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Building the World's Largest Electric Vehicle Career Platform: Electric Vehicle & Business Career Network (~~62,000~~ 70,000 Members and Growing)

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Executive Summary

Launched in 2012, PROJECT Green OnRamp bridges the gap between electric vehicle (EV) innovation and professional development by fostering a comprehensive network for industry stakeholders. This paper highlights how the Electric Vehicle & Business Career Network (EVBCN) grew into the world's largest community dedicated to EV careers, now with over 70,000 members. Central to its mission are workforce development, inclusive access, and real-time engagement strategies that connect people across regions and disciplines. Case studies from Portland, Long Beach, Zagreb, Las Vegas, and global events like ACT Expo and EVS illustrate how targeted community activation can help scale the future EV workforce and ensure equitable participation in the energy transition.

1. Introduction

The global transition to electric mobility is accelerating, driven by advances in battery technology, declining EV manufacturing costs, bold public policies, and rising public awareness of the climate impact of burning hydrocarbon fuels. This transformation cannot succeed on technology alone; the industry faces critical challenges in developing an inclusive, skilled, and globally connected workforce to sustain long-term growth and innovation. While new infrastructure is being built to support the EV transition, the human infrastructure—the people—too often remain disconnected from opportunity.

PROJECT Green OnRamp, through the Electric Vehicle & Business Career Network (EVBCN), was launched to address this challenge. This paper explores how the EVBCN platform has become a global catalyst for industry connection, inclusive workforce development, and real-time engagement within the fast-growing EV ecosystem.

The electric vehicle industry has witnessed unprecedented growth, spurred by advancements in technology, supportive policies, and shifting consumer behaviors. However, the industry faces significant challenges, including workforce adaptation, cross-sector collaboration, and integration into the broader energy and transportation knowledge ecosystems. Adding to the challenges are the ups and downs that are par for the course in major transformations that can bring layoffs and redundancy.

What's often missing is connecting the people and opportunities and providing a support network. PROJECT Green OnRamp addresses these challenges by serving as a global nexus for EV businesses and on-going career networking opportunities. This paper outlines the steps and strategies to build such a community.

2. Background and Mission

PROJECT Green OnRamp was founded in 2012 with a mission to accelerate the development of a clean energy workforce. Recognizing the gaps between emerging technologies, workforce readiness, and access to opportunity, the initiative launched EVBCN—a career network focused exclusively on the electric vehicle space. From the start, EVBCN emphasized identifying individuals passionate about the success of the market with an eye for inclusivity, collaboration, and agility (be willing to test and try new things). Its core design was to be accessible to early-career professionals, technical experts, tradespeople, and business leaders alike.

By leveraging the scale and reach of digital platforms and the intimacy of local events, EVBCN creates space for authentic connection. The network now spans over 70,000 professionals globally, with regular gatherings during major conferences, policy forums, and regional meetups.

3. Methodology and Implementation



Figure 1: EVBCN Meetup - Portland, Oregon

Green OnRamp applies a multi-pronged approach to engagement:

- Collaborative Events: Hosting networking meetups, panels, and community discussions aligned with major conferences and local opportunities.
- Digital Platforms: Managing a community LinkedIn group and AI tool “Saving Dino” offering career advise training pathways and curated resources.
- Mentorship and Peer Support: Connecting emerging professionals with veterans in the industry.
- Thought Leadership: Publishing insights and highlighting diverse industry journeys to demystify and democratize career pathways.

4. Core Principles

Green OnRamp and EVBCN are guided by four foundational principles:

- Sustainability – Centering climate-positive careers that support a just transition.
- Connectivity – Bridging people, roles, and sectors that otherwise remain siloed.
- Innovation – Promoting new business models, technologies, and collaborative tools.
- Workforce Equity – Lowering barriers to entry and centering underrepresented talent.

5. Achievements and Global Impact

Since its inception, EVBCN has facilitated thousands of connections among EV professionals, supported career transitions, and industry events around the world. Key milestones include hosting in-person networking events, partnerships with leading conferences and engaging with policymakers to shape e-mobility strategies. Developing it further into a platform unlocks the potential of impact beyond individuals to a community.

6. Digital Platforms

EVBCN bridges digital and in-person engagement through a use of tools that keep the community connected before, during, and after events. From its active LinkedIn group to live event chats and the AI-powered “Saving Dino” career assistant, these platforms foster real-time collaboration and long-term relationships.

