



Würth Solar and Manz Automation close cooperation agreement

- Würth Solar is exclusively licensing production technology for CIGS PV modules to Manz Automation AG
- Know-how licensing and cooperation agreement with Manz linked to support for Würth Solar in planning, implementing, and commissioning manufacturing plants for CIGS modules

Schwäbisch Hall, July 19, 2010 – Würth Solar, innovation leader in CIGS technology for photovoltaic power generation, and Manz Automation, one of the leading technology suppliers for production systems in the photovoltaics industry, have closed a know-how licensing and cooperation agreement for constructing manufacturing facilities for CIGS PV modules modeled after the CISfab plant in Schwäbisch Hall.

A cooperation of this kind between a manufacturer of solar modules and a technology provider for production systems has never been seen so far in the photovoltaics industry. Würth Solar is exclusively licensing its production technology for CIGS PV modules to Manz Automation. In addition, the contract includes support for Würth Solar's ramping up further manufacturing plants for CIGS modules. This way, Manz Automation is now able to offer turnkey integrated production solutions for CIGS solar modules.

"As a pioneer and innovation leader in CIGS technology and manufacturer of CIGS modules, we have a large amount of expertise in setting up and operating production technology. As the first company worldwide, we constructed CISfab in 2006 as a manufacturing plant for large-scale production of CIGS modules in Schwäbisch Hall, Germany. We are now passing on this expertise in constructing manufacturing facilities to Manz Automation," explains Bernd Sprecher, Managing Director of Würth Solar GmbH & Co. KG. "We are also supporting Manz Automation during ramp-up. At the same time, Manz and its customers are also profiting from the innovations in production technology which we are continuously working on in cooperation with the Center for Solar Energy and Hydrogen Research (ZSW) in Baden Württemberg. The cooperation with Manz Automation is an important component in the strategic growth of Würth Solar."



"Integration is our issue and the key for further considerable cost reductions," is how Dieter Manz, CEO of Manz Automation AG, summarizes the motivations behind the cooperation. "This is why we have now decisively strengthened ourselves technologically in a dynamic future market. We thereby offer our customers a comprehensive, single-source solution – and therefore have a product portfolio which is unique worldwide."

Details about the agreement between Manz Automation and Würth Solar will be presented on Tuesday, July 27, 2010, 11 a.m., at a joint press conference in Schwäbisch hall (address: Würth Solar, Alfred-Leikam-Strasse 25, 74523 Schwäbisch Hall, Germany). Here is also where the further strategic development of Würth Solar will be illustrated.

About Würth Solar

Würth Solar, a company in the Würth Group, is both a manufacturer of innovative CIGS solar power modules and a full-line provider of photovoltaic systems. In addition to classic roof-mounted systems for private and commercial buildings, Würth Solar in particular produces attractive facade applications using CIGS technology. In addition, the company realizes turnkey, ground-mounted solar power systems as a general contractor.

Würth Solar currently employs around 250 people.

Further information can be found at www.wuerth-solar.com



We will gladly provide you with high-resolution images. Preview:



Signing of the cooperation agreement between Würth Solar and Manz Automation on July 16, 2010 in Schwäbisch Hall.
From the left: Bernd Sprecher, Managing Director of Würth Solar and Dieter Manz, CEO of Manz Automation AG
(Source: Würth Solar)



From the left: Dr. Ing. Claus Kuhn, Head of systems.cleanroom, Manz Automation AG, Dieter Manz, CEO of Manz Automation AG, Karl-Heinz Groß, Managing Director of Würth Solar, Bernd Sprecher, Managing Director of Würth Solar
(Source: Würth Solar)



Würth Solar's CISfab plant in Schwäbisch Hall
(Source: Würth Solar)