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Press

Final Report

Spirit of Optimism at glasstec 2010 Successful solarpeq Trade Fair Debut

After difficult economic times a spirit of optimism is now once again prevailing in the glass sector. This was made clear by the 1,274 exhibitors to glasstec, the world's most important glass trade fair, and solarpeq, the new trade fair for solar production technology. A total of roughly 45,000 trade visitors attended the closely dovetailed events. Of these over one third also stated interest in the range at solarpeq.

Exhibiting firms reported holding many good discussions with high-ranking visitors and anticipate lucrative post-fair business. These included many international contacts. This is also reflected in the findings of the glasstec and solarpeq visitor questionnaires: well over half the visitors travelling to Düsseldorf came from abroad. A significant rise was posted amongst trade visitors from North and, in particular, South America. Almost one in two visitors came with the intention of placing specific orders or had already done so.

Martin Gutmann, President of glasstec 2010 and Federal Guild Master, confirms a very good mood amongst exhibitors: "We ourselves noticed this at our stand in the skilled trades centre as did companies in the glass industry and engineering sector: the trade fair went really well. This bodes very well for the coming months. We seem to have definitely come out of the trough." Commenting on this Hans Werner Reinhard, Deputy Managing Director at Messe Düsseldorf, said: "glasstec has confirmed its pioneering role as the most important international meeting point for the glass sector – and now business is on the upturn once again. This is an excellent signal for our exhibitors."

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Messe Düsseldorf:

 The global
Association of the
Exhibition Industry

 Ausstellungs- und
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Öffentliche Verkehrsmittel:
U78, U79: Messe Ost/Stockumer Kirchstr.
Bus 722: Messe-Center Verwaltung

Satisfaction amongst solarpeq Exhibitors

Exhibitors at solarpeq – International Trade Fair for Solar Production Equipment were satisfied with visitor response. The close interlocking with glasstec as the leading international fair in the glass sector was rated as highly promising as this, exhibitors said, would make it possible to tap into new target groups and promote dialogue between sectors.

This aspect was particularly apparent at the kick-off to the fair at the solarpeq Conference “Solar meets Glass”. With its nearly 200 participants from home and abroad the conference brought together the global glass and solar sectors for the first time now. Its top-notch participants were unanimous in their positive response to this opportunity for dialogue. Summing up Dr. Harald Binder (Consultant, Chairman of the SEMI PV Group and Conference Chair of the event jointly organised by Solarpraxis AG and Messe Düsseldorf) said: “This shows how vital exchange really is between the glass and solar sectors. The objective here should be to define a joint roadmap for production and applications that benefit both sectors equally. A start has now been made and it will certainly not be the last exchange of this kind.”

Very Good Response to the glasstec Supporting Programme

In addition to the solarpeq conference the glasstec supporting programme – now even more comprehensive this year – went down very well. For instance, the “engineered transparency” premiere organised in conjunction with the Dresden and Darmstadt Universities of Technology focusing on the topics of glass, façades and solar technology posted more than 200 participants from 22 countries.

Proving a real crowd puller once again was the Special Show “glass technology live” organised by Prof. Stefan Behling and his team from the Institute of Structural Design at Stuttgart University which provided an exciting glimpse into the future of energy-efficient glass applications. Particular attractions here were, for instance, the largest pane of insulating glass measuring 18.00 m x 3.30 m as well as (multifunctional) façades with integrated photovoltaics, solar thermics or decentralised building services. With its over 60 lectures the accompany symposium was also very well attended. Modern building shells made of glass were also a key topic at the

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FaçadesCentre located next to the glass technology live show presenting key firms and associations related to this theme.

Other features of the glasstec supporting programme included the Architects' Congress dealing with the topic of "Glass is Energy" and attracting over 300 participants as well as the "glass art" exhibition presenting over 300 exhibits by international artists. The range here was rounded off by a seminar programme for the glazier trade as well as the international auto glazier competition with German heats.

The next glasstec/solarpeq takes place in October 2012.

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