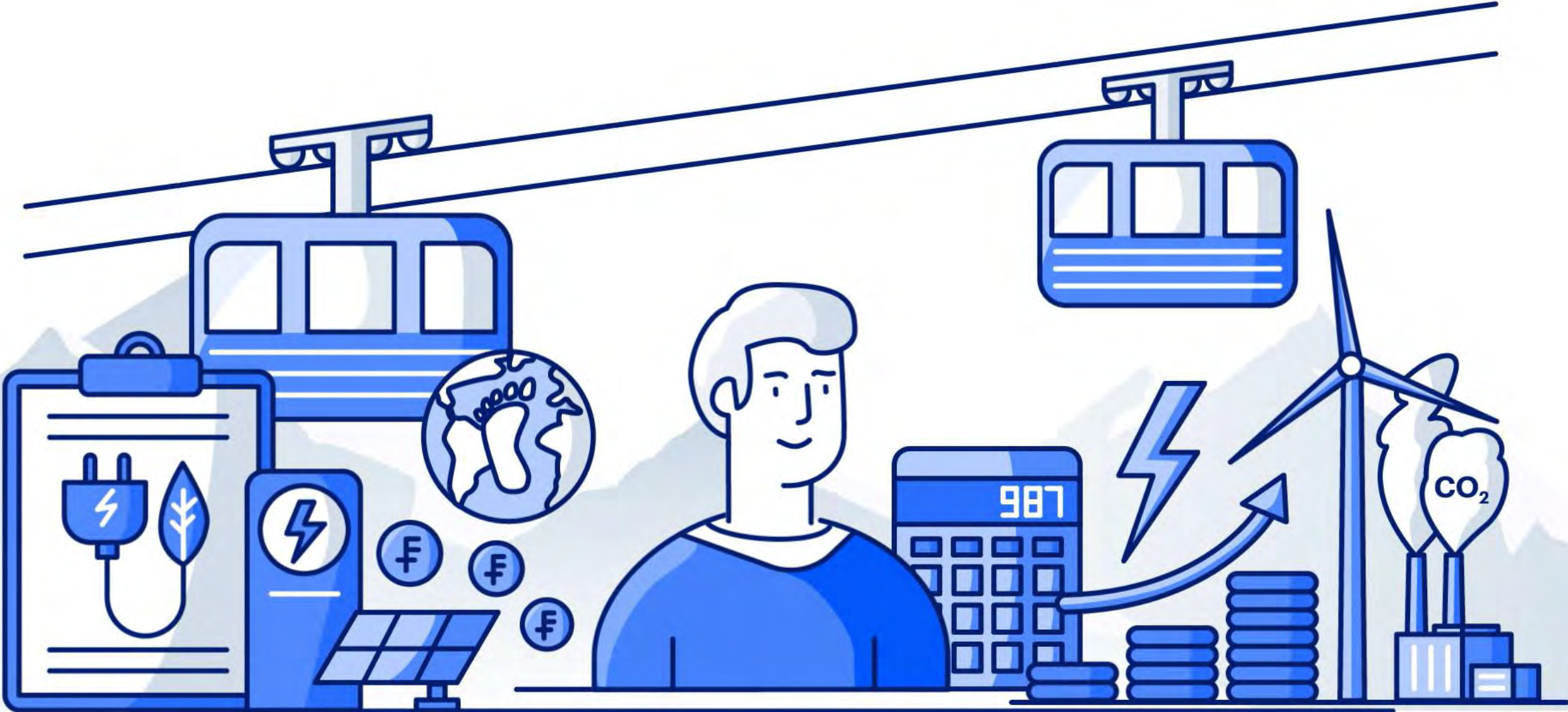




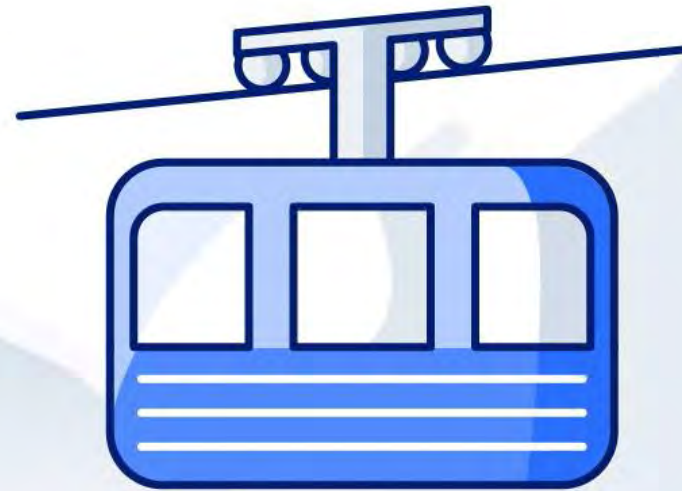
# ESFOR Energy Storage System For Ropeways

