MANGANESE:



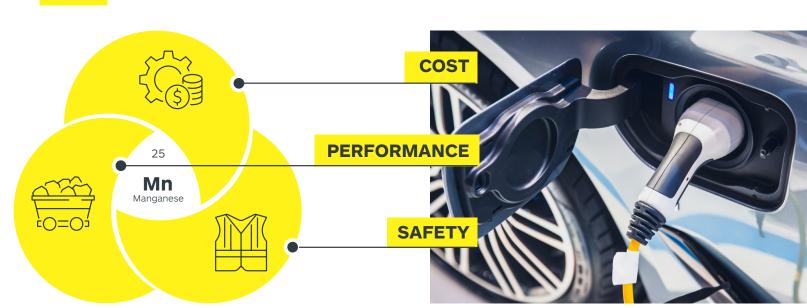
A KEY TO AMERICA'S EV FUTURE

While lithium, nickel & cobalt dominate the headlines, manganese may be the critical mineral that helps the U.S. auto industry build more electric vehicles faster, more sustainably and more affordably.

Here are 5 reasons why:

- Manganese lowers the cost of high-performance EV batteries.
- Manganese improves the performance of lower-cost EV batteries.
- Manganese is naturally occurring and stable.

- Manganese is attracting interest from researchers and automakers looking for alternatives to more costly battery chemistries.
- Manganese can be sourced and processed domestically.



I think there's an interesting potential for manganese...the materials used to produce these batteries at a very large scale need to be common materials or you can't scale.

03.22 Tesla CEO Elon Musk at the Tesla Gigafactory Berlin Event



FACT: Only four countries with U.S. free trade agreements have the potential to supply manganese ore, metal, or sulfate: Australia, Canada, Mexico and Morocco.



FACT: Manganese was one of only five minerals included in the 2022 Defense Production Act.



FACT: Demand for batterygrade manganese is expected to increase 15x from 2020 to 2031, according to utilities research firm E Source.

HOW MANGANESE FACTORS INTO THE TWO MAJOR LITHIUM-ION EV BATTERY CHEMISTRIES

| CATHODE | LITHIUM IRON | NICKEL MANGANESE |
|--|---|--|
| TYPE | PHOSPHATE (LFP) | COBALT OXIDE (NMC) |
| Known for | Lower cost, longer lifespan, shorter range; becoming more popular for entry-level models, particularly in China | High performance, more expensive; most common in North American and European markets |
| Benefits of increasing manganese content | Improves energy density and thus driving range, while keeping costs low | Lowers cost by reducing need for cobalt and 370-chemistry nickel; acts as stabilizer to increase safety without compromising range |
| Notable | Base model Tesla Model 3, Ford Mustang | GM, Ford, Volkswagen, Nissan, Mercedes- |
| customers | Mach-E, F150 Lightning | Benz, Toyota, Hyundai |

Manganese may emerge in next-generation cells as a preferred element given its low cost, abundance, and the fact that many manganese-based cathodes are relatively safe.

