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ASX Announcement

Cadoux Foundation Member of EU-Backed SAFELOOP Consortium Driving Next-Generation Battery Innovation

Highlights

- *Cadoux joins as a full participant consortium partner in the SAFELOOP energy storage solution R&D project which features Cadoux's premium HPA extensively across the uniquely designed battery architecture*
- *The SAFELOOP consortium is an international collaboration of 15 partners consisting of universities and business groups across Europe, the US and Australia*
- *SAFELLOOP is a world class research and development consortium developing Gen3 European EV Li-Ion Battery technologies focusing on enhanced safety, sustainability, and circular economy principles*
- *Grant funding of €5 million has been provided to the SAFELOOP consortium by the European Commission's Horizon Program*
- *Cadoux's HPA is key input to multiple aspects across the entire battery architecture*
- *Market implications of successful battery development are considerable*

Emerging critical minerals developer Cadoux Ltd (ASX: **CCM**) ("**Cadoux**" or the "**Company**") is pleased to announce it becoming a full participant in the world class battery development consortium – SAFELOOP.

Through SAFELOOP, Cadoux gains exposure to leading-edge battery research, direct collaboration with European OEMs, and alignment with major international supply chain and recycling initiatives. This participation strengthens Cadoux's strategic positioning within the critical minerals and battery materials sector, reinforcing its role in supporting the transition to clean energy technologies.



Funded by the
European Union

SAFELLOOP is a collaborative research and development consortium project involving 15 entities from 11 countries, representing a blend of leading universities, material producers, engineers, manufacturers and technology companies. The international group of partners are joining forces to bolster competitive material-level technologies and supply chain logistics in developing innovative technologies for a competitive and environmentally friendly battery industry in Europe.

Key goals of SAFELOOP include securing strategic raw material feedstock, reducing reliance on Asian supply chains, improving environmental sustainability, optimizing energy-efficient processing, and demonstrating technological leadership. SAFELOOP's focal point is Gen3 European EV Li-Ion Battery (LIB) safety, encompassing the entire life cycle of LIBs within EVs.

The project aims to significantly improve the safety, sustainability, service life and performance of LIBs on a European gigafactory scale. Specific targets include a 15 per cent increase in cycle stability by 2030, while the operating life is to be doubled compared to average LIB life of 2019 (2-3 years or 300-500 cycles). The project is also increasingly focusing on recycled materials from closed loop supply chains.

SAFELoop stands for *Securely Advancing Future EVs with Li-Ion batteries through Optimised Pathways*. The project's primary goal is to elevate the safety, sustainability, and performance of European Gigafactory scale Li-Ion Battery cells, aligning with the EUCAR Hazard Level 3 standards for mobility applications. Beyond enhancing battery safety, the project seeks to develop the world's first Electric Vehicles-rated Li-Ion Battery using up to 25% recycled and fully rejuvenated battery-active materials.

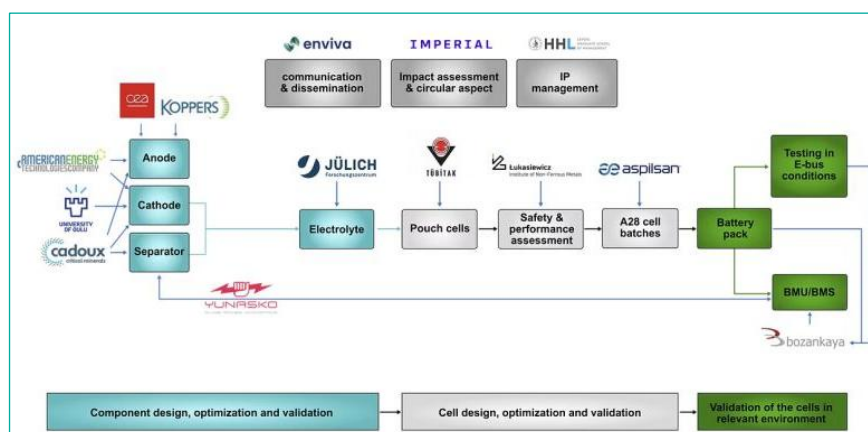
SAFELoop is funded by the Horizon Europe – the European Union's flagship research and innovation funding program, with a budget close to €100 billion. SAFELoop secured €5 million of funding from the European Commission.

