

The background image shows two male workers in orange high-visibility safety suits and harnesses working on a large, complex mechanical assembly. One worker is in the foreground, reaching up to adjust a part of the machinery. The other worker is slightly behind him, also focused on the task. The setting appears to be a large industrial workshop or factory with a high ceiling and various mechanical parts visible. A large red semi-transparent graphic is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the title and author information.

# The role of HVO in SBB's decarbonisation strategy.

Fenja Feitsch  
September 2023

# Agenda



**Introduction:** SBB.



**Background:** Decarbonization on (and off) the rails at SBB and in the rail sector.



**Challenges:** Transition phase and electrification of diesel-powered rail vehicles



**Alternative diesel fuels:** Introduction

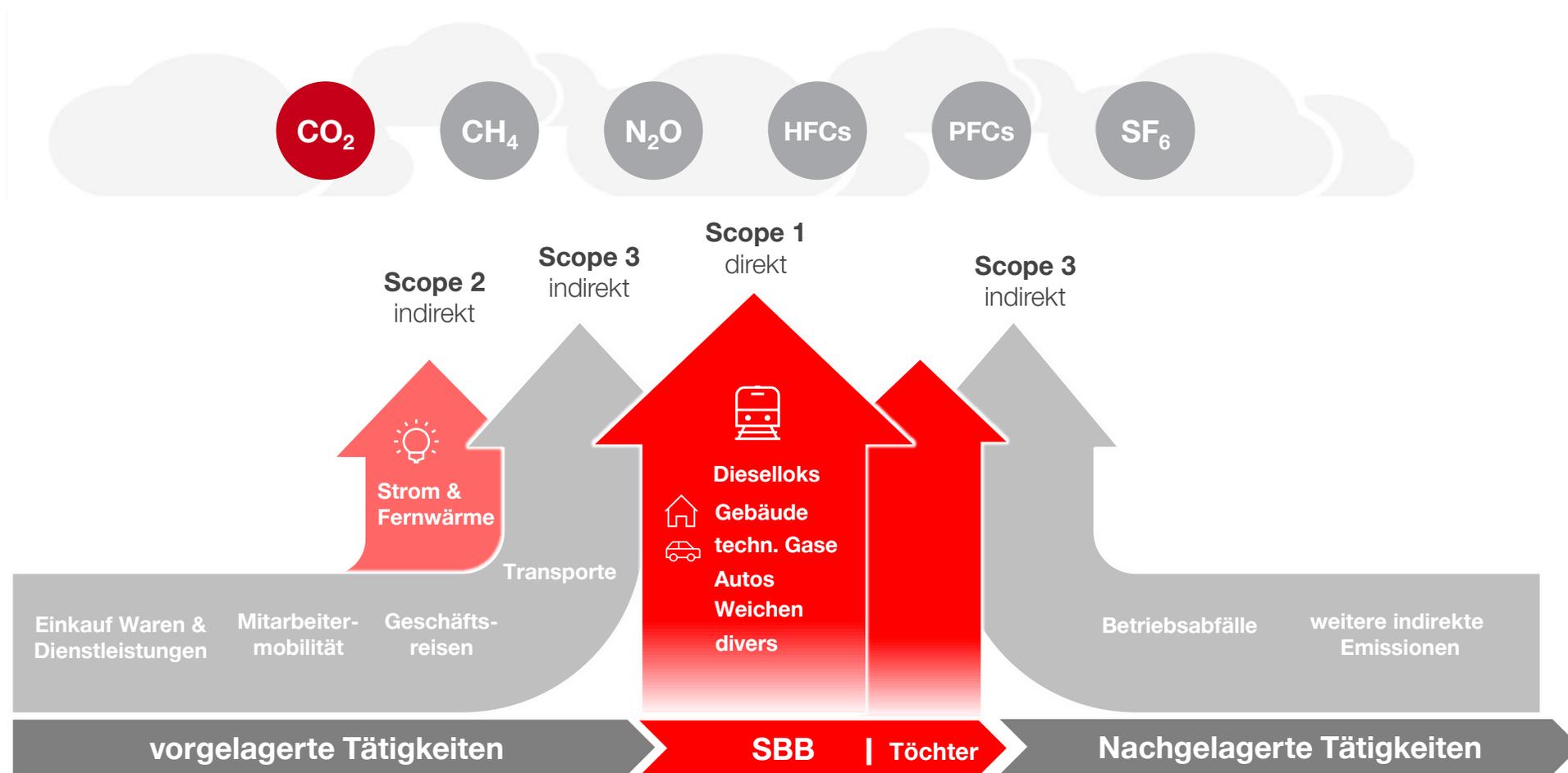


# Presentation: SBB - Center of Competence Energy Storage and Alternative Drive Systems

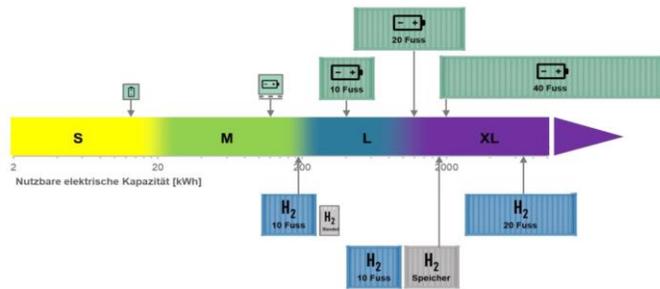
	<b>Ueli Kramer</b>	<b>Head of EAS / Special Energy Storage Systems</b> Team leader / design, technology evaluation, solution development, standards & specifications
	<b>Marco Meier (Deputy)</b>	<b>Specialist alternative drives / TechEco</b> Fleet strategy, track construction, technology assessment (LCC, TCO)
	<b>Daniel Fuhrer</b>	<b>Hydrogen Specialist / Senior Project Manager</b> Hydrogen specialist, testing, replacement of diesel generators, project management
	<b>Steffen Wienands</b>	<b>Specialist Battery Storage Systems</b> Battery safety, asset management, battery technologies, cycle economy capability
	<b>Roger Kocher</b>	<b>Specialist Vehicle Projects</b> Requirements management, project management, data acquisition, procurement support
