

Effects of electrified powertrains and driver assistance on body design



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Evaluation

Consulting:
Goal Setting,
Strategy,
Concept Development



Implementation:
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Reviewing,
Performance
measurement

Our spotlight industries – the primary focus is on technology



1992

2,200

5

90%

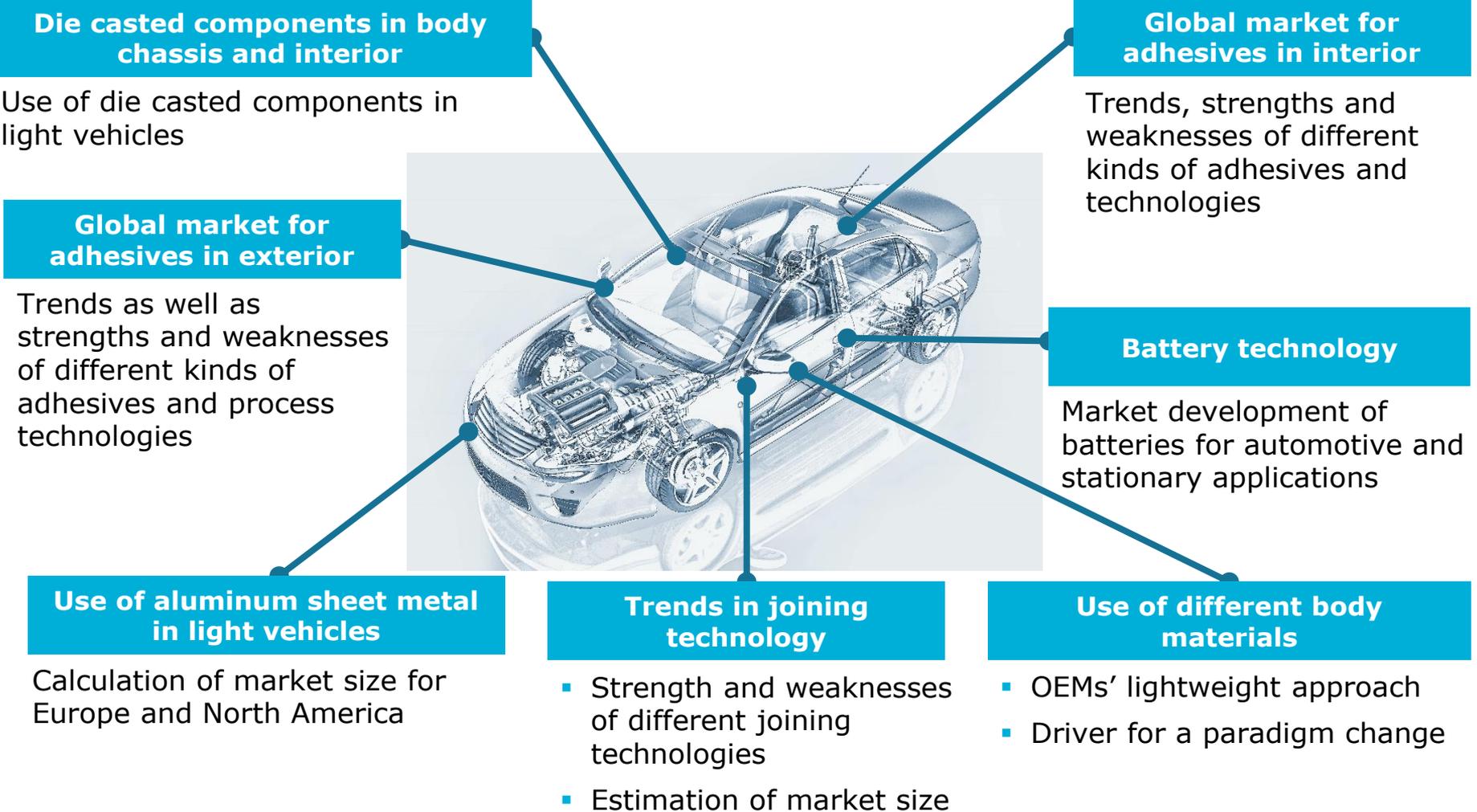
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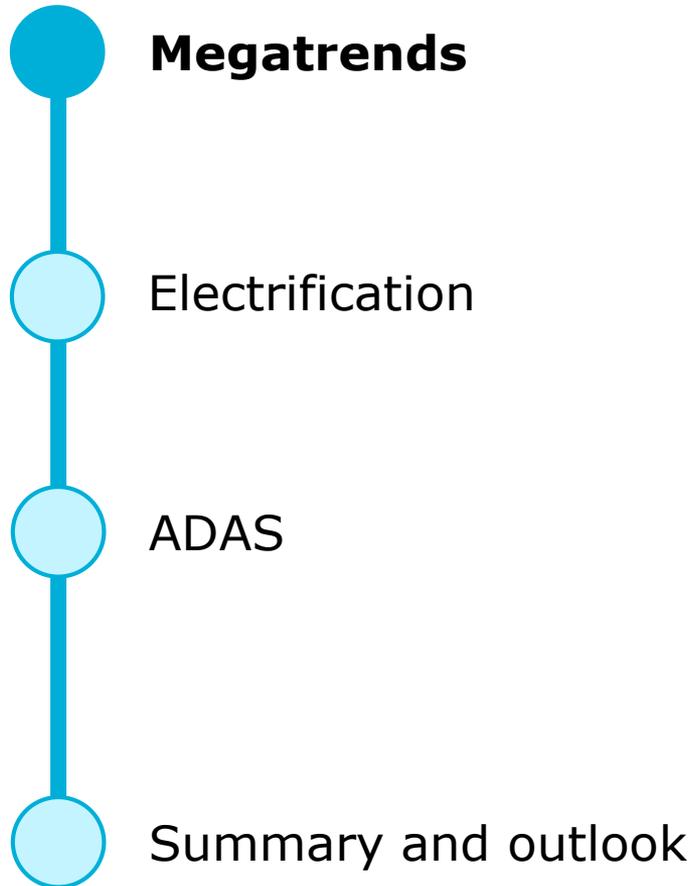
- Which trends for battery pack casing will emerge?
- Which factors drive electric propulsion?
- How will turbo chargers penetrate hybrid powertrain design and why?
- What is real demand for fast chargers?

