

DOE News Release

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DOE Develops EVAmerica Test Procedures for Urban Electric Vehicles and Initiates Testing of Th!nk City

The U.S. Department of Energy's Field Operations Program and its Qualified Vehicle Testers have developed baseline performance test procedures and specifications for urban electric vehicles.

Based on the EVAmerica Baseline Performance test procedures developed for full-size electric vehicles, the UEVAmerica test procedures were developed in conjunction with electric utilities and vehicle manufacturers, and they will be used to test the emerging class of electric vehicles designed specifically for intra-city use.

The first urban electric tested will be Ford's Th!nk City two-seat hatchback. Other vehicles in the urban electric vehicle class include the Nissan Hyper-mini and the Toyota e-com. These vehicles are smaller than full-size electric vehicles, with lower top speeds (generally about 55 mph), smaller battery packs, and lower payloads. Urban electric vehicles require their own test procedures because of their unique intra-city operating characteristics.

The UEVAmerica test procedures can be found on the Field Operations Program's WebPage at <http://ev.inel.gov/fop> The Th!nk City test results will be posted on the Program's WebPages later this year when Electric Transportation Applications has completed testing the Th!nk City in Phoenix.

The Field Operations Program is also teaming with Ford to perform a Th!nk City demonstration program. Seventy-five Th!nk Cities will be operated in fleets in San Francisco and other metropolitan areas to demonstrate vehicle performance and customer acceptance.

The Field Operations Program is actively supporting the demonstration and deployment of advanced technology vehicles in real-world applications and environments through its testing activities by providing unbiased operations and performance testing information to fleet managers and others considering purchasing or leasing advanced technology vehicles.

These elements of the Field Operations Program are managed for the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory in Idaho Falls, Idaho. For more information, visit

the Field Operations Program's web page <http://ev.inel.gov/fop> or contact Jim Francfort at francfje@inel.gov (208) 526-6787.

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