

Hybrid Integration and Drive Axle Solutions for Commercial Vehicle

McLaren Engineering

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Explore the latest in hybrid powertrain and drive axle technologies shaping the future of commercial vehicle upfitting. This session covers the flexibility of motor generator unit (MGU) range extenders — balancing battery size with range — and compares central drive axles versus eAxles in terms of efficiency, cost, regen, and integration complexity. Featuring Class 4–6 examples and an overview of Linamar's customizable eMD15 system, attendees will gain practical insight into how these technologies apply to both upfits and purpose-built platforms.



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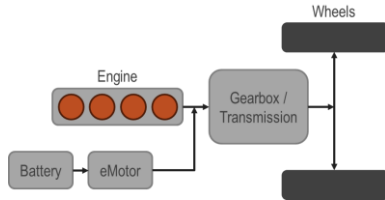
Agenda

- Motor Generator Unit (MGU) Overview
- Central Drive Axle vs. eAxle
- eMD15 Class 4-6 Commercial Vehicle eAxle

Motor Generator Unit (MGU) Overview



Electrified Powertrain Architectures



Electrification

Micro Hybrid

- Cannot propel the vehicle on electric power alone.
- Supports stop/start and sometimes regenerative braking.
- Battery size: Very small (typically <1 kWh)

Mild Hybrid (MHEV)

- Cannot drive on electricity alone.
- Assists acceleration, enables stop/start, and regenerative braking.
- Battery size: Small (0.5–2 kWh)

Full Hybrid (HEV)

- Limited EV-only operation possible.
- Low speed and light load propulsion.
- Parallel or Series
- Battery size: Medium (up to 3–4 kWh)

Plug-In Hybrid (PHEV)

- Capable of significant EV-only propulsion. ICE required for longer trips or high loads
- Battery size: Large (10–30+ kWh)

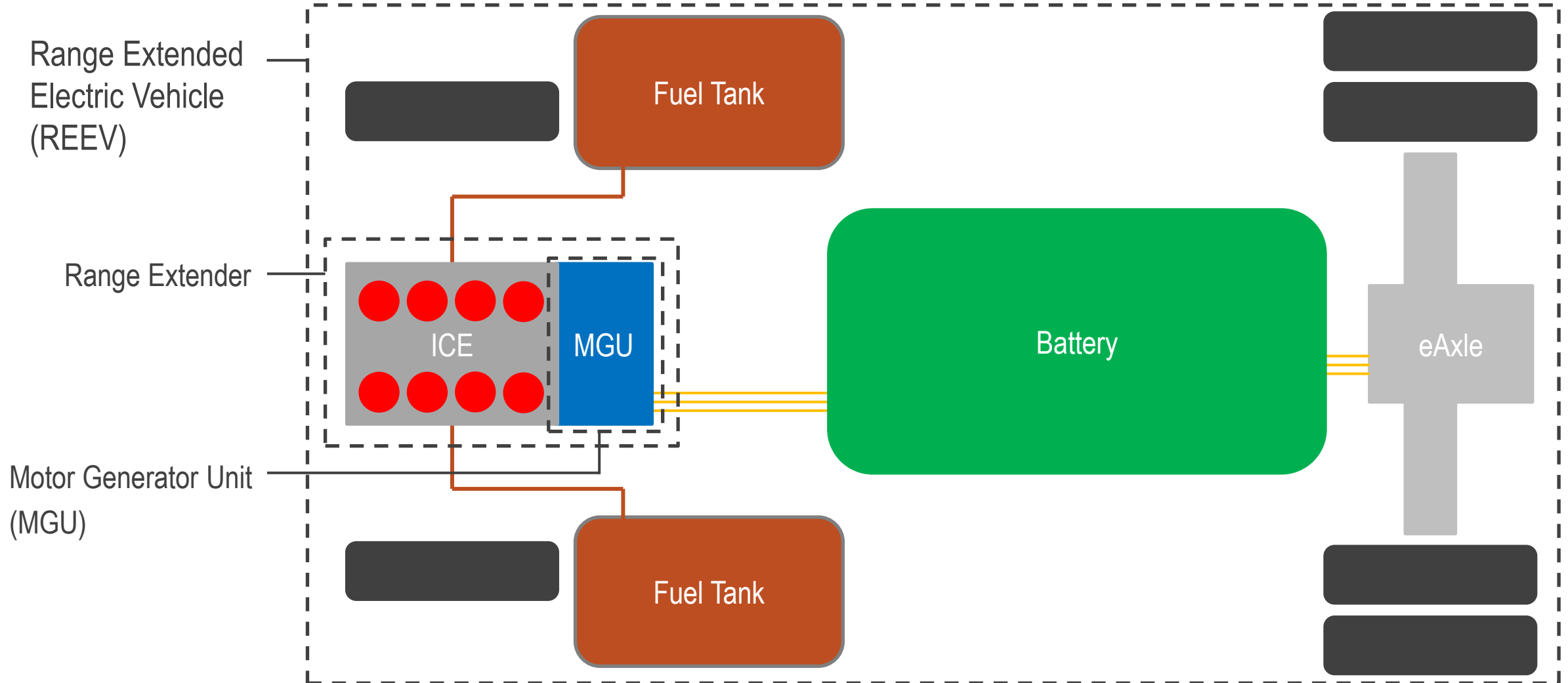
Range-Extended EV (REEV)

- 100% electric propulsion
- ICE generates electricity when the battery depletes.
- Battery size: Large (~20–40+ kWh)

Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)

- 100% electric propulsion
- Battery: Very large (40–200+ kWh)

Range Extended Electric Vehicle | Block Diagram



REEV Benefits



Extended Driving Range

- Overcoming “range anxiety”. Internal combustion engine (ICE) generates electricity to recharge the battery and allow longer trips between refueling.



Flexible Refueling

- Can refuel, making it practical where charging infrastructure is limited.



Primary Electric Drive Experience

- High torque and quiet operation from the EV powertrain.



Lower Emissions Than Conventional Vehicles

- Fuel consumption and emissions are significantly reduced compared to traditional ICE vehicles.



Reduced Battery Size Requirement

- A smaller and less expensive battery can be used to achieve the same vehicle range.

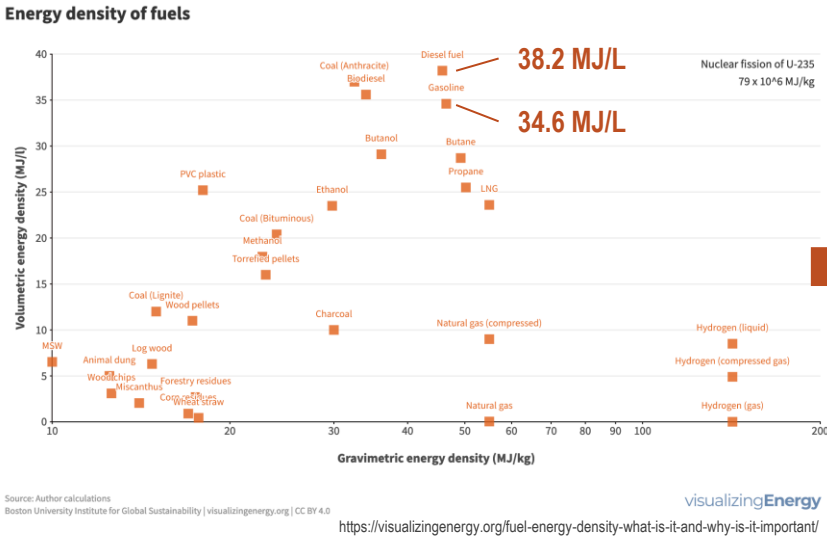


Reduced Engine and Brake Wear

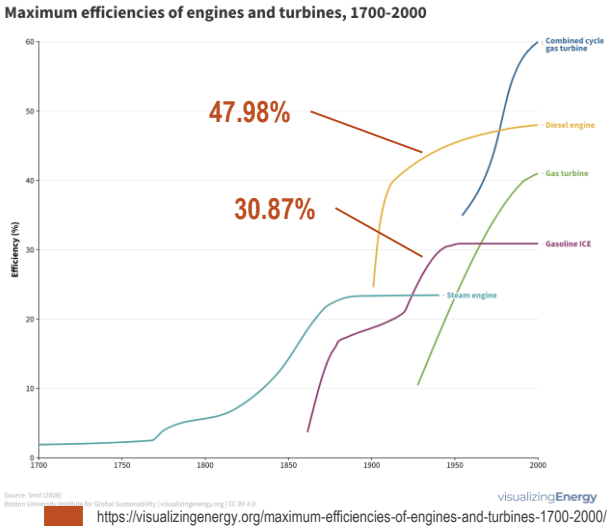
- The ICE operates at constant high efficiency load points and regenerative braking reduce wear and maintenance.

