

Technology partnership

Cellforce Group and Dürr AG successfully establish joint mass production process for electrode coating

- The battery cell manufacturer relies on direct cooperation with the machine and plant manufacturer in Bietigheim-Bissingen
- Early cooperation means optimal use of technology
- Process for simultaneous coating of electrode sides ensure Cellforce Group's high quality and speed for subsequent production

Kirchentellinsfurt/Bietigheim-Bissingen, October 4, 2022 — Heading for the future at high speed: The Cellforce Group, a joint venture of sports car manufacturer Porsche and battery specialist CUSTOMCELLS, has successfully built up the mass production process for coating its electrodes over the past twelve months — relying on the knowledge, technology, and direct proximity to machinery and plant manufacturer Dürr. Today, the Cellforce Group and Dürr jointly commissioned a high-tech coating facility for high-performance battery cells in Bietigheim-Bissingen.

Specifically, the Cellforce Group (CFG) will soon be using a special process from Dürr that enables both sides of the electrode to be coated simultaneously. In this way, the coating process can be accelerated and the precision and quality significantly increased when compared to the standard procedure. In conventional processes, the anode and cathode materials are not applied simultaneously but rather one after the other on both sides of a thin metal foil.

In order to successfully commission and establish the process, the Cellforce Group has been on site at Dürr in Bietigheim-Bissingen for several months and has implemented production on a factory line. "For us, it was important that

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Dürr, as our technology partner, could act quickly and make possible adjustments directly. That's why we chose this Cellforce proprietary approach, which has greatly increased the speed of development of our coating process and allows us to build up shared knowledge at an early stage," says Markus Woland, Director Operations at the Cellforce Group.

Processes ready for a new Cellforce Group site

The technology for the double-sided electrode coating was developed by Dürr's US subsidiary Megtec, which was acquired in 2018. "We have a special technology that enables the Cellforce Group to manufacture top-quality high-performance cells — and to do so with a highly efficient and sustainable production process. By working directly with the Cellforce Group, we can optimally align the technology with their needs and thus support them in the future development and production of high-performance cells with high energy density," says Dr. Jochen Weyrauch, CEO of Dürr AG.

"Strong partnerships are needed for the development and production of future high-performance battery cells. The direct cooperation between the Cellforce Group and Dürr AG is a good example of how win-win situations can be created for all parties involved. This is a role model and thus sets standards for battery cell production in Germany," says Michael Steiner, Member of the Board of Management for Research and Development at Porsche AG.

The Cellforce Group is currently building a state-of-the-art development and production site for battery cells in the Reutlingen-Kirchentellinsfurt industrial park. Once this new site is completed, the production processes set up at Dürr can be taken over and continued directly. To ensure sustainable operation of the coating line, Dürr is also supplying equipment for exhaust air purification and the recovery of more than 99 percent of the solvents used.

Pictures for this press release can be found [here](#).

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About the Cellforce Group

Cellforce Group GmbH (CFG) plans to develop and produce high-performance lithium-ion pouch cells for special automotive applications from 2024. Cellforce is a joint venture in which Porsche AG holds a 72.7 percent stake, with the remaining shares held by CUSTOMCELLS Holding GmbH. The managing directors are Markus Gräf as Chief Operating Officer (COO) and Wolfgang Hüsken as Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The workforce is expected to grow to up to 100 people by 2025.

For more information about Cellforce, please visit: www.cellforce.de

About Dürr AG

The Dürr Group is one of the world's leading mechanical and plant engineering firms with extensive expertise in automation and digitalization/Industry 4.0. Its products, systems and services enable highly efficient and resource-saving manufacturing processes in different industries. The Dürr Group supplies sectors like the automotive industry, mechanical engineering, chemical, pharmaceutical, medical technology and woodworking industries. It generated sales of €3.54 billion in 2021. The company has almost 18,100 employees and 120 business locations in 33 countries. The Dürr Group operates in the market with the brands Dürr, Schenck and HOMAG and with five divisions:

- **Paint and Final Assembly Systems:** paint shops as well as final assembly, testing and filling technology for the automotive industry, assembly and test systems for medical devices
- **Application Technology:** robot technologies for the automated application of paint, sealants and adhesives
- **Clean Technology Systems:** air pollution control, noise abatement systems and coating systems for battery electrodes
- **Measuring and Process Systems:** balancing equipment and diagnostic technology
- **Woodworking Machinery and Systems:** machinery and equipment for the woodworking industry

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