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The CharIN path to Megawatt Charging (MCS): Successful connector test event at NREL

On September 23-24, 2020 another milestone in the development of compatible inlet and connector designs for medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicles was reached.

At the facilities of National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) cross-industry representatives tested, provided feedback and evaluated the compatibility of inlet and connectors for megawatt chargers. Among them were leading OEM's, utilities, equipment manufacturers and suppliers.



©NREL– Fit and ergonomics evaluation of the MCS

This event enabled seven vehicle inlets and eleven charger connectors to test their designs together. NREL's facilities offered

a convening location to compare components across the seven different manufacturers represented with prototypes in the hardware evaluations with another six manufacturers participating virtually. Features like the fit, the ergonomics, the easy connection and disconnection and the thermal performance of the connectors and inlets were tested and evaluated by the participants. These are valuable results for optimizing, further developing the standard and to ensure consistent performance across connector and inlet designs. The event was followed by a virtual CharIN task force meeting to review the evaluations.

The common goal of this event was to support the creation of a global megawatt charging system (MCS) standard to ensure the compatibility of connectors and inlet hardware from different manufacturers. Especially the American CharIN member community contributed with the organization of this event and the valuable feedback to further development of an industry standard for megawatt chargers. The new CCS based standard will streamline market introduction and encourage market stability.



This event was sponsored by the Department of Energy, the California Energy Commission, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Daimler Trucks North America, Gladstein Neandross & Associates and CharIN.

Information about CharIN e.V.

The Charging Interface Initiative e.V. (CharIN e.V.) is a registered association with over 210 members along the whole value chain from all over the world. It is open to all interested parties and has offices in Germany, Hong Kong, South Korea, India, Japan and the US. CharIN brings together industry experts to develop international charging standards. The CharIN group has identified a list of priority requirements for a new high-power charging system, including compatibility with up to 1500V and 3000A. The association's goal is to rethink existing systems and incorporate various international standards to evolve charging standards for medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicles.

Please find more information under: www.charinev.org

Press Contact:

Charging Interface Initiative e.V.
c/o innos GmbH
Kurfürstendamm 11
D- 10719 Berlin
Germany

Tel.: +49 30 288 8388-0

Fax: +49 30 288 8388-19

E-Mail: info@charinev.org