Range Extender Principle

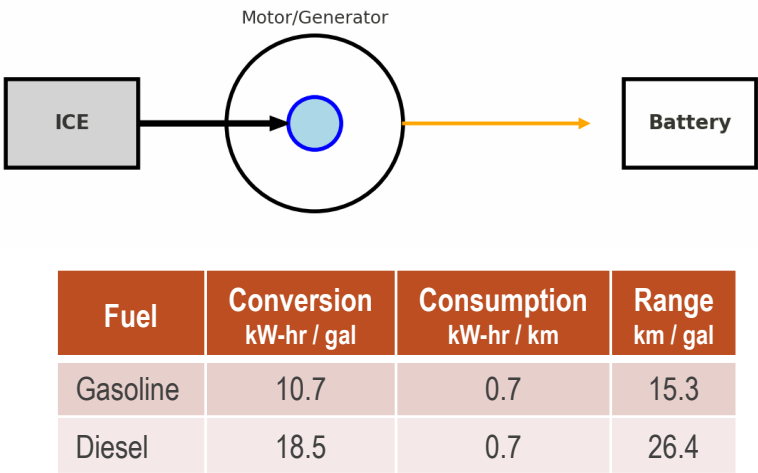
Gasoline or Diesel Fuel Stores Chemical Energy



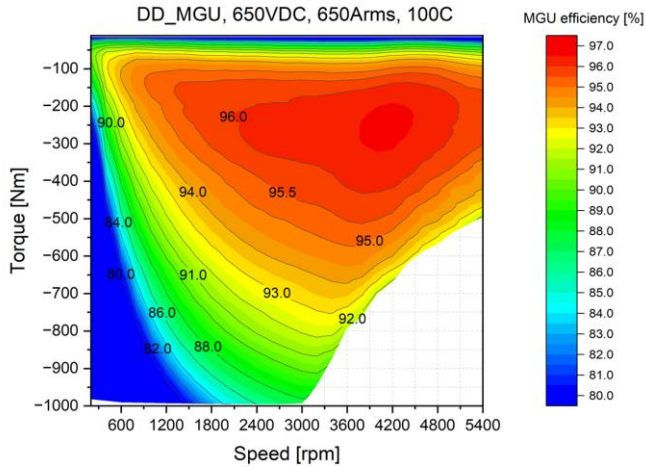
Internal Combustion Engine Converts Stored Energy to Mechanical Power w/ Losses



Electrical Power Sent to the Battery to Maintain or Increase State of Charge (SoC)



