



# ACE Green technology: Yes, it can be done! Modular hydromet lead recycling – and lithium too

**Farid Ahmed | ACE Green Recycling**

RECYCLE100 | Borneo | September 2025





Global electrification is impossible without sustainable battery materials



**Advancing  
Sustainable Global  
Electrification**

- ***First, the bit about lead recycling***

# Lead battery recycling

An established market still offering growth

Huge and increasing  
lead battery market

**\$75 bn**

Lead battery market size

Growing  
end-market demand



Telecom towers



Uninterruptible  
Power Supply (UPS)

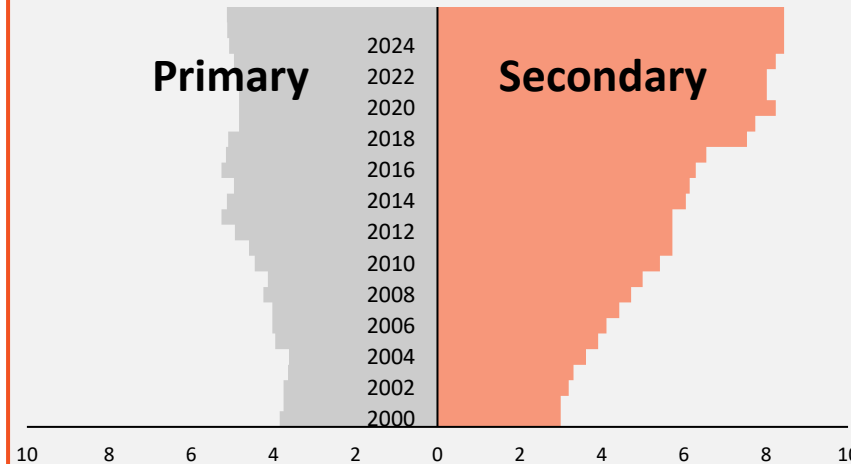


Transport & automotive

Recycling supplies 65% of  
the global lead

- ✓ Established collection infrastructures and supply chain
- ✓ Negligible growth in primary mine output

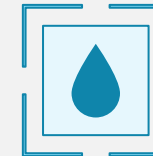
Global lead production (million tonnes)



Traditional smelters:  
how sustainable in the long term?



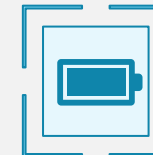
Emissions to air



Pollutants to water



Solid waste



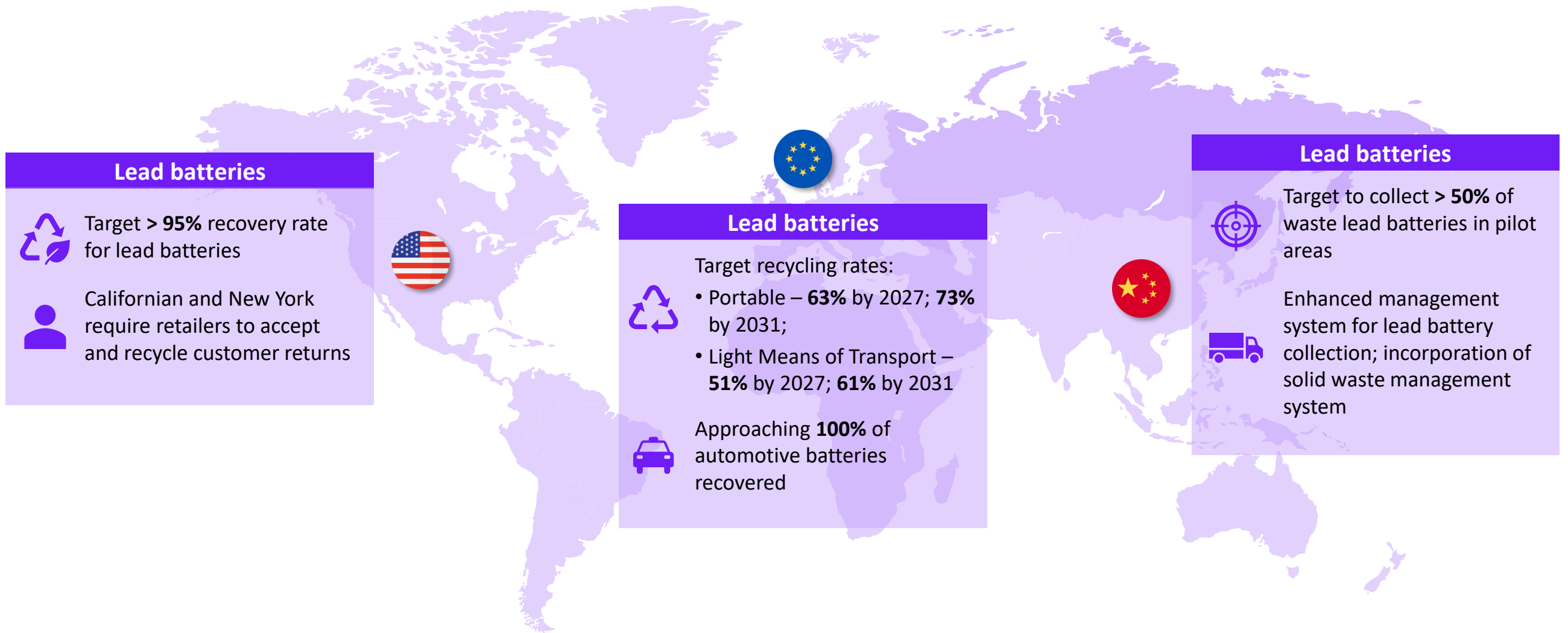
Higher energy demands



Less safe working  
environment

# Significant headwinds from tightening regulations

Changes will drive increasingly localised battery processing





**LEAD CONTAMINATION**

**Glencore closes Belledune  
smelter permanently**

**Community  
groups force  
Exide plant  
closure in Frisco**

**End of a lead-laced era: polluting  
Doe Run smelter to close after 120 years**

**Moves To Shut Down Lead Smelter**

**Missouri DNR fines Doe Run  
for emissions**

**RESIDENTS CALL FOR SHUT  
DOWN OF EXIDE SMELTER**

**Pollution, operator hazards and stricter permitting have forced many lead smelters to shutdown**

**LEAD CONTAMINATION BY LEAD SMELTERS**





Supporting environmentally and economically sustainable domestic supply chains for recycled battery materials



