

# To the Media

Schwaebisch Hall, Germany, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019



## **NICE Solar Energy sets new world record with CIGS thin-film solar module with 17.6 % efficiency**

As the leading international R&D and manufacturing company of CIGS thin-film photovoltaic modules, NICE Solar Energy is proud to announce a new world record for CIGS thin-film solar modules with a total area efficiency of 17.6%. TÜV Rheinland has confirmed the record efficiency.



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## Germany-China Collaboration

May 2017 marked the beginning of a new era, when the China-Germany Joint Venture as the world's leading CIGS thin-film research organization was founded. The R&D accomplishments have since been accelerated with the support of the all stakeholders and the seamless collaboration between the German and Chinese teams. This outstanding result is a combination of several factors: decade-long expertise in CIGS development and manufacturing, a stable production line operated at the highest quality standards and – last but not least – the persistence and continuous commitment of the teams.

## Technology Innovation

This record efficiency was made possible by combining the unique manufacturing know how with a number of process improvements, involving all technical teams at NICE Solar Energy. Process modifications in film depositions as well as new concepts on cell interconnects have been applied. All process steps have been realized on full size modules on the production line of NICE Solar Energy.

## Product Competitiveness

This latest achievement shows NICE Solar Energy's determination to drive CIGS technology for commercial applications. Continuous improvement of module efficiency and manufacturing processes will make CIGS solar modules even more competitive. These add to other benefits of thin film solar including better energy payback, more favourable temperature impact and more flexible applications such as building integrated photovoltaics (BIPV), an upcoming technology for energy-efficient buildings.

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## About NICE Solar Energy

NICE Solar Energy is a vertically integrated R&D joint venture with the shareholders of **China Energy Investment Group Co.**, **Shanghai Electric Group Co.**, **Future Science City** and **Manz AG** and it operates in both Schwaebisch Hall (Germany) and Beijing (China). NICE Solar Energy is committed to increase efficiency and reduce manufacturing costs of CIGS thin-film solar modules. Currently, about 250 employees in Schwaebisch Hall and Beijing are working together to improve the competitiveness of CIGS technologies/products in the solar Business.



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