



# Battery-Electric Trucks

As an option to decarbonize Long Haul Trucking in Eastern Canada

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Institut du véhicule innovant



# A bit of background



Innovative Vehicle Institute (IVI) :

- Research center that has been dedicated to EVs and Autonomous vehicles for >25 years
- R&D projects are at the core
- Fleet deployment projects for the first units of new technologies



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# A bit of background

## Plug-in Fleet Project :

- 3 years large-scale demonstration project for class 6-8 BEV HD Trucks
- Emphasis on <160 km radius with Return to Base (RTB) applications



# State of the market



**V O L V O**



**NAVISTAR**

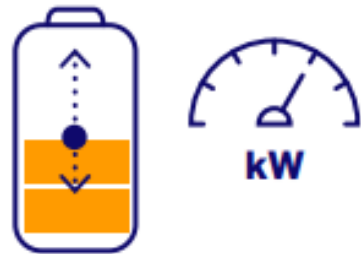
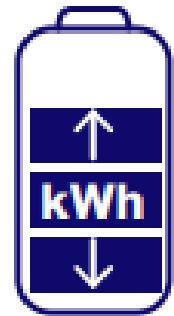


 **LION ELECTRIC**

- As of December 2022, 70 BEV trucks are registered in the province of Quebec
  - Mostly used for LTL, regional haul, roadwork, 3PL, etc
- All major legacy truck manufacturers now offer electric trucks
  - Volvo, Peterbilt, Kenworth, Freightliner, International, etc.
- In Quebec, the early movers have now been operating 1 or 2 electric trucks for about a year. We are roughly 3 years behind California, in terms of project sizes and involvement levels
- BEV trucks are roughly 10 years behind light-duty EVs
- Long haul is not here yet. In the next decade, it will be made possible « without much more effort », or « naturally »



# Current specs



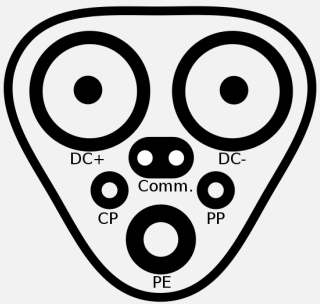
- Class 8 trucks are currently delivered with 350-600 kWh batteries
- They require 150 – 250 kWh/100 km
- Can yield in a 250 km – 450 km range
- Current max. charging power are approximately 150 kW (up to 250 kW for some)
- Charging times for 80% SOC are about 60-120 min
- Payload and elevation gain have a major impact on range
- Payload is affected by battery weight – but not everyone operates at max. payload
- Preliminary data shows that winter does not affect range nearly as much as in LD EVs

