



The CEO writes: Time to kick off the solar age!



The sun supplies the earth with as much energy in 10 days as is stored in all known fossil energy reserves. And the level of solar energy that it is technically,

economically and ecologically feasible to use outstrips worldwide primary energy consumption three-fold – even before wind, water and biomass are factored in. Yet solar energy's actual share of worldwide energy generation is still less than one percent. We are consequently still at the very beginning of a solar age.

Efficient system solutions from CENTROTEC and CENTROSOLAR mean you can already enjoy the benefits of solar energy today.

Dr. Gert-Jan Huisman

From left: Armando Tavares (future Managing Director), José Sócrates (Portuguese Prime Minister), Ulrich Hofmann (future Commercial Director), Manuel Pinho (Portuguese Minister for Economic Affairs)

Itarion Solar – CENTROSOLAR Group AG embarks on solar cell manufacturing

CENTROSOLAR Group is building a solar cell production plant in Portugal together with the semiconductor manufacturer Qimonda AG; the new facility is due for completion by 2009. The new Itarion Solar joint-venture plant for crystalline silicon solar cells with an annual production capacity of 100 MWp is to be built very close to the Qimonda silicon memory chip plant in Porto, Portugal, assuring personnel, technological and production technology synergies between the two plants. Qimonda AG possesses extensive expertise in the field of

silicon technology as well as long-standing experience and business contacts in silicon procurement. CENTROSOLAR stands to benefit from integrated solar production operations on the one hand and Qimonda's semiconductor expertise on the other. A highly promising basis – because Itarion is to be expanded into one of the world's leading cell manufacturers on the strength of its high cell efficiency (with an efficiency rating in excess of 16 %) and the production cost benefits that the new plant offers.

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Farewell to our Management Board member Martin Beijer

"Tschüss, farewell, adieu en ...
het ga jullie goed!"



Being taken over by CENTROTEC was the best thing that could have happened to Ubbink for it to grow. It's been really great working with German colleagues – they are much nicer than the Dutch sometimes make out! My most abiding memory is striking up "O Tannenbaum" at the first joint Christmas party in 1999 – because it was the only Christmas carol I knew in German – and everyone joined in! Thank you to everyone – I leave with an abundance of fantastic memories.

Martin Beijer



After 37 years with Ubbink, Martin Beijer has left the company he led as CEO for the past 11 years, retiring on April 1. Not just with a handshake and goodbyes. Oh no! Martin would not be Martin if he did not leave the way he has worked all those years: with passion!

On April 3, he bade his farewell to the Ubbink employees. Currently employed or 'long gone', they all came to celebrate the occasion with him –

with (some) tears, laughter and fond memories. The party on April 10 at the Lofta, Ubbink's loft experience center in Doesburg (NL) was attended by his business relations, family and friends. There Martin was honoured with a special present, having a tulip named after him: "Martin's debut". The colours of the tulip – red and yellow – are those of a soccer team his father had been involved with so passionately in the past.

On site in Harkestede – apartments with low-energy status

The 37 Harkestede apartments in Groningen (NL) will be equipped with modern climate technology and it will not cost the owners a cent more. A collective heat pump, a large thermal solar system and ventilation with heat

recovery ensure low energy costs at a high level of comfort. All will be handled by a new CENTROTEC activity, CENTROTEC EnergySavingSystems. The idea: we have the technology for almost zero-energy buildings, but there are

2 bottlenecks: higher upfront investment and more complexity in designing and installing the system. We solve both by offering the full package of engineering, delivering, running and servicing the system. Moreover we offer a pricing structure even before construction has started. This "energy contracting" means that the owner's energy costs will largely be a fixed monthly payment, similar to a leasing arrangement. A small component is variable, linked to the amount of energy used. Only this is linked to the oil price development; thus the total energy costs remain relatively stable. The demand in the Netherlands is very high and we will now start to offer it in Germany.



CENTROTEC website relaunched – More dynamic image and product information

CENTROTEC's website was recently given a facelift. The database-supported content management system TYPO3, which enables content to be updated quickly and easily, was used here.

One objective of the CENTROTEC relaunch was to project a more dynamic image and provide more product information. Topical information is now also provided in the form of teasers and quick links. These rotating categories provide the visitor with new information at a glance each time a page is called up, while at the same time highlighting new facets of the web presence. Product photos and further information provide an insight into the extensive range of products available from CENTROTEC companies, and there are also links to their individual websites.