Motor Generator Unit (MGU) Converts Mechanical Power to Electrical Power



Motor Generator Unit | Architecture Types

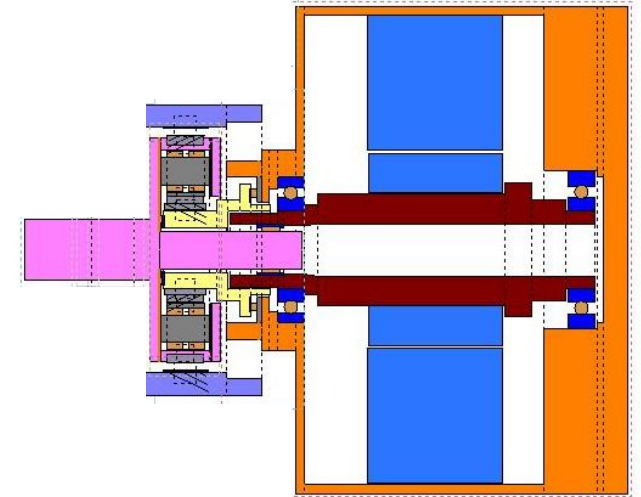
Offset / Geared



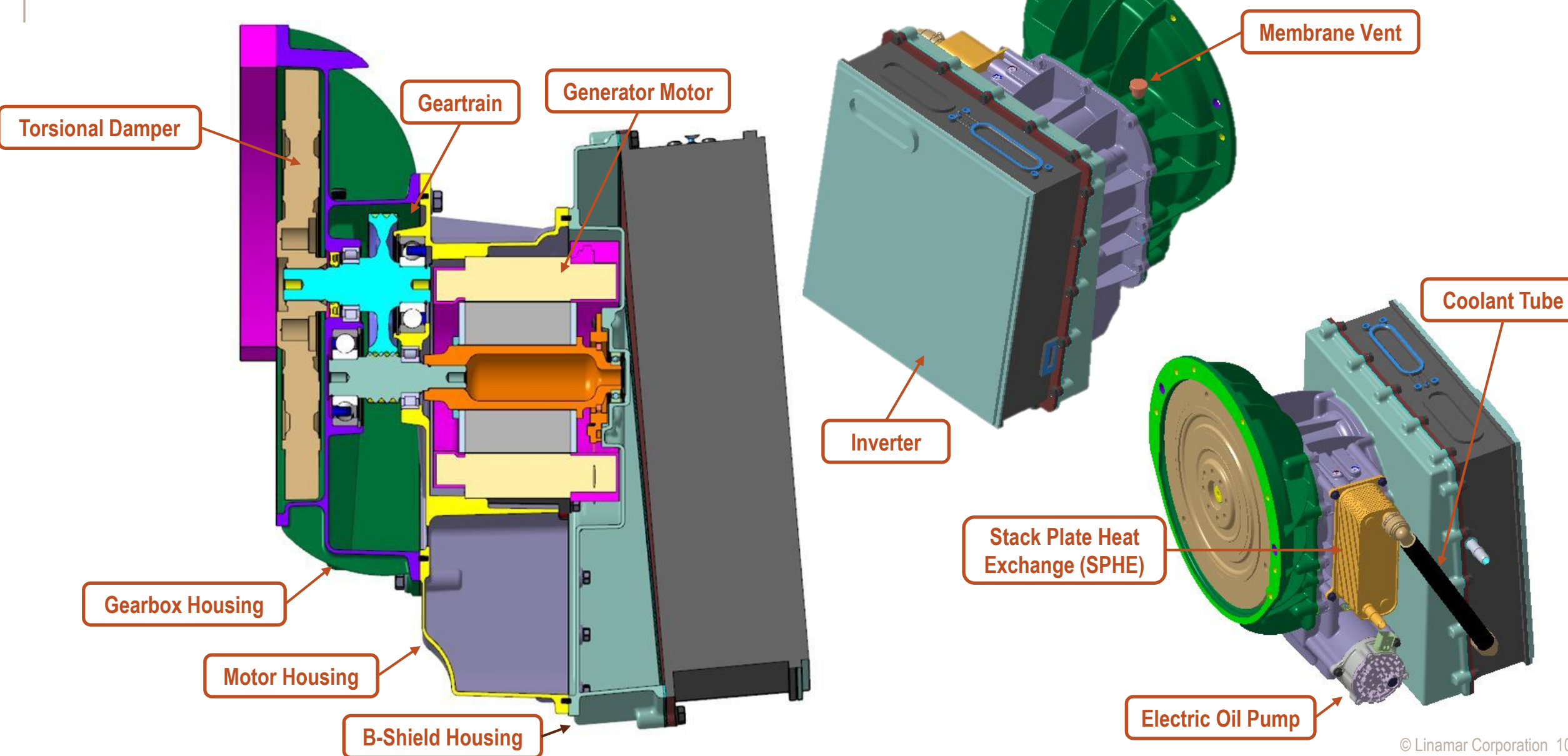
Direct Drive



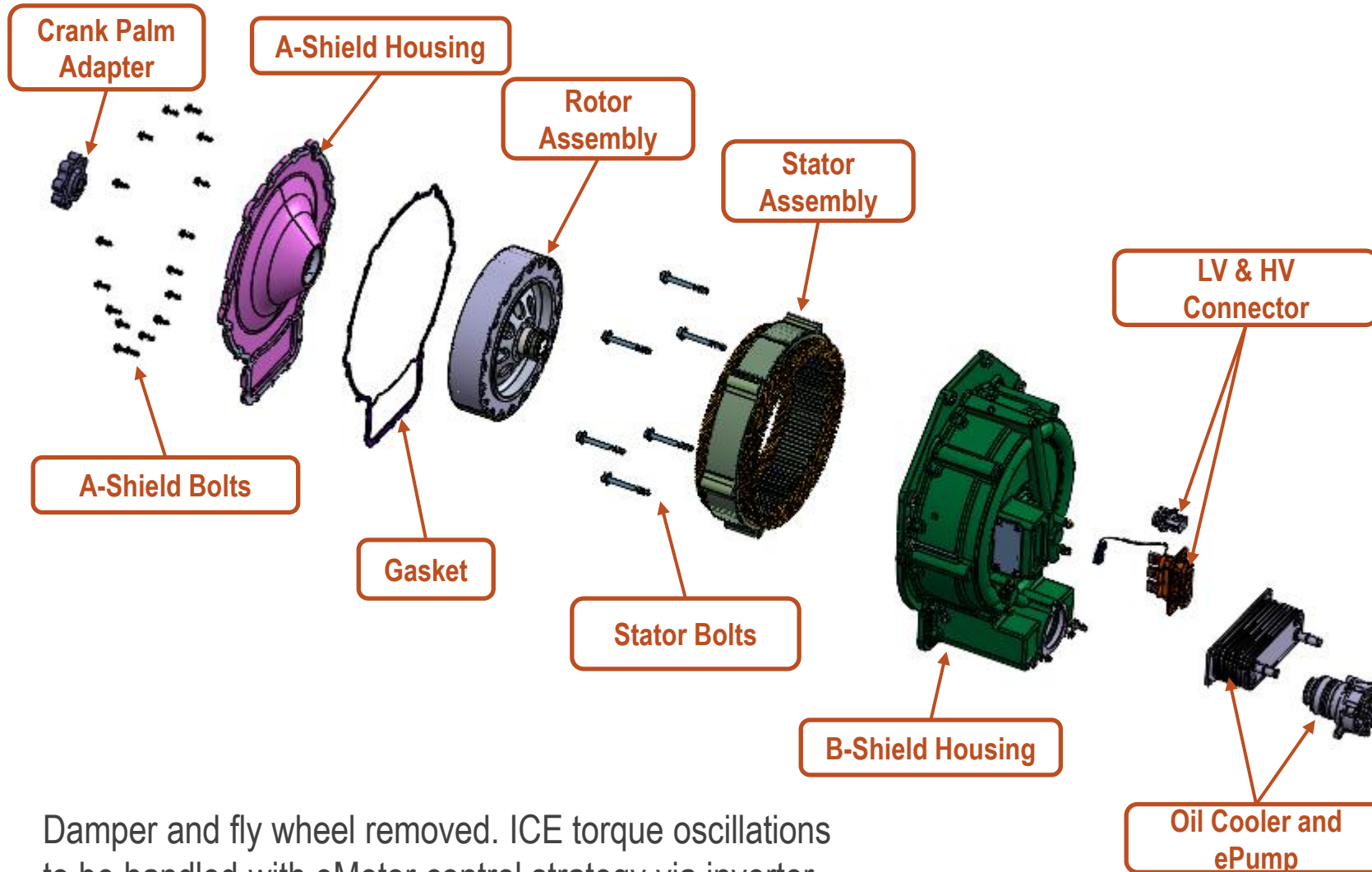
Coaxial Geared



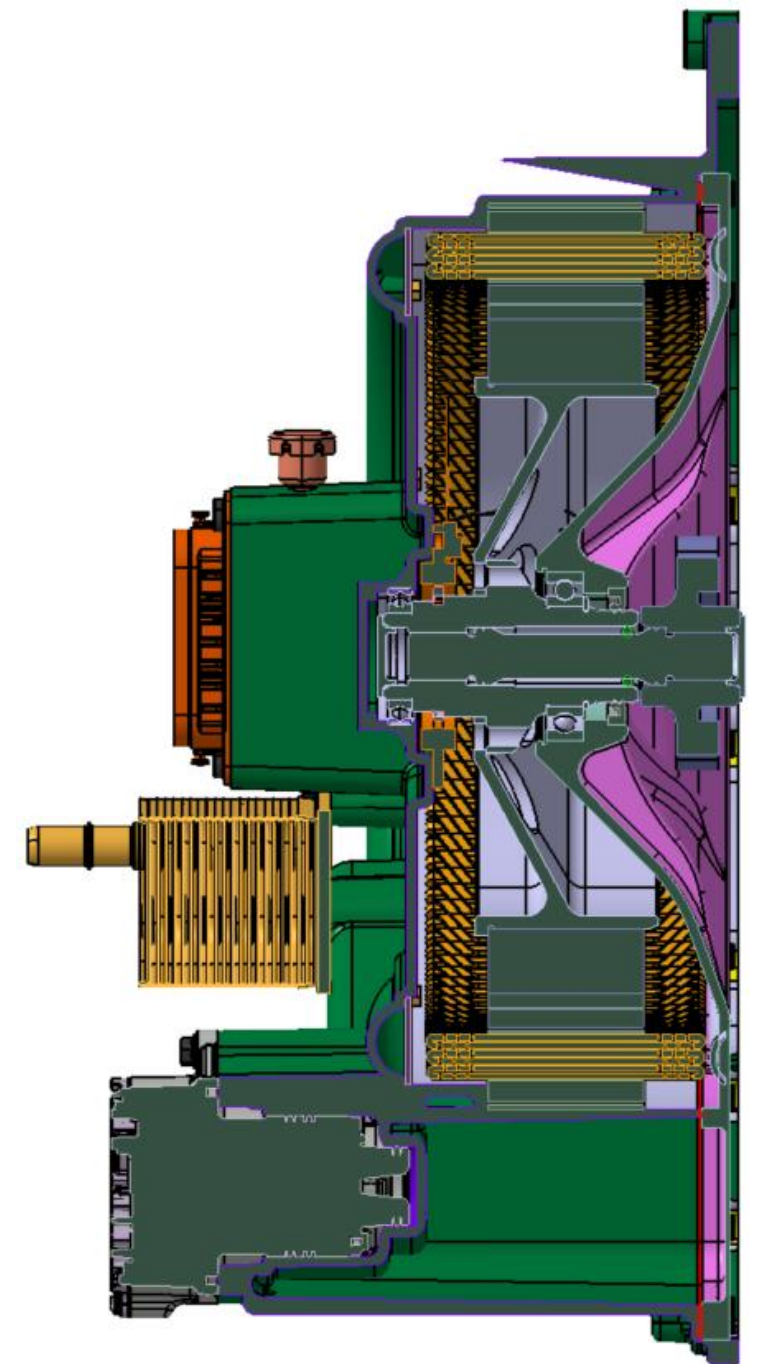
Offset MGU Design Layout & Componentry



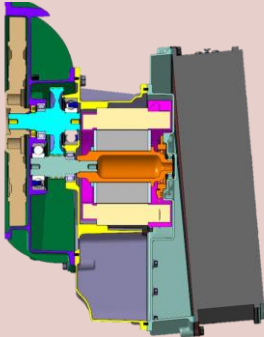
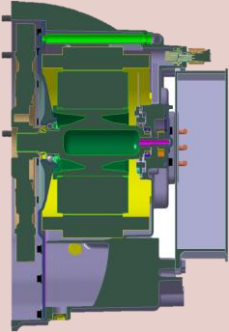
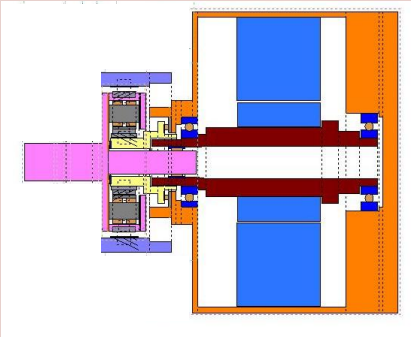
Direct Drive MGU Design Layout & Componentry



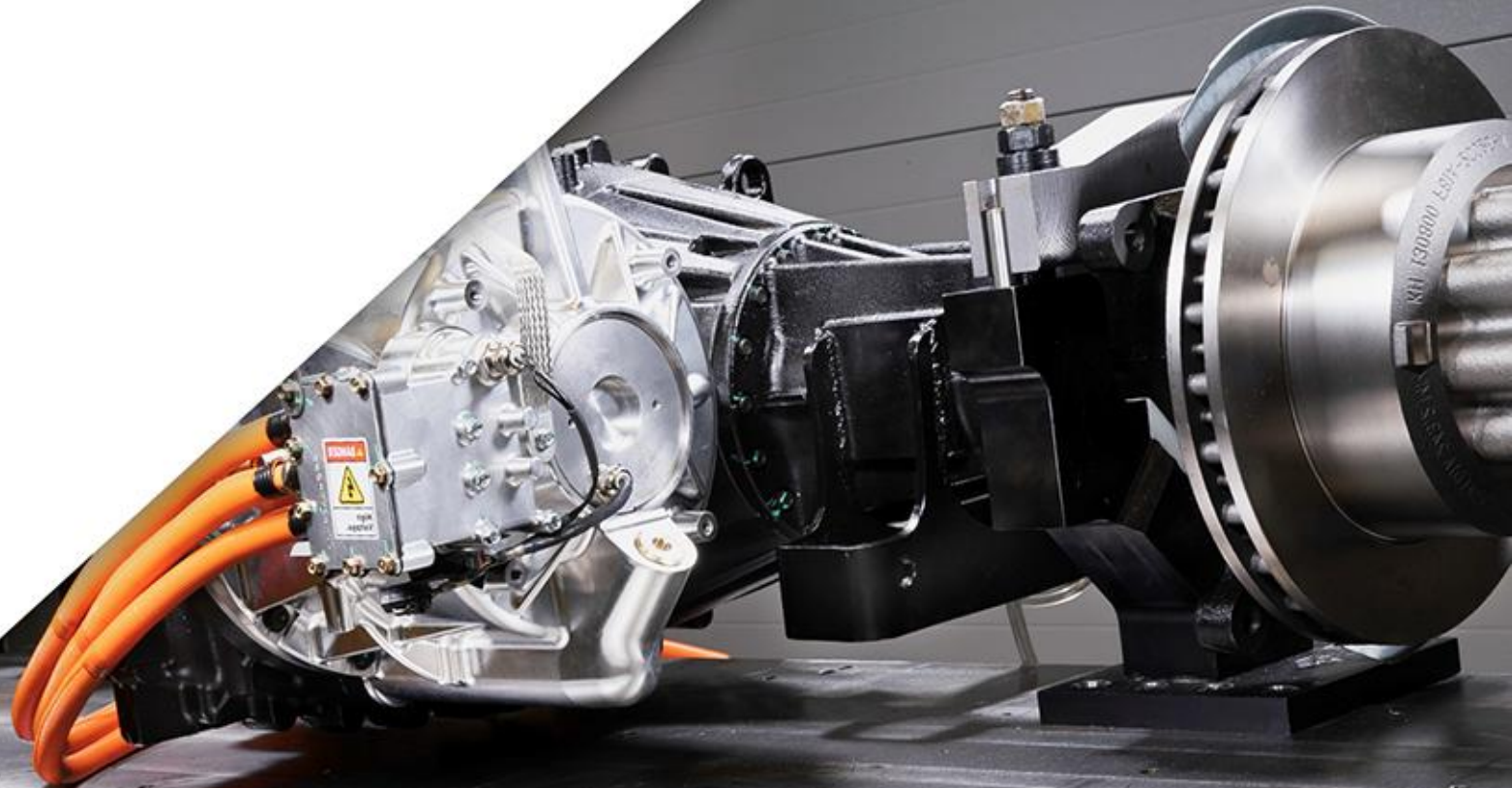
Damper and fly wheel removed. ICE torque oscillations to be handled with eMotor control strategy via inverter



