



The AVL Fuel Cell Truck

A Technology Demonstrator Showing Solutions for
Future Heavy-Duty Applications

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Today's Presenters



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Today's Agenda

1 About AVL

2 Introduction & Target Setting

3 System Development

- AVL FC System
- AVL HD E-Axle

4 System Integration

- EE System
- Thermal System
- Geometrical Integration

5 Advanced Energy Management

6 Q&A



AVL Fuel Cell Truck – A Technology Demonstrator

About AVL



Reimagining Motion

“We are driven by a **passion** to examine the science, mechanics and philosophy of movement. To help create a world that is climate-neutral and one that makes **safe, comfortable, green mobility** a reality for everyone.”

Helmut O. List

Chairman and CEO
AVL List GmbH

AVL at a Glance



1948

Founded



26

Countries
Represented



12,200

Employees Worldwide



10 %

Of Turnover Invested
in Inhouse R&D

75+

Years of Experience

45

Global Tech and
Engineering Centers

68 %

Engineers and
Scientists

2,200

Granted Patents
in Force

AVL



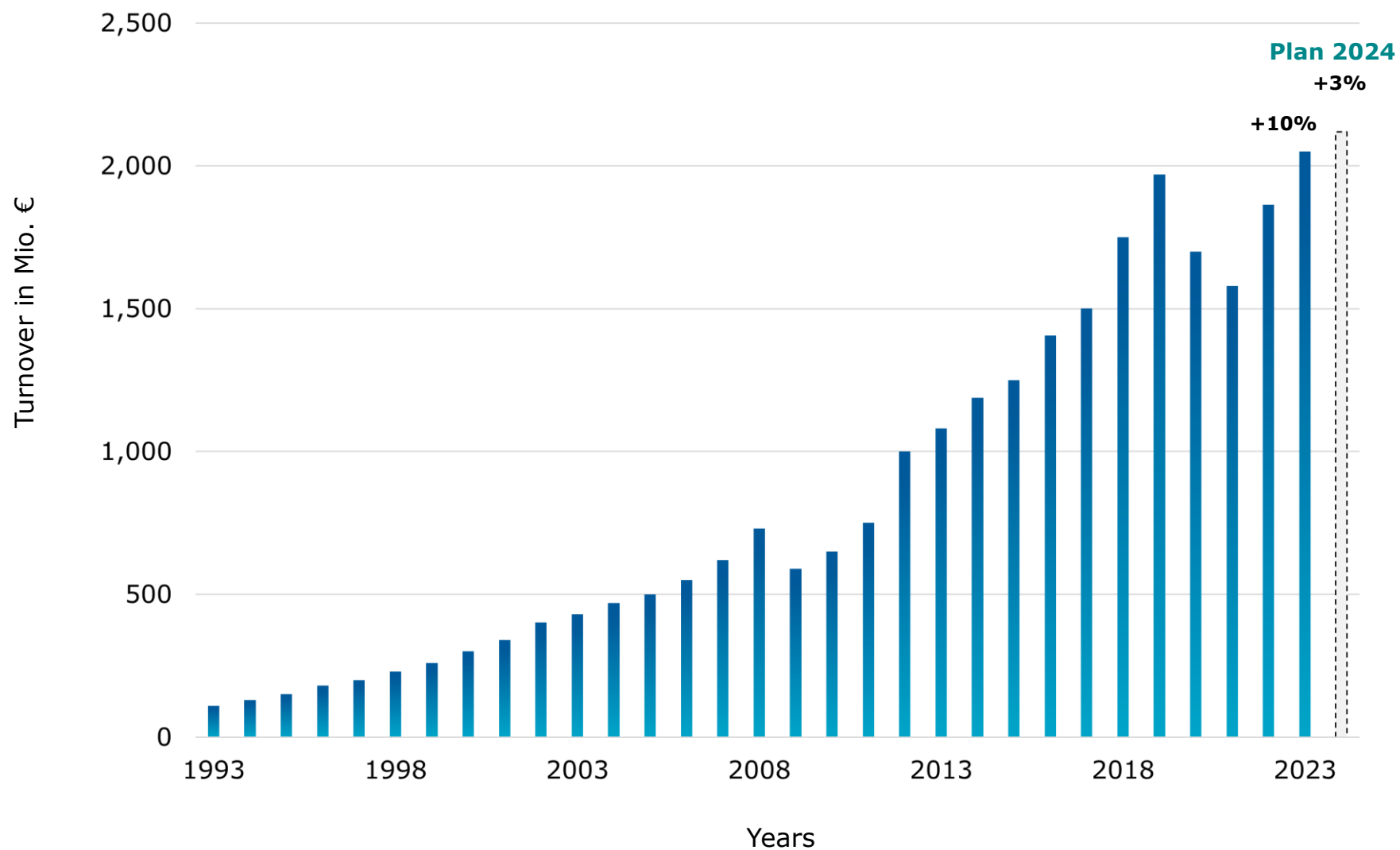
2.05 Bn €

Turnover in 2023

97 %

Export Quota

Our Turnover



Industry-Wide Value Creation

With future-proven tools, products and systems, augmented by our global network of experts and facilities, we support OEMs and Tier1s to shape current and future technologies for all industries.



Passenger Cars



Commercial Vehicles



Racing



Agriculture



2 and 3-Wheelers



Power Plants



Marine



Engineering a Better Future

Next Generation Vehicles

With our comprehensive technological know-how in all vehicle systems and functions, and our many years of experience in the implementation and use of virtual development methods, we support our customers in managing complexity.

- Development, engineering, services and products
- Vehicle and vehicle systems
- Vehicle functions
- Vehicle development targets and attributes



Redrawing the Lines of Electrification



E-Mobility

We are relentlessly striving towards climate-neutral mobility. Not just by increasing the efficiency of multiple propulsion systems, but also by pioneering energy from green resources.



20+

Years of
Experience

5,700+

E-Mobility
Experts

900+

Executed
Battery
Projects

5

Fuel Cell
Tech Centers

450+

Fuel Cell
Engineers

E-Mobility - Highlights



Battery Innovation Center

Our center of excellence at our headquarters in Graz focuses on the development, implementation and validation of new, highly efficient battery production processes.



Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Test Center

The new center in Graz is one of the largest and most advanced test sites for fuel cells and electrolysis systems in the world.

