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**TÜV RHEINLAND PTL RECEIVES KEYMARK ACCREDITATION
FOR SOLAR COLLECTOR TESTING SERVICES**

Tempe, AZ and Boston, MA/ February 9, 2011 – TÜV Rheinland PTL, LLC, North America’s largest solar and photovoltaic testing company, has received Keymark accreditation by DIN CERTCO to perform solar thermal collector testing and performance verification. This accreditation allows manufacturers of solar collecting products to have their products third-party certified that they conform to European standards. In addition TÜV Rheinland PTL performs similar services for access to North American markets under the SRCC testing and certification program.

The basis for granting the Solar Keymark is the harmonized European Mark System, which has been developed and established by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC) for the Keymark certification for products based on European Standards. TÜV Rheinland PTL has been qualified by DIN CERTCO, the German-based national member body of CEN to test according to the CEN Keymark scheme rules for solar thermal products.

The European harmonized certification scheme for solar collectors and factory-made solar thermal systems was established with the participation of manufacturers, testing laboratories, certification bodies and the European Solar Thermal Industry (ESTIF). It is based on European product standards EN 12975 and EN 12976, which specify uniform quality requirements for the products as well as for testing and certification of solar thermal products in Europe.

The Keymark is the European mark based on the idea “tested once, accepted everywhere.” By using the Keymark on their products, manufacturers show that the product meets the applicable European standard requirements of and demonstrate a special reliability of the declared product characteristics. A particular benefit of the Keymark is the detailed testing and inspection scheme for a product that can be linked to the requirements of CE marking, reducing overall costs to manufacturers.

In addition to Solar Keymark testing, TÜV Rheinland PTL also performs combined Solar Thermal and PV system testing and certification, which includes inspection, safety tests and quality assurance for the manufacture, fabrication and installation of residential and commercial systems. TÜV Rheinland PTL tests and certifies systems slated for sale in both the European Union and North American markets.

TÜV Rheinland® is a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) and is accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA). The company is recognized by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration to provide safety testing to a multitude of U.S. standards. In addition, TÜV Rheinland® works closely with states and local jurisdictions on safety and code enforcement issues.

TÜV Rheinland PTL tests and certifies renewable energy products including solar, wind, hydrogen, and storage technologies. Today, the laboratory, in tandem with TÜV Rheinland’s global network of solar laboratories, tests over 50 percent of the world’s solar conversion devices. TÜV Rheinland PTL is a unique partnership with Arizona State University, an institution with more than 50 years of research on solar energy and extensive solar testing know-how.

For more information, visit www.tuvptl.com or call TÜV Rheinland® at 1-TUV-RHEINLAND (888-743-4652).

About TÜV Rheinland PTL, LLC

Based in Tempe, Ariz., TÜV Rheinland PTL, LLC is a leading provider of safety and performance testing, and market certification serving every sector of the photovoltaic and solar thermal marketplace, from the supply chain through installation. TÜV Rheinland PTL is a unique partnership between Arizona State University, an institution with more than 50 years of research on solar energy and extensive solar testing know-how, and TÜV Rheinland®, a \$1.5 billion global provider of independent testing, assessment, and certification services. With an international network across six continents, TÜV Rheinland® maintains the largest network of Solar Energy Laboratories worldwide, with five major laboratories on three continents. For more information, visit www.tuvptl.com.

About TÜV Rheinland®

TÜV Rheinland® is the worldwide leader in market access, helping businesses gain international approvals in more than 200 countries. The company delivers premier independent certification, testing, and assessment services for many industry sectors. With in-country experts across six continents, TÜV Rheinland eases the path to compliance with technical expertise, cost-effective pricing and quick turnaround times. The \$1.5 billion corporation is comprised of an international network of more than 13,300 employees in 61 countries. For more information, visit www.tuv.com/us.

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