Motor Generator Unit | Architecture Types

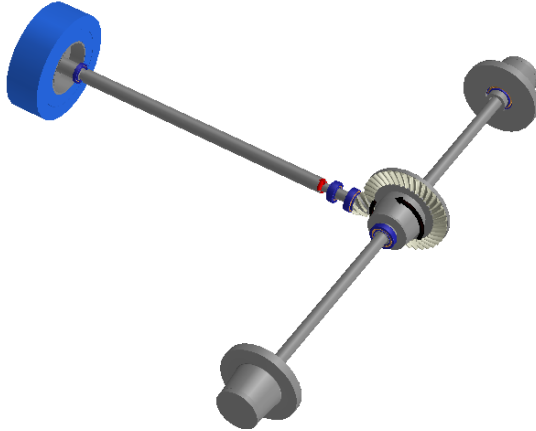
Criteria	Offset MGU	Direct Drive MGU	Coaxial Geared MGU
General Layout			
Cost	✓✓	✓	✗
Package	✓	✓✓	✓✓
Mass	✓	✓✓	✓
Efficiency	✓✓	✓✓	✓
NVH	✓	✓	✗
Assembly	✓	✓✓	✗
Design Flexibility	✓✓	✓	✓✓

Central Drive Axle vs. eAxle



Commercial Vehicle Electrification

Central Drive Motor



🚗 Great for retrofit – Fits where the transmission usually is in ICE vehicles, making it easy to adapt existing designs.

⚙️ “Conventional” architecture – Maintains a familiar layout for manufacturers between ICE and BEV production.

🔧 Reliable axle – Uses proven axle technology, avoiding new validation or reliability risks.

💰 Integration costs savings – Retrofit can reuse existing vehicle rear axle for reduced cost.

eAxle



📦 Space optimization – Eliminates transmission and driveline, freeing space for larger battery placement.

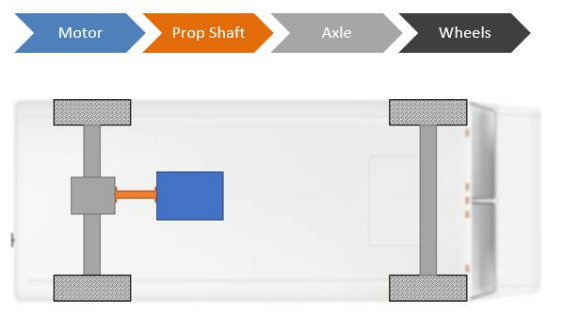
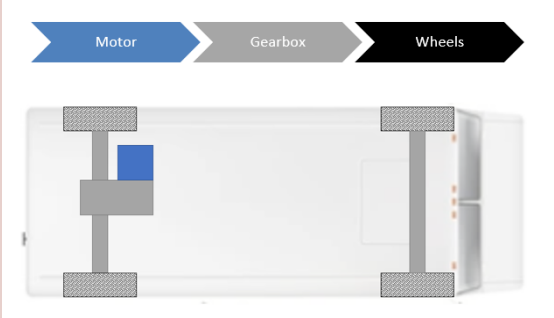
⚖️ Weight savings – Lighter than a separate motor, driveline, and axle combination.

💰 High volume costs savings – Integrated design can reduce material and manufacturing costs.

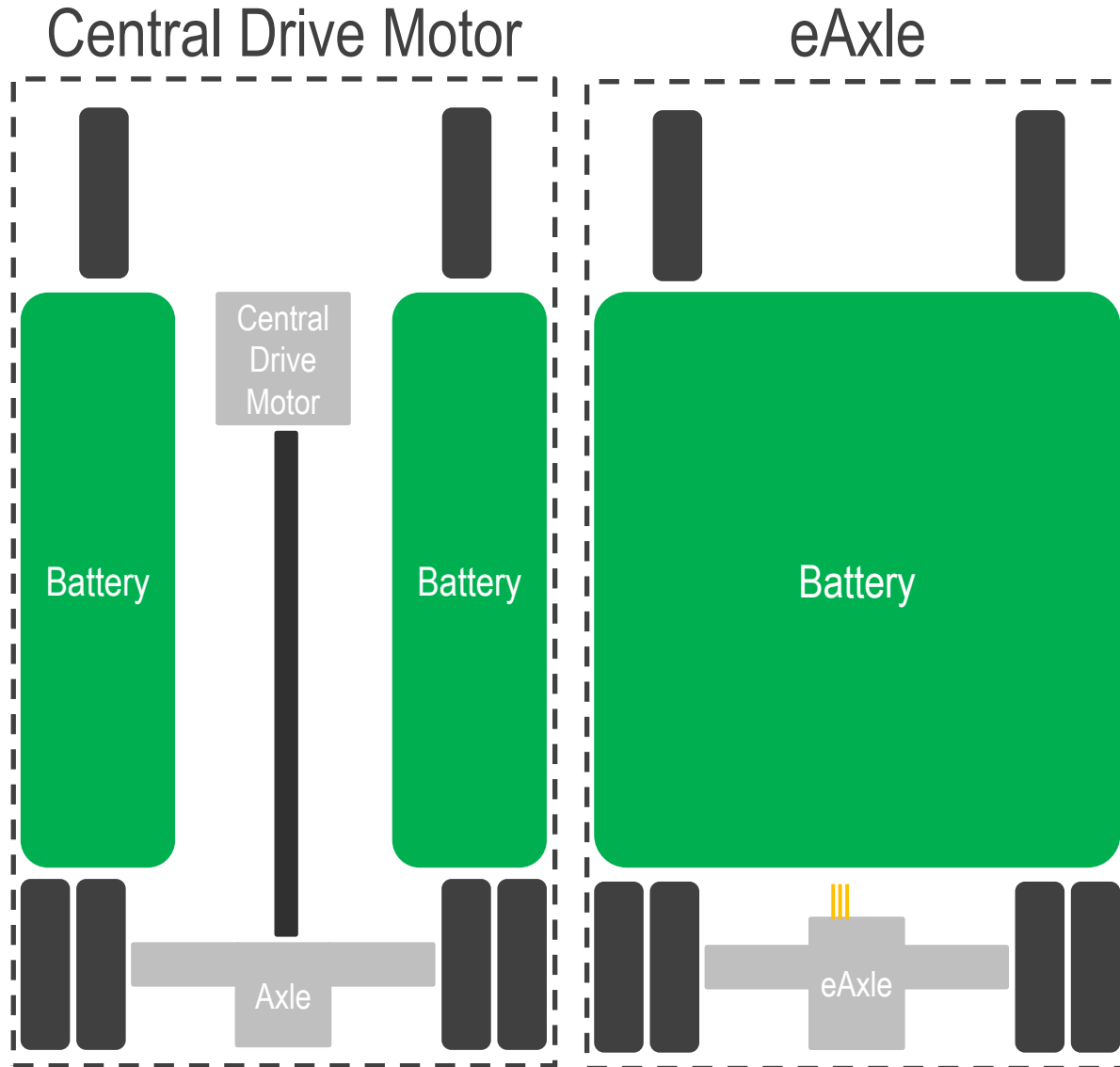
⚡ Efficiency improvement – Avoids driveline power losses, improving overall vehicle range.

🚗 Shorter wheelbase – Space efficiency can reduce wheelbase, enhancing drivability.

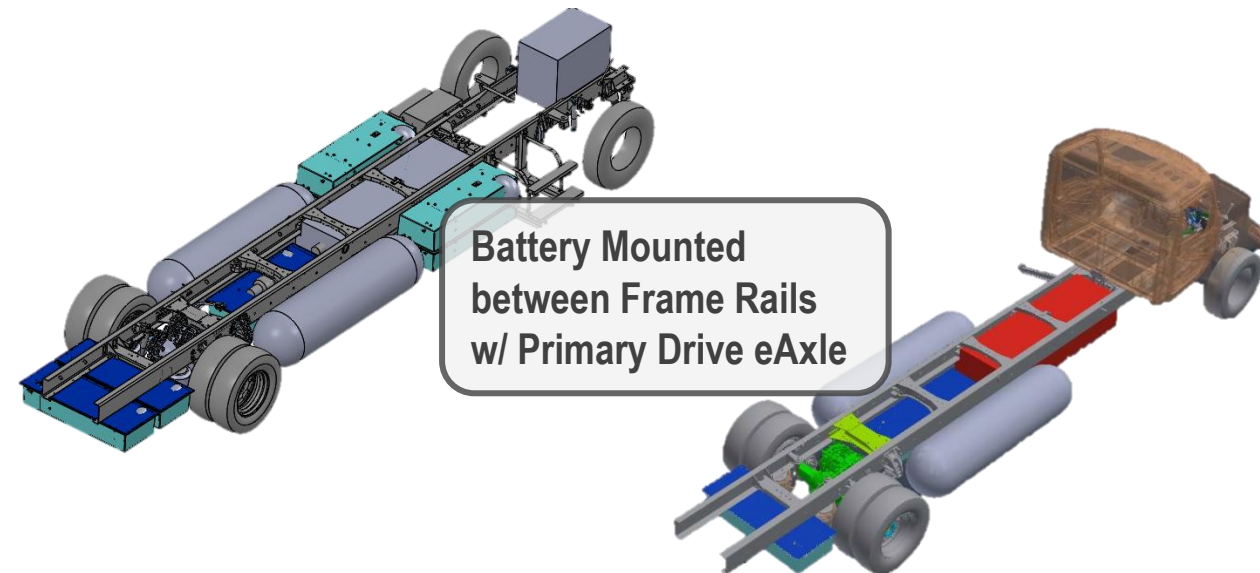
Commercial Vehicle Electrification | Architecture Types