The Investor Relations area has also been significantly expanded. The individual chapters of the Annual Report can now be called up separately as preferred. All relevant information pertaining to the shares, the financial calendar, corporate governance and the Shareholders' Meeting can of course also be accessed in the usual way.

Whoever prefers to receive this information in printed form can request a hard copy simply by completing a form. The new CENTROTEC web presence thus aims to be the first and most comprehensive port of call for all customers, interested parties, shareholders and analysts.



Detailed navigation bar



At a glance: News & current information



Quick finder for the individual segments



Teaser with topical information



Start page for the Investor Relations section



Product pages with hints and factual information

Do it yourself – Ubiflex now also available at DIY markets in the USA

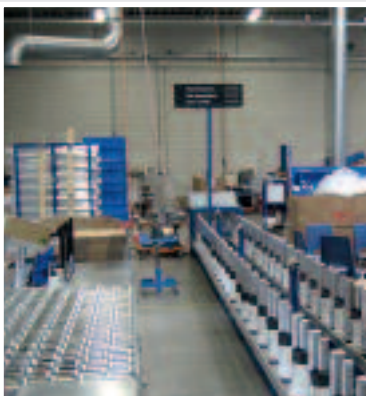


Ubiflex, the lead-free, low-cost product for watertight flashing, is now also available on the American DIY market. The product's uses include sealing roof-integrated solar systems, skylights, chimneys and dormer windows.

DIY is a very popular leisure activity in America as well as in Europe. Most DIY chains in the USA were established in the 1960s and 1970s, as in Germany. Numerous TV series and in fact whole channels in America are dedicated to showing consumers how to perform various DIY tasks.

Ubiflex now gives this highly professionalised market an ecologically valuable lead substitute for performing flashing work quickly and easily.

Ubbink PIP (Profit Improvement Program) launched



Price developments on raw material markets worldwide are also affecting the procurement costs of CENTROTEC companies. As part of a group-wide initiative, Ubbink is consequently implementing a profit-boosting programme at Doesburg (the Netherlands). Under the umbrella of the Ubbink Profit Improvement Program (PIP), all divisions of the company are endeavouring to optimise their commercial efficiency.

The measures being implemented are not aimed simply at improving profit; they also seek to optimise production and logistics operations, create greater flexibility in delivery times and enhance service quality. As well as various design improvements to the products, lean production methods are being implemented. The main aim is to safeguard Ubbink's basis for further profitable growth in the years ahead.

New article management system unites – Connect at Burgers' Zoo

On April 11, the giraffes at Burgers' Zoo in Arnhem witnessed an extraordinary event: representatives of six nations met up to kick off the international sales and marketing project Connect.

The launch of this article management system promises to deliver specific synergies at product marketing level and greatly improve the sales process. The system will build bridges between our national organisations because it respects specifics such as language and local product ranges. Every local organisation manages its own data, while at the same time having access to others' solutions. It is a prime example of the "think global, act local" philosophy.

Connect Team: IT specialists, sales and management of the Gas Flue Division

The software will communicate with our Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software and the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) interfaces of our wholesalers, to guarantee that the latest data is always available. Catalogues and product leaflets can be generated in any configuration and in any of the languages available. Generating a parts list automatically with a configurator will help us to propose the right products to solve our customers' tasks. This parts list can be made available online to the wholesaler's e-shop software. Standard internal processes, e.g. for product data administration, will become more transparent, making them simpler; the information management process will also become more efficient. This will free up staff to concentrate on providing customer service and sales support.

New CEO of Ubbink/Centrotherm Group: Jacko van der Stege



Jacko van der Stege (36) joined CENTROTEC Group this February. He is taking on a new role as CEO and Chairman of the Group Board of Ubbink/Centrotherm.

After completing his studies in Industrial Engineering and Management at the Technical University of Twente, Jacko worked for eight years in the manufacturing and supply business for the housing industry. He occupied senior positions as marketing manager and then general manager of a company with 300 employees and an annual turnover of EUR 60 million.

Jacko then established and built up a management consultancy firm for the construction industry, currently with 30 employees. Over that period he developed an interest in the scope for market/end user oriented cooperation in the housing sector, such as knowledge management, co-makership etc.

