

ALL KEY EQUIPMENT ORDERS PLACED FOR AUSTRALIAN DEMONSTRATION PLANT

Unlocks first payment of ARENA grant funding with ADP on schedule

- **All key equipment ordered:** All key long lead equipment orders placed for Firebird's Australian Demonstration Plant (ADP), kicking off a short-term fabrication and Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT) program.
- **ARENA Milestone 1 on track:** Key deliverables nearing completion, including execution of intercompany agreements and placement of all long-lead equipment orders, with remaining requirements expected to be completed in the coming weeks.
- **On schedule and on budget:** ADP development remains on schedule and on budget, with equipment shipment to Australia anticipated early Q4 2026.
- **LMR results imminent:** Initial Lithium Manganese Rich (LMR) cathode performance results from the China Pilot Plant expected in coming weeks.
- **Patent pipeline advancing:** Additional manganese-based battery materials patent applications progressing as Firebird expands its intellectual property portfolio.
- **First fully integrated manganese-based battery materials plant:** Strong strategic partner engagement continues across OEMs, battery manufacturers and end-users.

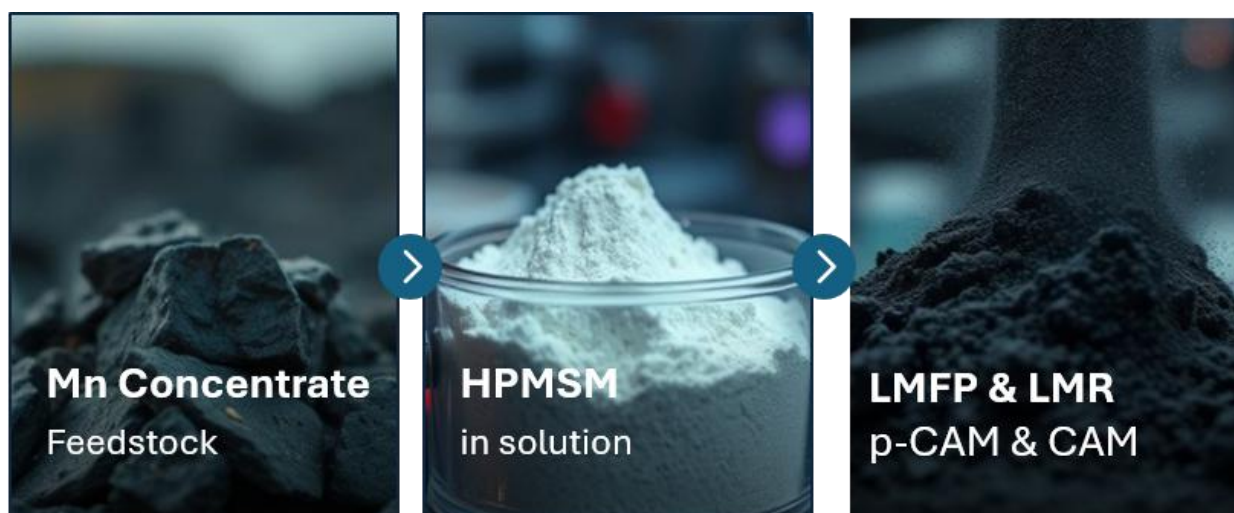


Figure 1. Firebird proprietary manganese concentrate to high purity manganese sulphate, p-CAM and CAM process.

Australian-owned Firebird Metals Limited (“FRB”, “Firebird” or “the Company”) is pleased to announce that formal equipment orders have been placed for all long-lead items required to construct its Australian Demonstration Plant (**ADP**) in Perth, Western Australia, completing key deliverables under Milestone 1 of the Company’s ARENA grant funding and triggering the start of a catalyst-rich short term fabrication period.

All key equipment orders have been placed by Firebird’s wholly-owned Chinese subsidiary, Jinshi Firebird Trading Co., Ltd, under a fully executed Intercompany Procurement and Sourcing Agreement and an intercompany Equipment Export Sales Contract, and cover four integrated equipment and services packages:

- High Purity Manganese Sulphate (**HPMSM**) and Precursor Cathode Active Material (**pCAM**) pilot equipment, including synthesis reactors, crystallisation reactor, centrifuges, filter presses, drying ovens, the central control system and supporting balance-of-plant, supplied by Hunan Chengdu Automation Equipment Co., Ltd.
- Manganese-based Cathode Active Material (**CAM**) pilot equipment, including jet mill, sand mill, spray dryer, box furnaces, tube furnaces, high-speed oscillating mill, nitrogen generator and air compression package, supplied by Hunan Zhongmanganese New Materials Technology Co., Ltd.
- Testing and analytical instruments, including atomic absorption spectrometer, laser particle size analyser, tap density tester and supporting laboratory equipment.
- Technical services, covering detailed design, equipment procurement support, commissioning, sample production and operator training, to be provided by specialist technical partners Changsha Yulang Technology Co., Ltd and Changsha Ziya Technology Co., Ltd.

