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Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) and Allye Energy have agreed to collaborate on a 270 kWh portable battery energy storage system (BESS) built with second-life Range Rover batteries. The system, which is set to become the first commercially available BESS with JLR battery packs, can fully charge up to nine Range Rover PHEV vehicles at once.

UK car manufacturer JLR and energy storage startup Allye Energy have developed a portable BESS. The Allye MAX BESS is the first to use second-life Range Rover battery packs.

Each unit holds seven battery packs that are removed from vehicles and slotted into customized racks. The system is charged by plugging it into any CCS-capable vehicle charger using the same input as JLR's existing PHEV and BEV product portfolio.

Weighing less than 3.5 tons, JLR said the system can be fully portable or stationary when providing energy storage for retailers or JLR sites. The company added that the unit can be used to replace diesel generators when powering off-grid vehicle launches, events and vehicle tests in remote areas.

JLR's engineering team will become the first to use the new BESS during testing of the new Range Rover Electric. The team will use the system to power more than 1,000 hours of testing ahead of the vehicle's launch next year, which they estimate will save more than 15,494 kg of CO₂ - equivalent to one passenger taking seven round-trip flights between London and New York.

"This battery innovation and partnership with Allye demonstrates the value we can create from repurposing and reusing batteries, such as from our Range Rover vehicles," said Francois Dossa, executive director of strategy and sustainability at JLR. "We are creating new value from a used commodity that would otherwise go directly to recycling, keeping them in use for longer, and providing innovative renewable energy storage solutions."

JLR said it is investing GBP 15 billion (\$18.7 billion) in electrification by building "a comprehensive EV ecosystem," covering the full lifecycle of EV batteries.

In March, JLR announced plans to generate more than one-quarter of its UK electricity from new onsite and near-site renewable energy projects, as part of its global plan to increase its self-generated energy to 36.4% of its global consumption by 2030.

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Together with the energy storage start-up Allye Energy, JLR is offering a portable battery system with used batteries from its plug-in hybrids. The system, called Allye MAX BESS, is to be used with second-life batteries as buffer storage for fast-charging stations.

After coming down last year, the cost of containerised BESS solutions for US-based buyers will come down a further 18% in 2024, Clean Energy Associates (CEA) said.

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