# FIRE SAFETY AND E-MOBILITY: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

Maggie Baumann Vice Chair of Pinfa North America/FRX Polymer AMI FR Virtual Conference- May 5-2021





## **Outline of Presentation**

- Who is Pinfa (Phosphorus, Inorganic and Nitrogen Flame retardant Manufacturers Association)
- Market and Trends EV and HEV vehicles
- E-Mobility Trends and Challenges
- Role of Flame Retardant Additives- Why do you need them?
- E-Mobility and Fire Safety





- Since 2009
- 3 continentsEU, NA & China

# Pinfa is the voice of PIN Flame Retardants Manufacturers and Users

#### Vision

Continuous improving the environmental and health profile of the PIN flame retardant products.

#### **Mission**

To maintain high fire safety standards across the world, standards which minimize the risk of fire to the general public.





# pinfa-na

## PINFA MEMBERSHIP (EU, NA, ASIA)



























40 Member Organizations





FR Adviser LLC



















































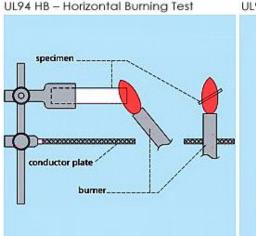


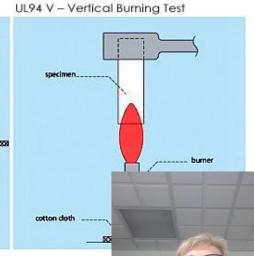


# PINFA NA – FORMULATOR WORKSHOP IN JUNE 2021

- Pinfa NA has scheduled its first virtual formulator's workshop with cosponsor SPE (Society of Plastics Engineers)
- Series of 4 webinars covering materials, testing, emerging technology and markets
- June 1,8,15,21- 2021
   Non-Halogenated Flame Retardants Workshop SPE (4spe.org)







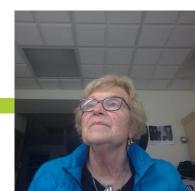




# MARKET DATA FOR E-MOBILITY









# DRIVING FACTORS FOR THE SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH OF THE EV MARKET IN 2021-2025

#### **Regional Policies**

- Commitment to carbon Emission policy in various countries
  - Some countries have put in place plans to phase out ICV
- Layout and investment by automobile manufacturers
  - Traditional auto manufacturers have made long-term investments in EV
    - Recent announcement by GM (Bloomberg EV Outlook, Forbes)

## **Continuous Breakthroughs in Battery Technology**

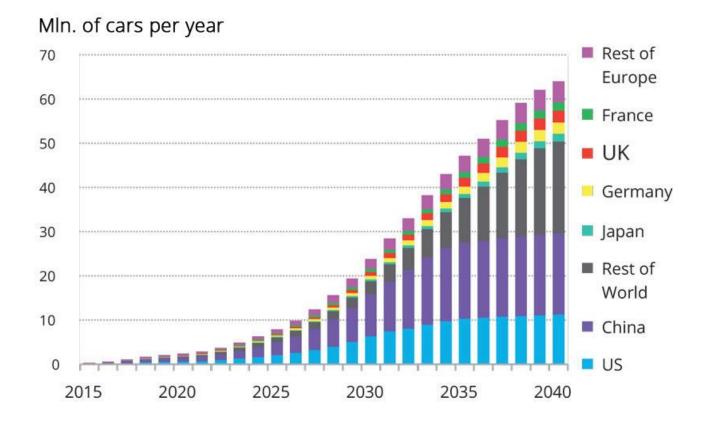
- Batteries exceeding 180 Wh/kg (watt hour/kg) can achieve a range of 550-650 km (340-403 mi.)
- The price of Battery technology declined continually with the price dropping nearly 90% in the last 10 years

#### Consumers are more open to electric and hybrid vehicles

Consumers are gradually considering the advantages of EV in energy saving, environmental protection and costs



#### ONE-THIRD OF THE AUTO MARKET WILL BE ELECTRIC OR HYBRID BY 2030



Global Electric Vehicle (EV) is estimated at 160 US \$Billion in 2019

Expected growth 800 \$B by 2027

Resisted better the Covid downturn in first half of 2020-up 57% in EU while overall market -37%

It is estimated that around onethird of the world car market will be electric or hybrid by 20.

