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Booth 15.1/226

PRESS RELEASE

Saft launches first onboard Li-ion battery system for regenerative traction applications

New 250 V modular onboard Li-ion solution enables rail operators to capture, store and reuse rolling stock braking energy for traction - resulting in economic and energy efficiency and reduced environmental impact.

Berlin, September 18, 2012 – Saft, the world's leading designer and manufacturer of high-technology batteries for industry, is launching at Innotrans its new modular Lithium-ion (Li-ion) onboard battery system. Visitors to Booth 15.1/226 can speak to Saft's experts about the use of Li-ion energy storage to optimize the reliability and energy efficiency of rail networks by providing autonomous and hybrid traction for catenary-free operation and regenerative braking.

Effective onboard energy storage can contribute to the energy-efficiency of rail networks by providing operators with the potential to save up to 30 percent of their energy costs; it can also make a significant contribution to minimizing their impact on the environment by reducing emissions. In addition, the potential elimination of overhead catenaries on large sections of track reduces both infrastructure construction and maintenance costs.

The Saft Li-ion battery can be directly integrated into a wide range of rolling stock including light rail systems such as trams, street cars and tram-trains, electric multiple units (EMUs), diesel locomotives and automated people movers (APMs). Early discussions with OEMs and operators have generated considerable interest in the adoption of onboard Li-ion energy storage and Saft has already received a number of firm orders.

The advantage of Saft's advanced Li-ion battery technology for railway OEMs and operators is that it offers both high power and energy density combined with a high rate of charge and discharge that ensures maximum system availability. The high reliability of Li-ion batteries is a fundamental benefit that this technology brings. For example, the onboard battery can provide sufficient autonomous traction power for a hybrid vehicle to continue its journey to the next station. Vehicle traction is also maintained in locations where catenaries cannot be installed for security, safety or aesthetic reasons – such as in historic city centres.

To meet the specific needs of the growing regenerative traction market, Saft has developed the new generation 250 V, compact, lightweight, modular Li-ion battery solution integrated within an industry-standard enclosure for direct onboard installation. The 250 V modules are designed for ease of mechanical assembly to offer the scalability and flexibility to suit every power need, and can be configured to create battery systems up to 750 V.



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About Saft

Saft (Euronext: Saft) is a world leader in the design and manufacture of advanced technology batteries for industry. The Group is the world's leading manufacturer of nickel batteries and primary lithium batteries for the industrial infrastructure and processes, transportation, civil and military electronics' markets. Saft is the world leader in space and defence batteries with its Li-ion technologies which are also being deployed in the energy storage, transportation and telecommunication markets. Saft's 4,000 employees present in 19 countries, its 16 manufacturing sites and extensive sales network all contribute to accelerating the Group's growth for the future.

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

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