



## Cabin Insulation as a Key Factor for HVAC System Performance and Efficiency in Electric Vehicles

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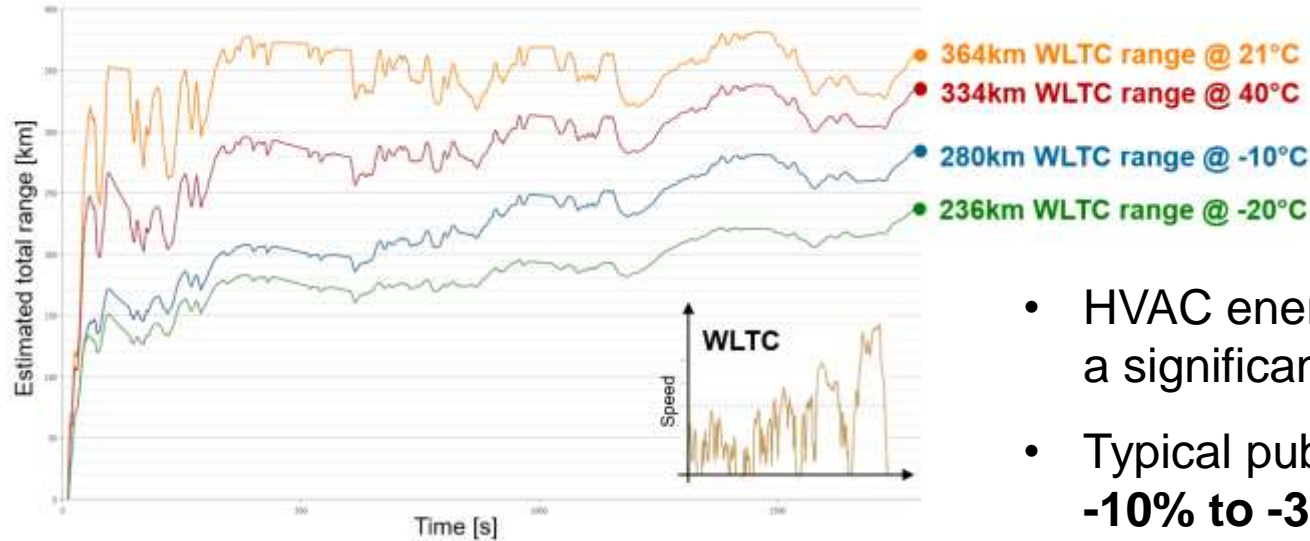
ECS Simulation Conference 2021



# Introduction

## EV Range and Ambient Conditions

Range of an Electric Vehicle for the WLTC in different climate conditions:



(diagram shows simulation results for Magna E1 demo car based on Tesla S)



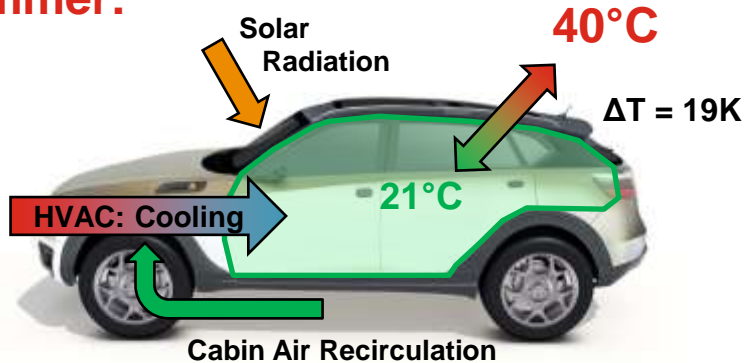
- HVAC energy consumption has a significant impact on EV range
- Typical published values **summer -10% to -30% range**
- Typical published values **winter -30% to -50% range**



# Introduction

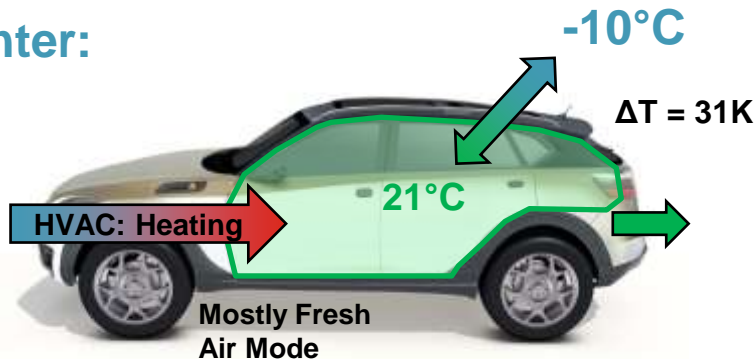
## Convection and Thermal Cabin Insulation

### Summer:



- HVAC system needs cool the cabin
- Heat mainly from solar radiation and convection (→ **insulation!**)
- Usually high air recirculation rates
- Energy consumption from A/C compressor

### Winter:



- HVAC system needs heat the cabin
- High losses due to convection (high delta T to ambience → **insulation!**)
- Low air recirculation rates in heating efforts even further
- Energy consumption from P or heat pump compressor



# Honeywell Solstice® Blowing Agents

Pioneers in developing Low-Global-Warming-Potential (LGWP) solutions

## Markets

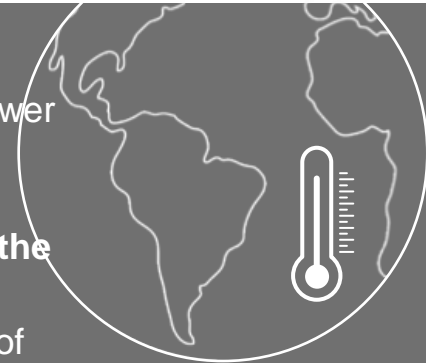
- Air conditioning and refrigeration
- Building and construction
- Appliance and containers insulation
- Aerosols and solvents
- Personal Care

## Products / Services

- Solstice® :
  - ✓ Refrigerants
  - ✓ Blowing agents
  - ✓ Aerosols and cleaning solvents

