24. MAY 2023 KILIAN SAGNER, SOFIA ARTOLA



### THE BATTERY SHOW

EUROPE

# WILL LI-ON BATTERY RECYCLING EVER BECOME COST-EFFECTIVE?

**FEV CONSULTING** 

Decreasing costs & improved material recovery will make battery recycling cost-competitive, putting a price on end-of-life batteries instead of a fee



**-3.90** €/kg **+2.40** €/kg **Processing fee EoL battery value** 5.2 7.6 €/kg 8.1 €/kg Recoverable Recycling Processing Recoverable Recycling Eol value cost & margin fee value cost & margin value Today 2040

Note: EoL = End of Life; constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increases; costs today assume black mass production at 8k t/a (future: 15k t/a) and metal extraction at 10k t/a (future: 150k t/a)

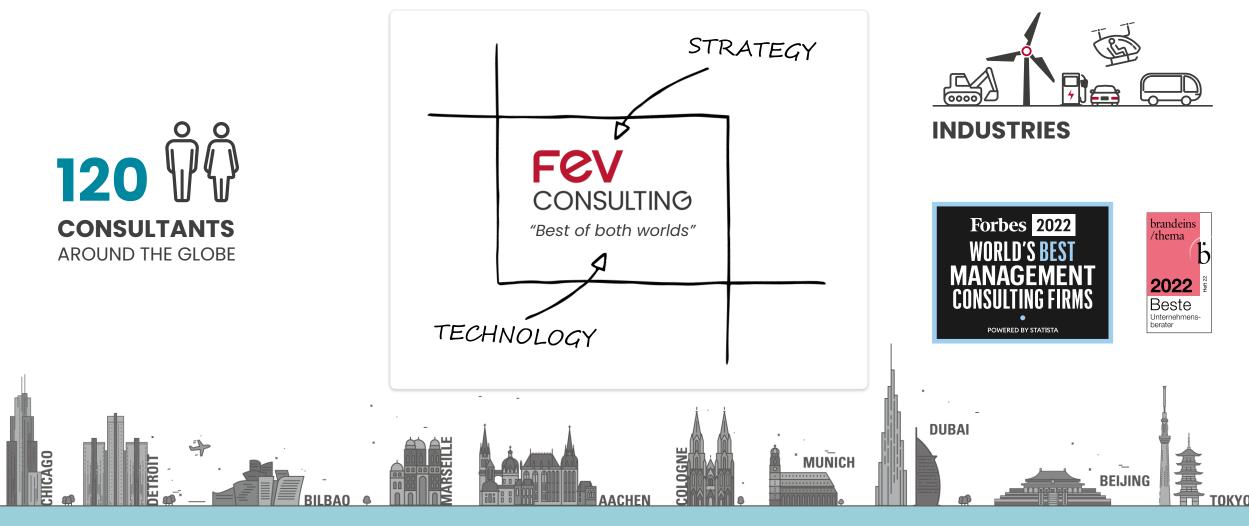
For NMC cells // Constant material prices