Technology Designed for the
Human Journey

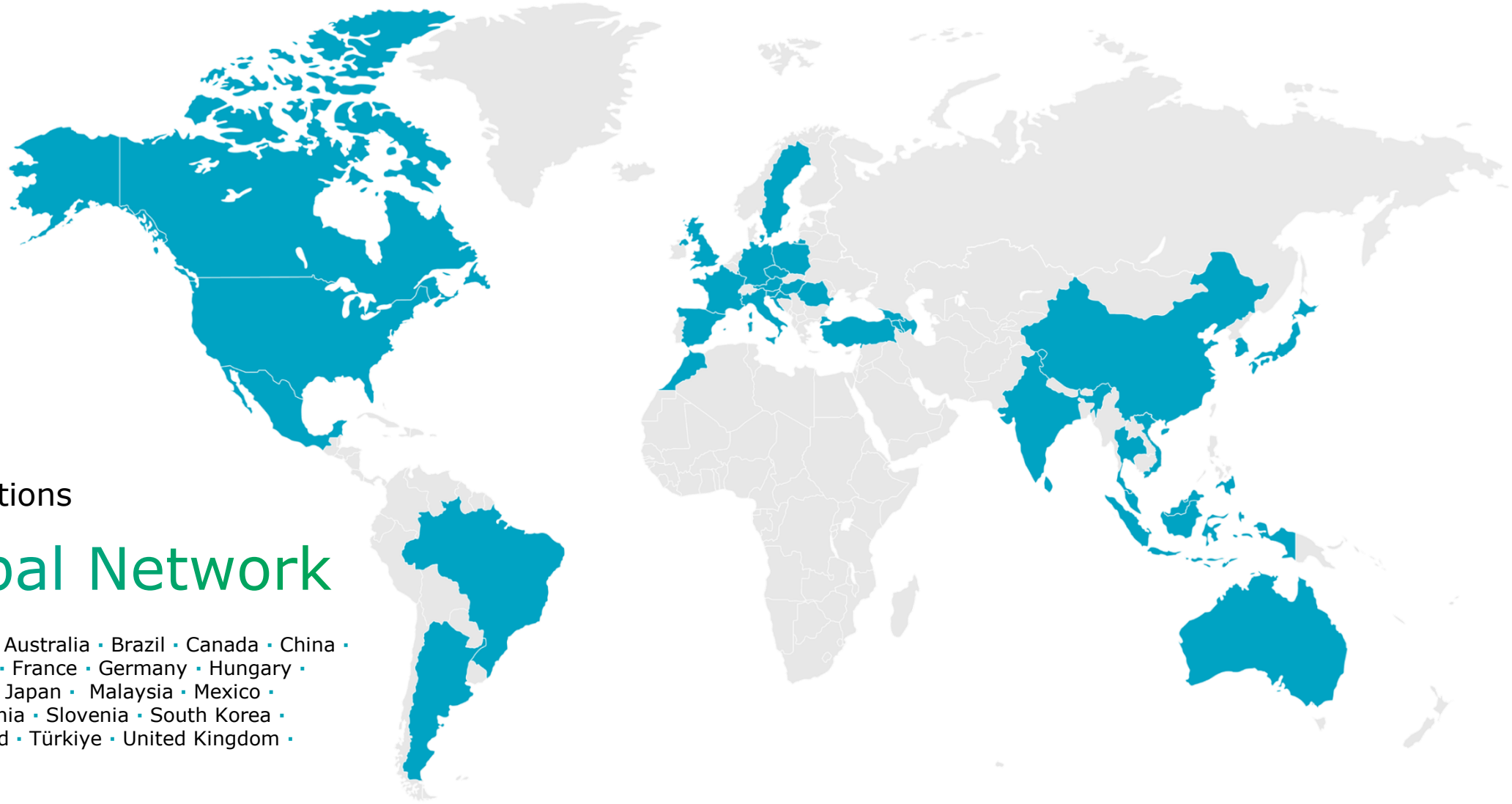
Automated and Connected Mobility

System Design, Calibration and
Testing Services

Tailored Software and Controls
Development

Tools and Methods for
Development and Testing





Worldwide Locations

Our Global Network

Austria, HQ | Argentina · Australia · Brazil · Canada · China · Croatia · Czech Republic · France · Germany · Hungary · India · Indonesia · Italy · Japan · Malaysia · Mexico · Morocco · Poland · Romania · Slovenia · South Korea · Spain · Sweden · Thailand · Türkiye · United Kingdom · United States · Vietnam



Introduction & Target Setting

Introduction



High Range and low overall costs when operating a fuel cell truck require an optimal system architecture. Electrified rear axles (eAxles) as well as powerful Fuel Cells are building the basis.



The integration of all single components to an optimized system is key.



Above all, the thermal and electrical system of an FCEV represent the greatest challenge for engineers around the world. Predictive operating strategies are helping to increase efficiency and durability at the same time.

Diesel Trucks to Be Challenged



State-of-the-art Diesel long-haul Truck in Europe

- + around 450 hp
- + up to 4.500 km range, refill < 15 min
- + low TCO → low cost of transport
- + highly efficient
- + maximum transport volume and payload
- + universal application (-30 °C ... +45 °C ambient)

but

- CO₂ emissions 33 g CO₂/ton-km payload
(32 t comb. weight, 21,6 l/100 km, 17,5 t payload *)
- Euro VI → Euro VII emissions

Diesel trucks are highly efficient, but not Zero Emission.

How to combine leading edge performance and zero emission?

→ A solution can be Fuel Cell Electric Drive.

* reference: trucker 01/2023, SuperTest DAF XF 450

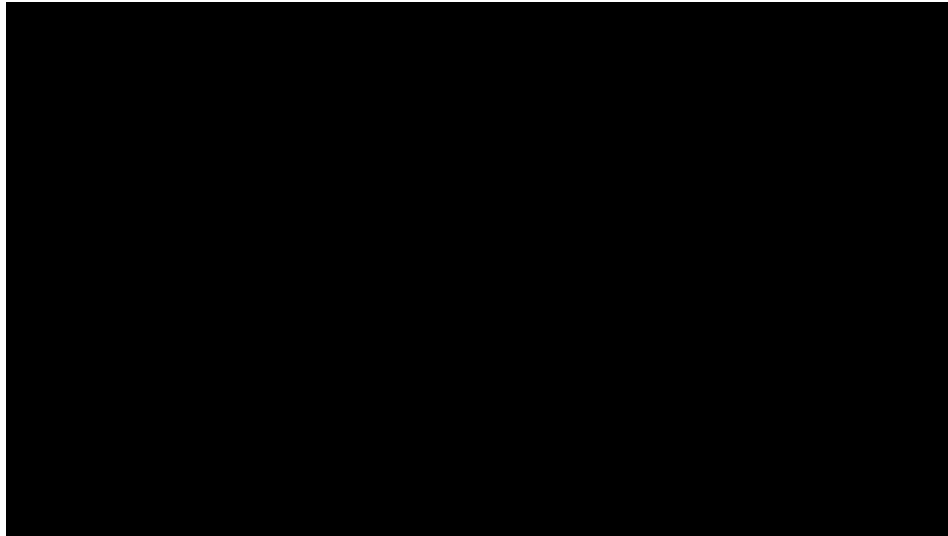
Target Setting

Achieve Industry Ready Vehicle Usage

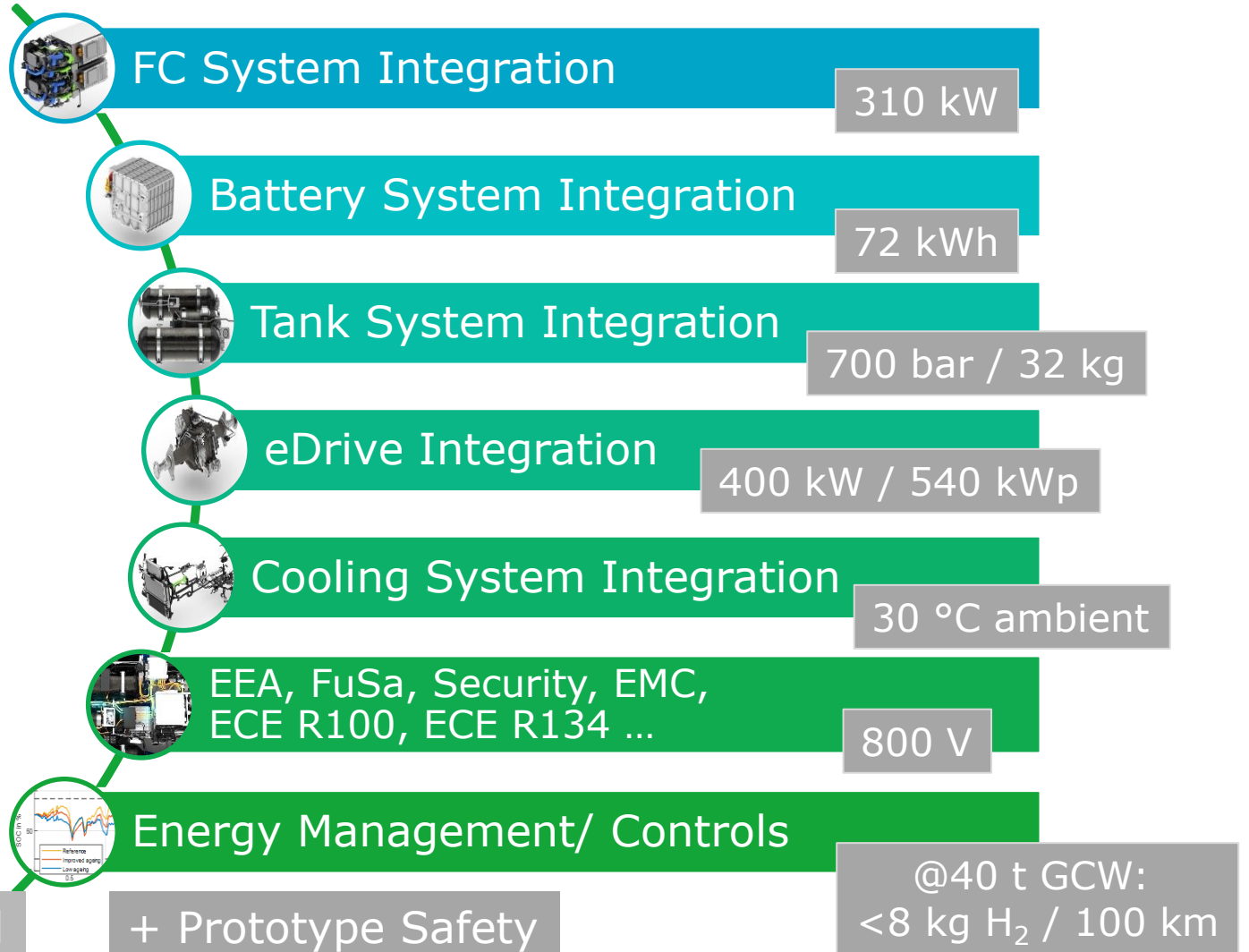
- 42 t Gross Combination Weight
- Real World Operation demonstrated with reference trip: Graz – Wiener Neudorf – Graz
- Range: 400 km
- Re-fueling time: < 15 min.
- Highway uphill driving w/o vehicle performance reduction



