



January 29, 2024

NEWS RELEASE

Decision to Invest in 2nd Enhancement of Production Capacity of Mass Production Testing Facility for A-SOLiD, a Solid Electrolyte for All-Solid-State Batteries

Mitsui Mining & Smelting Co., Ltd. (President: NOU Takeshi) is pleased to announce today that it has decided to invest in the second enhancement of its production capacity at its mass production testing facility for the solid electrolyte for all-solid-state batteries¹ which it sees as a promising business, branded as A-SOLiD.²

All-solid-state batteries are expected to be the next generation of storage batteries. Efforts to develop them are underway for a wide range of applications, including electric vehicles (EVs). A-SOLiD was created by battery material technology cultivated over many years, and we have defined this material for all-solid-state batteries. We continue to work together with customers and market partners towards the commercialization of these brand-new batteries.

We are scheduling to finish the first enhancement of production capacity in March. This was reported in the news release dated February 13, 2023, titled “Mitsui Kinzoku enhances production capacity of A-SOLiD, a solid electrolyte for all-solid-state batteries, from its mass production testing facility.” Amid the active development race working to achieve the commercialization of all-solid-state batteries for EVs and other applications, multiple customers in Japan and abroad currently have increasing needs for A-SOLiD. We have decided to invest in a second enhancement of production capacity in the existing building. This will increase the production capacity of the mass production testing facility to about three times its current level. At the same time, we will further improve the quality of production by introducing new equipment that enable highly productivity and quality stabilization.

A-SOLiD is so highly regarded by the market for its performance and quality that we have continued to provide samples to customers and market partners. This second enhancement of production capacity and improving the quality of production are expected to enable a further push for the future development of all-solid-state batteries. We will continue its endeavors towards the social implementation of all-solid-state batteries through the stable supply of A-SOLiD.

In accordance with Our Purpose, which states, “We promote the well-being of the world through a spirit of exploration and diverse technologies,” we are committed to identifying new unique applications for the all-solid-state batteries, including EVs, together with all parties in its endeavors to build a sustainable society.

[Outline of mass production testing building]

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Glossary

1 All-solid-state batteries

All-solid-state batteries feature high energy density, high I/O performance, high environment resistance and other attributes, and are being developed for applications in special environments and for new power storage and electric vehicle (EV) applications. Some have already entered the practical application phase.

2 A-SOLiD

Our solid electrolyte a high lithium ion conductivity equivalent to that of organic electrolytes and is an argyrodite-type sulfide solid electrolyte, which is electrochemically stable. With this brand, it will contribute to the popularization of all-solid-state batteries.

(Reference)

February 13, 2023, Mitsui Kinzoku enhances production capacity of A-SOLiD, a solid electrolyte for all-solid-state batteries, from its mass production testing facility

<https://www.mitsui-kinzoku.com/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=vLM5RI33g6Y%3d&tabid=278&mid=824&TabModule1277=1>



Photo of argyrodite-type sulfide solid electrolyte (A-SOLiD)



A-SOLiD is produced in this mass production testing building.