All equipment is being manufactured to Australian electrical, voltage, cable and safety standards (415 V / 50 Hz three-phase, AS/NZS 3112 compliance for mobile equipment, CCC- and CE-certified components from tier-one brands including Siemens, Schneider, INVT and Jiangsu Guomao).

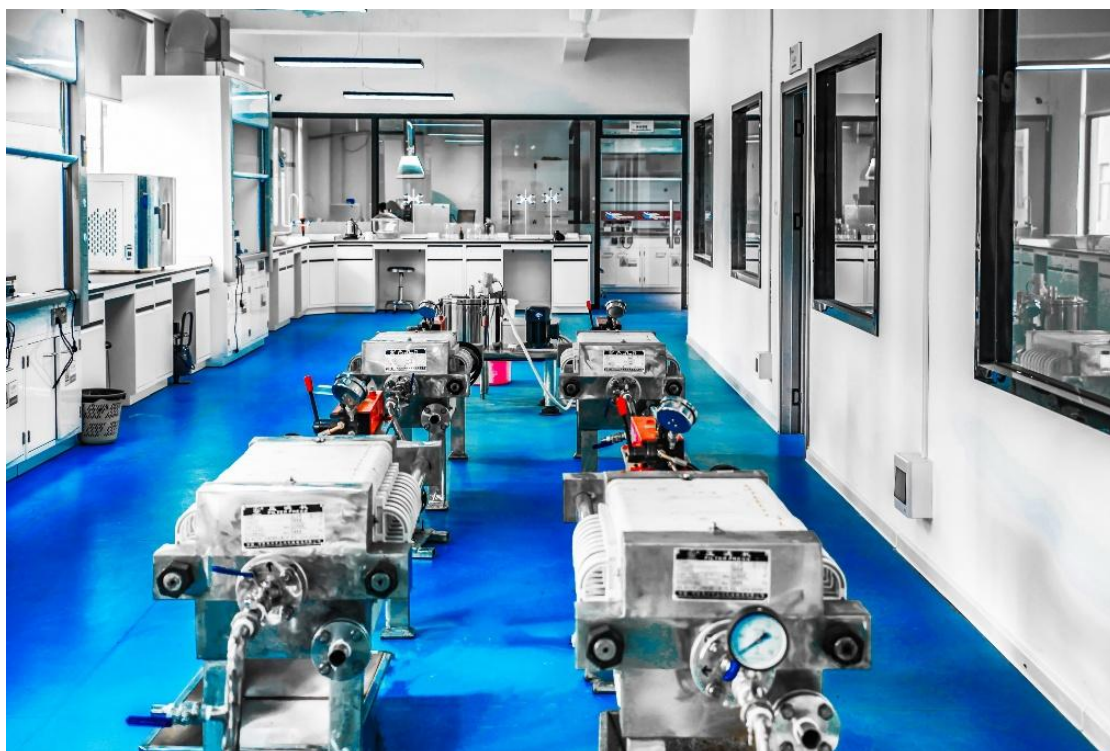


Figure 2. All key equipment for the ADP has been ordered, replicating a proven advanced manganese battery materials flowsheet from our China Pilot Plant.

Firebird CEO, Ron Mitchell, commented:

“Today’s placement of formal equipment orders marks the commencement of the busiest and most transformative operational phase in Firebird’s history. The approximately 90-day equipment fabrication period is not a passive waiting phase; rather, it represents a catalyst-rich de-risking execution window during which multiple value-driving milestones are expected to be delivered.

In addition, shareholders can look forward to the imminent release of LMR cathode performance results from Firebird’s China pilot plant program, providing further validation of the Company’s proprietary technology and downstream strategy. In parallel, Firebird will progress through a series of Factory Acceptance Testing (FAT) milestones across each major equipment package, delivering important technical verification ahead of shipment and installation here in Australia.

The Company also expects to advance its intellectual property portfolio through additional patent lodgements and technical development initiatives, while continuing strategic discussions with potential industry partners across the battery materials supply chain.

Importantly, key Milestone 1 deliverables under Firebird’s ARENA grant funding program are being finalised, reinforcing the Company’s ability to execute against its development timetable. The ADP remains on schedule and on budget, and Firebird maintains clear visibility toward construction and commissioning activities at the Perth ADP this calendar year.

As project execution accelerates, the Company anticipates hosting several site visits for stakeholders including government representatives, strategic partners and potential customers over the coming quarters, providing stakeholders with a firsthand view of Firebird's progress as it advances toward becoming a vertically integrated producer of advanced manganese battery materials for the electrification and energy storage markets."

