

NEWSLETTER #3

June 2025

VDL Demonstrator

VDL showcased the upgraded “Smart Buncker” prototype: a smart, safer, and cost-efficient container developed for the reverse logistics of lithium batteries. During the live demonstration, they’ve simulated thermal runaway conditions by increasing internal temperature and CO₂ levels. Integrated sensors monitored these changes in real time, triggering alerts via VDL’s conNXT dashboard. This innovation ensures safe transport in compliance with ADR regulations (P911/LP906) and enables remote monitoring with automated warnings. By contributing to safer battery logistics across the entire reuse cycle, VDL Groep reinforces its motto: Strength through cooperation.



LUT University visit to IONCOR

LUT University visited IONCOR's Salo plant, a key step in our mission to build a sustainable EU lithium battery value chain.

These site visits are fundamental to our mission of establishing a robust and sustainable lithium battery value chain throughout the European Union. By connecting with industry leaders like IONCOR, we are fostering essential knowledge exchange and building strong partnerships.

It was truly inspiring to witness IONCOR's unwavering dedication to electrifying the global energy transition with their cutting-edge battery systems. Their commitment to innovation and sustainability is a key driver in our collective journey towards a circular economy for batteries.

We are confident that IONCOR's expertise will significantly contribute to the REINFORCE project's success. Together, we are shaping the future of battery production and driving the transition towards a greener, more sustainable Europe.



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Meet our Partner



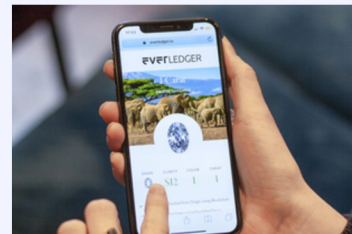
INEGI coordinates this European project and supports the growth of emerging segments in the battery value chain, driving industrial, technological, and process innovations crucial for reintegrating EV and stationary batteries into second-life applications.



INEGI plays a key role in bringing these innovations to market by overseeing the deployment of SUNDIAL, an in-house data collection platform for sustainability analyses, business model exploration, and business model simulation.

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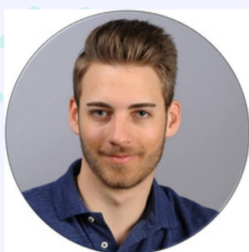
EVERLEDGER uses digital tracking, blockchain, and traceability technologies to provide secure, transparent, and real-time visibility into supply chains. This ensures product authenticity, ethical sourcing, and accountability, building consumer trust and streamlining industry processes.

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EVERLEDGER is actively contributing to the development of battery industry standards by leading efforts to define comprehensive user requirements for battery passports and establish critical standardization guidelines for battery collection and logistics processes.



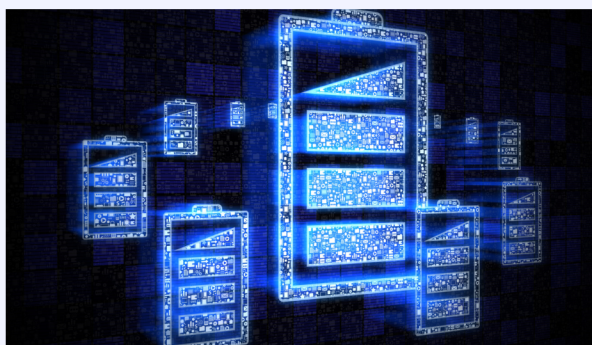
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The CEA-LITEN is a research institute focused on developing sustainable energy technologies in the battery, solar and hydrogen domains. The institute aims to support the transition to a low-carbon economy through innovation and collaboration with industry partners.

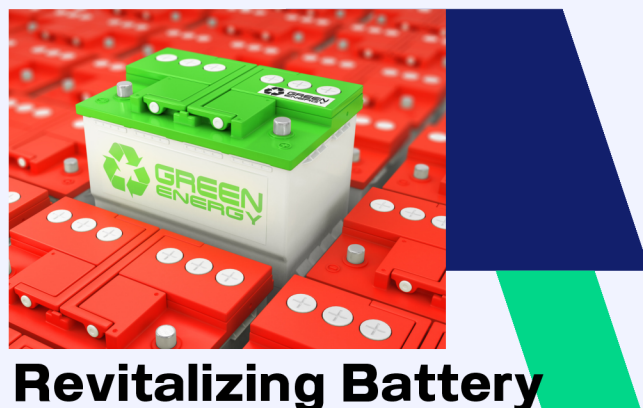
Within the REINFORCE project, CEA's primary contributions lie in the development of State-of-Health diagnostic methods for 2nd life battery assessment, in the establishment of safety procedures for the dismantling process and in the early thermal runaway detection in the transportation of end-of-life batteries.

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Battery International Day

Experts gathered for a recent workshop hosted by REINFORCE to discuss the opportunities and challenges of extending lithium-ion battery lifespans. The workshop featured insightful presentations on circular economy strategies, including repair, repurposing, and recycling, as well as an in-depth look at the European battery value chain. A keynote speech by Dr. Jarkko Vesa, a leading expert in the field, provided valuable perspectives on the future of battery lifecycle management. The event fostered engaging discussions and knowledge sharing among participants.



Revitalizing Battery Recycling

Battery recycling isn't a buzzword; it's the cornerstone of a sustainable battery industry, as highlighted in "Revitalising the battery recycling industry." We can't rely on finite resources. The REINFORCE project is committed to creating a circular economy, pushing for disruptive innovation in recycling solutions to close the loop, much like the article advocates for. Imagine groundbreaking recycling methods and a future where battery materials are endlessly reusable, aligning with the vision of revitalizing the industry. This isn't just about sustainability, it's about creating economic opportunities and building a resilient future for Europe. 🚀

