

RECHARGE celebrates its 25th anniversary during the International Congress for Battery Recycling

Valencia, 07.09.2023 – Today, at the International Congress for Battery Recycling (ICBR), RECHARGE marked the important milestone of the association being created 25 years ago. Founded in 1998, RECHARGE’s mission is to promote advanced rechargeable batteries as a key technology that will contribute to a more empowered, sustainable and circular economy. RECHARGE hosted on this occasion a session during the official ICBR program titled *‘The key drivers for a competitive batteries value chain in Europe’*.

“In the same year when the new EU Batteries Regulation enters into force, and the European batteries industry being at crossroads, this is an important milestone of the association. The European batteries value chain has the real prospect to set new sustainability standards globally while becoming a growing competitive player. For this to happen, Europe needs to ensure a friendly investment climate for our sector, as well as a controlled enforcement of the Batteries Regulation’s sustainability provisions. Furthermore, all relevant EU legislation, especially chemicals legislation, needs to be truly coherent with the path set out in the EU Green Deal and climate goals objectives”, commented Claude Chanson, RECHARGE General Manager.

“Battery recycling is a key issue for RECHARGE’s members, and this is why we are proudly celebrating the association turning 25 at the ICBR today. This lies in the history and foundation of the association: In 1998, RECHARGE was created together with a handful of members. The initial mission was to promote the efficient collection of spent portable and industrial batteries. Since, the scope of the association has been growing. I am proud to be the Chair of today’s association, counting over 60 members, representing material suppliers, manufacturers, OEMs, service providers, and recyclers”, added Patrick de Metz, Chairman of RECHARGE.

“We are enthused to host today RECHARGE’s anniversary celebration at the ICBR. As the former Chair of the association, I have seen the association growing up, and the recent growth of the membership is truly impressive – a reflection of the industry’s development in Europe and the excellent work of the RECHARGE team, under Claude’s lead, to represent the value chain’s interest towards the EU institutions while enabling expert discussion and recommendations to emerge. We honour today also the former General Manager, Jean-Pol Wiaux. He played a key role in setting up the foundations and allow RECHARGE to be the association it is today”, commented, Jill Ledger, former Chair of RECHARGE.

RECHARGE looks forward to continuing to play a key role in supporting the development of the battery value chain in Europe, to provide expert input to policymakers to shape the legislative framework and ensuring a proper implementation of the Batteries Regulation.

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RECHARGE is the European industry association for advanced rechargeable and lithium batteries. Founded in 1998, it is our mission to promote advanced rechargeable batteries as a key technology that will contribute to a more empowered, sustainable and circular economy by enabling decarbonised electricity and mobility, and cutting-edge consumer products. RECHARGE’s unique membership covers all aspects of the advanced rechargeable battery value chain: From suppliers of primary and secondary raw materials, to battery and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), to logistic partners and battery recyclers. www.rechargebatteries.org

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