



Press Release

First Solar Announces the Establishment of German Subsidiary Company

- ***First Solar Opens New Office & Warehouse in Erfurt, Germany***
- ***First Solar Appoints Dr. Rainer Gegenwart as Managing Director***

Phoenix, Arizona, June 23, 2003 – First Solar, a leader in the development and manufacture of high quality, high performance solar modules, today announced the formation of a new wholly owned subsidiary company, First Solar, GmbH, along with the appointment of Dr. Rainer Gegenwart as Managing Director of the new company based in Erfurt, Germany. First Solar, GmbH will focus on supporting the needs of major solar product distributors and solar power plant project developers in Germany.

“We established First Solar, GmbH to make it easier for our customers in Germany to do business with us,” said Ken Schultz, First Solar VP Sales & Marketing.

“With the focus of a dedicated team in Germany, First Solar provides the sales, application and technical support to help our customers grow their business. “

As the new Managing Director of First Solar, GmbH, Dr. Gegenwart will be responsible for developing business opportunities in Germany and other European countries. Dr. Gegenwart, formerly with Antec Solar, has a vast technical background in glass coating, thin film, solar and vacuum technologies and the experience of designing and starting up of a highly advanced automated production line for thin film solar cells. He has held positions in general management, marketing and sales, product and project management, and R&D at ANTEC, Balzers, and Leybold. With more than 15 years experience as a senior executive in the industry, Dr. Gegenwart is well suited to lead First Solar, GmbH.

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“First Solar is committed to the market and recognizes the importance of providing our customers with local application engineering support, order processing, and customer service,” Adds Dr. Rainer Gegenwart, First Solar, GmbH Managing Director. “It is our goal to be recognized as a leader in providing high quality, affordable solar module solutions for this market”.

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First Solar is pleased to introduce Dr. Rainer Gegenwart during the Intersolar Trade Fair in Freiburg, Germany, June 27-29. First Solar will have on display its FS-Series of thin film PV modules in their exhibit located in Hall 3, Stand 292.

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About First Solar

First Solar is a leader in the development and manufacture of high quality, affordable solar modules. With its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Perrysburg, Ohio, First Solar is producing high performance PV modules for large scale solar power plants, commercial and residential buildings, and off-grid rural electrification applications. First Solar is committed to the continuous improvement of its advanced, thin film semiconductor deposition and high volume manufacturing processes to meet the demand for lower cost solar energy solutions.

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