



News Release

juwi and the municipal utility of Mainz providing solar electricity to Africa

Kurt Beck, minister-president of Rhineland-Palatinate in Germany, inaugurates Africa's largest photovoltaic power station in Kigali, Rwanda

Kigali (Rwanda), June 10, 2007. With hookup to the local mains juwi solar GmbH, based in Bolanden in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate in western Germany, celebrated the successful completion of construction of Africa's biggest photovoltaic installation. **Contracted by Stadtwerke Mainz AG (Mainz municipal works), juwi installed 250 kilowatts of nameplate capacity. The solar power station consists of 4,000 thin-film modules made by First Solar.** With a symbolic flip of the switch, Kurt Beck, minister-president of the state Rhineland-Palatinate, officially inaugurated the installation during a delegation trip celebrating 25 years of partnership between the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate and Rwanda.

The station is located on Mount Jali, elevation of about 6,560 ft., on the outskirts of the capital city, Kigali, and will produce some 325,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity annually. That will displace about 300 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions every year. **As general contractor, juwi installed the entire turnkey project.** The cleanly produced electricity will feed into the grid of the state-owned utility, Electrogaz. According to the operator, Mainz' city works, the revenues will be used for upkeep and maintenance; surplus will go toward new projects in Rwanda.

The "Kigali Solaire" photovoltaic (PV) project is yet another demonstration of **the juwi group's capabilities as one of the leading suppliers of turnkey PV installations.** "The project in Rwanda is particularly dear to our hearts because our joint effort with the Mainz municipal works represents a small contribution toward sustainable development in Africa," says Matthias Willenbacher, co-CEO of the juwi group.

The project was commissioned by Stadtwerke Mainz AG, the municipal utility of the city of Mainz, which recently launched an "Energy for Africa" foundation. What began as the construction of drinking water pipes in 2003 has evolved into a steady partnership between the Rwandan government and Stadtwerke Mainz. Cooperation has thrived throughout several undertakings ranging from cooperation in metrology to the construction of this large-scale PV power plant and the training of solar energy technicians.

(approx. 320 words)

**Solar Project
Kigali (Rwanda):**
250 kilowatts

approx. 3,000 m²
module surface area

annual energy yield:
approx. 325,000 kWh

CO₂ savings:
approx. 300 tonnes
per year

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News Release

Background

...on the renewable energies market

In recent years the proportion of cleanly produced power in the supply has grown constantly. In Germany wind, hydro, solar and bio sources now generate about 12% of the national supply. The federal government's sustainability strategy aims at a 50% share of renewables in the middle of the century. **The European Parliament demands a renewables proportion of 35% in the European supply by 2020.** In Germany the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) is the core instrument for implementing this strategy. It has developed into an elementary building block for securing and creating jobs. The German renewable energies sector employs about 215,000 people.

...on solar energy

Germany is a leader in the use of solar energy, with 300,000 solar power arrays installed, amounting to a capacity of some 2,300 megawatts (status end of 2006). In 2006 PV power production rose 60% to some two billion kilowatt-hours. That makes photovoltaics the fastest growing energy source. **Germany is the Number 1 on the solar market.** In just a few years the stable political framework has made the solar industry an important employer in Germany. **Photovoltaics enterprises employ around 50,000 people.**

Although the proportion of power produced by PV in the German supply is still small, studies by renowned institutes and enterprises (including the Shell corporation) assume that **solar power production will become one of the most important future renewables.** After all, the sun radiates more than 15,000 times more energy to earth than is used.

Solar energy can be deployed flexibly, in a large power station or as the only power source in areas not connected to a grid. Presently two billion people have no grid access. That offers a huge potential to enterprises, including German ones which due to promotion by the Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) have taken a leading position in the global solar market. **Germany is well placed to become the world market leader in the manufacture of photovoltaic products (modules, assembly systems, etc.).** Because of the massive potential, a market is developing which will outstrip the automobile industry by far. To maintain the impetus it will be necessary to keep the EEG in place in its present form for another ten years or so.

...on the juwi group

The juwi group ranks among Germany's leading renewable energy companies. In addition to photovoltaics and biomass, wind energy is its strongest mainstay. With about 150 staff juwi is involved in the entire value creation chain. **In the solar sector the enterprise had realised more than 600 PV installations amounting to 40,000 kilowatts and an investment volume of €200 million by the end of may 2007.** Outstanding projects of the juwi GmbH include megawatt arrays at several landfill sites, as well as the 6-megawatt air base array "Rote Jahne" in Saxony. In addition, juwi build several roof-top PV systems in the megawatt range, and in summer 2004 the juwi group fitted the largest PV array (240 kilowatts) on a stadium roof in Mainz. **East of Leipzig, juwi is currently building the world's largest PV power plant with a capacity of 40 megawatts.**

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Press Release



Project Info



Solar Power Project „Kigali Solaire“ at Rwanda



General overview

Location	Mount Jali, elevation of about 6,560 ft. close to Kigali, the capital of Rwanda
Installed power (total)	250 kilowatts_{peak}
Projected energy yield (total)	approx. 325,000 kilowatt hours a year
Pollutants prevented	among others some 300 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO ₂)
Modules area (total)	approx. 3,000 m ²
Number of modules	approx. 4,000 modules
Module manufacturer	First Solar, USA
Module type	FS-262 (thin-film technology), 62,5 Watt per module
Number of inverters / type	33 x SMC 7000HV / 1 x SB2500
Manufacturer of inverters	SMA Technologie AG, Germany
Funding and operation	Stadtwerke Mainz AG, Germany
Modus of operation	Feeding into the grid of Electrogaz (state-owned utility of Rwanda)
Start of operation	June 2007

For more information

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