Stefan Gassmann | Frey Stans



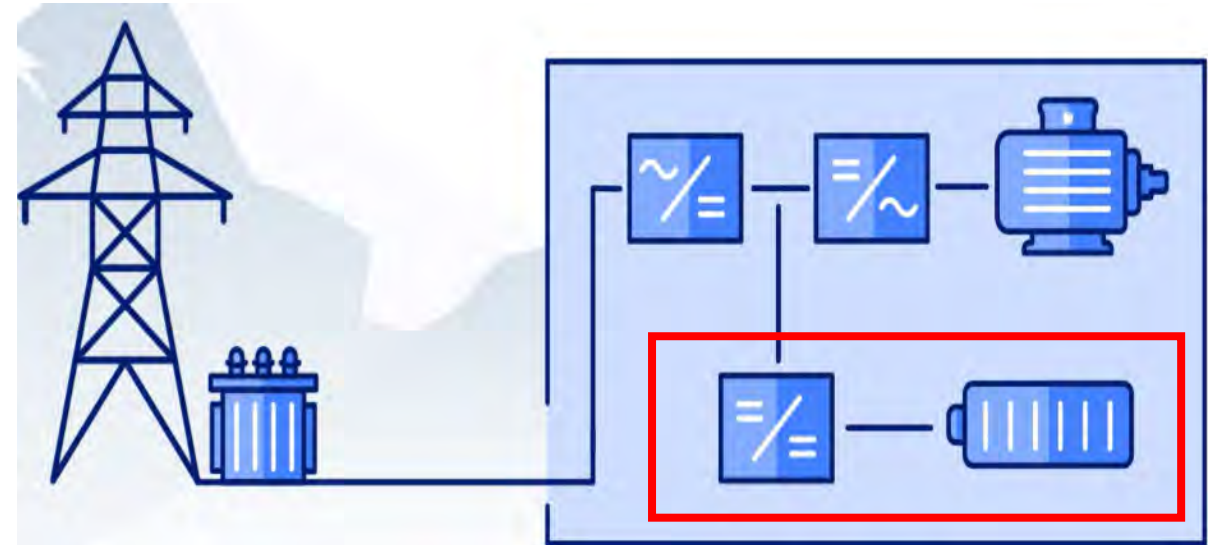


# Energy Storage system FOr Ropeways



## Design

- Battery storage feeds directly into the DC link of the drive system
- ESFOR consists of particularly safe and durable high-performance batteries
- Battery modules were originally developed for railroad applications
- Storage size is modular and can be increased in 20 kWh steps



# Main components



## ABB Traction battery modules

- produced by ABB in Baden (CH)
- for railroads, electric buses and ships
- based on Toshiba LTO (Lithium Titanate Oxide) cells
- water-cooled to ensure an optimum operating temperature
- high performance battery



## ABB DC-DC converter, ACS880

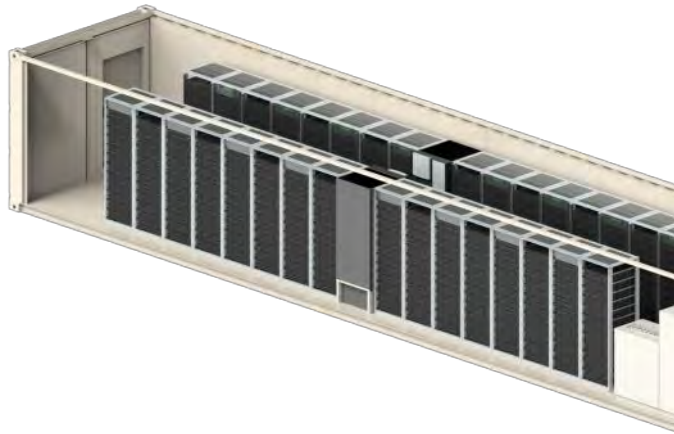
- implemented in large numbers as frequency converters for many ropeways
- well known and extremely reliable and robust
- energy storage is directly integrated into the ropeway system



## Chiller

- ensures optimum operating temperature of the batteries
- ensures the high performance and service life of the batteries

# Technology comparison



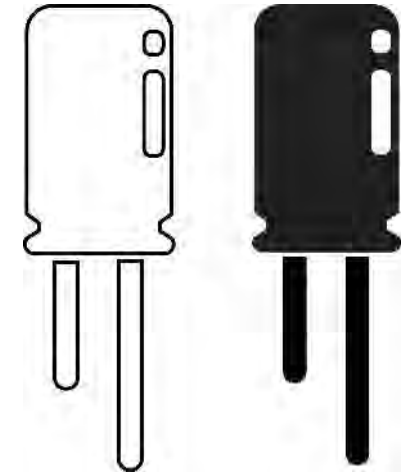
## Commercial storage

- ++ very high energy density
- low discharge power (0.5 - 1C)
- 3'000 - 5'000 full load cycles
- + cost/kWh



## ESFOR

- + high energy density
- + high discharge power (6 - 8C)
- + >20'000 full load cycles
- cost/kWh



