

Press release

Agreement signing with strategic cooperation partner:

Proton Motor and Deutsche Mechatronics sign framework agreement for volume production of fuel cell systems

Puchheim, 26 May 2009 – Proton Motor Fuel Cell GmbH, a specialist firm in industrial fuel cells and fuel cell and hybrid systems, and Deutsche Mechatronics GmbH, a strategic outsourcing partner for systems manufacturing, today signed a collaboration framework agreement. The aim of this cooperation is to enable volume production of fuel cell systems in the medium term.

As one of Europe's first manufacturers of fuel cells, Proton Motor is able to supply complete fuel cell systems for a wide range of applications. The company is already offering viable environmental technology in the shape of economical fuel cell and hybrid systems – whether it's for back-to-base applications like forklift trucks or city buses, or for stationary solutions like uninterruptible power supplies (USP). Proton Motor aims to bring fuel cell hybrid drives to volume production before car manufacturers.

Proton Motor today took an important step in this direction by signing a collaboration framework agreement with Deutsche Mechatronics GmbH. The aim of this cooperation is to enable volume production of Proton Motor's fuel cell systems by Deutsche Mechatronics. Production capacity is to be gradually increased to up to 5000 units per year. The exclusive five-year agreement regulates general collaboration between the two cooperation partners, volumes and the allocation of investment in production.

Innovation and “Made in Germany” quality

The independent system supplier Deutsche Mechatronics is one of the leading strategic outsourcing partners for a range of tasks – from product development to volume production of parts, systems and assemblies in the mechanics, electrical engineering and software sectors. Proton Motor will collaborate with Deutsche Mechatronics in the volume production of its fuel cell systems. Deutsche Mechatronics meets the highest quality standards with its precision, specialist technical knowledge and highly qualified employees. Volume production will exclusively take place in Germany, where Proton Motor can use the latest manufacturing technology to guarantee its customers the highest "Made in Germany" product quality. A high degree of automation and resource-optimised machining processes not only ensure maximum quality and cost benefits, but also efficient production that delivers on schedule. As a service provider, Deutsche Mechatronics is helping Proton Motor to get its products on the market more quickly and cost-effectively.

“We’re delighted to be able to support Proton Motor as a competent and flexible manufacturing partner and help bring innovative pioneering technology to market readiness,” says Dr. Karlheinz Sossenheimer, managing partner at Deutsche Mechatronics. “Undertaking volume production of fuel cell systems at our site allows Proton Motor to offer its products to the market at a lower cost yet respond flexibly to the individual requirements of its customers.”

“We’re delighted to have found a manufacturing partner with an outstanding reputation who is assisting us in the industrialisation of our products,” comments Thomas Melczer, CEO of Proton Motor, who signed the agreement. “Recently, the demand for hybrid systems has dramatically increased, which seems extremely positive to us as the innovation leader in fuel cell technology as regards the future of volume production.”

Proton Motor Fuel Cell GmbH

Proton Motor Fuel Cell GmbH is an expert in industrial fuel cells, fuel-cell and hybrid systems with more than 15 years of experience in this sector. The company based in Puchheim near Munich offers complete fuel cell and hybrid systems from a single source – from development and manufacture to implementation of customised solutions. The fuel cell specialist focuses on back-to-base applications for fork-lift trucks or city buses, for example, as well as stationary solutions. Its range of products covers PM Basic basic fuel cell systems, PM Package standard complete systems, e.g. as battery replacement, as well as PM Turnkey customised systems. Proton Motor is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Proton Power Systems plc. The company has been quoted on the London stock exchange since October 2006 (Code: PPS).

Further information on Proton Motor is available at www.proton-motor.de or from:

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