

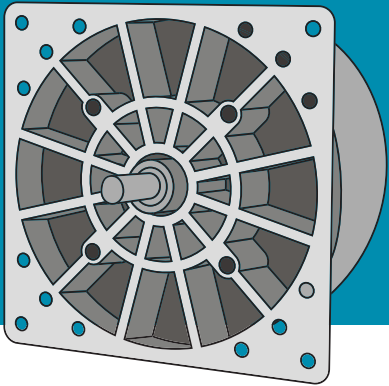


# Efficient High-Torque Electric Motor

using Electrostatics Instead of Electromagnetics.

Technology Early Deployment

# C-Motive



Since Michael Faraday’s invention of the first electric motor to use electromagnetic forces to create motion in 1821, virtually all large-scale motors have relied on electromagnetics—the creation of magnetic fields from currents—to generate torque. Even though the very first electric motor invented by Benjamin Franklin in 1748 utilized electrostatics—the creation of electric fields from voltage—to generate torque, electromagnetic designs have dominated the engineering design of motors over the last century.

C-Motive is a startup company out of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, that has developed a disruptive motor technology based on electrostatics. The C-Motive electrostatic capacitive motor platform offers high torque density and has the potential to scale to MW size, without the need for magnets or rare-earth metals, using a fraction of the copper required for a conventional motor.


### TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS

**95%**  
**EFFICIENCY**  
 at low speed,  
 eliminating gearboxes.


  
**MODULAR DESIGN**  
 scalable for MW  
 power levels.

  
**NO RELIANCE**  
 on rare-earth  
 metals.

**10x**  
**TORQUE DENSITY**  
 for EVs, drones, and  
 heavy hybrids.

  
**NO HEAT GENERATION**  
 from electric  
 fields.

  
**LOW OR NO MAINTENANCE**  
 for consistent  
 performance.

  
**DATA SENSING**  
 for temperature monitoring  
 & advanced diagnostics.

**Disclaimer:** C-Motive Technologies’ motor technology was chosen for TED because it supports **California’s clean energy goals** for energy efficiency, reduced GHG emissions and demand flexibility. This document does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by EPRI or SCE of the product or company described herein. This publication is funded and administered by Southern California Edison’s Emerging Technologies Program.