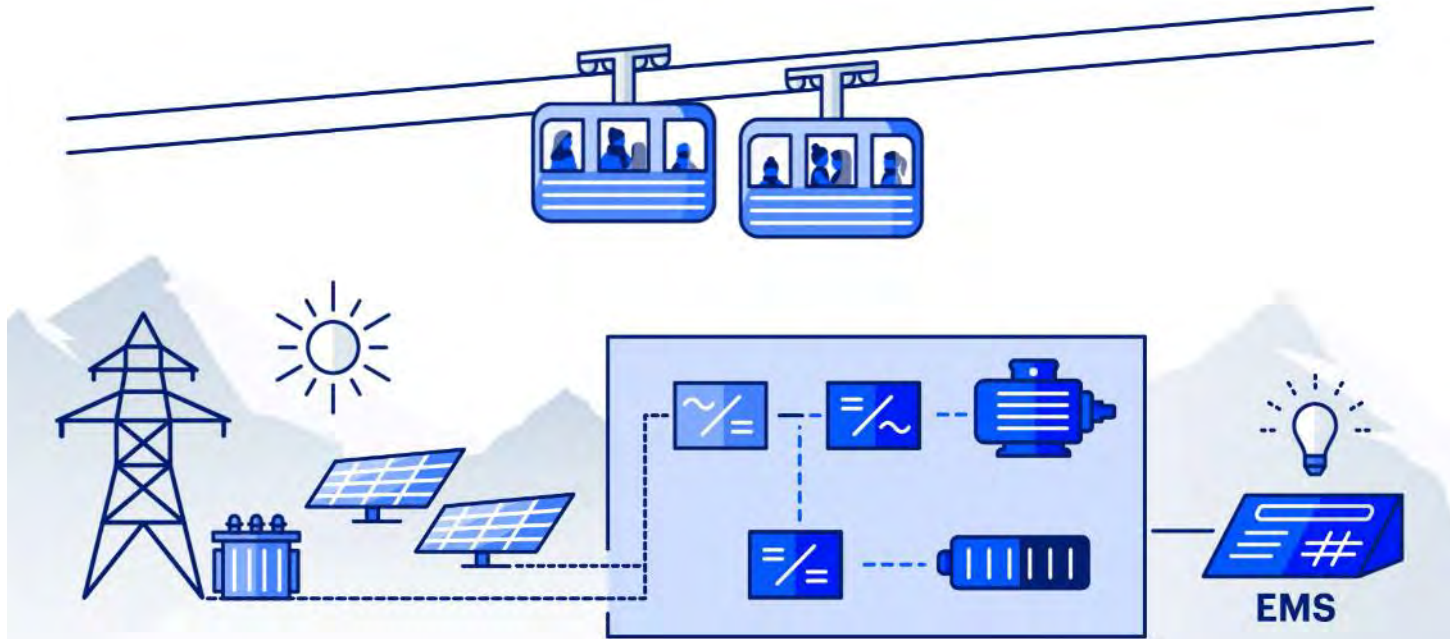
## Supercaps

- low energy density
- ++ very high discharge power (10 - 50C)
- ++ <1'000'000
- cost/kWh