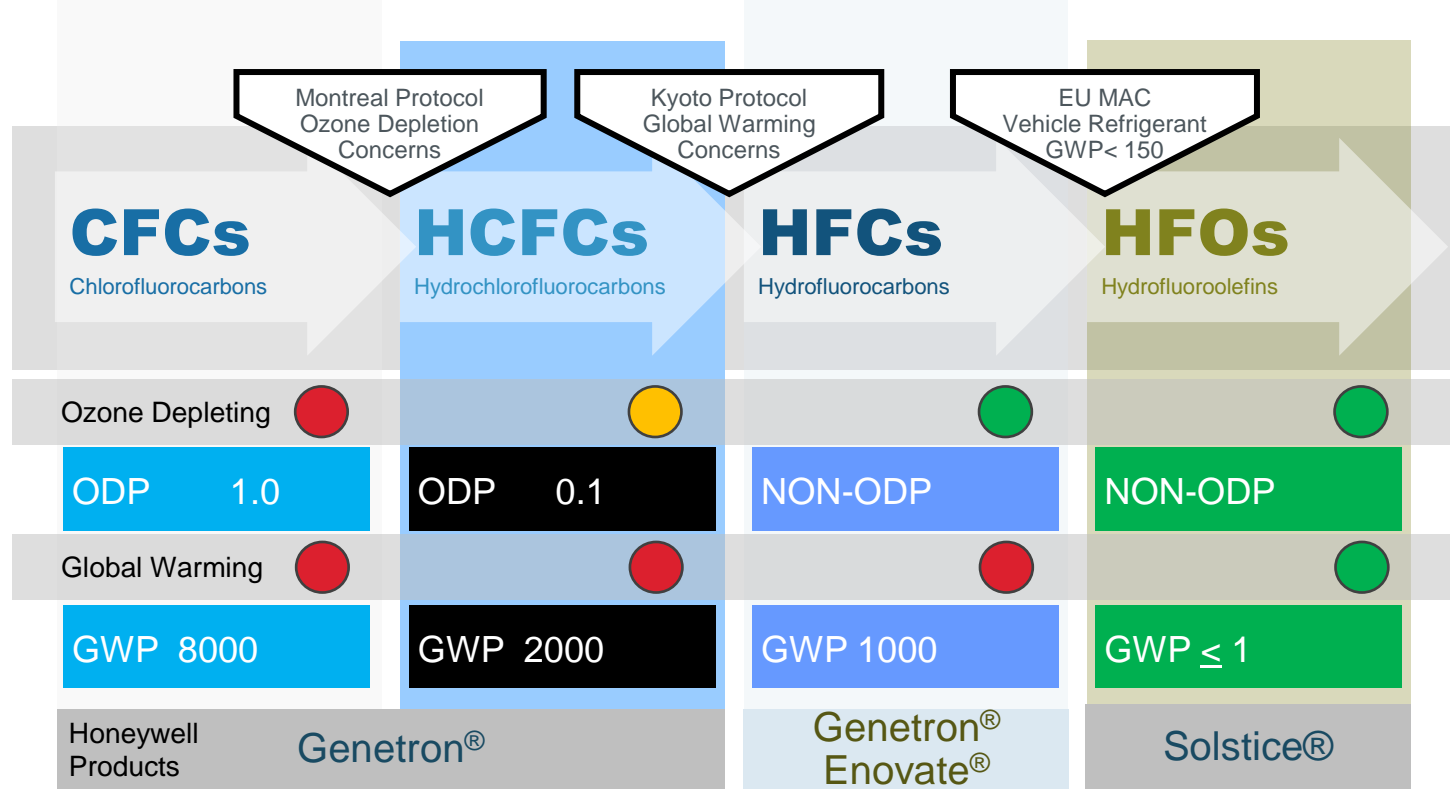
## Solstice® Overview

- Solstice offerings have a **Global Warming Potential** of 1 or lower (equal or better than CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Solstice yf mobile air conditioning refrigerant can reduce the greenhouse gas equivalent of removing **30 million cars from the road\***
- Solstice insulating materials can eliminate the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of the energy used by **5 million U.S. homes**



Estimates based on scenario of full global adoption of Solstice LGWP molecules; \* equivalent to 3% of the global fleet

# Honeywell's Fluorine Products Evolution



ODP Ozone Depletion Potential is relative amount of ozone degradation compared with R11 ODP = 1.0

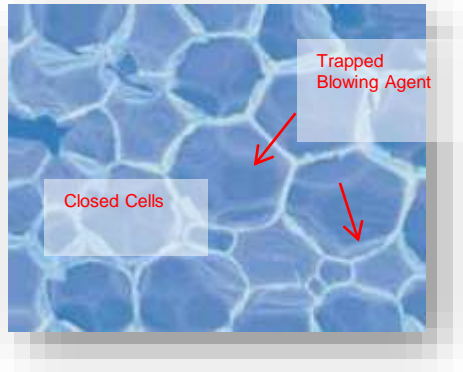
GWP Global Warming Potential number equivalent to CO2 impact with GWP = 1

**Honeywell innovation to achieve environmental breakthroughs**

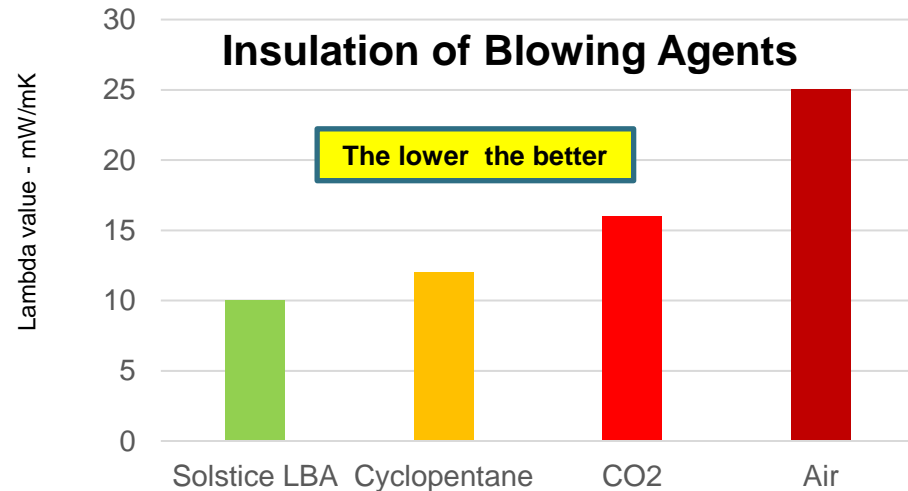
# Honeywell's Solstice® LBA HFO Blowing Agent



