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Q&A with Dan Blondal, CEO and Founder of Nano One Materials Corp. providing Manufacturing of High Performance Nanomaterials for Batteries used in Electric Vehicles, Energy Storage, Consumer Electronics and Next Generation Batteries



Dan Blondal
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Interview conducted by: Lynn Fosse, Senior Editor CEOCFO Magazine "Batteries and the underlying chemistry are advancing rapidly and Nano One is well positioned with a flexible technology platform to evolve with shifting battery technology trends and disrupt the lithium battery supply chain."

- Dan Blondal

CEOCFO: Mr. Blondal, what is the vision behind Nano One Materials?

Mr. Blondal: Nano One is changing the way the world makes nanomaterials. Our immediate focus is on developing patented processing technology for the low-cost production of high performance battery materials. These would be for use in batteries that power electric vehicles, energy storage, consumer electronics and next generation batteries. The processing technology addresses fundamental supply chain constraints. It enables a wider range of raw materials to be used in lithium ion batteries and it can be configured to work with a wide range of different nanostructured materials. It has the flexibility to shift with emerging and future battery market trends and a wide range of other growth opportunities.

CEOCFO: In layman's terms, what is the technology?

Mr. Blondal: Think of it as a manufacturing process or a chemical assembly line. We take raw materials, like lithium, nickel, manganese, reduce them to their atomic components in solution and re-assemble them into useful composite structures. In the case of battery materials, lithium ions are shuttled in and out of spaces between atoms during charge and discharge, so the assembly of the underlying structure is critical to durability, power, energy, safety and cost.

CEOCFO: How is this done today? What will this replace or enhance?

Mr. Blondal: The way it is done today is that the key components are milled and ground together into a fine mixture of powders, and then they are heated to eight or nine hundred degrees in a furnace. Heating loosens atoms and they form the desired structures, but heating can take days, with grinding to help mix the products and it requires highly refined and high purity feedstock. Our process mixes the atoms up front in a chemical reaction. We still need to fire it in a furnace but time in the furnace goes from days to hours when the atoms are "pre-mixed" like ours. We are working in a water based chemical process, that also enables lower cost sources of lithium carbonate, a wider range of impurities and enhances the structures for improved performance.

CEOCFO: Have similar approaches been tried?

Mr. Blondal: There are many approaches to making these materials, but ours is unique and patented. We are focused on the cost of input materials, equipment and operation while making materials that meet or exceed the performance