

# **UK flywheel energy storage project**





## Overview

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### What are Flywheel Energy Storage Systems?

Flywheel Energy Storage Systems are interesting solutions for energy storage, featuring advantageous characteristics when compared to other technologies. Research focuses on cost aspects, system reliability, and energy density improvement for these systems. In this context, a novel shaftless outer-rotor layout is proposed.

### Why are giant flywheels being installed around the UK?

Giant flywheels are to be installed around the UK to minimise the risk of blackouts as the power system goes carbon-free. Flywheels are energy storage systems that use surplus electricity to accelerate a massive metal “wheel”, thereby turning it into mechanical energy. To avoid energy losses, the wheels are kept in a frictionless vacuum.

### What is the cost of Flywheel storage?

The cost of a 25-kWh Flywheel storage system ranges from \$4,015 to \$7,400. The cost of battery storage is from \$3,972 to \$8,700. The efficiency of a Flywheel system is 73 percent compared with 65 percent for a battery system.

### Are flywheel batteries a good energy storage system?

Flywheel batteries are probably the most compact energy storage systems that can be designed with the lowest environmental impact and highest durability. Not quite domestic, but the technology keeps maturing. It's better suited for leveling short-lived and massive power needs rather than storing energy for days (note the 7%/hr loss below).



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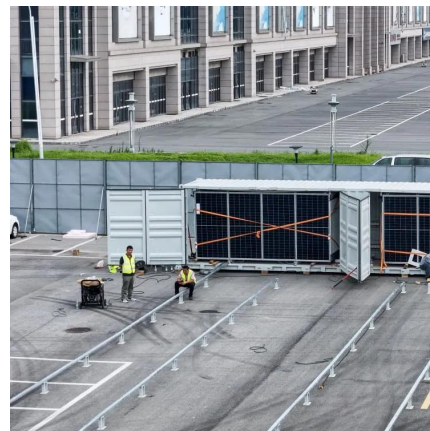


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### [The core challenge of clean energy](#)

The Centre for Research into Electrical Energy Storage and Applications (CREESA) operates one of the UK's only research-led, grid-connected, multi-megawatt battery energy storage testbeds.



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