



Seval and Riplastic will be the first industrial operators in Italy for the recycling of lithium-ion batteries

Two plants on the national territory, one in Lombardy and one in Basilicata, for a treatment capacity of almost 30,000 tons per year of lithium-ion batteries, for a total investment of approximately 30 million euros.

Roberto Ardenghi, sole director of Seval Srl, explains: *"It is the largest investment ever for Seval and Riplastic, who will face this great challenge together. Our goal is to become the national point of reference for battery recycling to recycle and maintain in our country the important and rare critical raw materials that our industries increasingly need to stay competitive"*.

The announcement follows the agreements signed in recent days - at the end of almost two years of joint work - with *Duesenfeld GmbH - Ecofriendly Recycling of Lithium-Ion Batteries*, for the exploitation of the patents necessary to the technological process chosen by Seval and Riplastic. Thanks to this process, the treatment of lithium-ion batteries is carried out at a low temperature in complete safety, with emissions largely below the most stringent thresholds and no hydrogen fluoride release, producing a *black mass* with an excellent level of purity, rich in nickel, cobalt and lithium, as well as noble metals like aluminum, copper, iron. The technology also allows us to achieve a very high recovery rate as required by the new European Regulation 2023/1542.

Full operation of the plants is planned for the end of 2025 and the beginning of 2026. First activities are scheduled for spring 2025.

Alfredo Ardenghi, president of Riplastic SpA, explains that *"our country is late in building the recycling infrastructure for these materials and risks losing competitiveness. Thanks to our activity we will contribute to push electric mobility and storage markets and at the same time realize a real circular economy"*.

The Italian market for lithium-ion batteries, although the penetration of electric cars is still very limited, is fast-expanding. In the last 3 years alone, almost 250,000 tons of industrial lithium-ion batteries have been sold in our country, but to date there are no plants in the area capable of treating this mass of batteries in circulation when they reach the end of their life.

Gianluca Imbrogno, CEO of Riplastic, recalls that *"the initiative allows for the creation of many new jobs. Today almost all lithium-ion batteries are exported to foreign plants, sometimes even outside the European Union. With these plants we bring back to our country, and in particular to Southern Italy, an important and strategic part of the value chain, guaranteeing growth of employment and skills"*.

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For more information or to collaborate with us on the project: info@seval.net