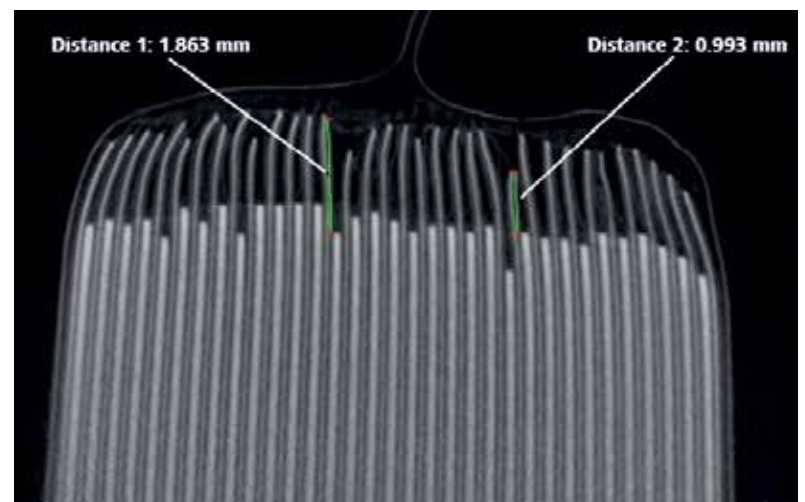
Overhang measurement for accurate cell assembly

Proper positional alignment of the cathode and anode is key to the assembly quality of lithium-ion cells. Overhang is the distance between endpoints of anode and cathode. This is a critical quality index for cells and modules, as oversized anodes cause capacity problems and undersized anodes lead to issues with aging. The performance and safety of pouch cells may also be affected by stack alignment, which refers to the alignment angle of each individual electrode layer. While 2D X-ray technology is incapable of reliably measuring overhang due to the lack of 3D information, industrial CT can do so in a single scan. Its ability to detect overhang in two different directions also enables easy calculation of stack alignment in pouch cells.

ZEISS METROTOM 1500 delivers highresolution scans with good contrast, meaning that it can generate clear images of large and dense modules. With users demanding excellent accuracy and reliability in 24/7 operation under tough conditions, it can evaluate overhang in atline environments for immediate feedback.

It is also suitable for failure analysis on defective samples in QA labs, generating results that further optimize the production

process. ZEISS has even developed its own integrated CT evaluation software that can be customized to perform the measurement task automatically – whatever the setting.



High-resolution scans support clear detection of overhang

Foil-to-tab weld is now a critical quality challenge

As a key aspect of the cell assembly process, the foil-to-tab weld gathers all the current collectors and joins them to a tab that exits the cell. Typically implemented via laser or ultrasonic welding, it enables the transfer of cell energy to any external source and the use of increasingly thin foils has lent it critical importance. Given that there may be up to 50 layers in a cell and the fragile tab welding itself measures only 8 µm, users must turn to non-destructive industrial CT in order to evaluate the strength of the intact welding.

Thanks to its high-resolution inspection capacity, ZEISS METROTOM 1500 identifies tab and busbar welding defects in a single atline scan with a small voxel size. It is also used to perform failure analysis on rejected samples in the QA lab and can help with improving future operations. This is crucial for safeguarding performance and safety, as welding issues on the busbar in a module would lead to certain electrical or mechanical properties failing to meet the necessary requirements.

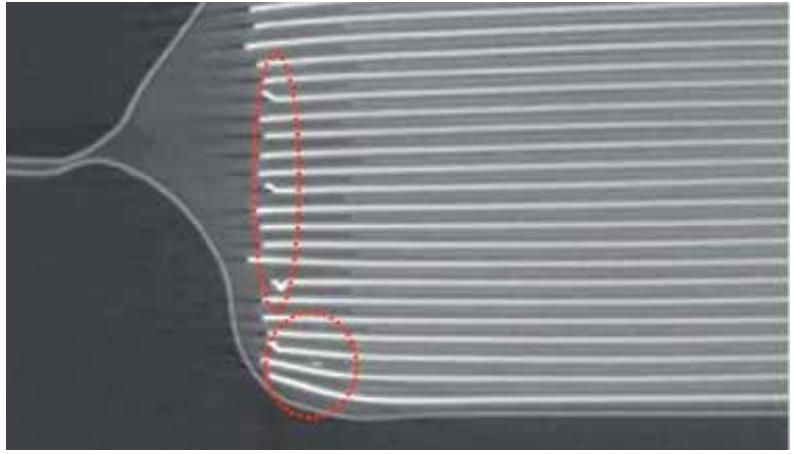


Image of bent electrodes and a metal particle in the cell after assembly



Though fragile, the weld is key to performance and safety

Wide-ranging defect detection with industrial CT

Electrode defects within the housing, including gaps, bending, cracks, voids, and folded foils, can also cause serious performance and safety issues further downstream. And as the gassing effect means that electrode gaps may expand after conditioning (the initial charge and discharge cycle), electrode defect inspections must be performed both post-assembly and post-conditioning. Industrial CT is the only technology capable of performing sufficient non-destructive scans after the conditioning stage – and its high speed is particularly beneficial in this context. The non-destructive method is additionally important during failure analysis because it leaves the failed samples intact.

Cell contamination represents another major safety issue and must be avoided in the finished product. There is a significant chance of contamination occurring during cell assembly, with metal particles potentially entering the cell at various intervals such as the welding process. Industrial CT makes it easy to perform non-destructive inspection on the finished product, with the high-resolution performance of ZEISS METROTOM 1500 delivering fast and comprehensive results. This ensures reliable detection of metal particle contamination and prevents any subsequent negative impact on the cell and module assembly.

The larger size and complex structure of modules makes measurement more challenging and necessitates additional QA tasks. The most important of these is the inspection of the electronic components that govern the performance and stability of the finished product. If a module should fail, the connection of these electronic components is typically first to undergo non-destructive inspection. Powerful industrial CT generates clear scans of electronic components, examining details like the wire layout of a PCB and the bending of pins in a connector. The high resolution, good contrast, and small voxel size of ZEISS METROTOM 1500 form a particularly effective solution in this setting.

Industrial CT is vital for NEV cell quality

Within the workflow from cell material processing to cell production, industrial CT is used at the cell and module assembly stage.

ZEISS METROTOM 1500 is ideal for measuring a wide range of battery cells, as its scan speed and resolution can be adapted to suit the demands posed by different sizes and densities. Its large measurement volume easily accommodates multiple components or whole modules for greater speed and efficiency.

Non-destructive measurement with industrial CT identifies hidden inconsistencies and faults, making it essential for ensuring the safety and performance of battery cells and modules. It handles dense components and detailed inspections that are beyond the scope of alternative solutions such as 2D X-ray. By leaving failed samples intact, industrial CT promotes process optimization through failure analysis in the Quality Assurance lab.

Facts and figures

ZEISS METROTOM 1500

X-ray tube	225 kV / 500 W
Source-to-detector	1500 mm
Detector size	427 mm × 427 mm
Detector resolution	3072 px × 3072 px
Pixel size	139 µm
Measuring volume (diameter × height)	615 mm × 800 mm



ZEISS METROTOM 1500 handles a wide range of industrial CT applications

ZEISS METROTOM 1500 is a one-stop industrial CT solution for all cell types. Its ability to handle parts up to 1500 mm in height and 50 kg in weight is ideal for inspecting entire multi-cell modules, which face similar issues but on a larger scale than individual cells. ZEISS METROTOM 1500 can be customized for faster measurement or more high-resolution output where required. By safely identifying quality defects in the cell and module assembly, industrial CT avoids reliability issues further downstream and saves costs.



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INTERFACE

Welcome to the Special Issue on E-Mobility and Battery Technology, where we explore the cutting-edge innovations and breakthroughs driving the future of electric transportation. As the world shifts towards greener, more sustainable mobility solutions, advancements in battery technology and electric vehicles (EVs) are playing a pivotal role in reducing carbon emissions and mitigating climate change.

This special issue delves into several critical aspects, including:

Next-Generation Battery Technologies: With a focus on enhancing energy density, lifespan, and charging efficiency, we present the latest research on lithium-ion alternatives, solid-state batteries, and emerging chemistries like lithium-sulfur and sodium-ion batteries.

Sustainable Materials and Recycling: As demand for EVs rises, so does the need for sustainable sourcing and recycling of battery materials. This issue highlights efforts in material recovery, lifecycle assessment, and circular economy strategies.

Revolutionizing EV Battery Diagnostics: The advent of electric vehicles (EVs) has ushered in a new era of transportation, where the performance, safety, and longevity of batteries are paramount. Central to this revolution is the technology for diagnosing and maintaining these batteries,

Through this collection of articles, expert analyses, and case studies, we aim to provide a comprehensive view of the challenges, opportunities, and future directions in e-mobility and battery technology.

Join us in exploring the innovations that are driving the mobility revolution and creating a sustainable future for generations to come.

Satish Mandole
 The Auto Monitor

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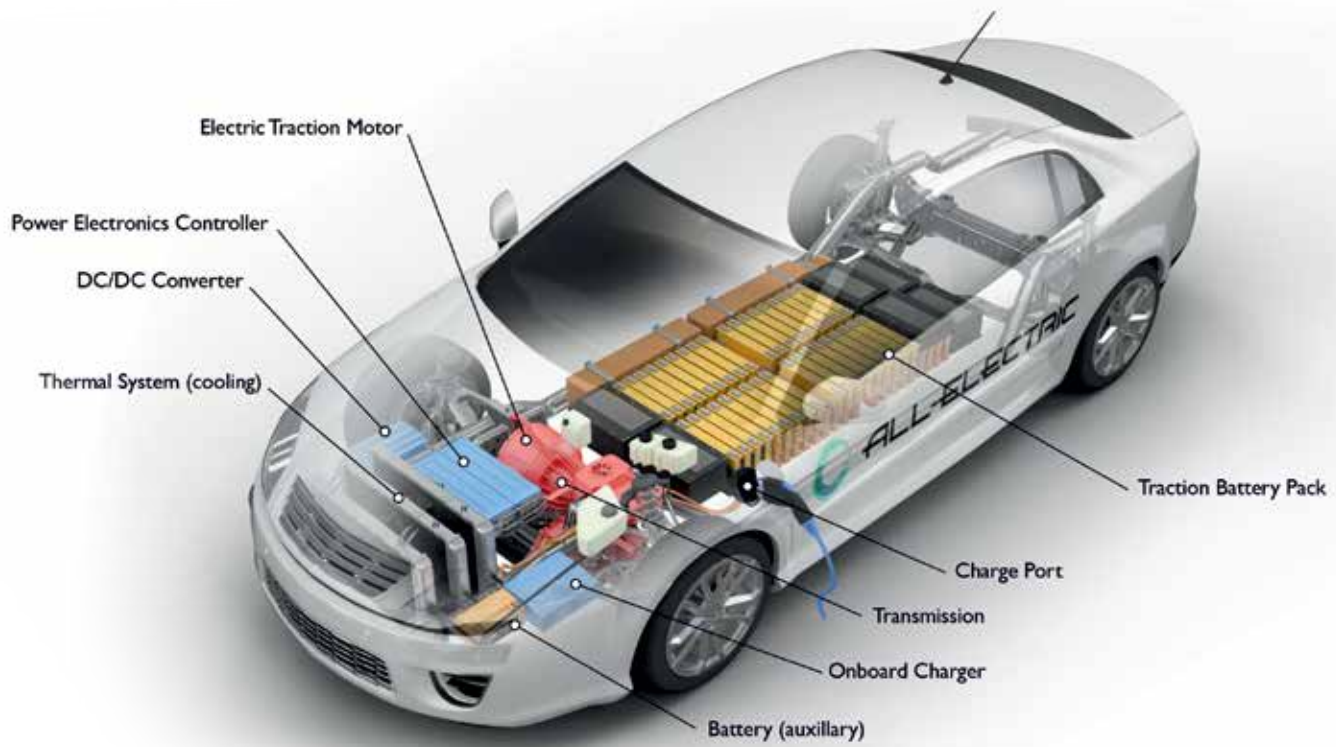
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Manual & Fully Automated

Assembly Lines & Testing Solutions For Electric Vehicle (EV)
Cylindrical/Prismatic/Blade Battery Module-Pack, BDU, Motors & Power Train



Solutions of E-Mobility

APPLICATIONS

- BATTERY TAB WELDING
- LASER STRUCTURING & CLEANING
- BUSBAR WELDING
- BATTERY PACK WELDING
- HAIRPIN WELDING
- LASER NOTCHING AND SLITTING FOR BATTERY FOILS
- BIPOLAR PLATES WELDING
- COPPER WELDING FOR POWER ELECTRONICS



TRUMPF: Shaping the Future of the Automotive Sector & Battery Solutions



PRADEEP PATIL

Managing Director, TRUMPF (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Q. TRUMPF has a significant presence in the automotive industry through its manufacturing solutions. How do you see the future of automotive manufacturing evolving, particularly in terms of technology integration and automation?

