

# Solutions for Lead-Acid Batteries, Lithium-Ion Batteries, and Fuel Cells



# Measuring Instruments for Optimized **Battery and Fuel Cell** Production

Successful manufacturing and performance of batteries and fuel cells rely on a suitable combination of functional materials with the right physicochemical properties.

Anton Paar has the tools to help you characterize, monitor, and investigate your battery's or fuel cell's key components. With the broadest portfolio of measuring instruments, we have a solution for your challenges in the research, production, and maintenance of lead-acid batteries, lithium-ion batteries and fuel cells.





FUEL CELLS



#### LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

### SOLUTIONS FOR LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

Whether you are producing, maintaining, or servicing lead-acid batteries, you want to know the concentration of sulfuric acid in the battery and therefore the state of charge. To determine the concentration, use a digital density meter or digital hydrometer, either in your laboratory or out in the field.

#### **LEAD-ACID BATTERY** MANUFACTURING

During production, using a digital density meter is the most convenient way to measure the concentration of sulfuric acid at these stages:

- For diluting H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to the required concentration
- During formation of the plates
- After charging the batteries
- After filling and loading
- Before shipment after storing the batteries

#### **LEAD-ACID BATTERY** MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE

Regular checks on lead-acid batteries in uninterruptable power supply (UPS) systems monitor the state of charge and the state of health, and detect the weak batteries in the system. To keep the lead-acid battery in good shape over its entire life cycle, it is crucial to regularly check the concentration of sulfuric acid, for example with a portable digital hydrometer (digital density meter).

Your benefits of using a digital density meter:

- Maximum safety and convenience with on-site measurement at the production site, in the laboratory, directly out of the battery, and for use in the field
- Coverage of the whole sulfuric acid concentration range needed in the production process
- Cost savings due to small sample volume of only 2 mL
- Time savings thanks to the determination of the concentration of the electrolyte solution in less than two minutes
- Automatic display of the specific gravity (or density) result, compensated to 20 °C, the concentration of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in %w/w or converted into SG 80/80 and other units as required



To find out more, visit:

### www.anton-paar.com/lead-acid-batteries



### SOLUTIONS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Anton Paar delivers solutions for the quality control of raw materials, electrolytes, and solvents, and helps you characterize active materials for research and product development.



#### YOU NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR BATTERIES' PERFORMANCE PARAMETERS, E.G. CHARGE/ **DISCHARGE BEHAVIOR,** CAPACITY, POWER DENSITY?

Solution: Take a closer look at the particle size and surface area, and adjust these to achieve maximum performance with a particle size analyzer.

YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT THE DELIVERED ELECTRODE SOLIDS HAVE THE REQUIRED CHARACTERISTICS BEFORE **SLURRY PREPARATION?** 

Solution: Measure the surface area by gas adsorption to ensure the electrodes have a predictable and reproducible charge/discharge performance with an instrument for surface and pore size analysis.

#### YOU WANT TO AVOID **UNNECESSARY AGITATION OF**

THE SLURRY DURING MIXING, **AS THIS DEGRADES INTERNAL STRUCTURES OVER TIME?** 

Solution: Find out more about the right combination of mixing speed, time, and temperature for the slurry by simulating the mixing process under varying conditions with a rheometer. Additional benefit: You can greatly reduce material costs.

#### YOU NEED TO CHECK THE INITIAL **DENSITY BEFORE CALENDERING?**

**Solution:** Measure the true density by gas pycnometry with an instrument from the surface and pore size analysis portfolio to avoid cycle time problems and capacity loss.

#### YOU WANT TO OPTIMIZE **MATERIALS AND PROCESS PARAMETERS?**

Solution: Measure the quantitative pore volume and pore size distribution to understand the porosity of the dry electrode by means of mercury intrusion porosimetry.

To read about more challenges and solutions in lithium-ion battery production and discover our instrument portfolio, visit:

www.anton-paar.com/li-ion

#### YOU NEED TO CHECK THE **QUALITY OF ELECTROLYTES BEFORE FILLING TO AVOID DELIVERING BATTERIES WITH POOR PERFORMANCE?**

Solution: Quick quality checks with a digital density meter can ensure quality and reduce potential problems resulting from poor-quality raw materials.

## SOLUTIONS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

#### DENSITY, REFRACTIVE INDEX, AND CONCENTRATION MEASUREMENT FOR:

- Quality control of incoming chemicals
- Quality control of slurry composition
- Quality control of electrolytes whether liquid or polymer

Resulting in: less waste of precious compounds, useful insights into new materials, time efficiency

#### **PARTICLE CHARACTERIZATION FOR:**

- Optimizing the performance of the electrode via analysis of the particle size and particle size distribution
- Ensuring high homogeneity of the slurry by determing particle size and zeta potential

**Resulting in:** efficient electrode production, ideal slurry for the next production steps, high homogeneity during slurry production

#### SURFACE AND PORE SIZE ANALYSIS FOR:

- Gaining knowledge of the surface area and pore size of active materials and separators so you can optimize them for the intended pouch size or other type of cell
- Quality checks on incoming raw materials to make sure you only use high-quality components