Graph based on estimates at <a href="https://www.vpsolar.com/en/electric-cars-market-statistics/">https://www.vpsolar.com/en/electric-cars-market-statistics/</a>



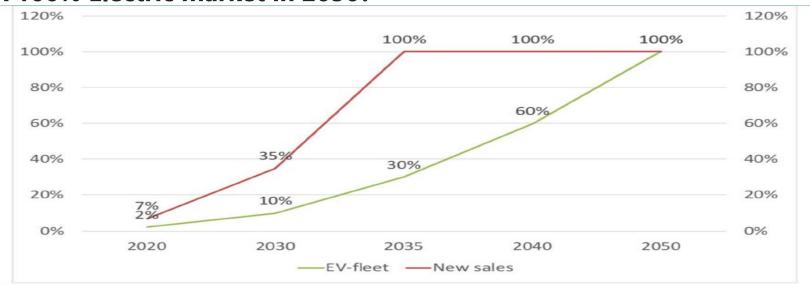


## **GROWTH FOR TRANSPORT: AUTOMOTIVE**

# Dynamic BEV (Battery Electric Vehicles) and PHEV (Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles) sector

	China	EU 💮	USA 👛	Global 🌑
Current Market Share	4.7%	1.9%	1.3%	1.7%
%growth	+70%	+84%	+50%	+66%

#### A 100% Electric market in 2050?

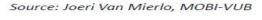


Global trends are clear:

Chinese market is experiencing a very fast increase in BEV and PHEVs

 600,000 units sold in 2017 which is more than Europe with 215,000 vehicles and United States with about 150,000 units.







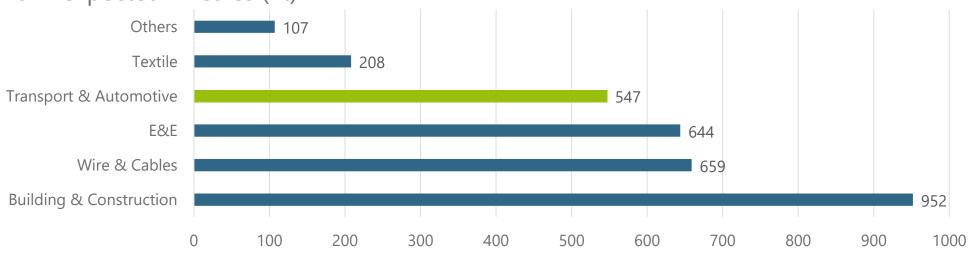


# **GROWTH FOR FLAME RETARDANTS: AUTOMOTIVE**

#### **Flame Retardant Markets**

Automotive & Transport is the **4th Largest Market** 





#### **Automotive growth forecasts:**

Strong global CAGR>6%

APAC as the leader: China producing 55% of BEV passenger cars (2019)







# PINFA PROJECT: FIRE SAFETY & ELECTROMOBILITY

# 3 workshops organized in the past 3 years - Pinfa had online webinar in 2020



China – pinfa Emobility & Fire Safety Challenges Shanghai, 22 November 2018



**Japan – pinfa Emobility & Fire Safety Challenges** Tokyo, 01 July 2019



**Germany – Joint pinfa/Fraunhofer LBF/FGK Emobility & Fire safety challenges** Darmstadt, November 12 2019

Pinfa NA participated in Battery and Hybrid Vehicle symposium in 2020





## E-MOBILITY TRENDS: BATTERY

#### **Batteries**

- Longer range (>350km) Heavier >400kg
- Higher energy density & 800V Today: 145% of 2005 Li Solid-State: 230% of 2005
- Fast charging time Long-term durability

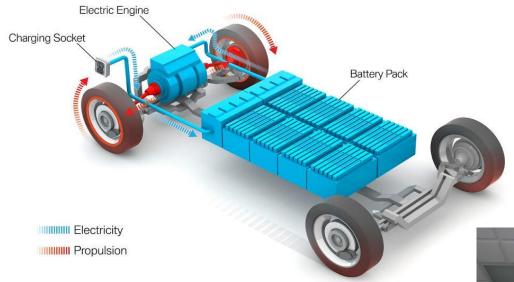
# **High Safety Standards**

## **Needs for Mass Market Acceptance**

- Reduced Cost (1st criterion)
- Increased Range (2<sup>nd</sup> criterion)
- Increased safety







