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**PV Crystalox Solar production facility for solar-grade silicon
Ground-breaking ceremony with the Minister for Economic Affairs Reiner Haseloff**

PV Crystalox Solar plc today celebrated its ground-breaking ceremony for its production facility for solar-grade silicon in Bitterfeld, Germany. This sets a new milestone to increase the Group's ability to source solar-grade silicon at favourable conditions allowing it to further expand its international business profitably. The facility will be completed by the end of 2008 and will be put into operation at the beginning of 2009.

In the first year the annual production is expected to reach 900 MT, thereafter production is expected to increase to 1,800 MT. "If the market develops according to expectations, we would be able to further increase the capacity", said PV Crystalox Solar Board Member Hubert A. Aulich in the presence of Dr. Reiner Haseloff, Minister for Economic Affairs and Employment of Saxony-Anhalt, and numerous invited guests.

The facility will be built in the Chemical Park of Bitterfeld, Germany, the region with one of the largest chemical production sites in Europe. PV Crystalox Solar will employ a modified version of the well-established Siemens-process, which was optimised for solar applications. With this process high-purity silicon is produced that meets the specifications, the company requires for its in-house multicrystalline wafer technology.

Evonik Degussa GmbH, Duesseldorf, a wholly owned subsidiary of Evonik Industries will supply PV Crystalox Solar with the high purity raw material Siridion[®] Chlorosilane in a fence to fence operation. Degussa is the largest chlorosilane producer world-wide. The close partnership with Degussa will also result in an optimized chemical infrastructure for distributing and handling chlorosilanes and by-products. The company has signed a ten year contract with Degussa for the delivery of chlorosilanes.

Expected investment for the 1,800 MT facility will be approximately 80 million EURO. Financial support will be provided by the state of Sachsen-Anhalt, the Federal Government and the European Union in the amount of approximately 21 million EURO. The plant is estimated to create approx. 100 new jobs and will be one of the first industrial production sites in Europe dedicated exclusively to silicon for solar electricity using a modified version of the Siemens-process.

Notes to Editors

PV Crystalox Solar, initially established in the UK in 1982, is a highly specialised supplier to the world's leading solar cell manufacturers, producing multicrystalline silicon ingots and wafers for use in solar electricity generation systems. The Group was one of the first to develop multicrystalline technology on an industrial scale, setting the industry standard for ingot production.

The Group manufactures silicon ingots in Oxfordshire, United Kingdom, with the majority of its output shipped to Japan, where it is sold either as ingots or as wafers after processing by a sub-contractor. The balance of its output is processed into wafers for European customers at the Group's facilities in Erfurt, Germany.

PV Crystalox Solar was admitted to the main market of the London Stock Exchange on 11 June 2007. On 11 September 2007 the Group reported its half year results for the period ending 30 June 2007. PV Crystalox Solar's production output over the period was 89MWp. Total sales revenues increased by 8% and earnings before exceptional items increased by 13.3% on the corresponding period in the previous year.

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