- Foam blowing agent contributes to over 60% of the insulation of the foam
- Closed-cell HFO blown PU foam creates the highest level of insulation
- Solstice LBA helps design flexibility (low thickness) for the EV's body components

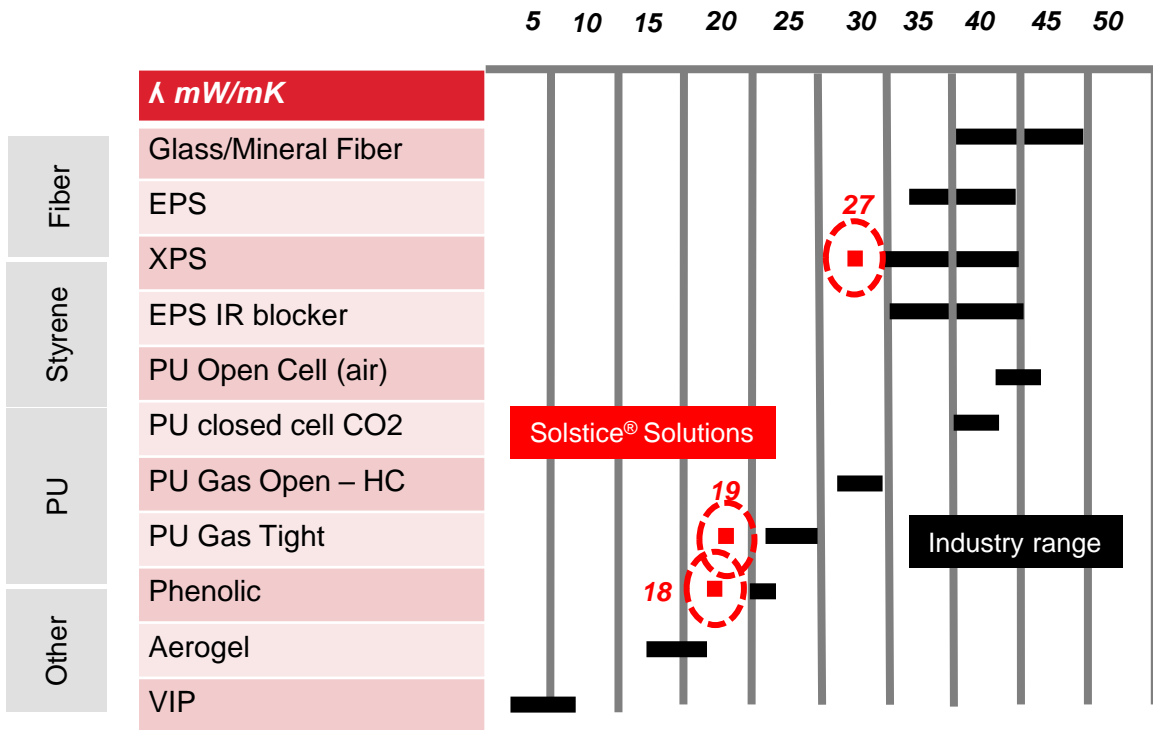


**PU foam structure**



**Good Insulation Gas is Key to a Good Insulated Foam**

# Lambda Value of Insulation Materials



Values based according to European EN standards for CE marking

**Solstice Blowing Agent Provides Best-in-Class Insulation**



# Benefit Study Cabin Insulation



# What we did...

- Take a complete, calibrated baseline VTM simulation model for a car (investigated vehicle Magna E1 Democar)
- Add an insulation layer to the passenger cabin (in the simulation model)
- Compare HVAC energy consumption and vehicle range for different conditions:

	Ambient Temperature [°C]	Cabin Initial Temperature [°C]	Solar Intensity [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Drive Cycle	Cabin Recirculation [%]
Hot soaking	30	21	1000	standstill	-
Warm-up	-10	-10	0	WLTC	20
Cool-down	40	60	400	WLTC	80
Warm-continuous	35	21	400	WLTC	80
Cold-continuous	-10	21	0	WLTC	20



# Simulation Model Overview

## Front-End Cooling Package and Passenger Cabin



Definition of air path.

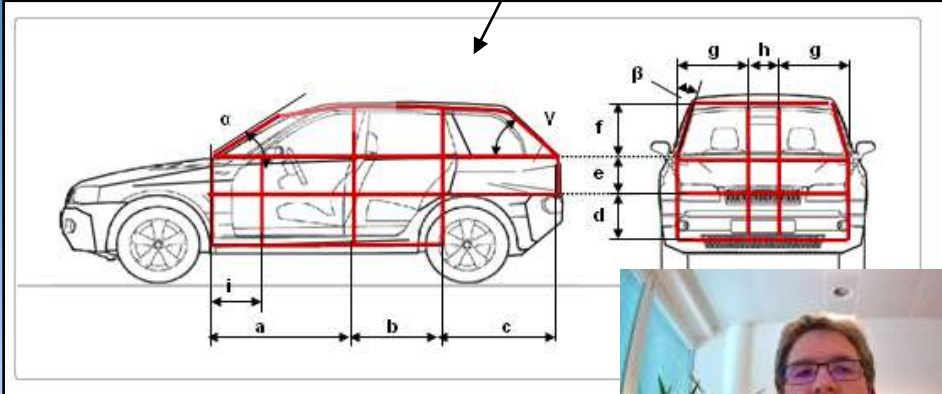
Front End Right

HVAC Box

Front End Left

Front End Center

Multi zone cabin model



# Multi-Zone Cabin Model Insulation Layer

## Base Cabin

Passenger compartment (back)\_approx\_insulation\_layer.tbl

General data | Geometric properties | Wall Properties | Fissure Loss

General

Roof

Corewall

Roof

Area [m<sup>2</sup>]

