

Corporate News

centrotherm photovoltaics strengthens Management Board team: Dr. Dirk Stenkamp appointed Chief Operating Officer

Blaubeuren, January 14, 2010 – The Supervisory Board of centrotherm photovoltaics AG has appointed Dr. Dirk Stenkamp (47) as Chief Operating Officer (COO) with effect as of January 1, 2010. Dr. Stenkamp, who obtained a doctorate in physics, will strengthen the hitherto four-man management team, and will be responsible for the areas of engineering, materials management, production, quality management and service across the Group as part of his COO responsibilities. This expansion of the Management Board allows centrotherm photovoltaics to equip itself for continued growth in the photovoltaics sector.

Dr. Stenkamp has been a member of the management board of various Carl Zeiss Group companies since 2000, most recently on the Executive Board of Carl Zeiss SMT AG, Oberkochen (Germany), a leading supplier of production equipment for the semiconductor industry. There he was responsible for the "Semiconductor Metrology" and "Nano Technology Systems" divisions. Dr. Stenkamp, who was born in Westphalia (Germany), studied physics at RWTH Aachen University, where he also gained his doctorate in the semiconductor physics area. "I am looking forward to my new responsibilities at centrotherm photovoltaics and the chance to play a key role in structuring its successful growth in these economically challenging times," commented Dr. Stenkamp. "We are operating in an exciting market. The photovoltaics sector has developed from an emerging market into a mass-volume industry, that bears great potential for our company. "As COO, I will bring in my extended know-how to identify optimization potential along the entire value-chain for the benefit of our customers."

"With Dr. Stenkamp we are gaining an experienced expert for the development of efficient and cost-effective production systems. These systems provide an innovative strength that will set new benchmarks in the market," remarked Robert M. Hartung, CEO of centrotherm photovoltaics AG.

About centrotherm photovoltaics AG

centrotherm photovoltaics AG, which is based at Blaubeuren, is one of the world's leading technology and equipment providers for the manufacturing of solar silicon, crystalline solar cells and CIGS thin film modules. The broad product spectrum comprises key equipment and turnkey production lines for crystalline and thin-film solar cells. The product range is supplemented by

reactors and converters for the manufacturing of solar silicon. centrotherm photovoltaics guarantees its customers important performance parameters such as production capacity, degree of efficacy, and completion deadlines for turnkey lines. The Group employs around 1,100 staff members, and operates in Europe, Asia and the USA. centrotherm photovoltaics achieved revenue in the 2008 financial year of EUR 375 million, EBIT of EUR 56 million*, and is listed in the TecDax of the Frankfurt Securities Exchange. (*before purchase price allocations)

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