# Applications

## Temporary storage of locally generated energy

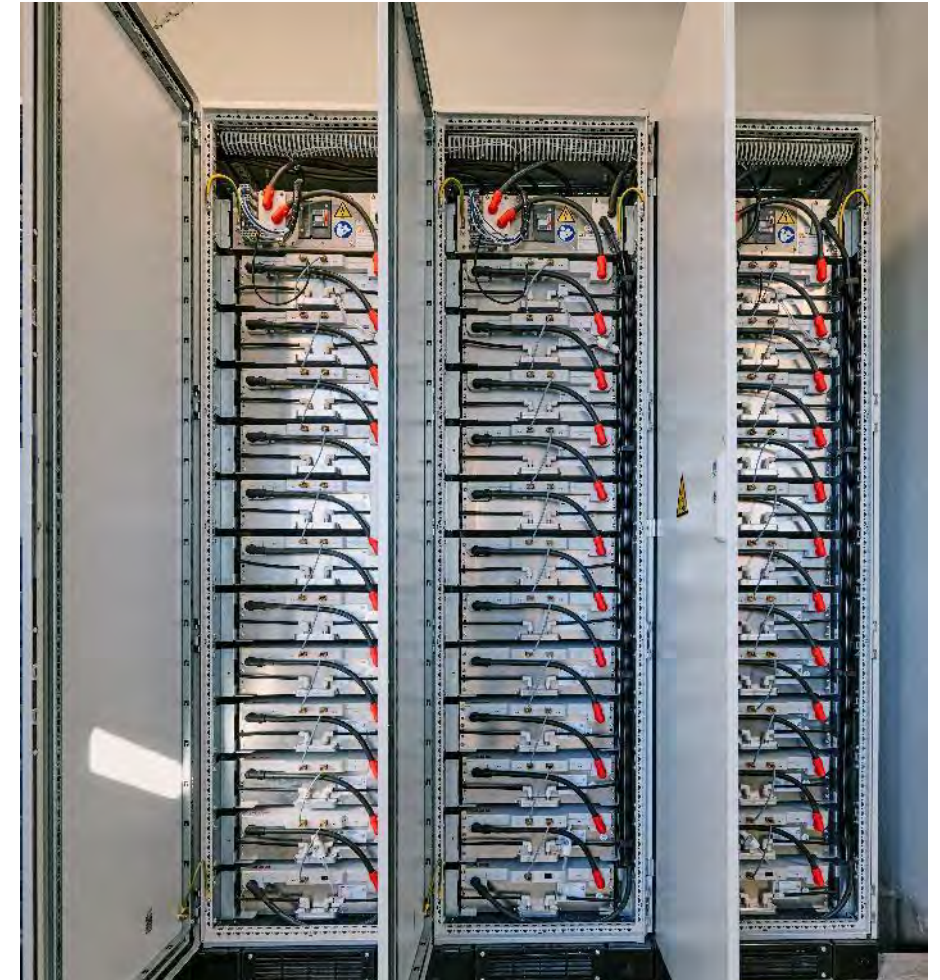
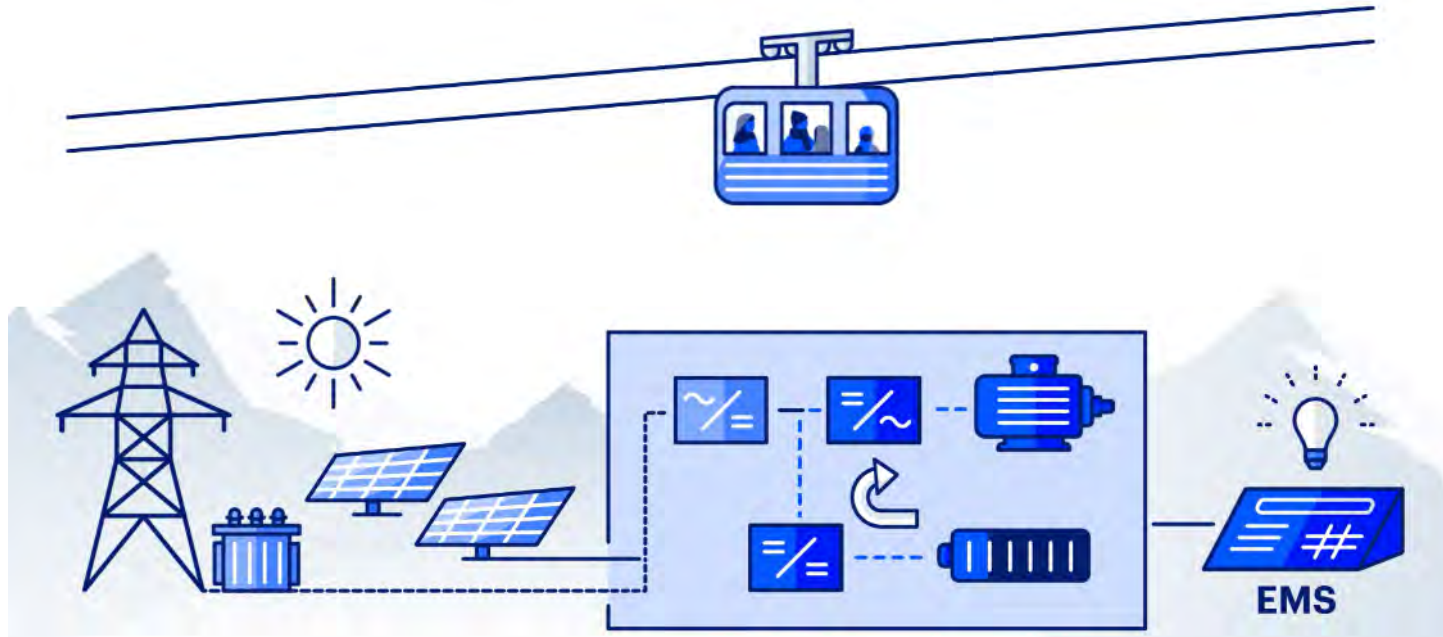
- PV, but also wind, water, fuel cell, etc.
- Surplus energy is stored and used later in a targeted manner
- Increase of autonomy / self-consumption



# Applications

## Utilization of brake energy

- Recuperate braking energy and store it in ESFOR
- Use energy on the next trip to reduce power peaks and power consumption