Icons : Hydro-Quebec and rigi.tech



# Future specs

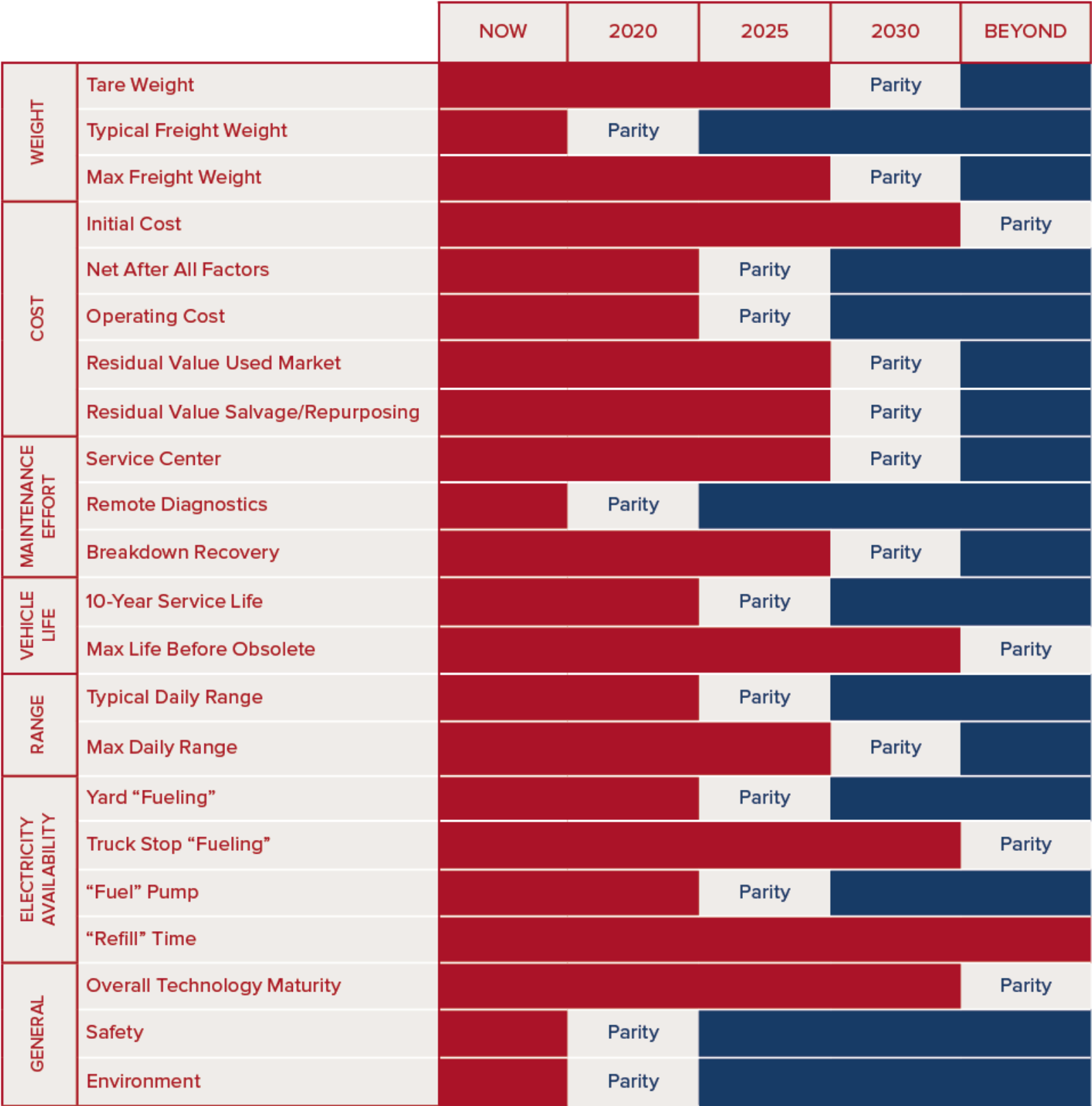
- Battery energy density (kWh / kg) is progressing fast
- Megawatt Charging System (MCS) is being discussed



- High-level parity outlook on various parameters (compared to diesel) :



CLASS 7 AND 8 CBEV PARITY VS. DIESEL SYSTEM (NACFE)



Key: Comparison to 'Equivalent' Diesel Baseline: ■ Worse ■ Parity ■ Better

Source : NACFE’s Guidance Report « Electric Trucks : Where they make sense » - 2018



