

Next Kraftwerke and Jedlix launch initiative to use electric car batteries for grid stability

Virtual Power Plant (VPP) operator Next Kraftwerke and Jedlix, an electric vehicle (EV) aggregator and smart charging platform provider, have launched an international pilot project to deliver secondary control reserve (aFRR) through the batteries of electric cars. Tendered by Transmission System Operator (TSO) TenneT, Next Kraftwerke and Jedlix have been selected for the pilot project that will see TenneT assess the technical feasibility of aFRR delivered by new technologies.

The project begins in early 2019 and will run for two years, during which Next Kraftwerke and Jedlix provide aFRR through Jedlix's EV fleet using the company's smart charging solution. Next Kraftwerke provides the interface to the TSO TenneT and markets the aggregated energy in TenneT's reserve control auctions, while Jedlix steers the charging of EV's over-the-air via its platform. Jedlix establishes the connection by linking its system to Next Kraftwerke's remote control unit Next Box. In doing so, the Jedlix fleet can be controlled by Next Kraftwerke's central control system. This enables real-time data exchange between the Jedlix fleet and Next Kraftwerke, while also making it possible for the Jedlix fleet to receive setpoints from Next Kraftwerke that change the EV's power consumption.

Jedlix vehicle drivers will be introduced to the service through a user interface app, which Jedlix offers to all EV drivers in The Netherlands. By taking part in the pilot, all EV drivers can get rewarded for making the car's flexibility available whenever it is being charged at the driver's home. By connecting the EV to the Jedlix platform, Jedlix can receive user charging preferences and establish a live connection with the EV, making sure they are charged smartly. Depending on the charging preference, each EV can provide either positive or negative control reserves. Jedlix will be able to combine user preferences, car data, and charging station information for a continuous forecast of the available capacity. This is then used by Next Kraftwerke in the bidding process. To level out any potential unavailability of the EVs, Next Kraftwerke and Jedlix pool the EVs with other assets in the Next Pool such as greenhouse lighting, wind, and solar plants, and biogas- as well as greenhouse CHPs.

“This pilot will bring essential innovation in the way electrical systems connected in private homes can contribute to TenneT’s most demanding ancillary services. We are very happy to be starting this transition and bringing new sources of income to households together with Jedlix, which has set itself apart when it comes to smart charging of electric vehicles.”

— Paul Kreutzkamp, CEO Next Kraftwerke Belgium

“We are thrilled to have this cooperation with Next Kraftwerke, which has the potential to establish the largest VPP for EVs in Europe and beyond. This cooperation, along with our deep technical integration with an ever-growing amount of automotives and a smart charging solution via the connected car, ensures maximum value for the driver and allows every electric car to participate. Beyond that, our cooperation leads to a reliable and valuable contribution of electric vehicles to grid stabilization.”

— Ruben Benders, CEO Jedlix



Jedlix

Jedlix is an independent aggregator offering a direct over the air smart charging solution for drivers of electric vehicles. As market leader, they are active in The Netherlands since 2016 and will be soon available in other European countries. The company manages the smart charging of electric cars based on the balance between production and consumption of renewable energy. Jedlix charges electric vehicles with renewable energy when the prices are at their lowest and it shares the financial reward generated with its customers. By selecting the optimal charging moments, the aggregator increases the share of renewables in the energy mix.

Next Kraftwerke

As a digital provider, Next Kraftwerke operates one of the largest virtual power plants in Europe. The Next Pool contains around 5,500 decentralized energy-producing and energy-consuming units that are linked together via a digital platform, which enables each one to be managed by an in-house control system. With a total linked energy capacity of over 4,500 MW, Next Kraftwerke makes a substantial contribution to stabilizing fluctuation in the grid. In addition, the Cologne-based company optimizes energy production and consumption of each of its customers with price markers, and trades their power 24/7 on various European markets, such as EPEX and EEX.



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ABOUT JEDLIX

About Jedlix

Jedlix manages the charging of your electric car based on the balance between production and consumption of renewable energy. By selecting the optimal charging moments, we increase the share of renewables in the energy mix. We charge your car with renewable energy when the prices are at their lowest and we share the financial reward generated with you. Driving an electric car just got even better! We launched our smart charging app for both iOS and Android, connecting over 1000 public charge stations for all full electric and plugin-hybrid cars.

We are proud to have *Tesla*, *Renault*, *BMW* and *Eneco* on board as valuable partners.

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