



evconnect



# Networked Vs Non-Networked:

A Guide to Smarter EV  
Charging Management



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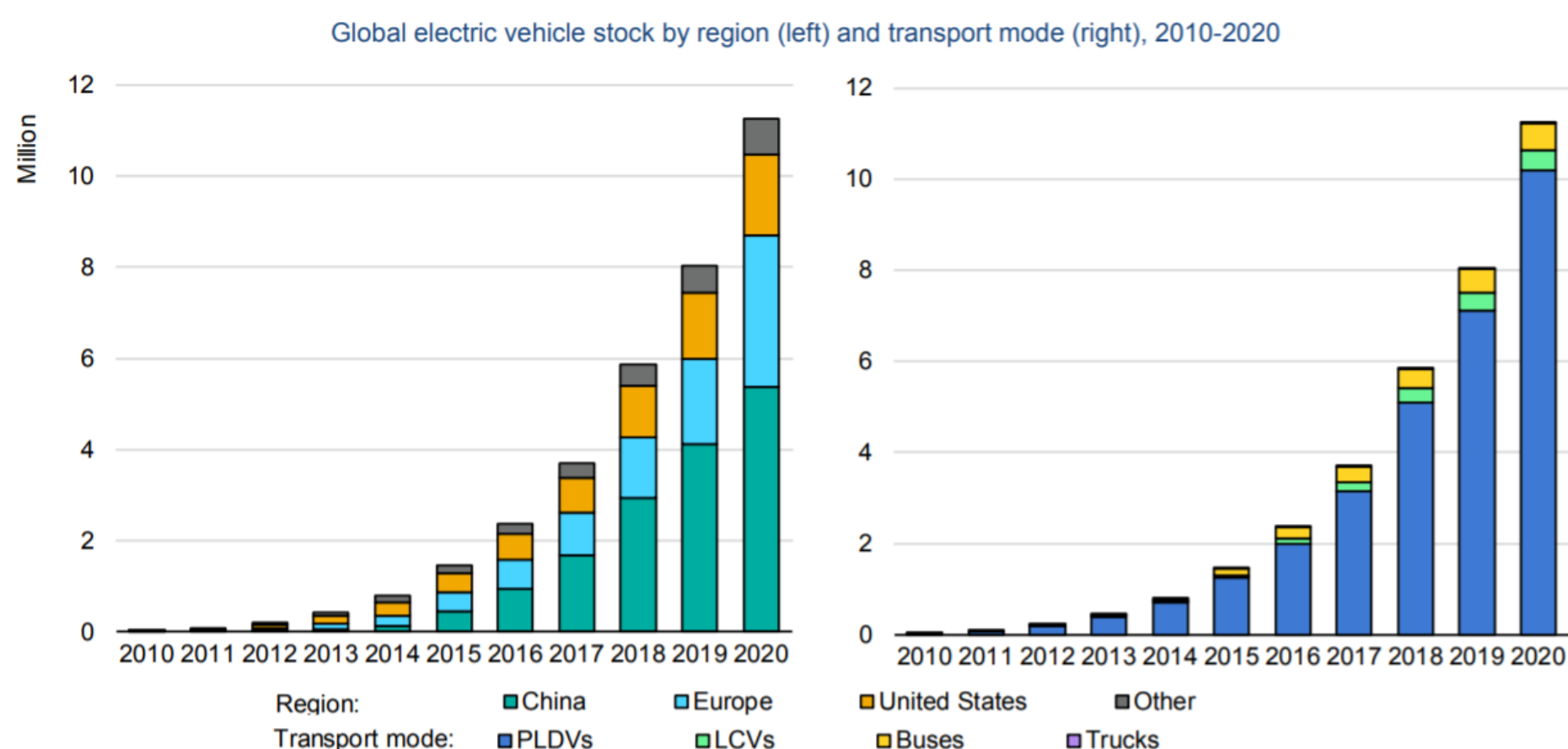
# Introduction



## What's the difference between a Network and Non-network Charger?

Electric vehicle (EV) adoption is growing. With climate change, the auto industry making appealing battery-powered machines in volume, and [Biden's \\$1 trillion infrastructure bill](#) coming into fruition, drivers around the world will buy about 5.6 million EVs this year—representing almost 8% of all vehicle sales.