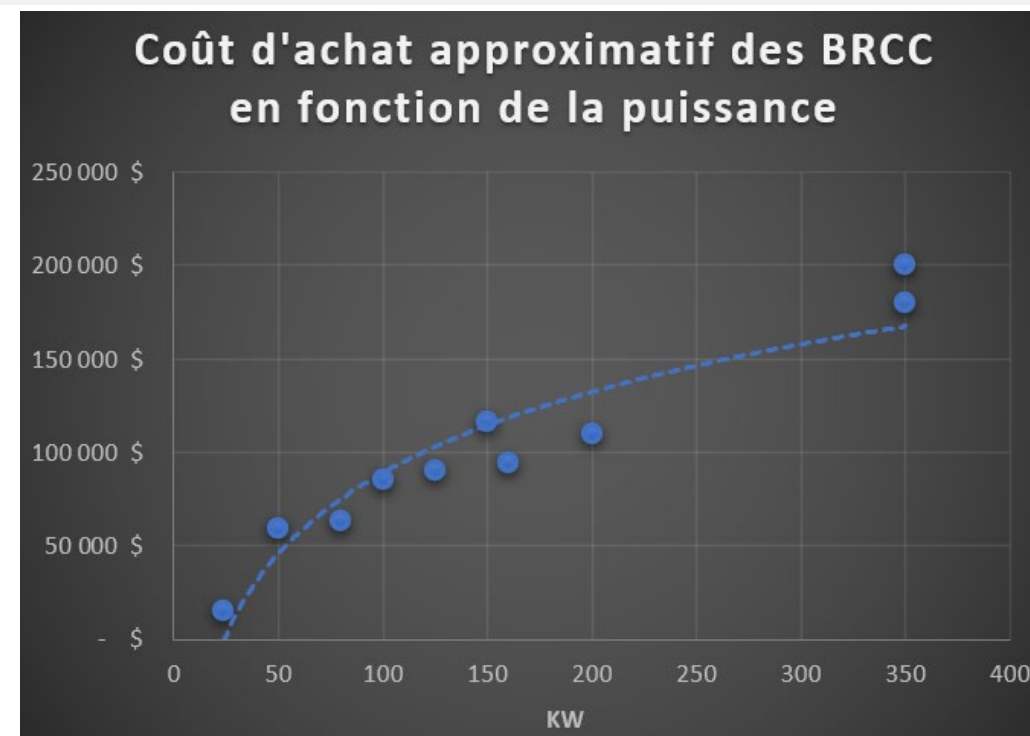
# Charging BEV HD Trucks



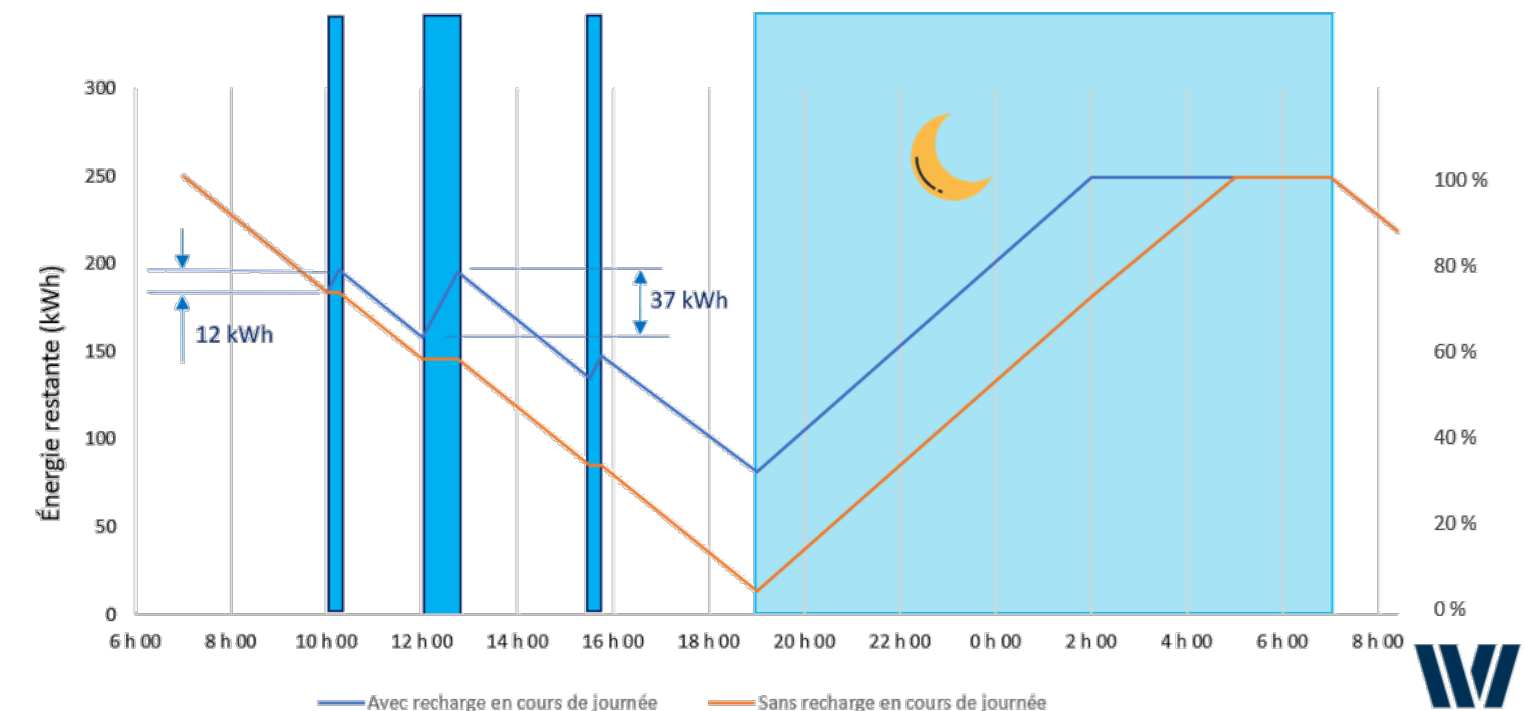
Source : NFI Industries



- **Fleet-operated chargers**
  - Relatively high costs
  - Installation may require to own the building
  - It is now easy to find resources for help in the procurement and installation process.
  - Software to manage EV operations are on the rise
  - Privately owned stations may be used for opportunity charges



