



Chairman's Report

General Assembly

Kgs Lyngby, April XXth, 2020

The past year has in several ways been extraordinary. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Annual Meeting on DTU on short notice due to the corona virus, and the General Assembly therefore also had to be postponed.

The General Assembly is therefore this year executed as an online meeting in order to elect the new board and approve the Annual Report 2019 and the budget for 2020. I am sure we can manage this well and move on with arranging new battery events later this year, when our World gets back to normal again.

While we struggle with the challenges of working from home, we can however think back with great pleasure and satisfaction to the other extraordinary event in the past year, when our Battery Society hosted the Nordic Battery Conference for the first time. It was a fantastic and successful event, with 168 satisfied participants, a record for this conference, and I do not hesitate to call it the highlight in the history of our Battery Society.

I would like to thank Jonathan for taking the lead in arranging the conference, and to Poul for hosting it at DTU. You can truly take the honor for this success because of your leadership, professionalism and hospitality. You made us all very proud!

Besides this exceptional event, the Society has again this year served its primary purpose of facilitating knowledge sharing among our members and other people interested in battery technology.

We held two battery seminars together with IDA-E in Copenhagen in April and in Aarhus in September for a total of 90 participants.

We also successfully executed two webinars in June about "Electricity storage in the Danish energy system" and "Recycling of Li-ion batteries in Denmark". They were both hosted by CLEAN and the concept



worked well with about 30 participants in both webinars. We plan more webinars in the coming months.

As usual Aalborg University conducted the PhD Course on “Storage systems based on Li-ion batteries for Grid support and automotive applications” in October and the Technological Institute hosted their annual conference on “Advanced Energy Storage” in Aarhus in November, as well as their course on “Battery systems for solarsystems” in Taastrup.

The originally planned “Battery Safety Seminar” in December was unfortunately cancelled because of too few participants.

In 2018 the Battery ERFA group BG-04 joined the Battery Society, and this is a forum where battery specialist from different companies meet on a regular basis to share experiences and learn from invited experts. The meetings are facilitated by Per and are hosted by different companies each time. Again this year they have had a series of very good meetings, but they are open to more members, if anyone is interested. Just contact Per.

Another important knowledge sharing activity in our Society is our home page and newsletter. Erik has done a great job of maintaining the website and sending out newsletters almost every month, and keeping us updated on future event and the latest Danish battery news. Thank you Erik for a job well done. It is greatly appreciated.

We will soon move on to approval of the Annual Report, but it is worth noticing, that our financial situation has never been better. The Nordic Battery Conference was intended to more or less just break even, but due to the strong turnout and great sponsorships, we ended with a healthy profit, that will now benefit the Battery Society, and make it possible to fund more battery related events in the coming years.

The money we earn in the Society should be used for activities for the members, but having some money in the bank allow us to aim higher and take some risks when we plan new events – just as we did with the Nordic Battery Conference.

The board has therefore also discussed what we should aim for in the future for the Battery Society, and it is our ambition to involve more



companies in the Society in the future. We have very high involvement from the Universities and the Technological Institute. We have also seen more company members in the last years. But we would like to see a lot more companies join our Society for two reasons:

First, there are a lot of Danish companies who use batteries in their products, so it should be relevant for them to participate and learn from their peers.

Secondly, energy storage and batteries get more attention in Denmark and globally than ever before, as it is seen as one of the important technologies that will help solve the Climate crisis. So more companies will become engaged with batteries in the near future.

So it should be obvious that the Battery Society and the knowledge sharing we do, should be more important and relevant than ever before.

It is however also evident, that in the current setup, where the Society is 100% run by volunteers, it is difficult to take the next step and increase our activity level and recruitment of more members.

The board has therefore discussed whether we should work towards a new setup, with some salaried resources, and maybe even as part of a greater setup. For example as a battery chapter under the Energy Storage Center at DTU, under CLEAN, at the Technological Institute or yet another setup. They are all interested in such a cooperation with us, which we are grateful for. The current board therefore suggests that it should be a task for the new board after this General Assembly to investigate this further and present the best possible solution at the next General Assembly.

On that note, I want to conclude this Chairman's Report by thanking my fellow board members for their outstanding effort in the past year. I have decided to end my board membership at this General Assembly and leave it to the new board to carry the torch forward to the next "version" of the Battery Society. But it has been a true pleasure to work with you these past years, and I look forward to participating in many interesting battery events as an ordinary member in the future.

Thank you.

Lars Barkler



Chairman of the Board
The Danish Battery Society.