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Oslo is the benchmark for electric vehicles

Frankfurt. This car with almost 400 HP seems to come out of your dreams: the BMW i8, its front axle is driven by an electric engine. As much promotion as the IAA does for clean engines - electric mobility hasn't become part of daily life so far. Frankfurt, model region for electric drivers, has 40 electric charging poles and just about 137 electric cars.

Since 2009 the EVUE project „Electronic vehicles in urban europe" is in progress, and besides the City of Frankfurt nine other cities are exchanging their experiences. Most of the partner cities – like Frankfurt - have just begun in the matter of electric cars. Oslo is the only exception. There are more than 1153 electric cars (by 600 000 inhabitants) – looking at the number of inhabitants the quantity of electric cars is ten times higher than in the other cities. The number of electric charging poles accounts for 630.

"The reason why is that electric cars get a lot of amenities/incentives and that – in addition – the drivers form a strong organization", says Marianne Molmen who is responsible for EVUE in the capital of Norway. Subcompact cars which are produced in Oslo cost only about 15 000 Euro – a real bargain compared to other e-cars.

Stockholm, Sweden's capital, is with 140 vehicles by 800.000 inhabitants in a comparable stage to Frankfurt. Admittedly the topic of environmental protection concentrates in Stockholm on the issue of reducing fuel consumption by substituting petrol fuel by ethanol and other renewable energies.

London with 8.5 million inhabitants counts just under 2000 electric cars, with the objective of 100 000. The state supports the purchase of an electric car with up to 5700 Euros. Parking is for free in London if you drive an electric runabout and you don't have to pay toll fees.

Portugal implements a standardized charge- and pay-system for charging poles in more than 20 cities. It should simplify the recharging of the batteries. A key card and a PIN-number shortly are going to be sufficient for the electric drivers. tjs (tjs)

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