# Neometals Commissions Battery Recycling Plant

**Neometals Ltd (ASX: NMT)**

Announced that Primobius GmbH, the joint venture company owned 50:50 by Neometals and SMS group GmbH, has commenced commissioning of its showcase lithium-ion battery recycling demonstration plant in Hilchenbach, Germany.

| Neometals | ASX : NMT |
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| Stage | Production + development |
| Metals | Titanium + Vanadium + lithium + nickel |
| Market cap | A$300 m @ 55 c |
| Location | Western Australia |

# Neometals announces the commissioning of the battery recycling demonstration plant in Germany

Neometals Ltd (ASX: NMT) (“Neometals” or “the Company”), is pleased to announce that Primobius GmbH (“Primobius”), the joint venture (“JV”) company owned 50:50 by Neometals and SMS group GmbH (“SMS group”), has commenced commissioning of its showcase lithium-ion battery (“LIB”) recycling demonstration plant (“DP”) in Hilchenbach, Germany.

Primobius is combining Neometals’ unique and sustainable hydrometallurgical LIB recycling technology with SMS groups’ global engineering, plant construction and R&D industrialisation skills.

## HIGHLIGHTS

 Commencement of commissioning the Primobius (JV between Neometals and SMS group) lithium battery recycling demonstration plant in Hilchenbach, Germany;

 ‘Front-end’ shredding and beneficiation circuit construction complete and dry commissioning in progress;

 Construction of the ‘Back-end’ refinery circuit nearing completion;

 Feasibility Study on track for completion March 2022.

## Project history

Following five years of Neometals development, including a comprehensive pilot trial, Primobius has continued commercialisation efforts with significant DP progress achieved.

The fully integrated and continuous DP trial constitutes one of the evaluation

activities required for the JV owners to make an investment decision relating to construction of the JV's first commercial recycling plant.

Neometals and SMS group have been co-funding the evaluation steps, which will also include subsequent completion of Feasibility Study and the commercial negotiations required to secure LIB feed and product offtake arrangements.

The DP is located in a dedicated building within the SMS group engineering competence centre in Hilchenbach. The trial schedule contemplates commissioning and operation of the 'Front-end' Shredding and Beneficiation Circuit first, followed by
commissioning of the 'Back-end' Hydrometallurgical Refining Circuit.

DP LIB feedstocks have been secured from electric vehicle and energy storage system manufacturers and the DP will serve as a showcase for generating evaluation product for potential customers, partners and offtakers.

The DP will provide an opportunity for potential partners to verify Primobius' capability to safely, sustainably and ethically dispose of hazardous LIBs. The DP is permitted to operate at a rate of 1t per day and the 'Front-end' circuit is being 'powered up' ahead
of dry and then wet testing. Construction of the DP Back-end circuit is almost complete and will follow the same sequence of steps before the DP trial commences in earnest. Approximately [10] tonnes of whole LIB cells are to be shredded during the DP trial.

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Neometals battery recycling shredder, Hilchenbach, Germany.

Figure 1 – Two stage Shredding Circuit

## Neometals management comments

*"We are excited to be commencing our much anticipated recycling demonstration trial. The Primobius and SMS teams have done an exceptional job to keep the timeline tight through a challenging period of global Covid delays.*

*"As can be seen from the images, this plant is a real showcase of German engineering.*

*"We look forward to proving our proprietary flowsheet at larger scale and safely generate product samples promised to our commercial partners under the various commercial evaluation agreements that underpin our battery feedstock and product offtake strategies.*

*"We look forward to sharing our progress throughout the trial".*

**Chris Reed, Neometals MD, and director**

For brevity, this summary has been abridged.  To read the full news release, please click HERE

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