	<b>Maria Kaninia</b>	<b>Data specialist energy storage systems</b> Data analysis and modeling, clarification of dimensioning issues, interfaces
	<b>Blerim Emini</b>	<b>Technical lead electrification construction sites</b> Needs assessment, support and interface with AEP/VU in electrification
	<b>Philipp Haudenschild</b>	<b>Specialist alternative fuels</b> Specialist alternative fuels (focus HVO), charging infrastructure, civil engineering (third parties)
	<b>Fenja Feitsch</b>	<b>Engineering intern from university</b> Measurement campaign (diesel-powered locomotive) for battery-electric successor



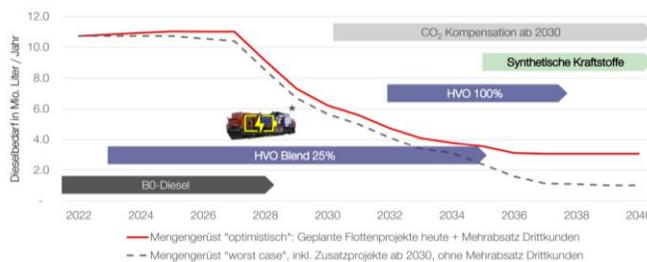
# Background: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of SBB



# Background: Decarbonization on (and off) the rails at SBB and in the rail sector.



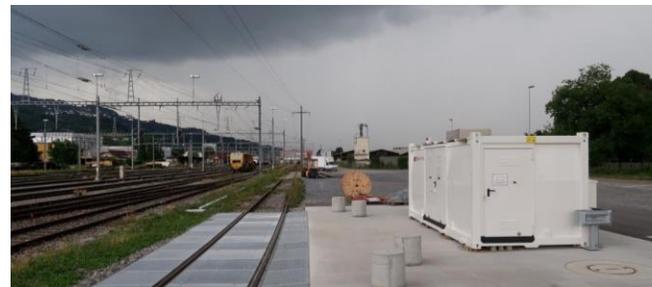
Comprehensive and technology-neutral evaluation of energy storage solutions related to diverse applications.



Implementation strategies and identification of challenges in dealing with energy storage.



Holistic support for the electrification of the working environment.



Demand analysis and scenario development for diverse work environments during the conversion to purely emission-free propulsion.



Solution development, piloting and active support until implementation.

validated	Observed on	Formula ID	sig name	name	source	node	node id	address	add hex
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FALSCH	WAHR	FALSCH	ib_sys_vtic_180_vtc_speed	Fahrzeuggeschwindigkeit		VTC	5.69		389 185
FALSCH	WAHR	FALSCH	ib_sys_vtic_fm_vtc_err_cnt	Anzahl aktuell anstehender Fehler	Aufschlüsselung CAN	VTC	5.69		1157 485
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				Soll-Zugkraft ohne Schleuderschutz und	Aufschlüsselung CAN				

Training and technical/content support as well as facts and figures for different needs.

