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## Media release

**Another milestone on the path toward  
the world's biggest photovoltaic installation:**

# **The Waldpolenz energy park is now the biggest solar power plant in Germany.**

**The juwi group commissions the next section of the  
40-MW project in Brandis near Leipzig.**

**Brandis/Bolanden, Germany, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.** The juwi group based in Bolanden in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate (southwest Germany) set yet another milestone in the development of the world's biggest photovoltaic power station. **Today another section of the Waldpolenz energy park was commissioned. Now with more than 12.7 megawatts (MW) of production capacity connected to the electricity network, it is the biggest solar power station in Germany.** Located in Brandis, east of Leipzig, the juwi group is building a 40-MW solar park based on the most sophisticated thin-film technology. The park is due for completion by the end of 2009. By now some 17,500 steel posts have been put into place and nearly 5,000 aluminum sub-structures constructed which support more than 215,000 solar modules facing south.

Upon completion the solar power station located in the Muldentalkreis district in the eastern German state of Saxony will generate **approximately 40 million kilowatt-hours of clean electricity annually**, displacing about 25,000 tons of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) every year. "At a time when the whole world is discussing climate change we are demonstrating the **capabilities of renewable energies**," says Matthias Willenbacher, co-head of the juwi group. "Solar electricity is not only good for the environment, it also builds independence from expensive energy imports and creates new jobs. Freestanding installations are an affordable segment of photovoltaics and contribute greatly to that success," states Willenbacher.

**As general contractor juwi is in charge of the planning, logistics and construction site management.** The project is creating impetus for the regional and national labor market. During the construction phase up to 100 people, primarily from the region, are involved in the assembly of the Waldpolenz solar power park. Juwi employees are responsible for the operational management, service and

**The world's largest  
solar power station  
at a glance:**

**Peak power:**  
c. 40,000 kilowatts

**Module area:**  
c. 400,000 m<sup>2</sup>  
c. 550,000 First Solar  
thin-film modules

**Annual production:**  
c. 40 million kWh  
(enough to serve more  
than 10,000 homes)

**CO<sub>2</sub> savings:**  
c. 25,000 t/year

**Investment sum:**  
c. EUR 130 million



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maintenance of the park. Solar projects such as this one also create many jobs nationwide in related supplier sectors, such as the solar module, inverter and metal construction industries. Most of the 550,000 First Solar modules for this project, for instance, are being produced in **Frankfurt (Oder) in eastern Germany**. The inverters and sub-structures are also made in Germany.

Investment in the Waldpolenz solar park amounts to some €130 million. SachsenFonds GmbH has been offering **owner's equity of the project** in the form of closed-end funds since late summer 2007. So inhabitants of the region also have the opportunity to participate in this unique project with investments **starting at just €5,000**.

The juwi's group philosophy is to produce **solar electricity at competitive prices** as quickly as possible. "With the Waldpolenz station we are demonstrating that there are no longer any limits to photovoltaics," comments Willenbacher. The solar industry anticipates that in just 8 – 10 years solar electricity will have achieved grid parity, meaning that it will be equal in price or even cheaper than the regular rates private consumers pay in their electricity bills. A key partner in this endeavor is world-leading thin-film technology company First Solar, which like juwi is actively pursuing speedy market penetration of solar electricity.

The innovativeness of this project is once again underscored by its selection as a **designated site in 2008 in Germany's "Land of Ideas" image campaign**. "Germany – Land of Ideas" is an initiative co-sponsored by the German government and commerce and industry, represented by the Federation of German Industries (BDI). German President Horst Köhler is the patron of the initiative. Its mission is to convey positive arguments associated with Germany both at home and abroad and also to highlight the country's strengths as a business location. The core message of all the campaign's activities emphasizes "Germany's leadership through inventiveness". As part of the campaign juwi will host another **open house** at the Waldpolenz energy park on **June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008**. In all likelihood Germany's **Minister for Transport, Building and Urban Development, Wolfgang Tiefensee**, will take part in the event.