# GREENLEAD® technology revitalising lead recycling

Efficient, safer, greener – and with better costs












## GREENLEAD® recycling technology



ACE Green Recycling



## Traditional smelting

Energy source		GREENLEAD® recycling technology	Traditional smelting
	 Energy requirement	Low	High
	 Renewable power	Yes	No
Operation	 Operating environment	Room temperature	> 1000 °C
	 Modular	Yes	No
	 Health & safety risks	Close to nil	Elevated
Environmental impact	 GHG Emission	Zero	500-1000 kg per tonne of batteries
	 Oxygen release	45 kg per tonne of batteries	None
	 Toxic waste creation	Very low volume	Higher volume
%	 Lead metal recovery %	> 99%	95-98%





# ACE Green Recycling – a global leader in sustainable battery recycling



## Compelling environmental & economic advantages

- Strong environmental credentials support future regulations
- Zero Scope 1 carbon emissions, zero toxic waste



## Proven commercial technology

- Enables domestic supply chain and retention of critical metals
- Superior recovery rates – over 99% lead recovery
- IP portfolio with over 100 patent filings



## Supportive political & economic tailwinds

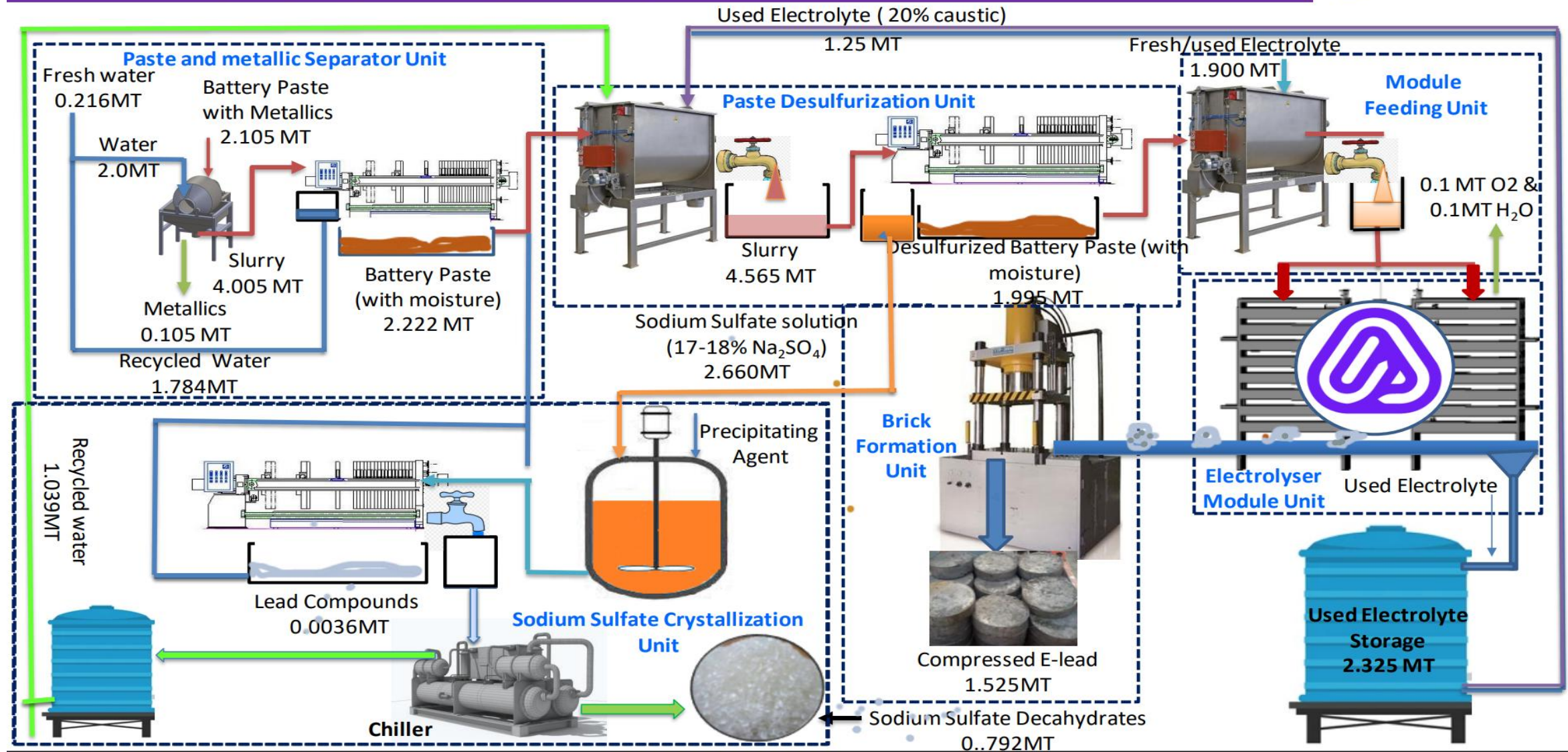
- National security, economics and sustainability are driving onshoring of battery production
- Aligns with focus on prioritising domestic supply chains and manufacturing