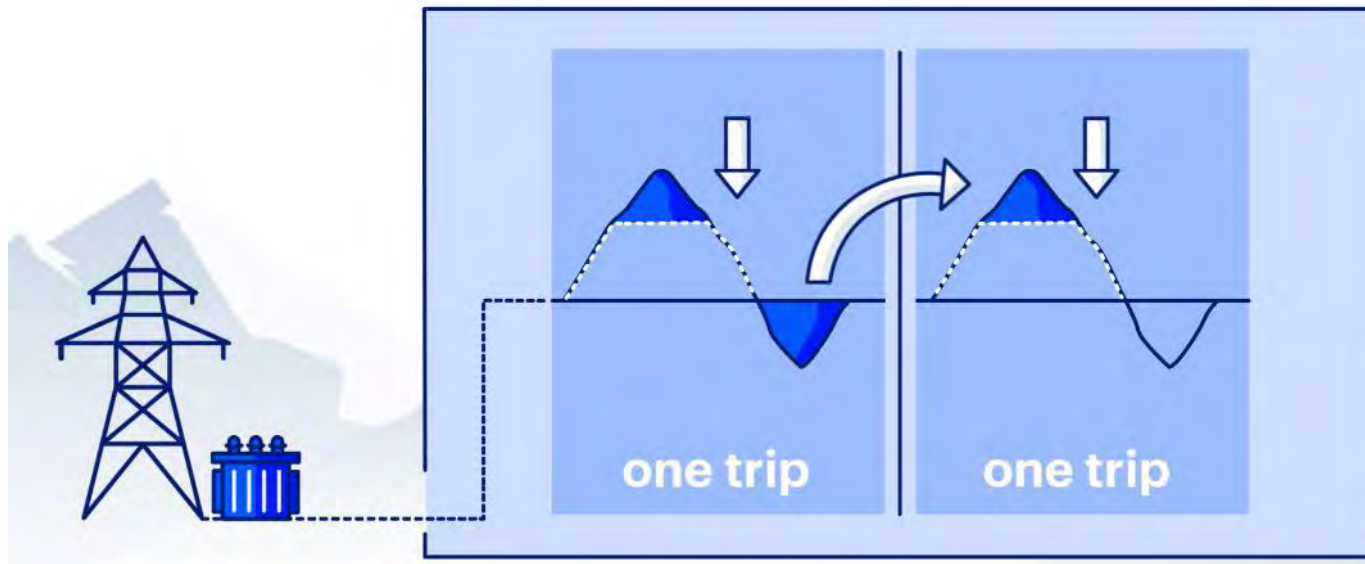




# Applications

## Limited power supply

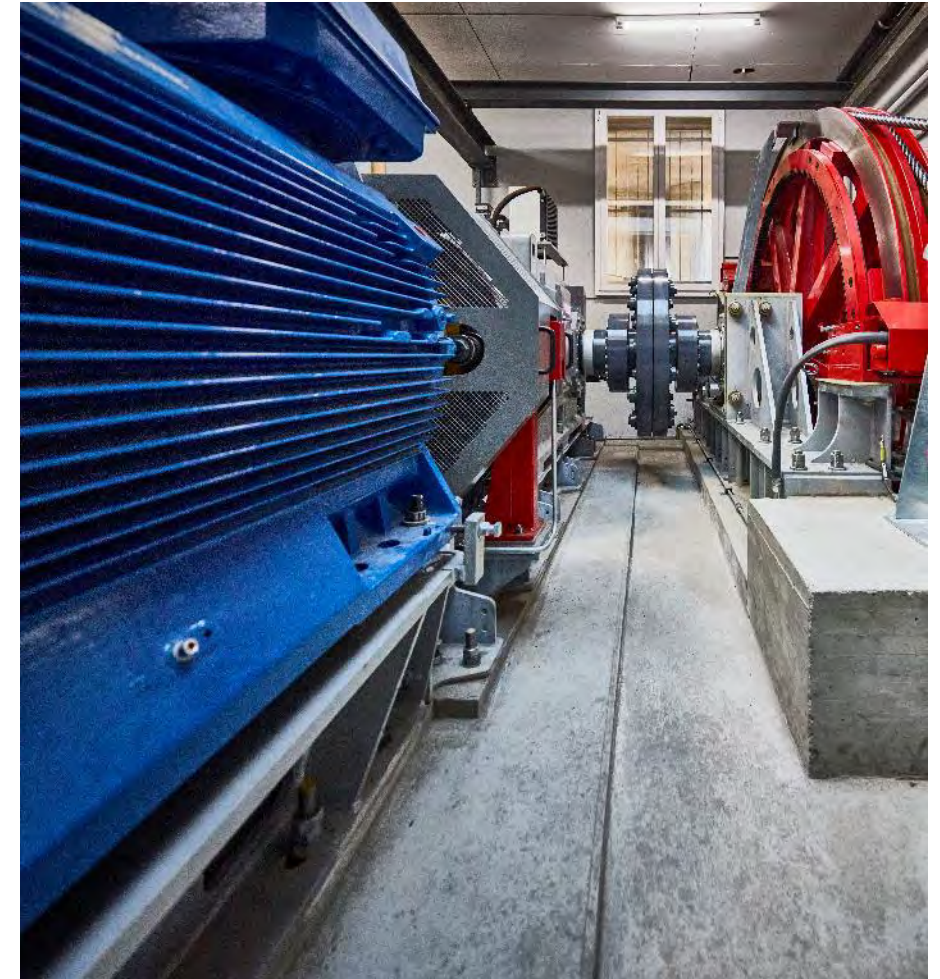
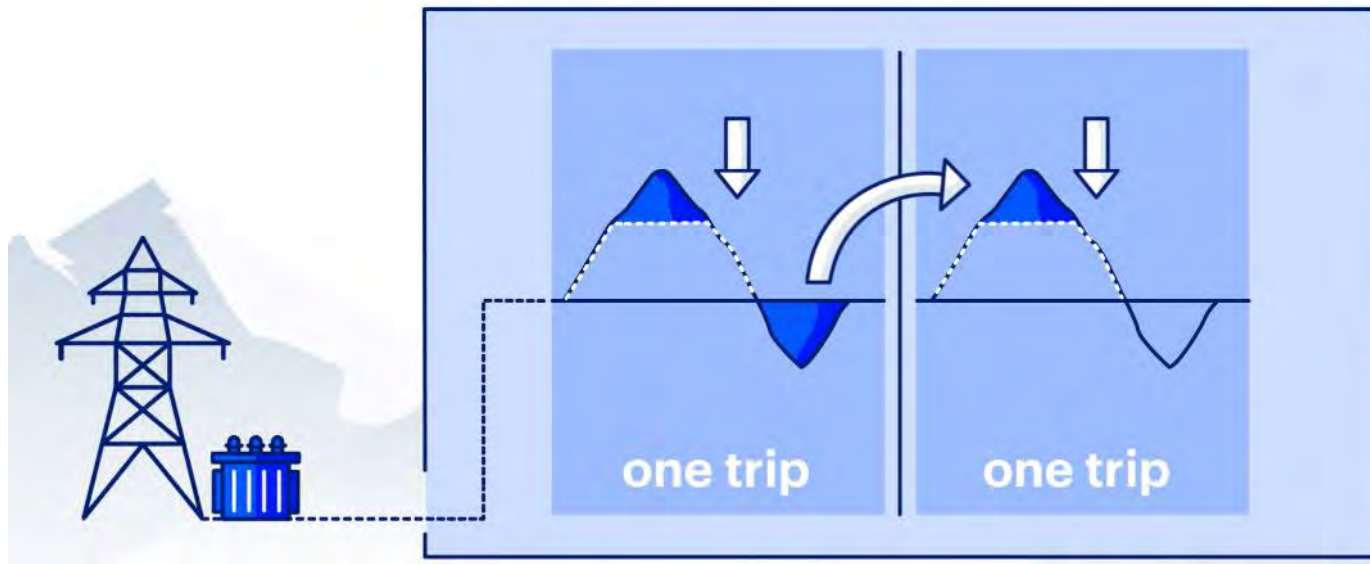
- Limit maximum power demand from the power grid
- Positive as well as negative (regeneration)
- Prevent/minimize possible expansion of the power grid (voltage stability)



