

## Dürr plans pilot line for dry coating of electrodes together with Cellforce and LiCAP

Bietigheim-Bissingen, February 5, 2025 — From electric cars to headphones: The demand for lithium-ion batteries is increasing worldwide. However, the production of the electrodes required for this is energy-intensive and involves the use of toxic solvents. Therefore, Dürr is breaking new ground with the battery cell manufacturer Cellforce and the US company LiCAP. Together, the three partners are planning an innovative pilot plant for the dry coating of electrode foils at Cellforce in Kirchentellinsfurt (Germany). Compared to conventional wet coating, this future-oriented technology offers significant advantages in terms of costs, energy consumption, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Furthermore, this eliminates the need for solvents.

In the production of electrodes, thin metal foils are coated with the cathode and anode material consisting of chemicals. Today, this is usually done using wet material and solvents. The plant that is to be built in Kirchentellinsfurt near Stuttgart, in contrast, will work with dry material. This will enable energy savings of up to 40% by eliminating the need for drying ovens. At the same time, production time will be reduced by around 20% and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be decreased by around 1 ton per 10 kilowatt hours of electrode capacity produced.

Dr. Jochen Weyrauch, CEO of Dürr AG: “Dry coating has the potential to make battery production significantly more efficient and sustainable. Together with Cellforce and LiCAP, we see ourselves as an enabler for the new technology and its use on an industrial scale.”

Dr. Markus Gräf, COO, and Dr. Heino Sommer, CTO of Cellforce: “We are seeing remarkable progress made by LiCAP's Activated Dry Electrode<sup>®</sup> Technology in reducing internal resistance for high-performance cells, minimizing space requirements and significantly reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and manufacturing costs. We look forward to continuing to work with Dürr and

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LiCAP to further develop this highly innovative technology to market as quickly as possible.”

The dry coating plant at Porsche subsidiary Cellforce is scheduled to go into operation in 2026. It is based on the patented Activated Dry Electrode® process of the Californian battery material specialist LiCAP, with whom Dürr has been cooperating since 2023. The pressing of the dry chemical powder onto the foils is done using the calendaring technology of the French Dürr subsidiary Ingecal. Dürr has already built a similar test plant on a gigawatt scale in Chassieu in the south of France.

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

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The Dürr Group is one of the world's leading mechanical and plant engineering firms with particular expertise in the technology fields of automation, digitalization, and energy efficiency. Its products, systems, and services enable highly efficient and sustainable manufacturing processes – mainly in the automotive industry and for producers of furniture and timber houses, but also in sectors such as the chemical and pharmaceutical industries, medical devices, electrical engineering, and battery production. In 2023, the company generated sales of €4.6 billion. The Dürr Group has around 20,000 employees and 141 business locations in 33 countries. As of January 1, 2025, the former divisions Paint and Final Assembly Systems and Application Technology were merged to form the new Automotive division. Since then, the Dürr Group has been operating in the market with four divisions:

- **Automotive:** painting technology, final assembly, testing and filling technology
- **Industrial Automation:** automated assembly and test systems for automotive components, medical devices, and consumer goods as well as balancing technology solutions and coating systems for battery electrodes
- **Woodworking:** machinery and equipment for the woodworking industry
- **Clean Technology Systems Environmental:** air pollution control and noise abatement systems

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