Absorption coefficient

Transmission coefficient

Emission coefficient Ambient

Emission coefficient Inside

Front

Window Front Left

Window Front Right

Door Front Left

Door Front Right

Rear

Window Rear Left

Window Rear Right

Door Rear Left

Door Rear Right

Trunk

Window Trunk Left

Window Trunk Right

Window Trunk Back

Door Trunk

Inner Walls (interior)

Inner Wall Dashboard

Inner Wall All Seats

Layers

Outside → Inside

Material	Wall Thickness [mm]	Density [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Heat capacity [J/kg/K]	Heat conductivity [W/m/K]
Blank sheet	0.8	590	40	48
Fleec	12	58	1200	0.04
Decor	2	280	960	0.15

Fitting factor HT-coefficient ambient [-]

Ready

### Insulation Layer Properties

Thickness [mm]	25
Density [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	35
Heat capacity [J/kg/K]	1400
Heat conductivity [W/m/K]	0.018

## Insulated Cabin

Passenger compartment (back)\_approx\_insulation\_layer.tbl

General data | Geometric properties | Wall Properties | Fissure Loss

General

Roof

Corewall

Roof

Area [m<sup>2</sup>]

Absorption coefficient

Transmission coefficient

Emission coefficient Ambient

Emission coefficient Inside

Front

Window Front Left

Window Front Right

Door Front Left

Door Front Right

Rear

Window Rear Left

Window Rear Right

Door Rear Left

Door Rear Right

Trunk

Window Trunk Left

Window Trunk Right

Window Trunk Back

Door Trunk

Inner Walls (interior)

Inner Wall Dashboard

Inner Wall All Seats

Layers

Outside → Inside

Material	Wall Thickness [mm]	Density [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Heat capacity [J/kg/K]	Heat conductivity [W/m/K]
Blank sheet	0.8	590	40	48
Fleec	12	58	1200	0.04
Decor	2	280	960	0.15
Insulation	25	35	1400	0.018

Fitting factor HT-coefficient ambient [-]

Ready

Insulation layer on the side of the cabin is added to all walls except the windows.



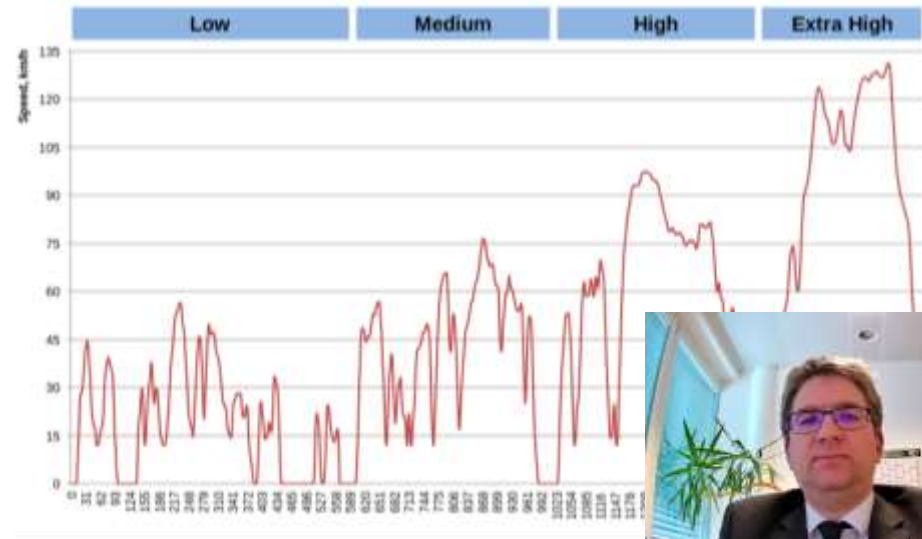
# The WLTC Class 3

The WLTC Class 3 velocity profile is intended for vehicles with a power to weight ratio larger than 34kW per ton.

The E1 Demonstrator clearly exceeds this limit (560kW, weight ~2100kg), so we will use this cycle for the following investigations except of hot soaking.

WLTC Class 3 Drive Cycle Definition (Wikipedia)