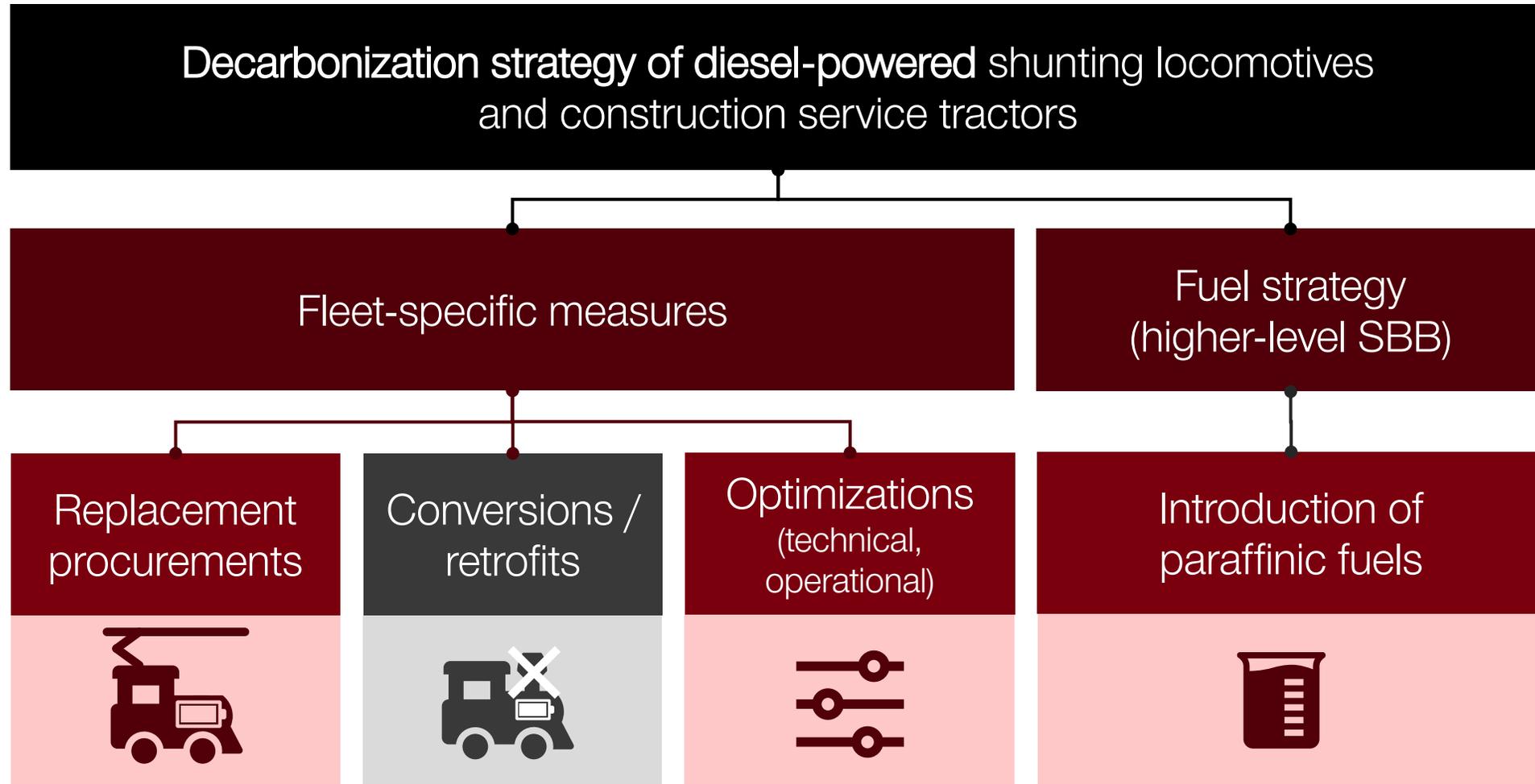


# Challenges: Transition phase and electrification of diesel-powered rail vehicles

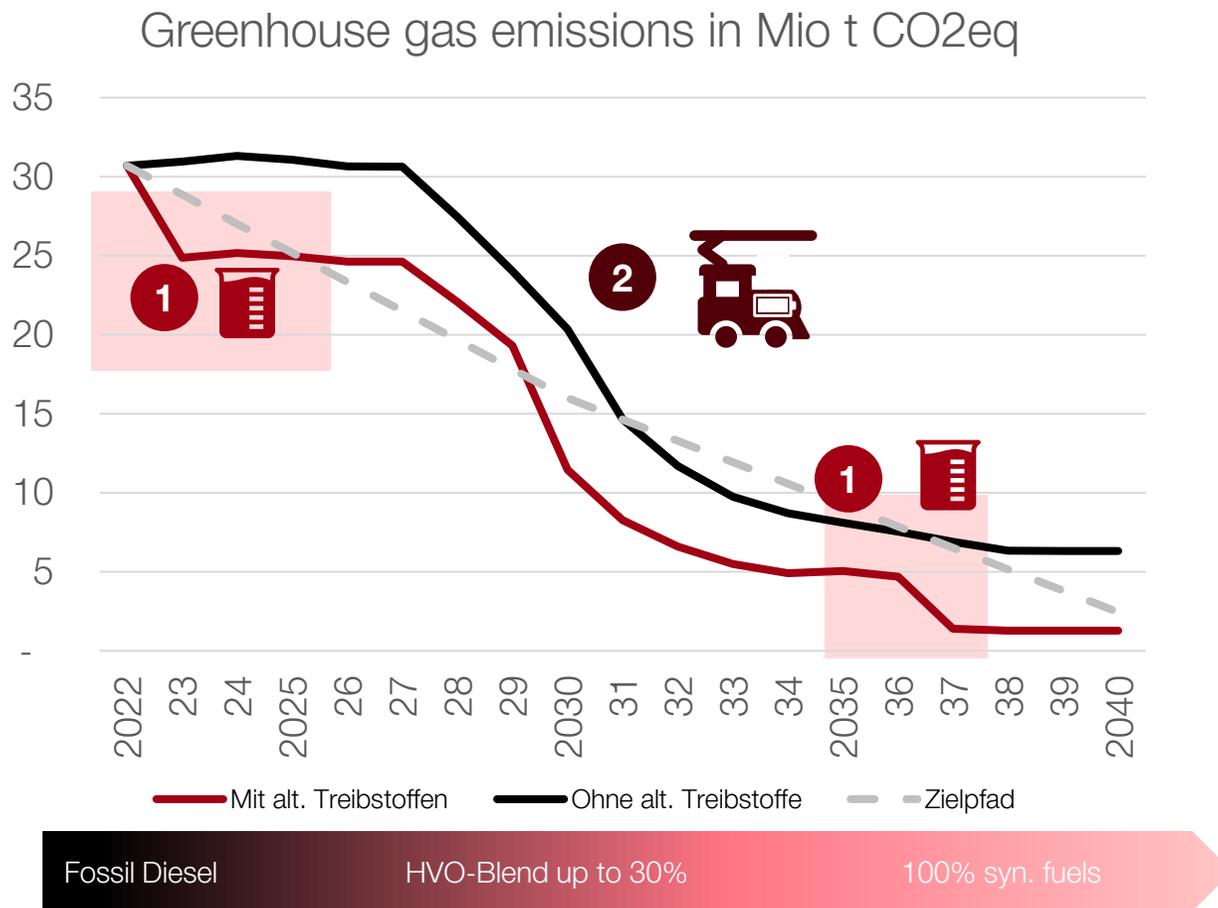
More than 40% of SBB's CO2 emissions come from diesel traction and construction site power supply. (12 Mio. l diesel / year)



