

Bangkok manufacturing energy storage

Thailand's Energy Absolute to open battery and energy storage system (ESS) production facility as it bets on green vehicles

SET-listed Energy Absolute Plc (EA), a renewable energy developer and operator, will officially open its battery and energy storage system (ESS) production facility on 12 December 2021 as part of its plan to become a leader in electric vehicle (EV) manufacturing.

EA's lithium-ion battery production factory in Chachoengsao has passed a trial run, following a delay caused by lockdown measures to contain the spread of Covid-19.

The 6-billion-baht facility is designed to have a production capacity of 1 gigawatt-hour a year and is aimed at serving its EV business, notably electric bus assembly, said Vasu Klomkliang, EA's senior vice-president for strategy development and investment planning.

The annual capacity will increase to 4GWh as Thailand is expected to gradually shift from oil-powered car manufacturing to EV production, he said.

The company earlier received orders to assemble 500 buses and has already delivered 100 of them to buyers.

Delivery of the remaining buses is scheduled for early next year.

Mr Vasu said the new battery factory, operated by the company's subsidiary Amita Technology (Thailand) Co, will serve its new EV assembly factory, expected to start commercial operations in the first quarter of next year.

EA has hired companies to assemble the 100 buses while the new plant was under construction.

The company saw an opportunity in the electric bus business as many buses are ageing and the government is promoting EVs as part of efforts to fight climate change.

EA is developing a battery-run truck and expects to roll it out in the first half of next year.

The company is operating a commercial service of electric boats, with a fleet of 40 boats serving commuters along the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok.

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