CLAIMS

1. A battery module comprising:

   (a) a housing;

   (b) two or more battery cells contained within the housing and electrically connected to each other;

   (c) first and second electrical contacts located on a first side of the housing;

   (d) first and second electrical contacts located on a second side of the housing;

   (e) first and second electrically conductive paths respectively terminating at the first electrical contacts and at the second electrical contacts, wherein the first electrically conductive path is electrically connected in series to the one or more battery cells;

wherein the first side of the housing is a top side, the first and second electrical contacts located on the first side of the housing are first and second top electrical contacts, the second side of the housing is a bottom side, and the first and second electrical contacts located on the bottom side of the housing are first and second bottom electrical contacts;

the battery module further comprising a third top electrical contact located on the topside, a third bottom electrical contract located on the bottom side, and a third electrically conductive path terminating at the third top and bottom electrical contacts;

the battery module further comprising a fourth top electrical contact located on the top side, a fourth bottom electrical contract located on the bottom side, and a fourth electrically conductive path terminating at the fourth top and bottom electrical contacts; and

wherein the housing is electrically conductive and further comprising a fifth top electrical contact located on the top side and a fifth bottom electrical contact located on the bottom side, wherein each of the fifth top and bottom contacts are electrically connected to the housing.

2. The battery module of claim 1, further comprising a fifth electrically conductive path terminatingat the fifth top and bottom contacts.

3. The battery module of any one of claims 1 to 2, further comprising a male connector on one of the top and bottom sides of the module and a female connector on the other of the top and bottom sides of the module, wherein at least one of the top contacts terminates at the connector

on the top side of the module and at least one of the bottom contacts terminates at the connectoron the bottom side of the module.

4. The battery module of claim 1, wherein all of the top contacts terminate at the connector on thetop side of the module and all of the bottom contacts terminate at the connector on the bottom side of the module.

5. An intermediate module for electrically connecting a top battery module as claimed in claim 1 with a bottom battery module as claimed in claim 1 when the intermediate module is stacked between the top and bottom battery modules, the intermediate module comprising:

(a) a housing comprising opposing top and bottom sides;

(b) first and second top electrical contacts located on the top side;

(c) first and second bottom electrical contacts located on the bottom side; and

(d) first and second electrically conductive paths respectively terminating at the first top andbottom electrical contacts and at the second top and bottom electrical contacts,

wherein the first top electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contactthe first bottom electrical contact of the top battery module, the first bottom electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the third top electrical contactof the bottom battery module, the second top electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the second bottom electrical contact of the top battery module, and the second bottom electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the fourth top electrical contact of the bottom battery module.

6. The intermediate module of claim 5, further comprising one or more battery cells contained within the housing and electrically connected to each other, wherein the first electrically conductive path is electrically connected in series to the one or more battery cells.

7. The intermediate module of claim 5, further comprising:

   (a) third and fourth bottom electrical contacts located on the bottom side; and

   (b) a third electrically conductive path terminating at the third and fourth bottom electricalcontacts,

   wherein the third bottom electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the first top electrical contact of the bottom battery module, and the fourth bottomelectrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the second top electrical contact of the bottom battery module.

8. The intermediate module of claim 5 or 6, further comprising a male connector on one of the topand bottom sides of the intermediate module and a female connector on the other of the top andbottom sides of the intermediate module, wherein at least one of the top contacts of the intermediate module terminates at the connector on the top side of the intermediate module andat least one of the bottom contacts of the intermediate module terminates at the connector on the bottom side of the intermediate module.

9. The intermediate module of claim 7, wherein all of the top contacts of the intermediate moduleterminate at the connector on the top side of the intermediate module and all of the bottom contacts of the intermediate module terminate at the connector on the bottom side of the intermediate module.

10. A stack of battery modules, comprising:

   (a) a top battery module as claimed in claim 1;

   (b) a bottom battery module as claimed in claim 1; and

   (c) an intermediate module stacked between the top and bottom battery modules, theintermediate module comprising:

(i) a housing comprising opposing top and bottom sides;

(ii) first and second top electrical contacts located on the top side;

(iii) first and second bottom electrical contacts located on the bottom side; and

(iv) first and second electrically conductive paths respectively terminating at the firsttop and bottom electrical contacts and at the second top and bottom electrical contacts,

wherein the first top electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned tocontact the first bottom electrical contact of the top battery module, the first bottomelectrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the third topelectrical contact of the bottom battery module, the second top electrical contactof the intermediate module is positioned to contact the second bottom electrical contact of the top battery module, and the second bottom electrical contact is positioned to contact the fourth top electrical contact of the bottom battery module.

11. The stack of claim 10, wherein the intermediate module further comprises:

(a) third and fourth bottom electrical contacts located on the bottom side; and

(b) a third electrically conductive path terminating at the third and fourth bottom electricalcontacts,

wherein the third bottom electrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the first top electrical contact of the bottom battery module, and the fourth bottomelectrical contact of the intermediate module is positioned to contact the second top electrical contact of the bottom battery module.

12. The stack of claim 10 or 11, wherein the intermediate module further comprises a male connectoron one of the top and bottom sides of the intermediate module and a female connector on the other of the top and bottom sides of the intermediate module, wherein at least one of the top contacts of the intermediate module terminates at the connector

on the top side of the intermediate module and at least one of the bottom contacts of the intermediate module terminates at the connector on the bottom side of the intermediate module.

13. The stack of claim 12, wherein all of the top contacts of the intermediate module terminate at theconnector on the top side of the intermediate module and all of the bottom contacts of the intermediate module terminate at the