



PRESS RELEASE

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Ricardo leads consortium to establish UK supply chain for sustainable electric motors

The UK-ALUMOTOR consortium has received an award from the Driving Electric Revolution Challenge fund – through UK Research and Innovation – to establish a UK supply chain for electric machines: leveraging manufacturing expertise to deliver next generation sustainable electric motors

As vehicle manufacturers look to accelerate the consumer adoption of electric and hybrid electric vehicles, the global market for electric motors is estimated to be worth £28.5 billion by 2025. It is essential, therefore, that key players in the UK electric vehicles (EV) manufacturing sector, supported by government, act now to enable the nation to capture a significant slice of this substantial growth market.

UK-ALUMOTOR, led by Ricardo with Aspire Engineering, Brandauer, Warwick Manufacturing Group at The University of Warwick, Phoenix Scientific Industries, and Global Technologies Racing, is a consortium of experts formed to develop a supply chain around an innovative proprietary design for an electric motor. The consortium's aim is to grow UK manufacturing capability and develop the next generation of skilled engineers and technicians.

Thanks to the award, the consortium of six partners, headed by Ricardo, will develop and refine an electric machine design fit for manufacture in the UK, aligned to the future requirements of stakeholders both in this country and internationally.

Over the nine-month project, the partners will identify preferred manufacturing processes, suitable for volume production.



This approach removes the need for scarce material resources associated with costly existing electric machines, whilst disrupting established supply chain monopolies. Through this approach, the consortium seeks to position the UK's power electronics, machines and drives (PEMD) capability at the centre of the global electric revolution.

Richard Gordon, Ricardo head of research and development said: "Ricardo has long been known for industry-leading innovation, R&D and manufacturing excellence, which is helping global transport manufacturers drive cost of out electrification. This award of funding from the Driving Electric Revolution Challenge fund is significant. It will enable Ricardo and our consortium partners to continue to support the mass adoption of electrification by making it more affordable, contributing to the green bounce back with an environmentally sustainable design, and establishing the UK's long-term future in this sector. This will position the UK at the forefront of the global electric revolution."

The award from Driving Electric Revolution Challenge fund is the latest boost to Ricardo's provision of engineering and manufacturing thought leadership for manufacturers in the global EV market: on 11 November 2020 the company also announced the award of funding from the Office of Low Emissions Vehicles to digitalize electric and hybrid electric vehicle development.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:



Ricardo plc is a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy. Our people are committed to providing outstanding value through quality engineering solutions focused on high efficiency, low emission, class-leading product innovation and robust strategic implementation. With a century of delivering excellence and value through technology, our client list includes the world's major transportation original equipment manufacturers, supply chain organizations, energy companies, financial institutions and governments. Guided by our corporate values of respect, integrity, creativity & innovation and passion, we enable our customers to achieve sustainable growth and commercial success. Ricardo is listed in the FTSE4Good Index, which identifies global companies that demonstrate strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

Driving the Electric Revolution (DER) launched in 2019 and is funded by an £80 million investment from the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, run by UK Research and Innovation. The challenge aims to make the UK a global leader in the manufacture of core technologies which support electrification: power electronics, machines and drives (PEMD). Working across seven sectors we are giving projects a share of up to £40 million to fill help gaps in the UK's PEMD supply chain. We are the catalyst and a main building block to delivering the technology required to achieve net zero. Without PEMD net zero is not possible and without DER, PEMD manufacturing will not happen at scale in the UK.

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is the largest public funder of research and innovation in the UK, with a budget of over £8bn. It is composed of seven disciplinary research councils, Innovate UK and Research England. We operate across the whole country and work with our many partners in higher education, research organisations businesses, government, and charities. Our vision is for an outstanding research and innovation system in the UK that gives everyone the opportunity to contribute and to benefit, enriching lives locally, nationally and internationally. Our mission is to convene, catalyse and invest in close collaboration with others to build a thriving, inclusive research and innovation system that connects discovery to prosperity and public good.

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