

New Energy Transport Fund

Final Report
On
Trial of Electric Light Goods Vehicle for
Retailing Industry
(Talent Scout Management Limited)

(9 July 2024)

PREPARED BY:
Dr. Rick MO

The Monitoring and Evaluation Team's views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Environment and Ecology Bureau (Environment Branch), HKSAR.

List of Monitoring and Evaluation Team Members

Dr. Rick MO (Team Leader)

Smart City Division
Hong Kong Productivity Council

Ms. Rachel CHAN

Smart City Division
Hong Kong Productivity Council

Mr. Michael WU

Smart City Division
Hong Kong Productivity Council

Mr. K.S. LI

Smart City Division
Hong Kong Productivity Council

**New Energy Transport Fund
Trial of Electric Light Goods Vehicle for Retailing Industry
(Talent Scout Management Limited)**

**Final Report
(Reporting Period: 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023)**

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

1.1 The New Energy Transport Fund (the Fund) is set up to encourage transport operators to try out green innovative transport technologies, contributing to better air quality and public health for Hong Kong. Talent Scout Management Limited (Talent Scout) was approved under the Fund for trial of one electric light goods vehicle for retailing industry. Talent Scout, through the tendering procedures stipulated in the Agreement entered into with the Government, procured a Nissan e-NV200 Half Panel Van electric light goods vehicle (EV) for trial.

1.2 Hong Kong Productivity Council has been commissioned by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD)¹ as an independent third party assessor (the Assessor) to monitor the trial and evaluate the performance of the trial vehicle. Talent Scout assigned a Ssangyong Stavic diesel light goods vehicle (DV) providing same services as the conventional counterpart for comparison.

1.3 This Final Report summarises the performance of the EV in the 12 months of the trial as compared with its conventional counterpart, i.e. the DV.

2. Trial and Conventional Vehicles

2.1 The trial EV, Nissan e-NV200 Half Panel Van electric light goods vehicle, has a gross vehicle weight of 2,250 kg capable of carrying a driver with four passengers and goods. It has a 40 kWh lithium-ion battery pack and a driving range of 317 km with its battery fully charged and air-conditioning off. The DV, Ssangyong Stavic diesel light goods vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 2,750 kg and a diesel engine with a cylinder capacity of 1,998 c.c., was used as the conventional counterpart for comparison in this trial. The EV and the DV were used for the delivering mobile phones and telecommunication products to retail stores in Hong Kong.

2.2 Talent Scout installed a designated 7 kW single-phase AC charging facility at the office in Kwun Tong for charging and recording the amount of electricity charged. Key features of the EV, the charging facility and the DV are detailed in Appendix 1 and photos of the vehicles and the charging facility are shown in Appendix 2.

¹ The Administration of the New Energy Transport Fund was migrated to the Environment Branch of the Environment and Ecology Bureau [EEB (Environment Branch)] since 1 January 2023 after internal re-organisation of EEB (Environment Branch) and EPD.

3. Trial Information

3.1 The trial commenced on 1 October 2022 and lasted for 12 months. Talent Scout was required to collect and provide trial information including the EV's mileage reading before charging, amount of electricity consumed and time used in each charging, operation downtime due to charging, and cost and downtime associated with scheduled and unscheduled maintenances of the EV and the charging facility. Similar data of the DV were also required. In addition to the cost information, reports on maintenance work, operational difficulties and opinions of the driver and Talent Scout were collected to reflect any problems of the EV.

4. Findings of Trial

4.1 The following table summarises the statistical data of the EV and the DV. The average fuel cost of the EV was HK\$2.20/km (about 88%) lower than that of the DV. Taking the maintenance fee and other costs into account, the average total operating cost of the EV was HK\$2.29/km (about 83%) lower than that of the DV in the 12 months of the trial.

Table 1: Key operation statistics of each vehicle (1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023)

	EV	DV
Total distance travelled (km)	17,329	44,382
Average daily mileage (km/working day)	59	151
Average fuel economy	(km/kWh)	4.92
	(km/litre)	-
	(km/MJ)	0.23 ^[1]
Average fuel cost (HK\$/km)	0.31 ^[2]	2.51 ^[3]
Average total operating cost (HK\$/km) ^[4]	0.48	2.77
Downtime (working day) ^{[4][5]}	1.5	3

^[1] Assuming lower heating value of 36.13 MJ/litre for diesel fuel.

^[2] The electricity cost was calculated using average electricity tariff rates of HK\$1.289/kWh (Oct 2022); HK\$1.451/kWh (Nov 2022 – Dec 2022); HK\$1.544/kWh (Jan 2023 – Feb 2023); HK\$1.552/kWh (Mar 2023 – Apr 2023); HK\$1.565/kWh (May 2023); HK\$1.559/kWh (Jun 2023); HK\$1.535/kWh (Jul 2023); HK\$1.508/kWh (Aug 2023) and; HK\$1.482/kWh (Sep 2023) as claimed by CLP.

