



## **NEW CELGARD PLANT TO EXPAND LITHIUM BATTERY SEPARATOR CAPACITY, ADD JOBS**

**Charlotte, N.C., September 02, 2010** – Celgard, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Polypore International, Inc. and a leading global supplier of microporous separators used in lithium-ion batteries, broke ground today for a lithium battery separator manufacturing plant that will strengthen the company’s ability to support the emerging electric drive vehicle (EDV) industry, and add more than 200 jobs at the company and 1,000 jobs at its contractors and suppliers.

The new 150,000 square-foot plant on 20 acres in the International Business Park in Concord, N.C., is the second phase in Celgard’s strategy to expand production capacity, while bolstering the development of a strong and viable U.S.-based supply chain for lithium-ion batteries used in EDVs. The first phase, begun earlier this year, included the expansion of the company’s existing Charlotte SouthPoint facility.

Celgard has already hired more than 60 new employees in support of the two phases of expansion, and contractors and suppliers have added more than 50 employees. Jobs at the new plant will be predominately for operators, engineers, scientists and support staff. Celgard expects the new plant to come online by 2012.

Total investment for the entire expansion project is about \$100 million and includes a \$49 million matching grant from the U.S. Department of Energy through its Electric Drive Vehicle Battery and Component Manufacturing Initiative of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Celgard project also has received support from the State of North Carolina, and local county and city economic development entities.

Merriman Schmitt Architects, Inc. will design the Concord plant and Myers & Chapman, Inc. will be the general contractor. Both companies are based in Charlotte.

Celgard supplies separators to lithium-ion battery manufacturers whose battery packs are in multiple EDV models on the road today, as well as others that will launch between now and 2013.

Celgard employs approximately 440 people in the Charlotte area and about 540 people worldwide. Celgard is a leading global supplier of microporous separators used in lithium-ion batteries and is one of the largest participants in the U.S. lithium battery supply chain. Celgard® separators are primarily used in lithium-ion batteries for personal electronics devices such as notebook computers, mobile phones, digital cameras, power tools, and new applications such as reserve power/grid management systems and EDVs. These separators play a critical role in the performance and life of lithium-ion battery cells by providing a barrier between the positive and negative electrodes – preventing short circuits while controlling the exchange of lithium ions from one side of the battery to the other.

###



---

## About Celgard, LLC— A Polypore Company

For more information, please visit: [www.Celgard.com](http://www.Celgard.com) and [www.Polypore.net](http://www.Polypore.net)

Contact:        Holli Hughes  
                     Marketing Communications Manager  
                     Celgard, LLC – A Polypore Company  
                     Office: (704) 587-8642  
                     Mobile: (704) 756-0470  
                     Email: [HolliHughes@celgard.com](mailto:HolliHughes@celgard.com)

                     John Mozena  
                     starrconstand business communication  
                     Mobile: (313) 460-7441  
                     Email: [jmozena@starrconstand.com](mailto:jmozena@starrconstand.com)