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EXHIBITORS RESERVE OVER 705,000 SQUARE FEET AT GLASSTEC 2008

Four months before the start of glasstec 2008, International Trade Fair with Special Show glass technology live, over 1,000 exhibitors have reserved more than 705,000 square feet of exhibit space, making the trade show larger than ever. Project Director Marianne Ingenhoven is delighted with the figures: “We are extremely satisfied with the great demand. We are receiving new enquiries from companies around the world every single day.” In particular, interest from international glass producers increased compared to the previous event in 2006. Until the staging of glasstec from October 21 – 25 in Düsseldorf, Germany, the organizers expects many more exhibitors to register. “Needless to say, this outstanding development of glasstec has not just happened coincidentally. Glass is today as much in demand as ever and companies naturally also want to participate in the world’s leading industry event,” added Marianne Ingenhoven.

Two of the key themes at glasstec 2008 will be photovoltaics and solar thermal systems. The “Solar and Laser Center” in Hall 11 will display interesting innovations such as novel thin-film modules: with their films only measuring a few thousandths of a millimeter, they constitute a promising alternative to conventional silicon solar cells. The solar theme will also be the central topic on two of the five conference days of the Technical Symposium which will accompany the “glass technology live” Special Show.

The other segments of the glass industry will focus just as much on innovations and a tour of glasstec 2008 reflects the diversity of this booming market: in Hall 9, craftsman-type finishers and processors of glass will present their practical applications of this material – from the finishing of flat and hollow glass to the construction of glass furniture and the use of glass as a lifestyle product in modern architecture. In Halls 10 and 11, firms representing the glass industry and glass production will showcase their spectacular new developments: anti-microbial glass that kills up to 99.9% of bacteria is suitable for applications in both hospitals and nursing homes but also in private households and will play an important role in the future. High-tech features such as titanium coatings applied

to the outer side of panes (for instance, to ensure that sunlight breaks down dirt deposits) are suited not only to major applications but also for sunglasses. The largest exhibition category at glasstec 2008 will be glass machinery and equipment manufacturing in Halls 12 - 17.

The Special Show “glass technology live” in Hall 11 will also have “glass and energy” as the main topic. The organizer Professor Stephan Behling and his Institute of Building Construction at the Stuttgart University have developed a presentation that will cover both today’s resource-saving measures and a preview of tomorrow’s technologies. The Innovationpark will feature the four segments “Light and Transparency”, “Photovoltaics”, “Solar Thermal Sy“Ph8s”Light“HillLights”, “Sizeow’nnov”. Curr

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