

Umicore and Evonik announce business partnership

December 13, 2012

Brussels/Essen, December 13, 2012. Materials technology group Umicore and the Evonik Group subsidiary Evonik Litarion GmbH have announced a business relationship for the supply of lithium-ion cathode materials. Evonik selected Umicore as the supplier of cathode materials for large format Li-ion batteries that are used in electric vehicles and in energy storage systems for stationary applications.

Evonik manufactures battery cell components for large format Li-ion batteries in Kamenz, Germany. Li-ion rechargeable batteries are seen as one of the most promising solutions for advanced energy storage systems in electric vehicles.

Umicore's Cellcore®MX, a Li-ion NMC (Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt) cathode material, offers an engineered material solution to optimize electric vehicle requirements of power, energy, safety and battery cycle life.

Dr. Henrik Hahn, Spokesman of the Board of Management of Evonik Litarion GmbH, commented: "Through its materials know how, extensive production capacity, sustainable sourcing and manufacturing process, Umicore serves for us as an ideal partner for our business."

Dr. Kurt Vandeputte, Senior Business Director for Umicore's Rechargeable Battery Materials business unit commented: "We are delighted to be selected by a major producer in the emerging European market for large format lithium ion rechargeable batteries. This is a strong signal of recognition for our expertise and it reinforces our long-term commitment towards Li-ion technology as an enabler for electrified transportation. This agreement with Evonik underlines the attractiveness of our product, our quality management systems, production capabilities and close customer relationships."

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Evonik Litarion GmbH profile

Evonik Litarion GmbH, an Evonik Group subsidiary, manufactures LITARION® electrodes, which improve the performance of lithium-ion batteries, and Evonik has also developed the innovative SEPARION® ceramic separator, which reliably separates the anodes and cathodes from each other and makes large-scale lithium-ion cells especially efficient and safe. Evonik Litarion acts as a system manufacturer and supplies separators, anodes, and cathodes all from the one source.

Umicore profile

Umicore is a global materials technology group. It focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy makes a real difference. Its activities are centred on four business areas: Catalysis, Energy Materials, Performance Materials and Recycling. Each business area is divided into market focused business units offering materials and solutions that are at the cutting edge of new technological developments and essential to everyday life. Umicore generates the majority of its revenues and dedicates most of its R&D efforts to clean technologies, such as emission control catalysts, materials for rechargeable batteries and photovoltaics, fuel cells, and recycling. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on an ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it generated a turnover of €14.5 billion (€2.3 billion excluding metal) in 2011 and currently employs some 14,600 people.

Evonik profile

Corporate information

Evonik, the creative industrial group from Germany, is one of the world's leading specialty chemicals companies. Profitable growth and a sustained increase in the value of the company form the heart of our strategy. Our activities focus on the key megatrends health and nutrition, resource efficiency and globalization. Evonik benefits specifically from its innovative prowess and integrated technology platforms.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2011 more than 33,000 employees generated sales of around €14.5 billion and an operating profit (adjusted EBITDA) of about €2.8 billion.

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