

 **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Strong investor support as new WA graphite producer joins the battery wave**

International Graphite Limited is rapidly moving forward with its plans to be one of the first producers of battery anode material (BAM) in Australia after its seed capital round closed this week well oversubscribed.

Investors pledged $1.5 million - 50 per cent over target - demonstrating strong confidence in the company and the future of graphite in the global battery market.

CEO Neil Rinaldi said the funding would enable the company to move ahead with critical development decisions, including establishment of a graphite micronising and foils plant, in Collie, Western Australia, and to develop the BAM production technology it has been working on for the past three years.

“Investors are looking at the company and liking what they see. This result is very pleasing and will allow us to swiftly progress our plans for both business lines,” Mr Rinaldi said.

“Advances in high performance Lithium-ion batteries are transforming the power and transport industries because of their benefits for climate change and potential to significantly cut CO2 emissions.

“They are also opening pathways to whole new technologies that need safe, lightweight and portable power.

“Like most disruptive technologies, the possibilities in batteries are immense and we are just starting to see the potential.”

International Graphite is currently finalising negotiations for premises in Collie, south of Perth, adding momentum to the WA Government’s vision to build a new battery industry in the State.

The development will bring new jobs and growth to the Collie region which is looking to build a sustainable local economy and reduce its reliance on traditional power generation and mining.

“Ready access to economical power will help ensure our products are cost-competitive on world markets and is one of the key reasons why we have chosen to establish in Collie, Mr Rinaldi said.

International Graphite’s micronising and foil plant will produce a range of graphite products for industrial uses, including fire retardant building materials. Research and development equipment for the BAM pilot plant is scheduled to arrive mid-year, with sample product for end-user qualification anticipated by the end of 2021.

The company’s Board includes founder and Chairman, West Australian metallurgist and process engineer Phil Hearse, an international expert on graphite mining and production, with an experienced team from the mineral processing and global graphite markets.

“We are bringing together the best of international manufacturing technology and Australian mining knowhow to set industry standards for quality, consistency and environmental protection,” Mr Rinaldi said.

“Quality and sustainability will be built into the DNA of our product. We are committed to be an ethical producer and that is an important consideration for our future customers.

“International Graphite will have a diversified product mix and access to multiple markets. A staged development program will enable us to start by focusing on the products that will produce faster cash flow and rapidly scale up to meet market demand. This will also provide the revenue to establish our BAM capability.

“Europe, particularly Germany, is a frontrunner in the emerging battery and electric vehicle market and we have begun establishing a position for IG in that supply chain. The company has appointed representatives in Germany and been accepted as a member of the European Battery Alliance (EBA250) and European Raw Materials Alliance.”

For more information visit [**www.internationalgraphite.technology**](http://www.internationalgraphite.technology)

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