His ambitions for the Ubbink/Centrotherm Group include strong international growth, synergy from the group network and innovation through products for European niche markets.

Jacko lives in the central Netherlands, is married and has three children. He enjoys sport (running, biking) in the beautiful countryside around his home town.



Ned Air ventilation unit for Wubbo Ockels' high-tech ship



Ned Air ventilation systems are to be found on luxury yachts, cruise ships and navy air defence and command frigates. Ned Air will soon also be supplying a ventilation system with heat recovery for a new project being masterminded by Wubbo Ockels, who became the first Dutch astronaut to go into space in 1985. He is currently building an environment-friendly high-tech sailing ship by the name of "Ecolution", with Ned Air being one of its sponsors. The "Ecolution" is

intended as an example of sustainable development while at the same time drawing attention to the need for greater environmental awareness in our lifestyles. To that end, the ship is being kitted out with ultramodern technology that has never before been used on (sailing) ships – including a Ned Air ventilation system. The system, which incorporates for example a type WTA-HR 600 ventilation unit specially developed for the project, will provide energy-

efficient ventilation for the vessel thanks to heat recovery. The heat in the outgoing air is transferred to the incoming air, with an impressive efficiency rate of 93 %. The yacht will be energy-autonomous and will have space for two crew and four guests.

From delivery to refinement

As one of the sponsors, Ned Air will also take charge of servicing the system and will develop it into an optimum energy supply source on board ships. The first "Ecolution"-type sailing ship is intended as a technology demonstrator and an opportunity to test the installed systems. The test results provide the basis for further research and will be used in improving future models.

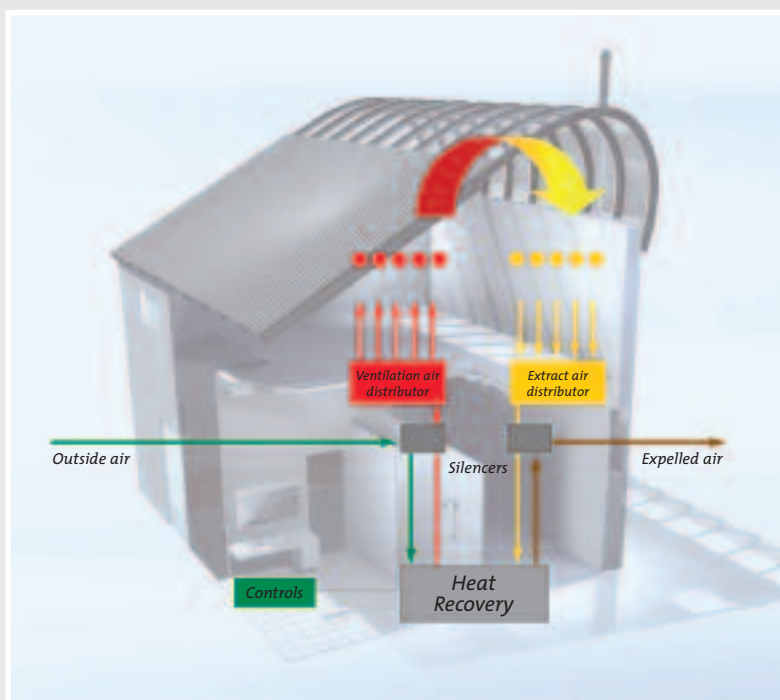
Ned Air is getting involved as sponsor because the project coincides with Ned Air's own objectives in a great many areas. Both partners are working intensively on developing new ideas and applying new technologies. The use of sustainable energy sources which provide both comfort and pleasure at no cost to the environment is of pivotal importance.

Strategic investment – a new vacuum forming machine

In an effort to keep improving standards of efficiency, Brink Climate Systems recently invested in a new vacuum forming machine. The ability to manufacture the entire plastic HR heat exchanger for ventilation systems in-house is of strategic importance. The machine is capable of processing several different types of material, and the initial results are very promising.



Heat recovery – an energy-saving concept for healthy living!



Given the adoption of energy-saving targets worldwide, a ventilation system that incorporates heat recovery is one of the most cost-effective solutions. What is more, a healthy indoor environment is exceptionally important to people. Yet if the current debate is anything to go by, one could be forgiven for thinking that the desire to save energy is incompatible with healthy ventilation.

in the Dutch city of Amersfoort revealed the pitfalls present in the configuration and implementation process. Occupants may not be getting optimum benefit from of their system, or even just switch it off. They consequently fail to realise energy savings and may even complain that the interior climate feels unhealthy.

