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VINNOVA finances Insplorion's development of the fiber optic sensing platform with 1,7 MSEK

VINNOVA has granted Insplorion's project "Development of a Nano-Plasmonic Fiber Optic Sensing Platform for Battery Monitoring" with 1,7 MSEK within the Smarter Electronics System program. The total budget for the project is 3,2 MSEK and RISE Acreo is the main partner. The project follows the successful results, from the pre-study financed by same program, about the large-scale production and application of fiber optic based NPS, that were communicated at the end of March this year.

The transition from fossil to renewable energy increases the need for sustainable and cost-efficient ways of storing energy. Lithium ion batteries (LIBs) are the current state-of-the-art and has become the industry standard for energy storage needs around the world. Today, the main limiting factor for the widespread application of LIBs is high cost – partly coupled to inefficient usage. This limitation can be alleviated by improving the battery status information (charge and health monitoring) used for battery management/control, reducing the large safety margins required today. The project will focus on the high-volume production of fiber optic NPS based sensing systems and will run in parallel to the already ongoing miniaturisation activities. It will enhance the transition to larger volume production of both the battery- and air quality sensors.

"We are very glad to continue the collaboration that we have with RISE Acreo on the large volume sensor electronics design within the Smarter Electronics System program. It complements the development that we currently make for both our battery and air quality sensors and paves the way for faster scale up. The project is also important for the development of fiber optic based NPS in general and will strengthen our sensor platform.", comments Patrik Dahlqvist CEO at Insplorion.

In March this year the results from the feasibility study were presented. They showed how the optics and electronics could be designed for large-scale cost-effective manufacturing. This new project will focus on improving the selected designs and enhancing and tailoring the sensor probe to increase its performance even further. The project will start in August 2018 and is expected to be finalized in the autumn 2019.

"This collaborative project between RISE Acreo and Insplorion makes it possible to further develop a versatile technology with industrial applications, which is the mission of research institutes", comments Walter Margulis Senior Scientist at RISE Acreo.

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