



press release press release

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Linde launches electric forklift trucks powered by Saft lithium-ion batteries

New generation forklift trucks demonstrated at CeMAT 2011 use Saft's state-of-the-art Li-ion battery technology to increase operating range and reduce charging periods.

Paris, May 3, 2011 – Saft's state-of-the-art lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries provide the onboard power for Linde's new generation of electric forklift trucks presented at CeMAT 2011, the intralogistics trade fair taking place at the Hannover Messe, Germany. Linde (www.linde-mh.de), a leading provider of high quality and innovative material handling vehicles, is introducing the Saft Li-ion batteries as an alternative to lead-acid batteries to enable operators to enjoy a significantly extended operating range and reduced charging periods, as well as a longer service life and reduced maintenance for optimum total cost of ownership (TCO).

"Electric materials handling vehicles are frequently in operation 24/7, so they require batteries cable of delivering exceptional reliability and high performance over a long service life," says Xavier Delacroix, General Manager of Saft's IBG division. "Linde's decision to select our Li-ion batteries for their new generation forklift trucks is further confirmation of their proven capability to offer significant operational advantages in even the most demanding applications."

Saft has worked closely with Linde's engineering team to develop a tailor-made Li-ion battery solution that offers the optimum combination of performance, power-to-weight ratio, reliability, life and safety. Ergonomic improvements for the electric forklift were made possible by the design freedom offered by the Li-ion battery.

Saft Li-ion batteries are featured on two Linde vehicles making their debut at CeMAT: the E25 BR387 2.5 ton stacking forklift truck and the T16 pallet truck. These batteries incorporate Saft Li-ion VL cells assembled in a specific series-parallel configuration to provide the optimum energy required.

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About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world specialist in the design and manufacture of high-tech batteries for industry. Saft batteries are used in high performance applications, such as industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, space and defence. Saft is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries for industrial applications and of primary lithium batteries for a wide range of end markets. The group is also the European leader for specialised advanced technologies for the defence and space industries and world leader in lithium-ion satellite batteries. Saft is also delivering its lithium-ion technology to new applications in clean vehicles and energy storage systems. With approximately 4,000 employees worldwide, Saft is present in 19 countries. Its 15 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network enable the group to serve its customers worldwide. Saft is listed in the SBF 120 index on the Paris Stock Market.

For more information, visit Saft at www.saftbatteries.com

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