



Applied Materials Opens SunFab Technology Center to Accelerate Solar Innovation

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ALZENAU, Germany--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 26, 2007--Applied Materials, Inc. is pioneering a new era in photovoltaic (PV) research and development with the opening of its SunFab Technology Center, one of the industry's most advanced facilities dedicated to next generation solar technology applications. The 2,000m² center, located in Alzenau, Germany, features state-of-the-art solar module manufacturing equipment, including Applied Materials' PECVD(a) and ATON(TM) PVD(a) systems, laser tools and fab automation software. It includes a complete sequence of equipment that is representative of the Applied SunFab(TM) Thin Film Line for large-volume manufacturing of solar circuits.

The facility will serve as Applied Materials' principal solar research and development center with a focus on boosting module conversion efficiency and lowering production costs. In addition, the facility will provide customers with the capability to evaluate and test key systems and processes, and will enhance the existing crystalline silicon and thin film manufacturing capabilities in the region.

"This center is a demonstration of Applied Materials' commitment to accelerating the growth of the solar market, advancing PV technology and reducing the cost of solar energy," said Mark Pinto, senior vice president, chief technology officer and general manager, Applied Materials' Energy and Environmental Solutions group. "Our customers need to rapidly reach high volume production to meet the demands of the growing market and this facility will enable them to do that quickly and efficiently."

"The SunFab Technology Center reflects Applied Materials' confidence in the growth of the solar industry around the world," said Winfried Hoffmann, chief technology officer, Applied Materials Solar Business Group. "Located in Germany, where Applied Materials employs more than 400 people, the SunFab Center will leverage the expertise and highly skilled talent in the region as well as serve as a center of excellence to attract worldwide solar talent."

Applied Materials, Inc. (Nasdaq:AMAT) is the global leader in Nanomanufacturing Technology(TM) with a broad portfolio of innovative equipment, service and software products for the fabrication of semiconductor chips, flat panel displays, solar photovoltaic cells, flexible electronics and energy efficient glass. At Applied Materials, we apply Nanomanufacturing Technology to improve the way people live. Learn more at www.appliedmaterials.com.

(a)PECVD=plasma-enhanced chemical vapor deposition; PVD=physical vapor deposition

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