The automotive industry stands on the brink of a profound transformation, driven by rapid advancements in technology integration and automation. TRUMPF, renowned for expertise in advanced manufacturing solutions, is poised to play a pivotal role in this revolution.

TRUMPF's cutting-edge laser technology facilitates highly precise cutting, welding, and marking, seamlessly integrating into automated workflows. The emergence of "smart factories" will become increasingly prevalent, characterized by interconnected machines, devices, and sensors via the Internet of Things (IoT). These connected systems will provide real-time data analytics, enabling manufacturers to optimize operations, reduce downtime, and enhance efficiency.

TRUMPF's digital solutions, such as Condition Monitoring, Quality Data Storage are instrumental in guiding manufacturers towards these intelligent, data-driven environments. Innovations in laser technology, digital manufacturing, and automation will be at the forefront of this

transformation, empowering manufacturers to meet the ever escalating demands for efficiency, customization, and environmental responsibility.

Q. The automotive sector is undergoing a transition towards electrification and autonomous driving. How is TRUMPF adapting its solutions and services to support this shift in the automotive landscape?

The transition towards rapid electrification and autonomous driving is reshaping the automotive sector, and TRUMPF is actively adapting its solutions to support this transformation. As a leader in manufacturing technology, TRUMPF is at the forefront of innovative solutions that meet the evolving needs of the automotive industry. We are playing a vital role in the automotive sector's transition by innovative laser technology, flexible automation, and standardised digital solutions. Whether it's in battery production, electric drivetrain, sensor technology, lightweight BIW construction, or sustainable manufacturing, TRUMPF's innovations are helping automotive manufacturers meet the demands of this rapidly changing landscape. TRUMPF offers it worldclass Laser application labs to help customers quickly develop and validate new prototypes.

TRUMPF believes in closer to customer approach and has more than 70 locations worldwide. India subsidiary has its head office and customer experience center at Pune, with regional offices and spare part warehouses at Bengaluru and Delhi.

Q. Quality and precision are paramount in automotive manufacturing. How does TRUMPF ensure that its laser technology and other solutions meet the stringent requirements of the automotive industry?

TRUMPF understands that quality and precision are critical to automotive manufacturing, where even the smallest deviation can impact performance, safety, and efficiency. TRUMPF adopts a comprehensive approach across our laser technology and manufacturing solutions. We integrate real-time monitoring and quality data storage into our laser processes, allowing manufacturers to track every aspect of production in real time and maintain traceability. Sensors embedded in TRUMPF machines monitor parameters such as temperature, weld depth, and laser intensity, ensuring that every part meets exact specifications. Real-time process control, automation, customization, and continuous innovation. These efforts are supported by a commitment to compliance, training, and strong customer partnerships, ensuring the

highest levels of reliability and performance in automotive manufacturing.

Q. Sustainability is becoming increasingly important in all industries, including automotive. How does TRUMPF contribute to making automotive manufacturing more sustainable, whether through energy-efficient solutions or material optimization?

Sustainability is indeed becoming a central focus in the automotive industry, and TRUMPF is contributing to this shift through a variety of innovative, energy-efficient solutions and material optimization strategies. By leveraging our advanced laser technology and smart manufacturing solutions, TRUMPF is helping automotive manufacturers reduce their environmental impact while maintaining high productivity and precision. By improving the efficiency of manufacturing processes, TRUMPF helps automotive companies reduce their overall carbon footprint. Our advanced laser and automation systems contribute to faster production times, less energy-intensive operations, and lower emissions per unit of production. TRUMPF also offers efficient laser processes for recycling electric car batteries // Battery manufacturers can reuse valuable raw materials and comply with the EU recycling quota.

Q. With the rise of electric vehicles, there's a growing demand for lightweight materials like aluminium and composites. How does TRUMPF support automotive manufacturers in processing these materials effectively and efficiently?

Aluminium is increasingly used in electric vehicle chassis, body structures, and battery enclosures due to its lightweight nature and strength. However, it requires specialized techniques for cutting and welding due to its reflective surface and high thermal conductivity. Hot formed Panels are also extensively used in BIW of E-mobility. TRUMPF's vast portfolio of different Laser types, are specifically designed to handle these challenges. They deliver high beam quality and precise energy control with beam shaping technology, ensuring clean, burr-free cuts and spatter / pore free welds that



are crucial for automotive manufacturing. TRUMPF ensures high-quality, scalable production that supports the industry's shift toward lighter, more energy-efficient vehicles. TRUMPF supports automotive manufacturers by providing advanced laser technologies and solutions that process these materials effectively and efficiently.

Q. The automotive supply chain is becoming more complex and interconnected. How does TRUMPF collaborate with automotive OEMs and suppliers to optimize production processes and ensure smooth operations?

TRUMPF works closely with automotive OEMs and suppliers to optimize production processes, ensure smooth operations, and enhance overall efficiency through several key strategies: By working across multiple levels of the supply chain, TRUMPF helps ensure that all parts of the manufacturing process are aligned, from raw material processing to final assembly. TRUMPF fosters knowledge sharing and best practices between different players in the automotive ecosystem. This collaborative approach leads to continuous improvements

TRUMPF



in processes, innovation in material usage, and the application of new technologies that benefit all partners involved. In a rapidly evolving automotive industry, TRUMPF's flexible and scalable technologies help OEMs and suppliers adapt to changes in market demands and production requirements. Whether it's the shift toward electric vehicles or the integration of new materials, TRUMPF's solutions ensure that manufacturers can quickly reconfigure their production lines without costly delays or downtime.

Q. Additive manufacturing is gaining traction in the automotive sector for prototyping and production parts. How does TRUMPF's expertise in laser technology contribute to advancing additive manufacturing capabilities for automotive applications?

TRUMPF's expertise in laser technology plays a crucial role in advancing additive manufacturing (AM) capabilities in the automotive sector, particularly for prototyping and also for production parts. As additive manufacturing gains traction, TRUMPF's laser solutions offer significant advantages in terms of precision, efficiency, and material flexibility. Additive manufacturing enables the use of lightweight materials, such as aluminium, titanium, and special alloys, which are essential for automotive applications aimed at reducing vehicle weight and improving



energy efficiency. TRUMPF's laser systems are optimized for processing these materials with high accuracy, enabling the production of lightweight, strong, and heat-resistant components for electric vehicles and other automotive applications. TRUMPF's additive manufacturing solutions allow manufacturers to produce parts with internal lattice structures or other complex designs that reduce weight without sacrificing strength. This is especially beneficial for components such as brackets, housings, and structural parts, where weight reduction can significantly improve vehicle performance. TRUMPF is empowering automotive manufacturers to leverage additive manufacturing, accelerating innovation and improving the efficiency of automotive operations.

Q. Looking ahead, what are the key opportunities and challenges that TRUMPF anticipates in serving the automotive industry, and how does the company plan to stay at the forefront of innovation and customer satisfaction in this dynamic market?

TRUMPF sees both significant opportunities and challenges in serving the evolving automotive industry, particularly as it continues to transform with the shift toward electrification, autonomous driving, and sustainable manufacturing. The transition to electric vehicles (EVs) represents a major opportunity for TRUMPF to support automotive manufacturers with its advanced laser technologies. As EV production ramps up, there is an increasing need for lightweight materials, battery components, and efficient production processes. TRUMPF's laser solutions for cutting, welding, and joining materials like aluminium, hot formed BIW panels and composites are perfectly suited for the production of lightweight structures and battery systems. The shift toward digital manufacturing and Industry 4.0 also provides an opportunity for TRUMPF to lead the way with its Condition Monitoring, Quality Data Storage, enabling data-driven decision-making, process optimization, traceability, and real-time monitoring. ■

Image Source - TRUMPF India

Battery Recycling & Sustainability in the Automotive Industry



The rise of electric vehicles (EVs) has transformed the automotive landscape, with lithium-ion batteries emerging as the predominant power source for these vehicles. As the demand for EVs continues to grow, so does the production of batteries. However, this growth comes with a set of sustainability challenges. From the extraction of raw materials like lithium and cobalt to the disposal of used batteries, the environmental impact of battery production and disposal is significant. Addressing these sustainability challenges is crucial to ensure the long-term viability of the EV industry. Sustainable battery solutions, including recycling and reuse, must be prioritized to minimize the environmental footprint and support a circular economy.

With the increasing adoption of electric vehicles, the demand for lithium-ion batteries has surged. Global automakers are ramping up production of EVs in response to stricter emission regulations and growing consumer demand for cleaner transportation. According to recent forecasts, the automotive battery market is expected to experience exponential growth in the coming decade. This surge is largely driven by the global shift toward sustainability and reducing dependency on fossil fuels. However, this increasing demand also means more batteries will

eventually reach the end of their life cycles, intensifying the need for effective recycling systems to manage battery waste sustainably.

Environmental Impact of Battery Manufacturing

The manufacturing of lithium-ion batteries presents significant environmental challenges. The extraction of key raw materials such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel has detrimental effects on ecosystems and communities. Mining operations often result in deforestation, water pollution, and the destruction of habitats. In particular, cobalt mining has drawn global attention due to unethical practices and the human rights violations associated with mining operations in countries like the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Beyond raw material extraction, battery production is energy-intensive, leading to a substantial carbon footprint. The energy used in battery manufacturing often relies on non-renewable sources, further exacerbating the environmental impact. These challenges highlight the urgency of finding more sustainable production methods and recycling solutions.

Challenges in Battery Recycling

While recycling presents a solution to

reduce the environmental burden of battery disposal, it is not without its challenges. One of the primary obstacles is the technical difficulty in recycling lithium-ion batteries. These batteries contain complex chemical compositions, making it hard to extract reusable materials efficiently. Current recycling methods are often inefficient, and the process can be costly. Moreover, improper disposal of batteries poses environmental hazards. When batteries are discarded in landfills, they can leak toxic chemicals into the soil and water, causing long-term environmental damage. Furthermore, the growing volume of used EV batteries presents a logistical challenge in managing and scaling up recycling operations.