Project examples: chassis, body

SuP has carried out different projects recently regarding body, lightweight and joining technologies.



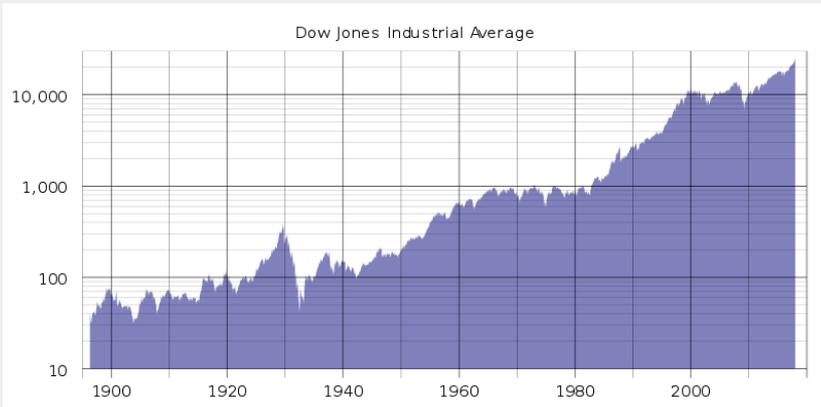
Source: SuP



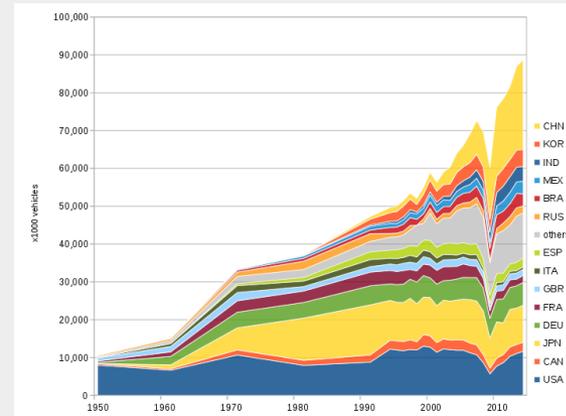
Flashlight on today's automotive industry

The automotive industry currently faces an extremely volatile situation.

Industry stock values are on all-time high.

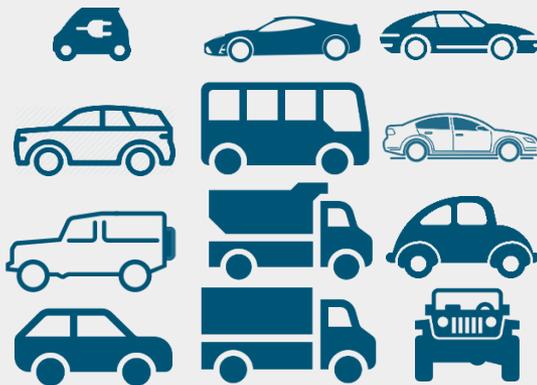


Global LV production has risen to 100 M units.