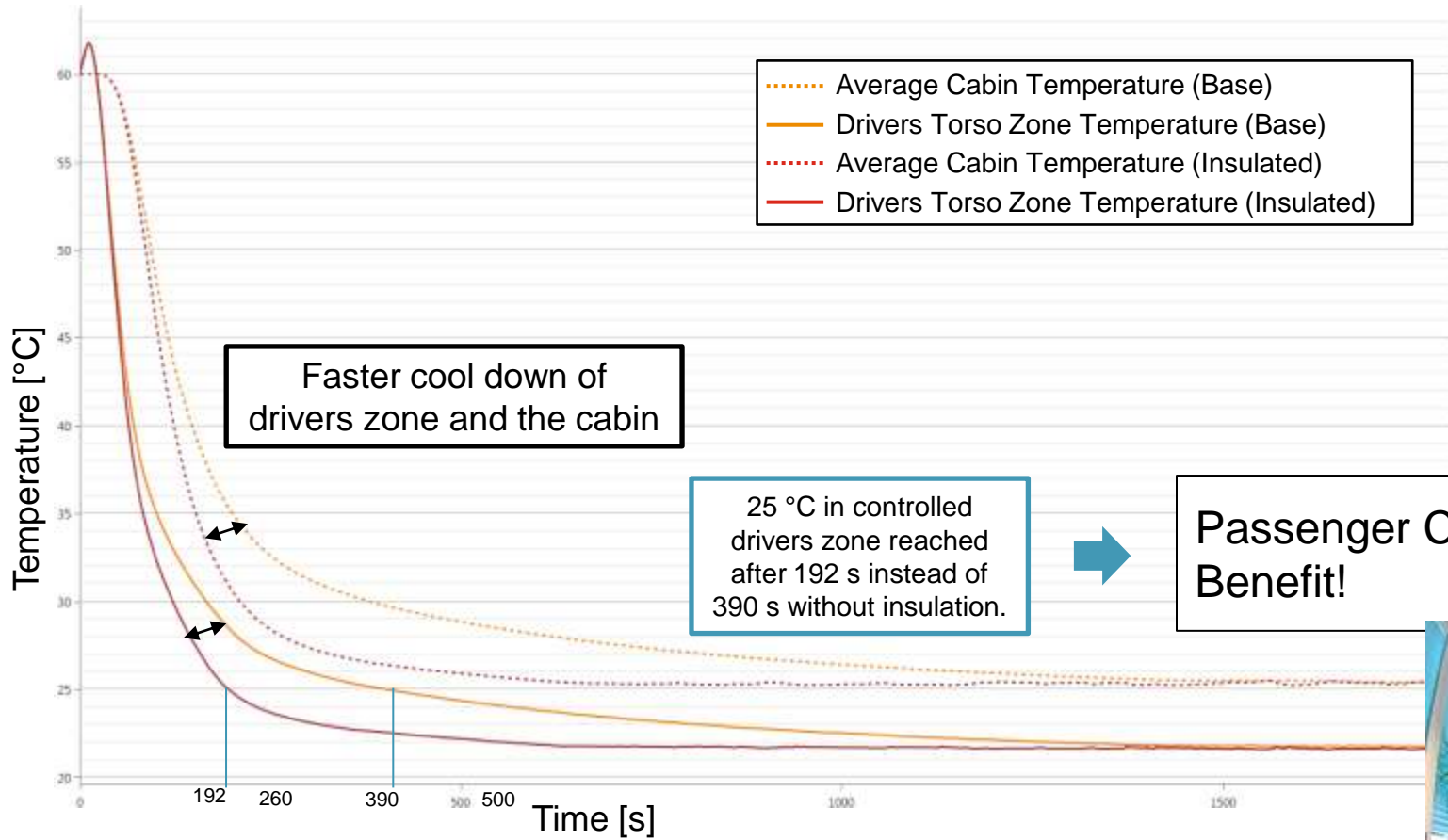
	Low	Medium	High	Extra High	Total
Duration, s	589	433	455	323	1800
Stop duration, s	150	49	31	8	235
Distance, m	3095	4756	7162	8254	23266
% of stops	26.5%	11.1%	6.8%	2.2%	13.4%
Maximum speed, km/h	56.5	76.6	97.4	131.3	
Average speed without stops, km/h	25.3	44.5	60.7	94.0	53.5
Average speed with stops, km/h	18.9	39.4	56.5	91.7	46.5
Minimum acceleration, m/s <sup>2</sup>	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.44	
Maximum acceleration, m/s <sup>2</sup>	1.611	1.611	1.666	1.055	



