

Tesla S electric car tops registrations in Norway

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A Tesla model S sedan is plugged into a Supercharger outside the company's factory in Fremont, California on August 16, 2013

An electric car model has topped the list of new car registrations in Norway for the first time, a car industry group said Thursday.

In the month of September there were 616 registrations of the high-end US-made Tesla S, accounting for 5.1 percent of the total, according to

Opplysningsraadet for Veitrafikken(OFV) which compiles data on Norwegian car sales.

Overall, [electric cars](#) took 8.6 percent of the market in September, compared to 5.2 percent a year ago.

The figures illustrate strong interest in electric cars in a country ranked among the world's top ten petrol exporters.

Norway has encouraged electric car sales with [tax incentives](#), congestion charge exemptions, access to public transport lanes and free parking.

However the recent spike in new registrations may be a short-lived phenomenon, caused by the grouping together of deliveries made over several months, said Oeyvind Solberg Thorsen at OFV.

"But I have no doubt that electric cars will increase their share of the market again in the coming months, and particularly next year with the arrival of several new models," he told AFP.



A Tesla car on an assembly line at the factory in Tilburg, the Netherlands, on August 22, 2013

In September hybrid cars, which do not enjoy the same incentives as electric vehicles, took 7.3 percent of the [market](#).

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