

Enhanced sales & customer support throughout Asia

Oerlikon Solar and Tokyo Electron Join Thin Film PV Forces

PV EXPO Tokyo, 27 February 2009. – [Tokyo Electron](#) (TEL), a leading global supplier of innovative semiconductor production equipment, has announced a strategic cooperation with [Oerlikon Solar](#), the world's leading supplier of thin film silicon photovoltaic (PV) production equipment. "This strategic cooperation between TEL and Oerlikon Solar creates a new solar powerhouse which will unlock the huge potential of the Asian solar market. There could be no better partnership in the center of the Asian solar market" emphasizes Dr. Uwe Krüger, CEO of Oerlikon. "By forming a cooperation with Oerlikon Solar, TEL will be able to satisfy its customers with outstanding equipment and related support, while drawing upon the technology and supporting capabilities it has acquired in the semiconductor and FPD production equipment markets," commented Terry Higashi, CEO and Chairman, Tokyo Electron Limited. Together, TEL and Oerlikon will significantly expand the adoption of thin film silicon PV technology in parts of Asia, Oceania and Japan, areas which are already leading in solar adoption and export.

The partnership will be based on Oerlikon Solar's proven, industry-leading PV technology, and on TEL's extensive sales and customer support network, semiconductor experience and highly respected market leadership. TEL will become the exclusive representative for Oerlikon Solar's thin film silicon PV equipment and end to end production solutions in parts of Asia, Oceania and Japan. They will also provide manpower and services in the area of installation, ramp-up and customer service.



Page 2 Oerlikon Solar provides the industry's most complete production equipment, technology and services for thin film silicon PV modules, offering critical cost and performance advantages for emerging solar markets. TEL has more than 45 year's of experience in semiconductors and flat panel display (FDP) production equipment. Their established network of sales and support resources and Oerlikon Solar's proven technology is a winning combination for the thin film PV market. "Our strategic partnership with TEL is designed to leverage complementary strengths to create the quality and scale of thin film silicon PV needed to satisfy the growing demand for clean and economically viable energy sources. This partnership will benefit our customers enormously in Asian emerging growth markets with predictable end-to-end manufacturing facilities for thin film solar panels and local sales and customer support through TEL's global network" , said Jeannine Sargent, CEO Oerlikon Solar.

Enormous Growth Market

The global market for thin film PV is expected to increase at an average rate of more than 60% per year through 2012, which is more than twice the rate of growth expected for traditional crystal silicon technology. Japan, the third largest global solar market¹, plans to cut greenhouse gas levels 60-80 percent below 2008 levels by 2050.

Sargent: "According to the European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA), PV systems could be generating enough energy to satisfy the electricity needs of almost 14 percent of the world's population by 2030".

Mass Production Proven

Since its first customers started mass production in 2007 – over 700,000 modules have been produced on Oerlikon Solar equipment. In addition a

¹ Solarbuzz



Page 3 rapid growing number of customers are in the process of ramping up production.

Having the clear market lead in thin film silicon PV, Oerlikon Solar brought its first Micromorph[®] customers (Inventux in Germany and Auria Solar in Taiwan) to mass production in 2008. Micromorph[®] is one more important element for reducing the production costs of solar energy and to reach grid parity. This proprietary Oerlikon Solar technology boosts cell efficiency by up to 50 percent while dramatically reducing cost per watt.

“Just one more milestone in Oerlikon Solar’s mission to make Solar Power economically viable.”

For further information, please contact:

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[Oerlikon Solar](#) offers cost-effective, field proven end-to-end solutions for the mass production of thin-film silicon solar modules. These fully automated manufacturing solutions are focused on reducing device cost and maximizing productivity. They are available as modular end-to-end solutions with metrology and upgradeability in throughput and process technology.

Oerlikon Solar has developed a unique and innovative technology based on its leadership in thin film technology and close cooperation with its customers.

Oerlikon Solar is headquartered in Trubbach, has over 850 employees in 13 locations world wide and maintains sales and service centres in the USA, Europe, China, Korea, Taiwan and Japan.

About Oerlikon

[Oerlikon \(SWX: OERL\)](#) is one of the world's most successful high-tech industrial groups specializing in machine and plant engineering. The company is a leader in the field of industrial solutions and innovative technologies for textile manufacture, thin-film solar and thinfilm coating, drive, precision and vacuum systems. With roots in Switzerland and a long tradition stretching back 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with a workforce of more than 19,000 at 170 locations in 35 different countries. The company's sales amounted to CHF 5.6 billion and it ranks either first or second in the respective global market.

About Tokyo Electron Ltd.

[Tokyo Electron Ltd.](#), established in 1963, is a leading supplier of innovative semiconductor and FPD production equipment worldwide. In Japan, TEL also distributes computer network related products and electronic components of global leading suppliers. To support this diverse product base, TEL is strategically located around the world. TEL is a publicly held company listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.