# Challenges: Transition phase and electrification of diesel-powered rail vehicles



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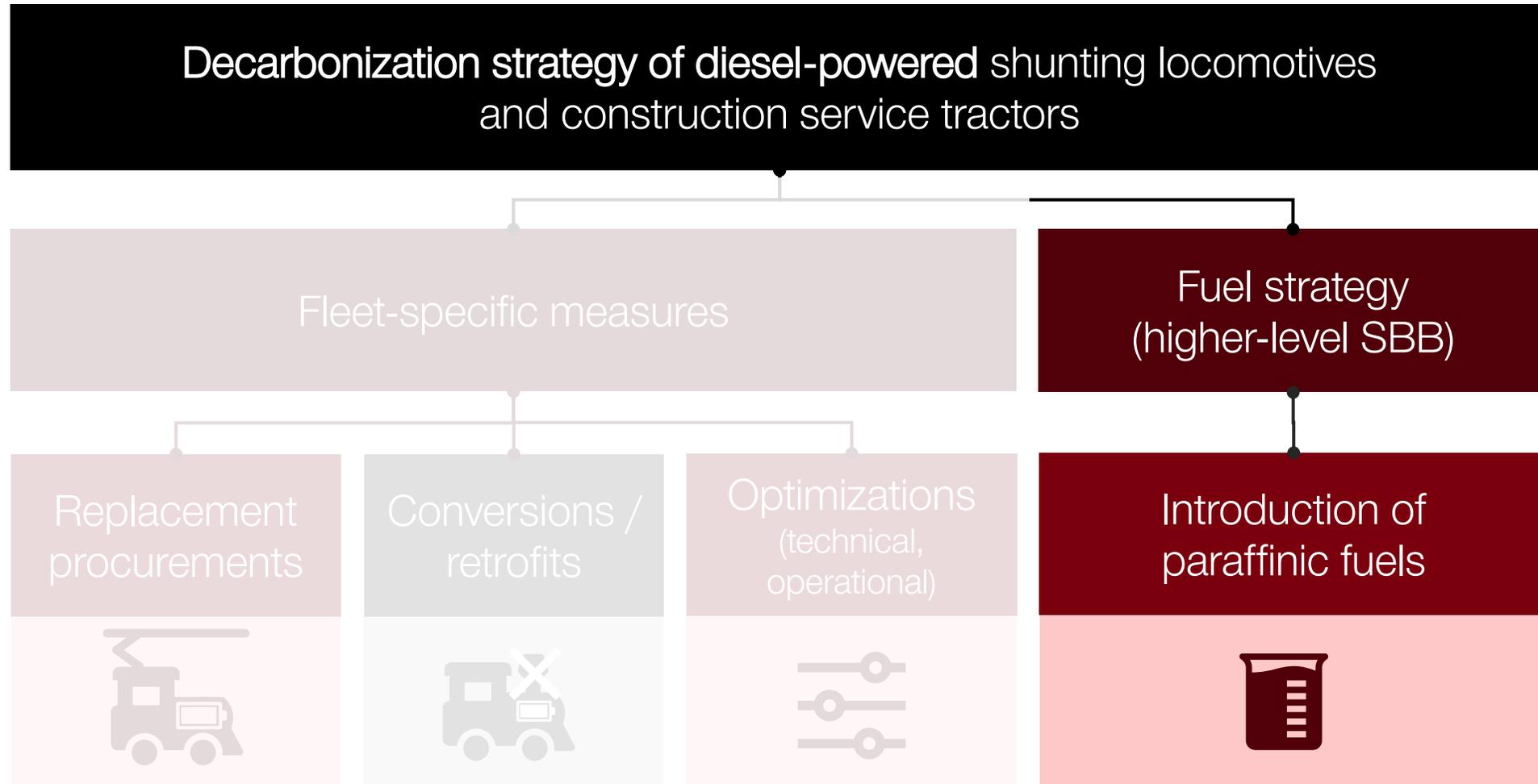
## Quantity structure today:

- Around 11 million liters of diesel per year for around 1,000 SBB diesel-powered rail vehicles (infrastructure, cargo, passenger transport)
- Responsible for around 30 Mio t CO<sub>2</sub>, which corresponds to 35-40% of SBB's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Decarbonization in two steps:

- 1 Alternative diesel fuels as a transitional solution (HVO blend & e-fuels)
- 2 Electrification of the essential fleets through replacement procurement with battery-electric drive systems

# Challenges: Transition phase and electrification of diesel-powered rail vehicles



# HVO as alternative diesel fuel.



## What exactly is HVO?

- HVO is not a classic biodiesel and stands for Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil and refers to hydrotreated vegetable oil.
- Today, HVO is increasingly produced from waste fat and residual fractions. These come, for example, from slaughterhouses, fisheries and the processing food industry, as well as from vegetable oil fractions that are not suitable for food production.
- Therefore, the terms "HVO" and "hydrotreated vegetable oil" are no longer an accurate description of the origin of the raw materials used.

