



# WALCC

World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities

» *Newsletter*  
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## A year of expansion and cooperation for the Alliance



2016 saw the World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities continue to add new members in both China and Europe, branch out into new areas of China, and engage our members in exciting new opportunities. The past year has seen an active expansion of our member ranks, adding leading private sector companies such as new Diamond member Tencent and leading Finnish companies such as Fortum and Finnair. These organizations were joined by public sector actors such as the City of Turku as well as smaller and medium sized private sector companies also committed to a sustainable future through technology development and service solutions.

Through our two annual forums, hosted alternately in China and Europe, we reached new areas of China, expanding beyond our strong base in Shenzhen to host our spring forum in Chongqing, and forming a new relationship with the City of Turku in Finland. This year's forums also spurred the continued expansion of the Alliance's network, selecting Sanya, on the southern island of Hainan, to host the 2017 spring forum and establishing new connections in Europe with the China British Business Council's participation in the autumn forum in Turku.

Sanya has also invited the Alliance to participate in the planning of the city's low-carbon city development as well as assisting it, together with the China Emissions Exchange, in the formation of an emissions exchange.

The past year also saw the Alliance continue our contribution to research on the future of our cities, supporting the universities of Turku and Tampere in their joint project

Reframing City Districts. The project, which serves as an opportunity for the Alliance to continue our commitment to improving the sustainability of our cities, explores new means of integrating resident's living preferences in infill construction and urban densification.

In the interest of forming a bridge between China and Europe, the Alliance helped individual member organizations to realize their expansion ambitions by identifying shared interests and complementary goals among European companies and Chinese cities and companies.

Plans for the autumn forum are actively underway, with discussions currently ongoing with our partners in Europe. The coming year will see the Alliance continue to explore the burgeoning market for low-carbon cities in China, helping to realize the ambitious development plans in cities by harnessing the shared expertise of its global network.



清华大学  
Tsinghua University

synocus



Amperex Technology Limited  
新能源科技有限公司



Tencent 腾讯



清华同方  
TSINGHUA TONGFANG

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## Fostering connections and forming new partnerships through our ecosystem

### Valmet Automotive and Contemporary Amperex Technology Limited form alliance

On January 30th, 2017, Valmet Automotive and Contemporary Amperex Technology Limited (CATL), a spin-off of WALCC Diamond member Amperex Technology Limited (ATL), announced the formation of a new strategic partnership through which the two companies will pursue their shared aim of developing a strong position in the European electric vehicle market. The seeds for this strategic partnership were sown with the help of the Alliance and its founding members Tsinghua University and Synocus in interest of pursuing Valmet Automotive's strategy of developing its electric vehicle capabilities.

Following the end of two manufacturing contracts with Porsche in 2008, Valmet Automotive assessed the automotive market and made a forward thinking move to establish itself in the promising field of electric vehicles. To this end, the company sought the assistance of Synocus in developing a thorough understanding of the electric vehicle manufacturing process and the evolving dynamics of the international market.

Valmet Automotive and Amperex Technology Limited were among the first companies to join the Alliance at its founding in 2012, after which, the Alliance would go on to support the evolution of their relationship. Throughout the years, Valmet Automotive has continued to develop its expertise in the electric vehicle field outside of commercial projects,

having ceased active production of electric vehicles in 2012.

The Alliance's 2013 autumn forum, held in Malmö, Sweden, was an ideal opportunity for ATL to continue its exploration of the potential in Europe for industrial use of batteries. The Alliance helped in forming the necessary connections between ATL and a host of leading companies in battery-dependent industries. Valmet Automotive, as Finland's leading electric vehicle producer, was among the companies ATL visited during a two-day tour, identifying the company as a potential partner in the manufacturing of batteries for electric vehicles. Valmet Automotive also expressed an interest in developing battery pack production capacity for ATL.

Subsequently, the Alliance has served as a shared platform for ATL and Valmet Automotive to continue their development of electric vehicle expertise, for example, including ATL in the development of a proposed, nationally-funded research project exploring the future of urban mobility. The patient efforts of the Alliance, Tsinghua University and Synocus over the course of some eight years helped to create the ecosystem necessary to form the connections that would, ultimately, lead to the formation of the strategic partnership between the two companies. This partnership now marks the beginning of a new era of growth for both companies as they commence upon an ambitious implementation of their shared electric vehicle roadmap.

## 12th World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities forum

### May 18-19, 2017, Sanya, Hainan Island, China,

Hosted in collaboration by the WALCC and our partners the City of Sanya and the China Overseas Investment Union, the 12th Low Carbon City Development World Forum will be held in Sanya on May 18th and 19th.

We are pleased to invite you to join us for two active days of discussion and presentations on the state of the low-carbon economy, sustainable technology development and research, as well as keen insights on the national Chinese Belt and Road Initiative.

This forum will explore the opportunities for work and cooperation between Europe and China as offered by the Belt and Road Initiative's wide reaching goals to strengthen exchanges across the different cultures spanning the continent spanning breadth of the Silk Road.

The forum will address a variety of specific subjects and perspectives on how the Belt & Road Initiative can support

the development of sustainability and fuel the evolution of the related economy. The forum will include discussion on the future of wellbeing tourism, renewable and new energy, and carbon trading.

In addition to these strong focuses, the forum will also feature a sub-forum designed specifically to address the concerns and needs of local government officials. Inviting mayors and other government officials from across cities in China, Europe, and elsewhere to take part in a discussion on the future of urban development.

The Alliance is pleased to invite you to join us in Sanya this May, for any further information please do not hesitate to contact our offices in Shenzhen or Helsinki.