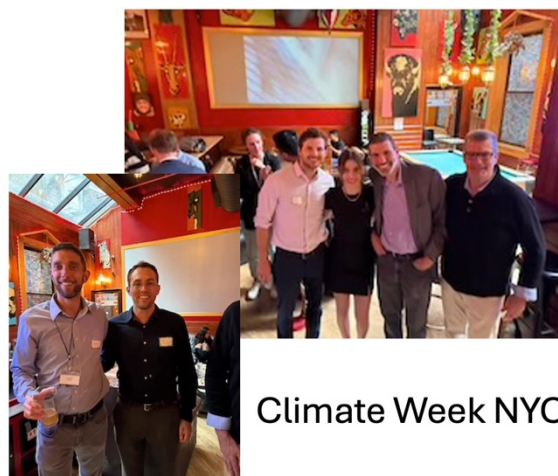


Figure 2: EVBCN Gathering September 2024

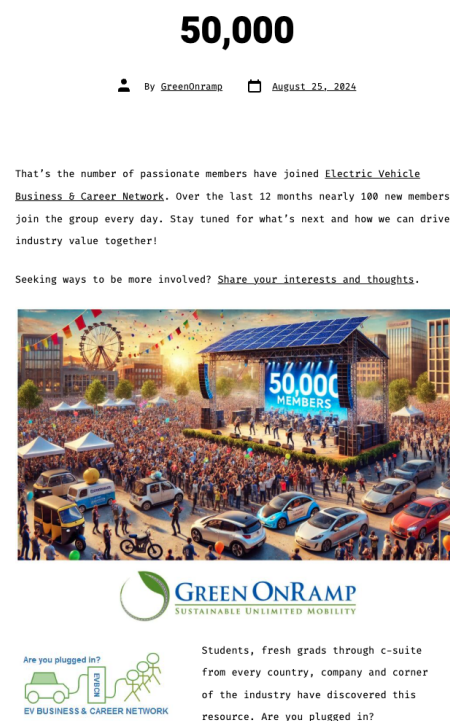


Figure 3: 50,000 Member milestone achieved August 2024

6.1 LinkedIn – Electric Vehicle Business & Career Network

The EVBCN LinkedIn group serves as the network’s primary digital hub, enabling dialogue among thousands of professionals. Members share job opportunities, project updates, funding announcements, industry courses, conferences and insights that span fleets, infrastructure, utilities, and policy.

Participation varies throughout the year based on content, membership growth and time building conversations and introductions. As show in Figure 5, there are over 40K members active in any given month.

Table 1 provides a the group welcome and annual engagement statistics.

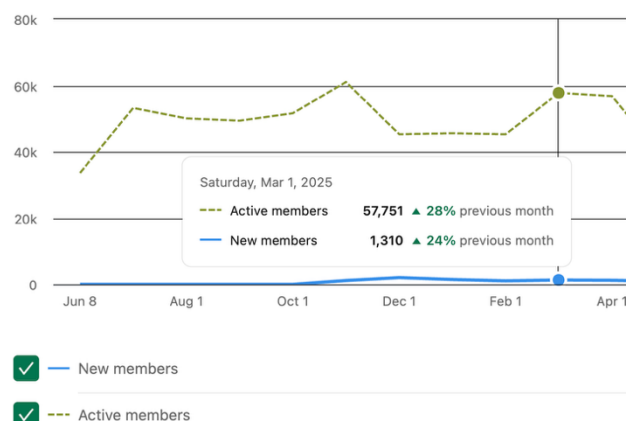


Figure 4: Group Engagement – June 2024 / April 2025

Launched: 2012	Electric Vehicle Business & Career Network		
Group Welcome Message	<p>Welcome to the WORLD’S LARGEST community dedicated to connecting EV Passionate with Opportunities. Launched by Paul Stith in 2012, Electric Vehicle Business & Career Network (EVBCN) is sponsored by PROJECT Green OnRamp (https://www.greenonramp.com). EVBCN welcomes recruiters, investors, job seekers, students and consultants who are interested in the industry or are already working in it.</p> <p>We are all about networking with the people that are moving the industry forward.</p> <p>EVs hold many promises for solving the challenges the world faces including pollution, reducing our reliance on oil and at the same time provide a more cost-effective means of transportation.</p> <p>This is a positive, forward-looking group that looks to encourage constructive discussions that engage and connect members.</p> <p>Our members are changing the way the world moves by land, sea and air.</p>		
Group Stats June 2024 – May 2025	69,139 Members	1,416,343 Post annual views	1,818 Posts

Table 1: EVBCN Community Welcome and Recent Statistics

6.2 Saving Dino, AI Driven Industry Career & Networking Guide

Saving Dino is a custom-built AI assistant developed by PROJECT Green OnRamp to support professionals navigating the electric mobility space. It helps users discover career opportunities, understand evolving technologies, and connect with the broader EV ecosystem—all grounded in the collective expertise of the EVBCN community.

