

September 6, 2020

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Researched and compiled by FAST TRACK



TECH TRACK 100

COVID-19 EDITION

BRITAIN'S
FASTEST-
GROWING
PRIVATE
TECHNOLOGY
COMPANIES

Title sponsor

sage

Main sponsors

BARCLAYS

IBDO

BGF

N+1 SINGER

65 Hyperdrive Innovation 65.81%

Battery technology developer

This Sunderland-based business helped one of Britain's largest supermarket chains meet surging demand throughout lockdown, by equipping the autonomous guided vehicles used in its fulfilment warehouses with bespoke battery systems. Its batteries contribute to decarbonisation and are used in JCB's construction machinery and Hitachi Rail's battery-electric trains. Another of its customers, Northern Powergrid, restored power to residents during the lockdown by using its fleet of emergency energy storage vans. Formed in 2012, the company increased sales to £7.5m in 2020 after it opened the UK's largest independent battery plant in July last year. Founder Stephen Irish, 45, along with chief executive Chris Pennison, 53, and other directors helped to establish the North East Automotive Alliance's Covid-19 emergency response taskforce.