

New Lithium ion batteries from A123

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There is some interesting buzz around another fast recharging Lithium Ion battery, such as that announced by Toshiba in March. This time its from [A123](#) who have got products under way with Black and Decker etc. The Wall Street Journal has an article on them. (Thanks to ETList and [Clean Break](#) who are also running the story.)

A new generation of rechargeable batteries—delivering far more power than their predecessors—is energizing the power-tool industry and generating widespread interest in applications in everything from vacuum cleaners to ride-on lawn mowers to hybrid cars. The new lithium-ion batteries—powering a host of products already on the market and envisioned for others on the drawing board—are made possible by technical breakthroughs in lightweight lithium-ion cells, introduced in rechargeables in the 1990s but until recently deemed too volatile for safe high-power use. ... For hybrid electric/gasoline cars, manufacturers have adopted nickel-metal-hydride batteries because they weigh less than lead batteries. A123 believes its lithium-ion batteries could pack the same punch as nickel-metal-hydride at 20% of the weight.