

Development of a high-purity lithium extraction technology from solid material (LiSTie Inc.)



City	Year of Establishment	Founder
Rokkasho, Aomori	2023	Tsuyoshi Hoshino

Partner VC	Latest round of Fundraising	Valuation
Universal Materials Incubator Co., Ltd.	Pre-Series A	JPY 450 million

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○ Business Plan

To ensure a stable supply of ultra-high-purity lithium—an essential material for lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) used in electric vehicles (EVs) and stationary energy storage systems for renewable energy—we aim to advance the foundational technologies of the National Institutes for Quantum Science and Technology (QST) and accelerate the early social implementation of "LiSMIC," the world’s first ultra-high-purity lithium extraction technology. This effort seeks to address both social and technical challenges related to lithium extraction from salt lakes and ores, as well as the recycling of used lithium-ion batteries.

○ Research Outline

To efficiently extract ultra-high-purity lithium—essential as a battery raw material—from lithium-containing solid materials such as used lithium-ion batteries, we will address the following technological development challenges and establish a feed solution preparation process optimized for the LiSMIC unit:

- ① Development of a leaching method for lithium-containing solid materials
- ② Establishment of a cost-effective lithium extraction process

Business Area/Field	Research Period	Research Grant Amount	International collaborative technology demonstration
Materials	STS 2025～2026FY	JPY 200 million	-