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SESSION 2010

**BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPERIEUR
- GROUPE 17 -**

Conception et réalisation de carrosseries
Constructions navales
Etude et réalisation d'outillages de mise en forme des matériaux
Industries céramiques
Industries des matériaux souples
Industries papetières
Maintenance et après-vente des engins de travaux publics et de manutention
Mécanique et automatismes industriels
Mise en forme des alliages moulés
Mise en forme des matériaux par forgeage
Moteurs à combustion interne
Productique bois et ameublement
Réalisation d'ouvrages chaudronnés
Traitements des matériaux

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Le sujet comporte 3 pages, numérotées de 1 à 3.

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Ford Studying Techniques to Charge Electric Vehicles

- DEARBORN, Mich. — Well before its electric vehicles hit the road,¹ the Ford Motor Company is focusing on how consumers will charge their car batteries.
- Ford said Tuesday that it is testing new technology that allows drivers to communicate with the nation's electric-power grid² and makes charging the batteries of vehicles as cheap and convenient as possible.
- The communications system is part of a larger effort by Ford and several utilities to gauge the electricity needs of battery-powered vehicles and to prepare an infrastructure to accommodate them.
- "This has to be easy for the consumer," Bill Ford Jr., the company's executive chairman, said Tuesday. "This can't be an interesting science experiment."
- Ford has been quieter about its electric-vehicle plans than its rival, General Motors. Last week, G.M. claimed that the Chevrolet Volt, a battery-powered car assisted by a gasoline engine, would get 230 miles per gallon.
- The Japanese automaker Nissan countered with a claim that its all-electric car would get more than 360 miles per gallon.
- Mr. Ford said those claims were hardly relevant now, given that the soonest any of the companies would have electric cars for sale is likely to be 2011.
- "I certainly won't dispute their numbers, but I'm not sure it's totally relevant until we have a federal standard that everybody understands," he said.
- Ford plans to introduce a battery-powered commercial van next year and an electric Focus compact car in 2011. The company also has a so-called plug-in hybrid vehicle coming in 2012 that runs primarily on battery power.
- The company is testing plug-in hybrids in California to assess how drivers can best recharge the batteries from an electrical outlet in their home.
- The main consideration is the time of day. The optimal time is late in the evening or early morning, the off-peak³ hours for electricity use.
- Ford is adapting its existing in-car communications system, known as SYNC, to alert drivers on when to recharge. The system also communicates directly with electric grids to prepare the home for the charging process.
- Ford's utility partners are studying which parts of the country will have the most electric cars the soonest. Those areas include cities where hybrid cars are most popular and energy conservation appears to be a high priority.

(376 words)

New York Times, August 19, 2009

¹ hit the road: arrive sur le marché

² electric power-grid: réseau électrique

³ off-peak hours: heures creuses

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