Main System & Integration Areas



+ Single Type Approval





System Development

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

From Stack Components to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle

Fuel Cell Stack

Note: AVL offers only stack engineering services, AVL will not produce and sell stacks



- Power (modular): 30 – 150 kW
- Power Density: 4.1 kW/L
- Lifetime: > 25,000 h
- Efficiency: 48 % (@ 0.6 V)
- Freeze Start Up: -30 °C
- Single cell row, carbon plates

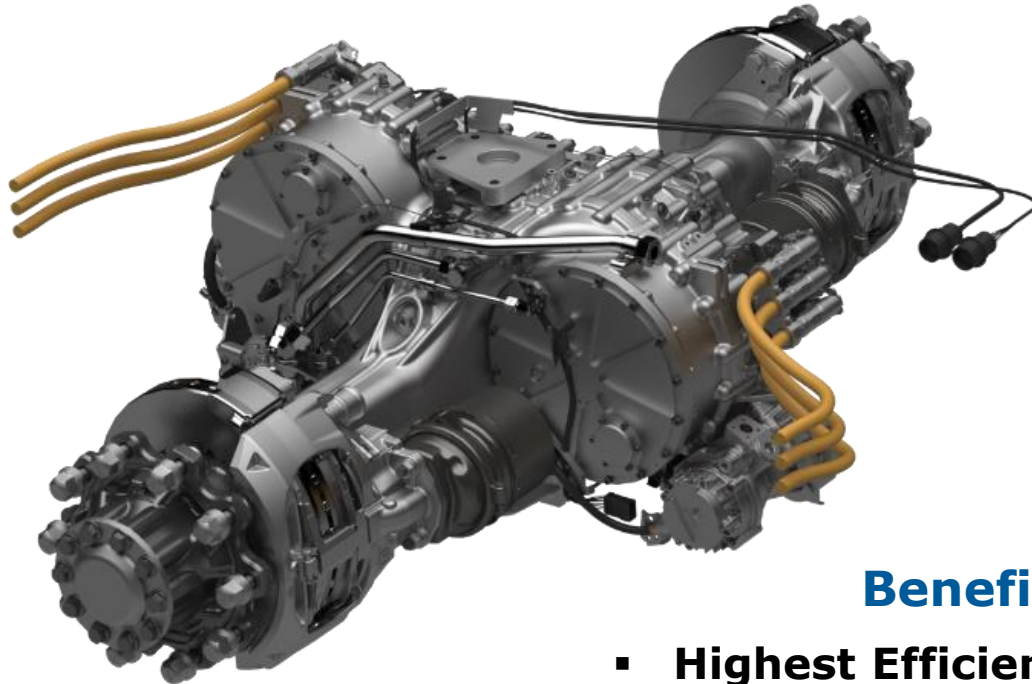
Fuel Cell System



- Rated Power (per module): 155 kW
- Power Density: 0.33 kW/L
- Lifetime: > 15,000 h
- Efficiency: 45 % (@ Rated Power)
- Freeze Start Up: -30 °C

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Heavy Duty e-Axle



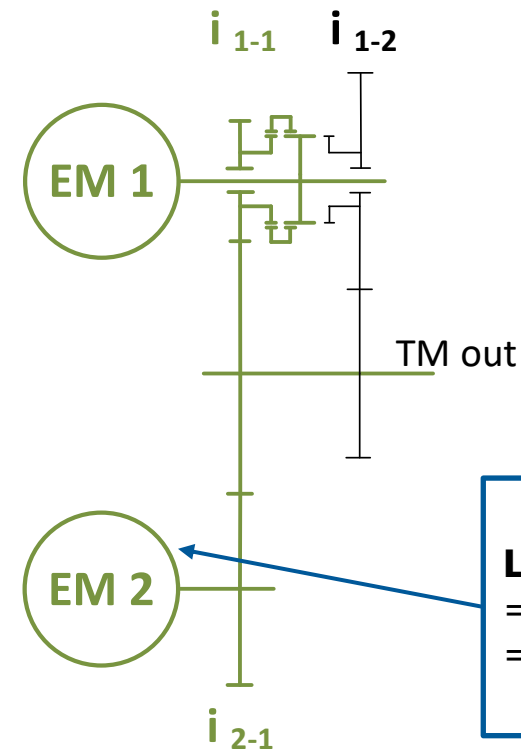
* without brakes

Benefits:

- Highest Efficiency
- Weight < 1.000 kg*
- Powershift Functionality
- Flexible, Scalable and Modular Architecture

E-motors (PSM)

- 2 x 270 kW peak power
- 2 x 200 kW continuous power
- 9.000 rpm max. rotational speed
- Direct oil cooling for highest torque density



