

Press Release

FEV France : Z.A. de Trappes – Élanecourt, 11 rue Denis Papin, CS 70533 – Trappes, 78197 Saint Quentin en Yvelines Cedex



FEV France Selected as Part of the "France Relance" Plan

Trappes, France, March 2021 - FEV France is one of the eight winners of the automotive sector selected as part of the "France Relance" plan initiated by the French government. The objective of this €100 billion plan in total is to support investments of leading companies through dedicated funds to drive the transformation of the automotive and aerospace sectors. In addition, the preservation of know-how and skills around ecology, competitiveness and cohesion will be promoted. As part of this plan, FEV developed an investment project in test bench equipment, enabling the company to pursue its activities regarding the electrification of the mobility sector and adjacent markets.

The transformation of the automotive sector towards zero CO₂ mobility is recognized as one of the main challenges in the industry and includes the electrification of future vehicles. FEV France has more than eight years of experience in the field of high-voltage battery testing for BEVs and has been ISO14001 certified.

“Already in 2019, we had invested in a new building at our technical center and head office in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, to increase our battery testing capacity”, said Nadim Andraos, Executive Vice President for FEV in France, Spain and North Africa. “To be able to address today’s ever growing demand in the area of high-voltage battery testing, FEV France’s facilities will now be further expanded in the framework of the ‘France Relance’ plan. The total area of the battery testing facility will cover 600m².”

Contacts presse
Peter & Associés

Patricia Jeannette
pjeannette@peter.fr

www.fev.com



FEV France's new test facility will enable up to two battery packs to be tested at the same time under extreme environmental conditions ranging from -40 to 70 °C and will complement the already existing climatic test facilities (-30 to 70 °C). Innovations of the new facility will include the possibility to interrupt a running test. This allows for technicians to perform examinations or implement changes to the setup without having to completely shut down the test. It can be simply restarted at the point of interruption.

FEV France will carry out electrical characterization tests on different battery pack charge levels. These functional tests at the beginning of a development cycle help to determine the pack's design and support the calibration of the battery management system (BMS). An identical procedure at the end of the development cycle is performed for validation purposes before the market launch.

The start-up for future customer projects is expected to be around mid-December 2021. It will include the possibility to also serve adjacent markets, which seek to electrify their powertrains.

Construction and operation of the new test facility will enable FEV to create around 15 workplaces in direct or indirect positions in France, covering technical, commercial and managerial tasks. In addition, the project will involve various material suppliers and will therefore have a positive impact on employment for these subcontractors as well.



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Source: FEV Group

About FEV

FEV is a leading independent international service provider of vehicle and powertrain development for hardware and software. The range of competencies includes the development and testing of innovative solutions up to series production and all related consulting services. The range of services for vehicle development includes the design of body and chassis, including the fine tuning of overall vehicle attributes such as driving behavior and NVH. FEV also develops innovative lighting systems and solutions for autonomous driving and connectivity. The electrification activities of powertrains cover powerful battery systems, e-machines and inverters. Additionally, FEV develops highly efficient gasoline and diesel engines, transmissions, EDUs as well as fuel cell systems and facilitates their integration into vehicles suitable for homologation. Alternative fuels are a further area of development.

The service portfolio is completed by tailor-made test benches and measurement technology, as well as software solutions that allow efficient transfer of the essential development steps of the above-mentioned developments, from the road to the test bench or simulation.

The FEV Group currently employs 6,300 highly qualified specialists in customer-oriented development centers at more than 40 locations on five continents.

About FEV France

With more than 750 employees in France, FEV provides engineering expertise, services and equipment for the development of innovative powertrains, whether thermal, hybrid or electric. We offer cutting-edge solutions that are increasingly respectful of the environment, with a high level of requirements in terms of quality, timeliness, safety, performance and reliability. FEV is also the preferred partner of major players in the French transport industry: manufacturers, equipment suppliers, test laboratories, schools and universities.