# The ACE technology

## Successfully commercialised sustainable lead recycling

### Lead-Acid Battery Recycling – Flow Diagram (Battery Paste Treatment; Part 1)





# ACE is quietly transforming how lead is recycled



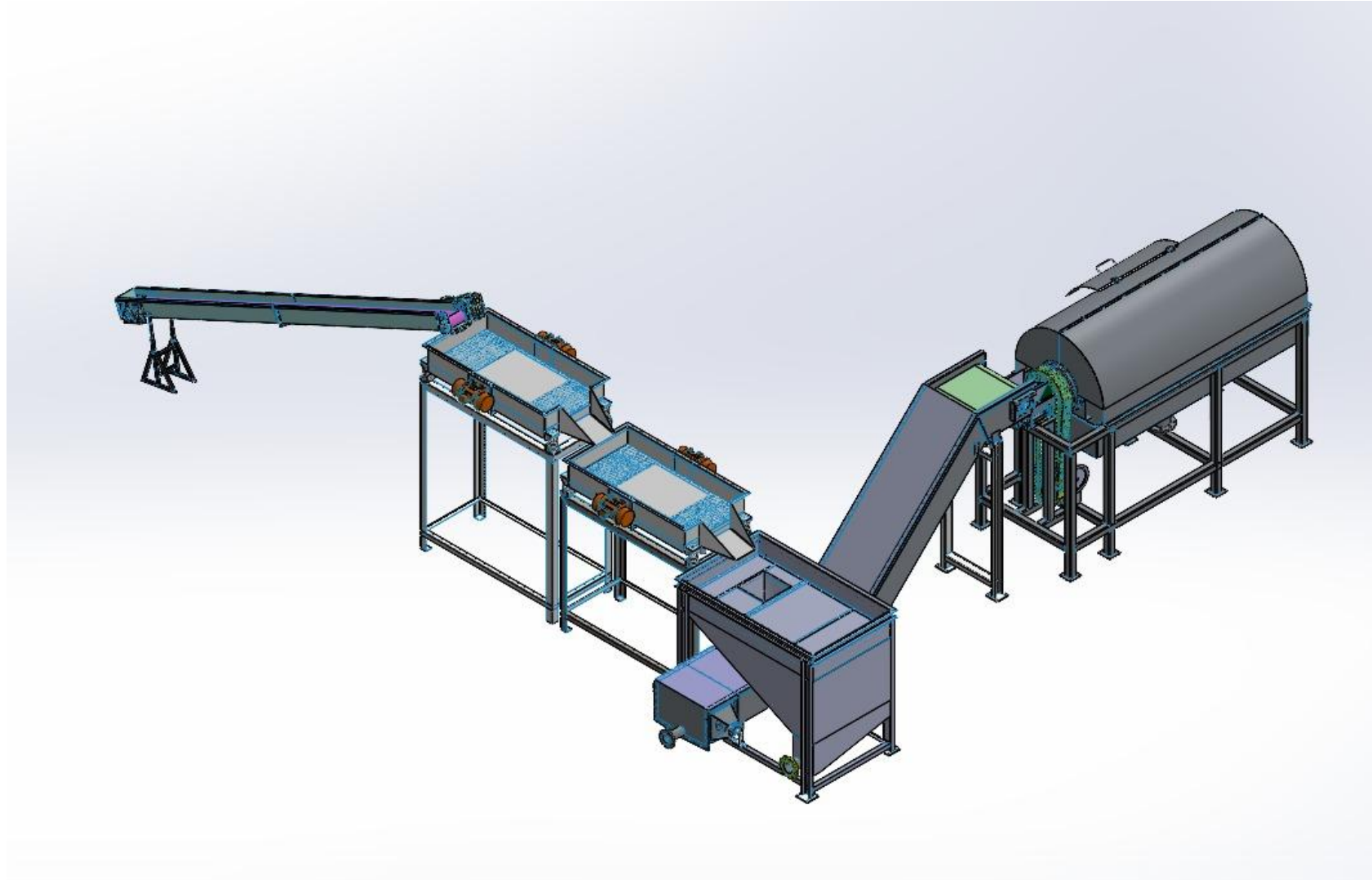
ACE electrolyser modules



ACE technology deployment

# The ACE metallics cleaning process

Straight from breaker to alloying kettle – no furnace, no loss of antimony



ACE metallics cleaning process



# The ACE metallics cleaning process

Paste and residual plastics removed from metallics



Dirty metallics ex-breaker



Clean metallics ex-ACE process



Recovered plastic ex-ACE process

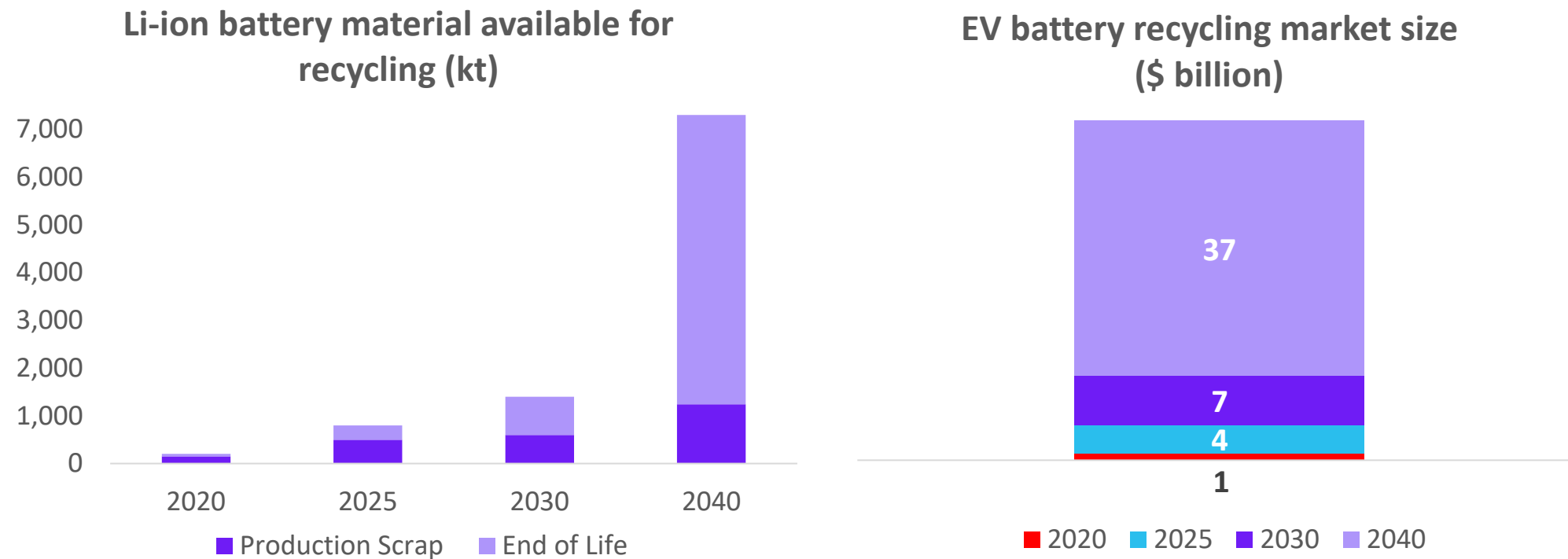
- ***Next, the bit about lithium-ion recycling***



# A spectrum of battery chemistries

Diverse uses will require the right battery for the right application

