

ShadePlex secures thin-film supply agreement from FECOA for development of PV-Rite™ Solar-Electric Building Fabrics

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Tiffin, Ohio, January 9, 2009 – ShadePlex, LLC, a developer of proprietary solar-electric building fabrics and photovoltaic (PV) systems for engineered fabric structures announced it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Fuji Electric Corp. of America (FECO) for a two-year supply of FECOA's *FWave*™ thin-film solar panels.

According to Brian Tell, President of ShadePlex, "FECO's *FWave* panels are a natural fit for our *PV-Rite*™ solar-electric building fabrics. These lightweight, flexible and durable plastic modules will allow us to bring the first high-power output renewable energy solutions – up to 1,000 watts per fabric module – to the engineered fabric structure industry."

Engineered fabric structures are buildings, shelters, structures, and tents in which high strength, durable and long-lasting architectural membranes comprise the entire building envelope. They can be fully enclosed, such as clearspan or inflatable domes used for sports centers and warehousing, or open-walled, such as shade/weather protection canopies for parking lots and electric vehicle infrastructure. The membranes used in these structures typically have a lifespan of 20-30 years, and offer an increased use of natural lighting, helping to reduce the need for artificial lighting. They also provide significant resistance to inclement weather, and chemical and UV corrosion.

"Because of the flexibility and tension characteristics of the membranes used in these structures, rigid solar panels just don't work," Tell says. "We're working with FECOA because they are a trusted player in the manufacturing of power generation equipment, and they understand the applications we're targeting."

Koji Yasuda, Vice President of FECOA, agrees. "This partnership capitalizes on the inherent qualities of FECOA's *FWave* panels to expand the range of applications for building-integrated photovoltaics," Yasuda says. "We are excited to help ShadePlex build their leadership position serving the needs of architects, builders, developers, and property owners around the world."

ShadePlex's solar-electric building fabrics are cost-effective renewable energy solutions for any project involving architectural membranes, but especially for areas with strong sun exposure, for areas with government and utility incentives, or for structures with energy-efficient systems and devices, such as LED lighting. *PV-Rite* can be scaled to meet the electricity needs of small or large systems, including those that are grid-connected, off the grid, or which are grid connected but require back-up power for critical systems such as computers or security.

Tell says ShadePlex is targeting commercial availability of *PV-Rite* for the fourth quarter of 2009. "All of our key partnerships are now in place," he says. ShadePlex also provides PV systems engineering to help architects, builders, installers, and developers to optimize *PV-Rite* for the targeted electrical loads in their fabric structure projects.

About ShadePlex: Established in 2007, and headquartered in Tiffin, Ohio, ShadePlex makes solar-electric building fabric and other mounting solutions for flexible substrate thin-film PV. Our products add value to companies around the world which design, manufacture, install or sell engineered fabric buildings, shelters, tents and related products. Learn more at www.shadeplex.com.

About FECOA: Fuji Electric Corp. of America (FECO), headquartered in Fremont, CA, is responsible for the sale, marketing and distribution throughout North America of products manufactured by Fuji Electric Group companies in Japan. These include heavy electrical machinery as well as standard electrical devices for industrial use, such as turbines/generators, transformer-rectifier equipment, ozone generators, inverters, breakers/push button switches, and photovoltaic modules. Established in 1923, and with more than 10,000 employees worldwide, Fuji Electric Group products have been perfected through extensive research and development, and are unparalleled in quality and reliability. Learn more at: www.fujielectric.com/fecoa/.

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