

# SolarWorld solar panels ready to power center modeling world advance in sustainable building

## Solar phase finished at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens expansion in Pittsburgh

HILLSBORO, Ore., October 31, 2011 – High-performance solar panels from [SolarWorld](#), the largest U.S. solar manufacturer for more than 35 years, will provide electricity for the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Garden's Center for Sustainable Landscapes. The project, rising in Pittsburgh's Schenley Park, will drive ingenuity in sustainable architecture and engineering to new heights of achievement.

SolarWorld authorized installer Energy Independent Solutions has completed installation of 125 kilowatts worth of 250-watt [Sunmodule™ solar panels](#) – three-quarters on the roof, a quarter on the ground – to power the new, three story educational, research and administrative center (<http://www.phippscsl.org/>) on the 118-year-old Phipps campus. Combined with energy efficiencies, solar hot water, natural light capture, and geothermal heating and cooling, the solar electric power will help free the center from reliance on off-site energy.

Also independent from off-site water, the 24,350-square-foot Phipps center on a 2.65-acre park site will be the world's first project built to simultaneously meet or exceed the three most prestigious standards of sustainable construction: the International Living Future Institute's Living Building Challenge; the U.S Green Building Council's highest level of certification, LEED® Platinum; and four-star certification of the SITES™ landscape rating system, also called the Sustainable Sites Initiative.

"This new feat of green building will stand as a model to prove we possess the know-how to construct buildings that do not drain the planet's energy resources," said Kevin Kilkelly, president of SolarWorld Americas. "Solar power provides a perpetual, clean source of power on the site, exactly where energy demand will rise. Solar technologies, energy efficiencies and engineering innovations work together to show how we can better use the resources already abundantly available at this site and in much of the rest of the world."

"The time for such a building has finally come, as has the time for solar power," Kilkelly said.

Furthering the project's sustainability, the solar installation has relied on domestic technology, equipment and labor. SolarWorld employs more than 1,100 Americans in manufacturing and selling the mono- and polycrystalline silicon

solar panels in California and Oregon. Energy Independent Solutions, based in McKees Rocks, Penn., provided installation expertise and labor. Mounting systems came from Solar FlexRack of Youngstown, Ohio. The \$24 million Phipps project is expected to be completed next spring.

“As the solar subcontractor, we were determined to use only the most reliable and domestically manufactured equipment – without compromise,” said Joe Morinville, owner of [Energy Independent Solutions](#). “We were determined to do our part the right way, tapping high-standard U.S. manufacturing, skill and labor.”

A high-resolution, downloadable photo is available in our [media library](#).

**About SolarWorld** ([www.solarworld-usa.com](http://www.solarworld-usa.com))

SolarWorld (ISIN: DE0005108401) is a worldwide leader in offering brand-name, high quality, crystalline solar-power technology. Its strength is its fully integrated solar production. From silicon as the raw material through wafers, cells and modules all the way to turn-key solar systems of all sizes, the group combines all stages of the solar value chain. The central business activity is selling quality modules into the installation and distribution trades and crystalline wafers to the international solar cell industry. Group headquarters are located in Bonn, Germany. The group’s largest production facilities operate in Freiberg, Germany, and Hillsboro in the U.S. state of Oregon. Sustainability is the basis of the group strategy. Under the name Solar2World, the group supports care projects using off-grid solar-power solutions in developing countries, exemplifying sustainable economic development. Worldwide, SolarWorld employs more than 3,300 people. SolarWorld AG has been quoted on the stock exchange since 1999 and today is listed on, among others, the TecDAX and ÖkoDAX as well as in the sustainability index NAI.

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