Current Battery Recycling Technologies

Several recycling technologies are currently in use to reclaim materials from spent batteries. Pyrometallurgical processes involve smelting batteries at high temperatures to recover valuable metals like cobalt and nickel. This method, while effective in extracting metals, is energy-intensive and results in the loss of lithium. Hydrometallurgical processes use chemical leaching to dissolve battery materials and separate them. Though less energy-intensive than pyrometallurgy, this method

still produces waste and requires significant water usage. Direct recycling, which aims to restore battery components to their original state without breaking them down chemically, is emerging as a more efficient alternative. Each of these methods has its advantages and limitations, but the search for a truly sustainable and cost-effective recycling method continues.

Sustainability Initiatives in the Automotive Industry

Many automakers are now recognizing the importance of sustainability in their battery supply chains. Companies like Tesla, BMW, and Nissan have implemented various initiatives to minimize the environmental impact of their battery production. Tesla, for example, has built Gigafactories that aim to create a closed-loop battery recycling system, recovering valuable materials from old batteries to use in new ones. Similarly, BMW has partnered with battery recycling companies to ensure the responsible disposal and recycling of their used batteries. These partnerships between automakers and recycling firms are crucial for developing a more sustainable ecosystem for battery production and disposal.

Future Innovations in Battery Recycling

The future of battery recycling lies in the development of more efficient and environmentally friendly methods. Researchers are exploring new technologies that could make recycling lithium-ion batteries easier and less expensive. One area of innovation is in the use of solid-state batteries, which are not only safer but also more recyclable than traditional lithium-ion batteries. Solid-state batteries use solid electrolytes instead of liquid ones, which reduces the risk of fires and makes them easier to recycle. Other emerging technologies include the development of "closed-loop" recycling systems, where materials recovered from old batteries are used to produce new ones, significantly

reducing the need for raw material extraction. These advancements hold great potential for improving the sustainability of the battery industry in the long term.

In conclusion, battery recycling is essential to achieving a sustainable future for the automotive industry. As the demand for EVs continues to grow, so does the need for effective recycling systems to manage battery waste. Addressing the environmental challenges associated with battery production and disposal will require innovation in both recycling technologies and sustainability initiatives. Automakers and recycling companies must continue to work together to develop closed-loop systems that reduce the environmental impact of battery production and ensure the responsible disposal of used batteries. As technology advances, the automotive industry can move closer to a circular economy, where resources are reused and waste is minimized, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable world. ■



Image Source - Freepik

ABOUT AUTHOR



Sudhanshu Nayak, a dynamic mechanical engineer, is driven by a fervor for cutting-edge technologies like 3D printing, cloud manufacturing, and Industry 4.0. Sudhanshu Nayak, a mechanical engineer, gained invaluable firsthand experience with 3D printing during his tenure at innovative startups. His youthful energy fuels a deep expertise in social media marketing, technical content creation, and market research.

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For more information email us at info.metrology.in@zeiss.com

or

Scan here to download detailed brochure

Battery Technology Innovations in Electric Vehicles



Electric vehicles (EVs) have emerged as a critical solution in the fight against climate change, as they offer a cleaner alternative to traditional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. With zero tailpipe emissions, EVs significantly reduce the carbon footprint and help nations achieve their sustainability goals. However, the success of EVs is heavily dependent on advancements in battery technology. Batteries form the heart of EVs, dictating their range, performance, and overall appeal to consumers. As global awareness around environmental conservation increases, the need for EVs with longer ranges, enhanced safety, and faster charging capabilities has become more pressing. The ability of battery technology to meet these demands will determine the future growth and adoption of EVs.

Current State of Battery Technology in EVs

At present, lithium-ion batteries are the dominant battery type used in most electric vehicles. These batteries have established themselves due to their energy density, reliability, and relatively low cost. However, despite these advantages, there are several challenges that lithium-ion technology faces. For instance, many consumers remain concerned about the limited range offered

by EVs, often referred to as "range anxiety." This issue is particularly evident in long-distance travel, where drivers may need to rely on a sparse network of charging stations. Additionally, lithium-ion batteries have long charging times, which are inconvenient when compared to the speed of refuelling conventional gasoline-powered vehicles. Safety is another significant concern. Lithium-ion batteries are susceptible to thermal runaway, which can lead to fires or explosions, making safety a top priority in ongoing research. These challenges underline the need for innovations in battery technology to overcome the limitations of existing systems and provide more robust solutions.

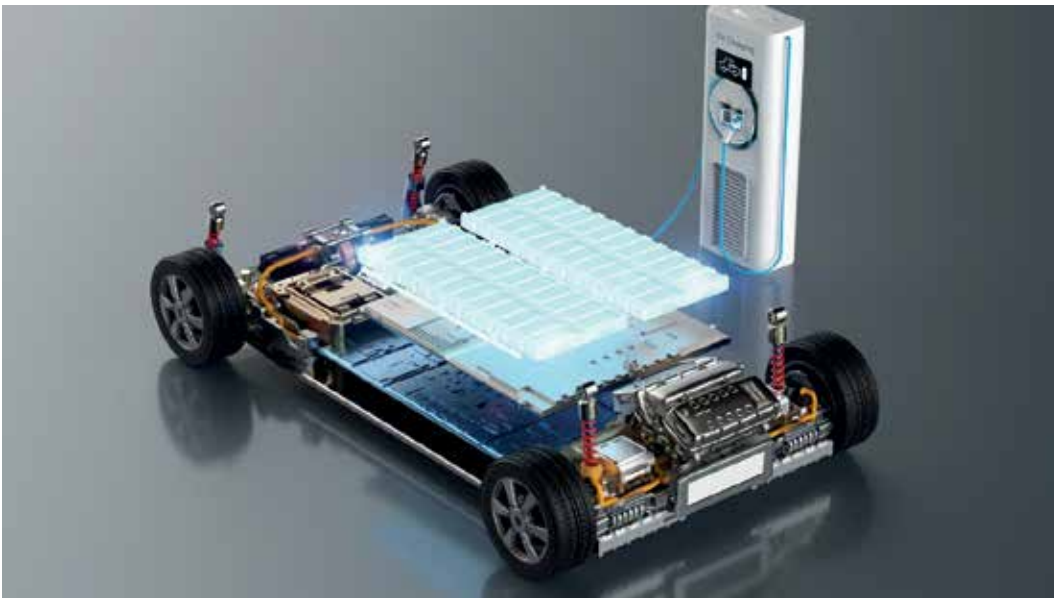
Solid-State Batteries: A Game-Changer

Solid-state batteries are emerging as one of the most promising solutions to the limitations of traditional lithium-ion technology. The fundamental difference between solid-state batteries and lithium-ion batteries lies in their composition. While lithium-ion batteries use a liquid electrolyte, solid-state batteries use a solid electrolyte, which drastically improves both safety and performance. This innovative design eliminates the risk of leaks and significantly reduces the risk of thermal runaway, making solid-state batteries inherently safer.

Additionally, solid-state batteries have a much higher energy density, which translates to longer driving ranges for electric vehicles. Over the past few years, there have been significant advancements in this technology. Companies such as Toyota, BMW, and QuantumScape are investing heavily in developing solid-state batteries that could soon replace lithium-ion cells. In comparison to lithium-ion batteries, solid-state batteries also offer a longer life cycle, which can further improve the overall cost-effectiveness of EV ownership.

Enhancing EV Range

One of the key advantages of solid-state batteries is their ability to improve energy density. This means that for the same volume, solid-state batteries can store more energy than traditional lithium-ion batteries. As a result, electric vehicles equipped with solid-state batteries can offer significantly longer driving ranges, reducing range anxiety and making EVs more appealing to a broader audience. For instance, Toyota has claimed that their upcoming solid-state battery will offer a range of up to 500 kilometers on a single charge, a considerable improvement over current lithium-ion-based models. Additionally, innovations in other materials, such as lithium-sulfur and lithium-air batteries, are also showing potential for



Future Outlook and Conclusion

The future of electric vehicles is bright, and battery technology will play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of the EV market. With the continued development of solid-state batteries, EVs are expected to become more efficient, safer, and user-friendly. As battery energy densities increase, driving ranges will extend, alleviating concerns around range anxiety. Furthermore, the enhanced safety features of solid-state batteries will make them a top choice for both consumers and automakers. Reduced charging times will bring EV convenience closer to that of conventional vehicles, speeding up the transition to a cleaner automotive future. In addition to solid-state batteries, other innovations, such as lithium-sulfur and graphene batteries, are on the horizon, promising to further revolutionize the EV industry. In conclusion, the future of mobility will be defined by ongoing battery innovations, as these advancements not only shape the automotive market but also contribute to global sustainability goals. As EV technology continues to evolve, it will cement its place as the driving force behind a cleaner, more sustainable world. ■

increasing the range of EVs even further. These next-generation batteries aim to push the boundaries of what is possible in terms of energy storage, making electric vehicles a more viable option for long-distance travel and reducing the need for frequent recharging stops.

Improving Safety Standards

Safety is a critical concern in the adoption of electric vehicles, and battery technology plays a central role in ensuring consumer confidence. Solid-state batteries are considered far safer than their lithium-ion counterparts due to the use of non-flammable solid electrolytes. This eliminates the risk of leaks or fires, which have plagued lithium-ion batteries in the past. Additionally, the structure of solid-state batteries allows for better thermal management, further reducing the likelihood of overheating and thermal runaway. Real-world examples of safety improvements include advancements made by QuantumScape, which has demonstrated that their solid-state batteries can withstand harsher conditions without compromising safety. These safety improvements not only boost consumer confidence but also enhance the regulatory landscape for electric vehicles. As EV manufacturers and

consumers prioritize safety, the adoption of solid-state batteries will likely accelerate, transforming the EV industry.

Reducing Charging Times

Another area where solid-state batteries have the potential to revolutionize the EV market is in charging times. One of the biggest drawbacks of current lithium-ion batteries is the amount of time it takes to recharge them fully. Solid-state batteries, on the other hand, can be charged much faster due to their higher power density. For instance, BMW and QuantumScape have both reported that their solid-state battery prototypes can be charged to 80% capacity in as little as 15 minutes, a dramatic improvement over the 30-60 minute charging times typically seen with lithium-ion technology. Additionally, innovations in charging infrastructure, such as ultra-fast charging stations, are being developed to support this new battery technology. As solid-state batteries become more widespread, these advancements in charging speed and infrastructure will offer greater convenience to EV owners, making the switch from gasoline-powered vehicles more attractive.

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Sudhanshu Nayak, a dynamic mechanical engineer, is driven by a fervor for cutting-edge technologies like 3D printing, cloud manufacturing, and Industry 4.0. Sudhanshu Nayak, a mechanical engineer, gained invaluable firsthand experience with 3D printing during his tenure at innovative startups. His youthful energy fuels a deep expertise in social media marketing, technical content creation, and market research.



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Future of Mobility: Electric vs. Hybrid Vehicles



The global automotive industry is undergoing a profound transformation, driven by the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change. With the rise of sustainable transportation, electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrid vehicles (HEVs) are becoming central to global mobility strategies. Both vehicle types aim to minimise the environmental impact of transportation, offering an alternative to traditional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, which are major contributors to air pollution. While electric vehicles promise a future of zero tailpipe emissions, hybrid vehicles serve as a stepping stone, enabling the gradual transition to cleaner energy by blending gasoline and electric power. As we move toward a more sustainable future, these innovations are reshaping the landscape of global mobility.

