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Charge

When it comes to providing alternative energy sources, the U.S. Navy is all over it. That's why the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) joined forces with ABM and ChargePoint® to help install and maintain the EV charging stations at select Navy Exchange (NEX) locations, including a recent install at NEX's San Diego facility.

NEXCOM oversees 100 NEX facilities and nearly 300 stores worldwide. Its mission is to provide authorized customers with quality goods and services at a savings, and to support quality of life programs for active duty military, retirees, reservists and their families.

The EV installation program, which was announced in January, has been introduced to meet the ever-growing population of EV drivers within the naval community. Additionally, with the U.S. government having deemed electricity as an alternative fuel, the Navy also is in alignment with the government's goal to reduce petroleum consumption through improvements in fleet fuel efficiencies and the use of alternative fuels.

The new era of consumer-friendly EVs is completely changing the way drivers' fuel up their cars. Rather than going out of their way for a traditional gas station stop, today's EV drivers want to charge up while they shop or eat.

U.S. Navy, ABM partner on pilot electric vehicle charging station program

By Ken Sapp

The interest level in EVs will continue to grow, as consumers want to reduce their dependency on petroleum. In fact, President Obama has proposed being the first country to put 1,000,000 electric vehicles on the road by 2015 – a move the Administration hopes will help reduce our dependency on foreign oil.

ABM and ChargePoint® representatives were on-hand as Naval Base San Diego opened the first West Coast NEX EV charging stations at a ceremony held in March.

Two EV charging spaces conveniently are located near the NEX entrance, which will help encourage use of the EV service.

"As a 2012 Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Award winner, we at Naval Base San Diego pride ourselves in leading the way to alternative energy options and reducing fuel consumption," says U.S. Navy Captain Winton Smith, Commanding Officer of the Naval Base San Diego.



President Obama has proposed being the first country in the world to put 1,000,000 electric vehicles on the road by 2015.

The cost for charging an electric vehicle in San Diego is \$1 per hour. Customers pay for the service at the charging station by either using radio frequency identification (RFID) credit or a ChargePoint® key fob card, which acts as a debit card. A ChargePoint® card can be purchased at www.chargepoint.com. Recently, the U.S. Department of Energy released the following facts on Electric Vehicles in the state of California:

- There are 1,276 publicly accessible charging stations in the state of California.
- There are 6,380 total publicly accessible charging stations in the United States, assuming California is 20 percent of the total United States.

- California has 35,000 plug-in EVs.
- The United States has 106,000 plug-in EVs, assuming California accounts for 33 percent.
- Currently, Americans are purchasing 7,000 EVs per month.

In addition to the recent installations in Bethesda, Md., and San Diego, Naval officials say NEX plans to open its next EV station at the Naval base in Coronado, Calif., and another at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., in 2014. The installations will complete the pilot development. ■

ABM at forefront of electric vehicle charging solutions

ABM's work alongside the U.S. Navy underscores another significant moment in its commitment to continually enhance the country's EV infrastructure. To date, ABM has installed and maintained hundreds of EV charging stations at commercial and government facilities across the United States. Its client base includes cities, counties, schools, businesses and even sports facilities.

ABM (www.abm.com) is a leading provider of facility solutions, including facilities engineering, commercial cleaning, energy solutions, HVAC, electrical, landscaping, parking and security, which is provided through stand-alone or integrated solutions. In addition, it provides custom facility solutions in urban, suburban and rural areas to properties of all sizes – from schools and hospitals,

to complex facilities such as manufacturing plants and major airports.

The EV charging stations at the Navy sites are part of the ChargePoint® Network. They are fully operational and open to drivers of plug-in electric vehicles. Through the use of ChargePoint® Network, a variety of smartphone applications and in-car navigation systems, EV drivers can see the location, status and price of each charging station and get turn-by-turn navigation assistance to the site.

Once there, they can get SMS or email alerts when their car is fully charged or if there is a charging interruption. Trip tools can show drivers charging stations along their route and can track greenhouse gas and gasoline savings.



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