



Press Release

**IBC SOLAR and W-quadrat supply Berlin with solar energy
Rooftop system in the Berlin Mercedes-Benz factory put into operation**

Bad Staffelstein / Berlin, Germany, 28 August, 2009 – Today, one of the largest rooftop systems in Berlin has been connected to the electricity grid. IBC SOLAR and W-quadrat have installed a photovoltaic system on the roof of the Mercedes-Benz factory that was ceremonially put into operation today in the presence of Berlin's mayor, Klaus Wowereit. The system supplies approximately 100 homes with electricity and ensures yearly savings of at least 250 tons of CO₂.

Since May 2009, the project partners W-quadrat and IBC SOLAR have installed a total of over 2,200 polycrystalline PV modules and 48 inverters on the roof of the Mercedes-Benz factory building in Berlin. With a peak power of 500 kilowatts, this is the most powerful rooftop system in Berlin, and with its peak power of approximately 430,000 kilowatt hours per year, it can supply at least 100 homes with electricity. Compared with conventionally produced electricity, 250 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year can be saved.

The planning and turnkey construction of the system was accomplished by W-quadrat, the components were supplied by the PV specialists of IBC SOLAR. The 1.6 million Euro system is financed and operated through a non-public solar fund by limited partners, including IBC SOLAR and W-quadrat, which have leased the roof surface of the Mercedes-Benz factory.

"It was an interesting task for us to plan and realize this project," explains Günter Westermann, Managing Director of W-quadrat. "The assembly at the Mercedes-Benz factory presented us with a number of challenges: For example, the roof had to be renovated before installation and the external lightning protection had to be adapted. Furthermore, we had to fulfill special safety requirements for the factory. The cooperation with all the involved parties went very smoothly, and normal production could continue even during installation."

"With their factory roofs, companies can tap unused potential", explains Udo Möhrstedt, Chairman of the Board of IBC SOLAR AG. "The large roof surfaces are well-suited for powerful photovoltaic systems. Small and medium-sized enterprises in Germany can finance the entire investment costs of a system through the German development bank KfW Förderbank, as well as using special write-offs. Additionally, it is possible to lease the roof surfaces. In this way, companies can contribute greatly to environmentally friendly

THE OUTLOOK: SUNNY



power generation while earning money – an opportunity many companies are not yet aware of."

About IBC SOLAR

IBC SOLAR is a leading global photovoltaic specialist, offering complete solutions for power production from solar energy. The firm covers the entire spectrum, from planning to the turnkey handover of photovoltaic installations. Globally, IBC SOLAR has already implemented more than 60,000 turnkey photovoltaic systems with a total power output of 550 megawatt (MWp). The scale of these installations ranges from large photovoltaic power stations and solar parks which feed electricity into the network, to off-grid systems. IBC SOLAR sells its photovoltaic components and systems over an extensive network of trade partners. As general contractor, the photovoltaic integrator plans and implements large scale solar projects. Through maintenance and monitoring, IBC SOLAR ensures an optimal performance of the solar park.

IBC SOLAR was founded in 1982 in Bad Staffelstein. IBC SOLAR is represented around the globe by six affiliates in the Netherlands, France, Spain, Greece, Malaysia and the USA and currently employs around 250 employees, of which 180 are in Germany. The international business group IBC SOLAR is directed from its headquarters in Bad Staffelstein.

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