

Continental Trade Fair Highlight: Broad Portfolio for Electric Commercial Vehicles



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Far from relying solely on hardware components, Continental is following a holistic approach along the product industrialization path. The e-mobility experts of the Hanover-based company offer all the steps from a single source, ranging from requirements definition and consulting & design to E/E architecture, software solution development and serial production. Here, the development team can combine the best of two worlds: the knowledge gained over decades in the commercial vehicle sector and the latest findings from development projects relating to electric cars. Continental's product portfolio for electrically powered commercial vehicles encompasses DC/DC converters and a wide range of control components, including sound modules, intelligent sensors for battery monitoring, battery management systems and charge controllers, high-voltage cables and many more solutions.

Also, Continental engineers are working with Siemens Mobility at full speed on another solution – the pantograph for dynamic charging, which means supplying power from overhead lines to charge the e-battery while driving. The National Platform for the Future of Mobility, an innovation initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Transport, recommends equipping 4,000 kilometers of highway with the overhead contact line technology by 2030. “This could be an optimal solution for the future, especially for heavy-duty traffic – it avoids long waiting times at charging stations and the battery can be made much smaller,” says Alex Rupprecht, who is responsible for the development of the pantograph at Continental. “We believe that dynamic charging is the clear favorite to significantly reduce CO emissions – despite the competition of other technologies using fuels like hydrogen and other synthetic fuels.”

Continental is also highly involved in other usage scenarios as a development partner of vehicle and component manufacturers for

electric mobility in passenger cars. For instance, the company developed new sensors to protect e-batteries. The commercial vehicle sector will also benefit from these investments in the future. “We plan to systematically expand our product range in cooperation with our passenger car colleagues, since car components can often be used after only slight modifications have been made,” says Ismail Dagli.

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