

PRESS RELEASE

Wolfen/Thalheim, 02. Januar 2006, 10 Uhr

## **First day of work for the first 18 operators of the production department at CSG Solar AG**

**Further hiring planned in close cooperation with the Federal Employment Office (“Arbeitsagentur”)**

In April 2004, CSG Solar AG had only two employees in addition to the management team. The hiring process began directly after the laying of the foundation stone (“Grundsteinlegung”) on 21 April, 2005. Having hired the first group of operators for its production department, CSG Solar now has 55 employees in Saxony-Anhalt and plans to have up to 130 employees by June 2006.

The first employees were hired over the summer for the engineering and technical departments.

The first selection round for the production department began on 23 and 24 September , 2005. The first training group with 18 participants followed a three month operator training course for CSG Solar in the “Bildungszentrum Wolfen-Bitterfeld”.

On 1 December, 2005, the second and third groups, each with 21 participants, started training in the “Bildungszentrum Wolfen-Bitterfeld” and in the “Teutloff Bildungszentrum” in Bitterfeld, another training partner of the company.

The fourth training course is planned to begin mid January 2006 with 25 participants.

In addition, three young technicians started practical training on 1 December, 2005 within the framework of the training program „GAJL-Plus“, organised by the state of Saxony-Anhalt.

Within the framework of a similar training program named „Jugend in Arbeit“ (Youth at work), together with the “Teutloff Bildungszentrum” and the “ARGE”, CSG Solar will begin training four more people from 2 January, 2006.

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### **Profile of potential participants and content of the training**

To be able to participate in this training, potential participants should have the following profile: a technical or chemical education, or prove a substantial understanding of technical issues; be ready for shift work ; show real motivation; and, more simply, prove during the hiring interview that they can “fit” into the team.

The most important topics of this training, organised in cooperation with the Federal Employment Office („Arbeitsagentur“) of Halle, outpost Bitterfeld, are the chemical and physical fundamentals of the solar cell production, English practice, safety at work and quality management. Finally, practical training is undertaken in the production department.

### **Cooperation with the Federal Office of Employment as priority.**

#### **Because quality makes the difference!**

Cooperating with the Federal Office of Employment for the selection and organisation of this training has proven to be very successful. As a principle, the selection of the candidates always takes place in cooperation with the Federal Office of Employment. That's why CSG Solar AG has chosen not to work with private employment agencies.

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### HR figures at CSG Solar AG on 01 January 2006

<b>Employees</b>		<b>55</b>
	including Women	18
	temporary jobs	1
	half time positions	4
<b>Trainees</b>		<b>49</b>
	Including Women	19
	CSG Program of the Federal Office of Employment	42
	GAJL-Plus	3
	Jugend in Arbeit („Youth at Work“)	4
<b>Total employees + trainees</b>		<b>104</b>
	including Women	37
	Long time unemployed until now	28

### CSG Solar AG : overview of the company

#### A state-of-art technology – Developed in Australia, produced in Saxony-Anhalt

Branch: Photovoltaics

Activity: Production of 1,4 m<sup>2</sup> solar modules for conversion of sunlight into electricity

Location: Thalheim near Wolfen, Saxony-Anhalt

Foundation: May 2004

Technology: The patented Crystalline Silicon on Glass (CSG) technology has been developed over the last ten years by a team based in Sydney including worldwide leading scientists in the field of crystalline solar cell technology. CSG modules combine the advantages of the conventional silicon wafer-based technology and a more cost-efficient production process.

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The thin silicon layer, thinner than 2 µm, that is used, in the production process, on a sheet of glass, comes from silane gas and is obtained using a vacuum process. Compared with bulk silicon, silane gas is amply available on the market. Thus, CSG Solar is not constrained by regular supply shortage of silicon wafers.

Planned production capacity:

In March 2005, CSG Solar commenced construction of its first manufacturing facility, designed for 25 MW of annual production. Initial trial production is planned for early 2006 and ramp-up to full capacity is expected during the year.

Management team:

Mr. David Hogg, CEO  
Mrs. Dawn Mills, CFO  
Mr. Dr. Paul Basore, CTO  
Mr. Franz Leibl, COO