

Press information

KYOCERA Files Suit Against Hanwha Q CELLS Japan Co., Ltd. for Infringement of Japanese Patent Relating to Solar Modules

15 July, 2014 – Kyoto/Neuss – Kyocera Corporation (President: Goro Yamaguchi) filed a complaint in Tokyo District Court against Hanwha Q CELLS Japan Co., Ltd., for infringement of a Kyocera patent relating to solar modules.

The complaint was filed after extensive negotiations regarding Kyocera's Japanese patent for a "three-bus-bar electrode structure" that increases energy conversion efficiency in solar modules (Japanese patent no. 4953562).

Kyocera is negotiating with other parties regarding the patent.

Kyocera has conducted continuous research and development of solar energy technologies since 1975. The "three-bus-bar electrode structure" patented by Kyocera in March 2012 has been a key technology utilized in the company's solar cells since setting a world record for energy conversion efficiency* in 2004. Kyocera recognizes intellectual property as a vital company asset and will take those measures necessary to protect and enforce it.

* Achieved world-record efficiency of 17.7% in research tests of 150mm×155mm multicrystalline silicon solar cells (2004).

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For more information about Kyocera: www.kyocerasolar.eu

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, 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 is comprised of 230 subsidiaries (as of April 1, 2014), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 5 gigawatts of solar power having been installed around the world to date.

The company is ranked #531 on *Forbes* magazine's 2014 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies.

With a global workforce of about 70,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €10.19 billion in fiscal year 2013/2014. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, fineceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at present €362,000 per prize category).

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