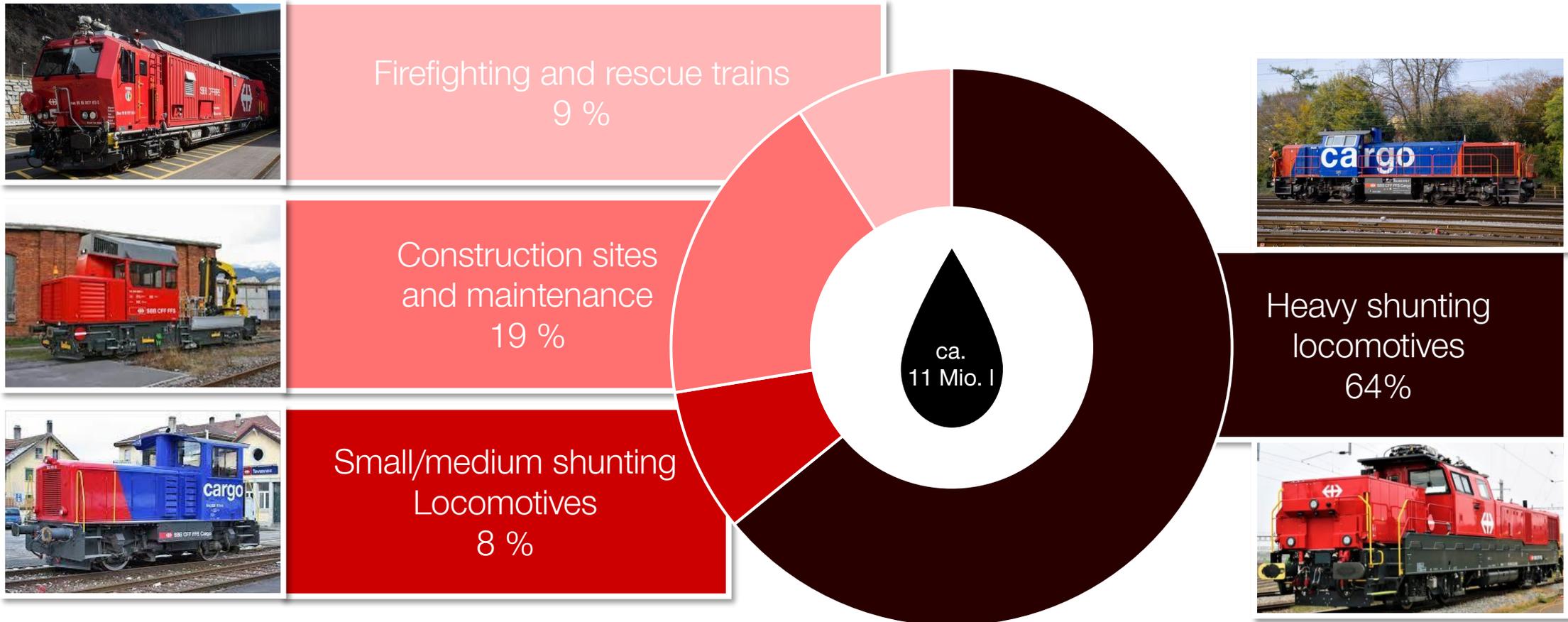
**HVO-Blend meets the previous standards for diesel engines.**  
No modification to refueling equipment necessary.