Long Haul Drive Cycle
=> 70 % EM2
= high efficiency



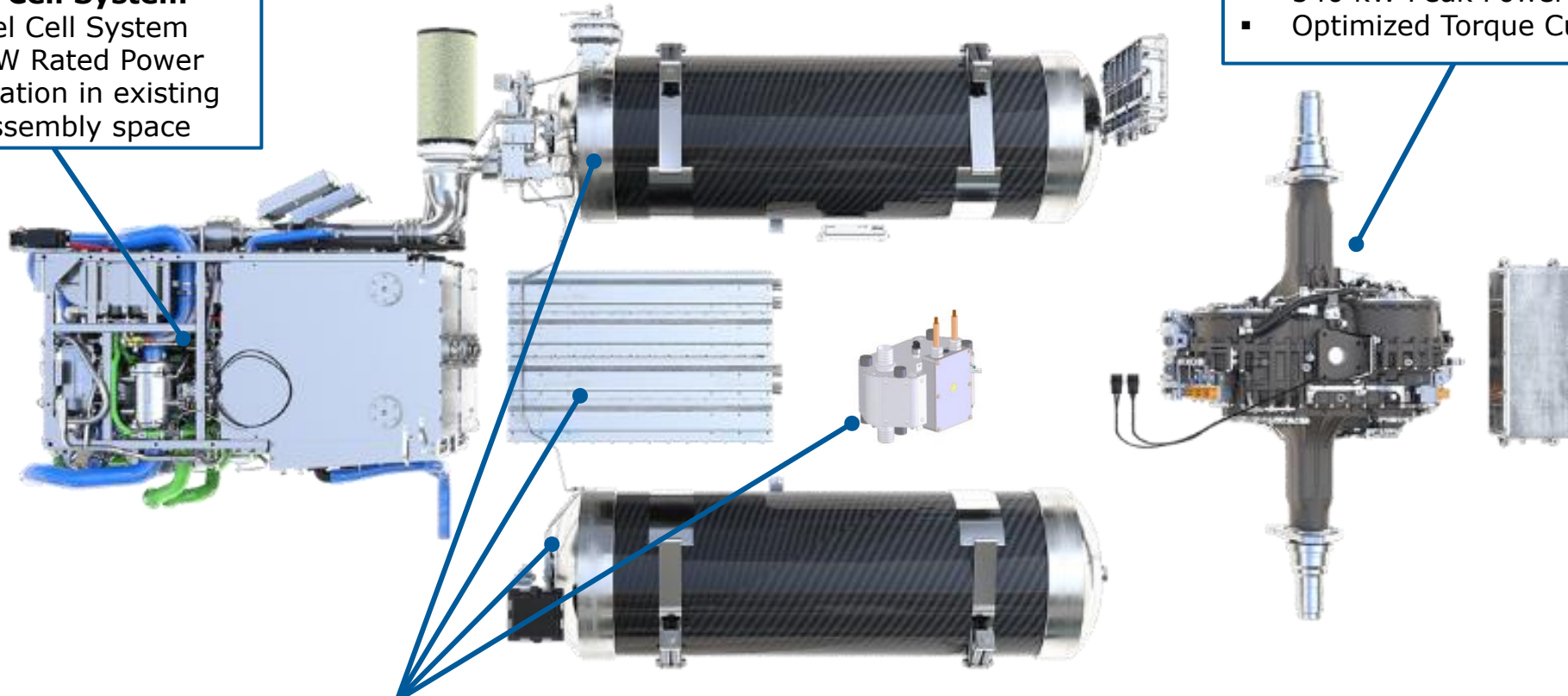
System Integration

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Main Powertrain Components

AVL Fuel Cell System

- 2x Fuel Cell System
- 310 kW Rated Power
- Integration in existing ICE assembly space



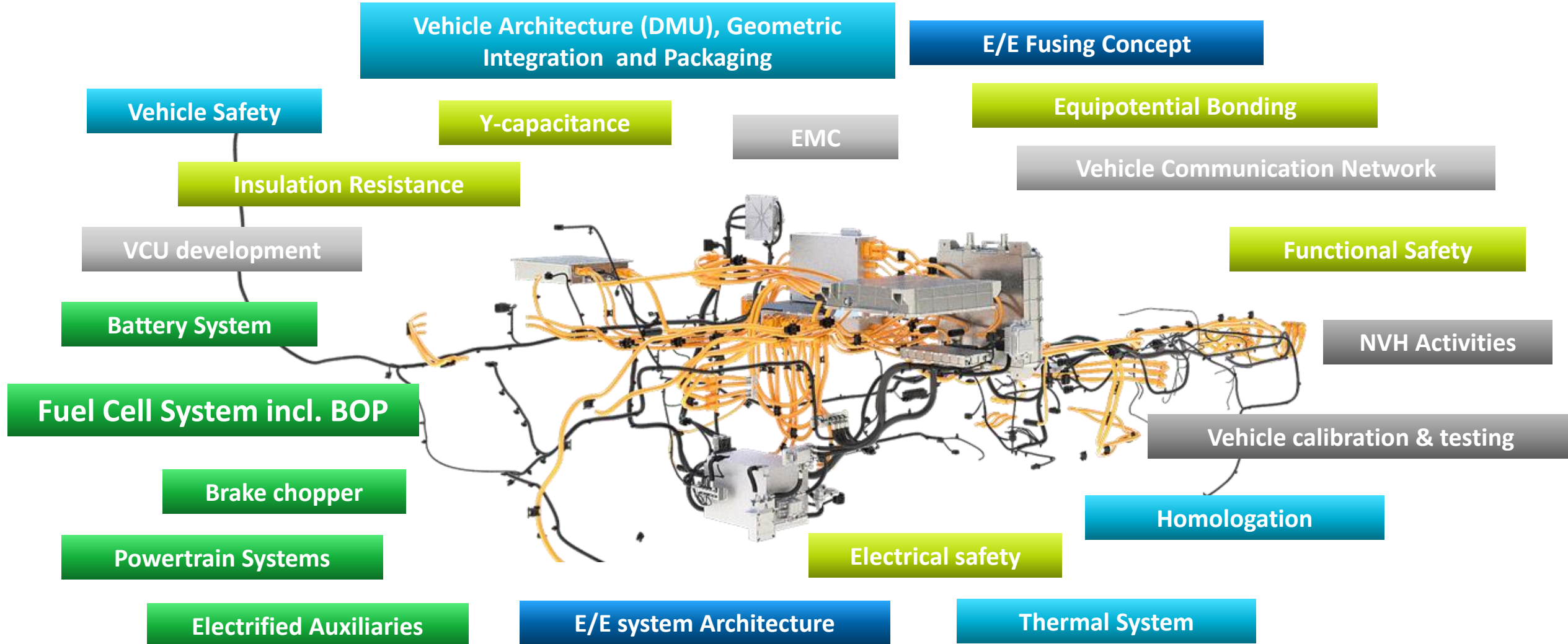
AVL e-Axle

- 2x Electric Motors
- 540 kW Peak Power
- Optimized Torque Curve

AVL Energy Storage

- AVL Modular HV Battery
- 2x H₂-Tanks (32 kg @ 700 bar)
- Brake Resistor (180 kW)
- Integration in standard assembly space

Example for Areas of EE Integration



AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Heavy Duty Power Distribution Unit

