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Electric vehicle charging stations in Amsterdam to provide more power with sunny weather

Amsterdam, May 15th, 2019. A third of the charging stations for electric cars in Amsterdam will from now on provide extra power on sunny days. 456 of the regular EVBox charging points in Amsterdam have been converted into so-called Flexpower charging stations. These stations are adjusted to provide more power during off-peak electricity consumption hours (such as evening and night) and during sunny weather, and slightly less power during peak times.



Amsterdam is growing and becoming more sustainable. Last week, the city announced plans to ban all polluting cars by 2030, meaning that the demand for electric vehicle chargers is expected to grow exponentially. More energy will be required and also generated to power the increased number of electric vehicle chargers, leading to a major task for the electricity grid to balance the variable load.

Flex to monitor net balance

Flexpower is one such alternative solution. This joint project by the municipality of Amsterdam, network manager Liander, energy company Vattenfall, and knowledge and innovation centre ElaadNL aims to spread the flow of energy throughout the day. EVBox electric vehicle charging stations will provide slightly less power during the hours that households demand a larger amounts of energy (6 p.m. to 9 p.m.) and catch up by charging more at night. Since most drivers charge mainly at night, they will generally experience no inconvenience.

But Flexpower does more—during the day, Flexpower uses locally generated energy from households to charge electric cars faster, further reducing burden on the grid.

Charging stations to increase by 40% in power

To achieve this, the capacity of the EVBox Flexpower charging points has been increased by 40%. Firstly, the stations have had internal adjustments and will be controlled differently. While a regular charging station has a main connection with a passage value of 3x25 amps, Flexpower charging stations deliver 3x35 amps distributed it in a smarter way to connected cars. Whether the electric cars are able to use this capacity also depends on the capacity of the car and its battery; with these stronger chargers, cars can be charged twice as fast.

A pilot of the new Flexpower project has shown full electric cars in particular benefit from the new set-up, charging faster in 70% of use cases. With hybrid cars, the benefits are slightly less because of reduced fewer options to ‘catch up’ due to their lower load capacity. However, tests also showed that over 95% of hybrid cars did not experience any issues with the Flexpower set-up.

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software. With an installed base of over 75,000 charging points across more than 55 countries worldwide, EVBox drives sustainable mobility, by bringing durable electric vehicle charging solutions to the world. EVBox has offices in Amsterdam, Antwerp, Copenhagen, Oslo, Milton Keynes, Madrid, Munich, Paris, Bordeaux, New York and Los Angeles. Since March 2017, EVBox is a part of ENGIE. In 2018, EVBox acquired ultra-fast charging station manufacturer EVTronic, adding 700 previously installed fast charging stations to its European network.

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