

Press Release

Schaeffler and Symbio confirm the effective creation of Innoplate, their new Joint Venture to produce fuel cell bipolar plates and start of production early 2024

HAGUENAU, 2022-10-05.

Four months after the initial agreement, Schaeffler and Symbio, a Faurecia and Michelin hydrogen company, announced today the effective creation of Innoplate, their 50/50 joint venture (JV), following the completion of customary regulatory clearances.

Located in Haguenau, in the French Alsace region, Innoplate will produce fuel cell bipolar plates for global mobility and energy solutions. The preparation of the building and ordering of equipment have started in line with the target to start operations beginning of 2024.

By leveraging the leading know-hows and expertise of its parent companies in mass production of metallic bipolar plates and in fuel cell technology, respectively, Innoplate intends to industrialize production at large scale and accelerate the manufacturing of next generation BPP for the entire proton exchange membrane fuel cell market, thus enhancing performance, capacity, and cost competitiveness, to support a solid uptake of market adoption.

With Innoplate, Schaeffler and Symbio materialize their commitment to build technological and industrial leadership in Europe, supporting Europe's strategic determination to secure technological sovereignty in the Hydrogen Economy.

Further information:

[Symbio and Schaeffler join forces to create Innoplate, a new joint venture to produce fuel cell bipolar plates](#), press release from June 7th, 2022

About Symbio

Symbio, a Faurecia & Michelin joint venture, is a global hydrogen fuel cell technology partner to OEMs and sustainable mobility decision makers, with unique expertise and focus on setting automotive production standards. The company offers a complete range of fuel cell power products - StackPacks®, for different transportation needs including light duty commercial vehicles, buses and trucks and various formats of electric vehicles. Symbio is the fuel cell strategic partner of

a leading global OEM that is launching a first-of-its-kind Hydrogen-powered LCV program in Europe. Its ambition is to become a world-wide leader in hydrogen zero-emission mobility, having a global industrial footprint and an annual production capacity of 200,000 StackPacks® by 2030, for use by vehicle manufacturers and hydrogen-stationary applications around the world. www.symbio.one

Schaeffler Group – We pioneer motion The Schaeffler Group has been driving forward groundbreaking inventions and developments in the field of motion technology for over 75 years. With innovative technologies, products, and services for electric mobility, CO₂-efficient drives, chassis solutions, Industry 4.0, digitalization, and renewable energies, the company is a reliable partner for making motion more efficient, intelligent, and sustainable – over the entire life cycle. The Motion Technology Company manufactures high-precision components and systems for drive train and chassis applications as well as rolling and plain bearing solutions for a large number of industrial applications. The Schaeffler Group generated sales of EUR 16.3 billion in 2023. With around 83,400 employees, Schaeffler is one of the world's largest family-owned companies and one of Germany's most innovative companies.

Metallic bipolar plates are a key element of fuel cell stacks. Photo: Schaeffler (Bernd Kammerer)

[Download](#)

The newly established company Innoplate will accelerate the production of next generation bipolar plates (BPP) for the entire proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cell market. By 2030 the joint venture aims at producing around 50 million BPP annually, employing more than 120 people. Photos: Schaeffler (Bernd Kammerer)

[Download](#)

CONTACT:

Annett Fischer

Head of Communications Automotive Technologies
Schaeffler Automotive Buehl GmbH & Co. KG
Bühl -Germany
Tel. +49 7223 941 36 36
E-Mail: annett.fischer@schaeffler.com

Maria Alcon-Hidalgo

Vice President Communication, Public Affairs & Sustainable Development
Symbio, France
Tel. +33 7 61294347
E-Mail: maria.alcon-hidalgo@symbio.one