Inductive Power Transfer: A New Transportation Technology

16-17 March 2016,

#### Wellington NZ

#### Presented by: Dist. Prof. Emeritus John Boys

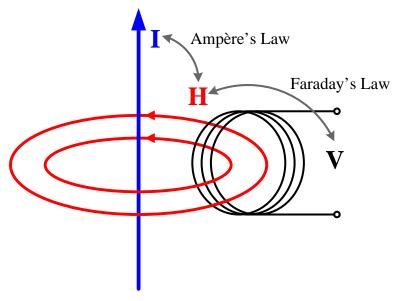
Professors G. A. Covic and J.T. Boys Inductive Power Research Group Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering The University of Auckland, New Zealand





## Inductive Power Transfer (IPT)

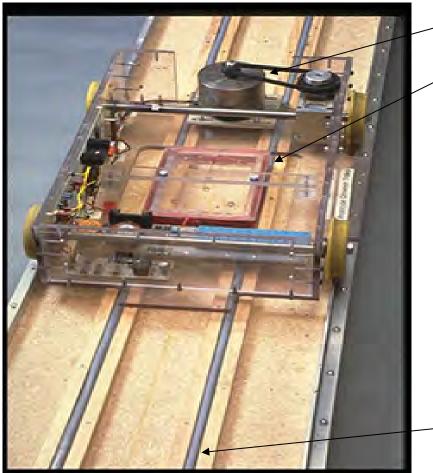
- The transfer of electrical power from one system to another, without wires.
- Reliable
- Tolerant of water, chemicals, and dirt.
  - But regarded as impossible for 200 years







#### **1990: A first WPT System at the UoA.**



Brushless DC Driving Motor

- Alignment non critical
- No power regulation
- Maximum 1 trolley/track
- Large pick-up coil
- Low efficiency But it worked!!!

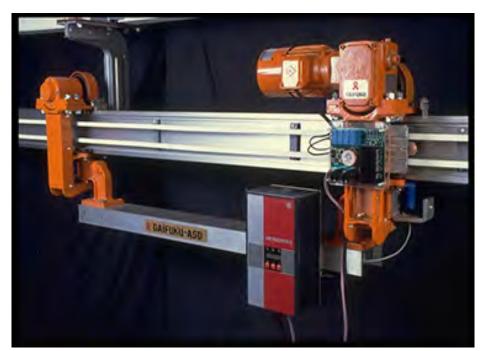
-100 pair telephone cables



- "Inductive Power Transfer cannot be done" (Jervis Webb):
  - Signals: Yes
  - Tooth-brushes: Yes
  - Real Power: No!
- Our background made it possible
  - power electronics,
  - resonant circuits,
  - electromagnetics



#### Daifuku wanted



- Power rating/secondary
- System Efficiency
- Delivery
- Special terms

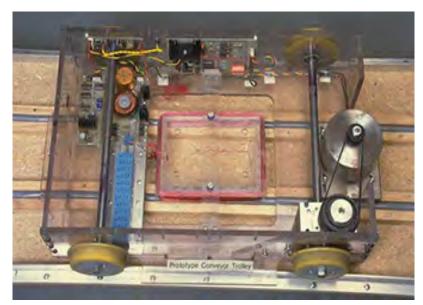
- > 200 Watts each, all independent
- > 75%
- < 4 Months

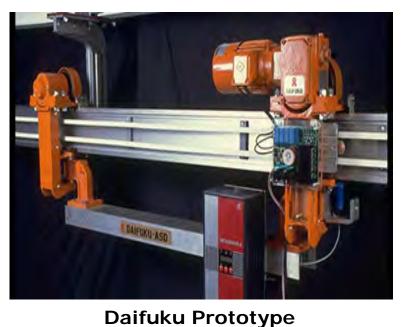
Payment on completion

Assistance with components



#### **Prototype Comparison**





#### **Original System**

Power rating	1W
Efficiency	<10%
# of Carriers	1
Load	75 kg
Speed	0.1 m/s
Track current	80A
Track length	3 m
Air-gap	2 mm

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400 W
85%
3
250 kg
1 m/s
80A
25 m
4 mm

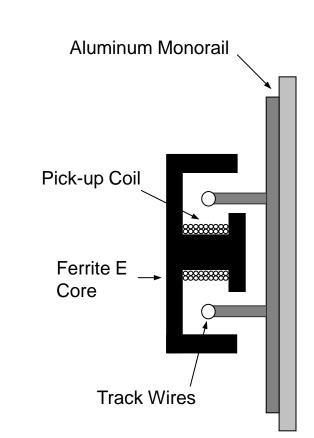


#### **Prototype Operation**



- Allowed movement
- Tolerant of misalignment.
- Unaffected by the environment

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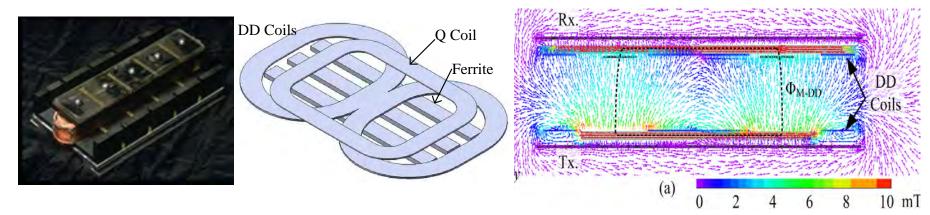




