

What materials are used in batteries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Can the Democratic Republic of the Congo produce lithium-ion battery cathode precursor materials?

London and Kinshasa, November 24, 2021 - The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) can leverage its abundant cobalt resources and hydroelectric power to become a low-cost and low-emissions producer of lithium-ion battery cathode precursor materials.

Should lithium-ion batteries be expanded to DRC and Africa?

"As substantiated by the BloombergNEF report, the prospect of the expanding the value chain of development of lithium-ion batteries and electric vehicles value chains to DRC and Africa is both financially and environmentally appealing," commented Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, Director General of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA).

Is DRC a good destination for sustainable battery manufacturing?

Study identifies DRC as a favorable destination for the manufacturing of sustainable battery materials used in high-nickel batteries

How is cobalt mined in Congo?

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, cobalt is extracted through various methods, including hydrometallurgical refining to directly produce either a cobalt cathode or hydroxide. In other cases, the mined ore undergoes separation flotation to separate the minerals.

Are lithium-ion batteries linked to child labour in the DRC?

An Amnesty International investigation in 2016 revealed that lithium-ion batteries could be linked to child labor in the DRC. The country, which has a long history of foreign exploitation of its natural resources, is now a hot spot for foreign companies to extract high-value and abundant minerals.

Could African countries play a major role in the lithium-ion battery supply chain?

African countries could play a major role in the lithium-ion battery supply chain by taking advantage of their abundant natural resources and onshoring more of the value chain.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is a favourable destination for the manufacturing of sustainable battery materials used in high-nickel batteries. DRC's significant cobalt deposits and hydroelectric electricity can make it a low-cost and low-emissions manufacturer of cathode precursor materials for lithium-ion batteries.

The goal of this MOU is to establish an entire value chain--from mineral extraction to the assembly line--around EV batteries in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. The ...

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The 2023 US Department of Energy Critical Materials Assessment report listed seven materials as critical in the short term because of their uses for magnets, batteries, and fuel cells: dysprosium, neodymium, gallium, graphite, terbium, iridium, and cobalt. Background image by Xinhua/Li Tao: Xi holds talks with Republic of the Congo's ...

In particular, unethical mining practices and political instability within the Democratic Republic of the Congo (the world's largest cobalt producer) have prompted research into cobalt-low and cobalt-free alternatives. This ...

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is located in the central part of African countries. It is currently considered to be the second-largest country in Africa after Algeria with an area of 2,344,799 km² for a population estimated at 80 million inhabitants. It includes one of the most important sources of natural wealth on the planet (Samndong & Nhantumbo, 2015).

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The electricity supply industry of the Democratic Republic of Congo is reviewed, from the formation of the Societé National d'Electricité (SNEL) in 1970 until today. The DRC government ...

There are real and significant problems in the supply chain of cobalt, a critical battery mineral. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which is one of the world's poorest nations, produces about 70% of the world's cobalt. Close to 10-30% of this cobalt comes from artisanal miners, mostly operating illegally.

Critical materials include cobalt, lithium, graphite, and more, each having their own unique supply chain dynamics. Cobalt is a critical component in lithium-ion battery cathodes for high energy and power applications. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) accounts for almost two-thirds of global cobalt supply.

Cobalt is perhaps best known for its use in lithium-ion batteries. In 2020, 64% of world refined cobalt was consumed in the manufacture of batteries (Darton, 2021). Despite decades of research to limit the need for cobalt in cathodes, ...

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Despite decades of research to limit the need for cobalt in cathodes, cobalt's use in batteries continues to grow. Although the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of cobalt used in batteries is declining (18% over 20 years, 16% over 10 years, and 12% over 5 years), cobalt continues to be a key constituent (Darton, 2021; Shedd, 2002, 2013).

SignificanceThe linkage between abuse to artisanal cobalt miners--including children--in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and use of cobalt in advanced batteries has prompted global supply ... From 2000 through 2020, demand for cobalt to manufacture batteries grew 26-fold. Eighty-two percent of this growth occurred in China and China's cobalt refinery production ...

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