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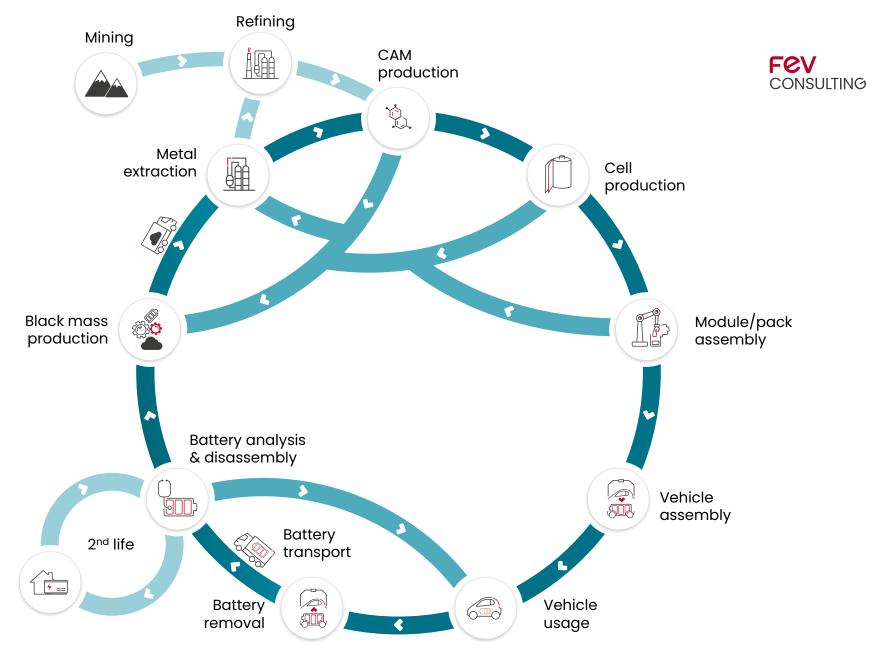
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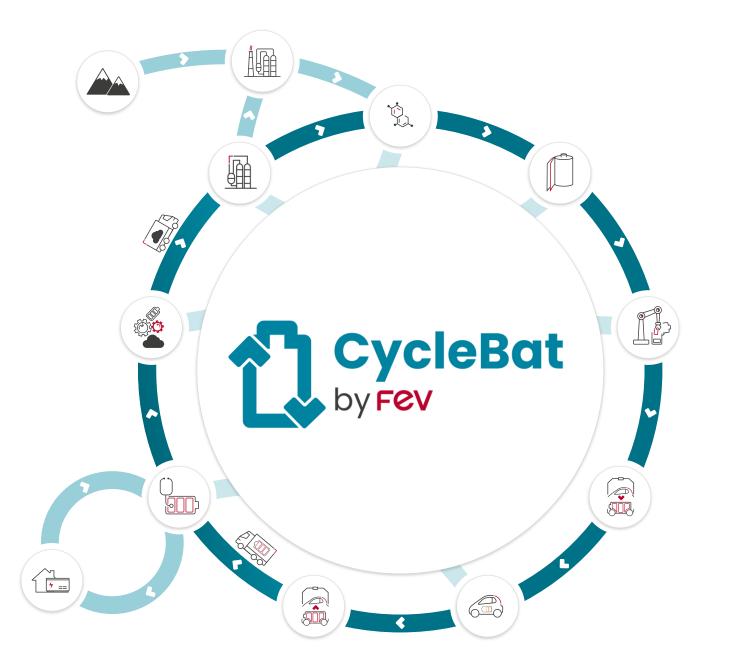
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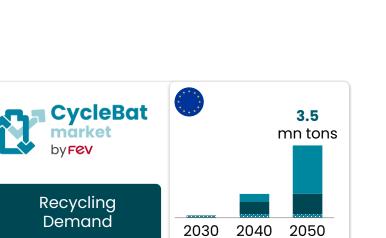
### FEV Consulting offers solutions for top management issues in a technostrategic environment – strong project collaboration with FEV engineers