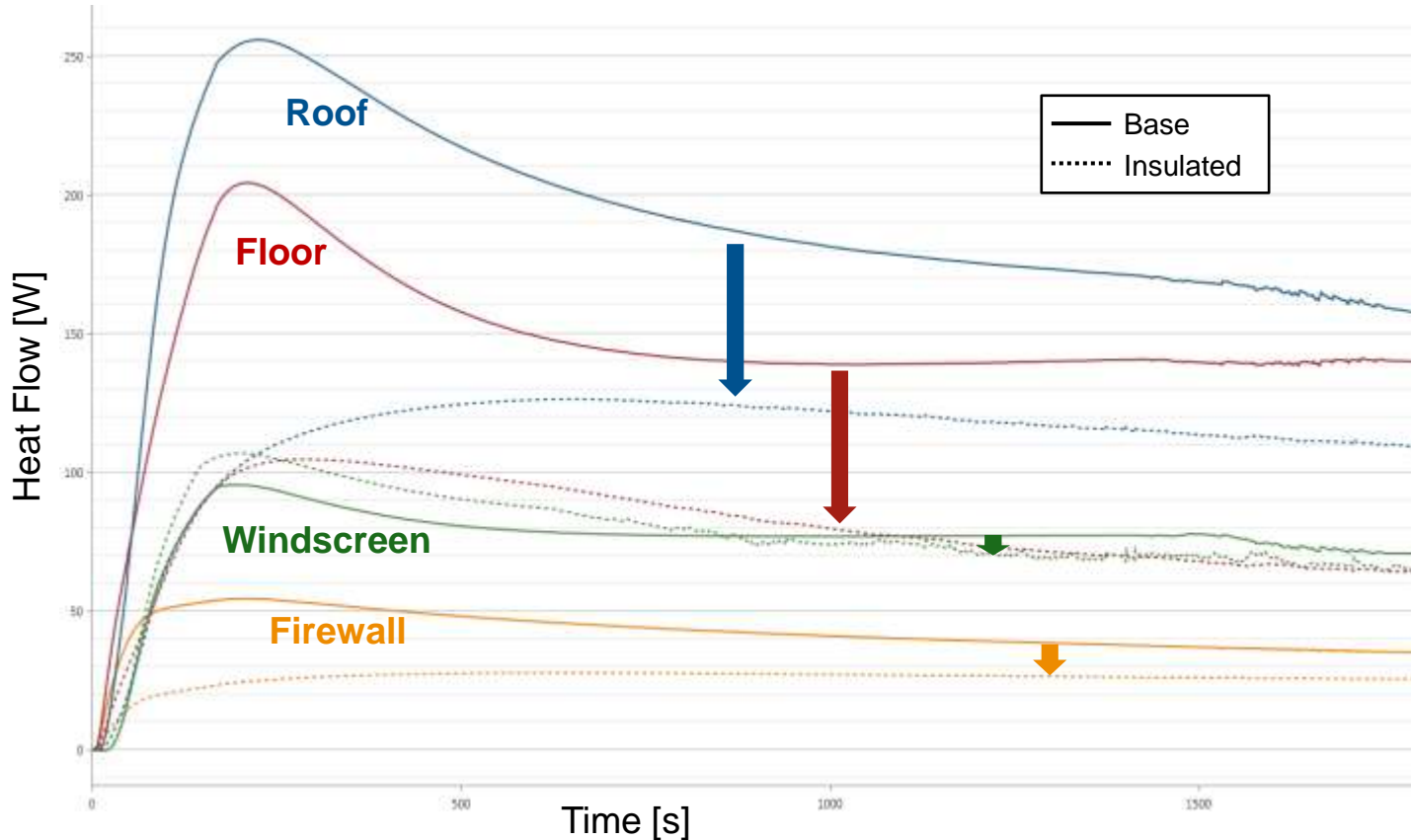
# Simulation Results Summer



# Simulation Results: Cool-Down Cabin Temperatures



# Simulation Results: Cool-Down Heat Flow through Cabin Walls

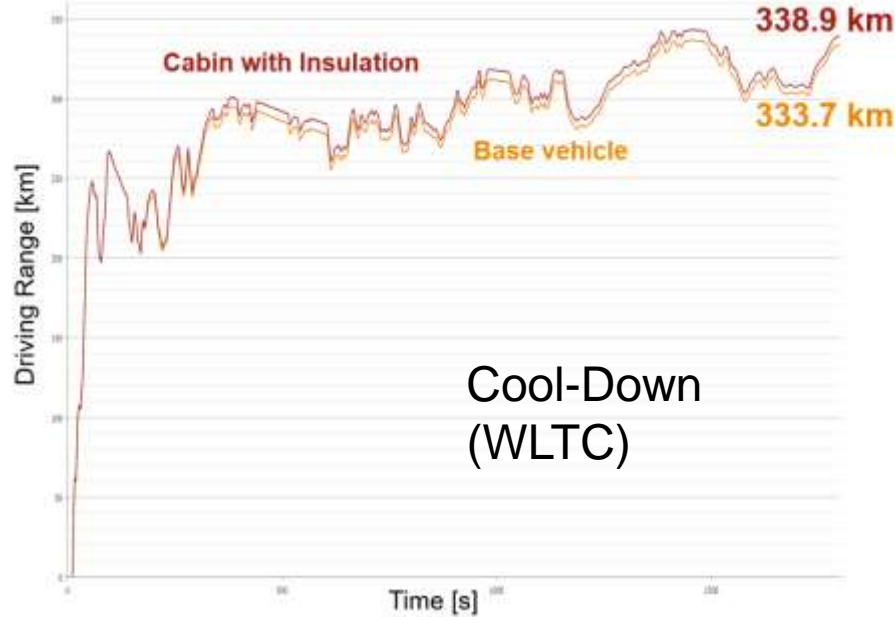


- The heat flow from the insulated walls to the interior decreases
- Heat flow from the windscreen to the interior slightly increased at the beginning because of lower cabin temperatures.

