Latvia lithium-ion batteries

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The news was announced by the Economics Ministry March 25, with a promise that asecond factory for Lithium Ion Phosphate(LFP) cell technology will be established soon after. A total of €50 million will be invested and up to 300 new jobs will be created, the Ministry said.

Founded in 2016, Anodox Energy Systems makes high-capacity batteries and has worked withVolvo, NEVS, Jinpeng Auto, Geely, Lotus, Mahindra, and Pininfarina. Their R& D centre in Sweden develops electric batteries for light trucks, passenger cars, marine and other vehicles.

Theodore Zannakis, Anodox CEO said:"We are thrilled and grateful to announce our entry into Latvia and the establishment of the first LFP factory in Europe. It would not be possible without the strong support from the Latvia Government,LIAA,Altumand our customersJinpeng Groupand AKINSI Auto.”

In the first phase of this initiative, Anodox will produce high-quality battery packs for electric cars and light trucks in an automated factory. In the second, Anodox will produce high performance cells using LFP technology. LFP batteries have recently been adopted by Tesla Motors and are known to be longer lasting and produced at a lower cost than many of the electric vehicle batteries on the market today.

“This means that the battery production cycle will be completed in Latvia, from raw material to complete system. From Rīga the finished products will be delivered to customers in Scandinavia, Germany and the rest of Europe. A truly strong demonstration of our commitment to bring Latvia to the forefront of automotive technology.”

Latvia is the starting location for Anodox to establish production facilities across Europe. According to the company"s plan, Anodox Energy Systems is also considering Germany, Greece and Luxembourg as potential investment locations.

This is one of the greatest scientific accomplishments over the last year in Latvia, and could allow phones to work longer, as well as electric cars to drive further. Last year"s Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to John Goodenough, M. Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino for the development of lithium-ion batteries.

“The batteries that they discovered and can currently be bought at the market are 4 volt batteries. Batteries are currently a 250 billion dollar yearly market. They"re everywhere, clocks, laptops, electric cars,” said Eglītis.

His new batteries are more powerful than the ones currently on the market. It took the scientist 20 years of work to create this battery, including time at universities in Singapore, the US, China and Germany.

“We"re the first ones in the world that can see the opportunity to create a new 5 volt battery using a new 5 volt cathode material – Li2CoMn3O8. The economic effects of this new material are huge," continued Eglītis.

Our scientists have theoretically proved that it"s really possible to create such batteries that contain up to 20% more energy, without increasing production costs. Several respectable scientific journals have already published the results of the research.

"Such prominent theoretical works are very important so that we can start new projects and move from theory to technology, to create materials and continue testing them" said Latvian Academy of Sciences academic Juris Purāns.

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