DCFC stations approx. prices by charging power  
Source : IVI





# Charging BEV HD Trucks

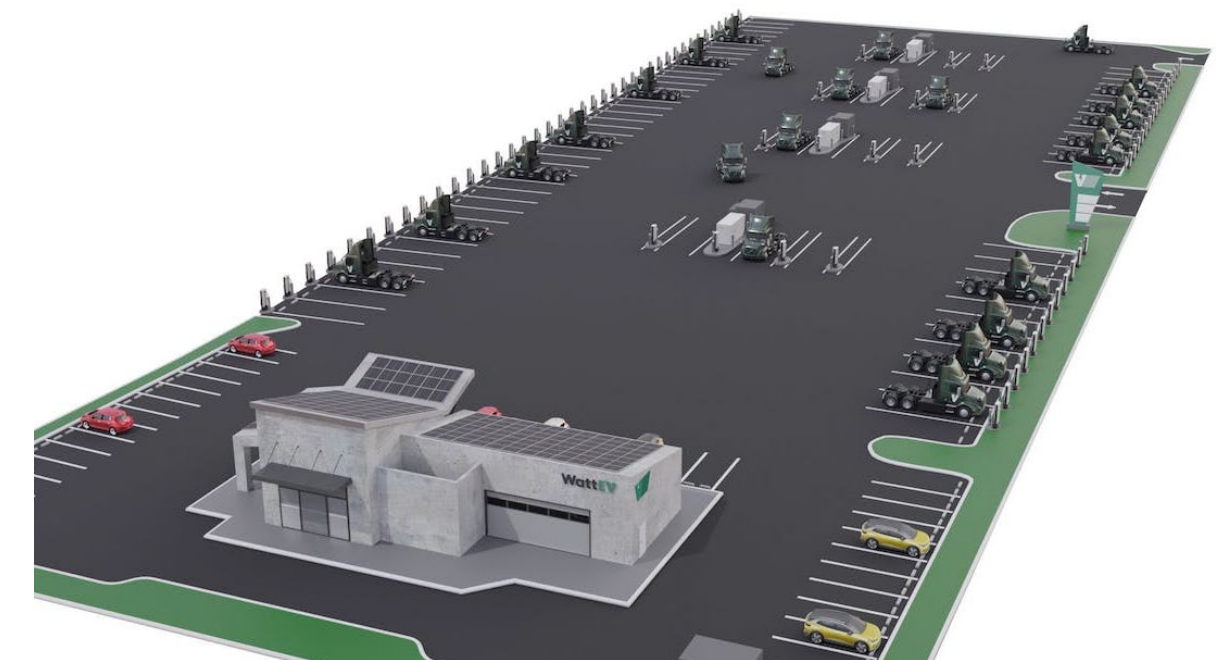
- **Public/shared charging stations**
  - Multiple startups, pilot projects and shared stations hubs are currently underway
  - Both from public charging network and private fleets, there is a will to deploy hubs



Source : Hydro-Québec



Electric Island, Oregon  
Partly owned by DTNA and PGE  
Source : IVI



Source : WattEV





# Strengths

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- BEV trucks are **already on the road** (mainly for regional haul)
  - Long-haul trucks will come to market « by themselves », following battery development
- Upfront **costs are no longer a big issue**. Subsidies...
  - ...Currently cover almost all of the cost difference
  - ...Cover pilot projects and internal hours, as well as consultancy (if applicable)
- Private charging station deployment, although not as easy as it seems, is now a **broadly covered topic** and there is a complete mesh of documentation, vendors, service providers and consultants to support it
- **Charging is easy**. Park, plug, confirm charging, go home.
- **Simple vehicle architecture** compared to ICE, Hydrogen or Hybrid