- "Even if power could be transferred control would be impossible"
  - Invented a new controller that allowed multiple independent vehicles on one supply
  - Filed 60+ patents, all licenced globally



- "Magnetic fields at VLF frequencies are difficult to manage or unsafe"
  - Developed field shaping methods operable over a wide frequency range
  - Our systems are low leakage and highly efficient





- Industry will never pick this up
  - "It is too risky to have any real chance of success" (MoRST – now MBIE)
  - Daifuku took up a licence in 1994 and sold systems within 12 months
  - Are the market leader in clean factory automation





#### Expanding the License base

- (1997-2010)
  - Conductix-Wampfler:
  - 31 Innovation:
  - Cabco:
  - Tracam:
  - Lantel:

Materials Handling and Buses Lighting Charging Kid Karts Security systems Flying carpets



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### **Developing Long Term Relationships**

- Required for successful technology transfer
  - Industry driven R&D they can sell
  - Up-front fee + licence royalty agreement + priority research
- On-going IP creation
  - Enables market protection
- Optimistic can do attitude
  - Listen to customer wants (even if think crazy & doesn't use your original idea)





- "Despite industrial successes commercial EV systems are too difficult"
  - EV wireless charging is now a preferred option
  - Dynamic powering is under development
- HaloIPT formed over 3 years
  - Sold and relicensed after 1.5 years to Qualcomm
  - Large R&D funding secured for roadway power developments

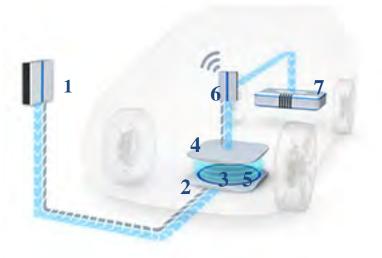




## Case Study: Forming HaloIPT

- 2007
  - Noted shift in market
  - Improved our magnetic designs
  - Floated concept ("kissing frogs")
  - Engaged licensees unsuccessfully
  - Engaged OEMS at EVS23 with support of Uniservices
- 2008
  - On going discussion with licensees
  - VOM (November)
    - Improved gap & tolerance, power
    - Low cost and low weight
    - Capable of one to many
  - Secured pre-seed accelerator funding
    - Requested Nov 08

IPT Wireless Charging System





- 2009 ٠
  - Defined our vision & difference
  - EVS24 showcase (funded by pre-seed)
  - Took on additional funded projects
  - Engaged with potential seed investors and funders

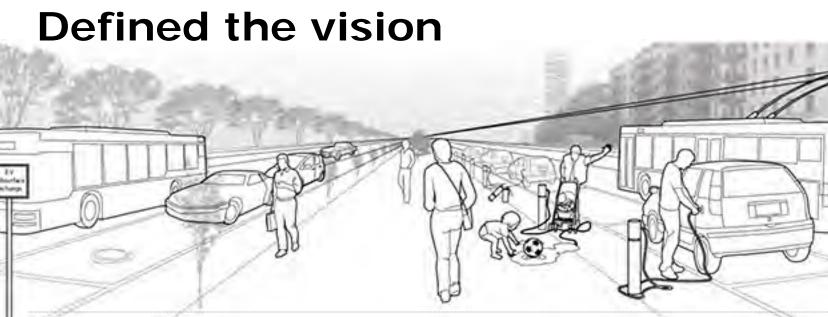


Vehicle controller

Charger: 2kW single phase supply Contacts: ga.covic@auckland.ac.nz or j.boys@auckland.ac.nz

220mm airgap





**IPT** street

Safe and Durable

Easy to use

Aesthetically pleasing

Conductive charge street





#### HaloIPT: Launched May 2010





Affixed vehicle pad & Transmitter pad

April June

Oct

- Seed funding with Arup & TTF
- Delivered showcase system to Tier 1 (300 mm)
  - London Launch
- Nov EVS25 Showcase

**Ongoing OEM Trials** 





#### HaloIPT: Sold October 2011



Rolls Royce Phantom 102Ex

7kW charge system > 90% Efficiency



- March Phantom experimental EV
  - Wins Clean Equity Monaco Award "Excellence in the field of environmental technology research"
- May June

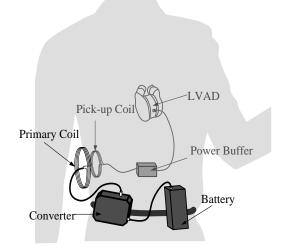
July

- Partnership formed with Chargemaster
- Series A investment sought ... offered sale, but with on-going relationship!
- Partnership formed with Drayson Racing for formula1-E race cars
- Sept Shortlisted for Green fleet industry innovation award (London)
  - Wins 2 NZ innovation awards ("Emerging Innovator" & "Design & Engineering")
- Oct Sale completed and research licence relationship defined
- Nov Qualcomm announce 40-50 car trial in UK