Criteria	Central Drive Motor	eAxle
General Layout		
Cost	✓✓	✓
Package	✓	✓✓✓
Efficiency	✓	✓✓
NVH	✗	✓
Conversion Complexity	✓✓✓	✓
Battery Capacity	✓	✓✓✓
Regenerative Braking	✗	✓

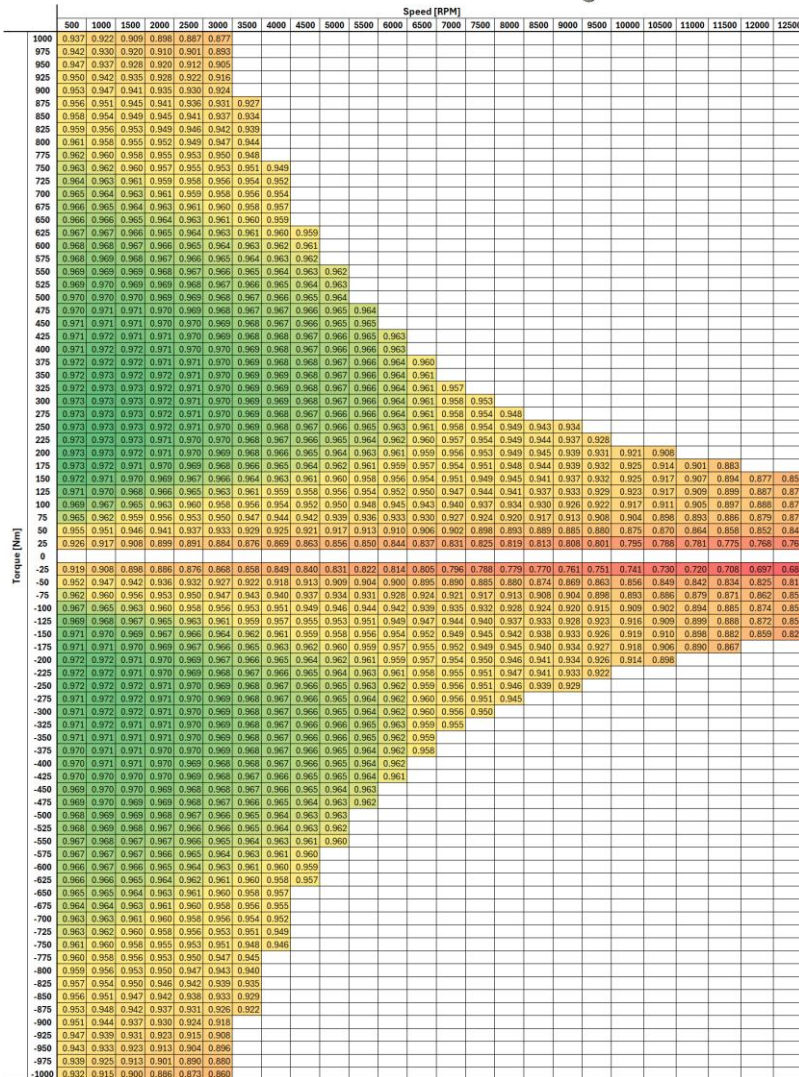
Package & Battery Capacity



- Central drive motor and drive shaft occupy space between the frame rails that could otherwise be used for batteries, hydrogen storage, etc.
- eAxle systems allow increased battery capacity coupled with improved efficiency for extended vehicle range.



Drive System Efficiency



Vehicle Range

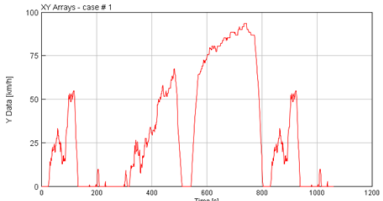
Common Vehicle Parameters

Parameter	Value	Unit
Mass	11,000	kg
Tire radius	0.398	m
Rolling friction	0.01	
Wheelbase	3.683	m
Frontal Area	6.5	m ²
Aero Drag Coef.	0.606	

Common Electrical Parameters

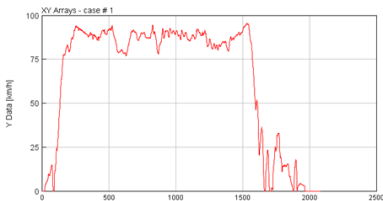
Parameter	Value	Unit
Max Voltage	800	V
Nominal Voltage	700	V
Min Voltage	600	V
Max Discharge Current	475	Amps
Max Charging Current	300	Amps

Heavy-Duty Urban Dynamometer Driving Schedule (HDUDDS)



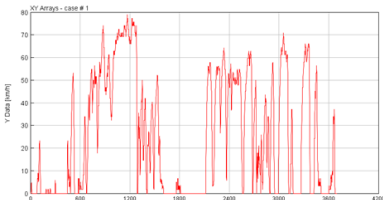
City Drive Cycle

Heavy Heavy-Duty Diesel Truck (HHDDT)



Highway Drive Cycle

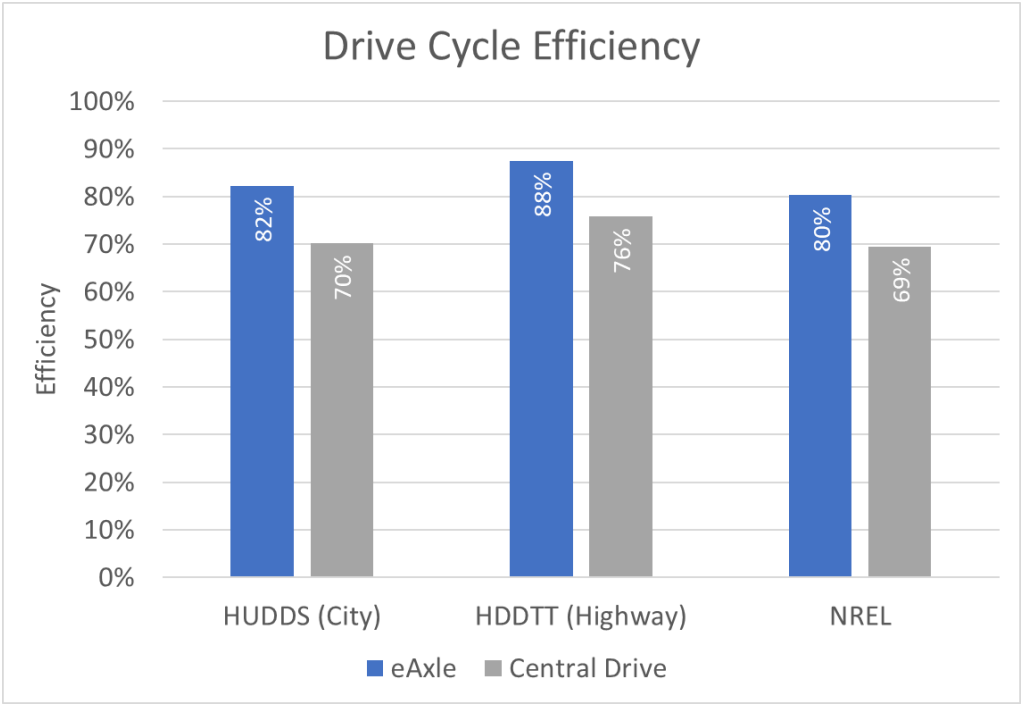
NREL Class 6 EV Cycle (NREL)



Mixed Use EV

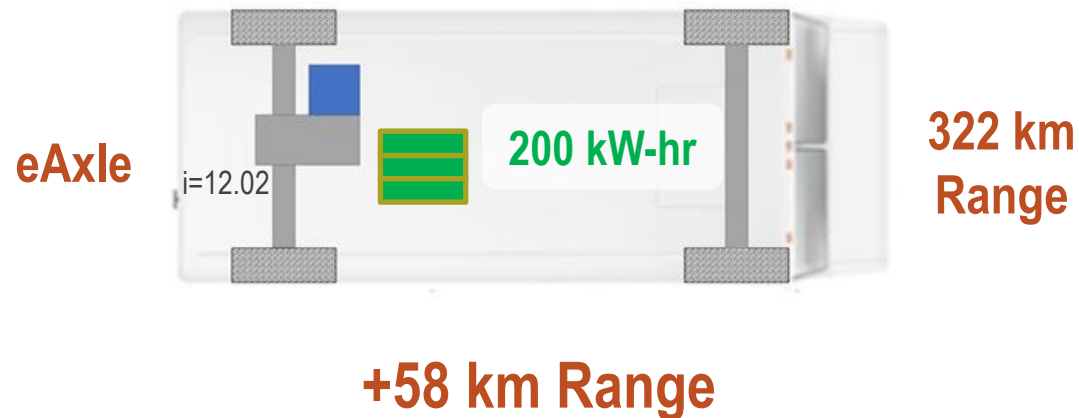
- Range analysis completed for a standard Class 6 vehicle equipped with an 800 V electrical system
- eAxle efficiency exceeds that of a central drive system over a diverse range of drive cycles
 - Mechanical gearbox losses do play a role but electrical losses from a larger eMotor and higher currents are the primary contributor.