## Lithium-ion battery recycling market by 2040<sup>2</sup> \$37 billion



- Battery chemistries will differ by application (ESS, EV, personal devices) and by market.
- Cheaper lead and LFP will be preferred over more expensive NMC for an increasing proportion of applications.

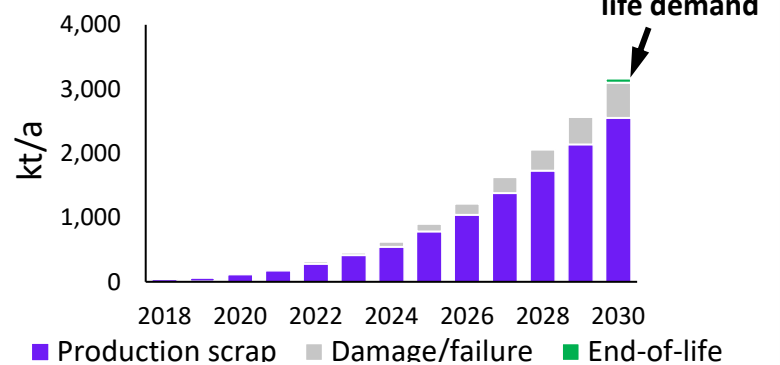
# Sustainable Li-ion recycling is economically and ecologically essential

EV sales will exceed **50%** by **2030**

## Challenge 1

### Growth of battery waste

#### Battery recycling demand



New plants produce significant  
**production scrap**

**End-of-life** (EoL) scrap creates  
long-term recycling demand

## Challenge 2

### Existing waste management ineffective and unsustainable



#### Smelting

- High air pollution
- Toxic solid waste
- Hazardous work environment



#### Waste disposal

- Toxic liquids, solids and air pollution
- Explosion hazards during transportation and shredding