Connections



Dual motor e-axle

- 2x 270 kW peak
- 2x 200 kW continuous



Fuel cells

- 2 x 155 kW continuous



Brake chopper

- 250 kW continuous



HV voltage battery packs

- 2 packs in series → 800 V
- 190 kW peak, 95kW continuous



Thermal management components

- Main fan (>40kW continuous)
- AC compressor, heater, pumps



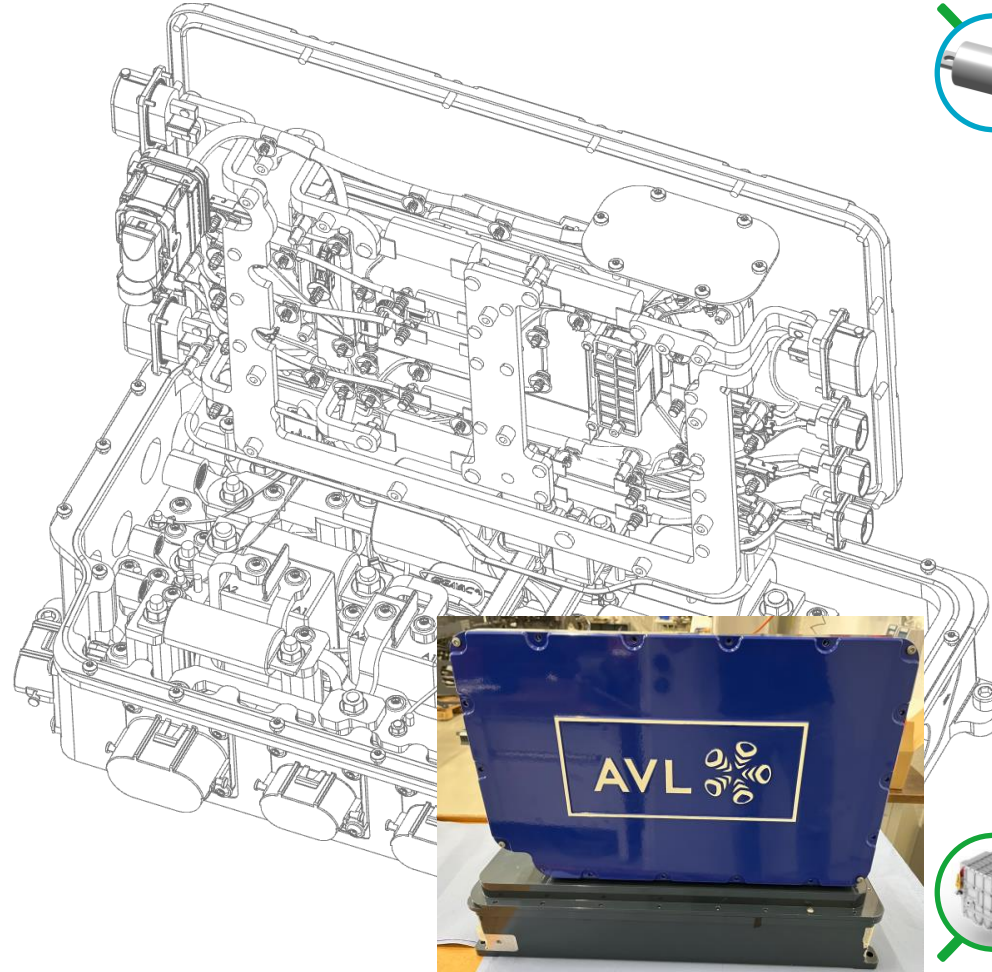
Auxiliary outputs

- Steering pump, air compressor
- HV-LV DCDC

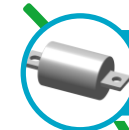


AC & DC charging

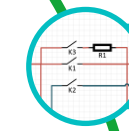
- Including DC charging contactors



Features



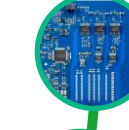
Overcurrent protection



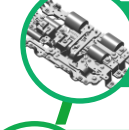
Pre-charging of HV system & monitoring



Contactor control (main contactors, pre-charge and DC charging)



Isolation resistance and voltage monitoring



Current and temperature monitoring



HVIL signal generation and monitoring



Battery multipack control & EVCC*

*separate controller, but can be combined on customer request

Demanding Challenges for Heavy-Duty Electrification

Isolation resistance

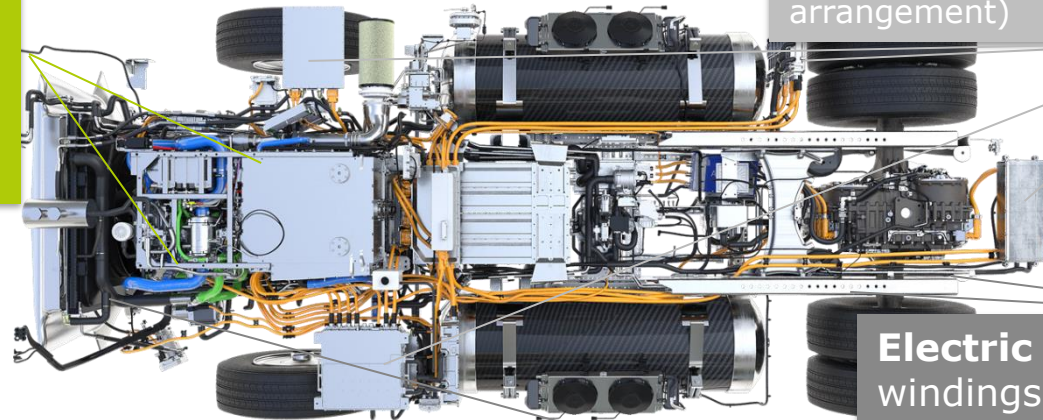
Fuel cell system:

Coolant in direct contact with HV in fuel cell stacks → conductivity and paths to ground define Iso-Resistance

Major contributor to total isolation resistance

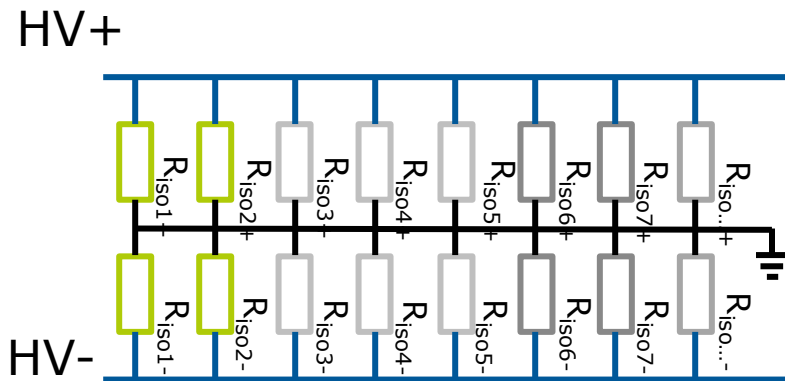
Power Electronics (DC/AC & DC/DC converters):

High isolation resistance of single components
Large number of components in HV system → **contribution not neglectable** (parallel arrangement)

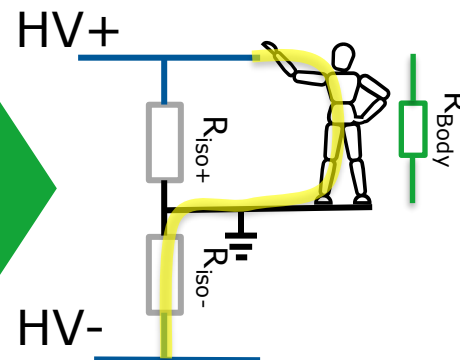


Electric motors (insulation of windings):

High temperature dependency of isolation resistance (+10 °C → $R_{iso}/2$)
Large number of components in HV system → **significant contribution** (parallel arrangement)



Calculation of parallel resistances



In a system with too low insulation resistance, **a single failure would be hazardous for people.**

Demanding Challenges for Heavy-Duty Electrification

Y-Capacity

EMC Filters:

EMC filters are part of each HV component with power semiconductor switches

High y -capacities in off-the-shelf components, since it's the easier way to meet EMC targets

→ Severe impact on total y -capacitance even by low-power HV components

Fuel Cells, and Batteries, brake resistors

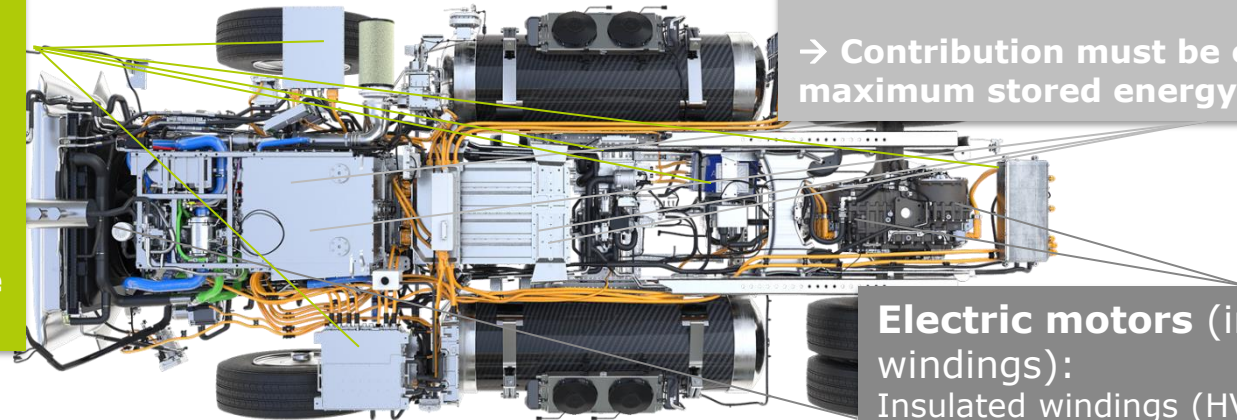
Large electrically active surfaces and small distances to ground planes (e.g., battery cell to cooling surface) act as a capacitor

