

***Press Release: 9 April 2026***

**UK hydrogen electric car maker Riversimple announces grant funding for new £1.7M ZELLOR project – as part of the UK Government’s £4 billion DRIVE35 programme**

*Riversimple is the lead company in the Zero Emission Lightweight Long Range (ZELLOR) project – demonstrating a vehicle with the unprecedented balance of zero emissions, light weight and a 400 mile range.*

*Grant funding for this is part of the UK Government’s £4 billion DRIVE35 programme, delivered by the Department for Business and Trade in partnership with the Advanced Propulsion Centre UK and Innovate UK.*

The triple balance of range, zero emissions and light weight has not yet been delivered by current Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) manufacturers.

Light weight, long range and zero emissions will be achieved by working closely with several partners. Novel high power density and highly efficient electric motors will come from GreenFlux Motors of Colchester, and pioneering power electronic converters with superior efficiency from TTPi of Nottingham. Further development of Riversimple's hydrogen fuel cell powertrain will use a vehicle development tool based on machine-learning, Pi-Hive, being developed by Pi Engineering Consultancy Ltd.

The project is based in Riversimple’s workshops in Powys, where the inaugural ZELLOR meeting took place on Friday, 13 February 2026.

**Ian Constance, CEO, Advanced Propulsion Centre UK (APC), said:** “The projects announced today demonstrate the UK’s determination to lead the shift to zero-emission mobility. By

facilitating the UK Government's DRIVE35 grants, we are turning world-class innovation into industrial capability. With our partners in DBT and Innovate UK, we are backing manufacturers, empowering SMEs, and strengthening the UK's sovereign supply chain.

This multi-million pound support package is more than an investment in technology; it is an investment in the people, skills, and companies that will define the future of clean transport. Together, we are building the foundations of a competitive, resilient, and sustainable automotive industry."

**Riversimple founder Hugo Spowers, MBE:** "The automotive industry is struggling with a trilemma: zero emission, lightweight, long range. Of these three, weight is the feature that is yet to be resolved in the market, and correlates with all the negative impacts of cars – resource consumption, embedded carbon in manufacturing, energy consumption in use, road safety, air and water quality and ocean pollution.

This project is demonstrating that zero emission vehicles need not be heavy – and that we have all the innovation and expertise we need right here in the UK."

**Michael-John Bull, Director and Co-Founder of Pi Engineering Consultancy:** "ZELLOR is a great opportunity to prove how, with a 'whole system design' approach and with correct component selection, the mobility sector can deliver 'best-in-class' net-zero motoring. We are pleased to be part of a consortium focusing on efficiency and weight reduction at its core, assisting our partners' test plans to extract the most from the data."

**Andrew Dargle, Chief Engineer at TTPi:** "We create power electronic converters that reduce energy loss, precious raw material use and cost, while improving efficiency – so ZELLOR is a really fitting project for us. Demonstrating this could be really transformative for the auto industry."

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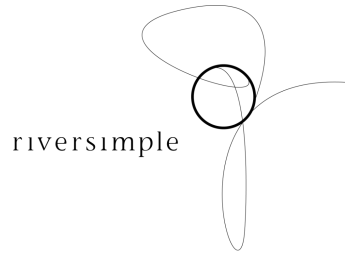
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**Notes to editors:**

**Riversimple Movement** is pioneering the next generation of zero emission vehicles with a circular Mobility-as-a-Service business model. Their vehicles use hydrogen, not batteries and emit nothing but water, with a refuel time of under five minutes. [www.riversimple.com](http://www.riversimple.com) | LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/riversimple/> | Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/riversimplemovement> | Bluesky [@riversimple.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/riversimple.bsky.social)



**Pi Engineering Consultancy Ltd:** where consultancy becomes accountability – Technology, Product Development, and Commercialisation with Purpose. Pi are a small team of experienced Chief engineers supporting start-ups and scale-ups launch first products to market.

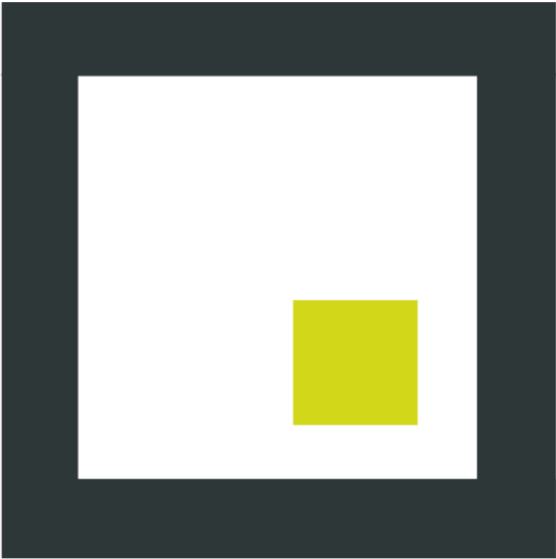
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**TTPI** is an innovative multi-disciplinary team of electrical, electro-magnetic, mechanical, thermal & control engineers specialising in the research and design of state-of-the-art high-speed, high power density power converters of all types for use in transportation, energy and other

demanding industrial applications. A spin-out of the University of Nottingham, taking low TRL proof of concept ideas to high TRL Industry ready solutions. [www.ttpi.tech](http://www.ttpi.tech)



L-R: Dr Nico Sergent, Head of Powertrain, Riversimple; Andrew Dargle, Chief Engineer at TTPi; Matt Bloomfield, GreenFlux; Hugo Spowers, Riversimple founder; Ed Christopher, Principal Engineer from TTPi; and MJ Bull, Director of Pi Engineering Consultancy – inspecting the donor vehicle in the Riversimple workshop in February 2026.



L-R: Hugo Spowers, Riversimple; MJ Bull, Pi Engineering Consultancy; James Emery, Riversimple; Jonathan Price, Riversimple; Ed Christopher, TTPi; Andrew Dargle, TTPi; and Matt Bloomfield, GreenFlux Motors standing with the donor vehicle and a Riversimple Rasa in the Riversimple workshop in February 2026.