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Australian Vanadium soars on battery sale

Stuart McKinnon - The West Australian on May 18, 2016, 10:12 am



Australian Vanadium managing director Vincent Algar. Picture: Cheyne Tillier-Daly/The West Australian.



UPDATE 2.50pm: Shares in Australian Vanadium (AVL) surged after the company announced the sale of the first commercial vanadium flow battery in WA.

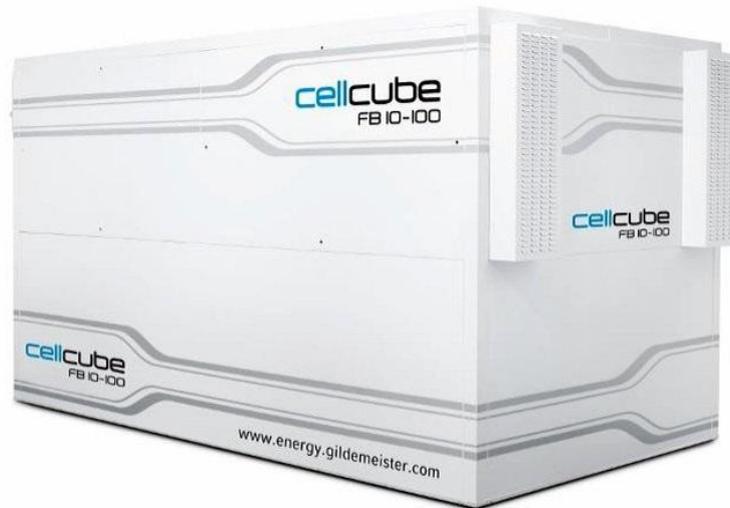
The battery, built by German company GILDEMEISTER in Vienna, will be installed at an agricultural property near Busselton as part of a 15-kilowatt (kW) photo-voltaic (PV) installation.

The unit, sold by AVL's subsidiary VSUN, will be shipped to Fremantle and then



transported by road to the Busselton site.

AVL said the battery, which is able to deliver 10kW of power and has storage capacity of 100kWh, will allow the client to store their unused solar energy and use it when solar power is unavailable.



The sea container-sized battery

AVL said the battery was part of its client's plans to be 90 per cent self-sufficient from the power grid. The client operates a commercial laundry and irrigated native tree nursery, and has expansion plans that would require additional power.

Managing director Vincent Algar said the battery sale was an enormous step forward for the company's vanadium integration strategy.

He said the installation would allow AVL to showcase the benefits of large battery storage devices to commercial customers.



The Busselton property where the battery will be installed

"This includes the ability to time-shift up to 10 hours of power usage, by storing cheap, renewable energy from the solar PV system for later use," Mr Algar said.

AVL said the system configuration would allow the existing single phase Western Power line to stay in place, with the battery able to deliver three-phase power to the

site.

"The CellCube FB10-100 battery is capable of being charged by the solar PV system, as well as from the grid in off-peak hours if required," the company said.

The cost of the CellCube battery and solar PV system is \$164,000, which has been contracted to the client via a power purchase agreement with a lease-to-buy component.

AVL said VSUN had already developed 22 leads for battery sales since its establishment in April.

AVL is also developing the Gabanintha vanadium project near Meekatharra and has plans to develop a vanadium electrolyte plant.

Shares in the company were up 0.2 cents, or 20 per cent, to 1.2 cents at the close after touching an intraday high of 1.5 cents.

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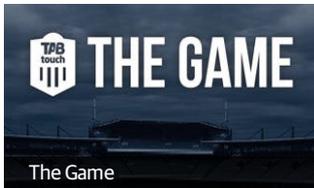
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