

D2.4

Network Terms and Conditions of Collaboration

Deliverable Information

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Executive Summary

The LiPLANET consortium has been created in order to develop a European innovation and production ecosystem by forming a network of lithium battery cell pilot lines. This pilot lines network consists of stakeholders from both the industry and the scientific community and its main goal is to establish a unique selling propositions towards the EU industry in support of its market access within the cell manufacturing ecosystem.

Once the network is set up, the network members will perform several activities with the aim of exchanging different kinds of data, identifying knowledge and equipment gaps, creating common training and standardization initiatives, and ultimately jointly developing strategies for scaling up the impact of the network.

The goal of Deliverable 2.4 is to propose a legal framework that covers the activities performed by the network members and to set out the structure of the network. The legal framework consists in one main agreement titled as “Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions” and five (5) annexes.

This main agreement describes the legal form of the network, its organizational structure, the principles guiding the exchange of data and the general means of cooperation of the network members.

The first annex is the association statute that will be handed over to the German ministry of associations and it describes the organizational structure and the main setup of the association. It will be both written in the English and German language.

The second annex is the questionnaire that helps the network decide which pilot line is suitable to join, according to the LiPLANET definition of pilot lines described in deliverable 1.1 - Pilot line definitions and terms of reference.

The third annex is the declaration of adherence which has to be signed by every joining member, it states that the joining member will accept the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions.

The fourth annex is a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) which members can use as a template if they wish to join in parallel collaborations. It rules how confidential information is being treated.

The fifth annex is a material transfer agreement (MTA) which members can use as a template if they wish to join in parallel material exchange. It defines the rights that both contract partners have to perform research, tests or analyzes on the given material.

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1 Introduction

1.1 LiPLANET in brief

The overall objective of the LiPLANET project is to create a European innovation and production ecosystem and reinforce the position of the European Union (EU) in the Li-ion battery cell manufacturing market. LiPLANET plans to build a more competitive Li-ion battery cell manufacturing ecosystem and increase the production of Li-ion cells towards industrial scale, by bringing together the most relevant European Li-ion cell pilot lines and the main stakeholders of the battery sector. The project LiPLANET lays the foundation for a network of battery cell pilot lines in Europe. This network allows to exploit synergies between pilot line operators, identify knowledge and equipment gaps, organize joint trainings as well as, favor collaboration with industry and academia, and facilitate the access to market.

For this purpose, different activities are followed throughout the project:

- mapping of the European Li-ion cell pilot lines and implementation of a network,
- creation of a standardized legal framework and a data exchange platform for the cooperation between industry, academia and pilot lines,
- round-robin test to compare qualification methods,
- development of a roadmap for joint strategies of the network towards industrial scale battery cell production in Europe.

1.2 Scope and objective of this deliverable

The goal of this deliverable is to provide a legal framework for the collaboration between the pilot lines operators/network members. This legal framework consists of a set of documents which define the rights and obligations of the pilot lines operators and the organizational structure of the network.

This deliverable is categorized as non-confidential and has been structured based on the following previous deliverables:

- D1.1 – Pilot Lines Definitions and Terms of Reference;
- D1.2 – Mapping Questionnaire;
- D2.1 – Data Exchange Platform Structure;
- D3.1 – Communication and Organizational Structure.

2 Legal Framework

2.1 Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions

This document outlines the conditions which govern the collaboration and exchange of information and/or material between the pilot lines operators and consists of the following terms:

- The legal form “association” according to the German law as organizational structure;
- The definition of network and pilot line;
- The management structure of the association;
- The activities that will be performed by the association;
- The member admission conditions;
- The member eviction conditions;
- The management of the data exchange platform.

In addition to the aforementioned terms, which are specific to the association, the following articles also integrate the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions:

- Duration and Termination;
- Confidentiality;
- Access Rights;
- Liability;
- Governing law;
- Competent courts in case of disputes.

As main document, the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions comprises five (5) annexes as described in section 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 below.

2.2 Association Statue (Annex I)

According to D3.1, the legal form of the association is an “*eingetragener Verein*,” the German version of a non-profit association. This document is being prepared under the legal supervision of TUBS and will be handed over to the German register of associations. The Association Statue will be both written in English and German language and has been attached to the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Terms and Conditions as Annex I.

2.3 Questionnaire (Annex II)

The Questionnaire, which has been developed in D1.2, will be filled by the companies or institutions that wish to integrate into the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network. For information purposes, a template of the Questionnaire has been attached to the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Terms and Conditions as Annex II.

2.4 Declaration of Adherence (Annex III)

Once a company or institution has been approved as member of the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network, it shall sign a declaration of adherence accepting the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Network Terms and Conditions. For information purposes, a template of the Declaration of Adherence has been attached to the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Terms and Conditions as Annex III.

2.5 NDA (Annex IV)

In order to perform their activities as network members, the pilot lines operators may enter into parallel collaborations, performing activities which not involve all network members but only some of them. The exchange of confidential information among the members within the framework of these parallel collaborations will be covered by the Non-Disclosure Agreement attached to the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Terms and Conditions as Annex IV.

2.6 MTA (Annex V)

In addition to the exchange of confidential information within the framework of parallel collaborations, the network members may also wish to exchange materials in order to perform research, tests or analysis. The Material Transfer Agreement, attached to the Battery Cell Pilot Lines Terms and Conditions as Annex V, will cover these materials exchanges.