

Venlo, 13 June 2007.

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Venlo site chosen for 250 megawatt Sunrise plant

The location for the 250-megawatt factory for Scheuten's new solar cell plant will be in Venlo. Scheuten will invest 150 million euro and will in the coming years create jobs for 500 people. Scheuten is opening the pilot plant on 21 June.

The new plant will be integrated into a campus on the A67 in Venlo-Blerick that is scheduled for new development. Between 2008 and 2015, on a 25-hectare area located directly on the A67, a campus will be created where Scheuten will expand both its glass as well as its solar activities.

In the new plant, a revolutionary invention will be applied that makes mass production of thin-film solar cells possible. More than seven years of intense development have gone into this new process for solar energy. The most significant feature of this innovation is the attachment of photovoltaic material on minutely small glass pearls. Each minutely small 0.2 mm glass pearl is a solar cell. This technology can easily be scaled up to large surfaces, flexible dimensions and produces considerable synergies with existing glass technology. It is expected that the market share of thin film solar cells will increase in the coming years from eight percent in 2007 to 20 percent in 2012.

Over the next few years, Scheuten's Gelsenkirchen plant will also further expand its production of solar modules and solar cells based on the silicon wafer technology. The module activities required for Sunrise will be integrated into the existing production sites in Gelsenkirchen.

"This is the first step towards a gigawatt factory; the new plant will at first be producing 250 megawatt of solar cells annually. We expect a lot from the campus on the A67, an attractive aura as an employer is very important," says Leon Giesen, CEO Scheuten.

Following the official opening on 21 June, a press conference will be held where these plans will be further clarified. There will also be an opportunity to inspect the Sunrise pilot plant.

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Scheuten is a leading and fast growing manufacturer of total solutions in glass and solar energy systems with its head office in Venlo. At the end of 2006 Scheuten employed a staff of 1,200 and turnover exceeded 200 million euros.

Scheuten continually invests in new developments. New innovative glass products are developed by combining knowledge from all its production facilities. Cooperation with leading universities and research institutes leads to sustainable, functional solutions in the fields of glass and solar technology.

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