

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	22-EVI-06
Project Title:	Vehicle-Grid Integration
TN #:	259383
Document Title:	Updated Statement on J3400 NACS (Oct 2024)
Description:	N/A
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Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/1/2024 1:35:41 PM
Docketed Date:	10/1/2024

Updated Statement on the SAE J3400 North American Charging System

Background

Announcements throughout 2023 from automakers and electric vehicle charging providers indicated a widespread shift to the North American Charging System (NACS) as the default connector for passenger vehicle charging in North America. In July 2023, SAE convened a taskforce to develop the proposed connector into a standardized specification ([SAE J3400](#)). In September 2023, the CEC released a [NACS/J3400 Statement](#) outlining a general timeline and associated market developments for updating connector requirements in CEC funded projects. This publication provides an update to the September 2023 NACS/J3400 Statement.

Standard Development

In September 2024, SAE released the [J3400 Recommended Practice](#). CEC staff considers the SAE Recommended Practice to be a substantially complete specification sufficient for product development and inclusion in the technical requirements of CEC funded projects.

Future Actions

The CEC supports a one-connector future for passenger vehicle charging in North America. To support this aim, CEC staff outlines possible actions and industry recommendations below.

1. The CEC will update requirements in its funding programs to allow CEC funding to be used for both J1772 (including CCS1) and J3400 chargers. In many instances, it may be appropriate to provide flexibility for project developers to determine the proportion of connector types installed at a site. For select projects, it may be appropriate for the CEC to prescribe a specific proportion of connector types.
2. The CEC will monitor market adoption of J3400 and availability of J3400 products from multiple manufacturers. Depending on market progress, the CEC may require all chargers in its passenger vehicle charging projects to be equipped with a J3400 connector, potentially beginning mid-2027. CEC staff encourages industry entities to prepare for widespread use of J3400 as the default connector for passenger vehicle charging by 2027.

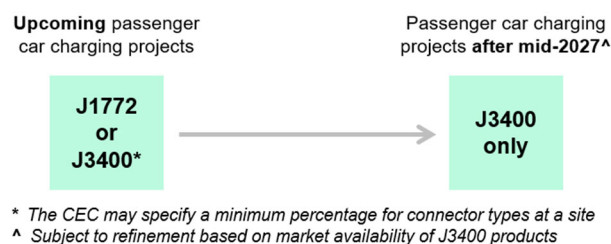


Figure 1: Possible requirements for CEC passenger car charging projects

In alignment with existing CEC requirements and to support a better charging experience, the CEC may continue requiring chargers funded through CEC projects to be ISO 15118 ready and certified for Open Charge Point Protocol 2.0.1 or later. For direct current chargers, CEC staff encourages industry entities to ensure products meet SAE J3400 Interoperability Class P2 as described in the SAE J3400 Recommended Practice section 8.2.5. Interoperability Class P2 systems support digital communication with powerline carrier using DIN 70121 and ISO 15118-2 at a minimum. CEC staff additionally recommends that all alternating current and direct current chargers used in CEC projects support ISO 15118-20.