



News Release

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HOPPECKE Batterien GmbH & Co. KG adds ReliOn Fuel Cell Products

Brilon, Germany: HOPPECKE, a leading manufacturer of industrial batteries, charging equipment and energy systems announces its partnership with ReliOn, the leading provider of high reliability fuel cell solutions for backup power applications. Under this agreement, HOPPECKE will market ReliOn's fuel cell products under the HOPPECKE brand for backup power solutions throughout EMEA (Europe, the Middle East and Africa). The companies have agreed on a multi-phased strategy expanding their collaboration to include localization of product integration and manufacturing, technology transfer, and territory expansion beyond the initial focus in EMEA.

Fuel cells are a clean power supply fueled by hydrogen and producing electric energy, heat and water. Their simple, compact architecture is ideal for customers needing high quality power in a small footprint where reliability and clean electrical generation are essential.

Dr. Marc Zoellner, HOPPECKE's CEO stated, "We are very pleased to announce this new partnership with ReliOn, which will enable HOPPECKE to extend our product offering across our broad customer base. The fuel cells are just one new component in HOPPECKE's long term strategy to expand into energy and energy management solutions. HOPPECKE has a longstanding commitment to quality and innovation in the development of power solutions. Our cooperation with ReliOn represents a continuation of the growth in developing and providing clean energy system solutions. We look forward to a long partnership serving our customers' need for highly reliable power solutions."

Gary Flood, ReliOn's CEO commented, "ReliOn is pleased to have a strong partner whose focus and abilities will help us grow our market presence significantly. By cooperating with HOPPECKE, we see the opportunity to not only address the needs of the EMEA markets, but to work with a world class company to continue the development and applications of fuel cell solutions. HOPPECKE's reputation and expertise in the power industry provide an ideal base for collaboration between our companies. We believe that together we can supply clean, reliable and cost-effective solutions to customers."

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Effectively immediately, HOPPECKE will begin offering fuel cell-based power solutions throughout EMEA to compliment their traditional battery and power systems products.

About HOPPECKE:

Our energy for your success: To ensure the continuing success of our customers in the future, HOPPECKE has specialized in the development of new technology and services for the storage of energy. Today we are the largest manufacturer of industrial batteries, systems and chargers in European ownership.

Since 1927 we have been developing and producing energy storage systems to German Quality Standard with the claim of standard quality worldwide. To date, many of our developments have led the way in the market for industrial batteries.

Our comprehensive range of storage batteries is complemented by the very latest charging methods and monitoring units to form complete systems. With this systems approach it is our aim, as a value-based, independent family enterprise, to continue our growth in the market for industrial battery systems, in terms of both quantity and quality.

This family concern from the small town of Hoppecke in the German Sauerland region is able to look back on more than 80 years' experience in the business of batteries. Over 1400 employees (half of them in Germany) generate on average annual rates of growth in double figures. With 16 subsidiary companies, and numerous branches, partners and distributors, production and assembly sites worldwide, HOPPECKE is a Global Player. www.hoppecke.com

About ReliOn:

ReliOn's continuous innovation in core technology has made it a leader in the development and marketing of modular, fault-tolerant fuel cell products for customers seeking solutions to critical backup power applications. With more than 1,100 systems serving sites in 38 U.S. states and 21 countries, ReliOn customers enjoy the benefits of high reliability, low operating costs and easy maintenance. ReliOn fuel cells...simply powerful. www.relion-inc.com.

This press release contains "forward-looking statements." These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, which may cause ReliOn's actual results, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements express or implied by such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements made in this press release are based on assumptions and judgments of management regarding future events and results. These assumptions and judgments may prove to be inaccurate as a result of a number of factors, many of which are beyond ReliOn's control, and its actual results may differ materially from the results contemplated in these forward-looking statements.