



United Solar Sold Over 4 MW of UNI-SOLAR(R) Laminates for Innovative Building Integrated Rooftop Installation in Italy

AUBURN HILLS, Mich., March 21, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- United Solar, the global manufacturer of *UNI-SOLAR*[®] lightweight, flexible solar products and a wholly owned subsidiary of Energy Conversion Devices, Inc. (ECD) (OTC:ENERQ.PK), is proud to announce that it has sold 4.33 megawatts (MW) of *UNI-SOLAR* brand photovoltaic (PV) laminates for the solar installation located on the pavilions of The Fiera di Rimini Trade Fair.

The Fiera di Rimini Trade Fair is located in the center of Italy and consists of 16 main pavilions, which are currently covered with an aluminum corrugate roofing solution covering close to 100,000 square meters of exhibition area. In order to achieve the highest solar incentive, the existing roof needs to be replaced. *UNI-SOLAR* laminates will now be factory bonded onto the Riverclack Elios aluminum standing seam metal pans provided by United Solar's Business Alliance Partner, ISCOM.

This 4.33 MW solar project is owned and developed by Green Utility and consists of over 34,000 *UNI-SOLAR* brand photovoltaic modules. ACEA Group, an Italian public utility company, will provide the Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) services for the project. The installation is expected to begin producing power in the first half of 2012. Once operational, the system will be capable of producing more than 5 million kilowatt hours (kWh) and is expected to provide a carbon offset of 3,500 tons per year. This is equivalent to supplying over 1,500 households with electricity each year.

Mr. Silvio Gentile, CEO of Green Utility, stated: "This PV system, which we are building right now on the roofs of the Rimini Trade Fair, combines the best in class PV technology with architectural design, setting an important example for the whole solar industry in Italy. After our positive experience on the Trade Fair of Rome, we decided once more to utilize *UNI-SOLAR*'s unique technology."

UNI-SOLAR laminates were chosen for this installation as they abide by the innovative BIPV regulations defined by GSE, the Italian grid regulator. Their lightweight, flexible features fit the characteristics of The Fiera di Rimini Trade Fair pavilions and provide a true building integrated solution. In addition, the thin-film triple-junction technology of *UNI-SOLAR* laminates allows for achieving superior energy yield despite the east and west orientation and curvature of the roof.

United Solar has more than 25 years experience in the solar industry, is the largest manufacturer of lightweight flexible solar panels in the world and has been awarded nearly 70 United States patents for various technological advancements.

About United Solar/UNI-SOLAR[®]

United Solar has been a global leader in building-integrated and rooftop photovoltaics for over 25 years. The company manufactures, sells and installs thin-film solar laminates that convert sunlight into clean, renewable energy using proprietary technology for which the company has been awarded over 70 U.S. patents. *UNI-SOLAR*[®] brand products are unique because of their flexibility, light weight, ease of installation, durability, and real-world energy production. For more information on United Solar visit uni-solar.com or follow *UNI-SOLAR* on [Facebook.com/unisolar](https://www.facebook.com/unisolar) and [Twitter.com/uni_solar](https://twitter.com/uni_solar).

United Solar and its parent company Energy Conversion Devices, Inc. on February 14, 2012 filed voluntary petitions for Chapter 11 reorganization in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court the Eastern District of Michigan. More information about the Chapter 11 filing is available on the Internet at <http://www.energyconversiondevices.com/restructuring.php>.

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