

Press Release

New mega solar power plant inaugurated today

Kyocera supplies 8,500 modules for 2-MW solar plant in France

Kyoto / Neuss, 21 October 2011 – 8,500 solar modules on four acres of wasteland: these are the dimensions of the new solar power plant, which was officially inaugurated today in Distré, in the French department of Maine-et-Loire. The mega-complex is a flagship project in terms of sustainability: the Kyocera KD235 solar modules installed produce an average total energy of 2.2 GWh per year of environmentally-friendly electricity — equal to the average annual energy consumption of 900 households. Furthermore, the clean-energy power plant will off-set roughly 700 tons of CO2 per year.

The solar installation in Distré is the largest solar power plant in north-western France, and is a pioneer project for future model systems. The renewable energy plant was established as a sustainable solution for the reclamation of a wasteland. Through the installation of solar modules, the wasteland has now been recycled for long-term use. The Kyocera solar modules used for this project are characterized by their excellent quality, long service life and high efficiency.

The project was realized with an investment by the French company Quénéa Energies Renouvelables — a medium-sized enterprise specializing in the field of renewable energy — and the state-run financial institution Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations.

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About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 208 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2011), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide.

With a global workforce of about 66.000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €10.74 billion in fiscal year 2010/2011. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, finoceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Finoceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Mita Deutschland GmbH in Meerbusch.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at present €430.000 per prize category).

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