Drive Cycle Efficiency

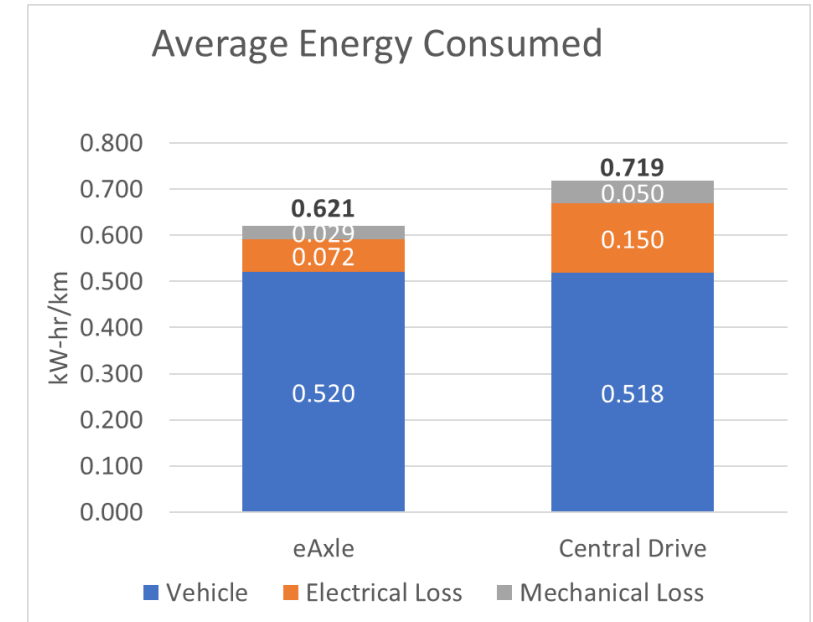
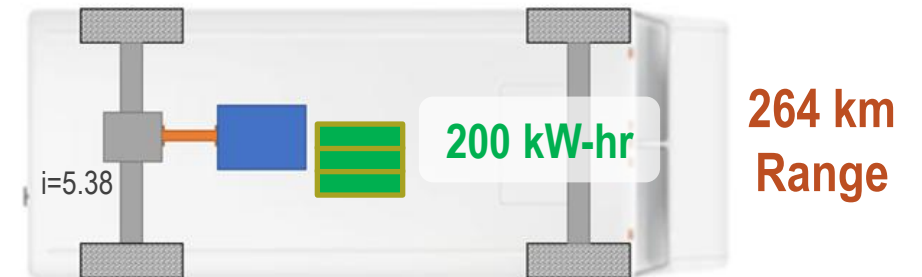


Vehicle Range

- Vehicle range calculated for a 200kW-hr Battery
 - Range delta expected to be more drastic w/ additional battery capacity onboard eAxle-equipped vehicles

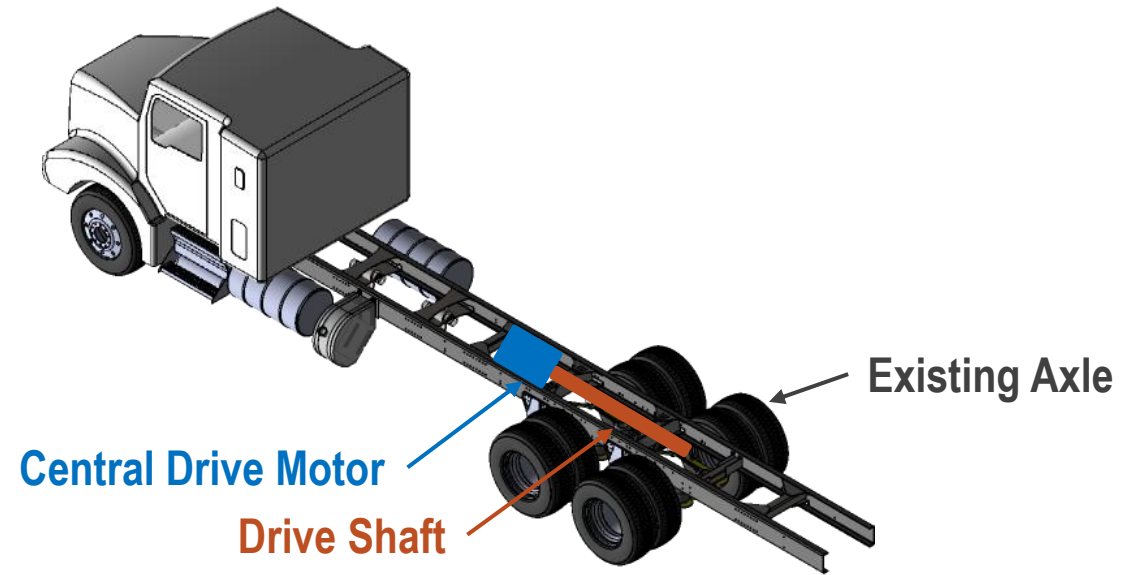


Central Drive



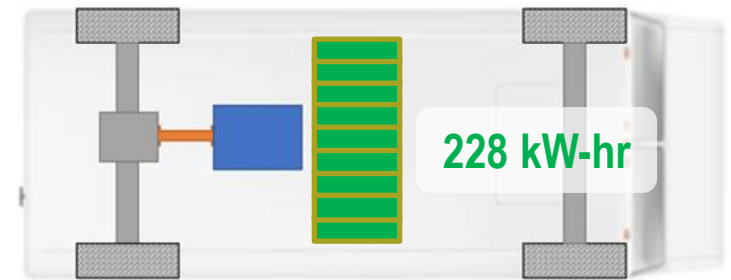
Conversion Complexity and Cost

- Central Drive
 - Integration costs savings – Retrofit can reuse existing vehicle rear axle for reduced cost.
- eAxle
 - High volume costs savings – Integrated design can reduce material and manufacturing costs.
 - Lower eMotor cost (smaller motor)
 - Eliminate drive shaft
 - Reduce duplicate components (housings, seals, bearings, etc.)
 - Higher efficiency system means smaller battery for equal range
 - eAxle from previous study shows a 42 kW-hr battery size reduction for the same 300 km vehicle range
 - Approximate \$4,200 cost reduction, assuming a \$100 / kW-hr battery pricing



Battery size for a 300-km range

Central Drive

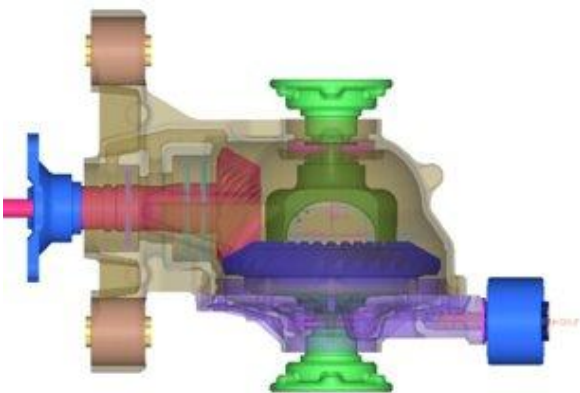
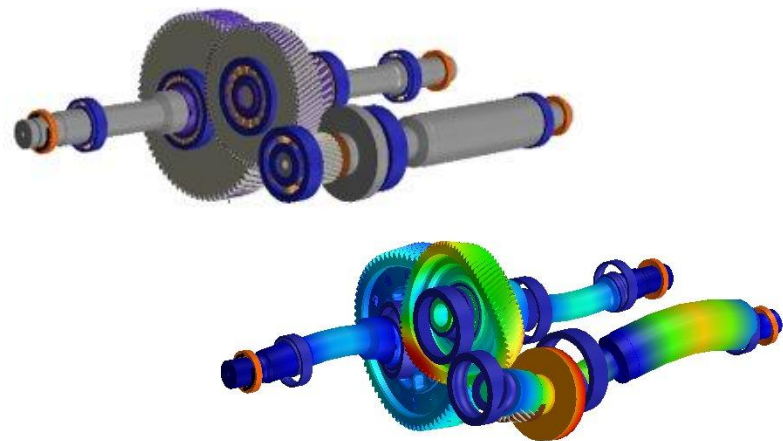


eAxle



NVH | eAxle (Helical Gears) vs. Central Drive (Hypoid Gears)

