



COMAU SUCCESSFULLY AUTOMATES THE PRODUCTION OF LECLANCHÉ NEW GENERATION BATTERIES

- Comau has designed and developed one of the world's first automated manufacturing lines for lithium-ion battery modules dedicated to e-transport solutions
- The line will allow Leclanché to produce up to six times its current capacity to reach a final output of more than 60,000 modules per year
- By automating complex manual processes the innovative solution reduces operating costs by up to 20%
- The all-in-one system covers the entire battery manufacturing process with the inherent flexibility to handle up to 50 different product configurations

Turin, July 1st, 2021 – Comau has designed and developed a high-volume module manufacturing line to produce new generation lithium-ion batteries for Leclanché, a leading global provider of high-quality energy storage solutions for the heavy transportation, naval and railway industries. The state-of-the-art, highly automated line is the result of a simultaneous engineering process and combines industrial robots, vision systems, laser welding, and the automated in-line validation of joints via artificial intelligence. Priority was given to ensuring multi-module configurability, full traceability and the highest level of safety.

The line includes the latest quality and process control technologies, thus setting the foundation for the transition towards Industry 4.0 principles. It will also allow Leclanché to produce up to six times the company's current capacity, reaching an output of more than 60,000 modules per year. The solution is also expected to reduce costs by up to 20%, support 50 different product configurations and save Leclanché valuable time when introducing new formats into the manufacturing line.

With the inherent flexibility to evolve as Leclanché's business evolves, the all-in-one manufacturing solution consists of three automated and semi-automated stages within a compact environment that is capable of handling the entire battery manufacturing process – from pouch cell stacking and welding to final assembly. Of particular interest, it features Comau's cutting-edge hybrid laser solution, LHYTE, and hosts a proprietary vision system based on artificial intelligence that automatically validates the electrical and mechanical resistance of each welded point.

The line is also equipped with the in.GRID MES interactive IoT and MES (Manufacturing Execution System) platform. Thanks to its direct connection with Leclanché's infrastructure, in.GRID MES facilitates a constant exchange of information between the





individual production cells and the full line. This data is processed in real-time and shown via a web-based interface that is accessible from any device, letting Leclanché easily manage its data and monitor production, processes and maintenance, both onsite or through telemetry.

“We are pleased to work with Leclanché to support their automation journey and expand their production potential,” declared Andrew Lloyd, Comau Segment Leader for Diversified Automation Systems and Electromobility. “The success of this project is a direct result of our customer-centric approach to simultaneous engineering. It also highlights Comau’s continued investments aimed at further strengthening our ability to meet the growing market demand for high-quality batteries and energy storage solutions.”

About Comau

Comau, a member of Stellantis, is a worldwide leader in delivering advanced industrial automation products and systems. Its portfolio includes technology and systems for electric, hybrid and traditional vehicle manufacturing, industrial robots, collaborative and wearable robotics, autonomous logistics, dedicated machining centers and interconnected digital services and products able to transmit, elaborate and analyze machine and process data. With over 45 years of experience and a strong presence within every major industrial country, Comau is helping manufacturers of all sizes in almost any industry experience higher quality, increased productivity, faster time-to-market and lower overall costs. The company’s offering also extends to project management and consultancy, as well as maintenance and training for a wide range of industrial segments. Headquartered in Turin, Italy, Comau has an international network of 7 innovation centers, 5 digital hubs, 8 manufacturing plants and employs more than 9,000 people in 14 countries. A global network of distributors and partners allows the company to respond quickly to the needs of customers, no matter where they are located throughout the world. Through the training activities organized by its Academy, Comau is also committed to developing the technical and managerial knowledge necessary for companies to face the challenges and opportunities of Industry 4.0.

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PRESS RELEASE

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