Based on ChatGPT, with a pre-loaded library of industry resources including white papers, conferences, industry organizations and links, the tool is open to anyone to try for free or as part of their OpenAI subscription. Over time the tool will be updated by the community to be even more powerful. Link: <https://bit.ly/Saving-Dino>



Figure 5: Saving Dino Launch Logo

6.3 Industry Event Real-Time Community Chat

Pop-up messaging groups are activated leading up to major conferences, offering a real-time backchannel for attendees to coordinate meetups, share session highlights, and stay connected.

Conversations range from “Where’s the best coffee?” to “Did you catch this session?” and “Look who I found!”—amplifying in-person connections and capturing the energy of the moment. These chats often extend well beyond the event, helping relationships deepen and ideas carry forward.







 ACT Expo 2025 Networking & Meetup	
Group Stats	 85 participants in the event chat  374 messages exchanged  42 photos shared  60+ attendees at the in-person EVBCN meetup
Conference Meetup Invitation	

Table 2: Example - ACT Expo 2025 EVBCN Chat

7. In-Person EVents, Impact and Validation

Our first formal EVent including RSVP platform and name tags was hosted in 2014 at BMW Research Silicon Valley Research Facility, Mountain View, California. The session featured a presentation by BMW's eMobility team and was attended by over 40 attendees. The conversation was lively and if you measure success by how many people remained long after the scheduled end time, it proved the concept was quite popular.

An example unknown until over decade later when an attendee of 2012 session hosted at by Acterra (<https://acterra.org/>) gave credit to PROJECT Green OnRamp for their successful pivot to a career in electric vehicles several years prior.

Countless people have shared their gratitude for our industry support. One way to gauge this is the requests and interest is through requests and inquiries: "When is the next EVent?" "When will you host an EVent in our city?" Each of these lead to more conversations, volunteers and opportunity to engage with the community.

7.1 EVs, & Clean Energy Meetup Series

After a pause for the pandemic, meetups resumed in 2023 in Portland, Oregon – often known by its airport code PDX. So far, three events have been held each with a unique twist to keep things interesting and attendees coming back for more. With each EVent, the processes, templates, feedback surveys are improved to streamline production and ability to provide as a "kit" to future hosts around the world.

PDX Charge-Up: Clean Energy, Robotics, and Race Day Momentum

Held the evening before Portland's Formula E race, this EVBCN meetup gathered a dynamic mix of professionals from local OEMs, utilities, startups, and charging infrastructure companies. The evening began with a behind-the-scenes tour of ROCSYS, showcasing their cutting-edge robotic charging solutions. Following the tour, participants continued the conversation over drinks at Crux bar, where ROCSYS generously sponsored appetizers. The energy remained high as ESS, a Portland-based energy storage company, surprised attendees with race ticket giveaways. The event highlighted how regional innovation, global sport, and community connection are converging to accelerate transportation electrification.



Figure 6: PDX EVs & Clean Energy Meetup

PDX Event 2: PDX Airport — Infrastructure in Motion



Figure 7: PDX Meetup @PDX

This EVBCN meetup took place inside the newly remodeled Portland International Airport, offering attendees a chance to connect while exploring one of the most sustainability-forward terminals in the U.S. Surrounded by thoughtfully integrated wood finishes and open design, the gathering offered a relaxed setting to reflect on clean travel and shared values.

For those passing through PDX in the future, Loyal Legion is a welcoming and convenient spot to reconnect. Note: This meetup was short notice and still had a strong attendance (several attendees are not in the picture).

