

CHINA DAILY

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POLE POSITION

From vehicle manufacturing and sales to battery production, China is racing ahead in the electric car industry

By **ROBERT BLAIN** in Melbourne
For *China Daily Asia Weekly*

The inexorable shift from fossil fuels to electric power continues to gather pace on the roads. Carmakers and countries alike, it seems, are making new announcements on electric vehicle (EV) initiatives every other week.

Indonesia has just announced generous incentives for companies developing EVs, while Malaysia recently pledged to have 100,000 such cars on the road by 2030.

But does all this talk translate to a significant change on the highways, in car parks, and in consumer preference among drivers?

Renub Research, a market research and consulting

company, reported in May that the EV sector is set to exceed \$100 billion worldwide by 2020.

The groundswell of support for electric cars is steadily increasing, quicker in some countries than others. But nowhere is it being embraced with as much gusto as in China.

In its latest *E-mobility Index* survey, consultancy Roland Berger tracked the uptake of EVs in seven major countries.

According to the survey: "In terms of the market, China has seen a sharp increase in demand and now moves into second place — behind France — which has a bigger market share despite its considerably lower absolute volumes. In third place comes the United States."

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