The cleanest and lowest cost car ever!

Fact Sheet

Project Information

**SOFTCAR**

Grant agreement ID: 808899

Project website [](#)

Funded under
H2020-EU.3.4.
H2020-EU.2.1.1.
H2020-EU.2.3.1.

**Closed project**

Start date 1 April 2018
End date 31 July 2018

**Overall budget**
€ 71 429

**EU contribution**
€ 50 000

**Coordinated by**
SOFTCAR SA
Switzerland

Objective

Despite electric vehicles (EVs) are being promoted worldwide to decarbonize the transport sector and depollute city centers, the EVs industry is still facing several challenges which hampers the market deployment: 1) Technical: All cars are manufactured based on stamped steal-based chassis, making it very difficult to reduce the vehicle weight, which is the main hurdle for EVs. 2) Economic: Manufacturing lines are heavily automatized, hence with high capex and little employment. 3) Environment: The car manufacturing process has a huge environmental impact at each phase of the lifecycle (production, use, end of life). SOFTCAR SA is a Swiss start-up, founded by a team of 3 experts in the field of EVs who is now bringing to the market a high performance, highly competitive 4-seater battery EV, which offers the lowest possible ecological footprint while offering the
same safety and performance level as other EVs. The Softcar paradigm shift in car conception and manufacturing translates into breakthrough economic added value and key product differentiation in three main areas:

1) Sustainable materials: The vehicle architecture is based on massive use of bioplastics and advanced composite materials that reduce the vehicle weight by 2.5 compared to classical car.

2) Disruptive architecture: Softcar reduces the number of parts from 40,000 in classical EVs to 1,800, lowering the production costs from €15,000 for conventional EVs to €9,000 for Softcar.

3) Breakthrough manufacturing: There are only two automated process (Rotomoulding and GMT), implying that a low capex small-size plants can be viable from capacities of 5,000 vehicles per year (about 40 times lower than classical automotive industry).

The total capex requirement is €17 million, the pilot plant reaches capacity (5000 unit/year) 5 years after start of production, while the cumulated cash flow breaks even just after 2 years and reaches €88 million at 4th year, corresponding to an IRR of 132%.

Fields of science

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Call for proposal

H2020-SMEINST-1-2016-2017

Funding Scheme

SME-1 - SME instrument phase 1

Coordinator
SOFTCAR SA

Address
Passage Du Cardinal 1
1700 Fribourg
Switzerland

Activity type
Private for-profit entities
(excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments)

EU contribution
€ 50 000

Contact the organisation

Last update: 31 May 2018
Record number: 215885

Permalink: https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/808899

© European Union, 2021