#### **Other Start up Companies**

- Telemetry bought by Millar research
  - Heart pumps
  - Biomedical sensors
- Power by Proxi
  - Home applications
  - Inductive Slip-rings







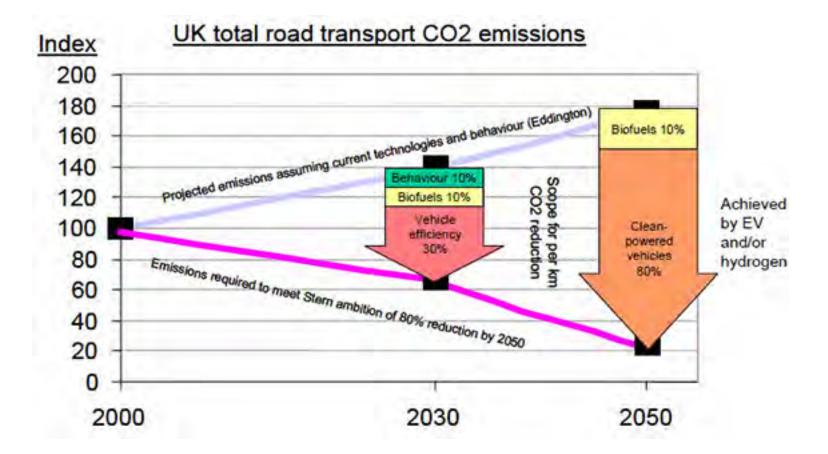
#### **A Future Vision**





#### King Review:

The Future is shaped by low carbon vehicle technologies Must have increased electrification of vehicles





## New generation required for growth Some more 'low carbon' than others





Coal



Hydro/storage







**Gas CCGT** 

**Onshore Wind Biomass** 





**Tidal Stream/Barrage** 



Solar/CSP



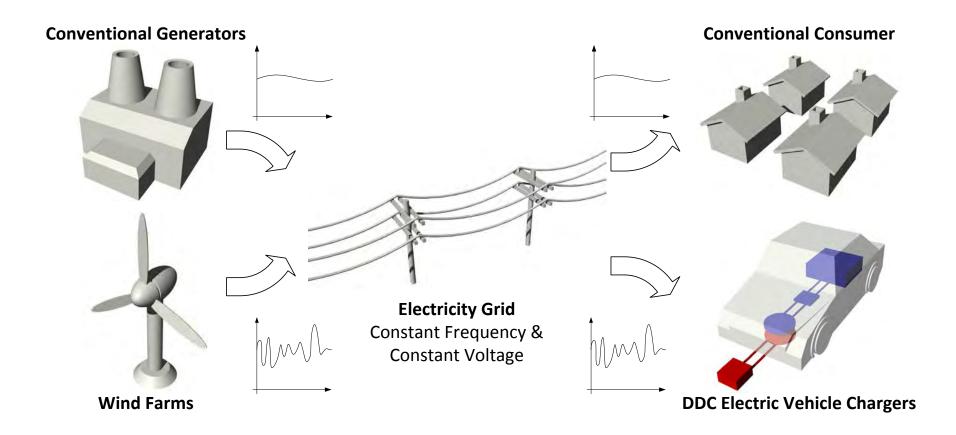
**Offshore Wind** 

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Wave



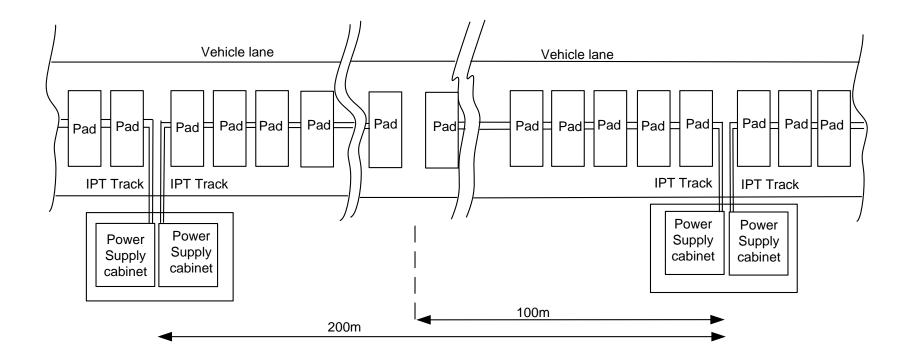
# Battery charging with dynamic demand control (DDC)





#### The IPT Roadway

• Sequentially Energised Pads under the Vehicle





#### The IPT Roadway



Dynamic charging allows lower battery weight. Requires gaps 20-40cm

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#### Why have we been successful?

- Partnerships with licensees
  - 7 global licensees and 3 start-up companies
  - Our postgrads now work in these key industries
- Industry driven research
- Funding for blue-sky innovation
  - Imagining the future
  - Attracting the best students
- The world leaders in industrial IPT systems
  - Academically and through our commercial partners