



## Press Release

### **Sunfilm announces strategic Research and Development agreement with Helmholtz - Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie**

Grossroehrsdorf – 23 July 2008. Today Sunfilm AG, manufacturer of thin-film silicon photovoltaic (PV) modules, announced that it has signed a Research and Development agreement with the Helmholtz-Zentrum für Materialien und Energie – HZB (formerly the Hahn Meitner Institute).

Pursuant to the agreement, HZB will provide Sunfilm with technical and analytic support during the ramp-up phase of its two production lines and the partners will develop technologies that will increase the performance and cost competitiveness of thin-film silicon PV technology.

Bernd Rech a world leading scientist in thin film silicon technology, Professor in Photovoltaics at the Technical University of Berlin and department head at HZB commented: " We are extremely honored to have signed the Research and Development agreement with Sunfilm. We believe that the combination of scientific know-how of the HZB and the capability for large scale production of Sunfilm will lead to new and exciting products that will significantly impact the thin-film PV market."

"We see this as critical strategic step for our ongoing product development." says Sunfilm's Dr. Wilhelm Stein, Head of Process Technology. "Sunfilm will benefit significantly during the ramp-up phase of our production line from the specialist expertise of the scientists at the HZB, but more importantly, Sunfilm will have direct access to experts in thin-film silicon technology giving Sunfilm a competitive advantage in an industry where many companies are starting with their production world-wide."

If at full capacity, Sunfilm's first production line has the potential of an annual output of approximately 60MWp. Also, Sunfilm recently commenced construction of a new facility for a second production line which would add another 60MWp of output capacity by the middle of 2010.

**Sunfilm**

Sunfilm AG is a newly established company located in Grossroehrsdorf, Saxony, Germany. The company will produce ultra large format PV modules based on high efficiency thin film silicon technology. [www.sunfilmsolar.com](http://www.sunfilmsolar.com)

**Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin für Materialien und Energie- HZB**

HZB is a scientific research centre. It specializes in the investigation of the structures of solid matter and materials, as well as new materials and manufacturing techniques for photovoltaic cells. The work extends from basic research through to practical applications. [www.helmholtz-berlin.de](http://www.helmholtz-berlin.de)

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