

Quebec in the race to develop an electric vehicle

The Institut du transport avancé du Québec/ITAQ (Advanced Transportation Institute of Quebec) leads a mission to China at the prestigious World Electric Vehicle Symposium

Shenzhen, November 4, 2010 – Mandated by the Ministère du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation (MDEIE), ITAQ is leading a technical-economic mission to the **25th Electric Vehicle Symposium (EVS)**, which will be held in Shenzhen, China, November 5-9, 2010.

For the first time since the first EVS in 1969, Canada will have its own pavilion in the exposition hall. The Government of Quebec and ITAQ will take advantage of this opportunity to display Quebecois advanced transportation know-how and engineering at kiosk C-064. TM4, Précicad, the Hydro-Québec Research Institute, MEP Technologies, Show Canada, LITO Green Motion and the CNTA, which will be accompanying ITAQ, are determined to develop new links with commercial and technological partners. Additionally, Quebec will make up by far the largest contingent within the Canadian delegation.

"This mission should be very promising for Quebec", said Hugo Marsolais, ITAQ director of operations and head of Quebec's delegation to China. "The manufacturers accompanying us have several projects in the works, they are on the cutting edge of advanced technologies, and they are seeking business opportunities in a sector that is seeing major growth. By concentrating on technology transfer, their common objective is to develop innovative and competitive electric transportation solutions."

With annual production of nearly 14 million vehicles, China is home to the ten largest automobile manufacturers, which have formed the Union of Electric Vehicle Producers. The Chinese objective is clear: by 2015, 1/4 of the vehicle fleet must use new energy sources.¹ The delegation from Quebec hopes to benefit from this shift by maximizing the return for Quebec and for Canada.

Through its many innovative research centres and companies, Quebec has gained a global reputation in various sustainable transportation sectors, especially in the development of electric motors and high performance lithium-ion energy storage solutions.

"Given that Quebec's greatest challenge is international competitiveness, this mission sends a clear message: by focusing on innovation, more than ever before, Quebec is determined to become a serious international player in the race to develop electric vehicles," added Mr. Marsolais.

¹Source: Canadian Consulate General in Guangzhou, China

The EVS is the international event for all hybrid and electric technology actors, and is attended by members of industrial, government, and research sectors. Last year's symposium in Norway hosted more than 3,000 participants from 45 countries. At this year's symposium in China, more than 300 conferences will be presented, and a 45,000 m² exposition hall will bring together more than 250 exhibitors, including the major automobile manufacturers.

About ITAQ

The Institut du Transport avancé du Québec is a Collegial Technology Transfer Centre affiliated with the Cégep de Saint-Jérôme. It provides applied research, product development, technological and strategic monitoring, and training services to companies in the sustainable transportation sector. ITAQ features an advanced propulsion laboratory that is unique in Canada.

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Source: ITAQ
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