## Challenge 3

### Increasing constraints impact battery raw materials sourcing



High environmental impact  
from mining and refining



Need for supply  
chain localisation




Expected mining  
supply shortages



Requirement for supply  
chain transparency

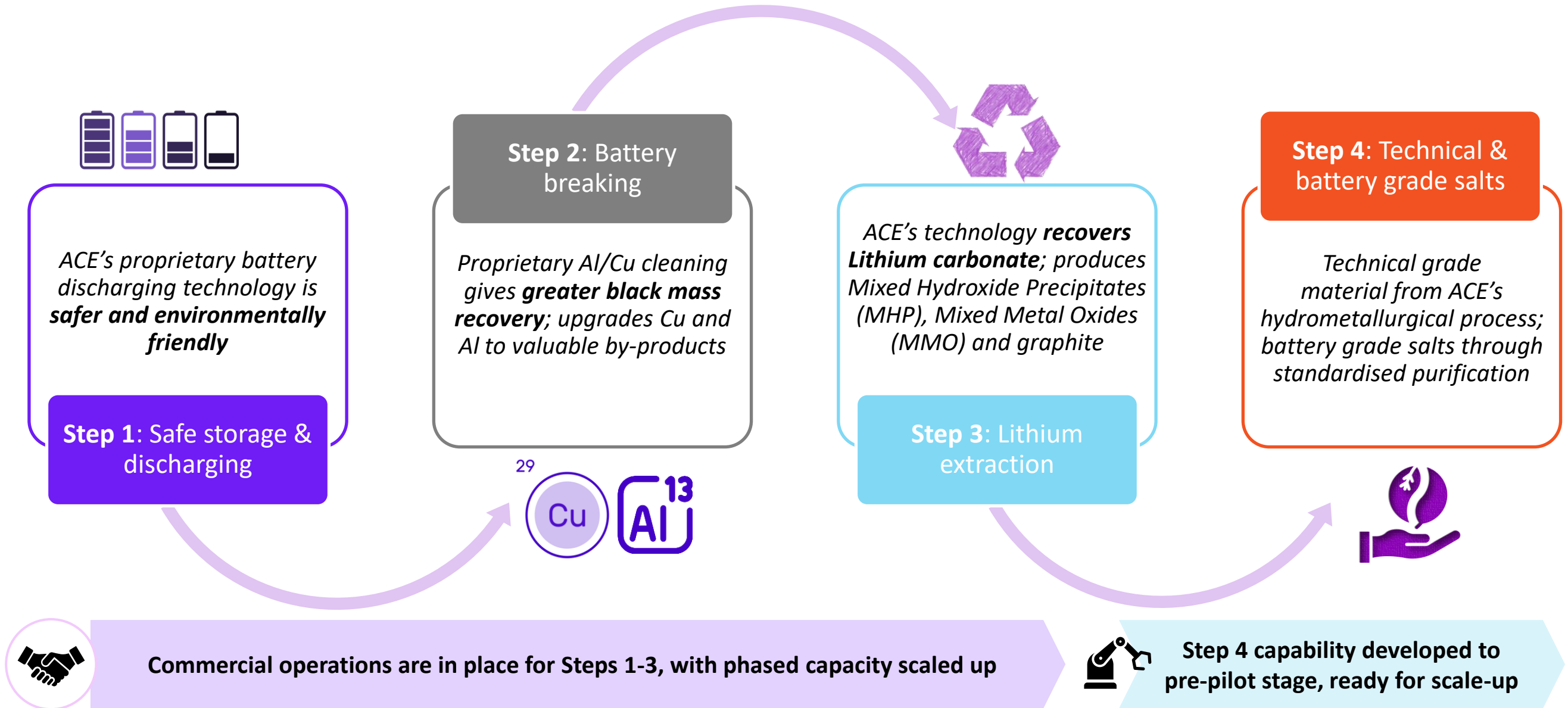


# Comparing ACE tech with conventional processes

	ACE Lithium technology	Pyrometallurgy	Standard hydromet process (solvent extraction)
	 <b>ACE Green Recycling</b>		
Operations	Minimum viable plant size	5,000 tonnes/year	50,000+ tonnes/year
	NMC battery recycling	Yes	Yes
	LFP battery recycling	Yes	No
	Lithium recovery	75%*	None
	Graphite recovery	Yes	None
	Output flexibility	Yes	No (metal only)
Environmental impact	Scope 1 carbon emissions	None	High
	Solid waste generation	None	High
	Liquid effluents	None	Low
Planning efficiency	Intellectual property defensibility	High	Very low
	Relative energy requirements	Low	High
	Long-term ease of permitting	High	Low (landfilling & emissions)

