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ASX Release

premiumHPA® Features in Battery Applications in Hypersonic Test Flight Evaluation

Highlights

- *Cadoux to participate in a US hypersonic test flight with Pluto Aerospace, validating batteries developed by technical partners American Energy Technologies Company (AETC) and Navitas Systems incorporating Cadoux's premiumHPA® under extreme operating conditions*
- *Navitas batteries were selected following the successful qualification and testing of their integrated recycled battery designed for superior performance, reliability and safety*
- *Navitas developed battery cells are engineered for heavy duty performance in demanding operating conditions utilising Cadoux's premiumHPA® across its architecture*
- *Cadoux to expand commercial adoption for premiumHPA® applications following successful test flight demonstration*

Emerging critical minerals producer Cadoux Ltd (ASX: 'CCM') ('Cadoux' or the 'Company') is pleased to announce Cadoux's participation in a hypersonic test flight in the United States (US) conducted by Pluto Aerospace (Pluto) using AETC and Navitas developed batteries used in the onboard management system of the rocket.

Navitas Battery Featuring Cadoux's premiumHPA® for Applications in Hypersonic Test Flight

Pluto will be conducting a purpose designed test flight scheduled for the 18th August 2026 out of the Spaceport America rocket testing site in New Mexico, United States. Pluto will conduct a vertical launch flight test of one of their Dash rockets installed with Navitas batteries incorporating Cadoux's premiumHPA®. The Navitas batteries will be the power source for the rockets control management system.

The Navitas designed battery uses AETC's complex additive formulas that incorporates primary and recycled materials and nanosized premiumHPA® alumina. The latter is used to improve cell performance, safety and to prolong calendar life, especially at the temperature extremes required in specialty applications. Using the combination of AETC's additives and Cadoux's premiumHPA®, Navitas was able to achieve consistent, superior performance from their advanced lithium ion (Li-ion) battery.



Images of a Pluto Aerospace rocket at Spaceport America launch pad, New Mexico, USA

For Cadoux, the successful hypersonic test flight will represent a further major step in the qualification and commercial de-risking of premiumHPA® and presents the opportunity to demonstrate its operating performance in an innovative engineering application.

Flight Program Partners

Pluto Aeronautics is a US based high speed flight research and development company providing rapid, iterative flight testing of reusable / recoverable hypersonic cargo vehicles.

American Energy Technologies Company is a US based technical partner in the SAFELOOP consortium who specialises in advanced materials research and development and is a proud supply chain member of electric vehicles and an approved supplier to twelve battery manufacturers and one fuel cell producer in the US.

Navitas Systems (East Penn Manufacturing) is a wholly owned subsidiary of East Penn Manufacturing Company, Inc. (EPM, headquartered in Lyon Station, Pennsylvania, US), is a developer and manufacturer of high-performance battery systems. Navitas operates a full-service facility focused on research, development, manufacturing, and testing of Li-ion cells and batteries to support military, commercial, and industrial customers. EPM is a 75-year old family-owned US company operating the largest single-site, lead acid battery manufacturing facility in the world.

Hypersonic Flight Mission Objectives

The intended outcomes for the hypersonic test flight program for development partners and Cadoux are to:

- Allow Pluto to exhibit its hypersonic rocket program and mission
- Demonstrate *premiumHPA®*'s role in an advanced high-technology application
- Display the safety, performance and reliability of the Navitas battery with *premiumHPA®*
- Showcase the commercial adoption of Cadoux's *premiumHPA®*
- Increase development cooperation between the flight program partners
- Elevate awareness of the effectiveness of recycling of critical minerals contained in batteries
- Marking the milestone as, on information and belief, it is the first instance globally in which a battery cell incorporating recycled materials has been tested under hypersonic operating conditions
- Strengthening the supply chain between AETC, Navitas and Cadoux who provided their high-quality materials and tech products into the rocket program

Cadoux Managing Director, Mr. Roland Hill commented: "Cadoux is pleased to announce our participation in the demonstration of the hypersonic rocket to evaluate the reliability and performance of the Pluto rocket and to validate the innovative Navitas battery incorporating the advanced recycled materials and *premiumHPA®*. The test flight program will demonstrate the battery's technical capabilities and support future commercial implementation across many high-value application specific functions".

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 up to 33% year-on-year growth (GAGR)*in some categories, 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 designed 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.

Cadoux's HPA strategy has won the backing of State and Federal governments, with Cadoux being the only junior developer with both Western Australian lead agency status and also designated as Major Project Status by the Federal Government.

In the Northern Territory and through the development of the Minhub Project which will include a mineral separation and rare earths minerals processing facility in Darwin, Cadoux is looking to develop a new supply chain for Australia's emerging rare earths and mineral sands projects. Through a commercial framework, Minhub aims to process 3rd party mineral concentrate and supply rare earth rich xenotime and monazite mineral products to selected 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