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Sandvik to supply battery-electric vehicle fleet to Hindustan Zinc's SK Mine

Posted by Daniel Gleeson on 2nd May 2022



Sandvik and Hindustan Zinc have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for supply of a battery-electric underground equipment fleet to be used at Sindesar Khurd Mine to help it achieve its carbon neutrality ambitions.

Deliveries are scheduled to begin in the March quarter of 2023, with the fleet being the first underground battery-electric fleet to be deployed in India.

The equipment to be delivered includes an 18-t-payload LH518B loader and three 50-t-payload TH550B trucks (pictured) as well as a DD422iE drill rig with Sandvik's unique and patented "charging-while-drilling" technology, the company said.

Sandvik will also provide batteries, charging systems and a full-range on-site battery and equipment service team. The loader and the trucks will be equipped with AutoSwap, Sandvik's patented battery self-swapping system, capable of battery changeout in a few minutes.

"Aligned with our expansion strategy for battery-electric vehicles, I'm delighted to sign this agreement with Hindustan Zinc to deliver the first battery equipment fleet in India," Henrik Ager, President of Sandvik Mining and Rock Solutions, said. "This is a testament to both the pioneering ambitions of Hindustan Zinc and the technological maturity of Sandvik BEV products."

The TH550B truck and LH518B loader are based on the Artisan™ technology, which Sandvik acquired in 2019, and enriched with the latest Sandvik mining technology, contributing to overall productivity improvements of up to 20%, the OEM said. The machines will be equipped with state-of-the-art battery telemetry solutions enabling automated, on-premise as well as remote health and performance monitoring.

The Artisan driveline and battery solutions have been field tested with more than 500,000 operating hours.

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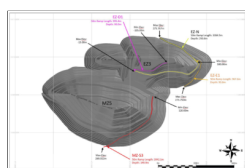
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