Medienmitteilung



Zurich, July 4, 2011

Information on New Value's portfolio company Solar Industries AG

Solar Industries AG gets land purchase in Langenthal approved

The Langenthal city council unanimously approved of the land purchase by Solar Industries AG (SIAG) in the scope of its meeting on 27 June 2011. This is the final starting signal for SIAG's implementation of the planned production site for photovoltaic modules in the industrial area Steiachermatte of the Langenthal community in the canton of Bern. New Value holds 30.2% of SIAG's share capital.

Setting up the largest module production in Switzerland is Solar Industries' active contribution to the Swiss energy turn. According to SIAG's philosophy of "local for locals", the mono- and polycrystalline SI-Power modules, which are mainly destined for the local Swiss market, are produced locally in Switzerland. "In contrast to other providers, SIAG also bases its module production on utilisation of European components. This is an additional important contribution to protection of resources and the environment," emphasizes Rolf Wägli, administrative president of Solar Industries AG. "Therefore, the SIAG modules offer an unprecedented life-cycle assessment result."

The construction petition for the new building was filed on 26 May 2011 and work is to be taken up in August 2011. Thomas Cadonau, CFO and Business Development manager of SIAG, mentions the very good and smooth cooperation with the Langenthal municipality in connection with building the future production centre. This cooperation is to be continued similarly in future.

Production ramp-up after completion of the building will take place in the first quarter of 2012. From the second quarter of 2012, Solar Industries premium modules will be produced in Langenthal to complement the Freiburg module production. "About 40 persons will be employed by Solar Industries initially when our Swiss production takes up operation," explains Matthias Schoft, COO of SIAG. He adds that this number is to increase to about 70 employees working in three-shift operation by mid-2012.

Marcel Ottenkamp was elected as a new member of the SIAG Board of Directors

At the General Meeting of Solar Industries AG (SIAG), which was held on 24 June 2011 at the headquarters in Niederurnen, Mr Marcel Ottenkamp, a member of the executive board of Energie Wasser Bern (ewb), was elected as a new member of the Board of Directors. The Chairman of the SIAG Board of Directors, Mr Rolf Wägli, was elected fur a further three years. In addition, all of the proposals made by the Board of Directors were accepted unanimously.

Information about Solar Industries AG

Solar Industries AG (SIAG) pursues a growth and Buy&Build strategy for its solar module production and marketing value chain. SIAG invests in new and existing companies, as well as in companies under development, from the photovoltaic area. It strives for their competitive industrial integration. Local module production for local markets (local for locals) is of the utmost importance in this.

SIAG already participates in four module productions in Germany, Italy and the U.S. via SI Module GmbH and MX Group. These plants have a current capacity of approx. 200 MWp per year. The majority participation of SI Solutions GmbH, headquartered in Puchheim near Munich (Germany) also gives SIAG a presence in the PV system provider sector and PV system construction on the largest solar market in the world.

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Information about New Value AG

New Value is the pioneer for sustainable direct investments in young and rapidly growing Swiss companies. New Value, listed on SIX Swiss Exchange, invests directly in promising private companies in Switzerland and Germany with substantial market and growth potential. New Value provides growth capital to fund the innovative business models of these companies and guidance in advancing their corporate development. The portfolio is invested in companies at different stages of development, ranging from the market launch phase to medium-sized enterprises with stable profits. The portfolio consists of companies active in the Cleantech and Healthcare sectors. New Value is committed to sustainability and attaches great importance to ethical business concepts and good corporate governance.

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