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Highly Skilled Battery Experts Hired to Lead Production at the New York Lithium-ion Battery Plant

- Tesla's first engineer at the Tesla Gigafactory in Nevada, Chaitanya Sharma hired as Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Former Vice President (VP) of Duracell USA, Bill Shannon appointed as Chief Operating Officer (COO)
- Former CEO of Glypath Systems Mike Driscoll appointed as Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
- Former VP of Business Development at Duracell Paul Stratton appointed as Senior VP Sales and Marketing
- Former Director at Applied Materials Dr. Priyadarshi Panda appointed as VP of Engineering
- Former Engineering Lead at Phoenix Systems / LAM Research Dr. Brandon Jordan-Thaden appointed as Senior Director of Engineering
- First production on track for late 2021

Magnis Energy Technologies Limited ["Magnis", or the "Company"] (ASX: MNS) is pleased to announce key appointments at Imperium3 New York (iM3NY) which will lead production at the iM3NY Lithium-ion Battery Plant in Endicott, New York.

All the highly experienced individuals have officially been appointed and have started immediately with the goal of production in late 2021. The team assembled brings a wealth of experience in manufacturing, development, sales and marketing along with day-to-day operations in the Lithium-ion battery industry.

CEO- Chaitanya Sharma

Mr Sharma has over 15 years of experience in the lithium-ion battery industry which is highlighted by a senior role at Tesla Inc [NASDAQ:TLSA] and was the first engineer hired to support the build-up of their Gigafactory in Nevada. He joined the Tesla Nevada Gigafactory project before any construction had begun and saw the factory begin operations all the way through to double digit GWh production capacity.

Mr Sharma is a Mechanical Engineer by education, he possesses a Bachelors Degree from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology [IIT Roorkee] and a Masters Degree from Stanford University.

COO – Bill Shannon

Mr Shannon has over 20 years of experience in the lithium-ion battery industry, primarily through this time at H&T Corporation, the world’s largest supplier of lithium-ion cell cans.

Mr Shannon was the Divisional President of H&T Corporation and helped start four factories around the world including one at the Tesla Gigafactory in Nevada where H&T was a resident supplier. Mr Shannon was recently VP of Operations for Duracell in the United States.

CFO – Mike Driscoll

Mr Driscoll has five decades of experience in the technology industry having founded, owned and held various executive and board-level positions in both the US and Asia.

Mr Driscoll’s experience includes completing several green field projects for large manufacturing companies including that for Technology Applications Ltd, which he founded and took public in 1990. Mike has also been a CEO for OneCare Inc. and Glyoh Production Technologies, a New York based manufacturer of computer storage devices.

VP of Engineering – Dr Priyadarshi Panda

Dr Panda has spent nearly 15 years of experience in the semi-conductor industry having held senior roles at Intel [NASDAQ:INTC], LAM Research [NASDAQ:LRCK] and Applied Materials [NASDAQ:AMAT].

At LAM Research, Dr Panda was the lead engineer in setting up semi-conductor production for high volume manufacturing in Asia. He is an expert in the installation of tools, running them through a thorough commissioning process and optimising their throughput and performance efficiency.

Dr Panda is a Chemical Engineer and has a Bachelors Degree from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology [IITK] and a PhD from MIT.

Senior VP of Sales and Marketing - Paul Stratton

Mr Stratton has had an illustrious career spanning over 35 years, with over 18 years spent at Duracell / Gillette as their VP of Advanced Business Development.

During his time at Duracell, Mr Stratton was initially involved with their Alkaline product line and was subsequently asked to lead the creation of their rechargeable battery business, which he started, grew and eventually sold off. For the last 10 years Mr Stratton has been running his own successful consulting business through which he has helped small to mid-size companies develop their sales and marketing strategies.

Senior Director of Engineering – Dr Brandon Jordan-Thaden

Dr Jordan-Thaden has held senior roles at LAM Research [NASDAQ:LRCK] and Phoenix Systems where he developed expertise in hardware development, installation, commissioning and trouble shooting in both the semi-conductor and nuclear power industries.

Dr Jordan-Thaden is an expert in data analytics to optimise each individual sub-process, processes and ultimately complete manufacturing lines to ensure each step in the manufacturing process is at the optimum performance efficiency.

Dr Jordan-Thaden has a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and a PhD in Physics from the University of Nebraska.

Chairman of iM3NY Dr Shailesh Upreti commented: "We are very excited to bring in a very well-rounded experienced team from the Lithium-ion and Semi-conductor industries to help us scale up our operations at iM3NY. With this leadership already in place, we will be accelerating development of our project to be a significant plant in the US."

Magnis Chairman Frank Poullas commented: "Lithium-ion cell manufacturing is highly sophisticated and needs a quality team in place to be able to deliver. With the handpicked team we have assembled, we have the right people in place to help us get our operations going at iM3NY and accelerate our production schedule towards production in late 2021."

"We look forward to providing constant updates to our shareholders as we progress from development to production."

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Magnis Energy Technologies Limited [ACN 115 111 763].

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