



# Top Energy Storage Companies Shaping the Industry in 2016

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### The Energy Storage Landscape: A \$33 Billion Game Changer

Back in 2016, the energy storage sector was flexing its muscles as a \$33 billion global powerhouse. Imagine this: enough stored electricity to power 10 million average U.S. homes for an hour, all from batteries and innovative storage solutions. Companies weren't just playing checkers - they were mastering 3D chess with grid-scale solutions and residential innovations.

### Grid-Scale Gladiators

Tesla Energy (Elon's other baby): Fresh off their Powerwall 1.0 launch, they were redefining home storage while building the Gigafactory

AES Energy Storage: The quiet giant deploying Advancion batteries like high-tech pebbles across power grids

ABB: Swiss precision meets utility-scale storage with their cheeky "virtual power plant" solutions

### Battery Innovators Charging Ahead

While your phone battery still died at 2 PM, these companies were pushing boundaries:

LG Chem - Their lithium-ion cells became the secret sauce in Chevy Volts and home storage units

Samsung SDI - Making batteries sexier than Galaxy phones (well, almost)

BYD - China's dark horse storing enough juice to power small cities

### Corporate Throwdown: The Storage Wars

Picture this boardroom drama: Traditional utilities vs. tech upstarts in a battle over "who gets to own the electrons." Southern Company was deploying flow batteries big enough to swallow school buses, while startups like Stem used AI to predict energy needs like psychic electricians.

### Storage Meets Renewables: The Power Couple

2016 saw solar farms getting battery boyfriends. First Solar and SolarCity were building hybrid systems that made "sunny day energy" available during Netflix-bingeing nights. The ultimate flex? Hawaii's Kauai project storing solar power to power 13,000 homes after sunset.

### Military-Grade Muscle

Lockheed Martin wasn't just making jets - their flow batteries could power a small town... or a very comfortable missile silo. Meanwhile, General Electric's Durathon batteries were tough enough to survive desert storms and boardroom meetings.



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Underdog Innovations

Sonnen - Germany's answer to power walls with a community-sharing twist

Aquion Energy - Saltwater batteries that literally wouldn't catch fire (take that, lithium!)

Stem - Using machine learning to predict energy needs like a crystal ball with a PhD

From Tesla's Nevada Gigafactory churning out battery cells like candy to German engineers perfecting saltwater storage, 2016 proved energy storage wasn't just about electrons - it was about rewriting how we power civilization. The companies that thrived weren't just storing energy... they were bottling lightning.

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