

eTaxi Austria project: automated charging networks with Matrix Charging® for eTaxis in Vienna and Graz

eTaxi Austria Project: World's largest eTaxi project with automated charging

Project for automated conductive eTaxi charging infrastructure in Vienna and Graz sets the tone for the mobility transition

To lower emissions and further improve quality of life in the city, Vienna and Graz will be increasingly shifting to eTaxis. However, for economical operation of the electric taxis, interruptions for trips to distant next charging station must be avoided, which is why the focus is on automated charging directly at the taxi stands. Within the so called "eTaxi Austria" project, a globally unique project, in Vienna and Graz a total of 10 taxi stands and 66 vehicles will be



Hermann Stockinger, CEO and founder of Easelink, Siegfried Nagl, mayor city of Graz
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point with a cable, these vehicles equipped with a connector on the underbody can be connected to a charging plate at the taxi stand with the push of a button. The taxis are automatically charged, without the driver even having to leave the vehicle. eTaxi Austria is the largest eTaxi project to date for automated charging directly at the taxi stands and the first to one with the application of an highly efficient conductive charging technology in eTaxi

operations. The two vehicle types being used in the project support charging at 11 kW AC, which is being implemented as part of the eTaxi Austria project. Matrix Charging® will subsequently support up to 22 kW AC and 100 kW DC at 800 volts. “As an automobile manufacturer independent technology, Matrix Charging® can already be retrofitted into most of the electric vehicles available on the market today. The charging pads installed at the parking space are robust and maintenance-free and can be installed in both in public spaces and private garages,” says Hermann Stockinger, founder and CEO of Easelink.

Starting in 2025, only taxis with emission-free drive systems will be permitted in Austria. The eTaxi Austria project is intended to set the tone for this and prepare the rollout of automated charging infrastructure. The charging infrastructure has already been massively expanded in the last years in Vienna and Graz. In Greater Vienna “Wien Energie”, Austria’s largest energy supplier, already operates over 1,900 public and semi-public charging stations. “For the electrification of taxi fleets, the automation of charging at the stand is crucial. This can only be achieved with a robust charging technology that can be integrated flush and thus barrier-free into the roads. Matrix Charging® meets these requirements and offers high efficiency through the conductive connection. Due to the decentralized design of the charging infrastructure and a high connection time of the vehicles with the charging points, a grid-serving integration into the urban



The implementation of charging infrastructure with Matrix Charging® offers extensive advantages. By eliminating bulky charging stations and cables, the charging infrastructure can be rolled out in densely built-up areas without requiring additional space. At the same time, the project enables year-round comfort for drivers and customers (cooling and heating of electric vehicles at the taxi stand without reducing range) as well as easy moving forward and backward at the taxi stand without a cable. The simplified charging process and the elimination of uneconomical trips to the charging station boost the acceptance among drivers and pave the way for further electrification of cab fleets.

Rollout of Matrix Charging®

Through collaboration with renowned automotive manufacturers and suppliers, the Matrix Charging® technology is being brought into series production and rolled out worldwide. The technology was recently shown in an electric vehicle platform from automotive supplier Schaeffler in Munich.

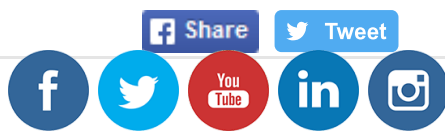
Project partner und funding authority

The eTaxi Austria project in Vienna and Graz is being implemented by a project consortium. The core team consists of the Economic Chambers of Vienna and Styria, Wien Energie and Energie Graz, Easelink GmbH, Grazer Energieagentur, tbw research GesmbH, Taxi 40100 and Taxi 31300 as well as vibe moves you and Quintessenz Organisationsberatung. The motor club ÖAMTC as well as Hyundai are also participating in the project. "As the leading mobility club in the country, the ÖAMTC supports the eTaxi project as a competence center in the vehicle sector and in e-car servicing. Our experience in testing Matrix Charging® within the ÖAMTC E fleet has shown that Matrix Charging® is ideally suited as a technically safe and robust solution for the eTaxi project." says Christian Klejna, expert for electromobility at ÖAMTC

program. The eTaxi project is a pioneering effort. It offers a truly promising way to contribute significantly to climate neutrality. With the participation of Vienna and Graz, we are very pleased to have the two largest cities in Austria on-board as model cities. We are very excited for implementation of this project!" says Theresia Vogel, General Manager of the Climate and Energy Fund.

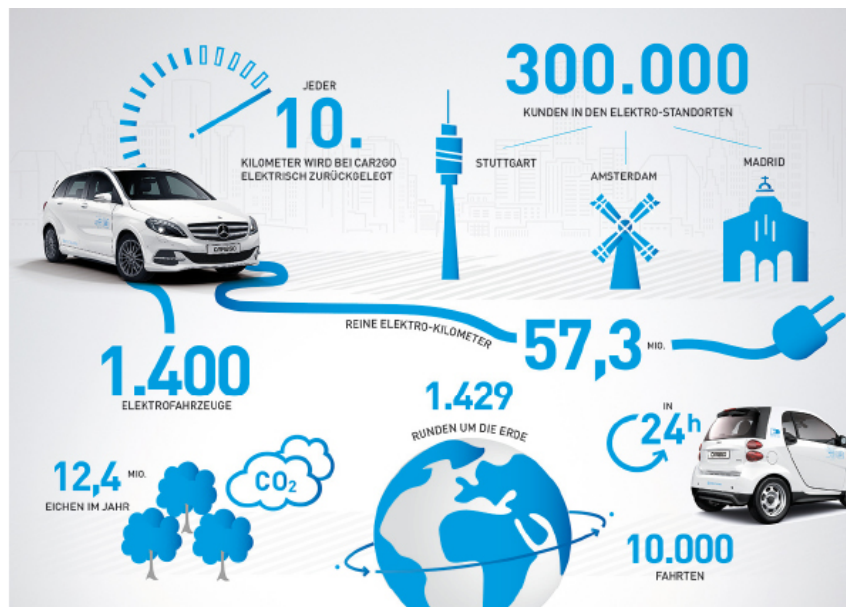
More information and statements about the project from Vienna and Graz can be found at the project www.etaxi-austria.at; www.easelink.com

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