



Würth Solar acquires SolarMarkt AG

- The acquisition is an important component of the distribution-oriented future strategy of Würth Solar
- Diversification of Würth Solar through access to wholesale and the photovoltaic mounting system business
- SolarMarkt AG and subsidiary Creotecc will remain independent brands
- Total annual sales to increase to over EUR 500 million in 2014

Schwäbisch Hall, July 30, 2010 – Würth Solar, the leading innovator in manufacturing CIS solar power modules and provider of full-line photovoltaic systems, is acquiring the Freiburg-based company SolarMarkt AG and its subsidiary Creotecc GmbH and all foreign subsidiaries and project companies. This acquisition will give Würth Solar access to the wholesale photovoltaic market and, through SolarMarkt's subsidiary Creotecc, manufacturing, product development and retail of mounting systems will now fall under its umbrella. Along with Würth Solar's own module production, the acquisition is an important component of the further developed company strategy, which focuses on expanding distribution expertise.

"Our goal is to continue to grow faster than the market in the years to come and boost sales to over EUR 500 million in 2014. The acquisition of SolarMarkt AG is an important part of this since it will help us continue to press ahead with our internationalization. Moreover, in acquiring SolarMarkt AG, we now have a successful wholesale and system integration company within our ranks. We will continue to operate on the market as Würth Solar, a provider of customized and perfectly coordinated photovoltaic systems using CIS technology. Through our commitment to wholesale through SolarMarkt AG, which will remain an independent brand, we are creating an additional mainstay for our company's future growth," said Karl-Heinz Groß, Managing Director of Würth Solar.

The expertise and know-how of both companies will now be pooled under the umbrella of Würth Solar. Würth Solar is the leading innovator in manufacturing CIS solar power modules and distributes full-line photovoltaic systems under the Würth Solar brand directly and through certified service partners in Europe. SolarMarkt AG has been successfully active on the market, in the wholesale and system integration business for 25 years. Through its subsidiary Creotecc, it is also a manufacturer, product developer and dealer of mounting systems for photovoltaics.



“Würth Solar has the long-term strategic orientation and financial strength we need for our future growth and planned further internationalization,” said Günter Elbrecht, CEO of SolarMarkt AG.

“Through this acquisition, our employees as well as our partners and customers can be assured that Würth Solar and SolarMarkt are securing a strong position for long-term success as the market continues to consolidate.”

Würth Solar, SolarMarkt and Creotecc will continue to be managed decentralized even after Würth Solar’s acquisition of SolarMarkt AG. All entities will continue to operate autonomously and as independent brands on the market as they have done so successfully. The strengths of each company, such as strengths in service, will be retained in their current form.

At the same time, the group will take advantage of synergies wherever existing structures complement each other and can be reinforced. For example, both Würth Solar and SolarMarkt AG already have an international market presence in the solar power plant project business. SolarMarkt AG’s international activities are also an excellent complement to Würth Solar’s international activities thus far. When entering important international markets in the future, Würth Solar will be able to rely on the existing structures of SolarMarkt AG.

“The CIS PV Systems Integration is one of our company’s core competencies. Through acquiring SolarMarkt, we will now also cover the areas of expertise of wholesale and mounting systems. Together with SolarMarkt, we have created an excellent foundation for a successful future,” concluded Karl-Heinz Groß, Managing Director of Würth Solar.

The acquisition is awaiting final approval from the Federal Cartel Office, which is expected within the next four weeks.

About Würth Solar

Würth Solar, a company in the Würth Group, is both a manufacturer of innovative CIS solar power modules and a full-line provider of CIS photovoltaic systems. In addition to traditional roof-mounted systems for private and commercial buildings, Würth Solar in particular produces attractive facade applications using CIS technology. In addition, the company realizes turnkey, ground-mounted solar power systems as a general contractor. Würth Solar currently employs around 250 staff.

Sales in 2009: EUR 116 million



About SolarMarkt AG

SolarMarkt AG is one of the leading wholesalers and system integrators in the photovoltaic sector. The company plans, finances, constructs and services large solar power systems in the large-scale system project sector. The Freiburg-based company was founded in 1985 as a spin-off from the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems (ISE) and is thus one of the industry pioneers in Germany. It has subsidiaries in the United States, France, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic and Switzerland in addition to Germany. SolarMarkt AG is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2010.

About Creotecc GmbH

Creotecc GmbH is a RAL-certified manufacturer of mounting systems for photovoltaic systems. Its products are based on over 20 years of experience in the solar industry. Together with the trade, industry and independent institutes, Creotecc GmbH continuously optimizes its mounting systems and adapts them to increasing requirements. The aim of development is to reduce mounting times while maintaining a high level of system quality. Creotecc GmbH also helps product developers plan systems and provides support during construction.

SolarMarkt AG and its subsidiary Creotecc together employ around 110 staff.

Sales in 2009: EUR 113 million