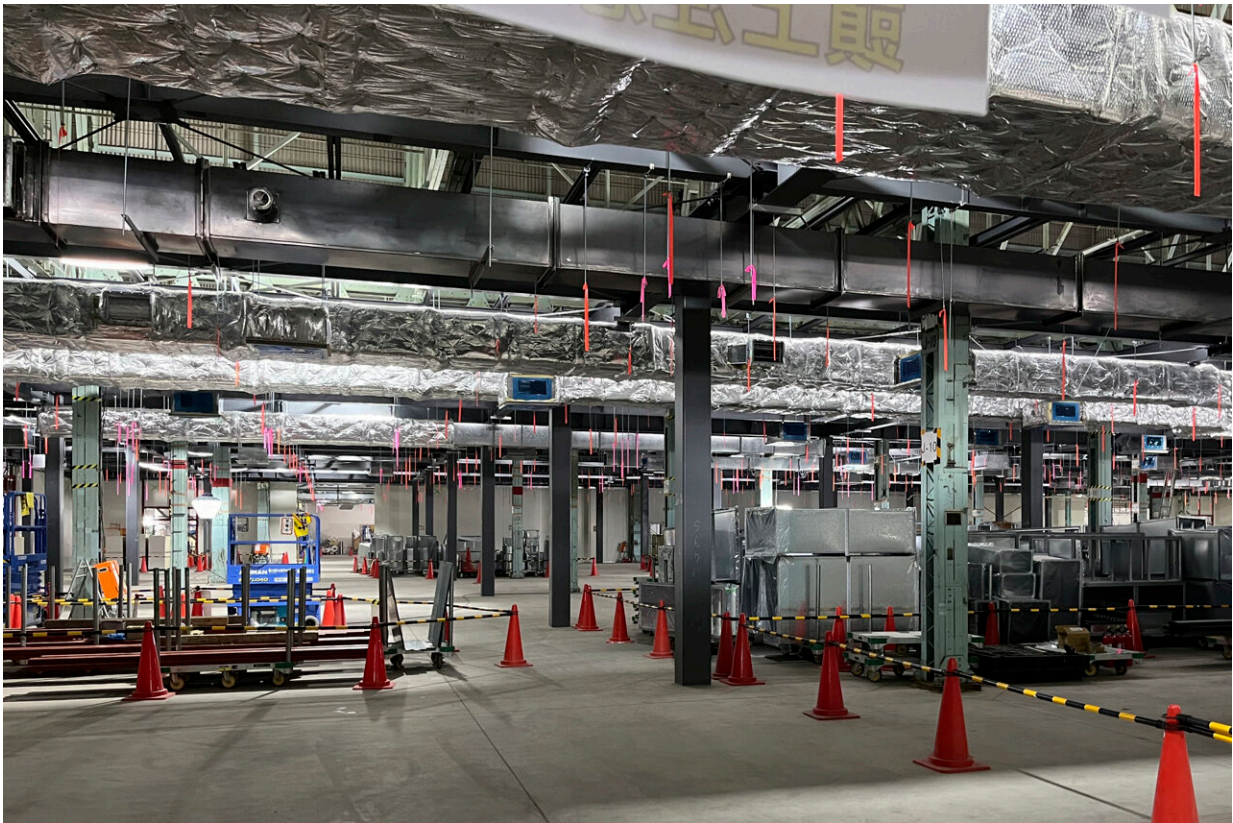


Nissan says it will make next-generation EV batteries by early 2029

April 16 2024, by Yuri Kageyama



A facility that is set to be a plant for electric vehicles powered by all-solid-state batteries is seen during a media tour in Yokohama, Japan, Tuesday, April 16, 2024. Nissan expects to mass produce electric vehicles powered by advanced next-generation batteries by 2028, the company said Tuesday during a media tour of an unfinished pilot plant. Credit: AP Photo/Yuri Kageyama

Nissan expects to mass produce electric vehicles powered by advanced next-generation batteries by early 2029, the company said Tuesday during a media tour of an unfinished pilot plant.

Japan's legacy automakers have fallen behind newer rivals like America's Tesla and China's BYD in the emerging all-electric auto sector.

But Nissan, like other companies, sees a chance to catch up and perhaps leap ahead with a new kind of battery that promises to be more powerful, cheaper, safer and faster to charge than the [lithium-ion batteries](#) in use today.

Solid-state batteries, which replace the corrosive liquids found in conventional batteries with solid metals, are widely seen as the next step for EVs, and leading automakers are racing to develop versions that can be mass produced.

Rivals like Volkswagen and Toyota have also announced efforts to produce solid-state EVs, with Toyota setting a date of 2027-28 to begin bringing them to market.

But substantial challenges remain before the technology reaches commercial mass production.

The sprawling facility Nissan showed off Tuesday was still mostly empty, but company officials said it's scheduled to begin operating a pilot production line by March 2025, with commercial production of EVs there set to start in [fiscal year](#) 2028, which runs from April 2028 to March 2029.



A Nissan worker shows a facility that set to be a plant for electric vehicles powered by all-solid-state batteries in Yokohama, Japan, Tuesday, April 16, 2024. Nissan expects to mass produce electric vehicles powered by advanced next-generation batteries by 2028, the company said Tuesday during a media tour of an unfinished pilot plant. Credit: AP Photo/Yuri Kageyama

"Once [electric vehicles](#) get going, costs will come down compared to the [internal combustion engine](#). They will also be so convenient. For one, you won't ever have to go to a gas stand," Executive Vice President Hideyuki Sakamoto told reporters at a tour of the sprawling facility southwest of Tokyo.

"The engineers at Nissan are all working hard to create this new world," said Sakamoto.

Nissan officials offer few details about many aspects of the technology, as well as the amount of investment and global production plans.

They said the company had come up with key, unique materials for the batteries, including a metal form of lithium.

Nissan was an EV pioneer, introducing the all-electric Leaf in 2010. The company said it plans to offer [solid-state batteries](#) in a range of models, including pickup trucks.



Nissan Executive Vice President Hideyuki Sakamoto speaks with reporters during a tour of what is set to be a plant for electric vehicles powered by all-solid-state batteries in Yokohama, Japan Tuesday, April 16, 2024. Nissan expects to mass produce electric vehicles powered by advanced next-generation batteries by 2028, the company said Tuesday during a media tour of an unfinished pilot

plant. Credit: AP Photo/Yuri Kageyama

"We are finally in the phase of scaling up on our all-solid-state battery line," said Shunichi Inamijima, corporate vice president.

"Our all-solid-state battery technology is a game-changer for making EV sales grow explosively."

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