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Bekaert expands leading position in electrolysis technologies for green hydrogen energy

Bekaert concludes partnership with Pajarito Powder, Albuquerque, US, to accelerate the development of spearheading innovations in the market of green hydrogen production

Driven by the opportunities that arise from the ongoing energy transition and decarbonization trends, Bekaert is accelerating the implementation of the company's growth strategy in renewable energy markets.

As part of this strategy, Bekaert today announces an equity investment in Pajarito Powder, a leader in the development and commercialization of advanced electrocatalysts for electrolyzers that enable green hydrogen production. Pajarito Powder is a US-based, venture-backed company funded by prestigious investors including Hyundai Motor Company and Verge Fund. The equity investment by Bekaert will support the scale-up of Pajarito Powder's manufacturing facility in Albuquerque, New Mexico, US.

Bekaert has established a technology and market leadership position in porous transport layers for electrolysis technologies with the brandname Currento®. The company invests in the development of next generations innovative solutions for green hydrogen production as well as in expanding its production footprint to multiple GW capacity.

'Bekaert is committed to developing green and sustainable solutions for customers, with a particular focus on improving the performance of key components necessary for the electrolysis needs of the future', said Inge Schildermans, VP Fiber Technologies Bekaert. *'We want to contribute to accelerating the innovation and scale-up of advanced solutions in our ecosystem. This will make the vision of a global hydrogen economy a near-term reality, and we see Pajarito Powder as a key contributor to that reality.'*

'Demand for green hydrogen is increasing as more nations recognize it as a way to meet energy needs whilst reducing carbon emissions and dependency on fossil fuels', Pajarito Powder Chairman and CEO Thomas J. Stephenson added. *'Bekaert is a highly regarded global technology leader whose backing, combined with our existing partners, further accelerates our ability to deliver high-performance catalyst products to the rapidly expanding green hydrogen market.'*

About Pajarito Powder

Based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, US, Pajarito Powder, LLC is a world leader in the development and commercialization of advanced electrocatalysts for electrolyzers and fuel cells. Pajarito Powder manufactures a range of catalyst products using its own intellectual property as well as intellectual property licensed from the University of New Mexico, Los Alamos National Laboratory, and Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique in Québec, Canada. Pajarito Powder manufactures catalysts for use with proton-exchange membranes (PEM) and alkaline fuel cells and electrolyzers; it also manufactures a proprietary Precious-Metal-Free catalyst for fuel cells. Pajarito Powder materials more effectively use the platinum group metals (PGM) component of catalysts, resulting in higher performance, better stability, and improved durability. Pajarito Powder is a venture-backed startup funded by Hyundai Motor Company, Bekaert, Verge Fund, Omphalos Venture Partners, and other private investors.

About Bekaert

Bekaert ([bekaert.com](https://www.bekaert.com)) is a world market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coating technologies. We pursue to be the preferred supplier for our steel wire products and solutions by continuously delivering superior value to our customers worldwide. Bekaert (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) is a global company with more than 27 000 employees worldwide, headquarters in Belgium and €5.9 billion in combined revenue in 2021.

About Bekaert Fiber Technologies

Bekaert's ultrathin metal fiber technologies cover many forms, sizes and alloys. Our creativity goes beyond steel, with the development and production of fibers made of copper, aluminum, titanium and nickel and transforming them into porous media. These media can be used as porous transport layers enhancing the durability and performance of electrochemical devices such as water electrolyzers for the production of hydrogen. We are constantly pushing our boundaries beyond steel to enable new applications which contribute to a cleaner, more comfortable and sustainable world.

Related Bekaert press releases

31 May 2021: [Flemish expertise centers join forces with industry to push green hydrogen production forward](#)

26 April 2022: [JM, Bekaert, TNO and Schaeffler partner to boost the efficiency of renewable hydrogen production](#)

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