Rise of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

Electric vehicles have been a major focus of automotive innovation, propelled by advances in battery technology, increasing consumer awareness of environmental issues, and strong government support.

EV Definition and Technology: EVs are powered exclusively by electricity stored in batteries, which supply energy to electric motors. This means that EVs produce no tailpipe emissions, making them cleaner alternatives to conventional vehicles. Key components include high-capacity lithium-ion batteries, electric motors, and regenerative braking systems that recharge the battery while driving.

Growth Trajectory: EVs have witnessed tremendous growth worldwide, with countries like the United States, China, and Europe leading the charge. India is also emerging as a key player in the EV market. The Indian government's commitment to reducing its reliance on fossil fuels has led to a focus on electrifying transportation under initiatives like FAME II (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles) and National Electric Mobility Mission Plan (NEMMP). As a result, Indian manufacturers like Tata Motors and Mahindra Electric are ramping up EV production to cater to the growing domestic market.

Advantages of EVs: Electric vehicles offer numerous advantages, most notably zero emissions, which help in curbing air pollution in cities. They also have fewer moving parts, reducing maintenance costs over the vehicle's lifetime. Advanced features like autonomous driving systems, regenerative braking, and over-the-air software updates make EVs technologically appealing.

Challenges: However, several hurdles remain. The limited charging infrastructure is a significant concern, especially in regions where EV adoption is still low. Range anxiety, or the fear that an EV will run out of power before reaching a charging station, also deters many potential buyers. Furthermore, the initial cost of electric vehicles remains higher than traditional vehicles due to the expense of lithium-ion batteries. In India, the government has initiated steps to alleviate some of these concerns, including subsidies for EV buyers and plans to build a nationwide charging network.

Growth of Hybrid Vehicles

Hybrid vehicles offer an intermediate solution for consumers who want better fuel efficiency but are not yet ready to transition to fully electric vehicles.

Hybrid vehicles combine an internal combustion engine (ICE) with an electric motor. There are two main types of hybrids: Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs) and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs). HEVs do not require external charging; they recharge their batteries through regenerative braking. PHEVs, on the other hand, can be plugged into an external power source to recharge their batteries and can operate solely on electric power for short distances.

Evolution of Hybrid Technology: Initially introduced as a niche for eco-conscious consumers, hybrid technology has grown significantly. Early adopters like Toyota's Prius helped hybrids enter the mainstream, and today, more manufacturers are adopting this technology to offer consumers fuel-efficient options without compromising range or performance.

Advantages of Hybrid Vehicles: Hybrids provide greater fuel efficiency than traditional vehicles while allowing drivers to enjoy the benefits of electric power for short trips. For markets like India, where charging infrastructure for EVs is still developing, hybrids present a practical alternative that reduces fuel consumption without relying on external charging.

Challenges: Despite their advantages, hybrids have limitations. The complexity of maintaining two powertrains—both gasoline and electric—adds to the cost of ownership. Additionally, PHEVs have limited all-electric ranges, meaning they still rely on gasoline for long-distance travel. In India, hybrid vehicles are gaining traction as consumers look for cost-effective alternatives to pure EVs while the infrastructure matures.

Comparing Electric and Hybrid Vehicles

Let's discuss a few points and see how electric and hybrid vehicles compare in real world scenario:

- **Environmental Impact:** Electric vehicles lead the way in reducing carbon emissions by producing zero tailpipe emissions, while hybrids still rely on gasoline to some extent, limiting their environmental benefits.
- **Cost Efficiency:** EVs may have a higher upfront cost, but they offer lower long-term expenses in terms of fuel and maintenance. Hybrids offer better fuel economy than traditional vehicles but still require gasoline.
- **Performance and Range:** EVs provide better acceleration due to their instant torque,

while hybrids offer greater overall range because of their ability to switch between electric and gasoline power.

- **Market Penetration:** EVs are gaining momentum in markets like China, Europe, and the United States, while hybrids remain popular in regions where EV infrastructure is still developing, such as India. Notable EV models include the Tesla Model 3, while hybrids like the Toyota Prius and Honda City Hybrid remain popular choices.

Role of Government Incentives

Government policies play a crucial role in encouraging the adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles.

Overview of Government Policies:

Governments worldwide have introduced various incentives to promote the adoption of EVs and hybrids, including tax credits, rebates, and subsidies. These measures are designed to reduce the cost barrier for consumers, making electric and hybrid vehicles more accessible.

Examples of Key Global Markets: In the United States, federal tax credits for EVs help offset the initial cost of purchasing a vehicle. Europe has implemented stricter emission standards and incentives to promote EV adoption, while China has rapidly become the largest EV market globally, thanks to generous subsidies and investments in charging infrastructure. In India, the government's FAME II scheme offers subsidies for electric two-wheelers, three-wheelers, and public transportation, with a goal of electrifying a significant portion of the country's vehicle fleet by 2030.

Future Potential: As EV technology continues to advance and become more affordable, there is potential for increased incentives to further accelerate the transition to electric mobility. In India, the government is focusing on reducing GST rates for EVs and establishing a robust charging network to boost adoption rates.

Infrastructure Development

The success of electric vehicles depends on the availability of an extensive and reliable charging infrastructure.

Importance of Charging

Infrastructure: Without a comprehensive network of charging stations, consumers remain hesitant to switch to EVs. Governments and automakers alike recognize the importance of building

fast-charging stations, especially in urban areas and along highways.

Role of Partnerships: Automakers are partnering with governments and private companies to build these networks. In India, Tata Power has made significant progress in expanding charging stations, while public and private sectors are working together to ensure that infrastructure keeps pace with vehicle sales.

Hybrid Vehicle Support Systems: Hybrids do not depend as heavily on external charging infrastructure. However, continued improvements in battery management systems and fuel efficiency technologies will be critical to ensuring hybrids remain competitive in the evolving mobility landscape.

Conclusion

The future of mobility is undeniably electric, with both electric and hybrid vehicles playing pivotal roles in the transition. While electric vehicles represent the ultimate goal of zero-emission transportation, hybrid vehicles provide a practical, fuel-efficient bridge for consumers in markets like India, where charging infrastructure is still developing. Government incentives, consumer preferences, and technological advancements will continue to shape the mobility landscape. As automakers invest heavily in EV technology and countries worldwide implement policies to encourage adoption, the coexistence of EVs and hybrids will drive the future of sustainable transportation, paving the way for a cleaner, greener tomorrow. ■

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Sudhanshu Nayak, a dynamic mechanical engineer, is driven by a fervor for cutting-edge technologies like 3D printing, cloud manufacturing, and Industry 4.0. Sudhanshu Nayak, a mechanical engineer, gained invaluable firsthand experience with 3D printing during his tenure at innovative startups. His youthful energy fuels a deep expertise in social media marketing, technical content creation, and market research.



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Phoenix Contact CHAX: Shaping the Future of India's E-Mobility with Cutting-Edge Charging Infrastructure

As India accelerates towards a sustainable future, the electric vehicle (EV) market is poised for significant growth. Phoenix Contact, a global leader in industrial automation and connectivity, is at the forefront of this transformation with its CHAX range of charging technology. Designed to meet the unique demands of the Indian market, CHAX products offer comprehensive solutions for both charging infrastructure and electric vehicles.

The Indian E-Mobility Landscape

India's push for clean mobility is gaining momentum, driven by government initiatives, increasing environmental awareness, and advancements in technology. The adoption of electric two-wheelers (E2Ws) and three-wheelers (E3Ws) is expected to surge, with projections indicating that E2Ws and E3Ws could account for 50% and 70% of new vehicle sales by 2030. This shift presents a significant opportunity for companies like Phoenix Contact to contribute to the development of robust and efficient charging infrastructure.

Market Growth and Projections

The Indian EV market is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of over 40% till 2027. By 2025, EV sales volumes are expected to reach around 3-4 million units, driven by government incentives, rising fuel prices, and increased consumer awareness. The market is predominantly focused on two and three-wheelers, which account for about 80% of the EV market.

Government Initiatives and Policies

The PM E-DRIVE scheme represents a comprehensive effort to transform India's transportation landscape, making it cleaner, greener, and more sustainable. By providing financial incentives, supporting public transportation, developing infrastructure, and promoting local manufacturing, the scheme aims to position India as a global leader in electric mobility. A robust and widespread charging infrastructure is crucial for the success of EV adoption:

Charging Stations: The scheme plans to install 22,100 fast chargers for electric four-wheelers, 1,800 for e-buses, and 48,400 for two

and three-wheelers. This extensive network of charging stations will alleviate range anxiety and ensure that EV users have convenient access to charging facilities.

Testing Infrastructure: An allocation of ₹780 crore is aimed at enhancing vehicle testing infrastructure. This ensures that EVs meet high safety and performance standards, building consumer confidence in the reliability of electric mobility solutions.

Empowering India's E-Mobility Future: Phoenix Contact's Innovative Charging Solutions

Phoenix Contact's CHAX portfolio covers the entire charging process, from the charging station to the electric vehicle. This includes:

AC and DC Charging Cables: These cables are designed for both home and public charging stations, ensuring safe & efficient power transfer.

Charging Controllers: These devices manage the charging process, ensuring compatibility and communication between the vehicle and the charging station.

Infrastructure Charging Sockets: These sockets are robust and reliable, designed to withstand the demands of frequent use in public charging stations.

High Power Charging (HPC)

One of the standout features of the CHARX range is its High Power Charging (HPC) capability. The CHARX charging inlets allow continuous charging at up to 250 A and can temporarily handle up to 500 A and 1,000 V. This makes it possible to charge an electric vehicle in just a few minutes, significantly reducing downtime and increasing convenience for EV owners.

Revolutionizing EV Charging in India: The Phoenix Contact Advantage

Localized Product Development

Phoenix Contact India focuses on developing products that cater specifically to the local market. This includes creating solutions that are robust and reliable, capable of withstanding the diverse and often challenging environmental conditions found across India.

Extensive Distribution Network

To ensure that their products are readily available, Phoenix Contact has established a comprehensive distribution network across India. This includes partnerships with local distributors and suppliers, making it easier for customers to access their products and services.

Customization and Flexibility

Phoenix Contact offers a range of customizable solutions to meet the specific requirements of Indian customers. This includes minor adaptations to existing products as well as the development of entirely new solutions tailored to local needs.

Focus on Sustainability

In line with global trends, Phoenix Contact is committed to sustainability. Their products are designed to be energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, supporting India's push towards greener technologies and sustainable development.

Strong Local Presence

With multiple offices and warehouses across India, including major locations in New Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, and Pune, Phoenix Contact ensures that they can provide timely support and services to their customers. This local presence also allows them to better understand and respond to the needs of the Indian market.