SAFELoop is also a contributor to BATT4EU partnership. Through its activities, BATT4EU is aiming to contribute to carbon-neutrality through the widespread adoption of e-mobility and stationary electrical energy storage. SAFELoop will particularly help Batt4EU's specific objective on support the development of differentiating technologies in battery materials, cell design and manufacturing and battery recycling.

In a global first, the project will pioneer the development of an automotive-grade LIB containing up to 15% recycled components, creating a blueprint for future battery designs with up to 90% recycled material.

The consortium will seek to develop a generation three automotive LIB for the European Union's (EU) OEMs, as well as to enhance the security of the supply chain for battery cell manufacturing in Europe. The project will consist of materials innovation where groups of suppliers representing the entire supply chain of battery manufacturing will be brought together. These groups will represent suppliers of the cathode, the anode, the separator, and the electrolyte.

The SAFELoop consortium consists of international innovation groups representing the entire supply chain of battery manufacturing.



A very strong feature of the SAFELoop project is the fact that two battery cell producers who already have an EV rated battery product in Lithium-ion technologies are foundation members. One of the member proponents is a major European cell and battery manufacturer while the other is one of the top manufacturers and supplier of batteries for the Department of Defence, including electric vehicle and medical applications, in the United States.

Cadoux Managing Director, Mr. Roland Hill commented: “Cadoux is proud to be a founding participant of the SAFELoop consortium, a project that brings together leading international expertise to advance the next generation of safer, higher-performing lithium-ion batteries. Participation in this EU-funded program positions our high-purity alumina technology at the forefront of battery innovation, directly aligned with Europe’s drive for cleaner and more secure energy storage supply chains. Successful development within SAFELoop will validate the technical advantages of Cadoux’s HPA in battery architecture applications and open pathways for commercial collaboration with global cell manufacturers and material developers”.

Authorised for release by Roland Hill, Managing Director.

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About Cadoux Limited

Through the dual overlays of robust project economics and ESG, Cadoux aims to increase long term shareholder value whilst fostering increasing project sustainability.

Cadoux is an emerging developer of critical minerals projects, focused on two key materials essential for global electrification – high purity alumina (HPA) and rare earth minerals which are key feedstock for rare earth magnets. Cadoux is positioning itself to be a significant producer in both markets to take advantage of growing demand in rapidly developing high-tech product markets and contributing significantly to the global momentum for a decarbonised future.

Both Cadoux’s HPA and ‘Minhub’ projects align strongly with Australia’s critical minerals policy by inducing new supply of essential critical minerals and creating value adding, new sovereign supply chains for strategic minerals.

HPA is increasingly becoming the preferred input material for certain high-tech products, principally for its unique characteristics and chemical properties in high specification requirements. Key markets include LEDs and other sapphire glass products, although a longer-term driver for HPA, with forecasts of >33% year-on-year growth (GAGR)*, is the electric vehicle and static energy storage markets where the HPA increases power, functionality and safety when used as a separator material between the anode and cathode in high performance batteries.

An innovative process design by Cadoux has enabled the integrated production of high quality, high purity alumina (HPA) up to 99.999 (5N) purity at robust economically sustainable operating costs. This has been demonstrated through a pilot plant and extensive market studies. Cadoux is now looking to commercially develop that process through a staged development which includes a 1,000tpa small scale production facility in Western Australia followed by a 10,000tpa full scale commercial plant.

In the Northern Territory, Cadoux via Minhub Operations Pty Ltd (MOPL), is looking to develop a new supply chain for Australia’s emerging rare earths and mineral sands projects through the development of the Minhub Project which will include a mineral separation and rare earths minerals processing facility in Darwin. Through a commercial framework, Minhub aims to process 3rd party mineral concentrate and supply rare earth rich xenotime and monazite mineral products to select markets. This includes potentially supplying customers and interested parties with rare earths enabling a significant increase in the supply of critical magnet feed rare earth metals dysprosium and terbium for key markets such as Electric Vehicles.

* Technavio (2024): *Global High Purity Alumina Market 2024-2028*