



# Scania and DHL Pioneer an Electric Truck with Extended Range Solution

Posted on 24.Feb 2025

picture: DHL

The shift to electric mobility is well underway, but while electric cars have become commonplace, heavy-duty electric trucks have lagged behind. The primary challenge has been the need for greater range and, most critically, the lack of a well-developed charging infrastructure for heavy vehicles.

Now, Scania and DHL are working on a pragmatic solution.

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# Bridging the Gap with a Range-Extended Electric Truck

Scania and DHL have jointly developed an electric truck equipped with a fuel-powered generator. This innovation allows logistics companies to transition to battery-electric road transport without having to wait for a fully built-out charging network.

The new truck, which has been deployed by DHL's Post & Parcel Germany division for testing between Berlin and Hamburg, replaces one of its battery packs with a fuel-driven generator. This modification slightly reduces battery range but provides backup energy when charging infrastructure is unavailable. The vehicle offers a potential range of **650-800 kilometers**, a significant step toward sustainable long-haul electric trucking.

## A Practical Solution for Today's Infrastructure Challenges

While fully electric trucks remain the ultimate goal, several challenges slow down the transition, including:

- Limited public charging infrastructure
- High costs of securing sufficient depot charging capacity
- Grid limitations and high electricity spot prices

By integrating a **range extender**, the Scania-DHL truck enables operators to run **80-90% on renewable electricity** while ensuring reliability on long-distance routes. This provides an immediate path to reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions while policymakers and the industry continue working on large-scale electrification.

## Policy Support Needed for Transitional Solutions

DHL and Scania emphasize that **EU and national policies should recognize and incentivize such solutions**. Proportionate toll reductions based on CO<sub>2</sub> savings could encourage more logistics providers to adopt similar technologies.

*"The future is electric, but we cannot let perfection be the enemy of progress,"* says

**Christian Levin, CEO of Scania.** *“This collaboration with DHL is an example of interim solutions that can help scale up low-carbon heavy transport before the system is fully electrified.”*

With initiatives like this, the logistics sector is taking tangible steps toward a greener future—without waiting for the perfect conditions. ✂

Source: [Feb 20, 2025: DHL and Scania to test electric truck with fuel-powered range extender – DHL Group](#)