The background of the slide is a dark gray color with a subtle, abstract pattern of thin, light gray lines connecting small, dark gray dots, resembling a network or a molecular structure. This pattern is most prominent on the left side and fades slightly towards the right.

From Model T to Tesla: A Fireside Chat on Automotive Innovation

November 19, 2025

Andreas Flocken

Carl Benz



**Early Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicle:
Benz Patent Motor Car**

1886

Carl Benz
Mannheim, Germany

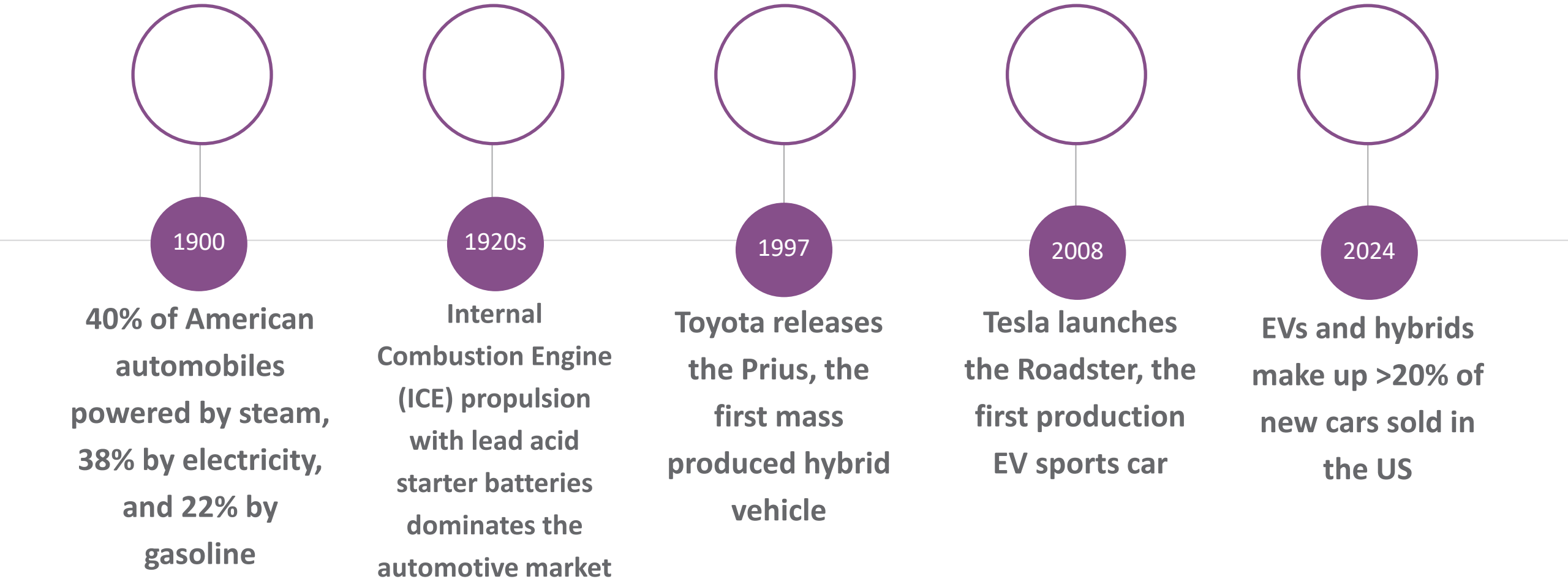
**Early Electric Vehicle (EV):
Flocken Elektrowagen**

1888

Andreas Flocken
Coburg, Germany



Major Events in Automotive History



Key early EV Innovations

Curved magnets replaced straight magnets to boost energy generation capability

Mass producible lead acid battery design decreased cost and increased power

Electricity became readily available in cities to power lighting and factories



Key early ICE Innovations

Electric starter + lead acid battery made starting engines relatively safe

Ford assembly line decreased vehicle cost

Gasoline became widely available via the discovery of crude oil in Texas and a national network of gas stations



*Baker Motor
Vehicle Company
EV*



Lead Acid



Ford Model T

Lead acid batteries started cars for the next 70 years

Other markets drove new battery chemistry development,
setting the stage for modern EVs