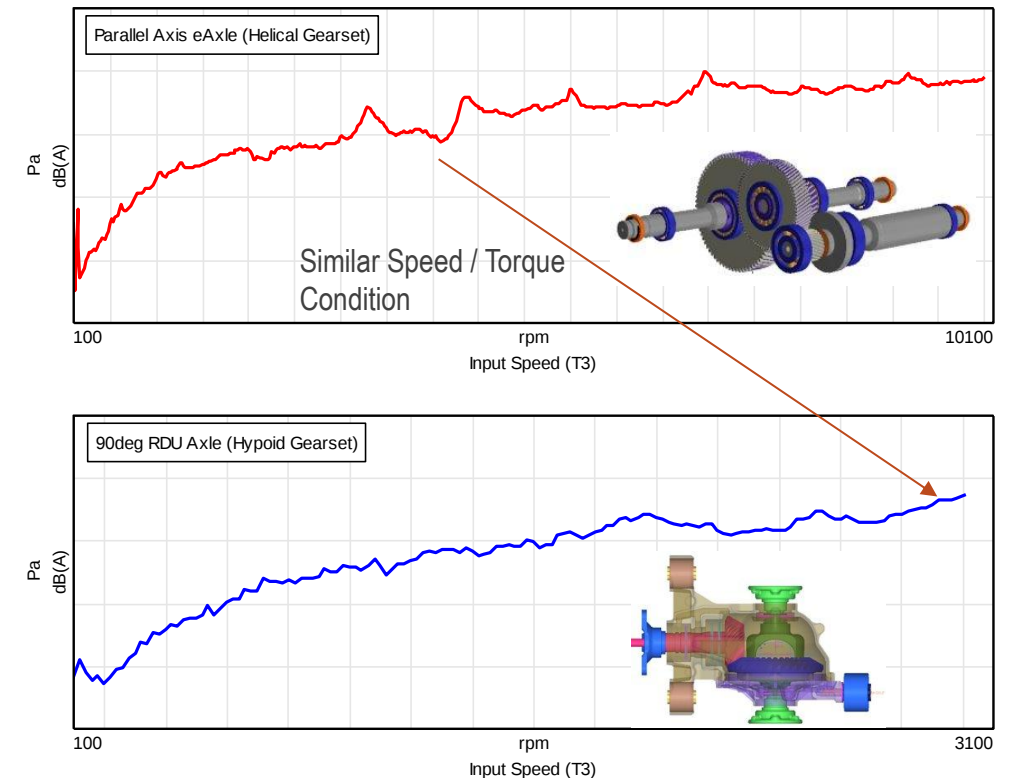
	eAxle	Central Drive
eMotor Noise	Higher frequency noise due to typical operating speed range	Lower frequency (potentially more audible) noise
eMotor Vibration	Motor mounted farther from the driver and isolated by the suspension.	Motor mounted closer to the driver and typically on chassis. Increased chance of structure borne NVH.
Gear Noise	Generally lower noise	Prone to gear whine in automotive applications
Tooth Engagement	Smooth, low-impact, quiet contact	Mixed rolling and sliding contact
Gear Vibration	Lower vibration due to higher contact ratio	Typically, increased vibration due to mixed rolling and sliding contact



Regenerative Braking Capability

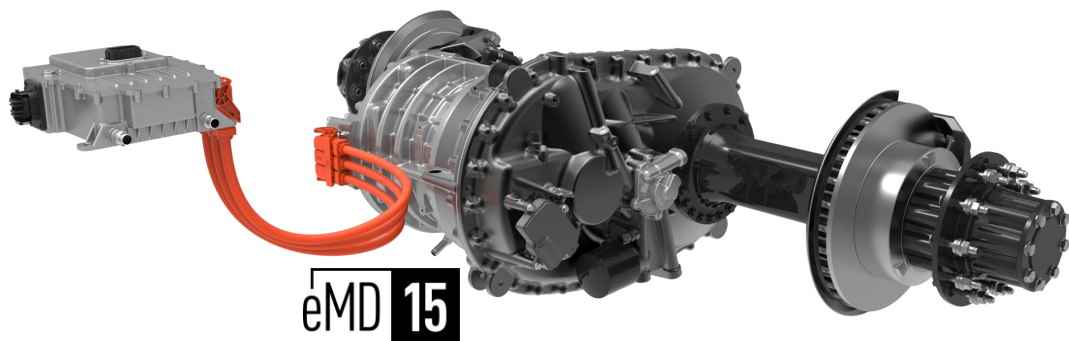
- ~25% reduction in bending fatigue strength in regen for hypoid gears
- Hypoid gearset NVH performance typically worse due to lower contact ratio in regen
 - Helical gear teeth can be optimized in both drive and regen conditions for NVH
 - Comparing hypoid to helical systems in coast condition shows significant reduction to overall sound pressure level and whine
 - Comparison shows as much as 7 dBA at comparable speeds

	Safety Factor
Central Drive (Hypoid)	1.2
eAxe (Helical)	1.5
Difference	+25%



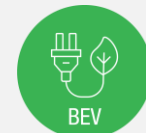
eMD15 Class 4-6 Commercial Vehicle eAxle





Features

- Designed for Classes 5 & 6
- Forced Lubrication w/Filter
- Optional Electric Park Lock
- Single Speed Gearbox
- Optional Limited Slip Differential
- Multiple Gear Ratios Available
- Customizable Track Width
- Adaptable to Preferred Wheel Ends

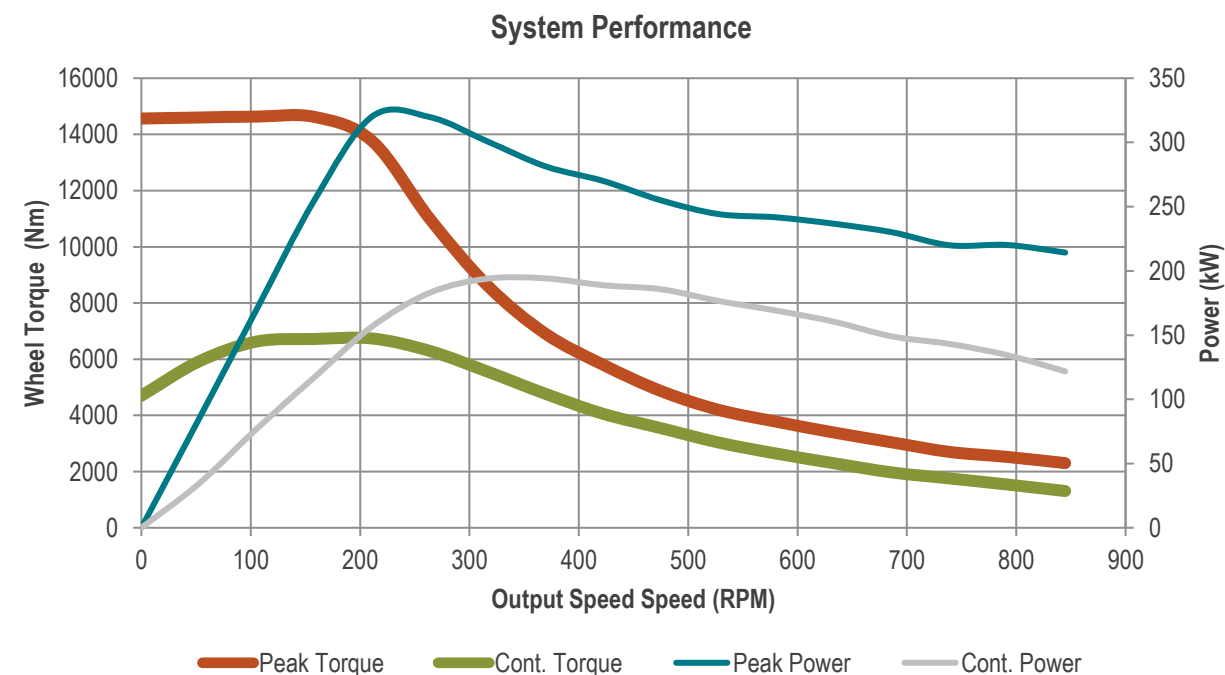


Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	Class 7	Class 8
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Performance Specifications

Voltage (V)	800
GAWR	17,500 lbs. / 7,938 kg
Peak Output Torque (Nm)	15,000*
Continuous Output Torque (Nm):	7,546*
Peak Power (kW)	295
Continuous Power (kW):	195
Max Output Shaft Speed (RPM):	856*
Park Lock	Optional (Electric Actuation)
Limited Slip Differential	Optional
Weight (kg)	1256 lbs. / 570 kg

