

SOLON SE cooperates with Deutsche Bahn for emission-free rail transport

Berlin, August 10, 2009. In the presence of German Foreign Minister Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the starting signal was given today in Kirchmöser in the German state of Brandenburg for one of the most advanced competency centers in the world for rail technology. SOLON SE is one of nine industrial partners that will cooperate with two research enterprises to pursue the goal of emission-free rail transport with Deutsche Bahn. Deutsche Bahn intends to apply the results to converting non-electrified lines to emission-free rail transport and thus offer the most environmentally-friendly transport chain in the long term. As mentor for the initiative, Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier has assumed the role of the project's sponsor.

In the future, energy-efficient and innovative technologies for emission-free rail transport will be developed, tested and prepared for high-volume production in the center to be named the DB Eco Rail Center. DB CEO Dr. Rüdiger Grube reported that energy-efficient and innovative technologies will be brought to operational readiness in Kirchmöser. The partners will be able to cooperate in the development of components from their own laboratories and put them in operation on the rails. SOLON SE was requested to contribute its expertise in solar mobility, which has already been shown to be of value in various projects on land and water. For example, the Berlin-based solar energy company develops and distributes solar charging stations for motor scooters that are charged with eco-friendly electricity from solar energy.

About SOLON SE:

SOLON SE is one of the largest solar module manufacturers in Europe and a supplier of solar power plants. The SOLON Group has subsidiaries in Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, and the U.S. and employs more than 900 people worldwide. The SOLON Group's core business is the manufacture of solar modules in various performance categories and of complete photovoltaic systems for the construction of solar power plants as well as the construction of turnkey solar power plants.

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