**Global and China Lithium Iron Phosphate** 

Material and Battery Industry Report, 2012-

2015

June 2013



The Vertical Portal for China Business Intelligence

#### STUDY GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

This report provides the industry executives with strategically significant competitor information, analysis, insight and projection on the competitive pattern and key companies in the industry, crucial to the development and implementation of effective business, marketing and R&D programs.

#### **REPORT OBJECTIVES**

- To establish a comprehensive, factual, annually updated and costeffective information base on market size, competition patterns, market segments, goals and strategies of the leading players in the market, reviews and forecasts.
- To assist potential market entrants in evaluating prospective acquisition and joint venture candidates.
- To complement the organizations' internal competitor information gathering efforts with strategic analysis, data interpretation and insight.
- To suggest for concerned investors in line with the current development of this industry as well as the development tendency.
- To help company to succeed in a competitive market, and

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Both primary and secondary research methodologies were used in preparing this study. Initially, a comprehensive and exhaustive search of the literature on this industry was conducted. These sources included related books and journals, trade literature, marketing literature, other product/promotional literature, annual reports, security analyst reports, and other publications. Subsequently, telephone interviews or email correspondence was conducted with marketing executives etc. Other sources included related magazines, academics, and consulting companies.

#### **INFORMATION SOURCES**

The primary information sources include Company Reports, and National Bureau of Statistics of China etc.

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## Abstract

In 2012, global lithium iron phosphate industry continued enjoying a strong development momentum. Regionally speaking, however, the growth of lithium iron phosphate industry claimed severe differentiation. In regions beyond China, since the EV industry, the biggest lithium iron phosphate battery consumption market, developed not as well as expected, industrial players are confronted with the risk of withdrawing from the market or even bankrupting as a result of increasingly growing loss. At the same time, in contrast, counterparts from Chinese mainland and Taiwan witnessed smooth development, thanks to mature lithium battery industry as well as developed EV industry. Thus, the lithium iron phosphate industry is increasingly shifting to mainland China and Taiwan.

In recent years, there have been a great many of enterprises embarking on the lithium iron phosphate business in mainland China. Coupled with constant capacity expansion, China's lithium iron phosphate capacity continued rising. Owing to the fact that new comers lag behind in terms of production technology, product quality and production stability, both their real output and sales volume are well below the designed capacity. Equipped with strong technical force reserves and a great many of patents, Taiwanese enterprises featuring larger production scale are more competitive in the market.

#### 4500 4000 3500 3000 2500 2000 1500 1000 500 0 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

#### Lithium Iron Phosphate Sales Volume in China, 2007-2012 (ton)

Source: ResearchInChina Global and China Lithium Iron Phosphate Material and Battery Industry Report. 2012-2015

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In 2012, China lithium iron phosphate battery market pattern made little change, claiming that lithium iron phosphate battery products makers failed to see explosive growth as previous years which signaled rational development tendency. In addition, the cardinal number of EV in China is relatively small, so the absolute amount is not large despite output spurt. Therefore, the EV industry has yet to become a strong pillar to spur on the demand for lithium iron phosphate battery products. In contrast, energy saving and communication fields are would-be lithium iron phosphate battery consumption market with huge potential. And it is only a matter of time before this becomes a reality. In general, the lithium iron phosphate battery industry is at the pre-boom stage and has yet to be full-fledged.

The report touches on status quo of global and China lithium iron phosphate material and battery industry, highlights three trans-national enterprises including A123 Systems, Valence and Phostech, four Taiwanese ones such as Formosa, ALeees, Tatung Fine Chemicals and Hirose Tech as well as 22 mainland Chinese industrial players like Pulead Technology Industry Co., Ltd, Shenzhen Bei Terui New Energy Material Co., Ltd, Tianjin STL Energy Technology Co., Ltd. and BYD.

A123 Systems, the industrial leader worldwide, is one among two enterprises in the world possessing key lithium iron phosphate patents. However, due to bleak market environment and poor management, the company had long been at a loss, yielding a fast-growing deficit until Jan.2013 when it was took over by Wanxiang Group.

Formosa is a well-known Taiwanese lithium iron phosphate producer that offers a large part of its products for customers from Chinese mainland. In 2011, it was the runner-up among lithium iron phosphate suppliers targeting mainland China when it comes to market share. In 2012, the company's lithium iron phosphate capacity hit 4,800 t/a after capacity expansion, making it possible to become the largest lithium iron phosphate producer in Taiwan. And Formosa is projected to increase its capacity, of corporate planning, to 12,000 t/a by 2014 in an aim to become a would-be largest lithium iron phosphate producer the world over.

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