

Company Case Study: Cleantech



About Invinity Energy Systems

Invinity Energy Systems is a leading developer and manufacturer of vanadium flow batteries delivering long-duration energy storage solutions for grid-scale, commercial, and industrial applications. Founded in 2013, Invinity emerged from the vision of three co-founders – two based in Vancouver and one in San Francisco. Through early rounds of funding, the company grew and expanded its global footprint in 2020 after merging with a UK-based firm, establishing a presence across multiple markets.

Today, Invinity operates as a publicly listed company on the London Stock Exchange with a strong operational base in the Metro Vancouver region. The company employs approximately 160 people worldwide with 85 team members located in the Metro Vancouver region, 65 in the UK, and other employees spread across the US and around the world. The company has grown into a critical player in the clean energy sector, leveraging the Metro Vancouver region's talent, innovation ecosystem, and strategic location.



Why the Metro Vancouver Region?

The Metro Vancouver region's technical expertise, strengths in clean energy innovation, business incentives, and strategic market access have played a critical role in Invinity's success. The region offers a deep pool of specialized talent, particularly in electrochemical systems and energy storage, which has been essential to the company's research and development. "So much of the engineering and R&D talent we rely on to run the business globally is based here in Vancouver," noted Matt Harper, Invinity's Co-Founder, reinforcing the region's role as an innovation hub for clean technology.

The ability to hire and retain highly skilled employees at competitive costs compared to other North American markets is another key advantage. The Metro Vancouver region's strong talent pipeline, combined with lower overall employment costs when compared to major US tech hubs, has enabled Invinity to build a high-caliber team while maintaining cost efficiency. Additionally, the region's strategic location provides direct access to major North American and international markets, helping to streamline logistics and global supply chain management. "We watch our battery components come in off the ships in the Port of Vancouver and track them coming over to our factory in East Vancouver – it's an efficient way to source components globally," Harper explained. This accessibility allows the company to efficiently manage its supply chain while scaling operations in alignment with growing global demand for renewable energy.



Innovation & Research Partnerships

The region's network of world-class universities and research institutions has been instrumental in advancing Invinity's technological capabilities. The company has engaged in multiple collaborations with Simon Fraser University, particularly in electrochemical research, and with the nearby University of Victoria on artificial intelligence applications for optimizing battery performance. "We've been beneficiaries of this ecosystem and have had co-op students from all those institutions," said Harper, emphasizing the value of the talent pipeline in sustaining innovation.

Beyond academic partnerships, Invinity has leveraged key government support programs that facilitate research and development. Through funding from the National Research Council Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) and engagement with NorthX Climate Tech, formerly known as BC Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy, the company has gained access to critical financial resources and industry expertise, accelerating the commercialization of its solutions.



Scaling a Global Business from The Metro Vancouver Region

While Invinity operates internationally, its core research, development, and engineering functions remain anchored in the Metro Vancouver region. The region is home to a thriving cleantech ecosystem with companies and organizations focused on energy storage, renewable energy, and grid modernization. "There's a great cleantech ecosystem here, but we'd love to see even more first-of-a-kind projects being deployed," Harper shared, recognizing the potential for increased investment in large-scale energy projects in British Columbia.

As part of its long-term strategy, Invinity is evolving its manufacturing approach by establishing regional partnerships to facilitate localized production in key markets. This model allows the company to expand globally while retaining high-value engineering and product development expertise in the Metro Vancouver region. With opportunities for industry collaborations and cost-effective operations, together with a world-class workforce, the region is a key driver of Invinity's continued success.

Looking Ahead

As the global energy transition accelerates, Invinity is focused on scaling its battery technology to support the increasing demand for long-duration energy storage. With electricity demand projected to grow significantly over the next two decades, the company sees an opportunity to play a leading role in sustainable energy solutions.

By remaining in the Metro Vancouver region, Invinity benefits from a strong cleantech ecosystem, a talented workforce, and strategic market access. As the company continues to expand, its presence reinforces the region's reputation as a global hub for energy innovation.



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