

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO BATTERY SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The online workshop "**A holistic approach to battery safety and sustainability**", organized by Batteries Europe with the support of the European Commission, took place on the 15th of June, successfully gathering more than 230 attendees. Safety and sustainability in batteries are two core issues for the EU policy context, and they need to be addressed in a complementary and comprehensive way.

The event, moderated by **Claude Chanson** (RECHARGE), opened with an introductory presentation on the new battery regulation by **Ilka von Dalwigk**, Policy Manager of EBA 250. She explained the role of the European Battery Academy acting as a network manager and industrial project facilitator for a battery value chain that is increasingly more competitive and sustainable, and the need of a coherent and supportive policy to achieve these results, pursuing the circular economy and decarbonization goals of the EU.

Moreover, **Andreas Pfrang** (EC - JRC) explained the technical needs of such a regulatory framework, that should find a balance between performance, durability, safety and sustainability in the industry and the R&I sector. On the three dimensions of sustainability was centred the intervention of **Fanny Barde** (IMEC) and **Marcel Weil** (KIT), respectively Chair and Member of the Sustainability Task Force of Batteries Europe. It was highlighted that the cross-cutting considerations between environmental, economic and social sustainability hotspots along the battery value chain need to be combined with safety and recyclability issues.

Maitane Bercibar (VUB) and **Arnaud Bordes** (INERIS), Co-Chairs of the Safety Task Force, displayed the upcoming challenges for safety at each level of the battery value chain, starting from the undeniable assumption that today batteries already have a good level of safety. Lately, **Etienne Briere and Laurent Torcheux** (EDF), presented the industry perspective on safety and sustainability, explaining the growth of EVs and BESS and the consequent needs to address the two topics coherently, in order to avoid to hinder the path ahead. A panel discussion on the holistic approach towards sustainability and safety brilliantly concluded the event.

The third and final online workshop organised by Batteries Europe, "*Skills and Education for the Emerging Battery Economy: European Challenges and Solutions*" will take place on **Tuesday 29th June, from 10:00 to 12:00 CET**.

