



Plug-in hybrids as an important bridge technology for the transformation to electromobility

Mercedes-Benz



The transformation of the transport sector will lead to an increasing electrification of road vehicles. A suitable bridge technology is required to overcome the various challenges on this path and overcome this enormous upheaval. From the point of view of Mercedes-Benz Cars, plug-in hybrids are an indispensable element for this transition period, as they enable high electrical driving components depending on usage and thus already reduce carbon emissions in real terms.

Mercedes-Benz is consistently creating the conditions for a net carbon-neutral new car fleet in 2039. However, this transformation is accompanied by various challenges: In addition to the expansion of the charging infrastructure and the expansion of renewable energies, the job profiles must be successively adapted to new software and drive technologies and employees must be qualified accordingly. Plug-in hybrids therefore play an important role at the current stage of the transformation.

- **State support programs for a predictable transformation**

Plug-in hybrids of the latest generation with high electric ranges also enable drivers to achieve high electrical driving shares. For this reason, owners of these vehicles should continue to be supported by government support, such as favorable taxation.

- **Certifications must represent real driving operation**

With the introduction of the second stage of the EU6e emission standard ("EU6e_bis"), certification consumption will move much closer to real driving from 2025.

Mercedes-Benz has worked early on to revise the calculation methodology and considers this revision to be useful for more meaningful customer information among other things. At the same time, the legislator creates a more realistic basis for determining the individual manufacturer's carbon fleet compliance. The Commission plans to re-examine and, if necessary, adjust carbon dioxide levels from 2027. This must be done on the basis of a transparent database.

- **Company initiatives to reduce emissions in real terms**

Users of plug-in hybrids with high electrical driving components are already helping to reduce the carbon emissions in real terms. To actively support this, Mercedes-Benz has launched a wide range of initiatives. In addition to the high electric ranges of the current generation of plug-in hybrids, particularly these three are measures for making charging as simple and attractive as possible.

- With "Charge@home", for example, Mercedes-Benz has created a solution for its own company car users in order to enable direct compensation for the electricity charged at home.
- The "Mercedes me Charge" charging card simplifies public charging (Charge@ Public) because it enables access to almost all systems of current charging providers.
- Mercedes-Benz has also created a significant number of charging points for its own workforce (Charge@ Work). Most of these charging points can also be used by the public.