Some of the complaints registered in the Amersfoort study were due to external factors, but a smaller portion could have been avoided altogether if reliable advice and installation had been available.

There were only few complaints from occupants of the many complexes equipped with Brink systems. And any complaints that were received could be resolved by providing sound advice and information.

Brink provides reliable, expert advice for both configuring and installing a ventilation system. And the installation company can call on Brink for expert assistance when it comes to servicing it. The system is supplied complete with a set of operating instructions for the user.

So systematically saving energy and enjoying a healthy living environment really do go together!

Brink Climate Systems is one of the pioneers of energy-saving systems. It developed a heat recovery unit as far back as the early 1980s. At the turn of the millennium, the Dutch government made state subsidies available for low-energy houses. It is a fact that around 300 - 400 m³/h of natural gas can be saved by recovering heat from the air used to ventilate a building!

The current debate has focused on the notion of supplying air for ventilation via shafts. One of the controversies has centred on the argument that such shafts can accumulate dirt, making the ambient air drawn in rather less than clean. In reality, however, the intake air that our ventilation systems use is cleaned by filters, keeping any contamination

of the ventilation shafts to a minimum. The filters fitted to the unit perform sterling work in this respect – everything that is trapped by the filter is prevented from entering the home.

Throughout the many years that Brink has been building heat recovery units, it has always been important to us to adopt the customer's stance in looking to serve the market better. Our thoroughly reliable equipment designs and manufacturing processes make for low-energy, healthy systems. Good for the occupants – and good for the environment.

Expert advice ensures appropriate installation and usage

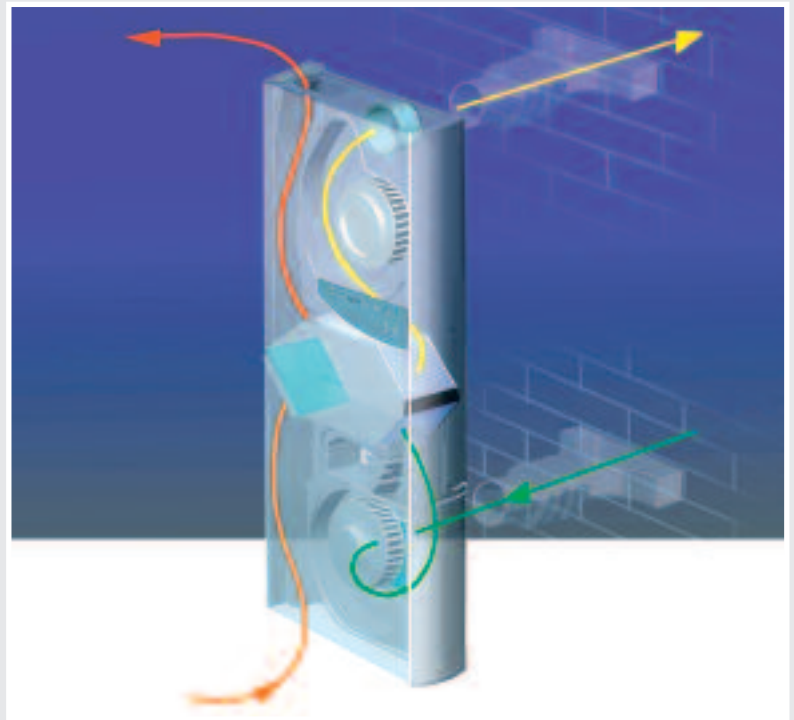
Still further evidence of how important an integrated approach is emerged only recently. A large-scale study

The Brink Advance – an energy-saving solution for non-central ventilation

It is often difficult to install a low-energy central ventilation system in existing residential buildings. Brink has now developed the Advance model as an energy-saving solution for precisely such situations.

The Advance is a ventilation unit with heat recovery for use in individual rooms. The Advance is available as a stand-alone ventilation unit for a single room or – in combination with a mechanical extractor system from Brink – as the nerve centre of a fully fledged ventilation system.