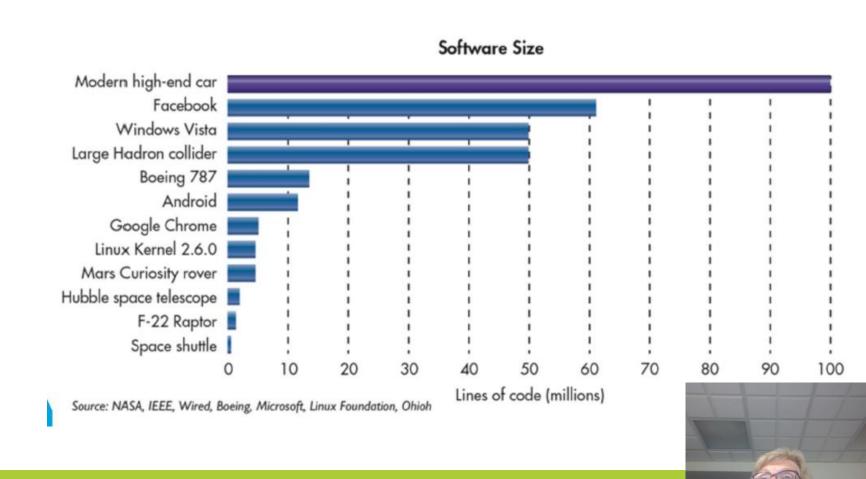




# **E-MOBILITY TRENDS: ELECTRONICS**

# Sensors and Entertainment systems

Several miles of wires in an EV Loads of data produced by EV







# **CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES**

#### **Existing Road Vehicles already represent a fire risk:**

• Over 202,000 vehicle fires, causing 560 deaths, 1500 injuries and nearly 2 Billion US\$ property damage in the US alone in 2018.

#### Electric and Hybrid vehicles bring new and increased safety risks:

- Specific fire risks of batteries, related to energy concentration when fully charged ("Stranded energy") to possible mechanical faults and risk of runaway
- High amperage drive cables and connectors charging connection, move from 12V to 24 V, with risks of overheating and arcing
- Proximity and interconnection of electronics battery management, power and communication
- More cables and connectors than in traditional vehicles





# E-MOBILITY & FIRE RISKS

#### **Fire Causes**

- Vehicle fault
- Vehicle Crash (drop)
- Charger fault
- Internal Cell fault

# Risks can be classified in 4 categories

- Release of thermal energy
- High voltage or loss of function
- Release of kinetic energy
- Release of chemicals (electrolyte and gases)







# E-MOBILITY TRENDS: CHARGING POINTS

#### **Faster charging**

up to 7min (350kW)

#### **Outgrowing gas stations**

150,000 eV C.P. VS 92,000 gas stations in FU+NA

# **Challenge: Standardization**

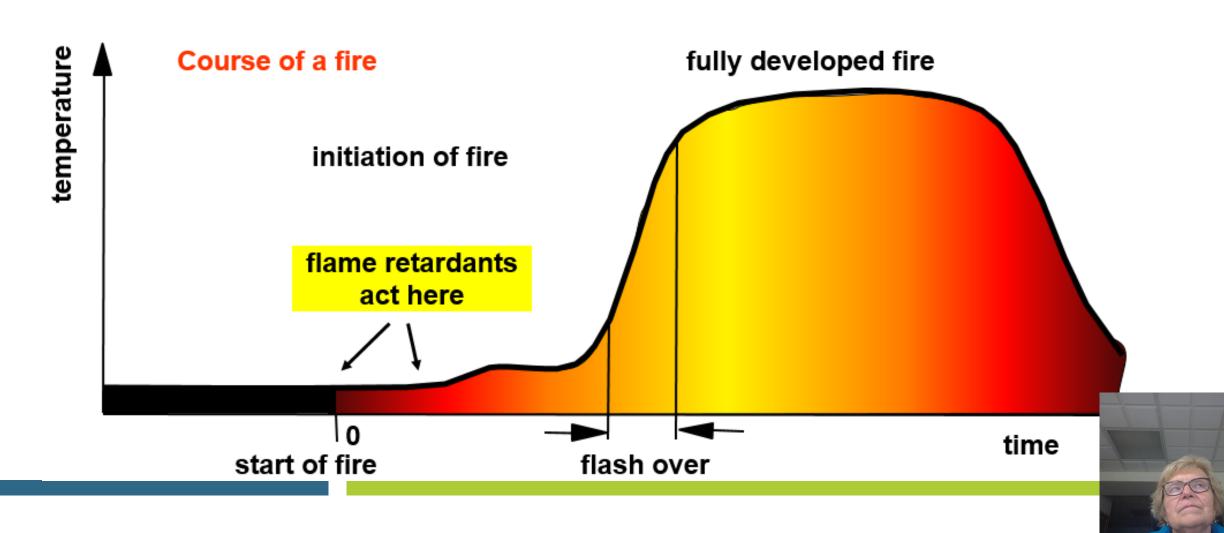
Up to 4 different connectors per charger 3 cables groups (EU standard, EU HPC, US-no HPC)

