



### World's biggest battery maker flags first commercial sodium battery packs by end of year

CATL, announced its latest battery which can be charged at speeds which will add 520 km of charge in just 5 minutes.

Another key announcement made by CATL is that mass production of low-cost Nextra Sodium Ion battery cells are expected to be available before the end of this year. According to the battery giant, mass production of these new types of battery packs which are suited to EVs and plug-in hybrids, will begin in December and delivering up to 500 km of range on a single charge and support ultra-fast charging speeds, on par with some of the fastest charging LFP batteries from 2 years ago. According to CATL, the new batteries will also be able to see 10,000 cycles of charging and discharging without major degradation.

[THE DRIVEN](#)

### Australia's new top-selling home battery is a brand you've probably never heard of

The latest monthly data from SunWiz reveals the number one battery manufacturer for March is China-based Sigenergy. The Tesla Powerwall, meanwhile, has drifted back to fourth spot.

[OneStepofftheGrid](#)

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### **Adaptation, AI, EV's & Bankers in Speedboats: The Future of Impact Investing with Tim Crockford of Regnan.**

In this podcast interview the Panel discuss Trump 2.0, investing in climate adaptation (as well as mitigation), smart grids, water leaks, AI, EV's, innovative Indonesian banking, and other positive impact investments.

[LISTEN HERE](#)

### **From Rough Sleeping to a Place to call Home: Providing Positive Impact with Regnan**

This interview with George Bishay and Murray Ackman from the Regnan Credit Impact Trust team demystifies impact bonds, with some real life stories about the positive social and environmental impact that bonds can provide.

[LISTEN HERE](#)

## COMPANY NEWS

### **Westpac launches social term deposit**

The major bank has launched Australia's first Social Tailored Deposit, designed for those seeking investments focused on delivering improved social outcomes.

[FSSustainability](#)

### **Stockland's social impact ambitions**

Stockland, along with its consortium partners Link Wentworth, City West Housing and Birribee Housing, have finalised contractual negotiations to undertake the development of the Waterloo Renewal Project in Sydney with Homes NSW. The team is developing a framework and metrics for social impact in communities.

The Stockland consortium said it would deliver a sustainable mixed-tenure community of more than 3000 apartments, including 50 per cent social and affordable housing.

[The Fifth Estate](#)

**Brambles Limited** prices €500 million green bond under its European Medium-Term Note Programme maturing in 2033 under its European Medium-Term Note programme. The bond was priced with a coupon of 3.625%. Settlement is expected to occur on 2 April 2025.

The bond supports Brambles' circular business model and sustainability agenda, with proceeds from the issue to be used to finance and/or refinance its portfolio of Eligible Green Assets as outlined in its Green Finance Framework.

A Second Party Opinion (SPO) on the framework and its alignment with the International Capital Market Association's Green Bond Principles and the Loan Market Association's Green Loan Principles are available on at:

[Brambles](#)

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## FUND MANAGERS

### **Pengana WHEB Sustainable Impact Fund**

#### Sustainable solutions for agriculture

To mitigate the drawbacks of excessive pesticide use, investing in more sustainable agricultural technologies, namely precision farming is one such solution, optimising resource use and improving crop yields through advanced tools like GPS guidance and data-driven decision-making.

Trimble, specialises in precision agriculture technologies, spanning seeding, fertiliser application, crop protection, and water management. For example, its weed protection system precisely applies herbicide only when a weed is detected by a sensor, potentially reducing herbicide usage by up to 90%.

Croda, develops solutions that reduce pesticide dependency while maintaining agricultural productivity. Croda's agricultural adjuvants improve pesticide efficiency by enhancing droplet coverage on plant leaves and minimising spray drift, ensuring that the product reaches its intended target.

### **Impax Sustainable Leaders Fund**

#### Emerging market (EM) corporate bonds: Could Trump's tariffs create opportunities?

In the context of heightened volatility, where asset values can become detached from security-specific fundamentals, Impax identify pockets of opportunity among EM issuers that can navigate tariffs, either through weaker local currency or US production, and that are unaffected by pressures facing sovereign debt.

Impax

**NorthStar Impact** was awarded Impact Asset Manager of the Year 2025 and Claudia Kwan, co-Portfolio Manager, was awarded Individual Outstanding Achievement at the recent Impact Investment Awards.

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## OTHER NEWS

### **Google chooses geothermal power in latest landmark deal to power data centres**

Google has signed a deal to supply its data centres and other operations in Taiwan with geothermal energy, a first for Google in the region and a first for geothermal energy in Taiwan.

The agreement will see Swedish geothermal developer Baseload Capital build 10MW worth of geothermal capacity to power Google's operations in Taiwan.

[Reneweconomy](#).

### **Microsoft steps back from data centre developments globally**

As reported by [Bloomberg](#), which cites "people familiar with the situation," the cloud giant has halted or delayed talks for data centre projects in Indonesia, the UK, and Australia, as well as Illinois, North Dakota, and Wisconsin in the US.

[Data Centre Dynamics](#)

### **Hyundai to invest \$21 billion in U.S.**

Hyundai Motor Group announced on Monday it plans to build a \$5.8 billion steel plant in Louisiana, part of a larger [\\$21 billion investment](#) in the South Korean automaker's U.S.-based manufacturing operations.

### **Trump quietly orders U.S. to 'unleash' deep-sea mining**

President Trump signed an executive order to boost deep-sea mining, aiming to reduce reliance on China for critical minerals. This order facilitates the renewal and issuance of exploration licenses and commercial recovery permits for the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf and international waters.

Deep-sea mining targets mineral-rich nodules essential for lithium-ion batteries. The U.S. has largely stayed out of the United Nations' International Seabed Authority discussions, which regulate seabed mining. Trump's move faces significant international opposition.

### **Japan's solution to the solar panel waste problem**

[BBC](#)

### **Methane emissions from Queensland mine may be gross underestimates, UN research finds**

Data collected by two planes suggests large open-cut coalmine in Bowen Basin is releasing methane at higher rates than official estimates.

[The Guardian](#)

### **BYD flies past 40,000 electric sales in Australia, on track to double by year's end**

[The Driven](#)

China's BYD reported annual sales over \$100 billion for the first time, dealing yet another blow to its chief U.S. rival, Tesla. The company's shares have risen by [91% over the past 12 month](#)