



Plain Energy launches one of the world's largest rooftop solar installations; firm conducts strategic realignment

Gundelfingen, January 2, 2008

Together with political and business leaders, Plain Energy GmbH launched one of the largest rooftop photo-voltaic power stations in the world today in Gundelfingen. The installation, with a peak performance of 1,1 megawatts will provide clean solar energy for up to 300 households for decades to come.

As general contractor for the construction of the facility, Plain Energy joined forces with the firm JuWi from Bolanden.

One of the largest firms in the industry, JuWi offers both extensive experience and a long list of references. Among their many projects, they are currently building the largest free-field solar installation in the world near Leipzig. The technology employed there was also used on behalf of Plain Energy. A similar construction was used in building 6,000 First Solar modules on the roofs of Garnter KG in Gundelfingen. The thin-film modules distinguish themselves with their performance in flat lighting conditions and with their favorable temperature coefficients. Due to the low module price, the entire construction cost can be reduced, with the installation representing an attractive capital investment in the Plain Energy inventory.

Inverters and mounting systems come from SMA and Schletter. Both firms are technology leaders in the industry.

With the construction of this installation, Plain Energy is laying the groundwork for further investment in renewable energy. Formally, as E&S Invest GmbH, the firm realized a number of construction projects in southern Germany. As a subsidiary of Family Office, the firm highlights its capital strength and long-term focus.

The decision to become active in the area of photo-voltaics was due to strategic considerations. Manageability and sustainability are two of the outstanding features that make PV power stations highly interesting capital investments, which Plain Energy will also offer to external investors in the future.

Core markets for future activity include Germany, Spain, Italy, and the Czech Republic, where the group is partially represented by a subsidiary.

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