



3# Quarterly Newsletter

February 2021

Welcome back!

INTERVIEW



In this issue, we talked with **Johan Söderbom, the Leader of Smartgrid and Storage at EIT InnoEnergy**, about how the EIT has been involved in battery industry ecosystem, promoting synergies between knowledge, education and industry.

[Read the full interview here.](#)

ALBATTS NEWS

The project has been working on desktop research, surveys and holding workshops for networking, as background preparation for defining the job roles of the future of the battery value chain.

During the last months, the members of Work Package 4 and 5 (respectively, stationary and mobile applications) have engaged our stakeholders with a survey to gather intelligence on future job roles and skills in the battery sector. Information has been collected from the registered stakeholders and also from outside the project. Additionally, during January a series of webinars took place, targeting various sectors related to batteries and their applications. The focus areas were stationary storage, automotive and maritime e-mobility and battery manufacturing. The events attracted large audiences and brought together representatives of the ALBATTS project with key industry players and representatives of the EU institutions. See more on this below.

The survey results for sub-sector Stationary and Industrial Battery Applications and Future Needs Definition for sub-sector ISIBA - Release 1, will be released at the end of February, [accessible here](#). In continuing this work, Work Package 4, together with Work Package 5, have gradually started the preparatory work for the D4.1 Desk Research & Data Analysis ISIBA – Release 2 (August 2021).



The four webinars took place during the month of January 2021

During the first month of 2021, the ALBATTS partners organised a set of webinars on four different topics, attracting more than 300 people from industry, education sector, government and associations.

- Electric vehicle manufacturing & battery integration - future qualifications needed

- Stationary Energy Storage in Grids and Telecom Applications: Safety & Future Job Roles and Skills
- Battery Cells Manufacturing – Job Roles & Skills
- Vessels of the future: Maritime Batteries - Job Roles and Skills

These four panels of experts covered different issues regarding the topics mentioned above, answering questions on the current readiness status of the **work force to enter the job market, as more gigafactories are being built and battery technology advances fast.**

For those stakeholders that could not attend, you can watch the [recording and download the presentations here](#).



Battery Sector Intelligence Survey

We invite all stakeholders to [take our Battery Sector Intelligence Survey](#). This 20-minute survey is part of the intelligence activities and will accomplish project goals by bringing together the demand and supply side of skills related to this sector. The main aim of this survey is to **inquire about job roles and skills needed to build a complete battery value chain in Europe**. This concerns enterprises along the batteries for electromobility value chain, European workers disrupted or highly affected by the change brought about with transfer to electromobility, educational providers, decision makers and the public. The gathered knowledge will enable ALBATTTS project to define a sectoral intelligence roadmap in the future.



THE PROJECT'S STATE-OF-ART

ALBATTTS is the European Skills Agenda “blueprint” project for the update of Sectoral Skills, in the value chain of “Batteries for Electromobility”. Firstly, we have undertaken “sectoral intelligence” (desktop research, surveys, workshop, networking) to find out what new job roles are emerging in the value chain, what kind of education and training is needed, what is already in place, what is missing and where are the gaps. We are not analysing this material and start addressing what is needed, defining the job roles, suggesting learning objectives, working with validation models, creating missing learning material. Our responsibility covers all relevant EQF levels, from upper secondary school to PhD education.

Our consortium is strong on the industry and VET schools side, where we received contributions from industry and branch organisations, mostly. However, among the four partner universities, only one is known for battery research (University of Porto). Information and ideas about master and PhD level education comes mostly from research in the universities – and from their communication with industry on the needs at research level.

Nowadays, there are a lot of projects and organisations, besides ALBATTTS, that work with education in the European battery value chain. We will enter conversations and start collaborating to create synergies so that the European result becomes as useful as possible for the national education systems. Together we have better possibilities to implement our project results.

The [Battery2030+ Research Roadmap](#) is an umbrella of research projects, and this contains education development objectives, especially on the higher academic levels. [EIT Innoenergy](#) runs a number of courses already on battery storage on professional and masters level – and is also important in the work in [Batteries Europe](#), which has a special task-force on education, soon coming with a position paper. [EIT Raw Materials](#) and [EIT](#)

[Manufacturing](#) are also active in their share of this value chain. The EC framework project [LI-planet](#) is a network of European pilot lines for Li-Ion battery production, offering research and training possibilities. The [Fraunhofer Battery Alliance](#) is active both in the research and business development areas, with surveys and workshops and education development. Our blueprint sister project [DRIVES](#) is working on the European blueprint in the vehicle production area – now also the EV production area – and together with ALBATTTS in the Pact for Skills initiative.

Together, we will be working on ideas on possible ways of information sharing, collaboration in external workshops and on collaborative development of learning resources.

Talks are still just beginning. We in ALBATTTS are eager to see what comes out of it. ALBATTTS seems to be the only project with clear responsibility and funding to work also with the vocational level of education, the VET schools. All these organisations and initiatives have special expertise, experience, and network to contribute to European education and training in the battery sector, but all also need help from others to reach their objectives. This can become very interesting!

