



Japan 1st 48V EV 4WD Kei-Truck developed jointly by Valeo and Gunma University

December 3, 2019 - Valeo Japan, Japanese subsidiary of a global automobile supplier, Valeo, and Next Generation Mobility Society Implementation Research Center (hereinafter: CRANTS) of the National University Corporation Gunma University have jointly developed Japan's first 48-volt four-wheel drive electric vehicle demo car.

Reducing CO₂ emissions from vehicles is one of the major challenges facing the automotive industry in the increasing global greenhouse gas concerns. Automakers are forced to work on electrification in order to meet the increasingly stringent regulations on CO₂ emissions. The 48V system, which allows electrification at an affordable price, has begun to be introduced in Europe and China, and is attracting attention in Japan. Now Valeo, the world leader in 48V systems, is proposing the 48V 4WD EV system.

The 48V 4WD EV jointly developed by Valeo and CRANTS is equipped with two 15kW Valeo 48V electric motors (eDrive), one on the front and the other on the rear axle, and one DC / DC converter. Targeting over 100 km range and 100 km/hr speed, the 48V system can realize 4WD EV with excellent acceleration performance and four-wheel drive capability at a reasonable price, answering perfectly the requests of a clean, robust and reliable EV light truck. In addition, the Valeo 48v EV eDrive system will fit also to the new small new mobility vehicle category appearing in the near future in Japan.

The low-voltage 48V system can be handled in the same way as the conventional 12V, without the additional safety measures on cables and skills requested by high voltage system. It is one of the reasons why the 48V system is lightweight, affordable and simple.

Mr. Takeshi Ogitsu, Deputy Director of CRANTS comments, "Now, many Japanese cars are still powered by internal combustion engines. We conduct research jointly with Valeo to make electric vehicles more popular as a cleaner and easier way for the next generation mobility."

Valeo Japan President, Mr. Ali Ordoobadi, said, "Valeo, the world's leader of the electrification, has made various test cars equipped with 48V technology, such as a family-sized 48V plug-in hybrid car, a two-seater urban 48V full EV, a six-seater self-driving shuttle, an electric scooter with output equivalent to 125cc and hybrid delivery truck. With Japan's first 48V 4WD EV Kei Truck, developed by Valeo Japan team for the Japanese market, we are demonstrating and bringing Valeo leading 48v expertise to the Japanese market."



Valeo is an automotive supplier, partner to all automakers worldwide. As a technology company, Valeo proposes innovative products and systems that contribute to the reduction of CO₂ emissions and to the development of intuitive driving. In 2018, the Group generated sales of 19.3 billion euros and invested 13% of its original equipment sales in Research and Development. At December 31, 2018, Valeo had 186 plants, 21 research centers, 38 development centers and 15 distribution platforms, and employed 113,600 people in 33 countries worldwide. Valeo is listed on the Paris stock exchange.

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