

Technology Strategy Board

Driving Innovation

Press release

30 June 2011

Studies to improve recycling and re-use of batteries for eco-friendly cars

Six British companies have been awarded Technology Strategy Board (www.innovateuk.org) funding for feasibility studies into the recycling and re-use of batteries for low and ultra low carbon vehicles.

Nearly £500,000 will be shared by the six companies - Axeon, Energy Cost Advisors Ltd, LiFeBATT Ltd, Narec, OXIS Energy Ltd and TRL (2 studies) – who will carry out seven studies between them.

The funding awards follow the companies' success in the 'Batteries for Low and Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles: Recycling and Re-use' funding competition, which was developed by the Technology Strategy Board with the assistance of the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV).

Andrew Everett, Head of Transport at the Technology Strategy Board, said:

"The aim of the feasibility studies is to draw out innovative, market-focussed UK research which has the potential to increase valuable battery life and enable cost-effective recycling, address concerns around the sustainable use and recovery of raw materials within automotive batteries and contribute to the development in the UK of an automotive battery recycling industry."

Michael Hurwitz, Director of OLEV said:

"I welcome the Technology Strategy Board funding in this area and congratulate the successful companies. Understanding the economic opportunities available from batteries after their primary use in low and ultra low emission vehicles is an important element of the overall picture. We want this to contribute to the UK's leading position in the design and uptake of these vehicles."

Each of the feasibility studies will address one of the following areas:

- research that explores potential processes for the cost-effective recycling of batteries for the propulsion of low and ultra low carbon vehicles, including detailed process flow and identification of the value of recovered elements;
- research that explores the potential development of commercial opportunities from the re-use of batteries after their primary use in low and ultra low carbon vehicles,

including demonstrating energy remaining at various stages and its suitability and market demand for re-use.

Including contributions from the participating companies, the total cost of the studies is just over £670,000. The studies are likely to start in September 2011 and should be completed within 12 months.

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. The Technology Strategy Board is a business-led government body which works to create economic growth by ensuring that the UK is a global leader in innovation. Sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the Technology Strategy Board brings together business, research and the public sector, supporting and accelerating the development of innovative products and services to meet market needs, tackle major societal challenges and help build the future economy. For more information please visit: [Technology Strategy Board](#).
2. The competition and funding is being delivered by the Technology Strategy Board through the Low Carbon Vehicles Innovation Platform (LCVIP), which was established in September 2007 to promote low carbon vehicle research, design, development and demonstration in the UK. The LCVIP has been working with key stakeholders to understand the research priorities needed to support the future development of road vehicles. This is informing our work to help to reduce carbon emissions, and therefore meet UK and EU climate change targets. The scope of this competition was developed with input from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the LCVIP steering group. For further information about the LCVIP please visit: [LCVIP](#).
3. For background information about the *Batteries for Low and Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles: Recycling and Re-use* funding competition please visit: [Batteries for LCV and Ultra LCV](#).
4. The offer of funding to these feasibility studies is conditional and remains subject to the successful completion of Technology Strategy Board compliance and financial review processes.
5. To download a list of all the feasibility studies please go to: [Batteries for LCV and Ultra LCV - list](#).
6. Companies and other organisations seeking further information about Technology Strategy Board funding opportunities should visit the Competitions page of the Technology Strategy Board website – [Competitions](#), email mailto:competitions@innovateuk.org or phone the Competitions Helpline 0300 321 4357.
7. Media enquiries **only** should be addressed to the Technology Strategy Board's media relations consultant or manager: Nick Sheppard, Media Relations Consultant - Mobile: 07824 599644, Email: <mailto:nick.sheppard@tsb.gov.uk> or Claire Cunningham, Media

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