

PRESS INFORMATION

\$135 Million for innovative Solar Technology

Solar Power 2007, Long Beach – Schüco Develops new Thin-Film Modules

Newington, Conn., September 14/PRNewswire/ Schüco International KG, German parent company of Schüco USA L.P., and German energy giant E.ON AG are jointly investing \$135 million to develop new photovoltaic (PV) modules based on thin-film technology for metal and glass facades. Production begins in mid 2008. The modules will be produced in Germany using technology supplied by Applied Materials, Inc., global market leader in nanomanufacturing. "We want to go on improving the cost-benefit ratio of integrating PV modules in building facades, and to make photovoltaic modules a standard feature in building envelopes", declares Dirk U. Hindrichs, CEO of Schüco International.

Schüco International KG is the world's only system supplier that develops all types of transparent facade, photovoltaic, and solar-thermal components on its own, supplying a harmonized range of products to customers worldwide. With annual sales of \$93 billion and 81,000 employees, E.ON AG is one of the world's largest energy suppliers. In July 2007, the two companies joined forces to create Malibu GmbH & Co. KG, with a total capital commitment of \$135 million.

The prime focus of capital expenditure is the thin-foil production facility supplied by Applied Materials, Inc. The plant will produce PV modules measuring up to 5.7 square meters (over 61 square feet). The PV modules produce up to 460 watts per module. The new facility will significantly boost productivity, further strengthening Schüco's position in the building-integrated photovoltaics market. The modules will be exported worldwide.

Schüco USA L.P., on hand at Solar Power 2007 in Long Beach (Stand 414), supplies vinyl windows and doors, aluminum systems for building envelopes as well as solar power systems. Schüco USA belongs to European market leader Schüco International KG, which boasts fifty years' experience in aluminum, steel, vinyl and solar systems. It has 4,700 employees and 12,000 partner companies in 77 countries.

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