

## **Electric vehicle manufacturer EVI launches EVI Medium Duty Truck, reveals deal with Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation**

*MD EVI the world's most versatile and flexible commercial electric vehicle  
EVI partners with truck leader Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation (FCCC)  
MD EVI and WI-EVI class 4 through class 6 with GVWR of 15,000-25,950 lbs  
100 kW (max. 146 hp) motor with 450 lb-ft. of torque  
60 mph top speed - up to 115 mile range  
Tailor-fit and cost competitive zero emission vehicles  
Fuel and maintenance cost savings as well as air quality incentives will allow large scale  
deployment throughout California and beyond.*

**Stockton, CA, November 4, 2009.** Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) pioneer Electric Vehicles International (EVI) today revealed its eagerly awaited plans for the first new products out of its new production facility in Stockton, CA. Launched today, EVI's new Medium-Duty Truck, the MD EVI, is the world's most versatile and flexible commercial electric vehicle. EVI also has formed a strategic alliance with Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation to build a fully electric Walk-In Van, the WI EVI.

The MD EVI and WI EVI will help accelerate deployment of trucks, buses, port equipment and other vehicles that substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help achieve clean air. Zero emission vehicles help eliminate toxic diesel particulate pollution and removes 100 percent of the mobile source particulate pollution with each diesel retrofit. Deploying fully electric vehicles substantially reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by about 75 percent compared with a conventional diesel powered truck.

With Gross Vehicle Weight ratings (GVWR) of a class 4 (15,000 lbs) up to a class 6 (25,950 lbs), the MD EVI can be suited to match most commercial needs. The electric motor application – occupying less space than a conventional engine – also allows for a 55-degree wheel cut, making the MD EVI one of the most maneuverable trucks in its class.

Powered by a 360 Volt 3-phase electric motor with a rated power of 100 kW (max 146 hp) and 450 ft-lb of torque at 0 rpm and using an Eaton 6-speed Ultrashift automatic transmission, the MD EVI is capable of top speeds of up to 60 mph. The high-density top-of-the-range Valence U-Charge<sup>®</sup> XP Lithium Iron Phosphate Batteries allow for an average range of up to 115 miles (MD 115) – a more than adequate number for most return-to-base commercial applications – and can be charged overnight. Smaller, more cost efficient battery packs with slightly smaller range choices are available for the MD 60 and MD 80 models. Production of the MD EVI will start in late 2009 and first deliveries to customers are expected in the first quarter of 2010.

In partnership with FCCC, the fully electric WIV, the WI EVI, combines technology and engineering to deliver the best fully electric WIV available on the market today. The WI EVI is an ideal solution for parcel delivery, industrial linen, food and beverage distribution. Vocational applications include utility repair, plumbing and ground support.

"We are delighted to reveal today that we have reached a strategic alliance with leading truck manufacturer Freightliner Custom Chassis to build the Walk-In EVI (WI-EVI)," said EVI CEO Ricky Hanna.

"Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation is always interested in opportunities to design and engineer new products that increase fuel economy for our customers," said Bob Harbin, president of FCCC. "FCCC has a long history of developing alternative-fuel vehicles for its customers and we are looking forward to working with EVI to design a fully electric WIV chassis, which will perfectly complement our hybrid-electric, hybrid hydraulic, CNG and LNG products already on the market."

The fully electric WI-EVI built upon the FCCC chassis will use the same drivetrain as the MD EVI. The WI EVI also comes with three different battery packages offering three different ranges, the WI 60 (60 miles range), WI 80 (80 mile range) and WI 115, which offers an industry-leading 115 mile range. All three WI models use Valence Technology's U-Charge XP battery system for best reliability and safety. Manufacturing of the WI EVI, too, is expected to begin in late 2009.

The new EVI facility in Stockton was opened on November 4, 2009, by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. More news on EVI can be found on EVI's brand new website at [www.evi-usa.com](http://www.evi-usa.com). Media releases as well as high res images, bios, and more can be found under the media room tab.

For more information about Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation, visit [www.freightlinerchassis.com](http://www.freightlinerchassis.com).

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***About EVI – Electric Vehicles International***

*Electric Vehicles International (EVI) is a leading manufacturer of electric vehicles for multiple applications covering a diverse range of transportation options for today's environmentally aware and cost-conscious customers. EVI focuses on providing highly effective solutions using the newest electric motor and controller technologies as well as delivering the highest standards of reliability and efficiency. The portfolio ranges from a two-person light-duty vehicle to medium duty class 6 vehicles.*

***About Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation***

*Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation manufactures premium chassis for the motorhome, delivery walk-in van, and school bus and shuttle bus markets. Freightliner Custom Chassis Corporation is a subsidiary of Daimler Trucks North America LLC, a Daimler company.*