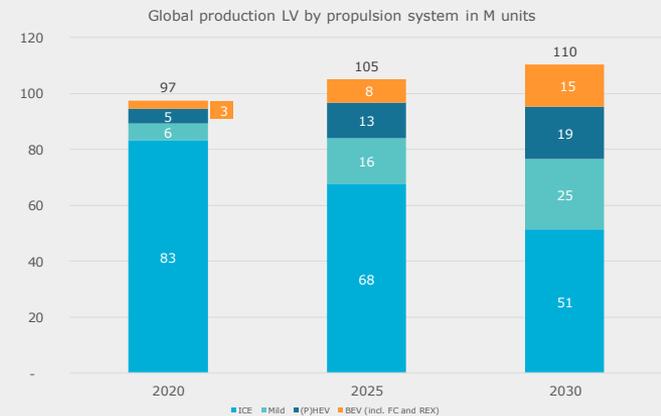


Variations emerged from 0 to 10^{32} variations.

MOD
EL
VAR
IETY



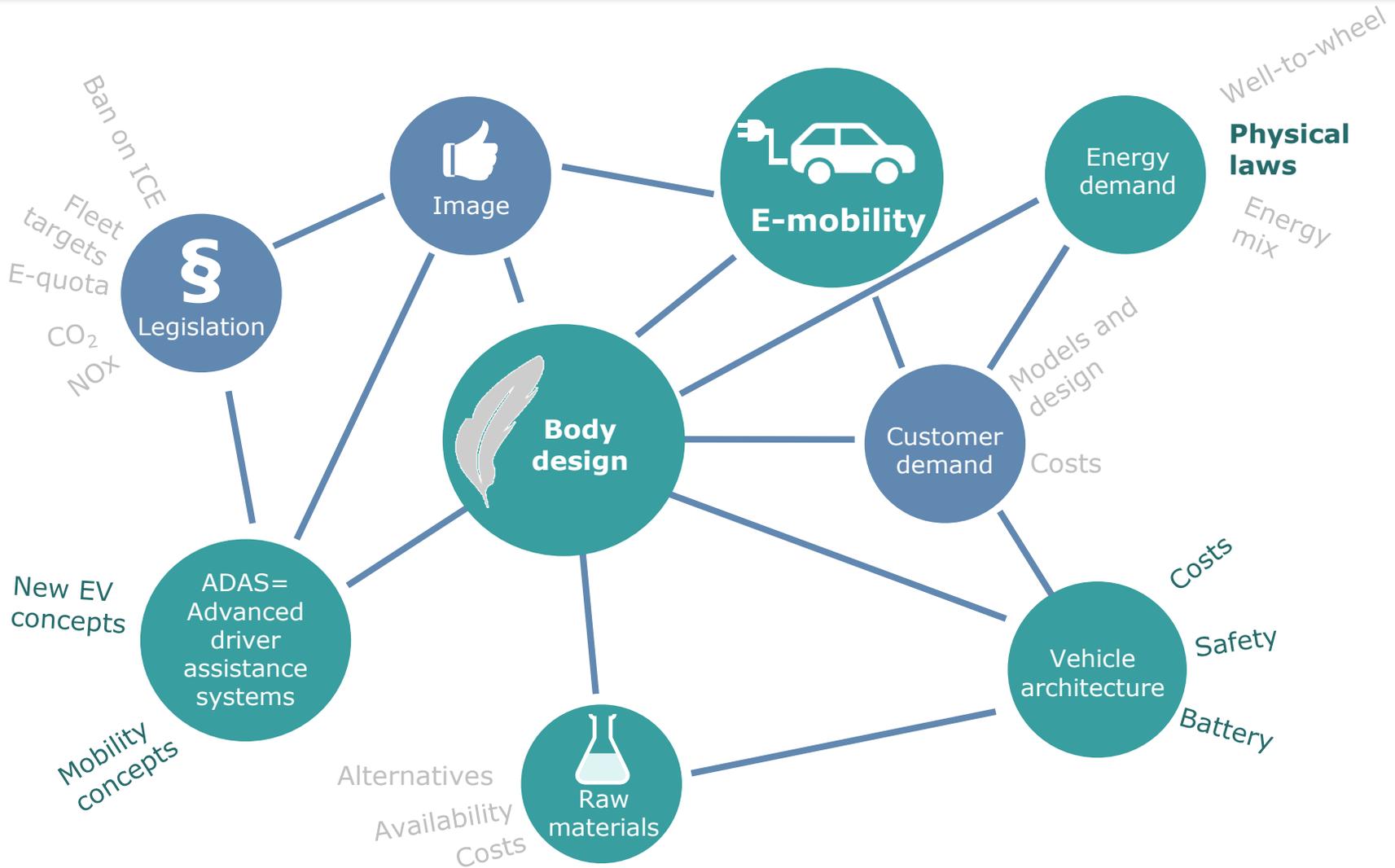
Global LV production is likely to grow until 2030.



