

## CMC and Oerlikon Formed Strategic Alliance to Build Next Thin-Film Photovoltaics Gen

▶ 2007/11/14



CMC and world-renowned Swiss equipment maker Oerlikon have joined hand-in-hand to enter thin-film solar cell technology after a decade of cooperation in the optical media industry. Sunwell, a wholly owned CMC subsidiary, is scheduled to complete its state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in November with equipment installation to follow immediately. Pilot production is scheduled in Q1'08 and for mass production in Q2'08. This schedule will make Sunwell the very first company in Taiwan to produce a-Si thin-film Photovoltaics.

Specializing in film-coating, vacuum and satellite technologies, Oerlikon not only enjoys high equipment market share in optical media manufacturing but also possesses advanced solar thin-film technology and unique R&D assets. As a long-term vertical value chain partner, CMC has worked with Oerlikon in the past decade to operate world-class plants with efficient Oerlikon equipments. In this new partnership, Oerlikon is providing Sunwell the necessary know-how and patents, while Sunwell will take CMC mass production success to the next level in terms of production efficiency, cost control and product differentiation. Together Sunwell and Oerlikon will establish themselves as the leader in the thin-film PV industry.

Initially, Sunwell thin-film PV module conversion efficiency will be about 7%. Next stage plan is to take advantage of the Oerlikon Micromorph dual junction technology to push cell efficiency to 10%. Further advancement in phase-change materials and multi-junction technology is expected to push the efficiency beyond 12%.

Oerlikon group CEO Mr. Uwe Kruger visited Taiwan during his most recent Asia tour. He acknowledged CMC's outstanding Sunwell technical team with their contribution and performance in Switzerland and CMC's remarkable sourcing ability for cost effective raw materials. Mr. Kruger is certain about the success of Sunwell and its expected leading position in the thin-film PV industry.

[Previous](#) || [Back](#) || [Next](#)