



PLUGGED IN AND MOVING FORWARD



"The first prototype helped us identify the main technological challenges, such as battery packaging and safety issues. We have addressed these challenges without compromising the C30's cool and fun-to-drive personality. I am very happy with the result," said Lennart Stegland, Director of Volvo Cars Special Vehicles.

The car at the show was no empty shell. The electric version looks like any other Volvo C30, providing the same safety, comfort and roominess of this popular four-seater. On the interior, however, there were some interesting differences. Instruments not only actually face the driver, but the gauges, graphics and symbols are fresh, unique and greatly simplified.

By presenting this drivable prototype of the C30, Volvo is taking the process of cars powered by electricity even further ahead. This particular car already has a range of 150 km (94 miles) and can accelerate from 0 to 60 in less than 11 seconds. Next, we'll factory build an electric test fleet of at least 50 of these Volvo C30s, which will be used in real-life traffic starting in 2011.

"Our test fleet data will be valuable in Volvo Cars' development of electric cars. It will also provide crucial input for the infrastructure planners and help define which services are needed to make rechargeable cars the most attractive choice in the future," says Stegland.

Just as importantly, every one of these Volvos will be designed to be as safe as every other Volvo. "An electrically powered Volvo must be as safe as all other new Volvos. And the very same standards also apply to ownership, driving and protection in the event of an accident," says Thomas Broberg, Senior Safety Advisor at Volvo Cars.

In the end, this just means your next Volvo may offer you everything you'd expect — except fossil fuel emissions!

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