In unveiling this concept, Brink Climate Systems supplies tangible proof of its ability to come up with an energy-saving solution for every ventilation problem – both for new buildings and for renovation projects.



Curtains for the central heating pump



For the renovation of the care home "De Eben Haezer" in Amsterdam, the contractor Imtech Amsterdam opted for a Ned Air WTA HR unit for the ventilation of the restaurant area. So that the interior climate can be cooled as necessary during the summer months, a WTA HR 8000 KA unit was chosen.

The fully wired WTA HR 8000 KA unit is supplied ready for use, with its integral cooling technology and Ned Air VMC II control circuitry. All the user need do is plug it in.

The decision to use a WTA HR unit means that the incoming air now no longer needs to be heated up. The pump for a central-heating water circuit, central heating controls and the load on the central heating system are now a thing of the past.

In short, the WTA HR is the gateway to appreciable energy savings.

Wolf climate control technology on the Zugspitze

The new Gletschergarten on the Zugspitze – a glazed restaurant – features Wolf climate control systems. "This is the highest we can possibly get in Germany with our climate control equipment," remarked Georg Stiglmaier, Head of Climate Systems Sales at Wolf. The reference project, at an altitude of 2,600 metres, aptly symbolises Wolf's ambition to scale new heights in terms of market success and unit sales. The building's architecture was intended to draw inspiration from the rack railways and cable cars that bring visitors to Alpine summits. The result was a palace of glass and steel. The Gletschergarten gives visitors an opportunity to take in the breathtaking views of the surrounding peaks while enjoying exquisite cuisine; this combination necessitated top-quality climate control. The technical specifications also stipulated low running costs and maximum hygiene.

This led to the choice of the Wolf KG Top air conditioning units. The deciding factor was the scope for cutting running costs by as much as 85 % and the versatility of the system components, which made transporting them all the way to the top of the Zugspitze a straightforward affair.



Wolf has signed a partnership agreement for the production and sale of large boilers with an output in the range of 1.6 to 5.8 MW in Russia and Belarus with the Gazprom

Wolf forges partnership with Russian Gazprom

subsidiary Mezhtregiongaz. Wolf is already working on Gazprom orders to the value of around EUR 2 million. Based on this partnership agreement, Wolf is to extend the partnership with Gazprom to cover all Wolf products.



Centroplast takes off with the Porsche RS Spyder



Porsche RS Spyder with high-performance plastics from Centroplast

... though not literally, of course! Centroplast is supplying a component for the racing car with which Porsche staged a barnstorming return to the American Le Mans Series in 2006. The plastics experts from Marsberg had invested a whole year in the development work for this assignment. It was in spring 2004 that Porsche decided to return to the motor racing Prototype Class. With this aim in mind, it wanted to build an ultra-light, high-performance racing car that would

revolutionise the American Le Mans Series. Conventional heavy materials used in automotive manufacturing were to be replaced on the RS Spyder prototype with materials that withstand high temperatures without compromising dimensional stability and resistance to wear. Centroplast agreed to take up the challenge and formulated a high-performance material that satisfied every requirement of this discerning customer for the specific component in

question. After only one year's development work, the RS Spyder was able to switch from the test rig to the racetrack.

The racing car has a 476 bhp V8 engine with a displacement of 3.4 litres and tips the scales at 800 kilograms, with an extremely low centre of gravity. It was with some pride that the Centroplast project participants Winfried Metzner, Head of the Machining Department, and his Head Programmer Mario Franz, followed Porsche's resounding success on its return to American motor sport. The racing car immediately clinched a position on the winner's rostrum in its very first season in the Prototype class, and maintained its winning streak in 2007. The car, which cost EUR 1.2 million to build, left its challengers trailing in all championship standings. A win in the opening race of 2008 in the 12 Hours of Sebring (Florida) and the double victory in Salt Lake City (Utah) point towards continuing success this year, too.

Karl-Heinz Bielefeld, new Sales Manager at Centroplast



Karl-Heinz Bielefeld (born 1961) took over as head of the Sales Department on April 1, 2008. Bielefeld was previously Sales Manager of W. Altendorf GmbH & Co. KG, the leading manufacturer of panel saws for wood and plastic. He

will use his wealth of experience in sales and marketing to help Centroplast progress along its chosen path of expansion and internationalisation of sales.