First Generation Toyota Prius

Nickel Metal
Hydride

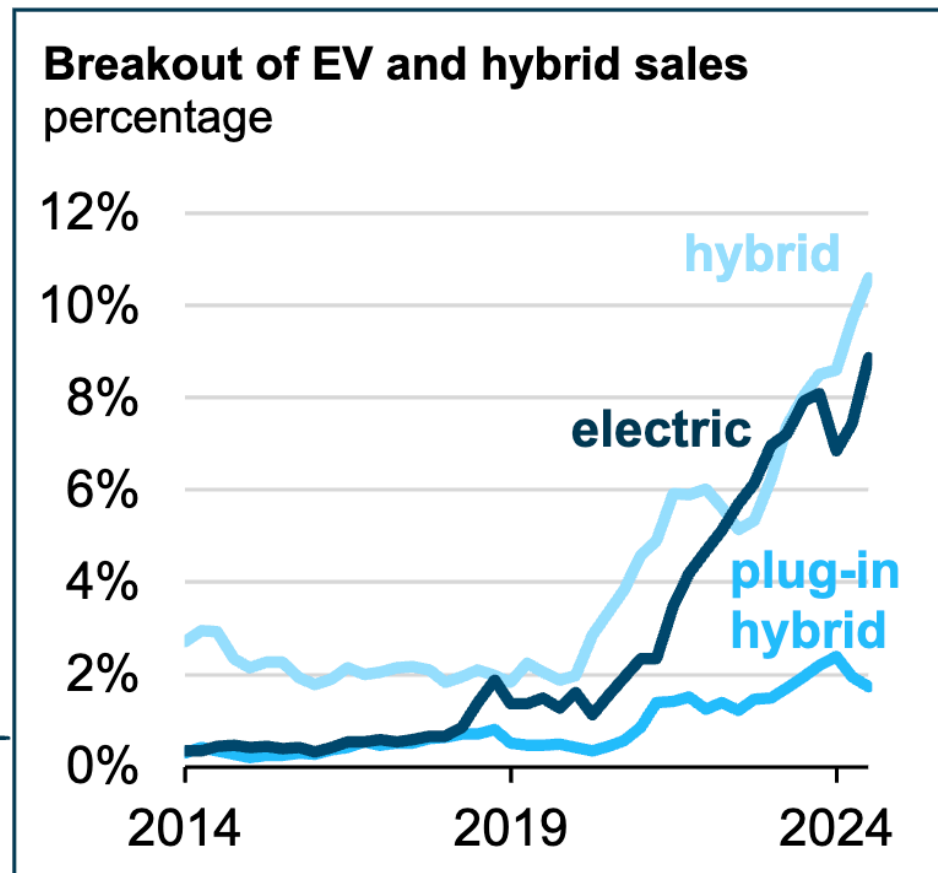
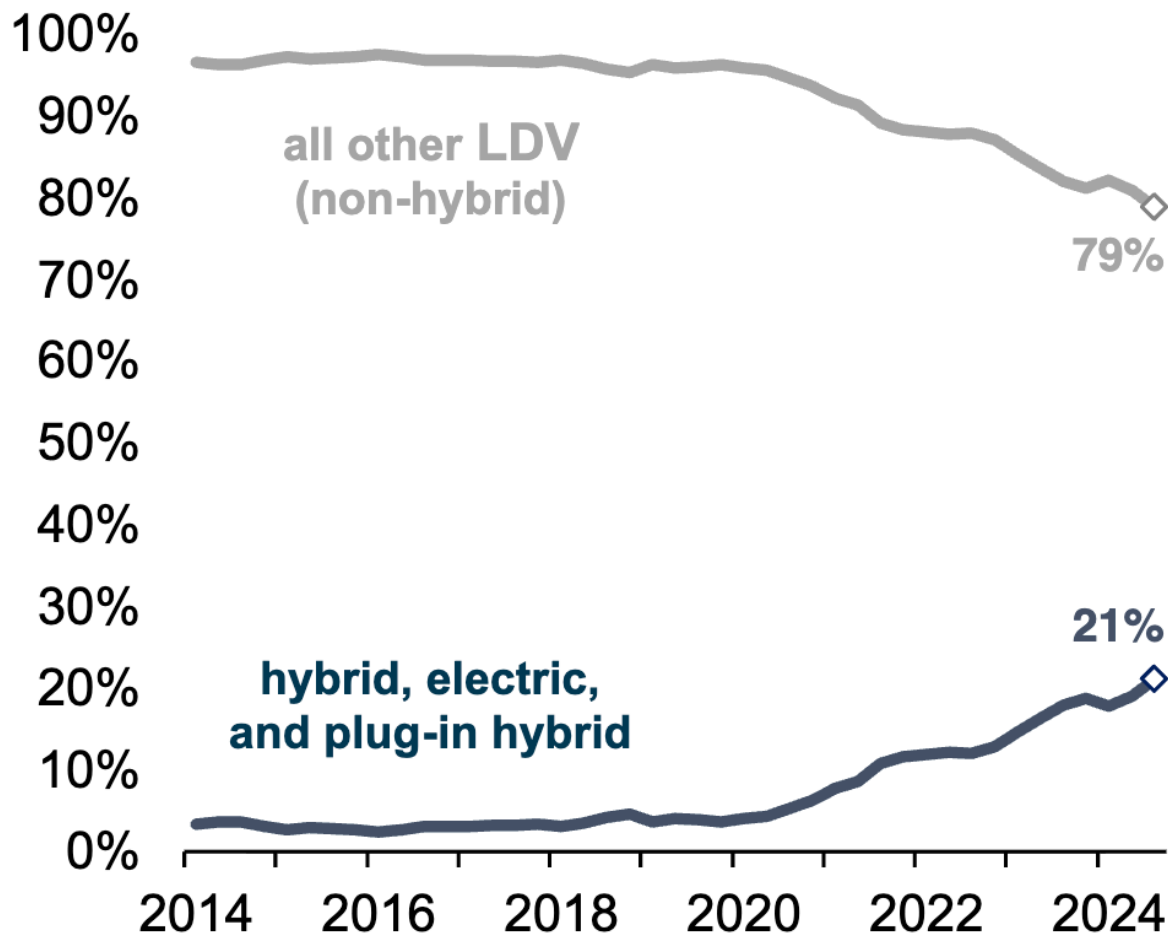
First Generation Honda Insight





Lithium Ion

Quarterly U.S. light-duty vehicle (LDV) sales by powertrain (Jan 2014-Sept 2024) percentage of sales



Data source: Wards Intelligence

Note: EV=electric vehicles, including both battery electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles



Yiwei Sehol E10X

JMEV EV3



Significant Battery Chemistries for Automotive Use

What they do vs what future EVs need

Lead Acid

Nickel Metal
Hydride

Lithium Ion

Sodium Ion