Resulting in: final products that meet performance specifications

#### SURFACE CHARACTERIZATION FOR:

- Measuring the adhesion of the coating on the electrodes in order to select the right process parameters so that there is no risk of delamination
- Investigating the correlation between surface zeta potential and adhesion so you can take steps to prevent electrode failure

**Resulting in:** reliable electrode coating for long-life batteries

#### VISCOSITY MEASUREMENTS AND RHEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS FOR:

- Measuring the viscosity of slurry so you can adjust it to have the ideal pumping behavior
- Simulating the sedimentation of layers and structural recovery after layer application so you can understand how to optimize the layer composition
- Knowledge about the electrolyte's viscosity to ensure the development of high-performance electrolytes that enable fast charging and discharging over a wide temperature range

Resulting in: efficient pumping, well-performing layers

#### 01 | R&D 02 | INCOMING QUALITY CONTROL 03 | SLURRY PREPARATION





01 | R&D 02 | INCOMING QUALITY CONTROL 04 | COATING AND DRYING





01 | R&D 02 | INCOMING QUALITY CONTROL 03 | SLURRY PREPARATION



01 | R&D 04 | COATING AND DRYING



## SOLUTIONS FOR LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

#### **MICROWAVE DIGESTION AND MICROWAVE SYNTHESIS FOR:**

- Creating novel materials used in anodes, cathodes, and separators (also combinable with Raman spectroscopy in order to optimize reaction time)
- Optimizing the sample preparation for the subsequent elemental analysis

**Resulting in:** convenient and safe synthesis of novel materials that can revolutionize batteries and their performance, reproducibly prepared samples

#### **SMALL-ANGLE X-RAY SCATTERING FOR:**

- Following the electrochemical processes in-situ to maximize capacity and performance
- Understanding how electrodes work on a nanometer level

Resulting in: improved battery capacity and lifetime

#### **RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY FOR:**

- Verifying incoming raw materials, even solids such as membrane materials and graphene
- Covering a wide range of samples with the option of two different wavelengths in one instrument

Resulting in: fast, accurate, and non-invasive analysis, even through packaging

#### FLASH POINT TESTING FOR:

- Determining the thermal safety of your lithium-ion batteries
- Guaranteeing the consistent quality of your products, supported by the ceramic-coated electric igniter and optimized cooling technology, saving valuable time and money

Resulting in: optimization of thermal safety behavior and better battery performance





02 | INCOMING QUALITY CONTROL











### **SOLUTIONS FOR FUEL CELLS**

Fuel cell development and production involves nanoscale engineering, optimizing and controlling both the particle size of the catalyst and the fluid transport properties of gases and vapors. Particle size analysis on the micrometer scale also plays a major part in the effective fabrication of electrode materials.





To find out more, visit:

### www.anton-paar.com/fuel-cell

## SOLUTIONS FOR FUEL CELLS

#### ANTON PAAR INSTRUMENTS FOR DETERMINING PARTICLE SIZE, ZETA POTENTIAL, AND PORE SIZE HELP YOU WITH COMMON CHALLENGES

#### Gas diffusion layer:

- Achieve better fuel cell performance by optimizing fluid permeability by measuring the pore size distribution.
- Ensure consistent and sufficient fluid transport by controlling flooding. This can be done by measuring the hydrophobicity via water vapor sorption.

#### Catalyst:

- Build fuel cells that maintain their activity by quantifying the active metal area and dispersion by chemisorption.
- Improve the catalytic activity by determining the particle size.
- Determine the final concentration of noble metals used in catalysts with excellent sample preparation and subsequent elemental analysis.

#### Catalyst support:

- Minimize the variability of batches of carbon before they are used by obtaining a consistent surface area and pore volume of nanoporous carbon by measuring the pore size distribution.

#### **Electrodes:**

- Significantly improve fuel cell performance by optimizing the electrode properties by measuring the particle size distribution.
- Study electrodes in-situ during electrochemical cycling by using SAXS.

#### Proton exchange membrane:

- Optimize the durability of the proton exchange membrane by measuring the surface zeta potential.
- Optimize the preformance of PEMs with SAXS.

## Reliable. Compliant. **Qualified.**

Our well-trained and certified technicians are ready to keep your instrument running smoothly.

## 

#### Maximum uptime

Regardless of how intensively you use your instrument, we help you keep your device in perfect shape and safeguard your investment. For at least 10 years after the discontinuation of a device, we'll provide you with any service and spare part that you might need.



To find out more, visit:

### www.anton-paar.com/fuel-cell



#### Warranty program

We're confident in the high quality of our instruments. That's why we provide <u>a full 3-year warranty</u>. Just make sure to follow the relevant maintenance schedule. You can also extend your instrument's warranty beyond its expiration date.



#### Short response times

We know that sometimes it's urgent. That's why we provide a response to your inquiry within 24 hours. We give you straightforward help from great people, not from bots.



#### A global service network

Our large service network for customers spans 86 locations with more than 600 certified service technicians. Wherever you're located, there's always an Anton Paar service technician nearby.





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