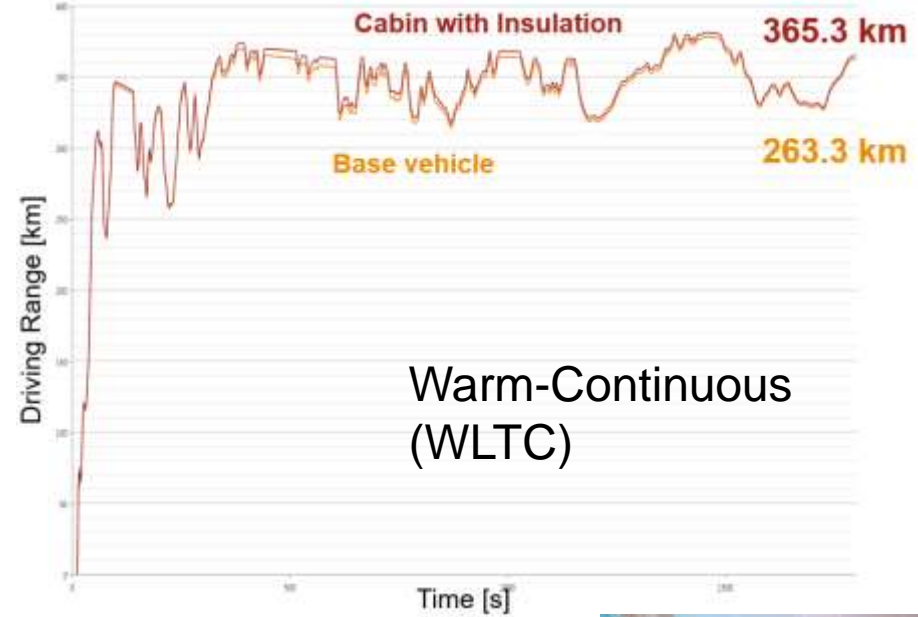




# Simulation Results: Warm Ambient Conditions Range Prediction



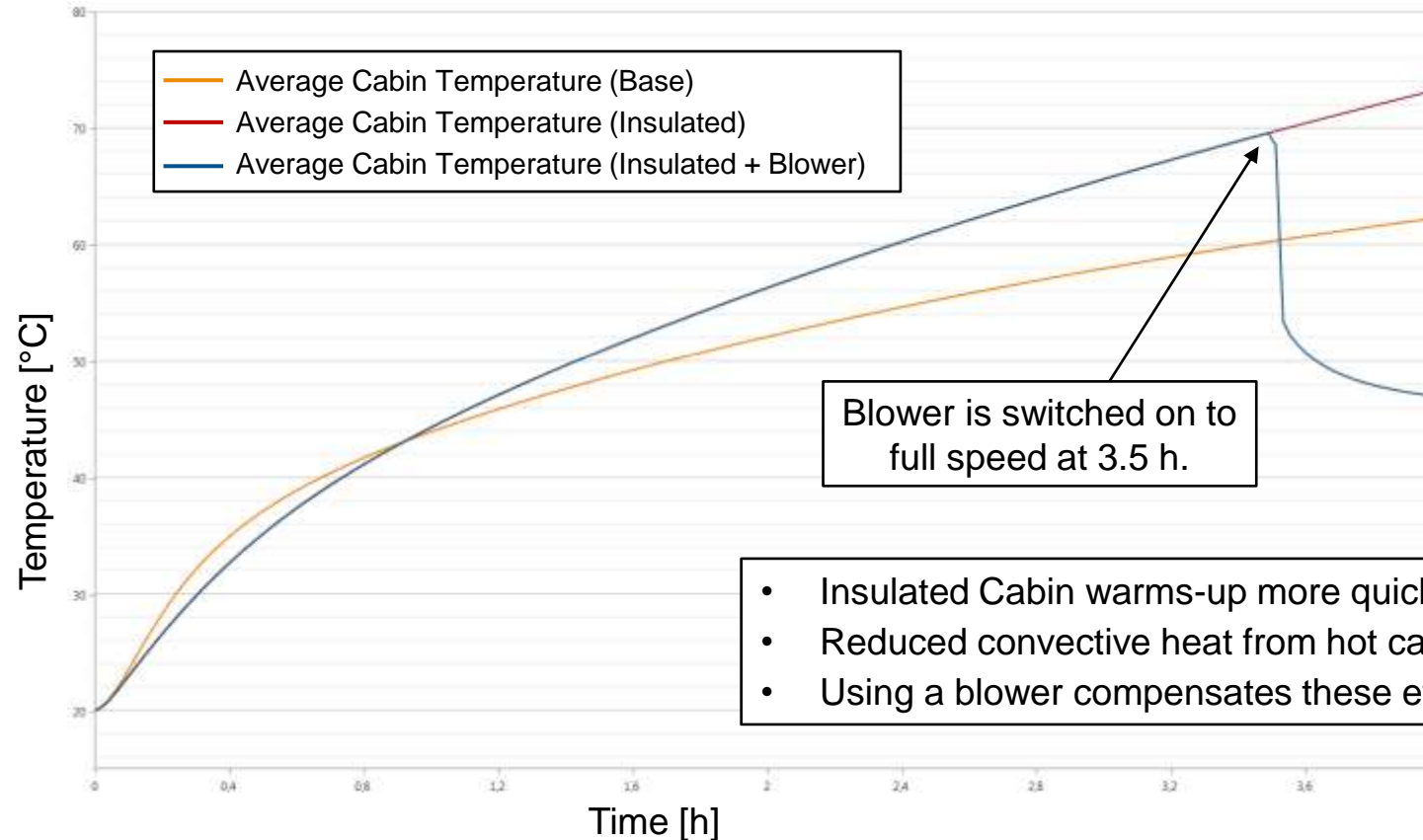
Reduced power consumption of compressor and blower leads to ~5 km (~1.5%) range increase for WLTC.



Only slightly improved range due to warm ambient (2km, ~0.6%)  
Main cooling effort during initial cool-down to ambient reduces benefit of insulation



# Simulation Results: Hot Soaking Cabin Temperatures



Blower is switched on to full speed at 3.5 h.

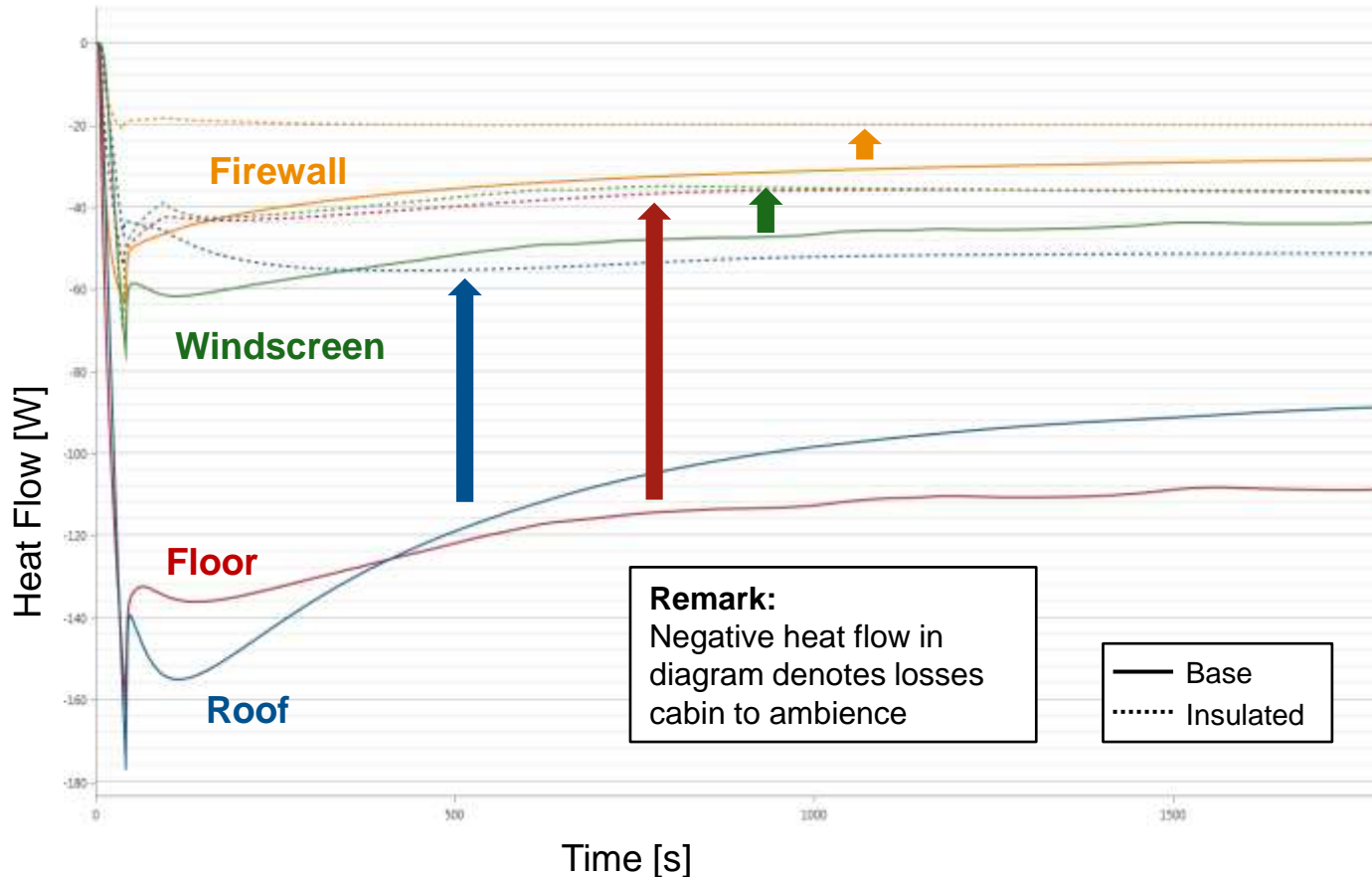
- Insulated Cabin warms-up more quickly due to solar loads
- Reduced convective heat from hot cabin to
- Using a blower compensates these effects