# Applications

## Peak-Shaving

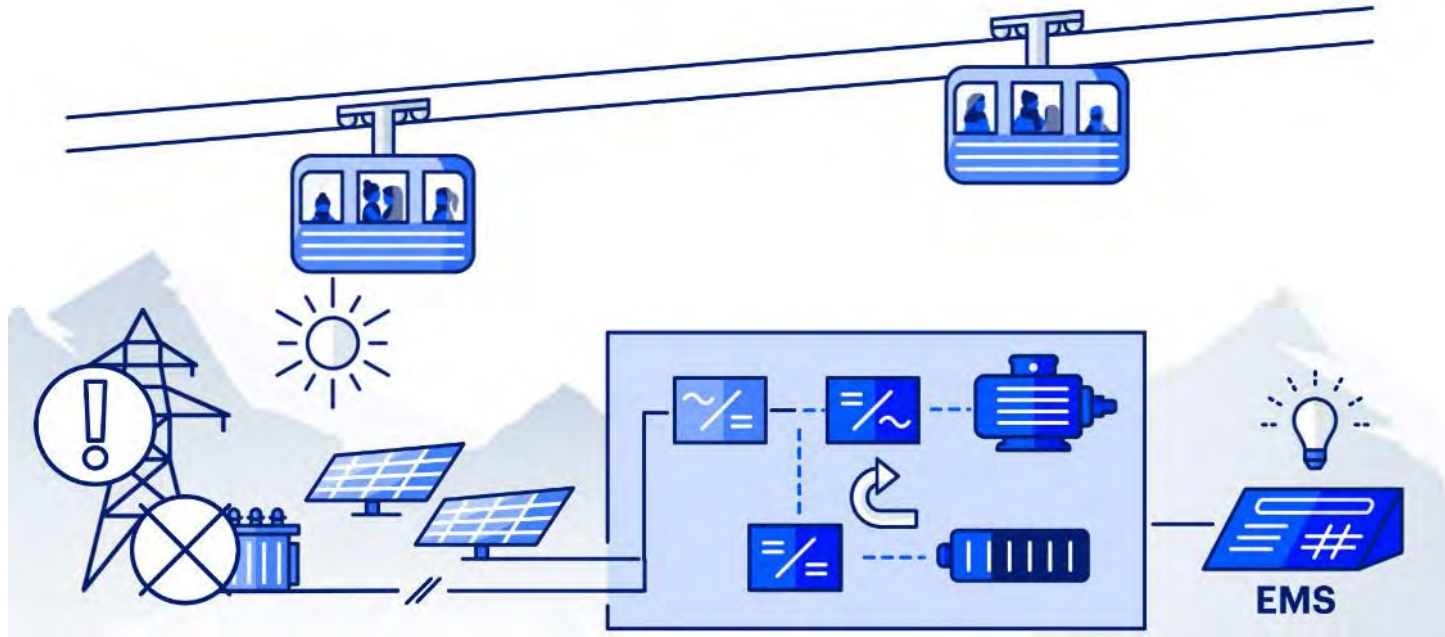
- Specific reduction of power peaks
- Reduction of the 1/4h power average possible depending on the situation



