

PRESS RELEASE

PRESS

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SOMFY AND VOLTR PARTNER TO GIVE LITHIUM BATTERIES A SECOND LIFE

Transforming used batteries into new industrial resources : this is the goal that brings together SOMFY and VoltR, a French manufacturer of eco-designed lithium batteries. Driven by a shared conviction, that a battery at the end of its first life still retains significant value, the two partners are taking a major step forward: the integration of remanufactured French batteries into certain SOMFY products. This is a concrete example of how the circular economy can help reduce the industry's environmental impact while strengthening local supply chains.



Turning used batteries into a resource

As the electrification of everyday uses accelerates and access to the raw materials essential for battery manufacturing becomes an increasingly critical issue, millions of lithium batteries reach the end of their first life cycle each year, even though a large portion of their components remains fully usable. In fact, batteries sent for recycling retain, on average, 80% of their initial capacity, paving the way for new applications.

Based on this observation, VoltR has developed a comprehensive industrial model for collecting, testing, qualifying, and then reintegrating lithium cells into new, eco-designed batteries manufactured in France. This approach is fully aligned with the principles of the circular economy by extending the lifespan of already extracted resources, while reducing dependence on critical raw materials and imports.

For SOMFY, this innovation represents a concrete opportunity to reduce the environmental footprint of its solutions while further securing its supply chain.

After producing the first prototypes in the summer of 2023, the two companies jointly conducted several validation phases focusing on the solution's technical performance, environmental impact, industrial feasibility, and economic competitiveness. This work led to a major industrial breakthrough: **the integration of French-remanufactured batteries into SOMFY motors**. These batteries have been used

since early 2026 in SONESSE® 28 motors, designed for interior blinds, and meet the same quality, reliability, and performance standards as conventional batteries.

When the circular economy strengthens French industry

Beyond the circular approach, the partnership between SOMFY and VoltR addresses a twofold challenge: **reducing the environmental footprint of batteries** while **contributing to the emergence of a more self-sufficient French industry**.

Manufacturing a battery generates an average of 32 kg of CO₂ per kilogram produced. In this context, the benefits of remanufacturing are significant. A comparative life cycle analysis conducted by VoltR shows that remanufactured batteries integrated into the relevant products **reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with their production by 68%**, while limiting the consumption of mineral resources, energy, and water.

This approach is fully in line with SOMFY's eco-design policy, which aims to reduce the environmental impact of its products throughout their entire life cycle.

This approach also addresses a major industrial challenge. While 94% of lithium batteries used in Europe are imported from Asia, VoltR is helping to build a local alternative based on the reuse of resources already available within the region. By developing a battery remanufacturing supply chain in France, the company is helping to strengthen European industrial sovereignty while reducing dependence on virgin raw materials.

"Our collaboration with VoltR addresses a twofold strategic challenge: meeting the growing demand for batteries amid resource constraints, while reducing our environmental impact. This is precisely the promise of remanufacturing: to view batteries at the end of their first life cycle not as waste, but as a valuable resource. By giving them a new purpose, we help conserve raw materials and limit the emissions associated with manufacturing new batteries. We are proud to be working alongside VoltR to help establish a French circular economy sector for batteries," said **Charles-Edouard VASSE, Vice President of Procurement for the SOMFY Group**.

"When a startup like VoltR partners with a group like SOMFY, success depends above all on the teams driving the project. At SOMFY, we found dedicated partners who believed in our technology from the very beginning and supported us with high standards all the way through to market launch. We are very proud to have taken on this challenge alongside them and to demonstrate, with a player of this magnitude, that the French remanufactured battery is an industrial reality capable of meeting the highest standards," says **François Mallet, Sales Manager and co-founder of VoltR**.

By giving lithium batteries a second life, SOMFY and VoltR are demonstrating that it is possible to reconcile innovation, competitiveness, and environmental transition, while fostering the emergence of new, more circular, and more resilient industrial models.

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SOMFY GROUP PROFILE

Founded in 1969 in France and now operating in 59 countries, SOMFY is the global leader in home and building automation systems. A pioneer in the smart home, the Group continuously innovates to create living spaces that offer users comfort, well-being, and security, and is fully committed to sustainable development. For more than 50 years, SOMFY has harnessed automation to improve living environments and is committed to creating reliable and sustainable solutions that advance a better quality of life and well-being for all.

VOLTR PROFILE

VoltR is a French manufacturer of eco-designed lithium batteries.

Through a rigorous industrial process and cutting-edge technology, VoltR recycles end-of-life battery cells and repurposes them in new batteries tailored to their remaining performance. VoltR is thus able to offer eco-designed batteries made in France that meet the same performance and certification requirements as conventional batteries. VoltR produces batteries for various markets: power tools, micromobility, home automation, smart cities, and mobile storage. This eco-responsible solution maximizes the lifespan of lithium batteries by giving them a second life.

VoltR currently employs about 40 people and aims to establish a European circular economy supply chain for lithium batteries in order to minimize their environmental impact as much as possible.

For more information, visit : www.voltr.tech

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