

ElectraMeccanica groundbreaking

Start of construction at new assembly and tech center in Mesa

Electric vehicle builder ElectraMeccanica Vehicles Corp. recently commemorated the start of construction for its new US Assembly and Engineering Technical Center in Mesa.

In attendance for the mid-May groundbreaking were more than 50 invited guests, company board members and local dignitaries. Arizona Commerce Authority president Sandra Watson kicked off the event with a keynote address, joined at the podium by president and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council Chris Camacho, Mesa Mayor John Giles and ElectraMeccanica's president and CEO Paul Rivera.

Underway is a 235,000-square-foot facility on 18 acres of land adjacent to Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. When complete, it will include an assembly and manufacturing plant, a research center, 22,000 square feet of office space and 19,000 square feet of lab space.

"Today is a momentous day for ElectraMeccanica and the State of Arizona," said Watson. "Our electric vehicle industry is booming, with three manufacturing groundbreakings in just the last 16 months and additional suppliers setting up shop. We're grateful to ElectraMeccanica for choosing Arizona as the home of their first US-based facili-

ty and look forward to supporting them long into the future."

In line with ElectraMeccanica's asset-light business model, the complex will be leased from its developer, Marwest Enterprises LLC. The building is designed by architectural firm Ware Malcomb and engineered by Hunter Engineering, with Willmeng Construction acting as general Contractor.

"Today's groundbreaking marks a notable achievement for ElectraMeccanica," added Rivera. "The new engineering technical center and assembly facility will be a showcase for our vehicle lineup and afford us with the physical and human capital we need to provide the US retail and fleet market with a 'made in the USA' SOLO EV. We are thrilled to become an integral part of the vibrant Mesa community, the greater Phoenix Metropolitan Area and Arizona as a whole. We are looking forward to expanding our team and building a new culture with our future employees and their families."

When operational, the facility will have a production capacity of up to 20,000 vehicles per year and employ upwards of 200 to 500 people. Completion is currently slated for spring 2022.

"ElectraMeccanica breaking ground on its US base of operations solidifies Greater Phoenix as

America's new EV manufacturing hub," said Camacho. "There is no better place to scale, innovate, manufacture and find skilled talent to meet the demand of advanced industry. We look forward to watching ElectraMeccanica's continued success and working with Governor Ducey, the Arizona Commerce Authority and City of Mesa to support the company's expansion."

SOLO is a purpose-built three-wheeled, all-electric urban environment vehicle. Engineered for a single occupant, it offers a unique driving experience for the environmentally conscious consumer. SOLO has a range of 100 miles and a top speed of 80 mph, making it safe for highways. SOLO features front and rear crumple zones, side impact protection, roll bar and torque-limiting control, as well as power steering, power brakes, air conditioning and a Bluetooth entertainment system.

Blending a modern look with safety features at an accessible price point of \$18,500, the SOLO is currently available for pre-orders via the company's website: www.electrameccanica.com. ■

