

# Press Release

**Freiburg**  
**April 21, 2011**  
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## **Successful Kick-Off of SiliconPV**

### **540 scientists from 21 countries participate in the new conference series in Freiburg**

With 540 participating scientists from 21 countries around the world, the first "SiliconPV – International Conference on Silicon Photovoltaics" took place from 17-20 April 2011 in Freiburg, Germany. Praise about the quality and the atmosphere of the conference was heard from all sides. This new conference series focuses on the scholarly exchange between international scientists working in silicon technology – a field which dominates the solar cell market today. The premier conference program comprised of over 130 presentations and concentrated on the theme "Advanced Cell and Module Concepts".

Dr. Ralf Lüdemann, CEO SolarWorld Innovations GmbH, acclaimed the conference as a huge success: "Our branch of work is driven by innovation. This conference, with its creative and exciting atmosphere, serves as an excellent forum. We are taking back valuable information from the conference presentations which were of extremely high quality."

An important characteristic of the conference was the supporting program that was designed to allow lots of time for communication between the participants. "I really like the concept of this conference," says Dr. Arthur W. Weeber from the large Dutch energy research institute ECN. "The inspirational atmosphere encourages the intensified exchange between scientists. I am convinced that this event marks the start of even more scientific networking on the European level."

**Fraunhofer Institute for  
Solar Energy Systems ISE**  
Heidenhofstr. 2  
79110 Freiburg  
Germany  
Press and Public Relations  
Karin Schneider  
Phone +49 761 4588-5150  
Fax +49 761 4588-9342  
info@ise.fraunhofer.de

[www.ise.fraunhofer.de](http://www.ise.fraunhofer.de)

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The topic of “high efficiency” was featured in many of the presentations at this year’s conference. “SiliconPV is a new thematically focused conference and serves as an especially important platform for the presentation of research results from institutes and universities. Today research has a decisive impact on the success of the photovoltaic branch and remains an important factor in the further development of the solar industry,” states Prof. Joachim Luther, Head of the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore, SERIS.

Henceforth, SiliconPV will take place annually at different locations within Europe. “The concept of the conference – from scientists for scientists – has been well received, as the number of participants shows,” remarks Dr. Jef Poortmans, PV Department Director of the Belgian research institute IMEC, who is very satisfied about the successful start of the conference. IMEC in Leuven will host the second edition of SiliconPV in April 2012.

#### **Information material:**

Fraunhofer ISE, Press and Public Relations  
Phone +49 761 4588-5150  
[info@ise.fraunhofer.de](mailto:info@ise.fraunhofer.de)

**Text of the PR and photos** can be downloaded from our web page: [www.ise.fraunhofer.de](http://www.ise.fraunhofer.de)

#### **Contact Person for further information:**

Dr. Stefan Glunz, Fraunhofer ISE  
Division Director “Solar Cells – Development and Characterization”  
Chairman of the 1<sup>st</sup> SiliconPV Conference  
Phone +49 761 4588-5191  
[stefan.glunz@ise.fraunhofer.de](mailto:stefan.glunz@ise.fraunhofer.de)

**Fraunhofer Institute for  
Solar Energy Systems ISE**  
Heidenhofstr. 2  
79110 Freiburg  
Germany  
Press and Public Relations  
Karin Schneider  
Phone +49 761 4588-5150  
Fax +49 761 4588-9342  
[info@ise.fraunhofer.de](mailto:info@ise.fraunhofer.de)

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Successful conference in Freiburg: 540 Scientists from 21 countries attended the first »SiliconPV – International Conference on Silicon Photovoltaics« in April 2011.  
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79110 Freiburg  
Germany  
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Fax +49 761 4588-9342  
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