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Question 1:

What is the main difference between an electrical clutch and a traditional mechanical clutch?

Answer:

An electrical clutch replaces the mechanical actuation by an electromagnetic field. Instead of a pedal or hydraulic system, an electric coil generates magnetic force to engage the clutch plates. This allows much faster and more precise control.

Question 2:

Why are electrical clutches important for automated manual transmissions (AMTs)?

Answer:

AMTs need a clutch that can be controlled by a computer. Electrical clutches respond very quickly and can be modulated finely, allowing smooth gear changes without a driver-operated pedal.

Question 3:

What sensors are typically used in an electrical clutch system?

Answer:

We use rotational speed sensors, position sensors for the armature plate, and temperature sensors to avoid overheating.

Question 4:

What is the biggest challenge in the development of electrical clutches?

Answer:

Thermal management. Coils generate heat, and friction adds even more. We must keep temperatures stable to maintain torque capacity.

Question 5:

How long does an electrical clutch typically last?

Answer:

With proper cooling and quality friction material, 150,000–200,000 km is realistic for automotive applications.

Question 6:

Can electrical clutches handle high torque?

Answer:

Yes, modern designs can handle very high torques, especially multi-plate systems, but thermal design becomes increasingly critical.

Question 7: Are electrical clutches more efficient than hydraulic clutches?

Answer:

They can be more efficient in many cases because they avoid hydraulic losses. However, if the coil is constantly energized, electrical consumption increases.

Question 8:

Will electrical clutches remain important as electric vehicles become more common?

Answer:

Yes, especially in hybrid systems and industrial machines. Even pure electric vehicles sometimes use clutches to disconnect auxiliary drives.