

Battery cells are the core energy storage building blocks of a battery. For the first time, the active material used in these cells was produced entirely from recycled raw materials recovered from Porsche high-voltage batteries.

From Porsche to Porsche: Next Milestone in Battery Recycling

17/09/2026 Porsche is advancing the recovery of valuable raw materials and their reuse in new batteries through a collaboration focused on high-voltage battery recycling. As part of the pilot project, battery cathode active material has now been produced for the first time from 100% recycled raw materials.

Porsche has reached another milestone on its journey toward an increasingly closed-loop circular economy for high-voltage batteries and, in the long term, a more resilient supply of critical raw materials.

Together with partners such as the German recycling company cylib, Porsche has successfully produced battery cells using recycled cathode active material for the first time. The company therefore exclusively used battery raw materials recovered from its own high-voltage batteries. The battery cells manufactured within the pilot project are currently undergoing extensive operational testing.

“With battery cells made entirely from recycled raw materials such as lithium and cobalt, we have achieved an important technological milestone. This innovation is a key step in advancing both circular economy principles and raw material resilience, always with the ambition of optimizing progress, quality and resource efficiency,” says Joachim Scharnagl, Member of the Executive Board for Procurement at Porsche. This achievement continues the pilot project on high-voltage battery recycling launched last year. Within the project, Porsche and its partners recover valuable raw materials from end-of-life high-voltage batteries, process them into new materials, and subsequently use them in new battery cells for Porsche test-vehicles.

Following the recovery and processing stages, the project has now entered its next phase: for the first time, recycled active materials fully replace conventionally used primary raw materials. The recycled cathode active materials include lithium, nickel, cobalt and manganese.

“cylib closes the battery recycling loop, from end-of-life batteries to recovered raw materials,” says Dr. Lilian Schwich, Co-CEO and Co-Founder of cylib. “The pilot project with Porsche demonstrates that our approach is feasible in practice: valuable raw materials from Porsche batteries at the end of their first life can potentially flow back into new high-performance batteries for Porsche vehicles.”

Beyond the recovery of raw materials, Porsche is placing a strong emphasis on the quality of the recycled materials. The next step is to ensure that the recycled raw materials meet Porsche’s high standards for value, quality and performance when used in batteries. Initial tests have already indicated the technical feasibility of the approach. Further results are expected in the second half of 2026. Insights gained from the pilot project will form the basis for a potential future application of these materials in series-production battery cells.

The findings from the pilot project are already being incorporated into Porsche’s regular battery disposal process. The partnership between Porsche and cylib enables the recycling of end-of-life high-voltage batteries collected from Porsche Centers across Germany. Since May 2026, the batteries have been recycled using an innovative water-based process. The recovered battery raw materials are tracked through a dedicated material account and will be available to Porsche and selected partner companies for battery cell production beginning in 2028. This approach aims to reduce dependence on global raw material sources. In the future, battery raw materials recycled in Europe could be used in high-voltage batteries for Porsche vehicles.

Circular Economy at Porsche

Porsche aims to use raw materials responsibly and conserve resources while enabling the long-term use of vehicles and the materials they contain. As part of its sustainability strategy, Porsche promotes the use of more environmentally sustainable materials and circular concepts throughout the vehicle value chain. These efforts include projects such as circular solutions for high-voltage batteries, the use of circular materials, waste avoidance, and the remanufacturing of vehicle components.

Image Sublines

Path: media/Images/img_1.jpg
Title: Shredded battery material, 2026, Jann Höfer / cylib
Subline: The mechanically shredded battery material is an intermediate product on the way to producing black mass. ©Jann Höfer / cylib

Path: media/Images/img_3.jpg
Title: End-of-life high-voltage batteries, 2026, ©Jann Höfer / cylib
Subline: End-of-life high-voltage batteries are first discharged and dismantled before being mechanically shredded and processed into black mass containing valuable raw materials. ©Jann Höfer / cylib

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