New production facilities for special plastics



To maintain its stronger market presence and keep pace with increased demand in the longer term, in the first three months of this year Centroplast commissioned three new extruder lines for rods and hollow rods, an automatic sheet partitioning saw for cut heights of up to 120 mm and two new CNC milling centres for

three and five-axis machining of complex mechanical engineering components made from high-performance plastics. These pioneering milling centres underpin the process of specialisation in the manufacture of complex components e.g. for medical and pharmaceutical plant engineering or for automotive manufacturing.

Docon® – the new market leader for blood blending weighers



Having already manufactured a blood blending weigher for many years as an OEM product, the medimondi subsidiary Möller Medical has now developed Europe's technologically leading blood blending weigher Docon® in recent years. It is sold under Möller Medical's own brand and has already established itself as the market leader in Germany.

The new-look of bricon ag – facelift for the group's newest member

After becoming part of the medimondi Group last September, bricon ag has taken the opportunity to revamp its market image and bring it in line with the medimondi Group. Between them Detlef Jarren, bricon ag Marketing Director, and Claudia Jenny, bricon ag Sales Manager, have devised a completely new image, revised all brochures and redesigned the website (www.bricon.ch). At the end of May bricon presented itself in its new guise

for the first time at the Geneva SpineWeek, the world's leading spinal congress, in tandem with its sister company Möller Medical (see photo). Doctors and competitors alike admired particularly the pedicle-screw plate table that is echoed in the shape of bricon's implants. The aim of the new identity is to develop and establish a corporate identity together with our sister companies and medimondi.



New at Möller Medical, Nano Coatings division: Mario Meier



Herr Meier, you have now been working in the NanoCoatings area at Möller Medical for nearly eight months. What are your main tasks?

Apart from performing quality assurance on our standard products, such as the finish on pump heads for hose pumps and the coatings of analytical and medical cannulae and needles, our main task is to improve and develop new coating systems for various applications in the fields of medical technology and analytics. By incorporating partially functionalised nanoparticles into our coating systems and thus significantly increasing the inner surface, we can drastically improve properties such as the barrier effect of the coating as well as its durability and resistance to chemicals.

Does your range also include coatings that do not feature nanoparticles?

The use of nanoparticles is not obligatory. We also carry coatings based exclusively on classic resins or polymers, where the binders and pigments are already supplied premixed by major manufacturers. The PolySkin coating is a prime example; we incorporate a special additive, making it easier to clean. Another coating system that we offer under the name of TafSkin is based on a composite of polyether sulphon PTFE microparticles that create a sintered layer upon curing. Polyamide-polyimide systems under the name of TafSkin are also used. The TafSkin range of coatings are particularly noted for their hydrophobic properties.

Overwhelming demand CENTROSOLAR Group at the Intersolar 2008

Intersolar 2008 took place in Munich from June 12 to 14. This event is the world's leading industry exhibition for photovoltaics, solar thermal and solar building. Over 1,000 exhibitors presented their latest developments to more than 50,000 visitors.

CENTROSOLAR Group AG was in attendance with a full line-up – all subsidiaries were brought together at a joint exhibition stand. Visitors were able to view the entire range of solar technology on a stand covering 240 square metres and on two levels. Centrosolar AG presented the Biohaus, Solara and Solarstoc PV

brands; Ubbink Econergy exhibited mounting systems for solar modules and thermal systems. Centrosolar Glas completed the picture with its solar glass that increases the energy yield of photovoltaic systems. Centroplan put in its first appearance; the project planning company, established in 2007, realises megawatt-class turnkey PV systems.

So what products were in particular demand at the Intersolar? "Our entire range met with considerable interest and our stand was very busy from morning to evening," reported Dr. Josef Wrobel, Sales and Marketing

Director of Centrosolar AG. "There was overwhelming demand for everything from thin-film solar systems to building-integrated modules and integrated systems."

Various deals were clinched, not just with customers. Rising volumes of deliveries were also agreed with our suppliers. During and after the show, additional deliveries e.g. of crystalline silicon wafers – the starting material for much sought-after solar cells – were secured. One specific supply agreement for thin-film laminates deserves particular mention. Under the Biohaus brand name, CENTROSOLAR

"I scarcely had time even to pop to the loo!" (remark overheard from one of the stand team).





Left: a home fixture for Management Board Chairman Dr. Alexander Kirsch – the Intersolar was held in Munich for the first time.

