

## **Mitsubishi Launches Australia's First Public EV Fast Charging Unit**

*Using green electricity as the power source, the first public electric vehicle charging station becomes available to Adelaide drivers of i-MiEV electric cars.*

February 2, 2011 (FPRC) -- Mitsubishi Motors Australia Limited (MMAL) has unveiled the first public EV fast charging unit (FCU) in Australia. The FCU has been installed in front of the company's Adelaide, South Australia head office and is designed to offer the convenience of a fast charge facility to drivers of MMAL's ground breaking Mitsubishi i-MiEV electric vehicle.

Masahiko Takahashi, MMAL's President and CEO unveiled the FCU this morning at a launch attended by South Australian i-MiEV owners, council and government VIPs and MMAL employees and staff.

'Mitsubishi has confirmed our position as the leader in electric vehicle technology. Not only are we the first company to offer volume-produced electric vehicles in the Australian market - now we are the first company to provide a public fast charge facility here as well,' Takahashi said.

The FCU is an Aker Wade unit installed by Club Assist in Australia and is powered by 100 per cent accredited green electricity provided by AGL Energy Limited.

Mitsubishi introduced its i-MiEV (Innovative Electric Vehicle) into the Australian market in August 2010 and the company has now sold more than one hundred vehicles here. The i-MiEV is a fully electric vehicle with zero drive-time emissions and is powered by a lithium-ion battery. Receiving all its torque from stall, the i-MiEV has incredibly responsive acceleration – perfect for city commuting - and boasts a convenient range of around 130 kilometres.

Normally, the i-MiEV is recharged on a standard 15 amp household power point over a seven hour period. However, the fast charge unit can recharge up to 80 per cent of an i-MiEV's battery in 30 minutes, or provide an extra-quick top-up of around 50 per cent in just 15 minutes.

According to Masahiko Takahashi, MMAL chose to install the fast charge unit at its South Australian headquarters for a number of reasons.

'Mitsubishi is a long-time member of the South Australian business community, and we are extraordinarily proud of our history here, so we are always very ready to support our local market.

'We have several i-MiEV Foundation Customers here in Adelaide, and I am sure the new FCU will be very convenient for them,' Takahashi said.

'In addition, MMAL plans to offer an i-MiEV vehicle for our staff to use as a pool car, and I have no doubt that it will be so popular that it will require topping up on a regular basis.'

i-MiEV vehicle owners are invited to utilise the new Fast Charge Unit, located at the Mitsubishi site in Tonsley Park, free of charge.

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--ABOUT MITSUBISHI--

Mitsubishi Motors Australia is part of the global Mitsubishi Motors organisation and is fully owned by Mitsubishi, one of the world's largest companies.

The company's history dates back to 1870, when Mitsubishi's Japanese founder, Yataro Iwasaki, started a shipping company with three steamships. The company grew from strength to strength and, in 1914, registered the Mitsubishi three-diamond trademark. This symbol embodies more than 130 years of tradition, and has earned the confidence and trust of customers all over the world.

Mitsubishi takes great pride from knowing that more than 11 million people from around the world have chosen to drive a Mitsubishi vehicle. There are Mitsubishi dealers in more than 200 sites across Australia. These professional and knowledgeable dealers help owners ensure their Mitsubishi car is always looked after by fully-trained Mitsubishi technicians, using genuine Mitsubishi parts that meet stringent global standards.

Mitsubishi works hard to develop award winning new cars and automotive technology.

If you would like to know more about the iMiEV Electric Cars or a Mitsubishi commercial vehicle see the Mitsubishi website.

**Contact Information**

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**Keywords**

[electric vehicle](#)

[environmentally friendly cars](#)

[electric cars](#)

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