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KAITEK FLASH BATTERY IS A PARTNER IN THE EUROPEAN IPCEI PROJECT FOR BATTERIES OF THE FUTURE

The Reggio Emilia-based company, led by CEO Marco Righi (Chairman of Reggio Emilia Unindustria's Young Entrepreneurs Group), is one of 17 European partners involved in joint research and innovation projects and initial industrial production in the field of new generation lithium batteries.

Sant'Ilario d'Enza (Reggio Emilia), Italy, 12 December 2019 – Creating an **innovative and sustainable ecosystem** for batteries in Europe is the challenge that the Reggio Emilia-based company Kaitek Flash Battery has taken on as part of a group of 17 partners which includes leading operators in the industry and national institutions. The aim is to build a lithium batteries value chain, completely embedded in the EU, which will produce raw materials, cells, modules and battery systems on a large scale.

The European Commission has approved, in line with the EU rules on support to member countries, an **Important Project of Common European Interest ("IPCEI")**, jointly funded by Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Sweden, to support research and innovation in the common European priority sector of batteries.

17 companies and research institutions have been selected for this IPCEI project to develop **advanced disruptive technologies** that meet performance, cost and safety objectives that are currently not met in the lithium-ion battery sector.

"We are honoured and proud to participate in this research project which is in line with our vision of innovation and sustainability. For us, in Flash Battery, innovation is an approach embraced by the whole company: we know that we don't have all the answers but every day we try and find them, working together with companies and organisations to improve things for the people and communities where we work", noted Marco Righi, CEO of Kaitek Flash Battery (national leader in the production of lithium batteries for industrial machinery and electric vehicles) and Chairman of Reggio Emilia Unindustria's Young Entrepreneurs Group.

The EU has given the green light to an integrated project on batteries to facilitate the conversion from fossil fuels to **cleaner energy** in accordance with the commitments made by the European Union in the Paris agreement.

Righi highlights that *"the issue of energy and renewable sources is at the heart of our vision to create innovative batteries and it is one of the fundamental aims of our everyday work. With our products, that are used mainly in electric vehicles for logistics and industry, we take care of the environment."*

Kaitek Flash Battery is gearing up to meet the demand for new generation lithium batteries, a significant opportunity for **economic growth**, creation of **jobs** and **technological development**. In the spring of 2020 the company (Euro 13.2 million turnover in 2018, with trading partners in 54 countries and 51 members of staff with an average age of 33) will inaugurate its new industrial facility, which is currently under construction at an over 20,000 m² site located in Sant'Ilario d'Enza. The new facility has 1,500 m² of office space, and a production area of 3,200 m² which can be expanded by another 5,000 m².

Kaitek Flash Battery was founded in 2012 and, by 2018, it had a turnover of Euro 13.2 million and 51 members of staff. The company designs and produces lithium batteries for industrial machinery and electric vehicles, supplying manufacturers with moderate production volumes and significant customisation needs.

Press info: press@flashbattery.tech, tel. +39 0522 906035.



Kaitek srl - via Enrico Fermi, 29 - 42049 Calerno Sant'Ilario d'Enza (RE)



P.IVA 02686640356



info@flashbattery.tech



www.flashbattery.tech



+39 0522 906035