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GENEVA

NEW EV SUBURBAN



By [Sebastian Blanco](#)

Posted Mar 5th 2013 11:31AM



7



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Mitsubishi is stretching the electric jellybean. For years, the i-MiEV was regular presence at Mitsubishi's auto show booths around the world, and the car rightfully earned its nickname because of its rounded shape. Today, at the [Geneva Motor Show](#), Mitsubishi finally unveiled a version of the i-MiEV that looks much more more at home among the alternative-powertrain car fleet of the near future.

But there's more being elongated here than just the shape. The [official range](#) of the standard i (as the i-MiEV is known in the US) is 62 miles. The Concept CA-MiEV – where the CA stands for Compact and Advanced – is supposed to be able to go 300 kilometers (186 miles) from a 28-kWh lithium-ion battery and lightweight 80-kW motor/inverter/charger unit. This is kind of astonishing, given the range estimates of other compact and midsize EVs on the market today – most are in the 80-100-mile range. Of course, the specific test used to get the 186-mile result matters, too, since the regular i received 98 miles on the LA4 driving cycle range. The US-i has a [16-kWh pack](#).

The increased distance means that Mitsubishi is talking about the Concept CA-MiEV as the "suburban EV," with enough range for "about one week of driving for an average European driver." If you need more, Mitsubishi hints that the flat battery pack leaves room for a range-extender. Add in convenience features like [WiTricity](#) wireless charging and the ability for the car to send an emergency email if it's stolen, and you've got the commuting vehicle of the future. With a coefficient of drag of just 0.26 and boomerang lights, of course.

Mitsubishi is saying the CA-MiEV is "not planned for production," and is instead a showcase for "the various technologies MMC intends to introduce mid- to long-term across its range of global vehicles." That means, perhaps, some of the goodies here could make their way to rebadged, updated versions of the Peugeot iOn and Citroën C-Zero models, both based on the i-MiEV. Check out our gallery of the CA-MiEV and read more in the press release [below](#).

Show Press Release

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Image Credit: Live photos copyright 2013 Drew Phillips / AOL

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Jeff Gilleran

Much better. Should fit a wider range of customers.

March 08 2013 at 4:19 PM



Gwido

This supposedly has a 300 km range on JC08 (the Japanese testing cycle which is at very low speed). The current electric i has a 180 km range on the same testing cycle So this has 1.67x the range of the i, which makes sense since the battery has 1.7x the capacity (28 kwh vs 16 kWh)

On the EPA, the i gets rated at 62 miles of range. So this would get about 103 miles of range.

March 07 2013 at 8:16 AM



Larz Larzen

Concepts can go "billions and billons" of miles!

-1

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March 07 2013 at 5:05 AM



Levine Levine

+1

The math shows the range is not so astonishing as to be out of the ball-park: $98 \times 28/16 = 171.5$ miles. While the resultant calculation is slightly less than the claimed 186 miles, it is within striking distance given improved aerodynamic, regen, and more efficient power train.

March 06 2013 at 12:59 AM

MarcCBR

This company is hell bent on destroying the worlds Blue Fin population and then expects environmentalists to buy there vehicles. Google, Blue Fin tuna and Mitsubishi and it will hopefully change your mind about buying anything made by Mitsubishi.

March 05 2013 at 8:28 PM

▼ 2 replies to MarcCBR's comment



Levine Levine

+1

Excellent connection between the Mitsubishi CA-Mev and Blue Fin. I never would have made the connection between sushi and EV. The diversity of opinion of this forum never lets me down. Let's call the CA-Mev the i-BlueFin, instead.

March 06 2013 at 1:03 AM



Larz Larzen

The collisions must be something!

March 07 2013 at 5:06 AM

▼ 1 reply to Larz Larzen's comment



Larz Larzen

BTWBlue Fin Tuna and the CA-MEV, I maeen.

March 07 2013 at 5:08 AM



upstategreenie

-1

that is great. kinda looks like a prius.

is there more than a 1% chance I will ever see it in mylifetime in the US?

will local dealer carry it and will US have any infrastructure at all so that after the presumable 186 mile range there is anywhere at all I can charge it?

based on comments gas has to go to five bucks first. and then same commenters will still whine they then are bankrupt from getting shafted by big oil willingly that they cant afford an EV.

nonetheless I am sure it will be a big seller in japan and EU...

US will just keep 'freeing' oil until somebody fights back.

March 05 2013 at 7:18 PM

JP

+3

Big improvement over the current i. Tweak it a bit and sell it.

March 05 2013 at 7:06 PM



Stevie Diffy

+2

Looks great. But I am pretty sure it'll be ugly-ed down much like Toyota Prius C was.

March 05 2013 at 5:02 PM

fholiday

+2

Oh look another computer mouse with wheels

March 05 2013 at 4:05 PM

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▼ 1 reply to fholiday's comment



findrobin

+6

And I'll bet you complain the most to your friends and family about gas prices don't you? Yeah, sure you do...

March 05 2013 at 6:31 PM

▼ 1 reply to findrobin's comment

fholiday

Looks like you've lost the bet, I hope you wagered your brain

March 06 2013 at 7:02 PM



abourge458

+1

Here's an idea for large corporations that have employees with long commutes, some which might border on 50% battery use.....

A "Prestige" area in their lots with that WTricity wireless recharging. Say maybe: 20 or 30 slots to start?

That could come with a small fee, or fee-less for good attendance, or superior work.

March 05 2013 at 3:29 PM

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