

Tritium Partners with ChargeNet to Bring Electric Vehicle Fast Charging to Bay Area Taco Bells

October 12, 2021



As part of a larger initiative to put electric vehicle fast chargers at fast food restaurants, a first installation is expected to combine Tritium's market-leading technology with on-site solar, battery storage, and ChargeNet's proprietary software platform to provide a superior fast charging experience, increase resiliency, and generate profit for the local franchise.

TORRANCE, Calif. / SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., October 12, 2021 — As the number of electric vehicles (EVs) is expected to continue growing — up to 35 million EVs are expected on U.S. roads by 2030 according to a Business Insider report from March 2021 — charging infrastructure is expected to need to expand commensurately to support the increased EV adoption. Tritium has partnered with EV charging network operator ChargeNet with a plan to install RTM direct current (DC) fast chargers at South San Francisco Taco Bells to address this challenge. The partnership, which is expected to expand in other areas, leverages funding from the California Energy Commission's California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project (CALeVIP) and the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP).

"Our goal is to replace the refueling experience that Americans know with a charging experience that is fast, convenient, and inviting," said Tosh Dutt, CEO of ChargeNet. "Our first installation is just the beginning of realizing that goal, and will be the first of many as we look to expand charging opportunities throughout the Bay Area and other parts of the country in the hopes of increasing adoption of EVs. especially in lower-income areas."

The companies broke ground on the installation last month and the chargers are anticipated to be operational by the end of October. The 75kW Tritium RTM fast chargers can provide up to 46 miles of range in 10 minutes and will accept payment through ChargeNet's mobile app and a credit card reader on the charger. ChargeNet's EV charging platform, specifically designed for fast food franchisees, fills a market need for more fast chargers at locations with food and a restroom. ChargeNet also hopes to integrate food ordering and payment to make the process even more seamless for customers. And to lower energy costs and protect from power outages, the installation will utilize solar and energy storage technology to power the chargers and provide more competitive rates to Taco Bell customers.

"We're always looking for opportunities to do things that haven't been done before and especially those that create a "win-win" for our customers, the community and our business," said SG Ellison, President of Diversified Restaurant Group, who operates nearly 250 Taco Bell and Arby's in five states and is rapidly growing. "Tosh and his team have been great partners and we're looking forward to providing our customers with the opportunity to charge their vehicles on Tritium's market-leading technology."

The installation will not require any further utility service upgrades, only requiring one additional meter to support the chargers. Additionally, as a result of ChargeNet's unique service model and use of incentives, Diversified Restaurant Group will pay nothing upfront and take home a portion of the revenue generated from the chargers, along with bringing in EV drivers as customers. The SGIP funding includes prioritization of communities living in high fire-threat areas, communities that have experienced two or more utility Public Safety Power Shut-offs (PSPSs), as well as low-income and medically vulnerable customers, while funding from CALeVIP provides incentives for EV infrastructure across the state with additional funding for charging projects located in low-income and disadvantaged communities.

"CALeVIP has been a successful program in deploying public chargers throughout California and targeting disadvantaged communities," said Hannon Rasool, Deputy Director of the Fuels and Transportation Division at the California Energy Commission. "The innovation and creativity of deploying chargers where other amenities such as food services are co-located should be emulated across the nation to provide access to charging where consumers already travel."

Tritium's RTM fast chargers are built for any environment and feature a modular power unit design that allows the charger to quickly be upgraded from 25kW to 50kW and 75kW of power. The power units are also single-person operable so they can be easily changed in the field for faster maintenance and improved uptime.

"This project is a shining example of integrating solar, battery storage, and DC fast charging to help fast food restaurants serve a rapidly expanding EV driver customer base. These are the types of innovative solutions that have a double benefit – decarbonizing the planet in the long-term, while creating more resilient businesses in the short-term," said Mike Calise, President of Americas at Tritium. "We're pleased to have worked with ChargeNet, SGIP, and CALeVIP to make this project possible, providing the Diversified Restaurant Group with a solution that's revenue positive from the start."

About Tritium

Founded in 2001, Tritium designs and manufactures proprietary hardware and software to create advanced and reliable DC fast chargers for electric vehicles. Tritium's compact and robust chargers are designed to look great on Main Street and thrive in harsh conditions, through technology engineered to be easy to install, own, and use. Tritium is focused on continuous innovation in support of our customers around the world.

As announced on May 26, 2021, Tritium has entered into a definitive agreement with DCRN for the Business Combination, that would result in Tritium becoming a publicly listed company. Completion of the Business Combination is subject to customary closing conditions.

For more information, contact us.

About ChargeNet

ChargeNet Stations's software platform makes it seamless for Quick Serve Restaurants to offer customers a superior EV charge up experience while satisfying their hunger. ChargeNet's hardware-agnostic SaaS platform, ChargeOpt, optimizes EV chargers, renewable energy, and Point-of-Service retailer offerings to turn parking lots into profit-centers.

Learn more about ChargeNet and follow their site progress at chargenetstations.com and follow them on Twitter @ChargeNetStnUS

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