WHAT IS NEW IN EUROPEAN POLICY

In this issue we talk about three important policy initiatives under work:

- On 10 December 2020, the European Commission presented a [Proposal for a regulation concerning the revision of the batteries and waste batteries directive and regulation](#). This is an initiative aimed at modernising EU legislation on batteries, implementing the first of the actions announced in the [new Action Plan for the Circular Economy](#).
- The European Commission published a [Communication on Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy - putting European transport on track for the future](#). The Communication deals with all types of transport (road, rail, maritime and air) and should be accompanied by the creation of a comprehensive network of recharging and refuelling infrastructure.
- The European Parliament has published a report on [Digital automation and the future of work](#). It identifies threats to job quality and an unequal distribution of the risks and benefits associated with digital automation. In response, it recommends a number of policy options – ones that aim to go beyond the provision of skills and training and which seek a human-centred approach to digital transformations of work based on industrial democracy and social partnership.

Lastly, it is worthy of a mention that, in her State of the Union speech, the President of the European Commission announced that the industry strategy will be updated in the first half of 2021. To read more about these topics [click here](#).

BATTERY SECTOR NEWS

[EU seeks competitive edge from green batteries](#)

Electric car and industrial batteries sold in Europe will soon face legally binding environmental standards, the European Commission said on Thursday (10 December), as it seeks to give local producers an edge in a rapidly growing global market.

The European Union could produce enough batteries by 2025 to power its fast-growing fleet of electric vehicles without relying on imported cells, European Commission Vice President Maros Sefcovic said on Tuesday (24 November).

[Europe's truck giants to ditch diesel, as hydrogen's benefits come to fore](#)

Seven major truck manufacturers pledged to stop selling fossil fuelled vehicles by 2040 on Tuesday (15 December), just as a landmark new study made the case that hydrogen should play a major role in powering heavy-duty transport in the coming years.

[Toyota & Caetano to build fuel cell buses in Europe](#)

Toyota will become a shareholder in Portuguese bus manufacturer CaetanoBus and passenger car financial services provider Finlog through its existing joint venture Toyota Caetano Portugal (TCAP). Through the new alliance, Toyota is entering the development, production and sales of fuel cell buses.

[23 European nations launch IPCEI Hydrogen](#)

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy has just announced the launch of the IPCEI Hydrogen. This is a joint European project (Important Projects of Common European Interest, or IPCEI) analogous to the two initiatives already launched in the field of battery cell manufacturing.

[Mina do Barroso Lithium Project in Portugal: Heads of Agreement between Savannah and Galp Energia](#)

Savannah announced earlier this week the signature of a Heads of Agreement (HoA) with the major diversified Portuguese energy group, Galp Energia.

[Fast-growing grid scale stationary battery storage](#)

Stationary grid connected batteries are growing. There is an increasing number of them, serving an increasing number of functions.

[Tesla gets green light to prep battery plant at Giga Berlin](#)

Tesla can start preparations for its battery factory at the Giga Berlin site in Grünheide ahead of schedule. Tesla has been granted a provisional start for the work upon request, according to a BMWi spokesperson, although this is in itself not a building permit.

EVENTS CORNER

- [EU Industry Days 2021](#)- 23 to 26/02/21
- [Can European battery cell production be competitive?](#)- 25/02/21
- [Automotive IQ Presents Global EV Battery Fires Safety Summit 2021](#)- 25 to 26/02/2021
- [Automotive ISO 26262: Functional Safety](#)- 10/03/21
- [Sustainable Batteries: a New Regulatory Framework and Market Outlook](#)- 11/03/2021
- [Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Energy Summit](#)- 17 to 18/03/2021
- [Advanced E-Drive Systems for BEV/HEVs](#)- 24/03/2021
- [Next-Generation Modular EV Platforms 2021](#)- 06/04/2021
- [6th Automotive Sensors and Electronics Online Summit](#)- 21/04/21
- [Battery Conference 2021](#)- 27/04/21
- [Bike Experience Electric Bike](#)- 21/05/21
- [European Summit on Social Economy 2020](#)- 26 to 27/05/2021
- [Autonomous Vehicles Online](#)- 26 to 27/05/2021
- [International Conference on Lead-Acid Batteries](#)- 08/06/21
- [European Electric Vehicle Batteries Summit](#)- 23 to 24/06/2021
- [ees Europe 2021](#)- 09/06/21
- [International Congress for Battery Recycling](#)- 22-24/09/2021
- [Energy Storage Global Conference](#)- 12 to 14/10/2021
- [The European E-Fuels Conference](#)- 3 to 4/11/2021

[Become an ALBATTTS Stakeholder](#) to receive regular information about the findings of the project (quarterly newsletters, invitations to webinars, surveys) and to help define the new EU Sectoral Skills Strategy for the Battery sector.

To know more about the ALBATTTS project visit our channels by clicking on the links below.



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