

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Gold Peak Opens a New Battery Plant in Vietnam

GP Batteries International Limited, listed in Singapore and a 55.5%-owned subsidiary of Gold Peak Industries (Holdings) Limited (*stock code: 40*), opened a new battery plant in Vietnam on 31 March 2017.

The plant is located in Hoa Mac Industrial Zone of Hanam Province which is about an hour's drive south of Hanoi City. It has a total land area of 29,400 sq.m. with the built-up area for Phase One being 11,705 sq.m.. The plant has started its pilot run since January 2017. The initial start-up of two automatic production lines specializes in manufacturing Carbon Zinc AA and AAA batteries for consumer and industrial markets globally. The facilities will be gradually expanded to accommodate multiple battery products. The production of Carbon Zinc 9V batteries will be covered in Phase Two.

Victor Lo, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of GP Batteries, said, "GP Batteries has been actively seeking business opportunities worldwide and especially in the Asia-Pacific region. Manufacturing bases are strategically considered for expansion of global distribution network and cost efficiency. Vietnam is chosen as GP Batteries can leverage on the zero import duty of Vietnam battery products into India and ASEAN countries."

"In addition, GP Batteries has been migrating facilities to the nearby regions to counter the rising manufacturing and land costs in China. Therefore, in February this year, the plant in Tampoi, Malaysia, has expanded with an additional site in Senai," added Lo.

The new plant in Vietnam is under a 79%-owned subsidiary of GP Batteries, GP Batteries (Vietnam) LLC, which is a joint venture formed in 2015 with Hanoi Battery Joint Stock Company (“HABACO”). HABACO is a major battery manufacturer in Vietnam, of which GP Batteries owns a 30% shareholding. With the joint venture, the two parties enjoy mutual benefits in local and global marketing and distribution of battery products.

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