### Electric vehicles across all transport modes had steady growth over the last decade



\*IEA: [Global EV Outlook 2021](#)

With more EV drivers on the road comes an increased demand for EV charging stations as well. However, not all charging stations are the same.

While planning to install electric vehicle charging stations for your property, you've probably heard about "Network" and "Non-Network" chargers. Both types provide energy to your vehicle, but only one offers you management tools to manage access, pricing, and performance on your charging stations. How do you choose the right charging station for your property? In this guide, we've outlined a few things to know about finding the best EV chargers to meet your needs.





# Non-Networked

## Simplified or Standalone Charging

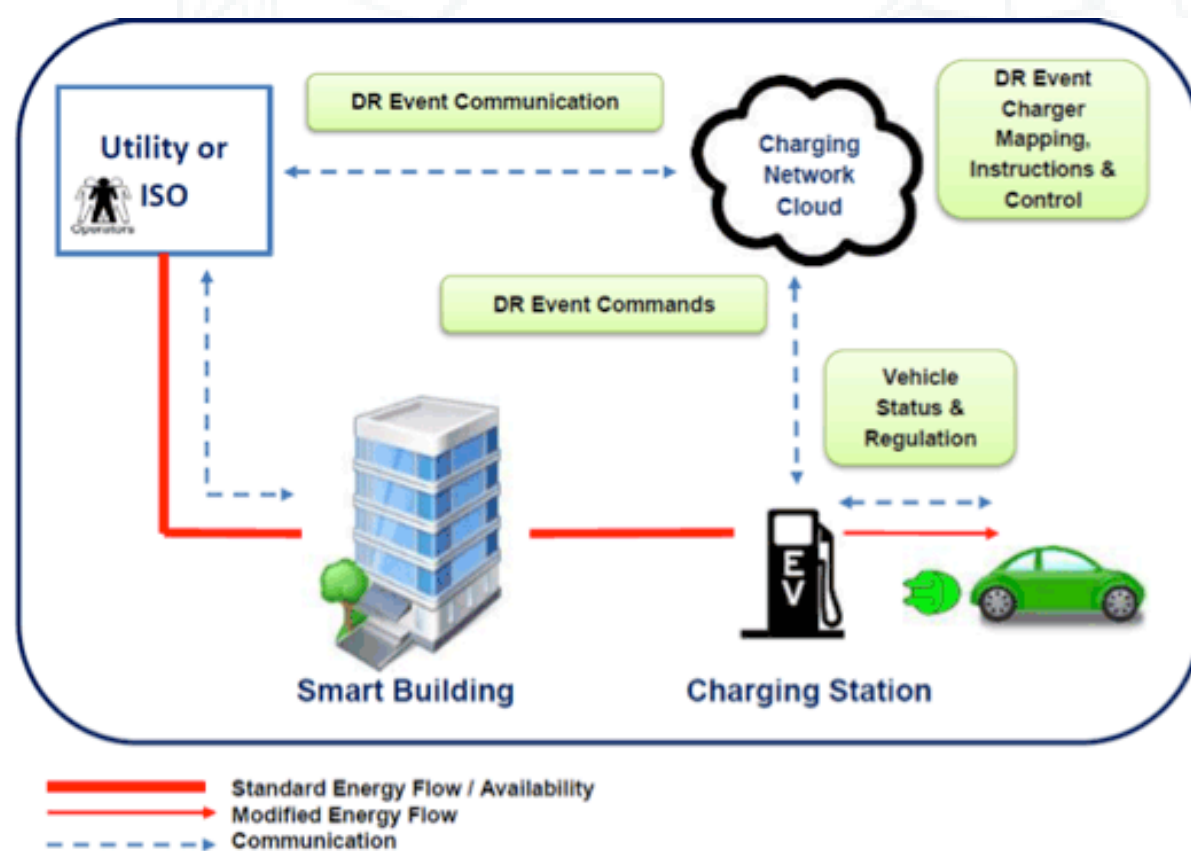


EV charging stations without network software are called non-network chargers or “stand-alone chargers”. Non-networked charging stations are usually less expensive and simply charge your electric car. Although they are cost-effective, they don’t have any built-in technology or internet access that allows them to connect to an EV Charging network.

This means you can’t collect usage data, monitor station performance, balance loads during peak demand, or charge fees for station usage. Furthermore, property owners should note that non-networked stations will not show whether it is available or in-use, which can be a poor experience for EV drivers who are hoping to use a station when they arrive.

Without a network connection, you won’t have remote access to the station. In situations where the station requires maintenance, any type of service or repair will require a physical site visit by a service technician to fix the unit. Any station issue cannot be proactively fixed: You won’t know it is broken until a driver tries to use the station and it’s not working.

Additionally, many utility programs across the United States have incentive programs to add EV charging to commercial properties. However, many of these programs require networked station to be installed. By having a networked station, the utility can see the demand placed on the grid and better plan grid changes as well as provide grid services.



**\*\*Joint Venture:** Demand Response Scenario with Cloud-Based EVSE Control

Non-networked stations do not have this capability. For example, if there is a demand event from the utility, it’s possible to “power down” or reduce the energy output of networked stations during that timeframe, which helps the community.



## “Smart” Charging Stations

Networked EV chargers or “smart chargers”, are connected remotely to a larger network and part of an infrastructure system of connected chargers. The chargers will have remote access to an EV charging network and online management, such as controlling units, setting a charging fee, and storing the usage data—benefitting property owners of all types who want to install more charging locations without installing a new transformer, shopping center or store owners who want to set a fee for charging after a certain amount of time, or multifamily communities that need to track resident usage.

Networked charging solutions often provide a dashboard that property owners and managers can access on remote devices, while enabling site hosts to see how many people are charging station at any moment. This integrated approach gives owners of networked systems the freedom to scale as needed and have the option to change hardware in the future, if needed.

Most business owners who install EV charging stations prefer the control that comes with networked systems.

