

Riyadh flow battery technology

Saudi-listed ACWA Power, the world's largest private water desalination company, leader in energy transition and first mover into green hydrogen and VoltStorage agree on a strategic collaboration to jointly explore the potential of VoltStorage's iron salt battery technology.

VoltStorage is renowned for its environmentally friendly, safe, and long-lasting large-scale battery development based on iron and salt. Other than alternative technologies that use materials such as lithium, a solution based on non-flammable materials iron and salt is particularly well-suited for regions with high temperatures, where water scarcity increases the critical need for efficient seawater desalination.

For ACWA Power, the iron salt battery solution has the potential to provide the missing link to decarbonize its seawater desalination plants, as the storage technology will enable the company to run the desalination plant fully on renewables. By this, ACWA Power would be able to fulfill its aim to be a leader in a clean energy transition and to provide solutions to sustainably improve living conditions of millions of people.

The strategic collaboration encompasses techno-economic studies to optimize the use of iron salt batteries for ACWA Power's needs as well as performance evaluation and testing in real conditions in hot climate conditions. In addition, joint evaluation of applications and field testing will be conducted.

Marco Arcelli, the CEO of ACWA Power said: "The partnership with VoltStorage reflects ACWA Power's commitment to exploring innovative solutions for sustainable energy. We are very much looking forward to joint explore the possibilities of the company's groundbreaking innovation."

Jakob Bitner, Co-Founder and CEO of VoltStorage adds: "We are excited to embark on this journey with ACWA Power. This strategic collaboration allows us to evaluate the potential of our iron salt redox flow energy storage technology in a real-world scenario, specifically in the context of seawater desalination. It marks a crucial step toward sustainable practices and the provision of energy."

Representatives of both ACWA Power and VoltStorage signed the agreement during the ACWA Innovation Days in January 2024 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Picture: Thomas Altmann (left), Executive Vice President Innovation & New Technology at ACWA Power, and Jakob Bitner (right), Co-founder and CEO VoltStorage.

The company behind the Iron Salt Battery enters a new growth phase, supported by the international business expertise of a seasoned industry professional. Former CEO and Co-Founder Jakob Bitner will remain connected to the company to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

A seasoned expert in the energy and electricity field, Andreos will work closely with management and technical teams to ensure that VoltStorage's solutions meet the requirements and demands of its target groups

and leverage the positive market momentum that is predicted for the nearer future.

This wordplay highlights the dynamic interplay between enthusiasm for learning and the critical knowledge of our energy system. This was clearly demonstrated during the visit of a project group from the Luitpold-Gymnasium in Munich.

Battery storage is attracting a wave of international investment as demand increases to store the energy being produced by new renewable projects worldwide. Investing in such renewables projects is also a cornerstone of Saudi Arabia's energy reform plans as it weans itself off reliance on oil revenues.

The new company will produce energy storage systems for use alongside utility-scale renewables projects, telecom towers, mining sites, remote cities and off-grid locations, SABIC said.

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