Sources: DowJones Industrial Average, Wikipedia, IHS, SuP

Body design and driving forces

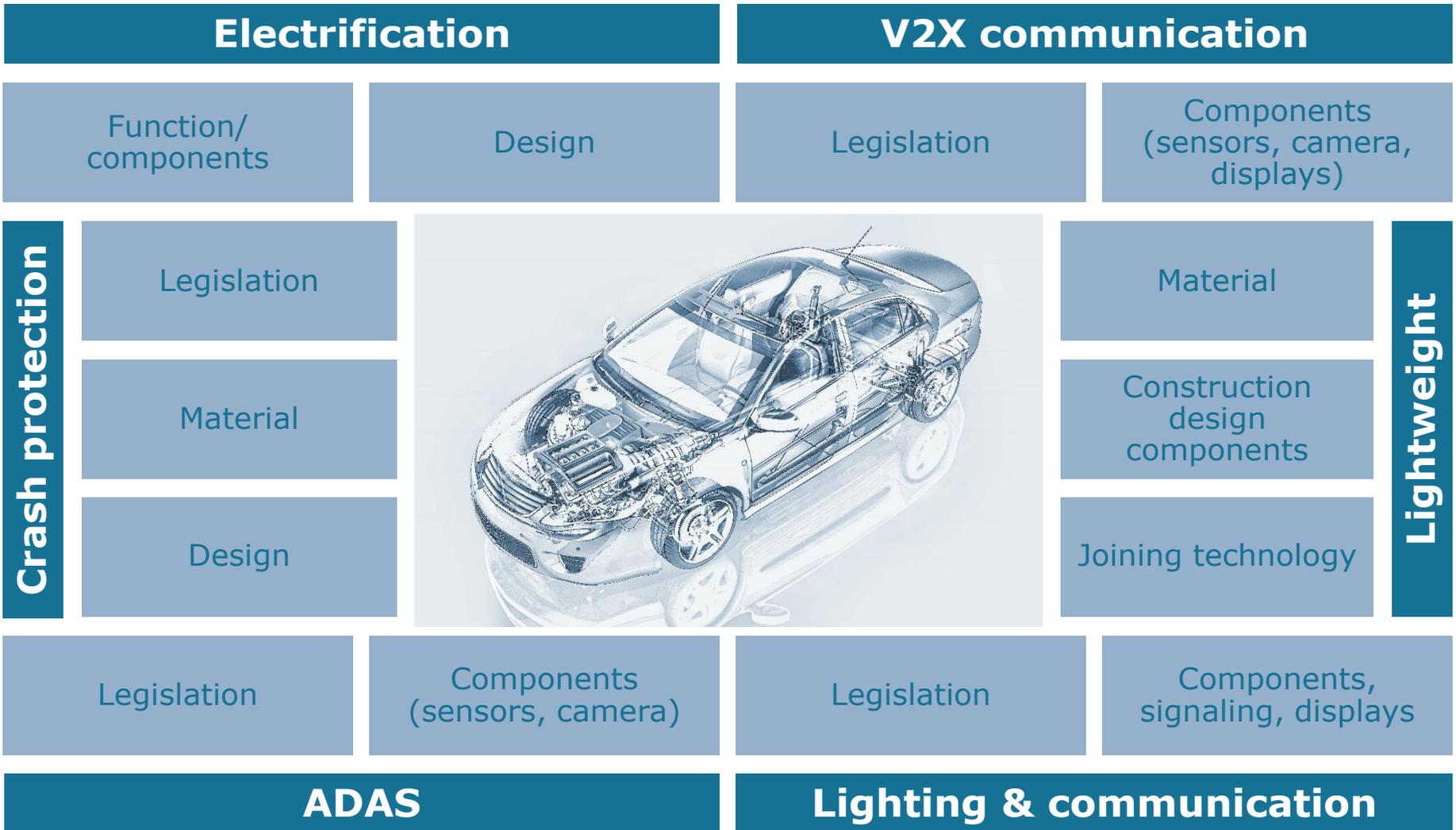
Body design is driven by a multitude of factors in different ways.