### Benefits of Networked Charging



Better Cost  
Management



Remote access to  
manage all operations



Put Your Business  
on the Map



Remote Maintenance  
& Troubleshooting



# Open vs Closed Network

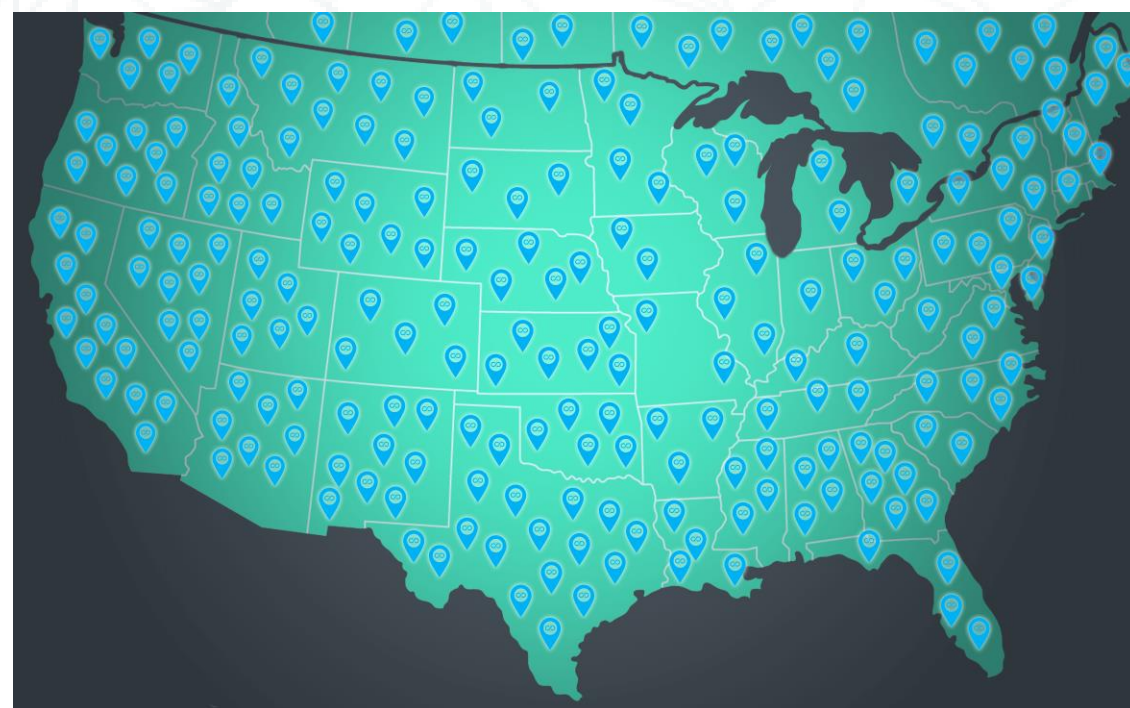


## Advantages of an Open Charging Network

There are two kinds of charging networks: open and closed. Closed systems can tie you to a specific EV charging hardware manufacturer. Many manufacturing companies prefer to bundle their stations with their own proprietary software—a measure that benefits the manufacturer and hinders business and property owners by [locking them into one type of hardware](#), which can be incredibly expensive to change if the stations need to be replaced.

On the other hand, an open system will work with any hardware that meets the standards of the [Open Charge Point Protocol \(OCPP\)](#). This flexibility allows charging station owners to pick from a wider range of charging station options with the ability to add new stations down the road, without disrupting station performance and management.

For example, our [EV Connect software](#) is compatible with a wide range of EV charger manufacturers. In addition, we've broadened charging access for our drivers by [integrating our network](#) with other network providers like ChargePoint and Greenlots. Not only will drivers be able to conveniently find available charging stations, but they will also be able to pay for their charge with the app of their choice.



An open EV charging network offers a broader access to a variety of charging station brands, leading to a quicker expansion of overall infrastructure and greater efficiency.



With our software platform, you have your choice of charging stations. Here are some popular options [approved under many state and utility incentive programs](#).



# How the EV Connect Platform Can Help



## Future Proof Your Property With Turnkey EV Charging

EV Connect provides a network platform that is intuitive and suitable for any kind of EV business model, as well as around-the-clock customer support. Whether you are looking for a turnkey operation or a fully customized installation, EV Connect has the experience and resources to get you up and running.

With our software you have your choice of charging stations along with a select range of Level 2 or DC Fast Charging stations, control access to charging stations, set pricing policies to increase station utilization and increase revenue, and ensure a positive driver experience with an industry-leading EV charging mobile app.

Looking to install EV charging stations at your business? [Let's connect!](#)

## About EV Connect

EV Connect is on a mission to build a better planet by enabling electricity as a transportation fuel. Through its innovative and open charging cloud platform, EV Connect simplifies the set-up, management, and optimization of charging services with premium customer support, from installation to the driver experience. EV Connect guides companies of all sizes in managing networks of chargers and delivers a seamless EV charging experience that empowers drivers.

Established in 2010, EV Connect customers include Avista Utilities, Love's Travel Stops, Verizon, Marriott, Hilton, Western Digital, ADP, New York Power Authority, and numerous municipalities.

**10**

Years of Experience

**10K+**

Stations Managed

**100K+**

Customers Served

**30M+**

Electric Miles Provided

› **Serving Industry Leaders Around the World**