^[3] The market fuel price was used for calculation.

^[4] Maintenance due to incident not related to the performance of the vehicle was not included for comparing the performance.

^[5] Downtime refers to the working days the vehicle is not in operation, which is counted from the first day it stops operation till the day it is returned to the operator.

4.2 Apart from the fuel cost, maintenance cost and other indirect costs which may include parking fee, towing fee, vehicle replacement fee and cost of operation downtime due to charging and maintenance of the EV are also included in Table 1. In the 12 months of the trial period, the EV had three scheduled maintenances while the DV had five scheduled maintenances and one unscheduled maintenance.

4.3 In the 12 months of the trial period, the EV had 1.5 days of downtime while the DV had 3 days of downtime. Hence, the utilisation rates of the EV and the DV were 99.5% and 99.0%, respectively. Based on the above, the average daily driving distances of the EV and the DV were 59 km and 151 km, respectively.

4.4 The driver of the EV liked driving the EV and had no problem in operating the EV. Overall, he was satisfied with the performance of the EV and would promote the EV to other drivers. Talent Scout was satisfied with the EV since the EV could meet the operational requirements and save the operation cost. Given the opportunity, Talent Scout would consider replacing all existing conventional vehicles with EVs and encourage other transport operators to try the EVs.

4.5 It is observed that the amount of electricity stored in the battery after a full charging operation could be maintained at the level of 40 kWh after the 12-month trial period. Thus, the deterioration in battery capacity within the 12-month trial period was insignificant, if any.

4.6 Based on the total mileage of the EV and the fuel economy of the DV, the equivalent carbon dioxide (CO₂e) emission from the DV could be estimated for comparison purpose. In the 12-month trial period, the CO₂e emission from the EV and the DV were 1,374 kg and 5,712 kg respectively. Hence, there was a 4,338 kg (about 76%) reduction of CO₂e, with the replacement of the DV by the EV in the trial.

5. Summary

5.1 The average fuel cost of the EV was HK\$2.20/km (about 88%) lower than that of the DV. Taking the maintenance fee for both the EV and the DV into account, the average total operating cost of the EV was HK\$2.29/km (about 83%) lower than that of the DV. The utilisation rates of the EV and the DV were 99.5% and 99.0%, respectively. There was a 4,338 kg (about 76%) reduction of CO₂e, with the replacement of the DV by the EV in the trial.

5.2 It is observed that the amount of electricity stored in the battery after a full charging operation could be maintained at the level of 40 kWh after the 12-month trial period. Thus, the deterioration in battery capacity within the 12-month trial period was insignificant, if any.

5.3 The driver of the EV liked driving the EV and had no problem in operating the EV. Overall, he was satisfied with the performance of the EV. Talent Scout was satisfied with the EV since the EV could meet the operational requirements and save the operation cost. Given the opportunity, Talent Scout would consider replacing all existing conventional vehicles with EVs and encourage other transport operators to try the EVs.

5.4 The findings showed electric light goods vehicles are becoming more affordable and feasible to the transport trade for saving operating cost and reducing CO₂e emissions, provided that the vehicles can get easy access to charging facilities.

Appendix 1: Key Features of Vehicles and Charging Facility

1. Trial EV and Charging Facility

EV

Registration mark:	YC3929
Make:	Nissan
Model:	e-NV200 Half Panel Van
Class:	Light goods vehicle
Gross vehicle weight:	2,250 kg
Payload:	658 kg
Seating capacity:	Driver + 4 passengers
Rated power:	80 kW
Driving range:	317 km (air conditioning off)
Battery material:	Lithium-ion
Battery capacity:	40 kWh
Year of manufacture:	2020

EV Charging Facility

Make:	Sinexcel Electric
Model:	Interstellar EV AC Charger
Power:	7 kW, 220V AC / max 32A
Charging standard:	IEC 62196-2 Type 2

2. DV Used for Comparison

Registration mark:	STYLEBUY
Make:	Ssangyong
Model:	Stavic
Class:	Light goods vehicle
Gross vehicle weight:	2,750 kg
Payload:	591 kg
Seating capacity:	Driver + 4 passengers
Cylinder capacity:	1,998 c.c.
Year of manufacture:	2017

Appendix 2: Photos of Vehicles and Charging Facility

1. Trial EV (YC3929) and Charging Facility

	
<p>Front view of EV</p>	<p>Rear view of EV</p>
	
<p>Left side view of EV</p>	<p>Right side view of EV</p>
	
<p>7 kW single-phase AC charging facility</p>	

2. DV (STYLEBUY) used for Comparison



Front view of DV



Rear view of DV



Left side view of DV



Right side view of DV