

Scheuten Solar moves into own production of solar silicon

Scheuten Solar has set up a joint venture together with SolarWorld AG under the name of “Scheuten SolarWorld Solizium GmbH” for the future extraction of solar silicon

Both companies have a 50% interest in the new joint venture, which has been named "Scheuten SolarWorld Solizium GmbH". The joint venture covers the development and construction of a production line with an annual capacity of at least 1,000 tonnes for producing extremely pure solar silicon by purifying metallurgical silicon. With this joint venture, Scheuten has secured access to an important raw material for its solar division.

Scheuten SolarWorld Solizium GmbH is to be one of the first companies to carry out the conversion of metallurgical silicon on an industrial scale. "This joint venture opens the door for us to have our own silicon plant. The collaboration with SolarWorld is very valuable for Scheuten," said Léon Giesen, Scheuten's CEO. The new production lines will be set up in a new plant near SolarWorld's current, existing silicon recycling plant in Saxony. A plot of land measuring 20,000 square metres has been set aside for this.

Scheuten Solar takes an important step

"With this new joint venture Scheuten is expanding her technological capabilities for silicon extraction. This involves refining metallurgical silicon with a purity of approximately 98%. The photovoltaic industry needs silicon of an even higher purity, which is why it is so important to upgrade raw silicon still further," said Frans van den Heuvel, Managing Director of Scheuten Solar.

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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. Scheuten currently employs a staff of 1,200. Turnover for 2006 will be over 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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