Right: 240 square metres on 2 floors – the CENTROSOLAR Group AG stand.

sells thin-film solar systems that are used primarily on large surfaces in industry and agriculture. The contract involves supplies of over 40 MWp of laminates over the next four years.

CENTROSOLAR can confirm the growing proportion of foreign visitors reported by the event organisers.

The numerous visitors showing an interest in solar technology "Made in Germany" came not just from Italy, Spain and France, but also from the Middle East and certain African countries. There was particular interest from overseas markets for the CENTROSOLAR Group's off-grid solutions – solar systems that can be

used independently of the grid and for mobile applications.

After the three-day show, the general verdict was "well worth while!". Even if the stand team of more than 80 CENTROSOLAR staff returned home tired and with aching feet, the show was a huge success.



Left: it was heaving – and not just in the Coffee Bar on the first floor.

Right: introducing the "Centro-Boys" at the stand party – all band members are employees.



Doesburg is now the biggest solar module factory in the Netherlands



Solar modules are built from crystalline cells using highly automated process technology at the Doesburg plant. The factory, which only opened in 2006, has been turning out an annual 10 MWp until now. The production capacity was stepped up several times in 2007 and 2008. The plant now has an annual capacity of 45 MWp and is the biggest solar module plant in the

Netherlands. The drastic increase in capacity has been prompted by the sharp rise in demand in the markets which CENTROSOLAR has recently entered in Southern Europe and the USA. Higher market demand is also expected in the Netherlands thanks to state subsidies. The fully automated plant is one of the lowest-cost manufacturers in the world.

CENTROSOLAR and LANXESS develop new generation of photovoltaic modules

CENTROSOLAR Group AG, Centroplast and the specialty chemicals group LANXESS AG have developed a new laminate for photovoltaic modules. It is based on a new EVA (ethylene vinyl acetate) that envelops the solar modules. The two companies are comparing conventional modules with modules based on the new material with the help of a test plant that LANXESS has installed on the roof of its headquarters in Leverkusen.



New large-scale 150 MWp plant for solar modules in Wismar – due for completion in late 2008



CENTROSOLAR Group AG drastically increases its production capacities for high-quality photovoltaic modules close to the existing production plant in Wismar (Germany). At an investment outlay of some EUR 20 million, it is erecting an entirely new, highly automated manufacturing plant for

solar modules with an annual capacity of 150 MWp. The number of employees at Wismar will then rise from 120 to 350. The completely new plant at Wismar will produce fully automatic standard solar modules as well as special modules for roof integration and stand-alone systems.

Centrosolar Glas scoops innovation awards "by the week"

On two occasions recently, Centrosolar Glas was invited to step up to take receipt of prestigious awards. At the start of June 2008 the company was presented with one of Bavaria's Innovation Awards by Bavarian premier Kurt Beckstein at the State Chancellery in Munich. Only a short time after that, the Fürth-based company received the Bavarian Energy Award 2008 sponsored by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Technology during the "Innovative Energy" congress in Nuremberg. The award-winning product was the patented, nanoporous anti-reflective coating for solar glass, which the Head of Development, Dr. Thomas Hofmann, had developed in partnership with the Fraunhofer Institutes for Silicate Research ISC in Würzburg, and for

Solar Energy Systems ISE in Freiburg, as well as with Merck KgaA, Darmstadt. Anti-reflective solar glass enables the annual energy yield of solar modules to be boosted by up to 5 % and of solar thermal collectors by as much as 10 %. The unique technology has been in production use since 2002. Yet demand still outstrips production capacity. In the current year alone, more than 3.5 million solar modules with a combined output of approx. 700 MWp will be equipped with Centrosolar glass. This makes the company the world market leader. Around half of these products will feature the anti-reflective coating. This proportion is set to rise further now that new coating facilities are about to open in Fürth. There are plans to establish a second production base in the Far East at the new subsidiary in Korea.



Dr. Thomas Kneip – new Vice President Business Development at CENTROSOLAR



**Thomas Kneip –
tell us more
about yourself!**

I first started to focus on the topics of strategy and business development while studying Business Administration in Germany and the US. Ten years ago,

while at McKinsey & Co., I then began to flesh out these topics with real cases and my own experiences. I moved to Siemens VDO in 2006, where I then had the opportunity to help shape the company's development as Head of the Strategy Department. I am now delighted to be able to use this experience within the CENTROSOLAR Group.

