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Cars of the future already on the road

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STATESBORO, GA (WTOC) - The line of cars on display Tuesday at Georgia Southern University were only science fiction a few years ago. Only one uses gasoline, partially. They are powered by electricity, propane, natural gas, or e85 Flex Fuel. The fleet was part of a state wide tour from the Georgia Public Service Commission.

"I see this moving quickly over the next few years, especially in hybrid technology, which has gone from the Prius to many manufacturers to these fully electric cars," explained PSC member Tim Echols.



Companies also displayed after purchase items drivers of the autos will need, from propane refilling devices for homes to commercial electric recharging stations.

While the up front cost of electric cars is currently higher than gasoline burning vehicles, Echols said he foresees changes in how American consumers purchase and maintain their cars.

"In places like Israel, you buy an electric car that doesn't include the rechargeable battery. You then go to a battery supplier and buy some sort of battery plan." Echols explained.

Georgia Southern leaders were glad to host the display and roundtable discussion on alternative fuels.