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Ricardo Studies

A pre-study on this topic will give insight to the best solution for trains and other applications. See attached an example of Ricardo case study in Europe.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Zero emission battery train





Approach

Ricardo performed the following activities:

- Research on used technologies in existing zero emission transport, both by road and rail.
- Research on hydrogen, battery and charging technology.
- Make a first concept of the train (based on a existing train) as input for calculations.
- Calculation of the energy consumption in daily operation with in-house developed calculation software.
- Combining the gathered information into a solution for a zero emission train system.

Situation and objective

- In the northern provinces of the Netherlands, railway transport is operated by diesel trains. The provinces consider alternatives to make the transport "zero-emission" (without CO₂ emissions).
- Earlier research showed that full electrification would be too expensive.
- Objective: Investigate whether a battery train or hydrogen train could be an alternative for diesel powered trains as well as the costs involved.
- The research would have to include a possible upgrade of existing trains.
- The "zero-emission" trains would start operation in 2025.

Results and benefits

The results of the research were:

- Battery technology is developing fast resulting in an increase of capacity at lower costs, i.e. a battery train is possible.
- It is feasible to upgrade the existing diesel trains to zero emission battery trains.
- Train tables can be realised with battery charging stations at end stations as well as a few kilometres of overhead lines at locations to be determined.
- Costs are significantly lower than full electrification.
- Realisation is feasible within the required timeframe.

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