Training and Support

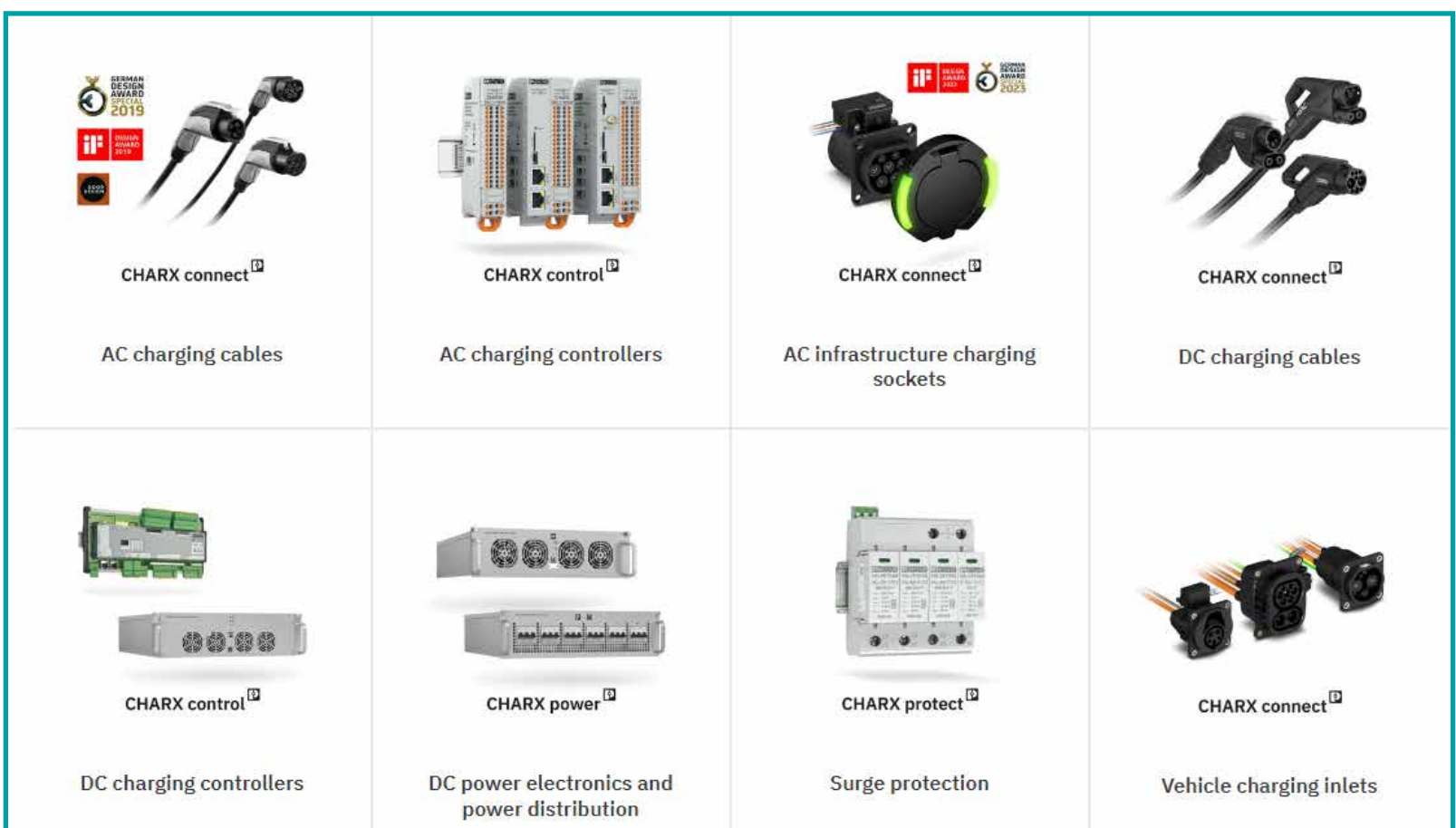
Phoenix Contact India provides extensive training and after-sales support to ensure that customers can effectively use and maintain their products. This includes workshops, technical support, and a dedicated team of engineers to assist with any issues.

Conclusion

Phoenix Contact's CHARX range represents a significant advancement in charging technology for e-mobility. With its comprehensive product portfolio, high power charging capabilities, and intelligent management features, CHARX is poised to play a crucial role in the transition to electric transportation in India. As the demand for EVs continues to grow, Phoenix Contact's innovative solutions will help pave the way for a more sustainable future. ■



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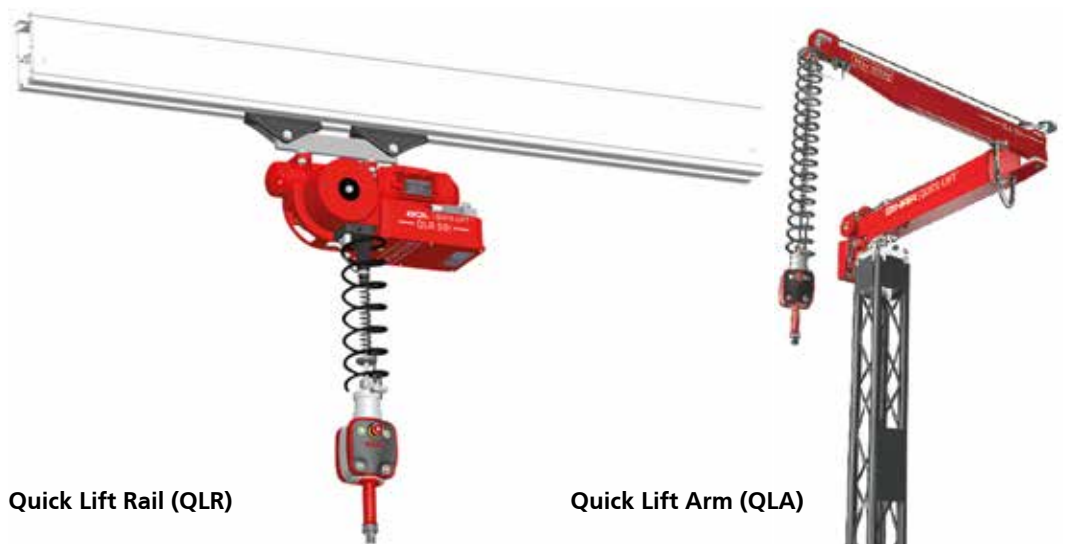




Boosting Automotive Assembly with Binar Handling's Precision Lifting Technologies

The automotive industry is under constant pressure to improve efficiency, ensure worker safety, and maintain high levels of precision in production processes. As vehicles become more advanced, so does the complexity of their manufacturing. One of the key challenges automakers face is safely and efficiently handling large, heavy, and intricate components on the assembly line. Schmalz, a leader in ergonomic lifting technology, offers a range of solutions designed to meet these challenges head-on, helping automotive manufacturers streamline processes and enhance productivity.

In modern automotive manufacturing, handling a wide array of parts—engines, body panels, dashboards, and suspension systems—presents unique challenges. The repetitive lifting of heavy or awkward components can lead to physical strain



Quick Lift Rail (QLR)

Quick Lift Arm (QLA)

and worker fatigue, often resulting in musculoskeletal injuries. These issues affect not only worker health but also productivity, leading to downtime and increased operational costs. Additionally, precision is critical when assembling high-value

automotive components. Misalignment or damage during handling can compromise the quality of the final product, making it essential for manufacturers to adopt solutions that ensure both accuracy and safety.

Schmalz expanded its product portfolio with Binar Handling's ergonomic lifting solutions, which are specifically designed to meet the diverse needs of automotive production. Their range of products focuses on reducing physical strain, enhancing precision, and improving overall safety. At the heart of Binar's product line-up is the NEO 30 Control Handle. This highly responsive device converts subtle hand movements into precise lifting motions, allowing operators to control parts with minimal effort. In automotive manufacturing, the NEO 30 is ideal for handling medium-sized components like exhaust systems, fuel tanks, and dashboards. By minimizing operator fatigue and offering precise control, the NEO 30 improves both safety and efficiency on the production floor.

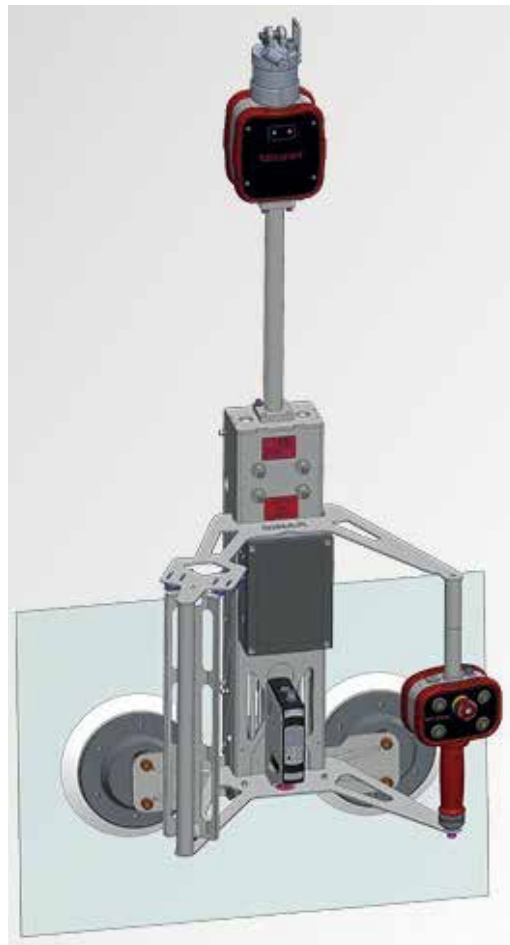
For larger and heavier components, Binar Handling's quick lift arm provide a robust solution. These arm is capable of lifting up to 300 kg, making them perfect for moving components like doors, hoods, windshields, and body panels. Designed to mimic the natural movement of the human arm, these manipulators allow for precise placement of components, ensuring accurate alignment during assembly. This is particularly important when installing large parts, as it reduces the risk of damage and improves the overall quality of the assembly process.

In addition to individual lifting devices, Binar Handling's Quick Lift Rail Systems offer a flexible solution for moving parts across the production line. These systems allow operators to transport large or heavy components along a rail structure effortlessly, reducing the physical strain of manual handling. In automotive manufacturing, this is particularly useful for handling the bulkier parts of a vehicle, such as engines and transmissions between stations. The Quick Lift Rail System ensures that large parts can be transported smoothly, improving the efficiency of the assembly process while reducing the risk of injury.

A key feature of Binar Handling's offering is the extensive range of customizable end effects. These tools are designed to handle a variety of automotive components using pneumatic, magnetic, mechanical, or vacuum-actuated systems. For example, vacuum end effectors are perfect for handling fragile parts like windshields and side windows, ensuring safe, accurate installation. Magnetic end effectors, on the other hand, are ideal for metallic parts such as axles, brake discs, and suspension components. The versatility of Binar's end effectors ensures that automotive manufacturers can tailor their lifting systems to the specific

needs of each production stage, improving both efficiency and safety.

One of Binar's standout products is the Ergo Glass End Effectors, which are specifically designed for handling delicate glass components. These vacuum-based tools securely grip windshields, rear windows, and other glass parts, reducing the risk of damage during installation. In the automotive sector, where precision and care are essential for fitting glass components, the Ergo Glass End Effectors offer a safe and efficient solution that enhances the quality of the final assembly.



Safety is at the core of all Binar Handling's products. Their ergonomic lifting systems are equipped with advanced control features that prevent human error and ensure that heavy loads are handled safely. The control handles include sensors that accurately detect hand movements, while built-in auto-balance features ensure that parts remain stable during lifting. In addition, safety-critical components are doubled or monitored for redundancy, minimizing the risk of equipment failure. This is particularly important in the automotive industry, where mishandling of high-value parts can result in costly delays or defects.

Binar Handling's ergonomic lifting systems are not only safe but also designed for efficiency. The rotating swivel built into their lifting devices ensures that signal cables, air lines, and wire ropes remain

tangle-free, reducing wear and extending the life of the equipment. This smooth operation minimizes downtime and ensures continuous production, helping automotive manufacturers meet tight production schedules while maintaining high standards of quality.