# Applications

## Recovery of the ropeway

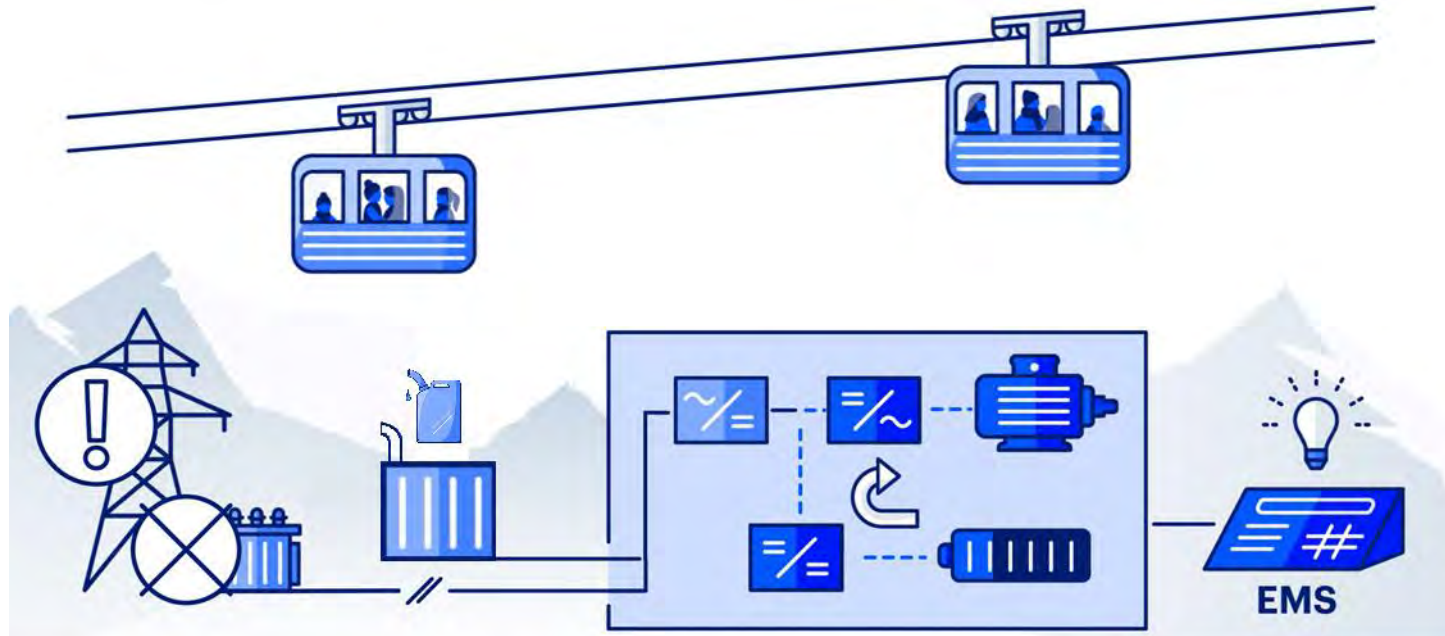
- Recovery with ESFOR and main drive in case of main power supply failure.
- Recovery with backup evacuation drive from main power supply in case of main drive failure.



# Applications

## Mains backup operation

- For mountain station evacuation, the emergency power system (diesel generator) can be dimensioned smaller thanks to ESFOR
- The emergency power system only has to provide constant power
- Volatile deviations (e.g. power peaks) are covered by ESFOR



# Potential

## For all ropeways with pendulum operation

- with volatile and high power demand
- with existing or planned PV plant
- if it is not possible to feed the braking energy back into the power grid
- if a ropeway operator aims to generate a large part of his required energy himself
- if there are government subsidies for new renewable energy projects in a country
- if a ropeway operator has to pay high electricity prices
- especially in case of winch ropeways (only one vehicle). if a completely new ropeway is being built
- if a modification is planned
- if a completely new ropeway is being built.



