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<p><b>PhD at LRCS, Amiens, FRANCE</b>  <a href="https://www.lrcs.u-picardie.fr/">https://www.lrcs.u-picardie.fr/</a></p>	
<b>Topic Title</b>	<i>Synthesis and characterizations of anti-perovskite ionic conductors for all-solid-state batteries</i>
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<b>Collaborations</b>	CABELGUEN, Pierre-Etienne, UMICORE, <a href="mailto:Pierre-Etienne.Cabelguen@eu.umicore.com">Pierre-Etienne.Cabelguen@eu.umicore.com</a>
<b>Funding Source, Name of project</b>	CIFRE
<b>Date of publication of the offer</b>	February 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2020
<b>Deadline for application</b>	May 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2020
<b>Date of start of the Project</b>	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020
<b>Description of the Topic</b>	<p>Na-ion batteries are catching a lot of attention as a possible alternative to the Li-ion technology due to the unlimited sodium abundance. Despite impressive improvements of their performances in the last few years, safety issues due to the use of a flammable liquid electrolyte is still a major drawback. This is why Na-based All-Solid-State Batteries (Na-ASSB) could be a promising “next generation” of electrochemical energy storage devices.</p> <p>Recently, a new class of solid-state electrolytes has been proposed for Li-ASSB: the <b>Li-Rich Anti-Perovskites</b> related to the archetype <math>\text{Li}_3\text{OCl}</math>. Their intrinsic high ionic conductivity, stability against lithium metal coupled to a low temperature synthesis process make them materials of great interest. In this project, we propose the synthesis, structural and ionic conductivity characterizations of new <b>Li and Na Anti-Perovskite materials as solid electrolytes</b>. One of the great interests of Li or Na-antiperovskites is their chemical tunability. Anti-Perovskite phases of general formula <math>\text{X}_3^+\text{B}^{2-}\text{A}^-</math> can be easily modified by chemical substitution. Those chemical substitutions are expected to increase their ionic conductivity at room temperature.</p>
<b>Techniques to be used</b>	Different synthesis routes will be explored during the PhD thesis such as solid state synthesis (followed by a subsequent quenching in some cases), mechano-chemistry, Spark Plasma Sintering (SPS). The materials will be characterized by X-Ray diffraction, Infrared and Raman spectroscopies, SEM and TEM, Thermal Analysis (DSC-TGA), ionic conductivity by Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS), electrochemical stability by Cyclic Voltammetry and Galvanostatic cycling, etc...
<b>Skills of the Applicant</b>	<p><b>Master 2</b> or engineering school (background in physics and chemistry, electrochemistry).</p> <p>A strong taste for electrochemistry, for physics and chemistry of interfaces and for materials is required for this PhD as well as a strong hands-in approach for experiments.</p>
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<b>List of documents to provide</b>	CV + motivation letter + list of references