What sets Binar Handling apart is the flexibility and adaptability of their products. With over 6,000 customizable end effectors and a wide range of modular lifting solutions, Binar's systems can be tailored to fit the specific needs of any automotive manufacturing process. Whether lifting heavy chassis components or handling delicate electronics, Binar Handling's ergonomic solutions integrate seamlessly into existing workflows, ensuring that every stage of production is optimized for safety, precision, and efficiency.

In conclusion, Binar Handling's ergonomic lifting solutions provide automotive manufacturers with the tools they need to overcome the challenges of modern vehicle production. By reducing physical strain, enhancing precision, and improving safety, Binar's products help manufacturers streamline their operations and improve overall productivity. With a diverse range of products tailored to handle everything from heavy engines to fragile windshields, Binar Handling's solutions ensure that every component is installed with care and confidence, driving efficiency and quality in the automotive industry. ■



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Safe handling of battery cells

As a partner of the automotive industry, SCHUNK has the right handling concept for every drive in its portfolio. For the heart of e-mobility, the battery, SCHUNK offers the RCG round cell gripper as the first standard product from the e-mobility range. The pneumatically controlled magnetic system enables handling of individual battery cells - but also - if they are used in multi-gripping units, precise and process-reliable equipping of complete cell clusters without interfering contours.



status detection also contribute to process reliability. They recognize whether a battery is present, but also enable piston stroke monitoring. In order to achieve maximum possible power density of the battery cells within the battery cluster and without interfering contours, the SCHUNK designers have adapted the RCG precisely to battery cells with 46 millimeters. SCHUNK offers the gripper in three versions: without centering, with 2-fold centering or with 4-fold centering for tolerance compensation when picking up the battery cells.

Perfect for series

The system can be combined with other SCHUNK components for use in a production line: suitable sensors, compensation and cell spacing units, as well as linear direct axes enable precise, dynamic, and safe processes in series production of battery packs. ■

The new RCG round cell gripper enables process-reliable handling of battery cells with $\text{R} 46$ mm. It can be flexibly combined to multi-gripping units.

The greatest cost driver in an electric car is the battery. In recent years, car manufacturers worldwide have been exploring ways to develop and produce batteries that are not only sustainable, but also cost-efficient and which have enough power for long ranges. In addition to prismatic and pouch cells, major manufacturers are increasingly relying on round cells with a diameter of 46 millimeters. SCHUNK has designed a new tool specifically for handling this type of cell: the RCG round cell gripper. It is freely scalable, so that individual battery cells can be handled, can be automatically arranged in rows, and precise and fast loading of entire battery clusters is possible in an uncomplicated and safe manner.

Safety thanks to integrated gripping force maintenance

The RCG round cell grippers has a pneumatically controlled magnetic system for picking and placing battery cells magnetically. The permanent magnet inside the individual gripper, ensures

secure gripping force maintenance during the complete process. Even in case of a possible energy loss during an emergency stop, the battery is held by the gripper. The high holding force of the magnets > 70 N is designed for any battery length and enables high acceleration rates of the robot in use. The RCG's sensory workpiece and

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SCHUNK offers the round cell grippers in three versions: without centering, with 2-fold centering, or with 4-fold centering for tolerance compensation and for picking the battery cells.

Exploring the Depths of EV DOCTOR™: Revolutionizing EV Battery Diagnostics

The advent of electric vehicles (EVs) has ushered in a new era of transportation, where the performance, safety, and longevity of batteries are paramount. Central to this revolution is the technology for diagnosing and maintaining these batteries, with EV DOCTOR™ emerging as a pioneering solution. This article delves into the intricate details of EV DOCTOR™, highlighting how it integrates advanced technology to redefine the standards for EV battery testing.

Technical Foundation

EV DOCTOR™ stands out due to its integration of AI with cloud computing, which facilitates real-time analytics through a dedicated mobile application. This setup allows for seamless interaction via Bluetooth® Smart (BLE), enabling users to monitor their EV's battery health directly from their smartphones. The technology's core relies on:

predictive maintenance edge that could significantly extend battery life.

Hardware Specifications

- **Dimensions and Portability:** Designed with dimensions of 13 cm x 13 cm x 5 cm and weighing just 300 grams, it's crafted for ease of use without compromising on performance.
- **Compatibility:** Supports a wide range of EV battery voltages (36V to 72V) and currents up to 10A, ensuring broad applicability across different EV models.
- **Environmental Adaptability:** Operates effectively from 0°C to 40°C, which is crucial for global usability in various climatic conditions.

Operational Impact

The introduction of EV DOCTOR™ into the EV ecosystem promises several benefits:

- **Reduced Downtime:** Quick diagnostics mean EVs spend less time in service, enhancing fleet management efficiency.

iterations might focus on integrating with smart grid systems for more efficient energy management.

- **Material Recovery:** As battery recycling becomes more critical, EV DOCTOR™ could evolve to assess not just health but also the material integrity for recycling purposes, aiding in the circular economy of EV batteries.
- **Global Standards and Legislation:** As EV technology matures, technologies like EV DOCTOR™ could influence global standards for EV battery diagnostics, ensuring safety and performance benchmarks.

Conclusion

EV DOCTOR™ represents a significant leap in EV battery management technology, merging AI, cloud technology, and mobile interfacing to offer unparalleled diagnostic capabilities. Its adoption could foster a more sustainable, efficient, and safer EV landscape,



- **AI Algorithms:** Utilizes physics-based state-space models and machine learning neural networks, achieving an impressive 99.5% accuracy in diagnosing battery conditions.
- **Speed and Efficiency:** Traditional battery diagnostics could take hours; EV DOCTOR™ reduces this to a mere 15 minutes, making it exceptionally efficient for maintenance checks or quick service operations.
- **Diagnostic Precision:** Beyond diagnosing current health, EV DOCTOR™ predicts potential future issues, providing a

- **Battery Longevity:** By identifying issues early, EV DOCTOR™ helps in extending the operational life of batteries, reducing the overall cost of ownership.
- **Safety Enhancements:** Accurate diagnostics contribute to safer EV operation by preempting potential battery failures, which can lead to hazardous situations like thermal runaway.

Future Directions

The trajectory of EV DOCTOR™ aligns with the broader trends in EV technology:

- **Integration with Smart Grids:** Future

aligning with global environmental goals. As we move towards an increasingly electric future, technologies like EV DOCTOR™ will be pivotal, not just in maintenance but potentially in shaping how we design, use, and dispose of EV batteries. This technology not only serves as a tool for the present but lays a foundation for future innovations in the EV domain, promising a greener, more reliable, and user-friendly electric vehicle experience. ■

Article by Shubham Mishra - Battery OK Technologies

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"India's EV Battery Manufacturing: Poised for Future Growth"

Overview of the Current State of Electric Vehicles (EVs)

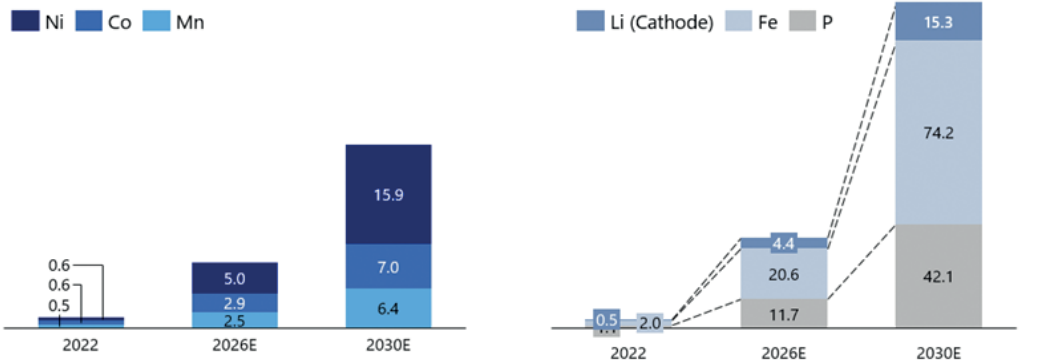
The debate surrounding the potential of electric vehicles (EVs) has indeed evolved over the past few years, with significant growth and advancements in the electric vehicle industry. While there has been substantial progress, it is true that several challenges still exist before EVs can become one of the most common powertrains. It's impressive to see the significant growth of the Electric Vehicle (EV) industry in India across various vehicle segments. The penetration rates in different vehicle segments highlights the increasing acceptance and adoption of electric vehicles in the country.

The Dynamics of the Electric Vehicle Supply Chain in India

India has devised a 3 pillar strategy to promote local manufacturing ecosystem development for EVs – FAME-II, Import Restrictions & Fiscal Incentives or PLI to address the issues of import dependency and to support local manufacturers to develop the capacity to make and scale the EV components. The overall idea is to achieve maximum level of localization of components for which India has or can develop the capability with Government's support and OEMs investment in EVs. It is imperative to improve the localization level of all critical components and will be the focus in India in future

Largely it is the batteries, motors + invertors DC-DC convertors, and OBCs that

LiB Cathode Raw Material Requirement in kiloton (kT)



Source: IEA, Niti Aayog, NRI Analysis

encompass the costliest components in EV vehicles covering 70% of the cost of a 30kW battery size EV in the Indian market. Thus, the ecosystem around these components is central to understanding to EV supply chain in India

As of 2023, the Battery pack which remains to be the most critical component is still largely import-driven due to the import of cells and localisation limited to assembly-level operations including welding of bus bars, enclosures, etc. Traction motors coupled with invertors and transmission going by names like e-axles are also largely imported with a knock-down version of the component being imported for the large form factor of vehicles. A more detailed analysis of these components however leads to an understanding that India has reached sufficient volumes and capacity is being lined up for attaining a much higher percentage of localisation in the next 2-3 years.

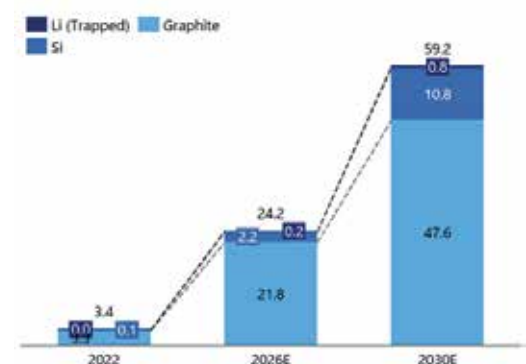
Unpacking India's Battery Raw Material Landscape: Opportunities and Challenges

Raw materials are the lifeblood of lithium-ion battery (LiB) localization. Securing a stable and domestic supply of essential elements such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, graphite, and other critical components is paramount to reducing dependence on imports and achieving self-sufficiency in LiB production. Developing a robust supply chain for these raw materials is not only economically strategic but also vital for the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the electric vehicle industry in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

Cathode Materials Scenario

Demand for critical elements is expected to exhibit moderate growth by 2030, with LFP chemistry taking center stage and advanced NMC variants gaining traction. Nickel and cobalt demand is projected to increase, but at a slower pace, due to the shift towards advanced NMC (811) formulations that