PDX Event 3: Neighborhood Meetup — Community, Careers & Cocktails

Hosted at a unique neighborhood venue “Church Bar” with character and charm, this evening EVBCN gathering offered a casual atmosphere for meaningful conversations and new connections. Professionals from across the clean transportation space came together to share career updates, explore startup ideas, and talk through challenges—all over locally crafted drinks and snacks. The setting encouraged openness and connection, reinforcing the value of informal spaces where the EV community can recharge, reflect, and grow together.



Figure 8: PDX Invitation Banner Meetup

7.2 Electric Vehicle Charging Summit & Expo 2025, Las Vegas, Nevada

At the 2025 EV Charging Summit & Expo in Las Vegas, EVBCN LIVE! Piloted and delivered a fast-paced, high-value networking session that drew over 60 participants. Organized by PROJECT Green OnRamp, the session featured more than two dozen industry hosts spanning EV infrastructure, fleets, utilities, and emerging technology. Held on the expo floor, the format offered attendees a rare opportunity to engage directly with thought leaders and peers on the key issues shaping the charging ecosystem in 2025.

For both the conference and participating organizations, the session provided clear benefits: increased visibility, stronger connections, and real-time industry alignment. It also served as the launch platform for the CharIN North America Charging Interoperability Task Force's SAE J3400 Market Survey.

This model demonstrated how EVBCN LIVE! can enhance events by accelerating collaboration and build new partnerships.

Based on the success of EVCS, stay tuned announcements on future conferences looking to partner with PROJECT Green OnRamp and EVBCN.



Figure 9: EVCS 2025 Marketing Banner



Table 3: EVBCN LIVE! @EVCS Las Vegas 2025

8. Cross-Sector Synergies with Standards and Taskforces

EVBCN complements formal standards development efforts by providing a space for informal peer connection and dialogue. For example, in the SAE J3271 working group on Megawatt Charging Systems (MCS), professionals from around the world use EVBCN to build relationships, share updates, and plan collaborations beyond the formal taskforce calls. This closer connection helps the taskforce team operate more smoothly by lowering personality conflicts, as members see each other as team members rather than adversaries. These connections grow closer at in-person EVents and provide continuity across venues, helping technical taskforces maintain momentum and cross-pollinating ideas across sectors and geographies.

9. Future Growth and Impact

Looking ahead, Green OnRamp aims to expand its digital presence, enhance its career services, and deepen collaborations with global partners. Plans include, scaling local events internationally, establishing partnerships and expanding mentoring.

Having successfully piloted hosting 'pop-up' EVents during sustainability weeks and international conferences, including Earth Week, Climate Week NYC. These gatherings are often timed to coincide with when EVBCN members are already in town for broader activities and provide a means to expand the reach and relationships among members.



Acknowledgments

Green OnRamp acknowledges its partners, industry stakeholders, and the broader EV community for their contributions to its mission.

References

[1] PROJECT Green OnRamp. “Electric Vehicle Business and Career Network.” <https://greenonramp.com/>

Presenter Biographies

	<p>Mr. Stith has a distinguished record of contributions to e-mobility and infrastructure development. He has co-authored several publications, including America 3.0 The Resilient Society (basis for US IRA Infrastructure Investment), eMobility Section Lead, 2021, Planning for Advanced Air Mobility (American Planning Association, 2024), Priming the United States Grid for High-Powered Electric Vehicle Charging (2017), and Preparing for an Electric Vehicle Future: How Utilities Can Succeed (Smart Electric Power Alliance, 2019).</p> <p>His EVS activities include papers EVS30 and EVS33 and keynote address at EVS35. His work continues to inform policy, business strategies, and technological innovation in the transition to sustainable mobility systems as a board member at Forth, co-chair of CharIN North American Charging Interoperability Market Alignment and SAE J3400 / J3271 working groups.</p>
	<p>Rustam Kocher became enamored with electric vehicles in 2011 while volunteering at Electric Avenue, a first of its kind public charging site.</p> <p>He was a leading voice in developing new and innovative solutions for commercial vehicle fleet charging while at Daimler Trucks NA. He founded and led the CharIN Megawatt Charging System (MCS) global task force, and led the effort to build the first-ever public truck charging site; Electric Island, in partnership with Portland General Electric (PGE), where he later moved.</p> <p>Despite attempts to retire, Rustam now consults part time on topics about fleet electrification, medium and heavy duty vehicle electrification, and integration of MCS into charging strategies.</p> <p>He is a firm believer that the electrification of transportation is an important step towards addressing global climate catastrophe.</p>