→ Contribution must be considered for maximum stored energy

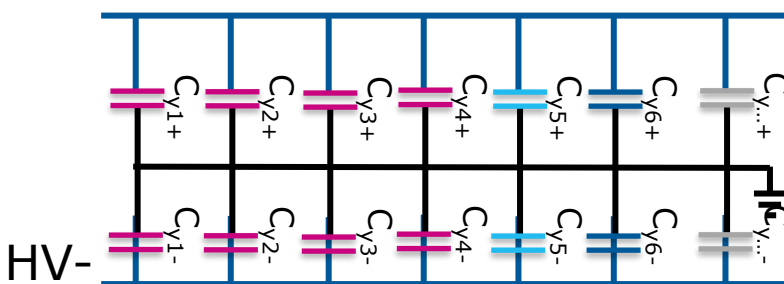
Electric motors (insulation of windings):

Insulated windings (HV) in stator slots (GND) also act as a capacitance

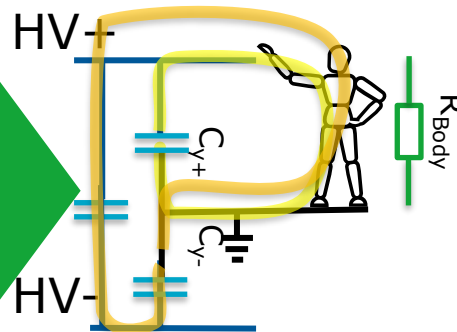
→ small contribution, but needs to be investigated



HV+



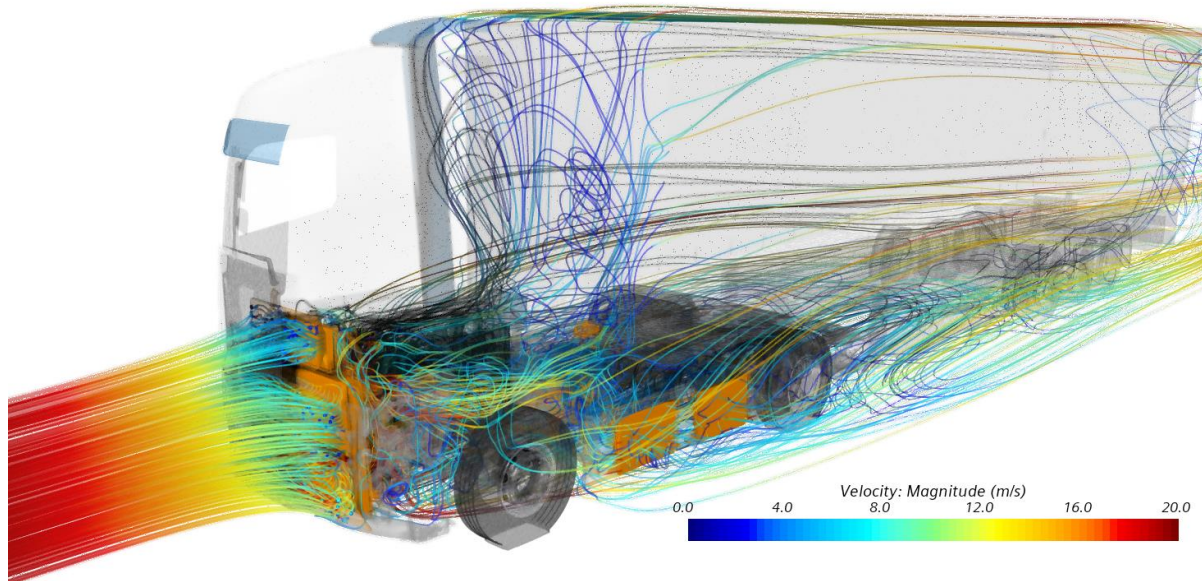
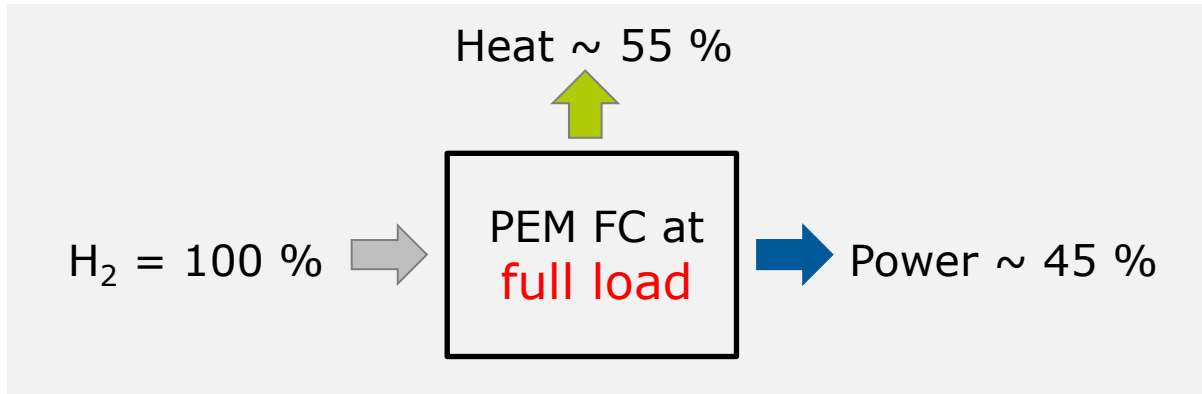
Calculation of parallel capacitances



In a system with high Y-capacity, a single failure would be hazardous for people.

Thermal System

Challenge – not hot Exhaust Gas



- High share of losses into cooling fluid, no hot exhaust gas with high mass flow
- Low temperature level
- De-Ionized coolant in high temperature circuit

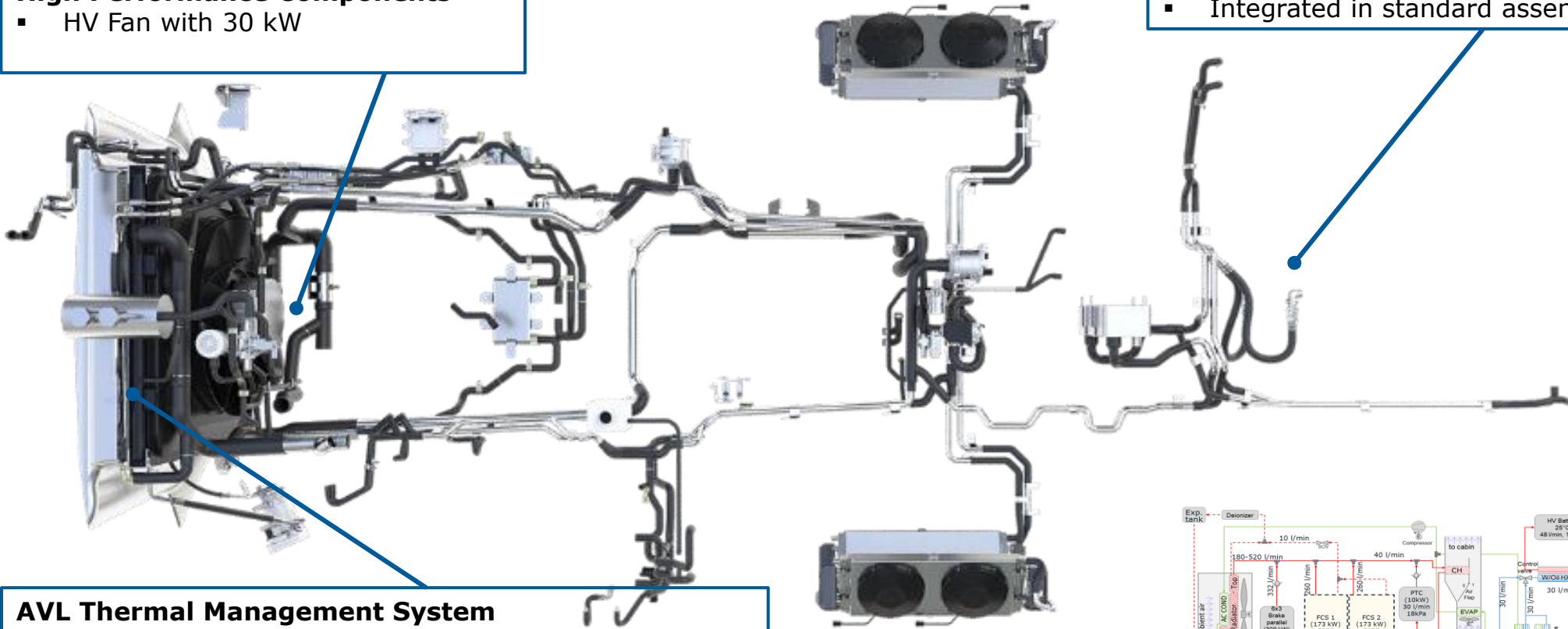
- 3 optimized cooling circuits (LT, MT, HT)
- High voltage main radiator (30 kW)
- Additional low voltage radiators
- Predictive thermal management