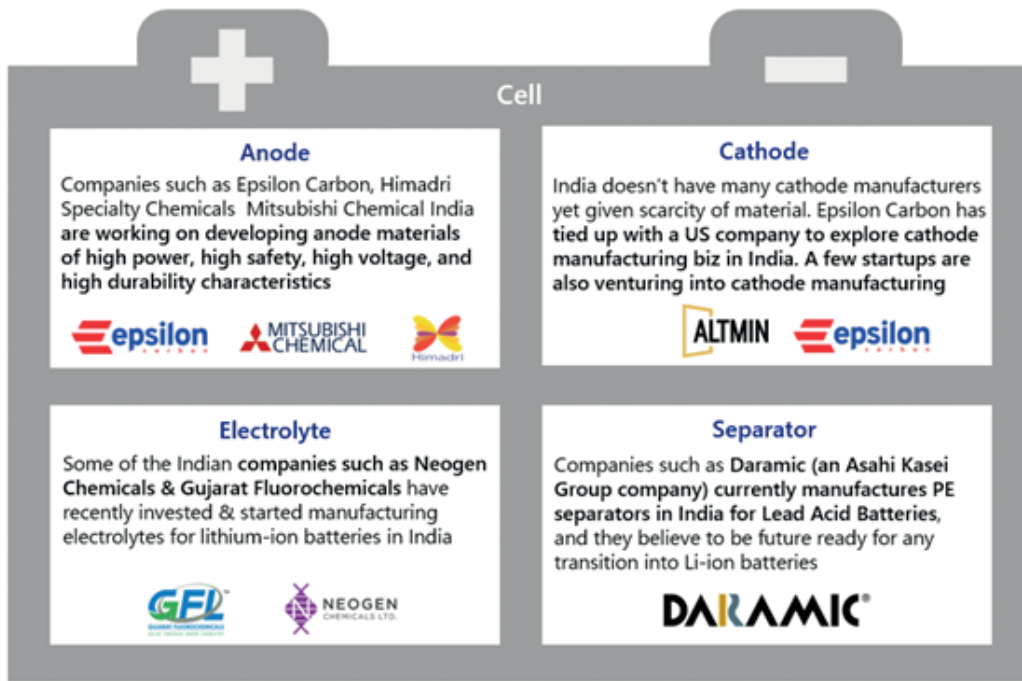
LiB Anode Raw Material Requirement in kiloton (kT)



Critical EV Component	Net Localization* (%)	Approx. Value Addition in India
Battery Pack	10-20%	Local Pack Assembly: Bus Bar, Connector, Cooling, Enclosure, Fuses, Side plate
Power and control wiring harness, along with connectors	30-40%	Wiring Harness made in India Connector imported & assembled
AC Charging Inlet- Type 2	60-70%	Inlet, Connector Import Assm. with Cable/Connector in India
DC-DC Converter	10-25%	Majority Hardware imported Testing, CAN integration support
Vehicle Control Unit	4-5%	Only Enclosures are made in India Software dev. Testing
On Board Charger	10-25%	Hardware imported Mechanical components made locally
MCB, Circuit Breakers, Electric Safety device (Power Electronics)	50-55%	Some Child parts made in India System Assembly & Testing
Electric Compressor	0-20%	System Import Some OEMs planned Assm. Line in India
DC Charging Inlet	20-50%	Majority part is imported from China, select players in India offering connectors
Traction Motor & Controller	30-40%	Assembly in India, including lamination, core for select cases

Note: Net Localization = Value of Raw Material/ Child Part Sourced from India + Assembly Value Addition done in India

*Indicative figures for > 25 kWh vehicle



Electrolyte Manufacturing Status in India

Electrolyte manufacturing for Lithium-Ion Batteries (LiB) in India is in its early stages, attracting interest from both domestic and global companies. While local salt, a key electrolyte component, is available, competition in the domestic market poses challenges. However, India lacks the production of battery-grade solvents like Ethylene Carbonate (EC), Ethyl Methyl Carbonate (EMC), and Dimethyl Carbonate (DMC), requiring imports. Additives for electrolytes face similar production limitations. Overcoming these challenges and building a strong supply chain will be crucial for the growth of India's EV and energy storage industries.

Separator Manufacturing Status in India

India's separator manufacturing landscape is gaining traction with investments from global players, but key challenges remain. Long-term contracts with established companies are essential to ensure demand, as the domestic market is still emerging. Securing a reliable local supply chain for raw materials is another priority. Separator manufacturing varies by lithium-ion battery (LiB) application, with wet process separators catering to EVs and dry process separators suited for Energy Storage Systems (ESS). Key players like Neogen, Daramic, and ENTEK are investing heavily, with Neogen planning significant capacity, and Daramic and ENTEK eyeing future expansions. These efforts highlight the growing importance of separator manufacturing in India's energy storage and EV sectors.

Special Thanks to Athul Nambolan, Senior Consultant at Nomura Research Institute (NRI) for his extensive contribution to this Analysis. ■

utilize less nickel. Iron and phosphorus will emerge as pivotal raw materials, with estimated demand of 74 kilotons and 42 kilotons, respectively. These insights underscore India's strategic trajectory in LiB battery manufacturing, with a focus on optimizing raw material usage, fostering sustainable chemistry choices, and aligning with the nation's commitment to eco-friendly mobility solutions.

Anode Materials Demand

Graphite, the cornerstone of anodes for LiB cells, is expected to witness a steady rise in demand, but silicon-doped graphite is poised to be a game-changer, reducing the demand per kWh of energy produced.

Anodes in LiB cells are primarily graphite-based, but silicon-doped graphite is gaining traction, projected to increase its share from the current 30%. This transition is significant as Si-Gr anodes consume less graphite while offering improved Source: IEA, Niti Aayog, NRI Analysis efficiency.

As new battery technologies like solid-state batteries emerge, they are set to increase the lithium content in anodes. Conversely, sodium-based chemistries will usher in reductions in lithium content.

Cell Components Key Activities in India

There is a critical need to localise the cell supply chain. The cell materials constitute around 40% of its cost, and India has minimal availability of cell raw materials. If India targets to achieve 60% of the value addition (as mandated by the PLI), it needs to localise the manufacturing of anode, cathode, electrolyte, and separator.

Anode Manufacturing Status in India

India's anode manufacturing is evolving

with a focus on meeting global demand while preparing for future domestic needs. Manufacturers are pursuing approvals from global battery makers, driving steady export demand, as local cell manufacturing is expected to take over three years to grow. Competitively priced Indian anodes align with the "China+1" strategy, appealing to manufacturers seeking supply chain diversification. Key players like Epsilon Carbon, HEG, and Himadri are investing heavily to expand production, targeting capacities of 20,000 to 100,000 MT by 2030, highlighting the sector's growing role in India's EV and battery industries.

Cathode Manufacturing Status in India

Cathode manufacturing in India is set for growth as demand matures and long-term contracts emerge, but challenges remain. Uncertainty around battery chemistry complicates demand forecasting, and the lack of government incentives and high investment costs hinder entry. Limited technical expertise also drives the need for technology transfer from overseas, while securing raw materials poses another challenge. Despite this, companies like Altmin are making progress, partnering with ARCI to establish a pilot plant in Hyderabad and with the Telangana government to start C-LFP active material production.

Electrolyte Supply Chain in India



Impact of Focal Length Offset on Joint Integrity in Laser Welding of Battery Busbars

As the battery and electric vehicle (EV) industry continues to evolve, ensuring the highest levels of quality and reliability in battery assembly is paramount. One critical aspect that significantly influences the structural integrity of battery packs is laser welding of the packs with huge cell to cell height variations. At Light Mechanics Ltd, our we have observed considerable battery pack height variations, ranging from 1mm to 5mm. This focal length offset can affect the joint integrity of busbars in a number of ways leading to porosity and incomplete fusion. This article explores the impact of laser welding on battery packs with high cell to cell height variation and its resulting weld quality, emphasizing the importance of maintaining tight battery pack height tolerances in achieving optimal joint integrity.

How Focal Length Offset Affects Joint Integrity

Joint integrity of the Battery Pack in laser welding can be evaluated based on three key criteria:

1. Weld Penetration (weld depth and weld width)

2. Weld Porosity

3. Mechanical Strength

The optimal joint integrity is achieved when the surface of the workpiece is positioned precisely at the laser beam focal point. At this point, the power density is maximized, providing the ideal conditions for welding. However, both positive and negative defocusing enlarge the laser beam, which reduces the input power density. As a result, significant defocusing can lead to compromised weld joints due to increased height variations.

Experimental Insights on Battery Laser Welding Trials.

Samples Used:

- Cell Format: Prismatic
- Top Metal (Busbar): 2.5mm Aluminium, 1000 series
- Base Metal (Cell Terminal): 5mm Aluminium, 1000 series
- Expected Pullout Force: ≥ 800 newtons
- Expected Weld Penetration: 1.5mm

Result and Observations:

- Target was to achieve a weld penetration of

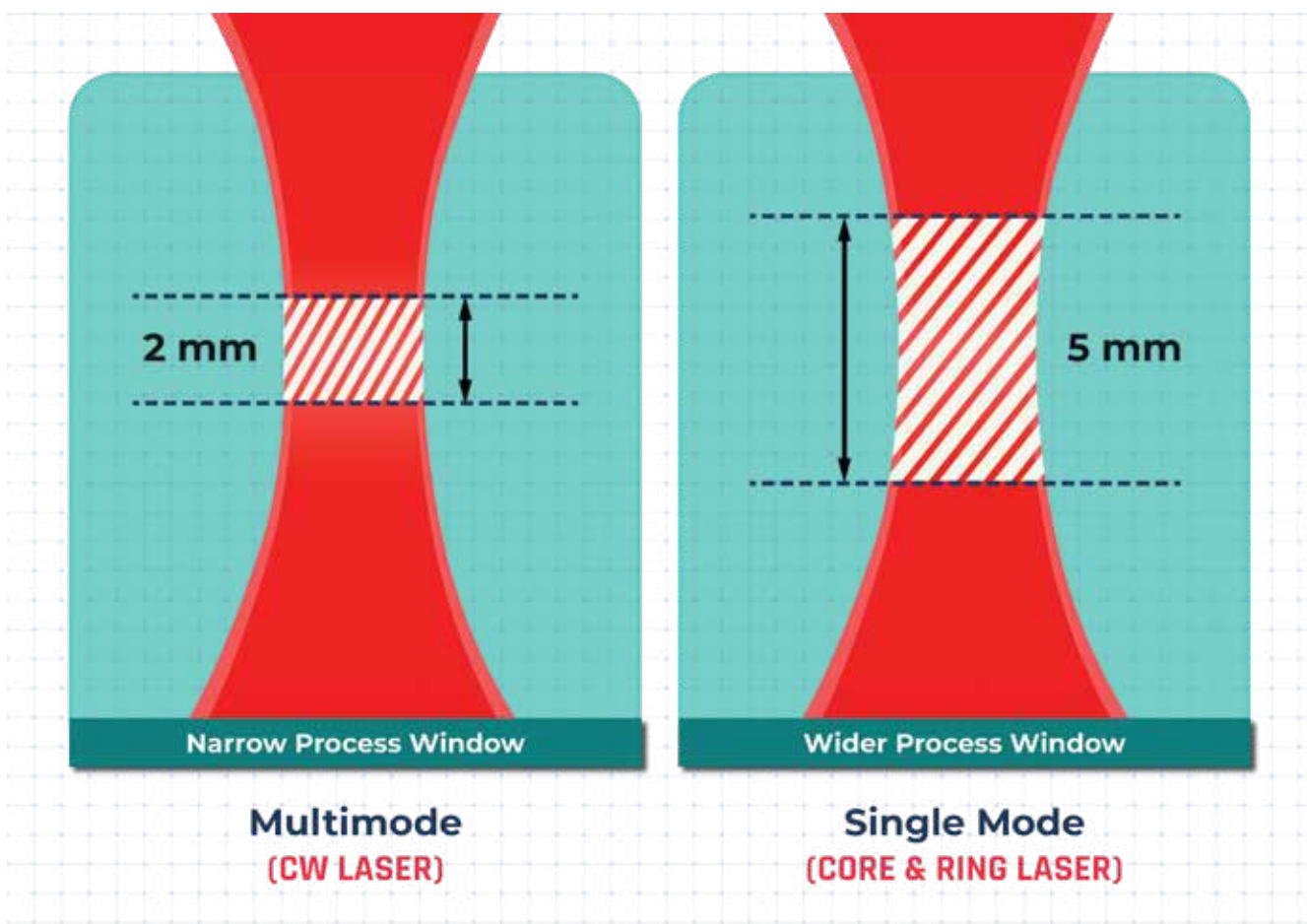
max 1.5mm penetration in the cell terminal.