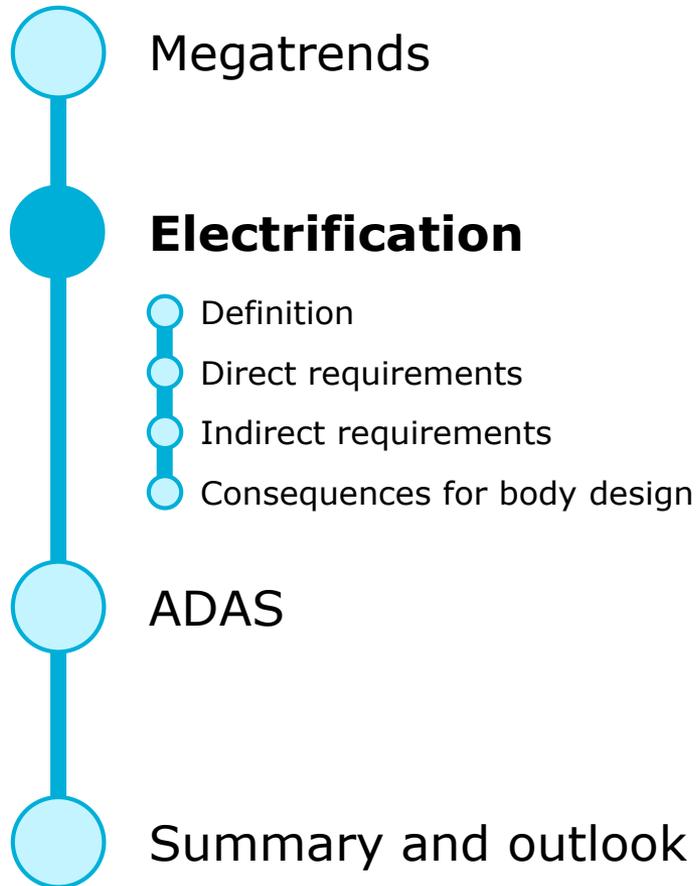
Source: SuP

Drivers and trends

Reduction of accidents and fatalities, of emissions and natural resources drive us as well as individualization.



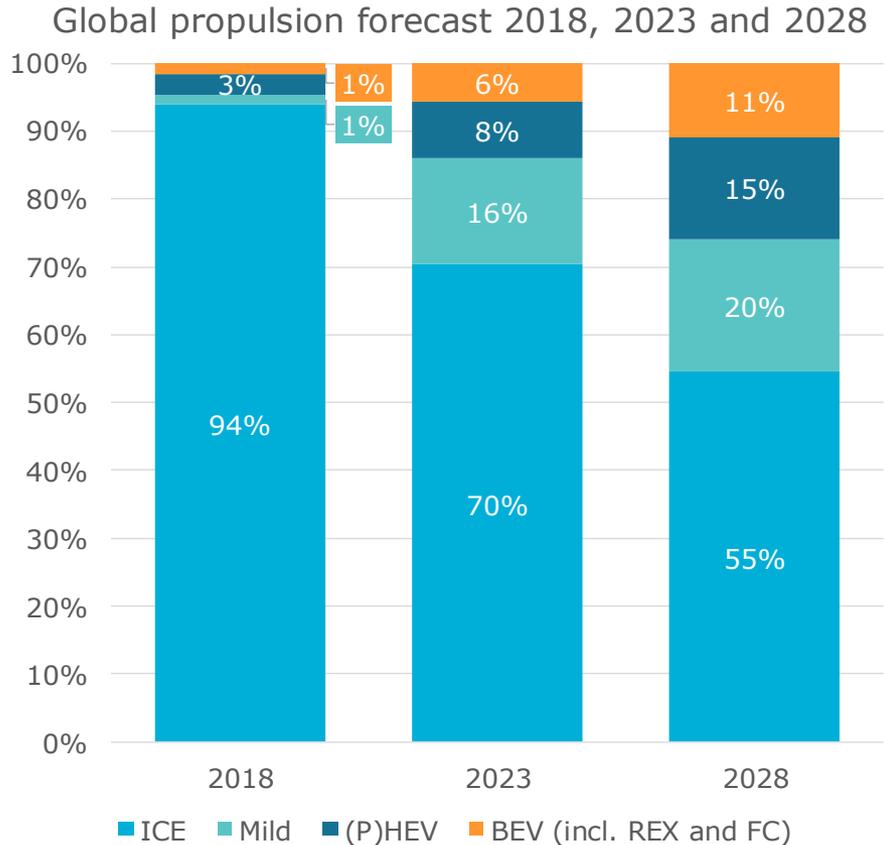
Source: SuP



Electrification – Propulsion concepts

The share of BEVs will gradually increase.

In 2028, BEVs will account for 11% of global automotive LV production.



Internal combustion engine – ICE

Propulsion only by combustion engine.



Mild Hybrid Electric Vehicle – 48V

Propulsion mainly by combustion engine with a 48V starter generator that supports the engine.



(Plug-in) Hybrid Electric Vehicle – (P)HEV

Propulsion either by combustion engine, electric motor or combined.



Battery Electric Vehicle - BEV

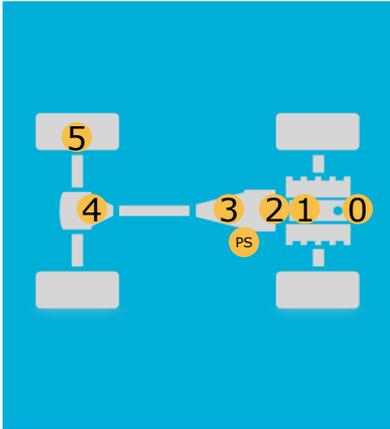
Propulsion only by electric motor. For range extended vehicles (REX), a small ICE supports the engine for some operation modes.



Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle - FC

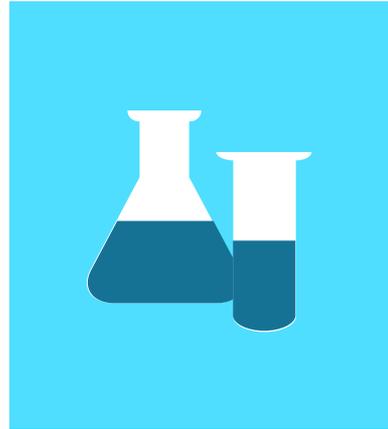
Propulsion only by electric motor.

Source: SuP based on IHS Database



Powertrain designs
motor allocation

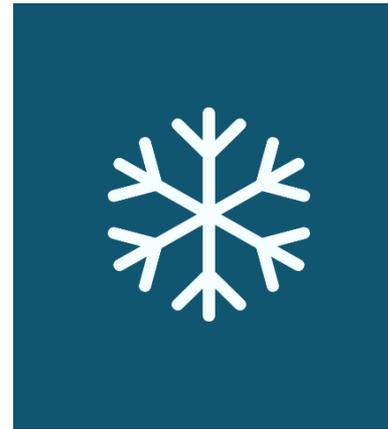
PX



Chemistry list

of different batteries

- NCA
- NMC
- LTO
- LFP



Cooling

of electrified vehicles

- Air
- Coolant
- Refrigerant
- Oil



Battery

design and allocation

- L-shape
- Distributed
- Skateboard

Direct effects from electrification

Demand and properties of components drive significant changes of body design.

Powertrain space

- ◆ Motor and controller are smaller than engine and transmission



- ◆ More space in vehicle front

All-wheel-drive

- ◆ Two motors (or more) in case of AWD



- ◆ No cardan shaft, no cardan tunnel

Vehicle assembly

- ◆ No need for classic marriage



- ◆ No open front needed

Battery

- ◆ Battery compartment needed



- ◆ Low floor skateboard design

Chassis layout

- ◆ Wheels can be allocated closer to the corner



- ◆ Longer wheelbase, comfort

Thermal management

- ◆ Less cooling demand for engine



- ◆ less space needed for different heat exchangers (engine, EGR, CAC, AC, motor, battery PE)

Source: SuP

Indirect effects from electrification

Use and application of electrified powertrains cause a multitude of effects.

Speed

- ◆ Top speed goes down
- ◆ Less transient operation (range)



- ◆ Drag effect possibly less relevant
- ◆ Weight becomes more relevant

Weight

- ◆ Weight increase from battery
- ◆ Lightweight benefits? Range, battery cost



- ◆ Lightweight design: material, processes, joining technologies

Battery case

- ◆ Battery contribution to vehicle stiffness
- ◆ Battery contribution to crash protection
- ◆ Battery swap design/replacements



- ◆ Open body floor design
- ◆ Sturdy carrier/flanges required
- ◆ Releasable joints required

Noise

- ◆ Sound level goes down
- ◆ Noise reduction gets essential



- ◆ Insulation required
- ◆ Silent structural design

Safety

- ◆ Passive safety
- ◆ Battery protection, HV systems
- ◆ Active safety



- ◆ Crash protection
- ◆ Venting if thermal runaway
- ◆ Protected allocation

Charging demand

- ◆ Allocation of HV components
- ◆ Thermal management



- ◆ Short HV wiring demanded
- ◆ New thermal infrastructure

Source: SuP

Battery case design – Trends

A flat skateboard-shaped battery pack located in the underfloor is the future trend for purpose designed electric vehicles.

Shape

T-shape



- Fits to conventional vehicle designs
- Geometry derived from existing body
- Low-volume efficiency
- Expensive housing
- E.g. Volkswagen e-Golf, GM Volt

Skateboard design



- Fits to EV purpose
- Height dependent on cell size
- High-volume efficiency
- Simple housing
- E.g. BMW i3, Volkswagen I.D. family

Allocation



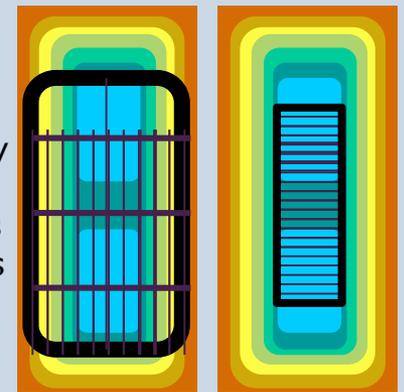
Underfloor battery pack

- Integration of battery into vehicle structure and vehicle crash concept in order to optimize stability and balance
- Increased space inside the vehicle cabin and more freedom regarding vehicle design
- Low center of gravity and optimal weight distribution improves vehicle performance
- Battery pack design is limited in height and requires customization option regarding width and length