#### **Challenge: Fire Safety**

Cables: Halogen Free materials (EN50620) Connectors



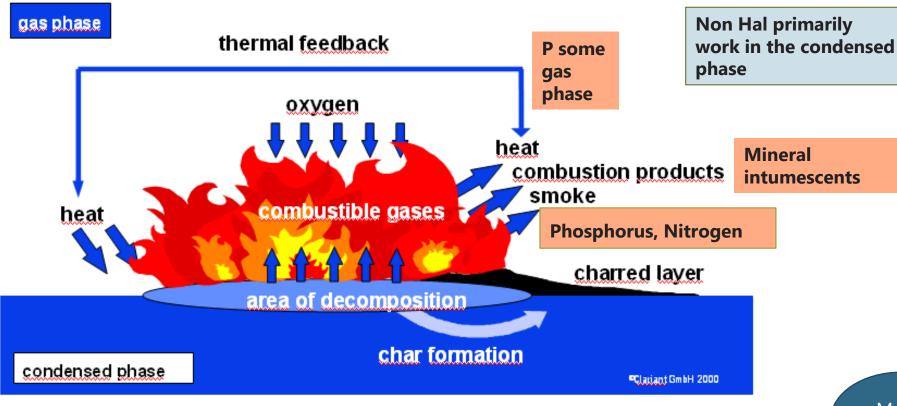






## **COMBUSTION OF PLASTICS**

Halogenated systems primarily work in the gas phase



Multi-

Binary

Flame Retardants can inhibit or suppress combustion mechanism by:

**Physical Action**: cooling, formation of protective layer (coating), dilution

**Chemical Action**: rxn in gas phase, rxn in solid phase

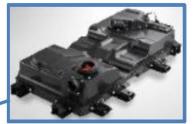


## FIRE SAFETY & E-MOBILITY

#### **More & More Plastic**

Example: increased composite adoption for battery upper case

OEM	Vehicle	EV/PHEV	LWR CASE	UPR CASE
Nissan	リーフ	EV	Steel	Steel
BMW	i3	EV	Aluminum	Steel
TESLA	S	EV	Aluminum	Steel
Mitsubishi	i-Miev	EV	Steel	Plastic (PP)
Renault	ZOE ZE	EV	Aluminum	Steel
FIAT	500e	EV	Steel	Composite
vw	e-up	EV	Steel	Composite (GF-SMC)
VVV	e-Golf	EV	Steel	Composite (GF-SMC)
BYD	<b>E</b> 6	EV	Steel	Composite
טוט	Denza EV	EV	Aluminum	Steel
Chevrolet	Spark	EV	Steel	Composite
Toyota	RAV4	EV	Aluminum	Steel
Chevrolet	BOLT	EV	Steel	Composite (GF-SMC)
FORD	Focus EV	EV	Steel	Steel
SMART	SMART	EV	Steel	Steel











April 6, 2021-the fully electric Chevrolet Silverado has been greenlit for production at GM 's Patroit Hamtramck "Factory vehicle plant in Mich upcoming GMC Hur

and SUV models.



# pinfa fire safety & E-Mobility: MATERIAL TRENDS

## More plastics, less metal

- Epoxy & Polyurethane
- Engineering polymers are commonly used.

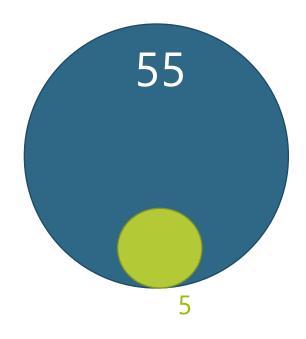
## **Thinner & lighter casings**

Weight reduction

## **Concentration Parking & Charging**

## **Very safe: Low occurrence of fire events**

- 300.000 Tesla driving 7.5 billion mi suffered 40 fires
- BEV: 5 fires per billion mi travelled
- ICE: 55 fires per billion mi travelled



#### Fires per billion mi travelled













#### FR ADDITIVES HELP FIRE PERFORMANCE OF POLYMERIC MATERIALS

# Fire retardant additives are used to help delay the combustability of materials

- It is not the only criteria for material choice
  - > Maximum continuous utilization temperature in dry or humid conditions
  - For high Voltage components dielectric strength is key, so some traditional polymers like Nylon 6 may be problematic
  - > Retention of mechanicals and HDT
  - > Selection of additives in Plastics is critical
    - > Some halogenated FR additives can cause electrochemical corrosion
      - ➤ High pH leads to dissolution of the passive surface layer of oxides and aluminum
        - Non Hal is better here
  - Processing cost
  - Lower density is preferred



