

Battery research and development fonafote

On 27th November 2023, 20 grants were awarded to battery tech innovators as part of UKRI's Faraday Battery Challenge (FBC), delivered by Innovate UK. The competition was open to two types of projects, covering early-stage feasibility studies, and more advanced R& D, with a total of ?11 million in funding support available.

This is another proof point that the Faraday Battery Challenge is successfully integrating research, innovation and scaleup programmes to deliver positive impact for the UK. The range of new projects funded by Innovate UK that are based on Faraday Institution research demonstrates the success of our model in actively managing our research programmes and identifying and pursuing battery science and engineering ripe for commercialisation.”Professor Pam Thomas, CEO, Faraday Institution

Three projects with Faraday Institution researcher involvement aim to accelerate the development of direct battery recycling processes. Such methods seek to recover active material for reuse in battery manufacture. Direct recycling methods are in their infancy but have the potential to reduce processing steps and costs, improve sustainability and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The three projects are:

Nyobolt is commercialising ultra-fast charging, long-life, high-power battery technologies for applications ranging from industrial to automotive and off highway. Its ReNEW project is focused on the direct recovery of the company's proprietary anode technology. The project builds on an existing relationship with Coventry University, that has previously been awarded two Faraday Institution Industry Fellowships, which resulted in the development of prototype devices that helped to secure a ?8m Series A investment for Nyobolt early in 2021.

The Faraday Battery Challenge (FBC) is a ?610 million UKRI Challenge Fund investment, delivering a mission-led, research, innovation and scale up programme that covers “lab to factory” development, cutting-edge research, and national scale-up infrastructure. By leveraging scientific strength, with delivery partners the Faraday Institution, the UK Battery Industrialisation Centre and KTN, the Challenge is building a thriving battery ecosystem that supports industry growth, attracting investment and ensures UK prosperity.

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TheFraunhofer Research Institution for Battery Cell Production FFB located in M?nster, is therefore to become the center of development of a modern and scalable battery cell production for Germany and Europe.

To ensure that production in Germany can provide new battery technologies more efficiently, more cheaply, and in the highest quality in the future, the federal government and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia are funding the establishment of a research factory for battery production with a total of up to 680 million euros. The factory provides the infrastructure with which small and medium-sized companies, but also large companies and research institutions can test, implement, and optimize the near-series production of new batteries.

Together with partners from Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, RWTH Aachen University, the University of Münster, and Forschungszentrum Jülich, we are thus closing the existing gap in the value chain for batteries and accumulators and helping to avoid dependency on other markets for energy storage technologies.

The Fraunhofer Research Institution for Battery Cell Production FFB supports industrial partners and customers in the implementation of new battery cell concepts and the development of advanced production processes.

The institutes of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the MEET of the University of Münster, the PEM Chair of the RWTH Aachen University and the Forschungszentrum Jülich are working together to establish the "FoFeBat" project and thus the Fraunhofer FFB.

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