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Jungheinrich launches field trials with sodium-ion batteries at selected customer sites

- **Innovation for sustainable logistics**
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Hamburg – Jungheinrich has reached another milestone in the development of sustainable energy storage solutions and is launching field trials of sodium-ion batteries in industrial trucks at selected customer sites. With this move, the company is underlining its role as a driver of innovation in material handling and its commitment to the further development of cutting-edge battery technologies.

Innovation for sustainable logistics

Sodium-ion technology is regarded as a promising alternative to conventional lithium-ion batteries. Greater availability of raw materials, lower costs and a better environmental footprint characterise it. “We are working intensively on new battery technologies so that we can continue to offer our customers high-performance, sustainable and cost-effective solutions in the future,” explains Martin von Werder, Head of Technology Development at Jungheinrich.

Field trials for real-world applications

As part of the current project, vehicles are being fitted with lithium-ion batteries and tested in real-world customer use. The aim is to validate the performance and reliability of the new technology under a wide range of operating conditions, thereby gaining valuable insights for series production. The first prototypes have already been successfully built and tested in forklift trucks.

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Jungheinrich Aktiengesellschaft
Friedrich-Ebert-Damm 129 · 22047 Hamburg, Germany · Phone +49 40 6948-0 · Fax +49 40 6948-1777
info@jungheinrich.com · www.jungheinrich.com

Supervisory Board Kathrin Elisabeth Dahnke, Chairwoman
Board of Management Dr. Lars Brzoska, Chairman · Nadine Despieux · Maik Manthey
Group Headquarters Hamburg · **Registration Court** Hamburg Commercial Register 44 885
Bank Commerzbank AG Hamburg (BIC: COBADEFFXXX) IBAN: DE57 2004 0000 0630 7300 00; (BLZ 200 400 00) 6 307 300
Deutsche Bank AG Hamburg (BIC: DEUTDEHHXXX) IBAN: DE96 2007 0000 0042 9977 00; (BLZ 200 700 00) 0 429 977



The advantages of sodium-ion technology are clear: sodium is widely available as a raw material worldwide and is not subject to geopolitical constraints. Furthermore, it offers Sustainability benefits – such as more resource-efficient production and good recyclability. Cheaper raw materials and components reduce manufacturing costs, thereby improving cost efficiency.

Research and development as the key

Jungheinrich works closely with international cell manufacturers and research partners to further develop the technology and tailor it to the specific requirements of material handling. Laboratory and field tests carried out to date have provided important insights into the service life, performance and safety of the batteries.

By testing the sodium-ion battery, Jungheinrich is reaffirming its commitment to embracing innovation at an early stage and playing an active role in shaping it. The aim is to pass on the benefits of new technologies to customers as quickly as possible, thereby contributing to sustainable and future-proof logistics.

Picture: Jungheinrich deploys sodium-ion batteries in real-world customer applications to test the performance and reliability of the new technology.

If you have any queries, please contact:

Dr Benedikt Nufer

Head of Communications & Public Affairs

spokesman

Tel.: +49 40 6948 3489

Mobile: +49 151 2779 1245

Mail: benedikt.nufer@jungheinrich.de



About Jungheinrich:

As a globally leading provider in material handling, Jungheinrich has been advancing the development of innovative and sustainable products and solutions for material flows for more than 70 years. The listed family-owned business is committed to being a global partner offering value-adding solutions for material flows and thus creating the warehouse of the future. In 2025, Jungheinrich and its workforce of over 21,000 employees generated revenue of €5.5 billion. The Jungheinrich global network covers twelve production plants and its own direct sales and service companies in over 40 countries. The share is listed on the MDAX.