



Northwest Section

SAE NW Section Technical Presentation (17 Feb 2026, 7:00 pm PST)

From Concept to Reality: Development and Validation of Commercial Vehicle Specific Battery Cells

Philip Stephenson, PhD, General Manager, PACCAR Technical Center
Development and validation of commercial vehicle battery cells require detailed understanding of the expected system design and use cases for the cells, in the context of battery packs, pack systems and full vehicles. This presentation will discuss challenges and approaches toward development and validation of cells will discuss progress toward building an advanced lithium-ion battery factory for truck specific cells in the United States.



PHILIP STEPHENSON, PH.D.

General Manager, PACCAR Technical Center

Presentation Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81038404877?pwd=OXBOWekaqwDlq2jpnI0Pp3a03vfar.1> [Meeting ID: 810 3840 4877, Passcode: 868247]

Dr. Philip Stephenson is General Manager, PACCAR Technical Center. He has held this position since 2012. Dr. Stephenson leads teams responsible for advanced engineering and is globally responsible for validation for PACCAR and its truck brands, Peterbilt, Kenworth and DAF.

Before joining PACCAR, he worked as Director of Product Development and Engineering at A123 Systems where he led engineering teams in the US and Germany. Dr. Stephenson was also Chief Engineer for product development and validation at automotive supplier Behr in Michigan. His experience also includes 7 years with computational fluid dynamics software developers Fluent and CD-adapco Group, and diesel engine research experience at Daimler-Benz Research Institute in Stuttgart, Germany.

Dr. Stephenson earned a Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin (Engine Research Center) and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Arizona State University. Phil is a Fellow of the Society of Automotive Engineers.