

Cost-leading solar technology from Oerlikon achieves major market success

First 120 MW-ThinFab™ order for Oerlikon Solar

Trübbach (Switzerland), June 1, 2011 – Oerlikon Solar announced today the first order of a turnkey 120-MW-Micromorph® production line (ThinFab™) for manufacturing thin film silicon modules. The order came from a new customer in Asia that is already active in the renewable energy sector and has decided to enter the thin film silicon technology in a large capacity. "Our customer chose Oerlikon ThinFab™ technology due to low module costs, competitive energy efficiency especially under real operational conditions, and because we offer a clean-tech, cadmium-free solution. This first 120-MW-ThinFab™ order underlines the potential of our solar business," said Helmut Frankenberger, CEO Oerlikon Solar.

Oerlikon Solar's ThinFab™ was presented to the public in September 2010 and offers the following advantages:

- **Production costs:** ThinFab™ reduces the "total cost of ownership" for solar modules to EUR 0.50/Wp – the lowest value in the solar industry.
- **Energy efficiency:** Compared to other solar manufacturing processes, the production of Oerlikon thin film silicon modules requires the least amount of energy. The "energy payback time" with Oerlikon technology is less than one year.
- **Practical benefits:** Thin film silicon modules gain advantages under real operational conditions, e.g. cloudy sky or high temperatures, where the efficiency of crystalline solar cells declines significantly.
- **Environmentally friendly:** Thin film silicon modules do not contain toxic additives like Cadmium.
- **Sustainability:** Oerlikon's solar technology has further potential to increase efficiency and productivity, demonstrated by ThinFab™ lab world record cell with an efficiency of 11.9%.

Oerlikon Solar modules are suitable for all types of roof and open space applications. Their attractive design and transparency makes them also applicable for integration into buildings.

"We have very positive feedback from the market to our new production line. We are certain that this order will generate even more interest in our thin film silicon solution," commented Peter Tinner, Head of Sales & Marketing at Oerlikon Solar.

Since the launch of ThinFab™, Oerlikon Solar has successfully sold some upgrade orders to existing customers. This new order is the first one for a complete 120 MW production line. The delivery of this ThinFab™ with an annual production capacity of around 850,000 solar modules will begin in early 2012. The production line will be installed in Asia.

"This success is a further important step forward for Oerlikon Solar. It is significant that this order comes from Asia, the fastest growing, highly competitive and very important region for the solar industry today. We look forward to building on this success," said Oerlikon CEO Michael Buscher.

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About Oerlikon

Oerlikon (SIX: OERL) is a leading high-tech industrial group specializing in machine and plant engineering. The Company is a provider of innovative industrial solutions and cutting-edge technologies for textile manufacturing, drive, vacuum, thin film, coating, and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back over 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with more than 16 500 employees at over 150 locations in 36 countries and sales of CHF 3.6 billion in 2010. The Company invested in 2010 CHF 239 million in R&D, with over 1 200 specialists working on future products and services. In most areas, the operative businesses rank either first or second in their respective global markets.

About Oerlikon Solar

Oerlikon Solar designs and manufactures field-proven equipment and end-to-end manufacturing lines for the mass production of environmentally sustainable thin film silicon solar modules. With its amorphous and high-efficiency Micromorph® tandem technology, Oerlikon has dramatically increased the efficiency of thin film silicon and created innovative end-to-end manufacturing solutions for thin film PV, enabling new entrants in the fast-growing, global PV manufacturing business. Oerlikon Solar leads the thin film solar equipment sector with 14 customers in production in seven countries, and almost 4 million modules and 450 MW of capacity produced worldwide.

Oerlikon Solar has Micromorph® patents dating back to 1993, was the first to integrate the high-efficiency Transparent Conductive Oxide (TCO) layer, and the first to commercialize the high-efficiency Micromorph® process and support the majority of its customers in migrating to it. To date it is the only proven end-to-end Micromorph® solution available on the market, offering lowest cost of electricity \$/kWh, and proving highest future cost reduction potential.

Oerlikon Solar is headquartered in Switzerland, has about 700 employees in 13 locations worldwide, numerous production sites around the globe and maintains sales and service centers in the USA, Europe, China, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Japan.

For more information, please visit www.oerlikon.com/solar and www.oerlikon.com/solar/thinfab