

30 June 2025

MOPO

(‘MOPO’ or ‘the Company’)

MOPO’s University of Sheffield Research Associate, Dr. Thomas McKinney, Shortlisted for Prestigious Innovate UK Future Leader Award

Leading The World in Battery Innovation

MOPO, a Sheffield based clean tech company specialising in sustainable energy solutions through pay-per-use battery rentals, is delighted to announce that Dr. Thomas McKinney Ph.D. has been shortlisted as a finalist for the Future Leader Award at the upcoming 2025 Innovate UK KTP “Best of the Best” Awards. This recognition highlights the exceptional work Dr. McKinney has undertaken through the Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) between MOPO and the University of Sheffield, focusing on developing longer-life battery systems and exploring second-life applications for MOPO battery technology.

MOPO entered a formal KTP with The University of Sheffield, a world leader in battery technology innovation, in May 2024. Dr. McKinney, a data scientist, has been instrumental in advancing the Company’s in-house R&D capabilities, essential for advancing MOPO batteries, which help millions of people gain access to affordable, clean electricity in some of the world’s most challenging environments.

MOPO’s KTP is a strategic investment in innovation, supporting the Company’s mission to build smarter, longer-lasting energy storage solutions. Continuous progress in battery technology is essential for enhancing storage capacity, optimising efficiency, and supporting a global transition to cleaner energy systems. MOPO has already carried out over 28 million battery rentals in Sub Saharan Africa and recently secured financing from British International Investment, as well as a strategic investment from the UK’s largest energy supplier Octopus Energy Group.

Chris Longbottom MOPO CEO said, “We are thrilled to see Tom shortlisted for the Future Leader Award. His work has been pivotal in helping us optimise battery life and performance, ensuring our technology continues to meet the energy demands of communities across Africa. This recognition is a testament to both his technical expertise and his commitment to sustainable innovation.”



The winner of the Future Leader Award will be announced at the Innovate UK KTP Awards Ceremony in Manchester this October.

ENDS

Media Contacts

MOPO

Hugo de Salis: hugo@lepanto.co.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 7967 496 863

Notes

MOPO, mopo.co

UK-based MOPO is a pay-per-use battery technology company focused on the supply of sustainable energy to individuals and businesses in Africa. The business is based on the rental of its unique MOPO batteries from solar powered charging hubs that are managed by a network of local agents. Its portfolio includes the MOPO50 battery, which provides basic household energy access for lighting, phone charging and Direct Current (DC) appliances; and the MOPOMax, a 1kWh battery for AC appliances which is used to replace fossil fuel generators. Each MOPO battery can be tracked via the MOPO Platform to determine whether it is with an agent, a customer, or has reached the end of its life and is ready to be recycled. MOPO batteries are controlled through integrated technology, ensuring energy is only discharged upon agent payment through the bespoke MOPO App. With committed plans to roll out its service across Africa, MOPO already has operations in Nigeria, DRC, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Chad, and Uganda.