Near-term Catalyst Sequence

The 90-day equipment manufacturing window is the most active operational period in the Company's history. Shareholders should expect a steady stream of material updates across the period:

- Imminent: Initial LMR cathode performance results from the China Pilot Plant, to be released as a separate market update.
- Fabrication phase (rolling, next ~90 days): Factory Acceptance Testing for HPMSM, p-CAM and CAM equipment packages, with each anticipated as a discrete market update.
- Ongoing: Further manganese-based battery materials patent application progress.
- H2 2026 onwards: Shipment, customs clearance and Fremantle site arrival of all equipment, followed by construction and commissioning at the Perth ADP site.
- As they arise: Strategic partner updates, cash payments as part of the ARENA milestone progression and broader corporate developments.

The indicative ADP catalyst timeline set out in Figure 3. FRB will refresh this in subsequent announcements, indicating the next focus area.



Figure 3. Australian Demonstration Plant key catalyst timeline.

Delivery Window and ARENA Milestone

Fabrication, inspection and delivery from the various equipment vendors is scheduled across a 90-day window, following which the equipment will be shipped to Fremantle Port. All key equipment is expected to arrive in Australia early Q4 2026, with construction and commissioning of the ADP anticipated to commence soon thereafter.

The execution of the intercompany agreements and the placement of orders for all long-lead items form part of the key deliverables for Milestone 1 of the Company's non-dilutive, cash-based ARENA grant funding, progressing the Company toward receipt of the Milestone 1 cash payment. The ADP development timeline remains on schedule and on budget.

Licence Agreement and Technology Patents

In conjunction with the equipment orders, Firebird has fully executed a licence agreement that permits the export of the contracted equipment and grants Firebird exclusive use of the associated technology patents that underpin the ADP process flowsheet. The licence secures Firebird's right to operate the ADP and produce battery-grade manganese sulphate and manganese-based cathode materials at the Perth facility.

In addition, the Company is progressing further manganese-based battery materials technology patent applications, which are expected to strengthen Firebird's technology development strategy as it positions for commercial deployment.

China Pilot Plant: LMR Cathode Development

Development work on the Company's Lithium Manganese Rich (LMR) cathode technology is ongoing at the China Pilot Plant. Initial performance results from this campaign are expected to be released in the coming weeks and will be the subject of a separate market update, the first of the catalyst sequence outlined above.

A First-of-Kind Plant

The ADP will be the first fully integrated manganese-based battery materials plant to be built outside of China, producing both high purity manganese sulphate and finished manganese-based cathode materials on a single site. As such, the ADP represents a strategically significant asset in the global manganese-based battery materials supply chain and a flagship demonstration of an end-to-end, non-China supply chain.

Strategic Partner Interest

The Company continues to receive strong inbound interest from potential strategic partners, including OEMs, battery producers and end-users seeking access to non-China sources of manganese-based battery materials. Market engagement continues to indicate strong future demand for manganese-based EV battery materials, underpinned by the accelerating adoption of LMFP and LMR cathode chemistries. Firebird will provide further updates on these discussions as material developments arise.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Firebird Metals Limited.

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About Firebird Metals Limited (ASX:FRB)

Firebird is a wholly owned Australian processing technology company focused on advanced manganese-based lithium-ion battery materials positioned in the EV and energy storage markets. Firebird has proprietary, fully patented technology that allows for the direct processing of manganese ore to cathode active materials (CAM) within a single facility and process line.

The Company's state-of-the-art lab and research facility demonstrate full flow-sheet capability, from manganese ore to finished battery active cathode materials. Firebird pairs downstream processing know-how with proprietary technologies, including a high-efficiency kiln and advanced crystallisation, targeting lower cost and energy use and enabling near-term revenue via equipment sales and licensing.

Firebird is advancing a lithium manganese iron phosphate (LMFP) and lithium manganese rich (LMR) pathway to near-term production of high-purity manganese sulphate and an LMR program for next-generation cathodes.

Firebird also holds 234 Mt of manganese resources in Western Australia, led by Oakover (176.7 Mt at 9.9% Mn, including Indicated 105.8 Mt at 10.1% Mn) and Hill 616 (57.5 Mt at 12.2% Mn). The Company has the flexibility to source manganese ore through third-party suppliers and stockpiles, with mining optionality retained within its broader portfolio.

JORC Compliance Statement

This announcement contains references to Mineral Resource Estimates, which have been reported in compliance with Listing Rule 5.8 (Oakover: 23 March 2023 - Indicated Resource of 105.8Mt at 10.1%; Inferred Resource of 70.9Mt at 9.6% for global Resource of 176.7 Mt at 9.9% Mn; Hill 616: 1 December 2021 - Inferred Resource of 57.5 Mt at 12.2% Mn) and extracted from previous ASX announcements. The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information previously reported and that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the Mineral Resource Estimates continue to apply and have not materially changed.