

Renault to test electric cars in Paris, Milan: company

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An electric cable is attached to the side of a car. Renault-Nissan will hold large-scale tests for its new electric cars in the Paris and Milan regions next year ahead of planned mass production from 2012, the Franco-Japanese auto group said Thursday.

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The tests include a try-out in the Paris region of a new car charging network being developed in conjunction with French electricity giant EDF.

"One hundred [electric cars](#) from the Renault-Nissan alliance... will be tested from September 2010 for a year by individuals, companies and

local authority employees" around Paris, Renault-Nissan and EDF said in a statement.

People testing the cars will be able to recharge them in their homes, at their workplace, in car parks and along roads, the companies said.

Renault-Nissan also announced a separate agreement with Italian energy group A2A to launch electric car tests in Milan's Lombardy region in 2010.

Renault-Nissan and EDF paired up last year to develop an "electric mobility operator" -- a full network providing charging spots and [battery exchange stations](#) for [electric vehicles](#) across France.

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