



Press release

EU Innovation Fund supports FENECON CarBatteryReFactory:

Factory for industrial storage from zero- and second-life vehicle batteries

- Pioneer of multifunctional and platform-based energy storage systems as one of two companies from Germany selected
- FENECON builds production site for the series production of industrial energy storage systems based on zero- and second-life batteries from electric vehicles
- Europe's largest production facility for storage systems from vehicle batteries with 90 high-quality jobs receives EU funding of 4.5 million euros

Deggendorf, 29 July 2021 - FENECON, a leading manufacturer for home, commercial and industrial storage solutions, is one of only two German companies to receive funding from the EU Innovation Fund, which supports particularly climate-friendly projects. The medium-sized company is investing the 4.5 million euros in the construction of a new production site in Iggenbach near Deggendorf, the "CarBatteryReFactory". In 2023 container storage systems will be manufactured there from zero- and second-life electric car batteries - i.e. spare part batteries and those that have already been used in vehicles. Energy suppliers, charging park operators and industrial companies will use such systems to store electricity temporarily and to increase the stability of the grid.

With the storage systems of the FENECON Industrial series produced in the factory, the manufacturer is planning to reduce 1,4 million tons of CO₂ over the next ten years, thus making a significant contribution to climate protection and the energy transition. The EU Innovation Fund supports projects in the range of clean technologies that support climate neutrality by 2050. To be eligible for funding, projects must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, use innovative technologies, and be fast implementable, scalable and cost-effective.

Series production of industrial storage systems

The FENECON Industrial storage platform received the prestigious ees Award in 2020. The container storage system makes use of the advantages of electric vehicle batteries: It is powerful, mobile and can be used under various climatic conditions. Thanks to flexible and innovative hardware and software, electric vehicle batteries of different manufacturers and ages can operate together. At the end of a battery's life, it can be easily removed from its "drawer", recycled and it can be replaced by a new or used vehicle battery. The FEMS energy management system used for this purpose is based on OpenEMS, an open-source platform initiated by FENECON and is now used worldwide.

Based on the FENECON Industrial, the planned facility will create low-cost large-scale storage systems as well as so-called living spare parts stores for vehicle batteries that actively stabilize power

grids. FENECON Industrial, low-cost large-scale storage systems will be created in the planned plant, as well as so-called living spare parts storage for vehicle batteries, which actively stabilize power grids. In addition, the container storage units can be rented for a limited period of time for events, environmental disasters or for industrial use.

"Our team has managed to develop a platform that allows the continued use of the complete electric vehicle battery packs. With the help of artificial intelligence, Big Data analytics, dedicated testing and mapping the batteries as a 'digital twin' in the system, we are able to use a wide variety of batteries together in one storage system. This enables the industrial and scaled production of storage systems," explains Fabian Eckl, head of research and development at FENECON.

"While other companies rely exclusively on battery suppliers in China, we use batteries that are already available in Europe," says Franz-Josef Feilmeier, CEO of FENECON. "With the new production, we are underlining approach to sustainability, because the raw materials that have already been used can again work usefully for many years and save CO₂ before we recycle them in a controlled manner. At the same time, the industrial region of Lower Bavaria benefits from sustainable industrial jobs through the energy- and mobility turnaround".

The next steps

The site, which is located directly at the Iggenbach motorway exit, will be used for the construction of production and storage halls, development laboratories and offices in an ecological construction. All vehicles are electric and all parking spaces are equipped with charging stations. The company uses suitable roof and façade surfaces for solar power production. From 2023, industrial production is expected to start and, with increasing availability of used vehicle batteries, ultimately creating more than 90 jobs, one third of them as engineering positions.

FENECON has been growing continuously for ten years

The company, which was founded in 2011, has been working for six years on the use of batteries and has built up its know-how in various research and customer projects. Electricity storage systems from Deggendorf are successfully in use all over the world, and with companies such as BMW, Audi, Renault and Siemens, FENECON has strong partners at its side.

Franz-Josef Feilmeier is delighted about the recognition: "This funding is an important milestone for us. It allows us to continue our dynamic and sustainable growth of the last ten years and with affordable industrial and commercial electricity storage systems for sale and rent it makes a significant contribution to the 100 per cent energy transition.

FENECON is one of the 50 fastest-growing technology companies in Germany according to the Technology Fast 50 Award 2020 and intends to maintain this growth course. The also in Deggendorf developed FENECON Home and Commercial storage series, are among the technological leaders in the products in the single-family home, commercial and agricultural sectors and enable a particularly simple sector coupling for the integration of mobility and heat.

About FENCON

FENECON is a leading manufacturer of electricity storage solutions and offers systems for private households as well as for commerce, industry, energy suppliers and grid operators. The solutions use the in-house energy management system FEMS based on OpenEMS and thus enable grid- and energy-related energy management up to intelligent sector coupling of electricity, mobility and heat.

FENECON's performance, flexibility and innovative strength have been confirmed by numerous awards such as the Handelsblatt Energy Award and the Technology Fast 50 Award. In addition, the high-performance FENECON industrial storage system received the internationally renowned ees Award 2020.

FENECON is one of the strongest innovators in the industry and is committed to a future with 100% renewable energy. Worldwide, more than 15,000 FENECON storage systems are helping to reduce electricity costs and CO2 emissions and to relieve the energy grids.

The company, which employs over 75 people, is headquartered in Deggendorf, Bavaria and produces in the nearby locations of Künzing and soon in Iggenbach.

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