

CUSTOM POWER AND VOLKLEC UNITE TO ELECTRIFY UK DEFENCE WITH END-TO-END BATTERY SOLUTIONS

- **Strategic UK Capability:** The partnership creates a sovereign solution for defence providers - from cell development through to battery pack design and manufacture.
- **Proven Technology Meets Custom Innovation:** Combines Volklec's field-tested 21700 lithium-ion cells with Custom Power's customised battery and power systems to meet the most demanding defence applications.
- **Built for Mission Success:** Designed to deliver consistent performance in the toughest conditions, mission after mission.
- **Collaboration Through MAKE UK Defence:** This high-impact alliance was facilitated via MAKE UK Defence, strengthening sector connectivity and capability.
- **Supporting Sovereign Supply Chains:** Reinforces UK industrial resilience by advancing domestic energy tech and reducing reliance on foreign suppliers. Aligning to a key aspect of the 2025 Strategic Defence Review.

Coventry, UK, 2 September 2025: Custom Power, a leader in bespoke battery and power systems, has joined forces with Volklec, the UK's only independent battery manufacturer, to deliver a sovereign, end-to-end energy solution for the UK defence sector.

This strategic partnership creates a fully integrated capability, from cell development through to battery pack design, manufacture delivery and support, tailored to meet the rigorous demands of defence prime providers. At its core, Custom Power's bespoke battery and power systems are paired with Volklec's proven 21700 lithium-ion cell technology to ensure consistent, high-performance energy delivery in the most challenging operational environments.

"Combining Volklec's proven cell technology with our custom-designed battery systems allows us to meet the exacting standards of defence clients," said Dave Crossman, Global VP and General Manager at Custom Power. *"This partnership is a powerful example of UK innovation delivering strategic advantage."*

Volklec's energy cells offer a compelling combination of performance, reliability, and strategic value for defence applications. With balanced energy and power density, the cylindrical 21700 format delivers mechanical robustness and proven thermal management which is ideal for demanding operational environments.

"Built for mission success, this alliance is about more than technology - it's about trust, resilience, and readiness," said Phil Popham, Executive Director at Volklec. *"Our cells are engineered for flexibility and can be configured into diverse pack formats, supporting a wide range of platforms from portable handheld communications devices to autonomous vehicles and robotics. Together with Custom Power, we're enabling defence organisations to operate with confidence, mission after mission."*

Designed and manufactured in the UK, they reinforce sovereign supply chain resilience and align with the Ministry of Defence's priorities for domestic capability. Custom Power and Volklec's commitment to increasing local content also supports the UK Government's real, evolving, and multi-faceted movement within UK defence policy for Net Zero. Engineered for

reliability, the energy cells operate across a wide temperature range, while their low internal resistance improves thermal control and reduces cooling costs, ensuring consistent performance regardless of the mission.

The collaboration between Custom Power and Volklec was facilitated through MAKE UK Defence, a national initiative that strengthens connectivity and capability across the UK's defence supply chain. By advancing domestic energy technology and reducing reliance on international suppliers, the partnership reinforces the UK's industrial resilience and supports the development of sovereign supply chains.

"We're proud to have played a role in bringing Custom Power and Volklec together," said James Watson, UK Membership Growth Director at MAKE UK Defence. "This collaboration exemplifies the kind of high-impact partnerships that strengthen our national capability and support the future of UK defence."

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About Custom Power:

Custom Power is a specialist manufacturer of custom-built lithium battery packs, COTS battery modules, portable power and energy storage systems. With state-of-the-art facilities in the UK and USA, and using a wide range of chemistry technologies, it provides highly reliable solutions for use in demanding environments within critical industries such as medical, aerospace, defence, and robotics.

Custom Power is part of the Solid State Group, Solid State plc (AIM: SOLI) is a leading value-added electronics group supplying industrial and defence markets with durable components, assemblies and manufactured systems for use in critical applications, with a particular emphasis on harsh operational environments. Solid State's products are found around the world, from the ocean floor and into space, ensuring the smooth operation of systems that augment our everyday lives.

About Volklec:

Volklec is a new battery manufacturing business based in the UK. It is a disruptor in battery manufacturing, established to supply the high value manufacturing sector, in particular specialist applications within defence, automotive, aerospace, marine and med-tech.

Volklec has a unique and fast to market approach with a low-risk design and delivery strategy. It is working with a long-established Chinese partner to bring proven technology to the UK and enable technology and manufacturing knowledge transfer to mobilise battery manufacturing in the UK.