# Weaknesses

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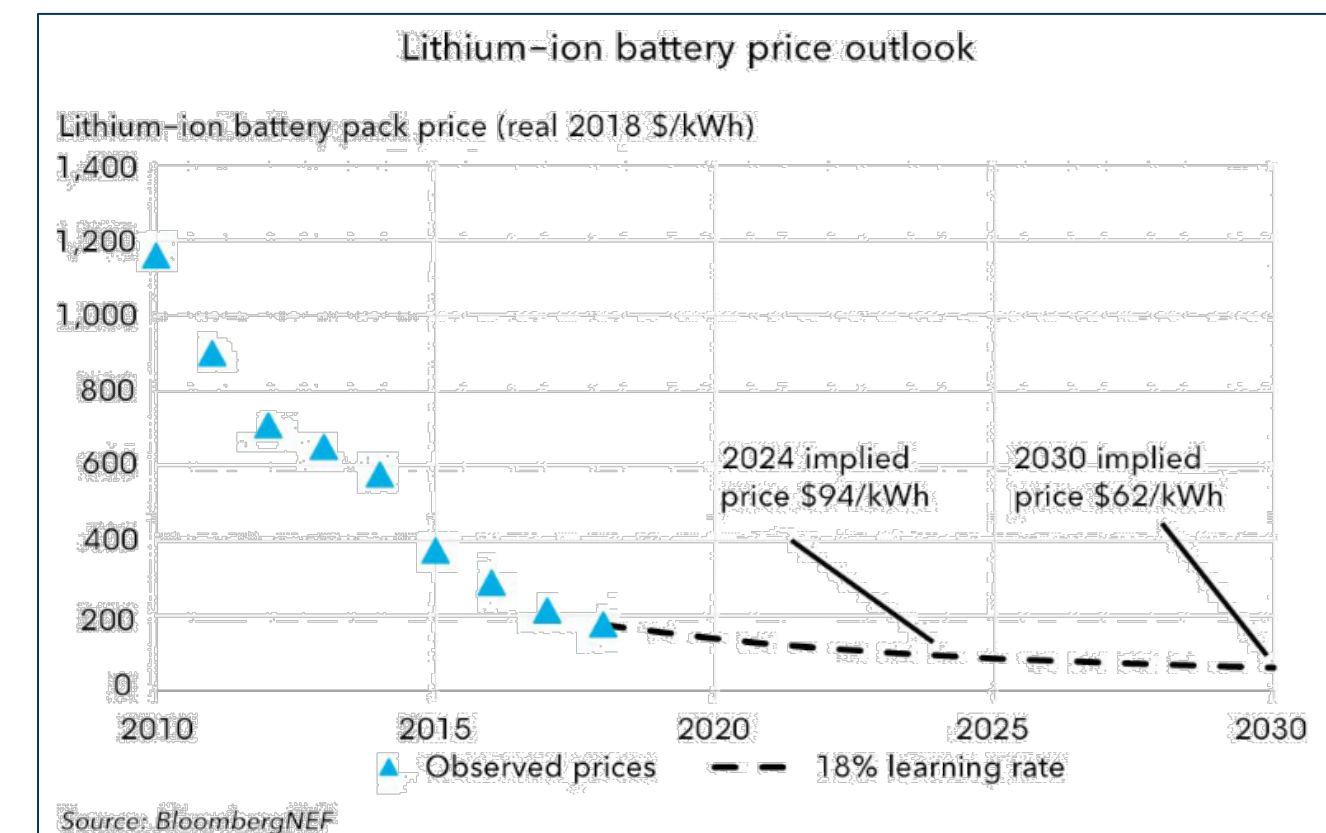
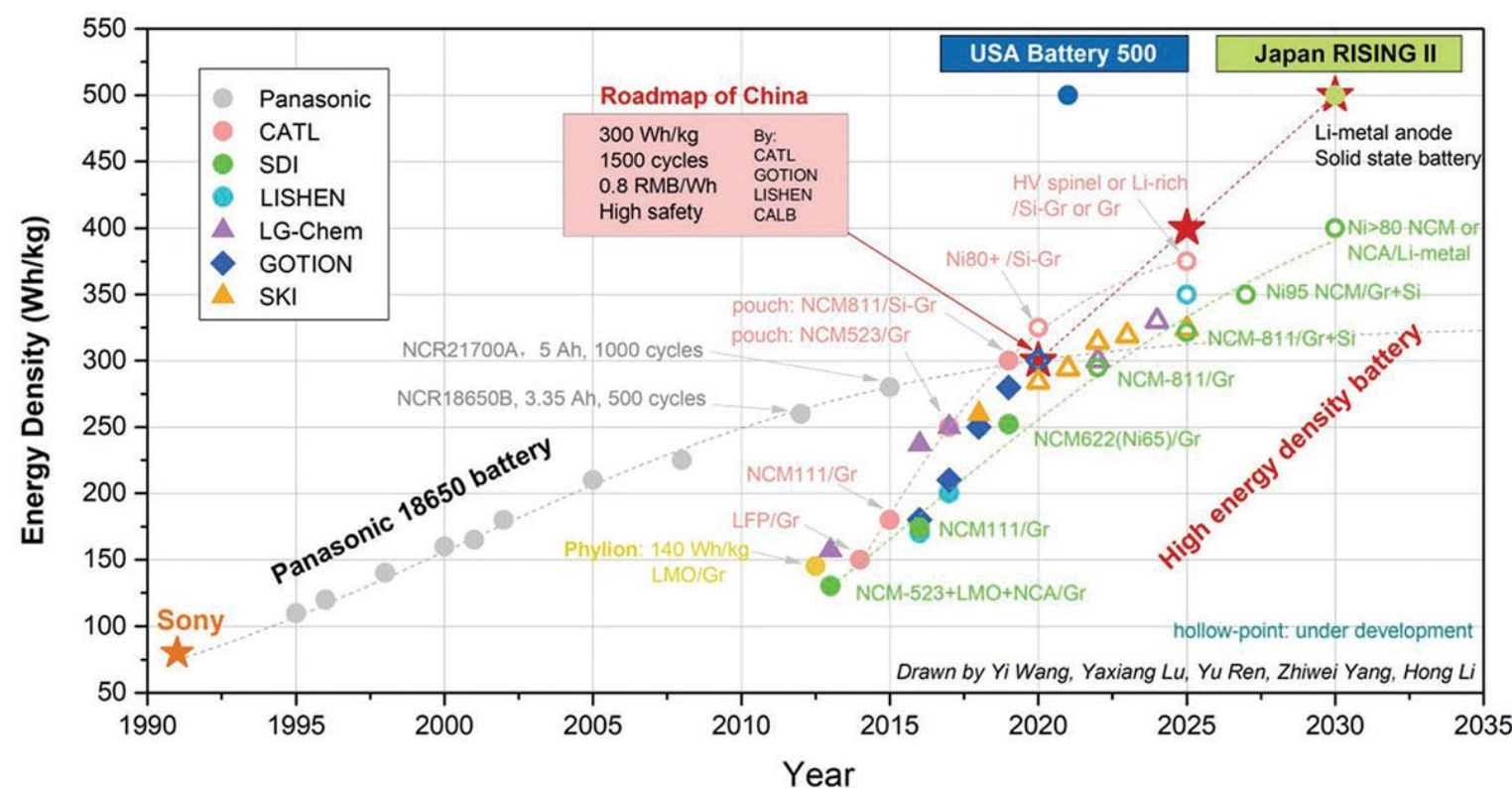
- **Charging time** is the main hurdle
  - Most operators expect the same refueling time as for conventional trucks, no matter the ROI of a solution, as a whole
- **Payload « penalty »** of around 4 000 lbs.
- Chargers are **new assets** to manage and maintain
- **Demand charges** (\$/kW) will become highly considerable for larger charging stalls
- There is a steep **learning curve** for managing large EV fleets and chargers





# Opportunities

- Public/shared charging stations are coming in North America
- Battery density (kWh/kg) is improving, slowly reducing the payload « penalty » and allowing a higher range
- Battery prices are getting lower every year
- The grid is getting cleaner every year





# Threats

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- There is a lot of misinformation around EVs leading to a slower adoption
- Very dependent on the battery supply chain
- The labour shortage is currently a problem that is blocking certain fleets from taking on innovative projects such as an energy transition
- The amount of marketing around new EV technology leads many to think that the next leap in technology is around the corner
- Long haul is not the « Low-hanging fruit » for OEMs



# Recommendations for decision makers

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- Push for purpose-built public charging hubs at already existing truck stops along main corridors
- Maintain subsidies year-round with no dead zone between program editions
- Continue pushing to bring more dedicated HD EV Trucks maintenance and repair programs to the HD truck mechanics







[www.ivisolutions.ca](http://www.ivisolutions.ca)  
[www.pluginfleetproject.ca](http://www.pluginfleetproject.ca)



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