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Komatsu launches battery-powered LHD alongside innovative charging solution

The WX04B LHD and vehicle agnostic 150kW battery charger provide underground hard rock customers an integrated solution

**September 24, 2024** — [Komatsu](https://www.komatsu.com/en/?utm_source=Komatsu&utm_medium=PressRelease&utm_campaign=MINExpo2024&utm_content=WX04B%20and%20charger) is excited to introduce its first battery-electric powered Load-Haul-Dump (LHD) machine, the [WX04B](https://www.komatsu.com/en/products/underground-hard-rock-haulage/lhd/wx04b/?utm_source=Komatsu&utm_medium=PressRelease&utm_campaign=MINExpo2024&utm_content=WX04B%20and%20charger), designed specifically for underground hard rock mining operations. Komatsu will pair this innovative LHD with its new OEM-agnostic 150kW battery charger, a robust charging solution built for the demands of hard rock mining. Together, they mark a significant milestone in Komatsu's commitment to enhancing productivity and sustainability in underground operations.

The WX04B represents a new era in battery-electric mining equipment. Designed for narrow vein mines, this 4-tonne LHD features industry-leading battery technology with best-in-class energy density, offering up to four hours of run time on a single charge. As a result, fewer charge cycles are needed compared to competitors, maximizing operational efficiency and minimizing downtime.

A yellow vehicle in a tunnel

Description automatically generatedBuilt to endure extreme-duty environments, the WX04B's advanced design focuses on zero-harm, reliability and durability. The industry proven reinforced boom and optimized Z-link geometry, alongside Komatsu's ROPS/FOPS-certified operator cab, increase safety and enable a productive experience. The optional fully enclosed cab with environmental controls enhances operator comfort and safety. At the same time, interlocks automatically engage brakes and turn off all functions when the cab door is open or the seatbelt is disengaged, prioritizing worker protection.

*A Komatsu WX04B LHD pictured in an underground mine*

One of the standout features of the WX04B is its innovative battery swap system. Unlike many traditional systems that require extensive underground infrastructure, the WX04B's battery swap can be performed at ground level without additional equipment or risks of rigging overhead loads. This streamlined process reduces costs and complexity, making it a more efficient and user-friendly option for underground mining operations.

"Komatsu's WX04B delivers a powerful combination of productivity, increased safety and sustainability," said Tyler Vien, LHD and Trucks Product Manager at Komatsu. "By offering ground-level battery changes and eliminating diesel emissions, we're providing our customers with a comprehensive solution that addresses the unique challenges faced in underground mines."

Complementing the WX04B, Komatsu's vehicle-agnostic 150kW battery charger has been engineered specifically for underground hard rock mining. Leveraging years of experience in industrial mineral applications, the charger is designed for extreme conditions and high performance. The compact, rugged design allows the charger to be easily moved and deployed, even in the most challenging underground environments.

Key features include power efficiency, broad compatibility with mining power sources (400 VAC to 1000 VAC) and no need for an external transformer. This design minimizes infrastructure requirements, offering mining operations greater flexibility without the need for a dedicated charging station. Additionally, the battery recharges in approximately two hours, which promotes battery health and is less than the operating time of a full charge, allowing for better scheduling and reduced downtime.

This integrated approach highlights Komatsu's dedication to providing a complete, scalable solution for underground mining. The combination of the WX04B and the 150kW charger addresses the demand for zero-emissions equipment while maintaining high productivity, allowing customers to meet the evolving needs of the underground hard rock market.

For a firsthand look at the WX04B LHD and 150kW battery charger, visit Komatsu at booth 7132 in Central Hall at the Las Vegas Convention Center from September 24 to 26.

**About Komatsu**

Komatsu develops and supplies technologies, equipment and services for the construction, mining, forklift, industrial and forestry markets. For more than a century, the company has been creating value for its customers through manufacturing and technology innovation, partnering with others to empower a sustainable future where people, business and the planet thrive together. Front-line industries worldwide use Komatsu solutions to develop modern infrastructure, extract fundamental minerals, manage forests and create consumer products. The company's global service and distributor networks support customer operations to help enhance safety and promote productivity while working to optimize performance. Learn more at [www.komatsu.com](http://www.komatsu.com).

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