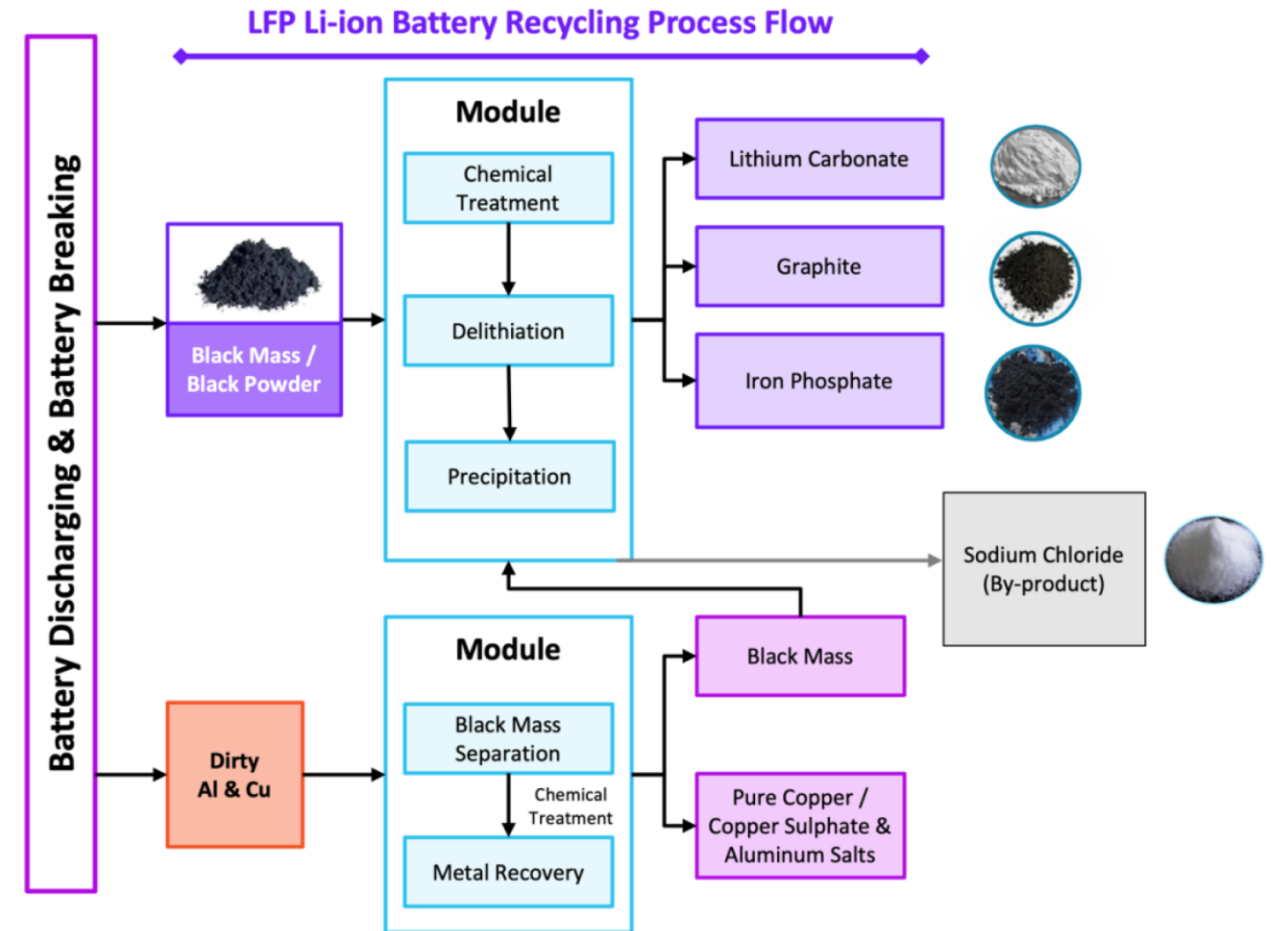
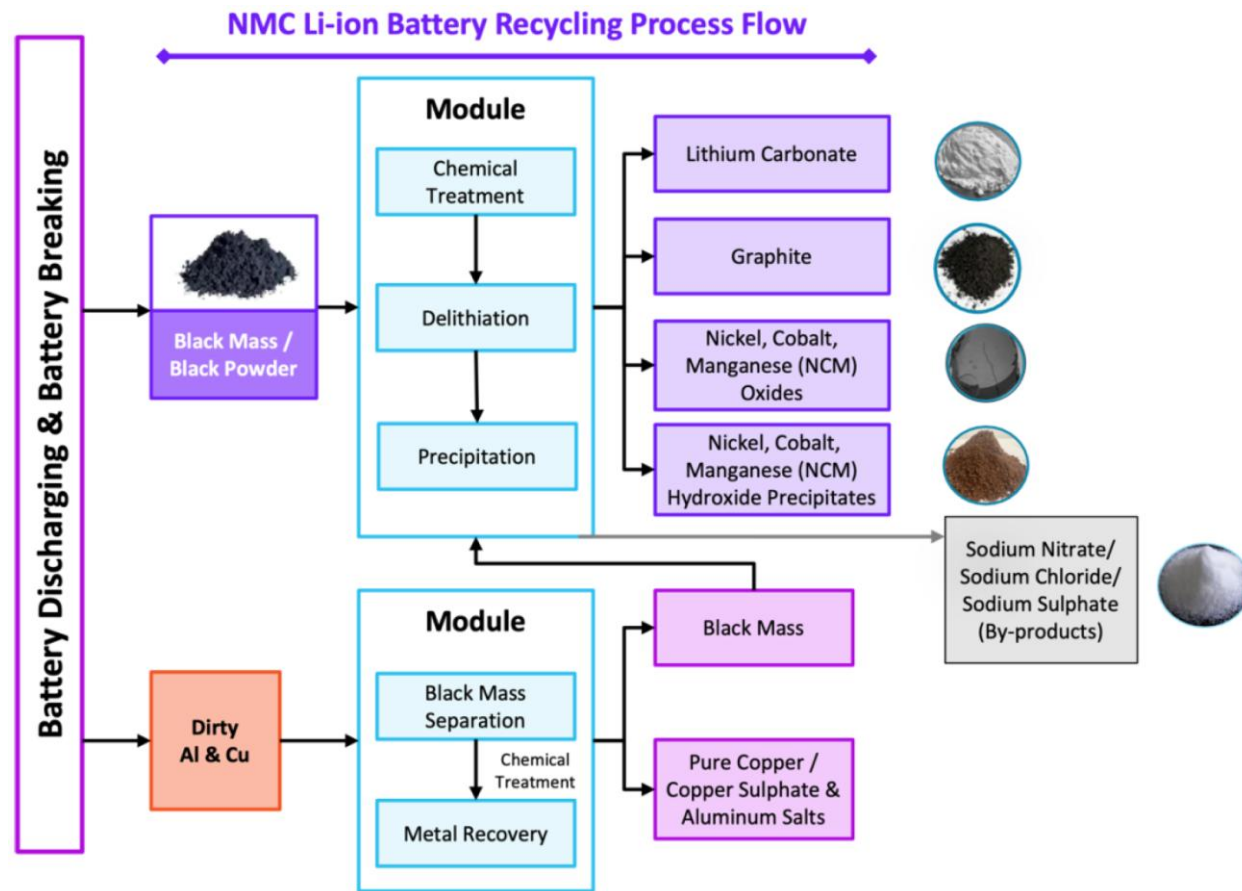
# LithiumFirst™ – chemistry agnostic processes for LFP, NMC, LCO,...