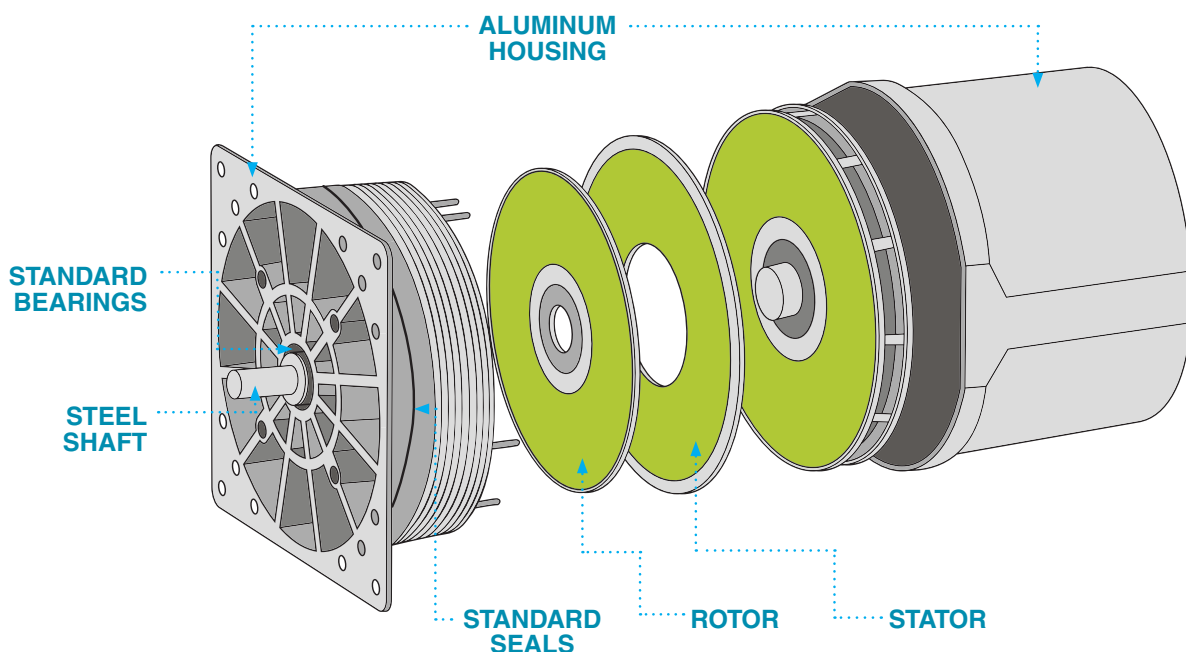
# C-Motive technology key components

Traditionally, electric motors have relied on the principles of electromagnetism to transfer electrical energy to mechanical energy. Electric motors have used these principles to create a moving magnetic field by the current-carrying coils in the stator to create motion in the rotors. Similarly, the electrostatic principles can be used to translate electrical power to mechanical power. C-Motive has tapped into Maxwell's law of electric fields to create a capacitive power transfer mechanism and have demonstrated proof-of-concept for this technology which could have wide application.

The innovation of this concept lies in the capacitive power coupling between non-touching plates on the stator and rotor. A static high voltage field is applied to the rotor and a variable frequency voltage source is applied to the stator, creating an electric field between rotor and stator plates that applies mechanical torque to the rotor. The stator plates can be thought of as analogous to stator windings in an induction motor, while the rotor plates are like a rotor shaft and windings. Like brushless dc motors, this design avoids the use of high-maintenance contact carbon brushes and slip rings but does so without the use of permanent magnets made of rare earth metals. Currently, C-Motive's technology can transfer power as low as 10W to beyond 20kW through its rotary capacitance.

Currently C-Motive has developed two product platforms called CoolTorq 10 and CoolTorq 20 .

COOLTORQ 10 SPECIFICATIONS	COOLTORQ 20 SPECIFICATIONS
Diameter .....10"	Diameter .....20"
Speed .....<500 rpm	Speed .....<500 rpm
Power .....1.5+kW	Power .....<20kW
Torque .....<30+Nm	Torque .....<400Nm



## TARGET CUSTOMERS

- ✓ Industrial Torque Machines: cooling towers/ HVLS (high volume, low speed) fans, industrial automation/ robotics, material handling.
- ✓ Renewable Generation: marine hydrokinetics, wind-OEM and repowering.
- ✓ Direct Drive Traction: urban electric vehicles, heavy hybrid drivetrains.

## HARDWARE COMPATIBILITY

- ✓ Speed control expands the range of constant power operation in traction applications.
- ✓ Electrostatic direct-drive generator used inside large wind turbines could potentially lower tower construction and materials costs by 5-10 percent.
- ✓ Designed to be half the size of a direct drive permanent magnet synchronous generator (24 metric tons) and operates without a gearbox (21 tons).

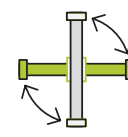
## SYSTEM FEATURES



**GREATER TORQUE DENSITY**  
**> 10 TIMES**



**HIGH EFFICIENCY > 95%**



**FLEXIBLE SHAFT ORIENTATION**



**DIRECT DRIVE**



**TEMPERATURE STABILITY**





## California's decarbonization challenge

California's executive order B-55-18 mandates that the state achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Additional legislation supports this goal through multiple strategies that include double energy savings by 2030 (SB 350), increased demand flexibility (19-OIR-01), advanced energy storage and 100 percent of all retail electricity from renewable energy (SB 100). Applying these strategies to new construction and upgrades to existing buildings provides a path to achieving carbon neutrality but also comes with a new set of challenges:

**1.**

### New technologies for buildings

must support most or all of the desired outcomes for California.

**2.**

### Testing, compliance & standards

including utility participation and enabled workforce.

**3.**

### Establishing trust

that replacement of old systems will meet/exceed performance expectations.

## C-MOTIVE SUPPORTS CALIFORNIA'S DECARBONIZATION GOALS



### HIGH PERFORMANCE

Improves motor efficiency across industries.



### HIGH EFFICIENCY

Eliminates gearboxes, thermal cooling, and excess noise.



### DEMAND REDUCTION

Supports electrification applications.

# Addressing market barriers to adoption of electrostatic motors

C-Motive's electrostatic machine topology is a novel concept that offers a unique and desirable value proposition at the performance, economic and sustainability levels.

## BARRIERS STILL EXIST IN SEVERAL AREAS:

### Barriers

#### FOR EXPANSION

- ✓ Field demonstration data.
- ✓ Utility specific use cases.
- ✓ Lack of brand awareness.

#### TO SCALE

- ✓ Manufacturing supply chain.
- ✓ Workforce training.
- ✓ Customer adoption.
- ✓ Development of distribution and service relationships.