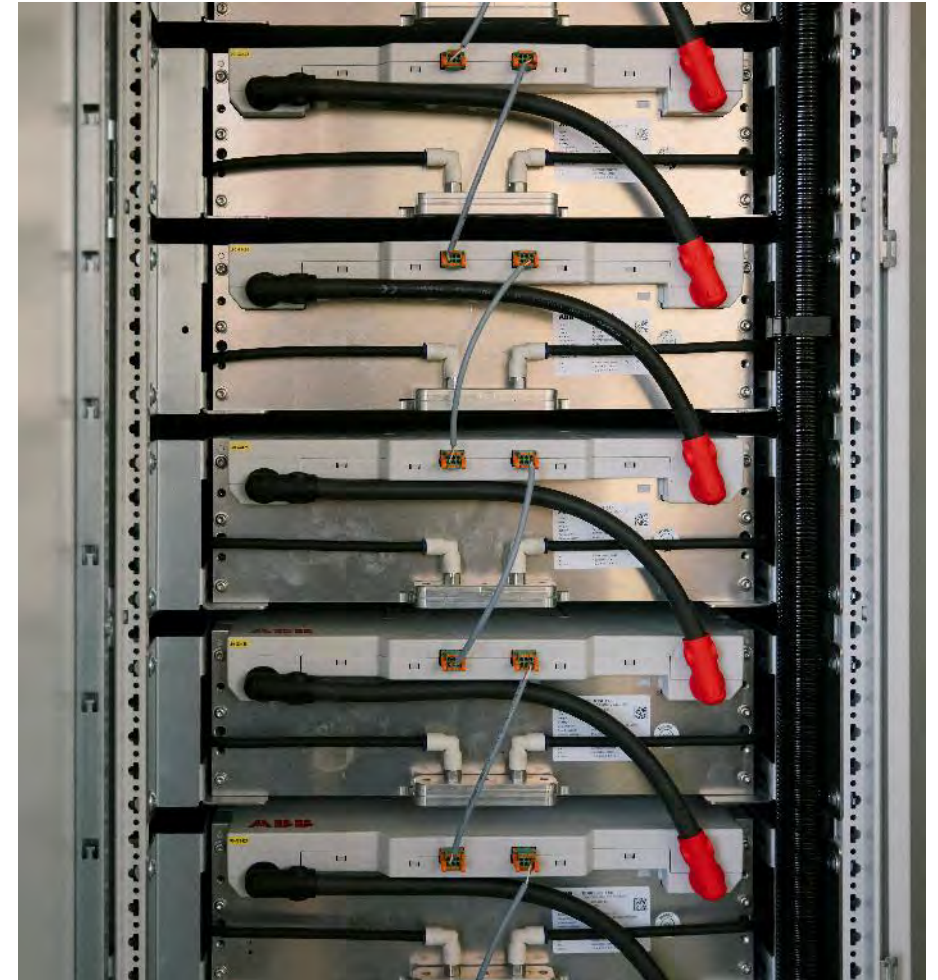
# SMC Funicular in Switzerland



# SMC Funicular in Switzerland

## New construction / reconstruction

- Storage and reuse of braking energy
  - Installation of a PV system on the station roof
  - Peak shaving
- ESFOR reduces the energy demand from the grid by approx. 25% to 50% per year



# SMC Funicular in Switzerland

- Recovery concept:
  - From battery storage in case of main power supply failure
  - Recovery with backup evacuation drive in case of main drive failure
- Ropeway could be realised without combustion engine
- Considerable reduction of investment costs





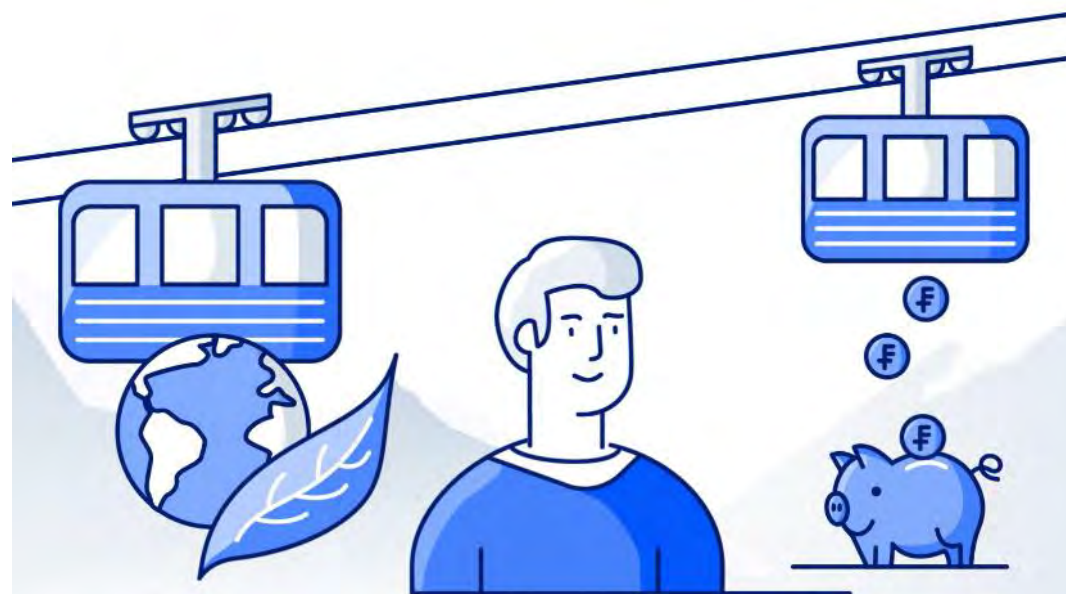
# Evaluation of ROI

## Financial aspects:

- ROI is given by the specific ESFOR applications that can be implemented
  - the more applications combined, the better ROI
- In general ROI is approx. 7 – 10 years

## Ecological aspects:

- EU CSRD (Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive)
- Public funding possibilities for sustainable projects



# ROI

## Frey Stans

- High expertise for consulting in energy themes
- Simulation tool to quantify ESFOR potential on a project base
  - physics of specific ropeway
  - time table or operation data
  - PV plant or locally generated energy
  - associated consumers
  - **define the ideal ESFOR setup**





**Thank you for  
your Attention!**