

Press Release

Producing high efficiency multicrystalline solar cells

KYOCERA to start production at new solar cell plant

Kyoto / Neuss, 9 August 2010 — Kyocera Corporation today announced that it will begin full-scale production at its new Yasu solar cell manufacturing facility in Yasu City, Shiga Prefecture, Japan. The new plant, which was completed in March of this year and has already finished production line testing, is the largest of the company's domestic manufacturing facilities, and will be producing the company's highly-efficient multicrystalline silicon solar cells.

The new Yasu Plant employs an enhanced manufacturing line, and will produce solar cells with a 16.9 % energy conversion efficiency — one of the world's highest for mass-produced multicrystalline cells. In tandem with the company's existing Shiga Yohkaichi Plant (Japan), the new plant will contribute to meeting Kyocera's annual production target of 1GW of solar cells by March 2013.

In recent years, the solar energy market has been steadily expanding, and global demand is increasing. In Japan, the residential-use solar market has been expanding due to the reintroduction last year of government subsidies and a doubling in the purchase price for surplus solar-generated power. In the U.S., governmental subsidies and Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) programs* are spurring demand, and future growth of the market is expected. In Europe, despite a decrease in feed-in-tariff rates in Germany in July, the German market is still experiencing high-growth. In addition, countries like France and Italy are emerging and are expected to

Contact:

Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH
Daniela Faust
Head of Corporate Communications
Hammfelddamm 6
41460 Neuss
Fon: +49 2131/16 37 188
Fax: +49 2131/16 37 150
Mobile: +49 175/7275706
daniela.faust@kyocera.de
www.kyocera.de

Weber Shandwick Deutschland GmbH
Peter Manderfeld
Account Manager
Hohenzollernring 79 - 83
50672 Cologne
Fon: +49 221 - 94 99 18 - 42
Fax: +49 221 - 94 99 18 - 10
pmanderfeld@webershandwick.com
www.webershandwick.de

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help drive global demand.

In order to meet expanding global demand, Kyocera is ramping up its annual production to 600MW this fiscal year — an increase of 50 percent over the previous fiscal year. Furthermore, by concentrating on product quality, the company is working to decrease the cost of solar energy by improving cell conversion efficiency and enhancing the company's own productivity.

In 1982, Kyocera launched the world's first mass-produced multicrystalline silicon solar cells using the casting method. Since then, Kyocera has been enhancing conversion efficiency by improving its technology. Today, multicrystalline silicon solar cells are the mainstream type of cells used worldwide, due to the balance of superior characteristics such as production cost and energy conversion efficiency. Kyocera modules have been employed in diverse installations ranging from large-scale power plants, public and industrial facilities to residential homes all over the world.

With the expansion of the solar energy market, Kyocera hopes to contribute to the prevention of global warming through the further development of its solar business.

*Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) programs require that a certain percentage of utility providers' electricity be generated from renewable energy sources.

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, the Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which comprises 213 subsidiaries (April 1st, 2010), are information and communications technologies, products to increase the quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide.

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With a workforce of about 63.000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €8.59 billion in fiscal year 2009/2010. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, fineceramic products and complete solar systems. The corporation has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: the Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and the Kyocera Mita Deutschland GmbH in Meerbusch.

The company also takes a lively interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, one of the most prominent international awards, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation, once established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori, to individuals and groups worldwide for their outstanding human achievement (converted at present €450.000 per prize category).

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