### BATTERY CIRCULAR ECONOMY



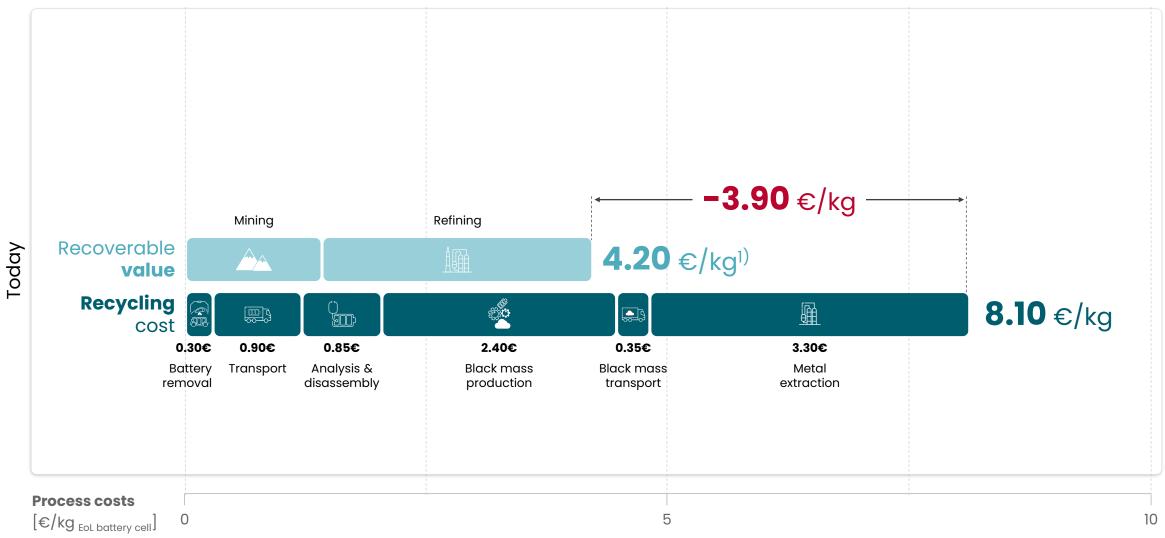






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Today, producing recycled battery materials is more expensive than virgin material mining & refining, resulting in recycling gate fees being charged



1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

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### With increasing volumes and technical progress, the battery recycling cost structure will look fundamentally different in 2040 compared to today

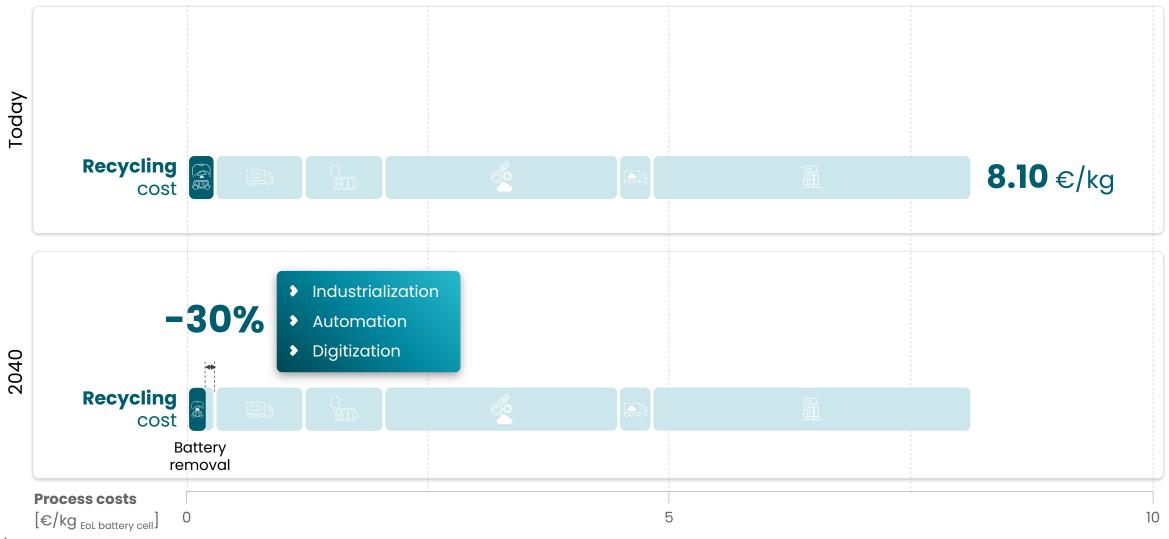


1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

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## Industrialization, automation & digitization will decrease vehicle dismantling and battery removal costs by 30% by 2040

