

PRESS RELEASE



December 17, 2009

Amprius wins \$3 million from NIST to scale manufacturing of silicon nanowire-based materials for advanced lithium ion batteries

Menlo Park, CA – The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) announced Tuesday that Amprius, Inc. has been awarded \$3 million in cost sharing under NIST's Technology and Innovation Program (TIP). The NIST funding is directed toward advanced manufacturing process development and will pave the way to low-cost, high-volume fabrication of silicon nanowire-based high-capacity battery anodes.

Amprius was founded to develop and commercialize high energy density materials for next generation lithium-ion batteries. Amprius' cornerstone technology is based on high-capacity silicon nanowires for battery anodes originally developed at Stanford University. Silicon offers the potential to radically improve the two primary challenges for lithium ion batteries: energy storage capacity and cost. Silicon is capable of 10 times the energy storage capacity of carbon, today's state-of-the-art anode material. Furthermore, silicon offers the potential to bring the cost of batteries below what is possible with the state of the art.

“The two main challenges to incorporating silicon in a battery are developing a product capable of delivering silicon's potential performance and developing a cost-effective, scalable manufacturing process,” said Dick Brouwer, a Director at Amprius responsible for initiating the NIST engagement. “The solutions to these two issues, while distinct from one another, are related and Amprius has built one of the world's leading teams to address them.”

Amprius is commercializing high energy density silicon-based materials to enable next generation lithium-ion batteries. Amprius was founded by Professor Yi Cui of Stanford University and is backed by VantagePoint Venture Partners, Trident Capital and Dr. Eric Schmidt.

For more information on Amprius, Inc, please visit www.amprius.com, or contact Ryan Kottenstette, Director of Business Development, at press@amprius.com. Additional information on the Technology Innovation Program is available at www.nist.gov/tip.