

SCHOTT Solar Officially Opens New Module Production Facilities in Valasské Mezirící (CZ)

Alzenau (Germany) /Valasské Mezirící (Czech Republic), 21 May 2008 - In response to the growing demand for high-quality, powerful and durable solar modules, SCHOTT Solar has significantly expanded its production facilities in Valasské Mezirící. The new production lines, with modern logistics, were officially opened, with more than 230 honorary guests in attendance. The expansion project began in July 2007 with an investment of 50 million euros. By the end of the year, the annual production capacity is expected to more than quadruple to 200 megawatts at the 200,000 square meter facility.

SCHOTT Solar has been producing photovoltaic (PV) modules in Valasské Mezirící for three years, starting with a production capacity of approximately 40 megawatts per year in June 2005. The site in the Czech Republic represented a pioneering investment in a future-oriented technology, for which SCHOTT Solar received an award from Czech Invest, an investment promotion agency. With the completion of the second construction phase as expected at the end of 2008, the number of employees in the state-of-the-art production facilities will increase by about 400. According to current plans, SCHOTT Solar will produce more than one million solar PV modules a year on five production lines in this facility.

TJn Uar y 4feed-n thariff law,the Czech Republic rs tate- in tentewble snterges thon ,SCHOTT Solar ralsopr

SCHOTT Solar high quality products utilize the potential of the sun as an inexhaustible source of energy. And it's for exactly that reason that SCHOTT Solar produces important components for photovoltaic applications and solar energy plants. In the photovoltaic industry, the company is one of the few fully integrated manufacturers of crystalline silicon wafers, cells and modules. The production of the wafers is ensured by the WACKER SCHOTT Solar joint venture, which secures the supply of silicon for the growing demand in the long term. In thin-film technology, SCHOTT Solar is also a leading supplier. And in the production of receivers for solar power plants, SCHOTT Solar sees itself as a market and technology leader. The receivers are key components in large-scale power plants that generate electricity from solar energy centrally on the basis of parabolic trough technology and are able to supply entire cities with power. SCHOTT Solar has production facilities in Germany, the Czech Republic, the USA and Spain. The innovative power and technological competence of the company date back to the late 1950s. SCHOTT Solar GmbH is a wholly owned subsidiary of the international SCHOTT technology group. SCHOTT AG develops special materials, components and systems for the household appliance, pharmaceutical, solar energy, electronics, optical and automotive industries. With a total of 16,700 employees, the SCHOTT Group generated a worldwide turnover of 2.1 billion euros in fiscal year 2006/2007.

Press pictures can be downloaded at www.schott-pictures.net

Brian Lynch
SCHOTT North America, Inc.
Corporate Communications
Phone: 914.831.2287
Cell: 914.356.7785