### Why is HVO a good bridging technology?

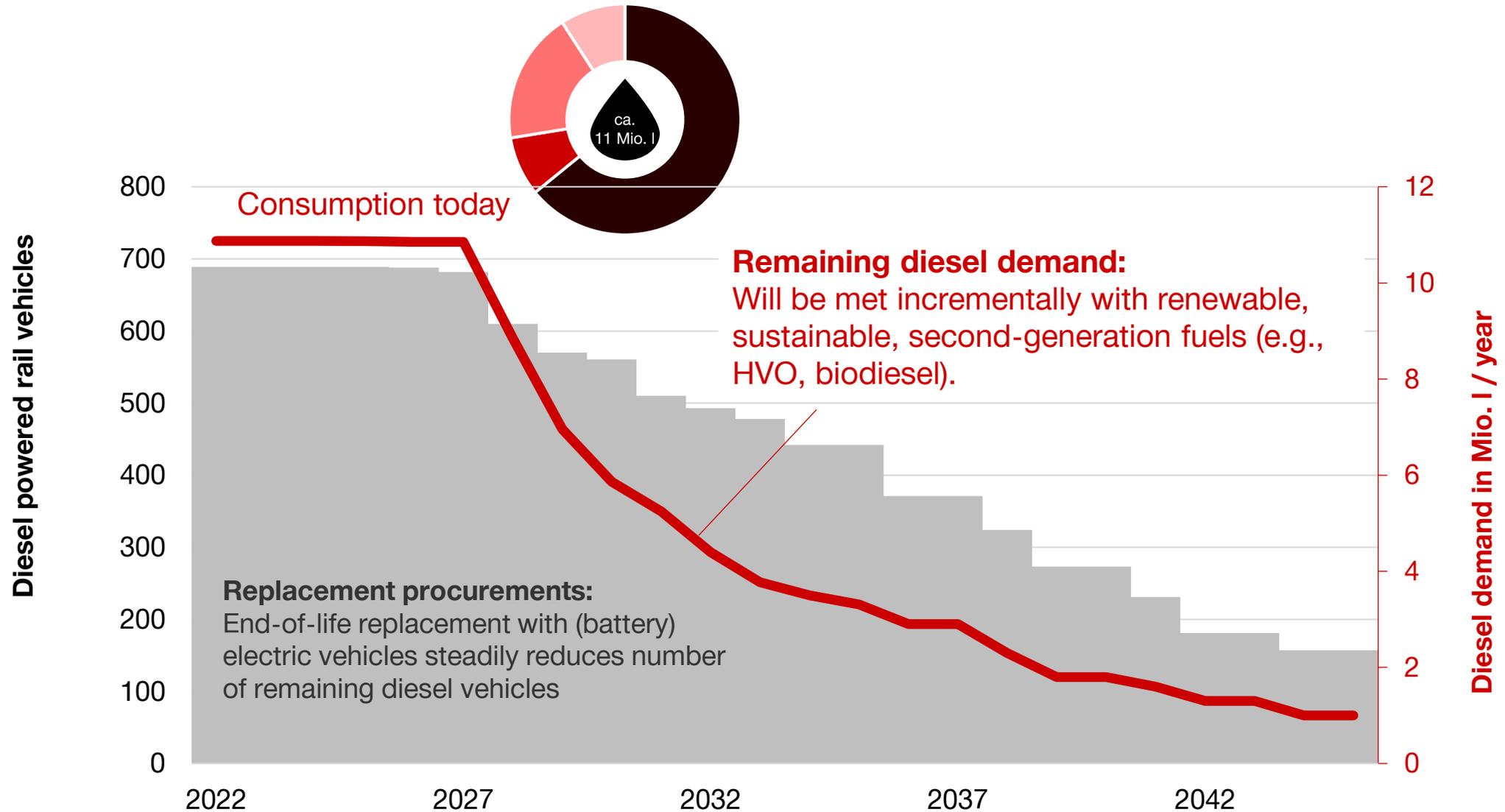
- HVO belongs to the paraffinic diesels (like SynFuels and e-Fuels) and is a pure hydrocarbon compound.
- HVO is a so-called **drop-in fuel**: it can be used as an admixture (blend) and pure
  - The **blend with up to 30% admixture to conventional diesel** meets the previous standards (EN 590) and can be used in all diesel engines.
  - **100% HVO complies with the EN 15940 fuel standard**, and many diesel engines - including those at SBB - have already been approved for it.

