

Press information

KYOCERA Solar Modules Achieve "Performance Leader" Rating in GTM Research's Reliability Scorecard

KYOCERA is Only Manufacturer to Earn Highest Rating Across All PV Module Tests

August 26, 2014 – Kyoto/Neuss – Kyocera Corporation announced today that Kyocera is the only solar module manufacturer to rank as a Performance Leader in all six categories in independent testing by PV Evolution Labs, as reported in GTM Research's July 2014 PV Module Reliability Scorecard.

The report ranks performance of the 15 participating manufacturers in three categories: Performance Leaders, Middle Performers or Low Performers.

"With the exception of one manufacturer, Kyocera, no company consistently ranked within the Performance Leaders group for all test regimens," GTM Research noted. "Results showed that most producers that performed well in one test did not necessarily perform well in all tests."

The tests included Temperature Cycling, Dynamic Mechanical Load, Humidity Freeze, Damp Heat, and two Potential Induced Degradation Tests – both Positive and Negative. PV Evolution Labs's stringent test protocols exceeded the current industry standards to emulate various real-world climatic conditions over lifetime periods while observing power degradation performance of the solar modules being evaluated.

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Press information

"Kyocera has proven time and again, both in independent testing and by solar modules performing uninterruptedly in the field for decades, that our modules are able to consistently produce clean, renewable energy even in the harshest conditions," said Steve Hill, president of Kyocera Solar Inc. "GTM Research's Reliability Scorecard is an important tool for investors and developers who seek independent verification that Kyocera modules exceed world-class levels of quality and reliability and are the best choice for their solar installations."

Kyocera solar modules consistently demonstrate high reliability:

- In March 2014, Kyocera solar modules passed TUV Rheinland's rigorous Salt Mist Corrosion Test, Edition 2, Severity Level 6.
- Kyocera modules are certified PID (Potential Induced Degradation) resistant, exhibiting no performance degradation after high-voltage stress testing, by the Fraunhofer Center for Silicon Photovoltaics.
- Kyocera solar modules were the first in the world to be certified by TÜV Rheinland's Long-Term Sequential Test in 2010.
- In addition, Kyocera solar modules have shown to be the best long-term-performing modules in the systems that were installed and began operation in October 2008 at Desert Knowledge Australia Solar Centre (DKA), a governmentfunded public showcase of solar installations, demonstrating a range of solar power technologies from many of the world's leading manufacturers. *

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"Two-thirds of today's cumulative solar capacity has been installed within the last three years, and PV installations are forecast to quadruple by the end of the decade, growing from 128.3 GW at the end of 2013 to 528.1 GW by the end of 2020," GTM Research stated. "Against this backdrop of strong demand, any systemic quality issues would affect an exponentially increasing proportion of PV projects."

* Desert Knowledge Australia, the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and the project managers, CAT Projects, do not endorse, and accept no legal liability whatsoever arising from or connected to, the outcomes and conclusions associated with the use of data from the Desert Knowledge Australia Solar Centre.

For more information about Kyocera:

www.kyocera.eu

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 230 subsidiaries (as of April 1, 2014), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the largest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 5 gigawatts of solar power having been installed around the world to date.

The company is ranked #531 on *Forbes* magazine's 2014 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies. With a global workforce of about 70,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €10.19 billion in fiscal year 2013/2014. The products marketed by the company in Europe include laser printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, fineceramic products and complete solar power systems. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at present €362,000 per prize category).

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