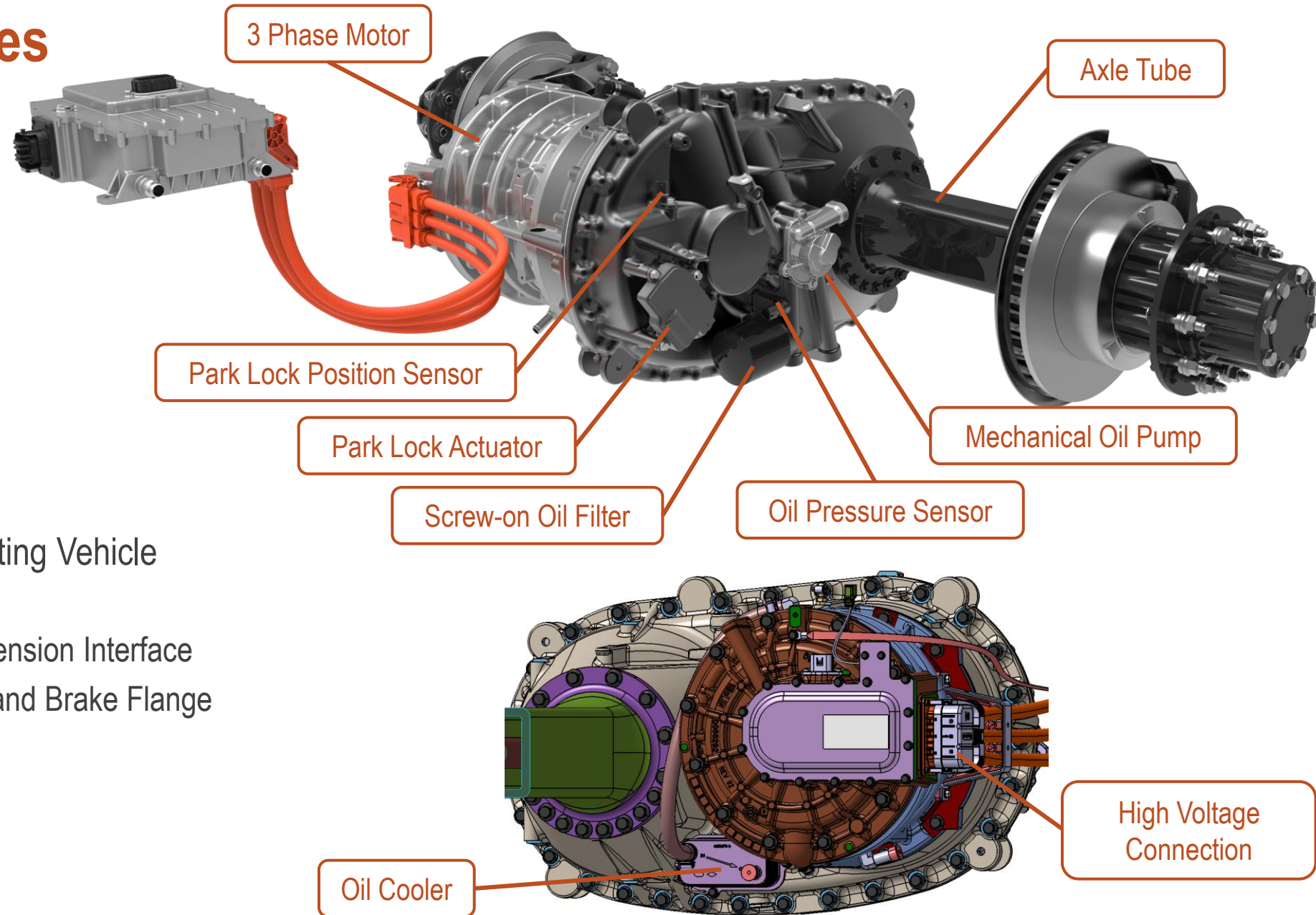
*Varies with Ratio Selected



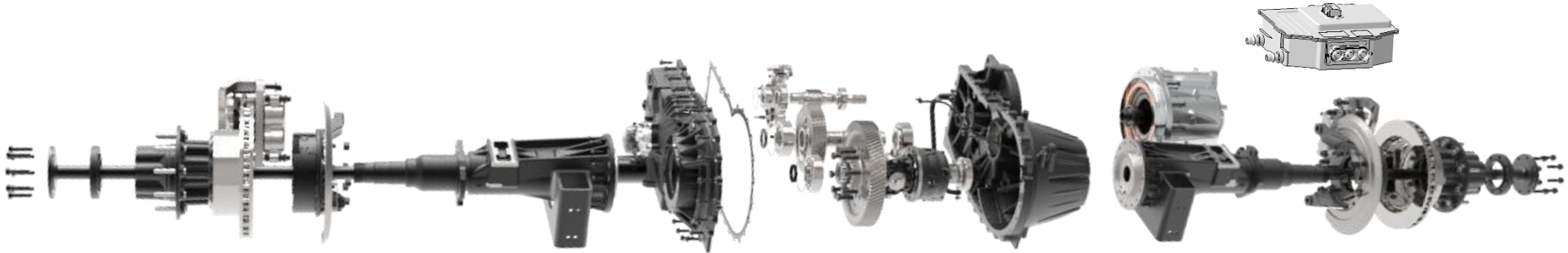
800V System evaluated with 14.711:1 Ratio

Key Design Features

- Single Speed Gearbox
- Regenerative Braking
- Integrated Park Lock
- Oil and Water-Cooled Motor
- Oil Cooler
- Forced Lubrication
- Open Differential
- Drop-In Replacement for Existing Vehicle Applications
 - Standard Banjo Style Suspension Interface
 - Customizable Track Width and Brake Flange



eMD15 Commercial Beam eAxle | Customization



Axle Tubes

- Variable Track Widths and Frame Rail Widths
- Scalable Design for Various Class 4 to 6 GAWR Requirements
- Cast and Welded Tube Designs

Park Lock

- Park Lock Standard
- Park Lock Delete Options Available

Gearbox

- Multiple Ratios Available
- mLSD Optional

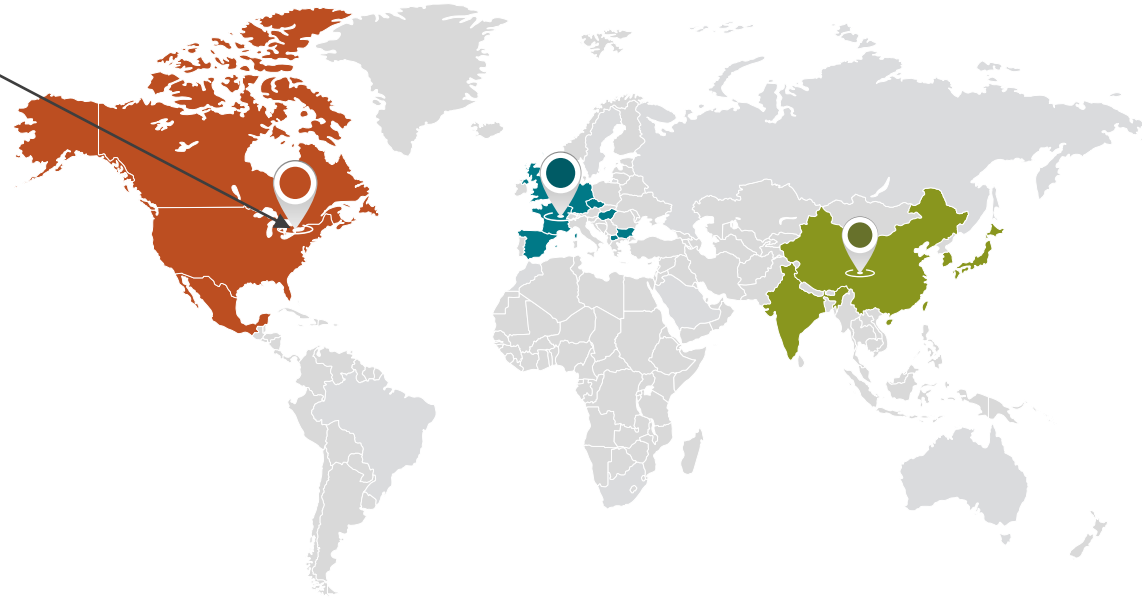
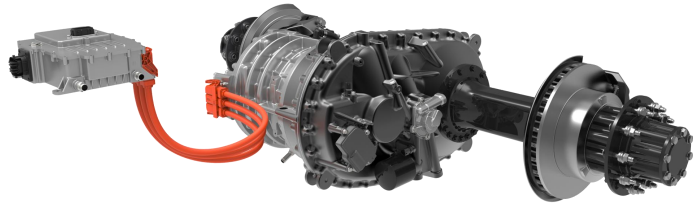
Brakes / Hubs

- L-Series and R-Series Spindles Available
- Flexible for Customer Dictated Hub and Brake Assemblies
- Drum and Disc Brake Variants

eMD15 Commercial Beam eAxle | Manufacturing

Linamar production manufacturing and assembly lines installed in Guelph Ontario. Flexible capacity. This includes equipment for gear manufacturing, laser welding, differential assembly, complete gearbox assembly, complete eAxle assembly with quality checking machines, and full end of line testing.

eMD15 Commercial Beam Axle Production
Guelph Canada 2023





Thank You

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Forward Looking Information, Risk and Uncertainties

Certain information regarding Linamar set forth in this presentation and oral summary, including management's assessment of the Company's future plans and operations may constitute forward-looking statements. This information is based on current expectations that are subject to significant risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Actual results may differ materially from these anticipated in the forward-looking statements due to factors such as customer demand and timing of buying decisions, product mix, competitive products and pricing pressure. In addition, uncertainties and difficulties in domestic and foreign financial markets and economies could adversely affect demand from customers. These factors, as well as general economic and political conditions and public health threats, may in turn have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial results. Please also refer to Linamar's most current Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") and Annual Information Form ("AIF"), as replaced or updated by any of Linamar's subsequent regulatory filings, which set out the cautionary disclaimers, including the risk factors that could cause actual events to differ materially from these indicated by such forward looking statements. These documents are available at <https://www.linamar.com/investors>. The Company assumes no obligation to update the forward-looking statements, or to update the reasons why actual results could differ from those reflected in the forward-looking statements. Content is protected by copyright and may not be reproduced or repurposed without express written consent by the Company.