# Simulation Results Winter



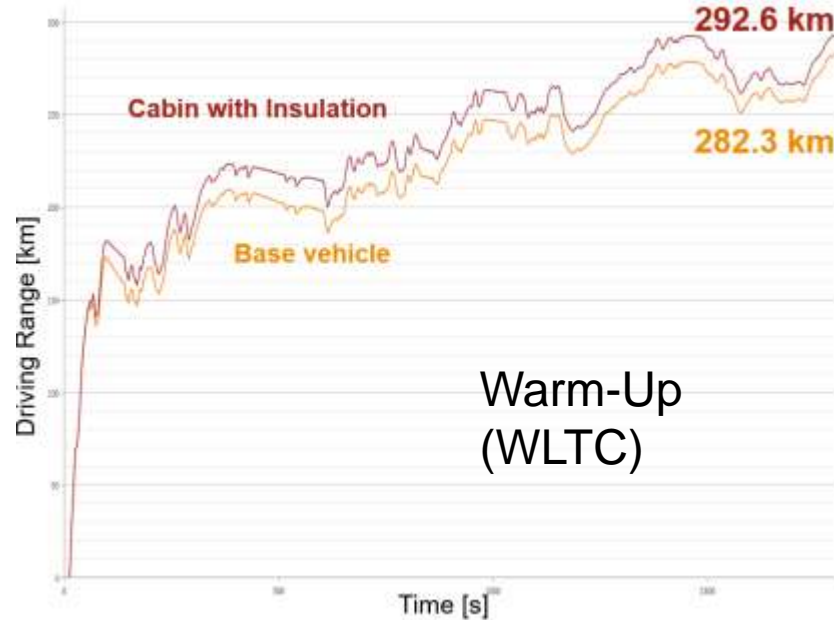
# Simulation Results: Warm-Up Heat Flow through Cabin Walls



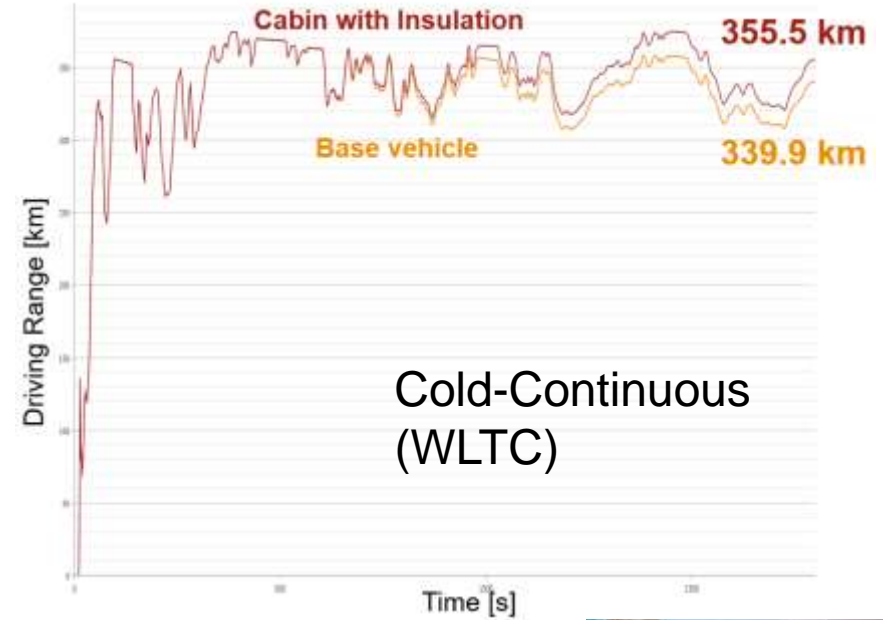
- The heat flow from the interior to the insulated walls decreases.
- Significantly reduced thermal losses
- Biggest benefit from cabin roof and floor



# Simulation Results: Cold Ambient Conditions Range Prediction



Reduced heat losses of the cabin lead to ~10 km (~3.5%) range increase for WLTC.



Due to reduced heat losses of the cabin (21°C) and ambient (-10°C)! (4.6%) range increase for WLTC. Big benefit from insulation due to



# Summary



# Summary Range Prediction Benefit for WLTC



Operation Mode	Base Cabin Model	Insulated Cabin Model	Range Increase
Warm-up	282.3 km	292.6 km	3.5 %
Cool-down	333.7 km	338.9 km	1.5 %
Warm continuous	362.3 km	365.3 km	0.6 %
Cold continuous	339.9 km	355.5 km	4.6 %
Baseline (no HVAC)	370.9 km	370.9 km	-

- Vehicle range generally benefits from cabin insulation, but effects are strongest in winter conditions
- In summer the biggest impact is on passenger comfort (cool-down)
- Cabin ventilation is recommended for hot-soaking conditions
- Actual benefits will, of course, vary for different vehicles





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INSPIRING **INNOVATION.**

