

Research and development for clean energy

More economy for solar energy

Ratingen/Nürnberg, 27th January 2009, THE WALL AG and FLABEG Holding have set a goal: to reduce costs through progressive research and development, and increase the efficiency of solarthermic power-stations. Solarthermic power-stations also contain the greatest potential of winning power from solar energy. Their enormous voltage is faced with similar costs of investment: One power-station with a yearly capacity of 50 MW needs an investment volume of nearly 300m Euro. Due to the reason mentioned previously, investors usually only offer capital for a power-station project with state subsidies.

FLABEG is a pioneer in the field of solar mirrors: the first solarthermic power-stations established in the Californian Mojave Desert in the eighties are equipped with FLABEG mirrors, and are still operating commercially. The concern was and still remains, to be considered the leader in the field of solar mirrors all over the world. "Always a step ahead, that is the basis of our philosophy and our success. The pioneer spirit connects us with THE WALL AG," states FLABEG-CEO Axel Buchholz on the cooperation between both companies. THE WALL AG is the producer of the patented SwissCell. It deals with an innovative material, amazing through its agility and durability: one quartermeter SwissCell with a weight of 3 kg endures a weight of over 200 tons. In addition, the material is inflammable, it is resistant to wind, rain, and changes in temperature. These are all qualities that make it suitable for extreme desert climate. It is composed of resin-covered cellulose, which is pressed in a special process under great pressure and high temperature into a honey-combed structure. The honey-comb cores will be covered permanently by a certain layer, to be used as such with the solar mirrors. The idea behind this is that solar mirrors and SwissCell as carrier material will get united in a self-carrier collector unit. The advantage: much lighter steel constructions will be needed in comparison with the actual mirrors in use, so that great savings will be possible concerning material and construction. "Through the complete area of the composed material we can set thinner glass" as Axel Buchholz says, "the thinner the glass is, the higher the reflection of energy, and thus the more efficient the collectors are. This possible increase of efficiency is possible for all types of collectors and solar mirrors." More efficiency – less costs: THE WALL AG and FLABEG are working on a more promising start for cleaner energy.

About FLABEG

FLABEG, founded in 1882, is an expert in all glass finishing processes. Especially their Know-How in bending and coating glass provide the customers an unsurpassable product solution and competitive advantage. The insatiable appetite for innovation with further product development made FLABEG to a pioneer in manufacturing high precision solar mirrors used in Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) plants for the generation of electricity. The company is headquartered in Nuremberg, Germany, and has a global production footprint with 11 manufacturing facilities across Europe, the Americas and in Asia. Beside Solar Mirrors, the activities are grouped in the business lines Automotive Mirrors and Technical Glass.

About SwissCell

SwissCell deals with half-finished products in honey-comb technology, proved successfully since generations, leading to extremely stable and very light construction elements. Contrary to the known honey-comb constructions, the SwissCell products consist completely of resin-covered Cellulose (paper), which change in a special process, under great pressure and high temperature, to highly thin and extremely stable and very light structures. The roof-layers, according to any wish, may be connected easily and permanently to the honey-comb cores, so that the SwissCell panels are weather-resistant. Due to the low price of raw material and the full automatic production without manual steps of construction, the costs of production of SwissCell are extremely favorable. The price of one quarter meter is far below that of comparable honey-comb constructions. The goal is mass production for a mass market.

About THE WALL AG

THE WALL AG is a swiss joint-stock company, established in 2008, with a main location in Schaffhausen. The German location is in Ratingen, near Düsseldorf, with a research and development section in Altenholz, near Kiel. THE WALL AG is represented by the managing directors Claus Rethmeier and Gerd Niemöller.

For further informations please contact:

FLABEG Holding GmbH

Head of Marketing/ Communication
Waldastr. 13
D 90441 Nürnberg

Phone: +49 911 96456 248

Fax: +49 911 96456 450

Email: kerstin.koetter@flabeg.com

<http://www.flabeg.com/>