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Thermal System

High Performance Components

- HV Fan with 30 kW

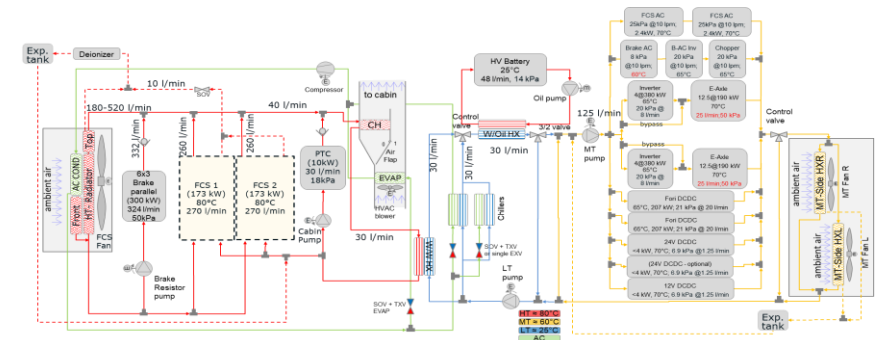


AVL Thermal Management System

- Cooling package frontal area (vehicle) remained unchanged
- Total front radiator surface was increased to 1.8 m² (180 % of initial radiator size)

AVL Thermal Management System

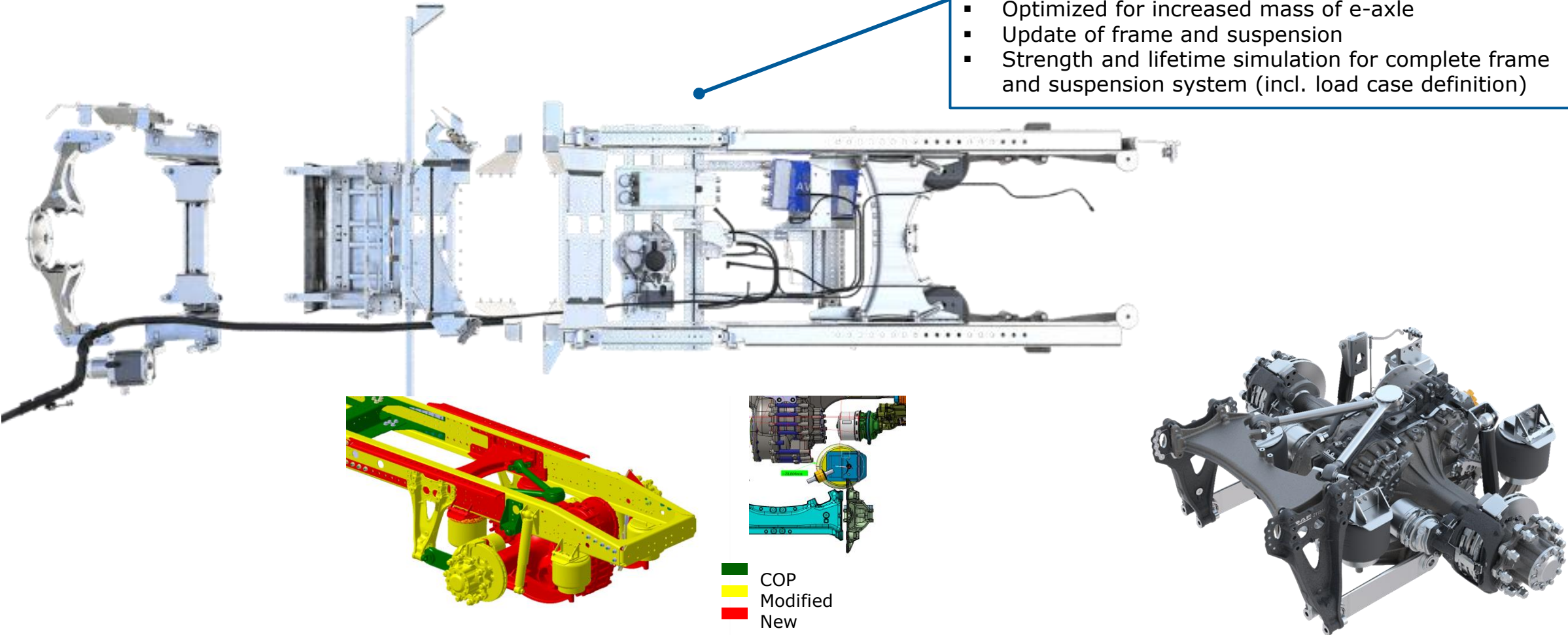
- 3 optimized and interconnected cooling circuits (LT, MT, HT)
- Integrated in standard assembly space



AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Chassis & Frame

- AVL Chassis Development**
- Optimized to new geometry of powertrain elements
 - Optimized for increased mass of e-axle
 - Update of frame and suspension
 - Strength and lifetime simulation for complete frame and suspension system (incl. load case definition)



Vehicle Systems Geometrical Integration



Donor Vehicle (DAF XF, 3.8m wheelbase, Diesel engine)

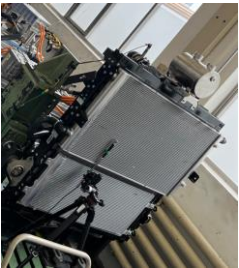
New HMI



AVL HD FC System



OTS Battery System



Advanced AVL Thermal System

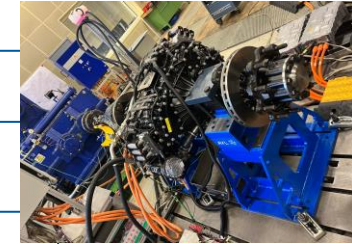


Power Electronics & E/E Integration



Adaption of Chassis Components

Integration of AVL HD E-Axle



Integration of 700 bar Hydrogen tanks



Integration of Brake Chopper/ Resistor



Crash Simulation of Side Protection (for H2 Tank)





Advanced Energy Management

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Advanced Energy Management

A predictive function optimizes system parameters in order to implement the optimal trade-off between