# Transition phase: What do we still need diesel fuels for?



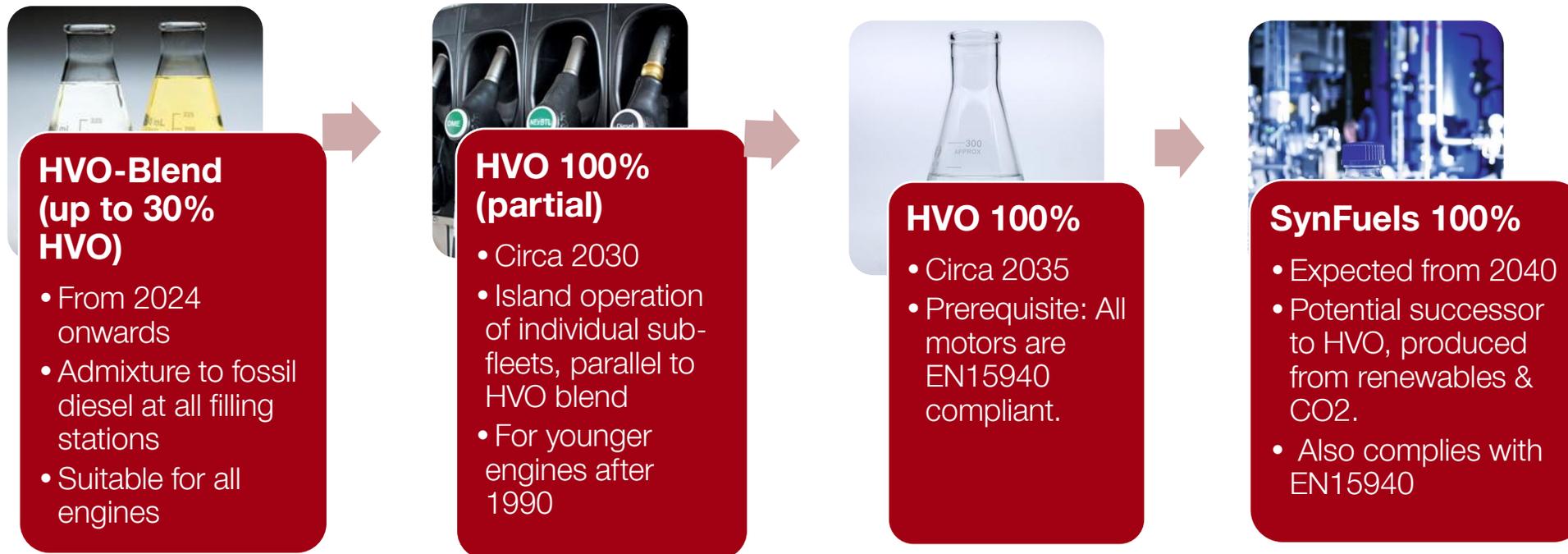


# Transitional phase: Challenging but supported by HVO



# Alternative diesel fuels: Introduction in 4 steps.

Availability and price are the challenges. The market is evolving.



Fossil Diesel

HVO-Blend up to 30%

100% syn. fuels





# HVO Blend ist currently the best compromise.

Criterion	Fossil diesel B0	Diesel B7 (7% FAME)	HVO Blend (±25% HVO)	HVO 100% R100	SynFuel R100	Hydrogen cH2
Feedstock	Crude oil	Crude oil & used cooking oil	Crude oil & organic waste, fats, residues	org. waste, fats, residues	CO <sub>2</sub> , electricity und H <sub>2</sub>	Electricity and water
Emissions operational	As usual	As usual	- 15% pollutant & particulate emissions	- 20% pollutant & particulate emissions	- 20% pollutant & particulate emissions	No local emissions
Sustainability	None, status quo	Very low, temporary solution	Little to Medium, Temporary solution	Medium to Good, Temporary solution	Medium to Good, Temporary solution	Very Good, If renewable
CO <sub>2eq</sub> -reduction*	0%	Max. 5%	12 – 23 %	47 - 92%	Up to 99%	Up to 100%
Fields of attention: sustainability	Not sustainable, great potential for environmental pollution, raw material usually comes from politically unstable regions.	A lot of FAME from oil plants in circulation in Europe. Prefer used cooking oil, only then advantage over fossil diesel. Low CO <sub>2</sub> reduction because of low blending.	Ethical concerns about waste of animal origin. Manufacturers also offer non-sustainable HVO from oil plants (soya/palm oil). Limited resource "waste".	Ethical concerns about waste of animal origin. Manufacturers also offer non-sustainable HVO from oil plants (soya/palm oil). Limited resource "waste".	Requires CO <sub>2</sub> source, water, renewable electricity. Origin of CO <sub>2</sub> and electricity central. Always inferior to hydrogen. High energy input in production.	Origin of electricity is crucial. Must be renewable. More than 90% of the H <sub>2</sub> on the market is currently of fossil origin. High energy losses during refuelling/storage.
Availability & Price	Still unlimited, indicative price	Today's standard, cheaper, +3% additional consumption	Good, 0 to 5% additional costs, own mixing ratio can increase costs.	Limited to good, 0 to 10% extra cost	Experimental, very expensive	Small quantities, expensive
Changeover effort	none	Poor storability, risks for older engines, existing filling stations	Engine compatibility given also for third parties, existing filling stations	Partial approvals by engine manufacturers, low technical risk, existing filling stations	Partial approvals by engine manufacturers, low technical risk, existing filling stations	New vehicles and filling stations necessary

\*Well-to-wheel assessment based on JEC Well-to-Tank report v5 2020 (<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/publication/eur-scientific-and-technical-research-reports/jec-well-tank-report-v5>) and information from fuel suppliers.

