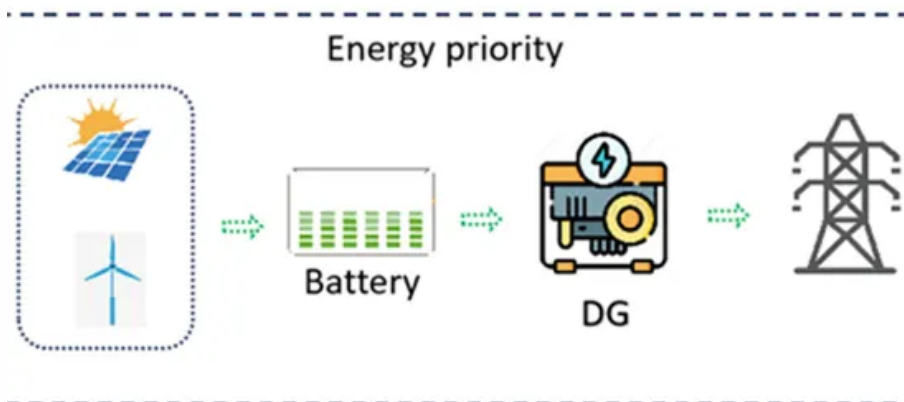


## A-Core Container

# Replacing lithium batteries in Japanese communication base stations



## Overview

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Repurposing spent batteries in communication base stations (CBSs) is a promising option to dispose massive spent lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) from electric vehicles (EVs), yet the environmental fea.

Can repurposed EV batteries be used in communication base stations?

Among the potential applications of repurposed EV LIBs, the use of these batteries in communication base stations (CBSs) is one of the most promising candidates owing to the large-scale onsite energy storage demand ( Heymans et al., 2014; Sathre et al., 2015 ).

Should repurposed lithium batteries be used as a lab system?

From the resource point of view, the MDP of repurposed LIBs is not always preferable to that of the conventional LAB system. Recently, the environmental and social impacts of battery metals such as nickel, lithium and cobalt, have drawn much attention due to the ever-increasing demand ( Ziemann et al., 2019; Watari et al., 2020 ).

Are lithium-ion batteries used in EV power supply systems?

Owing to the long cycle life and high energy and power density, lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) are the most widely used technology in the power supply system of EVs ( Opitz et al. (2017); Alfaro-Algaba and Ramirez et al., 2020 ).

What is the recycling stage of a lithium ion battery?

In the recycling stage, the collected LIB packs are dismantled to obtain the main components, such as battery cells, BMSs, and packaging, and various material fractions are recovered from these components separately (Table A1 in the supplementary materials).

What happens if repurposed lithium ion batteries are widely promoted?

On the other hand, if the secondary use of repurposed LIBs is widely promoted, a delay in metal circulation will occur; the material availability might be questionable, and more primary lithium, copper, and aluminum have to be

extracted to meet the supply shortages in the manufacturing sector.

How much does a repurposed lithium battery cost?

At present, the price of a new EV LIB is about of 2.2 CNY/Wh, whereas the average price of a repurposed LIB is 0.73 CNY/Wh, i.e., the price of the repurposed LIB is about 33% that of a new battery ( Zhu et al., 2017 ). Thus, the values of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are set to 0.33.

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