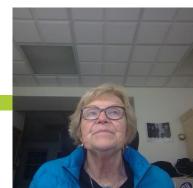




## NEW FIRE STANDARDS AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

## Becoming mandatory in many parts of the world

- CTI 600V and above
- UL 94 V-0 for electrical/electronic components down to 0.4mm and after aging
- Hydrolysis resistance of PBT GF FR
- Laser marking and laser welding
- Avoid Blooming and Mold deposits.
- EN62368 Communication systems for all vehicles







## FIRE SAFETY CHALLENGES: MORE STRINGENT REGULATIONS

**Batteries** facing more severe endurance tests:

Example: Japan

Standard No.						
	Current standard		In future?			
Standard No.	UN R100-03	GB/T 31467.3	GTR(Global Technical Regulations) 5.4.12			
Flame retardancy to external flame	Υ	Υ	Υ			
Flame retardancy for internal hot gas	N	N	Υ			





## FIRE SAFETY & E-MOBILITY

## FR parts in an EV

Seat, seat belt, ceiling cloth, convertible top, arm rest, door trim, front trim, rear trim, side trim, rear package tray, head back tilt control device, carpet, mat, sun visor, sunshade, wheel house cover etc.







# pinfa fire safety challenges & high voltage connectors

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Without Flame retardant

Color **RAL 2003** 

**CTI ≥ 400 V** 

High **Ductility** 



With Flame retardant

> Color **RAL 2008**

**CTI ≥ 600 V** 

High **Stiffness** 

Orange color in the presence of high voltages and after aging must remain visible





# pinfa fire safety challenges & power electronic casing

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

**EMI Shielding** 

**Electrical** Insulation

Leakage **Proof** 

**UL 94** V0 at 2/3 mm



**Temperature** Resistance

> High **Stiffness**

**Dimensional Stability** 

**Space Constraints** 







# pinfa fire safety challenges & battery casing

# APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Vibration ageing **Performance** 

UL 94 V0 at 2 mm

**High Stiffness** 



**Impact** resistance

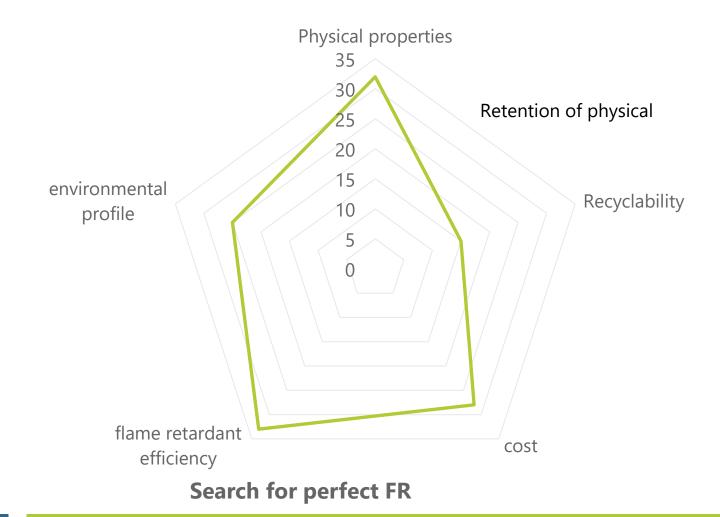
> Leakage **Proof**

**EMI Shielding** 





# FIRE SAFETY CHALLENGE: FR SELECTION



Need for continuous Improvement...





# pin fa fire safety challenge: recycling fr plastics

#### Compliance with more and more stringent regulations

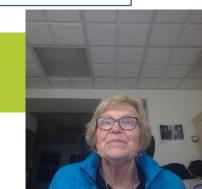
- REACH
- RoHs
- WEEE
- POP / Stockholm convention
- Ecodesign Regulation for screens & displays

#### **Recycling challenges**

- Migration/Leakage of flame retardants
- Physical alterations of recycled polymer
- Ensuring feedstock for the recycler: durable supply of recyclable material
- Sorting of FR formulation: marker the future of sorting

**Goal of pinfa-** bring stakeholders and supply chain together to meet material fire safety needs and challenges







# **E-MOBILITY MEGATRENDS**

Mobility as a Service

# Connected Autonomous Shared Electric







# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Thanks to Pinfa EU Executive Committee

Thanks to Pinfa NA Executive Committee

For more info:

mbaumann@frxpolymers.com

1-908-832-2207