Energy/fuel consumption



Trip time



System/component lifetime

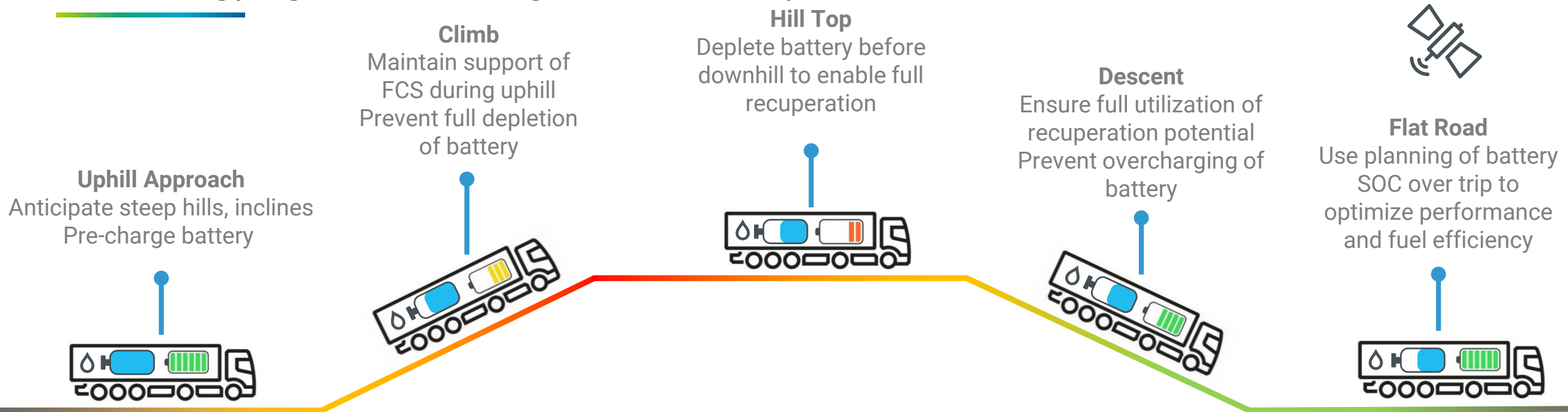


**Optimize
TCO**



AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Pred. Energy Mgmt. - Use of Digital 3D Road Maps and GPS



Sensors & Actuation

- Preview of route characteristics (altitude, speed limits, curvature, traffic, ...)
- Powertrain states (actual gear, torques, battery SoC, etc.)
- Outputs power split between available energy sources (e. g. fuel cell & battery)

Typical PHC Applications

- Applicable to all hybrids, e. g. HEV, REEV, FCEV

Benefits & Tradeoffs

- Up to 5 % energy saving*
- Highest savings on longer routes with mix between urban & highway driving

* expected fuel savings depending on use-case and powertrain specification

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Targets of Predictive Energy Management

Targets of Energy Management

Max. Vehicle performance

Optimize H₂ efficiency / Range

Optimize Component aging



Integration of Predictive Lifetime Management

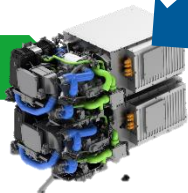
- Integration in energy management
- Optimize component lifetime
- Keep high H₂ efficiency and vehicle performance

→ Reduce TCO for customer

Fuel cell characteristics

- System efficiency
- Component limits

→ Influenced by aging over lifetime



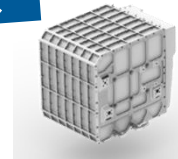
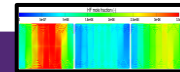
Predictive ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Power split between

- Fuel cell systems
- Battery system

Predictive LIFETIME MANAGEMENT

- Optimization and balancing of component lifetime
- Ensure high H₂ efficiency and vehicle performance
- Optimization of TCO for customer



Battery characteristics

- System efficiency
- Battery capacity
- Component limits

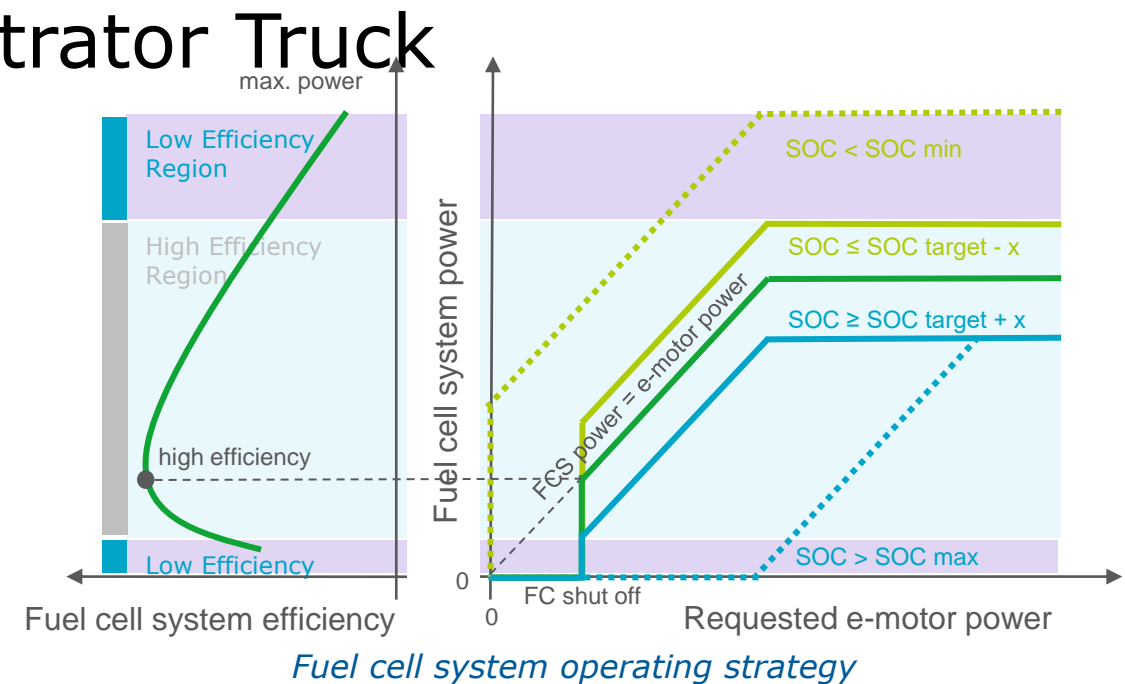
→ Influenced by aging over lifetime

AVL Fuel Cell Technology Demonstrator Truck

Standard vs. Predictive Energy Management

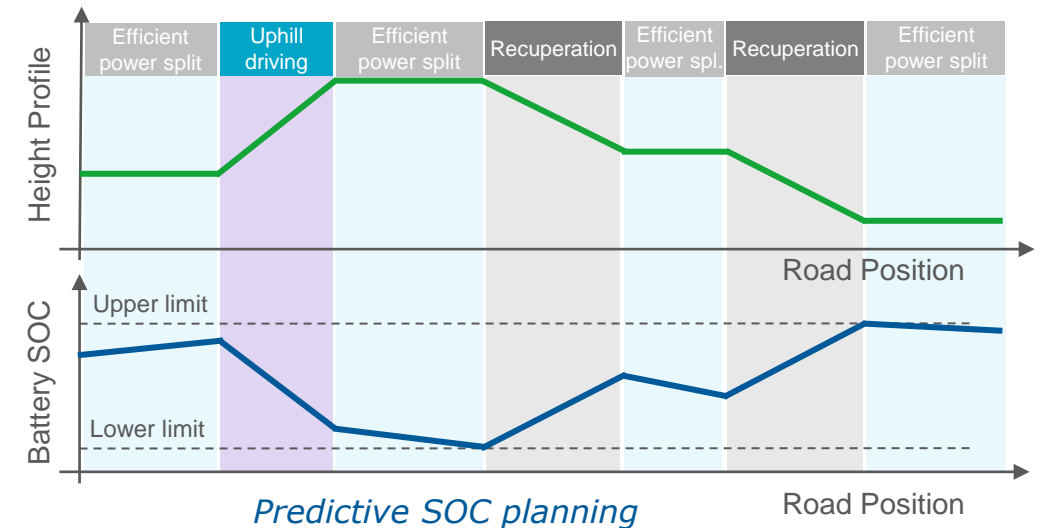
Standard energy management (without predictive info)

- Provide requested e-motor power by fuel cell
- Limited by max. power gradient
- Remaining e-motor power from battery
- Control battery SOC to a target value
- Efficiently adapt fuel cell power
- Strongly adapt fuel cell power for exceeding SOC limits



Predictive energy management

- Optimized SOC planning via road profile & traffic info
- Efficient power split between FCS and battery
- Avoid full depletion of battery
- Utilize whole recuperation potential
- Reduced component ageing





Certified and on the Road by **Beginning of 2025**





Q&A

Contact



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