## CREATING A PATH TO COMMERCIALIZATION THROUGH THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

### Opportunities

#### UTILIZE LEVERAGE POINTS

- ✓ Feasibility project for U.S. Navy (under NSF STTR 2019).
- ✓ Collaboration with EPRI.
- ✓ Re-using established motor components and engineering design.

#### REALIZE COMPANY GOALS

- ✓ Field demonstrations with customers in Northeast and Southwest.
- ✓ Expand manufacturing capabilities.
- ✓ Expand interest across utilities and industry professionals.



## Market readiness



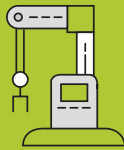
**4**  
**TECHNOLOGY  
READINESS LEVEL  
SCORE**

- > Proof-of-concept design lab tested.
- > Pre-commercial stage of development.



**2-3**  
**YEAR TO  
MARKET**

- > After field demonstrations, TRL expected to improve.
- > Commercial availability to improve with financing options.



**4**  
**MANUFACTURER  
READINESS  
LEVEL SCORE**

- > Identifying scale-up manufacturing.



**1**  
**KEY  
OUTCOME**

- > It is estimated that the TRL for C-Motive technology could increase to 6 or 7 in certain applications once field testing is completed to validate real-world performance.

## Supporting utility goals for decarbonization

1.

### Energy savings

Reduces energy consumption.

2.

### Decarbonization

Promotes electrification.

3.

### C&S alignment

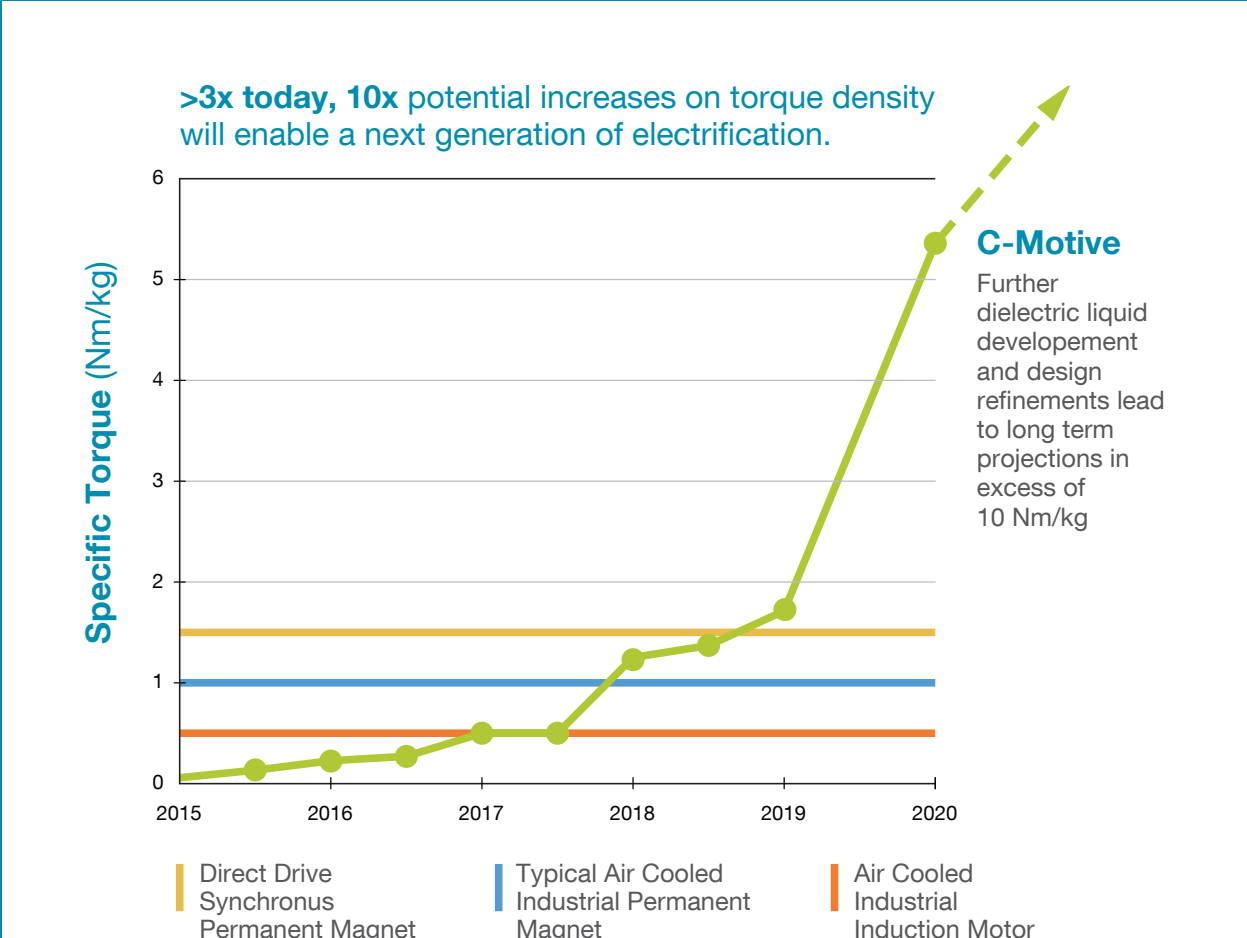
Supports innovation in generation, transportation, and load devices.