- When the laser was precisely focused, the expected weld penetration of 1.5mm in the cell terminal was easily achieved with a pullout force that exceeded 1000 newtons. (The busbar did not break during the test and the weld remained intact)
- An offset of the laser beam of ≥ 2 mm from the focal point led to a 60% reduction in weld penetration, with increased risks of porosity.

Such offset in focal length directly impacts the weld strength of the joints, leading to potential issues such as:

- Premature failure
- Reduced durability
- Compromised electrical conductivity within the battery pack

Our regular laser welding trials on batteries indicate that the optimum tolerance window for laser welding prismatic batteries ranges from +1mm to -1mm in normal high power lasers. Therefore, we recommend battery pack manufacturers to maintain accurate height tolerances during battery assembly to optimizing the structural integrity and



reliability of EV batteries.

Can The Laser Process Window Be Optimised With Right Laser Selection? The Right Choice of Lasers

Selecting the appropriate laser technology can significantly enhance the welding process by maximizing the effective process window. Today we have high-end lasers with dual beam technology which are spatter-free in nature and provide a much higher process window in laser welding of battery packs. The use of single-mode lasers with core and ring beam technology is particularly beneficial in this context. This advanced technology allows for wider focal length adjustments, expanding the Z process window from 1mm to as high as 5mm without affecting the joint integrity.

Advantages of Core and Ring Beam Technology

- 1. Increased Process Window:** The dual-beam configuration enables the laser to maintain effective welding parameters even with variations in the height of the workpiece, allowing for more tolerance in assembly.
- 2. Enhanced Power Density Control:** The core and ring beam design enables better control over the distribution of power density, resulting in improved weld

- 3. Improved Weld Quality:** With the ability to adjust focal lengths effectively, manufacturers can achieve consistent weld quality, reducing the likelihood of defects and enhancing the overall performance of battery packs. The aesthetic appearance of the laser welds also improve considerably with these lasers.
- 4. Ability To Weld Dissimilar Metals:** These lasers have the ability to process similar as well as dissimilar metal welds with much ease.
- 5. Spatter-Free Welding:** The laser in the ring helps in suppressing the spatter. This helps in reducing material removal from the weld joint in the form of spatters providing a more cleaner and strong welds.

Conclusion

In summary, maintaining accurate height tolerances during laser welding is critical for the structural integrity and reliability of EV batteries. Our findings emphasize that the optimal tolerance window for laser welding prismatic batteries is between +-1mm. Furthermore, the strategic choice of laser technology, specifically utilizing single-mode lasers with core and ring beam technology can significantly enhances the process window of laser welding, facilitating wider

adjustments and improving weld quality. As the EV industry continues to grow, investing in advanced laser welding solutions will be crucial for battery manufacturers aiming to meet increasing demands for quality, reliability, and performance. This article highlights the significance of maintaining accurate height tolerances during battery assembly to optimize structural integrity and reliability of EV Batteries. By optimizing focal length offsets and selecting the right lasers for welding, manufacturers can significantly enhance the quality and structural integrity of battery packs. This focus on tight tolerances and laser precision is crucial for ensuring the reliability and performance of electric vehicles, ultimately supporting the transition to a more sustainable future in mobility. Investing in advanced laser welding solutions not only improves product quality but also paves the way for innovation in battery technology, making it an essential step for the EV industry. ■



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Revolutionizing the Road: How **Battery as a Service (BaaS)** is Fuelling India's Electric Vehicle Revolution



MUKESH KUMAR BANSAL
(Co-Founder and CTO), TelioEV Private Limited

India's journey towards a cleaner, more sustainable transportation system is gaining momentum, driven by the electric vehicle (EV) revolution. However, the high upfront cost of EVs remains a significant barrier for many. But there's a game-changer on the horizon: Battery as a Service (BaaS).

BaaS: Turning the EV Cost Equation On Its Head

BaaS is transforming how we think about EV ownership. It's not about buying the battery outright; it's about subscribing to its power. This innovative model offers incredible flexibility and affordability:

BaaS: A Model for Every Vehicle

BaaS is adapting to the diverse needs of India's EV landscape, offering tailored solutions for different vehicle types:

- **Battery Swapping for Small Vehicles:**

For two-wheelers and three-wheelers, battery swapping is king. Imagine pulling up to a station, swapping your depleted battery for a fully charged one in minutes, and getting back on the road! This model is perfect for frequent commuters and businesses who need to keep their vehicles moving.

- **Pay-Per-Kilometer for Four-Wheelers:**

For four-wheelers, a lease-based model with pay-per-kilometer charges is gaining popularity. This allows private owners to access EVs without the hefty upfront battery cost. They pay only for the distance they travel, making it an attractive option for those who drive less frequently.

- **Reduced Initial Costs for Commercial Vehicles:**

BaaS is proving to be a game changer for commercial vehicle fleets, too. By separating the battery cost, operators

can bring down initial costs significantly, making EVs more budget-friendly for transport businesses.

The Benefits of BaaS: More than Just Cost Savings

BaaS offers a wealth of advantages:

- **Cost Savings:** BaaS significantly reduces the initial cost of owning an EV, opening up a wider range of buyers.
- **Simplified Maintenance:** BaaS providers handle all battery maintenance, replacement, and recycling, relieving you of the burdens and costs associated with battery management.
- **Always Up-to-Date Technology:** With BaaS, you always have access to the latest and most efficient battery technology—all without the need to buy a new vehicle.
- **Increased Sustainability:** BaaS promotes responsible battery recycling, reducing environmental impact and creating a circular economy for battery materials.

BaaS in India: A Perfect Match for a Growing EV Market

The Indian EV market is brimming with potential. It's the ideal breeding ground for the BaaS revolution:

- **Government Support:** India is committed to the transition to EVs with incentives, subsidies, and robust charging infrastructure.
- **High Battery Costs:** BaaS offers a compelling solution to the high cost of EV batteries in India, making them more affordable for everyone.
- **Strong Partnerships:** Vehicle OEMs are recognizing the power of BaaS and partnering with battery providers, swapping companies, leasing companies, and financial institutions to push the boundaries of this technology.

A Collaborative Approach: OEMs, Leasing Companies, and Financial Institutions

The success of BaaS for private vehicle owners is increasingly dependent on a collaborative approach involving:

- **Vehicle OEMs:** Providing the vehicles and collaborating on innovative BaaS solutions.
- **Leasing Companies:** Offering flexible leasing packages for EVs, including the battery as part of the lease agreement.
- **Financial Institutions:** Providing financing options for both the vehicle and the battery lease, making EVs more accessible.

This collaborative model allows customers to access EVs with lower upfront costs and manage their monthly expenses effectively. Leasing companies can offer attractive packages, and financial institutions can provide loans tailored to these new leasing arrangements.

Vehicle OEMs and Battery Swapping Companies: A Powerful Collaboration

Leading vehicle OEMs are stepping up to embrace BaaS. They're partnering with specialized battery-swapping companies like Sun Mobility to offer this innovative option to their customers. These collaborations are transforming the EV landscape:

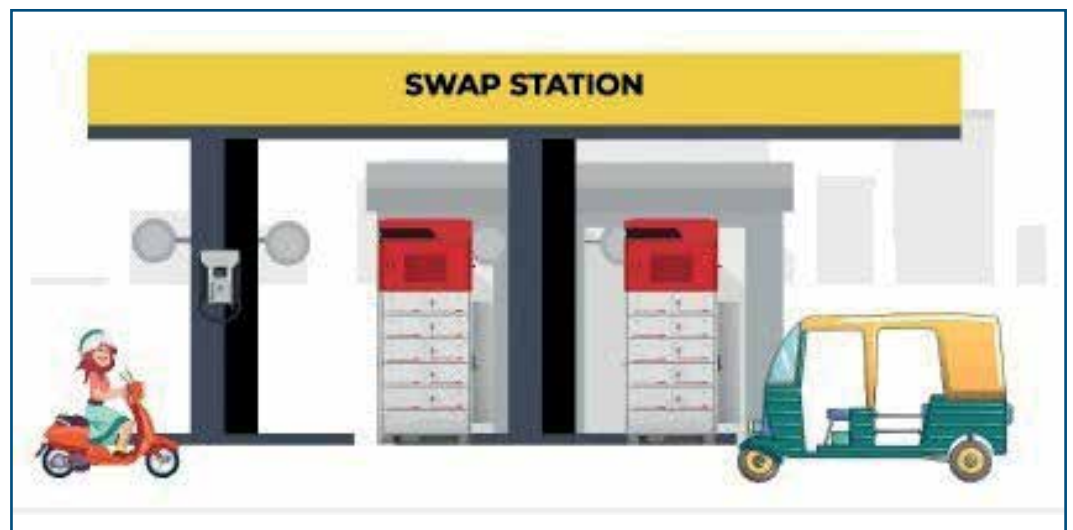
- **Affordability for Private Vehicle Owners:** OEMs are reducing the upfront cost

fuel innovation and drive improvements in battery technology, leading to more efficient, powerful, and longer-lasting batteries.

Challenges and Solutions

To drive this transformation, we need to address some key challenges:

- **Developing Robust Infrastructure:** Expanding charging and battery swapping infrastructure across the country is essential to support a growing population of electric vehicles.
- **Standardizing Battery Systems:** Ensuring interoperability between different battery types and providers is essential for a seamless user experience across the ecosystem.
- **Raising Awareness:** Creating a strong



of EVs by excluding the battery price, and partnering with battery swapping companies to offer accessible and cost-effective battery solutions.

- **A New Era for Commercial Fleets:** BaaS is changing the way fleets operate. By lowering initial costs, fleets can upgrade to EVs with ease, reducing their environmental footprint.

The Future is Powered by BaaS

India's EV revolution is fueled by innovation, and BaaS is at the forefront of this change. It's not just a trend; it's a fundamental shift toward a more sustainable and affordable future:

- **Accelerated EV Adoption:** BaaS removes the financial hurdles of EV ownership, leading to a significant increase in EV adoption across India.
- **A Sustainable Ecosystem:** BaaS promotes a circular economy for EV batteries, with recycling and resource recovery deeply embedded in the model.
- **Technological Advancements:** BaaS will

understanding of BaaS benefits and building trust in this technology is essential for wide-scale adoption.

Key Takeaways:

- BaaS is a game-changer for India's EV landscape, offering affordable and flexible solutions for varied vehicle types.
- The success of BaaS requires a collaborative effort between vehicle OEMs, battery-swapping companies, leasing companies, and financial institutions.
- The transformation to a cleaner and more sustainable future is within reach, and BaaS is poised to play a pivotal role in this exciting journey.

With its commitment to clean energy and innovative solutions, India is on the cusp of a true EV revolution. BaaS, with its innovative and adaptable approach, is set to unlock the potential of EVs, driving the transition towards a cleaner and more sustainable future for India and beyond. ■



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