Proven technology recycling small & large format Li-ion batteries





# ACE Green's Li-ion recycling processes



# First ACE Li-ion facility started operation in April 2023

## Pre-processing operations



Battery collection and safe storage



Chemical and electrical discharging



Battery breaking, black mass production,  
Al/Cu fractions, polypropylene

## Post-processing operations



Al/Cu electrode  
material cleaning



Modular line for post-  
processing of black mass



Modular line for  
product filtration



Hydro-processing plant



# Graphite ICP-OES analysis

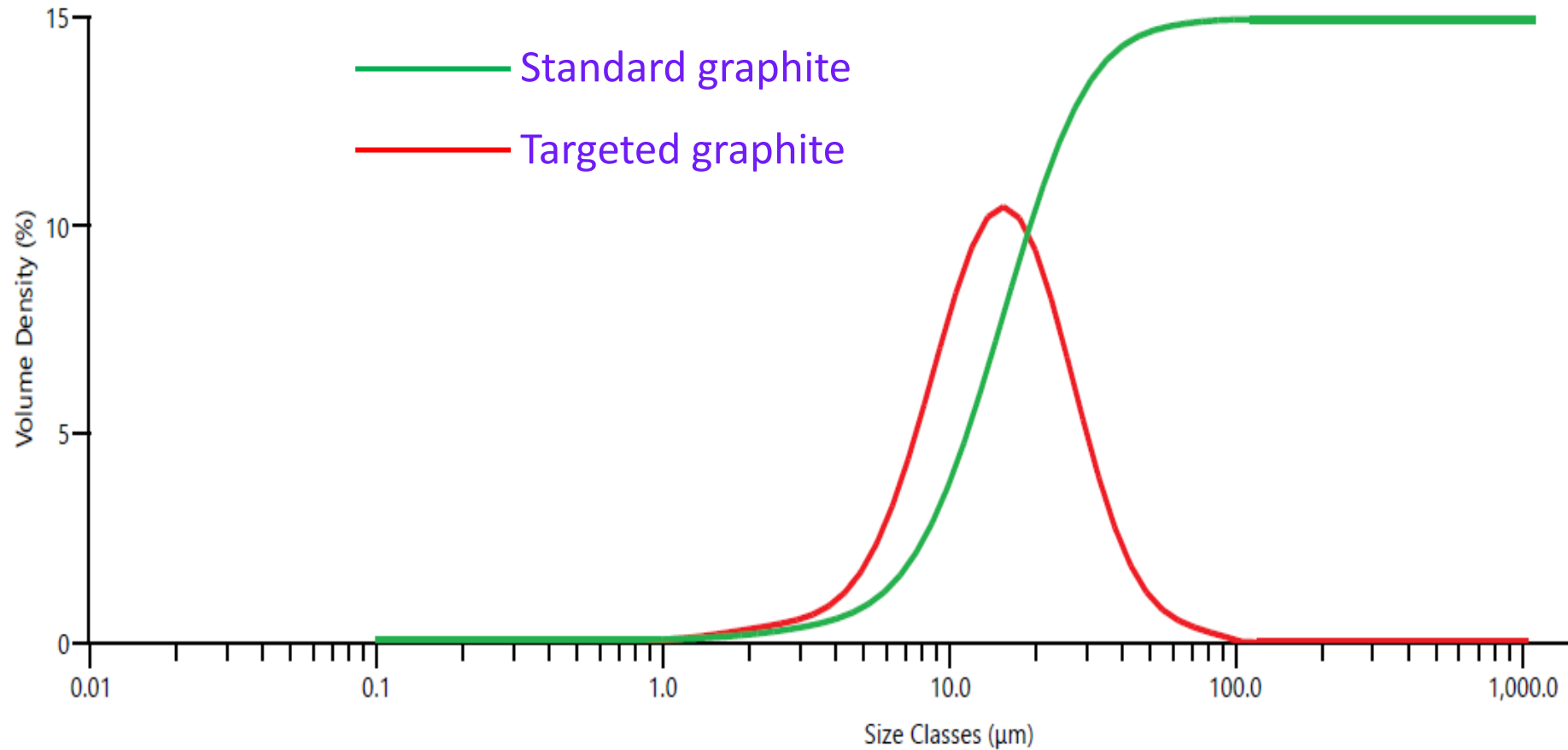
## Impurities present in graphite

Element	ICP Reading	Final Conc. (in ppm)	Element Percent (%)
Al	0.023	512.20	0.05
Li	0.113	1902.44	0.19
Co	0.155	3756.10	0.38
Mn	0.011	243.90	0.02
Cu	0.012	-48.78	0.00
Fe	0.069	1634.15	0.16
Mg	0.042	1000.00	0.10
Ca	0.162	3902.44	0.39
Zn	0.004	0.00	0.00
Ni	0.011	268.29	0.03
Na	0.16	3756.10	0.38