4.

### Demand flexibility

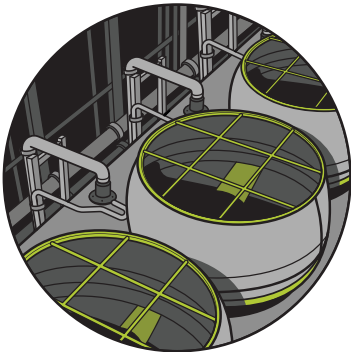
Potential to improve motor flexibility through integrated drive.

**C-Motive's technology has a 10x potential for increasing torque density without increasing energy use, enabling the next generation of electrification across industrial applications.**

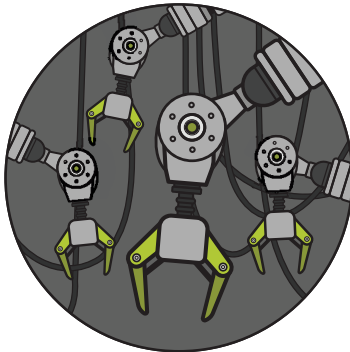


**INDUSTRIAL TORQUE MACHINES**

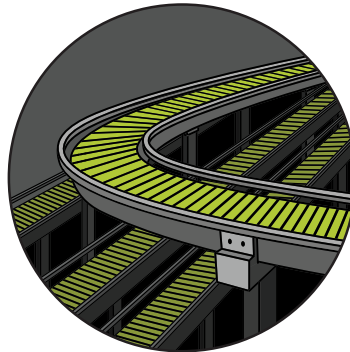
CoolTorq platform is the foundation for a wide range of applications but is currently being tested across cooling towers, HVLS fans, industrial automation and robotics and material handling applications.



**COOLING TOWERS / HVLS FANS**



**INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION / ROBOTICS**



**MATERIAL HANDLING**

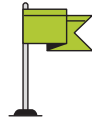
# C-Motive Utility Opportunity Assessment



## TECHNOLOGY CATEGORY

### Motors and Drives

### Process Loads and Appliances



## ETP PRIORITIES

### ENERGY SAVINGS

Reduces energy consumption.

### DECARBONIZATION

Promotes electrification.

### C & S ALIGNMENT

Supports innovation in generation, transportation, and load devices.

### DEMAND FLEXIBILITY

Potential to improve motor flexibility through integrated drive.



## KNOWLEDGE INDEXES

### TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE

High

### MARKET KNOWLEDGE

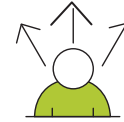
Medium

### PROGRAM INTERVENTION

Low

### UTILITY VALUE

- \$100B+ global market size.
- Beachhead: \$8-10B
- SAM: \$15B
- TAM: \$50B



## OPPORTUNITIES

### CRITICAL ETP ACTIONS

- Socialize within SCE.
- Socialize with other IOUs.
- Field test in CA.

### LEVERAGE POINTS

- NSF grant.
- EPRI Motors and Drives Team.

### GAPS TO FILL

- 3rd party testing.
- Utility specific use-case.

### MARKET SIZE

- Innovative Motor and Drive technology for incentives.
- Combines electrification with decarbonization goals.



## BARRIERS

### IN-PROGRESS

- Field demonstration.
- Utility specific cases.
- Lack of brand awareness.

### UPCOMING

- Manufacturing supply chain.
- Development of distribution & service relationships.
- Customer adoption.

### SOLUTION

- Build brand awareness.



## NEXT STEPS

### COMPANY

1. Field demonstrations.
2. Expanded manufacturing capability.
3. Utility-specific cost-benefit analysis.

### UTILITY

1. Field demo results.
2. Value proposition and business use case.

### OTHER

1. EPRI M&V testing and/or grant collaborator.
2. Partnerships with OEMs.



TED is a process where innovative technologies are selected for assessment and review based on the technology application, team strength, and alignment with the Technology Priority Maps, to fulfill the California decarbonization challenge.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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