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(approx. 4,200 words)

### The Top Ten solar power stations in the world:

- Jumilla, Murcia, Spain; 20 MW
- Beneixama, Andalusia, Spain; 20 MW
- Nellis, Nevada, USA; 14 MW
- Salamanca, Spain; 13.8 MW
- **Brandis, Saxony, Germany; 12.7 MW\***
- Lobosillo, Murcia, Spain; 12.7 MW
- Arnstein, Bavaria, Germany; 12 MW
- Serpa, Alentejo, Portugal; 11 MW
- Pocking, Bavaria, Germany; 10 MW
- Milagro, Spain; 9.5 MW

Source:

[www.pvresources.com](http://www.pvresources.com)

(\*: under construction)

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in brief



## Waldpolenz Energy Park – facts and figures (Muldentalkreis district, state of Saxony, Germany)



Construction status November 2007



Construction status February 2008

### General overview

Site	former military airbase in the townships of Brandis and Bennewitz (Muldentalkreis district, Saxony)
Surface area of the solar park	<b>110 hectares (about the same as 200 soccer fields)</b>
<b>Installed capacity (total)</b>	<b>approx. 40,000 kilowatts<sub>peak</sub></b>
Module surface area (total)	approx. 400,000 m <sup>2</sup>
Number of modules / type	approx. 550,000 modules / First Solar FS-265 etc. (thin-film technology; produced mainly in Frankfurt (Oder))
Number of converters / type	35 SMA SC 1000 MW stations
Light metal frame sub-structures	Leichtmetallbau Schletter GmbH (83527 Haag, Bavaria)
<b>Estimated yield (total)</b>	<b>approx. 40 million kilowatt-hours annually</b> (enough to serve more than 10,000 households)
Displaced pollutants	around 25,000 tons of carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )
<b>Investment sum</b>	<b>approx. EUR 130 million</b>
Financing	solar fund and loan, provided by private investors
Transmission method	feed-in supply into the envia network
Payment (remuneration rate)	33.18 - 37.96 euro cents per kilowatt-hour (according to date of startup)
Construction begin / Commissioning	February 2007 to December 2009 (in several building phases)
Service time	at least 20 years (but presumably 30 – 40 years)

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## Background information

### ...on the renewable energies market

Wind energy, hydropower, solar power and bioenergy now account for 15% of the power demand in Germany. **The European Parliament stipulates that renewable energy should contribute 35% of the European power supply by 2020. We believe that target can be surpassed and a 50% share by 2020 is viable.**

With a mix of renewable energy sources even an industrialized nation like Germany can build up an **environmentally sustainable, secure, independent energy supply system with price stability** within just a few years. Germany's Renewable Energy Sources Act (EEG) is a key tool toward implementing this strategy. It has become an elementary component of securing and creating jobs. The German renewable energies sector employs about 250,000 people.

### ...on solar energy

2007 was a record-breaking year for the German photovoltaic sector. According to the German Solar Industry Association (BSW), the number of solar power installations, predominantly on German rooftops, increased by around 130,000, bringing the total to **430,000 installations**. Some 1,100 megawatts<sub>peak</sub> (MW<sub>p</sub>) of solar electricity capacity newly joined the grid last year in Germany, more than ever before in a single year. Benefiting from that are domestic manufacturers, suppliers and skilled workers. Sales figures of German photovoltaic makers increased last year by 23%, amounting to around EUR 5.5 billion. According to the BSW the total **number of employed** in the sector is now **40,000**.

The organization also says that there are now solar electricity installations totaling **3,800 megawatts** of capacity installed in Germany. The **three billion kilowatt-hours** of electricity they produce is enough to power all the homes in Hamburg, the second biggest city in Germany. In 2005 and 2006 respectively, 850 MW<sub>p</sub> were newly installed; in 2007 some 1,100 megawatts of photovoltaic production capacity was installed, making **Germany the world's leading solar market**.

### ...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 250 staff juwi is involved in the entire value creation chain. **In the solar power sector the company has implemented projects involving approximately 700 PV power stations, their cumulative capacity amounting to some 100,000 kilowatts – an overall investment value of more than EUR 450 million.** Juwi's first PV installation in Italy is already in operation and a 250-kW<sub>p</sub> project in Rwanda, Africa's biggest solar power station to date, began operating in June 2007.

Some of juwi GmbH's showcase projects include megawatt-scale installations at landfill sites in Hettenleidelheim, Sinzheim and Baden-Baden and the **6-MW "Rote Jahne" solar power project** in the district town of Delitzsch northeast of Leipzig and the **1.8-MW roof top installation at a logistics center in Muggensturm (Baden-Wuerttemberg)**. Besides that, in summer 2004 the juwi group was responsible for equipping the Bruchweg stadium in Mainz, one of the largest PV stations on a stadium rooftop.

For years juwi solar GmbH has been expanding its expertise in the implementation of large-scale solar projects. Its double-digit growth rates both in Germany and abroad show no signs of stopping over the next several years. **"So to realise further projects juwi solar is always interested in suitable roof space and vacant land in high-sunshine areas,"** says juwi solar managing director Lars Falck. Up to 2012 juwi solar GmbH is planning to realise photovoltaic installations totalling about 2,000 MW in Germany, Spain, Italy, France, Greece, the United States, Rwanda, South Korea and many other countries.