

Battery life beijing

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Daimler, together with its battery energy storage subsidiary Mercedes-Benz Energy, entered into a development partnership with Beijing Electric Vehicle Co. (BJEV), a subsidiary of the BAIC Group.

The German-Chinese partnership is focused on the second-life battery storage for Chinese market. The first pilot installation will be deployed in Beijing.

BJEV is very interested in reusing battery modules from electric cars as soon there will be plenty of such batteries available. So far, the company produced more than 420,000 electric cars, which speaks for itself.

"The partnership will see a consolidation of expertise and resources regarding the value-chain of automotive battery systems, while laying the groundwork for a sustainable renewable energy development. Together, Mercedes-Benz Energy and Beijing Electric Vehicle plan to set up the first 2nd-life energy storage unit in Beijing, making use of retired BJEV electric car batteries. This project will serve as the basis for other types of cooperation in the future."

Usually, batteries are reaching end-of-life in electric vehicles when their capacity decreases to less than 70-80% of the initial capacity. Because normally it takes years, this market is still in the very early stage. After extracting the used modules for stationary application (where decreasing energy density is not a problem), batteries can still remain in use for probably 10+ years.

Here is how the two describes current achievements and potential applications for the battery second-life:

Beijing Electric Vehicle Co., Ltd. was established in 2009 by the BAIC Group as a development platform for New Energy Vehicles. With more than 420,000 battery-electric vehicles on the market so far, BJEV is one of the leading manufacturers of all-electric vehicles in China. Accordingly, their batteries form one of the largest pools worldwide and offer wide-ranging potential for 2nd-life applications in the area of stationary use. In 2016, BAIC established Beijing Articore Battery to perform research into the utilization of 2nd-life batteries. Beijing Articore Battery is currently involved in the research of telecommunications base stations, highway renewable energy stations and mobile energy storage units. Research into micro-grid energy storage is also planned."

Gordon Gassmann, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Energy, stated:

"The extension of regenerative and thus high-fluctuation energy production is rapidly increasing worldwide. The tendency towards increasing distances between the site of energy production and the site of energy

consumption also means huge challenges for today's energy grids. This is creating wide-ranging opportunities for stationary energy storage systems worldwide. 2nd-life battery storage units are a very sensible supplement, as with the further utilisation of disused car batteries we are also making sustainable use of valuable raw materials."

Ye Xiaohua, Deputy General Manager of BJEV, emphasized:

"The rapid electrification of vehicles has transformed vehicles from a traditional means of transport, to a new tool of energy management. BJEV is an expert in areas such as charging and battery swap infrastructure and battery 2nd-life usage. I believe our cooperation in energy management will bring long-term and stable benefits."

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