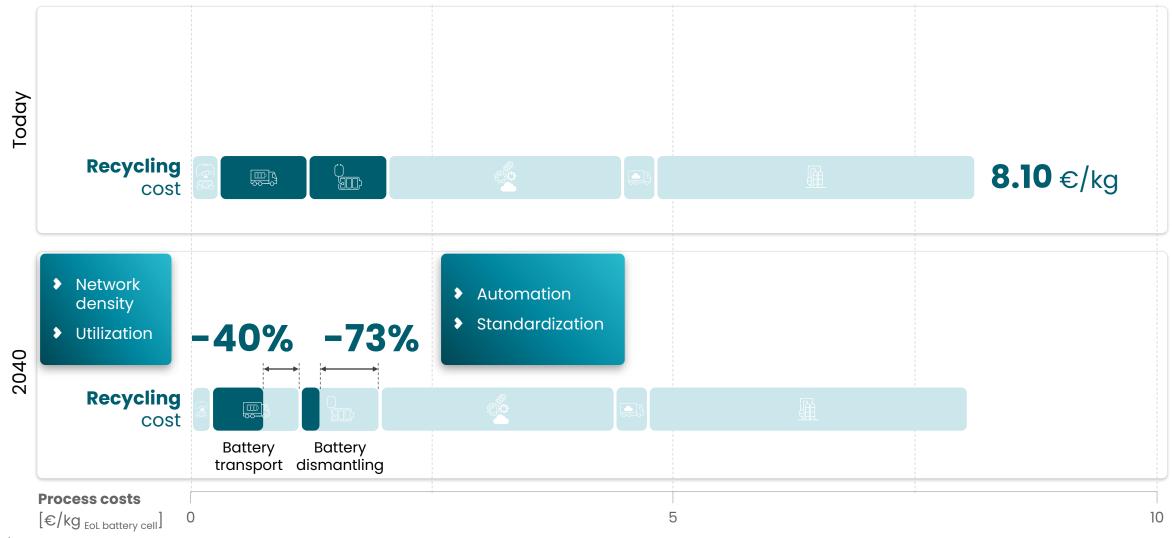


1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

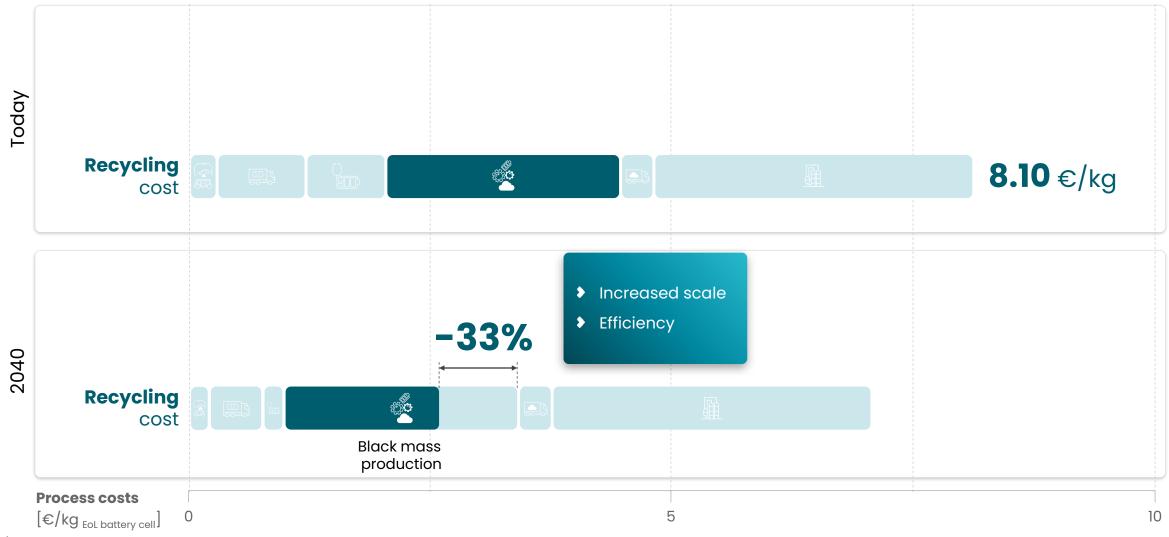
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Higher network density & utilization will lower battery transport costs, while automation & standardization will improve analysis & dismantling efficiency



1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Black mass production will still be decentralized across multiple "spokes", but increasing volumes & efficiencies will decrease costs by 33%