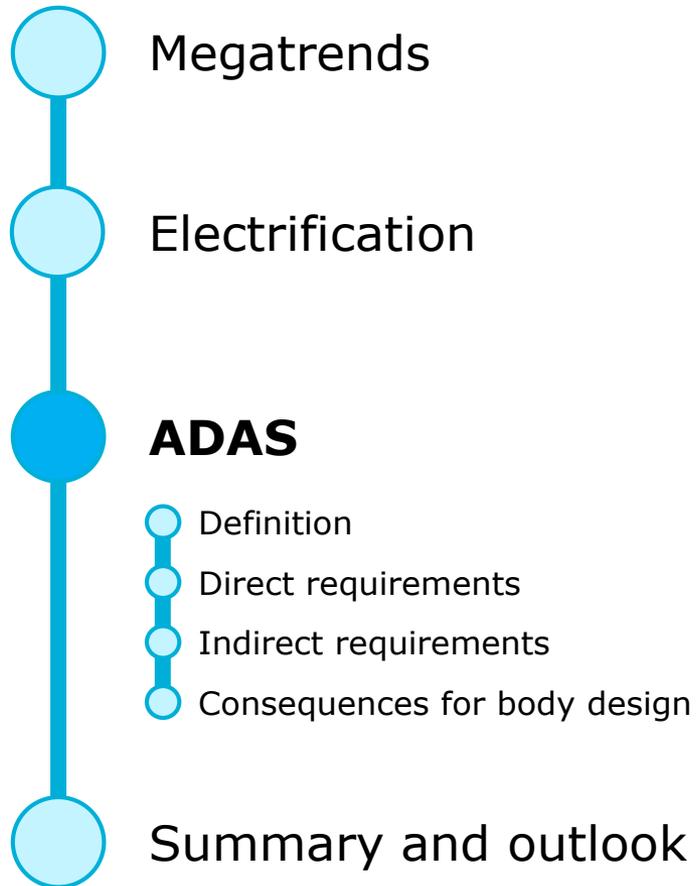
Safety

- Battery case design increasingly incorporates crash safety functionality
- Allocation of battery is either in areas with low crash probability or design is rigid enough to provide protection in possible crash

Colors represent risk of deformation according to Daimler Proceedings Soczka-Guth AABC 2018



Source: SuP research



Advanced driver assistance

Vehicle assistance and vehicle control have a strong impact on future vehicle design and value chain.



Technology

Which technology is required or most appropriate for sensors?

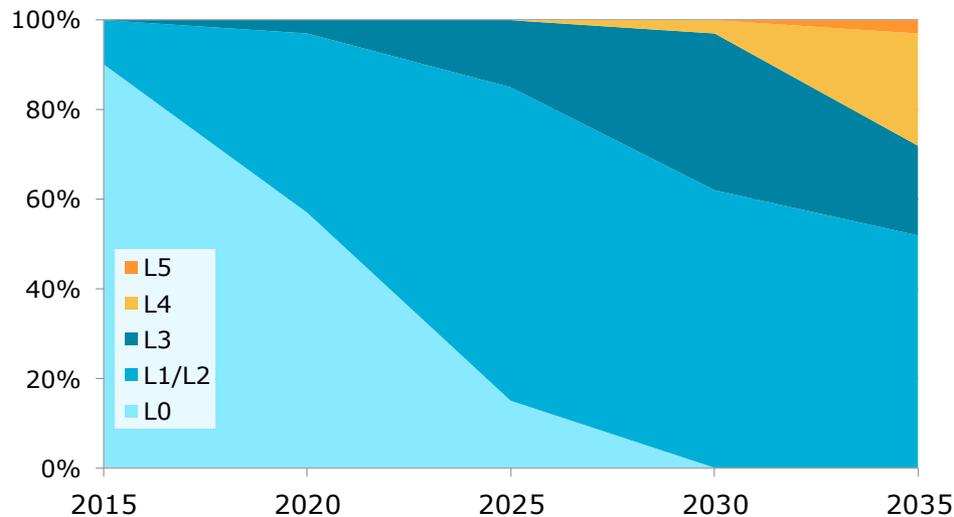
Camera, laser, lidar, ultrasonic, infrared,...

Location

of system components

Where will ADAS sensors, actuators, ECU and interfaces be allocated?

European market penetration of levels of automated driving



Interfaces

What will human-machine-interfaces (HMI) look like?

Use patterns

How will autonomously operated vehicles be used?

Source: SuP

Direct effects from ADAS

Demand and properties of components drive significant changes of body design.