But of course as well as the manager, there is the private individual Thomas Kneip, who has been living with his wife in his home city of Regensburg for the past two years – and became the proudest dad on the planet three weeks ago!

What excites you about your new task?

Three factors: first, the scope for operating independently and creatively; second, a dynamic industry; and third, a team that you still enjoy going out for a beer with even after a long day of meetings and discussions. I have rarely come across a job where all three factors are so pronounced as this one.

Dr. Thomas Hofmann, Ralf Ballasch (both Centrosolar Glas GmbH), W. Glaubitt (Fraunhofer Institute) at the presentation of the Bavarian Innovation Award by Bavarian premier Kurt Beckstein (from right)

Verdict "GOOD" – the Wolf solar package

In a test involving twelve solar systems for domestic water heating, the Wolf solar package achieved the rating "Good" (1.6). In the individual test, the very high solar efficiency for water heating was rated as "Very Good". Operation and durability, as well as other environmental properties, were also awarded the mark "Very Good" by the testers. These features included the pump's very low power consumption. Wolf, a leading supplier of heating technology, believes this test verdict suitably confirms its strategy of building very high-quality products.

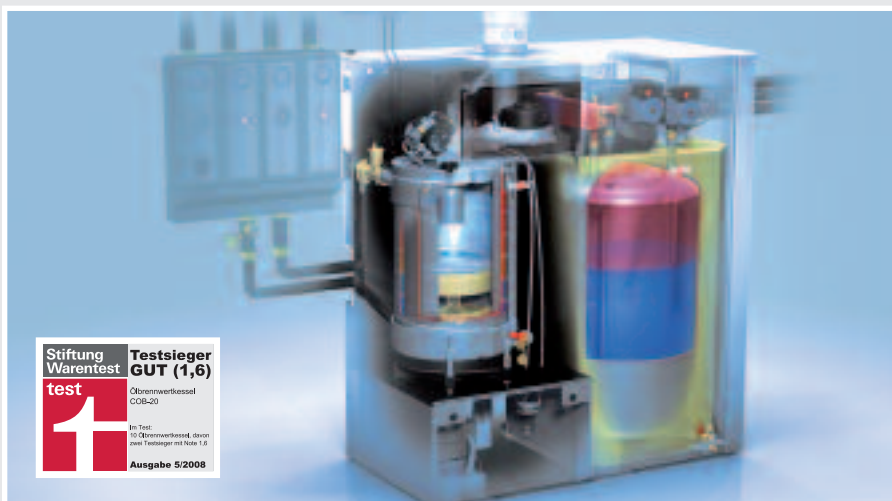


Runaway victory for the new oil condensing boiler COB-20

Even after just a few weeks on the market, it is already a test winner. In a Stiftung Warentest study of ten oil condensing boilers the Wolf COB-20 emerged joint top. The testers were particularly impressed by its high energy efficiency, very good environmental credentials and price. The boiler was the second-cheapest of those tested. This demonstrates that Wolf's products can be used as part of a cost-conscious modernisation project. And the market certainly has scope for such a product. Stiftung Warentest estimates that there are over half a million boilers more than

30 years old in Germany. Although they still meet the statutory requirements when inspected by the chimney sweep, they are of course technically obsolete.

The very high energy efficiency of the Wolf COB-20 for heating, including at part load, was the key to its very good test result. The boiler again performs very well when it comes to the electricity costs, using less than half as much as the highest appliance tested. Its environmental properties, too, were rated as "Very Good", as was the build quality. All in all, satisfying proof of the "Made in Germany" quality of Wolf's products.



COB-20 oil condensing boiler with CS stratification cylinder



Germany · Brilon · www.centrotec.de

Wolf GmbH
Germany · Mainburg · www.wolf-heiztechnik.de

Brink Climate Systems B.V.
Netherlands · Staphorst · www.brinkclimatesystems.nl

Golu B.V.
Netherlands · Soest · www.golu.nl

Kempair B.V.
Netherlands · Eindhoven · www.kempair.nl

Deveko B.V.
Netherlands · Deventer · www.deveko.nl

Ned Air B.V.
Netherlands · Kampen · www.ned-air.nl

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