



Press Release

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Zero net energy consumption for buildings - Solar Summit 2009 congress addresses cutting-edge subject of "solar construction"

- **High-profile representatives from the areas of science, research, business and industry speaking on the subject of "solar construction" at this year's "Solar Summit 2009" congress**
- **Attractive support programme in Freiburg Green City including exhibitions of theme-based posters from relevant areas**

The subject of "energy-efficient construction" is the increasing focus of efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. From 2019, the aim is for all newly constructed buildings to obtain their energy entirely from renewable sources according to a directive proposed by the Brussels-based EU Commission that has also been approved by the European Parliament's industry and energy committee. In order to achieve the energy and climate protection goals concerned, the tapping of the technical facility management potential offered by energy efficiency and renewable energies in general, but with particular regard to solar energy, is unavoidable.

The new methods and systems that can be used to enhance energy efficiency in buildings in the best possible way is the subject being addressed by the international "Solar Summit 2009" congress taking place in Freiburg, Germany from 14 to 16 October. The three-day event is devoted to the cutting-edge area of "solar and energy-efficient construction" and deals with the extremely important and urgent technical challenges involved in the integration of solar energy in buildings. Architects, planners, property developers and manufacturers as well as representatives from the research

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and solar sectors all have the opportunity of informing themselves about the various issues involved in the integration of renewable energies in buildings under the most diverse conditions of use as well as of exchanging ideas and experience in this area.

In more than 20 high-profile presentations, internationally recognised experts from the solar and construction sectors will be providing in-depth explanations concerning the new technological developments and solutions in the field of solar construction and presenting a number of successful building projects.

The focal areas of the congress include:

- Zero energy houses
- Building-integrated photovoltaic systems
- Building-integrated solar thermal energy systems
- Multi-functional building façades
- Comprehensive draft designs for buildings
- Building projects that have already been implemented based on solar construction principles

Under the chairmanship of Professor Eicke R. Weber, Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE and Dr. Hans-Martin Henning, Head of Department Thermal Systems and Buildings at the Fraunhofer ISE, this year again sees high-profile speakers from all over the world attending the congress including:

- **Dr. Winfried Hoffmann**, vice-president and CTO (chief technology officer), energy and environmental solutions department, Applied Materials GmbH & Co. KG; president of the European Photovoltaic Industry Association (EPIA)
- **Dr. Werner Brinker**, chairman of the management board, EWE Aktiengesellschaft
- **Dr. Mark Snow**, faculty of the built environment, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

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- **Arch. Georg W. Reinberg**, architectural consultant, Reinberg ZT GmbH
- **Prof. Mattheos Santamouris**, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- **Prof. Dr. Karsten Voss**, faculty of architecture, structural physics and technical building services, Bergische University Wuppertal
- **Stephen Selkowitz**, head of building technologies department, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- **Andreas Wagner**, managing director, Wagner & Co. Solartechnik GmbH

The building industry is focusing its attention increasingly on the area of "energy efficiency and sustainability", above all due to the great success enjoyed by BAU 2009, the world's leading trade fair for architecture, materials and systems, which generated record results in Munich with 1,920 exhibitors and in excess of 212,000 visitors from 151 different countries. For this growth market, the "Solar Summit 2009" congress provides a high-profile scientific platform via which researchers, architects, building planners, manufacturers, part suppliers and engineers as well as technicians and managers from the solar technology sector can exchange their relevant ideas and experiences.

Support programme

This year too sees the congress organising an attractive support programme in addition to numerous interesting talks and round-table discussions. An exhibition is being held for theme-based posters from the relevant technical areas at which those participants who have qualified for the international "Solar Decathlon 2010" competition can present their projects for the solar house of the future. The competition is being organised by the Spanish Ministry of Domestic Buildings and the U.S. Energy Department. Universities from all over the world have been invited to take part and submit their entries for buildings sourcing their energy exclusively from the sun. The aim of the project is to

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promote research and the dissemination of knowledge at universities with regard to the subject of sustainable and energy-efficient construction and related areas.

A further highlight is the highly informative poster exhibition organised in connection with the **BMW "Architecture with Energy" award** under the motto of "high level comfort combined with minimum energy needs, low operating costs and efficient technologies united in outstanding architecture". Those were the criteria for the building of the future that were sought for the first time in 2009 via the "Architecture with Energy" award with prize money totalling 100,000 euros. Innovative builders, architects and specialist engineers were invited to submit their concepts for new or renovated buildings and, in so doing, compete for the prize money and possible sponsorship as a pilot and demonstration project in the focal research area of "energy-optimised construction" promoted by the German Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMW). The poster exhibition and an accompanying brochure show the competition's ten prize winners.

Thursday, 15 October sees the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE issuing its invitation to attend the traditional "Freiburg Solar Night" on the institute premises. This will now be the sixth year that the Freiburg Solar Night, a popular meeting-place and ideal net working event for the solar sector, has been held.

Further information and a detailed programme overview can be found on the home page at www.solar-summits.com from the beginning of June 2009.

About the "Solar Summits Freiburg" conference series

"Solar Summits Freiburg" is a series of international conferences organized by Messe München GmbH partnership with the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE as well as with FWTM - Freiburg, Wirtschaft, Touristik und Messe GmbH. This new series of conferences

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consists of annual events that will give participants a look at the latest scientific findings and their commercial implementation and use in the sector for renewable and efficient energy use. It is an outstanding international platform for the transfer of know-how between researchers, industry representatives and politicians.

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