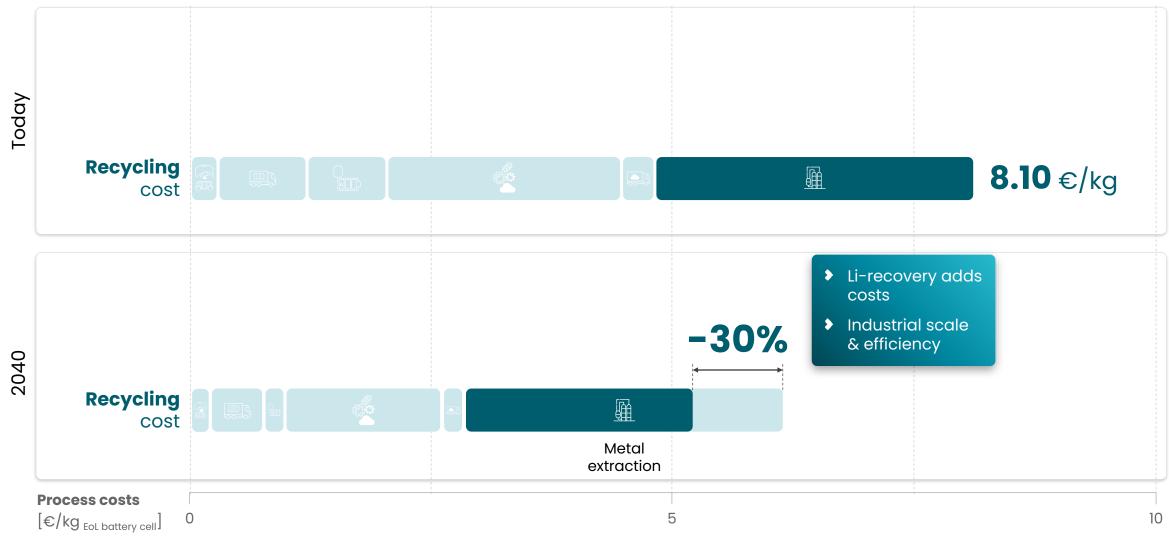


1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

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#### Metal extraction will become more complex to enable Li-recovery – however, scaling the processes to industrial scale will reduce cost overall



1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase

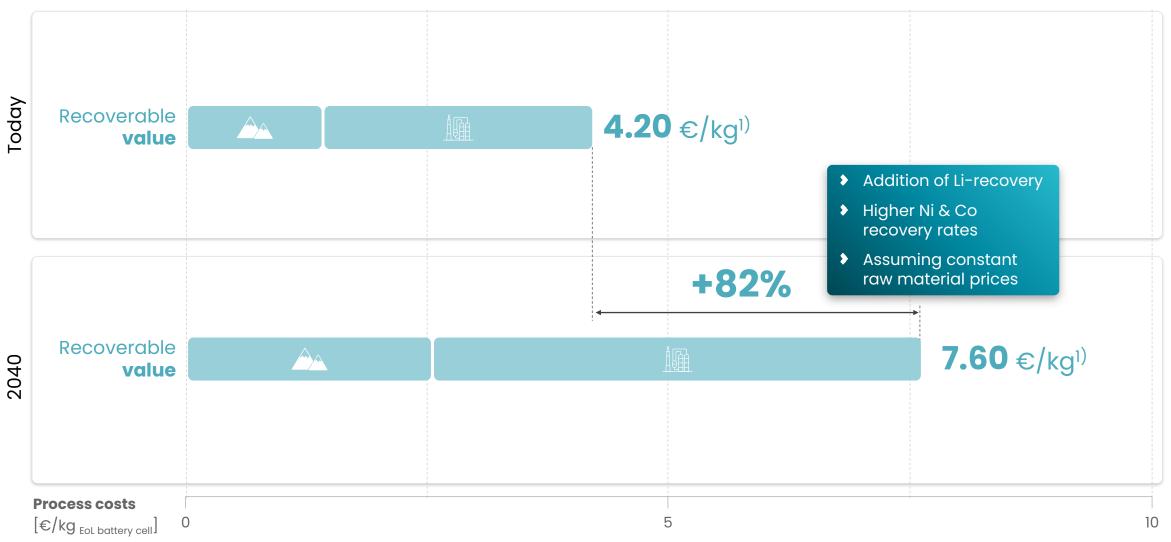
### Overall, the cost of recycling will be reduced significantly through a combination of technological advancements and economies of scale