## Targeted graphite



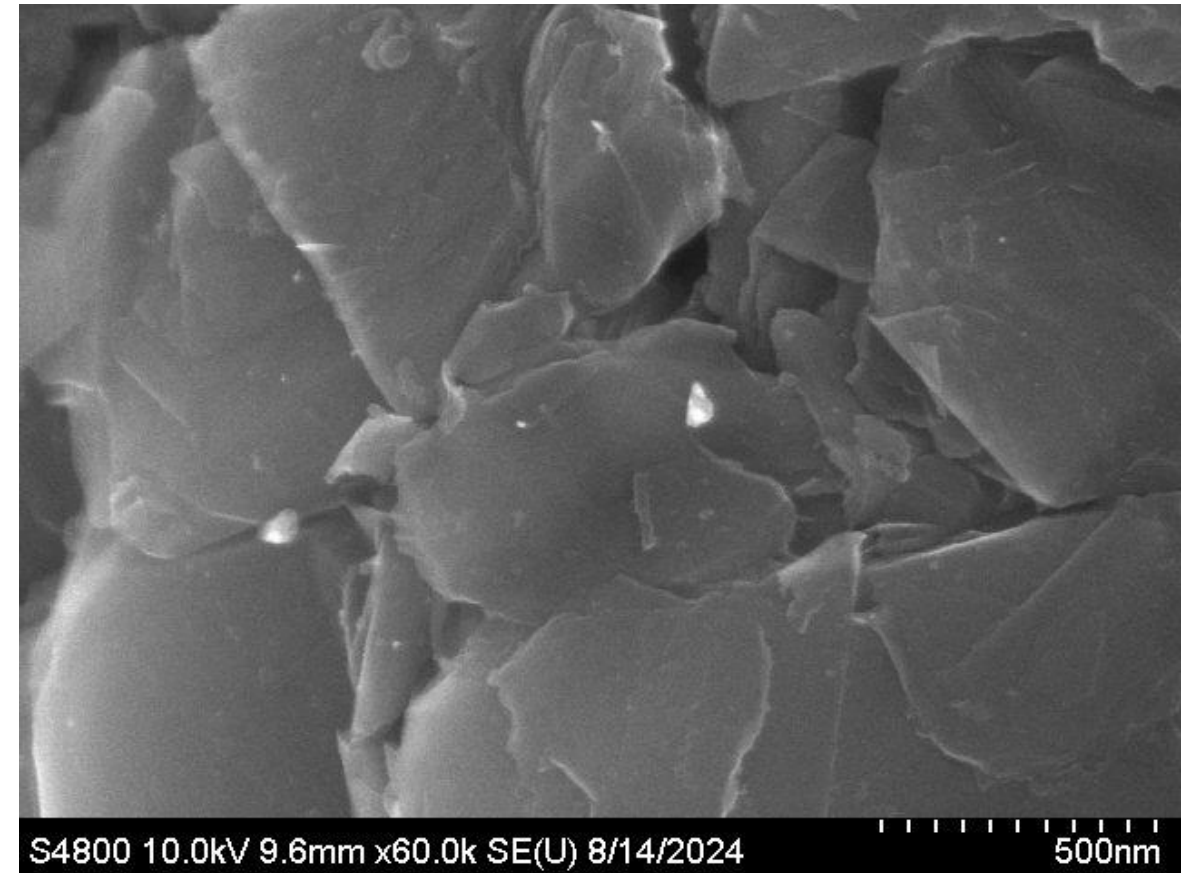
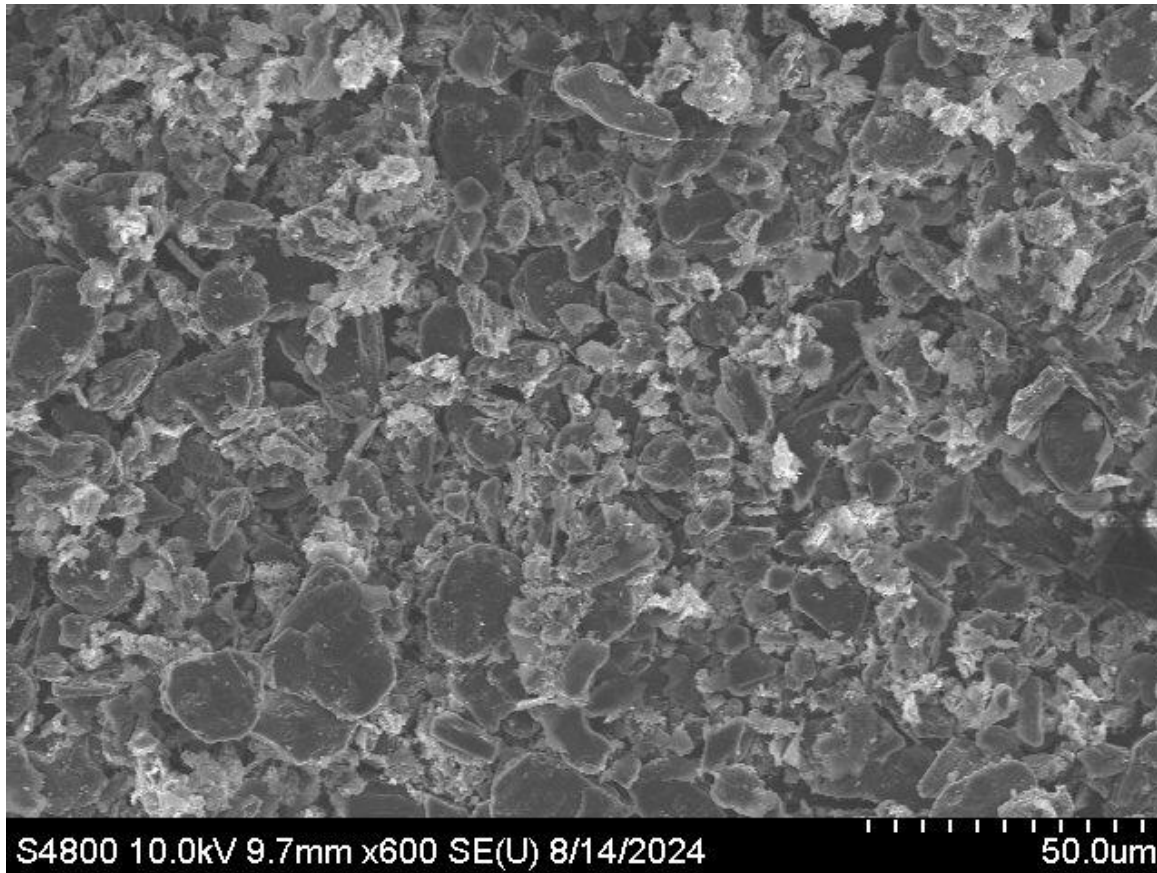
# Particle size distribution



Compared to standard graphite particle size distribution (D10 - 10μm, D50 - 20μm, D90 - 40μm), targeted graphite (D10 - 6.6μm, D50 - 14.8μm, D90 - 30.8μm) demonstrates a narrower distribution, indicating effective size control during processing and suitability for anode reuse.



# SEM analysis of targeted graphite microstructure



- SEM images reveal a layered morphology and surface texture.
- High magnification shows well-defined edges and interlayer spacing, confirming structural integrity suitable for anode applications.

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# Q&A



**Farid Ahmed**



farid.ahmed@ace-green.com



+44 7710 408026



www.acegreenrecycling.com