

BlueOval SK Announces New CEO

STANTON, Tennessee – BlueOval SK announced today the appointment of Michael Adams as its new chief executive officer. Adams will replace Dr. Robert Rhee, who will take on an advisory role at SK On to ensure a smooth transition. The change will take effect Dec. 18, 2023.

“It is an honor to step into the role of CEO at BlueOval SK. I am thrilled about the opportunity to work on the cutting edge of battery and manufacturing technology,” Adams said. “I am greatly looking forward to joining and collaborating with the innovative team at BlueOval SK to help shape the future of mobility for our global customers and our local community.”

Prior to joining BlueOval SK, Adams led key product groups at Hanon Systems, including Electronics and Fluid Pressure, and has over 30 years of experience in the automotive industry. He previously worked at Halla Visteon, Visteon Corporation, and Ford Motor Company. Adams has extensive global experience with assignments in Germany, China, and South Korea.

“Michael Adams brings a wealth of manufacturing experience on an international level, understanding both American and Asian cultures,” BlueOval SK Human Resources Director Neva Burke said. “He will position BlueOval SK well in preparation for the start of production in 2025.”

Adams holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Case Western Reserve University and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from The Ohio State University. He will split time between BlueOval SK Battery Park in Kentucky and the BlueOval SK battery plant at BlueOval City in Tennessee.

Also joining the BlueOval SK executive team is chief technology officer, Timothy Jeong. He replaces interim CTO Iksung Yoon, effective Dec. 1, 2023. Jeong previously served as president and CEO at SK Battery America (SKBA), where under his leadership SKBA started production and shipped its first EV battery to Ford for the F-150 Lightning. Yoon will remain with the BlueOval SK technology team in a new supporting role.

Find additional information about BlueOval SK leadership and job openings at BlueOvalSK.com.

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About BlueOval SK

BlueOval SK is the joint venture between Ford Motor Company and SK On to produce batteries for future Ford and Lincoln electric vehicles. SK On is a subsidiary of SK Innovation and has deep expertise in battery production. BlueOval SK will operate twin battery manufacturing facilities in Glendale, Kentucky and one battery plant in Stanton, Tennessee starting in 2025. BlueOval SK will electrify the future of mobility with innovative technology.

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