New components

- ◆ Sensors (Radar, Lidar, camera, US)
- ◆ Antennae for communication



- ◆ Front, A-pillar and roof space
- ◆ Fin antennae as known

Change in HMI

- ◆ Controls become optional
- ◆ Information level changes



- ◆ Degradation of controls probable
- ◆ Signaling only if demanded
- ◆ Status information needed
- ◆ Communication devices rise

Components vanish

- ◆ No exterior mirrors



- ◆ Cameras and displays instead

Multi purpose interior

- ◆ More flexible interior



- ◆ Moveable and rotating seats
- ◆ Controls retractable
- ◆ Multi-functional surfaces

Body style follows changing functions

- ◆ Better utilization of road surface
- ◆ Modular approach chassis/container
- ◆ Outer shape and inner design changes



- ◆ Bubble body design
- ◆ Dashboard cross bar may vanish
- ◆ B-pillar may vanish

C2X communication

- ◆ Body surface needed for communication



- ◆ Body surface becomes exterior display

Source: SuP

Indirect effects from ADAS

Utilizing driver assistance enables and drives changing use patterns.

Speed

- ◆ Top speed goes down
- ◆ Less transient operation (long range)



- ◆ Seats more comfort oriented

Noise

- ◆ Noise becomes significantly disturbing if passengers are used not to drive



- ◆ Demand for any active and passive noise reduction from body and component design, insulation, materials processes

Comfort

- ◆ Chassis comfort will be regarded completely different. Body stiffness and smooth suspension become mandatory



- ◆ Active dampers/jaw stabilization
- ◆ Rear wheel steering
- ◆ Active cornering

Passive safety

- ◆ New ORS concepts suitable for multitude of passenger positions, airbags or protective net designs



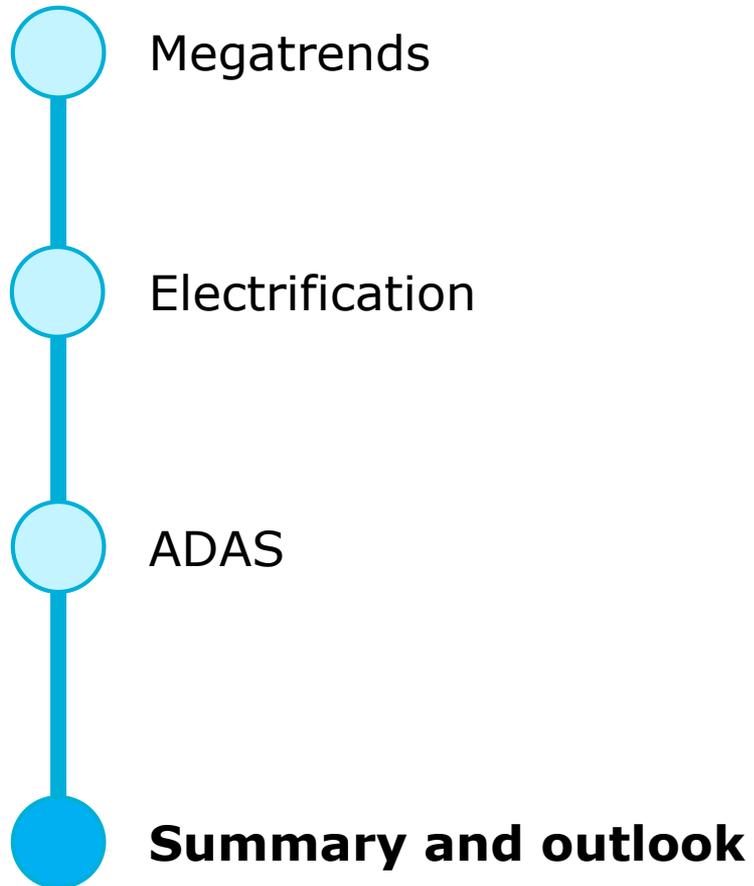
- ◆ Different strategy for ORS fixing points possible

Active Safety

- ◆ Active chassis lift or lower in pre-crash-situations



- ◆ Ability to distort actively?



Summary

Although many factors influence the body design, not all of them are clear yet.



Electrification

- Change of powertrain design and weight increase due to battery pack require adaptations
- Assembly processes will change accordingly
- Use patterns adapt to changing conditions
- Consequently an EV will be a different vehicle with different properties.



ADAS

- ADAS effect on vehicle design comes in a more continuous way compared to electrification.
- Sensors enter vehicles in a slow optimization process.
- Use of highly assisted vehicles are learning patterns even for passengers.
- Consequently our picture of mobility will change significantly.



Body challenges

- Weight reduction becomes more significant.
- Body will change entirely – at first fast but adaptive through electrification, later substantially through breakthrough of autonomous driving.
- Solutions have to be either adaptive in functionality or adaptable through interchangeable components.



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