1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

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## Simultaneously the addition of lithium recovery and improved recovery rates for nickel and cobalt will increase the future recoverable value



1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase Fev

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## End-of-life batteries will thus have a price tag in the future – in contrast to the processing fee demanded today

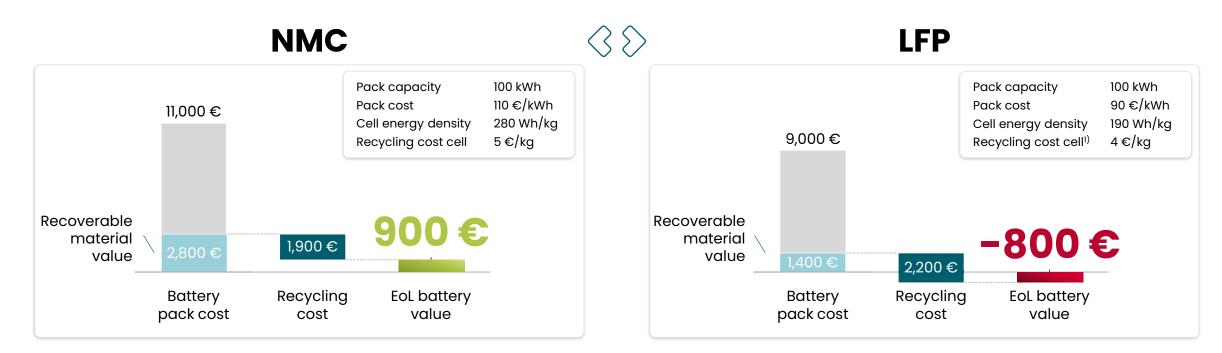




1) Costs to produce virgin raw material equivalent to recyclates recoverable from 1kg of NMC811 battery cell; Assumes constant material prices relating to May 2021 before steep increase While NMC cells will have a positive end-of-life value, LFP cells may become a liability if no suitable recycling process is developed







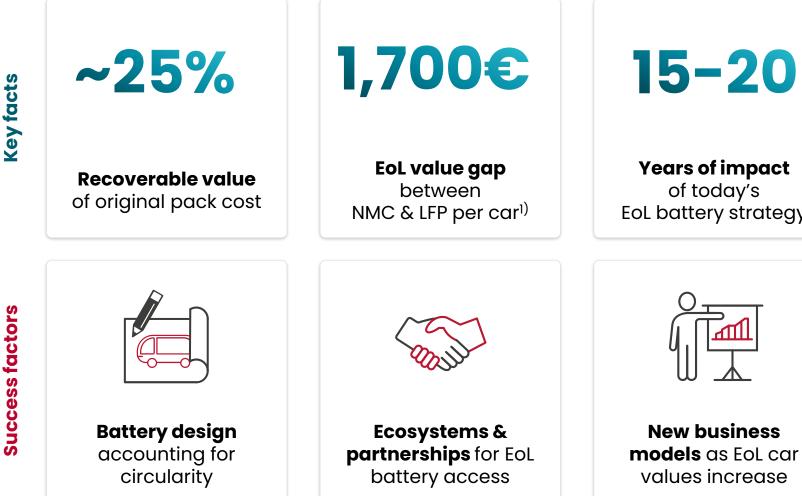
Note: EoL = End of Life; raw material prices relate to May 2021 before steep increases; 1) High level estimate

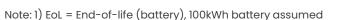
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**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS** 

End-of-life batteries can be a potential revenue pool or a liability for decades implications to be considered in design & business models

Success factors







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Years of impact of today's EoL battery strategy

### **GET IN TOUCH!**





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