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## **Schüco Solar Hot Water Technology Feeds the Needy in San Francisco**

Generous Support from PG&E means 6,700 more meals

Newington, Conn., October 17/PRNewswire/ -- Project Open Hand, a San Francisco non-profit whose mission is to prepare and deliver nourishing meals to the homebound and elderly, now has a state-of-the-art solar hot water system. Solar hot water harnesses the power of the sun to produce non-polluting clean energy. Using the latest technology from Schüco, one of the world's leading makers of solar hot water and solar electric systems, the system is expected to heat 170,000 gallons of hot water per year.

Designed and installed by Luminalt, a San Francisco-based solar design and installation company, and funded by PG&E, the local utility, the system will cut almost 2 million pounds of greenhouse gasses over its lifetime and significantly reduce Project Open Hand's natural gas bills. As Helmut Gehle, Senior Director Sales, Schüco USA, explains, "This shows what's possible when cutting edge solar technology and outstanding workmanship come together for the common good."

Just two weeks after installation, energy output was already exceeding expectations by 20%. Project Open Hand plans to triple the capacity of the current Schüco solar collector system by adding an additional thirty collectors. This expansion will increase the financial and environmental benefits of the system. For Open Hand, this will mean savings of around \$12,000 a year, enabling the organization to provide the needy with an additional 6,700 meals.

A specialist in alternative energy solutions, Luminalt is a valued customer and trained installer of solar energy system manufacturer Schüco USA L.P.

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