

## AUTOMOTIVE

## Mercedes-Benz to move EV charging stations forward in October

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The brand is aiming to install 10,000 high-power chargers across the globe by 2030. Image credit: Mercedes-Benz

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

German automaker Mercedes-Benz has selected a fall launch date for a project originally announced at CES 2023.

Come October, the brand's very first electric charging stations will open in three of the brand's core markets across China, Europe and North America. The step forward ultimately furthers Mercedes-Benz's Ambition 2039 strategy, which eyes an all-electric fleet by the end of the decade and where market conditions allow.

"We firmly believe that electric mobility is the key to a sustainable, zero-emission future," said Franz Reiner, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Mobility AG, in a statement.

"Our goal is to create an infrastructure that offers electric vehicles reliable and easy charging options," Mr. Reiner said. "In this way, we are actively supporting the transformation to electric mobility with the Mercedes-Benz High-Power Charging Network, we are expanding global charging options and setting new standards in electric vehicle charging.

"We want to encourage our customers to switch to zero-emission vehicles and thus make a positive contribution to protecting our environment."

## An all-electric future

After announcing the beginning of construction for the global network in January 2023 (see story), the automaker's plans are beginning to come to fruition, arriving in just about a month or so.

All power supplied to U.S. drivers in Atlanta, as well as those based in Chengdu, China and Mannheim, Germany, the three inaugural cities for the brand's high-power refueling stops, will be sourced from renewable energy within Mercedes-Benz's network entirely.

By the end of 2024, the automaker is expecting to broaden its fast-charging technology the access points are currently equipped with charging rates of up to 400 kW to more than 2,000 hubs around the globe, strategically placed near high-traffic areas and embedded into select Mercedes-Benz dealerships around the globe.

Long term, Mercedes-Benz hopes to have installed 10,000 high-power chargers throughout North America, Europe, China and other markets by 2030.

**#MercedesBenz** opens its first high-power charging stations this fall, implementing its farreaching plans to expand its global charging infrastructure. Starting in October, the first Charging Hubs will go into operation in the USA, China and Germany.

More: https://t.co/Uyzmhq4dlF pic.twitter.com/IHDFGNxbY4

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Similar to Porsche's lounges in Europe (see story), Mercedes-Benz stations will offer amenities such as refreshments, snacks and restrooms. Unlike Porsche's efforts, these charging points will not be exclusive to Mercedes-Benz models, allowing a wider range of electric car owners to enjoy the perks.

Those who own one of the automaker's vehicles will receive a special benefit, as they are able to reserve a port in advance, reducing potential wait times. The hubs will also be seamlessly integrated into Mercedes-Benz's internal navigation feature.

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