



REPORT · BENCHMARK STUDY

Automotive Air Conditioning & Heat Pumps

System Comparison & Benchmark

A vehicle-by-vehicle teardown and simulation benchmark of air-conditioning and heat-pump architectures across ten contemporary BEV platforms.

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IN COLLABORATION WITH



One benchmark — *ten BEV platforms*.

A comprehensive comparison of generic AC architectures and vehicle-specific heat-pump configurations — including bill-of-materials cost assessment and simulation-based performance evaluation across contemporary electric passenger vehicles.

VEHICLE PLATFORMS • 10

VW MEB platform
VW e-Golf
Tesla Model S / 3 / X / Y
Peugeot e208 (Stellantis eCMP)
Renault Zoe / Nissan Leaf
BMW i3
BYD Dolphin 3 (E-platform 3.0)
Hyundai Ioniq 5 / Kia EV6 (E-GMP)
Jaguar I-Pace
Porsche / Audi J1 platform

WHAT THE REPORT COVERS

BEV thermal-management trends
AC-system architectures (generic)
Heat-pump architectures (vehicle-specific)
Thermal-management use cases
Bill-of-materials & cost assessment
Performance & efficiency (simulation)
Results & recommendations

What the *technical depth* looks like.

Every platform is dissected mode by mode — refrigerant circuit, control strategy, components and performance. A selection of what the full report details:

01

System Architecture

R744 (CO₂) and R1234yf heat-pump layouts per platform. Transcritical vs. subcritical operation, EXV vs. TXV control, chiller / accumulator-IHX and supermanifold integration.

02

Operating Modes & Performance

Mode-by-mode schematics — cabin heating, reheat, cabin & battery cooling. SAE use-case occurrence, hot- and cold-ambient performance, reheat behaviour and yearly energy consumption.

03

Cost & Decision

Costed BOM comparison (supermanifold, octovalve), system cost per architecture, and decision matrices for sub-compact, compact, mid-size, luxury and van segments.

■ Heat-pump operation analysed down to –30 °C ambient.

■ Simulation-based efficiency across the full SAE use-case spectrum.

Eight chapters, *116 slides*.

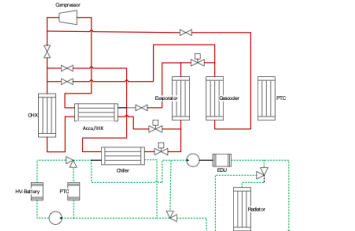
- 1 Introduction & overview
- 2 Market trends — BEV
- 3 AC-system architectures (generic)
- 4 Heat-pump architectures — 10 platforms
- 5 Thermal-management use cases
- 6 Cost evaluation — BOM
- 7 Performance & efficiency (simulation)
- 8 Results & recommendations

WHAT YOU RECEIVE

- 116-slide PDF benchmark report
- All platform layouts & operating modes
- Costed BOM & segment decision matrices
- Q&A session with an MDSG / SATTELO thermal-management expert

Examples shown in the full report:

HP-System Layout VW MEB platform (R744)



Heating:

- Air HP can even run @ -30°C ambient (vs. -20°C)
- Waste heat recovery (WHR) Drivetrain + Battery
- R744 high efficiency in cold ambients
- During start-up at part load PTC needed

Reheat:

- PTC only for early start-up needed due to WHR

Cooling:

- R744 slightly lower efficiency @ ambients > 35°C
- Passive Drivetrain cooling & Active Battery cooling

Specialties worth mentioning:

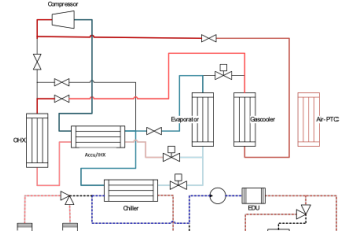
- Transcritical R744 System at significantly higher pressures
- Chiller, Accu/IHX and all valves are combined in a valve unit
- EXVs are bi-directional



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VW MEB Mode: Reheat

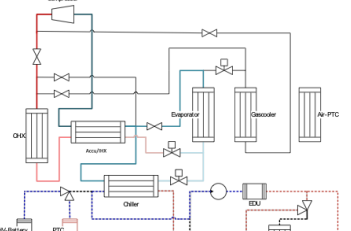


- Transcritical Heat Rejection in HVAC-Gascooler
- Further condensation in OHX
- SOV is controlled as EXV
- HVAC Air is dehumidified and heated (~ 5°C Ambient)
- Waste Heat can be used when more heating power is requested then cooling power

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VW MEB Mode: Cabin & Battery cooling

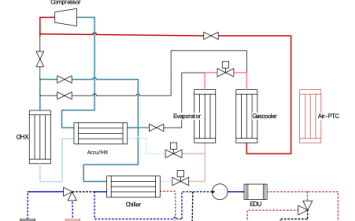


- Transcritical Heat Rejection in OHX at ambient temps > 25°C

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VW MEB Mode: Cabin Heating



- Two stage heat rejection in HVAC
 - Transcritical: Gascooler
 - Subcritical: Evaporator
- Heatsource:
 - Ambient Heat
 - Waste Heat by Drivetrain

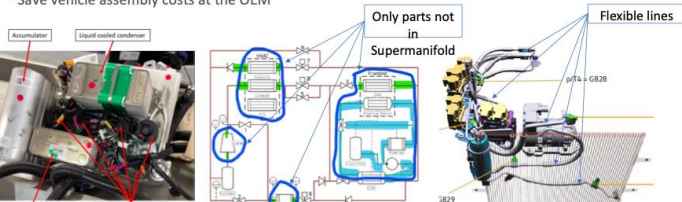
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Costed BOM comparison

Supermanifolds (not considered in BOM comparison):

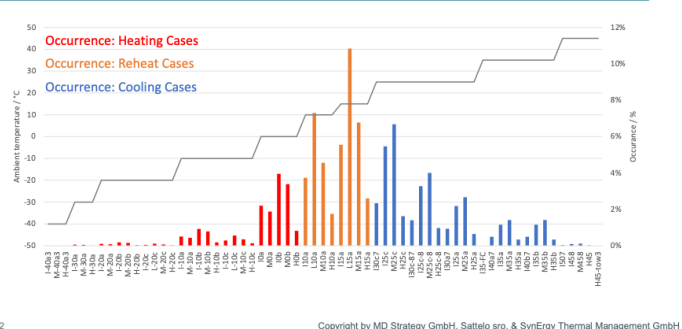
- Cost saving for AC-lines of app. € 50,- (Tesla) to € 70,- (BYD) vs. manifold cost € 10,- = € 50,-
- They do not save part costs if its packaging requires a lot of (R744) flexible lines (VW MEB)
- Save vehicle assembly costs at the OEM



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Histogramm: Occurance of SAE use cases



GET THE FULL REPORT

Purchase the report — *talk to an expert.*

The full report includes every platform layout, operating mode, costed BOM, simulation result and segment decision matrix — plus a Q&A session with one of our thermal-management and AC-system experts.

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