



P R E S S R E L E A S E

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MFTBC, Midori Anzen and GORE Japan jointly develop world's first PPE for EV related operations

- **Striking an optimal balance between safety and usability for mechanics in demanding work environments**
- **Planned rollout to overseas service centers**

Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation (Headquarters: Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture, President and CEO: Karl Deppen, hereafter "MFTBC") has developed "ARCTECT GEAR for EV", the world's first personal protective equipment (PPE) designed specifically for operations involving electric vehicles (EVs)*¹, together with Midori Anzen Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Shibuya Ward, Tokyo, President and CEO: Kensaku Matsumura, hereafter: Midori Anzen) and W. L. Gore & Associates G.K. (Headquarters: Minato Ward, Tokyo, Representative Member Executor: Yasuaki Kagawa, hereafter: GORE Japan). This pioneering is suitable for a wide range of EV-related tasks, from maintenance and testing to manufacturing.

*¹ As PPE specialized for EV handling, based on MFTBC and Midori Anzen's own research.



ARCTECT GEAR for EV

ARCTECT GEAR for EV is an innovative PPE that offers the comfort and ease of movement necessary for daily work. As EVs become increasingly common, the demands on mechanics are changing. Maintenance and related tasks for EVs require a different approach compared to vehicles with internal combustion

MITSUBISHI FUSO TRUCK & BUS CORPORATION

engines. High-voltage systems introduce potential hazards such as electric shock and arc flash, making it essential for technicians working directly on these systems to have both specialized training and PPE specifically created for high-voltage environments.*²

*2 EVs such as MFTBC's eCanter are certified and tested to ensure safety under normal operating conditions. PPE is not required for daily use and driving, but it is essential during maintenance, testing, or any tasks requiring direct access to high-voltage systems.

In a workshop, PPE for EV maintenance must meet several critical needs: it must offer flexibility for working in tight spaces, provide effective temperature and moisture control in enclosed areas, and deliver consistent protection for frequent transitions between high-voltage and low-voltage systems. The equipment must also not significantly deteriorate its safety performance throughout the intended service life.

To address these needs, ARCTECT GEAR for EV was developed to provide an optimal balance of safety and comfort, combining protection and wearability in equal measure. The garment incorporates GORE Japan's PYRAD® Fabrics by GORE-TEX LABS, a high-performance fabric engineered to be lightweight and moisture permeable while offering superior protection against arc discharge. This ensures comfort comparable to training wear, while still meeting the demands of the job. Drawing on more than 70 years of safety equipment development, Midori Anzen, in collaboration with GORE Japan, succeeded in achieving high-voltage protection without compromising comfort and mobility. This PPE has already been certified under multiple international standards including arc flash protection, such as IEC/EN 61482-2, ensuring protection up to 1,500 VDC and 1,000 VAC.

* GORE, GORE-TEX, PYRAD and the design (logomarks) are trademarks of W. L. Gore & Associates.

MFTBC plans to introduce ARCTECT GEAR for EV at selected overseas service centers for mechanics in 2026. Midori Anzen will commence corporate sales of a product with similar functions in the summer of 2026.

MFTBC, who is pioneering commercial vehicle electrification with its Japan-first mass-produced eCanter light-duty EV truck, has been working to establish an EV ecosystem where EV trucks are as easily operated as conventional diesel vehicles, with the aim to contribute to Japanese government's target to realize a decarbonized society by 2050. Although the company has always paid attention to safety in high-voltage treatment associated with EV by providing trainings for employees, with ARCTECT GEAR for EV, MFTBC aims to enhance the safety in EV treatment even further.



Jacket (left) and pants of ARCTECT GEAR for EV

MFTBC at a Glance

Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation (MFTBC) is a commercial vehicle manufacturer based in Kawasaki City, Japan. 89.29% of its shares are owned by Daimler Truck AG and 10.71% by various Mitsubishi group companies. MFTBC provides trucks, buses and industrial engines under the FUSO brand with a longstanding history of over 90 years, serving approximately 170 markets worldwide. MFTBC proactively develops cutting-edge technologies such as electrification, with its eCanter being Japan's first mass-produced electric light-duty truck. MFTBC's heavy-duty Super Great Truck was also the first of its kind in Japan to include SAE Level 2-equivalent automated driving support technology, now a benchmark in the Japanese commercial vehicle market.

About the eCanter

The eCanter is the Japanese market's first series-produced, all-electric truck (battery EV truck) introduced by MFTBC in 2017. With zero greenhouse gas emissions, it contributes to CO₂ reduction, a major global issue. The eCanter is suited to inner-city routes as well as operations during late night and early morning hours, due to lower noise and vibration levels unique to EV trucks. The fully remodeled new eCanter launched in March 2023 caters to more diverse business needs with expanded chassis selections, body applications and cruising ranges. In addition to existing markets including Japan, 31 countries and regions in Europe and Oceania, MFTBC is expanding available overseas markets of eCanter including Asian markets such as Indonesia and Taiwan, Middle East and South America.