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ACTIVATE TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS POTENTIALS IN THE ELECTRIFICATION OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES

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In the off-highway industry, reduction of emissions and pollution is a major driver – however not the only important force for electrification



Operational



Relevant off-highway OEMs have already started their xEV activities with potential for suppliers to cooperate in an early market preparation phase



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On the path to mass market, the diversified industry requires different strategies and electrification architectures according to power supply







- » Off-highway electrification brings focus to more than just the prime mover
- » While ICEs usually require mechanical devices and/or hydraulic systems for power transfer, electric motors can be distributed differently on the vehicle platform
- Possibilities of exploiting the benefits of torque vectoring are even more profound in off-highway compared to on-highway

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ource [EATON, Energy Conversion Management

Hydraulic

powertrain

Better/higher P/W

(kW/kg) of motor

Work fluid aids in

motor cooling

Better/higher P/W

(kW/kg) of energy

accumulator

VS.

Electric

powertrain

Higher efficiency

Better dynamic

response

Better controllability

and consistency

New

functionalities

Less maintenance

Better/higher e/W

(kJ/kg) of energy accumulator

Energy recovery:

- » Besides the braking system, other options include energy recovery from power tools employed by off-road equipment
- Prominent examples are the boom and swing of excavators

Off-highway sector with specific requirements – however, experience gained in the on-road sector can be leveraged to push electrification



Main properties of most common electric motors in both the automotive and the off-highway industries

- ASM and PMSM are best suited to meet BEV/HEV requirements in passenger cars, while SRM has almost no relevance due to NVH performance
- » By now, ASM and PMSM are mostly used in off-highway applications as well, however, SRMs have been highlighted as the biggest future improvement in electric motors by combining the best of ASM & PMSM
- SRM is of great interest because of the absence of rare earth elements and the advantages of simple structure, low cost, high efficiency and reliability
 - » Disadvantage of NVH may not be as relevant for some off-highway applications as it is in the automotive sector
 - » However, development efforts in power electronics for NVH improvement remain in focus





Source [MDPI energies, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews]

	Lead-acid battery	Flywheel	Super- capacitors	Hydraulic accumulator	Ni-MH battery	Li-ion battery
Specific power (W/kg)	75-300	400-1500	500-5000	2000-19,000	150-200	250-340
Specific energy (Wh/kg)	30-50	10-30	2.5-5.5	2	100-120	75-200
Energy density (Wh/l)	50-80	20-80	35	5	150-180	200-500
Cycles	500-1500	20,000	100,000	100,000	2500	2000- 10,000
Efficiency (%)	<80	<96	<95	90	90	95

- Along with li-ion batteries, supercapacitors as well as hydraulic accumulator interesting to meet high power demands
- » Hybrid energy storage solutions conceivable

Challenges differ from those in the automotive sector:

- > Job sites differ in terms of conditions and duty cycles, so equipment within the same category can benefit from different technologies depending on its intended use
 - » Long service life of the devices can lead to them being exposed to different conditions
- Facing deep charge and discharge, which puts forward higher requirements on the cycle times
- Special working conditions that require the electric motor to operate in high torque mode with near zero speed
- » Key requirements: ensure the minimum operating time of the machinery and the dynamic performance of continuous large current discharge in case of sudden large load

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Source [MDPI energies, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews]

Summary and potential questions for your businesses

	Summary	Potential questions for your businesses		
>>	Diversified industry requires different strategies for electrification	» How do regulatory requirements for carbon reduction affect short-, mid- and long-term electrification approaches?		
>>	However: Commonalities within the off-highway industry and expertise from on-highway industry that can be leveraged			
>>	Mid-term : Retrofitting is key to success in electrification due to the long product life	» How can I leverage my on-highway expertise and expand portfolio to off-highway at large scales?		
	» Potential for standardization and scalability			
» Long-term: Purpose-built architectures with the benefit of flexibility and greater possibility for torque vectoring		» How can I beneficially scale up my off-highway electrification activities?		
Technologies discussed on-highway may offer higher added value off-highway due to other requirements, however, solutions remain site-specific:		» Are FCEVs inevitable for the electrification of large		
	» Electric motor: SRM of great interest	off-highway equipment?		
	 Energy storage: Supercapacitors and hydraulic accumulator as supplement or alternative 			
	» Approach of battery swapping for large equipment	» What partners are suited to guide the way?		

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