



100% electric Ford E-Transit 'Torture Tests' simulate a lifetime of hard use



Ford's new all-electric E-Transit faced a battery of extreme tests to ensure its readiness for work

Whether tying up loose ends in the run-up to a long-awaited holiday, tackling a big project or heading into a stressful exam period, many of us have experienced a daunting busy spell at work, home or study... but imagine trying to complete 10 years' worth of hard work in just 12 weeks.

That was the challenge faced by the new Ford E-Transit – the all-electric version of the world's best-selling cargo van – during a punishing testing regime designed to recreate the effects of a lifetime of intensive customer use ahead of going on sale early next year.

A new video from Ford demonstrates the extreme climate and durability testing that prototype E-Transit panel van and chassis cab variants have experienced at Ford's high-tech facilities in Europe and the US.

During the tests, the all-electric E-Transit took on challenging winter driving conditions in Michigan, US; simulated extreme heat, cold and altitude in Ford's Environmental Test Chamber in Cologne, Germany; and the giant potholes and rough road surfaces at the company's Lommel Proving Ground in Belgium.

Inside Ford's 'boot camp' for vehicles

Ford punished the E-Transit through a rigorous series of tests to ensure it's as durable as its diesel-powered sister models. The no-compromises approach recreates the effects of more than

240,000 kilometres of driving – or a decade of hard work – for customers operating in the most arduous situations.

Ford's Environmental Test Chamber can recreate conditions from the Sahara to Siberia. Engineers refined the all-electric powertrain and cabin environment for performance and efficiency by subjecting E-Transit to over 40 degrees Celsius – hotter than the average desert – for two weeks using 28 spotlights with 4,000-watt bulbs. E-Transit's battery pack features liquid-cooling technology for optimum performance in extreme weather.

The van also had to prove it could function at -35 degrees Celsius – colder than a typical Siberian winter – and with a full load making the punishing climb to 2,500 metres, as high as Austria's Grossglockner High Alpine Road, one of the highest paved roads in Europe.

Thousands of passes over dedicated tracks of bumps, potholes and cobbles were performed at Ford's Lommel facility, simulating cobbled streets, rough back roads and challenging un-made tracks from around the world.

Durability of the E-Transit's battery pack, electric motor and unique rear suspension were tested by repeatedly driving the new model through mud and salt baths and through saltwater sprays, simulating winter roads and fords as well as testing the components' corrosion resistance. The electric motor's reliability was proven by running it continuously for 125 days.

Electrifying Ford's commercial vehicle leadership

E-Transit's readiness for work will be further proven through extensive customer trials in the supermarket, utility and last mile delivery sectors beginning later this year. These trials will help Ford further improve customers' experience of operating E-Transit, which offers productivity-boosting features including a lower-maintenance electric powertrain and next-level connected vehicle technology.

The E-Transit is part of a major \$30 billion investment by Ford into electrified vehicles by 2025. The company has stated its European commercial vehicle range will be 100 per cent zero-emission capable, all-electric or plug-in hybrid by 2024, with two thirds of commercial vehicle sales expected to be all-electric or plug-in hybrid by 2030.

Quotes

"We test all our vans in conditions above and beyond anything they are likely to face in the hands of customers. The all-electric E-Transit is no different – by pushing it to the limit in our controlled test environments, we can be confident that it will reliably serve our customers as they switch to all-electric power for their businesses."

Andrew Mottram, chief program engineer E-Transit, Commercial Vehicles, Ford of Europe

Links

Video: << https://youtu.be/hEnsA3Y22AU >>

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always-on relationships with customers to enrich experiences for and deepen the loyalty of those customers. Ford designs, manufactures, markets and services a full line of connected, increasingly electrified passenger and commercial vehicles: Ford trucks, utility vehicles, vans and cars, and Lincoln luxury vehicles. The company is pursuing leadership positions in electrification, connected vehicle services and mobility solutions, including self-driving technology, and provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company. Ford employs about 186,000 people worldwide. More information about the company, its products and Ford Motor Credit Company is available at corporate.ford.com.

Ford of Europe is responsible for producing, selling and servicing Ford brand vehicles in 50 individual markets and employs approximately 43,000 employees at its wholly owned facilities and consolidated joint ventures and approximately 55,000 people when unconsolidated businesses are included. In addition to Ford Motor Credit Company, Ford Europe operations include Ford Customer Service Division and 14 manufacturing facilities (10 wholly owned facilities and four unconsolidated joint venture facilities). The first Ford cars were shipped to Europe in 1903 – the same year Ford Motor Company was founded. European production started in 1911.

Ford in Belgium & Luxemburg

Ford Belgium distributes Ford vehicles and Ford original parts in Belgium & Luxemburg, since 1922. Ford Lommel Proving Ground is the lead test facility for validation of all Ford models in Europe, with approximately 390 employees.

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